

## 4 Property crime

---

*Paul Taylor and Alison Patterson*

### 4.1 SUMMARY

Property crime covers the various ways that individuals, households or corporate bodies have their property damaged or are deprived of it by illegal means (or where there is intent to do so).

Between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS there was no change in the overall level of burglary but there were falls in all of the other main property offence categories:

- The number of vehicle-related thefts fell by 11 per cent.
- Other household theft and other theft of personal property fell (by 12% and 14%).
- There was a ten per cent fall in the number of incidents of vandalism.

Police recorded crime also showed a decline in the number of property crimes between 2006/07 and 2007/08:

- Police recorded burglary fell by six per cent; comprising a four per cent fall in domestic burglaries and an eight per cent fall in non-domestic burglaries.
- The number of offences against vehicles recorded by the police fell by 14 per cent.
- There was a 13 per cent fall in total criminal damage.

Longer-term trends show that property crime covered by the BCS has fallen considerably since its peak in 1995:

- Between 1995 and the 2007/08 BCS, the number of burglaries has declined by 59 per cent, vehicle-related thefts by 66 per cent and vandalism by 20 per cent.

For both burglary and vehicle-related thefts, having security measures in place was strongly associated with lower levels of victimisation:

- The BCS shows that households with no home security measures were around ten times more likely to have been victims of burglary than those where there were simple security measures, for example, deadlocks on doors (25.0% compared with 2.3%).

The vast majority of fraud does not come to the attention of the police and for this reason this report focuses particularly on data from finance industry sources. Information from APACS (the UK payments association) shows there were 2.7 million fraudulent transactions on UK-issued credit cards in the UK in 2007, an increase of 20 per cent on the 2.3 million recorded in 2006. Those types of card fraud more easily prevented by the introduction of Chip and PIN technology (for example, losses attributable to frauds from lost or stolen cards) continue to decline but for other types of card fraud (for example, the use of card-not-present fraud) there were rises.

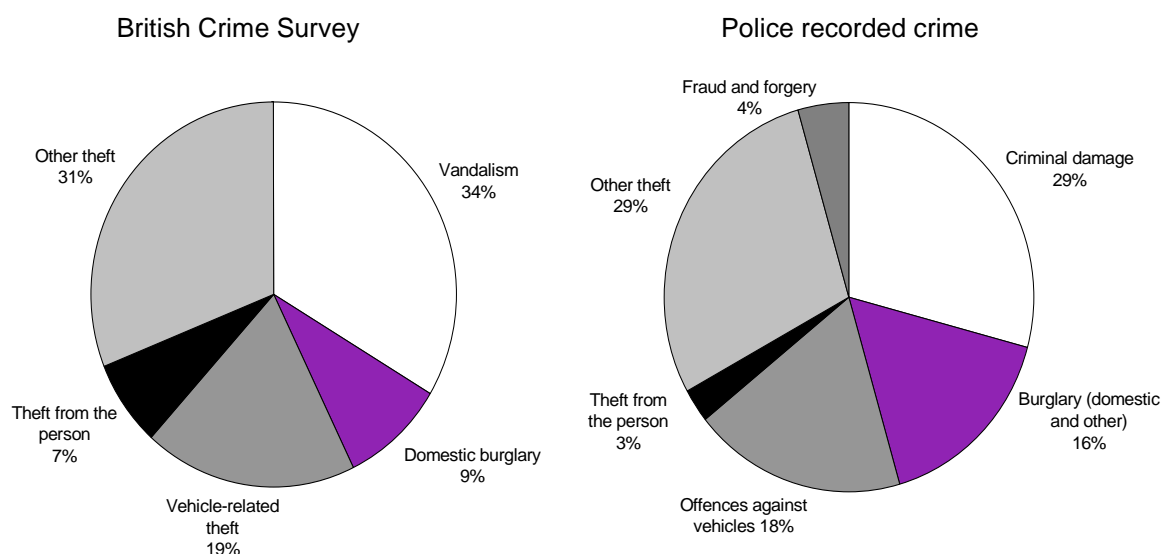
## 4.2 INTRODUCTION

This chapter looks at the various ways that individuals, households or corporate bodies are deprived of their property by illegal means (or where there is intent to do so) or where their property is damaged. These include offences of burglary, theft, criminal damage and fraud (including identity fraud). Whilst victims are deprived of their property in recorded offences of robbery, because there is the use or threat of force involved in such offences these are discussed in Chapter 3.

Recorded crime figures include crimes in all these categories, provided that they have been reported to and recorded by the police. The degree to which crimes are reported and recorded varies according to crime type (see Chapter 2). Key factors as to whether property crime is reported are perceived seriousness and whether property is insured. The BCS provides reliable estimates of crimes against the person and household but does not include crimes against corporate bodies. The BCS does cover identity fraud, but not in the main offence groups (see Section 4.7).

Figure 4.1 shows different property offence types for both police recorded crime and the BCS. Although the picture for police recorded crime and the BCS looks to be broadly similar, their coverage differs so the two data sources are not directly comparable. For example, the police recorded category of offences against vehicles covers both private and commercial vehicles whereas the BCS only includes offences against vehicles belonging to private households, but does include offences not reported to the police.

**Figure 4.1 BCS and police recorded property crime by offence, 2007/08**



## 4.3 BURGLARY

### Extent and trends

#### **Box 4.1 Classification of offence types: burglary**

Key elements of police recorded **burglaries** (as defined by the Theft Act 1968) are entry (or attempted entry) to a building as a trespasser with intent to either (a) steal property from it (including stealing or attempting to steal), (b) inflict grievous bodily harm or (c) commit unlawful damage to property whilst inside. Recorded crime figures include burglaries of all buildings, reported to and recorded by the police, and make the distinction between domestic and non-domestic offences.

- **Domestic burglaries** include burglaries in all inhabited dwellings, including inhabited caravans, houseboats and holiday homes, as well as sheds and garages connected to the main dwelling (for example, by a connecting door).
- **Non-domestic burglaries** include burglaries to businesses (including hotels and similar accommodation) and also some burglaries of sheds and outhouses where these are not clearly connected to the inhabited property.

The BCS covers domestic burglaries only, which is defined as an unauthorised entry (including break-ins and attempts) into the victim's dwelling (any house or flat or any outhouse or garage linked to the dwelling via a connecting door), regardless of intent.

The BCS and police recorded crime have both shown similar trends over time with considerable falls in burglary levels since peaks in the mid-1990s (Figures 4.2 and 4.3).

- The number of domestic burglaries in England and Wales as measured by the BCS showed no change between 2006/07 and 2007/08. Longer-term trends in burglary show increases since the first BCS results in 1981 to reach a peak in 1995, before declining considerably. Since 1995, the number of burglaries estimated by the BCS has fallen by more than half (59%) from 1,770,000 to 729,000 in the 2007/08 BCS (Figure 4.2 and Table 2.01).
- The police recorded 280,704 domestic burglaries and 302,995 non-domestic burglaries in 2007/08, a fall in overall burglary of six per cent. This is the fifth consecutive year there has been a fall following a small rise during the period when the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) was introduced in 2002/03 (Table 2.04). It is estimated that domestic burglary figures in 2002/03 were initially three per cent higher because of the NCRS effect.
- From 2007/08 the Home Office is collecting supplementary data on the taking of vehicles during burglaries, often referred to as 'car key' burglaries. Data were received for 42 of the 44 police forces in England and Wales and showed that overall six per cent of burglaries in a dwelling in 2007/08 involved the taking of a vehicle.

The 2007/08 BCS estimated that 64 per cent of domestic burglaries were reported to the police, and that burglaries with loss were the type of burglary most likely to be reported (76%) (Table 2.10).

Figure 4.2 Trends in domestic burglary, 1981 to 2007/08 BCS

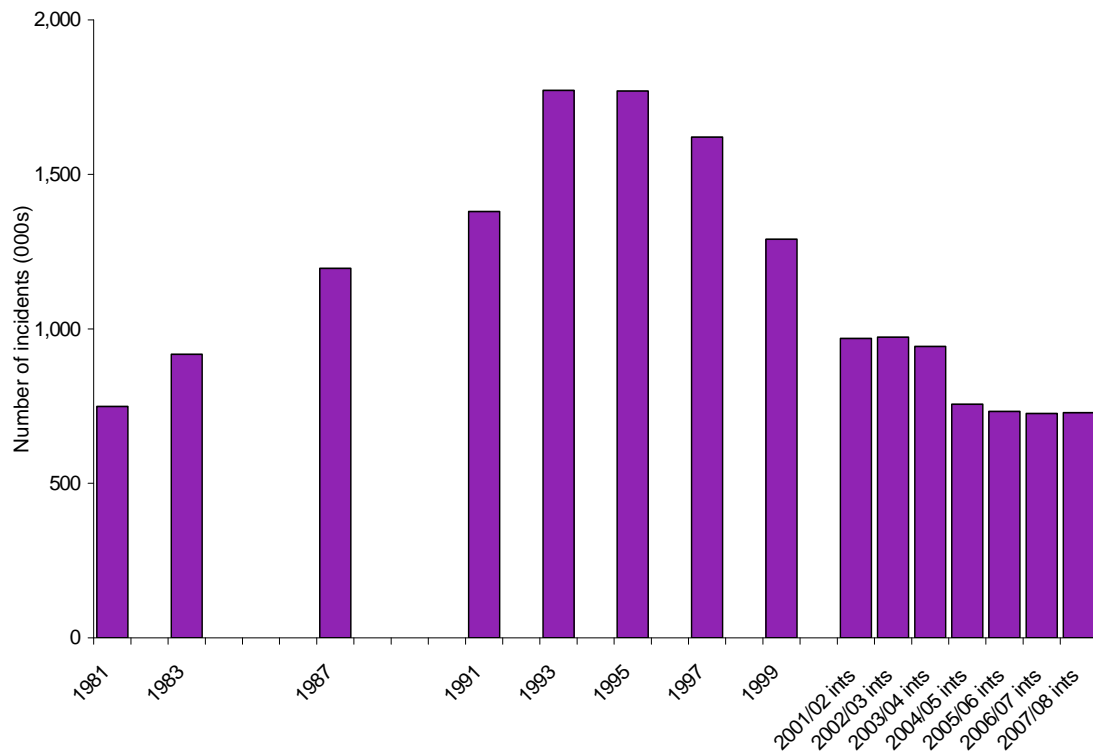
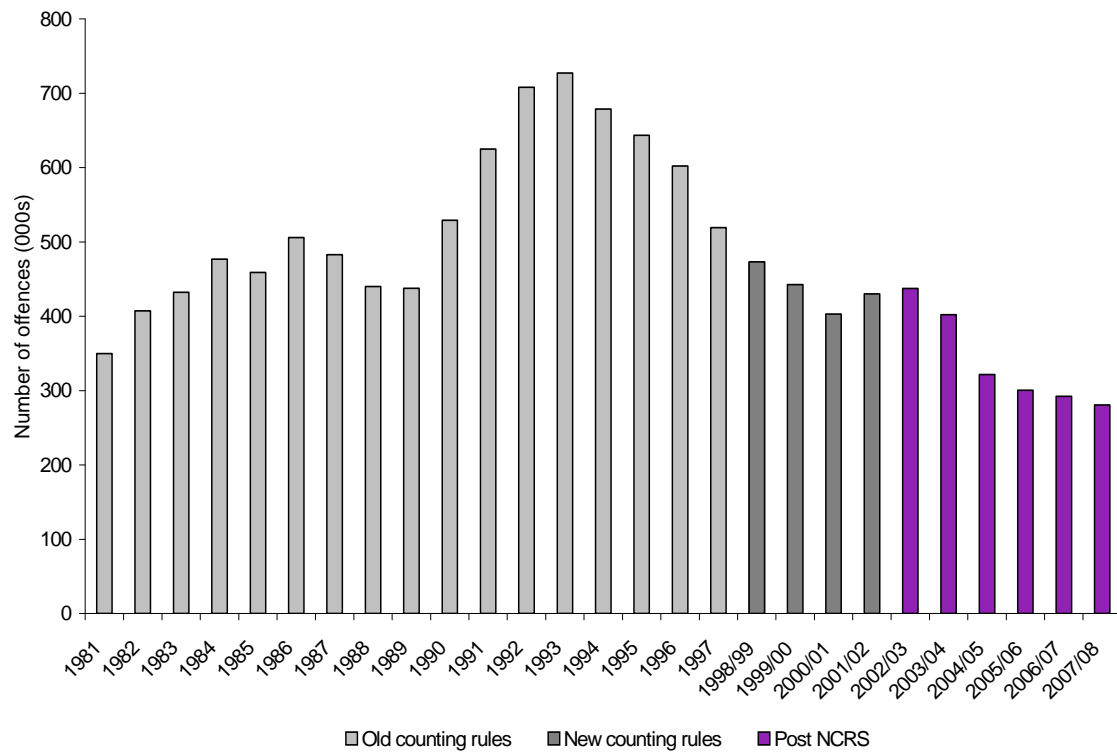


