



Second edition – August 2014

Statistical News Release – Crime against businesses: Detailed findings from the 2013 Commercial Victimization Survey

Following on from the [headline findings report](#) published on 27th February 2014, more detailed analysis from the 2013 Commercial Victimization Survey (CVS) is released today.

Publication coverage

This release contains statistics on the following:

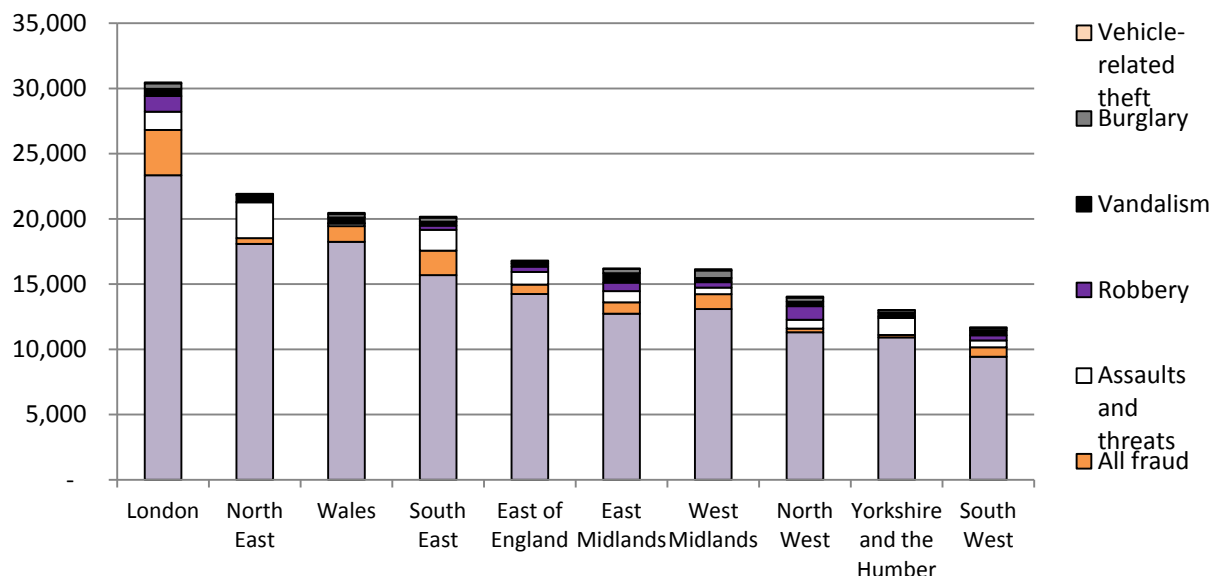
- **Nature of crime** against businesses – including time of day incidents occur and items stolen.
- **Experience of crime by business and location characteristics** – crime incidence rates by variables such as distance from nearest housing, urban or rural location, and geographical region.
- **Crime prevention** – the security measures that business premises have in place.
- **Costs of crime** against businesses - both as a result of victimisation and from preventative measures.
- Experiences of **anti-social behaviour (ASB)** in the last 12 months and **perceptions of the police**. Results are presented alongside analysis on the perception/worry about cyber crime and impact of theft from customers.

Key findings

Wholesale and retail premises – based on combined 2012 and 2013 data

- **Wholesale and retail premises in London experienced the highest rate of crime.** There were variations in the rate of crime by region, with London experiencing 30,466 incidents of crime per 1,000 premises, the highest rate of all regions in England and Wales which was driven by theft.

Number of incidents of crime per 1,000 premises, by crime type and region, wholesale and retail sector, 2012 and 2013 CVS

