

Statistical Bulletin

Crime and Justice Series

A National Statistics Publication for Scotland

RECORDED CRIME IN SCOTLAND, 2007/08

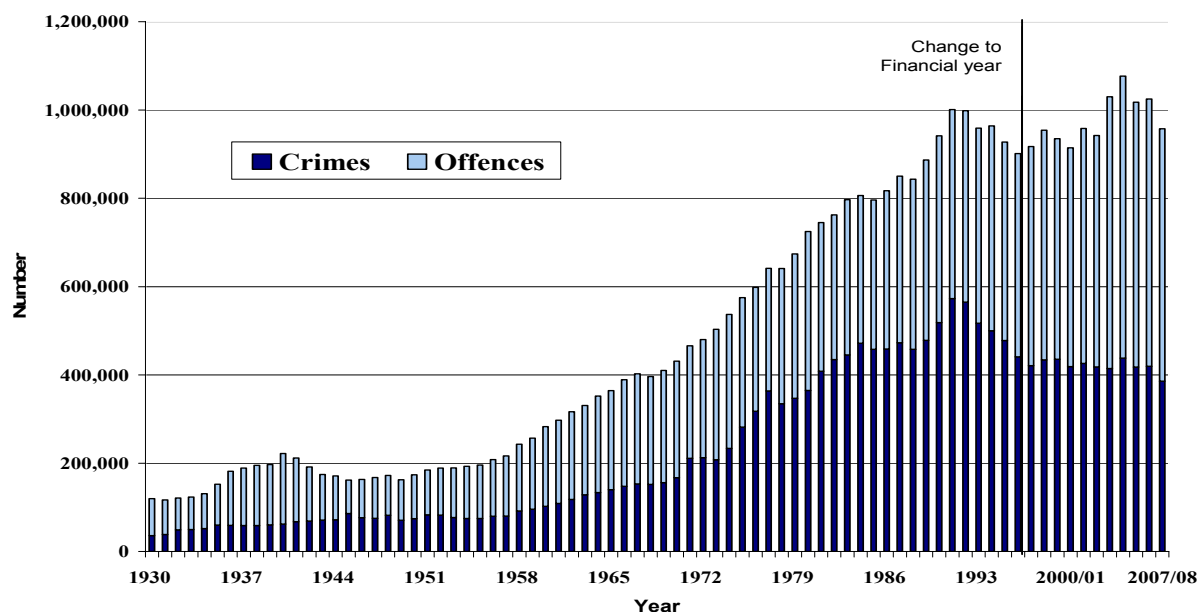
30 September 2008



1. Introduction

- 1.1 This bulletin presents statistics on crimes and offences recorded and cleared up by the eight Scottish police forces in 2007/08. It forms part of the Scottish Government series of statistical bulletins on the criminal justice system. Statistics on crimes and offences recorded by the police provide a measure of the volume of crime with which the police are faced.
- 1.2 Data from 2004/05 onwards shows the impact of the implementation of the Scottish Crime Recording Standard (SCRS), which was expected to increase the numbers of minor crimes recorded by the police, such as minor crimes of vandalism and minor thefts. However, it was expected that the SCRS would not have much impact on the figures for the more serious crimes such as serious assault, sexual assault, robbery or housebreaking.

Chart 1 Crimes and offences recorded by the police 1930 - 1994 then 1995/96 - 2007/08



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2. Main points

- The total number of crimes recorded by the police decreased by 8 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08. In 2007/08, the Scottish police recorded 385,509 crimes.
- The number of *non-sexual crimes of violence* recorded by the police decreased by 9 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08, to a total of 12,874.
- The number of *crimes of indecency* decreased by 3 per cent, from 6,726 in 2006/07 to 6,552 in 2007/08.
- Within the *indecency* group, recorded cases of rape & attempted rape decreased by 6 per cent to 1,053.
- The number of *crimes of dishonesty* decreased for the ninth consecutive year to stand at 166,718 cases in 2007/08.
- Recorded cases of *vandalism* (including fire-raising and malicious mischief) decreased by 9 per cent to total 118,025 in 2007/08.
- The clear-up rate for all recorded crimes in 2007/08 is 48 per cent. The corresponding figure for 2006/07 was 47 per cent.
- The clear-up rate in 2007/08 for *non-sexual crimes of violence* is higher than in 2006/07, increasing from 60 per cent to 62 per cent. The rate for *crimes of indecency* has decreased by 3 percentage points to 71 per cent, with the rate for *other crimes* also decreasing, from 99 per cent to 98 per cent. At the level at which we publish, all other crime groups are unchanged from the previous year.
- In 2007/08 the police recorded 571,881 offences, a decrease of 6 per cent from the number in 2006/07. This was largely due to a substantial decrease in the number of speeding offences.
- All 8 police forces showed a decrease in the number of crimes recorded in 2007/08 compared to 2006/07, ranging from a 6 per cent fall in Strathclyde to a 16 per cent fall in Fife.
- Although there was only a relatively small decrease (3 per cent) in the total number of *crimes of indecency* recorded in Scotland in 2007/08, there were significant differences within police forces. Fife (23 per cent) and Central (21 per cent) both recorded significant increases to this group, whilst Northern (16 per cent), Tayside (16 per cent) and Lothian & Borders (15 per cent) all recorded significant decreases.

3. Commentary: Introduction

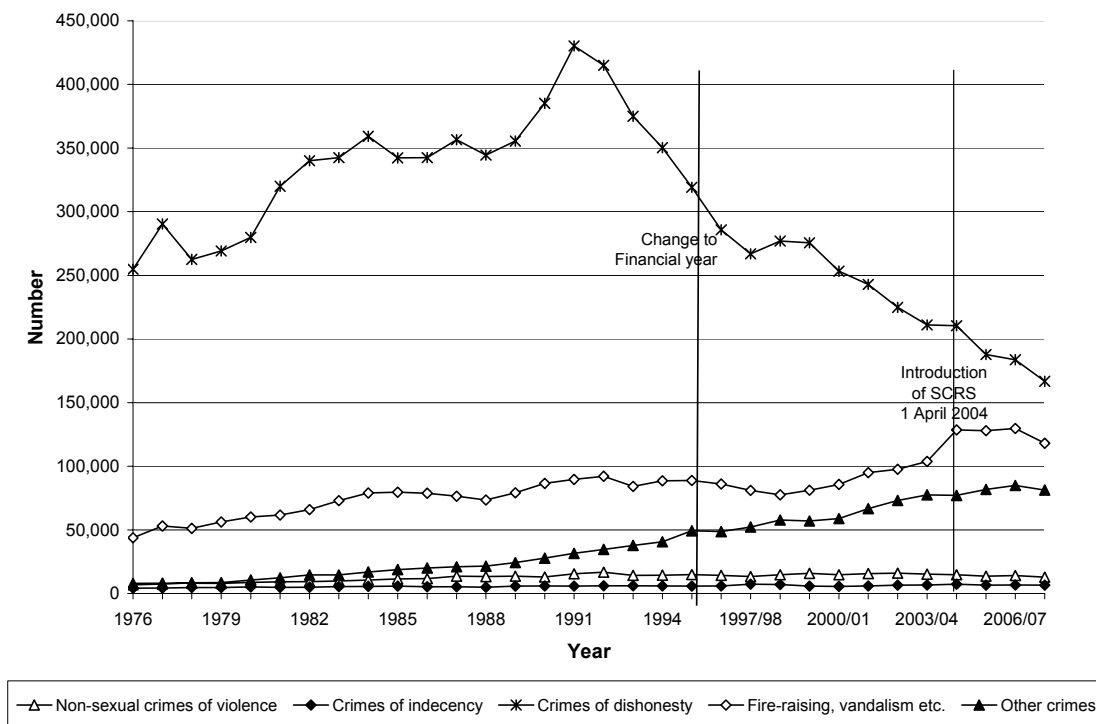
3.1 Trends in the recorded crime figures since 2004/05 have been affected by the introduction of the Scottish Crime Recording Standard (SCRS) which, as anticipated, increased the numbers of minor crimes recorded by the police, such as minor crimes of vandalism and minor thefts.

3.2 Unfortunately it was not possible to estimate the exact impact of the new recording standard on the recorded crime figures because, around the time that the new standard was implemented, police also introduced centralised call centres which encouraged the reporting of incidents to the police. It had been hoped that the underlying trends in crime would be monitored through a new, much larger, Scottish Crime and Victimisation Survey (SCVS). Unfortunately, this has not proved possible.

4. Commentary: Recorded crime in Scotland

4.1 The total number of crimes recorded by the police in 2007/08 was 385,509, which was 8 per cent lower than in 2006/07 (see chart 1 and table 1). The total remains well below the 2004/05 figure of 438,121, and is the lowest number recorded since 1980.

