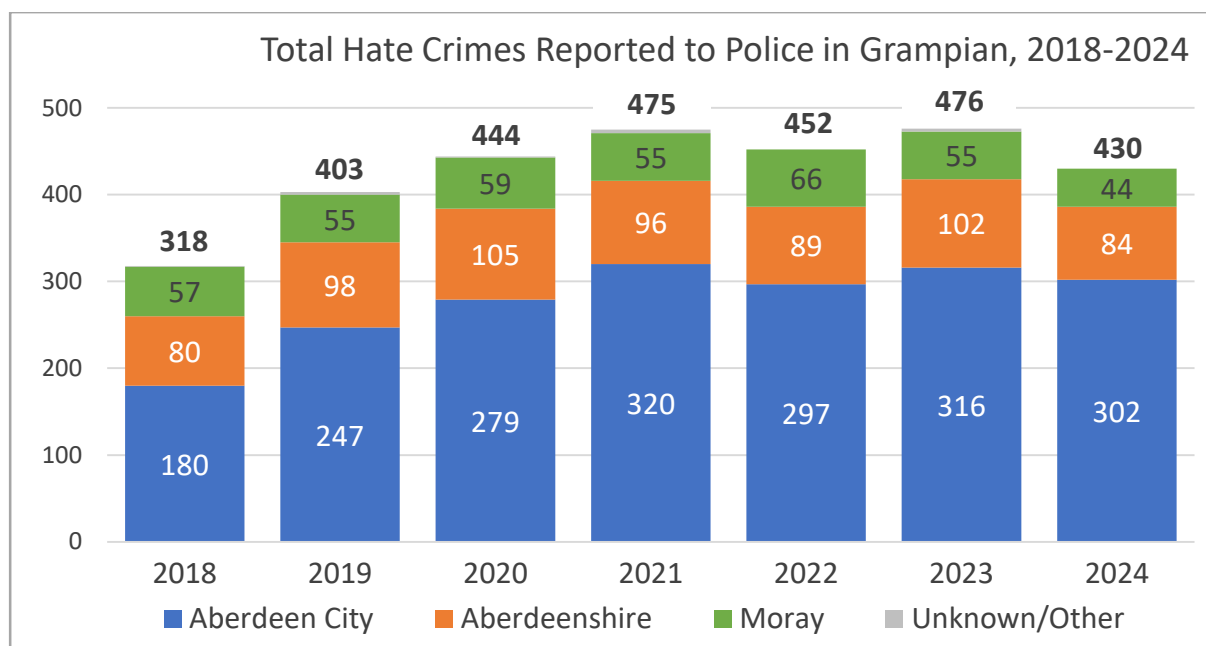


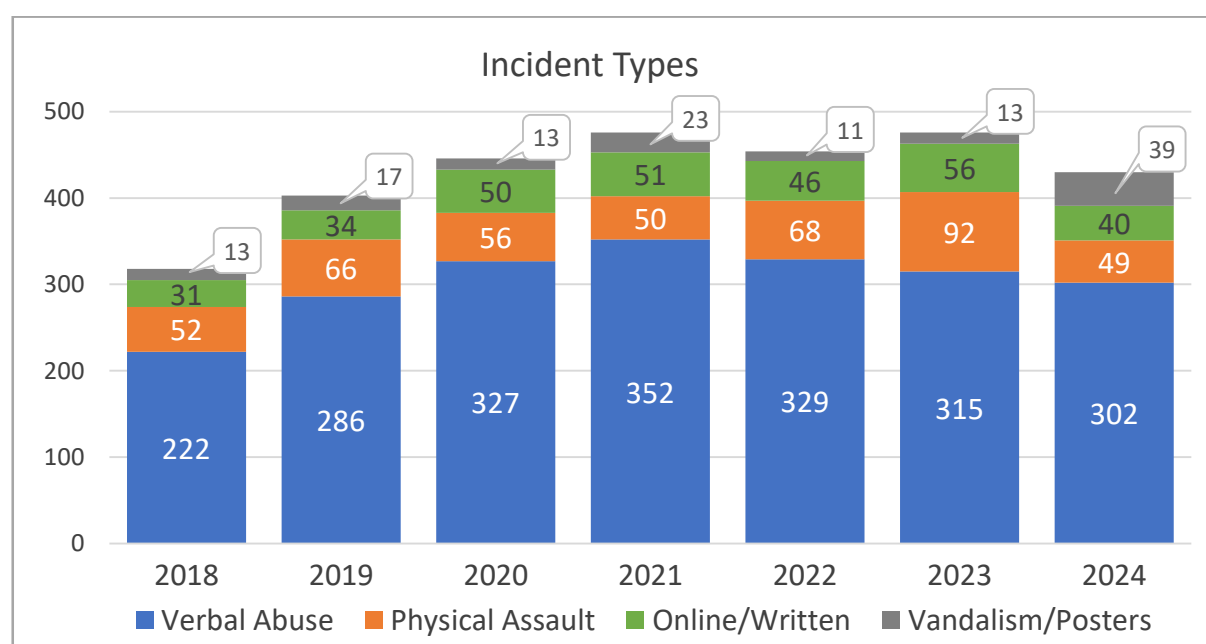
GREC Briefing Paper: Hate Crimes Reported in Grampian

Trends between 2018-2024

Since 2018, GREC has been collating data from Police Scotland on the hate crimes reported in Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray. This paper presents the data covering this period. Detailed data for each year is available on the GREC website: www.grec.co.uk/research. While we know that many hate crimes go unreported, it is still useful to be aware of those that are reported to police.

