

JSNA Health and Wellbeing Profile 2024/25

Crime

Summary points

- The total recorded crime rate (all crimes) in Bristol for 2023/24 was 121.0 crimes per 1,000 of the population, higher than the previous year (113.2).
- 21.4% of Bristol residents said fear of crime affects their day-to-day life, significantly higher than the previous year (17.4%).

All Crime Trend

The total number of recorded crimes in Bristol in 2023/24 was 57,976, an increase of 7% on the previous year (54,204) and the highest recorded in the last seven years (Figure 1). Crime in 2020/21 was the lowest recorded likely as a result of lockdowns related to the pandemic.

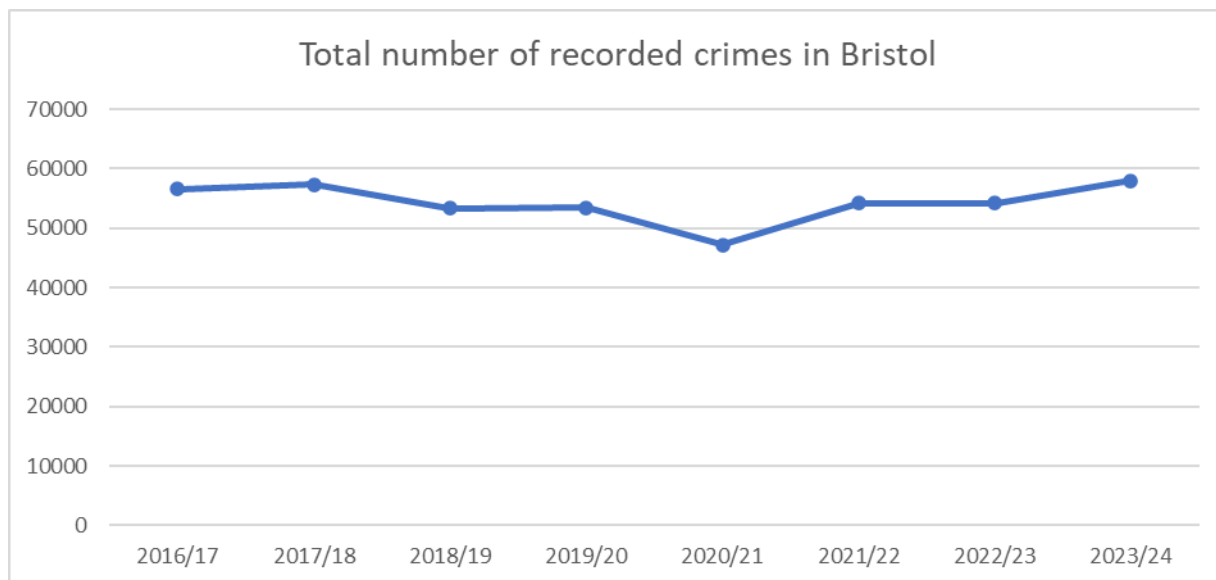


Figure 1: Number of all recorded crimes in Bristol. Source: Avon & Somerset Police 2023/24.

Violence against the person represented 34.4% of all recorded crimes in 2023/24 with 19,959 offences, followed by 12,426 'theft' offences (21.4% of all crime) and 6,631 'public order offences' (11.4% of all crime).

All Crime by ward

The crime offence rate (all crimes) across Bristol for 2023/24 was 121.0 per 1,000 of the population, higher than the previous year (113.2).

The all crime rate (per 1,000 population) within the wards (see Figure 2) ranged from; St George Troopers Hill (42 per 1,000) and Redland (46 per 1,000) to Hotwells & Harbourside (326 per 1,000) and Central (422 per 1,000). In regard to actual numbers of all crimes by ward, they range from; St. George Troopers Hill (270) and Redland (618) to Lawrence Hill (4,301) and Central (8,673).

When comparing the percentage change from last year, 9 wards experienced decreases in crime whilst 25 experienced an increase. Bishopston and Ashley Down had the biggest increase in crime (47.9%) followed by Lockleaze (36.4%) whilst Brislington East had the biggest decrease (-8.1%) followed by Horfield (-7.9%).

