



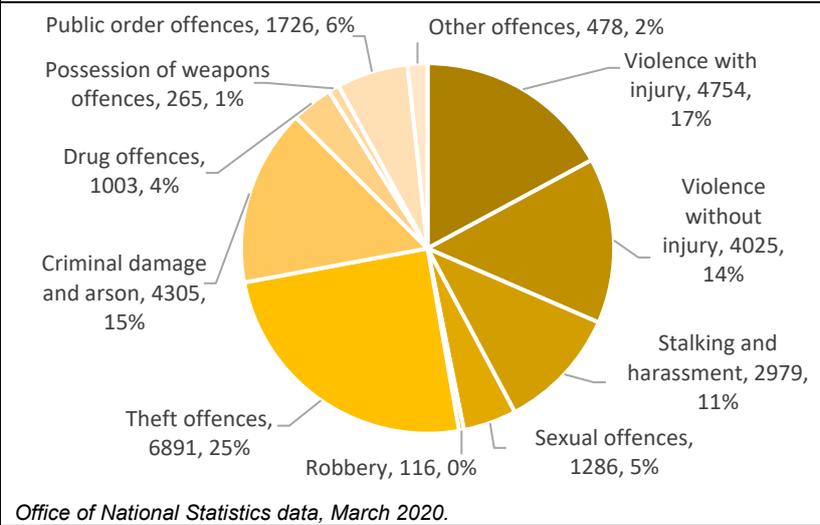
Recorded crime in Cornwall

For the 12 months to 31st March 2020 compared to the year prior

Overview

- 27,828 crimes were recorded across Cornwall in the year period, equivalent to 49.2 crimes per 1000 resident population.
- The rate of crime in Cornwall (49.2) is slightly higher than Devon (48.1). Although, Cornwall's crime rate is still lower than that of the Devon and Cornwall force area as a whole, which stands at 57.0.
- Total crime in Cornwall decreased by 5% over the year period. This is predominately due to a large decrease in theft offences; the rate of which is 2.6 times lower than the national average.
- Whilst Cornwall has seen increases in crime across 8 offence groups over the year period, the rates of all such offences remain below the national averages.

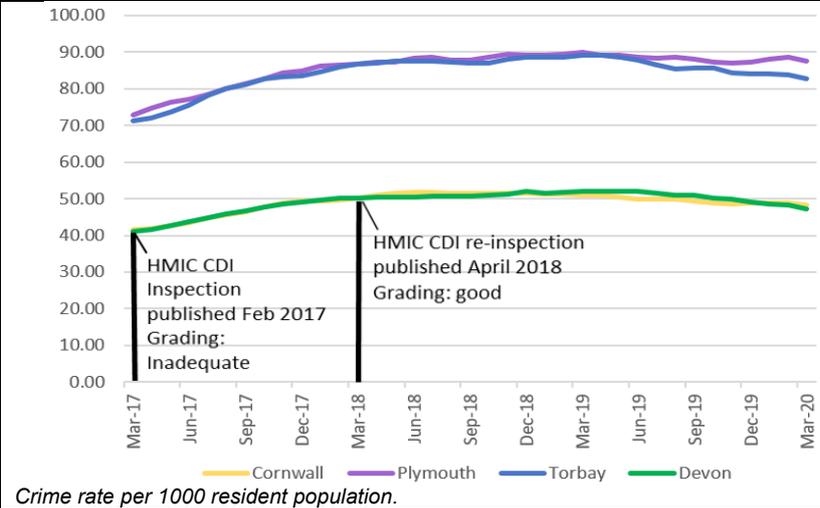
Crime Types



The 27,828 recorded crimes in Cornwall break down into specific crimes types as shown in the adjacent pie chart.

In all categories the Cornwall crime rate per 1,000 population is lower than the national rate (see detail overleaf).

