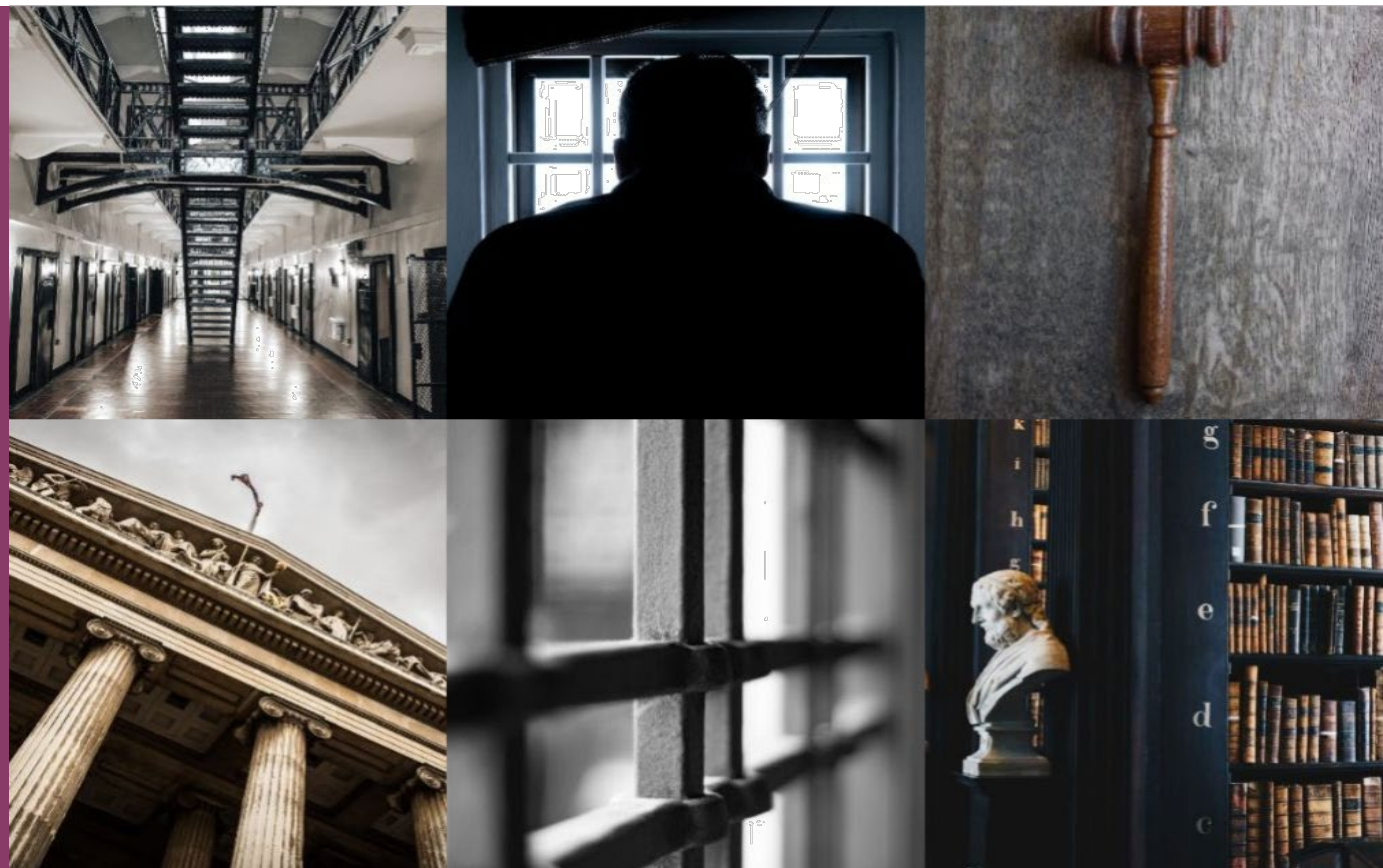# Cyber Crime, Modern Slavery and Sentencing: Findings from the 2021/22 Northern Ireland Safe Community Telephone Survey

M Beggs

November 2023

NISRA
Northern Ireland
Statistics and Research Agency
Gníomhaireacht Thuaisceart Éireann
um Staitisticí agus Taighde

Department of Justice
An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt
Männystrie O tha Laa
www.justice-ni.gov.uk

CONTENTS

1 | Summary Findings

This bulletin presents findings from the 2021/22 Northern Ireland Safe Community Telephone Survey (NISCTS) modules relating to: cyber crime; perceptions of modern slavery; and perceptions of sentencing.

Cyber Crime

- The majority of respondents, 54%, had not experienced cyber crime, while 12% indicated that they had been a victim. The remaining 34% indicated that someone had attempted to commit a cyber crime against them personally. Of the respondents who had been a victim, almost three quarters (73%) had reported the incident(s) to someone. The majority of incidents, 77%, were reported to a bank, building society or credit card company.

- Less than half (46%) of respondents were confident that the criminal justice system, government and police deal effectively with cyber crime.

Perceptions of Modern Slavery

- More than nine-in-ten (92%) respondents believed that modern slavery is present in Northern Ireland, with sexual (89%) and labour (87%) exploitation viewed as the most prevalent types. Two-fifths, 40%, felt they would recognise the signs and indicators that someone is a victim of modern slavery.

- The vast majority (94%) of respondents stated they would report their concerns of someone being a victim of modern slavery and, when asked to whom they would report it, respondents were by far most likely to report it to the police (87%).

- Just over half, 52%, were confident that the courts and police are effective at dealing with modern slavery.

Perceptions of Sentencing

- When asked whether they had heard of certain sentences, respondents were most likely to have heard of a suspended (94%) and a community (80%) sentence.

- Eight-in-ten (80%) respondents believed that an offender's circumstances should be taken into account by the courts when handing out a sentence.

- A set of questions on the purposes of sentencing was asked of respondents, more specifically on the extent to which they agree or disagree it is important that sentencing achieves certain outcomes. Of the four outcomes asked about, participants were more likely to agree that it is important sentencing protects the public (94%) and requires offenders to make amends for the harm caused (87%).

2 | Introduction

2.1 The focus of this publication

The Northern Ireland Safe Community Survey (NISCS) is a representative, continuous, personal interview survey of the experiences and perceptions of crime and crime-related issues of adults living in private households throughout Northern Ireland. Traditionally, the NISCS had been a face-to-face interview survey. Following government advice on Covid-19, however, face-to-face interviews were suspended in March 2020 and interviews have subsequently been conducted via telephone for both the 2020/21 and 2021/22 survey years. As a result, a shorter questionnaire has since been asked to reduce completion time. Both 2020/21 and 2021/22 will therefore be considered as discrete survey years and are referred to as the Northern Ireland Safe Community Telephone Surveys (NISCTS).