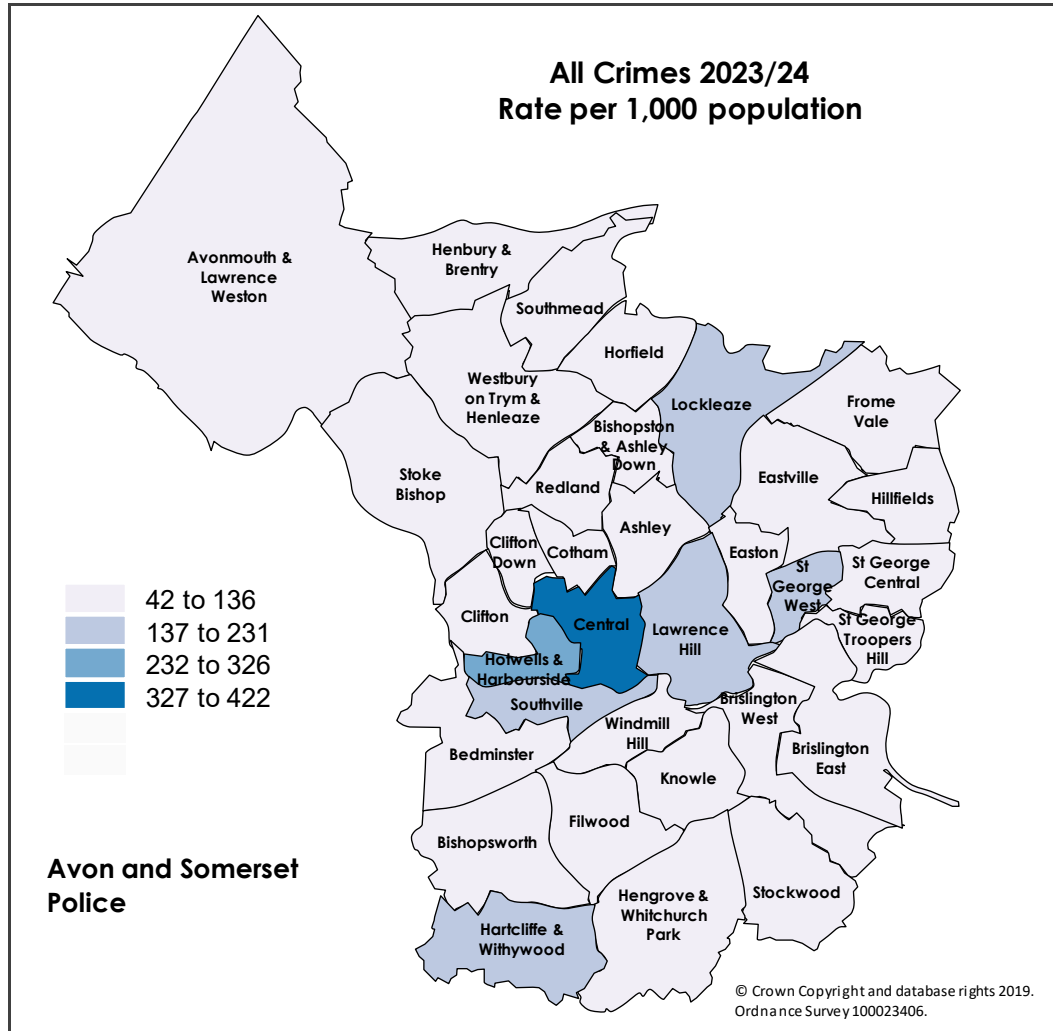


Figure 2: Rates per 1,000 population of all recorded crimes 2023/24. Source: Avon and Somerset Police

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 19,959 recorded VAP crimes in 2023/24, an increase of 10.3% on the previous year, equal to 1,871 additional crimes.

Equalities data: Police data for 2023/24 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 2,528 recorded hate crimes in 2023/24 an increase of 12.5% when compared to the previous year. All categories of hate crime experienced an increase compared to 2022/23 with the exception of sexual orientation which experienced a 5.5% decrease. Transphobic hate crime recorded the biggest increase (80%) followed by religion/belief hate crime (68%).

Nearly 68% of hate crime in 2023/24 was recorded on the basis of racial prejudice, followed by sexual orientation (11.6%) and disability (9.0%).

