



2009/10 Scottish Crime and Justice Survey: Sexual Victimization and Stalking

Crime and Justice



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Sexual Victimisation and
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**2009/10 SCOTTISH CRIME AND JUSTICE
SURVEY:
SEXUAL VICTIMISATION AND STALKING**

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TNS-BMRB

Scottish Government Social Research

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Acknowledgements

As the survey contractors, we are grateful for the commitment of everyone involved in ensuring that the SCJS makes a major contribution to informed policy-making within the Scottish Government, and particularly to the current SCJS project team of Stuart King and Catherine Millington.

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In spite of all this support, any errors that may remain in this report are, of course, our own.

TNS-BMRB
December 2010

SCJS publications

The 2009/10 Scottish Crime and Justice Survey: Main Findings was published on November 2nd 2010. In addition to this report which focuses on sexual victimisation and stalking, two other supplementary reports on the subjects of partner abuse and illicit drug use will be produced.

The dates of SCJS publications are pre-announced and can be found via the UK National Statistics Publication Hub:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/index.html>

Copies of this report and other SCJS related Scottish Government publications are available from the Scottish Government's survey website:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/crime-and-justice-survey>

For further information about the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey and Scottish police recorded crime statistics, please email stuart.king2@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or write to: Scottish Crime and Justice Survey, Scottish Government, St Andrew's House – GWR, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG.

This report is a National Statistics output produced to the highest professional standards and free from political interference. It has been produced by researchers from the respected independent social research organisation TNS-BMRB working with Scottish Government researchers in the Justice Analytical Services Department.

Conventions used in figures and tables

The following conventions are used in the figures and tables for this report, including the annexes.

Figures and tables

Each figure or table has a title (1), the data source (survey year etc.) (2), a base definition and the unweighted base figures (3). The SPSS data file variable name is also included (4).¹ For example:

1. **Figure 2.1: % of adults who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months over time**
2. SCJS 2008/09; 2009/10.
3. Base: Adults 2008/09 (10,974); 2009/10 (13,418).
4. Variable name: *SHSENT*; *SHCALLS*; *SHLOIT*; *SHFOLL*.

Unweighted base

All SCJS percentages and rates presented in the figures and tables are based on weighted data (see Annex 2 for further details). However, figures and tables show the unweighted base above the figure / table which represents the number of respondents interviewed in the specified group.

Percentages

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

Most figures / tables present cell percentages where the figures refer to the percentage of respondents / households / crimes that have the attribute being discussed. The complementary percentage to add to 100 per cent may not be shown. Respondents could refuse to answer any question they did not wish to answer. The majority of questions also had a 'don't know' option. Percentages are often not shown for these response categories.

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

Percentages in the tables and figures in the main body of the report are displayed to zero decimal places.

¹ The SPSS variable name is also often the question name.

Table abbreviations

‘ - ’ indicates that no respondents gave an answer in the category.

‘0’ indicates less than 0.5% (this does not apply when percentages are presented to one decimal point).

‘ * ’ indicates that data are not reported because the unweighted base is less than 50.

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Executive Summary

Introduction

The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) is a large-scale continuous survey measuring people's experience and perceptions of crime in Scotland, based on 16,000 in-home face-to-face interviews conducted annually with adults (aged 16 or over) living in private households in Scotland. The results are presented in a series of reports including this one, which provides information on sexual victimisation and stalking. The 2009/10 survey is the second sweep of the SCJS, with the first having been conducted in 2008/09.

Information on experience of sexual victimisation and stalking was collected through the self-completion section of the questionnaire, which was completed by 13,418 (84%) of the 16,036 respondents to the main SCJS questionnaire.

This report looks at the extent of sexual victimisation and stalking among adults in Scotland. It is divided into three chapters, covering stalking and harassment; less serious sexual assault and serious sexual assault. It includes data on the average risk of experiencing sexual victimisation or stalking overall and by different population characteristics; characteristics of offender(s) and data about reporting incidents to the police.

Stalking and harassment

Introduction

Stalking and harassment measured by the SCJS included:

- Receiving obscene or threatening correspondence, such as letters, emails, text messages or cards;
- Receiving obscene, threatening, nuisance or silent telephone calls;
- Having someone waiting outside a home or workplace on more than one occasion;
- Being followed around and watched on more than one occasion.

Risk overall and by different population characteristics

As measured by the SCJS 2009/10, six per cent of adults said they had experienced *at least one* of the four forms of stalking and harassment in the last 12 months, the same percentage that was measured in 2008/09.

The risk of experiencing stalking and harassment was similar for both men and women (five and six per cent respectively). The risk decreased as age increased. 13% of 16-24 year olds had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months compared with one per cent of those aged 60 or over.

Relationship with offender(s)

The majority (62%) of those who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months knew the offender(s). 11% had seen the offender(s) before, but did not know them and 27% did not know the offender(s) at all.

Reporting to the police

Almost a quarter (23%) of those who had experienced stalking and harassment said the police came to know about the most recent / only incident they experienced in the last 12 months.

Less serious sexual assault

Introduction

Less serious sexual assault measured by the SCJS included:

- Indecent exposure;
- Sexual threats;
- Touching sexually when it was not wanted.

Risk overall and by different population characteristics

As measured by the SCJS 2009/10, nine per cent of adults overall had experienced *at least one* of the three forms of less serious sexual assault since the age of 16, the same percentage that was measured in 2008/09.

14% of women had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 compared with three per cent of men.

One per cent of adults had experienced less serious sexual assault *in the last 12 months*.

Relationship with offender(s)

Whether or not the victim had a relationship with the offender(s) and, if so, the type of relationship was different depending on the form of less serious sexual assault experienced since the age of 16.

- 75% of adults who had experienced indecent exposure said the offender(s) was someone they had never seen before;
- 22% of those who had experienced unwanted sexual touching said it was their partner, 26% said it was someone else they knew and 35% said the offender(s) was someone they had never seen before;
- 50% of those who had experienced sexual threats said the offender(s) was their partner and 21% said the offender(s) was someone they had never seen before.

Gender of offender(s)

Almost all (99%) women who had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 said the offender(s) was male.

54% of men who had experienced less serious sexual assault since that age said the offender(s) was male, 43% said the offender(s) was female and five per cent said there were some male and some female offenders.

Serious sexual assault

Introduction

Serious sexual assault measured by the SCJS included:

- Forcing someone to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to;
- Attempting to force someone to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to;
- Forcing someone to take part in other sexual activity when they did not want to;
- Attempting to force someone to take part in other sexual activity when they did not want to.

Risk overall and by different population characteristics

The SCJS 2009/10 estimated that three per cent of adults had experienced *at least one* form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16, the same percentage as measured in the SCJS 2008/09. One per cent had experienced *more than one* form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16.

Four per cent of women had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 compared with one per cent of men.

Less than 0.5% of adults had experienced serious sexual assault *in the last 12 months*.

Characteristics of offender(s)

More than half (53%) of adults who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 were assaulted by their partner.

Over nine in ten (91%) adults who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 said the offender(s) was male and seven per cent said the offender(s) was female. Two per cent said there were some male and some female offenders.

Reporting to the police

The police came to know about fewer than two in ten (18%) of the most recent / only incidents of forced sexual intercourse experienced since the age of 16, the highest reporting rate of any form of serious sexual assault.

1 Introduction

The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) is a large-scale continuous survey measuring adults' experience and perceptions of crime in Scotland. The survey is based on, annually, 16,000 in-home face-to-face interviews with adults (aged 16 or over) living in private households in Scotland.

The main aims of the SCJS are to:

- Provide a valid and reliable measure of adults' experience of crime, including services provided to victims of crime;
- Examine trends in the number and nature of crime in Scotland over time;
- Examine the varying risk of crime for different groups of adults in the population;
- Collect information about adults' experiences of, and attitudes to, a range of crime and justice related issues.

The main findings for 2009/10 are presented in a series of four reports. This report presents the key findings about sexual victimisation and stalking collected through the self-completion section of the survey. A Technical Report and User Guide are also available.²

Information on experience of sexual victimisation and stalking was collected through the self-completion section of the questionnaire, which was completed by 13,418 of the 16,036 respondents to the main SCJS questionnaire (84%).

1.1 Stalking and harassment in the SCJS

The SCJS covered the following issues:

- Obscene or threatening unwanted letters, e-mail, text messages or cards;
- Obscene, threatening, nuisance or silent telephone calls;
- Having someone waiting or loitering outside the home or workplace on more than one occasion;
- Being followed around and watched on more than one occasion.

The survey recorded such behaviours carried out by any person including, but not restricted to, a partner or family member.

² The 2009/10 SCJS Main Findings report and related publications are available on the 'publications' section of the Scottish Government website: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/Publications/publications>. The SCJS also has a dedicated website: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/scjs>.

Box 1.1: Stalking and Harassment: the evidence base

A report into stalking and harassment in Scotland published by the Scottish Government in 2002 (Morris *et al.*, 2002) reviewed previously available literature and research. This suggested that stalking was most often associated with domestic abuse arising within an intimate, personal relationship, though it was not confined to this type of situation. Stalking could occur in a wide range of relationships and in situations where the stalker and victim were complete strangers, although this latter type of situation was relatively rare. The range of behaviours also varied, including both violent and non-violent forms of contact either in person or remotely. Available evidence showed that the level of seriousness of individual behaviours differed; in the most serious cases, stalking could culminate in serious assault or murder. At the same time the cumulative effect of the pattern of conduct, as opposed to any discrete act, was often severe and prolonged.

