

## CRIME AND JUSTICE

# RACIST INCIDENTS RECORDED BY THE POLICE IN SCOTLAND, 2013-14

This bulletin presents statistics on racist incidents recorded by Police Scotland in 2013-14.

Racist incidents reported to the police may involve one or more victims/complainers, one or more perpetrators, and may result in one or more crimes or offences being recorded.

The definition of a racist incident used by Police Scotland is as given by Sir William MacPherson in his 1999 report on the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry:

**'A racist incident is any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person.'**

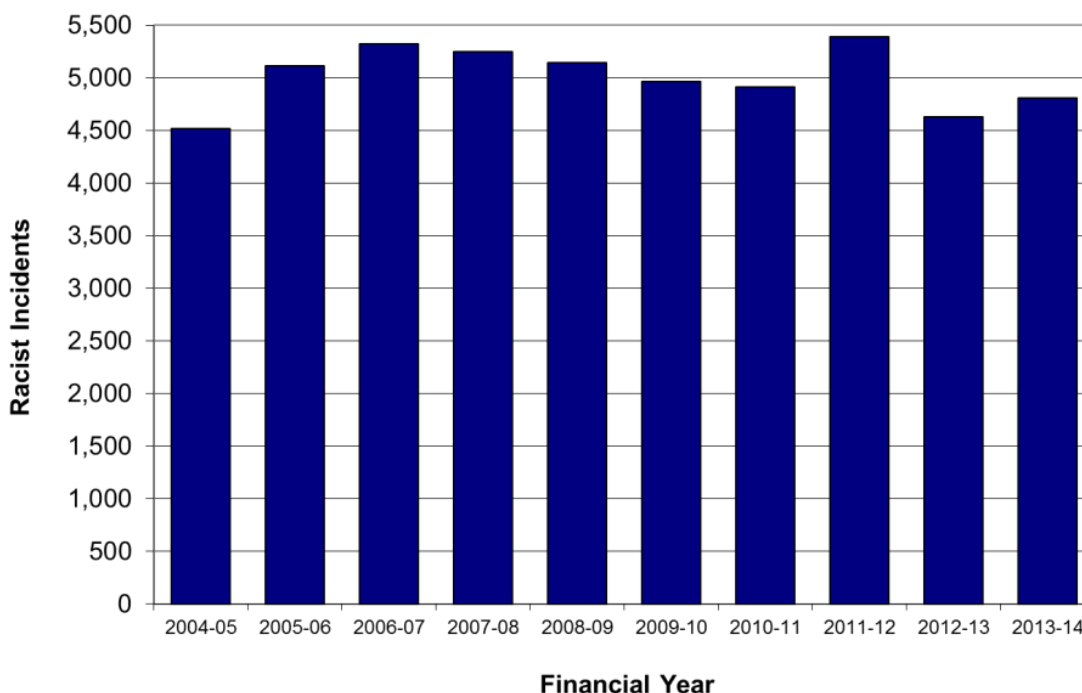
In line with the definition above, the victim/complainer may not necessarily be the person at whom the racially aggravated behaviour was targeted. The term 'victim/complainer' has been used throughout this bulletin to reflect the fact that a victim or any other person can perceive an incident to be racist.

## Key Points

- There were 4,807 racist incidents recorded by the police in 2013-14. This is an increase of 3.9% compared to 2012-13 when 4,628 incidents were recorded, and the third lowest since 2004-05.
- In 2013-14, 94.7% of racist incidents recorded by the police resulted in at least one crime being recorded. A total of 5,520 crimes were recorded as part of a racist incident in 2013-14, a 5.6% increase on the 5,228 crimes recorded in 2012-13.
- There was a 77.0% clear-up rate on crimes recorded as part of a racist incident.
- The most common crimes/offences recorded in 2013-14 from racist incidents were 'racially aggravated conduct' (47.8%), 'breach of the peace etc.' (28.1%) and 'common assault' (12.3%).

- In 2013-14, 36.0% of all racist incidents recorded by the police occurred on a street, 20.5% took place in a dwelling house and a further 13.5% in a shop.
- Where age and gender was known, males were more likely to be a victim/complainer of a racist incident with 14.5 victims/complainers per 10,000 population, compared to 5.8 victims/complainers per 10,000 population for females. Males aged 26-35 had the highest rate with 38.8 victims/complainers per 10,000 population, while the corresponding highest rate for females, also aged 26-35, was 14.0 victims/complainers per 10,000 population.
- In 2013-14, where the ethnicity of the victim/complainer was known, those with a 'Pakistani' ethnic background were the most likely to be the victim/complainer of a racist incident recorded by the police with 224.2 victims/complainers per 10,000 population. This was followed by 'African, Caribbean or Other Black' with 189.9 victims/complainers recorded per 10,000 population. The Scottish average across all ethnic backgrounds was 10.6 victims/complainers per 10,000 population.
- Where the age and gender was known, males were more likely to be a perpetrator of a racist incident with 13.0 perpetrators per 10,000 population, compared to 3.6 per 10,000 population for females. Males aged 16-20 had the highest rate with 35.2 perpetrators per 10,000 population, while the corresponding highest rate for females, also aged 16-20, was 10.0 perpetrators per 10,000 population.
- Where the action taken by the police against the perpetrator was known, 81.3% of perpetrators in 2013-14 were referred to the Procurator Fiscal or the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA). No further action was taken against 7.1% of perpetrators.

**Chart 1: Racist incidents recorded by the police, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14**



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# 1. Structure of Bulletin

- 1.1. This bulletin presents Official Statistics on the number of racist incidents recorded by the police in Scotland. Some change has been made to the structure of this bulletin since the previous publication.
- 1.2. [Key Points](#) on racist incidents in Scotland are on pages 1 to 2.
- 1.3. [Chapter 2](#) provides a summary of the background to racist incidents recorded by the police in Scotland. This includes details of how the data was collected.
- 1.4. [Chapter 3](#) presents statistics for 2013-14. It includes details on incidents, crimes recorded, victims/complainers and perpetrators, by change over time and analysis at the local authority level.
- 1.5. [Chapter 4](#) presents information on 'Putting Racist Incidents in Context'. It highlights some of the other data sources available on racist incidents.
- 1.6. [Chapter 5](#) presents information on racist incidents in Scotland through a series of tables.
- 1.7. [Annexes](#) provide further information on the process of collecting these statistics on racist incidents in Scotland. These include:
  - Data sources and definitions;
  - Quality of the statistics;
  - Auditing of data by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS);
  - Stakeholder consultations;
  - Comparisons with England & Wales and Northern Ireland;
  - Users of the statistics;
  - Future considerations;
  - Other Notes; and
  - Classification of Crime and Offences used in this bulletin.

## 2. Background

- 2.1. Statistics on racist incidents are used to inform the Scottish Government's [Strategy for Justice in Scotland](#), [National Outcome 9 – 'we live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger'](#) and [National Outcome 11 – 'we have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others'](#).
- 2.2. These statistics are also used by a wide range of stakeholders to monitor trends, for policy research and development, and for research purposes. Further information on users and uses of the statistics is available in [Annex 6](#) of this bulletin.
- 2.3. The 'Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police in Scotland' annual statistical bulletin forms part of a series of bulletins produced by the Scottish Government on the criminal justice system, which can be found at <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/Publications>.
- 2.4. The Police Service of Scotland (referred to throughout this report as Police Scotland) is responsible for operational policing in Scotland and is held to account by the Scottish Police Authority. The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 changed the policing landscape in Scotland, replacing the previous eight police forces, the Scottish Police Services Authority and the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013. The new statistics set out in this bulletin for 2013-14 cover the first year following the establishment of Police Scotland.
- 2.5. Incidents in this bulletin are counted against the year in which they were recorded.

- 2.6. The data for 2013-14 was collected and compiled at a later stage than previous years. Traditionally the data is collected and submitted to the Scottish Government in June, three months after the end of the reporting year. The 2013-14 data was compiled between March and June the following year (2015). This delay could affect the number and details of incidents as police management systems are constantly updated as new incidents may be reported and more information about existing incidents may be gathered and analysed. It is likely that this change will have a minimal impact on the majority of the data collected, however care should be taken over the following two variables highlighted below:
- **Clear-up rates** - As the data for 2013-14 has been collected at a later date, more time was available prior to data being extracted for police officers to investigate racist incidents than in previous years. This may account for at least part of the increase in clear-up rates compared to 2012-13 and as such caution should be taken by users when interpreting this information.
  - **Action taken by the police** - The additional time before collection of data for 2013-14 means the action taken by the police may be more likely to be known, hence there are less 'unknowns' in the data for 2013-14, than in previous years.
- 2.7. Statistics in this publication can be based on the victim or the complainer of a racist incident. The victim or the complainer may not necessarily be the person at whom the racially aggravated behaviour was targeted – for example a racist incident may be reported to the police by someone who has witnessed the event, rather than the victim. As such, it should be noted that the demographic characteristics presented in this bulletin on victims/complainers (e.g. age, gender, ethnicity) will include information on some people who were not the target of the perpetrators.

## 3. Main Findings: Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police in Scotland

### 3.1. Incidents Recorded by the Police

In 2013-14, a total of 4,807 racist incidents were recorded by the police in Scotland, a 3.9% increase on the 4,628 racist incidents recorded in 2012-13 ([Chart 1](#) & [Table 1](#)).

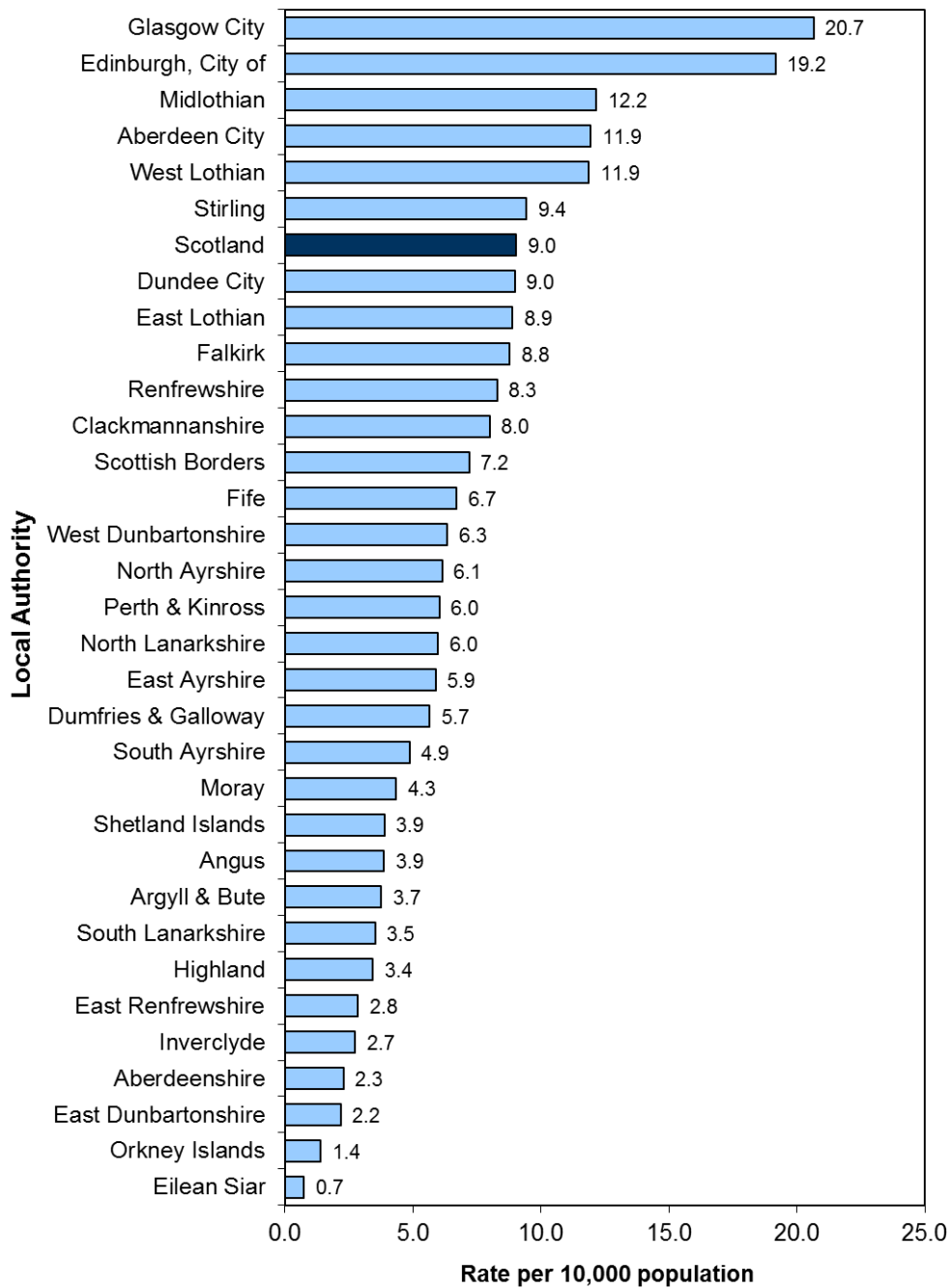
It should be noted that there are a number of factors over the years that may have influenced the number of racist incidents recorded by the police. One factor is that police forces are continuing to work with a range of victim support agencies to encourage reporting of such incidents. Other factors may be an increasing public intolerance of such behaviour, and increased public confidence that reporting such incidents is worthwhile.

