

Statistical Bulletin

Crime and Justice Series

A National Statistics Publication for Scotland

DOMESTIC ABUSE RECORDED BY THE POLICE IN SCOTLAND, 2007-08
25 November 2008

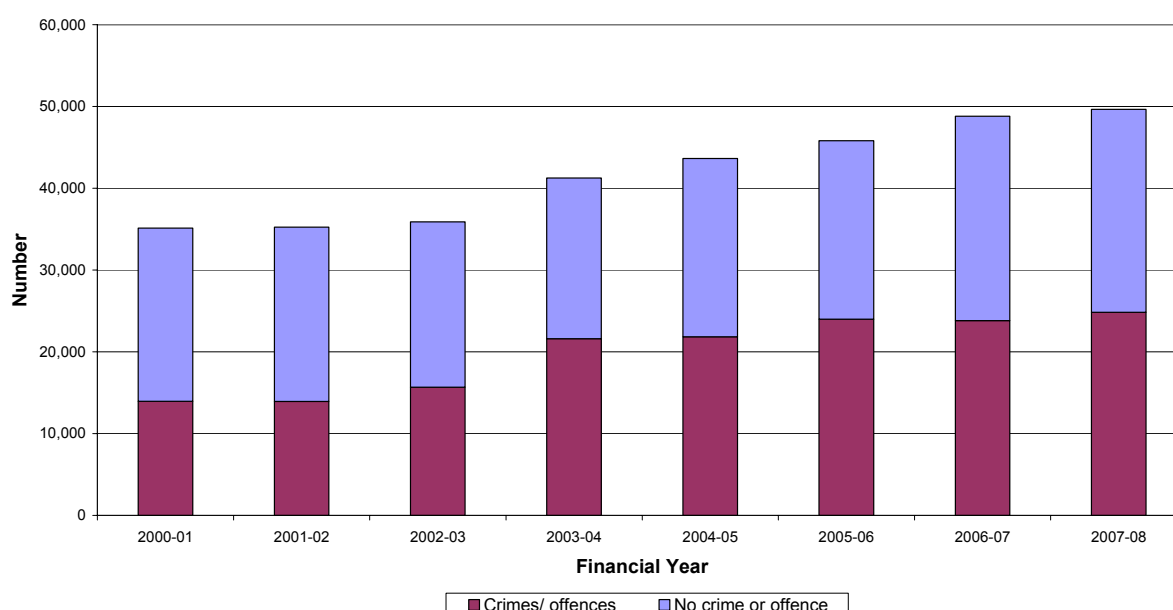


1. Introduction

This bulletin presents statistics on domestic abuse, based on details of incidents of domestic abuse returned by the eight Scottish police forces in 2007-08. This is the ninth time such data have been collated centrally, and the third time they have been presented on a financial year basis. Further details on the background and basis of the statistics are given in the notes in the Annex.

The statistics presented in this bulletin are described as incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police. The bulletin reports the most serious crime/offence associated with each incident. It should be recognised that the statistics presented in this bulletin cover only the incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police. Note that not all incidents of domestic abuse come to the attention of the police.

Chart 1 - Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police: Crimes & offences and behaviour not amounting to a crime or offence, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08



Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Main points	3
3. Commentary	4
3.1. <i>Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police.....</i>	<i>4</i>
3.2. <i>Incidents of domestic abuse per 100,000 population</i>	<i>4</i>
3.3. <i>Incidents of domestic abuse by gender of victim and perpetrator.....</i>	<i>5</i>
3.4. <i>Level of repeat victimisation</i>	<i>5</i>
3.5. <i>Incidents of domestic abuse by age of victim and perpetrator.....</i>	<i>6</i>
3.6. <i>Incidents of domestic abuse by relationship between victim and perpetrator.....</i>	<i>6</i>
3.7. <i>Location of incidents of domestic abuse.....</i>	<i>6</i>
3.8. <i>Crimes and offences of domestic abuse, action taken by police</i>	<i>7</i>
3.9. <i>Day of occurrence of domestic abuse incidents</i>	<i>8</i>
4. Appendix of tables	9
5. Annex: notes on statistics used in this bulletin	31
5.1. <i>Background</i>	<i>31</i>
5.2. <i>Accuracy of the statistics.....</i>	<i>31</i>

2. Main points

- There were 49,655 incidents of domestic abuse recorded in 2007-08, compared to the 48,801 incidents recorded in 2006-07. This equates to just under a 2 per cent increase on 2006-07. This continues the steady increase in incidents reported since 2000-01, the first year covered by this particular bulletin. Half of the incidents recorded in 2007-08 (24,834) led to the recording of a crime or offence (Tables 1 and 1a).
- The most common crime or offence recorded in 2007-08 remained the offence of minor assault, 22 per cent (10,994) of all incidents, with breach of the peace, 16 per cent (7,736), the second most common (Table 1).
- The overall incidence of domestic abuse reported to the police in Scotland in 2007-08 was 965 per 100,000 population (Table 2). This compared to 954 per 100,000 in 2006-07 (Table 15a).
- Incidents with a female victim and male perpetrator represented 85 per cent of all incidents of domestic abuse where this information was recorded, down by just under 2 percentage points from 2006-07. This percentage has gradually decreased since 2000-01, when it was 91 per cent (Tables 4 and 4a).
- For those incidents where information was available on whether or not the victim had previously been recorded as being a domestic abuse victim, 54 per cent of the cases involved known repeat victimisation compared to 57 per cent in 2006-07 (Tables 5 and 5a).
- When looking at the incidence per 100,000 population, females are at most risk of being victims of domestic abuse when aged between 22 and 25 years and males when aged between 31 and 35 years (Table 7).
- Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police involving co-habitees or partners accounted for 44 per cent of all cases, with more cases recorded relating to co-habitees (24 per cent) than to partners (20 per cent). Incidents involving spouses accounted for a further 16 per cent (Tables 10 and 10a).
- Since 2000-01, the percentage of incidents involving spouses, co-habitees and partners has decreased from 69 per cent to 60 per cent. This has been driven by a decrease in the percentage of incidents involving spouses over this period, from 25 per cent in 2000-01 to 16 per cent in 2007-08 (Tables 10 and 10a).
- In 38 per cent of cases in 2007-08 the victim and perpetrator were ex-partners or ex-spouses, increasing from 30 per cent in 2000-01 (Tables 10 and 10a).
- The overwhelming majority of incidents of domestic abuse took place in the home/house (90 per cent of all incidents where the location was recorded). This was more likely if the victim and perpetrator cohabited i.e. were a 'spouse' or 'co-habitee' (95 per cent of all incidents where location was recorded) (Table 11).

3. Commentary

3.1 Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police (Table 1, Table 1a and Chart 1)

- There were 49,655 incidents of domestic abuse recorded in 2007-08, compared to the 48,801 incidents recorded in 2006-07. This equates to just under a 2 per cent increase on 2006-07. This continues the steady increase in incidents reported since 2000-01, the time period covered by this bulletin.
- Half (50 per cent) of the incidents led to the recording of at least one crime or offence. The last five years have seen this proportion remain at roughly 50 per cent, compared to 40-44 per cent in the three years from 2000-01. In 2007-08 the highest proportion of crimes to incidents was recorded by Tayside (100 per cent), the lowest by Central (33 per cent).
- The most common crime or offence recorded in 2007-08 remained the offence of minor assault, 22 per cent (10,994) of all incidents, with breach of the peace, 16 per cent (7,736), the second most common.
- Crimes, which are generally regarded as more serious than offences, were recorded in respect of 11 per cent (5,555) of all incidents in 2007-08, the same percentage as in 2006-07 but up from 7 per cent in 2000-01.
- Where a crime was recorded, it was most likely to be a crime against public justice (typically bail offences and resisting arrest), accounting for just over 5 per cent (2,563) of all incidents, or vandalism, accounting for just over 3 per cent (1,686) of all incidents. This is a reversal of the position in earlier years – as up to 2003-04 vandalism was more common than crimes against public justice.
- The increase in recorded crimes against public justice is largely attributable to pro-active policing and enforcement of additional bail conditions made in order to provide safeguards over and above the standard bail conditions.