Quality of Life Survey

In 2023/24, 21.4% of residents across Bristol said fear of crime affects their day-to-day life, a significant increase on the previous year (17.4%). Levels of concern are significantly higher for people living in the 10% most deprived areas (44.4%), a deprivation gap of 23% compared with the Bristol average.

By sub-locality, fear of crime is highest in the Inner City (27.2%), followed by North and West Outer areas of Bristol (24.9%) and lowest in the North and West Inner areas of Bristol (10.6%). By ward, fear of crime is highest in Lawrence Hill (42.6%) followed by Hartcliffe & Withywood (42.1%) and Filwood (39.7%). People with the lowest fear of crime live in Clifton Down (4.3%) and Westbury-on-Trym and Henleaze (7.3%) (Figure 3).

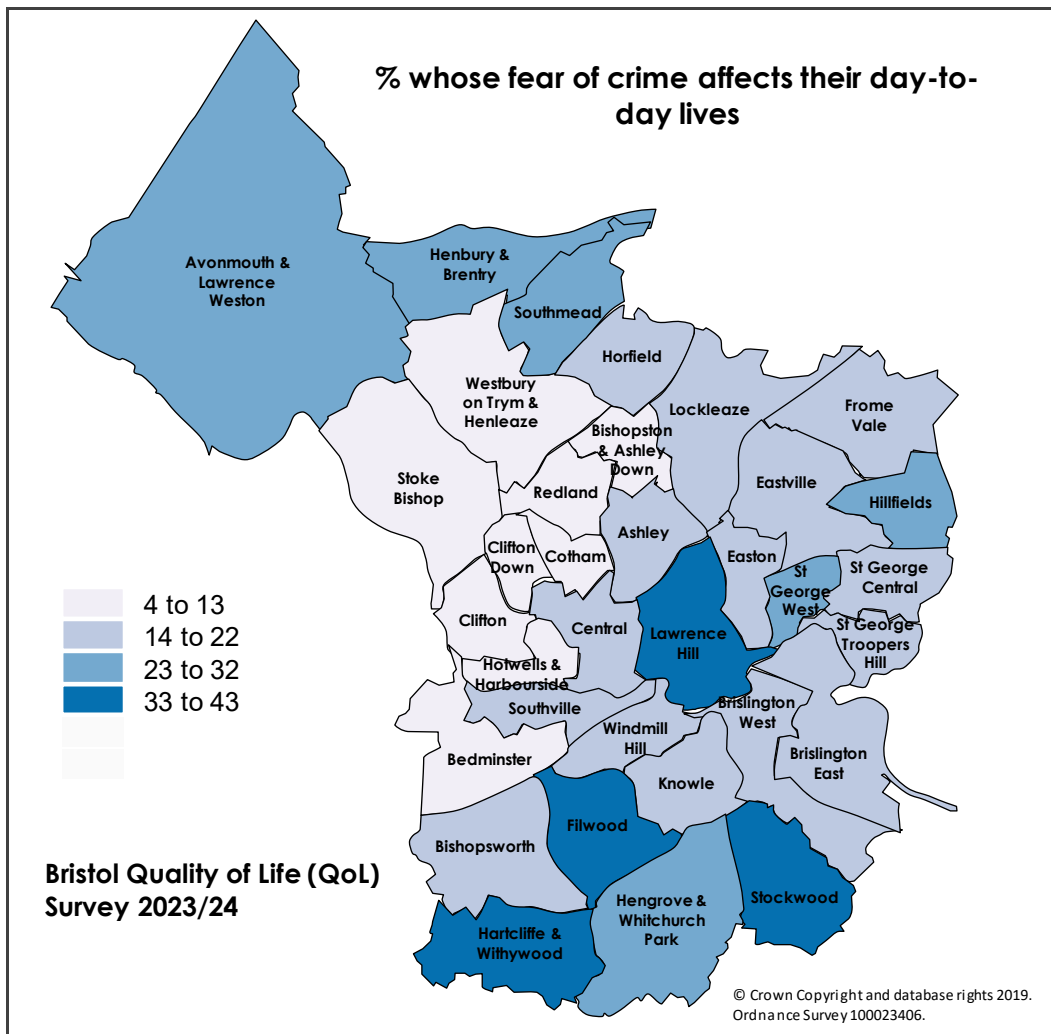


Figure 3: Fear of crime affecting daily life; Source: Quality of Life 2023/24

Fear of crime is significantly worse than average in some equalities groups including single parents (31.6%), disabled people (34.1%) and full-time carers (36.2%).