Sixteen of Scotland's 32 local authorities recorded an increase in the number of racist incidents between 2012-13 and 2013-14, two recorded the same number of incidents and 14 recorded a decrease ([Table 1](#)).

In 2013-14, the number of racist incidents recorded per 10,000 population was highest in Glasgow City (20.7 incidents per 10,000 population) and City of Edinburgh (19.2 incidents per 10,000 population) ([Chart 2](#) & [Table 2](#)).

Whilst the City of Edinburgh and Glasgow City collectively account for 20.4% of Scotland's population, 45.1% of all racist incidents recorded in Scotland in 2013-14 occurred within their areas. These two local authorities have the greatest ethnic diversity, with the 2011 Scottish Census showing that the City of Edinburgh (18%) and Glasgow City (17%) have the highest proportion of their population made up from ethnic groups other than 'White British'. The Scottish average is 8%. Other factors that should be taken into account when trying to understand the high number of incidents recorded in these two local authorities include having a large night-time economy and a daily influx of visitors, workers and tourists ([Table 17](#)).

**Chart 2: Racist incidents recorded by the police per 10,000 population, by local authority area, 2013-14**

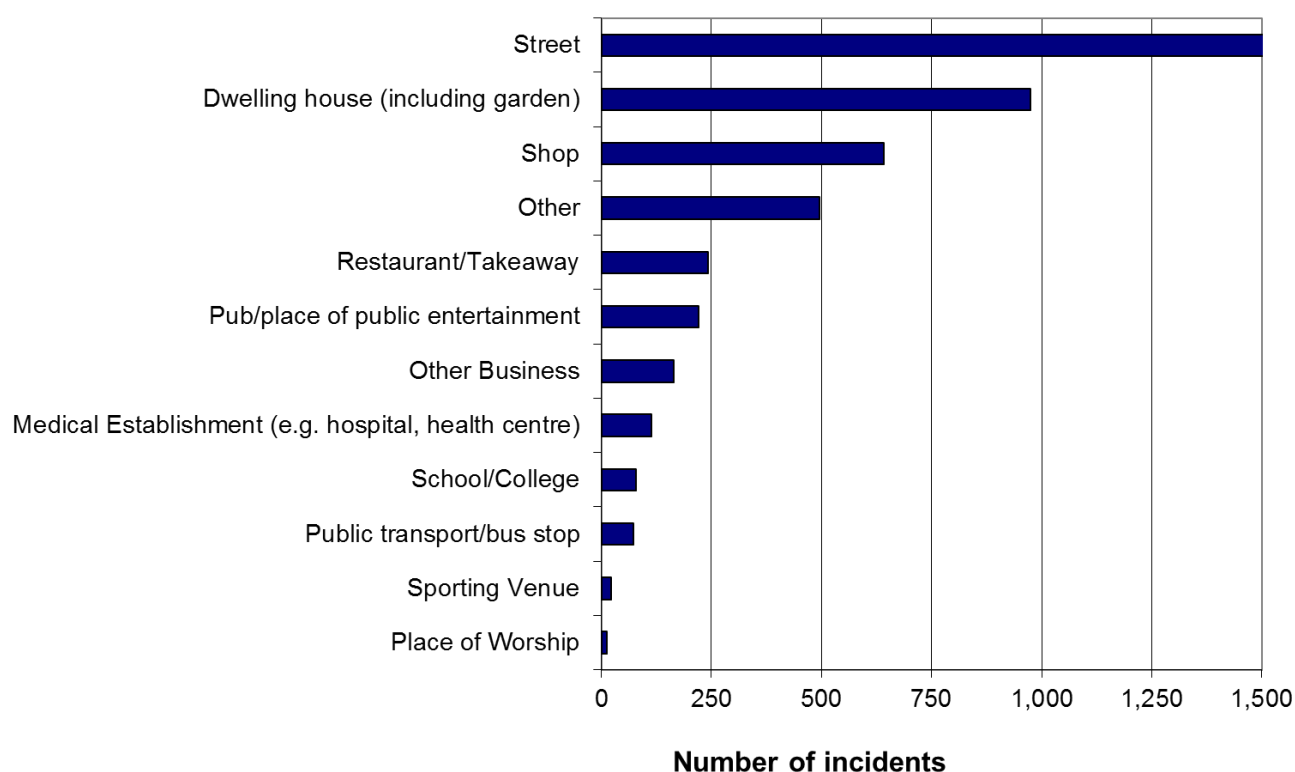




### 3.2. Detail of the incidents

Various details were recorded in relation to each racist incident, such as the location where the incident took place, the date and time of the incident, and whether a crime was recorded as part of the incident.

**Chart 3: Location of racist incidents, Scotland, 2013-14**

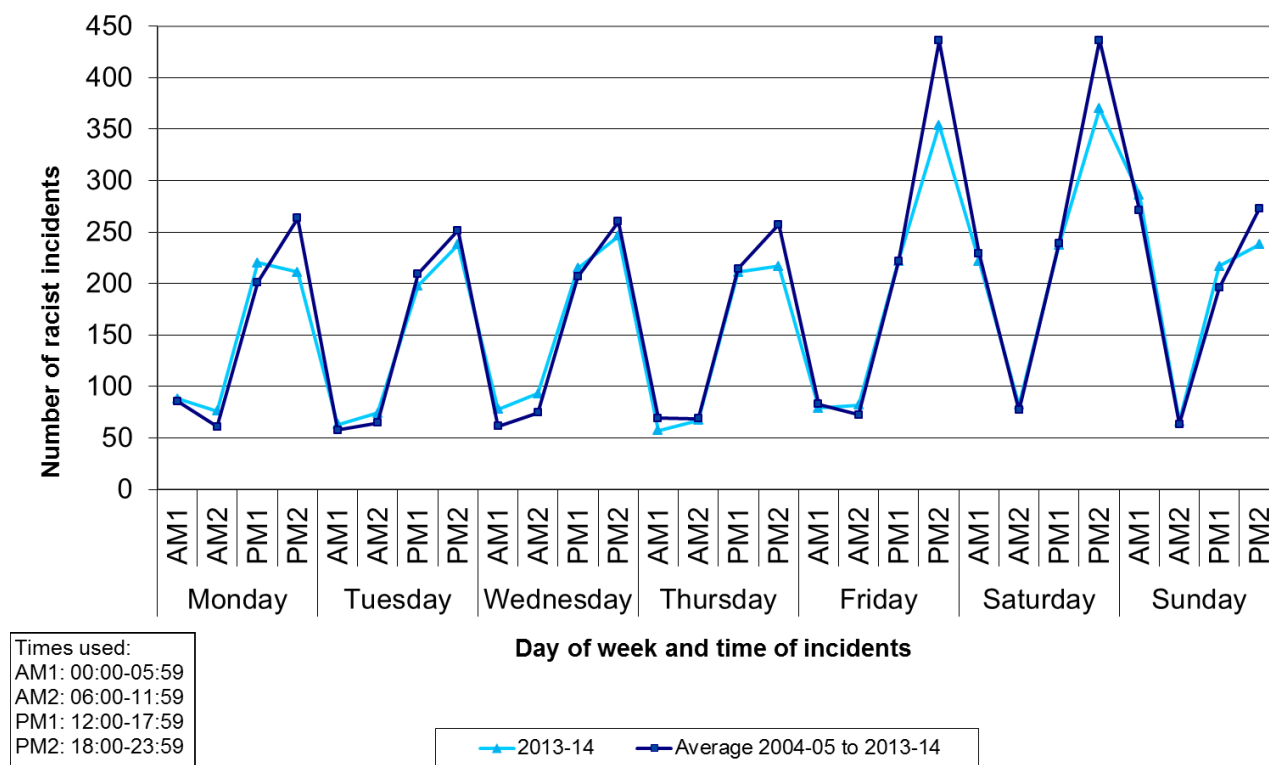


The most common locations (excluding 61 incidents where location was unknown) for an incident in 2013-14 were the street (36.0%), a dwelling house (20.5%) and in a shop (13.5%) ([Chart 3](#) & [Table 3](#)).

In 2013-14, just over half of all racist incidents (51.1%) were recorded between Friday and Sunday, with the remaining 48.9% spread fairly evenly throughout the other four days of the week. [Chart 4](#) shows that racist incidents peak between 6pm and midnight on most days of the week. On Sundays, most racist incidents occur between midnight and 6am ([Table 5](#)).

In 2013-14, where the person making the initial report about the incident was known, over two thirds (69.6%) of incidents were reported to the police by the victim/complainer. The police were responsible for reporting 12.7% of incidents and a further 10.6% of incidents were reported by a witness ([Table 6](#)).

**Chart 4: Racist incidents by weekday and time, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14**



Times used:  
 AM1: 00:00-05:59  
 AM2: 06:00-11:59  
 PM1: 12:00-17:59  
 PM2: 18:00-23:59

### 3.3. Crimes and offences recorded

In 2013-14, 94.7% of racist incidents recorded by the police resulted in at least one crime being recorded. A total of 5,520 crimes were recorded as part of racist incidents in 2013-14, a 5.6% increase on the 5,228 crimes recorded in 2012-13 ([Table 1](#)).

In 2013-14, the crime or offence most frequently recorded as part of a racist incident was ‘racially aggravated conduct’, which accounted for 47.8% of all crimes recorded. Other crimes or offences recorded as part of a racist incident included ‘breach of the peace etc.’ (28.1%), ‘common assault’ (12.3%) and ‘fire-raising, vandalism etc.’ (3.8%) ([Table 7A](#)).

In 2013-14, these four crimes and offences accounted for 92.0% of all crimes and offences recorded as part of a racist incident, similar to the 91.8% in 2012-13 ([Table 7A](#)). Definitions of ‘racially aggravated conduct’ and ‘racially aggravated harassment’ are included in [section 6.16](#).

Overall, 77.0% of all crimes recorded by the police as part of a racist incident in 2013-14 were cleared up. The clear-up rate varies depending on the crime recorded as part of the incident, with the most common crimes recording clear-up rates of 83.8% (for 'racially aggravated conduct') and 73.4% (for 'breach of the peace etc.').

Due to the delay in collecting the data for 2013-14 (see [section 2.6](#)), it is not possible to calculate how much of the increase in clear up rates between 2012-13 and 2013-14 is due to a real-terms increase, as opposed to Police Scotland having more time to investigate and analyse 2013-14 incidents before submitting data to the Scottish Government than for 2012-13 incidents ([Table 7B](#)). It should be noted that previous years' clear-up rates are not revised to reflect continuous police investigation work. They are a static snap-shot based on when the data is collected.

The definition of 'clear-up rate' can be found in [section 6.20](#).

### **3.4. Victims/complainers of racist incidents**

The victim/complainer is the person who perceived the incident to be racist and the complainer may not necessarily be the person(s) at whom the racist incident was targeted and hence they may have different characteristics (e.g. different ethnic background). Data on the characteristics of victims/complainers should therefore be treated with caution.

In 2013-14, where the ethnicity of the victim/complainer was known, those with a 'Pakistani' ethnic background were the most likely to be the victim/complainer of a racist incident recorded by the police with 224.2 victims/complainers per 10,000 population. This was followed by 'African, Caribbean or Other Black' with 189.9 victims/complainers recorded per 10,000 population. The Scottish average across all ethnic backgrounds was 10.6 victims/complainers per 10,000 population ([Table 8A](#)).

