

# How Official Statistics present information on recorded crime and related topics

## Consultation user event

15<sup>th</sup> August, Edinburgh

Morning (10:00 to 12:30) / Afternoon (14:00 to 16:30)

[crimeconsultation@gov.scot](mailto:crimeconsultation@gov.scot)



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# INTRODUCTION



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# Aims and objectives

- Aims:
  - To provide an overview of the background and topics raised in the consultation.
  - Give you an opportunity to ask questions, discuss these areas further and provide feedback.
- Guidelines:
  - Today is designed to be a free and open opportunity for discussion.
  - We will be taking notes, but any comments will not be attributed to a particular individual.
  - Any feedback collected will be in addition to responses received through the Citizen Space consultation hub.



# Agenda

Time (morning session)	Time (afternoon session)	Title
10:00 – 10:05	14:00 – 14:05	Introduction
10:05 – 10:20	14:05 – 14:20	Background to Recorded Crime and this consultation
10:15 – 10:35	14:15 – 14:35	Part One: Purpose and supporting principles + <i>Group Discussion</i>
10:30 – 10:35	14:30 – 14:35	Part Two: An alternative way to present crime statistics
10:35 – 11:00	14:35 – 15:00	Alternative approach (Groups 1 to 4) + <i>Group Discussion</i>
<b>11:00 – 11:15</b>	<b>15:00 – 15:15</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
11:15 – 11:35	15:15 – 15:35	Alternative approach (Groups 5 and 6) + <i>Group Discussion</i>
11:35 – 11:55	15:35 – 13:55	Alternative approach (Groups 7 to 9) + <i>Group Discussion</i>
11:55 – 12:25	15:55 – 16:25	Part Three: Cyber-crime in Scotland and other approaches + <i>Group Discussion</i>
12:25 – 12:30	16:25 – 16:30	Wrap up and final comments

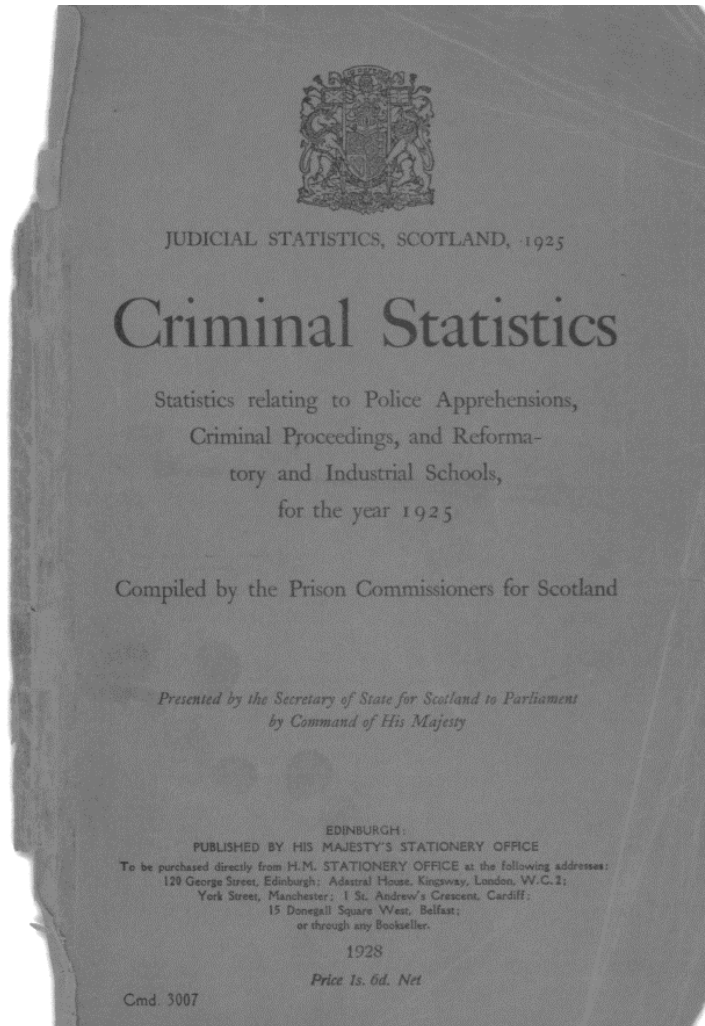




# BACKGROUND



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# Presentation of crime statistics



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A National Statistics publication for Scotland

## CRIME AND JUSTICE

### RECORDED CRIME IN SCOTLAND, 2017-18

This bulletin presents National Statistics on crimes and offences recorded by the police in 2017-18. Statistics on crimes and offences recorded by the police provide a measure of the volume of criminal activity with which the police are faced. Crimes recorded by the police do not reveal the incidence of all crime committed since not all crimes are reported to the police. For a definition of crimes recorded, refer to [Annex 1](#).

A procedural change was made to the recording of crime in 2017-18. Crimes of handling an offensive weapon are now included in these statistics for all cases where the weapon was used in a public place to commit a crime or offence against another person. This change has resulted in an additional 4,163 crimes of handling an offensive weapon being recorded in 2017-18.

Prior to 2017-18, where a weapon was used in a public place to commit another crime or offence against a person, the specific crime of handling an offensive weapon was treated as an aggravation of that crime or offence (for example a weapon aggravated assault). As such it was not included in the recorded crime statistics. Given this, we have advised users throughout this bulletin where some caution should be exercised when making comparisons between 2017-18 and earlier years.

### Key Points from Recorded Crime in Scotland

There were 244,504 crimes recorded by the police in Scotland in 2017-18. This is the second lowest level of recorded crime since 1974.

Between 2016-17 and 2017-18:

- Crimes recorded by the police in Scotland increased by 1% - excluding those additional crimes of handling an offensive weapon, which were only recorded from 2017-18 onwards.
- If the additional crimes of handling an offensive weapon are included, crimes recorded by the police increased by 2%. This is not a reliable measure given those crimes of handling an offensive weapon were not recorded prior to 2017-18.

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Criminal Statistics, 1925: <https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/Doc/933/0113687.pdf>

Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2017-18: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-2017-18/>

