

JSNA Health and Wellbeing Profile 2023/24

Crime

Summary points

- The total recorded crime rate (all crimes) in Bristol for 2022/23 was 113.8 crimes per 1,000 of the population, similar to the previous year
- 17.4% of Bristol residents said fear of crime affects their day-to-day life, lower than the previous year (19.4%).

All Crime Trend

The total number of recorded crimes in Bristol in 2022/23 was 53,755, similar to the previous year (54,074) but significantly higher than 2020/21 (47,104) which experienced a decrease in crime likely as a result of lockdowns related to the pandemic (Figure 1).

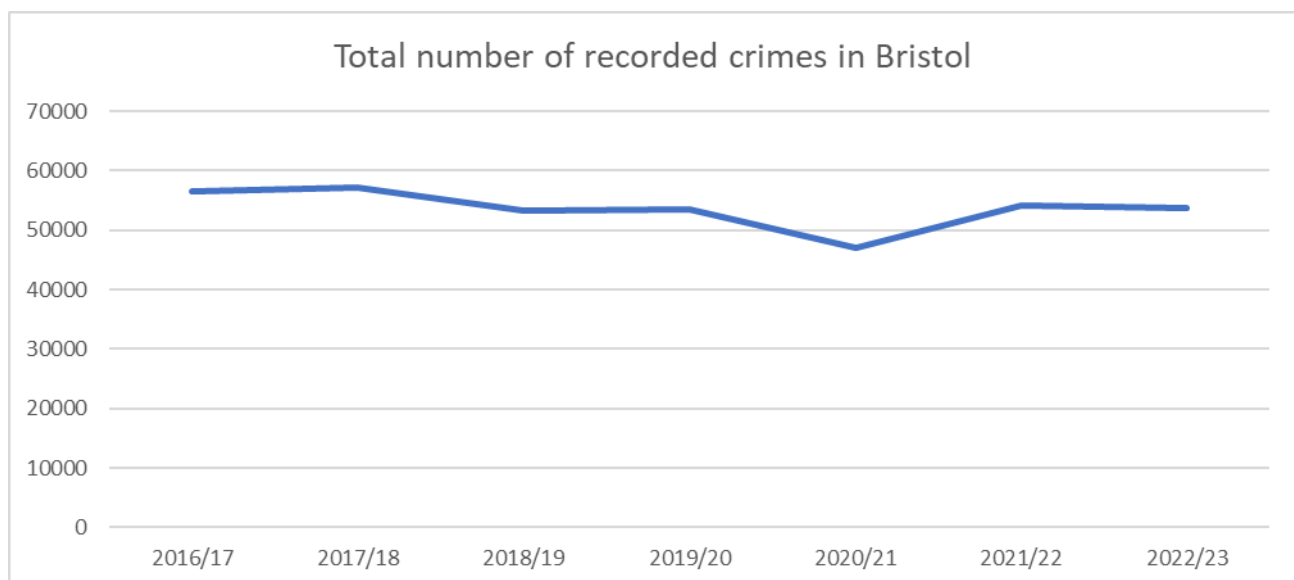


Figure 1: Number of all recorded crimes in Bristol. Source: Avon & Somerset Police 2022/23.

Violence against the person represented 33.5% of all recorded crimes in 2022/23 with 17,998 offences, followed by 10,528 'theft' offences (19.6% of all crime) and 7,387 'public order offences' (13.7% of all crime).

All Crime by ward

The crime offence rate (all crimes) across Bristol for 2022/23 was 113.8 per 1,000 of the population, similar to the previous year (115.5).

The all crime rate (per 1,000 population) within the wards (see Figure 2) ranged from; St George Troopers Hill (36 per 1,000) and Stoke Bishop (45 per 1,000) to Hotwells & Harbourside (367 per 1,000) and Central (477 per 1,000). In regard to actual numbers of all crimes by ward, they range from; St. George Troopers Hill (234) and Stoke Bishop (587) to Lawrence Hill (3,978) and Central (8,765).

When comparing the percentage change from last year, 22 wards experienced decreases in crime whilst 12 experienced an increase. St George West had the biggest increase in crime (14.9%) followed by Westbury-on-Trym and Henleaze (14.1%) whilst Windmill Hill had the biggest decrease (-21.4%) followed by Bishopston & Ashley Down (-21.3%).

