

# Statistical Bulletin

## Crime and Justice Series

An Official Statistics Publication for Scotland

29 March 2011

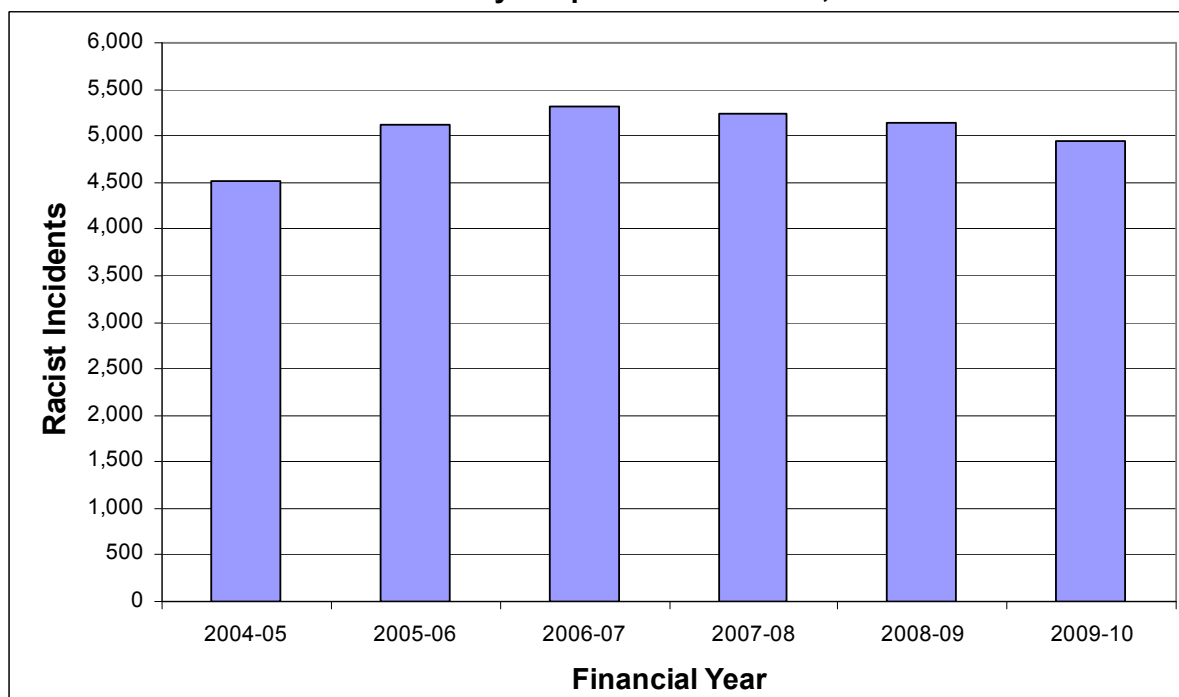
### RACIST INCIDENTS RECORDED BY THE POLICE IN SCOTLAND, 2009-10

#### 1. Introduction

This bulletin presents statistics on racist incidents recorded and cleared up by the eight Scottish police forces in 2009-10. The definition of a racist incident, as given by Sir William MacPherson in his Report on the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, is “**any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person**”.

Any racist incident reported to the police may involve one or more victims, one or more perpetrators, and result in one or more crimes or offences being recorded. This bulletin reports details of all incidents, all crimes or offences associated with each incident, and, where possible, details of the victims and perpetrators. It is also important to note that these statistics only cover racist incidents reported to the police, not all racist incidents.

**Chart 1 Racist incidents recorded by the police in Scotland, 2004-05 to 2009-10**



1. Introduction.....	1
2. Commentary.....	3
2.1 <i>Incidents recorded by the police, by police force area</i> .....	3
2.2 <i>Detail of the incidents</i> .....	3
2.3 <i>Crimes Recorded</i> .....	5
2.4 <i>Victims of racist incidents</i> .....	5
2.5 <i>Perpetrators of racist incidents</i> .....	5
3. Notes on the statistics used in this bulletin.....	7
3.1 <i>Background</i> .....	7
3.2 <i>Returns</i> .....	7
3.3 <i>Recording Issues</i> .....	7
3.4 <i>Reporting Practices</i> .....	8
3.5 <i>Crimes and offences cleared up</i> .....	8
3.6 <i>Definitions</i> .....	8
3.7 <i>Total incidents, crimes, victims and perpetrators</i> .....	10
3.8 <i>Classification</i> .....	10
3.9 <i>Scottish Crime Recording Standard</i> .....	10
3.10 <i>Census figures for Scottish Population 2001</i> .....	11
4. Classification of Crimes and Offences as used in this bulletin.....	12

#### List of tables

##### Incidents

<b>Table 1</b> Racist incidents recorded, by police force area.....	13
<b>Table 2</b> Racist incidents recorded, by local authority area.....	14
<b>Table 3</b> Racist incidents recorded, by location of incident.....	15
<b>Table 4</b> Racist incidents recorded, by quarter.....	15
<b>Table 5</b> Racist incidents recorded, by day of week.....	15
<b>Table 6</b> Racist incidents recorded, by category of person making initial report.....	15

##### Crimes

<b>Table 7a</b> Crimes recorded by the police as part of racist incidents.....	16
<b>Table 7b</b> Clear-up rate of crimes recorded by the police as part of racist incidents.....	16

##### Victims

<b>Table 8</b> Ethnic origin of victims of racist incidents.....	17
<b>Table 9</b> Main language of victims of racist incidents.....	17
<b>Table 10</b> Age and gender of victims of racist incidents.....	17
<b>Table 11</b> Number of previous incidents reported to police by victim.....	18

