



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Scottish Crime Survey 2003

Crime and Criminal Justice



social
research

**SCOTTISH CRIME SURVEY
2003**

**Susan McVie
Siobhan Campbell
Korin Lebov**

**Scottish Executive Social Research
2004**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2003 Scottish Crime Survey (SCS) was a household survey of people's experiences and perceptions of crime, based on interviews with 5,041 adults (aged 16 or over) throughout Scotland. This was the sixth such survey, and last in its current format.

A fundamental review of the design, content and management of the SCS was commissioned by the Scottish Executive in February 2003. The findings of this review led to the re-launch of the survey as the larger Scottish Crime and Victimization Survey (SCVS) in June 2004. The SCVS represents a major shift in design, methodology and sample size from previous surveys and is now a continuous survey with an annual sample of 27,500 adults (aged 16 or over) interviewed over the telephone rather than face-to-face.

The SCS provides an index of crime in Scotland which complements the official police recorded crime statistics by estimating the extent of crimes which are experienced by households and individuals, whether or not they are reported to, or recorded by, the police. This report presents the main findings from the 2003 SCS, providing comparisons with the previous sweeps of the survey and the Scottish police recorded crime statistics. From the 2001/2002 survey the British Crime Survey (BCS) moved from reporting by calendar year to financial year, and so data for Scotland for 2002 are not comparable with published data from England and Wales for the same year. This problem will be resolved by the SCVS, which will also report by financial year.

Chapter 1 of this report explains the background to, and the purpose and advantages of, conducting social surveys of victimisation, as well as the limitations of attempting to measure the extent of crime in this way. Chapter 2 provides estimates of the extent of crime and victimisation in Scotland for 2002, while Chapter 3 provides information on the trends in self-reported victimisation by comparing the results from the 2003 SCS to those found in previous sweeps. Chapter 4 provides a comparison of the findings with official police recorded crime statistics. Chapter 5 explores the risk of victimisation and Chapter 6 examines the public's perception of crime and their worry about crime. Finally, Chapter 7 looks at the prevalence of drug use in Scotland.

The main findings from the 2003 SCS are detailed below.

Extent and nature of crime in Scotland: 1992 to 2002

- Estimates from the 2003 SCS suggest that just over 1 million incidents of the crimes asked about were committed against individuals and households in Scotland in 2002. This represents an increase of 30 per cent from the number of crimes estimated for 1999, but is very similar to the estimate for 1992. Two thirds of all crimes were committed against property, the remainder against individuals.
- Housebreaking accounted for 8 per cent of all SCS crimes in 2002. This crime has shown a significant decline over the ten years from 1992 to 2002, falling by 51 per cent. The definition of housebreaking includes both attempted and successful entry. The proportion of housebreaking incidents that has involved successful entry has also decreased over time, from 69 per cent in 1992 to 54 per cent in 2002.
- Vandalism accounted for 34 per cent of the total number of crimes reported to the SCS. Vandalism rose sharply by 68 per cent between 1999 and 2002. This is due to a rise in both vandalism against motor vehicles and vandalism against other private property. Although there has undoubtedly been a genuine increase, there is some evidence to suggest that this might include a greater proportion of trivial vandalism incidents reported to the SCS than was in the case in previous survey sweeps.

- Crimes of violence (robbery and assault) accounted for 24 percent of SCS crimes. There was no statistically significant change in the incidence of violent crime between 1999 and 2002. However, there was a significant increase of 46 per cent between 1992 and 2002. This was the result of a 125 per cent increase in petty assault. Serious assault, in contrast, decreased by 38 per cent over the same period.

Comparison with police recorded crime statistics

- Only 68 per cent of SCS crimes were directly comparable with police recorded crime statistics (that is reported and non-reported housebreaking, vandalism, theft of a vehicle, theft of a bicycle, assault and robbery). Of these, it is estimated that only 24 per cent were recorded by the police in 2002. This is lower than the 30 per cent estimated to have been recorded in 1999 and the 36 per cent in 1995 and 1992. The decrease in crimes recorded between 1999 and 2002 is mainly explained by a significant reduction in the proportion of incidents of vandalism that was reported and recorded.
- The crimes most likely to be reported to the police in 2002 were theft of a motor vehicle (97%), housebreaking (64%), and theft from a motor vehicle (60%). The crimes which were least likely to be recorded by the police were other types of household theft (16%) and theft from the person (28%).

Risks of victimisation

- Twenty-three per cent of respondents were victims of at least one personal or household crime in 2002. This represents a small increase from 20 per cent in 1999 but remains lower than the risk in 1992 (27%).
- One in six (18%) households experienced an incident of property crime in 2002. The most common property crime was vandalism, experienced by one in ten households.
- Just under 3 per cent of households were victims of housebreaking in 2002. This represents a continuation of the downward trend in the prevalence of housebreaking since 1992.
- Only 6 per cent of respondents were victims of a personal crime in 2002. The most common personal crimes were assault (3%) and personal theft (2%). Less than one per cent experienced robbery.
- In terms of the variation of risk among different sections of the population, the following observations can be made:
 - Men were slightly more likely than women to become victims of both household and personal crime in 2002. This is particularly evident amongst 16 to 24 year old men in relation to personal crime.
 - The high prevalence of personal crime against young men is primarily due to the high prevalence of violent crime amongst this group.
 - Those aged 60 or over were the least likely to become the victim of both household and personal crime.
 - Vehicle owners living in the most deprived areas were most likely to be victims of vehicle theft.

Public perceptions of crime

- When respondents were asked to describe how serious they considered a range of social issues in Scotland over three quarters (83%) described crime as being 'extremely'

or 'quite' serious. Only drug abuse was considered by more (91%) to be an 'extremely' or 'quite' serious problem.

- Forty-two per cent of respondents felt there was more crime in their local area than two years previously. This proportion is similar to that found in the 2000 SCS (41%).
- When asked how common they felt particular crimes were in their local area the proportions who felt various household crimes (people having their vehicles damaged by vandals, people having things stolen from their vehicles, people's homes being broken into and people having their vehicles stolen) were 'very' or 'fairly' common decreased from that in 2000. However, the proportion who felt personal crimes (people being assaulted or attacked in public places, people being assaulted by people they live with and people being mugged or robbed) were 'very' or 'fairly' common showed an increase from 2000.
- One in ten people thought it was 'very' or 'fairly' likely that their home would be broken into within the next year. This represents an increase from 7 per cent in 2000 and is higher than the proportion of households who were, in fact, the victims of housebreaking in 2002 (3%) and 1999 (4%). Thus, although housebreaking has shown signs of decreasing since 1999, people's perception of their likelihood of falling victim to this type of crime has increased.
- Eight per cent believed it was 'very' or 'fairly' likely they would be a victim of a violent crime in the following year. Again, this is a rise from 5 per cent in 2000 and is double the actual prevalence of violent crime in 2002, which was 4 per cent.

Drug use

- Over a quarter of 16 to 59 year olds reported ever having taken an illicit drug (27%). Nine per cent had taken an illicit drug in the year before they were interviewed and 5 per cent in the month before they were interviewed.
- The peak age of drug use was between 20 and 24 years of age, with 28 per cent reporting having taken an illicit drug in the previous year. Men were significantly more likely to have taken an illicit drug in the last year than women (12% versus 7%).
- Cannabis was the most commonly used drug. It was taken by one in four (24%) of respondents at some point in their lives and by 8 per cent in the year before they were interviewed. The use of all other drugs asked about was very low.
- A higher proportion of respondents reported using an illicit drug in the previous year in 2003 than in 2000 (9% versus 7%).

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

This report presents the main findings from the 2003 Scottish Crime Survey (SCS), a large scale household survey of public experiences and perceptions of crime, involving interviews with a sample of 5,041 adults (aged 16 or over) throughout Scotland. As with all previous sweeps of the SCS, the 2003 SCS relates to crimes that took place during the previous calendar year; that is, between January and December 2002.

The main aims of the SCS are to:

- provide a complementary measure of crime to police recorded crime statistics
- examine trends in the extent and nature of crime over time
- examine the risk of falling victim to crime
- collect information on a number of crime-related issues (e.g. concern about crime; attitudes to the police; drug misuse; domestic violence).

Throughout this paper, the term 'crime' is used to refer to any incident of victimisation recorded by the survey. No technical distinction is made between 'crimes' and 'offences', as in the police recorded crime statistics.

Background

This is the sixth in a series of crime surveys in Scotland, and the last one in its current form. In 1982 and 1988, Scotland participated in sweeps of the British Crime Survey (BCS), co-ordinated by the Home Office. However, data collection was restricted to southern and central Scotland, thereby excluding the experiences of those living in the Highlands and Islands. In 1993, the Scottish Office commissioned the first independent Scottish Crime Survey which extended coverage to the whole of mainland Scotland together with the larger islands. Sweeps of the survey in this format were then repeated in 1996, 2000 and 2003. Interviews with around 5,000 adults have been achieved at each sweep of the survey and were administered by interviewers, face-to-face with respondents, using paper questionnaires.

In February 2003, the Scottish Executive commissioned a fundamental review of the design, content and management of the SCS. The review was prompted by the need to overcome a number of limitations to the current survey; notably, the relatively small sample size which has resulted in an inability to produce reliable trends for some forms of victimisation (margins of error are particularly large around 'lower incidence' crimes such as those involving violence) and the inability of the SCS to report findings at anything below a national level. The intermittent nature of the survey and delays in publishing the results also limited the usefulness of the SCS in policy terms.

Following this review process, a new Scottish Crime and Victimization Survey (SCVS) was launched in June 2004. This new survey represents a major shift in design, methodology and sample size from previous surveys. The SCVS involves continuous data collection, with a rolling monthly sample of adults across Scotland. Adults aged 16 or over are interviewed over the telephone, rather than face-to-face, and the total annual sample size for the survey is 27,500, which will make possible estimates of victimisation at police force area level and allow more robust estimates of lower incidence crimes. Unfortunately, the new methodology has meant that the self completion modules (for drug use and domestic abuse) have had to be dropped as these are inappropriate questions to be asked in a telephone survey. First results from this new survey reporting on interviews conducted in 2004/05 are due to be reported in autumn 2005.

Purpose of crime surveys

The principal value of crime surveys is that they provide a complementary index of crime to police recorded crime statistics. For a variety of reasons, not all incidents of victimisation are reported to, or recorded by, the police. In addition, police recorded crime statistics are constantly affected by changes in policing practice and police recording practice (for example a 'zero tolerance' campaign will result in more crime being recorded). This will particularly be the case with police recorded crime statistics for 2004/05 because of the introduction of a new Scottish Crime Recording Standard by the police in 2004. The new crime recording standard is expected to increase the number of minor crimes recorded by the police, such as minor crimes of vandalism and minor thefts, and thus affect trends in overall recorded crime. Crime surveys can overcome some of these limitations and provide a more complete picture of victimisation levels by including incidents that are not recorded by the police and by repeating the survey using the same methodology, resulting in trend information that is comparable year on year.

However, there are some limitations to victimisation surveys, and the SCS is no exception. The SCS does not provide a complete picture of crime in Scotland. It is a survey of adults living in private households and does not, therefore, provide information on crimes against people not living in private households (for example those in hospital, prison or homeless); those under the age of 16; and crimes against corporate bodies (for example shoplifting).

Another limitation of the SCS is that it is not a perfectly reliable measure of crime. The survey is only representative of the experience of the people who agree to take part; the fewer people who participate, the less likely it is that the survey reflects the experiences of the people of Scotland as a whole. There might also be errors in the recall of participants. It is also possible that public perceptions of crime and victimisation may change over time, and result in changes in how people report crime from survey to survey.

The SCS results, therefore, like the results from other sample-based surveys, are subject to error. To compensate for this, the key results presented in this report are given with their calculated confidence intervals. These are bands within which we can be fairly confident the 'true' value lies. The figures presented in this survey provide the best available indicator of the levels and trends of victimisation in Scotland.

The survey

The SCS interviewed 5,041 Scottish adults aged 16 or over in their own homes between March and June 2003. Interviews were conducted jointly by the survey companies TNS Social Research and MORI Scotland. This represents a change to the running of the SCS, which was co-ordinated and run by the company MVA for the 1993, 1996 and 2000 surveys. In 2003 the methodology of the earlier sweeps of the survey was replicated as consistently as possible to minimise any 'contractor' effect. However, it is possible that there have been some differences in the training and briefing of interviewers and other survey staff and the execution of the survey which might affect the findings; to what degree this might be the case is unknown.

The response rate for the survey was 68 per cent, slightly lower than the 2000 survey (71%) and significantly lower than the response rate for the 1996 survey (77%), mirroring a general decline in participation in surveys across the UK and other western countries (Martin and Matheson, 1999). The general structure of the interview is detailed in Appendix B. The survey was almost identical to that run in 1993, 1996 and 2000. A summary of the methodology used is also given in Appendix B and definitions of the terms used throughout this report are given in the glossary detailed in Appendix F. Full details of the methodology can be obtained from the Technical Report produced by the survey companies to accompany the dataset, a copy of which can be obtained from the Scottish Executive.

It is important to note that all figures presented in this report are the result of fresh analysis of the data, including the re-analysis of previous sweeps of the survey. This has resulted in some figures presented here being slightly different from previously published findings. Where this has occurred it has been clearly marked in the tables presented in Appendix A. The re-analysis has primarily affected the figures for housebreaking, where the definition has been changed in order for the SCS's housebreaking measure to directly correspond to police recorded domestic housebreaking, including housebreaking to domestic buildings other than dwellings. This has resulted in an increase in rates and estimates for housebreaking and a parallel decrease in the category, 'other household theft'. Full details of the differences between these definitions can be found in Appendix B.

Unlike previous reports on the SCS, this report presents data for the whole of Scotland, and not separately for southern and central Scotland. Previous reports have presented these separately in order to examine trends from the 1982 and 1988 British Crime Surveys which covered central and southern Scotland. Measuring trends over this length of time was not considered necessary in this report, as trend information is available for the ten year period from the first independent SCS in 1993, up to the 2003 SCS. There is therefore no longer any need to differentiate between all Scotland and central and southern Scotland alone.

The report

This report presents the main findings from the 2003 SCS which relate to crime which occurred in the calendar year 2002. More detailed findings on drug use and on domestic abuse from the 2003 SCS will be published in Spring 2005 alongside the findings from the 2004 SCS drugs and domestic violence modules.

The report will first detail estimates of the extent of crime and victimisation in Scotland for 2002 in Chapter 2. It will then provide information on the trends in self-reported victimisation in Chapter 3 by comparing the results from the 2003 SCS to those found in previous year's sweeps. Chapter 4 provides a comparison of the findings with official police recorded crime statistics. It is well understood that individual risks of becoming a victim are not equal. Chapter 5 will explore such unequal risks of victimisation. Chapter 6 examines the public's perception of crime and their worry about crime, and the final chapter will look at the prevalence of drug use in Scotland.

It should be noted that most previous publications on the SCS have conducted comparisons with crime levels in England and Wales through comparing SCS findings with those from the British Crime Survey (BCS). This has not been possible with the 2003 SCS because of changes in methodology in the BCS. The BCS is now a continuous survey and since 2001 all published data has referred to crime which occurred in the year prior to interview with interviews taking place continuously over a financial year. The BCS data are therefore not comparable with the findings from the SCS because of the different reference periods used. However, the new SCVS will be using the same reporting periods, and so findings from 2004/05 onwards will again include comparisons with England and Wales.

Methodological note

Unless otherwise stated, all data included in this report on the **proportion** of households / individuals / incidents are weighted. When raw numbers are given (in the form, 'n=') these are unweighted. Details of the weighting process are given in Appendix B.

One of the key aims of the Scottish Crime Survey is to measure the level and type of victimisation experienced by the Scottish public. From the SCS data it is possible to calculate three main indicators of the level of crime:

1. **Incidence rates** (or victimisation rates). Incidence rates are the number of incidents reported in the SCS, expressed as a rate per 10,000 units. Units can be individuals, households or motor vehicle or bicycle owning households. For example, the rate of housebreaking is 397 incidents per 10,000 households. Incidence rates are a more precise indication of change in crime between surveys because, unlike population estimates, they are not affected by changing population or household numbers.
2. **Estimates of the number of crimes**. These are simply the incidence rates grossed up to reflect the estimates for the total population using projected population estimates. These are used within the report to show the extent of crime in Scotland, crime trends and as a basis for comparisons with police recorded crime.
3. **Prevalence rates**. These show the percentage of individuals or households who have experienced a specific crime at least once. As each person could be the victim of the same type of offence more than once, prevalence rates will always be the same or lower than incidence rates. Analysis of prevalence rates gives an indication of the characteristics of people who have been the victim of crime and are used to look at the risk of victimisation.

The sample size of the survey is the minimum deemed necessary to estimate the main indicators of crime. However, estimates derived from sub-sets of the data become less reliable, and the confidence with which we can report relatively rare crimes such as robbery is not strong. It is methodological limitations such as these that have led to the development of the new Scottish Crime and Victimization Survey with a much larger sample size.

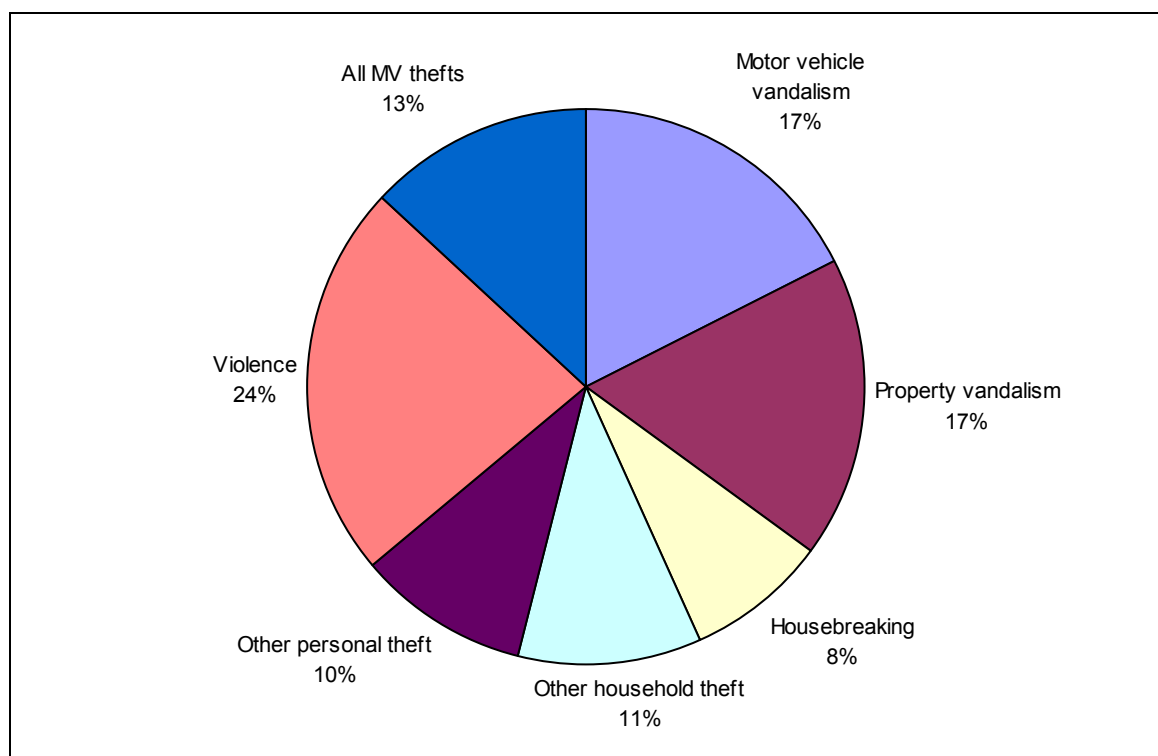
Within the report, when findings are reported to be 'significant', this is true at the 95% confidence limit. For example, if the victimisation rate for a certain type of crime changed significantly between 1999 and 2002, we are 95 per cent sure that the difference is not due to chance. Statistical tests such as two-tailed t-tests and χ^2 tests were carried out where appropriate. When not known a design effect of 1.2 was assumed.

CHAPTER TWO: EXTENT OF CRIME IN SCOTLAND

The Scottish Crime Survey (SCS) measures crime against people living in private households in the year preceding the survey; thus the 2003 SCS refers to crimes reported to have happened between January and December 2002. The 2003 SCS estimates that just over 1 million crimes were committed against individuals and households in 2002. This is not a definitive statement about the amount of crime in Scotland since it relates only to the crimes asked about in the survey. Full details of the crimes counted by the survey are given in Appendix B.

Of all the crimes that were reported in the 2003 SCS, the majority (66%) were committed against property (Figure 2.1), the remainder against individuals. Just under a quarter (24%) of all crimes reported were crimes involving violence (robbery and assault), slightly lower than the figure of 25% found in the 2000 SCS for crime in 1999. This decrease in the proportion of crime relates less to a decrease in violent crime but more to increases in other forms of crime, notably vandalism. Vandalism of property increased from representing 12 per cent of crime reported to the SCS in 1999 to 17 per cent in 2002. Similarly vehicle vandalism increased from 14 per cent to 17 per cent in 2002. In sum, Figure 2.1 simply shows each crime type as a proportion of all crime, but does not reflect the actual extent of crime.

Figure 2.1: Crime in Scotland in 2002 by offence



Notes

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041

Each individual offence will now be discussed in more detail. Full details of the estimates, incidence rates and confidence intervals for all offences can be found in tables A.2.1 and A.2.2. in Appendix A.

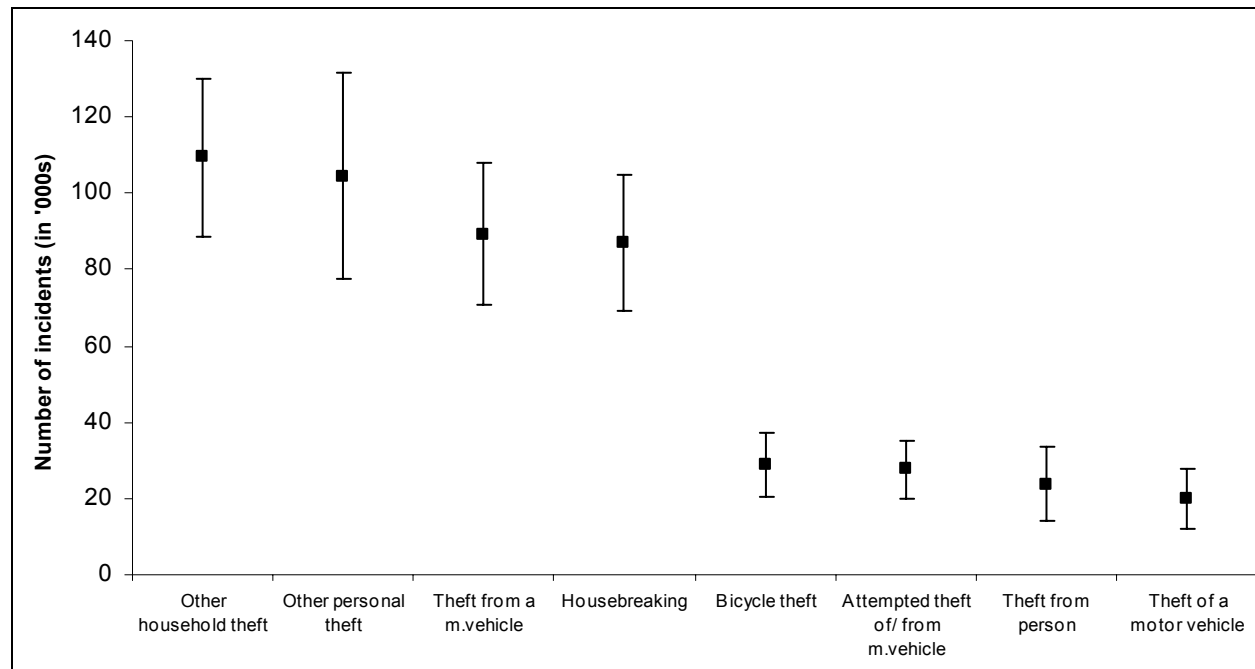
Property and personal theft

Forty-two per cent of all crimes reported to the 2003 SCS involved the theft or attempted theft of property. These crimes can be divided into theft against households (housebreaking, other household theft, and theft from and of a motor vehicle) and personal theft (theft from the person and other personal theft). The SCS estimates that between 281,000 and 443,000 incidents of household theft occurred in Scotland in 2002, the 'best estimate' being 362,000. For personal theft, the 'best estimate' is 128,000, with the true value lying between 91,000 and 165,000.

Details of the estimates of the number of property thefts, including the confidence intervals are detailed in Figure 2.2, but in sum, the estimates are:

- 87,000 incidents of housebreaking, including attempted housebreaking. This includes 37,000 incidents where something was stolen. Using only those cases where we know whether something was stolen or not, we can see that in 57 per cent of incidents of housebreaking, nothing was stolen.
- 20,000 incidents of theft *of* a motor vehicle; 89,000 incidents of theft *from* a motor vehicle; and 28,000 incidents of *attempted* theft either of or from a motor vehicle.
- 29,000 incidents of bicycle theft.
- 109,000 incidents of 'other household theft'.
- 24,000 incidents of theft from the person, including all actual or attempted pick-pocketing.
- 105,000 incidents of 'other personal theft' (that is personal property stolen from outwith the home where there was no direct contact between the offender and the victim).

Figure 2.2: Estimated number of property offences in 2002 (with confidence intervals)



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041

Vandalism

In 2002 there were an estimated 363,000 incidents of vandalism in Scotland in 2002, with the true figure lying between 323,000 and 403,000. This represents a rate of 1,656 incidents per 10,000 households in Scotland. There were a similar number of incidents of vandalism against motor vehicles (181,000) as against property (182,000).

