

2 Extent and trends

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2.1 INTRODUCTION

This volume reports on the latest levels and trends in crime in England and Wales. These statistics inform public debate about crime and support the development and monitoring of Government policy (see Appendix 1). A full summary of findings can be found at the beginning of this bulletin and a companion volume is also published which provides explanatory notes on these statistics (Smith and Hoare, 2009).

This volume is based on two sets of crime statistics, the British Crime Survey (BCS) and police recorded crime data. Each source has different strengths and weaknesses but together they provide a more comprehensive picture of crime than could be obtained from either series alone.

British Crime Survey

The BCS is a face-to-face victimisation survey in which people resident in households in England and Wales are asked about their experiences of crime in the 12 months prior to interview. Respondents to the survey are also asked about their attitudes towards different crime-related issues such as the police and criminal justice system, and perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour. Until recently the BCS did not cover crime against children, but, since January 2009, those aged 10 to 15 have been included in the survey. The first results for this age-group will be published in spring 2010. This report is based on adults aged 16 or over.

The key aim of the BCS is to provide robust trends for the crime types it covers; the survey does not aim to provide an absolute count of crime and has notable exclusions. The BCS excludes fraud (see below) and those crimes termed as victimless (e.g. possession of drugs). As a survey that asks people whether they have experienced victimisation, murders cannot be included. The BCS does not cover the population living in group residences (e.g. care homes or halls of residence) or other institutions. However, excluding the minority of the population that lives in such establishments is thought to have little effect on BCS estimates (see Pickering *et al.*, 2007). The BCS does not cover crime against commercial or public sector bodies but work is currently underway to scope a possible new survey of business crime.

For the crime types it covers, the BCS provides a better reflection of the true extent of household and personal crime than police recorded statistics because the survey includes crimes that are not reported to or recorded by the police. The primary purpose of the BCS is to provide national level analysis but some headline figures are available at regional and police force area level.

The BCS is also a better indicator of long-term trends than police recorded crime because it is unaffected by changes in levels of reporting to the police or police recording practices. The victimisation methodology and the crime types included in the main count of crime have remained comparable since the survey began in 1981. As a result, the BCS does not capture relatively new crimes, such as plastic card fraud. However, additional questions have been added to the survey to capture such issues and these are reported separately to the main BCS crime count, either in this bulletin or in supplementary publications.

BCS estimates for 2008/09 are based on face-to-face interviews with 46,286 respondents. The BCS has a high response rate (76%) and the survey is weighted to adjust for possible non-response bias and ensure the sample reflects the profile of the general population. Being

based on a sample survey, BCS estimates are subject to a margin of error. Any changes in BCS estimates over time are described as differences only when they are statistically significant (see Section 8 of Volume 2).

Police recorded crime

Police recorded crime statistics are administrative data based on crimes that are reported to and recorded by the police in England and Wales. Police recording practice is governed by the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS). The NCRS was introduced in all police forces in April 2002 to ensure greater consistency of crime recording between forces, together with a victim focus where crimes reported by the public are recorded unless there is credible evidence to the contrary.

Crime data are collected from police forces for each crime within the notifiable offence list and according to Home Office Counting Rules (published at www.countingrules.homeoffice.gov.uk – see also Section 3 of Volume 2). Each force has a Force Crime Registrar who monitors closely the application of the Counting Rules and has a final arbiter role with respect to crime recording decisions.

The Audit Commission published an assessment of police data quality (Audit Commission, 2007) which commented that “The police have continued to make significant improvements in crime recording performance and now have better quality crime data than before”. However, since that assessment, inconsistencies in the way police were recording offences of grievous bodily harm have come to light (see Box 2.1). While the problems that were identified have not influenced the overall count of violence against the person, the issues that arose do underline the caveat, mentioned above, that police recorded crime is subject to changes in both public reporting and police recording practice.

Box 2.1 Police recording of violence against the person

In April 2008 a clarification in the Home Office Counting Rules for grievous bodily harm (GBH) with intent was issued as part of the annual update of Counting Rules. This followed discussions at the National Crime Recording Steering Group which had identified inconsistencies in the recording of this category of crime (which in 2008/09 accounts for 2% of all police recorded violence against the person and 5% of violence with injury). The principal aim of the clarification was to ensure that offences of GBH with intent were recorded on the basis of evidence of *clear* intent to commit serious injury, irrespective of the degree of injury sustained. It was recognised that the rules had not previously been clear enough and that some forces were recording on the basis of the injury inflicted rather than the intent. Thus the clarification had the effect that in some forces offences are now being classified as GBH with intent which would have been previously categorised as a less serious violent offence against the person. However, this clarification does not affect the overall count of police recorded violence against the person.

A great deal of work has been undertaken in forces to implement this clarification, leading to ongoing revisions of figures during 2008/09. Following advice in January 2009 from the National Statistician, a decision was made to not report the provisional figures available for GBH with intent, but instead to provide a full breakdown in this annual bulletin. Figures are shown in Table 2.04 and a fuller explanation given in Section 3 of Volume 2, including a breakdown at police force level of changes in the recording of GBH with intent and violence with injury overall. Feedback from forces has indicated that a large part of the overall increase in GBH with intent was due to forces’ implementation of the clarification and should not simply be interpreted as a rise in serious violent crime.

Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary is currently conducting a quality assurance exercise of all forces’ recording of offences of most serious violence (of which GBH with intent is a large component), with a report planned for publication later in the year. This may give rise to further revisions by forces, which will be published in subsequent bulletins.

Recorded crime figures are an important indicator of police workload, 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 BCS). However, there are also categories of crime (such as drug possession offences) whose numbers are heavily influenced by the extent to which police proactively investigate.

Police recorded crime figures should be seen as a product of an administrative system, where rules can be subject to different interpretation and for some categories of crime, can reflect police workload and activity rather than underlying levels of crime. Trends need to be interpreted in this light, and where appropriate this is commented on.

Time periods covered

BCS figures are based on interviews between April 2008 and March 2009 (BCS year ending March 2009) and incidents experienced by survey respondents in the 12 months prior to their interview. The centre point of the period for reporting crime is March 2008, the only month to be included in all respondents' reference periods. Averaging over the moving reference period of the BCS generates estimates that are most closely comparable with police recorded crime figures for the 12 months to the end of September 2008 (about six months behind the latest recorded crime figures reported here).

The police recorded crime statistics relate to crimes recorded by the police in the financial year 2008/09; the figures presented in this volume are those as notified to the Home Office and that were contained on the database on 19 June 2009. As in previous years, recorded crime figures for the latest year remain subject to change as forces continue to submit further data (e.g. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary is conducting a quality assurance exercise of all forces' recording of offences of most serious violence which may prompt further revisions).

2.2 EXTENT OF CRIME

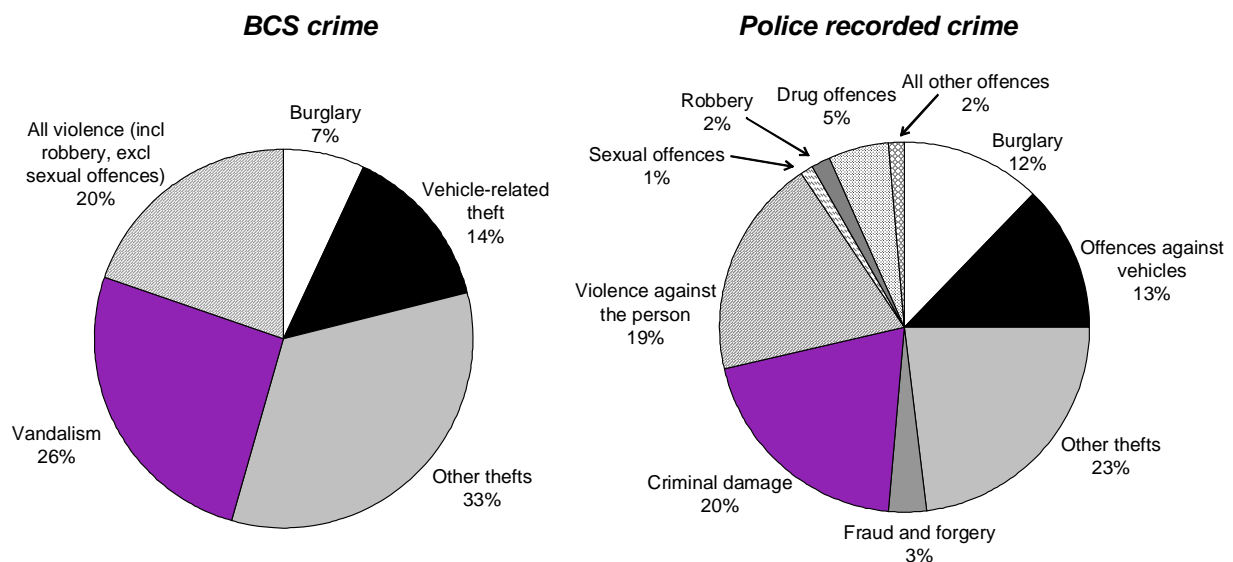
Latest figures show that overall crime, as measured by the BCS, has remained stable between 2007/08 and 2008/09 BCS interviews. Police recorded crime figures for 2008/09 have fallen by five per cent since the previous year.

The 2008/09 BCS estimates that in total there were approximately 10.7 million crimes¹ against adults resident in households in England and Wales. This compares with 10.2 million crimes measured by the 2007/08 survey, although the apparent five per cent increase was not statistically significant (Tables 2a and 2.01). There were around 4.7 million crimes recorded by the police in 2008/09, five per cent less than the 5.0 million in 2007/08 (Tables 2b and 2.04).

All household and all personal crime measured by the BCS remained stable between the 2007/08 and 2008/09 surveys (the apparent increases were not statistically significant). The 2008/09 BCS estimates 6.8 million household crimes and 3.9 million personal crimes.

Differences in the offence profiles of BCS and police recorded crime are shown below. These reflect the different coverage of the two series and variation in the levels of reporting and recording for different crime types (Figure 2.1).

Figure 2.1 BCS crime and police recorded crime by type of crime, 2008/09



The 2008/09 BCS is a face-to-face survey of adults aged 16 or over resident in households who are asked about their experiences of crime in the year prior to interview. As such the survey provides estimates of crimes against the **individual** and also **household property**.

Police recorded crime statistics are an administrative data source based on crimes reported to and recorded by the police in 2008/09 and cover crimes against **individuals** and both **domestic and commercial property**.

While the coverage differs, property crime² accounts for the majority of both BCS and recorded crime (80% and 71% respectively) with violence accounting for about a fifth (20% and 19% respectively).

¹ The estimate of the number of crimes is based on victimisation (incidence) rates calculated per 10,000 adults/households (see Table 2.02) and multiplied by the projected number of adults or households in England and Wales. See Section 2 of Volume 2 for more information.

² Property crime comprises burglary, vehicle-related theft, other thefts and vandalism for the BCS, and burglary, offences against vehicles, other thefts, fraud and forgery, and criminal damage for recorded crime.

Changes between 2007/08 and 2008/09 in levels of crime by crime type

The BCS and police recorded crime have tended to track each other reasonably well in recent years (see Section 4 of Volume 2 for more information). However, as in previous years, there are some differences between results from the two sources (Figures 2.2 and 2.3 and Tables 2a and 2b, 2.01 and 2.04).

Based on the 2008/09 BCS, violent crime remained stable compared with the previous year (the apparent 4% fall was not statistically significant). For police recorded crime, violence against the person decreased by six per cent (comprising a 7% fall in violence with injury, and a 5% fall in violence without injury).

Compared with the previous survey year, the 2008/09 BCS shows no statistically significant change in the number of incidents of domestic burglary; police recorded domestic burglaries rose slightly by one per cent in 2008/09 compared with 2007/08.

There was no change in the number of incidents of vehicle-related theft or vandalism (the apparent 3% rise was not statistically significant) according to BCS interviews in 2008/09 compared with 2007/08. However, between 2007/08 and 2008/09 there were ten per cent falls in both police recorded offences against vehicles and criminal damage.

The most notable divergence in recent trends between the BCS and police recorded crime are for the offences of theft from the person and bicycle theft. The 2008/09 BCS shows increases in both theft from the person (25%) and bicycle theft (22%) compared with the 2007/08 survey (the apparent 11% increase in other household theft was not statistically significant). In contrast, other thefts recorded by the police fell by four per cent; within this thefts from the person fell by 12 per cent while there was no change in thefts of a pedal cycle. The BCS shows that the reporting rate for theft from the person offences fell compared with the previous year (see Section 2.5); however this does not fully account for the difference between police recorded crime and the BCS.

Due to the small number of sexual offences identified in the main BCS crime count, the figures are too unreliable to report. However, the BCS does provide an alternative measure of intimate violence collected via a self-completion questionnaire and the latest headline figures are reported in Chapter 3. Sexual offences recorded by the police decreased between 2007/08 and 2008/09 by four per cent.

