

Police Service of Northern Ireland

# Incidents and Crimes with a Hate Motivation Recorded by the Police in Northern Ireland: Quarterly Update to 31 December 2015

Published 25 February 2016

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This quarterly bulletin presents the most recent statistics relating to incidents and crimes with a hate motivation recorded by the police to 31 December 2015. Figures were compiled on 11 February 2016, using data extracted from the police administrative system on that date. Figures dating back to 1 April 2015 are provisional and will be subject to change until the finalised 2015/16 data are published in May 2016. Figures on faith/religion, disability and transphobic motivated incidents and crimes are published in greater detail once a year in the annual bulletin.

**Introduction of Action Fraud within Northern Ireland:** From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud offences previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and internet crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. As these fraud offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, all crime figures within this bulletin and accompanying spreadsheet exclude fraud and therefore may differ from those previously published.

**Change to policing boundaries as a result of implementing the Review of Public Administration:** As part of the Review of Public Administration which came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, PSNI has moved from eight to eleven policing districts, with the new policing model becoming fully operational at the end of September 2015. While previously published figures were based on a best approximation to the new boundaries, figures in this bulletin are based on the fully implemented boundaries.

## Hate Motivation Definitions

The PSNI have adopted the definition for racially motivated incidents recommended by the Stephen Lawrence enquiry, namely 'Any incident, which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person.' Additionally the PSNI also use the principles of this definition to record all types of hate incidents as listed below, along with their definitions:

### Racist Incidents

A racist incident is defined as any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person. A racial group can be defined as a group of persons defined by reference to race, colour, nationality or ethnic or national origins (this includes UK National origins i.e. Scottish, English, Welsh and Irish) and references to a person's racial group refer to any racial group into which he/she falls. Racial group includes the Irish Traveller community.

### Homophobic Incidents (sexual orientation)

A homophobic incident is defined as any incident which is perceived to be homophobic by the victim or any other person. Homophobia can be defined as a fear or dislike directed towards lesbian, gay or bisexual people, or a fear or dislike directed towards their perceived lifestyle, culture or characteristics. Sexual orientation can be defined as an individual's preference for a particular sex (be it the opposite or the same), or an individual's view of their own sexuality.

### Sectarian Incidents

A sectarian incident is defined as any incident which is perceived to be sectarian by the victim or any other person. The term 'sectarian', whilst not clearly defined, is a term almost exclusively used in Northern Ireland to describe incidents of bigoted dislike or hatred of members of a different religious or political group. It is broadly accepted that within the Northern Ireland context an individual or group must be perceived to be Catholic or Protestant, Nationalist or Unionist, or Loyalist or Republican.

### Faith/Religious Incidents (non-sectarian)

A faith/religious incident is defined as any incident which is perceived to be based upon prejudice towards or hatred of the faith of the victim or so perceived by the victim or any other person. A faith or religious group can be defined as a group of persons defined by reference to religious belief or lack of religious belief. This would include Christians, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs and different sects within a religion. It also includes people who hold no religious belief at all.

### Disability (or Disablist) Incidents

A disability related incident is defined as any incident which is perceived to be based upon prejudice towards or hatred of the victim because of their disability or so perceived by the victim or any other person. Disability can be defined as any physical or mental impairment which has substantial and long-term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

### Transphobic Incidents

A transphobic incident is defined as any incident which is perceived to be transphobic by the victim or any other person. Gender should not be confused with sexual orientation. A transsexual is a person who has 'gender dysphoria' or dissatisfaction with his or her own birth gender. Transsexuals may be lesbian, gay, bisexual or heterosexual and may or may not consider an incident perpetrated against them to be homophobic.

[Incidents and crimes recorded by the police in Northern Ireland with a racist motivation](#)

[Incidents and crimes recorded by the police in Northern Ireland with a homophobic motivation](#)

[Incidents and crimes recorded by the police in Northern Ireland with a sectarian motivation](#)

[Attacks on symbolic premises](#)

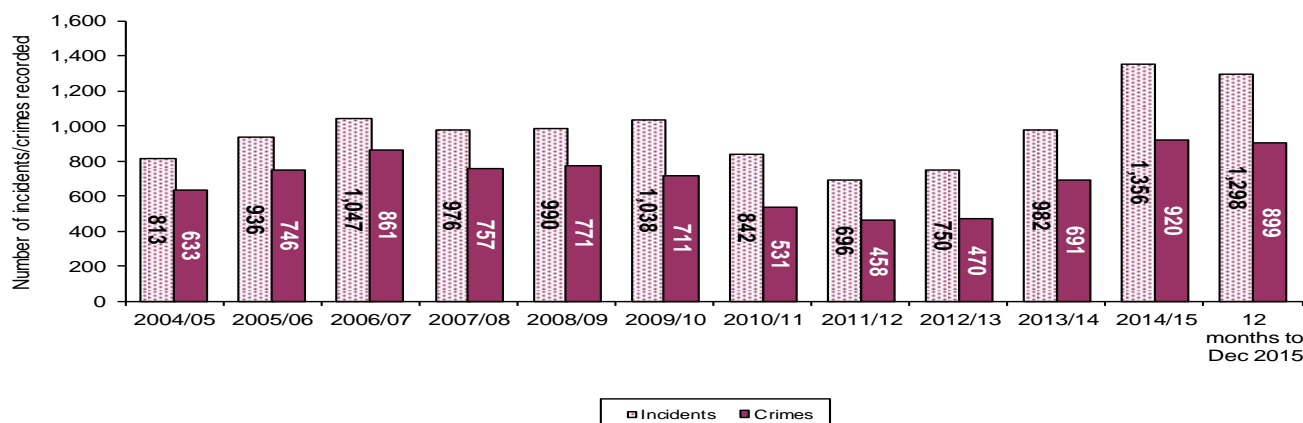
[Incidents and crimes with a faith/religion, disability or transphobic motivation](#)