3.2 Incidents of domestic abuse per 100,000 population (Table 2)

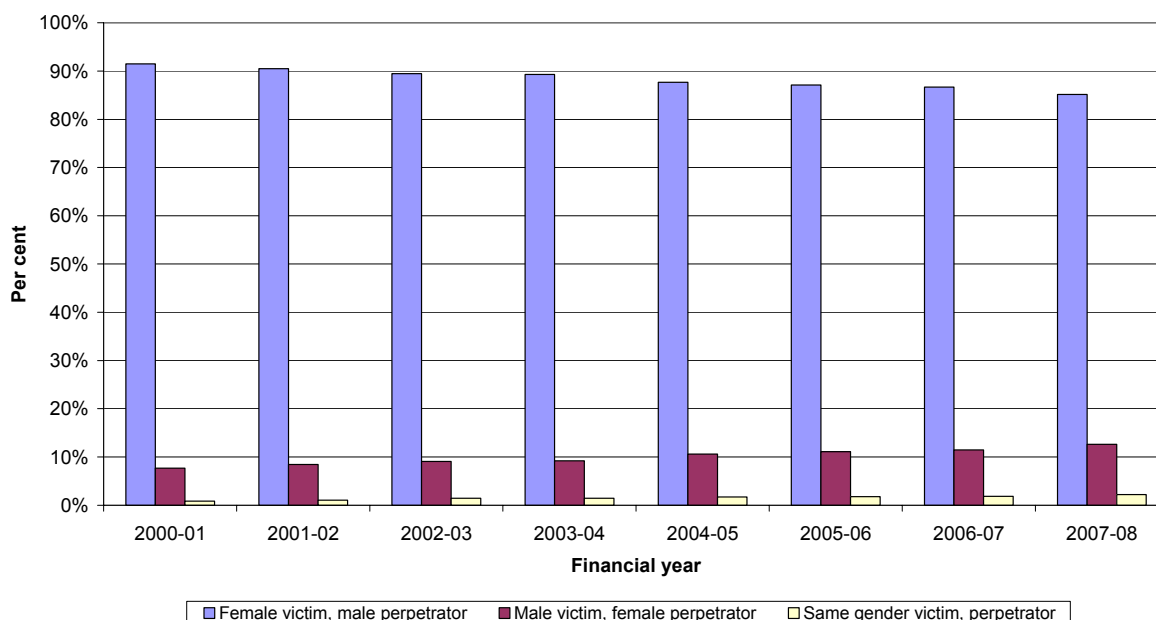
- The incidence of domestic abuse recorded by the police in 2007-08 ranged from 1,133 per 100,000 population in Central down to 403 in Northern, compared with an overall Scottish incidence of 965 per 100,000 population.
- The range may be partly explained by differences in police recording of domestic abuse incidents not classed as a crime or offence. However, when these are excluded, the range is still substantial. Tayside has the highest incidence of crimes and offences (927 per 100,000 population), while Northern has the lowest (278 per 100,000 population).
- There was somewhat less variation between police forces in the incidence of cases of domestic abuse which resulted in a referral to the procurator fiscal.

These ranged from 392 per 100,000 population in Fife down to 262 per 100,000 population in Lothian & Borders.

3.3 Incidents of domestic abuse by sex of victim and perpetrator (Table 4, Table 4a and Chart 2)

Incidents with a female victim and male perpetrator represented 85 per cent of all incidents of domestic abuse where this information was recorded, down by just under 2 percentage points from 2006-07. This percentage has gradually decreased since 2000-01, when it was 91 per cent. This is mainly the result of an increase in the proportion of incidents with a male victim and female perpetrator, which have risen from under 8 per cent of all incidents in 2000-01 to over 12 per cent in 2007-08.

Chart 2 - Sex of victim and perpetrator where known, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08



3.4 Level of repeat victimisation (Tables 5, 5a and 6)

- For those incidents where information was available on whether or not the victim had previously been recorded as being a domestic abuse victim, 54 per cent of the cases involved known repeat victimisation compared to 57 per cent in 2006-07 and 45 per cent in 2000-01. This increase since 2000-01 could be affected by the length of time different forces have kept databases on domestic abuse, allowing repeat incidents to be identified.
- Where the number of previous incidents was known, 29 per cent of cases involved a single previous incident, 29 per cent of cases involved two or three previous incidents, and 42 per cent involved four or more previous incidents.

3.5 Incidents of domestic abuse by age of victim and perpetrator (Tables 7, 7a, 8, 8a and 9)

- In 2007-08, the highest rate of incidents of domestic abuse per 100,000 population among female victims was for those aged 22 to 25 years, where the rate was 4,458 incidents per 100,000 population.
- Among male victims, the highest rate of incidents of domestic abuse per 100,000 population was for those aged 31 to 35 years, where the rate was 667 incidents per 100,000 population.
- In 2007-08, the highest rate of incidents of domestic abuse per 100,000 population among female perpetrators was by those aged 26 to 30 years, where the rate was 661 incidents per 100,000 population.
- Among male perpetrators, the highest rate of incidents of domestic abuse per 100,000 population was by those aged 26 to 30 years, where the rate was 4,229 incidents per 100,000 population.

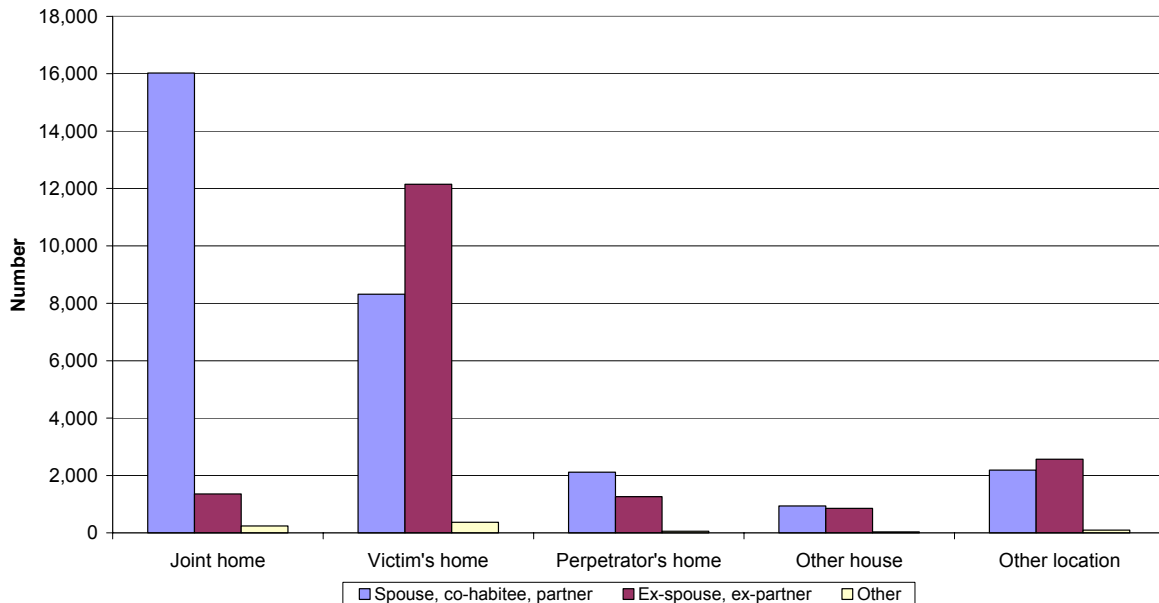
3.6 Incidents of domestic abuse by relationship between victim and perpetrator (Tables 10 and 10a)

- Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police involving co-habitees or partners accounted for 44 per cent of all cases, with more cases recorded relating to co-habitees (24 per cent) than to partners (20 per cent); incidents involving spouses accounted for a further 16 per cent. In 38 per cent of cases, the victim and perpetrator were ex-partners or ex-spouses. 'Other' includes relationships not fitting into specified categories, and cases where the relationship is unknown.

3.7 Location of incidents of domestic abuse (Table 11, Table 11a and Chart 3)

- The overwhelming majority of incidents of domestic abuse took place in a home/house (90 per cent of all incidents where the location was recorded). This was more likely if the victim and perpetrator cohabited i.e. were a 'spouse' or 'co-habitee' (95 per cent of all incidents where location was recorded).
- In all other relationships, excluding those who were a 'spouse' or 'co-habitee', the proportion of incidents taking place in a home/house was between 86 and 88 per cent of all incidents where location was recorded. In previous years a similar pattern was observed.
- Incidents of domestic abuse generally took place within the victim's home or joint home, regardless of the relationship between victim and perpetrator.

