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Homicides, Firearm Offences and Intimate Violence 2009/10

Supplementary Volume 2 to Crime in England and Wales 2009/10 (2nd Edition)

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Further information

Copies of this and other Home Office statistical bulletins are available from the Research Development Statistics Internet site: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/>.

This includes the User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics, a useful reference guide with explanatory notes regarding the issues and classifications which are key to the production and presentation of the crime statistics:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/crimestats-userguide.pdf>.

The dates of forthcoming publications are pre-announced and can be found via the UK National Statistics Publication Hub: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/index.html>.

For further information about the British Crime Survey and police recorded crime statistics, please e-mail crimestats.rds@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk or write to Home Office Statistics, 5th Floor, Peel Building, Home Office, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF.

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Introduction

This bulletin is the second in a series of supplementary volumes that accompany the main annual Home Office Statistical Bulletin, 'Crime in England and Wales 2009/10' (Flatley *et al.*, 2010). These supplementary volumes explore topics from the main annual bulletin in greater detail.

This bulletin covers three topic areas related to violence. These are:

Homicide. This chapter contains analysis of figures from the Home Office Homicide Index, including method of killing, relationship between victims and suspect, age and gender breakdowns, ethnicity in homicide and suspect outcomes.

Recorded offences involving the use of firearms. This chapter provides further analysis of the provisional data that were published in the annual bulletin. Analyses include the type of firearms used in recorded offences, how the firearms were used, the types of crime that firearms were used in and injuries sustained.

BCS intimate violence. Analysis of the 2009/10 BCS self-completion module which asks respondents aged between 16 and 59 about their experiences of domestic abuse, sexual assault and stalking. These questions have been included in the survey on a comparable basis since 2004/05.

Contents

	Page
Contents.....	4
List of figures and tables.....	7
Chapter 1 Homicide.....	11
<i>Kathryn Coleman, Simon Eder and Kevin Smith</i>	
1.1 Summary	11
1.2 Introduction	12
1.3 Offences recorded as homicide.....	12
1.4 Victims	15
1.5 Suspects	22
1.6 Statistical interpretation of trends in homicides	24
Chapter 2 Recorded crimes involving firearms	44
<i>Simon Eder</i>	
2.1 Summary	44
2.2 Offences involving the use of firearms	45
2.3 How firearms were used.....	48
2.4 Type of weapon used	49
2.5 Injuries sustained in firearm offences	51
2.6 Types of offences where firearms are used	53
2.7 Geographical distribution of firearm offences.....	55
2.8 Age of victims	56
2.9 Misappropriated (stolen) firearms	57
Chapter 3 Intimate violence: 2009/10 British Crime Survey.....	68
<i>Philip Hall</i>	
3.1 Summary	68
3.2 Introduction	69
3.3 Prevalence of intimate violence.....	71
3.4 Risks of intimate violence	74
3.5 Nature of sexual assault.....	76
3.6 Nature of stalking.....	80
Appendix 1 Bibliography	96

Conventions used in figures and tables

Table abbreviations

- '0' indicates no response in that particular category or less than 0.5% (this does not apply when percentages are presented to one decimal point).
- 'n/a' indicates that the BCS question was not applicable or not asked in that particular year.
- '-' for police recorded crime indicates either: (i) that percentage changes are not reported because the base number of offences is less than 50; or (ii) that number of offences is nil. For the BCS indicates that data are not reported because the unweighted base is less than 50.
- '..' indicates for police recorded crime that data are not available.
- '**' indicates for police recorded crime that data are not applicable.
- '***' indicates for BCS that the change is statistically significant at the five per cent level. Where an apparent change over time is not statistically significant the figures are described in the text as 'similar'.

Unweighted base

All BCS percentages and rates presented in the tables are based on data weighted to compensate for differential non response. Tables show the unweighted base which represents the number of people/households interviewed in the specified group.

Percentages

Row or column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Most BCS tables present cell percentages where the figures refer to the percentage of people/households who have the attribute being discussed and the complementary percentage, to add to 100%, is not shown.

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

Year-labels on BCS figures and tables

Year-labels on BCS figures and tables identify the BCS year of interview. Respondents' experience of crime relates to the 12 full months prior to interview (i.e. a moving reference period).

'No answers' (missing values)

All BCS analysis excludes don't know/refusals unless otherwise specified.

List of figures and tables

Chapter 1

Figure 1.1	Offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, 1960 to 2009/10
Figure 1.2	Percentage of offences currently recorded as homicide by apparent method of killing and sex of victim, 2009/10
Figure 1.3	All victims by relationship of victim to principal suspect, 2009/10
Figure 1.4	Victims under 16 years of age, by relationship of victim to principal suspect, 2009/10
Figure 1.5	Offences currently recorded as homicide per million population by age of victim, combined years 2007/08 to 2009/10
Figure 1.6	Suspects by outcome of proceedings, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Figure 1.7	Observed and expected number of homicide incidents recorded on a day, combined years 2007/08 to 2009/10
Figure 1.8	Homicide incident trend analysis, 1997/98 to 2009/10
Table 1a	Homicide rate per million population for 15 European Union countries (ranked in order high to low)
Table 1b	Apparent method of killing by ethnic appearance of victim, combined data for 2007/08 to 2009/10
Table 1c	Offences currently recorded as homicide with current suspect, by ethnic appearance of victim and principal suspect, combined data for 2007/08 to 2009/10
Table 1d	Offences currently recorded as homicide by ethnic appearance and sex of victim, combined data for 2007/08 to 2009/10
Table 1e	Outcomes for all suspects, 2005/06 to 2009/10
Table 1.01	Offences initially recorded by the police as homicide by current classification, 1960 to 2009/10
Table 1.02	Offences initially recorded as homicide by outcome, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 1.03	Offences currently recorded as homicide by apparent method of killing and sex of victim, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 1.04	Homicides currently recorded for victims under 16 years by relationship of victim to principal suspect, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 1.05	Homicides currently recorded for all victims by relationship of victim to principal suspect, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Table 1.06	Offences currently recorded as homicide by apparent circumstances and relationship of victim to principal suspect, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 1.07	Offences currently recorded as homicide by age and sex of victim, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 1.08	Suspects convicted of homicide by type of homicide, 1972 to 2009/10
Table 1.09	Suspects indicted for homicide by outcome of proceedings, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 1.10	Suspects convicted of homicide by type of homicide and sentence, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 1.11	Suspects convicted of homicide by previous homicide convictions, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 1.12	Suspects convicted of homicide who had previously been convicted of homicide by type of homicide, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 1.13	Currently recorded homicides by region and police force area, 2005/06 to 2009/10

Chapter 2

Figure 2.1	Offences recorded by the police in which a firearm has been used, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Figure 2.2	Firearm offences by type of principal weapon (excluding air weapons), 2009/10
Figure 2.3	Firearm offences by type of principal weapon (excluding air weapons), 1999/00 to 2009/10
Figure 2.4	Offences in which firearms were reported to have been used by selected offence type, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Figure 2.5	Number of firearm robberies by location of offence, 2009/10
Figure 2.6	Proportion of firearm offences, excluding air weapons, in three police force areas, compared with population profile of those forces, 2009/10
Figure 2.7	Age profile of firearm victims, excluding air weapons, compared to population profile for England and Wales, 2009/10
Table 2a	Offences in which firearms were used, by type of firearm and weapon usage, 2009/10
Table 2b	Offences in which firearms were used, by type of firearm and injury sustained when weapon was fired, 2009/10
Table 2c	Offences, excluding air weapons, recorded by the police in which a police officer on duty was injured by a firearm, by type of injury, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 2.01	Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used by type of principal weapon, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 2.02	Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were used resulting in injury, by degree of injury, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Table 2.03	Crimes recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have caused injury, by degree of injury and type of principal weapon, 2009/10
Table 2.04	Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have caused injury by type of principal weapon, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 2.05	Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, by principal weapon, how they were used and injury sustained, 2009/10
Table 2.06	Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, by offence group and principal firearm, 2009/10
Table 2.07	Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, by offence group, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 2.08	Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, as a percentage of all notifiable offences in particular offence groups, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 2.09	Offences of robbery recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, by location of offence, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 2.10	Offences of robbery recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, by type of principal weapon, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 2.11	Firearm offences (excluding air weapons) by police force area, 2005/06 to 2009/10
Table 2.12	Firearms misappropriated in offences recorded by the police, by type of weapon, 1999/00 to 2009/10
Table 2.13	Firearms misappropriated in offences recorded by the police, by type of weapon and location, 2009/10

Chapter 3

Figure 3.1	Prevalence of intimate violence experienced since the age of 16, by sex, 2009/10 BCS
Figure 3.2	Prevalence of intimate violence experienced in the last year, by sex, 2009/10 BCS
Figure 3.3	Victim-offender relationship for incidents of serious sexual assault and less serious sexual assault experienced by women since the age of 16, 2009/10 BCS
Figure 3.4	Victim-offender relationship for incidents of any sexual assault experienced since the age of 16, by sex, 2009/10 BCS
Figure 3.5	Victim-offender relationship for incidents of stalking experienced since the age of 16, by sex, 2009/10 BCS
Table 3.01	Prevalence of intimate violence by category among adults aged 16 to 59

Table 3.02	Estimated numbers of victims of intimate violence since the age of 16 by category among adults aged 16 to 59
Table 3.03	Estimated numbers of victims of intimate violence in the last year by category among adults aged 16 to 59
Table 3.04	Prevalence of intimate violence in the last year among men and women aged 16 to 59, 2004/05 to 2009/10 BCS
Table 3.05	Prevalence of intimate violence in the last year among adults aged 16 to 59, 2004/05 to 2009/10 BCS
Table 3.06	Percentage of adults aged 16 to 59 who were victims of intimate violence in the last year, by type, by personal characteristics, by sex
Table 3.07	Percentage of adults aged 16 to 59 who were victims of intimate violence in the last year, by type, by household and area characteristics, by sex
Table 3.08	Explanatory factors associated with risk of being a victim of domestic abuse in the last year
Table 3.09	Age and sex of offender in incidents of serious sexual assault experienced by adults aged 16 to 59 since the age of 16, by sex
Table 3.10	Influence of alcohol and drugs in incidents of serious sexual assault experienced by adults aged 16 to 59 since the age of 16, by sex
Table 3.11	Location of serious sexual assault experienced by adults aged 16 to 59 since the age of 16, by sex
Table 3.12	Who the victim had told personally about the serious sexual assault experienced since the age of 16, by sex
Table 3.13	Effects of serious sexual assault experienced by adults aged 16 to 59 since the age of 16, by sex
Table 3.14	Explanatory factors associated with risk of being a victim of sexual assault in the last year
Table 3.15	Proportion of stalking victims aged 16 to 59 experiencing different elements of stalking in the last year, by sex
Table 3.16	Explanatory factors associated with risk of being a victim of stalking in the last year

1 Homicide

Kathryn Coleman, Simon Eder and Kevin Smith

1.1 SUMMARY

There were 619 deaths currently recorded as homicide in England and Wales in 2009/10 as at 28 September 2010, the date that the Homicide Index database was 'frozen' so that analysis could be conducted. This is a decrease of four per cent (25 homicides) compared with 2008/09.

- The 619 offences currently recorded as homicide in 2009/10 represent the lowest number since 1997/98, when 606 were recorded.
- Overall, the risk of being a victim of homicide was 11 offences per million population. Children under one year old were the most at-risk age group, at 33 offences per million population.
- In 2009/10, as in previous years, more than two-thirds of homicide victims (68%) were male.
- The most common method of killing continues to be by sharp instrument. In 2009/10, 34 per cent of homicides involved a sharp instrument, although the number of such offences fell, from 255 in 2008/09 to 210 in 2009/10.
- There were 41 shooting homicide victims in 2009/10 compared with 38 in 2008/09.
- Female victims were more likely to be killed by someone they knew. Around three-quarters (76%) of female victims knew the main suspect, compared with half (50%) of male victims.
- Three-quarters (75%) of victims aged under 16 knew the main suspect.

1.2 INTRODUCTION

The term 'homicide' covers the offences of murder, manslaughter and infanticide. Murder and manslaughter are common law offences that have never been defined by statute, although they have been modified by statute. The offence of infanticide was created by the Infanticide Act 1922 and refined by the Infanticide Act 1938 (s1).

Data presented in this chapter have been extracted from the Homicide Index, a database separate to the main recorded crime dataset and which contains detailed information about each homicide recorded by police in England and Wales. It is continually being updated with revised information from the police and the courts and, as such, is a better source of data than the main recorded crime dataset. Due to differences in recording practice with respect to 'no criming', data presented here are not the same as the provisional homicide figures presented in the annual Crime in England and Wales statistical bulletin.¹

Homicide offences recorded up to the financial year 2009/10 are presented in this chapter, with offences shown according to the year in which the police initially recorded the offence as homicide. This is not necessarily the year in which the incident took place or the year in which any court decision was made. The data refer to the position as at 28 September 2010, when recording closed down for the purpose of analysis, and will change as subsequent court hearings take place or other information is received.

1.3 OFFENCES RECORDED AS HOMICIDE

In 2009/10, 626 deaths were **initially recorded as homicide**, a decrease of seven per cent on the previous year. Where the police initially record an offence as homicide it remains classified as such unless the police or courts decide that a lesser offence, or no offence, took place. Of the 626 offences first recorded in 2009/10, seven were no longer recorded as homicide by 28 September 2010. The 619 offences **currently recorded as homicide** in 2009/10 compares with 644 for 2008/09², a decrease of four per cent (Table 1.01). This is the lowest number of currently recorded homicides since 1997/98, when 606 were recorded.

Currently recorded homicides have fallen by 17 per cent since 2007/08. Annual variation in homicides, given the size of the numbers involved, has to be interpreted with some caution. However, statistical analysis of trends (discussed in section 1.5) does indicate that the decline since 2007/08 is outside the range that could be expected on account of normal statistical variation in the data.

Furthermore, caution is needed when looking at homicide trend figures, primarily because they are based on the year in which offences are recorded by the police rather than the year in which the incidents took place. For example, the 172 homicides attributed to Dr Harold Shipman as a result of Dame Janet Smith's inquiry took place over a long period of time but were all recorded by the police during 2002/03. Also, where several people are killed by the same principal suspect (such as the cockle pickers who drowned in Morecambe Bay and the

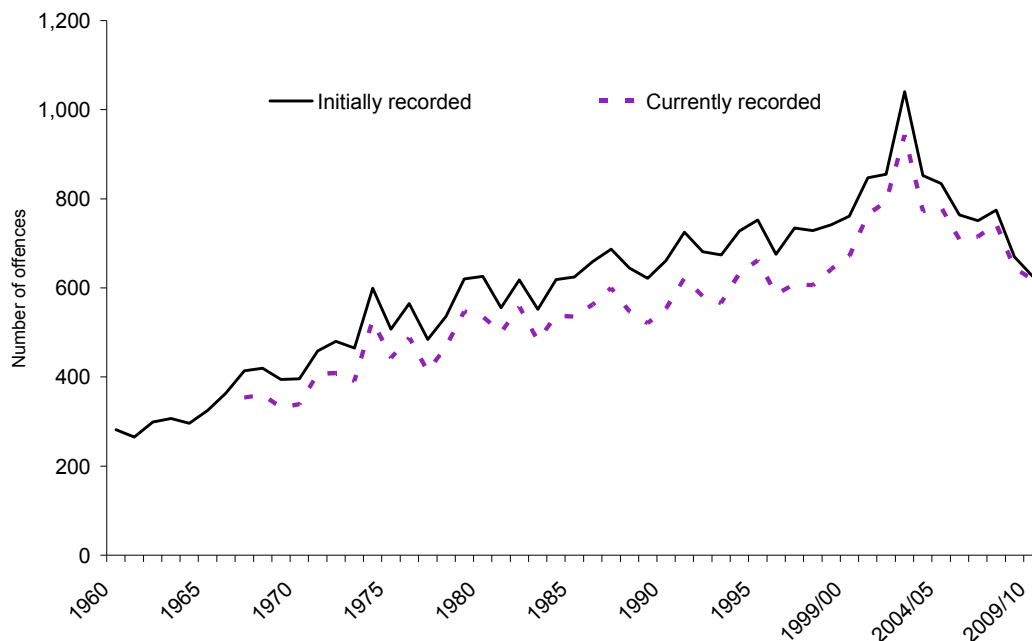
¹ Provisional homicide figures published in the annual bulletin [Smith *et al.* (2010)] showed 615 homicides recorded in 2009/10 and 657 for 2008/09. These were taken from the main recorded crime database, not the Homicide Index.

² The 2008/09 homicide chapter, published in January 2010, quoted 651 homicides currently recorded in 2008/09 as at 24 November 2009. The revised figure of 644 homicides is due to case information on the Homicide Index having been updated as a result of police investigations and court decisions.

7 July 2005 London bombing victims), the number of homicides counted is the total number of persons killed rather than the number of incidents.

Figure 1.1 shows the numbers of homicides, as taken from the Homicide Index, for the last 50 years. As can be seen, homicides increased steadily up to the early 2000s (the peak in 2002/03 includes the 172 homicides attributed to Dr Harold Shipman). Over recent years, the number of homicides has shown a downward trend. A statistical analysis of trends in homicides is available in section 1.6.

Figure 1.1 Offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, 1960 to 2009/10



1. Year 2005/06 includes 52 victims of the 7 July London bombings.
2. Year 2003/04 includes 20 cockle pickers who drowned in Morecambe Bay.
3. Year 2002/03 includes 172 victims of Dr Harold Shipman.
4. Year 2000/01 includes 58 Chinese nationals who suffocated in a lorry en route in the UK.

Case outcomes

Of the 619 cases currently recorded as homicide in 2009/10, court proceedings had resulted in homicide convictions in respect of 189 victims (31%).³ Court proceedings were pending for a further 293 (47%). People who were suspected of being responsible for the deaths of 24 victims had committed suicide or died (4%), and all suspects were acquitted in 13 cases (2%). No suspects had been identified in connection with 91 cases (15%). In the remaining nine cases (1%) proceedings were either discontinued or not initiated (Table 1.02). It should be noted that, due to the complexities involved in investigating homicides, the percentage of 2009/10 cases (and, to a lesser extent, those recorded in earlier years) to have concluded at Crown Court is likely to show an increase when the next update is published in 12 months' time, while the proportion of cases without suspects or with court proceedings pending is expected to decrease.

Analysis of homicide suspects is included in section 1.5.

³ As more than one person can be convicted for an individual homicide, the number of people convicted will not be the same as the number of victims.

Box 1.1 International homicide comparisons

A number of international organisations, including Eurostat, have attempted to collate international homicide statistics. It is important to note that there are issues surrounding the comparability of international homicide data. There are different definitions of homicide between countries, although definitions vary less than for some other types of crimes. Furthermore, there are differing points in criminal justice systems at which homicides are recorded, i.e. when the offence is discovered or following further investigation.

The most recently published comparative homicide figures published by Eurostat compare homicide rates averaged over the years 2006 to 2008¹. The rates for the 15 countries that were members of the European Union prior to the accession of ten candidate countries on 1 May 2004 are shown in Table 1a, per million population. The Eurostat published rate for England and Wales is 13.5,² which is below that for Scotland (21.4) and Northern Ireland (15.2).

Table 1a Homicide rate per million population for 15 European Union countries (ranked in order high to low)

Country	Rate	Country	Rate	Country	Rate
Finland	23.4	Portugal	14.6	Greece	10.4
Scotland	21.4	France	13.7	Netherlands	10.2
Ireland	20.0	England and Wales ²	13.5	Spain	10.2
Belgium	19.7	Denmark	12.2	Germany	8.4
Luxembourg	16.1	Italy	11.3	Austria	6.1
Northern Ireland	15.2	Sweden	10.6		

Among the countries that joined the EU on or after May 2004, rates for Eastern European countries tend to be higher, rising to 87.6 in Lithuania and 66.0 in Estonia, though the rate for Poland is 12.9, which is lower than that for England and Wales.

Although the rate of murder and non-negligent manslaughter in the USA has fallen substantially in recent years, to 56 per million population in 2008,³ it is still well above those experienced in Western Europe.

1. Eurostat's 'Crime and Criminal Justice', by Cynthia Tavares and Geoffrey Thomas http://www.eds-destatis.de/de/downloads/sif/sf_10_058.pdf.

2. Eurostat calculated this figure using the recorded crime returns, not the Homicide Index. If data from the Homicide Index had been used, the figure would be slightly lower.

3. As reported in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's 'Crime in the United States, 2008' at http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2008/data/table_16.html.

1.4 VICTIMS

The risk of being a victim of homicide remains low, with 11 such offences recorded per million population during 2009/10. At 16 per million population, males were more than twice as likely to be a victim of homicide than females (7 per million population) (Table 1.07).

- In 2009/10, 421 victims were male and 198 were female. There was a decrease in the number of male victims compared to 2008/09 (down 7%, from 451 to 421), and males accounted for a slightly smaller proportion of victims than in the previous year (68%, compared to 70% in 2008/09). There were five more female victims in 2009/10 than in 2008/09 (up 3%, from 193 to 198). Thus, as the number of male victims fell, female victims accounted for a slightly larger proportion of all victims than the previous year (32% in 2009/10 compared to 30% in 2008/09).

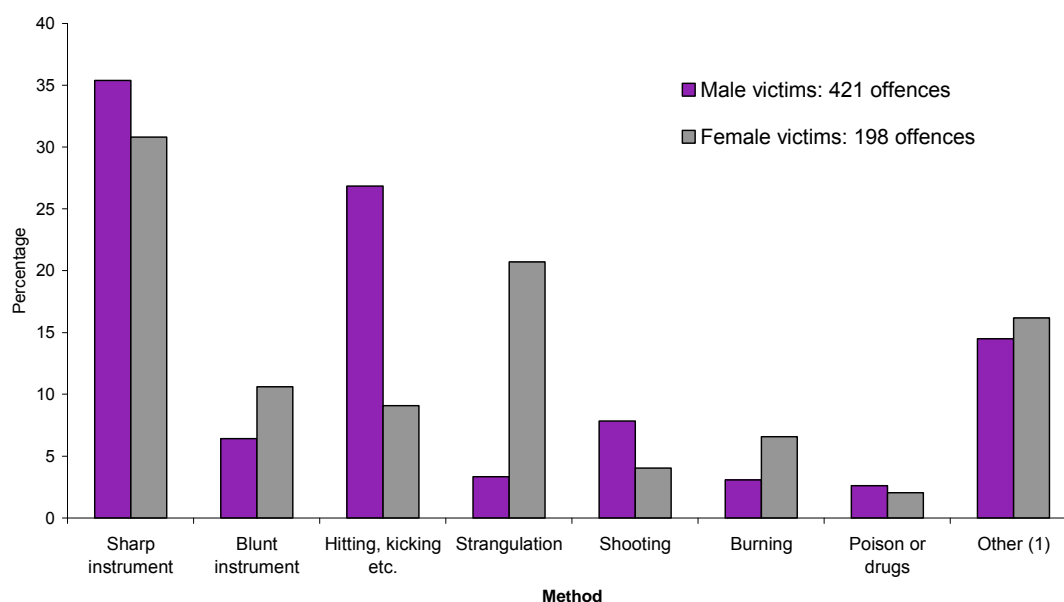
Method of killing

As in previous years, the most common method of killing was by a sharp instrument,⁴ with 210 such homicides recorded in 2009/10 compared to 255 in 2008/09. The proportion of homicides involving a sharp instrument decreased, from 40 per cent in 2008/09 to 34 per cent in 2009/10. Hitting or kicking without a weapon was the next most common method in 2009/10, accounting for just over a fifth of all homicides (21% or 131 offences). There were 41 shooting homicides in 2009/10 (7% of offences), compared with 38 in 2008/09 (Table 1.03).

- In 2009/10, as in each of the last eight years, male and female victims were both more likely to be killed by a sharp instrument than any other method. While accounting for 35 per cent of all male victims and 31 per cent of all female victims, these were lower proportions than recorded in 2008/09 (40% and 39% of male and female victims respectively).
- The second most common method used differed by victim gender: for males it involved hitting or kicking (113 homicides, or 27%) whereas for females it was strangulation or asphyxiation (41 homicides, or 21%). These have consistently been the second most common methods in recent years for respective genders.
- Eight per cent of male victims were killed by shooting (33 offences), compared with four per cent of female victims (8 offences).

⁴ Includes knives and other sharp instruments.

Figure 1.2 Percentage of offences currently recorded as homicide by apparent method of killing and sex of victim, 2009/10



1. 'Other' includes all other apparent methods and where method unknown.

Relationship between victim and principal suspect

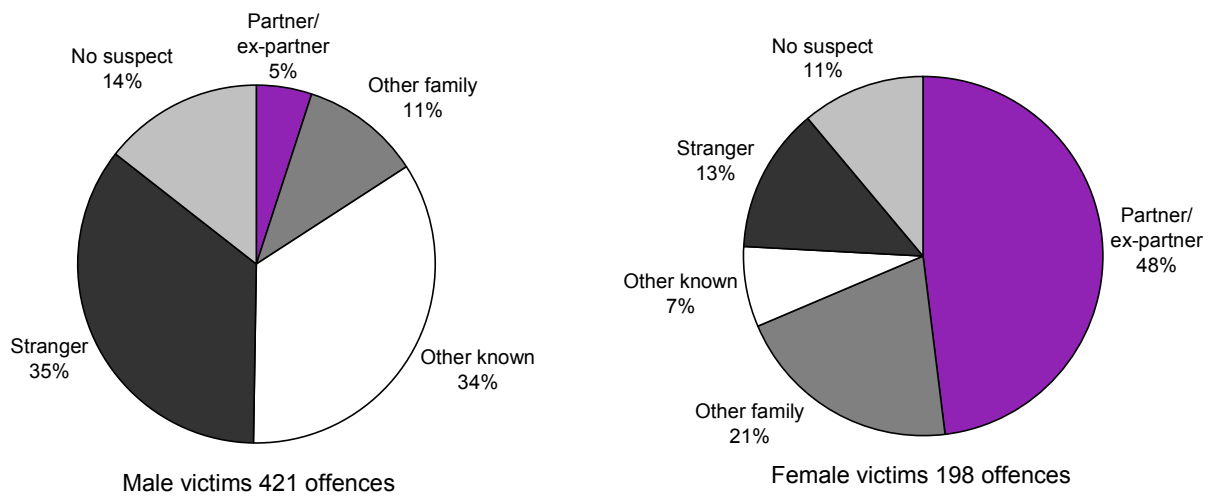
As for previous years, figures for 2009/10 show that female victims were more likely than male victims to have been acquainted with the principal suspect (76% and 50% respectively).

- Just over half of female victims aged 16 or over had been killed by their partner, ex-partner or lover (54%, 94 offences), a slightly lower proportion than in 2008/09 (58%, 100 offences). In contrast, only five per cent of male victims aged 16 or over were killed by their partner, ex-partner or lover in 2009/10 (21 offences).
- More than a third of male victims aged 16 or over were killed by a friend or acquaintance in 2009/10 (37%, 144 offences), a slightly lower proportion than in 2008/09 (39%, 164 offences). In comparison, the victim was a friend or acquaintance of the principal suspect in eight per cent of homicides involving females aged 16 or over in 2009/10 (14 offences).

