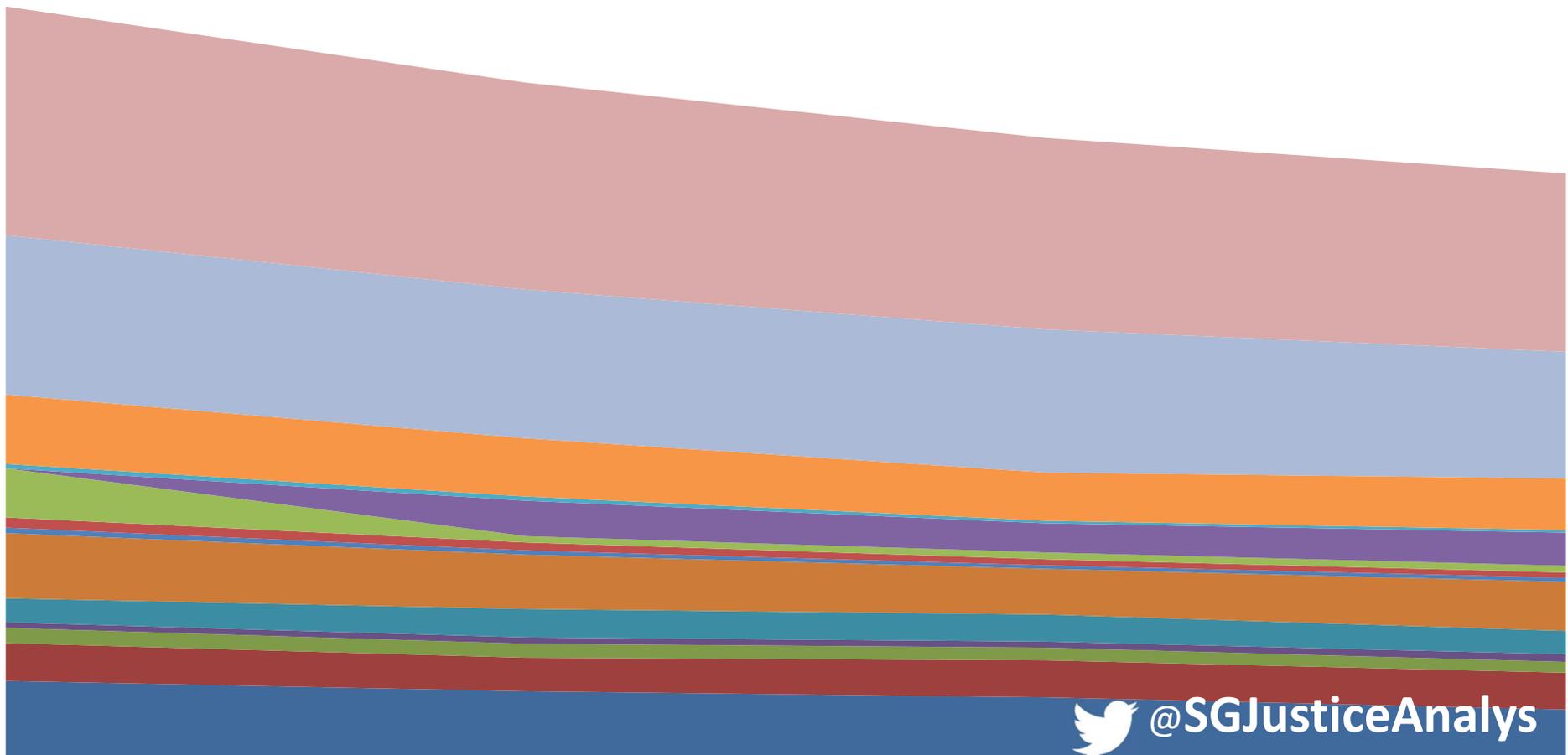


The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey: Consistency and Change

Neil Grant, Scottish Government
Crime Surveys User Conference, 11th December 2015



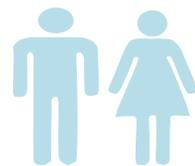
What I'll cover today...

