SAFER OXFORDSHIRE PARTNERSHIP

Strategic Needs Assessment Oxfordshire 2025

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley

Analysis & Insight

Contents

LIST OF TABLES

List of figures

1. Strategic needs assessment

The Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) is a joint-partnership report involving key partners from across the local community safety sphere. The aim is to inform relevant stakeholders of the key regional priorities relating to suspects and victims of crime.

The 2025 review will cover data spanning from Jan 2018 to Dec 2024, providing seven years of trend analysis and comparison. Thames Valley's Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner have led on this project, collaborating with internal police departments and external organisations on this development. Drawing on data from law enforcement, central and local government, and voluntary groups, the SNA brings a comprehensive approach to understanding what crime have occurred.

The May 2025 delivery of the SNA allows for the community safety focus groups at Council-level to design precise interventions and initiatives in line with budget allocation and strategic planning.

2. Serious violence - The duty

Following public consultation in July 2019, the Government announced that it would bring forward legislation introducing a new Serious Violence Duty ("the Duty") on a range of specified authorities. This will ensure relevant services work together to share information and allow them to target their interventions, where possible through existing partnership structures, collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence within their local communities.

The Government also announced that it would amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships and by making sure they have a strategy in place to explicitly tackle serious violence.

The duty must be:

1) Focused on a defined population
2) With and for communities: embed the voices and lived experiences of the communities
3) Focused on long and short-term solutions
4) Data-based including inequalities to create new insights to understand local drivers of serious violence
5) Rooted in evidence of effectiveness to tackle problems: learn from others to guide our activities to what is most effective

Serious violence - Definition

Serious violence (SV) has been given a single definition across the Thames Valley broadly based on home office guidance.

"Serious Violence includes specific types of recorded crime, such as homicide, grievous bodily harm, incidents that involve a knife, and areas of criminality where serious violence or its threat is inherent, such as in county lines drug dealing."

This is broadly based on the original Home Office definition and is inclusive of all ages, location types (public / private), and domestic flags.

Please note this is knife crime according to the Home Office Annual Data Requirement (ADR) 160 – knife crime definition.

3. Valid crime definition

The data provided is taken from our crime recording system. Additional information identified during the investigation may lead to a reassessment of the crime classification. Information held on the system is also subject to review to ensure compliance with the Home Office Counting Rules for Recording Crime and the National Crime Recording Standard. As a result of this crime levels and classifications may change over time and this data may not match data previously published or data published in the future. For this reason, the data should only be used as an indicator of crime trends.

Reported crime is all reports of crime recorded on the crime recording system. Reported crime is made up of Recorded Crime, Non-Crime Occurrences and Cancelled Crimes, the definitions for the latter two are defined below.

Non-Crime Occurrence: This term is used to describe a record of an incident which has come to the attention of the police, which, on the Balance of Probabilities would normally amount to a notifiable crime, but a resultant crime has not been recorded. The specific circumstances where this would happen are:

1) The incident is reported by a third party and either:

    i) The alleged victim declines to confirm the crime or

    ii) The alleged victim cannot be traced

2) The incident is being dealt with by another police force

3) The National Crime Recording Standard or Home Office Counting Rules for Recording Crime direct that a crime should not be recorded.

Reasons for a crime being valid even if victim did not confirm:

1. State-based (or victim less crime) does not need to be confirmed by the victim for obvious reasons.

2. Victim based crime must be confirmed by the victim, but this does not always have to be the case. The most obvious of these exceptions will be homicide where the victim cannot confirm the offence. We can record a crime when a professional third party has reported it (health professional, social services) etc. We can also record where there is evidence that a crime has occurred even if the victim denies it (i.e., CCTV footage).

3. For domestic abuse, sometimes the victim does not recognize that a crime has occurred, and we will record that crime if we believe that it has occurred.

Cancelled Crime: An offence can only be cancelled if it has been recorded as a crime. The situations when a crime can be cancelled are governed by the Home Office Counting Rules for Recorded Crime. Specific circumstances when an offence can be cancelled are listed below:

- The offence was committed in another force area.
- There is additional verifiable information which determines that no notifiable crime has been committed.
- The crime constitutes part of a crime already recorded.
- The crime was recorded in error.
- The crime was recorded as an assault and there is additional verifiable information that the offender acted in self-defense.
- The crime is an offence of fraud and their clear auditable information that shows that the offender has been dealt with in another area.

Recorded crime will be all reports of crime excluding those offences that fit within the above criteria for non-crime occurrence and cancelled crime.

Example of 'Non-Crime Occurrence' will be a domestic incident non crime, child protection etc., where there is no HO Stats code.

4.   Executive Summary

- There were 42,884 valid crime occurrences 2024. Of these 40% were acquisitive crime, 31% were violent crimes (A third of which were violence with injury)

- There has been a 12% decrease from 2023 with occurrences at their lowest level since the pandemic. This is mostly due to a decrease in Violence Without Injury. This was the result of reclassifying some harassment occurrences.

- Reported acquisitive crime has increased from 2023; while other categories declined reported shoplifting increased by 26%. This could partly be attributed to the result of the work of the retail crime strategy working with TVP to increase confidence amongst retailers to report shoplifting occurrences. Robbery also increased by 34%.

- Serious violence has increased slightly from 2023. It declined every year from 2018 to 2023 but 2024 saw an increase of twelve occurrences (4%).

- Only Oxford experienced an increase in crime from 2023 to 2024, this was from increases in Acquisitive and Drug occurrences. The former is the result of increased reported shoplifting, the latter due to police operations.

- There has been a 93% increase in drug supply occurrences since 2023, more than double 2022. A single police operation involving multiple arrests will be at least partly responsible.

- The peak age-group for criminal damage, sexual offences, violence without injury, and violence with injury is 13-15 years old, for Anti-social behavior it is 11-14 years old. This is reduced from the 2018-2023 peaks and is concerning. The reason for this change is unknown.

- Although data is limited there is some indication of ethnic minorities being slightly overrepresented in crime figures (both as suspects and victims), but the problem does not appear to be hugely substantial.

5. Recommendations

1. The October anomaly for acquisitive crime should be noted by local authorities when promoting retail or domestic security.

2. There is a peak in youth violence in the time slot immediately after school, this should be considered when formulating intervention strategies. This could involve police community officers monitoring around schools and town centre locations.

3. The time heat maps indicate the night-time economy (NTE) is playing a role in violent offences, despite the overall decrease in serious violence. It should be remembered that in terms of location NTE related occurrences may not necessarily be in or near licensed premises.

4. The shift in the peak age band for suspects in several crime categories to the 13-15 age bracket suggest that intervention projects need to target younger age groups.

6. Temporal analysis

6.1. Trends

6.1.1. Years and months

The period being analysed runs from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2024.
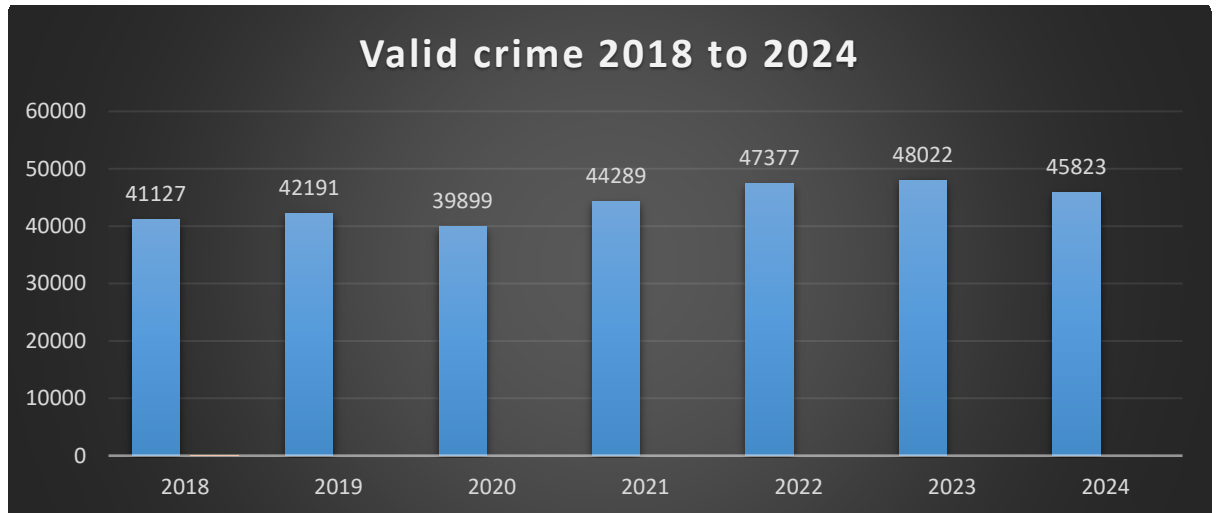
Figure 1 Valid crime by year

There has been a 5% decrease in valid crime from 2023 to 2024 which represents an end to the upward trend since 2020. However, valid crime in 2024 was still 11% higher than 2018.

The decrease is from 2023 to 2024 can be attributed to a fall in recorded Violence without Injury which in turn is due reclassifying some harassment occurrences as non-crimes

On the next page Figure 2 shows the monthly figures for valid crime. The months where there was some form of Covid-19 related lockdown are coloured red. The trend-line indicates an overall upward trend continuing into 2024.
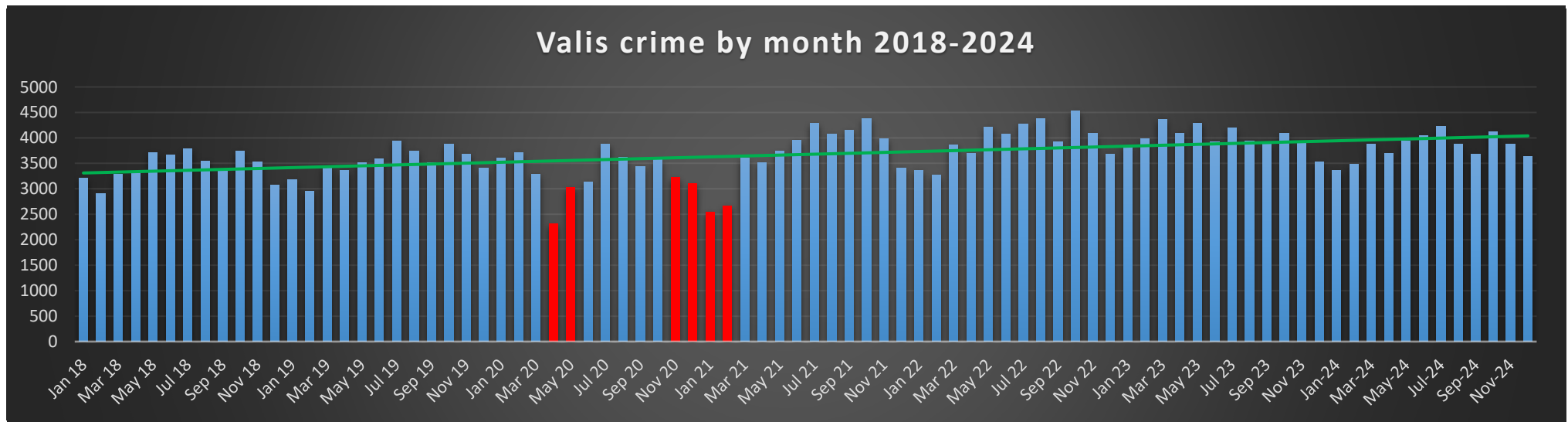
Figure 2 Valid crime by month: Jan 2018 - December 2024

From 2018 to 2024 there has been an upwards trend, however several months in 2024 did not exceed the trendline. The red coloured months featured some level of lockdown.

6.1.2. Seasonal patterns

The figure below is for data from January 2018 to December 2024.
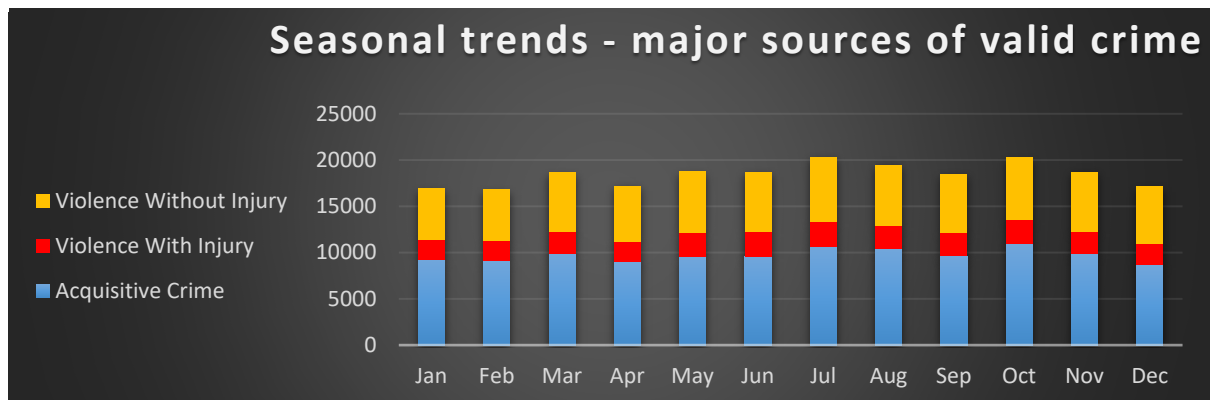
Figure 3 Seasonal trends - major sources of valid crime

The period December to April is the quietest part of the year for these types of crimes, the effects of the lockdowns will influence these figures. July is peak month for both forms of violence and is the second for acquisitive crime. October has the highest amount of acquisitive crime and the second highest violence without injury.
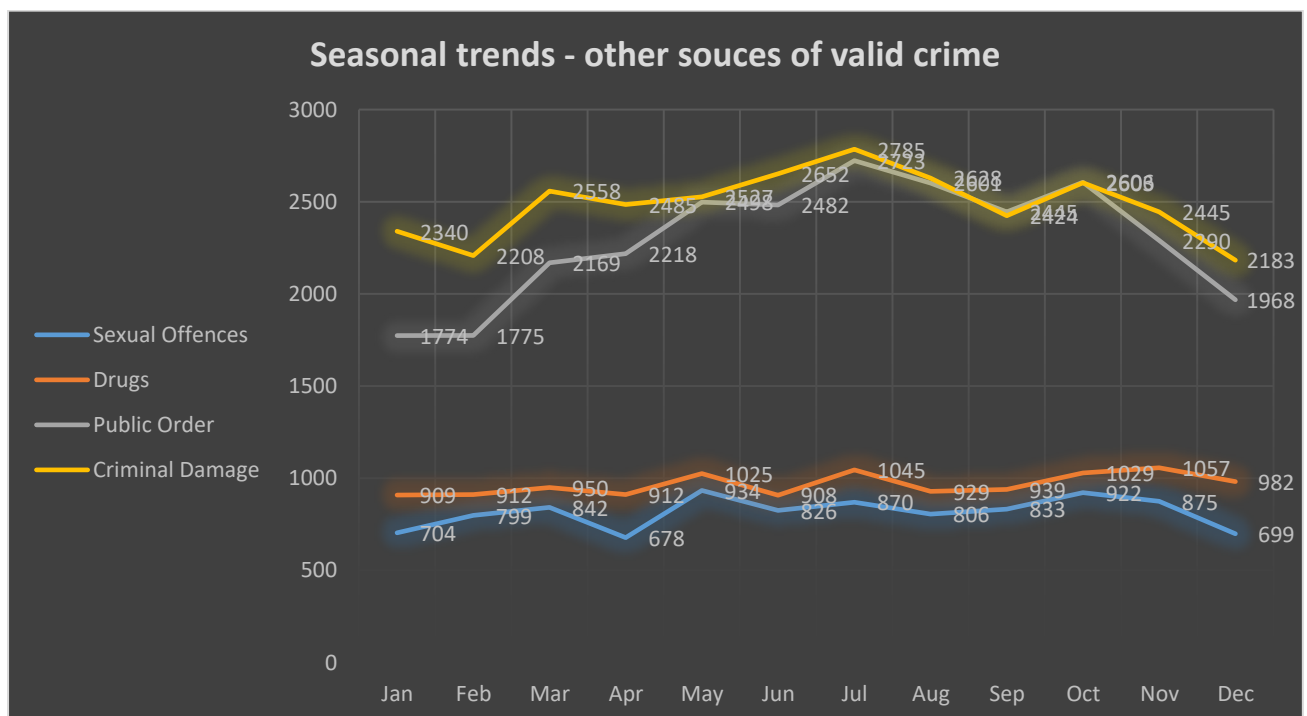
Figure 4 Valid crimes (drugs, public order, sexual offences and criminal damage) by month 2018- 2024

Again, July is peak for both criminal damage and public order offences, but the October figures are second in both those categories. Also, sexual assaults peaked in October.

6.1.3. Seasonal acquisitive

	Burglary Dwelling	Burglary non-dwelling	Robbery	Shoplifting	Theft	Vehicle Theft	Total
Jan	111	52	17	342	388	373	1283
Feb	103	53	19	369	383	351	1278
Mar	93	78	26	441	459	372	1469
Apr	109	82	31	438	419	325	1404
May	90	64	31	466	390	340	1381
Jun	94	57	24	457	506	356	1494
Jul	112	62	42	469	484	360	1529
Aug	89	37	32	549	382	345	1434
Sep	95	28	32	460	377	433	1425
Oct	104	48	36	581	434	412	1615
Nov	126	67	40	490	445	335	1503
Dec	120	40	21	493	399	230	1303

Figure 5 Seasonal acquisitive crime heat map 2024

Vehicle theft in September to October is derived from peaks in bicycle theft and theft from vehicles. This could be related to the start of the academic year. The October to November peaks could be related to pre-Christmas acquisition.

6.1.4. Seasonal criminal damage

	Arson	Criminal Damage Dwelling	Criminal Damage Non-Dwelling	Criminal Damage Vehicle
Jan	9	151	38	76
Feb	13	150	64	95
Mar	11	155	50	120
Apr	14	161	50	101
May	18	136	49	101
Jun	16	187	70	110
Jul	17	155	72	124
Aug	29	168	51	97
Sep	22	123	42	91
Oct	17	122	41	94
Nov	5	121	61	72
Dec	9	153	56	81

Figure 6 Acquisitive heat map 2024

Arson is seasonal with the peak in the summer. While just under half of Arson suspects (where an age is recorded) are school age, there is insufficient data to suggest this is an issue relating to school holidays.

6.1.5. Violence with injury

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
5	4	1	5	4	3	15	15
6	3		4	5	2	7	6
7	6	4	7	10	10	14	4
8	15	22	18	28	20	12	11
9	18	18	11	18	24	18	11
10	25	19	24	26	21	22	19
11	21	21	28	21	41	26	16
12	27	28	33	25	29	29	28
13	23	33	33	36	33	29	31
14	32	33	33	29	23	29	35
15	44	39	42	43	43	30	34
16	35	46	50	43	35	34	26
17	44	39	41	34	25	33	40
18	34	41	32	36	29	41	38
19	26	48	38	26	51	31	47
20	25	21	36	26	36	41	36
21	41	30	30	27	41	43	39
22	23	25	26	33	36	45	44
23	27	19	23	26	46	57	34
0	13	16	13	24	35	62	23
1	9	17	18	15	44	59	19
2	3	12	13	11	37	60	15
3	6	6	4	14	35	40	11
4	6	6	8	5	17	18	5

Figure 7 Violence with injury Day-Hour heat-map 2024

As with the 2018 to 2023 data there are two areas of focus:

i) The nighttime economy (NTE) zone, in particular Friday and Saturday night, 19:00 to 0300. It should be noted that while the occurrences can be related to the NTE they may not be occurring in licensed premises or even within their proximity. Occurrences can be happening when people return home or if parties are held in private residences.

ii) The after-school zone, Monday to Friday 15:00 to 17:00. Further analysis for 2018 to 2023 indicated that 30% of Violence with injury within this timeslot had suspects aged 11 to 17 years old. This is roughly double the % for that age group for all time periods.

7. Demographics
7.1. Suspect demographics
7.1.1. Gender

Please note the suspect's gender was only recorded for 60% of crimes, therefore the below table only contains data for which it was included.

	Female	Male	Total	Male %
Acquisitive Crime	1,107	3,759	4,866	77.25%
Criminal Damage	352	1,257	1,609	78.12%
Drugs	251	1,537	1,788	85.96%
Other	175	718	893	80.40%
Public Order	552	2,005	2,557	78.41%
Sexual Offences	111	1,306	1,417	92.17%
Violence With Injury	1,181	2,791	3972	70.27%
Violence Without Injury	3,410	7,005	10,415	67.26%
	7,139	**20,378**	**27,517**	**74.06%**

Table 1 Valid crimes by gender – suspects (2024)

Suspects are predominantly male, though the type of occurrence with the highest proportion of females is for violence with Injury.

7.1.2. Age
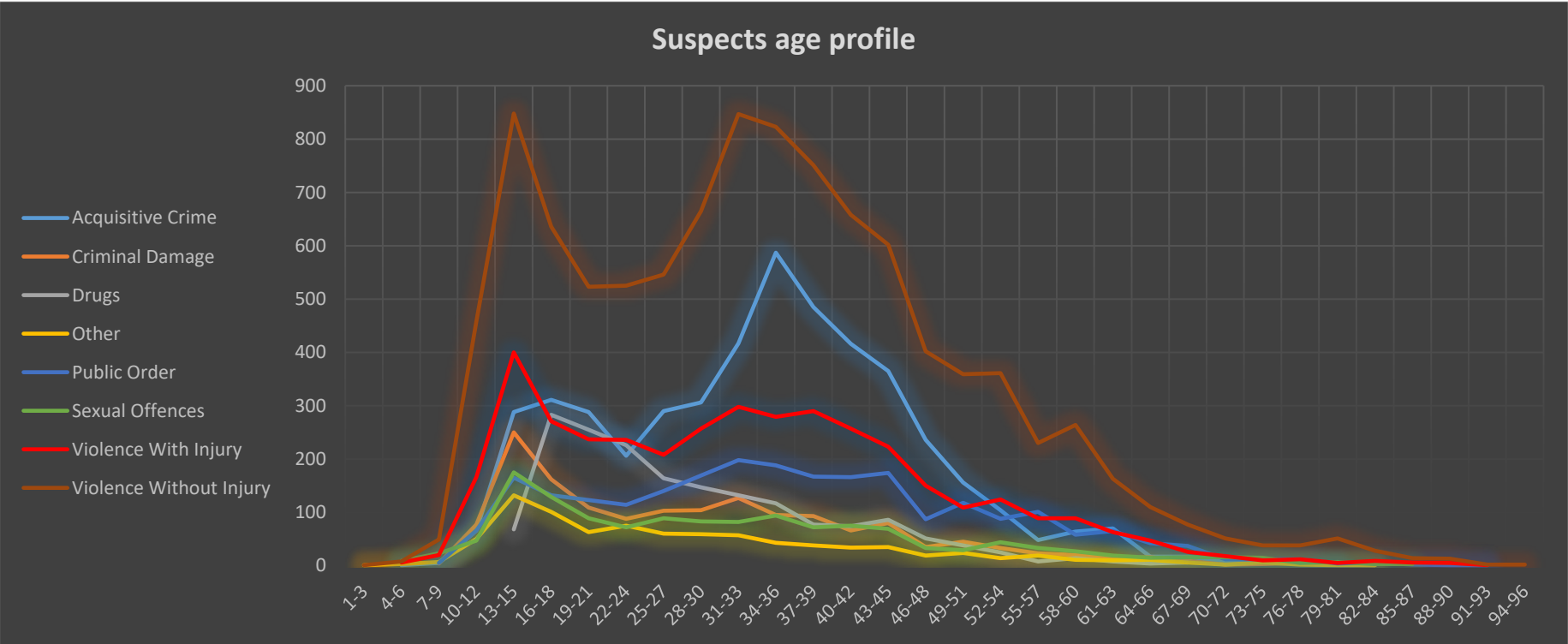
Figure 8 shows age profile of suspects by occurrence type (2024)

For 2018 to 2023 the peak at age group for most offences was 18-21 years old. For violent offences in 2024 this has shifted to the 13-18. Most types of crime begin to taper down from 30 years old but acquisitive crime peaks between 30 to 40 years old, where drug offences are falling steeply. This indicates that while some acquisitive crime is used to fund drug use a substantial amount is not. Violence Without Injury (which includes harassment, stalking and coercive behaviour) has a second peak which persists up until 43-45.