##### Perpetrators

<b>Table 12</b> Ethnic origin of perpetrators of racist incidents.....	18
<b>Table 13</b> Main language of perpetrators of racist incidents.....	18
<b>Table 14</b> Age and gender of perpetrators of racist incidents.....	19
<b>Table 15</b> Police action taken with regard to perpetrator.....	19

#### List of charts

<b>Chart 1</b> Racist incidents recorded by the police in Scotland.....	1
<b>Chart 2</b> Incidents by financial year and quarter.....	4
<b>Chart 3</b> Incidents by weekday and time.....	4

## **2. Commentary**

### **2.1 Incidents recorded by the police, by police force area**

The total number of racist incidents recorded by the police in Scotland fell by four per cent between 2008-09 and 2009-10 (from 5,143 to 4,952). The number of crimes recorded decreased from 6,615 crimes in 2008-09 to 5,819 crimes in 2009-10, which equates to a decrease of 12 per cent (Table 1).

Two forces showed a year on year increase in the number of racist incidents recorded from 2008-09 to 2009-10 (Lothian & Borders and Strathclyde), while Fife and Grampian remained at a similar level as in 2008-09. All other police forces showed a decrease between 2008-09 and 2009-10. The number of crimes recorded between 2008-09 and 2009-10 decreased in all eight police forces.

The number of incidents, as a rate per 10,000 local population, is generally higher in urban areas (Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow) than in more rural areas (Table 2).

Over the period 2004-05 to 2009-10, racist incidents in Scotland have increased by 10 per cent. There could be a number of reasons for this. Forces' work with a range of victim support agencies to encourage reporting may be one reason for this increase. Other factors which could have impacted on the numbers are an increasing public intolerance of such behaviour, and increased public confidence that reporting such incidents is worthwhile. There have also been improvements in data collection by police forces, and the introduction of centralised call centres has encouraged the reporting of all incidents. It should be noted however that the number of racist incidents recorded has been falling since 2006-07.

### **2.2 Detail of the incidents**

Various information was recorded in relation to the incident, such as the location where the incident took place, the date and time of the incident, and whether a crime was recorded as part of the incident.

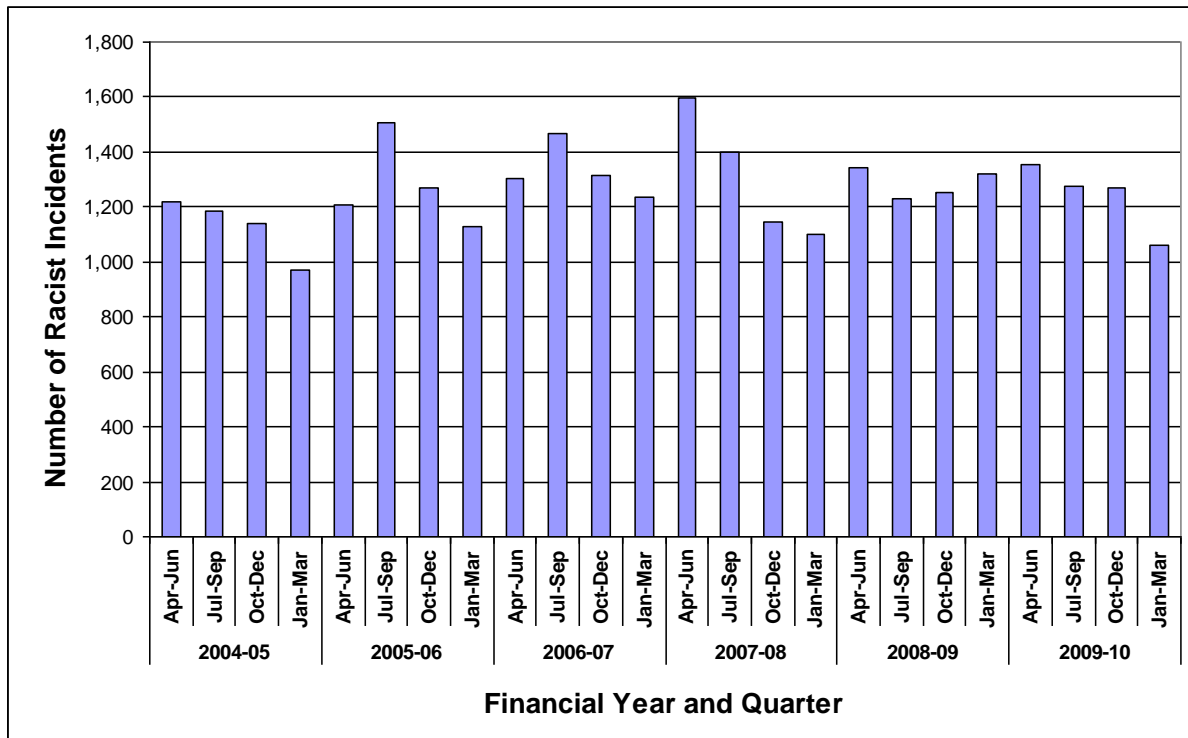
In 2009-10, around 98 per cent of incidents recorded resulted in one or more crimes being recorded (Table 1).

As shown in Table 3, the most common locations for an incident in 2009-10 were the street (32 per cent), a dwelling house (19 per cent) and in a shop (18 per cent). These three locations therefore accounted for 69 per cent of all racist incidents in 2009-10, compared with around 63 per cent for these three locations in 2008-09. Note however that information for 2009-10 is based on all forces apart from Lothian and Borders who were unable to provide data on location of incident due to differences in classifications between their own recorded systems and our data collection template.

