

# Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2014/15: Main Findings



A National Statistics publication for Scotland

CRIME AND JUSTICE

# Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2014/15 Main Findings

## Acknowledgements

Thanks go to a number of people involved in the development, implementation and reporting of the SCJS 2014/15. In particular the 11,472 people across Scotland who took time to provide their thoughts and opinions in the survey, as well as the interviewers and support staff who carried out the interviews. Particular thanks go to Leon Page and colleagues at TNS BMRB for their support and advice across all aspects of the survey management, and to the Office of the Chief Statistician and Performance at the Scottish Government, for methodological inputs.

## Comments and Suggestions

We are committed to continual improvement and would welcome any comments or suggestions on how the SCJS Main Findings report could be improved or adapted in the future. Similarly, if you have any enquiries on any aspects of the survey development then we would welcome your opinions or questions. Please contact the SCJS Project Team.

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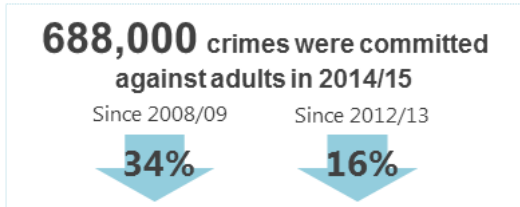
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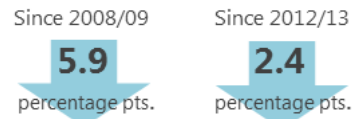
# Summary Graphics

## Key findings from the SCJS 2014/15 on Crime in Scotland

### HOW much crime was there?



Overall, the risk of being a victim of crime in Scotland is falling

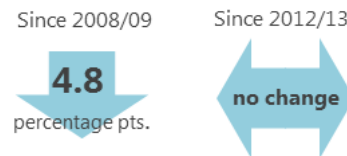


Most people didn't experience crime



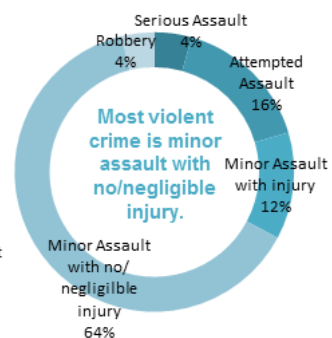
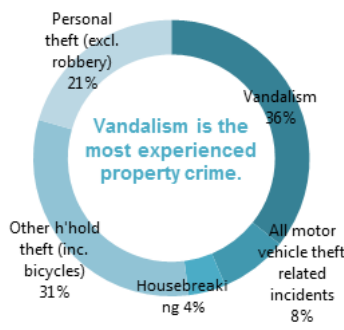
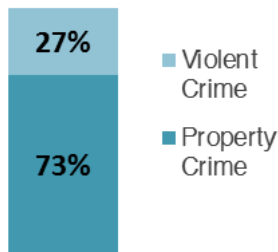
14.5% of people were victims of crime

but people in deprived areas are not experiencing the same fall since 2012/13



### WHAT types of crime occurred?

Most crime was property crime



### WHO experienced crime?

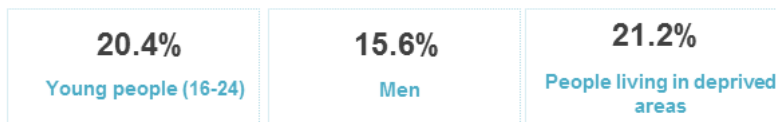


a small number of people experienced a high proportion of property and violent crime

% PEOPLE	NUMBER OF CRIMES	% OF ALL CRIMES
85.5%	NONE	0%
10.2%	ONE	42%
2.5%	TWO	21%
0.8%	THREE	11%
0.4%	FOUR	9%
0.6%	FIVE OR MORE	17%

**4.4%** of adults experienced **58%** of all crime

some people were more likely than others to experience crime



# Key findings from the SCJS 2014/15 on Property Crime in Scotland

## HOW much Property Crime was there?

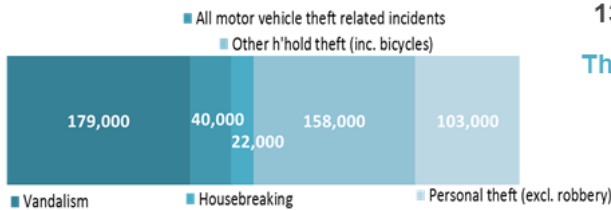
**502,000** property crimes were committed against adults in 2014/15

Since 2008/09

Since 2012/13

**31%**

**13%**



## Most people didn't experience property crime



13% of people were victims of property crime

## The risk of property crime in Scotland is falling

Since 2008/09

Since 2012/13

**5.0**

**1.8**

percentage pts.

percentage pts.

## WHO experienced Property Crime?



a small number of people experienced a high proportion of property crime

% PEOPLE	NUMBER OF PROPERTY CRIMES	% OF PROPERTY CRIMES
87%	NONE	0%
9.4%	ONE	50%
2.2%	TWO	22%
0.8%	THREE	12%
0.2%	FOUR	6%
0.3%	FIVE OR MORE	9.4%

**3.5%** of adults experienced **50%** of property crime

## WHERE & WHEN?



Around **three-fifths** of property crime took place **outside the home**.

## MTWTFSS

Most property crime (**56%**) took place on a weekday.

## WHERE VICTIMS COULD TELL US ABOUT OFFENDERS

Victims of property crime were less likely to know the offender than victims of violent crime.

In **27%** of property crime, the victim was able to say something about the offender.

In **5%** of property crime, the offender was well known to the victim.

## WHAT IS THE IMPACT?

Victims most commonly felt **annoyance (61%) & anger (54%)**.

Around **half** of all property crime resulted in financial loss for the victim.



In **90%** of property crime where items were stolen, the value of stolen items was under **£1,300**.

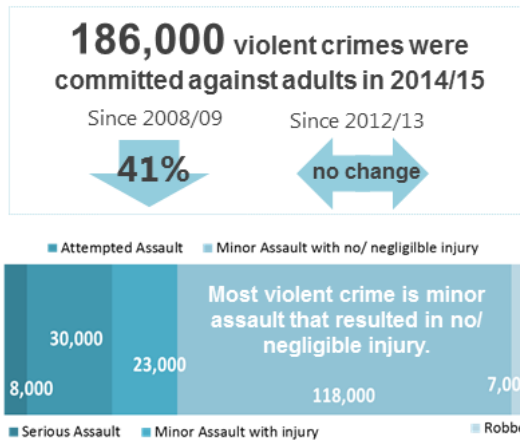
## REPORTING PROPERTY CRIME

**36%** of property crimes were reported to the police in 2014/15

- **42%** who didn't report the crime did so because they felt that the police couldn't have done anything.
- **37%** who didn't report the crime did so because they felt that the incident was **trivial and not worth reporting**.

# Key findings from the SCJS 2014/15 on Violent Crime in Scotland

## HOW much Violent Crime was there?



## Most people didn't experience violent crime



2.6% of people were victims of violent crime

## The risk of violent crime in Scotland has fallen since 2008/09



## WHO experienced Violent Crime?



a small number of people experienced a high proportion of violent crime (mostly minor assault)

% PEOPLE	NUMBER OF VIOLENT CRIMES	% OF VIOLENT CRIMES
97%	NONE	0%
1.8%	ONE	43%
0.4%	TWO	19%
0.2%	THREE	12%
0.1%	FOUR	5.5%
0.2%	FIVE OR MORE	20%

**0.8%** of adults experienced **57%** of violent crime

and some people were more likely to experience violent crime



More men than women were victims of violent crime



Young men (16-24) were the most likely to experience violent crime (8.7%)

## WHERE & WHEN?

One quarter of violent crimes took place in or near the victim's workplace.



17% of violent crimes took place in or near a pub or club.



Just over half (51%) of violent crimes happened at the weekend, with 22% taking place between 9pm and 3am.

## WHERE VICTIMS COULD TELL US ABOUT OFFENDERS



Most perpetrators were said to be male.

In 37% of violent crime, the offender was well known to the victim.

In 54% of violent crimes the offender seemed to be under the influence of alcohol.

## WHAT IS THE IMPACT?

Victims most commonly felt anger (54%) & annoyance (37%).



**48%** of violent crime resulted in some degree of injury.

The most common injuries sustained were minor bruising or a black eye (61%) and scratches or minor cuts (25%).

## REPORTING VIOLENT CRIME

**44%** of violent crimes were reported to the police in 2014/15

- 22% who didn't report the crime did so because they dealt with the matter themselves.
- 18% who didn't report the crime did so because they felt that the incident was a personal or family matter.



# Executive Summary

This summary presents the main findings from the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2014/15. Report chapters provide further results and context around survey findings.

## The Extent of Crime ([Chapter 2](#))

- There were an estimated 688,000 crimes in 2014/15, a decrease of 16% since 2012/13, and by 34% since 2008/09.
- 73% of crime was property crime, comprising vandalism (26%), other household theft (incl bicycle theft) (23%), personal theft (excl robbery) (15%), motor vehicle theft related incidents (6%) and housebreaking (3%).
- 27% of crime was violent crime, comprising minor assault with no / negligible injury (17%), minor assault with injury (4%), attempted assault (4%), serious assault (1%) and robbery (1%).

## Comparing the SCJS with Police Recorded Crime ([Chapter 3](#))

- A comparable subset of crime enables comparisons to be made between recorded crime and SCJS estimates. Between 2008/09 and 2014/15, police recorded crime and SCJS in the comparable subset decreased (by 38% and 43% respectively).

## The Risk and Characteristics of Crime ([Chapter 4](#))

- 85.5% of adults experienced no crime in 2014/15, therefore, the SCJS estimates that 14.5% adults were the victim of crime in 2014/15, down from 16.9% in 2012/13, and from 20.4% in 2008/09.
- In 2014/15, 13.0% of adults were estimated to have been a victim of property crime and 2.6% of adults a victim of violent crime.
- 10.2% of adults experienced one crime in 2014/15, while 4.4% of adults were the victim of multiple crimes, experiencing 58% of all SCJS crime.
- 3.5% of adults were repeat victims of property crime, while 0.8% of adults were repeat victims of violent crime. Of those who were repeat victims of violent crime, most were repeat victims of minor assault (79%).
- The risk of being a victim of any crime was higher for adults living in the 15% most deprived areas (21.2%), compared to elsewhere in Scotland (13.4%).
- Between 2008/09 and 2014/15, the risk of crime fell in the most deprived areas from 26.0% to 21.2%, while elsewhere the risk fell from 19.4% to 13.4%. Between 2012/13 and 2014/15, the risk of crime was unchanged in the most deprived areas while elsewhere the risk fell from 16.1% to 13.4%.

## The Impact and Perceptions of Crime ([Chapter 5](#))

- Victims of property crime were more likely to think that what happened was a crime (72%), compared to victims of violent crime (49%), and that the offender should be prosecuted in court (60% and 42% respectively).

- Victims of violent crime were more likely than victims of property crime to experience strong negative emotions like shock (30% and 16% respectively) and fear (26% and 5% respectively).

### **Reporting Crime and Support for Victims ([Chapter 6](#))**

- Just under two-fifths (38%) of crimes were reported to the police in 2014/15, around the same level in recent years. 44% of violent crime came to the attention of the police compared to 36% of property crime.
- When victims reported crime, 63% were satisfied with the way the police handled the matter.

### **Public Perceptions of Crime ([Chapter 7](#))**

- Three quarters (75%) thought that the local crime rate had stayed the same or reduced, unchanged from 2012/13 and up from 65% in 2006.
- Around three-quarters (74%) of adults said they felt very or fairly safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark, up from 66% in 2008/09.

### **The Public and the Police ([Chapter 8](#))**

- The majority of respondents said that the police were doing a good or excellent job in their local area, however this had decreased from 61% in 2012/13 to 58% in 2014/15.
- The majority of adults were very or fairly confident in their local police force across the six measures of confidence asked about in this survey.
- Since 2008/09, there have been statistically significant increases in confidence across all six measures.
- Since 2012/13, there has been no change in confidence in the police to prevent crime or catch criminals. There were small, but statistically significant, decreases in confidence in the police to investigate incidents, deal with incidents, respond quickly and solve crimes.
- Non-victims and those living in less deprived areas were more confident in the police, and more likely to say the police were doing a good or excellent job, than victims and those living in the most deprived areas. Views on policing also varied across police divisions.

### **The Scottish Justice System ([Chapter 9](#))**

- Most adults said they did not know a lot about the criminal justice system (61%) and another 15% said they knew nothing at all.
- When asked for their opinion on aspects of the justice system, the changes in respondents' confidence levels between the 2008/09 and 2014/15 surveys are positive and statistically significant, across each of the six comparable statements.
- Almost one in five (21%) adults had experienced at least one of the civil law problems in the last three years. The most common problems were problems with home, family or living arrangements (14%).

# 1. Introduction

The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) is a large-scale social survey which asks people about their experiences and perceptions of crime. The 2014/15 survey is based on around 11,500 face-to-face interviews with adults (aged 16 or over) living in private households in Scotland. Crime and victimisation surveys have been carried out in Scotland since the early 1980s; however, this report presents the results for the fifth SCJS, with interviews conducted between April 2014 and May 2015.

The main aims of the SCJS are to:

- Enable the Scottish population to tell us about their experiences of, and attitudes to, a range of issues related to crime, policing and the justice system; including crime not reported to the police;
- Provide a valid and reliable measure of adults' experience of crime, including services provided to victims of crime;
- Examine trends, over time, in the number and nature of crimes in Scotland, providing a complementary measure of crime compared with police recorded crime statistics;
- Examine the varying risk and characteristics of crime for different groups of adults in the population.

The findings from the SCJS are used by policy makers across the public sector in Scotland to help understand the nature of crime in Scotland, target resources and monitor the impact of initiatives to target crime. The results of this survey provide evidence to inform national outcomes and justice outcomes.

## 1.1. Survey Coverage

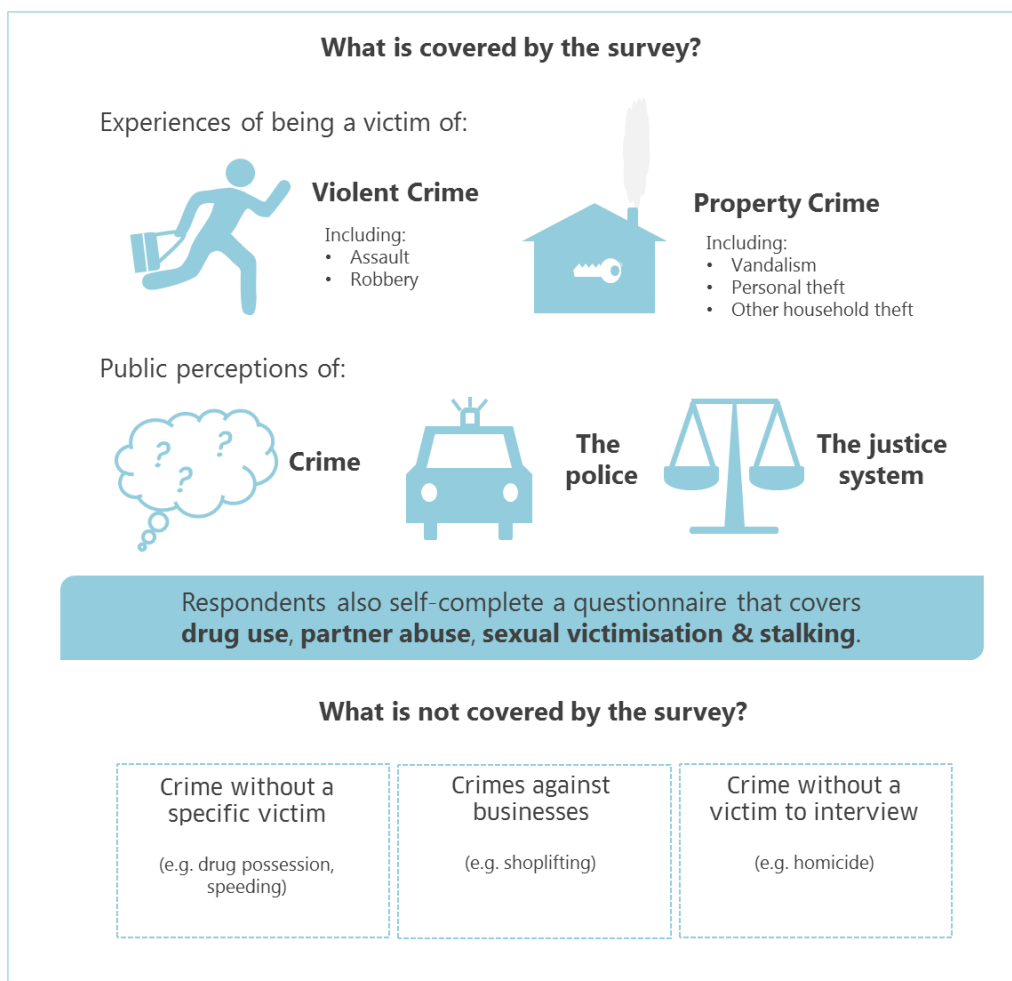
The SCJS does not aim to provide an absolute estimate for all crime and has some notable exclusions.



The SCJS is a survey of adults living in private residential households and, therefore, does not provide information on crimes against adults living in other circumstances (for example those living in institutions or communal residences, such as prisons or hospitals, military bases and student accommodation). The survey also excludes persons under the age of 16 and crimes against businesses. Those living in some of the smallest inhabited islands in Scotland are excluded for practical reasons (see Annex 1 of the accompanying Technical Report for details).

The SCJS is primarily a victimisation survey and, as such, captures information on adults' experiences of violent crime and property crime, but it does not capture data on all crimes. Therefore, crimes without a direct victim (e.g. speeding), or crimes where a victim cannot be interviewed (e.g. homicide) are out-with the scope of the survey. Whilst details of threats are collected in the survey, they are not currently included in the crime statistics as it is difficult to establish whether or not an offence has been committed. Sexual offences are collected in the self-completion section and reported separately.

Throughout the report, the term 'crime' is used to refer to any in-scope incident recorded by the survey, occurring during the interview reference period and in Scotland, in which the respondent or their household as a whole was the victim.



## 1.2. Survey Background

While crime and victimisation surveys have been carried out in Scotland since the early 1980s, the geographical coverage, sample size, method and fieldwork and reference periods have varied.

### Box 1.1: A history of crime and victimisation surveys in Scotland

**1982, 1988:** British Crime Survey (BCS) included coverage of central and southern Scotland only (c. 5,000 interviews).

**1993:** First independent Scottish Crime Survey (SCS) launched, based on BCS and covering the whole of Scotland (c. 5,000 interviews).

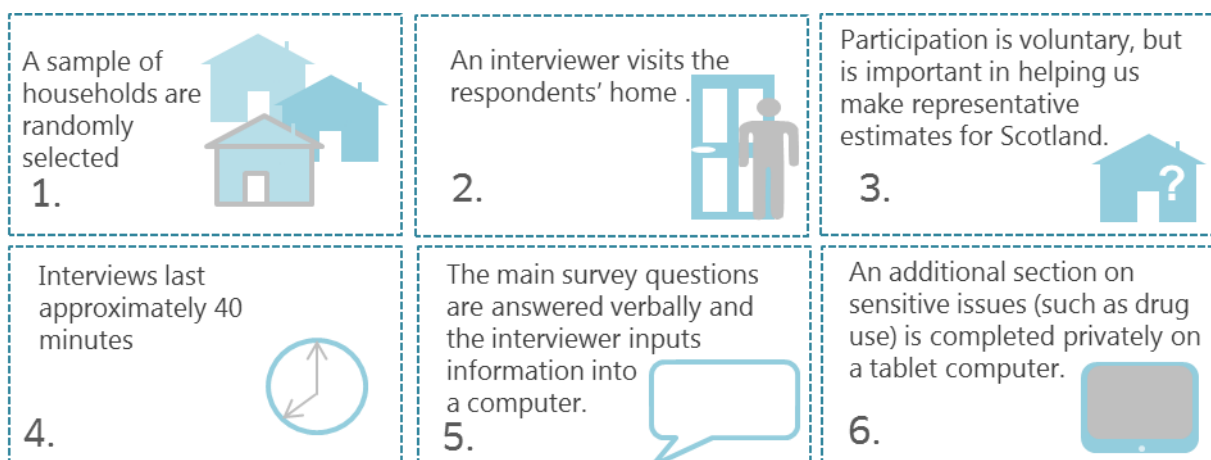
**1996, 2000, 2003:** Further sweeps of the SCS (c. 5,000 interviews).

**2004, 2006:** Scottish Crime and Victimization Survey (SCVS) (c. 27,000 interviews in 2004, c. 5,000 interviews in 2006).

**2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2012/13, 2014/15:** Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) (c. 16,000 interviews 2008/09 and 2009/10, c. 13,000 interviews in 2010/11, c. 12,000 interviews in 2012/13, 11,500 interviews in 2014/15).

Prior to 2008, victimisation surveys were intermittent and had smaller sample sizes (around 5,000 interviews). Surveys were administered using paper questionnaires by interviewers and early surveys did not cover the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. In 2003, the McCaig review (2003)<sup>1</sup> of the design, content and management of the survey found the survey was unable to produce trends, had high margins of error around results (especially around less common crimes) and was unable to report findings below the national level. In 2008, the sample size increased, and surveying moved to fieldwork throughout the financial year and used a rolling reference period for the victimisation module.

## 1.3. Survey Methodology



<sup>1</sup> McCaig, E and Leven, T (2003) *Fundamental review of the Scottish Crime Survey*, Edinburgh, Scottish Executive

The design of the 2014/15 SCJS remains broadly similar to the design of the SCJS from 2008/09 to 2012/13:

- **Survey frequency:** Following the completion of the SCJS 2010/11, the SCJS moved to a biennial design. Therefore, no survey ran in 2011/12 or 2013/14<sup>2</sup>.
- **Sample:** the sample is designed to be representative of all private residential households across Scotland (with the exception of some of the smaller islands). A systematic random selection of private residential addresses across Scotland was produced from the Royal Mail Postcode Address File (PAF) and allocated in batches to interviewers. Interviewers called at each address and then selected one adult (aged 16 or over) at random from the household members for interview.
- **Questionnaire:** the questionnaire consists of a modular design completed by the interviewer using Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) and a self-completion section covering sensitive crimes using Computer-Assisted Self Interviewing (CASI). [Annex 2](#) gives an overview of the questionnaire content, and the most recent questionnaire is available on the [SCJS webpage](#).
- **Fieldwork:** interviews were conducted on a rolling basis between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 and 31<sup>st</sup> May 2015, with roughly an equal number of interviews conducted in each month between April 2014 and March 2015. Challenges in fieldwork delivery were experienced in 2014/15 and as a result, the fieldwork period was extended by two months to increase the achieved sample size.
- **Interviews:** 11,472 face-to-face interviews were conducted in respondents' homes by professional interviewers. Interviews lasted an average of 40 minutes, though there was variation in interview length, depending on the respondent's reported experience.
- **Time period covered:** respondents were asked about incidents experienced in the 12 months prior to the month of interview (the reference period). The time period covered by the data included in this report extends over 25 months (April 2013 to April 2015) so is not directly comparable with any calendar year.
- **Weighting:** the results obtained were weighted to correct for the unequal probability of selection for interview caused by the sample design and for differences in the level of response among groups of individuals.

The survey response rate was 63.8%, 3.9 percentage points lower than the 2012/13 survey response rate of 67.7%. However, analysis found that the impact of this change in response rate is likely to be low across a range of SCJS estimates (further details are presented in Chapter 3 of the accompanying Technical Report).

Further information about the design and methodology is contained in the accompanying Technical Report, available on the [SCJS publications page](#).

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<sup>2</sup> From April 2016, the SCJS will revert to a continuous survey of around 6,000 adults each year.



## 1.4. The Structure of the Report

The report is split into nine chapters, presenting data for the majority of questions contained in the survey questionnaire and is supported by summary Annex Data Tables. The report does not include in-depth, multivariate statistical analysis that would explore the more complex underlying relationships within the data.

[Chapter 2](#) examines the **extent and distribution of crime**, estimating how many crimes were committed and the proportions of different types of crime within the overall group. This chapter also presents time-series 'trend' data from previous surveys and makes comparisons with the latest results from the CSEW.

[Chapter 3](#) **brings together Scotland's crime statistics**, making comparisons with police recorded crime figures and assessing the relationship between the two sources.

[Chapter 4](#) explores the **risk and characteristics of crime**. This chapter identifies the unequal risk of being a victim of crime among different demographic groups, and the risk of being a repeat victim. This chapter also provides detail on the characteristics of crimes and offenders, including the use of weapons in crime and the extent of alcohol and drug use in violent crime.

[Chapter 5](#) explores the **impact and perceptions of crime**. This chapter identifies the impact of crime on victims, as well as the victims' perspective of the crime itself and their opinion of potential outcomes for the offender.

[Chapter 6](#) focuses on **reporting crime and support for victims**, providing more detail about the rate and process of reporting crime to the police, as well as the information and assistance provided to victims.

[Chapter 7](#) provides information on adults' **perceptions of crime**, investigating the extent to which they perceive crime as a problem and are anxious about becoming a victim of crime. The chapter examines whether perceptions have changed over time and the extent of the gap between perceived likelihood of being a victim and actual risk of victimisation.

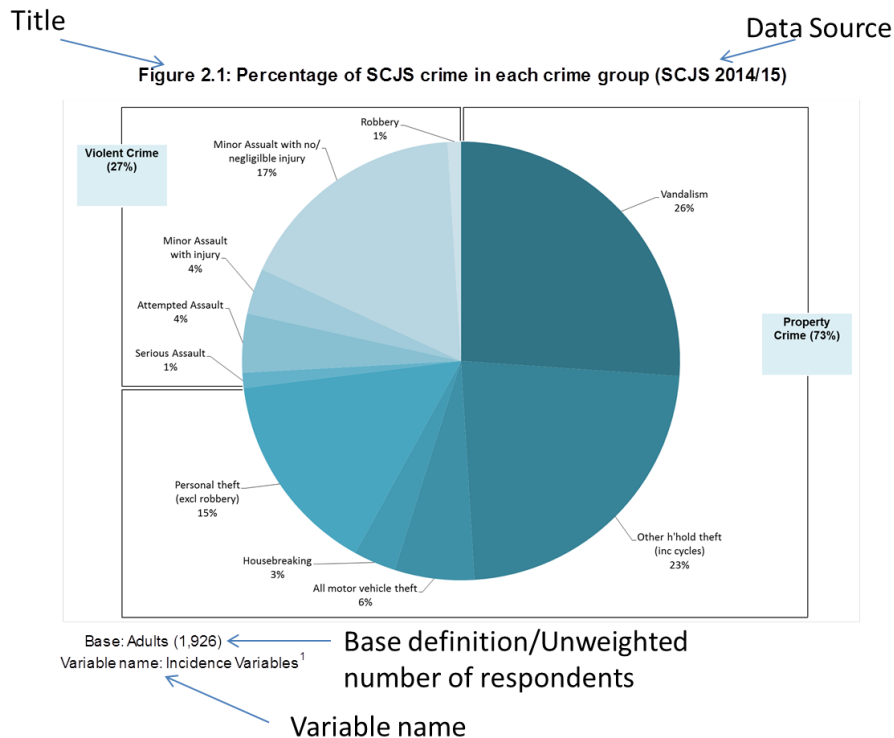
[Chapter 8](#) explores the public's **confidence in the police** in relation to specific aspects of policing and attitudes to aspects of the service provided by police in the local area.

[Chapter 9](#) presents information about **aspects of the justice system**. The chapter focuses on awareness and perceptions of the criminal justice system and component organisations, knowledge and perceptions of sentencing and experiences of a range of civil law problems.

[Annex 1](#) provides detailed **data tables** of the key crime data discussed in the report, including incidence and prevalence statistics.

## 1.5. Conventions used in figures and tables

Each Figure or Table has a title, the data source (survey year etc.), a base definition and the unweighted number of respondents and, if relevant, a variable name. For example:



### 1.5.1. Unweighted Base

All SCJS percentages and rates presented in the figures and tables are based on weighted data (see Chapter 4 of the accompanying Technical Report for details on survey weighting). However, figures and tables show the unweighted base which represents the number of respondents / households in the specified group or the numbers of crimes that the analysis is based on. In tables and figures these are rounded to the nearest multiple of 10 (unrounded numbers are provided in data tables released alongside this report<sup>3</sup>).

### 1.5.2. Percentages

Table row or column percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Percentages presented in tables and figures where they refer to the percentage of respondents, households or crimes that have the attribute being discussed may not sum to 100 per cent. Respondents have the option to refuse answering any question they did not wish to answer and the majority of questions have a

<sup>3</sup> SCJS Datasets <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/Datasets/SCJS>



'don't know' option. Percentages for these response categories are generally not shown in tables and figures.

A percentage may be quoted in the report text for a single category that is identifiable in the figures / tables only by summing two or more component percentages. In order to avoid rounding errors, the percentage has been recalculated for the single combined category and therefore may differ by one or two percentage points from the sum of the percentages derived from the figures/tables.

Also, percentages quoted in the report may represent variables that allow respondents to choose multiple responses. These percentages will not sum to 100 per cent with the other percentages presented. They represent the percentage of the variable population that select a certain response category.

### **1.5.3. Table abbreviations**

' - ' indicates that no respondents gave an answer in the category.

'0' indicates less than 0.5% (this does not apply when percentages are presented to one decimal point).

'n/a' indicates that the SCJS question was not applicable or not asked in that particular year.

' \* ' indicates that changes are statistically significant at the 95% level.

### **1.5.4. Survey error**

There may be errors in the recall of participants as to when certain incidents took place, resulting in some crimes being wrongly included in, or excluded from, the reference period. A number of steps in the design of the questionnaire are taken to ensure, as far as possible, that this does not happen, for example repeating key date questions in more detail.

The SCJS gathers information from a sample rather than from the whole population and, although the sample is designed carefully, survey results are always estimates, not precise figures. If the experiences of those who cannot be contacted, or who refuse to take part, are different from those who are interviewed, and this cannot be corrected by weighting, then the survey will not reflect the experiences of the adults of Scotland as a whole. This means that the results are subject to a margin of error which can have an impact on how changes in the numbers should be interpreted, especially in the short-term.

To indicate the extent of this uncertainty, confidence intervals for the key statistics presented in this report are provided in Annex Data Tables and in Chapter 11 of the SCJS Technical Report. These confidence intervals are bands within which the 'true' value lies (i.e. that value which would be obtained if a

census of the entire population was undertaken). These confidence intervals are calculated to the 95% level, meaning that we would expect the survey data to lie within this range 95 times if the survey were to be repeated 100 times, each with a different randomly selected sample of adults.

Because of sampling variation, changes in reported estimates between survey years or between population subgroups may occur by chance. In other words, the change may simply be due to which respondents were randomly selected for interview. Whether this is likely to be the case has been assessed using standard statistical tests to examine whether differences are likely to be due to chance or represent a real difference. Only differences that are statistically significant at the 95% significance level are described as differences within this report.

Where no statistically significant change has been found between two estimates, this has been described as showing 'no change'. The presentation of uncertainty and change in this report reflect best practice guidance produced by the Government Statistical Service (GSS)<sup>4</sup>.

## **1.6. Accessing Survey Data**

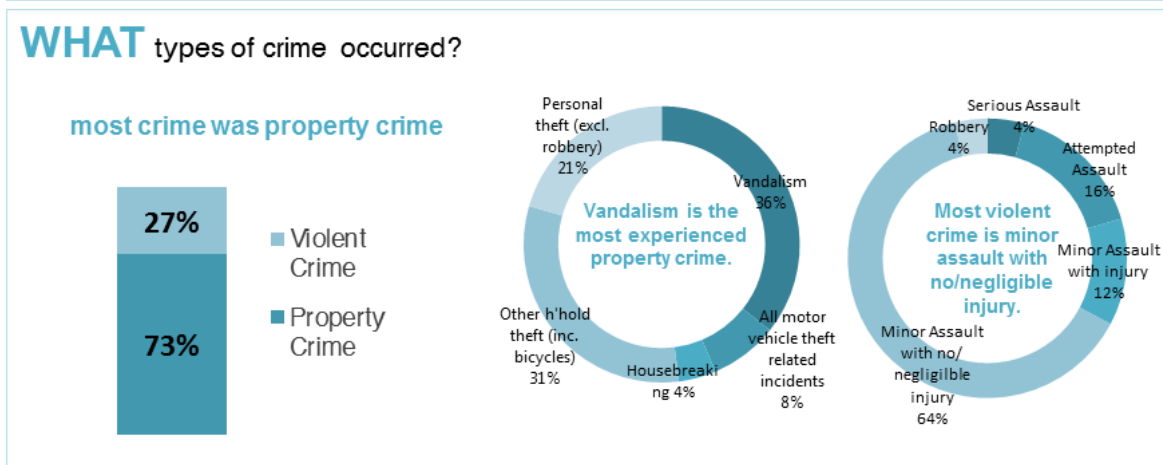
SCJS [Additional Datasets](#) released alongside this report, present more detailed results from the survey questionnaire, showing how answers to questions vary when respondents are grouped by certain geographic, demographic, attitudinal or experiential characteristics.

The raw survey data files and survey documentation will be available soon after publication of this report in SPSS, Stata or tab-delimited file formats from the [UK Data Service](#).

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<sup>4</sup> GSS (2014) Communicating Uncertainty and Change: Guidance for official statistics producers- <https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Communicating-uncertainty-and-change-v1.pdf>

## 2. The Extent of Crime in Scotland



### 2.1. Introduction

This chapter provides an overview of the total number of crimes in Scotland and the proportion of different types of crime within the overall group.

This chapter also compares 2014/15 SCJS results with previous Scottish crime survey results, to present trends over time. Additional context is provided by presenting similar results from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW).

#### Box 2.1 Crime Groups

In this report, overall crime measured by the survey has been split into two distinct groups, Property Crime and Violent Crime. As well as being associated with differing levels of risk, crimes within these two groups exhibit different characteristics and victims experience and perceive them differently (see Chapter 4 and Chapter 5).

Property Crime includes the following distinct groups:

- Vandalism (including motor vehicle and property vandalism)

- All motor vehicle theft related incidents (including theft and attempted theft of and from a motor vehicle)
- Housebreaking
- Other household thefts (including bicycle theft)
- Personal theft (excluding robbery)

Violent Crime includes the following distinct groups:

- Assault (includes serious assault, attempted assault, minor assault with no/negligible and minor assault with injury)
- Robbery

## 2.2. Estimates of Crime

The SCJS provides an estimate of the number of crimes (or incidence) occurring within Scotland. The survey data are then weighted and grossed to an estimate of the total adult population. The figures reported below are rounded to the nearest 1,000 crimes. The SCJS 2014/15 estimates that there were 688,000 crimes against adults resident in private households in Scotland. Of these, 73% (502,000) were property crimes and 27% (186,000) were violent crimes.

The SCJS gathers information from a sample rather than from the whole population. This means that survey results are always estimates, not precise figures, and therefore are subject to a level of uncertainty. To estimate the extent of this uncertainty, 95% confidence intervals for the statistics are calculated to define bands within which the 'true' value of survey estimates are likely to lie (i.e. that value which would be obtained if a census of the entire population was undertaken).

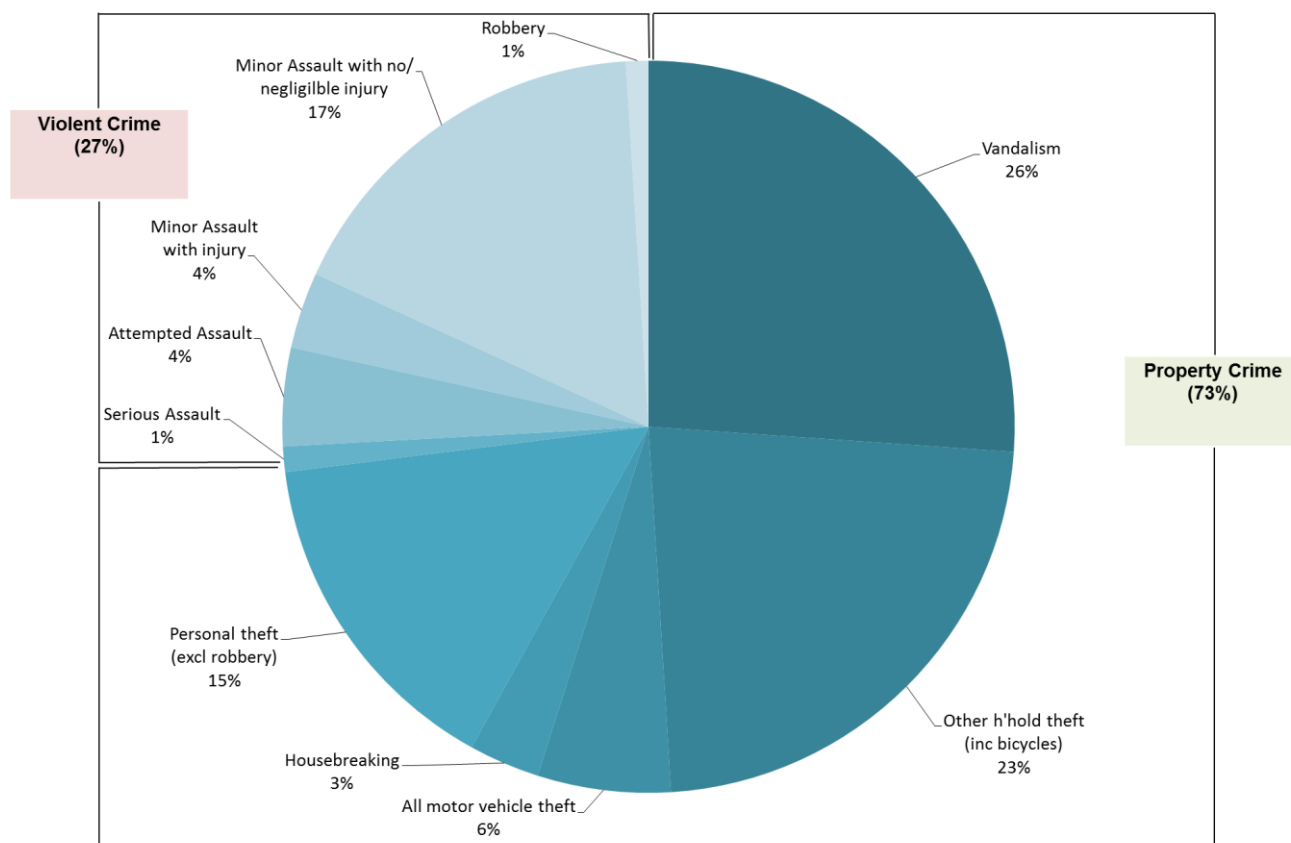
As shown in [Annex 1](#) Table A1.1, the actual number of crimes in 2014/15 is estimated to be in the range of 638,000 and 738,000 (i.e. 688,000 +/- 50,000). Within this, the number of property crimes is estimated to be between 469,000 and 536,000 (502,000 +/- 33,000) and the number of violent crimes between 150,000 and 221,000 (186,000 +/- 35,000).

