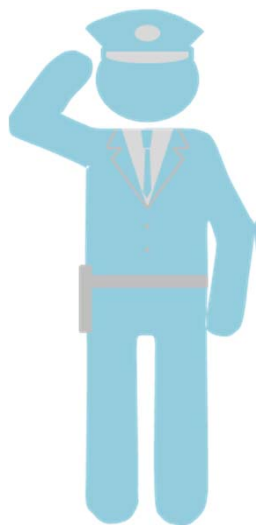# Scottish Crime and Justice Survey

Latest Key Findings and Future Plans
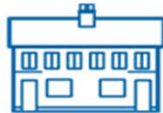
UKDS Crime Surveys User Conference
Nov 2018

Overview

- Survey background (briefly!)

- Key results from 2016/17
  - Extent and prevalence of crime
  - Variation across population
  - Perception of police, justice system and feelings of safety

- Future plans
  - Reporting – 2017/18 and self-completion modules
  - R Shiny
  - Questionnaire
  - Analytical Priorities – Violence and Repeat Victimisation
  - Pooled sample

Survey Method

▶ **Who takes part in the survey?**	around **5,600** adults *(aged 16 & over)* ✓	In private households (incl rented accomodation) ✓	Across Scotland ✓
▶ **Who does not take part in the survey**	Children ✗	Those living in group, residences, institutions or those without a fixed address ✗	Commercial or public sector bodies ✗

How is data collected?

1 A sample of households are randomly selected.

2 An interviewer visits the respondent's home.

3 Participation is voluntary, but is important in helping us make representative estimates for Scotland.

4 Interviews last approximately 40 minutes.

5 The main survey questions are answered verbally and the interviewer inputs information into a computer.

6 An additional section on sensitive issues (such as drug use) is completed privately on a tablet computer.
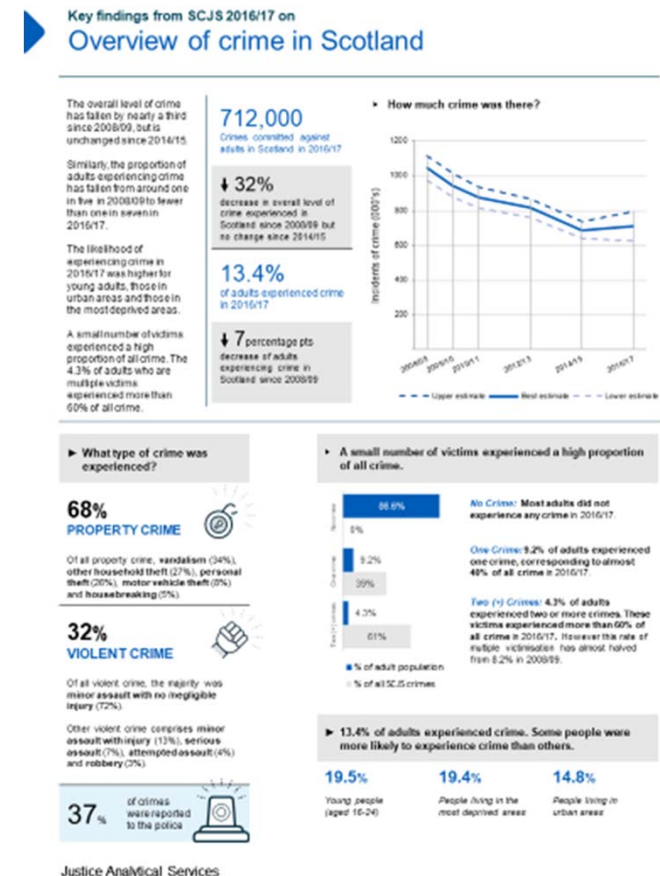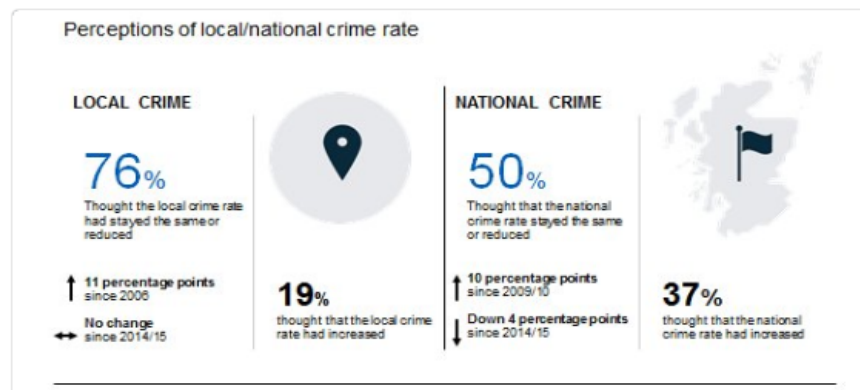
SCJS 2016/17 - Findings