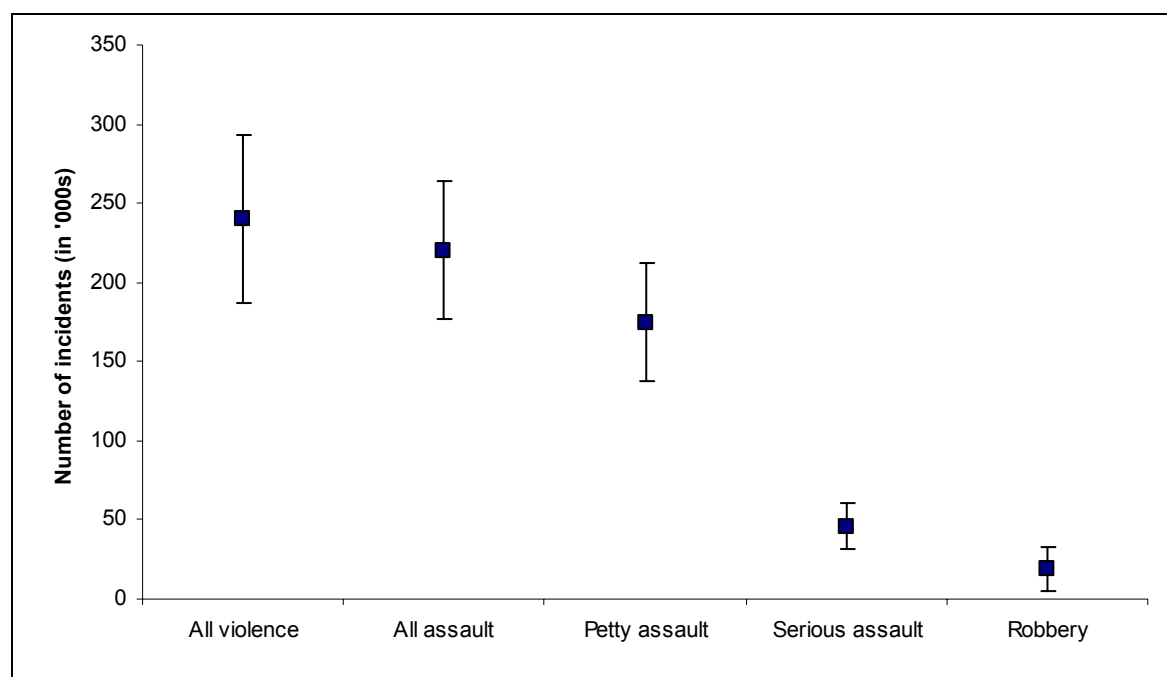
Violence

The SCS's definition of violence is a sum of all incidents of assault and robbery. The best estimate of the total number of violent offences in 2002 is 240,000, with the true figure lying between 187,000 and 293,000.

There were an estimated 220,000 incidents of assault in 2002. The vast majority of these were incidents of petty assault (174,000, representing 79%), the rest serious (an estimated 46,000 incidents).

Robbery is a relatively rare offence. In 2002 there were an estimated 19,000 offences. All violent crime and the associated confidence intervals can be seen in Figure 2.3.

Figure 2.3: Estimated number of violent crimes in 2002 (with confidence intervals)



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041

CHAPTER THREE: TRENDS OVER TIME

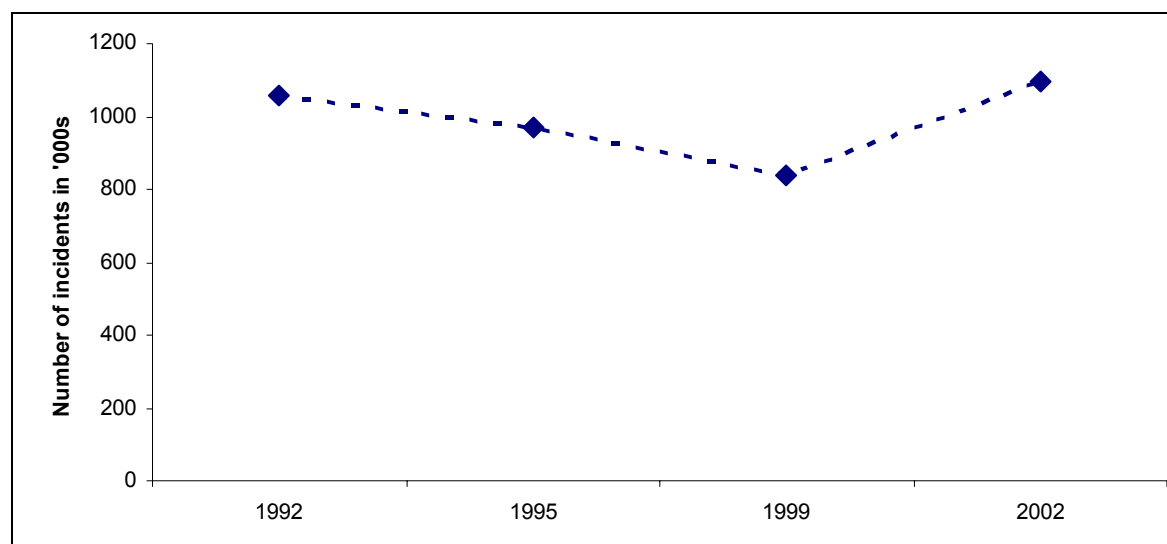
The SCS can measure trends over time by comparing responses to previous sweeps of the survey with responses to the 2003 SCS. This chapter will look at trends over time both between the last two sweeps of the SCS – crime in 1999 and 2002 – and over the span of the SCS from the 1993 sweep.

All crime

The 2003 SCS estimates that just over a million crimes were committed against individuals and households during 2002 (Appendix Table A.3.1). This represents an increase of 30 per cent from the number of crimes estimated for 1999, but only a small increase of 4 per cent over the 10 year period from the 1993 survey (Figure 3.1).

The overall trend has been a steady decline in overall crime up to 1999, and since 1999 an increase, although to a level similar to that of 1992.

Figure 3.1: Trends in crime reported to the SCS, 1992 to 2002



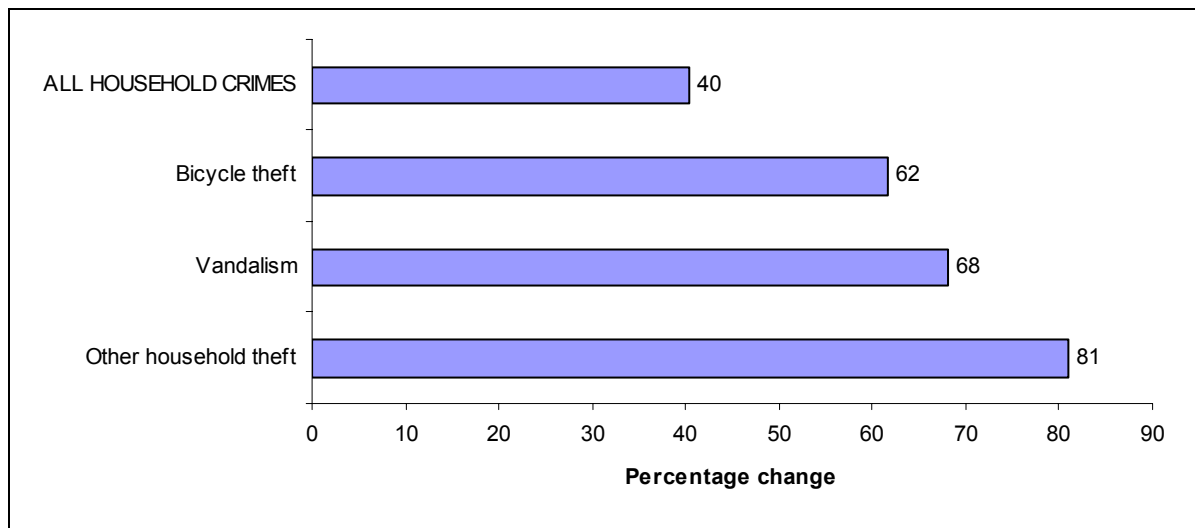
Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030
2. Because the composite measure of 'all crime' is a mixture of both personal and household victimisation, it is not possible to conduct statistical analysis of all SCS crime over time.

Trends by offence type

The rise in crime reported to have occurred in 2002 compared to 1999 includes a statistically significant rises in household crime (that is crimes against households, as opposed to crimes against individuals) (Figure 3.2). This is largely the result of a significant increase in vandalism, bicycle theft and other household theft. Figure 3.2 presents the percentage increases in crime rates for which there were significant shifts between 1999 and 2002. There were no other statistically significant changes, although there were a number of differences between the incidence rates for 1999 and 2002. Full details of all changes in incidence rates and the significance of each comparison is presented in Appendix Tables A.3.2 and A.3.3.

Figure 3.2: Significant changes in SCS crimes between 1999 and 2002



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
2. Significance is calculated at the 95% significance level.

The trends seen between the 2000 and 2003 sweeps of the survey mask some longer-term underlying trends. The trends for each category between 1992, 1995, 1999 and 2002 will now be examined in more depth.

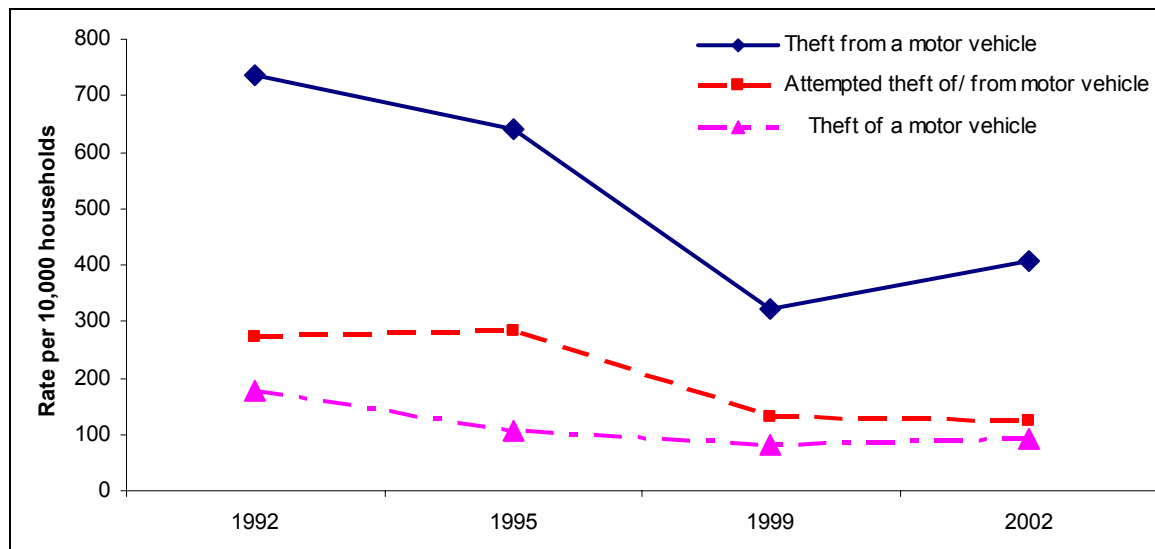
Property crime

Vehicle-related theft

Although there was no significant change in any of the motor vehicle theft categories (that is theft *of* a motor vehicle, theft *from* a motor vehicle and *attempted* theft *of/from* a motor vehicle) between 1999 and 2002, each these offences have significantly declined over the 10 year period since 1992: theft *of* a motor vehicle by 49 per cent, theft *from* a motor vehicle by 45 per cent and *attempted* theft *of/from* a motor vehicle by 54 per cent (Figure 3.3). On the whole, the majority of this change occurred between 1992 and 1999, but the change has been largely maintained between 1999 and 2002.

Theft of a bicycle, in contrast, rose significantly between 1999 and 2002, but was not significantly different from the rate in 1992 and 1995. The incidence rate for 2002 was 132 incidents per 10,000 households, compared to 127 in 1992, 119 in 1995, and just 82 in 1999 (Appendix Table A.3.2).

Figure 3.3: Changes in vehicle crime between 1992 and 2002



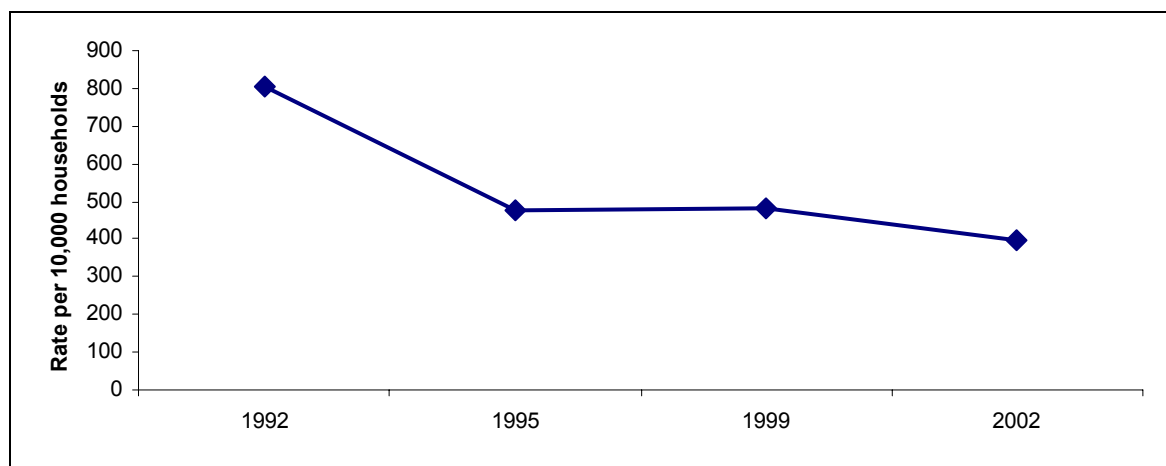
Note:

- Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
 2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
 1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
 1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030

Housebreaking¹

Housebreaking has shown a sharp and significant decline over the ten years from 1992 to 2002 falling by 51 per cent (Figure 3.4). The largest decline was between 1992 and 1995, although this trend has continued since then.

Figure 3.4: Changes in housebreaking between 1992 and 2002



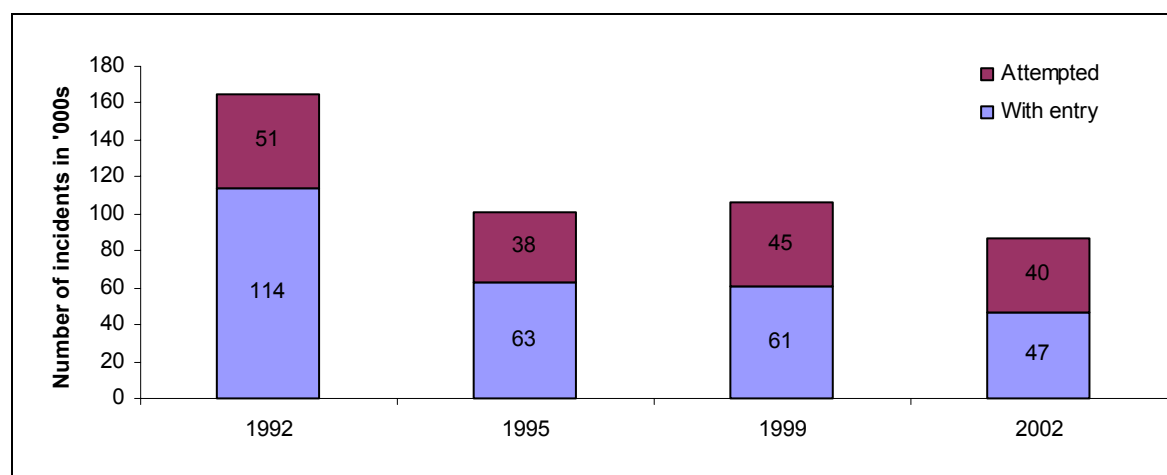
Note:

- Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
 2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
 1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
 1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030

¹ As discussed in Chapter 1, and in Appendix B, the definition of housebreaking and 'other household theft' reported here differs from previously published reports on the SCS.

Not all incidents classified as housebreaking result in entry to the home. The proportion of incidents in which the offender actually gained entry to the home was 69 per cent in 1992, but has fallen steadily over time to 62 per cent in 1995, 57 per cent in 1999 and reached its lowest point of 54 per cent in 2002 (Figure 3.5). Thus, although more than half of incidents at each sweep of the SCS did involve someone entering the home, it is encouraging to note that the proportion of successful attempts has declined over time. It is likely that this is in large part due to improvements in home security measures in recent years (MVA, 2002).

Figure 3.5: Trends in attempted and with entry housebreaking 1992 to 2002



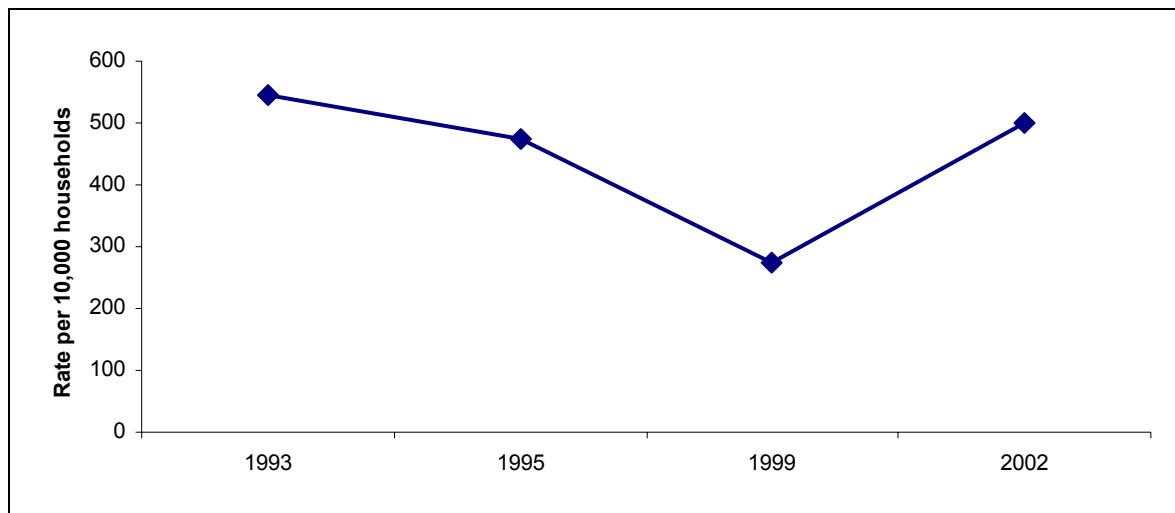
Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030
2. As discussed in Appendix B, the definition of housebreaking reported here differs from previously published reports on the SCS.

Other household theft

The incidence rate of other household theft, that is actual and attempted theft from outside and inside a dwelling not including housebreaking, rose by 81 per cent between 1999 and 2002. Examining the trends in this offence since 1992 it can be seen that the incidence rate for 2002 does not differ substantially from either 1992 or 1995 (Figure 3.6). In this context, it is the sharp decrease in this offence in 1999 that is significantly different from other sweeps.

Figure 3.6: Changes in other household theft between 1992 and 2002



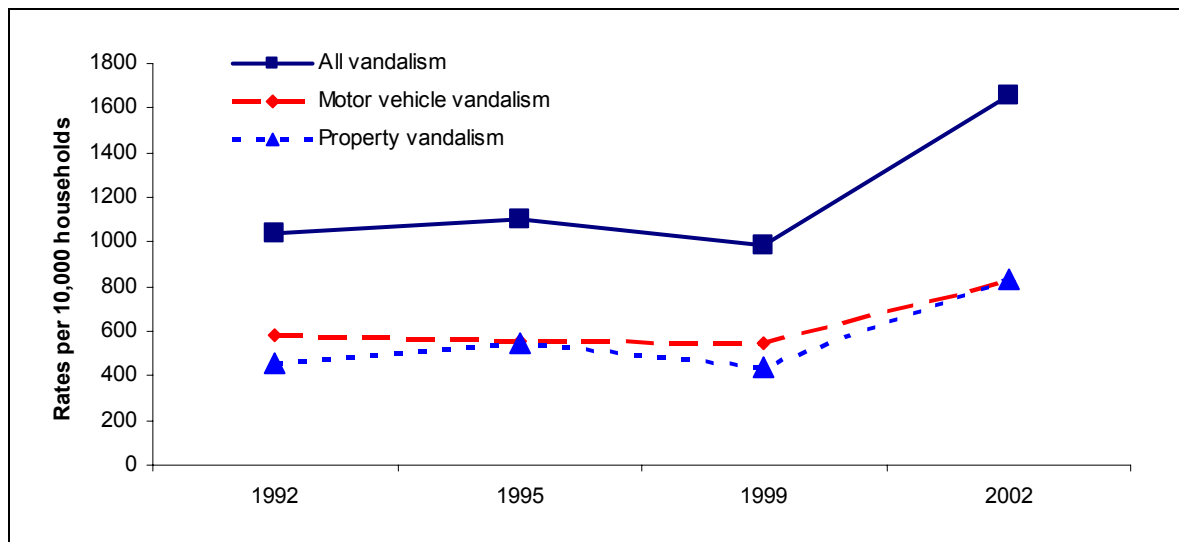
Note:

- Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030
- As discussed in Appendix B, the definition of 'other household theft' reported here differs from previously published reports on the SCS.

Vandalism

Vandalism rose sharply between 1999 and 2002 by 68 per cent. Vandalism in 2002 was significantly higher than it has been in any of the previous sweeps of the SCS; due solely to the rise in rates between 1999 and 2002 (Figure 3.7).

Figure 3.7: Changes in vandalism between 1992 and 2002



Note:

- Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030

Broken down, it can be seen that the rise in the incidence of vandalism is due to a rise in both vandalism against motor vehicles and vandalism against other private property. Between 1999 and 2002 vandalism of motor vehicles rose by 51 per cent and strikingly property vandalism increased by 90 per cent (Figure 3.7).

Because of the sharp rise in the estimate of vandalism between 1999 and 2002, it is worth exploring the nature of this rise in some more detail in an attempt to uncover the reason for this increase. Although there has undoubtedly been a genuine increase, there are a number of additional reasons that might have led to an increase in vandalism between 1999 and 2002. One explanation could be an attitudinal shift in the way that people perceive incidents of vandalism. The heightened political focus on anti-social behaviour and public disorder has undoubtedly raised awareness of the issue of property damage as well as other problematic behaviours. This could potentially result in relatively trivial incidents that previously would not have been reported assuming greater prominence in the minds of householders and being reported as crimes.

There is some evidence to suggest that a greater proportion of trivial incidents of vandalism were reported in the 2003 SCS compared with the 2000 SCS, particularly in the case of property vandalism which showed the greatest increase, although unfortunately details about the precise nature of incidents are not collected in the SCS:

- A smaller proportion of vandalism incidents were covered by insurance in 2002 compared to 1999 (50% and 55% respectively).
- A much smaller proportion of insured incidents of property vandalism resulted in an insurance claim in 2002 compared to 1999 (23% versus 39%), suggesting that incidents in 2002 were more trivial or resulted in less financial loss than in previous years. There was no significant difference in motor vehicle vandalism incidents that resulted in an insurance claim between 1999 and 2002 (27% and 28% respectively).
- When asked about financial loss directly in terms of the cost of repairing the damage, the estimated average cost of vandalism in 2002 was £166, lower than the £184 found in 1999. This is primarily due to a substantial decrease in the cost of property vandalism which fell from £183 in 1999 to just £127 in 2002. There was a slight increase in the cost of motor vehicle damage from £184 to £194 in 2002. This again gives support to the theory that there were a greater number of trivial property offences reported to the 2003 SCS.
- Significantly more victims of vandalism reported experiencing practical problems as a result of being victimised in 2002 compared to 1999 (in 2002 54% reported practical problems compared to just 47% in 1999), a rise primarily caused by the increase of practical problems reported by those experiencing motor vehicle vandalism. However, the proportion of incidents of vandalism where the cost of repair was raised as a problem declined from 23 per cent in 1999 to just 4 per cent in 2002.
- Although more victims of vandalism reported experiencing some kind of emotional reaction to the incident in 2002 (78% compared to 68% in 1999), the types of emotions experienced differed between the two sweeps. Victims in 1999 reported suffering a greater variety of emotions, and victims in 2002 were more likely to say they felt irritation whereas the proportion experiencing shock, fear and intimidation declined. In both years, the most common emotional reaction was anger (88% in 1999 and 83% in 2002).