Nearly 41% of residents (40.5%) feel anti-social behaviour (ASB) is a problem locally, significantly higher than the previous year (35.6%). This rises to 73.7% for residents living in

the 10% most deprived areas compared to 15.0% for residents living in the 10% least deprived areas. By ward, residents living in Hartcliffe & Withywood (73.0%) and Filwood (71.5%) feel anti-social behaviour is much more of an issue than residents living in Clifton (9.7%) and Westbury-on-Trym and Henleaze (9.4%) (Figure 4).

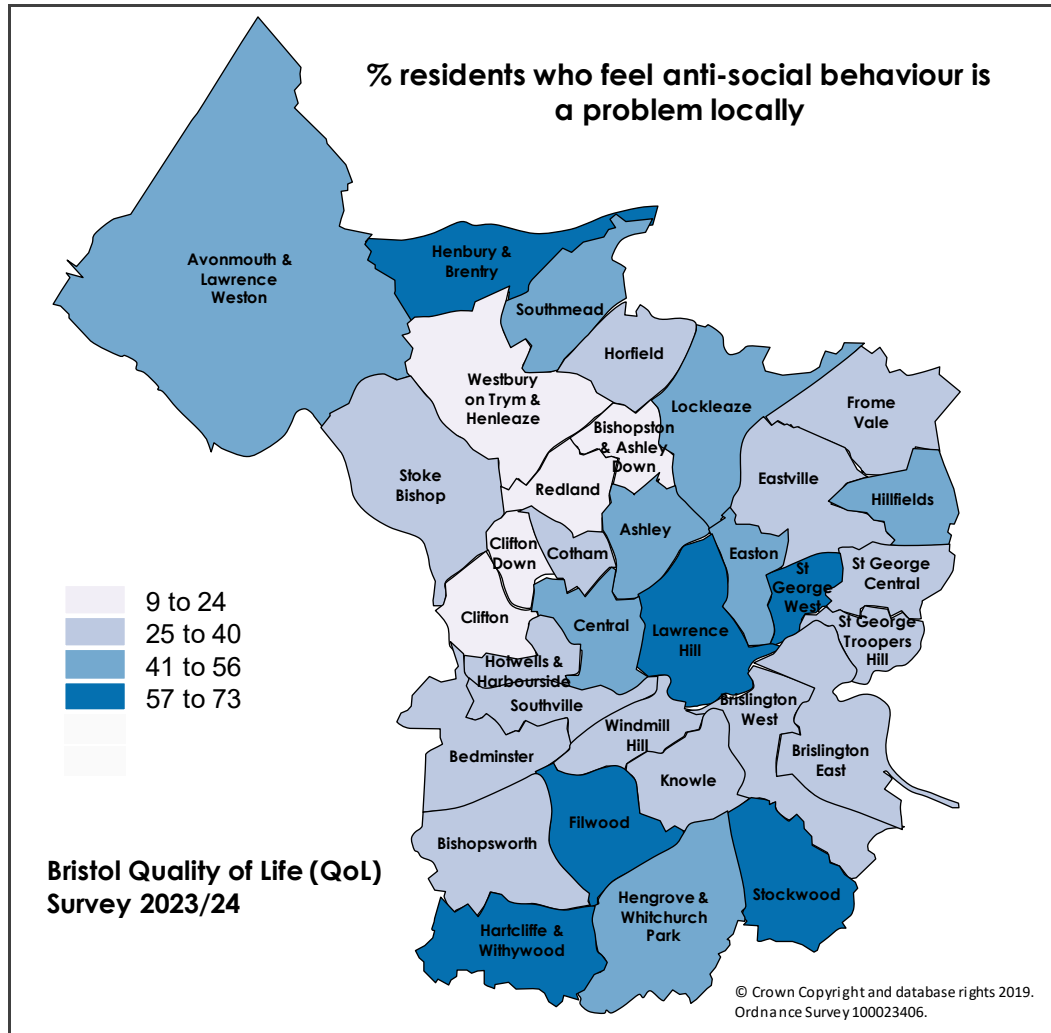


Figure 4: % who feel anti-social behaviour is a problem locally; Source: Quality of Life 2023/24.

