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Analytical Services Group

**Perceptions of Crime:
Findings from the
2012/13
Northern Ireland
Crime Survey**

Research and Statistical Bulletin 1/2014

G Cadogan and P Campbell

February 2014



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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- ◆ Drugs (68%), alcohol (60%) and a lack of discipline from parents (59%) were the three factors most commonly identified by NICS 2012/13 respondents as *major* causes of crime in Northern Ireland today. When asked which single factor they considered to be the *main* cause of crime, 24% of respondents cited a 'lack of discipline from parents' while a further 22% cited 'drugs'.
- ◆ Around three-fifths (59%) of NICS 2012/13 respondents thought crime levels in Northern Ireland had increased in the preceding two years; although unchanged since 2011/12 (59%), the NICS 2012/13 figure is 20 percentage points below that observed in 2003/04 (79%). While these results illustrate the tendency of most people to believe the level of crime is increasing, even when it is not, the decrease since 2003/04 may reflect the recent falls in crime evidenced by both the NICS and police recorded crime statistics.
- ◆ As in previous sweeps of the survey, NICS 2012/13 respondents continued to be more positive in their perceptions of crime trends in their local area than at the regional level; just under a third (31%) believed local crime levels had increased in the preceding two years, down from 33% in 2011/12.
- ◆ Based on a seven-strand composite measure, findings from NICS 2012/13 show that one in ten respondents (10%) perceived the level of anti-social behaviour (ASB) in their local area to be high, a statistically significant decrease ($p < 0.05$) from NICS 2011/12 (12%). This compares with 13% in England and Wales (Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) 2012/13). Across the individual categories, 'rubbish or litter lying around' was most commonly identified as a problem in both jurisdictions (24% and 29% respectively).
- ◆ Of the demographic and socio-economic groups examined in NICS 2012/13, those most likely to perceive ASB as a problem in their local area included: residents of the 20% most deprived areas of Northern Ireland (24%); young women aged 16-24 (21%); single parents (20%); recent victims of crime reported to the police (20%); and people living in social rented accommodation (19%).
- ◆ Despite a lower prevalence of crime in Northern Ireland, NICS 2012/13 respondents were more likely than their CSEW 2012/13 counterparts to express high levels of worry across the following crime types examined: violent crime (17% v 12%); car crime (11% v 7%); and burglary (14% v 12%). In terms of worry about crime in general, however, levels of worry were higher in England and Wales (9% v 7%).
- ◆ Findings show that, for all three crime types considered, statistically significant decreases ($p < 0.05$) were observed between NICS 2011/12 and 2012/13 in the proportions of respondents who perceived it likely they would be a victim of burglary (from 14% to 11%), car crime (15% to 12%) and violent crime (9% to 7%).
- ◆ While levels of worry about crime were higher in Northern Ireland than in England and Wales, NICS 2012/13 respondents were less likely than their CSEW 2012/13 counterparts to perceive themselves to be at risk of violent crime (7%; NICS 2012/13 v 11%; CSEW 2012/13) and car crime (12% v 15%); for burglary, a rate of 11% was observed in both jurisdictions.
- ◆ At 70%, the majority of NICS 2012/13 respondents felt that 'fear of crime' has a minimal impact on their quality of life, a statistically significant improvement ($p < 0.05$) since 2011/12 (67%). A further 25% claimed it has a moderate effect, while the remaining four per cent stated their quality of life is greatly affected by their 'fear of crime'.
- ◆ Among those NICS 2012/13 respondents most likely to state that their lives are greatly affected by 'fear of crime' were: recent victims of crime reported to the police (12%); residents in areas of self-perceived high ASB (10%); people living in social rented accommodation (10%); those with a limiting illness or disability (9%); respondents who are divorced (9%); single parents (9%); and those with a household income of less than £10,000 per annum (9%).

CONTENTS		Page
Summary of findings		ii
1.	Introduction	1
1.1	The focus of this publication	1
1.2	About the Northern Ireland Crime Survey	2
2.	Perceptions of causes of crime, crime levels and anti-social behaviour	3
2.1	Causes of crime	3
2.2	Perceptions of change in crime levels	3
2.3	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour in Northern Ireland and England and Wales	5
2.4	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour by personal, household and area characteristics	6
3.	Worry about crime and personal safety	8
3.1	Worry about crime and personal safety in Northern Ireland and England and Wales	8
3.2	Worry about crime and personal safety by personal, household and area characteristics	10
4.	Perceptions of the likelihood of victimisation	13
4.1	Perceptions of the likelihood of victimisation in Northern Ireland and England and Wales	13
4.2	Perceptions of the likelihood of victimisation by personal, household and area characteristics	15
4.3	Perceptions of the likelihood of victimisation, and actual risk, in Northern Ireland	16
5.	Perceptions of the effect of ‘fear of crime’ on quality of life	17
5.1	Perceptions of the effect of ‘fear of crime’ on quality of life in Northern Ireland and England and Wales	17
5.2	Perceptions of the effect of ‘fear of crime’ on quality of life by personal, household and area characteristics	18
References		20
Tabular Annex		21
Technical Annex		34

CONTENTS OF TABULAR ANNEX		Page
A1	Perceptions of the causes of crime in Northern Ireland	21
A2	Perceptions of change in overall crime levels in Northern Ireland	21
A3	Perceptions of change in local crime levels in Northern Ireland	21
A4	Perceptions of different types of anti-social behaviour as very / fairly big problems in Northern Ireland and England and Wales	22
A5	Perceptions of different types of anti-social behaviour as the single biggest problem in the local area	22
A6	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour, by personal characteristics in Northern Ireland	23
A7	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour, by household and area characteristics in Northern Ireland	24
A8	Worry about crime and personal safety in Northern Ireland and England and Wales	25
A9	Worry about crime and personal safety, by personal characteristics in Northern Ireland	26
A10	Worry about crime and personal safety, by household and area characteristics in Northern Ireland	27
A11	Perceptions of the risk of victimisation in Northern Ireland and England and Wales	28
A12	Perceptions of the risk of victimisation, by personal characteristics in Northern Ireland	29
A13	Perceptions of the risk of victimisation, by household and area characteristics in Northern Ireland	30
A14	Perceptions of the effect of 'fear of crime' on quality of life in Northern Ireland and England and Wales	31
A15	Perceptions of the effect of 'fear of crime' on quality of life, by personal characteristics in Northern Ireland	32
A16	Perceptions of the effect of 'fear of crime' on quality of life, by household and area characteristics in Northern Ireland	33

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The focus of this publication

This bulletin draws on findings from the 2012/13 Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS), a representative, continuous, personal interview survey of the experiences and perceptions of crime of 4,055 adults living in private households throughout Northern Ireland. Previously conducted on an ad hoc basis in 1994/95, 1998, 2001 and 2003/04, the NICS began operating on a continuous basis in January 2005.

In addition to describing respondents' perceptions of causes of crime, recent changes in crime levels and the extent of anti-social behaviour in the local area, the bulletin illustrates three commonly used measures of concern about crime:

1. worry about crime and personal safety;
2. perceptions of the risk of victimisation; and
3. perceptions of the effect of 'fear of crime' on quality of life.

Comparisons are made, where appropriate, between the results of the 2012/13 NICS and those of the 2012/13 Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW, formerly known as the British Crime Survey (BCS); ONS, 2013), as well as with earlier sweeps of the NICS. In addition, findings from NICS 2012/13 are examined across the following socio-demographic (personal, household and area) groups, the first six of which (listed below) relate to equality categories specified in Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998:

1. religious belief;
2. age;
3. living arrangements (marital status);
4. sex (gender);
5. disability (or illness);
6. household type (child dependants);
7. self-perceived nationality;
8. household income;
9. housing tenure;
10. type of area (urban / rural);
11. policing district (see Technical Annex for details);
12. multiple deprivation measure rank (MDM 2010);
13. perceived level of anti-social behaviour in area;
14. experience of crime reported to the police; and
15. daily newspaper readership.

Throughout this report key findings are commented on in the text, with full numerical details on each section available in the relevant tables comprising the Tabular Annex.

A separate NICS 2012/13 bulletin presenting findings on experience of crime (Campbell and Cadogan, 2013) has already been published while additional reports including those on perceptions of policing, justice and organised crime and the night-time economy will publish separately.

1.2 About the Northern Ireland Crime Survey

Closely mirroring the format and core questions of the CSEW, the NICS is an important source of information about community safety issues such as levels of, and public attitudes to, crime and anti-social behaviour. Its results play an important role in informing and monitoring government policies and targets contained within strategies including the 2011-15 Programme for Government (Northern Ireland Executive, 2012) and the Northern Ireland Policing Plan 2012-2015 (Northern Ireland Policing Board, 2012).

An alternative, but complementary, measure of crime to offences recorded by the police, the main aims of the NICS are to:

- ◆ measure crime victimisation rates experienced by people living in private households, whether or not these crimes were reported to or recorded by the police;
- ◆ monitor trends in the level of crime, independent of changes in reporting levels or police recording practices;
- ◆ measure people's perceptions of and reactions to crime (for example, the level and causes of crime, the extent to which they are concerned about crime and the effect of crime on their quality of life);
- ◆ identify the characteristics and circumstances of people most at risk from and affected by different types of crime;
- ◆ measure public confidence in policing and the wider criminal justice system; and
- ◆ collect sensitive information, using self-completion modules, on people's experiences regarding crime-related issues such as domestic violence.

Recorded crime figures cannot, by their nature, provide an impression of the extent of concern about crime (often described as 'fear of crime') among different sections of the community. Hence, it is necessary to complement the police figures with information drawn from the NICS, which, for the crime types it covers, provides a more complete measure of the extent and impact of crime against private households and their adult occupants. Further information on recorded crime statistics can be found in the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) Crime Statistics User Guide (PSNI, 2013a).

For the most part, the interviewer-administered modules for NICS 2012/13 were based on CSEW 2012/13. However, some modification has been necessary to reflect local issues and the fact that the smaller NICS sample size would not have generated robust results for follow-up questions asked of small sub-sections of the sample.

Additional information, covering issues such as sampling design and methodology is available within the NICS User Guide (DoJ, 2012a) and associated Quality Report (DoJ, 2012b).

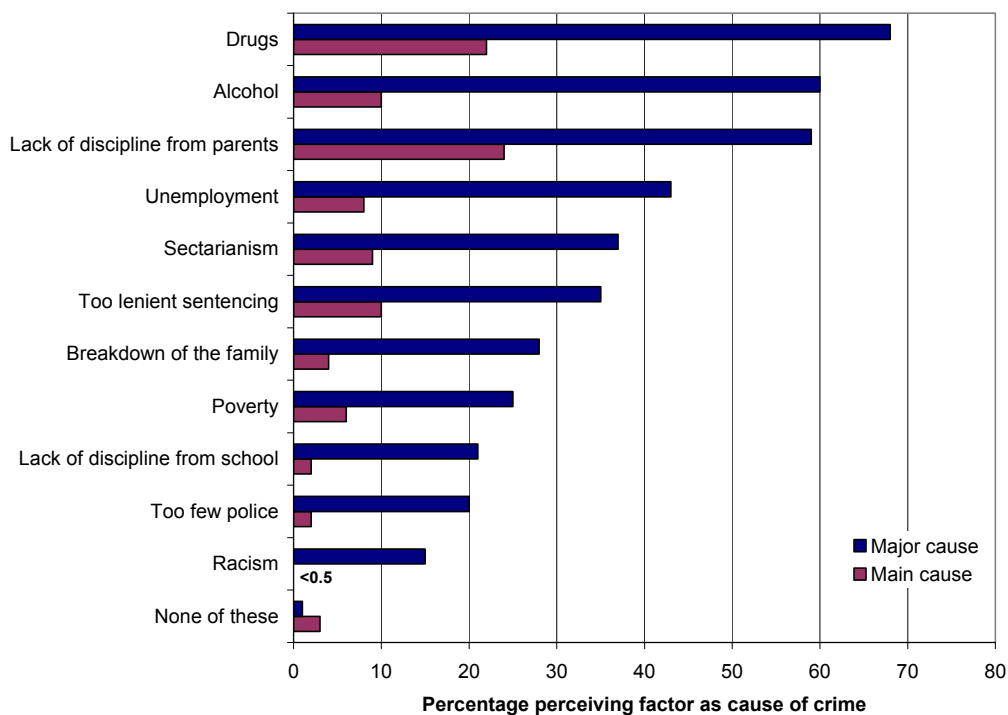
2. PERCEPTIONS OF CAUSES OF CRIME, CRIME LEVELS AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

2.1 Causes of crime

Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS) respondents were asked to select from a list the factors they considered to be *major* causes of crime in Northern Ireland today. If a respondent selected more than one factor, they were then asked which of these factors they believed to be the *main* cause of crime.

- ◆ Findings from NICS 2012/13 show that drugs, alcohol and a lack of discipline from parents (68%, 60% and 59% respectively) remain the three factors most commonly identified as major causes of crime in Northern Ireland today. When asked which single factor they considered to be the main cause of crime, almost a quarter (24%) of respondents cited a 'lack of discipline from parents' while a further 22% cited 'drugs'. Alcohol and too lenient sentencing (both 10%) were identified as the third most common causes of crime (Table A1; Figure 2.1).