Chart 2 Crimes recorded by the police by crime group, 1976 - 1994 then 1995/96 - 2007/08

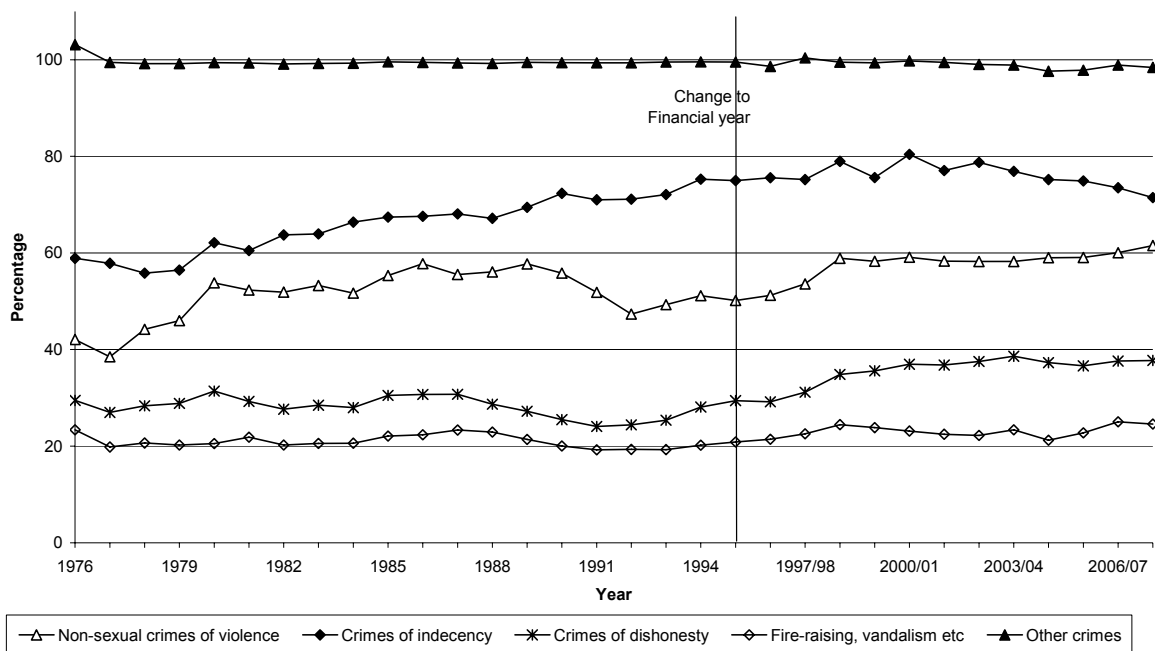


4.2 The number of *non-sexual crimes of violence* recorded by the police decreased by 9 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08, to total 12,874. This is the lowest

figure recorded in this category since the change to a financial year basis in 1995/96 and is indeed the lowest recorded since 1986 (see chart 2 and table 1). Within this category, the number of serious assaults etc (which includes crimes of murder and attempted murder) recorded decreased by 9 per cent to 6,853 and recorded robberies decreased by 14 per cent to total 3,064. Other non-sexual crimes of violence decreased by 2 per cent from 3,017 to 2,957.

- 4.3 The number of crimes in the *indecent* group decreased from 6,726 in 2006/07 to 6,552 in 2007/08, which was a 3 per cent decrease (see chart 2 and table 1). Within this group, recorded cases of rape and attempted rape decreased by 6 per cent, totalling 1,053. Cases of indecent assault increased marginally (around 0.1 per cent) to 1,666 in 2007/08, with the number of crimes of lewd and indecent behaviour also increasing marginally (around 0.5 per cent) to 2,567 in 2007/08. The number of crimes recorded in the “other” sub-group decreased by 9 per cent to total 1,266 in 2007/08.
- 4.4 The number of *crimes of dishonesty* decreased for the ninth consecutive year, by 9 per cent, to stand at 166,718 cases in 2007/08 (see chart 2 and table 1). A number of categories within this crime bracket decreased substantially in 2007/08, namely theft of a motor vehicle (19 per cent), housebreaking (17 per cent), theft by opening a lockfast place (14 per cent) and fraud (10 per cent).
- 4.5 Recorded cases of *vandalism* (including fire-raising and malicious mischief) decreased by 9 per cent to total 118,025 in 2007/08 (see chart 2 and table 1). Within this category both the number of crimes recorded within the fire-raising and vandalism sub-groups fell in 2007/08.
- 4.6 Within the other crimes group, there was a 2 per cent decrease in crimes against public justice (see chart 2 and table 1). The number of crimes of handling an offensive weapon decreased by 11 per cent to 8,989 in 2007/08 and recorded drugs crimes decreased by 4 per cent from 42,422 in 2006/07 to 40,746 in 2007/08.
- 4.7 The number of crimes cleared up by the police decreased by 7 per cent from 198,985 in 2006/07 to 184,631 in 2007/08 (see table A1). There was an overall increase in the clear up rates of crimes (see table 3), from 47 per cent in 2006/07 to 48 per cent in 2007/08.
- 4.8 The clear-up rate in 2007/08 for *non-sexual crimes of violence* is higher than in 2006/07, increasing from 60 per cent to 62 per cent (see table 3). The rate for *crimes of indecency* has decreased by 3 percentage points to 71 per cent, with the rate for *other crimes* also decreasing, from 99 per cent to 98 per cent. At the level at which we publish, all other crime groups are unchanged from the previous year.
- 4.9 The number of crimes of domestic housebreaking recorded by the police per 10,000 population decreased from 40 in 2006/07 to 34 in 2007/08 (see chart 5 and table 8).

Chart 3 Clear up rates for crimes recorded by the police by crime group, 1976 - 1994 then 1995/96 - 2007/08

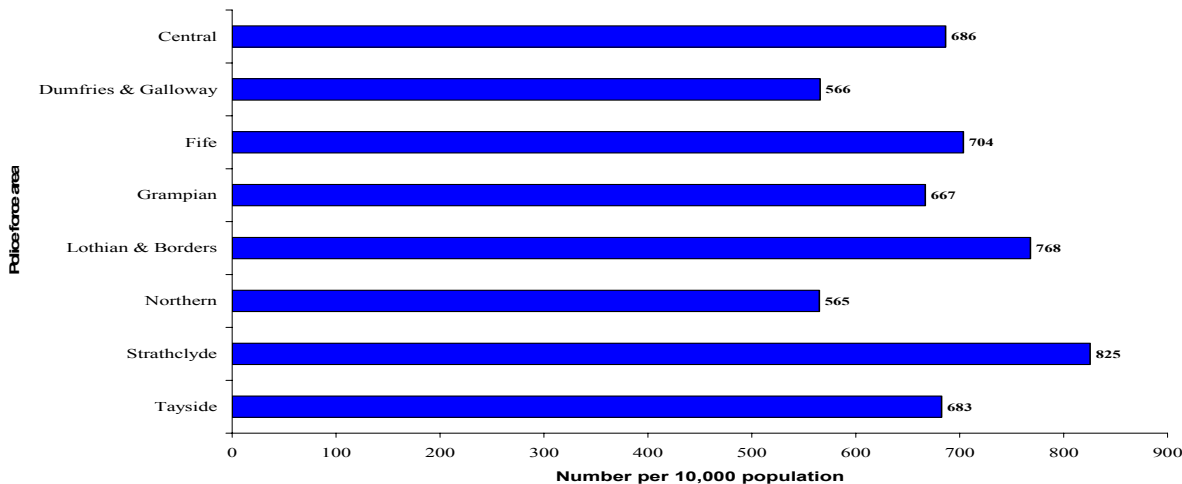


4.10 The number of offences recorded by the police decreased by 6 per cent from 607,406 in 2006/07 to 571,881 in 2007/08. There were decreases in a number of categories of offences (see chart 1 and table 2), particularly speeding (16 per cent). There were increases in three categories, namely drunkenness (1 per cent), unlawful use of a vehicle (1 per cent) and vehicle defect offences (5 per cent).

5. Commentary: Recorded crimes and offences by police force

This section refers to figures published in the bulletin, supplemented by commentary provided by the individual police forces.

Chart 4 Total number of crimes recorded per 10,000 population in 2007/08 by police force area



5.1 Central

The total number of crimes recorded in the Central police force area decreased by 7 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08 to 19,825 (see table 5). There were decreases in the number of crimes and offences in all but two groups (there were increases in the crimes of indecency and miscellaneous offences groups). The main decreases were in the fire-raising and vandalism group and the non-sexual crimes of violence group.

The Force has said that an increase was noted in terms of the reporting of historical cases of lewd and libidinous practice charges within the crimes of indecency group. These historical cases are carefully investigated with a strong focus on victim care and invariably result in other victims being identified and numerous charges being preferred against an individual accused. There is no identified reason for the reduction in fraud charges. Occasionally one accused can be responsible for a substantial number of this type of crime i.e. multiple cheque book or credit card frauds using the same book or card at different locations, which can have an impact on the statistical picture. An increase in the number of satellite navigation systems installed in motor vehicles have had an impact on the number of vehicles currently being targeted. Pro-active policing methods, including high visibility patrols at key times at known hot spots, has assisted in the reduction of crimes within the vandalism and handling offensive weapons groups. The vast majority of speeding offences are now detected by the force Safety Camera Partnership Unit. Changes to operating equipment and staffing issues have contributed to reduced activity by the mobile camera units.

5.2 Dumfries & Galloway

Crimes recorded in the Dumfries & Galloway police force area decreased overall by 12 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08 to total 8,389 (see table 5). There were decreases in all but one crime groups (crimes of indecency increased by 6 per cent), with crimes of dishonesty decreasing substantially (a 19 per cent fall).

The Force noted that, whilst there is no significant variance in this group, serious assaults have risen significantly from 66 to 95 (43.9 per cent) on the previous year (see table 8). There is no underlying trend. There is no significant variance in the 'crimes of indecency' group either. However the two categories which have recorded a substantial rise from the previous year are indecent exposure (up from 14 to 25) and defilement of girl under 16 (up from 7 to 13). There has been a significant decrease across most of the crime categories in the 'crimes of dishonesty' category in comparison with last year and also the 3-year average. The arrest of one or two individuals, who are prolific offenders, can have a significant impact on crimes such as housebreaking and motor vehicle crime. Fraud continues to be one of the crimes in this category which has increased. In the main it can be attributed to persons coming through the ports at Stranraer and being charged with crimes under the Identity Cards Act. The 'fire-raising/vandalism' group has also seen a marked decrease due to the number of successful initiatives targeting antisocial

behaviour (including vandalism). Within the 'other crimes' category, supply and possession with intent to supply and possession of drugs are the only two crimes to have increased on the previous year. Cannabis cultivation throughout the UK is a trend that appears to be causing concern and this is reflected in Dumfries and Galloway.