# Presentation of crime statistics

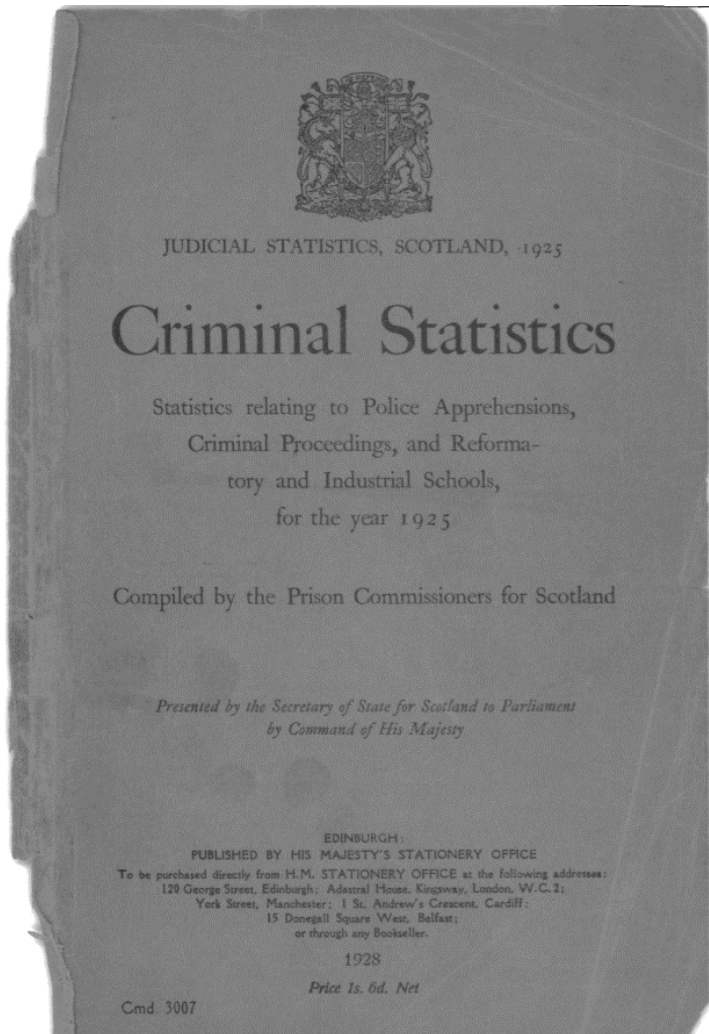


TABLE D.—NUMBER OF PERSONS DISPOSED OF AFTER COMMITTED TILL LIBERATED IN DUE COURSE OF LAW; CRIMES, &C., CHARGED 1910 to 1925. (IV (2) in Table B.)

CRIMES, &c.		Average for Five Years ended		1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	
		1914.	1919.						
Class I.—Crimes against the Person.		TOTAL	432	329	567	504	493	481	443
1.	Murder	7	7	47	17	10	9	11	
2.	Attempts to Murder, &c.	5	3	14	7	2	2	1	
3.	Culpable Homicide	34	37	36	33	34	33	42	
4.	Assaults	156	76	113	98	102	108	77	
5.	Intimidation and Molestation	—	3	12	5	—	3	4	
6.	Cruel and Unnatural Treatment of Children	25	8	6	14	1	4	5	
7.	Procuring Abortion	2	2	3	10	7	3	4	
8.	Concealment of Pregnancy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
9.	Incest	12	12	19	12	20	23	16	
10.	Unnatural Crimes, including Attempts	8	6	10	7	6	21	14	
11.	Rape	18	9	21	26	18	13	13	
12.	Assault with intent to Ravish	29	17	28	23	27	20	22	
13.	Indecent Assault	15	9	25	13	20	20	17	
14.	Lewd and Libidinous Practices	17	8	19	30	44	43	50	
15.	Procuration, and Criminal Law Amendment Act, &c., Offences	53	30	65	82	95	81	67	
16.	Bigamy	29	85	117	93	87	82	90	
17.	Other Crimes against the Person	13	11	22	23	11	6	7	
Class II.—Crimes against Property with Violence.		TOTAL	342	116	375	287	202	154	211
18.	Housebreaking	248	94	310	240	177	152	192	
19.	Robbery, and Assault with intent, &c.	72	21	57	47	19	1	16	
20.	Other Crimes against Property with Violence	2	1	8	—	6	1	3	
Class III.—Crimes against Property without Violence.		TOTAL	485	319	543	749	478	381	327
21.	Theft	337	162	242	247	177	170	140	
22.	Reset	32	22	45	48	25	14	5	
23.	Breach of Trust and Embezzlement	30	16	40	52	61	45	46	
24.	Falsehood, Fraud and Wilful Imposition	67	89	184	354	167	100	109	
25.	Offences in connection with Bankruptcy	2	2	4	6	8	3	9	
26.	Post Office Offences	16	23	24	40	37	44	16	
27.	Other Crimes against Property without Violence	1	5	4	2	3	5	2	
Class IV.—Malicious Injuries to Property.		TOTAL	22	10	43	15	9	11	18
28.	Fire-raising	16	7	34	14	6	6	13	
29.	Malicious Mischief	6	3	9	1	3	5	5	
Class V.—Forgery and Crimes against Currency.		TOTAL	21	21	24	44	34	29	37
30.	Forgery and Uttering	11	20	16	38	27	28	21	
31.	Coining and other Crimes against Currency	10	1	8	6	7	1	16	
Class VI.—Other Crimes not included above.		TOTAL	112	255	273	175	199	132	160
Crimes against the State and Public Order.	32. High Treason and Treason Felony	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	33. Mobbing and Rioting	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	34. Other Crimes	—	136	83	8	5	—	—	—
35.	Crimes against Public Justice (Perjury, Bribery, &c.)	13	19	12	21	19	14	19	
36.	Indecent Exposure	1	—	2	4	3	5	3	
37.	Other Crimes	83	94	108	140	159	113	138	
GRAND TOTAL			1,414	1,060	1,825	1,774	1,415	1,188	1,196

Non-sexual crimes of violence/  
Sexual crimes

Crimes of dishonesty

Fire-raising, vandalism etc.