The relationship between victim and principal suspect is not always known and, for the purposes of this analysis, such cases have been included in the 'stranger' category.⁵ In 2009/10, 146 males aged 16 or over (37%) and 25 females aged 16 or over (14%) were killed by strangers. Over the last five years the proportion of female victims aged 16 or over killed by a stranger was 19 per cent, compared with 40 per cent of male victims aged 16 or over (Tables 1.04 and 1.05).

⁵ Stranger category includes: business associate, police/prison officer killed in the course of duty, stranger (terrorist/contract killing and other) and where there is insufficient information about the suspect to determine relationship to victim.

Figure 1.3 All victims by relationship of victim to principal suspect, 2009/10



Victims under 16 years of age

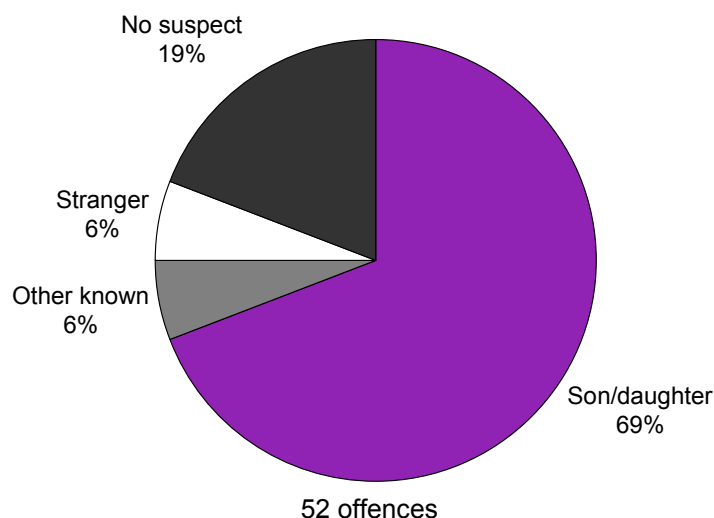
In 2009/10, there were 52 victims under 16 years of age, compared with 49 victims in the previous year. Of all the offences currently recorded as homicide in 2009/10 (619 victims), 8.4 per cent involved victims under the age of 16, compared with 7.6 per cent in 2008/09 (Table 1.07).

The proportion of victims aged under 16 who were acquainted with the main suspect was slightly lower in 2009/10 (75%, 39 victims) than in 2008/09 (82%, 40 victims). As in previous years, the majority had been killed by their parents (69%, 36 victims in 2009/10). Six per cent (3 offences) of the victims were known to have been killed by strangers and, as of 28 September 2010, there were no suspects for around a fifth (19%, 10 offences) of the victims (Figure 1.4).

The number of cases where a suspect has not been identified is likely to fall as investigations continue. For example, while no suspect had been identified in 26 per cent (13 offences) of homicides of under 16s recorded in 2008/09 at the time of publication last year,⁶ this had decreased to 14 per cent (7 offences) by 28 September 2010 (Table 1.04).

⁶ As published in Smith *et al.*, 2010.

Figure 1.4 Victims under 16 years of age, by relationship of victim to principal suspect, 2009/10



Circumstances of the homicides

The Homicide Index also holds information about the circumstances of each homicide. Around a half (51%, or 316 offences) of homicide cases in 2009/10 resulted from a quarrel, a revenge attack or a loss of temper. This proportion was higher where the principal suspect was known to the victim (60%), compared to when the suspect was unknown to the victim (38%). Seven per cent of homicides (42 offences) occurred during robberies or burglaries and five per cent (30 offences) were attributed to irrational acts⁷. As at 28 September 2010, the apparent circumstances were not known for 22 per cent of homicides (138 offences) recorded in 2009/10 (Table 1.06). This figure may decrease as police carry out further investigations.

Risks for different age groups

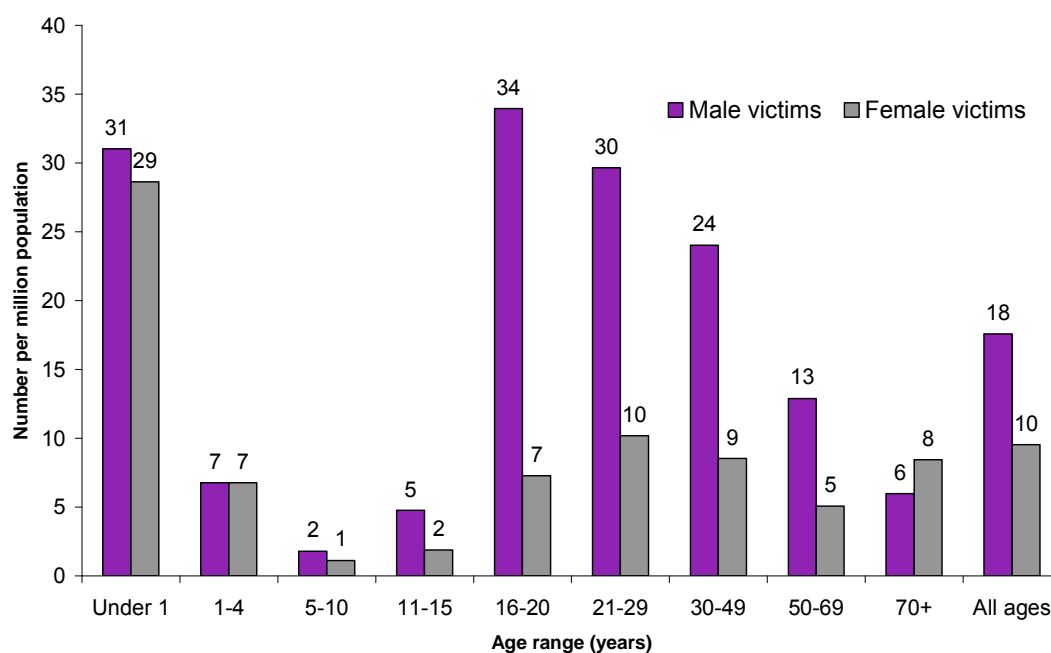
The age group most at risk of homicide were children under one year old, at 33 per million population (see further analysis below).

- Females aged under one were the most vulnerable overall at a rate of 35 per million population. However, for this age group, and children generally, numbers are relatively small and considerable year-on-year variation in the rate is to be expected.
- The second most at-risk age group, consistent with previous years, were those persons aged between 16 and 29, at a rate of 17 per million population.
- Females aged under one year and between one and four years were more at risk than males in 2009/10; while males and females aged over 70 years were at similar risk. In all other age groups, males were more at risk than females of being homicide victims (Table 1.07).

⁷ These figures do not account for all homicides committed by mentally disturbed people, as offences with an apparent motive (e.g. during a quarrel or robbery) are instead included under the respective circumstance. Higher overall totals for homicides committed by mentally disturbed people are quoted elsewhere (e.g. Appleby, 2006, 2010).

Combined data for the three years between 2007/08 and 2009/10 were used to further analyse the 5-to-15-years and 16-to-29-years age groupings (Figure 1.5). For these particular age groupings, the risk in this period was highest for males aged between 16 and 20 years at a rate of 34 per million population, followed by males aged between 21 and 29 years at a rate of 30 per million population. For females, those in the 21-to-29-years age grouping were most at risk, at ten per million population.

Figure 1.5 Offences currently recorded as homicide per million population by age of victim, combined years 2007/08 to 2009/10



Analysis of ethnicity in homicide data

Additional analysis has been conducted on the ethnicity, gender, age and method of killing of victims. Due to the actual number of homicides recorded each year, this analysis looks at a three-year period to provide more reliable results. Caution should nevertheless be taken in drawing conclusions from these figures because the numbers remain small for some ethnic groups. Trends have not been examined due to the aggregation of the data. In previous versions of this Statistical Bulletin, ethnicity has not been examined. From this edition onwards, this bulletin will provide the first release of homicide data by ethnicity. The Ministry of Justice 'Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System'⁸ publication will, however, continue to include homicide and ethnicity, as part of more detailed discussion on the representation of black and minority ethnic groups as suspects, offenders and victims within the criminal justice system and on employees within criminal justice agencies. This analysis is also limited to the last three years, and trends in ethnicity have not been examined.

⁸ Ethnicity of victims and suspects are examined in more detail in the Ministry of Justice's annual publication 'Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System'; the 2009/10 publication is expected to be released in mid-2011. See <http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/raceandcjs.htm> for the latest release.

Of the 2,007 homicides recorded by police in the three-year period ending March 2010, 75 per cent of victims were White (1,512 homicides), 12 per cent were Black (236), eight per cent were Asian (155) and three per cent were of Other minority ethnic groups (68). The ethnicity of two per cent of victims was not recorded (36 homicides) (Table 1b).

Table 1b Apparent method of killing by ethnic appearance of victim, combined data for 2007/08 to 2009/10

Numbers and percentages	England and Wales, recorded crime					
	Apparent method of killing	Total homicides	Ethnic appearance of victim				Not recorded
White			Black	Asian	Other	
<i>Number of homicides</i>						
Sharp instrument	733	507	126	67	25	8
Blunt instrument	171	134	7	22	4	4
Hitting, kicking, etc.	447	396	16	20	13	2
Strangulation ¹	155	121	10	12	7	5
Shooting	132	54	59	11	7	1
Other	369	300	18	23	12	16
Total	2,007	1,512	236	155	68	36
<i>Percentage within ethnic appearance category</i>						
Sharp instrument	37	34	53	43	37	22
Blunt instrument	9	9	3	14	6	11
Hitting, kicking, etc.	22	26	7	13	19	6
Strangulation ¹	8	8	4	8	10	14
Shooting	7	4	25	7	10	3
Other	18	20	8	15	18	44
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

1. Including asphyxiation.

There are differences in age profile, geographical locations and method of killing by ethnicity.

Black victims have the lowest average age, at 27 years, compared with 39 for White, 34 for Asian and 29 for Other. The lower average age of Black victims is due to proportionately more homicides in the 15 to 24 age range than for other ethnic groups. Average ages are lower for males than females for White, Black and Asian victims, but higher for Other victims (data not shown).

Homicide by sharp instrument was the most common method of killing across all ethnic groups, although Black victims (53% of victims) were more likely to have been killed this way than other groups (White 34%, Asian 43%, Other 37%).

Black homicide victims were proportionately more likely to have been killed by shooting (with 25% of Black victims being killed this way) than other ethnic groups (White 4%, Asian 7%, Other 10%). White victims were proportionately more likely to be killed by hitting or kicking (26%) than other ethnic groups (Black 7%, Asian 13%, Other 19%; Table 1b).

The average age of male homicide victims killed by shooting tends to be lower than for victims killed in other ways. Black male victims killed by shooting had an average age of 25 years, compared with 36 for White males, 28 for Asian and 29 for Other.

Black homicide victims were particularly geographically concentrated in three police force areas, with 81 per cent of Black homicide victims being recorded by the Metropolitan (which recorded 63% of all Black victims), West Midlands (12%) and Greater Manchester (6%). This in part reflects the resident population of these areas, with 66 per cent of Black people in England and Wales residing in these three force areas and partly reflects the increased risk of being a victim of homicide in an urban area.⁹ Asian homicide victims were also geographically concentrated, but to a lesser extent and in four forces,¹⁰ while white victims were not so concentrated, as may be expected given their population profile.¹¹

There are likely to be other important socio-economic factors in homicides that cannot be examined using Homicide Index data. While the findings presented here are accurate, there is evidence from other studies that suggests that ethnicity is one of many factors in homicides and violent incidents in general. Leyland and Dundas¹², for example, investigated Scottish homicides between 1980 and 2005, and concluded that “contextual influences of the neighbourhood of residence might be more important than individual characteristics in determining the victims of assault”. Furthermore, the 2009/10 BCS (Flatley et al., 2010) shows that non-white groups do not have a higher risk of being a victim of BCS violence. While the BCS looks at violence overall (and does not cover homicide), and the Leyland and Dundas study is for Scotland, this does provide some evidence that other socio-factors may also be important.

In many homicide cases, victims are killed by someone from the same ethnic group. Of those cases with a current suspect, 78 per cent of Black victims and 60 per cent of Asian victims were killed by someone from the same ethnic group, this being likely to reflect a tendency of members of minority ethnic groups to be related to, live nearby, or associate with persons of the same ethnicity. For White victims, the figure is 88 per cent, but this is to be expected given that almost 90 per cent of the population are White (Table XX).

Table 1c Ethnic appearance of currently recorded homicide victims by ethnic appearance of principle suspects, combined data for 2007/08 to 2009/10

Numbers and percentages		England and Wales, recorded crime				
Ethnic appearance of victim	Ethnic appearance of principal suspect (%)					Number of cases with current suspect
	White	Black	Asian	Other	Not recorded	
White	88	7	2	2	1	1,285
Black	13	78	5	3	1	175
Asian	21	13	60	5	1	131
Other	35	15	12	33	5	60
Not recorded	52	22	9	0	17	23

⁹ The increased risk of being a victim of homicide in these forces is seen across all ethnic groups.

¹⁰ Seventy-three per cent of Asian victims were geographically concentrated in; Metropolitan (37% of victims), West Yorkshire (13%) Greater Manchester (12%) and West Midlands (11%). This compares with 61% of Asians in England and Wales residing in these areas.

¹¹ 24% of white victims were concentrated in three police force areas (Metropolitan, Greater Manchester and West Midlands). 20% of White people in England and Wales reside in these areas,

¹² <http://jech.bmj.com/content/64/5/432.full.pdf>

Estimated homicide rates by ethnicity have been produced using the Mid-2007 experimental Population Estimates by Ethnic Group, produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).¹³ Caution should be taken when using these population estimates as they are experimental statistics which have not yet been shown to meet the quality criteria for National Statistics, and they rely on self-identification of ethnic group, which is not directly comparable with the visual identification of homicide victims.¹⁴ These estimates are included in Table XY and indicate that Black people have higher homicide rates when compared to other ethnic groups, with Black males having the highest rate at 90 offences per million population. Fuller discussion of issues relating to ethnicity in the Criminal Justice System will be discussed in a forthcoming *Section 95* publication by the Ministry of Justice (see footnote 1).

Table 1d Currently recorded homicides by ethnic appearance and sex, rates per million population, combined data for 2007/08 to 2009/10

Rates per million population	England and Wales, recorded crime				
	White	Black	Asian	Other	All ethnic groups
All victims	11	54	18	29	12
Male	15	90	24	43	18
Female	6	19	11	14	7

1.5 SUSPECTS

Box 1.2 Definition of homicide suspect

For the purposes of the Homicide Index, a suspect in a homicide case is defined as (i) a person who has been arrested in respect of an offence initially classified as homicide and charged with homicide or (ii) a person who is suspected by the police of having committed the offence but is known to have died or committed suicide prior to arrest/being charged. More than one suspect may be tried for an offence and sometimes no suspect is ever brought to trial. Hence the number of suspects is not the same as the number of offences.

In total, there were 759 suspects as at 28 September 2010 relating to the homicides recorded in 2009/10. Court proceedings had concluded for 312 suspects (41% of all suspects) (Table 1c); 286 of these were indicted¹⁵ for homicide offences (Table 1.09) and 26 for lesser offences. Court proceedings were pending for 419 suspects. Of the remaining 28 suspects, 21 had died or committed suicide before indictment and no proceedings had taken place for seven suspects (Table 1c).

For those suspects where proceedings had concluded, 91 per cent were male (263 suspects) and nine per cent were female (23 suspects). Fifty-four per cent of males indicted for a homicide offence were convicted of murder, 26 per cent were convicted of manslaughter and

¹³ ONS Population Estimates by Ethnic Group, are available at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=14238>

¹⁴ ONS population statistics by ethnic group are based upon self-defined ethnicity whereas homicide victims' ethnicity is visually identified by the police. ONS figures are based on the ethnic group classification used in the 2001 Census for England and Wales and include mixed group categories which are not an option on the homicide data return. This may affect the homicide rates presented here.

¹⁵ The formal charges presented at the start of a Crown Court trial.

17 per cent were acquitted. For females indicted for homicide, 22 per cent were convicted of murder, 61 per cent of manslaughter and 13 per cent were acquitted (Table 1.09).

Table 1e Outcomes for all suspects, 2005/06 to 2009/10

Outcome	England and Wales, recorded crime									
	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10	
	Indicted	Not indicted	Indicted	Not indicted	Indicted	Not indicted	Indicted	Not indicted	Indicted	Not indicted
Convicted of homicide ²	584	*	553	*	608	*	479	*	229	*
Convicted of lesser offence	37	*	57	*	44	*	31	*	28	*
Unfit to plead or insane	2	1	2	1	7	1	3	1	-	-
Acquitted/discontinued etc.	142	21	147	2	177	2	136	2	52	1
Proceedings concluded, other outcome	2	5	3	2	3	3	1	4	1	1
Committed suicide or died	-	21	1	25	4	24	1	21	2	21
No proceedings taken	*	8	*	7	*	14	*	8	*	5
Proceedings pending	*	91	*	163	*	137	*	185	*	419
Total	767	147	763	200	843	181	651	221	312	447

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

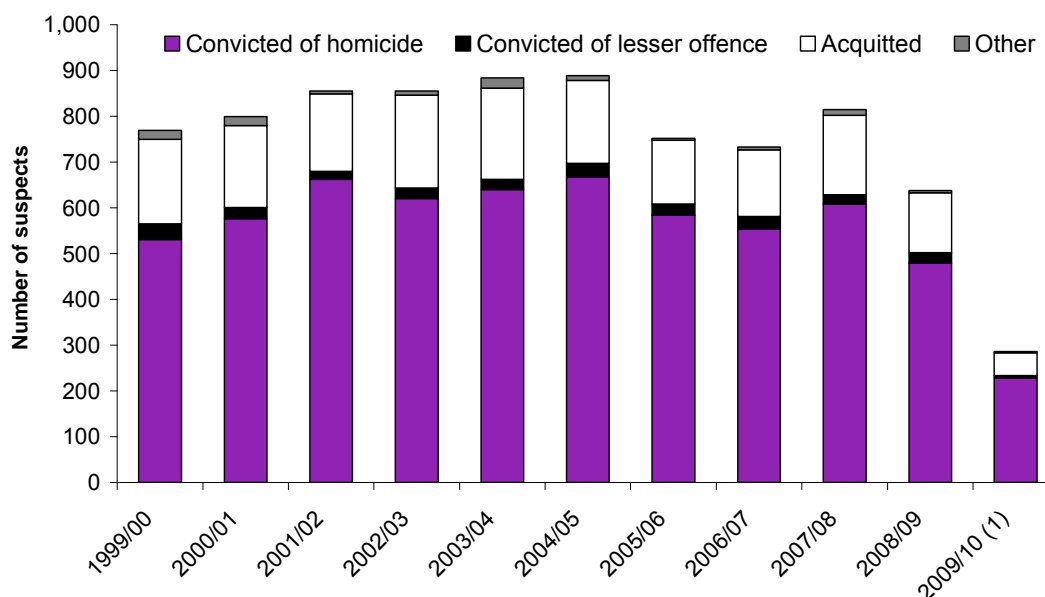
2. Includes murder, sec2 manslaughter, other manslaughter and infanticide.

* denotes not applicable.

- denotes nil

Figures in Table 1c, especially for homicides recorded in 2008/09 and 2009/10, are likely to change as cases progress through the courts and more information becomes available. As such, data from previous years provide a more comprehensive guide to the outcome of court proceedings. Between 1999/00 and 2008/09, 74 per cent of suspects indicted for homicide were found guilty of homicide and 24 per cent were acquitted (Table 1.09 and Figure 1.6).

Figure 1.6 Suspects by outcome of proceedings, 1999/00 to 2009/10



1. Figures relating to offences recorded during 2009/10 are likely to change as cases progress through the courts and more information becomes available.

Previous homicide convictions

Two homicide offences recorded in 2009/10 that resulted in a homicide conviction were known to have been committed by a suspect who had been convicted of a homicide on a previous occasion. Among those who had been convicted of homicides recorded between 1999/00 and 2009/10, 37 had previously been convicted of homicide.

Where the original conviction was murder, 13 of the 37 subsequent convictions were also for murder. Over the period 1999/00 to 2009/10, three suspects had been serving a custodial sentence when they committed their subsequent offence. The data include all previous homicide convictions (where known) wherever they took place but the second offence must have occurred in England and Wales to be included in this analysis (Tables 1.11 and 1.12).

1.6 STATISTICAL INTERPRETATION OF TRENDS IN HOMICIDES

The number of homicides recorded by the police fluctuates from year to year and there is interest in knowing the extent to which these fluctuations in the level of homicides represent an indication of a real underlying trend as opposed to random year-to-year variation. Using data for London between April 2004 and March 2007, Spiegelhalter and Barnett (2009) found that homicides in London follow a predictable pattern which allowed them to apply statistical techniques for analysis.

It should be noted that the discussion in this section is related to the statistical properties of the data, and it should not be interpreted as saying that small changes in the numbers of homicides are not of concern. Homicide is the most serious violent crime and is treated extremely seriously by the criminal justice agencies.

This section presents analyses of homicide incidents, defined as incidents where the same person (or a group of persons) is suspected of committing one or more related homicides. The numbers therefore differ from the total number of recorded homicides published in this chapter (the focus of analysis is on such incidents as it is not possible to statistically model multiple homicides that relate to one case and were recorded on the same day; for that reason the homicides attributed to Dr Harold Shipman and the 7 July London bombings are for example each treated in this analysis as one incident). Although each incident is highly related to social-economic characteristics of the suspect and the victim and independent from other incidents, over a period of time, the probabilities of homicide incidents happening can be closely modelled by a Poisson distribution¹⁶. This can be used to test whether any change in the numbers of incidents per year is statistically significant, or what can be termed within the range of expected 'natural variation' of the data.

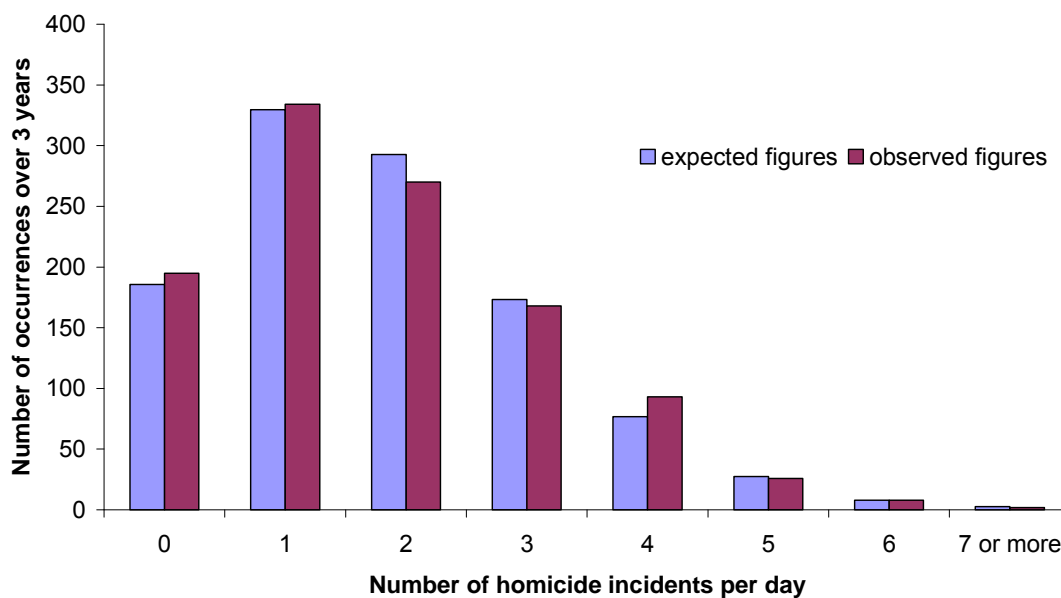
Expected homicide incidents per day

Between April 2007 and March 2009 the police recorded 1,946 independent homicide incidents in England and Wales. Figure 1.7 illustrates that the observed number of homicide incidents on a daily basis closely matches the expected number under the Poisson

¹⁶ The Poisson distribution expresses the probability of the number of events occurring in a given period of time if these events occur with a known average rate and independently from each other.

distribution. For example, just from knowing there is an average of 1.78 incidents a day, we would predict over the period of 1,096 days that there would be 27 days on which there would be exactly five independent incidents. The observed number was 26, indicating that the occurrence of these apparent 'clusters' is not as surprising as one might anticipate. A statistical test (χ^2) shows no significant difference between the expected and observed figures. Thus, the observed figures are in fact Poisson distributed. This allows for calculation of the number of days on which it would be expected that no incidents or one incident occurs and so on.

Figure 1.7 Observed and expected number of homicide incidents recorded on a day, combined years 2007/08 to 2009/10

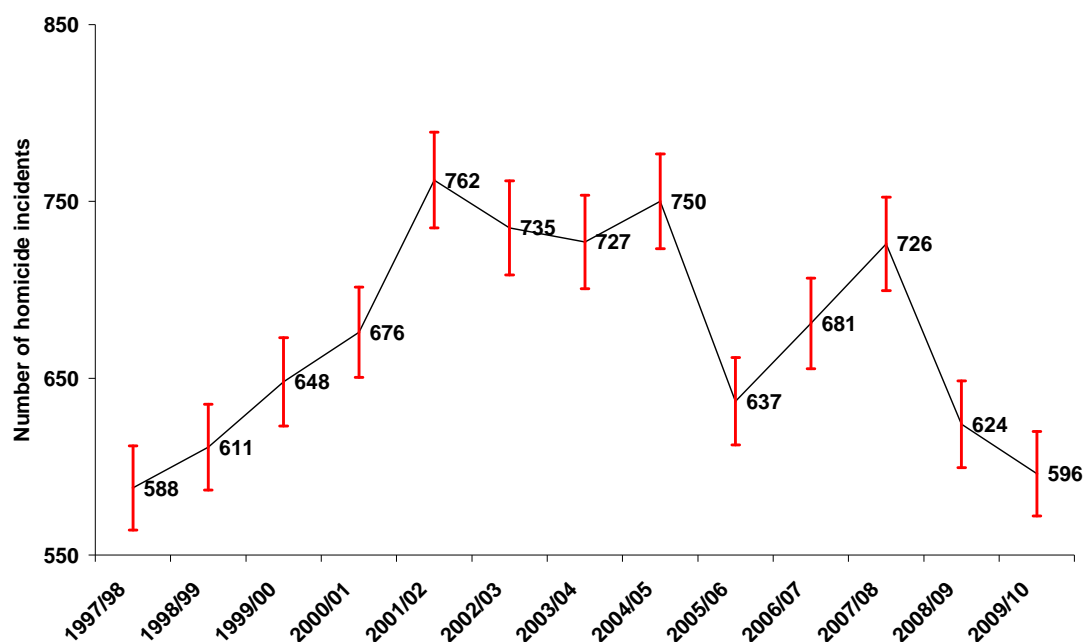


Trend analysis

Furthermore, knowing that homicide incidents are statistically distributed allows the application of statistical techniques in order to assess longer-term trends. Figure 1.8 shows the number of homicide incidents since 1997/98. For each year, the observed count is given along with a 95 per cent confidence interval based on the statistical assumptions. The interval is a range of values indicating the underlying risk for each year. The confidence intervals of two years can be used to test statistical significance between those years – if the intervals do not overlap one can be confident there has been a true change in underlying risk.