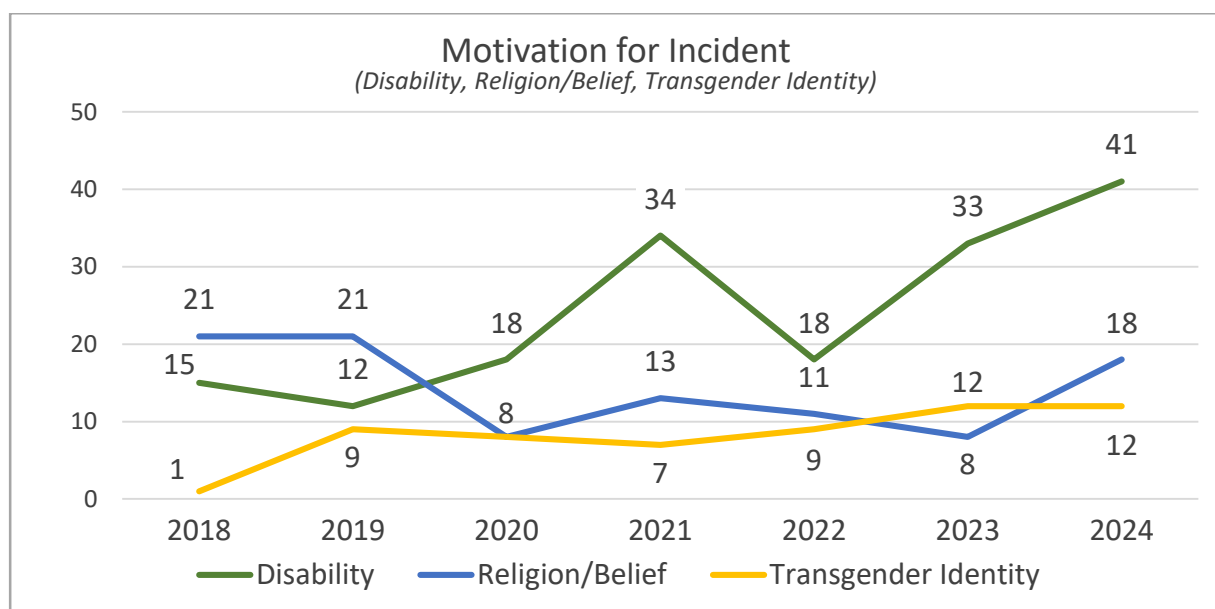
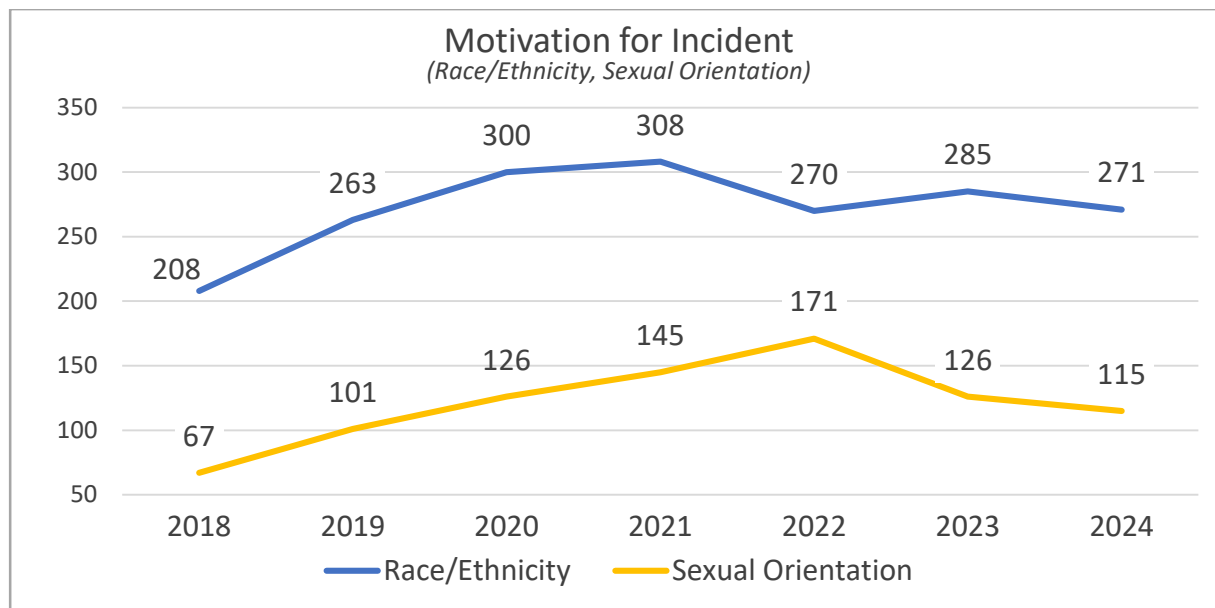


As shown above, the number of hate crimes reported to police each year has remained between 400-500 since 2019, with around $\frac{2}{3}$ reported in Aberdeen City. Some years have a few incidents recorded with an 'unknown' location, due to postcode typos, or 'other,' for example on a ship at sea. Details of geographic location are provided in the last section of this report.



The most frequent type of incident was verbal abuse, accounting for around ¾ of reports each year. Between 10-20% of incidents were physical assault (often with an element of verbal abuse), 8-12% were online or written (including social media), and between 2-9% were hate-related vandalism, graffiti, or posters. Several trends are worth noting, especially between 2020-2023:

- During this period, there was an increase in both online incidents and total incidents reported.
- Following this period, the total number of reported incidents decreased in 2024, and the number of reported assaults fell to its lowest level since 2016 (49 and 46, respectively).
- 2024 also saw a significant number of hate-related graffiti and posters reported.

