

Victim Support community service 2005/2006 statistical report

Crime type	Number of referrals						% Change from previous year
	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	
Homicide	1,262	1,307	1,240	1,136	1,168	1,094	-6.3%
Rape	4,813	4,965	5,768	6,658	7,349	8,560	16.5%
Robbery	73,810	80,705	73,029	64,194	53,322	65,078	22%
Other sexual crime	15,462	14,177	15,191	14,362	14,558	15,079	3.6%
Grievous bodily harm	257,203	264,546	25,336	24,784	25,994	34,840	34%
ABH/common assault			277,234	316,690	315,895	348,271	10.2%
Other violent crime*			41,529	36,843	51,329	65,136	26.9%
Violent crime total	352,550	365,700	439,327	464,667	469,615	538,058	14.6%
Aggravated burglary	5,598	4,673	5,049	3,823	2,973	2,761	-7.1%
Distraction burglary	8,759	5,970	4,548	4,740	4,852	4,563	-6%
Burglary dwelling	234,688	330,485	388,287	326,125	201,969	192,594	-4.6%
Burglary not dwelling					47,645	47,977	0.7%
Burglary total	249,045	341,128	397,884	334,688	257,439	247,895	-3.7%
Theft	258,650	263,752	267,413	244,819	251,118	266,504	6.1%
Criminal damage (including arson)	191,228	205,904	211,831	221,318	223,321	227,422	1.8%
Property (incl. burglary) crime total	698,923	810,784	877,128	800,825	731,878	741,821	1.4%
Road death	870	1,104	1,086	885	947	642	-32.2%
Other crime (including some non-crime)	104,559	79,501	86,589	92,773	79,783	106,394	33.4%
Total other crime	105,429	80,605	87,675	93,658	80,730	107,036	32.6%
Total referrals	1,156,902	1,257,089	1,404,130	1,359,150	1,282,223	1,386,915	8.2%

* Includes attempted murder, threats to kill and harassment.

- In 2005/2006 just under 1.4 million people were referred to Victim Support's community-based services.
- This is an increase of 8.2% (104,692 more referrals) from the previous year, bringing the number of referrals back to a level similar to that of 2003/2004.
- During the same period (2005/2006) overall police recorded crime¹ decreased by 1%. The number of referrals to Victim Support increased last year in comparison to the trend shown in police recorded crime. This is due to Victim Support, at the local level, successfully improving the referral process from the police. In particular, in London, the majority of boroughs now receive 100% referrals from the police; this has had a dramatic effect on the number of referrals within London. Other areas outside of London have experienced a similar change with their local police.

¹ Walker, A. Kershaw, C. & Nicholas, S. *Crime in England and Wales 2005/2006*. London: Home Office, 2006

- Like last year, the number of property crimes continues to decrease (though at a slower rate compared to 2004/2005) while the number of violent crime referrals increased.
- Burglary continues its downward trend, decreasing by 3.7%, though it remains a high volume crime, accounting for 18% of all referrals and 33% of all property crime.
- While total property crime accounted for the greatest number of total referrals (53%), violent crime continues to increase, making up 39% of all referrals, compared to 37% in 2004/05. In 2000/01 violent crime made up 30% of total referrals.