- Main Findings report published in March 2018
  - New report structure, layout and approach
  - Infographic summaries
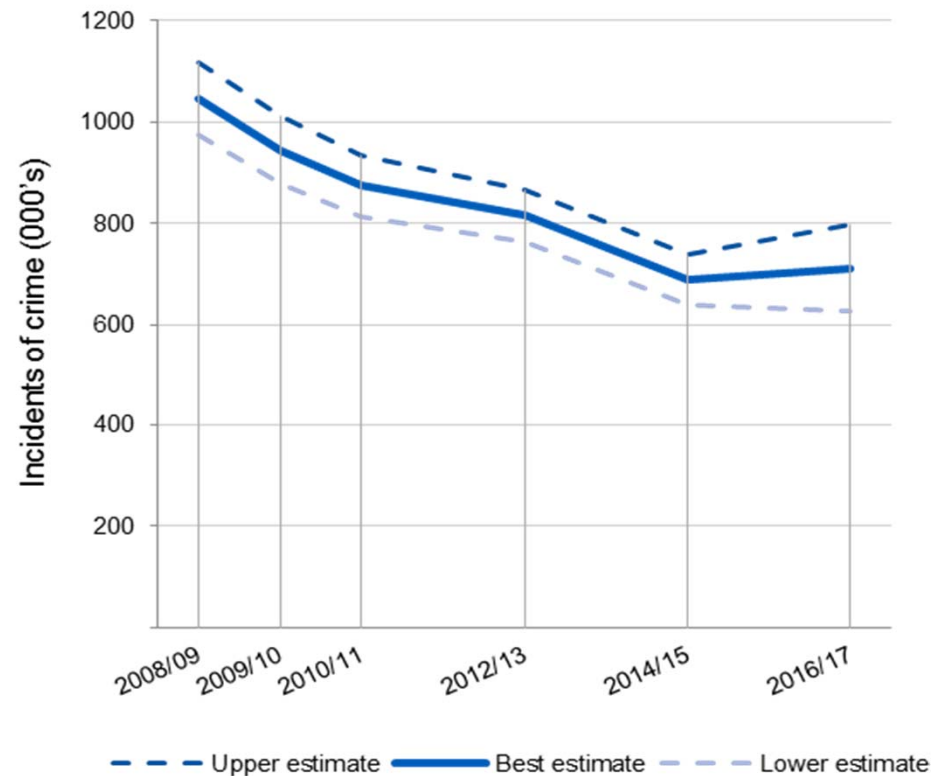 - Extensive supporting web tables
  - Data available through UKDS

How much crime was there?

712,000
Crimes committed against adults in Scotland in 2016/17

↓ **32%**
decrease in overall level of crime experienced in Scotland since 2008/09 but no change since 2014/15