- Background to SCJS
- 2014/15 survey
- 2016/17 onwards
 - Change and consistency
 - Procurement
 - Set up

What is the SCJS?

The SCJS is a **large-scale social survey**, run by the Scottish Government, which asks people about their **experiences and perceptions of crime**. The survey is important because it provides a picture of crime in Scotland, including crimes that haven't been reported to, or recorded by the police.

Who takes part?



6,000
adults (over 16)



in
private
households



across
Scotland

Who isn't included?



Children

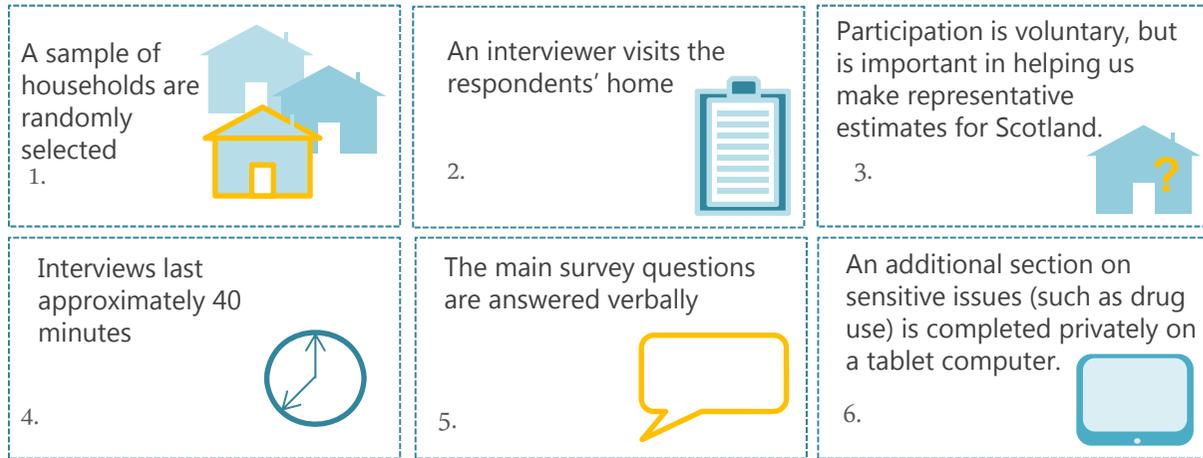


Those living in group
residences, institutions or
those without a fixed
address.

Commercial or public
sector bodies

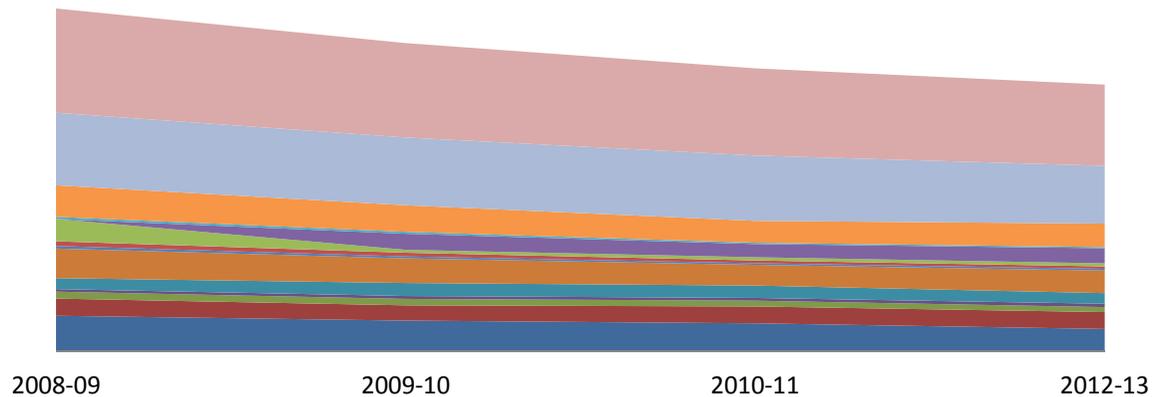


How are the data collected?



