

Police Service of Northern Ireland

# Police Recorded Crime in Northern Ireland 2010/11

1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011

Published 12<sup>th</sup> May 2011

# Contents

	Page
Introduction	1
Changes to crime classifications being implemented from 2011/12	2
Conventions used in figures and tables	3
Key Results	4
Figure 1 Recorded Crime 2001/02 – 2010/11	5
Table 2 Recorded Crime: Offences Recorded and Detected 2009/10 and 2010/11	6
Table 3 Recorded Crime: Offences Recorded and Detected by District 2009/10 and 2010/11	9
Table 4 Recorded Crime: Offences Recorded and Detected by Area 2009/10 and 2010/11	10
Table 5 Recorded Crime: Offences Detected by Method of Detection 2009/10 and 2010/11	11
Figure 6 Recorded Crime and Detection Rate 2001/02 – 2010/11	11
Police Recording of Crime – Definitions	12
Map of PSNI Policing Districts as of 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2007	13

# Introduction

The Police Service of Northern Ireland publishes figures on the levels and trends of crime in Northern Ireland, based on police recorded crime data. An alternative but complementary set of crime measures, the Northern Ireland Crime Survey, is published by the Department of Justice for Northern Ireland. Each source of crime information has different strengths and weaknesses but can be looked at together to provide a more comprehensive picture of crime than could be obtained from either series alone. The focus of this bulletin is on police recorded crime statistics. Details on the Northern Ireland Crime Survey can be found via the Department of Justice for Northern Ireland Internet site: <http://www.dojni.gov.uk/index/statistics-research/stats-research-publications.htm>.

Unlike the Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS), police recorded crime figures do not include crimes that have not been reported to the police or incidents that the police decide not to record. It was estimated in 2009/10 that around 50 per cent of NICS comparable crime was reported to the police in Northern Ireland although this varied considerably for individual offence types.

Recorded crime figures are an important indicator of police workload, and can be used for local crime pattern analysis and provide a good measure of trends in well-reported crimes (in particular, homicide, which is not covered by the NICS). There are also some categories of crime (such as drug possession offences) where the volume of offences recorded are heavily influenced by police activities and priorities; in such cases recorded crime figures may not provide an accurate picture of the true extent of criminality.

Recorded crime figures are used widely within PSNI as management information, and to monitor performance on crime and detection rate targets against the Policing Plan. The figures are also used by the Northern Ireland Policing Board and at local level by District Policing Partnerships to monitor the performance of the police. The Department of Justice for Northern Ireland is a key user of crime figures in relation to policy development.

Recorded crime statistics are affected by changes in reporting and recording practices. To ensure consistency, police recording practice is governed by Home Office Counting Rules and the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS). These rules provide a national standard for the recording and classifying of notifiable offences by police forces in England and Wales. Although the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not fall under the jurisdiction of the Home Office, the same recording practices are followed and applied within Northern Ireland. However differences in legislation between the two jurisdictions must be taken into account when making comparisons between police recorded crime statistics for England & Wales and those for Northern Ireland. The latest version of the Counting Rules and more detailed information is available at:

<http://homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/crime/counting-rules/>.

Further definitions on recorded crimes and detections are provided on page 12.

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 Central Statistics Unit. Data quality checks are also conducted regularly throughout the year to identify and correct inconsistencies within the data and to minimise any over recording of crime. In addition, the Central Statistics Unit conduct internal audits of reports of incidents made to the police to identify the risk of a crime being incorrectly missed from the statistics and so to minimise the under-recording of crime. Audits were conducted during 2010/11 to check for any potential missed crimes. The results indicated

that, with an average of 8,750 crimes recorded each month during 2010/11, there were about 80 crimes each month which were not recorded. These 'missed' crimes tended to be minor assaults and harassment offences, criminal damage and theft. The results of the 2010/11 audit were an improvement on audits for 2009/10 which estimated that around 200 crimes each month were not recorded (there was an average of 9,100 crimes recorded each month during 2009/10).

Police recorded crime statistics in Northern Ireland are currently published as an annual bulletin providing finalised figures for the latest financial year, along with trends and commentary. Monthly updates providing a summary of the latest police recorded crime statistics are published throughout the year, these statistics being provisional and subject to change.

The publication date for the annual bulletin is pre-announced and can be found via the UK National Statistics Publication Hub: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/index.html>. It is also made available via the PSNI Internet site, along with the date of each monthly update: [http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates\\_statistics.htm](http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates_statistics.htm).

Copies of 'Police Recorded Crime in Northern Ireland 2010/11' are available from the PSNI Internet site: [http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates\\_statistics.htm](http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates_statistics.htm), which also provides access to the latest monthly update and to annual reports back to 2002/03.