As robbery is a rare crime, the number of victims interviewed in the BCS is small (around 200 in any one year) and thus estimates should be treated with caution. There was no change in the number of robberies estimated by the 2008/09 BCS compared with the 2007/08 survey (the 13% reduction was not statistically significant). Police recorded crime figures show a fall of five per cent in 2008/09 compared with 2007/08.

Police recorded drug offences rose by six per cent between 2007/08 and 2008/09 which shows a slowing of the increases seen in recent years associated with greater police use of powers to issue warnings for cannabis possession (two-thirds of drug offences are accounted for by these offences). As such, the increases seen may reflect changes in police activity rather than a real increase in drug offences. Separate evidence from the BCS on the prevalence of illicit drug use is published separately (Hoare, 2009, forthcoming).

Fraud and forgery offences recorded by the police rose by five per cent. However, it is known that many fraud offences do not come to the attention of the police. Additional information on fraud, that also draws on finance industry data, can be found in Chapter 4.

Figure 2.2 Percentage change in the main crime types; 2008/09 BCS compared with 2007/08 BCS



1. Statistically significant changes at the 5% level (two tail tests) are indicated by a shaded bar. Changes in unshaded bars are not statistically significant at the 5% level (see Section 8 of Volume 2).
2. Statistical significance for change in all BCS crime cannot be calculated in the same way as for other BCS figures (a method based on an approximation has been developed). For more information see Section 8 of Volume 2.
3. See Section 5 of Volume 2 for information about the crime types included in this figure.

Figure 2.3 Percentage change in the main types of police recorded crime; 2008/09 compared with 2007/08



Table 2a Number of crimes and risk of being a victim, 2007/08 and 2008/09 BCS

Numbers (000s) and percentage change	BCS		
	2007/08	2008/09	Percentage change and significance ¹
<i>Number of incidents (000s)</i>			
Vandalism	2,695	2,769	3
Burglary	737	744	1
Vehicle-related theft	1,508	1,514	0
Bicycle theft	444	540	22 **
Other household theft	1,066	1,184	11
Household acquisitive crime	3,756	3,982	6
All household crime	6,451	6,751	5
Theft from the person	581	725	25 **
Other theft of personal property	987	1,096	11
All violence	2,200	2,114	-4
<i>with injury</i>	1,063	1,116	5
<i>without injury</i>	1,137	998	-12
Personal acquisitive crime	1,883	2,094	11
All personal crime	3,768	3,936	4
All BCS crime	10,219	10,687	5
Risk of being a victim of any BCS crime²	22.2	23.4	**

1. Statistical significance for change in all BCS crime cannot be calculated in the same way as for other BCS figures (a method based on an approximation has been developed). For more information see Section 8 of Volume 2.

2. Risk is defined as the proportion of the population being a victim of any BCS crime once or more (see Section 2 of Volume 2). See Table 2.03 for breakdown of risk by crime type.

3. See Section 5 of Volume 2 for more information about the crime types included in this table.

Table 2b Number of crimes recorded by the police in 2007/08 and 2008/09

Numbers (000s) and percentage change	Recorded crime		
	2007/08	2008/09	Percentage change
<i>Number of offences¹ (000s)</i>			
Violence against the person	961.2	904.0	-6
<i>Violence against the person – with injury²</i>	452.4	421.2	-7
<i>Violence against the person – without injury²</i>	508.8	482.8	-5
Sexual offences	53.5	51.5	-4
<i>Most serious sexual crime³</i>	41.4	40.8	-2
<i>Other sexual offences</i>	12.0	10.7	-11
Robbery	84.8	80.1	-5
Burglary	583.7	581.4	0
<i>Domestic burglary</i>	280.7	284.4	1
<i>Other burglary</i>	303.0	297.0	-2
Offences against vehicles	656.4	592.1	-10
Other theft offences	1,121.1	1,080.7	-4
<i>Theft from the person</i>	101.7	89.7	-12
Fraud and forgery	155.4	163.3	5
Criminal damage	1,036.2	936.7	-10
Drug offences	229.9	242.9	6
Miscellaneous other offences	69.4	71.1	3
Total recorded crime	4,951.5	4,703.8	-5

1. Numbers given in this table are the latest available and may differ slightly from provisional figures published previously.

2. See Table 2.04 for the full list of offences included in violence against the person with/without injury.

3. Most serious sexual crime comprises rape, sexual assault, and sexual activity with children.

Risk of crime

According to the 2008/09 BCS, the risk of being a victim of crime was 23 per cent, a statistically significant increase compared with the 2007/08 BCS (22%). This follows overall falls from 40 per cent in 1995 and the risk of victimisation in 2007/08 being the lowest ever since the survey began (Tables 2a and 2.03).

Looking at risk by individual crime type shows that bicycle theft was the only BCS crime type showing a significant increase between the 2007/08 and 2008/09 BCS, overall (from 1.6% to 1.9%), and for owners (from 3.7% to 4.4%). Risk of being a victim of any crime varies considerably by area and demographic factors (see Chapters 3 and 4 for detailed analyses).

Any discrepancies between trends in number of BCS incidents and prevalence rates (the proportion of the population victimised once or more) is due to the level of repeat victimisation within crime types (see Section 2.4).

2.3 LONGER-TERM TRENDS IN CRIME

Trends in the crimes measured by the BCS on a consistent basis now extend for more than 25 years.

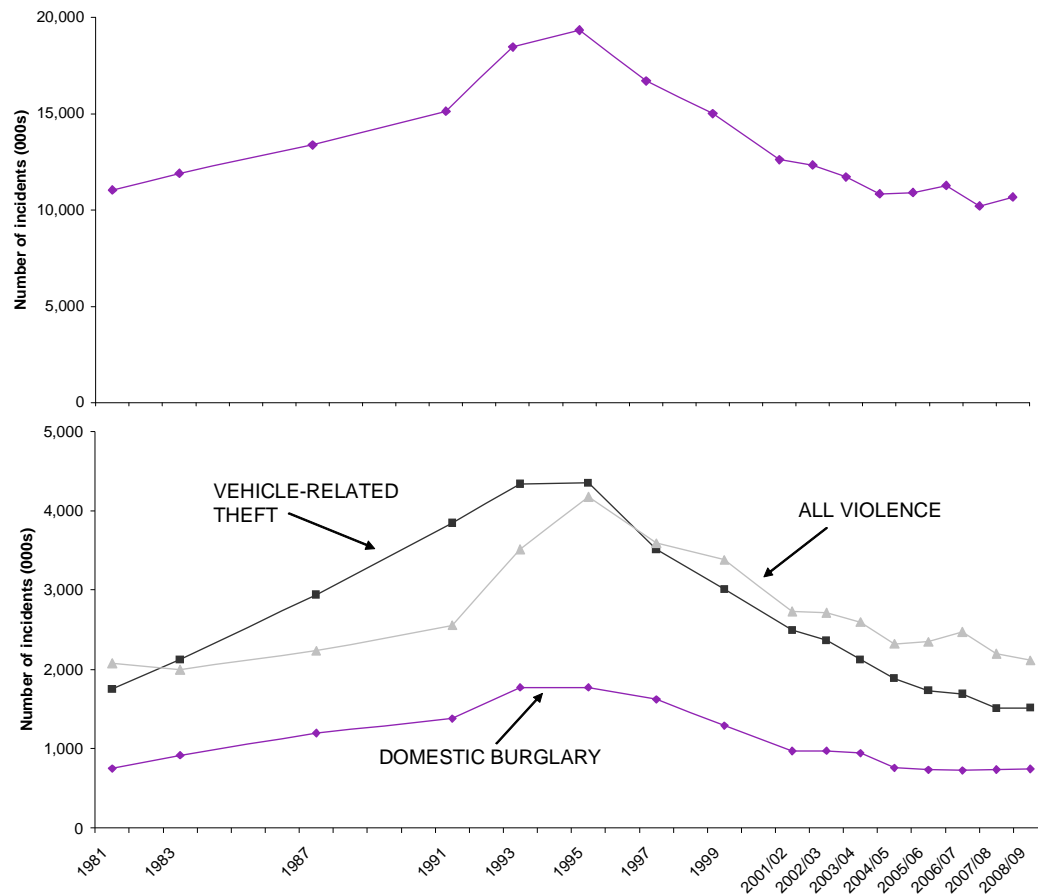
Recorded crime statistics have been collated since 1857³; data are presented in this volume for each decade between 1950 and 1980, then for each calendar year up to 1997, and then by financial year (with break points in the series indicated for the changes to Home Office Counting Rules in 1998 and the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard in 2002). There were also some changes in offence coverage prior to 1998 and recording was not historically closely-regulated. In this bulletin only statistics back to 1981 are commented on to enable comparisons to be made with the BCS.

BCS trends since 1981

BCS crime rose steadily in the decade from 1981 and continued to rise during the early 1990s, peaking in 1995. Subsequently, BCS crime fell between 1995 and the 2004/05 BCS, and, with the exception of a further fall between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 surveys, has remained stable since then. Trends in BCS violence, vehicle-related theft and burglary have been broadly similar to trends in all BCS crime between 1981 and 2008/09 (Figure 2.4 and Table 2.01, see also Chapters 3 and 4).

³ Recorded crime statistics from 1898-2008/09 are available online at <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs07/recorded-crime-1898-2002.xls> and <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/recorded-crime-2002-2009.xls>.

Figure 2.4 Trends in crime, 1981 to 2008/09 BCS



1. For an explanation of year-labels see 'Conventions used in figures and tables' at the start of this volume.

BCS trends since 1995

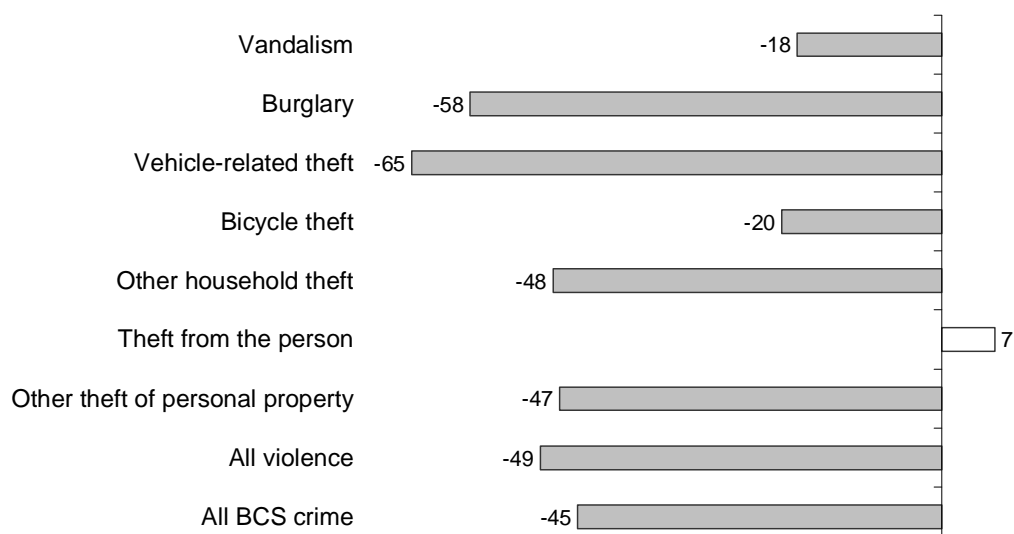
This section focuses on trends in BCS crime since 1995 when the number of crimes peaked; this became a significant turning point since the first BCS results for 1981.

Based on interviews in 2008/09, BCS crime was estimated to be 45 per cent lower than the peak in 1995, representing nearly nine million fewer crimes. The risk of becoming a victim of BCS crime has also fallen from 40 per cent in 1995 to 23 per cent in 2008/09, representing almost six million fewer victims (Figure 2.5 and Tables 2.01 and 2.03).

The majority of property crimes remain at significantly lower levels since the high point in 1995. Vandalism (18%), burglary (58%), vehicle-related theft (65%), other household theft (48%) and bicycle theft (20%) all show statistically significant falls. Other theft of personal property has fallen by nearly a half (47%) whilst theft from the person remains stable over the period as a whole (the apparent 7% cent rise was not statistically significant).

The 2008/09 BCS shows overall violent crime has fallen by a half (49%) since 1995: violence with injury by 54 per cent and violence without injury by 44 per cent.