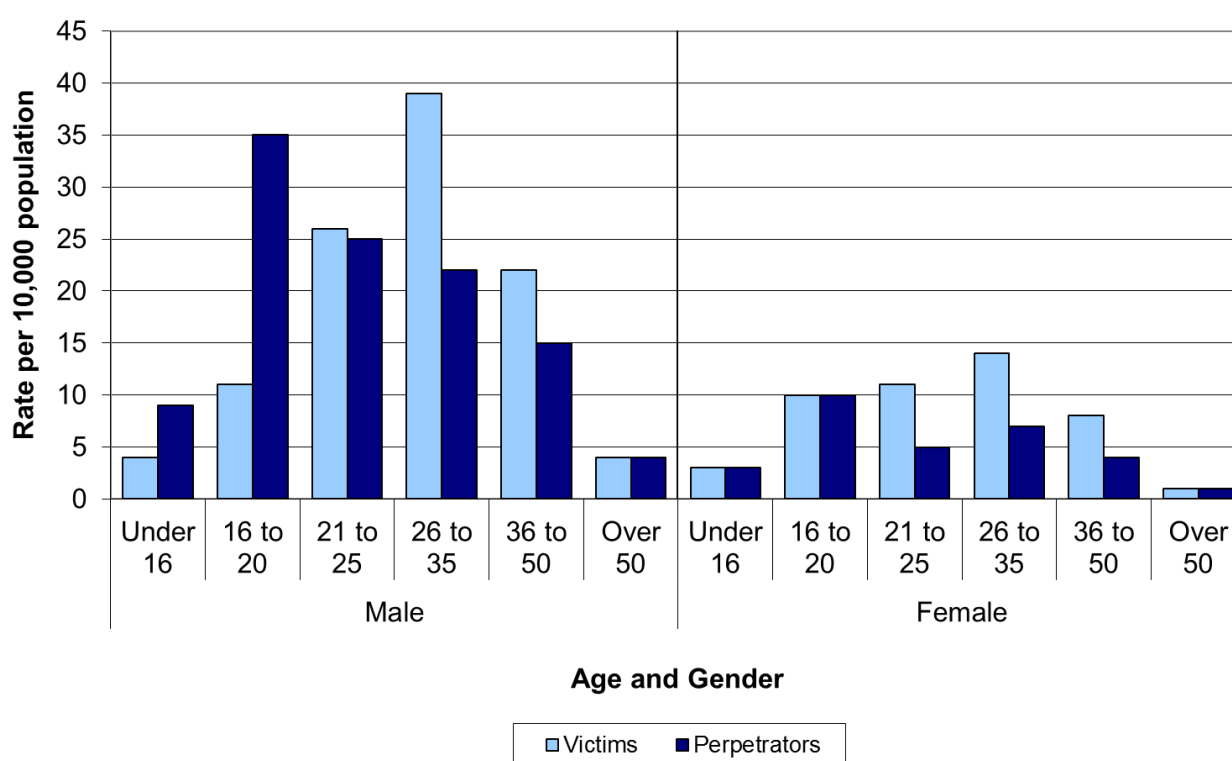
When looking at the proportions of victims/complainers, 27.2% were of a 'White British' ethnic background (which includes 'White Scottish' and 'White English'). 'Pakistani' ethnic background accounted for 21.2% of incidents, 'Other White' (which includes 'White Polish' and 'White Irish') accounted for 14.0% and 'African, Caribbean & Other Black' ethnic background accounted for 13.1% ([Table 8A](#)).

Seven legacy police forces (covering 57% of racist incidents in 2013-14) were able to provide a more detailed breakdown of ethnic background for victims/complainers. This limited breakdown shows that 'Scottish White' is the largest ethnic group amongst victims/complainers. Further details on this detailed ethnicity classifications can be found in [section 5.2](#) and [Table 8B](#).

Where age and gender were known, 70.2% of victims/complainers of racist incidents recorded in 2013-14 were male. This compares with 71.2% in 2012-13.

When looking at the rate of incidents per 10,000 population, males were more likely to be a victim/complainer of a racist incident with 14.5 victims/complainers per 10,000 population, compared to 5.8 victims/complainers per 10,000 population for females. Males aged 26-35 had the highest rate with 38.8 victims/complainers per 10,000 population, while the corresponding highest rate for females, also aged 26-35, was 14.0 victims/complainers per 10,000 population ([Chart 5](#) and [Table 10](#)).

**Chart 5: Rate per 10,000 population of victims/complainers\* and perpetrators of racist incidents, by age and gender of victim/complainer\*, Scotland, 2013-14**



\*The victim/complainer is the person who perceived the incident to be racist. The complainer may not necessarily be the person(s) at whom the racist incident was targeted. See [section 2.7](#) for more info.

In 2013-14, 68.1% of incidents had information on whether the victim/complainer had ever reported a previous racist incident or whether this was their first time of reporting a racist incident. More details on the areas which were able to provide this information is included in [section 6.29](#). Of the victims/complainers where information on repeat reporting is known, 71.1% were reporting a racist incident for the first time ([Table 11](#)).

### 3.5. Perpetrators of racist incidents

Information about perpetrators of racist incidents may only be fully available where the incident was resolved, and any crime involved has been cleared up (see [section 6.20](#) for definition of cleared up).

Where information on the ethnic group of perpetrators was available, in 2013-14, 90.4% of perpetrators were of 'White British' ethnic background (which includes 'White Scottish' and 'White English') and 4.9% of perpetrators were of an 'Other White' ethnic background (which includes 'White Polish' and 'White Irish') ([Table 12](#)). Further details on the ethnicity classifications used can be found in [sections 5.2](#).

Where age and gender was known, 13.2% of perpetrators in 2013-14 were under the age of 16 years. This is a decrease from 2012-13, when 20.8% of perpetrators were under the age of 16. As they were under the age of 16, they were therefore eligible for referral to the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) rather than the Procurator Fiscal ([Table 14](#)).

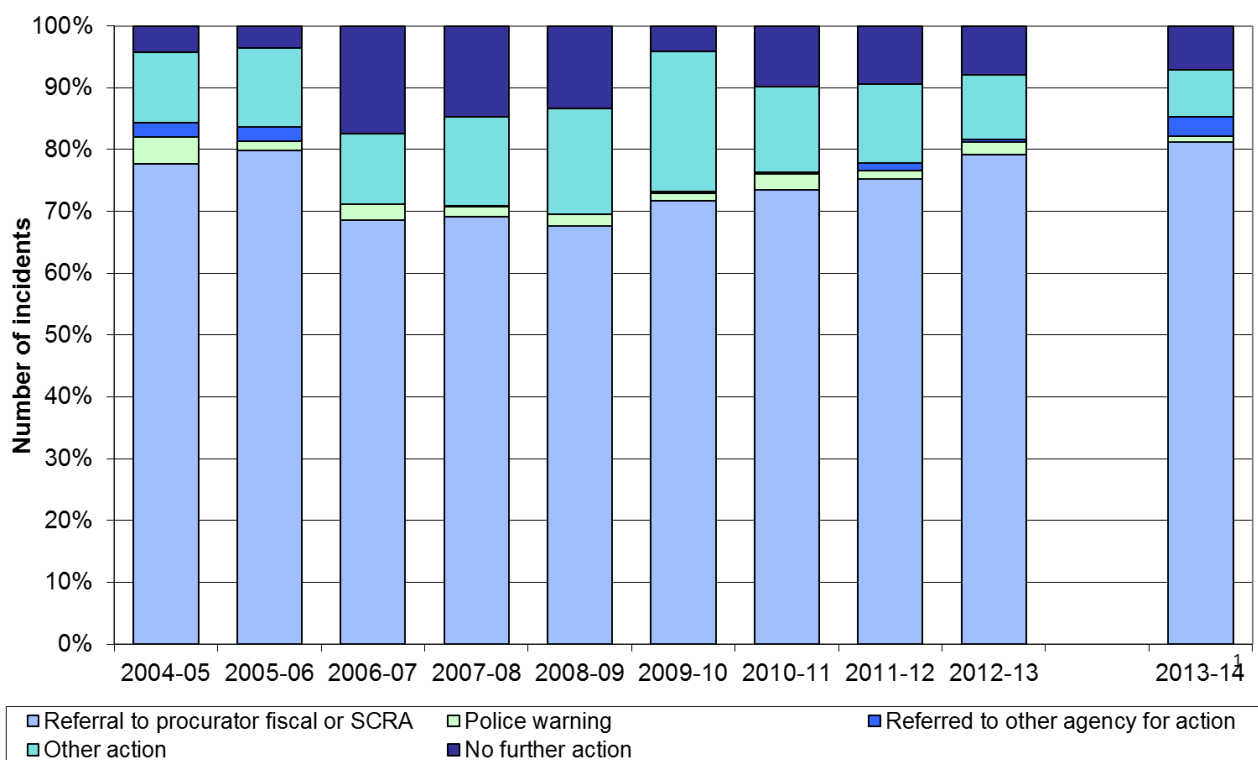
Males accounted for over three quarters (77.3%) of perpetrators of racist incidents recorded by the police in 2013-14. This has remained fairly stable for the past ten years with percentages fluctuating between 77.3% (recorded in 2013-14) to 79.6% (recorded in 2009-10) ([Table 14](#)).

When looking at the rate of incidents per 10,000 population, males were more likely to be a perpetrator of a racist incident with 13.0 perpetrators per 10,000 population, compared to 3.6 per 10,000 population for females. Males aged 16-20 had the highest rate with 35.2 perpetrators per 10,000 population, while the corresponding highest rate for females, also aged 16-20, was 10.0 perpetrators per 10,000 population ([Table 14](#)).

Where the action taken by the police was known, 81.3% of perpetrators in 2013-14 were referred to the Procurator Fiscal or SCRA. No further action was taken against 7.1% of perpetrators ([Table 15](#)).

Due to the delay in collecting the data for 2013-14 (see [section 2.6](#)), it is not possible to calculate how much of the increase in those referred to the Procurator Fiscal or SCRA between 2012-13 and 2013-14 is due to a real-terms increase, as opposed to Police Scotland having more time to investigate and analyse 2013-14 incidents before submitting data to the Scottish Government than for 2012-13 incidents ([Table 15](#)).

**Chart 6: Action taken against perpetrators of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14**

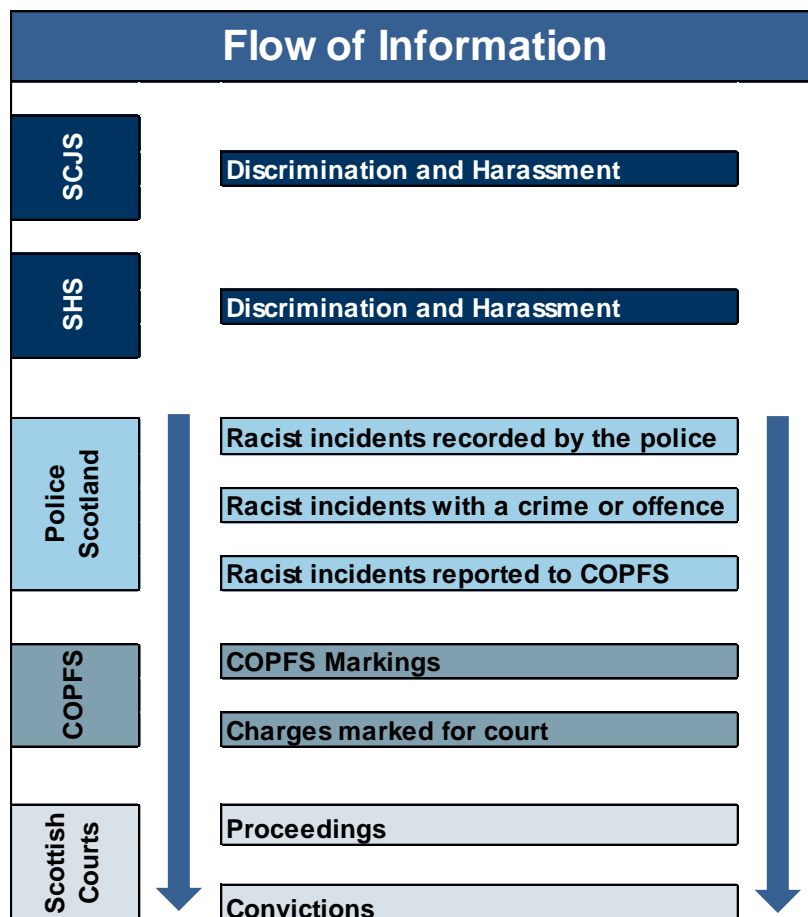


\* Due to the delay in collecting the data for 2013-14 (see [section 2.6](#)), care is urged when comparing across years.

## 4. Putting Racist Incidents in Context

4.1. There are a number of data sources which collect information on racist incidents in Scotland.

- The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) provides information on Harassment.
- The Scottish Household Survey (SHS) asks respondents if they have experienced any kind of discrimination or harassment.
- As detailed in this publication, Police Scotland record the number of racist incidents that are reported to them.
- The Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) publish information on Hate Crime, which includes information on race crime.
- The Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service has data on court proceedings and convictions.



- 4.2. The **Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS)** is a large-scale survey measuring people's experience and perceptions of crime in Scotland. The survey is currently conducted biennially and based on a representative sample of adults (aged 16 and over), living in private households in Scotland.

The SCJS asks respondents a series of questions on harassment including any incidents in which they may have been insulted, pestered or intimidated in any way. Those that had experienced being insulted, pestered or intimidated in any way were then asked what they thought it was motivated by.

Results from the survey can be accessed from the Scottish Government's website: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/crime-and-justice-survey/publications>

- 4.3. The **Scottish Household Survey (SHS)** is a continuous survey based on a sample of the general population in private residences in Scotland. The SHS is designed to provide reliable and up-to-date information on the composition, characteristics, attitudes and behaviour of private households and individuals. It covers a wide range of topics to allow links to be made between different policy areas.

The SHS asks respondents if, in the last three years, whilst in Scotland, they have experienced any kind of discrimination or harassment. Adults who had experienced harassment and discrimination were asked why they thought they had experienced it.