## 2.3. Breakdown of Crime Groups

Figure 2.1 provides a breakdown of the property crime and violent crime groups. The chart shows that almost three-quarters of crime is property crime. Crime is largely made up of vandalism (26%), other household thefts (incl. bicycles) (23%), minor assault with no/negligible injury (17%) and personal theft (excluding robbery) (15%). Since 2008/09, there has been a fairly consistent split between property crime and violent crime. Within the property crime group, however, there has been a decrease in vandalism (from 34% of crime in 2008/09 to 26% in 2014/15), while other household theft (incl. bicycles) has increased (from 17% of crime in 2008/09 to 23% in 2014/15)<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>5</sup> [Annex 1](#) Table A1.2 shows the estimated number of crimes in each category over time.

**Figure 2.1: Percentage of SCJS crime in each crime group (SCJS 2014/15).**



Base: Adults (1,926)

Variable name: OFFENCE

## 2.4. Comparing Crime over Time

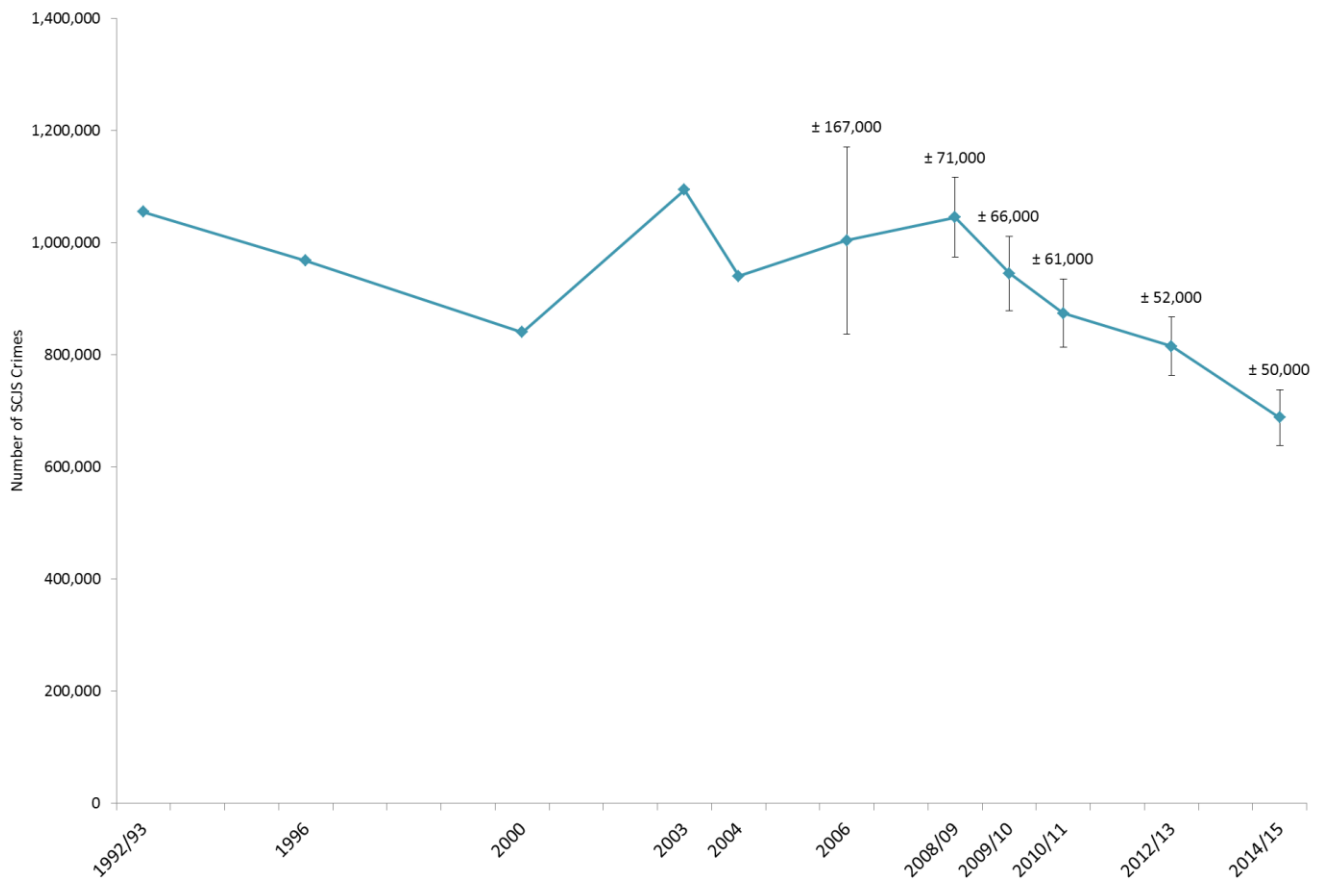
This section presents SCJS results over time, however, mainly focuses on changes between 2008/09 and 2014/15. Care should be taken when comparing estimates from the 2008/09 to 2014/15 surveys with those from previous years. The collection of survey data on crime and victimisation in Scotland has undergone several major changes in methodology which has implications for making comparisons across survey designs. As previous surveys had smaller sample sizes, estimates from earlier surveys are subject to a higher degree of uncertainty. From 2008/09, the SCJS was launched with an increased sample size, a rolling reference period and year-round, continuous fieldwork, until a move to a biennial design following the 2010/11 sweep (as outlined in the introductory section on [Survey Background](#)).

### 2.4.1. Trends in the estimates of Crime in Scotland

The total numbers of crimes estimated by the crime surveys conducted in Scotland since 1992 are presented in Figure 2.2. The smaller confidence intervals (ranges of uncertainty) around the results from 2008/09 onwards are due to the larger sample sizes in these surveys. The confidence intervals around results from the earlier surveys are larger, as demonstrated by the 2006 Scottish Crime and Victimisation Survey (SCVS), but not replicated for years before 2006. The total number of

crimes estimated by the 2006 SCVS has wider confidence intervals (+/- 167,000), compared to the most recent SCJS estimate (+/- 50,000). Therefore, the results of surveys since 2008/09 are generally more precise than in previous years. Figure 2.2 shows greater fluctuation in the estimates in earlier years; no clear trend could be detected in overall crime for the surveys conducted prior to 2008.

**Figure 2.2 Total number of crimes over time**



Base: SCS 1993 (5,030); 1996 (5,050); 2000 (5,060); 2003 (5,040); SCVS 2004 (3,030); 2006 (5,000); SCJS 2008/09 (16,000); 2009/10 (16,040); 2010/11 (13,010); 2012/13 (12,050); 2014/15 (11,500).

SCJS Variable name: INCSURVEYCRIME

Note: There was a break in survey methodology from 2008/09, moving to a rolling reference period, increased sample size and year-round, continuous fieldwork until a move to a biennial design for 2012/13.

The changes over recent years in overall crime and crime sub-groups (as measured by the SCJS since 2008/09) are presented in further detail in Table 2.1 and Table 2.2.

The estimated number of crimes in 2014/15 (688,000) has fallen by around a sixth since the 815,000 crimes estimated in 2012/13, and, by around a third since the 1,045,000 crimes in estimated in 2008/09. Both changes are statistically significant.

**Table 2.1 Estimates of all SCJS crime (SCJS 2008/09 to 2014/15)**

<i>Number of SCJS crimes</i>	<i>All SCJS crime</i>	<i>Lower estimate</i>	<i>Upper estimate</i>	<i>Confidence interval</i>	<i>Number of Respondents</i>
2008/09	1,045,000	974,000	1,116,000	71,000	16,000
2009/10	945,000	879,000	1,012,000	66,000	16,040
2010/11	874,000	813,000	935,000	61,000	13,010
2012/13	815,000	761,000	867,000	52,000	12,050
2014/15	688,000	638,000	738,000	50,000	11,470

Base: All SCJS crime

Variable name: INCSURVEYCRIME

## 2.4.2. Trends in Crime Groups

Table 2.2 shows the change in estimates in the Property Crime and Violent Crime groups.

Property Crime is estimated to have fallen from 579,000 in 2012/13 to 502,000 in 2014/15 (13%), a statistically significant decrease. The cumulative effect of changes since 2008/09 is also statistically significant, with Property Crime estimated to have fallen by 31% between 2008/09 and 2014/15.

Since 2012/13, Violent Crime showed no real change – the apparent fall from 236,000 in 2012/13 to 186,000 in 2014/15 is not statistically significant. Over the longer term, however, the cumulative effect of these changes shows a 41% decrease in Violent Crime from 317,000 in 2008/09 to 186,000 in 2014/15. This change, over the longer period, is a statistically significant change. Violent crime estimates are based on a relatively small number of respondents (282 in the 2014/15 survey) who had disclosed experiences of violent crime in the survey. As a result, the analysis of results between adjacent survey sweeps may not identify statistically significant changes. However, often, where they exist; the SCJS can identify statistically significant changes over the longer-term.

Figure 2.3 shows the trends in different types of crime since the launch of the SCJS in 2008/09 while table 2.2 highlights which changes are statistically significant. For example, vandalism has fallen from 350,000 in 2008/09 to 179,000 in 2014/15.

**Table 2.2 Change in estimates of numbers of all SCJS crime by crime group (SCJS 2008/09 to 2014/15)**

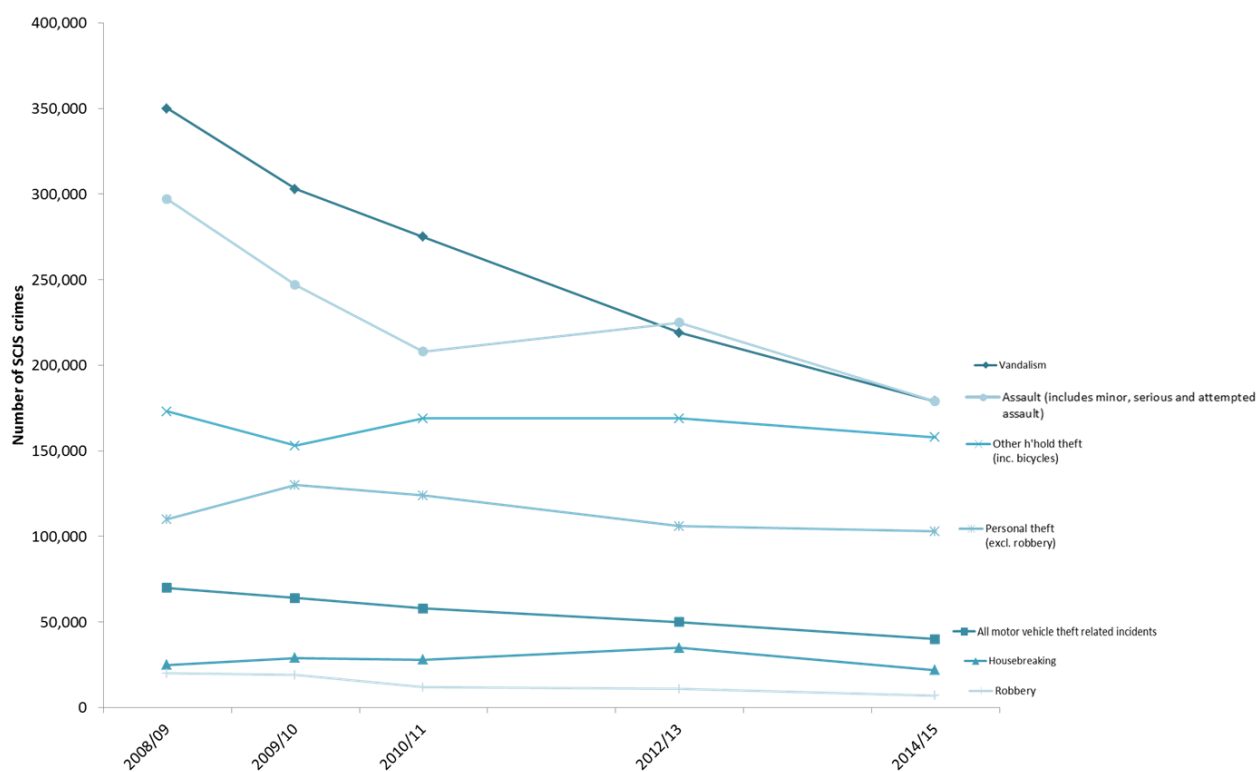
Crime type	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	% change	
						2008/09 to 2014/15	2012/13 to 2014/15
ALL SURVEY CRIME	1,045,000	945,000	874,000	815,000	688,000	-34% *	-16% *
PROPERTY CRIME	728,000	679,000	654,000	579,000	502,000	-31% *	-13% *
Vandalism	350,000	303,000	275,000	219,000	179,000	-49% *	-18% *
All motor vehicle theft related incidents	70,000	64,000	58,000	50,000	40,000	-42% *	-19%
Housebreaking	25,000	29,000	28,000	35,000	22,000	-16%	-38% *
Other h'hold theft (inc. bicycles)	173,000	153,000	169,000	169,000	158,000	-9%	-7%
Personal theft (excl. robbery)	110,000	130,000	124,000	106,000	103,000	-6%	-3%
VIOLENT CRIME	317,000	266,000	220,000	236,000	186,000	-41% *	-21%
Assault	297,000	247,000	208,000	225,000	179,000	-40% *	-20%
Robbery	20,000	19,000	12,000	11,000	7,000	-65% *	-40%
Number of Respondents	16,000	16,040	13,010	12,050	11,470		

1. Changes which are statistically significant at the 95% level are highlighted with an “\*”.

2. It should be noted that some of the equivalent estimates for subgroups of crime, particularly for violent crime, are based on small sample sizes which makes the overall incidence data susceptible to volatile changes following slight changes in underlying violent crime reported by the respondents between sweeps of the survey.

3. Small numbers of records which include larger amounts of repeat incidents of violent crimes can contribute to variation between survey sweeps. For example, the average number of incidents of violent crime (for those that did experience violent crime increased from 3 incidents to 3.3 incidents between 2010/11 and 2012/13).

**Figure 2.3 Trends in crime groups<sup>6</sup> (SCJS 2008/09 to 2014/15)**



Base: SCJS 2008/09 (16,000); 2009/10 (16,040); 2010/11 (13,010); 2012/13 (12,050); 2014/15 (11,470)  
 Variable name: Incidence variables INCSURVEYCRIME<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> There was a break in survey methodology from 2008/09, moving to a rolling reference period, increased sample size and continuous fieldwork until a move to a biennial design for 2012/13.



## 2.5. Comparing with Crime Estimates in England and Wales

Victimisation surveys take place in several other countries<sup>8</sup> to obtain information on their population's experience of crime. However, the methodologies used for sampling, interviewing and analysis often vary, making it difficult to make consistent and valid comparisons between the surveys.

The SCJS is similar to the CSEW<sup>9</sup>, with both surveys following on from the British Crime Survey (BCS). In the 1980s, some BCS survey samples covered Scotland, south of the Caledonian Canal. There are differences in the crimes/offence classifications to reflect the differing legal systems, however the overall results from the surveys are broadly comparable.

As noted previously, at an overall level, the SCJS estimates that the risk of crime in Scotland in 2014/15 was 14.5%, lower than the equivalent risk of crime in England and Wales (15.9%).

While this comparison can be made for the overall risk of crime, there are a number of differences between the SCJS and CSEW which mean that making comparisons for different types of crime is not straightforward. For example:

- the coding of crimes differs between the SCJS and the CSEW, reflecting the different criminal justice systems in which they operate. One general difference is that the SCJS includes crimes where the offender is a police officer or is mentally ill (these crimes are excluded in the CSEW estimates).
- the SCJS also prioritises assault over other crimes when coding offences. For example, if an incident includes both vandalism and assault, the assault component will be assumed to be more serious unless it is clear that the damage to property was the most serious aspect of the incident.
- unlike the CSEW, the intent of the offender to cause harm is not taken into consideration in the SCJS and the offence code given relies only on the injuries that the victim received.
- the definition of burglary in England and Wales as measured by the CSEW and the definition of housebreaking in Scotland as measured by the SCJS differs.

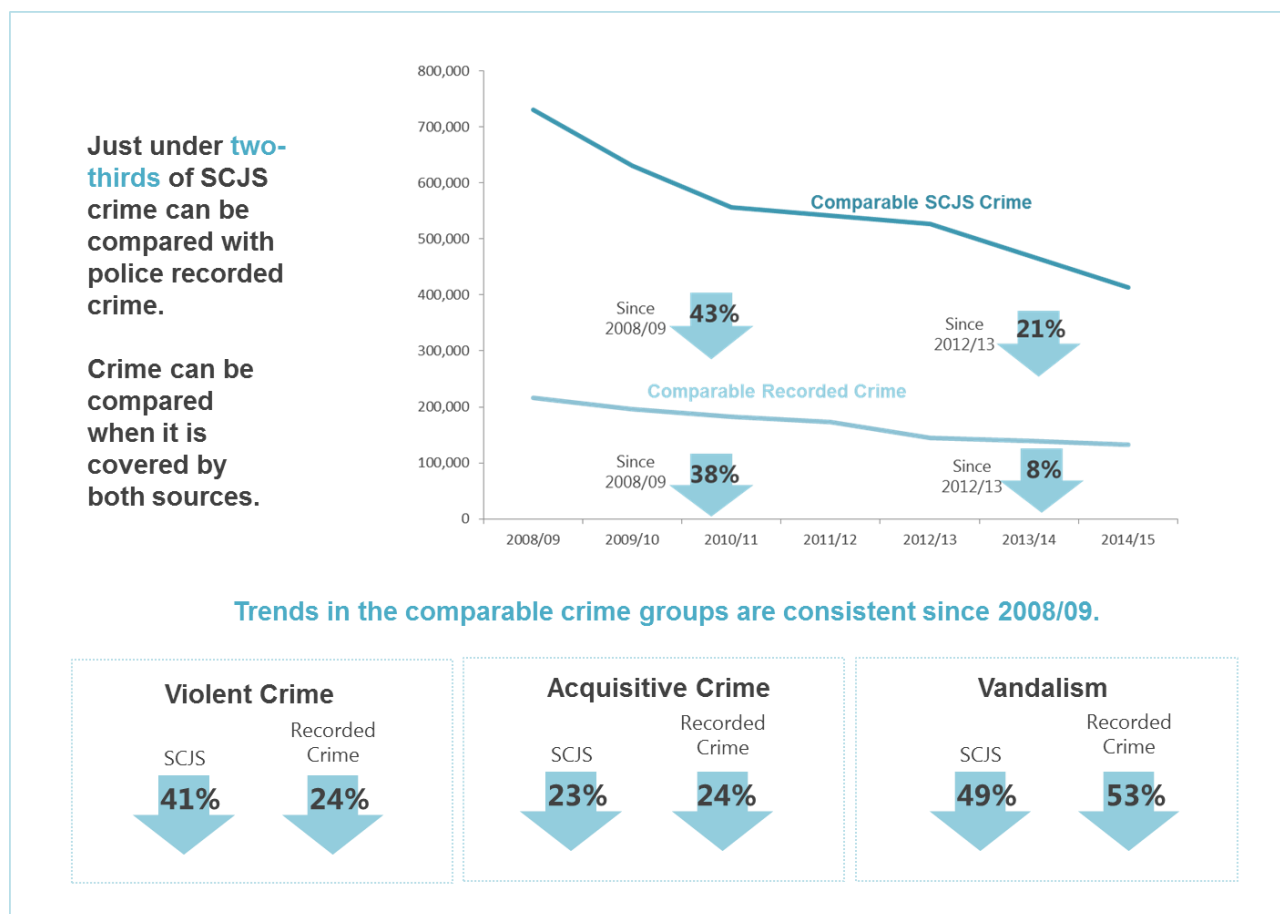
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<sup>7</sup> Definitions for the groups of crimes used in this report can be found in Section 9.3 of the Technical Report. Incidence variables are in the Respondent File SPSS: INCVAND, INCALLMVTHEFT, INCHOUSEBREAK, INCOTHERHOUSETHEFTCYCLE, INCPERSTHEFT, INCASSAULT, INCROB.

<sup>8</sup> Including the England & Wales, Northern Ireland, the USA, Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and New Zealand.

<sup>9</sup> CSEW data: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/crime-stats/crime-statistics/year-ending-march-2015/stb-crime-march-2015.html>

### 3. Bringing Together Crime Statistics



#### 3.1. Introduction

The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) and Police Recorded Crime are essential, complementary sources that, together, present a fuller picture of crime in Scotland. Crimes recorded by the police are important because they can help to evaluate measures in place to reduce crime, assess the performance of policing and criminal justice organisations in Scotland, and also allow them to use evidence to adequately target resources. However, not all crimes come to the attention of the police. Therefore, crime surveys allow a fuller assessment of the overall level and risk of crime. Crime recording is sensitive to changes in public reporting practices, police recording practices and, in part, police deployment and activity. The impact of these, and other effects, contributes to a difference between police recorded crime statistics and crime survey estimates.

This chapter compares police recorded crime statistics to the results of the SCJS to help assess the scale of the difference between the volume of crime that is recorded by the police, and the level of crime that is estimated by the survey to be experienced by the adult population in Scottish households. The analysis in this Chapter builds on an [analytical paper](#), published in 2014, that uses a comparable subset of crime to compare SCJS estimates with police recorded crime figures. It should be noted that this subset of comparable crimes has been created to enable

the comparisons between the sources and should not be used to assess the overall level of crime in Scotland.

### 3.2. Making Comparisons between Recorded Crime and the SCJS

The SCJS and Police Recorded Crime cover different crime and offence groups, different populations and different timescales. They each feature relative strengths and limitations, making them more appropriate in different contexts and for different purposes. Table 3.1 provides an overview of the main differences to bear in mind when making comparisons between the two sources.

**Table 3.1: Comparing Recorded Crime and SCJS**

	Recorded Crime	Scottish Crime and Justice Survey
Where do the data come from?	Administrative police records	Face-to-face interviews with adult residents (16 and over) from a nationally representative sample of the household population
Basis for inclusion	Crimes recorded by the police in Scotland, governed by the Scottish Crime Recording Standard	Trained coders determines whether experiences of victimisation in the last 12 months constitute a crime and assign an offence code.
Frequency	Collected by financial year. Statistics released in an annual publication.	Survey conducted over 12 months, with recall period extending over 23 months. Results published biennially.
Strengths	Covers the full range of crimes and offences.	Captures information about crimes that are not reported to the police (including sensitive issues such as domestic abuse or drug abuse).
	Provides data at a local level.	Provides information on multiple and repeat victimisation (up to 5 incidents in a series).
	A good measure of rarer, more serious crimes that are well reported.	Good measure of trends since 2008/09.
	Measure of long-term trends	Analyses risk for different demographic groups and victim-offender relationships.
	Good measure of crime that the police are faced with	Provides attitudinal data (e.g. fear of crime or attitudes towards the justice system).
Limitations	Partially reliant on the public reporting crime.	Does not cover all crimes (e.g. homicide or 'victimless' crimes such as speeding).
	Reporting rates may vary by the type of crime (e.g. serious crime is more likely to be reported, or housebreaking if a crime number is required for insurance purposes)	Does not cover the entire population (e.g. children, homeless people or people living in communal accommodation).
	Trends can be affected by factors such as legislation, public reporting practices and police recording practices.	Unable to produce robust data at lower level geographies.
		Difficult to measure trends between survey sweeps in rarer forms of crime (such as more serious offences).
		Estimates are subject to a degree of error.
What other data are collected?	Additional statistical bulletins published on homicides, racist incidents, firearm offences and domestic abuse incidents.	Public perceptions about crime
		Worry about crime and the perceived likelihood of being a victim.
		Confidence in the police and wider justice system.
		Prevalence estimated on 'sensitive' topics (partner abuse, sexual victimisation, stalking and drug use).

Taking account of these differences, comparisons between recorded crime and SCJS data can be made by examining a *broadly* comparable subset of crimes which are covered by each source, and can be coded in the survey in approximately the same way as they would be recorded by the police<sup>10</sup>. Comparisons are made in three broad crime groups: vandalism, acquisitive crime and violent crime<sup>11</sup>.

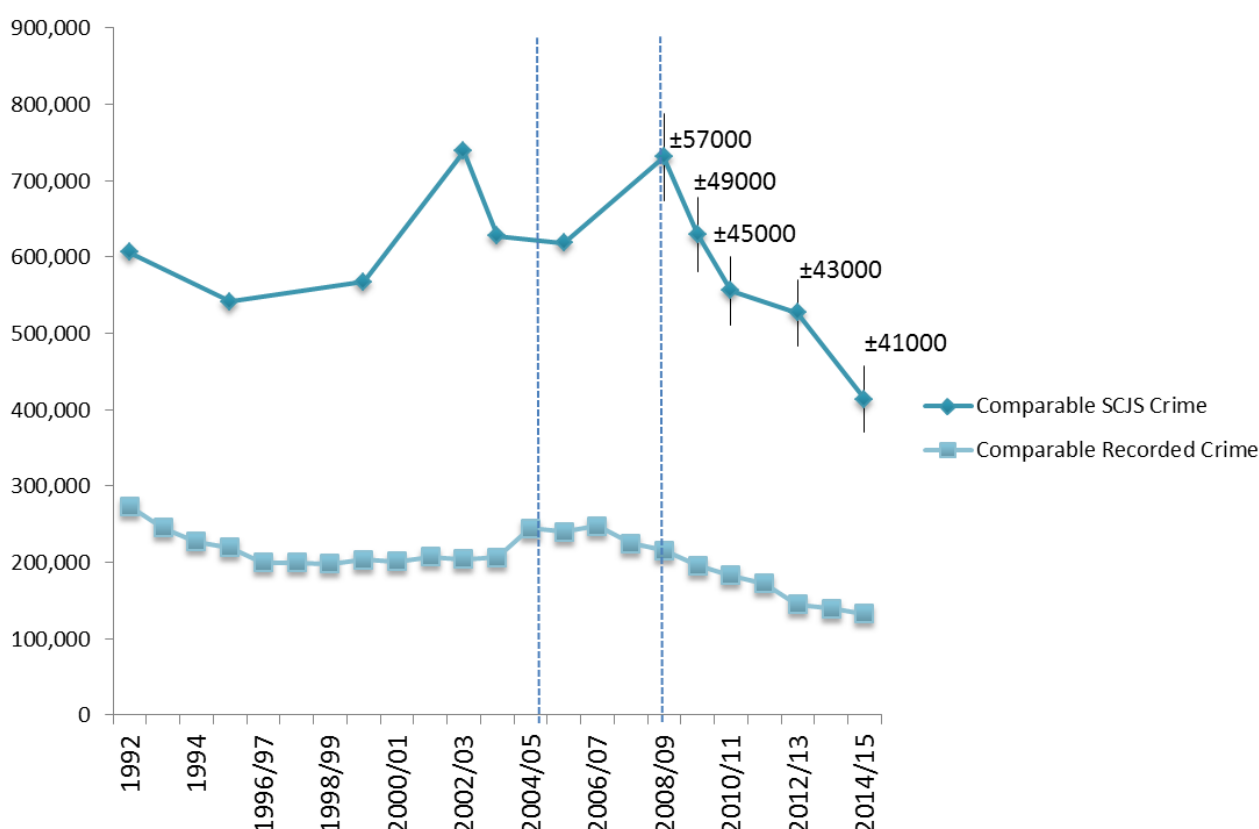
<sup>10</sup> It should be noted that this 'comparable' series is broadly, rather than directly, comparable and the offence classification system used in the survey can only approximate that used by the police. Therefore, making comparisons between SCJS categories and police recorded offence codes are approximate and categories will not be directly equivalent in all cases.

<sup>11</sup> Section 9.3 of the Technical Report provides more information about the crime groups used in this report, including the comparable crime subset.

### 3.3. Overall Number of Crimes - the SCJS and Police Recorded Crime

Of the 688,000 crimes estimated by the 2014/15 SCJS, just under two-thirds (414,000) can be compared with police recorded crimes. In 2014/15, the police recorded 133,170 crimes and offences in the comparable subset. SCJS estimates are higher than recorded crime figures, even in the comparable category, because the survey is able to capture crime that does not come to the attention of the police, and is therefore not covered in recorded crime statistics.

**Figure 3.1 Recorded crime and SCJS estimates in the ‘comparable crime’ category, 1992 to 2014/5**



Sources: SCS, SCVS, SCJS<sup>12</sup>, Police recorded crime.

Note: The police recorded crime recording period moved from calendar year to financial year after 1994; the SCRS was introduced in April, 2004; the survey moved to the current SCJS design in 2008-09.

Figure 3.1 presents the estimated comparable crime levels for surveys conducted since the 1990s alongside comparable police recorded crime. Figure 3.1 shows the scale of the difference between the crime recorded by the police, and that estimated by the survey in the comparable category. There are a range of reasons for this difference, however the main factor is that the SCJS captures crimes that do not come to the attention of the police, and therefore are not included in recorded crime figures. [Chapter 6](#) provides more information on the proportion of crime that the SCJS estimates came to the attention of the police, as well as providing the reasons that respondents gave for deciding not to report crime to the police.

<sup>12</sup> See [Section 1.2](#) for a brief history of victimisation surveys in Scotland.

As discussed in [Chapter 2](#), prior to the establishment of the current SCJS methodology in 2008/09, crime survey estimates in Scotland were derived from smaller samples and the approach to defining the survey reference period varied. As such, estimates were generally subject to a higher level of uncertainty. We have assessed that the greater levels of certainty around survey estimates since 2008/09 enable more consistency in comparisons between the SCJS and recorded crime series. Therefore, the analysis in this Chapter focuses on comparing recorded crime figures and SCJS estimates since 2008/09.

### 3.4. Trends in the Comparable Crime Group

**Table 3.2 Comparable crime group estimates (SCJS 2008/09 to 2014/15)**

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	% change 2008/09 - 2014/15	% change 2012/13 - 2014/15
Comparable SCJS Crime	731,000	630,000	556,000	527,000	414,000	-43% *	-21% *
Comparable Recorded Crime	216,000	196,000	183,000	145,000	133,000	-38%	-8%
SCJS Acquisitive Crime	64,000	61,000	61,000	73,000	49,000	-23% *	-32% *
Recorded Acquisitive Crime	28,000	26,000	26,000	22,000	21,000	-24%	-4%
SCJS Violent Crime	317,000	266,000	220,000	236,000	186,000	-41% *	-21%
Recorded Violent Crime	83,000	80,000	78,000	66,000	63,000	-24%	-5%
SCJS Vandalism	350,000	303,000	275,000	219,000	179,000	-49% *	-18% *
Recorded Vandalism	106,000	90,000	78,000	57,000	50,000	-53%	-13%

SCJS changes which are statistically significant at the 95% level are highlighted with an \*\*.

Base: 2008/09 (16,000); 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010); 2012/13 (12,050); 2014/15 (11,470)

As Table 3.1 indicates, there is greater consistency in the changes over the longer term, with both recorded crime figures and SCJS estimates in the comparable category showing downward trends in the extent of crime between 2008/09 and 2014/15 (-38% and -43% respectively). The 43% fall in crime in SCJS comparable crime between 2008/09 and 2014/15 is statistically significant.

The estimated number of crimes in the comparable subset 2014/15 has fallen by around a fifth (21%) since 2012/13. In comparison, between 2012/13 and 2014/15, recorded crime figures have fallen by 8%, potentially meaning that comparatively more crime has been recorded by the police. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland ([HMICS](#))'s auditing of incidents and crimes recorded by Police Scotland indicates that police compliance in recording is generally good overall.

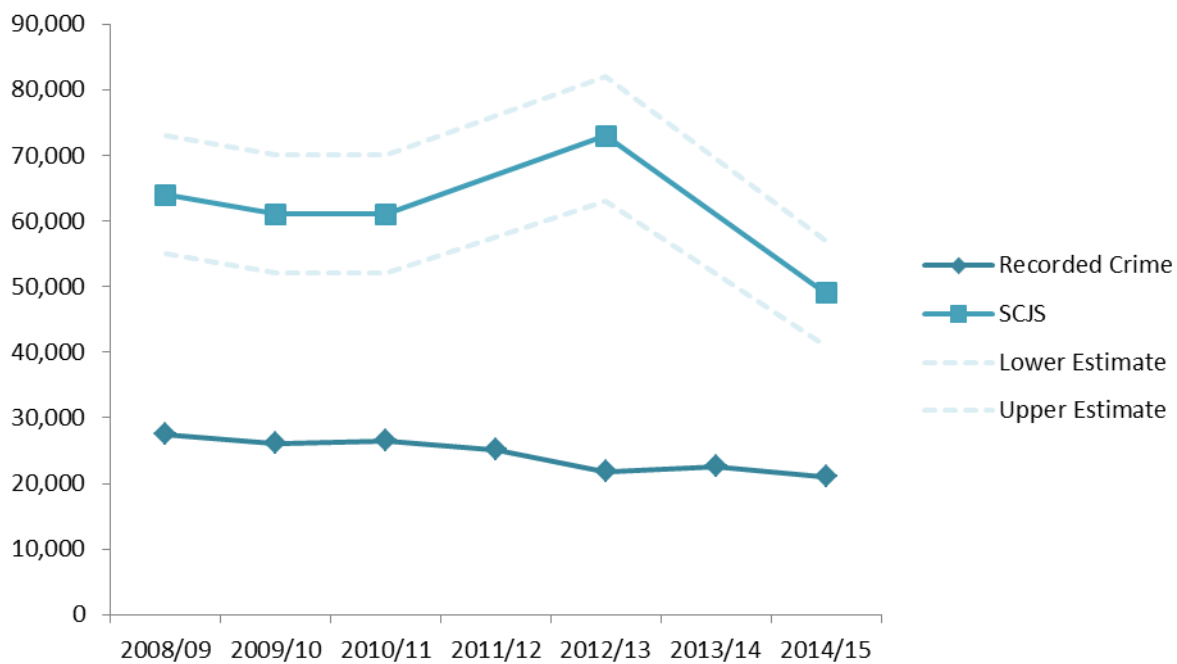
The sections below discuss the changes over time in each of the three crime groups.

#### 3.4.1. Acquisitive Crime

The acquisitive comparable crime group includes bicycle theft, housebreaking and theft of a motor vehicle. In 2014/15, the SCJS estimated that there were 49,000 acquisitive crimes (+/- 8,000, meaning that the true number of acquisitive crimes in

the underlying population is estimated to be between 41,000 and 57,000). The police recorded 21,000 acquisitive crimes in 2014/15.

**Figure 3.2 Recorded crime and SCJS estimates in the acquisitive crime category, 2008/09 to 2014/15**



Sources: SCJS, Police recorded crime.

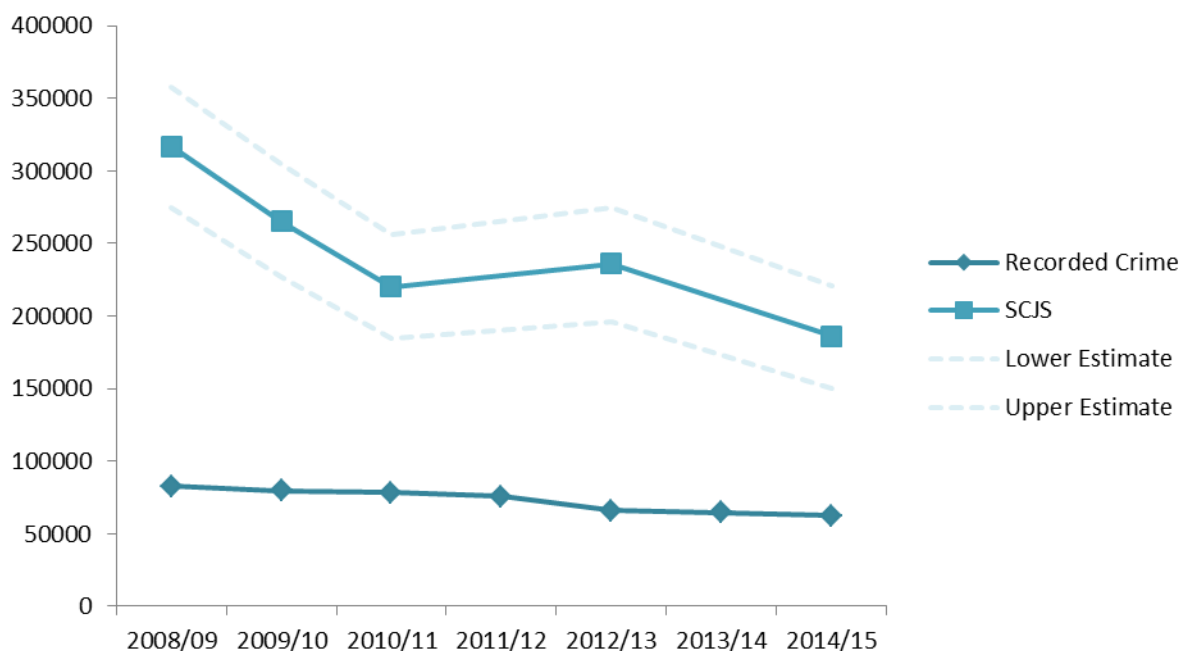
Figure 3.2 shows the trends in SCJS estimates of acquisitive crime in the comparable crime category (2008/09 to 2014/15). With the exception of the SCJS estimate for 2012/13, there has been relative consistency in the trends of both SCJS estimates and police recorded crime figures and trends between 2008/09 and 2014/15. However, it should be noted that the apparent change in the SCJS estimate between 2010/11 and 2012/13 is not statistically significant.