Violent crime

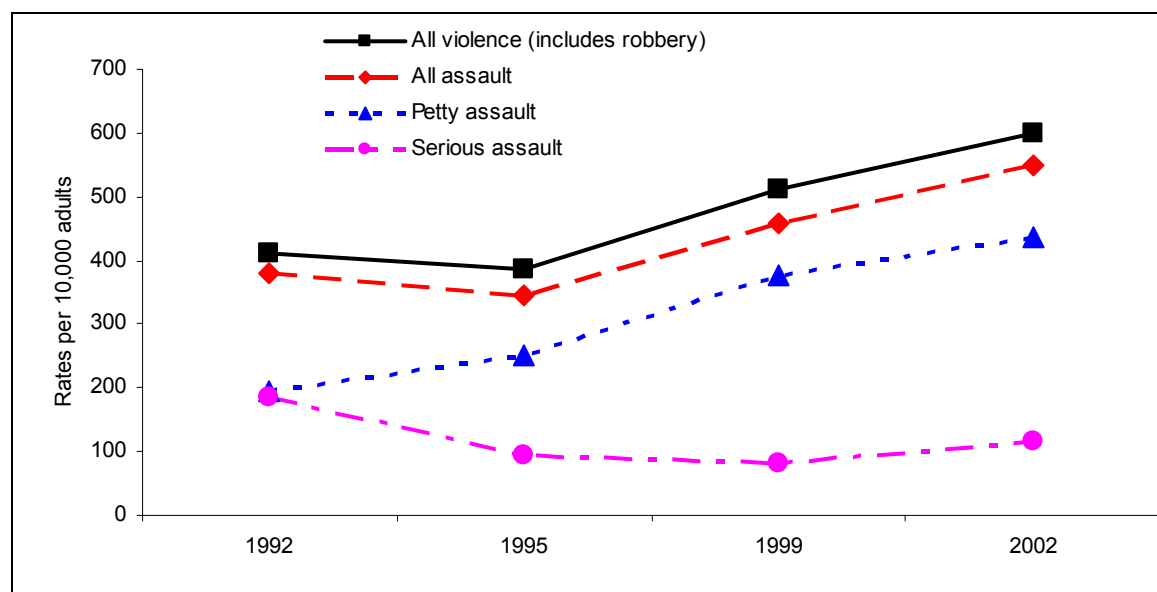
Changes in violent crime (robbery and assault) are particularly difficult to accurately measure over time because such offences are relatively rare and the confidence intervals associated with it are typically large (Appendix A.2.2). Violent crime did not change significantly between 1999 and 2002. However, between 1992 and 2002 and 1996 and 2002 there has been a significant increase in violent crime, from an estimated 411 incidents per 10,000 adults in 1992 to 599 in 2002, an increase of 46 per cent.

Assault

Looking at the individual offences that make up violence, we can see that there is a significant increase in assault, which increased by 20 per cent between 1999 and 2002 and by 45 per cent since 1992 (Figure 3.8).

Assault can be broken down into petty assault (actual or attempted assaults resulting in no or negligible injury) and serious assault (incidents of serious wounding, involving severe injuries intentionally inflicted, and other wounding, which involves less serious injury or severe injuries unintentionally inflicted). There has been an interesting pattern in these types of offences over the 4 sweeps of the SCS. In 1992 rates of both types of assault were virtually identical. Since then, however, there has been a significant increase of 125 per cent in petty assault, and a significant decrease of 38 per cent in serious assault. The picture in 2002 showed that there were almost 4 times as many petty assaults as serious assaults and it has been the rise in petty assault that is driving the overall increase in assault and violent crime since 1995 (Figure 3.8).

Figure 3.8: Changes in assault between 1992 and 2002



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030

Robbery

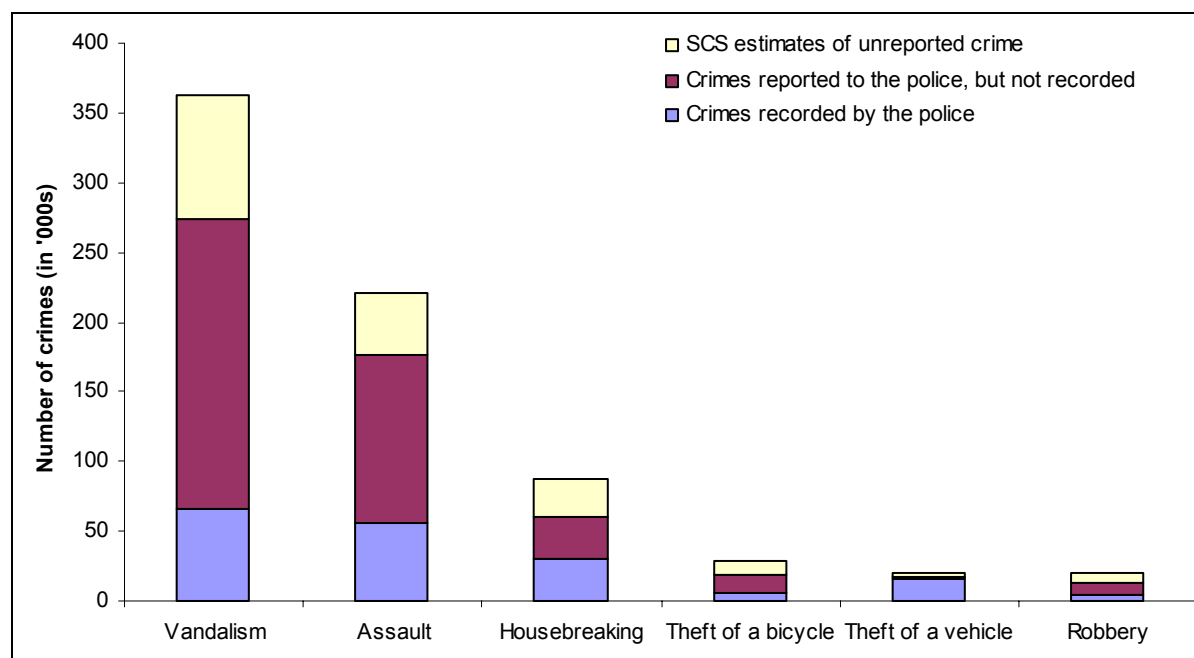
The incidence of robbery has declined between 1999 and 2002, but again because of the rarity of this offence (there were only an estimated 48 incidents per 10,000 adults in 2002) this decline was not statistically significant. The difficulty in measuring statistically significant differences in violent crime is something the new methodology of the improved Scottish Crime and Victimisation Survey will overcome.

CHAPTER FOUR: COMPARISON WITH POLICE RECORDED CRIME STATISTICS

The other main measure of crime in Scotland is the number of crimes recorded by the police. Police recorded crime statistics are known to be sensitive to changes in both public reporting practice and police recording practices. This is because not all crimes are reported to the police and, of those that are, not all reported crimes are subsequently recorded by them. This results in a considerable gap between police recorded crime statistics and SCS estimates of crime for those categories of crime that can accurately be compared. There are also limitations to the SCS measures of crime, as detailed in Chapter 1. However, taken together, recorded crime and SCS data can help us present a more accurate picture of the extent and nature of crime in Scotland.

There are six categories of crime which can be directly compared between the SCS and police statistics: vandalism, housebreaking, theft of a motor vehicle, theft of a bicycle, assault and robbery. In the 2003 SCS, these comparable crimes accounted for 68 per cent of all crimes recorded by the survey, the same proportion found in the 2000 SCS.² Figure 4.1 presents the number of crimes in each category that were estimated by the crime survey to have been: reported and recorded by the police; reported and not recorded by the police; and not reported to the police in Scotland in 2002.

Figure 4.1: Levels of unrecorded and recorded crime



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey and adjusted police recorded crime statistics³

Victims of crime were asked whether the crime or crimes committed against them were reported to the police, either by them or somebody else: 49 per cent of the comparable crimes in the SCS were reported to the police. By comparing these to the number of police recorded crimes, it can be estimated that 49 per cent of SCS crimes that were reported to

² This figure differs from the previously published figure of 65 per cent. This is due to the change in the definition of 'housebreaking' discussed in Appendix B.

³ The adjustments made to police recorded crime statistics to ensure their comparability with the SCS are discussed in Appendix D.

the police were actually recorded by the police in their statistics. As a result, it is estimated that only 24 per cent of all comparable crimes (that is reported and non-reported crimes) were actually recorded by the police in 2002.

The proportion of 24 per cent is much lower than the 32 per cent estimated to have been recorded in 1999, and the 36 per cent recorded in 1995 and 1992.⁴ This drop is largely the result of a decrease in the percentage of incidents of vandalism estimated to have been recorded by the police. In all, it is estimated that only 18 per cent of incidents of vandalism reported to the SCS were formally recorded in the police statistics. The comparable figures for previous years were 26 per cent in 1999, 27 per cent in 1995 and 31 per cent in 1992.

Reporting to the police

Table 4.1 presents the reporting rates for all SCS crimes and for SCS crimes comparable to police recorded crime statistics. The proportion of SCS crimes reported to the police is consistently higher for comparable crimes, which includes many of the most serious crimes covered by the survey. Table 4.1 also shows that there has been a statistically significant fall in the proportion of crimes reported to the police between 1999 and 2002 for both all comparable crimes and all survey crimes.

Table 4.1: Percentage of crimes reported to the police 1992-2002

	1992	1995	1999	2002
All survey crimes	52	49	53	46
All comparable crimes	56	54	58	49

Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, n=5,059
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, n=5,045
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, n=5,030

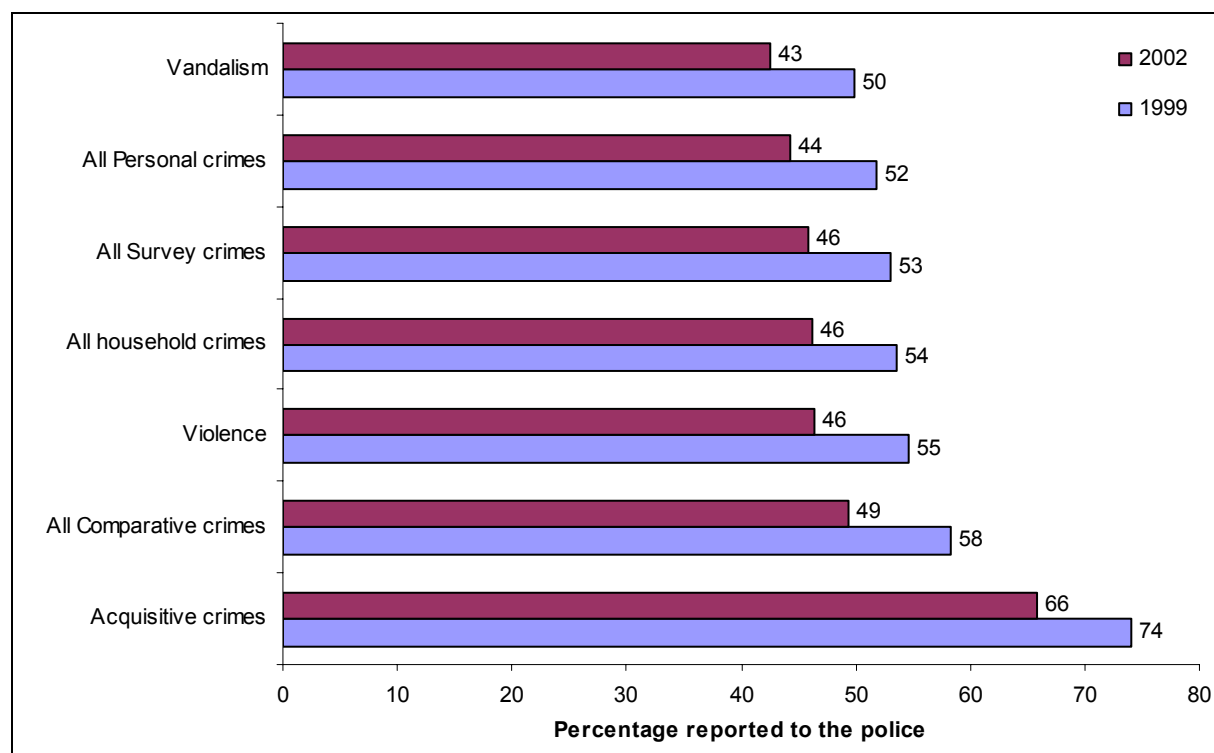
In terms of all SCS crime, the crimes most likely to be reported to the police in 2002 were theft of a motor vehicle (97%), housebreaking (64%), and theft from a motor vehicle (60%). The least likely crimes to come to the attention of the police were other types of household theft (16%) and theft from the person (28%). Personal crimes were only slightly less likely overall to be reported to the police than household crimes (Figure 4.2).

The overall decrease in crimes reported between 1999 and 2002 is mainly explained by significant reductions in the proportion of incidents of vandalism and assault that were reported. Because of the relatively small number of victims, none of the other decreases between 1999 and 2002 were significant. There was no significant increase in police reporting for any individual type of survey crime over the same time period.

Forty-three per cent of victims reported that the incident of victimisation they had experienced involved stolen or damaged property which was covered by an insurance policy. Of these, 38 per cent had made an insurance claim by the time of the interview.

⁴ These figures differ from the previously published figures of 1999-33%, 1995-37%, 1992-39%. This is due to the change in the definition of 'housebreaking' discussed in Appendix B.

Figure 4.2: Percentage of crimes reported to the police in 2002



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey
2000 Scottish Crime Survey

Trends in crime: Indexed trends

A key advantage of the way the data is collected and coded for the Scottish Crime Survey is that it can be compared with police recorded crime figures over time. Changes in all comparable crime, vandalism, acquisitive and violent crime between 1992 and 2002 will now be explored in more detail.

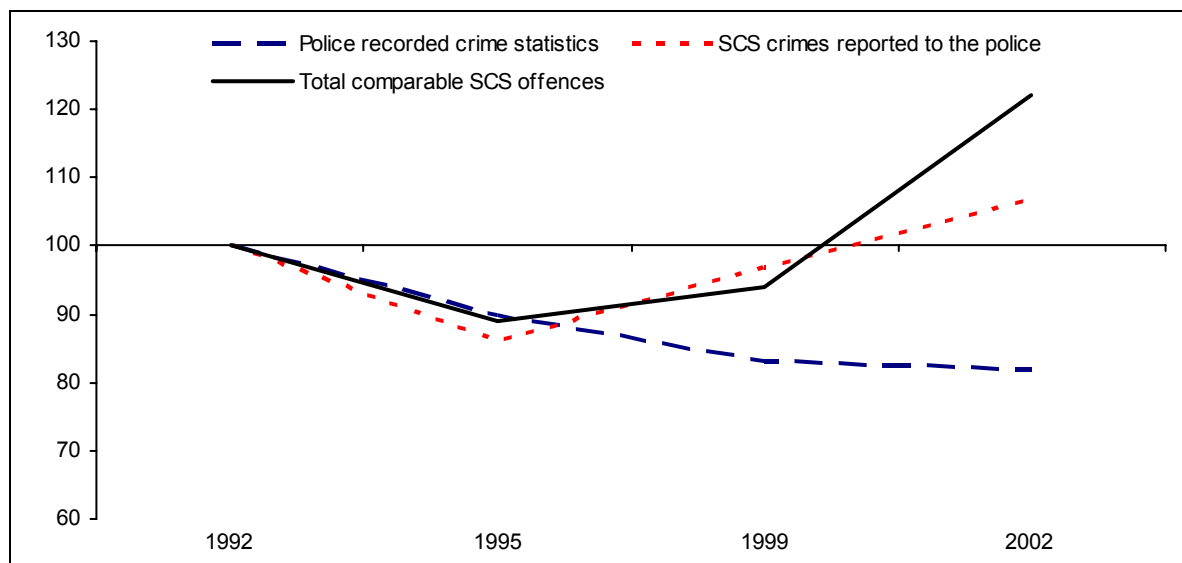
All comparable crime

Over the ten year period covered by the SCS, the total number of SCS comparable crimes (whether reported to the police or not) increased by 22 per cent, while the number of SCS crimes reported to the police rose by 7 per cent. Over this same period, the number of comparable police recorded crimes fell by 18 per cent⁵ (Figure 4.3).

Between 1992 and 1995 police statistics, crime survey crimes and crimes reported to the police all showed a similar decline. Between 1995 and 1999, survey crimes and crimes reported to the police increased modestly while police recorded crimes continued to fall. The trend in SCS crimes reported to the police continued to rise between 1999 and 2002 at a fairly steady rate, although there was a more dramatic increase in survey crimes. During this period, police recorded crime remained steady.

⁵ The figure of 18 per cent quoted here differs from the published police recorded crime figure of 24 per cent (Scottish Executive, 2004). This is because of the adjustments made to the police recorded crime figures to make them comparable to SCS figures. More details about the adjustment are given in Appendix D.

Figure 4.3: Indexed trends in crime 1992-2002: all comparable crimes



Note:

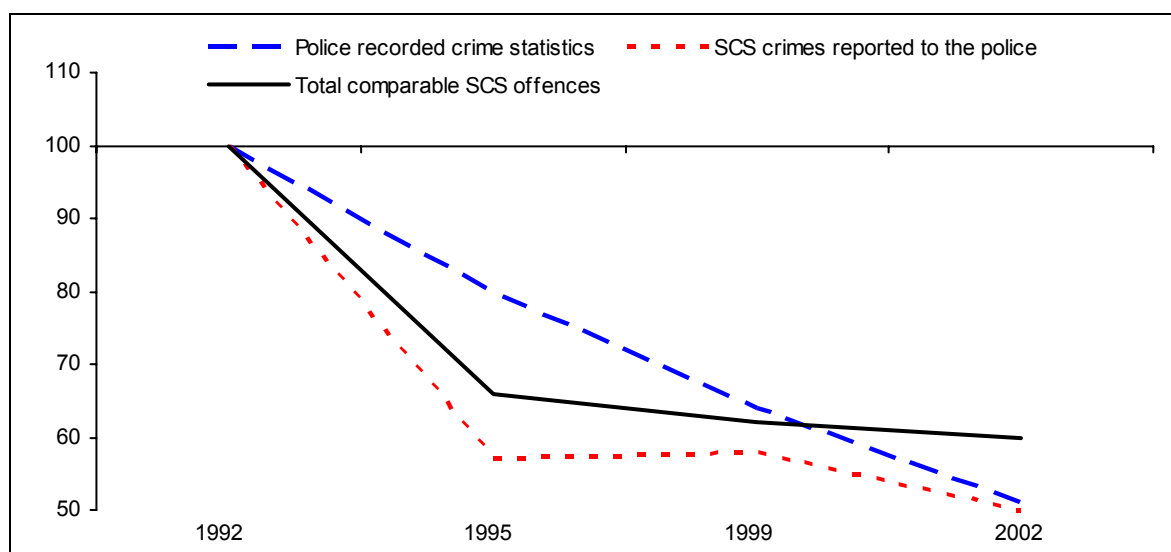
1. Source: 1993, 1996, 2000 and 2003 Scottish Crime Survey and adjusted police recorded crime statistics

Whilst such overall trends are interesting they can often mask subtle differences in crime type, so each of the comparable sub-sets are discussed individually below.

Acquisitive crime

For acquisitive crime (which includes housebreaking, theft of a motor vehicle and bicycle theft), survey trends have been broadly in line with police statistics since 1992, with continuous decreases in each measure at the time of each sweep of the survey (Figure 4.4). Taken together, these data suggest that there was a real drop in acquisitive crimes between 1992 and 2002 as measured by the crime survey and police recorded crime statistics, although there has also been a fall in the proportion of crimes reported to the police over the same period.

Figure 4.4: Indexed trends in acquisitive crime, 1992-2002



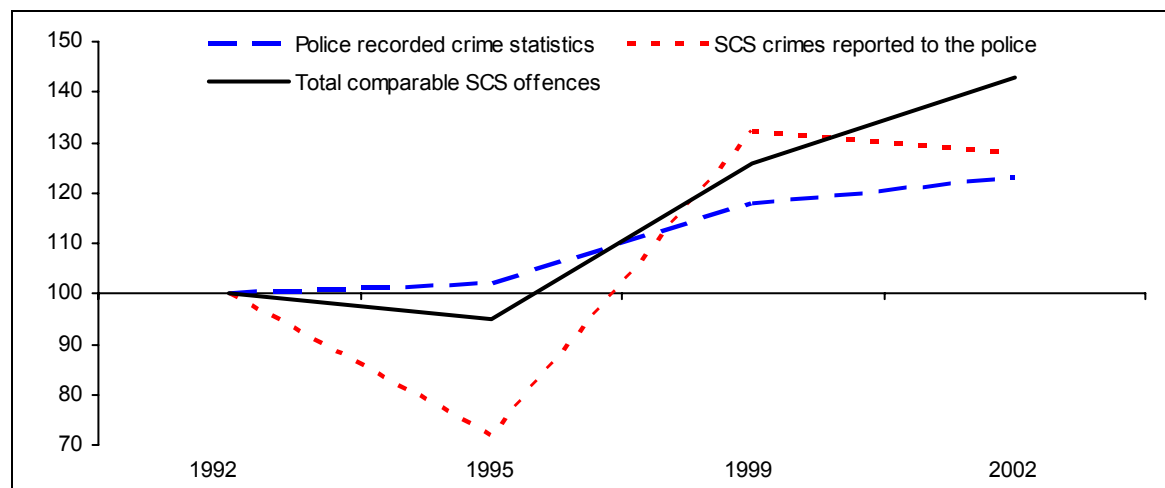
Note:

1. Source: 1993, 1996, 2000 and 2003 Scottish Crime Survey and adjusted police recorded crime statistics

Violent crime

Survey estimates of violent crime (which include assault and robbery) fell by 5 per cent between 1992 and 1995, before rising steeply between 1995 and 2002. Police recorded crime statistics followed a broadly similar pattern, although they did not drop between 1992 and 1995 and showed a more shallow rise between 1995 and 2002 (Figure 4.2), perhaps a result of the increase in petty assaults reported in Chapter 3. The number of violent crimes reported to the police shows a somewhat erratic pattern, with a sharp drop of 28 per cent between 1992 and 1995, followed by a steep increase in 1999 and a slight fall in 2002 (Figure 4.5).

Figure 4.5: Indexed trends in violent crime, 1992-2002



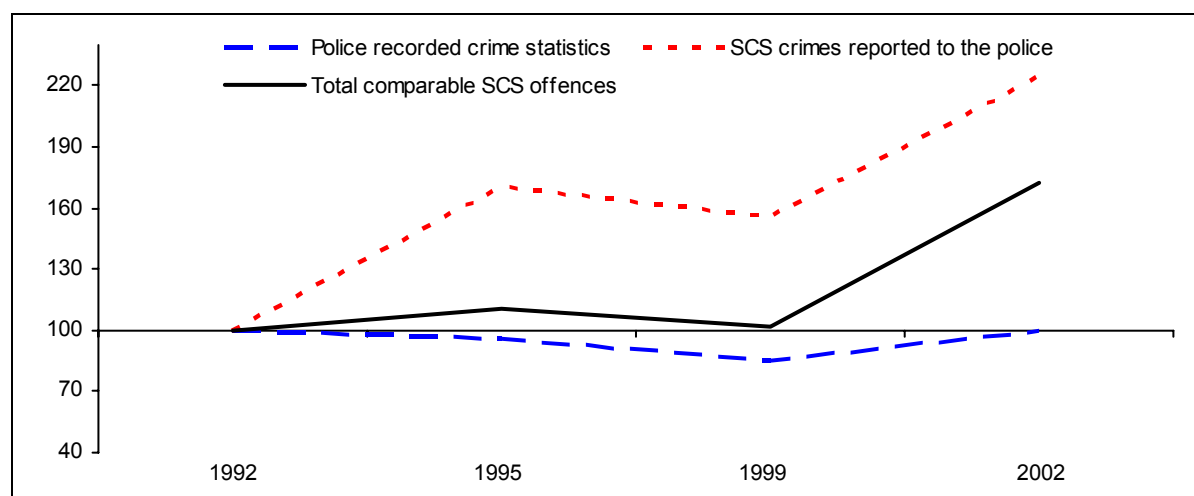
Note:

1. Source: 1993, 1996, 2000 and 2003 Scottish Crime Survey and adjusted police recorded crime statistics

Vandalism

Both SCS estimates and police recorded statistics for vandalism remained fairly stable between 1992 and 1999 (Figure 4.6), although the SCS estimated an increase in the number of crimes reported to the police. Between 1999 and 2002, trends in all three sources of data were upward; however, the extent of the increase varied considerably: survey estimates for vandalism displayed a much more dramatic increase than police recorded crime statistics.

Figure 4.6: Indexed trends in vandalism, 1992-2002



Note:

1. Source: 1993, 1996, 2000 and 2003 Scottish Crime Survey and adjusted police recorded crime statistics

Changes in reporting and recording

As the indexed trends reveal, trends in crime reported by the SCS and police recorded crime statistics differed in some important ways. Between 1999 and 2002 SCS comparable crimes increased by 30 per cent whereas comparable police recorded crime decreased by 1 per cent (Table 4.2). SCS comparable crime that was reported to the police rose by 10 per cent. The most significant changes in comparable crime between 1999 and 2002 are due to the substantial increase in the number of incidents of vandalism reported to the SCS, reported to the police and recorded by the police.

Table 4.2: Percentage change in crime 1999-2002

	SCS comparable crimes	SCS crimes reported to the police	Comparable police recorded crime
Acquisitive	-4	-15	-21
Violence	17	-3	4
Vandalism	68	44	18
Total	30	10	-1

Note:

1. Percentage change for the 'SCS comparable crimes' of acquisitive crime violence and vandalism are based on the rates reported in Appendix Tables A.3.2 and A.3.3. Percentage change for the total SCS comparable crimes and SCS crimes reported to the police are based on grossed-up population estimates.
2. Source: 2000 and 2003 Scottish Crime Surveys and adjusted police recorded crime statistics.

Underlying the trends in both SCS and police recorded crime, and the differences between these trends, are changes in the proportion of crimes being reported to and recorded by the police (Table 4.3).

Vandalism

The SCS estimated that the number of incidents of vandalism increased by 68 per cent between 1999 and 2002 (Table 4.2). However, the proportion of incidents of vandalism that were reported to the police decreased over the same period (Table 4.3). This explains why the percentage increase in the number of SCS incidents of vandalism reported to the police between 1999 and 2002 was only 44 per cent (Table 4.2). Furthermore, the percentage of incidents of vandalism that were reported to the police *and* recorded by them also decreased over this time (Table 4.3). This explains why the estimated increase in police recorded vandalism, at 18 per cent, was much smaller than the 68 per cent SCS estimate.