As in previous years, most crime was property related:
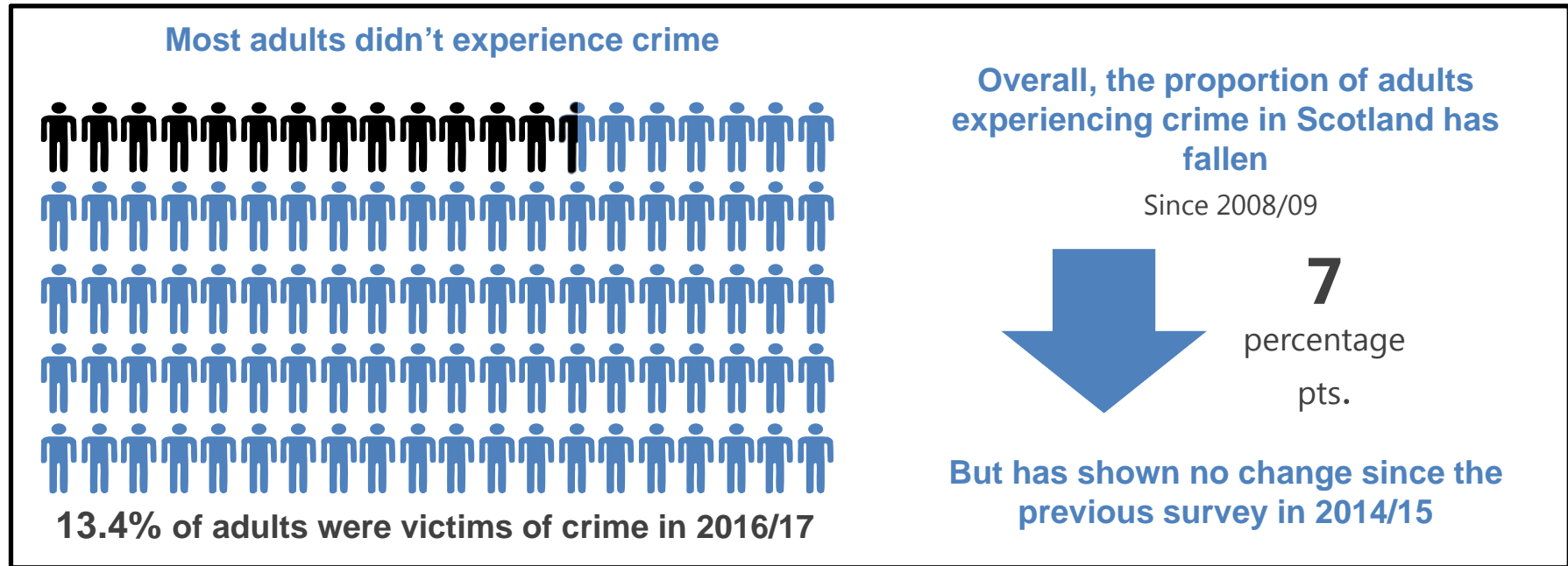
68% PROPERTY CRIME   **32%** VIOLENT CRIME

SCJS & police recorded crime

	2008/09	2014/15	2016/17	% change since 2008/09	% change since 2014/15
Comparable SCJS Crime	731,000	414,000	448,000	-39%	No change
Comparable Recorded Crime	215,901	133,170	131,566	-39%	-1%
SCJS Acquisitive Crime	64,000	49,000	51,000	No change	No change
Recorded Acquisitive Crime	27,527	21,000	18,295	-34%	-13%
SCJS Violent Crime	317,000	186,000	231,000	-27%	No change
Recorded Violent Crime	82,855	62,578	63,246	-24%	1%
SCJS Vandalism	350,000	179,000	166,000	-53%	No change
Recorded Vandalism	105,519	49,592	50,025	-53%	0%

Sources: SCJS; Police recorded crime; SCJS Base: 2008/09 (16,000); 2014/15 (11,470), 2016/17 (5,570)

Note: changes specified where statistically significant.

The likelihood of being a victim of crime has fallen

Most adults didn't experience crime

13.4% of adults were victims of crime in 2016/17

Overall, the proportion of adults experiencing crime in Scotland has fallen

Since 2008/09

7

percentage

pts.

But has shown no change since the previous survey in 2014/15

- 11.5% of adults were victims of
property crime
(down from 18.0% in 08/09 and 13.0% in 14/15)

- 2.9% of adults were victims of
violent crime
(down from 4.1% in 08/09; no change since 14/15)