7.1.3. Suspects of multiple occurrences

Acquisitive

We are reporting on six types of acquisitive crime: shoplifting, burglary (dwelling), burglary (non-dwelling), robbery, theft and vehicle theft. Research was carried out into how many suspects were connected to differing crime types (e.g. a suspect connected to robbery and car theft would be connected to two crime types). The data shows that roughly 11% of suspects diversified their acquisition with 93 suspects diversifying to three or more types.

Acquisitive Crime types	Number of suspects 2024
1	2,077
2	175
3	63
4	17
5	13

Table 2 Multi occurrence suspects - Acquisitive

Violence and sexual offences

As with acquisitive crime research was carried out to see if suspects were linked to violence with injury, violence without injury and sexual offences.

Violence crime types	Number of suspects 2024
1	9,609
2	1,154
3	62

Table 3 Multi occurrence suspects – Violence and sexual offence

With this table 11% of suspects are across two or more crime types. Further research indicated that suspects were more likely to be linked to both types of violence rather than linked to one type of violence and sexual offences. The next table shows suspects linked to both violence and sexual offences amount to just less than 3% of suspects.

Sexual offences and violence	Number of suspects 2024
1	9,552
2	278

Table 4 Multi -suspects - Violence and sexual offences delineation

7.2.   Aggrieved demographics

7.2.1.   Gender

High offence category	Female	Male	Total	% male
Acquisitive Crime	3,917	5,659	9,576	59.10%
Criminal Damage	1,360	1,315	2,675	49.16%
Other	205	136	341	39.88%
Public Order	1,491	1,675	3,166	52.91%
Sexual Offences	1,395	283	1,678	16.87%
Violence With Injury	2,069	2,239	4,308	51.97%
Violence Without Injury	6,255	4,952	11,207	44.19%
Total	16,698	16,274	32,972	49.36%

Table 5 Valid crimes by gender – victims (2024)

Victims of crime are far more evenly split across genders, though women are far more likely to be the victims of sexual offences. It should also be noted that the acquisitive crime data could be skewed if the crime is committed against a family asset such as a dwelling, car or business where the person reporting may be more likely to be male.

30% of Violence with Injury were domestic abuse, of these nearly 70% of the victims were female.

Drugs have been removed as further investigation revealed that the victims were either victims of linked occurrences or the concerned family and friends of a drug user.

8. Demographic context

The following are the population changes from 2011 to 2021, as reported by the census conducted in those years. The valid crime (VC) data is for 2024, the per capita calculation is per 2021 census.

	Valid crimes	Population	VC per capita
Oxford	17,002	162,100	0.10
Cherwell	10,994	161,837	0.07
South Oxfordshire	4,478	150,024	0.03
Vale of White Horse	8,446	139,487	0.06
West Oxfordshire	4,725	115,161	0.04
Oxfordshire	**45,465**	**726,530**	**0.06**

Table 6 Comparison valid crimes across Oxfordshire districts 2024

The two most urbanised districts, Oxford and Cherwell, had the highest count of valid crimes and the most valid crimes per capita.

For comparison the valid crime per capita for Berkshire is below.

Local Authority	VC per capita per year
Bracknell Forest	0.05
Reading	0.10
Slough	0.10
West Berkshire	0.05
Windsor and Maidenhead	0.06
Wokingham	0.04

Table 7 Valid crime per capita Berkshire 2018-2023

	Crime increases	Crime increases %	Population increases 2011 - 2021
Oxford	1224	7.76%	6.70%
Cherwell	1142	11.59%	13.50%
South Oxfordshire	-302	-6.32%	11.10%
Vale of White Horse	1837	27.80%	14.80%
West Oxfordshire	617	15.02%	9.00%
Oxfordshire	**6895**	**10.99%**	**10.90%**

Table 8 Valid crime increases from2018 to 2024

Over the six-year period the Vale of the White Horse has seen the both the highest % increase and the highest number of valid crimes. The crime increase is from 2018 to 2024 so the increases should not be directly compared to the population increases from 2011 to 2021, the population increase figures are included to be indicative.

8.1.1. Age profile
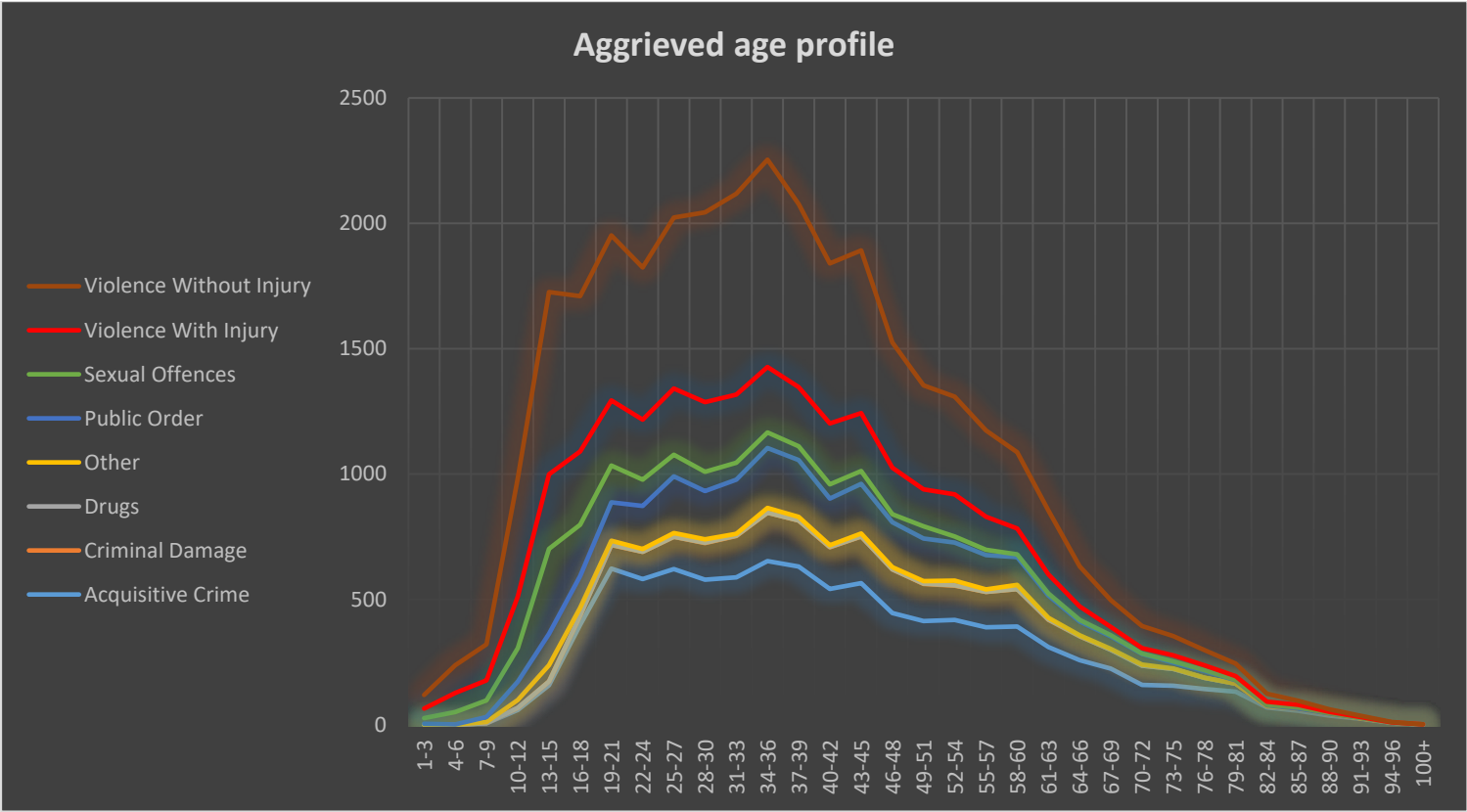
Figure 9 shows age profile of victims by occurrence type (2024)

While the peaks for many crimes are in the thirties a concerning outcome from this analysis is the number of victims of violent and sexual offences in the 13-15 years old group.

Also notable are the numbers of victims of Violence Without Injury remain high until the mid-forties, remembering most of the victims are female.

8.1.2. Multi-victims

Number of times a victim	Number of victims	% of victims
One	24,169	85.78%
Two	2720	9.65%
Three	699	2.48%
Four	290	1.03%
Five or more	297	1.05%

Table 9 multi-victims table

Please note two caveats exist for victim data; it only applies for occurrences in 2024 and only in Oxfordshire.

It is notable that within a single calendar year 4,006 people were victims of more than one occurrence.

Further research showed that domestic abuse was no more prevalent amongst repeat victims. 30% of all violent occurrences were DA and 30% of victims of 3 or more occurrences were DA.

Multiple crime types

Research was carried out to see if victims were often victims of multiple crime types again the caveats of only within Oxfordshire and 2024 apply. Less than 10% were victims of multiple crime types.

Victims of all occurrences		
Number of crime types	**Number of victims**	**% of victims**
1	25,541	90.64%
2	2,196	7.79%
3	352	1.25%
4 or more	88	0.30%

Table 10 Victims of multiple crime types

8.2.   Ethnic factors

Data on the suspects' and victims' ethnicity is often not recorded, partly because the police require the permission of the individual to record it. Therefore, it is difficult to produce analysis or draw conclusions from incomplete data.

Also to be considered.
- The 2021 census data is now slightly out of date.
- Older age brackets are less ethnically diverse and contain elderly people who are less likely to become victims or suspects.

The ethnicity breakdown of Oxfordshire for the 2021 census was as follows:

Ethnic group	% of population in 2021
Asian	6%
Black	2%
Mixed	3%
White British	77%
White Other	10%
Other ethnic group	2%

Table 11 Ethnic breakdown of Oxfordshire

8.2.1.   Ethnic – suspects

Suspects	Acquisitive Crime	Criminal Damage	Drugs	Public Order	Sexual Offences	Violence With Injury	Violence Without Injury	Total	Total %
Any other	85	5	27	26	19	41	94	302	1.87%
Asian	91	42	110	77	61	150	328	881	5.47%
Black	141	38	130	78	39	141	316	913	5.67%
Mixed	138	34	84	44	37	112	214	684	4.25%
White British	2,318	757	906	1,155	566	1,619	4,359	12,064	74.89%
White other	357	58	91	87	60	182	396	1265	7.85%

Table 12 Suspects by ethnicity – suspects (2024)

The overall suspects' figures are broadly in line with the 2021 Census ethnicity data for Oxfordshire. There are some slight anomalies with over 9% of drug suspects being black.

8.2.2. Ethnic – victims

	Acquisitive Crime	Criminal Damage	Public Order	Sexual Offences	Violence With Injury	Violence Without Injury	Total	Total %
Any other	143	20	29	18	47	121	380	1.98%
Asian	783	111	181	37	128	471	1,719	8.98%
Black	217	45	79	23	104	269	744	3.89%
Mixed	117	42	61	42	87	217	566	2.96%
White British	4,126	1,266	1,320	627	1,731	4,699	13,934	72.76%
White other	736	136	143	71	208	502	1807	9.44%

Table 13 Victims by ethnicity – victims (2024)

While the figures are broadly in line with the general population as per the 2021 census there is an anomaly of 13% of acquisitive crime victims being Asian.

9. Qualitative analysis

9.1. Overview
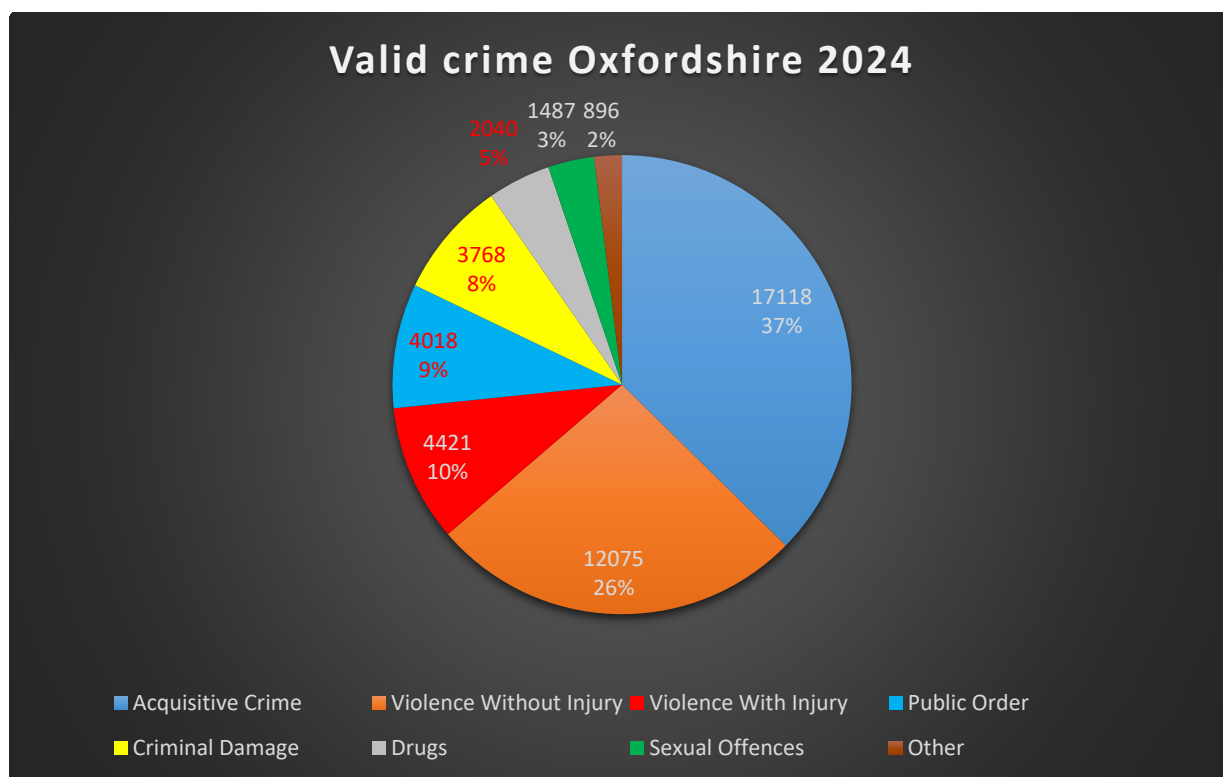
Figure 10 Valid crime breakdown 2024

Acquisitive crime and violence without injury amount to 63% of all valid crimes.
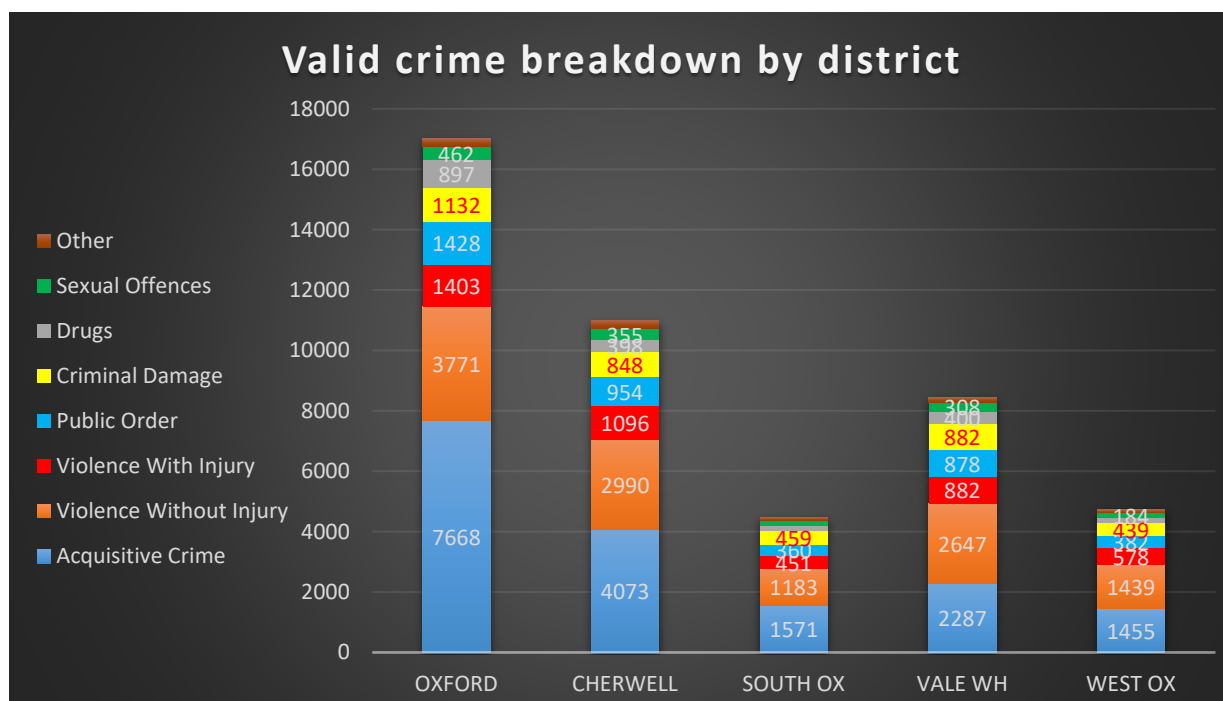
Figure 11 Valid crime by district
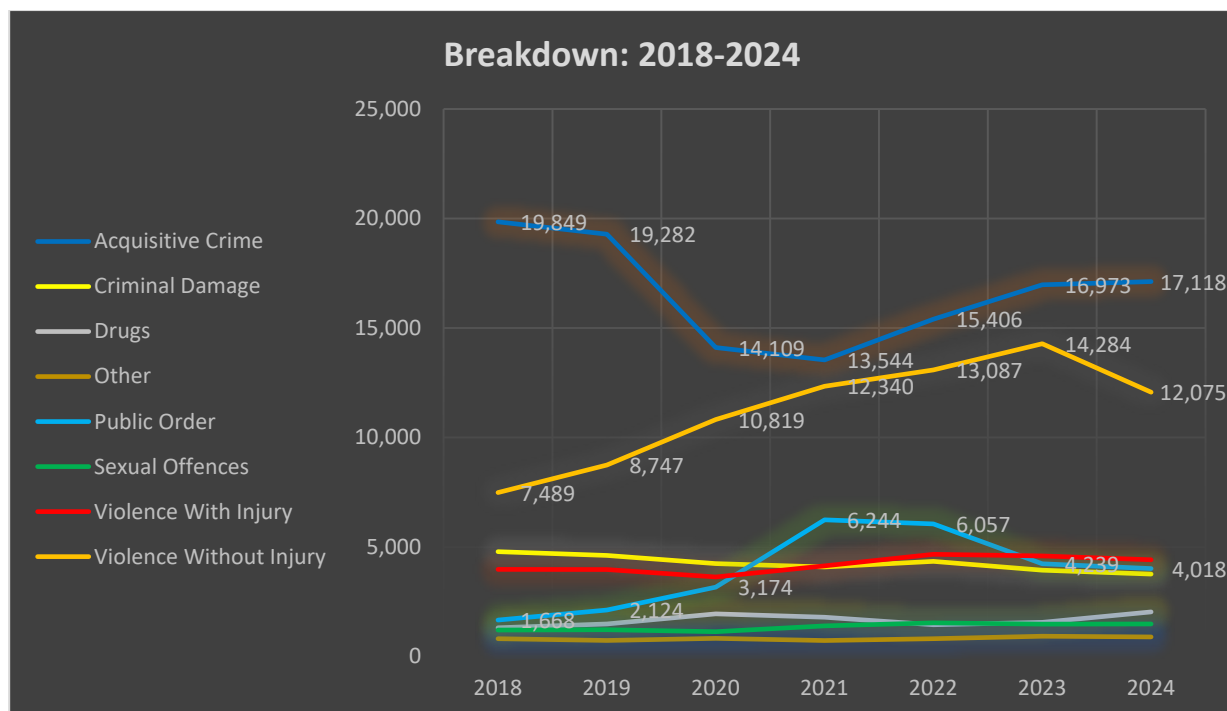
Figure 12 Trend breakdown 2018-2024

There was a clear upward trend in violence without injury, until 2024. This includes the new offence of coercive and controlling behaviour, along with offences such as harassment and stalking, which may have historically been under reported. Acquisitive crime dipped during the pandemic, it has seen increased since but not to pre-pandemic levels.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Acquisitive Crime	19,849	19,282	14,109	13,544	15,406	16,973	17,118	116,281
Criminal Damage	4,790	4,618	4,243	4,089	4,347	3,949	3,768	29,804
Drugs	1,316	1,489	1,948	1,794	1,452	1,562	2,040	11,601
Other	819	735	833	734	818	931	896	5766
Public Order	1,668	2,124	3,174	6,244	6,057	4,239	4,018	27,524
Sexual Offences	1,211	1,225	1,137	1,399	1,540	1,483	1,483	9482
Violence With Injury	3,985	3,971	3,636	4,145	4,670	4,597	4,421	29,425
Violence Without Injury	7,489	8,747	10,819	12,340	13,087	14,284	12,075	78,841
Total	**41,127**	**42,191**	**39,899**	**44,289**	**47,377**	**48,018**	**45,823**	**262,901**

Table 14 Breakdown of valid crime across 2018-2024

Figure 13 and table 14 excludes non-recent occurrences to maintain the accuracy of yearly reporting.

