

# **Sexual Violence in Gloucestershire**

## **Needs Assessment April 2010 to September 2013**

**(Commissioned by the Gloucestershire DASV Commissioning  
Steering Group)**

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- Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group
- Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS)
- Gloucestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (GRASAC)
- Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board (GSCB)
- Public Health England Knowledge and Intelligence Team (South West)
- Public Protection Bureau, Gloucestershire Constabulary
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- Stroud District Council
- Tewkesbury Borough Council

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# Sexual Violence in Gloucestershire

## Needs Assessment April 2010 to September 2013

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. This needs assessment provides an update on the assessment of prevalence completed in 2010, as part of the previous strategy to reduce the harm caused by domestic abuse and sexual violence. Additional sources of data have been added, including comparison with regional and national assessments, to increase the relevance and usefulness of the information to inform the DASV commissioning strategy and outcomes framework for 2014 onwards.
- 1.2. The needs assessment will be incorporated into the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Gloucestershire and will be updated as part of the ongoing cycle to collectively drive local commissioning priorities, policies and practices.
- 1.3. For consistency and in order to highlight trends in line with the previous assessment, the data and information mainly covers the three and a half year period from April 2010 to September 2013, unless otherwise stated and referenced.

### 2. Context

- 2.1. Sexual violence is not just within the context of domestic abuse, which is why the two subjects have been split into two separate needs assessments (NA). There will be crossovers, especially in terms of data presented in this NA, where a victim of a sexual offence is also categorised as a victim of domestic abuse. However, this NA will also cover sexual assaults committed by someone the victim knows (e.g. acquaintance) or is a stranger to the victim as well as sexual offences committed by their partner.
- 2.2. Sexual violence can be defined as any behaviour perceived (by the victim) to be of a sexual nature which is unwanted and takes place without consent or understanding<sup>1</sup>.
- 2.3. In 2011/12, the police recorded a total of 53,700 sexual offences<sup>2</sup> across England and Wales which, when compared against health issues, puts

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/sv-definition>

sexual offence prevalence somewhere between that for strokes (60,000) and coronary heart disease (46,000) for women in the UK<sup>3</sup>. However, sexual violence is under-reported as a crime. Only 11% of victims of serious sexual assault told police about the incident<sup>4</sup> and few reveal the experience of prior sexual assault when using healthcare facilities<sup>5</sup>. In 22.9% of cases where a young person aged 11-17 was physically hurt by a parent or guardian, nobody else knew about it. The same applied in 34% of cases of sexual assault by an adult and 82.7% of cases of sexual assault by a peer.

2.4. Findings of a research report<sup>6</sup> by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in 2011 found declining rates of sexual abuse in children under 16 years old. However, the health consequences for sexually abused children and young people can be quite devastating:

- Abused children are more prone to sexually transmitted infections
- Abused young people are at increased risk of homelessness, which may result in risk-taking behaviours and increased vulnerability.
- The risk of suicide doubles for abused young people when they reach their late twenties.
- Sexually abused adolescents are at risk of ongoing health problems such as chronic pelvic pain and gynaecological problems.
- Sexual abuse in children and young people is associated with mental ill health including self-harm and depression, which may continue into adulthood.

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<sup>2</sup> An Overview of Sexual Offending in England and Wales:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/214970/sexual-offending-overview-jan-2013.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/214970/sexual-offending-overview-jan-2013.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Public health functions to be exercised by NHS England service specification no 30: Sexual assault services:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/256501/30\\_sexual\\_assault\\_services.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/256501/30_sexual_assault_services.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Homicides, Firearm Offences and Intimate Violence 2009/10: Supplementary Volume 2 to Crime in England and Wales 2009/10 2nd Edition (2011) -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/homicides-firearm-offences-and-intimate-violence-2009-10-supplementary-volume-2-to-crime-in-england-and-wales-2009-10-2nd-edition>

<sup>5</sup> Public health functions to be exercised by NHS England service specification no 30: Sexual assault services:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/256501/30\\_sexual\\_assault\\_services.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/256501/30_sexual_assault_services.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Child Abuse and Neglect in the UK Today:

[http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/research/findings/child\\_abuse\\_neglect\\_research\\_PDF\\_wdf84181.pdf](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/research/findings/child_abuse_neglect_research_PDF_wdf84181.pdf)

### 3. Sexual Offence Crimes

- 3.1. Only 15% of sexual offences are reported to the police<sup>7</sup>. All figures presented in this document are actual recorded figures unless otherwise stated but the fact that only 15% of victims report their crime puts the following analysis into context in terms of the scale of hidden victims and hidden need.
- 3.2. Police recorded crimes April 2010 to September 2013. There were 1,827 Sexual Offence crimes recorded in Gloucestershire during this three and a half year period. There is no available incident data relating to sexual violence – where sexual violence is recorded by the Police in Gloucestershire it is recorded as a crime.