Crimes of dishonesty

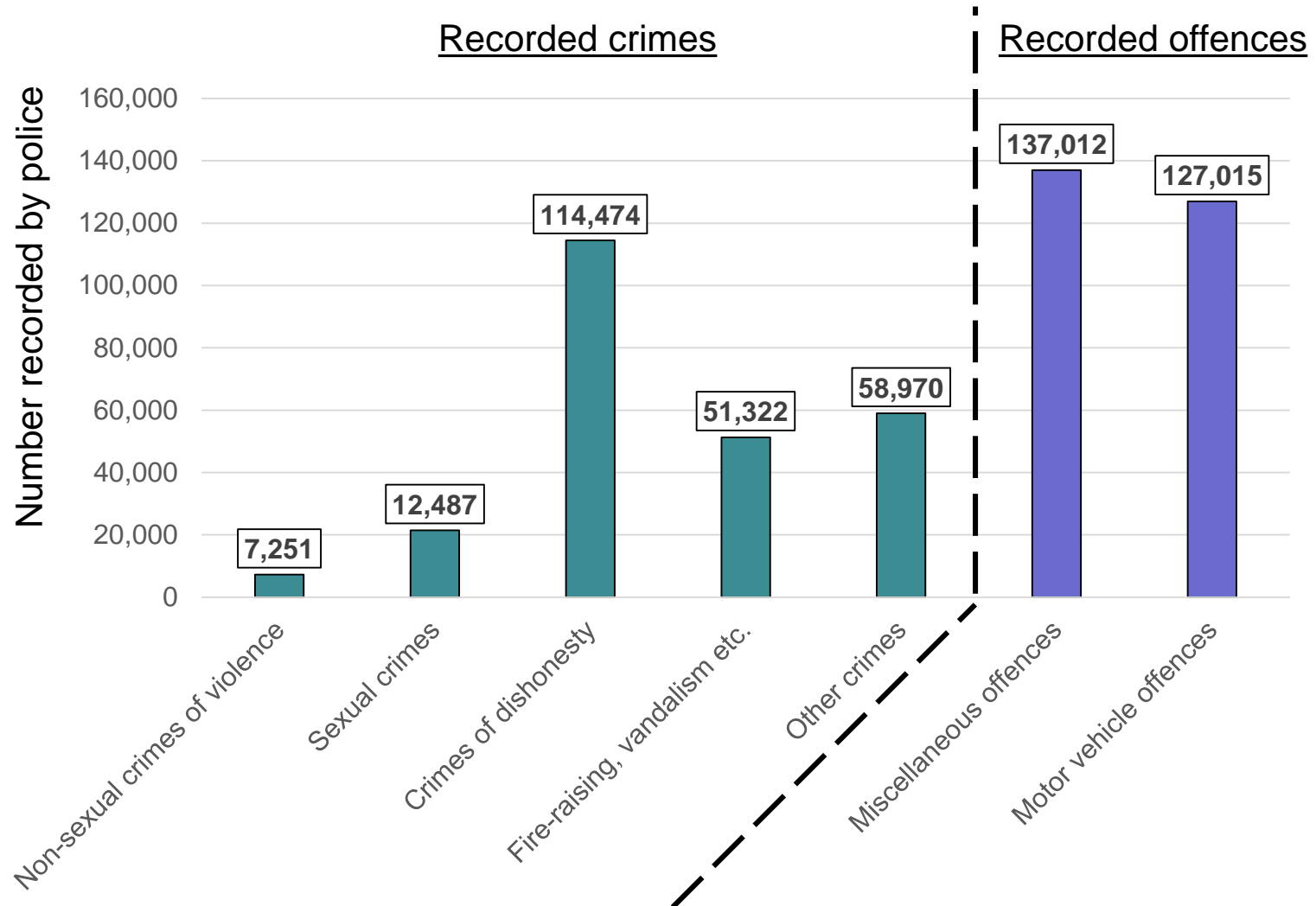
Other crimes



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# Recorded Crime in Scotland



Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2017-18:

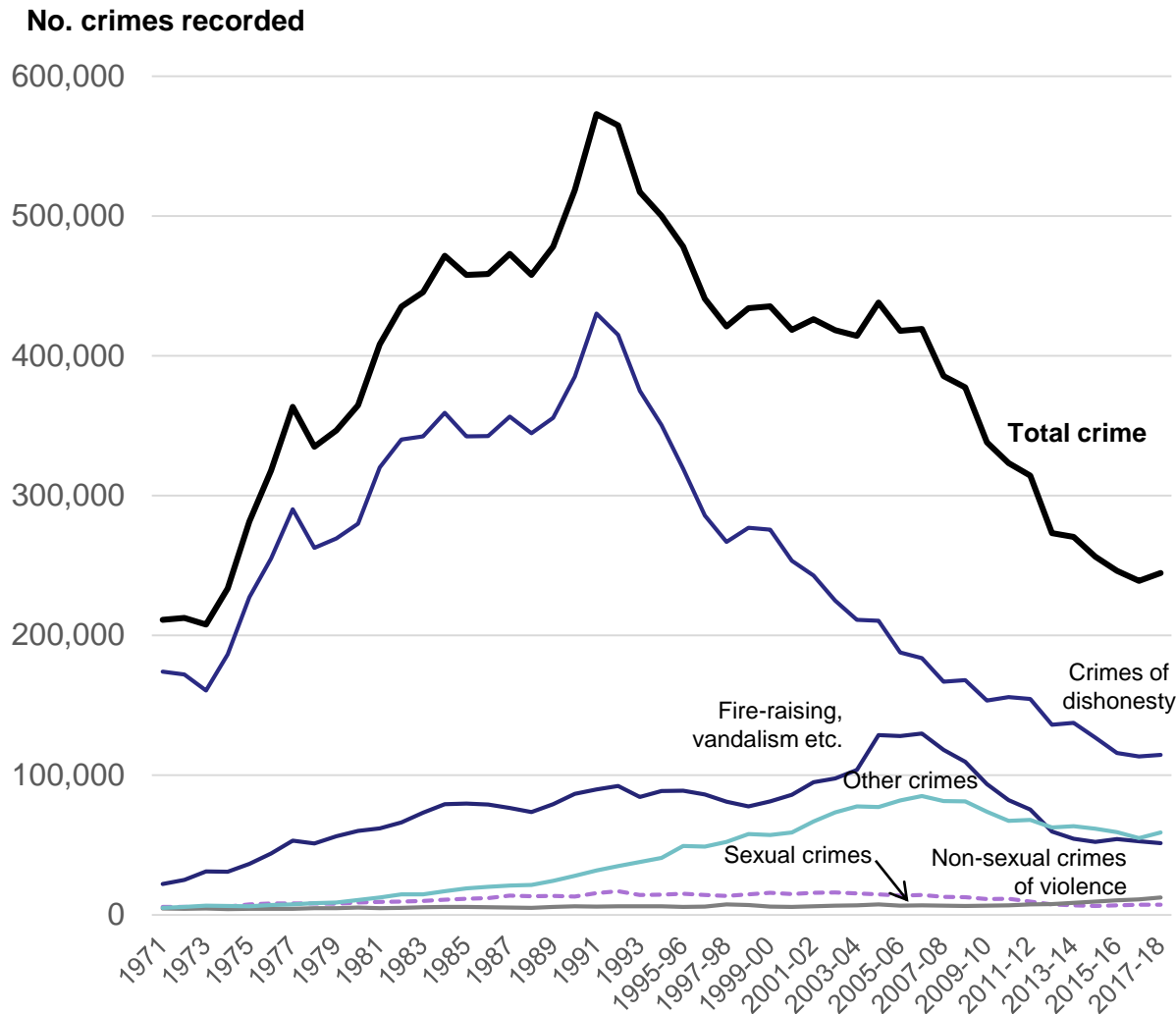
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-2017-18/>



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# Recorded Crime in Scotland



Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2017-18:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-2017-18/>



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# Why are we consulting?

- This consultation is being run on behalf of the Scottish Crime Recording Board which is chaired by Justice Analytical Services with representatives from other partner justice organisations.
- In an earlier audit of Recorded crime, HMICS recommended exploring whether the current crime groupings were still relevant.
  - Given changing nature of crime and public's perceptions of crime.
  - Such as the introduction of new legislation:
    - Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009; Domestic Abuse (Scotland) 2018
- As part of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics we are required to continually improve the quality of these statistics.
  - Ensuring they meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and value.
- A similar exercise was conducted by the Office for National Statistics which led to changes in how the crime statistics for England & Wales are presented.



# Consultation timeline

- Consultation closes on **8<sup>th</sup> October 2019.**
- How to respond:
  - Please respond on the Scottish Government's consultation hub:  
[consult.gov.scot/justice/statistics-on-police-recorded-crime-and-other](https://consult.gov.scot/justice/statistics-on-police-recorded-crime-and-other).
  - You can read the full consultation document here:  
[www.gov.scot/publications/consultation-official-statistics-present-information-recorded-crime-related-topics/](https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultation-official-statistics-present-information-recorded-crime-related-topics/)



# What happens after 8<sup>th</sup> October?

The Crime Board will consider responses to this consultation, alongside other planned engagement with stakeholders.

Some changes which result from this exercise could be implemented from the 2019-20 reporting year onwards.

The 2018-19 Recorded Crime National Statistics (due 24<sup>th</sup> September) will use the existing approach.