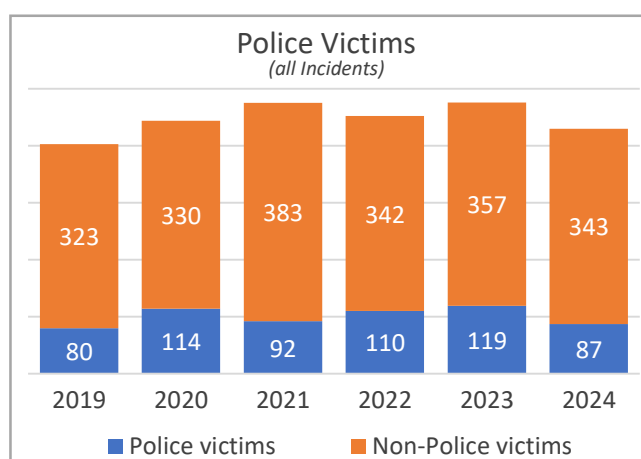


As shown above, the most frequent motivators for hate crime were racism and homophobia, accounting for around ¾ and ¼ of incidents each year, respectively. Disability, religion/belief and transgender identity motivated smaller numbers of incidents. In 2024, there was also one incident related to variation in sex characteristics (a category from new hate crime legislation).

Victim and Perpetrator Characteristics

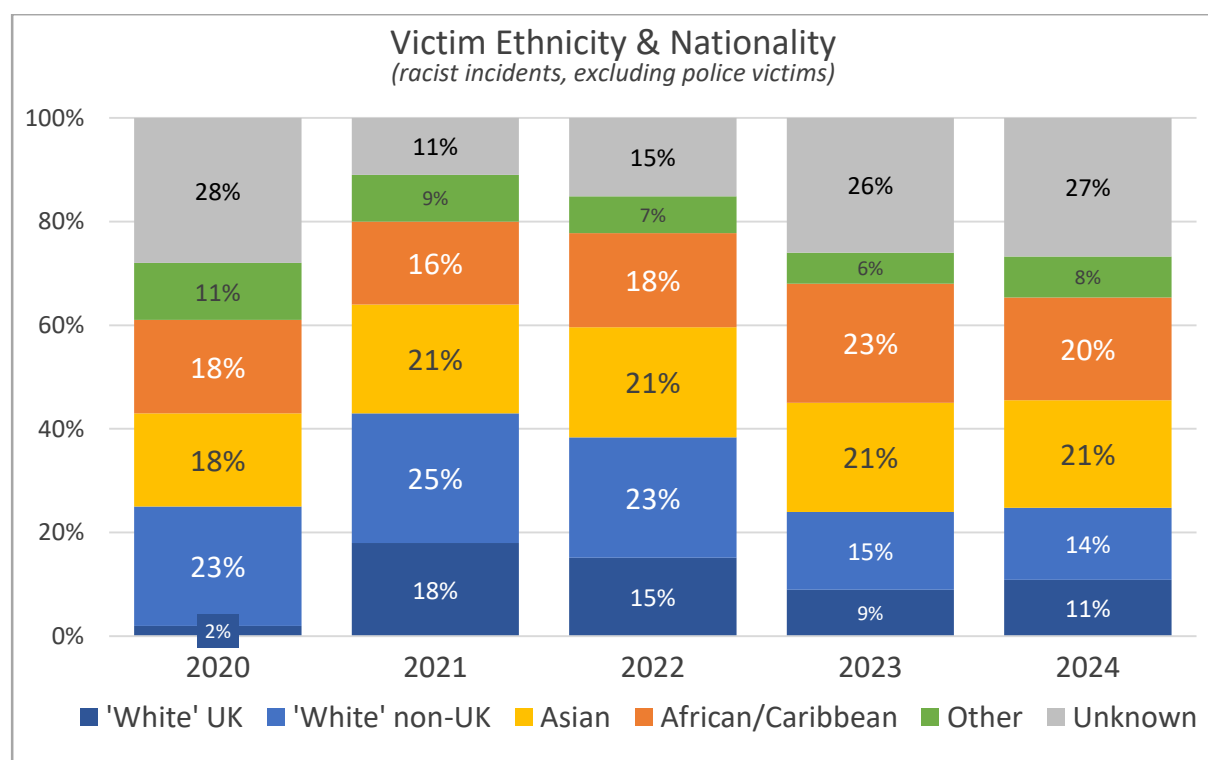
Police Victims

For between one-fifth and one-quarter of incidents each year, the victim was a police officer, prison guard or police staff. While abuse is always unacceptable, it is important to consider the power relationship between offenders and law enforcement. Ultimately, hate crime laws are designed to protect marginalised people. Therefore, sections below focus on incidents with non-police victims, where excluding them helps to clarify the overall picture.

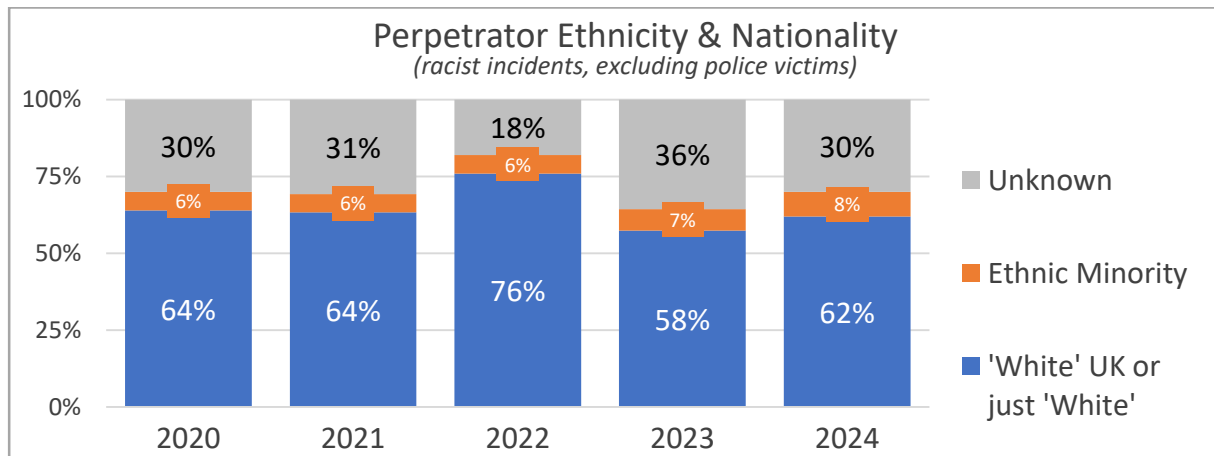


Ethnicity & Nationality¹

As shown below, most victims of racist hate crime were either 'white' non-UK nationals (e.g. Polish or Lithuanian), or racialised people from the UK or other countries (e.g. people of Asian, African or other ethnicity). There was also a small number of incidents (up to two per year) where victims were Scottish Gypsy/Travellers. Meanwhile, where recorded, nearly all perpetrators of racist hate crime were 'white' UK nationals, or only recorded as 'white.' The small number of ethnic minority perpetrators (less than 20 per year) tended to target other ethnic minorities. Details are provided in the appendix.