1.2 Sexual victimisation in the SCJS

The SCJS defined sexual victimisation in two ways:³

- *Less serious sexual assault*: indecent exposure, sexual threats and unwanted sexual touching;
- *Serious sexual assault*: forced sex or forcing someone to take part in other sexual activity, included attempts to do these.

Sexual victimisation defined by the SCJS could be conducted by any person including, but not restricted to, a partner or family member.

³ The terms 'less serious sexual assault' and 'serious sexual assault' are adopted throughout this report to distinguish between the two types of sexual assault which were asked about separately in the SCJS. This is consistent with the practice adopted by the Home Office in reporting of the British Crime Survey. The terms do not relate to the seriousness of the impact on the individual who had experienced an incident, as this may vary according to the particular circumstances of an incident.

Box 1.2: Sexual Victimisation in the Scottish Criminal Justice System

There have been a number of developments in how the Scottish criminal justice system deals with sexual offences in recent years. The Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009 came into force on 1 December 2010 and provides a new statutory framework for sexual offences in Scots law.⁴ The Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service's (COPFS) 2006 review of the investigation of rape and other serious sexual offences made 50 specific recommendations to improve the investigation and prosecution of these crimes, and these recommendations were completed in 2009.⁵

The Act reforms the law on sexual offences, changing the way sexual offences are defined and creating a range of new statutory offences which criminalise sexual conduct taking place without consent. It provides for a statutory definition of consent - as "free agreement" - making clear that consent may be withdrawn at any time.

1.3 The structure of the report

This report looks at the extent of stalking and sexual victimisation among adults in Scotland. It is divided into three chapters, covering each of the three types of sexual victimisation and stalking included in the survey:

- **Chapter 1:** Stalking and harassment;
- **Chapter 2:** Less serious sexual assault;
- **Chapter 3:** Serious sexual assault.

Each chapter follows the same structure, looking at:

- The overall risk of experiencing the particular type of stalking or sexual victimisation;
- How risk varies among different groups of adults;
- Characteristics of the offender(s).

The chapters on stalking and harassment and serious sexual assault also include details on reporting to the police. Base sizes were too small to permit robust analysis for less serious sexual assault on this matter.

Annex 1 provides additional data tables showing the risk of stalking and sexual victimisation by selected sub-groups. **Annex 2** includes information about the method used for the self-completion section of the questionnaire and discusses the measurement of sexual victimisation in the survey.

⁴ Scottish Government website:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Justice/crimes/8980/rape-sexual-offences-bill>.

⁵ Report available from the COPFS website: <http://www.copfs.gov.uk/Publications/2006/06/RevSexOff>.

2 Stalking and Harassment

2.1 Summary

Stalking and harassment measured by the SCJS included:

- Receiving obscene or threatening correspondence, such as letters, emails, text messages or cards;
- Receiving obscene, threatening, nuisance or silent telephone calls;
- Having someone waiting outside a home or workplace on more than one occasion;
- Being followed around and watched on more than one occasion.

Results indicated that:

- As measured by the SCJS in 2009/10, six per cent of adults said they had experienced *at least one* of the four forms of stalking and harassment in the last 12 months, the same percentage that was measured in 2008/09;
- The risk of experiencing stalking and harassment was similar for both men and women (five and six per cent respectively). The risk decreased as age increased. 13% of 16-24 year olds had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months compared with one per cent of those aged 60 or over;
- In the most recent / only incident experienced, 62% of those who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months knew the offender(s), 11% had seen the offender(s) before, but did not know them and 27% did not know the offender(s) at all;
- 23% of those who had experienced stalking and harassment said the police came to know about the most recent / only incident they experienced in the last 12 months.

2.2 Introduction

There is no legal or clear-cut definition of stalking and harassment in the UK, and the two terms are often used interchangeably (Morris et al., 2002). While all stalking may involve an element of harassment, not all harassment could be said to involve stalking, since the latter almost invariably focuses on a personal relationship (real or imagined, ended or on-going) between the offender(s) and victim.

Throughout this chapter, the term stalking and harassment has been used to describe four forms of conduct. Questions asking directly about experience of 'stalking' were avoided, because some respondents who had experienced the behaviours of interest might have been confused as to whether the term applied to them. The survey instead referred to experience of being pestered or harassed and asked about four specific examples:

- Receiving obscene or threatening correspondence, such as letters, emails, text messages or cards;
- Receiving obscene, threatening, nuisance or silent telephone calls;
- Having someone waiting outside a home or workplace on more than one occasion;
- Being followed around and watched on more than one occasion.

Therefore the survey does not provide measures of the prevalence of all possible forms of stalking and of harassment, but rather of four types of behaviour that could be construed as forms of stalking and harassment.

This chapter examines the overall and varying risk of stalking and harassment (as defined above) in the last 12 months. It also provides information on the relationship with the offender(s) and reporting to the police.

2.3 Overall risk of stalking and harassment

Six per cent of adults said they had experienced *at least one* of the four forms of stalking and harassment (as measured by the SCJS in 2009/10) in the last 12 months (Figure 2.1). Within this broad grouping:

- Three per cent had received obscene or threatening correspondence, such as letters, emails, text messages or cards in the last 12 months;
- Three per cent had received obscene, threatening, nuisance or silent telephone calls in the last 12 months;
- One per cent experienced having someone waiting outside a home or workplace on more than one occasion in the last 12 months;
- One per cent had been watched or followed on more than one occasion in the last 12 months.

As figure 2.1 shows, the percentages measured in 2009/10 of those who had experienced any stalking and harassment overall and any of the individual forms in the last 12 months were the same as those measured in 2008/09, with the exception of receiving obscene, threatening, nuisance or silent telephone calls (three per cent in 2009/10 compared with two per cent in 2008/09).⁶

One per cent of adults had experienced *more than one* of the four forms of stalking or harassment in the last 12 months. Of these adults, almost six in ten (59%) said the offender(s) was the same person on each occasion.

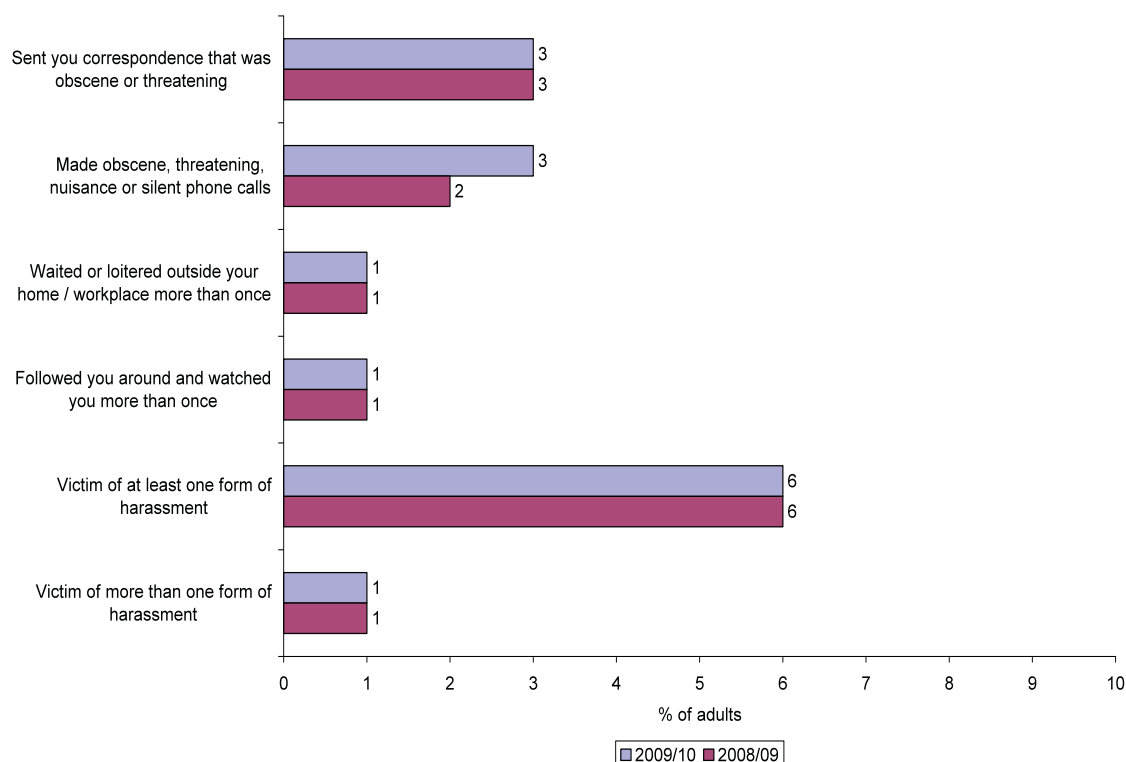
⁶ The difference in results between the two survey years for receiving obscene, threatening, nuisance or silent telephone calls was not statistically significant.

Figure 2.1: % of adults who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months over time

SCJS 2008/09, 2009/10.

Base: Adults 2008/09 (10,974); 2009/10 (13,418).

Variable name: *SHSENT*; *SHCALLS*; *SHLOIT*; *SHFOLL*.