We welcome comment and feedback on these statistics. If you would like to forward your views, receive notification of new publications or be kept informed of developments relating to PSNI statistics, please email your contact details using the email address provided below.

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

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

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

Telephone: 0845 600 8000 ext 24135, Fax: 028 9092 2998

This statistical bulletin is a National Statistics output produced to the highest professional standards and free from political interference. It has been produced by statisticians seconded to the Police Service of Northern Ireland from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, working to the Official Statistics Code of Practice: <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html>

## **Changes to crime classifications being implemented from 2011/12**

During 2010/11 an exercise was conducted to more closely align the crime recording classifications used in PSNI publications with those used by the Home Office in their publications on police recorded crime figures for England and Wales. The aim of this exercise was to improve comparability of police recorded crime figures in Northern Ireland with those for England and Wales, while taking into account legislative differences between the two jurisdictions. Details of these classification changes and their implications are available on the PSNI Internet Site:

[http://www.psni.police.uk/psni\\_paper\\_on\\_crime\\_recording\\_realignment\\_final\\_web\\_version.pdf](http://www.psni.police.uk/psni_paper_on_crime_recording_realignment_final_web_version.pdf)

While the crime figures published in this bulletin are based on the existing classifications used within PSNI, this is the last bulletin which will be produced using these classifications. A bulletin containing a data series from 1998/99 through to 2010/11 using the realigned classification will be published in June 2011. Previously published figures for the financial years 2002/03 to 2009/10 will remain available in the Crime Statistics Archive on the PSNI Internet site:

[http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates\\_statistics/update\\_crime\\_statistics/updates\\_crime\\_statistics\\_archive.htm](http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates_statistics/update_crime_statistics/updates_crime_statistics_archive.htm).

All police recorded crime figures relating to 2011/12 onwards will be published using the realigned crime classification.

## **Conventions used in figures and tables**

While the detection rates are rounded to one decimal place, the detection rate change in % pts is calculated on the unrounded detection rates and then rounded to one decimal place.

'-' indicates that for offences recorded a percentage change is not reported because the base number of offences is less than 50, and that for offences detected a detection rate cannot be calculated as there were no offences recorded.

# Key Results

## Overall Crime – Number Recorded

- A total of 105,040 offences were recorded during 2010/11 compared with 109,139 in 2009/10, representing a decrease of 4,099 (-3.8%). This is also the lowest level of crime recorded since the revised Home Office Counting Rules were introduced in April 1998.
- The months from November 2010 to February 2011 saw low crime levels, similar to those experienced during the same period in the previous financial year. The lowest monthly crime figure since the revised Home Office Counting Rules were introduced in April 1998 occurred during December 2010 when 7,354 crimes were recorded. Prior to that the lowest monthly figure was 7,824 in January 2010. It should be noted that these low crime levels experienced over the last couple of years coincide with the more extreme weather conditions across Northern Ireland at those times.
- The latest available police recorded crime figures for England and Wales (12 months to December 2010) show a fall of 6% in crime levels.

## Overall Crime – Detection Rate

- The overall detection rate during 2010/11 was 27.3%, 1.5 percentage points higher than that achieved in 2009/10.
- The sanction detection rate has increased each year since 2001/02 when it stood at 11.3% to the current level of 27.3% (since 2007/08 both the sanction and overall detection rates have been effectively one and the same).

## Violent Crime - Overall

- Overall violent crime fell by 237 (-0.7%) from 33,100 to 32,863.
- The violent crime detection rate increased from 34.1% to 36.9% (2.8 percentage points).

## Violent Crime - Offences against the person

- Offences against the person fell by 443 (-1.5%), while the detection rate rose by 3.1 percentage points from 35.4% to 38.5%.
- There was an overall fall in the number of assaults. More serious assaults (wounding and GBH both with and without intent) fell by 183, AOABH fell by 150 and assaults without injury (common/aggravated assault) fell by 364. However the number of offences of assault on police increased by 222.

## Violent Crime - Sexual offences

- Sexual offences increased by 176 (9.1%) from 1,944 to 2,120. The detection rate increased by 0.9 percentage points.
- Rape offences (including attempts) rose by 89 (19.3%) from 461 to 550, while offences of sexual assault/sexual activity rose by 77 (7.9%) from 974 to 1,051. PSNI are continuing to take steps to improve the recording of sexual offences, and of rape offences in particular, which may account for some of this increase.

## Violent Crime - Robbery

- Robbery increased by 30 offences (2.4%) from 1,276 to 1,306. The robbery detection rate increased by 1.3 percentage points to 19.9%.
- Ordinary robbery rose by 22 (3.7%) while armed robbery rose by 5 (0.9%).