How people are referred to Victim Support

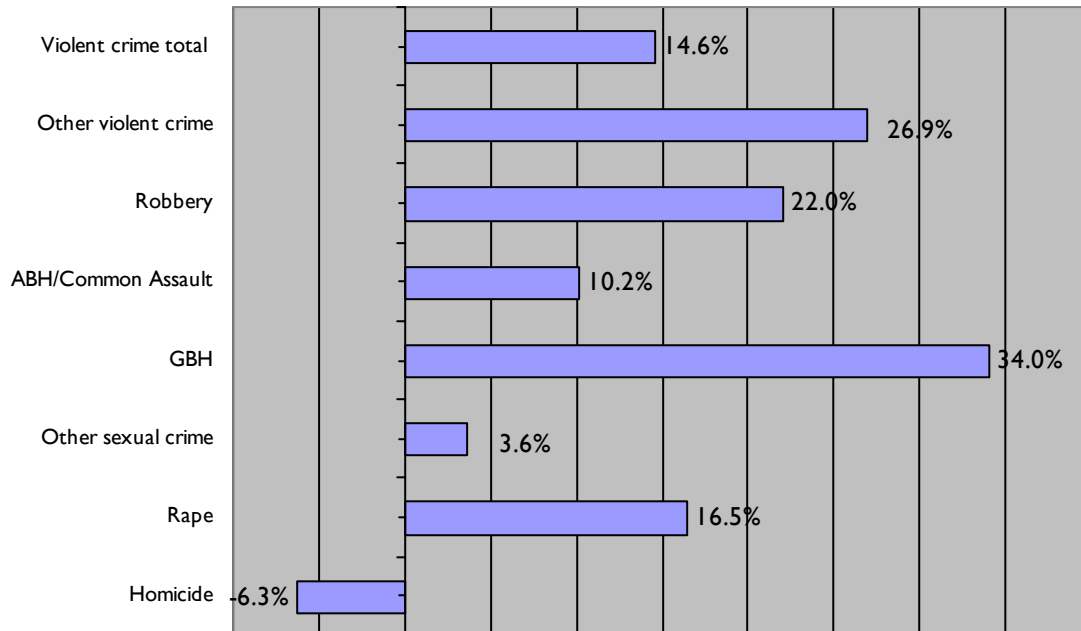
- Proportionally, the figures for the different referral sources remain consistent with previous years.
- 90% of total referrals originated from the police, compared to 91% in 2004/2005.
- 1.5% of total referrals were self-referrals.
- Though the number of police and self-referrals as a proportion of total referrals remains broadly comparable to last year, the actual number of police referrals increased by 6.8% (79,792 more referrals) while the number of self-referrals decreased by 9.8% (2,307 fewer referrals).
- Referrals from other agencies increased for the second successive year, with an increase of 11% (1,016) from 2004/2005.
- The remaining 7.7% were from other Victim Support services (likely to have originally been from the police).

Differences on referral source for crime types

- The most noticeable differences occur with violent crimes.
- Over half (60%) of all self-referrals were for violent crimes.
- 13% of rape victims referred themselves to our service.
- 10% of all sexual crime referrals were self-referrals.
- 32% of all homicide and 18% of road death referrals were self-referrals.

Violent crime²

Percentage change in violent crime referrals 2004/2005 compared to 2003/2004



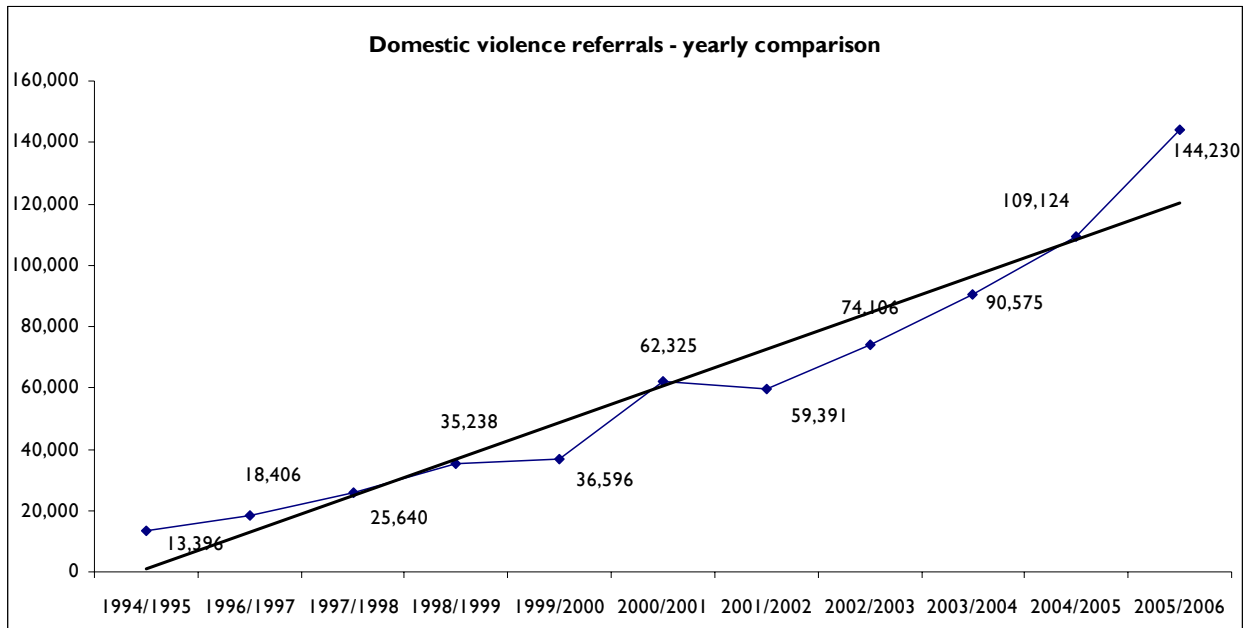
- 39% of all referrals were for violent crimes. This is the fourth successive year where violent crime has increased as a proportion of all referrals.
- The number of violent crimes recorded by the police increased by 2% in 2005/2006.
- Overall the number of violent crime referrals increased by 14.6% (68,443 more referrals) from 2004/2005. This is the biggest percentage increase since 2002/2003 when there was an increase of 20%.
- Robbery referrals fell in 2004/2005, generally as a result of the Street Crime Initiative (SCI). However, in 2005/2006 they increased by 22% (11,756 more referrals).
- The number of robberies recorded by the police increased by 8% in 2005/2006.
- Within the violent crime category as a whole, the biggest increase proportionally was in GBH referrals, 34% (8,846 more referrals).
- The number of rape referrals continues to increase year on year, with a 16.5% (1211 more referrals) increase from 2004/2005.
- 73% of rape referrals originated from the police. 13% (1,116) were self-referrals.
- The number of female rapes recorded by the police increased by 3%, while male rape decreased by 2% in 2005/2006.
- The number of referrals for actual bodily harm and common assault has increased, by 10.2% (32,376 more referrals) from 2004/2005 when it had levelled off from 2003/2004. Much of this increase will be a result of better referrals between Victim Support and the police rather than any large increases in the occurrence of the crime.