Some people were more likely to experience crime
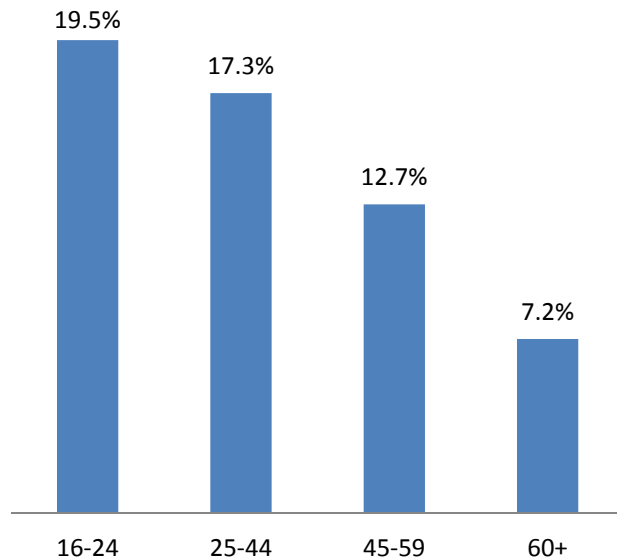
Young adults were more likely to experience crime.
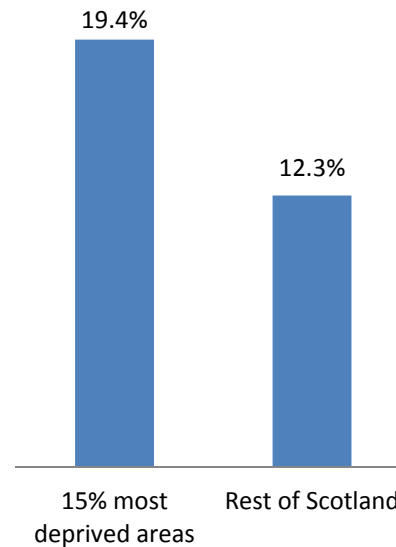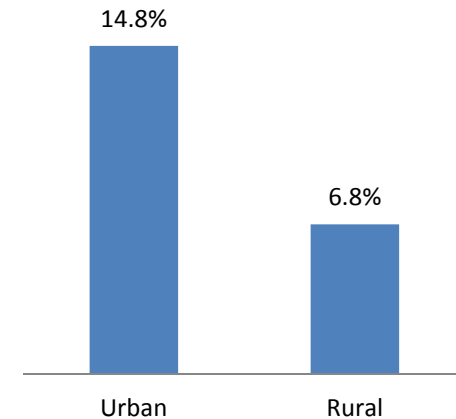
More adults living in the most deprived areas were victims of crime

More adults living in urban areas were victims of crime.

How did experiences of violent crime vary amongst the population?

▶ **2.9% of adults experienced violent crime. Some people were more likely to experience this than others.**

5.3%
Young people (aged 16-24).

4.8%
People living in the most deprived areas

3.2%
People living in urban areas

Notable trends since 2008/09:

- the proportion of **16-24 year olds** experiencing violent crime has more than halved - falling from 12.0% to 5.3%. Prevalence rates for all other age groups have shown no significant change over this period.

- the prevalence rate for adults living in the **15% most deprived areas** has not shown any significant change since 2008/09, whereas the rate has reduced for those living in the rest of Scotland (from 3.8% to 2.5%).

Multiple and Repeat Victimisation

A small proportion of people experienced a high proportion of property and violent crime.

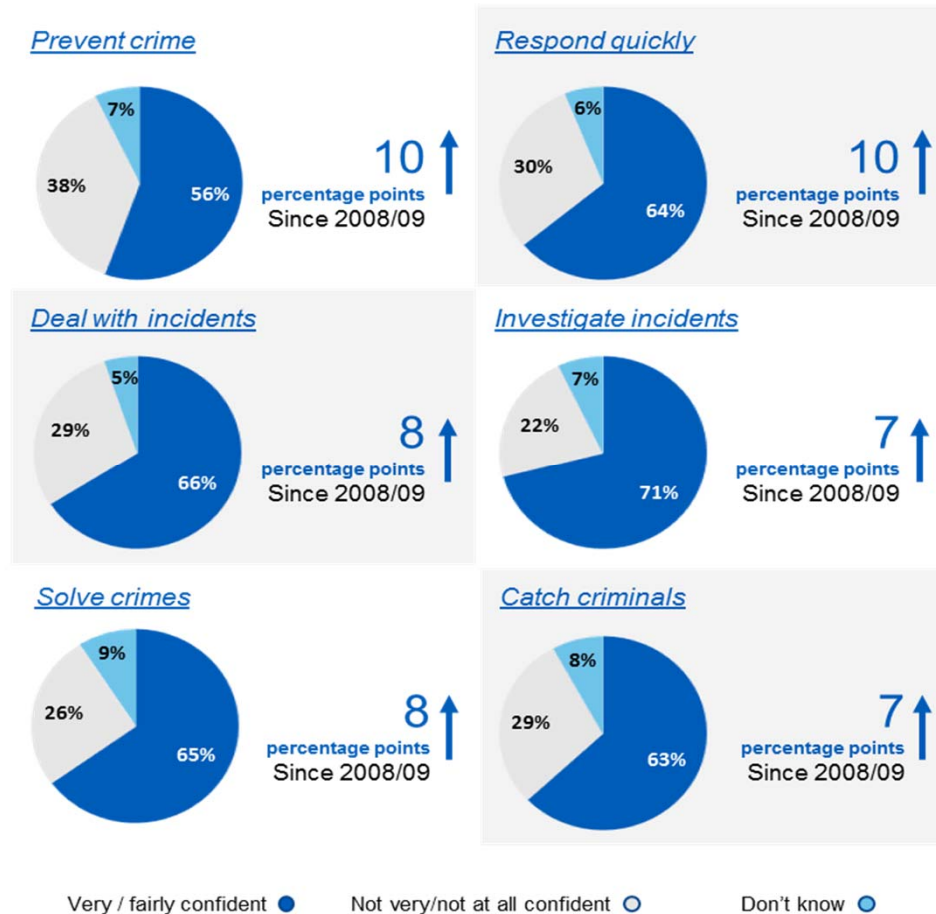|		
ALL	**9.2%** of adults experienced **one crime**	**4.3%** of adults **experienced >1 crime (61% of all crime)**
PROPERTY CRIME	**8.3%** of adults experienced one **property crime**	**3.3%** of adults **experienced > 1 (53% of property crime)**
VIOLENT CRIME	**1.8%** of adults experienced **one violent crime**	**1.1%** of adults **experienced > 1 (66% of violent crime)**