There is greater consistency in the changes over the longer term; between 2008/09 and 2014/15, recorded acquisitive crime decreased by 24%, while SCJS estimates decreased by 23%, a statistically significant change (Table 3.2). Since 2012/13, recorded acquisitive crime has decreased by 4%, while the SCJS has decreased by 33%, a statistically significant change.

### 3.4.2. Violent Crime

The violent comparable crime group includes serious assault, minor assault and robbery. In 2014/15, the SCJS estimated that there were 186,000 violent crimes (+/- 35,000, meaning that the true number of acquisitive crimes in the underlying population is estimated to be between 150,000 and 221,000), while the police recorded 62,578 violent crimes.

**Figure 3.3 Recorded crime and SCJS estimates in the violent crime category, 2008/09 to 2014/15**



Sources: SCJS, Police recorded crime.

Figure 3.3 shows the trends in SCJS estimates of violent crime in the comparable crime category (2008/09 to 2014/15). There has been relative consistency in the trends for both SCJS estimates and police recorded crime figures between 2008/09 and 2014/15.

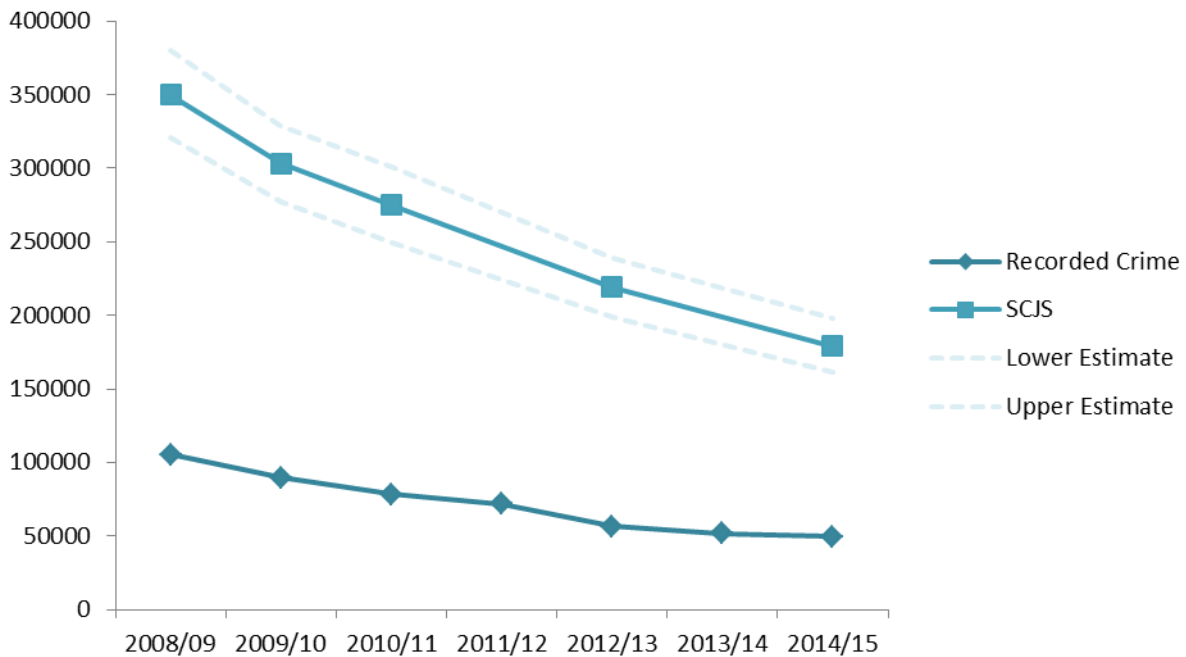
Table 3.2 shows that there is greater certainty around cumulative changes in SCJS violent crime estimates in the longer term. Between 2008/09 and 2014/15, both SCJS estimates and recorded crime violent crime figures have shown a decrease (by 41% and 24% respectively). Violent crime estimates are based on a relatively small number of respondents (282 in the 2014/15 survey) who had disclosed experiences of violent crime in the survey.

Since 2012/13, recorded violent crime has decreased by 5%, while the SCJS has shown no change in violent crime estimates since 2012/13 (the apparent 21% decrease was not statistically significant).



### 3.4.3. Vandalism

**Figure 3.4 Recorded crime and SCJS estimates in the vandalism category, 2008/09 to 2014/15**



Sources: SCJS, Police recorded crime.

The vandalism comparable crime group includes motor vehicle vandalism and property vandalism. In 2014/15, the SCJS estimated that there were 179,000 instances of vandalism (+/- 18,000, meaning that the true number of acquisitive crimes in the underlying population is estimated to be between 161,000 and 198,000). The police recorded 49,592 vandalism incidents in 2014/15.

Figure 3.4 shows the trends in SCJS estimates of vandalism in the comparable crime category (2008/09 to 2014/15). There has been relative consistency in the trends of both SCJS estimates and police recorded crime figures between 2008/09 and 2014/15.

Since 2012/13, SCJS estimates of vandalism have decreased by 18%, while crimes of vandalism recorded by the police have decreased by 13%. Likewise, over the longer term, both SCJS estimates and recorded crime figures have been on a downward trend since 2008/09 (by 49% and 53% respectively). As Table 3.2 highlights, both these changes in survey estimates are statistically significant.

Compared to the violent crime and acquisitive crime groups, vandalism estimates are based on larger samples of respondents (598 in 2014/15). Consequently, the associated increased certainty around changes in the vandalism subgroup mean that there is greater evidence upon which to make comparisons between trends in recorded crime figures and SCJS estimates.

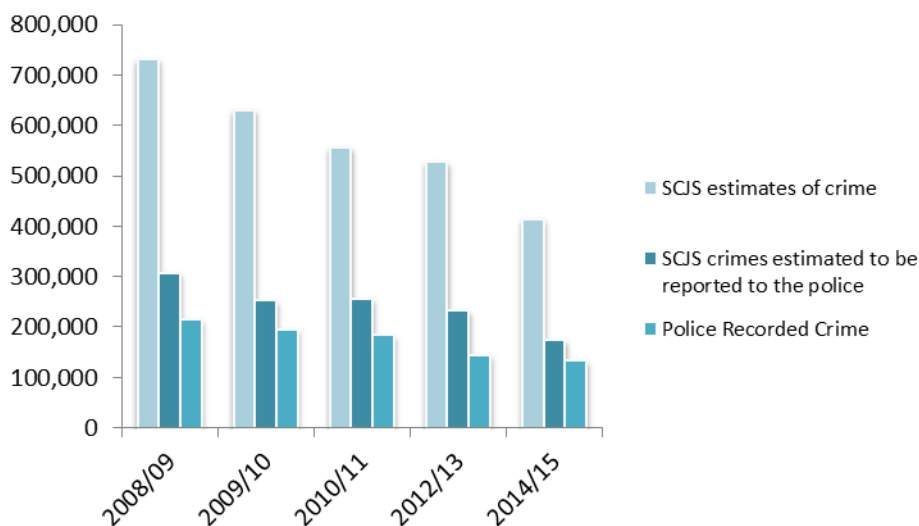


### 3.5. Reporting to the Police

SCJS respondents are asked whether the police ‘came to know about’ the crime, either from them or somebody else. This allows comparisons to be made between crime estimated to have been reported to the police in the SCJS, and police recorded crime figures. Although it is not possible to determine on an individual basis whether a crime that the police ‘came to know about’ was captured in police recorded crime data, this type of analysis can give an indication of the level of crime that goes unreported, and the broad relationship between police recorded crime figures and SCJS estimates. Making this comparison offers a way of assessing the relationship between the SCJS and police recorded crime data.

#### 3.5.1. Comparing Police Recorded Crime to the SCJS

**Figure 3.5 Recorded crime, estimated unreported crime and estimated crime not recorded, in the set of comparable crimes, 2008/09 to 2014/15**



Sources: SCJS, Police recorded crime.

Figure 3.5 presents the estimated level of ‘reported’ and ‘unreported’ crime in the comparable crime category across all sweeps of the SCJS, as well as the number of comparable crimes recorded by the police. ‘Unreported’ crime refers to the crime that is not reported to the police, either by the victim, or by someone else. Figures from the 2014/15 SCJS indicate that of the 414,000 crimes in the overall comparable subset, around 174,000 incidents (42%) were estimated to have been reported to police. In 2014/15, the police recorded 133,170 crimes in the comparable category.

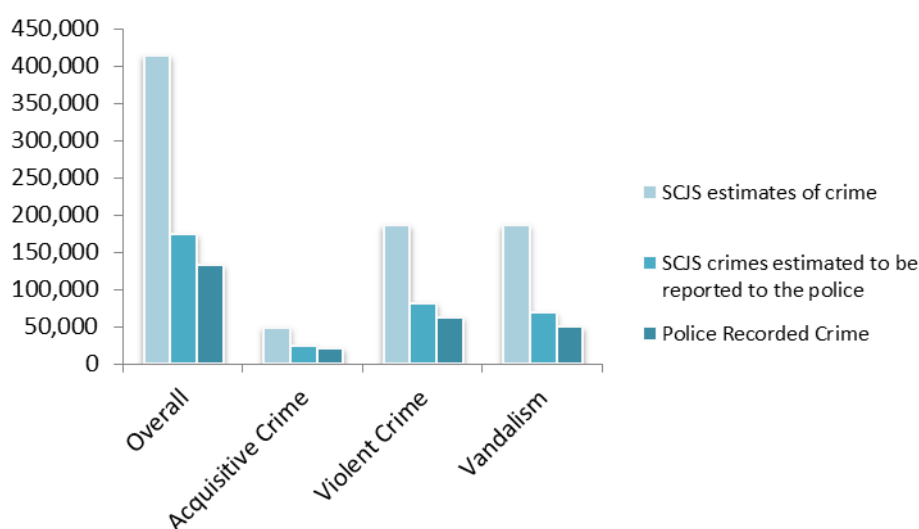
Using this information, it can be estimated that around 32% of the total comparable crimes estimated by the SCJS (that is crime estimated to be reported as well as unreported crime) were recorded by the police in 2014/15. This is similar to the equivalent proportions in recent years (30% in 2008/09, 31% in 2009/10, 33% in

2010/11 and 27% in 2012/13). In addition, as a proportion of all SCJS comparable crimes, the number of comparable crimes estimated to have been reported to the police, and not recorded in police statistics, has been broadly consistent, with the exception of 2012/13; 12% in 2008/09, 9% in 2009/10, 13% in 2010/11, 17% in 2012/13 and 10% in 2014/15.

While this analysis indicates that a number of crimes reported to the police are not captured and recorded by the police, it is important to note that such comparisons are based on survey estimates and as such are broadly indicative, rather than directly comparable.

### 3.5.2. Analysis by Comparable Crime Group

**Figure 3.6 Recorded crime, estimated unreported crime and estimated crime not recorded, by comparable crime sub-group, 2014/15**



Sources: SCJS, Police recorded crime

This analysis can be extended across the comparable crime sub-groups:

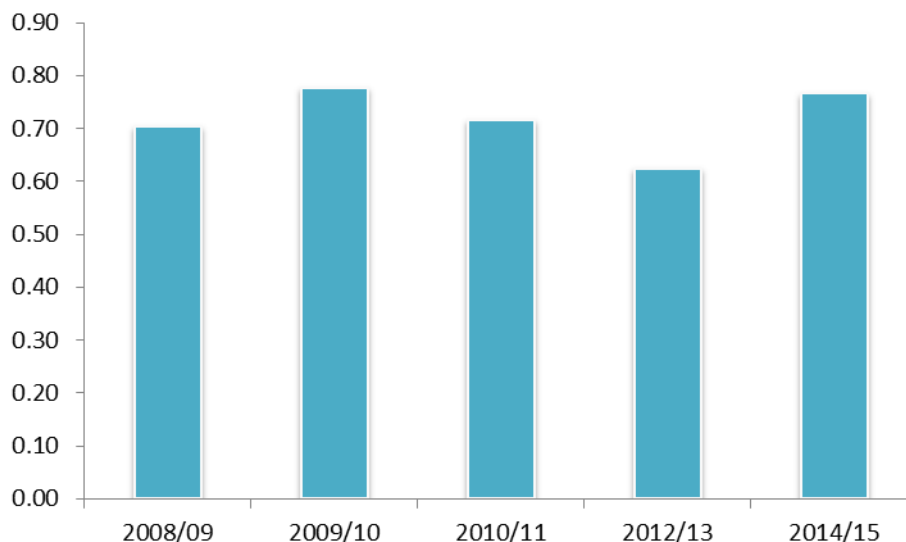
- Around 25,000 (or 50%) of **acquisitive crimes** are estimated to have been reported to the police in 2014/15. As the police recorded 21,000 acquisitive incidents in 2014/15, using the SCJS, it is estimated that 84% of comparable acquisitive crime estimated to have been reported to the police, were recorded in police statistics.
- Around 82,000 (or 44%) of **violent crimes** are estimated to have been reported to the police in 2014/15. The police recorded 62,578 violent incidents in 2014/15. Therefore, it is estimated that 76% of the violent comparable crime estimated to have been reported to the police, were recorded in police statistics.
- Around 69,000 (or 37%) of **vandalism** incidents are estimated to have been reported to the police in 2014/15. As the police recorded 49,592 vandalism incidents in 2014/15, it is estimated that 72% of the comparable vandalism

crime estimated to have been reported to the police, were recorded in police statistics.

### 3.5.3. Ratio of Police Recorded Crime to SCJS 'Reported' Crime

An alternative approach to investigating the relationship between the two sources is to examine the ratio of police recorded crime to the volume of SCJS crime estimated to have been reported to the police. The [analytical paper](#), published in 2014, outlined two methods for calculating this: the first, comparing the biennial SCJS to annual recorded crime figures and the second comparing the biennial SCJS against two financial years of averaged police recorded crime data. This section updates the information using the first method, to compare the biennial SCJS to annual recorded crime figures<sup>13</sup>.

**Figure 3.7 Ratio between police recorded crime and SCJS crime estimated to have been reported to the police**



Sources: SCJS, Police recorded crime.

Figure 3.7 shows annual recorded crime figures compared to crime estimated to have been reported to the police by the SCJS (across the two-year fieldwork recall period)<sup>14</sup>.

The ratio between police recorded crime and SCJS crime estimated to have been reported to the police peaked in 2009/10. In 2009/10, of the 630,000 crimes in the comparable category, 252,000 (40%) crimes were estimated to have been reported

<sup>13</sup> A comparison of the two methods highlights a *lag effect*, suggesting that using the second method, the difference between recorded crime and SCJS crime estimated to be reported to the police is likely to be less than that derived from using the first method presented here.

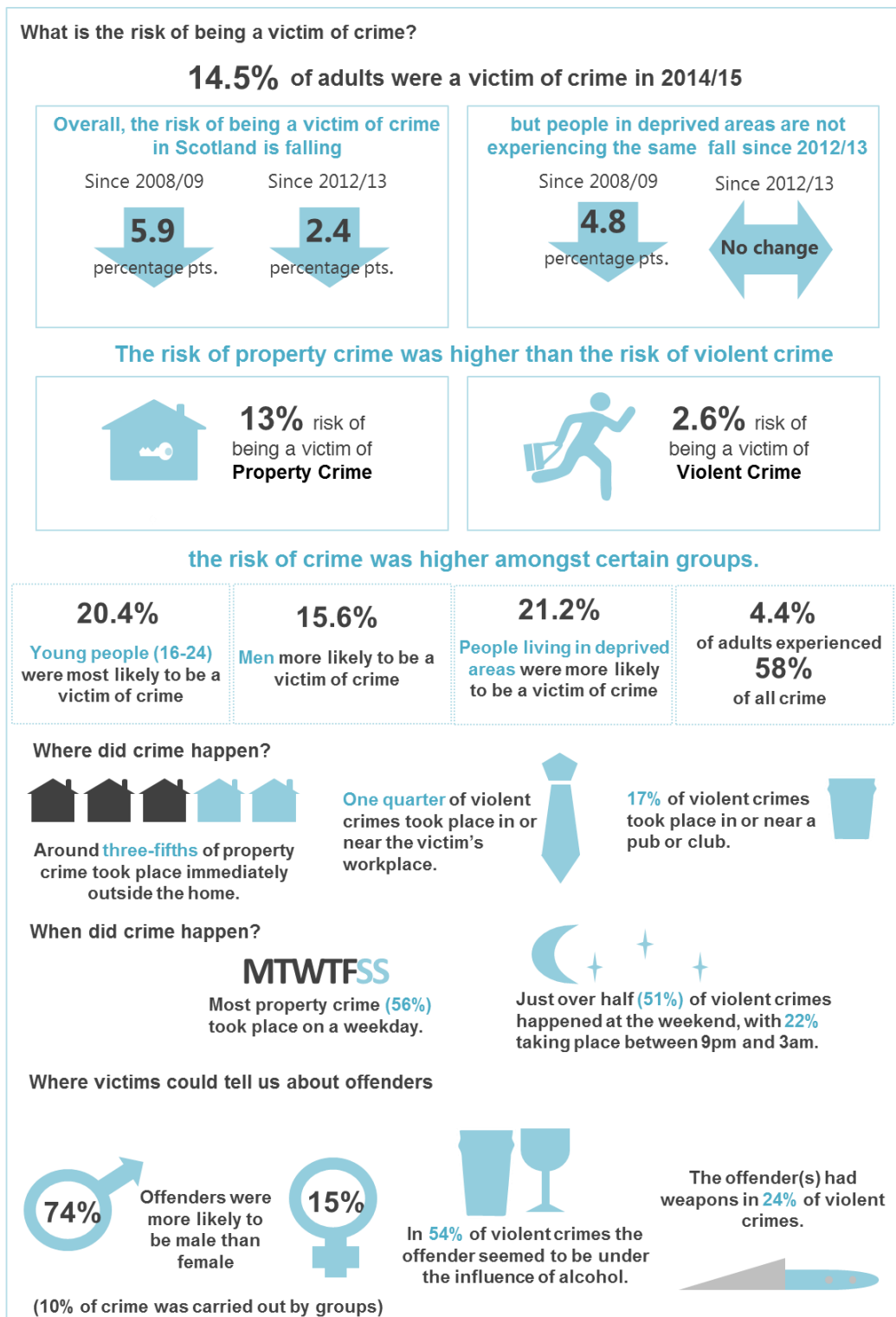
<sup>14</sup> SCJS 2014/15 Technical Report, Chapter 7 - <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/crime-and-justice-survey/publications>

to the police, while also in 2009/10 the police recorded 195,728 crimes. It can therefore be estimated that around 78% of the crime estimated to have been reported to the police in the SCJS was captured in police statistics.

In 2014/15, the SCJS estimated that of the 414,000 crimes in the comparable category, around 174,000 (42%) crimes were reported to the police, while also in 2014/15 the police recorded 133,170 crimes. From this, it can be estimated that around 77% of the crime estimated to have been reported to the police in the SCJS was captured in police statistics.

By applying this method of comparison, it is notable that there is a level of variation in the resulting ratio over the five sweeps of the survey. Having increased from 70% in 2008/09 to 78% in 2009/10, the proportion of crime reported to the police then fell to 62% in 2012/13, before returning to 77% in 2014/15 (Figure 3.7).

## 4. The Risk and Characteristics of Crime



### 4.1. Introduction

As reported in Chapter 2, the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) 2014/15 estimated that approximately 688,000 crimes occurred in Scotland. As well as estimating the number of crimes, the SCJS measures the percentage of adults (aged 16 or over) who were victims of crime in the 12 months before interview. This

identifies the overall risk of being a victim of crime and is known as the 'crime victimisation rate' or 'prevalence'.

This chapter also examines the varying risk of being a victim of crime, as well as the nature and characteristics of crime. This includes when and where crime happened and the characteristics of offenders. The chapter also presents the latest figures on the use of weapons and the role of alcohol and drugs in violent crime.

## **4.2. The Risk of Crime**

The majority of Scottish adults were not the victim of any crime in 2014/15. The SCJS 2014/15 estimates that 14.5% of adults were the victims of at least one crime.

Scotland Performs measures and reports on the progress of government in Scotland in creating a more successful country. The SCJS is used to monitor the following national indicator: 'reduce crime victimisation rates'<sup>15</sup>, defined as the percentage of adults aged 16 or over in private households who have been the victim of one or more crimes as measured by the SCJS.

The SCJS 2008/09 is the baseline for the Scotland Performs crime victimisation indicator. The risk of being a victim of crime has seen a statistically significant decrease from 20.4% in 2008/09 to 14.5% in 2014/15. The risk of crime has also fallen between the latest two surveys, from 16.9% in 2012/13 to 14.5% in 2014/15.

Equivalent results from the Crime Survey for England & Wales show that the risk of crime victimisation in England and Wales in 2014/15 was 15.9%<sup>16</sup>. This represents a statistically significant difference compared to the equivalent crime victimisation rate estimated in the SCJS 2014/15 (14.5%).

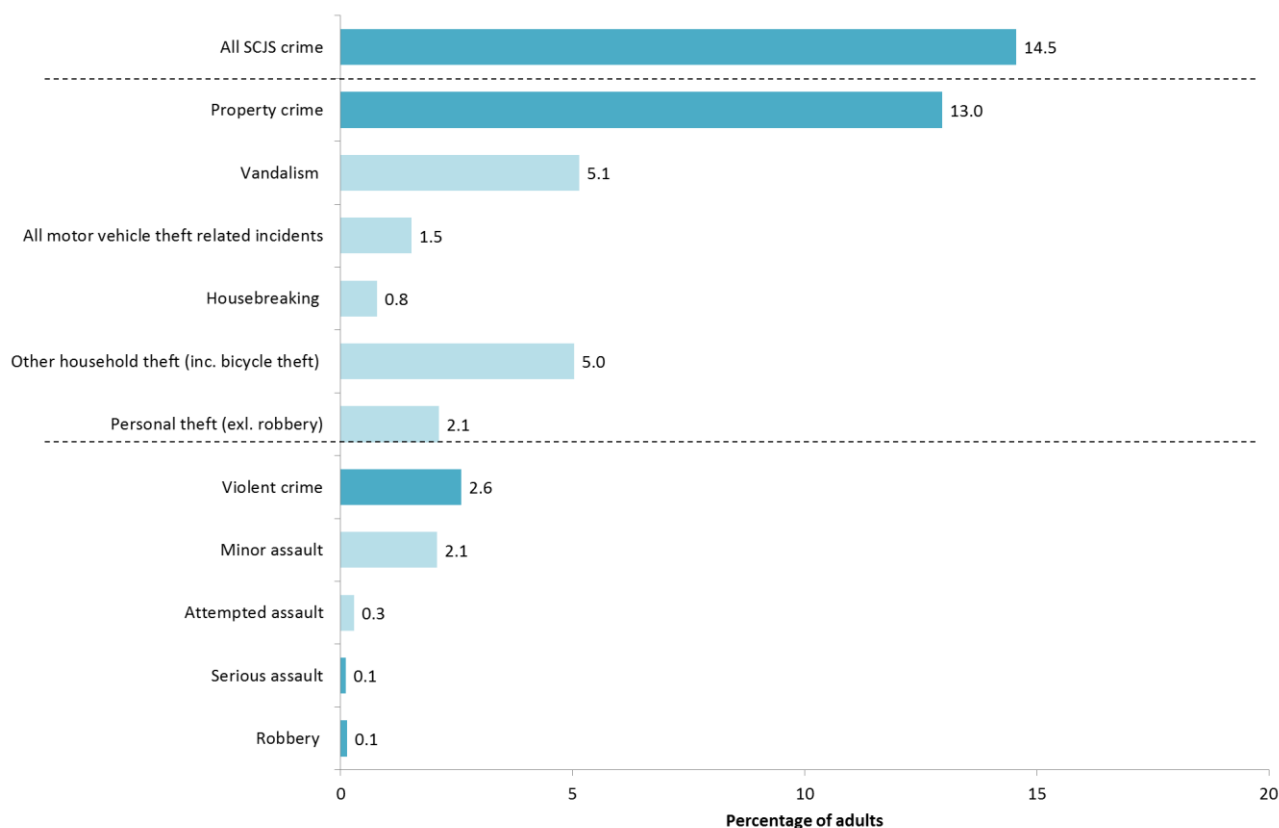
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<sup>15</sup> Scotland Performs: <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms>

<sup>16</sup> Table D1, Annual Trend and Demographic Tables - Crime in England and Wales, period ending March 2015 - <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcn%3A77-373428>

## 4.2.1. The Risk of Being a Victim of Different Crimes

Figure 4.1 Risk of being a victim of different crime types (SCJS, 2014/15)



Base: Adults (or Households) (11,470)  
Variable name: Prevalence variables

Figure 4.1 shows the risk of being a victim of various crime types. The SCJS estimates that there was a 13.0% risk of being a victim of property crime in 2014/15. Within the property crime group, adults had a 5.1% risk of experiencing vandalism and 5.0% risk of experiencing other household thefts (including bicycle theft). There was a 2.6% risk of being a victim of violent crime. Within this group, there was a 2.1% risk of minor assault, a 0.3% risk of attempted assault and a 0.1% risk for both serious assault and robbery.

## 4.2.2. The Varying Risk of Crime by Respondent Characteristics

This section explores how the risk of being a victim of crime varies among adults in Scotland. It examines the varying risk of being a victim of crime overall, as well as separately for property crime and violent crime. Successive sweeps of the SCJS have shown that the risk of being a victim of crime varies among adults with differing personal, household and area characteristics (Box 4.1).

#### **Box 4.1 The varying risk of victimisation**

Particular features that increase risk have been identified through modelling BCS and other crime survey data. Features identified include personal characteristics, such as age and gender, and household attributes, such as household size, composition and type of accommodation. Lifestyle factors that are associated with differential risk include relative affluence and routine activities such as the proportion of time spent in or out of the home (Kershaw and Tseloni, 2005).

Area characteristics also influence the risk of crime. More property and violent crime have consistently been found in areas with higher levels of deprivation (Johnson et al., 2005). Urban areas, where areas of higher deprivation tend to be, have higher crime rates. As a result, there is a higher than average risk of victimisation for adults living in urban areas compared with those living in rural locations.

Analysis of BCS and other crime survey data has shown that, in low crime areas, the risk is more evenly distributed. In areas of high crime, it is concentrated in a relatively small number of households. This means that, in high crime areas, the risk to an individual household is relatively low, but those that are victims more often suffer repeated victimisation (Kershaw and Tseloni, 2005).

Table 4.1 shows that the risk of being a victim of a crime is higher for males (15.6%) than for females (13.6%), and that males also had a higher risk of being as victim of violent crime than females (3.5% compared to 1.8% respectively)<sup>17</sup>, both statistically significant differences. However there was no statistically significant difference in the risk of males and females being a victim of property crime.

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<sup>17</sup> The analysis only presents simple one-to-one relationships of age, gender and age by gender rather than more complex statistical relationships such as those described in Box 4.1 that might be identified through modelling.



**Table 4.1: The varying risk of crime by age and gender (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of adults</i>	<b>Property crime</b>	<b>Violent crime</b>	<b>All SCJS crime</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
<b>All</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>11,470</b>
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	13.4	3.5	15.6	5,180
Female	12.6	1.8	13.6	6,290
<b>Age</b>				
16-24	16.8	6.0	20.4	930
25-44	16.5	3.5	18.4	3,420
45-59	13.7	2.2	15.3	2,970
60 or over	6.4	0.4	6.8	4,160
<b>Age within gender</b>				
Male 16-24	17.9	8.7	23.6	430
Male 25-44	15.4	5.0	18.3	1,530
Male 45-59	13.9	1.9	15.3	1,360
Male 60 or over	7.9	0.4	8.3	1,860
Female 16-24	15.7	3.2	17.1	500
Female 25-44	17.6	2.0	18.6	1,880
Female 45-59	13.6	2.4	15.2	1,610
Female 60 or over	5.2	0.3	5.5	2,300

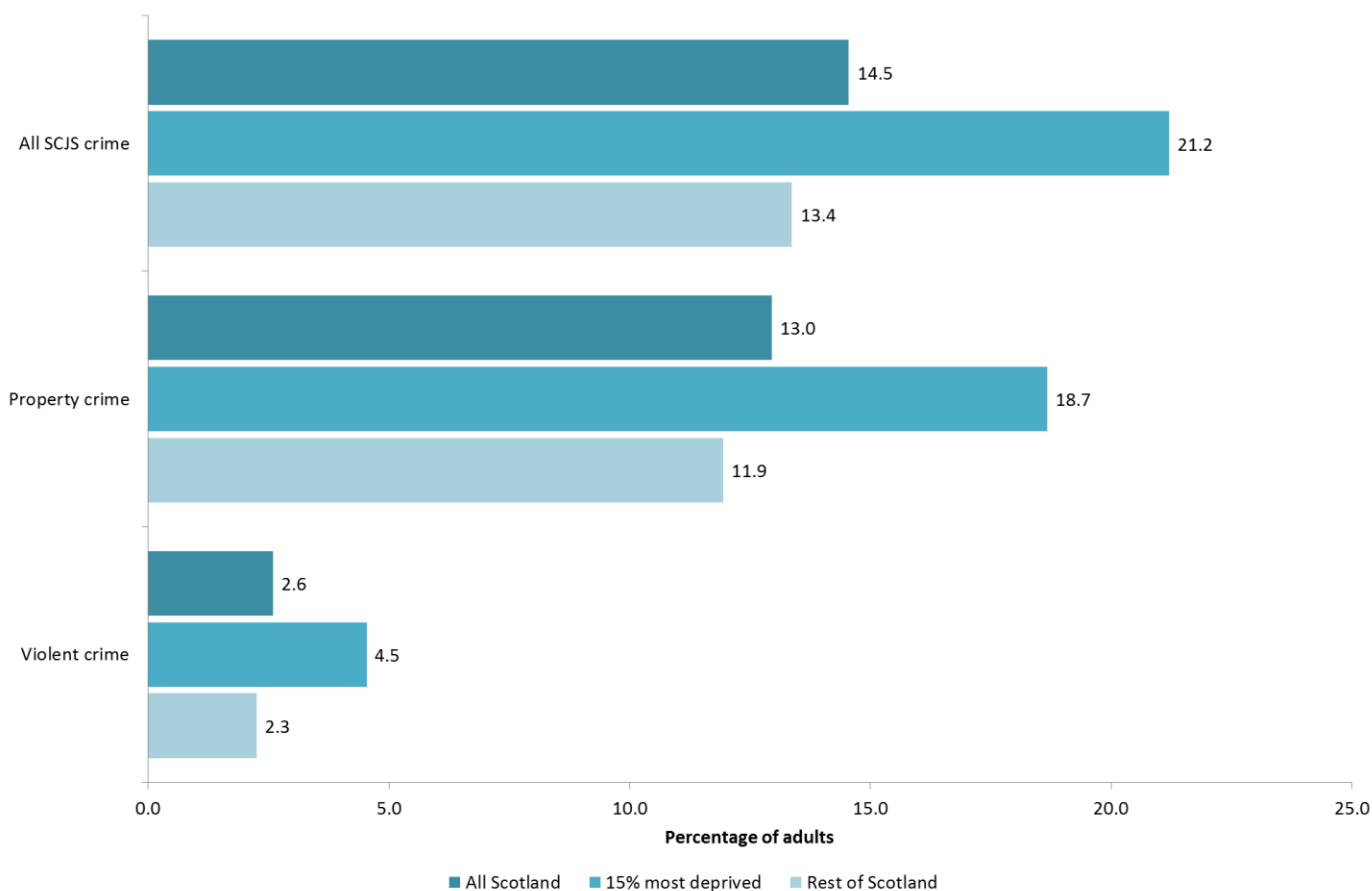
Variable name: PREVSURVEYCRIME, PREVPROPERTY AND PREVVIOLENT

The risk of being a victim of any crime decreased with age. One fifth (20.4%) of 16 to 24 year olds were at risk of being a victim of crime, compared with a 6.8% risk for those 60 or over. Similarly, the risk of property crime was highest for those aged 16-24 (16.8%) and 25-44 (16.5%) and lowest those aged over 60 (6.4%). The risk of violent crime also decreased with age, from 6.0% for those aged 16-24 to 0.4% for those over 60.

Taking age and gender together, young men (aged 16-24) had the highest risk of being a victim of any crime (23.6%). Young men also had the highest risk of violent crime (8.7%), and were over twice as likely to be a victim of violent crime than women of the same age group (3.2%).

### 4.2.3. The Varying Risk of Crime by Area Characteristics

Figure 4.2: The risk of being a victim of different crimes (SCJS 2014/15)



Number of respondents: 11,470; 15% most deprived (1,690); Rest of Scotland (9,780)

Variable name: SIMD\_TOP, PREVSURVEYCRIME, PREVPROPERTY and PREVVIOLENT

The results of the SCJS 2014/15 also show that the risk of being a victim of crime varies by area characteristics. Figure 4.2 demonstrates that the risk of being a victim of crime was higher for adults living in the 15% most deprived areas in Scotland (21.2%), compared to those living in the rest of Scotland (13.4%). Similarly, the SCJS 2014/15 data shows that the risk of property crime and violent crime was higher for those living in Scotland's 15% most deprived areas<sup>18</sup>.

For those living in the most deprived areas, the risk of being a victim of crime saw a statistically significant decrease from 26.0% in 2008/09 to 21.2% in 2014/15, but no change between 2012/13 (21.3%) and 2014/15 (21.2%). For the rest of Scotland, the risk of crime in 2014/15 (13.4%) is lower than in 2008/09 (19.4%) and 2012/13 (16.1%).

<sup>18</sup> [Annex 1](#) Table A1.6 to A1.8 provides further data on risk of crime by deprivation.

### 4.3. Multiple and Repeat Victimization

This section presents figures on the risk of being a victim of a particular crime more than once during 2014/15. It should be noted that some victims will experience multiple and repeat incidents, but over a longer period of time. Box 4.3 outlines how the survey captures and presents this information, and outlines the approach taken to cap the number of incidents that occur in a series.

#### **Box 4.3 Terminology used in the analysis of repeat and multiple victims<sup>19</sup>**

**Multiple Victimization** – the estimated proportion of adults who have been the victim of more than one violent crime, or more than one property crime or have been the victim of both types of crime.

The SCJS, technically consists of two highly related, but separate surveys; at various times in the survey the respondent provides information on behalf of the household as a whole and on behalf of themselves as an individual. To enable an estimation of overall multiple victimisation, the statistics presented in this section use the individual weight. This means that the statistics relate to crimes against adults where they were a victim of a personal crime or who lived in a household that was a victim of a household crime.

**Repeat Victimization** – a subset of multiple victimisation, the proportion of adults who have been the victim of the same type of crime more than once (e.g. multiple property crimes).

**High Frequency Repeat Victims** – a subset of repeat victims who have experienced a ‘series’<sup>20</sup> of five or more crimes, of the same type. The total number of incidents that occurred in a series in the reference period is capped at five incidents. Therefore, as up to five victim forms are completed, a respondent can have a maximum of 25 incidents included in the survey statistics. The capping of series incidents is consistent with previous SCJS and with current practice in other crime surveys, such as the Crime Survey for England and Wales, although this methodology will be kept under review (further information is provided in the 2014/15 SCJS Technical Report, Section 9.2).

#### 4.3.1. Multiple Victimization

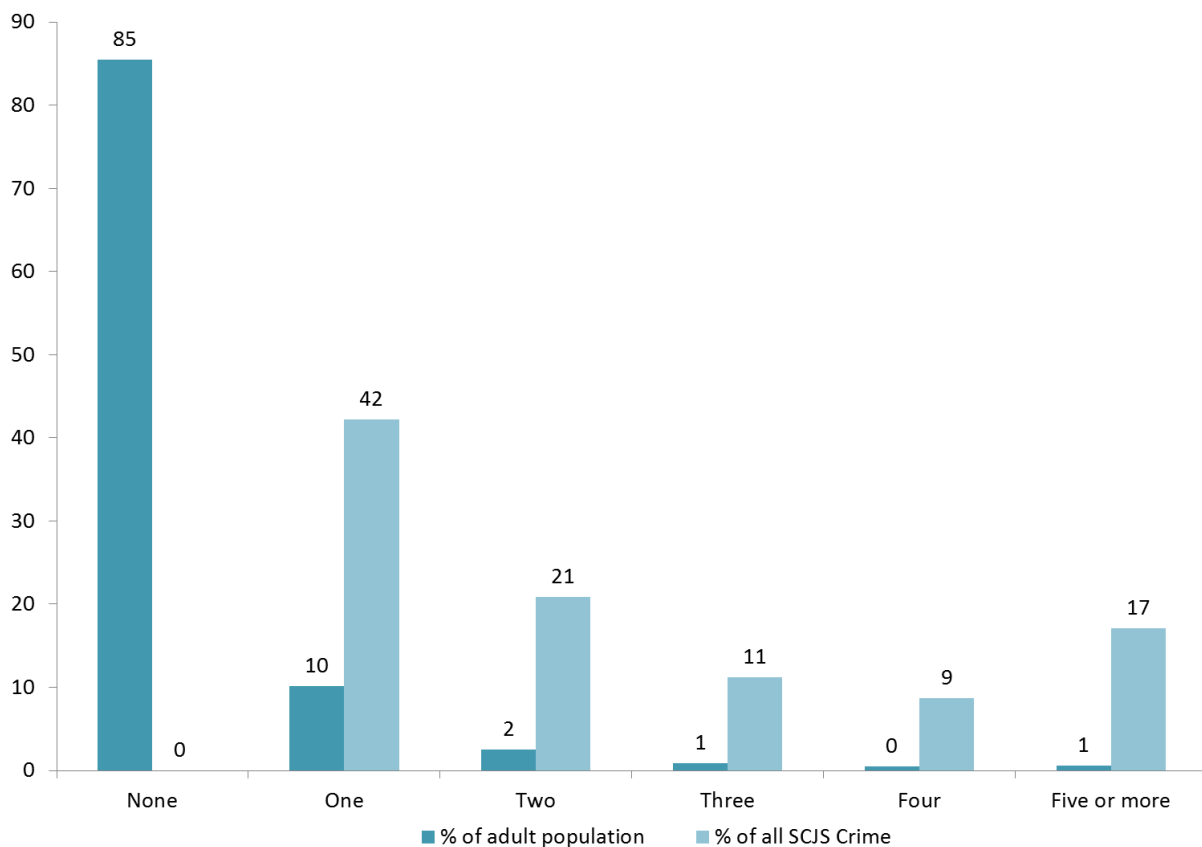
As shown in Figure 4.3, it is estimated that 85.5% of adults did not experience crime and that around one in ten adults experienced one crime (10.2%), accounting for 42% of all SCJS crime.