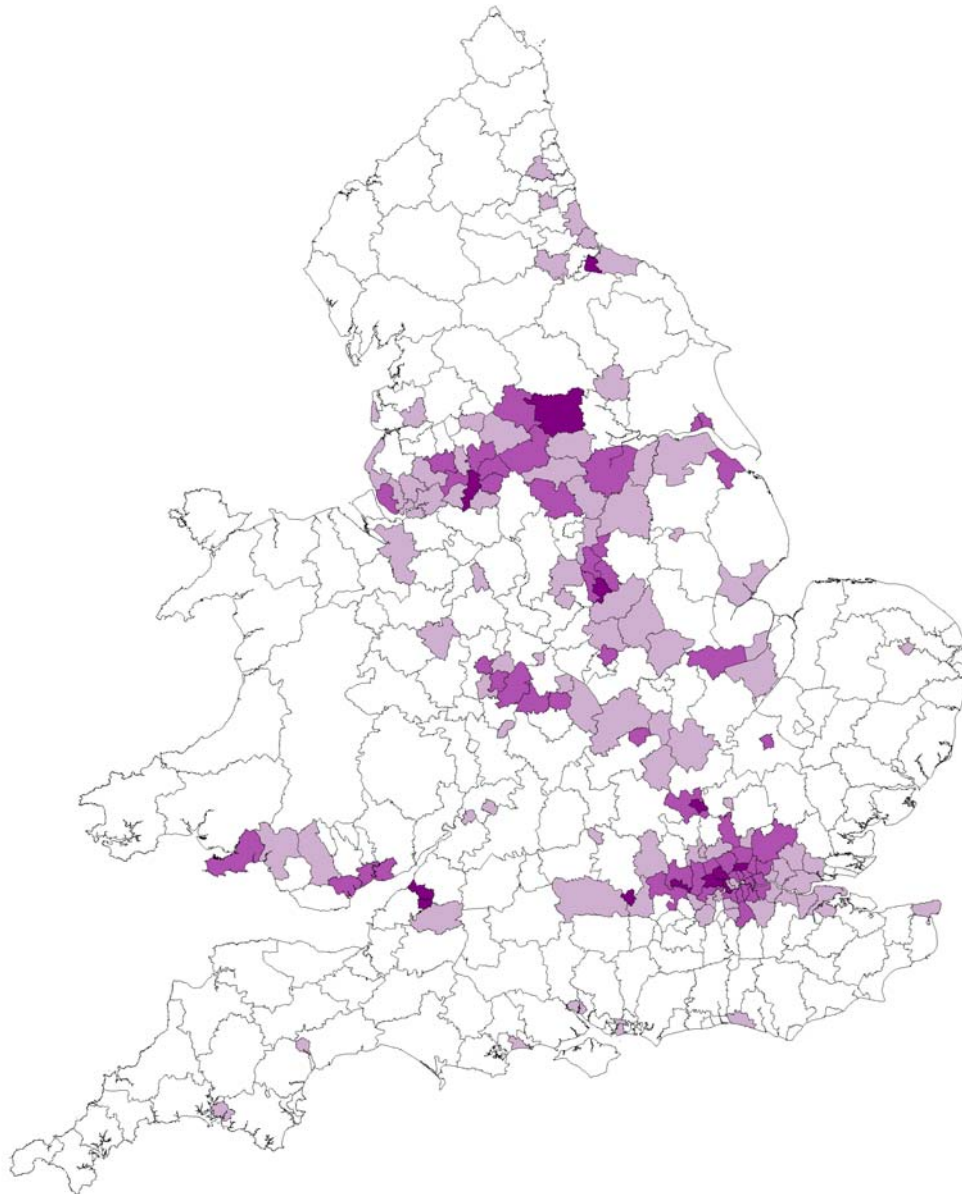
Figure 4.3 Trends in police recorded domestic burglary, 1981 to 2007/08



**Figure 4.4 Police recorded offences of domestic burglary: rates by households at local authority level, 2007/08**

- Local authorities more than twice the average rate (6% of population)
- Above the average group, but less than twice the average rate (23% of population)
- Average group\* (26% of population)
- Below the average group (45% of population)

\*Local authorities classified within the 'average group' include those up to 20 per cent above or below the domestic burglary rate for England and Wales as a whole.



© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100023175.

### Risks of becoming a victim of burglary

Overall, the risk of a household being a victim of burglary remained stable compared with 2006/07, with 2.4 per cent of households interviewed in the 2007/08 BCS experiencing one or more burglaries in the previous 12 months. Within the 2.4 per cent experiencing burglary, 1.4 per cent of households were victims of burglary with entry and 1.0 per cent were victims of attempts (a few households were victims of both) (Table 2.03).

The BCS shows that the risk of becoming a victim of burglary varied by characteristics of the household reference person (HRP<sup>1</sup>) (Figure 4.5 and Table 4.01).

- Households with an HRP aged between 16 and 24 were more likely to have experienced burglary (7.5%) than households where the HRP was older (for example, 1.4% of households where the HRP was aged 75 and over experienced a burglary).
- Risk was higher for households where the HRP was unemployed (6.5%) compared with those where the HRP was employed or economically inactive (both 2.3%).

Risk of victimisation also varied considerably by key household and area characteristics.

- Households consisting of a single adult and child(ren) (6.4%) were more likely to have been a victim of burglary compared with all other household types.
- People who had lived at an address for less than a year had a higher risk (4.8%) than those who had lived there longer (for example, 10 years or more, 1.7%).
- Households in areas where physical disorder was assessed<sup>2</sup> as high were more likely to be victims of burglary (5.1%) than those in areas where the assessed level was not high (2.2%).

In addition to these socio-demographic factors, the level of home security remains a key defence against burglary victimisation.

- Households with no home security measures were around ten times more likely to have been victims of burglary than households where there were simple security measures such as deadlocks on doors or window locks (25.0% compared with 2.3%) (Table 4.01).
- Households that had been a victim of burglary were less likely to have any home security measures (67%) than those households that had not been a victim of burglary (97%) (Table 4.02).

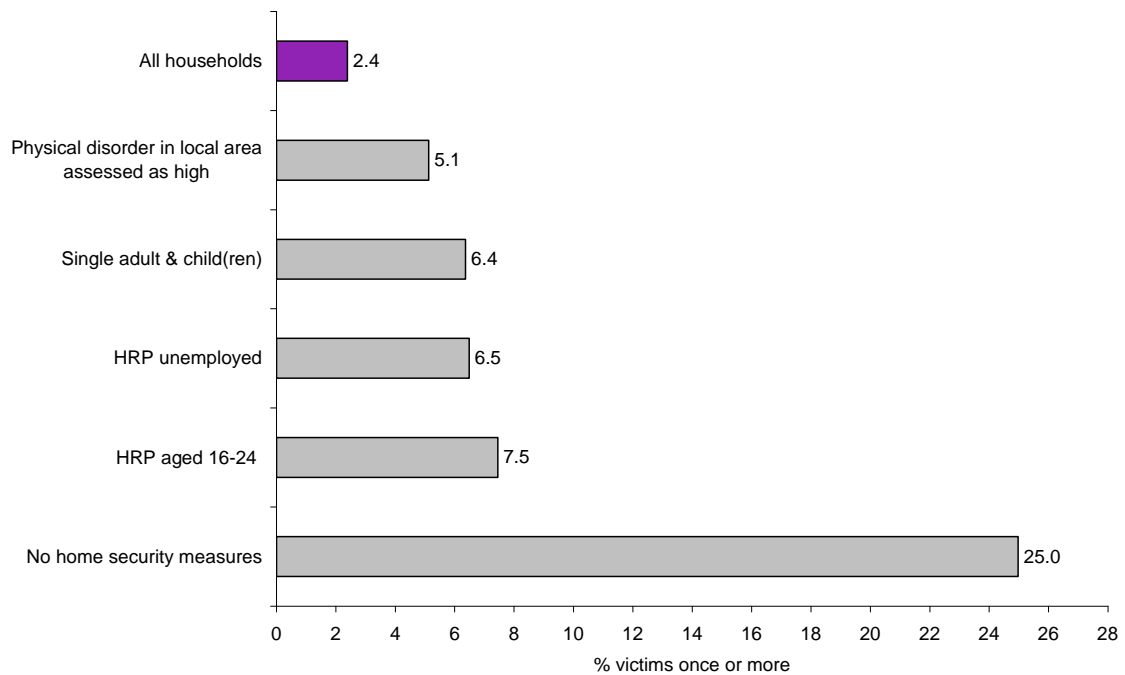
The factors described here as being associated with higher or lower risk of experiencing burglary are similar to those found in previous years.

