

Safe City Strategic Assessment: 2024/25

Key Findings – December 2025

Data, Intelligence & Insight Team



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Summary

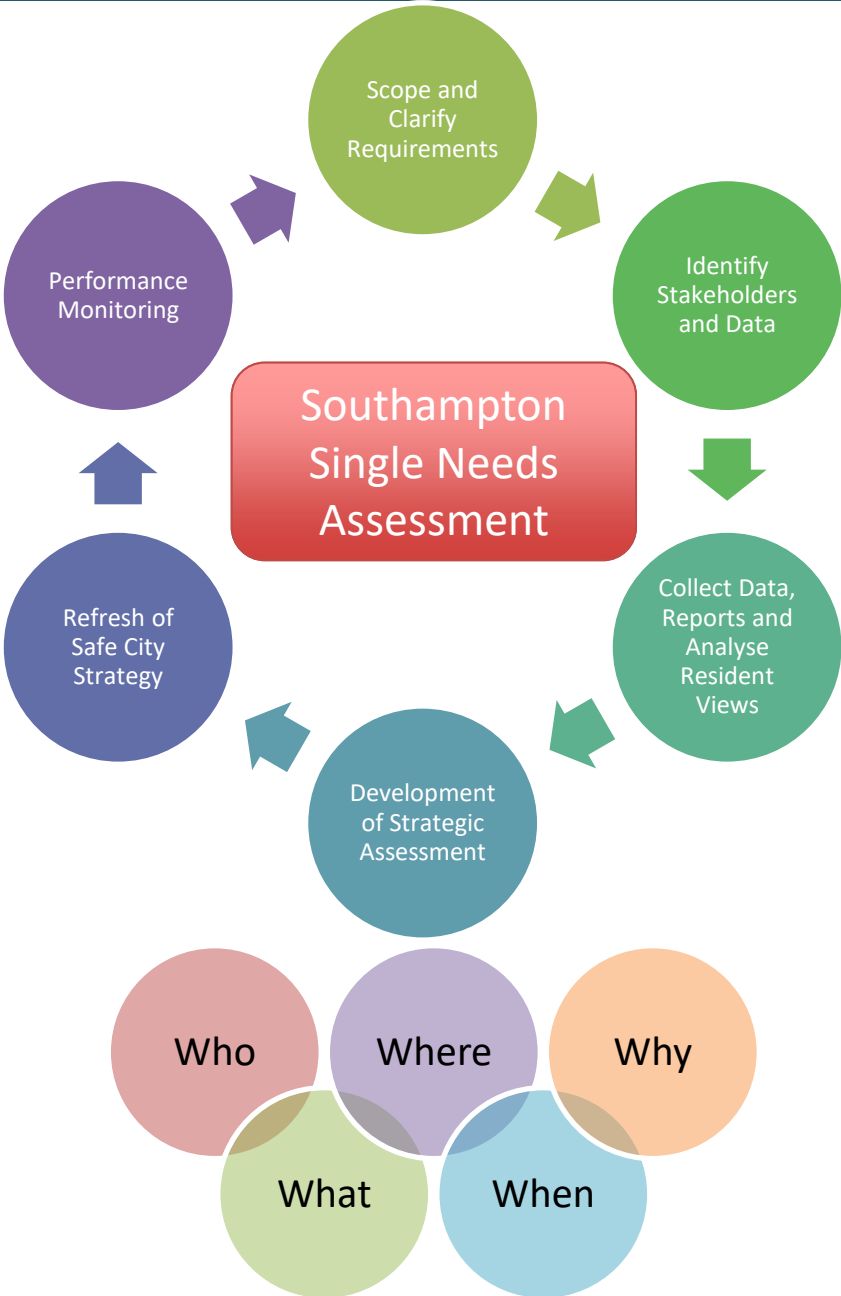


Background



Background & Approach

- Statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnerships to undertake a 'Strategic Assessment' each year
- Three products delivered: an interactive dashboard, slide set and report
- Purpose is to assist the partnership in revising the Community Safety Strategy and as such it should include:
 - An analysis of the levels and patterns of crime and disorder and alcohol and drug misuse in the area
 - Identification of changes in those levels and why these have occurred
 - Views of people living and working in the area
 - Recommendations for matters which should be prioritised



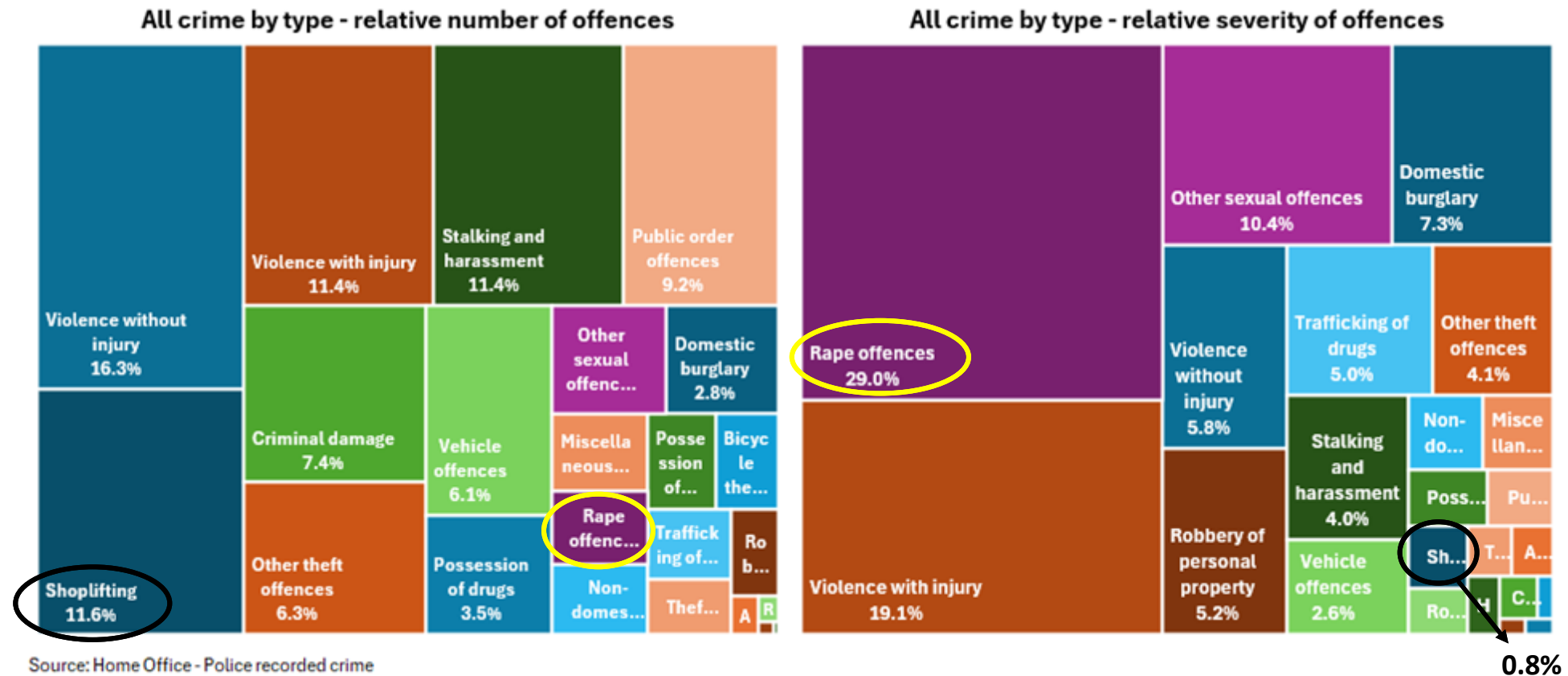


- Crime counting rules changed in June 2023, reintroducing the principal crime rule. These changes affected how some offences were recorded, but the impact on interpreting trends is now reduced because we have two years of data recorded under the same method. Some caution is still needed when comparing to earlier years
- The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) was updated in 2025 therefore comparisons of crime rates and deprivation quintiles with previous years are not directly comparable due to changes in underlying measures and rankings
- Year on year percentage changes are calculated based on crime counts rather than rates
- A crime severity score has been calculated for each crime type to indicate its relative level of harm, as it's important to examine the severity as well as volume of crimes
 - Uses crime severity weights published by ONS, for each crime type with the following formula:
 - $\text{Sum}\{(\text{Severity weight} * \text{Number of offences}) / (\text{Area}) \text{ mid-year population estimate}\}$
- There are key police sites located in Freemantle and Shirley;
 - If a crime comes through these police sites and is against the state or the location is unknown, they may be assigned to the ward where the station sits



Overview of Crime

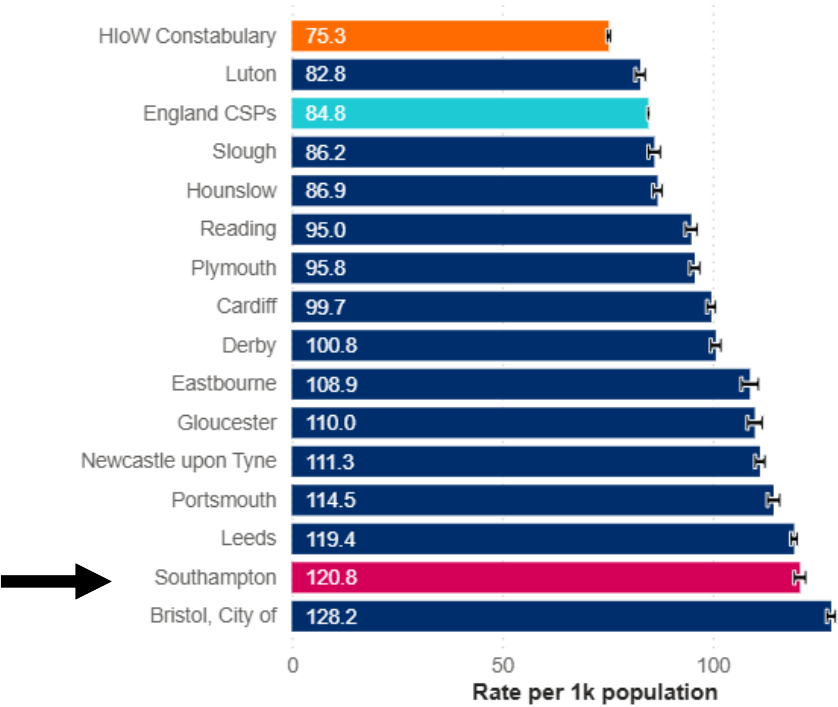
- Alongside the **number of offences** (left chart) it is important to examine the **relative severity** or **harm** caused by a crime (right chart)
- When examining the mix of all crimes, some crimes are relatively **high volume**, but are **low harm** e.g. **shoplifting**
- Rape** is an example of a relatively **low volume**, but a **high harm crime**, as it accounts for **1.6%** of the number of offences, but **29.0%** in terms of **relative severity** (harm caused)





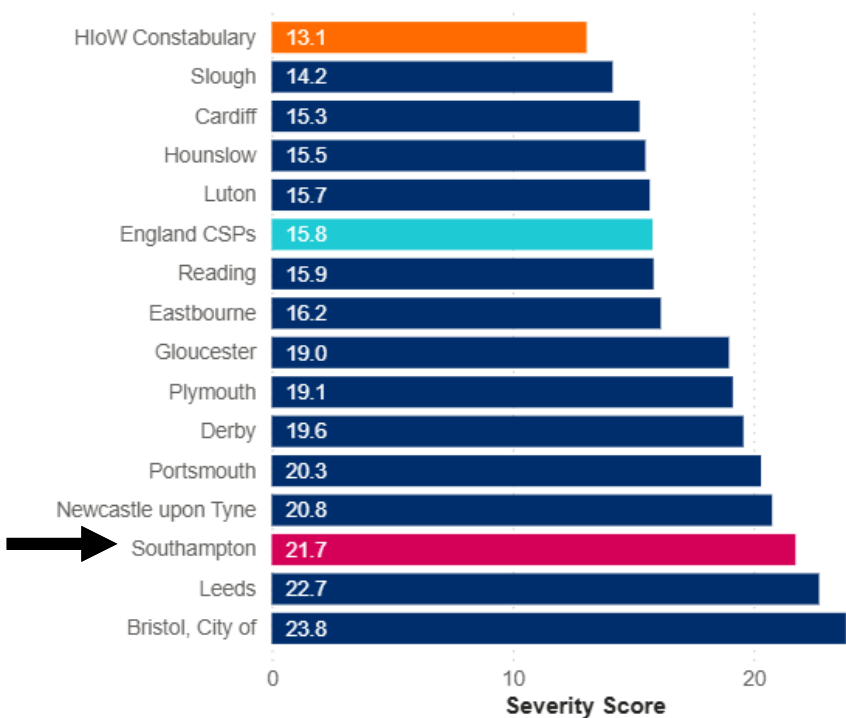
Police Recorded (rate per 1k population) Southampton and iQuanta Comparator Community Safety Partnerships: 2024/25

Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime



Police Recorded (Severity Score) - Southampton and iQuanta Comparator Community Safety Partnerships: 2024/25

Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime



- In 2024/25, Southampton had an overall crime rate of **121 crimes per 1k population**
- **Southampton accounted for 20% of total recorded crime** across Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary in 2024/25
- **Southampton** has the second highest total **reported crime** rate and the third highest **crime severity** amongst iQuanta comparators



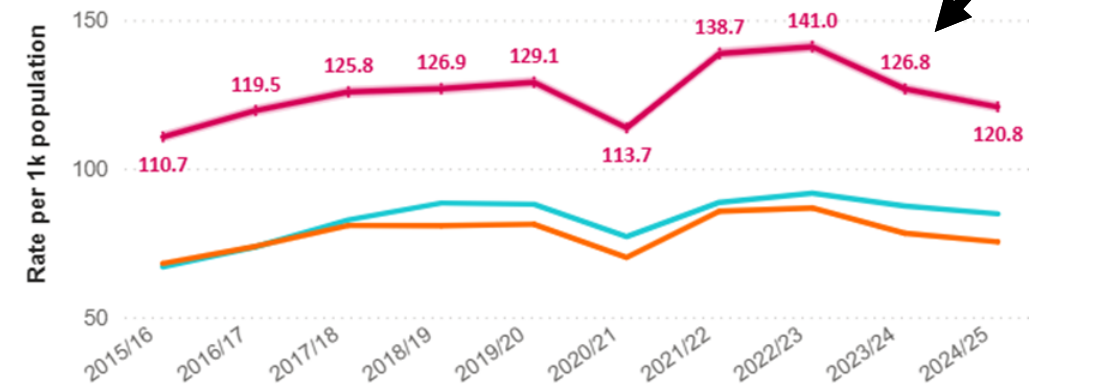
Overview of Crime - Trends

- Between 2023/24 and 2024/25 there was a **-4.0% decrease** in total police recorded crime in Southampton
- England** (-1.8%) and **Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary** (-2.9%) also **experienced decreases** in total police recorded crime during the same period
- The **June 2023 counting rule changes** remain in place and may still affect categories like violent crime, domestic offences, stalking and harassment, and public order. **Their impact was strongest in 2023/24 but may still influence trends in 2024/25.** Recorded crime can be influenced by **awareness of key issues, reporting of crime** and **changes in recording** by the police
- Southampton experienced a **-2.3% decrease** in the **crime severity score** of all crimes between 2023/24 and 2024/25
- Southampton remains one of the highest among comparators** and **higher** than the national average when considering the **volume (rate) and severity** of total recorded crime

Police Recorded Total Crime (rate per 1k population) Southampton, England CSPs, HloW Constabulary: 2015/16 to 2024/25

Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime

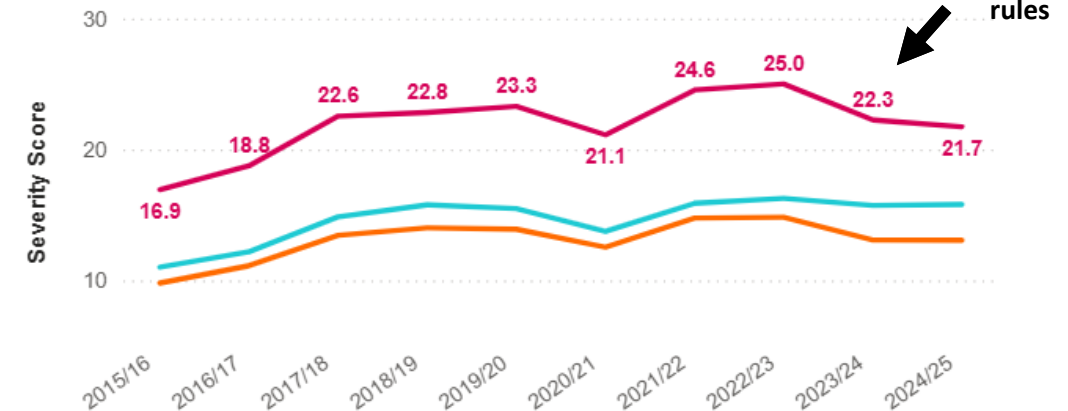
CSP Name ● England CSPs ● HloW Constabulary ● Southampton



Police Recorded Total Crime (Severity Score) - Southampton, England CSPs, HloW Constabulary: 2015/16 to 2024/25

Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime

CSP Name ● England CSPs ● HloW Constabulary ● Southampton



Indicator	2023/24 count	2024/25 count	2023/24 crime severity score	2024/25 crime severity score	Formal action taken %**	Percentage change 2023/24 to 2024/25 count	Percentage change 2023/24 to 2024/25 crime severity score	iQuanta CSP position*
Total crime*	32,635	31,332	22.26	21.74	15.7%	-4.0%	-2.3%	2
Violent crime*	12,789	12,238	6.90	6.37	12.5%	-4.3%	-7.7%	2
Violence with injury*	3,996	3,569	4.68	4.15	16.1%	-10.7%	-11.3%	2
Violence without injury*	5,095	5,096	1.37	1.25	10.9%	0.0%	-8.8%	2
Stalking and harassment*	3,690	3,559	0.81	0.86	6.7%	-3.6%	6.2%	5
Malicious communications*	948	532	0.07	0.04	4.6%	-43.9%	-42.9%	5
Most serious violence (iQuanta definition)*	169	156	1.49	1.29	18.5%	-7.7%	-13.4%	11
Violent crime with public place flag**	4,363	4,422	3.07	2.87	18.0%	1.4%	-6.5%	N/A
VAWG**	7,371	7,026	11.01	11.09	9.9%	-4.7%	0.7%	N/A
Sexual offences*	1,325	1,390	8.31	8.56	5.3%	4.9%	3.0%	2
Sexual offences - rape*	521	505	6.50	6.30	2.8%	-3.1%	-3.1%	2
Sexual offences - other*	804	885	1.81	2.26	6.6%	10.1%	24.9%	2
Crimes with domestic flag**	4,955	4,942	6.29	6.68	9.6%	-0.3%	6.2%	N/A
Domestic violent crime**	3,914	3,822	3.39	3.33	9.3%	-2.4%	-1.8%	N/A
Theft offences*	9,882	9,609	4.01	3.63	16.1%	-2.8%	-9.5%	8
Burglary residential*	940	865	1.77	1.59	5.2%	-8.0%	-10.2%	4
Burglary non-residential*	449	469	0.30	0.27	14.2%	4.5%	-10.0%	4
Vehicle offences*	2,227	1,912	0.63	0.56	2.8%	-14.1%	-11.1%	7
Robbery*	345	328	1.33	1.26	6.8%	-4.9%	-5.3%	8
Possession of weapons offences*	515	471	0.38	0.22	30.7%	-8.5%	-42.1%	2
Possession of bladed implement*	250	222	0.07	0.06	37.7%	-11.2%	-14.3%	2
Firearms offences*	58	34	0.26	0.11	20.0%	-41.4%	-57.7%	3
Crime involving a bladed implement**	832	702	1.46	1.05	19.8%	-15.6%	-28.1%	N/A
Serious knife crime**	313	249	1.03	0.68	14.9%	-20.4%	-34.0%	N/A
Modern slavery*	57	42	0.34	0.25	2.3%	-26.3%	-26.5%	8
Cruelty to children/young persons*	221	225	0.14	0.14	19.8%	1.8%	0.0%	5
Hate crime**	948	944	0.28	0.34	13.8%	-0.4%	21.4%	N/A
Alcohol affected crime**	2,603	2,493	2.36	2.14	28.0%	-4.2%	-9.3%	N/A
Drug offences*	1,432	1,502	0.75	1.10	56.6%	4.9%	46.7%	1
Drug affected crime**	1,243	1,258	0.95	1.21	42.9%	1.2%	27.4%	N/A
Anti-social behaviour***	3,069	3,187	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.8%	N/A	N/A
Criminal damage and arson*	2,630	2,380	0.19	0.18	12.1%	-9.5%	-5.3%	5

* The Home Office. Office for National Statistics. Crime in England and Wales - previous year figures have been revised

** Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

*** Police.UK

Serious knife crime** - Violence against the person where bladed implement was used

VAWG** - Violent crimes and sexual offences where the victim was female

Violence without injury formal action taken includes stalking and harassment due to older classifications being used

Firearms offences include possession of firearms and other firearms offences

Colour Key	
	Year on year increase
	Year on year decrease

- Southampton saw a **decrease** in the volume of **23 of the 32 offence types** between 2023/24 and 2024/25
- Declines were recorded in **violence with injury (-10.7%)**, **stalking and harassment (-3.6%)**, and **malicious communications (-43.9%)**
- **Domestic flagged crime (-0.3%)** and **domestic violent crime (-2.4%)** also fell slightly, though changes should be interpreted with some caution due to the reintroduction of the principal crime rule in 2023
- **Theft offences (-2.8%)** fell overall, **alongside residential burglary (-8.0%)** and **criminal damage and arson (-9.5%)**
- Weapons-related crime declined, including **possession of weapons (-8.5%)**, crimes involving a **bladed implement (-11.2%)**, and **firearms offences (-41.4%, -24 offences)**, consistent with wider reductions in weapon-enabled crime
- **Rape offences declined (-3.1%)**, while **overall sexual offences increased (+4.9%)**, driven by a rise in other **sexual offences (+10.1% in volume and +24.9% in severity)**. Despite reductions in some categories, these crimes remain among the most harmful to victims
- **Anti-social behaviour increased (+3.8%)**, which may reflect improved reporting and operational focus
- Notable increases were seen in **drug offences (+4.9%)** and **drug-affected crime (+1.2%)**, with **severity rising sharply for drug offences (+46.7%)**, indicating a more harmful mix of offences such as trafficking
- Among **iQuanta comparators**, Southampton is ranked in the **top 3 for 11 of the crime groups**, illustrating more work to be done to improve Southampton's relative position among comparators for several crime types

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Cruelty to children/young persons*	221	225	0.14	0.14	19.8%	1.8%	0.0%	5	23
Hate crime**	948	944	0.28	0.34	13.8%	-0.4%	21.4%	N/A	17
Alcohol affected crime**	2,603	2,493	2.36	2.14	28.0%	-4.2%	-9.3%	N/A	16
Drug offences*	1,432	1,502	0.75	1.10	56.6%	4.9%	46.7%	1	14
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Anti-social behaviour***	3,069	3,187	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.8%	N/A	N/A	10
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Colour Key	
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	Year on year decrease

- A simple score was calculated to inform crime priority setting based on ranks of:
 - Crime **frequency**
 - Crime **severity** score
 - Proportion of crimes with **formal action taken**
 - Year on year percentage **increase** in crime
 - Relative position** of Southampton among its **comparator** group of Community Safety Partnerships
- Based on overall rank the **top 3 crime priorities** for the **Partnership** are:
 - Sexual offences**, including other sexual offences and **rape**
 - Domestic offences**, including domestic violence
 - Violent crime**, including **VAWG**
- Sexual offences**, **violent crimes** and **domestic offences** have featured among the **top priority areas** for the **last seven years**