[Racist crimes by ethnicity and nationality of victim](#)

## OVERALL TRENDS IN INCIDENTS AND CRIMES WITH A RACIST MOTIVATION

- The level of racist incidents and crimes has increased each year 2011/12 to 2014/15. The number of racist incidents and crimes recorded in the latest 12 months to December 2015 (1,298 incidents and 899 crimes) are showing a decrease compared with the financial year 2014/15 (58 fewer incidents and 21 fewer crimes). Please note that the crimes are included in the incident count and the two should not be added together.

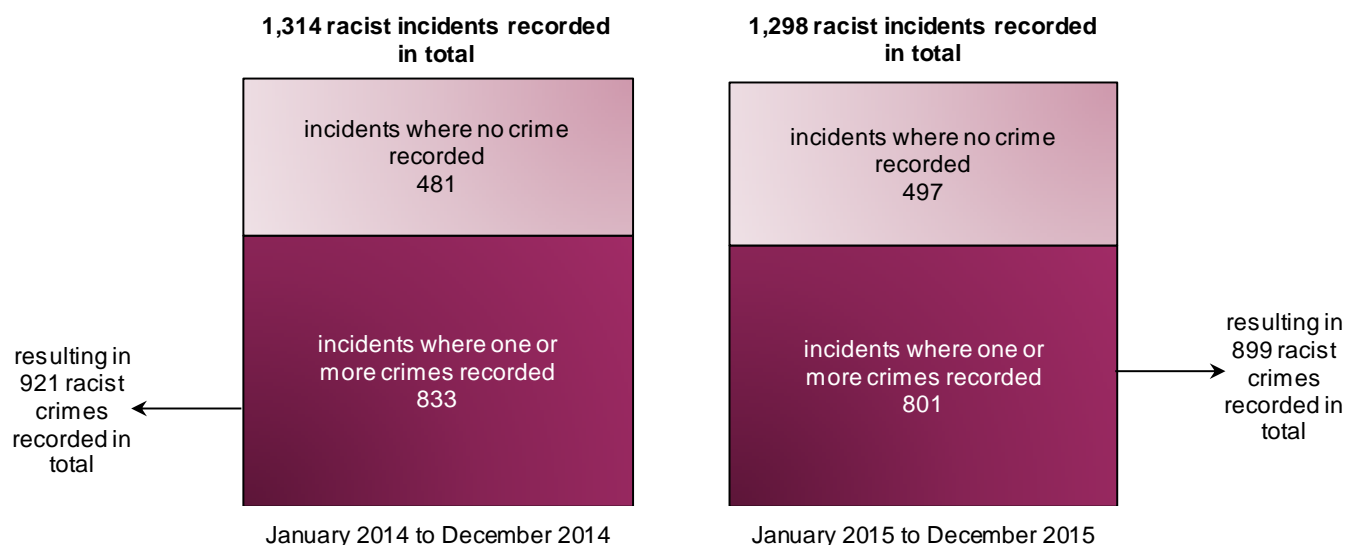
**Figure 1 Trends in racist motivated incidents and crimes**



## COMPARISON OF LATEST 12 MONTHS WITH PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS

- In the twelve months to 31 December 2015 there were 1,298 incidents recorded where there was a racist motivation. Of these 1,298 incidents there were 497 which did not contain a crime (i.e., non-notifiable offences or incidents where the circumstances did not amount to an offence being committed). The remaining 801 incidents contained one or more crimes (amounting to 899 recorded crimes in total).

**Figure 2 Incidents and crimes with a racist motivation**



**Table 1 Total number of racist incidents with and without crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

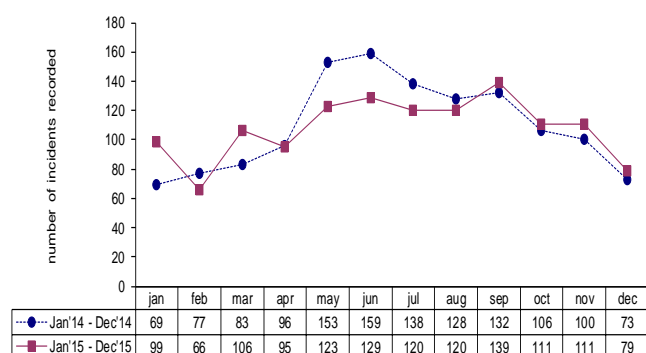
Racist incidents	numbers		
	Jan'14 to Dec'14	Jan'15 to Dec'15	change
Incidents not containing any crime	481	497	16
Incidents with one or more crimes recorded	833	801	-32
Total number of incidents	1,314	1,298	-16

**Table 2 Racist crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

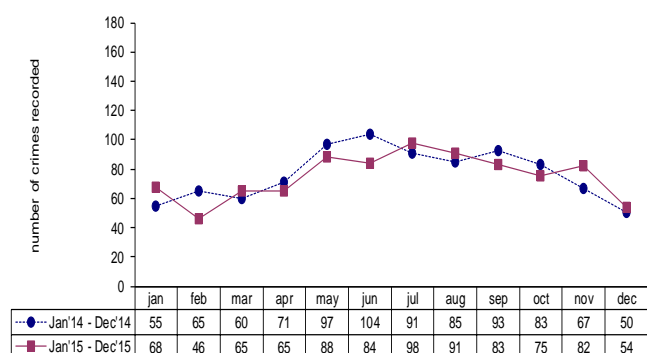
Racist crimes	Numbers		
	Jan'14 to Dec'14	Jan'15 to Dec'15	change
Racist crimes recorded	921	899	-22