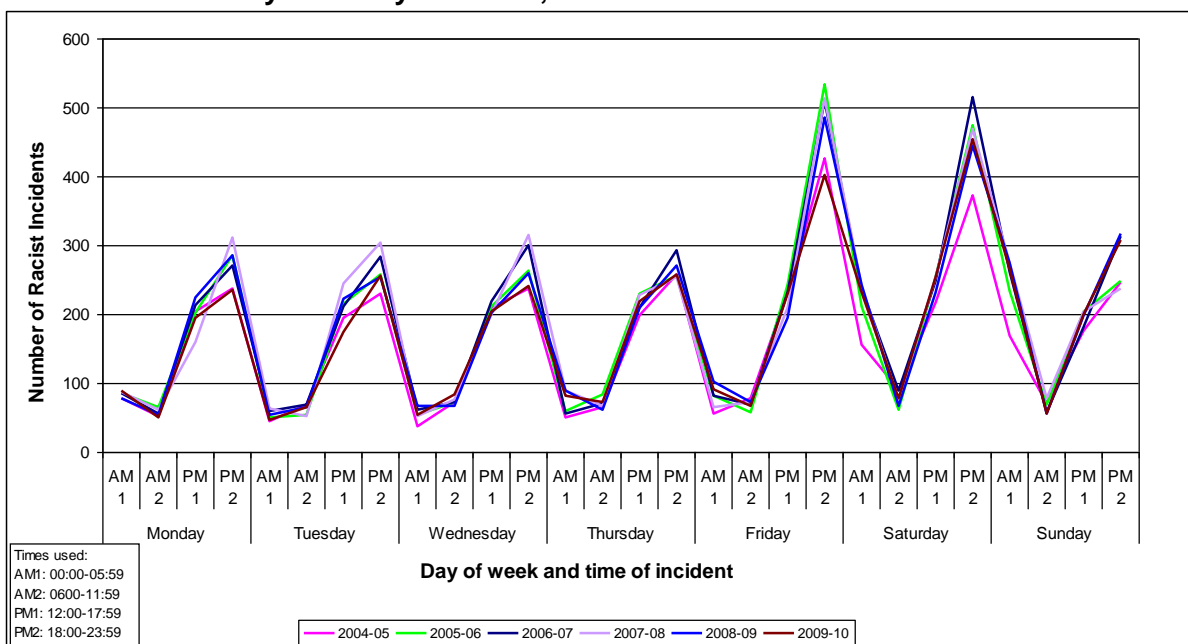
The most common times at which an incident occurred were between Friday night and Sunday night with more incidents generally occurring between the hours of 18:00 to midnight.(Chart 3 and Table 5).

Approximately 75 per cent of incidents in 2009-10 were reported to the police by the victim, which is an increase from 73 per cent in 2008-09. Other reporters included witnesses of the incident, the police and agencies reporting on behalf of the victim (Table 6). Information for 2009-10 is based on all forces apart from Lothian and Borders who were unable to provide data on who reported the incident.

**Chart 2 Incidents by financial year and quarter, 2004-05 to 2009-10**



**Chart 3 Incidents by weekday and time, 2004-05 to 2009-10**



### **2.3 Crimes Recorded**

The most frequently recorded crime/offence in 2009-10 was racially aggravated conduct, which accounted for 65 per cent of all crimes recorded as part of racist incidents. This is followed by breach of the peace (13 per cent), minor assault (9 per cent), fire-raising/vandalism (5 per cent), and racially aggravated harassment (3 per cent). In each year, these five crimes and offences account for 95 per cent of all crimes and offences recorded as part of a racist incident (Table 7a). Definitions of racially aggravated conduct and racially aggravated harassment are included in note 3.6.

Overall, nearly 68 per cent of all racist crimes recorded in 2009-10 were cleared-up (Table 7b). The clear-up rate differs depending on the crime. Approximately 41 per cent of racist crimes involving fire-raising, vandalism etc were cleared up, while there was a clear up rate of 97 per cent for 'other crimes' (including handling offensive weapons and drug crimes). A definition of 'Cleared-up' can be found in note 3.5.

### **2.4 Victims of racist incidents**

In 2009-10, around 48 per cent of victims, where ethnic origin was known, were of Asian origin (that is, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese or other Asian), with the majority being Pakistani (Table 8). The largest minority ethnic group in the Scottish population is Pakistani, based on the 2001 Census figures (note 3.10).

The percentage of male victims in 2009-10 has remained more or less unchanged at around 75 per cent of all victims, where gender was known. In 2009-10, there were an additional 265 victims whose age and/or gender were not recorded and these were not included when calculating the above percentage (Table 10).

In 2009-10, around 74 per cent of victims reporting an incident were doing so for the first time. 15 per cent of victims had made one or two previous reports. These percentages are based on those incidents for which previous incident information is known. When recording whether the victim had reported previous racist incidents within the previous two years to the police, it is not always possible to determine the number of incidents previously reported. These have been described as 'unknown' in the data (Table 11). Unknown will also include victims for whom it is not known if they are a repeat victim or not.

### **2.5 Perpetrators of racist incidents**

Information about perpetrators of racist incidents is only fully available where the incident has been fully resolved, and any crime involved has been cleared up (see note 3.5 for definition of cleared up). For incidents where this information was available, in each year, approximately 96 per cent of perpetrators were of white origin (including White British, White Irish, Gypsy/Traveller, White Polish and other white) (Table 12).

In 2009-10, around 99 per cent of perpetrators of racist incidents had English as their main language (Table 13) (where language was known).

Around 47 per cent of perpetrators in 2009-10 were aged 20 or under. Around 23 per cent were under the age of 16, making them eligible for referral to the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) rather than the Procurator Fiscal (Table 14). In 2009-10, there were an additional 386 perpetrators whose age and/or gender were not recorded. These were not included when calculating the above percentages.