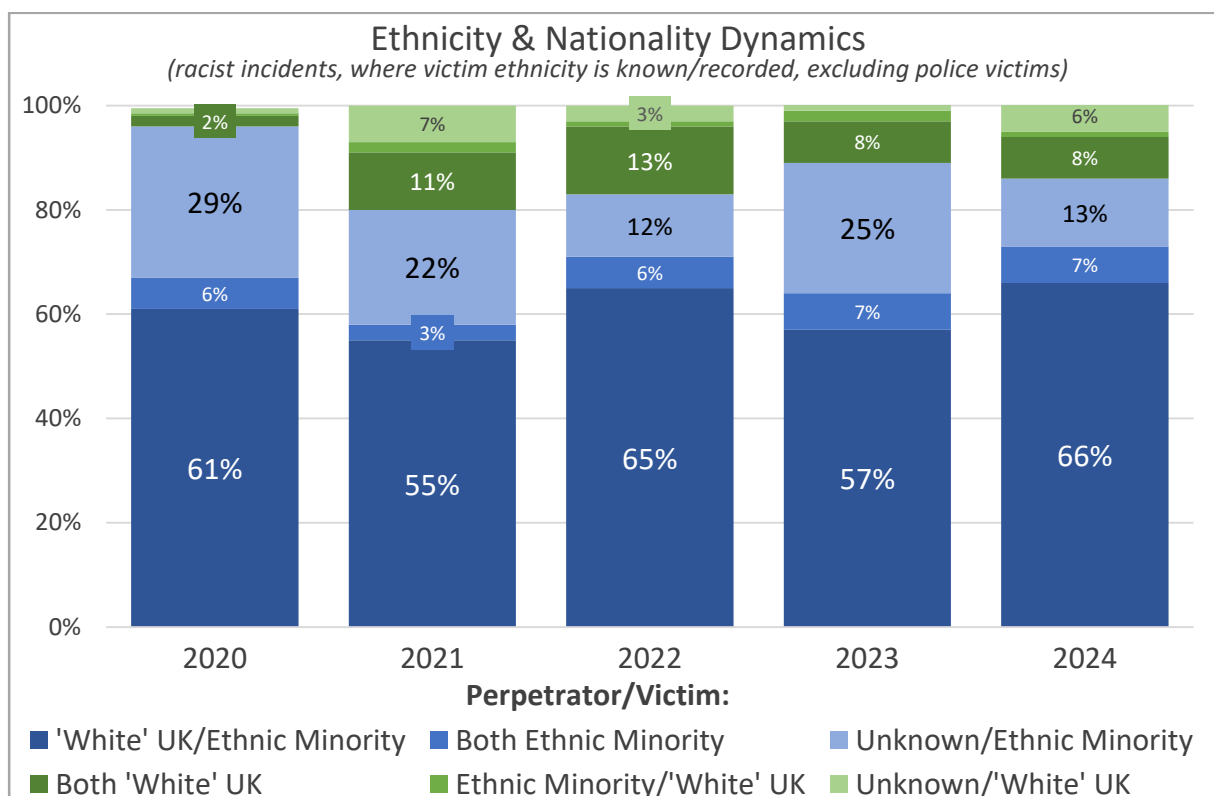
¹ In the chart above, 'other' includes Arab, South American, Mixed/Multiple and Gypsy/Traveller. Where victim ethnicity is 'unknown,' the data was not collected or the incident did not target a specific person (e.g. graffiti). In the charts below, 'ethnic minority' includes racialised people (any nationality), 'white' non-UK nationals, and Gypsy/Travellers. The number of individuals is greater than the number of incidents, as some incidents had multiple victims or perpetrators. For victim/perpetrator dynamics (below), calculations are based on the number of victims with recorded ethnicity/nationality.



'White Scottish/British' Victims of Racism?