Whilst the number of miscellaneous offences has decreased, with both minor assaults and breach of the peace falling considerably, the introduction of the test purchase scheme and antisocial behaviour tickets have made a significant impact on some of the other offences in this group (such as urinating and drunk and incapable). There was a significant decrease in the number of road traffic offences which can primarily be attributed to the change in strategy for the deployment of the Safety Camera Partnership. However, significant increases in offences such as dangerous and careless driving and other irresponsible driver behaviour has resulted from operations such as 'Encompass'.

5.3 Fife

The number of crimes recorded in the Fife police force area decreased overall by 16 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08 to total 25,362 (see table 5). Crimes of indecency increased in 2007/08 by 23 per cent whereas all of the other crime groups showed a decrease.

Fife saw a decrease in each category in the 'non-sexual crimes of violence' section, the biggest relating to serious assaults which were down by 79 to 501 in 2007/08. Violent Crime was and still is a priority for Fife Constabulary and analysis of problem areas and the delivery of NIM profiles for these types of crimes has resulted in resources being directed to specific areas at peak times which, in turn, acts as a deterrent to offenders. The increase in the crimes of indecency group, specifically Lewd and Libidinous Practices, which was up by 144 in 2007/08, is mainly attributed to a shift in focus. An increasing number of survivors of childhood sexual abuse are contacting specialist officers in Fife Constabulary even though the abuse happened between 10 and 30 years ago. There was a significant decrease in the number of crimes of dishonesty, in particular to the 'theft by housebreaking: domestic dwelling and non-dwelling' sub-group. Domestic housebreaking is a priority this year for the division which experiences the majority of these crimes. There have been a number of initiatives undertaken by the Force during the year to actively reduce the number of crimes of fire-raising/vandalism etc. Glenrothes saw a 75 per cent reduction in anti-social behaviour incidents following a new education initiative for the town's high school pupils. The number of 'other crimes/miscellaneous offences' recorded to the Force has generally decreased from last year. However, the number of drunk and incapable offences increased from 271 to 392 compared to the same period last year.

5.4 Grampian

The number of recorded crimes in the Grampian police force area decreased by 10 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08 to total 35,688 crimes (see table 5). There were decreases in all crime groups except the 'other crimes' group (which increased by 6 per cent). The main decreases were in the 'fire-

raising/vandalism' group (15 per cent decrease), the 'crimes of dishonesty' group (13 per cent decrease) and the 'non-sexual crimes of violence' group (12 per cent decrease).

Overall crimes of indecency have decreased. There was a rise in Indecent Assaults, which was the only rise in this group. The reporting of these types of crimes could reflect increased confidence in complainers feeling able to approach the Police. Crimes of dishonesty decreased markedly in 2007/08, with particular decreases in Housebreaking and Theft by opening a lockfast place (OLP). Domestic Housebreaking was previously a Force Priority for a number of years and during this period, this crime type received significant focus of resources. Due to this focus, significant reductions were achieved over a number of years and it is no longer a Force Priority, although such intelligence led practices remain strong in all divisions and are now 'day business'. These practices are also the reasons behind the decrease in Theft by OLP, Theft from Motor Vehicles, Theft of Motor Vehicles and Other Thefts. Vandalism has received a large amount of focus over the last few years, under the Force Priority of Community Well-Being. The total number of speeding offences is a combination of those recorded by Grampian Police, and those recorded by the North East of Scotland Safety Camera Partnership (NESCAMP). Over the last few years, a strong intelligence-led approach has been adopted within the Roads Policing Department, in close conjunction with the engagement of divisional officers across the Force, with a focus on the Force Priority of Reducing Road Casualties.

5.5 Lothian & Borders

Recorded crime in the Lothian & Borders police force area decreased by 10 per cent to total 70,754 (see table 5). There were decreases in all of the major crime groups in 2007/08, ranging from 4 per cent in non-sexual crimes of violence to 15 per cent in crimes of indecency.

Analysis of the crimes within the crimes of indecency group detail that the majority of crime types within this group have decreased, the one exception being Indecent Assaults. Worthy of note are the reduction in the crime types of rape and attempted rape. There has been a significant decrease in theft of a motor vehicle (21 per cent), with every local authority experiencing a marked reduction in this crime type when compared to the previous year. Increased car security may explain this but no detailed analysis has been done to identify any pattern or trend. The drop in the number of offences seems to be a trend occurring throughout Scotland not just within Lothian and Borders according to analysts from the other safety camera partnerships. This could be due to increased awareness and consistent speed campaigns to help educate the public. There was also a considerable drop in offences when we took a more intelligence led approach to deployment after all of our sites were re-assessed and ranked using a 'traffic light system' according to the number of collisions and high speeds at each site.

5.6 Northern

The number of crimes recorded in the Northern police force area decreased by 7 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08 to total 16,131 (see table 5). There were decreases in all crime groups in the latest reporting year.

There was an overall decrease in non-sexual crimes of violence during the previous reporting year 2006/07. In 2006/07, Serious Assaults increased compared with the previous year. In particular, during the summer months of 2006, there was a marked increase in these crimes. It is assessed that the advent of the FIFA 2006 World Cup during the summer of 2006 may have led to a temporary increase in Serious Assault. Typically, during such events, increased numbers of persons attending licensed premises and drinking alcohol for prolonged periods can result in alcohol fuelled violence. This goes some way to explaining the drop in the number of crimes in this group in 2007/08. Binge drinking and alcoholism pose a problem to the Force in terms of increasing violent crime. Northern Constabulary and its multi-agency partners are committed to tackling the root causes of violence and alcohol abuse. A long-term multi-agency approach is key to tackling this issue and bringing about attitudinal change. Tackling violent crime continues to be a high priority issue for the Northern Constabulary Control Strategy. Theft by opening a lockfast place (OLP) was seen to decrease during 2007/08. This perceived decrease is actually due to an increase in Theft by OLP which occurred during 2006/07. This increase was the result of a fraud involving ATM card transactions in the Lochaber area which resulted in over forty crimes of Theft by OLP. A decrease in crimes relating to Theft of Motor Vehicles was experienced during 2007/08 compared with 2006/07. During 2006/07 there were a number of incidents of Theft of Motor Vehicle which involved multiple accused and therefore multiple charges. This goes some way to explaining the drop in the number of crimes in this group in 2007/08.

5.7 Strathclyde

The number of recorded crimes in Strathclyde police force area decreased by 6 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08 to total 182,456 (see table 5). Most of the main crime groups decreased this year, although there was a slight increase (1 per cent) in crimes of indecency.

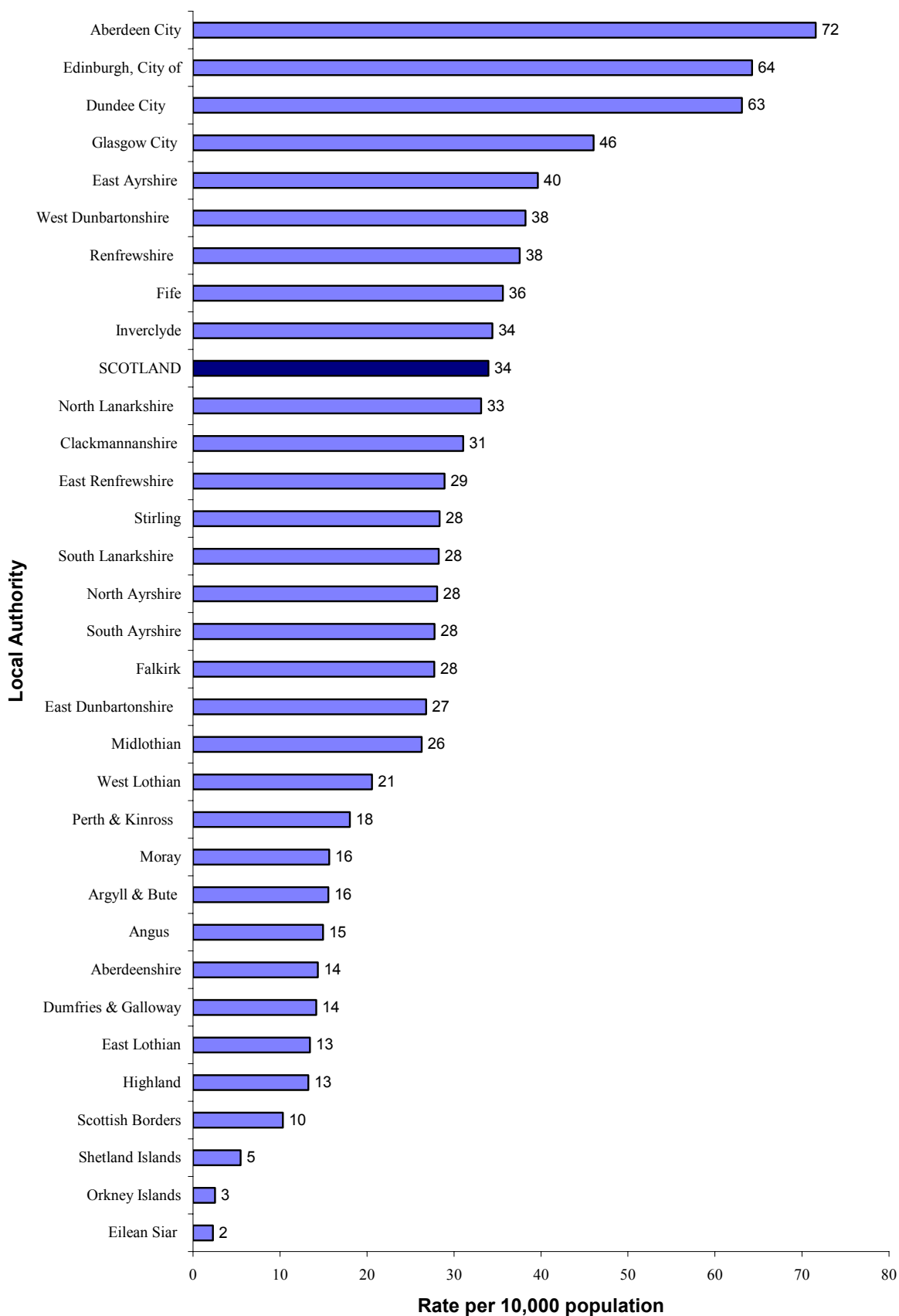
The Force has noted that there has been a decrease in crimes of dishonesty, particularly 'housebreaking' and 'theft of motor vehicle'. This is part of a long-term downward trend in crimes of dishonesty. There was a 10 per cent increase in the number of motor vehicle offences in 2007/08, with a particular increase (20 per cent) in the level of speeding offences. This represents a return to the level of 'speeding' two years ago in 2005/06. It is noted that the level of speeding may have 'bottomed out' last year. There has been an 8 per cent decrease in non-sexual crimes of violence, with robbery falling in particular by 15 per cent. This is part of a long-term trend in reducing crimes of robbery. The level of these crimes steadied last year, but there were year-on-year reductions in the three years before that.