Figure 2.1: Perceptions of causes of crime (%) in Northern Ireland



Source: NICS 2012/13

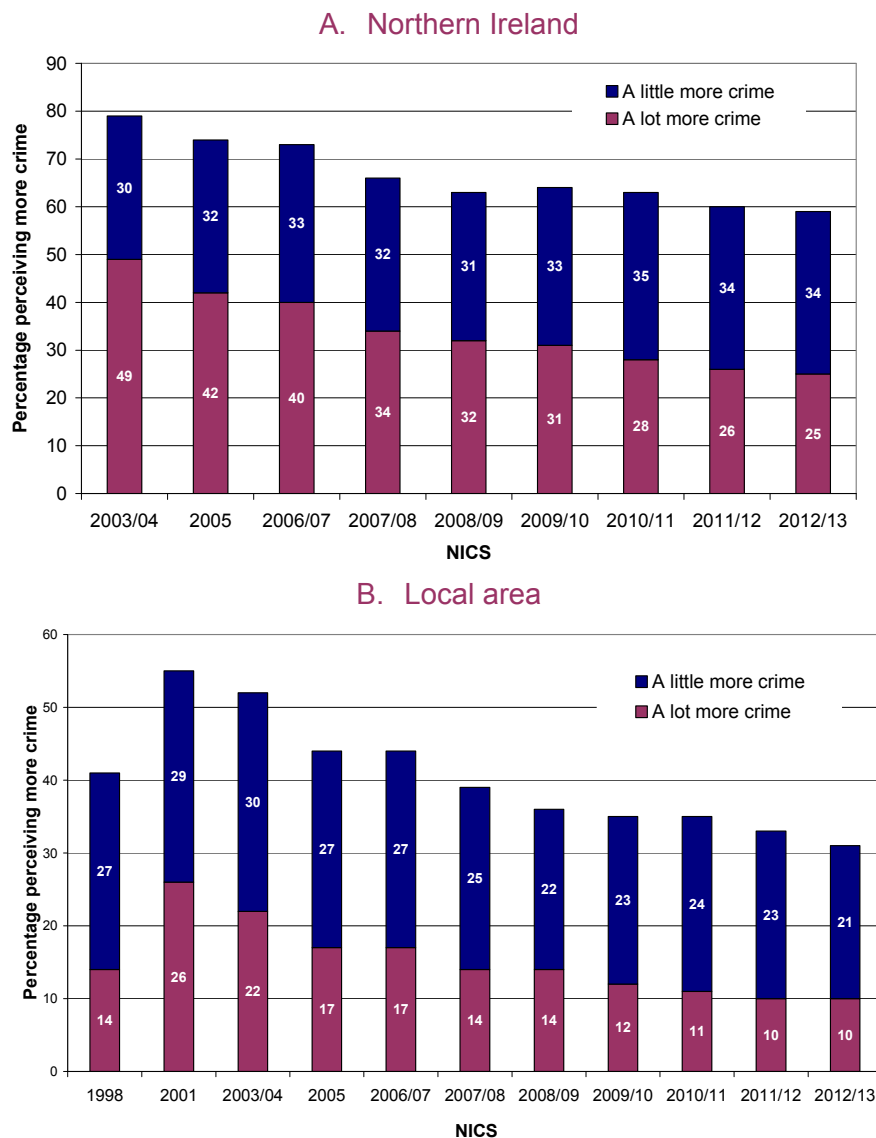
2.2 Perceptions of change in crime levels

NICS participants were also asked how they perceived the level of crime to have changed, if at all, in both Northern Ireland and their local area during the two years prior to interview, based on a five-point scale ranging from 'a lot more crime' to 'a lot less crime'. Typically, people are inclined to believe crime is on the increase, even when it is not, and that the situation is worse at the regional level than in their own local area. Thus, it is the trend in this proportion, rather than the actual value, that is of primary interest.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

- ◆ Tables A2, A3 and Figure 2.2 illustrate that the proportions of NICS 2012/13 respondents believing that crime is on the increase, either locally (31%) or in Northern Ireland as a whole (59%), are among the lowest levels ever recorded by the survey.
- ◆ While the proportion of NICS 2012/13 respondents who believed that crime levels across Northern Ireland have increased in the preceding two years remained unchanged from that observed in NICS 2011/12 (both 59%), it compares favourably with 2003/04 when a high of 79% was recorded. This decrease since 2003/04 may reflect to some extent the recent falls in crime evidenced by both the NICS (Campbell and Cadogan, 2013) and police recorded crime statistics (PSNI, 2013b) over the past decade (Table A2; Figure 2.2A).
- ◆ As in previous sweeps of the survey, NICS 2012/13 respondents were more positive in their perceptions of crime levels within their local areas than at the regional level. At 31%, the proportion of NICS 2012/13 respondents who felt that crime had increased in their local area showed a statistically significant reduction ($p < 0.05$) from the previous year (33%; NICS 2011/12). This reduction was brought about by a statistically significant decrease ($p < 0.05$) in the proportion who believed there was 'a little more crime' (from 23% to 21%); the proportion who felt there was 'a lot more crime' remained unchanged over the same period (Table A3; Figure 2.2B).

Figure 2.2: Perceptions of changing crime levels (%) in Northern Ireland and the local area



2.3 Perceptions of anti-social behaviour in Northern Ireland and England and Wales

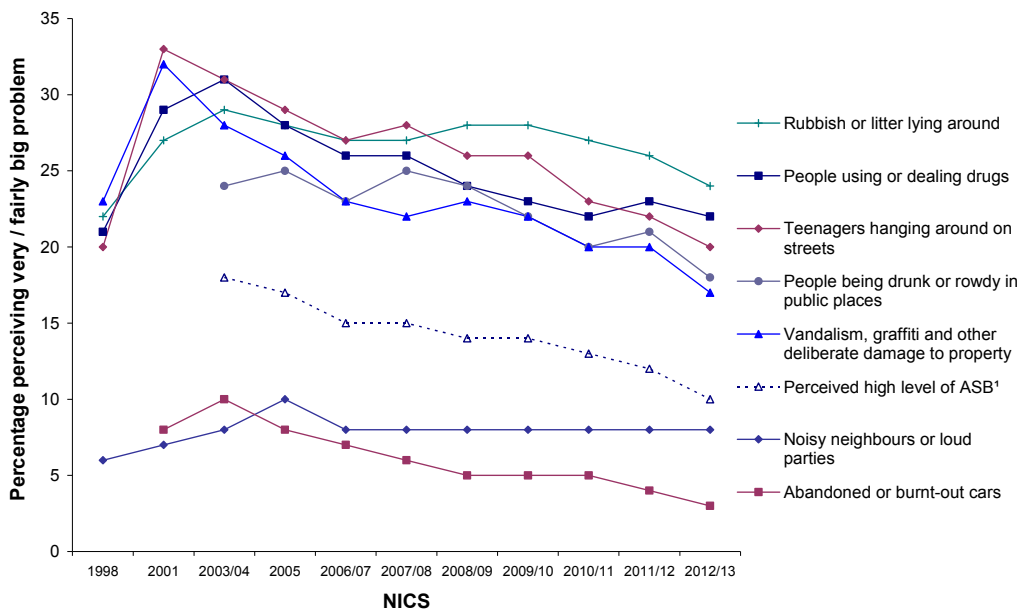
Respondents to the NICS and CSEW were asked to rate how much of a problem different types of anti-social behaviour (ASB) are in their area using a four-point scale ranging from 'very big problem' to 'not a problem at all'. Since 2003/04, responses to the following seven strands have been used to form a composite measure (see Section 4.3 of the NICS User Guide (DoJ, 2012a) for more information) to gauge the overall perceived level of ASB in the local area:

1. abandoned or burnt-out cars;
2. noisy neighbours or loud parties;
3. people being drunk or rowdy in public places;
4. people using or dealing drugs;
5. teenagers hanging around on the streets;
6. rubbish or litter lying around; and
7. vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property.

This composite measure has been selected by the Department of Justice (DoJ) as a Key Performance Indicator (KPI) within its 2011-15 Programme for Government commitment to improve community safety by tackling ASB. The Department's aim is to achieve a statistically significant reduction ($p < 0.05$) in the proportion of respondents perceiving a high level of ASB in their local area by March 2015, from a 2010/11 baseline of 13% (Northern Ireland Executive, 2012) (Table A4).

- ◆ Based on this composite measure, findings from NICS 2012/13 show that one-in-ten adults (10%) perceived the level of ASB in their local area to be high, a statistically significant decrease ($p < 0.05$) since NICS 2011/12 (12%). The equivalent figure for England and Wales (CSEW 2012/13) was 13% (Table A4).
- ◆ The ASB types most likely to be perceived by NICS 2012/13 respondents as problems in the local area were 'rubbish or litter lying around' (24%) and 'people using or dealing drugs' (22%) whereas 'abandoned or burnt-out cars' (3%) and 'noisy neighbours or loud parties' (8%) were considered the least problematic forms of ASB (Table A4; Figure 2.3).

Figure 2.3: Perceptions of ASB (%) in the local area



1. Derived from responses to the seven individual ASB strands.

- ◆ A similar trend is reflected in England and Wales with CSEW 2012/13 respondents also most likely to perceive 'rubbish or litter lying around' (29%) and 'people using or dealing drugs' (26%), and least likely to consider 'abandoned or burnt-out cars' (3%) and 'noisy neighbours or loud parties' (11%), as problems (Table A4).
- ◆ Statistically significant decreases ($p < 0.05$) were observed between NICS 2011/12 and 2012/13 in the proportions of respondents who perceived 'people being drunk or rowdy in public places' (from 21% to 18%) and 'vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property' (20% to 17%) as very/fairly big problems in their local area. The five remaining strands that comprise the composite measure remained unchanged over the same period (Table A4).
- ◆ NICS respondents were then asked to select the type of ASB that, in their view, causes the single biggest problem in their local area. With the exception of 37% who responded that none of the seven ASB strands represented the single biggest problem, the most common responses, cited by NICS 2012/13 participants, were 'rubbish or litter lying around' (18%) and 'teenagers hanging around on the streets' (16%). 'Abandoned or burnt-out cars' was least likely to be considered as the single biggest local problem (less than 0.5%) (Table A5).

2.4 Perceptions of anti-social behaviour by personal, household and area characteristics

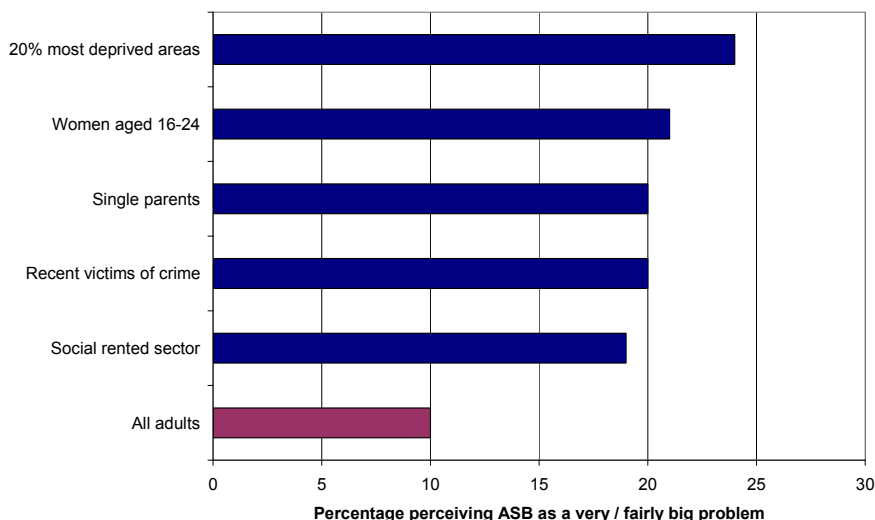
Tables A6 and A7, containing results from NICS 2012/13, indicate that there were marked differences across demographic and socio-economic groups in their perceptions of ASB in Northern Ireland.

- ◆ The proportion of people perceiving a high level of ASB in their local area tends to decrease with age, with almost a fifth (19%) of 16-24 year-olds citing a high level of ASB in their area, compared with 3% of those aged 75+ (Table A6).
- ◆ Catholic respondents (14%) were more likely than Protestants (6%) to perceive ASB to be at a high level in their area, a trend generally reflected in the individual strands of ASB examined. The greatest differences, in percentage point terms, were observed in the rates for 'people being drunk or rowdy in public places' (21% of Catholics v 14% of Protestants) and 'people using or dealing drugs' (26% v 19%) (Table A6).
- ◆ A similar trend to that observed within religion is apparent in terms of perceptions of ASB by perceived nationality with NICS 2012/13 participants who consider their nationality to be Irish (17%) were much more likely than their British (7%) or Northern Irish (8%) counterparts to report a high level of ASB in the local area. The equivalent figure for those with a self-perceived nationality as something other than British/Irish/Northern Irish is 14% (Table A6).
- ◆ Victims of crime (12%), and in particular recent victims (within the preceding two years; 20%), were more likely than non-victims (9%) to perceive ASB as a problem in their area (Table A6).

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the greatest variation of perceived ASB within a single group was observed in terms of deprivation in an area.