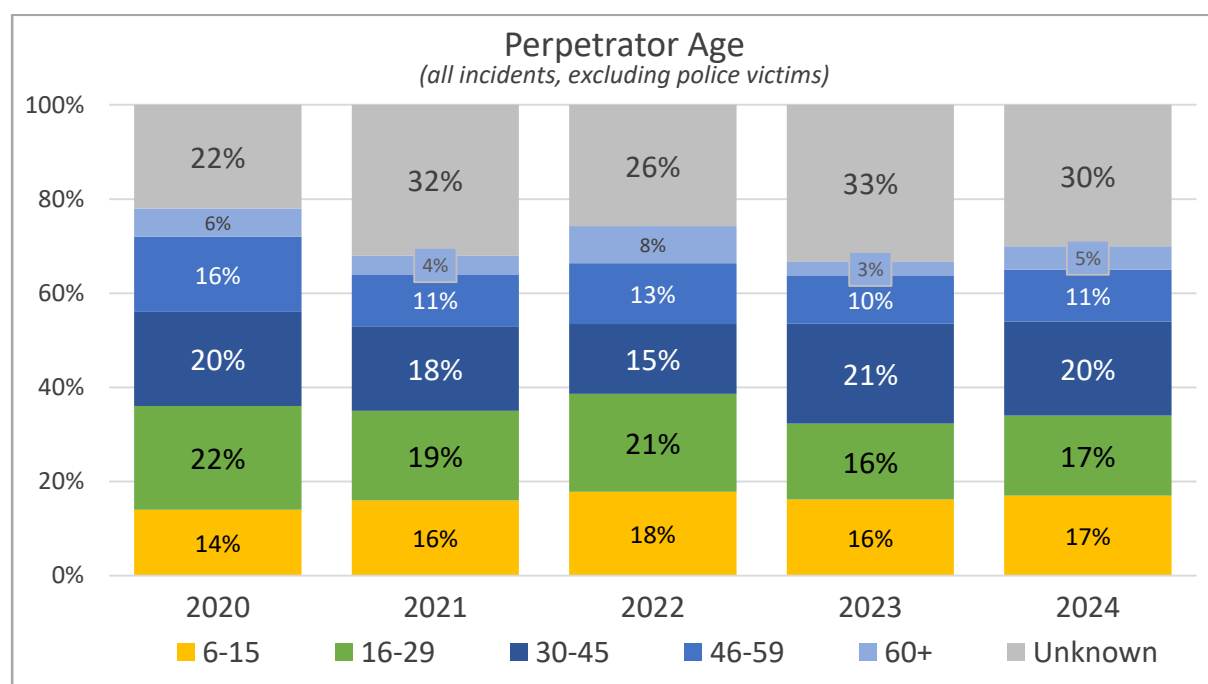
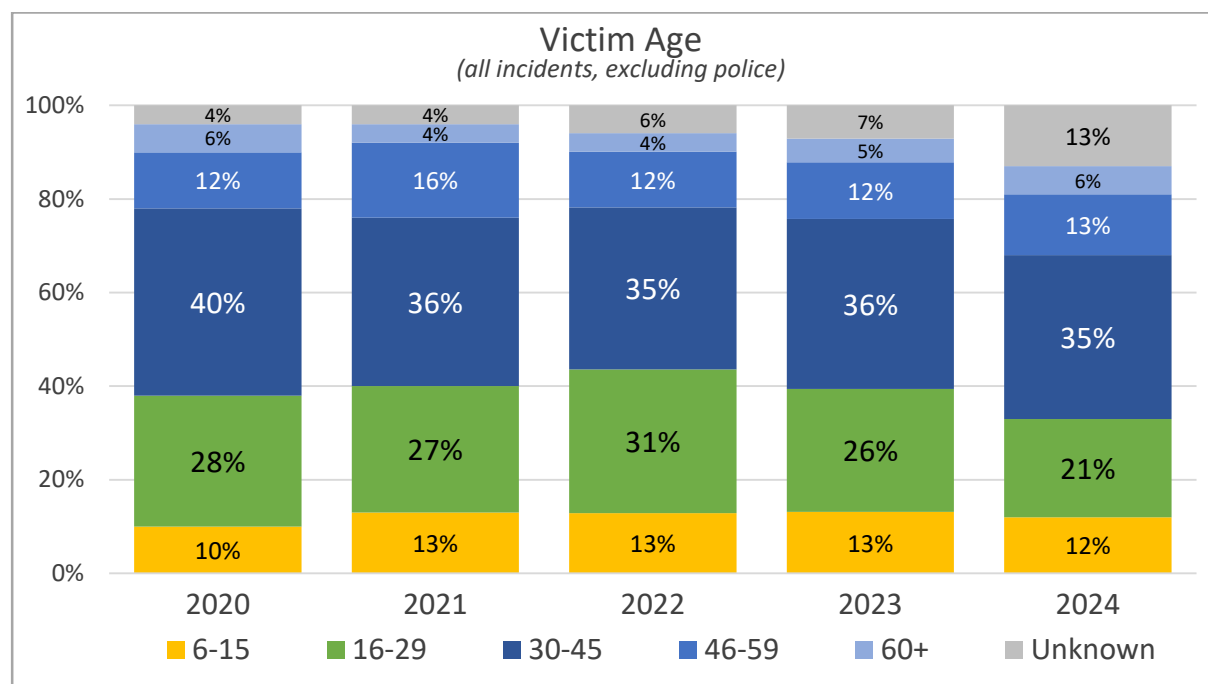
At first glance, it may seem surprising that 2-18% of racist incidents each year targeted 'White' UK nationals, including 2-13% where both victim and perpetrator were 'White Scottish' or 'White British.' However, there are several points to consider here:

- When police respond to a conflict, a prejudice-related 'aggravation' is recorded if racist language is used (even between people in the same ethnic group). Without context, it is impossible to know how many incidents were part of other conflicts.
- In incidents with multiple victims, one person may be 'White British,' with racist abuse directed at their ethnic minority partner, child, friend or colleague.
- 'White Scottish/British' may include European ethnic minorities with UK citizenship, who are often still perceived as outsiders, or the UK-born children of European immigrants. In fact, there were several incidents each year which appear to be the latter (e.g. with two victims, a 'White British' child or teenager, and a European adult in their 30s or 40s).
- In the most serious racist incidents (assaults), less than 1% of victims were 'White Scottish/British.'