2.4 Varying risk of stalking and harassment

Looking in more detail at the extent of stalking and harassment, Table 2.1 shows:

- The average risk of experiencing stalking and harassment was similar for both men and women (five and six per cent respectively);
- Younger adults were more likely to be at risk. 13% of 16-24 year olds experienced stalking and harassment compared with one per cent of those aged 60 or over;
- Victims of all crime measured by SCJS 2009/10 in the main survey, were more likely to experience stalking and harassment (11%) than non-victims (four per cent);⁷

⁷ Victim status indicates whether a respondent was the victim of a crime as measured by the SCJS in 2009/10 (for further details of crimes included see Annex 3 of 2009/10 Scottish Crime and Justice Survey: Main Findings; <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/Publications/publications>).

- Seven per cent of those living in the 15% most deprived areas had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months compared with five per cent of those living in the rest of Scotland.⁸

Table 2.1: % of adults in each group who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults in each group (adults 13,418).⁹

Variable name: *SHSENT*; *SHCALLS*; *SHLOIT*; *SHFOLL*.

| Characteristics: | % of adults within each group who had experienced stalking & harassment in last 12 months |
|----------------------|---|
| GENDER | |
| Women | 6 |
| Men | 5 |
| AGE | |
| 16-24 | 13 |
| 25-44 | 8 |
| 45-59 | 4 |
| 60 or over | 1 |
| VICTIM STATUS | |
| Victim | 11 |
| Non-victim | 4 |
| DEPRIVATION | |
| 15% most deprived | 7 |
| Rest of Scotland | 5 |
| ALL | 6 |

2.5 Relationship with the offender(s)

Among those who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months, in the most recent / only incident, the majority (62%) knew the offender(s), while a further 11% had seen the offender(s) before, but did not know them. Just over a quarter (27%) of those who had experienced stalking and harassment had not seen the offender(s) before.

As Figure 2.2 shows:

- More than one in five (22%) of those who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months said the offender(s) in the most

⁸ Area deprivation is measured by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>.

⁹ Further details of base sizes for the different groups can be found in the published data tables that accompany this report: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/Publications/publications>.

recent / only incident was someone close to them, such as a partner or other family member (17% and six per cent respectively);

- Eight per cent said the offender(s) was someone they had dated and six per cent said the offender(s) was someone they had a casual sexual relationship with;
- Three in ten (30%) said the offender(s) was someone else they knew (other than those they were in some form of intimate relationship with or a family member).

Figure 2.2: Relationship with the offender(s) in the most recent / only incident of stalking and harassment experienced in the last 12 months
SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months (679).

Variable name: *SH_1i; SH_2i; SH_3i; SH_4i; SH_5i*.

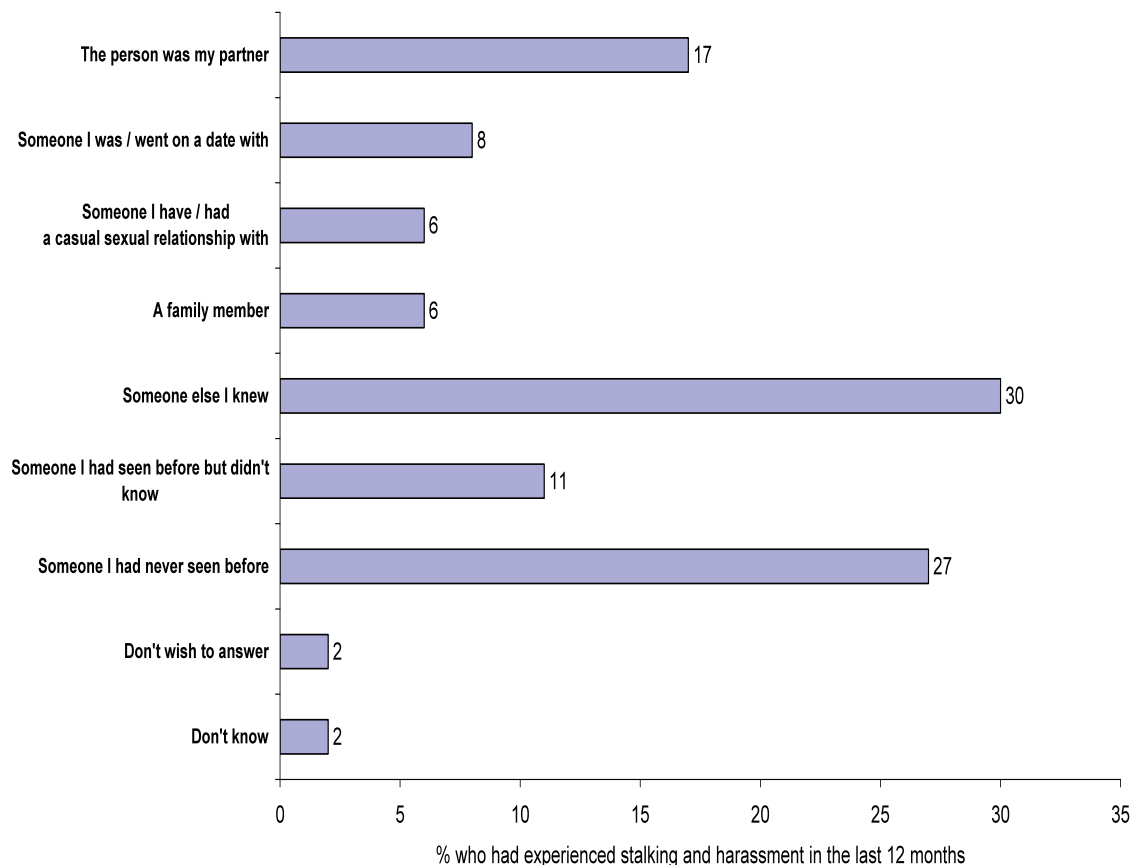


Table 2.2 shows the relationship between the victim and the offender(s) for each of the four forms of stalking and harassment.

Table 2.2: Relationship with the offender(s) in the most recent / only incident of each form of stalking and harassment in the last 12 months
SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults who had experienced each form of stalking and harassment in the last 12 months (unwanted correspondence 350; unwanted telephone calls 316; waiting outside 110; watching or following 144).

Variable name: *SH_1i*; *SH_2i*; *SH_3i*; *SH_4i*; *SH_5i*.

| | Unwanted corresp. % | Unwanted telephone calls % | Waiting outside % | Watching / following % |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| The person was my partner | 21 | 17 | 17 | 16 |
| Someone I was / went on date with | 11 | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| Someone I have/had a casual sexual relationship with | 6 | 7 | 11 | 7 |
| A family member | 6 | 7 | 4 | 3 |
| Someone else I knew | 28 | 29 | 28 | 28 |
| Someone I had seen before but didn't know | 7 | 11 | 18 | 13 |
| Someone I had never seen before | 22 | 29 | 20 | 21 |
| Don't wish to answer | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Don't know | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 |

2.6 Reporting to the police

Over three quarters (76%) of those who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months said the police did not come to know about the most recent / only incident, while almost a quarter (23%) said the police did come to know about it (Table 2.3):¹⁰

- 25% of women and 21% of men said the police came to know about the most recent / only incident of stalking and harassment they had experienced;
- Those aged 25-44 (28%) were significantly more likely to say the police came to hear about the most recent / only incident of stalking and

¹⁰ Stalking and harassment reported to the police covers all incidents the police came to know about, including those reported by the respondent or someone else, and those where the police were there at the time of the incident or found out in some other way.

harassment they had experienced than were 16-24 year olds (19%) or 45-59 year olds (18%).

Table 2.3: Whether police came to know about the most recent / only incident of stalking and harassment experienced in the last 12 months
SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults in each group who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months (adults 679).¹¹

Variable name: *SH_6*.

| Characteristics: | %of respondents within each group who said the police came to know about the latest / most recent incident |
|--------------------------|---|
| GENDER | |
| Women | 25 |
| Men | 21 |
| AGE | |
| 16-24 | 19 |
| 25-44 | 28 |
| 45-59 | 18 |
| 60 or over ¹² | 32 |
| VICTIM STATUS | |
| Victim | 23 |
| Non-victim | 24 |
| DEPRIVATION | |
| 15% most deprived | 28 |
| Rest of Scotland | 22 |
| ALL | 23 |

Where the police did not come to know about the most recent / only incident of stalking and harassment in the last 12 months a variety of explanations were given as shown in Figure 2.3:

- Over a third (34%) said because it was too trivial / not worth reporting;
- 22% said they dealt with it themselves;
- 17% said they considered it to be a private, personal or family matter;
- 13% said that the police could have done nothing about it;
- 12% said that the police would not be interested;
- Nine per cent said it would have been inconvenient or too much trouble to report it;

¹¹ See accompanying tables for further details of base sizes for individual groups:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/Publications/publications>.

¹² The base size for those aged 60 or over (61) is relatively small and subject to large confidence intervals so the figure quoted should be used with caution.