- Racist incidents have decreased in the latest 12 months to December 2015 compared with the previous 12 months; (down by 16 incidents from 1,314 to 1,298), whilst racist crimes have decreased by 22 from 921 to 899. When comparing 2014/15 with 2013/14 more than half of the increase in incidents and two thirds of the increase in crimes was concentrated within Belfast. This is no longer the case when comparing the latest 12 months with the previous 12 months – within Belfast Policing District 16 fewer racist incidents and 41 fewer racist crimes were recorded.
- The trends in racist incidents and crimes for the latest twelve month period have shown higher levels in both incidents and crimes in comparison to the previous twelve months, for six out of the twelve months. Since the beginning of the current financial year, racist incidents and crimes have been generally lower compared to the same months in the previous financial year, most notably in May and June (30 fewer incidents and 9 fewer crimes comparing May 2015 to May 2014, and 30 fewer incidents and 20 fewer crimes comparing June 2015 to June 2014). Since July 2015 the difference in incidents and crimes narrowed compared to the same months the previous year, with racist incidents and crimes now showing slightly higher levels in the last few months compared to the same months the previous year.
- The racist crime outcomes rate for the latest 12 months is 16.4 per cent, 0.4 percentage points higher than the rate for the previous 12 months.

**Figure 3 Racist motivated incidents each month January 2014 to December 2015**



**Figure 4 Racist motivated crimes each month January 2014 to December 2015**



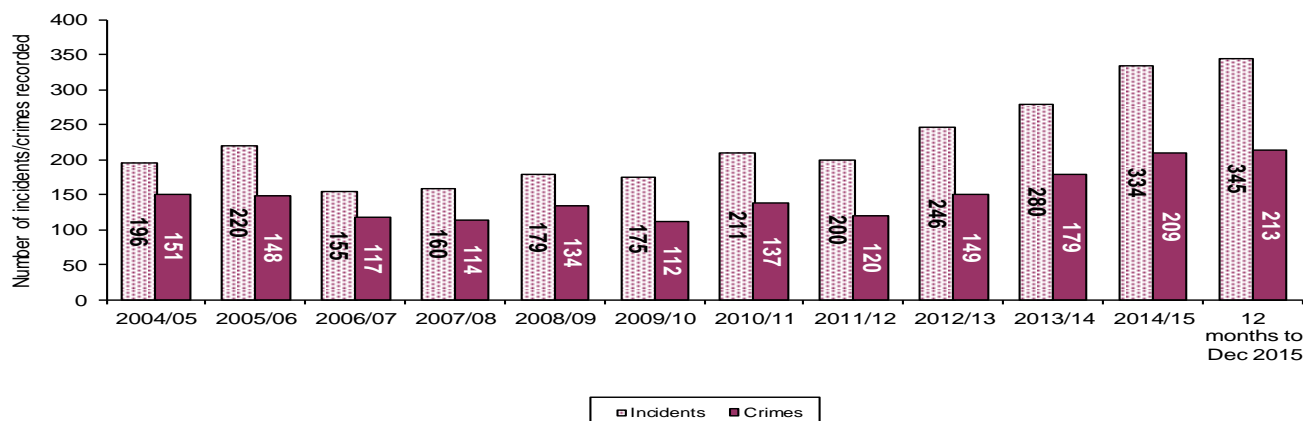
**Table 3 Racist motivated crimes and crime outcomes rates recorded in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

Crime Type	Numbers and percentages					
	Crimes Recorded			Crime Outcome Rate (%)		
	12 months to Dec 2014	12 months to Dec 2015	change	12 months to Dec 2014	12 months to Dec 2015	% point change
Violence against the person offences	399	479	80	26.6	23.4	-3.2
Theft (including burglary) & criminal damage	494	390	-104	7.3	6.9	-0.4
All other offences	28	30	2	17.9	26.7	8.8
<b>Total recorded crime (racist motivation)</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>-22</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>0.4</b>

## OVERALL TRENDS IN INCIDENTS AND CRIMES WITH A HOMOPHOBIC MOTIVATION

- Homophobic motivated incidents have generally increased year on year since 2006/07. The figures for the latest 12 months to December 2015 (345 incidents and 213 crimes) are showing an increase of 11 incidents and 4 crimes on the 2014/15 levels and are the highest levels recorded since the data series began in 2004/05. Please note that the crimes are included in the incident count and the two should not be added together.