Indicator	Rank 2022/23	Rank 2023/24	Rank 2024/25
1 - Sexual offences*	2	1	1
2 - Sexual offences - other*	13	8	2
3 - Crimes with domestic flag**	8	7	3
4 - Violent crime*	6	4	4
5 - Violence without injury*	15	9	5
6 - VAWG**	4	3	6
7 - Sexual offences - rape*	3	2	7
8 - Domestic violent crime**	11	10	8
9 - Violent crime with public place flag**	10	11	9
10 - Anti-social behaviour***	20	17	10
11 - Violence with injury*	9	4	11
12 - Theft offences*	1	6	11
13 - Stalking and harassment*	12	13	13
14 - Drug offences*	16	12	14
15 - Burglary residential*	5	15	15

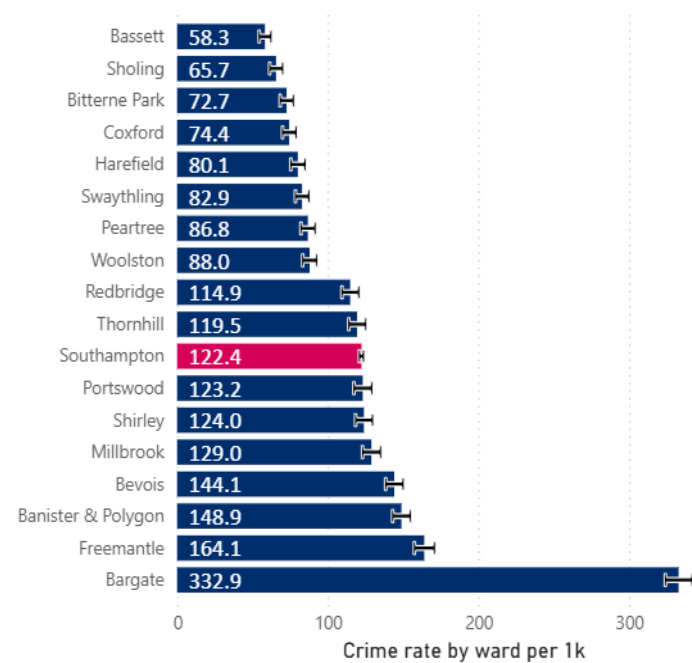


Crime Distribution

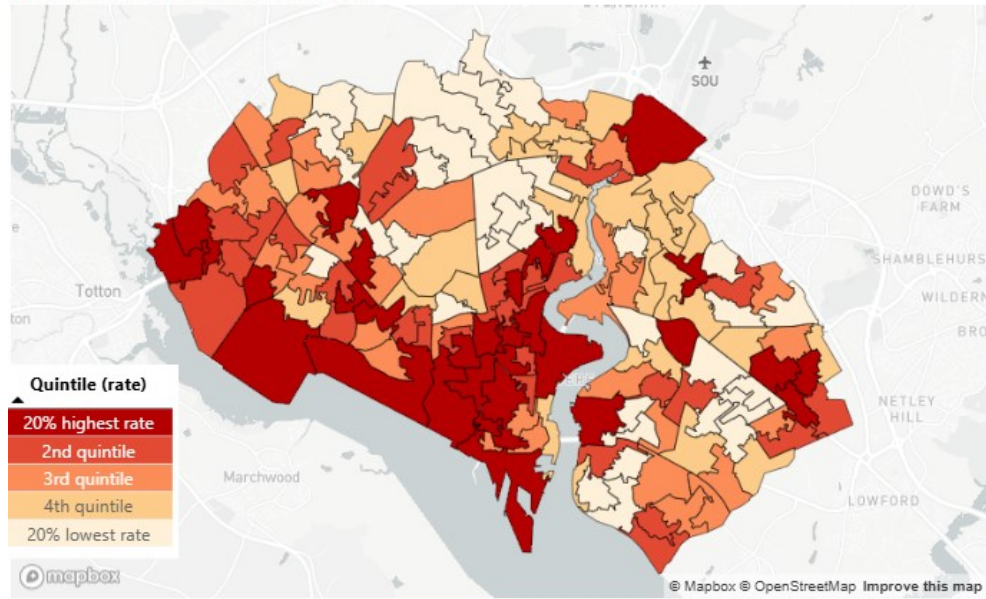


- At ward level, **Bargate ward** had the **highest overall crime rate (332.9 per 1k population)**
- Freemantle, Banister & Polygon and Bevois wards** also had significantly **higher overall crime rates** compared to the city average
- The map of **overall crime rate by LSOA** gives a more nuanced picture, with **hotspots identified** in the majority of Southampton wards
- The **link between crime and deprivation remains strong**. The overall crime rate is **2.3 times higher** in the **20% most deprived neighbourhoods** in the city, compared to the **20% least deprived**

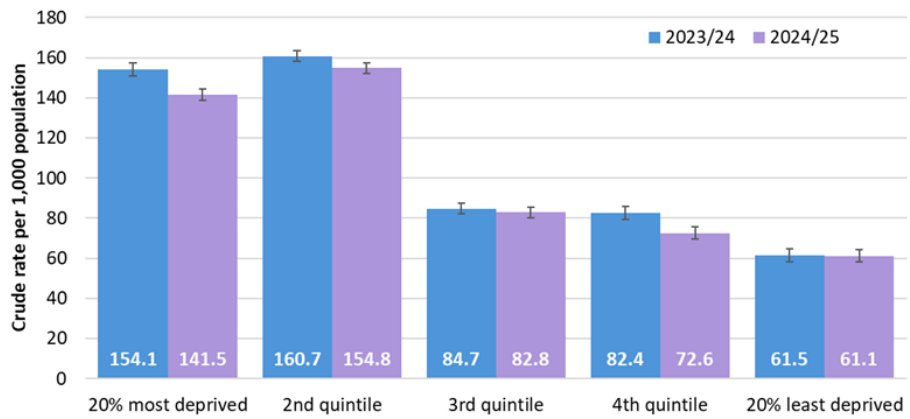
All Crime (rate per 1k population) - Southampton wards 2024/25
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



All Crime, crude rate per 1,000 population, Southampton LSOAs grouped into quintiles: April 2024 to March 2025
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



Total police recorded crime, crude rate per 1,000 population by national deprivation quintiles, Southampton: 2023/24 - 2024/25



Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



Community Safety - Total Offences (Southampton analysis)	Rate 1,000 population																
	All Crime	Domestic Flagged Crime	Domestic Violence	Hate Crime	Crime Involving a Bladed Implement	Alcohol Affected Crime	Drug Offences	Drug Affected Crime	Violence Against the Person	Violence Against Women & Girls	Sexual Offences	Rape	Other Sexual Offences	Robbery	Theft Offences	Burglary Residential	Criminal Damage and Arson
Southampton	122.4	19.5	15.0	3.7	2.8	9.8	5.7	5.0	47.7	55.3	5.3	1.9	3.4	1.3	37.8	3.4	9.3
Banister & Polygon	148.9	17.7	13.3	4.6	3.9	17.0	10.6	9.0	56.5	58.2	7.5	2.2	5.2	1.7	44.9	5.0	9.5
Bargate	332.9	25.1	20.1	9.5	6.9	32.2	17.3	14.7	99.6	89.0	10.4	3.5	6.9	5.0	146.5	3.7	18.8
Bassett	58.3	9.1	7.3	1.6	0.9	2.7	1.4	1.4	22.9	22.8	1.9	0.4	1.5	*	20.6	2.6	4.8
Bevois	144.1	22.2	17.5	6.4	4.0	12.0	10.2	6.7	61.6	70.0	7.4	3.1	4.2	2.7	29.2	3.5	12.4
Bitterne Park	72.7	13.2	10.4	1.7	1.7	4.7	2.5	1.9	29.2	35.4	4.0	1.6	2.3	*	23.1	4.2	3.8
Coxford	74.4	19.0	14.3	1.6	2.1	4.9	3.0	2.8	34.5	45.8	2.8	1.1	1.7	1.0	16.9	3.5	6.9
Freemantle	164.1	26.5	20.4	5.8	2.7	19.0	13.5	10.6	59.2	60.2	5.7	2.0	3.7	1.2	49.5	4.8	12.5
Harefield	80.1	15.5	11.6	1.7	2.5	5.2	2.7	2.2	31.4	42.1	4.2	1.4	2.8	0.6	24.9	2.9	7.1
Millbrook	129.0	22.4	17.6	2.9	2.1	6.0	5.0	3.3	52.3	63.2	4.2	1.0	3.2	0.9	42.9	2.8	9.7
Pear-tree	86.8	18.2	14.2	1.9	2.1	5.8	2.4	3.4	39.9	46.9	3.8	1.4	2.4	1.6	19.1	2.2	7.2
Portswood	123.2	13.8	10.2	5.9	2.6	8.2	4.8	3.9	41.6	42.9	3.2	0.9	2.3	0.8	48.3	5.0	9.3
Redbridge	114.9	23.8	17.8	3.0	2.8	7.5	3.1	3.4	50.1	68.4	5.2	2.2	3.0	0.8	27.6	3.8	12.5
Shirley	124.0	17.4	14.6	6.2	2.0	8.8	3.5	4.7	47.6	56.4	5.2	1.4	3.7	1.4	41.3	2.8	7.8
Sholing	65.7	10.6	8.1	1.4	1.3	3.5	1.5	1.5	26.6	36.9	3.7	1.5	2.2	*	17.8	1.5	5.8
Swaythling	82.9	17.0	12.5	2.2	1.7	6.5	2.8	2.7	34.7	45.4	5.1	2.5	2.5	0.4	22.7	2.8	7.9
Thornhill	119.5	30.1	23.1	2.7	4.0	7.6	4.4	3.7	58.7	77.2	6.2	1.9	4.3	0.6	23.0	3.3	11.2
Woolston	88.0	21.4	16.9	1.7	1.8	5.7	3.4	3.7	38.8	53.1	3.7	1.5	2.2	0.5	23.9	3.4	7.3

Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

*Note that values have been suppressed due to small numbers

- The ‘tartan rug’ shows crime distribution by type and Ward
- Rates are coloured based on difference to the city average
- **Bargate** ward has the **highest total crime rate** (332.9 crimes per 1k population)
- **Bevois, Freemantle and Banister & Polygon** wards also have a **significantly higher** total crime rate than the **city average**
- **Bargate** is the only ward **worse** than the city average for **all crime types shown** in the ‘tartan rug’
- **Bassett, Harefield and Sholing** and wards were **better** than the city average for **all crime types shown** in the ‘tartan rug’



Crime Distribution Changes by Type

- The tartan rug shows the change from 2023/24 to 2024/25 in the number and percentage of crimes
- Percentage changes should be interpreted alongside counts, especially when the number of crimes is low
- **Overall crime decreased in 13 out of 17 wards**
 - **Largest decrease** in total crime was in **Sholing ward (-20.4%)**, followed by **Harefield (-19.6%)**
 - **Largest increase** in total crime was in **Swaythling ward (+7.2%)**, followed by **Portswood (+3.5%)**
- **Violent crime decreased in 12 wards**
- **Theft offences decreased in 9 wards, while vehicle offences decreased in 13 wards**
- **Anti-social behaviour increased across 8 wards**
 - **Millbrook ward** showed the highest increase **(+52.5%, +63 crimes)**
- **Sexual offences also increased in 9 wards**
 - Largest increase was **Swaythling ward (+74.5%, +35 crimes)**
- **Drug offences increased in 12 wards**, though some increases are associated with relatively small baseline counts

Key: Percentage change from 2023/24
Increase
Decrease
No change

	Percentage (and count) change in number of incidents - 2023/24 to 2024/25													
Change in recorded crime from 2023/24 to 2024/25	Total recorded crime	Domestic flagged crimes	Domestic Violence	Hate Crime	Alcohol Affected Crime	Drug offences	Violence against the Person	Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG)	Sexual offences	Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)	Robbery	Theft offences	Residential Burglary	Vehicle offences
Southampton	-4.9% (-1617)	-0.3% (-13)	-2.4% (-92)	-0.4% (-4)	-4.2% (-110)	-0.1% (-1)	-5.5% (-712)	-4.7% (-345)	2.2% (29)	3.8% (118)	-6.9% (-24)	-2.8% (-281)	-7.3% (-69)	-14.4% (-320)
Banister & Polygon	-3.2% (-80)	0.7% (2)	-2.7% (-6)	-23.2% (-23)	-24.5% (-91)	-7.4% (-14)	-8.4% (-86)	0.6% (3)	16% (17)	-11% (-31)	-9.7% (-3)	3.6% (26)	-11.8% (-11)	-31.9% (-53)
Bargate	1% (52)	15.2% (54)	15.4% (44)	-7.2% (-12)	16.9% (76)	-28.5% (-113)	10.1% (150)	12.4% (86)	-0.6% (-1)	1.6% (10)	-22.1% (-23)	5.7% (130)	-12.9% (-9)	-13.1% (-34)
Bassett	0.1% (1)	3.1% (4)	2.8% (3)	-17.2% (-5)	-23.1% (-12)	50% (7)	8.9% (28)	-9.9% (-18)	16.7% (4)	4.2% (3)	*	7% (20)	-19.1% (-9)	-1.8% (-1)
Bevois	-12.1% (-327)	-5.4% (-21)	-7.7% (-24)	45.8% (33)	5.9% (11)	8.3% (13)	-16.4% (-199)	-17.1% (-115)	15.1% (16)	-8.2% (-27)	25.7% (9)	-23.8% (-151)	-27.5% (-22)	-25.3% (-50)
Bitterne Park	-3.1% (-35)	-5.3% (-11)	-4.9% (-8)	8.3% (2)	-13.6% (-11)	5.6% (2)	-6.4% (-30)	-7.4% (-21)	34.1% (15)	-35.1% (-47)	*	-2.3% (-8)	1.6% (1)	-15.6% (-22)
Coxford	-6.7% (-76)	-5.6% (-16)	-9.8% (-22)	-15.4% (-4)	-9.2% (-7)	90.9% (20)	-11.9% (-66)	-12.4% (-44)	-26.4% (-14)	37% (47)	75% (6)	3.4% (8)	42.9% (15)	44.6% (33)
Freemantle	-1.9% (-47)	10.7% (37)	6.5% (18)	5% (4)	8.3% (21)	16.8% (28)	-0.2% (-2)	8.7% (36)	32.3% (20)	40.4% (59)	0% (0)	-5.8% (-44)	2.9% (2)	-17.1% (-27)
Harefield	-19.6% (-267)	-12.8% (-31)	-17.6% (-34)	-37.8% (-14)	2.9% (2)	85% (17)	-23.8% (-134)	-26.3% (-95)	-1.7% (-1)	15.7% (11)	-20% (-2)	-20.5% (-88)	-28.6% (-16)	-22.6% (-26)
Millbrook	-2% (-37)	-8.4% (-29)	-7.5% (-20)	5.1% (2)	-20.6% (-22)	55.6% (25)	0.1% (1)	0% (0)	-3.3% (-2)	52.5% (63)	-20% (-3)	-5% (-32)	-11.4% (-5)	59.8% (49)
Peartree	-15.8% (-248)	6.9% (18)	6.9% (14)	-44.2% (-23)	-26.4% (-32)	-11.9% (-5)	-3.8% (-24)	5.4% (19)	-12.1% (-8)	-0.7% (-1)	92.3% (12)	-38.5% (-182)	-27.7% (-13)	-34.9% (-52)
Portswood	3.5% (57)	-11% (-23)	-16.3% (-27)	31.1% (19)	-8.9% (-11)	27.5% (14)	0.5% (3)	-5.8% (-18)	-15.7% (-8)	-6.6% (-10)	-57.7% (-15)	16.5% (93)	6.3% (4)	-22.9% (-38)
Redbridge	-9.7% (-176)	5% (16)	1.2% (3)	22.9% (8)	16.3% (15)	2.3% (1)	-11.3% (-91)	-8% (-42)	-56.5% (-96)	41.4% (67)	9.1% (1)	8% (29)	86.2% (25)	23.8% (25)
Shirley	-1.6% (-30)	-9.9% (-29)	-3.5% (-8)	54.1% (33)	-10.1% (-15)	8.2% (4)	-15% (-128)	-16.7% (-82)	-2.5% (-2)	-15.4% (-25)	-4.3% (-1)	27.3% (135)	-4.5% (-2)	-19.5% (-24)
Sholing	-20.4% (-234)	-26.7% (-54)	-29.6% (-47)	-23.1% (-6)	-22.2% (-14)	-8.7% (-2)	-23.7% (-115)	-22.7% (-68)	6.3% (3)	-12.6% (-14)	*	-23.9% (-78)	-58% (-29)	-35.8% (-38)
Swaythling	7.2% (90)	10.4% (26)	1.5% (3)	-22.2% (-10)	14.1% (13)	31.4% (11)	0.7% (4)	12.6% (43)	74.5% (35)	-4.1% (-5)	-50% (-6)	17.7% (55)	2.3% (1)	51.2% (42)
Thornhill	-10.4% (-203)	2.1% (9)	-1.2% (-4)	-17% (-8)	-23.8% (-35)	-3% (-2)	-0.7% (-6)	-0.9% (-5)	23% (17)	13.3% (18)	0% (0)	-34.2% (-175)	-27.9% (-19)	-59% (-72)
Woolston	-10.4% (-158)	1.8% (6)	1.6% (4)	-6.9% (-2)	-12.9% (-13)	26.8% (11)	-9.5% (-63)	-11.4% (-50)	42.5% (17)	0% (0)	-46.2% (-6)	-14% (-60)	33.3% (13)	-26.9% (-28)

Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary; ASB from data.police.uk

*Note that values have been suppressed due to small numbers



Victims and offenders

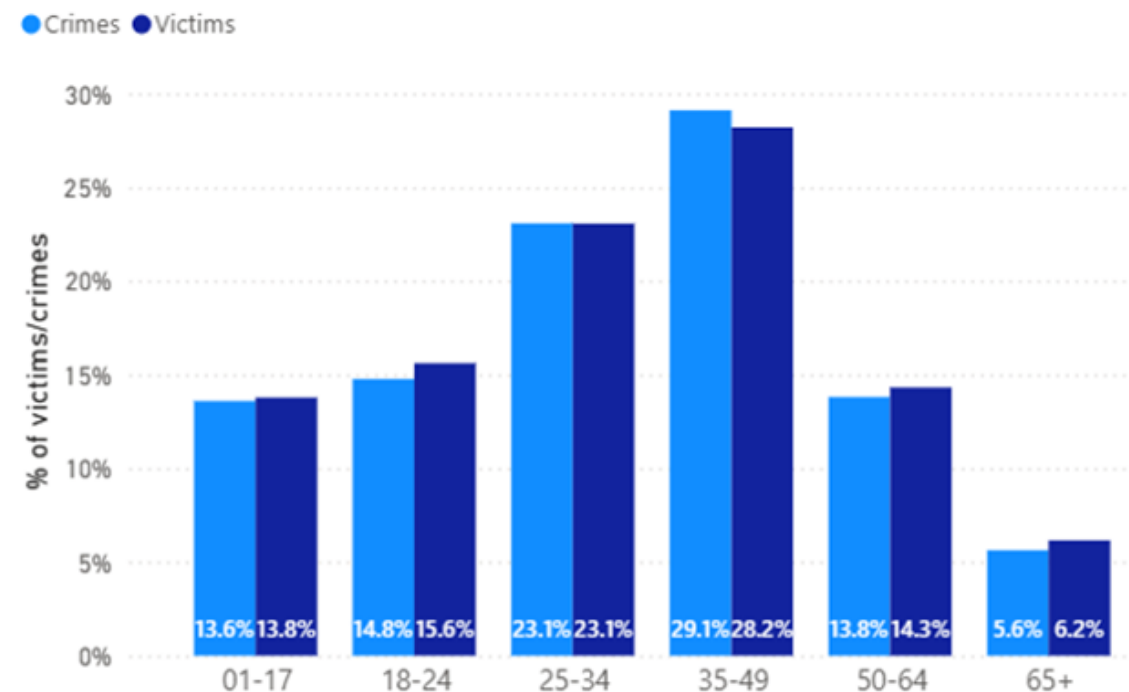


- **16,017*** unique victims (excluding business and the state) who were involved in **69.8%** of crimes in the city
 - This is less than the number of unique victims identified in 2023/24 (16,675)
- **19.2%** of victims experienced multiple crimes in 2024/25, compared to 19.7% in 2023/24;
- Repeat victims experienced **40.4% of crimes** in 2024/25
- The most common age groups for victims were those aged **35 to 49 (28.2%)**, followed by the **25 to 34 (23.1%)**, **18 to 24 (15.6%)** and **50 to 64 (14.3%)**; with these groups also top in previous years
- **51.7% of victims** were **male** and **48.3% female**, however, females continue to be more likely to be repeat victims of crime than males
- **51.7%** of victims were **white**, **10.5%** were **ethnic minorities** and **37.7% unknown** ethnicity

No. of crimes experienced	No. of all crime offences	% of all crime offences	No. of all crime victims	% of all crime victims
1	12,940	59.6	12,940	80.8
2	3,926	18.1	1,963	12.3
3	1,644	7.6	548	3.4
4	1,028	4.7	257	1.6
5 or more	2,188	10.1	309	1.9

Age Profile of Victims - All Crime- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025

Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



* Only includes known victims/crimes with valid age & gender

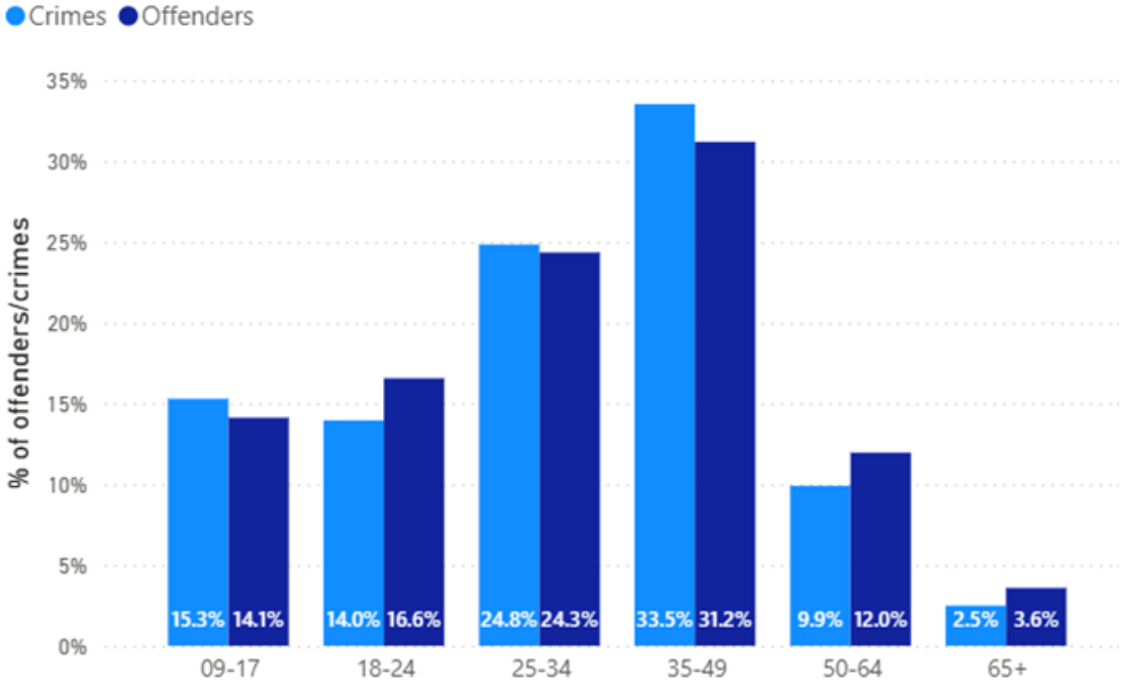


- **9,993* individual suspects or offenders** were identified in 2024/25, who were responsible for **64.5% of the crimes** committed in Southampton; similar to the 9,937 identified during 2023/24
- The **majority (67.0%)** of offenders identified **committed just 1 crime** in the year, which is higher slightly higher than the proportion in 2023/24 (65.0%);
 - 33.0% of offenders committed more than 1 offence, yet were responsible for the majority (66.6%) of recorded crime with a suspect or offender identified in 2024/25
- **70.0% of offenders were male;**
 - **Males** continue to be much more likely to **commit multiple offences** in the year than females, with 74.5% of the most prolific (5+ offences) offenders being males
- Those aged **35 to 49 years (31.2%)** continue to commit the most crimes, followed by **25 to 34 (24.3%)** and the **18 to 24 age group (16.6%)**
 - Those **aged under 18** accounted for **14.1%** of offenders
- The majority of offenders were white (68.4%), 16.5% ethnic minorities and 15.2% unknown ethnicity