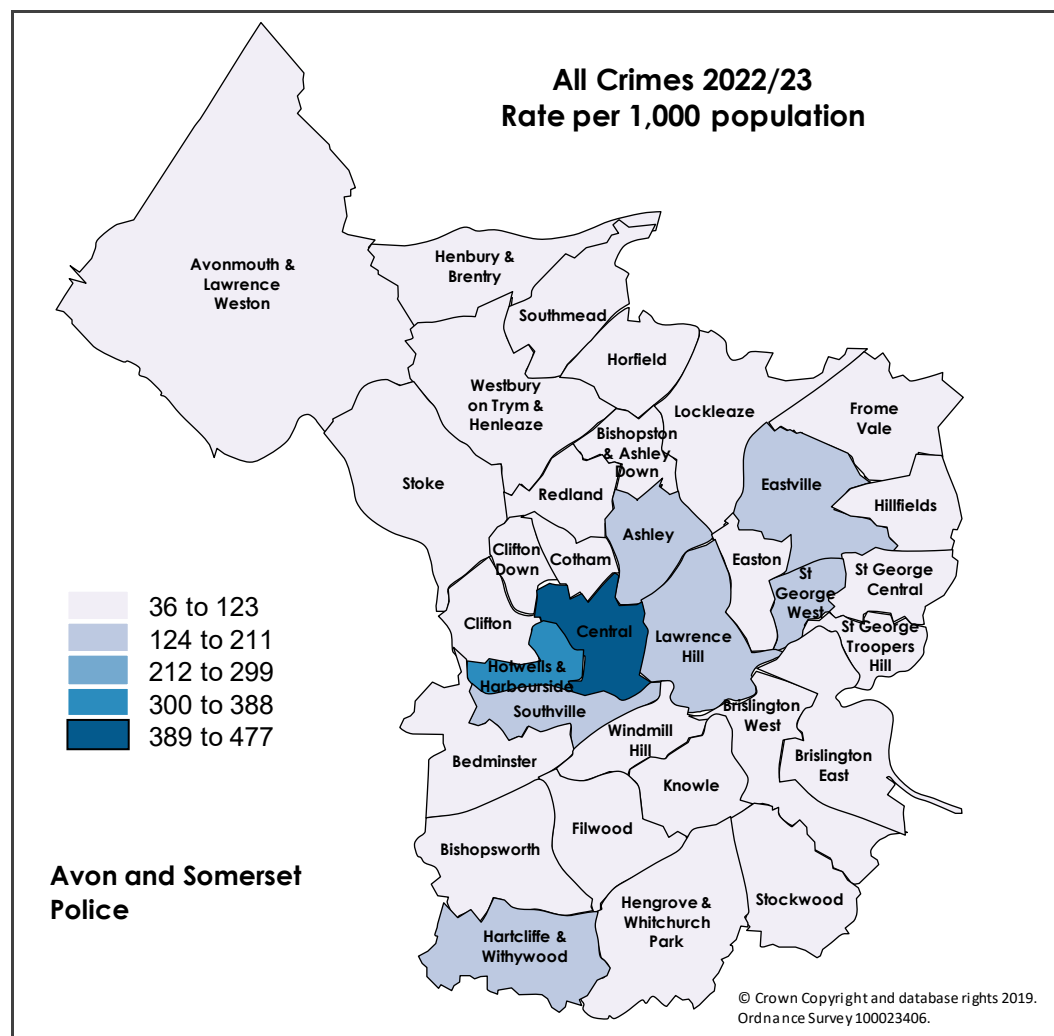


Figure 2: Rates per 1,000 population of all recorded crimes 2022/23. Source: Avon and Somerset Police

Violence against the person (VAP) and Hate Crime

As the largest contributor to total crime (of all the crime types) VAP consists of a number of categories including murder, manslaughter, assault, threats to kill and harassment. There were 17,998 recorded VAP crimes in 2022/23, a decrease of 7.2% on the previous year, equal to 1,399 less more crimes.

Equalities data: Police data for 2022/23 shows an almost equal split between male (49%) and female (51%) victims. This is Police data where gender is known / recorded. Data is based on a count of victims (i.e. not multiple violence against the same person).

There were 2,244 recorded hate crimes in 2022/23 a decrease of 9.8% when compared to the previous year. All categories of hate crime experienced a decrease compared to 2021/22 but the biggest reductions were for disability (-15.7%) and racial prejudice (-11.1%).

Over 71% of hate crime in 2022/23 was recorded on the basis of racial prejudice, followed by sexual orientation (13.5%) and disability (7.4%).