One can assess from this analysis that the number of homicide incidents recorded in 2009/10 was not statistically significantly different to the number of homicide incidents in 2008/09, despite the actual number of incidents having fallen by four per cent over the period. However, the number of homicide incidents recorded in 2009/10 was statistically significantly lower than the number of incidents recorded in 2006/07 and 2007/08, and those recorded between 2000/01 and 2004/05. This means the risk of becoming a victim of homicide was, in fact, lower for 2009/10 compared with those earlier years.

Figure 1.8 Homicide incident trend analysis, 1997/98 to 2009/10



Many of the short-term fluctuations seen from year to year in the number of homicide incidents are not statistically significant and appear to arise as natural statistical variation in the data. In looking at homicide data the degree of natural variation needs to be considered in interpreting trends and also when looking at year to year changes.

Table 1.01 Offences¹ initially recorded by the police as homicide by current classification², 1960 to 2009/10

Year	Numbers and rates per million population		England and Wales, recorded crime	
	Number of offences initially recorded as homicide	Number of offences no longer recorded as homicide	Number of offences currently recorded as homicide	Offences currently recorded as homicide per million population
1960	282	..	..	..
1961	265	..	..	..
1962	299	..	..	..
1963	307	..	..	..
1964	296	..	..	..
1965	325	..	..	..
1966	364	..	..	..
1967	414	60	354	7.3
1968	420	60	360	7.4
1969	395	63	332	6.8
1970	396	57	339	7.0
1971	459	52	407	8.3
1972	480	71	409	8.3
1973	465	74	391	8.0
1974	599	73	526	10.7
1975	508	65	443	9.0
1976	565	77	488	9.9
1977	484	71	413	8.5
1978	536	68	468	9.6
1979	620	73	547	11.1
1980	626	91	535	11.1
1981	556	55	501	10.1
1982	618	61	557	11.2
1983	552	70	482	9.7
1984	619	82	537	10.8
1985	625	89	536	10.7
1986	659	96	563	11.2
1987	687	87	600	11.9
1988	645	98	547	10.9
1989	622	101	521	10.3
1990	661	107	554	10.9
1991	725	103	622	12.3
1992	681	100	581	11.4
1993	674	108	566	11.1
1994	728	95	633	12.4
1995	752	90	662	13.0
1996	676	90	586	11.4
1997	734	126	608	11.8
1997/98	729	123	606	11.8
1998/99	742	100	642	12.5
1999/00	761	89	672	13.0
2000/01	847	82	765	14.7
2001/02	855	61	794	15.2
2002/03	1,041	98	943	17.9
2003/04	852	80	772	14.6
2004/05	834	54	780	14.7
2005/06	764	55	709	13.3
2006/07	751	36	715	13.3
2007/08	775	31	744	13.8
2008/09	670	26	644	11.8
2009/10	626	7	619	11.3

1. A separate offence is recorded for each victim of homicide, so that in an incident in which several people are killed, the number of homicides counted is the total number of persons killed.

2. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

Table 1.02 Offences initially recorded as homicide by outcome, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Outcome											
Offences initially recorded as homicide	761	847	855	1,041	852	834	764	751	775	670	626
Offences no longer recorded as homicide ¹	89	82	61	98	80	54	55	36	31	26	7
Offences currently recorded as homicide¹											
Decided at court to be homicide:											
Murder	240	252	280	305	311	317	290	264	268	227	122
Sec 2 Manslaughter	28	18	19	16	21	27	21	37	33	31	9
Other Manslaughter	189	287	266	238	214	216	150	148	169	128	58
Infanticide	1	5	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-
Total	458	562	566	559	546	561	462	450	470	387	189
Court decision pending	30	48	44	20	61	54	66	99	95	129	293
Proceedings not initiated or concluded without conviction or acquittal:											
Suspect found by the court to be insane	5	6	1	4	7	-	2	1	7	3	-
Suspect died	4	6	7	7	6	7	5	9	4	1	2
Suspect committed suicide	34	33	26	31	31	26	65	23	24	24	22
Proceedings discontinued or not initiated	52	14	15	189	18	28	11	7	11	4	9
Total	95	59	49	231	62	61	83	40	46	32	33
Currently no suspect:											
All suspects acquitted	40	40	26	22	24	41	26	38	49	41	13
No suspects charged	49	56	109	111	79	63	72	88	84	55	91
Total	89	96	135	133	103	104	98	126	133	96	104
Total offences currently recorded as homicide	672	765	794	943	772	780	709	715	744	644	619

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

Table 1.03 Offences currently¹ recorded as homicide by apparent method of killing and sex of victim, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	Apparent method	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Male victims											
Sharp instrument	152	156	194	180	183	191	166	192	210	180	149
Blunt instrument	44	50	36	26	55	49	39	38	43	41	27
Hitting, kicking, etc.	83	86	120	111	110	109	92	113	143	124	113
Strangulation ²	20	83	18	20	17	16	14	22	15	12	14
Shooting ³	52	62	90	57	61	62	38	53	47	34	33
Explosion ⁴	3	2	-	2	-	2	24	-	-	2	-
Burning	7	8	15	7	19	19	15	13	13	11	13
Drowning ⁵	3	7	9	4	20	8	3	8	5	3	2
Poison or drugs ⁶	20	22	18	66	11	19	18	20	15	9	11
Motor vehicle ⁷	10	11	15	18	14	17	10	3	11	8	19
Other	24	42	22	27	20	29	16	23	22	19	18
Not known	27	9	12	18	40	28	33	33	17	8	22
Total	445	538	549	536	550	549	468	518	541	451	421
Female victims											
Sharp instrument	60	57	67	83	59	71	59	79	58	75	61
Blunt instrument	26	27	24	22	20	18	21	13	22	17	21
Hitting, kicking, etc.	14	16	25	38	26	16	19	15	24	25	18
Strangulation ²	36	63	60	46	49	50	44	34	41	32	41
Shooting ³	9	9	6	20	6	11	12	6	6	4	8
Explosion ⁴	1	-	1	-	-	-	29	-	-	-	-
Burning	4	9	14	15	9	15	11	16	13	10	13
Drowning ⁵	3	2	4	2	4	4	1	1	1	1	2
Poison or drugs ⁶	33	12	14	134	9	9	10	1	5	9	4
Motor vehicle ⁷	1	5	4	3	7	5	2	4	4	3	4
Other	16	22	13	21	15	13	6	14	15	12	18
Not known	24	5	13	23	18	19	27	14	14	5	8
Total	227	227	245	407	222	231	241	197	203	193	198
Total victims											
Sharp instrument	212	213	261	263	242	262	225	271	268	255	210
Blunt instrument	70	77	60	48	75	67	60	51	65	58	48
Hitting, kicking, etc.	97	102	145	149	136	125	111	128	167	149	131
Strangulation ²	56	146	78	66	66	66	58	56	56	44	55
Shooting ³	61	71	96	77	67	73	50	59	53	38	41
Explosion ⁴	4	2	1	2	-	2	53	-	-	2	-
Burning	11	17	29	22	28	34	26	29	26	21	26
Drowning ⁵	6	9	13	6	24	12	4	9	6	4	4
Poison or drugs ⁶	53	34	32	200	20	28	28	21	20	18	15
Motor vehicle ⁷	11	16	19	21	21	22	12	7	15	11	23
Other	40	64	35	48	35	42	22	37	37	31	36
Not known	51	14	25	41	58	47	60	47	31	13	30
Total	672	765	794	943	772	780	709	715	744	644	619

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. Including asphyxiation. Year 2000/01 includes 58 Chinese nationals who collectively suffocated in a lorry en route into the UK.

3. These figures may not agree with those in the firearms chapter because (a) figures include cases where the firearm was used as a blunt instrument, (b) homicide figures include shooting by crossbows and other weapons not regarded as firearms within the definition of the Firearms Acts, and (c) homicide figures are compiled at a later date and take into account the results of police and court decisions.

4. Year 2005/06 includes 52 victims of the 7 July London bombings.

5. Year 2003/04 includes 20 cockle pickers who drowned in Morecambe Bay.

6. Year 2002/03 includes 172 victims of Dr Shipman.

7. Excluding death by careless/dangerous driving and aggravated vehicle taking.

Table 1.04 Homicides currently¹ recorded for victims under 16 years by relationship of victim to principal suspect, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Male victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	29	41	30	26	18	12	15	21	24	20	16
Other family/friend/acquaintance	3	5	6	2	10	7	8	6	7	5	2
Total acquainted	32	46	36	28	28	19	23	27	31	25	18
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	4	7	3	6	11	7	3	7	6	1	2
No suspect	3	3	6	5	5	6	1	7	1	3	7
Total not acquainted	7	10	9	11	16	13	4	14	7	4	9
TOTAL	39	56	45	39	44	32	27	41	38	29	27
Female victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	19	34	10	25	16	19	10	17	16	12	20
Other family/friend/acquaintance	1	2	3	9	2	4	2	2	5	3	1
Total acquainted	20	36	13	34	18	23	12	19	21	15	21
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	5	3	3	11	4	2	6	2	1	1	1
No suspect	1	1	1	7	5	4	2	4	3	4	3
Total not acquainted	6	3	4	18	9	6	8	6	4	5	4
TOTAL	26	39	17	52	27	29	20	25	25	20	25
All victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	48	75	40	51	34	31	25	38	40	32	36
Other family/friend/acquaintance	4	7	9	11	12	11	10	8	12	8	3
Total acquainted	52	82	49	62	46	42	35	46	52	40	39
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	9	10	6	17	15	9	9	9	7	2	3
No suspect	4	3	7	12	10	10	3	11	4	7	10
Total not acquainted	13	13	13	29	25	19	12	20	11	9	13
TOTAL	65	95	62	91	71	61	47	66	63	49	52

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. Includes cases where relationship not known.

Table 1.04 (continued)

Percentages	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Male victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	74	73	67	67	41	38	56	51	63	69	59
Other family/friend/acquaintance	8	9	13	5	23	22	30	15	18	17	7
Total acquainted	82	82	80	72	64	59	85	66	82	86	67
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	10	13	7	15	25	22	11	17	16	3	7
No suspect	8	5	13	13	11	19	4	17	3	10	26
Total not acquainted	18	18	20	28	36	41	15	34	18	14	33
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Female victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	73	87	59	48	59	66	50	68	64	60	80
Other family/friend/acquaintance	4	5	18	17	7	14	10	8	20	15	4
Total acquainted	77	92	76	65	67	79	60	76	84	75	84
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	19	8	18	21	15	7	30	8	4	5	4
No suspect	4	0	6	13	19	14	10	16	12	20	12
Total not acquainted	23	8	24	35	33	21	40	24	16	25	16
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
All victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	74	79	65	56	48	51	53	58	63	65	69
Other family/friend/acquaintance	6	7	15	12	17	18	21	12	19	16	6
Total acquainted	80	86	79	68	65	69	74	70	83	82	75
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	14	11	10	19	21	15	19	14	11	4	6
No suspect	6	3	11	13	14	16	6	17	6	14	19
Total not acquainted	20	14	21	32	35	31	26	30	17	18	25
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

1. As at 28 September 2010, figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. Includes cases where relationship not known.

Table 1.05 Homicides currently¹ recorded for all victims by relationship of victim to principal suspect, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Male victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	31	43	31	27	19	14	16	22	27	23	17
Parent	9	6	10	12	23	15	14	7	14	9	10
Partner/ex-partner	23	26	29	30	26	39	22	30	34	31	21
Other family	17	18	13	10	15	16	15	14	16	9	19
Friend/acquaintance	139	142	154	134	168	176	138	179	185	169	145
Total known	219	235	237	213	251	260	205	252	276	241	212
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	152	221	214	241	234	238	210	199	198	166	148
No suspect	74	82	98	82	65	51	53	67	67	44	61
Total not known	226	303	312	323	299	289	263	266	265	210	209
TOTAL	445	538	549	536	550	549	468	518	541	451	421
Female victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	19	38	12	27	18	21	13	18	19	13	23
Parent	6	5	12	11	9	7	6	3	12	12	11
Partner/ex-partner	89	101	118	106	96	105	90	91	79	101	95
Other family	5	8	9	8	7	9	6	5	16	5	7
Friend/acquaintance	25	24	30	39	26	32	30	23	28	18	14
Total known	144	176	181	191	156	174	145	140	154	149	150
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	66	43	40	186	51	42	74	36	28	25	26
No suspect	17	8	24	30	15	15	22	21	21	19	22
Total not known	83	51	64	216	66	57	96	57	49	44	48
TOTAL	227	227	245	407	222	231	241	197	203	193	198
All victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	50	81	43	54	37	35	29	40	46	36	40
Parent	15	11	22	23	32	22	20	10	26	21	21
Partner/ex-partner	112	127	147	136	122	144	112	121	113	132	116
Other family	22	26	22	18	22	25	21	19	32	14	26
Friend/acquaintance	164	166	184	173	194	208	168	202	213	187	159
Total known	363	411	418	404	407	434	350	392	430	390	362
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	218	264	254	427	285	280	284	235	226	191	174
No suspect	91	90	122	112	80	66	75	88	88	63	83
Total not known	309	354	376	539	365	346	359	323	314	254	257
TOTAL	672	765	794	943	772	780	709	715	744	644	619

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. Includes not known.

Table 1.05 (continued)

Percentages	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Male victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	7	8	6	5	3	3	3	4	5	5	4
Parent	2	1	2	2	4	3	3	1	3	2	2
Partner/ex-partner	5	5	5	6	5	7	5	6	6	7	5
Other family	4	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	5
Friend/acquaintance	31	26	28	25	31	32	29	35	34	37	34
Total known	49	44	43	40	46	47	44	49	51	53	50
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	34	41	39	45	43	43	45	38	37	37	35
No suspect	17	15	18	15	12	9	11	13	12	10	14
Total not known	51	56	57	60	54	53	56	51	49	47	50
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Female victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	8	17	5	7	8	9	5	9	9	7	12
Parent	3	2	5	3	4	3	2	2	6	6	6
Partner/ex-partner	39	44	48	26	43	45	37	46	39	52	48
Other family	2	4	4	2	3	4	2	3	8	3	4
Friend/acquaintance	11	11	12	10	12	14	12	12	14	9	7
Total known	63	78	74	47	70	75	60	71	76	77	76
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	29	19	16	46	23	18	31	18	14	13	13
No suspect	7	4	10	7	7	6	9	11	10	10	11
Total not known	37	22	26	53	30	25	40	29	24	23	24
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
All victims											
Victim acquainted with suspect											
Son or daughter	7	11	5	6	5	4	4	6	6	6	6
Parent	2	1	3	2	4	3	3	1	3	3	3
Partner/ex-partner	17	17	19	14	16	18	16	17	15	20	19
Other family	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	4	2	4
Friend/acquaintance	24	22	23	18	25	27	24	28	29	29	26
Total known	54	54	53	43	53	56	49	55	58	61	58
Victim not acquainted with suspect											
Stranger ²	32	35	32	45	37	36	40	33	30	30	28
No suspect	14	12	15	12	10	8	11	12	12	10	13
Total not known	46	46	47	57	47	44	51	45	42	39	42
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. Includes not known.

Table 1.06 Offences currently¹ recorded as homicide by apparent circumstances and relationship of victim to principal suspect, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime										
Apparent circumstances ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
	Acquaintance										
Quarrel, revenge or loss of temper	176	220	234	195	215	226	175	223	249	243	219
In furtherance of theft or gain	7	7	15	11	20	15	17	12	22	23	15
Attributed to acts of terrorism ³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
While attempting to restrain or arrest individual ⁴	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
The result of offences of arson	1	2	4	1	7	7	4	6	7	5	2
Other circumstances ⁵	46	59	59	55	33	52	31	51	37	18	35
Irrational act ⁶	16	12	19	26	23	26	13	16	34	29	24
Not known ⁷	117	111	87	116	109	108	110	84	81	72	67
Total	363	411	418	404	407	434	350	392	430	390	362
	Stranger ⁸										
Quarrel, revenge or loss of temper	73	90	113	97	103	94	74	107	136	113	97
In furtherance of theft or gain	28	84	45	37	31	28	24	22	38	27	27
Attributed to acts of terrorism ³	3	-	-	-	-	-	52	-	-	-	-
While attempting to restrain or arrest individual ⁴	2	2	-	4	1	1	-	1	2	-	1
The result of offences of arson	3	4	6	9	5	16	7	4	6	2	12
Other circumstances ⁵	50	48	55	232	78	57	49	37	38	34	43
Irrational act ⁶	1	-	4	5	5	9	3	11	8	9	6
Not known ⁷	149	126	153	155	142	141	150	141	86	69	71
Total	309	354	376	539	365	346	359	323	314	254	257
	All relationships ⁸										
Quarrel, revenge or loss of temper	249	310	347	292	318	320	249	330	385	356	316
In furtherance of theft or gain	35	91	60	48	51	43	41	34	60	50	42
Attributed to acts of terrorism ³	3	-	-	-	-	-	52	-	-	-	-
While attempting to restrain or arrest individual ⁴	2	2	-	4	1	1	-	1	2	-	1
The result of offences of arson	4	6	10	10	12	23	11	10	13	7	14
Other circumstances ⁵	96	107	114	287	111	109	80	88	75	52	78
Irrational act ⁶	17	12	23	31	28	35	16	27	42	38	30
Not known ⁷	266	237	240	271	251	249	260	225	167	141	138
Total	672	765	794	943	772	780	709	715	744	644	619

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. In some cases, the circumstances of a homicide could be classified in more than one row in the table and an assessment has been made of the principal circumstances, against which the offence is shown. New categories were introduced on the Homicide Index on 1 April 2007 and retrospective data have been incorporated into new categories.

3. Offences 'attributed to acts of terrorism' include all bombings and political assassinations so attributed even where there is no individual suspect and also other homicides where there are strong grounds for believing that the killers were terrorists. All 52 homicides recorded in 2005/06 relate to the 7 July London bombings.

4. Homicides 'while attempting to restrain or arrest individual' only include cases where a police officer or a person actively assisting a police officer was killed. Cases in which an innocent bystander was killed during an arrest, or where it is thought that a member of the public may have been killed while attempting to apprehend the killer for some offence when no police officer was present, are included in 'other circumstances'.

5. It is not possible to show separately offences committed in the course of furtherance of a sexual attack as there is often insufficient information available.

6. The presented category 'irrational act' no longer includes cases where circumstances were considered to be 'motiveless'.

7. Includes cases where no rational motive has been identified. Where no suspect has been found it is not always possible to establish the circumstances in which a homicide was committed or the reason for its commission.

8. Including cases where there is no suspect.

Table 1.07 Offences currently¹ recorded as homicide by age and sex of victim, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Numbers		England and Wales, recorded crime										
Age of victim	Sex	1999/00	2000/01 ²	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05 ³	2005/06 ⁴	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Under 1 year	Male	18	22	11	14	18	11	14	10	10	12	11
	Female	13	23	5	17	8	11	7	6	11	6	12
	Total	31	45	16	31	26	22	21	16	21	18	23
1 to 4 years	Male	7	14	14	15	10	10	5	15	12	8	7
	Female	4	6	5	11	9	8	4	8	8	8	10
	Total	11	20	19	26	19	18	9	23	20	16	17
5 to 15 years	Male	14	20	20	10	16	11	8	16	16	9	9
	Female	9	10	7	24	10	10	9	11	6	6	3
	Total	23	30	27	34	26	21	17	27	22	15	12
16 to 29 years	Male	148	160	182	151	172	190	165	175	186	163	138
	Female	49	60	62	58	54	61	76	52	50	48	39
	Total	197	220	244	209	226	251	241	227	236	211	177
30 to 49 years	Male	182	194	225	213	230	197	178	212	223	164	165
	Female	77	82	92	83	72	73	88	74	67	59	72
	Total	259	276	317	296	302	270	266	286	290	223	237
50 to 69 years	Male	60	56	73	71	83	96	76	73	80	82	70
	Female	31	18	35	59	39	36	28	29	32	30	33
	Total	91	74	108	130	122	132	104	102	112	112	103
70 years and over	Male	16	18	24	62	21	29	22	17	14	13	21
	Female	44	24	39	155	30	31	27	17	29	36	29
	Total	60	42	63	217	51	60	49	34	43	49	50
Total all ages	Male	445	538	549	536	550	549	468	518	541	451	421
	%	66	70	69	57	71	70	66	72	73	70	68
	Female	227	227	245	407	222	231	241	197	203	193	198
	%	34	30	31	43	29	30	34	28	27	30	32
TOTAL		672	765	794	943	772	780	709	715	744	644	619

Rates per million population

Under 1 year	Male	56	71	37	46	58	34	43	30	29	33	31
	Female	43	78	17	59	27	36	22	19	33	17	35
	Total	50	75	27	53	43	35	33	24	31	26	33
1 to 4 years	Male	5	11	11	12	8	8	4	12	9	6	5
	Female	3	5	4	9	8	7	3	7	6	6	8
	Total	4	8	8	11	8	8	4	9	8	6	6
5 to 15 years	Male	4	5	5	3	4	3	2	4	4	3	3
	Female	2	3	2	7	3	3	3	3	2	2	1
	Total	3	4	4	5	4	3	2	4	3	2	2
16 to 29 years	Male	32	35	39	32	37	40	34	35	36	31	26
	Female	11	13	14	13	12	13	16	11	10	10	8
	Total	21	24	26	23	24	27	25	23	23	21	17
30 to 49 years	Male	25	26	30	28	30	26	23	28	29	21	22
	Female	10	11	12	11	9	9	11	10	9	8	9
	Total	17	18	21	19	20	18	17	18	19	15	15
50 to 69 years	Male	11	10	13	13	15	17	13	12	14	14	12
	Female	5	3	6	10	7	6	5	5	5	5	5
	Total	8	7	9	11	10	11	9	9	9	9	8
70 years and over	Male	7	8	10	25	9	12	9	7	5	5	8
	Female	12	7	11	43	8	9	7	5	8	10	8
	Total	10	7	10	36	8	10	8	5	7	8	8
Total all ages	Male	18	21	21	21	21	21	18	20	20	17	16
	Female	9	9	9	15	8	9	9	7	7	7	7
TOTAL		13	15	15	18	15	15	13	13	14	12	11

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. For the year 2000/01 there were 58 victims (54 male and 4 female) of unknown age.

3. For the year 2004/05 there were 6 victims of unknown age.

4. For the year 2005/06 there were 2 victims of unknown age.

Table 1.08 Suspects convicted of homicide¹ by type of homicide, 1972 to 2009/10

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime						
	Year offence initially recorded	Total indicted for homicide	Convicted of homicide				
			Total	Murder	Section 2 manslaughter	Other manslaughter	Infanticide
1972	450	337	85	85	150	17	
1973	427	321	83	77	152	9	
1974	537	424	125	96	188	15	
1975	503	383	99	77	203	4	
1976	530	394	108	92	188	6	
1977	457	362	116	94	146	6	
1978	529	424	137	90	189	8	
1979	595	475	169	109	190	7	
1980	537	423	140	88	186	9	
1981	543	448	167	87	187	7	
1982	525	441	161	102	172	6	
1983	523	417	153	80	174	10	
1984	579	451	171	77	201	2	
1985	595	457	166	76	207	8	
1986	662	506	208	84	211	3	
1987	677	515	216	78	220	1	
1988	642	493	189	74	222	8	
1989	633	458	198	83	176	1	
1990	625	443	186	70	183	4	
1991	711	502	197	76	224	5	
1992	708	504	215	78	205	6	
1993	681	501	224	62	210	5	
1994	652	495	230	71	191	3	
1995	748	558	278	53	224	3	
1996	727	534	261	50	219	4	
1997	709	509	250	47	209	3	
1997/98	708	524	236	51	233	4	
1998/99	746	529	256	41	225	7	
1999/00	769	531	279	27	224	1	
2000/01	799	576	290	18	263	5	
2001/02	855	662	327	19	315	1	
2002/03	855	620	341	14	265	-	
2003/04	884	640	363	21	256	-	
2004/05	889	668	395	25	247	1	
2005/06	752	584	370	22	191	1	
2006/07	733	553	333	36	183	1	
2007/08	815	608	354	33	221	-	
2008/09	638	479	284	28	166	1	
2009/10 ²	286	229	146	9	74	-	

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and the courts, or as further information becomes available.
2. In addition there were 419 suspects in 2009/10 for whom court proceedings were not completed by 28 September 2010.

Table 1.09 Suspects indicted for homicide by outcome of proceedings¹, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Indictment and outcome											
Male suspects											
Indictment											
Murder	594	579	668	654	663	668	588	549	631	503	226
Manslaughter	106	124	115	110	121	134	109	110	103	77	37
Infanticide	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	700	703	783	764	784	802	697	659	734	580	263
Outcome:											
Not convicted of homicide²											
Not tried - count to remain on file ³	11	9	2	1	3	4	1	2	2	1	1
Found unfit to plead	2	4	1	2	4	-	-	1	4	3	-
Found not guilty by reason of insanity	2	1	-	1	1	-	2	1	2	-	-
Convicted of lesser offence	31	22	16	20	20	26	15	24	17	21	4
Acquitted on all counts	163	152	153	174	172	158	129	125	155	117	46
Committed suicide or died	2	1	2	2	4	6	-	1	4	1	2
Total	211	189	174	200	204	194	147	154	184	143	53
Convicted of homicide:											
Murder	267	272	313	321	339	369	358	315	328	267	141
Sec. 2 manslaughter	21	15	15	13	19	24	22	33	28	24	5
Other manslaughter	201	227	281	230	222	215	170	157	194	146	64
Infanticide	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	489	514	609	564	580	608	550	505	550	437	210
TOTAL	700	703	783	764	784	802	697	659	734	580	263
Female suspects											
Indictment											
Murder	57	67	56	68	77	58	32	51	65	50	20
Manslaughter	12	25	14	22	23	28	20	20	16	8	3
Infanticide	-	1	1	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
Total	69	93	71	91	100	87	54	71	81	58	23
Outcome:											
Not convicted of homicide²											
Not tried - count to remain on file ³	1	3	1	2	4	1	1	1	1	-	-
Found unfit to plead	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Found not guilty by reason of insanity	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Convicted of lesser offence	3	2	2	3	2	3	8	3	4	2	1
Acquitted on all counts	22	25	16	29	28	23	11	19	18	14	3
Committed suicide or died	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	27	31	19	35	40	27	20	23	23	16	4
Convicted of homicide:											
Murder	12	18	14	20	24	26	12	18	26	17	5
Sec. 2 manslaughter	6	3	4	1	2	1	-	3	5	4	4
Other manslaughter	23	36	33	35	34	32	21	26	27	20	10
Infanticide	1	5	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-
Total	42	62	52	56	60	60	34	48	58	42	19
TOTAL	69	93	71	91	100	87	54	71	81	58	23

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. The offences for which these persons were indicted may nevertheless remain currently recorded as homicide.