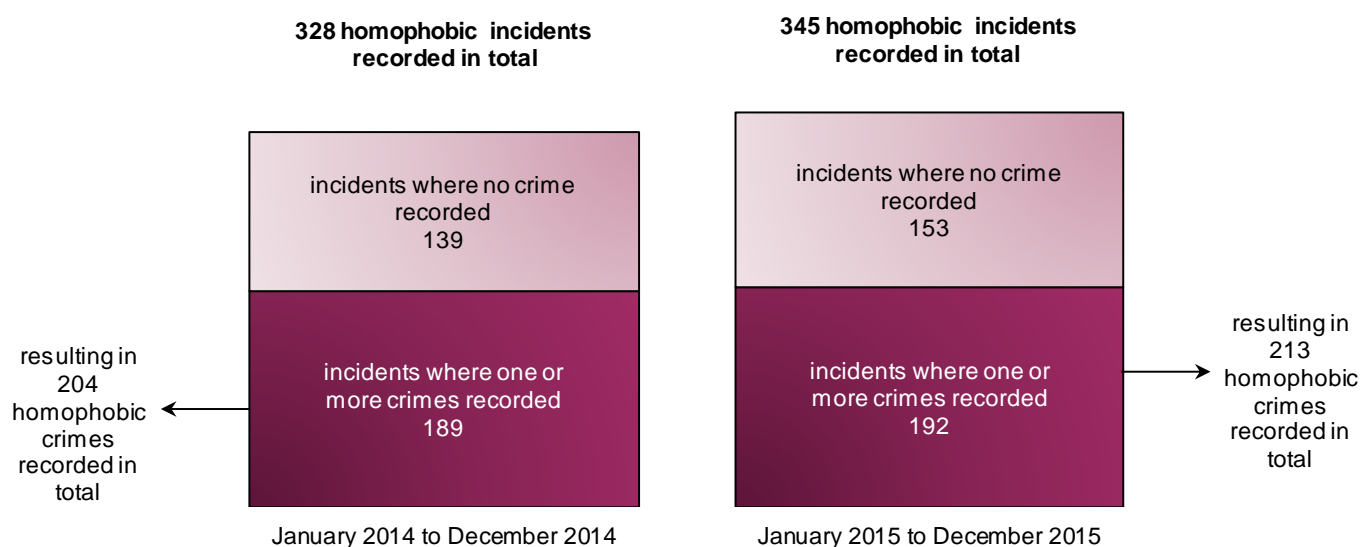
**Figure 5 Trends in homophobic motivated incidents and crimes**



## COMPARISON OF LATEST 12 MONTHS WITH PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS

- In the twelve months to 31 December 2015 there were 345 incidents recorded where there was a homophobic motivation. Of these 345 incidents, there were 153 which did not contain a crime (i.e., non-notifiable offences or incidents where the circumstances did not amount to an offence being committed). The remaining 192 incidents contained one or more crimes (amounting to 213 recorded crimes in total).

**Figure 6 Incidents and crimes with a homophobic motivation**



**Table 4 Total number of homophobic incidents with and without crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

Homophobic incidents	numbers		
	Jan'14 to Dec'14	Jan'15 to Dec'15	change
Incidents not containing any crime	139	153	14
Incidents with one or more crimes recorded	189	192	3
Total number of incidents	328	345	17

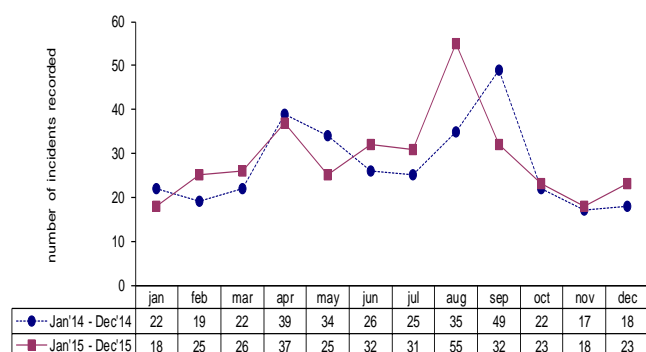
**Table 5 Homophobic crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

Homophobic crimes	numbers		
	Jan'14 to Dec'14	Jan'15 to Dec'15	change
Homophobic crimes recorded	204	213	9

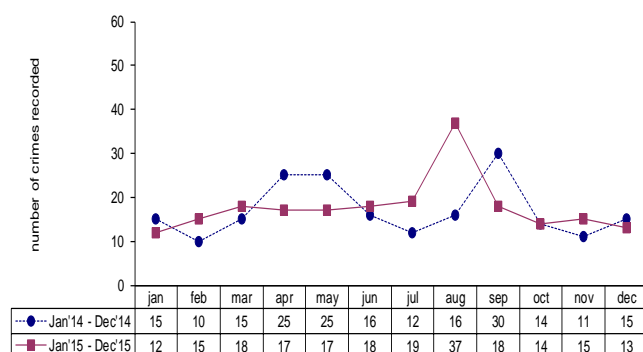


- There were 345 homophobic motivated incidents and 213 homophobic motivated crimes recorded in the twelve months to December 2015 (an increase of 17 incidents and 9 crimes compared with the previous twelve months).
- Homophobic motivated incidents and crimes for the twelve months to December 2015 showed similar trends when compared with the previous twelve months, although at generally higher levels for eight out of the twelve months for incidents and six out of the twelve months for crimes. There was a noticeable increase in both incidents and crimes in August 2015 when compared with August 2014 (an additional 20 incidents and 21 crimes), followed by a noticeable decrease in September 2015 (17 fewer incidents and 12 fewer crimes compared with September 2014). Since September levels have been broadly similar compared to the same months the previous year.
- The homophobic crime outcomes rate for the latest 12 months is 26.3 per cent, 8.6 percentage points higher than the rate for the previous 12 months.