In 2009-10, 72 per cent of perpetrators were referred to the Procurator Fiscal or SCRA. No further action was taken against 4 per cent of perpetrators (Table 15).

### **3. Notes on the statistics used in this bulletin**

#### **3.1 Background**

In response to the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry in 1999, the then Scottish Executive produced an action plan to progress the recommendations set out in the MacPherson report, which included the setting up of a statistical collection covering racist incidents.

The definition of a racist incident as given by Sir William MacPherson in his Report on the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry is:

**“A racist incident is any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person.”**

In the context of the data for this bulletin, the above definition was used.

#### **3.2 Returns**

The return from which figures in this bulletin are taken is a simple count of the number of incidents recorded by the police and the crimes, victims and perpetrators arising from these incidents. Only returns from the eight Scottish police forces are included in this bulletin.

Due to recording issues, Lothian & Borders Police were unable to provide data for 2009-10 on the location of the incident, who first reported the incident, any agency to whom the incident was first reported, the main language of the victim and perpetrator or the action taken against the perpetrator.

#### **3.3 Recording Issues**

In an incident, one or more victims may be involved, and there may be one or more perpetrators. There may be no criminal element, or several crimes or offences may occur.

In Scotland, assault is a common law offence. In order to distinguish between serious and minor assaults, police forces use a common definition of what constitutes a serious assault. Definitions are listed in note 3.6.

Quality assurance checks during the preparation of this bulletin has shown that there is an inconsistency in the number of crimes recorded by the eight Scottish police forces. Some forces have reported only the racist crimes associated with the racist incidents and others have reported all crimes associated with the racist incident. As a result, there may be an over count in the number of crimes recorded as part of a racist incident. Further work will be undertaken to address this issue prior to the next publication.

Due to changes in Lothian & Borders Police's recording practices, the classification used to describe the *location of an incident* resulted in an increase in the number of incidents being recorded at 'sporting venues' and 'other businesses' in 2008-09. This

corresponds to a decrease in the number of incidents recorded at locations classified as 'shops'. These variations do not represent a change in the locations crime are being committed. It has not been possible to rectify this problem for 2009-10 and so data relating to location of incidents for 2009-10 does not include Lothian & Borders.

### **3.4 Reporting Practices**

These statistics do not record every occurrence of racist incidents in Scotland. Not all incidents are reported to the police. The 2009-10 Scottish Crime and Justice Survey<sup>1</sup> estimated that approximately 37 per cent of *all* crimes came to the attention of the police.

### **3.5 Crimes and offences cleared up**

The definition of "cleared up" is noted below. This definition came into force with effect from 1 April 1996.

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

- (i) by standing agreement with the Procurator Fiscal, the police warn the accused due to the minor nature of the offence, or*
- (ii) reporting is inappropriate due to the non-age of the accused, death of the accused or other similar circumstances.*

### **3.6 Definitions**

*Racially-aggravated* - the offender asserts towards the person affected, malice and ill-will based on that person's membership (or presumed membership) of a racial group; or the course of conduct or action is motivated (wholly or partly) by malice and ill-will towards members of a racial group based on their membership of that group.

*Racially-aggravated harassment* - a racially-aggravated course of conduct, amounting to harassment.

*Racially-aggravated conduct* - to act in a manner, including speech, which is racially aggravated and which causes, or is intended to cause, a person alarm or distress.

*Serious Assault* - A serious assault is an assault in which the victim sustains an injury resulting in detention in hospital as an in-patient for the treatment of that injury, or any of the following injuries, whether or not detained in hospital; fractures (mean the breaking or cracking of a bone), internal injuries, severe concussion, loss of consciousness, lacerations requiring sutures which may lead to impairment or disfigurement.

---

<sup>1</sup> Further details about the 2009-10 Scottish Crime and Justice Survey can be obtained from the main findings paper available at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/11/01090437/0>



Please note – nose is cartilage, not bone, so a 'broken nose' should not be classified as a serious assault unless it meets one of the other criteria.

*Ethnicity* – 2009-10 is the first year in which forces were asked to use the new classification of 21 groups (listed below) to record the ethnic group of victim and perpetrator. An individual is asked to 'self declare' their ethnic origin. Due to differences in recording systems used, not all police forces have been able to provide data using the new classification for 2009-10 and for these areas, data was provided on the basis of the 13 group classification instead.

In order to compare ethnic classifications over the time period covered by the bulletin, the new crime classifications have been aggregated to match the previous classification of 13 groups. This aggregation is detailed below.

In Table 8, detailing ethnic origin of victims, the changes between 2008-09 and 2009-10 may be due in part to the changes in classification, therefore trend data should be treated with caution. This is less of a problem for Table 12, Ethnic Origin of perpetrators, as the groups have had to be aggregated for disclosure purposes.

#### **Ethnic Groups collected:**

Group Number	Ethnic group	Group Number	Mapped to
1	Scottish White	1	White British
2	English White	1	White British
3	Welsh White	1	White British
4	Northern Irish White	1	White British
5	British White	1	White British
6	Irish White	2	White Irish
7	Gypsy/Traveller White	3	Other White background
8	Polish White	3	Other White background
9	Other White	3	Other White background
10	Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	4	Mixed
11	Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British	6	Pakistani
12	Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British	5	Indian
13	Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British	7	Bangladeshi
14	Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British	12	Chinese
15	Other Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British	8	Other Asian background
16	African, African Scottish or African British	10	African
17	Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British	9	Caribbean
18	Black, Black Scottish or Black British	11	Other Black Background
19	Other African, Caribbean or Black – please state	10	African
20	Arab	13	Other
21	Other	13	Other

*Incident* - an incident is any communication by whatever means about a matter which comes to the police attention which they may be required to act upon.

*Crime* - an act committed in violation of the law (common law or statute). Any single incident may include a number of crimes, or there might be no criminal element.