*Table 1 – Sexual Offence Crimes: Gloucestershire April 2010 to September 2013<sup>8</sup>*

<b>Sexual Offence Crime Category</b>	<b>recorded crimes April 2010 to Sept 2013</b>	<b>% of all sexual offences</b>
<b>Sexual assault on female 13+</b>	507	27.8
<b>Rape of female 16+</b>	359	19.6
<b>Exposure and Voyeurism</b>	202	11.1
<b>Sexual activity involving child -16</b>	158	8.6
<b>Sexual activity involving child -13</b>	105	5.7
<b>Rape of female -16</b>	92	5.0
<b>Sexual assault on female -13</b>	92	5.0
<b>Rape of female -13</b>	81	4.4
<b>Sexual Assault on a male 13+</b>	48	2.6
<b>Incest or Familial sexual offences</b>	42	2.3
<b>Sexual Assault on a male -13</b>	35	1.9
<b>Rape of male -13</b>	28	1.5
<b>Sexual grooming</b>	19	1.0
<b>Rape of male 16+</b>	12	0.7
<b>Abuse of position of trust of a Sexual Nature</b>	11	0.6
<b>Causing sexual activity without consent</b>	7	0.4
<b>Exploitation of prostitution</b>	7	0.4
<b>Rape of male -16</b>	7	0.4
<b>Abuse of children through prostitution / pornography</b>	<5	0.2

<sup>7</sup> An Overview of Sexual Offending in England and Wales:  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/214970/sexual-offending-overview-jan-2013.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/214970/sexual-offending-overview-jan-2013.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> Data Source: Service Improvement Team, Gloucestershire Constabulary.

<b>Other Miscellaneous Sexual Offences</b>	<5	0.2
<b>Sexual activity with person with a mental disorder</b>	<5	0.2
<b>Bigamy</b>	<5	0.1
<b>Other misc. sexual offences</b>	<5	0.1
<b>Unnatural Sexual Offences</b>	<5	0.1

- 3.3. Just over a quarter of all recorded sexual offences were in the category “Sexual Assault on a Female 13+” of which 120 victims of these crimes were aged 15 years or younger.
- 3.4. Just under one in five recorded sexual offences were in the category “Rape of Female 16+” of which almost 100 were teenagers (19 years or younger). Rape is covered in more detail in the latest Rape Monitoring Group report and a summary is included later in this document under the Child Rape and Adult Rape sections.
- 3.5. Since the last reporting period (April 2006 and September 2009) there has been a decrease of 12% in police recorded sexual offence crimes. Falls in the number of recorded sexual offences may therefore mean that victims are losing confidence in the authorities to treat them sensitively or conversely, that the police have successfully taken action to reduce rape offending.
- 3.6. However, when comparing two 12 month periods (*12 months to end of September 2012 and 12 months to end of September 2013*), there has been a 17% increase in recorded sexual offences<sup>9</sup> (same proportional increase nationally as experienced in Gloucestershire). A rise in the number of sexual offences being recorded may mean that victims feel more confident in reporting what happened to them. In the wake of publicity associated with Operation Yewtree more people nationally have come forward to tell the police about sexual abuse<sup>10</sup>.

<sup>9</sup> Crime Statistics, period ending September 2013: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/reference-tables.html?edition=tcn%3A77-326518>

And Data Source: Service Improvement Team, Gloucestershire Constabulary.