9.2. Acquisitive breakdown
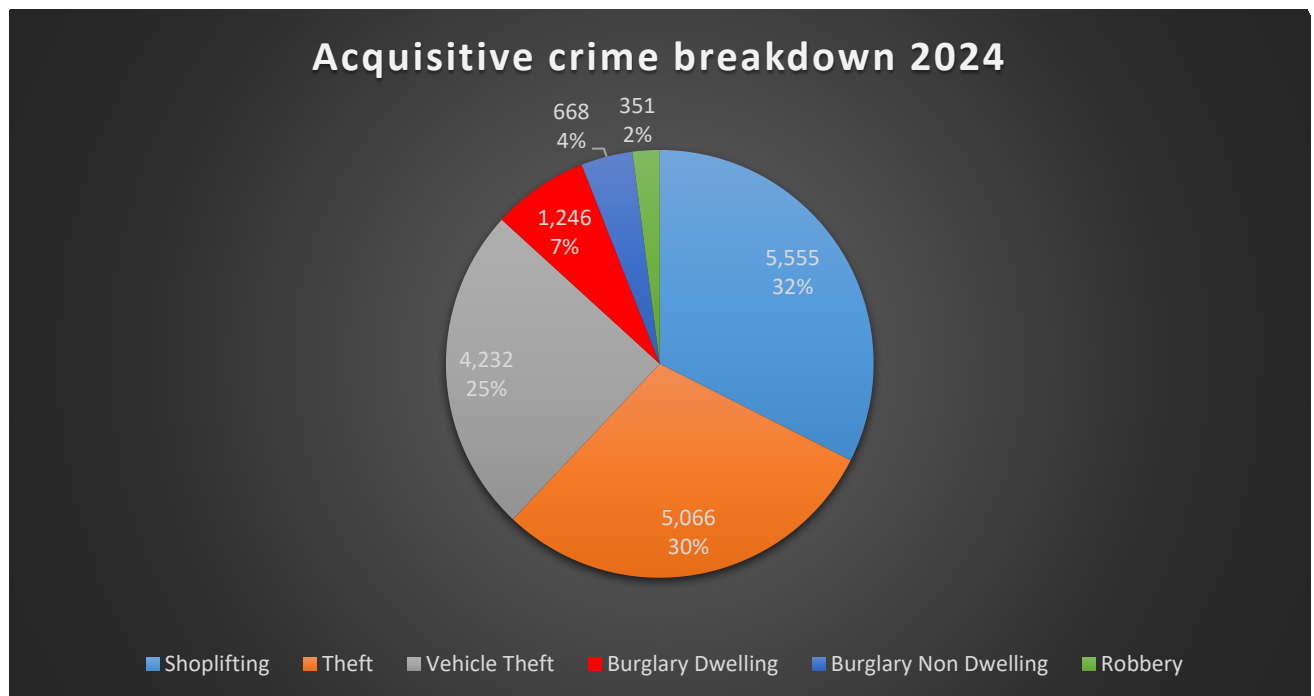
Figure 13 Acquisitive occurrence breakdown 2024

Please note the vehicle theft includes theft from a vehicle, bicycle theft as well as theft of a vehicle.
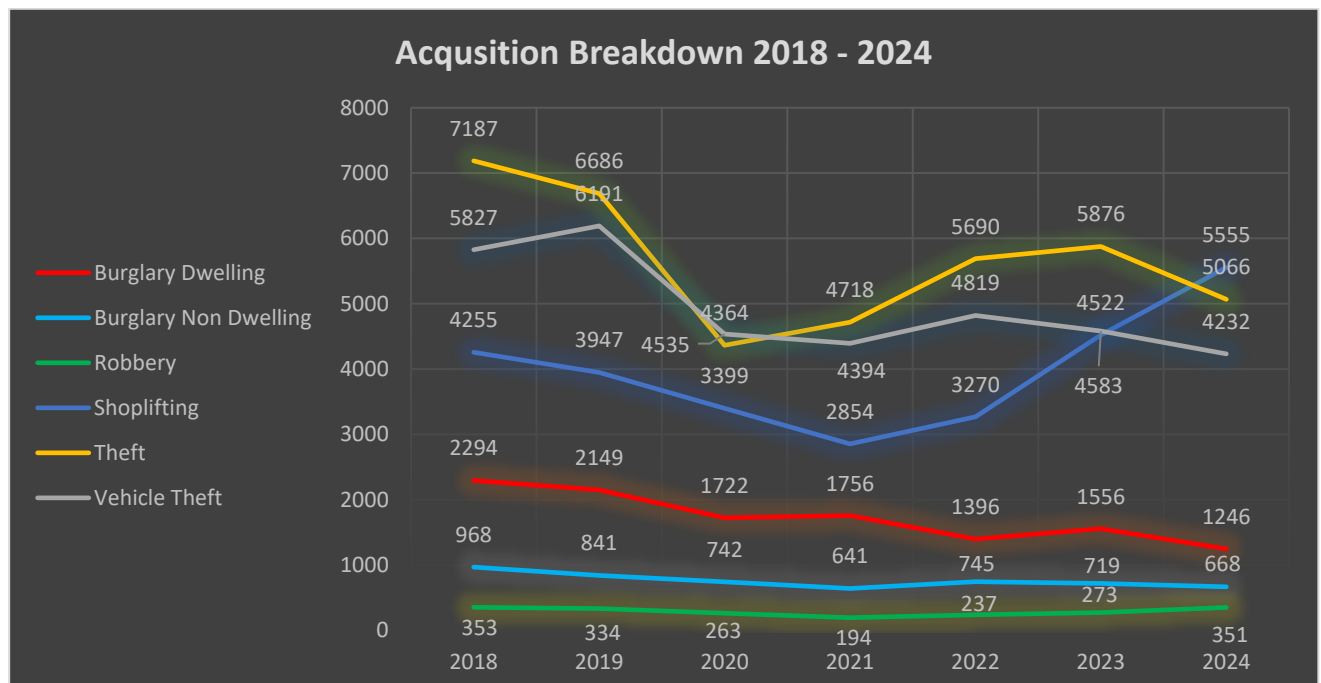
Figure 14 Acquisitive trend breakdown

The pandemic saw a fall in all types of acquisitive crime, some have seen subsequent increases, but the burglary of dwellings has continued a downward trend. Only Shoplifting has returned to pre-pandemic levels. Moves to encourage the reporting of shoplifting may have been a factor, as well the cost-of-living crisis.

	CHERWELL	OXFORD	SOUTH OX	VALE WH	WEST OX
Burglary Dwelling	274	435	167	197	173
Burglary non-dwelling	122	267	90	114	67
Robbery	97	145	21	58	30
Shoplifting	1622	2472	357	711	374
Theft	1207	2197	494	718	426
Vehicle Theft	751	2152	442	489	385

Table 15 Acquisitive crime across districts (2024)
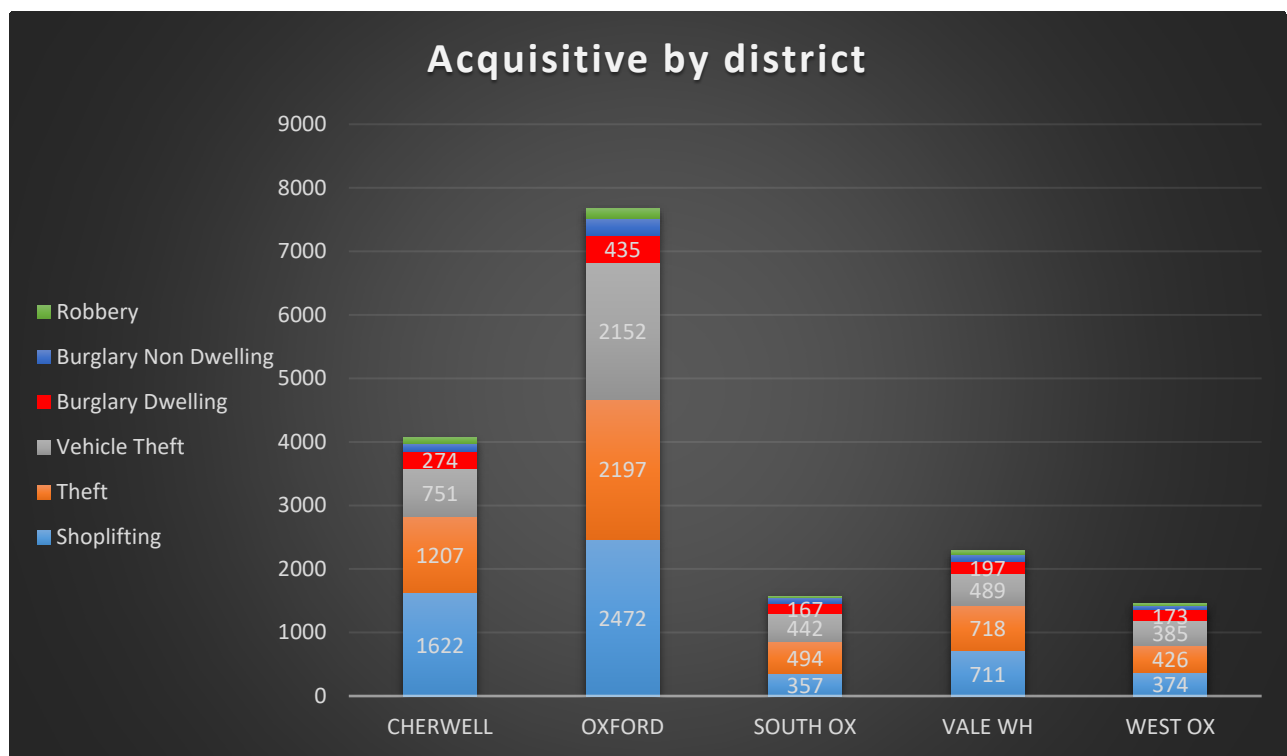
Figure 15 Acquisitive breakdown by district (2024)

The data clearly indicates the concentration of Acquisitive crime in Oxford, the total of vehicle theft in oxford exceeds the combined vehicle theft for all other regions. While Oxford has the highest population, valid acquisitive crime is hugely disproportionate in that district, being reported nearly double that of Cherwell and over four times that of West Oxfordshire. It is also notable that while dwelling burglary is lower in the more rural districts it represents a greater proportion of acquisitive crime.

10. Locational

10.1. District distribution
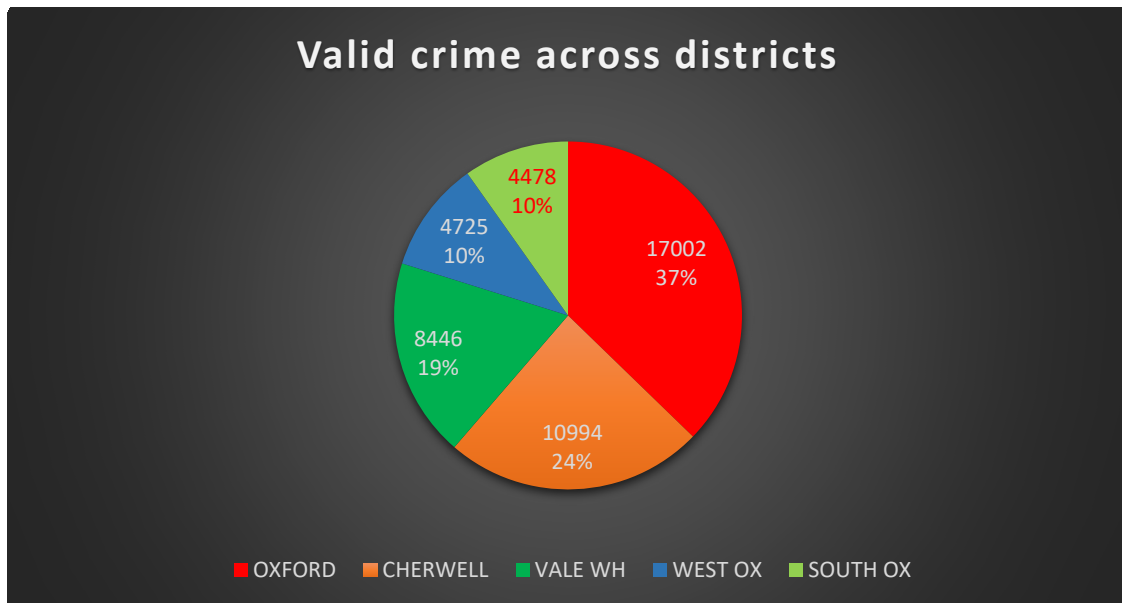
Figure 16 Distribution of valid crime across districts (2024)

Oxford has a clear over-representation while Cherwell had more crime than West Oxfordshire and the Vale combined.

Distribution by crime type is shown in the respective sections of this report.
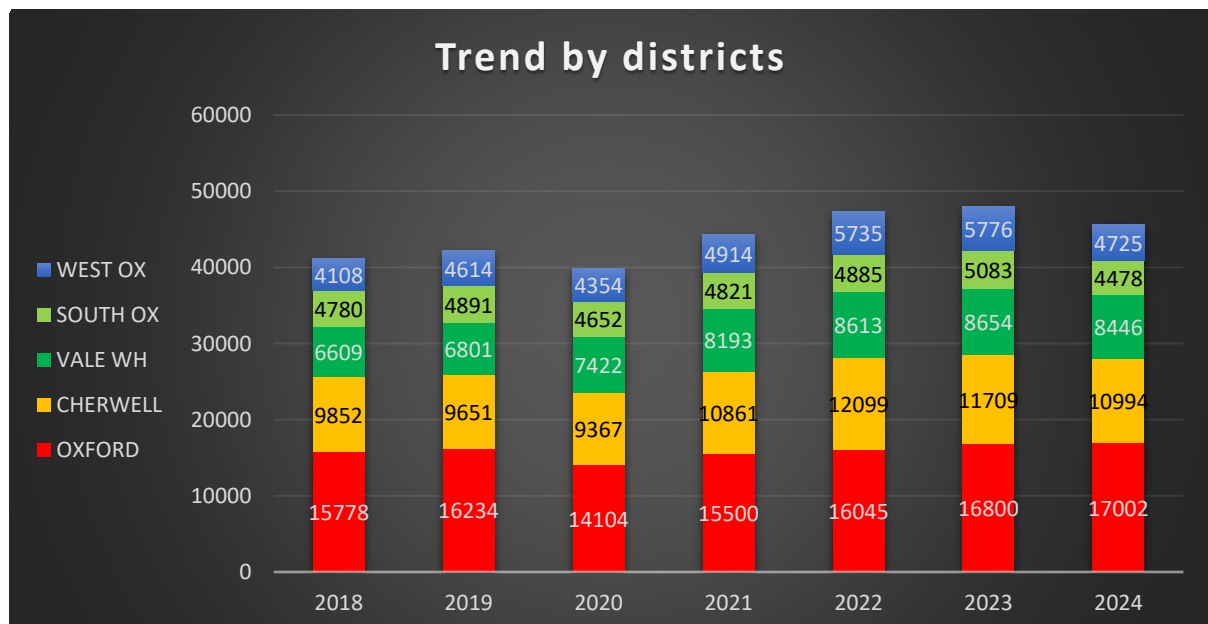
Figure 19 Trend by district

Only Oxford has seen an increase (1.2%) from 2023 to 2024, further analysis revealed this was mostly due to increases in acquisitive and drug occurrences.

Acquisitive crime mapping
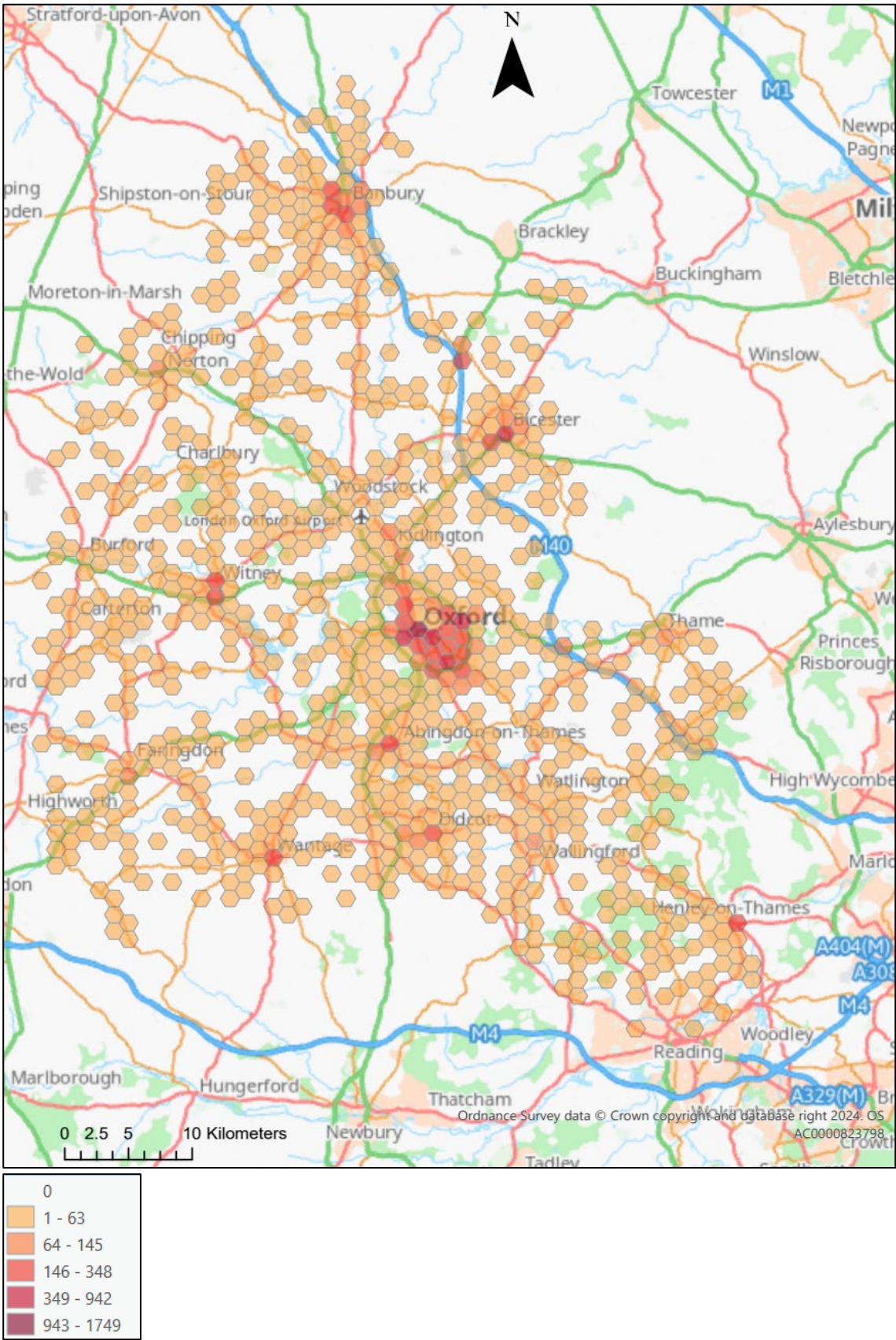
Figure 17 Map of acquisitive crime Oxfordshire (2024)

The map shows three types of concentrations:

- Urban centers, this does not only involve the larger centres such as Oxford and Banbury but Wantage, Thame, Didcot and Chipping Norton have concentrations.

- Motorway service stations, particularly the M40 Sycamore grove services.

- Areas that could be identified as up market which attract thieves, for example Henley on Thames and Bicester village.

The colour scale for occurrences on the map indicates the concentration of acquisitive crime.

11. Hate crime

11.1. Hate crime overview
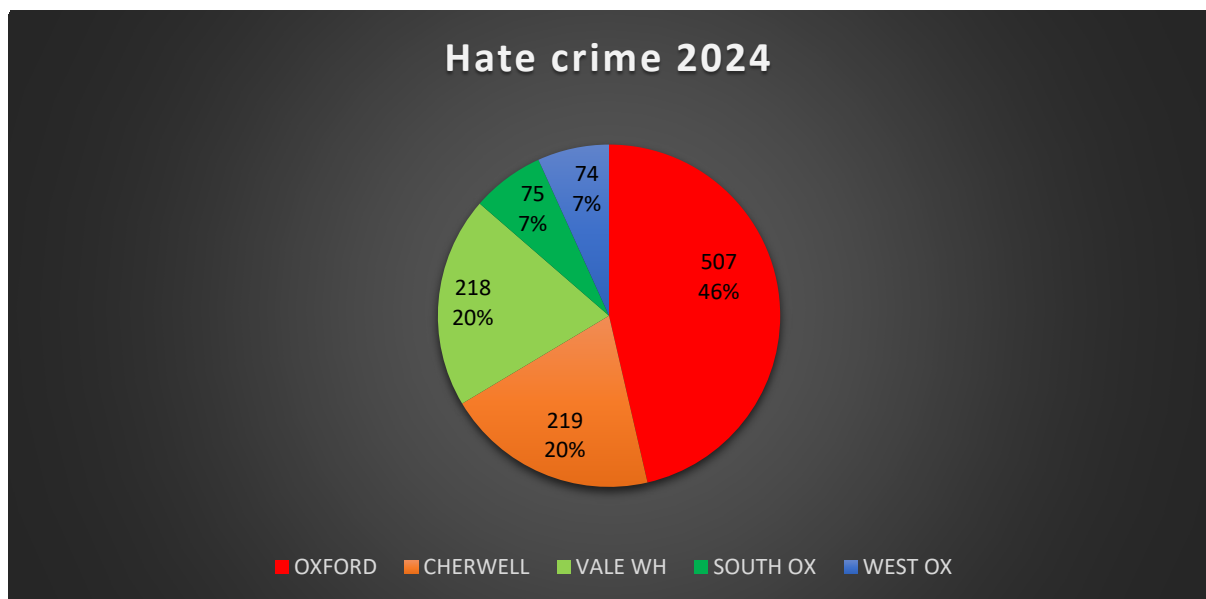
Figure 18 Distribution of hate crime across the districts (2024)

Oxford has the highest number of hate crimes, this is to be expected given its relatively high population, the high level of diversity, and urban environment. However, Cherwell and the Vale have hate crime disproportionately higher than their populations.
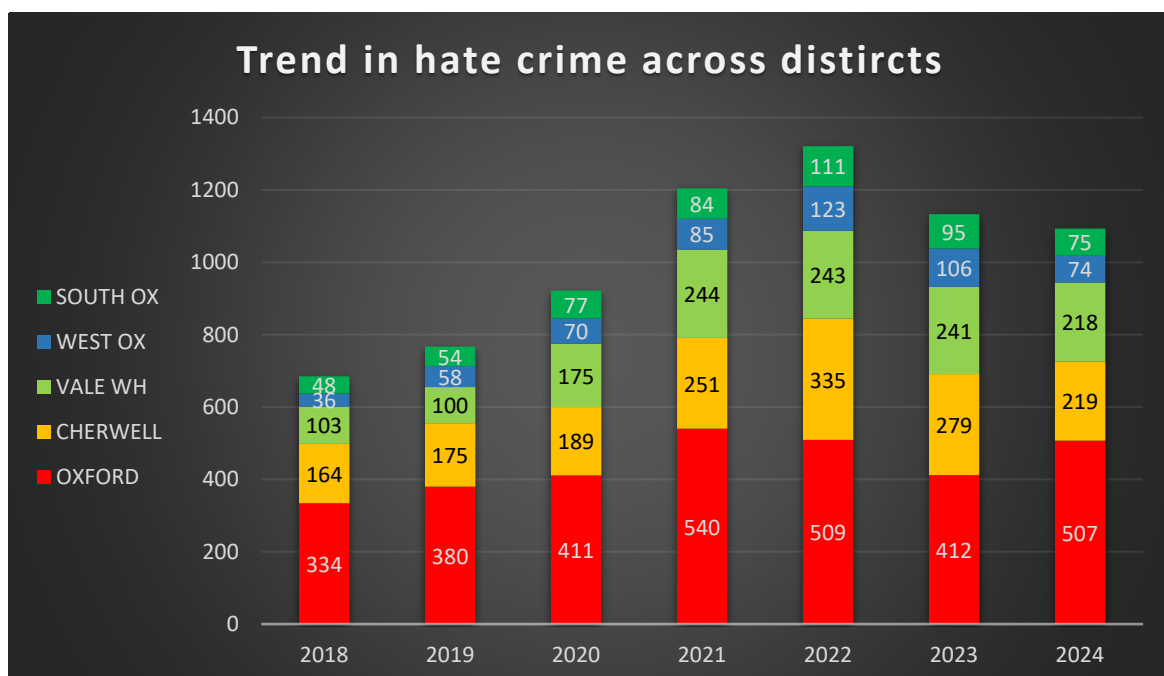
Figure 19 Growth of hate crime across districts (2018-2024)

The increases across the districts range from 56% for Cherwell and 62% West Oxfordshire across the six-year period.