**Figure 7 Homophobic motivated incidents each month January 2014 to December 2015**



**Figure 8 Homophobic motivated crimes each month January 2014 to December 2015**



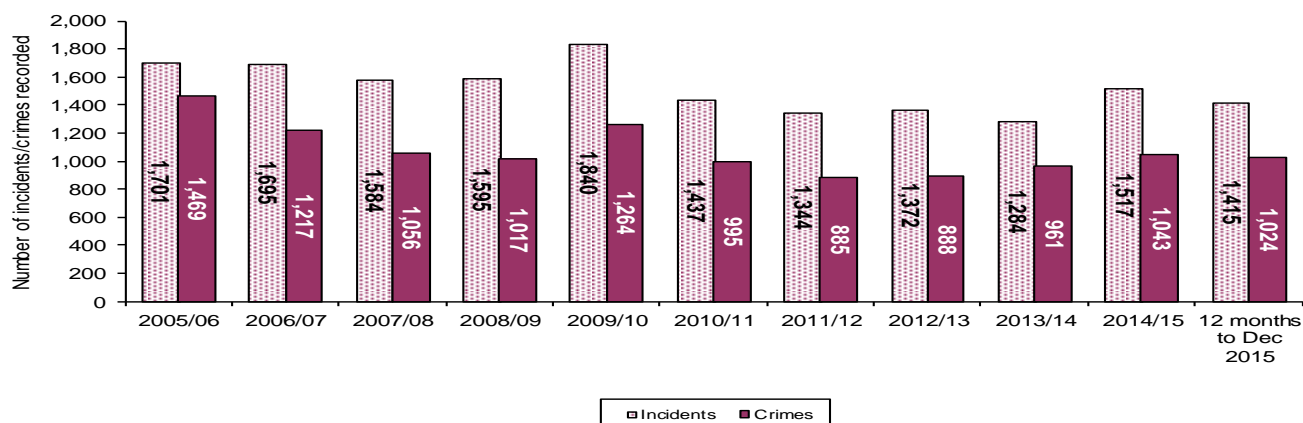
**Table 6 Homophobic motivated crimes and crime outcomes rates recorded in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

Crime Type	Numbers and percentages					
	Crimes Recorded			Crime Outcome Rate (%)		
	12 months to Dec 2014	12 months to Dec 2015	change	12 months to Dec 2014	12 months to Dec 2015	% point change
Violence against the person offences	143	147	4	22.4	35.4	13.0
Theft (including burglary) & criminal damage	55	57	2	5.5	5.3	-0.2
All other offences	6	9	3	16.7	11.1	-5.6
<b>Total recorded crime (homophobic motivation)</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>8.6</b>

## OVERALL TRENDS IN INCIDENTS AND CRIMES WITH A SECTARIAN MOTIVATION

- Levels of sectarian motivated incidents have been very similar over the last few years, while crime figures have been showing increases year on year since 2011/12. The level of sectarian incidents and crimes for the twelve months to December 2015 (1,415 incidents and 1,024 crimes) is the third highest incident level and second highest crime level recorded since 2009/10 (there were 1,517 incidents and 1,043 crimes recorded in 2014/15).

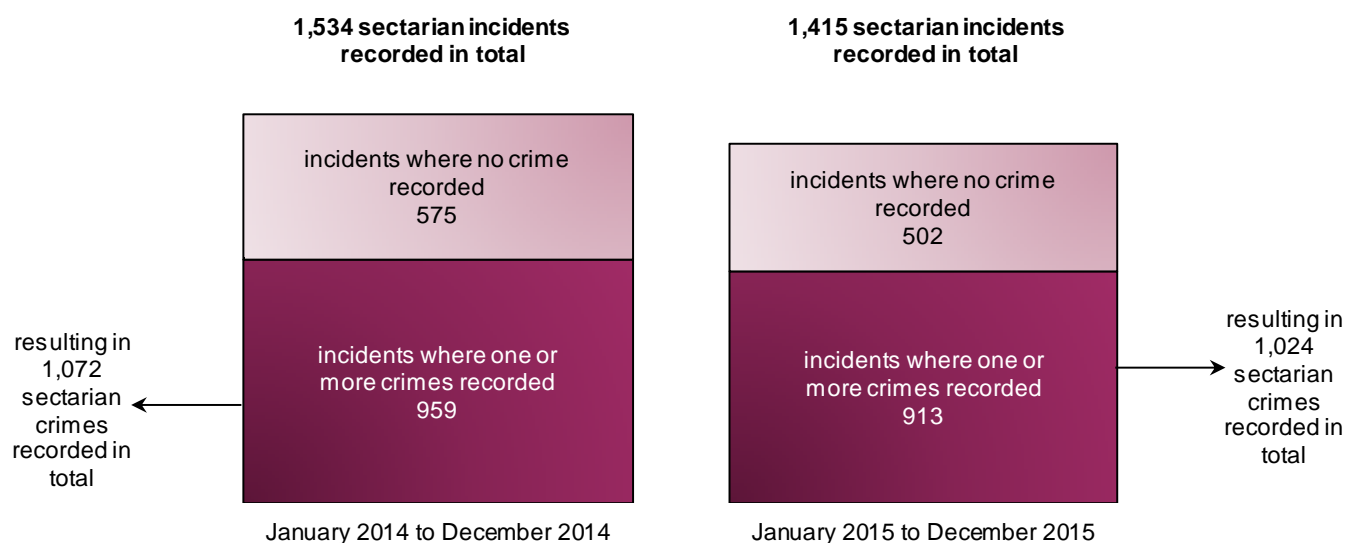
**Figure 9 Trends in sectarian motivated incidents and crimes**



## COMPARISON OF LATEST 12 MONTHS WITH PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS

- In the twelve months to 31 December 2015 there were 1,415 incidents recorded where there was a sectarian motivation. Of these 1,415 incidents there were 502 which did not contain a crime (i.e. non-notifiable offences or incidents where the circumstances did not amount to an offence being committed). The remaining 913 incidents contained one or more crimes (amounting to 1,024 recorded crimes in total).