3. This usually implies that the suspect has been dealt with for some less serious offence.

Table 1.09 (continued)

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime											
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	
Indictment and outcome												
All suspects												
Indictment ⁴												
Murder	651	646	724	722	740	726	620	600	696	553	246	
Manslaughter ⁵	118	152	130	132	144	162	130	133	119	85	40	
Infanticide	-	1	1	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	
Total	769	799	855	855	884	889	752	733	815	638	286	
Outcome:												
Not convicted of homicide ²												
Not tried - count to remain on file ³	12	12	3	3	7	5	2	3	3	1	1	
Found unfit to plead	3	5	1	3	4	-	-	1	4	3	-	
Found not guilty by reason of insanity	2	1	-	1	3	-	2	1	2	-	-	
Convicted of lesser offence	34	25	18	23	22	29	24	28	21	23	5	
Acquitted on all counts	185	179	169	203	200	181	140	146	173	131	49	
Committed suicide or died	2	1	2	2	8	6	-	1	4	1	2	
Total	238	223	193	235	244	221	168	180	207	159	57	
Convicted of homicide:												
Murder	279	290	327	341	363	395	370	333	354	284	146	
Sec. 2 manslaughter	27	18	19	14	21	25	22	36	33	28	9	
Other manslaughter	224	263	315	265	256	247	191	183	221	166	74	
Infanticide	1	5	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	
Total	531	576	662	620	640	668	584	553	608	479	229	
TOTAL	769	799	855	855	884	889	752	733	815	638	286	

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. The offences for which these persons were indicted may nevertheless remain currently recorded as homicide.

3. This usually implies that the suspect has been dealt with for some less serious offence.

4. In addition there were 419 suspects in 2009/10, for whom court proceedings were not completed by 28 September 2010.

5. Includes the following corporate manslaughter: three in 2000/01, one in 2001/02, one in 2005/06 and three in 2006/07.

Table 1.10 Suspects convicted of homicide by type of homicide and sentence¹, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Numbers		England and Wales, recorded crime									
Sentence ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Male suspects											
Murder											
Life imprisonment ³	267	272	313	321	339	369	358	315	328	267	141
Section 2 manslaughter											
Immediate imprisonment ⁴											
Life ³	3	-	1	1	2	3	2	4	1	2	-
Over 10 years (excluding life)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Over 4 and up to 10 years	4	4	1	3	4	4	-	2	3	1	-
4 years and under	2	3	2	2	5	3	6	5	2	-	1
Fully suspended sentence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospital/Restriction Order	7	5	6	1	4	10	11	16	16	19	3
Hospital Order	3	2	5	5	3	2	3	6	4	2	1
Probation/Supervision	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
Other sentence	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total	21	15	15	13	19	24	22	33	28	24	5
Other manslaughter⁵											
Immediate imprisonment ⁴											
Life ³	14	9	18	7	10	13	12	8	8	6	1
Over 10 years (excluding life)	4	5	12	6	6	12	4	5	6	13	3
Over 4 and up to 10 years	91	104	127	113	104	85	64	78	99	62	34
4 years and under	76	93	88	74	81	88	81	61	74	62	26
Fully suspended sentence	1	6	5	2	1	5	2	-	2	1	-
Hospital/Restriction Order	6	3	6	10	10	9	1	3	3	2	-
Hospital Order	2	5	12	12	9	3	2	2	-	-	-
Probation/Supervision	7	2	9	5	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Other sentence	-	-	4	1	-	-	2	-	2	-	-
Total	201	227	281	230	222	215	169	157	194	146	64
Infanticide											
Immediate imprisonment ⁴											
4 years and under	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hospital/Restriction Order	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hospital Order	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Probation/Supervision	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other sentence	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
TOTAL⁵	489	514	609	564	580	608	550	505	550	437	210

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. The results of appeals, apart from those occurring since the beginning of 1997, have been taken into account in compiling this table.

3. Including detention during Her Majesty's Pleasure under Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 SS.90 and 92(1) [previously Children and Young Persons Act 1933 S.53(1)] and custody for life.

4. Including detention under Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 SS.91(1) & (2) & 92(3) [previously Children and Young Persons Act 1933 S.53(2)], partly suspended sentences and young offender institution.

5. In addition, one male suspect was convicted of other manslaughter but died before sentencing for an offence recorded in 2005/06.

Table 1.10 (continued)

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime											
	Sentence ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Female suspects												
Murder												
Life imprisonment ³		12	18	14	20	24	26	12	18	26	17	5
Section 2 manslaughter												
Immediate imprisonment ⁴												
Life ³		1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
Over 10 years (excluding life)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 4 and up to 10 years		-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
4 years and under		1	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	1
Fully suspended sentence		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospital/Restriction Order		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	3
Hospital Order		1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Probation/Supervision		3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other sentence		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		6	3	4	1	2	1	-	3	5	4	4
Other manslaughter												
Immediate imprisonment ⁴												
Life ³		2	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	-
Over 10 years (excluding life)		-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	-
Over 4 and up to 10 years		-	10	12	8	15	11	7	10	10	11	6
4 years and under		12	16	10	18	12	11	11	12	13	4	4
Fully suspended sentence		-	1	1	-	4	1	-	1	2	-	-
Hospital/Restriction Order		1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-
Hospital Order		-	3	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Probation/Supervision		8	4	5	5	1	5	-	-	-	1	-
Other sentence		-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
Total		23	36	33	35	34	32	21	26	27	20	10
Infanticide												
Immediate imprisonment ⁴												
4 years and under		-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fully suspended sentence		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Hospital/Restriction Order		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospital Order		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Probation/Supervision		1	4	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Other sentence		-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Total		1	5	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-
TOTAL		42	62	52	56	60	60	34	48	58	42	19

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. The results of appeals, apart from those occurring since the beginning of 1997, have been taken into account in compiling this table.

3. Including detention during Her Majesty's Pleasure under Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 SS.90 and 92(1) [previously Children and Young Persons Act 1933 S.53(1)] and custody for life.

4. Including detention under Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 SS.91(1) & (2) & 92(3) [previously Children and Young Persons Act 1933 S.53(2)], partly suspended sentences and young offender institution.

Table 1.10 (continued)

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime											
	Sentence ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
All suspects												
Murder												
Life imprisonment ³		279	290	327	341	363	395	370	333	354	284	146
Section 2 manslaughter												
Immediate imprisonment ⁴												
Life ³		4	-	2	1	3	4	2	4	2	2	-
Over 10 years (excluding life)		-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Over 4 and up to 10 years		4	5	1	3	4	4	-	2	4	1	-
4 years and under		3	4	4	2	6	3	6	6	3	1	2
Fully suspended sentence		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospital/Restriction Order		7	5	6	1	4	10	11	18	17	22	6
Hospital Order		4	2	6	5	3	2	3	6	5	2	1
Probation/Supervision		5	2	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
Other sentence		-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total		27	18	19	14	21	25	22	36	33	28	9
Other manslaughter⁵												
Immediate imprisonment ⁴												
Life ³		16	9	19	8	10	14	12	9	8	8	1
Over 10 years (excluding life)		4	6	13	6	7	12	5	5	7	14	3
Over 4 and up to 10 years		91	114	139	121	119	96	71	88	109	73	40
4 years and under		88	109	98	92	93	99	92	73	87	66	30
Fully suspended sentence		1	7	6	2	5	6	2	1	4	1	-
Hospital/Restriction Order		7	4	6	11	11	10	2	4	4	3	-
Hospital Order		2	8	15	14	9	3	3	2	-	-	-
Probation/Supervision		15	6	14	10	2	5	1	-	-	1	-
Other sentence		-	-	5	1	-	2	2	1	2	-	-
Total		224	263	315	265	256	247	190	183	221	166	74
Infanticide												
Immediate imprisonment ⁴												
4 years and under		-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fully suspended sentence		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Hospital/Restriction Order		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospital Order		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Probation/Supervision		1	4	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Other sentence		-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Total		1	5	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-
TOTAL⁵		531	576	662	620	640	668	584	553	608	479	229

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. The results of appeals, apart from those occurring since the beginning of 1997, have been taken into account in compiling this table.

3. Including detention during Her Majesty's Pleasure under Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 SS.90 and 92(1) [previously Children and Young Persons Act 1933 S.53(1)] and custody for life.

4. Including detention under Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 SS.91(1) & (2) & 92(3) [previously Children and Young Persons Act 1933 S.53(2)], partly suspended sentences and young offender institution.

5. In addition, one male suspect was convicted of other manslaughter but died before sentencing for an offence recorded in 2005/06.

Table 1.11 Suspects convicted of homicide by previous homicide convictions¹, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime											
	Year offence initially recorded	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Total number convicted of homicide		531	576	662	620	640	668	584	553	608	479	229
Number previously convicted of homicide:		8 ²	1 ³	-	2 ²	4	4	8 ²	3 ²	2 ²	3	2
While serving sentence for homicide		2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
After release or termination of sentence for previous homicide conviction		6	1	-	1	4	4	8	3	2	3	2

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. In addition, one suspect of an offence who committed suicide had previously been convicted of homicide.

3. In addition, one suspect of an offence who died had previously been convicted of homicide.

Table 1.12 Suspects convicted of homicide who had previously been convicted of homicide by type of homicide¹, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime			
	Total	Homicide offence of previous conviction		
		Murder	Section 2 Manslaughter	Other Manslaughter
Homicide offence of latest conviction				
Murder	30	13	3	14
Section 2 manslaughter	2	-	2	-
Other manslaughter	5	-	-	5
Total	37	13²	5³	19⁴

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. In addition, four suspects who committed suicide had previously been convicted for murder.

3. In addition, one suspect who died had previously been convicted of Section 2 manslaughter.

4. In addition, one suspect who committed suicide had previously been convicted for other manslaughter.

Table 1.13 Currently recorded homicides¹ by region and police force area, 2005/06 to 2009/10

Numbers and rates per million population						England and Wales, recorded crime
Police force area	2005/06 ²	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	Offences per million population 2009/10
Cleveland	5	4	8	3	6	10.7
Durham	8	11	5	7	10	16.5
Northumbria	16	25	28	15	14	9.9
North East Region	29	40	41	25	30	11.6
Cheshire	14	6	9	12	8	8.0
Cumbria	2	-	3	4	-	0.0
Gtr Manchester	50	56	49	43	35	13.5
Lancashire	12	21	20	18	26	18.0
Merseyside	26	22	33	27	21	15.5
North West Region	104	105	114	104	90	13.0
Humberside	10	18	11	10	13	14.2
North Yorkshire	4	2	5	6	6	7.5
South Yorkshire	21	21	28	22	12	9.1
West Yorkshire	33	44	45	35	32	14.4
Yorkshire and the Humber	68	85	89	73	63	12.0
Derbyshire	6	8	7	5	2	2.0
Leicestershire	6	11	12	7	13	13.2
Lincolnshire	4	6	11	5	6	8.6
Northamptonshire	10	13	8	7	5	7.3
Nottinghamshire	14	14	11	12	15	13.9
East Midlands Region	40	52	49	36	41	9.2
Staffordshire	10	11	12	10	13	12.2
Warwickshire	8	5	6	4	11	20.6
West Mercia	5	15	11	11	15	12.6
West Midlands	49	42	41	52	27	10.2
West Midlands Region	72	73	70	77	66	12.2
Bedfordshire	9	9	10	9	6	9.9
Cambridgeshire	10	7	7	5	8	10.3
Essex	20	22	14	11	10	5.8
Hertfordshire	9	10	8	6	6	5.5
Norfolk	11	5	8	12	7	8.2
Suffolk	5	9	7	1	10	14.0
East of England Region	64	62	54	44	47	8.2
City of London ³	2	1	1	-	2	..
Metropolitan	168	159	160	155	120	15.5
London Region	170	160	161	155	122	15.7
Hampshire	9	16	18	11	19	10.2
Kent	15	15	17	8	16	9.6
Surrey	10	2	9	7	8	7.2
Sussex	13	13	11	12	13	8.3
Thames Valley	19	22	17	13	14	6.3
South East Region	66	68	72	51	70	8.3
Avon and Somerset	9	11	13	16	16	10.0
Devon and Cornwall	12	15	18	10	16	9.6
Dorset	2	5	7	8	5	7.0
Gloucestershire	2	3	4	3	4	6.8
Wiltshire	7	4	10	6	4	6.1
South West Region	32	38	52	43	45	8.6
Dyfed-Powys	3	2	4	6	2	4.0
Gwent	4	7	12	13	18	32.1
North Wales	6	5	8	4	7	10.3
South Wales	9	15	15	10	16	12.8
Wales	22	29	39	33	43	14.3
British Transport Police⁴	42	3	3	3	2	*
ENGLAND AND WALES	709	715	744	644	619	11.3

1. As at 28 September 2010; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

2. Year 2005/06 includes 52 victims of the 7 July London bombings: 39 recorded by British Transport Police, 13 by the Metropolitan Police Service.

3. '.' data for London Region includes City of London Police.

4. It is not possible to show homicides in terms of rate per million population for offences recorded by British Transport Police.

2 Recorded offences involving the use of firearms

Simon Eder

2.1 SUMMARY

This chapter deals with offences recorded by the police that involve the use of a firearm. Firearms are taken to be involved in an offence if they are fired, used as a blunt instrument against a person, or used as a threat. Firearm possession offences, where the firearm has not been used, are not included. Firearms covered by the Firearms Act 1968 include handguns, shotguns, rifles, imitation weapons, air weapons and some other weapon types such as CS gas and pepper sprays.

- Offences involving the use of a firearm continue to make up a small proportion of recorded crime. In 2009/10, firearms were used in 0.3 per cent of all recorded crimes, or about three in every thousand. Overall, firearms were reported to have been used in 12,995 recorded crimes in 2009/10, which is the sixth consecutive annual fall and a nine per cent decrease on 2008/09. This compares with an overall decrease of eight per cent of all offences recorded by the police between 2008/09 and 2009/10.
- In 2009/10, there were 40 fatal injuries caused by the use of a firearm. This is one more incident than the 39 recorded the previous year. Serious injuries increased by three per cent from 392 in 2008/09 to 405 in 2009/10.
- Firearm offences involving any type of injury increased by five per cent, from 2,458 in 2008/09 to 2,574 in 2009/10. This follows a large fall, 41 per cent, last year.
- The number of robberies involving a firearm increased by one per cent in 2009/10, from 3,615 in 2008/09 to 3,641. This is in the context of an overall reduction of six per cent in all offences of robbery recorded by the police over the same period.

Firearm offences, excluding air weapons, decreased by two per cent, from 8,200 in 2008/09 to 8,067 in 2009/10. Offences involving these firearms tend to be for more serious offences, and they account for most of the fatalities and serious injuries.

- Handguns were used in 3,748 offences during 2009/10, a fall of 12 per cent on 2008/09. The number of offences involving the use of a shotgun decreased by five per cent, from 618 in 2008/09 to 585 in 2009/10.
- There was a one per cent increase in the use of imitation weapons, from 1,507 offences in 2008/09 to 1,515 in 2009/10. This follows a large fall of 41 per cent in the use of these weapons last year.
- As in previous years, firearm offences, excluding air weapons, were geographically concentrated in three police force areas: Metropolitan, Greater Manchester and West Midlands accounted for almost two-thirds (64%) of such offences, while just under a quarter of the population of England and Wales reside in these areas.

2.2 OFFENCES INVOLVING THE USE OF FIREARMS

Introduction

This chapter relates to offences recorded by the police where a firearm has been fired, used as a blunt instrument or in a threat. In the following these offences are referred to as firearm offences. Firearm possession offences, where the firearm has not been used, are not included. Summary information on firearm possession offences is included within Table 2.04 in Flatley *et al.*, 2010. This chapter focuses on the more serious offences of using firearms during the execution of another crime.

A number of different types of firearms are covered in this chapter, mirroring those weapons covered by the Firearms Act 1968.

- **Firearms that use a controlled explosion to fire a projectile.** This category includes handguns, shotguns and rifles. These types of weapon are often used in the more serious offences, and tend to account for most of the fatalities and serious injuries from such offences.
- **Imitation firearms.** This category includes replica weapons, as well as very low-powered weapons which can fire small plastic pellets, such as BB guns and soft air weapons. While injuries can occur from offences involving these weapons, they are less common and tend to be less serious.
- **Air weapons.** The majority of offences which involve air weapons relate to criminal damage. While air weapons can cause injury (and sometimes fatalities), by their nature they are less likely to do so than firearms that use a controlled explosion.

It is not always possible for the police to categorise the type of firearm that has been used in an offence. For example, some imitation weapons are so realistic that they are indistinguishable from a real firearm. The police will record which type of weapon has been used given the evidence available, and may depend on descriptions of victims or witnesses. If the police do not have sufficient information about the type of firearm used in the offence, or if the firearm was concealed during the offence, then the police will record the weapon as an **unidentified firearm**.

Extent and trends

Firearm offences continue to make up a small proportion of overall recorded crime. Overall, in 2009/10, firearms were used in just 0.3 per cent of all police recorded offences, or around three in every thousand offences. This figure falls to just under two in every thousand offences when air weapons are excluded.¹

In 2009/10, firearms were used in 12,995 recorded offences in England and Wales, a decrease of nine per cent compared with the previous year, when 14,241 offences were recorded. This compares with an overall decrease of eight per cent of all offences recorded by the police over the same period. The decrease in firearm offences was mainly due to an 18

¹ The British Crime Survey provides an additional estimate of the number and type of weapons used in violent offences experienced by the adult population resident in households. The 2009/10 BCS shows around two per cent of BCS violent offences involve the use of a firearm (see additional sources at the end of this chapter, plus Table 3.09 in Flatley *et al.*, 2010).

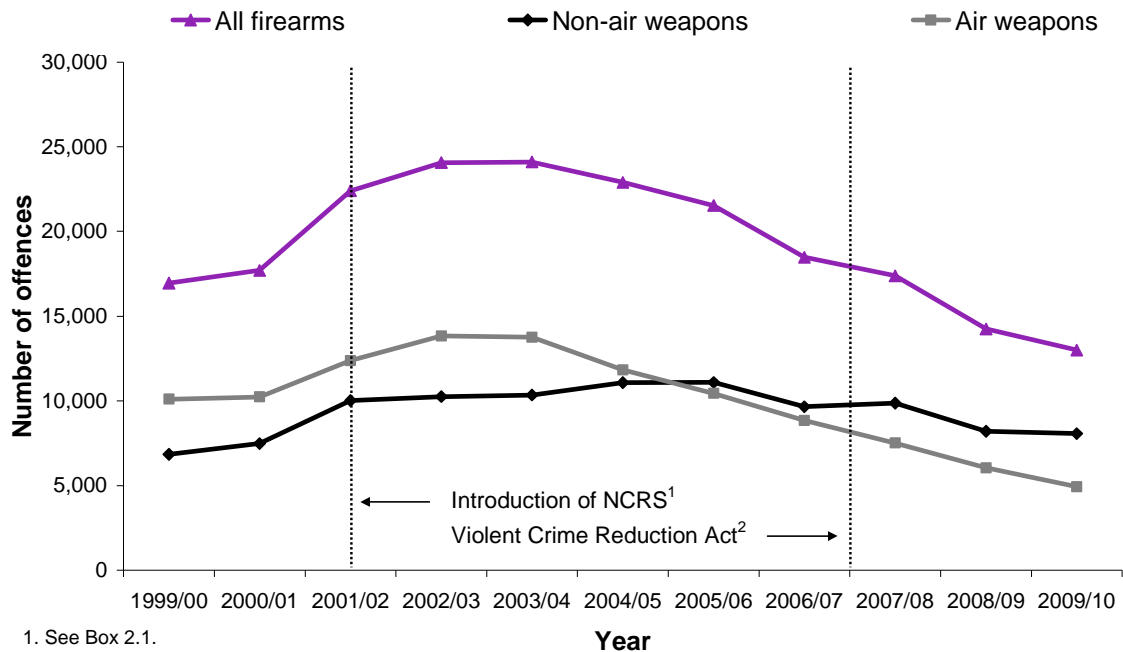
per cent fall in air weapon offences. In comparison, non-air weapon offences decreased by just two per cent over the same period (Table 2.01).

The number of firearm offences has fallen steadily since peaking at 24,094 in 2003/04, and has decreased by almost half (46%) since then. Over the same period, total police recorded crime has fallen by 28 per cent. This decrease in firearm offences has largely been due to a reduction in the number of air weapon offences recorded by the police, which has fallen by almost two-thirds (64%). In comparison, non-air weapon offences are 22 per cent lower than 2003/04, having peaked later, in 2005/06 (Table 2.01; Figure 2.1).

- The 18 per cent fall in air weapon offences in 2009/10 follows a 20 per cent fall in the previous year (Figure 2.1; Table 2.01). The introduction of the Violent Crime Reduction Act (Box 2.2) in October 2007 tightened the rules for the manufacture and sale of certain types of air weapon. However, it can be seen in Figure 2.1 that the downward trend in these types of weapons began before the introduction of this legislation.
- Within non-air weapon offences, those involving the use of a handgun decreased by 12 per cent between 2008/09 and 2009/10. Handgun offences have fallen by around one-third (32%) since 2002/03, although they did peak earlier, in 2001/02, before the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard (Box 2.1).
- Offences involving the use of a shotgun decreased by five per cent between 2008/09 and 2009/10, from 618 to 585. Shotgun offences peaked in 2003/04 and have fallen by around a fifth (19%) since then (Table 2.01).
- Offences involving the use of an imitation firearm increased by one per cent between 2008/09 and 2009/10, from 1,507 to 1,515. This follows a large decrease of 41 per cent last year, which followed tightened legislation which was introduced in 2007 (Box 2.2). Offences involving the use of an imitation weapon have fallen by more than half (55%) since they peaked at 3,373 in 2004/05 (Table 2.01).

Box 2.1 Impact of changes in police recording practice

The introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) by police forces on 1 April 2002 brought in a more victim-focused reporting system, where victim accounts had to be accepted unless there was credible evidence to the contrary. While no estimates were calculated to assess the effect of this new standard on the number of firearm offences recorded, it is known that this change inflated the overall number of violence against the person and criminal damage offences but had less effect on the number of robberies (see Simmons *et al.*, 2003). Offences involving the use of firearms are generally thought to be less affected by the introduction of the NCRS than offences not involving the use of a firearm, given the nature of such offences. However, it is still not possible to directly compare figures prior to 2002/03 with those for later years.

Figure 2.1 Offences recorded by the police in which a firearm has been used, 1999/00 to 2009/10

1. See Box 2.1.

2. See Box 2.2.

Box 2.2 Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006

The Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 came into law in October 2007 and introduced new restrictions for imitation firearms and air weapons.

For air weapons, the Act restricted the sale of air weapons to licensed firearm dealers and raised the minimum age for owning or buying an air weapon from 14 to 18. For imitation weapons, the import or sale of realistic^{*} imitation weapons was made illegal by the Act.

The introduction of this Act has coincided with large falls in the number of firearm offences where an imitation or air weapon has been involved. However, it has not been possible to assess the exact impact of the introduction of this legislation and air weapon offences have been falling steadily since 2003/04.

* A 'realistic' imitation firearm is defined as one that: (a) has an appearance that is so realistic as to make it indistinguishable, for all practical purposes, from a real firearm; and (b) is neither a de-activated firearm nor itself an antique.

2.3 HOW FIREARMS WERE USED

The likelihood of a weapon being fired varies considerably by weapon type. For example, air weapons are fired in more than nine in ten of the offences that they are involved in, compared with handguns which are only fired in one in ten offences. Furthermore, as well as being fired, firearms can be used as a blunt instrument (sometimes called 'pistol whipping') or to threaten.

- Overall, non-air weapons were fired in about a third (33%) of the offences in which the weapon was involved. In 62 per cent of cases, the firearm was used as a threat (Table 2a).
- Handguns were fired in ten per cent of the recorded offences in which they were involved, and used as a threat in 82 per cent of offences. Shotguns were fired in 38 per cent of cases (Table 2a).
- Air weapons were most likely to be fired in the offences recorded by the police, at more than nine in ten offences (92%). As air weapon offences tend to be for criminal damage rather than the more serious violence against the person offences, it is possible that relatively fewer of the offences where the weapon was not fired come to the attention of the police.

Table 2a Offences in which firearms were used, by type of firearm and weapon usage, 2009/10

Numbers and percentages		England and Wales, recorded crime		
Weapon type	Number of offences	% fired	% used as blunt instrument	% used as a threat
Shotguns	585	38	8	54
Handguns	3,748	10	9	82
Imitation firearm ²	1,515	74	2	24
Rifles/others ³	2,219	43	2	55
Non-air weapons	8,067	33	5	62
Air weapons	4,928	92	0	8
Total	12,995	55	4	41

1. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

2. Imitation firearm includes weapons such as BB guns and soft air weapons, which can fire small plastic pellets at low velocity.

3. Starting guns, supposed/type unknown, prohibited firearms (including CS gas) and other firearms.

2.4 TYPE OF WEAPON USED

This section looks at the type of weapon used in an offence although it is not always possible to categorise the type of weapon used. For example, if a weapon is not fired and not recovered after an offence, it may not be possible to know exactly what weapon was involved or whether it was real or an imitation weapon. The categorisation of firearms will often depend on descriptions by victims or witnesses. In some offences, the firearm will not have been seen but will have been concealed and used as a threat.

As in previous years, in 2009/10, the most commonly used firearm was an air weapon, with 4,928 offences or 38 per cent of the total recorded offences involving a firearm (Table 2.01). There were 3,748 handgun offences, 29 per cent of the total, or 46 per cent if excluding air weapons. A breakdown of the composition of firearm offences by type of weapon used is shown in Figure 2.2 (this excludes air weapons).