- Vandalism
- All motor vehicle theft
- Personal theft (excl robbery)
- Serious Assault
- Minor Assault with injury
- Robbery
- Property Crime
- Other h'hold theft (inc cycles)
- Housebreaking
- Assault
- Attempted assault
- Minor Assault with no/ negligilbe injury
- **Violent Crime**
- **All SCJS crime**

What does the survey cover?

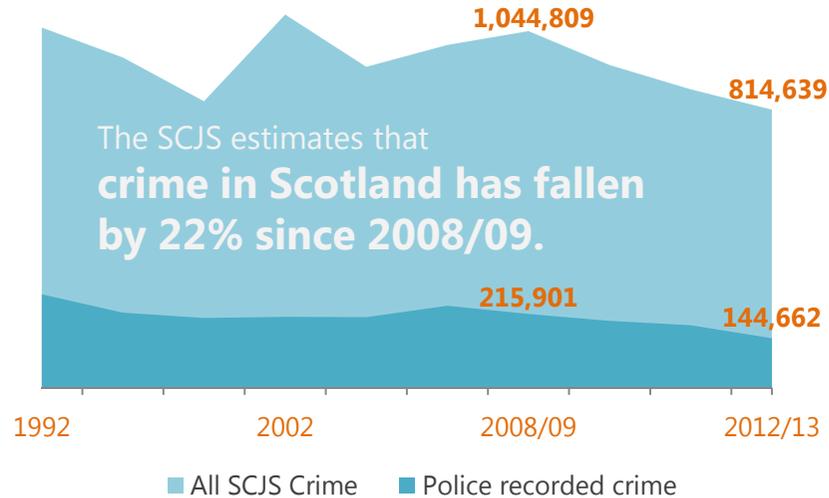


A brief history of Scottish Crime Surveys...

- Crime & victimisation surveys in Scotland have a wee bit of **history**...
- Pre-2008 survey intermittent with sample size c.5000. Surveys were administered using paper questionnaires by interviewers on smaller samples (c. 5,000 interviews), and early surveys did not cover the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.
- **McCaig review (2003)** of the design, content and management of the survey found the survey unable to produce trends, high margin of error (esp. around lower incidence crimes), unable to report findings below the national level.
- The SCJS represents a major departure in survey design, methodology and sample size
 - 2008/09 (c. 16,000 interviews)
 - 2009/10 (c. 16,000 interviews)
 - 2010/11 (c. 13,000 interviews)
 - 2012/13 & 2014/15 (c. 12,000 interviews)

The latest SCJS results...

The SCJS measured **814,639** crimes in 2012/13

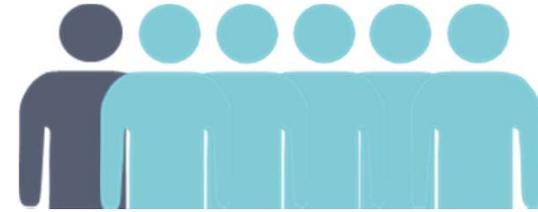


39% of crime was reported to the police

Victims didn't report crime because they felt that the police couldn't have done anything, it was too trivial or the police wouldn't be interested.

When crime was reported, two thirds of victims were satisfied with how the police handled the matter.

one in six adults



was a victim of crime

however...

The risk of property crime was higher than violent crime

the risk of crime was

higher

for those living in the 15% most deprived areas.

the risk of crime

decreased

with age

the risk of crime was **slightly higher** for men

3.1% of adults were the victim of violent crime

89% of violent crimes were minor assaults, 2% were serious assaults & 1% was robbery



4%

men were twice as likely to be the victim of violent crime

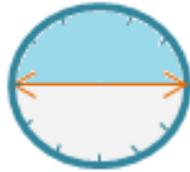


2%

young men (aged 16-24) had the highest risk of violent crime

11%

Almost one in three violent crimes happened between 9pm and 3am on a weekend



59%

The offender was under the influence of alcohol in 59% of violent crimes

Injuries were sustained in 58% of violent crime*



(*Of these, three-fifths sustained minor bruising or a black eye)

48% of violent crime was reported to the police*

(*23% were not reported because the victim dealt with the matter themselves)



14.8% of adults were the victim of property crime

27% of property crime was vandalism, 21% was other household theft, 13% was personal theft, 6% was motor vehicle-related theft & 4% was housebreaking



15%

The risk of property crime was almost equal for men and women



14%

25-44 year olds had the highest risk of property crime **19%**

8% Over 60's had the lowest risk of property crime

51% of victims estimated the value of damaged property to be less than £1300

78% of victims estimated the value of stolen property to be less than £1300

Damaged or stolen items were covered by insurance in **41%** of cases.