² 'Violent crime' includes violence against the person, sexual offences and robbery. 'Other violent crime' is attempted murder, threats to kill and harassment.

Criminal injuries compensation (CIC)

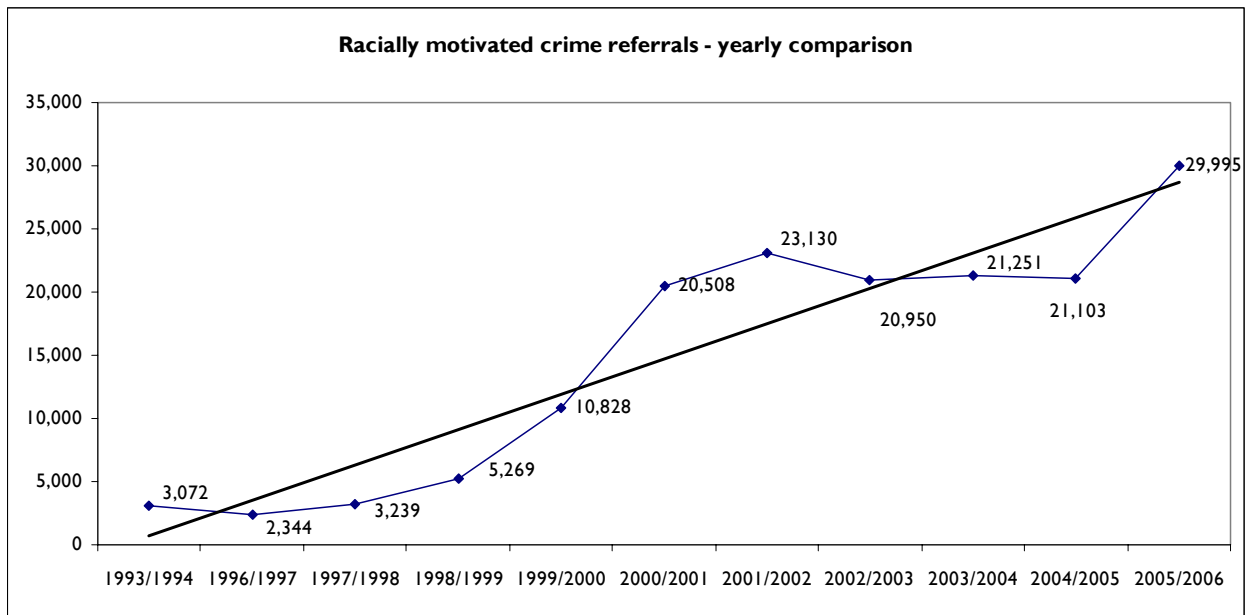
- The number of criminal injury claims in which Victim Support provided assistance to the claimant decreased by 18% (3,201 fewer cases) from 2004/2005, to a similar level seen in 2003/2004. As violent crime has increased we would, however, have predicted an increase in CIC claims.

Domestic violence



- Domestic violence related referrals rose in 2005/2006. This year there was an increase of 32% (35,106 more referrals). This is the second largest actual increase since 2000/2001. Looking at the linear trend line in the chart above the year on year increase is greater than we would have predicted at the end of 2004/2005. Much of this increase is a result of improved police referrals to Victim Support. London alone accounted for two thirds (23,194) of the increase in domestic violence referrals last year due to 100% of all potential referrals from the Metropolitan Police.
- Domestic violence related referrals represent 10% of total referrals and 30% of violent crime (excluding robbery).
- According to the British Crime Survey (2005/2006), 15% of all violent incidents were domestic violence related.