No. of crimes committed	No. of all offences	% of all offences	No. of offenders	% of all offenders
1	6,693	33.4	6,693	67.0
2	3,276	16.3	1,638	16.4
3	1,884	9.4	628	6.3
4	1,364	6.8	341	3.4
5 or more	6,833	34.1	693	6.9

Age Profile of Offenders - All Crime- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

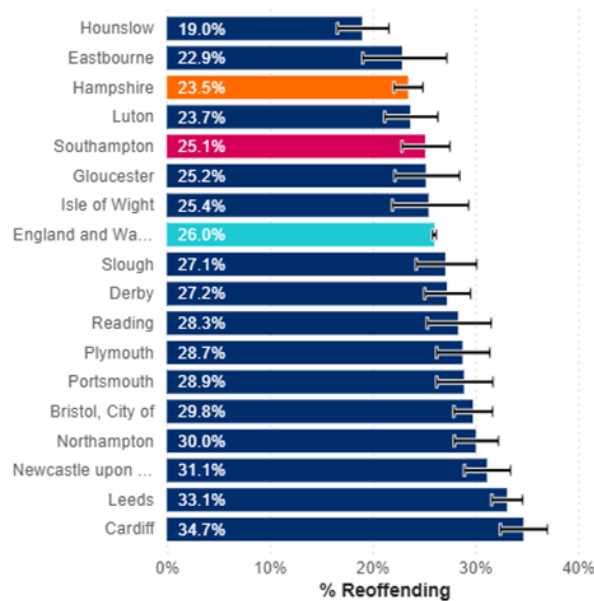


**Only includes suspects/offenders with valid age and sex*



Proven percentage of Adult offenders who reoffend - Southampton and iQuanta comparators: 2022/23

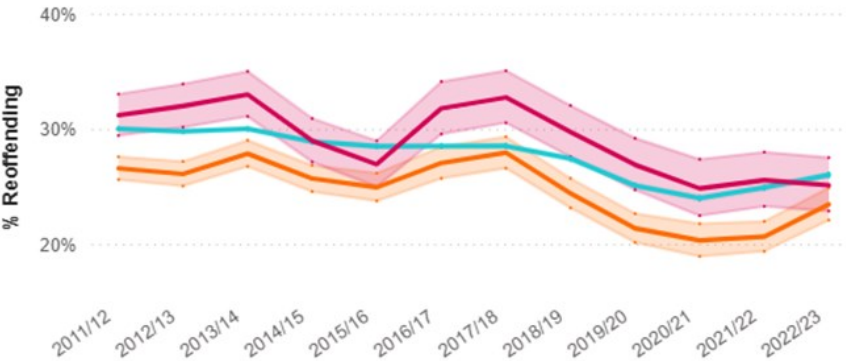
Data source: Ministry of Justice - Reoffending Statistics



Proven percentage of Adult offenders who reoffend - Southampton, Hampshire, England and Wales: 2011/12 to 2022/23

Data source: Ministry of Justice - Reoffending Statistics

Geography ● England and Wales ● Hampshire ● Southampton

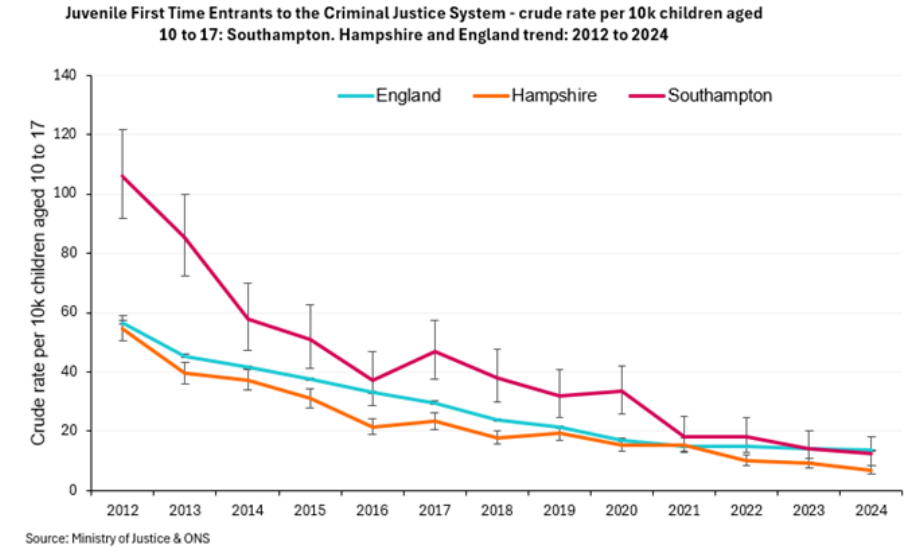


- The majority of offenders (**67.0%**) commit a **single offence**. However, those who commit **multiple offences** are **responsible for the majority of crime (66.6%)** in the city – therefore reducing reoffending is key to reducing crime in Southampton
- **25.1%** of adult offenders in Southampton **reoffended** (2022/23 cohort), which is lower but not significantly than the England and Wales average (26.0%)
- Southampton adult reoffenders will on average commit **3.7 reoffences**, which is **slightly lower** than the **England and Wales** average of **4.0 reoffences**
- Southampton now sits below the England reoffending rate for the first time since the methodology change
- Whilst both England and Hampshire re-offending rates increased during the last reporting period, Southampton experienced a decline



Youth Offending

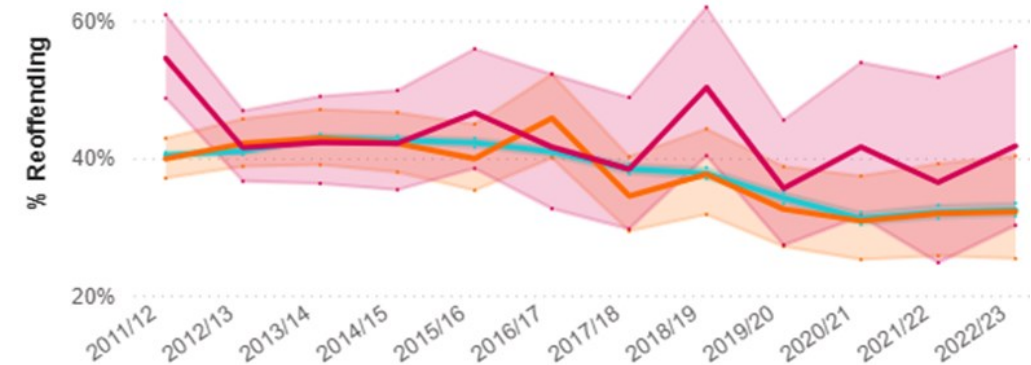
- In 2024, Southampton had a juvenile First Time Entrant (FTE) rate of **12.57 per 10,000** children aged 10 to 17 years;
- Lower but not significantly than the national average (13.53 per 10,000 children)
- Since 2012, the juvenile FTE rate has been on a downward trend in Southampton and nationally
- The Southampton FTE rate in 2024 remained similar to the national average for the fourth consecutive year
- Reduction in FTE rates locally is likely due to offence outcomes being diverted away from the courts, with alternative interventions offered to children
- The percentage of youth offenders who reoffend in **Southampton** is **41.7%** (2022/23), which is **higher but not significantly** than the **England and Wales** average (**32.5%**)
- However, this should be interpreted with caution given the small cohort size of 43 juvenile reoffenders and 103 offenders



Proven percentage of Juvenile offenders who reoffend - Southampton, Hampshire, England and Wales: 2011/12 to 2022/23

Data source: Ministry of Justice - Reoffending Statistics

Geography ● England and Wales ● Hampshire ● Southampton





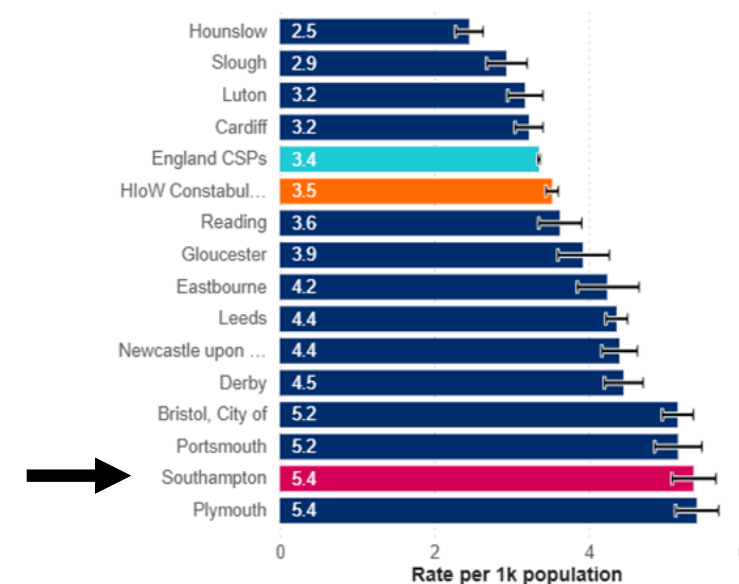
Significant Community Safety Issues



- Southampton has the **second highest** rate of **sexual offences** among comparator CSPs and 8th highest in England and Wales
- +4.9% increase** in the number of **sexual offences** in **Southampton** between 2023/24 and 2024/25, with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary (+9.6%) and England (+11.2%) also experiencing an increase overall
 - Southampton experienced a **-3.1% decrease** in **rapes** but a **+10.1% increase** in **other sexual offences**
- The ONS Crime Survey suggests that there has been no significant change in sexual offences between 2023/24 and 2024/25. Therefore, the change over the last year may reflect more victims coming forward to report crimes rather than a genuine increase in crimes
- The proportion of rapes flagged as domestic rose to 45.2% in 2024/25 (up from 38.7% in 2023/24). This highlights that domestic sexual offences continue to remain a substantial issue and are becoming more prominent within the data
- Females aged under 25 years continue to be highlighted as a high risk victim group

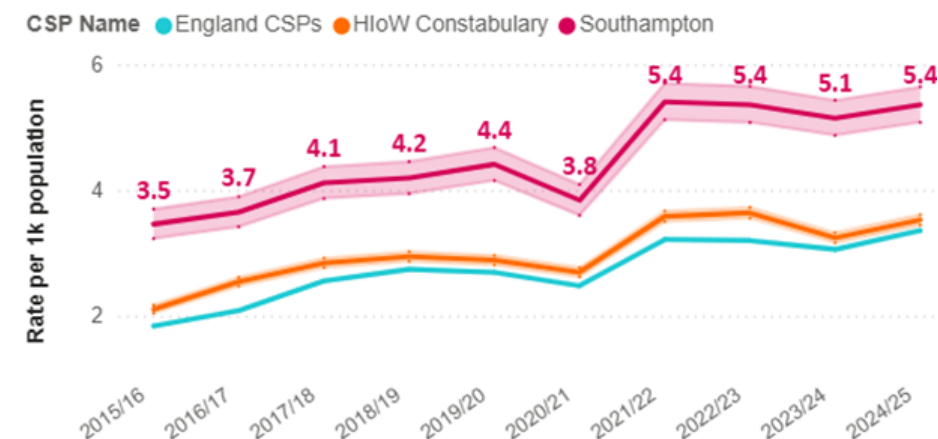
Police Recorded Sexual offences (rate per 1k population)
Southampton and iQuanta Comparator Community Safety
Partnerships: 2024/25

Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime



Police Recorded Sexual offences (rate per 1k population) Southampton, England
CSPs, HloW Constabulary: 2015/16 to 2024/25

Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime

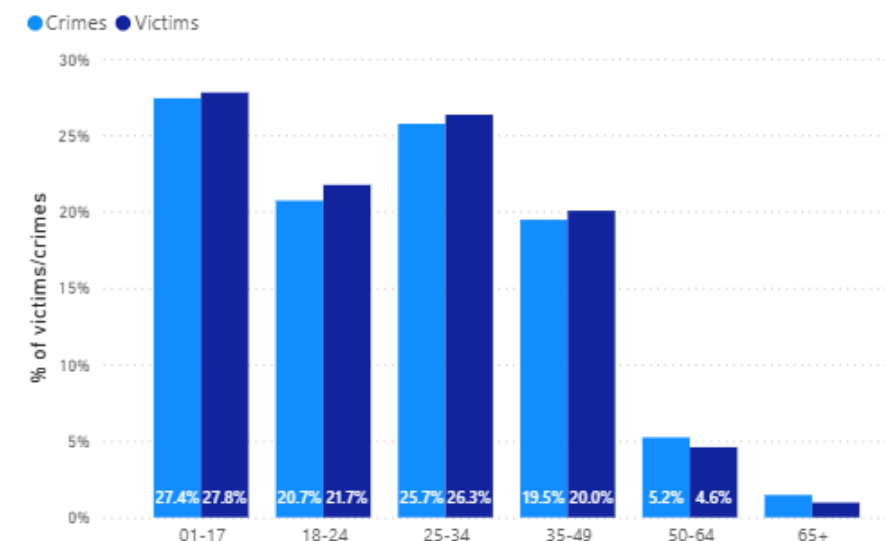


Source: Home Office – police recorded crime

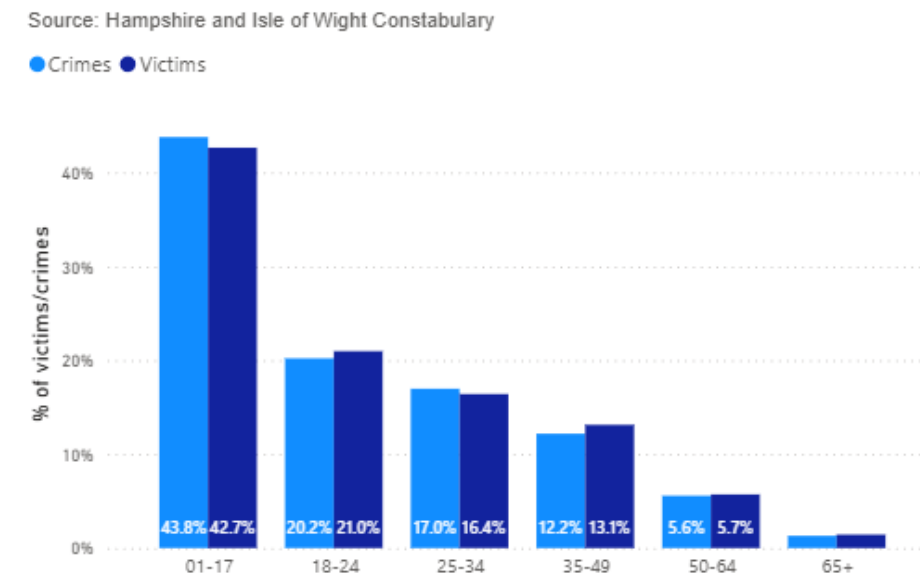


- **1,071** victims of sexual offences identified in 2024/25, an **increase** in number of victims identified compared to 2023/24 (999)
- **10.3%** of sexual offence victims experienced **more than one** offence within the year
- **34.2%** of sexual offence victims experienced other types offences in the year. Suggesting that victims are often vulnerable individuals
- Majority of sexual offence victims in 2024/25 were female (82.9%)
- Age profile for victims identified in 2023/24 is similar to previous years:
 - For rape offences in 2024/25, under 18s were the largest victim group (27.8%), followed by 25 to 34 year olds (26.3%) and 18 to 24 year olds (21.7%), which is a shift from last year when 18 to 24s were the most common.
 - For other sexual offences, under 18s remained the largest victim group (42.7%), followed by 18 to 24 year olds (21.0%)
- Victim profiling continues to highlight that females aged under 25 are most at risk of being a victim of sexual offences

Age Profile of Victims - Sexual Offences: Rape- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



Age Profile of Victims - Sexual Offences: Other Sexual Offences- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

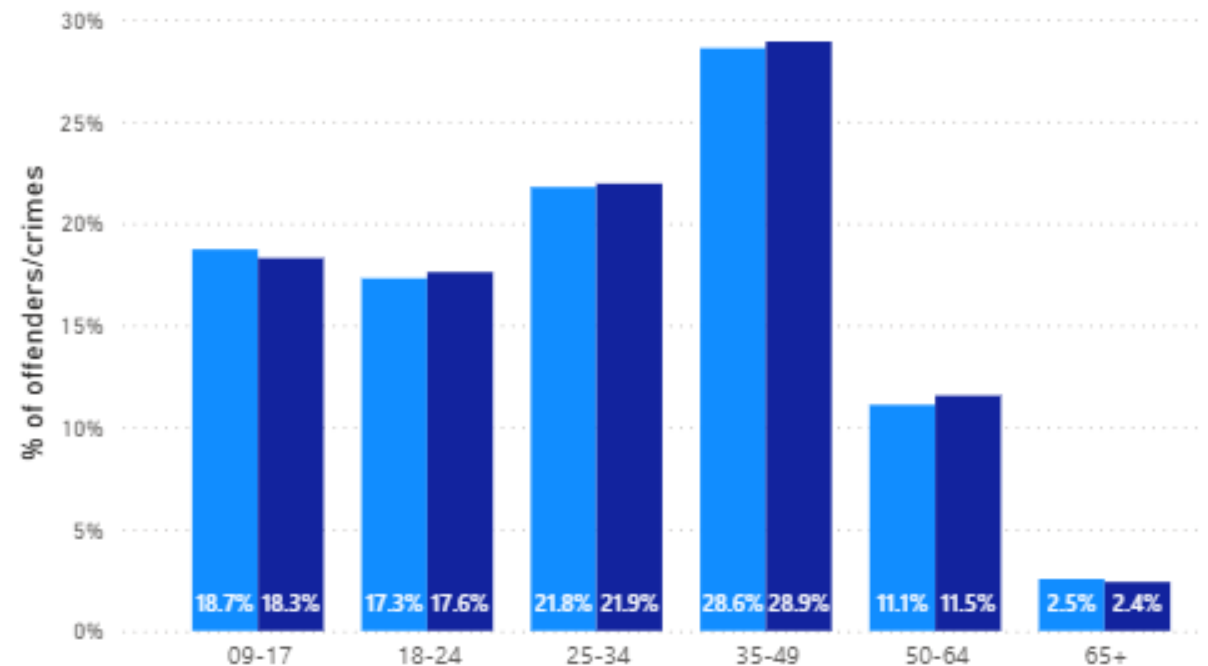


- 875 sexual offence offenders identified in 2024/25
- **9.6%** of sexual offence perpetrators committed **more than 1** crime in the year
- **38.2%** of sexual offence offenders also committed other **offence types in the year**
- **90.3%** of sexual offence offenders were **male**
- **35 to 49 years** is most common age group for sexual offence offenders (28.9%), followed by 25 to 34 (21.9%) and 9 to 17 year olds (18.3%), with 9 to 17 year olds overtaking 18 to 24 year olds this year

Age Profile of Offenders - Sexual Offences- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025

Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

● Crimes ● Offenders



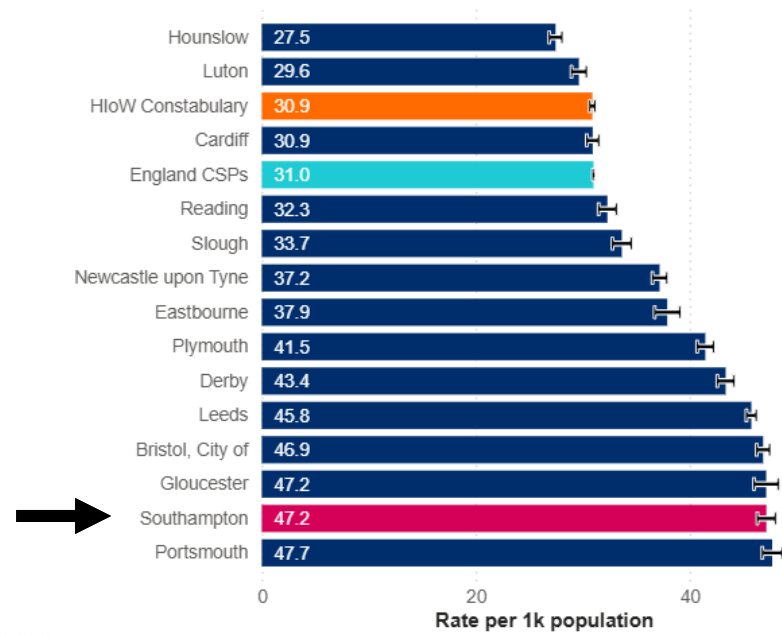


Violent Crime

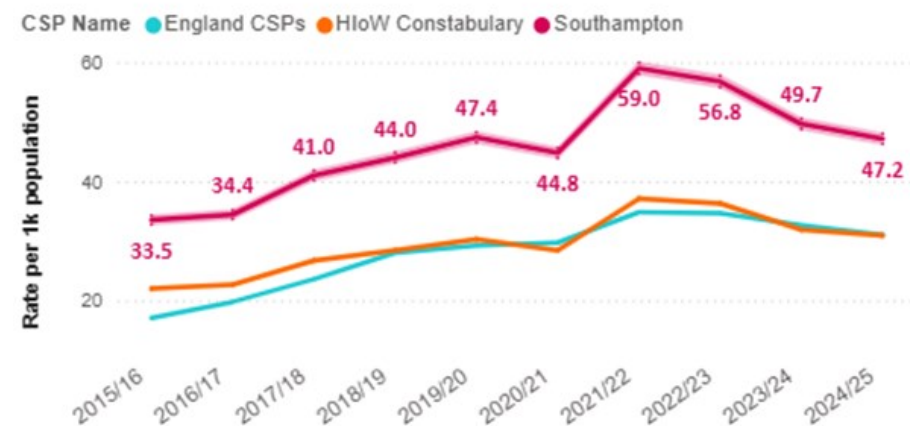
- Southampton is ranked **second highest** for violent crime among comparator CSPs and **14th nationally** placing Southampton in the **worse 5% of CSPs nationally**
- Southampton experienced a **-4.3% decrease** in the number of violent crimes over the last year. However, changes vary by subgroup:
 - Violence with injury** decreased by **-10.7%**
 - Violence without injury** experienced almost no year-on-year change (+0.1%)
 - Stalking and harassment** saw a decline of **-3.6%**
- Reductions experienced this year are likely to be less impacted by changes in counting rules in terms of year-on-year comparisons
- Domestic violence continues to be a significant driver of violent crime in Southampton, with 31.5% of violent crime in 2024/25 flagged as domestic**

Violent crime group	2020/21 CSP rank (out of 300)	2021/22 CSP rank (out of 310)	2022/23 CSP rank (out of 296)	2023/24 CSP rank (out of 312)	2024/25 CSP rank (out of 313)
Overall violent crime	22 nd	10 th	11 th	13 th	14th
Violence with injury	4 th	4 th	5 th	5 th	7 th
Violence without injury	19 th	12 th	14 th	17 th	16 th
Stalking & harassment	80 th	39 th	33 rd	35 th	33 rd

Police Recorded Violence against the person (rate per 1k population)
Southampton and iQuanta Comparator Community Safety Partnerships: 2024/25
Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime



Police Recorded Violence against the person (rate per 1k population) Southampton, England CSPs, HloW Constabulary: 2015/16 to 2024/25
Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime

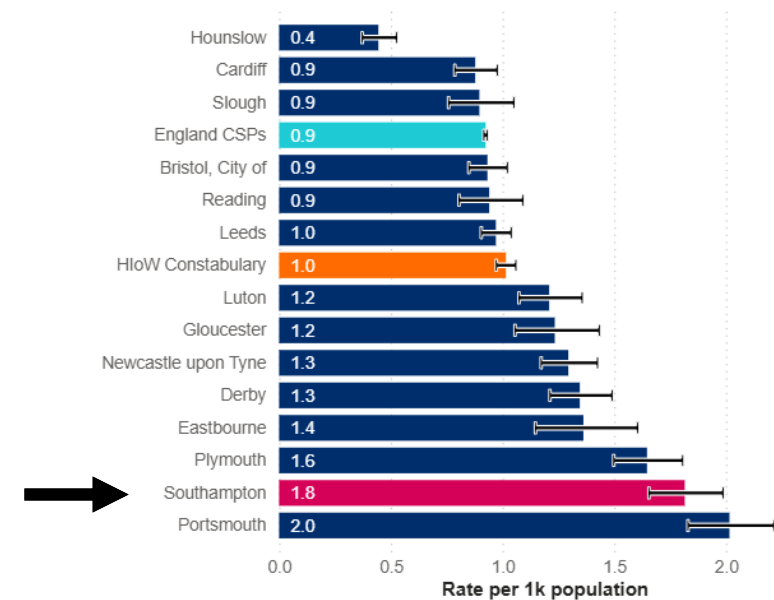




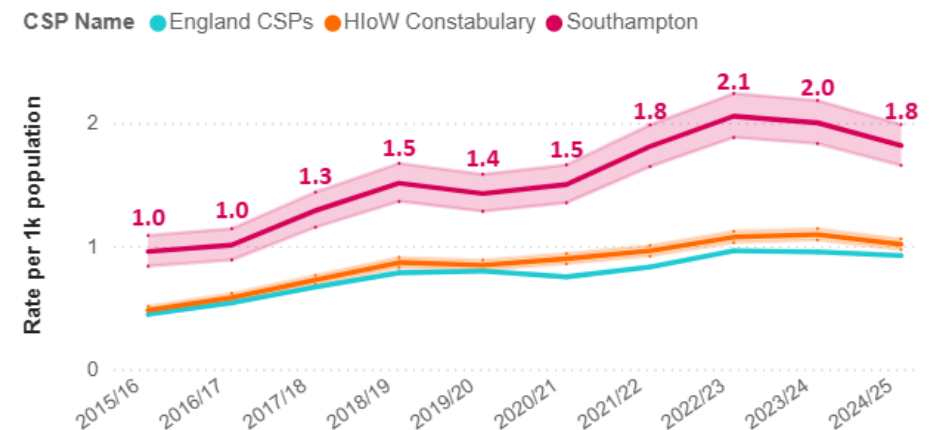
Crimes involving a weapon

- Southampton (**1.8 offences per 1k**) is ranked **second highest** among comparators for the rate of **possession of weapons offences** and significantly higher than the England average (0.9 per 1k)
- **702** recorded crimes involving use of a **bladed implement** in **Southampton** during 2024/25, a -15.6% decrease compared to 2023/24 (832);
- This contrasts with the national picture, where knife-enabled crime declined by -1%, suggesting a particularly strong local reduction
- Most knife-enabled crime is committed by males (79.1%). **Offenders are most often aged 35 to 49 (24.8%)**. Although offences remain concentrated among younger age groups, with **under 25s accounting for 44.1% of perpetrators** and **36% of victims** in 2024/25, **knife enabled crime is not solely a youth issue**. It does, however, **disproportionately involve young people**
- There were **34 firearms offences** in **Southampton** during 2024/25, a decline from the 58 recorded in 2023/24
- Despite the number of firearms offences being relatively small in Southampton, firearms can cause significant harm and are often linked to organised crime

Police Recorded Possession of weapons offences (rate per 1k population)
Southampton and iQuanta Comparator Community Safety Partnerships: 2024/25
Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime



Police Recorded Possession of weapons offences (rate per 1k population)
Southampton, England CSPs, HloW Constabulary: 2015/16 to 2024/25
Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime

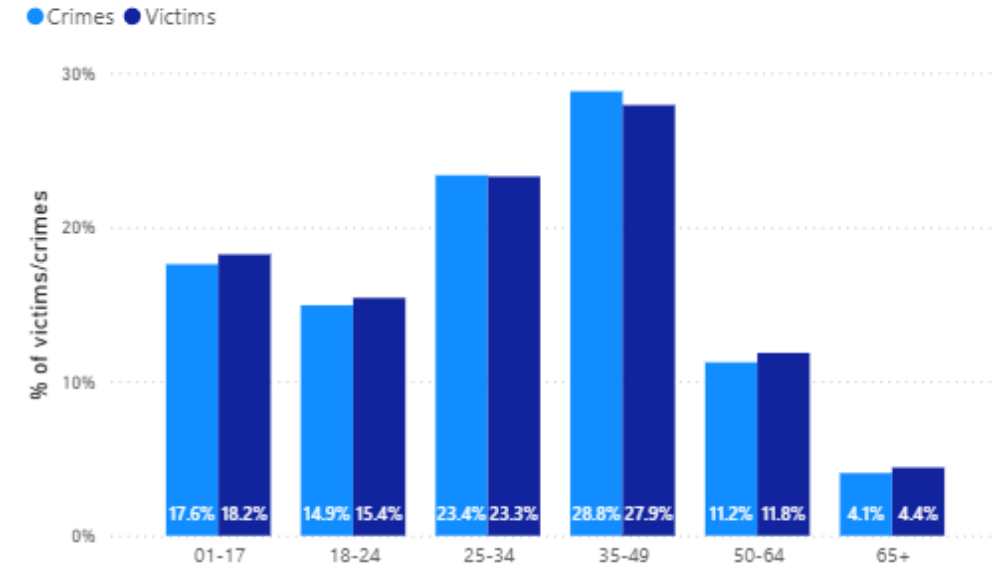




- **8,491** unique victims of violent crime identified in 2024/25
- **19.2%** of violent crime victims experienced **more than 1 violent crime**, which is similar to the previous financial year
- Repeat victims of violent crime accounted for 40.4% of violent crimes (where a victim was recorded)
 - 17.8% of violent victims also experienced other crime types
- Those **aged under 25 continue to be at risk** of being a victim of violence, with over a third of violent crime victims aged under 25 years (33.6%):
 - 18.2% of victims were aged under 18
- 51.5% of victims were female
- **Females** continue to experience more violent crimes than males overall, whilst also being more likely to be **repeat victims** of violent crimes

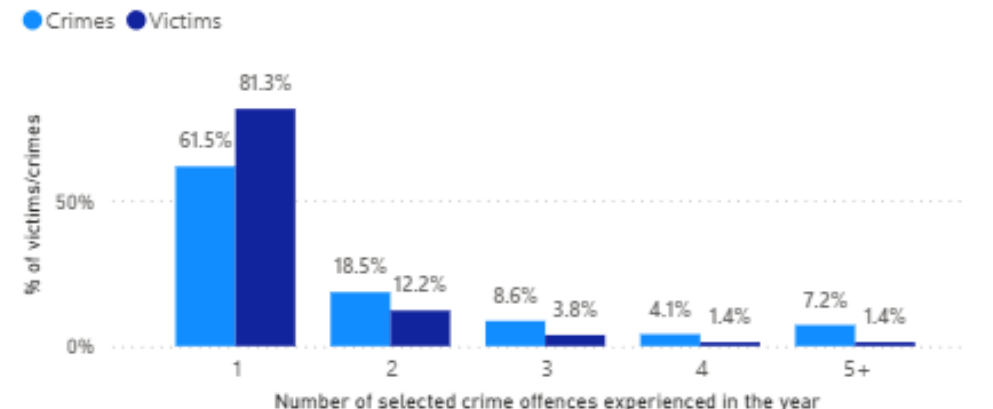
Age Profile of Victims - Violence Against the Person- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025

Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



Victims and crimes by number of offences experienced - Violence Against the Person- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025

Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



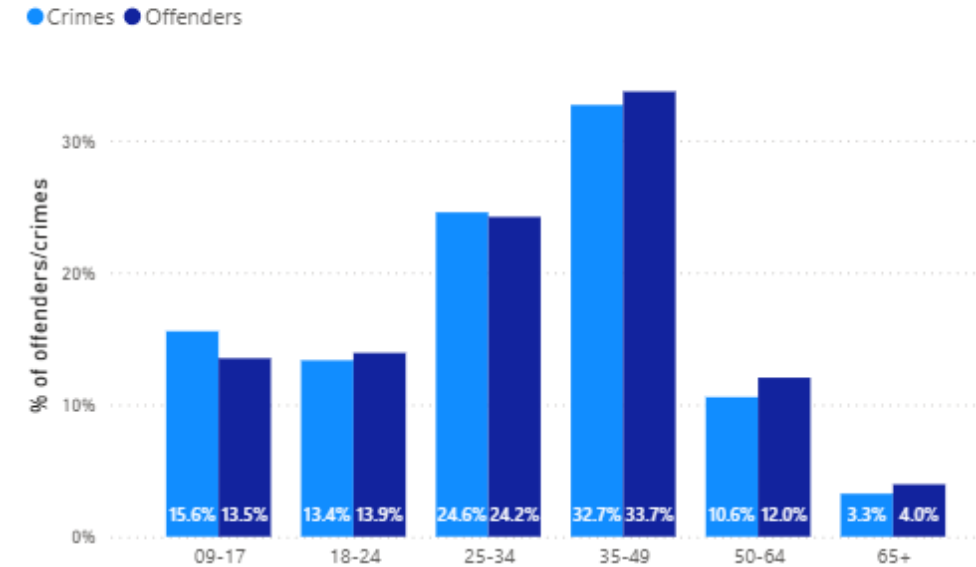
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



- **6,337** violent crime offenders/suspects identified in 2024/25
- **28.2%** committed **more than one violent crime** in the year, with repeat offenders accounting for 54.8% of violent crimes
 - The most prolific offenders account for 3.8% of offenders, but 16.8% of violent crimes
- **26.4%** of violent crime offenders **committed other offences** in the year, with prolific violent crime offenders more likely to commit other offences
- **35 to 49 year olds** account for the majority of offenders (33.7%), followed by 25 to 34 year olds (24.2%)
- **65.1%** of violent crime offenders were **male**

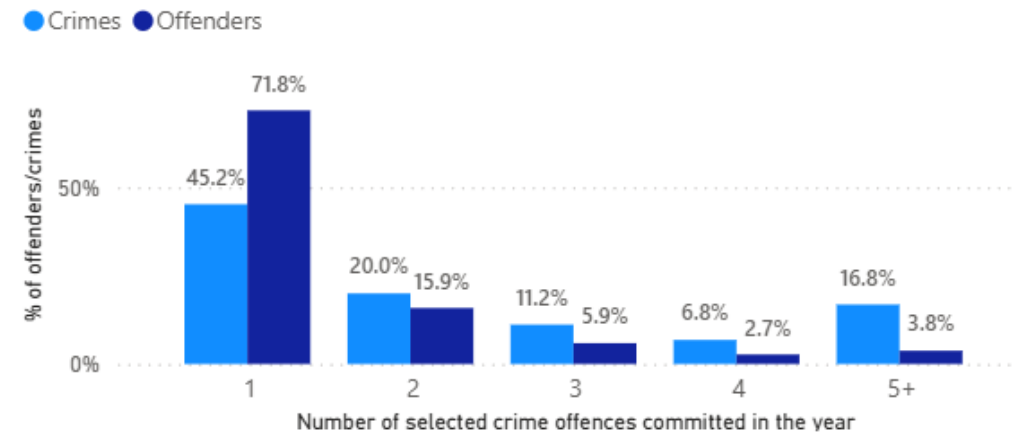
Age Profile of Offenders - Violence Against the Person- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025

Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



Offenders and crimes by number of offences committed - Violence Against the Person- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025

Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

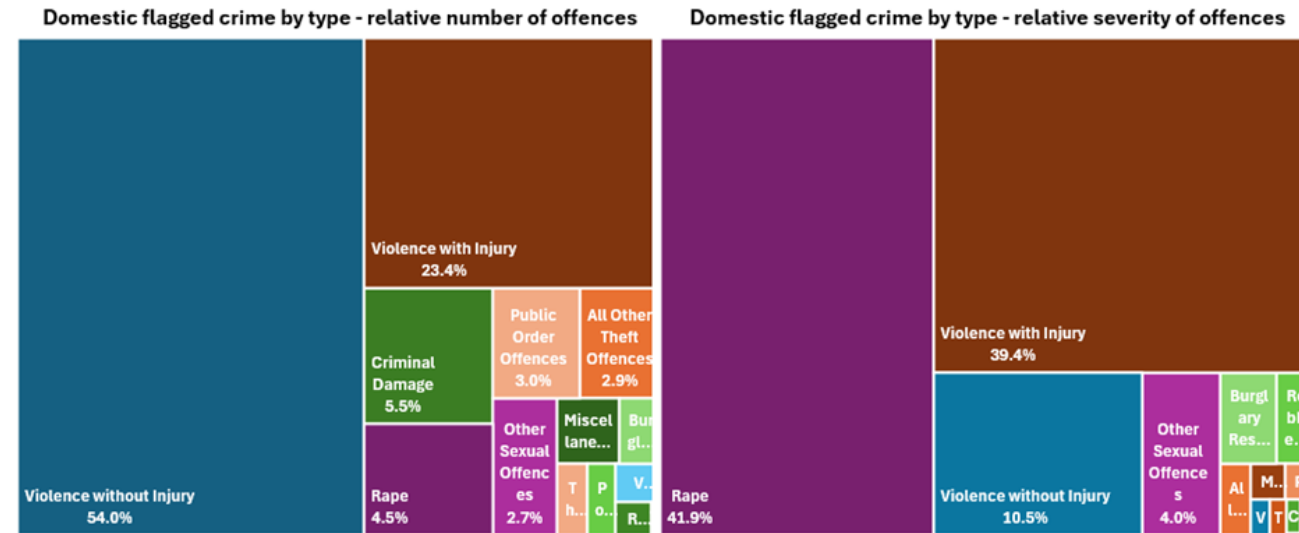


Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

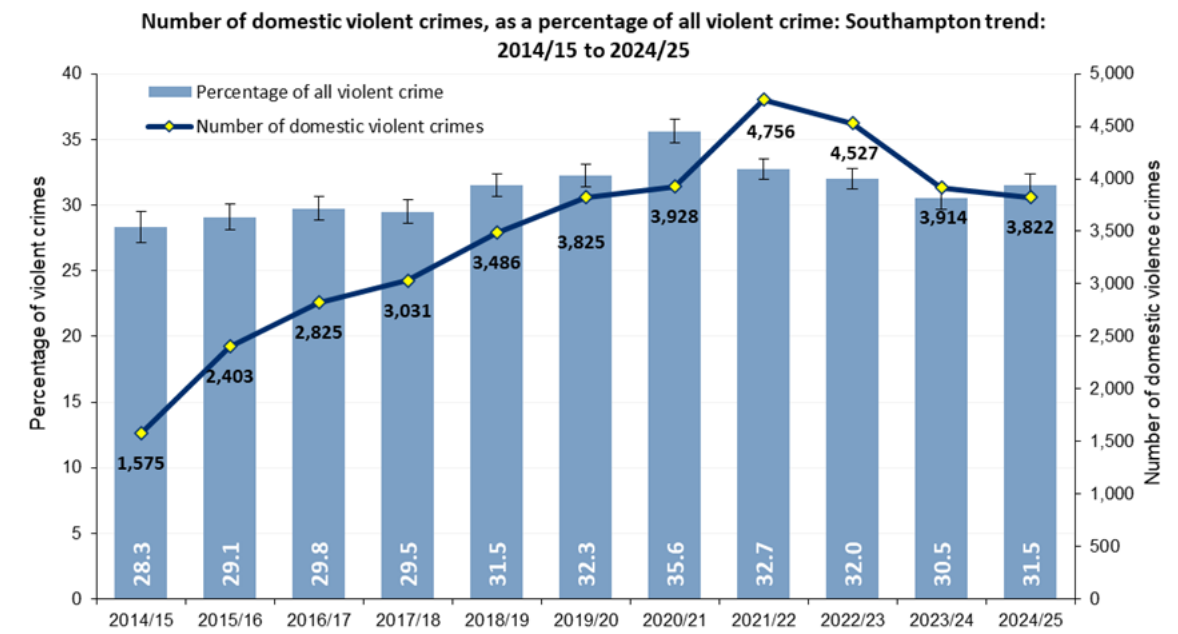


Domestic Crimes

- The majority (**77.4%**) of domestic flagged crimes in Southampton during 2024/25 were **violent crimes**
- Domestic rape** continues to cause **significant harm** in the city, with rape accounting for **41.9%** of the **harm** (relative severity) caused by domestic flagged crime, yet only **4.5%** of the **number** of domestic flagged **offences**
- Domestic flagged crime accounted for **15.9%** of **all recorded crime** in Southampton during 2024/25, a **similar** proportion to 2023/24 (15.2%)
- 31.5%** of **violent crimes** were flagged as **domestic** in **2024/25**
- The number of **domestic violent crimes** has **decreased** for the **third consecutive year**, having increased consecutively for the previous nine years. This is likely impacted by change in counting rules and shouldn't be interpreted as genuine decline
- The impact of domestic abuse on **children** in the city continues to be significant:
 - 63%** of Southampton **MARAC referrals** have children and young people in the household (2024/25)



Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

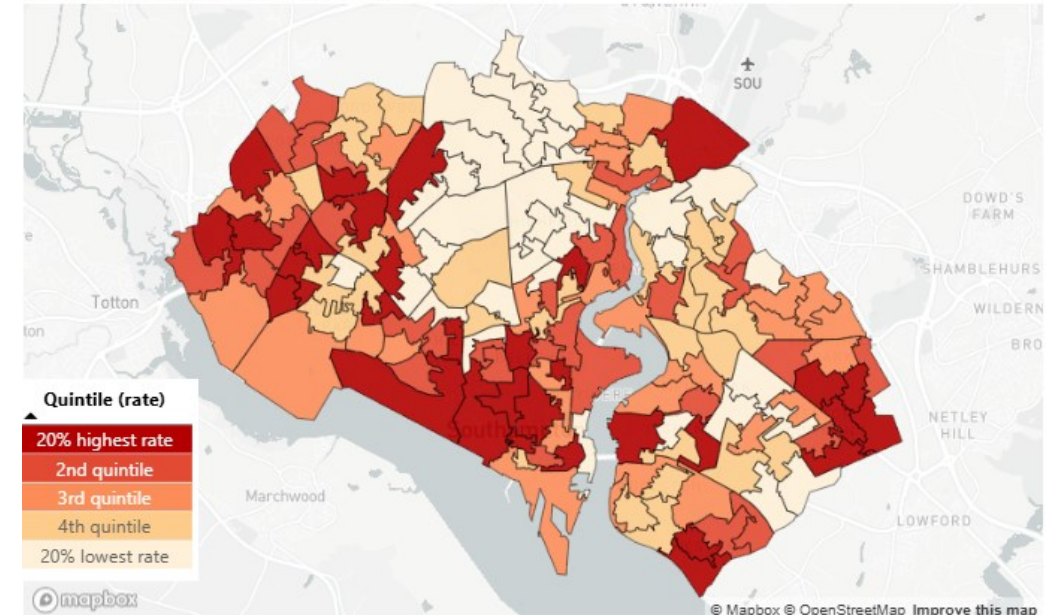


Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

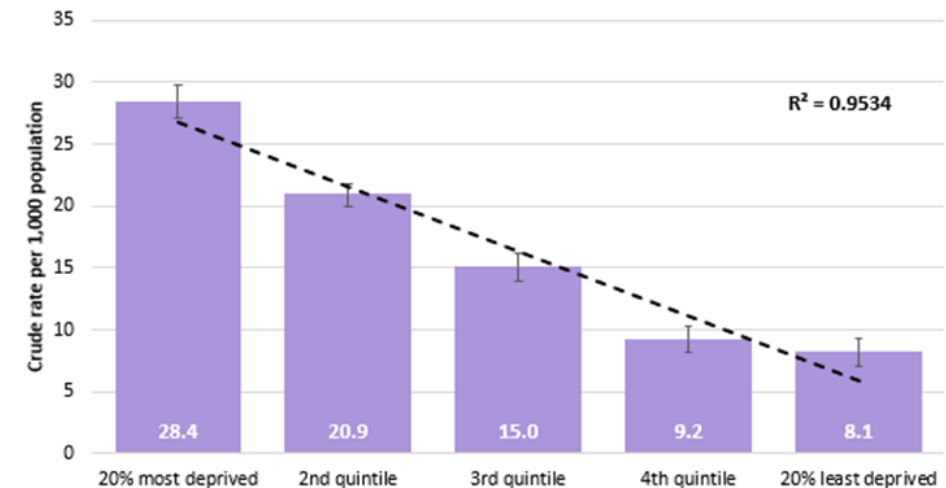


- Sub city patterns of domestic flagged remain similar to previous years;
- Rates of domestic flagged crime are **significantly higher** than the city average in **Thornhill, Freemantle, Redbridge** and **Bargate**. These wards are also where some of the **most deprived neighbourhoods** in the city are located;
- **Domestic flagged crime** continues to have **strong links to deprivation**, with rates **3.5 times higher** in the **20% most deprived neighbourhoods** compared to the 20% least deprived neighbourhoods in Southampton
- Previous analysis has shown that a disproportionate amount of domestic abuse crime incidents are linked to SCC social housing

Domestic Flagged crime, crude rate per 1,000 population, Southampton LSOAs grouped into quintiles: April 2024 to March 2025
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



Total police recorded domestic flagged crime, crude rate per 1,000 population by national deprivation quintiles, Southampton: 2024/25



Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

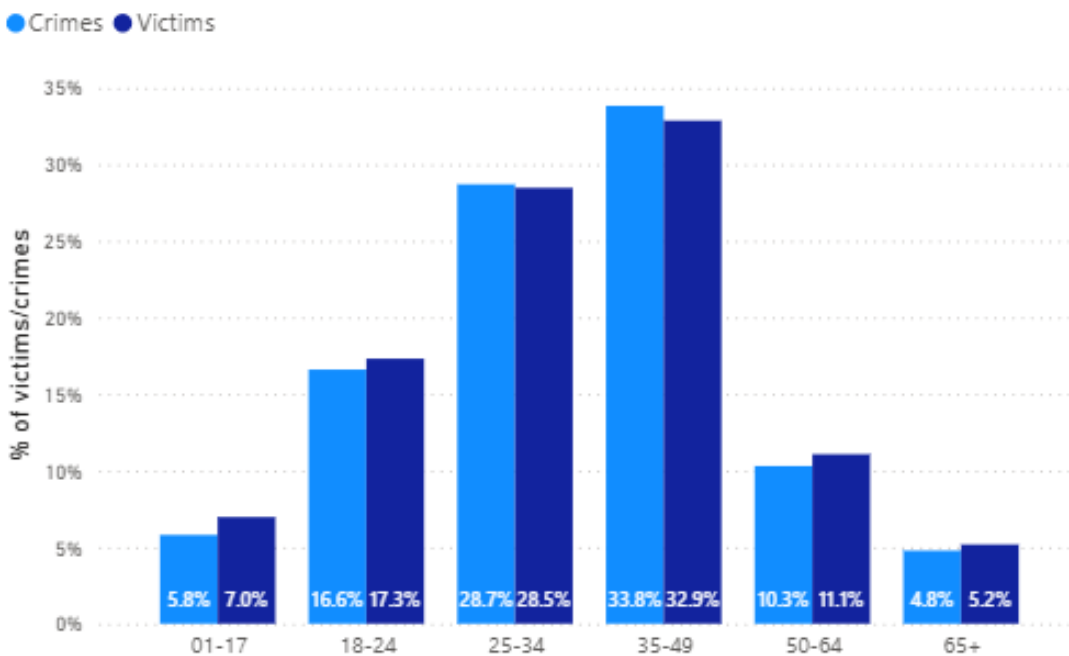
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



- **3,460** victims of domestic flagged crime identified
- **22.2%** of domestic crime victims experienced **more than 1 crime** in the year, with **repeat victims** accounting for **43.7%** of domestic crimes
- **21.8%** of **domestic crime victims** also experienced **other offences** in the year, with victims experiencing multiple domestic crimes continuing to be more likely a victim of other offence types
- 32.9% of victims were aged 35 to 49, 28.5% aged 25 to 34 and 17.3% aged 18 to 24
- **Significantly higher** proportion of **victims** are **female** (68.8%)

Age Profile of Victims - Domestic Flagged crime- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025

Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

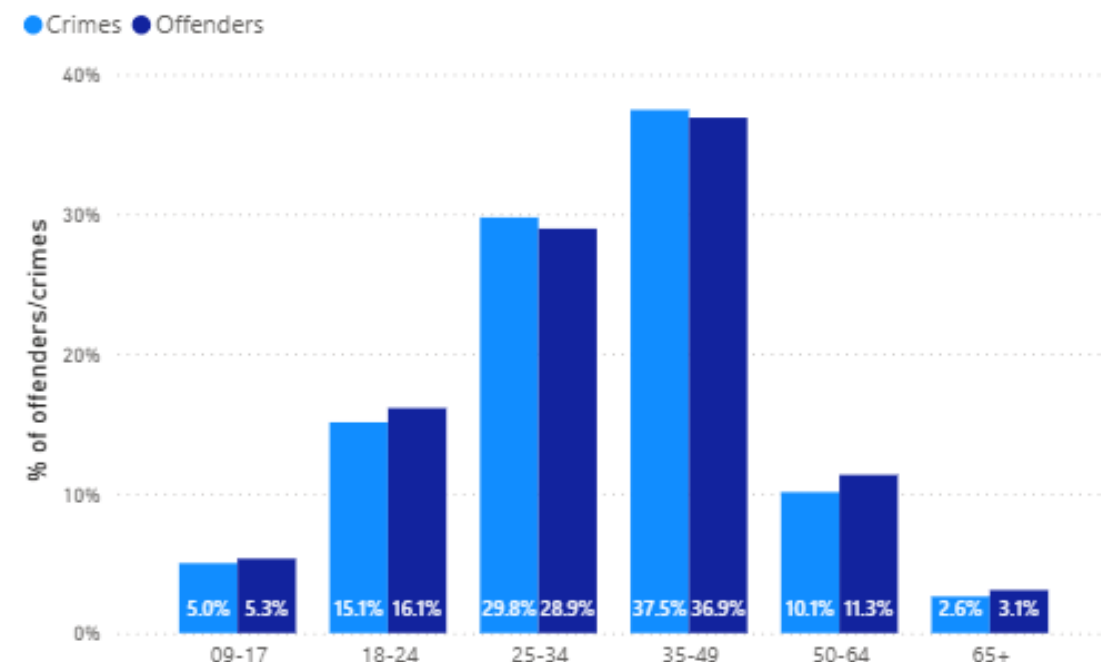


No. Domestic flagged crimes experienced	No. Domestic flagged crimes	% of domestic flagged crimes	No. Domestic flagged victims	% of domestic flagged victims
1	2,691	56.3	2,691	77.8
2	1,012	21.2	506	14.6
3	393	8.2	131	3.8
4	296	6.2	74	2.1
5 or more	385	8.1	58	1.7



- **3,285** domestic flagged crime offenders identified, which is a +3.1% increase on the number identified in 2023/24 (3,185)
- **24.6%** of offenders committed **more than one** domestic crime, with these offenders accounting for 47.7% of domestic offences
- **29.9%** of domestic crime offenders also **committed other offences** in the year
 - Offenders committing multiple domestic crimes are more likely to commit other offences
- Most common **age group** for domestic crime offenders continues to be those aged **35 to 49 years (36.9%)**, followed by **25 to 34 (28.9%)** and the **18 to 24 (16.1%)** age groups
- **69.2%** of domestic crime offenders are **male**

Age Profile of Offenders - Domestic Flagged crime- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



No. Domestic flagged crimes committed	No. Domestic flagged crimes	% of domestic flagged crimes	No. Domestic flagged offenders	% of domestic flagged offenders
1	2,476	52.3	2,476	75.4
2	1,020	21.5	510	15.5
3	450	9.5	150	4.6
4	300	6.3	75	2.3
5 or more	493	10.4	74	2.3

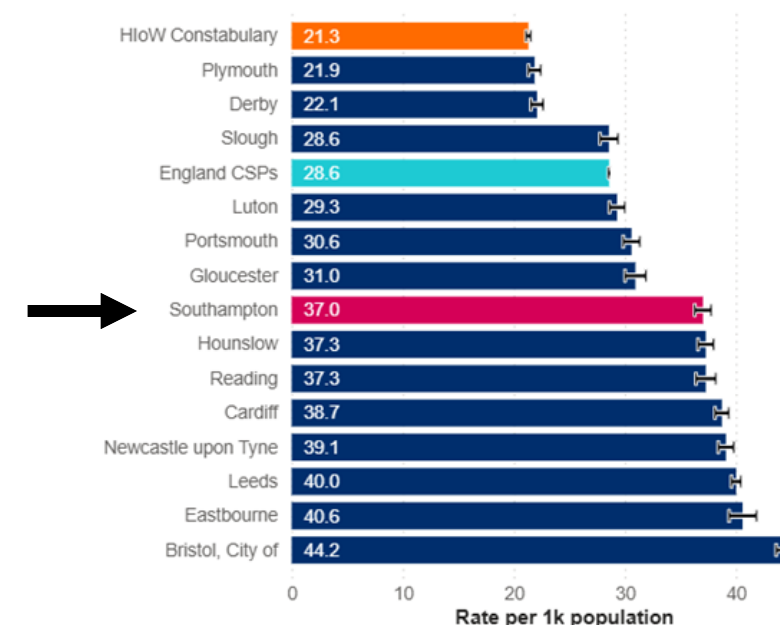


Thamag Offences

- Theft offences dropped out the list of partnership priorities in 2024/25, following reductions in key acquisitive crime types such as residential burglary and vehicle offences
- -2.8% decrease in the volume of theft offences in Southampton between 2023/24 and 2024/25
- Southampton ranked 8th highest among comparator CSPs this year compared to ranking 6th highest last year
- Changes vary by subgroups, declines were seen in residential burglary (-8.0%) and vehicle offences (-14.1%)
- Shoplifting (+6.6%), non-domestic burglary (+4.5%), theft from a person (3.9%) and bicycle theft (+9.5%) also increased
 - 36.9% of all shoplifting offences and 46.6% of theft from the person offences were recorded in Bargate during 2024/25
- The continued increase in shoplifting over the last year could be a result of continued financial pressures as well as improvements in the way shops can report crime and therefore more businesses are reporting acquisitive crimes

Police Recorded Theft offences (rate per 1k population) Southampton and iQuanta Comparator Community Safety Partnerships: 2024/25

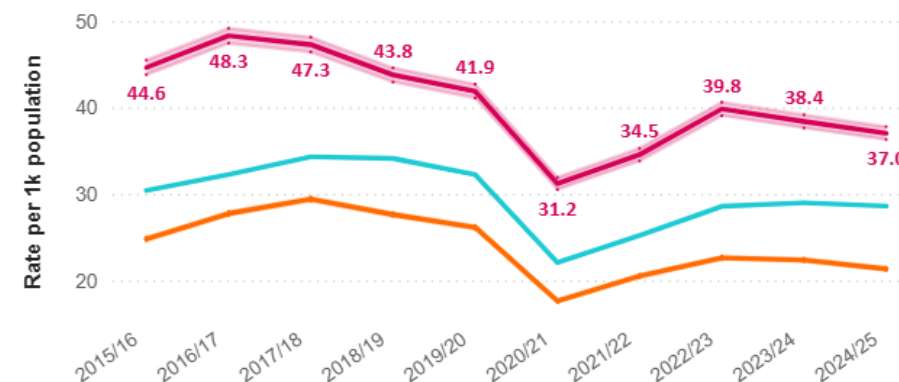
Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime



Police Recorded Theft offences (rate per 1k population) Southampton, England CSPs, HloW Constabulary: 2015/16 to 2024/25

Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime

CSP Name ● England CSPs ● HloW Constabulary ● Southampton



Source: Home Office – police recorded crime

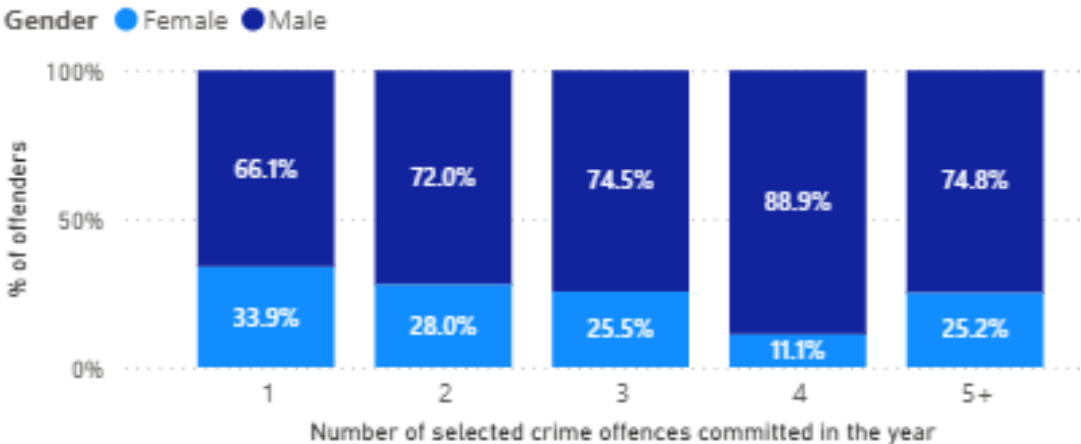


- **4,474 unique victims** of theft offences identified in 2024/26, a **-7.5% decrease** compared to 2023/24 (4,836)
- **Repeat victimisation remains lows** for theft offences (**6.1%**)
- The **majority of victims were male** in 2024/25 (61.3%)
- Those aged **35 to 49 years** (29.5%), 25 to 34 (23.5%) and 50 to 64 (17.6%) were the three **most common age groups** for victims of theft offences
- However, due to the **opportunistic nature** of certain theft offences, **anyone could be a victim** of theft
- There were **1,515 unique theft offenders** identified in 2024/25, a **+9.7% increase** compared to the 1,381 identified last year
- **Repeat offending** of theft is **similar** compared to the previous year with **26.5%** of theft offenders committing **more than one offence** in 2024/25; those who committed **5 or more thefts** accounted for **53.2%** of theft offences, despite only making up **9.7%** of theft offenders
- **43.3%** of **theft offenders** also committed **offences of another type** in 2024/25
- The majority of theft offenders were **male (68.4%)**; with this proportion increasing among the most prolific theft offenders

No. of crimes committed	No. of all crime offences	% of all crime offences	No. of all crime offenders	% of all crime offenders
1	1,113	29.8	1,113	73.5
2	336	9.0	168	11.1
3	153	4.1	51	3.4
4	144	3.9	36	2.4
5 or more	1,987	53.2	147	9.7

Gender Profile of Offenders by number of offences committed - Theft Offences- Southampton: April 2024 to March 2025

Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



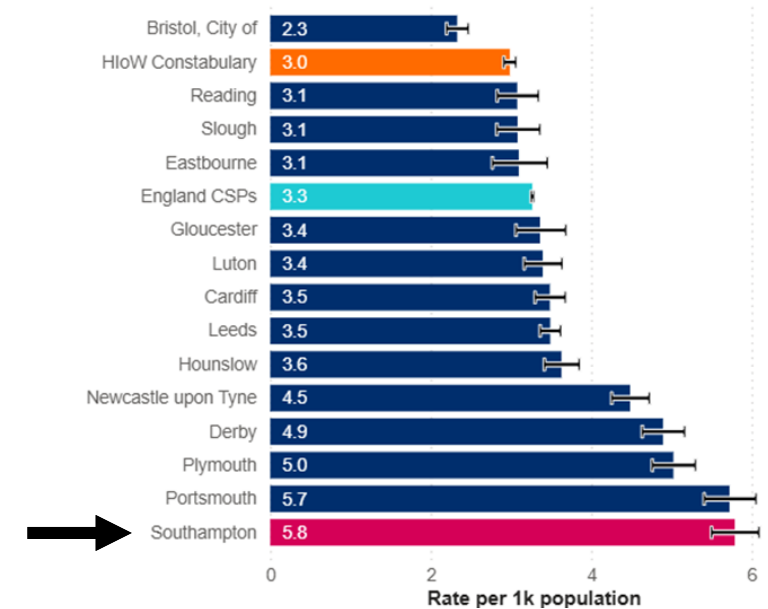
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



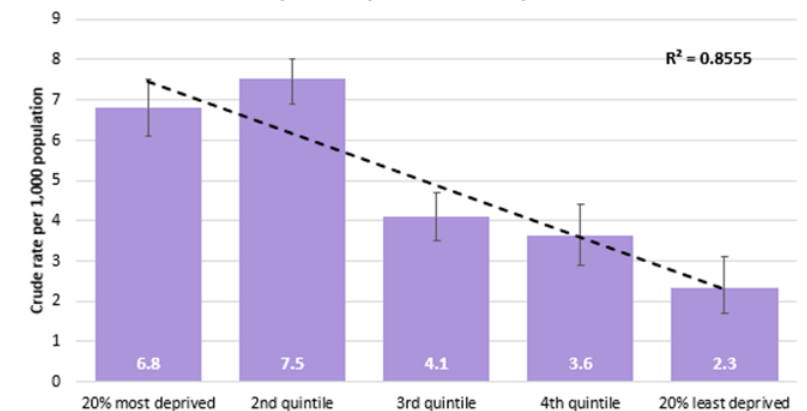
Drug Offences

- Southampton had a drug offence rate of 5.8 offences per 1k population in 2024/25
- Southampton is ranked **highest** among comparator CSPs and significantly **higher** than the England average
- **1,502 drug offences** were recorded in 2024/25 (includes possession and trafficking offences), a **+4.9% increase** compared to the previous year and a **+46.7% increase in severity**, which is due to the increase in trafficking offences (+49.3%, +139 offences) - may be linked to targeted activity against county lines and other supply networks
- The number of drug offences recorded by the police is heavily dependent on police activities and priorities
- **1,258 drug affected crimes** (where drugs are flagged as a factor) were recorded in 2024/25, a **+1.2% increase** compared to the previous year
- There is a link between drug offences and **deprivation**. In 2024/25 the drug offence rate was **2.9 times higher** in the **20% most deprived neighbourhoods**
- The **highest rate** of drug offences was also recorded across neighbourhoods in the **second deprivation quintile**

Police Recorded Drug offences (rate per 1k population) Southampton and iQuanta Comparator Community Safety Partnerships: 2024/25
Data source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime



Total police recorded drug offences, crude rate per 1,000 population by national deprivation quintiles, Southampton: 2024/25



Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

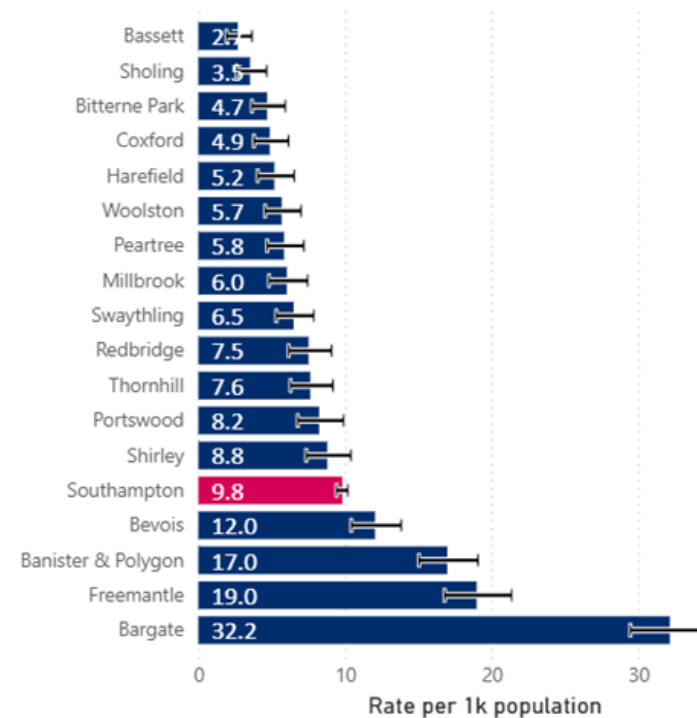
Source: Home Office – police recorded crime and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



- There were **2,493 alcohol affected crimes** in **2024/25**, a **-4.2% decrease** compared to the previous year
- The majority of alcohol affected crimes continue to be **violent crimes (64.7%)** which is similar to previous years
- Bargate** ward continues to have the **highest rate of alcohol affected crime**, whilst **Banister & Polygon**, **Freemantle** and **Bevois** also show **significantly higher rates than the city average**
- Peak times** for alcohol affected crimes continue to be **late at night** and during the **early hours of the morning on weekends**
- Sub city and temporal patterns in the occurrence of alcohol affected crime continues to highlight the link between alcohol affected crime and the **night time economy**

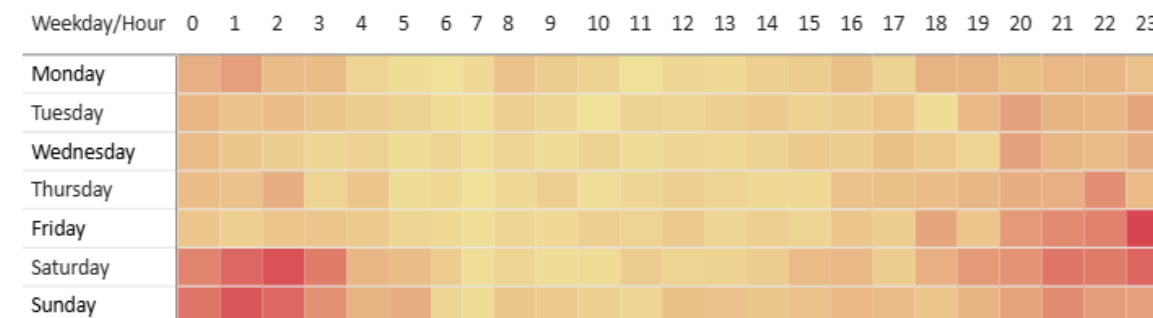
All Crime (Alcohol Affected) (rate per 1k population) - Southampton wards 2024/25

Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



Alcohol Affected crime by day and time of occurrence: April 2024 to March 2025

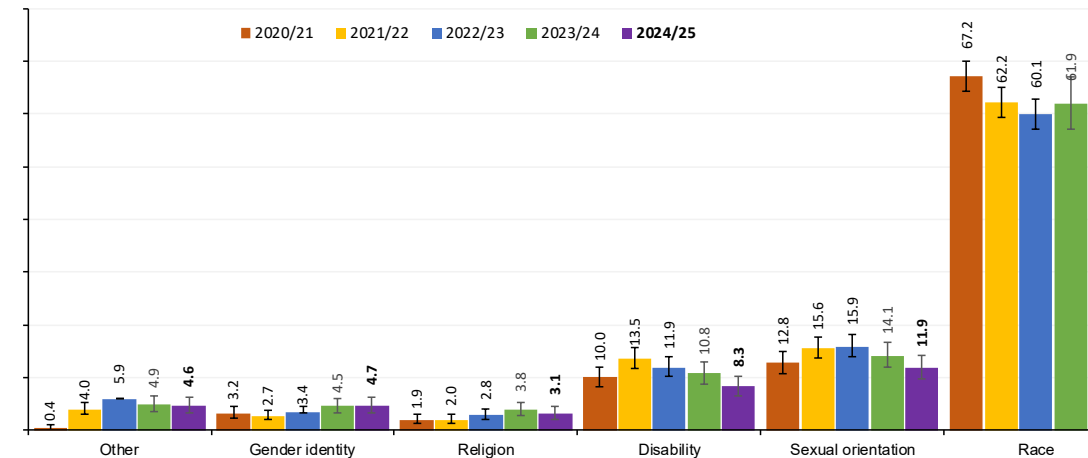
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary



Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

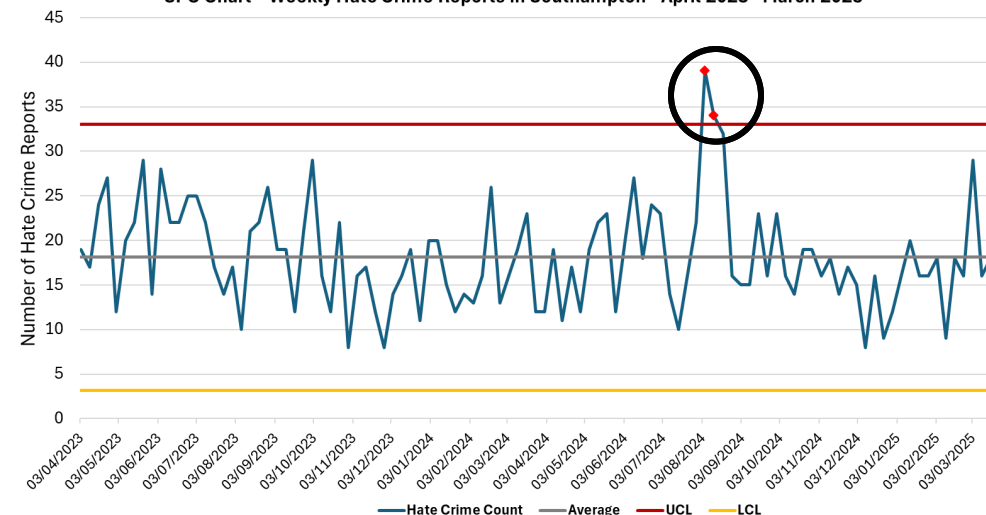


Reported Hate Crime in Southampton by motivating factor



Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary. Note: percentages will not sum to 100% as hate crimes can have more than 1 motivating factor

SPC Chart – Weekly Hate Crime Reports in Southampton - April 2023 - March 2025



- **Race** continues to be the largest **motivating factor of hate crime** in Southampton, followed by **sexual orientation** and **disability**
- There were **944 recorded hate crime offences** in Southampton during **2024/25**, a **-0.4%** decline from **2023/24**
- In 2024/25, **public order offences** accounted for **42.9%** of hate crimes (down from 48.7% last year), while violence without injury rose to 41.8% (up from 34.5% last year). Violence with injury remained similar to the figures from 2023/24 at 8.9%. **This indicates that a greater share of hate crimes are violent crimes**, which explains the **+21.4% increase** in the severity of hate crimes in Southampton over the last year
- There were two weeks in August 2024 where **hate crime levels rose significantly** above the usual range. This **mirrors national spikes** seen at the same time, which were linked to **unrest** and **protests** following the Southport murders
- There have been a number of **anti-immigration** and **counter protests** in Southampton over the last year and into the 2025/26 reporting year, with these protests having the potential to fuel community tension. Therefore, it will be important for the Partnership to **monitor community tensions** and changes in hate crime patterns



Resident Views on Community Safety



- Regulations state that strategic assessments must take into account views of people living and working in the city
- Southampton Community Safety Survey ran from **19th August to 15th September 2025**
- The total number of valid responses for the survey was **1,456**
- Survey promoted by Southampton City Council and Southampton People's Panel - survey was entirely online
- Due to the self-selecting nature of an online survey participants may have more interest in community safety issues than the general population, and possibly different views
- Results presented are based on unweighted data to enable comparisons with previous years
- Due to methodological and demographic differences between surveys; especially in age of respondents, any differences should be interpreted with caution



Who were the respondents?

Total responses | 1,456

Route to provide feedback:

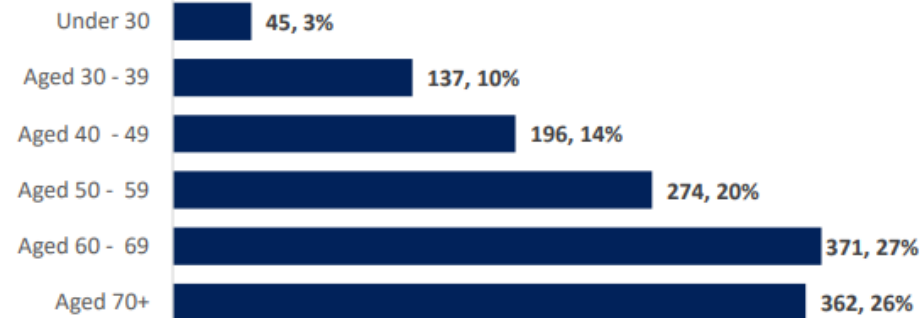
People's Panel | 943
Public link | 513

Graphs on this page are shown as count, percentage.