## Burglary

- Overall, burglary offences fell by 642 (-5.1%). Domestic burglary fell by 189 (-2.6%) with non-domestic burglary falling by 423 (-8.1%).
- The detection rate for domestic burglary decreased slightly from 10.0% to 9.7%, while the detection rate for non-domestic burglary rose from 12.1% to 13.2%.



### Theft

- Theft offences fell by 1,168 (-4.4%), with decreases across all theft categories apart from other theft which increased by 699 (7.8%) and theft of pedal cycles which rose by 50 (5.1%). Vehicle crime fell by 924 (-13.2%), shoplifting fell by 383 (-5.7%) and vehicle tampering/interference fell by 363 (-29.6%).
- The detection rate for all theft offences decreased from 23.1% to 22.4%. However the vehicle crime detection rate showed an increase of 2.3 percentage points.

### Criminal Damage

- Offences of criminal damage fell by 1,447 (-5.5%) and the level now stands at 25,003.
- Within this class the fall in the number of criminal damage/malicious damage offences contributed most to this decrease with 1,329 fewer offences recorded during 2010/11, a fall of 5.6%. There was an increase in the number of explosives offences, from 23 to 55.
- The detection rate for all criminal damage offences rose from 12.3% to 12.9%.

### Fraud and Forgery

- Fraud and forgery offences fell by 320 (-9.5%).
- There were decreases across all fraud & forgery categories with the exception of deception which showed an increase of 177 (15.4%). The largest fall was in offences of making off without payment which decreased by 356 (-20.8%).
- The detection rate for fraud and forgery offences rose from 23.6% to 33.3%.

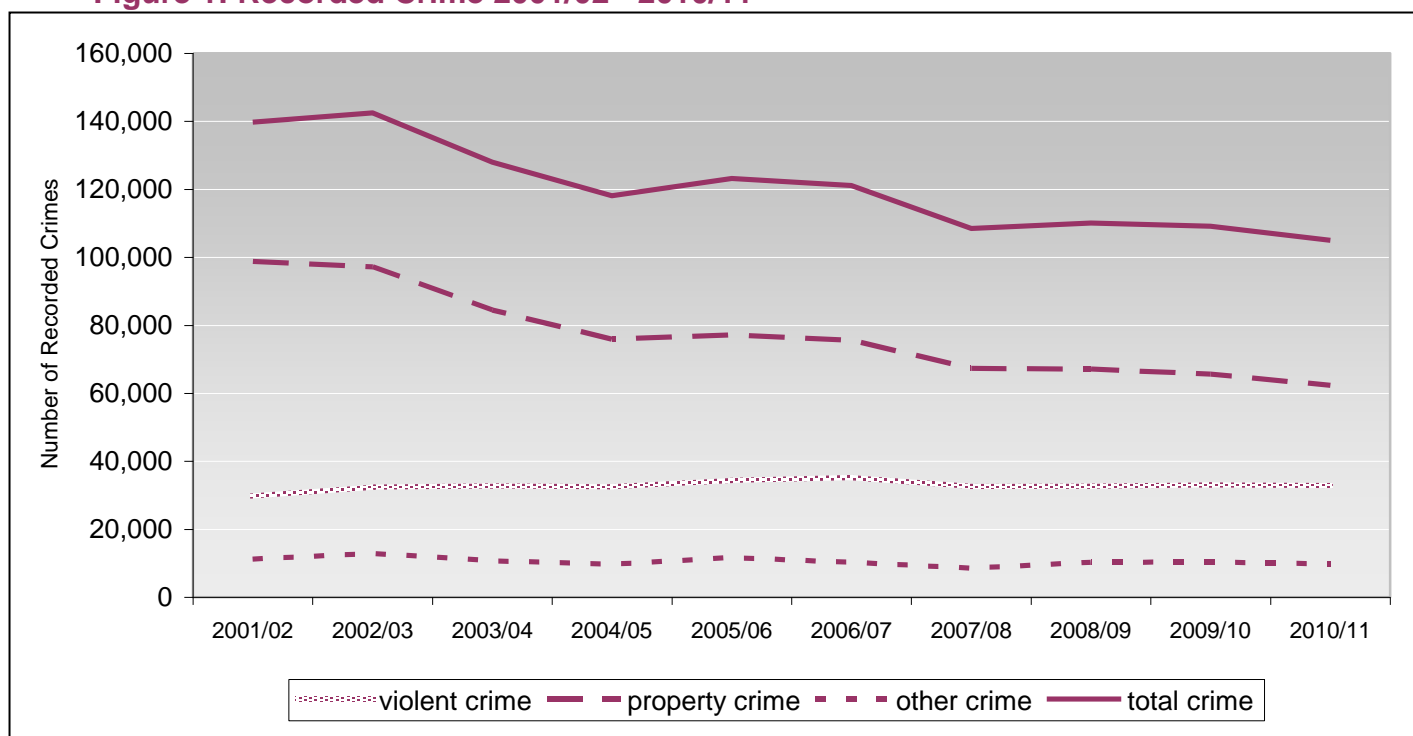
### Offences Against the State

- Offences against the State decreased by 245 (-16.5%).
- The detection rate for offences against the state rose from 48.9% to 56.8%.