Table 4.3: The proportion of crime reported to and recorded by the police: 1999-2002

	Percent of SCS crime reported to the police		Percent of reported SCS crime recorded by the police		Percent of all SCS crime recorded by the police	
	1999	2002	1999	2002	1999	2002
Acquisitive	74	66	63	58	47	38
Violence	55	46	51	55	28	25
Vandalism	50	43	52	42	26	18
All crime	58	49	55	49	32	24

1. Source: 2000 and 2003 Scottish Crime Surveys and adjusted police recorded crime statistics.

A similar pattern can be seen for both acquisitive crime and violent crime.

Acquisitive crime

Acquisitive crime, as measured by the SCS, showed a 4 per cent decrease between 1999 and 2002 (Table 4.2). Over the same period, there was a decrease in the *proportion* of these crimes that were reported to the police (Table 4.3), resulting in the estimated *number* of SCS crimes reported to the police decreasing by an even greater 15 per cent. The decrease in the proportion reported to the police was coupled with a decrease in the proportion of reported SCS crimes being recorded by the police, and therefore explains why the decrease in the recorded acquisitive crime is even greater still at 21 per cent.

Violent crime

For violent crime, the SCS estimated a 17 per cent increase between 1999 and 2002 (Table 4.2). Because the proportion of these which were reported to the police fell over the same time (Table 4.3), the number of crimes reported to the police actually fell by 3 per cent. In contrast, the police recorded an increased proportion of violent crimes which explains the 4 per cent increase in police recorded violence.

CHAPTER FIVE: UNEQUAL RISK OF CRIME

As well as estimating how many incidents of each crime happened in 2002 (*the incidence rate*) the SCS can also inform us about the number of households or individuals who were the victims of crime in 2002 (*the prevalence rate*). The SCS also collects information about the characteristics of both victims and non-victims, allowing an examination of how the risk of being victimised varies among different sections of the population.

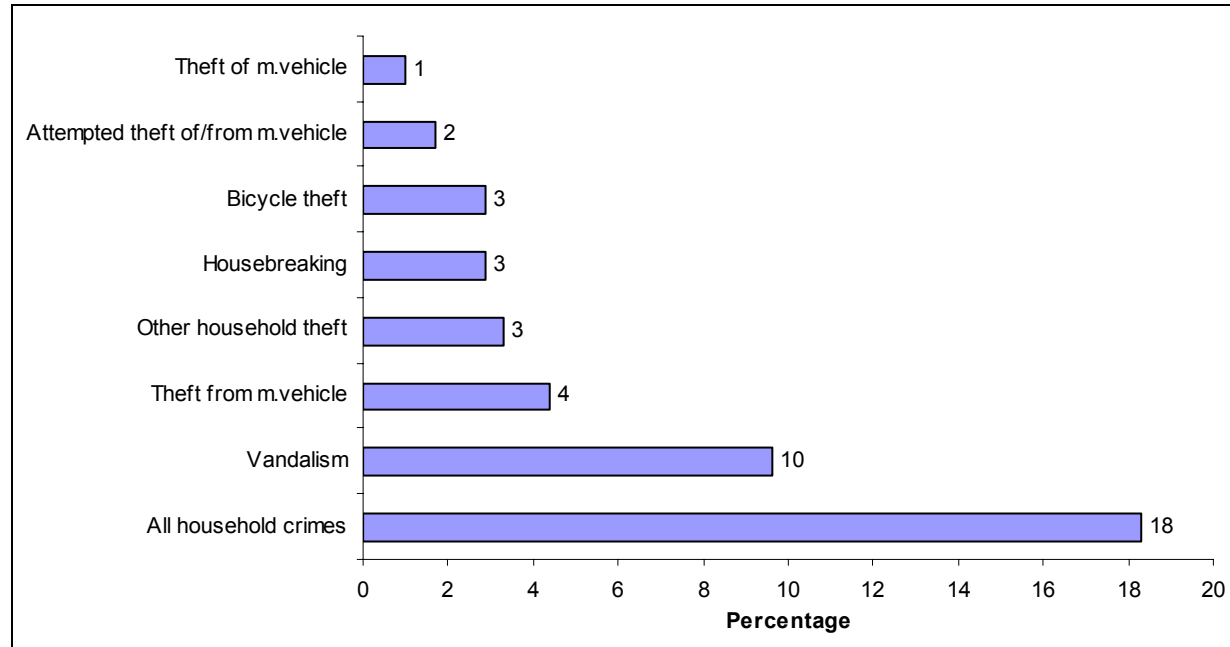
This chapter will explore prevalence of crime in Scotland as a whole, and then how the risk of victimisation varies across specific groups in the population. The likelihood of repeat victimisation, that is the chance of victims experiencing more than one crime of a specific type during 2002, is also examined.

Risk of victimisation

Figures from the 2003 SCS estimate that just under a quarter of adults (23%) reported being the victim of at least one personal or household crime covered by the SCS during 2002. This remains lower than the figure for 1992 (27%) though it represents a small increase from the figure for 1999 (20%) (Appendix A.5.1).

One in six (18%) households had experienced an incident of property crime in 2002. As could be expected from the findings presented in Chapters 2 and 3, the most common property crime was vandalism, experienced by one in ten households. Three per cent of households had experienced housebreaking, other household theft and theft from a motor vehicle (Figure 5.1).

Figure 5.1: Percentage of households which were the victim of property crime in 2002



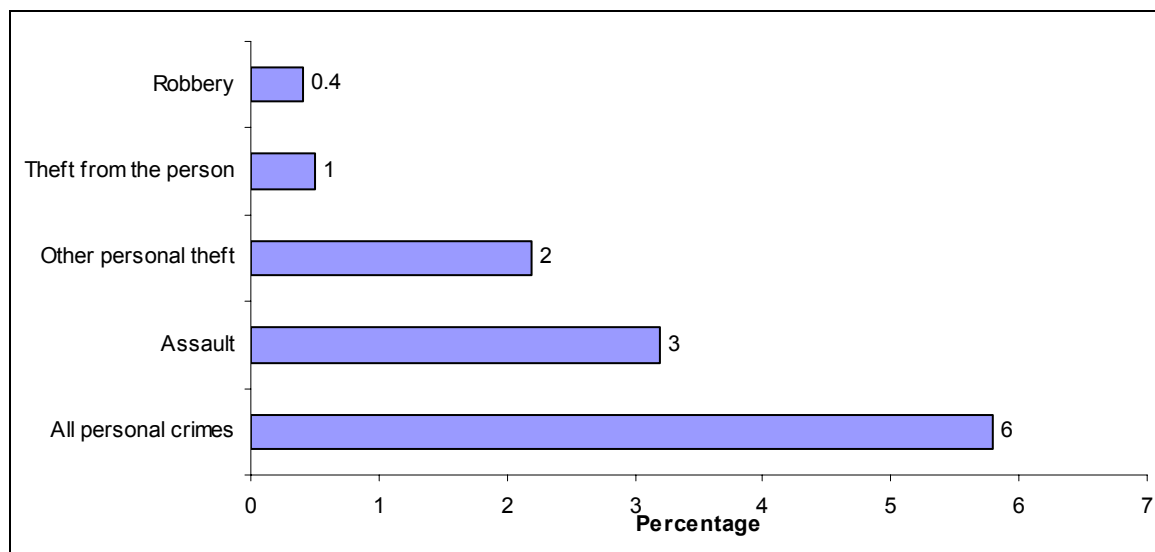
Note:

1. The prevalence of motor vehicle and bicycle crime is based on vehicle and bicycle owners only.
2. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
motor vehicle owners, unweighted n=3,513
bicycle owners, unweighted n=1,842

Personal crimes were less common. Only 6 per cent of respondents experienced a personal crime in 2002. The most common personal crimes were assault (experienced by 3% of

respondents) and other personal theft (experienced by 2%). Less than 1 per cent of respondents had experienced robbery.

Figure 5.2: Percentage of individuals who were the victim of personal crime in 2002



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, n=5,041

Trends over time

Overall, the prevalence of both 'all SCS crime' and 'all household crime' increased significantly between 1999 and 2002, but both remained significantly lower than in 1992 (Appendix A.5.1). There was only a marginal, non-significant difference in the prevalence of 'all personal crime'. However, as with incidence rates, these overall changes mask differences in individual crime types.

The prevalence of housebreaking significantly declined between 1999 and 2002, and is now over 50 per cent (53%) lower than it was in 1992. As could be expected from the incidence rates discussed in Chapter 3, the largest increase in prevalence was for vandalism, which rose from 6 per cent in 1999 to 10 per cent in 2002. Prior to 2002, the prevalence of vandalism had remained fairly constant since 1993. All of the motor vehicle offences asked about (theft of and from a motor vehicle and attempted theft of/from a motor vehicle) have fallen significantly since 1992. Prevalence rates are presented in more detail in Appendix Table A.5.1.

Unequal Risks

The risk of victimisation varies widely between different sections of the population. People of certain ages, sex and socio-economic status are at greater or lesser risk of victimisation than others. A detailed analysis of risk of housebreaking, vandalism, vehicle theft and violent crime according to different demographic characteristics within the population are presented in Appendix Tables A.5.2 to A.5.6. However, many of the figures contained within these tables should be treated with caution as comparison with results from previous surveys shows a lack of consistency in the data. This is likely to be caused by the large sampling error associated with analysing small demographic sub-sections of the population, which is made even less accurate when combined with crimes with low incidence rates such as robbery.

For this reason, this section does not go into detail but rather highlights some of the risk factors which appear to be consistent over time:

- Overall, men were slightly more likely than women to become the victim of both household and personal crime in 2002. This is most evident amongst 16 to 24 year old men in relation to personal crime. Men in this age group had almost double the risk of being the victim of a personal crime (21% compared to just 12% of women in the same age group).
- People aged 16 to 24 were most likely to become victims of personal crime. Taking age and sex together, 16 to 24 year old men had over three times the risk of becoming the victim of a personal crime than other age groups (21% of 16-24 year-old men had been victims of personal crime compared to just 7% of 25-44 year-olds, and 5% of 45-49 year-olds and 1% of men aged 60 or over).
- The high prevalence of personal crime against young men is primarily due to the high prevalence of violent crime amongst this group. In 2002, 13 per cent of men aged 16 to 24 were victims of violent crime compared with 5 per cent of men aged 25 to 44.
- Those aged 60 or over were the least likely to become a victim of both personal and household crime. Typically, the prevalence of household crime was roughly half that of other age groups, and the prevalence of personal crime was just 1 per cent for both men and women aged 60 and over, far lower than other age groups.
- Vehicle owners living in the most deprived areas were most likely to be victims of vehicle theft. Also, men aged 16 to 24 are twice as likely as men in other age groups and women in any age group to be victims of vehicle theft. In 2002 16 per cent of men in this age group who owned a vehicle were victims of a vehicle theft compared with 9 per cent of women of the same age and 7 per cent of men aged 25 to 44.

Repeat Victimization

This section presents figures on repeat victimisation – the risk of being a victim of a particular offence more than once during 2002. It should be noted that the figures on repeat victimisation presented below represent the extent of repeat victimisation over one year only: some victims will experience repeated incidents but over a longer period of time.

Housebreaking

Of households that had been a victim of housebreaking in 2002, 82 per cent had been the victim of just one such incident. However, the percentage of households which experienced two or more incidents of housebreaking in 2002 is almost double that of 1999 and is closer to that of 1992 (Table 5.1).

Table 5.1: Percentage of victims of housebreaking experiencing repeated victimisation, 1992-2002

Number of incidents	1992	1995	1999	2002
One	80	88	90	82
Two	13	7	6	11
Three or more	7	5	4	7

Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of housebreaking, unweighted n=146
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of housebreaking, unweighted n=201
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of housebreaking, unweighted n=197
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of housebreaking, unweighted n=320

Vandalism

Repeat victimisation was most common in the case of vandalism. Of households that experienced vandalism in 2002, 64 per cent had only experienced one incident. However, over one third of all victimised households had experienced more than one incident of vandalism, and 18 per cent had been victimised three or more times. This is similar to the proportion of households which experienced vandalism more than once in previous survey sweeps (Table 5.2).

Table 5.2: Percentage of victims of vandalism experiencing repeated victimisation, 1992-2002

Number of incidents	1992	1995	1999	2002
One	72	65	72	64
Two	13	19	14	18
Three or more	15	16	15	18

Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of vandalism, unweighted n=503
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of vandalism, unweighted n=343
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of vandalism, unweighted n=342
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of vandalism, unweighted n=333
2. Vandalism comprises motor vehicle vandalism and property vandalism

Motor Vehicle Theft

The majority of households that experienced motor vehicle theft (including actual or attempted theft of or from a motor vehicle) in 2002 only experienced one such incident. The proportion of those victimised more than once shows an increase from 1999 but is close to the proportions in 1992 and 1995 (Table 5.3).

Table 5.3: Percentage of victims of motor vehicle theft experiencing repeated victimisation, 1999 and 2000

Number of incidents	1992	1995	1999	2002
One	81	78	89	81
Two	12	15	7	12
Three or more	7	7	4	7

Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of motor vehicle theft, unweighted n=275
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of motor vehicle theft, unweighted n=283
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of motor vehicle theft, unweighted n=461
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of motor vehicle theft, unweighted n=541
2. Motor vehicle theft comprises theft of a motor vehicle, theft from a motor vehicle and attempted theft of / from a motor vehicle

Violent Crime

Of those individuals who had experienced a violent offence (assault or robbery) in 2002, 30 per cent had been victimised more than once, approximately the same proportion as in previous years (Table 5.4).

Table 5.4: Percentage of victims of violent crime experiencing repeated victimisation, 1999 and 2000

Number of incidents	1992	1995	1999	2002
One	73	69	70	70
Two	15	17	6	13
Three or more	12	14	24	17

Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of violent crime, unweighted n=178
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of violent crime, unweighted n=140
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of violent crime, unweighted n=123
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, victims of violent crime, unweighted n=137
2. Violent crime comprises petty assault, serious assault and robbery.

CHAPTER SIX: PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME

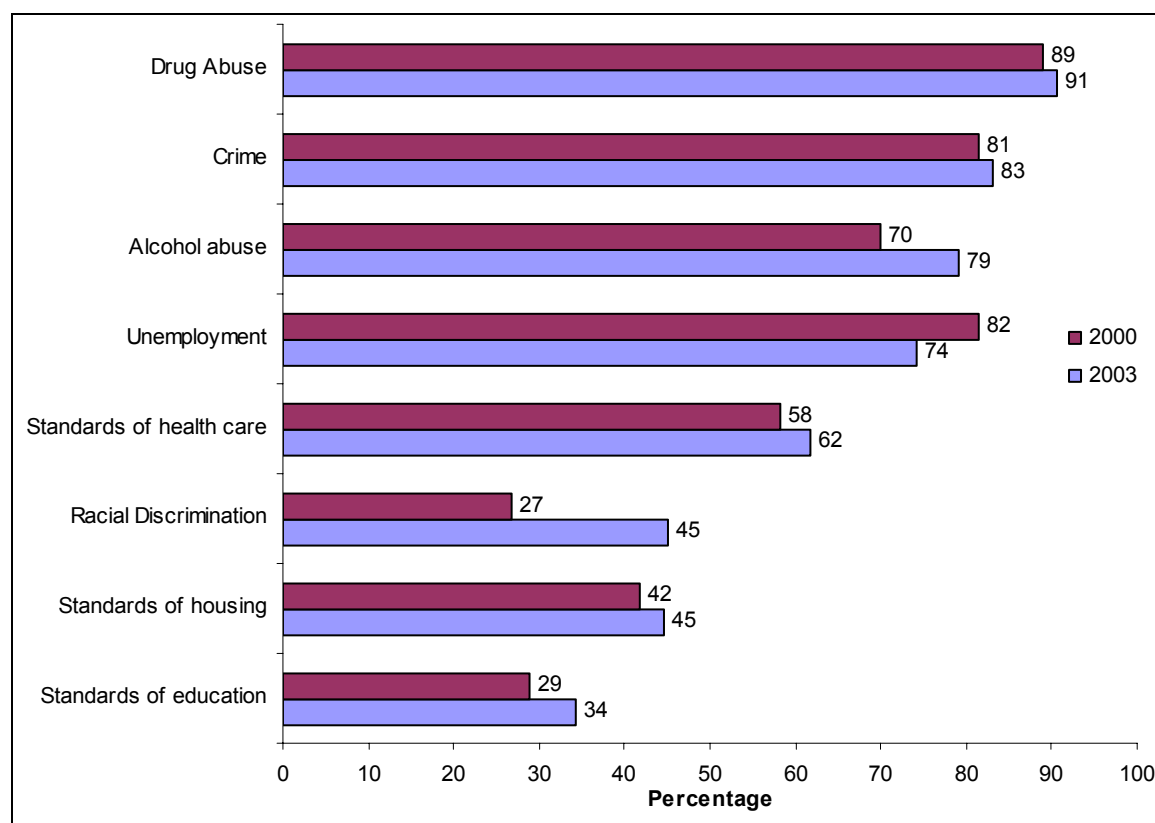
The public's perceptions of crime in their local area and in Scotland as a whole have been shown in the past to differ from the actual risk of falling victim to a criminal act (MVA, 2002, MVA, 1998). This chapter describes public perceptions and concern about crime and anti-social behaviour and the measures members of the public take to minimise their perceived risk.

Public perceptions of crime

Crime as a national problem

Before looking at the public's perceptions of crime in detail, it is worth viewing crime in the context of other social issues. Respondents were asked to describe how serious they considered a range of social issues, from 'extremely serious' to 'not a problem'. The proportion of respondents who thought each of these issues was 'extremely' or 'quite' serious is shown in Figure 6.1, alongside the same figures from the 2000 SCS.

Figure 6.1: Percentage of respondents describing issue as 'extremely' or 'quite' serious



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059

Drug abuse remained the issue which the Scottish public perceived to be the most serious problem in Scotland. There was a small, though significant, increase in the percentage of respondents who felt it was an 'extremely' or 'quite' serious problem between 2000 and 2003. Crime was perceived as the next most serious social problem with four out of five respondents reporting it to be an 'extremely' or 'quite' serious problem (Figure 6.1).

Alongside drug abuse and crime, the other social problem considered most serious was alcohol abuse, with 4 out of 5 respondents describing it as a problem, a significant increase

from 2000. Although the proportion of respondents who felt that racial discrimination was an 'extremely' or 'quite' serious problem was smaller than for many of the other issues asked about, it is important to note the considerable rise in concern about this since 2000, with almost half (45%) those asked rating it as a problem in Scotland.

Crime as a local problem

To better understand what the perception of crime as a problem in Scotland relates to, respondents who had lived in their local area for two years or more were asked whether they thought the level of crime in that area had changed over the previous two years.⁶ Forty-two per cent felt that there was more crime in their area at the time of interview than two years previously, with one in five indicating that it was 'a lot more' (Table 6.1).

These findings are very similar to those found in 2000, the first year this question was asked in the SCS. Just under half (48%) of respondents in both surveys indicated that they felt crime was 'about the same' as it was two years before, and 7 per cent indicated that they thought crime had decreased (Table 6.1). (Further information on these responses can be found in Appendix Table A.6.1).

Table 6.1: Percentage of respondents perceiving change in the crime rates of their local area over the previous 2 years

	2000	2003
A lot more	17	21
A little more	24	21
About the same	48	48
A little less	6	6
A lot less	1	1
Don't know	4	3

Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=4,433
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=4,512

Perceptions of the frequency of crime

Simply stating that some people considered crime to be rising in their local area does not explain why this might be the case, or what crime people are referring to when they talk about 'crime'. More detail was obtained by asking how common people perceived specific types of crimes to be, again asking specifically about the respondent's local area (Table 6.2).

Respondents perceived the most common offence to be vehicle vandalism in 2003, with 41 per cent stating that this was 'very' or 'fairly' common; a similar proportion to previous years (Table 6.2). This was followed by people's homes being broken into, people having things stolen from their vehicles and people having their vehicles stolen. For all these offences, there have been significant decreases since 1996. In line with actual trends, the proportion of respondents considering housebreaking to be 'very' or 'fairly' common has decreased steadily from 51 per cent in 1993 to 28 per cent in 2003.

⁶ It was explained to respondents that 'in this area' was considered to be within 15 minutes walk of their home.

Table 6.2: Percentage of respondents considering specific crime types 'very' or 'fairly' common in their local area

Crime type	1993	1996	2000	2003
People having their vehicles damaged by vandals	n/a	43	44	41
People having things stolen from their vehicles	n/a	42	35	30
People's homes being broken into	51	39	30	28
People having their vehicles stolen	n/a	32	23	25
People being attacked or assaulted in street/public place	26	21	14	23
People assaulted by those they live with (domestic abuse)	20	18	14	16
People being mugged or robbed in the street	17	15	11	16

Note:

1. 'People having their vehicles damaged by vandals', 'people having things stolen from their vehicles', and 'people having their vehicles stolen' were asked about for the first time in the SCS in 1996.
2. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=2,530
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=2,542
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=2,511
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=2,517

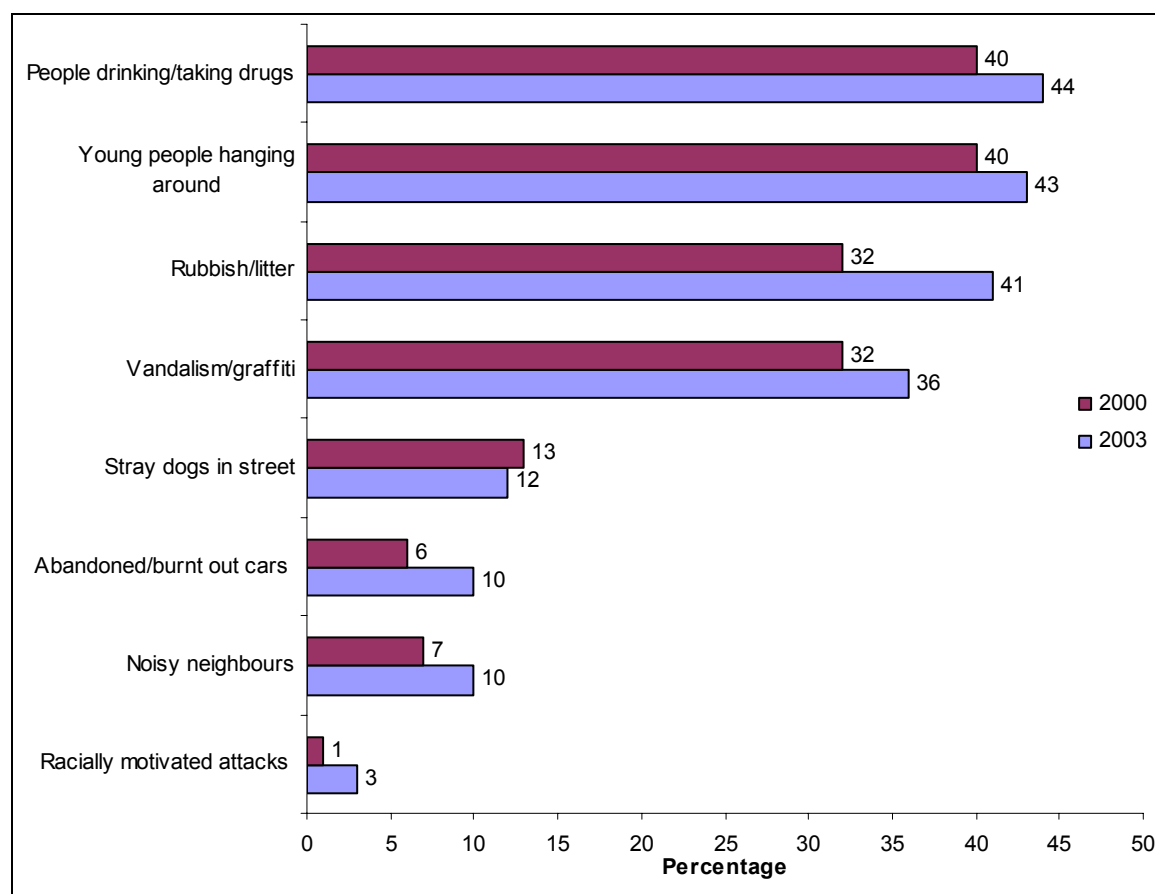
The proportion of respondents who considered people being attacked or assaulted in the street 'very' or 'fairly' common increased from 14 per cent in 2000 to 23 per cent in 2003, although the figure of 23 per cent more closely resembles the finding from 1996 for this question (21%), and remains lower than that from 1993 (26%). Further details on responses given in 2003 by key demographics can be seen in Appendix Table A.6.2.

Perceptions of signs of crime and disorder

Alongside perceptions of the frequency of crime, respondents were also asked how big a problem they considered specific signs of crime and disorder. Behaviours asked about ranged from signs of criminal acts such as drug taking to signs of anti-social behaviour such as rubbish in the street. As in 2000, people drinking or taking drugs in the street was considered to be the biggest problem (Figure 6.2), paralleling the finding that drug abuse is considered the most serious social problem in Scotland (Figure 6.1). The proportion who considered people drinking or taking drugs a 'very' or 'fairly' big problem increased from 40 per cent in 2000 to 44 per cent in 2003, a figure very similar to that found in 1996 (45%).

As such a common concern, it is worth unpicking reported concern about drinking and drug use to uncover which of these issues is of most concern to the public. Looking at the issues separately, we can see that it was most common for respondents to report that both drinking and drug use were a local problem: 25 per cent of all respondents considered both drinking and taking drugs to be a 'very' or 'fairly' big problem in their local area. On the other hand, just 12 per cent considered people drinking to be the only problem and 7 per cent said that people taking drugs was the only problem.