Figure 2.5 Percentage change in the main crime types; 2008/09 BCS compared with 1995

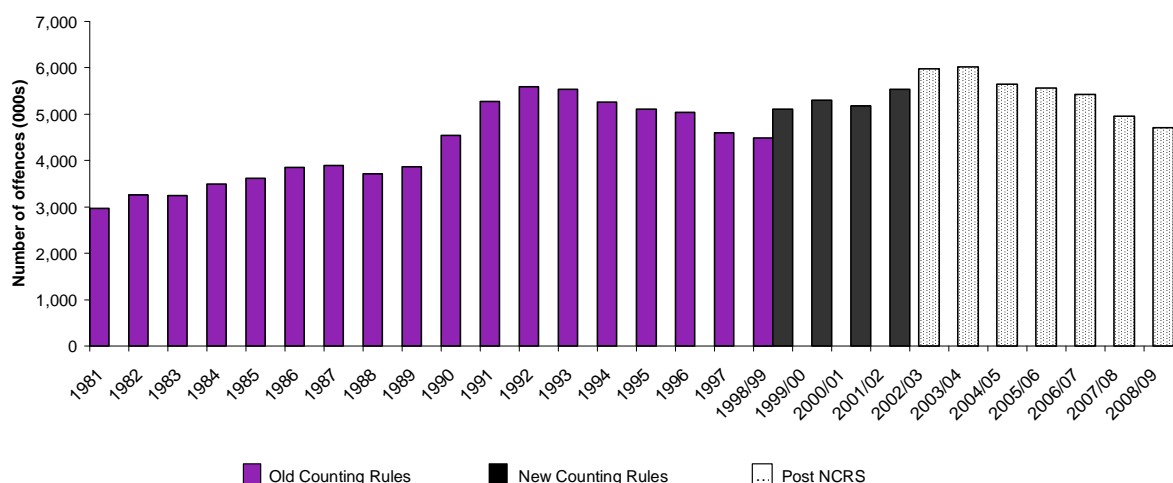


1. Statistically significant changes at the 5% level (two tail tests) are indicated by a shaded bar. Changes in unshaded bars are not statistically significant at the 5% level (see Section 8 of Volume 2).
2. Statistical significance for change in all BCS crime cannot be calculated in the same way as for other BCS figures (a method based on an approximation has been developed). For more information see Section 8 of Volume 2.
3. See Section 5 of Volume 2 for information about the crime types included in this figure.

Recorded crime trends since 1981

Recorded crime increased during most of the 1980s, reaching a peak in 1992, and then fell each year until 1998/99 when the changes in the Counting Rules resulted in an increase in recorded offences (see Section 3 of Volume 2). This was followed by the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) in April 2002 which led to a rise in recording in 2002/03 and 2003/04, as the rules bedded-in within forces. The level of police recorded crime has since fallen from 5.6 million in 2004/05 to 4.7 million offences in 2008/09 (Figure 2.6 and Tables 2.04 and 2.05).

Figure 2.6 Trends in recorded crime, 1981 to 2008/09



Recorded crime trends since 2002/03

Comparisons of more detailed breakdowns of police recorded crime are restricted to the years after the introduction of the NCRS in April 2002 when the underlying basis for crime recording substantially changed. The following changes can be seen since 2002/03 (Figure 2.6 and Tables 2.04 and 2.05).

- The number of domestic burglaries and offences against vehicles recorded by the police fell between 2002/03 and 2008/09 by 35 per cent and 45 per cent respectively, while the number of offences of criminal damage fell by 16 per cent over the same period.
- Recorded violence against the person increased initially between 2002/03 and 2005/06 (to 1.06 million offences) which partly reflects the time taken for the new rules to be adopted across police forces for some of these offences⁴. Since then the number of violence against the person offences recorded by the police has decreased by 15 per cent, to just below one million offences in 2008/09.
- Although robbery recorded by the police increased in 2005/06 and 2006/07, the level of robbery offences recorded in 2008/09 is 27 per cent below that for 2002/03.
- After taking into account particular events such as the Shipman murders (reflected in the 2002/03 figures) and the London bombings (in 2005/06), homicides recorded by the police have fluctuated between 700 and 900 per year since 2002/03. However, the latest figures for 2008/09 are down to a low of 648, a fall of 26 per cent since 2002/03 (excluding the Shipman cases recorded in 2002/03 but committed in previous years).

2.4 REPEAT VICTIMISATION

The BCS is a rich source of information for understanding the importance of repeat victimisation. The survey has been influential in highlighting the need to target crimes that are prone to repeat victimisation such as domestic violence and vandalism (Gottfredson, 1984; Walby and Allen, 2004; Jansson *et al.*, 2007; Povey *et al.*, 2008, 2009).

Repeat victimisation is defined here as being a victim of the same type of crime more than once in the last year.⁵ Levels of repeat victimisation account for differences between BCS estimates of incidence rates (see Table 2.02) and prevalence rates (see Table 2.03). For instance, high levels of repeat victimisation will be demonstrated by lower prevalence rates when compared with corresponding incidence rates.

Extent of repeat victimisation

BCS figures have consistently shown that levels of repeat victimisation vary by offence type. Although levels have changed since 1995, no statistically significant changes were noted between the 2007/08 and 2008/09 surveys in the proportion of victims who were victimised more than once (Tables 2.06 and 2.07).

As in other years, BCS interviews in 2008/09 show that victims of domestic violence were most likely to experience repeat victimisation. Repeat victimisation accounts for two-thirds (66%) of all incidents of domestic violence as measured by the BCS. Thirty-eight per cent were victimised more than once and around one in five (21%) were victimised three or more times (Figure 2.7 and Tables 2.06 to 2.08).

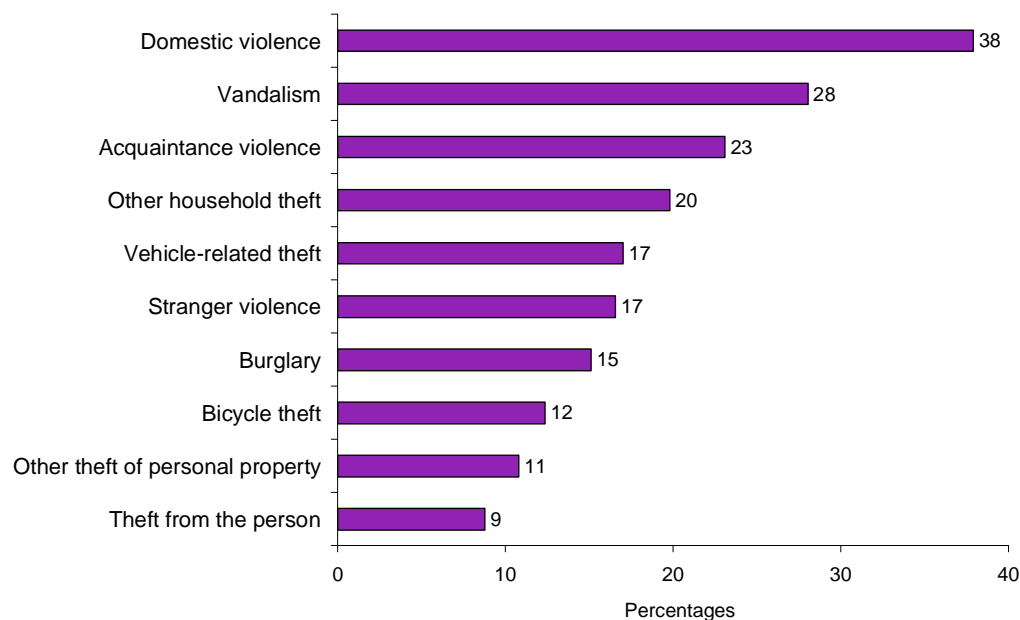
Similar to previous findings, vandalism also had high repeat victimisation rates compared with other crime types; 28 per cent of vandalism victims had experienced repeat victimisation in the 12 months prior to interview. Repeat vandalism victimisation accounts for around half (53%) of all BCS vandalism incidents.

⁴ As evidenced by BCS trends and local audit work.

⁵ Where incidents of a similar nature which are probably carried out by the same perpetrator(s) have occurred, BCS estimates only include the first five incidents in this 'series' of victimisations. See Volume 2 for more details.

Theft from the person victims had the lowest repeat victimisation rates, with nine per cent being victimised more than once in the 12-month period before interview. This represents around one in five (19%) of all incidents.

Figure 2.7 Proportion of victims who were victimised more than once in the past year by offence, 2008/09 BCS



1. See Chapter 3 for more information about BCS estimates of domestic violence.

Trends in repeat victimisation

Repeat victimisation for the main crime types remains at around the lowest level since first BCS results for 1981. Since BCS crime peaked in 1995, the proportion of victims who were victimised more than once has fallen for some crime types, notably vehicle-related theft (from 28% to 17%) and violence (from 38% to 23%). Although generally stable in the long term, the proportion of victims of theft from the person who were victimised more than once was higher in 2008/09 (9%) compared with 1995 (4%) (Table 2.07).

In general, the proportion of incidents accounted for by repeat victims has also fallen compared with 1995 when BCS crime peaked (with the exception of theft from the person which has risen). For example, in 2008/09 49 per cent of violent incidents and 33 per cent of burglaries were experienced by repeat victims compared with 68 and 38 per cent respectively in 1995 (Table 2.08).

More recently, between the 2007/08 and 2008/09 BCS, there has been a reduction in the proportion of incidents of robbery and mugging that were experienced by repeat victims (for example, 34% of mugging incidents were experienced by repeat victims, compared with 22% in 2007/08). Conversely, for incidents of theft from the person, there has been a rise in the proportion of incidents accounted for by repeat victims (from 12% to 19%). This is consistent with the fact that there was no rise in victimisation risk despite the rise in the number of incidents.

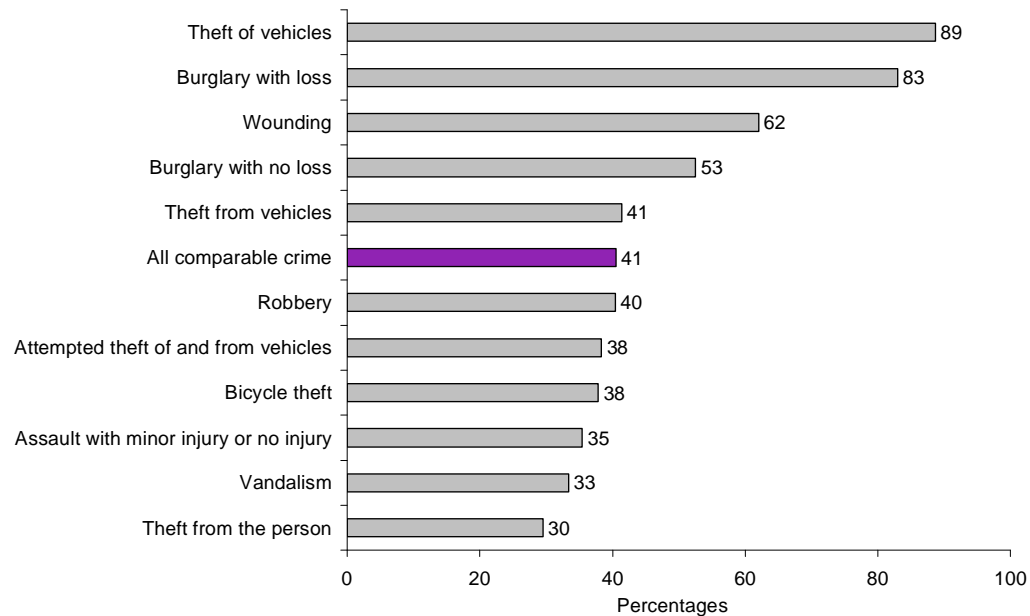
2.5 REPORTING CRIME

The BCS asks people who experienced crimes in the past year whether the police came to know about the incident, that is, whether they reported it or the police came to know about it in another way. This 'reporting rate' is calculated by dividing the number of incidents that the police came to know about by the total number of BCS incidents. These rates partly explain why the estimated number of BCS crimes is higher than the figure recorded by the police, and

also demonstrates that the BCS provides a more complete picture for the crime types it covers.

Based on the 2008/09 BCS, the police came to know about 41 per cent of incidents of BCS comparable crime.⁶ Conversely, around three-fifths of incidents of comparable crime (59%) did not come to the attention of the police (Figure 2.8 and Table 2.09).

Figure 2.8 Reporting rates for comparable subset of crimes, 2008/09 BCS



The BCS has consistently shown that the likelihood of reporting crime varies considerably by type of offence. The 2008/09 BCS shows that thefts of vehicles are most likely to be reported; the police came to know about these incidents in nine out of ten occurrences (89%). Incidents of burglary were also well reported; around eight in ten burglaries where something was stolen (83%) and three-quarters of burglary with entry were reported (76%).

Reporting rates are relatively low for crimes such as vandalism, assault without injury and theft from the person where only about a third of incidents are reported to the police (33%, 33% and 30% respectively).

Generally reporting rates have been stable in recent years, but according to the 2008/09 BCS there are some statistically significant changes since the 2007/08 BCS in the proportions of incidents reported to the police.

- The 2008/09 BCS showed increases in the reporting rate for burglaries in which something was stolen, other theft of personal property and wounding (83%, 33% and 62% respectively) compared with the 2007/08 BCS (76%, 30% and 59% respectively).
- The 2008/09 BCS shows there were decreases in reporting rates for theft from the person (from 32% to 30%), assault (with minor injury or no injury) down from 37 per cent to 35 per cent and robbery (from 43% to 40%), and a slightly larger decrease for acquaintance violence (48% to 39%) compared with the previous year.
- The apparent fall in the reporting rate for bicycle theft (from 41% to 38%) was not statistically significant.