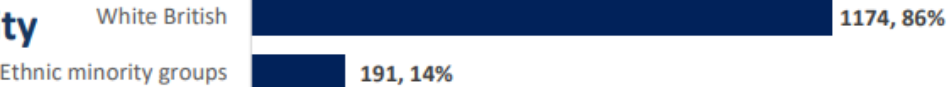
Gender



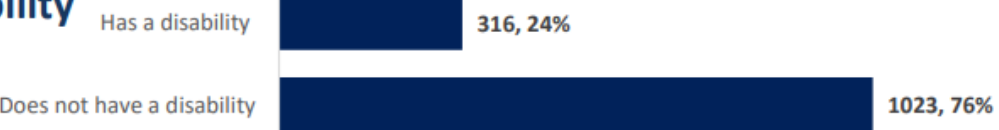
Age



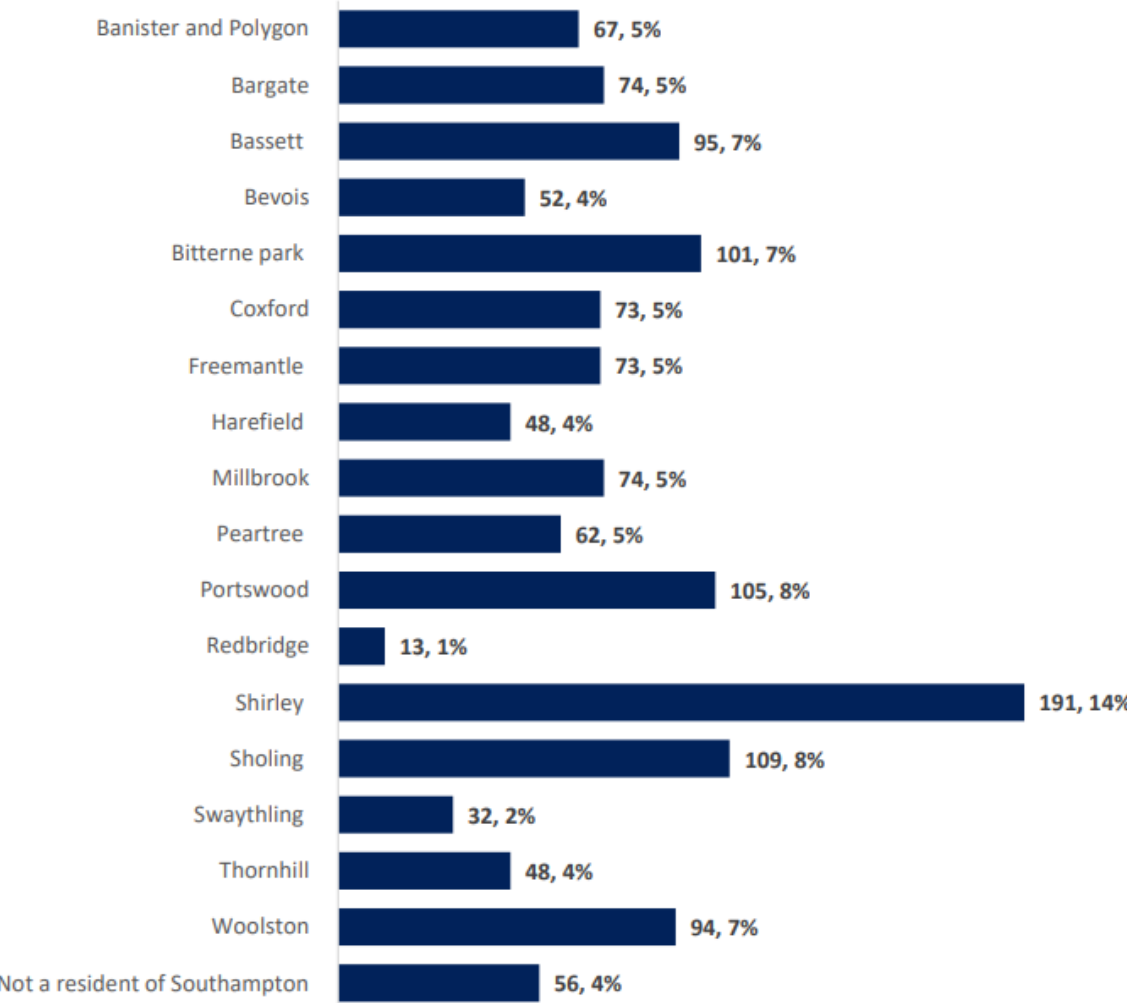
Ethnicity



Disability



Ward



Source: Southampton Community Safety Survey (2025)



Community cohesion and confidence

- **54%** agree people from different backgrounds get on well together (down from 59%)
- Under-30s remain least positive (47% agree)
- Confidence in the Partnership continues to fall – **15%** agree it is dealing with crime and ASB effectively, while **59%** disagree.

Perceptions of crime and safety

- **59%** believe crime has increased locally, up from 54% last year
- Feelings of safety have declined, especially in the **city centre**:
 - **52%** feel safe in the day (62% last year)
 - **63% feel unsafe after dark** (56% last year)
- Females feel particularly unsafe in parks/open spaces after dark (**88% unsafe**)
- People with disabilities also report lower feelings of safety across all settings

Behaviour change and priorities

- Among those who feel unsafe, **70%** have changed their behaviour in the last month.
- Main issues perceived locally: **ASB (69%), drug use/dealing (65%), youth crime (59%)**
- What would help: **greater police presence (83%)**, better reporting and follow-up (65%), and more support for people who are homeless (63%)

Victim experience and reporting

- **62%** had not been a victim of crime or ASB
- ASB is the most common experience (63% witnessed; 20% victim)
- Witnessing drug use/dealing is common (60%), but personal victimisation is low (4%)
- Reporting remains low across most issues; highest for **cyber crime (46%)** and **fraud (45%)**, lowest for **aggressive begging (7%)**



Local Area



✓ 72%

✗ 21%



✓ 39%

✗ 48%



City Centre



✓ 52%

✗ 34%



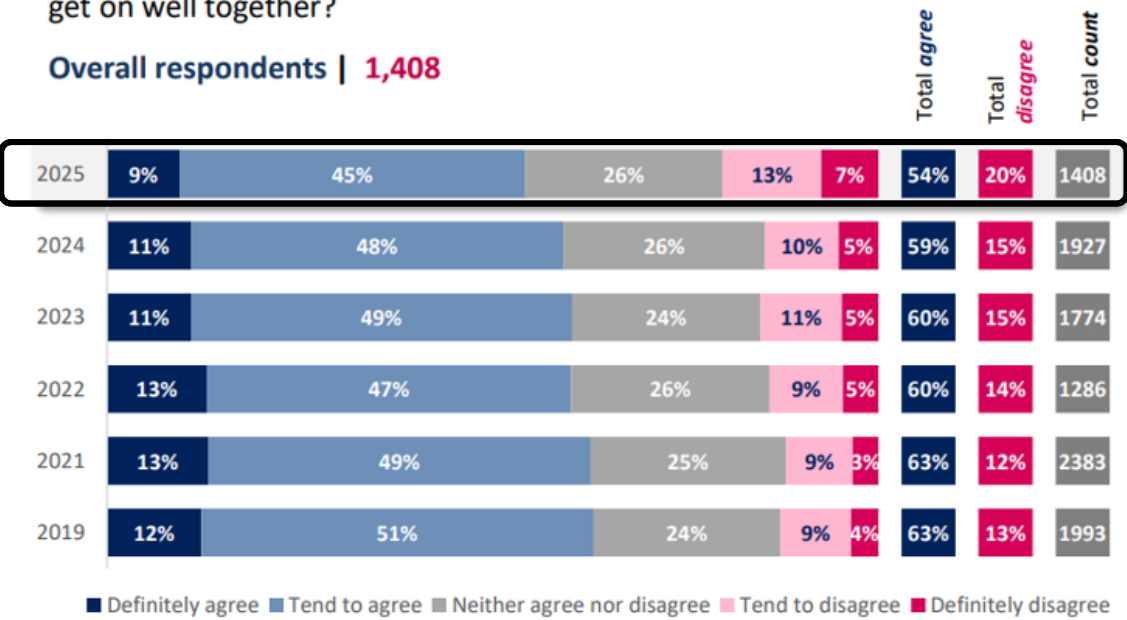
✓ 23%

✗ 63%



Question: To what extent do you agree or disagree that your local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together?

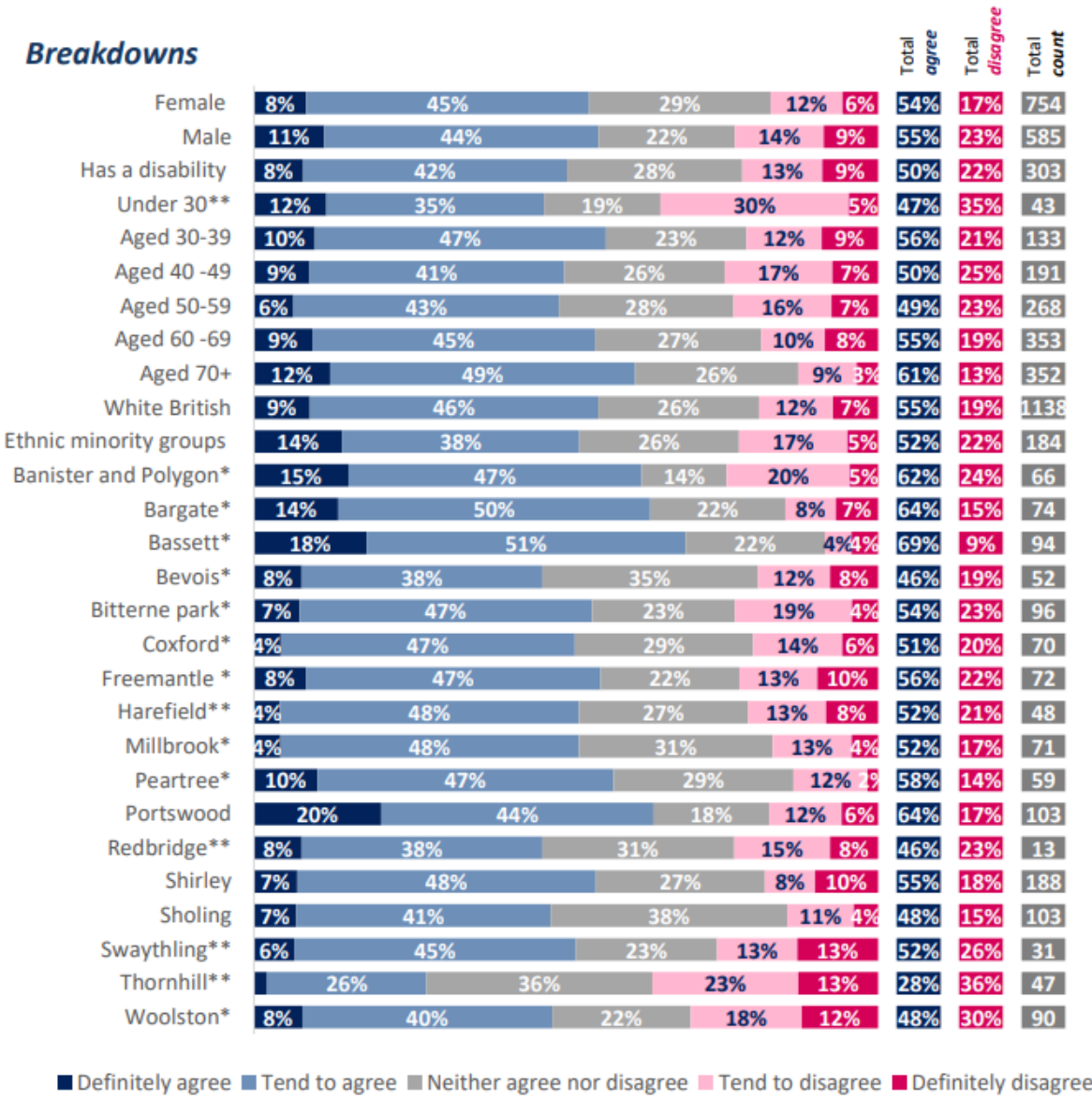
Overall respondents | 1,408



Source: Southampton Community Safety Survey (2025)

- **Majority (54%) agree** that people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area. This has declined over the last few years
- **Older age categories** found to have **more agreement**
- **Bassett** ward reported the highest level of agreement (69%)

Breakdowns



*Fewer than 100 respondents. **Fewer than 50 respondents.
Source: Southampton Community Safety Survey (2025)

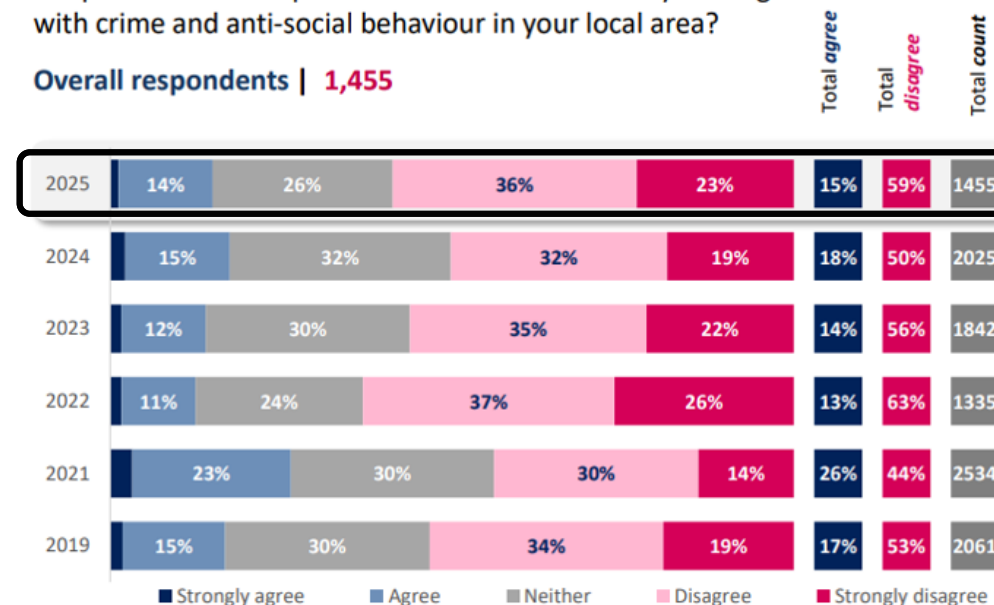


Question: To what extent would you agree or disagree that the police and other public services are successfully dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour in your local area?

- Just **15%** of respondents **agreed** that the **Partnership** were **successfully dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour in their local areas**, a **-3 percentage point decrease** compared to the 2024 survey
- More than half (59%)** of respondents continue to **disagree** with this statement; **an increase in disagreement** compared to the 2024 survey
- Overall, confidence levels appear to have returned to similar levels recorded before the pandemic, but remain lower than that recorded during the pandemic
- However, it is important to note that **public perceptions** of how the Partnership are dealing with crime and ASB can be **influenced by**:
 - High profile national events**, particularly around VAWG
 - The **visibility of officers**, for example being higher during the coronavirus pandemic
 - Social media** and the **digital presence** of the police, council and other public services

Question: To what extent would you agree or disagree that the police and other public services are successfully dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour in your local area?

Overall respondents | **1,455**



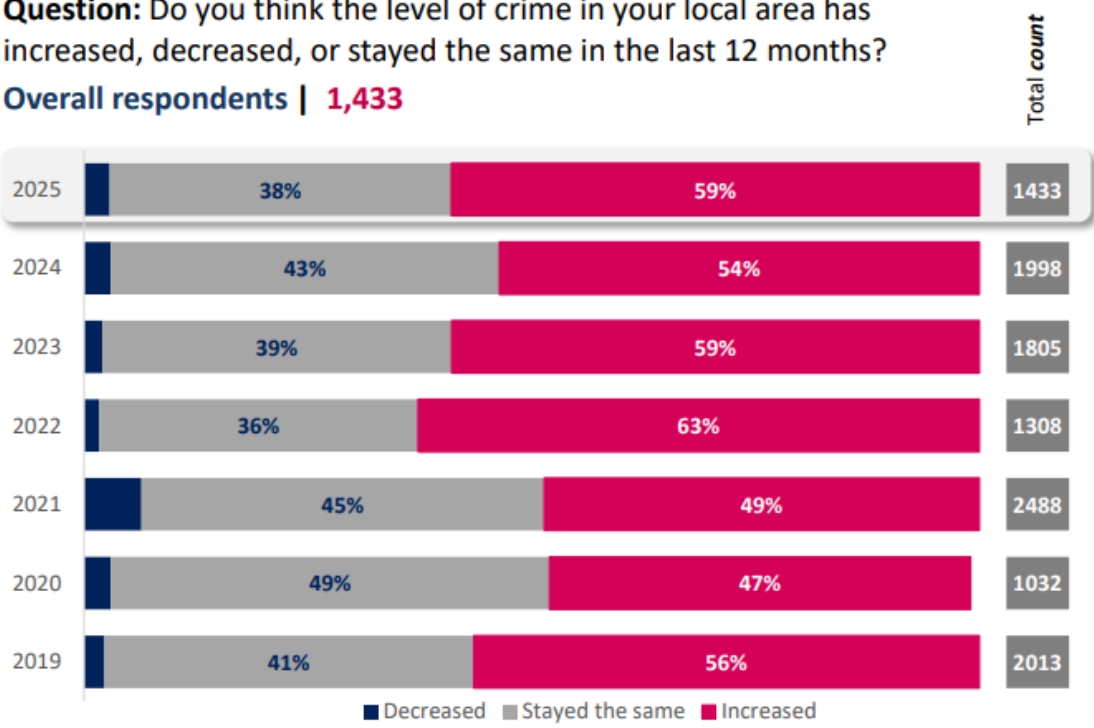
Southampton Community Safety Survey (2025)

- Levels of agreement and disagreement were **fairly consistent** between different demographic groups and wards



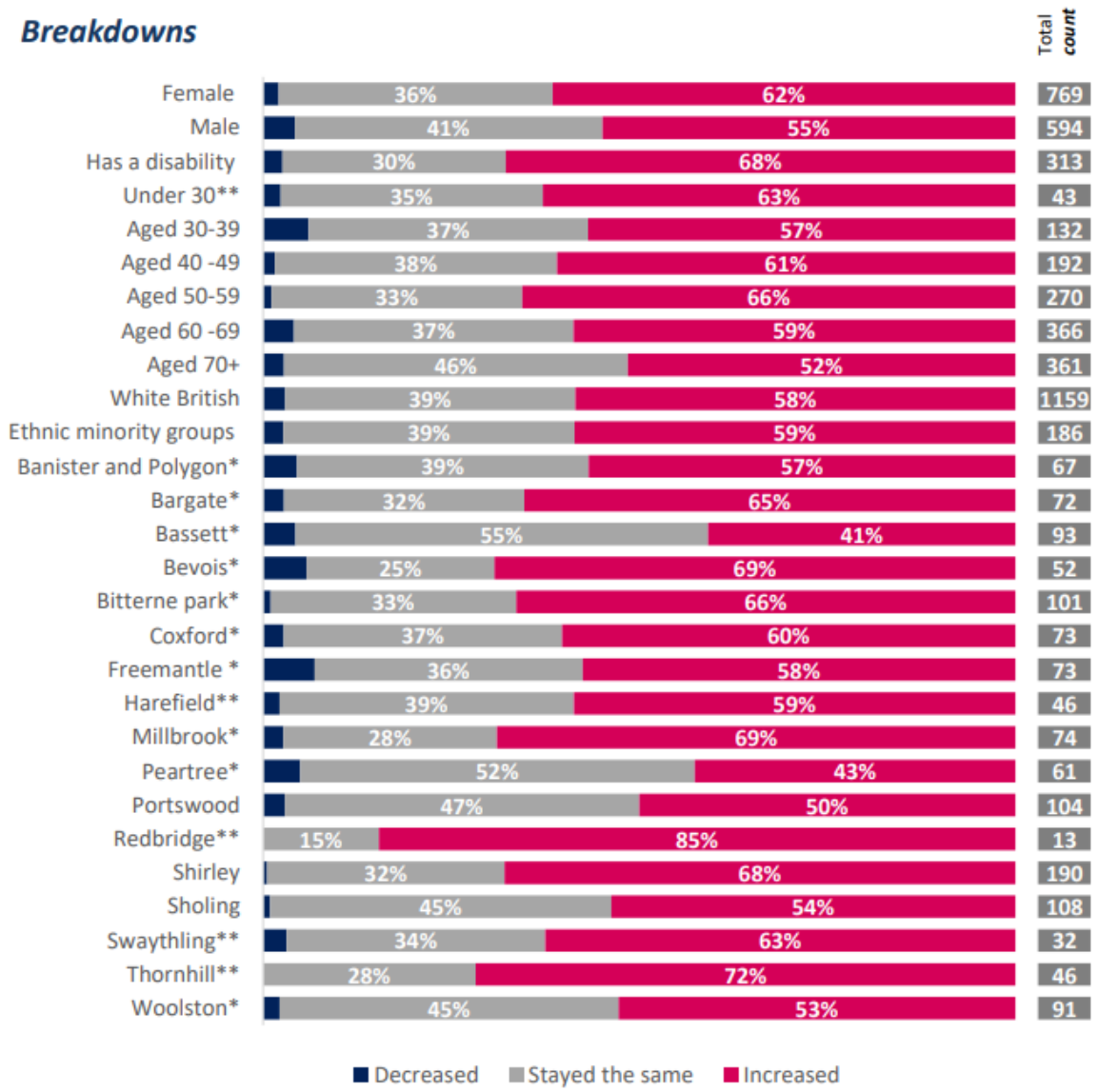
Question: Do you think the level of crime in your local area has increased, decreased, or stayed the same in the last 12 months?