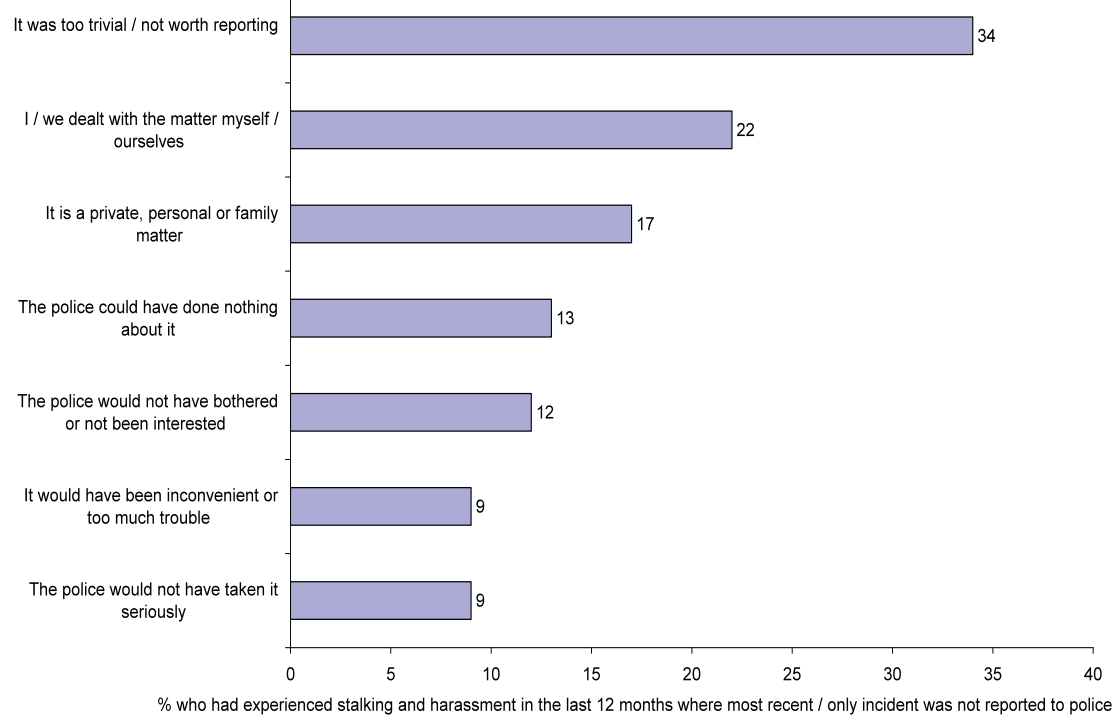
- Nine per cent said that the police would not have taken it seriously.

Figure 2.3: Most common reasons police were not informed about the most recent / only incident of stalking and harassment experienced in the last 12 months¹³

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months where police did not come to know about the most recent / only incident (507).

Variable name: *SH_6i*.



¹³ All other reasons were mentioned by four per cent or fewer adults and are not shown in Figure 2.3.

3 Less Serious Sexual Assault

3.1 Summary

Less serious sexual assault measured by the SCJS included:

- Indecent exposure;
- Sexual threats;
- Touching sexually when it was not wanted.

Results indicated that:

- Nine per cent of adults had experienced *at least one* form of less serious sexual assault since the age of 16, the same percentage that was measured in 2008/09;
- 14% of women had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 compared with three per cent of men;
- Whether or not the victim had a relationship with the offender(s) and the type of relationship was different depending on the form of less serious sexual assault experienced since the age of 16:
 - 75% of adults who had experienced indecent exposure said the offender(s) was someone they had never seen before;
 - 22% of those who had experienced unwanted sexual touching said it was their partner, 26% said it was someone else they knew and 35% said the offender(s) was someone they had never seen before;
 - 50% of those who had experienced sexual threats said the offender(s) was their partner and 21% said it was someone they had never seen before;
- 99% of women who had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 said the offender(s) was male. 54% of men who had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 said the offender(s) was male, 43% said the offender(s) was female and five per cent said there were some male and some female offenders;
- One per cent of adults had experienced less serious sexual assault *in the last 12 months*.

3.2 Introduction

This chapter examines adults' experiences of sexual victimisation, specifically of three forms of less serious sexual assault including:

- Indecent exposure;
- Sexual threats;
- Touching sexually when it was not wanted.

The chapter examines the overall risk and varying risk by gender of experiencing less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 and the overall risk in the last 12 months. It also provides information about the characteristics of offender(s).

3.3 Overall risk of less serious sexual assault

The 2009/10 SCJS estimated that nine per cent of adults had experienced *at least one* form of less serious sexual assault since the age of 16. As shown in Table 3.1:

- Five per cent had experienced indecent exposure since the age of 16;
- Four per cent had been touched sexually when it was not wanted since the age of 16;
- Two per cent had been sexual threatened since the age of 16.

Two per cent of adults had experienced *more than one* form of less serious sexual assault since the age of 16. 28% of those who had experienced *more than one* form of less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 said that the same person or people were involved.

The percentages of those who had experienced any less serious sexual assault overall and any of the individual forms since the age of 16 were the same as those measured in 2008/09, with the exception of being touched sexually (four per cent in 2009/10 compared with five per cent in 2008/09).¹⁴

One per cent of adults had experienced *at least one* form of less serious sexual assault *in the last 12 months*. The risk of experiencing indecent exposure or unwanted sexual touching in the last 12 months were both one per cent, and for sexual threats it was less than 0.5% (Table 3.1).

¹⁴ The differences in results between the two survey years for being touched sexually were not statistically significant.

Table 3.1: % who had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 / in the last 12 months over time

SCJS 2008/09, 2009/10.

Base: Adults 2008/09 (10,974) 2009/10 (13,418).

Variable name: *SVINEX*; *SVST*; *SVTS*.

| | Since age 16 | | Last 12 months | |
|---|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | 2009/10 % | 2008/09 % | 2009/10 % | 2008/09 % |
| Indecently exposed themselves to you | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Touched you sexually when you did not want it | 4 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Sexually threatened you | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| VICTIM OF <i>AT LEAST ONE</i> FORM OF LESS SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT | 9 | 9 | 1 | 1 |
| VICTIM OF <i>MORE THAN ONE</i> FORM OF LESS SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |

3.4 Varying risk of less serious sexual assault

Women were significantly more likely to experience less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 than men (Table 3.2):

- The risk of experiencing less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 was almost five times higher for women compared with men (14% and three per cent respectively);
 - The risk of experiencing each form of less serious sexual assault was also significantly higher for women than for men;
- The average risk of experiencing *more than one* form of less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 was higher for women (three per cent) than for men (less than 0.5%).

Table 3.2: % who had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 by gender

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults in each group (women 7,505; men 5,913).

Variable name: *SVINEX*; *SVST*; *SVTS*.

| | Women % | Men % |
|--|------------|----------|
| Indecently exposed themselves to you | 8 | 2 |
| Touched you sexually when you did not want it | 7 | 1 |
| Sexually threatened you | 3 | 0 |
| VICTIM OF AT LEAST ONE FORM OF LESS SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT | 14 | 3 |
| VICTIM OF MORE THAN ONE FORM OF LESS SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT | 3 | 0 |

Annex 1 provides further details of the risk of less serious sexual assault by different sub-groups.

3.5 Relationship with the offender(s)

Among those who had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16, 57% had not seen the offender(s) before while 42% knew the offender(s) in some way. 10% had seen the offender(s) before but did not know them.

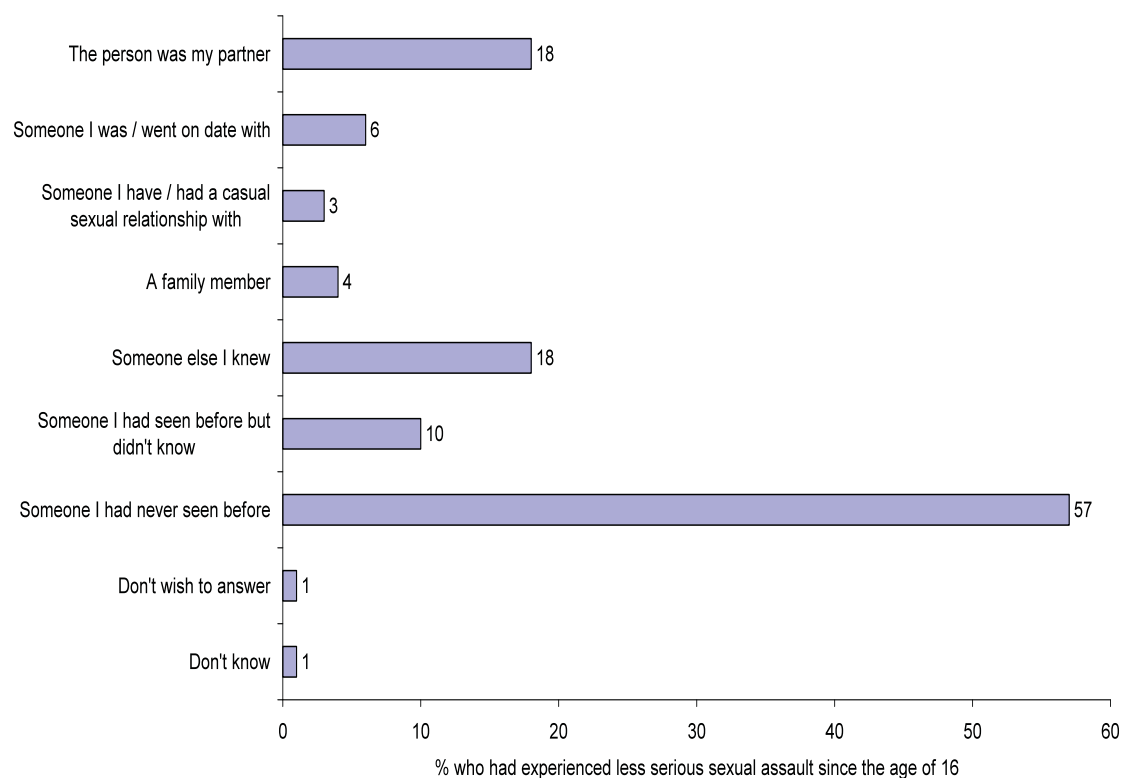
Almost one in six (18%) said the offender(s) was their partner and the same percentage said the offender(s) was someone else they knew (other than someone they were in some form of intimate relationship with or a family member) (Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1: Relationship with the offender(s) – less serious sexual assault experienced since the age of 16

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults who had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 (1,216).