Purpose and supporting principles

# **PART ONE**

# Purpose of framework

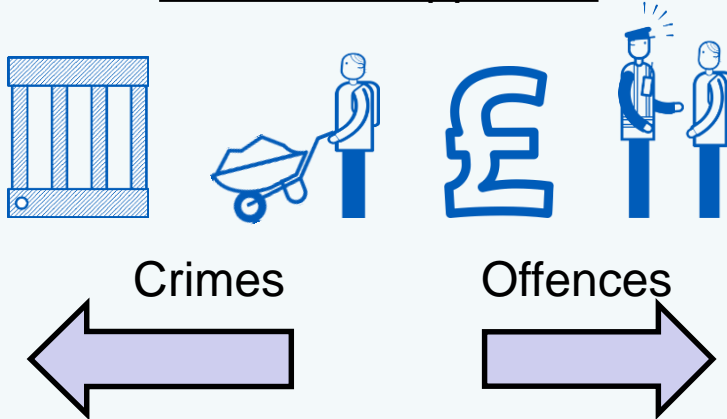
*“To produce National Statistics on crimes and offences recorded by the police in any given year, which (i) informs users, stakeholders and the public in general and (ii) enables a robust and meaningful picture of how crime changes over time to be produced.”*



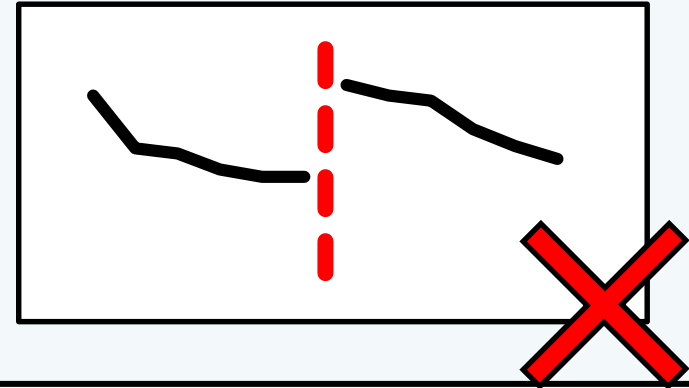
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# Supporting principles

## Consistent approach



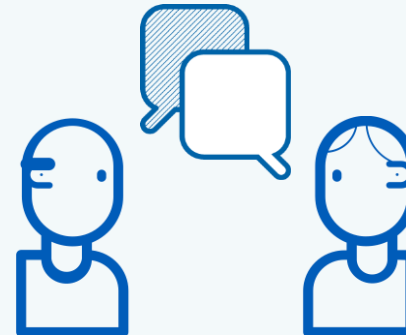
## Maintain time-series integrity



## Victim reported vs Operational activity



## User views





# Supporting principles

Proportion given a custodial sentence

Crime/offence group	Main crime or offence	Custody	Community sentence	Monetary	Other
Group 2: Sexual crimes	Rape and attempted rape	97%	1%	-	2%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Robbery	72%	23%	3%	2%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Homicide etc.	70%	23%	3%	3%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Housebreaking	65%	26%	5%	4%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Theft by opening lockfast places	51%	26%	10%	13%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Attempted murder and serious assault	49%	35%	13%	3%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Theft from a motor vehicle	46%	43%	6%	5%
Group 4: Fire-raising, vandalism etc.	Fire-raising	46%	42%	4%	8%
Group 2: Sexual crimes	Sexual assault	40%	52%	5%	3%
Group 5: Other crimes	Drugs (supply)	39%	44%	12%	4%
Group 5: Other crimes	Handling offensive weapons	35%	39%	14%	12%
Group 5: Other crimes	Other crime	34%	29%	13%	24%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Other dishonesty	33%	37%	16%	15%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Other theft	33%	30%	21%	16%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Theft of a motor vehicle	31%	41%	18%	10%
Group 2: Sexual crimes	Other sexual crimes	29%	59%	7%	5%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Fraud	28%	38%	25%	9%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Shoplifting	26%	20%	20%	33%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Other non-sexual crimes of violence	22%	42%	7%	29%
Group 5: Other crimes	Crimes against public justice	20%	25%	21%	34%
Group 6: Miscellaneous offences	Common assault	17%	33%	29%	21%
Group 4: Fire-raising, vandalism etc.	Vandalism etc.	17%	32%	33%	18%
Group 5: Other crimes	Drugs	16%	24%	42%	18%
Group 6: Miscellaneous offences	Other miscellaneous, including urinating	13%	26%	37%	24%
Group 6: Miscellaneous offences	Breach of the peace etc.	13%	26%	31%	30%
Group 5: Other crimes	Drugs (possession)	5%	14%	56%	25%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Dangerous and careless driving	5%	10%	82%	3%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Unlawful use of motor vehicle	4%	6%	80%	10%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Driving under the influence	2%	16%	80%	2%
Group 6: Miscellaneous offences	Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct	2%	14%	40%	43%
Group 2: Sexual crimes	Crimes associated with prostitution	2%	4%	45%	49%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Other motor vehicle offences	*	1%	94%	4%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Vehicle defect offences	*	*	93%	7%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Speeding	-	*	99%	1%



Current crime group



Current offence group



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An alternative way to present recorded crime statistics

# **PART TWO**



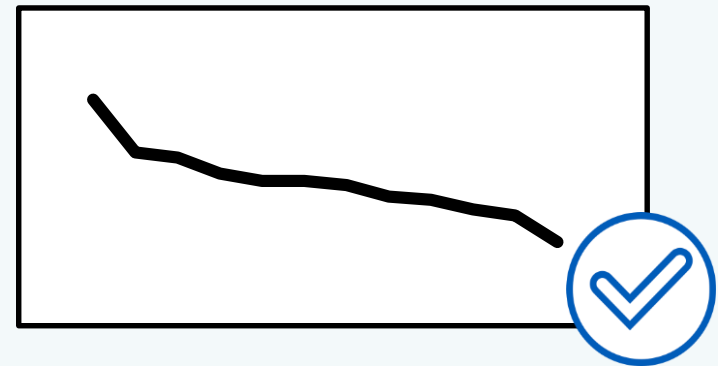
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# Key themes for alternative approach

## Consistent approach



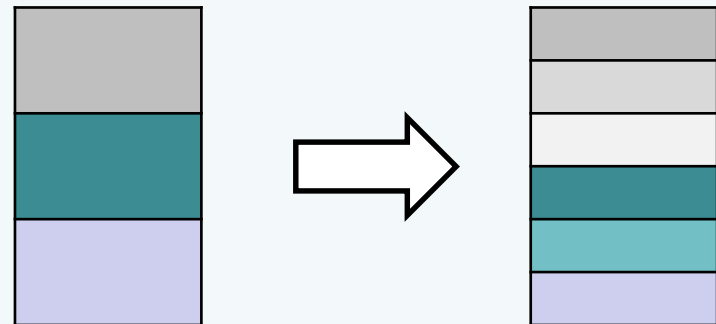
## Maintain time-series integrity



## Reflect new legislation



## More granularity



# Comparing the current and alternative approaches

## Current classification

Total recorded crimes
Non-sexual crimes of violence
Sexual crimes
Crimes of dishonesty
Fire-raising, vandalism etc.
Other crimes
Total recorded offences
Miscellaneous offences
Motor vehicle offences

## Alternative proposal

Total recorded crimes
Homicide, attempted murder & serious assault
Common assault and other violence
Robbery
Crimes of domestic abuse and other cruelty
Sexual crimes with physical contact
Sexual crimes without physical contact
Crimes of dishonesty
Damage and reckless behaviour
Crimes against society
Total recorded offences
Anti-social offences
Miscellaneous offences
Road traffic offences