- ◆ Findings from NICS 2012/13 show that almost a quarter (24%) of people living in the 20% most deprived areas of Northern Ireland viewed ASB as a problem in their local area, contrasting with 5% of those in the 20% least deprived areas, as measured by the 2010 Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (MDM) rank. With regards to the seven individual ASB strands considered, the greatest disparity between these (deprivation) bands, in percentage point terms, occurred in the proportion of respondents who identified ‘people using or dealing drugs’ as a problem with a rate of 40% observed for the 20% most deprived areas compared with 12% for the 20% least deprived areas (Table A7).
- ◆ In addition, people living in social rented accommodation (19%) were almost three times as likely as owner-occupiers (7%) to consider their local area to have a high level of ASB; the equivalent figure for private renters was 15% (Table A7).
- ◆ In terms of household type, single parent families (20%) were more likely than households with two adults and children (10%), or no children at all (12%), to perceive ASB to be at a high level in their area (Table A7).
- ◆ Results suggest that, on the whole, the proportion perceiving a high level of ASB in their local area tends to decrease as household income increases. For example, 14% of households with an annual income of less than £10,000 considered ASB to be problematic compared with 4% of households earning £50,000 or more (Table A7).
- ◆ Urban dwellers (14%) were over four times as likely as their rural counterparts (3%) to perceive a high level of ASB in their area, a rate that increases to 16% for households in urban areas *excluding* Belfast (Table A7).
- ◆ In summary, Tables A6, A7 and Figure 2.4 suggest that among those NICS 2012/13 respondents most likely, in percentage terms, to perceive ASB as a problem in their local area were:
 - people living in the 20% most deprived areas (24%);
 - women aged 16-24 (21%);
 - single adults with children (20%);
 - recent victims of crime that were reported to the police (20%); and
 - adults living in social rented accommodation (19%).

Figure 2.4: Those most likely to perceive ASB as a problem (%) in the local area



Source: NICS 2012/13

3. WORRY ABOUT CRIME AND PERSONAL SAFETY

3.1 Worry about crime and personal safety in Northern Ireland and England and Wales

Worry about becoming a victim of crime is measured by both the NICS and CSEW in two ways: firstly, about specific crimes; and secondly, with regard to personal safety when alone after dark, either at home or walking in the local area (Tables A8 – A10).

Respondents to NICS 2012/13 and CSEW 2012/13 were asked how worried they are about becoming a victim of the following crimes using a four-point scale, ranging from 'very worried' to 'not at all worried':

1. home being burgled;
2. being mugged and robbed;
3. physical attack by a stranger;
4. race, sectarian, homophobic or disability attack;
5. rape;
6. theft of a car; and
7. theft from a car.

Two composite indicators for worry about car crime and violent crime are constructed from the responses to the individual car crime and violent crime questions. These additional indicators, together with the proportion of respondents who claimed to be 'very worried' about burglary, are comparable with CSEW analyses.

For the worry about car crime indicator, responses to each car crime question of 'very worried' are awarded 2 points and 'fairly worried' 1 point. Those respondents scoring a combined 3 or 4 points are considered to have a high level of worry about car crime. This measure refers only to respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

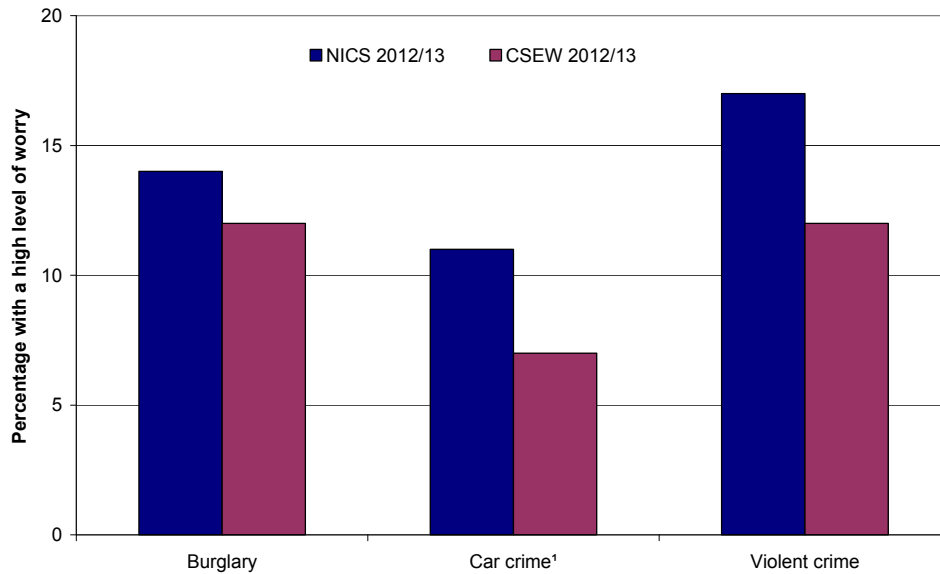
A similar approach is used to determine the worry about violent crime indicator, with responses to each violent crime question of 'very worried' being awarded 2 points and 'fairly worried' 1 point. In this instance, the scale ranges from 0 to 8 points and those scoring 4 or more points are deemed to have a high level of worry about violent crime.

Since 2007/08, NICS respondents have also been asked how worried they are about becoming a victim of (all types of) crime in general, using the same four-point scale ('very worried' to 'not at all worried'). Responses to this question are included within Table A8.

Table A8 shows the proportions of respondents in Northern Ireland and England and Wales who expressed high levels of worry about burglary, car crime and violent crime. Results show that people in Northern Ireland tend to display higher levels of worry about crime than their counterparts in England and Wales.

- ◆ Despite both surveys confirming that the actual risk of becoming a victim of crime remains lower in Northern Ireland than in England and Wales (Campbell and Cadogan, 2013), NICS 2012/13 respondents were more likely than their CSEW 2012/13 counterparts to express high levels of worry across the following crime types examined: violent crime (17% v 12%); burglary (14% v 12%); and car crime (11% v 7%). In terms of worry about crime in general, however, levels of worry were higher in England and Wales (9% v 7%) (Table A8; Figure 3.1).

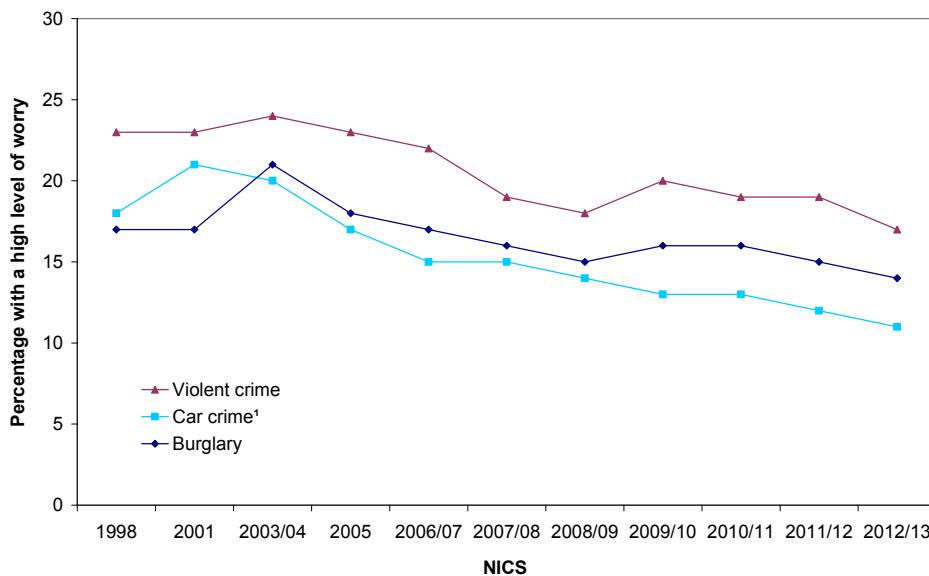
Figure 3.1: Worry about crime (%) in Northern Ireland and England and Wales



1. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

- ◆ A statistically significant decrease ($p < 0.05$) was observed in the proportion of respondents who claimed to be 'very worried' about violent crime, falling from 19% in 2011/12 to 17% in 2012/13 (Table A8; Figure 3.2).
- ◆ While the proportion of NICS 2012/13 respondents reporting a high level of worry about car crime (11%) remained on a par with that recorded the previous year (12%; NICS 2011/12), this proportion has generally been decreasing since 2001 when a rate of 21% was observed (Table A8; Figure 3.2).
- ◆ Similarly, at 14% in 2012/13, while the level of worry about burglary also remained unchanged since 2011/12 (15%), it compares favourably with the NICS 2003/04 rate, also 21% (Table A8; Figure 3.2).

Figure 3.2: Worry about crime (%) in Northern Ireland



1. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

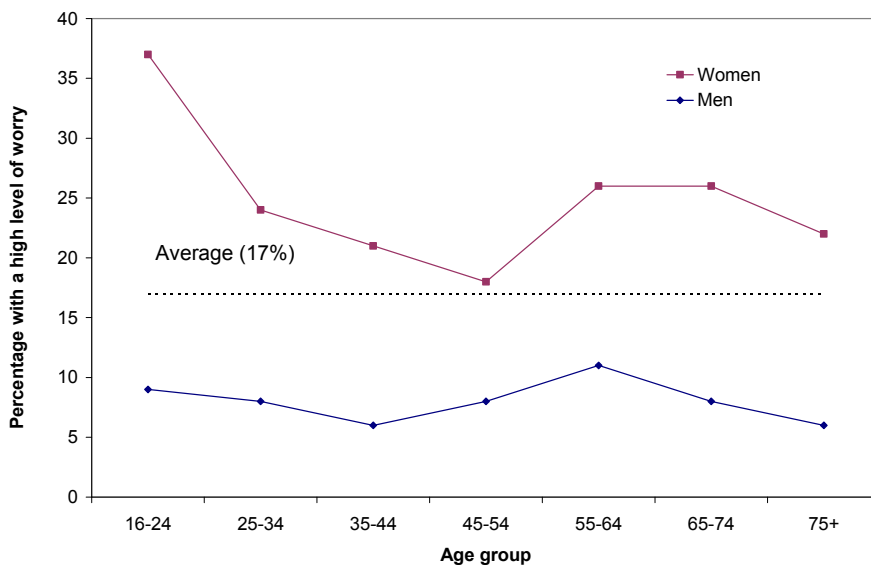
- ◆ As in previous sweeps, 2012/13 respondents in both Northern Ireland and England and Wales were much more likely to feel ‘very unsafe’ when walking alone in their area after dark (7% and 9% respectively) than when alone in their home at night (2% and 1%) (Table A8).
- ◆ Consistent with levels of worry about burglary and car crime, NICS 2012/13 findings show no statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) in the proportions of adults feeling ‘very unsafe’ when walking alone in their local area at night (7%) or when home alone at night (2%) to those observed in 2011/12 (8% and 2% respectively) (Table A8).

3.2 Worry about crime and personal safety by personal, household and area characteristics

Tables A9 and A10 present a socio-demographic breakdown of NICS 2012/13 respondents according to their levels of worry about crime and personal safety in Northern Ireland.

- ◆ NICS 2012/13 findings show that women were more likely than men to worry about all forms of crime and personal safety examined: violent crime (24% v 8% respectively); burglary (17% v 11%); car crime (13% v 9%); crime overall (10% v 4%); walking alone after dark (11% v 3%); and home alone at night (3% v 1%) (Table A9).
- ◆ The relationship between a person’s age and their level of worry about crime varies according to crime type. For instance, almost a quarter of respondents aged 16-24 (24%) displayed a high level of worry about violent crime compared with 14% of both 35-44 and 45-54 year-olds, whereas for burglary, there was less variation with proportions of respondents ‘very worried’ ranging between 13% (25-34 year olds) and 17% (65-74 year olds) (Table A9).
- ◆ When age and gender are combined, it is apparent that, at 37%, young women aged 16-24 displayed the highest worry rating for violent crime – a rate that compares with an NICS 2012/13 average of 17%. The levels of worry about violent crime expressed by women of all ages were much higher than those of their male counterparts (Table A9; Figure 3.3).

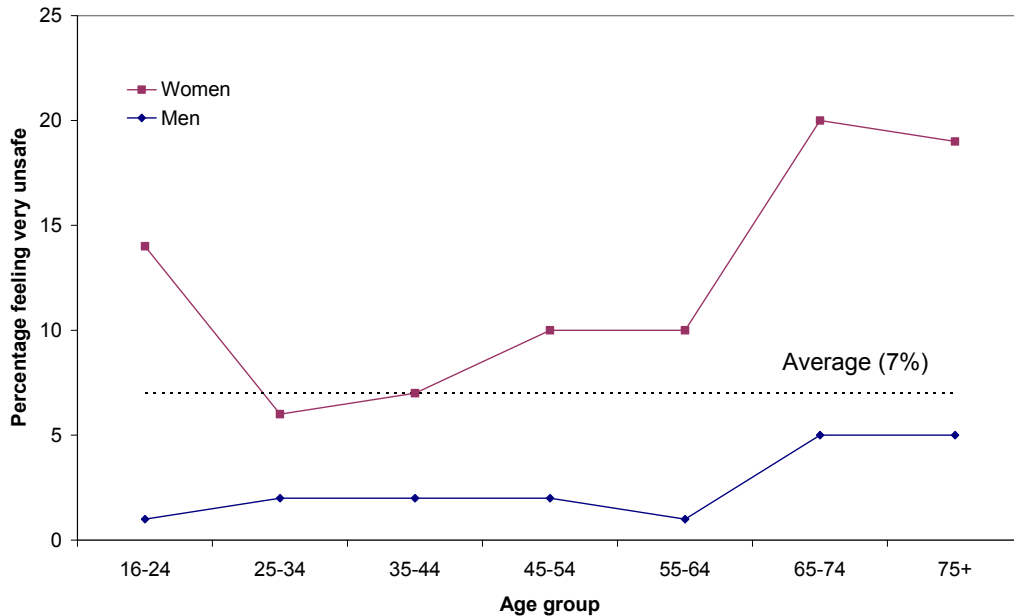
Figure 3.3: Worry about violent crime (%) by gender and age



Source: NICS 2012/13

- ◆ With regards to personal safety, older respondents were more likely than younger people to worry about walking alone in their area after dark; for example, 13% of respondents aged 75 and over reported feeling ‘very unsafe’ compared with 4% of 25-34 year olds. Women of all ages displayed higher rates than their male counterparts with the greatest disparities, in percentage point terms, observed between female and male respondents aged 65-74 (20% v 5%) or 75 and over (19% v 5%) (Table A9; Figure 3.4).