<sup>19</sup> Further detail is provided in the 2014/15 SCJS Technical Report (sections 4.5 and 9.2).

<sup>20</sup> Series - where the respondent experiences “the same thing, done under the same circumstances and probably by the same people”.

It is therefore estimated that, in 2014/15, multiple victimisation affected 4.4% of the adult population, who experienced 58% of all SCJS crime. These victims experienced, on average, 2.1 crimes each. Furthermore, it is estimated that 0.6% of the adult population experienced five or more crimes (regardless of crime type and whether the crimes were in a series) accounting for around one sixth of all SCJS crime (17%). It should be noted that multiple victimisation includes the full range of property and violent crimes estimated by the SCJS – the following section provides information on the property and violent crimes involved in the subset of repeat victimisation.

**Figure 4.3 Prevalence rates and proportion of crime experienced by victims, by number of crimes experienced<sup>1,2</sup> (SCJS 2014/15)**



Base: Victims of crime (1,930)  
Variable name: PREVSURVEYCRIME

**Notes:**

1. Figures are based on analysis of a small number of victims and should be interpreted with caution.
2. To enable an estimation of overall multiple victimisation, the statistics presented in this section all use the individual weight. This means that the statistics relate to crimes against adults where they were a victim of a personal crime or who lived in a household that was a victim of a household crime.

### 4.3.2. Repeat Victimisation

The analysis of repeat victimisation enables an examination of the types of crimes experienced more than once in a year. In 2014/15, 3.5% of adults were repeat victims of property crime and 0.8% of adults were repeat victims of violent crime.

Table 4.2 shows that the 3.5% of adults who were repeat victims of property crime experienced 50% of all property crime, or on average 1.6 property crimes each.

Almost a tenth of all property crime (9%) was experienced by the 0.3% of the adult population (2% of victims of property crime) who experienced five or more incidents of property crime.

The 0.8% of adults who were repeat victims of violent crime experienced 57% of all violent crime, or on average three violent crimes each. One fifth of all violent crime (20%) was experienced by the 0.2% of the adult population (or 6% of victims of violent crime) who experienced five or more incidents of violent crime. Of those who were repeat victims of violent crime, 74% were repeat victims of minor assault.

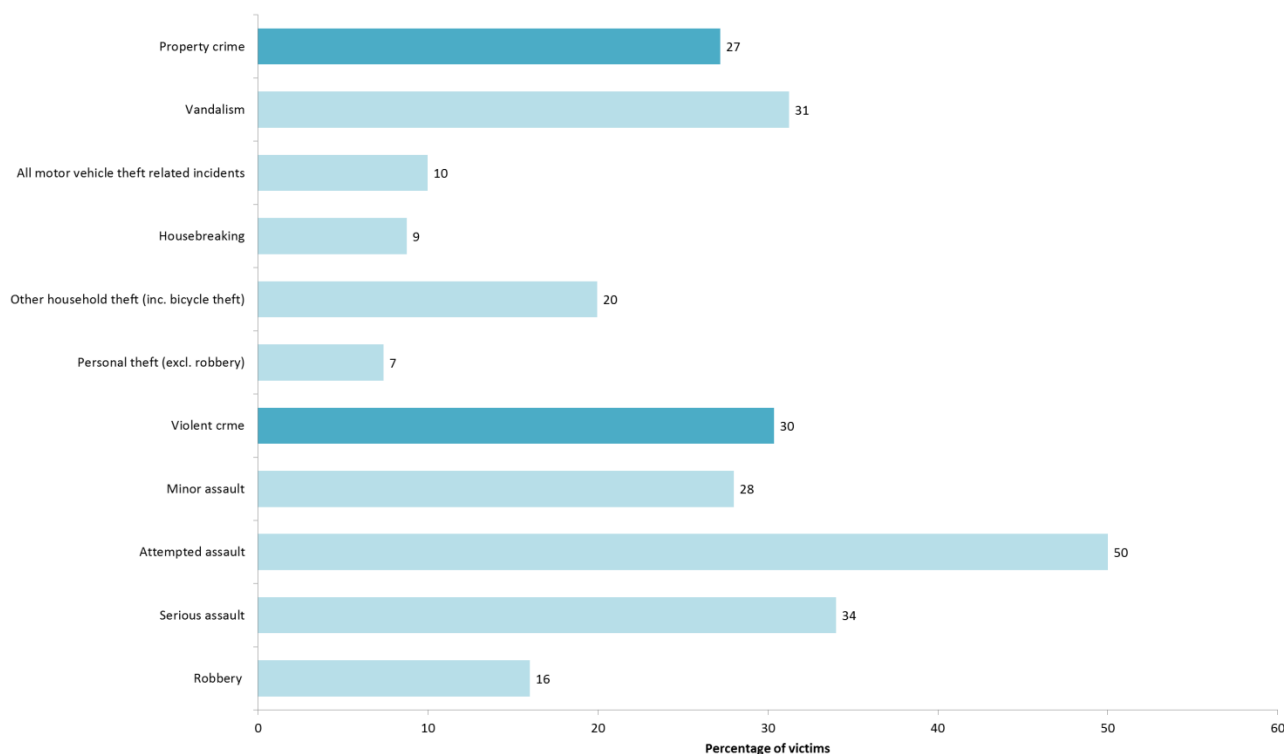
**Table 4.2 Proportion of crime experienced by repeat victims, by number of crimes experienced SCJS 2014/15**

<i>No. of Crimes</i>	<b>Violent Crime</b>			<b>Property Crime</b>		
	<i>% of Violent Crime</i>	<i>% of Population</i>	<i>No. of Crimes</i>	<i>% of Property Crime</i>	<i>% of Population</i>	
0	0	97		0	0	87
1	43	1.8	1	50	9.4	
2	19	0.4	2	22	2.2	
3	12	0.2	3	12	0.8	
4	5.5	0.1	4	6.0	0.2	
5+	20	0.2	5+	9.4	0.3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

Base: Victims of crime (1,930)  
Variable name: PREVSURVEYCRIME

As shown in Figure 4.4, just over one-in-four victims of property crime were repeat victims (27%), although this varied by crime group, from 7% of victims of personal theft (excl. robbery) to 31% of victims of vandalism. Similarly, Figure 4.4 shows that three-in-ten victims of violent crimes were repeat victims (30%), ranging from 16% for victims of robbery to 50% for victims of attempted assault.

**Figure 4.4 Proportion of victims who were repeat victims, by crime group (SCJS 2014/15)**



Base: Households / adults who were victims in each crime group<sup>21</sup>  
 Variable name: Repeat victim variables in the Respondent File SPSS<sup>22</sup>

## 4.4. The Characteristics of Crime

The SCJS collects information on where and when crime happened, the characteristics of offenders, and details about the incident (such as the use of weapons, or the influence of drugs and alcohol).

### 4.4.1. Where Crime Happened

Survey respondents were asked to provide details of where the crime happened. Table 4.3 provides an overview of this information, broken down by crime group.

The majority of crime measured by the SCJS is property crime (73%). For this reason, the main place where crime took place was immediately outside of the victim’s home (47% of all SCJS crime). This includes incidents which took place on the street outside of the respondents home, on driveways, doorsteps, balconies

<sup>21</sup> Base: Property Crime (1,640); Vandalism (600); All motor vehicle theft related incidents (170); Housebreaking (90); Other household theft (incl. bicycle theft) (570); Personal theft (excl. robbery) (220); Violent Crime (280)

<sup>22</sup> Repeat victim variables are in the Respondent File SPSS: REPPROPERTY, REPALLVAND, REPALLMVTHEFT, REPHOUSEBREAK, REPOTHERHOUSETHEFTCYCLE, REPPERSTHEFT, REPVIOLENT. Weighting variables used are WGTGHHD for all crime groups except property crime (as it is a mixture of household and personal crime), personal theft (excluding robbery) and violent crime, where WGTGINDIV is used.

and in the garden. A further 11% of crime took place inside the home and 1% inside the garage.

**Table 4.3: Where crime happened (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of SCJS crimes</i>	<b>Property crime</b>	<b>Violent crime</b>	<b>All SCJS crime</b>
Outside home	59	15	47
In/Near respondent/victim's place of work	10	25	14
Inside own home	11	10	11
In/Around a pub/bar/club	4	17	7
In/Around a shop/supermarket/shopping centre	4	9	6
At the home of a friend or relative	1	2	1
While travelling or near transport facilities	1	2	1
Inside garage	2	0	1
Some other place	5	5	5
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>1,640</i>	<i>280</i>	<i>1,930</i>

Variable names: QWH1, QWH3, QWH5 and QWH7

Considering the crime groups separately, just under three-fifths (59%) of property crime took place immediately outside the home. In contrast, violent crime more commonly happened in or near the victim's workplace (25%) or in or near a pub, bar or club (17%) or immediately outside of the victim's home (15%).

It is not possible to provide in-depth analysis of some of these results given the small sample sizes involved. For example, the 25% of crime estimated to have happened in or near the victims' place of work is based on the experiences reported by 61 respondents. However, the vast majority of workplace violence incidents were classified as minor assault with no / negligible injury (81%), (compared to 64% of all violent crime). Similarly, the majority of violent crime which occurred in/around a pub/bar/club was minor assault with no / negligible injury (67%). Of the 61 respondents who reported workplace violence 31% worked in a caring personal service occupation, 21% worked in a protective service occupation and 17% worked as a health professional<sup>23</sup>.

#### **4.4.2. When Crime Happened**

Respondents were also asked whether crime happened during the week or at the weekend, and at what time of day the incident occurred. Just over half (53%) of crime happened during the week and 37% occurred at the weekend.

<sup>23</sup> ONS Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Hierarchy:  
[http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/HTMLDocs/dev3/ONS\\_SOC\\_hierarchy\\_view.html](http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/HTMLDocs/dev3/ONS_SOC_hierarchy_view.html)

**Table 4.4 When crime happened (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of SCJS crimes</i>	Property crime	Violent crime	All SCJS crime
<b>Weekday any time</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>53</b>
Weekday morning (6am - noon)	4	7	5
Weekday afternoon (noon - 6pm)	17	14	16
Weekday evening (6pm - midnight)	11	15	12
Weekday night (midnight - 6am)	12	6	10
<b>Weekend any time</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>37</b>
Weekend morning (6am - noon)	1	1	1
Weekend afternoon (noon - 6pm)	5	7	6
Weekend evening (6pm - midnight)	8	19	11
Weekend night (midnight - 6am)	12	13	12
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>1,640</i>	<i>280</i>	<i>1,930</i>

Variable names: QWH1, QWH3, QWH5 and QWH7

Most property crime (56%) took place on a weekday, with 32% occurring at the weekend. Just over half (51%) of violent crimes happened at the weekend, with most taking place between 6pm and 6am (32%).

Victims of violent crime were asked for more detail about when the incident happened. This additional information indicated that just over one in five violent crimes (22%) between around 9pm and 3am on a weekend.

#### 4.4.3. Characteristics of Offenders

Victims of crime were asked whether they had any contact with the offender(s), and whether they could provide any information about them. In 46% of crime overall, the victim was able to say something about the offender. This was higher among victims of violent crime (98%), compared to property crime (27%).

**Table 4.5: Characteristics of Offenders (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of SCJS crimes where respondent was able to say anything about the offender(s)</i>	Property crime	Violent crime	All SCJS crime
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	69	77	74
Female	14	16	15
Person/People of both sexes	15	6	10
<b>Age</b>			
School age	22	9	15
16-24	33	35	34
25-39	30	39	35
40 or over	15	22	19
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>270</i>	<i>670</i>

Variable names: QSX and QAGE



Table 4.5 shows the age and gender of offenders (where victims could provide information about the offender), broken down by crime group. In general, offenders were more likely to be male (74%) than female (15%). This was the case in both property crime and violent crime. In terms of age, 69% of offenders were thought to be between 16 and 39. Property crime victims were more likely than victims of violent crime to think that offenders were of school age (22% and 9% respectively).

**Table 4.6 Victim relationship with offender (SCJS, 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of SCJS crimes where respondent was able to say anything about the offender(s)</i>	Property crime	Violent crime	All SCJS crime
Known well	5%	37%	14%
Just speak to casually	3%	10%	5%
Just by sight	6%	19%	10%
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	1,644	282	1,926

Variable names: QRE

Respondents were also asked whether they knew the offender(s), or had seen the offender(s) before. Table 4.6 provides an overview of these findings. The survey found that victims of violent crime were more likely than victims of property crime to know the offender well (37% compared to 5%).

In addition, where victims stated that they knew the offender well, they were asked for some more information about their relationship with the offender. It should be noted, however, that information on the victim's relationship with the offender(s) is based on small numbers of respondents and the numbers of respondents can differ from question to question. Survey estimates in this area should be treated with a degree of caution. In 18% of crimes where the victim knew the offender well, the offender was a friend or acquaintance; in 15% the offenders were young people from the local area and in 13% of crimes the offender was a client or member of the public contacted through work.

#### **4.4.4. Weapons Used in Violent Crime**

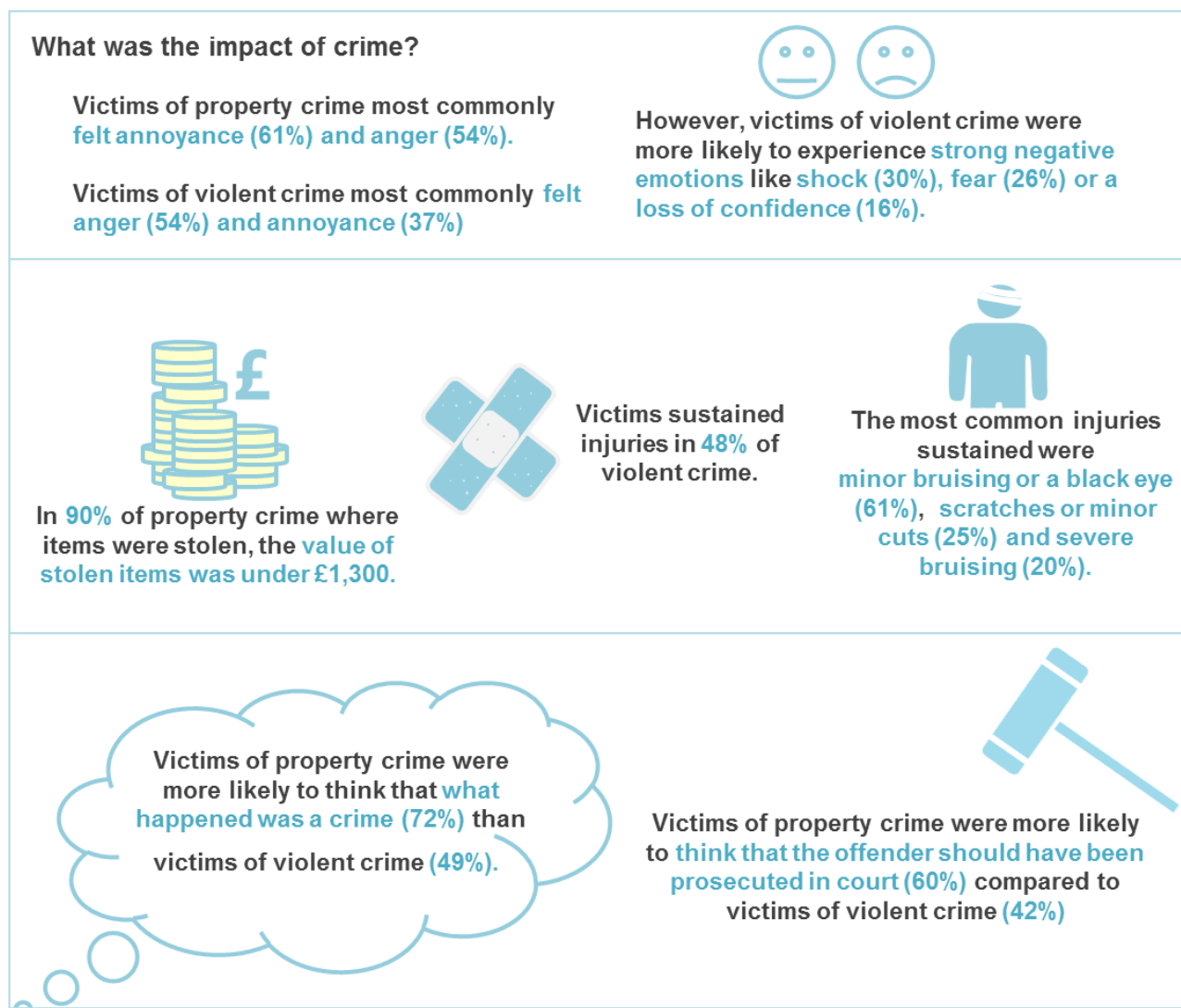
The offender(s) were reported to have weapons in 24% of violent crimes, and used, or threatened to use, the weapon in 90% of violent crimes where weapons were present.

The most common weapons used in violent crimes were knives (57%), bottles (40%) and sticks/clubs (28%). It is important to note, however, that these estimates are derived from small sample sizes of violent crime (and only where the victim saw or heard what was going on). For this reason, no information is presented on property crime.

#### **4.4.5. Alcohol or Drugs in Violent Crime**

Respondents were asked whether they thought that the offender was under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the incident. However, these estimates should be treated with caution as they are reliant on the victim's perception of the offender. In just over half of violent crimes (54%) the victim thought that the offender was under the influence of alcohol. Victims reported that the offender was under the influence of drugs in 23% of violent crimes.

## 5. The Impact and Perceptions of Crime



### 5.1. Introduction

The SCJS asks respondents about the impacts of the crime they experienced, and their perceptions of the crime. This chapter presents the latest findings on the impact of crime and victims' perceptions of incidents, for example, whether they considered experiences to be 'crime' and their views on the action taken against offenders.

### 5.2. The Impact of Crime

The impacts of crime on victims can be emotional, financial and physical, and can vary depending on the type of violent crime or property crime experienced.

#### 5.2.1. The Emotional Impacts of Crime

Victims were asked what, if any, emotions they felt after the crime happened. Table 5.1 shows this for all SCJS crime, property crime and violent crime.

**Table 5.1 Emotional response to crime (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of SCJS crimes</i>	Property crime	Violent crime	All SCJS crime
Annoyed	61	37	54
Anger	54	54	54
Shock	16	30	20
Fear	5	26	11
Lost confidence/ felt vulnerable	5	16	8
Anxious/ had panic attacks	4	16	7
Crying/ tearful	3	10	5
Depressed	4	6	4
Difficulty sleeping	3	5	4
None	3	14	6
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>1,640</i>	<i>280</i>	<i>1,930</i>

Variable names: MEMO

For victims of property crime, the most commonly experienced emotion was annoyance (61%), followed by anger (54%). Similarly, victims of violent crime most commonly felt anger (54%) and annoyance (37%).

However, victims of violent crime were more likely than victims of property crime to experience strong negative emotions than victims of property crime, for example,

- Shock (30% compared to 16%)
- Fear (26% compared to 5%)
- Loss of confidence (16% compared to 5%)
- Anxiety and/or panic attacks (16% compared to 4%)

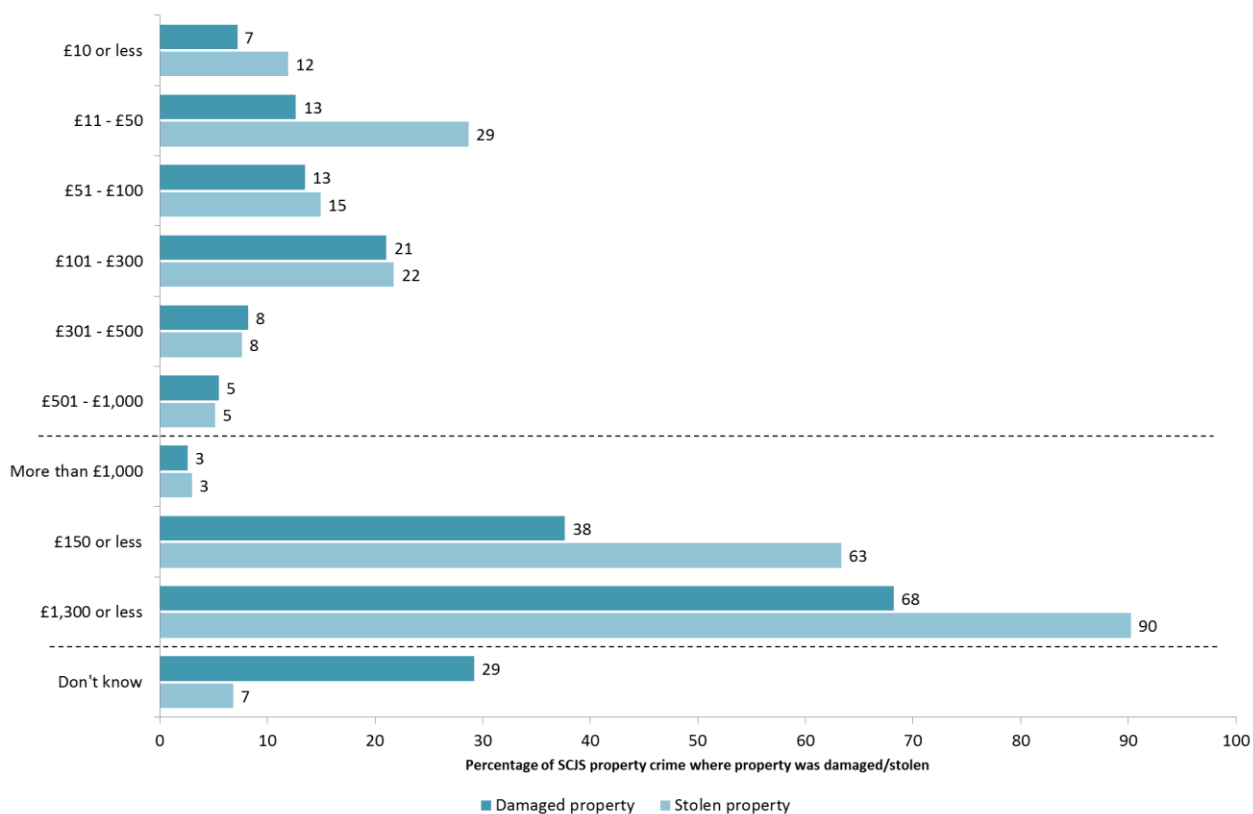
That said, victims of violent crime were also more likely than victims of property crime to say that they had no emotional response to their experience (14% compared to 3% respectively). This could be reflective of the majority of violent crime being made up of minor assault with no/negligible injury.

### **5.2.2. Financial Impacts of Property Crime**

Victims of property crime were asked about the approximate value of items that were damaged or stolen. The range of values given was wide, reflecting the diverse nature of property crime (from stolen vehicles and housebreaking to more minor incidents of vandalism). Just over half of all property crime resulted in financial loss for the victim (53%).

As presented in Figure 5.1, in the 90% of property crime where items were stolen, the value of stolen items was under £1,300, while 63% of respondents valued the loss at less than £150. In 68% of property crime where property was damaged, the value of the damage was less than £1,300, while 38% valued the damage as less than £150.

**Figure 5.1 The value of damaged/stolen goods (SCJS 2014/15)**



Base: Property crime where something was damaged / stolen (damaged 1,000; stolen 1,050)  
 Variable name: QSVA and QDVA (property crime columns)

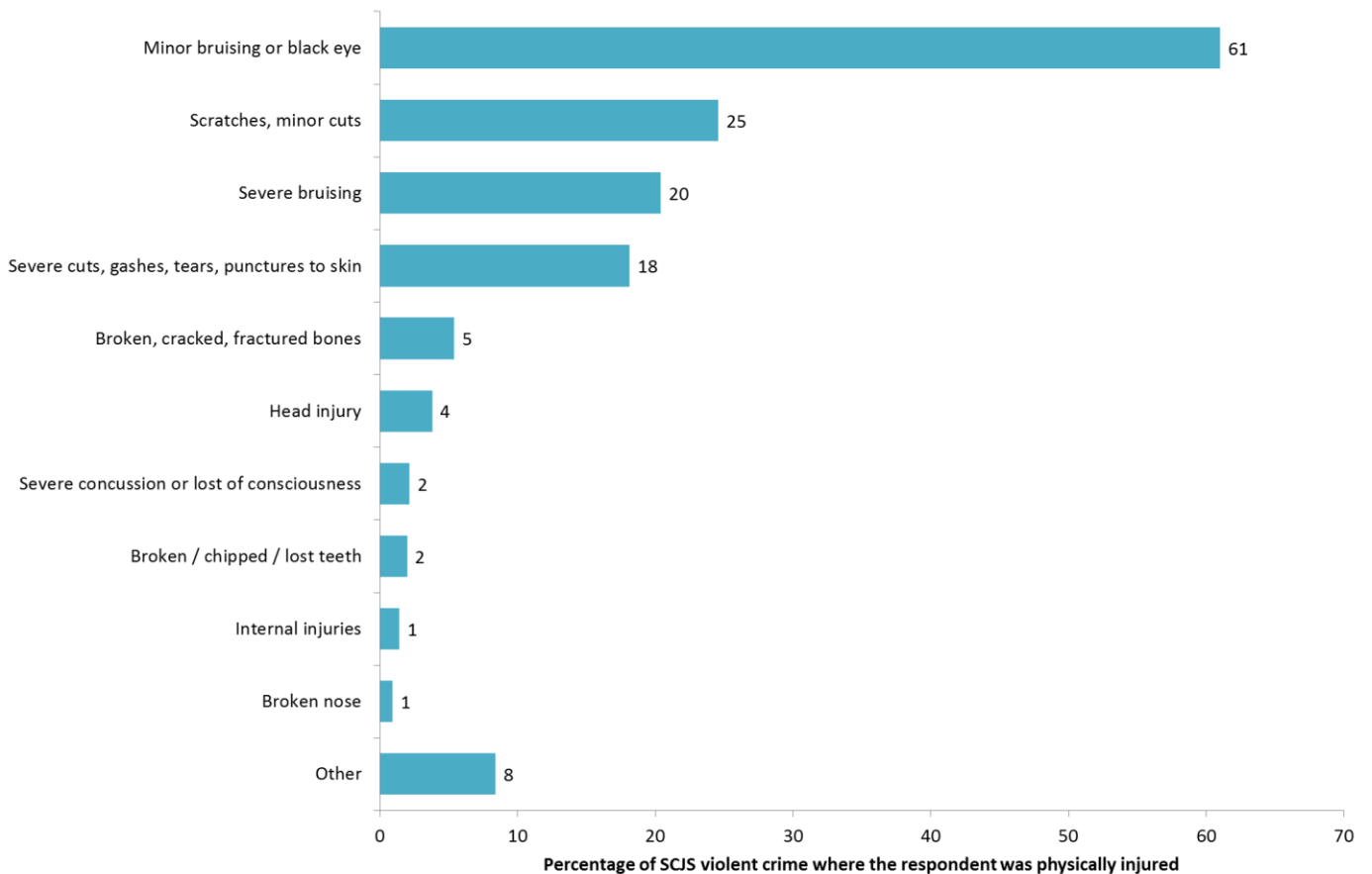
The extent to which the financial loss can be recouped depends on whether the property was covered by insurance and, if it was covered, whether an insurance claim was made. Items were covered by insurance in 40% of property crimes where items were damaged or stolen. Claims were made in 21% of property crimes where property was damaged or stolen goods were insured, of which 94% of claims were met in full or in part.

### 5.2.3. Injuries Sustained in Violent Crime

Violent crime includes attempted assault, serious assault, minor assault and robbery. The degree of violence can vary considerably within the 'violent crime' category. Serious assault, by definition, involves serious injury, while some incidents of minor assault result in no injury.

Victims reported that they sustained injuries in 48% of violent crime. Where violent crime resulted in injury, the most common injuries sustained were minor bruising or a black eye (61%), scratched or minor cuts (25%) and severe bruising (20%).

**Figure 5.2 Injuries sustained in violent crime (SCJS 2014/15)**



Base: Violent crime where victim was physically injured (200)  
Variable name: QINW

### **5.3. Victims' Perceptions of Crime**

The survey asks about victims' perceptions of crime, including whether they considered what happened to them to be a crime or not, and what action they think should be taken against the offender. This section provides an overview of what victims thought about the incident.

#### **5.3.1. Whether what Happened was a Crime**

It is possible that victims did not consider what happened to them to be a crime. Where they did or not may depend on the nature of the incident itself and their own perceptions of what happened.

In 66% of crime measured by the SCJS, the victim considered what happened to be a crime. Under one fifth (18%) thought that it was wrong, but not a crime and 16% considered it to be just something that happens.

Victims of property crime were more likely to think that what happened was a crime (72%) compared to victims of violent crime (49%). Thirty per cent of victims of violent crime thought that the incident was just something that happens, compared to only 10% of victims of property crime. This could be reflective of the majority of violent crime being made up of minor assaults.

### **5.3.2. Victims' Views on Prosecution**

Victims of crime were asked whether they thought that the offender should have been prosecuted in court or not. All victims were asked this question, regardless of whether the police had come to know about the incident or whether the victim considered what happened to be a crime.

In just over half (55%) of all incidents, victims said that the offender should have been prosecuted in court. This varied by crime type, with 42% of victims of violent crime stating that the offender should be prosecuted, compared to 60% of victims of property crime.

Victims who did not think that the offender should be prosecuted in court were asked to say why (Table 5.2) . Overall, the most common reason given was that the incident was considered to be too trivial (33%).

However, the reasons given varied by the crime type. For example, victims of violent crime who did not think that the offender(s) should have been prosecuted in court were more likely to say that this was because:

- It was a personal or private matter (23%, compared to victims of property crime 7%).
- The offender was not responsible for their actions in some way (13%, compared to 1% of victims of property crime).

**Table 5.2 Reasons why the offender should not have been prosecuted in court (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of SCJS crimes where respondent does not think the offender(s) should have been prosecuted or doesn't know</i>	Property crime	Violent crime	All SCJS crime
Incident too trivial	39	22	33
Would be a waste of time / money	21	11	18
Courts are inappropriate for this offence	19	6	14
Personal/private/dealt with ourselves	7	23	13
Offenders were children / too young	11	12	11
No evidence / proof	9	4	7
Offender was not responsible for their actions	1	13	5
There was no loss / damage / harm	3	4	3
Courts are ineffective	2	0	1
Partly respondent's / friend's / colleague's fault	1	1	1
Because the offence was incidental	0	1	0
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>580</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>720</i>

Variable names: QNCO

Where victims said that the offender should not have been prosecuted in court, they were also asked about alternatives to prosecution. Table 5.3 gives an overview of victims' views on alternatives, broken down by crime group. Victims most often said that offenders should have been given some kind of warning (22%) or apologised for what they've done (22%). Some of the other alternatives to prosecution varied between victims of property and violent crime. For example victims of property crime were more likely than victims of violent crime to say the offender should pay the victim compensation (21% and 2% respectively). However, victims of violent crime were more likely than victims of property crime to say that nothing should have happened to the offender (26% and 6% respectively).

**Table 5.3 Victims' views on alternatives to prosecution**

<i>Percentage of SCJS crimes where respondent does not think the offender(s) should have been prosecuted or doesn't know</i>	Property crime	Violent crime	All SCJS crime
Been given some kind of warning	23	21	22
Apologised for what they had done	23	22	22
Pay the victim compensation	21	2	15
Nothing should have happened to them	6	26	13
Given help to stop offending	4	14	7
Help the victim or the community	9	3	7
Been given a fine	7	1	5
Something else	3	6	4
Don't know	4	3	4
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>600</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>800</i>

Variable names: QNCA



### 5.3.3. Victims' Views on Sentences for Offenders

Where victims of crime said that they thought that the offender should have been prosecuted in court, they were asked about their views on sentences; just under a quarter thought that the offender should have been given a prison sentence (23%) and almost three-quarters thought that the offender should have been given another sentence (73%). Victims of violent crime were more likely than victims of property crime to say that the offender(s) should have been given a prison sentence (42% and 18% respectively).

Those victims who thought that the offender should have been prosecuted in court, and given an alternative sentence to prison, were asked what sentence the court should have given the offender (Table 5.4).

**Table 5.4 Victims' views on alternatives to prison for offenders**

<i>Percentage of SCJS crimes where respondent thinks the offender(s) should have been prosecuted and given another sentence</i>	<b>Property crime</b>	<b>Violent crime</b>	<b>All SCJS crime</b>
Compensation order	35.845	7.394	31.654
A community service or payback order	29	35	30
A fine	20	20	20
An order where the offender is made to address the causes of their behaviour	6	20	8
A warning	7	7	7
Be electronically tagged at home	2	5	2
None of these	1	3	1
Don't know	0	2	1
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>790</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>870</i>

Variable names: QNPS

Similar proportions of these victims of property crime and violent crime suggested that a fine or a warning would be an appropriate sentence. Victims of property crime were more likely to say that a compensation order would be a suitable alternative to prison (36%, compared to 7% of victims of violent crime). In contrast, victims of violent crime were more likely to suggest an order where the offender is made to address the causes of their behaviour (20%, compared to 6% for victims of property crime).

## 6. Reporting Crime and Support for Victims

Most crime was not reported to the police and reporting rates varied by crime type.

**38%**  
of crimes were reported to the police in 2014/15

**44%** of violent crimes were reported

**36%** of property crimes were reported



Housebreaking was the most reported crime (**62%**)

Why do victims choose to report crime?

**48%**

Thought it was the right thing to do.

**32%**

Hoped that the offenders would be caught.

Why do victims choose not to report crime?

**36%**

felt that the police could have done nothing.

**32%**

felt that the incident was trivial and not worth reporting.



When victims did report crime, **63%** were satisfied with how the police handled the matter.

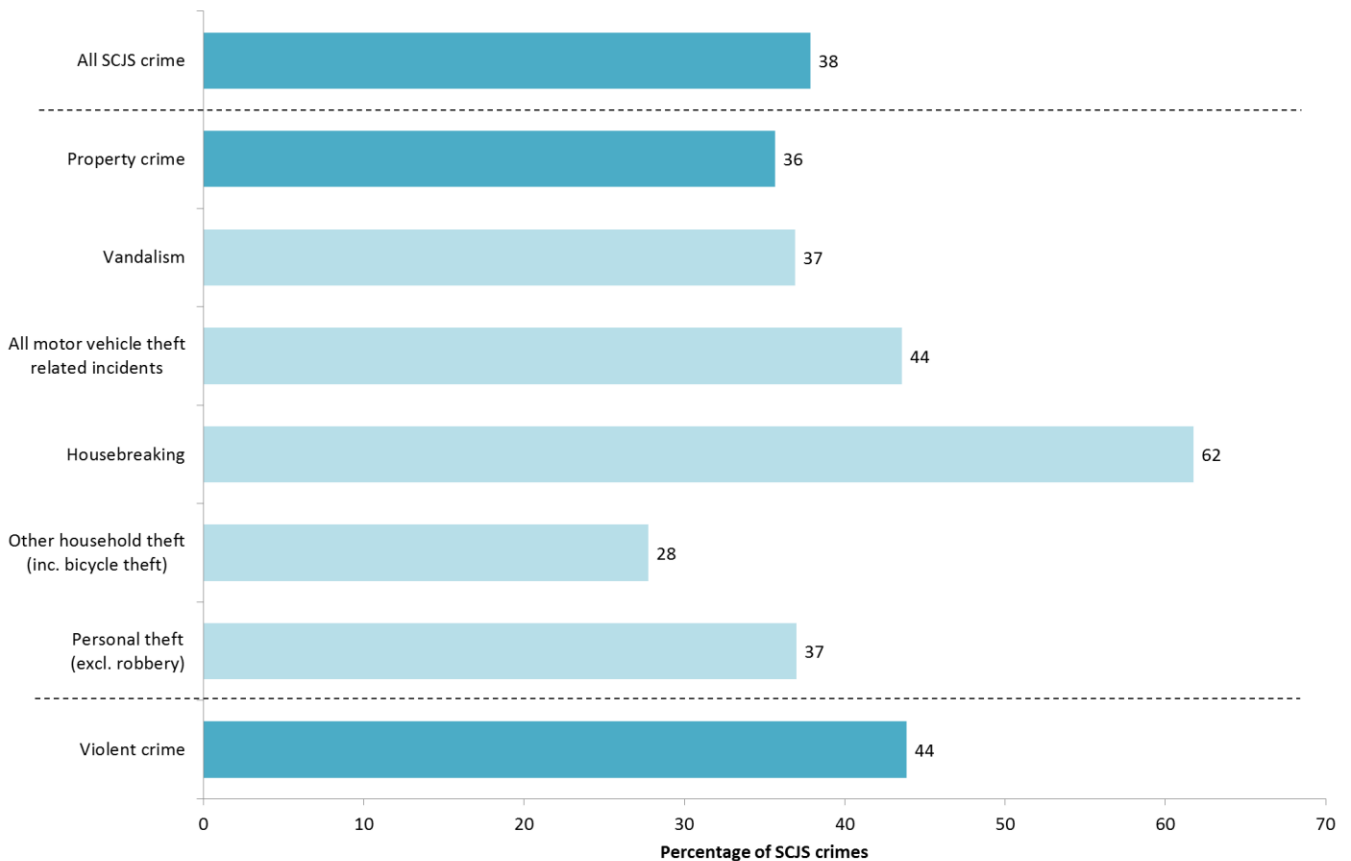
### 6.1. Introduction

Victims of crime are also asked whether the police came to know about the incident, the reasons for choosing to report or not report, the police response and about a range of support available to victims.

## 6.2. Reporting Crime to the Police

The 2014/15 SCJS estimates that 38% of crimes were reported to the police<sup>24</sup>. This level of reporting has been fairly consistent in recent years (for example, 39% in 2012/13). As shown in Figure 6.1, reporting levels vary by crime group, with, for example, 44% of violent crime reported to the police, compared to 36% of property crimes. Reporting rates were highest for housebreaking (62%).