# Comparing the current and alternative approaches

Crimes recorded by the police,  
2008-09 to 2017-18

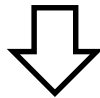
Ten year  
change:

Current:

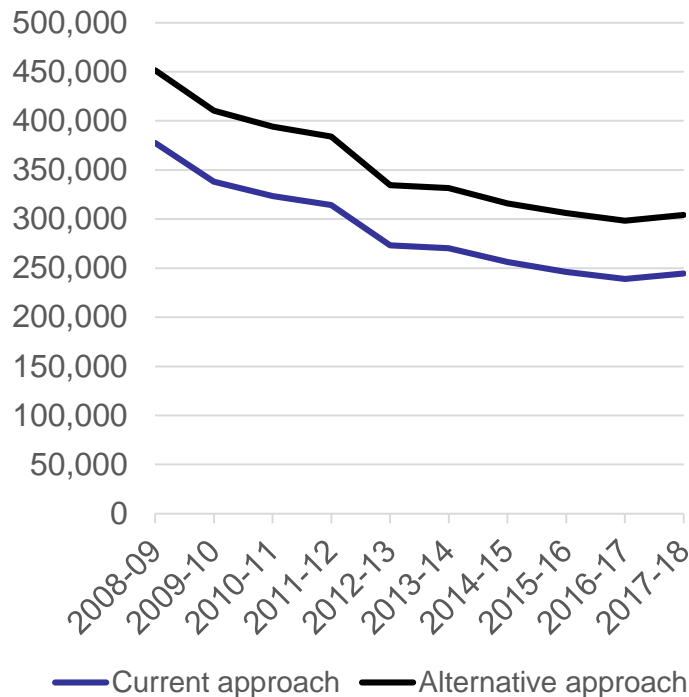


-35%

Alternative:



-33%



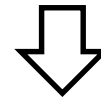
Number of people convicted in  
court, 2008-09 to 2017-18

Current:

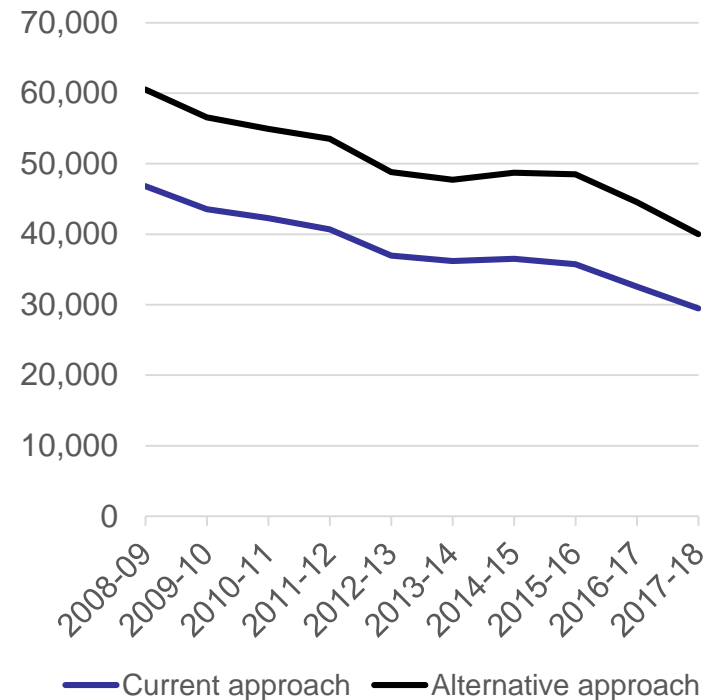


-37%

Alternative:



-34%



Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2017-18:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-2017-18/>

Criminal Proceedings in Scotland, 2017-18:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/criminal-proceedings-scotland-2017-18/>



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# Comparing the current and alternative approaches

## Current classification

Total recorded crimes
Non-sexual crimes of violence
Sexual crimes
Crimes of dishonesty
Fire-raising, vandalism etc.
Other crimes
Total recorded offences
Miscellaneous offences
Motor vehicle offences

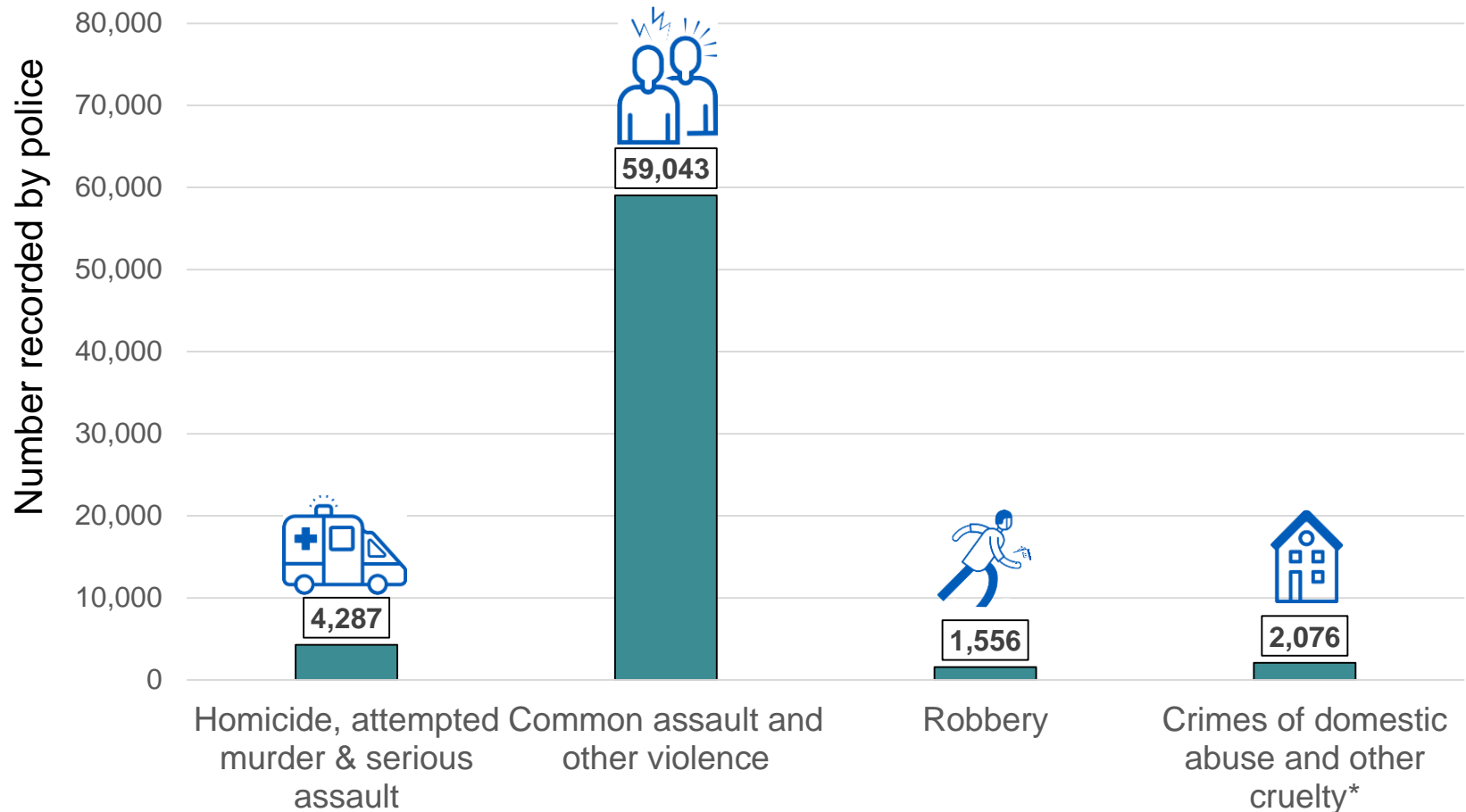
## Alternative proposal

Total recorded crimes
1 { Homicide, attempted murder & serious assault
Common assault and other violence
Robbery
Crimes of domestic abuse and other cruelty
2 { Sexual crimes with physical contact
Sexual crimes without physical contact
3 { Crimes of dishonesty
Damage and reckless behaviour
Crimes against society
Total recorded offences
Anti-social offences
Miscellaneous offences
Road traffic offences



