

COMMUNITY SAFETY DASHBOARD: HEADLINE STATISTICS

This factsheet provides key insights from the [Birmingham Community Safety Dashboard](#) which supports the Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment. It provides a comprehensive understanding of crimes reported in Birmingham, including breakdowns by crime categories and demographics of suspects, victims and vulnerable groups who may be subject to violence or harm. It includes reporting on violent crimes, other crimes, hate and weapon crimes and modern slavery and county lines.

Violent crimes:

Definition:

Violent crimes refer to offences that involve physical force or the threat of force against other people. Examples of violent crime include manslaughter, assault, murder, gun and knife crimes (including possession of a weapon) and robbery. They are categorised as violent because they result in harm, injury, or the fear of harm.

Reported violent crimes:

- 75,033 violent crimes were registered in Birmingham during the period of April 2022 to March 2023¹:
 - Majority of offences were classified as ‘violence against the person’ (66,906).
 - When offence classification was broken down, ‘assault without injury’ was the most common offence (19,071), followed by ‘assault with injury’ (13,878) and ‘harassment’ (11,434).
 - The most prominent keyword associated with violent crimes was domestic abuse (32,192 times), followed by alcohol related (11,093 times).
 - The wards with the highest number of violent crimes were Ladywood (5,408), Bordesley and Highgate (2,883), Soho and Jewellery Quarter (2,692) and Stockland Green (2,045).

Victims of violent crimes:

- There were 48,804 individual victims subjected to violent crimes:
 - 24,579 were male victims and 23,057 female victims.
 - The age of victims ranged from 0 to 90 years with most of the victims being aged between 15 to 42 years.
 - For the majority of victims, the ethnicity was not stated (33,097).
- These victims may have been subjected to multiple violent crimes as 75,033 violent crimes were reported in Birmingham, 36,372 reported by females and 32,858 by males.

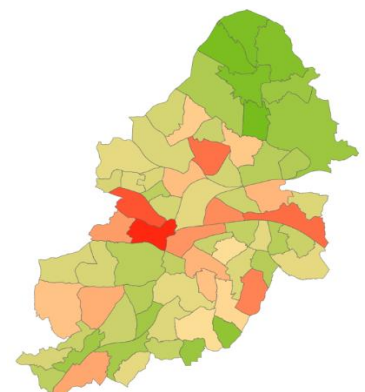
Suspects of violent crimes:

- There were 29,257 individual suspects of violent crime. These suspects may be accused of committing multiple violent crimes as 75,033 violent crimes were reported in Birmingham.
- Of the 29,257 individual suspects:
 - There were more male suspects (20,199) than female suspects (8,382).
 - Most of the suspects were aged between 14 to 46 years.
 - For the majority of suspects, ethnicity was not stated (12,291).

Domestic abuse:

- There were 23,160 domestic abuse related crimes recorded in Birmingham.
- Those aged between 18 and 41 years old were most likely to be victims of domestic abuse.
- There were more female victims (16,943) than male victims (5,829).
- For the majority of domestic abuse crimes, the ethnicity of the victim was not stated (13,203).
- Of the crimes located in Birmingham, the wards with the highest number of recorded domestic abuse crimes were Ladywood (818), Soho and Jewellery Quarter (724), Stockland Green (661), Glebe Farm and Tile Cross (670), Acocks Green (624) and Alum Rock (602).

**Map of domestic abuse crimes
broken down by Birmingham wards**



Other crimes:

Definition:

Other crimes refer to offences that have not been previously mentioned in the 'violent crimes' section. These crimes include vehicle offences, public order offences, theft, arson and criminal damage, burglary, sexual offences, miscellaneous crimes and drug offences

Reported other crimes:

- 85,905 other crimes were registered in Birmingham during the period of April 2022 to March 2023ⁱⁱ. This is an increase from 79,616 between April 2021 and March 2022:
 - The most common classifications of offences were 'vehicle offences' (15,121), 'public order offences' (12,618), 'theft' (12,178), 'arson and criminal damage' (8,650) and burglary (7,137).
 - When offence classification was further broken down, the most common crime was 'theft from a motor vehicle' (7,697), followed by 'causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress' (5,622), 'burglary' (5,451), 'theft of a motor vehicle' (5,327) and 'theft if not classified elsewhere' (5,276).
- The most prominent keyword associated with other crimes was 'IIT recorded' (5,805 times), followed by 'domestic abuse' (4,588), 'sex offences' (4,575), drug related (4,293) and alcohol related (4,268).
- The wards with the highest number of other crimes were Ladywood (8,433), Bordesley and Highgate (3,607) and Soho and Jewellery Quarter (3,240).

Victims of other crimes:

- There were 52,676 individual victims of other crimes:
 - There were more male victims (27,076) than female victims (23,606).
 - The age of victims ranged from 0 to 93 years with most of the victims being aged between 18 and 54 years.
 - For the majority of victims of other crimes, the ethnicity was not stated (38,490).
- These victims may have been subjected to multiple other crimes as 85,905 other crimes were reported in Birmingham, 31,045 reported by males and 28,456 by females.

Suspects of other crimes:

- There were 18,406 individual suspects of other crimes. These suspects may be accused of committing multiple other crimes as 85,905 other crimes were reported in Birmingham:
- Of the 18,406 individual suspects:
 - There were more male suspects (14,024) than female suspects (3,891).
 - Most of the suspects were aged between 13 and 43 years.
 - For the majority of other crimes, the ethnicity of suspects was not stated (6,521).

Hate crimes:

Definition:

Hate crimes are defined as any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards a person based on their race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or gender identity.

- 2,589 hate crimes were recorded during the period of April 2022 to March 2023, a slight decrease from 2,983 between April 2021 and March 2022.
- The highest classification of hate crimes was 'racial' (1,968), followed by 'sexual orientation' (389) and 'religion' (252).
 - Of the 252 hate crimes motivated by religion, Islam was the most frequently recorded (136).
- The wards with the highest number of hate crimes were Ladywood (219) and Bordesley and Highgate (115).

Weapon crimes:

Definition:

Under the Offences Weapon Act 2019, an offensive weapon is defined as any item that has been made or adapted for the intention to cause hurt or harm to another person. Weapon crimes within this dashboard refer to any crime where a weapon is alleged to have been in possession or have been used.

- 13,127 weapon crimes were recorded from April 2022 to March 2023, an increase from 11,433 weapon crimes between April 2021 and March 2022.
- 'Other weapon' (2,316) was recorded as the weapon most used in weapon crimes, followed by 'knife - unknown' (1,970), 'kitchen knife' (1,781) and 'machete' (834).
- The weapons used in crimes were mostly 'used as a threat' (3,884), followed by 'used causing injury' (3,878), 'carried but not used' (2,280) and 'used causing no injury or damage' (1,488).
- The wards with the highest numbers of weapon crimes were Ladywood (906), Bordesley and Highgate (592), Soho and Jewellery Quarter (513), Sparkbrook and Balsall Health East (403), Stockland Green (397), Aston (370), Alum Rock (353) and Glebe Farm and Tile Cross (326)

Knife crimes:

Definition:

Knife crimes refer to the carrying, buying or selling of any banned knife and/or using a knife in a threatening way, even if it is a legal knife. Unless it is a folding knife with a blade that is 3 inches or less, it is also illegal to carry a knife in public without good reason and to sell a knife to anyone under the age of 18.