Overall respondents | 1,433



- **59% of respondents felt crime had increased in their local area;** higher than the previous year, and similar to the level recorded in 2023 (59%)
- **A higher percentages of females (62%)** said that **crime increased** in their local area **compared to males (55%)**
- **Redbridge** had the largest response for increased level of crime (85%, based on a small number of responses), followed by **Thornhill (72%), Millbrook (69%)** and **Bevois (69%)** wards

Breakdowns



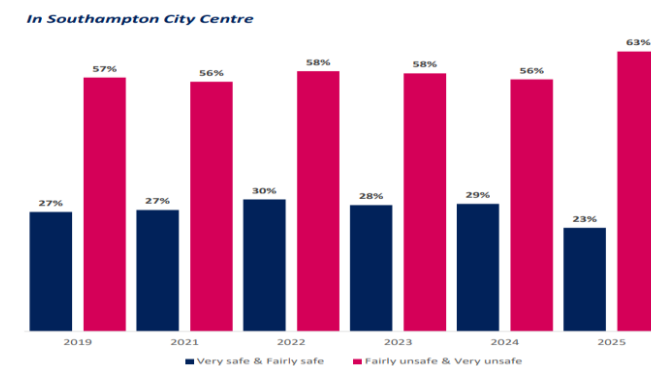
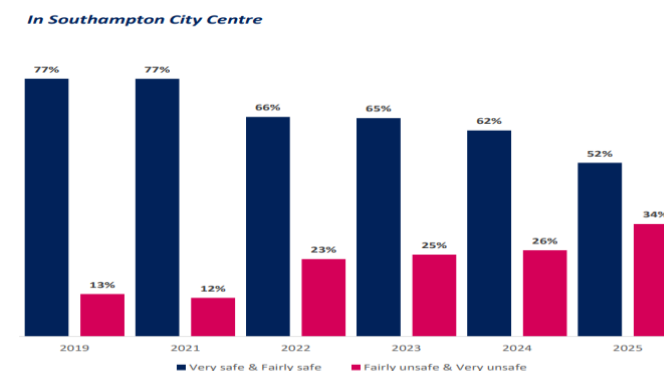
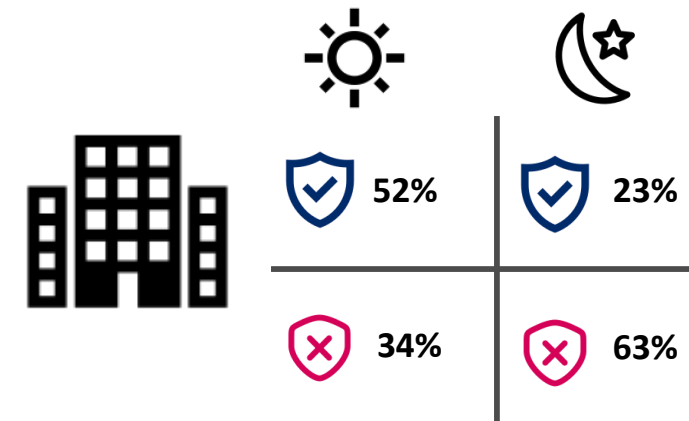
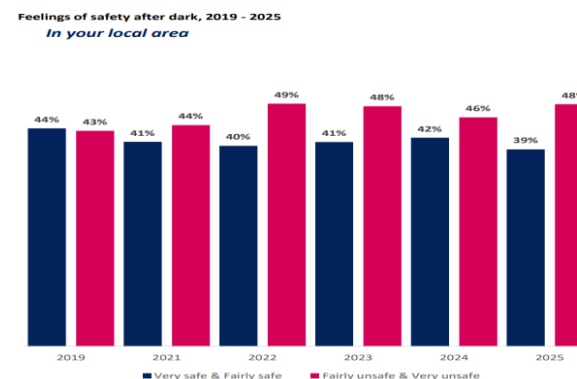
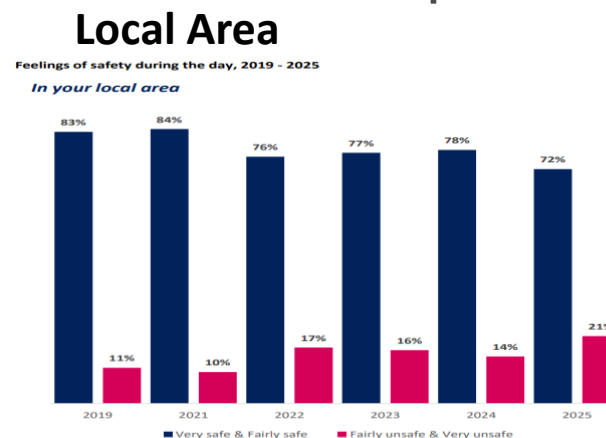
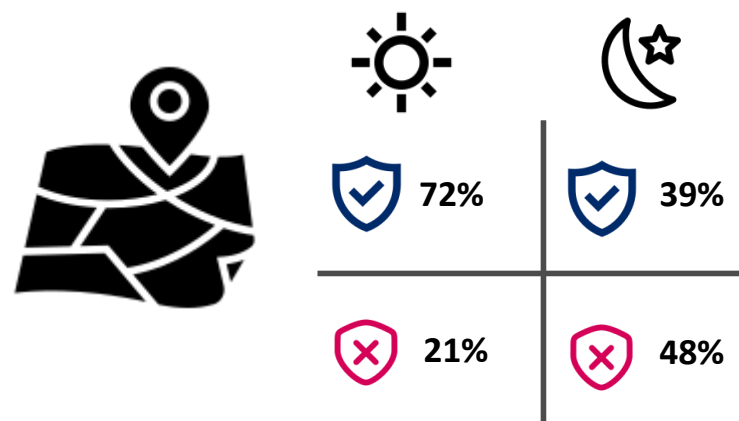
*Fewer than 100 respondents. **Fewer than 50 respondents.



Feelings of safety (1)

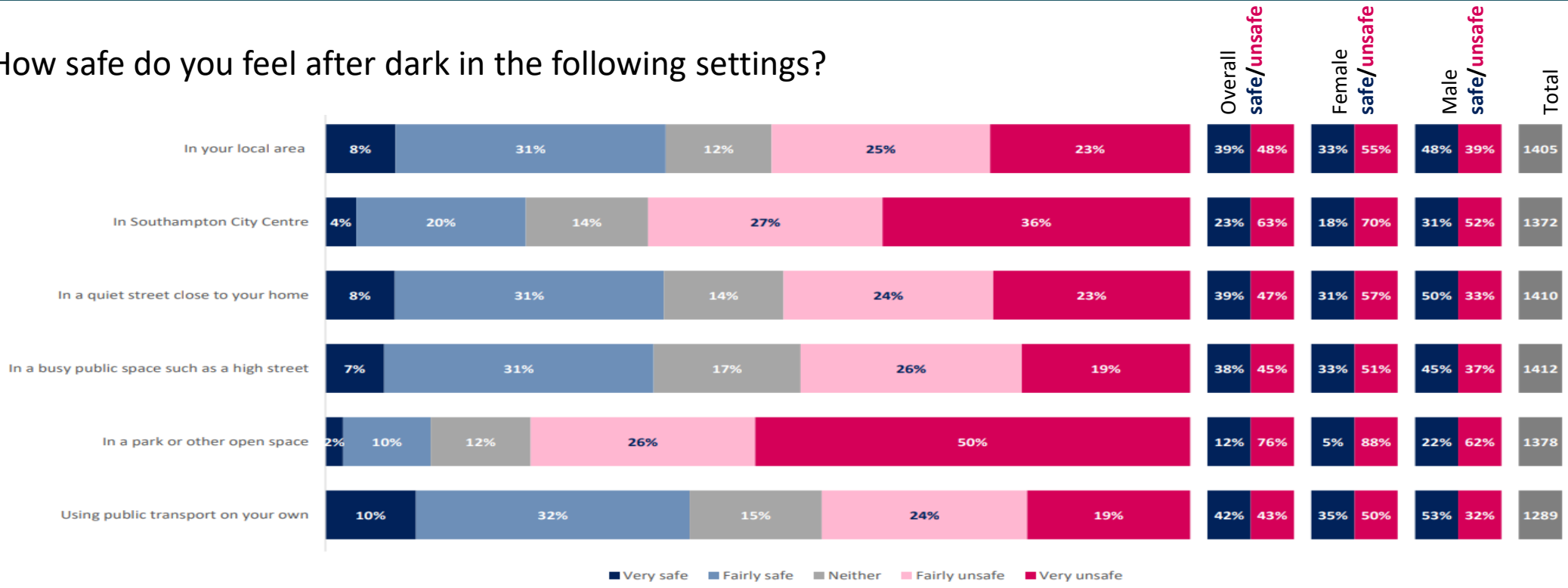
Question: How safe do you feel during the day and after dark in the following settings?

- The **majority** of respondents **felt safe during the day** in both **their local area (72%)** and in the **city centre (52%)**
- However, **feelings of safety continue to be lower after dark**;
- 39%** of respondents **felt safe after dark** in their **local area** and **23%** in the **city centre**
- Feelings of safety continue to decline each year, remaining **substantial issue** in Southampton
- Female respondents felt significantly less safe across all settings after dark compared to males**
- 70% of respondents who felt unsafe** (in any setting) had **altered their behaviour** in the last month as a result of feeling unsafe





Question: How safe do you feel after dark in the following settings?



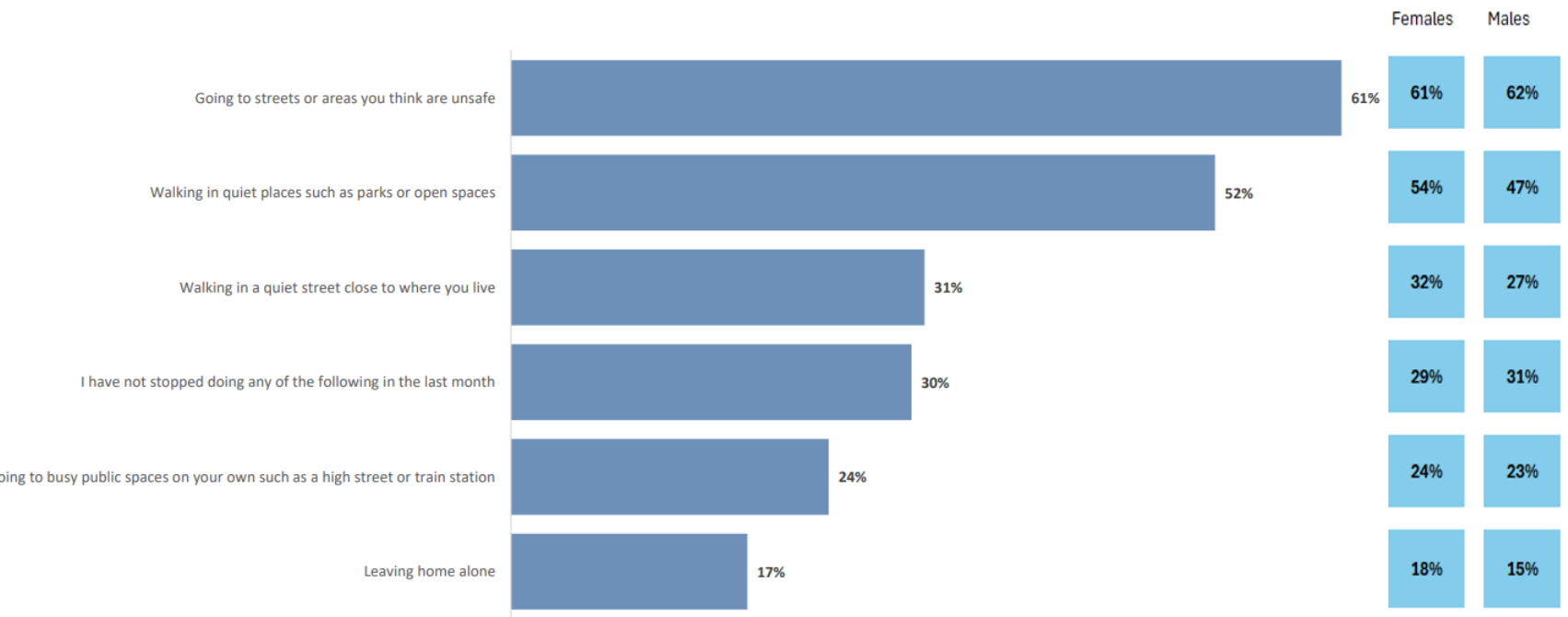
- Female respondents felt significantly less safe across all settings after dark compared to males
- Approximately a third (33%) of females felt safe in their local area after dark compared to almost half of males (48%)
- Less than a one fifth of females (18%) felt safe in the city centre after dark compared to around a third (31%) of males
- Respondents with a disability also felt significantly less safe across all settings in comparison to the total respondent average
- Respondents felt the most unsafe in parks and open spaces after dark, with just 12% of respondents feeling safe in this setting; 5% of females felt safe compared to 22% of males



Question: If you feel unsafe, have you stopped doing any of the following activities in the last month?

*This question was asked only of those that responded either fairly unsafe or very unsafe for any settings

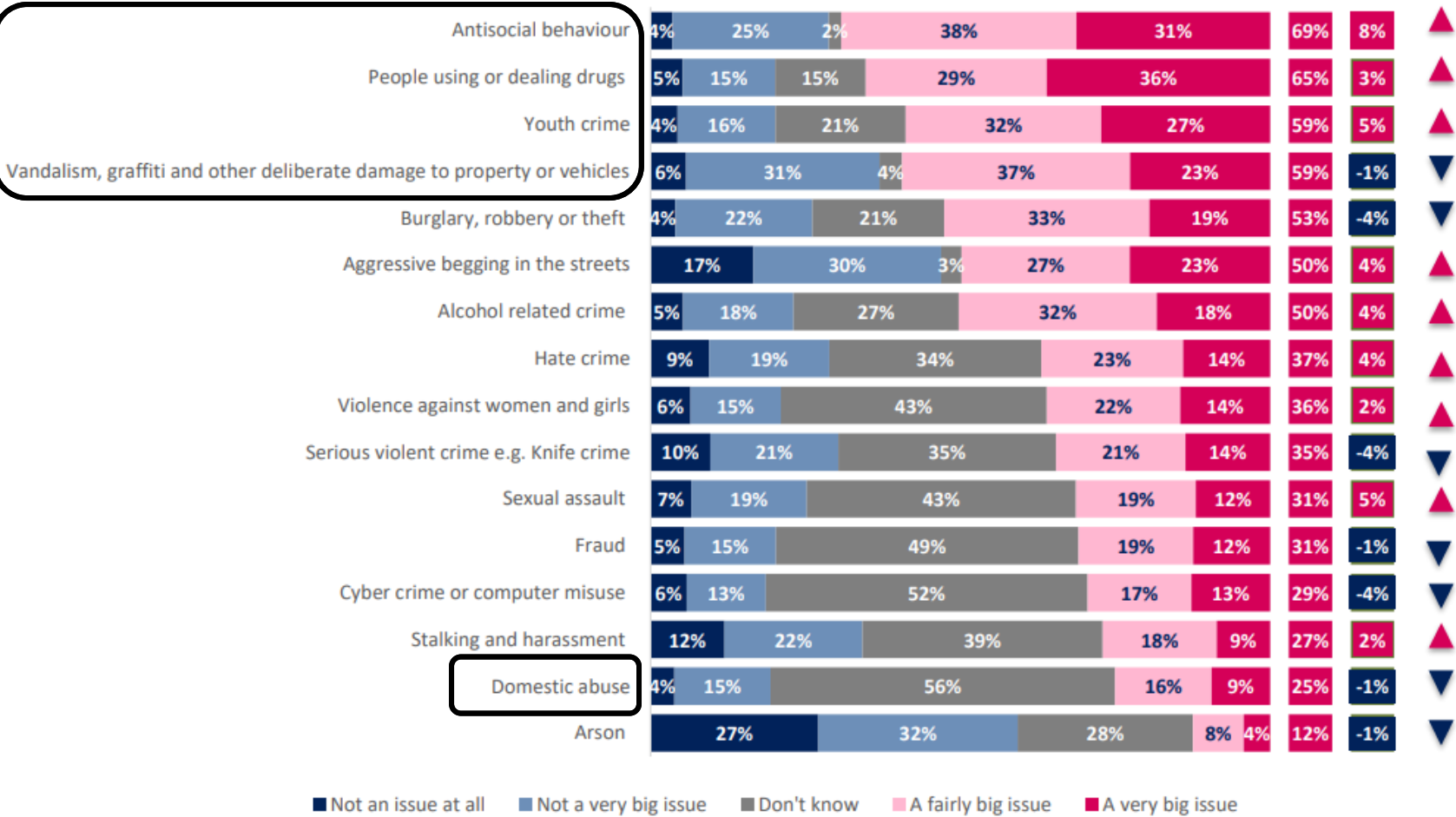
Respondents* | 1, 144



- Respondents who indicated that they had felt unsafe in any of the settings were then asked if they had changed their behaviour;
- Of those respondents that felt unsafe **70%** said that they had **changed their behaviour** in the last month **as a result of feeling unsafe**
- The **most common behaviour change** was that respondents *stopped going to streets or areas they feel are unsafe (61%)* and *stopped walking in quiet places such as parks or open spaces (52%)*
- **80%** of respondents **with a disability** said that they had **changed their behaviour**, significantly higher than the total respondent average



Question: Thinking of your local area, how much of an issue do you think each of the following are?

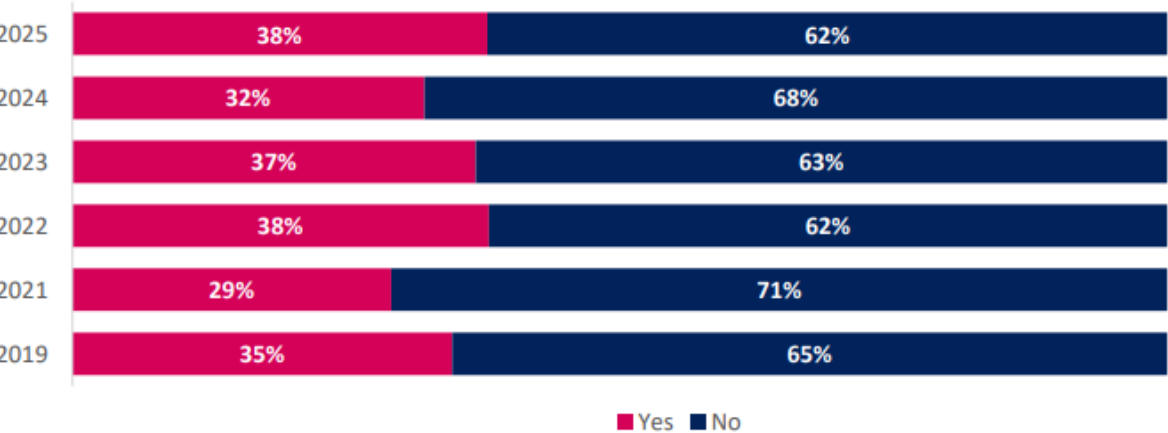


- The biggest perceived community safety issues were **anti-social behaviour** (69%), **people using or dealing drugs** (65%), **youth crime** (59%), **vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage** (59%) and **burglary, robbery or theft** (53%).
- It is important to highlight that **people's perceptions** of issues are likely **influenced by the visibility** of crime, personal **experiences** and the **media**
- Compared to the 2024 survey, **9 out of 16 crimes** showed **percentage point increases** in the proportion of respondents reporting these categories as an issue in 2024
- **Large proportions** of respondents answered '**don't know**' when asked about the **key and priority issues**; for example 56% 'don't know' for domestic abuse
- This highlights an **opportunity to increase awareness** of these issues, which could lead to **improvements in reporting**



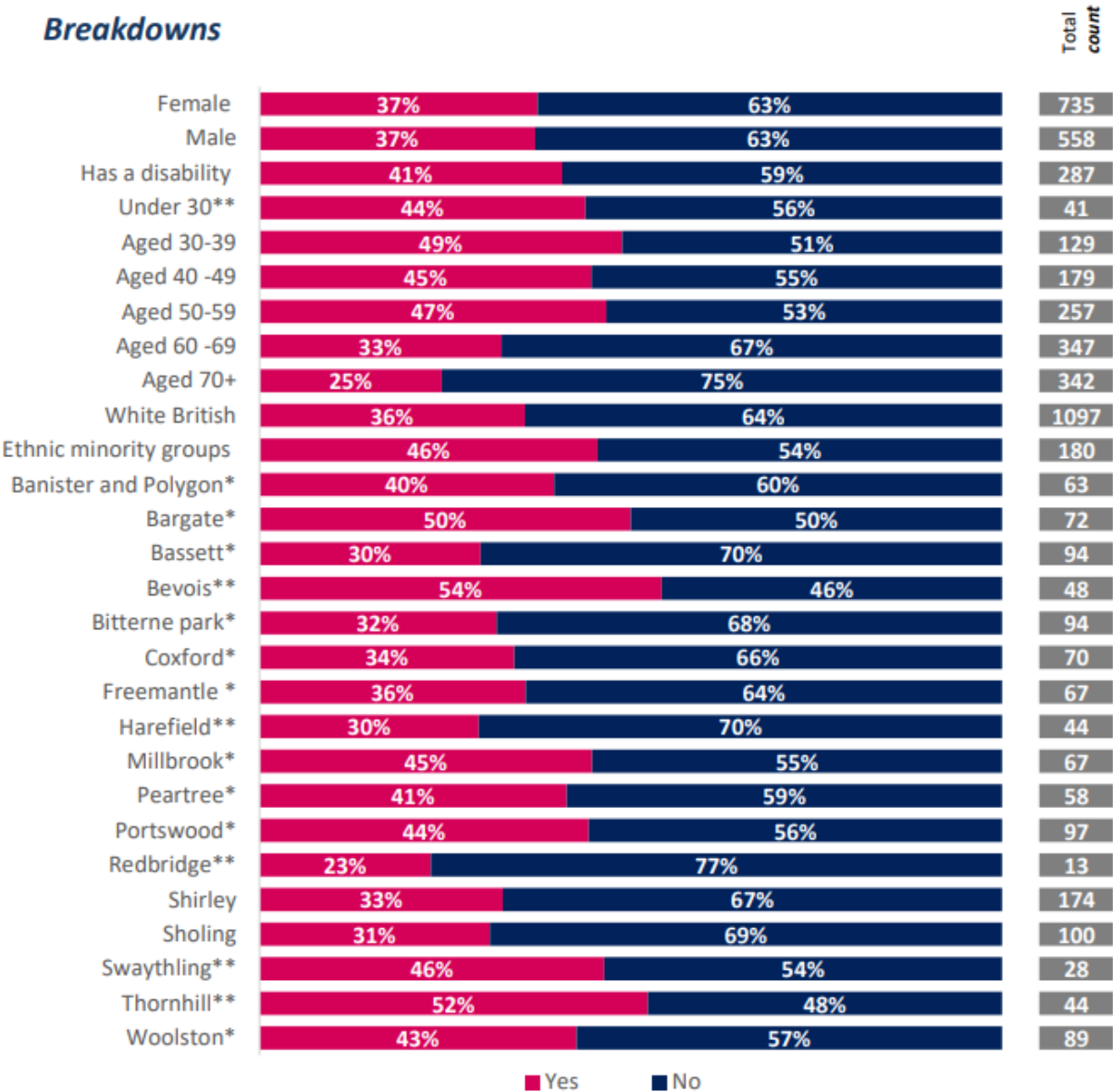
Question: Have you been a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour in Southampton in the last 12 months?

Overall respondents | 1,346



- The **majority of respondents (62%) had not been a victim** of crime or ASB in the last 12 months
- Respondents aged **18 to 59 years** were **more likely** to be a victim of crime or ASB, which is **in keeping with [victim age profiling](#)**
- Respondents from **Bevois (54%), Thornhill (52%) and Bargate (50%)** were **more likely** to have experienced crime or ASB in the last 12 months

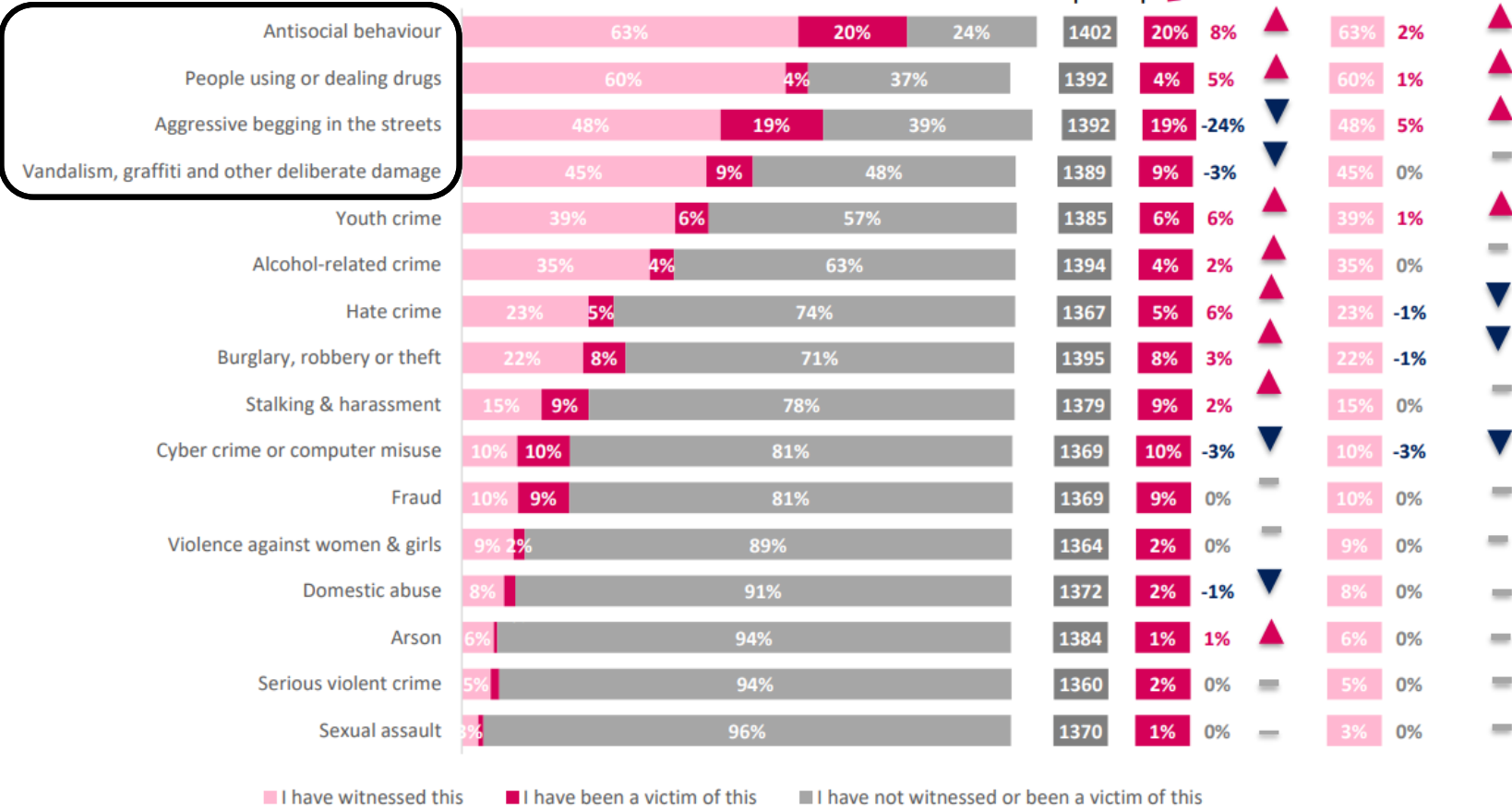
Breakdowns



*Fewer than 100 respondents. **Fewer than 50 respondents.