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.hmic.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/gloucestershire-rmg-adult-and-child-rape-data-2012-13.pdf>

#### 4. District breakdown

Table 2 - Sexual Offence Crimes by Local Authority District<sup>11</sup>

DISTRICT	Sexual Offence Crimes April 2006 to September 2009	Sexual Offence Crimes April 2010 to September 2013	Difference	% Difference	Rate per thousand population (2010-2013 figs)
Cheltenham	504	388	-116	-23.0	3.34
Cotswold	211	190	-21	-10.0	2.27
Forest of Dean	242	186	-56	-23.1	2.25
Gloucester	591	555	-36	-6.1	4.50
Stroud	337	318	-19	-5.6	2.81
Tewkesbury	191	185	-6	-3.1	2.23

4.1. Comparing the two three and a half year periods, recorded sexual offence crimes have reduced in all six districts and proportionately, the largest decreases are in Cheltenham and Forest of Dean (23% decrease in both districts). The range of decrease in the remaining four districts has been between 3-10% down on 2006-09 levels. Rates of recorded sexual offences appear higher (as per 2006-09 levels) in the urban centres of Gloucester and Cheltenham than in the rural parts of the county. This is in keeping with the national picture.

#### 5. Victim characteristics

Table 3 - Sexual Offence Victims by Age and Gender<sup>12</sup>

Age and Gender of Victims of Police Recorded Sexual Offences April 2010 to September 2013	All Victims	Female Victims	Male Victims	% Female Victims	% Male Victims
0to9	169	114	55	67.5%	32.5%
10to19	913	780	131	85.4%	14.3%
20to29	360	337	23	93.6%	6.4%
30to39	285	249	36	87.4%	12.6%
40to49	230	207	23	90.0%	10.0%
50to59	72	56	15	77.8%	20.8%
60to69	29	25	3	86.2%	10.3%
70plus	15	12	3	80.0%	20.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2073</b>	<b>1780</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>85.9%</b>	<b>13.9%</b>
<b>Unknown Age</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>81.1%</b>	<b>15.1%</b>

<sup>11</sup> Data Source: Service Improvement Team, Gloucestershire Constabulary.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*

- 5.1. Women and girls of any age are much more likely to be recorded as victims of a sexual offence by the Police than men and boys. Overall, for every 100 victims of a sexual offence 86 are female. There is a 5% decrease in numbers of victims of sexual offences when compared against April 2006 to September 2009 figures (111 fewer victims).

*Table 4 - Sexual Offence Victim Rate by Age and Gender<sup>13</sup>*

<b>Age and Gender of Victims of Police Recorded Sexual Offences April 2010 to September 2013</b>	<b>Female Victims per 1000 Population</b>	<b>Male Victims per 1000 Population</b>
<b>0to9</b>	3.50	1.62
<b>10to19</b>	22.76	3.61
<b>20to29</b>	9.86	0.67
<b>30to39</b>	7.13	1.02
<b>40to49</b>	4.54	0.51
<b>50to59</b>	1.38	0.38
<b>60to69</b>	0.65	0.08
<b>70plus</b>	0.26	0.09
<b>Total</b>	5.80	0.98

- 5.2. Girls and young women in the age group 10 to 19 are the age/gender most likely to be recorded as victims of sexual offence crimes (table 4). It is important to note that when dealing with ages of victims of sexual offences that it will be high in victims under 16 years of age due to the victims being under the age of consent (i.e. figures for victims under 16 will include offences where the victim has given consent but not in victims 16 and over).

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<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*