11.1.1. Hate crime breakdown
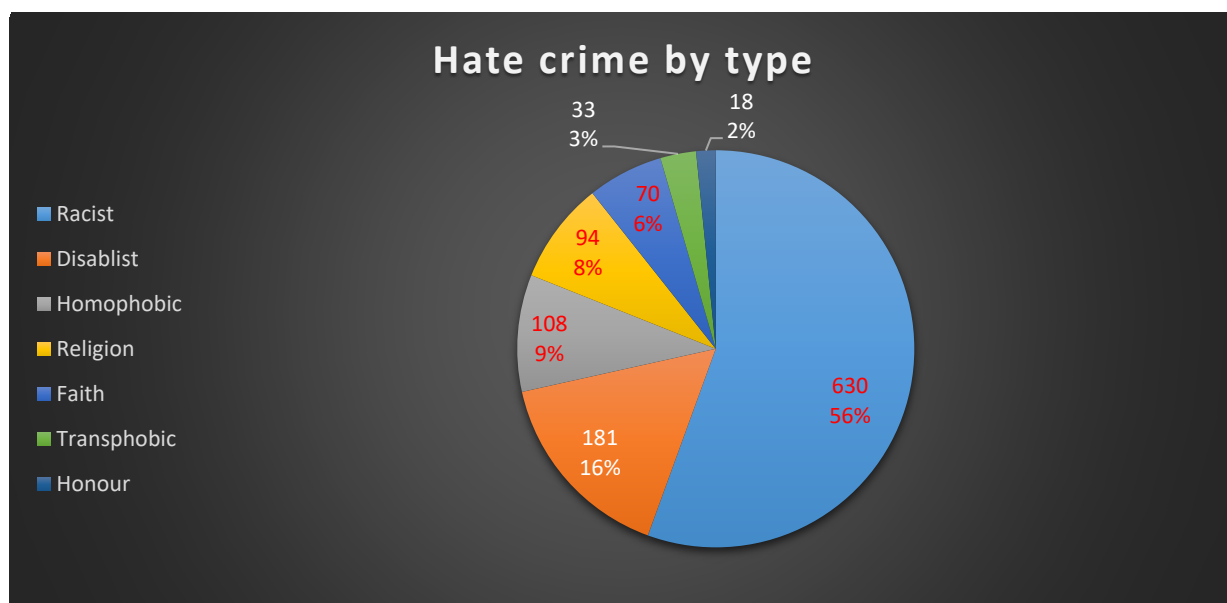
Figure 20 Hate crime by type

A clear majority of hate crime are racial in nature and over three quarters are either racial, disablist or homophobic in nature.
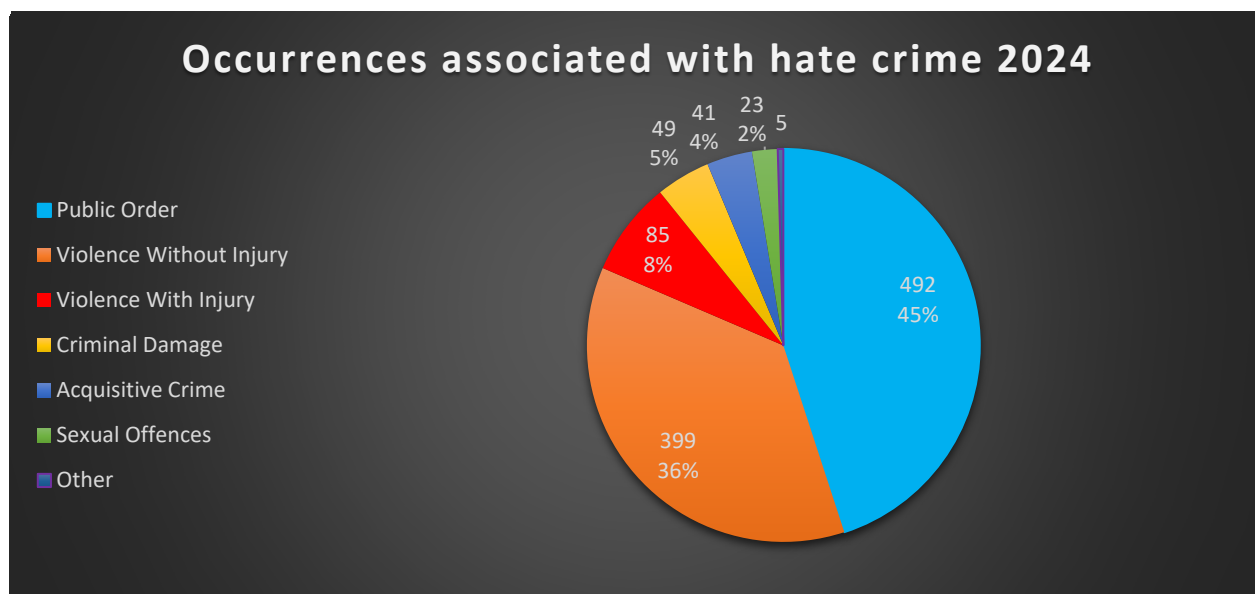
Figure 21 Breakdown of occurrences associated with hate crime (2024)

Of the violence without injury occurrences roughly half (12,145) were common assault, the next most common was the 3,196 occurrences from malicious communications. This means that roughly 45% of hate crimes involved physical violence when violence with injury is considered.
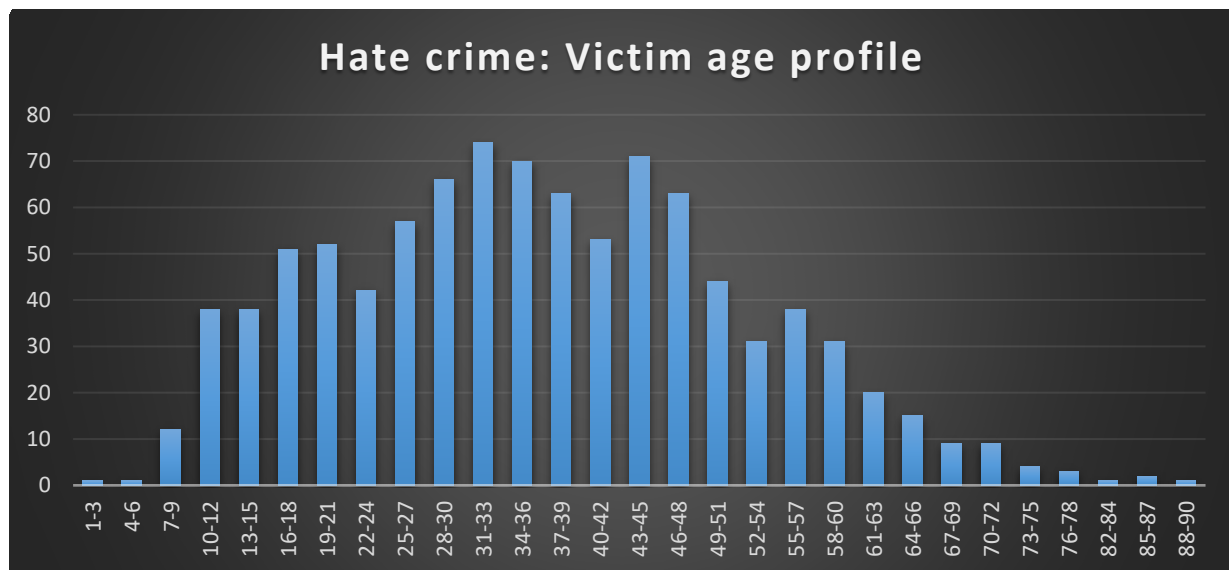
Figure 22 Hate crime victim age profile

The figures show that while the numbers of school age victims are notable 68% of victims are from the 19-51 years old age group. The gender split is fairly even with 54% male.
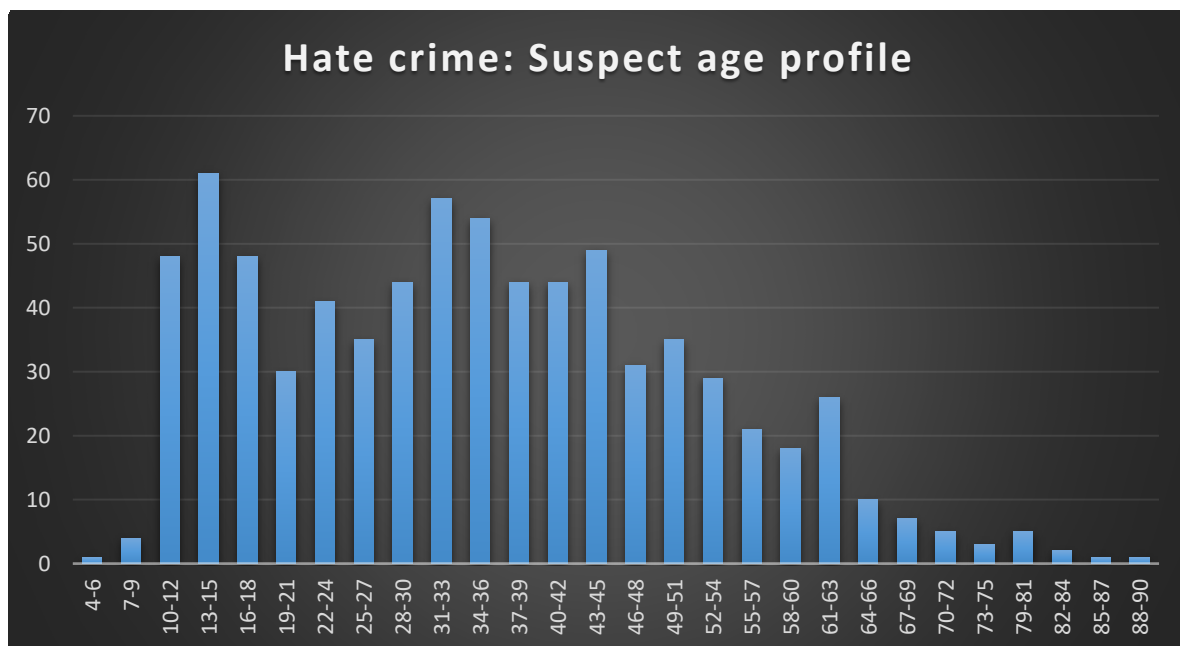
Figure 23 Hate crime suspect age profile

There is a clear skew towards the younger end of the profile with 68% being between 10 and 42 years old. Suspects are also more likely to be male, 70% of the profile.

Victims		
Ethnic group	Number of Victims	Self-declared ethnicity%
White British	241	43.74%
Asian	126	22.87%
Black	83	15.06%
White other	50	9.07%
Mixed	31	5.63%
Any other	14	2.54%
Arab	6	1.09%

Table 16 Hate crime victim ethnicity

544 victims (50% of total) did not declare an ethnicity so this limits the conclusions that can be drawn. However, the disproportionate number of Black and Asian victims is consistent with main cause of hate crime being racism (see figure 21).

Suspects		
Ethnic group	Number of suspects	Self-declared ethnicity %
White British	328	81.19%
Asian	27	6.68%
White other	20	4.95%
Black	15	3.71%
Mixed	8	1.98%
Any other	4	0.99%
Arab	2	0.50%

Table 17 Hate crime suspect ethnicity

381 suspects (49% of total) did not declare ethnicity, but figures are roughly in-line with 2021 census figures with a slight over representation of the white British group.

11.1.3. Hate crime in the Vale of White Horse

The following represent the demographic changes from 2011 to 2021 in the Vale.

- ➥ Asian 2.4% to 4%

- ➥ Black 1.0% to 1.7%

- ➥ Mixed and other 1.6% to 3.6%

This means that ethnic minorities have nearly doubled from 5.0% to 9.3% since 2011.

The presence of asylums seekers and refugees as potential victims also increases the possibility of race/faith harassment. Accommodation for refugees is present across the county, but this is less likely to be a factor in areas with already diverse populations, but in areas adjusting to becoming more diverse this could be an issue. A bridging hotel for refugees has been present in the Vale for the last two years.

Because of stakeholder concern it was decided to read randomly selected reports of racial incidents in the Vale in 2024.

Of the 224 hate occurrences in 2024, 30 were sampled.

Points to note:

- The sampled reports did not suggest any coordinated large-scale campaign was underway.

- No report sampled related to an attack on a refugee or an asylum seeker.

- Only one report related to social media.

- The sampled occurrences showed consistency with the data scan, the suspects were young strangers and the victims frequently black and Asian.

- Many of the occurrences were common incidents such as disputes between neighbours, parking arguments, school bullying, and abuse of police officers. What defines them as hate incidents is a reference to the victim's ethnicity or orientation.

.

12. Sexual offences

12.1. Sexual violence trends
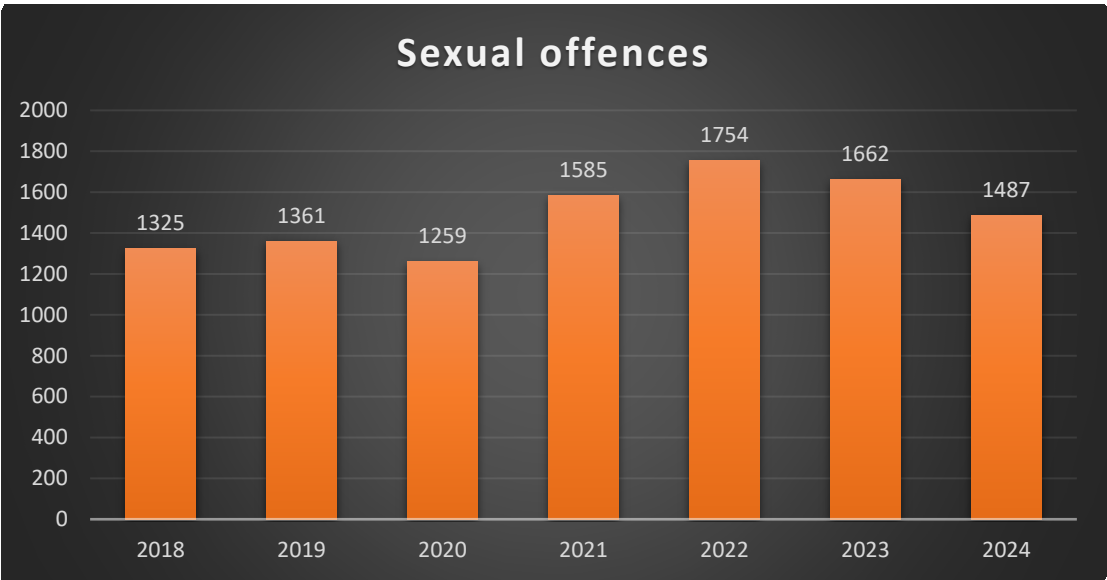
Figure 24 Sexual offences trend (2018-2024)

Please note the decrease of 12% from 2023 to 2024 but this is 12% higher than 2018.
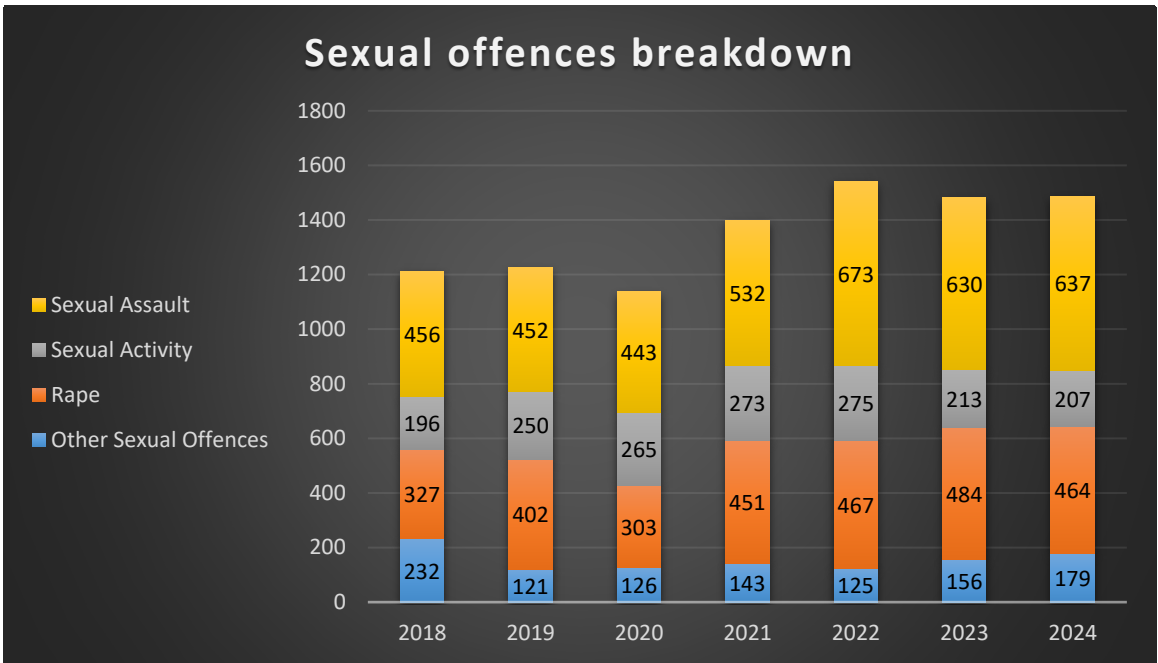
Figure 25 Sexual offences trend – breakdown (2018-2024)

Please note that the data shown relates to valid crime reported within one-year, sexual offences are the most likely of all offences to be reported after that time. Reported rape decreased during the pandemic but has since increased. Rape figures for 2023 were 48% higher than 2018, sexual assault in 2023 was 38% higher than 2018. It is unclear if we are seeing an increase in reporting or an increase occurrences or both.
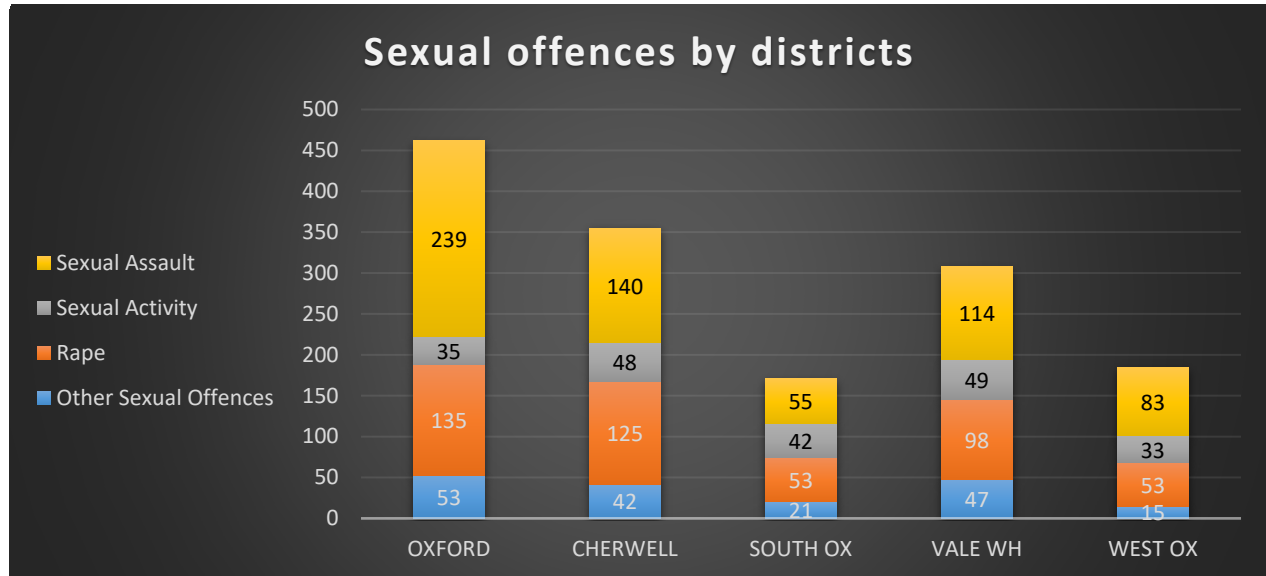
Figure 26 Sexual offences by districts (2024)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
CHERWELL	260	277	279	354	392	356	355
OXFORD	382	466	346	483	485	474	462
SOUTH OX	221	138	131	135	121	185	171
VALE WH	234	208	259	241	328	289	308
WEST OX	114	136	122	186	214	179	184

Figure 27 Sexual offences heat-map – districts (2018-2024)

Oxford has had noticeably more sexual offences than any other district in 2024, more than double two of the other districts. A key factor in this is the nighttime economy of Oxford as figure 30 will illustrate.

12.2. Sexual offences – time heat-maps

Seasonal

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jan	89	84	115	58	111	118	110
Feb	78	115	124	70	124	139	114
Mar	93	92	86	107	144	150	137
Apr	63	98	70	117	99	83	113
May	194	99	80	133	137	129	130
Jun	94	115	80	121	118	130	137
Jul	116	110	96	125	144	122	131
Aug	99	113	104	126	119	113	120
Sep	90	95	85	135	148	142	121
Oct	103	120	118	156	147	107	143
Nov	101	98	98	137	138	158	121
Dec	91	86	81	114	111	92	110

Figure 28 Sexual offences heat-map – by month (2018-2024)

September to November appears to be an anomaly, possibly connected to the start of the academic year.

45

Hour	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Oxford rape and sex assault							
5							2
6	1	1	1		1		
7	2			2		1	
8	1	1	3	2	2	1	
9	1	1	2	5	1	2	1
10	5	2	3		1	8	
11	2		3	2	1	2	1
12	3	3	3	2	2	2	2
13	3	1	1	6	2		2
14	3	4	4	1	1	2	1
15	2	2	1	3	6	2	2
16	1		2	3	3	2	1
17	1	2	5	1	3	3	1
18	2	2	4	4	1	1	3
19		2	1	1		2	2
20	2	2		3	3	3	5
21	3	1	2	2	2	3	5
22	1	2	2	5	1	6	5
23	4	2	3	7	4	4	3
0	1	4		3	1	4	4
1		2	3	3	5	9	
2	2	2	3	2	5	14	1
3		2	1	3	2	4	2
4					1	2	1

Figure 29 Oxford rape and sexual assault heat map (2024)

This heat map shows clear concentrations around.

- 23:00 all week
- 23:00 to 03:00 Friday and Saturday night

This indicates the NTE, (which includes night clubs) are associated with rapes and sexual assaults, even if the incidents are (mostly) not occurring on licensed premises.

	Other districts rape and sex assault						
	Mon	**Tue**	**Wed**	**Thu**	**Fri**	**Sat**	**Sun**
5	2				1	2	4
6				2	1	2	1
7	1		1	2			3
8	4	2	5	3	2	1	1
9	6	5	2	1	4	2	2
10	6	4	5	8	2	2	3
11	6	7	12	2	3	5	1
12	13	4	6	4	5	5	11
13	9	8	4	8	8	6	2
14	3	5	13	6	3	1	6
15	8	3	4	7	6	3	5
16	11	7	6	7	10	3	7
17	7	7	5	4	5	2	6
18	6	4	5	10	5	7	5
19	7	3	4	7	4	6	4
20	5	3	2	7	3	6	4
21	4	3	3	2	5	7	8
22	7	7	5	4	5	4	4
23	4	3	6	5	7	17	11
0	1	1	2	2	8	3	3
1	3	1		6	5	4	5
2	1		1	1	4	11	1
3		1	1	2	2	2	3
4		1			2	5	1

Figure 30 Oxford rape and sexual assault heat map (2024)

The other districts also show a 23:00 concentration, along with further concentrations and Friday and Saturday night. Again, we see association with the NTE but less of an association with late opening establishments.

Please note the location of these occurrences is not always recorded so the table below should be used as an indication. The table shows only the top location types and only the top location sub-types within those.

Type of location	Number rapes sexual assaults
Dwelling	38
Education	6
Hospitality	9
Leisure	1
Moving vehicle	3
Public/open place	15
Shop	2

Table 18 Location of rapes and sexual assault 2024

The indications are that dwelling is the single most significant location for rapes and sexual assaults.
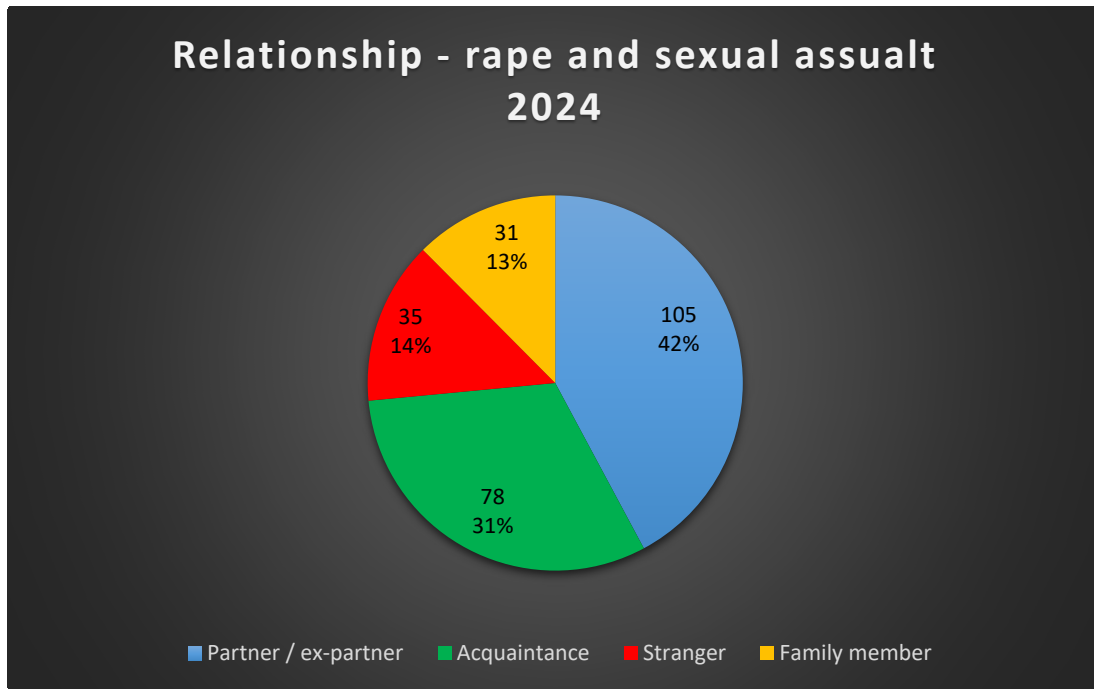
Figure 31 Relationship between rape and sexual assault victims and suspects (2024)

As with locational data not all relationships between suspect and victim are recorded so the figure should be considered indicative. For 878 suspects (78% of rape and sexual assault suspects) no relationship was recorded.