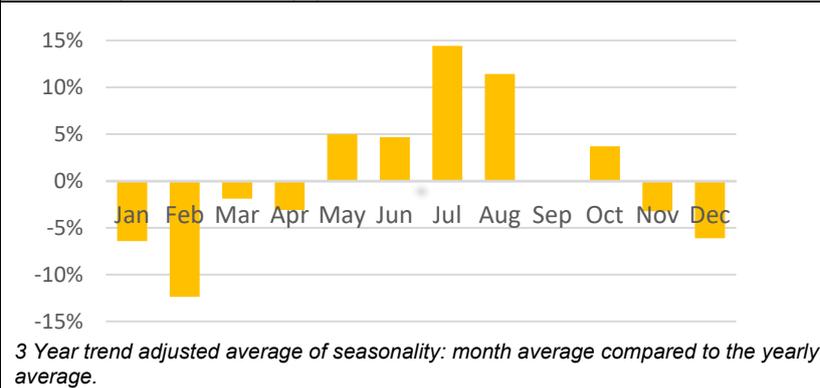
- Domestic abuse accounted for 22% of all crimes.
- Alcohol was recorded as a factor in 17% of crimes.
- 1.5% of crimes were hate crimes.



Between February 2017 and March 2018, we saw a large increase in recorded crime. A significant factor was improvements in crime recording practices within Devon and Cornwall Police which took effect in that period. This followed HMICFRS's Crime Data Integrity (CDI) inspections of Devon and Cornwall Police in 2016.

From March 2018 onwards the recording practices became more stable resulting in crime levels settling at a higher rate.

Seasonality



Crime is 11% higher in July, August, and September compared with the rest of the year.

Seasonal factors include weather, lighter nights, and the influx of tourists that during the holiday periods.



Crime trends in Cornwall

	Cornwall rate ¹	National rate ¹	Cornwall Trend	Extra Information
<p>Violence with Injury</p> <p>4,754</p>	8.4	9.2	<p>↑ 2%</p> <p><i>Down 6% nationally</i></p>	<p>Whilst Cornwall saw a 2% increase (93 crimes) in violence with injury offences over the year period, Cornwall's rate of violence with injury (8.4) is still lower than both the national (9.2) and the force average (8.9).</p> <p>Assault with injury: assault with injury comprises 91% of all violence with injury offences in Cornwall. Such offences increased by 89 incidents over the year period.</p> <p>Serious violence: including murder, attempted murder, section 18 GBH and wounding decreased by 14% to 153 incidents. 5 homicides were committed in the year period.</p> <p>Domestic abuse: is identified as a factor in over one third (35%) of all violence with injury offences.</p> <p>Alcohol: alcohol is flagged as a factor in 36% of violence with injury offences.</p>
<p>Violence without Injury (excl. stalking and harassment)</p> <p>4,025</p>	7.1	12.3	<p>↑ 5%</p> <p><i>Up 9% nationally</i></p>	<p>Violence without injury covers a broad range of offences including threats to kill, assault without injury and kidnapping. There has been a 5% increase in recorded violence without injury in Cornwall, primarily due to an increase in assault without injury (which increased by 193 incidents). Nonetheless, Cornwall's rate of violence without injury (7.1) is still considerably lower than that of the national average (12.3).</p> <p>Alcohol: is noted as a factor in 30% of violence without injury offences.</p> <p>Domestic abuse: 42% of offences are flagged as being domestic abuse related.</p>
<p>Stalking and harassment</p> <p>2,979</p>	5.3	8.4	<p>↑ 6%</p> <p><i>Up 12% nationally</i></p>	<p>Home Office counting rules on incidents related to stalking and harassment changed in 2015, causing increases in the number of recorded offences both nationally and locally. Cornwall experienced a 6% increase in the number of recorded stalking and harassment cases. This is a slower rate of increase to that of England and Wales (12%).</p> <p>Domestic abuse: 45% of stalking and harassment is identified as domestic abuse.</p>
<p>Sexual offences</p> <p>1,286</p>	2.3	2.7	<p>↑ 4%</p> <p><i>Stable nationally</i></p>	<p>Despite a 3% decrease in the number of sexual offences reported across the Devon and Cornwall force area – and the rate of change stable nationally – a 4% increase in the number of recorded sexual offences was evident across Cornwall in the year period. This must be considered against both the rate of sexual offences in Cornwall (2.3) - which is still lower than the national average (2.7) - and the considerable effort that has been undertaken nationally to increase victim's willingness to report.</p> <p>29% of all sexual offences are regarded as long term historic. 482 rapes were reported in the year period.</p>