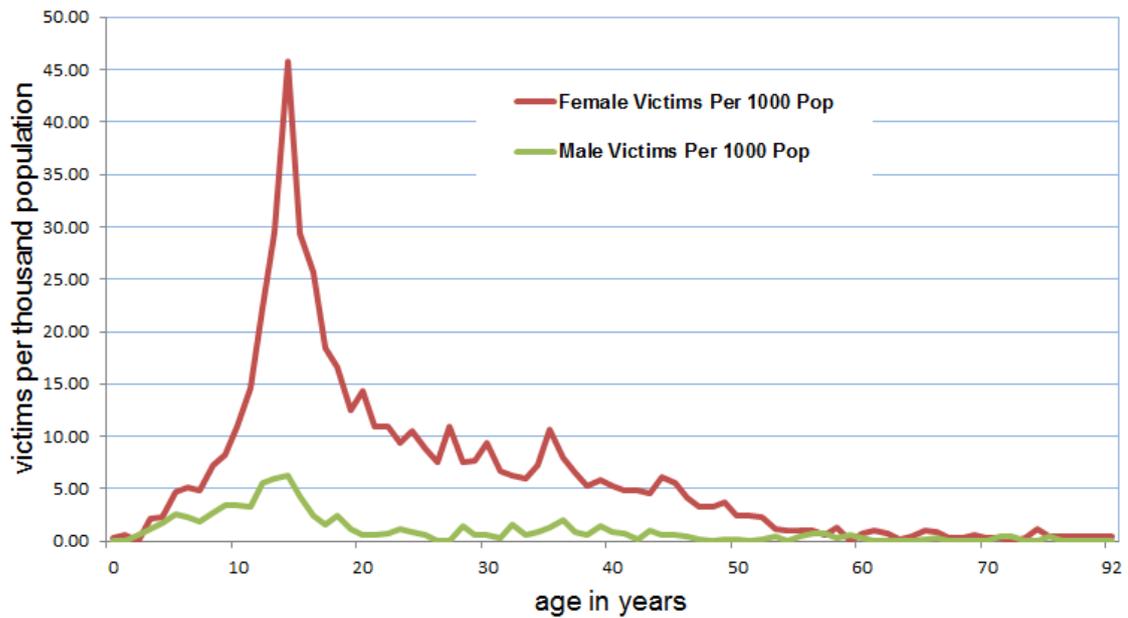


Figure 1 - Sexual Offence Victim Rate by Age and Gender<sup>14</sup>

5.3. The highest rate for being recorded as a victim of a sexual offence is for females at 14 years of age. There are high rates between the ages of 12 to 16<sup>15</sup> (table 5).

Table 5 - Sexual Offence Victim Rate by Age and Gender Focus on 10-19 (in relation to figure 1)<sup>16</sup>

Age	Female Victims per 1000 Population	Male Victims per 1000 Population
10	10.92	3.42
11	14.62	3.27
12	22.32	5.50
13	29.47	6.01
14	45.81	6.31
15	29.37	4.34
16	25.62	2.42
17	18.44	1.53
18	16.60	2.48
19	12.57	1.13

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

<sup>15</sup> Figures for victims under 16 will include offences where the victim has given consent.

<sup>16</sup> Data Source: Service Improvement Team, Gloucestershire Constabulary.

5.4. There have been 106 “repeat” victims of more than one recorded sexual offence between April 2010 and September 2013. Repeat victims represent 5% of the overall total of sexual offence victims.