---

<sup>1</sup> See the Glossary for definition of household reference person (HRP).

<sup>2</sup> Interviewer assessment, see the Glossary for more information.

Figure 4.5 Households most at risk of burglary, 2007/08 BCS



**Box 4.2 Factors strongly associated with higher risk of burglary**

Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) carried out on the 2007/08 BCS shows that after the influence of other characteristics is taken into account, many of the relationships between socio-demographic factors and risk of victimisation still hold true.

The factors most strongly independently associated with higher risk of burglary were:

- having no security measures; and
- HRP being young, in particular being aged between 16 and 24.

This model explains around 42 per cent of the variation in the risk of being a victim of burglary based only on the factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).

## 4.4 VEHICLE OFFENCES

### Extent and trends

#### **Box 4.3 Classification of offence types: vehicle offences**

The police recorded crime category of **offences against vehicles** covers private and commercial vehicles and comprises:

- **thefts and attempted thefts of vehicles** (where the intent is to permanently deprive the owner);
- **unauthorised taking of a vehicle** (where intent to permanently deprive the owner is not evident – this would typically include ‘joyriding’ where the car is later recovered);
- **aggravated vehicle taking** (where a vehicle once taken is known to have been driven dangerously, damaged or caused an accident);
- **thefts and attempted thefts from a vehicle** (targeting property in or on the vehicle);
- **interfering with a motor vehicle** (which includes attempts to drive away without apparent intent to permanently deprive the owner – mostly included as ‘attempted thefts’ within BCS).

The BCS includes offences against private households only and includes cars, vans, motorbikes, motor-scooters or mopeds used for non-commercial purposes.

It identifies three vehicle theft categories:

- **thefts of vehicles** (where a vehicle is stolen);
- **thefts from vehicles** (refers to both theft of parts and accessories of motor vehicles and to theft of contents);
- **attempted thefts of and from vehicles** (not distinguished between due to the difficulty in establishing the offender’s intentions).

The BCS and police recorded crime have both shown similar trends over time with considerable falls in vehicle-related theft levels since the peaks in the mid-1990s (Figures 4.6 and 4.7).

- There were 1,497,000 vehicle-related thefts measured by the 2007/08 BCS, representing a decrease of 11 per cent compared with 2006/07. Since the first BCS results in 1981, the number of vehicle-related thefts increased to a peak in the mid-1990s; this was followed by a substantial decline and since 1995 the number of vehicle-related thefts has decreased by 66 per cent (Figure 4.6 and Table 2.01).
- Within the individual BCS categories of vehicle-related theft, the number of thefts from vehicles also fell between 2006/07 and 2007/08 (down 12%). However, thefts of vehicles, and attempted thefts of and from vehicles remained stable over this period. Since 1995, the number of offences in each of these categories has more than halved (Table 2.01).
- Between 2006/07 and 2007/08, recorded crime showed a 12 per cent fall in thefts of motor vehicles, a five per cent fall in aggravated vehicle taking, a 14 per cent fall in thefts from vehicles and a 22 per cent fall in the closely related offence of interfering with a motor vehicle. Taken together, the number of offences against vehicles recorded by the police fell by 14 per cent to 656,549 between 2006/07 and 2007/08. This represents a continuing downward trend over recent years. Altogether recorded offences against vehicles have fallen by 39 per cent since 2002/03 when the NCRS was first introduced (Figure 4.7 and Table 2.04).

BCS interviews in 2007/08 estimated that around half (48%) of vehicle-related thefts were reported to the police. Thefts of vehicles were considerably more likely to be reported (93%) than thefts from vehicles (44%) (Table 2.10).

While vehicle-related theft has fallen over time, the number of motor vehicles licensed in England, Scotland and Wales has increased by 23 per cent, from 27.5 million to 34.0 million between 1998 and 2007 (Vehicle Licensing Statistics, 2007<sup>3</sup>).

Longer-term trends from the BCS show that the proportion of vehicles with security precautions has increased over time and that the majority of vehicles now have some form of security precaution fitted (see Nicholas *et al.*, 2008). For example, between 1991 and the 2006/07 BCS<sup>4</sup> the presence of immobilisers has more than tripled (23% to 78%) and central locking has more than doubled (35% to 88%). Additional information on the risk of vehicle-related theft is published in the Car Theft Index and the Bike Theft Index<sup>5</sup>.

### Risks of vehicle-related theft

Overall, 6.4 per cent of vehicle-owning households in the 2007/08 BCS had experienced one or more vehicle-related thefts in the previous 12 months. This represents a decrease in the risk of being a victim of vehicle-related theft compared with 2006/07 (7.5%) (Table 2.03).

The risk of experiencing vehicle-related theft is not evenly spread across the vehicle-owning population with the risk varying by different household and area types (Figure 4.9 and Table 4.03).

- Households where the HRP was aged between 16 and 34 were more likely to have experienced vehicle-related theft than those where the HRP was aged 55 years and older (for example, HRP aged 16 to 24 year olds, 9.4%; HRP aged 75 and over, 1.9%).
- Victimization also varied by ACORN category, with those living in Wealthy Achievers ACORN areas less likely to be victims (4.1%) than those in any other ACORN category (in particular, Urban Prosperity, 9.7%).
- Households in areas where physical disorder was assessed<sup>6</sup> as high were more likely to be victims (10.5%) than households in areas where the assessed level was not high (6.2%).

The number of vehicles that a household owned was also a key risk factor. Overall, 10.2 per cent of households with three or more cars had been victims of vehicle-related theft, compared with 5.3 per cent of households owning one car, and 7.0 per cent owning two.

In addition to these socio-demographic factors, an important element of risk is how secure the vehicle itself is. According to the 2007/08 BCS, 73 per cent of vehicles which were subject to an unsuccessful attempted theft had central locking, and 75 per cent had an immobiliser, compared with 57 per cent and 51 per cent respectively for vehicles which were successfully stolen. This suggests that security measures can be effective in preventing successful thefts of vehicles (Table 4.04).

The factors associated with being at higher or lower risk of being a victim of vehicle-related theft have been similar in recent years.

<sup>3</sup> Vehicle Licensing Statistics 2007 (<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/vehicles/licensing/>) are based on the total number of licensed vehicles (including both private and commercial vehicles) in England, Scotland and Wales taken from the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) database.

<sup>4</sup> In the 2007/08 BCS, respondents were only asked questions about vehicle security measures on vehicles which had been involved in vehicle-related theft. Therefore, the latest figures available for security measures on all main cars are from the 2006/07 BCS.

<sup>5</sup> The Car Theft Index 2006 (<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/car-theft-index/>) and the Bike Theft Index 2005 (<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/bike-theft-index-05.pdf>) are based on theft data taken from the Police National Computer and are the latest data currently available.

<sup>6</sup> Interviewer assessment, see the Glossary for more information.

Figure 4.6 Trends in vehicle-related theft, 1981 to 2007/08 BCS

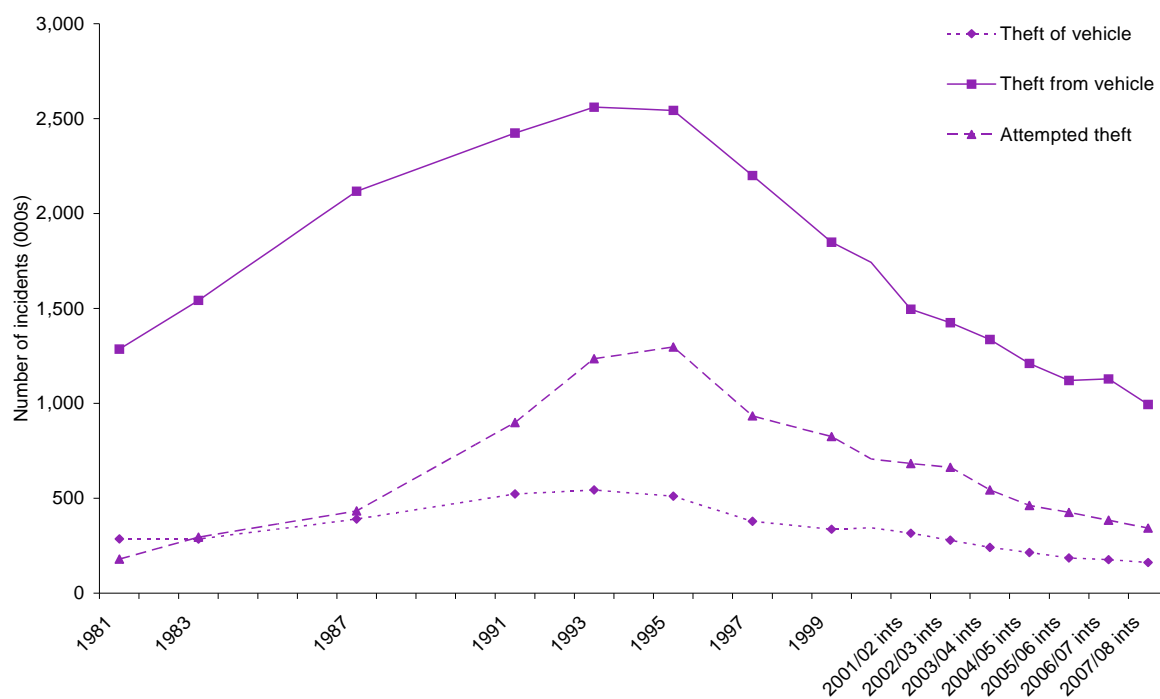
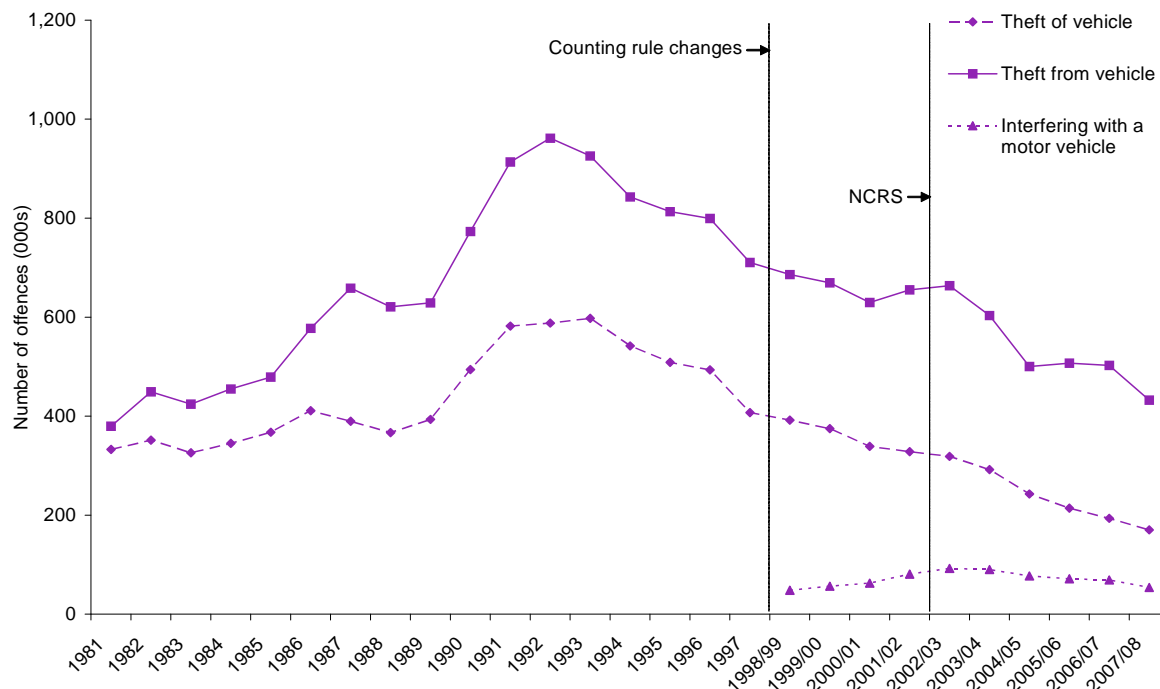