CRIME

Other topics in report

- Perceptions of / confidence in police and justice system
- Perceptions of crime and feelings of safety
- Topical summaries
  - Cyber
  - Workplace abuse
  - Fake and smuggled goods
  - Harassment and discrimination

Confidence in the police

People are generally confident in the police to undertake specific aspects of policing …and confidence has risen across <u>all</u> measures since 2008/09.

Prevent crime

- 7%
- 38%
- 56%

10 ↑ percentage points Since 2008/09

Respond quickly

- 6%
- 30%
- 64%

10 ↑ percentage points Since 2008/09

Deal with incidents

- 5%
- 29%
- 66%

8 ↑ percentage points Since 2008/09

Investigate incidents

- 7%
- 22%
- 71%

7 ↑ percentage points Since 2008/09

Solve crimes

- 9%
- 26%
- 65%

8 ↑ percentage points Since 2008/09

Catch criminals

- 8%
- 29%
- 63%

7 ↑ percentage points Since 2008/09

Very / fairly confident ●   Not very/not at all confident ○   Don't know ○

The majority of adults in Scotland (58%) believed the police in their local area were doing an excellent or good job in 2016/17 (unchanged since 2014/15 but down from 61% in 2012/13)

Fear of crime

People are feeling safer in their communities:
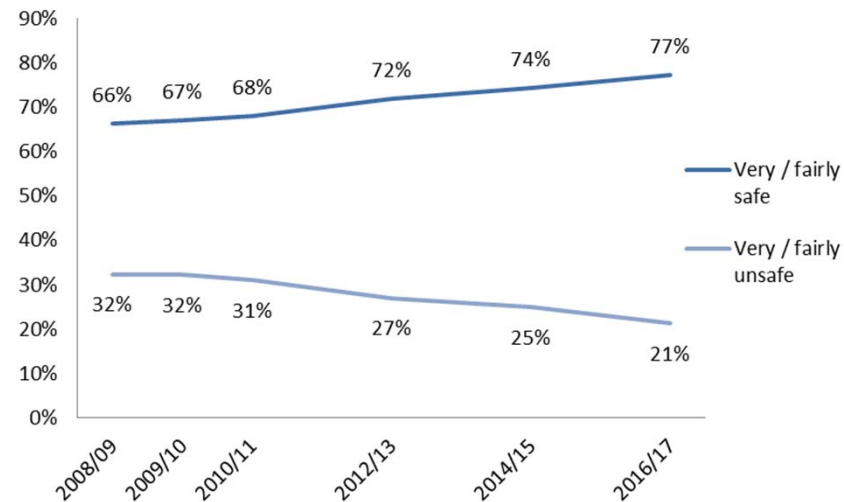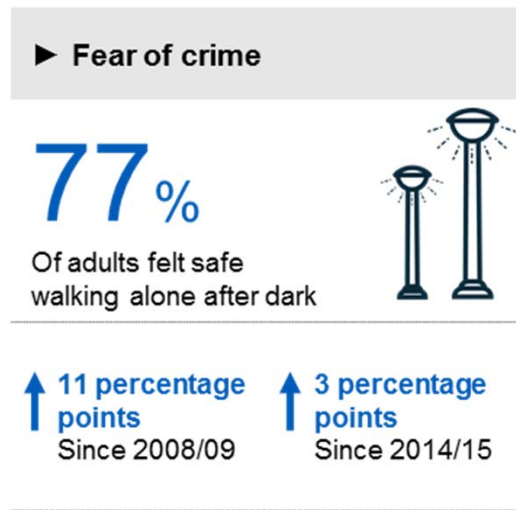
But some groups were relatively less likely to feel safe in 2016/17:
- Victims of crime (70%)
- People in most deprived areas (63%)
- Females (67%), compared to males (89%)