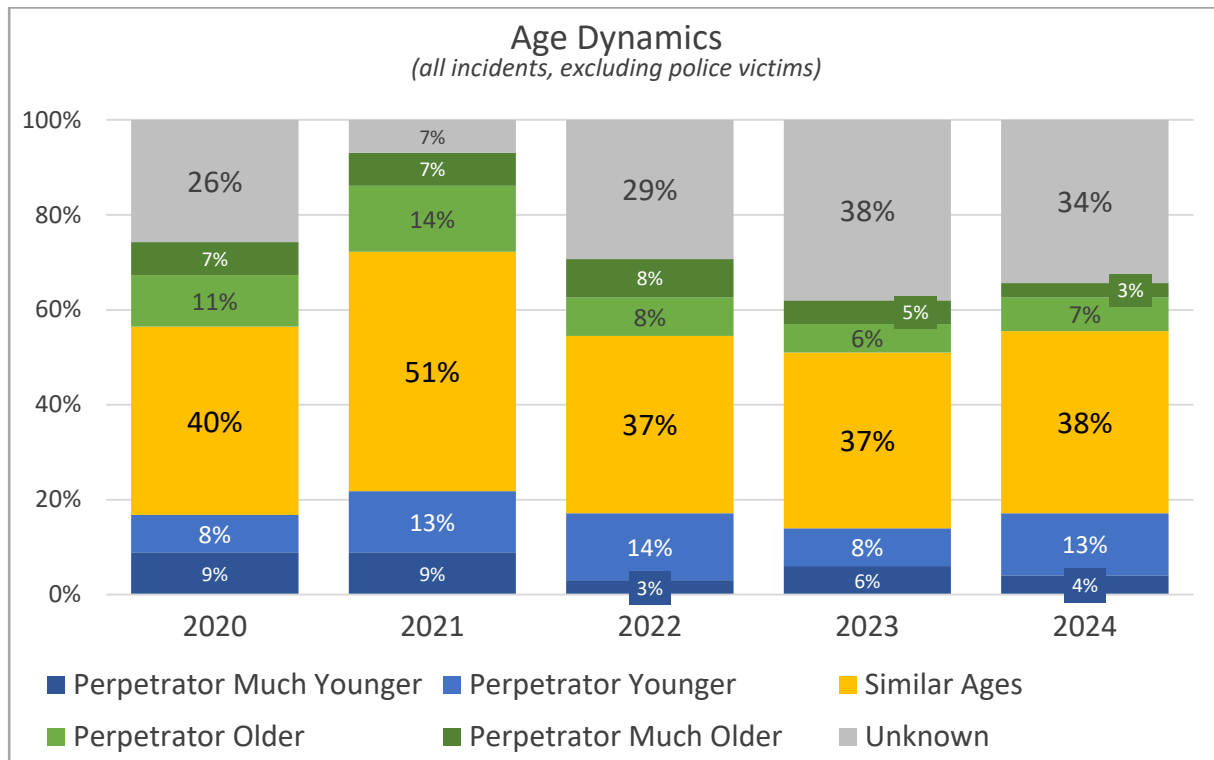


Age²

Excluding incidents targeting police, victims' and perpetrators' ages (where known) are shown below. Where both ages are known, victims and perpetrators were similar ages in more than half of incidents each year. In 22-24% of incidents each year, the perpetrator was younger than the victim, and in 16-24%, they were older. Nearly all incidents with victims under age 16 involved perpetrators in a similar age range, though a handful of children and young people were targeted each year by adults in their 30s to 70s, including several assaults.

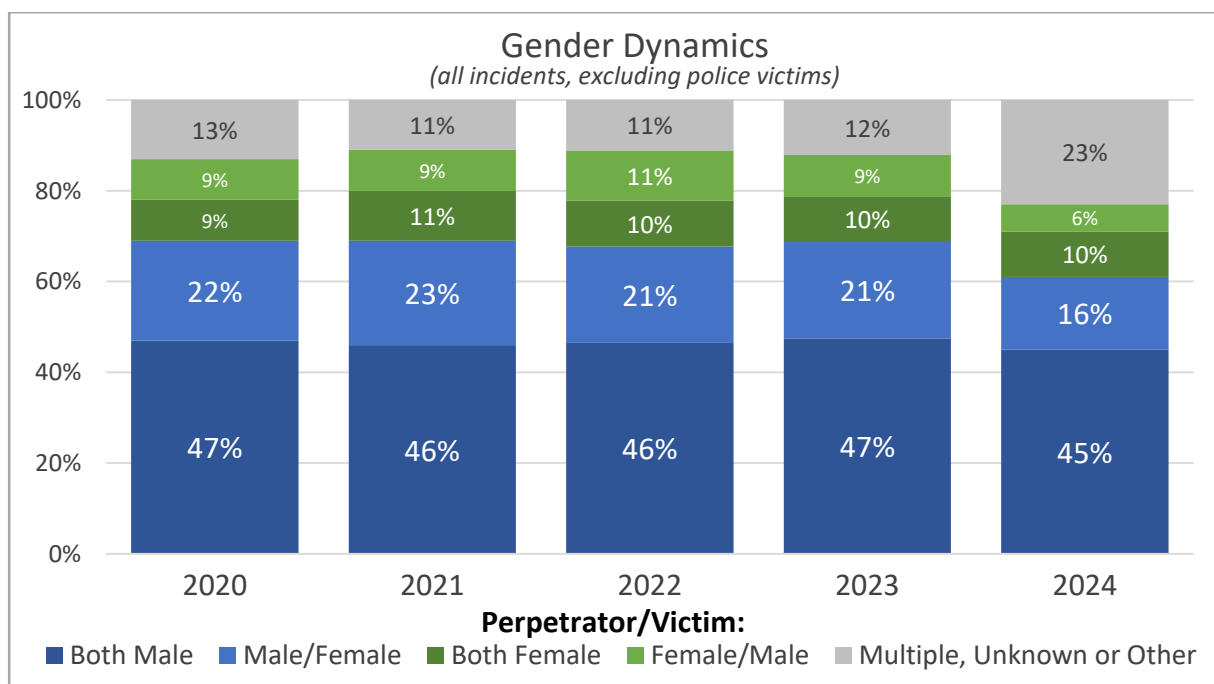


² Similar age: ten years apart or less (five years for under-16s). Older/younger: age gap of 11-24 years (6-14 years for under-16s). Much older/younger: age gap of 25 years or more (15 years or more for under-16s).



Gender³

Excluding police, where known and recorded, around one-third of victims each year were female and two-thirds were male. Over the five-year period, this included nine trans men or boys and 35 trans women or girls. Three victims were nonbinary. Meanwhile, more than three-quarters of individual perpetrators each year were male and less than one-quarter were female. Broadly speaking, the gender ratio of victims, perpetrators, and the dynamics between them (shown below) has been stable since 2015. Excluding incidents where the perpetrator's gender was unknown, around two-thirds of female victims were targeted by male perpetrators, and 15-20% vice-versa.