## 6. Geographical profile of where sexual offences occur

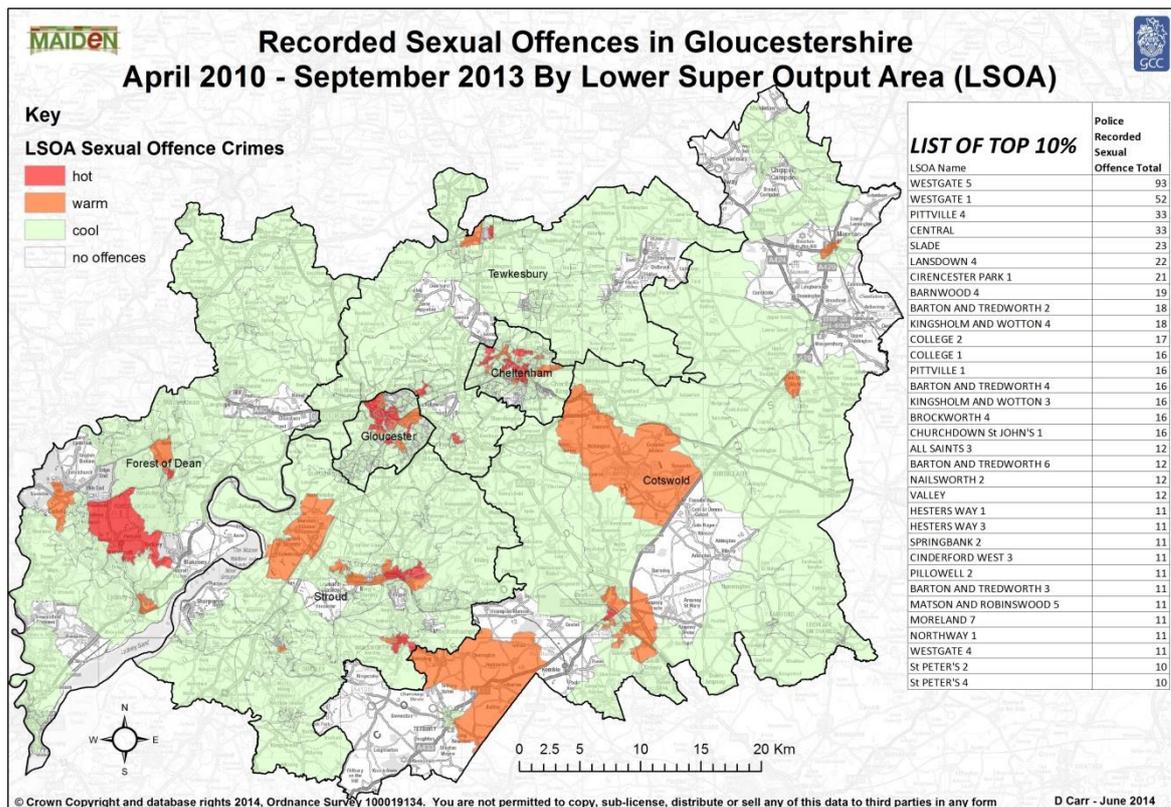


Figure 2 - Distribution of Recorded Sexual Offences in Gloucestershire<sup>17</sup>

6.1. The map shows where the highest volume of sexual offences have been recorded in Gloucestershire by Lower Super Output Area<sup>18</sup> (LSOAs). 8% of recorded sexual offences are recorded in Gloucester city centre. Some hotspots do occur in rural areas as they appear in the highest 10% of LSOAs, but the crime range of hotspot areas is from 93 to 10 crimes and these figures can be seen in the table within figure 2. To put that in context, the two LSOAs of Westgate (Westgate 5 and 1<sup>19</sup>) have experienced a combined total of 145 sexual offence crimes compared against the districts of Tewkesbury (185 crimes), Forest of Dean (186 crimes) and Cotswold (190 crimes).

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>18</sup> These are small geographic areas containing approximately 1,500 people in each area.

<sup>19</sup> To view detailed maps of these LSOA areas please go to:

<http://www.maiden.gov.uk/InstantAtlas/BoundaryViewer/atlas.asp> - login NOT required.

## 7. Ethnicity of Victims of Sexual Offences

Table 6 - Ethnicity of Victims of Sexual Offences<sup>20</sup>

Ethnicity of Sexual Offence Victims in Gloucestershire April 2010 to September 2013	Numbers of All Sexual Offence Victims	Total Population by Ethnicity (2011 Census)	Sexual Offence Victim Rate (per 1000 pop based on Ethnic Group)
Asian	12	12,433	1.0
Black	24	5,150	4.7
Mixed	26	8,661	3.0
Other	10	1,093	9.1
White	1,807	569,647	3.2
Not Stated	300	N/A	N/A

7.1. Table 6 splits the victim data into broad ethnic ranges. 83% of all sexual offence victims are from a White ethnic background. According to the 2011 Population Census 95% of Gloucestershire's overall population are from a White ethnic background so disproportionality exists between victims and overall population numbers (please also bear in mind that almost 14% of total victims are "not stated" and this will skew the overall results in table 6). Only 72 victims were recorded in the 3.5 year period of April 2010 to September 2013 whose ethnicity was not white. Discounting the 300 victims whose ethnicity is not stated and to remove any potential skew, 96% of victims have a recorded ethnicity of 'White' which is broadly in line with proportions in the overall population of Gloucestershire.

## 8. National Local Authority/Police Force Comparison

8.1. Public Health England currently maintains an online resource called VIPER<sup>21</sup> (Violence Indicator Profiles for England Resource). One of the indicators is Sexual Offences. These figures are released by the Home Office annually in July. The online resource uses Instant Atlas to display the information and it allows comparison with the 326 local authority areas of England. The following figure is taken from their "Atlas" report page and shows where the six districts of Gloucestershire appear (in thin yellow bars) on the bar chart, where all 326 local authorities have been placed into quintiles as per their local sexual offence rate.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>21</sup> <http://www.eviper.org.uk/index.html>