On-going work and future plans

- Reporting – 2017/18

(and self-completion modules on (i) drug use (ii) partner abuse (iii) sexual victimisation and stalking)

- R Shiny

- Questionnaire

- Response rates

- Analytical Priorities

  - Violence and Repeat Victimisation

  - Pooled sample

2017/18 Reporting

- Publication scheduled for 26 March 2019

  - Annual report based - 2017/18 data

  - Additional chapters on drug use, partner abuse and sexual victimisation & stalking – 2016/17 & 2017/18 data

  - Usual supporting data tables - 2017/18 (streamlined)

  - Plus Police Division data tables – 2016/17 & 2017/18 data
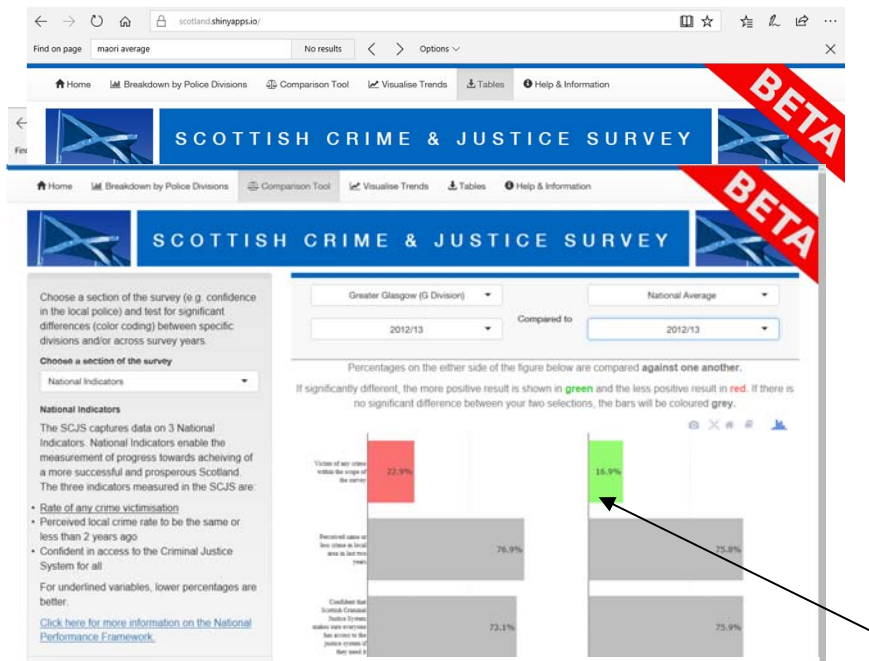
Use of R & RShiny with the SCJS

Previously..

Police divisional data presented in web-tables.

- Time consuming to produce

- Cumbersome/unintuitive for the user

Use of R & RShiny with the SCJS

Interactive Rshiny app

- Easy to update

- Interactive, variety of different visualisations

- Option for customised tables

- In-built significance testing of proportions

SCJS Questionnaire Development

- Survey is currently at capacity and has included largely same content over the years
  - Increasing demand to cover more topics
  - Developing a more flexible and responsive SCJS
  - Also important to ensure existing questions are relevant and up to date
- Likely priorities for review over next year or so
  - Partner abuse
  - Policing
  - Historical child abuse

  (Cyber crime)

  (Offending behaviour)
- Engagement with users (some compromises likely) are key elements