**Chart 3 - Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police:
Location of incident by relationship, where known, Scotland, 2007-08**



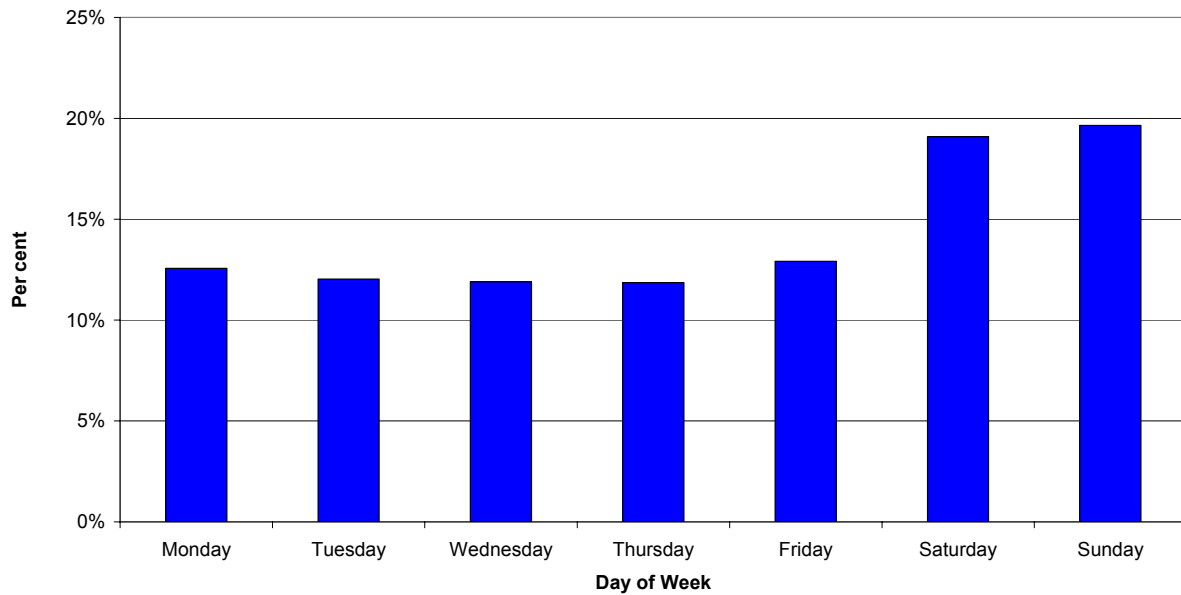
3.8 Crimes and offences of domestic abuse, action taken by police (Tables 1, 1a, 13, 13a and 14)

- Where an incident of domestic abuse resulted in a crime or offence being recorded a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal in 63 per cent of cases, a decrease from the 65 per cent recorded in 2006-07.
- Where a report was not submitted to the procurator fiscal but the action taken was known, in 3 per cent of cases a police warning was given, 21 per cent of cases involved some other type of action and in 12 per cent of cases no further action was taken. The early years of this series showed no further action taken in 11 to 12 per cent of cases, peaking at 16 per cent in 2003-04 before falling to 5 per cent in 2004-05 (where action taken was recorded).
- In 2007-08 the proportion of crimes and offences of domestic abuse referred to the procurator fiscal varied considerably across police force areas. In Tayside the proportion was 31 per cent, in Dumfries & Galloway 48 per cent, while the proportions were 83 per cent in Central and 94 per cent in Northern. This variation, however, reflects the differences in police practice in recording a crime or offence following an incident of domestic abuse (see Note 5.2.5). In general, police forces which record a higher proportion of incidents of domestic abuse as a crime or offence tend to refer lower proportions of these cases to the procurator fiscal.
- There was less variation between police forces in the proportion of all incidents of domestic abuse which resulted in referral to the procurator fiscal, ranging from 27 per cent in Central and Lothian & Borders to 65 per cent in Northern (Table 1).

3.9 Day of occurrence of domestic abuse incidents (Table 16 and Chart 4)

- The day of occurrence of incidents of domestic abuse shows that more incidents are recorded at the weekend than during the week. Nearly 40 per cent of all incidents of domestic abuse in 2007-08 occurred on a Saturday or a Sunday, with the remaining 60 per cent spread fairly evenly throughout the rest of the week.

**Chart 4 - Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police:
day of week incident occurred, Scotland, 2007-08**



4. Appendix of tables

Table 1: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by police force area and type of crime/offence, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 1(a): Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by type of crime/offence and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 2: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by police force area per 100,000 population and type of crime/offence, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 3: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by police force area where sex of victim was recorded, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 3(a): Incidents of domestic abuse, by sex of victim and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 4: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by sex of victim/perpetrator and nature of crime/offence, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 4(a): Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by sex of victim/perpetrator and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 5: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police where incidents against the same victim had previously been recorded, by police force area, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 5(a): Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police where incidents against the same victim had previously been recorded, by financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 6: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police where incidents against that victim had previously been recorded, by police force area and number of previous incidents, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 7: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by age and sex of victim, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 7(a): Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by age of victim and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 8: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by age and sex of perpetrator, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 8(a): Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by age of perpetrator and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 9: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by age of victim and perpetrator, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 10: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by relationship between victim/perpetrator and sex of victim/perpetrator, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 10(a): Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by relationship between victim/perpetrator and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 11: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by relationship between victim/perpetrator and location of incident, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 11(a): Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by location of incident and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 12: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by nature and location of incident, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 13: Action taken by the police against identified perpetrators of crimes or offences of domestic abuse cleared up by the police, by police force area, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 13(a): Action taken by the police against identified perpetrators of crimes or offences of domestic abuse cleared up by the police, by financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 14: Percentage of perpetrators of domestic abuse reported to the procurator fiscal, where a crime or offence is recorded and action taken is known, by police force area, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 15: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by council area and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 15(a): Rates per 100,000 population of domestic abuse incidents recorded by the police, by council area and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 16: Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by day of week and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by police force area and type of crime/offence, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 1
Number

	Dumfries & Galloway					Lothian & Borders					Northern Strathclyde Tayside					SCOTLAND
	Central	Dumfries & Galloway	Fife	Grampian	Borders	Northern	Strathclyde	Tayside	SCOTLAND							
Total incidents¹	3,271	1,204	3,926	3,406	8,966	1,151	24,062	3,669	49,655							
Total crimes and offences (Of which reported to the procurator fiscal)	1,068	813	1,776	2,412	3,196	795	11,119	3,655	24,834							
	891	391	1,413	1,493	2,409	750	7,156	1,144	15,647							
Non-sexual crimes of violence	34	4	17	38	156	23	283	43	598							
Homicide	-	-	1	1	-	-	7	1	10							
Serious assault	27	4	10	9	57	20	200	28	355							
Other	7	-	6	28	99	3	76	14	233							
Crimes of indecency	10	1	9	10	17	1	66	9	123							
Sexual assault	9	1	9	9	16	-	65	9	118							
Lewd & Libidinous practices	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	4							
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1							
Crimes of dishonesty	25	-	38	42	45	-	235	71	456							
Fire-raising, vandalism, etc.	103	25	211	140	212	20	855	142	1,708							
Fire-raising	2	-	4	-	1	-	15	-	22							
Vandalism, etc.	101	25	207	140	211	20	840	142	1,686							
Other crimes	192	24	298	238	467	9	1,312	130	2,670							
Crimes against public justice	189	24	292	221	426	8	1,278	125	2,563							
Handling an offensive weapon	-	-	6	11	21	1	34	5	78							
Drugs	3	-	-	3	20	-	-	-	26							
Other	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3							
Miscellaneous offences	703	759	1,203	1,944	2,293	742	8,347	3,260	19,251							
Minor assault	464	346	825	1,247	1,767	399	4,966	980	10,994							
Breach of the peace	208	397	378	624	505	343	3,174	2,107	7,736							
Drunkenness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-							
Other	31	16	-	73	21	-	207	173	521							
Motor vehicle offences	1	-	-	-	6	-	21	-	28							
Behaviour not leading to recording a crime or offence	2,203	391	2,150	994	5,770	356	12,943	14	24,821							

¹ Different police forces record domestic abuse information in differing ways. Police practice in deciding when a behaviour justifies the recording of a crime or offence may also differ. These differences influence the proportion of incidents which lead to the recording of a crime or offence, as well as the proportion of crimes and offences reported to the procurator fiscal.