Variable name: *INEX_3; INEX_5; ST_3; ST_5; TS_3; TS_5*.



Whether or not the victim had a relationship with the offender(s) and the type of relationship was different depending on the form of less serious sexual assault experienced since the age of 16. Table 3.3 shows this relationship for those who had experienced each form of less serious sexual assault since the age of 16:

- The majority of those who had experienced indecent exposure since the age of 16 said this was carried out by someone they had never seen before (75%);

- Over one third (35%) of those who had experienced being touched sexually when they did not want this since the age of 16 said this had been carried out by someone they had never seen before. However, the majority did know the offender(s), including more than one in five (22%) who said it was their partner and over a quarter (26%) someone else they knew (other than those they were in some form of intimate relationship with or a family member);
- 50% of those who had experienced sexual threats since the age of 16 said the offender(s) was their partner and 21% said it was someone they had never seen before.

Table 3.3: Relationship with the offender(s) – each form of less serious sexual assault since the age of 16

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults who had experienced each form of less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 (Indecent exposure 697; sexual touching 587; sexual threats 287).

Variable name: *INEX_3; INEX_5; ST_3; ST_5; TS_3; TS_5*.

| | Indecent exposure % | Sexual touching % | Sexual threats % |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| The person was my partner | 5 | 22 | 50 |
| Someone I was / went on date with | 3 | 9 | 7 |
| Someone I have / had a casual sexual relationship with | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| A family member | 1 | 6 | 7 |
| Someone else I knew | 10 | 26 | 18 |
| Someone I had seen before but didn't know | 9 | 9 | 5 |
| Someone I had never seen before | 75 | 35 | 21 |
| Don't wish to answer | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Don't know | 1 | 1 | - |

3.6 Gender of the offender(s)

Over nine in ten (92%) adults who had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 said the offender(s) was male, eight per cent said the offender(s) was female and one per cent said there were some male and some female offenders.

For women who had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 the offender(s) was almost always male (99% male; one per cent female; less than 0.5% some male / some female).

For men who had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 the picture was more mixed. Over five in ten (54%) men said the offender(s) was male, over four in ten (43%) said the offender(s) was female and five per cent said there were some male and some female offenders.

4 Serious Sexual Assault

4.1 Summary

Serious sexual assault measured by the SCJS included:

- Forcing or attempting to force someone to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to;
- Forcing or attempting to force someone to take part in other sexual activity when they did not want to.

Results indicated that:

- The SCJS 2009/10 estimated that three per cent of adults had experienced *at least one* form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16, the same percentage as measured in the SCJS 2008/09;
- One per cent had experienced *more than one* form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16;
- Four per cent of women had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 compared with one per cent of men;
- More than half (53%) of adults who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 were assaulted by their partner;
- Over nine in ten (91%) adults who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 said the offender(s) was male and seven per cent said the offender(s) was female;
- The police came to know about fewer than two in ten (18%) of the most recent / only incidents of forced sexual intercourse experienced since the age of 16, the highest reporting rate of any form of serious sexual assault;
- Less than 0.5% of adults had experienced serious sexual assault *in the last 12 months*.

4.2 Introduction

This chapter examines adults' experiences of sexual victimisation, specifically experience of four forms of actual or attempted serious sexual assault including:

- Forcing someone to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to;
- Attempting to force someone to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to;
- Forcing someone to take part in other sexual activity when they did not want to;
- Attempting to force someone to take part in other sexual activity when they did not want to.

The chapter examines the overall risk of experiencing serious sexual assault since the age of 16 and in the last 12 months. It also examines the varying risk of serious sexual assault and the number of incidents experienced since the age of 16. It provides information about the characteristics of offender(s) and the percentage of adults who had reported the most recent or only incident experienced since the age of 16 to the police. Reasons for not reporting the incident are also explored.

4.3 Overall risk of serious sexual assault over time

The SCJS 2009/10 estimated that three per cent of adults had experienced *at least one* form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16, the same percentage as measured in the SCJS 2008/09. This included:

- One per cent who had experienced being forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to since the age of 16 compared with two per cent in 2008/09;
- One per cent who had experienced at least one attempt to force sexual activity since that age compared with two per cent in 2008/09;
- Less than 0.5% who had experienced being forced to undertake another sexual activity when they did not want to since the age of 16 compared with one per cent in 2008/09;
- One per cent who had experienced at least one attempt to do this since that age, the same as measured in 2008/09.

The apparent difference in the percentages that had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 between the two survey years occurred principally due to rounding and was not statistically significant.

One per cent of adults had experienced *more than one* form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16. This had not changed since the 2008/09 survey.

In the last 12 months, less than 0.5% of adults had experienced at least one form of serious sexual assault, the same percentage as measured in 2008/09.

4.4 Varying risk of serious sexual assault

As with less serious sexual assault described in the previous chapter, experience of serious sexual assault since the age of 16 varied by the gender of those who had experienced it, with women being at significantly greater average risk than men. Four per cent of women had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 compared with one per cent of men. The pattern was repeated within the individual forms of serious sexual assault as shown in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1: % who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 overall and by gender

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults overall and in each group (adults 13,418; women 7,505; men 5,913).

Variable name: *SAFS*; *SAAFS*; *SAOS*; *SAAOS*.

| | Adults % | Women % | Men % |
|---|-------------|------------|----------|
| Forced you to have sexual intercourse when you did not want to | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Tried to force you to have sexual intercourse when you did not want to | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Forced you to take part in another sexual activity when you did not want to | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Tried to force you to take part in another sexual activity | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| VICTIM OF AT LEAST ONE FORM OF SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| VICTIM OF MORE THAN ONE FORM OF SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT | 1 | 1 | 0 |

Annex 1 provides further details of the risk of serious sexual assault by different sub-groups.

4.5 Number of incidents experienced

Those who had experienced each individual form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16 were asked how many incidents they had experienced in that time. The results are shown in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2: Number of incidents of each form of serious sexual assault experienced since the age of 16
SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults who had experienced each form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16 (forced sex 231; attempted forced sex 193; other forced sexual activities 78;¹⁵ attempted other forced sexual activities 110).

Variable name: *FS_2EVER*; *AFS_2EVER*; *OS_2EVER*; *AOS_2EVER*.

| Number of incidents | Forced sex % | Att. forced sex % | Other forced sexual acts % | Att. other forced sexual acts % |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| One | 35 | 29 | 26 | 39 |
| Two | 13 | 19 | 15 | 9 |
| Three | 10 | 10 | 13 | 2 |
| Four or more | 13 | 12 | 10 | 12 |
| Too many to count | 9 | 10 | 12 | 6 |
| Don't wish to answer | 6 | 4 | 2 | 11 |
| Don't know | 14 | 15 | 22 | 20 |

4.6 Relationship with the offender(s)

More than half (53%) of adults who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 were assaulted by their partner (Figure 4.1). Percentages were significantly less for other types of offenders:

- Under one in six (18%) of those who had experienced serious sexual assault said the offender(s) was someone else they knew (other than someone they were in some form of intimate relationship with or a family member);
- Around one in six (17%) said the offender(s) was someone they were on a date with;
- Six per cent said the offender(s) was a family member.

Almost nine in ten (89%) said they knew the offender(s) in some way, while two per cent said they had seen the offender(s) before but did not know them. More than one in ten (11%) said it was someone they had never seen before.

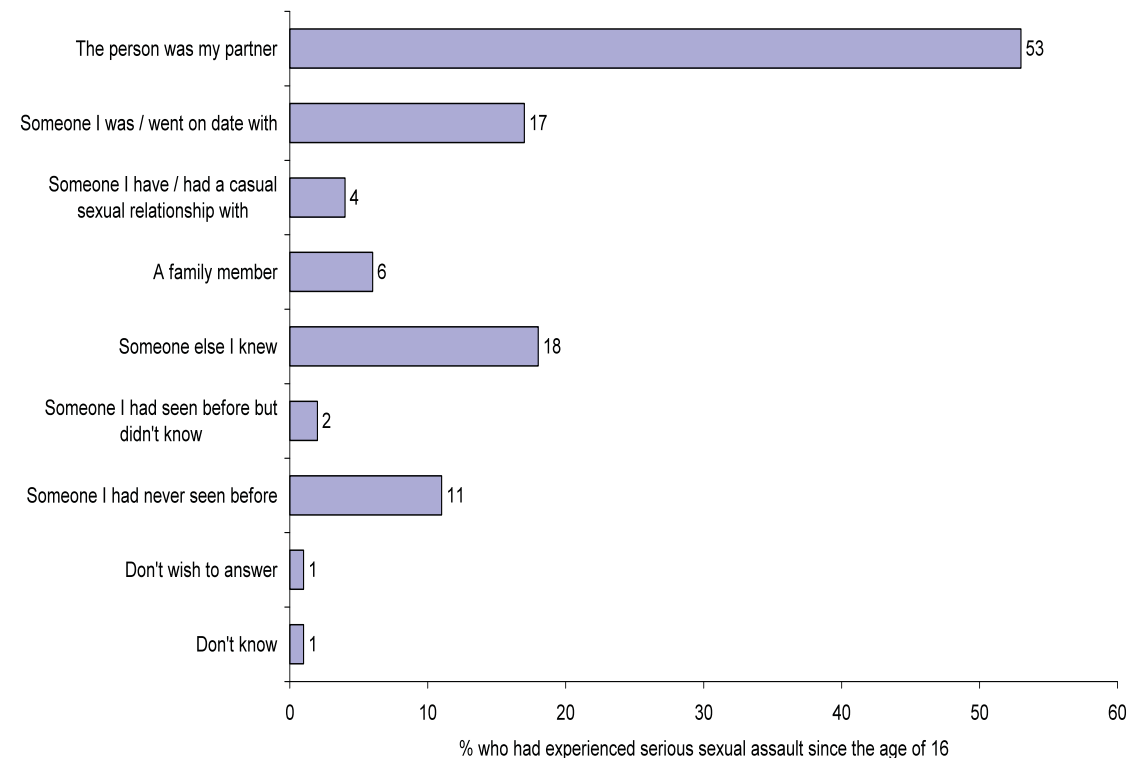
¹⁵ The base size for those who had experienced other forced sexual activities (78), is relatively small and subject to large confidence intervals so the figures quoted should be used with caution.