Figure 4.7 Trends in police recorded offences against vehicles, 1981 to 2007/08<sup>7</sup>

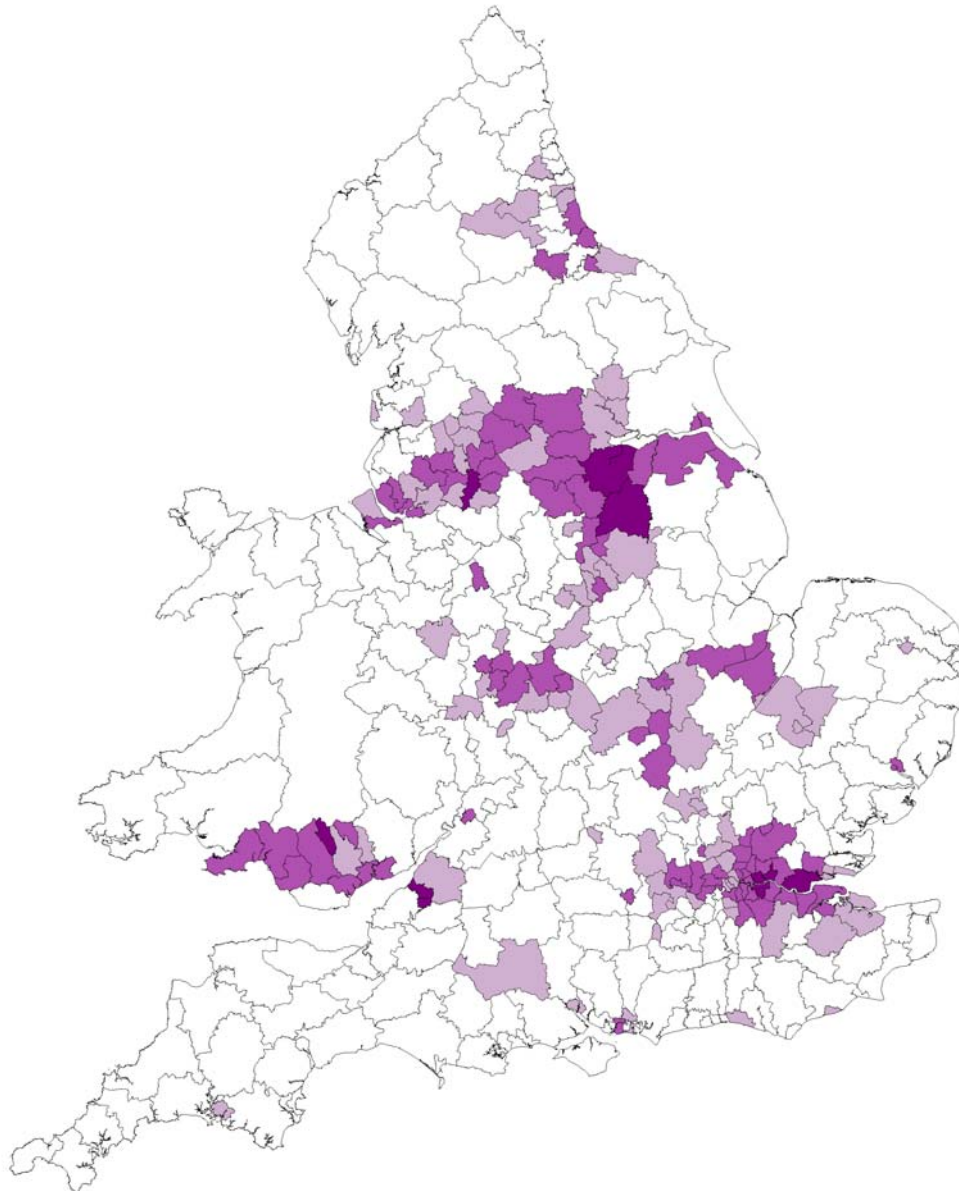


<sup>7</sup> New counting rules for recorded crime were introduced in 1998/99 and the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) was introduced in April 2002. Figures before and after these dates are not directly comparable.

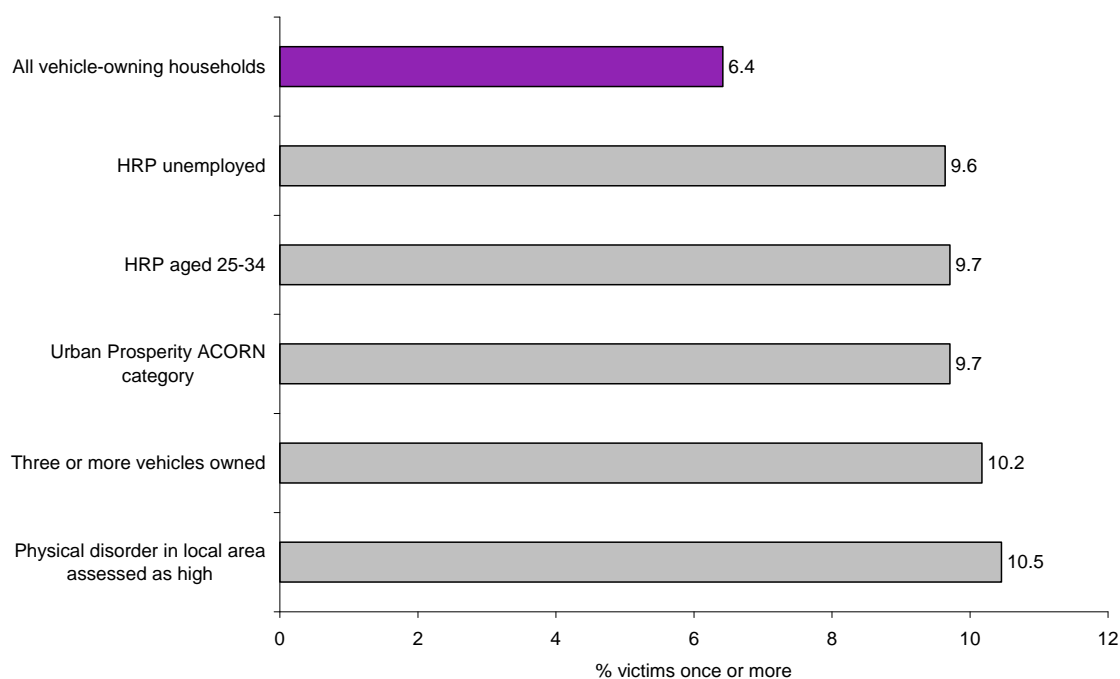
**Figure 4.8 Police recorded offences of theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicles: rates by population at local authority level, 2007/08**

- Local authorities more than twice the average rate (4% of population)
- Above the average group, but less than twice the average rate (32% of population)
- Average group\* (23% of population)
- Below the average group (41% of population)

\*Local authorities classified within the 'average group' include those up to 20 per cent above or below the theft of motor vehicles rate for England and Wales as a whole.



**Figure 4.9 Vehicle-owning households most at risk of vehicle-related theft, 2007/08 BCS**



**Box 4.4 Factors strongly associated with higher risk of vehicle-related theft (among vehicle-owning households)**

*Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) carried out on the 2007/08 BCS shows that after the influence of other characteristics is taken into account, many of the relationships between socio-demographic factors and risk of victimisation still hold true (the effect of security devices could not be included in this analysis).*

*The factors most strongly independently associated with higher risk of vehicle-related theft were:*

- *HRP being younger than 65 years old;*
- *not living in a Wealthy Achievers ACORN area; and*
- *owning more than one vehicle, in particular owning three or more vehicles.*

*This model explains around five per cent of the variation in the risk of being a victim of vehicle-related theft based only on the factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).*

## 4.5 OTHER THEFT OFFENCES

### Extent and trends

#### **Box 4.5 Classification of offence types: theft**

Police recorded **other theft** includes all theft and handling stolen goods offences but excludes **all offences against vehicles** (such as theft of and from a vehicle).

The BCS coverage of thefts is as follows:

- **Theft from the person** comprises snatch and stealth theft. There may be an element of force in snatch theft (just enough to snatch the property away) and victims are often aware of the incident. No force is used in stealth thefts and victims are usually unaware of incidents at the time they occur. For recorded crime, theft from the person offences are those where there is no use of threat or force.
- **Other theft of personal property** covers thefts away from the home where no force is used and the victim is not holding or carrying the items when they are stolen (for example, thefts of unattended property in the workplace).
- **Other household thefts** cover a number of theft types. Theft in a dwelling includes thefts that occurred in the victim's dwelling, by someone who was entitled to be there. Theft from outside a dwelling covers incidents where items are stolen from outside the victim's home. The category also includes burglaries to non-connected buildings, for example, garden sheds.
- **Bicycle thefts** are recorded by the BCS if no attempt was made to steal anything else.

Excluding burglaries and vehicle-related thefts, the 2007/08 BCS estimated that there were 3,065,000 thefts from adults or households in England and Wales, of which 1,067,000 were other household thefts, 577,000 thefts from the person, 980,000 other thefts of personal property and 441,000 bicycle thefts (Table 2.01).

- Between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS, the number of other household thefts and other thefts of personal property decreased (12% and 14% respectively). Theft from the person and bicycle thefts, however, were stable over this period. Longer-term trends show that since the first BCS results in 1981, all categories within other theft showed an increase before peaking in the mid-1990s. Other household thefts and other thefts of personal property have fallen by more than half (both 53%) between 1995 and 2007/08 interviews, while thefts from the person fell by 15 per cent and bicycle thefts by 34 per cent (Table 2.01).