Single parents (56.3%), disabled people (51.4%) and full-time carers (57.9%) 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 9,265 incidents in 2023/24, a slight increase of 1.7% on the previous year but significantly lower than 2021/22 (-17.8%). There was a reduction in the Environmental (-22.0%) and Personal (-8%) categories of incident but an increase in Nuisance ASB incidents (+4.2%).

Nuisance incidents (e.g. rowdy or inconsiderate neighbours) accounted for 84.7% (7,845) of reported ASB. Personal ASB incidents (e.g. vandalism, begging, street drinking) account for

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

12.1% of incidents and Environmental ASB incidents (e.g. littering, rubbish dumping) account for 2.8% of incidents (Figure 5).

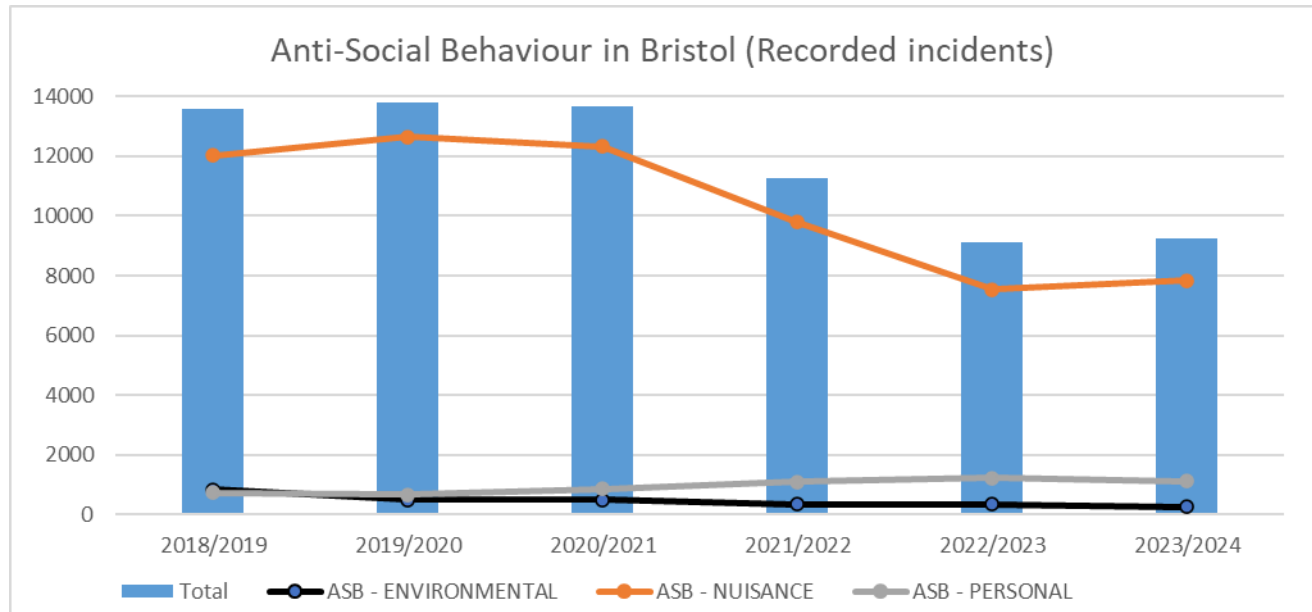


Figure 5: ASB incidents in Bristol by financial year. Source: Avon and Somerset Police

Within Bristol, the highest level of reported ASB incidents was in Central ward which accounted for 15.9% (1,477) of all incidents. Lawrence Hill (867) and Hartcliffe & Withywood (682) had the next highest number of incidents whilst the lowest number of incidents were recorded in St George Troopers Hill (39), Westbury-on-Trym and Henleaze (76) and Clifton Down (79).

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: May 2024

Date of next update: May 2025