Results from the survey can be accessed from the Scottish Government's website: <http://www.gov.scot/SHS>

- 4.4. The **Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS)** publishes Official Statistics on the number of Hate Crime charges reported in Scotland on an annual basis. It includes charges related to racially aggravated harassment and behaviour and also other offences with a racial aggravation. Statistics, along with commentary are available on the COPFS website: <http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk/publications/equality-and-diversity>

- 4.5. The **Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service** publishes statistics through the Scottish Government on proceedings and convictions. More information on the statistics available are here: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/PubCriminalProceedings>



## 5. Tables

### 5.1. List of Tables

All tables can be accessed online via the following link:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/PubRacistIncidents>

[Table 1: Racist incidents recorded, by local authority area, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 2: Racist incidents recorded, by local authority area, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 3: Racist incidents recorded, by location of incident, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 4: Racist incidents recorded, by quarter, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 5: Racist incidents recorded, by day of week, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 6: Racist incidents recorded, by category of person making initial report, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 7A: Crimes recorded by the police as part of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 7B: Clear-up rate of crimes recorded by the police as part of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 8A: Ethnic group of victims/complainers of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 8B: Further breakdown of ethnic group of victims/complainers of racist incidents for selected legacy force areas in Scotland, 2013-14](#)

[Table 9: Main language of victims/complainers of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 10: Age and gender of victims/complainers of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 11: Number of previous incidents reported to police by victim/complainer, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 12: Ethnic group of perpetrators of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 13: Main language of perpetrators of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 14: Age and gender of perpetrators of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 15: Police action taken with regard to perpetrator, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 16: Total incidents, crimes, victims/complainers and perpetrators, by financial year, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

[Table 17: Scottish Population by Ethnic Group, Scotland, 2011](#)

[Table 18: Percentage of missing values for each variable, by financial year, 2004-05 to 2013-14](#)

**Table 1: Racist incidents recorded, by local authority area, 2004-05 to 2013-14 <sup>1</sup>**

Local Authority	2004-05			2005-06			2006-07			2007-08			2008-09			2009-10			2010-11			2011-12			2012-13			2013-14		
	Total Incidents	Incidents which involved one or more crimes	Total Crimes	Total Incidents	Incidents which involved one or more crimes	Total Crimes	Total Incidents	Incidents which involved one or more crimes	Total Crimes	Total Incidents	Incidents which involved one or more crimes	Total Crimes	Total Incidents	Incidents which involved one or more crimes	Total Crimes	Total Incidents	Incidents which involved one or more crimes	Total Crimes	Total Incidents	Incidents which involved one or more crimes	Total Crimes	Total Incidents	Incidents which involved one or more crimes	Total Crimes	Total Incidents	Incidents which involved one or more crimes	Total Crimes			
Aberdeen City	313	311	505	267	267	445	309	307	651	322	321	637	483	470	904	451	450	961	464	464	668	429	429	608	327	325	397	271	270	302
Aberdeenshire	86	86	131	75	75	146	88	88	157	31	31	45	107	106	137	90	90	108	90	90	143	96	96	121	80	79	94	59	59	67
Angus	46	46	46	66	66	66	55	55	55	50	50	50	65	65	65	45	45	50	49	49	57	55	55	64	32	32	33	45	45	45
Argyll & Bute	33	28	31	25	23	27	43	41	63	34	33	45	25	25	29	26	25	33	32	30	39	45	44	54	34	30	35	33	32	38
Clackmannanshire	50	49	61	49	48	83	58	57	81	58	58	92	53	53	78	41	41	59	35	35	47	68	67	86	52	52	59	41	41	44
Dumfries & Galloway	78	69	85	89	74	91	102	76	95	64	58	58	98	82	95	78	67	74	66	62	69	68	61	64	68	65	72	85	82	82
Dundee City	217	217	217	246	246	245	242	242	242	244	244	244	215	215	215	160	160	184	157	157	171	154	154	175	141	141	155	133	98	133
East Ayrshire	75	68	84	67	67	97	78	74	96	69	67	93	71	71	94	81	81	98	74	70	92	70	70	79	53	48	55	72	70	79
East Dunbartonshire	41	40	59	33	30	46	33	27	38	42	36	48	38	37	58	41	41	56	40	39	45	31	30	34	30	29	38	23	22	31
East Lothian	28	28	31	38	38	38	64	64	67	54	54	59	35	35	44	35	34	38	47	47	63	53	53	63	56	56	63	90	86	100
East Renfrewshire	48	40	46	55	52	69	40	34	46	33	29	34	36	34	41	40	33	40	43	42	56	48	47	56	21	18	23	26	24	27
Edinburgh, City of	599	599	671	972	972	982	1,179	1,179	1,198	1,021	1,021	1,103	822	822	996	898	895	1,051	844	844	1,075	1,017	1,017	1,204	916	916	1,051	934	905	1,096
Eilean Siar	18	17	30	12	12	13	8	7	10	10	10	17	11	11	11	6	6	6	3	2	3				2	2	2	2	2	2
Falkirk	160	158	247	182	182	278	167	165	261	171	171	270	215	215	321	124	124	191	152	152	182	151	147	186	160	157	175	138	130	145
Fife <sup>1</sup>	302	276	464	241	206	355	193	193	271	149	149	218	138	138	187	139	139	177	209	209	260	220	216	252	180	171	173	246	234	413
Glasgow City	1,226	1,105	1,521	1,277	1,195	1,683	1,209	1,120	1,556	1,301	1,176	1,677	1,256	1,212	1,535	1,318	1,287	1,649	1,328	1,269	1,652	1,499	1,473	1,820	1,220	1,135	1,379	1,232	1,177	1,421
Highland	97	91	172	107	107	120	107	105	126	122	120	161	123	123	124	81	80	81	68	58	81	94	77	81	100	91	91	80	67	81
Inverclyde	32	29	33	36	34	46	31	29	40	52	47	67	38	35	38	20	19	25	27	25	34	40	39	44	25	22	28	22	20	25
Midlothian	52	52	61	81	81	82	40	40	39	65	65	71	43	43	50	35	35	43	46	46	54	60	60	72	57	57	66	103	101	119
Moray	38	38	65	44	44	83	42	41	69	38	38	52	31	31	31	83	81	89	75	75	95	52	52	72	39	37	46	41	41	48
North Ayrshire	91	82	113	103	99	139	102	99	135	99	96	128	100	99	125	92	91	114	88	86	102	113	113	145	91	90	104	84	77	88
North Lanarkshire	181	166	224	207	189	265	234	224	292	282	268	385	249	236	308	252	245	326	220	214	266	205	200	238	188	180	219	202	184	206
Orkney Islands	4	4	6	4	4	5	3	3	3	5	5	5	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	4	6	8	8	8	8	6	6	3	3	3
Perth & Kinross	70	69	69	93	93	93	77	77	79	86	86	86	88	88	88	79	79	90	78	78	99	61	61	71	81	81	98	89	75	89
Renfrewshire	131	112	152	86	79	112	130	117	166	123	115	148	118	115	139	122	122	157	145	142	178	136	134	152	150	140	179	144	132	157
Scottish Borders	26	26	28	43	43	45	41	41	40	47	47	49	46	46	54	43	43	44	38	38	44	27	27	32	37	37	39	82	81	97
Shetland Islands	4	4	9	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3	2	2	2				3	3	4	5	5	5	9	9	9	9	7	9
South Ayrshire	42	39	53	64	62	82	45	44	57	63	62	80	53	51	71	77	77	95	50	48	60	62	62	77	47	46	51	55	51	62
South Lanarkshire	162	146	198	181	166	229	199	179	250	212	184	266	210	204	262	179	175	215	168	159	205	139	137	167	127	119	153	111	102	118
Stirling	70	70	94	124	124	210	132	126	183	107	107	160	113	113	167	102	101	154	91	91	108	113	109	131	101	98	110	86	83	88
West Dunbartonshire	90	84	106	82	79	105	69	63	84	86	80	111	95	93	124	73	73	88	69	66	83	90	89	103	52	48	60	57	49	61
West Lothian	109	109	122	158	158	159	197	197	199	204	204	211	166	166	222	147	147	172	108	108	132	180	180	208	144	144	165	209	203	244
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>4,258</b>	<b>5,734</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>4,920</b>	<b>6,444</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>5,119</b>	<b>6,654</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>5,035</b>	<b>6,673</b>	<b>5,145</b>	<b>5,038</b>	<b>6,617</b>	<b>4,960</b>	<b>4,888</b>	<b>6,470</b>	<b>4,911</b>	<b>4,802</b>	<b>6,173</b>	<b>5,389</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>6,472</b>	<b>4,628</b>	<b>4,461</b>	<b>5,228</b>	<b>4,807</b>	<b>4,553</b>	<b>5,520</b>

<sup>1</sup> A restructuring of recording methodology and data management arrangements in Fife Constabulary from April 2011 resulted in an increase in the number of racist incidents.

**Table 2: Racist incidents recorded, by local authority area, 2004-05 to 2013-14<sup>1,2</sup>**

Local Authority	Number & Rate per 10,000 population																			
	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14	
	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>2</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>2</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>2</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>2</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>2</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>2</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>2</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>2</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>2</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>2</sup>
Aberdeen City	313	15.1	267	12.8	309	14.7	322	15.2	483	22.6	451	20.8	464	21.1	429	19.3	327	14.5	271	11.9
Aberdeenshire	86	3.7	75	3.2	88	3.6	31	1.3	107	4.3	90	3.6	90	3.6	96	3.8	80	3.1	59	2.3
Angus	46	4.2	66	5.9	55	4.9	50	4.4	65	5.7	45	3.9	49	4.2	55	4.7	32	2.8	45	3.9
Argyll & Bute	33	3.6	25	2.8	43	4.7	34	3.7	25	2.8	26	2.9	32	3.6	45	5.1	34	3.9	33	3.7
Clackmannanshire	50	10.3	49	10.0	58	11.7	58	11.5	53	10.4	41	8.0	35	6.8	68	13.2	52	10.1	41	8.0
Dumfries & Galloway	78	5.2	89	5.9	102	6.8	64	4.3	98	6.5	78	5.2	66	4.4	68	4.5	68	4.5	85	5.7
Dundee City	217	15.2	246	17.1	242	16.9	244	17.0	215	14.9	160	11.0	157	10.7	154	10.5	141	9.5	133	9.0
East Ayrshire	75	6.2	67	5.6	78	6.5	69	5.7	71	5.8	81	6.6	74	6.0	70	5.7	53	4.3	72	5.9
East Dunbartonshire	41	3.8	33	3.1	33	3.1	42	4.0	38	3.6	41	3.9	40	3.8	31	3.0	30	2.8	23	2.2
East Lothian	28	3.0	38	4.1	64	6.8	54	5.7	35	3.6	35	3.6	47	4.7	53	5.3	56	5.6	90	8.9
East Renfrewshire	48	5.3	55	6.1	40	4.5	33	3.7	36	4.0	40	4.4	43	4.8	48	5.3	21	2.3	26	2.8
Edinburgh, City of	599	13.4	972	21.6	1,179	26.1	1,021	22.4	822	17.9	898	19.4	844	18.0	1,017	21.3	916	19.0	934	19.2
Eilean Siar	18	6.8	12	4.5	8	3.0	10	3.7	11	4.0	6	2.2	3	1.1	-	-	2	0.7	2	0.7
Falkirk	160	10.8	182	12.1	167	11.1	171	11.2	215	14.0	124	8.0	152	9.8	151	9.7	160	10.2	138	8.8
Fife <sup>1</sup>	302	8.6	241	6.8	193	5.4	149	4.2	138	3.8	139	3.8	209	5.8	220	6.0	180	4.9	246	6.7
Glasgow City	1,226	21.5	1,277	22.4	1,209	21.3	1,301	22.8	1,256	21.8	1,318	22.7	1,328	22.6	1,499	25.3	1,220	20.5	1,232	20.7
Highland	97	4.5	107	4.9	107	4.8	122	5.4	123	5.4	81	3.5	68	2.9	94	4.0	100	4.3	80	3.4
Inverclyde	32	3.9	36	4.4	31	3.8	52	6.3	38	4.6	20	2.4	27	3.3	40	4.9	25	3.1	22	2.7
Midlothian	52	6.5	81	10.1	40	5.0	65	8.1	43	5.3	35	4.3	46	5.6	60	7.2	57	6.8	103	12.2
Moray	38	4.3	44	4.9	42	4.6	38	4.2	31	3.3	83	8.9	75	8.0	52	5.6	39	4.2	41	4.3
North Ayrshire	91	6.7	103	7.5	102	7.5	99	7.2	100	7.3	92	6.7	88	6.4	113	8.2	91	6.6	84	6.1
North Lanarkshire	181	5.6	207	6.3	234	7.1	282	8.5	249	7.5	252	7.5	220	6.5	205	6.1	188	5.6	202	6.0
Orkney Islands	4	2.0	4	2.0	3	1.5	5	2.4	2	1.0	2	1.0	4	1.9	8	3.7	8	3.7	3	1.4
Perth & Kinross	70	5.1	93	6.7	77	5.5	86	6.1	88	6.1	79	5.5	78	5.4	61	4.2	81	5.5	89	6.0
Renfrewshire	131	7.6	86	5.0	130	7.6	123	7.2	118	6.8	122	7.1	145	8.3	136	7.8	150	8.6	144	8.3
Scottish Borders	26	2.4	43	3.9	41	3.7	47	4.2	46	4.1	43	3.8	38	3.3	27	2.4	37	3.3	82	7.2
Shetland Islands	4	1.8	5	2.2	5	2.3	3	1.3	2	0.9	-	-	3	1.3	5	2.2	9	3.9	9	3.9
South Ayrshire	42	3.8	64	5.7	45	4.0	63	5.6	53	4.7	77	6.8	50	4.4	62	5.5	47	4.2	55	4.9
South Lanarkshire	162	5.3	181	5.9	199	6.5	212	6.8	210	6.7	179	5.7	168	5.4	139	4.4	127	4.0	111	3.5
Stirling	70	8.1	124	14.2	132	15.0	107	12.1	113	12.8	102	11.5	91	10.2	113	12.5	101	11.1	86	9.4
West Dunbartonshire	90	9.8	82	9.0	69	7.5	86	9.4	95	10.4	73	8.0	69	7.6	90	9.9	52	5.8	57	6.3
West Lothian	109	6.7	158	9.6	197	11.8	204	12.0	166	9.7	147	8.5	108	6.2	180	10.3	144	8.2	209	11.9
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>5,145</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>4,960</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>4,911</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>5,389</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>4,628</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>4,807</b>	<b>9.0</b>

1. A restructuring of recording methodology and data management arrangements in Fife Constabulary from April 2011 resulted in an increase in the number of racist incidents.