In terms of recorded crime, there was a five per cent fall in other theft offences (excluding offences against vehicles) between 2006/07 and 2007/08 (Table 2.04). However, there are concerns over the reliability of recorded crime as a measure of underlying trends in other thefts. For example, levels of recorded shoplifting offences, which fell by one per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08, are highly dependent on whether the shops themselves apprehend suspects and/or subsequently involve the police. According to the 2007/08 BCS, approximately one-third (32%) of thefts from the person and 41 per cent of bicycle thefts were reported to the police (Table 2.10).

Other Home Office surveys have previously been undertaken to capture the extent and costs of crime to the retail and manufacturing sector, for example, the 2002 Commercial Victimization Survey (see Shury *et al.*, 2005).

## Risks of theft from the person

According to the 2007/08 BCS, 1.2 per cent of adults in England and Wales had been a victim of theft from the person; this has remained stable compared with the 2006/07 BCS (Table 2.03). The risk of becoming a victim of theft from the person varied by personal characteristics (Table 4.05).

- Young people were most at risk, for example, young men aged between 16 and 24 (3.0%) were more likely to be victimised than men in all other age groups (twice as likely as men aged 25 to 34, 1.3%).
- Older women were more likely than older men to have been victims of theft from the person. For example, women aged 75 and over (1.3%) were more likely than men aged 75 and over (0.2%) to be a victim.

Risk factors relating to theft from the person are likely to reflect the variations in the lifestyles of individuals and therefore their exposure to risk.

- Single people were more likely to be a victim of theft from the person (2.3%) than those with any other marital status (for example, married, 0.8%).
- People who had visited a pub or a wine bar three or more times a week in the last month were more likely to have been a victim of theft from the person (2.5%) than those who had not visited a pub or wine bar (1.0%).

The factors associated with being at higher or lower risk of being a victim of theft from the person have been similar in recent years.

### **Box 4.6 Factors strongly associated with higher risk of theft from the person**

*Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) carried out on the 2007/08 BCS shows that after the influence of other characteristics is taken into account, many of the relationships between socio-demographic factors and risk of victimisation still hold true.*

*The factors most strongly independently associated with higher risk of theft from the person were:*

- *being aged between 16 and 34 years; and*
- *living in London or the South East.*

*This model explains around four per cent of the variation in the risk of being a victim of theft from the person based only on the factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).*

## 4.6 CRIMINAL DAMAGE (VANDALISM)

### Extent and trends

#### **Box 4.7 Classification of offence types: criminal damage (vandalism)**

*Criminal damage (called vandalism in the BCS) is any intentional and malicious damage to property belonging to another (see the Glossary for more information). The BCS only includes vandalism of private households and their property, while the police record offences for both domestic and non-domestic property. Damage which is repairable without cost, or which is accidental, is not included in the BCS or police recorded crime.*

*BCS vandalism specifically covers **arson** (where there is deliberate damage to property caused by fire), **vandalism to a motor vehicle, to the home** (includes doors, windows, gates, fences and belongings in the garden) and **to other property**.*

*The police record offences of criminal damage to a dwelling, to buildings other than a dwelling, to a vehicle, and other damage. Figures are also collected for racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage.*

#### **Arson and deliberate fires recorded by fire brigades**

*There are substantial recording differences between arson recorded by the police and deliberate fires figures recorded by fire brigades. The police need a higher level of proof to establish that the report of a fire legally constitutes arson than the fire brigades need to attribute a fire as deliberately started. Also, the police record a large proportion of fires to stolen vehicles as thefts of vehicles rather than arson. The figures recorded by fire brigades also relate to a different time period.*

*The definition of arson used in the BCS is deliberate damage by fire to property belonging to the respondent or their household regardless of the type of property involved. The only exception is where the item that is set on fire was stolen first (this is coded as theft). Arson is included in vandalism to other property; and includes arson to vehicles.*

There were 2,689,000 offences of vandalism against private property as measured by BCS interviews in 2007/08. Of these, 1,732,000 were against vehicles and 957,000 against other private property, such as a dwelling or surrounding property (Table 2.01). Just over a third of incidents of vandalism were reported to the police (35%) (Table 2.10).

- The 2007/08 BCS showed that the number of incidents of vandalism has decreased by ten per cent since 2006/07. Longer-term BCS trends show that the number of vandalism incidents increased after the first BCS results in 1981 to reach a peak in 1995. The number of vandalism incidents has now returned to around the same level as in 1981, decreasing by 20 per cent since 1995.

Recorded crime figures showed a 13 per cent fall in total criminal damage between 2006/07 and 2007/08. Of the 1,036,246 offences recorded, 41 per cent were to a vehicle, 25 per cent to a dwelling and 13 per cent to a building other than a dwelling (Table 2.04).

There was a nine per cent fall in the number of arson offences recorded by the police between 2006/07 and 2007/08 to 39,318 offences (Table 2.04).

The number of deliberate fires<sup>8</sup> recorded by fire brigades in England and Wales fell from 71,061 in 2005 to 63,995 in 2006, a decrease of ten per cent (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2008<sup>9</sup>).

<sup>8</sup> A 'deliberate fire' is a primary fire where the cause of fire is suspected to be non-accidental. A 'primary fire' is any fire involving casualties, property (including non-derelict vehicles) or where at least five fire appliances attend.

<sup>9</sup> These are the latest available figures and are taken from Summary Fire Statistics, United Kingdom, 2006 (<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/fire/pdf/732982.pdf>).

### Risks of vandalism

Based on the 2007/08 BCS, 7.3 per cent of households had experienced some form of vandalism in the previous 12 months. The risk of victimisation was 6.4 per cent for vehicle vandalism (based on vehicle-owning households) and 2.5 per cent for vandalism to the home or other property (Table 2.03). A very small proportion of households (0.3%) had been a victim of both vehicle vandalism and vandalism to the home or other property in the previous year, representing five per cent of all victims of vandalism (data not shown).

The risk of becoming a victim of vehicle vandalism or of vandalism to the home or other property varied according to different household characteristics and type of area (Figures 4.10 and 4.11 and Table 4.06).

#### *Vehicle vandalism (vehicle-owning households only) (Figure 4.10 and Table 4.06)*

- The risk of being a victim of vehicle vandalism was higher for households in social-rented accommodation (9.8%) compared with owner occupiers (5.8%) or private renters (7.7%).
- Households consisting of a single adult and child(ren) were more likely to have been a victim of vehicle vandalism (10.7%) compared with all other household types and in particular households where the HRP was aged over 60 years (3.2%).
- The risk of experiencing vehicle vandalism was higher for households in areas where physical disorder was assessed<sup>10</sup> as high (10.2%) compared with areas where the assessed level was not high (6.3%). Households living in Moderate Means or Hard Pressed ACORN areas were also more likely to be a victim (9.5% and 9.4% respectively) than those in other types of area (for example, Wealthy Achievers, 3.8%).
- Households owning three or more cars were more likely to have experienced vandalism to vehicles (9.1%) compared with households owning one (5.9%) or two cars (6.7%).

#### *Vandalism to the home or other property (Figure 4.11 and Table 4.06)*

- Households where the HRP was long-term or temporarily sick had a higher risk of vandalism to the home (4.1%) than those with an HRP in employment (2.6%) or retired (1.8%).
- Households living in terraced houses (3.3%) had a higher risk of being a victim of vandalism to the home or other property than households living in other accommodation types (for example, flats or maisonettes, 1.9%).
- The risk of victimisation from vandalism to the home was higher for households in areas where physical disorder was assessed<sup>10</sup> as high (3.9%) compared with areas where the assessed level was not high (2.5%).

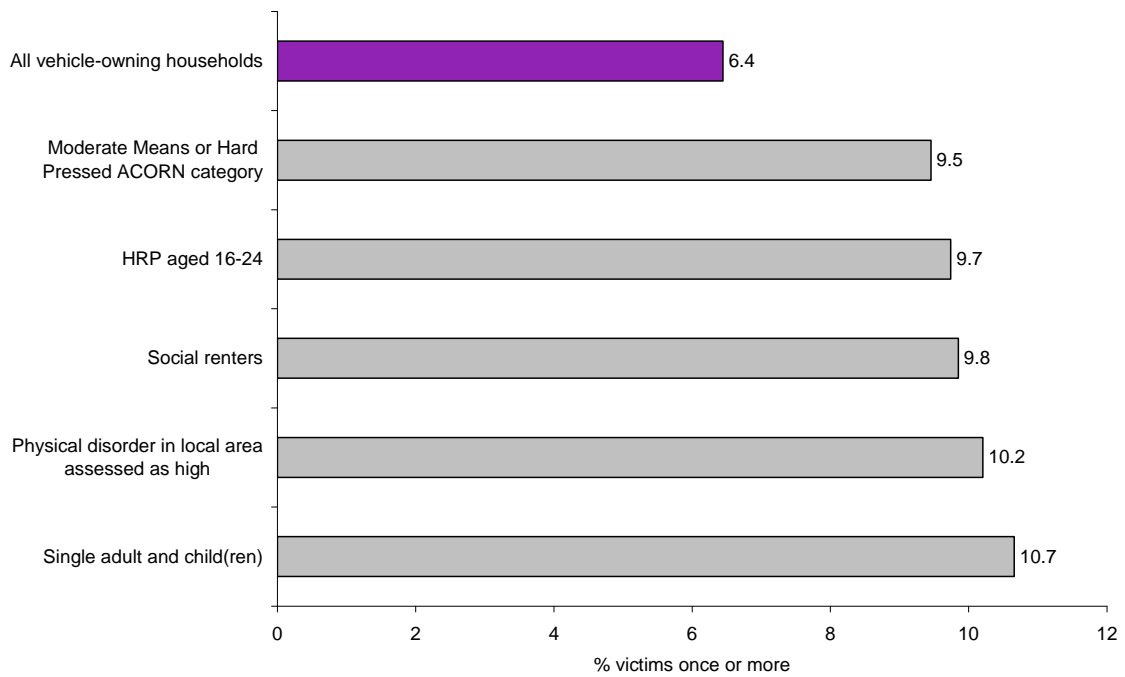
BCS interviews for 2007/08 indicated that within the main crime types, victims of vandalism were most likely to experience repeat victimisation; 30 per cent of victims had experienced vandalism more than once in the previous 12 months (Figure 2.09).

The factors described here as being associated with higher or lower risk of experiencing vehicle vandalism or of vandalism to the home or other property are similar to those found in previous years.