This report focuses on three modules relating to: cyber crime; perceptions of modern slavery; and perceptions of sentencing. These modules were developed and included for the first time in the 2019/20 survey, findings for which have previously been published in three separate reports (see References, Appendix 3). They were to be included biennially thereafter and were asked again in 2021/22. Given the reduced questionnaire and change in survey mode, however, some amendments were required to these modules for the 2021/22 survey year.

> **Note:** The move to telephone mode and changes to the questionnaire mean results for 2021/22 will not be directly comparable with results from the 2019/20 survey.

Combined into one publication for 2021/22, this report presents findings on:

- Cyber Crime: the module captured both respondents' experiences and perceptions of cyber crime though experiences were not collected in the same way as the main victimisation estimates derived from the survey and are therefore not comparable with them. Questions asked respondents about 'online/cyber crime' which will hereafter be referred to collectively as 'cyber crime'.

- Perceptions of Modern Slavery: the module sought views on modern slavery, such as how prevalent it is and perceptions towards reporting concerns of it. Similar to the cyber crime module, the questions asked about 'modern slavery including human trafficking' which will be referenced collectively as 'modern slavery' throughout the report.

- Perceptions of Sentencing: the module gauged respondents' awareness and perceptions of sentencing.

Results are based on a sample of 2,838 respondents (aged 16+). Throughout the report key findings and respective table numbers are commented on in the text, with numerical details available within the accompanying Microsoft Excel and Open Data Source (ODS) documents. Further background information on this bulletin, the move to a telephone survey and survey methodology for 2021/22 is available in the Technical Annex (Appendix 1). Findings from the annual modules contained within the 2021/22 survey have been published separately in the Experience of Crime and Perceptions of Crime and Policing and Justice (opens in a new window) report.

3 | Cyber Crime

3.1 Experience of cyber crime

A module was included in the survey to ascertain respondents' experiences and perceptions of cyber crime. While some questions contained within the module were asked of all respondents, others were asked only of those who responded, via a separate question at the start of the module, that they used a computer, smartphone or other device to access the internet (88% of participants in 2021/22, Table 1).

Participants were initially asked about their experience of cyber crime and whether anyone had committed, or attempted to commit, cyber crime against them personally, either on their own personal or a workplace computer or device. The alternative response options, results for which are given in Table 2, were:

- Yes, I have been the victim of an online/cyber crime
- Yes, someone attempted to commit a crime online against me
- No

NISCTS participants who had been a victim, that is those selecting the first option above, were then subsequently asked about reporting their victimisation. The proportion of respondents who were a victim and subsequent sample size should be taken into consideration when reviewing results for the follow-up questions asked of victims only.

- Findings show that the majority of respondents, over half (54%), had not experienced cyber crime with around one-in-eight (12%) respondents stating that they had been a victim. The remaining 34% of respondents indicated that someone had attempted to commit a cyber crime against them personally.

Figure 3.1: Experience of cyber crime (%), 2021/22

Percentage
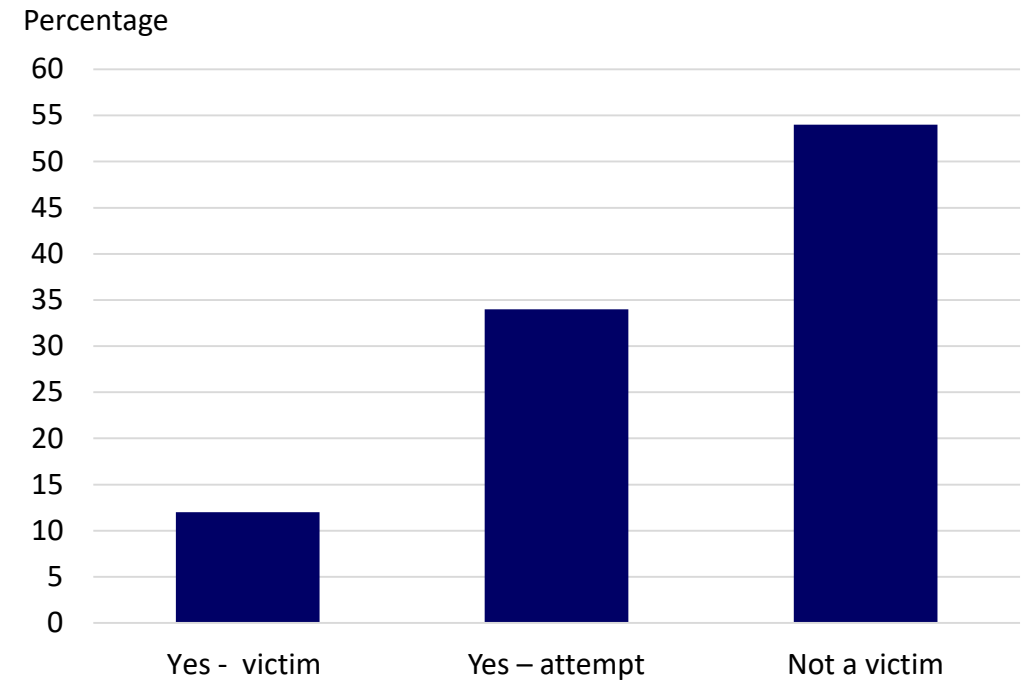
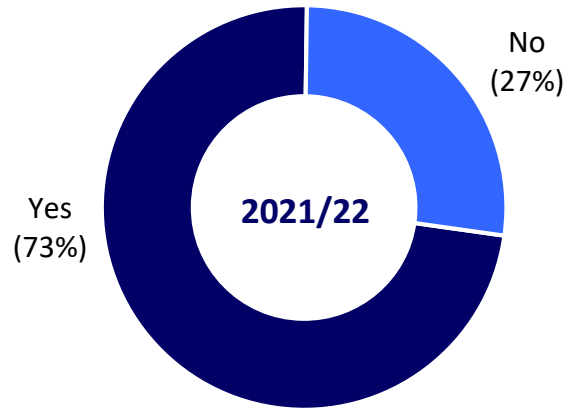1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

3 | Cyber Crime

3.2 Reporting of cyber crime incidents

Tables 3 and 4 present findings on whether those who had experienced cyber crime reported the incident(s) to anyone and, if so, to whom it was reported. For the latter, respondents were presented with different organisations; more than one option could be selected. While respondents who had not reported their experience(s) to anyone were asked their reasons for not doing so, the figures have not been presented due to the low sample size.

▪ Of those respondents who had experienced cyber crime, findings show the vast majority reported their victimisation (73%). When asked to whom they reported the incident(s), respondents were by far most likely to have reported it to their bank, building society or credit card company (77%). Just over a fifth, 21%, reported it to the police.