*Victim* - in any incident, there could be one or more victims.

*Perpetrator* - in any incident, there could be one or more perpetrators.

### **3.7 Total incidents, crimes, victims and perpetrators**

The following totals indicate the data collected. Note that crimes, victims and perpetrators can have multiple entries per incident as well as multiple entries with one another (i.e. one crime may have several victims/perpetrators):

#### **Total incidents, crimes, victims and perpetrators, by financial year, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Incidents	4,519	5,112	5,322	5,247	5,143	4,952
Crimes	5,734	6,444	6,654	6,676	6,615	5,819
Victims	5,059	5,820	5,963	5,790	5,993	5,758
Perpetrators	3,321	4,100	5,082	5,013	5,446	5,472

### **3.8 Classification**

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

The detailed classification of crimes and offences used by The Scottish Government to collect criminal statistics contains about 360 codes. These are grouped in the bulletin as shown in note 4.

### **3.9 Scottish Crime Recording Standard**

It is expected that the numbers of crimes would have been affected by the implementation (from 1 April 2004) of the Scottish Crime Recording Standard (SCRS), which means that no corroborative evidence is required initially to record a crime related incident as a crime if so perceived by the victim. This was expected to increase the numbers of minor crimes recorded by the police, such as minor crimes of vandalism, minor assaults and breach of the peace.

Previously, where there were crimes which the victim did not wish the police to actively investigate (for instance, if they were concerned that this could lead to more trouble), the crime itself would not have been recorded. Therefore the SCRS is thought to have caused an increase in the number of crimes recorded where there is no real possibility of clearing up the crime, which has an impact on the clear up rates.

### 3.10 Census figures for Scottish Population 2001

The following table gives the most recent Census figures for the ethnicity of the population of Scotland.

#### Scottish Population by Ethnic Group, 2001

Ethnic group	Percentage of Total Population	Percentage of Minority Ethnic Population	Base
White British	95.5	n/a	4,832,756
Other White	1.5	n/a	78,150
White Irish	1.0	n/a	49,428
Pakistani	0.6	31.3	31,793
Chinese	0.3	16.0	16,310
Indian	0.3	14.8	15,037
Any Mixed Background	0.3	12.6	12,764
Other Ethnic Group	0.2	9.4	9,571
Other South Asian	0.1	6.1	6,196
African	0.1	5.0	5,118
Bangladeshi	0.0	1.9	1,981
Caribbean	0.0	1.7	1,778
Black Scottish or other Black	0.0	1.1	1,129
<b>All Minority Ethnic Population</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101,677</b>
<b>All Population</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>5,062,011</b>

Source: [General Register Office for Scotland, Analysis of Ethnicity in the 2001 Census](#)

**4. Classification of Crimes and Offences as used in this bulletin**

<b><u>CRIMES</u></b>	<b><i>Includes</i></b>
<b><u>Crimes of Violence and Indecency</u></b>	Murder, attempted murder, serious assault, culpable homicide, robbery, rape & attempted rape, lewd and libidinous practices, procurement and other sexual offences
<b><u>Crimes Involving Dishonesty</u></b>	Housebreaking, theft of motor vehicle, shoplifting, fraud, other crimes of dishonesty
<b><u>Crimes of Fire-Raising, Vandalism etc</u></b>	Fire-raising, vandalism, other malicious and reckless conduct
<b><u>Other Crimes</u></b>	Handling offensive weapons, drug crimes, resisting arrest, crimes against public order
<b><u>OFFENCES</u></b>	Minor assault, breach of the peace, racially aggravated harassment, racially aggravated conduct, motor vehicle offences, anti-social behaviour offences

**Table 1 Racist incidents recorded, by police force area, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Police force		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Central	Total Incidents	280	355	357	336	381	267
	Incidents which involved 1 or more crimes	275	354	348	336	381	263
	Total Crimes	402	571	525	522	566	404
Dumfries and Galloway	Total Incidents	78	89	102	64	98	78
	Incidents which involved 1 or more crimes	69	73	71	58	82	67
	Total Crimes	85	91	95	58	95	74
Fife	Total Incidents	302	241	193	149	138	139
	Incidents which involved 1 or more crimes	276	205	193	149	138	139
	Total Crimes	464	355	271	218	187	177
Grampian	Total Incidents	437	386	439	391	621	624
	Incidents which involved 1 or more crimes	435	386	435	389	605	621
	Total Crimes	701	674	877	735	1,072	1,158
Lothian and Borders	Total Incidents	814	1,292	1,521	1,391	1,110	1,143
	Incidents which involved 1 or more crimes	814	1,280	1,521	1,390	1,110	1,139
	Total Crimes	913	1,306	1,543	1,493	1,364	1,330
Northern	Total Incidents	123	128	123	140	138	89
	Incidents which involved 1 or more crimes	116	128	113	130	138	88
	Total Crimes	217	143	144	188	139	89
Strathclyde	Total Incidents	2,152	2,216	2,213	2,396	2,289	2,328
	Incidents which involved 1 or more crimes	1,939	2,074	2,050	2,192	2,212	2,265
	Total Crimes	2,620	2,900	2,823	3,082	2,824	2,263
Tayside	Total Incidents	333	405	374	380	368	284
	Incidents which involved 1 or more crimes	332	405	374	380	368	284
	Total Crimes	332	404	376	380	368	324
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>Total Incidents</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>5,143</b>	<b>4,952</b>
	<b>Incidents which involved 1 or more crimes</b>	<b>4,256</b>	<b>4,905</b>	<b>5,105</b>	<b>5,024</b>	<b>5,034</b>	<b>4,866</b>
	<b>Total Crimes</b>	<b>5,734</b>	<b>6,444</b>	<b>6,654</b>	<b>6,676</b>	<b>6,615</b>	<b>5,819</b>