# Alternative approach:

## Groups 1 to 4



\*Does not include crimes recorded under the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018, which came into force in April 2019. The first figures will be included in the 2019-20 publication (late 2020).

Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2017-18:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-2017-18/>



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# Should Common assault be a “crime”?

- Tend to be reported by victims and witnesses, rather than as a result of operational decisions by the police.
- Offenders generally receive a more severe sentence than other criminal behaviour currently included as a crime (i.e. vandalism).
- Could provide an opportunity for greater consistency between Recorded Crime and the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey.
- Any change could be back dated, so time series continuity would be maintained.



# Supporting principles

Proportion given a custodial sentence

Crime/offence group	Main crime or offence	Custody	Community sentence	Monetary	Other
Group 2: Sexual crimes	Rape and attempted rape	97%	1%	-	2%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Robbery	72%	23%	3%	2%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Homicide etc.	70%	23%	3%	3%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Housebreaking	65%	26%	5%	4%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Theft by opening lockfast places	51%	26%	10%	13%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Attempted murder and serious assault	49%	35%	13%	3%
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Group 4: Fire-raising, vandalism etc.	Fire-raising	46%	42%	4%	8%
Group 2: Sexual crimes	Sexual assault	40%	52%	5%	3%
Group 5: Other crimes	Drugs (supply)	39%	44%	12%	4%
Group 5: Other crimes	Handling offensive weapons	35%	39%	14%	12%
Group 5: Other crimes	Other crime	34%	29%	13%	24%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Other dishonesty	33%	37%	16%	15%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Other theft	33%	30%	21%	16%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Theft of a motor vehicle	31%	41%	18%	10%
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Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Fraud	28%	38%	25%	9%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Shoplifting	26%	20%	20%	33%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Other non-sexual crimes of violence	22%	42%	7%	29%
Group 5: Other crimes	Crimes against public justice	20%	25%	21%	34%
<b>Group 6: Miscellaneous offences</b>	<b>Common assault</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>21%</b>
Group 4: Fire-raising, vandalism etc.	Vandalism etc.	17%	32%	33%	18%
Group 5: Other crimes	Drugs	16%	24%	42%	18%
Group 6: Miscellaneous offences	Other miscellaneous, including urinating	13%	26%	37%	24%
Group 6: Miscellaneous offences	Breach of the peace etc.	13%	26%	31%	30%
Group 5: Other crimes	Drugs (possession)	5%	14%	56%	25%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Dangerous and careless driving	5%	10%	82%	3%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Unlawful use of motor vehicle	4%	6%	80%	10%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Driving under the influence	2%	16%	80%	2%
Group 6: Miscellaneous offences	Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct	2%	14%	40%	43%
Group 2: Sexual crimes	Crimes associated with prostitution	2%	4%	45%	49%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Other motor vehicle offences	*	1%	94%	4%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Vehicle defect offences	*	*	93%	7%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Speeding	-	*	99%	1%



Current crime group



Current offence group



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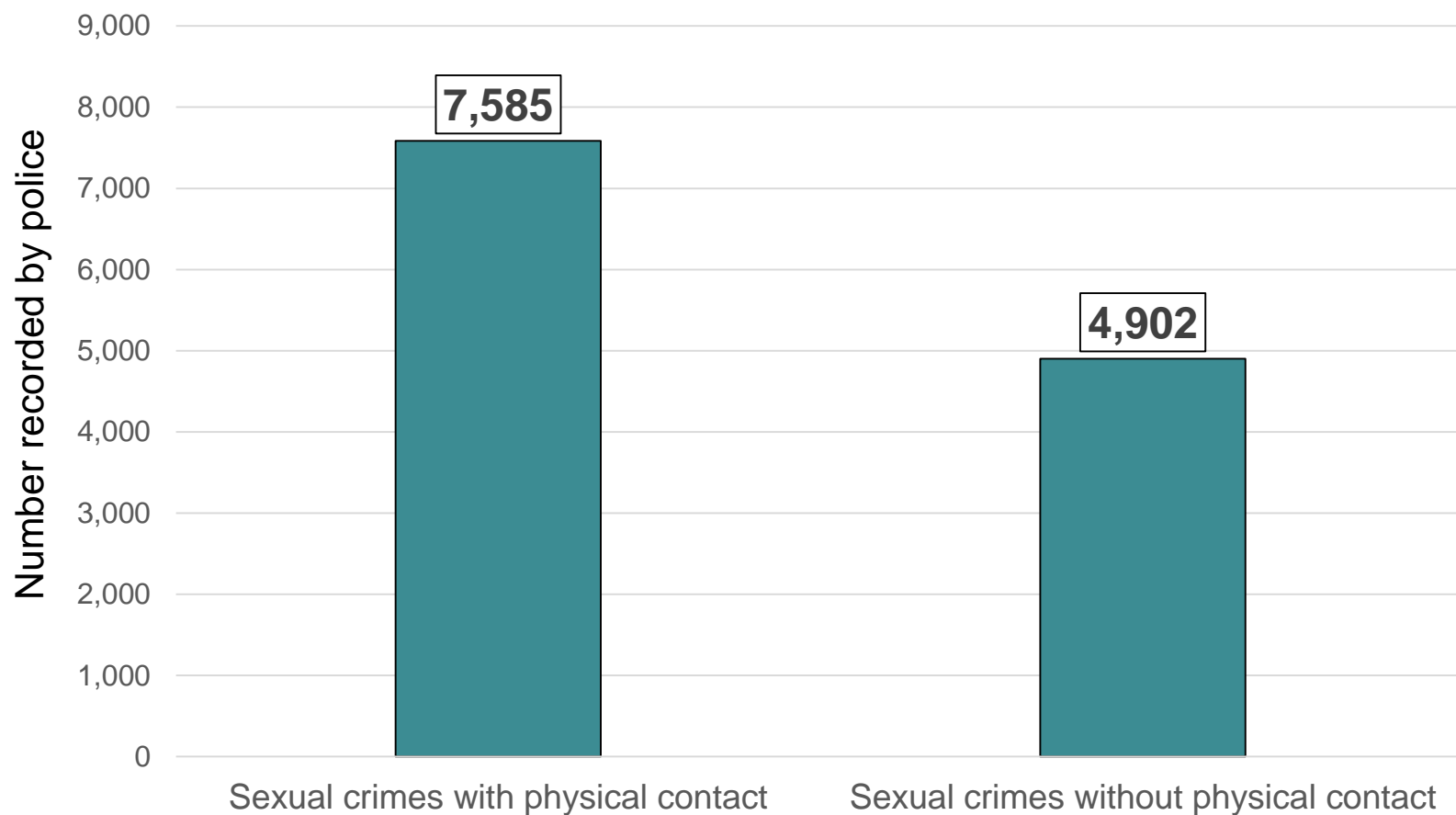
# Topics for discussion:

## Alternative approach: Groups 1 to 4

1. Using multiple groups to present statistics on the general area of non-sexual violence.
2. Creating a 'Homicide, attempted murder & serious assault' group to cover the most serious acts of non-sexual violence in Scotland.
3. Reclassifying Common assault as a crime.
4. Splitting Common assault into 'Common assault with injury' and 'Common assault without injury'.
5. Creating a 'Crimes of domestic abuse and the other cruelty' group.
6. Any other views?