Figure 2.2 Firearm offences by type of principal weapon (excluding air weapons), 2009/10

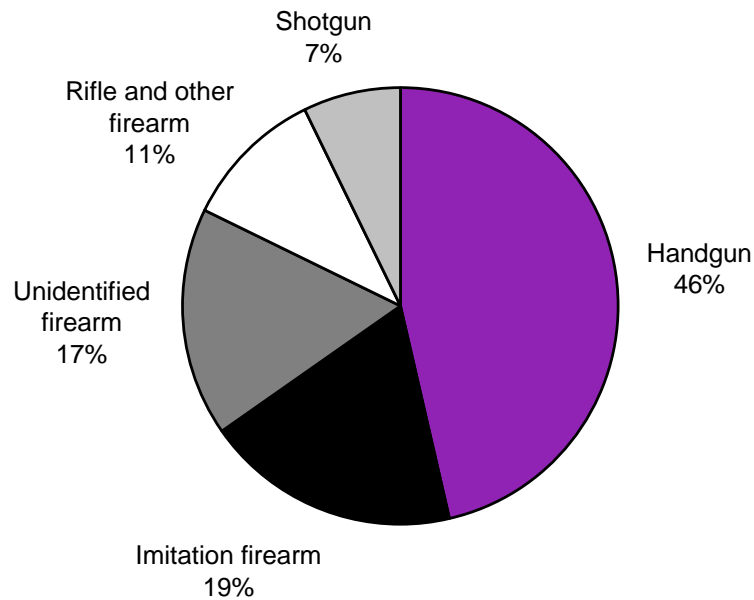
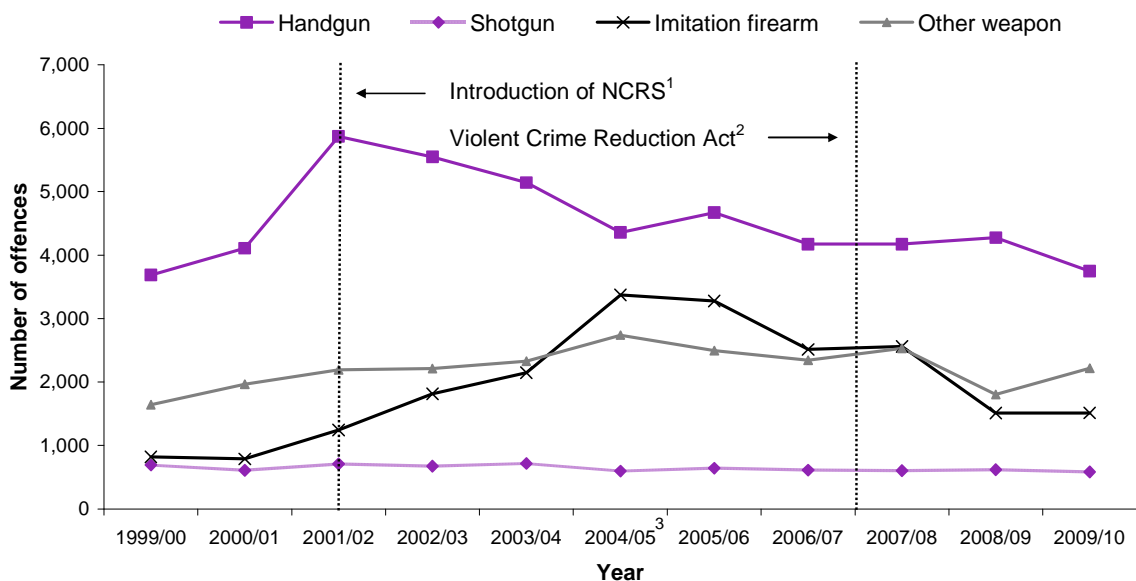


Figure 2.3 Firearm offences by type of principal weapon (excluding air weapons), 1999/00 to 2009/10



1. See Box 2.1.

2. See Box 2.2.

3. More explicit guidelines for the classification of weapons introduced on 1 April 2004 may have affected the recording of firearm offences committed by handguns, imitation weapons, and other weapons.

2.5 INJURIES SUSTAINED IN FIREARM OFFENCES

The majority of firearm offences (80%) do not result in an injury to the victim. In 2009/10, there were 2,574 injuries recorded as resulting from firearm offences, an increase of five per cent on the previous year. However, this should be viewed in the context of longer-term trends; the number of injuries has fallen by more than half since they peaked at 5,402 in 2004/05 (Table 2.02). Of the 2,574 injuries recorded, there were 40 fatal injuries² involving firearms, one more than in 2008/09. There were a further 405 firearm offences that resulted in serious injury,³ with the remainder being slight injuries (Table 2.03).

- One-fifth (20%) of firearm offences in 2009/10 resulted in an injury⁴ (2,574 offences). This compares with 17 per cent of offences resulting in an injury in 2008/09 (Table 2.02). The majority of these injuries (83%) in 2009/10 were slight injuries (2,129 offences).
- While there was an overall fall in the number of non-air weapon offences of two per cent between 2008/09 and 2009/10, there were rises in the number of injuries for all main non-air weapon types. The number of handgun and shotgun injuries both increased by three per cent, despite the number of offences involving these weapons falling by 12 and five per cent respectively (Tables 2.01 and 2.04). In contrast, both the number of injuries and offences involving air weapons decreased by five and 18 per cent respectively over the same period.
- Less than one per cent of all firearm offences in 2009/10 resulted in a fatal injury. All of the 40 fatalities in 2009/10 involved a weapon being fired, with 28 of the fatalities involving the use of a handgun and seven involving the use of a shotgun (Table 2.03).
- Three per cent of all firearm offences in 2009/10 resulted in a serious injury. There were 405 serious injuries resulting from firearm offences recorded in 2009/10, a rise of three per cent on the previous year, where 392 were recorded (Table 2.02).
- Sixteen per cent of all firearm offences in 2009/10 resulted in a slight injury. There was a five per cent rise in slight injuries, from 2,027 in 2008/09 to 2,129 in 2009/10, following a 44 per cent decrease in the last year (Table 2.02).

² Chapter 1 refers to 41 shooting homicides being recorded in 2009/10. In one of these cases the weapon was not classed as a firearm under the Firearms Act 1968, and so it was not recorded as a firearm offence.

³ A serious injury is one which requires a stay in hospital or involves fractures, concussion, severe general shock, penetration by a bullet or multiple shot wounds.

⁴ Injuries could be caused by either the firearm being fired or used as a blunt instrument.

Injuries by weapon type

The likelihood of a weapon being fired as well as the seriousness of an injury varies according to the type of weapon used. Table 2b shows, by type of firearm, the percentage which were fired and, *if they were fired* the percentage of offences where injury was caused (more detailed figures are in Table 2.05).

- Air weapons and imitation firearms were the most likely to be fired in an offence (92% and 74% respectively). However, *if they were fired*, they were the least likely to cause a fatal or serious injury (1% and 2% respectively).
- Handguns were fired in only one in ten (10%) offences, but *if they were fired*, 30 per cent of these offences resulted in a fatal or serious injury, compared with six per cent for all weapon types.
- Shotguns were fired in 38 per cent of offences, and *if they were fired*, 32 per cent of cases resulted in a fatal or serious injury.

Table 2b Offences in which firearms were used, by type of firearm and injury sustained when weapon was fired, 2009/10

Numbers and percentages			England and Wales, recorded crime			
Weapon type	Number of offences	% fired	Of those fired ¹			
			% Fatal injury	% Serious injury	% Slight injury	% No injury
Shotguns	585	38	3	29	11	57
Handguns	3,748	10	8	22	18	52
Imitation firearm ²	1,515	74	0	2	53	44
Rifles/others ³	2,219	43	0	14	47	39
Non-air weapons	8,067	33	1	11	43	45
Air weapons	4,928	92	0	1	13	86
Total	12,995	55	1	5	24	71

1. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

2. Imitation firearm includes weapons such as BB guns and soft air weapons, which can fire small plastic pellets at low velocity.

3. Starting guns, supposed/type unknown, prohibited firearms (including CS gas) and other firearms.

Injuries to police officers

One police officer was seriously injured and a further 16 slightly injured by firearms while on duty in 2009/10. This overall total of 17 is around twice the number of injured police officers last year but is comparable with an average of 16 per year over the last ten-year period (Table 2c).

Table 2c Offences, excluding air weapons, recorded by the police in which a police officer on duty was injured by a firearm, by type of injury, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Year	England and Wales, recorded crime			
	Total	Fatal injury	Serious injury ¹	Slight injury
1999/00	10	-	-	10
2000/01	7	-	5	2
2001/02	10	-	-	10
2002/03	12	-	1	11
2003/04	14	1	3	10
2004/05	23	-	2	21
2005/06	23	1	6	16
2006/07	21	-	3	18
2007/08	24	1	3	20
2008/09	9	-	1	8
2009/10	17	-	1	16

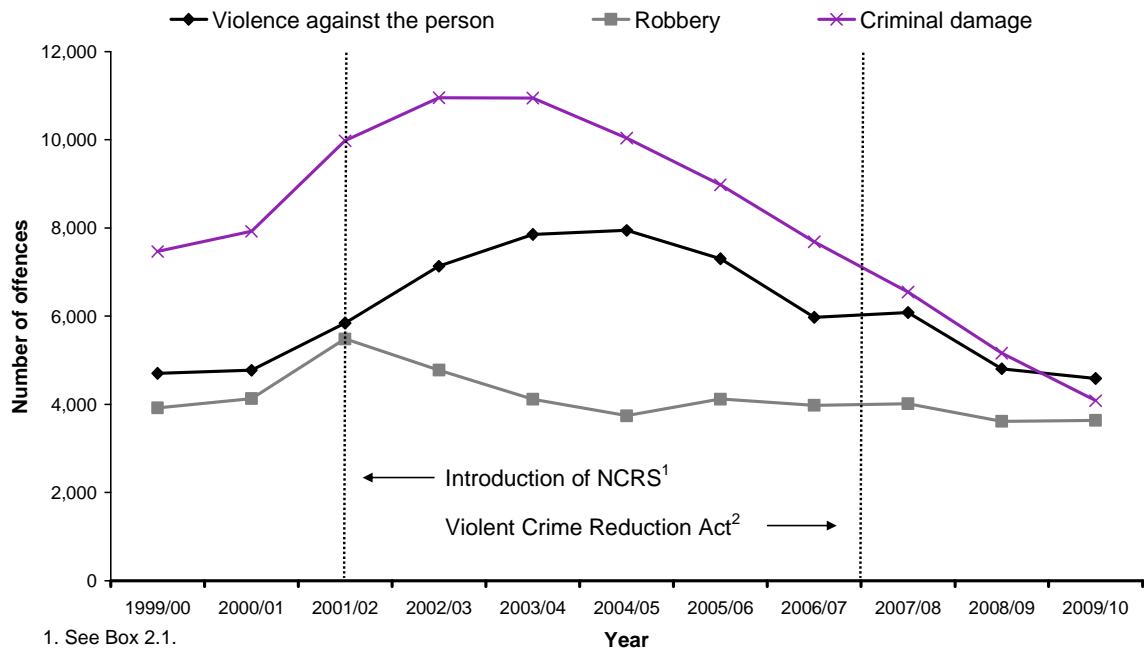
1. A serious injury is one which necessitated a stay in hospital or involves fractures, concussion, severe general shock, penetration by a bullet or multiple shot wounds.

2.6 TYPES OF OFFENCES WHERE FIREARMS ARE USED

There are clear differences in the types of offences committed when these are analysed separately by air weapons and non-air weapons. In 2009/10, 89 per cent of the recorded offences where a non-air weapon had been involved were for violence against the person and robbery offences. For air weapons, 74 per cent of recorded offences were for criminal damage offences. Table 2.07 gives a breakdown of all firearm offences by offence type.

- For offences involving non air-weapons, violence against the person offences decreased by two per cent, from 3,673 in 2008/09 to 3,599 in 2009/10. The number of robbery offences was broadly similar having increased slightly from 3,576 to 3,586 over the same period (Table 2.06).
- Forty-five per cent (3,599 offences) of the recorded offences involving a non-air weapon were for violence against the person offences, with robbery offences accounting for 44 per cent (3,586 offences) and criminal damage accounting for five per cent (439 offences) (Table 2.06).
- Seventy-four per cent (3,646 offences) of air weapon offences were for criminal damage offences, with a further 20 per cent (988 offences) for violence against the person offences (Table 2.06).

Figure 2.4 Offences in which firearms were reported to have been used by selected offence type, 1999/00 to 2009/10

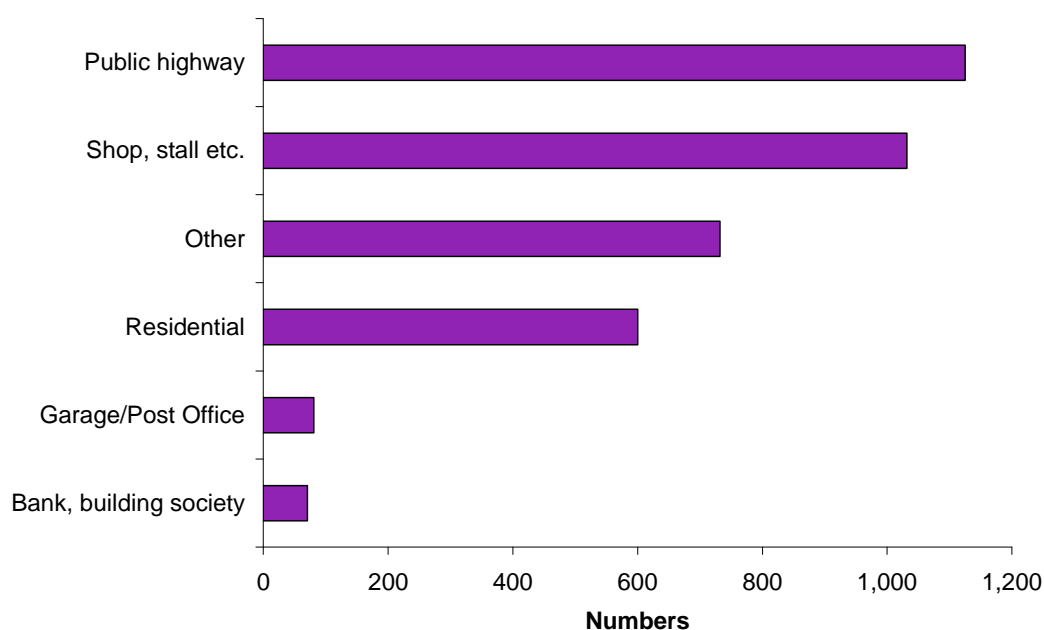


Furthermore, the proportion of offences where a firearm was used differs across offence types (Table 2.08). Less than one per cent of all recorded violence against the person offences involved the use of a firearm. This figure increases for the most serious violent offences of homicide (7%) and attempted murder and grievous bodily harm with intent combined (4%). Around five per cent of robberies involved the use of a firearm in 2009/10 (Table 2.08). More information on the use of weapons in homicides is available in Chapter 1.

Location of robberies

Around a third (31%) of robberies (both robbery of personal and business property) where a firearm was involved were committed on public highways, with a further 28 per cent committed in shops. Robberies of banks, building societies and Post Offices with a firearm accounted for three per cent of robberies with a firearm. There has been a decrease in the proportion of robberies involving a firearm committed on public highways since 2002/03, whereas the proportion of robberies committed in residential areas has increased over the same period (Figure 2.5, Table 2.09).

Figure 2.5 Number of firearm robberies by location of offence, 2009/10



The types of firearms involved in robberies

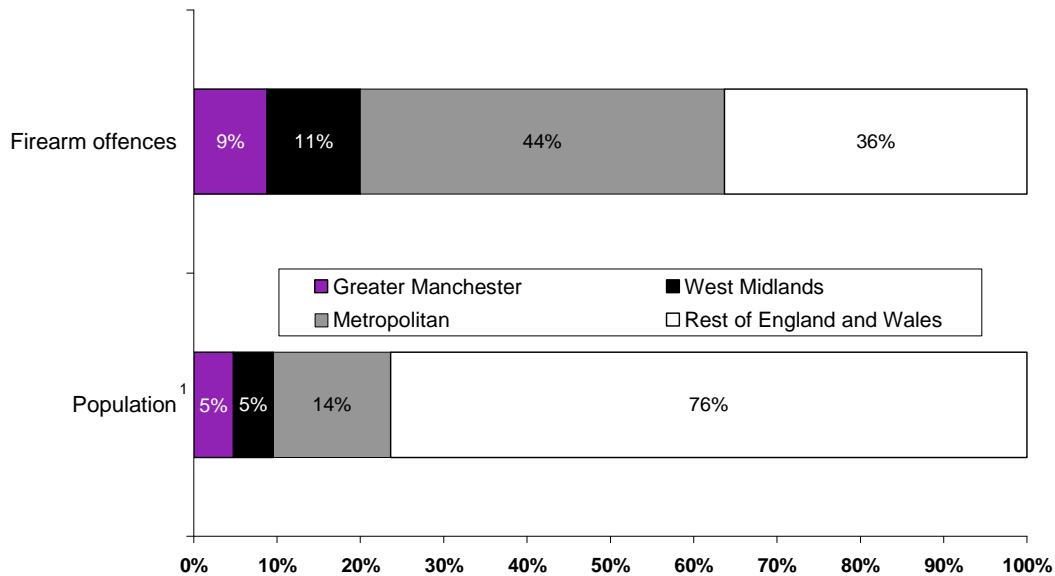
Firearms described as handguns were used in 65 per cent of robberies involving firearms, and seven per cent involved shotguns. In a further 14 per cent of incidents, the firearm could not be identified (i.e. a firearm was not actually seen, or the type of firearm was not identified), and another three per cent involved imitation firearms. Air weapons were involved in less than two per cent of firearm robberies in 2009/10 (Table 2.10).

2.7 GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF FIREARM OFFENCES

Offences involving the use of non-air weapons (which tend to be for more serious offences) are geographically concentrated. Almost two-thirds (64%) of these offences recorded in 2009/10 occurred in just three police force areas – Metropolitan, Greater Manchester, and West Midlands. The proportion is four percentage points higher than the 60 per cent recorded in 2008/09. In comparison, just under a quarter (24%) of the population of England and Wales reside in the areas covered by these three forces (Figure 2.6). The proportion of offences recorded in the three police forces has increased by ten percentage points in the past five years, which is mainly due to a larger proportion of firearm offences occurring in the Metropolitan police force area. In 2005/06, 35 per cent (3,883 offences) of all firearm offences were recorded in the Metropolitan area; in 2009/10 this proportion was 44 per cent (3,528 offences) (Table 2.11).

The rates per population for firearm offences for these three forces are significantly higher than for England and Wales as a whole: 46 offences per 100,000 population for Metropolitan Police; 34 per 100,000 for West Midlands; and 27 per 100,000 for Greater Manchester. This compares with a rate of 15 per 100,000 population for England and Wales, the same as recorded in 2008/09 (Table 2.11).

Figure 2.6 Proportion of firearm offences, excluding air weapons, in three police force areas, compared with population profile of those forces, 2009/10

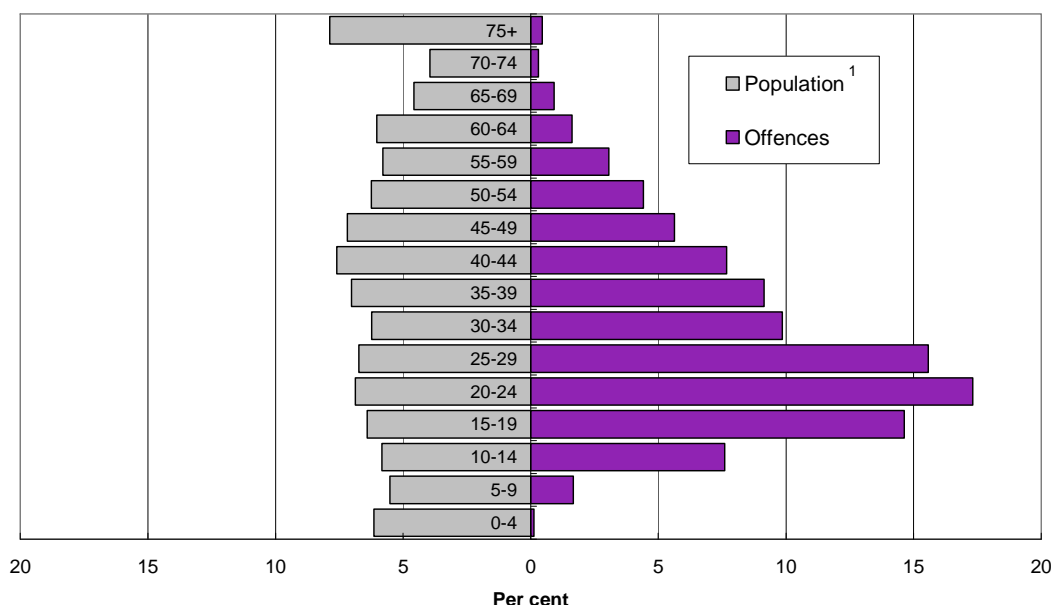


1. The population figures are based on mid-2009 estimates from the Office for National Statistics.

2.8 AGE OF VICTIMS

The risk of being a victim of a firearm offence varies by age. Of the non-air weapon offences in which the ages of victims were known, people aged between 15 and 29 years formed a disproportionate number of victims; 15-to-29-year olds comprise 20 per cent of the population but were victims in 48 per cent of the offences. In contrast, people aged 60 years and over were less likely to become victims. Although this age group comprises 22 per cent of the population, they were victims in only three per cent of the offences (Figure 2.7).

Figure 2.7 Age profile of firearm victims, excluding air weapons, compared to population profile for England and Wales, 2009/10



1. The population figures are based on mid-2009 estimates from the Office for National Statistics.

2.9 MISAPPROPRIATED (STOLEN) FIREARMS

Due to their potential for subsequent use in crime, figures are recorded for the number of firearms that are misappropriated. ‘Misappropriated firearms’ are defined as those stolen, obtained by fraud or forgery, or handled dishonestly. For simplicity, they are referred to as ‘stolen’ hereafter.

The number of firearms recorded by the police as being stolen has fluctuated between 2,000 and 3,000 in recent years. During 2009/10, 2,627 firearms were stolen. This is a decrease of seven per cent compared with the 2,830 firearms stolen in 2008/09. However, this year’s total is still the second highest number of stolen weapons in the last seven years. The recent falls are mainly due to a reduction of stolen shotguns and rifles (Table 2.12). In 2009/10, 60 per cent of firearms were stolen from residential premises. Air weapons accounted for around a half (50%) of the thefts (Table 2.13).

Additional sources

The coverage of firearm offences contained in police recorded statistics can be supplemented by additional sources to provide further information. The British Crime Survey (BCS) provides an estimate of the number and type of weapon used in violent offences. Firearms were used in about two per cent of all incidents of BCS violent crime in the 2009/10 BCS. This proportion has remained stable over recent years (Table 3.09 in Flatley *et al.*, 2010). However, due to the small number of incidents involving weapons reported to the BCS, trends in these figures should be interpreted with caution.

The NHS provides an additional source of information for the more serious incidents of crime involving the use of a firearm by reporting the number of admissions to NHS hospitals in England involving wounds suffered as the result of assault with a firearm. Although these

figures can be affected by changes in NHS practice and recording they are not affected by police enforcement activity, changes to public reporting or police recording practices.

The 'Hospital Episode Statistics'⁵ show that in 2009/10 there were 208 admissions for assault by a firearm in England, five per cent more than the same period the previous year (199 admissions). It should be noted that these figures only involve the most serious injuries. Also, the figures are for admissions only and do not include those people who attended an Accident and Emergency department but were not subsequently admitted to hospital.

⁵ The figures presented are the 2009/10 Hospital Episode Statistics available from <http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk/Ease/servlet/ContentServer?siteID=1937&categoryID=211>.

Table 2.01 Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used by type of principal weapon, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Principal weapon	England and Wales, recorded crime										% change 2008/09 to 2009/10	
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ¹	2002/03 ²	2003/04	2004/05 ³	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09		2009/10
Shotguns												
Long-barrelled shotgun	353	303	380	361	424	306	375	360	365	381	331	-13
Sawn-off shotgun	340	305	332	311	294	291	267	252	237	237	254	7
Shotgun total	693	608	712	672	718	597	642	612	602	618	585	-5
Handguns⁴												
Converted imitation	..	..	..	..	..	20	7	12	7	9	8	-
Reactivated	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	1	5	-	-
Converted air pistol	..	..	..	..	..	14	12	13	11	17	8	-
Other	..	..	..	..	..	866	1,022	908	895	894	871	-3
Type unknown	..	..	..	..	..	3,458	3,629	3,238	3,258	3,349	2,861	-15
Handgun total	3,685	4,110	5,874	5,549	5,144	4,360	4,672	4,173	4,172	4,274	3,748	-12
Rifle	67	36	64	52	48	54	71	69	71	89	66	-26
Imitation firearms⁴												
Imitation handgun	..	..	..	..	..	355	368	299	322	242	189	-22
BB gun/soft air weapon	..	..	..	..	..	2,863	2,755	2,094	2,124	1,192	1,261	6
Deactivated firearm	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	2	2	2	2	-
Blank firer	..	..	..	..	..	27	17	21	21	11	10	-
Other imitation	..	..	..	..	..	127	133	100	93	60	53	-12
Imitation firearm total	823	787	1,246	1,814	2,146	3,373	3,277	2,516	2,562	1,507	1,515	1
Unidentified firearm	762	950	1,176	1,431	1,356	1,500	1,362	1,276	1,325	953	1,368	44
Other firearms⁴												
Unconverted starting gun	..	..	..	..	..	9	9	3	6	11	11	-
CS gas	..	..	..	..	..	516	461	436	552	288	243	-16
Pepper spray	..	..	..	..	..	141	154	179	228	137	106	-23
Machine gun	..	..	..	..	..	25	34	39	18	31	30	-
Stun gun	..	..	..	..	..	143	133	108	118	96	128	33
Other converted imitation weapon	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	-	4	2	4	-
Other reactivated weapon	..	..	..	..	..	-	2	1	2	1	1	-
Disguised firearm	..	..	..	..	..	14	19	57	87	71	156	120
Other firearm (specified)	..	..	..	..	..	336	250	176	118	122	106	-13
Other firearm total	813	980	952	730	926	1,185	1,064	999	1,133	759	785	3
All firearms excluding air weapons	6,843	7,471	10,024	10,248	10,338	11,069	11,088	9,645	9,865	8,200	8,067	-2
Air weapon	10,103	10,227	12,377	13,822	13,756	11,824	10,438	8,836	7,512	6,041	4,928	-18
All firearms	16,946	17,698	22,401	24,070	24,094	22,893	21,526	18,481	17,377	14,241	12,995	-9

1. Figures may have been inflated by some police forces implementing the principles of the National Crime Recording Standard before 1 April 2002.
2. The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable.
3. More explicit guidelines for the classification of weapons introduced on 1 April 2004 may have increased the recording of firearm offences, particularly those committed by imitation
4. Further weapon breakdowns were available for the first time on 1 April 2004.