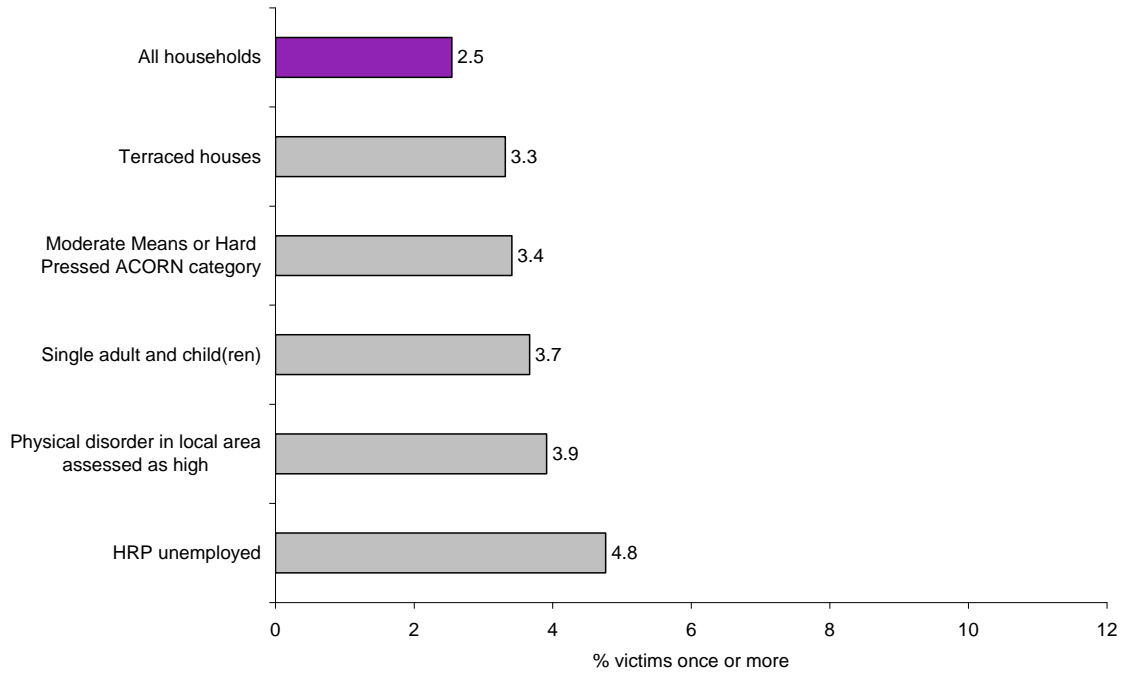
---

<sup>10</sup> Interviewer assessment, see the Glossary for more information.

**Figure 4.10 Vehicle-owning households most at risk of vehicle vandalism, 2007/08 BCS**



**Figure 4.11 Households most at risk of vandalism to home/other property, 2007/08 BCS**



**Box 4.8 Factors strongly associated with higher risk of vandalism**

*Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) carried out on the 2007/08 BCS shows that after the influence of other characteristics is taken into account, many of the relationships between socio-demographic factors and risk of victimisation still hold true.*

*The factors most strongly independently associated with higher risk of **vehicle vandalism** (among vehicle-owning households) were:*

- *not living in a Wealthy Achievers ACORN area, in particular living in Hard Pressed areas;*
- *HRP not being aged 75 years or over; and*
- *owning more than one vehicle, in particular owning three or more vehicles.*

*This model explains around four per cent of the variation in the risk of being a victim of vandalism based only on the factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).*

*The factor most strongly independently associated with higher risk of **vandalism to the home or other property** was:*

- *living in Moderate Means or Hard Pressed ACORN areas.*

*This model explains around one per cent of the variation in the risk of being a victim of vandalism to the home or other property based only on the factor described here (see the Glossary for more information).*

## 4.7 FRAUD AND FORGERY

### Introduction

The measurement of fraud is challenging as fraud is known to be very substantially under-reported to the police. Better information can be derived from other sources (for more information on administrative sources of fraud, see Wilson *et al.*, 2006a). For more information on the nature, extent and economic impact of fraud in the UK, see Levi *et al.*, (2007). Recent changes to the measurement of fraud by the police (see Box 4.9) mean that recorded fraud and forgery figures for 2007/08 are not comparable with those for previous years. There is now a wider range of coverage (for example, ATM fraud that previously had to be recorded as theft from an automatic machine now being covered by a new fraud offence) and the counting rules have been changed altering the way in which some frauds are counted. Overall, the number of fraud and forgery offences recorded by the police in 2007/08 was 155,358.

To improve the understanding of fraud, this section focuses on fraud and forgery offences identified by organisations within the industry (APACS, the UK payments association and CIFAS) and the BCS. The BCS provides a measure of fraud (including identity fraud) committed against individuals in private households, which is important because it captures unreported incidents. However, there are conceptual difficulties around the definition and measurement of fraud in surveys, not least because by its very nature, respondents might not be aware that the deception has taken place.

**Box 4.9 Fraud measurement changes**

*In 2007 there have been three significant changes affecting the measurement of fraud:*

**Changes to offences:** *The introduction of the Fraud Act 2006, which commenced on 15 January 2007, saw significant changes to offences in the fraud and forgery offence group. New offences were introduced which were temporarily recorded as 'Other Fraud' until the new offence codes came into being on 1 April 2007.*

**Changes to the counting rules:** *From 15 January 2007, if an account is defrauded only one offence is to be recorded rather than one offence per fraudulent transaction on each account (as was the practice prior to 15 January 2007). Previously if a person had their credit card stolen and it was subsequently used on ten separate occasions to buy goods fraudulently from ten different shops there would be a requirement for one crime record for theft and ten for deception. Now there is a requirement to record one theft and one fraud by false representation. The result of this change means that fewer crimes of plastic card and cheque fraud were recorded by the police during 2007/08 when compared with previous years. This change was made to reduce significant bureaucracy in recording crime (possibly involving several police forces) and to reflect the fact that in the cases when this counting basis is used, the financial loss is borne by the financial institution at which the account is held rather than by the merchants who process a transaction or by the account holder.*

**Changes to reporting procedures:** *From 1 April 2007, where a financial institution makes full financial recompense to an account holder, the financial institution (rather than the account holder) can report the crime directly to a single point of contact within the police.*

*These changes have been supported by APACS (the UK payments association) and ACPO as they have resulted in significant reductions in bureaucracy in relation to the reporting of cheque and plastic card fraud. This has focused police effort on reports of fraud most likely to lead to a suspect being brought to justice and also introduced single points of contact within police forces for the financial institutions to report cases directly to. The Fraud Review (2006) also specifically welcomed the changes that were being put in place:*

<http://www.attorneygeneral.gov.uk/Fraud%20Review/Fraud%20Review%20Final%20Report%20July%202006.pdf>

**Plastic card fraud**

APACS (the UK payments association) records information on the financial losses resulting from plastic card fraud in the UK (Tables 4a and 4b).

- The total losses from plastic card fraud on UK-issued cards reported by APACS in 2007 were £535.2 million, an increase of 25 per cent from 2006 (£427.0 million).
- There were 2.7 million fraudulent transactions on UK-issued cards recorded by APACS in the UK in 2007, an increase of 20 per cent from 2006 (2.3 million).

Those types of card fraud more easily prevented by the introduction of chip and PIN technology continue to decline but other types of card fraud have risen.

**Table 4a Annual plastic card fraud losses for UK-issued cards, 2000 to 2007**

Loss (£ millions) and percentage changes									APACS
Fraud type	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	% change 2006 to 2007
Card not present	72.9	95.7	110.1	122.1	150.8	183.2	212.7	290.5	37
Counterfeit card	107.1	160.4	148.5	110.6	129.7	96.8	98.6	144.3	46
Lost and stolen	101.9	114.0	108.3	112.4	114.5	89.0	68.5	56.2	-18
Card ID Theft	17.4	14.6	20.6	30.2	36.9	30.5	31.9	34.1	7
Mail non-receipt	17.7	26.8	37.1	45.1	72.9	40.0	15.4	10.2	-34
<b>Total</b>	<b>317.0</b>	<b>411.5</b>	<b>424.6</b>	<b>420.4</b>	<b>504.8</b>	<b>439.4</b>	<b>427.0</b>	<b>535.2</b>	<b>25</b>
<i>of which:</i>									
UK retailer (face-to-face)	139.1	188.9	186.9	177.9	218.8	135.9	72.1	73.0	1
Domestic/International split of total losses:									
UK fraud	213.4	273.0	294.4	316.3	412.3	356.6	309.9	327.6	6
Fraud abroad	103.5	138.4	130.2	104.1	92.5	82.8	117.1	207.6	77

1. Source: APACS 'Fraud: The Facts 2008' published in April 2008.

The largest fraud type was card-not-present fraud, which involves the use of stolen cards or card details in non face-to-face transactions either on the internet, by phone or by mail order. Losses from this fraud type were £290.5 million in 2007, up by 37 per cent since 2006. This has been the largest type of card fraud in the UK for the past five years. However, the losses are in the context of large increases in shopping online and over the phone. From 2000 to 2007, card-not-present fraud trebled while APACS note the total value of online shopping alone increased by almost ten-fold (£3.5 billion in 2000 to £34 billion in 2007).

Counterfeit card fraud occurs when criminals use an illegal copy of a genuine credit or debit card. Losses from this fraud type were £144.3 million in 2007, an increase of 46 per cent from 2006. The increase is driven by a rise in fraud abroad with UK card details stolen for use in countries yet to upgrade to chip and PIN. Related to chip and PIN, lost or stolen card fraud has decreased by 18 per cent since 2006 with losses at £56.2 million in 2007.

Card ID theft occurs when a criminal uses a fraudulently obtained card or card details, along with stolen personal information, to open or take over a card account in someone else's name. Card ID theft resulted in losses of £34.1 million in 2007, up by seven per cent from 2006.

Mail non-receipt fraud involves cards being stolen before they are delivered to the cardholder. This fraud type totalled £10.2 million in 2007, down by 34 per cent from 2006. This decrease is attributable to chip and PIN making it more difficult for fraudsters to use stolen cards, but also because fewer cards were being sent out than at the peak of the chip and PIN roll out.

The domestic/international split of the total figure of £535.2 million for UK-issued plastic card fraud was £327.6 million in UK fraud and £207.6 million in fraud abroad. For UK fraud, the number of fraudulent transactions and loss split by fraud type are detailed in Table 4b. APACS note that chip and PIN continues to have a positive effect on card fraud committed in the UK. UK retailer fraud has fallen by two-thirds from £218.8m in 2004 to £73.0m last year, with fraudsters looking to target those environments that do not yet use chip and PIN such as the internet and countries that have not yet upgraded to chip and PIN.

**Table 4b Annual plastic card UK fraud transactions and losses for UK-issued cards, 2006 to 2007**

Fraud type	Number of fraudulent transactions			Loss			APACS
	Count (thousands)		% change	(£ millions)		% change	
	2006	2007	2006 to 2007	2006	2007	2006 to 2007	
Card-not-present	1,272	2,014	58	171.8	221.4	29	
Counterfeit card	279	224	-20	45.8	31.0	-32	
Lost and stolen	519	321	-38	51.4	37.7	-27	
Mail non-receipt	101	43	-57	14.2	8.7	-39	
Card ID theft: Account take-over	40	48	19	18.5	21.0	14	
Card ID theft: Third-party application fraud	49	59	22	8.1	7.7	-5	
<b>Subtotal: UK fraud</b>	<b>2,260</b>	<b>2,709</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>309.9</b>	<b>327.6</b>	<b>6</b>	
Subtotal: Fraud abroad				117.1	207.6	77	
<b>Total</b>				<b>427</b>	<b>535.2</b>	<b>25</b>	

1. Source: APACS

According to the latest data available from the 2006/07 BCS<sup>11</sup>, four per cent of plastic card users were aware they had been a victim of card fraud in the previous 12 months (see Flatley *et al.*, 2007). This is higher than the risk of victimisation for other types of theft, for example, 1.2 per cent had been a victim of theft from the person in the 2006/07 BCS.