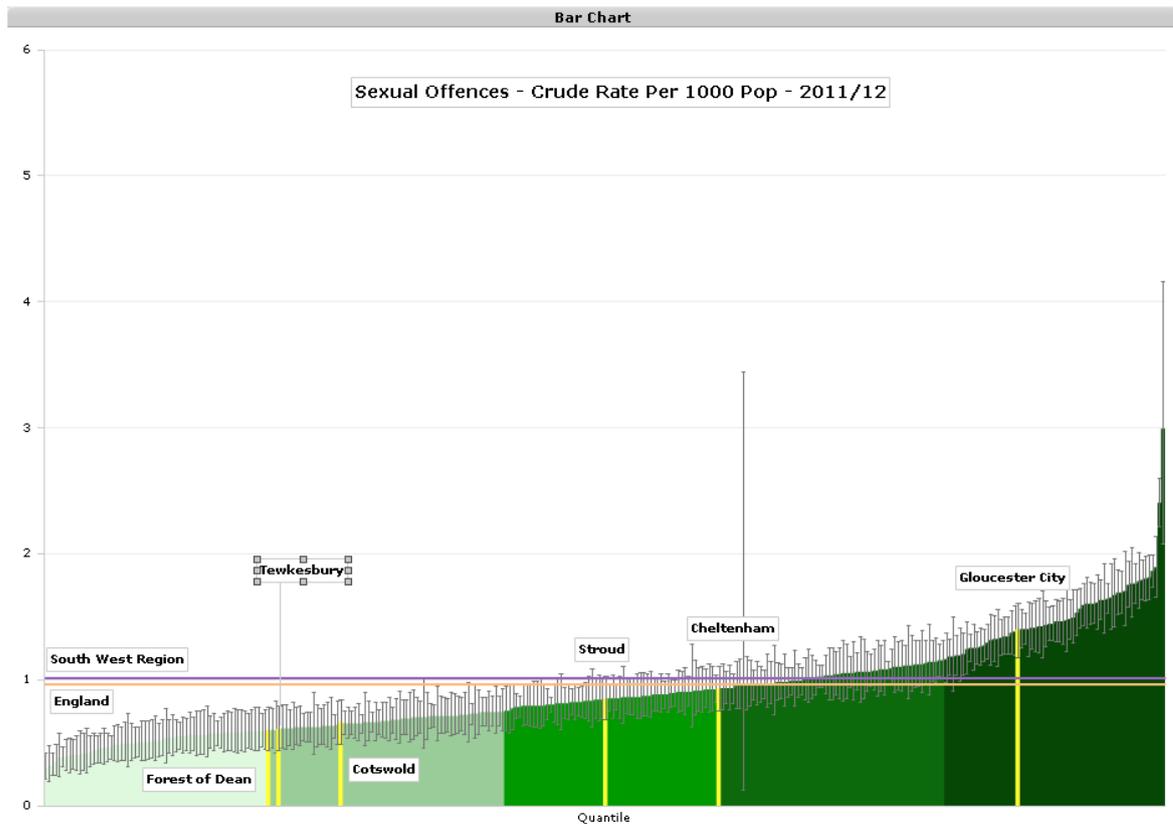


Figure 3 - VIPER Instant Atlas Report on Sexual Offences 2011/12<sup>22</sup>

- 8.2. Gloucester City appears in the top quintile nationally for sexual offences recorded in 2011/12 and is ranked (in terms of crude rate per 1,000 population) at 43 out of 326 (rank 1 = highest rate). Gloucester City is also considerably higher than the England and South West rate (shown as the purple and orange horizontal lines on the chart). When comparing all local authorities in the South West region, Gloucester is the 5th highest ranking authority for sexual offences per 1000 population. The other five districts of Gloucestershire are below the national and regional rate, with the Forest of Dean having the lowest rate of the six districts.
- 8.3. VIPER shows data on all sexual offences, but in January 2014 on behalf of the Rape Monitoring Group (RMG), HMIC has published 43 force reports showing police data on how many rapes were recorded by the police in each force, and the outcomes<sup>23</sup>. For both adults and children, the force digest shows:

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>23</sup> <http://www.hmic.gov.uk/publication/rape-monitoring-group-digests-data-and-methodology-2014/>

- the number of recorded rapes per 100,000 people in the area;
- forces' sanction detection rates for rape<sup>24</sup>;
- the rate at which rape was classed as 'no crime rate' by the force<sup>25</sup>;
- data from each police force seen alongside the data for other individual forces in England and Wales; and
- trends in recorded rape over time.

8.4. The report shows police force comparison data up to and including 2012/13 and a summary for Adults and Children is provided in the next two sections

## **9. Adult Rape (16 years of age and over)**

9.1. The data for the 12 months to the end of March 2013 on ADULT rape shows that, compared with other forces in England and Wales, Gloucestershire had:

- a recorded crime rate that is in line with the average;
- a sanction detection rate that is below the average;
- a 'no crime' rate that is in line with the average;
- a similar recorded crime rate, sanction detection rate and 'no crime' rate to two other forces: Essex and Staffordshire;
- a similar recorded crime rate and sanction detection rate but different 'no crime' rate to three other forces: Dorset, Merseyside and Suffolk;
- a similar recorded crime rate and 'no crime' rate but different sanction detection rate to four other forces: Avon & Somerset, Lancashire, Sussex and Warwickshire;
- a similar sanction detection rate and 'no crime' rate but different recorded crime rate to one other force: Cheshire.