### Other Notifiable Offences

- Other notifiable offences showed little change overall with a fall of 40 (-0.7%).
- Drug offences increased by 10.7%, with non trafficking offences showing a rise of 245 (9.9%) and trafficking offences increasing by 91 (13.6%). Dangerous driving offences fell by 166 (-19.2%) and breach of orders fell by 170 (-13.7%).
- The detection rate for other notifiable offences rose from 80.4% to 81.9%.

Figure 1: Recorded Crime 2001/02 - 2010/11



**Table 2: Recorded Crime: Offences Recorded and Detected 2009/10 and 2010/11**

	Total offences recorded				Total offences detected		Detection rate (%)		
	2009/10	2010/11	change	% change <sup>1</sup>	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10 <sup>1</sup>	2010/11 <sup>1</sup>	% point change <sup>2</sup>
<b>Offences against the person (class 1)</b>									
Murder	18	20	2	-	18	20	100.0	100.0	0.0
Manslaughter	4	8	4	-	1	4	25.0	50.0	25.0
Infanticide	0	0	0	-	0	0	-	-	-
Causing/allowing death of vulnerable person	0	1	1	-	0	0	-	0.0	-
Attempted murder	114	110	-4	-3.5	55	57	48.2	51.8	3.6
Threat or conspiracy to murder	2,223	2,324	101	4.5	812	925	36.5	39.8	3.3
Causing death/GBH by dangerous driving or aggravated vehicle taking	97	102	5	5.2	92	104	94.8	102.0	7.1
Wounding with intent/GBH with intent	1,266	1,102	-164	-13.0	405	477	32.0	43.3	11.3
Wounding/GBH	814	795	-19	-2.3	230	263	28.3	33.1	4.8
AOABH	12,394	12,244	-150	-1.2	3,794	3,952	30.6	32.3	1.7
Common assault/aggravated assault	7,386	7,022	-364	-4.9	1,925	2,021	26.1	28.8	2.7
Assault on police	3,179	3,401	222	7.0	2,900	3,128	91.2	92.0	0.7
Intimidation	580	519	-61	-10.5	59	60	10.2	11.6	1.4
Harassment	1,626	1,587	-39	-2.4	245	270	15.1	17.0	1.9
Explosives offences endangering life	13	21	8	-	0	1	0.0	4.8	4.8
Firearms offences endangering life	39	38	-1	-	11	14	28.2	36.8	8.6
Other offences against the person	127	143	16	12.6	28	39	22.0	27.3	5.2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>29,880</b>	<b>29,437</b>	<b>-443</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>10,575</b>	<b>11,335</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Sexual offences (class 2)</b>									
Rape	446	525	79	17.7	56	74	12.6	14.1	1.5
Attempted rape	15	25	10	-	3	5	20.0	20.0	0.0
Sexual assault/Sexual activity	974	1,051	77	7.9	217	236	22.3	22.5	0.2
Exposure	322	295	-27	-8.4	103	88	32.0	29.8	-2.2
Other sexual offences	187	224	37	19.8	102	140	54.5	62.5	8.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,944</b>	<b>2,120</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Burglary (class 3)</b>									
Domestic Burglary (Total)	7,270	7,081	-189	-2.6	728	689	10.0	9.7	-0.3
Burglary in a dwelling	7,171	7,017	-154	-2.1	696	671	9.7	9.6	-0.1
Aggravated burglary in a dwelling	99	64	-35	-35.4	32	18	32.3	28.1	-4.2
Non-Domestic Burglary (Total)	5,191	4,768	-423	-8.1	629	630	12.1	13.2	1.1
Burglary in a building other than a dwelling	5,187	4,758	-429	-8.3	626	628	12.1	13.2	1.1
Aggravated burglary other than in a dwelling	4	10	6	-	3	2	75.0	20.0	-55.0
Going equipped	123	93	-30	-24.4	90	66	73.2	71.0	-2.2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12,584</b>	<b>11,942</b>	<b>-642</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	<b>1,447</b>	<b>1,385</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>0.1</b>