Table 2.02 Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were used resulting in injury¹, by degree of injury, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Numbers	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 ²	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
	<i>Number of injuries</i>										
Non-air weapons											
Fatal injury	62	72	96	80	68	76	49	56	53	39	39
Serious injury ³	200	244	392	416	437	412	476	412	402	320	338
Slight injury	933	1,066	1,391	1,683	1,862	3,416	3,297	2,543	2,786	1,402	1,541
Total non-air weapon injuries	1,195	1,382	1,879	2,179	2,367	3,904	3,822	3,011	3,241	1,761	1,918
No injury	5,648	6,089	8,145	8,069	7,971	7,165	7,266	6,634	6,624	6,439	6,149
Total non-air weapon offences	6,843	7,471	10,024	10,248	10,338	11,069	11,088	9,645	9,865	8,200	8,067
Air weapons											
Fatal injury	-	1	2	1	-	1	1	3	-	-	1
Serious injury ³	171	166	165	156	157	144	119	95	86	72	67
Slight injury	1,806	1,654	1,748	2,220	2,238	1,353	1,062	955	837	621	588
Total air weapon injuries	1,977	1,821	1,915	2,377	2,395	1,498	1,182	1,053	923	693	656
No injury	8,126	8,406	10,462	11,445	11,361	10,326	9,256	7,783	6,589	5,348	4,272
Total air weapon offences	10,103	10,227	12,377	13,822	13,756	11,824	10,438	8,836	7,512	6,041	4,928
Total firearm injuries	3,172	3,203	3,794	4,556	4,762	5,402	5,004	4,064	4,164	2,454	2,574
Total firearm offences	16,946	17,698	22,401	24,070	24,094	22,893	21,526	18,481	17,377	14,241	12,995
	<i>Proportions of injury type</i>										
Non-air weapons											
Fatal injury	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0
Serious injury ³	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Slight injury	14	14	14	16	18	31	30	26	28	17	19
Total injuries	17	18	19	21	23	35	34	31	33	21	24
No injury	83	82	81	79	77	65	66	69	67	79	76
Total offences	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Air weapons											
Fatal injury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Serious injury ³	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Slight injury	18	16	14	16	16	11	10	11	11	10	12
Total injuries	20	18	15	17	17	13	11	12	12	11	13
No injury	80	82	85	83	83	87	89	88	88	89	87
Total offences	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Total firearm injuries	19	18	17	19	20	24	23	22	24	17	20
Total firearm offences	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

1. Injuries could be caused by either the firearm being fired or used as a blunt instrument.

2. The introduction of the NCRS in April 2002 means that data prior to this date are not directly comparable with later figures. See Box 2.1 for more details.

3. A serious injury is one which requires a stay in hospital or involves fractures, concussion, severe general shock, penetration by a bullet or multiple shot wounds.

4. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Table 2.03 Crimes recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have caused injury¹, by degree of injury and type of principal weapon, 2009/10

Type of weapon	England and Wales, recorded crime			
	Total	Fatal injury	Serious injury ²	Slight injury
Shotgun	141	7	69	65
Handgun	507	28	113	366
Other firearm excluding air weapons	1,270	4	156	1,110
All firearms excluding air weapons	1,918	39	338	1,541
Air weapons	656	1	67	588
All firearms	2,574	40	405	2,129

1. Injuries could be caused by either the firearm being fired or used as a blunt instrument.

2. A serious injury is one which requires a stay in hospital or involves fractures, concussion, severe general shock, penetration by a bullet or multiple shot wounds.

Table 2.04 Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have caused injury¹ by type of principal weapon, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Number of offences	England and Wales, recorded crime											
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ²	2002/03 ³	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% change 2008/09 to 2009/10
Shotgun	100	73	111	107	104	135	154	128	157	137	141	3
Handgun	352	400	648	640	590	780	1,024	792	881	493	507	3
Other firearms excluding air weapons	743	909	1,120	1,432	1,673	2,989	2,644	2,091	2,203	1,131	1,270	12
All firearms excluding air weapons	1,195	1,382	1,879	2,179	2,367	3,904	3,822	3,011	3,241	1,761	1,918	9
Air weapon	1,977	1,821	1,915	2,377	2,395	1,498	1,182	1,053	923	693	656	-5
All firearms	3,172	3,203	3,794	4,556	4,762	5,402	5,004	4,064	4,164	2,454	2,574	5

1. Injuries could be caused by either the firearm being fired or used as a blunt instrument.

2. Figures may have been inflated by some police forces implementing the principles of the National Crime Recording Standard before 1 April 2002.

3. The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable.

Table 2.05 Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, by principal weapon, how they were used and injury sustained, 2009/10

Principal weapon	England and Wales, recorded crime									
	Total	Fired					Not fired			
		Fatal injury ²	Serious injury ³	Slight injury	Causing property damage only	No injury or property damage	Total fired	Used as blunt instrument	Used as a threat	Total not fired
Long-barrelled shotgun	331	2	44	15	48	40	149	21	161	182
Sawn-off shotgun	254	5	20	9	23	16	73	25	156	181
Handgun	3,748	28	80	66	50	136	360	333	3,055	3,388
Rifle	66	2	2	3	9	6	22	5	39	44
Imitation firearm ⁴	1,515	-	24	603	232	269	1,128	24	363	387
Unidentified firearm	1,368	1	110	80	127	119	437	21	910	931
Other firearm	785	1	16	364	18	90	489	14	282	296
All firearms excluding air weapons	8,067	39	296	1,140	507	676	2,658	443	4,966	5,409
Air weapon	4,928	1	62	577	3,614	260	4,514	16	398	414
Total	12,995	40	358	1,717	4,121	936	7,172	459	5,364	5,823

1. Figures may have been inflated by police forces implementing the National Crime Recording Standard on 1 April 2002.

2. Firearms were involved in 41 homicides but in one case the firearm did not cause the fatal injury.

3. A serious injury is one which requires a stay in hospital or involves fractures, concussion, severe general shock, penetration by a bullet or multiple shot wounds.

4. Imitation weapons include blank firers, ball-bearing guns and soft air weapons.

Table 2.06 Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, by offence group and principal firearm, 2009/10

Principal firearm	England and Wales, recorded crime									
	All offences		Violence against the person			Robbery	Burglary	Other offences excluding criminal damage		Criminal damage
	All offences	All offences excluding criminal damage	Homicide ^{1,2}	Attempted murder and GBH with intent offences ³	Other					
Long-barrelled shotgun	331	295	2	80	81	111	13	8	36	
Sawn-off shotgun	254	243	6	46	39	131	14	7	11	
Handgun	3,748	3,719	28	251	851	2,357	110	122	29	
Rifle	66	56	2	3	27	21	1	2	10	
Imitation firearm	1,515	1,285	-	43	1,110	107	10	15	230	
Unidentified firearm	1,368	1,265	1	273	359	523	28	81	103	
Other firearm	785	765	1	35	361	336	20	12	20	
All firearms excluding air weapons	8,067	7,628	40	731	2,828	3,586	196	247	439	
Air weapons	4,928	1,282	1	123	864	55	10	229	3,646	
Total	12,995	8,910	41	854	3,692	3,641	206	476	4,085	

1. These figures may not agree with those in the homicide chapter because (a) in this table, cases are included where the firearm was used as a blunt instrument and (b) the homicide figures are compiled at a later date and take into account the results of police and court decisions.

2. Although firearms were involved in 41 homicides in 2009/10, in one case the firearm was not the cause of death.

3. Grievous bodily harm (GBH) offences were introduced on 1 April 2008 to replace 'more serious wounding or other act endangering life' offences.

Table 2.07 Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, by offence group, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Offence type	England and Wales, recorded crime											
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ¹	2002/03 ²	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06 ³	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09 ⁴	2009/10	% change 2008/09 to 2009/10
Violence against the person	4,702	4,773	5,844	7,133	7,852	7,946	7,302	5,972	6,085	4,809	4,587	-5
<i>of which</i>												
Homicide ⁴	62	73	97	81	68	77	50	59	53	41	41	0
Attempted murder and other most serious violence	759	831	1,110	1,285	1,350	1,384	893	759	869	..	..	..
Attempted murder and GBH with intent offences ⁵	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	774	854	10
Other	3,881	3,869	4,637	5,767	6,434	6,485	6,359	5,154	5,163	3,994	3,692	-8
Robbery	3,922	4,128	5,486	4,776	4,117	3,744	4,121	3,977	4,014	3,615	3,641	1
Burglary	329	390	483	494	533	341	298	206	172	167	206	23
Criminal damage	7,465	7,923	9,977	10,956	10,948	10,038	8,979	7,691	6,546	5,158	4,085	-21
Other firearm offences	528	484	611	711	644	824	826	635	560	492	476	-3
All offences	16,946	17,698	22,401	24,070	24,094	22,893	21,526	18,481	17,377	14,241	12,995	-9

1. Figures for some crime categories may have been inflated by some police forces implementing the principles of the National Crime Recording Standard before 1 April 2002.

2. The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable.

3. From 2005/06, 'threat or conspiracy to murder' offences are included within the 'other violence against the person' category.

4. Although firearms were involved in 41 homicides in 2009/10, in one case the firearm was not the cause of death.

5. The offence classification 'more serious wounding or other act endangering life' was replaced with three new offence classifications in April 2008, including the 'inflicting GBH with intent' offences that are included in this table. See Box 2.1 for more details.

Table 2.08 Offences recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, as a percentage of all notifiable offences in particular offence groups, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Percentages	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ¹	2002/03 ²	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06 ³	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09 ⁴	2009/10
Violence against the person											
<i>of which</i>											
Homicide	8.1	8.6	10.9	7.7	7.5	8.9	6.5	7.8	6.8	6.2	6.7
Attempted murder and other most serious violence	2.6	2.7	3.5	3.5	3.1	3.1	4.3	4.0	5.1	..	..
Attempted murder and GBH with intent offences ⁴	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.2	3.5
Other	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
Robbery	4.7	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.2	3.9	4.7	4.5	4.8
Criminal damage	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5
All offences	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3

1. Figures for some crime categories may have been inflated by some police forces implementing the principles of the National Crime Recording Standard before 1 April 2002.

2. The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable.

3. From 2005/06, 'threat or conspiracy to murder' offences are included within the 'other violence against the person' category.

4. The offence classification 'more serious wounding or other act endangering life' was replaced with three new offence classifications in April 2008, including the 'inflicting GBH with intent' offences that are included in this table. See Box 2.1 for more details.

Table 2.09 Offences of robbery recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, by location of offence, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Number of robberies	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ¹	2002/03 ²	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Shop, stall etc.	1,425	1,356	1,683	1,348	1,138	903	1,037	1,002	1,071	1,095	1,032
Garage, service station	213	218	262	205	140	113	137	109	65	61	40
Post Office	315	257	310	287	198	114	108	93	71	61	41
Bank	113	128	168	126	64	89	59	45	73	54	58
Building society	81	86	82	51	25	18	24	14	14	16	13
Residential ³	152	161	289	280	345	450	645	613	481	557	600
Public highway	1,120	1,359	1,973	1,899	1,674	1,316	1,439	1,457	1,314	1,106	1,125
Other premises or open space	503	563	719	580	533	741	672	644	925	665	732
Total	3,922	4,128	5,486	4,776	4,117	3,744	4,121	3,977	4,014	3,615	3,641

1. Figures may have been inflated by some police forces implementing the principles of the National Crime Recording Standard before 1 April 2002.

2. The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable.

3. These crimes are classified as robberies but are mostly break-ins where firearms have been used immediately before or at the time of stealing items from a residential property, and in order to steal these items. If firearms are used instead in the getaway, the crime is classified as a burglary.

Table 2.10 Offences of robbery recorded by the police in which firearms were reported to have been used, by type of principal weapon, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Number of robberies	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ¹	2002/03 ²	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Long-barrelled shotgun	138	97	143	101	98	71	89	115	107	108	111
Sawn-off shotgun	217	202	201	174	148	157	132	136	142	126	131
Handgun	2,561	2,758	3,841	3,332	2,799	2,502	2,888	2,683	2,706	2,564	2,357
Rifle	12	13	16	7	11	10	9	7	14	13	21
Imitation firearm	228	227	279	267	230	211	189	194	169	136	107
Unidentified firearm	432	482	549	579	531	511	504	472	479	391	523
Other firearm	243	233	296	170	215	214	243	297	322	238	336
All firearms excluding air weapons	3,831	4,012	5,325	4,630	4,032	3,676	4,054	3,904	3,939	3,576	3,586
Air weapon	91	116	161	146	85	68	67	73	75	39	55
All firearms	3,922	4,128	5,486	4,776	4,117	3,744	4,121	3,977	4,014	3,615	3,641

1. Figures may have been inflated by some police forces implementing the principles of the National Crime Recording Standard before 1 April 2002.

2. The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable.

Table 2.11 Firearm offences (excluding air weapons) by police force area, 2005/06 to 2009/10

Police force area	England and Wales, recorded crime					Offences per 100,000 population, 2009/10
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	
Cleveland	41	19	15	34	21	4
Durham	18	14	45	22	10	2
Northumbria	137	111	78	51	52	4
North East Region	196	144	138	107	83	3
Cheshire	71	41	59	61	54	5
Cumbria	18	21	18	28	36	7
Greater Manchester	1,200	993	1,160	827	709	27
Lancashire	372	364	349	207	215	15
Merseyside	485	410	398	353	258	19
North West Region	2,146	1,829	1,984	1,476	1,272	18
Humberside	108	117	58	62	43	5
North Yorkshire	15	14	17	11	23	3
South Yorkshire	301	211	202	144	121	9
West Yorkshire	355	319	332	287	236	11
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	779	661	609	504	423	8
Derbyshire	109	83	70	75	69	7
Leicestershire	89	109	134	127	92	9
Lincolnshire	72	45	41	16	19	3
Northamptonshire	128	159	164	112	81	12
Nottinghamshire	277	196	240	204	153	14
East Midlands Region	675	592	649	534	414	9
Staffordshire	128	94	123	44	40	4
Warwickshire	80	90	107	56	57	11
West Mercia	115	58	124	78	84	7
West Midlands	946	979	974	985	903	34
West Midlands Region	1,269	1,221	1,328	1,163	1,084	20
Bedfordshire	103	86	83	64	96	16
Cambridgeshire	34	24	30	34	65	8
Essex	280	255	260	176	154	9
Hertfordshire	114	89	112	68	45	4
Norfolk	29	34	43	29	21	2
Suffolk	58	42	38	25	16	2
East of England Region	618	530	566	396	397	7
London, City of ¹	1	4	3	3	..	..
Metropolitan	3,883	3,327	3,396	3,087	3,524	46
London Region	3,884	3,331	3,399	3,090	3,524	45
Hampshire	85	122	100	75	100	5
Kent	142	92	82	93	64	4
Surrey	87	60	70	66	84	8
Sussex	85	84	69	65	39	3
Thames Valley	401	332	322	214	158	7
South East Region	800	690	643	513	445	6
Avon and Somerset	167	138	116	95	107	7
Devon and Cornwall	174	132	111	70	61	4
Dorset	27	28	21	16	32	5
Gloucestershire	77	65	43	52	34	6
Wiltshire	43	69	49	45	36	6
South West Region	488	432	340	278	270	5
Dyfed-Powys	21	17	25	7	17	3
Gwent	53	33	47	36	29	5
North Wales	88	98	53	42	35	5
South Wales	71	67	84	54	74	6
WALES	233	215	209	139	155	5
ENGLAND AND WALES	11,088	9,645	9,865	8,200	8,067	15

1. .. Not available. Data for London Region includes the City of London.

Table 2.12 Firearms misappropriated¹ in offences recorded by the police, by type of weapon, 1999/00 to 2009/10

Number of firearms	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Air weapon	1,677	1,471	1,689	1,683	1,515	1,283	1,067	1,081	1,075	1,337	1,317
Shotgun	447	431	423	462	397	403	243	282	289	682	509
Handgun	219	167	79	85	96	81	110	103	80	91	96
Rifle	200	172	139	129	130	140	147	210	199	242	183
Starting gun	62	50	45	45	32	31	21	24	17	16	18
Imitation firearm	312	192	471	387	332	322	355	355	267	318	349
Other	85	102	71	53	92	117	125	164	104	144	155
Total	3,002	2,585	2,917	2,844	2,594	2,377	2,068	2,219	2,031	2,830	2,627

1. Misappropriated is defined as stolen, obtained by fraud or forgery etc., or handled dishonestly.

Table 2.13 Firearms misappropriated¹ in offences recorded by the police, by type of weapon and location, 2009/10

Number of firearms	England and Wales, recorded crime										
	Residential	Office	Factory	Store	Goods vehicle	Private car	School	Military establishment	Gun club premises	Other premises	Total
Air weapon	794	13	29	81	4	58	4	-	-	334	1,317
Shotgun	379	4	-	11	6	21	-	-	2	86	509
Handgun	46	-	-	36	-	2	-	1	-	11	96
Rifle	116	-	-	2	-	9	-	1	-	55	183
Starting gun	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	18
Imitation firearm	159	2	50	37	-	2	1	-	-	98	349
Other	75	-	1	11	-	6	-	-	-	62	155
Total	1,584	19	80	178	10	98	5	2	2	649	2,627

1. Misappropriated is defined as stolen, obtained by fraud or forgery etc., or handled dishonestly.

3 Intimate violence: 2009/10 BCS

Philip Hall

3.1 SUMMARY

This chapter presents findings from the 2009/10 British Crime Survey (BCS) self-completion module on intimate violence, which covers emotional, financial or physical abuse by partners or family members, sexual assaults and stalking experienced by adults aged between 16 and 59.

Extent and trends

- Twenty-nine per cent of women and 16 per cent of men had experienced any domestic abuse (any emotional, financial or physical abuse, sexual assault or stalking by a partner or family member) since they were 16. These figures are equivalent to an estimated 4.8 million female victims of domestic abuse and 2.6 million male victims.
- There was no statistically significant difference in the level of domestic abuse between the 2008/09 and 2009/10 BCS.
- Levels of domestic abuse experienced in the previous year have generally declined for both men and women since 2004/05 when the module was first included in the BCS on a comparable basis.

Nature of sexual assault

- For women who had been victims of serious sexual assault since they were 16, the most common perpetrator was a partner or ex-partner (54%).
- Thirty-six per cent of those who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 thought the offender was under the influence of alcohol and nine per cent thought the offender was under the influence of drugs at the time of the incident.
- Eleven per cent of those who had been victims of serious sexual assault in the last year had reported the abuse to the police, a similar level of reporting to that found in 2007/08.

Nature of stalking

- The most common perpetrator in incidents of stalking was a partner or ex-partner (39%).
- The most common of the range of incidents that make up stalking was being sent unwanted letters, emails, text messages or cards that were either obscene or threatening (50%). Others were receiving a number of obscene, threatening, nuisance or silent phone calls (35%), having property deliberately interfered with or damaged (21%), being followed around and watched (17%) and having someone wait or loiter outside the respondent's home or workplace (14%).

3.2 INTRODUCTION

A self-completion module on intimate violence was included in the BCS in 2001 and then on a continuous basis since 2004/05. This chapter presents key findings from the self-completion module in the 2009/10 BCS, which relates to experiences of intimate violence among men and women aged 16 to 59 resident in households in England and Wales. More information on BCS sampling and classifications can be found in the User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics (<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/crimestats-userguide.pdf>).

Figures on prevalence of domestic violence based on face-to-face BCS interviews are regularly published (Flatley *et al.*, 2010) but the issue of willingness to disclose incidents in face-to-face interviews means that this crime type is particularly liable to under-reporting using this method. Findings from the self-completion module published here provide a more complete measure of intimate violence victimisation, but there are several differences in the coverage of the self-completion and face-to-face figures (see Box 3.1 for more information), so care should be taken when making comparisons between the two.

Box 3.1 BCS measures of intimate violence

The figures on prevalence of domestic violence based on face-to-face interviews relate to any physical assault by a partner or ex-partner, relative or household member. Prevalence figures from the self-completion module also cover physical assaults but these are limited to those by partners, ex-partners or other family members. In addition, the self-completion module captures respondents' experiences of non-physical abuse (threats to hurt the victim or someone close to them, emotional abuse and financial abuse), sexual assault and stalking. The small number of sexual offences identified in face-to-face BCS interviews and the likelihood of under-reporting by respondents means that figures are too unreliable to report and these data are excluded from the counts of violence from the main BCS count of crime.

Discounting those respondents who did not complete the self-completion module due to refusal, ineligibility due to age or being unable to use the interviewer's laptop, of those respondents who reported being a victim of domestic violence in face-to-face BCS interviews, the majority (76%) also reported being a victim of domestic abuse in the self-completion module. It is not possible to tell why the remaining respondents did not report being a victim of domestic abuse in the self-completion module; however, some of these are likely to have experienced physical assaults by other household members who were not partners, ex-partners or other family members.

Only a small proportion (5%) of respondents who reported being victims of domestic abuse in the self-completion module had reported that they were victims of domestic violence in face-to-face interviews. This is likely to be due to both the increased reporting of sensitive issues expected on account of the greater confidentiality provided by self-completion methods and the broader definition of domestic abuse used in the self-completion module.

The increased level of reporting to the self-completion module means that this is a more reliable source for information on these types of offence. However, as this module has only been included in the BCS in a comparable form since 2004/05, face-to-face BCS interviews are the main source for longer-term trends.

Chapter contents

This chapter includes headline findings on the extent of, and trends in, intimate violence based on the 2009/10 BCS. These figures revise those published in *Crime in England and Wales 2009/10* and in previous editions of this supplementary volume, due to changes in the method of analysis (see Box 3.2 for more information).

There are two measures of intimate violence: one relates to experiences since the age of 16 and the other is limited to those experiences in the last 12 months. Detailed analysis from previous BCS self-completion modules on the extent and trends of intimate violence on both these measures are reported in Finney (2006), Coleman *et al.* (2007), Povey *et al.* (2008), Povey *et al.* (2009) and Smith *et al.* (2010).

As well as questions on experience of intimate violence, the BCS self-completion module also includes a set of questions asking victims for further details about the nature of the incidents they experienced. These questions focus in alternate years on partner abuse or sexual assault. The questions in the 2009/10 BCS focused on the nature of sexual assault so this chapter also includes analysis of these questions, including information about the context of victimisation and reporting of incidents to the police or others.

Box 3.2 Revisions to BCS measures of intimate violence

Figures on **any domestic abuse**, **any family abuse**, **any partner abuse** and **any sexual assault** published here are calculated by combining responses to two or more questions. For example, the figure for any sexual assault is calculated by combining responses to questions on less serious sexual assault with responses to questions on serious sexual assault. Previously, respondents who answered 'don't know' or 'don't want to answer' to one of these sets of questions were excluded from analysis of the composite measure. However, in this publication, respondents who reported having experienced any one component of these combined measures are classified as victims regardless of 'don't know' or 'don't want to answer' responses elsewhere in the questionnaire. This has the effect of raising prevalence rates for all these measures.

In addition, figures on **any domestic abuse**, **any family abuse** and **any partner abuse** are calculated by examining responses to questions on the identity of the offender in incidents of less serious sexual assault, serious sexual assault and stalking. Previously, an answer of 'don't know' or 'don't want to answer' to any of these questions was taken to mean that the respondent had experienced sexual assault or stalking by someone who was not a partner or family member. However, in this publication, respondents who answered 'don't know' or 'don't want to answer' any question on the identity of the offender are excluded from analysis unless they have stated elsewhere that the offender was a partner or other family member. This has the effect of raising prevalence rates for all these measures.

This publication also corrects an error in the calculation of the figure for **partner abuse (non-sexual) since 16** previously published in *Crime in England and Wales 2009/10*. The relevant tables have been changed accordingly in *Crime in England and Wales 2009/10* and the revised edition is now available online.

3.3 PREVALENCE OF INTIMATE VIOLENCE

Intimate violence is a collective term used to refer to a number of different forms of physical and non-physical abuse consisting of partner abuse, family abuse, sexual assault and stalking. The term reflects the intimate nature either of the victim-offender relationship or of the abuse itself.

Box 3.3 Definitions of abuse

Partner abuse (non-sexual): physical force, non-physical emotional or financial abuse or threats to hurt the respondent or someone close to them carried out by a current or former partner.

Family abuse (non-sexual): physical force, non-physical emotional or financial abuse or threats to hurt the respondent or someone close to them carried out by a family member other than a partner (father/mother, step-father/mother or other relative).

Sexual assault: rape or assault by penetration including attempts ('serious'), indecent exposure, sexual threats or unwanted touching ('less serious') carried out by any person.

Stalking: two or more incidents causing distress, fear or alarm of obscene/threatening unwanted letters or phone calls, waiting or loitering around home or workplace, following or watching, or interfering with or damaging personal property carried out by any person.

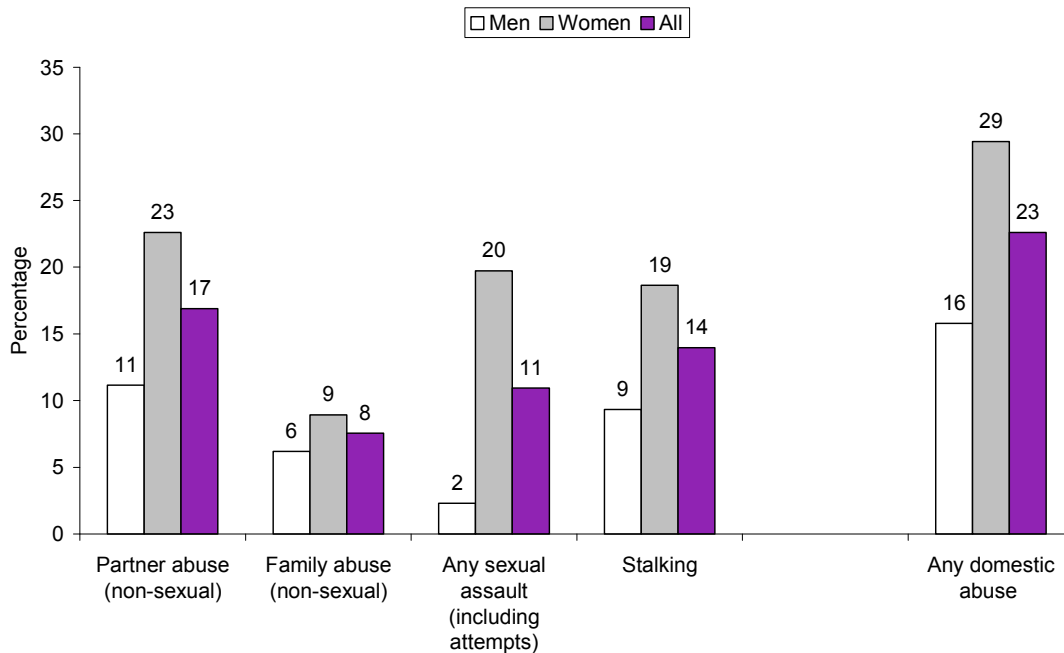
Any domestic abuse: this category combines partner abuse (non-sexual), family abuse (non-sexual) and sexual assault or stalking carried out by a current or former partner or other family member.