Figure 6.2: Percentage of respondents considering specific signs of disorder a 'very' or 'fairly' big problem



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=2,530
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=2,542

Along with significant increases in the perception of drinking and drug use as a local problem, there were also significant increases in the percentage of people considering young people hanging around; rubbish and litter lying around; vandalism and graffiti; noisy neighbours; abandoned cars; and racially motivated attacks a 'very' or 'fairly' serious problem between 2000 and 2003. However, between 1996 and 2003, there were few differences, suggesting little change over the longer-term.⁷

The likelihood of victimisation

Another way of looking at public perceptions of crime that directly relates to individual's feelings of safety, is to ask respondents not how common they think certain crimes are, but rather how likely they think they think it is that they themselves will become a victim of crime in the forthcoming 12 months. Such questions can give a better idea about the true extent of concern about crime than the more general questions reported above. Two crimes were asked about: housebreaking and crimes involving violence.

In terms of housebreaking, 10 per cent of respondents thought that it was 'very' or 'fairly' likely that their home would be broken into within the next year, an increase from 7 per cent in 2000. This is higher than the proportion of individuals who were, in fact, the victim of housebreaking in 2000 and 2003 (4% and 3% respectively). Thus, although housebreaking has shown signs of decreasing since 1999 (the SCS reports a non-significant decline

⁷ The results for 1996 can be found in MVA (1998). No comparable questions were asked in 1993.

between 1999 and 2002) and police recorded crime figures have shown a significant decrease, people's perception of their likelihood of falling victim to this type of crime has actually increased.

For violent crime, 8 per cent believed it was 'very' or 'fairly' likely that they would be the victim of a violent crime in 2003. Again, this is a rise from 5 per cent in 2000 and is double the actual prevalence of violent crime in 2002 which was 4 per cent.

Public anxiety about crime

A final way of uncovering the public's perceptions of crime is to ask them directly about their feelings of safety and their concern about crime. Questions were asked about respondents' feelings of safety walking alone after dark and of being home alone at night; their concern about them or others in their household becoming a victim of crime (in contrast to their likelihood of becoming a victim, reported above) and finally how much they were worried about specific types of crimes. Each of these will be explored in turn.

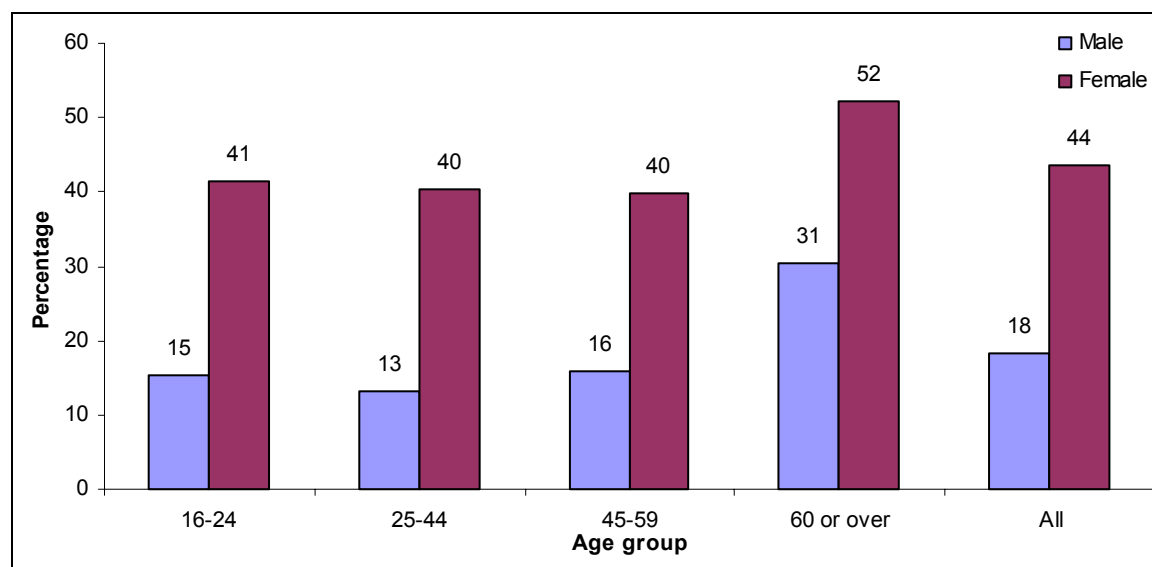
Feelings of safety

Walking alone at night

Asking whether individuals feel safe walking alone in their local area after dark can give an indication of their concern about becoming the victim of crime. Overall, two-thirds (66%) of people reported feeling safe ('very' or 'a bit'). However, one-third did not feel safe, with 13 per cent feeling 'very' unsafe and 19 per cent 'a bit unsafe' walking alone after dark.

As can be expected, there were marked differences by both age and sex (Figure 6.3). Forty-four per cent of women felt 'very' or 'a bit' unsafe walking alone after dark compared with just 18 per cent of men. Overall, people were more anxious about walking alone in their area after dark than in 2000 when 40 per cent of women and 14 per cent of men reported feeling 'a bit' or 'very' unsafe.

Figure 6.3: Percentage of respondents feeling 'very' or 'a bit' unsafe walking alone after dark



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041

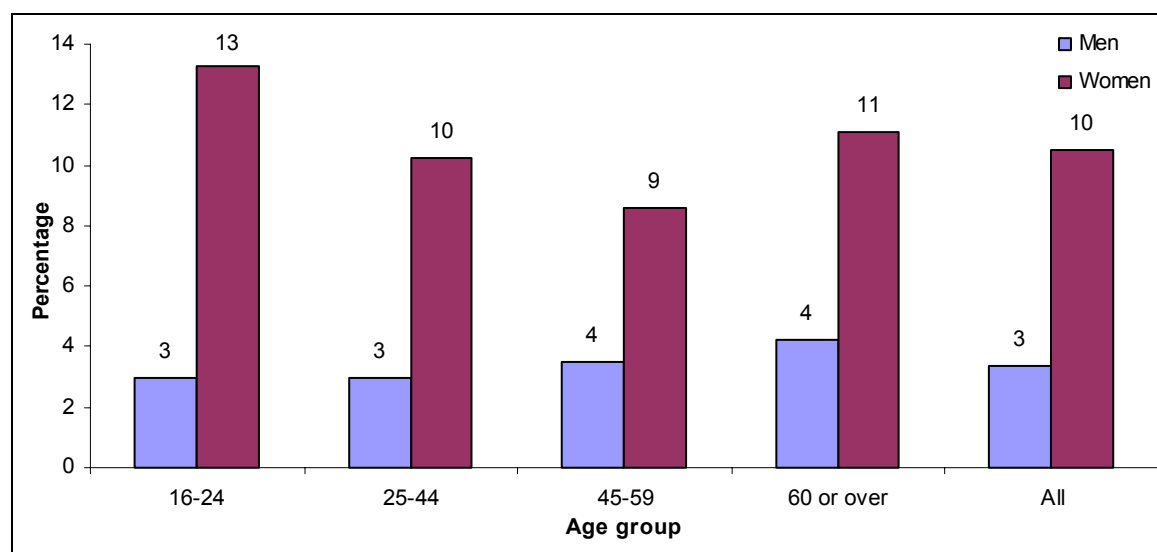
In terms of age, those aged 60 or over were the most likely to feel unsafe walking alone after dark. Together, these differences by age and sex resulted in women aged over 60 being the group most likely to feel unsafe, with over half (52%) reporting feeling 'a bit' or 'very' unsafe when walking alone after dark (Figure 6.3). It is interesting to note that there was little

difference in the proportion reporting to be 'very' or 'a bit' unsafe between the ages of 16 and 59 for both men and women, but after that age such feelings increased substantially. Further information on feelings of safety walking after dark by the demographic characteristics of respondents is provided in Table A.6.3.

Being alone at home at night

A question relating to feelings of safety when alone at home at night produced a similar pattern of results, although far fewer (7%) reported feeling 'very' or 'a bit' unsafe alone at home at night. Ten per cent of women compared to just 3 per cent of men reported feeling 'a bit' or 'very' unsafe when in this situation. Interestingly, it was 16 to 24 year-old women who were most afraid of being alone in their home at night, not those aged 60 or over (Figure 6.4)

Figure 6.4: Percentage of respondents feeling 'very' or 'a bit' unsafe alone at home after dark



Note:

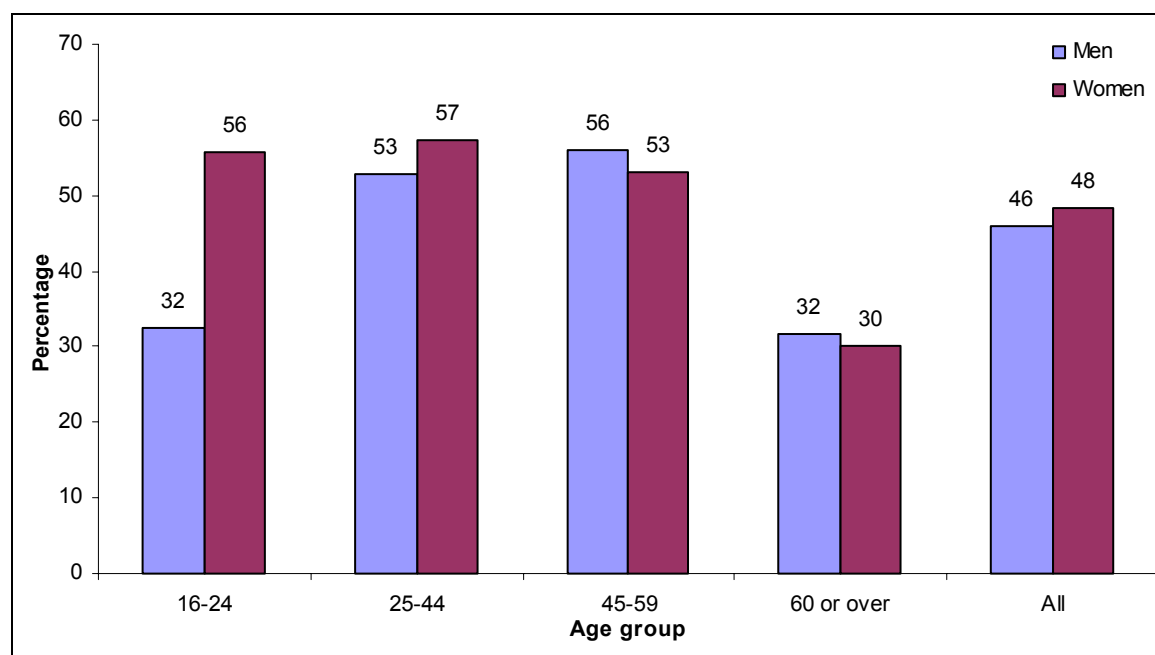
1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041

Worry about crime

Respondents were asked the question, '*Do you ever worry about the possibility that you or anyone else who lives with you might be the victim of a crime?*'. Forty-seven per cent of respondents agreed with this statement, a similar proportion to 2000 (48%).

Amongst those 25 or over, there was little difference between men and women in the extent to which they worry about crime. However, amongst 16 to 24 year olds, women were far more likely to report being worried than men (56% versus 32% respectively). Those aged 60 or over were less likely than other age groups to report being worried about the possibility of them or those they live with becoming the victim of crime, a result which contrasts to the findings reported above, but in line with the facts reported in Chapter 5 that those aged 60 or over were less likely to be the victim of both personal and household crime. Full details of the responses to this question can be found in Appendix Table A.6.4.

Figure 6.5: Percentage of respondents worried that they or others in their household will be the victim of crime



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=2,530

Worry about specific crimes

Finally, in addition to asking respondents about the generic category of 'crime' reported above, the 2003 SCS also asked people how worried they were about becoming the victim of a series of specific crimes, (Table 6.3).

As in previous years, the most common concern related to housebreaking, with just under half (45%) reporting that they were 'very' or 'fairly' worried about being the victim of this type of crime, the same proportion as in 2000 (Table 6.3). A substantial proportion (39%) also reported being 'very' or 'fairly' worried about becoming the victim of vehicle vandalism, again a similar proportion to 2000 (37%). This is despite the increase in incidents of vehicle vandalism reported in 2002, as discussed in Chapter 3.

Of concern is the increase in worry about racial attacks between 2000 and 2003, again mirroring the finding in Figure 6.1, which indicated a growing opinion that racial abuse was a serious problem in Scotland. Eleven per cent reported being 'very' or 'fairly' worried about becoming the victim of a racial attack, despite the fact that only 2 per cent indicated that they were from a black or ethnic minority group. However, the extent of worry amongst black or ethnic minority groups far exceeded worry amongst white respondents; 42 per cent of black or ethnic minority respondents reported being 'very' or 'fairly' worried about becoming the victim of a racial attack compared with only 10 per cent of white respondents.⁸

For all the crimes that have been asked about since 1993 (housebreaking, sexual assault, robbery and assault) there was a significant decrease in the proportion indicating that they were worried between 1993 and 2003. A full demographic analysis of those who said they worried about specific types of crimes is provided in Appendix A.6.4.

⁸ There were only 96 black or ethnic minority individuals in the sample.

Table 6.3: Percentage of respondents 'very' or 'fairly' worried that they will be the victim of specific crimes: 1993-2003

	1993	1996	2000	2003
Having home broken into and sm'thing stolen	59	52	45	45
Vehicle Vandalism	n/a	n/a	37	39
Sexual assault (women only)	55	51	41	39
Vandalism to home	n/a	43	37	38
Being mugged and robbed	48	43	34	38
Assault	45	42	32	35
Theft from car	n/a	n/a	32	32
Theft of car	n/a	n/a	31	32
Racial attack	n/a	n/a	7	11

Note:

1. Vandalism to home was first asked in the SCS in 1996. Vehicle vandalism, theft from a car, theft of a car and racial assault were first asked in the SCS in 2000
2. Non-responses and 'not applicable' were excluded from analysis
3. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030
4. Sexual Assault was only asked of women: 2003 unweighted n=2,377; 2000 unweighted n=2,404; 1996 unweighted n=5,310; 1993 unweighted n=2,693

CHAPTER SEVEN: DRUG USE

Although the main purpose of the SCS was to gather information about public perceptions and experiences as victims of crime, respondents were also asked to fill in a short self-completion questionnaire about their knowledge and illicit use of a range of prescribed and illegal drugs. Questions about the illicit use of drugs have been asked in the SCS since 1993. Asking such questions in a self-completion module is considered a more effective way of ensuring the truthfulness of respondents' answers on such a sensitive issue.

The questions covered the following drugs: amphetamines; cannabis; cocaine; crack; ecstasy; heroin; methadone/physeptone; LSD; magic mushrooms; temazepam; valium; glues, gas or aerosols; anabolic steroids and poppers. The main questions included:

- whether they had ever taken the drug
- whether they had taken the drug in the last year
- whether they had taken the drug in the last month.

There are, of course, limitations to self-report data on drug use. Most importantly, it is possible that serious drug users are less likely to have taken part in the SCS, because they are less likely to have been at home. In this way, it is likely that the SCS underestimates drug use. There may also be a stigma attached to taking some drugs, especially 'hard' drugs such as heroin and crack, which again might have resulted in some under-reporting, despite the reassurances of confidentiality.

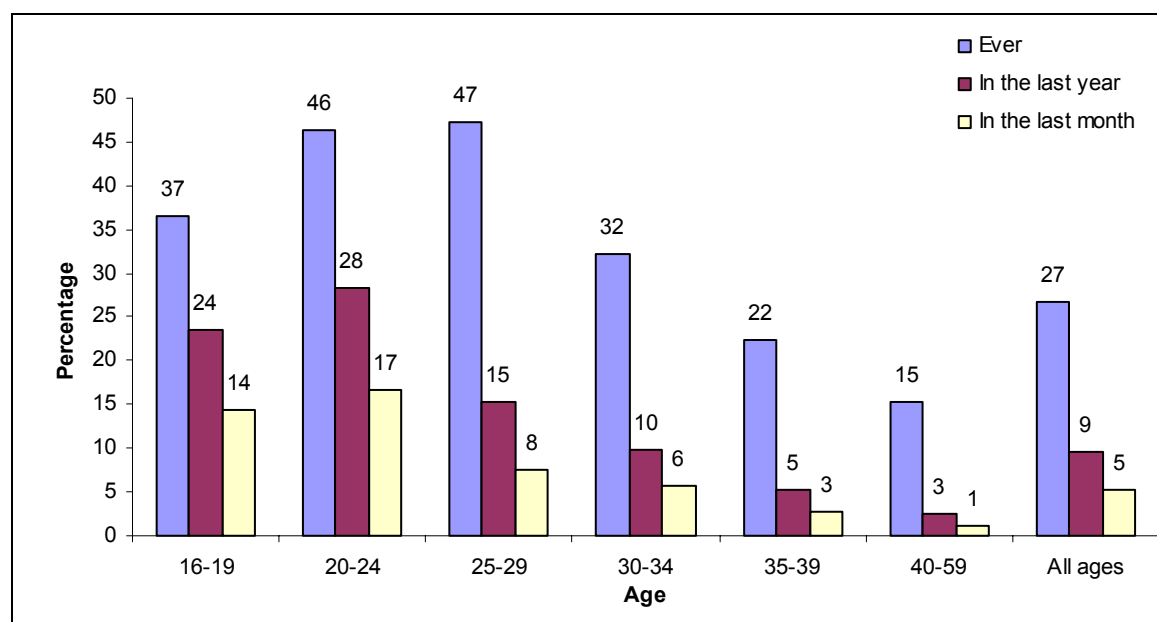
It is also possible that there is some exaggeration in reported drug use. There is some evidence of this in the 2003 SCS, more so than in previous years. To check for exaggeration, all respondents were asked whether they had ever taken a bogus drug. Previous surveys have found very little over-reporting of this kind, with 4 respondents reporting taking this drug in the 1993 SCS, 11 in 1996 and 18 in 2000. In 2003, however, there was almost a three-fold increase over 2000 with 51 respondents reporting ever using the bogus drug. It is difficult to know why there has been such an increase; there is no obvious demographic bias in these respondents (by age or sex). However, 22 of the bogus drug users also reported having taken every other drug asked about. This suggests that many respondents who reported using the bogus drug were likely to have been exaggerating. For this reason, respondents who reported taking the bogus drug have been excluded from all analyses of drug taking reported in this chapter.

Prevalence of drug use

Over a quarter of 16 to 59 year-old respondents (27%) reported 'ever' taking one of the illicit drugs asked about.⁹ However, this included people who had tried drugs only once or twice and also those who might have used illicit drugs on a regular basis in the past, but no longer did. Examining those who said they had used drugs in the last year (9%) and in the last month (5%) it can be seen that illicit drug taking was not a regular occurrence for the majority of respondents (Figure 7.1).

⁹ Respondents of all ages completed the self-completion module. However, because previous sweeps of the SCS only questioned 16 to 59 year-olds, analysis has been restricted to this age group for the 2003 SCS to allow comparison with previous sweeps of the survey. This excludes 1,134 people aged 60 or over from the analysis.

Figure 7.1: Percentage of respondents using illicit drugs ever, in the last year and in the last month



Note:

- Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey,
 16-19, unweighted n=172
 20-24, unweighted n=262
 25-29, unweighted n=309
 30-34, unweighted n=450
 35-39, unweighted n=438
 40-59, unweighted n=1537

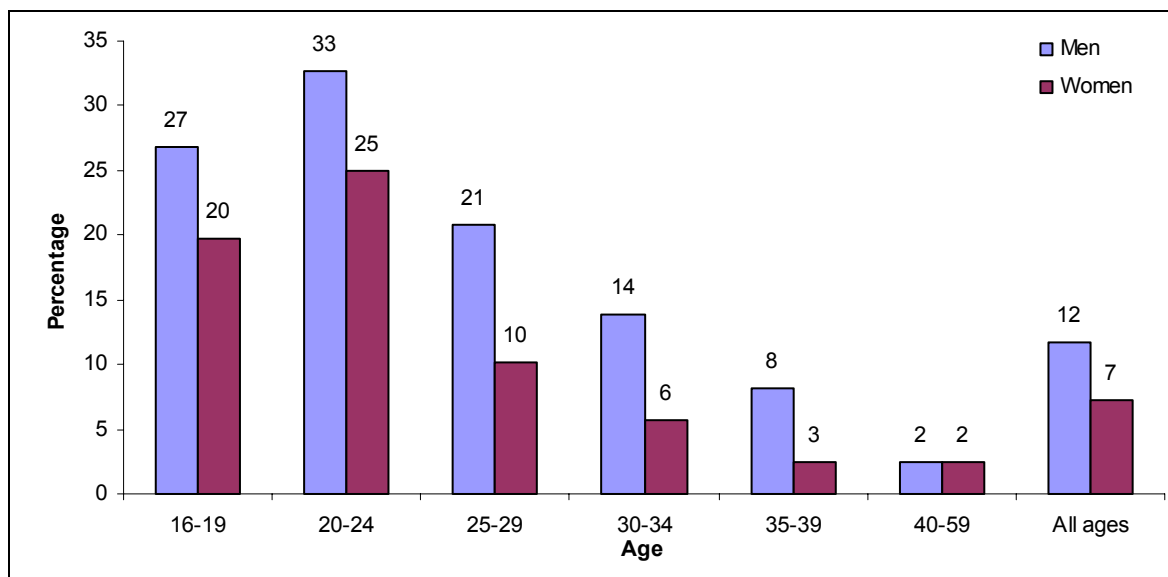
Figure 7.1 also illustrates that the peak age of drug use was between 20 and 24 year-olds for last year and last month drug use, with the proportion of both dropping off after the age of 24. As could be expected, the peak age for lifetime use was slightly higher, and was amongst 25 to 29 year-olds.

Drug use amongst men and women

Drug use in the last month was such a rare event that the figures quoted in the remainder of the report will, on the whole, quote drug use in the last year. It is also the measure that has most commonly been reported in previous SCS reports and so the most appropriate measure to compare drug use between surveys. Drug use in the last year, however, includes more infrequent and occasional users than the last month measure. Full details of the extent of ever and last year drug use can be seen in Tables A.7.1, A.7.2 and A.7.3 for both sexes, males and females respectively.

Looking at drug use in the last year for both men and women, it can be seen that men were significantly more likely to take illicit drugs than women. This pattern holds for all age groups (Figure 7.2). The peak age for drug use in the last year was similar for both sexes at between 20 and 24 years old.

Figure 7.2: Percentage of men and women who have taken any illicit drug in the previous year



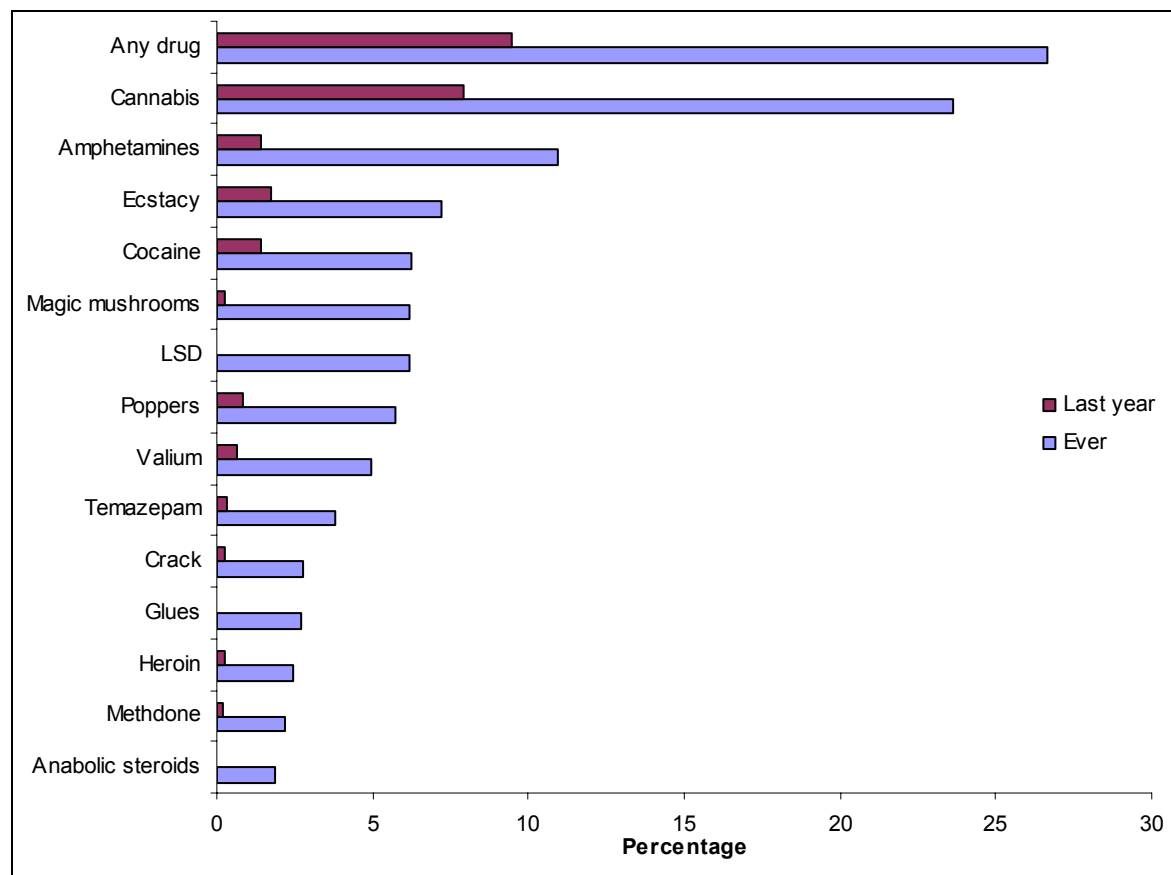
Note:

- Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey
 16-19, unweighted n, men=86, women=86
 20-24, unweighted n, men=114, women=148
 25-29, unweighted n, men=128, women=181
 30-34, unweighted n, men=203, women=247
 35-39, unweighted n, men=188, women=250
 40-59, unweighted n, men=732, women=805

Types of drug used

Overall, the SCS results for 2003 estimate that in 2003 around 1 million Scottish adults aged 16 to 59 had tried an illicit drug at some point in their life. The number using illicit drugs at the time of interview, however, was far less, and much of both current and historical drug use was limited to the use of cannabis (Figure 7.3).