**Figure 6.1 Percentage of crime that was reported to the police (SCJS 2014/15)**



Base: All SCJS crime (1,930); Property crime (1,640); Vandalism (600); All motor vehicle theft (170); Housebreaking (90); Other household theft (inc. bicycle theft) (570); Personal theft (excl. robbery) (220); Violent crime (280)

Deciding whether or not to report crime to the police can be influenced by many factors. For example, just under half (48%) of victims who thought that the incident was a crime reported it to the police, compared to 18% who thought it was wrong, but not a crime and 19% of those who thought it was just something that happens.

In property crime, whether the stolen or damaged items were insured had an impact on whether the victim chose to report the crime. The reporting rate for insured property that is stolen or damaged is 44%, compared to 30% for uninsured property which is stolen or damaged.

<sup>24</sup> Crime reported to the police covers all crime the police came to know about, including incidents reported by the respondent or someone else, and incidents where the police were there at the time of the incident or found out in some other way.

## 6.2.1. Why Crime Wasn't Reported

The police did not come to know about 62% of the crime measured by the SCJS. Table 6.1 provides an overview of the reasons victims gave for not reporting crime, broken down by crime group. Overall, the most common reasons were that the victim felt that the police could not have done anything (36%) or that the incident was too trivial or not worth reporting (32%).

**Table 6.1 Most common reasons given for not reporting crime (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of SCJS crimes</i>	<b>Unreported property crime</b>	<b>Unreported violent crime</b>	<b>All unreported crime</b>
Police could not have done anything about it	42	15	36
Incident was too trivial, not worth reporting	37	16	32
Victims dealt with the matter themselves	9	22	12
Police would not have been interested	14	6	12
Inconvenient / too much bother to report	7	6	7
Incident was considered a personal or family matter	3	18	7
Crime was reported to other authorities or organisations	5	10	6
Previous bad experience of the police or courts	2	5	3
Dislike / fear of the police	1	6	2
Fear of reprisals by offenders	2	4	2
There was no loss or damage	2	2	2
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>1,020</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>1,170</i>

Variable names: QPON

There was some variation in the reasons given between victims of violent crime and property crime. For example, victims of violent crime were more likely to choose not to report because the incident was considered to be a personal or family matter (18%), compared to victims of property crime victims (3%). Likewise, victims of violent crime were more likely to deal with the matter themselves (22%), compared to 9% or property crime victims. In such cases of violent crime, where victims said that they would deal with the matter themselves, most commonly the victim spoke to the person involved (69%), spoke to friends and family of the person involved (12%), and in a minority of cases they threatened violence/reprisal (7%).

Victims of property crime were more likely to think that the police could have done nothing (42%), compared to 15% of victims of violent crime.

## 6.2.2. Why Crime Was Reported

When victims decided to report crime to the police, they were asked to provide reasons why. Table 6.2 provides an overview of the reasons given. Respondents most commonly said they reported the crime as they thought that all crimes should

be reported as a duty or it was considered to be the right thing to do (48%) and in the hope that the offenders would be caught or punished (32%).

There was some variation in the reasons given for reporting crime between victims of violent crime and victims of property crime. For example, victims of property crime were more likely to report crime because they felt that it was ‘the right thing to do’ (55%), than victims of violent crime (30%). However, victims of violent crime were more likely than victims of property crime to report crime because it was serious or upsetting (44% compared to 12%).

**Table 6.2 Most common reasons for reporting crime (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of SCJS crimes where the police were told by respondent / person in household / other person</i>	<b>Reported property crime</b>	<b>Reported violent crime</b>	<b>All reported crime</b>
All crimes should be reported / right thing to do / duty / automatic	55	30	48
In the hope that offenders would be caught / punished	30	37	32
The crime was serious or upsetting	12	44	21
Hoped to avoid repetition of crime to someone else	16	21	18
In the hope that property would be recovered	23	-	17
Hoped to avoid repetition of crime to oneself	16	16	16
Needed a crime number for purposes of insurance claim	20	1	15
To satisfy other authorities	4	2	3
Needed assistance (e.g. to get home)	1	7	3
Someone else reported the crime	1	4	2
Police witnessed the crime	1	3	1
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>590</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>700</i>

Variable names: QPKR

### **6.3. Satisfaction with Police Response**

Among victims of crime, 62% said overall the police dealt with case fairly while 20% disagreed (and 9% neither agreed or disagreed and a further 6% said not applicable as they had no dealings with the police). Further to this, 83% of the victims agreed the police gave them an opportunity to fully explain what happened, while 9% disagreed. Just under half (48%) of victims agreed that the police gave them an opportunity to express their view about how the case should be handled, while 25% disagreed. Around three-quarters (74%) of victims agreed that the police dealt with them fairly, while 17% disagreed.

Victims of crime were asked about their views on how the police dealt with the matter. Overall, in 2014/15, 63% were very or quite satisfied with how the police handled the matter, 9% were neither satisfied or dissatisfied and 26% were very or quite dissatisfied. Victims were more likely to be (very or fairly) satisfied if they had face-to-face contact with the police (68%), compared with those who did not have

face-to-face contact (50%). Although the equivalent result for 2014/15 in England and Wales is not yet available, the 2013/14 CSEW showed that victims in 74% of incidents were 'very' or 'fairly' satisfied with how the police handled the matter<sup>25</sup>.

There are a number of different sources of information or assistance available to victims of crime, including police liaison officers, police sources, Victim Support Scotland and the Witness Service. Table 6.3 gives an overview of the organisations that provided information or assistance. For both victims of property crime and violent crime, the police was the most common organisation to provide support (42% and 43% respectively).

**Table 6.3 Whether information or assistance was received about the investigation/case (SCJS 2014/15)**

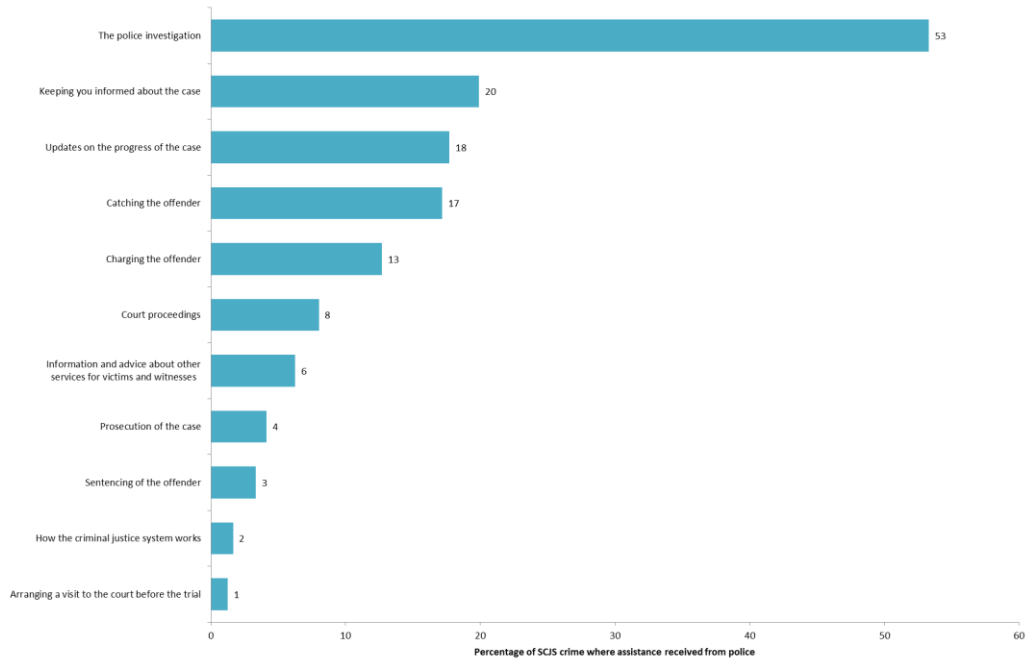
<i>Percentage of SCJS crimes</i>	<b>Reported property crime</b>	<b>Reported violent crime</b>	<b>All reported crime</b>
<b>Any organisation</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>48</b>
Police	42	43	42
Victim Support Scotland / Witness Service	8	16	10
Procurator Fiscal's Office	1	8	3
<b>Did not receive any information</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>The case was not investigated</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>610</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>740</i>

Variable names: QINF

The survey also asked victims about the type of information and assistance provided by police. Figure 6.2 provides an overview of this and shows that, where information or assistance was provided, this was mostly about the police investigation.

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/crime-stats/crime-statistics/focus-on-public-perceptions-of-crime-and-the-police--and-the-personal-well-being-of-victims--2013-to-2014/chapter-1.html#tab-Section-4--Victim-satisfaction>

**Figure 6.2 Information or assistance provided to victims by the police (SCJS 2014/15)**

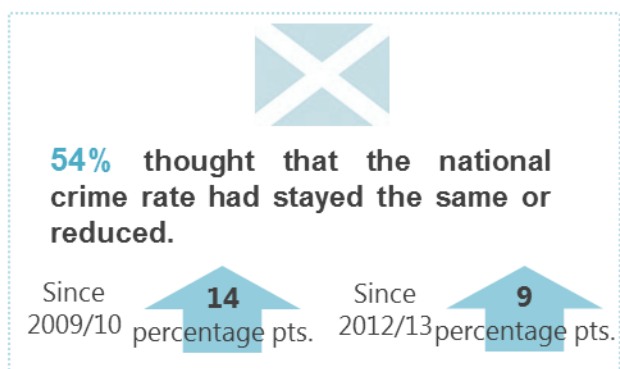


Base: All SCJS crime where information or assistance received from the police (350)

Variable name: QINTY

# 7. Public Perceptions of Crime

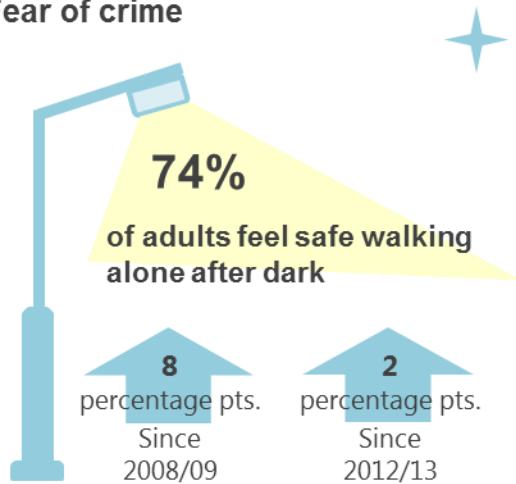
## Perceptions of local/national crime rate



**20%** thought that the local crime rate had increased.

**34%** thought that the national crime rate had increased.

## Fear of crime



**67%** of victims of crime felt safe walking alone after dark.

**62%** of people living in deprived areas felt safe walking alone after dark.

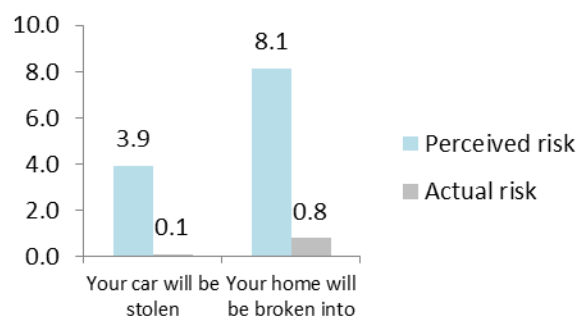


## Worry about crime



People were most worried that someone would use their credit card or bank details (54%) or that their identity would be stolen (45%).

However, people thought that they were more likely to experience crime than they actually were.





## 7.1. Introduction

Understanding the links between perceptions of crime and community safety is important to policy makers in Scotland. One of the key indicators in the Scottish Government's national performance framework, 'Scotland Performs'<sup>26</sup> is the public's perception of the general crime rate in the local area. As a result, various questions exploring perceptions of crime and worry about crime are included in the SCJS and the results are presented in this chapter within the context of the actual risk of becoming a victim. The chapter also examines harassment and discrimination.

## 7.2. Perceptions of Crime

Scotland Performs measures and reports on the progress of government in Scotland in creating a more successful country. The SCJS is used to monitor the following national indicator:

*'improve people's perceptions of the crime rate in their area'*

The national indicator is measured by the percentage of adults who believe that crime has stayed the same or reduced in the past two years in their local area. The baseline year for the national performance indicator is 2006.

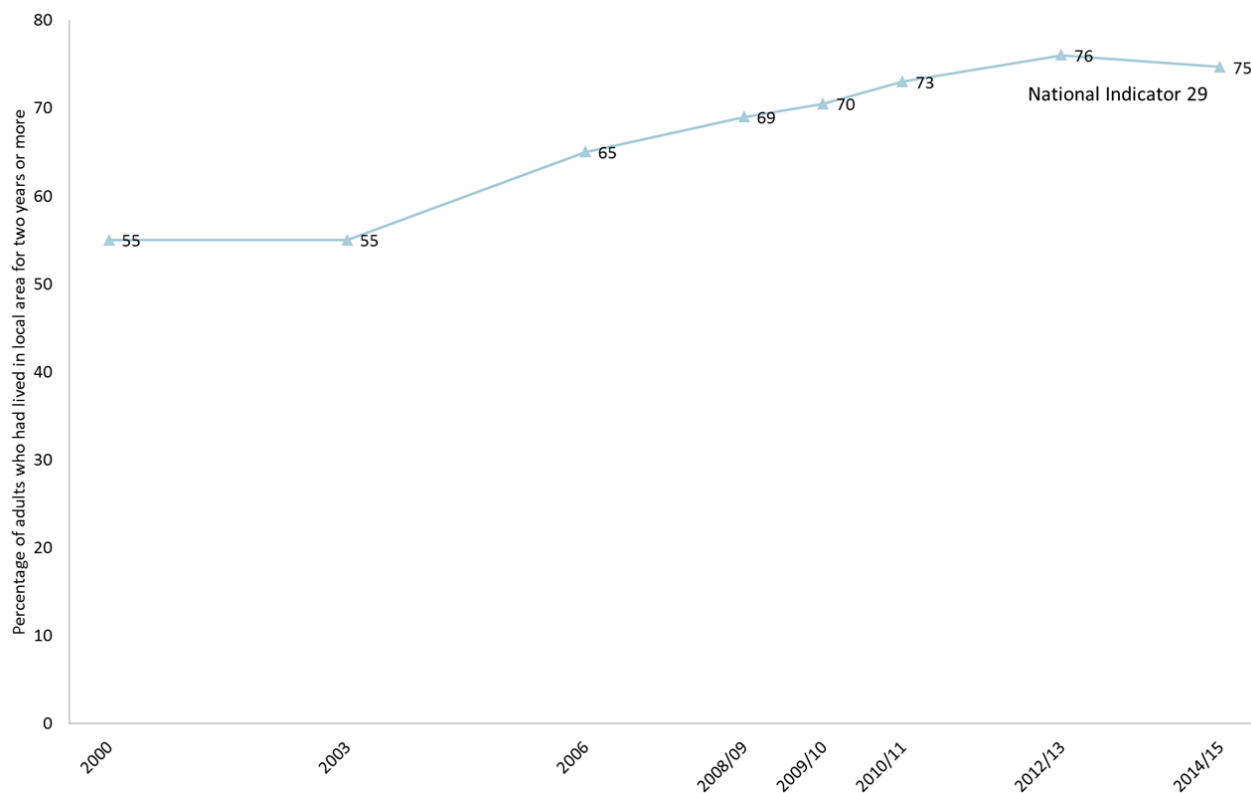
### 7.2.1. Perceptions of the Local Crime Rate

Following an increase between 2006 (65%) and 2012/13 (76%), the proportion of adults who perceived the crime rate in their local area to have stayed the same or reduced in the past two years has not changed since 2012/13; the apparent one percentage point decrease to 75% in 2014/15 is not a statistically significant change.

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<sup>26</sup> Scottish Government website: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/scotPerforms>

**Figure 7.1 Perceptions of how local crime rates have changed in the past two years (Scottish Crime Surveys)**



Base: Adults who had lived in local area for two years or more, SCS 2000 (4,510); 2003 (4,440); SCVS 2006 (4,430); SCJS 2008/09 (14,210); 2009/10 (14,380); 2010/11 (11,700), 2012/13 (10,640), 2014/15 (10,050).

Variable name: QS2AREA

Note: There was a break in the survey methodology from 2008/09, moving to a rolling reference period, increased sample size and continuous fieldwork until a move to a biennial design for 2012/13

Examining changes between 2006 and 2014/15 in more detail, there has been a decrease in the percentage of adults who think that there is a lot more crime in their area than there was two years earlier (6% in 2014/15 compared to 13% in 2006) and an increase in the percentage of people who think that the local crime rate has stayed the same (62% in 2014/15 compared to 57% in 2006).

Table 7.1 shows the differences in perceptions of the local crime rate, broken down by respondent characteristics. Those who were a victim of crime were more likely than non-victims to think that there was a little or a lot more crime in their area than there was two years earlier (32% compared to 18% for non-victims). However, there was more consistency in the results from respondents from the 15% most deprived areas and those from the rest of Scotland.

**Table 7.1 Public perceptions of how the local crime rate has changed (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of adults who had lived in local area for two years or more</i>	<b>There is 'about the same' or 'less' crime in this area than two years ago</b>	<b>There is 'a lot' or 'a little' more crime in this area than two years ago</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
<b>All</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10,050</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4,520</b>
16-24	81	13	310
25-44	74	21	1,170
45-59	77	19	1,250
60 or over	79	15	1,780
<b>Female</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5,540</b>
16-24	74	23	320
25-44	69	25	1,520
45-59	73	23	1,480
60 or over	74	18	2,230
<b>Victim of crime</b>			
Yes	63	32	1,330
No	77	18	8,720
<b>Deprivation</b>			
Living in 15% most deprived areas	74	22	1,460
Living in rest of Scotland	75	20	8,590

Variable names: QS2AREA

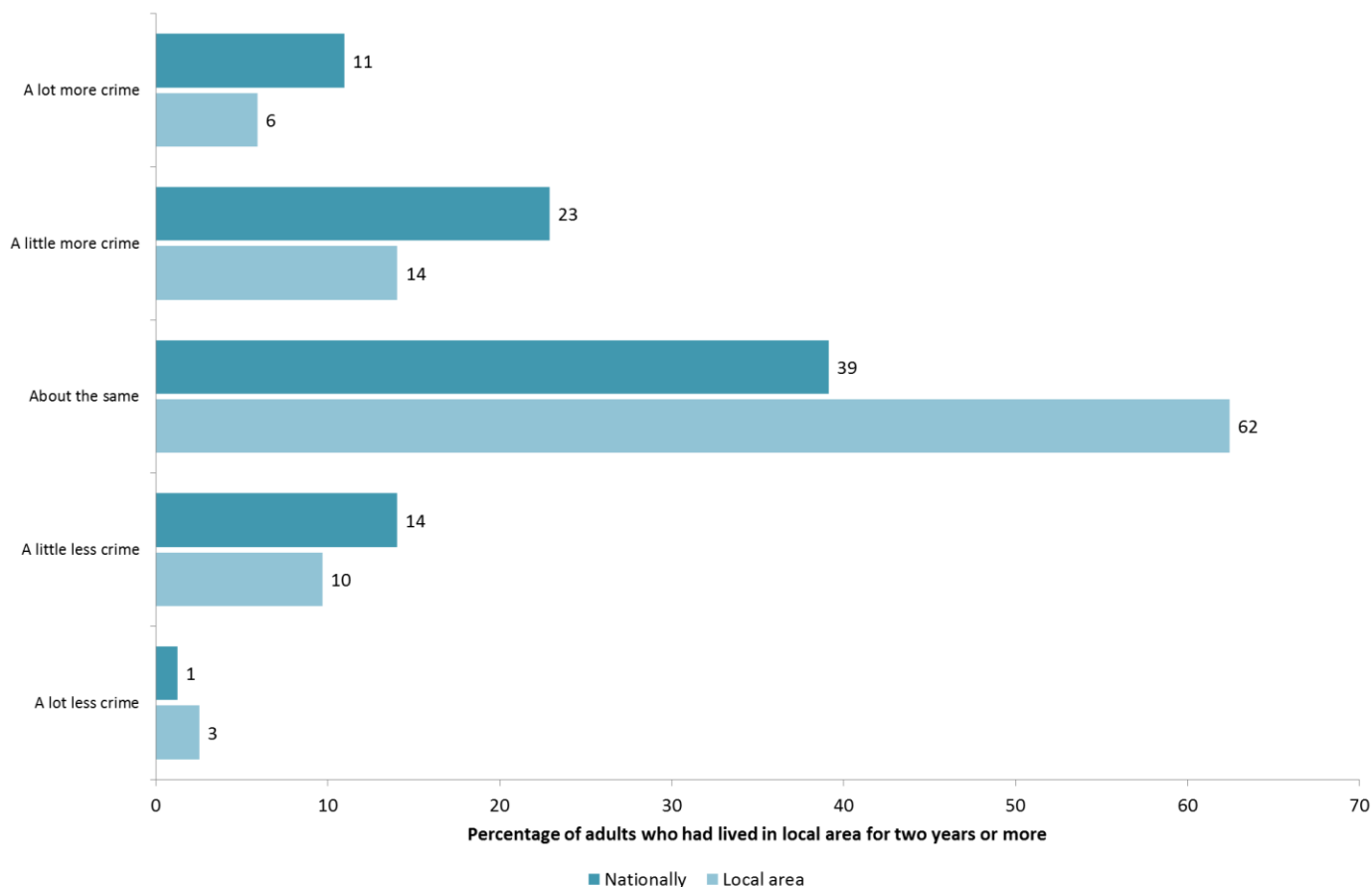
## **7.2.2. Perceptions of the National Crime Rate**

As well as being asked about their perceptions of crime in their local area, respondents were asked about how they thought the crime rate had changed in Scotland as a whole over the last two years.

Figure 7.2 compares opinions of how the national crime rate has changed with opinions of how the local crime rate has changed over the last two years. Survey respondents were more likely to think that the crime rate in Scotland had increased (34%), compared to the crime rate in their local area (20%). In contrast, respondents were more likely to think that the crime rate in their local area had stayed the same (62%), compared to the crime rate in Scotland as a whole (39%).

Since 2009/10 (when respondents were first asked about the national crime rate) there has been an increase in the percentage of people who think that the national crime rate has stayed the same or reduced (54% in 2014/15 compared to 46% in 2012/13 and 40% in 2009/10).

**Figure 7.2 Perceptions of crime rates nationally and locally (SCJS 2014/15)**



Base: Adults (11,470); Adults who have lived in the local area for two years or more (10,050)  
 Variable name: QS2AREAS and QS2AREA

### **Box 7.1 Public Perceptions of Crime (CSEW, 2013/14)**

The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) has asked the public a range of similar questions about their perceptions of crime, including people’s perception of crime in their local area and in the country as a whole. The latest published findings (from 2013/14) are available on the ONS webpage<sup>27</sup>, however it should be noted that the questions asked on this topic in CSEW and SCJS are different.

### **7.2.3. Perceptions of Types of Crime**

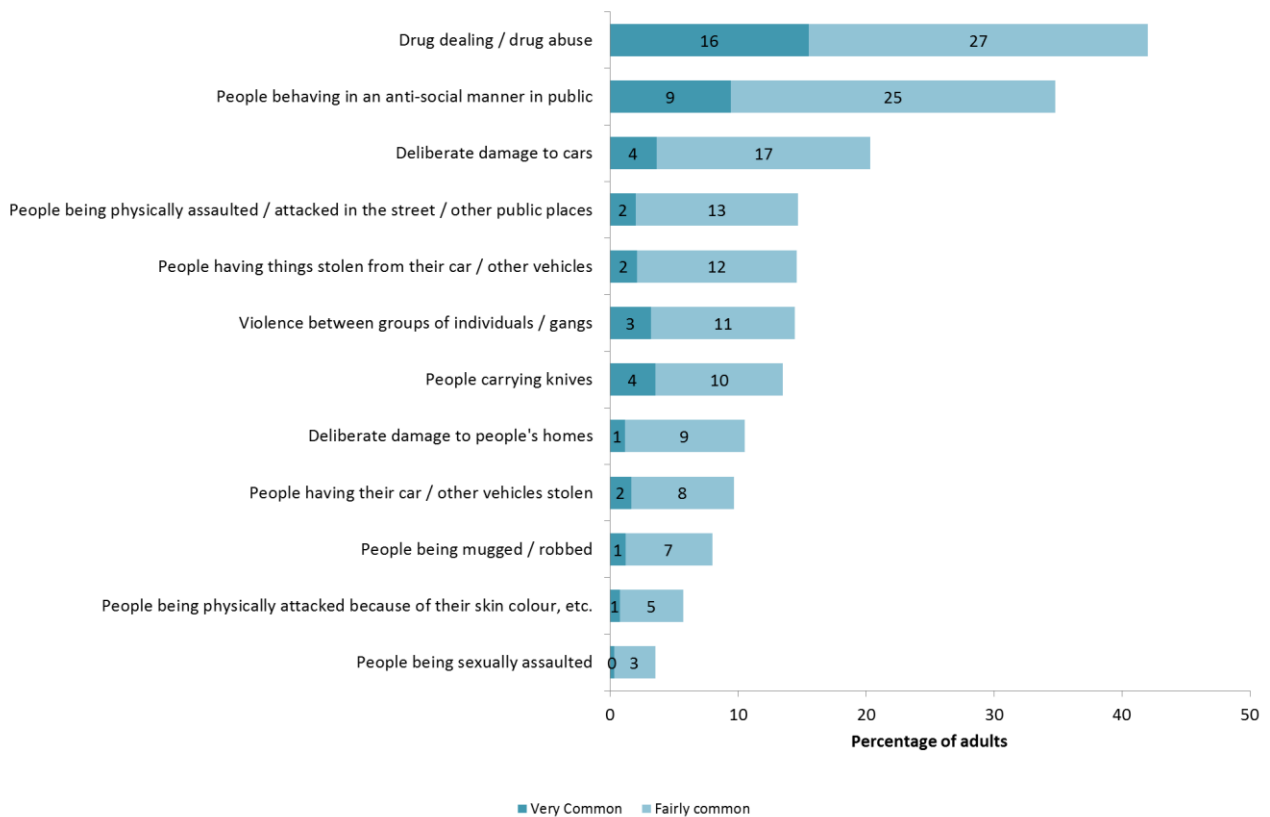
As well as being asked about the local crime rate, respondents were asked how common they thought certain crimes were in their area. Drug dealing or drug abuse was considered to be the most common crime, with 42% considering it to be fairly

<sup>27</sup> CSEW results:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20160105160709/http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/crime-stats/crime-statistics/focus-on-public-perceptions-of-crime-and-the-police--and-the-personal-well-being-of-victims--2013-to-2014/chapter-2--focus-on-public-perceptions-of-crime.html#tab-Section-1---Perceptions-of-changing-local-and-national-crime-levels>

or very common in their local area. Figure 7.3 gives an overview of the crimes that respondents thought were most common.

**Figure 7.3 Perceptions of how common certain crimes are locally (SCJS 2014/15)**

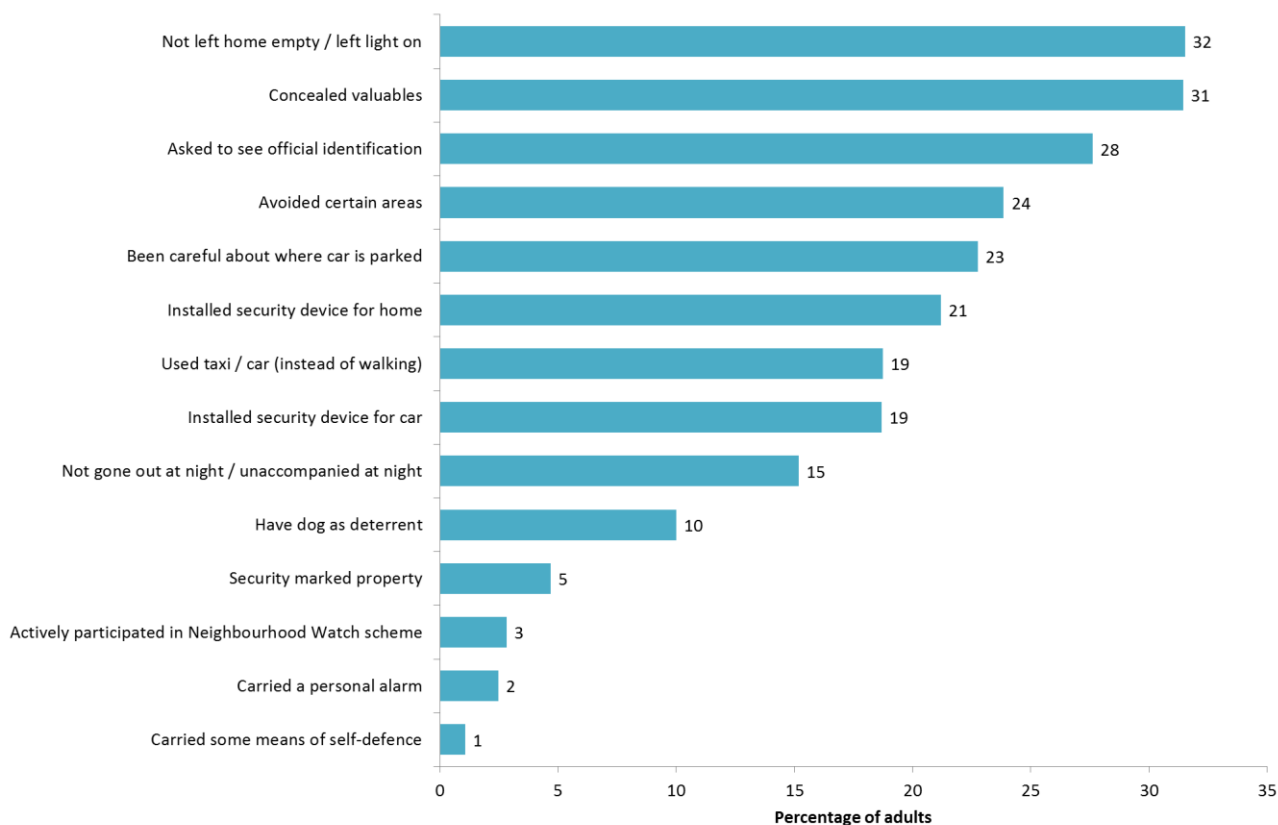


Base: Adults answering module A (2,850)  
Variable name: QACO

### 7.2.4. Action Taken to Reduce Risk

Figure 7.4 highlights some of the precautions that respondents had done or had in place in the last year to try and reduce the risk that they would become a victim of crime. The most common behaviour was not to leave their home empty, or to leave a light on (32%), or to ensure that valuables are concealed on their person, in their car or at home (31%).

**Figure 7.4 Actions taken to reduce the risk of crime (SCJS 2014/15)**



Base: Adults (2,850)  
Variable name: QDONE

## 7.3. Public Anxiety about Crime

### 7.3.1. Fear of Crime

Respondents are asked 'how safe do you feel walking alone in your local area after dark'. This question is commonly used to measure public fear of crime. Across Scotland, the majority (74%) feel fairly or very safe walking alone at night after dark. In England and Wales, the same percentage of adults (74%) felt very or fairly safe walking alone at night<sup>28</sup>. The proportion of adults who felt safe has improved by two percentage points since 2012/13, and by eight percentage points since 2008/09.

Table 7.2 provides a breakdown of the latest results by demographics characteristics. The proportion of those who felt fairly or very safe was lower in the 15% most deprived areas (62%) and among those who are victims of crime (67%). Females were less likely than males to report feeling fairly or very safe (64% compared to 86%).

<sup>28</sup> Feelings of safety walking home alone after dark, year ending March 2013 to year ending March 2015 CSEW - <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/business-transparency/freedom-of-information/what-can-i-request/published-ad-hoc-data/crime/january-2016/index.html>

**Table 7.2 Feelings of safety when walking alone after dark (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of adults</i>	Very safe	Fairly safe	A bit unsafe	Very unsafe	<i>Number of Respondents</i>
<b>All</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11,470</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5,180</b>
16-24	52	36	10	3	430
25-44	55	34	8	3	1,530
45-59	55	31	9	4	1,360
60 or over	50	31	12	6	1,860
<b>Female</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6,290</b>
16-24	23	43	23	12	500
25-44	30	39	21	10	1,880
45-59	30	38	20	11	1,610
60 or over	24	30	22	21	2,300
<b>Victim of crime</b>					
Yes	33	34	19	14	1,550
No	41	35	15	8	9,920
<b>Deprivation</b>					
Living in 15% most deprived areas	27	35	20	16	1,690
Living in rest of Scotland	42	34	15	8	9,780

Variable names: QSF DARK

Respondents are also asked how safe they feel when alone in their home after dark. The majority of adults (94%) felt fairly or very safe. Table 7.3 provides a breakdown of the latest results by key demographics. Again, female respondents were more likely to say that they felt unsafe (9%) compared to males (3%).

**Table 7.3 Feelings of safety when home alone after dark (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of adults</i>	Very safe	Fairly safe	A bit unsafe	Very unsafe	<i>Number of Respondents</i>
<b>All</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11,470</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5,180</b>
16-24	84	14	1	1	430
25-44	83	14	2	1	1,530
45-59	82	14	1	2	1,360
60 or over	82	15	1	1	1,860
<b>Female</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6,290</b>
16-24	55	30	12	4	500
25-44	66	25	7	2	1,880
45-59	68	24	6	2	1,610
60 or over	69	24	5	2	2,300
<b>Victim of crime</b>					
Yes	64	26	7	3	1,550
No	75	19	4	2	9,920
<b>Deprivation</b>					
Living in 15% most deprived areas	65	25	7	2	1,690
Living in rest of Scotland	75	19	4	2	9,780

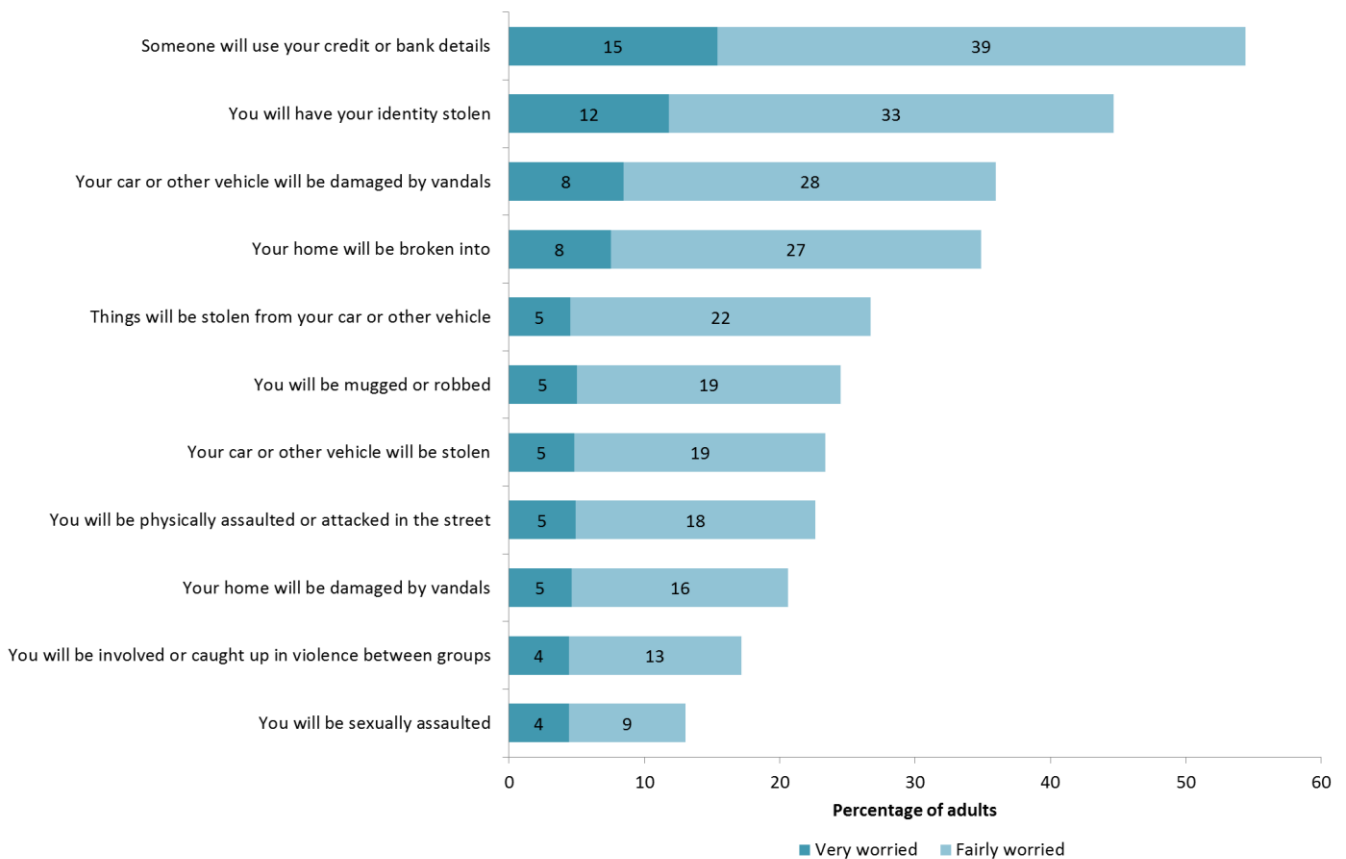
Variable names: QSF NIGH

### 7.3.2. Worry about Crime Types

To better understand public anxiety about crime, respondents were asked how much they worried about a range of crimes happening to them, and how likely they thought it was that they would be a victim of certain crimes in the next year.

Figure 7.5 provides an overview of the latest data. Adults were most worried that someone would use their credit card or bank details (54%) or that their identity would be stolen (45%).