⁶ The BCS provides a measure of the level of crime committed against the population resident in households in England and Wales, whereas recorded crime is a measure of crimes against individuals and both domestic and commercial property which are reported to the police and recorded by them. However, by using a subset of crimes, better comparisons can be made between the BCS and recorded crime; the comparable crime subset includes vandalism, burglary, vehicle-related theft, bicycle theft, theft from the person, wounding, robbery, assault with minor injury and assault without injury (see Section 4 of Volume 2).

Discrepancies between the trends in BCS and police recorded crime may reflect trends in reporting rates and police recording practice as well as variation within the BCS sample.

Victims of crime were asked why they did not report incidents to the police. As in previous years, the most frequently mentioned reason for not reporting incidents was that victims perceived them to be too trivial, there was no loss, or they believed that the police would or could not do much about them (76% of comparable crimes) (Table 2.10).

Table 2.01 Trends in BCS incidents of crime from 1981 to 2008/09¹, with percentage change and statistical significance of change between 1995, 1997, 2001/02, 2006/07, 2007/08 and 2008/09

Numbers ² (000s) and percentage changes												BCS				
	1981	1991	1995	1997	2001/02	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	1995 to 2008/09	1997 to 2008/09	2001/02 to 2008/09	2006/07 to 2008/09	2007/08 to 2008/09
	<i>Number of incidents (000s):</i>											<i>Percentage change³ and significance</i>				
PROPERTY CRIME																
Vandalism	2,713	2,759	3,366	2,866	2,603	2,535	2,564	2,731	2,993	2,695	2,769	-18 **	-3 **	6	-7 **	3
Vehicle vandalism	1,558	1,685	1,826	1,609	1,511	1,517	1,564	1,697	1,895	1,739	1,843	1 **	15	22 **	-3	6
Other vandalism	1,155	1,073	1,540	1,256	1,093	1,018	1,001	1,034	1,098	956	926	-40 **	-26 **	-15 **	-16 **	-3
Burglary	749	1,380	1,770	1,621	969	973	756	733	726	737	744	-58 **	-54 **	-23 **	2	1
With entry	474	869	998	852	552	561	469	440	425	438	452	-55 **	-47 **	-18 **	6	3
Attempts	276	511	772	768	416	412	287	293	301	299	292	-62 **	-62 **	-30 **	-3	-2
With loss	373	712	791	651	396	407	327	315	310	322	316	-60 **	-51 **	-20 **	2	-2
No loss (including attempts)	376	668	979	970	573	566	429	418	417	415	428	-56 **	-56 **	-25 **	3	3
Vehicle-related theft	1,751	3,845	4,350	3,511	2,494	2,365	1,886	1,731	1,689	1,508	1,514	-65 **	-57 **	-39 **	-10 **	0
Theft from vehicles	1,286	2,424	2,544	2,200	1,496	1,425	1,210	1,121	1,129	1,002	1,059	-58 **	-52 **	-29 **	-6	6
Theft of vehicles	285	522	510	378	316	278	214	185	176	162	150	-71 **	-60 **	-53 **	-15	-8
Attempts of and from	179	899	1,297	933	683	662	462	425	384	344	305	-76 **	-67 **	-55 **	-21 **	-11
Bicycle theft	216	569	673	541	368	359	403	439	482	444	540	-20 **	0	47 **	12	22 **
Other household theft	1,518	1,857	2,267	2,024	1,445	1,360	1,183	1,158	1,210	1,066	1,184	-48 **	-41 **	-18 **	-2	11
<i>Unweighted base – household crime</i>	<i>10,905</i>	<i>10,059</i>	<i>16,310</i>	<i>14,900</i>	<i>32,720</i>	<i>36,395</i>	<i>44,973</i>	<i>47,610</i>	<i>47,027</i>	<i>46,765</i>	<i>46,252</i>					
Theft from the person	434	438	680	621	604	690	584	576	574	581	725	7	17	20	26 **	25 **
Snatch theft from person	86	79	80	83	74	88	92	71	72	80	103	29	24	39	43	29
Stealth theft from person	348	359	600	538	529	602	492	504	502	501	622	4	16	18	24	24 **
Other theft of personal property	1,586	1,739	2,069	1,935	1,407	1,344	1,154	1,196	1,141	987	1,096	-47 **	-43 **	-22 **	-4	11
All violence	2,074	2,556	4,176	3,593	2,728	2,714	2,320	2,349	2,471	2,200	2,114	-49 **	-41 **	-23 **	-14 **	-4
Wounding	508	624	914	804	648	709	577	547	578	477	466	-49 **	-42 **	-28 **	-19 **	-2
Assault with minor injury	609	784	1,356	1,198	709	623	572	571	492	533	533	-61 **	-56 **	-25 **	-7	8
Assault without injury	793	966	1,567	1,257	1,015	1,079	860	918	1,002	917	844	-46 **	-33 **	-17	-16 **	-8
Robbery	164	182	339	334	356	303	255	311	320	315	272	-20	-19	-24	-15	-13
Violence with injury	1,194	1,441	2,408	2,184	1,497	1,441	1,300	1,227	1,270	1,063	1,116	-54 **	-49 **	-25 **	-12	5
Violence without injury	881	1,115	1,768	1,409	1,231	1,273	1,020	1,121	1,201	1,137	998	-44 **	-29 **	-19 **	-17 **	-12
Domestic violence	292	534 ⁴	989	814	626	506	401	357	407	343	293	-70 **	-64 **	-53 **	-28 **	-15
Acquaintance	774	1,043 ⁴	1,816	1,642	862	949	828	817	845	776	691	-62 **	-58 **	-20 **	-18 **	-11
Stranger	844	797 ⁴	1,004	784	883	956	836	863	894	766	852	-15	9	-4	-5	11
Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	250	259 ⁴	419	417	430	391	347	382	392	394	375	-10	-10	-13	-4	-5
<i>Unweighted base – personal crime</i>	<i>10,905</i>	<i>10,059</i>	<i>16,337</i>	<i>14,937</i>	<i>32,787</i>	<i>36,450</i>	<i>45,069</i>	<i>47,729</i>	<i>47,138</i>	<i>46,903</i>	<i>46,220</i>					
Household acquisitive crime	4,234	7,651	9,060	7,697	5,275	5,057	4,227	4,060	4,108	3,756	3,982	-56 **	-48 **	-25 **	-3	6
Personal acquisitive crime	2,184	2,358	3,088	2,891	2,367	2,337	1,993	2,082	2,035	1,883	2,094	-32 **	-28 **	-12 **	3	11
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIME	6,947	10,410	12,426	10,562	7,879	7,592	6,792	6,792	7,101	6,451	6,751	-46 **	-36 **	-14 **	-5 **	5
ALL PERSONAL CRIME	4,094	4,733	6,925	6,149	4,739	4,748	4,058	4,120	4,186	3,768	3,936	-43 **	-36 **	-17 **	-6	4
ALL BCS CRIME⁵	11,041	15,142	19,351	16,712	12,618	12,341	10,850	10,912	11,287	10,219	10,687	-45 **	-36 **	-15 **	-5 **	5
<i>Unweighted base – personal crime</i>	<i>10,905</i>	<i>10,059</i>	<i>16,337</i>	<i>14,937</i>	<i>32,787</i>	<i>36,450</i>	<i>45,069</i>	<i>47,729</i>	<i>47,138</i>	<i>46,903</i>	<i>46,220</i>					

1. For an explanation of year-labels see 'Conventions used in figures and tables' at the start of this volume.

2. The numbers are derived by multiplying incidence rates by the population estimates for England and Wales, that is: for household crimes, by 23,848,680 households and for personal crimes, by 44,265,687 adults. For more information see Section 2 of Volume 2.

3. Percentage changes for crimes such as snatch theft, robbery and domestic violence should be treated with caution because the number of victims interviewed is low (around 200 in 2008/09).

4. The 1991 estimates for domestic, acquaintance and stranger violence and mugging were calculated based on the estimate for all violence. Estimates for these individual categories could not be calculated using their individual incidence rates because the data used for calculating these rates were not collected for that year.

5. Statistical significance for change in all BCS crime cannot be calculated in the same way as for other BCS figures (a method based on an approximation has been developed). For more information see Section 8 of Volume 2.

6. See Section 5 of Volume 2 for more information about the crime types included in this table.

7. Figures for BCS years not presented in this table are included in an extended version of the table, available online at <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/crimeew0809.html>

Table 2.02 Trends in BCS incidence rates from 1981 to 2008/09¹, with percentage change and statistical significance of change between 1995, 1997, 2001/02, 2006/07, 2007/08 and 2008/09

Rates ² per 10,000 adults/households and percentage changes												BCS				
	1981	1991	1995	1997	2001/02	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	1995 to 2008/09	1997 to 2008/09	2001/02 to 2008/09	2006/07 to 2008/09	2007/08 to 2008/09
PROPERTY CRIME																
	<i>Rates per 10,000 adults/households:</i>											<i>Percentage change³ and significance</i>				
Vandalism	1,481	1,356	1,588	1,330	1,185	1,145	1,125	1,182	1,281	1,141	1,161	-27 **	-13 **	-2	-9 **	2
Vehicle vandalism	850	829	862	747	687	685	686	735	811	737	773	-10 **	3	12 **	-5	5
Other vandalism	630	528	727	583	497	459	439	448	470	405	388	-47 **	-33 **	-22 **	-17 **	-4
Burglary	409	678	835	752	441	439	331	317	311	312	312	-63 **	-59 **	-29 **	0	0
With entry	258	427	471	396	251	253	205	190	182	186	190	-60 **	-52 **	-25 **	4	2
Attempts	150	251	364	357	189	186	126	127	129	127	122	-66 **	-66 **	-35 **	-5	-3
With loss	204	350	373	302	180	184	143	136	132	137	133	-64 **	-56 **	-26 **	0	-3
No loss (including attempts)	205	328	462	450	261	256	188	181	178	176	179	-61 **	-60 **	-31 **	1	2
Vehicle-related theft	955	1,890	2,052	1,630	1,135	1,068	827	749	723	639	635	-69 **	-61 **	-44 **	-12 **	-1
Theft from vehicles	702	1,192	1,200	1,021	681	643	531	485	483	424	444	-63 **	-57 **	-35 **	-8	5
Theft of vehicles	156	257	241	175	144	126	94	80	75	69	63	-74 **	-64 **	-56 **	-17	-9
Attempts of and from	98	442	612	433	311	299	202	184	164	146	128	-79 **	-70 **	-59 **	-22 **	-12
Bicycle theft	118	280	317	251	167	162	177	190	206	188	227	-29 **	-10	35 **	10	21 **
Other household theft	828	913	1,070	940	658	614	519	501	518	452	497	-54 **	-47 **	-24 **	-4	10
<i>Unweighted base – household crime</i>	<i>10,905</i>	<i>10,059</i>	<i>16,310</i>	<i>14,900</i>	<i>32,720</i>	<i>36,395</i>	<i>44,973</i>	<i>47,610</i>	<i>47,027</i>	<i>46,765</i>	<i>46,252</i>					
Theft from the person	112	108	167	152	144	164	137	134	132	132	164	-2	8	14	24 **	24 **
Snatch theft from person	22	19	20	20	18	21	21	17	17	18	23	18	15	31	40	28
Stealth theft from person	90	89	148	131	126	143	115	117	115	114	141	-5	7	11	22	23 **
Other theft of personal property	410	429	508	472	336	319	270	277	263	225	248	-51 **	-48 **	-26 **	-6	10
All violence	536	631	1,026	877	652	644	544	545	569	502	478	-53 **	-46 **	-27 **	-16 **	-5
Wounding	131	154	225	196	155	168	135	127	133	109	105	-53 **	-46 **	-32 **	-21 **	-3
Assault with minor injury	157	194	333	292	169	148	147	133	131	112	120	-64 **	-59 **	-29	-8	7
Assault without injury	205	239	385	307	242	256	201	213	231	209	191	-51 **	-38 **	-21	-17 **	-9
Robbery	42	45	83	82	85	72	60	72	74	72	61	-26	-25	-28	-16	-14
Violence with injury	308	356	592	533	358	342	305	285	292	242	252	-57 **	-53 **	-29 **	-14	4
Violence without injury	227	275	434	344	294	302	239	260	276	259	225	-48 **	-34 **	-23 **	-18 **	-13
Domestic violence	75	-	243	199	150	120	94	83	94	78	66	-73 **	-67 **	-56 **	-29 **	-15
Acquaintance	200	-	446	401	206	225	194	190	194	177	156	-65 **	-61 **	-24 **	-20 **	-12
Stranger	218	-	247	191	211	227	196	200	206	175	192	-22	1	-9	-6	10
Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	65	64	103	102	103	93	81	89	90	90	85	-18	-17	-18	-6	-6
<i>Unweighted base – personal crime</i>	<i>10,905</i>	<i>10,059</i>	<i>16,337</i>	<i>14,937</i>	<i>32,787</i>	<i>36,450</i>	<i>45,069</i>	<i>47,729</i>	<i>47,138</i>	<i>46,903</i>	<i>46,220</i>					
Household acquisitive crime	2,311	3,761	4,275	3,573	2,401	2,283	1,854	1,757	1,758	1,591	1,670	-61 **	-53 **	-30 **	-5	5
Personal acquisitive crime	564	582	759	706	565	555	467	483	468	429	473	-38 **	-33 **	-16 **	1	10
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIME	3,791	5,118	5,863	4,903	3,586	3,428	2,978	2,939	3,038	2,732	2,831	-52 **	-42 **	-21 **	-7 **	4
ALL PERSONAL CRIME	1,057	1,169	1,702	1,501	1,132	1,127	951	956	963	859	889	-48 **	-41 **	-21 **	-8	3

1. For an explanation of year-labels see 'Conventions used in figures and tables' at the start of this volume.

2. Rates for vandalism, burglary, vehicle-related theft, bicycle theft and other household theft are quoted per 10,000 households. Rates for violence, theft from the person, and other theft of personal property are quoted per 10,000 adults.