Figure 4.1: Relationship with the offender(s) – serious sexual assault experienced since the age of 16

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 (405).

Variable name: *FS_3B4 / FS_3 / AFS_3B4 / AFS_3 / OS_3B4 / OS_3 / AOS_3B4 / AOS_3*.



Section 4.3 identified that one per cent of adults had experienced *more than one* form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16. More than seven in ten (73%) of them said that the same person or people were involved each time. Where the same person or people were involved, 70% said the offender(s) was their partner.¹⁶

¹⁶ The base size for those who had experienced more than one form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16 where the same person or people were involved (85) is subject to large confidence intervals so the figure quoted should be used with caution.

A partner was also said to be the offender for high percentages of the different forms of serious sexual assault including:

- 63% of those who had experienced forced sexual intercourse;
- 58% of those who had experienced attempted forced sexual intercourse;
- 61% of those who had experienced other forced sexual activities;
- 45% of those who had experienced attempted other forced sexual activities.

Table 4.3: Relationship with the offender(s) – each form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults who had experienced each form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16 (forced sex 228; attempted forced sex 188; other forced sexual activity 73;¹⁷ attempted other forced sexual activity 103).

Variable name: *FS_3B4* / *FS_3* / *AFS_3B4* / *AFS_3* / *OS_3B4* / *OS_3* / *AOS_3B4* / *AOS_3*.

| | Forced sex % | Att. forced sex % | Other forced sexual acts % | Att. other forced sexual acts % |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| The person was my partner | 63 | 58 | 61 | 45 |
| Someone I was / went on date with | 14 | 14 | 8 | 12 |
| Someone I have / had a casual sexual relationship with | 1 | 4 | - | 8 |
| A family member | 6 | 4 | 11 | 8 |
| Someone else I knew | 13 | 17 | 18 | 16 |
| Someone I had seen before but didn't know | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Someone I had never seen before | 9 | 11 | 7 | 13 |
| Don't wish to answer | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Don't know | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 |

¹⁷ The base size for those who had experienced other forced sexual activities (73) is subject to large confidence intervals so the figures quoted should be used with caution.

4.7 Gender of the offender(s)

Over nine in ten (91%) adults who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 said the offender(s) was male and seven per cent said the offender(s) was female. Two per cent said there were some male and some female offenders.

For women who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 the offender(s) was almost always male (98% said they were male, one per cent said they were female and one per cent said there were some male and some female offenders). Further analysis of the gender of the offender(s) for men who had experienced serious sexual assault was not possible because of the small numbers who had experienced this since the age of 16.¹⁸

4.8 Reporting to the police¹⁹

Respondents who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 were asked if the police came to know about the most recent or only incident they experienced.

The rate of reporting to the police varied by the form of serious sexual assault experienced:

- Almost two in ten (18%) adults who had experienced forced sexual intercourse since the age of 16 said the police were informed about the latest / only incident they experienced;
- 14% of adults who had experienced attempted forced sexual intercourse since the age of 16 said the police were informed about the latest / only incident;
- One in ten (10%) adults who had experienced other forced sexual activities since the age of 16 said the police were informed about the latest / only incident;
- Just over one in ten (11%) adults who had experienced attempted other forced sexual activities since the age of 16 said the police were informed about the latest / only incident.

Table 4.4 shows the reasons why the police did not come to know about the most recent / only incident of each of the forms of serious sexual assault experienced since the age of 16.

¹⁸ 34 male respondents said they had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16.

¹⁹ Serious sexual assault reported to the police covers all incidents the police came to know about, including those reported by the respondent or someone else, and those where the police were there at the time of the incident or found out in some other way.

Table 4.4: Reasons the police did not come to know about most recent / only incident experienced of each form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16²⁰

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults who had experienced each form of serious sexual assault since the age of 16 where police did not come to know about the most recent / only incident (forced sexual intercourse 188; attempted forced sexual intercourse 159; other forced sexual activities 61; attempted other forced sexual activities 87).

Variable name: *FS_7i*, *AFS_7i*, *OS_7i*, *AOS_7i*.

| | Forced sex % | Att. forced sex % | Other forced sexual acts % | Att. other forced sexual acts % |
|--|--------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Private, personal or family matter | 24 | 23 | 16 | 20 |
| Dealt with the matter myself / ourselves | 24 | 35 | 34 | 18 |
| Reported to other authorities / orgs. | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Don't like / frightened of the police | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Frightened would make matters worse | 33 | 24 | 22 | 23 |
| The police could have done nothing | 11 | 7 | 12 | 4 |
| The police would not have bothered or not been interested | 7 | 10 | 3 | 5 |
| The police would not have taken it seriously | 6 | 6 | 10 | 7 |
| Would have been inconvenient or too much trouble to report | 7 | 13 | 5 | 3 |
| Too trivial / not worth reporting | 5 | 10 | 7 | 26 |
| Had previous bad experience of police / courts | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Have been involved with criminal behaviour | - | - | - | 2 |
| Another reason | 9 | 5 | 13 | 11 |
| Don't wish to answer | 1 | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| Don't know | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

²⁰ Base sizes for other forced sexual activities (61) and attempted other forced sexual activities (87), are relatively small and subject to large confidence intervals so the figures quoted should be used with caution.

Reference

Morris, S; Anderson, S. and Murray, L. (2002); *Stalking and Harassment in Scotland*; Edinburgh, Scotland; Scottish Executive.

Annex 1: Data Tables – Experience of Sexual Victimisation and Stalking

The following data tables provide data for some of the key measures of sexual victimisation. Notes on how to read and interpret these tables follow.

Notes:

1. 'Victim status' indicates whether a respondent was the victim of a crime as measured by the SCJS in 2009/10 (for further details of crimes included see Annex 3 of 2009/10 Scottish Crime and Justice Survey: Main Findings:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/Publications/publications>).
2. 'Deprivation' is measured by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). Breakdowns are for those living in the 15% most deprived areas and those living in the rest of Scotland. See the Scottish Government website for further information:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>.
3. Table A1.2 estimates are based on 95% confidence intervals.
4. Definitions for table column headings are provided in the notes following the respective tables.

Table A1.1: % who had experienced any stalking / harassment or sexual victimisation ¹ since the age of 16 / in the last 12 months by demographic variables

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults (13,418).

Variable name: SH_, SV_, SA_.¹

| <i>Row percentages</i> | ANY stalking & h'ment in last 12 months | ANY less serious sexual assault since age 16 | ANY less serious sexual assault in last 12 months | ANY serious sexual assault since age 16 | ANY serious sexual assault in last 12 months |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
| AGE | | | | | |
| 16-24 | 13 | 10 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 25-44 | 8 | 11 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| 45-59 | 4 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| 60 or over | 1 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| MALE (TOTAL) | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 16-24 | 10 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| 25-44 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 45-59 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | - |
| 60 or over | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | - |
| FEMALE (TOTAL) | 6 | 14 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| 16-24 | 15 | 14 | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| 25-44 | 8 | 19 | 2 | 7 | 0 |
| 45-59 | 4 | 16 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| 60 or over | 2 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| VICTIM STATUS ² | | | | | |
| Victim | 11 | 13 | 3 | 5 | 0 |
| Non-victim | 4 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| DEPRIVATION ² | | | | | |
| 15% most deprived | 7 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| Rest of Scotland | 5 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| ALL | 6 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 0 |

1. See Table A1.3 for variable names and details of the question used to identify stalking and harassment; Table A1.4 for less serious sexual assault and Table A1.5 for serious sexual assault.
2. For definitions of victim status and deprivation see notes at the start of this annex.

Table A1.2: Estimates of numbers (000s) ¹ of adults who had experienced any stalking or sexual victimisation ² since the age of 16 / in the 12 months by gender

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults (13,418).