Figure 7.3: Percentage of respondents using specific drugs ‘ever’ and ‘in the last year’



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=3,168

The rates of drug use in the last year for individual types of drug were very low amongst all respondents, with the exception of cannabis. Cannabis was by far the most common drug, being taken by almost one in four (24%) of the adult population at some point in their lives, and being taken by 8 per cent of the population in the year before they were interviewed (Figure 7.3). As might be expected, rates of cannabis use were highest amongst young men (Appendix Table A.7.2).

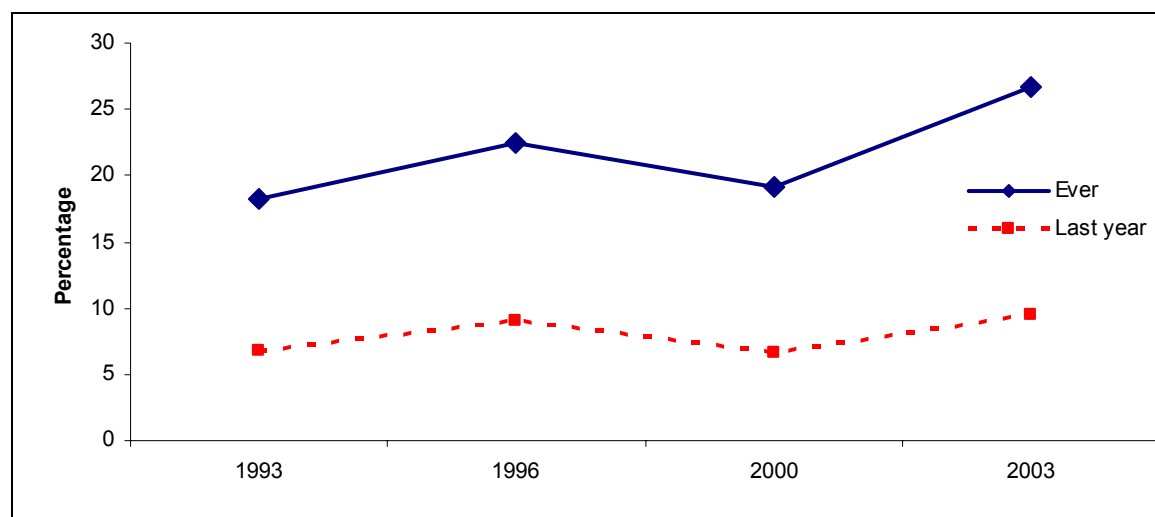
For most other types of drugs, rates of use were low. One in ten (11%) reported ever having taken amphetamines, but the proportion of those who reported taking it in the last year (1%) was very low. Seven per cent of respondents reported ever having taken ecstasy, but again this dropped to just 2 per cent of respondents who reported taking it in the previous year. Six per cent of respondents reported ever having taken cocaine, but again this dropped to just 1 per cent of the sample who reported using it in the previous year. Two per cent of respondents reported ever taking heroin, and this dropped to just 0.3 per cent who reported having taken it in the previous year.

In order to get a sense of *problematic* drug use (opiates and benzodiazepines only) Hay *et al.* (2001) used a “capture – recapture” methodology to estimate the numbers of problem opiate and benzodiazepine users in Scotland in 2000. This study also estimates the prevalence of drug injecting. A follow-up report estimating the numbers in 2003 is due to be published in 2005.

Trends over time

Although there was a significant increase in the proportion of respondents indicating they had ever taken an illicit drug between the 2003 SCS and all previous sweeps of the survey, the pattern of those reporting using drugs in the previous year is more varied. Drug use in the last year was significantly higher as measured by the 2003 SCS than in the 2000 and the 1993 SCS. However, it does not differ significantly from the 1996 findings. These fluctuating figures do not suggest a stable pattern in the proportion taking drugs in Scotland over time (Figure 7.4).

Figure 7.4: Percentage of respondents reporting drug use 'ever' and 'in the last year', 1993-2003

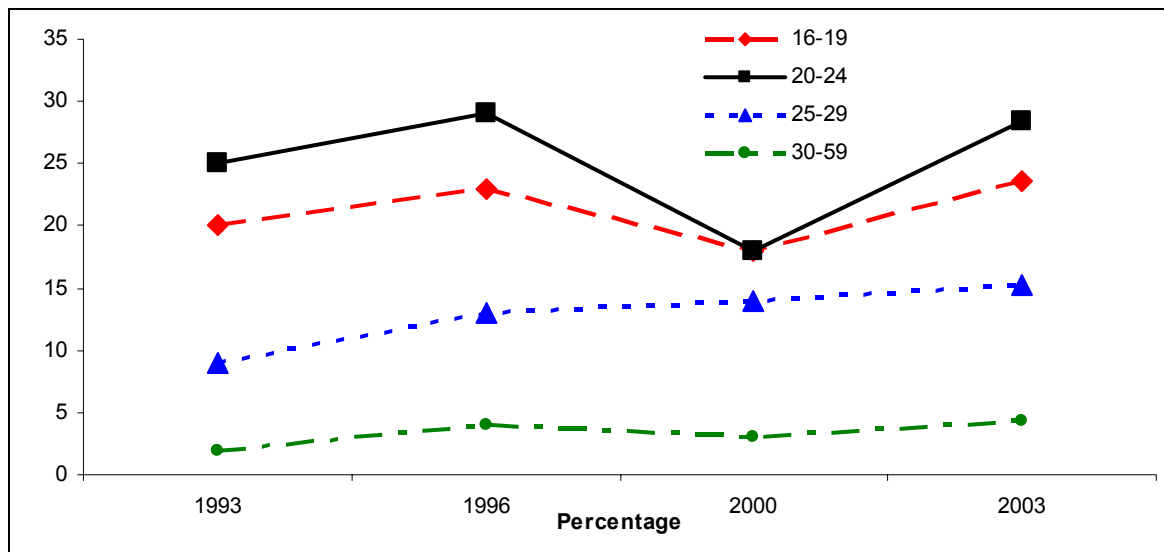


Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=3,168
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=2,886
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=2,997
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=3,196

The trends over time can be explored by looking more carefully at trends in drug use amongst individual age groups. Figure 7.5 illustrates that the decrease in drug use which can be seen in reports of the 2000 SCS, is primarily due to a decrease in drug use amongst 20 to 24 year-olds. Amongst all other age groups, there has been little significant change over time, only an increase in drug use amongst 25 to 29 year-olds between 1992 and 2002, and an increase amongst the 30 to 59 age group between 2000 and 2003 (an increase of 1 percentage point, from 3% to 4%).

Figure 7.5: Use of drugs in the last year by age, 1993 – 2003



Note:

1. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=3,168
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=2,886
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=2,997
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=3,196

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APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL TABLES

Table A.2.1: Rates of victimisation in Scotland in 2002, per 10,000 households / individuals

	Best estimate	Lower estimate	Upper estimate	Confidence interval
COMPARABLE WITH POLICE				
VANDALISM	1,656	1,473	1,840	183
ACQUISITIVE	620	514	726	106
Housebreaking	397	316	479	82
Theft of a motor vehicle	91	56	126	35
Bicycle theft	132	94	170	38
VIOLENCE	599	466	732	133
Assault	550	443	658	108
Robbery	48	13	84	35
OTHER SURVEY CRIMES				
Theft from a motor vehicle	408	323	493	85
Attempted theft of/ from motor vehicle	126	91	160	35
Other household theft	499	404	594	95
Theft from the person	59	35	84	25
Other personal theft	261	193	329	68
Petty Assault	435	342	529	93
Serious assault	115	78	152	37
Motor vehicle vandalism	826	719	933	107
Property vandalism	831	610	1,051	221
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIMES	3,309	2,969	3,649	340
ALL PERSONAL CRIMES	919	801	1,037	118
VEHICLE CRIME (Rates per 10,000 owners)				
Theft from a motor vehicle	609	473	745	136
Theft of a motor vehicle	136	86	186	50
Attempted theft of/ from a m. vehicle	188	148	228	40
Bicycle theft	369	254	484	115

Notes:

- Upper and lower estimates are based on 95% confidence intervals.
- Rate for all survey crime cannot be calculated because the combination of household and personal crimes cannot be weighted.
- For violence, theft from the person, assault, robbery, other personal theft and all personal offences, rates are quoted per 10,000 adults. For acquisitive crime, vandalism, housebreaking, vehicle offences, bicycle theft, other household theft and all household offences, rates are quoted per 10,000 households.
- For the distinction between crimes which are 'comparable with police' and 'other survey crimes', see Appendix D.
- Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
motor vehicle owners, unweighted n=3,513
bicycle owners, unweighted n=1,842.

Table A.2.2: Estimates of the extent of victimisation in Scotland in 2002

	Best estimate	Lower estimate	Upper estimate	Confidence interval
COMPARABLE WITH POLICE				
VANDALISM	363,135	322,913	403,356	40,221
ACQUISITIVE	135,963	112,774	159,153	23,190
Housebreaking	87,133	69,192	105,074	17,941
Theft of a motor vehicle	19,921	12,202	27,640	7,719
Bicycle theft	28,909	20,616	37,202	8,293
VIOLENCE	239,891	186,600	293,182	53,291
Assault	220,487	177,366	263,607	43,120
Robbery	19,404	5,334	33,474	14,070
OTHER SURVEY CRIMES				
Theft from a motor vehicle	89,398	70,812	107,983	18,586
Attempted theft of/ from motor vehicle	27,548	19,930	35,166	7,618
Other household theft	109,426	88,622	130,230	20,804
Theft from the person	23,812	13,970	33,655	9,842
Other personal theft	104,559	77,364	131,753	27,195
Petty Assault	174,477	137,160	211,795	37,318
Serious assault	46,010	31,114	60,905	14,896
Motor vehicle vandalism	181,062	157,612	204,512	23,450
Property vandalism	182,070	133,723	230,418	48,348
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIMES	725,467	650,976	799,957	74,490
ALL SURVEY CRIME ¹	1,093,725	971,979	1,215,471	121,746
ALL PERSONAL CRIMES	368,258	321,002	415,514	47,256
VEHICLE CRIME				
Theft from a motor vehicle	89,450	69,545	109,355	19,905
Theft of a motor vehicle	19,976	12,585	27,367	7,391
Attempted theft of/ from a m. vehicle	27,613	21,804	33,423	5,809
Bicycle theft	28,911	19,939	37,882	8,972

Notes:

1. 'All Survey crime' is calculated by adding 'all household crime' and 'all personal crime' together, as the different weights for each do not allow for this to be calculated directly.
2. Upper and lower estimates are based on 95% confidence intervals.
3. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
motor vehicle owners, unweighted n=3,513
bicycle owners, unweighted n=1,842.

Table A.3.1: Estimates of the extent of victimisation in Scotland: 1992 to 2002

	1992	1995	1999	2002
COMPARABLE WITH POLICE				
VANDALISM	211,635	234,308	215,048	363,135
ACQUISITIVE	226,919	148,657	141,522	135,963
Housebreaking ¹	164,576	100,800	105,820	87,133
Theft of a motor vehicle	36,382	22,693	17,865	19,921
Bicycle theft	25,961	25,164	17,836	28,909
VIOLENCE	167,792	158,924	210,742	239,891
Assault	155,004	141,616	188,360	220,487
Robbery	12,788	17,308	22,382	19,404
OTHER SURVEY CRIMES				
Theft from a motor vehicle	150,489	135,918	70,511	89,398
Attempted theft of/ from motor vehicle	55,481	60,436	28,252	27,548
Other household theft ¹	111,451	100,881	60,253	109,426
Theft from the person	20,433	16,733	19,516	23,812
Other personal theft	111,265	11,196	93,695	104,559
Petty Assault	79,048	102,643	155,233	174,477
Serious assault	75,956	38,973	33,127	46,010
Motor vehicle vandalism	118,994	118,588	119,335	181,062
Property vandalism	92,641	115,720	95,713	182,070
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIMES	755,975	680,200	515,586	725,467
ALL SURVEY CRIME ²	1,055,466	967,852	839,538	1,093,725
ALL PERSONAL CRIMES	299,491	287,652	323,952	368,258

Notes:

1. Figures presented for 'housebreaking' and 'other household theft' are based on the new definition of housebreaking described in Appendix B. Figures for 'acquisitive crime' and 'all household crime' are also affected and differ from previously published figures.
2. 'All Survey crime' is calculated by adding 'all household crime' and 'all personal crime' together, as the different weights for each do not allow for this to be calculated directly.
3. Vandalism rates for 1999 differ slightly from those previously published. This has also resulted in the figure for 'all household crime' differing slightly from previously published figures.
4. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030.

Table A.3.2: Rates of victimisation in Scotland: 1992 to 2002

	1992	1995	1999	2002
COMPARABLE WITH POLICE				
VANDALISM	1038	1105	984 ²	1656
ACQUISITIVE	1113	701	648	620
Housebreaking ¹	807	475	484	397
Theft of a motor vehicle	178	107	82	91
Bicycle theft	127	119	82	132
VIOLENCE	411	388	513	599
Assault	379	345	458	550
Robbery	31	42	54	48
OTHER SURVEY CRIMES				
Theft from a motor vehicle	738	641	323	408
Attempted theft of/ from motor vehicle	272	285	129	126
Other household theft ¹	546	476	276	499
Theft from the person	50	41	47	59
Other personal theft	272	273	228	261
Petty Assault	193	250	378	435
Serious assault	186	95	81	115
Motor vehicle vandalism	583	559	546	826
Property vandalism	454	546	438	831
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIMES	3707	3207	2359	3309
ALL PERSONAL CRIMES	733	701	788	919
VEHICLE CRIME (Rates per 10,000 owners)				
Theft from a motor vehicle	1168	1037	527	609
Theft of a motor vehicle	280	177	125	136
Attempted theft of/ from a m. vehicle	430	444	198	188
Bicycle theft	343	326	208	369

Notes:

1. For violence, theft from the person, assault, robbery, other personal theft and all personal offences, rates are quoted per 10,000 adults. For acquisitive crime, vandalism, housebreaking, vehicle offences, bicycle theft, other household theft and all household offences, rates are quoted per 10,000 households.
2. Figures presented for 'housebreaking' and 'other household theft' are based on the new definition of housebreaking described in Appendix B. Some figures for 'acquisitive crime' and 'all household crime' are also affected and differ from previously published figures.
3. Vandalism rates for 1999 differ slightly from those previously published. This has also resulted in the figure for 'all household crime' differing slightly from previously published figures.
4. Rate for all survey crime cannot be calculated because the combination of household and personal crimes cannot be weighted.
5. For the distinction between crimes which are 'comparable with police' and 'other survey crimes', see Appendix D.
6. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030.

Table A.3.3: Percentage difference in rates of victimisation and statistical significance: 1992 to 2002

	Percentage difference			Significance		
	92-02	95-02	99-02	92-02	95-02	99-02
COMPARABLE WITH POLICE						
VANDALISM	60	50	68	**	**	**
ACQUISITIVE	-44	-11	-4	**		
Housebreaking	-51	-16	-18	**		
Theft of a motor vehicle	-49	-15	11	**		
Bicycle theft	4	11	62			**
VIOLENCE	46	54	17	**	**	
Assault	45	59	20	**	**	
Robbery	55	15	-11			
OTHER SURVEY CRIMES						
Theft from a motor vehicle	-45	-36	26	**	**	
Attempted theft of/ from motor vehicle	-54	-56	-3	**	**	
Other household theft	-9	5	81			**
Theft from the person	19	46	25			
Other personal theft	-4	-4	14			
Petty Assault	125	74	15	**	**	
Serious assault	-38	21	42	**		
Motor vehicle vandalism	42	48	51	**	**	**
Property vandalism	83	52	90	**	*	**
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIMES	-11	3	40			**
ALL PERSONAL CRIMES	25	31	17	**	**	
VEHICLE CRIME						
Theft from a motor vehicle	-48	-41	16	**	**	
Theft of a motor vehicle	-51	-23	9	**		
Attempted theft of/ from a m. vehicle	-56	-58	-5	**	**	
Bicycle theft	8	13	77			**

Notes:

1. ** signifies that the difference in rates is significant at the 95% level.
2. * signifies that the difference is significant at the 90% level.
3. Rate for all survey crime cannot be calculated because the combination of household and personal crimes cannot be weighted.
4. For the distinction between crimes which are 'comparable with police' and 'other survey crimes', see Appendix D.
5. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030.

Table A.4.1: Comparison of SCS estimates and police recorded crime statistics: 2002

	SCS estimate	Percent SCS crimes reported to police	Number of SCS crimes reported to police	Police recorded crime statistics ¹	Percent of reported SCS crimes recorded by police ²	Percent of all SCS crimes recorded by police ³
<i>Estimates are in '000s</i>						
VANDALISM	363	42.6	155	65	42.3	18.0
ACQUISITIVE CRIME	136	65.8	89	52	58.3	38.4
Housebreaking ⁴	87	65.3	55	30	53.5	34.0
Theft of motor vehicle	20	96.8	19	16	83.4	80.7
Bicycle theft	29	55.7	16	6	40.0	22.3
VIOLENCE	240	46.4	111	61	54.8	25.4
Assault	220	45.3	100	56	56.5	25.6
Robbery	19	57.1	11	5	41.5	23.7
TOTAL COMPARABLE CRIMES ⁵	739	49.3	364	179	49.0	24.2
Theft from motor vehicle	89	60.4	54			
Attempted theft of/from m. vehicle	28	45.6	13			
Other household theft	109	16.4	18			
Theft from the person	24	28.0	7			
Other personal theft	105	44.0	46			
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIMES	725	46.2	335			
ALL PERSONAL CRIMES	368	44.3	163			
ALL SURVEY CRIMES	1,094	45.8	501			

Notes:

1. Published police recorded crime figures are adjusted to mirror the crimes reflected in the SCS through a survey conducted by Strathclyde Police in February 2003. (More details can be found in Appendix D).
2. This column represents the estimated percentage of SCS crimes where respondents claimed the crime was reported to the police which were officially recorded by the police.
3. This column represents the percentage of all SCS crime (whether reported to the police or not) which were estimated to have been officially recorded by the police.
4. Definition of housebreaking differs from previous SCS reports, see Appendix B.
5. The summed figures of 'all survey crimes' reported to the police do not quite add up due to the weighting factor used to calculate the proportion of crimes reported to the police and because calculations were carried out on unrounded figures.
6. The percentage of all SCS crimes that were comparable with police recorded crime statistics is 68 per cent.
7. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041; adjusted police recorded crime statistics.

Table A.4.2. Percentage of crimes reported to the police, 1992 to 2002

	1992	1995	1999	2002
COMPARABLE WITH POLICE				
VANDALISM	32.6	50.0	49.9	42.6
ACQUISITIVE ¹	79.3	68.4	74.1	65.8
Housebreaking ¹	76.8	65.0	72.0	65.3
Theft of motor vehicle	96.7	100.0	95.0	96.8
Bicycle theft	71.2	53.6	65.9	55.7
VIOLENCE	52.0	39.7	54.6	46.4
Assault	52.2	39.2	56.8	45.3
Robbery	49.7	44.4	36.7	57.1
TOTAL COMPARABLE CRIMES	56.0	54.1	58.3	49.3
OTHER SURVEY CRIMES				
Theft from a motor vehicle	58.3	58.1	55.6	60.4
Attempted theft of/from m.vehicle	56.1	58.9	35.3	45.6
Other household theft *	28.8	19.7	23.9	16.4
Theft from the person	51.5	50.9	49.2	28.0
Other personal theft	33.6	26.2	42.9	44.0
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIMES	52.9	51.9	53.5	46.2
ALL PERSONAL CRIMES	45.7	36.2	51.8	44.3
ALL SURVEY CRIMES	51.8	49.3	53.1	45.8

Notes:

1. Figures presented for 'housebreaking' and 'other household theft' are based on the new definition of housebreaking described in Appendix B. Some figures for 'acquisitive crime' and 'all household crime' are also affected and differ from previously published figures.
2. 'Don't know's were excluded from the analysis.
3. For the distinction between crimes that are comparable with the police, see Appendix D.
4. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
 2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
 1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
 1993 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030.

Table A.4.3. Difference in levels of reporting to the police with statistical significance, 1992 to 2002

	Percentage difference		Significance	
	1992-2002	1999-2002	1992-2002	1999-2002
COMPARABLE WITH POLICE				
VANDALISM	31	-15	**	**
ACQUISITIVE ¹	-17	-11	**	**
Housebreaking ¹	-15	-9	**	**
Theft of motor vehicle	0	2		
Bicycle theft	-22	-15	**	
VIOLENCE	-11	-15		**
Assault	-13	-20		**
Robbery	15	56		
TOTAL COMPARABLE CRIMES	-12	-15	**	**
OTHER SURVEY CRIMES				
Theft from a motor vehicle	4	9		
Attempted theft of/from m.vehicle	-19	29		
Other household theft ¹	-43	-31	**	
Theft from the person	-46	-43	**	
Other personal theft	31	3	**	
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIMES	-13	-14	**	**
ALL PERSONAL CRIMES	-3	-14		**
ALL SURVEY CRIMES	-12	-14	**	**

Notes:

1. Figures presented for 'housebreaking' and 'other household theft' are based on the new definition of housebreaking described in Appendix B. Some figures for 'acquisitive crime' and 'all household crime' are also affected and differ from previously published figures.
2. 'Don't know's were excluded from the analysis.
3. For the distinction between crimes that are comparable with the police, see Appendix D.
4. Tests of statistical significance were carried out using Pearson chi-square. Double starred differences indicate statistically significant at the 95% level.
5. Source, 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
 Source, 2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
 Source, 1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
 Source, 2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030.

Table A.5.1. Prevalence of victimisation: 1992 to 2002

<i>Percentage</i>	1992	1995	1999	2002
Household crimes				
Vandalism	6.5	6.4	6.0	9.6
Housebreaking ¹	6.2	3.8	3.9	2.9
Theft of motor vehicle	1.6	0.9	0.8	0.7
Theft from motor vehicle	5.8	5.1	2.7	3.0
Attempted theft of/from m.vehicle	2.4	2.3	1.1	1.1
Bicycle theft	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.2
Other household theft ¹	3.7	3.2	2.2	3.3
All household crimes	21.8	18.6	15.3	18.3
Personal crimes				
Assault	2.5	2.3	2.6	3.2
Theft from the person	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5
Robbery	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4
Other personal theft	2.3	2.5	2.0	2.2
All personal crimes	5.3	4.9	4.8	5.8
Motor vehicle related crimes (vehicle owners only)				
Theft of motor vehicle	2.5	1.6	1.2	1.0
Theft from motor vehicle	9.2	8.2	4.4	4.4
Attempted theft of/from m.vehicle	3.8	3.6	1.7	1.7
Bicycle related crimes (bicycle owners only)				
Bicycle theft	3.0	2.9	2.0	2.9
All SCS crimes	26.6	23.3	20.3	22.6

Notes:

1. The definition of housebreaking differs from previous SCS reports, resulting in the figures for 'housebreaking' and 'other household crime' differing from those previously published, see Appendix B.
2. Individual weight is used for calculating prevalence rate for all SCS crimes, for a description of the weights used in the survey, see Appendix B.
3. Source, 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041
 Source, 2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,059
 Source, 1996 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,045
 Source, 2000 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,030.

Table A.5.2. Prevalence of victimisation by demographic variables, 2002

<i>Percentage</i>	Household crime				Personal crime			
	Once	Twice	3 or more	Total	Once	Twice	3 or more	Total
Male								
16-24	12.7	5.0	4.1	21.8	13.9	3.2	3.5	20.6
25-44	13.1	4.9	5.2	23.2	4.5	0.6	1.7	6.8
45-59	13.7	3.3	3.8	20.9	4.0	0.5	-	4.5
60 or over	8.9	1.7	1.4	11.9	0.9	0.4	-	1.3
Total male	12.0	3.6	3.6	19.1	4.9	0.9	1.1	6.9
Female								
16-24	15.1	3.9	2.7	21.7	8.3	1.2	2.1	11.5
25-44	14.3	3.8	4.5	22.5	5.5	0.5	0.9	7.0
45-59	12.7	6.0	3.4	22.1	1.6	0.3	0.3	2.3
60 or over	6.6	1.3	1.4	9.3	1.1	-	-	1.1
Total female	11.3	3.4	3.0	17.7	3.7	0.4	0.7	4.8
Tenure								
Owner occupier	11.8	3.6	3.1	18.5	3.9	0.3	0.6	4.9
Rented from council/housing ass.	11.0	3.1	4.0	18.1	4.2	1.3	1.6	7.1
Rented privately	11.8	1.9	2.8	16.4	7.7	0.9	1.2	9.8
Scottish *ACORN group								
A	9.9	1.5	0.7	12.0	3.6	0.1	0.7	4.5
B	11.5	3.3	2.7	17.5	3.3	0.7	0.7	4.8
C	7.6	1.0	1.5	10.1	3.1	-	0.5	3.6
D	12.0	5.6	3.7	21.2	5.5	0.7	1.2	7.5
E	11.6	4.4	3.0	19.1	5.8	0.5	0.4	6.7
F	15.6	3.8	5.1	24.5	4.5	1.3	1.8	7.6
G	10.9	2.6	4.1	17.5	1.9	0.4	0.6	3.0
H	9.9	2.9	4.7	17.6	5.1	1.0	1.3	7.4
Socio-economic group								
A	12.8	4.4	2.2	19.4	5.6	0.5	1.5	7.7
B	12.2	5.6	2.6	20.5	4.3	0.4	0.6	5.3
C1	12.2	3.4	3.5	19.0	4.9	0.8	0.9	6.6
C2	12.8	3.3	3.7	19.9	5.1	0.5	0.9	6.5
D	11.7	2.9	3.6	18.2	2.9	0.9	0.9	4.7
E	8.5	2.5	2.8	13.8	2.9	0.7	0.9	4.5
ALL	11.6	3.5	3.3	18.3	4.2	0.7	0.9	5.8

Notes:

1. Totals may not equal the sum of columns or rows because of rounding.
2. For an explanation of Scottish *ACORN groups see Appendix E.
3. A dash '-' signifies that no respondents within that demographic group had been victimised.
4. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041.