**Table 2 Racist incidents recorded, by local authority area, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Local Authority	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>1</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>1</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>1</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>1</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>1</sup>	Number	Rate per 10,000 population <sup>1</sup>
Aberdeen City	313	15.2	267	13.0	309	14.9	322	15.4	479	22.8	451	21.1
Aberdeenshire	86	3.7	75	3.2	88	3.7	31	1.3	107	4.4	90	3.7
Angus	46	4.2	66	6.1	55	5.0	50	4.6	65	5.9	45	4.1
Argyll & Bute	33	3.6	25	2.8	43	4.7	34	3.7	25	2.8	26	2.9
Clackmannanshire	50	10.4	49	10.1	58	11.9	58	11.6	53	10.5	41	8.1
Dumfries & Galloway	78	5.3	89	6.0	102	6.9	64	4.3	96	6.5	78	5.3
Dundee City	217	15.3	246	17.3	242	17.0	244	17.2	215	15.1	160	11.2
East Ayrshire	75	6.3	67	5.6	78	6.5	69	5.8	71	5.9	81	6.7
East Dunbartonshire	41	3.8	33	3.1	33	3.1	42	4.0	38	3.6	41	3.9
East Lothian	28	3.1	38	4.1	64	6.9	54	5.7	35	3.6	34	3.5
East Renfrewshire	48	5.4	55	6.1	40	4.5	33	3.7	36	4.0	40	4.5
Edinburgh, City of	599	13.2	972	21.2	1,179	25.4	1,018	21.7	810	17.2	886	18.5
Eilean Siar	18	6.9	12	4.6	8	3.0	10	3.8	11	4.2	6	2.3
Falkirk	160	10.9	182	12.2	167	11.2	171	11.3	215	14.2	124	8.1
Fife	302	8.5	241	6.8	193	5.4	149	4.1	138	3.8	139	3.8
Glasgow City	1,226	21.2	1,277	22.1	1,209	20.8	1,301	22.4	1256	21.5	1322	22.5
Highland	97	4.6	107	5.0	107	5.0	122	5.6	123	5.6	81	3.7
Inverclyde	32	3.9	36	4.4	31	3.8	52	6.4	38	4.7	20	2.5
Midlothian	52	6.5	81	10.2	40	5.0	65	8.2	43	5.3	35	4.3
Moray	38	4.4	44	5.1	42	4.8	38	4.4	30	3.4	83	9.5
North Ayrshire	91	6.7	103	7.6	102	7.5	99	7.3	100	7.4	92	6.8
North Lanarkshire	181	5.6	207	6.4	234	7.2	282	8.7	249	7.6	252	7.7
Orkney Islands	4	2.1	4	2.0	3	1.5	5	2.5	2	1.0	2	1.0
Perth & Kinross	70	5.1	93	6.7	77	5.5	86	6.1	88	6.1	79	5.4
Renfrewshire	131	7.7	86	5.1	130	7.7	123	7.3	118	6.9	122	7.2
Scottish Borders	26	2.4	43	3.9	41	3.7	47	4.2	45	4.0	43	3.8
Shetland Islands	4	1.8	5	2.3	5	2.3	3	1.4	2	0.9	0	0.0
South Ayrshire	42	3.8	64	5.7	45	4.0	63	5.6	53	4.7	77	6.9
South Lanarkshire	162	5.3	181	5.9	199	6.5	212	6.8	210	6.8	182	5.9
Stirling	70	8.1	124	14.3	132	15.0	107	12.1	113	12.8	102	11.5
West Dunbartonshire	90	9.8	82	9.0	69	7.6	86	9.4	95	10.4	73	8.0
West Lothian	109	6.7	158	9.6	197	11.9	204	12.2	164	9.7	145	8.5
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>5,244</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>5,123</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>4,952</b>	<b>9.5</b>

1. Population data used to calculate these rates are the relevant mid year population estimates prepared by the General Register Office for Scotland:  
<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/population/estimates/mid-year/index.html>

**Table 3 Racist incidents recorded, by location of incident, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Location	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 <sup>1</sup>	2009-10 <sup>2</sup>
Dwelling house (including garden)	804	845	1,418	913	894	709
Street	1,396	1,763	1,818	1,626	1,651	1,235
Shop	1,101	1,145	823	1,121	718	676
Restaurant/Takeaway	388	449	353	389	369	317
Other Business	129	164	122	144	430	114
Public transport/bus stop	51	74	73	88	143	72
School/College	73	71	59	69	65	49
Sporting Venue	17	21	22	24	126	19
Pub/place of public entertainment	143	185	148	214	195	219
Place of Worship	12	28	19	31	13	11
Medical Establishment (e.g. hospital, health centre)	47	61	50	59	58	49
Other	358	306	417	569	481	339
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>5,143</b>	<b>3,809</b>

1. Information for 2008-09 is not directly comparable with previous years due to changes in recording practices for Lothian & Borders. Please see note 3.3.

2. Information for 2009-10 is not available for Lothian & Borders.

**Table 4 Racist incidents recorded, by quarter<sup>1</sup>, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Month	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
April to June	1,221	1,207	1,303	1,599	1,341	1,353
July to September	1,187	1,508	1,465	1,399	1,230	1,274
October to December	1,138	1,267	1,317	1,147	1,252	1,267
January to March	973	1,130	1,237	1,102	1,320	1,058
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>5,143</b>	<b>4,952</b>

1. Where the date was unknown, forces were asked to record as 15th of month; if month unknown, asked to record as 15th June.