Figure 3.2: Reporting of cyber crime incidents: whether the incident(s) was reported (%), 2021/22

Yes (73%)
No (27%)
2021/22

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

Figure 3.3: Reporting of cyber crime incidents: who the incident(s) was reported to (%), 2021/22

Percentage

Police — Action Fraud — Bank/building society/credit card company — Someone else
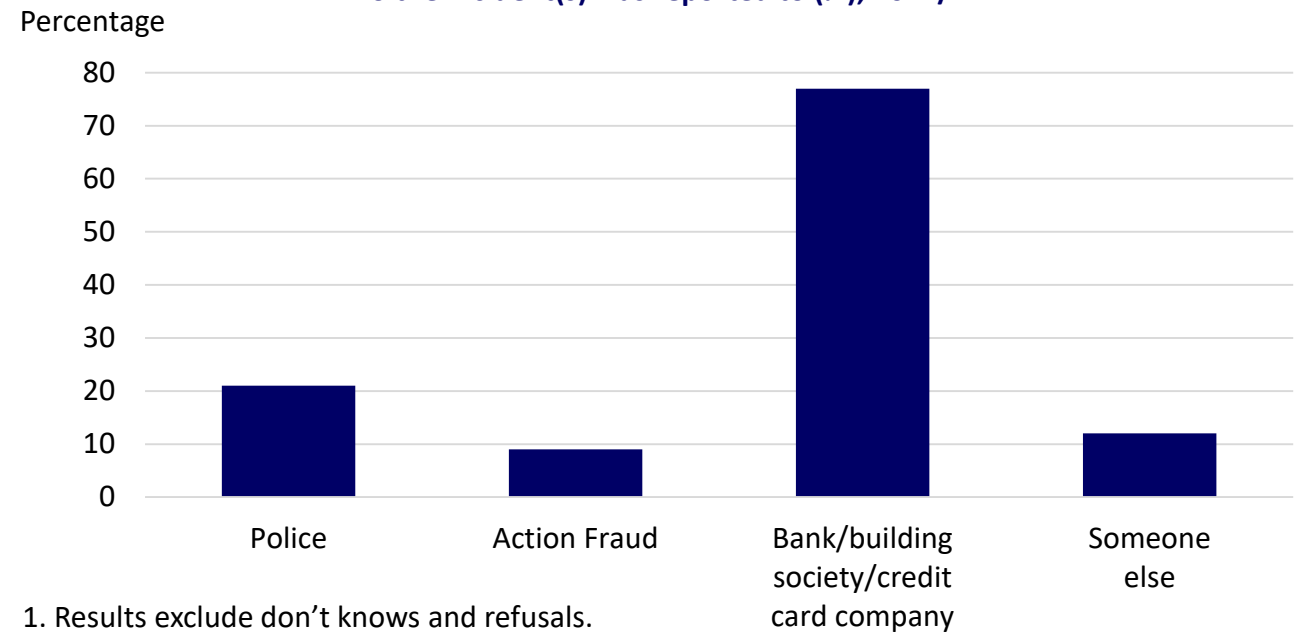
1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

3 | Cyber Crime

3.3 Protection or steps taken to safeguard against cyber crime

Respondents who used a computer, smartphone or other device to access the internet were then asked about any protection or steps they take to safeguard themselves against cyber crime. Respondents were again offered different response options, from which they were able to select more than one response. A 'None' option was also included for respondents who do not take any steps. Results are given in Table 5.

- At 86%, the use of strong passwords was the most likely way respondents protected themselves against cyber crime. Similar proportions, 73% and 72% respectively, chose 'limit personal detail shared on social media' and 'update software regularly and install anti-virus/firewall software on devices' as ways they protect themselves while online. A small proportion of respondents, 3%, reported that they do not take any steps to safeguard themselves against becoming a victim of cyber crime.

Figure 3.4: Protection or steps taken to safeguard against cyber crime (%), 2021/22

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.
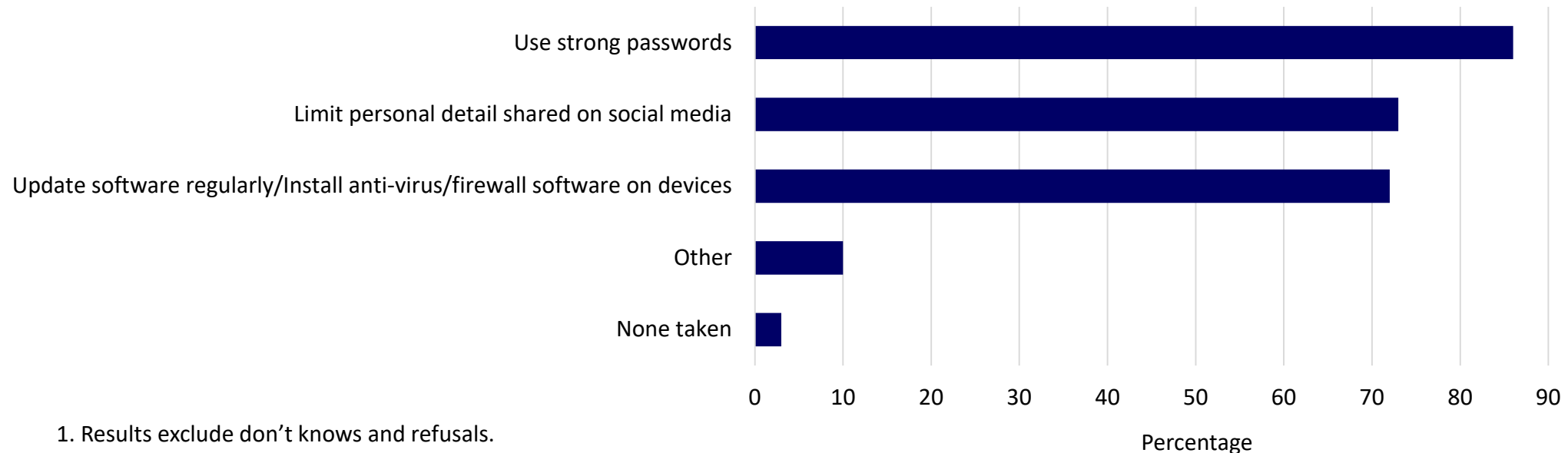
3 | Cyber Crime

3.4 Awareness of help available and communication to the public

The module also contained questions to ascertain respondents' awareness of the help available for staying safe while online and to gauge their views on the best way to communicate information regarding cyber crime to the public. All respondents were asked:

- whether they knew where or how to seek advice about cyber security and staying safe online if they required it

- what, in their opinion, was the best way for the police, government and other agencies to get any messages about cyber crime across to the public in general

Results can be found in Tables 6 and 7 respectively.

- Findings show that just over half of respondents, 53%, were aware of where or how to seek advice about cyber security while the remaining 47% did not know where or how to seek guidance if required.

- The majority of respondents (58%) viewed the media as the best way for the police, government and other agencies to communicate messages about cyber crime to the public. This was followed by almost a third, 31%, of respondents who considered social media as the best method. A small proportion of respondents, 6%, felt physical adverts in public spaces was the most effective way to convey information on cyber crime.