Table A.5.3. Prevalence of housebreaking by demographic variables, 2002

<i>Percentage</i>	Broken into during 2002			Ever broken into
	Nothing taken	Something taken	All h'breaking	All h'breaking
Male				
16-24	0.5	2.7	3.6	19.1
25-44	2.3	1.9	4.2	23.3
45-59	1.8	0.7	2.4	26.0
60 or over	0.6	1.5	2.1	27.7
Total male	1.5	1.6	3.1	24.3
Female				
16-24	2.7	1.9	3.9	17.4
25-44	2.0	1.7	3.5	22.0
45-59	2.1	1.5	3.4	25.5
60 or over	1.2	0.2	1.5	23.5
Total female	1.8	1.2	2.8	22.7
Tenure				
Owner occupier	1.4	1.5	2.9	24.5
Rented from council/housing assoc	2.0	1.2	3.1	21.9
Rented privately	2.2	0.9	3.1	20.1
Scottish *ACORN group				
A	0.8	1.0	1.6	26.8
B	1.2	1.5	2.7	20.2
C	0.5	0.5	1.5	25.5
D	1.7	1.1	2.9	33.5
E	1.7	1.6	3.3	19.7
F	2.2	1.6	3.4	19.1
G	2.8	1.7	4.2	18.5
H	2.0	1.4	3.2	27.5
Socio-economic group				
A	1.7	2.2	3.9	32.7
B	2.7	1.5	4.1	29.2
C1	1.0	1.5	2.6	23.8
C2	1.5	1.3	2.9	18.6
D	1.1	0.6	1.8	22.7
E	2.5	1.3	3.4	24.0
ALL	1.6	1.3	2.9	23.5

Notes:

1. Totals may not equal the sum of columns due to rounding.
2. Figures for 'all housebreaking' may not equal sum of rows due to multiple victimisation and rounding.
3. For explanation of Scottish * ACORN groups see Appendix E.
4. Source: 2003 SCS
The question on 'broken into during 2002' is asked of all respondents, unweighted n=5,041
The question on 'ever broken into' is asked of only half the sample, unweighted n=2,530.

Table A.5.4. Prevalence of vandalism by demographic variables, 2002

<i>Percentage</i>	Motor vehicle vandalism	Property vandalism	All vandalism
Male			
16-24	6.3	4.1	10.4
25-44	10.2	4.3	13.2
45-59	7.1	5.9	11.9
60 or over	3.2	3.3	6.4
Total male	7.0	4.4	10.6
Female			
16-24	3.5	3.5	6.6
25-44	7.6	4.9	11.7
45-59	5.7	5.1	10.3
60 or over	2.2	3.7	5.6
Total female	4.9	4.4	8.8
Tenure			
Owner occupier	6.4	4.0	9.9
Rented from council/housing assoc	4.9	5.3	9.2
Rented privately	4.0	4.6	8.6
Scottish *ACORN group			
A	4.1	2.3	6.2
B	4.8	3.4	8.0
C	1.5	3.5	5.1
D	8.6	3.9	12.1
E	6.9	5.0	10.8
F	6.4	6.7	11.8
G	5.7	5.5	10.1
H	4.7	5.2	9.5
Socio-economic group			
A	3.9	5.6	8.9
B	7.0	4.1	10.5
C1	6.8	4.3	10.6
C2	7.9	3.3	10.5
D	4.6	5.5	9.7
E	2.7	4.7	6.5
ALL	5.8	4.4	9.6

Notes:

1. Totals may not equal the sum of columns due to rounding.
2. Figures for 'all vandalism' may not equal sum of rows due to multiple victimisation and rounding.
3. For explanation of Scottish * ACORN groups see Appendix E.
4. Source: 2003 SCS (weighted by household weight), unweighted n=5,041.

Table A.5.5. Prevalence of vehicle thefts by demographic variables, 2002

<i>Percentage</i>	Theft from a vehicle	Attempted theft of/from a vehicle	Theft of a vehicle	All vehicle thefts
Male				
16-24	13.1	2.1	1.4	16.0
25-44	4.3	1.0	2.2	7.0
45-59	5.2	2.8	0.5	8.3
60 or over	1.5	2.4	-	3.9
Total male	4.6	1.9	1.1	7.4
Female				
16-24	4.3	1.4	2.8	8.5
25-44	5.1	1.5	1.1	7.6
45-59	5.8	2.2	0.7	7.4
60 or over	1.4	0.7	0.2	2.1
Total female	4.3	1.5	0.9	6.3
Tenure				
Owner occupier	4.0	1.5	0.8	6.1
Rented from council/housing assoc	4.8	1.9	2.1	8.3
Rented privately	8.5	0.6	1.1	10.2
Scottish *ACORN group				
A	2.7	1.1	0.4	4.2
B	3.8	1.6	0.9	6.2
C	2.3	-	-	2.3
D	7.5	2.0	1.4	9.7
E	4.3	2.0	0.6	6.5
F	5.7	2.0	2.0	8.6
G	4.4	2.2	1.3	7.9
H	5.8	3.2	2.6	10.3
Socio-economic group				
A	6.0	0.6	0.6	7.1
B	4.7	1.7	0.5	5.7
C1	4.7	1.8	1.0	7.4
C2	5.2	1.5	1.1	7.6
D	3.7	1.8	0.9	6.2
E	1.7	1.7	1.7	5.4
ALL	4.4	1.7	1.0	6.7

Notes:

1. Totals may not equal the sum of columns due to rounding.
2. Figures for 'all vehicle thefts' may not equal sum of rows due to multiple victimisation and rounding.
3. A dash '-' signifies that no respondents within that demographic group had been victimised.
4. For explanation of Scottish * ACORN groups see Appendix E.
5. Analysis is based only on households with ownership of a vehicle.
6. Source: 2003 SCS, unweighted n=1,059.

Table A.5.6. Prevalence of violent crime by demographic variables, 2002

<i>Percentage</i>	Assault	Robbery	All violent crime
Male			
16-24	12.1	1.2	12.7
25-44	4.9	0.2	5.1
45-59	2.2	0.7	2.9
60 or over	0.5	-	0.7
Total male	4.2	0.4	4.6
Female			
16-24	6.8	1.2	8.0
25-44	3.1	0.4	3.5
45-59	1.1	-	1.1
60 or over	0.3	-	0.3
Total female	2.3	0.3	2.6
Tenure			
Owner occupier	2.4	0.4	2.8
Rented from council/housing assoc	5.1	0.3	5.4
Rented privately	4.9	0.3	5.2
Scottish *ACORN group			
A	2.3	0.3	2.3
B	2.6	0.1	2.7
C	1.0	-	1.0
D	4.1	0.3	4.4
E	3.1	0.4	3.5
F	5.0	0.6	5.6
G	1.7	0.6	2.4
H	4.8	0.8	5.3
Socio-economic group			
A	2.6	1.0	3.6
B	2.1	0.4	2.6
C1	3.3	0.2	3.3
C2	3.5	0.9	4.4
D	3.3	-	3.3
E	3.6	0.1	3.7
ALL	3.2	0.4	3.5

Notes:

1. Totals may not equal the sum of columns due to rounding.
2. Figures for 'all violent crime' may not equal sum of rows due to multiple victimisation and rounding.
3. A dash '-' signifies that no respondents within that demographic group had been victimised.
4. For explanation of Scottish * ACORN groups see Appendix E.
5. Source: 2003 SCS (weighted by individual weight), unweighted n=5041.

Table A.6.1: Public perceptions of crime in Scotland (2003)

<i>Percentage</i>	crime is an 'extremely' or 'quite' serious problem in Scotland today	there is 'a lot' or 'a little' more crime in this area than two years ago
Male		
16-24	76.2	34.4
25-44	80.9	42.4
45-59	81.5	33.6
60 or over	80.4	43.1
Total male	80.3	40.0
Female		
16-24	90.0	45.2
25-44	84.1	49.3
45-59	86.5	49.8
60 or over	83.9	49.7
Total female	85.3	49.3
Tenure		
Owner occupier	83.0	41.2
Rented from council/housing assoc	86.7	48.3
Rented privately	70.6	28.3
Scottish *ACORN group		
A	81.0	32.4
B	82.5	38.1
C	74.0	23.2
D	79.6	41.6
E	84.9	46.6
F	86.8	52.5
G	86.5	54.5
H	84.3	44.6
Socio-economic group		
A	92.7	27.8
B	80.4	34.3
C1	80.7	39.6
C2	83.6	46.0
D	84.6	49.9
E	80.9	45.8
ALL	82.5	41.3

Notes:

1. Questions:
"Do you think crime is a problem in Scotland today and, if so, how serious?" (Options = extremely serious / quite serious / not very serious / not a problem)
"How much would you say the crime rate here has changed since two years ago? In this area (i.e. within about 15 minutes walk from here), would you say there is more, less, or about the same?" (Options = a lot more / a little more / about the same / a little less / a lot less).
2. For explanation of Scottish * ACORN groups see Appendix E.
3. Source: 2003 SCS, unweighted n=5,041.

Table A.6.2: The percentage stating that certain crimes are 'very' or 'fairly' common in their local area (2003)

<i>Percentage</i>	People having their homes broken into	People being mugged or robbed	People being assaulted or attacked in public
Male			
16-24	23.1	23.1	42.2
25-44	24.8	12.0	20.7
45-59	26.4	13.2	18.8
60 or over	29.2	13.4	17.4
Total male	25.9	14.3	22.7
Female			
16-24	38.9	31.7	44.6
25-44	29.0	18.5	25.5
45-59	30.0	15.9	20.4
60 or over	27.9	11.5	15.6
Total female	30.1	17.5	23.7
Tenure			
Owner occupier	27.2	13.9	18.1
Rented from council/housing assoc	32.6	23.7	37.8
Rented privately	26.5	11.6	26.0
Scottish *ACORN group			
A	20.7	6.1	9.9
B	23.9	10.0	15.7
C	11.8	4.2	8.5
D	25.6	15.9	24.6
E	30.3	13.7	21.0
F	43.5	29.6	38.2
G	27.4	20.2	24.6
H	32.8	32.3	49.0
Socio-economic group			
A	23.8	7.9	9.9
B	18.0	8.6	12.2
C1	26.2	14.9	21.4
C2	32.2	17.8	23.4
D	32.8	23.2	34.7
E	31.6	17.1	28.7
ALL	28.2	16.1	23.3

Notes:

- Questions:
"How common do you think the following things are in this area?"
People being mugged or robbed in the street
People's homes being broken into
People being attacked or assaulted in the street or other public places"
(Options = very common / fairly common / not very common / not at all common).
- For explanation of Scottish * ACORN groups see Appendix E.
- Source: 2003 SCS, unweighted n=5041.

Table A.6.3: Percentage of respondents reporting feeling 'very' or 'fairly' unsafe after dark, 2002

<i>Percentage</i>	Walking alone after dark	At home alone after dark
Male		
16-24	15.3	3.0
25-44	13.1	2.9
45-59	15.9	3.5
60 or over	30.5	4.2
Total male	18.2	3.4
Female		
16-24	41.4	13.3
25-44	40.4	10.2
45-59	39.7	8.6
60 or over	52.2	11.1
Total female	43.6	10.5
Tenure		
Owner occupier	28.9	5.4
Rented from council/housing assoc	43.8	13.1
Rented privately	17.8	4.0
Scottish *ACORN group		
A	17.6	3.3
B	24.7	4.6
C	9.1	2.6
D	28.4	4.8
E	35.2	6.6
F	45.2	14.9
G	43.9	8.7
H	48.5	13.4
Socio-economic group		
A	16.3	4.1
B	21.7	3.3
C1	29.2	6.5
C2	30.8	7.0
D	36.8	8.2
E	45.5	12.0
ALL	31.7	7.2

Notes:

1. Questions:

"How safe do you feel walking alone in this area after dark?"

"How safe do you feel when you are alone in your home at night?"

(Options = very safe / fairly safe / a bit unsafe / very unsafe).

2. For explanation of Scottish * ACORN groups see Appendix E.

3. Source: 2003 SCS, unweighted n=5041.

Table A.6.4: Percentage of respondents reporting feeling 'very' or 'fairly' worried about becoming a victim of crime, 2002

<i>Percentage</i>	You or someone you live with becoming a victim of crime	Having your home broken into	Being mugged or robbed	Being assaulted or attacked
Male				
16-24	32.4	32.1	26.0	28.6
25-44	52.9	42.5	21.3	24.1
45-59	56.0	46.4	33.7	30.3
60 or over	31.6	43.0	30.4	26.1
Total male	45.9	42.1	27.2	26.8
Female				
16-24	55.7	48.7	57.7	57.4
25-44	57.4	47.6	45.7	42.8
45-59	53.2	51.7	50.6	44.9
60 or over	30.2	45.4	43.7	32.2
Total female	48.4	48.1	47.9	42.2
Tenure				
Owner occupier	47.8	45.2	36.8	33.0
Rented from council/HA	45.4	49.0	44.3	42.2
Rented privately	47.4	34.6	30.1	31.3
Scottish *ACORN group				
A	49.0	44.6	33.2	28.7
B	42.8	41.3	32.8	29.6
C	30.9	21.9	12.8	13.2
D	48.4	39.4	31.0	32.9
E	46.1	48.1	42.2	36.2
F	52.4	51.5	47.4	44.0
G	44.8	55.7	51.4	45.3
H	56.5	50.0	47.1	44.2
Socio-economic group				
A	49.5	40.0	25.5	20.0
B	44.7	41.4	29.3	26.4
C1	49.3	39.9	35.1	34.0
C2	51.2	48.9	40.8	35.7
D	49.4	50.5	44.6	42.3
E	36.2	49.1	44.4	39.5
ALL	47.2	45.2	38.1	34.9

Notes:

- Questions:

Do you ever worry that you or anyone else who lives with you might be the victim of crime?

*Most of us **worry** at some time or other about being the victim of a crime. Could you tell me how worried you are about:* *Having your home broken into and something stolen*

Being mugged and robbed

Being physically assaulted or attacked in the street?

(Options = very worried / fairly worried / not very worried / not at all worried).
- Source: 2003 SCS

Q1, unweighted n=2,530

Q2, unweighted n=5,041.

Table A.7.1. Percentage of all respondents reporting using drugs 'ever' and 'in the last year', 2003

	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-59	16-59
EVER							
Any drug	36.6	46.4	47.4	32.2	22.3	15.4	26.6
Amphetamines	12.7	17.5	28.7	14.0	10.4	4.4	11.0
Cannabis	34.4	41.8	43.7	28.0	20.6	12.6	23.6
Cocaine	8.0	15.8	10.3	7.3	6.1	2.6	6.2
Crack	3.6	7.4	5.3	2.1	2.4	1.4	2.8
Ecstasy	14.9	16.6	14.0	10.6	5.9	1.5	7.2
Heroin	4.3	3.7	3.3	2.3	2.8	1.5	2.4
Methadone	3.6	2.9	3.4	1.8	2.6	1.5	2.2
LSD	5.8	11.2	13.1	9.0	5.9	2.8	6.2
Magic mushrooms	6.5	9.7	11.7	8.3	7.6	3.0	6.2
Temazepam	4.0	5.2	8.1	5.0	3.9	2.1	3.8
Valium	10.9	8.9	7.8	4.4	5.2	2.5	5.0
Glues	5.8	4.0	4.5	3.2	3.7	1.0	2.7
Pills	3.6	5.7	2.5	1.6	2.8	1.3	2.3
Anabolic steroids	3.6	2.6	2.2	1.8	2.2	1.2	1.8
Poppers	10.5	10.3	11.1	8.9	6.3	1.5	5.7
LAST YEAR							
Any drug	23.6	28.4	15.3	9.9	5.2	2.5	9.5
Amphetamines	3.3	3.2	2.8	0.9	1.1	0.6	1.4
Cannabis	21.0	24.6	14.5	8.0	4.1	1.4	7.9
Cocaine	3.3	5.4	1.4	1.8	0.9	0.2	1.4
Crack	-	1.1	0.6	0.2	0.2	-	0.2
Ecstasy	4.7	6.0	3.6	1.8	0.7	0.1	1.7
Heroin	-	1.4	0.6	0.2	-	0.1	0.3
Methadone	-	0.3	1.4	-	-	-	0.2
LSD	0.7	-	0.3	-	-	-	0.1
Magic mushrooms	0.7	0.3	0.8	-	0.2	0.1	0.3
Temazepam	-	0.9	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Valium	3.3	1.4	0.8	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.7
Glues	0.7	-	0.3	-	-	-	0.1
Pills	-	-	-	0.2	-	0.1	0.1
Anabolic steroids	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.1	0.1
Poppers	4.3	2.0	1.1	0.5	0.9	-	0.8

Notes:

1. Fifty-one respondents who reported using the bogus drug were excluded from this analysis.
2. A dash '-' signifies that no respondents within that demographic group reported using that drug.
3. Source: 2003 SCS, unweighted n=3,168
16-19, unweighted n=172
20-24, unweighted n=262
25-29, unweighted n=309
30-34, unweighted n=450
35-39, unweighted n=438
40-59, unweighted n=1,537.

Table A.7.2. Percentage of male respondents reporting using drugs 'ever' and 'in the last year', 2003

	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-59	16-59
EVER							
Any drug	40.9	49.1	56.6	39.5	26.7	18.9	31.3
Amphetamines	11.4	16.4	30.1	19.0	13.5	4.1	11.7
Cannabis	38.5	42.4	54.7	36.7	24.3	16.7	28.5
Cocaine	7.4	21.8	13.3	10.0	6.8	3.5	7.9
Crack	2.0	11.5	8.1	2.4	2.7	1.3	3.4
Ecstasy	12.8	19.4	13.9	14.8	6.8	1.7	8.0
Heroin	2.0	4.2	5.8	3.3	3.6	1.7	2.9
Methadone	2.0	3.0	5.8	2.4	3.2	1.6	2.5
LSD	6.0	15.2	13.3	13.8	7.2	3.7	7.7
Magic mushrooms	4.7	10.9	14.5	12.0	10.4	3.7	7.5
Temazepam	2.7	6.7	11.0	5.3	4.5	1.7	4.1
Valium	8.1	15.8	12.1	5.3	5.0	2.9	6.1
Glues	4.7	3.6	5.8	3.8	5.4	0.7	2.9
Pills	2.0	9.7	3.5	1.9	4.1	0.9	2.7
Anabolic steroids	2.0	3.0	2.3	1.9	3.2	1.1	1.8
Poppers	10.1	13.9	9.2	12.0	8.6	1.8	6.7
LAST YEAR							
Any drug	26.8	32.7	20.8	13.9	8.1	2.5	11.7
Amphetamines	2.7	3.0	2.9	1.4	2.3	0.0	1.3
Cannabis	25.0	28.5	19.2	11.9	6.3	2.1	10.3
Cocaine	3.4	9.1	1.7	2.4	1.8	0.4	2.1
Crack	-	2.4	0.6	0.5	0.5	-	0.4
Ecstasy	3.4	9.7	4.6	3.3	0.5	0.1	2.3
Heroin	-	1.8	1.2	0.5	-	0.1	0.4
Methadone	-	-	2.9	-	-	-	0.3
LSD	1.3	-	0.6	-	-	-	0.2
Magic mushrooms	1.3	-	0.6	-	0.5	0.3	0.4
Temazepam		1.8	1.7	-	0.5	0.1	0.5
Valium	1.4	2.4	1.7	1.0	0.5	0.1	0.8
Glues	1.3	-	0.6		-	-	0.2
Pills	-	-	-	0.5	-	-	0.1
Anabolic steroids	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poppers	5.4	2.4	2.3	0.5	0.9	-	1.1

Notes:

1. Fifty-one respondents who reported using the bogus drug were excluded from this analysis.
2. A dash '-' signifies that no respondents within that demographic group reported using that drug.
3. Source: 2003 SCS, unweighted n=1,451.

16-19, unweighted n, men=86
 20-24, unweighted n, men=114
 25-29, unweighted n, men=128
 30-34, unweighted n, men=203
 35-39, unweighted n, men=188
 40-59, unweighted n, men=732.

Table A.7.3. Percentage of female respondents reporting using drugs 'ever' and 'in the last year', 2003

	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-59	16-59
EVER							
Any drug	31.5	44.0	38.7	25.7	18.4	11.9	22.2
Amphetamines	14.1	18.5	27.4	9.3	7.5	4.7	10.2
Cannabis	29.9	41.3	33.9	19.9	17.2	8.6	18.9
Cocaine	8.7	10.3	7.5	4.9	5.4	1.6	4.6
Crack	5.5	3.8	2.2	2.2	1.7	1.4	2.2
Ecstasy	17.3	14.7	14.5	7.1	5.0	1.4	6.6
Heroin	7.1	3.3	1.6	1.3	2.1	1.1	2.0
Methadone	5.5	2.7	1.6	1.3	2.1	1.4	1.9
LSD	5.5	7.6	12.9	4.4	4.6	1.9	4.6
Magic mushrooms	8.7	8.7	9.1	4.8	5.0	2.4	4.9
Temazepam	5.5	3.8	5.9	4.9	3.3	2.4	3.6
Valium	14.1	2.7	3.8	3.5	5.4	2.0	3.8
Glues	7.1	4.3	3.2	3.1	2.1	1.3	2.6
Pills	5.5	2.7	1.6	1.3	1.7	1.6	2.0
Anabolic steroids	5.5	2.2	2.2	1.8	1.3	1.3	1.8
Poppers	11.0	7.1	13.4	5.8	4.2	1.1	4.8
LAST YEAR							
Any drug	19.7	25.0	10.2	5.8	2.5	2.4	7.3
Amphetamines	3.9	3.3	2.7	0.4		1.3	1.5
Cannabis	15.7	21.2	10.2	4.8	2.1	0.6	5.7
Cocaine	3.1	2.2	1.1	1.3	0.4	-	0.8
Crack	-	-	0.5	-	-	-	0.1
Ecstasy	6.3	2.7	2.7	0.4	0.8	-	1.2
Heroin	-	0.5	-	-	-	-	0.1
Methadone	-	0.5	-	-	-	-	0.1
LSD	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Magic mushrooms	-	0.5	0.5	-	-	-	0.1
Temazepam	-	-	-	0.4		0.1	0.1
Valium	4.7	0.5	-	0.9	-	-	0.5
Glues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pills	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.1
Anabolic steroids	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.3	0.2
Poppers	3.1	1.6	-	0.4	0.4	-	0.5

Notes:

1. Fifty-one respondents who reported using the bogus drug were excluded from this analysis.
2. A dash '-' signifies that no respondents within that demographic group reported using that drug.
3. Source: 2003 SCS, unweighted n=1,717.

16-19, unweighted n, women=86
 20-24, unweighted n, women=148
 25-29, unweighted n, women=181
 30-34, unweighted n, women=247
 35-39, unweighted n, women=250
 40-59, unweighted n, women=805.

APPENDIX B: METHODOLOGY

Full details of the methodology used in this survey can be found in the Technical Report produced by the survey company to accompany the dataset. An electronic version of this report can be obtained from the Scottish Executive on request.

Sample Design

The 2003 SCS, like previous sweeps of the survey, is a probability sample selected according to a multi-stage stratified design.

Selection of Sample Points

As in previous surveys, the sample was clustered in order to make it more economic than it might otherwise have been. This had the adverse effects of increasing the error associated with survey estimates, but was counteracted by using a large number of sampling points with a few interviews in each. Compared with 2000, the number of sampling points was increased from 334 to 455 and the number of interviews sought in each point was reduced from 15 to 11 in order to improve the accuracy of the survey estimates by lowering the design effects. Five thousand interviews were targeted.

Sampling points were stratified and spread across the whole of Scotland including the Highlands and the larger Islands. The sampling points were based on Census enumeration districts.

The primary stratifier was based on former local government regions. These regions no longer have any administrative function following local government reorganisation in 1996 but they are used for reporting crime statistics and they serve the primary purpose of ensuring a proportionate distribution of the survey sample. In previous surveys Scottish *ACORN had been used as the secondary stratifier within regions but in 2003, the Mosaic classification was used. However, apart from this minor change, the stratification was the same as that used in the 1996 and 2000 SCS.

Selection of primary sampling units and addresses

Since 1993 the Postcode Address File (PAF) has been used as the sampling frame for the SCS. This provides details of all postal delivery addresses in Scotland.

There are some potential disadvantages to PAF. First, it can contain a small number of properties which are not private residences. To overcome this, these were simply screened out during the survey. Second, and potentially more serious, is that the number of residences at each property is not always correctly identified by the number of delivery points listed in the PAF. For example, a single address may consist of a tenement block containing 8 separate flats. In most cases the existence of these additional addresses was indicated in the PAF, and the address was weighted to ensure each household has an equal chance of inclusion in the sample. Where the additional households are not identified in the PAF, the interviewer had to undertake a procedure to select one dwelling at random for interview. These cases should, in principle, be given an additional weight to balance the fact that these properties had a reduced likelihood of being sampled. In practice, because there are so few properties affected, and because the weights themselves would have no beneficial effect on the survey estimates, these weights were not applied.