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by type of crime/offence and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 1(a)

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Total incidents¹	35,126	35,255	35,894	41,233	43,632	45,812	48,801	49,655
Total crimes and offences (Of which reported to the procurator fiscal)	13,947	13,931	15,673	21,598	21,833	23,991	23,803	24,834
	9,436	9,359	9,316	11,015	14,180	14,180	15,582	15,647
Non-sexual crimes of violence	613	544	635	682	607	644	641	598
Homicide	19	11	9	4	11	6	5	10
Serious assault	345	335	368	364	351	362	355	355
Other	249	198	258	314	245	276	281	233
Crimes of indecency	72	71	79	99	110	106	105	123
Sexual assault	67	69	77	95	107	101	102	118
Lewd & Libidinous practices	1	1	2	1	-	3	1	4
Other	4	1	-	3	3	2	2	1
Crimes of dishonesty	65	97	167	188	327	372	445	456
Fire-raising, vandalism, etc.	944	976	1,048	1,343	1,656	1,653	1,740	1,708
Fire-raising	7	6	11	15	17	21	20	22
Vandalism, etc.	937	970	1,037	1,328	1,639	1,632	1,720	1,686
Other crimes	603	616	889	1,303	1,983	2,234	2,302	2,670
Crimes against public justice	550	580	842	1,218	1,896	2,104	2,182	2,563
Handling an offensive weapon	43	27	29	50	48	68	70	78
Drugs	10	8	14	27	34	58	48	26
Other	-	1	4	8	5	4	2	3
Miscellaneous offences	11,649	11,626	12,855	17,978	17,141	18,952	18,552	19,251
Minor assault	6,352	6,572	7,218	9,768	9,544	10,140	10,578	10,994
Breach of the peace	5,233	4,980	5,395	7,957	7,269	8,225	7,455	7,736
Drunkenness	1	4	3	4	8	-	3	-
Other	63	70	239	249	320	587	516	521
Motor vehicle offences	1	1	-	5	9	30	18	28
Behaviour not leading to recording a crime or offence	21,171	21,324	20,221	19,635	21,799	21,821	24,998	24,821
Not recorded	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Different police forces record domestic abuse information in differing ways. Police practice in deciding when a behaviour justifies the recording of a crime or offence may also differ. These differences influence the proportion of incidents which lead to the recording of a crime or offence, as well as the proportion of crimes and offences reported to the procurator fiscal.

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by police force area per 100,000 population¹ and type of crime/offence, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 2

	Rate per 100,000 population									
	Central	Dumfries & Galloway	Fife	Grampian	Lothian & Borders	Northern	Strathclyde	Tayside	SCOTLAND	
Total incidents²	1,133	812	1,089	636	973	403	1,089	931	965	
Total crimes and offences (Of which reported to the procurator fiscal)	370	548	493	451	347	278	503	927	483	
	309	264	392	279	262	263	324	290	304	
Non-sexual crimes of violence	12	3	5	7	17	8	13	11	12	
Homicide	-	-	*	*	-	-	*	*	*	
Serious assault	9	3	3	2	6	7	9	7	7	
Other	2	-	2	5	11	1	3	4	5	
Crimes of indecency	3	1	2	2	2	*	3	2	2	
Sexual assault	3	1	2	2	2	-	3	2	2	
Lewd & libidinous practices	*	-	-	*	*	*	-	-	*	
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	
Crimes of dishonesty	9	-	11	8	5	-	11	18	9	
Fire-raising, vandalism, etc.	36	17	59	26	23	7	39	36	33	
Fire-raising	1	-	1	-	*	-	1	-	*	
Vandalism, etc.	35	17	57	26	23	7	38	36	33	
Other crimes	66	16	83	44	51	3	59	33	52	
Crimes against public justice	65	16	81	41	46	3	58	32	50	
Handling an offensive weapon	-	-	2	2	2	*	2	1	2	
Drugs	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	
Other	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	*	
Miscellaneous offences	243	512	334	363	249	260	378	827	374	
Minor assault	161	233	229	233	192	140	225	249	214	
Breach of the peace	72	268	105	117	55	120	144	535	150	
Drunkenness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other	11	11	-	14	2	-	9	44	10	
Motor vehicle offences	*	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	
Behaviour not leading to recording a crime or offence	763	264	596	186	626	125	586	4	483	

¹ Estimated population as at mid 2007 (GROS).

² Different police forces record domestic abuse information in differing ways. Police practice in deciding when a behaviour justifies the recording of a crime or offence may also differ. These differences influence the proportion of incidents which lead to the recording of a crime or offence, as well as the proportion of crimes and offences reported to the procurator fiscal.

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by police force area where sex of victim was recorded, Scotland, 2007-08 Table 3

	All incidents where sex recorded			Crimes			Offences			Behaviour not leading to the recording of a crime or offence		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
	Number											
Central	2,887	384	3,271	326	38	364	616	88	704	1945	258	2,203
Dumfries & Galloway	1,057	147	1,204	50	4	54	673	86	759	334	57	391
Fife	3,460	460	3,920	515	58	573	1062	140	1,202	1883	262	2,145
Grampian	2,979	427	3,406	415	53	468	1670	274	1,944	894	100	994
Lothian & Borders	7,788	1,178	8,966	823	74	897	2048	251	2,299	4917	853	5,770
Northern	1,014	123	1,137	47	6	53	673	69	742	294	48	342
Strathclyde	20,185	3,497	23,682	2444	276	2,720	7294	950	8,244	10447	2271	12,718
Tayside	3,132	537	3,669	344	51	395	2775	485	3,260	13	1	14
TOTAL	42,502	6,753	49,255	4,964	560	5,524	16,811	2,343	19,154	20,727	3,850	24,577

Incidents of domestic abuse, by sex of victim and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08 Table 3(a)

	Number							
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Female	32,247	32,000	32,277	36,138	38,149	39,855	42,364	42,502
Male	2,873	3,210	3,550	4,040	4,957	5,448	6,004	6,753
Unknown	6	45	67	1,055	526	509	433	400
TOTAL	35,126	35,255	35,894	41,233	43,632	45,812	48,801	49,655

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by sex of victim/perpetrator and nature of crime/offence, Scotland, 2007-08 Table 4
Number

	Female victim, male perpetrator		Male victim, female perpetrator		Male victim, male perpetrator		Female victim, female perpetrator		Not recorded	Total
Non-sexual crimes of violence	465	102	12	11	8	598				
Crimes of indecency	119	-	-	1	3	123				
Crimes of dishonesty	397	43	3	5	8	456				
Fire-raising, vandalism, etc.	1,425	224	16	21	22	1,708				
Other crimes	2,472	143	16	18	21	2,670				
Miscellaneous offences	16,427	2,116	212	240	256	19,251				
Motor vehicle offences	27	1	-	-	-	28				
Behaviour not amounting to a crime	20,259	3,536	264	265	497	24,821				
TOTAL	41,591	6,165	523	561	815	49,655				

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by sex of victim/perpetrator and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08 Table 4(a)
Number

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Female victim, male perpetrator	32,122	31,848	31,971	35,727	37,508	39,091	41,498	41,591
Male victim, female perpetrator	2,696	2,976	3,245	3,694	4,534	4,974	5,489	6,165
Male victim, male perpetrator	173	232	286	328	380	412	452	523
Female victim, female perpetrator	121	137	232	252	362	388	430	561
Not recorded	14	62	160	1,232	848	947	932	815
TOTAL	35,126	35,255	35,894	41,233	43,632	45,812	48,801	49,655

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police where incidents against the same victim had previously been recorded, by police force area, Scotland, 2007-08 Table 5
Number & Percentage

	Number ¹				Percent of incidents where this information is available which is involved repeat victimisation
	No previous incidents	Previous incidents	TOTAL where information available	Information not available	
Central ²	-	1	1	3,270	100
Dumfries & Galloway	564	639	1,203	1	53
Fife	1,156	2,770	3,926	-	71
Grampian	1,305	2,101	3,406	-	62
Lothian & Borders ³	3,517	-	3,517	5,449	-
Northern	696	428	1,124	27	38
Strathclyde	9,358	14,704	24,062	-	61
Tayside	2,366	1,303	3,669	-	36
TOTAL	18,962	21,946	40,908	8,747	54

¹ Figures represent a count of previous incidents, not the sum of previous incidents.

² Central are currently unable to provide information on repeat incidents for the majority of incidents recorded.

³ Lothian & Borders are currently unable to provide information on those cases that may involve a repeat incident.

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police where incidents against the same victim had previously been recorded, by financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08 Table 5(a)
Number

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
No previous incidents	19,112	17,977	18,227	20,495	18,985	18,996	19,654	18,962
Previous incidents	15,848	17,220	17,058	18,131	20,475	23,565	26,478	21,946
Not recorded	166	58	609	2,607	4,172	3,251	2,669	8,747
TOTAL	35,126	35,255	35,894	41,233	43,632	45,812	48,801	49,655

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police where incidents against that victim had previously been recorded, by police force area and number of previous incidents, Scotland 2007-08

Table 6

	Number of previous incidents ¹					TOTAL
	1 incident	2-3 incidents	4-5 incidents	6-10 incidents	11 or more incidents	
Central ²	-	1	-	-	-	1
Dumfries & Galloway	234	199	91	67	48	639
Fife	614	709	393	497	557	2,770
Grampian	570	565	301	280	385	2,101
Lothian & Borders ³	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern	225	118	55	22	8	428
Strathclyde	4,290	4,441	2,147	2,348	1,478	14,704
Tayside	399	368	185	207	144	1,303
TOTAL	6,332	6,401	3,172	3,421	2,620	21,946

¹ Forces can only identify a repeat victim if s/he has previously been entered onto their database. The longer the database has been in existence the more likely it is that a repeat victim will be recognised as such. Police forces have maintained their databases over different periods and the proportion of identified repeat victims varies accordingly.