**Figure 7.5 Worry that specific crimes will happen (SCJS 2014/15)**



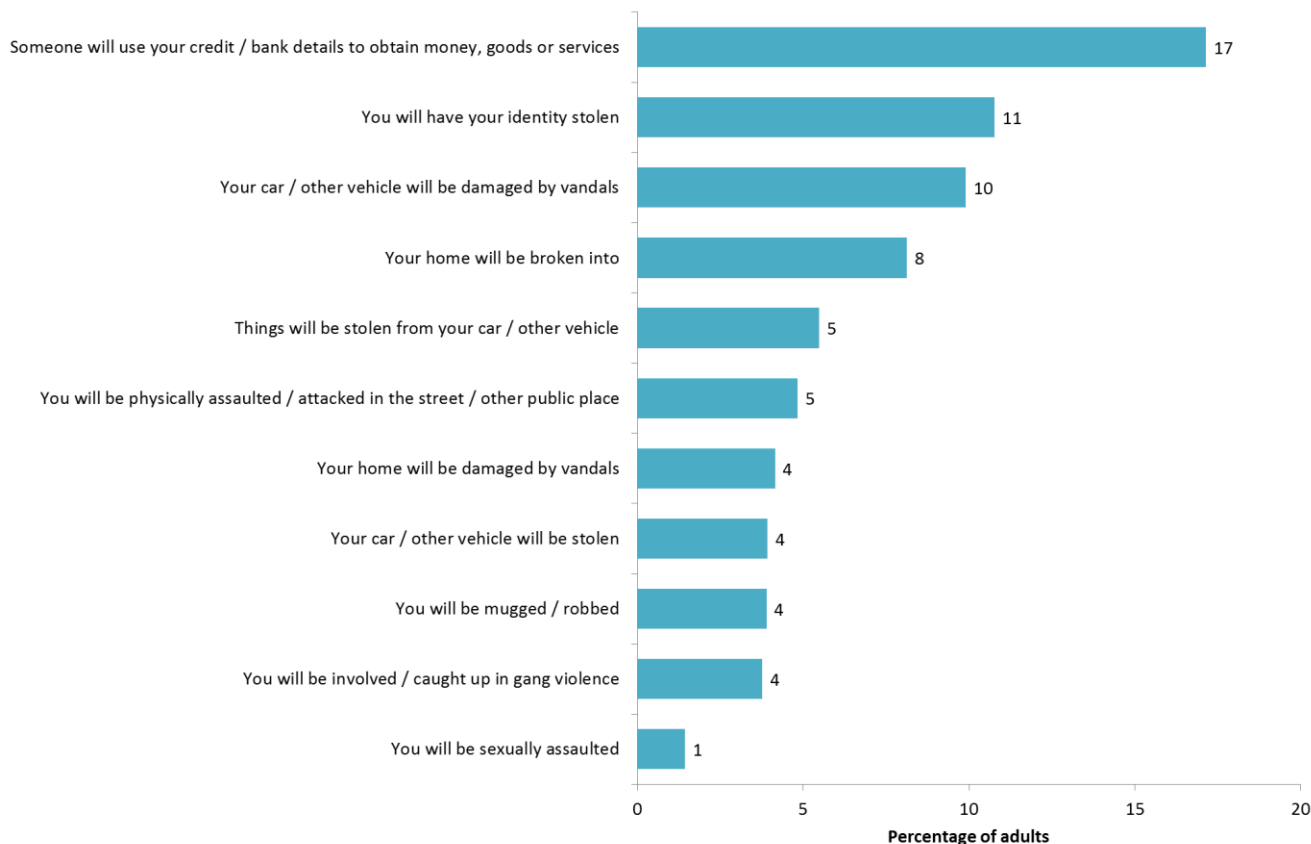
Base: Adults (11,470); Adults in households with regular use of a motor vehicle (8,420)  
Variable name: QWORR

### 7.3.3. Perceived likelihood of being a victim of crime

The survey also asked respondents which of the crimes, if any, they thought they were likely to experience in the next year. Figure 7.6 shows that respondents thought that someone using their credit card/bank details was most likely to happen in the next year (17%). However, most respondents (55%) did not think that it was likely that they would experience any of the listed crimes in the next 12 months.



**Figure 7.6 Crimes that adults think are likely to happen to them in the next 12 months (SCJS 2014/15)**



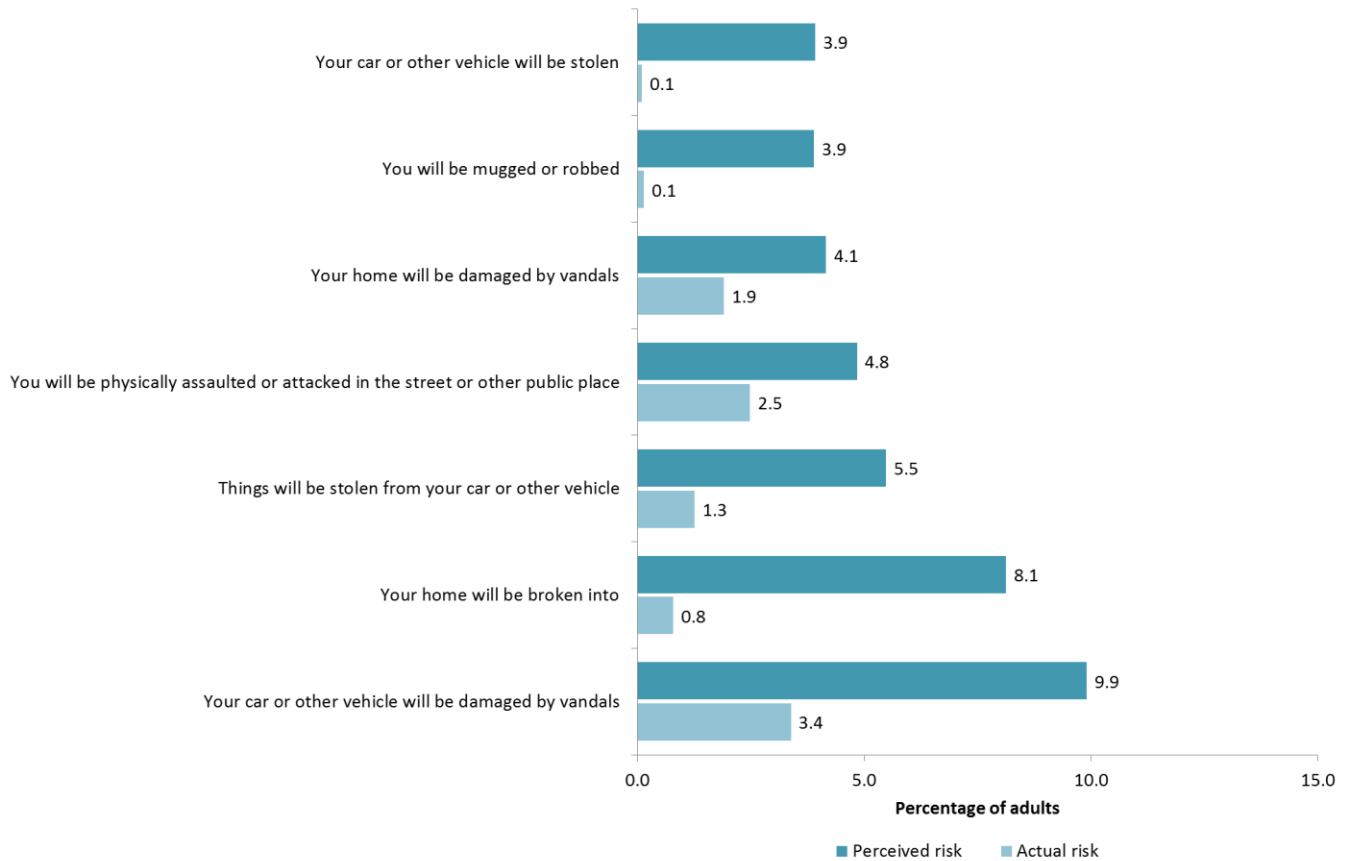
Base: Adults (11,470)  
Variable name: QHAPP

### 7.3.4. Perceived and Actual Risk of crime

Adults' perceptions of how likely they are to be the victims of some types of crime can be compared with their actual risk (calculated using the victimisation rates in [Chapter 4](#)).

In most cases, the perceived risk was around two to three times higher than the actual risk (Figure 7.7). For example, 9.9% of adults thought that it was likely that their car would be damaged by vandals in the next 12 months, however the risk of this was only 3.4%. For some types of crime, the difference was even greater. For example, 8.1% thought that it was likely that their home would be broken into, however, prevalence figures show the risk of this happening to be 0.8%.

**Figure 7.7 Perceived risk versus actual risk of being a victim of a crime (SCJS 2014/15)**



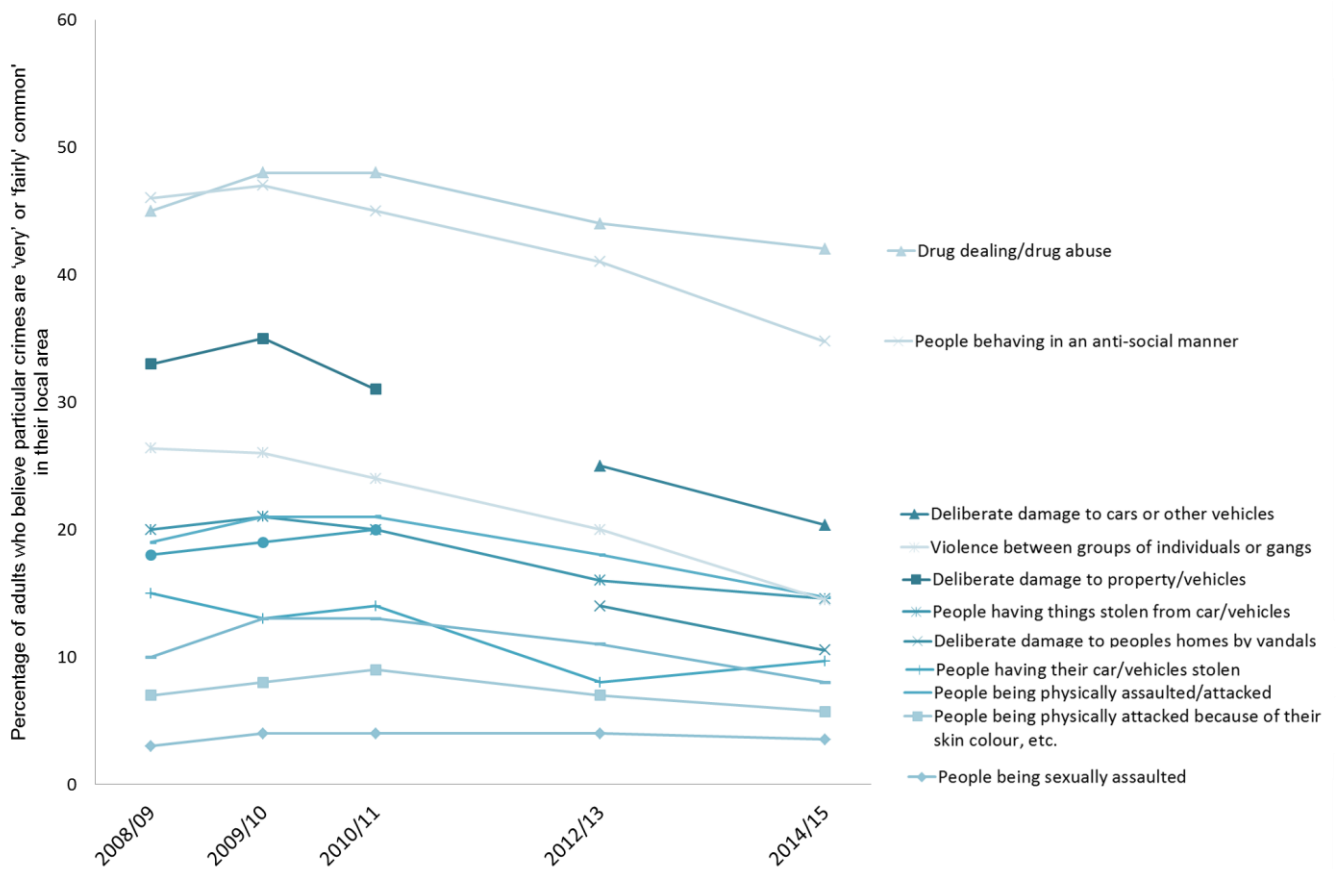
Base: Adults (11,470)

Variable name: QHAPP and prevalence variables<sup>29</sup>

<sup>29</sup> Prevalence variables (listed based on Figure 1.10 top to bottom) are in the Respondent File SPSS: PREVMOTOVVAND, PREVHOUSEBREAK, PREVASSAULT, PREVROB, PREVPROPVAND, PREVTHEFTFROMMV, PREVTHEFTOFMV

## 7.4. Trends in Public Perceptions of Crime

**Figure 7.8 Percentage of adults who believe particular crimes are 'very' or 'fairly' common' in their local area (SCJS)**



SCJS 2008/09 (4,030); 2009/10 (4,000); 2010/11 (3,220); 2012/13 (3,020); 2014/15 (11,470)  
Variable name: QACO

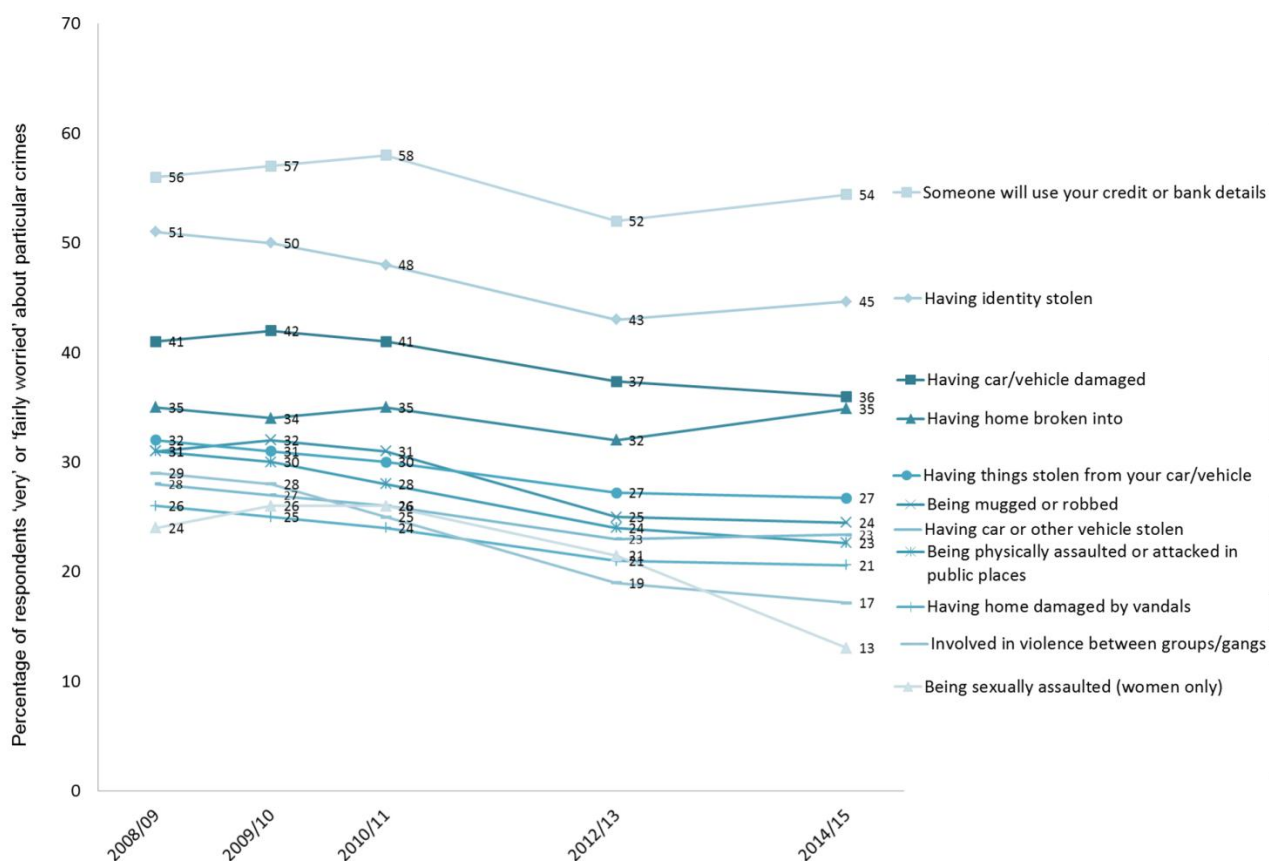
Note: 'Deliberate damage to property/vehicles' was split in 2012/13 to consider separately 'Deliberate damage to cars or other vehicles' and 'Deliberate damage to peoples home by vandals'

In 2014/15 adults perceived most of these particular crimes to be less common in their local area than in the past. Figure 7.8 shows trends since 2008/09. Since 2008/09, the largest decreases have been for:

- Violence between groups of individuals or gangs, which has fallen by 12 percentage points since 2008/09.
- People behaving in an anti-social manner, which has fallen by 11 percentage points since 2008/09.

Both of these changes are statistically significant.

**Figure 7.9 Percentage of respondents 'very' or 'fairly worried' about particular crimes (SCJS)**



Base: Adults; SCJS 2008/09 (16,000); 2009/10 (16,040); 2010/11 (12,010); 2012/13 (12,050)  
Variable name: QWORR

In addition to being asked for their perceptions of how common crimes were respondents were also asked how worried they were that specific crimes would happen to them. For example, the proportion of women worried about being sexually assaulted has fallen from 24% in 2008/09 to 13% in 2014/15.

## 7.5. Harassment and Discrimination

Respondents were asked a series of questions about any incidents in which they may have been insulted, pestered or intimidated in any way. This was clarified as being undertaken by anybody who is not a member of their household, either in person or by some other means (such as in writing or through electronic communications).

Just under one-in-ten adults (9%) said they had been harassed in some way in 2014/15. There was a marked relationship with age - the proportion of adults saying they had been harassed in the previous 12 months decreasing from 12% for those aged 16-24 down to 3% for those aged 60 and over. Of those who had been harassed, the vast majority (81%) of adults said this was through verbal abuse directed towards them, whilst around a third (29%) said it included threats of violence. Table 7.4 gives an overview of the findings on harassment.

**Table 7.4 Harassment experienced in the last 12 month by age (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Adults</i>	<b>16-24</b>	<b>25-44</b>	<b>45-59</b>	<b>60+</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>Yes (in person or by some other means)</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>
Verbal abuse	91	80	75	77	81
Threats of physical violence	36	28	32	9	29
Something being thrown	10	12	1	2	7
Being pushed	12	9	4	1	7
Being obstructed	5	8	4	5	6
Other forms of physical violence	10	5	4	0	5
Vandalism to their property	4	7	7	0	6
Being stalked by someone	1	3	4	2	3
Other	8	12	21	21	15
<b>No</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>91</b>
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>490</i>	<i>1,710</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>2,050</i>	<i>5,750</i>

Variable name: QAINSUL and QHWHAT2

Respondents who had experienced harassment were asked what they thought had motivated the offender (see Table 7.5). The majority of victims (69%) were unable to say if this was due to any particular reason. One in ten victims of harassment thought that it was because of their ethnic origin or race, while 6% thought that they were harassed because of their gender or gender identity.

**Table 7.5 What harassment may have been motivated by (SCJS, 2014/15)**

<i>Adults who had been insulted, pestered or intimidated in last 12 months</i>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>16-24</b>	<b>25-44</b>	<b>45-59</b>	<b>60+</b>	<b>All</b>
Ethnic origin / Race	10	9	11	13	4	11	10
Gender / Gender identity	2	9	8	8	4	1	6
Age	3	4	4	4	1	10	4
Disability / Condition	2	4	2	4	3	3	3
Sectarianism	4	2	1	4	1	7	3
Religion	3	1	4	2	0	2	2
Sexual orientation	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
None of those above	71	68	61	66	82	62	69
Don't know							
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>290</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>470</i>

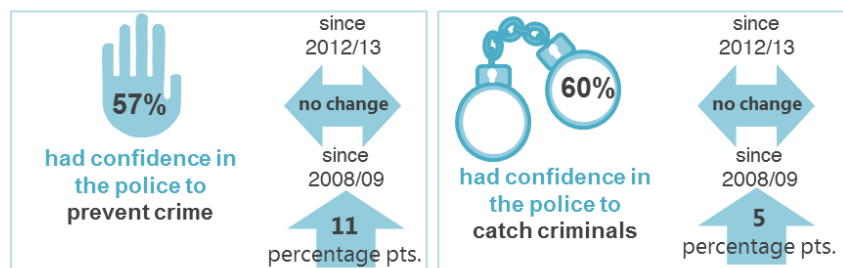
Variable name: QHDISCRIM2

## 8. The Public and the Police

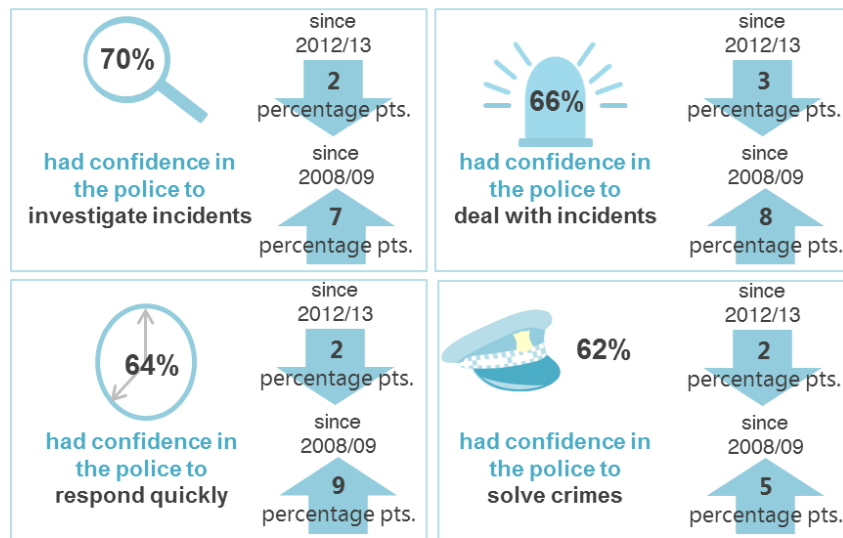
Overall, most people thought that local police were doing a good job.



People are generally confident in the police to undertake specific aspects of policing ...and confidence has risen across all measures since 2008/09.



However, confidence in some aspects has fallen since 2012/13.



### 8.1. Introduction

Chapter 6 provided information on victims and the police in the context of reporting crimes and the support given specifically to victims. This chapter examines confidence in the police, attitudes to local policing and perceptions of the level of police presence in local areas, irrespective of whether the respondent had been a victim of crime.

The chapter reports on police confidence and on attitudes to policing in the local area, both in 2014/15 and over time. However, when asked for their attitudes towards police in their local area, a relatively high proportion of respondents said they either did not know, or that they neither agreed nor disagreed. For this reason, the majority of the reporting in this chapter focuses on the police confidence questions, which are broken down by police division, victim status and by area deprivation. The police visibility questions are reported over time and by area deprivation.

The 2014/15 survey is the first SCJS to examine public perceptions of confidence in the police in local areas since the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 (which saw the eight legacy Police Force Areas combined to form Police Scotland<sup>30</sup>) and will be helpful in looking at the aims of reform, for example, to protect and improve local services .

## 8.2. Confidence in the Police

Respondents, were asked for their overall opinion on how the police were performing in their local area, regardless of whether they had ever been in contact with the police<sup>31</sup>. Overall, the majority of respondents said that the police were doing a good or excellent job in their local area, however this had fallen slightly from 61% in 2012/13 to 58% in 2014/15, while the proportion saying that the police were doing a fair job increased from 29% in 2012/13 to 30% in 2014/15 (the proportion saying the police were doing a poor or very poor job (8%), or saying don't know (3%) were unchanged).

Victims were less likely than non-victims to say the police were doing a good or excellent job in their local area (48% and 60% respectively). Those living in the 15% most deprived areas also provided less positive responses than those living elsewhere in Scotland (53% and 59% respectively).

In every police division, the majority of respondents said that the police were doing a good or excellent job in their local area, although this proportion varied across the country. As shown in [Annex 1](#) Table A1.13, when compared to the national average:

- respondents in Forth Valley (63%), Highlands & Islands (64%) and Edinburgh City (65%) were more likely to say that the police were doing a good or excellent job in their local area;
- respondents in Lanarkshire (53%) and Ayrshire (54%) were less likely to say that the police were doing a good or excellent job in their local area.

There has been no change in most police divisions between 2012/13 and 2014/15, however the proportion of respondents saying that the police were doing a good or

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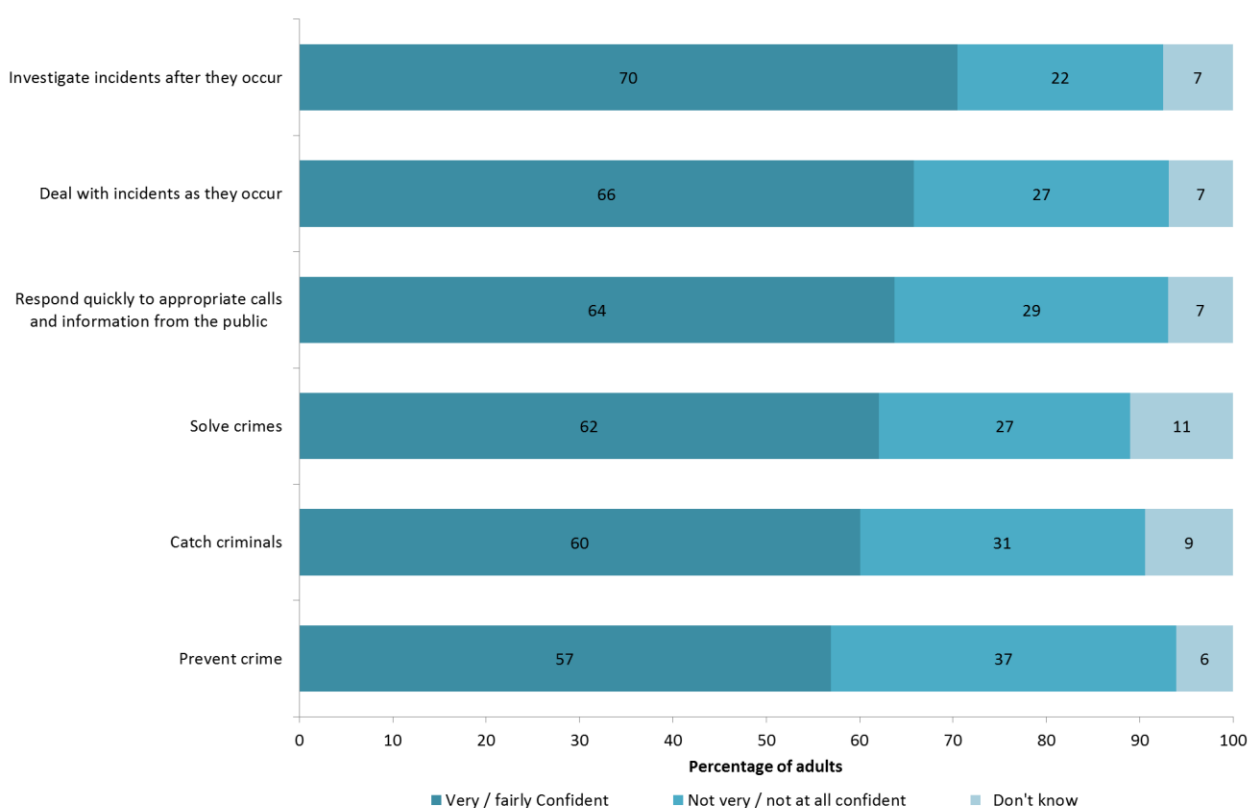
<sup>30</sup> The eight legacy Scottish police forces reformed to create the Police Service of Scotland, on 1 April 2013.

<sup>31</sup> 2014/15 SCJS Questionnaire: Variable QRATPOL

excellent job in their local area fell in Aberdeen City (from 70% to 61%), in Lothian and the Scottish Borders (from 63% to 55%) and in Dumfries and Galloway (from 66% to 57%).

Respondents were also asked how confident they were in the ability of the police in their local area to undertake six specific aspects of police work. Figure 8.1 highlights that the majority of adults had confidence in their local police force across all six measures. For example, 70% of respondents had confidence in the police's ability to investigate incidents after they occur and 57% were confident in the police's ability to prevent crime.

**Figure 8.1 Confidence in the police in the local area on specific aspects of police work (SCJS, 2014/15)**



Base: Adults (11,470)

Variable name: QPOLCONF

As shown in Table 8.1, since 2008/09, there have been statistically significant increases in public confidence across each of the six measures. Between 2012/13 and 2014/15, there were small but statistically significant decreases in four of the police confidence measures (the proportion of adults confident in their local police forces ability to investigate incidents, deal with incidents, respond quickly and solve crimes). The changes in the results for the other two measures (the proportion of adults confident in their local police forces ability to catch criminals and prevent crime) were not statistically significant.



**Table 8.1 Changes in confidence in local police (SCJS 2014/15)**

Percentage of adults (Very/Fairly confident)	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	percentage point change	
						2008/09 to 2014/15	2012/13 to 2014/15
Investigate incidents after they occur	64	68	71	73	70	7 *	-2 *
Deal with incidents as they occur	58	61	65	68	66	8 *	-3 *
Respond quickly to appropriate calls and information from the public	54	58	61	66	64	9 *	-2 *
Solve crimes	57	60	64	64	62	5 *	-2 *
Catch criminals	55	57	60	61	60	5 *	-1
Prevent crime	46	48	50	56	57	11 *	1
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>16,000</i>	<i>16,040</i>	<i>13,010</i>	<i>12,050</i>	<i>11,470</i>		

Variable name: QPOLCONF

Changes which are statistically significant at the 95% level are highlighted with an “\*”.

### Box 8.1 Police Confidence by Respondent and Area Characteristics

The SCJS is the preferred and recommended source for monitoring change in police confidence at the national level over time.

SCJS additional datasets<sup>32</sup> also provide breakdowns of questions by gender, age, victim status, social economic group, urban/rural, tenure, area deprivation (SIMD), Community Justice Authority and Police Division<sup>33</sup>. This report focuses on examining police confidence broken down by Police Division ([Annex Tables A1.14 to A1.19](#)), victim status (Table 8.2) and area deprivation (SIMD) (Figure 8.2).

Further breakdowns of these police confidence questions are presented in the [Scottish Survey Core Questions \(SSCQ\)](#) reports, which gather survey responses from identical questions in the SCJS, the Scottish Health Survey and the Scottish Household Survey into one output. The pooling of results from around 21,000 respondents enables analysis of results by characteristics such as country of birth, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, age and sex, marital status, education level and economic activity, as well as tenure, car access and household type.

## 8.2.1. Police Confidence and Victimisation

As shown in Table 8.2, across each of the six measures of police confidence, non-victims of crime were more likely to be confident in the police than victims of crime.

<sup>32</sup> SCJS Datasets: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/Datasets/SCJS>

<sup>33</sup> Police Divisions were not created until Police Scotland was established on 01/04/2013, therefore to enable comparisons over time, Police Division results have also been derived for interviews conducted before 01/04/2013, on the basis on respondents' postcode.

**Table 8.2 Percentage of adults very/fairly confident in police in the local areas ability to undertake specific aspects of work, by victim status (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of adults</i>	<b>Victim</b>	<b>Non-victim</b>
Investigate incidents after they occur	64	72 *
Deal with incidents as they occur	59	67 *
Respond quickly to appropriate calls and information from the public	58	65 *
Solve crimes	53	64 *
Catch criminals	50	62 *
Prevent crime	46	59 *
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>1,550</i>	<i>9,920</i>

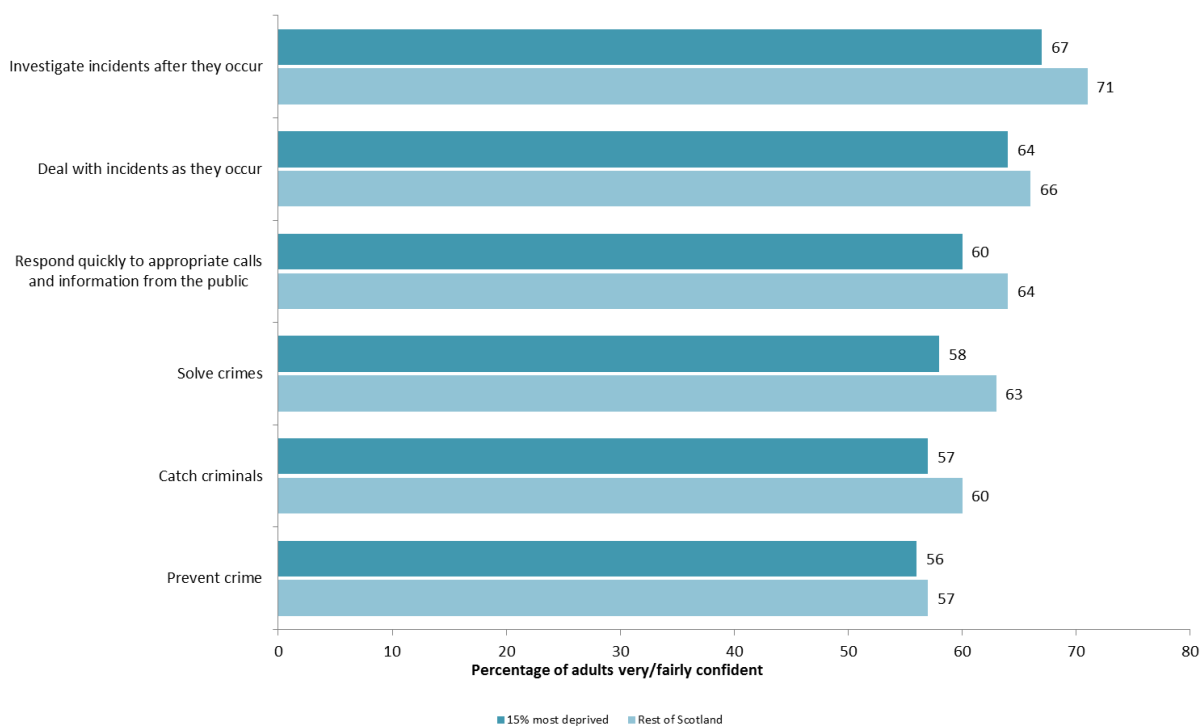
Variable name: QPOLCONF

Differences which are statistically significant at the 95% level are highlighted with an “\*”.

### 8.2.2. Police Confidence by Area Deprivation

Compared to the rest of Scotland, those living in the 15% most deprived areas provided less positive responses overall. Each of the differences presented in Figure 8.2 (between the results provided by respondents from the 15% most deprived areas and those from the rest of Scotland) are statistically significant differences. For example, a lower proportion of those living in deprived areas, than those living elsewhere, were confident in police in their local area to prevent crime (56% compared with 57% for the rest of Scotland).

**Figure 8.2 Confidence in the police in the local area on specific aspects of police work, by area deprivation (SCJS, 2014/15)**



Base: Adults (11,470)

Variable name: QPOLCONF

### 8.2.3. Police Confidence by Police Divisions

For each of the six measures, confidence in the police varied across the country<sup>34</sup>. For example, when compared to the Scottish average in:

- Forth Valley, confidence was higher for four of the measures (respond quickly, investigate incidents, solve crimes and catch criminals);
- Edinburgh City, confidence was higher for three of the measures (prevent crime, respond quickly and deal with incidents);
- Highlands and Islands, police confidence was higher for four of the measures (deal with incidents, investigate incidents, solve crimes and catch criminals);
- Lothian and the Scottish Borders, police confidence was lower across each of the six measures;
- Aberdeenshire and Moray police confidence was lower across three measures (prevent crime, respond quickly and deal with incidents).

Furthermore, the changes in police confidence over time were not uniform across the country. For example:

#### **Between 2008/09 and 2014/15**

- Confidence either increased or was unchanged across all six measures in each police division.

#### **Between 2012/13 and 2014/15**

- Police confidence increased for some of the measures. Most notably statistically significant increases were seen in:
  - Forth Valley, across three of the measures (prevent crime, solve crimes, catch criminals).
  - Edinburgh, which had increased confidence in the ability of local police to prevent crime.
- Police confidence did not change for many of the measures across divisions. For example, there were no changes in police confidence in any of the six measures in Aberdeenshire & Moray, Fife and Greater Glasgow.
- Police confidence decreased for some of the measures in some police divisions. For example, there were statistically significant decreases in confidence in the local police in the:
  - Lothian and Scottish Borders, across each of the six measures.
  - Tayside, across four of the measures (respond quickly, deal with incidents, investigate incidents and solve crimes).
  - Highlands and Islands, for three of the measures (respond quickly, deal with incidents and catch criminals).

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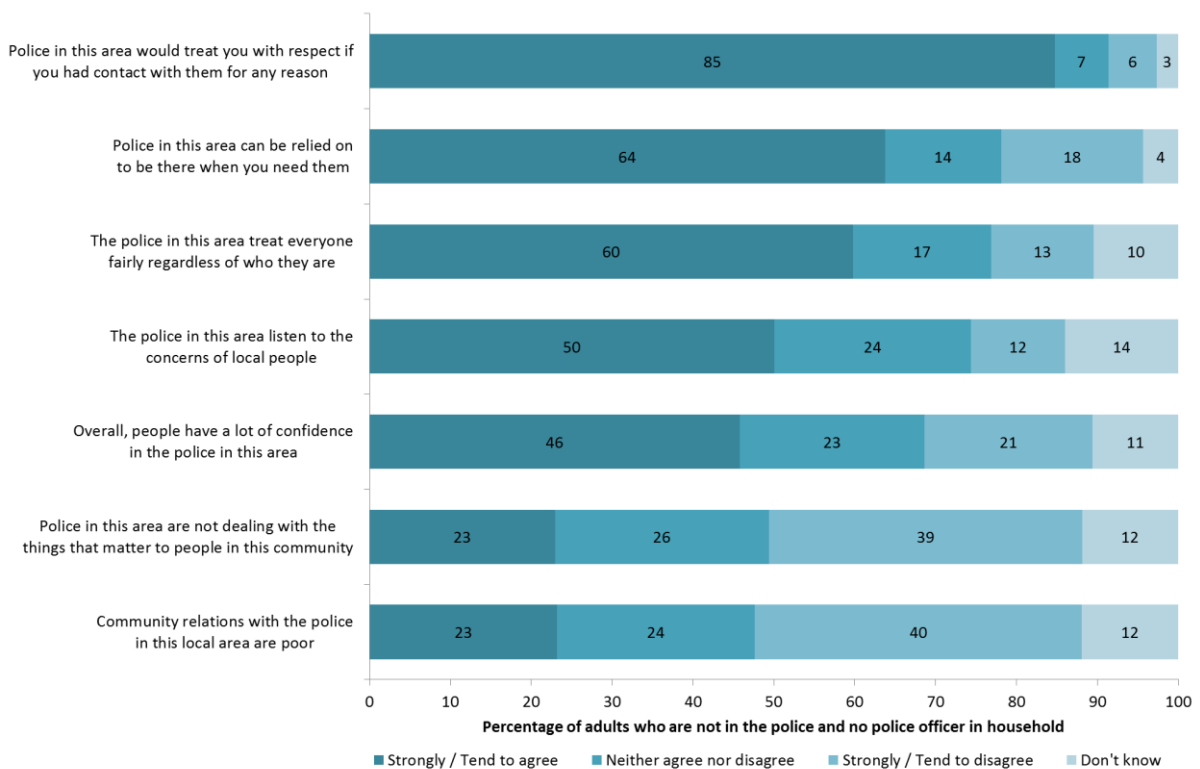
<sup>34</sup> [Annex Tables](#) A1.14 to A1.19 show police confidence in each of the six measures, broken down by police division.