Figure 3.5: Best way to communicate messages to the public about cyber crime (%), 2021/22

| | 58 | 31 | 6 | 4 |

0%   20%   40%   60%   80%   100%

■ Media ■ Social media ■ Physical adverts in public spaces ■ Other
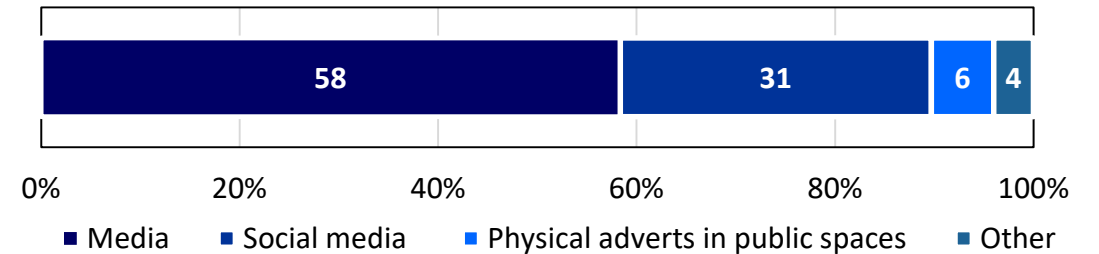
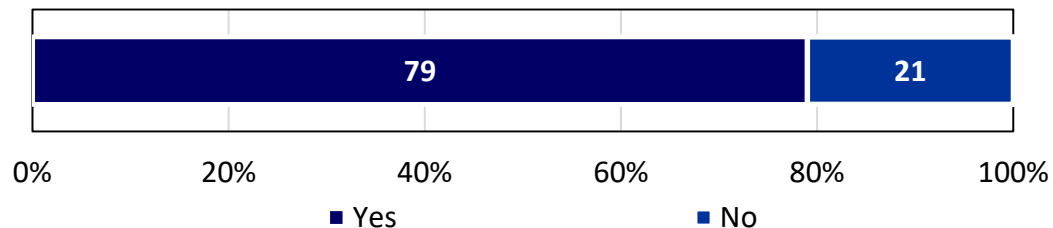1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

3 | Cyber Crime

3.5 Awareness of applying security measures

Respondents were then asked whether they would know how to apply security measures, for example parental controls and passwords, on their child(rens) computer or device to help protect them while online. In addition to the 'Yes' and 'No' response options, a 'Not applicable/don't have children aged under 18' could also be selected. Findings show that a considerable proportion of respondents, 55%, selected the not applicable option for this question. Results were subsequently recalculated to cover only those to whom the question applied, figures for which are presented in this section. Both sets of results, however, can be found in Table 8.

- Results indicate that almost four-in-five (79%) would know how to apply security measures on their child(rens) computer or device to help protect them while online.

Figure 3.6: Awareness of how to apply security measures on a child(rens) computer or device (%), 2021/22

79	21

■ Yes ■ No

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

3.6 Confidence in the criminal justice system, government and police

Finally, views were sought from respondents on whether they were confident that the criminal justice system (CJS), government and police deal effectively with cyber crime, figures for which are given in Table 9.

- When asked, 54% of participants indicated that they were not confident that cyber crime is dealt with effectively, whilst the remaining 46% expressed confidence in the CJS, government and police.

Figure 3.7: Confidence that the criminal justice system, government and police deal effectively with cyber crime (%), 2021/22

Yes (46%) No (54%)

2021/22
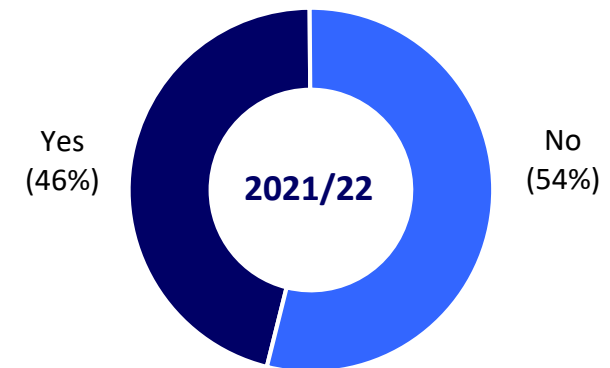
1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

4 | Perceptions of Modern Slavery

4.1 Prevalence of modern slavery

Perceptions and awareness of modern slavery were also captured. Initially, participants were asked whether they thought modern slavery was present in Northern Ireland. Respondents were then provided with a short definition/explanation of modern slavery, after which they were asked further questions, including their opinion on the specific types of exploitation they thought occurred. For this, more than one response could be selected; a 'No exploitation occurs' option was also offered. Figures are presented in Tables 10 and 11.

▪ Findings show the vast majority of respondents, more than nine-in-ten (92%), perceived modern slavery to be present in Northern Ireland, while a small minority felt it does not occur (8%).

Figure 4.1: Presence of modern slavery in Northern Ireland (%), 2021/22

No
(8%)

2021/22

Yes
(92%)
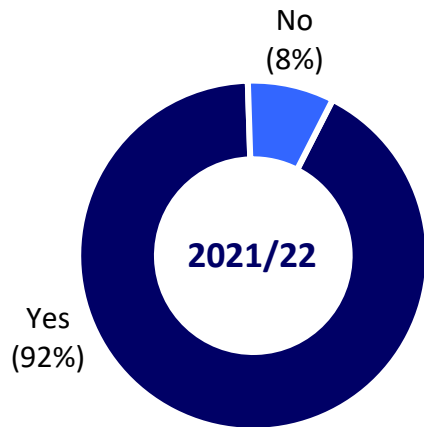
1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

▪ Sexual (89%) and labour (87%) exploitation were perceived as the most prevalent forms of modern slavery. This was followed by forced criminality (72%). Again, only a small proportion perceived no exploitation to occur (4%).

Figure 4.2: Perceptions of the types of modern slavery occurring in Northern Ireland (%), 2021/22