**Figure 10 Incidents and crimes with a sectarian motivation**



**Table 7 Total number of sectarian incidents with and without crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

Sectarian incidents	numbers		
	Jan'14 to Dec'14	Jan'15 to Dec'15	change
Incidents not containing any crime	575	502	-73
Incidents with one or more crimes recorded	959	913	-46
Total number of incidents	1,534	1,415	-119

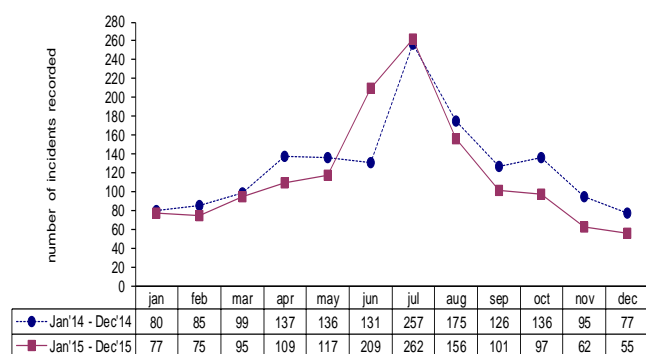
**Table 8 Sectarian crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

Sectarian crimes	numbers		
	Jan'14 to Dec'14	Jan'15 to Dec'15	change
Sectarian crimes recorded	1,072	1,024	-48

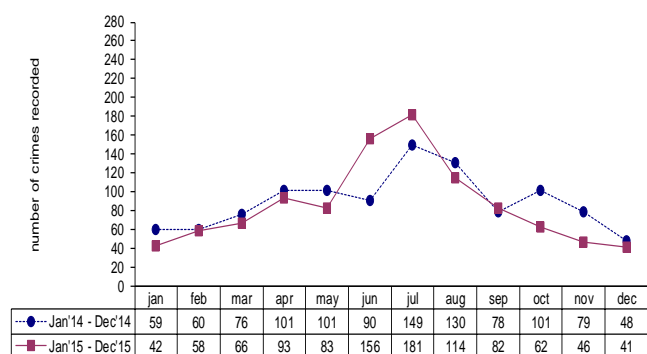


- There were 1,415 sectarian motivated incidents and 1,024 sectarian motivated crimes recorded in the twelve months to December 2015 (a decrease of 119 incidents and 48 crimes on the previous twelve months).
- The number of sectarian incidents recorded during the latest 12 months was lower in ten of the twelve months compared with the previous 12 months (with sectarian crimes lower in nine of the twelve months). During the current twelve months the highest levels of sectarian motivated incidents and crimes occurred in the months of June and July, whereas during the previous twelve months the highest levels were seen during July and August. The levels of incidents and crimes recorded during these months may be linked to unrest during this period. The peaks of 262 sectarian incidents recorded in July 2015 and 257 incidents in July 2014 are the highest levels seen in recent years with only three other months since the start of the data series showing higher levels (July 2006, September 2005 and July 2009).
- The sectarian crime outcomes rate for the latest 12 months is 15.6 per cent, 1.4 percentage points higher than the rate for the previous 12 months.

**Figure 11** Sectarian motivated incidents each month January 2014 to December 2015



**Figure 12** Sectarian motivated crimes each month January 2014 to December 2015



**Table 9** Sectarian motivated crimes and crime outcomes rates recorded in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year

Crime Type	Numbers and percentages					
	Crimes Recorded			Crime Outcome Rate (%)		
	12 months to Dec 2014	12 months to Dec 2015	change	12 months to Dec 2014	12 months to Dec 2015	% point change
Violence against the person offences	502	486	-16	19.5	20.4	0.8
Theft (including burglary) & criminal damage	511	488	-23	7.6	7.6	-0.1
All other offences	59	50	-9	27.1	48.0	20.9
<b>Total recorded crime (sectarian motivation)</b>	<b>1,072</b>	<b>1,024</b>	<b>-48</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>1.4</b>

## INCIDENTS AND CRIMES WITH A FAITH/RELIGION, DISABILITY OR TRANSPHOBIC MOTIVATION

Please note that the crimes for each of these motivations are included in the incident count and the two should not be added together. Additional data in relation to outcomes is available in the [excel summary tables](#) which accompany this bulletin.

### FAITH/RELIGION MOTIVATION

**Table 10 Total number of faith/religion incidents with and without crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

	numbers		
<b>Faith/religion incidents</b>	<b>Jan'14 to Dec'14</b>	<b>Jan'15 to Dec'15</b>	<b>change</b>
Incidents not containing any crime	26	22	-4
Incidents with one or more crimes recorded	24	18	-6
Total number of incidents	50	40	-10

**Table 11 Faith/religion crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

	numbers		
<b>Faith/religion crimes</b>	<b>Jan'14 to Dec'14</b>	<b>Jan'15 to Dec'15</b>	<b>change</b>
Faith/religion crimes recorded	26	18	-8

### DISABILITY MOTIVATION

**Table 12 Total number of disability incidents with and without crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

	numbers		
<b>Disability motivated incidents</b>	<b>Jan'14 to Dec'14</b>	<b>Jan'15 to Dec'15</b>	<b>change</b>
Incidents not containing any crime	63	74	11
Incidents with one or more crimes recorded	71	70	-1
Total number of incidents	134	144	10