Racially motivated referrals

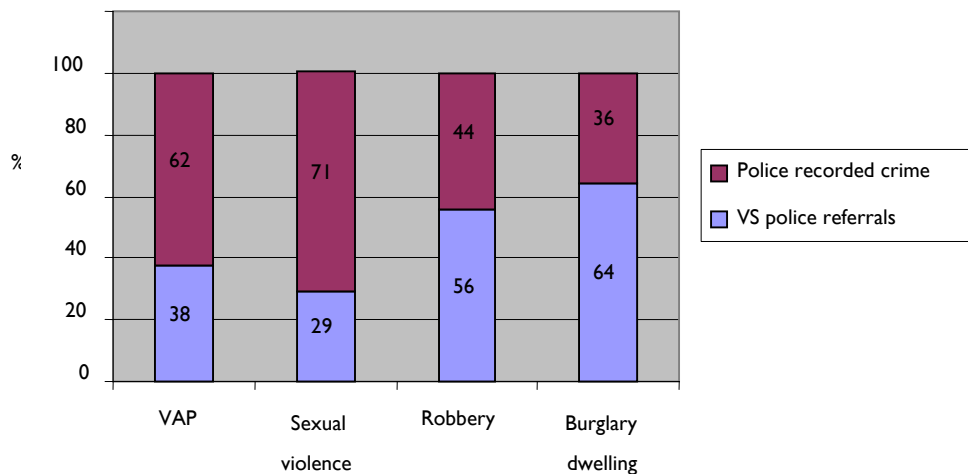


- We supported 29,995 victims of racially motivated crime during 2005/2006.
- This is an increase of 42% (8,892 more referrals) from 2004/2005. This increase is mainly a result of improved police referrals across a number of areas. In London, the boroughs have seen very large increases in the number of referrals that they have received from their local basic command units generally. In London alone there was an increase of 69% (3,618 more referrals) in racially motivated referrals. Over a third of the national increase is due to referrals from the police in London.
- Looking at the linear trend line in the chart above, the increase in racially motivated referrals is very slightly higher than predicted.

Property crime

- Overall property crime increased slightly, by 1.4% (9,943 fewer referrals) in 2005/2006.
- Burglary decreased by 3.7% (9,544 fewer referrals), continuing the downward trend since 2003/2004.
- Domestic burglaries recorded by the police decreased by 7% in 2005/2006.
- Criminal damage continued the upward trend that has been seen 1999/2000, though the year on year increase was only slight, at 1.8%.
- In 2004/2005 burglaries accounted for 35% of all property crime. In 2005/2006 this reduced to 33%.

Victim Support police referrals as a proportion of police recorded crime



VAP = Violence against the person

Compared to referrals received from the police in 2005/2006, Victim Support:

- received 38% of VAP offences recorded by the police. In 2004/2005, this figure was 34%.
- received 29% of sexual violence offences recorded by the police. In 2004/2005, this figure was 28%.
- received 56% of robbery offences recorded by the police. In 2004/2005, this figure was 51%.
- received 64% of domestic burglary offences recorded by the police. In 2004/2005, this figure was 63%.

Types of contact with people

- Last year Victim Support made over 1.8 million different types of contact with people referred.
- The amount of contact Victim Support had with victims increased by 6% (an increase of 100,732 separate contacts).
- Letter contact increased by 4% (44,297 more letters sent) compared to 2004/2005.
- The number of contacts by telephone increased by 16% (75,447 more telephone calls made), continuing the upward trend. The victim satisfaction survey shows that people prefer this as a first means of contact with Victim Support.
- The amount of face-to-face contact with victims decreased by 16% (19,012 contacts). This varied for individual crime types, with more 'serious crime' receiving more face-to-face contact.
- Face-to-face contact for people bereaved by homicide increased by 8% (230 contacts). Homicide referrals decreased in 2005/2006 by 6.3%. This means people bereaved by homicide received, on average, more face-to-face contact in 2005/2006 compared to the previous year.
- Personal contact (face-to-face and telephone) increased by 10% from 2004/2005.

Ratio of contact to referrals

- Changes in contact need to be considered with changes in the actual number of referrals for specific crimes. If we assume that contact is spread equally across referrals we are able to measure more accurately whether specific contact methods have reduced in real terms.
- Overall, the average number of contacts per referral has changed very little from last year, from 1.4 to 1.3. For every two referrals that are received one personal contact is made.
- Average contact varies between crime types. Average personal contact for homicide increased from 8.1 to 9.4.
- Average personal contact for rape referrals decreased very slightly from 3.1 to 3.