**Table 2: Recorded Crime: Offences Recorded and Detected 2009/10 and 2010/11 continued**

	Total offences recorded				Total offences detected		Detection rate (%)		
	2009/10	2010/11	change	% change <sup>1</sup>	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10 <sup>1</sup>	2010/11 <sup>1</sup>	% point change <sup>2</sup>
<b>Robbery (class 4)</b>									
Robbery	600	622	22	3.7	101	92	16.8	14.8	-2.0
Armed robbery	557	562	5	0.9	113	141	20.3	25.1	4.8
Hijacking	119	122	3	2.5	23	27	19.3	22.1	2.8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,276</b>	<b>1,306</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>1.3</b>
<b>Theft (class 5)</b>									
Theft, one person from another	591	530	-61	-10.3	32	48	5.4	9.1	3.6
Theft in a dwelling	640	550	-90	-14.1	72	77	11.3	14.0	2.8
Theft by an employee	278	214	-64	-23.0	150	155	54.0	72.4	18.5
Theft of pedal cycles	977	1,027	50	5.1	38	34	3.9	3.3	-0.6
Shoplifting	6,754	6,371	-383	-5.7	3,945	3,497	58.4	54.9	-3.5
Vehicle Crime (Total)	6,993	6,069	-924	-13.2	976	986	14.0	16.2	2.3
Theft from motor vehicles	4,018	3,350	-668	-16.6	133	137	3.3	4.1	0.8
Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicles	2,975	2,719	-256	-8.6	843	849	28.3	31.2	2.9
Vehicle tampering/interference	1,227	864	-363	-29.6	119	83	9.7	9.6	-0.1
Handling of stolen goods	226	194	-32	-14.2	169	143	74.8	73.7	-1.1
Other thefts	8,919	9,618	699	7.8	643	667	7.2	6.9	-0.3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>26,605</b>	<b>25,437</b>	<b>-1,168</b>	<b>-4.4</b>	<b>6,144</b>	<b>5,690</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
<b>Fraud and forgery (class 6)</b>									
Deception	1,152	1,329	177	15.4	345	531	29.9	40.0	10.0
Forgery and counterfeiting	227	119	-108	-47.6	116	89	51.1	74.8	23.7
Making off without payment	1,712	1,356	-356	-20.8	171	227	10.0	16.7	6.8
Other frauds	261	228	-33	-12.6	159	164	60.9	71.9	11.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,352</b>	<b>3,032</b>	<b>-320</b>	<b>-9.5</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>1,011</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>9.7</b>
<b>Criminal damage (class 7)</b>									
Arson	1,980	1,884	-96	-4.8	112	115	5.7	6.1	0.4
Petrol bombing offences	56	52	-4	-7.1	11	0	19.6	0.0	-19.6
Explosives offences	23	55	32	-	5	8	21.7	14.5	-7.2
Criminal damage/malicious damage offences	23,826	22,497	-1,329	-5.6	2,980	2,945	12.5	13.1	0.6
Other criminal damage offences	565	515	-50	-8.8	157	165	27.8	32.0	4.3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>26,450</b>	<b>25,003</b>	<b>-1,447</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	<b>3,265</b>	<b>3,233</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>0.6</b>

**Table 2: Recorded Crime: Offences Recorded and Detected 2009/10 and 2010/11 continued**

	Total offences recorded				Total offences detected		Detection rate (%)		
	2009/10	2010/11	change	% change <sup>1</sup>	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10 <sup>1</sup>	2010/11 <sup>1</sup>	% point change <sup>2</sup>
<b>Offences against the state (class 8)</b>									
Offences under anti-terrorism legislation	7	19	12	-	3	11	42.9	57.9	15.0
Firearms offences	100	114	14	14.0	59	67	59.0	58.8	-0.2
Offences under the Public Order (NI) Order	727	586	-141	-19.4	519	452	71.4	77.1	5.7
Other offences against the public order	654	524	-130	-19.9	146	176	22.3	33.6	11.3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,488</b>	<b>1,243</b>	<b>-245</b>	<b>-16.5</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>56.8</b>	<b>7.9</b>
<b>Other notifiable offences (class 9)</b>									
Blackmail	50	44	-6	-12.0	6	15	12.0	34.1	22.1
Kidnapping and false imprisonment	68	68	0	0.0	21	16	30.9	23.5	-7.4
Drug offences (Total)	3,146	3,482	336	10.7	2,557	2,891	81.3	83.0	1.7
Trafficking offences	668	759	91	13.6	503	574	75.3	75.6	0.3
Non-Trafficking offences	2,478	2,723	245	9.9	2,054	2,317	82.9	85.1	2.2
Dangerous driving	865	699	-166	-19.2	865	697	100.0	99.7	-0.3
Breach of orders	1,239	1,069	-170	-13.7	902	813	72.8	76.1	3.3
Other notifiable offences	192	158	-34	-17.7	121	88	63.0	55.7	-7.3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5,560</b>	<b>5,520</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>4,472</b>	<b>4,520</b>	<b>80.4</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Violent Crime (classes 1, 2 and 4)</b>	<b>33,100</b>	<b>32,863</b>	<b>-237</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>11,293</b>	<b>12,138</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>
<b>Grand Total (all classes)</b>	<b>109,139</b>	<b>105,040</b>	<b>-4,099</b>	<b>-3.8</b>	<b>28,139</b>	<b>28,683</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> '-' indicates that for offences recorded a percentage change is not reported because the base number of offences is less than 50, and that for offences detected a detection rate cannot be calculated as there were no offences recorded.