2. Population estimates are as at mid-year from the National Records of Scotland (NRS) (<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>). NRS have announced discrepancies in the mid-year population estimates. See [section 6.35](#) for more details.

**Table 3: Racist incidents recorded, by location of incident, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14 <sup>1</sup>**

Location	Number & Percentage										
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 <sup>3</sup>	2009-10 <sup>3</sup>	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	% breakdown 2013-14
Dwelling house (including garden)	804	845	1,418	913	895	715	933	997	993	975	20.5
Street	1,396	1,763	1,818	1,626	1,652	1,240	1,623	1,801	1,469	1,707	36.0
Shop	1,101	1,145	823	1,121	718	677	834	919	779	641	13.5
Restaurant/Takeaway	388	449	353	389	369	317	390	331	265	242	5.1
Other Business	129	164	122	144	430	116	128	189	136	165	3.5
Public transport/bus stop	51	74	73	88	143	72	95	97	103	72	1.5
School/College	73	71	59	69	65	51	55	77	74	78	1.6
Sporting Venue	17	21	22	24	126	19	32	41	27	23	0.5
Pub/place of public entertainment	143	185	148	214	195	219	271	359	265	220	4.6
Place of Worship	12	28	19	31	13	11	15	21	11	13	0.3
Medical Establishment (e.g. hospital, health centre)	47	61	50	59	58	49	72	90	81	114	2.4
Other	358	305	417	566	468	331	463	389	378	496	10.5
Unknown	-	1	-	3	13	1,143	-	78	47	61	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>5,145</b>	<b>4,960</b>	<b>4,911</b>	<b>5,389</b>	<b>4,628</b>	<b>4,807</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

1. Due to a change in recording practice, the data for 2008-09 and 2009-10, contains abnormal data for several categories. Care should be taken when looking at the change from year to year.

**Table 4: Racist incidents recorded, by quarter, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14 <sup>1</sup>**

Quarter <sup>1</sup>	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
April to June	1,221	1,207	1,303	1,599	1,341	1,354	1,365	1,349	1,256	1,340
July to September	1,187	1,508	1,465	1,399	1,230	1,276	1,189	1,468	1,213	1,346
October to December	1,138	1,267	1,317	1,147	1,252	1,264	1,210	1,309	1,110	1,067
January to March	973	1,130	1,237	1,102	1,322	1,066	1,147	1,263	1,049	1,054
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>5,145</b>	<b>4,960</b>	<b>4,911</b>	<b>5,389</b>	<b>4,628</b>	<b>4,807</b>

1. Incidents with unknown day of recording are allocated to the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month they occurred. If the month is unknown as well, they are assigned to June

**Table 5: Racist incidents recorded, by day of week, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14 <sup>1</sup>**

Day <sup>1</sup>	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Monday	569	639	624	621	642	573	570	687	593	595
Tuesday	538	576	624	661	595	544	585	597	544	573
Wednesday	557	600	652	641	593	585	561	649	556	632
Thursday	571	629	628	635	631	629	626	631	566	552
Friday	789	915	892	859	855	792	739	869	678	737
Saturday	834	999	1,088	1,037	984	1,012	973	1,042	930	911
Sunday	661	754	814	793	845	825	857	914	761	807
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>5,145</b>	<b>4,960</b>	<b>4,911</b>	<b>5,389</b>	<b>4,628</b>	<b>4,807</b>

1. Incidents with unknown day of recording are allocated to the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month they occurred. If the month is unknown as well, they are assigned to June

**Table 6: Racist incidents recorded, by category of person making initial report, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14 <sup>1,2</sup>**

Reporter	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Victim/complainer <sup>1</sup>	3,833	4,391	4,373	3,987	3,737	2,867	2,778	2,800	2,353	3,156
Police	158	220	350	518	671	329	355	462	400	574
Third party agency report	31	74	38	50	73	80	67	68	52	57
Witness	282	213	331	404	419	356	453	574	459	483
Other	215	214	230	285	230	170	175	148	154	266
Unknown <sup>2</sup>	-	-	-	3	15	1,158	1,083	1,337	1,210	271
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>5,145</b>	<b>4,960</b>	<b>4,911</b>	<b>5,389</b>	<b>4,628</b>	<b>4,807</b>

1. The victim/complainer is the person who perceived the incident to be racist. The complainer may not necessarily be the person(s) at whom the racist incident was targeted. See [Section 2.7](#) for more.

2. The number of unknowns was higher between 2009-10 and 2012-13. Care should be taken when comparing across years.

**Table 7A: Crimes recorded by the police as part of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14 <sup>1</sup>**

Crimes recorded	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Crimes of violence and sexual offences	69	83	77	65	84	60	74	73	44	66
Crimes of dishonesty	62	67	83	73	72	91	48	52	40	28
Fire-raising, vandalism etc.	468	571	473	456	366	403	353	325	211	211
Other crimes	82	96	105	84	69	94	46	34	24	40
<b>Total offences - of which</b>	<b>5,053</b>	<b>5,627</b>	<b>5,916</b>	<b>5,989</b>	<b>6,026</b>	<b>5,822</b>	<b>5,652</b>	<b>5,988</b>	<b>4,909</b>	<b>5,175</b>
Common assault	750	876	908	812	739	884	848	803	608	678
Breach of the peace etc. <sup>1</sup>	915	795	859	1,066	1,125	829	820	1,201	1,285	1,551
Racially aggravated harassment	360	300	237	247	228	183	159	121	119	111
Racially aggravated conduct	2,969	3,583	3,808	3,778	3,815	3,801	3,683	3,658	2,694	2,639
Other offences	59	73	104	86	119	125	142	205	203	196
Unknown crimes/offences	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,734</b>	<b>6,444</b>	<b>6,654</b>	<b>6,673</b>	<b>6,617</b>	<b>6,470</b>	<b>6,173</b>	<b>6,472</b>	<b>5,228</b>	<b>5,520</b>

1. Breach of the Peace etc includes 'Breach of the peace', 'Threatening or abusive behaviour', 'Offence of stalking', 'Offensive behaviour at football and Threatening communications' (Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications Act 2012). See [sections 6.33](#) and [6.34](#).

**Table 7B: Clear-up rate of crimes recorded by the police as part of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14 <sup>1,2</sup>**

Crimes cleared up	Percentage									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Crimes of violence and sexual offences	49.3	33.7	48.1	55.4	61.9	70.0	68.9	72.6	72.7	45.5
Crimes of dishonesty	48.4	46.3	47.0	47.9	62.5	64.8	52.1	61.5	60.0	82.1
Fire-raising, vandalism etc.	33.3	31.9	38.1	36.4	35.2	47.1	36.8	37.5	43.1	48.8
Other crimes	81.7	81.3	89.5	84.5	85.5	93.6	89.1	85.3	100.0	100.0
<b>Total offences - of which</b>	<b>56.2</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>59.5</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>64.9</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>69.8</b>	<b>71.8</b>	<b>78.4</b>
Common assault	51.5	52.9	55.4	56.9	63.2	69.0	67.7	68.7	70.6	73.0
Breach of the peace etc. <sup>1</sup>	62.1	56.0	67.2	62.4	71.3	72.9	69.6	59.5	64.0	73.4
Racially aggravated harassment	56.9	46.0	57.0	57.1	60.5	62.8	67.3	62.0	73.9	80.2
Racially aggravated conduct	56.1	57.5	59.5	60.4	64.2	67.9	70.3	74.8	76.8	83.8
Other offences	23.7	31.5	38.5	29.1	46.2	60.8	44.4	50.7	57.1	61.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>58.2</b>	<b>58.2</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>67.5</b>	<b>67.2</b>	<b>68.3</b>	<b>70.7</b>	<b>77.0</b>

1. Breach of the Peace etc includes 'Breach of the peace', 'Threatening or abusive behaviour', 'Offence of stalking', 'Offensive behaviour at football and Threatening communications' (Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications Act 2012). See [sections 6.33](#) and [6.34](#).

2. Due to the delay in collecting the data for 2013-14 (see [section 2.6](#)), care is urged when comparing across years.

## 5.2. Ethnic Classifications

While recording ethnicity for the victim/complainer and the perpetrator, an individual is asked to 'self-declare' their ethnic background. Due to differences in recording systems used, not all areas within Police Scotland (or police forces for data prior to 2013-14) were able to provide consistent data.

The racist incidents data collection uses two classifications for ethnicity: a 13- group classification and a 21-group classification. In 2013-14, Strathclyde legacy force area, was the only area to use the old 13- group classification due to constraints with their legacy system. All other forces supplied the data in the 21- group classification.

Ethnic Classification used	
Legacy Police Force	2013-14
Central	21-group
Dumfries & Galloway	21-group
Fife	21-group
Grampian	21-group
Lothian & Borders	21-group
Northern	21-group
Strathclyde	13-group
Tayside	21-group

In order to compare ethnic classifications over the time period covered by the bulletin, the new 21- group ethnicity classification has been aggregated to match the old 13- group classification. The aggregation used is detailed below:

Group Number	Ethnic group	Group Number	Mapped to
1	White Scottish	1	White British
2	White English	1	White British
3	White Welsh	1	White British
4	White Northern Irish	1	White British
5	White British	1	White British
6	White Irish	2	White Irish
7	White Gypsy/Traveller	3	Other White background
8	White Polish	3	Other White background
9	Other White	3	Other White background
10	Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	4	Mixed
11	Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British	6	Pakistani
12	Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British	5	Indian
13	Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British	7	Bangladeshi
14	Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British	12	Chinese
15	Other Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British	8	Other Asian background
16	African, African Scottish or African British	10	African
17	Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British	9	Caribbean
18	Black, Black Scottish or Black British	11	Other Black Background
19	Other African, Caribbean or Black – please state	11	Other Black Background
20	Arab	13	Other
21	Other	13	Other

[Table 8A](#) in this bulletin presents ethnicity data for victims/complainers using this 13- group classification. Rates for 2013-14 have also been included in [Table 8A](#) with some categories grouped together to improve accuracy. [Table 8B](#), presents the data for the seven legacy forces who can supply the data in a 21- group classification format.

**Users are advised not to use this data as a proxy for Scotland.** Strathclyde legacy force area accounts for 43% (2,061) of all racist incidents in Scotland. Due to its population size, (42% of the Scottish population) and diverse ethnic breakdown of population, it is possible that inclusion of Strathclyde could alter this distribution considerably.

Over the five years from 2009-10 to 2013-14, legacy forces moved from the 13-group classification to a 21-group classification. During this transitional period, the distribution of incidents across the 13-group classification remained broadly consistent, however the distributions within the 21-group classification showed fluctuation for the individual White categories. It is likely that most of this fluctuation is due to changes in recording practice within legacy police forces and as such, data from 2012-13 and previous years, has not been included in [Table 8B](#).

[Table 12](#) presents data for perpetrators using a compressed 13-group classification in order to maintain disclosure principles and to provide meaningful data.