Figure 3.4: Worry about personal safety while walking alone in the local area after dark (%) by gender and age



Source: NICS 2012/13

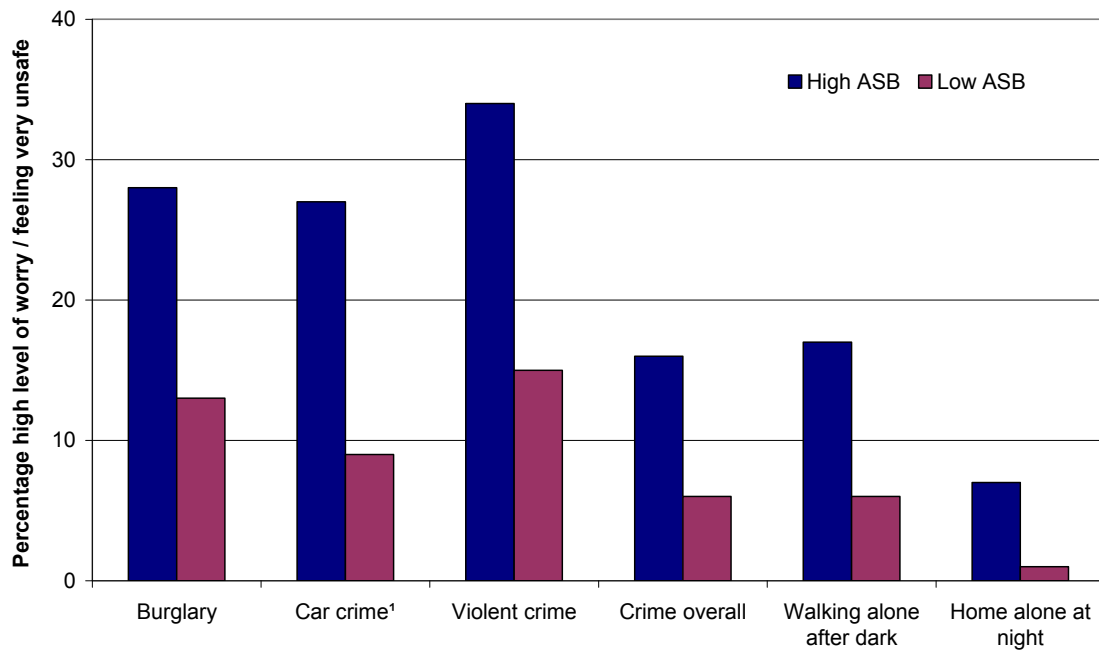
- ◆ Perhaps unsurprisingly, adults who had recently (within the preceding two years) been victims of crime which were reported to the police displayed higher levels of worry than non-victims about each of the crime and personal safety categories examined: burglary (22% v 13%); car crime (16% v 10%); violent crime (23% v 17%); all crime (12% v 6%); walking alone after dark (13% v 6%); and home alone at night (5% v 2%) (Table A9).
- ◆ On the whole, it appears that as household income increases levels of worry about crime and personal safety decrease. For example, 26% of respondents from households with a total income of under £10,000 expressed a high level of worry about violent crime, a rate that reduces to 6% for those earning £50,000 or more. In terms of worry about crime overall, the equivalent rates are 13% and 1% respectively (Table A10).
- ◆ Respondents living in social rented accommodation displayed high levels of worry with rates above the NICS average for each crime and personal safety type considered. When compared with other tenure groups, the greatest disparities, in percentage point terms, were observed with owner-occupiers: burglary (24% v 13% respectively); car crime (20% v 10%); violent crime (26% v 14%); crime overall (14% v 5%); walking alone in area after dark (15% v 6%); and alone in home at night (5% v 1%) (Table A10).

- ◆ Respondents from Northern Ireland’s 20% most deprived areas also displayed above average levels of worry about all types of crime and personal safety and compare with those from the 20% least deprived areas: burglary (21% v 11%); car crime (15% v 9%); violent crime (22% v 13%); crime overall (10% v 5%); walking alone after dark (14% v 4%); and home alone at night (4% v 1%) (Table A10).

A perceived high level of ASB in the local area tends to generate high levels of worry about crime and personal safety with respondents from high-ASB areas displaying some of the highest rates of all the demographic and socio-economic groups examined.

- ◆ Respondents living in areas where they perceive ASB to be high were much more likely than those from low-ASB areas to worry about all types of crime and personal safety: car crime (27% v 9%); violent crime (34% v 15%); burglary (28% v 13%); crime overall (16% v 6%); walking alone after dark (17% v 6%); and home alone at night (7% v 1%) (Table A10; Figure 3.5).

Figure 3.5: Worry about crime and personal safety (%) by perceived level of ASB



Source: NICS 2012/13

1. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

4. PERCEPTIONS OF THE LIKELIHOOD OF VICTIMISATION

4.1 Perceptions of the likelihood of victimisation in Northern Ireland and England and Wales

A person's perception of the likelihood that they will be a victim of crime may be influenced by their level of worry about crime. In addition to questions on worry about crime (Section 3), the NICS and CSEW asked respondents how likely they think it is that they will be a victim of the following offences in the next 12 months, using a four-point scale ranging from 'very likely' to 'very unlikely':

1. home being burgled;
2. theft of a car;
3. theft from a car;
4. being mugged and robbed; and
5. physical attack by a stranger.

Two composite indicators to measure the perceived likelihood of being a victim of car crime and violent crime are constructed from the responses to the individual car crime and violent crime questions. These additional indicators, together with the proportion of respondents who say they are very or fairly likely to have their home burgled in the next year, comprise the three crime groups presented in this section, which are comparable with CSEW analyses (Tables A11–A13).

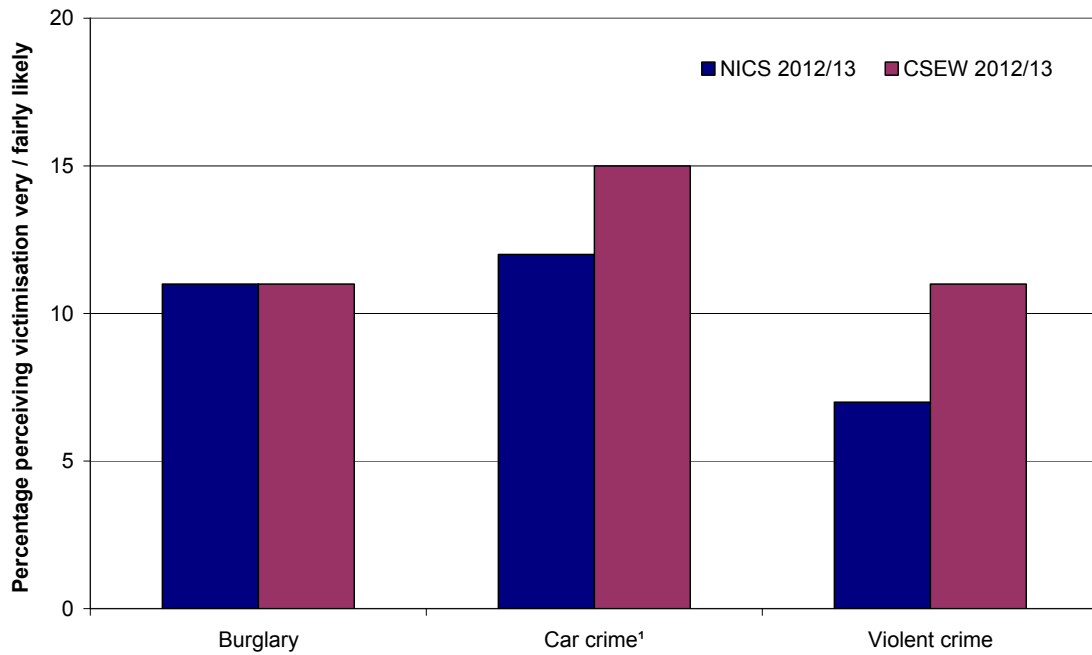
The perceived likelihood of being a victim of car crime is a composite measure of respondents who think they are very or fairly likely to either have a car/van stolen or have something stolen from a car/van in the next year, or both. This measure refers only to respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

Similarly, the perceived likelihood of being a victim of violent crime is a composite measure of anyone who thinks they are very or fairly likely to be either mugged/robbed or physically attacked by a stranger in the next year, or both.

- ◆ In line with results from previous sweeps, the vast majority of NICS 2012/13 respondents believed it unlikely that they would fall victim to any of these crimes during the coming year. For example, it is apparent from Table A11 that over nine in ten people surveyed (93%) did not think they would experience violent crime.
- ◆ Overall, 12% of respondents to NICS 2012/13 believed they would experience some form of vehicle-related theft; 11% thought it was likely that they would be the victim of burglary while 7% perceived themselves to be at risk of violent crime. All three measures showed a statistically significant decrease ($p < 0.05$) since 2011/12 when rates of 15%, 14% and 9% (respectively) were observed (Table A11; Figures 4.1 and 4.2).
- ◆ With the exception of burglary (both 11%), NICS 2012/13 respondents were less likely than their counterparts in England and Wales (CSEW 2012/13) to perceive themselves to be at risk of victimisation: violent crime (7% v 11%); and car crime (12% v 15%) (Table A11; Figure 4.1). These findings are generally consistent with recorded crime statistics and NICS data (Campbell and Cadogan, 2013), both of which indicate a lower prevalence of crime in Northern Ireland than in England and Wales.

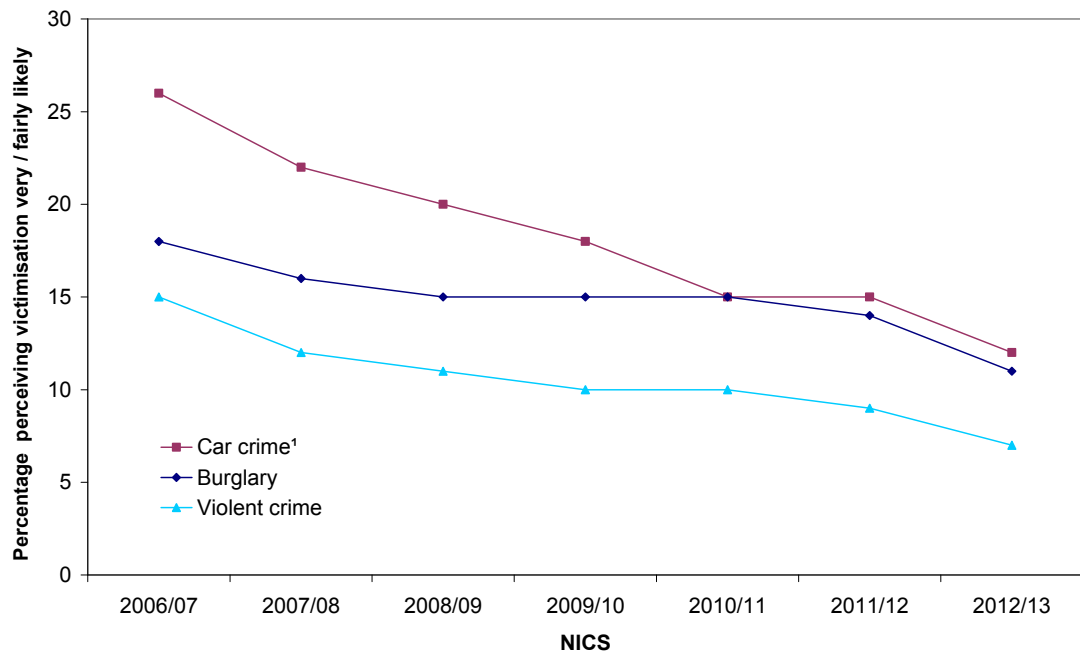
NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Figure 4.1: Perceptions of the risk of victimisation (%) in Northern Ireland and England and Wales



1. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

Figure 4.2: Perceptions of the risk of victimisation (%) in Northern Ireland



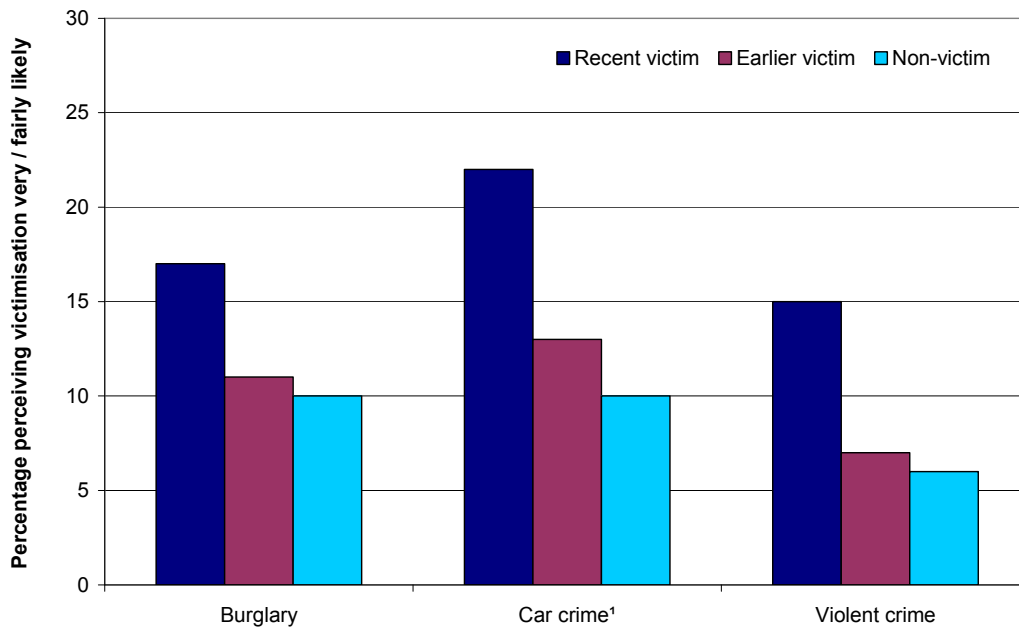
1. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

4.2 Perceptions of the likelihood of victimisation by personal, household and area characteristics

Tables A12 and A13 show the perceived likelihood of NICS 2012/13 respondents that they would be a victim of specific crimes in the next year, broken down by personal, household and area characteristics.