### 8.3. Attitudes to Police in the Local Area

To explore public attitudes to the local police, respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with a series of statements about the police in their area<sup>35</sup>. As noted above, across many of these statements, a relatively high proportion of respondents said that they neither agreed or disagreed, or that they did not know, suggesting that some respondents did not feel able to provide an informed opinion on aspects of local policing.

Figure 8.2 shows that most adults (85%) agreed that local police would treat them with respect if they had reason to contact them, while 64% agreed that the police can be relied upon to be there when needed. Respondents were asked about the local police’s relations with the community, 39% disagreed with the statement that the police in their area are not dealing with the things that matter to local people. It should be noted, however, that around a quarter of respondents neither agreed or disagreed with four of the attitudes to policing statements and, for each of those statements, more than one-in-ten respondents said that they didn’t know.

**Figure 8.3 Level of agreement with statements about local police (SCJS 2014/15)**



Base: All respondents who are not in the police and no police officer in household (11,180)  
 Variable name: POLOP

<sup>35</sup> 293 of respondents said that they were in the police, or they were married to or lived with a serving police officer and were not asked the questions covering attitudes to police

### 8.3.1. Changes in Attitudes to Police Over Time

Table 8.3 shows the changes in attitudes to local police over time.

Since 2009/10 (when this question was first included in the survey) there have been statistically significant improvements in public attitudes to four of the statements:

- a six percentage point increase in those who agreed that the ‘the police in this area can be relied on to be there when you need them’;
- an eight percentage point decrease in those who agreed that ‘the police in this area are not dealing with the things that matter to the people in this community’;
- a five percentage point decrease in those who agreed that ‘community relations in this local area are poor’;
- an increase of three percentage points in those who agreed that overall, people have a lot of confidence in the police in this area.

Compared to the previous survey (2012/13), there were small but statistically significant changes in the proportion of adults who agreed with five of the statements.

- a two percentage point decrease in those who agreed that the ‘the police in this area can be relied on to be there when you need them’;
- an two percentage point decrease in those who agreed that ‘the police in this area are not dealing with the things that matter to the people in this community’;
- a four percentage point decrease in those who agreed that ‘the police in this area listen to the concerns of local people’;
- a two percentage point increase in those who agreed that ‘community relations in this local area are poor’;
- a three percentage point decrease in those who agreed that overall, people have a lot of confidence in the police in this area.

**Table 8.3 Changes in attitudes to police over time (SCJS 2014/15)**

Percentage of adults (Strongly/Tend to agree)	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	percentage point change	
					2009/10 to 2014/15	2012/13 to 2014/15
Police in this area can be relied on to be there when you need them	58	61	66	64	6 *	-2 *
The police in this area would treat you with respect if you had contact with them for any reason	83	86	86	85	1	-1
The police in this area treat everyone fairly regardless of who they are	58	63	61	60	2	-1
Police in this area are not dealing with the things that matter to people in this community	31	29	25	23	-8 *	-2 *
The police in this area listen to the concerns of local people	48	53	54	50	2	-4 *
Community relations with the police in this local area are poor	28	26	22	23	-5 *	2 *
Overall, people have a lot of confidence in the police in this area	43	47	49	46	3 *	-3 *
<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>16,036</b>	<b>13,010</b>	<b>12,045</b>	<b>11,472</b>		

Variable name: POLOP

Changes which are statistically significant at the 95% level are highlighted with an “\*\*”.

## Box 8.2 Attitudes to the Police in England and Wales (CSEW, 2013/14)

The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) also asks adults a range of questions about their perceptions of the police. However, while some of the CSEW questions are similar to those asked in the SCJS, the series of questions are not the same and the CSEW and SCJS results should *not be directly compared against each other*. The latest published CSEW findings (for 2013/14) are available in tables on the ONS Website<sup>36</sup>.

### 8.4. Police Presence in the Local Area

A series of questions were asked about the police presence in the local area. This included awareness of police presence, and the importance of having a community police officer in the local area<sup>37</sup>.

#### 8.4.1. Awareness of Police Patrolling Local Areas

The majority of respondents were aware of police patrolling their local area regularly. The proportion saying that they were aware that the police patrolled their local area regularly decreased from 56% in 2012/13 to 52% in 2014/15. However, the 2014/15 result (52%) was similar to the results seen in earlier years (51% in 2010/11 and 52% in 2009/10, when this question was first asked).

Table 8.4 gives an overview of these findings, broken down by type of patrol. Awareness of police patrolling by car was the most common, with 46% reporting that they were aware of this happening regularly.

**Table 8.4 Awareness of local police patrolling practices (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of adults not in the police and not married to or living with a police officer</i>	<b>15% most deprived</b>	<b>Rest of Scotland</b>	<b>Scotland</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>52</b>
On foot	27	16	17
By bicycle	14	6	7
By car	54	44	46
<b>No</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>1,670</i>	<i>9,510</i>	<i>11,180</i>

Variable name: POLPATR

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/crime-stats/crime-statistics/focus-on-public-perceptions-of-crime-and-the-police--and-the-personal-well-being-of-victims--2013-to-2014/chapter-2--focus-on-public-perceptions-of-crime.html>

<sup>37</sup> Respondents, who were serving police officers, or where a member of their household was a serving police officer, were not asked these questions.

Awareness of police patrols was higher in the 15% most deprived areas, with 62% reporting that the police patrolled their areas regularly, compared to 50% for the rest of Scotland.

Respondents were asked about their awareness of local police patrolling in the last month. Table 8.5 gives an overview of the results, broken down by area deprivation. People living in deprived areas were more likely to notice more regular patrolling than those living in the rest of Scotland. For example, 32% noticed police patrolling every couple of days, compared to 18% of those living in the rest of Scotland.

**Table 8.5 Perception of frequency of police patrolling in local area (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of adults not in the police and not married to or living with a police officer who saw police patrolling</i>	<b>15% most deprived</b>	<b>Rest of Scotland</b>	<b>Scotland</b>
Daily	14	8	10
Every couple of days	32	18	21
Once a week	21	22	22
At least fortnightly	10	14	13
Once in the last four weeks	9	15	13
Have not personally seen them	13	21	19
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<b>489</b>	<b>1,605</b>	<b>2,094</b>

Variable name: POLPATRF

## 8.4.2. Opinion on Local Police Presence

Respondents were asked whether they felt that the police presence in their local area was not enough, about right, or too much.

Table 8.6 gives an overview of these results, broken down by deprivation. The overall result was split between respondents who thought that there was not enough of a police presence locally (47%) and those who thought that it was about right (48%). Over half (52%) of adults in the most deprived areas said that they thought that the police presence in their area was not enough, compared to 47% in the rest of Scotland.

**Table 8.6 Perception of Local Police Presence (SCJS, 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of adults not in the police and not married to or living with a police officer</i>	<b>15% most deprived</b>	<b>Rest of Scotland</b>	<b>Scotland</b>
Not enough	52	47	47
About right	43	49	48
Too much	1	0	1
Don't know	4	4	4
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<b>1,670</b>	<b>9,510</b>	<b>11,180</b>

Variable name: POLPRES

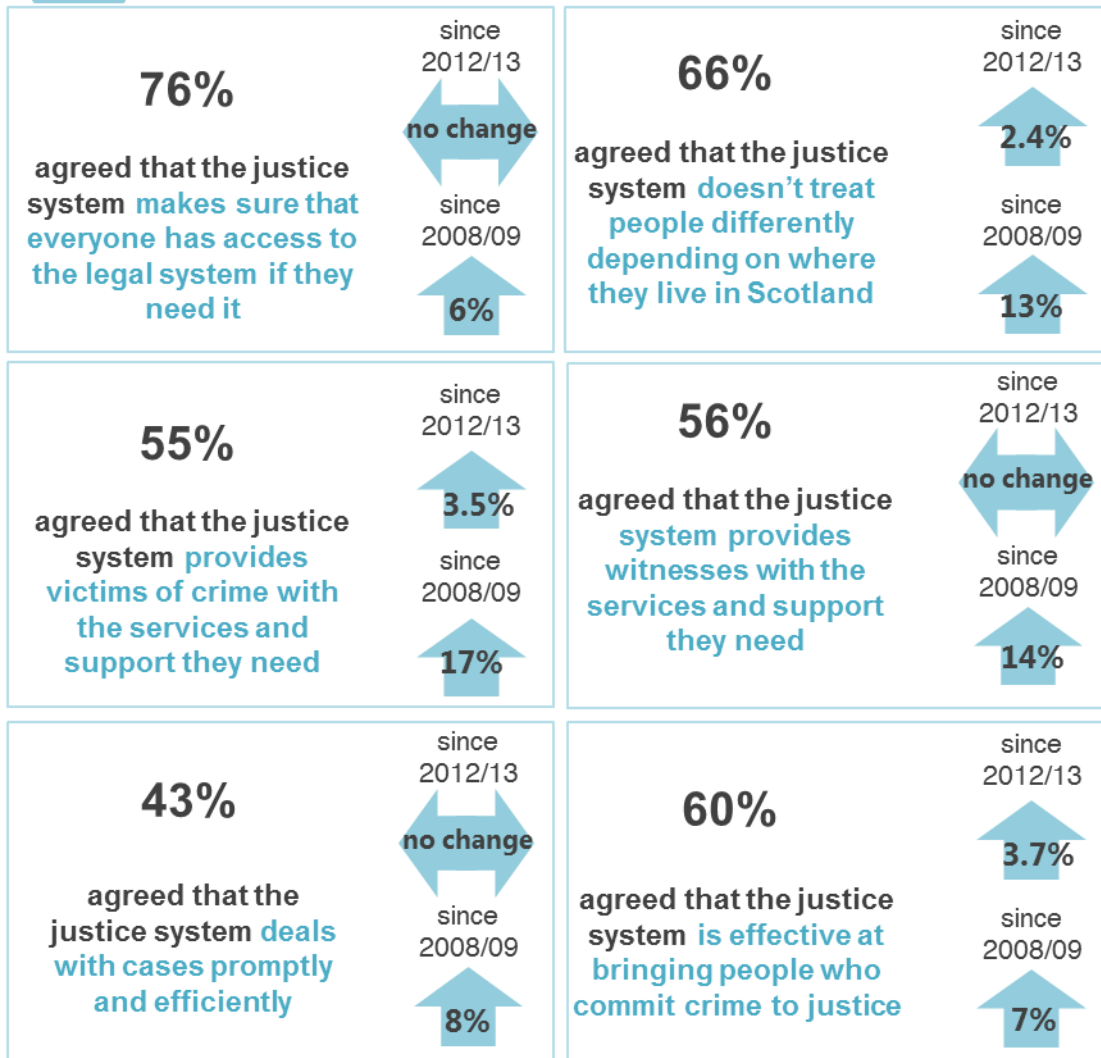


# 9. Scottish Justice System and Organisations



61% did not know very much about the criminal justice system

15% knew nothing at all about the criminal justice system



**70%**



agreed that **community sentencing is an effective way of dealing with less serious crime.**

Around one-in-five (**21%**) adults had experienced at least one **civil law problem** in the last three years.



The most common problems were problems with **home, family or living arrangements (14%).**



## 9.1. Introduction

This chapter explores public knowledge of, and attitudes towards, the criminal justice system in Scotland. The focus is on public experiences and perceptions of the justice system in Scotland, both criminal and civil.

## 9.2. The Scottish Criminal Justice System

The survey collects information on public knowledge of the criminal justice system and contact with different organisations operating within the system. The Scottish criminal justice system was defined to respondents as:

‘The shared name for all the organisations in Scotland that deal with finding offenders and arresting them, then taking them through the court system and deciding what sentence they are given if they are found guilty, and carrying out that sentence.’

### 9.2.1. Knowledge of the Criminal Justice System

Respondents were asked how much they knew about the criminal justice system in general. The majority said that they did not know very much (61%) or knew nothing at all (15%) about the criminal justice system. Only 3% said that they knew a lot, while 21% said that they knew a fair amount.

### 9.2.2. Confidence in the Criminal Justice System

The survey looked at confidence in the criminal justice system as a whole through various statements about the perceived performance of the system.

#### **Box 9.1: Trust in Justice**

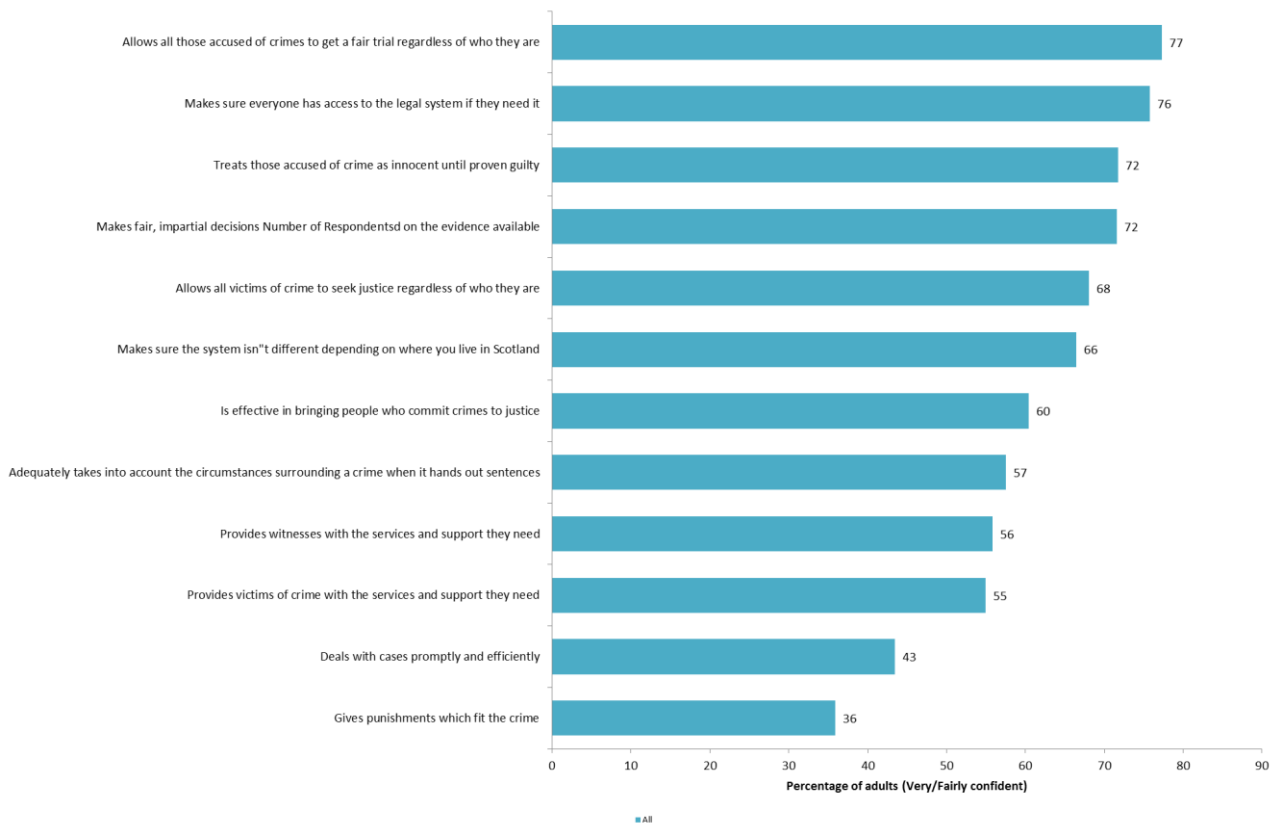
The trust that people have in 'justice' is critical to the effective operation of any criminal justice system. Trust in the idea of justice encourages victims and witnesses to report incidents to the police, to give evidence in court and to support the jury system. There is considerable support for the view that confidence in the criminal justice system has an important role in reinforcing acceptance and observance of the law. There is also a body of academic thought suggesting that people obey laws because of an underlying trust in the judicial process (for example, Roberts, & Hough, 2005; Tilly, 2005; Sunshine & Tyler, 2003; Beetham, 1991; Lind & Tyler, 1988).

Respondents, regardless of the level of contact they had with the criminal justice system, were asked how confident they were that the system delivered in 12 key areas. Figure 9.1 gives an overview of these findings.

Around three quarters of adults were either very or fairly confident that the system allows all those accused of crimes to get a fair trial (77%) or makes sure everyone has access to the criminal justice system if they need it (76%) or thought that it treats those accused of crime as innocent until proven guilty (72%). Three-fifths of adults (60%) thought it was effective in bringing people who commit crime to justice whilst just over a third (36%) were confident that it gives punishments that fit the crime.

Across many of these categories, the responses provided by victims of crime showed that they were less confident than non-victims. For example, 62% of non-victims were confident that the system is effective at bringing people who commit crime to justice, compared to 53% of victims.

**Figure 9.1 Confidence with different aspects of delivery of the criminal justice system (SCJS (2014/15))**



Base: Adults (11,470)  
Variable name: QDCONF

Table 9.1 shows the difference in the results between 2008/09 and 2014/15. While 12 statements were posed to respondents in 2014/15, Table 9.1 shows the six statements which respondents were asked about in all previous surveys. In general, there is consistency in the levels of confidence between 2012/13 and 2014/15. However, agreement with some statements has risen slightly. Table 9.1 shows the changes in confidence in different aspects of the justice system since 2008/09 and since 2012/13, highlighting where changes are statistically significant.

**Table 9.1 Confidence in different aspects of delivery of the justice system over time (SCJS 2014/15)**

Percentage of adults (Very/Fairly confident)	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	percentage point change	
						2008/09 to 2014/15	2012/13 to 2014/15
Makes sure everyone has access to the legal system if they need it	70	71	73	76	76	6 *	0
Makes sure the system doesn't treat you differently depending on	54	55	57	64	66	13 *	2 *
Is effective at bringing people who commit crime to justice	53	53	56	57	60	7 *	4 *
Provides witnesses with the services and support they need <sup>1</sup>	43	45	49	55	56	14 *	1
Provides victims of crime with the services and support they need <sup>1</sup>	38	41	45	52	55	17 *	4 *
Deals with cases promptly and efficiently	35	38	42	43	43	8 *	1
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	16,000	16,040	13,010	12,050	11,470		

Variable name: QDCONF

Changes which are statistically significant at the 95% level are highlighted with an “\*”.

### 9.2.3. Contact with Courts

As shown in Table 9.2, just under one-in-five adults (19%) had attended the court, or had contact with the courts in the last three years. Of those, one quarter (25%) were called for jury service but were not selected, 18% were as a witness in a criminal case and 15% served as part of the jury.

**Table 9.2 Reasons respondents had contact with the courts in the last three years (SCJS 2014/15)**

Percentage of adults who had contact with courts in last 3 years	All	Male	Female
<b>Yes</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>17</b>
While doing jury service called but not selected	25	24	26
As a witness in a criminal case	18	16	19
While doing jury service as part of jury	15	13	17
To support someone else attending court	10	7	13
As a victim in a criminal case	6	5	7
For other work or professional reasons (e.g. police or social worker)	8	8	7
Other	4	3	4
As an accused in a criminal case	11	17	4
As a defender in a civil case	4	4	4
As a witness in a civil case	3	2	4
As a spectator or tourist	2	1	2
As a pursuer in a civil case	3	3	2
Visiting a fines office or other public counter	3	5	1
As a member of the legal profession	1	1	1
<b>No</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>83</b>
Number of Respondents	2,100	1,040	1,060

Variable names: QCRT, QCRTHOW

Notes: Multiple responses allowed

## 9.2.4. Prisons and Sentences

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with a series of attitudinal statements about the effectiveness of prisons in Scotland for punishing and rehabilitating offenders, deterring people from committing crime and protecting the public from crime. These results are shown in Table 9.3.

**Table 9.3 Public perceptions of the effectiveness of prisons (SCJS, 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of adults</i>	Very confident	Fairly confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
Prisons are effective at punishing offenders who have been convicted of a crime	9	40	31	16	5
Prisons are effective at rehabilitating offenders who have been convicted of a crime	3	25	43	19	9
Prisons are effective at deterring people from offending	6	29	39	21	5
Prisons are effective at protecting the public from crime	17	53	20	7	4

Number of Respondents: Adults (2,870)

Variable name: QPRIS\_01, QPRIS\_02, QPRIS\_03, QPRIS\_04

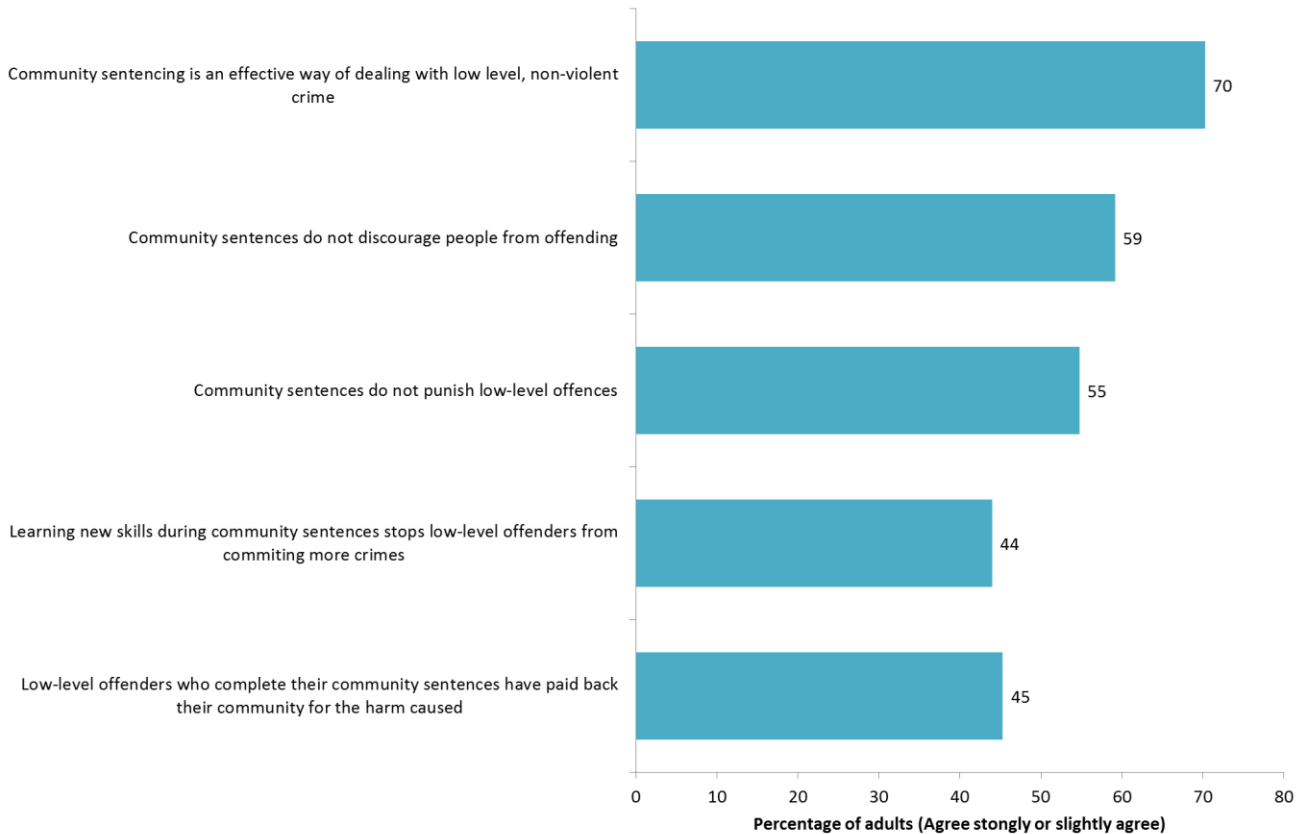
The response to the statements on prisons was varied. For example, Table 9.3 shows that respondents were generally confident in the role of prisons to protect the public from crime, with 70% saying that they were either fairly or very confident in this aspect of the prison service. However, around two-thirds of respondents were not very or not at all confident in the ability of prisons to rehabilitate offenders (63%) and deter people from offending (60%).

## 9.2.5. Community Payback Orders

Respondents were asked about community payback orders (CPOs), a community sentence designed to punish offenders in a way that pays the community while making offenders address and change their behaviour. Around a third (34%) of respondents were aware of CPOs, and 20% were aware of them being used in their area. Among those who knew about CPOs, most people came to know about them through word of mouth (41%) or having witnessed the work taking place (33%).

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with a series attitudinal statements about community sentences. Figure 9.2 gives an overview of the percentage of respondents who either slightly or strongly agreed with these statements. Just over two thirds of adults (70%) agreed that community sentencing is an effective way of dealing with less serious crime, however, only 45% believed that offenders who complete their community sentences have paid back their community for the harm caused.

**Figure 9.2 Attitudes to Community Sentences (SCJS 2014/15)**



Base: Adults (2,870)  
Variable name: QDISATT

### 9.2.6. Sentences

In 2014/15, the SCJS estimates that 6% of the adult population have been previously convicted of a crime<sup>38</sup>, with men more likely to have been convicted than women (10% and 1% respectively).

Of the adults that have been previously convicted, the most common type of sentence received was a fine or other financial penalty (4%).

<sup>38</sup> In 2012/13, this figure was reported to be 18%. However, the 2014/15 figure no longer includes penalty points for motor vehicle offences.

## 9.3. Civil Law

The survey also included a series of questions on experiences of civil law problems in Scotland, and how individuals responded to these problems.

### Box 9.2 What are Civil Law Problems?

Respondents were asked about civil problems which may raise a legal issue or which, if not resolved earlier, could ultimately result in legal proceedings. Civil problems are wide ranging, including welfare rights, debt, housing, employment, divorce or separation and consumer issues. These types of problems are referred to as 'the problems of everyday life' (Pleasance et al., 2004)<sup>39</sup>.

Dealing effectively with these problems is a key issue for the Scottish Government when making progress towards the National Outcomes set out in Scotland Performs. More specifically, helping to resolve people's civil problems will in many cases help take forward the recommendation from the tackling poverty framework, Achieving our Potential, to better integrate and so improve advice and support for people at risk of poverty and the recommendation from the report of the Debt Action Forum to take longer term action to better integrate services to meet people's needs<sup>40</sup>.

Respondents were asked if, over the previous three years, they had experienced any of 16 named problems or disputes. They were then asked whether they attempted to solve them, if they used help and advice in that process and if so, who provided advice.

Further analysis of the answers to the SCJS civil law questions will be published as part of [Civil Justice Statistics in Scotland](#) scheduled for release in March 2016.

### 9.3.1. Experience of Civil Law Problems

Respondents were asked about their experiences of problems in different areas of their life in the three years prior to interview. The problems examined were grouped into four different areas:

- Home, family or living arrangements;
- Money, finance or anything paid for;
- Unfair treatment;
- Health and well-being.

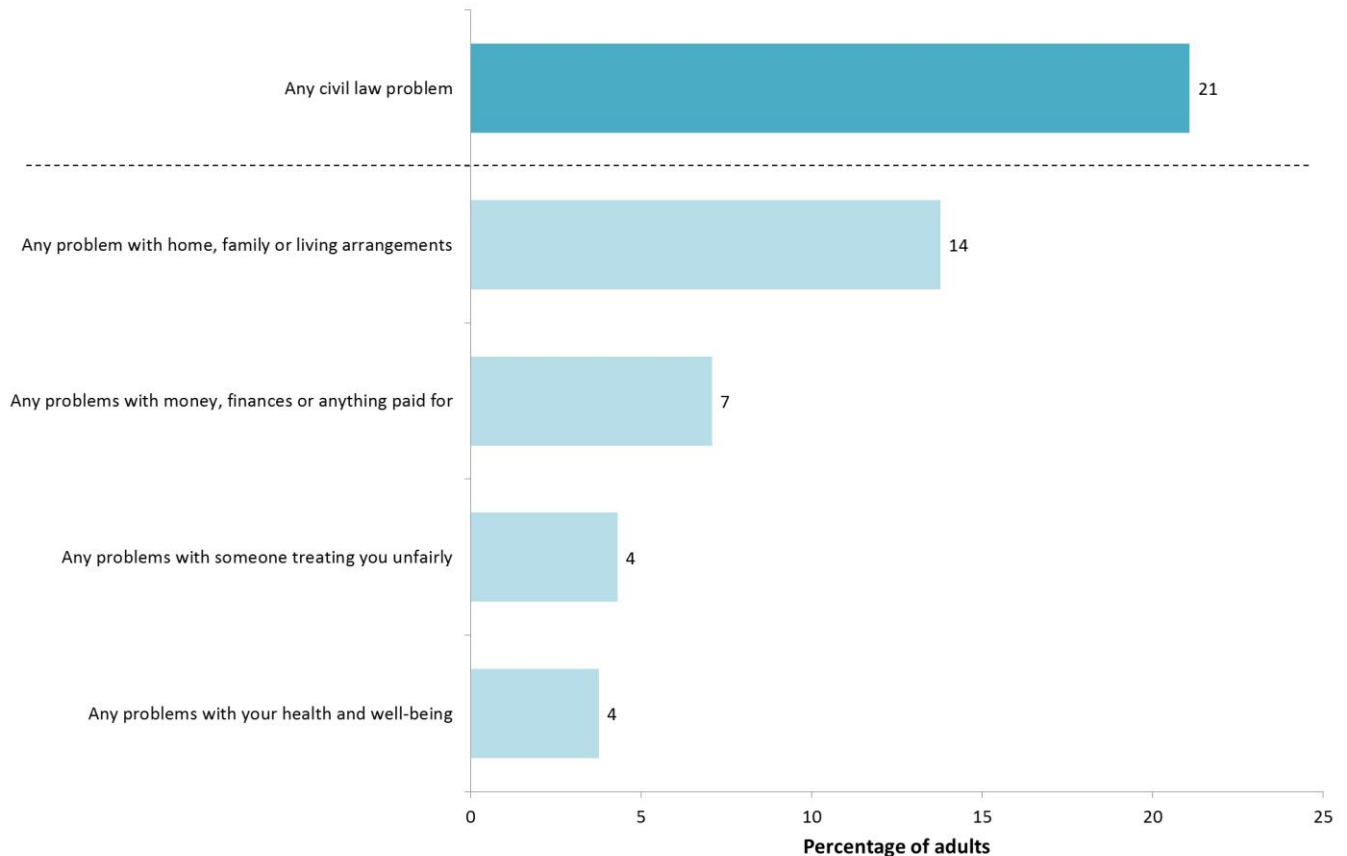
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<sup>39</sup> 'The problems to which the principles of civil law apply today are not abstract legal problems. They are not problems familiar only to lawyers, or discussed only in tribunals and civil courts. They are for the most part the problems of everyday life - the problems people face as constituents of a broad civil society' (Pleasance et al., 2004).

<sup>40</sup> Accountant in Bankruptcy website: <http://www.aib.gov.uk/About/DAF/DebtActionForumFinalRepo>

Around one-in-five (21%) adults had experienced at least one of the civil law problems asked about in the last three years. Figure 9.3 shows the proportion of Scottish adults who had experienced the different types of civil problem, highlighting that the most common problems were problems with home, family or living arrangements (14%).

**Figure 9.3 Experience of civil law problems in Scotland (SCJS 2014/15)**



Base: Adults (5,750)  
Variable name: QCVJUS1-4

Table 9.4 provides a further breakdown of the problems experienced, showing that, for example, problems with neighbours was the most common issue within the ‘living arrangements’ category, with 9% experiencing this over the last three years.

**Table 9.4 Experience of civil law problems (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of adults</i>	
<b>Any civil law problem</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Any problems with home, family or living arrangements</b>	<b>14</b>
Problems to do with neighbours	9
Problems to do with housing	2
Problems to do with the behaviour of a partner, ex-partner or other person who is harassing you	2
Problems to do with child contact, residence or maintenance	1
Problems to do with the education of your children	1
Other problems to do with divorce or separation	1
Immigration problems	0
<b>Any problems with your health and well-being</b>	<b>4</b>
Problems with injury because of an accident	2
Problems with issues surrounding mental health difficulties	1
Problems to do with medical negligence	1
<b>Any problems with money, finances or anything paid for</b>	<b>7</b>
Problems to do with money and debt, for example being owed money	3
Problems with faulty goods or services	3
Benefit problems	2
<b>Any problems with someone treating you unfairly</b>	<b>4</b>
Problems with discrimination	2
Problems to do with employment, other than finding work	2
Problems with unfair treatment by the police	1
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>5,750</i>
Variable name: QCVJUS1-4	

### **9.3.2. Support and Help**

Of those who had experienced a civil law problem, a series of follow-up questions were asked on whether they sought information, advice or other help from the Citizens Advice Bureau (or a similar advice organisation) or from a solicitor or lawyer to try and solve the problem (Table 9.5). This was in relation to the most important, or only, problem identified.

Around one-in-five had contacted, or planned to contact, the Citizens Advice Bureau (21%) or a solicitor/lawyer (19%). The main reason that people gave for not seeking advice was that they felt able to deal with the problem without help from citizens advice (36%) or legal professionals (33%).



**Table 9.5 Proportion of adults who had sought/were planning to seek, help or advice from Citizen's Advice or a legal professional (SCJS 2014/15)**

<i>Percentage of adults who identified the most important civil law problem</i>	<b>Citizens Advice Bureau or similar advice organisation</b>	<b>A solicitor or lawyer</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>81</b>
Didn't think that the problem was serious enough	~	17
Worried about the cost / didn't want to pay	~	16
Felt able to deal with the problem without their help	36	33
Haven't got round to it yet	-	-
Didn't know how to find one	3	5
Didn't know they dealt with this sort of problem	14	1
There wasn't one I could easily get to	1	1
Heard they weren't very good locally	1	-
Embarrassed / nervous / anxious about talking about the problem	2	2
Didn't know how to describe the problem	2	1
Didn't think they could do anything to help	25	14
Other	17	12
<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>1,235</i>	<i>1,235</i>

Variable name: CVJUSSK, CVJUSCAB, CVJUSLAW

Notes: ~ indicates question not asked

# Annex A: Data Tables

The following data tables provide data for some of the key measures of the survey, including trend data for past crime surveys in Scotland. Notes on how to read and interpret these tables follow.

Tables displaying different groupings of crime (e.g. to Table A 1.5) have the following structure where each crime group represents a subset of the crime group above (see Section 9.3 of the Technical Report for more information on the groupings of crime displayed in this report):

**ALL SCJS CRIME** includes all crimes measured by the survey except threats and sexual offences.

- **PROPERTY CRIME** comprises the following exclusive groups:
  - Vandalism
  - All motor vehicle theft related incidents
  - Housebreaking
  - Other household thefts (including bicycle theft)
  - Personal theft (excluding robbery)
- **VIOLENT CRIME** comprises the following exclusive groups:
  - Assault
  - Robbery

Further subgroups are also shown - for example vandalism is further broken down into motor vehicle vandalism and property vandalism.

For analysts using the SPSS data files (which will be available from the UK Data Service), variable names which correspond to the crime groups displayed in the data tables are provided in Annex 8 of the Technical Report.

**COMPARABLE CRIME** is a subset of all SCJS crime that can be compared with police recorded crime statistics. This comparable subset comprises vandalism, acquisitive crime and violent crime. Just under two-thirds (65%) of crime was classed as comparable with police recorded crime statistics (Section 2.4). Further details about police recorded crime statistics are included in Section 12.2 of the Technical Report.

## Notes

1. Upper and lower confidence interval estimates are based on 95% confidence intervals.
2. For Table A 1.3 and Table A 1.4 (crime rates) for the following crime groups, rates are quoted per 10,000 adults: all SCJS crime, property crime, personal theft (excluding robbery), theft from the person, other personal theft, violent crime, assault, serious assault, and robbery. For all other crime groups rates are quoted per 10,000 households.
3. 'n/a' denotes where data is unavailable. This is used in the following tables to reflect the change from 2008-09 onwards, to reporting on high-level property and violent crime groups, rather than household and personal crimes, which were reported on in 2005-06 and earlier years.