Respondent selection

Once a household had been selected and they had agreed to take part in the survey, a respondent from that household had to be selected at random from all the adults resident at that address. To achieve this, the interviewer listed all adults (aged 16 and over) resident in the dwelling at the time of the survey. One of them was selected at random using a 'Kish grid'. No substitution of respondents was permitted.

The SCS Questionnaire

The questionnaire was divided into sections. In addition, two versions of the main questionnaire (Questionnaires A and B) were administered, each to half the sample. To summarise, the questionnaire sections and contents were:

Main Questionnaire A and B:

- introductory questions on fear of crime and general social issues
- screening questions on victimisation experiences (designed to identify any crimes that had affected the respondent since 1 January 2002, although very minor offences such as theft of a milk bottle from a doorstep were screened out at this stage)
- a check for eligibility for Victim Forms
- a follow up section, version A or B as appropriate
- socio-demographic questions.

Questionnaire A:

- Contact with and attitudes towards the police
- Contact with other parts of the criminal justice system
- Attitudes towards sentencing and the prison system.

Questionnaire B

- Attitudes towards personal safety in own neighbourhood
- Security features of home and car
- Experience of housebreaking, violent crime, nuisance telephone calls and anti-social behaviour.

Victim forms

Incidents identified in the screening section of the main questionnaire were followed up in Victim Forms, which collected more detailed information about the incident (or series of related incidents). The Victim Form also explored other factors that relate to the crime such as whether they think there was any racial motivation; the impact of the offence; whether the police were involved and what help they received.

The processes related to victim forms have changed somewhat over different sweeps of the survey, but in the 2003 SCS the 1996 practice of completing up to 5 Victim Forms in full was followed.

Self-completion module

A self completion module was asked with two halves: one on exposure to, and use of, illegal drugs and the other on experience of domestic violence. In 2003 it was decided to administer the self-completion questionnaire to all adult respondents rather than restrict it to adults under the age of 60 years as had been the case in previous years.

Fieldwork

Fieldwork for the 2003 SCS ran from March to July 2003. No interviews took place between 1 April and 1 May inclusive, owing to the 'purdah' period prior to the Scottish Parliamentary election on 1 May. This fieldwork period was approximately three months later than previous SCS fieldwork periods. The survey reference period – the period for which incidents and victimisation are recorded – remained the previous calendar year, January 2002 to December 2002.

Response rates

A total of 8,190 addresses were issued to interviewers from which 5,041 interviews were achieved. This represents an unadjusted response rate of 61.6 per cent. After taking account of ineligible addresses, the response rate was 68.1 per cent. Table B.1 shows the distribution of out-of-scope addresses and in-scope responses.

Table B.1: Summary of outcomes at issued addresses

		Frequency	Percentage of all addresses	Percentage of eligible addresses
Eligible	Interview obtained	5,041	61.6	68.1
	Address occupied but no reply at door	849	10.4	11.5
	Address occupied, no contact with selected respondent	60	0.7	0.8
	Refusal	1,028	12.6	13.9
	Refused by phoning office/withdrawn by office	73	0.9	1.0
	Respondent contacted, appointment made	4	0.0	0.1
	Kish grid individual contacted but too busy - to recall	44	0.5	0.6
	Respondent too ill to participate	110	1.3	1.5
	Insufficient English	12	0.1	0.2
	Away during fieldwork	71	0.9	1.0
	Other outcome at eligible address	80	1.0	1.1
	Eligible address but no outcome recorded	33	0.4	0.4
	Total	7,405	90.4	100.0
Ineligible	Derelict/demolished	115	1.4	
	Empty/vacant/not occupied	385	4.7	
	Non-residential address	105	1.3	
	Holiday/second home	64	0.8	
	Property not found	43	0.5	
	Other	73	0.9	
	Total ineligible	785	9.6	
TOTAL	8,190	100.0		

4,665 adults completed the self-completion module representing 93 per cent of the sample who participated in the main survey and 63 per cent of the eligible sample.

Coding and Data Preparation

Offence classification

The purpose of the offence classification is to identify a single offence code for each Victim Form from which victimisation rates can be calculated and used for comparison with other statistics (e.g. police statistics and past crime surveys).

The framework for offence classification had been developed over the series of crime surveys. Prior to the 1993 SCS, offence coding instructions, consistent with previous British Crime Surveys were drawn up. These instructions were used for the 1996 and 2000

SCSs without significant amendments. However, some important changes to the coding of crimes have been made to the 2003 SCS. The definition of housebreaking now differs from both from the British Crime Survey's definition of burglary and previous SCS reports. This coding change was implemented to more accurately mirror Scottish police recorded crime definition of domestic housebreaking, by including domestic housebreakings to non-dwellings. This does not change the overall incidence of acquisitive crime, but merely changes the proportions of both housebreaking and 'other household theft'. The differences between the two definitions can be seen in Table B.2.

Table B.2: The difference between the old and new definition of housebreaking in estimates of the extent of victimisation in Scotland

	1992	1995	1999	2002
New definition of Housebreaking	164,576	100,800	105,820	87,134
New definition of other household theft	111,451	100,881	60,253	109,426
Old definition of housebreaking	123,888	81,947	84,115	70,942
Old definition of other household theft	152,139	119,734	81,959	125,619

Data Weighting

Weighting was conducted in four main stages:

- household weighting (main sample only)
- individual weighting
- weighting for grossing, victimisation and prevalence
- non-response weighting for self-completion questionnaires.

Each stage of the weighting looked at two different elements:

1. weighting to compensate for design elements of the survey, and specifically, elements that altered the probability of sampling units being from a simple random sample.
2. weighting to compensate for non-response bias where this was observable by comparing the survey data with population estimates.

Each of the stages of weighting will now be taken in turn.

Household weighting

This weights the data to adjust for factors relating to household selection. The sample for the survey was distributed nationally in proportion to the population so no design weights are necessary at this stage. However, weighting was necessary to compensate for non-response bias in terms of area bias where more or less than the target number of interviews (11) were achieved within a cluster.

Individual weighting

Within the main sample, all household data (e.g. tenure or property/household related offences) had to be weighted by the household weighting factor prior to analysis. Data that applies to individuals (e.g. attitudinal data or offences against the person) had to be weighted by a combination of the household weight and an individual weighting factor.

There are two reasons for weighting individuals. First, it is standard practice for surveys of adults to interview only one adult per household. The data therefore need to be weighted to account for the fact that each individual's chance of selection for interview varies depending on the number of adults in the household. Secondly, there can be systematic patterns of non-response to the survey and errors in respondent selection, both which can lead to bias.

Before bias could be assessed, the weighting for the number of adults had to be carried out in order to remove the natural bias in favour of single adult households, which tend to be biased towards older females. This weighted profile was then compared with the profile of all adults in the household, which indicates selection bias. After accounting for selection bias, any residual bias observable by comparing the weighted profile of the sample with the profile of the adult population from the 2001 Census was dealt with.

Victim Form weighting

A victim form can represent either one incident or a series of similar and related incidents. Forms that represent a single incident got a weight of 1. Forms for a series of incidents were weighted by the number of incidents they represent. As in previous sweeps of the SCS the weight for the series victim forms was capped at 5 – partly to limit the impact on victimisation rates of outliers and partly to limit the impact of the weights on the survey standard errors.

Because the victim forms refer to either a household (in the case of property crimes) or an individual (in the case of personal crimes) the Victim Form weight was multiplied by the household weight (HH_WT) or the individual weight (IND_WT) for the record to which the form related.

Grossing weights

In addition to the basic design and corrective weights, the SCS requires weights that:

- express the data from the survey in terms of the number of households and adults across Scotland experiencing different types of incidents
- express incidents as a rate per 10,000 units (households, adults, households with access to a vehicle, households with access to a bicycle)
- express victimisation as a rate per 10,000 units (households, adults, households with access to a vehicle, households with access to a bicycle).

This was accomplished by multiplying the household and individual weights by additional weighting factors. These included population grossing weights to multiply up the total achieved sample to the population (aged 16 plus) total and the total number of households in Scotland.

Four weights were calculated for:

- household incidents, based on a household population of 2,192,346
- personal incidents, based on an adult population of 4,007,466
- motor vehicle incidents, based on a survey estimate of 1,468,799 households with use of a motor vehicle
- bicycle incidents, based on a survey estimate of 783,486 households with access to a bike.

Adult self-completion

The adult and young person forms were subject to the same selection probabilities and biases as the main survey, with additional scope for bias arising from non-response to that aspect of the survey.

The main weight for the adult self-completion form is the individual weight. However, additional bias in the response to the self-completion section was assessed by comparing the weighted profile of adults who completed a questionnaire with that of the adult population and small additional adjustments were made to the weights on the same basis as those used for adjusting the individual weight in the main data.

APPENDIX C: SAMPLING ERROR AND DESIGN EFFECTS

Data collected in surveys always provide estimates of the true proportions in the population. The accuracy of these estimates - the sampling error - can be calculated for any estimate in the survey using information about the proportion of people giving a response and the number of people in the sample (or sub-sample). The sample error can be expressed as a 'confidence interval', which can be added to and subtracted from the survey estimate to give a range within which it is fairly certain that the true value lies.

The precision of estimates derived from a sample is normally measured using standard errors. Essentially standard errors are calculations of the standard deviation of the sampling distribution. They differ from standard deviations, though, in that while standard deviations are a measure of variability derived from actual observations of a sample, standard errors refer to the variability of possible values that could be obtained from a series of samples.

Usually, the formula used for calculating standard errors assumes a simple random sample (SRS). However, as the SCS sample was both stratified and clustered, the standard errors must take into account the sampling methodology in order to calculate confidence intervals.

Tukey's Jack-knife technique was used to calculate the complex standard errors for a series of results in the study. This is a well-established technique for working through the effects of stratification and clustering. Basically, Tukey's Jack-knife creates a series of sub-samples of data, recreating the original methodology of sampling the "clusters" of areas. The sub-samples preserve the stratification and clustering techniques used in the original survey. The technique then goes on to simulate a further series of samples based on evidence observed from the sub-samples and the estimate of the error - a complex standard error - is based on the degree of variation of the data from simulated sample to simulated sample.

Finally, the design effect was calculated as the ratio between the complex and the SRS standard errors. This indicates the effect of the sampling design (stratification and clustering) on the standard error and hence confidence intervals. A design effect of 1 indicates that the effect of the sampling methodology used in the survey is equivalent to that of a simple random sample. A design effect of 1.2 would indicate that the sampling methodology is 20% less efficient than a simple rate sample, while, conversely, a design effect of 0.8 indicates that the sampling methodology improves the sampling efficiency.

Table C.1 shows the standard errors, the design factors, and the confidence intervals for the victimisation rates. As can be seen from the table, the design factors ranged from 0.76 to 1.30. The overall average is 1.03, but that should not be taken as a 'typical' value, given the distribution of values across different variables. However, it suggests that using a value of 1.2 as a 'rule of thumb' for adjusting the standard errors of the survey data would safely account for the design factors associated with most estimates from the survey.

Table C.1: Victimization Rates and Sampling Errors for 2003 SCS

	Rate	Confidence Intervals	SRS Standard Error	Complex Standard Error	Design effect*
COMPARABLE WITH POLICE					
VANDALISM	1,656	183	91.0	93.6	1.03
ACQUISITIVE ¹	620	106	54.3	54.0	0.99
Housebreaking ¹	397	82	41.2	41.8	1.01
Theft of motor vehicle	91	35	20.8	18.0	0.86
Bicycle theft	132	38	19.2	19.3	1.01
VIOLENCE	598	133	57.2	67.9	1.19
Assault	550	108	55.2	54.9	0.99
Robbery	48	35	13.4	17.9	1.29
OTHER SURVEY CRIMES					
Theft from a motor vehicle	408	85	39.7	43.3	1.09
Attempted theft of/from m.vehicle	126	35	17.3	17.8	1.03
Other household theft *	499	95	47.1	48.4	1.03
Theft from the person	59	25	12.8	12.5	0.98
Other personal theft	261	68	28.6	34.6	1.22
Motor vehicle vandalism	826	107	55.0	54.6	0.99
Property vandalism	831	221	68.6	112.5	1.64
Petty assault	435	93	49.6	47.5	0.96
Serious assault	115	37	22.5	19.0	0.84
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIMES	3,309	340	137.0	173.4	1.27
ALL PERSONAL CRIMES	919	118	67.3	60.2	0.89

Note:

7. For violence, theft from the person, assault, robbery, other personal theft and all personal offences, rates are quoted per 10,000 adults. For acquisitive crime, vandalism, housebreaking, vehicle offences, bicycle theft, other household theft and all household offences, rates are quoted per 10,000 households.
8. For the distinction between crimes which are 'comparable with police' and 'other survey crimes', see Appendix D.
9. Source: 2003 Scottish Crime Survey, unweighted n=5,041.

APPENDIX D: COMPARISON BETWEEN THE SCS AND POLICE RECORDED CRIME STATISTICS

It is possible to make comparisons between the SCS and police recorded crime statistics for 6 general offence groups: vandalism, housebreaking, theft of motor vehicles, bicycle theft, assault (comprising petty and serious assault) and robbery.

Estimates of the total number of crimes in Scotland were obtained by grossing up the SCS crime rates based on population estimates for 2003. Police recorded Crime Statistics were published in Statistical Bulletin Criminal Justice Series CrJ/2003/3 in May 2003, 'Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2002'. These were then adjusted to allow comparability with the SCS. This adjustment included excluding crimes against public and corporately owned property and crimes against victims under 16 years of age. The adjusted recorded crime figures are estimates based on survey information from Strathclyde, the largest police force area in Scotland.

In 2002, the police would not have recorded all crimes reported to them because, prior to the implementation of a new Scottish Crime Recording Standard in 2004, they tended to adopt an 'evidential' model of crime recording. That is, before recording an incident as a crime, the police required evidence that a crime had been committed as opposed to accident or loss; they would not take the victim's account of the incident unsupported. The new Scottish Crime Recording Standard takes a more victim-oriented approach.

Indexed trends reported in Chapter 4 differ from previously published indexed trends (MVA 2002; MVA 1998) for two reasons. First, previous indexed trends were based only on southern and central Scotland and second, because they were indexed to 1982.

APPENDIX E: THE SCOTTISH *ACORN CLASSIFICATION

The Scottish *ACORN classification was developed by CACI using over 100 variables from the 1991 Census. Key factors such as home ownership, car ownership, age, health, employment and occupation were included in the cluster analysis, in addition to data from specific Census questions which were asked only in Scotland. This latter group included the floor level of residence (to provide a better indication of the presence of tenements and flats), the level of overcrowding (to provide a measure of deprivation) and whether respondents spoke Gaelic. The Scottish *ACORN classification segments Scottish housing into 43 types which aggregate up to eight main groups. The ACORN analyses presented in the report are based on groups, but the data are also tagged with codes for the 44 types and these would therefore be available for use in secondary analysis.

Group A: Affluent Consumers with Large Houses

This group contains the most affluent people in Scotland. The majority of people in this group live in large detached houses, and are more likely to have access to two or more cars. They are typically on high incomes and are employed in professional or managerial jobs in the service sector.

1. Wealthy Families, Largest Detached Houses
2. Wealthy Older Residents, Home Owning Semis
3. Affluent Young Families with Mortgages
4. Affluent Older Couples & Families, Often Rural

Group B: Prosperous Home Owners

This group is typical of middle class Scotland and its residents are likely to live in their own homes. Incomes, car ownership and educational qualifications are above average in these areas. These areas are found throughout Scotland, mainly in city suburbs or in better-off towns and villages.

5. Better-Off Families, Mixed Dwellings
6. Younger Families with Mortgages, Commuters
7. Younger Families with Mortgages, New Homes
8. Older People in Suburban Areas & Small Towns
9. Working Couples, Owner Occupied Terraced Housing
10. Skilled Workers, Owner Occupied Semi-Detached Houses
11. Better-Off Older Residents, Mainly Villages

Group C: Agricultural Communities

This group covers Scotland's better-off farming communities and also the Gaelic speaking Western Isles. Type 12 areas are found throughout Scotland and the residents are more likely to live in large houses, either owned or tied, and car ownership is high. In type 13, there is a high incidence of households which are not a main residence which indicates these areas include many holiday homes.

12. Home Based Workers, Agricultural Areas
13. Gaelic Speakers, Remote Areas & Islands

Group D: Private Tenements and Flats

These neighbourhoods are found in the centres of Scotland's largest towns and cities. The households are likely to contain people living alone, professional couples and students. Many households are owner occupied but there is also a high incidence of private renting. Car ownership is below average and usage of all forms of public transport to travel to work is high.

14. Younger Couples & Families, Owner Occupied Flats
15. Skilled Workers, Owners Occupied Flats
16. Young Professionals & Students, Private & Rented Flats
17. Elderly People, Private Flats

18. Professionals & Students, Private & Rented Tenements
19. Younger Residents with Mortgages, Tenements
20. Younger Residents with Mortgages, Smaller Tenements

Group E: Better-Off Council Areas, Homes Often Purchased

These areas are characterised by people who have bought their council house or flat. They are most likely to contain older couples or families, although in some instances, younger families have exercised their right to buy. While not affluent areas, unemployment is at or below average.

21. Older Residents, New Home Owners
22. Older Residents, Semi-Detached, New Home Owners
23. Retired Residents, New Home Owners
24. Older Families, Some New Home Owners
25. Older People, Some New Home Owners
26. Younger New Home Owners, Often New Towns
27. Families in Scottish Homes, Some New Home Owners

Group F: Council Estates, Less Well-Off Families

These areas are typified by families of all ages living in council terraces and flats. There is little overcrowding since homes tend to be larger. Unemployment is above average and those that are in work tend to be in manual and unskilled occupations.

28. Younger Families in Flats, Many Children
29. Younger Families in Mixed Dwellings, Some Lone Parents
30. Younger Large Families, Council Terraces
31. Families, Older Children, Terraces
32. Older Large Families, Semi-Detached Houses

Group G: Council Estates, Older residents

These areas contain couples or single people aged 55+ living in small council flats or terraced homes. The type and location of these properties and the age of residents means that there is a high incidence of limiting long term illness. Unemployment is above average and there are low levels of car ownership.

33. Older Residents, Low Rise Council Flats
34. Retired People, Health Problems, Mixed Dwellings
35. Retired People, Council Terraces
36. Single Pensioners, Health Problems, Larger Flats
37. Single Pensioners, Health Problems, City Centres

Group H: Poorest Council Estates

This group comprises those council estates likely to have most serious social problems, with the highest levels of unemployment, overcrowding, large and single parent families. These estates house large numbers of residents dependent upon the state for the provision of basic services. Car ownership is significantly below the Scottish average.

38. Poorer Families, High Unemployment, Low Rise Housing
39. Singles, Housing Association Flats, Overcrowding
40. Older Residents, High Unemployment, High Rise Flats
41. High Unemployment, Some High Rise Flats, Scottish Homes
42. Many Lone Parents, High Unemployment, Council Flats
43. Many Lone Parents, Greatest Hardship, Council Flats

Unclassified

This group comprises those areas which do not fit into the 43 categories already mentioned because they contain a relatively high level of diversity in terms of property types and the socio-demographic characteristics of their inhabitants. The proportion of properties in this group is very small.

44. Unclassified

Occupation Groups

Non-Manual	
A	<p>Approximately 3% of the total population.</p> <p>These are professional people, very senior managers in business or commerce or top level civil servants.</p> <p>Retired people, previously grade A, and their surviving partner.</p>
B	<p>Approximately 14% of the total population.</p> <p>Middle management executives in large organisations, with appropriate qualifications.</p> <p>Principal officers in local government and civil service.</p> <p>Top management or owners of small business concerns, educational and service establishments.</p> <p>Retired people, previously grade B, and their surviving partner.</p>
C	<p>Approximately 29% of the total population.</p> <p>Junior management, owners of small establishments, and all others in non-manual positions.</p> <p>Jobs in this group have very varied responsibilities and educational requirements.</p> <p>Retired people, previously grade C1, and their surviving partner.</p>

Manual	
C2	<p>Approximately 25% of the total population.</p> <p>All skilled manual workers and those manual workers with responsibility for other people.</p> <p>Retired people, previously grade C2, with pensions from their job.</p> <p>Surviving partners, if receiving pensions from their late partner's occupation.</p>
D	<p>Approximately 19% of the total population.</p> <p>All semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers, and apprentices and trainees to skilled workers.</p> <p>Retired people, previously grade D, with pensions from their job.</p> <p>Surviving partners, if receiving pensions from their late partner's occupation.</p>
E	<p>Approximately 13% of the total population.</p> <p>All those entirely dependent upon the state long term, through sickness, unemployment, old age or other reasons. Those unemployed for a period exceeding six months (otherwise classify on previous occupation).</p> <p>Casual workers and those without a regular income.</p> <p>Only households without a Chief Wage Earner will be coded in this group.</p>

APPENDIX F: GLOSSARY

Main Crime Categories

Assault

In the survey the term 'assault' refers to two main categories: 'serious assaults' comprising incidents of serious wounding, involving severe injuries intentionally inflicted, and other wounding, which involves less serious injury or severe injuries unintentionally inflicted; and 'petty assaults' which are actual or attempted assaults resulting in no or negligible injury. For the purpose of analysis and comparison with police recorded crime statistics these categories have been grouped together and called 'assault'.

Bicycle Theft

This term applies to the theft of pedal cycles from outside a dwelling. Almost all bicycles were stolen in this way. Bicycle thefts which take place inside the house by someone who is not trespassing at the time are counted as 'theft in a dwelling' (a sub-category of 'other household theft'); and thefts of bicycles from inside the house by a trespasser are counted as 'housebreaking'.

Housebreaking

In Scots law, the term 'burglary' has no meaning although in popular usage it has come to mean breaking into a house in order to steal the contents. Scots law refers to this as 'theft by housebreaking'. In the SCS, respondents who reported that someone who had got into their home without permission, and had stolen or tried to steal something, were classified as 'victims of housebreaking'. The definition of housebreaking used in this report differs from previous definitions to more accurately mirror the Scottish police recorded crime definition of domestic housebreaking by including domestic housebreakings to non-dwellings.

Household Theft ('Other Household Theft')

This term refers to actual and attempted thefts from domestic garages, outhouses, sheds, etc., not directly linked to the dwelling, thefts from gas and electricity prepayment meters and thefts from outside the dwelling (excluding thefts of milk bottles, etc., from the doorstep). This category also includes 'theft in a dwelling', which refers to theft committed inside a home by someone who is entitled to be there (for example, party guests or workmen).

Motor Vehicle Theft

The SCS covers three main categories of vehicle theft: 'theft of motor vehicles' referring to the theft of unauthorised taking of a vehicle, where the vehicle is driven away illegally (whether or not it is recovered); 'theft from motor vehicles' which includes the theft of vehicle parts, accessories or contents; and, for the first time, 'attempted thefts of or from motor vehicles', where there is clear evidence that an attempt was made to steal the vehicle or something from it (e.g. damage to locks). If parts or contents of the motor vehicle are stolen in addition to the vehicle being moved, the incident is classified as theft of a motor vehicle. Included in this category are cars, vans, motor cycles, scooters and mopeds which are either owned or regularly used by anyone in the household. Lorries, heavy vans, tractors, trailers and towed caravans were excluded from the coverage of the survey.

Robbery

This term refers to actual or attempted theft of personal property or cash directly from the person, accompanied by force or the threat of force. Robbery should be distinguished from other thefts from the person which involve speed or stealth rather than force or threat.

Other Personal Theft

In the survey 'other personal theft' refers to the theft of personal property outwith the home (for example handbags from offices) where there was no direct contact between the offender and victim.

Theft from Motor Vehicles

See Motor Vehicle Theft above.

Vandalism

Vandalism involves intentional and malicious damage to property (including houses and vehicles). In the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980, vandalism became a separate offence defined as wilful or reckless destruction or damage to property belonging to another. Cases which involve nuisance only (for example, letting down car tyres), but no actual damage, are not included. Where criminal damage occurs in combination with housebreaking, robbery or violent offences, these latter take precedence.

Combined Crime Categories

At various points in the report, crime categories are grouped together in different combinations in order to provide more meaningful analysis. The following describes the main combinations used and what these include.

Comparable crime

Only certain categories of crime covered by the SCS are directly comparable with police recorded crime statistics. These categories are collectively referred to throughout the report as 'comparable crime', which consists of six crime categories: vandalism, housebreaking, theft of a motor vehicle, bicycle theft, assault and robbery. In order to maximise comparability, however, certain adjustments are made to the police recorded crime figures.

Within the comparable sub-set, the six categories are further collapsed at various points into the following three broad classifications:

- **acquisitive crime** – comprising housebreaking, theft of a motor vehicle and bicycle theft
- **vandalism** – including both vehicle and household vandalism
- **violence** – comprising assault and robbery

Property and Violent Crimes

In this report the types of crime are generally grouped together under the headings of **property crime** and **violent crime**:

- **property crime** includes housebreaking, other household theft, vandalism, theft of cars, theft from cars, attempted thefts of/from cars, bicycle theft, theft from the person, and other personal theft
- **violent crime** includes assault and robbery

Household and Personal Crimes

In the 1993 and 1996 surveys the types of crime were more commonly sub-divided into crimes against **households** and crimes against **individuals**:

- **household crime** includes vandalism, theft from a motor vehicle, housebreaking, theft of a motor vehicle, bicycle theft and other household theft
- **personal crime** includes assault, robbery, theft from the person and other personal theft

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