

Domestic Abuse Calls Received by Police in Northern Ireland

Weekly management information on domestic abuse calls received by PSNI since Covid-19 lockdown measures were introduced on 23 March 2020

Date of Publication:

01 July 2020


Frequency of Publication:

Weekly until 1st July 2020

Issued by:

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This is an exceptional release presenting domestic abuse calls received by police at Northern Ireland level, including the period since Covid-19 lockdown measures were introduced on 23rd March 2020.

The data contained in this release is management information and has not undergone the rigorous quality assurance checks that would be carried out prior to the publication of official statistics. It is separate to, and is not a replacement for, the official statistics data series on Domestic Abuse Incidents and Crimes Recorded by the Police in Northern Ireland.

The information in this release is sourced from PSNI's Command and Control System and is based on all calls for service which have either been opened or closed on a code that is used to identify potential domestic abuse.

- The weekly average number of domestic abuse calls received by police is 570 (based on the 12 months March 2019 to February 2020)
- In the 7 days 24th June to 30th June the number of domestic abuse calls was 568, 40 lower than the previous week when 608 calls were received and 125 lower than the same week in 2019 when 693 domestic abuse calls were received.
- Levels for the most recent time period tend to revise upwards as records are completed. While the latest weekly total has fallen slightly below the weekly average of 570, it is likely that the level of 568 will increase to higher than the weekly average.

Points to note when using the domestic abuse calls for service management information

While domestic abuse calls for service are an up-to-date source of information, they are subject to different recording practices from the Domestic Abuse Incident and Crime figures which are published by PSNI's Statistics Branch as Official Statistics. The [definition of domestic abuse](#) is available through the PSNI website.

The official statistics data series includes domestic abuse incidents that have been identified through sources other than a call for service to police. It also excludes calls for service that were initially identified as potential domestic abuse but which turned out not to meet the domestic abuse definition.

In order to incorporate these requirements and improve completeness and accuracy the official statistics data has a longer processing time. This management information is less complete and should only be used to identify an early indication of trends compared against the weekly average, as supplied in the charts below.

Analysis of the five calendar years 2015 to 2019 shows that the number of domestic abuse calls received by police is lower than the number of domestic abuse incidents recorded by police by a ratio of 1 to 1.1. This should be taken into consideration when using the figures in this release.

Figure 1 Domestic abuse calls received by police, weekly trends from Wednesday 1st January 2020 compared with the average weekly number of calls in the 12 months March'19 to February'20

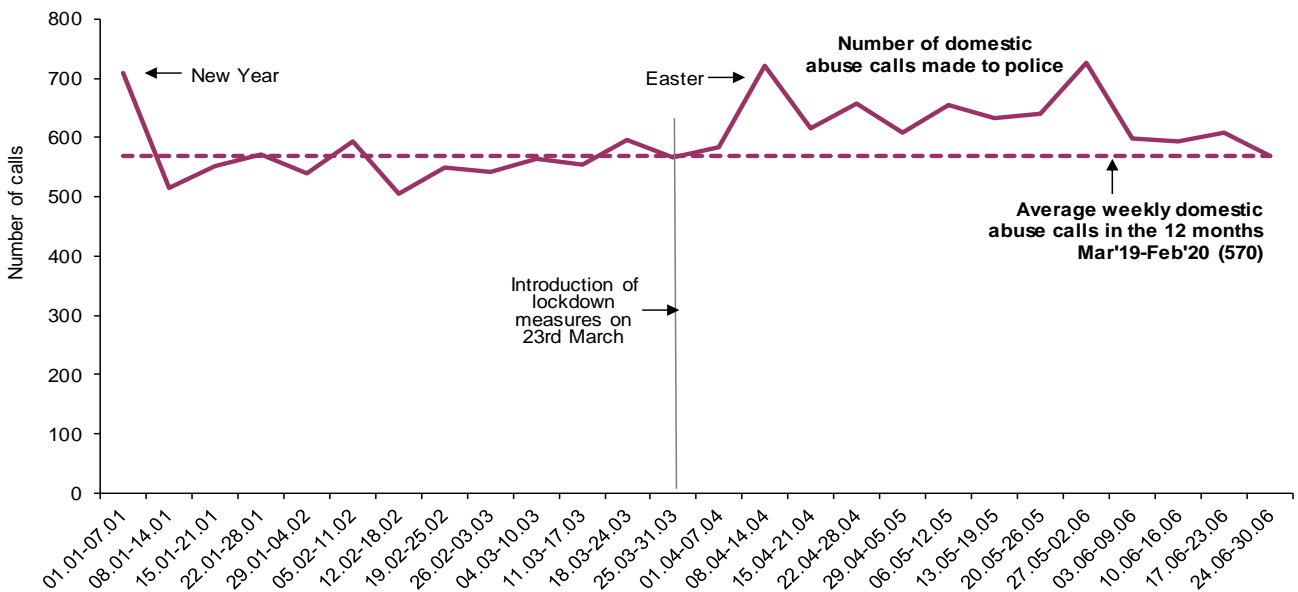


Figure 2 Domestic abuse calls received by police, weekly trends from Wednesday 4th March 2020 compared with the same time period in 2019