**Table A 1.1: Estimates of the extent of crime in Scotland  
SCJS (2014/15)**

<i>Estimated numbers of crimes</i>	<b>Best estimate</b>	<b>Lower estimate</b>	<b>Upper estimate</b>	<b>Confidence interval</b>
<b>ALL SCJS CRIME</b>	<b>688,000</b>	<b>638,000</b>	<b>738,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b>	<b>502,000</b>	<b>469,000</b>	<b>536,000</b>	<b>33,000</b>
<b>Vandalism</b>	<b>179,000</b>	<b>161,000</b>	<b>198,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>
Motor vehicle vandalism	112,000	98,000	126,000	14,000
Property vandalism	67,000	56,000	78,000	11,000
<b>All motor vehicle theft related incidents</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>33,000</b>	<b>48,000</b>	<b>7,000</b>
Theft of a motor vehicle	3,000	1,000	4,000	2,000
Theft from a motor vehicle	34,000	27,000	40,000	6,000
Attempted theft of / from motor vehicle	4,000	1,000	7,000	3,000
<b>Housebreaking</b>	<b>22,000</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>27,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>
<b>Other household thefts inc. bicycle theft</b>	<b>158,000</b>	<b>141,000</b>	<b>174,000</b>	<b>16,000</b>
Other household theft	133,000	118,000	148,000	15,000
Bicycle theft	25,000	19,000	31,000	6,000
<b>Personal theft excluding robbery</b>	<b>103,000</b>	<b>86,000</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>17,000</b>
Theft from the person	23,000	16,000	29,000	7,000
Other personal theft	81,000	65,000	96,000	15,000
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b>	<b>186,000</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>221,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>
<b>Assault</b>	<b>179,000</b>	<b>144,000</b>	<b>214,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>
Serious assault	8,000	1,000	14,000	7,000
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>
<b>COMPARABLE CRIME</b>	<b>414,000</b>	<b>374,000</b>	<b>455,000</b>	<b>41,000</b>
Vandalism	179,000	161,000	198,000	18,000
Acquisitive crime	49,000	41,000	57,000	8,000
Violent crime	186,000	150,000	221,000	35,000

Base (11, 470)

**Table A 1.2: Estimates of the extent of crime in Scotland by year**

**Scottish Crime Surveys**

<i>Estimated numbers of crimes</i>	1992	1995	1999	2002	2003/04	2005/06	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15
<b>ALL SCJS CRIME</b>	<b>1,055,000</b>	<b>968,000</b>	<b>840,000</b>	<b>1,094,000</b>	<b>940,000</b>	<b>1,004,000</b>	<b>1,045,000</b>	<b>945,000</b>	<b>874,000</b>	<b>815,000</b>	<b>688,000</b>
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<b>728,000</b>	<b>679,000</b>	<b>654,000</b>	<b>579,000</b>	<b>502,000</b>
<b>Vandalism</b>	<b>212,000</b>	<b>234,000</b>	<b>215,000</b>	<b>363,000</b>	<b>301,000</b>	<b>269,000</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>303,000</b>	<b>275,000</b>	<b>219,000</b>	<b>179,000</b>
Motor vehicle vandalism	119,000	119,000	119,000	181,000	177,000	167,000	183,000	161,000	146,000	129,000	112,000
Property vandalism	93,000	116,000	96,000	182,000	125,000	101,000	168,000	142,000	130,000	90,000	67,000
<b>All motor vehicle theft related incidents</b>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<b>70,000</b>	<b>64,000</b>	<b>58,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>
Theft of a motor vehicle	36,000	23,000	18,000	20,000	14,000	10,000	7,000	6,000	4,000	4,000	3,000
Theft from a motor vehicle	150,000	136,000	71,000	89,000	71,000	70,000	54,000	49,000	47,000	40,000	34,000
Attempted theft of / from motor vehicle	55,000	60,000	28,000	28,000	16,000	13,000	9,000	10,000	7,000	6,000	4,000
<b>Housebreaking</b>	<b>165,000</b>	<b>101,000</b>	<b>106,000</b>	<b>87,000</b>	<b>64,000</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>29,000</b>	<b>28,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>22,000</b>
<b>Other household thefts inc. bicycle theft</b>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<b>173,000</b>	<b>153,000</b>	<b>169,000</b>	<b>169,000</b>	<b>158,000</b>
Other household theft	111,000	101,000	60,000	109,000	97,000	151,000	142,000	127,000	141,000	135,000	133,000
Bicycle theft	26,000	25,000	18,000	29,000	20,000	22,000	31,000	27,000	29,000	34,000	25,000
<b>Personal theft excluding robbery</b>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>124,000</b>	<b>106,000</b>	<b>103,000</b>
Theft from the person	20,000	17,000	20,000	13,000	5,000	26,000	20,000	29,000	31,000	26,000	23,000
Other personal theft	111,000	111,000	94,000	105,000	124,000	125,000	90,000	101,000	92,000	80,000	81,000
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b>	<b>168,000</b>	<b>159,000</b>	<b>211,000</b>	<b>240,000</b>	<b>228,000</b>	<b>273,000</b>	<b>317,000</b>	<b>266,000</b>	<b>220,000</b>	<b>236,000</b>	<b>186,000</b>
<b>Assault</b>	<b>155,000</b>	<b>142,000</b>	<b>188,000</b>	<b>220,000</b>	<b>216,000</b>	<b>253,000</b>	<b>297,000</b>	<b>247,000</b>	<b>208,000</b>	<b>225,000</b>	<b>179,000</b>
Serious assault	76,000	39,000	33,000	46,000	22,000	15,000	26,000	20,000	16,000	18,000	8,000
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>22,000</b>	<b>19,000</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>19,000</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>7,000</b>
<b>COMPARABLE CRIME</b>											
Vandalism	212,000	234,000	215,000	363,000	301,000	269,000	350,000	303,000	275,000	219,000	179,000
Acquisitive crime	227,000	149,000	142,000	136,000	98,000	77,000	64,000	61,000	61,000	73,000	49,000
Violent crime	168,000	159,000	211,000	240,000	228,000	273,000	317,000	266,000	220,000	236,000	186,000
<i>Base (All)</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>3,000</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>16,000</i>	<i>16,000</i>	<i>13,000</i>	<i>12,000</i>	<i>11,470</i>

**Table A 1.3: Rates of crime in Scotland, per 10,000 households/individuals  
SCJS (2014/15)**

<i>Crime rates per 10,000 households / individuals</i>	<b>Best estimate</b>	<b>Lower estimate</b>	<b>Upper estimate</b>	<b>Confidence interval</b>
<b>ALL SCJS CRIME</b>	<b>2,330</b>	<b>2,160</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>1,590</b>	<b>1,810</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>Vandalism</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>80</b>
Motor vehicle vandalism	470	410	530	60
Property vandalism	280	240	330	50
<b>All motor vehicle theft related incidents</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>30</b>
Theft of a motor vehicle	10	0	20	10
Theft from a motor vehicle	140	120	170	30
Attempted theft of / from motor vehicle	20	10	30	10
<b>Housebreaking</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Other household thefts inc. bicycle theft</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>70</b>
Other household theft	560	490	620	60
Bicycle theft	110	80	130	30
<b>Personal theft excluding robbery</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>40</b>
Theft from the person	50	40	70	20
Other personal theft	180	150	220	30
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>Assault</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>80</b>
Serious assault	20	0	30	10
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>COMPARABLE CRIME</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>1,540</b>	<b>140</b>
Vandalism	750	680	830	80
Acquisitive crime	210	170	240	30
Violent crime	420	340	500	80

Base (11, 470)

**Table A 1.4: Rates of crime in Scotland, per 10,000 households/individuals by year**

**Scottish Crime Surveys**

<i>Crime rates per 10,000 households / individuals</i>	1992	1995	1999	2002	2003/04	2005/06	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15
<b>ALL SCJS CRIME</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3,660	3,270	3,050	2,780	2,330
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,910	2,650	2,540	2,240	1,700
<b>Vandalism</b>	1,040	1,110	980	1,660	1,370	1,180	1,500	1,290	1,170	930	750
Motor vehicle vandalism	580	560	550	830	810	730	780	690	620	540	470
Property vandalism	450	550	440	830	570	440	720	610	550	380	280
<b>All motor vehicle theft related incidents</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	300	270	250	210	170
Theft of a motor vehicle	180	110	80	90	60	50	30	30	20	20	10
Theft from a motor vehicle	740	640	320	410	320	300	230	210	200	170	140
Attempted theft of / from motor vehicle	270	290	130	130	70	60	40	40	30	20	20
<b>Housebreaking</b>	810	480	480	400	290	200	110	120	120	150	90
<b>Other household thefts inc. bicycle theft</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	740	650	720	710	660
Other household theft	550	480	280	500	440	660	610	540	600	570	560
Bicycle theft	130	120	80	130	90	90	130	110	120	140	110
<b>Personal theft excluding robbery</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	260	300	290	250	230
Theft from the person	50	40	50	60	10	60	50	70	70	60	50
Other personal theft	270	270	230	260	310	300	210	240	210	180	180
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b>	410	390	510	600	570	650	740	620	510	540	420
<b>Assault</b>	380	350	460	550	540	610	700	580	480	520	400
Serious assault	190	100	80	120	50	40	60	50	40	40	20
<b>Robbery</b>	30	40	50	50	30	50	50	40	30	30	20
<b>COMPARABLE CRIME</b>											
Vandalism	1,040	1,110	980	1,660	1,370	1,180	1,500	1,290	1,170	930	750
Acquisitive crime	1,110	700	650	620	450	340	270	260	260	310	210
Violent crime	410	390	510	600	570	650	740	620	510	540	420
<i>Base (All)</i>	5,030	5,050	5,060	5,040	3,030	5,000	16,000	16,040	13,010	12,050	11,470

**Table A 1.5: Prevalence of victimisation by year**

**Scottish Crime Surveys**

<i>Percentages</i>	1992	1995	1999	2002	2003/04	2005/06	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15
<b>ALL SCJS CRIME</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>14.5</b>
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>13.0</b>
<b>Vandalism</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.1</b>
Motor vehicle vandalism	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	5.4	5.1	4.4	4.1	3.4
Property vandalism	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	4.1	3.7	3.2	2.4	1.9
<b>All motor vehicle theft related incidents</b>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Theft of a motor vehicle	1.6	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Theft from a motor vehicle	5.8	5.1	2.7	3.0	2.7	2.4	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.3
Attempted theft of / from motor vehicle	2.4	2.3	1.1	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
<b>Housebreaking</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.8</b>
<b>Other household thefts inc. bicycle theft</b>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.0</b>
Other household theft	3.7	3.2	2.2	3.3	3.4	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.1
Bicycle theft	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.9	0.7	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.2	0.9
<b>Personal theft excluding robbery</b>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>
Theft from the person	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5
Other personal theft	2.3	2.5	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.4	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.7
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.6</b>
<b>Assault</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<i>Base (All)</i>	<i>5,030</i>	<i>5,050</i>	<i>5,060</i>	<i>5,040</i>	<i>3,030</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>16,000</i>	<i>16,040</i>	<i>13,010</i>	<i>12,050</i>	<i>11,470</i>

**Table A 1.6: Prevalence of crime by demographic variables**

Percentages	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	From 2008/09 to 2014/15	From 2012/13 to 2014/15
All	20.4	19.3	17.8	16.9	14.5	-5.9 *	-2.4 *
Male	21.2	20.4	18.4	18.2	15.6	-5.6 *	-2.5 *
Female	19.7	18.2	17.2	15.8	13.6	-6.2 *	-2.2 *
16 - 24	32.2	26.4	25.6	23.7	20.4	-11.8 *	-3.3
25 - 34	26.2	25.4	22.5	22.8	19.7	-6.4 *	-3.1
35 - 44	23.5	24.8	22.2	20.5	17.1	-6.3 *	-3.3 *
45 - 54	21.0	19.9	19.1	17.2	15.7	-5.2 *	-1.5
55 - 64	16.0	14.3	13.4	12.7	12.0	-4.0 *	-0.7
65 - 74	10.0	10.0	8.3	9.8	6.7	-3.3 *	-3.1 *
75+	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.4	4.8	-0.8	-0.6
15% most deprived	26.0	25.2	21.3	21.3	21.2	-4.8 *	-0.1
Rest of Scotland	19.4	18.3	17.2	16.1	13.4	-6.1 *	-2.8 *
Urban	22.2	20.9	19.5	18.6	15.5	-6.6 *	-3.0 *
Rural	13.0	12.1	10.2	9.4	9.9	-3.1 *	0.4

Base: 2008/09 (16,000), 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010), 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)



**Table A 1.7: Prevalence of property crime by demographic variables**

Percentages	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2012-13	2014-15	From 2008/09 to 2014-15	From 2012/13 to 2014-15
All	18.0	17.0	15.9	14.8	13.0	-5.1 *	-1.9 *
Male	18.1	17.0	15.8	15.3	13.4	-4.7 *	-2.0 *
Female	18.0	17.0	16.0	14.4	12.6	-5.4 *	-1.8 *
16 - 24	26.1	19.7	20.6	18.1	16.8	-9.3 *	-1.3
25 - 34	22.3	21.9	20.0	19.9	17.6	-4.7 *	-2.2
35 - 44	21.5	22.4	19.8	17.5	15.4	-6.1 *	-2.0
45 - 54	18.5	18.9	17.9	16.2	13.9	-4.6 *	-2.3
55 - 64	15.2	13.5	12.7	12.0	11.2	-4.0 *	-0.7
65 - 74	9.5	9.6	7.9	9.6	6.4	-3.1 *	-3.2 *
75+	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.3	4.7	-0.6	-0.5
15% most deprived	22.8	21.7	19.5	18.0	18.7	-4.1 *	0.7
Rest of Scotland	17.2	16.2	15.3	14.3	11.9	-5.2 *	-2.3 *
Urban	19.6	18.5	17.5	16.3	13.9	-5.7 *	-2.4 *
Rural	11.3	10.5	9.0	8.2	8.5	-2.8 *	0.3

Base: 2008/09 (16,000), 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010), 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)

**Table A 1.8: Prevalence of violent crime by demographic variables**

Percentages	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2012-13	2014-15	From 2008/09 to 2014-15	From 2012/13 to 2014-15
All	4.1	3.6	3.0	3.1	2.6	-1.5 *	-0.5 *
Male	5.7	5.0	4.2	4.2	3.5	-2.2 *	-0.7
Female	2.7	2.3	1.9	2.2	1.8	-0.9 *	-0.4
16 - 24	12.0	10.1	7.4	8.2	6.0	-6.0 *	-2.3
25 - 34	5.9	5.5	4.3	4.3	4.2	-1.7	0.0
35 - 44	3.2	4.1	3.7	4.3	2.7	-0.5	-1.6 *
45 - 54	3.5	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.6	-0.9	0.6
55 - 64	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.0	-0.6	-0.3
65 - 74	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.3	-0.2	0.0
75+	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.1
15% most deprived	5.9	6.2	3.3	5.0	4.5	-1.3	-0.5
Rest of Scotland	3.8	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.3	-1.6 *	-0.6 *
Urban	4.6	3.9	3.3	3.5	2.8	-1.8 *	-0.7 *
Rural	2.2	2.3	1.9	1.7	1.8	-0.5	0.1

Base: 2008/09 (16,000), 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010), 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)

**Table A 1.9: Percentage of crime reported to the police by year**

**Scottish Crime Surveys**

<i>Percentages</i>	1992	1995	1999	2002	2003/04	2005/06	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15
<b>ALL SCJS CRIME</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Vandalism</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>37</b>
Motor vehicle vandalism	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	30	39	35	38	33	33
Property vandalism	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	45	41	43	42	40	44
<b>All motor vehicle theft related incidents</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>44</b>
Theft of a motor vehicle	97	100	95	97	100	95	92	98	92	94	86
Theft from a motor vehicle	58	58	56	60	51	47	39	36	29	38	42
Attempted theft of / from motor vehicle	56	59	35	46	64	33	42	58	20	53	32
<b>Housebreaking</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Other household thefts inc. bicycle theft</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>28</b>
Other household theft	29	20	24	16	26	24	22	30	25	25	26
Bicycle theft	71	54	66	56	32	44	26	41	35	40	35
<b>Personal theft excluding robbery</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>
Theft from the person	52	51	49	44	45	52	47	24	34	46	33
Other personal theft	34	26	43	20	23	23	28	27	29	34	38
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Assault</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Comparable crime</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>42</b>
Vandalism	33	50	50	43	36	35	40	39	40	36	37
Acquisitive crime	79	68	74	66	63	62	49	57	51	55	50
Violent crime	52	40	55	46	43	41	43	38	51	48	44
<i>Base (All)</i>	<i>5,030</i>	<i>5,050</i>	<i>5,060</i>	<i>5,040</i>	<i>3,030</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>16,000</i>	<i>16,040</i>	<i>13,010</i>	<i>12,050</i>	<i>11,470</i>

**Table A 1.10: Perceptions of how crime rates have changed in respondents' local area over the past two years**

**SCJS (2014/15)**

<i>Percentages (About the same, or a little / lot less)</i>	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	From 2008/09 to 2014/15	From 2012/13 to 2014/15
All	69	71	73	76	75	5.7 *	-1.1
Male	73	74	76	78	77	4.1 *	-1.3
Female	65	68	71	73	72	7.0 *	-1.0
16 - 24	68	77	76	80	78	9.7 *	-2.4
25 - 34	73	71	75	79	71	-2.2	-7.8 *
35 - 44	70	69	71	73	72	1.5	-1.1
45 - 54	68	71	73	74	75	7.5 *	0.7
55 - 64	67	68	73	75	74	6.9 *	-0.6
65 - 74	68	71	73	75	75	6.9 *	-0.1
75+	69	71	73	76	79	10.2 *	2.8
15% most deprived	64	65	67	72	74	9.3 *	1.6
Rest of Scotland	70	72	75	76	75	5.0 *	-1.6 *
Victim	58	60	62	65	63	6.0 *	-2.0
Non-victim	72	73	76	78	77	4.6 *	-1.3

Base (11, 470)

**Table A 1.11: Percentage of respondents who feel safe walking alone after dark in their local area, from 2008/09 to 2014/15**

<i>Percentage 'very' or 'fairly safe'</i>	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	From 2008/09 to 2014/15	From 2012/13 to 2014/15
All	66	67	68	72	74	8.0 *	2.3 *
Male	79	80	82	85	86	6.8 *	1.0
Female	55	55	55	60	64	9.0 *	3.5 *
16 - 24	71	72	72	73	77	5.8 *	3.3
25 - 34	73	74	72	78	78	5.1 *	0.2
35 - 44	72	71	73	76	78	6.3 *	2.1
45 - 54	71	72	72	78	76	4.8 *	-1.5
55 - 64	65	65	69	71	77	11.6 *	5.3 *
65 - 74	55	58	60	64	68	13.1 *	3.9 *
75+	43	47	47	52	59	16.1 *	6.2 *
15% most deprived	52	52	54	57	62	9.9 *	5.5 *
Rest of Scotland	69	70	71	75	76	7.6 *	1.7 *
Urban	62	63	65	69	71	8.9 *	2.8 *
Rural	83	84	84	87	88	5.5 *	0.6
Victim	61	61	61	66	67	5.7 *	1.2
Non-victim	68	69	70	73	76	8.0 *	2.3 *

Base: 2008/09 (16,000), 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010), 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)

**Table A 1.12: Percentage of respondents who feel safe at home alone after dark in their local area, from 2008/09 to 2014/15**

Percentage 'very' or 'fairly safe'	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	From 2008/09 to 2014/15	From 2012/13 to 2014/15
All	93	94	94	95	94	0.7	-0.9 *
Male	96	97	98	97	97	0.7	-0.4
Female	90	92	91	92	91	0.6	-1.4 *
16 - 24	91	93	91	92	91	0.1	-0.2
25 - 34	92	93	93	95	93	0.9	-1.6
35 - 44	94	94	95	95	94	-0.1	-1.2
45 - 54	94	95	95	96	94	0.0	-1.2
55 - 64	93	95	96	95	95	2.2 *	0.1
65 - 74	94	95	95	96	95	0.8	-0.8
75+	93	95	95	96	95	1.1	-1.4
15% most deprived	88	89	90	91	90	2.0	-1.1
Rest of Scotland	94	95	95	95	95	0.4	-0.9 *
Urban	93	94	94	94	93	0.8 *	-0.8 *
Rural	96	96	96	97	96	0.2	-1.2
Victim	90	90	89	90	90	0.6	0.1
Non-victim	94	95	95	96	94	0.4	-1.2 *

Base: 2008/09 (16,000), 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010), 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)

Variable name: QSFNIGH, QDGEN, QDAGE, SIMD\_TOP, SIMD\_QUINT, TENURE, URBRUR, TABNSSEC, NSSEC, QRELIG, QCONDIT and QLIMIT, QDETH3, VICFLAG3, SEXORIEN and QSEXORIENT.

Notes: Question wording: "How safe do you feel when you are alone in your home at night?" Answer Options: 'Very safe', 'Fairly safe', 'A bit unsafe', 'and Very unsafe'.

**Table A 1.13: Percentage of respondents saying police in local area doing a good or excellent job, by police division, 2012/13 to 2014/15**

<i>Percentage 'good' or 'excellent'</i>	2012/13	2014/15	From 2012/13 to 2014/15
All	61	58	-3 *
Aberdeen City	<b>70</b>	61	-9 *
Aberdeenshire and Moray	56	56	0
Forth Valley	64	<b>63</b>	-1
Fife	62	60	-2
Greater Glasgow	58	57	-1
Renfrewshire and Inverclyde	63	57	-6
Argyll and West Dunbartonshire	56	61	5
Lanarkshire	<b>49</b>	<b>53</b>	4
Ayrshire	56	<b>54</b>	-3
Edinburgh City	<b>68</b>	<b>65</b>	-3
The Lothians and Scottish Borders	63	55	-8 *
Dumfries and Galloway	<b>66</b>	57	-9 *
Tayside	<b>67</b>	61	-6
Highlands and Islands	<b>69</b>	<b>64</b>	-5

Base: 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)  
 Variable name: QRATPOL (first asked in 2012/13)

Notes: 1. Question wording: "Taking everything into account, how good a job do you think the police in this area are doing??" Answer Options: 'Excellent', 'Good', 'Fair', 'Poor', 'Very Poor'.

2. Changes which are statistically significant over time, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted with an "\*".

3. Results for Police Divisions which are significantly different from the Scotland level result, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted in ***bold and italics***.

**Table A 1.14: Percentage of respondents confidence in local policing's ability to prevent crime, by police division, 2008/09 to 2014/15**

<i>Percentage 'very' or 'fairly confident'</i>	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	From 2008/09 to	From 2012/13 to
						2014/15	2014/15
All	46	48	50	56	57	11 *	1
Aberdeen City	47	50	56	<b>64</b>	60	13 *	-5
Aberdeenshire and Moray	43	47	50	52	<b>52</b>	9 *	0
Forth Valley	50	<b>43</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>38</b>	61	12 *	23 *
Fife	48	48	49	57	59	11 *	1
Greater Glasgow	45	<b>44</b>	49	55	57	12 *	1
Renfrewshire and Inverclyde	44	50	52	<b>66</b>	60	16 *	-6
Argyll and West Dunbartonshire	42	49	48	54	53	11 *	-1
Lanarkshire	<b>42</b>	44	46	<b>50</b>	54	12 *	4
Ayrshire	44	44	53	56	55	11 *	-1
Edinburgh City	45	<b>55</b>	50	56	<b>62</b>	17 *	6 *
The Lothians and Scottish Borders	46	47	48	57	<b>50</b>	4	-7 *
Dumfries and Galloway	<b>52</b>	52	<b>56</b>	60	60	8 *	0
Tayside	50	52	51	<b>62</b>	59	9 *	-3
Highlands and Islands	<b>55</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>	60	5	-4

Base: 2008/09 (16,000), 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010), 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)

Variable name: QPOLCONF\_01

Notes:

1. Question wording: "How confident are you in your local police force's ability to prevent crime?" Answer Options: 'A lot more crime', 'A little more', 'About the same', 'A little less', 'A lot less'.
2. Changes which are statistically significant over time, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted with an "\*\*".
3. Police Divisions where the results are statistically significantly different from the Scotland level result, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted in ***bold and italics***.



**Table A 1.15: Percentage of respondents confidence in local policing's ability to respond quickly to appropriate calls and information from the public, by police division, from 2008/09 to 2014/15**

<i>Percentage 'very' or 'fairly confident'</i>	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	From 2008/09 to	From 2012/13 to
						2014/15	2014/15
All	54	58	61	66	64	9 *	-2 *
Aberdeen City	56	57	61	70	63	7	-7 *
Aberdeenshire and Moray	<b>48</b>	55	55	<b>58</b>	<b>58</b>	10 *	0
Forth Valley	53	61	63	<b>71</b>	<b>69</b>	16 *	-2
Fife	<b>59</b>	58	64	68	63	4	-5
Greater Glasgow	54	56	64	65	66	12 *	1
Renfrewshire and Inverclyde	51	54	58	71	68	17 *	-3
Argyll and West Dunbartonshire	56	<b>63</b>	67	70	<b>69</b>	12 *	-2
Lanarkshire	<b>47</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>59</b>	12 *	5
Ayrshire	<b>45</b>	<b>52</b>	57	<b>59</b>	60	15 *	2
Edinburgh City	<b>59</b>	<b>66</b>	65	<b>71</b>	<b>72</b>	13 *	1
The Lothians and Scottish Borders	55	57	56	67	<b>56</b>	1	-11 *
Dumfries and Galloway	<b>61</b>	<b>64</b>	64	<b>70</b>	61	0	-9 *
Tayside	58	<b>63</b>	65	<b>72</b>	65	7 *	-7 *
Highlands and Islands	<b>69</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>73</b>	65	-3	-8 *

Base: 2008/09 (16,000), 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010), 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)

Variable name: QPOLCONF\_02

Notes:

1. Question wording: "How confident are you in your local police force's ability to respond quickly to appropriate calls and information from the public?" Answer Options: 'A lot more crime', 'A little more', 'About the same', 'A little less', 'A lot less'.
2. Changes which are statistically significant over time, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted with an "\*\*".
3. Police Divisions where the results are statistically significantly different from the Scotland level result, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted in **bold and italics**.

**Table A 1.16: Percentage of respondents confidence in local policing's ability to deal with incidents as they occur, by police division, from 2008/09 to 2014/15**

Percentage 'very' or 'fairly confident'						From 2008/09 to	From 2012/13 to
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	2014/15	2014/15
All	58	61	65	68	66	8 *	-3 *
Aberdeen City	61	64	62	73	66	5	-7 *
Aberdeenshire and Moray	54	56	<b>56</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>60</b>	5	-1
Forth Valley	56	<b>66</b>	62	72	70	14 *	-2
Fife	60	57	67	68	65	5	-3
Greater Glasgow	57	60	67	67	66	9 *	0
Renfrewshire and Inverclyde	56	60	64	73	68	12 *	-5
Argyll and West Dunbartonshire	61	65	70	70	<b>61</b>	0	-9 *
Lanarkshire	<b>51</b>	<b>54</b>	62	<b>60</b>	66	16 *	7 *
Ayrshire	<b>50</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>61</b>	64	14 *	3
Edinburgh City	60	<b>67</b>	67	<b>74</b>	<b>71</b>	11 *	-2
The Lothians and Scottish Borders	56	59	65	68	<b>58</b>	2	-10 *
Dumfries and Galloway	<b>67</b>	<b>67</b>	67	72	69	2	-3
Tayside	<b>64</b>	64	<b>71</b>	<b>75</b>	67	3	-9 *
Highlands and Islands	<b>72</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>71</b>	-1	-9 *

Base: 2008/09 (16,000), 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010), 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)

Variable name: QPOLCONF\_03

Notes:

1. Question wording: "How confident are you in your local police force's ability to deal with incidents as they occur?" Answer Options: 'A lot more crime', 'A little more', 'About the same', 'A little less', 'A lot less'.
2. Changes which are statistically significant over time, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted with an "\*".
3. Police Divisions where the results are statistically significantly different from the Scotland level result, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted in **bold and italics**.

**Table A 1.17: Percentage of respondents confident in local police to investigate incidents after they occur, by police division, from 2008/09 to 2014/15**

<i>Percentage 'very' or 'fairly confident'</i>						From 2008/09 to	From 2012/13 to
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	2014/15	2014/15
All	64	68	71	73	70	7 *	-2 *
Aberdeen City	63	66	69	77	72	9 *	-6
Aberdeenshire and Moray	62	66	68	69	67	5	-2
Forth Valley	<b>60</b>	69	70	75	<b>76</b>	16 *	0
Fife	67	66	72	73	71	4	-3
Greater Glasgow	61	66	70	70	71	9 *	1
Renfrewshire and Inverclyde	67	67	70	76	73	6	-3
Argyll and West Dunbartonshire	68	70	75	73	<b>77</b>	9 *	4
Lanarkshire	<b>59</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>64</b>	69	10 *	5
Ayrshire	66	69	70	73	<b>65</b>	-1	-8 *
Edinburgh City	61	69	71	73	74	13 *	1
The Lothians and Scottish Borders	62	66	71	74	<b>62</b>	0	-12 *
Dumfries and Galloway	<b>69</b>	<b>74</b>	74	74	71	2	-3
Tayside	<b>71</b>	71	72	<b>80</b>	73	2	-7 *
Highlands and Islands	<b>75</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>75</b>	1	-5

Base: 2008/09 (16,000), 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010), 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)

Variable name: QPOLCONF\_04

Notes:

1. Question wording: "How confident are you in your local police force's ability to investigate incidents after they occur?" Answer Options: 'A lot more crime', 'A little more', 'About the same', 'A little less', 'A lot less'.

2. Changes which are statistically significant over time, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted with an "\*\*".

3. Police Divisions where the results are statistically significantly different from the Scotland level result, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted in **bold and italics**.

**Table A 1.18: Percentage of respondents confident in local police to solve crimes, by police division, from 2008/09 to 2014/15**

<i>Percentage 'very' or 'fairly confident'</i>						From 2008/09 to	From 2012/13 to
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	2014/15	2014/15
All	57	60	64	64	62	5 *	-2 *
Aberdeen City	60	62	66	65	63	3	-2
Aberdeenshire and Moray	55	60	63	60	59	4	-1
Forth Valley	56	<b>54</b>	60	<b>52</b>	<b>70</b>	14 *	18 *
Fife	58	57	65	65	65	7 *	0
Greater Glasgow	57	58	64	61	<b>58</b>	1	-3
Renfrewshire and Inverclyde	58	65	64	<b>70</b>	<b>69</b>	11 *	-2
Argyll and West Dunbartonshire	56	55	64	65	61	5	-4
Lanarkshire	<b>51</b>	58	62	<b>59</b>	63	12 *	4
Ayrshire	55	59	64	66	61	6	-5
Edinburgh City	54	64	61	65	63	9 *	-2
The Lothians and Scottish Borders	56	59	62	62	<b>53</b>	-3	-9 *
Dumfries and Galloway	<b>64</b>	<b>66</b>	66	<b>71</b>	64	0	-7 *
Tayside	<b>64</b>	63	65	<b>71</b>	64	1	-7 *
Highlands and Islands	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>68</b>	2	-3

Base: 2008/09 (16,000), 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010), 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)

Variable name: QPOLCONF\_05

Notes:

1. Question wording: "How confident are you in your local police force's ability to solve crimes?" Answer Options: 'A lot more crime', 'A little more', 'About the same', 'A little less', 'A lot less'.
2. Changes which are statistically significant over time, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted with an "\*".
3. Police Divisions where the results are statistically significantly different from the Scotland level result, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted in **bold and italics**.

**Table A 1.19: Percentage of respondents confident in local police to catch criminals, by police division, from 2008/09 to 2014/15**

<i>Percentage 'very' or 'fairly confident'</i>						From 2008/09 to	From 2012/13 to
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	2014/15	2014/15
All	<b>55</b>	57	60	61	60	5 *	-1
Aberdeen City	55	56	58	61	59	4	-3
Aberdeenshire and Moray	54	57	58	56	57	3	1
Forth Valley	54	54	<b>55</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>66</b>	13 *	16 *
Fife	59	53	61	65	61	2	-4
Greater Glasgow	54	55	61	<b>58</b>	57	3	0
Renfrewshire and Inverclyde	53	61	64	<b>67</b>	64	11 *	-3
Argyll and West Dunbartonshire	56	55	65	65	62	6	-2
Lanarkshire	<b>50</b>	<b>53</b>	57	<b>56</b>	58	8 *	2
Ayrshire	54	57	62	63	61	7 *	-2
Edinburgh City	53	60	58	61	62	9 *	2
The Lothians and Scottish Borders	54	58	61	62	<b>53</b>	-1	-9 *
Dumfries and Galloway	<b>62</b>	<b>63</b>	62	<b>69</b>	63	1	-5
Tayside	<b>61</b>	<b>61</b>	59	<b>67</b>	63	2	-4
Highlands and Islands	<b>67</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>65</b>	-2	-6 *

Base: 2008/09 (16,000), 2009/10 (16,040), 2010/11 (13,010), 2012/13 (12,050), 2014/15 (11,470)

Variable name: QPOLCONF\_06

Notes:

1. Question wording: "How confident are you in your local police force's ability to catch criminals?" Answer Options: 'A lot more crime', 'A little more', 'About the same', 'A little less', 'A lot less'.
2. Changes which are statistically significant over time, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted with an "\*".
3. Police Divisions where the results are statistically significantly different from the Scotland level result, at the 95% confidence level, are highlighted in **bold and italics**.

**Table A 1.20: Percentage of respondents confident in aspects of the Scottish Criminal Justice System, 2014/15**

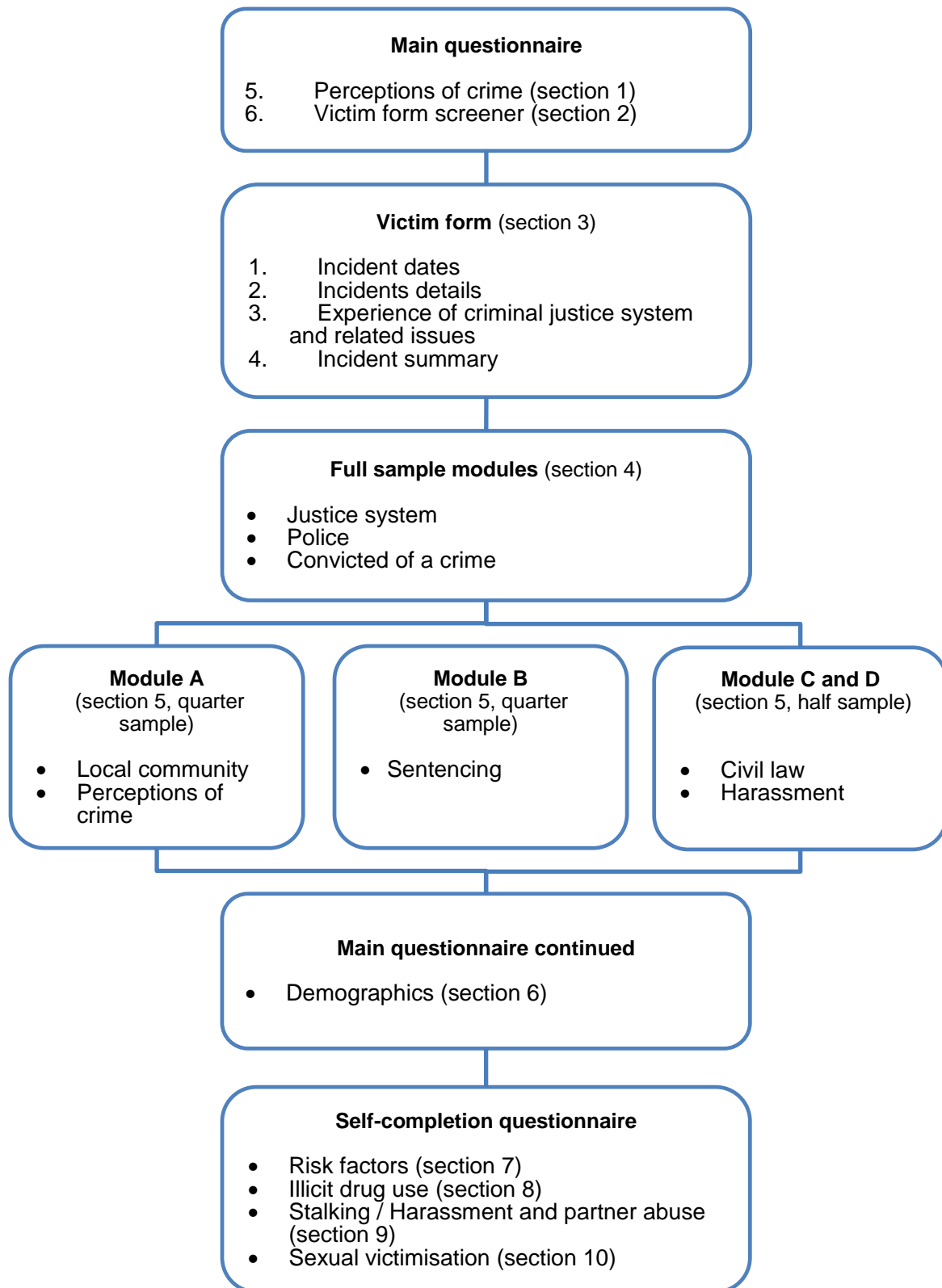
	Is effective in bringing people who commit crimes to justice	Deals with cases promptly and efficiently	Everyone has access to the legal system if they need it	The system isn't different depending on where you live in Scotland.	Provides victims of crime with the services and support they need.	Provides witnesses with the services and support they need.	Base
<i>Percentage 'very' or 'fairly confident'</i>							
All	60	43	76	66	55	56	11,470
Male	61	44	77	68	55	58	5,180
Female	60	42	75	65	54	54	6,290
16 - 24	67	57	80	73	73	72	930
25 - 34	61	47	77	68	61	59	1,610
35 - 44	62	46	79	69	57	56	1,810
45 - 54	60	41	76	66	53	55	2,020
55 - 64	58	37	73	63	47	49	1,940
65 - 74	56	36	73	62	44	48	1,780
75+	57	37	72	62	44	48	1,400
15% most deprived	54	46	74	62	56	56	1,690
Rest of Scotland	62	43	76	67	55	56	9,780
Urban	60	43	76	66	55	56	9,240
Rural	62	44	76	70	54	55	2,240
Victim	53	39	72	63	52	53	1,550
Non-victim	62	44	76	67	55	56	9,920

Base: 12,050

Variable name: QDCONF, QDGEN, QDAGE, SIMD\_TOP, SIMD\_QUINT, TENURE, URBRUR, TABNSSEC, NSSEC, QRELIG, QCONDIT and QLIMIT, QDETH3, VICFLAG3, QDKGEN, SEXORIEN and QSEXORIENT

Notes: Question: "How confident are you that the Scottish Criminal Justice System as a whole ...?" Answer options: 'Very confident', 'Fairly confident', 'Not very confident', 'Not at all confident'

# Annex B: Questionnaire Structure



## **A National Statistics publication for Scotland**

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be interpreted to mean that the statistics: meet identified user needs; are produced, managed and disseminated to high standards; and are explained well.

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

The data collected for this social research publication:

are available via the [UK Data Service](#).

may be made available on request, subject to consideration of legal and ethical factors. Please contact [Scottish Crime and Justice Survey@gov.scot](mailto:Scottish_Crime_and_Justice_Survey@gov.scot) for further information.

cannot be made available by Scottish Government for further analysis as Scottish Government is not the data controller.

### **Complaints and suggestions**

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