This data shows two things firstly that over 80% of suspects are in some way known to the victim. This is consistent with the most frequent location being 'dwelling' rather than a public place. However, the figures show 45% are not strongly connected, committed by either a stranger or an acquaintance, this is consistent with a NTE association.

Relationship	Rape	Sexual assault	Total
Acquaintance	36	42	78
Partner: Heterosexual	47	5	52
Ex-partner: Heterosexual	41	10	51
Stranger	14	21	35
Brother (incl. step/half/adopted)	10	1	11
Other relative	7	2	9
Parent (incl. step/adopted)	3	6	9
Partner: Non-heterosexual		2	2
Daughter (incl. step/half/adopted)	1		1
Grandparent (incl. step/adopted)		1	1

Table 19 Breakdown of sexual offences relationships.

Red = Stranger. Orange = Relative. Blue = relationship. Green = Acquaintance

13. Violence against women and girls

13.1. Violence Against Women and Girls overview
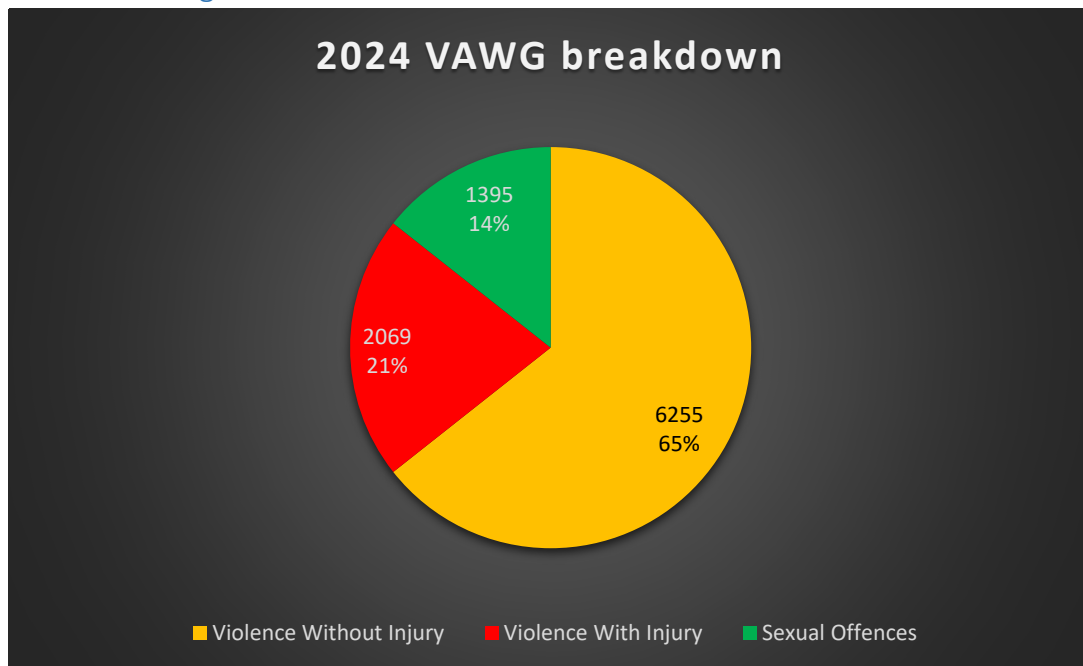
Figure 32 Breakdown of VAWG 2024

Violence without injury represents nearly two-thirds of violence against women and girls (VAWG). Please note that 71% of Violence with Injury is Actual Bodily Harm (ABH) and less than 2% Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH). There were no homicides in 2024. For context, with males ABH is 81% of Violence with Injury but GBH is 5% of Violence with Injury, there were 4 homicides.
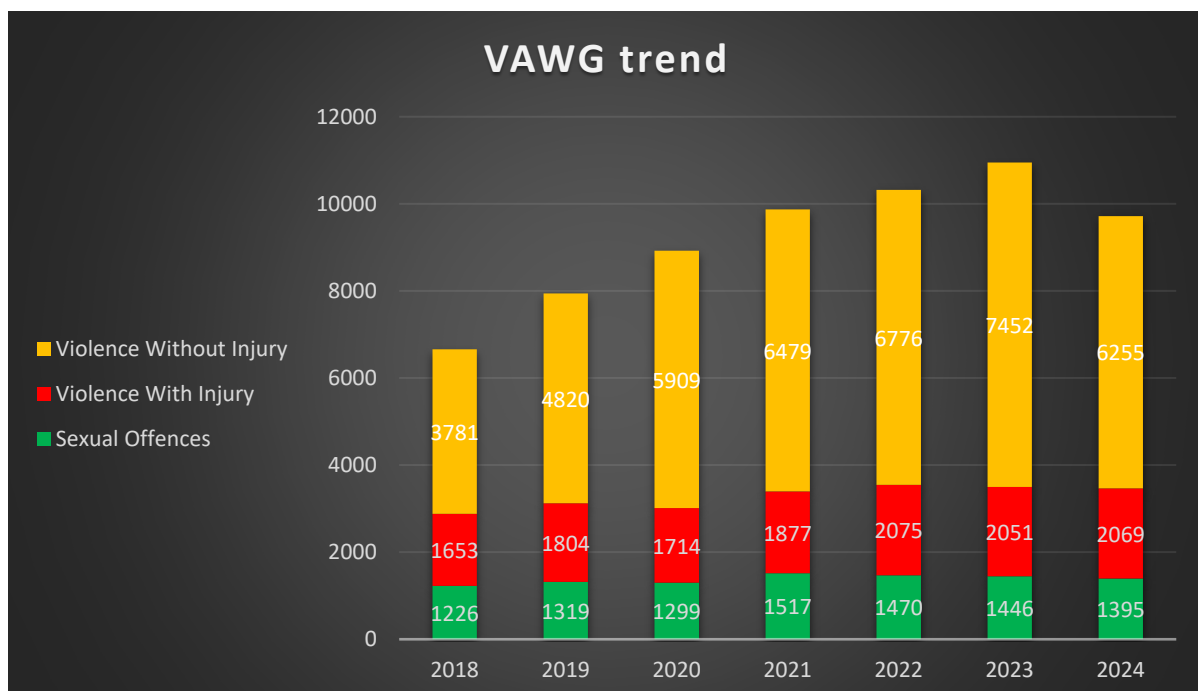
Figure 33 VAWG increase breakdown (2018-2024).

There has been a 64% increase in violence against women and girls, but as the above graph indicates, this increase has mostly come from Violence Without Injury. The graph below shows the main components of Violence Without Injury.
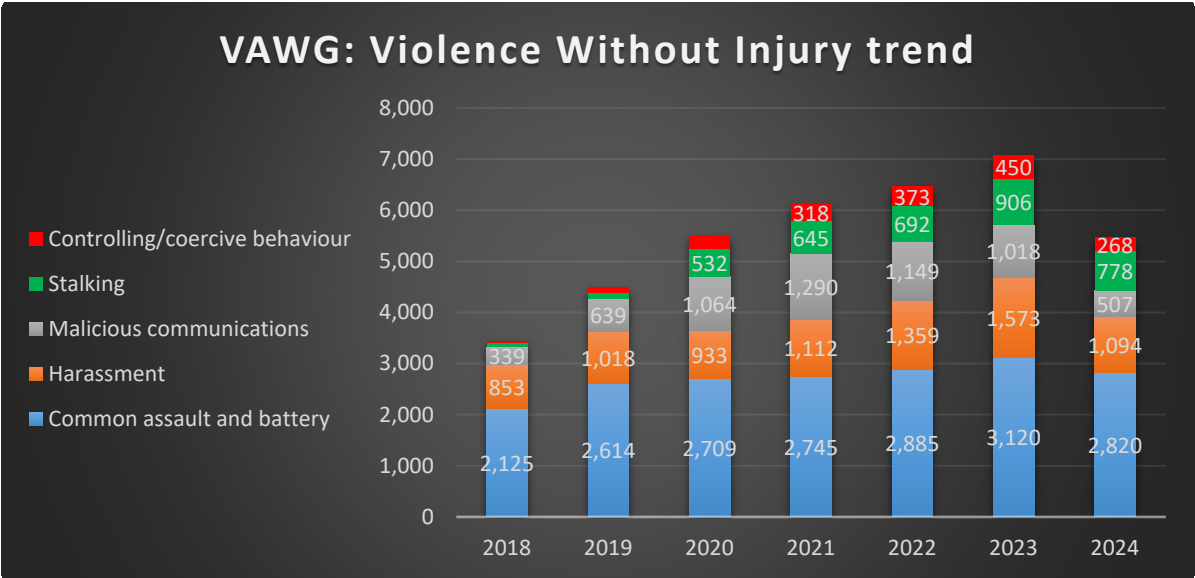
Figure 34 Breakdown of VAWG increase (2024)

Up until 2023 there was a clear upward trend in Violence Without Injury. As this included stalking, harassment, and coercive behaviour there was likely historical under reporting. However, 2024 has seen a decrease (though still above pre-pandemic levels), and the decrease includes common assault.

13.2. VAWG age profile

The graph on the next page indicates that most victims of sexual offences are young. The peak age group for the victims for sexual assault is 13 to 15 years old, and 70% are 30 years old or younger. Both violence without injury and violence with injury are across a broader age spectrum but 76% of victims are 42 or younger.

	Sexual offences	Malicious communication
School age	44%	18%
Age 19-30	26%	30%
Age 31 - 60	27%	49%
Over 60	2%	3%

Table 20 victim age comparison

Further research was carried out on the age profile of malicious communications. It was found that most victims were over 30 years old.
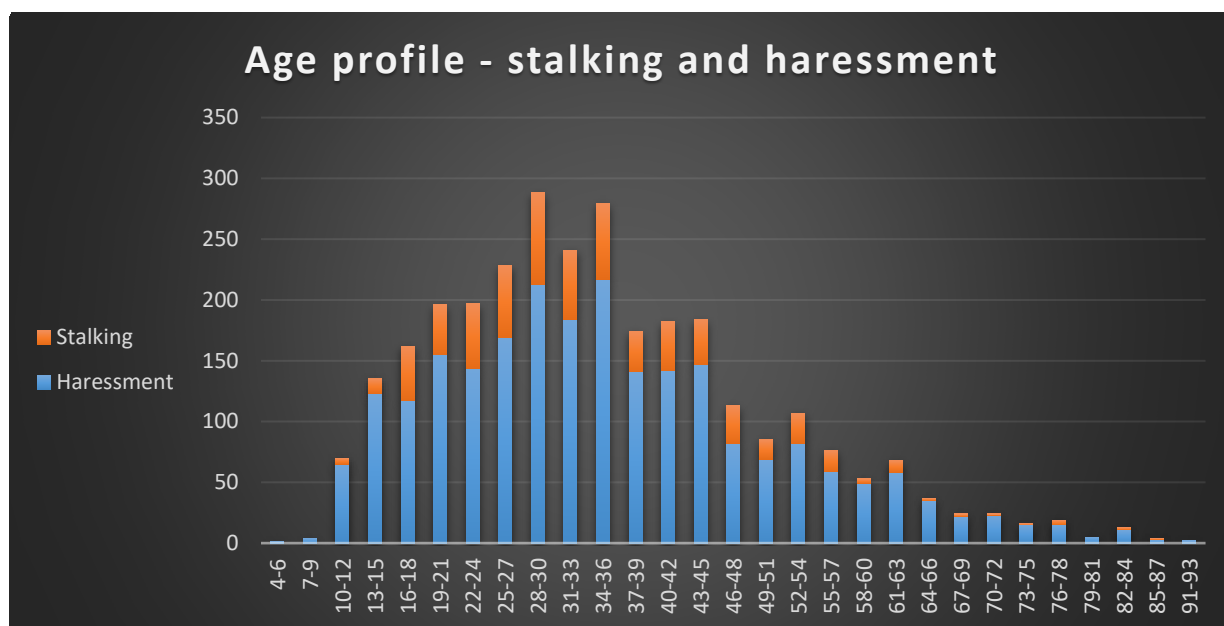
Figure 35 Victim age profile - Harassment and Stalking

Stalking becomes more prevalent from age 16 and peaks at the 28-30 age group.
The clear concentration for both stalking and harassment between the ages of 28 and
36.
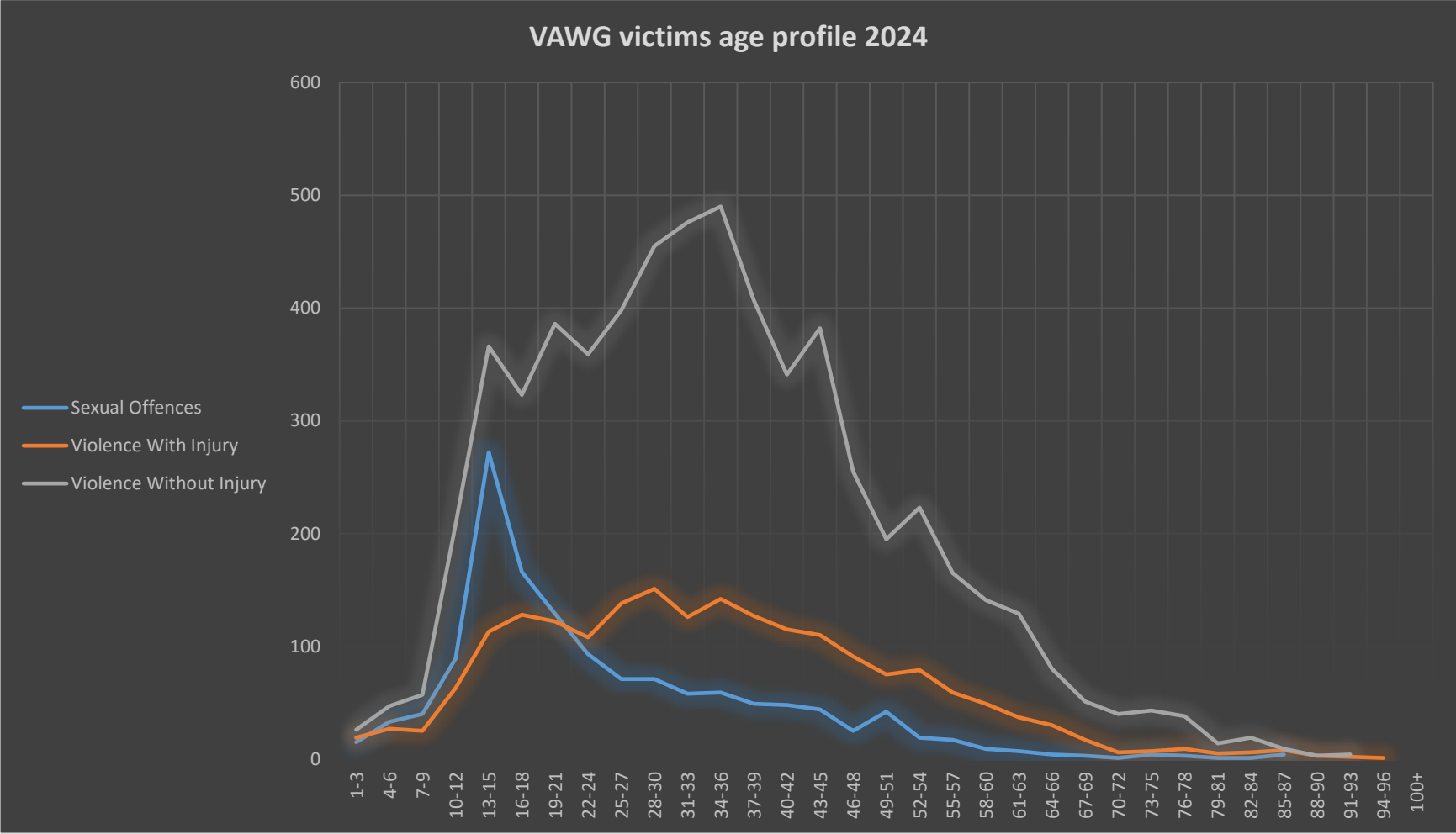
Figure 36 Age profile of VAWG victims (2024)

14. Domestic abuse

14.1. DA impact on VAWG
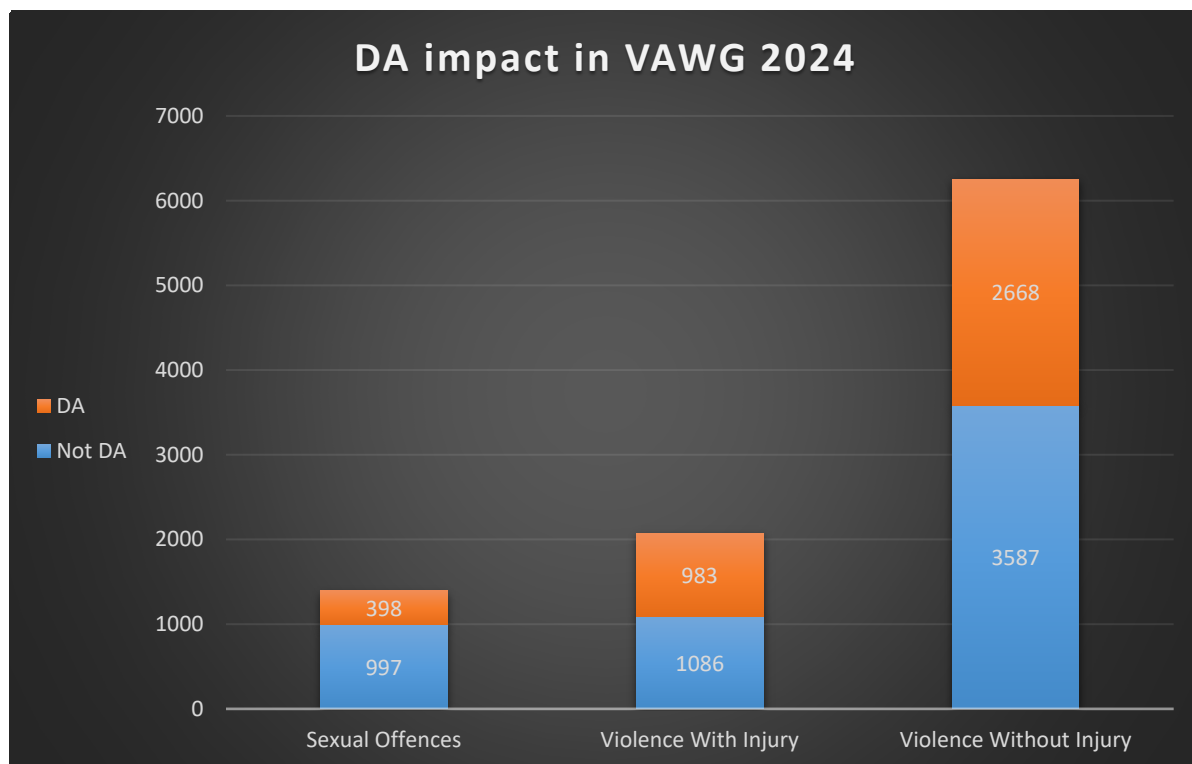
Figure 37 DA % of VAWG

Nearly half of violence (with or without injury) against females was domestic related but only 29% of sexual offences were. The figure for 2018-2023 was 23%.

14.2. DA – all gender overview

The table below recognises all DA, not just where the victim is female:

Domestic abuse	Sexual Offences	Violence With Injury	Violence Without Injury
No	1,136	3,043	8,354
Yes	351	1,378	3,721
%	23.60	31.17	30.80

Table 21 % Domestic Abuse: All genders (2024)
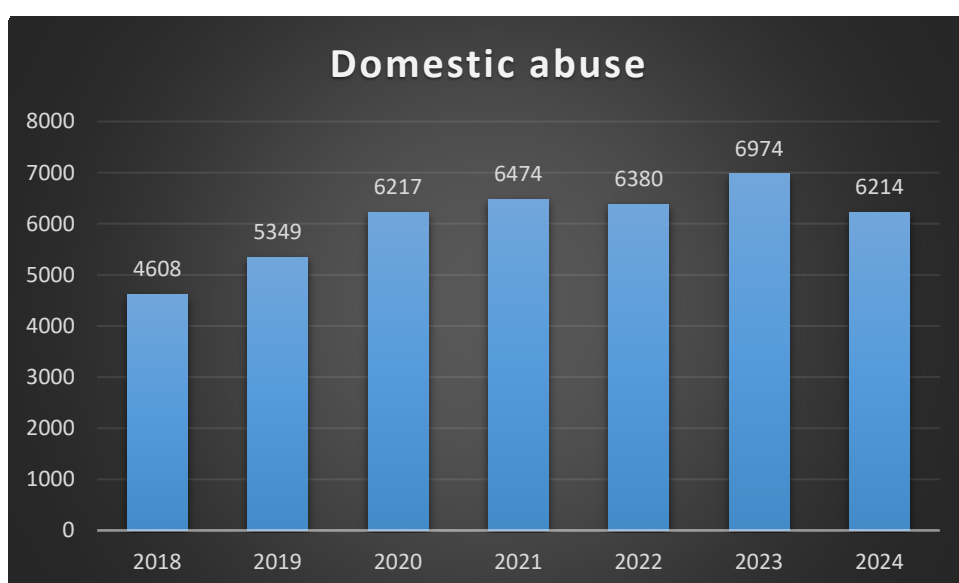
Figure 38 Domestic abuse trend (2018-2024)

There was a 40% increase in DA from 2018 to 2020, which the lockdowns in 2020 may have contributed to. However, 2023 saw the peak with a 7% increase from 2021. After a 12% drop from 2023 the figures for 2024 are at 2020 levels.

14.3. Non police indicators of DA.

Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse strategic board produced a data pack indicating the following figures. Police data indicates an average of 525 valid crimes per month associated with DA and while there will certainly be some unreported DA the monthly figures below do not indicate large scale under-reporting.

Agency figures	Monthly average
New referrals to MARACs	17
Referrals for ODAS support	203
MASH contacts with DOM5 highlighted	353

Table 22 DA data from non-police agencies

15. Hospital data

Data was provided by the Information Support Team, Oxford University Hospitals (NHS Foundation Trust). It details those who attended hospitals in Oxfordshire in 2024 in relation to violence. The main reason for examining this data is to help validate what we are seeing in the police data. It is acknowledged that crimes such as DA and VAWG are under reported. It is also important to understand if drugs were fuelling unreported violence or whether knife crime was more prevalent than police data was indicating.

The data from 1186 attendances to John Radcliffe and Horton hospital is included, though residents of Oxfordshire are likely to have attended hospitals in other counties. This compares to 1216 attendances in 2023.

15.1. Hospital data – demographics
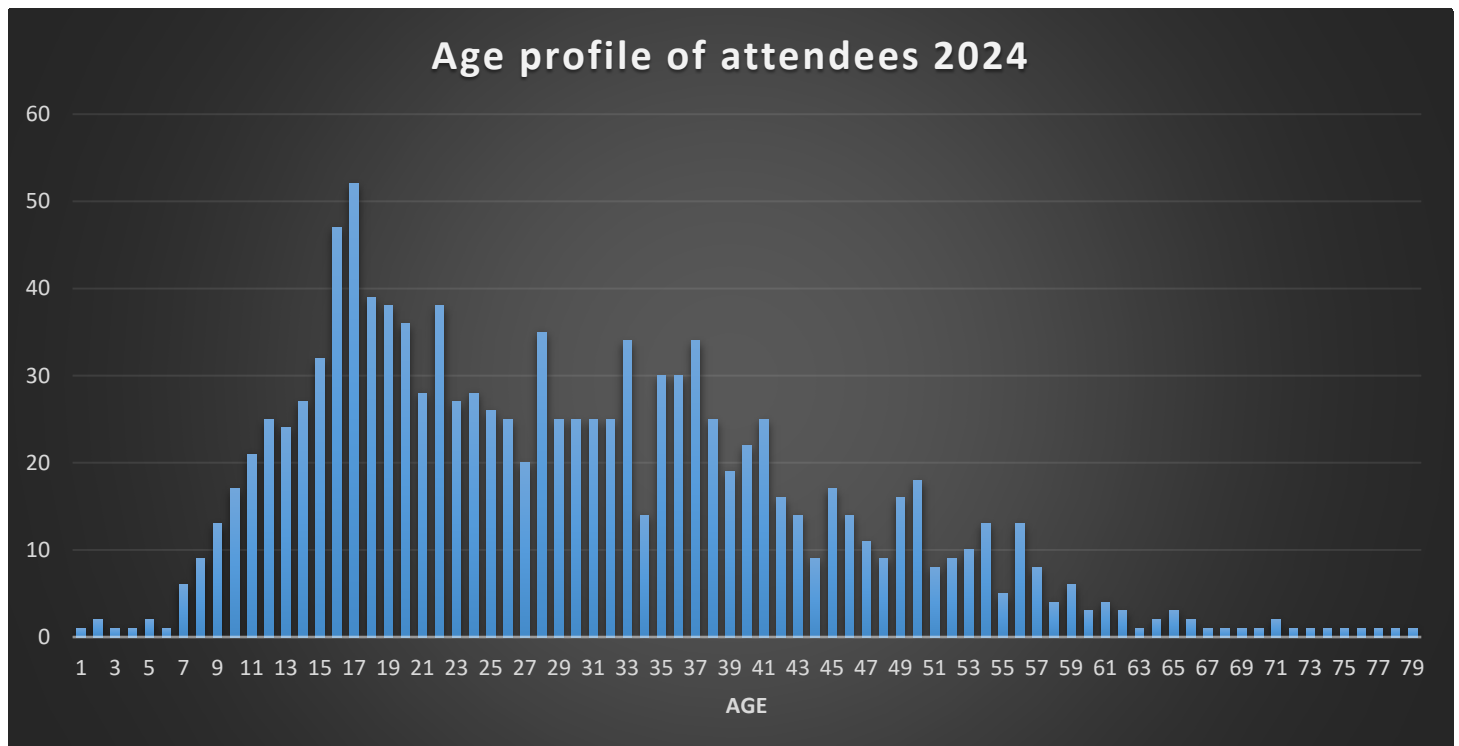
Figure 39 Hospital admission age range

The age profile is very close to the profile of violence with injury. The victims are predominantly male (73%).