Percentage

	Sexual exploitation	Labour exploitation	Forced criminality	Other	No exploitation occurs
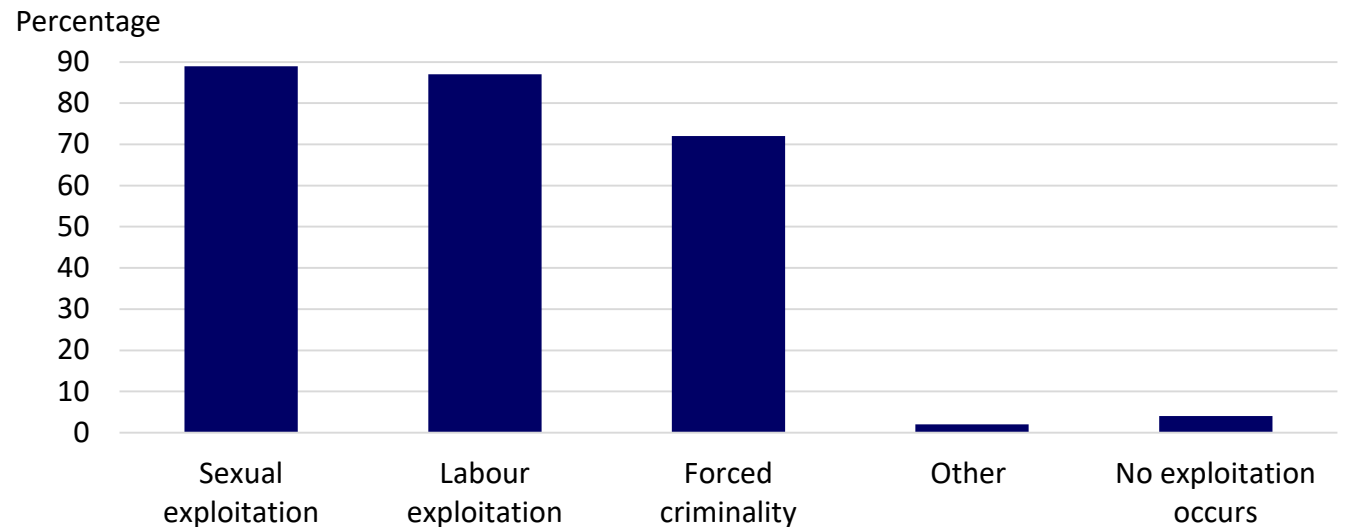
1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.
2. This question was asked after a definition of modern slavery was presented to respondents which may potentially explain the difference in the proportion saying no exploitation occurs when compared with Figure 4.1.

4 | Perceptions of Modern Slavery

4.2 Awareness of modern slavery

Questions were also included in the module to gauge respondents' awareness of modern slavery, more specifically regarding how respondents had heard about it and whether they would recognise the signs and indicators that someone is a victim. Participants were also asked whether they thought their awareness of the issue of modern slavery in Northern Ireland had increased or stayed the same over the previous year. Figures are presented in Tables 12 to 14 respectively.

- At 86%, the media was the main medium through which respondents had heard about modern slavery, followed by social media (36%). A small proportion (5%) had not heard of modern slavery through any of the mediums presented.
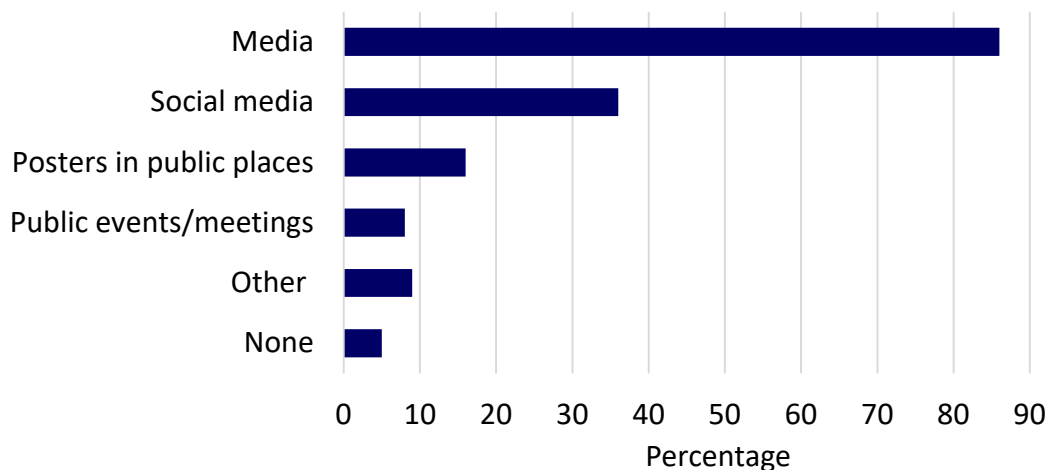
Figure 4.3: How respondents had heard about modern slavery (%), 2021/22

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

- With regards to awareness of the signs, findings show that the majority of respondents, three-fifths (60%), stated they would not recognise the signs and indicators that someone is a victim of modern slavery.

- When considering whether awareness of modern slavery among respondents had changed, results suggest that three-in-five, 60%, felt their awareness of the issue had stayed the same in the past year, whilst the remaining 40% of respondents felt their awareness had increased.

Figure 4.4: Whether respondents' awareness of modern slavery in Northern Ireland has changed in the past year (%), 2021/22
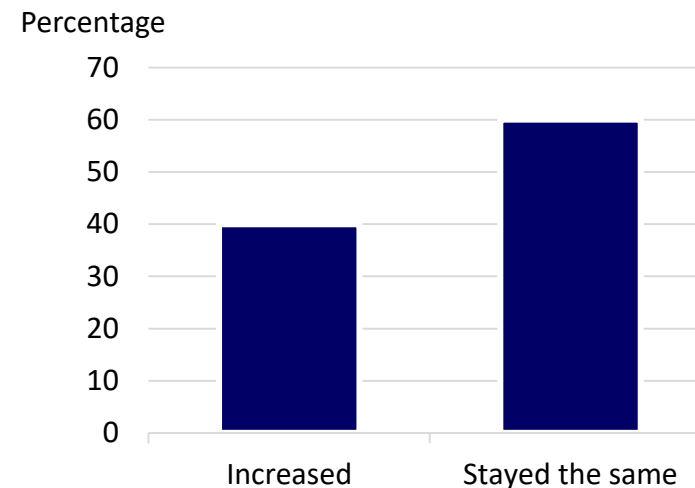
1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

4 | Perceptions of Modern Slavery

4.3 Reporting modern slavery

Tables 15 and 16 present findings on whether respondents would report their concerns over someone being a victim of modern slavery and, if so, to whom they would report them. Respondents were presented with different organisations; more than one option could be selected.
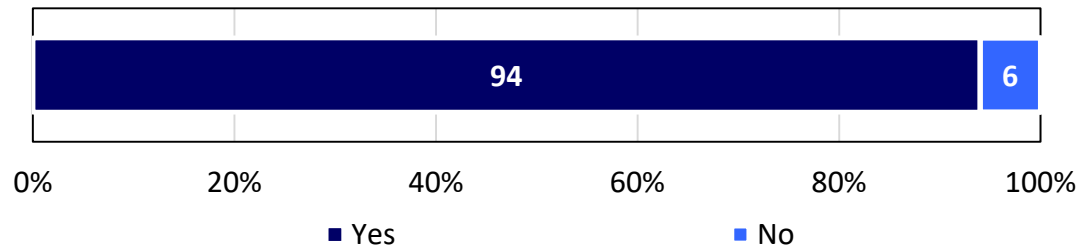
- The vast majority of respondents (94%) stated they would report their concerns of modern slavery. When asked to whom they would report it, respondents were by far more likely to report it to the police (87%). This was followed by contacting Crimestoppers (23%).

Figure 4.5: Whether respondents would report their concerns of modern slavery (%), 2021/22

| | 94 | 6 |

0%   20%   40%   60%   80%   100%

- Yes   - No

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

4.4 Confidence in the courts and police

As part of the module, respondents were asked whether they were confident that the courts and police are effective at dealing with modern slavery, results for which are given in Table 17.