Variable name: SH_, SV_, SA_.²

| <i>Numbers of incidents (000s)</i> | | | Best estimate (000s) | Higher estimate (000s) | Lower estimate (000s) |
|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| EXPERIENCED STALKING AND HARASSMENT IN LAST 12 MONTHS (ALL) | | | 241 | 264 | 218 |
| Male | | | 102 | 118 | 87 |
| Female | | | 139 | 155 | 122 |
| EXPERIENCED LESS SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT SINCE AGE 16 (ALL) | | | 377 | 405 | 349 |
| Male | | | 60 | 71 | 48 |
| Female | | | 318 | 342 | 293 |
| EXPERIENCED LESS SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT IN LAST 12 MONTHS (ALL) | | | 50 | 61 | 39 |
| Male | | | 15 | 22 | 9 |
| Female | | | 34 | 43 | 26 |
| EXPERIENCED SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT SINCE AGE 16 (ALL) | | | 115 | 130 | 100 |
| Male | | | 15 | 21 | 9 |
| Female | | | 100 | 113 | 87 |
| EXPERIENCED SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT IN LAST 12 MONTHS (ALL) | | | 8 | 12 | 4 |
| Male | | | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| Female | | | 6 | 10 | 3 |

1. Numbers are rounded to the nearest thousand. They are derived by multiplying the prevalence rate by the population aged 16+. Population estimates were based on mid-2009 population estimate in Scotland produced by GROS of 4,281,650 adults aged 16+.
2. See Table A1.3 for variable names and details of the question used to identify stalking and harassment; Table A1.4 for less serious sexual assault and Table A1.5 for serious sexual assault.
3. Higher and lower estimates are derived using the 95% confidence interval.

Table A1.3: % who had experienced stalking and harassment¹ in the last 12 months by demographic variables

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults (13,418). Variable names: *SHSENT*, *SHCALLS*, *SHLOIT*, *SHFOLL*.

| <i>Row percentages</i> | ANY stalking & h'ment | Unw'ted corresp. | Unw'ted tel. calls | Anyone waiting outside | Watched / followed |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| AGE | | | | | |
| 16-24 | 13 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| 25-44 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 45-59 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 60 or over | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| MALE (TOTAL) | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 16-24 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 25-44 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 45-59 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 60 or over | 1 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| FEMALE (TOTAL) | 6 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 16-24 | 15 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 5 |
| 25-44 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 45-59 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 60 or over | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| VICTIM STATUS ² | | | | | |
| Victim | 11 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 3 |
| Non-victim | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| DEPRIVATION ² | | | | | |
| 15% most deprived | 7 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| Rest of Scotland | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| ALL | 6 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 |

- The following question was used to identify victims of stalking and harassment: "Since the 1st of <month>, has anyone ever done any of the following things to you? This may have been a partner, a family member, someone you knew casually, or a stranger". The response options and corresponding table headers are listed below:
 - Sent you a number of unwanted letters, emails, text messages or cards that were either obscene or threatening (shown as 'Unw'ted corresp.' in the table above);
 - Made a number of obscene, threatening, nuisance or silent phone calls to you (shown as 'Unw'ted tel. calls' in the table above);
 - Waited or loitered outside your home or workplace on more than one occasion (shown as 'Anyone waiting outside' in the table above);
 - Followed you around and watched you on more than one occasion (shown as 'Watched / followed' in the table above).
- For definitions of victim status and deprivation see notes at the start of this annex.

Table A1.4: % who had experienced less serious sexual assault ¹ since the age of 16 by demographic variables

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults (13,418). Variable names: *SVINEX*, *SVST*, *SVTS*.

| <i>Row percentages</i> | ANY less serious sexual assault | Indecent exposure | Unwanted sexual touching | Sexual threats |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| AGE | | | | |
| 16-24 | 10 | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| 25-44 | 11 | 5 | 6 | 3 |
| 45-59 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| 60 or over | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| MALE (TOTAL) | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 16-24 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 25-44 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 45-59 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 60 or over | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| FEMALE (TOTAL) | 14 | 8 | 7 | 3 |
| 16-24 | 14 | 7 | 9 | 1 |
| 25-44 | 19 | 9 | 10 | 6 |
| 45-59 | 16 | 11 | 7 | 4 |
| 60 or over | 8 | 6 | 2 | 1 |
| VICTIM STATUS ² | | | | |
| Victim | 13 | 7 | 6 | 4 |
| Non-victim | 8 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| DEPRIVATION ² | | | | |
| 15% most deprived | 9 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| Rest of Scotland | 9 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| ALL | 9 | 5 | 4 | 2 |

- The following question was used to identify victims of less serious sexual assault: "Since the age of 16, has anyone ever done any of the following without your consent? This may have been someone you were in a relationship with, someone you knew or a stranger". The response options and corresponding table headers are listed below:
 - Indecently exposed themselves to you (i.e. flashing); (shown as 'Indecent exposure' in the table above);
 - Sexually threatened you (e.g. demanded sex when you did not want it, followed or cornered you in a sexually threatening way); (shown as 'Sexual threats' in the table above);
 - Touched you sexually when you did not want it (e.g. groping, touching of breasts, bottom, or genitals, unwanted kissing); (shown as 'Unwanted sexual touching' in the table above).
- For definitions of victim status and deprivation see notes at the start of this annex.

Table A1.5: % who had experienced serious sexual assault ¹ since the age of 16 by demographic variables

SCJS 2009/10.

Base: Adults (13,418). Variable names: SAFS, SAAFS, SAOS, SAAOS.

| <i>Row percentages.</i> | ANY serious sexual assault | Forced sex | Att. forced sex | Forced other sexual activity | Att. forced other sexual activity |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| AGE | | | | | |
| 16-24 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 25-44 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 45-59 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 60 or over | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MALE (TOTAL) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 16-24 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - | 0 |
| 25-44 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 45-59 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 60 or over | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FEMALE (TOTAL) | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 16-24 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 25-44 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 45-59 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 60 or over | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| VICTIM STATUS ² | | | | | |
| Victim | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Non-victim | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| DEPRIVATION ² | | | | | |
| 15% most deprived | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Rest of Scotland | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| ALL | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

See next page for notes.

1. The following question was used to identify victims of serious sexual assault:
“Since the age of 16, has anyone ever done any of the following without your consent? This may have been someone you were in a relationship with, someone you knew or a stranger”. The response options and corresponding table headers are listed below:
 - a. Forced you (either physically or by threatening you) to have sexual intercourse(vaginal or anal) when you did not want to (shown as “Forced sex” in the table above);
 - b. Tried to force you (either physically or by threatening you) to have sexual intercourse (vaginal or anal) when you did not want to (shown as “Att. forced sex” in the table above);
 - c. Forced you (either physically or by threatening you) to take part in another sexual activity (for example, oral sex) when you did not want to (shown as “Forced other sexual activity” in the table above);
 - d. Tried to force you (either physically or by threatening you) to take part in another sexual activity (for example, oral sex) when you did not want to (shown as “Att. forced other sexual activity in the table above).
2. For definitions of victim status and deprivation see notes at the start of this annex.

Annex 2: Self-completion Questionnaire Method

Crime and victimisation surveys have been carried out in Scotland since the early 1980s. The geographical coverage, sample size, method and reference period have varied across these surveys. The current survey was launched in April 2008 as the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) and it represented a major shift in design, methodology and sample size from previous surveys.

The design of the SCJS 2009/10 was the same as the 2008/09 survey, with the addition of further stratification by Local Authority (LA). The self-completion section of the questionnaire for sexual victimisation remains the same as the 2008/09 questionnaire with the exception of parts of the section on serious sexual assault where the time-period which some of the follow-up questions referenced was increased from the last 12 months to since the age of 16 (Section A2.3).

All respondents were asked to answer the self-completion section of the questionnaire – there were no limits on age.²¹

This annex provides more detail about aspects of the self-completion section questionnaire and specifically about the questions covering sexual victimisation and stalking. Details are also included about the self-completion interview and the weighting used on the data.

Further information about the design of the SCJS is contained in Annex 2 of 2009/10 Scottish Crime and Justice Survey: Main Findings and in the accompanying Technical Report to the survey.²²

A2.1 The self-completion interview

Interviews for the SCJS 2009/10 were conducted in the respondent's home using Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) and, for more sensitive questions in the self-completion section of the questionnaire such as those reported here, Computer Assisted Self-completion Interviewing (CASI). Interviews lasted 37 minutes on average in total, with the self-completion section taking just over 10 minutes on average to complete.

The results included in this report are based on interviews conducted by TNS-BMRB between 01 April 2009 and 31 March 2010. Respondents to the SCJS had the option of refusing to participate in the self-completion section which means this part of the questionnaire was not completed by all 16,036

²¹ The 2006 Scottish Crime and Victimisation Survey (SCVS) only asked respondents aged 16 – 59 to answer the self-completion section of the questionnaire and the British Crime Survey (BCS) retains this design.

²² Scottish Government website: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/Publications/publications>.

respondents to the main survey. 13,418 respondents agreed to participate in the self-completion questionnaire, a response rate of 84%.

The majority of respondents who answered the self-completion questions used the touch sensitive tablet PC on their own without any help from the interviewer (66%). Just over a third (34%) of respondents asked the interviewer to enter their answers for them. A dislike of computers was the most common reason why respondents asked the interviewer to enter their answers for them (mentioned by 66%), while running out of time was the most common reason given for respondents refusing to complete it (mentioned by 52%). Only six per cent of respondents refused to complete the self-completion questionnaire because of worries about confidentiality.²³

As interviewing for the SCJS was continuous over the course of 12 months from April 2009 to the end of March 2010, the reported measure of 'in the last 12 months' covers a 12 month period which varies according to the date of the interview. More information on the survey 'reference period' is available in the Technical Report.