5.8 Tayside

The number of recorded crimes in the Tayside police force area decreased by 8 per cent in 2007/08 to total 26,904 (see table 5). There were decreases in all of the major crime groups in 2007/08, ranging from 4 per cent in crimes of dishonesty to 18 per cent in other crimes.

There was a decrease of 32.7 per cent in the crime of theft by opening a lockfast place. The decrease in this type of crime was due, in the main, to changes in recording practices governing the use of stolen bank cards. Crimes under the category Theft from a Motor Vehicle increased by 32.5 per cent in 2007/08. Valuable portable items, especially satellite navigation systems, left in unattended vehicles accounted for the increase in this category. There has been a decrease of 16 per cent in Crimes of Indecency, predominantly due to a decrease of 36 per cent in Lewd and Libidinous practices from 188 last year to 120 this year. Fluctuations from year to year in this group are often as a result of the reporting of historical crimes. Crimes against Public Justice have decreased by 18.7 per cent. Initiatives in earlier years produced high results and sent out the message that contravention of bail conditions would not be tolerated. It was inevitable (and desirable) that these numbers would fall as time progressed and offenders learned to take their conditions of bail seriously. The 18.5 per cent fall in the number of drugs crimes recorded was not due to the inactivity of the police; at the end of March 2008 the force was involved in a number of long-running, high level drugs operations targeting organised crime groups. There was a decrease of 15.1 per cent in the number of motor vehicle offences in 2007/08. Tayside Police participates in all National Road Safety Campaigns and every opportunity is taken to publicise issues including drink/drug driving, speeding/inappropriate speed and the wearing of seat belts. Tayside Safety Camera Partnership continues to influence driver behaviour by publicising locations and routes which have an identified collision and speed related history. As illustrated above, continuous work on the education of road users is reflected in the 2007/08 end of year results where there is evidence of decreases in many areas when compared to 2006/07.

Chart 5 Number of crimes of domestic housebreaking¹ recorded by the police per 10,000 population in 2007/08



¹Includes dwellings and non-dwellings only

6 Scottish Crime and Victimization Survey

- 6.1 The preceding sections of this bulletin described the volume and types of crime recorded and cleared up by the eight police forces in Scotland during 2006/07. The recorded crime series is generally a useful indicator of trends in recorded crime. However, not all crimes are reported to the police and the propensity of the public to report crime to the police also changes over time. Thus, statistics recorded by the police may not accurately reflect the underlying trend in all crime.
- 6.2 Crime surveys can be a useful source of information by providing a fuller picture of the extent of and trends in most types of household and personal victimisation. The information provided by such surveys complements the information compiled by the police forces and provides another useful indicator, as well as exploring other issues such as the impact of crime on victims, public anxieties and reactions to crime and attitudes towards the police and other parts of the criminal justice system.
- 6.3 Findings from the 2006 Scottish Crime and Victimization Survey (SCVS), which asks about crimes and offences experienced between the beginning of April 2005 and the end of March 2006 are available at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/10/12094216/0>

- Estimates derived from the 2006 SCVS suggest that around 1,072,000 crimes were **committed** against individuals and private households in Scotland between 1 April 2005 and 31 March 2006¹. This is a higher number than estimated in 2003/04, due to an increase in minor assaults. The number of household crimes was similar between the 2 survey sweeps.
- The estimate for 2005/06 represents a 13 per cent increase on the number of crimes estimated to have taken place in a comparable 12 month period in 2003/04, but is lower than the number of crimes estimated to have taken place in the 2002 calendar year. Around one in 5 people (22 per cent) had been the victim of at least one household or personal crime; there has been no statistically significant change in this figure in recent years.
- According to the survey, 56 per cent of crimes experienced in 2005/06 were against property. Motor vehicle and property vandalism accounts for one in four (26 per cent) of all crimes recorded. The remaining 44 per cent of crimes were committed against individuals. Three in ten crimes (30 per cent) involved violence, but most of these involved petty assaults, which are 6 times more prevalent than serious assaults.
- Overall, 38 per cent of crimes captured by the survey came to the attention of the police. According to survey estimates, the proportion of crimes reported to the police reached its peak in 1999 at 43 per cent and has been falling ever since. In 2005/06 it reached the lowest proportion ever recorded by the survey. Where the incident had not been reported to the police, the main reasons given

¹ This figure is calculated by simply adding 'all household crime' and 'all personal crime' together. However, it should be noted that this is only an approximation as the different weights for each of these measures do not allow for this to be calculated precisely.

were that the incident was too trivial (27 per cent of unreported incidents), the police would not have been able to do anything (27 per cent), the police would not have been interested (17 per cent), or the victim(s) dealt with the matter themselves (17 per cent).

- The current survey, the [Scottish Crime and Justice Survey](#) 2008/09 is in the field as of April 2008 and results will be available in September 2009. The target sample has increased substantially to 16,000 adults in private households across Scotland. The results will be representative at national level and at the level of the eight police forces in Scotland.

Crimes recorded by the police, Scotland, 1998/99 - 2007/08

Table 1
Number & Percentage
06/07 - 07/08

Crime group	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	% change 06/07 - 07/08
Total crimes	434,096	435,481	418,494	426,188	418,281	414,214	438,121	417,785	419,257	385,509	-8
Non-sexual crimes of violence	14,693	15,831	14,812	15,653	16,074	15,187	14,728	13,726	14,099	12,874	-9
Serious assault etc ¹	6,716	7,326	6,892	7,546	7,593	7,514	7,768	7,151	7,504	6,853	-9
Robbery	5,027	4,931	4,293	4,592	4,636	4,161	3,736	3,553	3,578	3,064	-14
Other	2,950	3,574	3,627	3,515	3,845	3,512	3,224	3,022	3,017	2,957	-2
Crimes of indecency	7,071	5,882	5,727	5,994	6,623	6,786	7,324	6,558	6,726	6,552	-3
Rape & Attempted Rape	797	755	690	788	924	1,037	1,109	1,161	1,123	1,053	-6
Indecent Assault	1,348	1,139	1,034	1,249	1,354	1,436	1,497	1,508	1,664	1,666	0
Lewd and indecent behaviour	2,871	2,319	2,356	2,404	2,770	2,593	2,786	2,651	2,555	2,567	0
Other	2,055	1,669	1,647	1,553	1,575	1,720	1,932	1,238	1,384	1,266	-9
Crimes of dishonesty	276,974	275,557	253,295	242,878	224,785	211,004	210,365	187,798	183,760	166,718	-9
Housebreaking ²	55,784	52,863	47,729	45,515	40,586	36,432	34,959	31,319	30,580	25,443	-17
Theft by opening a lockfast place (OLP)	12,109	11,553	10,606	8,200	7,766	7,405	7,849	8,263	7,422	6,378	-14
Theft from a motor vehicle (OLP)	39,476	38,003	32,001	32,659	30,361	26,839	20,403	16,453	16,060	15,217	-5
Theft of a motor vehicle	29,290	28,881	25,555	23,146	20,881	17,604	15,633	14,041	15,000	12,105	-19
Shoplifting	30,766	32,144	32,264	31,570	28,299	27,948	28,534	28,247	28,750	29,186	2
Other theft	80,107	81,222	76,649	75,951	73,214	72,488	77,586	72,128	70,241	64,645	-8
Fraud	18,368	20,620	20,043	17,395	15,828	15,277	18,307	11,074	9,332	8,409	-10
Other	11,074	10,271	8,448	8,442	7,850	7,011	7,094	6,273	6,375	5,335	-16
Fire-raising, vandalism etc	77,624	81,197	85,781	94,944	97,598	103,732	128,566	127,889	129,734	118,025	-9
Fire-raising	2,470	2,269	2,403	2,910	3,767	4,163	4,698	4,856	4,976	4,635	-7
Vandalism etc	75,154	78,928	83,378	92,034	93,831	99,569	123,868	123,033	124,758	113,390	-9
Other crimes	57,734	57,014	58,879	66,719	73,201	77,505	77,138	81,814	84,938	81,340	-4
Crimes against public justice	17,701	18,439	18,637	20,820	22,744	25,755	25,615	27,668	32,052	31,353	-2
Handling an offensive weapon	7,102	8,084	8,070	9,039	9,362	9,278	9,545	9,628	10,110	8,989	-11
Drugs	32,819	30,374	32,081	36,750	40,938	42,275	41,823	44,247	42,422	40,746	-4
Other	112	117	91	110	157	197	155	271	354	252	-29

¹Includes murder, attempted murder, culpable homicide and serious assault. See Annex Note 8.5.²Includes dwellings, non-dwellings and other premises.