**Table 8A: Ethnic group of victims/complainers<sup>1</sup> of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>**

Ethnic Group <sup>2,3</sup>	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
White British	826	1,030	983	1,030	1,095	1,158	1,048	1,295	1,139	1,423
White Irish	63	91	139	121	124	87	131	95	75	70
Gypsy/Traveller, Polish White and Other White	130	122	414	477	509	534	546	700	706	663
Mixed	127	149	170	152	150	129	248	151	173	153
Pakistani	1,773	1,545	1,833	1,654	1,584	1,458	1,376	1,357	1,155	1,107
Indian	443	431	507	488	609	557	536	486	367	340
Bangladeshi	67	26	67	48	54	62	95	57	43	41
Chinese	151	153	183	117	152	127	110	153	84	95
Other Asian	508	984	532	559	505	497	503	520	395	405
African	321	325	404	443	478	505	416	539	476	452
Caribbean	92	171	59	53	59	46	46	35	24	88
Other Black	118	68	111	181	160	115	249	174	140	147
Other	295	379	339	290	290	323	335	327	227	246
Unknown	145	346	222	177	226	185	267	422	308	396
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,059</b>	<b>5,820</b>	<b>5,963</b>	<b>5,790</b>	<b>5,995</b>	<b>5,783</b>	<b>5,906</b>	<b>6,311</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>5,626</b>

Ethnic Group <sup>2,3</sup>	Number, Percentage & Rate		
	2013-14	% breakdown (where known) 2013-14	Rate per 10,000 population (2013-14) based on 2011 Census <sup>4</sup>
White British	1,423	27.2	2.9
White Irish, Gypsy/Traveller, Polish White and Other White	733	14.0	33.1
Pakistani	1,107	21.2	224.2
Indian	340	6.5	104.0
Bangladeshi, Chinese & Other Asian	541	10.3	92.3
African, Caribbean & Other Black	687	13.1	189.9
Mixed & Other	399	7.6	116.9
Unknown	396	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,626</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10.6</b>

1. The victim/complainer is the person who perceived the incident to be racist. The complainer may not necessarily be the person(s) at whom the racist incident was targeted. See [Section 2.7](#) for more.

2. See [Section 5.2](#) for further details on ethnic group classifications and a further breakdown for certain areas in Scotland is included in Table 8B.

3. From 2009-10 to 2013-14, legacy forces moved from a 13-group classification to a 21-group classification. During this transition period, a number of categories changed unexpectedly; especially around the 'Other White' and 'White British' categories. Caution is urged when comparing across years.

4. Population estimates taken from the 2011 Scottish Census published by NRS, [www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

**Table 8B: Further breakdown of ethnic group of victims/complainers of racist incidents for selected legacy force areas in Scotland, 2013-14** <sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>

Ethnic Group - 21-Group Classification	2013-14	
	Count	% break-down
Scottish White	535	19%
English White	166	6%
Welsh White	8	0%
Northern Irish White	20	1%
British White	148	5%
Irish White	32	1%
Gypsy/Traveller White	7	0%
Polish White	265	9%
Other White	229	8%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	72	3%
Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British	457	16%
Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British	136	5%
Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British	38	1%
Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British	56	2%
Other Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British	228	8%
African, African Scottish or African British	221	8%
Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British	81	3%
Black, Black Scottish or Black British	38	1%
Other African, Caribbean or Black – please state	11	0%
Arab, Arab Scottish, Arab British	42	1%
Other	58	2%
Unknown	376	-
<b>Total for selected areas in Scotland</b>	<b>3,224</b>	<b>100%</b>

1. Data covers legacy force areas of Central, Dumfries & Galloway, Fife, Grampian, Lothian & Borders, Northern and Tayside. Strathclyde data is not included.

2. **Users are advised not to use this data as a proxy for Scotland.** Strathclyde legacy force area accounts for 43% (2,061) of all racist incidents in Scotland. Due to its population size, (42% of the Scottish population) and diverse ethnic breakdown of population, it is possible that inclusion of Strathclyde could alter this distribution considerably.

3. The victim/complainer is the person who perceived the incident to be racist. The complainer may not necessarily be the person(s) at whom the racist incident was targeted. See [Section 2.7](#) for more.

4. Data from previous years is not included due to comparability issues brought about by any changes in police recording.

5. See [Section 5.2](#) for further details on ethnic group classifications

**Table 9: Main language of victims/complainers<sup>1</sup> of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14<sup>1,2</sup>**

Language	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
English	4,238	4,770	5,058	3,880	3,846	3,559	3,399	4,022	3,263	3,494
Other	652	728	637	1,562	806	505	498	510	375	354
Unknown <sup>2</sup>	169	322	268	348	1,343	1,719	2,009	1,779	1,674	1,778
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,059</b>	<b>5,820</b>	<b>5,963</b>	<b>5,790</b>	<b>5,995</b>	<b>5,783</b>	<b>5,906</b>	<b>6,311</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>5,626</b>

1. The victim/complainer is the person who perceived the incident to be racist. The complainer may not necessarily be the person(s) at whom the racist incident was targeted. See [Section 2.7](#) for more.

2. The number of unknowns was higher from 2008-09 onwards. Care should be taken when comparing across years

**Table 10: Age and gender of victims/complainers<sup>2</sup> of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14<sup>1,2</sup>**

Gender	Age	Number & Rate per 10,000 population										Rate per 10,000 population (2013-14)
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	
Male	Under 16	198	218	269	172	217	211	229	220	184	188	4.0
	16 to 20	279	332	346	306	288	285	286	277	169	187	11.3
	21 to 25	482	525	664	634	688	649	615	637	490	488	26.3
	26 to 35	1,172	1,286	1,413	1,315	1,484	1,450	1,545	1,566	1,366	1,295	38.8
	36 to 50	1,124	1,285	1,207	1,267	1,328	1,210	1,216	1,294	1,073	1,192	21.9
	Over 50	356	346	313	369	341	330	346	420	300	395	4.4
	<b>Total Male</b>	<b>3,611</b>	<b>3,992</b>	<b>4,212</b>	<b>4,063</b>	<b>4,346</b>	<b>4,135</b>	<b>4,237</b>	<b>4,414</b>	<b>3,582</b>	<b>3,745</b>	<b>14.5</b>
Female	Under 16	116	135	200	115	126	115	153	133	111	127	2.9
	16 to 20	96	109	140	128	108	128	126	116	132	154	9.6
	21 to 25	165	188	182	203	199	168	183	238	169	199	10.7
	26 to 35	364	416	383	427	391	427	398	485	462	484	14.0
	36 to 50	363	455	415	412	413	427	444	475	454	478	8.3
	Over 50	111	105	108	91	115	128	118	106	124	146	1.4
	<b>Total Female</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>1,408</b>	<b>1,428</b>	<b>1,376</b>	<b>1,352</b>	<b>1,393</b>	<b>1,422</b>	<b>1,553</b>	<b>1,452</b>	<b>1,588</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Unknown gender/age	233	420	323	351	297	255	247	344	278	293		
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,059</b>	<b>5,820</b>	<b>5,963</b>	<b>5,790</b>	<b>5,995</b>	<b>5,783</b>	<b>5,906</b>	<b>6,311</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>5,626</b>	<b>10.6</b>

1. Population estimates are as at mid-year from the National Records of Scotland (NRS) (<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>). NRS have announced discrepancies in the mid-year population estimates. See [section 6.35](#) for more details.

2. The victim/complainer is the person who perceived the incident to be racist. The complainer may not necessarily be the person(s) at whom the racist incident was targeted. See [Section 2.7](#) for more.

**Table 11: Number of previous incidents<sup>2</sup> reported to police by victim/complainer<sup>1</sup>, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14<sup>1,2,3</sup>**

Number of incidents											Number
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13		2013-14
None - first report	3,543	4,157	4,350	3,918	4,043	3,910	3,959	4,073	3,460		2,725
1	447	508	517	475	544	541	518	542	441		398
2	216	241	245	250	240	253	218	255	196		166
3	121	132	130	143	152	151	134	142	97		102
4	73	96	74	91	97	79	77	77	70		81
5	52	61	49	66	69	75	53	54	54		57
6	47	47	49	34	42	53	37	35	33		33
7	32	34	36	19	27	41	37	34	24		27
8	24	21	31	21	24	28	37	27	16		21
9	20	20	24	16	19	22	22	19	12		18
10 or more	110	105	150	136	172	124	126	158	95		86
Repeat incidents but number unknown	288	250	286	602	542	405	367	512	451		120
Unknown <sup>3</sup>	86	148	22	19	24	101	321	383	363		1,792
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,059</b>	<b>5,820</b>	<b>5,963</b>	<b>5,790</b>	<b>5,995</b>	<b>5,783</b>	<b>5,906</b>	<b>6,311</b>	<b>5,312</b>		<b>5,626</b>

1. The victim/complainer is the person who perceived the incident to be racist. The complainer may not necessarily be the person(s) at whom the racist incident was targeted. See [Section 2.7](#) for more.

2. Previous incidents occurring within the previous two years.

3. Data for 2013-14, has a far larger number of unknowns and therefore caution is urged when comparing across years – see [section 6.29](#) for more details

**Table 12: Ethnic group of perpetrators of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>**

	Number									
Ethnic Group <sup>1,2</sup>	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
White British	3,060	3,743	4,320	4,281	4,161	4,219	4,183	4,075	3,498	3,844
White Irish	16	32	32	58	43	36	71	38	22	19
Gypsy/Traveller, Polish White and Other White	19	20	101	61	104	125	661	538	552	189
Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese and Other Asian	73	106	132	100	117	99	99	145	103	96
African, Caribbean & Other Black	25	27	69	48	38	46	64	48	55	51
Mixed & Other	53	36	24	30	50	43	47	44	47	53
Unknown	75	136	404	435	934	936	437	393	264	357
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,321</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>5,082</b>	<b>5,013</b>	<b>5,447</b>	<b>5,504</b>	<b>5,562</b>	<b>5,281</b>	<b>4,541</b>	<b>4,609</b>

Number, Percentage & Rate			
Ethnic Group <sup>1,2</sup>	2013-14	% breakdown (where known) 2013-14	Rate per 10,000 population (2013-14) based on 2011 Census <sup>3</sup>
White British	3,844	90.4	7.9
White Irish, Gypsy/Traveller, Polish White and Other White	208	4.9	9.4
Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese and Other Asian	96	2.3	6.8
African, Caribbean & Other Black	51	1.2	14.1
Mixed & Other	53	1.2	15.5
Unknown	357	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,609</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8.7</b>

1. See [Section 5.2](#) for further details on ethnic group classifications.

2. From 2009-10 to 2013-14, legacy forces moved from a 13-group classification to a 21-group classification. During this transition period, a number of categories changed unexpectedly; especially around the 'Other White' and 'White British' categories. Caution is urged when comparing across years.

3. This table presents data for perpetrators using a compressed 13-group classification in order to maintain disclosure principles and to provide meaningful data.

4. Population estimates taken from the 2011 Scottish Census published by NRS, [www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

**Table 13: Main language of perpetrators of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14 <sup>1</sup>**

Language	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
English	3,175	3,988	4,651	4,607	3,463	3,154	3,372	3,516	3,045	3,821
Other	56	20	38	56	45	31	46	45	40	47
Unknown <sup>1</sup>	90	92	393	350	1,939	2,319	2,144	1,720	1,456	741
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,321</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>5,082</b>	<b>5,013</b>	<b>5,447</b>	<b>5,504</b>	<b>5,562</b>	<b>5,281</b>	<b>4,541</b>	<b>4,609</b>

1. The number of unknowns was higher from 2008-09 onwards. Care should be taken when comparing across years.

**Table 14: Age and gender of perpetrators of racist incidents, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14 <sup>1</sup>**

		Number & Rate per 10,000 population										
Gender	Age	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>1</sup> (2013-14)
Male	Under 16	591	694	934	791	864	913	900	762	681	439	9.4
	16 to 20	643	939	911	841	939	1,016	970	765	567	583	35.2
	21 to 25	341	401	465	501	561	580	586	585	469	456	24.6
	26 to 35	435	489	612	564	666	659	679	735	661	732	21.9
	36 to 50	384	464	592	619	626	704	682	708	618	790	14.5
	Over 50	121	121	202	223	222	203	238	278	283	358	4.0
	<b>Total Male</b>		<b>2,515</b>	<b>3,108</b>	<b>3,716</b>	<b>3,539</b>	<b>3,878</b>	<b>4,075</b>	<b>4,055</b>	<b>3,833</b>	<b>3,279</b>	<b>3,358</b>
Female	Under 16	162	286	303	228	263	254	288	258	206	135	3.0
	16 to 20	112	174	223	186	206	209	177	161	137	160	10.0
	21 to 25	67	78	83	100	112	115	130	143	139	100	5.4
	26 to 35	158	130	145	174	162	179	192	206	202	238	6.9
	36 to 50	132	158	189	191	205	214	213	229	225	249	4.3
	Over 50	31	42	50	55	70	73	57	78	81	102	1.0
	<b>Total Female</b>		<b>662</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>1,044</b>	<b>1,057</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>984</b>
Unknown gender/age		144	124	373	540	551	385	450	373	272	267	
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,321</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>5,082</b>	<b>5,013</b>	<b>5,447</b>	<b>5,504</b>	<b>5,562</b>	<b>5,281</b>	<b>4,541</b>	<b>4,609</b>	<b>8.7</b>

1. Population estimates are as at mid-year from the National Records of Scotland (NRS) (<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>). NRS have announced discrepancies in the mid-year population estimates. See [section 6.35](#) for more details.