A2.2 Non-response to the self-completion section

Table A2.1 compares the profile of respondents who answered the self-completion section of the questionnaire (including those who did so where the interviewer administered the questionnaire) and those who did not answer it:

- Equal proportions of males and females answered the self-completion section (84%);
- The proportions of respondents who answered the self-completion section decreased as age increased (for example, 88% of 16-24 year olds answered the self-completion section compared with 79% of those aged 60 or over);
 - Similar proportions of males and females within age groups answered the self-completion section;
- A lower proportion of those living in the 15% most deprived areas answered the self-completion section compared with those living in the rest of Scotland (78% and 85% respectively);²⁴
- There were only minor differences in response rates between those who had been a victim of crime, as identified by the SCJS 2009/10 and those who had not (85% and 83% respectively).

²³ Data described in this paragraph are unweighted.

²⁴ Scottish Government website: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD/>.

Table A2.1: % of respondents overall and in selected sub-groups who did and who did not answer the self-completion section ²⁵
SCJS 2009/10.

Base: All respondents (16,036).

| <i>Row percentages</i> | Self-completion % | No self-completion % |
|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| AGE | | |
| 16-24 | 87.7 | 12.3 |
| 25-44 | 86.7 | 13.3 |
| 45-59 | 86.0 | 14.0 |
| 60+ | 78.7 | 21.3 |
| MALE (TOTAL) | 83.7 | 16.3 |
| 16-24 | 86.8 | 13.2 |
| 25-44 | 86.4 | 13.6 |
| 45-59 | 85.3 | 14.7 |
| 60+ | 79.8 | 20.2 |
| FEMALE (TOTAL) | 83.6 | 16.4 |
| 16-24 | 88.5 | 11.5 |
| 25-44 | 87.0 | 13.0 |
| 45-59 | 86.6 | 13.4 |
| 60+ | 77.9 | 22.1 |
| VICTIM STATUS | | |
| Victim | 85.2 | 14.8 |
| Non-Victim | 83.4 | 16.6 |
| DEPRIVATION | | |
| 15% most deprived | 77.9 | 22.1 |
| Rest of Scotland | 84.5 | 15.5 |
| ALL | 83.7 | 16.3 |

A2.3 Questionnaire content

The SCJS questionnaire has a complex structure, but basically consists of three elements:

- The **main questionnaire** consists of a set of core modules asked of the whole sample, including demographics; and a set of **quarter-sample modules**, containing questions on a variety of topics;

²⁵ Data displayed in the table are unweighted.

- A **victim form questionnaire** which collects details about the separate incidents a respondent may have experienced during the reference period. This victim form can be repeated up to five times. The number of victim forms completed depends on the number and nature of incidents respondents experienced;
- A **self-completion questionnaire** covering sensitive issues. All respondents were asked to complete a self-completion questionnaire, but had the option to refuse this due to the sensitive nature of the questions.

The questions on sexual victimisation and stalking were included in the self-completion questionnaire.

Respondents were first asked about whether they had been stalked or harassed in the 12 month reference period (including confirmation of whether this was via written correspondence; telephone calls; someone waiting outside their home or workplace; someone following them).

Subsequently they were asked about sexual victimisation. This included:

- Less serious sexual assault which included indecent exposure, sexual threats and being touched sexually when it was unwanted;
- Serious sexual assault which included forced sex or being forced into another sexual activity and attempts to do these.

Those who experienced stalking and harassment or less serious sexual assault were asked similar follow-up questions. These included who the offender(s) was and what their relationship to the respondent was. The respondent was also asked whether the police came to know about the incident, and if not, why not.

Those who experienced less serious sexual assault were also asked the gender of the offender(s); whether the incident happened in Scotland; when the incident(s) happened; how many times it happened in the last 12 months and how the incident was reported to the police (if it was reported).

The time-period which some of the follow-up questions for serious sexual assault asked about was increased compared to the 2008/09 survey from incidents occurring in the 12 month reference period to incidents occurring since the age of 16. This amendment to the questionnaire was made to increase the number of cases available as numbers in 2008/09 were too low to allow robust analysis.²⁶

²⁶ The accompanying Technical Report provides further information on this issue.

Broadly, the same follow-up questions that were asked for incidents of less serious sexual assault were asked for each type of serious sexual assault the respondent had been the victim of – these included:

- When the incidents(s) happened (in the last 12 months, longer ago or both); and how many times they occurred during the 12 month reference period and since the age of 16;
- What the relationship was between the respondent and the perpetrator(s) and the gender of the perpetrator(s) for all incidents and the latest incident both for those happening in the 12 month reference period and those happening prior to the 12 month reference period since the age of 16;
- For the latest incident (irrespective of when this was), whether it happened in Scotland; what, if any, physical injuries were sustained as a result of the assault; whether the police came to know about the incident; how it was reported or if it was not, then the reason why not; whether it was reported as a crime and if so, whether there was a prosecution and conviction;
- For the latest incident in the 12 month reference period, the location of the assault, the psychological impacts, whether the respondent perceived the incident as a crime or not, satisfaction with police handling of the matter and reasons for dissatisfaction (where applicable), people or organisations informed of the assault, and whether respondents or the offender(s) were under the influence / had been given drugs or alcohol at the time of the assault.

To avoid collecting incident details more than once, the self-completion questionnaire was linked to the victim form. If an incident of stalking and harassment or sexual victimisation had been mentioned in the victim form (as identified by the respondent) then details from this were incorporated into the self-completion data and are included in this report.²⁷

A2.4 Disclosure of sensitive information

Given the sensitive nature of the questions, a separate ‘don’t wish to answer’ button was provided at the top of the screen at every question in the self-completion section of the questionnaire. At the start of the sexual victimisation questions, respondents were reminded that they could skip such sensitive questions that they did not want to answer:

Although the questions may seem quite intrusive they are important in helping us understand more about these types of crime. If the questions upset you in any way you can just pass over them by pressing ‘Don’t wish to answer’. However, we hope you will continue to the end.

²⁷ See section 5.4 of the Technical Report for more details of how this was done.

For the three initial screening questions which established whether a respondent had experienced stalking and harassment, less serious sexual assault, or serious sexual assault, no more than two per cent of respondents said they did not wish to answer these questions.²⁸

A2.5 Measuring sexual offences

Sexual offences (including those measured in the self-completion section of the questionnaire) were *not* included in the overall crime measures produced by the SCJS due to the fact that specific detailed questions on sexual assault were not asked as part of the victim form questionnaire (the instrument which allows accurate offence coding to be undertaken in a manner comparable to how the police would record crimes).

A specific question on sexual assault was not included in the victim form screener questions for two reasons:

1. Victims are often reluctant to disclose information on these sensitive crimes in a face-to-face interview and therefore surveys using face-to-face data collection rather than self-completion tend to under represent them.²⁹ (Of course it is important to note that self-completion data collection is still likely to underestimate the number of actual sexual offences occurring as, even with a self-completion format, a degree of under-reporting would be expected.)
2. Ethically, a decision was taken that it was important to identify respondents' experiences of sexual assault (and to gather limited key information about the incidents) in as sensitive a way as possible without putting respondents in an uncomfortable position (either by asking questions face-to-face or asking lots of detailed questions).

As a result, sexual victimisation is reported separately in the current volume.

Incidents gathered in the self-completion questionnaire could not be assigned offence codes in the same way as those collected in the victim form as only a limited number of follow-up questions were asked about incidents (reflecting an ethical decision based on potential respondent distress at having to disclose information).

²⁸ This percentage figure is based on weighted data.

²⁹ Details of sexual crimes were recorded in the victim form where the respondent mentioned them unprompted, but were not probed for specifically in the same way as they were in self-completion questionnaire.

A2.6 Weighting

The results obtained in the SCJS 2009/10 were weighted to correct for the unequal probability of selection for interview caused by the sample design and for differences in the level of response among groups of individuals.

In view of the reduced response to the self-completion section (84% of respondents to the main survey answered the self-completion section) additional weighting was necessary for use when analysing this sub-sample. The self-completion weights were calculated in a similar way to the main individual and household weights but based only on respondents who had answered the self-completion section of the questionnaire.³⁰ The individual weight was applied to all of the questions included in this report as they all related to the experiences and opinions of individuals.³¹

³⁰ Further detail of the weighting used in the survey and an explanation of when to use the different weights is provided in the accompanying Technical Report.

³¹ Data is available on the UK Data Archive's website at: <http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/>.

A NATIONAL STATISTICS PUBLICATION FOR SCOTLAND

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This report has been produced by researchers from the respected independent social research organisation TNS-BMRB working with Scottish Government Researchers in the Justice Analytical Services Department.

UK Statistics Authority - Assessment Report

Under the provisions of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, the UK Statistics Authority has a statutory function to assess sets of statistics against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, with a view to determining whether it is appropriate for the statistics to be designated, or retain their designation, as National Statistics. Designation as National Statistics means that statistics are deemed to be compliant with the Code of Practice.

The statistics published from the *Scottish Crime and Justice Survey* have been assessed by the UK Statistics Authority and have been confirmed as National Statistics. The Scottish Government reported back to the Authority in January 2010 on some specific enhancements it was to make, as identified by the Authority. The Assessment Report, which was published in September 2009, can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment-reports/assessment-report-12---scottish-crime-and-justice-survey--15-september-2009.pdf>.

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