

Why did we choose you?

As it is not possible to ask everyone to take part in the survey, a sample of addresses is selected to represent the entire country. One person aged 16 or over from each address will be selected to participate. Your address is one of these and was selected at random from a list of private addresses held by the Royal Mail.

Once an address has been selected for the study, we cannot replace it with another address. This means that we rely on the goodwill of those who have been chosen to take part in the survey.

Do I have to take part?

No-one has to take part if they do not want to, but for us to paint an accurate picture of our society, it is vital that we interview as many people as possible, from all walks of life and whether or not you have experienced any crime. Our work is very important and we need your help to make our studies successful. Every year about 31,000 people help us by taking part in the survey.

What do you need to do?

You do not need to do anything now. An interviewer will visit your address to ask you to take part in the survey.

All of our interviewers carry a Market Research Society (MRS) Interviewer Identity Card, with their name, photo and interviewer number.



Is the information I give confidential?

Yes. The information you give us will be treated as confidential as directed by the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. (<https://code.statisticsauthority.gov.uk>). It will be used to produce statistics that will not identify you or anyone in your household. All such statistics produced are subject to the Code and the same standards of protection are applied to your information at all times.

Where can you find more information?

More information about the survey, including details about the types of questions asked, is available online at www.crimesurvey.co.uk.

If you would like to speak to someone about the survey you can call our freephone Crime Survey information line **0800 051 0882**.

You can access our privacy policy at: www.crimesurvey.co.uk/en/SurveyPrivacyPolicy.html or by calling the information line.

If you would like further information about the Office for National Statistics or about the Crime Survey for England and Wales please contact:

Crime Statistics and Analysis Team
Office for National Statistics

Segensworth Road
Titchfield, Fareham
Hampshire
PO15 5RR

Thank you for your help!



Crime Survey
for England & Wales

Why your help
is important



This leaflet answers some of the questions you may have about taking part in the survey.

Who are we?

The Office for National Statistics are responsible for the collection and publication of a wide range of official statistics that serve to inform parliament, the media and the wider public. These include the monthly unemployment and inflation statistics for the UK, the quarterly crime statistics for England and Wales, the COVID-19 infection survey and the ten-yearly Population Census in England and Wales. Verian is an independent research agency specialising in social research. They undertake social research interviewing, working for a wide range of government departments.



What is the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW)?

The Crime Survey for England and Wales measures the amount of crime in England and Wales by asking people, such as yourself, about crimes you or your household may or may not have experienced in the past year. The Crime Survey for England and Wales records crimes that may not have been reported to the police, so it is used as an alternative to police records.

Without the Crime Survey, the Home Office and the rest of government would have no information on these unreported crimes. The Home Office use the survey to help develop policy and monitor public opinion in areas such as crime prevention, sentencing and tackling anti-social behaviour.

Why is it necessary to ask personal questions?

We ask a range of questions about yourself, such as your age, gender, ethnicity and working status. This allows our clients to carry out analysis on opinions and experiences between different groups in society.

Your answers and opinions are very important to us, whether or not you have experienced any crime.

What will I be asked about?

As well as measuring crime experienced in the last 12 months, the Crime Survey for England and Wales also includes questions on:

- Risk of crime - identifying those most at risk of crime is important for designing crime prevention programmes.
- Your attitudes to crime and the Criminal Justice System, including the police and the courts.
- Your experiences of anti-social behaviour and how this has affected your quality of life.

Who uses the results?

The Home office are the main users of the survey but the data are also used by other government departments, approved researchers, the police and criminologists.

Where can I find the results?

The results can be found at www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice, or by using your smartphone to scan the QR code:



What is social research?

The government and other public bodies carry out research for many different reasons, including:

- To discover what individuals think about existing services, policies or social conditions
- To help develop new policies or services on people's day-to-day lives
- To look for changing patterns and attitudes in society
- To assess the impact of advertising or information campaigns



Why does this survey matter?

As well as measuring crime, the Crime Survey for England and Wales is also used to:

- Understand people's experiences of anti-social behaviour and how this has affected their quality of life.
- Predict those most at risk of crime to help in designing crime prevention programmes.

The Crime Survey information you provide helps to inform policies to reduce crime and the impact of crime on communities. For example, the Crime Survey has highlighted that the risk of car crime is increased when a car is parked in a car park and this has led to an increased focus on car park security measures.

Overall estimates of crime

According to CSEW estimates for the year ending March 2025, adults aged 16 years and over experienced 9.4 million offences. Fraud, theft and computer misuse made up the majority of the crimes as there were 4.2 million incidents of fraud, 2.8 million incidents of theft and 692,000 incidents of computer misuse.



9.4million
Total criminal offences



4.2million
Fraud offences

Likelihood of being a victim of crime



Approximately 8 in 10 adults did not experience any of the crimes asked about in the CSEW (such as fraud, vehicle-related theft, criminal damage, violent crime, computer misuse). The likelihood of being a victim of crime varied by crime type, with fraud having the highest likelihood of victimisation (7%), followed by vehicle-related theft (5%).



7%
likelihood of being a fraud victim



5%
likelihood of vehicle-related theft