Quality of Life Survey

In 2022/23, 17.4% of residents across Bristol said fear of crime affects their day-to-day life, a decrease on the previous year (19.4%). Levels of concern are significantly higher for people living in the 10% most deprived areas (32.4%), a deprivation gap of 15% compared with the Bristol average.

By sub-locality, fear of crime is highest in the Inner City, followed by South Bristol and lowest in the North and West Inner areas of Bristol. By ward, fear of crime is highest in Hartcliffe & Withywood (35.7%) followed by Filwood (35.3%) and Lawrence Hill (33.3%). People with the lowest fear of crime live in Clifton Down (5.2%) and Lockleaze (8.7%) (Figure 3).

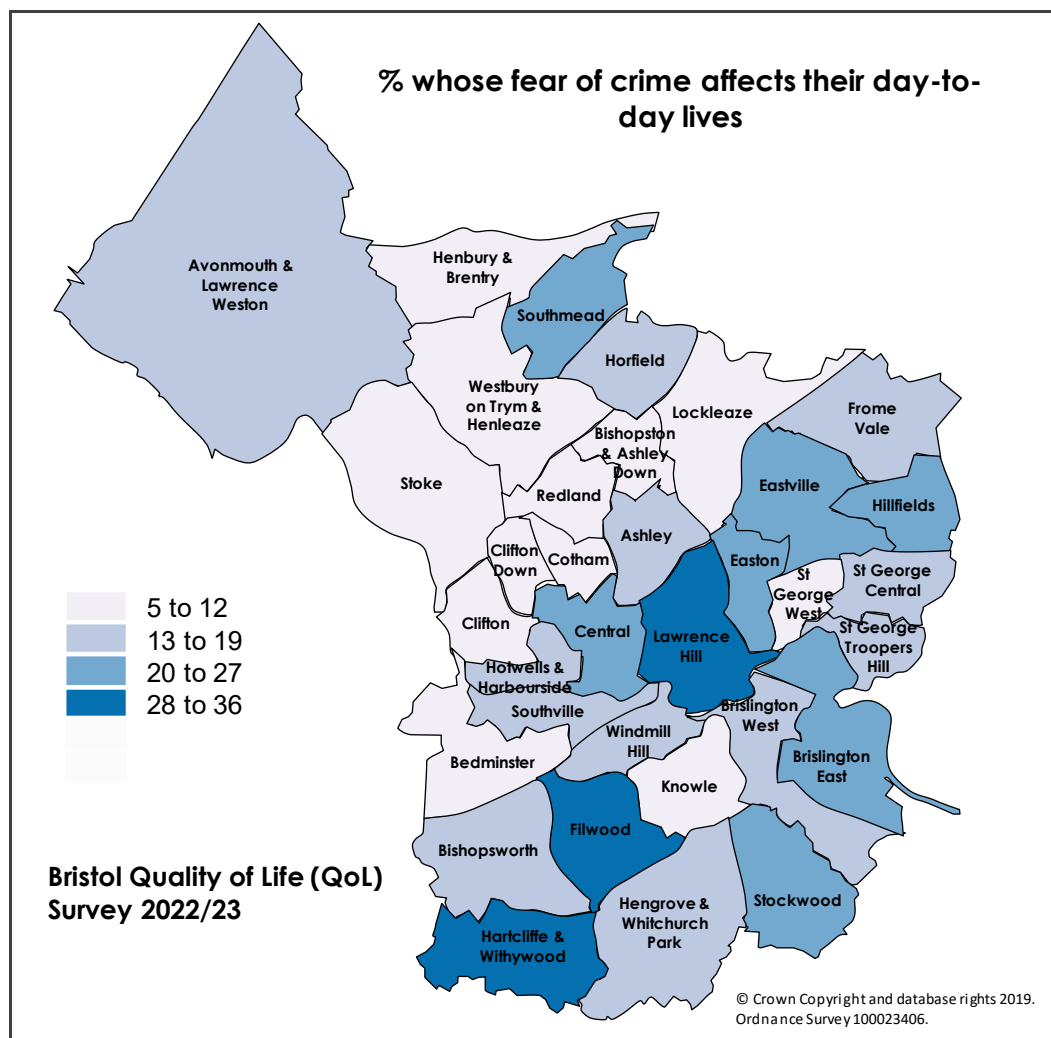


Figure 3: Fear of crime affecting daily life; Source: Quality of Life 2022/23

Fear of crime is significantly worse than average in some equalities groups including single parents (34.2%), disabled people (30.4%) and full-time carers (31.5%).