**Table 13 Disability motivated crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

	numbers		
<b>Disability motivated crimes</b>	<b>Jan'14 to Dec'14</b>	<b>Jan'15 to Dec'15</b>	<b>change</b>
Disability crimes recorded	72	73	1

### TRANSPHOBIC MOTIVATION

**Table 14 Total number of transphobic incidents with and without crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

	numbers		
<b>Transphobic incidents</b>	<b>Jan'14 to Dec'14</b>	<b>Jan'15 to Dec'15</b>	<b>change</b>
Incidents not containing any crime	14	9	-5
Incidents with one or more crimes recorded	8	11	3
Total number of incidents	22	20	-2

**Table 15 Transphobic crimes in the year to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

	numbers		
<b>Transphobic crimes</b>	<b>Jan'14 to Dec'14</b>	<b>Jan'15 to Dec'15</b>	<b>change</b>
Transphobic crimes recorded	8	11	3

## ATTACKS ON SYMBOLIC PREMISES

Attacks on symbolic premises are recorded where a crime has a sectarian motivation, where the premises is the intended target of the attack, and where the premises are one of the following; a church or chapel, a GAA or Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, an Orange Hall or Apprentice Boys Hall, or a school. These figures are a subset of sectarian motivated crimes.

**Table 16 Attacks on symbolic premises in the 12 months to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

Type of symbolic premises	Numbers	
	12 months to Dec 2014	12 months to Dec 2015
Church or Chapel	12	6
GAA or Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall	6	*
Orange or Apprentice Boys Hall	19	18
School	5	*

\* Cell suppression has been applied to ensure that the identity of individuals/organisations or any private information relating to them is not revealed.

## COMPARISON OF RACIST CRIMES BY ETHNICITY AND NATIONALITY OF VICTIM

Table 17 shows the nationalities of victims of racist crime. These figures are based on nationality only and do not take into account the victim's ethnicity.

Different ethnicity classifications have been used within the PSNI crime recording systems since 2007/08. Table 18 reflects racist crimes by the ethnicity of the victim grouped by Asian, Black, Mixed/Other and White ethnicities. The historic classifications that are no longer available for selection on the NICHE system are separately identified. These may still be identified in the data where the victim details were recorded while the historic classifications were in use.

Not all victims of the same nationality may have the same ethnicity. This is particularly evident for those victims of racist crimes who identify their nationality as UK and Ireland. Table 19 shows the most frequently recorded victim nationalities for each ethnicity. This makes it possible to see, for example, the number of victims with UK and Ireland nationality who have Asian, Black or White ethnicity. This can also be seen in relation to a number of other nationalities.

**Table 17 Racist crimes by nationality<sup>1</sup> of victim recorded in the 12 months to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

Nationality	Numbers		
	12 months to Dec 2014	12 months to Dec 2015	change
Algeria	7	5	-2
Bangladesh	7	3	-4
China	23	15	-8
Czech Republic	17	8	-9
Egypt	10	6	-4
Hungary	22	15	-7
India	22	27	5
Iran, Islamic republic of	4	5	1
Latvia	9	12	3
Lithuania	29	32	3
Morocco	1	3	2
Nigeria	21	20	-1
Pakistan	27	16	-11
Philippines	5	10	5
Poland	161	151	-10
Portugal	26	23	-3
Romania	31	28	-3
Slovakia	34	29	-5
Somalia	12	21	9
South Africa	9	7	-2
Sudan	13	10	-3
Turkey	11	11	0
UK and Ireland	190	221	31
Zimbabwe	9	5	-4
All other nationalities	75	93	18
Ethnicity Missing/Unknown Person	67	74	7
Number of racist crimes with a person victim	842	850	8

<sup>1</sup> These figures are based on nationality only and do not take into account the victim's ethnicity.

**Table 18 Racist crimes by ethnicity<sup>1</sup> of victim recorded in the 12 months to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

Ethnicity	Numbers		
	12 months to Dec 2014	12 months to Dec 2015	change
Asian	119	93	-26
<i>Bangladeshi</i>	6	1	-5
<i>Chinese</i>	18	14	-4
<i>Indian</i>	26	31	5
<i>Pakistani</i>	33	15	-18
<i>Other Asian</i>	23	20	-3
<i>Historic classification related to Asian ethnicity</i>	13	12	-1
Black	120	124	4
<i>Black African</i>	80	77	-3
<i>Black Caribbean</i>	12	11	-1
<i>Black Other</i>	22	28	6
<i>Historic classification related to Black ethnicity</i>	6	8	2
Mixed/Other	66	60	-6
<i>Mixed</i>	20	16	-4
<i>Other ethnic group</i>	41	40	-1
<i>Historic classification related to other ethnic group</i>	5	4	-1
White	461	477	16
<i>White</i>	382	385	3
<i>Irish Traveller</i>	18	34	16
<i>Historic classification related to White ethnicity</i>	61	58	-3
Ethnicity Missing/Unknown Person	76	96	20
Number of racist crimes with a person victim	842	850	8

<sup>1</sup> Victim ethnicity has been grouped into Asian, Black, Mixed/Other and White. The historic classifications that are no longer available for selection on the NICHE system are separately identified. These may still be identified in the data where the victim details were recorded while the historic classifications were in use.