9.2. Note that the above summary is intended as a guide only; forces have been divided into three groups for each rate (above, in line with and below average), and these groups have then been used to match forces.

9.3. Gloucestershire's sanction detection rates on Adult rape (i.e. how many adult rapes were solved by the police, where a formal criminal justice sanction was applied to the offender) in 2013 is 13%, an increase on the

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<sup>24</sup> Detected crimes are those that have been "cleared up" (or "solved") by the police.

<sup>25</sup> Any recorded crime can be 'no-crimed' where additional verifiable information determines that no crime has been committed, or for administrative reasons (i.e. it is a duplicate crime for one already recorded).

figure from 2012 of 8%. However, the county rate has been below the England and Wales rate for the last 4 years. In 2009, Gloucestershire's rate was 25%, but the rate of 13% in 2013 places Gloucestershire 8th (out of 42 police forces) for the lowest sanction detection rate for adult rape. For any crime to be counted as detected, sufficient evidence must be available to claim a detection.

## **10. Child Rape (Under 16 years of age)**

10.1. The data for the 12 months to the end of March 2013 on CHILD rape shows that, compared with other forces in England and Wales, Gloucestershire had:

- a recorded crime rate that is below the average;
- a sanction detection rate that is above the average;
- a 'no crime' rate that is below the average;
- a similar recorded crime rate, sanction detection rate and 'no crime' rate to one other force: Avon & Somerset;
- a similar recorded crime rate and sanction detection rate but different 'no crime' rate to three other forces: Hampshire, Kent and Norfolk;
- a similar recorded crime rate and 'no crime' rate but different sanction detection rate to four other forces: Cheshire, Essex, Merseyside and Warwickshire;
- a similar sanction detection rate and 'no crime' rate but different recorded crime rate to five other forces: Gwent, Hertfordshire, Northumbria, South Yorkshire and Wiltshire.

10.2. Note that this summary is intended as a guide only; forces have been divided into three groups for each rate (above, in line with and below average), and these groups have then been used to match forces.

10.3. Gloucestershire's sanction detection rates on Child rape (i.e. how many child rapes were solved by the police in the 12 months to the end of March 2013 where a formal criminal justice sanction was applied to the offender) in 2013 is 39%, an increase on the figure from 2012 of 22% and the county rate is above the England and Wales rate for 2 of the last 3 years. The rate of 39% in 2013 places Gloucestershire at 11th (out of 42 police forces) for the highest sanction detection rate for child rape.

## 11. Incidence and “Social Class”

Table 7 - Sexual Offence Victims and “Social Class” (ACORN Category<sup>26</sup>)

Acorn Category	Sexual Offence Victims April 2010 to September 2013	Sexual Offence Victims April 2010 to September 2013 per thousand population	Likelihood (compared to county norm)
<b>Affluent achievers</b>	302	1.54	0.48
<b>Rising prosperity</b>	95	2.32	0.72
<b>Comfortable communities</b>	497	2.55	0.80
<b>Financially stretched</b>	553	4.58	1.43
<b>Urban adversity</b>	427	8.78	2.74
<b>Not private households</b>	41	8.05	2.51

11.1. The ACORN category “Urban Adversity” contains the most deprived areas of large and small towns and cities across the UK and, as per domestic abuse related crime results, also has the highest population rate of the six categories when analysing the numbers of sexual offence crime victims in Gloucestershire. Results also suggest that the wealthier a person is, the less likely they are to report as a victim of a sexual offence and that a person is almost 3 times more likely to report as a victim of a sexual offence in the “Urban Adversity” category when compared to the Gloucestershire “norm”.