Offences recorded by the police, Scotland, 1998/99 - 2007/08

Table 2

Offence group	Number & Percentage										
	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	% change 06/07-07/08
Total offences	520,465	499,405	496,068	531,956	524,122	615,876	638,564	599,888	607,406	571,881	-6
Miscellaneous offences	153,296	151,944	154,853	163,497	169,563	180,963	214,302	219,491	232,373	224,252	-3
Minor Assault ¹	51,614	54,568	54,057	55,392	54,956	57,355	73,711	72,281	78,167	73,523	-6
Breach of the peace	71,688	71,332	70,197	72,734	74,690	77,883	89,920	89,615	93,387	90,301	-3
Drunkenness	8,358	7,620	7,789	7,764	7,279	7,534	7,234	6,984	6,664	6,702	1
Other	21,636	18,424	22,810	27,607	32,638	38,191	43,437	50,611	54,155	53,726	-1
Motor vehicle offences	367,169	347,461	341,215	368,459	354,559	434,913	424,262	380,397	375,033	347,629	-7
Dangerous and careless driving	15,751	13,247	12,019	12,183	12,680	12,036	13,062	12,956	13,601	12,964	-5
Drunk driving	10,581	10,904	10,758	11,476	11,838	11,571	11,061	11,257	11,704	10,697	-9
Speeding	119,692	123,438	113,904	126,760	117,167	199,213	210,120	167,724	162,929	137,206	-16
Unlawful use of vehicle	75,976	80,690	84,351	94,587	99,518	99,526	76,676	75,120	73,058	73,655	1
Vehicle defect offences	63,822	47,994	46,845	45,512	46,466	37,194	27,022	23,932	21,170	22,328	5
Other	81,347	71,188	73,338	77,941	66,890	75,373	86,321	89,408	92,571	90,779	-2

¹ See Annex Note 8.5.

Crimes and offences cleared up by the police as a percentage of those recorded, Scotland, 1998/99 - 2007/08

Table 3

Crime / Offence group	Percentage									
	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Total crimes	43	43	44	45	46	47	45	46	47	48
Non-sexual crimes of violence	59	58	59	58	58	58	59	59	60	62
Serious assault etc ¹	63	63	63	62	60	59	61	61	61	62
Robbery	38	35	39	37	36	39	39	37	39	40
Other	84	79	76	78	81	79	79	81	83	84
Crimes of indecency	79	76	80	77	79	77	75	75	74	71
Rape & Attempted Rape	79	77	80	78	78	75	69	72	67	70
Indecent Assault	68	59	63	62	63	62	61	62	59	58
Lewd and indecent behaviour	71	68	76	72	77	73	73	76	77	71
Other	98	96	98	96	96	95	93	90	89	90
Crimes of dishonesty	35	36	37	37	38	39	37	37	38	38
Housebreaking	23	23	25	24	27	27	25	26	26	26
Theft by opening a lockfast place (OLP)	27	28	31	35	36	35	30	37	37	32
Theft from a motor vehicle by OLP	16	17	18	17	19	20	18	15	17	15
Theft of a motor vehicle	29	32	30	32	36	38	37	37	41	44
Shoplifting	81	79	78	79	78	79	77	77	78	77
Other theft	22	21	21	21	21	22	20	21	21	21
Fraud	78	75	79	81	81	83	80	76	75	74
Other	87	91	93	91	91	85	79	79	78	82
Fire-raising, vandalism etc	24	24	23	22	22	23	21	23	25	25
Fire-raising	24	26	25	26	24	25	22	26	26	25
Vandalism etc	24	24	23	22	22	23	21	23	25	25
Other crimes	99	99	100	99	99	99	98	98	99	98
Crimes against public justice	100	100	100	99	99	99	98	98	98	98
Handling an offensive weapon	99	99	99	99	99	98	97	97	97	96
Drugs	100	100	100	100	99	99	97	98	100	99
Other	85	85	77	73	78	74	73	85	85	89
Miscellaneous offences	90	89	89	89	89	90	83	84	84	84
Minor Assault	79	78	78	77	76	78	69	70	71	71
Breach of the peace	94	94	94	94	95	94	88	90	90	90
Drunkenness	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Other	97	97	97	97	96	96	94	93	92	92

¹Includes murder, attempted murder, culpable homicide and serious assault. See Annex Note 8.5.

Crimes and offences recorded by police force area, 2007/08

Table 4a

Crime / Offence group	Number							SCOTLAND	
	Central	Dumfries & Galloway	Fife	Grampian	Lothian & Borders	Northern	Strathclyde		Tayside
Total crimes	19,825	8,389	25,362	35,688	70,754	16,131	182,456	26,904	385,509
Non-sexual crimes of violence	465	153	501	845	2,009	482	7,811	608	12,874
Serious assault etc ¹	260	103	303	394	770	270	4,471	282	6,853
Robbery	57	25	100	237	551	45	1,873	176	3,064
Other	148	25	98	214	688	167	1,467	150	2,957
Crimes of indecency	479	130	584	953	1,047	381	2,573	405	6,552
Rape & Attempted Rape	106	26	99	119	202	60	381	60	1,053
Indecent Assault	112	25	106	214	334	86	661	128	1,666
Lewd and indecent behaviour	223	61	334	300	401	140	960	148	2,567
Other	38	18	45	320	110	95	571	69	1,266
Crimes of dishonesty	8,179	2,961	11,436	17,701	33,975	5,739	73,424	13,303	166,718
Housebreaking ²	1,196	396	1,691	2,659	5,405	503	11,823	1,770	25,443
Theft by opening a lockfast place (OLP)	421	115	672	802	1,225	266	2,371	506	6,378
Theft from a motor vehicle by OLP	476	97	622	1,568	3,194	84	8,170	1,006	15,217
Theft of a motor vehicle	436	175	728	1,324	2,849	305	5,560	728	12,105
Shoplifting	1,461	497	1,708	3,114	5,124	1,023	12,894	3,365	29,186
Other theft	3,438	1,266	4,746	6,876	13,772	2,737	27,135	4,675	64,645
Fraud	425	302	722	733	1,474	564	3,343	846	8,409
Other	326	113	547	625	932	257	2,128	407	5,335
Fire-raising, vandalism etc	6,168	2,974	8,690	10,085	22,278	5,141	55,412	7,277	118,025
Fire-raising	229	83	396	439	858	152	2,242	236	4,635
Vandalism etc	5,939	2,891	8,294	9,646	21,420	4,989	53,170	7,041	113,390
Other crimes	4,534	2,171	4,151	6,104	11,445	4,388	43,236	5,311	81,340
Crimes against public justice	2,134	828	2,000	2,255	4,330	1,587	15,782	2,437	31,353
Handling an offensive weapon	385	133	314	586	1,186	377	5,688	320	8,989
Drugs	2,010	1,159	1,819	3,254	5,899	2,422	21,636	2,547	40,746
Other	5	51	18	9	30	2	130	7	252
Total offences	40,228	24,477	38,289	59,047	89,467	28,217	241,364	50,792	571,881
Miscellaneous offences	11,431	5,199	13,100	19,137	27,824	11,378	122,222	13,961	224,252
Minor Assault	4,267	1,658	5,430	7,330	13,355	3,698	32,761	5,024	73,523
Breach of the peace	4,788	2,396	4,874	8,056	10,735	5,519	48,036	5,897	90,301
Drunkness	198	135	392	262	284	866	4,156	409	6,702
Other	2,178	1,010	2,404	3,489	3,450	1,295	37,269	2,631	53,726
Motor vehicle offences	28,797	19,278	25,189	39,910	61,643	16,839	119,142	36,831	347,629
Dangerous and careless driving	538	839	742	3,307	753	864	5,177	744	12,964
Drunk driving	620	301	783	1,129	1,626	863	4,538	837	10,697
Speeding	13,499	11,159	9,613	14,572	25,622	7,061	34,714	20,966	137,206
Unlawful use of vehicle	4,117	2,184	6,470	7,722	15,524	2,485	29,789	5,364	73,655
Vehicle defect offences	3,670	735	1,686	1,930	3,359	2,464	6,754	1,730	22,328
Other	6,353	4,060	5,895	11,250	14,759	3,102	38,170	7,190	90,779
Total crimes and offences	60,053	32,866	63,651	94,735	160,221	44,348	423,820	77,696	957,390

¹Includes murder, attempted murder, culpable homicide and serious assault. See Annex Note 8.5.