<sup>2</sup> While the detection rates are rounded to one decimal place, the detection rate change in % pts is calculated on the unrounded detection rates and then rounded to one decimal place.

**Table 3: Recorded Crime: Offences Recorded and Detected by District<sup>1</sup> 2009/10 and 2010/11**

	Total offences recorded				Total offences detected		Detection rate (%)		
	2009/10	2010/11	change	% change	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11	% point change <sup>2</sup>
A District	13,852	13,414	-438	-3.2	3,296	3,533	23.8	26.3	2.5
B District	16,830	16,420	-410	-2.4	4,260	4,579	25.3	27.9	2.6
C District	12,749	12,279	-470	-3.7	3,263	3,401	25.6	27.7	2.1
D District	15,191	15,001	-190	-1.3	3,743	3,716	24.6	24.8	0.1
E District	15,931	15,042	-889	-5.6	4,249	4,061	26.7	27.0	0.3
F District	10,052	9,790	-262	-2.6	2,816	2,989	28.0	30.5	2.5
G District	12,968	12,814	-154	-1.2	3,452	3,711	26.6	29.0	2.3
H District	11,566	10,280	-1,286	-11.1	3,060	2,693	26.5	26.2	-0.3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>109,139</b>	<b>105,040</b>	<b>-4,099</b>	<b>-3.8</b>	<b>28,139</b>	<b>28,683</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> A map showing the Areas covered by each District is provided on page 13.

<sup>2</sup> While the detection rates are rounded to one decimal place, the detection rate change in % pts is calculated on the unrounded detection rates and then rounded to one decimal place.

**Table 4: Recorded Crime: Offences Recorded and Detected by Area 2009/10 and 2010/11**

	Total offences recorded				Total offences detected		Detection rate (%)		
	2009/10	2010/11	change	% change	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11	% point change <sup>1</sup>
Antrim	3,150	3,279	129	4.1	807	760	25.6	23.2	-2.4
Ards	2,951	2,885	-66	-2.2	832	831	28.2	28.8	0.6
East Belfast	5,182	4,975	-207	-4.0	1,217	1,265	23.5	25.4	1.9
North Belfast	8,253	7,897	-356	-4.3	2,146	2,224	26.0	28.2	2.2
South Belfast	11,648	11,445	-203	-1.7	3,043	3,314	26.1	29.0	2.8
West Belfast	5,599	5,517	-82	-1.5	1,150	1,309	20.5	23.7	3.2
Carrickfergus	1,611	1,615	4	0.2	354	399	22.0	24.7	2.7
Castlereagh	2,210	2,179	-31	-1.4	544	571	24.6	26.2	1.6
Down	4,220	3,931	-289	-6.8	883	989	20.9	25.2	4.2
Lisburn	6,270	5,884	-386	-6.2	1,599	1,657	25.5	28.2	2.7
Newtownabbey	4,160	4,223	63	1.5	983	900	23.6	21.3	-2.3
North Down	3,368	3,284	-84	-2.5	1,004	1,010	29.8	30.8	0.9
<b>Urban Region</b>	<b>58,622</b>	<b>57,114</b>	<b>-1,508</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>14,562</b>	<b>15,229</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>1.8</b>
Armagh	2,517	2,437	-80	-3.2	584	559	23.2	22.9	-0.3
Ballymena	3,856	3,361	-495	-12.8	1,169	946	30.3	28.1	-2.2
Ballymoney	1,076	994	-82	-7.6	206	183	19.1	18.4	-0.7
Banbridge	1,907	1,969	62	3.3	474	522	24.9	26.5	1.7
Coleraine	4,195	3,643	-552	-13.2	1,134	1,099	27.0	30.2	3.1
Cookstown	1,779	1,779	0	0.0	594	635	33.4	35.7	2.3
Craigavon	5,822	5,286	-536	-9.2	1,463	1,581	25.1	29.9	4.8
Dungannon & South Tyrone	3,040	2,761	-279	-9.2	673	687	22.1	24.9	2.7
Fermanagh	2,952	2,904	-48	-1.6	842	883	28.5	30.4	1.9
Foyle	7,656	7,446	-210	-2.7	1,951	2,084	25.5	28.0	2.5
Larne	1,506	1,541	35	2.3	339	304	22.5	19.7	-2.8
Limavady	2,186	2,166	-20	-0.9	702	717	32.1	33.1	1.0
Magherafelt	1,509	1,573	64	4.2	426	476	28.2	30.3	2.0
Moyle	933	741	-192	-20.6	212	161	22.7	21.7	-1.0
Newry & Mourne	5,685	5,350	-335	-5.9	1,728	1,399	30.4	26.1	-4.2
Omagh	2,281	2,346	65	2.8	707	784	31.0	33.4	2.4
Strabane	1,617	1,629	12	0.7	373	434	23.1	26.6	3.6
<b>Rural Region</b>	<b>50,517</b>	<b>47,926</b>	<b>-2,591</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	<b>13,577</b>	<b>13,454</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>109,139</b>	<b>105,040</b>	<b>-4,099</b>	<b>-3.8</b>	<b>28,139</b>	<b>28,683</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> While the detection rates are rounded to one decimal place, the detection rate change in % pts is calculated on the unrounded detection rates and then rounded to one decimal place.