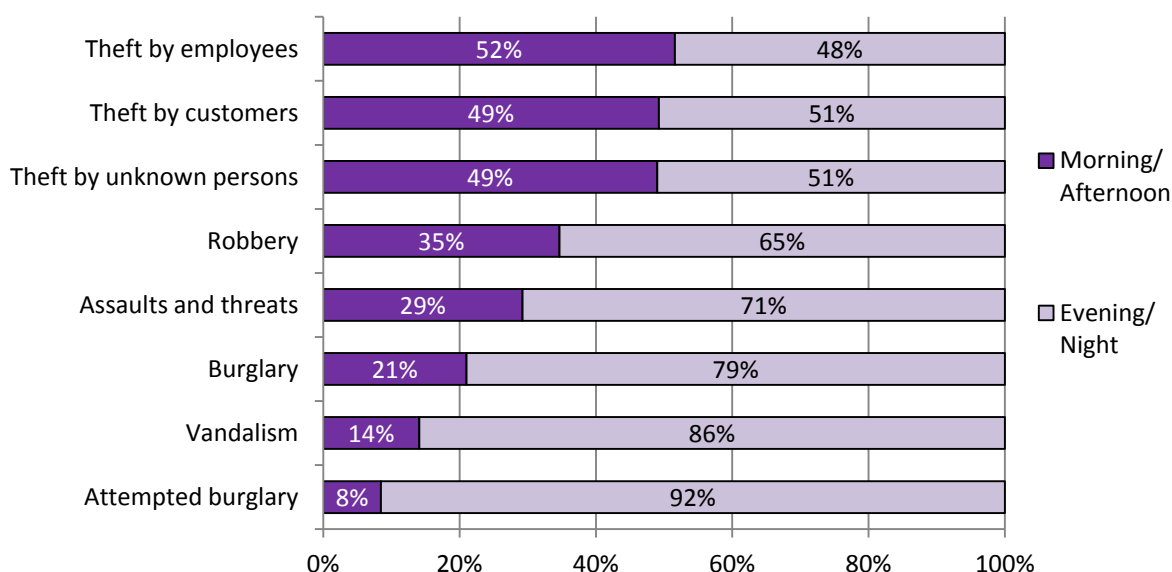


- Shoplifting rates were highest in urban areas and at supermarkets.**
 Incidents of thefts by customers were around three times higher in urban (11,425 incidents per 1,000 premises) than in rural areas (3,811 incidents per 1,000 premises). Meanwhile, retail supermarkets had a substantially higher rate of thefts by customers (87,890 incidents per 1,000 premises) than other types of premises in this sector.
- Goods and stock were most commonly stolen item during thefts.**
 Goods and stock were stolen in 92% of all incidents of thefts by customers, in around three quarters (78%) of incidents of theft by unknown persons and in 53% of theft by employee incidents.

Accommodation and food premises – based on combined 2012 and 2013 data

- The majority of non-theft related crime against this sector took place during the evening or at night.**
 With the exception of theft offences, the majority of most recent incidents of the other crime types took place during the evening or at night, which is likely to reflect the night time economy of this sector.

Proportion of most recent incident of each crime type taking place by time of day, accommodation and food sector, 2012 and 2013 CVS



- **Although theft and assaults and threats were the most common crime types experienced, burglary with entry had the highest cost per incident.** Burglary with entry cost £360 per incident on average compared with other crime types which had median costs ranging from £40 to £200 per incident.
- **The majority of premises in this sector employ outer security measures.** Around three quarters (78%) of premises in the accommodation and food sector had outer security measures in place. Of these premises, 75% had security lighting and 64% had CCTV, the two most common outer security measures.

Arts, entertainment and recreation premises – based on 2013 data

- **Compared with the other sectors, the recreation sector reported the highest average cost of theft by customer.** The median cost of thefts by customers was £100. This is more than twice as large as average cost of theft by customers reported by the wholesale and retail sector and the accommodation and food sector (both at £40).
- **Incidents of theft by customers were more likely to take place during the day.** Around three-quarters (76%) of thefts by customers took place during the morning or afternoon (6am to 6pm). Conversely, the majority of vandalism, attempted burglary and burglary incidents against this sector took place in the evening or at night.

Agriculture, forestry and fishing premises – based on 2013 data

- **Crime in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector is more prevalent against the more accessible premises.** The rate of crime was higher for those premises near motorways/dual carriageways with the rate of vandalism and burglary at least twice as high where the nearest motorway or dual carriageway was less than a 5 minute drive away, compared with those more than a 15 minute drive away.

- **Two fifths of premises were also affected by sector specific incidents such as trespassing.** Two-fifths (40%) of agriculture, forestry and fishing premises experienced at least one incident which, while being a nuisance, was not necessarily a crime – most commonly, trespassing or unauthorised access to land or buildings, affecting 29% of premises in the sector.
- **In this sector, the take up of outer security measures is high, although the prevalence of burglar alarms is relatively low.**
In contrast to the other CVS sectors, where the majority of premises have alarms installed, only a third (32%) of premises had a burglar alarm installed. However, almost 9 out of 10 premises (86%) had outer security measures, e.g. security lighting, CCTV, barbed wire and anti-climb fences.

Anti-social behaviour and perceptions of policing – based on 2013 data

- **The majority of business premises were not affected by ASB and do not perceive it to be a problem in their area.** In 2013, over 80% of premises in each of the four sectors were unaffected by ASB. Furthermore, at least two-thirds of business premises in each sector did not think ASB was a problem in their area.
- **The majority of premises are satisfied with the way police handle crime in their area,** with the proportion of premises satisfied ranged from 69% of agriculture premises to 82% of accommodation and food premises.

Methodology

1. The CVS is a telephone survey in which respondents from a representative sample of business premises in England and Wales were asked about crimes experienced at their premises in the 12 months prior to interview.
2. Estimates for the 2013 CVS are based on 4,041 interviews with respondents at premises in four sectors: i) wholesale and retail (also in 2012 CVS), ii) accommodation and food (also in 2012 CVS), iii) arts, entertainment and recreation, and iv) agriculture, forestry and fishing. The latter two sectors were included in the CVS for the first time in 2013. There are plans to repeat a similar survey in 2014.
3. Where sectors were covered by both the 2012 and 2013 CVS, data from these two surveys have been combined in order to provide more robust estimates, and detailed analysis, of crimes against businesses in these sectors.

Notes to editors

4. 'Crime against businesses: Detailed findings from the 2013 Commercial Victimisation Survey' is available online via the UK National Statistics Publication Hub and the Gov.uk website:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crime-against-businesses-detailed-findings-from-the-2013-commercial-victimisation-survey>

For all press enquiries, please contact the Home Office Press Office who will liaise with Home Office Statistics Unit:

Newsdesk - **020 7035 3535**

Monday - Thursday: 07:00 – 21:00

Friday: 07:00 – 20:00

Emergency media calls, out-of-hours: 020 7035 6434

Please note: the press office deals with enquiries from the media only. Members of the public should phone **020 7035 4848**.