- ◆ Respondents who had been a victim of crime in the past were more likely to perceive themselves to be at risk of further victimisation in the coming year. NICS 2012/13 findings show that this disparity is increased when consideration is given to recent victims of crime (within the preceding two years) who were more likely than non-victims to believe they would experience each of the crime types examined: burglary (17% v 10%); car crime (22% v 10%); and violent crime (15% v 6%) (Table A12; Figure 4.3).

Figure 4.3: Perceptions of the risk of victimisation (%) by experience of crime

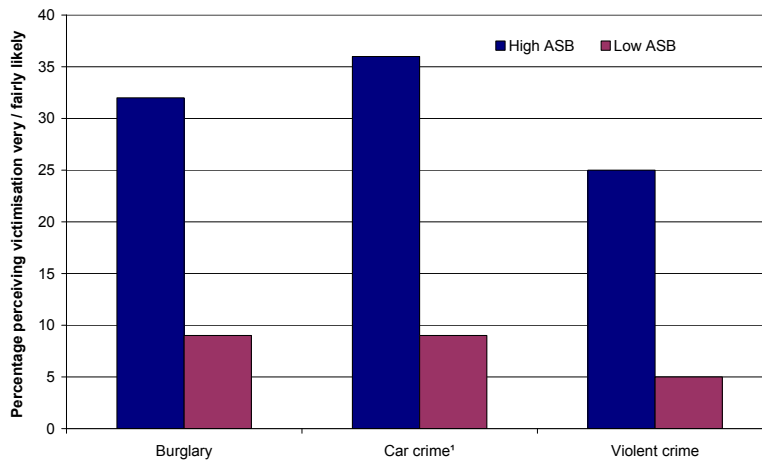


Source: NICS 2012/13

1. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

- ◆ Respondents residing in the 20% most deprived areas of Northern Ireland were twice as likely as those in the 20% least deprived areas to consider themselves at risk of car crime (18% v 9%) or violent crime (9% v 4%); rates for burglary were more closely aligned (13% v 10%) (Table A13).
- ◆ As with worry about crime, the perceived risk of victimisation varies greatly between areas of high and low ASB. NICS 2012/13 participants in high-ASB areas displayed the highest perceived levels of risk of all demographic and socio-economic groups, across each of the crime types considered: violent crime (25% in high-ASB areas v 5% in low-ASB areas); car crime (36% v 9%); and burglary (32% v 9%) (Table A13; Figure 4.4).

Figure 4.4: Perceptions of the risk of victimisation (%) by perceived level of ASB



Source: NICS 2012/13

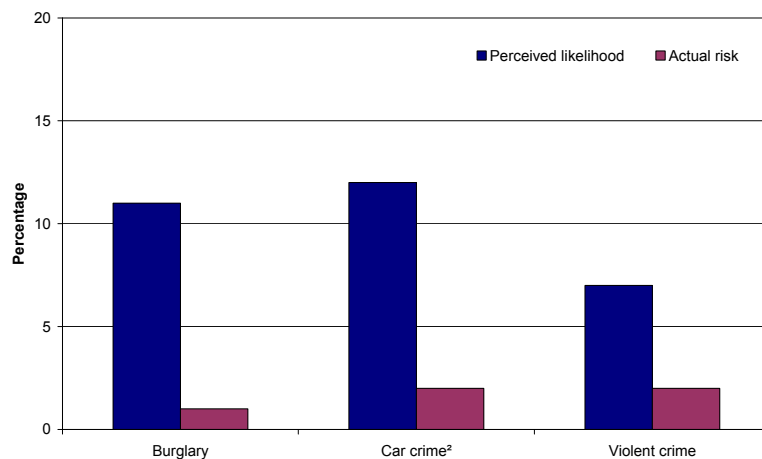
1. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

4.3 Perceptions of the likelihood of victimisation, and actual risk, in Northern Ireland

Findings from NICS 2012/13 reveal a disparity between a person’s perceived likelihood of being a victim of crime and their actual risk (Campbell and Cadogan, 2013), whereby the perceived risk far exceeds the actual risk across each of the crime types considered.

- ◆ NICS 2012/13 results show that 11% of people thought they were very or fairly likely to be a victim of burglary, compared with an actual risk of one per cent. A similar pattern emerged in terms of car crime (12% v 2%) and violent crime (7% v 2%) (Figure 4.5).

Figure 4.5: Perceived likelihood of victimisation and actual risk (%)¹ by individual crime type



Source: NICS 2012/13

1. See Campbell and Cadogan, 2013.

2. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

5. PERCEPTIONS OF THE EFFECT OF 'FEAR OF CRIME' ON QUALITY OF LIFE

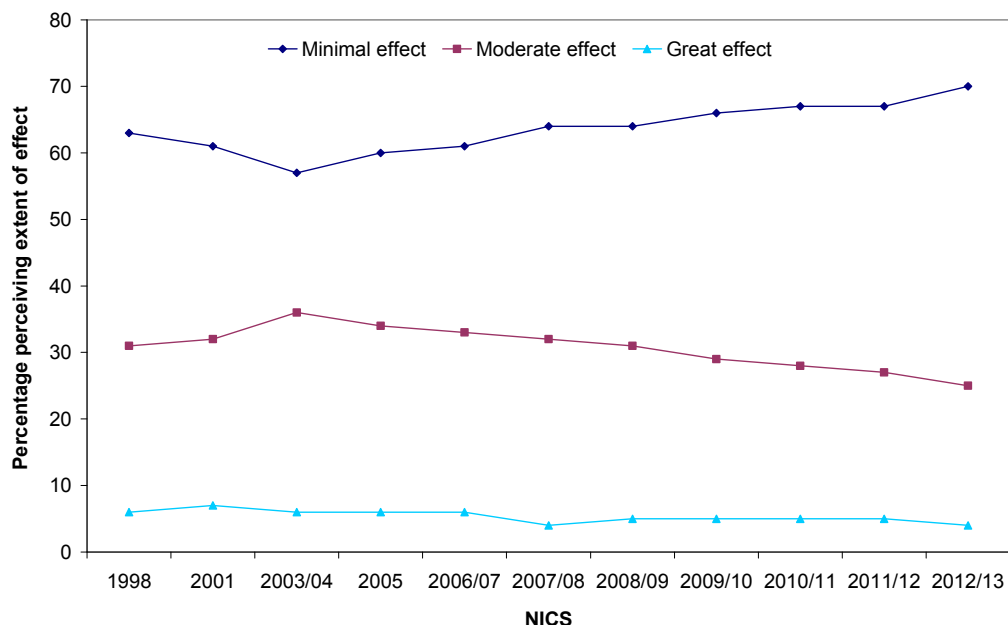
5.1 Perceptions of the effect of 'fear of crime' on quality of life in Northern Ireland and England and Wales

While a basic level of concern about crime may be beneficial in that it encourages people to take measures to reduce their likelihood of victimisation, 'fear (about being a victim) of crime' can become problematic if it has a detrimental impact on a person's quality of life.

Respondents to NICS and CSEW were asked how much their own quality of life is affected by their 'fear of crime' on a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is no effect and 10 is a total effect. In order to standardise the results, the following conventions have been used to gauge the effect of 'fear of crime' on quality of life:

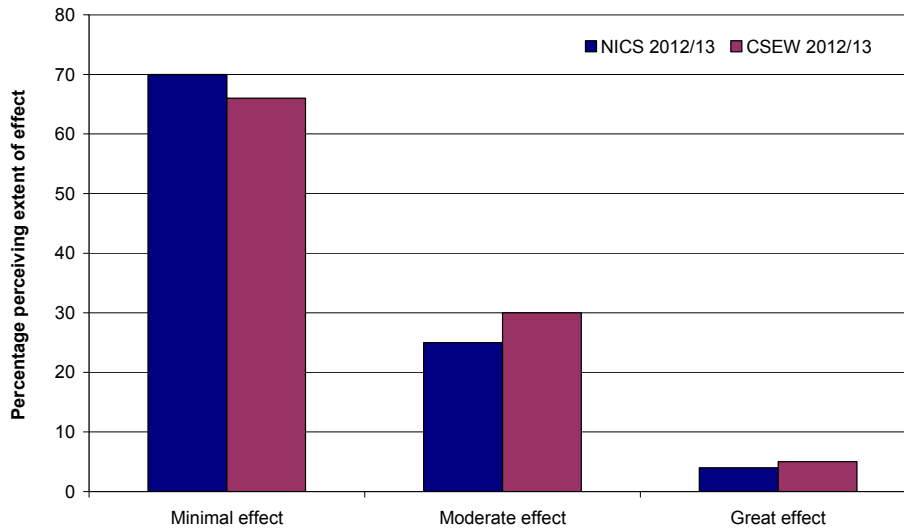
1. minimally affected (responded in the range 1 to 3);
 2. moderately affected (responded in the range 4 to 7); and
 3. greatly affected (responded in the range 8 to 10).
- ◆ At 70%, the majority of NICS 2012/13 respondents felt that 'fear of crime' has a minimal impact on their quality of life, with a further 25% claiming it has a moderate effect. The remaining 4% of people considered that their quality of life is greatly affected by their 'fear of crime' (Table A14; Figure 5.1).
 - ◆ While the proportions of NICS 2012/13 respondents who felt that 'fear of crime' has either a moderate (25%) or great (4%) effect on their quality of life remained unchanged since 2011/12 (27% and 5% respectively), the proportion claiming a minimal effect (70%) represented a statistically significant improvement ($p < 0.05$) since the previous year (67%; NICS 2011/12) and compares with a low of 57% observed in 2003/04. This increase since 2003/04 has been compensated for by a subsequent statistically significant reduction ($p < 0.05$) in the proportion claiming a moderate effect over the same period, from 36% to 25% (Table A14; Figure 5.1).

Figure 5.1: Perceptions of the effect of 'fear of crime' on quality of life (%) in Northern Ireland



- ◆ While CSEW 2012/13 results show a similar trend to NICS 2012/13 in that the majority of respondents claimed ‘fear of crime’ has a minimal effect on their quality of life, findings suggest that this proportion is lower in England and Wales than in Northern Ireland (66% v 70% respectively) with a higher proportion of CSEW 2012/13 respondents stating it had a moderate impact (30% v 25%). The proportions of respondents indicating ‘fear of crime’ had a great effect on their quality of life were 5% and 4% respectively (Table A14; Figure 5.2).

Figure 5.2: Perceptions of the effect of ‘fear of crime’ on quality of life (%) in Northern Ireland and England and Wales



5.2 Perceptions of the effect of ‘fear of crime’ on quality of life by personal, household and area characteristics

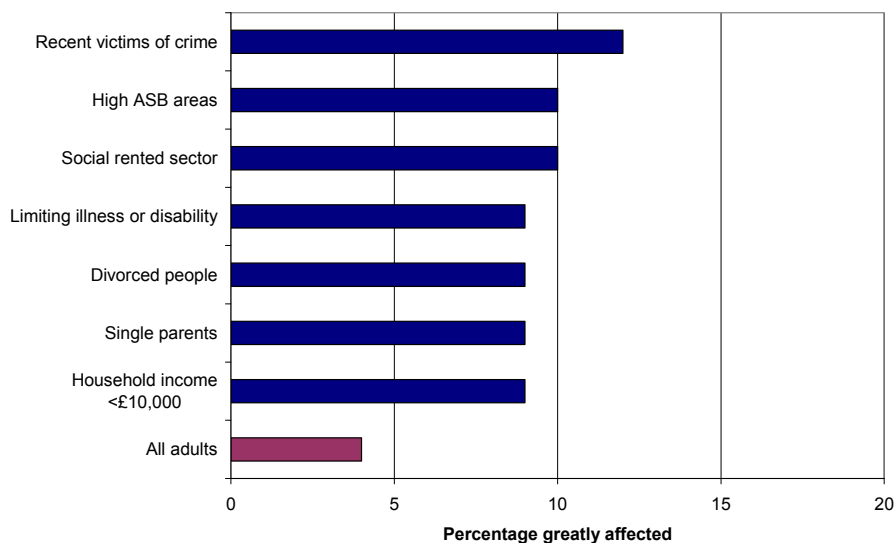
Tables A15 and A16 show differences for NICS 2012/13 respondents in terms of the perceived effect of ‘fear of crime’ on quality of life within various socio-demographic groups in Northern Ireland.

