

“ PPP ”

People for Proper Policing in North Wales

'More serious violence' - Long-term national recorded crime trend Source: Research Development & Statistics (CRCSG) Home Office All their words and data

There were a total of **21,624 offences of serious violence** recorded by the police in **2005/06**. This represents a **decrease of 769 offences** from the previous year. Serious violence comprises of the offences of homicide, attempted murder, **child destruction**, causing death by dangerous driving, serious wounding or other act endangering life and **endangering a railway passenger**.

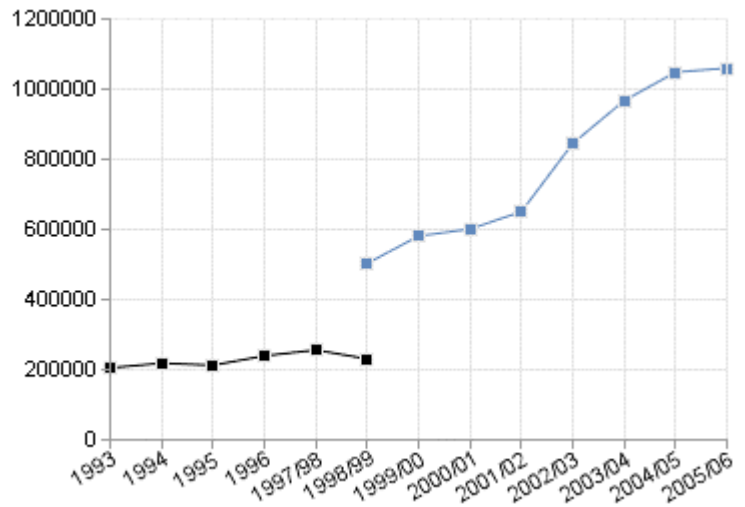
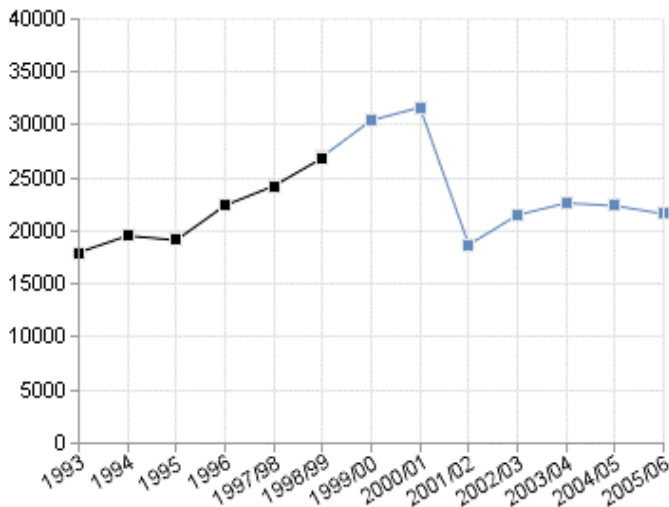
There were a **total of 1,059,913 offences of violence against the person (VAP)** recorded by the police in **2005/06**. This represents an **increase of one per cent** from the previous year. Numbers of recorded crimes are affected by changes in reporting and recording practices. In April 1998, certain new offences e.g. common assault, possession of a weapon, assault on a constable and harassment, were added to the recorded crime series. It is not therefore possible to draw direct comparisons between offences recorded before and after that date.

Understanding the chart

Numbers of recorded crimes are affected by changes in reporting and recording practices.

Expanded coverage and revised Counting Rules came into effect in April 1998. The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced nationally in April 2002. **The national impact in 2002/03 was estimated to be 23% per cent for all recorded offences of violence against the person.** It is not possible to estimate the effect on the total serious violence category. (*Why not?*)

Data for the British Transport Police are included from 2002/03 onwards.



'More serious violence & VAP' - Long-term national recorded crime trends.

The PPP comments ... they are forever moving the goal posts. Our simple arithmetic indicates that the change in 'practice' caused a false drop of OVER 38% (not 23%) in police reported serious violent incidents nationally as clearly shown on the above chart. BUT an increase of nearly 300,000 in VAP crimes resulted from the reclassification in 1998 Further changes in 2007 appeared to reduce the recorded violent crimes against the person across North Wales by a massive 52%. When local MPs & ministers state that violent crime is actually going down, despite what you read in the papers, they are using the distorted data. The full negative impact of the 24 hr drinking laws must raise the total still further for 2006/7.