3. Percentage changes for crimes such as snatch theft, robbery and domestic violence should be treated with caution because the number of victims interviewed is low (around 200 in 2008/09).

4. It is not possible to construct a rate for all BCS crime because rates for household offences are based on rates per household, and those for personal offences on rates per adult, and the two cannot be combined.

5. See Section 5 of Volume 2 for more information about the crime types included in this table.

Table 2.03 Trends in percentage of households/adults who were victims once or more (prevalence risk), from 1981 to 2008/09¹, and statistical significance of change between 2007/08 and 2008/09

Percentages ²												BCS
	1981	1991	1995	1997	2001/02	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	Statistically significant change 2007/08 to 2008/09
PROPERTY CRIME												
<i>Percentage of households, victims once or more:</i>												
Vandalism	9.2	8.6	10.1	8.2	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.6	7.9	7.3	7.6	
Vehicle vandalism	5.7	5.7	6.2	5.1	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.2	5.5	5.1	5.4	
Other vandalism	3.9	3.4	4.3	3.4	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.5	2.5	
Burglary	3.4	5.3	6.4	5.6	3.4	3.4	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5	
With entry	2.2	3.5	3.7	3.2	2.0	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	
Attempts	1.4	2.1	2.9	2.7	1.5	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	
With loss	1.8	2.9	3.1	2.5	1.5	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2	
No loss (including attempts)	1.9	2.7	3.6	3.3	2.0	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	
Vehicle-related theft	7.3	13.5	14.5	12.0	8.5	8.2	6.4	5.8	5.8	5.1	5.1	
Theft from vehicles	5.6	8.8	9.1	7.9	5.3	5.2	4.1	3.8	3.9	3.5	3.6	
Theft of vehicles	1.4	2.4	2.1	1.6	1.3	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	
Attempts of and from	0.8	3.6	4.8	3.6	2.5	2.5	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.1	
Bicycle theft	1.1	2.4	2.7	2.2	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.9	**↑
Other household theft	5.4	6.4	7.6	6.6	4.8	4.7	3.9	3.7	4.0	3.5	3.7	
<i>Unweighted base – household crime</i>	<i>10,905</i>	<i>10,059</i>	<i>16,310</i>	<i>14,900</i>	<i>32,720</i>	<i>36,395</i>	<i>44,973</i>	<i>47,610</i>	<i>47,027</i>	<i>46,765</i>	<i>46,252</i>	
<i>Percentage of vehicle-owning households, victims once or more:</i>												
Vehicle-related theft	10.8	18.2	19.7	16.0	11.3	10.8	8.2	7.5	7.5	6.5	6.4	
Theft from vehicle	8.2	11.8	12.3	10.5	7.0	6.8	5.4	4.9	5.1	4.4	4.6	
Theft of vehicles	2.1	3.2	2.9	2.2	1.7	1.5	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	
Attempts of and from	1.1	4.8	6.5	4.9	3.3	3.3	2.2	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.4	
Vehicle vandalism	8.5	7.6	8.5	6.8	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.6	7.0	6.5	7.0	
<i>Unweighted base – vehicle owners</i>	<i>7,714</i>	<i>7,386</i>	<i>11,721</i>	<i>10,930</i>	<i>25,022</i>	<i>28,106</i>	<i>35,378</i>	<i>38,016</i>	<i>37,526</i>	<i>37,487</i>	<i>36,909</i>	
<i>Percentage of bicycle-owning households, victims once or more:</i>												
Bicycle theft	2.7	5.5	6.1	4.8	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	3.7	4.4	**↑
<i>Unweighted base – bicycle owners</i>	<i>4,766</i>	<i>4,093</i>	<i>6,882</i>	<i>6,380</i>	<i>13,501</i>	<i>15,567</i>	<i>19,344</i>	<i>20,861</i>	<i>21,054</i>	<i>20,779</i>	<i>20,653</i>	
<i>Percentage of adults (16+), victims once or more:</i>												
Theft from the person	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.5	
Snatch theft from person	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	
Stealth theft from person	0.9	0.8	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.3	
Other theft of personal property	3.3	3.3	4.1	3.8	2.8	2.8	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.0	2.1	
All violence												
Wounding	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	
Assault with minor injury	1.0	1.2	1.9	1.7	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	
Assault without injury	1.1	1.2	2.1	1.9	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	
Robbery	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	
Violence with injury	2.0	2.2	3.2	3.1	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.8	
Violence without injury	1.3	1.5	2.5	2.2	1.9	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.6	
Domestic violence	0.3	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	
Acquaintance	1.2	1.4	2.3	2.3	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.0	
Stranger	1.5	1.2	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	
Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	0.4	0.5	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	
<i>Percentage victims once or more:</i>												
Household acquisitive crime	15.4	23.7	26.3	22.7	16.3	15.8	13.0	12.3	12.8	11.5	12.0	
Personal acquisitive crime	4.5	4.5	6.2	5.7	4.6	4.6	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.6	4.0	
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIME	22.2	29.0	32.5	27.8	21.6	21.0	18.4	18.1	18.9	17.1	17.8	
ALL PERSONAL CRIME	6.9	7.3	10.4	9.5	7.3	7.5	6.5	6.4	6.6	6.1	6.3	
All BCS CRIME³												
	27.7	34.9	39.7	34.6	27.5	27.0	23.9	23.5	24.4	22.2	23.4	**↑
<i>Unweighted base – personal crime</i>	<i>10,905</i>	<i>10,059</i>	<i>16,337</i>	<i>14,937</i>	<i>32,787</i>	<i>36,450</i>	<i>45,069</i>	<i>47,729</i>	<i>47,138</i>	<i>46,903</i>	<i>46,220</i>	

1. For an explanation of year-labels see 'Conventions used in figures and tables' at the start of this volume.

2. Percentages for all violence, theft from the person and other theft of personal property are based on adults. Percentages for vandalism, burglary, vehicle-related theft, bicycle theft and other household theft are based on households.

3. This percentage is calculated treating a household crime as a personal crime. It is the estimated percentage of adults who have been a victim of at least one personal crime or have been resident in a household that was a victim of at least one household crime.

4. See Section 5 of Volume 2 for more information about the crime types included in this table.

Table 2.04 Recorded crime by offence, 1997 to 2008/09 and percentage change between 2007/08 and 2008/09

Categories shown in grey are those currently being reviewed by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary as part of a quality assurance inspection - see Box 2.1 for further details.

Numbers and percentage changes													Recorded crime	
Offence	1997 ¹	1998/99 ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 ^{3,4}	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	% change 2007/08 to 2008/09	
1 Murder														
4.1 Manslaughter	739	750	766	850	891	1,047	904	868	766	759	784	648	-17	
4.2 Infanticide														
2 Attempted murder ⁵	652	676	750	708	856	822	888	740	920	633	621	575	-7	
4.3 Intentional destruction of viable unborn child	5	9	1	2		2	8	4	5	5	4	8	-	
4.4 Causing death by dangerous driving												366		
4.6 Causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs	291	349	317	335	370	414	445	441	432	459	419	30	2	
4.8 Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving												31		
5 More serious wounding or other act endangering life ⁶	12,531	14,006	15,135	15,662	16,547	18,016	19,528	19,612	18,825	17,276	15,122	..	..
5A Inflicting grievous bodily harm (GBH) with intent ⁶	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22,187	..
5B Use of substance or object to endanger life ⁶	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	460	..
5C Possession of items to endanger life ⁶	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	268	..
8F Inflicting grievous bodily harm (GBH) without intent ⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16,855	..
8H Racially or religiously aggravated inflicting GBH without intent ^{7,8}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	378	..
37.1 Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking	12	30	37	35	35	55	63	40	24	18	18	15	-	
4.7 Causing or allowing death of a child or vulnerable person	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	3	3	8	-
4.9 Causing death by driving: unlicensed drivers etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	-
4.10 Corporate manslaughter	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
8A Less serious wounding ^{7,9}	226,795	196,737	201,290	195,925	208,542	347,353	431,056	488,135	516,523	481,822	430,566	..	..
8G Actual bodily harm (ABH) and other injury ⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	375,225	..
8D Racially or religiously aggravated less serious wounding ^{7,9}	..	..	2,687	3,176	3,463	4,415	4,930	5,426	6,107	5,620	4,826	..	..
8J Racially or religiously aggravated ABH or other injury ^{7,9}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,936	..
8K Poisoning or female genital mutilation ⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	159	..
Violence against the person - with injury	241,025	212,557	220,983	216,693	230,704	372,124	457,822	515,266	543,607	506,595	452,364	421,157	-7	
3 Threat or conspiracy to murder ¹⁰	9,340	11,212	13,434	14,064	13,651	18,132	22,299	23,758	18,683	12,822	9,963	..		
3A Conspiracy to murder ¹⁰	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	
3B Threats to kill ¹⁰	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,504	
6 Endangering railway passengers	11	15	7	10	16	1,164	811	718	646	484	402	319	-21	
7 Endangering life at sea	..	..	1	..	4	2	2	3	13	5	10	8	-
8B Possession of weapons ^{11,12,13}	..	23,635	23,792	24,552	28,787	32,816	35,669	36,374	35,590	34,689	32,501	..		
10A Possession of firearms with intent ¹³	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,971	
10C Possession of other weapons ¹³	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,956	
10D Possession of article with blade or point ¹³	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,968	
8C Harassment/Public fear, alarm or distress ^{8,14}	..	79,534	88,625	93,832	96,784	122,810	155,000	197,616	218,705	228,645	210,043	..		
8L Harassment ¹⁴	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48,436	
9A Public fear, alarm or distress ¹⁴	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	142,304	
8E Racially or religiously aggravated harassment/public fear etc. ¹⁵	..	..	10,758	12,468	14,975	16,910	20,975	23,363	26,605	28,485	26,494	..	
8M Racially or religiously aggravated harassment ¹⁵	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,390	
9B Racially or religiously aggravated public fear, alarm or distress ¹⁵	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23,365	
11 Cruelty to and neglect of children ¹⁶	..	2,300	2,631	2,558	3,068	4,109	6,083	5,724	5,045	4,917	5,284	6,218	18	
12 Abandoning a child under the age of two years	56	42	51	48	48	59	49	49	49	23	19	23	-	
13 Child abduction	390	502	577	546	584	846	930	1,035	919	696	594	571	-4	
14 Procuring illegal abortion	..	2	2	4	6	7	9	7	6	6	6	5	-	
104 Assault without injury on a constable ^{9,16}	..	21,510	26,115	28,000	30,095	33,948	22,189	23,604	22,217	21,749	20,457	17,391	-15	
105A Assault without injury ^{9,16}	..	151,469	189,783	203,427	226,440	237,549	241,229	216,712	183,555	202,701	198,715	197,172	-1	
105B Racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury ^{8,9}	..	..	4,275	4,711	5,164	4,602	4,161	3,866	3,945	4,351	4,323	4,180	-3
Violence against the person - without injury	9,797	290,221	360,051	384,220	419,622	472,954	509,406	532,829	515,978	539,573	508,811	482,836	-5	
TOTAL VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON OFFENCES	250,822	502,778	581,034	600,913	650,326	845,078	967,228	1,048,095	1,059,585	1,046,168	961,175	903,993	-6	

Table 2.04 (contd) Recorded crime by offence, 1997 to 2008/09 and percentage change between 2007/08 and 2008/09