- 3,472 knife crimes were recorded from April 2022 to March 2023. This is a slight decrease from the previous year (2,893 from April 2021 and March 2022).
- 'Robbery of personal property' (1,031) was the most common type of offence in relation to knife crimes, followed by 'violence with injury' (856) and 'possession of weapons' (829).
- The most prominent keyword recorded in relation to knife crimes was 'knife crime' (1,491), followed by 'domestic abuse' (508) and 'alcohol related' (406).
- Where knife crimes occurred in Birmingham, the wards with the highest numbers were Ladywood (239), Bordesley and Highgate (156), Soho and Jewellery Quarter (129), Sparkbrook and Balsall Health East (127) and Stockland Green (117)

Gun crimes:

Definition:

Gun crimes are where a gun is taken to be involved in an offence, whether it is fired, used as a blunt instrument, or used as a threat. If a victim believes there is a gun present and evidence shows that the suspect is intentionally creating this impression, this also counts as a gun crime. Both real, and fake firearms, and air weapons are counted within this category.

- 445 gun crimes were recorded from April 2022 to March 2023, an increase from 392 gun crimes between April 2021 and March 2022.
- 'Possession of weapons' (185) was the most common type of offence in relation to gun crimes, followed by 'violence with injury' (97).
- The most prominent keyword recorded in relation to gun crimes was 'firearms crime' (282), followed by 'drug related' (31).
- Where gun crimes occurred in Birmingham, the wards with the highest numbers were Soho and Jewellery Quarter (28), Ladywood (27) and Alum Rock (20).

Modern slavery:

Definition:

Under the Modern Slavery Act 2015, modern slavery is where a victim is usually used and exploited for someone else's gain, without respect for their human rights. It usually involves some element of coercion such as threats, use of force, deception, or abuse of power so that the victim performs acts or services against their will. It includes but is not limited to, sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, forced labour and human trafficking.

- There were 818 modern slavery cases in Birmingham during the period of April 2022 to March 2023.
 - In 'adult' cases (592), the nationality of most victims was Albanian (203), followed by Romanian (81).
 - In 'child' cases (224), the nationality of most victims was British (141), followed by Afghan (11).
- Across the cases, there were more male victims (560) compared to female victims (256).
- Across all the modern slavery cases, criminal exploitation (352) was the most common type of exploitation, followed by sexual exploitation (176).
 - For male victims, criminal exploitation (331) was the most common type of exploitation.
 - For female victims, sexual exploitation (170) was the most common type of exploitation.
- Birmingham (779) was the most common place where incidents of exploitation occurred.

National Referral Mechanism (NRM):

- 626 modern slavery cases were referred to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). The NRM is a framework used to identify and refer potential victims of modern slavery to appropriate support services.
- In terms of outcomes of the NRM process:
 - The majority of Reasonable Grounds Decisions were positive (448). A Reasonable Grounds Decision determines whether there are reasonable grounds to believe that a person is a victim of modern slavery.
 - The majority of Conclusive Grounds Decisions were pending (404). Following a positive Reasonable Grounds Decision, a Conclusive Grounds Decision determines whether an individual is a confirmed victim of modern slavery.
- A first responder is an authority that can refer a potential victim of modern slavery into the NRM. As acting first responder for incidents:
 - West Midlands Police (281) registered the highest number of modern slavery cases, followed by Local Authority – Birmingham (159).

County lines:

Definition:

County lines refers to the way in which children are exploited to sell drugs for gangs and organised crime networks in different counties.

The data refers to the time period of the first 6 months of the 2022 to 2023 financial year (April 2022 to September 2022).

- 206 county lines cases were registered in Birmingham:
 - 112 adult (aged 18 and over) cases
 - 94 children (aged 17 and under) cases.
- Across the county lines cases, there were more male incidents (199) than female incidents (7).
- The most common ethnicities amongst the county lines cases were Black (69),

followed by Asian (66).

- The Birmingham wards with the highest number of county lines cases were Small Heath (15) and Pype Hayes (15).

ⁱ Violent crimes recorded in Birmingham includes crimes which may not have taken place in Birmingham and crimes without a physical location (i.e. cyber-crime) but were reported as a Birmingham police station.

ⁱⁱ Other crimes recorded in Birmingham includes crimes which may not have taken place in Birmingham and crimes without a physical location (i.e. cyber-crime) but were reported as a Birmingham police station.