² Central are currently unable to provide information on repeat incidents for the majority of incidents recorded.

³ Lothian & Borders are currently unable to provide information on those cases that may involve a repeat incident.

Table 7
Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by age and sex of victim, Scotland, 2007-08

Age Group of Victim	Sex of victim				Number and rate per 100,000 population ¹			
	Female		Male		Not recorded	TOTAL	Rate per 100,000 population	
	Female	Male	Female	Male			Female	Male
Under 16	46	2	-	48	10	*	5	
16-18	2,135	135	9	2,279	2,254	134	1,168	
19-21	4,526	424	22	4,972	4,401	398	2,373	
22-25	6,019	744	27	6,790	4,458	540	2,490	
26-30	6,827	958	30	7,815	4,388	605	2,489	
31-35	6,205	1,031	25	7,261	3,772	667	2,275	
36-40	6,105	1,155	31	7,291	3,051	623	1,892	
41-50	7,704	1,511	31	9,246	1,902	400	1,181	
51-60	1,990	577	10	2,577	576	174	380	
61 and over	945	216	215	1,376	155	47	128	
TOTAL	42,502	6,753	400	49,655	1,599	272	965	

¹ Estimated population as at mid 2007 (GROS).

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by age of victim and by financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 7(a)

	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
Age Group of Victim																Number
Under 16	15	20	34	42	55	59	51	48								
16-18	1,070	1,154	1,065	1,430	1,673	1,941	2,273	2,279								
19-21	2,882	2,889	2,988	3,285	3,673	3,999	4,766	4,972								
22-25	3,876	3,941	4,228	5,223	5,524	6,051	6,554	6,790								
26-30	5,783	5,823	5,830	6,321	6,663	6,894	7,403	7,815								
31-35	6,332	6,363	6,445	6,909	7,219	7,281	7,300	7,261								
36-40	5,581	5,733	5,739	6,460	6,923	7,049	7,365	7,291								
41-50	5,670	5,911	5,893	7,138	8,045	8,610	9,132	9,246								
51-60	1,835	1,956	1,931	2,118	2,315	2,547	2,595	2,577								
61 and over	552	508	546	576	699	590	1,312	1,376								
Not recorded	1,530	957	1,195	1,731	843	791	50	-								
TOTAL	35,126	35,255	35,894	41,233	43,632	45,812	48,801	49,655								

Table 8

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by age and sex of perpetrator, Scotland, 2007-08

Age Group of Perpetrator	Sex of perpetrator			Number and rate per 100,000 population ¹			
	Female	Male	Not recorded	TOTAL	Female	Male	TOTAL
Under 16	3	30	-	33	1	6	4
16-18	323	831	5	1,159	341	827	594
19-21	658	3,060	19	3,737	640	2,869	1,784
22-25	856	5,378	24	6,258	634	3,907	2,295
26-30	1,028	6,698	31	7,757	661	4,229	2,471
31-35	963	6,267	20	7,250	585	4,052	2,272
36-40	1,077	6,792	22	7,891	538	3,665	2,047
41-50	1,355	9,106	42	10,503	335	2,411	1,342
51-60	336	2,963	12	3,311	97	892	489
61 and over	170	1,236	350	1,756	28	267	164
TOTAL	6,769	42,361	525	49,655	255	1,704	965

¹ Estimated population as at mid 2007 (GROS).

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by age of perpetrator and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

Table 8(a)

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Age Group of Perpetrator								Number
Under 16	7	10	15	12	20	25	25	33
16-18	560	532	572	729	860	943	1,188	1,159
19-21	1,880	1,893	1,907	2,217	2,457	2,843	3,400	3,737
22-25	3,326	3,418	3,586	4,264	4,790	5,284	5,971	6,258
26-30	5,523	5,540	5,556	6,028	6,242	6,454	7,179	7,757
31-35	6,536	6,517	6,759	7,227	7,329	7,331	7,410	7,250
36-40	5,944	6,237	6,070	7,012	7,409	7,428	7,863	7,891
41-50	6,665	6,887	7,265	8,102	9,249	9,753	10,503	10,503
51-60	2,457	2,493	2,413	2,793	2,939	3,120	3,336	3,311
61 and over	763	666	709	729	830	801	1,808	1,756
Not recorded	1,465	1,062	1,042	2,120	1,507	1,830	118	-
TOTAL	35,126	35,255	35,894	41,233	43,632	45,812	48,801	49,655

Table 9
Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by age of victim and perpetrator, Scotland, 2007-08
Number

Age Group of Victim	Age Group of Perpetrator										TOTAL
	Under 16	16-18	19-21	22-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-50	51-60	61 and over	
Under 16	10	29	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
16-18	21	616	860	460	169	66	34	26	2	25	2,279
19-21	-	286	1,564	1,667	885	273	132	76	11	78	4,972
22-25	-	119	702	2,316	2,065	837	416	233	25	77	6,790
26-30	2	60	350	1,023	2,585	1,915	1,088	608	60	124	7,815
31-35	-	16	118	457	1,076	2,168	1,912	1,227	182	105	7,261
36-40	-	16	56	193	607	1,134	2,455	2,383	320	127	7,291
41-50	-	9	31	72	269	723	1,603	4,955	1,330	254	9,246
51-60	-	2	2	14	30	69	163	830	1,192	275	2,577
61 and over	-	6	45	56	71	65	88	165	189	691	1,376
TOTAL	33	1,159	3,737	6,258	7,757	7,250	7,891	10,503	3,311	1,756	49,655

Table 10
Number
Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by relationship between victim/perpetrator and sex of victim/perpetrator, Scotland, 2007-08

	Male victim,		Female victim,		TOTAL
	female perpetrator	male perpetrator	female perpetrator	male perpetrator	
Spouse	6,855	1,115	-	53	8,023
Co-habitee	10,086	1,519	178	94	12,053
Partner	8,284	1,304	133	68	9,906
Ex-spouse	1,975	290	-	3	2,268
Ex-partner	14,056	1,872	160	122	16,376
Other	319	64	26	451	879
Not recorded	16	1	64	24	150
TOTAL	41,591	6,165	561	815	49,655

Table 10(a)
Number
Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by relationship between victim/perpetrator and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
	Number		Number		Number		Number		Number		Number		Number		Number	
Spouse	8,616	8,598	8,371	8,417	8,431	8,582	8,237	8,023	8,237	8,582	8,237	8,023	8,237	8,023	8,023	8,023
Co-habitee	9,476	9,099	9,157	10,082	10,498	10,397	11,760	12,053	10,498	10,397	11,760	12,053	11,760	12,053	12,053	12,053
Partner	6,274	6,616	6,554	6,736	7,071	7,201	8,660	9,906	7,071	7,201	8,660	9,906	8,660	9,906	9,906	9,906
Ex-spouse	3,192	3,018	2,667	2,781	2,369	2,379	2,172	2,268	2,369	2,379	2,172	2,268	2,172	2,268	2,268	2,268
Ex-partner	7,322	7,378	8,307	9,825	11,732	13,289	14,564	16,376	11,732	13,289	14,564	16,376	14,564	16,376	16,376	16,376
Other	234	534	228	958	3,476	3,949	3,373	879	3,476	3,949	3,373	879	3,373	879	879	879
Not recorded ¹	12	12	610	2,434	55	15	35	150	55	15	35	150	35	150	150	150
TOTAL	35,126	35,255	35,894	41,233	43,632	45,812	48,801	49,655	43,632	45,812	48,801	49,655	48,801	49,655	49,655	49,655

¹ Increase in 'not recorded' relationship variable due to incorrect coding of same sex relationships

Table 11
Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by relationship between victim/perpetrator and location of incident, Scotland, 2007-08

	Victim's home		Perpetrator's home		Other house	Street	Licensed premises		Not recorded		TOTAL
	Joint home	home	home	home			Other	recorded	recorded		
Spouse	5,942	1,198	135	206	312	47	67	116	8,023		
Co-habitee	8,781	1,786	420	289	496	44	92	145	12,053		
Partner	1,300	5,331	1,557	441	914	62	155	146	9,906		
Ex-spouse	188	1,495	150	90	195	19	102	29	2,268		
Ex-partner	1,168	10,652	1,113	761	1,707	168	377	430	16,376		
Other	240	368	59	33	78	5	13	83	879		
Not Recorded	77	36	3	4	4	-	2	24	150		
TOTAL	17,696	20,866	3,437	1,824	3,706	345	808	973	49,655		

Table 11(a)
Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by location of incident and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

	2000-01 ¹	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
	Joint home		16,083	16,067	16,708	17,244	17,011	17,656
Victim's home	32,181	12,931	13,954	16,318	17,727	19,738	20,672	20,866
Perpetrator's home		1,509	1,743	2,178	2,339	2,365	3,051	3,437
Other house		922	986	1,246	1,507	1,376	1,744	1,824
Street	1,765	1,822	2,022	2,473	2,989	3,456	3,672	3,706
Licensed premises	699	197	249	269	326	346	370	345
Other		479	683	434	530	608	702	808
Not recorded	481	1,312	190	1,607	970	912	934	973
TOTAL	35,126	35,255	35,894	41,233	43,632	45,812	48,801	49,655

¹ Central police force only recorded location as home, street or other in 2000, hence the aggregated figures that year.

Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by nature and location of incident, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 12
Number

	Joint home	Victim's home	Perpetrator's home	Other house	Street	Licensed premises	Other	Not recorded	TOTAL
Non-sexual crimes of violence	172	228	83	32	49	11	14	9	598
Crimes of indecency	38	52	24	2	1	3	1	2	123
Crimes of dishonesty	52	292	23	11	53	5	10	10	456
Fire-raising, vandalism, etc.	232	1,131	35	80	171	6	36	17	1,708
Other crimes	318	1,653	106	135	308	33	63	54	2,670
Miscellaneous offences	7,240	7,065	1,448	831	1,798	188	338	343	19,251
Motor vehicle offences	2	20	1	1	4	-	-	-	28
Behaviour not amounting to a crime	9,642	10,425	1,717	732	1,322	99	346	538	24,821
TOTAL	17,696	20,866	3,437	1,824	3,706	345	808	973	49,655

Action taken by the police against identified perpetrators of crimes or offences of domestic abuse cleared up by the police, by police force area, Scotland, 2007-08 Table 13
Number

	Referral to procurator fiscal	Police warning	Other action ¹	No further action	Not recorded	TOTAL
Central	891	12	129	27	9	1,068
Dumfries & Galloway	391	89	213	119	1	813
Fife	1,413	8	308	33	14	1,776
Grampian	1,493	18	820	40	41	2,412
Lothian & Borders	2,409	415	195	176	1	3,196
Northern	750	6	24	12	3	795
Strathclyde	7,156	154	3,613	152	44	11,119
Tayside	1,144	3	4	2,375	129	3,655
SCOTLAND	15,647	705	5,306	2,934	242	24,834

¹'Other action' includes such action as referrals to support groups such as victim support.

Action taken by the police against identified perpetrators of crimes or offences of domestic abuse cleared up by the police, by financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08 Table 13(a)
Number

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Referral to procurator fiscal	9,436	9,359	9,316	11,015	14,180	15,141	15,582	15,647
Police warning	1,348	991	915	1,183	1,174	896	831	705
Other action ¹	1,415	1,976	3,269	4,970	5,008	4,954	4,692	5,306
No further action	1,707	1,573	1,825	3,165	1,178	2,924	2,456	2,934
Not recorded	41	32	348	1,265	293	76	242	242
TOTAL	13,947	13,931	15,673	21,598	21,833	23,991	23,803	24,834

¹'Other action' includes such action as referrals to support groups such as victim support.

Percentage of perpetrators of domestic abuse reported to the procurator fiscal, where a crime or offence is recorded and action taken is known, by police force area, Scotland, 2007-08

Table 14

	Dumfries & Galloway					Lothian & Borders					Tayside			Percentage	
	Central	Fife	Grampian	Northern	Strathclyde	Central	Fife	Grampian	Northern	Strathclyde	Tayside	Strathclyde	Tayside	Strathclyde	SCOTLAND
Total crimes and offences	83	48	62	94	64	83	80	62	75	64	31	64	31	63	
Non-sexual crimes of violence	88	100	63	91	71	88	76	63	68	71	77	100	77	72	
Homicide	-	-	100	-	100	-	100	100	-	100	100	100	100	100	
Serious assault	89	100	100	90	74	89	70	100	96	74	86	74	86	81	
Other	86	-	50	100	63	86	83	50	52	63	57	63	57	58	
Crimes of indecency	80	100	50	100	35	80	100	50	76	35	44	35	44	52	
Sexual assault	78	100	44	-	35	78	100	44	75	35	44	35	44	51	
Lewd & libidinous practices	100	-	100	100	-	100	-	100	100	-	-	-	-	100	
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Crimes of dishonesty	60	-	31	-	42	60	74	31	76	42	42	42	42	48	
Fire-raising, vandalism, etc.	82	64	56	90	64	82	75	56	79	64	63	64	63	68	
Fire-raising	100	-	-	-	-	100	75	-	100	67	-	67	-	73	
Vandalism, etc.	81	64	56	90	64	81	75	56	79	64	63	64	63	68	
Other crimes	90	63	82	89	82	90	90	82	91	82	86	82	86	85	
Crimes against public justice	90	63	81	100	82	90	90	81	90	82	86	82	86	85	
Handling of an offensive weapon	-	-	82	-	94	-	100	82	100	94	80	94	80	92	
Drugs	67	-	100	-	-	67	-	100	100	-	-	-	-	96	
Other	-	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	-	-	-	-	-	100	
Miscellaneous offences	83	47	61	95	62	83	78	61	72	62	27	62	27	60	
Minor assault	84	59	63	95	59	84	77	63	71	59	48	59	48	64	
Breach of the peace	83	38	60	94	68	83	80	60	77	68	16	68	16	54	
Drunkenness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other	55	13	21	-	42	55	-	21	48	42	44	42	44	40	
Motor vehicle offences	-	-	-	-	52	-	-	-	100	52	-	52	-	61	

Table 15
Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by council area and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Aberdeen City	2,348	2,158	2,321	2,282	2,482	1,972	1,861	2,138
Aberdeenshire	1,374	1,266	1,291	1,409	1,342	970	649	707
Angus	1,077	296	773	925	786	729	845	850
Argyll & Bute	314	335	520	428	437	467	449	474
Clackmannanshire	344	406	372	347	401	351	558	629
Dumfries & Galloway	698	989	900	859	1,055	1,194	1,237	1,204
Dundee City	1,706	1,849	1,745	2,001	1,779	2,078	1,994	1,935
East Ayrshire	748	852	427	534	1,051	1,075	1,128	1,249
East Dunbartonshire	387	371	251	418	388	477	541	587
East Lothian	568	613	683	601	555	682	629	729
East Renfrewshire	171	196	254	309	331	403	405	392
Edinburgh, City of	4,556	4,135	4,297	4,612	4,821	5,178	5,784	5,080
Eilean Siar	81	99	119	82	104	87	77	82
Falkirk	830	1,067	844	946	1,161	1,245	1,404	1,884
Fife	2,100	1,929	1,920	2,120	2,728	3,243	3,717	3,926
Glasgow City	6,296	6,401	6,334	7,407	7,603	8,370	9,045	8,835
Highland	1,666	1,575	1,400	1,468	1,351	1,351	1,054	995
Inverclyde	530	457	557	769	762	822	840	913
Midlothian	606	539	627	588	584	713	780	777
Moray	493	510	516	578	549	618	627	561
North Ayrshire	666	763	738	996	1,133	1,208	1,498	1,446
North Lanarkshire	1,375	1,694	2,096	2,551	2,890	3,209	3,269	3,132
Orkney Islands	43	45	23	33	30	57	45	23
Perth & Kinross	534	752	834	904	950	973	870	884
Renfrewshire	1,011	1,108	1,113	1,590	1,528	1,497	1,822	1,895
Scottish Borders	367	250	333	469	533	613	650	592
Shetland Islands	35	39	48	32	39	60	48	51
South Ayrshire	920	939	847	1,059	1,029	971	1,081	1,129
South Lanarkshire	1,285	1,225	1,263	1,885	2,134	2,200	2,242	2,370
Stirling	362	457	404	520	482	371	494	758
West Dunbartonshire	793	795	820	1,205	1,271	1,181	1,385	1,640
West Lothian	842	1,145	1,224	1,306	1,343	1,447	1,773	1,788
SCOTLAND	35,126	35,255	35,894	41,233	43,632	45,812	48,801	49,655

**Rates per 100,000 population¹ of domestic abuse incidents recorded by the police,
by council area and financial year, 2000-01 to 2007-08**

Table 15(a)