- Findings suggest that the proportion expressing confidence in the courts and police was slightly higher than those who did not. Just over half of respondents (52%) were confident that the courts and police are effective at dealing with modern slavery compared with the remaining 48% who showed no confidence.

Figure 4.6: Confidence that the courts/police deal effectively with modern slavery (%), 2021/22

Yes (52%)   2021/22   No (48%)
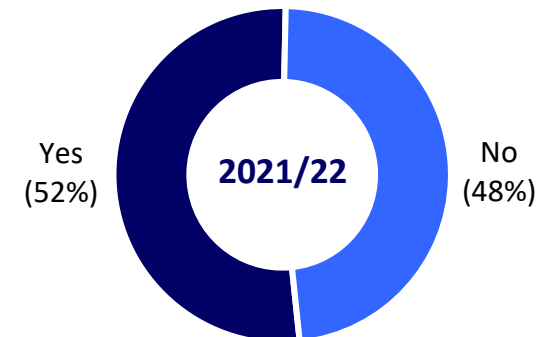
1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

5 | Perceptions of Sentencing

5.1 Awareness of sentence types and sentencing factors

NISCTS respondents were initially asked about their awareness of a number of sentence types, more specifically, whether they had heard of any of the following three: suspended sentence; community sentence; and conditional discharge. Respondents could select more than one option. A none of these option was also available. Results are presented in Table 18.
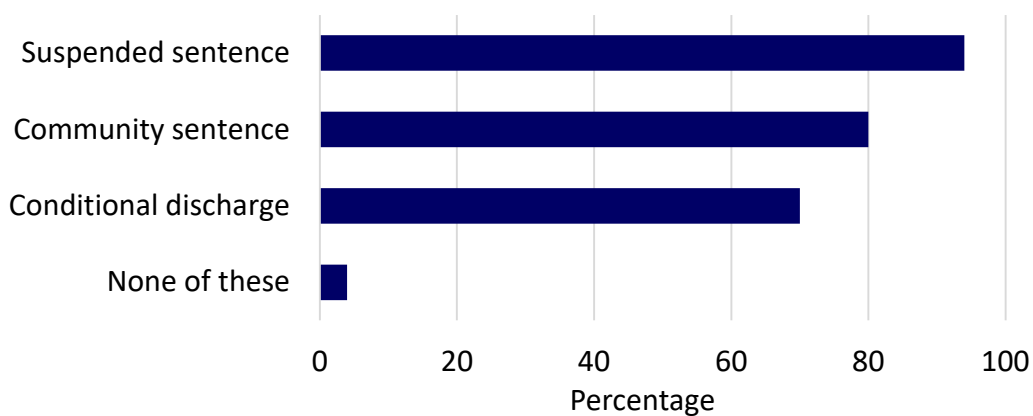
- Findings show that the vast majority had heard of these sentence types. Participants were most likely to be aware of suspended (94%) and community (80%) sentences. Seven-in-ten (70%) had heard of a conditional discharge. A small minority, 4%, had not heard of any of the sentence types asked about.

Figure 5.1: Awareness of sentence types available (%), 2021/22

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

Participants were then asked whether they thought courts should take into account the offender's circumstances, such as their age, criminal record, personal situation, when imposing a sentence, figures for which are given in Table 19.

- Four-in-five (80%) respondents felt courts should consider the offender's circumstances when handing out a sentence. The remaining 20% felt an offender's circumstances should not be taken into account.

Figure 5.2: Perceptions of circumstances being taken into account when sentencing: should an offender's circumstances be considered (%), 2021/22
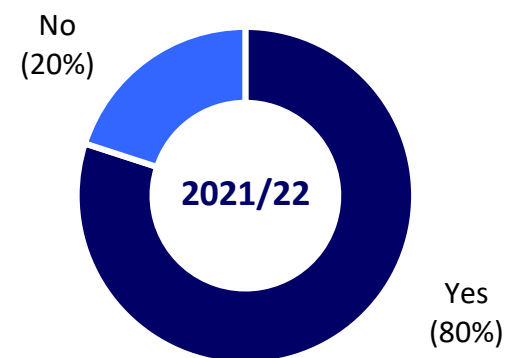
1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

5 | Perceptions of Sentencing

5.2 Perceptions of community and prison sentences

In order to gauge views on more specific elements of community and prison sentences, respondents were subsequently asked:

1. whether they thought sentences that require offenders to undertake unpaid work or attend programmes are worthwhile

2. whether prison sentences should only be for dangerous offenders who have committed serious offences

3. whether they were aware an offender could spend part of their prison sentence out in the community, subject to conditions

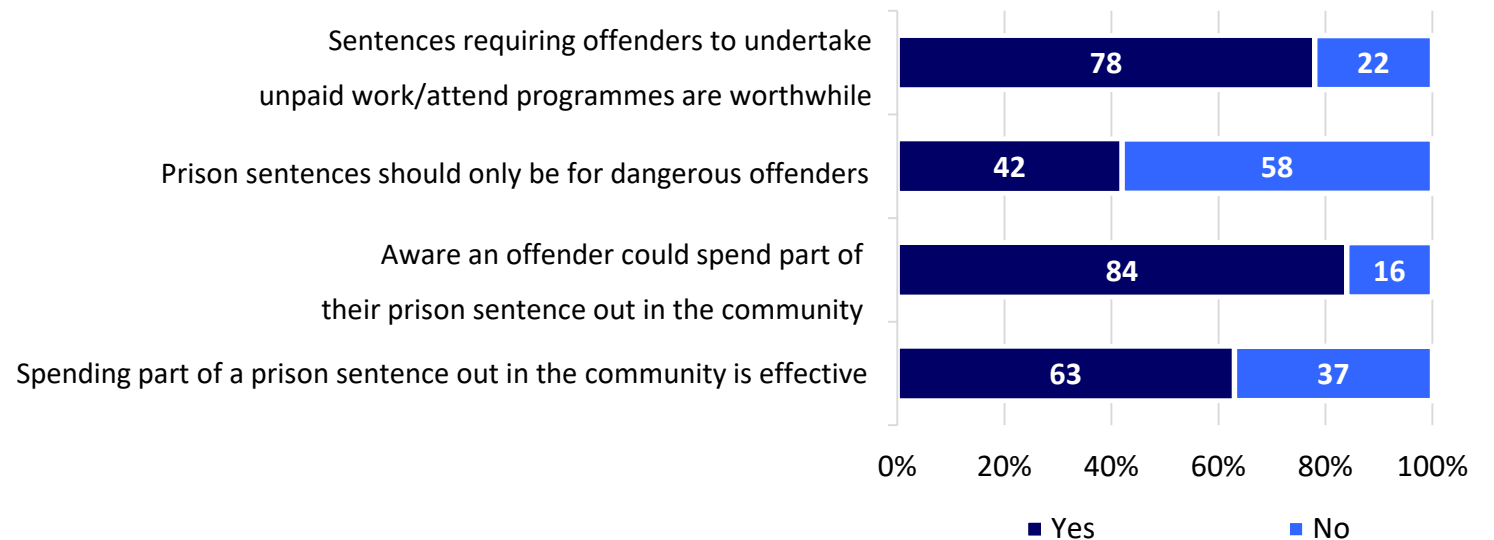4. whether they thought spending part of a prison sentence out in the community, subject to conditions, is an effective way of dealing with offenders

Results can be found in Tables 20 to 23.