**Table 5 Racist incidents recorded, by day of week<sup>1</sup>, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Day	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Monday	569	639	624	621	642	570
Tuesday	538	576	624	661	595	541
Wednesday	557	600	652	641	593	580
Thursday	571	629	628	635	629	629
Friday	789	915	892	859	855	789
Saturday	834	999	1,088	1,037	984	1,016
Sunday	661	754	814	793	845	827
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>5,143</b>	<b>4,952</b>

1. Where the date was unknown, forces were asked to record as 15th of month; if month unknown, asked to record as 15th June. The 'day' variable was then calculated from this date. Some days will therefore include unknown values.

**Table 6 Racist incidents recorded, by category of person making initial report, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Reporter	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 <sup>1</sup>
Victim	3,833	4,391	4,373	3,987	3,737	2,862
Police	158	220	350	518	671	329
Third part agency report	31	74	38	50	73	80
Witness	282	213	331	404	419	355
Other	215	214	230	285	230	183
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>5,112</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>5,244</b>	<b>5,130</b>	<b>3,809</b>

1. Information for 2009-10 is not available for Lothian & Borders.

**Table 7a Crimes recorded by the police as part of racist incidents, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Crimes recorded	Number of crimes recorded					
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
<b>Crimes of violence and indecency</b>	69	83	75	65	84	42
<b>Crimes of dishonesty</b>	62	67	83	73	72	64
<b>Fire-raising, vandalism etc</b>	468	571	473	456	366	303
<b>Other crimes</b>	82	96	105	84	69	67
<b>Total offences - of which</b>	5,053	5,627	5,916	5,989	6,024	5,343
Minor Assault	750	876	908	812	738	542
Breach of the peace	915	795	859	1,066	1,125	731
Racially aggravated harassment	360	300	237	247	227	175
Racially aggravated conduct	2969	3,583	3,808	3,778	3,815	3,776
Other offences	59	73	104	86	119	119
Unknown crimes/offences	0	0	2	4	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,734</b>	<b>6,444</b>	<b>6,654</b>	<b>6,671</b>	<b>6,615</b>	<b>5,819</b>

**Table 7b Clear-up rate of crimes recorded by the police as part of racist incidents, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Crimes recorded	Percentage clear-up rate					
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
<b>Crimes of violence and indecency</b>	49.3	33.7	49.3	55.4	61.9	71.4
<b>Crimes of dishonesty</b>	48.4	46.3	47.0	47.9	62.5	73.4
<b>Fire-raising, vandalism etc</b>	33.3	31.9	38.1	36.4	35.2	40.9
<b>Other crimes</b>	81.7	81.3	89.5	84.5	85.5	97.0
<b>Total offences - of which</b>	56.2	55.6	59.5	59.7	64.9	68.5
Minor Assault	51.5	52.9	55.4	56.9	63.3	73.8
Breach of the peace	62.1	56.0	67.2	62.4	71.3	72.0
Racially aggravated harassment	56.9	46.0	57.0	57.1	60.8	64.6
Racially aggravated conduct	56.1	57.5	59.5	60.4	64.2	67.6
Other offences	23.7	31.5	38.5	29.1	46.2	59.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>58.2</b>	<b>58.2</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>67.5</b>



**Table 8 Ethnic origin<sup>1</sup> of victims of racist incidents, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Ethnic Group	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
White British	826	1,030	983	1,030	1,094	1,145
White Irish	63	91	139	121	124	87
Other White <sup>1</sup>	130	122	414	477	509	531
Mixed	127	149	170	152	150	128
Indian	443	431	507	488	609	557
Pakistani	1,773	1,545	1,833	1,654	1,584	1,452
Bangladeshi	67	26	67	48	54	61
Other Asian	508	984	532	559	505	499
Caribbean	92	171	59	53	58	46
African	321	325	404	443	478	543
Other Black	118	68	111	181	160	70
Chinese	151	153	183	117	152	126
Other	295	379	339	290	290	326
Unknown	145	346	222	177	226	187
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,059</b>	<b>5,820</b>	<b>5,963</b>	<b>5,790</b>	<b>5,993</b>	<b>5,758</b>

1. See note 3.6 for detail of changes to ethnic origin classifications implemented in 2009-10

2. Includes Gypsy/Traveller, Polish White and Other White.

**Table 9 Main language of victims of racist incidents, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Language	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 <sup>1</sup>	2009-10 <sup>1</sup>
English	4,238	4,770	5,058	3,880	3,846	3,558
Other	652	728	637	1,562	806	499
Unknown <sup>1</sup>	169	322	268	348	1,341	1,701
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,059</b>	<b>5,820</b>	<b>5,963</b>	<b>5,790</b>	<b>5,993</b>	<b>5,758</b>

1. Lothian & Borders were unable to provide data on language of the victim for 2008-09 and 2009-10 and have been included as unknown.

**Table 10 Age and gender of victims of racist incidents, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Gender	Age	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Male	Under 16	198	218	269	172	217	206
	16 to 20	279	332	346	306	288	284
	21 to 25	482	525	664	634	688	645
	26 to 35	1,172	1,286	1,413	1,315	1,484	1,442
	36 to 50	1,124	1,285	1,207	1,267	1,327	1,206
	Over 50	356	346	313	369	341	329
	Total Male	3,611	3,992	4,212	4,063	4,345	4,112
Female	Under 16	116	135	200	115	126	115
	16 to 20	96	109	140	128	108	126
	21 to 25	165	188	182	203	199	168
	26 to 35	364	416	383	427	390	424
	36 to 50	363	455	415	412	413	420
	Over 50	111	105	108	91	115	128
	Total Female	1,215	1,408	1,428	1,376	1,351	1,381
Unknown gender/age		233	420	323	351	297	265
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,059</b>	<b>5,820</b>	<b>5,963</b>	<b>5,790</b>	<b>5,993</b>	<b>5,758</b>