35% of property crime was reported to the police*

(*43% was not reported because the incident was considered to be trivial)



Housebreaking was the most reported crime

64%



The 2014/15 Survey

- 2014/15 fieldwork finished in May 2015, following a two-month extension.
- Publication set for **March 2016** for the Main Findings report.
- Engagement with users on how we report has led to a range of planned improvements, including:
 - More streamlined reporting
 - Graphic summaries
 - More information on equalities groups, comparisons with police recorded crime
 - Improved dissemination of results (including on social media)



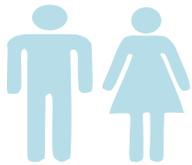
The SCJS (2016/17 – 2019/20)

- The contract has been awarded to a consortium of **Ipsos MORI** and **NatCen** Social Research
- Contract will run from 2016/17 until 2019/20, with a possible 2 year extension.
- From 2016/17, the SCJS will become a continuous survey with a sample size of around 6,000 adults each year

What's the difference?

The new survey will, at its core, remain consistent with previous iterations of the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey.

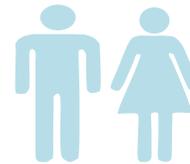
SCJS 2014/15



12,000
adults take part
every two
years

Results available
every two years

SCJS 2016/17



6,000
adults take part
every
year

Some results available
annually
(e.g. perceptions data)

Where are we now?

- Working with our new contractors to set up the 2016/17 survey.
- We have carried out a **Questionnaire Review** to consider what to include in the 2016/17 survey. (Find out more here- <http://ow.ly/VjueZ>)
- Making some improvements in how we carry out our fieldwork (e.g. improved advance materials).
- Planning for a pilot (Jan 2016) and looking at consistency throughout, e.g. scripting, coding etc
- Working with our users to understand how to best meet their needs as the survey changes.



The Scottish
Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

The Legal Resident
Address 1
Address 2
Address 3
Etc.

**Help tackle crime in
Scotland**

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to ask for your help with the **Scottish Crime and Justice**



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Plans for the 2016/17 Questionnaire

- Maintaining consistency is very important, however, it is important to make some changes to ensure that the survey best meets users needs.
- A range of **minor changes** to ensure that the survey continues to collect the most relevant and up-to-date information (e.g. police contact question to include 'call 101', list of substances in drug use).
- Updating how we collect information on harassment to better capture online forms of harassment.
- Some more **substantive changes**, including considering questions on:
 - Serious and Organised Crime
 - Workplace Abuse
 - Public expectations of police
- Continuing to develop options on capturing information on **cyber crime** through the survey (considering planned changes to CSEW).
- Annual survey allows us to begin making plans for future surveys.

Self-completion form

- Currently asked to whole sample (no-age restriction)
- High-proportion of interviewer administered 'self-completion' forms
- Respondents 'don't like computers'

- Ethical considerations
- Sensitive questions
- Data quality - results different to 'true self-completion'

- Solution – introduce 3rd stage: paper questionnaire

SCJS access and contacts

Access data and results

SCJS website : <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/crime-and-justice-survey>

Data tables - breakdowns by demographics

Reports - Main, Technical, Sexual Victimization, Domestic Abuse, Drug Use

Datasets - available from the UKDS - <http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/>

StatsTV - ow.ly/RnNns

Get in touch

SCJS Mailbox: SCJS@gov.scot

Neil Grant, SCJS Director - neil.grant@gov.scot

Find out how to join our mailing list or user group:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/crime-and-justice-survey/consultation>

Follow us on Twitter: [@SGJusticeAnalys](https://twitter.com/SGJusticeAnalys)

Questions?