# Alternative approach: Groups 5 and 6



Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2017-18:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-2017-18/>



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# Key issues:

## Presentation of Sexual crimes

- The number of sexual crimes recorded by the police has grown every year since 2008-09, including a 13% rise in 2017-18.
- The biggest contributor to this growth was increases in 'Other sexual crimes', representing 42% of all recorded crime by 2017-18.
- Given the diverse nature of crimes contained within the 'Other' subgroup and the size it has reached the alternative approach proposes splitting sexual crimes into two groups:
  - Sexual crimes with physical contact:
    - Would include serious cases of sexual offending and be dominated by Rape & attempted rape and Sexual assault.
  - Sexual crimes without physical contact:
    - The largest groups would be Causing to view sexual activity or images and Communicating indecently.



# Key issues:

Should soliciting or loitering for the purposes of prostitution be an “offence”?

- Unlike other crimes associated with prostitution, such as immoral trafficking and brothel keeping, these crimes are not reported to the police by victims.
- Offenders also generally receive a relatively less severe sentence – generally receiving an admonishment.
- Would have a small impact on total recorded crime and could be back revised within the statistics.



# Topics for discussion:

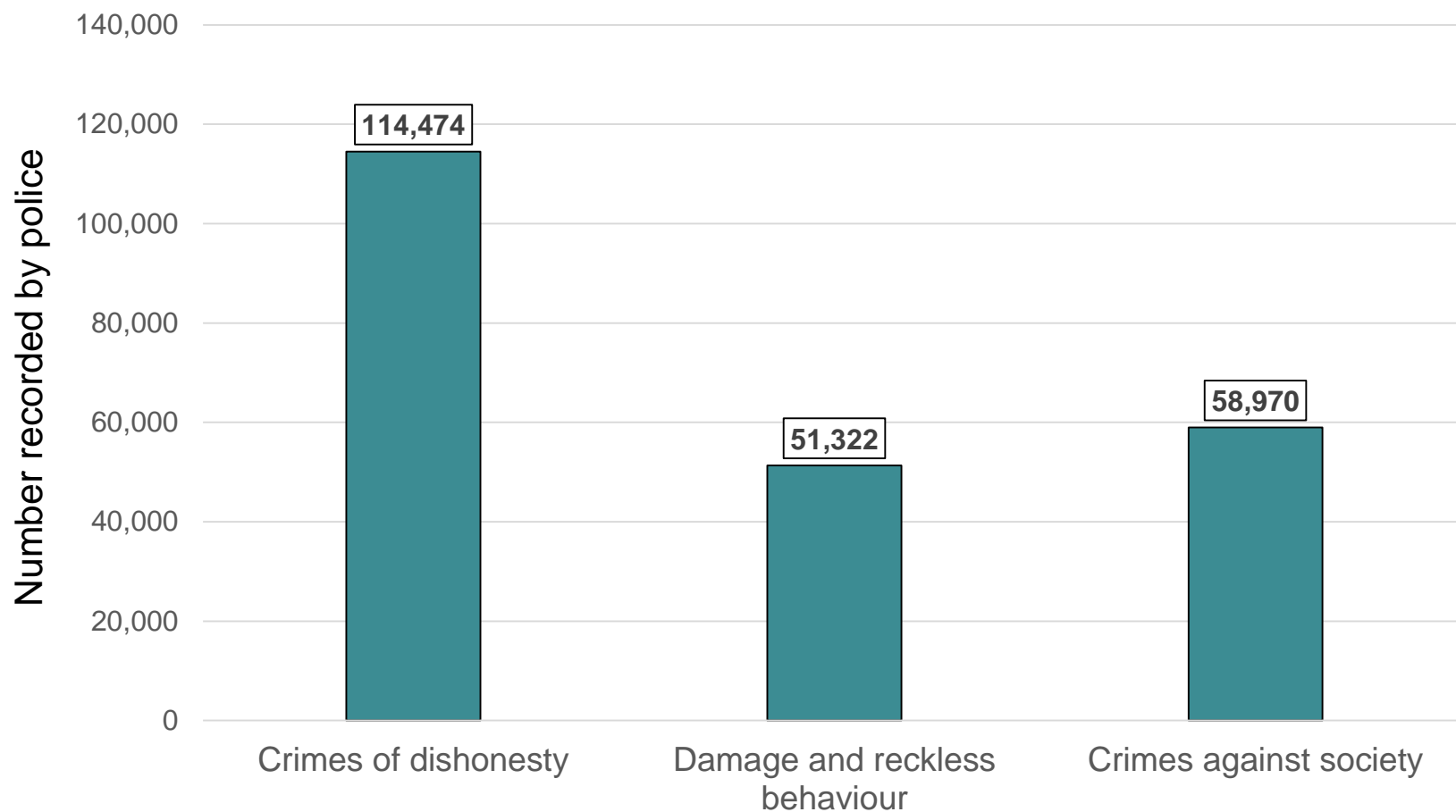
Alternative approach: Groups 5 to 6

1. Using multiple groups to present sexual crime for example as 'Sexual crimes with physical contact' and 'Sexual crimes without physical contact'.
2. Continuing to classify 'Soliciting or loitering in a public place for the purposes of prostitution' as a sexual crime.
3. Any other views?





# Alternative approach: Groups 7 to 9



Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2017-18:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-2017-18/>



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# Key issues:

## Should Drug possession be an “offence”?

- Recorded drug possession does not have a victim.
- Crimes of drug possession (for personal use) are frequently detected by police on patrol rather than as a result of a report by a victim or witness.