**Table 11 Number of previous incidents<sup>1</sup> reported to police by victim, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Number of incidents	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2008-09
None - first report	3,670	4,427	4,107	4,101	4,078	3,916
1	447	509	529	495	544	542
2	217	241	247	253	240	251
3	121	132	131	145	152	150
4	73	96	74	91	97	79
5	52	61	49	67	69	75
6	47	47	50	34	42	53
7	32	34	36	20	27	40
8	25	21	31	21	24	27
9	20	20	24	17	19	22
10 or more	110	105	150	137	172	123
Unknown	245	127	535	409	529	480
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,059</b>	<b>5,820</b>	<b>5,963</b>	<b>5,790</b>	<b>5,993</b>	<b>5,758</b>

1. Previous incidents occurring within the previous 2 years.

**Table 12 Ethnic origin of perpetrators of racist incidents, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Ethnic Group	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
White British	3,060	3,743	4,320	4,281	4,161	4,190
White Irish	16	32	32	58	43	36
Other White <sup>1</sup>	19	20	101	61	104	119
Mixed	42	14	13	16	24	19
Asian <sup>2</sup>	73	106	132	100	117	95
Black <sup>3</sup>	25	27	69	48	37	46
Other	11	22	11	14	26	22
Unknown	75	136	404	435	934	945
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,321</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>5,082</b>	<b>5,013</b>	<b>5,446</b>	<b>5,472</b>

1. Includes Gypsy/Traveller, Polish White and Other White.

2. Includes Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese and Other Asian.

3. Includes Black African, Black Caribbean and Other Black.

**Table 13 Main language of perpetrators of racist incidents, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Language	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 <sup>1</sup>	2009-10 <sup>1</sup>
English	3,175	3,988	4,651	4,607	3,463	3,128
Other	56	20	38	56	45	31
Unknown <sup>1</sup>	90	92	393	350	1,938	2,313
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,321</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>5,082</b>	<b>5,013</b>	<b>5,446</b>	<b>5,472</b>

1. Lothian & Borders were unable to provide data on language of the perpetrator for 2008-09 and 2009-10, and have been included as unknown.

**Table 14 Age and gender of perpetrators of racist incidents, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Gender	Age	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Male	Under 16	591	694	934	791	864	904
	16 to 20	643	939	911	841	939	1,006
	21 to 25	341	401	465	501	561	577
	26 to 35	435	489	612	564	666	656
	36 to 50	384	464	592	619	626	701
	Over 50	121	121	202	223	222	200
	<b>Total Male</b>		<b>2,515</b>	<b>3,108</b>	<b>3,716</b>	<b>3,539</b>	<b>3,878</b>
Female	Under 16	162	286	303	228	263	254
	16 to 20	112	174	223	186	206	208
	21 to 25	67	78	83	100	112	116
	26 to 35	158	130	145	174	162	179
	36 to 50	132	158	189	191	205	213
	Over 50	31	42	50	55	70	72
	<b>Total Female</b>		<b>662</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>1,018</b>
Unknown gender/age		144	124	373	540	550	386
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,321</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>5,082</b>	<b>5,013</b>	<b>5,446</b>	<b>5,472</b>

**Table 15 Police action taken with regard to perpetrator, 2004-05 to 2009-10**

Action taken	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 <sup>1</sup>
Referral to procurator fiscal or SCRA	2,512	3,181	3,353	3,446	3,652	2,456
Police warning	141	62	123	82	101	44
Referred to other agency for action	74	92	2	9	5	8
Other action	370	509	553	716	922	776
No further action	138	141	854	731	721	140
Unknown <sup>1</sup>	86	115	197	29	45	2,048
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,321</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>5,082</b>	<b>5,013</b>	<b>5,446</b>	<b>5,472</b>

1. Lothian & Borders were unable to provide data on police action taken and have been included as unknown.

## AN OFFICIAL STATISTICS PUBLICATION FOR SCOTLAND

Official and National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics at <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/code-of-practice-for-official-statistics.pdf>. Both undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs and are produced free from any political interference.

Statistics assessed, or subject to assessment, by the UK Statistics Authority carry the National Statistics label, a stamp of assurance that the statistics have been produced and explained to high standards and that they serve the public good.

Further information about Official and National Statistics can be found on the UK Statistics Authority website at [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk)

## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN GROUP

### Our Aim

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

For more information on the Statistician Group, please see the Scottish Government website at [www.scotland.gov.uk/statistics](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/statistics)

### Correspondence and enquiries

Enquiries on this publication should be addressed to: General enquiries on Scottish Government statistics can be addressed to:

Jan Young  
Justice Analytical Services  
DG Learning and Justice  
1 Rear, St Andrews House  
Edinburgh EH1 3DG  
Telephone: 0131 244 8322  
Fax: 0131 244 2109  
e-mail: [JusticeStatistics@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:JusticeStatistics@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

Office of the Chief Statistician  
Scottish Government  
1N.04, St Andrews House  
EDINBURGH EH1 3DG  
Telephone: (0131) 244 0442  
e-mail: [statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

Further contact details, e-mail addresses and details of previous and forthcoming publications can be found on the Scottish Government Website at [www.scotland.gov.uk/statistics](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/statistics)

### Complaints and suggestions

If you are not satisfied with our service, please write to the Chief Statistician, Mr Rob Wishart, 1N.04, St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG, Telephone: (0131) 244 0302, e-mail [rob.wishart@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:rob.wishart@scotland.gsi.gov.uk). We also welcome any comments or suggestions that would help us to improve our standards of service.

### ScotStat

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

ISBN 978-1-78045-006-3

### Crown Copyright

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