Numbers and percentage changes		Recorded crime											
Offence	1997	1998/99 ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 ^{3,4}	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	% change 2007/08 to 2008/09
17 Indecent assault on a male ^{17,18}	3,503	3,683	3,614	3,530	3,611	4,132	4,110	1,003	347	76	209	158	-12
17A Sexual assault on a male aged 13 and over ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,316	1,428	1,450	1,324	1,164	
17B Sexual assault on a male child under 13 ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,227	1,394	1,237	1,114	1,001	
19A Rape of a female ^{17,18}	6,281	7,132	7,809	7,929	9,002	11,445	12,378	693	61	25	145	216	5
19C Rape of a female aged 16 and over ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,192	8,725	8,222	7,588	7,778	
19D Rape of a female child under 16 ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,014	3,153	2,853	2,413	2,524	
19E Rape of a female child under 13 ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	970	1,388	1,524	1,485	1,647	
Rape of a female	6,281	7,132	7,809	7,929	9,002	11,445	12,378	12,869	13,327	12,624	11,631	12,165	5
19B Rape of a male ^{17,18}	347	504	600	664	732	850	894	81	22	18	10	27	-4
19F Rape of a male aged 16 and over ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	444	438	413	333	316	
19G Rape of a male child under 16 ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	322	292	261	237	217	
19H Rape of a male child under 13 ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	297	364	458	428	408	
Rape of a male	347	504	600	664	732	850	894	1,144	1,116	1,150	1,008	968		-4
20 Indecent assault on a female ^{17,18}	18,674	19,524	20,664	20,301	21,789	25,275	27,240	5,152	1,215	267	768	575	-4
20A Sexual assault on a female aged 13 and over ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,087	17,158	16,883	15,779	15,510	
20B Sexual assault on a female child under 13 ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,391	4,647	4,245	3,972	3,655	
21 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 13 ¹⁷	148	153	181	155	169	183	212	..	..	..	..	..	-10
21 Sexual activity involving a child under 13 ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,510	1,950	1,936	1,836	1,649	
22 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 16 ^{17,18}	1,112	1,135	1,270	1,237	1,328	1,515	1,911	436	138	67	33	53	7
22B Sexual activity involving a child under 16 ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,546	3,283	3,208	3,104	3,317	
22A Causing sexual activity without consent ^{17,19}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	239	744	224	217	152	-30
70 Sexual activity etc. with a person with a mental disorder ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	104	139	163	127	128	
71 Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99	124	101	111	116	5
72 Trafficking for sexual exploitation ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	33	43	57	54	-5
74 Gross indecency with a child ^{17,18}	1,269	1,293	1,365	1,336	1,654	1,917	1,987	398	120	64	150	122	-19
Most serious sexual crime¹⁷	31,334	33,424	35,503	35,152	38,285	45,317	48,732	47,542	47,163	43,738	41,440	40,787	-2
16 Buggery ^{17,18}	645	566	437	401	355	287	247	73	39	35	49	36	-
18 Gross indecency between males ^{17,18}	520	354	286	167	163	245	260	49	20	12	17	15	-
23 Incest or familial sexual offences ¹⁷	183	139	121	80	92	99	105	713	966	1,344	1,124	1,045	-7
24 Exploitation of prostitution ¹⁷	131	215	138	129	129	127	186	117	153	190	184	175	-5
25 Abduction of female ^{17,18}	277	240	251	262	262	291	403	86	36	21	4	4	-
27 Soliciting for the purpose of prostitution ¹⁷	..	1,107	973	1,028	1,655	2,111	1,944	1,821	1,640	1,290	1,215	1,071	-12
73 Abuse of position of trust of a sexual nature ^{17,18}	..	..	..	12	417	678	792	682	463	361	326	197	-40
88A Sexual grooming ¹⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	186	237	322	272	315	16
88B Other miscellaneous sexual offences ^{17,20}	..	10,327	9,476	8,647	8,223	9,735	9,873	11,593	11,363	10,209	8,846	..	..
88C Other miscellaneous sexual offences ^{17,20}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	297	..
88D Unnatural sexual offences ^{17,20}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
88E Exposure and voyeurism ^{17,20}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,541	..
Other sexual offences	1,756	12,948	11,682	10,726	11,296	13,573	13,810	15,320	14,917	13,784	12,037	10,701	-11
TOTAL SEXUAL OFFENCES	33,090	46,372	47,185	45,878	49,581	58,890	62,542	62,862	62,080	57,522	53,477	51,488	-4
34A Robbery of business property	63,072	10,481	12,148	12,394	13,186	11,066	10,110	7,934	8,760	9,454	9,173	9,344	2
34B Robbery of personal property		56,354	72,129	82,760	108,173	99,205	93,626	83,076	89,438	91,922	75,578	70,760	-6
TOTAL ROBBERY OFFENCES	63,072	66,835	84,277	95,154	121,359	110,271	103,736	91,010	98,198	101,376	84,751	80,104	-5

Table 2.04 (contd) Recorded crime by offence, 1997 to 2008/09 and percentage change between 2007/08 and 2008/09

Numbers and percentage changes		Recorded crime											
Offence	1997	1998/99 ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 ^{3,4}	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	% change 2007/08 to 2008/09
28 Burglary in a dwelling	516,346	470,465	439,609	399,927	426,859	434,098	398,945	318,969	298,355	290,454	279,134	282,989	1
29 Aggravated burglary in a dwelling	2,919	2,884	2,993	3,057	3,488	3,485	3,400	2,538	2,162	1,806	1,574	1,456	-7
Total burglary in a dwelling	519,265	473,349	442,602	402,984	430,347	437,583	402,345	321,507	300,517	292,260	280,708	284,445	1
of which: distraction burglary ²¹	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,716	13,258	11,552	12,750	10,058	9,092	-10
30 Burglary in a building other than a dwelling	495,396	479,425	463,372	432,540	447,552	451,904	417,133	358,398	344,195	329,473	302,792	296,769	-2
31 Aggravated burglary in a building other than a dwelling	414	410	494	503	610	612	535	453	356	279	214	183	-14
Total burglary in a building other than a dwelling	495,810	479,835	463,866	433,043	448,162	452,516	417,668	358,851	344,551	329,752	303,006	296,952	-2
TOTAL BURGLARY OFFENCES	1,015,075	953,184	906,468	836,027	878,509	890,099	820,013	680,358	645,068	622,012	583,714	581,397	0
37.2 Aggravated vehicle taking	8,031	10,098	10,416	10,759	11,794	11,560	11,570	11,409	10,943	10,920	10,332	9,721	-6
45 Theft from a vehicle	710,333	685,919	669,232	629,651	655,161	663,679	603,256	500,360	507,239	502,651	432,387	396,990	-8
48 Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	399,208	381,709	364,270	328,037	316,321	306,947	280,288	231,323	203,239	182,464	159,684	137,749	-14
126 Interfering with a motor vehicle ^{16, 22}	..	48,011	56,521	62,696	80,755	92,473	89,892	77,004	71,400	68,980	53,993	47,657	-12
TOTAL OFFENCES AGAINST VEHICLES	1,117,572	1,125,737	1,100,439	1,031,143	1,064,031	1,074,659	985,006	820,096	792,821	765,015	656,396	592,117	-10
38 Profiting from or concealing knowledge of the proceeds of crime ²³	..	..	..	..	..	..	69	438	1,548	1,961	2,382	2,488	4
39 Theft from the person	57,767	63,118	76,254	87,332	114,848	148,488	137,154	122,081	123,867	114,852	101,652	89,731	-12
40 Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter	38,301	44,375	44,764	43,045	46,859	56,444	61,099	57,713	54,757	54,471	51,320	51,259	0
41 Theft by an employee	17,156	17,900	17,468	17,487	17,120	17,530	17,700	17,251	17,048	16,323	15,853	15,485	-2
42 Theft of mail	3,638	4,931	5,856	6,890	9,665	13,458	20,537	22,509	9,351	4,740	3,045	3,729	22
43 Dishonest use of electricity	3,325	2,454	2,157	1,451	1,338	1,413	1,309	1,296	1,299	1,497	2,026	1,779	-12
44 Theft or unauthorised taking of a pedal cycle	139,092	128,557	131,240	108,509	102,713	97,755	105,467	105,953	113,192	110,526	103,998	104,239	0
46 Shoplifting	274,015	281,972	292,494	293,080	306,596	310,881	303,235	281,127	295,999	294,282	290,624	320,846	10
47 Theft from automatic machine or meter ²⁴	13,595	15,343	19,077	18,619	19,544	24,311	29,515	35,918	42,049	33,721	11,930	7,659	-36
49 Other theft or unauthorised taking	466,917	479,306	510,573	518,573	565,475	647,827	634,491	589,189	554,368	536,603	526,951	472,720	-10
54 Handling stolen goods	33,574	27,746	23,298	19,243	18,775	18,817	17,308	14,157	12,714	11,826	11,296	10,720	-5
OTHER THEFT OFFENCES	1,047,380	1,065,702	1,123,181	1,114,229	1,202,933	1,336,924	1,327,884	1,247,632	1,226,192	1,180,802	1,121,077	1,080,655	-4
51 Fraud by company director ²⁵	15	159	165	152	106	27	80	51	626	101	198	818	313
52 False accounting	1,820	1,304	1,103	1,043	1,033	880	721	541	487	462	249	145	-42
53A Cheque and credit card fraud (pre Fraud Act 2006) ^{26,27}	..	141,948	173,857	148,252	153,646	142,249	131,022	121,376	87,860	59,011	..	..	..
53B Preserved other fraud and repeated fraud offences (pre Fraud Act 2006) ^{26,27,28,29}	124,389	122,437	145,448	155,647	144,436	169,639	171,002	141,667	128,182	127,854	..	..	..
53C Fraud by false representation: cheque, plastic card and online bank accounts ^{26,27}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23,289	26,613	14
53D Fraud by false representation: other frauds ^{26,29}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	118,400	122,569	4
53E Fraud by failing to disclose information ²⁶	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	265	305	15
53F Fraud by abuse of position ²⁶	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	672	917	36
53G Obtaining services dishonestly ²⁶	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,882	1,156	-39
53H Making or supplying articles for use in fraud ²⁶	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	183	600	228
53J Possession of articles for use in fraud ²⁶	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,109	1,456	31
55 Bankruptcy and insolvency offences ¹⁶	..	23	82	10	15	11	9	11	93	14	31	15	-
60 Forgery or use of false drug prescription	941	842	871	821	762	881	805	747	693	593	439	448	2
61 Other forgery	7,233	6,762	6,173	6,225	6,835	8,793	7,992	10,249	10,627	8,479	4,200	4,243	1
61A Possession of false documents	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,301	2,621	14
814 Vehicle/driver document fraud ¹⁶	..	6,028	7,074	7,174	8,026	8,618	8,016	5,420	4,206	3,138	2,160	1,377	-36
TOTAL FRAUD AND FORGERY OFFENCES^{26,30}	134,398	279,503	334,773	319,324	314,859	331,098	319,647	280,062	232,774	199,652	155,378	163,283	5

Table 2.04 (contd) Recorded crime by offence, 1997 to 2008/09 and percentage change between 2007/08 and 2008/09

Numbers and percentage changes		Recorded crime											% change 2007/08 to 2008/09
Offence	1997	1998/99 ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 ^{3,4}	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	
56 Arson ³¹	31,516	47,273	53,794	52,818	60,456	53,552	57,546	48,368	45,731	43,100	39,319	..	} -11
56A Arson endangering life ³¹	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,629	
56B Arson not endangering life ³¹	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31,212	
57 Criminal damage endangering life	372	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
58 Other criminal damage ³²	842,415	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
58 Other criminal damage ³³	704,717	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
58A Criminal damage to a dwelling ¹⁶	..	216,590	234,575	238,896	269,456	291,999	321,613	308,973	297,579	288,285	256,763	235,501	-8
58B Criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling ¹⁶	..	159,461	166,770	166,960	178,288	176,702	186,784	174,489	161,436	160,207	131,133	109,466	-17
58C Criminal damage to a vehicle ¹⁶	..	357,152	374,218	378,903	419,403	434,270	457,950	461,346	468,143	483,237	425,617	389,859	-8
58D Other criminal damage ¹⁶	..	95,777	108,318	113,628	126,076	152,440	180,411	188,842	195,069	197,036	173,083	157,225	-9
58E Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a dwelling ⁸	..	..	1,452	1,765	2,228	2,044	1,982	1,845	1,742	1,543	1,150	997	-13
58F Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling ⁸	..	..	756	985	1,547	1,160	1,185	1,137	1,274	1,079	834	779	-7
58G Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a vehicle ⁸	..	..	1,232	1,399	1,885	1,525	1,603	1,640	1,899	1,711	1,339	1,303	-3
58H Racially or religiously aggravated other criminal damage ⁸	..	..	590	612	822	780	838	837	975	953	681	726	7
59 Threat etc. to commit criminal damage	2,739	3,333	3,977	4,121	4,334	6,138	8,612	10,066	10,501	7,889	6,317	6,032	-5
TOTAL CRIMINAL DAMAGE OFFENCES	877,042	879,586	945,682	960,087	1,064,495	1,120,610	1,218,524	1,197,543	1,184,349	1,185,040	1,036,236	936,729	-10
TOTAL PROPERTY CRIME³⁴	4,191,467	4,303,712	4,410,543	4,260,810	4,524,827	4,753,390	4,671,074	4,225,691	4,081,204	3,952,521	3,552,801	3,354,181	-6
92A Trafficking in controlled drugs	23,153	21,788	19,956	19,820	19,686	22,435	24,628	24,190	25,276	26,550	28,346	29,644	5
92B Possession of controlled drugs ¹⁶	..	112,576	100,598	92,716	100,905	119,896	118,006	..	..	..	..	..	..
92C Other drug offences ¹⁶	..	1,581	1,312	922	802	989	877	781	601	680	816	1,113	36
92D Possession of controlled drugs (excluding cannabis) ³⁵	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32,603	32,685	36,608	42,511	44,310	4
92E Possession of controlled drugs (cannabis) ³⁵	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88,263	119,917	130,395	158,230	167,840	6
TOTAL DRUG OFFENCES	23,153	135,945	121,866	113,458	121,393	143,320	143,511	145,837	178,479	194,233	229,903	242,907	6
10B Possession of firearms offences ³⁶	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,425	} 3
81 Other firearms offences ^{16,37}	..	3,325	3,143	3,531	3,199	3,522	3,322	4,210	4,106	4,239	4,561	292	
15 Concealing an infant death close to birth	5	10	4	9	4	7	6	6	8	4	8	8	-
26 Bigamy	75	129	83	80	74	88	71	104	101	61	74	65	-12
33 Going equipped for stealing, etc.	6,132	5,866	5,208	4,634	5,081	5,792	5,706	4,567	4,382	4,253	3,768	3,806	1
35 Blackmail ³⁸	877	1,038	1,137	1,086	1,072	1,331	1,497	1,465	1,645	2,481	1,198	1,366	14
36 Kidnapping	1,559	2,049	2,339	2,404	2,786	3,198	3,141	2,814	2,799	2,367	1,993	2,034	2
62 Treason	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
64 Riot	6	2	6	2	12	8	4	4	7	4	2	3	-
65 Violent disorder	2,060	2,500	2,804	2,753	2,602	2,856	2,790	2,636	2,457	1,742	1,181	1,020	-14
66 Other offences against the State and public order	16,240	18,638	19,600	17,834	18,872	19,935	19,926	20,370	31,999	35,935	35,057	37,757	8
67 Perjury	309	329	217	183	143	186	206	265	245	197	192	179	-7
68 Libel	5	3	4	2	3	2	..	..	1	1	1	0	-
75 Betting, gaming and lotteries ¹⁶	..	48	23	27	17	5	1	12	6	13	11	22	-
76 Aiding suicide	14	8	6	10	4	8	11	6	11	13	9	7	-
78 Immigration offences ¹⁶	..	505	427	262	329	433	451	550	935	792	661	570	-14
79 Perverting the course of justice	6,779	9,265	9,637	9,763	10,282	11,346	11,894	11,567	12,712	11,114	9,120	8,402	-8
80 Absconding from lawful custody	1,379	1,301	1,559	1,389	1,357	1,553	1,721	1,362	1,272	979	830	649	-22
82 Customs and Revenue offences ¹⁶	..	119	96	116	124	117	49	30	49	27	11	12	-
83 Bail offences ¹⁶	..	66	143	107	133	252	212	202	177	83	25	6	-
84 Trade descriptions, etc. ¹⁶	..	263	245	192	173	195	513	1,344	1,360	1,353	1,323	1,139	-14
85 Health and Safety offences ¹⁶	..	7	3	5	5	3	4	15	8	9	8	16	-