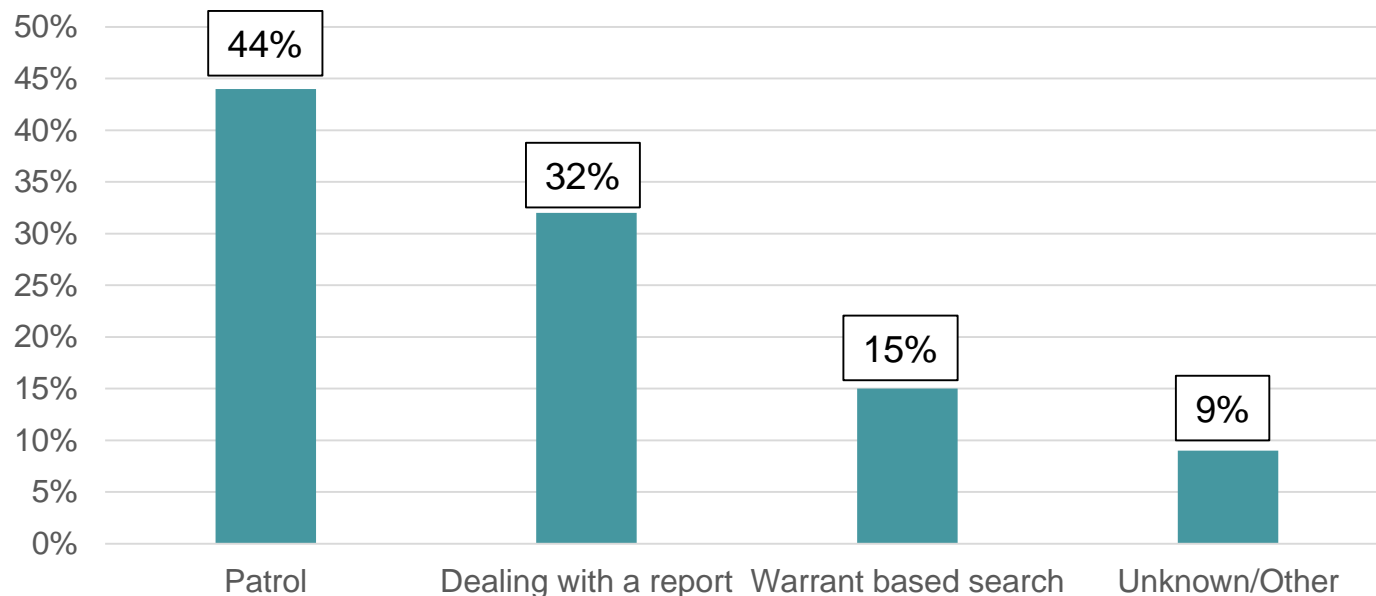


# Key issues:

## Should Drug possession be an “offence”?

- Recorded drug possession does not have a victim.
- Crimes of drug possession (for personal use) are frequently detected by police on patrol rather than as a result of a report by a victim or witness.

How drug possession came to the attention of the police in 2017-18.



Drug seizures and offender characteristics, 2017-18:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/drug-seizures-offender-characteristics-2017-18/>



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# Key issues:

## Should Drug possession be an “offence”?



- Recorded drug possession does not have a victim.
- Crimes of drug possession (for personal use) are frequently detected by police on patrol rather than as a result of a report by a victim or witness.
- The punishment for drug possession is relatively less severe compared to other crimes.
  - Offenders generally received a Recorded Police Warning or if the case proceeded to court either a fine or other disposal which excludes custodial or community based sentences.
  - This is in contrast to drugs-supply based crimes, where the vast majority of court cases result in either a custodial or community based sentence.




# Supporting principles

Proportion given a custodial sentence

Crime/offence group	Main crime or offence	Custody	Community sentence	Monetary	Other
Group 2: Sexual crimes	Rape and attempted rape	97%	1%	-	2%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Robbery	72%	23%	3%	2%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Homicide etc.	70%	23%	3%	3%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Housebreaking	65%	26%	5%	4%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Theft by opening lockfast places	51%	26%	10%	13%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Attempted murder and serious assault	49%	35%	13%	3%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Theft from a motor vehicle	46%	43%	6%	5%
Group 4: Fire-raising, vandalism etc.	Fire-raising	46%	42%	4%	8%
Group 2: Sexual crimes	Sexual assault	40%	52%	5%	3%
<b>Group 5: Other crimes</b>	<b>Drugs (supply)</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>4%</b>
Group 5: Other crimes	Handling offensive weapons	35%	39%	14%	12%
Group 5: Other crimes	Other crime	34%	29%	13%	24%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Other dishonesty	33%	37%	16%	15%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Other theft	33%	30%	21%	16%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Theft of a motor vehicle	31%	41%	18%	10%
Group 2: Sexual crimes	Other sexual crimes	29%	59%	7%	5%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Fraud	28%	38%	25%	9%
Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty	Shoplifting	26%	20%	20%	33%
Group 1: Non-sexual crimes of violence	Other non-sexual crimes of violence	22%	42%	7%	29%
Group 5: Other crimes	Crimes against public justice	20%	25%	21%	34%
Group 6: Miscellaneous offences	Common assault	17%	33%	29%	21%
Group 4: Fire-raising, vandalism etc.	Vandalism etc.	17%	32%	33%	18%
Group 5: Other crimes	Drugs	16%	24%	42%	18%
Group 6: Miscellaneous offences	Other miscellaneous, including urinating	13%	26%	37%	24%
Group 6: Miscellaneous offences	Breach of the peace etc.	13%	26%	31%	30%
<b>Group 5: Other crimes</b>	<b>Drugs (possession)</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>25%</b>
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Dangerous and careless driving	5%	10%	82%	3%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Unlawful use of motor vehicle	4%	6%	80%	10%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Driving under the influence	2%	16%	80%	2%
Group 6: Miscellaneous offences	Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct	2%	14%	40%	43%
Group 2: Sexual crimes	Crimes associated with prostitution	2%	4%	45%	49%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Other motor vehicle offences	*	1%	94%	4%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Vehicle defect offences	*	*	93%	7%
Group 7: Motor vehicle offences	Speeding	-	*	99%	1%

 Current crime group
  Current offence group


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# Topics for discussion:

Alternative approach: Groups 7 to 9

1. Changing the name of the 'Other crimes group' to 'Crimes against society'.
2. Continuing to classify drug possession for personal use as a crime.
3. Any other views?



Cyber-crime in Scotland and other suggested approaches

# **PART THREE**



# Cyber-crime in Scotland

- As the nature of crime in Scotland has evolved over the past decade, so too has the role played by cyber-enabled technologies.
- Research published in 2017 suggested that around half of the growth in all recorded sexual crime was due to growth in cyber-enabled 'Other sexual crimes'.
  - Specifically crimes like communicating indecently and causing others to view sexual activity or images.
- The Recorded Crime, 2018-19 National Statistics (due in September) will include a study on police recorded fraud.
  - Including the proportion that involved a cyber-element.
- One option could be to include a dedicated chapter in the recorded crime National Statistics, that would present the latest available information on recorded cyber-crime in Scotland.



# Other suggested approaches

- The alternative approach presented in Part Two of this consultation represents a potential rearrangement of the National Statistics on Recorded Crime.
- The Crime Board recognises that users may have views on other alternative approaches.
- A comparison of how other countries classify and present crime statistics showed that there is no standard solution for crime classification.



# Topics for discussion:

## Cyber-crime and other approaches

1. Having a dedicated chapter on cyber-enabled crime within the National Statistics.
2. Any other views as to how crimes or offences involving a cyber-element should be presented within the statistics.
3. Any other views on how data on recorded crimes and offences should be categorised and presented?



*Thank you for attending*

Feel free to send any questions to  
[crimeconsultation@gov.scot](mailto:crimeconsultation@gov.scot)

Please respond to the consultation  
by the **8<sup>th</sup> October** at  
[consult.gov.scot/justice/statistics-on-police-recorded-crime-and-other](https://consult.gov.scot/justice/statistics-on-police-recorded-crime-and-other)



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