	Rate per 100,000 population									
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08		
Aberdeen City	1,111	1,018	1,109	1,100	1,207	958	900	1,022		
Aberdeenshire	605	558	568	616	580	416	275	296		
Angus	986	273	715	861	725	670	773	774		
Argyll & Bute	354	367	571	469	479	514	491	519		
Clackmannanshire	710	845	776	728	831	722	1,141	1,261		
Dumfries & Galloway	479	669	611	584	713	805	836	812		
Dundee City	1,196	1,271	1,210	1,397	1,251	1,460	1,403	1,361		
East Ayrshire	620	708	357	447	878	900	946	1,045		
East Dunbartonshire	349	343	234	391	364	450	513	560		
East Lothian	622	680	753	660	606	743	678	772		
East Renfrewshire	190	219	283	345	369	450	454	439		
Edinburgh, City of	1,005	921	959	1,029	1,063	1,131	1,248	1,085		
Eilean Siar	298	374	454	314	396	330	292	312		
Falkirk	575	734	580	648	787	835	938	1,250		
Fife	599	552	547	602	769	909	1,036	1,089		
Glasgow City	1,033	1,106	1,097	1,284	1,316	1,446	1,558	1,518		
Highland	799	754	673	702	639	633	490	458		
Inverclyde	626	543	666	926	924	1,001	1,030	1,126		
Midlothian	737	666	779	738	734	900	984	977		
Moray	580	586	595	663	633	714	723	646		
North Ayrshire	480	562	544	732	833	889	1,106	1,065		
North Lanarkshire	420	527	652	793	895	992	1,010	965		
Orkney Islands	221	234	120	171	154	291	228	116		
Perth & Kinross	400	557	617	665	691	702	621	622		
Renfrewshire	571	641	647	930	896	881	1,074	1,117		
Scottish Borders	343	234	310	433	488	559	590	531		
Shetland Islands	156	178	219	146	178	273	219	232		
South Ayrshire	808	837	758	949	920	869	968	1,011		
South Lanarkshire	418	405	418	622	699	718	729	766		
Stirling	425	530	469	602	558	427	563	860		
West Dunbartonshire	838	852	883	1,305	1,382	1,292	1,518	1,800		
West Lothian	537	720	765	811	825	884	1,070	1,066		
SCOTLAND	687	696	710	815	859	899	954	965		

¹Estimated population as at mid 2007 (GROS)

Table 16
Number

**Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police, by day of week
and financial year, Scotland, 2000-01 to 2007-08**

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Monday	4,616	4,423	4,500	5,138	5,610	5,888	6,424	6,238
Tuesday	4,314	4,269	3,967	4,654	5,053	5,287	5,713	5,973
Wednesday	3,961	4,193	4,404	4,808	5,113	5,185	5,559	5,908
Thursday	4,042	3,972	4,175	4,969	5,119	5,278	5,510	5,888
Friday	4,664	4,533	4,649	5,516	5,706	6,089	6,317	6,412
Saturday	6,741	6,743	7,006	7,864	8,499	8,762	9,617	9,481
Sunday	6,788	7,122	7,193	8,284	8,532	9,323	9,661	9,755
TOTAL	35,126	35,255	35,894	41,233	43,632	45,812	48,801	49,655

5. Annex: notes on statistics used in this bulletin

5.1 Background

A statistical collection on domestic abuse (previously referred to as domestic violence) was recommended in the Report of HM Inspectorate of Constabulary "Hitting Home – A Report on the Police Response to Domestic Violence 1997", as follows:

Recommendation 1

'That the standard definition of domestic violence to be developed by The Scottish Office in consultation with forces includes sub-categories of: - crimes of personal violence (non-sexual and sexual); other crimes (such as breach of the peace, threats, and vandalism); and abuse which does not amount to crime; and that the definition be adopted by all forces as soon as it is agreed'.

Recommendation 2

'That all forces record domestic incidents so that they can be reviewed individually and in total, using the sub-categories referred to in recommendation 1'.

These recommendations were progressed through the domestic violence working group of the Scottish Criminal Statistics Committee involving ACPO(S) (Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland) nominated representatives which agreed the following definition.

'Domestic abuse is any form of physical, non-physical, or sexual abuse which takes place within the context of a close relationship, committed either in the home or elsewhere. This relationship will be between partners (married, co-habiting or otherwise) or ex-partners'.

5.2 Accuracy of the statistics

5.2.1 Returns

The statistical return from which the figures in this bulletin are taken is a simple count of the numbers of incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police using the definition of domestic abuse as shown above. Following current terminology, these incidents are now referred to as incidents of domestic abuse. Returns from the eight Scottish home forces are included in this bulletin.

5.2.2 Time Series Analysis

The bulletin is presented on a financial year basis, and as such we are able to make full use of the data and present trends as well as annual snapshots.

5.2.3 Incident Count

The statistics presented in this bulletin are described as incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police. The bulletin reports the most serious crime/offence associated with each incident. Tables which show comparable figures for 2000-01 to 2007-08 for incidents of domestic abuse are based on revised 2000 figures, in order that figures for that year reflect a count of incidents. Figures originally published for 2000 contained an element of double counting of incidents. This double count was removed in subsequent years.

5.2.4 Recording Issues

This is the ninth time that data have been collated centrally.

- **Incident Count**
In 2001, Tayside police introduced a new method of compiling the statistical information required for this bulletin and launched a joint initiative with Barnardo's Scotland which is believed to have encouraged victims of domestic abuse to report incidents.
- During 2003-04, Strathclyde Police rolled out a new Vulnerable Person (VP) Database which collects information about domestic, racist and homophobic incidents. This also involved the back-record conversion of paper records from September 2002. In the long term this will lead to more dynamic, accurate and timely data.
- **Repeat Victimisation**
Police forces can only identify a repeat victim if he/she has previously been entered onto their database. The longer the database has been in existence the more likely it is that a repeat victim will be recognised as such. Police forces have maintained their databases over different periods of time and the proportion of identified repeat victims will vary accordingly.
- There has been a decrease in the percentage of information recorded on 'previous incidents against victim' in 2007-08. This mainly results from Lothian & Borders currently being unable to provide information on cases that may involve a repeat incident.
- Police forces were not able to record complete or certain types of information in all cases. The percentage of incidents of domestic abuse where information was not recorded is shown in the following table:

Percentage of incidents of domestic abuse where information not recorded, 2007-08

	Recorded	Not Recorded
Crimes and offences	100.00	-
Sex of victim	99.19	0.81
Sex of perpetrator	98.94	1.06
Sex of victim and perpetrator	98.36	1.64
No. of previous incidents against victim	82.38	17.62
Age of victim	100.00	0.00
Age of perpetrator	100.00	0.00
Location of incident	98.04	1.96
Relationship between victim and perpetrator	99.70	0.30
Action taken by police	99.03	0.97
TOTAL	97.56	2.44

5.2.5 Reporting Practice

These statistics do not reveal the incidence of all domestic abuse committed. Not all incidents are reported to the police. There have been found to be a number of reasons for such under reporting. For example, victims experience fear and shame as common effects of domestic abuse. In addition, under reporting may also be caused by a perpetrator physically preventing a victim reporting the domestic abuse.

The statistics available from this return of the central collection have demonstrated that police forces have recorded information in differing ways. In particular police practice in deciding when the behaviour justifies the recording of a crime or offence may differ. For example some forces have ruled that no crime or offence should be recorded if no further action is to be taken e.g. because the victim does not wish any action to be taken. Other forces may record a crime or offence. These differences clearly influence the proportion of incidents which lead to the recording of a crime or offence which ranged from 100 per cent in Tayside, and 71 per cent in Grampian, to 33 per cent in Central. Tayside's figures show a marked change in this regard from the figures published for 2004-05. This is because during 2004 Tayside was returning crimes with crime codes not recognised by SGAS. This recording issue has now been resolved.

Differences in recording of crimes and offences also influence the proportion of recorded crimes and offences which are referred to the procurator fiscal. There was much less variation between police forces in the proportion of all incidents of domestic abuse which led to a referral to the procurator fiscal. It should be noted that these recording practices are under continuing review with the intention of achieving consistency across Scotland.

5.2.6 Legislation

As well as common law, some of the main legislation applicable to domestic abuse is as follows:

- Family Law (Scotland) Act 2006 (Section 31 of this Act introduces the concept of “domestic interdicts” into the 1981 Act, which will apply to unmarried cohabitants (either opposite-sex or same-sex). Domestic interdicts have much the same effect in relation to cohabitants as matrimonial interdicts have for married couples as is defined in section 10 of this Act, which amends section 14 of the 1981 Act to extend the scope of matrimonial interdicts to include not only a matrimonial home, but also any other home owned by the applicant, the applicant’s place of work and the school attended by any child in the applicant’s care).
- Protection from Abuse (Scotland) Act 2001
- Criminal Justice Act 1998
- Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- Family Law Act 1996
- Matrimonial Homes (Family Law) (Scotland) Act 1981

5.2.7 Recording of crimes and offences

Contraventions of Scottish criminal law are divided for statistical purposes into crimes and offences. The term “crime” is *generally* used for the more serious criminal acts; the less serious are termed “offences”, although the term “offence” may also be used in relation to serious breaches of criminal law. The distinction is made only for working purposes and the “seriousness” of the offence is *generally* related to the maximum sentence that can be imposed.