Table 2.04 (contd) Recorded crime by offence, 1997 to 2008/09 and percentage change between 2007/08 and 2008/09

Numbers and percentage changes												Recorded crime	
Offence	1997	1998/99 ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 ^{3,4}	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	% change 2007/08 to 2008/09
86 Obscene publications, etc. and protected sexual material ¹⁶		603	643	665	852	2,106	2,881	2,861	2,592	2,378	2,655	2,734	3
87 Protection from eviction ¹⁶		68	66	71	56	63	75	70	75	69	81	71	-12
89 Adulteration of food ¹⁶		69	46	94	117	80	34	29	45	32	44	14	-
90 Other knives offences ¹⁶		99	66	51	59	41	30	21	15	9	6	7	-
91 Public health offences ¹⁶		9	12	10	17	20	86	112	128	50	44	115	-
94 Planning laws ¹⁶		2	1	5	3	1	3	4	5	0	0	1	-
95 Disclosure, obstruction, false or misleading statements etc. ³⁹		..	..	..	..	16	22	144	368	266	423	510	21
99 Other indictable or triable-either-way offences	1,283	2,537	3,559	4,058	4,034	3,223	3,440	2,577	2,197	1,915	1,391	1,679	21
802 Dangerous driving ¹⁶		4,589	5,205	5,287	6,126	7,624	7,567	6,669	5,923	5,353	4,720	4,232	-10
TOTAL OTHER MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES	38,720	50,122	53,139	51,099	54,339	64,011	65,668	64,016	75,628	75,739	69,397	71,141	3
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME – ALL OFFENCES	4,600,324	5,105,764	5,298,044	5,167,312	5,521,825	5,974,960	6,013,759	5,637,511	5,555,174	5,427,559	4,951,504	4,703,814	-5

PLEASE NOTE:

As in previous years, police figures for the latest year in this table and elsewhere remain subject to change as forces continue to submit further data (e.g. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary is conducting a quality assurance exercise of all forces' recording of most serious violence offences which may prompt further revisions).

Detailed notes to accompany this table are available on the following page.

NOTES TO ACCOMPANY TABLE 2.04

1. The number of crimes recorded in that calendar year using the coverage and rules in use until 31 March 1998.
2. The number of crimes recorded in that financial year using the expanded offence coverage and revised Counting Rules which came into effect on 1 April 1998.
3. The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable.
4. Includes the British Transport Police from 2002/03 onwards.
5. The homicide figure for 2002/03 includes 173 murders committed by Harold Shipman in previous years but coming to light in the official inquiry in 2002. The homicide figure in 2005/06 of 766 includes 52 homicide victims of the 7 July London bombings, which also accounted for approximately one-quarter of the total of 920 attempted murders.
6. Offence classifications 5A, 5B and 5C were introduced from 1 April 2008 and replace classification 5. Classification 5A was influenced by a clarification in recording rules that had the effect of significantly increasing levels of recording in some forces (see Volume 2 for details). Figures for 2008/09 for classification 5A should be viewed as provisional as a current inspection by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary may give rise to further revisions from forces. Classification 5A also includes some other offences of endangering life as well as GBH with intent, though GBH with intent is the major part of this category.
7. Offence classifications 8F, 8G, 8H, 8J and 8K were introduced from 1 April 2008 and had previously been recorded as part of classifications 8A or 8D. Classifications 8F and 8H have been moved up in the table to be close to other offences which involve GBH.
8. These offences were added to the series from 1 April 1999; prior to that they would have been included in the original classifications. Religiously aggravated offences were added to the series from April 2002.
9. The change in definition relating to resultant injury in common assaults and less serious woundings, which applied from 1 April 2002, is described in Chapter 5 of Crime in England and Wales 2005/06. Offences of 'assault without injury' include some assaults with injury prior to April 2002.
10. Offence classifications 3A and 3B were introduced from 1 April 2008 and had previously been recorded as classification 3.
11. Included within 'less serious wounding' prior to April 1998.
12. Possession of weapons offences can also be included in other offence classifications.
13. Offence classifications 10A, 10C and 10D were introduced from 1 April 2008 and had previously been recorded as classification 8B.
14. Offence classifications 8L and 9A were introduced from 1 April 2008 and had previously been recorded as classification 8C.
15. Offence classifications 8M and 9B were introduced from 1 April 2008 and had previously been recorded as classification 8E.
16. These offences were added to the series from 1 April 1998.
17. The Sexual Offences Act 2003 introduced in May 2004 altered the definition and coverage of sexual offences.
18. A small number of offences continue to be recorded relating to offences repealed by the Sexual Offences Act 2003; while these may continue to be legitimately recorded for offences committed prior to May 2004 it is also possible that some may have been recorded in these old categories in error, so recent changes based on small numbers should be interpreted with caution.
19. The increase in 2005/06 was accounted for by a large number of offences that were dealt with by the Norfolk Constabulary.
20. This offence consists solely of the former offence of Indecent Exposure for years prior to 2004/05. This became the offence of Exposure and is included within 'Other miscellaneous sexual offences' from May 2004. Offence classification 88B was split into 88C-E with effect from 2008/9.
21. Excludes Cumbria, Durham, Nottinghamshire, South Wales and Sussex for 2003/04.
22. Includes tampering with a motor vehicle.
23. These offences were added to the series from 1 April 2003.
24. Following a change in the implementation of the Fraud Act 2006, offences involving theft from an automatic machine using a plastic card are now regarded as false representation and recorded under classification 53C.
25. The large increase in this offence in 2005/06 was due to one large-scale fraud recorded by the Cambridgeshire Constabulary and the large rise in 2007/08 was due to a fraud recorded by the North Yorkshire Police. The large increases in 2008/09 were due to large-scale frauds recorded by Gwent Police, Leicestershire Constabulary and the Metropolitan Police.
26. New offences were introduced under the Fraud Act 2006 which came into force on 15 January 2007. Offences under the new classifications 53C to 53J were recorded under these classifications from 1 April 2007. Between 15 January and 31 March 2007 these offences were recorded under classification 53B. For classifications 53A and 53C counting changed from a per fraudulent transaction to a per account basis from 15 January 2007. From 1 April 2007 these offences were reported to a single point of contact within each police force by financial institutions.
27. Classification 53C in 2007/08 and 2008/09 includes some offences recorded under code 53A as the offences are very similar in nature.
28. Offence classification 53B includes cheque and credit card fraud in 1997.
29. Classification 53D in 2007/08 and 2008/09 includes some offences recorded under code 53B as the offences are very similar in nature.
30. This section includes the fraud offences used prior to the commencement of the Fraud Act 2006 on 15 January 2007.
31. Offence classifications 56A and 56B were introduced from 1 April 2008 and had previously been recorded as classification 56.
32. Including offences of 'other criminal damage' of value £20 and under.
33. Excluding offences of 'other criminal damage' of value £20 and under.
34. Includes offences of burglary, offences against vehicles, other theft offences, fraud and forgery and criminal damage.
35. Possession of controlled drugs offences were split with effect from April 2004 into possession of cannabis and possession of drugs other than cannabis.
36. Offence classification 10B was introduced from 1 April 2008. Possession of firearms offences are those offences where the weapon has not been used during the commission of another offence.
37. These are offences under the Firearms Act 1968 and other Firearms Acts connected with licensing and certification of firearms. Such offences are not included in the firearms offences statistics which are discussed in Chapter 3 of Crime in England and Wales 2006/07.
38. The large increase in 2006/07 was due to the recording of threats made against shareholders of GlaxoSmithKline by animal rights activists.
39. These offences were added to the series from 1 April 2002.
40. Some forces have revised their data and totals may not therefore agree with those previously published.

Table 2.05 Recorded crime and number per 100,000 population for violence against the person, property crime and offences against vehicles

Numbers (000s) and numbers per 100,000 population								Recorded crime	
Year	Total recorded violence against the person (000s)	Number of violence against the person offences per 100,000 population	Total recorded property crime (000s)	Number of property crime offences per 100,000 population	Total recorded offences against vehicles ¹ (000s)	Number of offences against vehicles per 100,000 population	Total recorded offences (000s)	Number of offences per 100,000 population	
1950	6	14	435	993	39	90	461	1,053	
1960	16	34	699	1,513	110	237	744	1,610	
1970	41	84	1,471	2,994	323	657	1,556	3,166	
1980	97	196	2,547	5,134	619	1,249	2,688	5,420	
1981	100	202	2,815	5,671	712	1,435	2,964	5,971	
1982	109	219	3,102	6,254	800	1,613	3,262	6,577	
1983	111	224	3,079	6,208	750	1,512	3,247	6,546	
1984	114	230	3,325	6,696	800	1,611	3,499	7,047	
1985	122	245	3,424	6,882	846	1,701	3,612	7,258	
1986	125	251	3,653	7,316	988	1,980	3,847	7,707	
1987	141	282	3,674	7,337	1,048	2,093	3,892	7,773	
1988	158	315	3,477	6,920	987	1,965	3,716	7,396	
1989	177	351	3,603	7,150	1,022	2,029	3,871	7,681	
1990	185	365	4,263	8,430	1,267	2,506	4,544	8,986	
1991	190	375	4,976	9,812	1,495	2,948	5,276	10,403	
1992	202	395	5,268	10,309	1,549	3,032	5,592	10,943	
1993	205	400	5,191	10,124	1,523	2,971	5,526	10,777	
1994	218	424	4,895	9,516	1,384	2,691	5,253	10,212	
1995	213	412	4,739	9,180	1,322	2,560	5,100	9,880	
1996	239	462	4,636	8,946	1,293	2,495	5,037	9,719	
1997	251	482	4,191	8,059	1,118	2,149	4,598	8,841	
1997/98 ^{2,3}	256	492	4,131	7,944	1,096	2,107	4,545	8,739	
1998/99 ³	231	442	4,087	7,827	1,072	2,053	4,482	8,584	
1998/99 ⁴	503	963	4,304	8,243	1,126	2,156	5,109	9,785	
1999/00	581	1,108	4,411	8,413	1,100	2,099	5,301	10,111	
2000/01	601	1,140	4,261	8,087	1,031	1,957	5,171	9,814	
2001/02	650	1,228	4,525	8,547	1,064	2,010	5,525	10,436	
2002/03 ^{5,6}	845	1,603	4,753	9,010	1,075	2,050	5,975	11,323	
2003/04	967	1,821	4,671	8,785	985	1,865	6,014	11,308	
2004/05	1,048	1,960	4,226	7,896	820	1,543	5,638	10,531	
2005/06	1,060	1,970	4,081	7,591	793	1,485	5,555	10,328	
2006/07	1,046	1,929	3,953	7,304	765	1,424	5,428	10,023	
2007/08 ⁷	961	1,760	3,553	6,528	656	1,215	4,952	9,089	
2008/09	904	1,643	3,354	6,127	592	1,089	4,704	8,579	

1. Offences against vehicles includes aggravated vehicle taking, theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle, theft from a vehicle and, from 1998/99 onwards, interfering with a vehicle.