**Table 5: Recorded Crime: Offences Detected by Method of Detection 2009/10 and 2010/11**

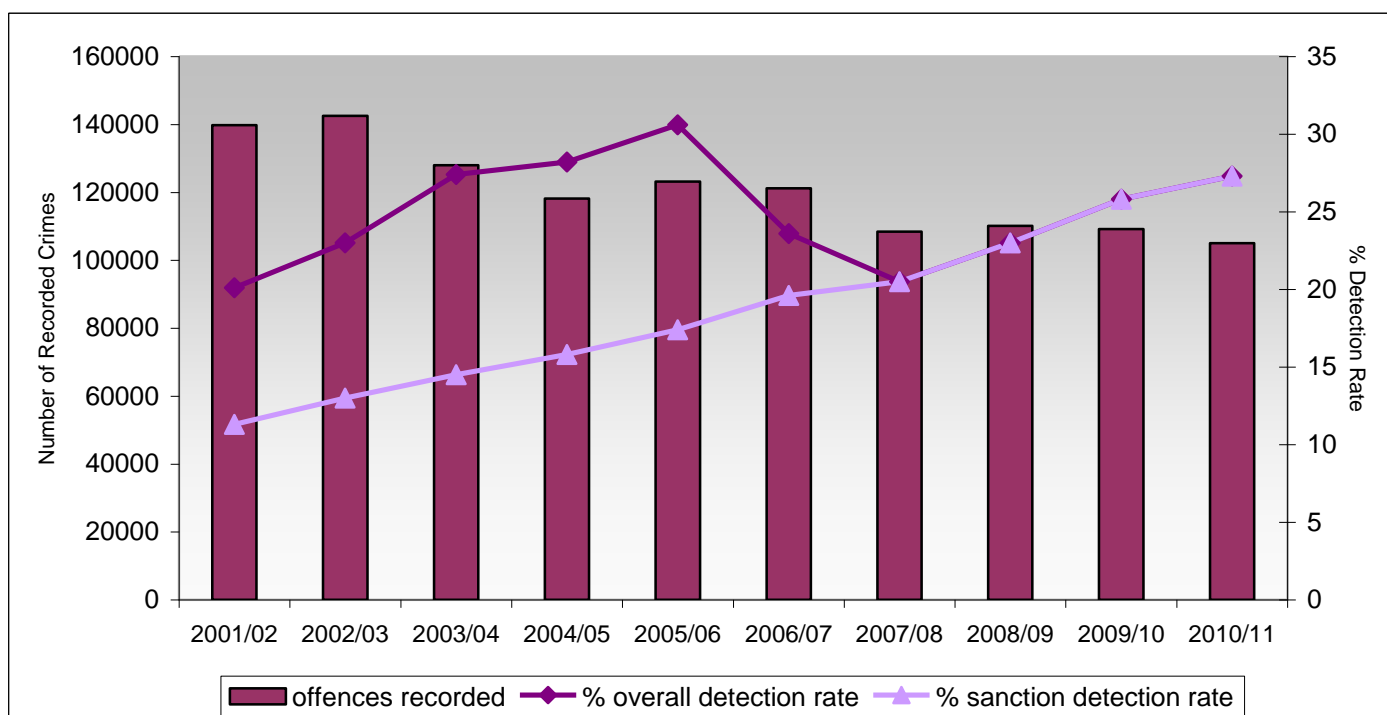
	Number		Rates (%)		
	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11	% point change <sup>3</sup>
Total offences recorded	109,139	105,040	-	-	-
Total offences detected	28,139	28,683	25.8	27.3	1.5
<b>Sanction detections</b>					
Charge / summons	22,910	23,989	21.0	22.8	1.8
Caution – adults <sup>1</sup>	2,788	2,994	2.6	2.9	0.3
Caution – juveniles <sup>2</sup>	2,020	1,596	1.9	1.5	-0.3
Taken into consideration	412	97	0.4	0.1	-0.3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>28,130</b>	<b>28,676</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Non sanction detections</b>					
No prosecution directed	5	3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Offender died before proceedings	4	4	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Adult cautions include adult cautions and adult informed warnings.