The detailed classification of crimes and offences used by the Scottish Government to collect criminal statistics contains about 360 codes.

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

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

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

5.2.8 Crimes and offences cleared up

The definition of ‘cleared up’ was revised with effect from 1 April 1996. Previously, a crime or offence was regarded as being cleared up if one or more offenders was apprehended, cited, warned or traced for it. This was revised as follows:

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

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

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

For some types of crimes and offences the case is cleared up immediately because the offender is caught in the act e.g. motoring offences. In Scots law, the confession of an accused person to a crime would not in general be sufficient to allow a prosecution to be taken, as corroborative evidence is required. Thus, a case cannot be regarded as 'cleared up' on the basis of a confession alone.

It has been suggested that the above definition of "cleared up" may not have been applied consistently in all police forces returning data on incidents of domestic abuse.

5.2.9 Other sources of domestic abuse (related) statistics

- The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2008-09
The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) 2008-09 has an enhanced self-completion section on domestic abuse. This section has been completely reworked and questions about sexual assault/rape been added in consultation with stakeholders. The definition of abuse is wider than used in 2006 and includes physical, emotional/psychological, sexual and financial abuse by partners. This definition of abuse is closer to the UN definition of violence against women but is not a gender based definition. There will also be a new self-completion section on sexual victimisation in the SCJS. Findings from the SCJS 2008-09 will be available in September 2009.
- Evaluation of the annual Domestic Abuse awareness raising campaign:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/07/18113459/0>
- Scottish Women's Aid Annual Report 2005-2006:
The Scottish Women's Aid Annual Report 2005-2006 shows that those groups who were able to return information on the number of requests for information or support from women received 79,851 such requests in that year, compared to 76,605 in 2004-05.

5.2.10 Other

The following symbols are used throughout the tables in this bulletin.

- = Nil

* = <0.5

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN GROUP

OUR AIM

To provide relevant and reliable information, analysis and advice that meet the needs of government, business and the people of Scotland.

OBJECTIVES

1. To produce statistics and analysis relevant to user needs by
 - Developing our understanding of customer requirements to ensure statistics are kept relevant and analysis is well targeted;
 - Developing the range of statistics and analysis we produce;
 - Where practicable improving timeliness;
 - Providing more statistics disaggregated by age, gender and ethnicity;
 - Developing more data for small areas through the Neighbourhood Statistics project;
 - Contributing to production of comparable statistics across the UK and internationally.
2. To ensure effective use of our statistics by
 - Contributing more directly to policy processes inside and where possible outside government;
 - Improving access to and presentation of data and analysis;
 - Improving the advice provided on statistics.
3. To work effectively with users and providers by
 - Maintaining arrangements to consult and involve users and providers;
 - Involving users and providers in planning developments in outputs and processes;
 - Minimising the burden on data providers through dropping or streamlining collections as appropriate, to ensure the benefits of the information justify the costs of collection.
4. To develop the quality of statistics by
 - Assuring and improving quality as an integral part of data collection and analysis and through regular reviews in line with National Statistics quality strategy;
 - Developing statistical methods, systems and classifications;
 - Working with the rest of the Government Statistical Service to develop joint approaches/solutions where appropriate.
5. To assure the integrity of statistics by
 - Maintaining and promoting integrity through implementation of the National Statistics Code of Practice and related protocols;
 - Safeguarding the confidentiality of data subjects.
6. To ensure the efficient and effective delivery of statistics products and services by
 - Making best use of all sources including administrative sources;
 - Working with other analysts to maximise the contribution of our own and other analysts' work;
 - Ensuring value for money;
 - Making best use of Information and Communications Technology;
 - Ensuring effective communication within the Statistician Group.
7. To develop our workforce and competences
 - Ensuring recruitment of staff with the necessary skills and potential;
 - Ensuring development of expertise amongst existing staff;
 - Promoting and upholding the standards of the statistics profession.

This is a National Statistics publication

"This is a National Statistics publication. It has been produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice Protocol - see www.statistics.gov.uk/about_ns/cop/default.asp

These statistics undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference."

Details of pre-release access will be provided in the Scottish Government Statistics Website under 'Forthcoming Releases'

Correspondence and enquiries

Enquiries on Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2007/08 should be addressed to:

Andrew Murray
Justice Analytical Services
DG Justice and Communities
1st Floor West Rear, St Andrews House
Edinburgh EH1 3DG
Telephone: 0131 244 8322; Fax: 0131 244 2109
e-mail: andrew.murray@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

General enquiries on Scottish Government statistics can be addressed to:

Angela McLean
Office of the Chief Statistician
Scottish Government
3 Floor West Rear, St Andrews House
EDINBURGH EH1 3DG
Telephone: (0131) 244 0442; Fax: (0131) 244 2223
e-mail: statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Advice on specific areas of Scottish Government statistical work can be obtained from staff at the telephone numbers given below:

Scottish Government Statistics contacts

Agricultural census and labour force	(0131) 244 6150
Business	(0141) 242 5446
Community Care	(0131) 244 3777
Courts and law	(0131) 244 2227
Environment	(0131) 244 0445
Equality	(0131) 244 0324
Fisheries	(0131) 244 6441
Further and Higher Education	(0141) 242 0273
Health	(0131) 244 3432
Housing	(0131) 244 7236
Income, Tax and Benefits	(0131) 244 2583
Labour market	(0141) 242 5446
Local government finance	(0131) 244 7033
Planning	(0131) 244 0439
Prisons	(0131) 244 2147
Recorded crime	(0131) 244 2635
Schools – pupils and teachers	(0131) 244 1689
Schools – qualifications	(0131) 244 0315
Scottish Government personnel	(0131) 244 3926
Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics	(0131) 244 0442
The Economy	(0131) 244 2234
Transport	(0131) 244 7255

Other contacts for Scottish statistics

Forestry Commission	(0131) 314 6337
General Register Office for Scotland - Vital statistics and publications	(0131) 314 4243
- Population statistics, census statistics or digital boundary products	(0131) 314 4254
The Scottish Funding Councils for Higher and Further Education	(0131) 313 6575

For **general enquiries about National Statistics** in the United Kingdom Government contact the National Statistics Public Enquiry Service on

020 7533 5888
minicom: 01633 812399
Email: info@statistics.gov.uk
Fax: 01633 652747
Letters: room DG/18, 1 Drummond Gate,
LONDON SW1V 2QQ

You can also find National Statistics on the internet - go to **www.statistics.gov.uk**

If you would like to be consulted about new or existing statistical collections or receive notification of forthcoming statistical publications, please register your interest on the Scottish Government ScotStat website at **www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/scotstat**

Current contact points, e-mail addresses and the publications listed below as well as a range of other statistical publications can be found on the Scottish Government Web site at **www.scotland.gov.uk/stats**

Further information on the General Register Office for Scotland is available on the website **www.gro-scotland.gov.uk**

Most recent Justice Statistical Publications relating to the Crime and Justice theme

Ref no.	Title	Last published	Price
978 0 7559 7130 5	Criminal proceedings in Scottish Courts, 2006/07	June 2008	
978 0 7559 7144 2	Reconvictions of Offenders Discharged from Custody or given Non-Custodial Sentences in 2004-05 and 2005-06, Scotland	June 2008	
978 0 7559 7188 6	Scottish Liquor Licensing Statistics, 2007	August 2008	
978 0 7559 7189 9	Prison Statistics Scotland, 2007/08	August 2008	
978 0 7559 7231 9	Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2007/08	September 2008	
978 0 7559 7281 4	Recorded Crimes and Offences Involving Firearms, Scotland, 2007-08	October 2008	

Additional copies of these publications may be purchased from **Scottish Government Publication Sales, Blackwell's Bookshop, 53 South Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1YS**, Telephone: 0131 622 8283 or 0131 622 8258, Fax: 0131 557 8149. Cheques should be made payable to 'Blackwell's Bookshop'.

Complaints and suggestions

If you are not satisfied with our service, please write to the Chief Statistician, Mr Rob Wishart, 3R.01, St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG, Telephone: (0131) 244 0302, e-mail rob.wishart@scotland.gsi.gov.uk. We also welcome any comments or suggestions that would help us to improve our standards of service.

ISSN 0264 1178 ISBN 978-0-7559-7310-1 Price £2.00

Crown Copyright. Brief extracts from the Crown Copyright material in this publication may be reproduced provided the source is fully acknowledged.

ISBN 978-0-7559-7310-1



9 780755 973101