**Table 19 Racist crimes by ethnicity and nationality<sup>1</sup> of victim recorded in the 12 months to 31 December 2015 compared with the previous year**

Ethnicity ( <i>Nationality</i> )	Numbers		
	12 months to Dec 2014	12 months to Dec 2015	change
Asian: <i>of which</i>	119	93	-26
<i>Bangladesh</i>	7	2	-5
<i>China</i>	19	13	-6
<i>India</i>	22	23	1
<i>Pakistan</i>	27	13	-14
<i>Philippines</i>	2	4	2
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	14	17	3
<i>All other nationalities</i>	14	15	1
<i>Nationality missing</i>	14	6	-8
Black: <i>of which</i>	120	124	4
<i>Nigeria</i>	20	18	-2
<i>Portugal</i>	9	9	0
<i>Somalia</i>	11	19	8
<i>South Africa</i>	8	5	-3
<i>Sudan</i>	11	8	-3
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	18	20	2
<i>Zimbabwe</i>	9	5	-4
<i>All other nationalities</i>	24	28	4
<i>Nationality missing</i>	10	12	2
Mixed/Other	66	60	-6
White: <i>of which</i>	461	477	16
<i>Czech Republic</i>	17	8	-9
<i>Hungary</i>	20	13	-7
<i>Latvia</i>	8	9	1
<i>Lithuania</i>	25	30	5
<i>Poland</i>	150	134	-16
<i>Portugal</i>	11	11	0
<i>Romania</i>	15	17	2
<i>Slovakia</i>	30	25	-5
<i>Turkey</i>	3	3	0
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	130	151	21
<i>All other nationalities</i>	29	51	22
<i>Nationality missing</i>	23	25	2
Ethnicity Missing/Unknown Person	76	96	20
Number of racist crimes with a person victim	842	850	8

<sup>1</sup> Not all nationalities have been listed in this table as, for most of the nationalities identified, the numbers are consistently small.

## NOTES

Unlike the Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS), police recorded crime figures do not include crimes that have not been reported to the police or those that the police decide not to record, but they do cover crimes against those aged under 16, organisations such as businesses, and crimes 'against the state' i.e. with no immediate victim (e.g. possession of drugs).

Like any administrative data, police recorded crime statistics are affected by the rules governing the recording of data, systems in place and operational decisions in respect of the allocation of resources. More proactive policing in a given area could lead to an increase in crimes recorded without any real change in underlying crime trends. These issues need to be taken into account when using these data.

### Time periods covered

The figures in this bulletin are presented on a financial year basis and, in this context:

- Quarter 1 refers to the months April, May and June
- Quarter 2 refers to the months July, August and September
- Quarter 3 refers to the months October, November and December
- Quarter 4 refers to the months January, February and March

### Data accuracy

Figures within the current year to date are provisional and will be subject to change until finalised figures for the full financial year are published in May 2016. While crimes included within the police recorded crime statistics for Northern Ireland are individually checked for compliance with the Home Office Counting Rules by the PSNI's Statistics Branch, the identification of a hate motivation is derived from a motivation 'tick box' on the system used by PSNI to record crime. The motivation is identified and completed by a police officer or member of police staff for each such reported incident or crime. The correct application of a hate motivation for all such incidents/crimes is not quality assured by the PSNI's Statistics Branch, but audits and data quality checks are routinely conducted in an attempt to ensure that any under or over-recording is corrected.

### Additional data

This bulletin shows a Northern Ireland level summary of racist, homophobic and sectarian incidents and crimes recorded by the police in the 12 months to December 2015. Accompanying this bulletin are additional data in the form of [excel summary tables](#) and [excel pivot table data](#). The data is also available in open data format.

The pivot tables allow the user to manipulate the data, select the data they are most interested in and carry out calculations on the data. The data records displayed in the pivot tables are also available in the same spreadsheet files. The pivot tables provide a range of data including incidents and crimes with hate motivations and crime outcomes where there is a hate motivation (both numbers and rates). Each of these data measures is available:

- at Northern Ireland level as well as for each policing district and policing area;
- for a range of crime types; and
- for a range of time periods (previous and current rolling 12 months, previous and current financial years to the end of the latest quarter and each of the last 8 quarters).

### Further information

Annual figures on hate motivated incidents and crimes from 2004/05 to 2014/15 are available in the publication Trends in Hate Motivated Incidents and Crimes Recorded by the Police in Northern Ireland 2004/05 to 2014/15, available at:

[https://www.psni.police.uk/globalassets/inside-the-psni/our-statistics/hate-motivation-statistics/hate\\_motivated\\_incidents\\_and\\_crimes\\_in\\_northern\\_ireland\\_2004-05\\_to\\_2014-15.pdf](https://www.psni.police.uk/globalassets/inside-the-psni/our-statistics/hate-motivation-statistics/hate_motivated_incidents_and_crimes_in_northern_ireland_2004-05_to_2014-15.pdf)

Further details on Police Recorded Crime statistics, including those with a hate motivation, are available in the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#). This is a reference guide with explanatory notes regarding the issues and classifications which are key to the production and presentation of police recorded crime statistics. The [hate motivation definitions](#) upon which these statistics are based are also available in this user guide and on the PSNI Internet site.

Copies of other PSNI publications are available from the PSNI Internet site:

<https://www.psni.police.uk/inside-psni/Statistics/>

For further information about the police recorded crime statistics for Northern Ireland, or to contact the PSNI Crime and Incident Statistician please:

Email: [statistics@psni.police.uk](mailto:statistics@psni.police.uk);

Write to: Statistics Branch, Lisnasharragh, 42 Montgomery Road, Belfast, BT6 9LD; or

Telephone: 028 9065 0222 ext 24135, Fax: 028 9092 2998