<sup>2</sup> Juvenile cautions include juvenile restorative cautions, juvenile informed warnings and juvenile prosecutorial diversions.

<sup>3</sup> While the detection rates are rounded to one decimal place, the detection rate change in % pts is calculated on the unrounded detection rates and then rounded to one decimal place.

**Figure 6: Recorded Crime and Detection Rate<sup>1</sup> 2001/02 - 2010/11**



<sup>1</sup> An explanation of the change in detection rates when comparing 2006/07 onwards with previous years is provided on page 12.

# Police Recording of Crime - Definitions

## Recorded Crime

Police recorded crime statistics (sometimes referred to as notifiable offences) detail those crimes and offences (including attempts) recorded by the police which are deemed to be indictable or triable-either-way. Certain closely associated summary offences are also counted in the recorded crime figures.

**Indictable offences** are those more serious crimes which are tried on indictment in the Crown Court by a judge and jury;

**Triable-either-way offences** are those offences which, under certain circumstances, are triable either summarily in a magistrates court or on indictment in the Crown Court;

**Summary offences** are less serious and are tried in a Magistrates Court before a resident magistrate with no jury.

The number of crimes recorded by the police is dependent on two factors:

- Whether the victim or a representative of the victim brings that crime to the attention of the police or on the crime coming to the attention of the police through some other means (such as the police officer being present at the time);
- Whether that incident is determined as being a recordable offence within the categories laid down by the Home Office in the official counting rules.

## Detections

Detections (or clearances as they may alternatively be known) are, broadly speaking, those crimes that have been 'cleared up' by the police. Crimes are counted as 'detected or cleared' in accordance with strict counting rules issued by the Home Office. They are counted on the basis of crimes rather than offenders. For example, if six offenders are involved in a robbery and are all arrested and charged, then this counts as one detection (i.e. the robbery is deemed to be 'detected'). Alternatively if only one of the six is identified and charged while the other five remain unidentified and at large, this also means that the robbery can still be deemed as 'detected'.

The following methods of detection involve a formal sanction:

- Charging or issuing a summons to an offender;
- Issuing a caution to the offender;
- Having the offence accepted for consideration in court;
- The offender is a juvenile who is dealt with by means of an informed warning, restorative caution or prosecutorial diversion.

In addition, for the most serious offence types ('indictable only' – see recorded crime paragraph above for explanation) a non sanction detection can be claimed if:

- The Public Prosecution Service (PPS) directs no prosecution; or
- The case cannot proceed because the offender has died.

## Recent Changes in the Recording of Detections

Prior to April 2006 a variety non sanction detections could be claimed where police took no further action, the main one being where the victim declined to prosecute. At that time these detection types accounted for around 50% of the PSNI's total detection rate. However, since then some major changes have been introduced which have substantially limited the detection options open to the PSNI.

In April 2006, a higher evidential standard was adopted within the PSNI following the establishment of the Public Prosecution Service in Northern Ireland. Then in April 2007 the Home Office significantly restricted the detection types available to the police, which meant that virtually all non sanction detections could no longer be claimed as a valid detection. Both of these changes had the impact of greatly reducing the number of non sanction detections to such an extent that the PSNI overall detection rate and its sanction detection rate and now virtually one and the same (only a very small proportion of non sanction detections are now claimed each year).

## Violent Crime

Violent crime comprises three main offence groupings: offences against the person, sexual offences and robbery. What violent crime offences have in common is that they involve actual violence or the threat of violence. The degree of violence varies considerably, even between incidents in the same classification. The large majority of incidents categorised as violent crime do not actually involve any significant injury to the victim, although some of the crimes not resulting in injury may still be traumatic for their victims eg threats to kill.



PSNI POLICING DISTRICTS FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2007



Based Upon Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland Data © 2007