With ethnic group representation there is some over representation with some minorities, but three factors need to be considered.

- The number of non-stated ethnicities makes comparative analysis difficult.
- Younger age groups are more diverse than the general population.
- The actual numbers are low, for example 34 Black attendees.

One of the biggest subgroups is Asian Pakistani, which has nearly tripled from 2023 to 2024.

Ethnic group	2023 Attendance	2024 Attendance	Census 2021
White British	71%	69%	77%
White Other (not Irish)	11%	12%	9%
Asian	5%	8%	6%
Black	5%	4%	2%
Mixed	2.5%	4.0	3%

Table 23 Hospital attendance ethnic comparisons

15.1. Hospital data – Alcohol /drug associations

For both 2023 and 2024 about 30% of these attendances were flagged as alcohol related. Of the attendances that were alcohol or drug related, over 90% were exclusively alcohol, a further 2% involved alcohol and an illegal drug. This indicates a strong association between violence and the NTE but with 70% without alcohol/drugs markers there are clearly many other influencing factors

15.2. Hospital data – Nature of violence

Over 80% of attendances involved blunt force and two-thirds of those did not involve an object. Just under 8% involved a sharp object and there were no incidents involving a firearm in 2024. Just over 11% were involved/related to domestic abuse.

15.3.   Hospital data – Timeframe heat map

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6		1	1	2		6	6
7			2		3	2	3
8	3		3	2	1	4	6
9	2	4	4	4	5	3	1
10	7	8	4	6	7	6	6
11	7	6	5	10	9	8	6
12	4	5	8	10	4	5	6
13	7	6	3	11	3	10	6
14	7	11	5	5	5	7	6
15	8	8	7	1	5	12	8
16	7	10	4	6	7	15	7
17	9	11	7	9	1	9	10
18	12	6	7	5	6	6	6
19	10	13	5	7	4	8	13
20	12	14	7	4	5	6	9
21	7	6	9	5	10	8	7
22	13	7	15	5	8	21	8
23	4	12	8	8	10	14	11
0	5	12	9	5	11	12	10
1	4	12	7	5	21	18	13
2	4	10	11	4	24	15	5
3	2	5	6	8	17	24	7
4		5	6	1	9	19	1
5	1	5	5		8	18	3

Figure 40 Hospital data - Timeframe map (2024)

The day-hour heat-map shows a clear concentration around Saturday and Friday night, indicating an association with the NTE.

15.4.   Hospital data – summary

The data shows consistency with police data regarding the demographic of the victims of violence with injury, the only point of concern is the over representation of some ethnic groups. There does not appear to be underreporting of the levels of knife crime or domestic abuse.

Both the day-time heat map and the number of alcohol related incidents indicate the relevance of the NTE.

16. Anti-social behaviour

Police data for anti-social behaviour (ASB) only goes back as far as 2022. The number of recorded ASB occurrences has increased slightly from 2023 to 2024.
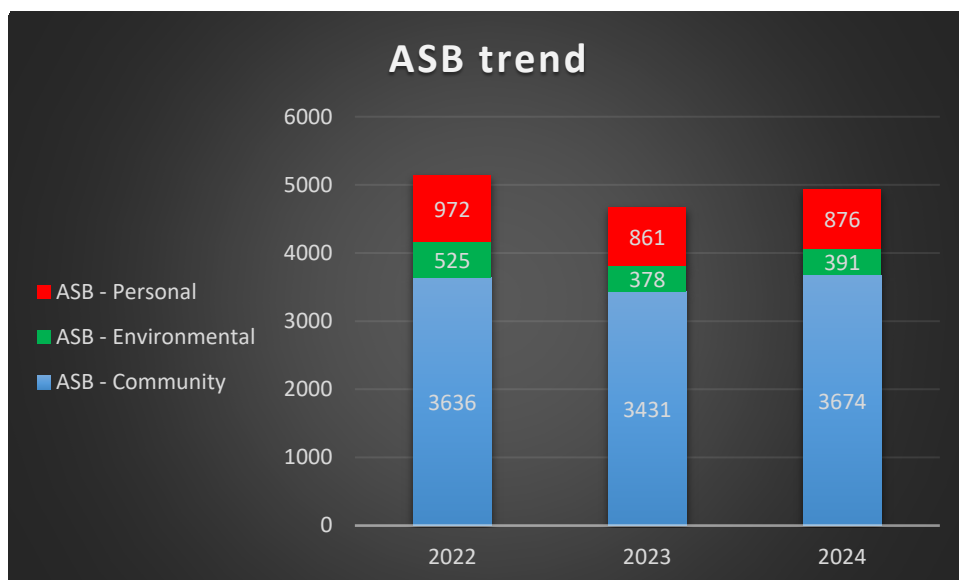
Figure 41 ASB- trend (2022, 2023 & 2024)

The bulk of ASB is community related (72%) with personal ASB being 19% and Environmental 9%. Community related ASB relates to noise and nuisance issues. Environmental involves fly tipping, littering and vandalism, and personal involves intimidation and harassment.
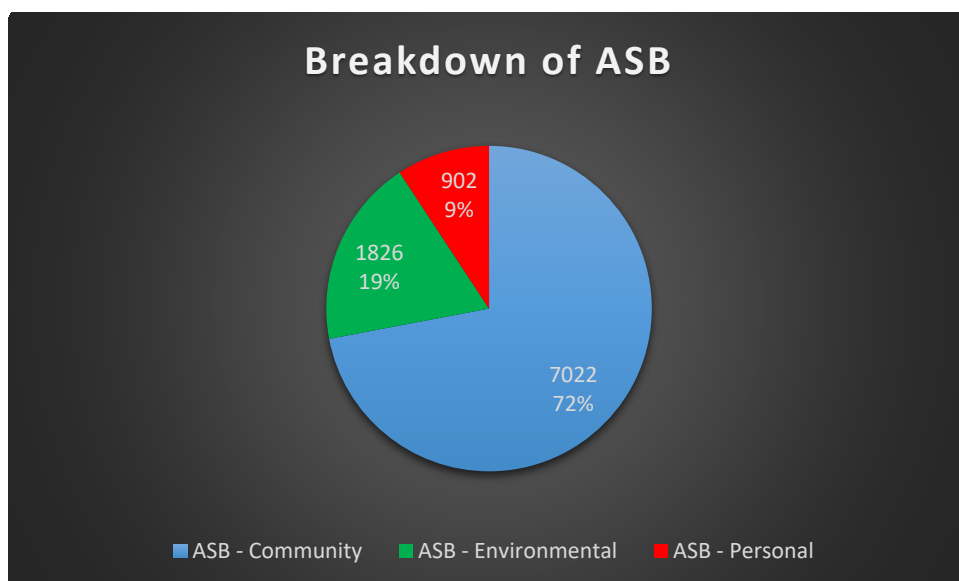
Figure 42 Breakdown of ASB 2024

District	ASB occurrences	% by district
OXFORD	1334	27.22%
CHERWELL	1109	22.63%
SOUTH OX	857	17.49%
VALE WH	930	18.98%
WEST OX	671	13.69%

Table 24 ASB by district

The two most urbanised districts have the highest levels of ASB with Oxford having nearly twice the number of West Oxfordshire.
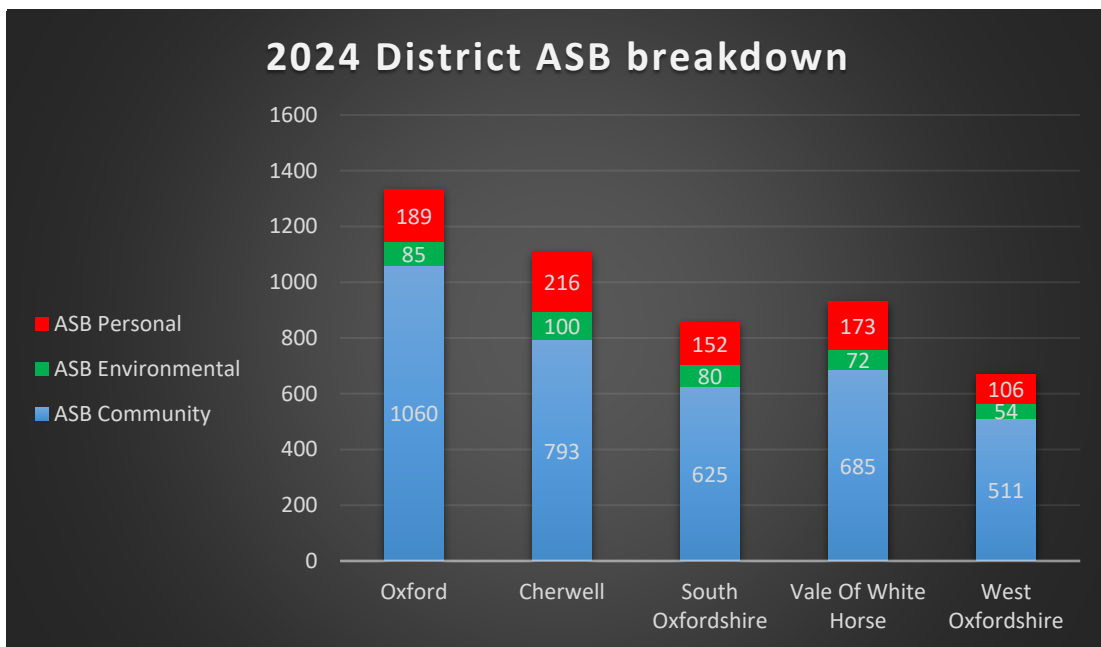
Figure 43 ASB by district (2024)
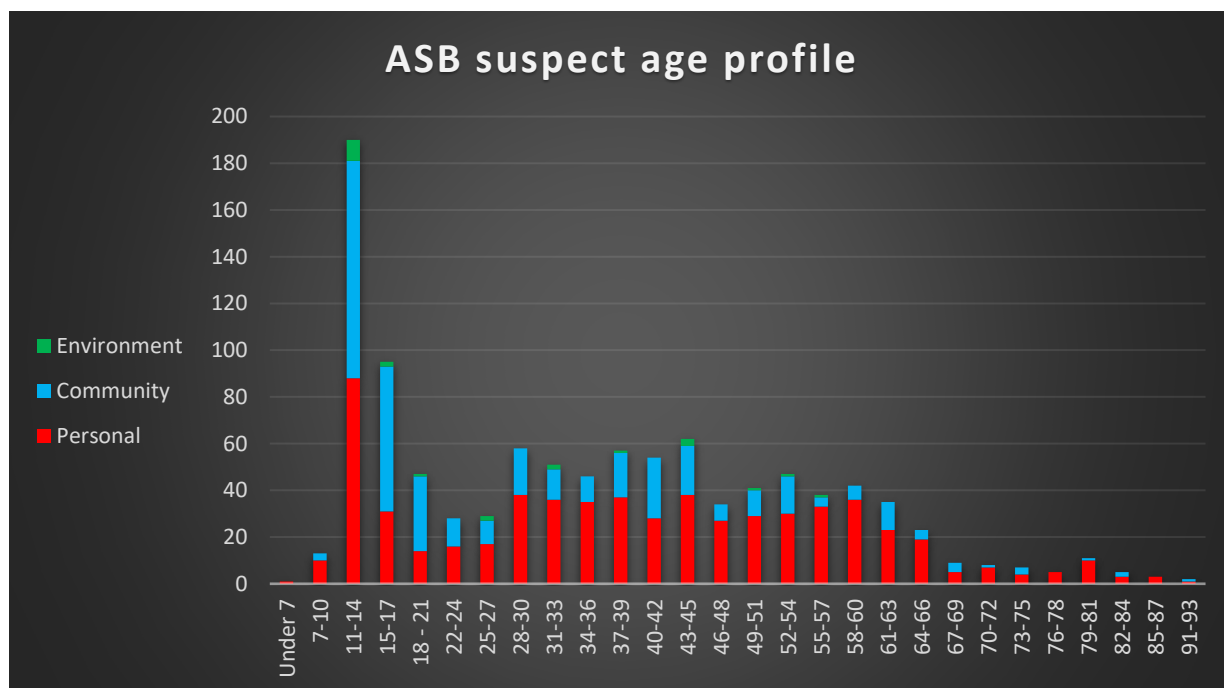
Figure 44 ASB suspect age profile

There will be differences between suspect data and actual perpetrators since suspects will not always be identified.

The graph shows that most environment and community ASB has suspects aged 11-17 associated whereas personal ASB is more evenly spread until 67-69 age group.

17. Modern Slavery

17.1. Overview

Figure 45 Modern slavery annual trend (2018-2024)

After the peak of 2022 there has been a downward trend in modern slavery. This could be either a fall in reporting or the success in anti-slavery activity.
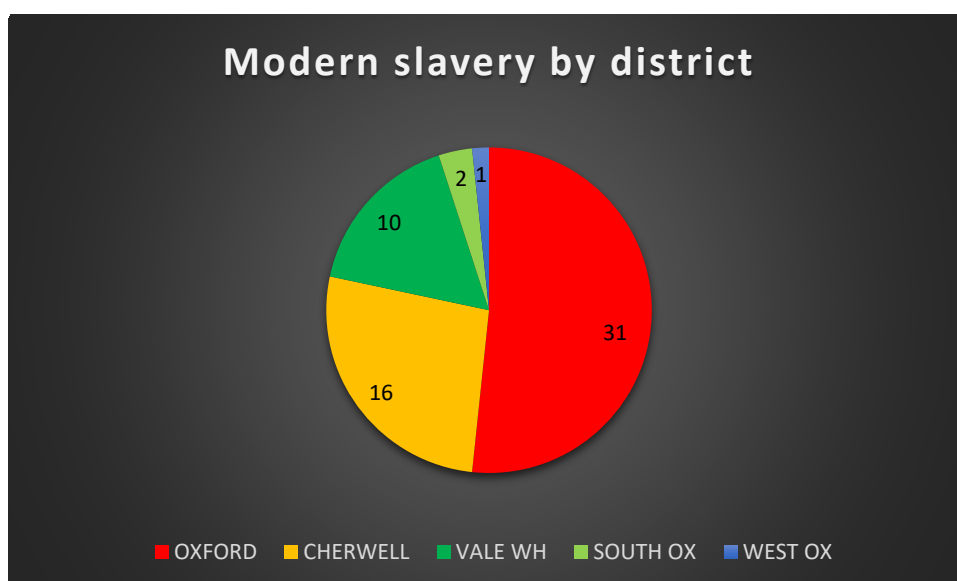
Figure 46 Modern slavery - distribution by district (2024)

Modern slavery is heavily concentrated in the two more urbanised districts. While the Vale has relatively higher recorded reports than West and South Oxfordshire, that itself is not a cause for concern.

17.2. NRM data - adults

The following is taken from both the National Referral Mechanism or sent directly to the anti-slavery coordinator at Oxford City Council and refers only adults. These were recorded during 2024.

17.2.1. Type of exploitation and relationship

Exploitation type		
Labour Exploitation	68	40.00%
Criminal Exploitation	39	22.94%
Sexual Exploitation	35	20.59%
Financial Exploitation	19	11.18%
Domestic Servitude	5	2.94%
Unknown	2	1.58%
Cultural Exploitation	1	0.59%

Table 25 Modern slavery - type of exploitation 2024

Modern slavery - relationships		
Employer of victim	54	31.76%
Associate	48	28.24%
Unknown	39	22.94%
Past or current relationship	11	6.47%
Family connection	11	6.47%
OCG	7	4.12%

Table 26 Modern slavery relationships (2024)

Labour exploitation clearly features strongly, even within other categories such as domestic servitude and criminal exploitation. When criminal exploitation is combined with sexual exploitation it exceeds slavery within legitimate employment areas.

While relationship data is incomplete 'employer' is the most significant.

Exploitation sub-group		
Prostitution	16	9.52%
Cuckooing	15	8.93%
Domiciliary Care	13	7.74%
Unknown	12	7.14%
County Lines	10	5.95%
Construction	9	5.36%
Beauty Services	8	4.76%
Brothel	7	4.17%
Food Outlets	7	4.17%
Use of PV finances	7	4.17%
Cleaning	6	3.57%
DS - Single Household	5	2.98%
Financial - Other	5	2.98%
Retail & Sales	5	2.98%
Debt bondage	4	2.38%
Forced Drug Dealing	4	2.38%
Labour - Other	4	2.38%
Sexual - Other	4	2.38%
Sexual Assaults by Perp	3	1.79%
Travelling Community	3	1.79%
Barbers	2	1.19%
Cannabis Cultivation	2	1.19%
Criminal - Other	2	1.19%
Food Courier	2	1.19%
Other	2	1.19%
Sex for favours	2	1.19%
Agriculture	1	0.60%
Care Home	1	0.60%
Control over financial assets	1	0.60%
Domestic Work	1	0.60%
Drugs Other	1	0.60%
Forced Marriage	1	0.60%
Forced Shoplifting	1	0.60%
Money laundering	1	0.60%
Pole/lap dancing	1	0.60%

Table 27 Modern slavery - exploitation sub-category (2024)

The sub-categories are mostly a mixture of legitimate and illegal employment. The drug trade features across six sub-categories.

17.2.2. Modern slavery - demographics

Age profile		
18-24	32	19.41%
25-34	29	17.06%
35-44	15	8.82%
45-54	13	7.65%
55-64	5	2.94%
65-74	4	1.58%
75-84	6	1.19%
85-94	4	1.58%
N/A	46	27.06%
Unknown	15	8.82%

Table 28 Modern slavery - Victim age profile (2024)

Gender		
Female	58	38.74%
Male	69	45.06%
Unknown	42	24.85%

Table 29 Modern slavery - Gender profile (2024)

Victim nationality		
British	52	31.71%
Vietnamese	12	7.32%
Albanian	9	5.49%
Romanian	9	5.49%
Chinese	6	3.66%
Eritrean	6	3.66%
Indian	6	3.66%
East Timorese	4	2.44%
Other	30	18.29%
Not stated/ unknown	36	21.18%

Table 30 Modern slavery - victim nationality (2024)

There is a broad age range with a skew towards the younger age groups (36% under 35). Those over 64 were mostly victims of cuckooing or use of finance. Less than

32% were identified as British so the profile indicates people that may have come to Britain looking for work. There is a slight skew towards male in the gender profile.

Suspect nationality		
British	71	41.76%
Unknown	54	31.76%
Vietnamese	8	4.71%
Indian	7	4.12%
Albanian	6	3.53%
Chinese	6	3.53%
Romanian	3	1.76%
East Timorese	2	1.18%
Other	13	7.65%

Table 31 Modern slavery - Suspect nationality profile (2024)

Where identified the British are the single biggest source of suspects.

The overall picture is of vulnerable people coming to the UK and being exploited in either legitimate businesses or in illegal activities.

17.2.3.   Modern slavery – reporting trends

In contrast to police data, the modern slavery reported through NRM or directly to the Oxford city coordinator is trending upwards. The key reasons for this difference are as follows:

- Not all individuals wish to report their experiences to the police, which naturally impacts the figures and contributes to the discrepancy.
- New partnerships with various agencies have increased awareness of the coordinator role and the Oxfordshire Adult Exploitation Pathway. Notably
  - Collaboration with the Safeguarding Adults and Safeguarding Midwifery Teams at Oxford University Hospitals,
  - Leaving Care Team at Oxfordshire County Council has led to more referrals. This is particularly evident among 18–24-year-olds, as young people transitioning from children's to adult services are now being captured within the adult pathway.
- Media engagement, including interviews conducted around Anti-Slavery Day in October, also appeared to have promoted a rise in referrals

18. Serious violence

18.1. Overview

For the definition of serious violence please see section 2.

Breakdown of serious violence 2024

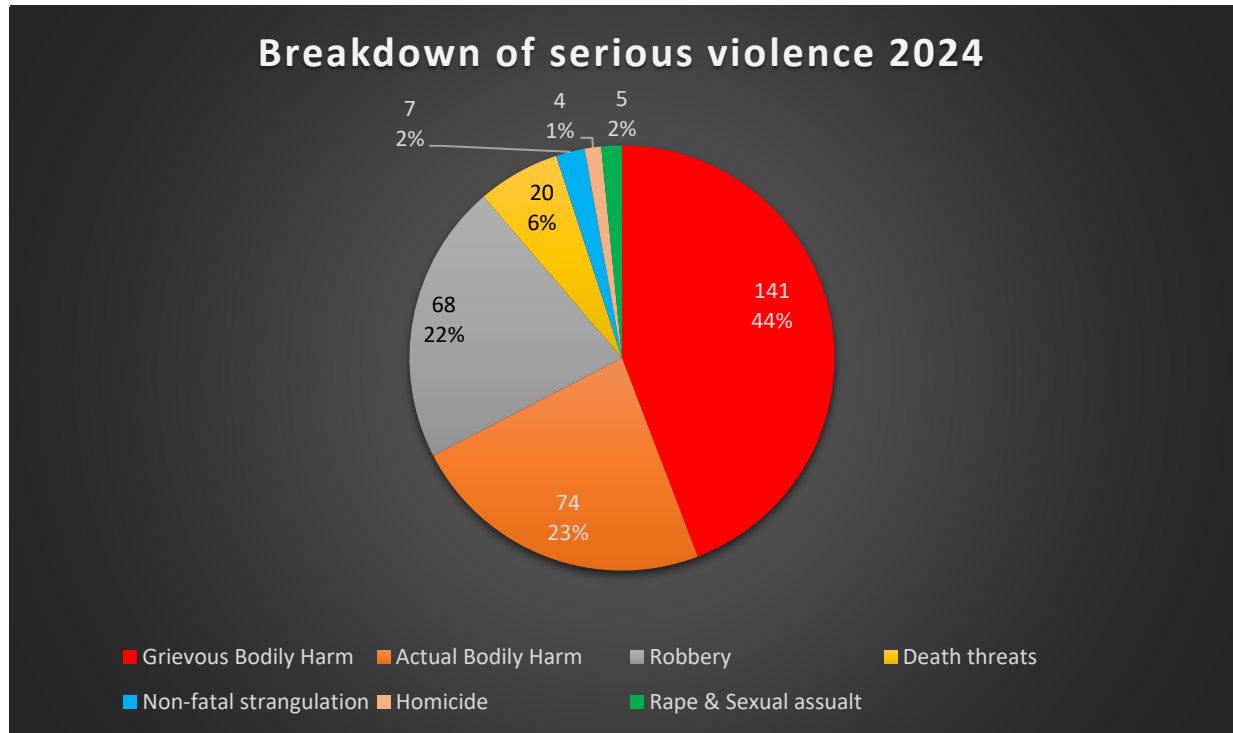|	
Grievous Bodily Harm	141 – 44%
Actual Bodily Harm	74 – 23%
Robbery	68 – 22%
Death threats	20 – 6%
Non-fatal strangulation	7 – 2%
Homicide	4 – 1%
Rape & Sexual assualt	5 – 2%

Figure 47 Serious violence breakdown 2024

GBH is the biggest single source of serous violence (SV), partly because (along with homicide) it is regarded as SV whether a knife is used or not. Overall, there is little variation from the figures of 2018-2023.