## Identity fraud

There is no comprehensive measure of the extent of identity fraud since different sources measure it in different ways. In recent years there has been growing interest in trying to increase the knowledge base using surveys, adding to the information which exists from administrative sources (for more information see Flatley *et al.*, 2007).

- Previous findings from the 2006/07 BCS, found that two per cent of adults had experienced their personal details being used in the last year without their permission in one or more of the ways asked about<sup>12</sup>. This proportion represents those who came to know about the identity fraud, but the true figure could be higher because some respondents may not have known about the deception.

## Other sources of fraud data

CIFAS is an industry fraud prevention service and has provided additional information on fraud set out in Box 4.10. As with the APACS data, it should be stressed that these data are not produced by the Government Statistical Service, but they nevertheless provide useful information on levels of fraud.

<sup>11</sup> Due to methodological improvements, new questions on card and identity fraud were introduced in October 2007; hence a full year's data is not yet available.

<sup>12</sup> See the Glossary for the full list of fraudulent activities the respondents were asked about.

**Box 4.10 CIFAS and fraud**

CIFAS is a not-for-profit membership association dedicated to the prevention of financial crime and staff fraud. It has over 270 member organisations in the UK spread across banking, credit cards, asset finance, retail credit, mail order, insurance, investment management, telecommunications, factoring and share dealing. Members share information on identified frauds to prevent further crime. See Table 4c for types of fraud covered.

CIFAS records information on fraud cases identified by member organisations. Members must have sufficient evidence to take the case to the police although it is not mandatory that they do so. A fraud case can involve multiple subjects and multiple addresses.

The total number of fraud cases identified by CIFAS members in 2007 was 185,003, an increase of eight per cent from 2006 (171,488).

The largest fraud type was identity fraud, which includes cases of false identity and impersonation. CIFAS members identified 77,593 identity fraud cases in 2007, a decrease of three per cent compared with 2006.

Application fraud involves material lies on application forms (for example, for finance or insurance) or false supporting documentation. In 2007, 76,870 application fraud cases were identified by CIFAS members, an increase of 20 per cent compared with the previous year.

Facility or account takeover occurs when the fraudster impersonates a victim in order to take over and control one or more of the victim's existing accounts/policies. CIFAS members identified 6,272 facility takeover fraud cases in 2007, up by 34 per cent since 2006.

Misuse of facility occurs when an account, policy or other facility is used fraudulently. CIFAS members reported 23,400 frauds of this type in 2007, an increase of eight per cent since 2006.

**Table 4c Annual fraud cases identified by CIFAS members, 2006 to 2007**

Fraud type	2006	2007	% change
	Number	Number	2006 to 2007
Identity fraud	80,377	77,593	-3
Application fraud	63,860	76,870	20
Facility takeover fraud <sup>1</sup>	4,665	6,272	34
Misuse of facility	21,751	23,400	8
<b>Total <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>171,488</b>	<b>185,003</b>	<b>8</b>

1. Account takeover fraud.

2. Total includes false insurance claims (395 in 2006 and 390 in 2007) and asset conversion fraud (440 in 2006 and 478 in 2007). False insurance claims include lying on claim forms. It should be noted that not all insurance companies share fraud data through CIFAS. Asset conversion involves the sale of assets under a credit agreement e.g. a car, when still owned by lender.

Source: CIFAS '2007 Fraud Trends', published in January 2008. As with the APACS data, it should be stressed that these data are not produced by the Government Statistical Service, but they nevertheless provide useful information on levels of fraud.

Table 4.01 Proportion of households that were victims of burglary by household and area characteristics

Percentages	2007/08 BCS			Unweighted base
	Burglary	Burglary with entry	Attempted burglary	
	% victims once or more			
<b>Age of household reference person</b>				
16-24	7.5	4.7	3.0	1,553
25-34	3.4	1.7	1.8	6,051
35-44	2.7	1.4	1.3	9,462
45-54	2.5	1.7	0.8	8,772
55-64	1.5	0.9	0.6	8,425
65-74	1.2	0.7	0.4	6,566
75+	1.4	1.1	0.3	5,936
<b>Household type</b>				
Household reference person under 60:				
Single adult & child(ren)	6.4	4.1	2.7	2,410
Adults & child(ren)	2.5	1.3	1.2	10,327
No children	2.8	1.7	1.2	17,184
Household reference person over 60	1.3	0.9	0.4	16,844
<b>Household income</b>				
Less than £10,000	3.4	2.1	1.4	7,419
£10,000 less than £20,000	2.4	1.4	1.0	8,240
£20,000 less than £30,000	2.2	1.2	1.1	6,448
£30,000 less than £40,000	1.8	1.0	0.9	4,980
£40,000 less than £50,000	1.9	1.1	0.9	3,507
£50,000 or more	2.6	1.3	1.3	5,625
<b>Tenure</b>				
Owner occupiers	1.8	1.0	0.7	32,945
Social renters	3.9	2.3	1.7	7,766
Private renters	3.3	2.1	1.3	5,850
<b>Household reference person's employment status</b>				
In employment	2.3	1.3	1.0	28,446
Unemployed	6.5	3.7	3.3	522
Economically inactive	2.3	1.5	0.9	17,656
Student	4.5	2.7	2.0	413
Looking after family/home	5.1	3.3	2.0	1,668
Long-term/temporarily sick/ill	5.0	3.1	2.0	2,093
Retired	1.2	0.8	0.4	13,085
Other inactive	5.6	4.0	1.6	397
<b>Household reference person's occupation</b>				
Managerial and professional occupations	2.3	1.2	1.1	17,463
Intermediate occupations	2.1	1.4	0.8	9,129
Routine and manual occupations	2.3	1.4	0.9	17,962
Never worked and long-term unemployed	5.0	3.0	2.0	1,061
Full-time students	4.8	3.3	1.6	766
Not classified	5.3	2.9	2.4	384
<b>Accommodation type</b>				
Houses	2.2	1.3	0.9	38,758
Detached	1.7	1.1	0.5	11,687
Semi-detached	2.1	1.2	0.9	14,668
Terraced	2.7	1.6	1.2	12,403
Flats/maisonettes	3.6	2.1	1.6	5,259
Other accommodation types	1.0	0.5	0.5	215
<b>ACORN category</b>				
Wealthy Achievers	1.5	1.1	0.4	12,750
Urban Prosperity	3.6	2.1	1.5	3,517
Comfortably Off	1.9	0.9	1.0	14,693
Moderate Means	2.7	1.8	1.1	6,404
Hard Pressed	3.3	2.0	1.4	9,300
<b>Area type</b>				
Urban	2.7	1.6	1.1	34,817
Rural	1.3	0.8	0.4	11,948
<b>Hours home left unoccupied on an average weekday</b>				
Never	2.7	1.8	1.0	5,415
Less than 3 hours	1.9	1.2	0.7	14,996
3 but less than 5 hours	2.5	1.5	1.1	8,702
5 hours or more	2.6	1.4	1.2	17,534
<b>Number of years at address</b>				
Less than 1 year	4.8	3.0	1.9	4,690
1 year, less than 2 years	2.7	1.6	1.3	3,397
2 years, less than 5 years	2.5	1.5	1.1	7,999
5 years, less than 10 years	2.5	1.4	1.1	8,332
10 years or more	1.7	1.0	0.7	22,345
<b>Level of physical disorder</b>				
High	5.1	3.1	2.2	2,476
Not high	2.2	1.3	0.9	41,540
<b>Level of home security</b>				
High	1.8	0.9	1.0	3,613
Some	2.3	1.2	1.1	1,998
None	25.0	15.0	10.0	170
<b>ALL HOUSEHOLDS</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>46,765</b>

1. See the Glossary for definitions of household and area characteristics.

**Table 4.02 Ownership of home security measures among households that were victims of burglary and non-victimised households**

Percentages	2007/08 BCS			
	Burglary victim <sup>1</sup>			Not a burglary victim <sup>2</sup>
	Burglary	Burglary with entry	Attempted burglary	
Burglar alarm	25	24	27	30
Double/deadlocks	42	38	47	82
Outdoor sensor/timer lights	19	16	22	44
Indoor sensor/timer lights	10	9	11	25
Window locks	40	36	45	87
Window bar/grilles	2	2	2	3
Security chains on door	19	17	23	34
Any of these security devices	67	62	74	97
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>878</i>	<i>533</i>	<i>362</i>	<i>5,615</i>

1. Victims were asked what security measures were in place at the time of the burglary.

2. Base is all households that were asked about home security measures in the 2007/08 BCS but were not victims of any burglary. Base given is for 'double/deadlocks', bases for all other security precautions will be higher.