2. Change from calendar year to financial year.

3. The number of crimes recorded in that financial year using the coverage and rules in use until 31 March 1998.

4. The number of crimes recorded in that financial year using the expanded offence coverage and revised Counting Rules which came into effect on 1 April 1998.

5. Numbers of recorded crimes will be affected by changes in reporting and recording. For further information see Chapter 3 in *Crime in England and Wales 2002/03*. The national impact of recording changes in 2002/03 was estimated to be an increase of ten per cent for total recorded crime. This impact will vary for different types of offences.

6. From 2002/03, the number of offences recorded by the British Transport Police (BTP) were added to the England and Wales figures. The rates per 100,000 population do not include figures from the BTP.

7. Some forces have revised their data and totals may not therefore agree with those previously published.

Table 2.06 Number of times victims were victimised

Percentages	2008/09 BCS			
	Once	Twice	Three or more	<i>Unweighted base¹</i>
PROPERTY CRIME				
Vandalism	72	16	12	3,423
Vehicle vandalism	75	15	10	2,418
Other vandalism	73	14	13	1,151
Burglary	85	10	5	1,048
Vehicle-related theft	83	12	5	2,157
Bicycle theft	88	9	3	818
Other household theft	80	12	7	1,714
Theft from the person	91	7	2	522
Other theft of personal property	89	7	3	847
All violence	77	12	11	1,275
Wounding	83	10	7	335
Assault with minor injury	79	9	12	331
Assault without injury	78	11	11	511
Robbery	89	10	2	183
Violence with injury	79	11	10	721
Violence without injury	79	12	10	611
Domestic violence	62	17	21	206
Acquaintance	77	10	13	433
Stranger	83	9	8	513
Mugging (<i>robbery + snatch theft</i>)	89	10	1	250

1. Base is victims of specified offences.

2. See Section 5 of Volume 2 for more information about the crime types included in this table.

Table 2.07 Proportion of victims who were victimised more than once, 1981 to 2008/09 BCS¹

Percentages												BCS		
	1981	1991	1995	1997	2001/02	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08 ²	2008/09	1995 to 2008/09	2006/07 to 2008/09	2007/08 to 2008/09
<i>Percentage victims more than once :</i>												<i>Statistically significant change</i>		
PROPERTY CRIME														
Vandalism	33	31	30	33	32	30	30	30	32	30	28		**↓	
Vehicle vandalism	29	28	25	28	27	25	26	27	28	26	25			
Other vandalism	32	26	32	33	33	31	29	29	31	30	27			
Burglary	13	16	19	19	15	18	14	16	13	15	15			
Vehicle-related theft	21	25	28	24	21	19	19	18	16	17	17	**↓		
Bicycle theft	6	14	14	14	11	10	12	12	11	11	12			
Other household theft	28	25	23	25	19	19	20	21	17	18	20			
Theft from the person	4	9	4	11	8	8	6	8	7	6	9	**↑		
Other theft of personal property	18	18	14	15	13	10	11	12	11	10	11			
All violence	27	32	38	33	33	28	28	27	28	27	23	**↓	**↓	
Wounding	14	20	24	26	25	25	19	21	18	17	17			
Assault with minor injury	30	28	33	31	30	29	29	26	24	23	21	**↓		
Assault without injury	31	40	39	33	33	28	25	28	28	27	22	**↓		
Robbery	18	8	16	10	24	9	7	14	16	20	11			
Violence with injury	23	26	31	31	28	26	25	23	24	21	21	**↓		
Violence without injury	29	36	36	29	32	25	24	26	25	26	21	**↓		
Domestic violence	48	43	50	58	55	44	46	43	43	45	38	**↓		
Acquaintance	26	28	37	30	29	28	30	28	23	28	23	**↓		
Stranger	20	28	24	16	20	21	18	19	20	17	17			
Mugging (<i>robbery + snatch theft</i>)	17	11	13	11	19	9	5	13	15	16	11			

1. For an explanation of year-labels see 'Conventions used in figures and tables' at the start of this volume.

2. Base is victims of specified offences; unweighted bases for 2008/09 figures are included in Table 2.06. Bases for figures since 2001/02 will be similar, but prior to that will be smaller.

3. See Section 5 of Volume 2 for more information about the crime types included in this table.

Table 2.08 Proportion of incidents experienced by repeat victims, 1981 to 2008/09 BCS¹

Percentages												BCS	
	1981	1991	1995	1997	2001/02	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	1995 to 2008/09	2007/08 to 2008/09
PROPERTY CRIME	<i>Percentage incidents experienced by repeat victims³ :</i>											<i>Statistically significant change</i>	
Vandalism	59	56	56	59	58	55	56	55	58	55	53		
Vehicle vandalism	52	51	45	51	50	47	48	48	51	49	47		
Other vandalism	58	52	59	61	61	59	56	56	58	56	53	**↓	
Burglary	27	35	38	39	34	37	30	36	29	34	33	**↓	
Vehicle-related theft	40	47	49	44	41	38	38	36	32	34	34	**↓	
Bicycle theft	11	28	26	26	20	21	24	25	22	23	25		
Other household theft	53	47	46	47	40	38	40	41	36	37	40	**↓	
Theft from the person	13	18	7	20	17	17	14	16	16	12	19	**↑	**↑
Other theft of personal property	35	38	31	31	27	22	25	24	24	21	23	**↓	
All violence	57	62	68	61	61	56	55	56	55	53	49	**↓	
Wounding	36	49	58	56	54	50	42	48	42	41	37	**↓	
Assault with minor injury	57	56	63	59	57	56	57	53	47	45	47	**↓	
Assault without injury	62	69	66	59	58	55	51	57	55	51	47	**↓	
Robbery	46	23	31	20	45	21	18	33	37	41	23		**↓
Violence with injury	50	55	63	60	57	52	51	51	48	45	44	**↓	
Violence without injury	60	65	63	54	57	51	49	54	52	51	45	**↓	
Domestic violence	78	n/a	79	81	82	73	74	72	70	73	66	**↓	
Acquaintance	56	n/a	68	59	55	56	59	59	50	55	49	**↓	
Stranger	45	n/a	49	34	41	46	40	43	42	35	37	**↓	
Mugging (<i>robbery + snatch theft</i>)	46	n/a	26	22	38	20	14	31	34	34	22		**↓

1. For an explanation of year-labels see 'Conventions used in figures and tables' at the start of this volume.

2. Base is victims of specified offences; unweighted bases for 2008/09 figures are included in Table 2.06. Bases for figures since 2001/02 will be similar, but prior to that will be smaller.

3. See Section 5 of Volume 2 for more information about the crime types included in this table.

Table 2.09 Percentage of BCS incidents reported to the police¹, 1981 to 2008/09 BCS²

Percentages													BCS
	1981	1991	1995	1997	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	Statistically significant change 2007/08 to 2008/09
PROPERTY CRIME													
Vandalism	22	27	30	26	32	31	31	32	31	32	35	33	
Vehicle vandalism	10	25	26	23	26	27	26	28	26	28	32	30	
Other vandalism	36	31	35	30	40	37	37	39	40	38	40	40	
Burglary	66	73	66	64	61	65	62	61	65	66	64	65	
With entry	81	88	82	78	77	81	75	72	77	77	73	76	
Attempts	42	48	45	47	41	43	45	42	47	51	50	49	
With loss	85	92	84	85	85	87	78	77	81	81	76	83	**↑
No loss (including attempts)	48	53	51	49	45	49	49	49	53	55	54	53	
Vehicle-related theft	41	56	51	46	52	50	48	49	49	47	48	45	
Theft from vehicles	30	53	50	42	48	47	45	45	45	43	44	41	
Theft of vehicles	95	99	98	96	94	97	95	95	94	93	93	89	
Attempts of and from	31	41	35	36	40	36	34	37	40	38	40	38	
Bicycle theft	64	69	62	63	53	50	43	44	47	36	41	38	
Other household theft	25	29	30	33	33	30	30	30	28	28	27	25	
Theft from the person	31	35	41	33	34	33	38	32	33	35	32	30	**↓
Snatch theft from person	24	38	75	50	54	40	50	54	41	47	56	44	
Stealth theft from person	33	34	36	31	31	32	36	28	32	33	28	27	
Other theft of personal property	23	38	29	31	32	36	35	35	33	33	30	33	**↑
ALL VIOLENCE (COMPARABLE)³													
Assault with minor injury or no injury	-	-	-	-	35	41	41	45	45	43	42	42	**↓
Without injury	25	26	34	30	26	34	33	39	39	37	37	35	**↓
Wounding	-	-	-	-	-	35	30	34	35	36	33	33	
Robbery	40	48	40	46	56	51	57	60	61	58	59	62	**↑
Domestic violence	47	47	55	57	45	53	53	49	49	47	43	40	**↓
Acquaintance	20	23	27	26	35	35	40	40	42	44	40	47	
Stranger	25	29	37	32	36	42	40	44	45	47	48	39	**↓
Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	35	38	40	46	31	39	40	48	45	37	38	43	
Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	38	47	59	55	46	50	52	50	47	47	46	41	
OLD COMPARABLE CRIME^{4,5}	36	49	47	44	45	44	44	43	43	42	43	41	
COMPARABLE CRIME^{4,5}	-	-	-	-	42	43	42	42	42	41	42	41	
ALL BCS CRIME⁵	31	43	41	39	40	41	40	40	40	39	39	38	

1. Incidents that were reported to the police also includes those incidents that the police came to know about in another way, e.g. they arrived at the scene.

2. For an explanation of year-labels see 'Conventions used in figures and tables' at the start of this volume.

3. All violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery and is equivalent to comparable violence in previous publications. For more information see Volume 2.

4. Old comparable crime includes vandalism, burglary, vehicle-related theft, bicycle theft, theft from the person, wounding and robbery. Comparable crime also includes common assault (that is, assault with minor injury plus assault with no injury) which became a notifiable offence in 1998. From 2002 the recorded crime definition changed so only assaults involving no injury are now included – this is equivalent to BCS assault with no injury.

5. Statistical significance of change is not presented for old comparable crime, comparable crime and all BCS crime.

6. The proportion of reported incidents is calculated from the number of BCS incidents reported to the police divided by the number of BCS incidents. The numbers are derived by multiplying offence rates (incidence rates) by population estimates for England and Wales, that is: for household crimes, by 23,848,680 households and for personal crimes, by 44,265,687 adults. For more information see Section 2 of Volume 2.

7. See Section 5 of Volume 2 for more information about the crime types included in this table.

Table 2.10 Reasons for not reporting crime to the police

Percentages	2008/09 BCS							
	Vandalism	Burglary	Thefts from vehicles & attempts ¹	Other household theft	Other personal theft	All violence ²	Comparable crime ³	All BCS crime
Trivial/no loss/police would not/could not do anything ⁴	87	72	87	82	73	52	76	76
Private/dealt with ourselves	8	18	7	10	8	34	15	14
Inconvenient to report	4	4	7	5	7	5	5	5
Reported to other authorities	1	3	2	1	13	6	3	4
Common occurrence	2	4	1	1	2	5	3	2
Fear of reprisal	2	2	1	1	1	6	3	2
Dislike or fear of the police/previous bad experience with the police or courts	1	0	1	1	0	3	1	1
Other ⁵	3	6	3	6	6	6	4	5
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>2,458</i>	<i>335</i>	<i>1,121</i>	<i>1,308</i>	<i>589</i>	<i>804</i>	<i>5,552</i>	<i>7,449</i>

1. Theft of vehicles not shown as very few incidents were not reported.

2. All violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault without injury and robbery (and is equivalent to comparable violence in previous publications). For more information see Volume 2.

3. 'Comparable crime' includes vandalism, burglary, vehicle-related theft, bicycle theft, theft from the person, wounding, assault with minor injury, assault without injury and robbery.

4. Too trivial/no loss/would not have been interested/police could not do anything/attempt at offence was unsuccessful are merged due to the similarity in their definition, for example: a respondent who thinks the incident was too trivial may code the incident as 'too trivial, no loss' or 'the police would not be interested' as these two codes may be understood as meaning the same.

5. This category includes: something that happens as part of job; partly my/friend's/relative's fault; offender not responsible for actions; thought someone else had reported incident/similar incidents; tried to report but was not able to contact the police/police not interested; other.

6. Figures may add to more than 100 as more than one reason could be given.