Over a third of residents (35.6%) feel anti-social behaviour (ASB) is a problem locally, lower than the previous year. This rises to 69.2% for residents living in the 10% most deprived areas compared to 11.9% for residents living in the 10% least deprived areas. By ward, residents

living in Hartcliffe & Withywood (71.2%) and Filwood (68.8%) feel anti-social behaviour is much more of an issue than residents living in Clifton (7.7%) and Westbury-on-Trym and Henleaze (10.1%) (Figure 4).

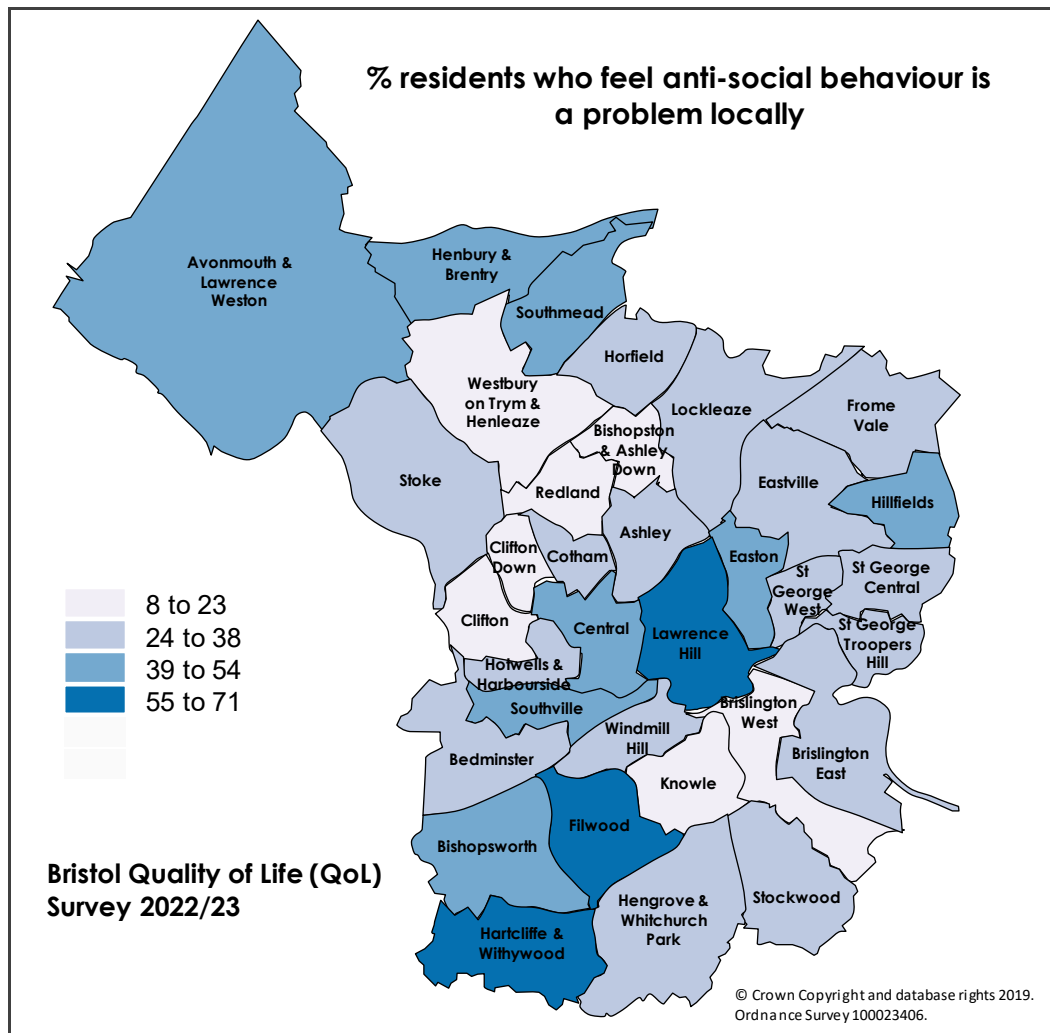


Figure 4: % who feel anti-social behaviour is a problem locally; Source: Quality of Life 2022/23.

Single parents (48.7%), disabled people (41.5%) and full-time carers (46.8%) feel anti-social behaviour is more of a problem locally than other equalities groups.

Anti-Social Behaviour

According to the police definition of anti-social behaviour¹ (ASB) there were just over 9,100 incidents in 2022/23 which have reduced for the fourth year in a row, with a 19.2% reduction on the previous year and a 38.7% reduction on 2018/19. There was a reduction in the Nuisance category of incident (-23.2%) but an increase in Personal ASB incidents (+10.7%).