Extent

Women were more likely than men to have experienced intimate violence across all the different types of abuse (Table 3.01). This is in contrast to findings on overall violent crime victimisation from face-to-face BCS interviews in which men, particularly young men, were more likely to have experienced violent crime (see Flatley *et al.*, 2010). Self-completion interviews with those aged between 16 and 59 showed:

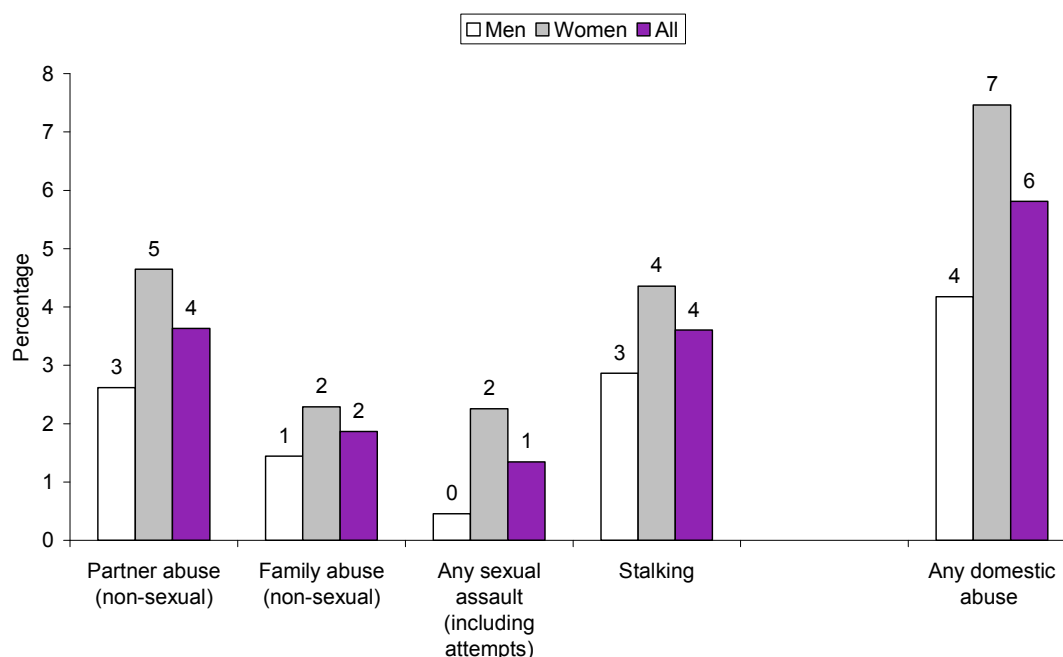
- Overall, 29 per cent of women and 16 per cent of men had experienced any domestic abuse since the age of 16 (Table 3.01 and Figure 3.1). These figures are equivalent to an estimated 4.8 million female victims of domestic abuse and 2.6 million male victims in this age range (Table 3.02).
- Non-sexual partner abuse was the most commonly experienced of the separate types of intimate violence since the age of 16 among both women and men. Twenty three per cent of women and 11 per cent of men reported having experienced such abuse since the age of 16 (Table 3.01 and Figure 3.1).
- Twenty per cent of women had experienced any sexual assault (including attempts) and 19 per cent had experienced stalking since the age of 16 (Table 3.01 and Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1 Prevalence of intimate violence experienced since the age of 16, by sex, 2009/10 BCS



- Seven per cent of women and four per cent of men reported having experienced any domestic abuse in the past year (Table 3.01 and Figure 3.2), equivalent to an estimated 1.2 million female victims of domestic abuse and 700,000 male victims (Table 3.03).
- In the last year, non-sexual partner abuse and stalking were the most common of the separate types of intimate violence, with five per cent of women and three per cent of men reporting having experienced non-sexual partner abuse and four per cent of women and three per cent of men reporting having experienced stalking (Table 3.01 and Figure 3.2).
- Around two per cent of women and less than one per cent of men had experienced some form of sexual assault (including attempts) in the last year. The majority of these are accounted for by less serious sexual assaults. Prevalence of serious sexual assault is lower than other forms of intimate violence among both women and men, with 0.4 per cent of women and 0.1 per cent of men experiencing a serious sexual assault in the past year (Table 3.01 and Figure 3.2).

Figure 3.2 Prevalence of intimate violence experienced in the last year, by sex, 2009/10 BCS



The difference between women and men in levels of sexual assault (including attempts) is much greater when looking at assaults experienced since the age of 16 (19.7% for women compared with 2.3% for men) than in the last year (2.3% for women compared with 0.5% for men) (Table 3.01). This is likely to be due to the fact that the biggest difference in sexual assault victimisation between women and men occurs at younger ages. This means that when looking at figures for victimisation experienced in the last year for all those aged between 16 and 59, levels are influenced by older age groups, where the difference between men and women is smaller. However, the difference in victimisation between men and women that occurs at a younger age is maintained across all ages when looking at victimisation experienced since the age of 16.

Trends

The 2009/10 BCS self-completion module shows there has been a general decline in prevalence of intimate violence over the past six years (Tables 3.04 and 3.05).

- Over the past six years, between 2004/05 and 2009/10, overall prevalence of domestic abuse¹ in the last year has declined for both men and women (from 6% to 4% for men and from 8% to 7% for women). For both men and women, there has been a decline in all forms of intimate violence during this period except sexual assault, which has declined for women (from 3% to 2%) but has shown no statistically significant change for men.
- More recently, between 2008/09 and 2009/10, there was no statistically significant change in any headline measure of intimate violence for either men or women, or for men and women combined.

¹ The measure of domestic abuse used for reporting on trends omits stalking as questions on stalking were not included in the 2007/08 BCS self-completion module on intimate violence.

3.4 RISKS OF INTIMATE VIOLENCE

In addition to women being more likely than men to have experienced intimate violence in the last year, risk of victimisation varied by other personal characteristics. Across the main categories of intimate violence there were characteristics which were associated with an increased risk of victimisation in the last year (Tables 3.06 and 3.07).

- For women, the risk of intimate violence was higher for younger age groups. Women aged between 16 and 19 were at the highest risk of sexual assault (7.9%), while women aged between 16 and 19 or between 20 and 24 were at the highest risk of stalking (8.5% and 7.5% respectively) and any domestic abuse (12.7% and 11.1% respectively).
- Although younger men were generally more likely to have experienced any domestic abuse than older men, there was no statistically significant difference among men in the risk of sexual assault or stalking between different age groups.
- Both women and men with a long-term illness or disability were more likely to be victims of domestic abuse (12.3% and 6.7% respectively) and stalking (5.7% and 5.0% respectively), compared with those without a long-term illness or disability.
- Women who were separated had the highest risk of both domestic abuse (22.3%) and stalking (11.4%) compared with all other groups by marital status. The pattern was slightly different for sexual assault, with separated women (4.3%) only having a statistically significantly higher risk of being a victim than women who were married (0.9%) or cohabiting (1.4%).
- There was less variation in terms of marital status for men. However, married men were less likely than all other male groups except widowed men to be victims of domestic abuse (2.4%).

A full breakdown of the risk of intimate violence victimisation by personal, household and area characteristics is shown in Tables 3.06 and 3.07. Many of these characteristics will be closely associated (for example marital status and age) so caution is needed in the interpretation of the effects of these different characteristics when viewed in isolation. Further analysis using logistic regression can be used to control for interrelated characteristics and to identify which characteristics are independently associated with increased risk of victimisation; see Boxes 3.4, 3.5 and 3.6 for more details.

Box 3.4 Analysis of risk of domestic abuse in the last year using logistic regression

Logistic regression can be used to estimate how much the risk of victimisation is increased or reduced according to different characteristics or behaviours, taking into account the fact that some variables may be interrelated. Although logistic regression can be used to explore associations between variables, it does not necessarily imply causation and results should be treated as indicative rather than conclusive.

Logistic regression shows that those characteristics that contributed most to explaining the risk of domestic abuse were **use of any drug in the last year¹**, **marital status**, **having a long-term illness or disability** and **the respondent's sex**. However, other variables such as household structure, age, tenure, occupation, household income, alcohol consumption and number of visits to a nightclub in the last month were also important (Table 3.08).

People who had **used any drug in the last year¹** had higher odds of being a victim of domestic abuse compared with those who hadn't. However, it is not possible from this analysis to identify whether this is a causal relationship. There may also be other lifestyle factors related to both drug use and victimisation which were not included in the model that are related to an increased likelihood of both.

People who were **separated, divorced or widowed** had higher odds of being a victim of domestic abuse compared with all other marital status groups. This finding is likely to be driven mainly by a higher risk for separated and divorced people. In contrast, married people had lower odds than all other groups. This finding should also be interpreted with caution, as it may be that abuse suffered contributed to separation or divorce, rather than separated or divorced people being more susceptible to abuse.

The model also shows that **people with a long-term illness or disability** had higher odds of being a victim of domestic abuse than people without. In addition, **women** had higher odds than men of being a victim of domestic abuse.

It is interesting to note that no characteristics based on the respondent's local area were independently associated with the risk of domestic abuse.

Once other variables are controlled for, the effect of certain characteristics on the risk of being a victim of domestic abuse becomes clearer. For example, when viewed in isolation, ethnicity appears to have an effect on the risk of being a victim of domestic violence, with White people more likely to be victims than those from a Non-White ethnic background. However, White people are more likely to have used any drug in the last year which is itself independently associated with an increased risk of domestic abuse. When behavioural factors, particularly use of any drug, frequency of alcohol consumption and number of visits to a nightclub in the last month are controlled for, there is no statistically significant difference by ethnicity in the risk of being a victim of domestic abuse.

For more information on the methodology and interpretation of logistic regression presented here, see Section 8.4 of the User Guide.

1. Previously published logistic regression models looking at the risk of domestic abuse did not include the use of any drug in the last year as an independent variable.

3.5 NATURE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

Further questions were asked in the 2009/10 BCS to provide more detail on the circumstances of sexual assault experienced by respondents either since the age of 16 or in the past year.

Offender characteristics

Respondents who had experienced serious sexual assault since they were 16 reported that offenders in incidents of serious sexual assault were most likely to be young men, with 66 per cent of offenders being males aged between 20 and 39 (Table 3.09).

However, the victim-offender relationship profiles varied considerably between different types of sexual assault, and also between female and male victims (Figures 3.3 and 3.4).

- For women who had been victims of serious sexual assault since they were 16, the most common offender was a partner² (54%).
- Among women who had been victims of less serious sexual assault since they were 16, the offender was most likely to be a stranger (60%).
- For men who had been victims of any sexual assault since they were 16, the most common offender was a stranger (51%) or someone else known (e.g. date, friend, acquaintance or colleague; 45%).³
- Overall, sexual assaults were most likely to be carried out by a stranger (58%). However, this largely reflects the victim-offender relationship in incidents of less serious sexual assault against women, which make up the majority of incidents of any sexual assault.

² Includes both current and former partner.

³ Due to the small number of male victims of serious sexual assault, it is not possible to produce robust figures for victim-offender relationship for male victims for serious and less serious sexual assault independently. Therefore, only figures for any sexual assault are included for men.

Figure 3.3 Victim-offender relationship for incidents of serious sexual assault and less serious sexual assault experienced by women since the age of 16, 2009/10 BCS

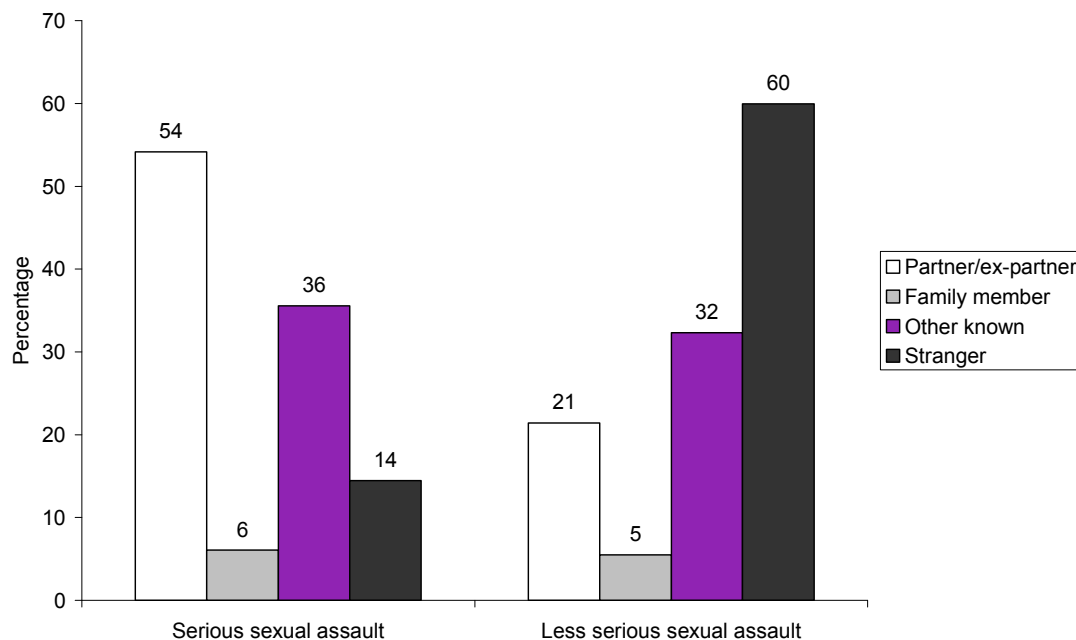
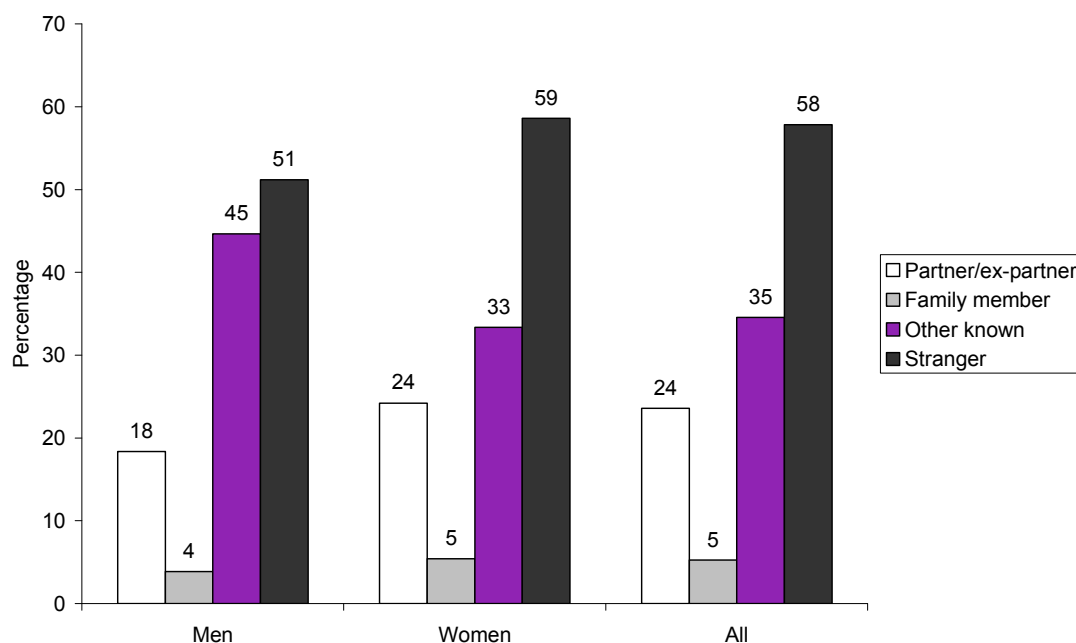


Figure 3.4 Victim-offender relationship for incidents of any sexual assault experienced since the age of 16, by sex, 2009/10 BCS



Influence of alcohol and drugs

Respondents who reported that they had been victims of serious sexual assault since they were 16 were asked whether they thought the offender (or offenders) was under the influence of alcohol or drugs and whether they (the victim) were under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the incident.⁴ For those who had experienced more than one incident, only the most recent incident was asked about.

Victims were more likely to report that offenders were under the influence of alcohol rather than drugs in the most recent incident of serious sexual assault that they had experienced (Table 3.10).

- Thirty-six per cent of those who had experienced serious sexual assault since they were 16 thought the offender had been under the influence of drink and nine per cent thought the offender had been under the influence of drugs.

A minority of victims reported that they themselves were under the influence of drink in the most recent incident of sexual assault that they had experienced. A much smaller proportion reported that they were under the influence of drugs (Table 3.10).

- A quarter (25%) of victims reported that they were under the influence of drink at the time of the most recent incident of serious sexual assault and two per cent reported that they were under the influence of drugs they had chosen to take.
- A small proportion (6%) of victims reported that the offender drugged them during the last incident of serious sexual assault that they had experienced.

Overall, in 29 per cent of incidents of serious sexual assault the victim was under the influence of drink or drugs, either that they had chosen to take or that they had been given by the offender. Around a quarter (24%) of victims who were under the influence of drink or drugs at the time of the incident were seriously sexually assaulted while asleep or unconscious (data not shown).

Location of incidents

Incidents of serious sexual assault were most likely to take place in the victim's home (44%), followed by the offender's home (24%) (Table 3.11).

Reporting of serious sexual assault

A large proportion of victims of serious sexual assault since the age of 16 had not told anyone about their most recent experience, and only a small minority had told the police (Table 3.12).

- Thirty-eight per cent of victims of serious sexual assault since the age of 16 told no-one about their experience.
- For those that did tell someone about their experience, the main group that victims confided in was friends, relatives or neighbours (45%).

⁴ The questions on influence of alcohol or drugs were asked of victims of serious sexual assault since age 16 because the number of victims of serious sexual assault in the last year was low. Some respondents to these questions on the influence of drink or drugs responded "don't know", "don't want to answer" or "can't remember".

- Eleven per cent of victims told the police about their most recent experience of serious sexual assault. This level of reporting to the police is the same as the previously published figure based on 2007/08 BCS interviews (Povey *et al.*, 2009).

Despite the low level of reporting to the police, in cases where the police did come to know about the incident of serious sexual assault, the majority of victims (65%) reported that they found the police to be very or fairly helpful (data not shown).

Effects of serious sexual assault

Eighty-one per cent of victims of serious sexual assault reported that they suffered some ill-effects as a result of the incident. The effects suffered by victims of serious sexual assault were most likely to be mental or emotional problems (54%), followed by respondents having problems trusting people or having difficulty in other relationships (30%). The physical injuries victims were most likely to suffer were minor bruising or a black eye (22%). In six per cent of incidents the victim attempted suicide as a result of the incident. Four per cent of victims of serious sexual assault become pregnant as a result of the incident (Table 3.13).

Box 3.5 Analysis of risk of sexual assault in the last year using logistic regression

Logistic regression shows that those characteristics that contributed most to explaining the risk of sexual assault were **the respondent's sex, use of any drug in the last year** and **age**. However, other variables such as marital status, having a long-term illness or disability and frequency of visits to a nightclub were also important (Table 3.14).

Women had higher odds than men of being a victim of sexual assault.

People who had **used any drug in the last year**¹ had higher odds of being a victim of sexual assault compared with those who hadn't. However, it is not possible from this analysis to identify whether this is a causal relationship. There may also be other lifestyle factors related to both drug use and victimisation which were not included in the model that may be related to an increased likelihood of both.

The model also shows that those **aged between 16 and 19** had higher odds of being a victim of sexual assault compared with older age groups.

It is interesting to note that no characteristics based on the respondent's local area were independently associated with the risk of sexual assault.

Once other variables are controlled for, the effect of certain characteristics on the risk of being a victim of sexual assault becomes clearer. For example, when viewed in isolation, ethnicity appears to have an effect on the risk of being a victim of sexual assault, with White people more likely to be victims than those from a Non-White ethnic background. However, White people are more likely to have used any drug in the last year which is itself independently associated with an increased risk of domestic abuse. When behavioural factors, particularly use of any drug and number of visits to a nightclub in the last month are controlled for, there is no statistically significant difference by ethnicity in the risk of being a victim of domestic abuse.

For more information on the methodology and interpretation of logistic regression presented here, see Section 8.4 of the User Guide.

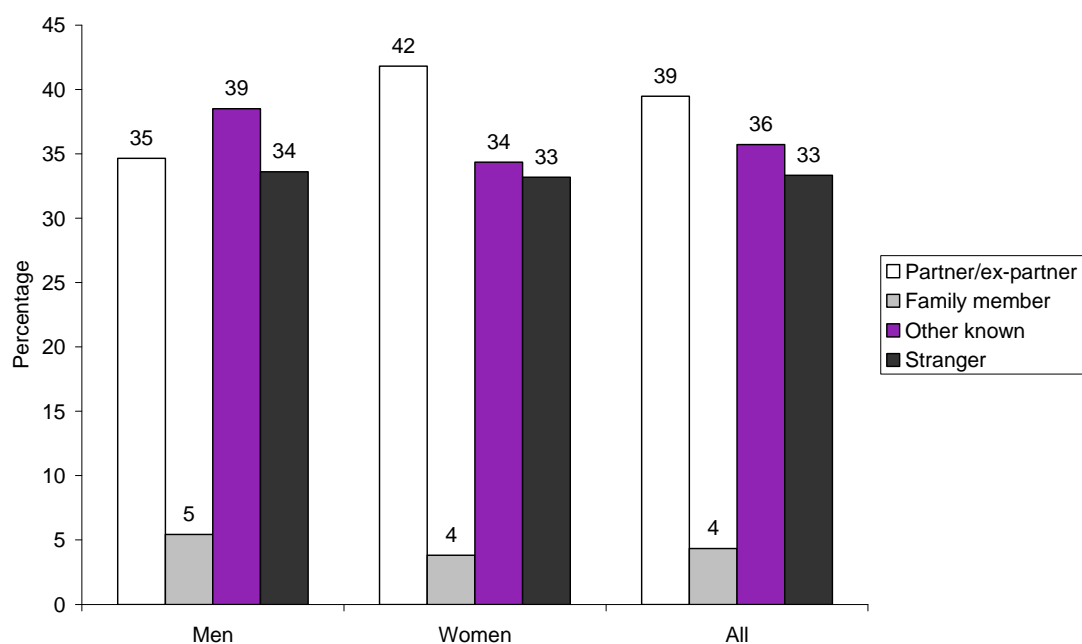
1. Previously published logistic regression models looking at the risk of sexual assault did not include the use of any drug in the last year as an independent variable.

3.6 NATURE OF STALKING

Offender characteristics

There was less variation in the victim-offender relationship for incidents of stalking than for incidents of sexual assault although overall, incidents were most likely to be carried out by partners or ex-partners (39%), followed by other known people (e.g. date, friend, acquaintance or colleague; 36%) and strangers (33%). Only a small proportion of incidents of stalking were carried out by family members (4%). There was also little difference between men and women in the pattern of victim-offender relationships (Figure 3.5).

Figure 3.5 Victim-offender relationship for incidents of stalking experienced since the age of 16, by sex, 2009/10 BCS



Elements of stalking

For both women and men who had experienced stalking in the last year, the most common of the range of incidents that make up stalking was being sent unwanted letters, emails, text messages or cards that were either obscene or threatening (50%). Others were receiving a number of obscene, threatening, nuisance or silent phone calls (35%), having property deliberately interfered with or damaged (21%), being followed around and watched (17%) and having someone wait or loiter outside the respondent's home or workplace (14%) (Table 3.15).

There was some crossover between different forms of stalking. Twenty-five per cent of female victims and 22 per cent of male victims had experienced more than one type of stalking behaviour in the past year (data not shown).

Relationship with other forms of violence

Victims of stalking were more likely to have reported experiencing other incidents of violence in face-to-face interviews than non-victims (9.5% compared with 3.6%). In addition, victims of

stalking were more likely than non-victims to have experienced sexual assault in the last year (9.5% compared with 1.0%) (data not shown).

Box 3.6 Analysis of risk of stalking in the last year using logistic regression

Logistic regression shows that those characteristics that contributed most to explaining the risk of stalking were **having a long-term illness or disability, marital status, household structure and the respondent's sex**. However, other variables such as age, household income and use of any drug in the last year¹ were also important (Table 3.16).

People with a long-term illness or disability had higher odds of being a victim of stalking than people without.

People who were **separated, divorced or widowed** had higher odds of being a victim of stalking compared with all other marital status groups. This finding is likely to be driven mainly by a higher risk for separated and divorced people. In contrast, married people had lower odds than all other groups.

The model also shows that **adults living alone with one or more children** had higher odds of being a victim of stalking than adults living with other adults and children, or adults living with no children. **Women** also had higher odds of being a victim of stalking than men.

For more information on the methodology and interpretation of logistic regression presented here, see Section 8.4 of the User Guide.

1. Previously published logistic regression models looking at the risk of stalking did not include the use of any drug in the last year as an independent variable.

Table 3.01 Prevalence of intimate violence by category among adults aged 16 to 59

Percentages	England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS					
	Since the age of 16			In the last year		
	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All
	<i>% victims once or more</i>					
Any domestic abuse (partner or family non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault or stalking)	15.8	29.4	22.6	4.2	7.5	5.8
Any partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault or stalking)	12.7	26.0	19.3	3.1	5.8	4.4
Any family abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault or stalking)	6.7	10.1	8.4	1.6	2.6	2.1
Partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) – non-sexual	11.2	22.6	16.9	2.6	4.6	3.6
Non-physical abuse (emotional, financial)	7.4	15.4	11.4	1.9	2.9	2.4
Threats or force	6.2	17.4	11.8	1.1	2.8	2.0
Threats	1.0	9.8	5.4	0.2	1.5	0.8
Force	6.0	15.9	10.9	1.0	2.3	1.7
- Minor	2.8	12.6	7.7	0.5	1.6	1.0
- Severe	5.0	11.7	8.4	0.8	1.5	1.1
Family abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) – non-sexual	6.2	8.9	7.6	1.4	2.3	1.9
Non-physical abuse (emotional, financial)	3.5	5.4	4.4	1.0	1.4	1.2
Threats or force	3.7	6.0	4.8	0.6	1.2	0.9
Threats	1.1	2.5	1.8	0.2	0.5	0.4
Force	3.3	5.2	4.2	0.5	0.9	0.7
- Minor	1.4	3.5	2.5	0.1	0.5	0.3
- Severe	2.7	3.7	3.2	0.4	0.6	0.5
Any sexual assault (including attempts)	2.3	19.7	10.9	0.5	2.3	1.3
Serious sexual assault including attempts	0.3	5.1	2.7	0.1	0.4	0.2
Serious sexual assault excluding attempts	0.2	4.3	2.2	0.0	0.3	0.2
Rape including attempts	0.3	4.7	2.5	0.0	0.4	0.2
Rape excluding attempts	0.2	3.8	2.0	0.0	0.3	0.2
Assault by penetration including attempts	0.1	1.8	0.9	0.0	0.1	0.1
Assault by penetration excluding attempts	0.1	1.5	0.8	0.0	0.1	0.1
Less serious sexual assault	2.2	19.0	10.5	0.4	2.1	1.3
Stalking	9.3	18.7	14.0	2.9	4.4	3.6
<i>Unweighted base</i> ¹	<i>9,971</i>	<i>11,988</i>	<i>21,959</i>	<i>9,892</i>	<i>11,728</i>	<i>21,620</i>

1. Bases given are for any domestic abuse; bases for other measures will be similar.

2. See User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics for definitions of different categories of intimate violence.

3. Figures for any domestic abuse, any partner abuse, any family abuse, partner abuse (non-sexual) and any sexual assault differ from those originally published in Crime in England and Wales 2009/10 due to revisions in analysis.