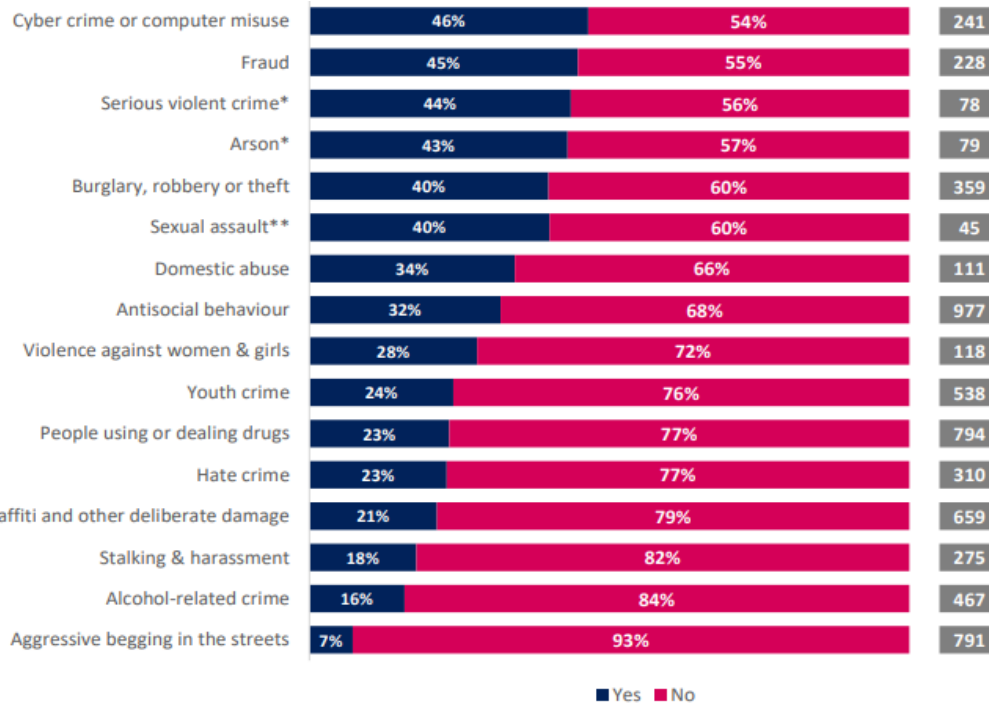
Question: Which of the following best describes your experience of crime and antisocial behaviour in the last 12 months? *multiple-choice question*



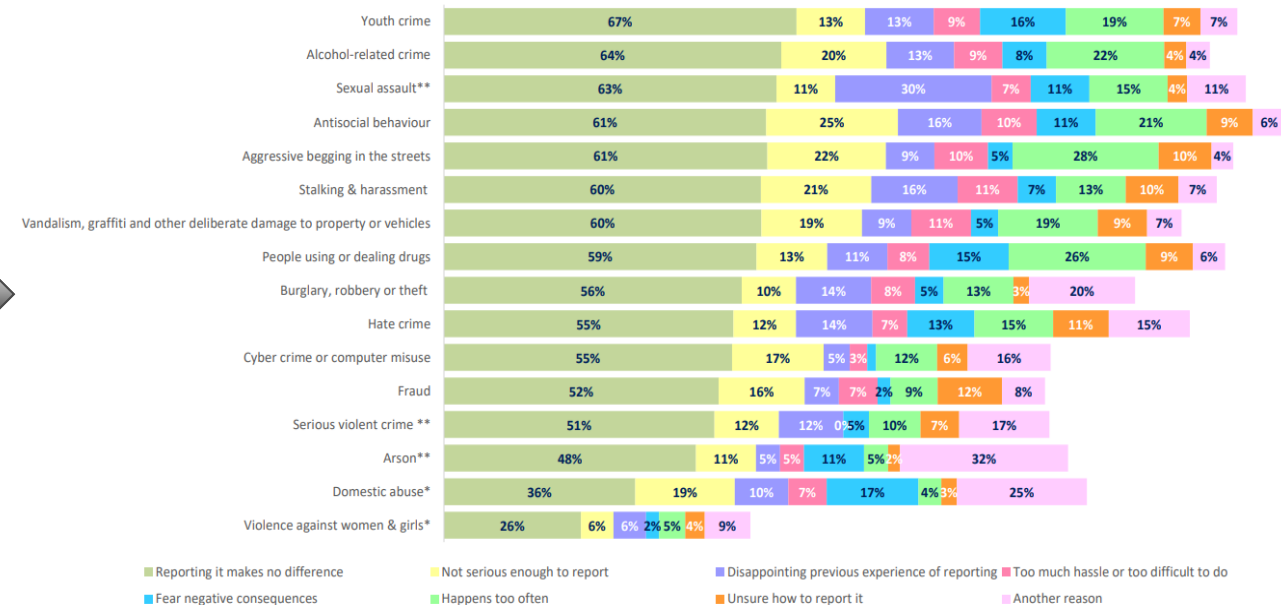
- Anti-social behaviour, people using or dealing drugs, aggressive begging in the streets, and vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage continue to be the most commonly witnessed and/or experienced by respondents
- This is in line with police recorded crime, with high volume but lower harm offences most common (e.g. vandalism/graffiti and ASB). These offences are some of the most visible
- Low volume but high harm offences were less commonly witnessed or experienced by respondents (e.g. sexual assault and serious violent crime)
- Important to note that the survey is self-selecting and certain offence types are more 'hidden' than others e.g. domestic abuse compared with vandalism/graffiti



Question: Did you report the incident(s)



Question: If you didn't report the incident(s), please tell us why? *Multiple-choice*



- **Half of respondents did not report incidents when witnessed or experienced for all crime types.** This is particularly concerning for high harm and priority offence groups such as **hate crime (77%)**, **sexual assault (60%)**, **VAWG (72%)**, **domestic abuse (66%)** and **serious violent crime (56%)**
- **Compared to the 2024 survey, reporting has generally increased across most crime types**, which is a positive trend. The only exceptions are **fraud**, which saw a -7 percentage point decrease in reporting, and **VAWG**, which decreased by -3 percentage points
- **Reporting it makes no difference** was the most frequently cited reason for not reporting crimes across all crime types. Although **not serious enough to report**, **disappointing previous experience of reporting**, **fear of negative consequences** and **happens too often** were other common reasons for not reporting crimes



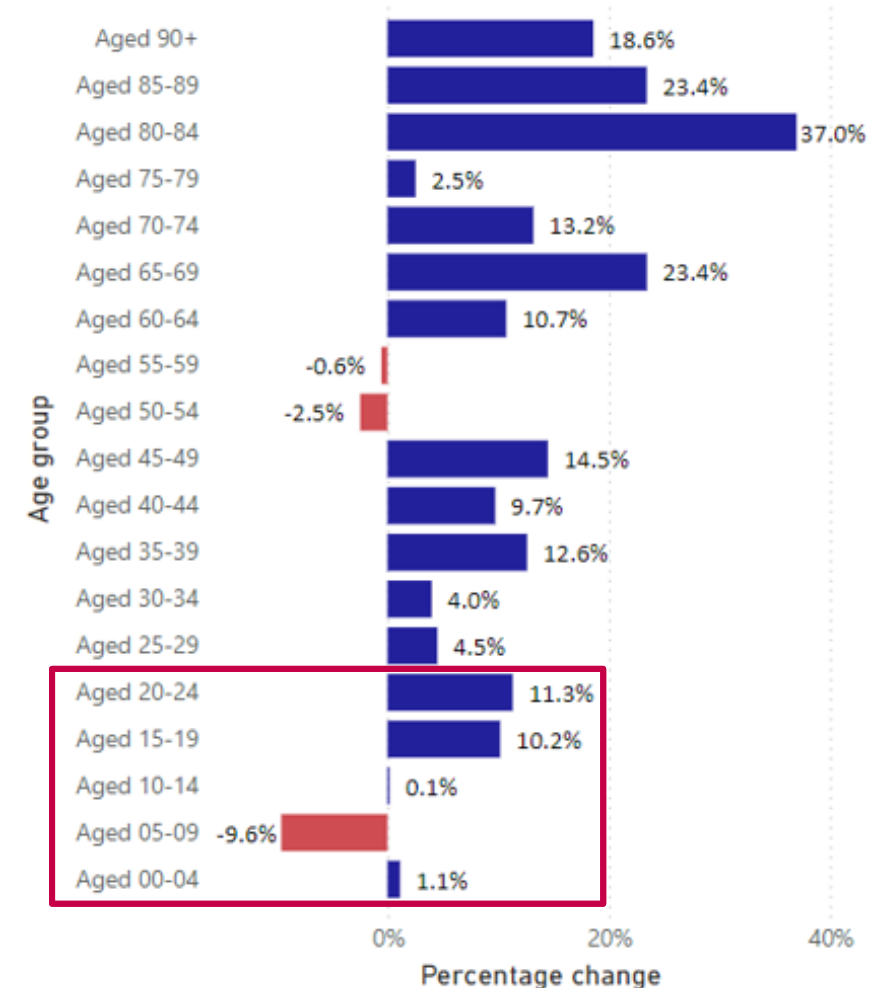
Wider determinants of crime



- Young people are at a disproportionately higher risk of becoming involved in crime, either as a victim or offender
- Population aged 10 to 24 years forecast to grow by +8.5% in Southampton by 2030:
 - 10-14 year old population forecast to increase by +0.1%
 - 15-19 population forecast to increase by +10.2%
 - 20-24 year old population forecast to increase by +11.3%
- Moreover, a younger population may lead to an increase in offending and/or victimisation
- However, early interventions have the capacity to offset some of this expected increase, by preventing young people becoming involved in crime

Percentage change in population between 2023 and 2030
Southampton

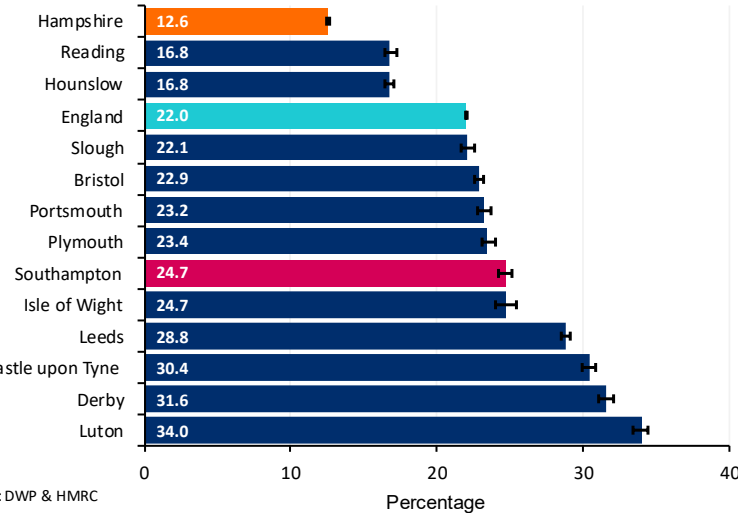
Source: HCC SAPF 2023 - based





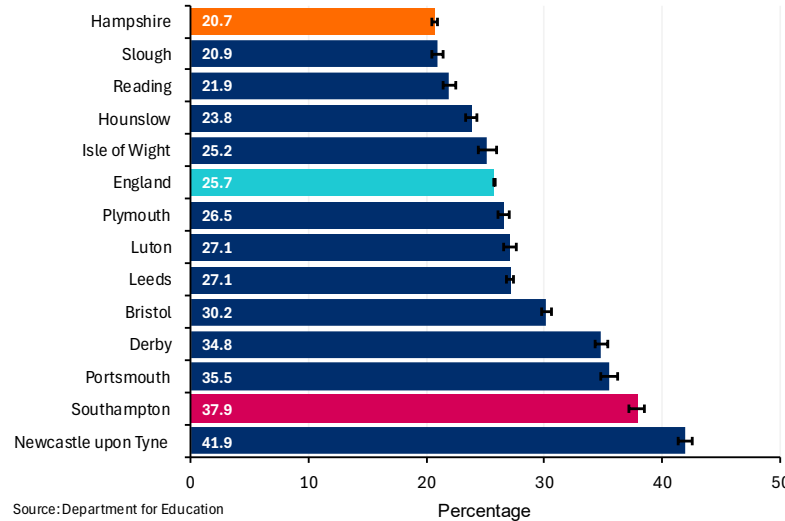
- **11.7% of Southampton's population** live in the **10% most deprived areas nationally**, this rises to **15.3% for under 16s**. Suggesting deprivation has a disproportionate impact on young people in the city
- Children who live in poverty are at greater risk of becoming involved in crime, either as victim or perpetrator
- **24.7%** of children in Southampton were **living in relative low income families** in 2023/24
- **Southampton** is ranked among the **most deprived 20% of Local Authorities for Income Deprivation Affecting Children (50th / 296)**
- **12,967 (37.9%)** of Southampton **pupils** in state funded schools are known to be **eligible for free school meals**, significantly higher than the **England average of 25.7%** in **2024/25**
- The proportion of children eligible for **free school meals** in Southampton has continued to increase; having been **30.4% in 2020/21**, **33.0% in 2021/22** and **34% in 2022/24**. However, some of this increase will in part be due to 'protected' status of eligible pupils, as a result of increased universal credit rollout during the coronavirus pandemic

Percentage of children (aged under 16) living in relative low-income families, Southampton and iQuanta comparators: 2023/24

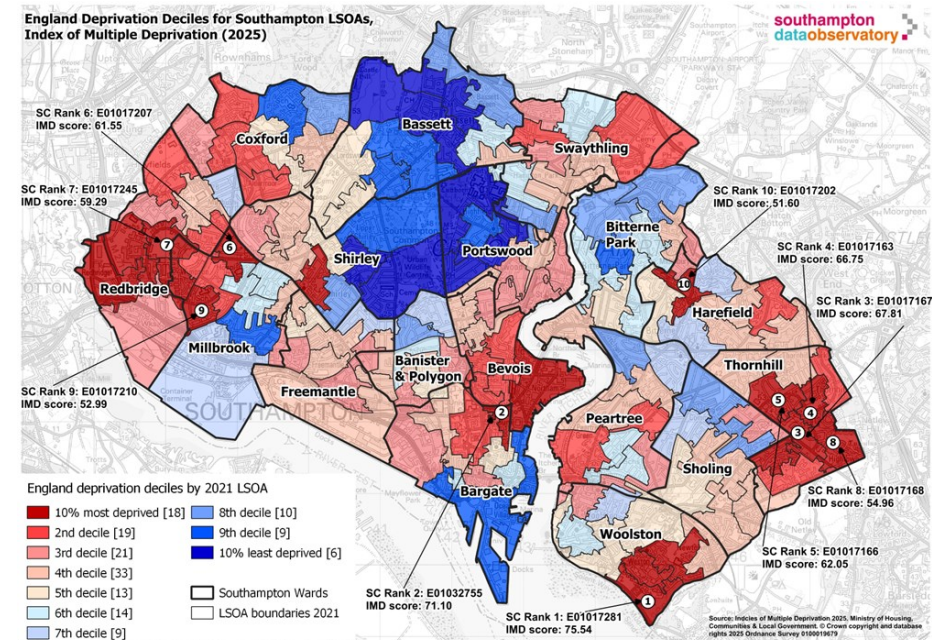


Source: DWP & HMRC

Percentage of children eligible for free school meals, Southampton and iQuanta comparators: 2024/25



Source: Department for Education





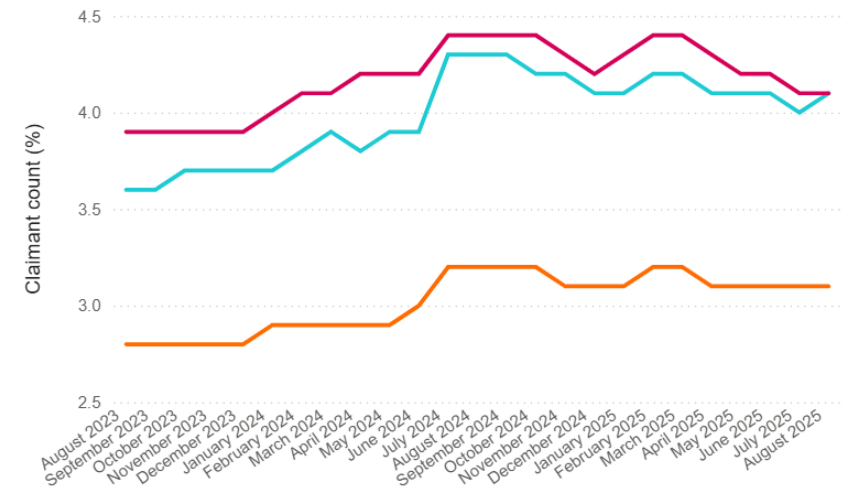
Claimant Count

- As of August 2025, **4.1% (7,295)** of the working age population were **claiming out of work benefits** in Southampton
- Additionally, unemployment is not **evenly distributed** across the city, with those living in the **most deprived neighbourhoods impacted the most**
- The chart to the right shows the trend in claimant count from August 2023 to August 2025
- The map to the right show the claimant count across Southampton neighbourhoods (LSOAs) for August 2025

Claimants as a proportion of residents aged 16-64 (Total) - Southampton, England, South East: August-2023 to August-2025

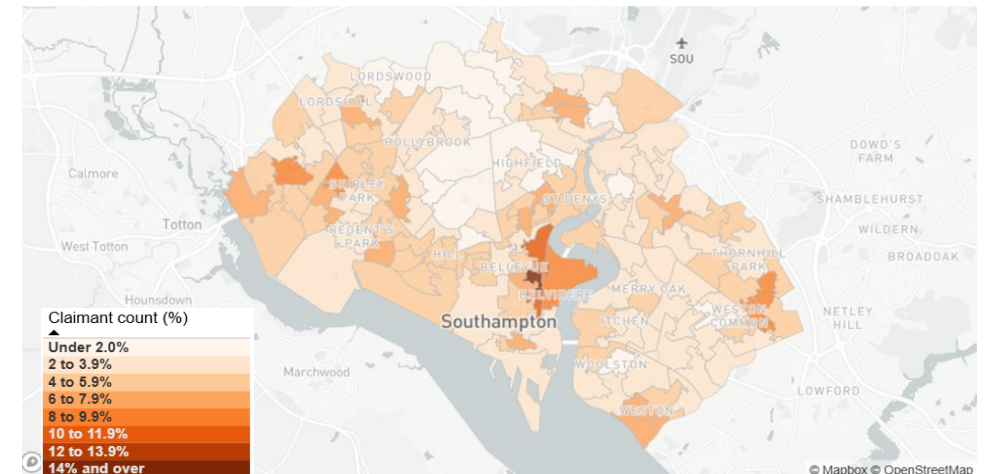
Source: DWP via Nomis

Area: ● England ● South East ● Southampton



Claimant count (total) as a percentage of the working age population by LSOA: August-2025

Source: DWP via Nomis

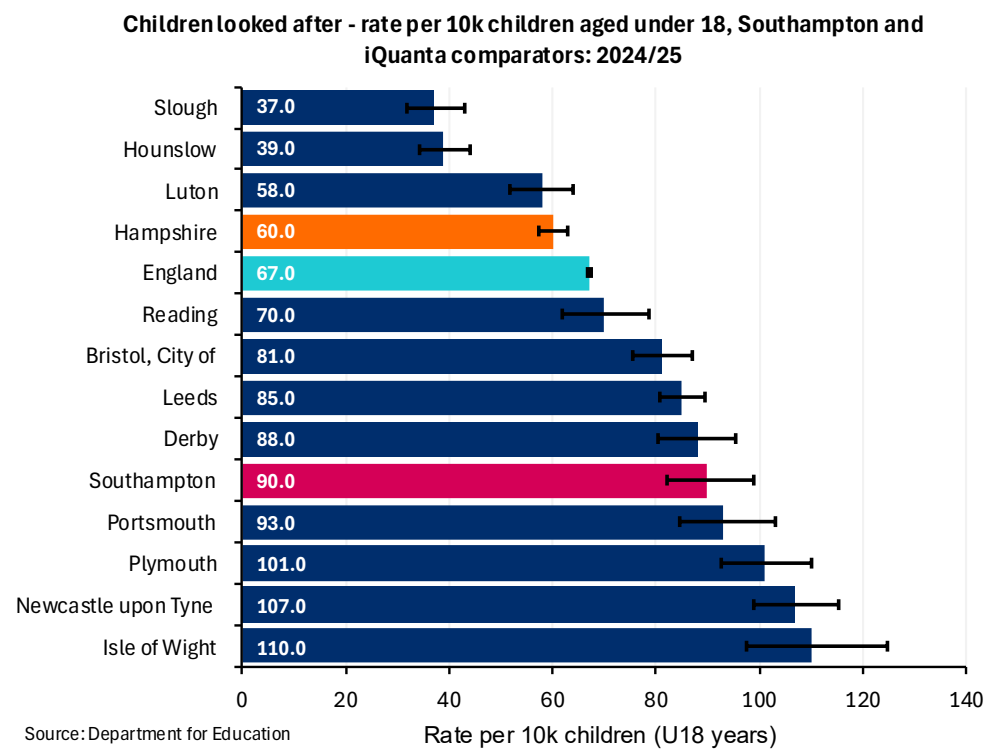




- Children experiencing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are at higher risk of poorer outcomes. Particularly those relating to crime, education and health

Examples of ACEs:

- Emotional, physical and sexual abuse
- Emotional or physical neglect
- Observed or experienced domestic violence
- Parental abandonment through separation or divorce
- Living with household members who are/were substance abusers, mentally ill, suicidal or imprisoned
- Household member in prison
- Bullying or exposure to community or collective violence





Summary



- **Southampton** remains one of the **worst ranking CSPs** among iQuanta comparators, with **crime rates** and **severity** well **above the national average**
- Total recorded **crime declined by -4.0%** in 2024/25;
- Counting-rule impacts are now smaller, so comparisons with 2023/24 are more reliable, though some influence remains for violent crime, domestic offences and stalking and harassment
- **Priority areas** continue to be **sexual offences, violent crime** and **domestic offences**. **ASB** entered the **top priorities** for the **first time** after increases in volume over the last year
- Harm patterns **shifted slightly** this year. **Rape** and **violence with injury** remained major contributors, but other **sexual offences overtook residential burglary** as the **third-highest contributor** to overall harm
- Repeat victimisation and repeat offending remain substantial issues, highlighting the need for continued work with prolific offenders and safeguarding for repeat victims
- **Public confidence** remains low, with only **15% agreeing** that police and local services deal effectively with crime and ASB
- Feelings of **safety after dark** remain a **concern** and are continuing to decline, especially among females and respondents with a disability; many reported avoiding certain areas or parks
- **Reporting remains low**, particularly for higher-harm offences such as sexual assault, domestic abuse, VAWG and hate crime. *“Reporting it makes no difference”* was the most common reason for not reporting
- It is also important to consider the **wider determinants of crime**, because if these **worsen** we may see **subsequent increases** in crime