Response rate trends
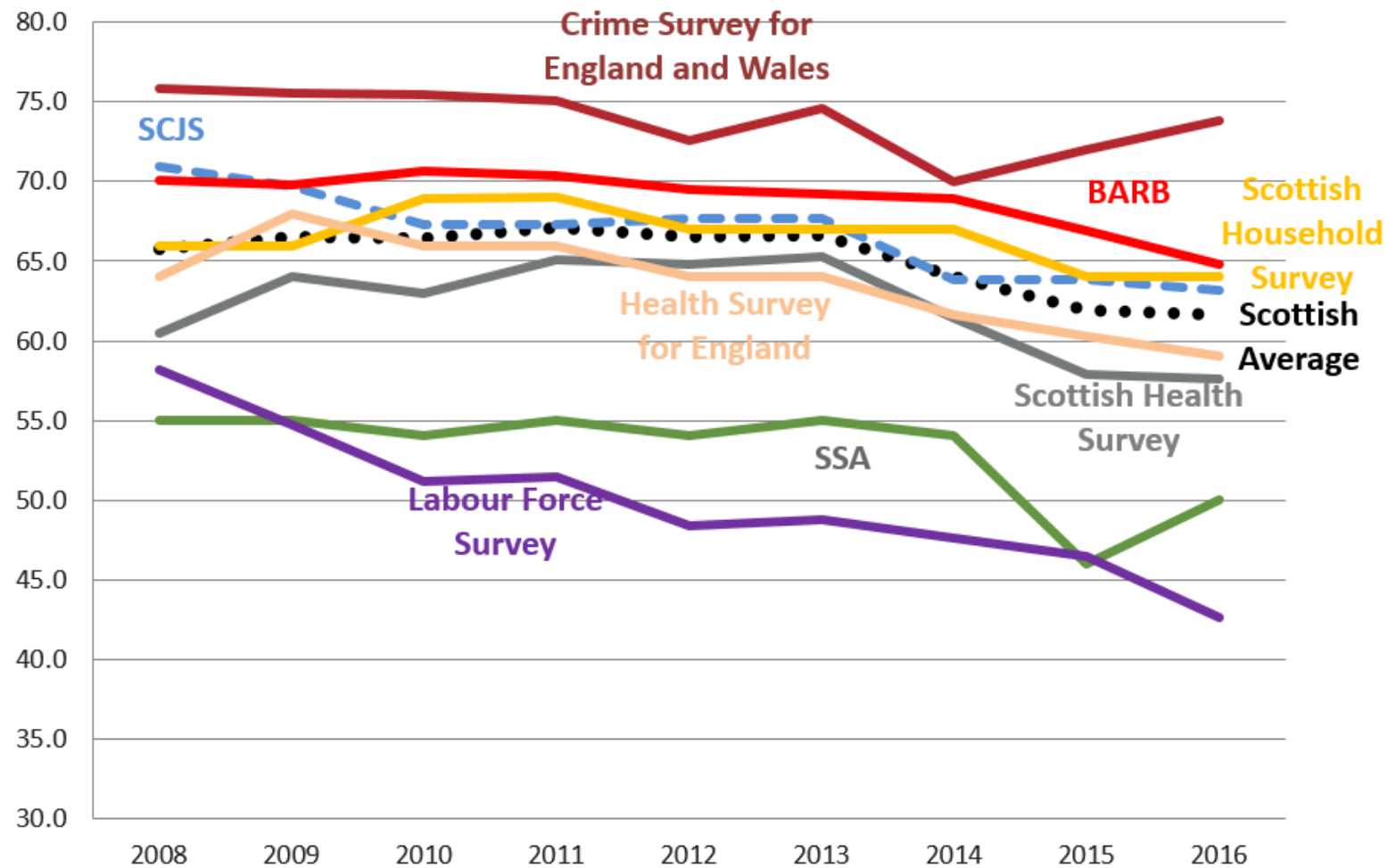
Major factors affecting response
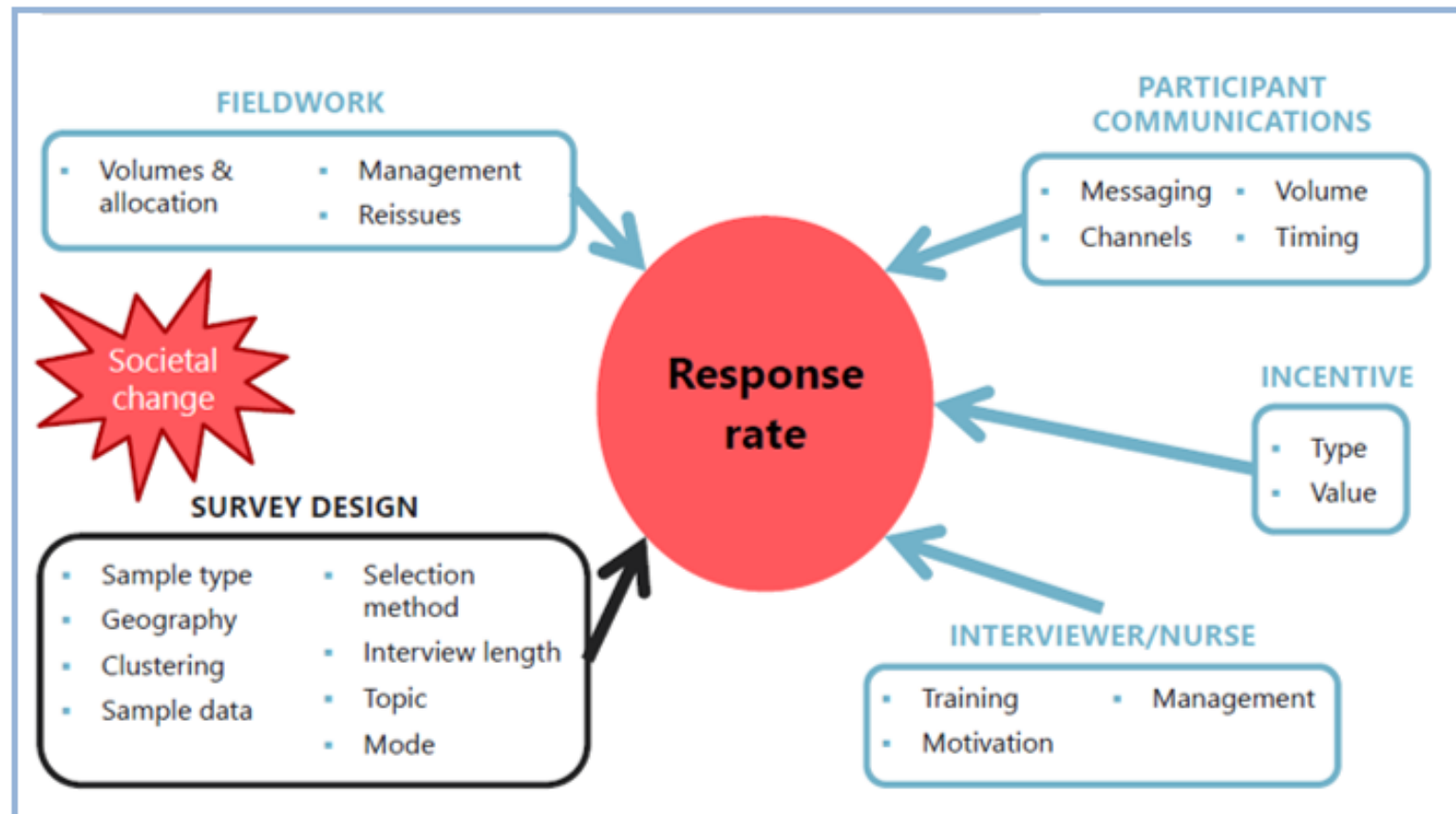
Source: Bolling, K. and Smith, P. (2017) *Declining response rates and their impact*, Presentation given at the SRA Summer Event 2017