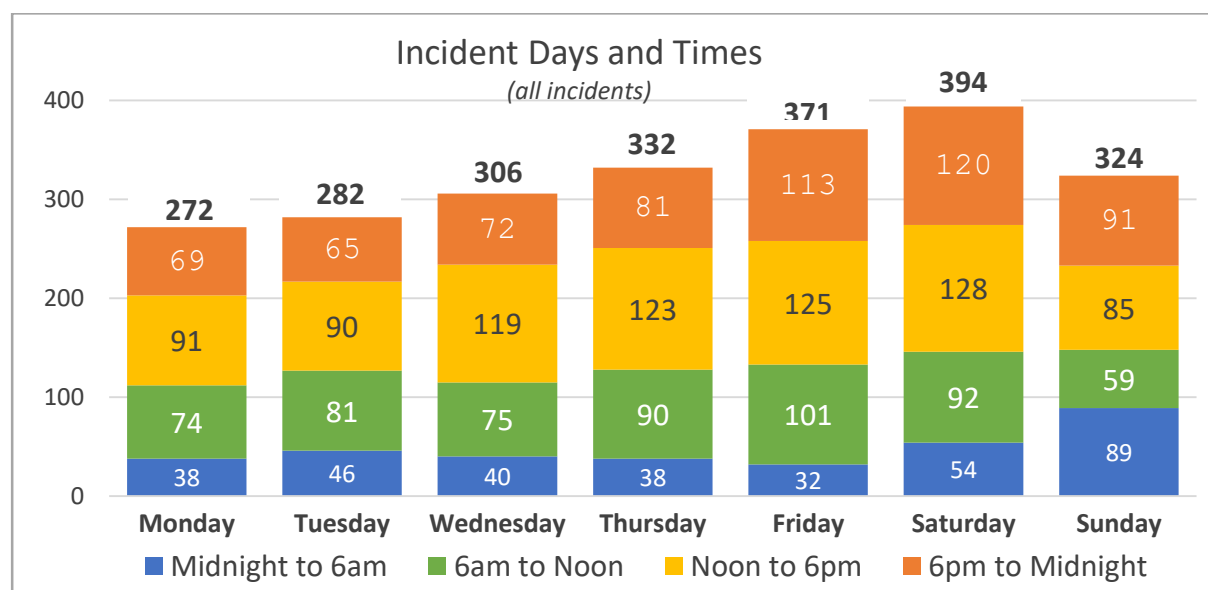


³ 'Multiple, Unknown or Other' includes incidents where the victim's or perpetrator's gender was not recorded, where one or both was a mixed-gender group, or where the victim was nonbinary.

Time and Place of Incidents

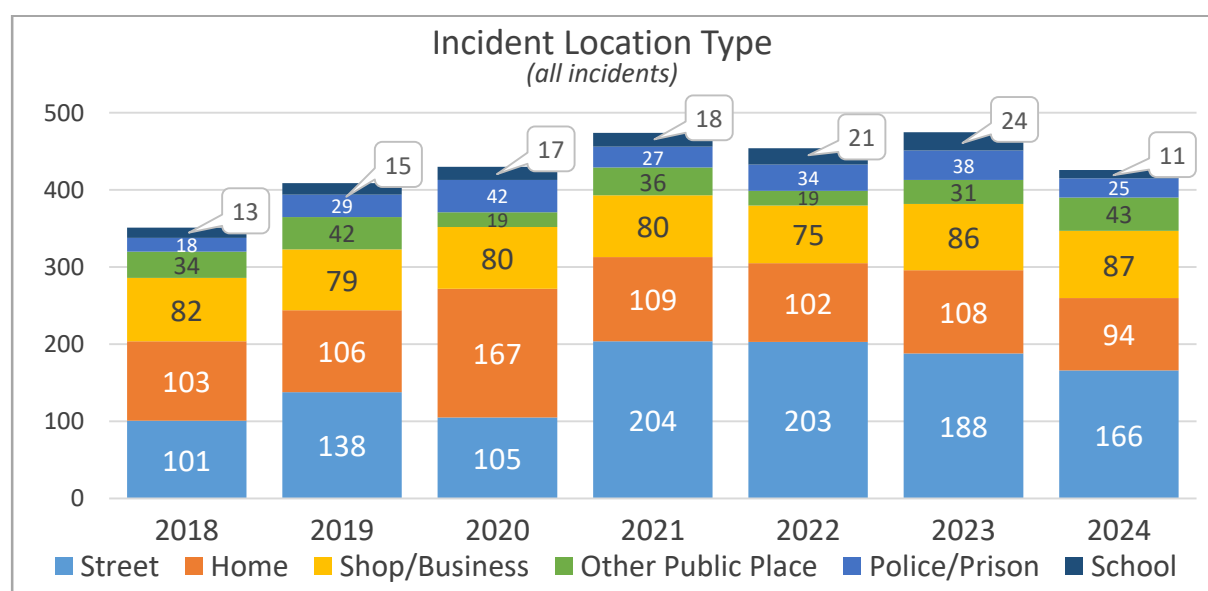
Incident Days and Times

As shown below, between 2020 and 2024, the days and times with the highest number of incidents were Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays between noon and 6pm (376 total), accounting for 16% of all incidents. A large proportion also took place in the evening hours of Friday and Saturday, between 6pm and midnight (233 total). This is not surprising, given that many incidents are concentrated around bars and nightclubs. However, while weekday overnights (midnight to 6am) were quieter, it is likely that the relatively higher number of incidents reported in the mornings (6am to noon) were due to typical working hours. Overall, there was no time period free from incidents.