- ◆ Findings from NICS 2012/13 show that women were more likely than their male counterparts to claim that their quality of life is greatly (5% v 3% respectively) or moderately (28% v 22%) affected by their own fear of crime. In turn, a greater proportion of men (75%) than women (66%) reported a minimal effect (Table A15).
- ◆ Respondents with a long-standing illness or disability (8%), and in particular a limiting illness or disability (9%), were more than twice as likely as those with no illness or disability (3%) to state their lives are greatly affected by a ‘fear of crime’ (Table A15).
- ◆ With regards to experience of crime, respondents who had been a victim of crime reported to the police (7%) were more likely than those who had never been a victim of crime (3%) to state ‘fear of crime’ has a great effect on their quality of life. In particular, at 12%, recent victims of crime (within the preceding two years) were four times as likely as non-victims (3%) to report a great effect (Table A15).
- ◆ In terms of living arrangements, respondents who are divorced (9%) were more likely than other groups to report fear of crime has a great effect on their quality of life and, for example, compares with 3% of those who are cohabiting and an NICS average of 4% (Table A16).

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

- ◆ A similar pattern emerged in terms of household type where single parent families (9%) were more likely than households with two adults and children (3%), or no children at all (5%), to claim fear of crime has a great effect on quality of life (Table A16).
- ◆ People living in social rented accommodation (10%) were twice as likely as private renters (5%) and more than three times as likely as owner-occupiers (3%) to say that fear of crime greatly affects their quality of life (Table A16).
- ◆ People in lower income groups tended to be more likely to say their lives are greatly affected by 'fear of crime'. Of those households earning under £10,000 per annum, 9% of respondents thought their lives are greatly affected, a proportion that reduces to just 1% of those from households earning £50,000 or more (Table A16).
- ◆ Consistent with findings on worry about crime and perceived risk of victimisation, NICS participants living in high-ASB areas (10%) were more likely than those from areas of low ASB (4%) to report a great effect on their quality of life (Table A16).
- ◆ In terms of deprivation, respondents living in the 20% most deprived areas of Northern Ireland were more likely than those in other (deprivation) bands to claim 'fear of crime' has a detrimental effect on their quality of life. Within this group, 8% claimed 'fear of crime' has a great impact, while a further 30% stated a moderate effect. These proportions compare with 2% and 27% (respectively) for those in the 20% least deprived areas and NICS averages of 4% and 25% (Table A16).
- ◆ In summary, Tables A15, A16 and Figure 5.3 show that among those NICS 2012/13 respondents most likely, in percentage terms, to state that their lives are greatly affected by 'fear of crime' were:
 - recent victims of crime that were reported to the police (12%);
 - those living in areas perceived to have a high level of ASB (10%);
 - adults living in social rented accommodation (10%);
 - respondents with a limiting illness or disability (9%);
 - respondents who are divorced (9%);
 - single adults with children (9%); and
 - households earning less than £10,000 per annum (9%).

Figure 5.3: Those most likely to perceive their quality of life is greatly affected by 'fear of crime' (%) in Northern Ireland



Source: NICS 2012/13

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TABULAR ANNEX

Table A1: Perceptions of the causes of crime (%) in Northern Ireland^{1,2}

	Major causes of crime ³	Main cause of crime
Drugs	68	22
Alcohol	60	10
Lack of discipline from parents	59	24
Unemployment	43	8
Sectarianism	37	9
Too lenient sentencing	35	10
Breakdown of the family	28	4
Poverty	25	6
Lack of discipline from school	21	2
Too few police	20	2
Racism	15	<0.5
None of these	1	3
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>4,043</i>	<i>4,043</i>

Source: NICS 2012/13

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.
2. Respondents were asked to select from a list the factors they considered to be the major causes of crime in Northern Ireland today. If respondents selected more than one factor they were asked which of the factors they believed to be the main cause of crime. If respondents gave only one factor, this was taken as the main cause.
3. Percentages may add to more than 100 as respondents could select more than one cause.

Table A2: Perceptions of change in overall crime levels (%) in Northern Ireland^{1,4}

	NICS 2003/04	NICS 2005	NICS 2006/07	NICS 2007/08	NICS 2008/09	NICS 2009/10	NICS 2010/11	NICS 2011/12	NICS 2012/13	Statistically significant change, 2011/12 to 2012/13? ³
More crime²	79	74	73	65	64	64	62	59	59	
A lot more crime	49	42	40	34	32	31	28	26	25	
A little more crime	30	32	33	32	31	33	35	34	34	
Same	14	17	18	20	23	24	25	28	29	
Less crime	7	9	10	14	13	11	13	12	12	
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>2,704</i>	<i>3,578</i>	<i>3,678</i>	<i>3,790</i>	<i>3,737</i>	<i>3,977</i>	<i>3,916</i>	<i>3,925</i>	<i>3,898</i>	

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.
2. The proportion of respondents believing there has been 'a little more crime' or 'a lot more crime'; these figures may not sum to the 'more crime' composite figure due to rounding.
3. Statistical significance of change at the 5% level (two-tailed test) is indicated by a double asterisk (**).
4. Previous publications presented data for England and Wales however this question was not included in CSEW 2012/13.

Table A3: Perceptions of change in local crime levels (%) in Northern Ireland^{1,2,5}

	NICS 1998	NICS 2001	NICS 2003/04	NICS 2005	NICS 2006/07	NICS 2007/08	NICS 2008/09	NICS 2009/10	NICS 2010/11	NICS 2011/12	NICS 2012/13	Statistically significant change, 2011/12 to 2012/13? ⁴
More crime³	41	55	52	44	44	39	36	35	35	33	31	** ↓
A lot more crime	14	26	22	17	17	14	14	12	11	10	10	
A little more crime	27	29	30	27	27	25	22	23	24	23	21	
Same	47	36	36	42	42	45	48	49	49	51	53	** ↓
Less crime	12	8	12	13	14	16	16	16	16	16	17	
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>2,648</i>	<i>2,597</i>	<i>2,644</i>	<i>3,076</i>	<i>3,171</i>	<i>3,295</i>	<i>3,291</i>	<i>3,495</i>	<i>3,494</i>	<i>3,497</i>	<i>3,524</i>	

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.
2. Based on respondents who had been living in their area for more than three years.
3. The proportion of respondents believing there has been 'a little more crime' or 'a lot more crime'; these figures may not sum to the 'more crime' composite figure due to rounding.
4. Statistical significance of change at the 5% level (two-tailed test) is indicated by a double asterisk (**).
5. Previous publications presented data for England and Wales however this question was not included in CSEW 2012/13.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A4: Perceptions of different types of anti-social behaviour as very / fairly big problems (%) in Northern Ireland and England and Wales¹

	NICS 1998	NICS 2001	NICS 2003/04	NICS 2005	NICS 2006/07	NICS 2007/08	NICS 2008/09	NICS 2009/10	NICS 2010/11	NICS 2011/12	NICS 2012/13	Statistically significant change, 2011/12 to 2012/13? ³	CSEW 2012/13
Perceived high level of ASB²	-	-	18	17	15	15	14	14	13	12	10	** ↓	13
Abandoned or burnt-out cars	-	8	10	8	7	6	5	5	5	4	3		3
Noisy neighbours or loud parties	6	7	8	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	8		11
People being drunk or rowdy in public places	-	-	24	25	23	25	24	22	20	21	18	** ↓	21
People using or dealing drugs	21	29	31	28	26	26	24	23	22	23	22		26
Teenagers hanging around on streets	20	33	31	29	27	28	26	26	23	22	20		22
Rubbish or litter lying around	22	27	29	28	27	27	28	28	27	26	24		29
Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property	23	32	28	26	23	22	23	22	20	20	17	** ↓	19
<i>Unweighted base⁴</i>	3,058	3,007	3,104	3,691	3,788	3,932	3,855	4,098	4,077	4,063	4,055		8,329 ⁵

¹ Denotes indicator was not included in survey.

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.
2. ASB: Anti-social behaviour (measure derived from responses to the seven individual strands in the table).
3. Statistical significance of change at the 5% level (two-tailed test) is indicated by a double asterisk (**).
4. Unweighted base refers to rubbish or litter lying around. Other bases will be similar.
5. CSEW unweighted base refers to people using or dealing drugs. Other CSEW bases will be similar.

Table A5: Perceptions of different types of anti-social behaviour as the single biggest problem (%) in the local area¹

	NICS 2008/09	NICS 2009/10	NICS 2010/11	NICS 2011/12	NICS 2012/13
Abandoned or burnt-out cars	1	1	1	1	<0.5
Noisy neighbours or loud parties	4	4	4	4	4
People being drunk or rowdy in public places	11	11	10	10	8
People using or dealing drugs	8	7	9	9	10
Teenagers hanging around on streets	23	21	19	18	16
Rubbish or litter lying around	16	16	18	18	18
Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property	7	7	7	7	6
None of these	31	32	33	33	37
<i>Unweighted base</i>	3,852	4,090	4,066	4,055	4,049

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A6: Perceptions of anti-social behaviour, by personal characteristics (%) in Northern Ireland¹

	% saying 'very' or 'fairly' big problem							Perceived high level of ASB ²	Unweighted base ³
	Abandoned or burnt-out cars	Noisy neighbours or loud parties	People being drunk or rowdy in public places	People using or dealing drugs	Teenagers hanging around on streets	Rubbish or litter lying around	Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property		
ALL ADULTS	3	8	18	22	20	24	17	10	4,055
Age (3 groups)									
16-29	8	11	28	27	25	28	24	18	660
30-59	3	8	17	22	21	24	17	9	2,102
60+	2	5	12	18	14	23	13	5	1,288
Age (7 groups)									
16-24	9	12	29	27	27	30	26	19	353
25-34	5	10	22	24	24	24	20	14	671
35-44	3	8	17	19	20	23	16	9	682
45-54	3	9	16	24	20	24	18	9	750
55-64	2	6	14	21	18	25	15	6	618
65-74	2	5	13	19	16	24	15	7	537
75+	1	2	8	15	9	21	7	3	439
Men	3	7	16	21	18	23	17	9	1,799
16-24	6	13	26	29	24	26	23	17	142
25-34	3	8	21	21	23	23	20	14	266
35-44	2	6	14	15	16	19	15	6	308
45-54	3	7	13	24	16	21	17	7	341
55-64	3	6	15	23	20	27	17	6	287
65-74	1	2	11	18	13	21	13	6	271
75+	2	2	9	16	10	24	8	3	184
Women	4	9	19	22	22	26	18	11	2,251
16-24	11	10	32	27	30	33	27	21	211
25-34	7	11	23	26	25	25	20	14	405
35-44	3	11	20	22	25	26	18	11	374
45-54	2	10	19	24	23	27	19	11	409
55-64	2	6	14	19	16	22	14	6	331
65-74	4	9	16	20	18	27	17	9	266
75+	0	2	7	13	8	19	7	3	255
Religion									
Catholic	5	9	21	26	23	25	20	14	1,688
Protestant	2	6	14	19	17	24	15	6	2,020
Perceived nationality									
British	2	7	15	21	16	22	15	7	1,904
Irish	6	10	22	28	26	28	23	17	1,024
Northern Irish	3	7	16	18	20	24	17	8	930
Other	9	9	25	18	22	27	18	14	168
Disability or illness									
Long-standing illness or disability	3	9	19	27	21	29	21	12	1,152
Limits activities	3	10	21	29	24	31	21	14	870
Does not limit activities	3	4	12	20	15	22	22	9	281
No long-standing illness or disability	4	8	17	20	19	23	16	9	2,892
Experience of crime reported to police									
Victim	4	9	20	26	23	27	21	12	1,582
Within last 2 years	6	13	27	31	33	31	32	20	455
More than 2 years ago	3	8	17	24	19	26	16	9	1,127
Never a victim	3	7	16	19	18	23	15	9	2,464
Daily newspaper readership									
National broadsheets	3	8	20	16	19	22	20	10	410
National tabloids	3	7	19	24	21	25	19	10	1,613
Irish News	5	8	18	25	23	26	21	13	617
Newsletter	1	3	10	15	12	23	9	4	351
Belfast Telegraph	2	8	18	21	20	25	19	9	967

Source: NICS 2012/13

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.
2. ASB: Anti-social behaviour (measure derived from responses to the seven individual strands in the table).
3. Unweighted base refers to rubbish or litter lying around. Other bases will be similar.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A7: Perceptions of anti-social behaviour, by household and area characteristics (%) in Northern Ireland¹