Nuisance incidents (e.g. rowdy or inconsiderate neighbours) accounted for 82.7% (7,529) of reported ASB. Personal ASB incidents (e.g. vandalism, begging, street drinking) account for 13.4% of incidents and Environmental ASB incidents (e.g. littering, rubbish dumping) account for 3.6% of incidents (Figure 5).

¹ Other incidents may be recorded under other crime types e.g. Public Order

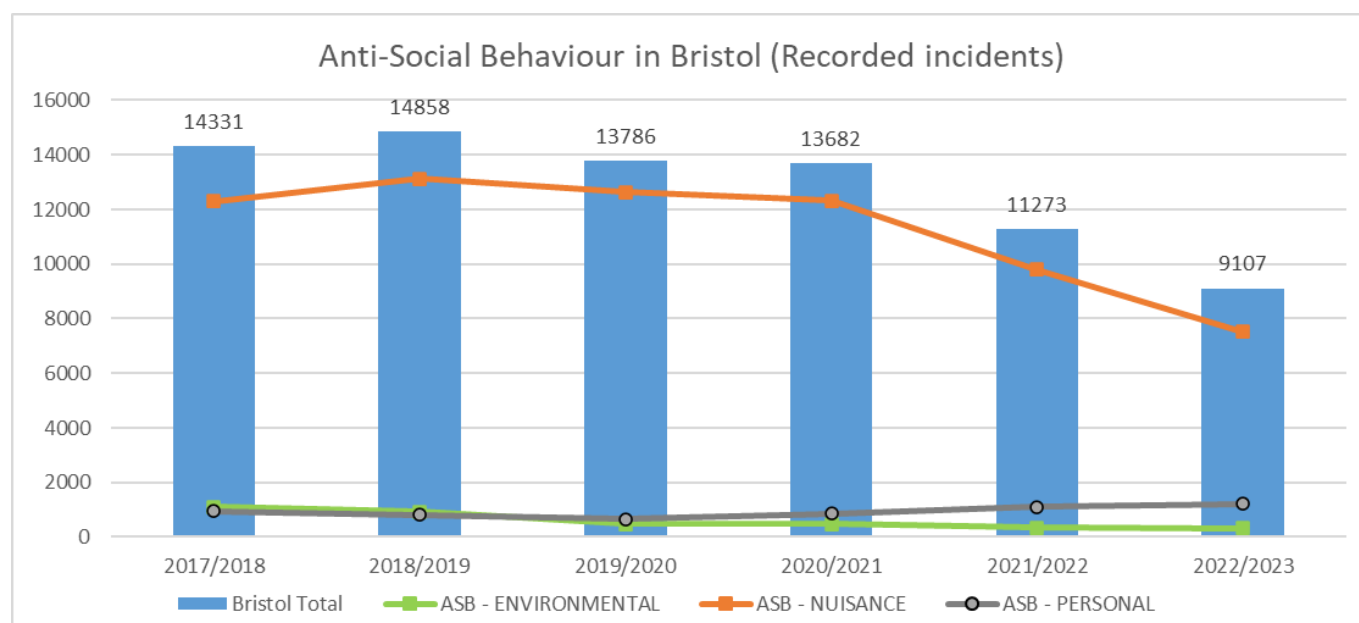


Figure 5: ASB incidents in Bristol by financial year. Source: Avon and Somerset Police

Within Bristol, the highest level of reported ASB incidents was in Central ward which accounted for 17.9% (1,629) of all incidents. Lawrence Hill (730) and Hartcliffe & Withywood (632) had the next highest number of incidents whilst the lowest number of incidents were recorded in St George Troopers Hill (29), Redland (57) and Bishopston and Ashley Down (78).

Further data / links:

- Open data: [Crime and Policing in England, Wales and Northern Ireland](#)

Covid-19 impact:

The pandemic has had a notable effect on the trends, patterns and nature of crimes. An increase in domestic abuse flagged offences was recorded during 2020. Increases in anti-social behaviour were measured in certain parks and open spaces. There was a rise in hate crime, coinciding with multiple events and campaigns which took place during the pandemic. Owing to the closure of night-time economy businesses (nightclubs, pubs and bars), a significant decrease in offences was measured in Central ward. There is a correlation with levels of incidents/ crimes and changes to government guidance on social isolation and lockdown arrangements. This will have a consequence in future benchmarking analysis of crime trends.

Date updated: April 2023

Date of next update: April 2024