- Over three-quarters (78%) of respondents believed that sentences which require offenders to undertake unpaid work or attend programmes are valuable.

- Just over two-fifths (42%) felt prison sentences should be reserved for dangerous offenders.

- The vast majority, more than four-in-five (84%), were aware that an offender could spend part of their sentence in prison and part in the community; more than three-fifths (63%) of respondents viewed this as an effective way of dealing with those who had offended.

Figure 5.3: Perceptions of community and prison sentences (%), 2021/22

Question	Yes	No
Sentences requiring offenders to undertake unpaid work/attend programmes are worthwhile	78	22
Prison sentences should only be for dangerous offenders	42	58
Aware an offender could spend part of their prison sentence out in the community	84	16
Spending part of a prison sentence out in the community is effective	63	37

■ Yes   ■ No

1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

5 | Perceptions of Sentencing

5.3 Importance of sentencing

Finally, a set of questions was then asked of respondents regarding the purposes of sentencing and to what extent they agreed or disagreed that it is important sentencing:

- deters others from committing similar crimes

- rehabilitates the offender (helping offenders to not re-offend)

- protects the public

- requires offenders to make amends for the harm caused, that is, to make up for any damage, injury or hurt caused to the victim(s) or make up for the offence generally, for example through unpaid work within the community where there is no specific victim(s)

Response options for all four questions were based on a five point scale, ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree. Results are presented in Table 24.

- Findings show that, at 94%, respondents were more likely to agree that it is important sentencing protects the public, followed by 87% who agreed that sentencing should make amends for the harm caused.

Figure 5.4: Importance of sentencing (%), 2021/22
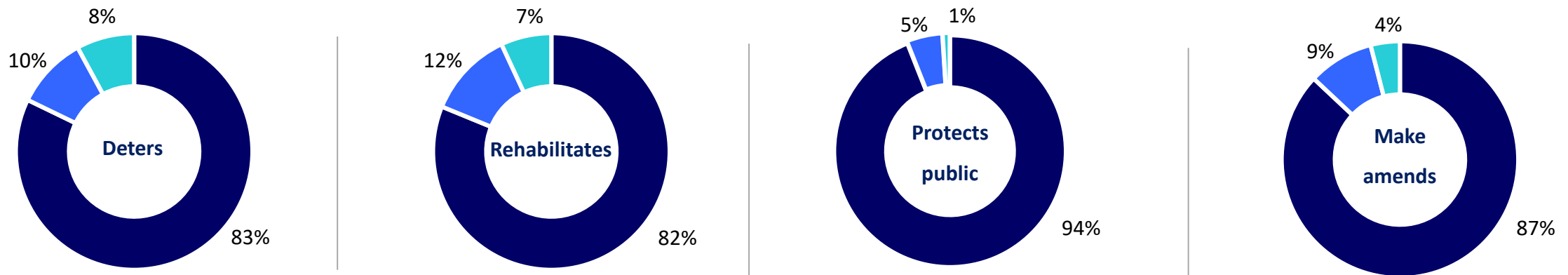
1. Results exclude don't knows and refusals.

2. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Appendix 1: Technical Annex

Background to the 2021/22 Northern Ireland Safe Community Telephone Survey

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency's Central Survey Unit (NISRA-CSU) is commissioned by the Department of Justice to undertake the Northern Ireland Safe Community Survey (NISCS). As a result of the pandemic, the NISCS could not be conducted through the traditional face-to-face interviews and, since 2020/21, has been conducted via telephone. Similar to the 2020/21 survey, the 2021/22 survey year will also be referred to as the Northern Ireland Safe Community Telephone Survey (NISCTS). Both 2020/21 and 2021/22 are being considered as distinct survey years with results presented separately from sweeps for the years prior to this. Further information on the background to the survey can be found in the NISCS User Guide PDF (564KB) (opens in a new window) and Quality Report PDF (551KB) (opens in a new window), and from the NISCS section on the DoJ website.

Given the move to telephone mode, a substantial reduction was made to the length of the questionnaire as a whole with some modules subsequently being either shortened or removed in order to reduce completion time. This primarily affected the perception-based modules; the methodology for measuring respondents' experiences of victimisation was unchanged. When considering the modules and questions to be retained, account was taken of those questions that would be more suitable for a telephone interview. Further detail on the questionnaire content is given in the 'Points to note about this publication' section, presented later in this Appendix.

Sampling and fieldwork

Having been suspended in April, May and most of June 2020 as a result of the pandemic, telephone interviews commenced in end June 2020 and have continued since then. The initial NISCTS 2021/22 sample consisted of 7,500 addresses, randomly selected from the NISRA Address Register (NAR). The NAR is developed within NISRA and is primarily based on the Land and Property Services (LPS) POINTER database. Between April and June 2021, a letter was sent to each address inviting the resident to take part in the survey and those interested in participating were asked to register their interest online or to contact NISRA CSU directly. Expressions of interest were then passed to interviewers where an attempt was made to interview one randomly selected adult respondent at the address. As of July 2021, Knock to Nudge was introduced whereby a letter was issued to the sampled addresses and interviewers could call at the doorstep to obtain a contact number. Any interviews were then carried out by telephone via CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing). Visits to addresses by an interviewer from the NISRA CSU resulted in an eligible sample of 7,087 occupied addresses. The response rate for productive interviews (containing both household details and interview with a selected respondent) was 40% of eligible addresses. This represents 2,838 completed interviews achieved with people aged 16 years and over.

Selecting only one person at each address means that individuals living in large households have a lower chance of being included in the sample than those living in small households. Accordingly, the data presented in this publication have been weighted by household size to prevent a bias towards smaller households.

Respondents were assured in advance of the interviews that any information they provided would be treated as entirely confidential and that the level of detail produced in publications or in any subsequent analyses would not allow for identification of individuals. The interviews typically lasted around half an hour for non-victims, although those involving respondents who disclosed they were victims of several crimes could last longer.

Demographic breakdown

The following socio-demographic (personal, household and area) groups (listed below) are presented in the accompanying Microsoft Excel workbook and Open Data Source (ODS) tables only. Associated confidence intervals are also presented. The first six relate to equality categories specified in Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998:

1. religious belief
2. age
3. sex (gender)
4. disability (or illness)
5. household type (child dependants)
6. self-perceived nationality

7. housing tenure
8. household income
9. type of area (urban / rural)
10. Local Government District
11. experience of crime reported to the police
12. multiple deprivation measure rank (MDM 2017)

Rounding, error and statistical significance

Refusals and non-valid responses have been excluded from the analyses. Percentages may not always sum to 100 or numbers may not sum to an overall total due to the effect of rounding to the nearest whole number, or because respondents could give more than one response. Figures presented in the tables and graphs within this bulletin have been rounded. Unrounded figures are available in the accompanying Microsoft Excel and ODS versions of the Tabular Annex.