	% saying 'very' or 'fairly' big problem								Unweighted base ⁶
	Abandoned or burnt-out cars	Noisy neighbours or loud parties	People being drunk or rowdy in public places	People using or dealing drugs	Teenagers hanging around on streets	Rubbish or litter lying around	Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property	Perceived high level of ASB ²	
ALL ADULTS	3	8	18	22	20	24	17	10	4,055
Living arrangements (respondent)									
Living as a couple	2	6	14	20	17	23	15	7	2,074
Married	2	6	13	19	17	22	14	6	1,876
Cohabiting	4	14	23	24	21	27	21	14	198
Not living as a couple	5	10	23	25	23	27	21	14	1,975
Single	7	11	26	26	25	30	23	17	1,100
Separated	3	16	24	30	27	26	26	17	186
Divorced	4	12	22	29	27	26	22	11	288
Widowed	1	3	9	16	11	17	9	4	401
Household type³									
HRP aged under 60:									
Single adult & child(ren)	8	15	29	34	29	30	24	20	331
Adults & child(ren)	4	8	18	21	20	22	17	10	978
No children	4	10	20	24	23	26	20	12	1,370
HRP aged 60 and over	2	5	13	19	15	24	14	6	1,376
Household income									
Less than £10,000	6	10	21	26	22	29	21	14	768
£10,000 less than £20,000	3	10	20	28	22	29	20	13	1,049
£20,000 less than £30,000	4	6	16	23	18	20	15	8	674
£30,000 less than £40,000	2	7	17	15	21	22	17	7	436
£40,000 less than £50,000	4	6	14	14	17	23	14	6	340
£50,000 or more	2	4	11	14	14	15	10	4	312
Tenure									
Owner-occupied	2	6	14	18	18	23	15	7	2,631
Social rented	6	14	27	36	29	35	26	19	655
Private rented	6	11	24	24	22	24	20	15	749
Area type⁴									
Belfast	4	11	20	21	23	27	21	12	1,370
Urban, excluding Belfast	6	10	25	31	27	28	24	16	1,339
Rural	1	3	8	14	10	19	8	3	1,346
All Urban	5	10	23	26	25	27	22	14	2,709
Policing District⁴									
A&B (Belfast)	6	12	23	25	26	33	26	15	664
C	1	8	12	18	16	20	12	5	706
D	4	8	17	21	22	25	18	11	635
E	4	7	19	24	18	25	16	11	629
F	3	3	10	14	11	16	8	5	446
G	4	10	23	27	27	25	22	16	513
H	3	6	18	23	17	24	18	7	462
Multiple Deprivation Measure rank⁵									
1st quintile Most deprived	9	15	31	40	35	38	32	24	827
2nd quintile	3	8	19	23	20	25	18	9	863
3rd quintile	3	5	14	18	15	22	13	7	802
4th quintile	2	7	14	18	15	21	12	6	812
5th quintile Least deprived	2	5	11	12	15	17	13	5	751

Source: NICS 2012/13

- Results exclude don't knows and refusals.
- ASB: Anti-social behaviour (measure derived from responses to the seven individual strands in the table).
- HRP: Household Reference Person (in order of sequence, the person who owns or rents the accommodation, highest earner or oldest person).
- When combined, PSNI policing districts A & B equate to Belfast Local Government District area. See Table B1 in Technical Annex for full geographical breakdown of policing districts. For the area type breakdown, Belfast is based on the Belfast Metropolitan Urban area which extends beyond the Belfast Local Government District.
- Rank order of super output areas (derived from 2010 Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure).
- Unweighted base refers to rubbish or litter lying around. Other bases will be similar.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A8: Worry about crime and personal safety (%) in Northern Ireland and England and Wales¹

	NICS 1998	NICS 2001	NICS 2003/04	NICS 2005	NICS 2006/07	NICS 2007/08	NICS 2008/09	NICS 2009/10	NICS 2010/11	NICS 2011/12	NICS 2012/13	Statistically significant change, 2011/12 to 2012/13 ³	CSEW 2012/13
% with high levels of worry													
Burglary	17	17	21	18	17	16	15	16	16	15	14		12
Car crime ²	18	21	20	17	15	15	14	13	13	12	11		7
Violent crime	23	23	24	23	22	19	18	20	19	19	17	** ↓	12
% very worried													
Crime overall	-	-	-	-	-	9	8	8	9	8	7		9
% feeling very unsafe													
Walking alone in area after dark	8	11	13	11	11	12	10	10	9	8	7		9
Alone in home at night	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		1
<i>Unweighted base⁴</i>	3,057	3,010	3,104	3,691	3,790	3,933	3,856	4,102	4,080	4,061	4,054		8,792

¹ Denotes indicator was not included in survey.

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

2. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

3. Statistical significance of change at the 5% level (two-tailed test) is indicated by a double asterisk (**).

4. Unweighted base refers to worry about burglary. Other bases will be similar with the exception of car crime which is based on vehicle-owners only.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A9: Worry about crime and personal safety, by personal characteristics (%) in Northern Ireland¹

	% with high levels of worry			% very worried	% feeling very unsafe		Unweighted base ³
	Burglary	Car crime ²	Violent crime	Crime overall	Walking alone in area after dark	Alone in home at night	
ALL ADULTS	14	11	17	7	7	2	4,054
Age							
16-29	14	12	22	7	7	2	660
30-59	14	10	15	7	5	2	2,102
60+	16	12	17	7	11	2	1,287
16-24	14	15	24	8	8	2	353
25-34	13	9	17	6	4	2	671
35-44	14	9	14	6	5	2	682
45-54	15	13	14	7	7	2	750
55-64	14	11	19	9	6	2	618
65-74	17	12	16	7	12	2	536
75+	15	9	15	5	13	3	439
Men	11	9	8	4	3	1	1,798
16-24	10	n<100	9	5	1	1	142
25-34	9	7	8	3	2	1	266
35-44	9	5	6	2	2	0	308
45-54	14	12	8	4	2	0	341
55-64	11	10	11	5	1	2	287
65-74	14	11	8	4	5	1	270
75+	10	8	6	3	5	3	184
Women	17	13	24	10	11	3	2,251
16-24	18	17	37	10	14	4	211
25-34	16	11	24	8	6	3	405
35-44	18	12	21	9	7	4	374
45-54	17	14	18	9	10	3	409
55-64	16	13	26	13	10	2	331
65-74	20	14	26	11	20	4	266
75+	19	9	22	6	19	3	255
Religion							
Catholic	15	11	17	7	7	2	1,688
Protestant	14	11	17	7	7	2	2,019
Perceived nationality							
British	16	13	19	8	8	2	1,903
Irish	12	10	14	5	8	2	1,024
Northern Irish	12	10	14	6	6	2	930
Other	19	9	23	11	6	3	168
Disability or illness							
Long-standing illness or disability	19	14	21	9	11	4	1,151
Limits activities	19	14	22	11	13	5	869
Does not limit activities	16	13	20	6	7	2	281
No long-standing illness or disability	13	10	15	6	6	1	2,892
Experience of crime reported to police							
Victim	17	13	17	8	8	3	1,581
Within last 2 years	22	16	23	12	13	5	455
More than 2 years ago	15	12	15	6	6	1	1,126
Never a victim	13	10	17	6	6	2	2,464
Daily newspaper readership							
National broadsheets	9	9	11	5	4	1	410
National tabloids	16	12	20	8	7	2	1,613
Irish News	15	12	15	7	7	2	617
Newsletter	11	8	12	4	5	1	351
Belfast Telegraph	12	10	16	6	6	1	967

Source: NICS 2012/13

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.
2. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.
3. Unweighted base refers to worry about burglary. Other bases will be similar with the exception of car crime which is based on vehicle-owners only.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A10: Worry about crime and personal safety, by household and area characteristics (%) in Northern Ireland¹

	% with high levels of worry			% very worried	% feeling very unsafe		Unweighted base ⁷
	Burglary	Car crime ²	Violent crime	Crime overall	Walking alone in area after dark	Alone in home at night	
ALL ADULTS	14	11	17	7	7	2	4,054
Living arrangements (respondent)							
Living as a couple	14	11	15	6	5	2	2,073
Married	14	10	14	6	5	2	1,875
Cohabiting	16	11	22	7	7	0	198
Not living as a couple	15	12	20	8	10	3	1,975
Single	14	11	20	7	8	2	1,100
Separated	20	12	20	11	9	2	186
Divorced	19	15	17	11	12	5	288
Widowed	17	12	21	7	15	3	401
Household type³							
HRP aged under 60:							
Single adult & child(ren)	25	16	28	14	10	6	331
Adults & child(ren)	13	10	15	5	5	1	978
No children	14	12	17	8	6	2	1,370
HRP aged 60 and over	15	11	16	7	10	2	1,375
Household income							
Less than £10,000	23	15	26	13	12	4	768
£10,000 less than £20,000	17	16	21	8	10	2	1,049
£20,000 less than £30,000	14	11	16	7	6	2	674
£30,000 less than £40,000	10	7	12	5	5	1	436
£40,000 less than £50,000	9	6	10	4	3	1	340
£50,000 or more	7	5	6	1	3	0	312
Tenure							
Owner-occupied	13	10	14	5	6	1	2,630
Social rented	24	20	26	14	15	5	655
Private rented	16	13	22	10	7	3	749
Area type⁴							
Belfast	16	11	18	8	8	2	1,369
Urban, excluding Belfast	15	12	18	7	9	3	1,339
Rural	13	10	14	5	5	1	1,346
All Urban	15	12	18	8	8	3	2,708
Policing District⁴							
A&B (Belfast)	18	12	19	9	9	3	663
C	10	7	14	5	4	0	706
D	17	12	18	8	9	2	635
E	18	14	19	8	8	4	629
F	11	10	13	5	6	1	446
G	15	14	19	9	8	2	513
H	11	7	16	6	6	2	462
Multiple Deprivation Measure rank⁵							
1st quintile Most deprived	21	15	22	10	14	4	826
2nd quintile	13	10	16	8	6	3	863
3rd quintile	13	10	16	6	6	1	802
4th quintile	14	12	17	6	7	2	812
5th quintile Least deprived	11	9	13	5	4	1	751
Perceived level of ASB⁶							
High	28	27	34	16	17	7	394
Low	13	9	15	6	6	1	3,379

Source: NICS 2012/13

- Results exclude don't knows and refusals.
- Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.
- HRP: Household Reference Person (in order of sequence, the person who owns or rents the accommodation, highest earner or oldest person).
- When combined, PSNI policing districts A & B equate to Belfast Local Government District area. See Table B1 in Technical Annex for full geographical breakdown of policing districts. For the area type breakdown, Belfast is based on the Belfast Metropolitan Urban area which extends beyond the Belfast Local Government District.
- Rank order of super output areas (derived from 2010 Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure).
- ASB: Anti-social behaviour (measure derived from responses to the seven individual strands in Table A4).
- Unweighted base refers to worry about burglary. Other bases will be similar with the exception of car crime which is based on vehicle-owners only.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A11: Perceptions of the risk of victimisation (%) in Northern Ireland and England and Wales¹

% perceiving it likely that they will be a victim within the next year	NICS 2006/07	NICS 2007/08	NICS 2008/09	NICS 2009/10	NICS 2010/11	NICS 2011/12	NICS 2012/13	Statistically significant change, 2011/12 to 2012/13 ³	CSEW 2012/13
Burglary	18	16	15	15	15	14	11	** ↓	11
Car crime ²	26	22	20	18	15	15	12	** ↓	15
Violent crime	15	12	11	10	10	9	7	** ↓	11
<i>Unweighted base⁴</i>	3,708	3,855	3,774	4,006	3,987	3,992	3,980		8,651

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

2. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

3. Statistical significance of change at the 5% level (two-tailed test) is indicated by a double asterisk (**).

4. Unweighted base refers to perceived likelihood of being a victim of burglary. Bases for violent crime will be similar but will be lower for car crime which is based on vehicle-owners only.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A12: Perceptions of the risk of victimisation, by personal characteristics (%) in Northern Ireland¹

	% perceiving it likely that they will be a victim within the next year			Unweighted base ³
	Burglary	Car crime ²	Violent crime	
ALL ADULTS	11	12	7	3,980
Age				
16-29	9	11	10	652
30-59	12	13	7	2,066
60+	10	11	6	1,257
16-24	9	8	11	349
25-34	10	12	8	664
35-44	13	12	7	668
45-54	12	13	7	738
55-64	14	15	7	607
65-74	8	11	6	522
75+	9	9	5	427
Men	9	11	6	1,771
16-24	8	7	8	140
25-34	6	11	8	265
35-44	11	11	8	304
45-54	9	11	5	336
55-64	13	16	6	281
65-74	9	11	5	264
75+	9	9	5	181
Women	13	13	8	2,204
16-24	10	10	12	209
25-34	12	13	9	399
35-44	14	13	7	364
45-54	15	15	9	402
55-64	16	14	7	326
65-74	8	12	7	258
75+	9	10	5	246
Religion				
Catholic	12	15	8	1,665
Protestant	10	10	6	1,988
Perceived nationality				
British	10	10	7	1,871
Irish	13	16	8	1,007
Northern Irish	10	12	6	920
Other	11	13	10	161
Disability or illness				
Long-standing illness or disability	12	14	9	1,121
Limits activities	12	14	8	844
Does not limit activities	12	12	9	276
No long-standing illness or disability	11	12	7	2,854
Experience of crime reported to police				
Victim	13	16	9	1,560
Within last 2 years	17	22	15	449
More than 2 years ago	11	13	7	1,111
Never a victim	10	10	6	2,416
Daily newspaper readership				
National broadsheets	10	11	6	406
National tabloids	12	13	7	1,594
Irish News	11	14	7	604
Newsletter	11	11	8	349
Belfast Telegraph	11	10	7	957

Source: NICS 2012/13

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

2. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.