SG response

- **Workshop with contractors, UK crime survey leads, survey methodologists**
  - Considered background, issues, existing empirical evidence and range of options for change

- **Prioritising options for change**
  - No change means likely continued non delivery of N (6,000 interviews) and response rate (68%)
  - Change would deliver higher N and lower response rate
  - So looking at impact on range of results of reducing response rate
    - in SHS and SCJS
  - And testing effect of respondent incentives

Analysis

- **Continuing to improve our analysis to focus on victims**
  - Focus on Violent Crime
  - Repeat and multiple victimisation
  - Types of victim
  - Impact / harm
  - Risk factors / drivers

- **Enhancing use of the survey data**
  - Over time
  - Multi-year pooled data set (2008/09 to 2016/17) – developing and using
  - Across survey sections (main survey and self-completion, attitudinal modules e.g. policing)

SCJS data, reports and contacts

Access data and results

SCJS website: http://www.gov.scot/SCJS

Web tables – breakdowns by demographics / geography

Reports – Main Findings; Technical; Topic reports for 2014/15 and previous years on Sexual Victimisation, Partner Abuse, Drug Use

Datasets – available from the UKDS - https://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk/ (2016/17 data submitted soon)

Stats TV (walkthrough guide for webtables) **:** https://vimeo.com/130097950

Get in touch

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Join our mailing list or user group: http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/crime-and-justice-survey/consultation

Twitter: @SGJusticeAnalys

Questions?