3. Figures add to more than 100 as more than one response possible.

Table 4.03 Proportion of households that were victims of vehicle-related theft by household and area characteristics

Percentages		2007/08 BCS			
	Vehicle-related theft	Theft of vehicle	Theft from vehicle	Attempted theft	Unweighted base <sup>1</sup>
<i>% victims once or more</i>					
<b>Age of household reference person</b>					
16-24	9.4	1.9	5.8	1.8	922
25-34	9.7	1.1	6.3	2.8	4,905
35-44	7.8	0.9	5.5	1.8	8,383
45-54	7.4	1.0	5.2	1.6	7,823
55-64	5.0	0.5	3.4	1.3	7,313
65-74	2.7	0.3	2.0	0.6	5,022
75+	1.9	0.2	1.2	0.5	3,119
<b>Household type</b>					
Household reference person under 60:					
<i>Single adult &amp; child(ren)</i>	7.4	1.1	5.1	1.5	1,506
<i>Adults &amp; child(ren)</i>	8.1	1.1	5.7	1.7	9,591
<i>No children</i>	7.6	0.9	5.1	2.0	14,536
Household reference person over 60	3.2	0.3	2.2	0.8	11,854
<b>Household income</b>					
Less than £10,000	5.6	1.4	3.2	1.3	3,372
£10,000 less than £20,000	5.7	0.8	3.7	1.6	6,311
£20,000 less than £30,000	6.5	0.6	4.7	1.5	5,863
£30,000 less than £40,000	7.7	0.9	5.3	1.8	4,748
£40,000 less than £50,000	7.4	0.7	5.3	1.7	3,390
£50,000 or more	7.6	0.6	5.6	1.8	5,488
<b>Tenure</b>					
Owner occupiers	5.9	0.6	4.1	1.4	29,346
Social renters	8.5	1.7	5.5	1.9	3,668
Private renters	7.9	1.0	5.1	2.0	4,317
<b>Household reference person's employment status</b>					
In employment	7.4	0.8	5.2	1.7	26,062
Unemployed	9.6	3.2	5.5	2.2	268
Economically inactive	4.0	0.6	2.4	1.0	11,060
<i>Student</i>	9.4	0.5	4.5	4.4	207
<i>Looking after family/home</i>	7.3	1.9	4.4	1.3	868
<i>Long-term/temporarily sick/ill</i>	8.4	2.0	4.5	2.2	1,113
<i>Retired</i>	2.8	0.3	1.8	0.7	8,656
<i>Other inactive</i>	6.4	2.2	4.2	0.0	216
<b>Household reference person's occupation</b>					
Managerial and professional occupations	6.5	0.6	4.6	1.7	15,983
Intermediate occupations	6.8	0.7	5.1	1.4	7,700
Routine and manual occupations	5.8	1.0	3.8	1.3	12,593
Never worked and long-term unemployed	6.8	2.7	1.9	2.5	451
Full-time students	8.9	1.4	5.0	3.1	478
Not classified	8.7	0.1	4.6	4.0	282
<b>Accommodation type</b>					
Houses	6.1	0.7	4.2	1.4	32,582
<i>Detached</i>	4.0	0.3	2.9	0.8	11,059
<i>Semi-detached</i>	6.0	0.7	4.2	1.4	12,298
<i>Terraced</i>	8.3	1.1	5.6	2.2	9,225
Flats/maisonettes	9.3	1.2	5.9	2.4	2,774
Other accommodation types	4.0	0.5	3.2	0.3	169
<b>ACORN category</b>					
Wealthy Achievers	4.1	0.4	3.1	0.7	12,000
Urban Prosperity	9.7	0.7	7.2	2.3	2,457
Comfortably Off	5.6	0.6	3.7	1.4	12,528
Moderate Means	9.3	1.4	6.0	2.4	4,825
Hard Pressed	8.1	1.4	5.1	2.1	5,602
<b>Area type</b>					
Urban	7.2	0.9	4.9	1.7	26,892
Rural	3.7	0.4	2.6	0.9	10,595
<b>Number of vehicles owned by household</b>					
One or more	6.4	0.7	4.4	1.5	37,110
<i>One</i>	5.3	0.6	3.6	1.3	19,847
<i>Two</i>	7.0	0.7	4.8	1.8	13,492
<i>Three or more</i>	10.2	1.4	7.6	2.0	3,771
<b>Level of physical disorder</b>					
High	10.5	2.4	6.4	3.0	1,477
Not high	6.2	0.7	4.3	1.5	33,908
<b>ALL VEHICLE-OWNING HOUSEHOLDS</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>37,487</b>

1. Based on vehicle-owning households.

2. See the Glossary for definitions of household and area characteristics.

**Table 4.04 Vehicle security precautions on vehicles targeted in theft**

Percentages		2007/08 BCS		
	Theft of and from vehicles	Theft of vehicle	Theft from vehicle	Attempted theft
Car alarm	42	37	43	42
Central locking	71	57	73	73
Any immobiliser	64	51	67	75
- Electronic	49	37	51	56
- Mechanical	31	24	32	41
Tracking device	3	0	4	1
Window security etching	50	52	50	46
<i>Unweighted base</i> <sup>1</sup>	842	148	694	263
Audio security	75	69	76	79
Removable stereo	47	39	49	50
Security pin number	51	51	50	55
<i>Unweighted base</i> <sup>2</sup>	849	141	708	267

1. Base is cars or light vans subject to vehicle theft; base given is for 'window security etching', bases for all other security precautions will be higher.

2. Base is cars or light vans with radio/cassette/CD; base given is for 'security pin number', bases for all other security precautions will be higher.

3. Figures add to more than 100 as more than one response possible.

Table 4.05 Proportion of adults who were victims of theft from the person by personal characteristics

Percentages	2007/08 BCS	
	% victims once or more	Unweighted base
<b>Men</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>21,331</b>
16-24	3.0	1,825
25-34	1.3	2,994
35-44	0.7	4,095
45-54	0.6	3,582
55-64	0.3	3,716
65-74	0.4	2,859
75+	0.2	2,260
<b>Women</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>25,572</b>
16-24	2.4	2,137
25-34	1.8	3,713
35-44	1.2	4,806
45-54	0.9	3,875
55-64	1.1	4,179
65-74	1.7	3,484
75+	1.3	3,378
<b>Marital status</b>		
Married	0.8	22,314
Cohabiting	1.2	4,115
Single	2.3	9,591
Separated	1.3	1,403
Divorced	1.3	4,098
Widowed	1.3	5,366
<b>Respondent's employment status</b>		
In employment	1.2	26,310
Unemployed	1.2	792
Economically inactive	1.3	19,659
<i>Student</i>	3.0	1,078
<i>Looking after family/home</i>	1.6	2,772
<i>Long-term/temporarily sick/ill</i>	1.6	2,130
<i>Retired</i>	0.8	13,130
<i>Other inactive</i>	1.5	549
<b>Respondent's occupation</b>		
Managerial and professional occupations	1.3	15,608
Intermediate occupations	0.7	9,459
Routine and manual occupations	1.1	18,393
Never worked and long-term unemployed	2.1	1,406
Full-time students	3.0	1,814
Not classified	1.1	223
<b>Highest qualification</b>		
Degree or diploma	1.5	14,226
Apprenticeship or A/AS level	1.4	7,964
O level/GCSE	1.1	9,302
Other	1.3	2,024
No qualifications	0.9	13,226
<b>Long-standing illness or disability</b>		
Long-standing illness or disability	1.3	13,337
<i>Limits activities</i>	1.3	9,282
<i>Does not limit activities</i>	1.4	4,048
No long-standing illness or disability	1.2	33,463
<b>Hours out of home on an average weekday</b>		
Less than 3 hours	1.0	13,849
3 but less than 7 hours	1.4	12,382
7 hours or more	1.3	20,549
<b>Number of visits to pub/wine bar in the evening during last month</b>		
None	1.0	23,236
Less than 3 times a week	1.3	20,657
Three or more times a week	2.5	3,005
<b>ALL ADULTS</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>46,903</b>

1. See the Glossary for definitions of personal characteristics.

Table 4.06 Proportion of households that were victims of vandalism by household and area characteristics

Percentages		2007/08 BCS		
	Vandalism	Vehicle vandalism	Vandalism to home and other property	Unweighted base <sup>1</sup>
	% victims once or more			
<b>Age of household reference person</b>				
16-24	8.0	9.7	2.7	1,553
25-34	8.9	8.4	2.6	6,051
35-44	9.3	7.9	2.8	9,462
45-54	9.3	7.7	3.1	8,772
55-64	7.0	5.3	2.7	8,425
65-74	4.2	3.2	1.9	6,566
75+	2.5	1.8	1.7	5,936
<b>Household type</b>				
Household reference person under 60:				
<i>Single adult &amp; child(ren)</i>	9.9	10.7	3.7	2,410
<i>Adults &amp; child(ren)</i>	9.6	7.7	3.0	10,327
<i>No children</i>	8.5	7.6	2.7	17,184
Household reference person over 60	4.0	3.2	1.9	16,844
<b>Household income</b>				
Less than £10,000	5.1	6.2	2.5	7,419
£10,000 less than £20,000	6.8	5.7	2.9	8,240
£20,000 less than £30,000	8.4	7.1	2.6	6,448
£30,000 less than £40,000	8.8	7.0	2.7	4,980
£40,000 less than £50,000	9.2	6.9	3.2	3,507
£50,000 or more	9.2	7.2	2.8	5,625
<b>Tenure</b>				
Owner occupiers	7.3	5.8	2.6	32,945
Social renters	7.3	9.8	2.9	7,766
Private renters	7.1	7.7	1.9	5,850
<b>Household reference person's employment status</b>				
In employment	8.7	7.2	2.6	28,446
Unemployed	8.4	8.5	4.8	522
Economically inactive	4.9	4.5	2.4	17,656
<i>Student</i>	6.8	6.6	3.8	413
<i>Looking after family/home</i>	8.4	9.4	3.7	1,668
<i>Long-term/temporarily sick/ill</i>	8.0	8.9	4.1	2,093
<i>Retired</i>	3.8	3.2	1.8	13,085
<i>Other inactive</i>	6.1	7.2	2.6	397
<b>Household reference person's occupation</b>				
Managerial and professional occupations	8.1	6.5	2.7	17,463
Intermediate occupations	6.9	6.1	2.1	9,129
Routine and manual occupations	6.8	6.5	2.7	17,962
Never worked and long-term unemployed	4.8	5.7	2.7	1,061
Full-time students	6.8	8.1	2.5	766
Not classified	6.1	7.6	0.8	384
<b>Accommodation type</b>				
Houses	7.6	6.2	2.7	38,758
<i>Detached</i>	5.3	3.5	2.2	11,687
<i>Semi-detached</i>	7.3	6.2	2.5	14,668
<i>Terraced</i>	9.6	9.0	3.3	12,403
Flats/maisonettes	6.4	8.7	1.9	5,259
Other accommodation types	5.1	4.5	1.6	215
<b>ACORN category</b>				
Wealthy Achievers	5.2	3.8	1.9	12,750
Urban Prosperity	7.1	7.4	2.3	3,517
Comfortably Off	6.8	5.8	2.2	14,693
Moderate Means	10.1	9.5	3.4	6,404
Hard Pressed	8.5	9.4	3.4	9,300
<b>Area type</b>				
Urban	7.8	7.1	2.8	34,817
Rural	5.2	4.3	1.6	11,948
<b>Hours home left unoccupied on an average weekday</b>				
Never	6.6	6.3	2.3	5,415
Less than 3 hours	5.8	5.1	2.3	14,996
3 but less than 5 hours	7.1	6.2	2.6	8,702
5 hours or more	8.8	7.5	2.8	17,534
<b>Number of cars owned by household</b>				
None	2.8	n/a	2.6	9,655
One or more	8.6	6.5	2.5	37,110
<i>One</i>	7.9	5.9	2.5	19,847
<i>Two</i>	8.9	6.7	2.6	13,492
<i>Three or more</i>	11.2	9.1	2.5	3,771
<b>Level of physical disorder</b>				
High	9.4	10.2	3.9	2,476
Not high	7.3	6.3	2.5	41,540
<b>ALL HOUSEHOLDS</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>46,765</b>

1. Base given is for all households, bases for vehicle vandalism will be slightly lower as based on vehicle-owning households only.

2. See the Glossary for definitions of household and area characteristics.