**Table 15: Police action taken with regard to perpetrator, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14 <sup>1,2</sup>**

Action taken											Number
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13		2013-14
Referral to Procurator Fiscal or SCRA	2,512	3,181	3,353	3,446	3,652	2,477	2,699	2,846	2,570		3,653
Police warning	141	62	123	82	101	44	91	52	64		37
Referred to other agency for action	74	92	2	9	5	8	13	49	14		146
Other action	370	509	553	716	922	787	509	479	337		340
No further action	138	141	854	731	721	141	359	358	258		318
Unknown <sup>1</sup>	86	115	197	29	46	2,047	1,891	1,497	1,298		115
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,321</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>5,082</b>	<b>5,013</b>	<b>5,447</b>	<b>5,504</b>	<b>5,562</b>	<b>5,281</b>	<b>4,541</b>		<b>4,609</b>

1. The number of unknowns was higher from 2008-09 onwards. Care should be taken when comparing across years

2. Due to the delay in collecting the data for 2013-14 (see [section 2.6](#)), care is urged when comparing across years.

## 6. Annexes

### Annex 1: Data Sources and Definitions

#### Background

- 6.1. In response to the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry in 1999, the then Scottish Executive produced an action plan to progress the recommendations set out in the MacPherson report, which included the setting up of a statistical collection covering racist incidents.
- 6.2. The definition of a racist incident used by Police Scotland is as given by Sir William MacPherson in his report on the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry:

**‘A racist incident is any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person.’**

#### Data Collection:

- 6.3. The racist incident data collection is four separate datasets, linked by a unique incident reference number. In any one racist incident:
- One or more victims/complainers may be involved
  - There may be one or more perpetrators
  - There may be no criminal element, or one or more crimes may be recorded by the police.

For example, one incident may have two perpetrators committing racially aggravated harassment against one victim/complainer.

- 6.4. [Table 16](#) shows the total number of incidents, crimes, victims/complainers and perpetrators recorded by the police and supplied as part of the data collection.

**Table 16: Total incidents, crimes, victims/complainers and perpetrators, by financial year, 2004-05 to 2013-14**

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Incidents	4,519	5,112	5,322	5,247	5,145	4,960	4,911	5,389	4,628	4,807
Crimes	5,734	6,444	6,654	6,673	6,617	6,470	6,173	6,472	5,228	5,520
Victims/Complainers	5,059	5,820	5,963	5,790	5,995	5,783	5,906	6,311	5,312	5,626
Perpetrators	3,321	4,100	5,082	5,013	5,447	5,504	5,562	5,281	4,541	4,609

- 6.5. More information on the method and timing of the collection is included in [Section 2](#) of this publication.



- 6.6. The main Scottish Government Statement of Administrative Sources covers all sources of administrative data used by Scottish Government statisticians. This statement can be found on the Scottish Government website at: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/StatementAdminSources>.
- 6.7. A separate statement of administrative sources is available for police statistics via the following link: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/AdminSourcesPolice>

### **Police Scotland Quarterly Management Information Reports:**

- 6.8. Police Scotland publishes management information on the number of 'Racially aggravated harassment/conduct' offences. This is presented within their Quarterly Management Information Reports, which are available from the 'Our Performance' section of Police Scotland's website: <http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/our-performance/>.
- 6.9. These reports are produced to demonstrate Police Scotland's commitment to transparency (alongside other regular reporting activity to the Scottish Police Authority). The information within these reports is presented on a cumulative quarterly basis, with the first quarter of a reporting year containing 3 months of data (from April to June), the second containing 6 months of data (from April to September) etc. The reports are typically published within 2 months of the period to which they refer.
- 6.10. The Quarterly Management Information Reports make clear to users that the data they contain is Management Information that is available to Police Scotland at that time and not the Official Statistics. The annual Official Statistics published by the Scottish Government on racist incidents are based on data taken from different police systems and have undergone further quality assurance work, including additional dialogue with Police Scotland, in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

### **Data Definitions:**

- 6.11. **Incident** - an incident is any communication by whatever means about a matter which comes to the attention of the police and which they may be required to act upon.
- 6.12. **Crime** - an act committed in violation of the law (common law or statute). Any single incident may include a number of crimes, or there might be no criminal element.

6.13. **Victim/complainer** - the individual who perceived the incident to be racist. In any incident, there could be one or more victims/complainers, and in some cases, no victim/complainer.

Note that the victim/complainer may not necessarily be the person at whom the racially aggravated behaviour was targeted. For clarity, 'victim/complainer' has been referred to throughout the bulletin to reflect the fact that a victim or any other person can perceive an incident to be racist

6.14. **Perpetrator** – the person who was deemed responsible for the incident. In any incident, there could be one or more perpetrators

6.15. **Assault** - In Scotland, assault is a common law offence. In order to distinguish between serious and common assaults, Police Scotland use a common definition for serious assault as outlined in the Scottish Crime Recording Standard:

*"An assault or attack in which the victim sustains injury resulting in detention in hospital as an inpatient, for the treatment of that injury, or any of the following injuries whether or not detained in hospital:*

- *Fractures (the breaking or cracking of a bone. Note - nose is cartilage not bone, so a 'broken nose' should not be classified unless it meets one of the other criteria)*
- *Internal injuries*
- *Severe concussion*
- *Lacerations requiring sutures which may lead to impairment or disfigurement*
- *Any other injury which may lead to impairment or disfigurement."*

6.16. **Racially-aggravated** - the offender asserts towards the person affected, malice and ill-will based on that person's membership (or presumed membership) of a racial group; or the course of conduct or action is motivated (wholly or partly) by malice and ill-will towards members of a racial group based on their membership of that group

**Racially-aggravated harassment** - a racially-aggravated course of conduct, amounting to harassment

**Racially-aggravated conduct** - to act in a manner, including speech, which is racially aggravated and which causes, or is intended to cause, a person alarm or distress.

## Recording Crimes & Offences:

- 6.17. These statistics do not reveal all racist incidents in Scotland. Not all incidents are reported to the police. The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) 2012-13 estimated that 39% of all crimes, as defined by the SCJS, were reported to the police. The reasons most commonly given by victims for not reporting to the police were that the police would not have been able to do anything (37%), that the incident was considered by them to be too trivial (36%) or that the police would not have been interested (15%).
- 6.18. Contraventions of Scottish criminal law are divided for statistical purposes into crimes and offences. "Crime" is generally used for the more serious criminal acts; the less serious termed "offences", although the term "offence" may also be used in relation to serious breaches of criminal law. The distinction is made only for working purposes and the "seriousness" of the offence is generally related to the maximum sentence that can be imposed.
- 6.19. The detailed classification of crimes and offences used by The Scottish Government to collect criminal statistics contains approximately 475 crime codes. These are grouped in the bulletin as shown in [Annex 9](#).

## Crimes and Offences Cleared Up:

- 6.20. The definition of "cleared up" is noted below. This definition came into force with effect from 1 April 1996 and is detailed in the Scottish Crime Recording Standard:

*A crime or offence is regarded as cleared up where there exists a sufficiency of evidence under Scots law, to justify consideration of criminal proceedings notwithstanding that a report is not submitted to the procurator fiscal because either:*

*(i) by standing agreement with the procurator fiscal, the police warn the accused due to the minor nature of the offence, or*

*(ii) reporting is inappropriate due to the non-age of the accused, death of the accused or other similar circumstances.*

- 6.21. In Scots law, the confession of an accused person to a crime would not in general be sufficient to allow a prosecution to be taken, as corroborative evidence is required. Thus, a case cannot be regarded as "cleared up" on the basis of a confession alone. In some cases there is sufficient evidence but a prosecution cannot be brought, for example, because the accused has left the country. In such cases, the offender is said to have been traced and the crime is regarded as cleared up. The other terms in the definition describe the various actions that must be taken by the police against offenders.
- 6.22. As highlighted in [Section 2.6](#), the delay in collection of the 2013-14 data, may have an effect on the clear-up rates highlighted in this bulletin.

6.23. Percentages of crimes cleared up in this publication are, in general, not comparable to clear-up rates published in the [Recorded Crime in Scotland](#) statistical bulletin. This is because, in the Recorded Crime in Scotland bulletin, the clear-up rate is based on the total number of crimes cleared up in 2013-14 and hence includes crimes cleared-up that were recorded in previous years.

## Ethnic Classifications

6.24. It is important when considering ethnicity to remember that ethnic minorities are not evenly spread throughout the country. [Table 17](#), taken from the 2011 Scottish Census, shows that the city authorities have a more diverse population.

**Table 17: Scottish Population by Ethnic Group, Scotland, 2011<sup>1,2</sup>**

Local Authority	Percentage							Scotland
	White British	White Irish, Gypsy/Traveller, Polish White and Other White	Pakistani	Indian	Bangladeshi, Chinese & Other Asian	African, Caribbean & Other Black	Mixed & Other	
Aberdeen City	82.9%	9.0%	0.5%	1.5%	2.3%	2.5%	1.3%	100%
Aberdeenshire	94.5%	4.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%	100%
Angus	95.9%	2.8%	0.2%	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%	100%
Argyll & Bute	95.5%	3.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%	0.4%	100%
Clackmannanshire	95.7%	2.8%	0.6%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	100%
Dumfries & Galloway	96.5%	2.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	0.4%	100%
Dundee City	89.4%	4.7%	1.4%	1.0%	1.6%	1.0%	1.0%	100%
East Ayrshire	97.5%	1.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	0.3%	100%
East Dunbartonshire	93.4%	2.4%	0.7%	1.5%	1.1%	0.2%	0.7%	100%
East Lothian	94.9%	3.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	100%
East Renfrewshire	91.1%	3.0%	3.1%	1.2%	0.8%	0.2%	0.7%	100%
Edinburgh, City of	82.1%	9.7%	1.2%	1.4%	2.9%	1.2%	1.6%	100%
Eilean Siar	97.4%	1.7%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%	100%
Falkirk	95.8%	2.3%	0.7%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%	100%
Fife	94.3%	3.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.8%	0.3%	0.5%	100%
Glasgow City	82.7%	5.8%	3.8%	1.5%	2.8%	2.4%	1.1%	100%
Highland	94.6%	4.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.4%	100%
Inverclyde	96.8%	1.8%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%	100%
Midlothian	95.8%	2.5%	0.4%	0.2%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	100%
Moray	95.7%	3.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%	100%
North Ayrshire	97.2%	1.7%	0.1%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	0.3%	100%
North Lanarkshire	95.1%	2.8%	0.9%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%	100%
Orkney Islands	97.1%	2.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	100%
Perth & Kinross	93.1%	4.9%	0.2%	0.4%	0.6%	0.3%	0.5%	100%
Renfrewshire	94.6%	2.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	100%
Scottish Borders	95.2%	3.5%	0.1%	0.2%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	100%
Shetland Islands	94.9%	3.6%	0.2%	0.1%	0.7%	0.1%	0.4%	100%
South Ayrshire	96.5%	2.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	0.3%	100%
South Lanarkshire	95.5%	2.3%	0.7%	0.4%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%	100%
Stirling	92.8%	4.1%	0.3%	0.4%	1.6%	0.3%	0.6%	100%
West Dunbartonshire	96.1%	2.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	100%
West Lothian	93.7%	3.9%	0.8%	0.4%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%	100%
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>91.8%</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>100%</b>

1. Population taken from the 2011 Scottish Census published by NRS, [www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

2. Table with counts available on website - <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/PubRacistIncidents>

## Annex 2: Quality of the Statistics

### Reporting and Quality Assurance of Racist Incidents Recorded by the police:

- 6.25. Police Scotland’s Annual Police Plan has racist abuse (and Hate Crime specifically) as a high priority. The plan can be obtained from the Police Scotland website:  
<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/police-scotland/strategic-planning/>
- 6.26. The data provided by Police Scotland go through a process of quality assurance in which data received are checked against previous years and comparable sources. Anything unusual or which we feel requires further explanation is then fed back to Police Scotland for their attention. Any amendments are carried out and the final data is used to produce a set of data tables which can be used to check the final dataset. If the police are content that the figures are an accurate reflection of the dataset, then the data is officially signed off for use in the publication.
- 6.27. During the quality assurance checking process, it is possible for errors to be found in data for previous years. While we do not routinely revise figures, we are committed to correcting errors in the data and providing suitable explanations for any changes made to previously published data.
- 6.28. Police Scotland record complete information for all incidents. There is however a challenge in retrieving and linking the captured information to meet the specific data requirements for this publication. As a result some values for key variables are marked ‘missing’ or ‘unknown’. The percentage of racist incidents where information is recorded as missing or unknown is contained below. Missing data has been analysed where possible to look for trends and patterns that would affect the quality of the statistics in this bulletin.