Knife	N	Y
Grievous bodily harm	112	29
Actual Bodily Harm		74
Robbery		68
Death threats		20
Non-fatal strangulation		7
Homicide	2	2
Rape		3
Sexual Assault		2
Total	**114**	**205**
%	**35.74%**	**64.26%**

Table 32 Serious violence - knife involvement (2024)

Please note that any crime (for example Harassment) that involves the credible threat of a knife is defined as serious violence. There has been a slight fall in the % of knife SV occurrences from the 2018-2023 figures.

Domestic abuse	N	Y
Actual Bodily Harm	108	33
Grievous Bodily Harm	51	23
Homicide	67	1
Death threats	13	7
Non-fatal strangulation	2	5
Rape	2	2
Robbery	1	2
Sexual Assault	1	1
Total	**245**	**74**
%	**76.80%**	**23.20%**

Table 33 Serious violence – DA (2024)

While overall domestic abuse represents less than a quarter of all SV, it represents nearly a third of ABH, and half of rapes and sexual assaults (within the SV category).

18.2. Serious violence – temporal

18.2.1. Annual and monthly trends
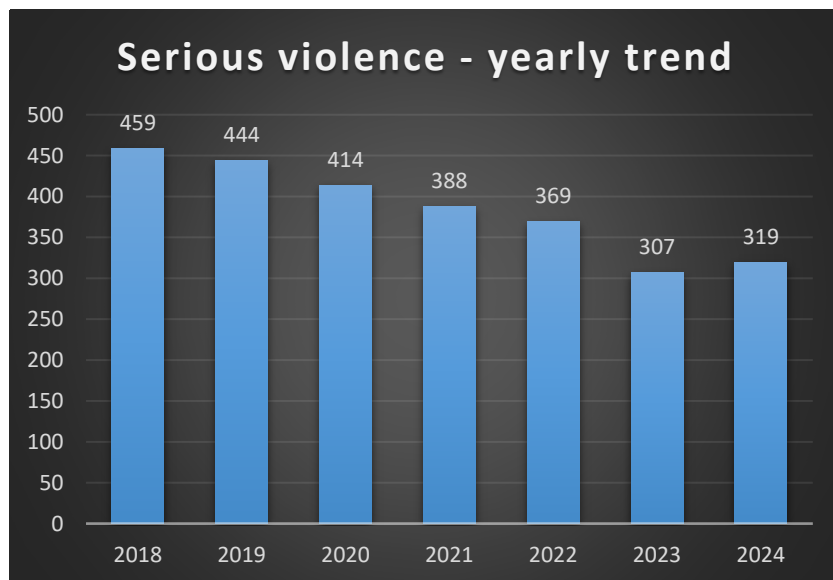
Figure 48 serious violence yearly trend since (2018-2024)

While there has been a slight increase from 2023, SV is still 16% lower than 2022 and 31% lower than 2018.

The monthly trend graph on the next page confirms the downward trend and indicates it has continued into the first two months of 2024.
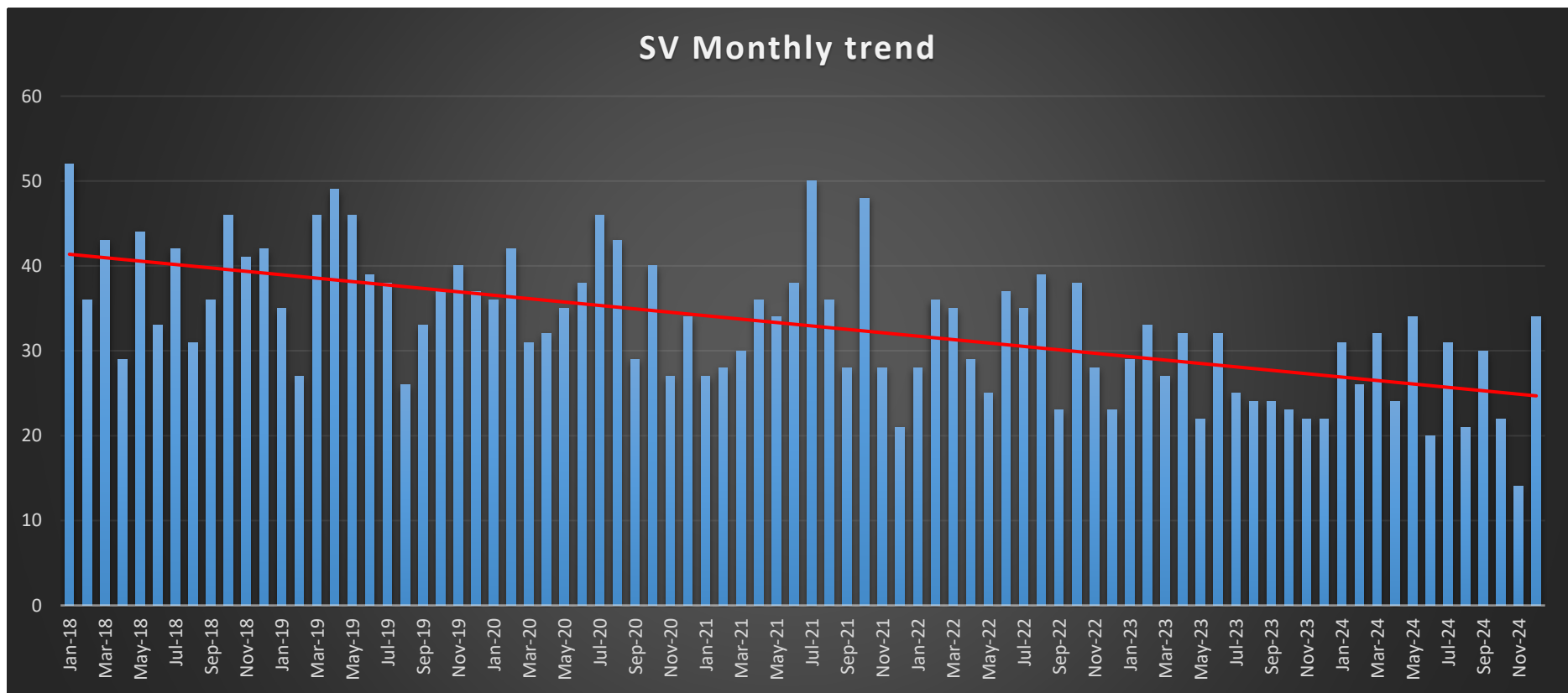
Figure 49 Serious violence monthly trend (2018-2024)

There is an overall downward trend, but May and December 2024, have not followed the expected pattern.

Serious violence – seasonal trend
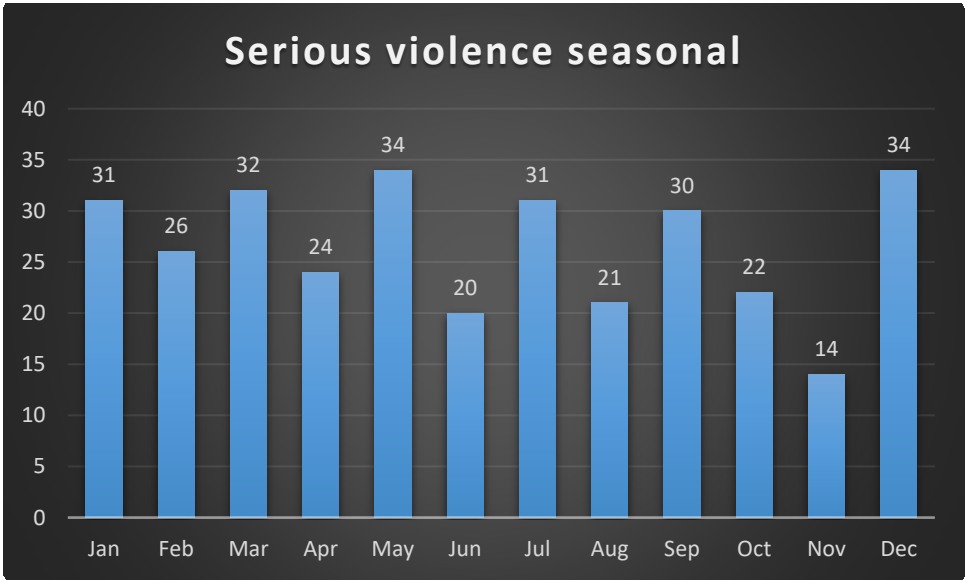
Figure 50 Serious violence - seasonal trends (2024)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2018	52	36	43	29	44	33	42	31	36	46	41	42
2019	35	27	46	49	46	39	38	26	33	37	40	37
2020	36	42	31	32	35	38	46	43	29	40	27	34
2021	27	28	30	36	34	38	50	36	28	48	28	21
2022	28	36	35	29	25	37	35	39	23	38	28	23
2023	29	33	27	32	22	32	25	24	24	23	22	22

Figure 51 Serious violence - Year-month heat map (2018-2023)

The seasonal figures show moderate peaks for July and October, but in 2023 these peaks are absent.

All districts

Hour	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
5		1		1	1	1	1
6				2	1		2
7			1				
8	1	2		2		2	2
9	1	1		2			3
10	1	2	1	2	1	2	3
11		1	1	1			1
12	1	2	5	1	3	3	1
13	1	1	3	2	1	1	1
14	1	4	2	3	3	3	1
15	1	3	2	1	6		5
16	2	5	3		2	1	2
17	5	1	1	1	2	3	5
18	3	3	1	2	3	2	5
19	1	3	3	4	2	1	4
20		1	3	4	3	4	4
21	5	3	1		4	5	3
22		2		4	4	2	7
23	1	1	5	5	2	6	4
0		2	1	3	4	6	2
1		3	1	1	3	2	2
2			2	1	2	6	
3	1	1		2	6	1	
4	2				4		

Figure 52 Serious violence - Year-month heat map (2024)

There is a clear concentration of occurrences with NTE associated times, particularly late on Friday and Saturday, though other concentrations exist in the late afternoon on most days.

Hour	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
5		1		1	1	1	1
6				2			2
7			1				
8	1	1		1		1	2
9		1		1			3
10	1	1	1	2	1	2	1
11				1			1
12	1	2	3	1	2	2	
13			1	2		1	1
14		1	2	1	2		
15	1	1	2		3		5
16	1	2	2		1	1	2
17	5	1	1	1	1	1	4
18		1	1	1	2	1	2
19		2	1	4	1	1	1
20		1	1	4		1	3
21	1	1	1		3	2	2
22		2		2	3	2	5
23		1	3	2	2	4	2
0		2	1	2	3	5	2
1		2		1	2	2	1
2			1		1	3	
3		1			3		

Figure 53 Serious violence day-hour heat-map, excluding Oxford (2024)

Figure 53 excludes Oxford to show the impact of absence of that city's NTE. However there remains a concentration on Friday and Saturday night indicating that even with fewer late-night venues open the trend persists.

The concentration on Sunday from 15:00 to 22:00 shows a notable concentration, possible related to Sunday afternoon drinking.

18.3. Serious violence – location

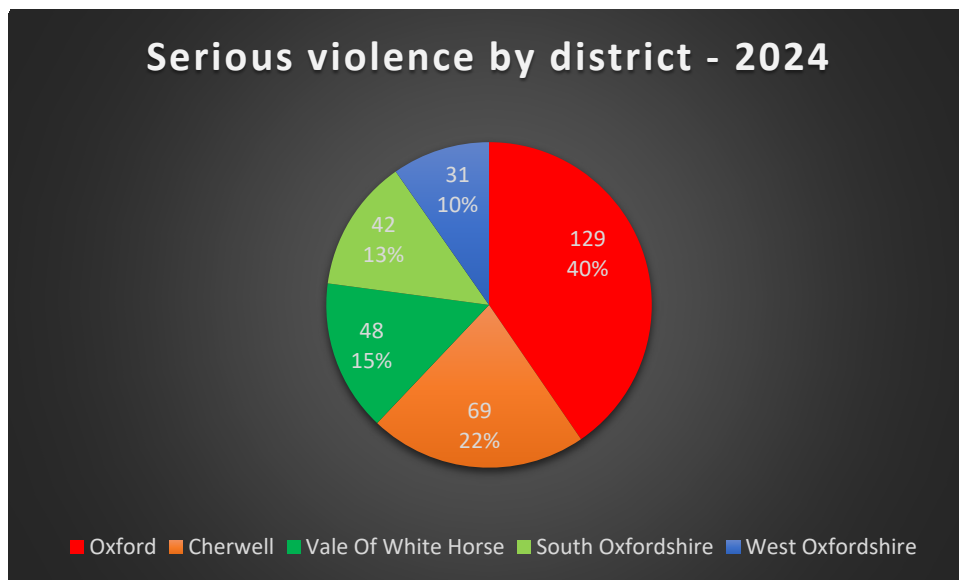### 18.3.1. Serious violence – location – overview

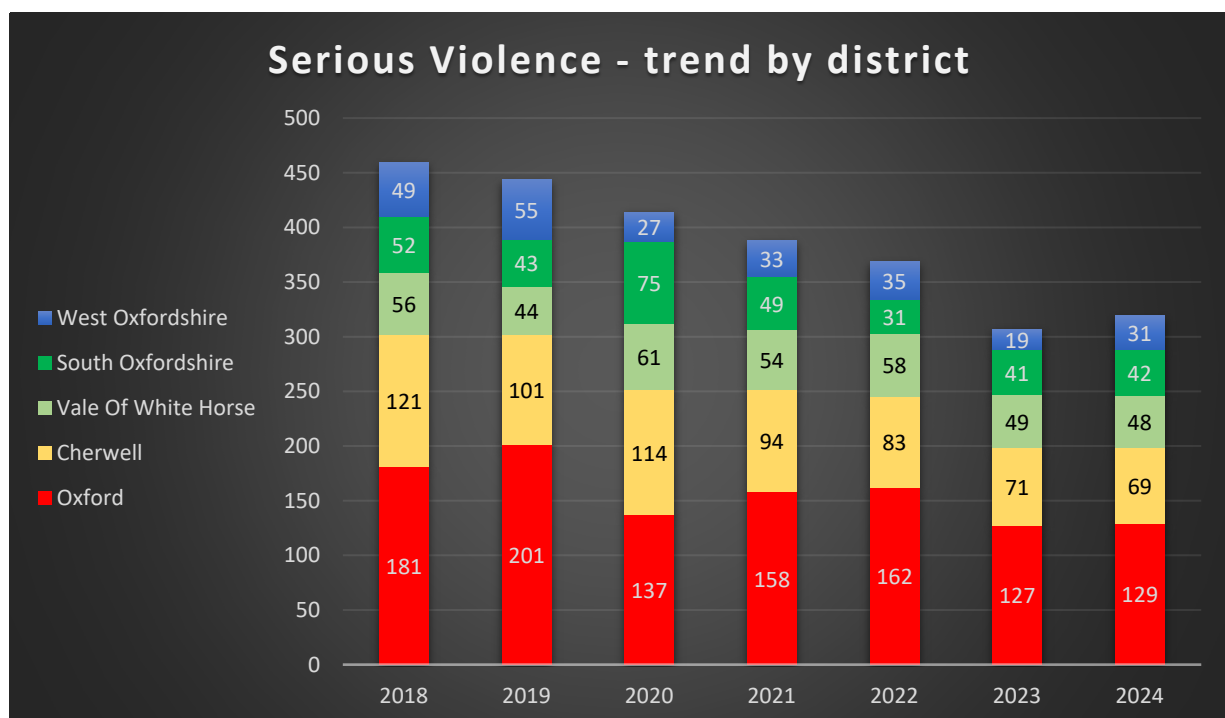*Figure 54 Serious violence – distribution by district (2024)*

Figure 55 Serious violence – trend by district (2018-2024)

Nearly two-thirds of SV occurred in the two most urbanised districts. The % decrease in SV has been evenly spread across the district, though the districts with most SV have seen the biggest numeric falls.

For most districts there isn't much difference between the 2023 figures and 2024. The 61% increase in West Oxfordshire from 2023 to 2024 was researched by a random
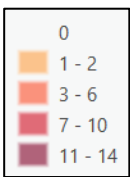
sample test. Of the 31 SV occurrences in 2024, 16 were read, no discernible pattern was found.

18.3.2.   Serious violence – location – mapping

Oxfordshire

Figure 56 Map of Oxfordshire serious violence concentrations (2024)

	0
	1 - 2
	3 - 6
	7 - 10
	11 - 14

As expected, serious violence is concentrated in the main population centres, particularly Oxford and Banbury. Berinsfield (east of Abingdon) provides an anomaly.
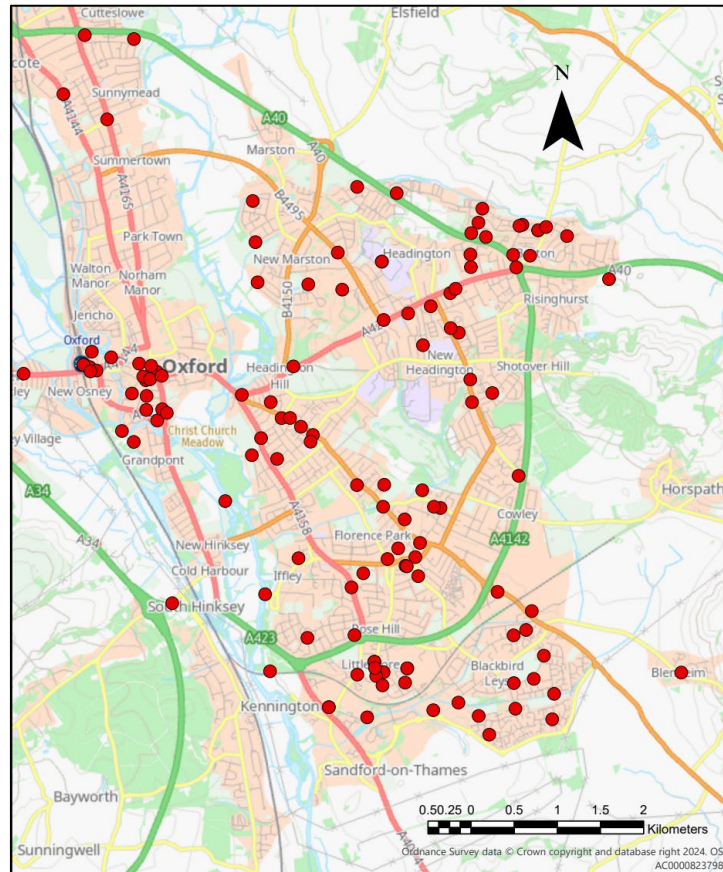
Figure 57 Map of Oxford SV (2024)

Serious violence in Oxford is concentrated in two types of areas.

1. Areas associated with the NTE (The town centre, Park End and Cowley Road)
2. Areas associated deprivation (The Leys, Barton and Littlemore)

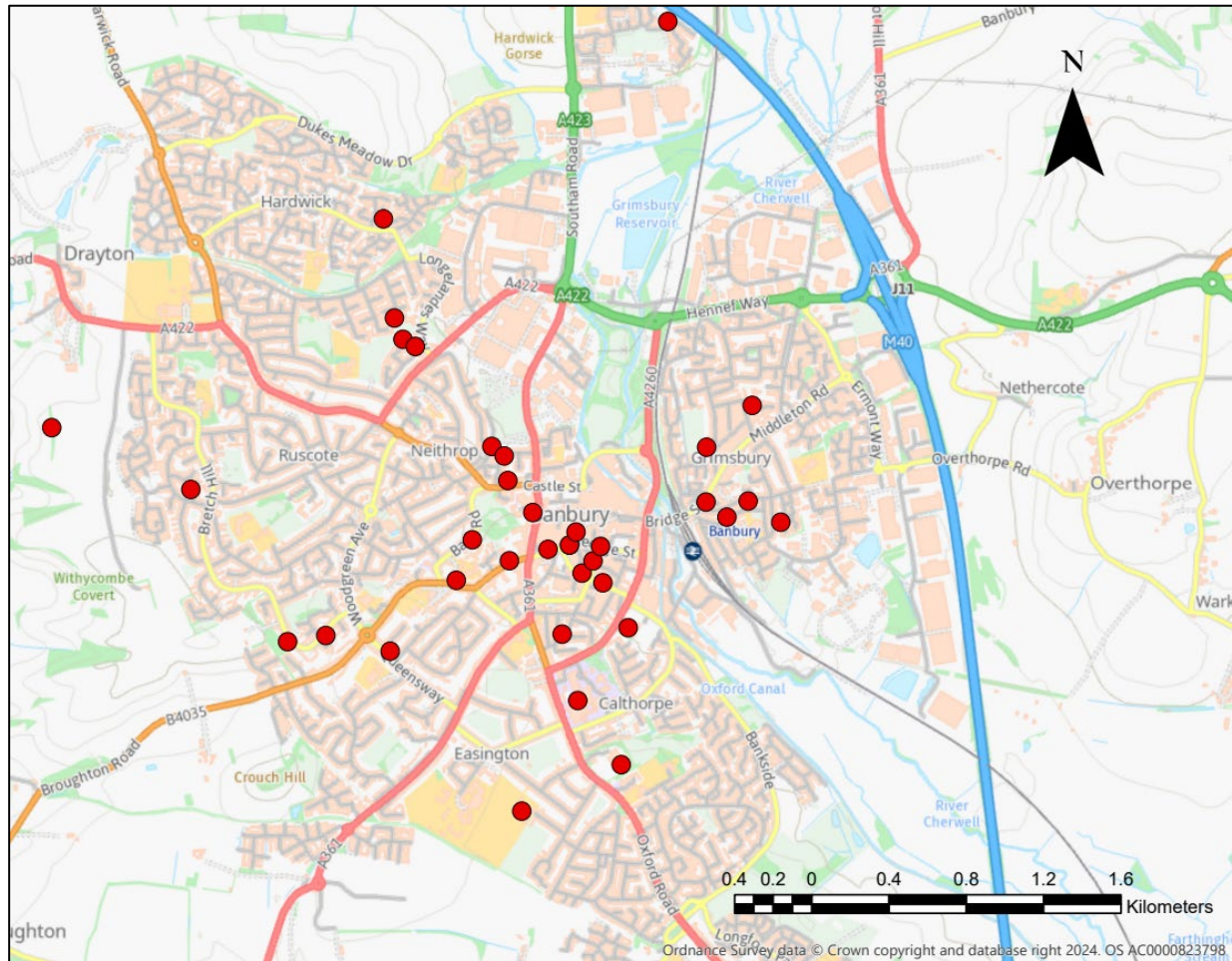In previous years Rosehill and Carfax saw stronger concentrations.

.

Figure 58 Map of Banbury serious violence (2024)

As with Oxford the town centre has a clear concentration of SV, along with pockets of depravation in Neithrop and Grimsbury. However, Ruscote does not have a concentration as it did in previous years.

