



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Com Sec: 104223

S<sup>14</sup> July 2010

Dear Mr Storey,

To ask the Minister of Justice, in each of the last five years, how many domestic abuse incidents recorded in (i) H District; and (ii) Northern Ireland involved a sexual assault on (a) a current partner; (b) a former partner; and (c) a child, broken down by the (i) age; and (ii) sex of the victim.

7474/10

The above mentioned question was placed before the Minister of Justice, who has deemed that this is an operational matter for the Police Service of Northern Ireland. Therefore the Chief Constable has been asked to respond directly.

Please see the table appended to this letter. Where numbers are too small and therefore potentially disclosive, figures have been omitted.

If you have any queries regarding this response, please address your correspondence to Command Secretariat, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT5 6LE.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**JOHN MCCAUGHAN**  
Superintendent  
for Chief Constable

Mr M Storey MLA  
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Stormont  
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BT4 3XX

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Telephone: 028 90700006, Fax: 028 90700124



*Calls within Police Service of Northern Ireland telephone system may be monitored or recorded*

**Number of sexual assaults<sup>1</sup> recorded with a domestic motivation<sup>2</sup>  
2005/06 to 2009/10**

Victim		Northern Ireland	H District
Current Partner	Male	*	0
	Female	*	7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>7</b>
	Aged 20-29	11	*
	Aged 30-39	8	*
	Aged 40 plus	12	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>7</b>
Former Partner	Male	0	*
	Female	30	*
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>4</b>
	Aged 20-29	8	*
	Aged 30-39	14	*
	Aged 40 plus	8	*
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>4</b>
Child	Male	*	*
	Female	*	*
	<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>*</b>

Source: PSNI Central Statistics Unit

<sup>1</sup>Relates to rapes (including attempts) and sexual assaults recorded where the motivation is domestic, than have since been detected, and where the person clearing the crime is a current/former partner of the victim or where the victim is a child.

<sup>2</sup>Domestic motivation definition: Any incident of threatening behaviour, violence, or abuse (psychological, physical, verbal, sexual, financial or emotional) by one family member against another or adults who are or have been intimate partners, regardless of gender, and whether a crime has occurred or not, will be recorded as domestic abuse.

**Recorded Crimes**

- Recorded crimes (sometimes referred to as notifiable offences) are those which are deemed to be indictable or triable-either-way.
- A crime will be recorded as domestic abuse where it meets the definition provided above. Not all domestic abuse incidents will result in the recording of a crime.
- Domestic abuse crimes are classified according to the Home Office Counting Rules and form a subset of the overall recorded crime figures.

Data Quality: The PSNI's statistics on incidents and crimes with a domestic abuse motivation are derived from a motivation 'tick box' contained in the Occurrence Management Form which has to be completed by a police officer or member of police staff for each such reported incident/crime. The correct application of a domestic abuse motivation for all such incidents/crimes is not quality assured by the PSNI's Central Statistics Branch, but quarterly audits are conducted to ensure that any under or over-recording is corrected.

<sup>3</sup>This data could be subject to change as it is based on a live crime recording system.

\*Disclosure control has been applied to this data - cells relating to 3 or fewer individuals have been suppressed to ensure that individuals or sensitive information relating to them, cannot be identified.