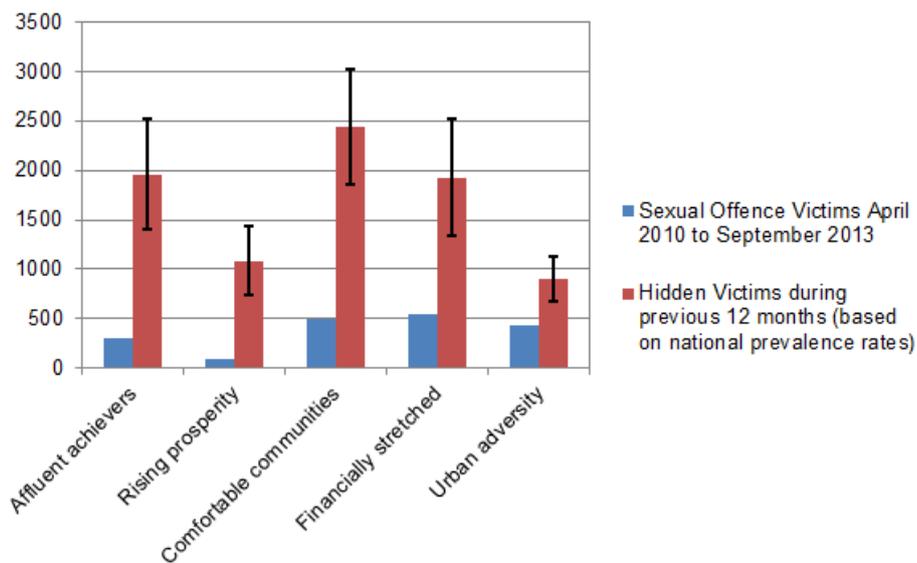


Figure 4 - “Hidden” Sexual Offence Victims and “Social Class” (ACORN Category<sup>27</sup>)

<sup>26</sup> For more information about ACORN groupings visit: <http://acorn.caci.co.uk/downloads/Acorn-User-guide.pdf>

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*

11.2. Figure 4 shows the numbers of sexual offence crime victims over a three and a half year period against a projected figure based on Gloucestershire’s population and national prevalence rates of sexual offence victims over the last 12 months<sup>28</sup>. This highlights the hidden victims of sexual offences and what social class they may belong to.

11.3. As per the domestic abuse analysis, the gap between blue and red bars is narrowest in the Urban Adversity social group which suggests that people in this group are the most likely in Gloucestershire to report a sexual offence crime.

## 12. Crown Prosecution Service – Sexual Offence Prosecutions

12.1. The following information is taken from the Crown Prosecutions Service Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Crime Report 2012/13<sup>29</sup>. Nationally, three out of four VAWG prosecutions now result in a conviction. Domestic violence, rape and sexual offence prosecutions have reached their highest conviction rate to date, for the second year running.



Figure 5 - Proportion of Successful/Unsuccessful Sexual Offences Excluding Rape Prosecutions 2012/13<sup>30</sup>

12.2. Gloucestershire is performing well when compared against regional and national figures from the 2012/13 financial year having dealt with 52 sexual offences excluding rape cases locally, 86.5% of those resulted in a successful conviction.

<sup>28</sup> Prevalence figures taken from Povey et al (2009): Homicides, Firearm Offences and Intimate Violence 2007/08 (Supplementary Volume 2 to Crime in England and Wales 2007/08).

<sup>29</sup> CPS Report: [http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/cps\\_vawg\\_report\\_2013.pdf](http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/cps_vawg_report_2013.pdf)

<sup>30</sup> [http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/cps\\_vawg\\_report\\_2013.pdf#page=67](http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/cps_vawg_report_2013.pdf#page=67)



Figure 6 - Proportion of Successful/Unsuccessful Rape Prosecutions 2012/13<sup>31</sup>

- 12.3. Gloucestershire is performing well when compared against regional and national figures from the 2012/13 financial year having dealt with 24 rape cases locally, 70.8% of those resulted in a successful conviction.

### 13. Concluding Remarks

- 13.1. The high level of under reporting of sexual violence means that improved data intelligence is needed to better understand the number of people who may require support. However, the very nature of violence and abuse means that there are barriers to individuals disclosing, enquiring about abuse and ultimately victims and perpetrators accessing the right services.
- 13.2. Sexual offence recorded crimes are decreasing in Gloucestershire when compared against the previous 3½ year study period, with girls and young women in the age group 10 to 19 being the age/gender most likely to be recorded as victims of sexual offence crimes.

<sup>31</sup> [http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/cps\\_vawg\\_report\\_2013.pdf#page=66](http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/cps_vawg_report_2013.pdf#page=66)