²Includes dwellings, non-dwellings and other premises

Table 4b

Crimes and offences recorded by police force area per 10,000 population, 2007/08

Crime / Offence group	Central	Dumfries & Galloway	Fife	Grampian	Lothian & Borders	Northern	Strathclyde	Tayside	SCOTLAND
Total crimes	686	566	704	667	768	565	825	683	749
Non-sexual crimes of violence	16	10	14	16	22	17	35	15	25
Serious assault etc ¹	9	7	8	7	8	9	20	7	13
Robbery	2	2	3	4	6	2	8	4	6
Other	5	2	3	4	7	6	7	4	6
Crimes of indecency	17	9	16	18	11	13	12	10	13
Rape & Attempted Rape	4	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2
Indecent Assault	4	2	3	4	4	3	3	3	3
Lewd and indecent behaviour	8	4	9	6	4	5	4	4	5
Other	1	1	1	6	1	3	3	2	2
Crimes of dishonesty	283	200	317	331	369	201	332	338	324
Housebreaking ²	41	27	47	50	53	18	53	45	49
Theft by opening a lockfast place (OLP)	15	8	19	15	13	9	11	13	12
Theft from a motor vehicle by OLP	16	7	17	29	35	3	37	26	30
Theft of a motor vehicle	15	12	20	25	31	11	25	18	24
Shoplifting	51	34	47	58	56	36	58	85	57
Other theft	119	85	132	128	149	96	123	119	126
Fraud	15	20	20	14	16	20	15	21	16
Other	11	8	15	12	10	9	10	10	10
Fire-raising, vandalism etc	214	201	241	188	242	180	251	185	229
Fire-raising	8	6	11	8	9	5	10	6	9
Vandalism etc	206	195	230	180	233	175	241	179	220
Other crimes	157	146	115	114	124	154	196	135	158
Crimes against public justice	74	56	55	42	47	56	71	62	61
Handling an offensive weapon	13	9	9	11	13	13	26	8	17
Drugs	70	78	50	61	64	85	98	65	79
Other	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total offences	1,393	1,651	1,062	1,103	971	988	1,092	1,289	1,112
Miscellaneous offences	396	351	363	358	302	398	553	354	436
Minor Assault ¹	148	112	151	137	145	130	148	127	143
Breach of the peace	166	162	135	150	117	193	217	150	176
Drunkenness	7	9	11	5	3	30	19	10	13
Other	75	68	67	65	37	45	169	67	104
Motor vehicle offences	997	1,300	699	746	669	590	539	934	676
Dangerous and careless driving	19	57	21	62	8	30	23	19	25
Drunk driving	21	20	22	21	18	21	21	21	21
Speeding	467	752	267	272	278	247	157	532	267
Unlawful use of vehicle	143	147	179	144	169	87	135	136	143
Vehicle defect offences	127	50	47	36	36	86	31	44	43
Other	220	274	164	210	160	109	173	182	176
Total crimes and offences	2,079	2,216	1,766	1,770	1,739	1,553	1,917	1,971	1,861

¹Includes murder, attempted murder, culpable homicide and serious assault. See Annex Note 8.5.²Includes dwellings, non-dwellings and other premises

Crimes and offences recorded per 10,000 population, percentage change in total number recorded and percentage cleared up by police force area, 2007/08

	Number & Percentage								
	Central	Dumfries & Galloway	Fife	Grampian	Lothian & Borders	Northern	Strathclyde	Tayside	SCOTLAND
Total crimes	19,825	8,389	25,362	35,688	70,754	16,131	182,456	26,904	385,509
Total offences	40,228	24,477	38,289	59,047	89,467	28,217	241,364	50,792	571,881
Total crimes and offences	60,053	32,866	63,651	94,735	160,221	44,348	423,820	77,696	957,390
<i>Crimes and offences per 10,000 population</i>									
Total crimes	686	566	704	667	768	565	825	683	749
Non-sexual crimes of violence	16	10	14	16	22	17	35	15	25
Crimes of indecency	17	9	16	18	11	13	12	10	13
Crimes of dishonesty	283	200	317	331	369	201	332	338	324
Fire-raising, vandalism etc	214	201	241	188	242	180	251	185	229
Other crimes	157	146	115	114	124	154	196	135	158
Total offences	1,393	1,651	1,062	1,103	971	988	1,092	1,289	1,112
Miscellaneous offences	396	351	363	358	302	398	553	354	436
Motor vehicle offences	997	1,300	699	746	669	590	539	934	676
Total crimes and offences	2,079	2,216	1,766	1,770	1,739	1,553	1,917	1,971	1,861
<i>Percentage change in total number recorded, 2006/07 - 2007/08</i>									
Total crimes	-7	-12	-16	-10	-10	-7	-6	-8	-8
Non-sexual crimes of violence	-11	-4	-14	-12	-4	-25	-8	-8	-9
Crimes of indecency	21	6	23	-5	-15	-16	1	-16	-3
Crimes of dishonesty	-6	-19	-19	-13	-11	-5	-7	-4	-9
Fire-raising, vandalism etc	-12	-10	-18	-15	-8	-6	-7	-7	-9
Other crimes	-1	-7	-9	6	-9	-6	-2	-18	-4
Total offences	-6	-25	3	-9	-17	-6	4	-14	-6
Miscellaneous offences	2	-10	-2	-9	-5	-2	-2	-11	-3
Motor vehicle offences	-9	-29	5	-8	-22	-9	10	-15	-7
Total crimes and offences	-6	-22	-6	-9	-14	-6	-1	-12	-7
<i>Percentage cleared up</i>									
Total crimes	60	61	55	47	44	63	44	56	48
Non-sexual crimes of violence	96	84	82	75	62	94	53	78	62
Crimes of indecency	98	81	83	67	65	81	65	79	71
Crimes of dishonesty	49	53	50	37	36	54	32	49	38
Fire-raising, vandalism etc	39	39	36	30	23	39	18	32	25
Other crimes	101	99	99	98	100	99	98	100	98
Miscellaneous offences	94	92	89	76	76	93	84	91	84

Number of crimes recorded by the police and percentage cleared up by council area, 2007/08

Table 6

Council area	Number & Percentage						
	Non - sexual crimes of violence	Crimes of indecency	Crimes of dishonesty	Fire - raising, vandalism, etc.	Other crimes	Total crimes	Percentage of crimes cleared up
Aberdeen City	554	520	12,200	5,050	3,579	21,903	47
Aberdeenshire	185	242	3,428	3,138	1,500	8,493	47
Angus	142	131	2,302	1,965	1,007	5,547	57
Argyll & Bute	117	108	1,709	1,743	1,374	5,051	50
Clackmannanshire	119	81	1,540	1,487	1,345	4,572	68
Dumfries & Galloway	153	130	2,961	2,974	2,171	8,389	61
Dundee City	332	203	7,602	3,471	2,859	14,467	55
East Ayrshire	330	99	3,556	2,795	1,885	8,665	47
East Dunbartonshire	120	47	1,769	1,542	718	4,196	37
East Lothian	144	91	1,810	1,667	665	4,377	45
East Renfrewshire	108	22	1,540	1,369	604	3,643	32
Edinburgh, City of	1,325	610	23,817	12,483	6,857	45,092	42
Eilean Siar	47	18	304	299	302	970	72
Falkirk	215	276	4,150	3,012	2,020	9,673	57
Fife	501	584	11,436	8,690	4,151	25,362	55
Glasgow City	3,715	1,196	29,538	16,708	18,364	69,521	46
Highland	417	330	4,991	4,420	3,829	13,987	62
Inverclyde	299	47	2,265	2,190	1,705	6,506	45
Midlothian	139	76	2,010	2,258	855	5,338	46
Moray	106	191	2,073	1,897	1,025	5,292	45
North Ayrshire	412	172	3,342	3,616	2,200	9,742	50
North Lanarkshire	821	338	10,656	9,234	5,393	26,442	40
Orkney Islands	3	15	178	167	55	418	64
Perth & Kinross	134	71	3,399	1,841	1,445	6,890	57
Renfrewshire	589	155	5,800	3,634	2,459	12,637	40
Scottish Borders	119	70	1,633	1,497	1,141	4,460	66
Shetland Islands	15	18	266	255	202	756	71
South Ayrshire	239	103	2,861	2,395	1,606	7,204	48
South Lanarkshire	731	169	7,311	7,131	4,638	19,980	43
Stirling	131	122	2,489	1,669	1,169	5,580	58
West Dunbartonshire	330	117	3,077	3,055	2,290	8,869	46
West Lothian	282	200	4,705	4,373	1,927	11,487	40
SCOTLAND	12,874	6,552	166,718	118,025	81,340	385,509	48

Number of crimes recorded by the police per 10,000 population and crime index, by council area, 2007/08

Table 7
Number and Index

Council area	Non - sexual crimes of violence	Crimes of indecency	Crimes of dishonesty	Fire - raising, vandalism, etc.	Other crimes	Total crimes	Index (Scotland = 100)
Aberdeen City	26	25	583	241	171	1,047	140
Aberdeenshire	8	10	143	131	63	355	47
Angus	13	12	210	179	92	505	67
Argyll & Bute	13	12	187	191	150	553	74
Clackmannanshire	24	16	309	298	270	916	122
Dumfries & Galloway	10	9	200	201	146	566	75
Dundee City	23	14	535	244	201	1,018	136
East Ayrshire	28	8	297	234	158	725	97
East Dunbartonshire	11	4	169	147	68	400	53
East Lothian	15	10	192	177	70	463	62
East Renfrewshire	12	2	173	153	68	408	54
Edinburgh, City of	28	13	509	267	146	963	129
Eilean Siar	18	7	116	114	115	369	49
Falkirk	14	18	275	200	134	642	86
Fife	14	16	317	241	115	704	94
Glasgow City	64	21	508	287	316	1,195	159
Highland	19	15	230	203	176	643	86
Inverclyde	37	6	279	270	210	802	107
Midlothian	17	10	253	284	108	671	90
Moray	12	22	239	218	118	609	81
North Ayrshire	30	13	246	266	162	718	96
North Lanarkshire	25	10	328	284	166	814	109
Orkney Islands	2	8	90	84	28	210	28
Perth & Kinross	9	5	239	130	102	485	65
Renfrewshire	35	9	342	214	145	745	99
Scottish Borders	11	6	147	134	102	400	53
Shetland Islands	7	8	121	116	92	344	46
South Ayrshire	21	9	256	214	144	645	86
South Lanarkshire	24	5	236	230	150	646	86
Stirling	15	14	282	189	133	633	84
West Dunbartonshire	36	13	338	335	251	974	130
West Lothian	17	12	280	261	115	685	91
SCOTLAND	25	13	324	229	158	749	100