Thefts 6,891	12.2	32.2	<p>↓ -22%</p> <p>Down 4% nationally</p>	<p>Overall, theft decreased by 22% (1,944 crimes) in Cornwall over the year period. A breakdown of the offences which are included in the 'theft' category can be seen below;</p> <p>Burglary: decreased by 27%</p> <p>Vehicle offences: decreased by 22%</p> <p>Shoplifting: decreased by 21%</p> <p>Other theft offences: decreased by 20%</p> <p>It is recognised that data on recorded theft in part depends on the willingness of the victim to report.</p>
Robbery 116	0.2	1.5	<p>↑ 8%</p> <p>Up 6% nationally</p>	<p>Robbery increased by 8%, equating to 9 more incidents than the previous year. The robbery rate per 1,000 population in Cornwall is 0.2 robberies, which is significantly lower than the national level of 1.5.</p>
Criminal damage and arson 4,305	7.6	9.4	<p>↓ -3%</p> <p>Down 2% nationally</p>	<p>There were 7.6 criminal damage and arson offences per 1000 population in Cornwall compared to 9.4 nationally. There has been a 4% increase in the number of offences that are related to domestic abuse, increasing to 532 incidents.</p>
Public order offences 1,726	3.0	7.6	<p>↑ 2%</p> <p>Up 5% nationally</p>	<p>More ASB incidents are now being recorded as crimes due to changes to recording practices. Therefore, many ASB incidents can now be classed as public order offences. This could be a reason why Cornwall saw a 2% increase in public order offences over the year period. The rate of public order offences in Cornwall (3.0 crimes per 1000 population) is still nonetheless lower than that of the Force (4.0 crimes per 1000 population) and national average (7.6 crimes per 1000 population).</p>
Anti-social behaviour incidents ² 10,498	18.5	23.0	<p>↓ 15%</p> <p>Down 6% nationally</p>	<p>Tackling ASB is a shared responsibility and is led through Community Safety Partnerships. The decrease doesn't necessarily reflect a decrease in levels of ASB and needs to be considered alongside public order offences. The latest Crime Survey for England and Wales indicates that there has been an increase in the proportion of people that have experienced or witnessed ASB compared to the previous year in Devon and Cornwall; 42% up from 38%³.</p>
Possession of weapons offences 265	0.5	0.8	<p>↑ 19%</p> <p>Up 2% nationally</p>	<p>Rates of possession offences can change based on levels of targeted operations in areas such as organised crime and violence. Cornwall saw a 19% increase (42 incidents) in possession offences over the year period. 55% of these offences were possession of knives or similar weapons. Possession of knives and similar weapons increased by 8% over the year period.</p>
Drug offences 1,003	1.8	3.1	<p>↑ 11%</p> <p>Up 18% nationally</p>	<p>Levels of recorded crime in this area will have been impacted by policing activity focused on the identification and targeting of county lines and other organised drug supply gangs operating in the area.</p>
Other offences 478	0.8	1.8	<p>↓ -11%</p> <p>Up 3% nationally</p>	<p>This is a broad catalogue of offences. It includes offences such as obscene publications, dangerous driving, possession with intent to commit criminal damage, and perverting the course of justice.</p>

¹Crime rate per 1000 resident population for England and Wales (includes British Transport Police) compared to Cornwall. However, Greater Manchester Police have been excluded due to recording issues, meaning that the national rate may appear lower than in previous releases. ²Cases of ASB are categorised as incidents, not as crimes. ³Survey results are based on a sample of Devon & Cornwall. Results are dependent on the respondent's perception of ASB and cannot necessarily validate that an incidence of ASB had occurred.