Due to a combination of both sampling and non-sampling error, any sample is unlikely to reflect precisely the characteristics of the population. Because NISCTS estimates are subject to sampling error, differences between estimates may occur by chance. Given the lower response rate and achieved sample size in 2021/22 (when compared with the more recent face-to-face NISCS sweeps), the respective confidence limits of any percentages from the survey will also be wider than would be the case had a higher number of interviews been completed. This should be borne in mind and caution should be taken when considering the results from the survey, particularly estimates which are based on follow-up questions that may only be asked of a smaller group of respondents.

The Department of Justice does not routinely publish NISCTS estimates where the unweighted base is less than 100 cases, therefore findings for some socio-demographic sub-groups (included in the accompanying Microsoft Excel and ODS workbooks) may not be published.

Further information on the 2021/22 NISCTS is contained within the accompanying Technical Report (forthcoming, via the NI Safe Community Survey section of the Northern Ireland Department of Justice website).

Points to note about this publication

- Given the change in survey mode and 2020/21 and 2021/22 being considered as discrete survey years, direct comparisons with earlier NISCS surveys have not been made. The impact of the pandemic and change in data collection mode may also have changed behaviour and attitudes and how participants respond to the survey.

- While the module asks about both experience and perceptions of cyber crime, respondents' experiences were not collected in the same way as, and are therefore not comparable with, the main victimisation estimates derived from the NISCS or those from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (opens in new window).

- The content of the questionnaire was substantially reduced with some modules being shortened or removed. The following table gives a brief overview of the content of the 2021/22 NISCTS. The biennial Experience of Sexual Abuse module, due to be included, could not be asked of respondents. As a self-completion module, the questions would be completed by respondents themselves and their answers hidden immediately afterwards to ensure privacy and confidentiality. However, the move to a telephone survey meant this confidentiality could not be maintained.

NISCTS 2021/22 – Content of Questionnaire

Module	
1. Household questions	
2. Perceptions of Crime and Anti-social Behaviour	• perceptions of change in crime levels • perceptions of anti-social behaviour in the local area • worry about crime and personal safety • effect of fear of crime on quality of life
3. Experience of Crime Screener Questions	
4. Experience of Crime Victim Forms	
5. Confidence in the Criminal Justice System (CJS)	• overall confidence in the fairness of the criminal justice system • overall confidence in the effectiveness of the criminal justice system
6. Confidence in the police	• confidence in local police • confidence in engagement • confidence in policing in Northern Ireland as a whole
7. Confidence in Police Accountability Arrangements	• Policing Board independence and whether it helps police do a good job • Police Ombudsman independence and whether it helps the police do a good job
8. Perceptions of Modern Slavery	• awareness of modern slavery and confidence it is dealt with effectively
9. Cyber Crime	• experience of cyber crime, reporting to police and awareness of cyber crime-related issues
10. Perceptions of Sentencing	• awareness and perceptions of sentence types
11. Demography module	

Sample profile for NISCTS 2021/22

Group	Sub-Group	Unweighted Number	Unweighted %	Weighted %
Sex	Men	1,243	43.8	45.1
	Women	1,595	56.2	54.9
Age Group	16-24	185	6.5	9.7
	25-34	367	12.9	13.4
	35-44	485	17.1	16.9
	45-54	437	15.4	16.1
	55-64	531	18.7	18.5
	65-74	499	17.6	15.8
	75+	334	11.8	9.6
Religion	Catholic	1,120	39.5	40.2
	Protestant	1,275	44.9	44.0
Area Type	Rural	1,021	36.0	38.7
	Urban	1,817	64.0	61.3
Policing District	Antrim and Newtownabbey	217	7.6	7.8
	Ards and North Down	269	9.5	8.9
	Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	326	11.5	11.5
	Belfast	495	17.4	16.5
	Causeway Coast and Glens	226	8.0	8.1
	Derry and Strabane	215	7.6	7.8
	Fermanagh and Omagh	213	7.5	7.7
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	222	7.8	8.1
	Mid and East Antrim	218	7.7	7.7
	Mid Ulster	167	5.9	6.7
	Newry, Mourne and Down	270	9.5	9.4
Multiple Deprivation Measure Rank [1]	1st quintile (most deprived)	480	16.9	14.9
	2nd quintile	550	19.4	19.8
	3rd quintile	594	20.9	21.8
	4th quintile	625	22.0	22.5
	5th quintile (least deprived)	589	20.8	21.1
Vehicle-owning households		2,370	83.5	88.3

1. Rank order of super output areas (derived from 2017 Multiple Deprivation Measure).

Appendix 2: Official Statistics in Development Status

An Official Statistics in Development publication

These are official statistics that are undergoing a development. As a result of the pandemic a change in survey mode, from face-to-face to telephone, was required for the entire NISCS. A significant reduction was also made to the questionnaire. In 2020/21, the first year telephone mode was used, a substantially lower response rate, 15%, was achieved when compared with previous years. While the 2021/22 survey year, which continued to use telephone mode, saw an increase in the response rate and number of completed interviews (40% and 2,838 respectively), they have not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels which will impact the precision of estimates. During this period of change and while response rates were lower, it was important to continue to monitor respondents' experiences of crime and public perceptions on a range of criminal justice-related topics.

Telephone mode continues to be used. During 2024, however, a comprehensive review and consultation on the survey will be undertaken to determine the way forward. Users will be informed when the consultation commences.

Official Statistics in development were previously known as Experimental Statistics. Further information can be found of the Office for Statistics Regulation website.

Appendix 3: References

Beggs, M (2023) Perceptions of Modern Slavery: Findings from the 2019/20 Northern Ireland Safe Community Survey (opens in a new window). DoJ Research and Statistical Bulletin. Belfast: DoJ

Department of Justice (2023) Northern Ireland Safe Community Survey User Guide (opens in a new window)

Department of Justice (2023) Northern Ireland Safe Community Survey Quality Report (opens in a new window)

Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2022) Crime in England and Wales – Year ending March 2022 (opens in a new window)

Ross, K. and Beggs, M. (2023) Experience of Crime and Perceptions of Crime and Policing and Justice: Findings from the 2021/22 Northern Ireland Safe Community Telephone Survey (opens in a new window). DoJ Research and Statistical Bulletin. Belfast: DoJ

Ross, K. and Beggs, M. (2022) Perceptions of Sentencing: Findings from the 2019/20 Northern Ireland Safe Community Survey (opens in a new window). DoJ Research and Statistical Bulletin. Belfast: DoJ

Ross, K. (2022) Cyber Crime: Findings from the 2019/20 Northern Ireland Safe Community Survey (opens in a new window). DoJ Research and Statistical Bulletin. Belfast: DoJ