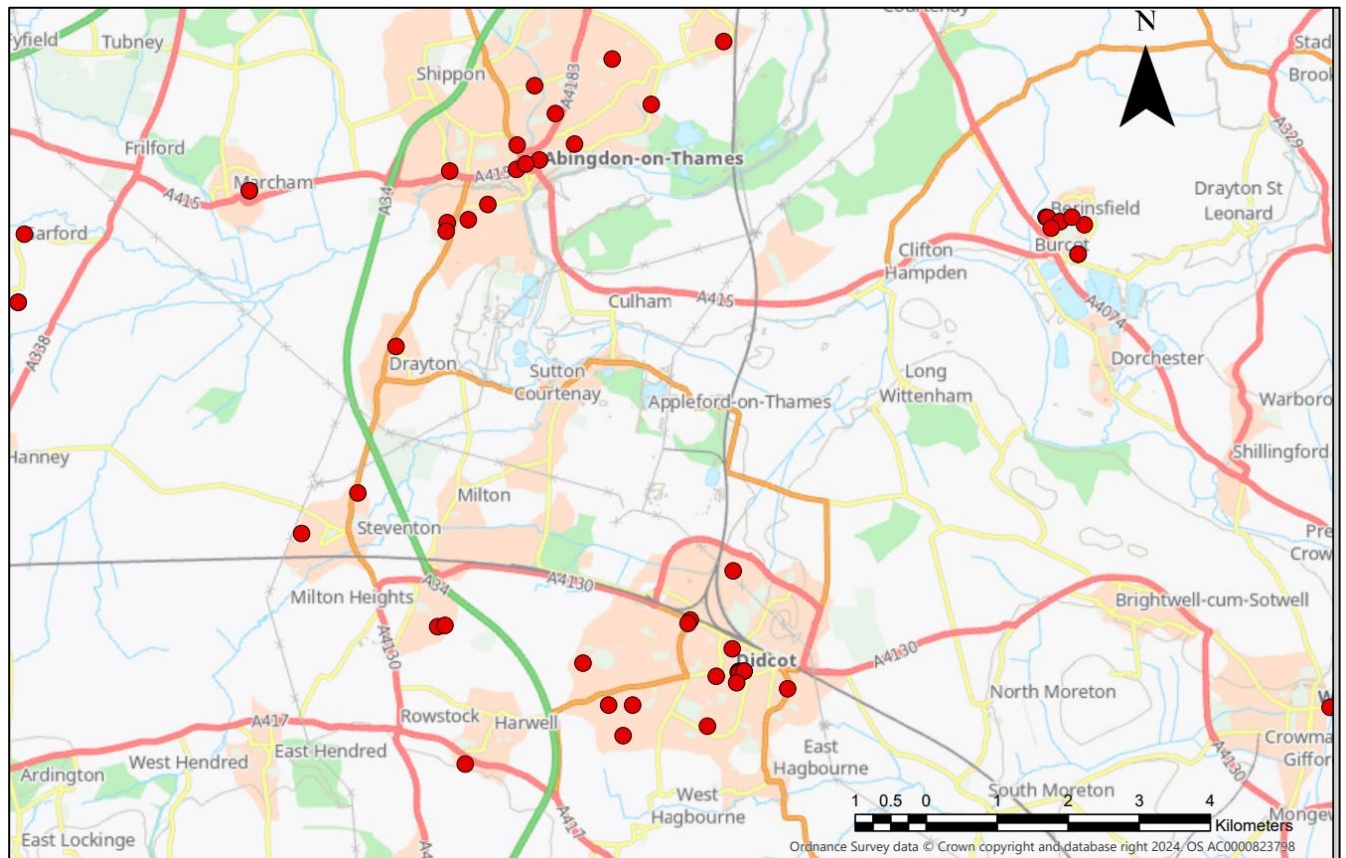*Figure 59 Map of Abingdon serious violence (2024)*

As with the other urban areas the town centre features a concentration, and the most deprived area of Caldecott. There is another moderate concentration in the Fitzharris area.

Didcot has a similar situation with a concentration in the town centre and relatively deprived West Didcot.

Notable is the concentration in the village of Berinsfield.

18.4. Serious violence – demographics

18.4.1. Suspects
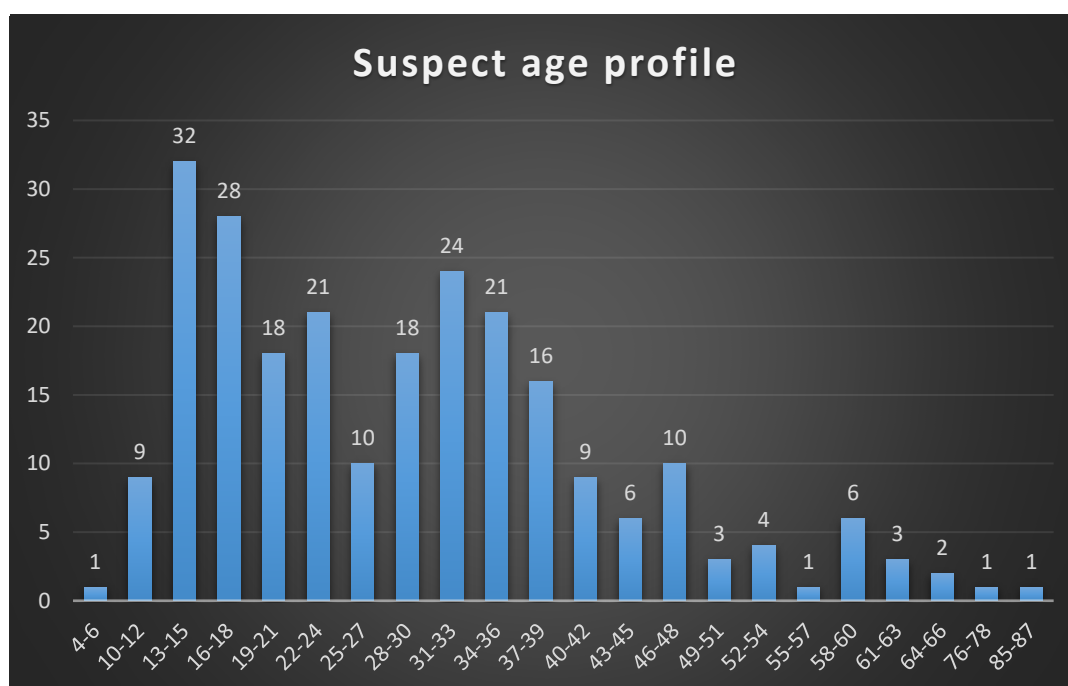
Figure 60 Serious violence - suspects' age profile (2024)

Gender	Number of suspects	%
Female	40	16%
Male	209	84%

Table 34 Serious violence suspects gender profile table (2024)

The demographic for serious violence suspects is clearly young males with a discernible peak in the 13 to 15 years old age group. The peak for the 2018 to 2023 was the 15 to 21 years old age range. There is a second peak (31-33) which could correspond with DA.

It is a concern that so many teenagers have already reached the threshold of serious violence early in their lives.

Figure 61 Suspect age and gender profile (2024)

The age profile of female suspects is similar. Previous analysis has shown that female suspects are mostly present in the following categories:
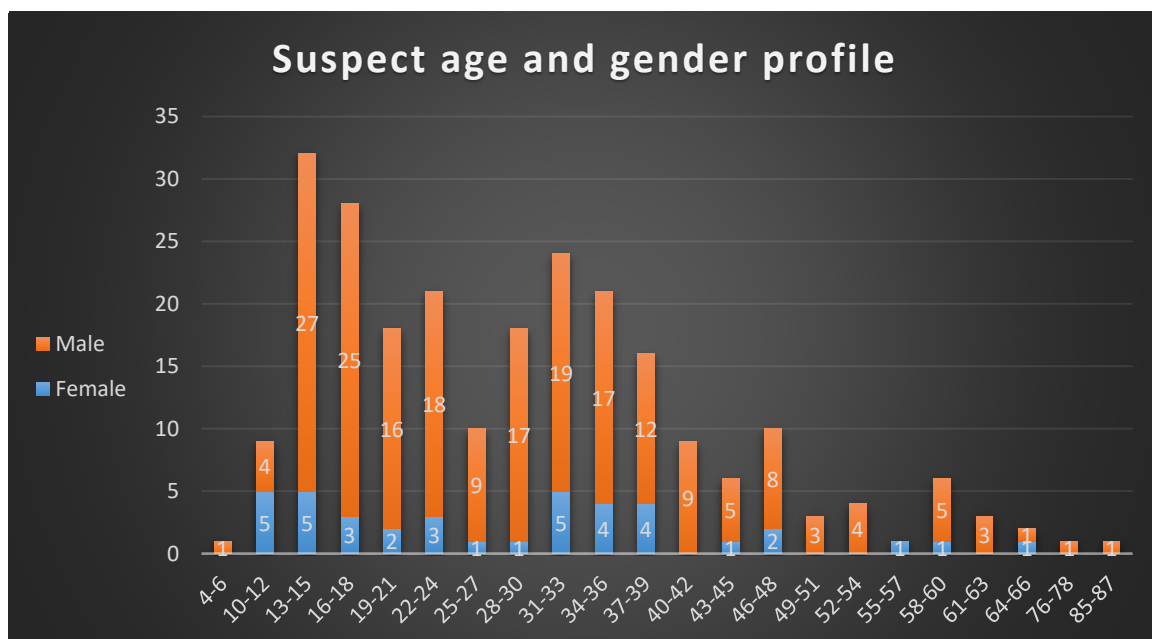
- Group altercations where the female suspect is with several male suspects.
- Partner. Frequently with a history of alcohol related abuse within the domestic setting.
- Family member, again in the home environment, attacking parent(s) or sibling.

Multi serious violence suspects

Number of SV occurrences	Number of Suspects	%
1	6223	85.81%
2	747	10.30%
3	180	2.48%

Table 35 Serious violence - suspects of multi occurrences (2018-2023)

There are two caveats with this data. It relates only to occurrences in the Thames Valley Police (TVP) area, and only in the last six years. The indication is however that serial SV offenders are the exception and not the norm.

In 2024, of the 240 suspects only seven were involved in more than one occurrence that year (five twice and two twice) but this is with the caveat of a single year.

Age and gender profile
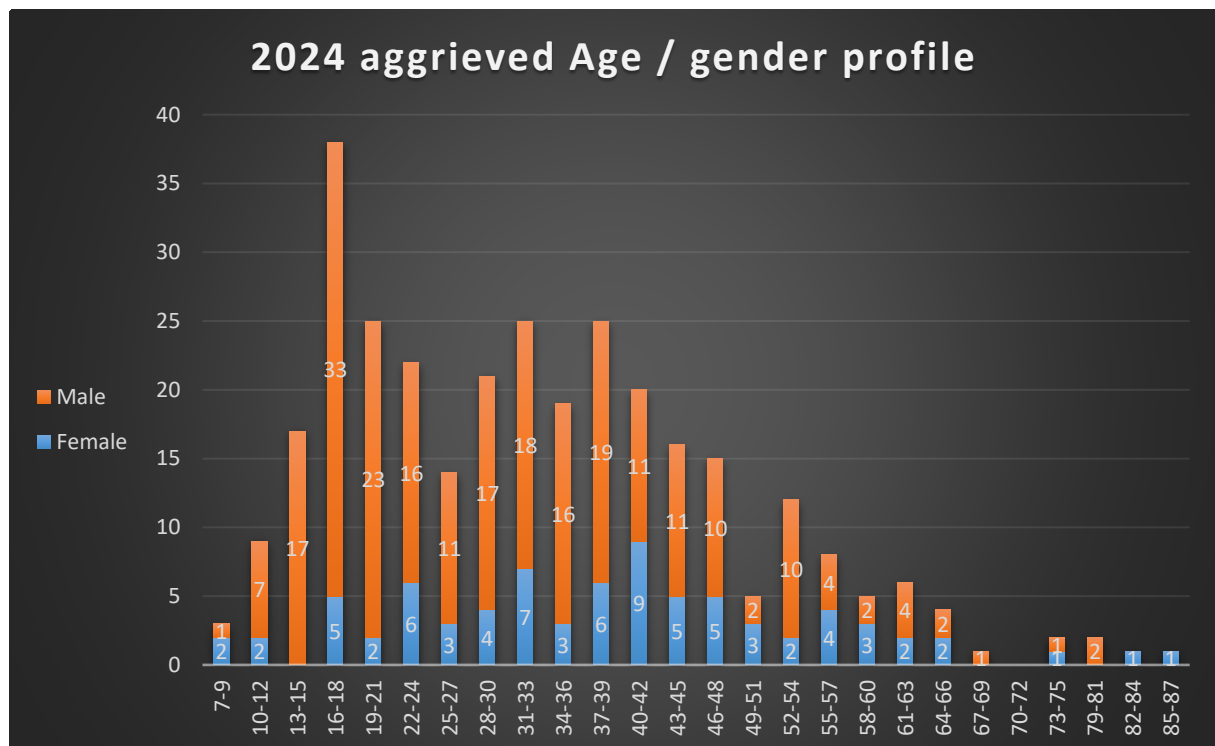
Figure 62 Serious Violence - Victim age profile (2024)

Gender	Number of victims	%
Female	78	24.68%
Male	238	75.32%

Table 36 SV victims gender profile (2024))

The profile for SV victims is like that of SV suspects, though the peak of 16 to 18 years old for victims is slightly older than the peak for suspects. It is notable for the 40 to 42years old age range that there is nearly equilibrium for the genders.

Multi SV victims

Number of SV occurrences	Number of victims	%
1	318	97.55%
2	8	2.45%

Table 37 Multi SV victims (2024)

Just over 2% were twice the victim of SV in 2024, in Oxfordshire. Given both the time and location constraints it is not surprising the figure is low.

Annex A: PESTELO table

PESTELO is a risk assessment and horizon scanning methodology based around:

This PESTELO has been developed in consultation with members of the Safer Oxfordshire Partnership

Change/Issue	Possible Impact
Political: May 2025 Local Elections	Changes in policing priorities
Political: Local government reorganisation and devolution plans.	Potential changes in council structures could lead to more streamlined decision-making but may also cause temporary disruptions and concerns about democratic representation. Community safety resourcing in local councils may be affected. Regulatory functions and policies in local authorities would need aligning, including alcohol, scrap metal, sexual entertainment, and taxi licensing, fees and charges alignment, and consistent policy approaches for addressing anti-social behaviour.
Economic: Increasing pressures on household finances **Economic**: Increase in consumer prices, energy bills	Increase in households in poverty and impact on health and family relationships. Potential for an increase in scams, fraud, stealing, domestic abuse – violence against the person and prostitution.
Economic: Cost of living impact on recruitment and retention of staff	Lack of staff impacting multi-agency working. Support for voluntary and community sector/domestic abuse. Patchwork funding. Wage rises.

| Change/Issue	Possible Impact
	National Insurance contributions increase impacting all sectors especially difficult for VCS.
Economic: Funding gaps in council finances and economic growth challenges	Without adequate funding, councils may struggle to deliver essential services, hindering economic growth and affecting community well-being. Councils and other statutory agencies working to annual funding rounds/agreements causes risk to long term planning and resourcing.
Social: Ageing Population	Increase in older victims of crime (65+). People living longer and in worse health, therefore, requiring relatives to provide unpaid care. This in turn can cause stress and mental health difficulties for family members.
Social: Increase in migration	Refugee and asylum seekers (including from Ukraine, Afghanistan, Syria) Increasing victims and crimes. Increase in hate crime. Modern slavery and exploitation offences. Possible increases in homeless presentations. Impacts on MH services and other specialists with increased demand for support around trauma. Language barriers – lack of ESOL – and lack of understanding about cultural norms in UK – may lead to inappropriate behaviour – lack of resources to provide casework to Ref&AS – fragile, under resourced, VCS sector in this space
Technology: Increases in cyber-related crime. **Technology**: Adoption of AI and advanced wireless technology	Threat increases for business and individuals. Enhanced technological infrastructure could boost economic growth and improve public services, but also requires careful management to avoid potential ethical and privacy concerns

Change/Issue	Possible Impact
Environmental: Sewage pollution and air quality issues	Environmental degradation could harm public health and local ecosystems, necessitating urgent action to improve infrastructure and reduce pollution
Legal: Legal challenges related to protests and civil liberties	Ensuring fair and lawful treatment of protesters and maintaining civil liberties could affect public trust in law enforcement and local governance
Legal: Young Futures Prevention Partnerships 2025	Designed to bring together key partners, including local authorities, schools, police, and community organizations, to identify and support children and young people at risk of being drawn into crime.
Legal: Crime and Policing Bill 2025	New Respect Orders for anti-social behaviour. Seizure of vehicles used anti-socially. Fly-tipping enforcement statutory guidance for local authorities. New powers to address knife crime. New offence of assaulting a retail worker. New offence of child criminal exploitation and a civil preventative order. New offence of cuckooing, exposure, and child abduction. Banning all AI models optimised to create child abuse images. Criminalises moderators and administrators of websites that host child sexual abuse material, and grants Border Force officers the power to search the digital devices of individuals arriving in the UK for child sexual abuse material. New duty in England for adults working in relevant activities to report instances of child sexual abuse. New statutory aggravating factor covering grooming behaviour. Individuals working in supervised roles will be subject to enhanced DBS checks.

Change/Issue	Possible Impact
	New offences of the taking of intimate images. New standalone spiking offence. Victims of stalking will have the right to know the identity of their perpetrator. Strengthening stalking protection orders and issuing guidance to agencies on combatting stalking. Restrictions on a sex offender's ability to change their name where there is a risk of sexual harm. Probation officers power to polygraph test more serious offenders who have committed sexual or terrorism motivated crimes. Banning electronic devices used in vehicle theft. Reforming the identification doctrine to strengthen the ability to apply corporate criminal liability to the makeup of modern corporations, particularly large complex structures. Prohibiting possession and supply of 'SIM farms' with no legitimate purpose. Reform of the proceeds of crime powers. Introducing cost protections for law enforcement agencies to protect them from the risk of adverse costs when investigating high-net worth individuals and corporations. Banning the deliberate use of face coverings to conceal a person's identity during a protest, and bans the possession of fireworks, flares, and other pyrotechnics at protests. Criminalising the climbing of specified war memorials. Power for the police to enter premises to search for and seize electronically tracked stolen goods, ranging from mobile phones to stolen vehicles and agricultural machinery. Expansion of the lawful purposes by which law enforcement agencies can access the DVLA driver licence records.

Change/Issue	Possible Impact
	Expanding police powers to drug test more suspects on arrest. Reform the Independent Officer of Police Conduct's investigative processes. Give chief officers of police the right to appeal the result of misconduct boards to the Police Appeals Tribunal. Implement recommendations of the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation, including youth diversion orders to divert young people away from terrorism-related activity.
Legal: Border Security, Asylum, and Immigration Bill	Supplying or handling articles for use in immigration crime Collecting information for use in immigration crime Endangering another during sea crossing to United Kingdom Relevant articles for use in serious crime as defined by the Serious Crime Act 2007. 3D printers, tablet presses, capsule makers, and vehicle concealment compartments. Electronic monitoring requirements for serious crime prevention orders. Interim serious crime prevention orders.
Legal: Carers and Care Workers Bill	Requires the Secretary of State to publish and implement a Care Workers Employment Strategy, with the aim of improving the recruitment and retention of care workers. Establish an independent National Care Workers Council with responsibility for setting professional standards for care workers, establishing a system of professional qualifications and accreditation for care workers. Secretary of State to commission an independent assessment of the support available to unpaid carers, including financial support and employment rights; and for connected purposes.
Legal: Child Criminal Exploitation (No. 2) Bill	A Bill to create an offence of child criminal exploitation; and for connected purposes.

Change/Issue	Possible Impact
Legal: Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill	The safeguarding and welfare of children; support for children in care or leaving care; regulation of care workers; regulation of establishments and agencies under Part 2 of the Care Standards Act 2000; employment of children.
Legal: Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill Final stages in parliament.	Martyn's Law. A Bill to require persons with control of certain premises or events to take steps to reduce the vulnerability of the premises or event to, and the risk of physical harm to individuals arising from, acts of terrorism; to confer related functions on the Security Industry Authority; to limit the disclosure of information about licensed premises that is likely to be useful to a person committing or preparing an act of terrorism; and for connected purposes.
Organisational: Local government reorganisation and the abolition of district councils	Structural changes could lead to more efficient service delivery but may also cause job insecurity and require significant adjustments for council staff and partnership working arrangements. There are expected to be issues with recruitment and retention leading up to LGR. Concern over ensuring smooth transition re commissioned services – avoiding unnecessary gaps in service delivery – giving reassurance to delivery organisations. See POLITICAL section for more detail.

Valid crime Oxfordshire 2024
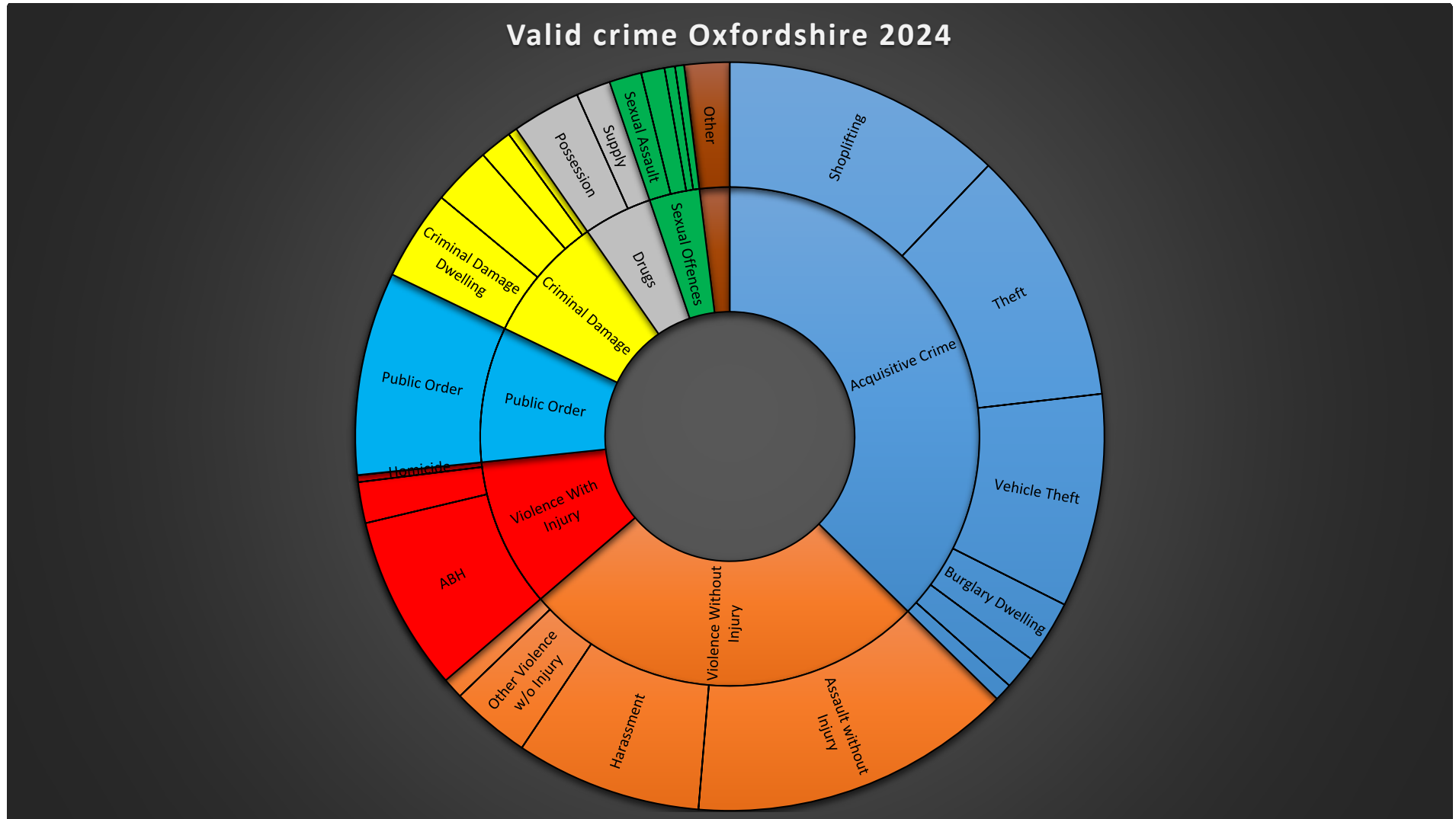
Acquisitive Crime	Shoplifting	5,555
	Theft	5,066
	Vehicle Theft	4,232
	Burglary Dwelling	1,246
	Burglary non-dwelling	668
	Robbery	351
Violence Without Injury	Assault without Injury	6,407
	Harassment	3,681
	Other Violence w/o Injury	1,573
	Weapons Offences	414
Violence With Injury	ABH	3,470
	Other Violence w Injury	810
	GBH	137
	Homicide	4
Public Order	Public Order	4,018
Criminal Damage	Criminal Damage Dwelling	1,782
	Criminal Damage Vehicle	1,162
	Criminal Damage Non-Dwelling	644
	Arson	180
Drugs	Possession	1,357
	Supply	683
Sexual Offences	Sexual Assault	637
	Rape	464
	Sexual Activity	207
	Other Sexual Offences	179
Other	Other	896