3. Unweighted base refers to perceived likelihood of being a victim of burglary. Bases for violent crime will be similar but will be lower for car crime which is based on vehicle-owners only.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A13: Perceptions of the risk of victimisation, by household and area characteristics (%) in Northern Ireland¹

	% perceiving it likely that they will be a victim within the next year			Unweighted base ⁷
	Burglary	Car crime ²	Violent crime	
ALL ADULTS	11	12	7	3,980
Living arrangements (respondent)				
Living as a couple	11	12	6	2,038
Married	11	12	6	1,841
Cohabiting	12	16	12	197
Not living as a couple	11	11	9	1,936
Single	11	11	10	1,083
Separated	17	15	9	183
Divorced	10	11	7	283
Widowed	8	9	5	387
Household type³				
HRP aged under 60:				
Single adult & child(ren)	16	16	10	324
Adults & child(ren)	11	12	7	961
No children	11	13	8	1,352
HRP aged 60 and over	10	11	6	1,343
Household income				
Less than £10,000	12	12	9	751
£10,000 less than £20,000	12	14	8	1,031
£20,000 less than £30,000	12	11	8	665
£30,000 less than £40,000	10	15	6	434
£40,000 less than £50,000	8	11	5	337
£50,000 or more	9	7	4	309
Tenure				
Owner-occupied	11	12	6	2,588
Social rented	12	14	10	640
Private rented	11	9	9	737
Area type⁴				
Belfast	11	13	7	1,343
Urban, excluding Belfast	11	13	9	1,316
Rural	11	10	6	1,321
All Urban	11	13	8	2,659
Policing District⁴				
A&B	10	13	7	646
C	8	8	5	687
D	14	15	7	629
E	11	12	8	616
F	12	11	8	440
G	14	19	11	502
H	7	6	7	460
Multiple Deprivation Measure rank⁵				
1st quintile Most deprived	13	18	9	811
2nd quintile	10	12	7	848
3rd quintile	10	11	7	793
4th quintile	13	13	8	786
5th quintile Least deprived	10	9	4	742
Perceived level of ASB⁶				
High	32	36	25	392
Low	9	9	5	3,319

Source: NICS 2012/13

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.
2. Based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle.
3. HRP: Household Reference Person (in order of sequence, the person who owns or rents the accommodation, highest earner or oldest person).
4. When combined, PSNI policing districts A & B equate to Belfast Local Government District area. See Table B1 in Technical Annex for full geographical breakdown of policing districts. For the area type breakdown, Belfast is based on the Belfast Metropolitan Urban area which extends beyond the Belfast Local Government District.
5. Rank order of super output areas (derived from 2010 Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure).
6. ASB: Anti-social behaviour (measure derived from responses to the seven individual strands in Table A4).
7. Unweighted base refers to perceived likelihood of being a victim of burglary. Bases for violent crime will be similar but will be lower for car crime which is based on vehicle-owners only.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A14: Perceptions of the effect of 'fear of crime' on quality of life (%) in Northern Ireland and England and Wales¹

	NICS 1998	NICS 2001	NICS 2003/04	NICS 2005	NICS 2006/07	NICS 2007/08	NICS 2008/09	NICS 2009/10	NICS 2010/11	NICS 2011/12	NICS 2012/13	Statistically significant change, 2011/12 to 2012/13? ²	CSEW 2012/13
Minimal	63	61	57	60	61	64	64	66	67	67	70	** ↑	66
Moderate	31	32	36	34	33	32	31	29	28	27	25		30
Great	6	7	6	6	6	4	5	5	5	5	4		5
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>3,049</i>	<i>3,008</i>	<i>3,099</i>	<i>3,691</i>	<i>3,789</i>	<i>3,929</i>	<i>3,854</i>	<i>4,099</i>	<i>4,079</i>	<i>4,062</i>	<i>4,054</i>		<i>3,835</i>

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

2. Statistical significance of change at the 5% level (two-tailed test) is indicated by a double asterisk (**).

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A15: Perceptions of the effect of 'fear of crime' on quality of life, by personal characteristics (%) in Northern Ireland¹

	Minimal	Moderate	Great	Unweighted base
ALL ADULTS	70	25	4	4,054
Age				
16-29	72	25	3	660
30-59	70	26	4	2,101
60+	70	25	4	1,288
16-24	71	26	3	353
25-34	70	27	3	670
35-44	71	23	6	682
45-54	71	25	4	750
55-64	70	25	5	618
65-74	68	27	5	537
75+	71	26	3	439
Men	75	22	3	1,799
16-24	81	18	1	142
25-34	74	25	1	266
35-44	78	18	4	308
45-54	73	24	3	341
55-64	73	23	4	287
65-74	74	22	4	271
75+	76	22	2	184
Women	66	28	5	2,250
16-24	63	32	5	211
25-34	66	29	4	404
35-44	65	28	7	374
45-54	69	25	5	409
55-64	68	27	5	331
65-74	61	32	7	266
75+	68	28	4	255
Religion				
Catholic	70	26	5	1,688
Protestant	71	25	4	2,020
Perceived nationality				
British	70	26	5	1,903
Irish	69	27	5	1,024
Northern Irish	73	24	3	930
Other	74	22	4	168
Disability or illness				
Long-standing illness or disability	64	29	8	1,152
Limits activities	62	29	9	870
Does not limit activities	69	28	3	281
No long-standing illness or disability	73	24	3	2,892
Experience of crime reported to police				
Victim	63	30	7	1,582
Within last 2 years	53	36	12	455
More than 2 years ago	68	28	4	1,127
Never a victim	75	22	3	2,463
Daily newspaper readership				
National broadsheets	76	22	2	409
National tabloids	71	25	4	1,613
Irish News	73	23	4	617
Newsletter	71	26	3	351
Belfast Telegraph	72	25	3	967

Source: NICS 2012/13

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table A16: Perceptions of the effect of 'fear of crime' on quality of life, by household and area characteristics (%) in Northern Ireland¹

	Minimal	Moderate	Great	Unweighted base
ALL ADULTS	70	25	4	4,054
Living arrangements (respondent)				
Living as a couple	72	25	4	2,074
Married	73	24	4	1,876
Cohabiting	65	32	3	198
Not living as a couple	68	27	5	1,974
Single	70	25	5	1,099
Separated	63	33	4	186
Divorced	64	27	9	288
Widowed	66	28	6	401
Household type²				
HRP aged under 60:				
Single adult & child(ren)	61	31	9	331
Adults & child(ren)	71	26	3	978
No children	71	24	5	1,369
HRP aged 60 and over	70	25	4	1,376
Household income				
Less than £10,000	64	27	9	768
£10,000 less than £20,000	66	29	6	1,049
£20,000 less than £30,000	70	27	3	674
£30,000 less than £40,000	74	22	4	436
£40,000 less than £50,000	77	22	1	340
£50,000 or more	81	18	1	312
Tenure				
Owner-occupied	73	24	3	2,631
Social rented	59	31	10	655
Private rented	69	26	5	749
Area type³				
Belfast	68	27	6	1,369
Urban, excluding Belfast	66	29	4	1,339
Rural	77	20	3	1,346
All Urban	67	28	5	2,708
Policing District³				
A&B	64	30	6	663
C	76	21	3	706
D	66	29	5	635
E	64	30	6	629
F	75	23	2	446
G	71	26	3	513
H	81	15	4	462
Multiple Deprivation Measure rank⁴				
1st quintile Most deprived	62	30	8	827
2nd quintile	72	24	5	863
3rd quintile	75	22	3	802
4th quintile	71	25	4	812
5th quintile Least deprived	71	27	2	750
Perceived level of ASB⁵				
High	43	47	10	394
Low	74	23	4	3,378

Source: NICS 2012/13

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

2. HRP: Household Reference Person (in order of sequence, the person who owns or rents the accommodation, highest earner or oldest person).

3. When combined, PSNI policing districts A & B equate to Belfast Local Government District area. See Table B1 in Technical Annex for full geographical breakdown of policing districts. For the area type breakdown, Belfast is based on the Belfast Metropolitan Urban area which extends beyond the Belfast Local Government District.

4. Rank order of super output areas (derived from 2010 Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure).

5. ASB: Anti-social behaviour (measure derived from responses to the seven individual strands in Table A4).

TECHNICAL ANNEX

Sampling and fieldwork

The initial NICS 2012/13 sample consisted of 6,750 addresses, randomly selected from the Land and Property Services domestic property database. Visits to each address by an interviewer from the NISRA Central Survey Unit resulted in an eligible sample of 5,957 occupied addresses, from which attempts were made to interview one randomly selected adult respondent at each address.

Selecting only one person at each address means that individuals living in large households have a lower chance of being included in the sample than those living in small households. Accordingly, the data presented in this publication have been weighted by household size to prevent a bias towards smaller households.

In January 2005, the NICS began operating on a continuous basis. This bulletin refers primarily to fieldwork undertaken during the financial year 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013, which involved complete interviews with 4,055 people aged 16 years and over. This represents an eligible response rate of 68%.

Respondents were assured in advance of the interviews that any information they provided would be treated as entirely confidential and that the level of detail produced in publications or in any subsequent analyses would not allow for identification of individuals. The interviews typically lasted just under an hour for non-victims, although those involving respondents who disclosed several crimes could last much longer.

Rounding, error and statistical significance

Don't knows, refusals and non-valid responses have been excluded from the analyses. Percentages may not always sum to 100 due to the effect of rounding to the nearest whole number, or because respondents could give more than one response.

Due to a combination of both sampling and non-sampling error, any sample is unlikely to reflect precisely the characteristics of the population.

Because NICS estimates are subject to sampling error, differences between estimates from successive years of the survey or between population subgroups may occur by chance.

For the purposes of this bulletin, where differences have emerged as being statistically significant, these have been reported at the 5% ($p < 0.05$) level of probability (two-tailed tests). This means that, for any observed result that is found to be statistically significant, one can be 95% confident that this has not happened by chance.

Further information on the 2012/13 sweep of the NICS is contained within the NICS 2012/13 Technical Report (forthcoming, via the Northern Ireland Department of Justice website: <http://www.dojni.gov.uk/index/statistics-research/stats-research-publications/northern-irelandcrime-survey-s-r.htm>).

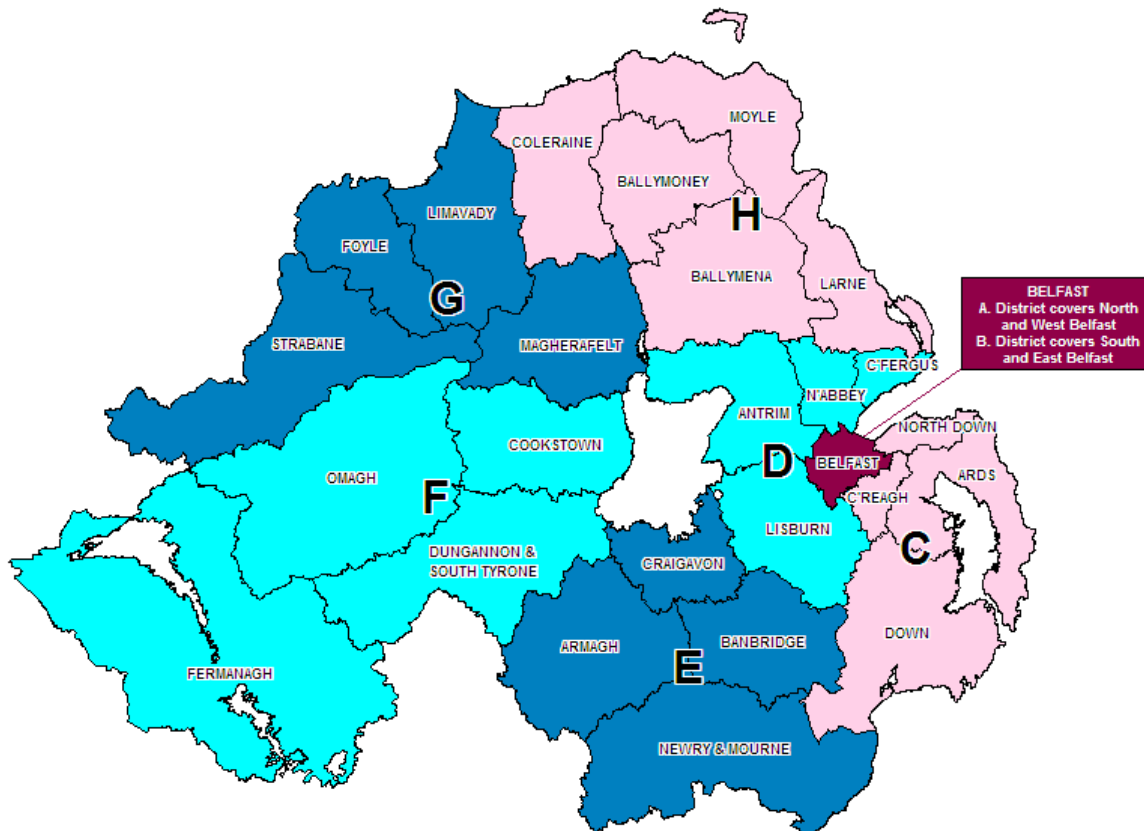
NICS 2012/13: Perceptions of Crime

Table B1: Sample profile for NICS 2012/13

Group	Sub-group	Unweighted Number	Unweighted %	Weighted %
Sex	Men	1,799	44	47
	Women	2,251	56	53
Age group	16-24	353	9	12
	25-34	671	17	16
	35-44	682	17	17
	45-54	750	19	20
	55-64	618	15	15
	65-74	537	13	12
	75+	439	11	8
Religion	Catholic	1,688	42	42
	Protestant	2,020	50	50
Area type	Urban	2,709	67	65
	Urban, excluding Belfast	1,339	33	33
	Rural	1,346	33	35
Policing district¹	A&B (Belfast)	664	16	15
	C	706	17	17
	D	635	16	16
	E	629	16	16
	F	446	11	11
	G	513	13	13
	H	462	11	11
	Multiple Deprivation Measure Rank²	1st quintile (most deprived)	827	20
	2nd quintile	863	21	21
	3rd quintile	802	20	20
	4th quintile	812	20	21
	5th quintile (least deprived)	751	19	20
Vehicle-owning households		3,222	79	85

1. See Figure B1. When combined, PSNI policing districts A and B equate to Belfast City Council area.
2. Rank order of super output areas (derived from 2010 Multiple Deprivation Measure).

Figure B1: Map of PSNI Policing Districts



1. Based on Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland data © 2007.

NOTES

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