Number of crimes recorded by the police, rate per 10,000 population and index of rate for selected crimes by council area, 2007/08

Table 8

Council area	Number				Rate per 10,000 population				Index of rate per 10,000 population						
	Serious assault ¹	Offensive weapons	Domestic housebreaking ²	Vandalism ³	All crimes	Serious assault ¹	Offensive weapons	Domestic housebreaking ²	Vandalism ³	All crimes	Serious assault ¹	Offensive weapons	Domestic housebreaking ²	Vandalism ³	All crimes
Aberdeen City	231	366	1,498	4,631	21,903	11	17	72	221	1,047	95	100	211	104	140
Aberdeenshire	76	137	343	2,874	8,493	3	6	14	120	355	27	33	42	56	47
Angus	63	71	164	1,823	5,547	6	6	15	166	505	49	37	44	78	67
Argyll & Bute	70	130	142	1,635	5,051	8	14	16	179	553	66	81	46	84	74
Clackmannanshire	51	126	155	1,399	4,572	10	25	31	280	916	88	145	91	131	122
Dumfries & Galloway	95	133	210	2,774	8,389	6	9	14	187	566	55	51	42	88	75
Dundee City	103	179	897	3,252	14,467	7	13	63	229	1,018	62	72	186	107	136
East Ayrshire	202	214	474	2,623	8,665	17	18	40	219	725	145	102	117	103	97
East Dunbartonshire	61	112	281	1,442	4,196	6	11	27	138	400	50	61	79	64	53
East Lothian	56	85	127	1,565	4,377	6	9	13	166	463	51	52	40	78	62
East Renfrewshire	56	73	258	1,282	3,643	6	8	29	144	408	54	47	85	67	54
Edinburgh, City of	369	723	3,008	11,687	45,092	8	15	64	250	963	68	88	189	117	129
Eilean Siar	29	13	6	288	970	11	5	2	110	369	95	28	7	51	49
Falkirk	94	162	418	2,772	9,673	6	11	28	184	642	53	62	82	86	86
Fife	240	314	1,284	7,938	25,362	7	9	36	220	704	57	50	105	103	94
Glasgow City	1,825	2,650	2,680	15,392	69,521	31	46	46	264	1,195	269	261	136	124	159
Highland	180	345	288	4,268	13,987	8	16	13	196	643	71	91	39	92	86
Inverclyde	166	224	279	2,050	6,506	20	28	34	253	802	176	158	101	118	107
Midlothian	44	96	209	2,117	5,338	6	12	26	266	671	47	69	77	125	90
Moray	40	83	136	1,756	5,292	5	10	16	202	609	39	55	46	95	81
North Ayrshire	234	337	381	3,355	9,742	17	25	28	247	718	148	142	83	116	96
North Lanarkshire	448	677	1,075	8,684	26,442	14	21	33	267	814	118	119	98	125	109
Orkney Islands	2	9	5	164	418	1	5	3	83	210	9	26	7	39	28
Perth & Kinross	52	70	256	1,729	6,890	4	5	18	122	485	31	28	53	57	65
Renfrewshire	292	318	637	3,371	12,637	17	19	38	199	745	148	107	111	93	99
Scottish Borders	51	91	115	1,425	4,460	5	8	10	128	400	39	47	30	60	53
Shetland Islands	10	10	12	247	756	5	5	5	113	344	39	26	16	53	46
South Ayrshire	119	145	310	2,268	7,204	11	13	28	203	645	91	74	82	95	86
South Lanarkshire	390	514	874	6,689	19,980	13	17	28	216	646	108	95	83	101	86
Stirling	51	97	250	1,540	5,580	6	11	28	175	633	50	63	83	82	84
West Dunbartonshire	178	294	348	2,786	8,869	20	32	38	306	974	168	185	113	143	130
West Lothian	122	191	345	4,029	11,487	7	11	21	240	685	62	65	61	112	91
SCOTLAND	6,000	8,989	17,465	109,855	385,509	12	17	34	214	749	100	100	100	100	100

¹Includes serious assaults only

²Includes dwellings and non-dwellings only

³Includes vandalism, malicious damage and malicious mischief only

Crimes and offences recorded and cleared up by the police, Scotland, 2003/04 - 2007/08

Table A1

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Police strength at end financial year (whole-time equivalent - WTE)	15,583	16,018	16,221	16,234	16,221
Number of crimes recorded	414,214	438,121	417,785	419,257	385,509
<i>Crimes recorded per 1,000 population</i>	82	86	82	82	75
<i>Crimes recorded per WTE police officer</i>	27	27	26	26	24
Number of crimes cleared up	196,475	195,223	190,918	198,985	184,631
<i>Crimes cleared up per WTE police officer</i>	13	12	12	12	11
Number of offences recorded	615,876	638,564	599,888	607,406	571,881
<i>Offences recorded per 1,000 population</i>	122	126	118	119	111
<i>Offences recorded per WTE police officer</i>	40	40	37	37	35
Number of offences cleared up	591,941	595,033	558,333	565,829	533,818
<i>Offences cleared up per WTE police officer</i>	38	37	34	35	33

Crimes of indecency recorded by the police, Scotland, 1998/99 - 2007/08

Table A2

Crimes of indecency	Number & Percentage										
	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	% change 06/07 - 07/08
<i>Sexual assault :</i>											
Rape	607	586	549	631	743	845	900	975	922	908	-2
Assault with intent to rape	190	169	141	157	181	192	209	186	201	145	-28
Indecent assault	1,348	1,139	1,034	1,249	1,354	1,436	1,497	1,508	1,664	1,666	0
<i>Lewd and indecent behaviour :</i>											
Lewd and libidinous practices	1,850	1,384	1,589	1,584	1,970	1,790	1,928	1,835	1,738	1,781	2
Indecent exposure	1,021	935	767	820	800	803	858	816	817	786	-4
<i>Other :</i>											
Incest	70	40	48	43	36	36	27	29	19	18	-5
Illegal homosexual acts	134	179	141	108	130	152	117	98	84	87	4
Sexual intercourse with girl under 16	240	205	167	169	269	277	321	365	486	449	-8
Offences relating to prostitution	1,564	1,204	1,269	1,184	1,092	1,216	1,391	684	718	525	-27
Other crimes of indecency ¹	47	41	22	49	48	39	76	62	77	187	143
TOTAL	7,071	5,882	5,727	5,994	6,623	6,786	7,324	6,558	6,726	6,552	-3

¹From 2007/08 this crime category includes a new crime code brought into existence by the creation of a new offence under the Prostitution (Public Places) (Scotland) Act 2007

Table A3
Theft by housebreaking (including attempts and housebreaking 'with intent'), 1998/99 - 2007/08

	Number & Percentage										
	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	% change 06/07 - 07/08
Total	55,784	52,863	47,729	45,515	40,586	36,432	34,959	31,319	30,580	25,443	-17
Domestic :											
<i>Dwelling</i>	37,482	35,654	32,172	30,593	27,341	24,646	23,613	21,232	20,429	17,465	-15
<i>Non-dwelling</i>	28,433	26,959	24,307	22,742	20,196	18,231	17,368	15,135	14,523	12,437	-14
Other	9,049	8,695	7,865	7,851	7,145	6,415	6,245	6,097	5,906	5,028	-15
18,302	17,209	15,557	14,922	13,245	11,786	11,346	10,087	10,151	7,978		-21
<i>Percentage domestic</i>	67%	67%	67%	67%	67%	68%	68%	68%	67%	69%	

Table A4
Theft of and from motor vehicles recorded by the police, 1998/99 - 2007/08

Crime category	Number & Percentage										
	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	% change 06/07 - 07/08
Theft from motor vehicle of which:	49,723	48,076	40,942	41,348	38,525	34,474	27,921	23,569	22,858	21,944	-4
Theft by opening a lockfast place (OLP)	27,927	27,423	23,565	23,628	22,536	20,287	15,012	12,162	11,519	11,181	-3
OLP with intent to steal	8,147	7,371	5,667	6,201	5,293	4,424	3,367	2,634	2,882	2,695	-6
Attempted theft OLP	3,402	3,209	2,769	2,830	2,532	2,128	2,024	1,657	1,659	1,341	-19
Other theft	10,247	10,073	8,941	8,689	8,164	7,635	7,518	7,116	6,798	6,727	-1
Theft of motor vehicle	22,920	22,370	19,883	18,215	16,486	14,011	12,339	11,317	11,820	9,864	-17
Attempted theft of motor vehicle	6,370	6,511	5,672	4,931	4,395	3,593	3,294	2,724	3,180	2,241	-30
Total motor vehicle theft	79,013	76,957	66,497	64,494	59,406	52,078	43,554	37,610	37,858	34,049	-10

Drug crimes recorded by the police, Scotland, 1998/99 - 2007/08

Table A5

Crime category	Number & percentage										
	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	06/07 - 07/08
Illegal importation of drugs	32	7	1	4	3	4	1	23	9	9	0
Illegal cultivation of drugs	184	106	131	144	205	249	254	297	437	490	12
Possession of drugs with intent to supply	8,690	8,032	9,024	10,130	9,940	9,284	9,078	9,293	10,444	9,328	-11
Possession of drugs	23,515	21,776	22,470	26,188	30,510	32,463	32,268	34,440	31,329	30,559	-2
Drugs, other offences, money laundering	398	453	455	284	280	275	222	194	203	360	77
Total	32,819	30,374	32,081	36,750	40,938	42,275	41,823	44,247	42,422	40,746	-4

Racially aggravated offences (including harassment and conduct) by police force area, 2003/04 - 2007/08