Table 3.02 Estimated numbers of victims of intimate violence since the age of 16 by category among adults aged 16 to 59

Numbers (000s)		England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS	
		Estimate	Range
Any domestic abuse (partner or family non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault or stalking)	Men	2,561	2,422 - 2,700
	Women	4,757	4,599 - 4,916
	All	7,317	7,102 - 7,532
Any partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault or stalking)	Men	2,054	1,927 - 2,180
	Women	4,197	4,045 - 4,349
	All	6,245	6,043 - 6,448
Any family abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault or stalking)	Men	1,083	988 - 1,179
	Women	1,633	1,527 - 1,738
	All	2,711	2,568 - 2,854
Partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) – non-sexual	Men	1,808	1,689 - 1,926
	Women	3,657	3,513 - 3,800
	All	5,465	5,275 - 5,655
Family abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) – non-sexual	Men	1,005	914 - 1,096
	Women	1,441	1,343 - 1,539
	All	2,447	2,313 - 2,581
Any sexual assault (including attempts)	Men	374	317 - 430
	Women	3,187	3,050 - 3,324
	All	3,541	3,383 - 3,700
Stalking	Men	1,511	1,402 - 1,621
	Women	3,015	2,882 - 3,149
	All	4,524	4,348 - 4,700

1. See User Guide for definitions of different categories of intimate violence.

2. Numbers are derived by multiplying the prevalence rate by the 2009 population aged 16 to 59 in England and Wales (based on mid-2006 estimates from the Office for National Statistics). Lower and higher estimates of the range are derived using the 95% confidence interval.

Table 3.03 Estimated numbers of victims of intimate violence in the last year by category among adults aged 16 to 59

Numbers (000s)		England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS	
		Estimate	Range
Any domestic abuse (partner or family non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault or stalking)	Men	677	600 - 754
	Women	1,207	1,115 - 1,299
	All	1,881	1,760 - 2,002
Any partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault or stalking)	Men	510	444 - 577
	Women	931	849 - 1,013
	All	1,438	1,332 - 1,544
Any family abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault or stalking)	Men	263	215 - 311
	Women	414	359 - 469
	All	676	602 - 750
Partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) – non-sexual	Men	424	364 - 485
	Women	751	679 - 823
	All	1,175	1,080 - 1,270
Family abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) – non-sexual	Men	234	188 - 279
	Women	370	318 - 421
	All	604	535 - 672
Any sexual assault (including attempts)	Men	74	48 - 99
	Women	364	313 - 416
	All	435	376 - 494
Stalking	Men	464	401 - 527
	Women	704	634 - 774
	All	1,167	1,073 - 1,262

1. See User Guide for definitions of different categories of intimate violence.

2. Numbers are derived by multiplying the prevalence rate by the 2009 population aged 16 to 59 in England and Wales (based on mid-2006 estimates from the Office for National Statistics). Lower and higher estimates of the range are derived using the 95% confidence interval.

Table 3.04 Prevalence of intimate violence in the last year among men and women aged 16 to 59, 2004/05 to 2009/10 BCS

Percentages	England and Wales, BCS													
	Men					Women								
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08 ¹	2008/09	2009/10	2004/05 to 2009/10	2004/05 to 2009/10	2004/05 to 2009/10	2004/05 to 2009/10				
	% victims once or more					% victims once or more								
Any domestic abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force or sexual assault) ²	5.6	5.5	5.8	5.2	4.0	3.6	**	8.1	8.2	7.9	6.9	6.4	6.6	**
Any partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force or sexual assault) ²	4.3	4.1	4.5	4.3	2.7	2.7	**	5.9	6.1	5.9	5.3	4.7	5.0	**
Any family abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force or sexual assault) ²	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.4	1.8	1.5	**	3.3	3.2	3.3	2.3	2.6	2.4	**
Partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) – non-sexual	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.2	2.7	2.6	**	5.6	5.7	5.6	4.9	4.4	4.6	**
Non-physical abuse (emotional, financial)	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.7	1.8	1.9	**	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	2.8	2.9	**
Threats or force	2.1	1.9	2.2	2.1	1.2	1.1	**	3.3	3.5	3.4	2.7	2.7	2.8	**
Threats	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	**	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.5	**
Force	2.0	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.2	2.0	**	2.7	3.0	2.7	2.2	2.2	2.3	**
- Minor	1.0	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.5	**	1.9	2.4	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.6	**
- Severe	1.6	1.3	1.7	1.4	0.9	0.8	**	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.5	**
Family abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) – non-sexual	2.0	1.9	2.1	1.4	1.8	1.4	**	3.1	3.1	3.2	2.1	2.4	2.3	**
Non-physical abuse (emotional, financial)	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.0	1.0	**	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.2	1.4	1.4	**
Threats or force	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.6	1.1	0.6	**	1.7	1.9	1.9	1.2	1.5	1.2	**
Threats	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	**	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.5	**
Force	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.5	1.0	0.5	**	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.0	1.2	0.9	**
- Minor	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.1	**	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.5	**
- Severe	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.4	**	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.6	**
Sexual assault (any assault including attempts)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5	**	2.8	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.5	2.3	**
Serious sexual assault including attempts	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	**	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	**
Serious sexual assault excluding attempts	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	**	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	**
Rape including attempts	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	**	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	**
Rape excluding attempts	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	**	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	**
Assault by penetration including attempts	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	**	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	**
Assault by penetration excluding attempts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	**	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	**
Less serious sexual assault	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4	**	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.1	**
Stalking	6.3	4.8	4.2	n/a	2.8	2.9	**	6.6	6.5	5.9	n/a	4.4	4.4	**
Unweighted base ³	10,369	11,159	11,127	10,810	10,964	10,011		12,570	13,423	12,873	12,410	12,866	11,833	

1. The 2007/08 BCS self-completion module on intimate violence did not include questions on stalking.

2. Figures for any domestic abuse, any partner abuse and any family abuse have excluded stalking in order to create a comparable measure across years (questions on stalking were not included in the 2007/08 BCS).

3. The bases given are for any domestic abuse, the bases for the other measures presented will be similar.

4. See Section 5 of the User Guide for definitions of the various types of intimate violence.

5. Figures for any domestic abuse, any family abuse, any partner abuse (non-sexual) and any sexual assault differ from those originally published in Crime in England and Wales 2009/10 due to revisions in analysis.

Table 3.05 Prevalence of intimate violence in the last year among adults aged 16 to 59, 2004/05 to 2009/10 BCS

Percentages							England and Wales, BCS	
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08 ¹	2008/09	2009/10	Statistically significant change	
							2004/05 to 2009/10	2008/09 to 2009/10
	<i>% victims once or more</i>							
Any domestic abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force or sexual assault)²	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.1	5.2	5.1	**	
Any partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force or sexual assault)²	5.1	5.1	5.2	4.8	3.7	3.8	**	
Any family abuse (non-physical abuse, threats, force or sexual assault)²	2.7	2.6	2.7	1.8	2.2	1.9	**	
Partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) – non-sexual	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.5	3.5	3.6	**	
Non-physical abuse (emotional, financial)	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.3	2.4	**	
Threats or force	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.4	1.9	2.0	**	
Threats	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.8		
Force	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.1	1.7	1.7	**	
- Minor	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0	**	
- Severe	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.1	**	
Family abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) – non-sexual	2.6	2.5	2.6	1.8	2.1	1.9	**	
Non-physical abuse (emotional, financial)	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.0	1.2	1.2	**	
Threats or force	1.4	1.5	1.4	0.9	1.3	0.9	**	**
Threats	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4		
Force	1.1	1.2	1.2	0.8	1.1	0.7	**	**
- Minor	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.3	**	**
- Severe	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.5	**	**
Sexual assault (any assault including attempts)	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.3	**	
Serious sexual assault including attempts	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2		
Serious sexual assault excluding attempts	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2		
Rape including attempts	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2		
Rape excluding attempts	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2		
Assault by penetration including attempts	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	**	
Assault by penetration excluding attempts	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1		
Less serious sexual assault	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.3	**	
Stalking	6.4	5.7	5.1	n/a	3.6	3.6	**	
<i>Unweighted base³</i>	<i>22,939</i>	<i>24,582</i>	<i>24,000</i>	<i>23,220</i>	<i>23,830</i>	<i>21,844</i>		

1. The 2007/08 BCS self-completion module on intimate violence did not include questions on stalking.

2. Figures for any domestic abuse, any partner abuse and any family abuse have excluded stalking in order to create a comparable measure across years (questions on stalking were not included in the 2007/08 BCS).

3. The bases given are for any domestic abuse; the bases for the other measures presented will be similar.

4. See Section 5 of the User Guide for definitions of the various types of intimate violence.

5. Figures for any domestic abuse, any partner abuse, any family abuse, partner abuse (non-sexual) and any sexual assault differ from those originally published in Crime in England and Wales 2009/10 due to revisions in analysis.

Table 3.06 Percentage of adults aged 16 to 59 who were victims of intimate violence in the last year, by type, by personal characteristics, by sex

Percentages	England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS											
	Any domestic abuse		Partner abuse (non-sexual)		Family abuse (non-sexual)		Sexual assault		Stalking		Unweighted base ¹	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
ALL ADULTS	4.2	7.5	2.6	4.6	1.4	2.3	0.5	2.3	2.9	4.4	9,892	11,728
Age group												
16-19	6.2	12.7	3.6	7.3	2.7	3.9	1.2	7.9	3.3	8.5	661	670
20-24	5.5	11.1	3.0	5.6	2.1	4.4	0.5	3.6	3.5	7.5	756	898
25-34	5.4	7.3	3.7	4.8	1.5	1.6	0.5	2.1	3.3	4.4	2,048	2,634
35-44	3.4	6.8	2.3	4.7	1.0	1.7	0.3	0.9	2.7	3.8	2,746	3,477
45-54	2.8	5.3	1.7	3.4	1.1	2.0	0.3	1.4	2.1	2.4	2,579	2,809
55-59	2.6	4.8	1.6	3.2	0.9	1.4	0.4	0.7	2.9	2.0	1,102	1,240
Ethnic group												
White	4.3	7.5	2.7	4.7	1.5	2.3	0.4	2.3	2.8	4.2	9,074	10,835
Non-White	3.4	7.4	1.7	4.5	1.4	2.2	0.5	1.9	2.9	5.3	815	887
Marital status												
Married	2.4	3.7	1.5	2.3	0.9	1.4	0.2	0.9	2.4	1.7	4,610	5,226
Cohabiting	5.3	7.0	3.5	4.5	1.6	2.0	0.4	1.4	2.7	3.6	1,392	1,526
Single	5.7	10.8	3.2	6.5	2.2	3.1	0.8	4.6	3.3	7.7	2,956	3,201
Separated	7.6	22.3	5.8	17.2	2.2	4.8	0.0	4.3	4.3	11.4	274	476
Divorced	8.3	14.1	6.3	8.8	1.5	4.7	0.8	2.1	5.5	6.4	599	1,132
Widowed	3.0	7.8	2.8	4.2	0.0	2.2	0.0	1.4	1.9	4.0	60	165
Respondent's employment status												
Employed	3.8	6.4	2.3	4.0	1.2	1.9	0.3	2.0	2.8	3.6	8,148	8,684
Unemployed	5.6	13.7	4.4	8.0	1.6	5.3	0.9	5.3	3.0	9.3	571	392
Inactive	6.0	9.8	3.5	6.3	2.8	2.9	1.0	2.5	3.0	5.7	1,154	2,632
<i>Student</i>	5.1	9.1	2.1	4.8	3.0	3.4	0.9	5.5	1.8	8.5	450	457
<i>Looking after family/home</i>	3.5	9.6	2.2	7.0	1.3	2.3	0.0	0.9	0.0	4.4	68	1,348
<i>Long-term/temporarily sick/ill</i>	8.5	15.4	5.5	9.4	4.2	5.1	1.5	3.6	7.5	6.5	375	472
<i>Retired</i>	0.9	3.3	0.6	2.0	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.9	2.3	109	187
<i>Other inactive</i>	10.0	7.2	8.8	4.3	1.8	2.9	1.6	0.8	2.4	4.6	152	168
Respondent's occupation												
Managerial and professional occupations	3.2	5.3	2.1	3.5	0.8	1.3	0.3	1.6	2.7	3.5	4,013	4,469
Intermediate occupations	3.6	5.6	2.0	4.2	1.3	1.5	0.6	1.5	3.4	3.5	1,742	2,511
Routine and manual occupations	5.4	10.3	3.6	6.0	2.0	3.6	0.5	2.0	3.0	4.3	3,278	3,590
Never worked and long-term unemployed	4.6	11.0	3.6	7.1	1.2	3.8	0.0	3.0	0.6	7.5	161	329
Full-time students	4.8	8.9	2.1	4.4	2.5	2.8	0.7	6.1	2.5	8.1	649	772
Not classified	-	17.7	-	14.9	-	6.4	-	2.5	-	3.0	49	57
Highest qualification												
Degree or diploma	3.1	5.7	2.1	3.5	0.9	1.6	0.5	2.1	2.7	3.8	4,116	4,886
Apprenticeship or A/AS level	5.1	8.2	2.9	4.6	1.8	2.5	0.4	2.9	3.0	4.8	2,265	1,972
O level/GCSE	4.9	8.8	3.2	6.0	1.6	2.5	0.6	2.6	3.4	5.2	2,163	3,196
Other	5.6	8.6	4.0	6.5	2.1	2.2	0.0	0.6	1.6	1.9	270	327
No qualifications	4.3	9.2	2.4	5.3	2.1	4.2	0.3	1.2	2.3	4.0	1,073	1,343
Long-standing illness or disability												
Long-standing illness or disability	6.7	12.3	3.8	7.1	2.8	4.5	0.9	3.0	5.0	5.7	1,519	2,030
Limits activities	6.8	13.8	4.2	7.9	3.3	5.2	0.9	3.0	5.5	6.5	843	1,217
Does not limit activities	6.6	10.1	3.5	5.8	2.3	3.4	0.9	3.0	4.5	4.5	675	810
No long-standing illness or disability	3.8	6.6	2.4	4.2	1.2	1.9	0.4	2.1	2.5	4.1	8,369	9,691
Hours out of home on an average weekday												
Less than 3 hours	4.8	8.7	2.8	5.5	2.0	2.7	0.3	1.6	3.2	4.1	924	2,037
3 hours less than 7 hours	4.6	7.2	3.3	4.5	1.7	2.4	0.9	2.1	2.8	3.9	1,468	3,577
7 hours or longer	4.0	7.2	2.5	4.5	1.3	2.1	0.4	2.5	2.8	4.7	7,490	6,099
Number of evening visits to bar in last month												
None	4.1	7.7	2.2	4.8	1.9	2.4	0.5	1.6	2.8	4.1	3,294	4,914
Less than once a week	4.0	6.9	2.6	4.3	1.2	2.3	0.4	2.1	2.4	4.4	3,298	4,417
Once a week or more often	4.5	7.8	3.1	5.0	1.2	2.2	0.5	3.7	3.3	4.9	3,299	2,397
Number of visits to nightclub in last month												
None	3.6	6.7	2.2	4.3	1.4	2.1	0.3	1.6	2.5	3.7	8,280	10,124
Less than once a week	6.3	10.5	4.2	6.1	2.0	3.4	1.2	5.3	4.1	7.0	1,251	1,346
Once a week or more often	6.8	14.2	4.3	7.8	1.3	2.7	0.5	7.0	5.1	9.8	360	257

1. Bases given are for any domestic abuse; bases for other measures will be similar.

2. See User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

Table 3.07 Percentage of adults aged 16 to 59 who were victims of intimate violence in the last year, by type, by household and area characteristics, by sex

Percentages	England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS											
	Any domestic abuse		Partner abuse (non-sexual)		Family abuse (non-sexual)		Sexual assault		Stalking		Unweighted base ¹	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
ALL ADULTS	4.2	7.5	2.6	4.6	1.4	2.3	0.5	2.3	2.9	4.4	9,892	11,728
Structure of household												
No children	4.3	6.7	2.8	4.1	1.5	2.1	0.5	2.6	3.0	4.0	6,366	6,248
Adults and child(ren)	3.7	6.3	2.2	3.7	1.3	2.1	0.3	1.7	2.6	3.5	3,415	3,977
Single adult and child(ren)	17.0	20.5	13.0	14.7	5.2	4.5	0.0	2.5	4.8	11.4	111	1,503
Household income												
Less than £10,000	8.5	16.9	6.0	10.9	3.1	5.0	0.8	3.5	6.3	8.5	740	1,235
£10,000 less than £20,000	4.4	10.4	2.2	6.5	1.4	2.6	0.4	2.7	3.9	6.2	1,137	1,975
£20,000 less than £30,000	5.1	8.5	3.0	5.1	1.7	3.4	0.6	2.2	2.8	4.7	1,485	1,743
£30,000 less than £40,000	3.6	5.2	2.0	3.1	1.4	1.5	0.3	1.7	2.9	4.2	1,442	1,521
£40,000 less than £50,000	3.6	5.6	2.8	3.8	1.0	1.6	0.5	1.2	2.0	2.1	1,109	1,071
£50,000 or more	3.4	4.3	2.2	2.8	1.0	1.2	0.4	1.8	2.7	1.9	2,403	2,325
No income stated or not enough information provid	3.9	6.7	2.5	3.9	1.7	2.1	0.5	2.8	2.0	4.9	1,576	1,858
Tenure												
Owner occupiers	3.6	4.4	2.1	2.9	1.3	1.3	0.2	1.4	2.6	3.0	6,729	7,781
Social renters	7.0	14.5	4.8	9.4	3.1	4.0	1.0	2.7	3.8	6.8	1,113	1,794
Private renters	4.5	12.1	3.0	6.7	1.1	4.1	0.8	4.5	3.0	6.6	2,026	2,130
Accommodation type												
Houses	4.0	7.0	2.4	4.3	1.4	2.3	0.4	2.1	2.8	4.1	8,406	10,226
<i>Detached</i>	2.6	5.7	1.6	3.7	0.8	1.4	0.1	2.4	2.6	3.2	2,519	2,735
<i>Semi-detached</i>	4.7	6.3	2.6	3.9	2.0	2.0	0.4	1.6	2.8	3.9	3,084	3,831
<i>Terraced</i>	4.2	8.7	2.7	5.1	1.2	3.2	0.7	2.5	3.0	5.0	2,803	3,660
Flats/maisonettes	5.8	10.8	4.3	6.9	1.8	2.6	0.7	3.4	3.2	6.2	1,303	1,319
Other accommodation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	10
Output area classification												
Blue collar communities	5.2	10.1	3.7	6.2	1.9	3.3	0.7	2.1	3.2	5.2	1,631	2,065
City living	3.8	7.3	2.7	4.3	1.0	1.4	0.8	4.5	2.6	4.9	566	595
Countryside	3.8	7.2	2.6	4.8	0.8	1.6	0.0	2.1	3.0	3.7	1,429	1,635
Prospering suburbs	4.0	5.1	2.2	3.5	1.9	1.1	0.2	2.0	2.5	2.7	2,348	2,727
Constrained by circumstances	6.1	9.4	3.9	5.7	1.8	2.6	0.5	2.1	4.3	6.9	818	1,075
Typical traits	3.9	6.4	2.4	3.9	1.2	2.4	0.2	1.7	2.9	4.2	2,221	2,692
Multicultural	3.1	9.7	1.7	5.3	1.0	3.9	1.0	3.0	2.1	5.2	879	939
Area type												
Urban	4.3	7.5	2.6	4.6	1.5	2.3	0.5	2.3	2.8	4.6	7,439	8,857
Rural	3.8	7.2	2.8	4.7	1.1	2.0	0.2	2.3	3.0	3.4	2,453	2,871
Level of physical disorder												
High	5.2	13.6	3.1	7.6	2.3	4.2	0.9	1.9	3.6	6.8	570	690
Not high	4.1	7.0	2.6	4.4	1.4	2.2	0.4	2.3	2.8	4.2	9,221	10,942
Employment deprivation index												
20% most deprived output areas	4.7	10.7	2.5	6.0	1.7	3.5	0.7	2.7	3.2	6.4	1,681	2,037
Other output areas	3.9	7.0	2.5	4.5	1.3	2.1	0.4	2.1	2.9	4.2	5,424	6,467
20% least deprived output areas	4.2	6.1	2.9	3.9	1.6	1.8	0.4	2.5	2.5	3.0	2,090	2,360
Region and Wales												
North East	4.1	7.4	2.2	4.7	1.9	2.3	0.3	1.7	2.5	4.5	666	839
North West	4.8	8.0	2.9	4.7	1.3	2.4	0.3	2.4	2.8	5.5	1,129	1,386
Yorkshire and the Humber	4.0	6.6	1.9	4.3	1.7	1.9	0.5	3.3	1.9	5.0	918	1,072
East Midlands	5.7	6.6	4.1	4.3	2.2	1.7	0.3	2.4	3.0	3.7	1,034	1,292
West Midlands	4.3	6.9	2.2	4.1	1.4	2.5	0.6	1.6	2.9	3.6	949	1,091
East of England	3.4	8.0	1.9	4.9	1.1	2.8	0.3	1.9	2.8	3.5	1,349	1,546
London	2.7	7.3	1.7	4.5	1.2	2.0	0.8	3.1	2.1	4.5	895	1,027
South East	4.9	8.8	3.5	5.7	1.2	2.6	0.7	1.9	4.0	4.6	1,178	1,341
South West	3.7	6.5	2.7	3.9	1.4	2.2	0.1	1.7	2.9	3.9	1,077	1,270
Wales	5.2	7.1	3.4	4.6	1.8	2.1	0.0	1.6	3.4	3.8	697	864

1. Bases given are for any domestic abuse; bases for other measures will be similar.

2. See User Guide for definitions of household and area characteristics.

Table 3.09 Age and sex of offender in incidents of serious sexual assault experienced by adults aged 16 to 59 since the age of 16, by sex

Percentages	England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS		
	Men	Women	All
Male under 16	-	0	0
Male 16-19	-	14	14
Male 20-39	-	67	66
Male 40-59	-	17	18
Male 60 or over	-	2	1
Female under 16	-	0	0
Female 16-19	-	0	0
Female 20-39	-	0	0
Female 40-59	-	0	0
Female 60 or over	-	0	0
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>634</i>	<i>657</i>

1. If the victim had experienced more than one serious sexual assault, the question was asked of the most recent incident.

2. Figures are not published for BCS estimates based on less than 50 respondents.

Table 3.10 Influence of alcohol and drugs in incidents of serious sexual assault experienced by adults aged 16 to 59 since the age of 16, by sex

Percentages	England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS		
	Men	Women	All
Offender was under the influence of alcohol			
Yes	-	37	36
No	-	51	52
Don't know/can't remember	-	12	12
Offender was under the influence of drugs			
Yes	-	9	9
No	-	70	70
Don't know/can't remember	-	21	21
Offender drugged victim			
Yes	-	6	6
No	-	89	89
Don't know/can't remember	-	5	5
Victim use of alcohol or drugs			
Victim under the influence of alcohol	-	25	25
Victim under the influence of drugs they had chosen to take	-	2	2
Victim under the influence of alcohol or drugs they had chosen to take or that the offender had drugged them with			
	-	28	29
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>686</i>	<i>713</i>

1. If the victim had experienced more than one serious sexual assault, question was asked of the most recent incident.

2. Figures are not published for BCS estimates based on less than 50 respondents.

3. Unweighted base refers to question on whether offender was under the influence of alcohol. Other bases will be similar.

Table 3.11 Location of serious sexual assault experienced by adults aged 16 to 59 since the age of 16, by sex

Percentages	England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS		
	Men	Women	All
In your own home	-	45	44
At the offender's home	-	23	24
On the street	-	5	5
In a park/other open public place	-	5	5
In a car park	-	3	3
At work	-	2	2
At school/university/place of study	-	1	2
In a pub/club/disco	-	1	1
On public transport	-	1	1
Somewhere else	-	14	14
<i>Unweighted base</i>	27	675	702

1. If the victim had experienced more than one serious sexual assault, question was asked of the most recent incident.

2. Figures are not published for BCS estimates based on less than 50 respondents.

Table 3.12 Who the victim had told personally about the serious sexual assault experienced since the age of 16, by sex

Percentages	England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS		
	Men	Women	All
Victim told someone	-	62	62
Friends/relatives/neighbour	-	45	45
Counsellor/therapist	-	12	12
Police	-	11	11
Health professional	-	9	10
Someone at work	-	3	3
Legal professional	-	3	3
A Sexual Assault Referral Centre	-	2	2
Victim Support	-	2	2
National domestic violence helpline	-	2	2
Other specialist support service	-	2	2
Rape crisis line	-	1	1
Housing department	-	0	0
Any other helpline	-	0	0
Benefit Agency	-	0	0
Social services	-	0	0
Someone else	-	3	4
Victim told no one	-	38	38
<i>Unweighted base</i>	27	688	715

1. If the victim had experienced more than one serious sexual assault, question was asked of the most recent incident.

2. Figures are not published for BCS estimates based on less than 50 respondents.

Table 3.13 Effects of serious sexual assault experienced by adults aged 16 to 59 since the age of 16, by sex

Percentages	England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS		
	Men	Women	All
Some effects suffered		82	81
Mental or emotional problems	-	55	54
Stopped trusting people/difficulty in other relationships	-	31	30
Minor bruising or black eye	-	22	22
Scratches	-	14	14
Stopped going out so much	-	14	13
Severe bruising or bleeding from cuts	-	11	11
Other physical injuries	-	7	7
Victim attempted suicide	-	6	6
Internal injuries/broken bones or teeth	-	6	6
Becoming pregnant	-	4	4
Contracting a disease	-	3	3
Something else	-	4	4
No effect suffered	-	18	19
<i>Unweighted base</i>	26	675	701

1. If the victim had experienced more than one serious sexual assault, question was asked of the most recent incident.

2. Figures are not published for BCS estimates based on less than 50 respondents.

Table 3.15 Proportion of stalking victims aged 16 to 59 experiencing different elements of stalking in the last year, by sex

Percentages	England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS		
	Men	Women	All
Sent you unwanted letters, emails, text messages or cards that were either obscene or threatening	49.7	50.7	50.3
Made a number of obscene, threatening, nuisance or silent phone calls to you	32.0	36.4	34.7
Deliberately interfered with or damaged your personal property	28.8	16.0	21.1
Followed you around and watched you	12.8	20.1	17.2
Waited or loitered outside your home or workplace	11.9	14.6	13.6
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>303</i>	<i>574</i>	<i>877</i>

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Amendments:

Page 20, paragraph four – the figure 33 per cent has been amended to 34 per cent.

Page 21, paragraph three - the figure 61 per cent has been amended to 60 per cent.

Page 21, Table 1c, a number of changes have been made to the percentages in the ethnic appearance of victim and principal suspect. The figures for the number of cases with current suspect have also been amended.

Page 42, Table 1.11, figures in the total number of convicted homicides row have been amended for all years.

Amended 20th October 2011