**Table 18: Percentage of missing values for each variable, by financial year, 2004-05 to 2013-14**

	Variable	Percentage of Missing									
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Incidents	Location of Incident	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	23.0%	0.0%	1.4%	1.0%	1.3%
	Person making initial report	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	23.3%	22.1%	24.8%	26.1%	5.6%
Crimes	Crimes recorded	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Victim/ complainer	Ethnic group of victim/complainer	2.9%	5.9%	3.7%	3.1%	3.8%	3.2%	4.5%	6.7%	5.8%	7.0%
	Launguage of victim/complainer	3.3%	5.5%	4.5%	6.0%	22.4%	29.7%	34.0%	28.2%	31.5%	31.6%
	Gender/Age of victim/complainer	4.6%	7.2%	5.4%	6.1%	5.0%	4.4%	4.2%	5.5%	5.2%	5.2%
	No. of previously reported incidents by victim/complainer	1.7%	2.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	1.7%	5.4%	6.1%	6.8%	31.9%
Perpetrator	Ethnic group of perpetrator	2.3%	3.3%	7.9%	8.7%	17.1%	17.0%	7.9%	7.4%	5.8%	7.7%
	Launguage of perpetrator	2.7%	2.2%	7.7%	7.0%	35.6%	42.1%	38.5%	32.6%	32.1%	16.1%
	Gender/Age of perpetrator	4.3%	3.0%	7.3%	10.8%	10.1%	7.0%	8.1%	7.1%	6.0%	5.8%
	Action taken by Police	2.6%	2.8%	3.9%	0.6%	0.8%	37.2%	34.0%	28.3%	28.6%	2.5%

- 6.29. Only 68.1% of records in 2013-14 contained information on the number of repeat racist incidents that the victim/complainer has raised with the police. A large proportion of records from Lothian & Borders, Dumfries & Galloway, Central and Grampian legacy forces were unable to be supplied with this information. As a result, care should be taken when comparing across years in [Table 11](#).
- 6.30. A number of other variables are affected by missing data over the past ten years for various reasons. Footnotes for each table contain information for users when making comparisons across years.
- 6.31. Throughout 2013-14, Police Scotland rolled out the iVPD (interim Vulnerable Person Database) to the 14 Police Divisions in Scotland. This new national database will collect racist (and other hate crime) incidents for 2014-15 onwards. See [Annex 7: Future Considerations](#) for more information.

### **Changes in Methodology & Legislation**

- 6.32. There have been no major legislative changes throughout 2013-14 which impact on the comparability of the statistics.
- 6.33. Threatening or abusive behaviour and Stalking were introduced on 6 October 2010 when the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 was implemented. These offences are included in the 'Breach of the peace etc.' category
- 6.34. Offensive behaviour at football and threatening communication crimes were introduced when the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications Act 2012 was implemented on 1 March 2012. These offences are included in the 'Breach of the peace etc.' category

### **Mid-year Population Estimates**

- 6.35. The Mid-year estimates used in this publication to calculate the rates per 10,000 population were obtained from the National Records of Scotland (NRS). NRS have recently alerted users to errors contained within the age groups for 2002 to 2014. These errors will be corrected by NRS in April 2016. The errors discovered are small and as such, the overall impact on the data in this publication will be minimal. Further information on the errors found are documented on the NRS website:  
<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population>

## **Annex 3: Auditing of Data by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS)**

### **HMICS Crime Audit 2014**

- 6.36. Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland have conducted and, in November 2014, published, a thorough audit of police recorded crime data. They tested the accuracy of crime recording through an audit of records recorded between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014. In deciding which records to audit, HMICS took several factors into account including areas identified as weak in previous audits, areas of high risk or emerging concern, and national and local policing priorities. HMICS audited records in six categories, one of which was Hate Crime.
- 6.37. The Crime Audit 2014 was the largest audit into crime recording undertaken by HMICS to date, and shows that the reform of Scottish policing has provided new opportunities for greater consistency.
- 6.38. It should be made clear that the audit was carried out on a range of different Hate Crimes and as such, only provides an indication of the quality of recording of racist incidents by the police. It also provides no assurances that racist incidents, once recorded by the police, are successfully captured by the racist incidents data collection that provides the data for this publication.
- 6.39. In this detailed audit, HMICS confirmed that:
- “The recording of hate crime was excellent and achieved the highest compliance rate of 97% in our audit. However, a recurring issue with regards to the classification of some hate crime should be addressed.”*
- ...
- “This may reflect the fact that Police Scotland has set hate crime as one of its high priorities and has designated confidence in reporting hate crime as one of its equality and diversity outcomes.”*
- 6.40. The audit showed that out of 688 hate crime incidents, 405 resulted in a crime report (with 504 crimes recorded). Of the 688 incidents, 97% of them were closed correctly as either being a crime, or were non-crime related. Of the 504 crimes, 94% of them were counted and classified correctly. The report also noted that the corresponding crime reports of ‘some’ incidents, despite being correctly marked as a hate crime incident, did not contain a hate crime marker.
- 6.41. Where crimes were classified incorrectly, the report states that a common issue involving racial abuse was found. The two crime codes of ‘Racially Aggregated Conduct’ and ‘Threatening or Abusive Behaviour’ were not getting used correctly in all incidents due to interpretations of the rules connecting corroboration and racial abuse. The HMICS report includes an

improvement action for Police Scotland in order to address this going forward.

- 6.42. The full report, including key findings, recommendations and improvement actions, can be accessed from the HMICS website:

<http://www.hmics.org/sites/default/files/publications/HMICS%20-%20Crime%20Audit%202014%20Report.pdf>



## Annex 4: Stakeholder Consultations

- 6.43. From April-June 2015, Justice Analytical Services conducted a consultation of stakeholders and users of the suite of publications based on returns from Police Scotland, which includes the 'Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police in Scotland' statistical bulletin series. The main objectives of this consultation were to: understand who the users are, what their requirements for data are and the benefits of any new suggested structure and content; guide the future strategy for how, when and what we publish regarding police data; and identify improvements that will ease and increase the use of police data in the future.
- 6.44. Reflecting our commitment to user engagement and to establishing a broad evidence base to inform our future publications, we used a variety of consultation methods to capture the views of both expert and non-expert users. This included one-to-one interviews, user group discussions, social media interaction and written surveys.
- 6.45. A report on the results of the consultation can be found at the link below: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/scotstatcrime/StakeCon/RCUC2015>.
- 6.46. Justice Analytical Services has reflected on the feedback received from the consultation during the production of this bulletin. This includes the addition of new graphics to highlight the main points conveyed by these statistics.
- 6.47. This consultation builds on previous and ongoing engagement around crime statistics, including:
- a user event held in October 2014. Further details, including a summary of the feedback following the event, can be found at <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/scotstatcrime>.
  - a user consultation via online survey, which was open from April-May 2014. Further details, including the results of the consultation, can be found at <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/scotstatcrime/StakeCon/RCUC2014>.
- 6.48. We always welcome feedback on the content of our statistical bulletins and users are welcome to submit their comments to: [justiceanalysts@gov.scot](mailto:justiceanalysts@gov.scot).

If you would like to be kept informed about developments in crime statistics, we suggest registering with ScotStat: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/scotstat>.

## **Annex 5: Comparisons with England & Wales and Northern Ireland**

### **England & Wales**

- 6.49. In England & Wales, statistics on racist incidents are published by the Home Office on an annual basis. The annual publication is released with trends and commentary analysis.
- 6.50. The Home Office use the principles of the definition as given by Sir William MacPherson in his report on the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry and define Racist Incidents as:

**‘A ‘racist incident’ is any incident, including any crime, which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person’s race or perceived race.’**

- 6.51. The statistics are released as part of a Hate Crime publication and can be accessed from the gov.uk website:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/hate-crime-england-and-wales-2014-to-2015>

### **Northern Ireland**

- 6.52. In Northern Ireland, statistics on racist incidents are published by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) on a quarterly (provisional figures) and an annual (finalised figures) basis. The annual publication is released along with trends and commentary analysis.
- 6.53. The PSNI use the principles of the definition as given by Sir William MacPherson in his report on the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry and define Racist Incidents as:

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

- 6.54. The statistics are released as part of a Hate incidents theme and all publications can be accessed from the PSNI website:  
[http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates\\_statistics/updates\\_hate\\_motivation\\_statistics.htm](http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates_statistics/updates_hate_motivation_statistics.htm)

## **Annex 6: Users of the Statistics**

- 6.55. These statistics are used by a large number of stakeholders within central government, the police and other public bodies for a variety of purposes.
- 6.56. Racist incidents statistics are also used by a variety of external stakeholders, including:
- Victim support groups
  - National and local journalism;
  - Academic research; and
  - Students and school pupils writing dissertations and carrying out projects.
- 6.57. Official Statistics are a tool used in decision making both inside and outside government, and for this tool to be effective it must be designed to meet the needs of users. Comments on the uses you have made of these statistics and any suggestions for their improvement are always welcomed and should be sent to [justiceanalysts@gov.scot](mailto:justiceanalysts@gov.scot).

## Annex 7: Future Considerations

- 6.58. Justice Analytical Services publishes a work plan each year detailing the programme of work planned over the current financial year period. The work of the division covers both an agreed forward programme of analytical priorities, and routine analytical work particularly related to the compilation of National and Official Statistics, ongoing project management and knowledge transfer activity.

Analytical planning to develop a programme for the financial year 2015-16 followed a structured process of engagement with policy colleagues which was designed to closely align our analysis with current policy priorities and to the delivery of outcomes. The work plan is available via the following link: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/JASAP11-12>.

- 6.59. As highlighted in the work plan, Justice Analytical Services are scoping out the possibility and benefits of a more detailed statistical collection on Hate Crime to replace this 'Racist Incidents Recorded in Scotland' publication. There is user interest in information on other strands of hate crime and a need to balance this interest against the resources required to produce new statistics.

Given the above, we will scope out the possibility of replacing the 'Racist Incidents Recorded by the police in Scotland' publication with a new and broader statistical product on police recorded Hate Crime (which would include a race element). We will work with Police Scotland as they develop the Hate Crime data they hold on their existing systems and will inform users as this work develops.

This exercise shares some similarities with developments in England and Wales – where the Home Office recently published their first statistics on Hate Crime recorded by the police, prior to which they only produced figures on racist incidents.

- 6.60. We are always keen to hear users' views on our products. If you have any comments or suggestions on this or future publications, please contact us at [justiceanalysts@gov.scot](mailto:justiceanalysts@gov.scot).

## Annex 8: Other Notes

6.61. Under the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, the estimated costs of responding to statistical surveys and data collection are to be published.

The estimated cost of compliance for supplying and validating the data for the 2012-13 bulletin was £4,000. Given the transformation that has occurred in Police Scotland over the past two years it has not been possible to provide an updated cost for this bulletin.

Details of the calculation methodology are available on the Scottish Government Crime and Justice website at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/costcalculation>.

6.62. Clearly, only a limited selection of tables can be included in any statistical bulletin. Further analysis of racist incidents statistics can be supplied on request subject to Disclosure Control. In certain cases a fee is charged. For details of what can be provided, please contact [JusticeAnalysts@gov.scot](mailto:JusticeAnalysts@gov.scot).

## Annex 9: Classification of Crime and Offences used in this bulletin

<b>CRIMES</b>	<b>Includes</b>
Non-sexual crimes of violence	Murder, attempted murder, serious assault, culpable homicide, robbery, threats and extortion
Sexual offences	Rape & attempted rape, sexual assault, procurement, other sexual offences
Crimes of dishonesty	Housebreaking, theft of motor vehicle, shoplifting, fraud, other crimes of dishonesty
Fire-raising, vandalism etc	Fire-raising, vandalism, other malicious and reckless conduct
Other crimes	Handling offensive weapons, drug crimes, crimes against public order
<b>OFFENCES</b>	<b>Includes</b>
All Offences	Common assault, breach of the peace, threatening or abusive behaviour, stalking, offensive behaviour at football, threatening communications, racially aggravated harassment, racially aggravated conduct, motor vehicle offences, anti-social behaviour offences

## **An Official Statistics publication for Scotland**

Official and National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Both undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs and are produced free from any political interference.

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Office of the Chief Statistician, Telephone: 0131 244 0442,

e-mail: [statistics.enquiries@gov.scot](mailto:statistics.enquiries@gov.scot)

### **How to access background or source data**

The data collected for this statistical bulletin:

- are available in more detail through Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics
- some limited additional information may be made available on request, subject to consideration of legal and ethical factors. Please contact [statistics.enquiries@gov.scot](mailto:statistics.enquiries@gov.scot) for further information.
- detailed information cannot be made available by Scottish Government for further analysis as Scottish Government is not the data controller.

### **Complaints and suggestions**

If you are not satisfied with our service or have any comments or suggestions, please write to the Chief Statistician, 3WR, St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG, Telephone: (0131) 244 0302, e-mail [statistics.enquiries@gov.scot](mailto:statistics.enquiries@gov.scot).

If you would like to be consulted about statistical collections or receive notification of publications, please register your interest at [www.gov.scot/scotstat](http://www.gov.scot/scotstat)  
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