Table A6

Police force area	Number														
	2003/04			2004/05			2005/06			2006/07		2007/08			
Central	12	252	264	22	331	353	6	344	350	8	342	350	3	336	339
Dumfries & Galloway	4	23	27	4	33	37	2	57	59	0	29	29	2	18	20
Fife	12	232	244	12	253	265	3	205	208	1	213	214	1	199	200
Grampian	7	258	265	16	368	384	13	384	397	5	440	445	12	394	406
Lothian & Borders	32	270	302	20	338	358	100	784	884	94	1,038	1,132	129	1,009	1,138
Northern	10	47	57	15	77	92	9	80	89	2	58	60	3	68	71
Strathclyde	307	1,181	1,488	422	1,417	1,839	357	1,616	1,973	341	1,629	1,970	284	1,806	2,090
Tayside	48	402	450	39	489	528	13	321	334	12	262	274	18	261	279
Scotland	432	2,665	3,097	550	3,306	3,856	503	3,791	4,294	463	4,011	4,474	452	4,091	4,543

8. Notes on statistics used in this bulletin

Returns

- 8.1 The statistical return from which most of the figures in this bulletin are taken is a simple count of the numbers of crimes and offences recorded and cleared up by the police. Only returns from the eight Scottish home forces are included in this bulletin. One return is made for each council in Scotland and these are aggregated to give a national total. Amendments (such as the deletion of incidents found on investigation not to be criminal) which arise after the end of the financial year are not generally incorporated.
- 8.2 In 1993 information was collected for the first time from other police forces, such as the British Transport Police. This practice has been continued, but these figures have **not** been included in the main body of the bulletin. Thus, in addition to those crimes and offences referred to throughout the bulletin there were, in total, 2,346 crimes and 5,199 offences recorded by the British Transport Police, Ministry of Defence and Civil Nuclear Constabulary (previously known as the UK Atomic Energy Authority) in 2006/07. The crime clear-up rate was 29 per cent and the offences clear-up rate was 45 per cent.
- 8.3 The figures included in the motor vehicle offences group do not include *stationary* motor vehicle offences dealt with by the issue of a fixed penalty ticket (some 105,305 offences, mostly parking and waiting offences, or failure to display a valid excise licence, in 2005/06). However, offences dealt with under the vehicle defect rectification scheme and offences for which the procurator fiscal offers a fixed penalty are included in the figures. In addition to this, *moving* traffic offences which are the subject of a police conditional offer of a fixed penalty are also included, e.g. speeding, traffic directions offences.

Recording issues

- 8.4 In one criminal incident, several crimes or offences may occur - e.g. a house may be broken into and vandalised and the occupants assaulted. In multiple offence incidents, all the offences are counted rather than one for the incident as a whole; that is, the counting system is offence based rather than incident based. An offence may have more than one victim - for example in robberies - and be committed by more than one offender - e.g. some assaults and housebreakings (note that for murder, attempted murder and culpable homicide, the number of crimes recorded is equal to the number of the victims). Thus the statistics in this bulletin are not directly comparable with statistics on action taken against offenders, as one offence may lead to several persons being charged. Equally, an offender may be charged with several offences. The statistics for recorded number of crimes given in this bulletin are also not directly comparable with statistics collected in England and Wales for the recorded number of notifiable offences. This is mainly due to differences in the counting rules; for notifiable offences the counting system is, wherever possible victim based rather than offence based. The Home

Office introduced new counting rules for notifiable offences, and expanded their coverage on 1 April 1998.

- 8.5 In Scotland, assault is a common law offence. In order to distinguish between serious and minor assaults police forces use a common definition of what is a serious assault.

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

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

- 8.6 Attempts to commit an offence are included in the statistics, in general in the same group as the substantive offence.

Reporting practices

- 8.7 These statistics do not of course reveal the incidence of all crime committed. Not all incidents are reported to the police. The Scottish Crime Survey, a survey of crime victims, suggested that in Scotland victims reported 49 per cent of incidents to the police in 2002, compared with 58 per cent in 1999, 50 per cent in 1995 and 53 per cent in 1981. The two reasons most commonly given by victims for not reporting to the police were that the incident was considered by them to be too trivial or that the police could not have taken any action in any case.

- 8.8 Many offences, for example, speeding or possession of drugs, have no victim other than perhaps the perpetrator and are discovered and recorded as a result of police activity rather than by being reported to the police by the public. Hence the strength and deployment of the police forces mainly determine the numbers of such offences recorded.

Crimes and offences cleared up

- 8.9 The definition of "cleared up" is noted below. This definition came into force with effect from 1 April 1996.

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

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

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

For some types of crime or offence the case is cleared up immediately because the offender is "caught in the act", e.g. motoring offences. In Scots law, the confession of an accused person to a crime would not in general be sufficient to allow a prosecution to be taken as corroborative evidence is required. Thus, a case cannot be regarded as "cleared up" on the basis of a confession alone. In some cases there is sufficient evidence but a prosecution cannot be brought, for example, because the accused has left the country. In such cases, the offender is said to have been traced and the crime is regarded as cleared up. The other terms in the definition describe the various actions that must be taken by the police against offenders.

- 8.10 Certain motor vehicle offences are not always recorded in cases where police forces are unable to clear-up the offence (e.g. speeding offences where the driver is untraceable). Clear-up rates for motor vehicle offences in these circumstances are artificial. Thus, clear-up *rates* for the motor vehicle group are not included in the bulletin.
- 8.11 Clear-up rates in excess of 100 per cent can arise where offences recorded in one year are cleared up during the following year.

Classification

- 8.12 Contraventions of Scottish criminal law are divided for statistical purposes into crimes and offences. "Crime" is *generally* used for the more serious criminal acts; the less serious termed "offences", although the term "offence" may also be used in relation to serious breaches of criminal law. The distinction is made only for working purposes and the "seriousness" of the offence is *generally* related to the maximum sentence that can be imposed.
- 8.13 The detailed classification of crimes and offences used by The Scottish Government to collect criminal statistics contains about 360 codes. These are grouped in the bulletin as shown on pages 32 and 33.
- 8.14 Clearly, only a limited selection of tables can be included in any statistical bulletin. Further analysis of recorded crime statistics can be supplied on request once the bulletin is published. This includes available information relating to time periods other than those covered in the bulletin. In certain cases a fee is charged. For details of what can be provided please telephone Andrew Murray on 0131 244 8322 or e-mail: andrew.murray@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Scottish Crime and Victimization Survey

- 8.15 Findings from the 2006 Scottish Crime and Victimization Survey, which asks about crimes and offences experienced in 2005/06, were published in September 2007. These summary findings, as well as details of findings from previous crime surveys, are available on the publications section of the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey website at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Research/by-topic/crime-and-justice/crime-and-justice-survey/publications>.

For more information about the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey, please contact Barry Stalker: telephone 0131 244 6934 or e-mail barry.stalker@scotland.gsi.gov.uk .

9. CLASSIFICATION OF CRIMES AND OFFENCES

Group

CRIMES

Non-Sexual Crimes Of Violence

(Also referred to as **Violence**)

Serious assault etc. -

Includes murder and culpable homicide (including the statutory crime of causing death by dangerous driving or causing death by careless driving while under the influence of drink or drugs). Furthermore, an assault is classified as **serious** if the victim sustained an injury resulting in detention in hospital as an in-patient or any of the following injuries whether or not he was detained in hospital: fractures, internal injuries, severe concussion, loss of consciousness, lacerations requiring sutures which may lead to impairment or disfigurement or any other injury which may lead to impairment or disfigurement.

Robbery -

Includes offences involving intent to rob.

Other -

Includes threats and extortion and cruel and unnatural treatment of children.

Crimes of Indecency

(Also referred to as **Indecency**).

Rape & Attempted Rape -

Comprises rape and assault with intent to rape.

Indecent Assault -

-

Lewd and indecent behaviour -
(Previously titled "Lewd and libidinous practices")

Comprises lewd and libidinous practices against children and indecent exposure.

Other -

Includes offences connected with prostitution.

Crimes Involving Dishonesty

(Also referred to as **Dishonesty**)

Housebreaking -

Includes commercial as well as domestic premises.

Theft by opening a lockfast place (OLP) -

-

Theft from a motor vehicle by (OLP) -

-

Theft of motor vehicle -

-

Shoplifting -

-

Other theft -

Includes theft of pedal cycles.

Fraud -

Includes statutory fraud.

Other -

Includes forgery, reset and embezzlement.

Fire-Raising, Vandalism Etc

(Also referred to as **Vandalism**)

Fire-raising –

-

Vandalism, etc. -

Includes malicious mischief, vandalism and reckless conduct with firearms.

Other Crimes

Crimes against public justice -

Includes perjury, resisting arrest, bail offences (other than absconding or re-offending) and wasting police time.

Handling offensive weapons -

Comprises carrying offensive weapons, restriction of offensive weapons legislation.

Drugs -

Includes importation, possession and supply of controlled drugs.

Other -

Includes conspiracy and explosives offences.

OFFENCES

Miscellaneous Offences

Minor Assault -

-

Breach of the peace -

-

Drunkenness -

-

Other -

Includes offences against local legislation, offences involving animals/plants, offences against liquor licensing laws and offences against environmental legislation.

Motor Vehicle Offences

Dangerous and careless driving -

Prior to 1992 this was known as "reckless and careless driving".

Drunk driving -

Comprises driving or in charge of motor vehicle while unfit through drink or drugs, blood alcohol content above limit and failing to provide breath, blood or urine specimens.

Speeding -

-

Unlawful use of vehicle -

Comprises driving while disqualified, without a licence, insurance, test certificate, vehicle tax and registration and identification offences.

Vehicle defect offences -

Comprises construction and use and lighting offences.

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