Location Type

As shown below, the most frequent location type for incidents was on the street, apart from in 2020, when the early pandemic restricted people's movement. Otherwise, broadly speaking, the proportion of incidents in different location types has remained similar over time. Note that most online and social media related incidents are recorded as occurring in the victim's home. 'Shops/Businesses' include pubs and nightclubs, and 'Other Public Places' include public transport, sports centres, religious settings, hospitals, etc. Incident locations by postcode are shown in the next section.

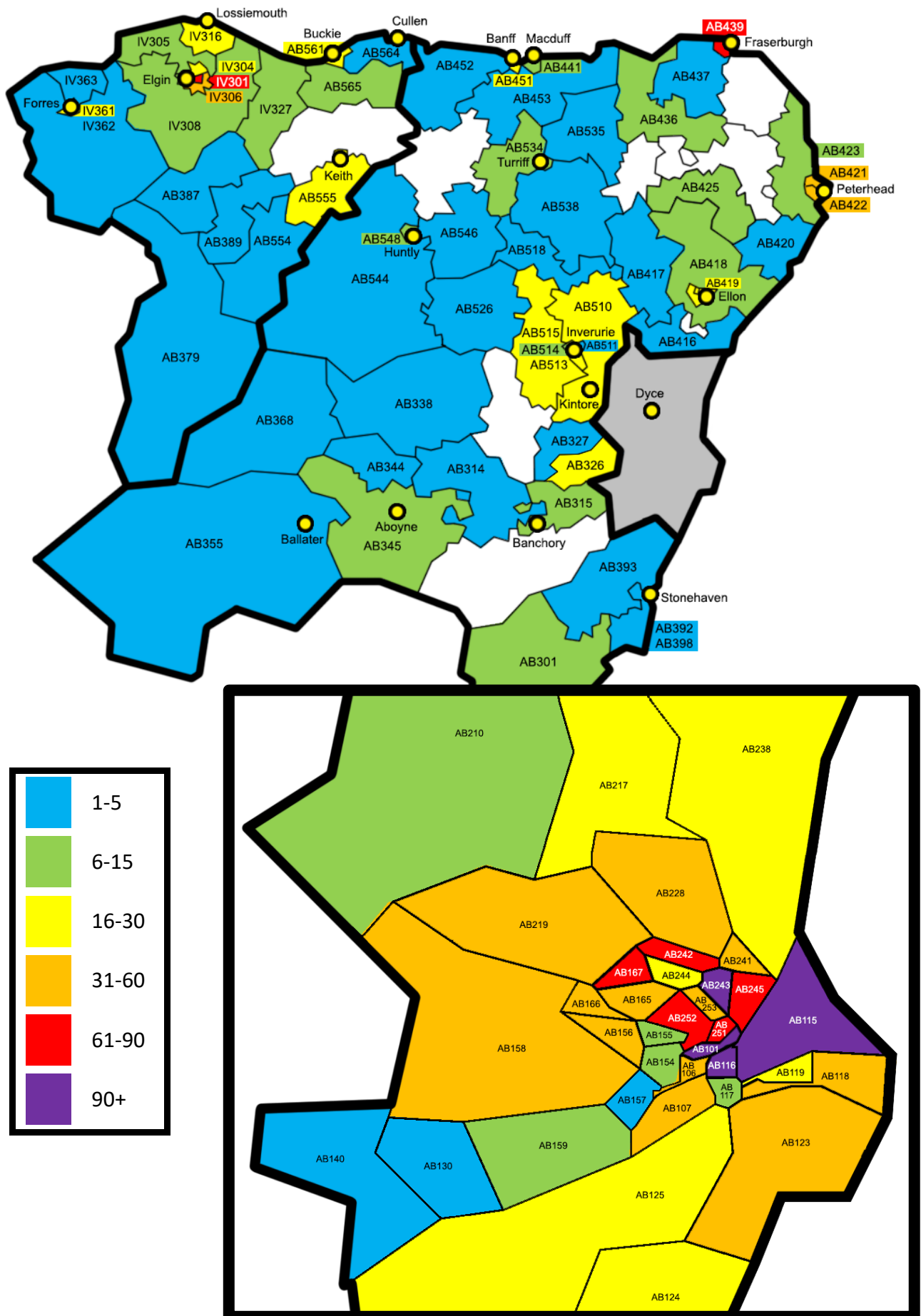


Geographic Locations: Incidents by Postcode (5-digit)

Postcode	Aberdeen City	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total	Postcode	Aberdeenshire (cont.)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
AB101	Union St / north	20	27	24	26	23	120	AB398	Stonehaven	-	-	-	-	1
AB106	Holburn St, Mannofield	9	7	3	2	10	31	AB418	Collieston	4	-	2	2	-
AB107	Garthdee, Ruthrieston	9	12	6	11	6	44	AB419	Ellon	2	3	9	3	8
AB115	Union St / east, docks	17	16	26	30	25	114	AB420	Hatton, Cruden Bay	1	1	1	-	1
AB116	Union St / south	11	30	32	21	29	123	AB421	Peterhead North	14	3	7	8	12
AB117	Ferryhill	2	1	1	1	1	6	AB422	Peterhead South*	9	10	4	8	11
AB118	Torry	11	6	3	10	3	33	AB423	Peterhead outlying areas	1	-	5	2	2
AB119	Torry	2	6	8	4	7	27	AB424	Mintlaw	-	1	-	-	-
AB123	Tullos	4	7	7	10	9	37	AB425	Mintlaw, Stuartfield	4	1	-	2	-
AB124	Portlethen	5	4	5	4	4	22	AB436	Strichen	3	3	-	1	-
AB125	Kincorth	5	8	3	1	4	21	AB437	Rosehearty	1	3	-	-	-
AB130	Milltimber	2	-	-	-	1	3	AB439	Fraserburgh	18	18	16	17	14
AB140	Peterculter	1	-	-	3	-	4	AB441	Macduff	4	6	1	2	1
AB154	Rubislaw	4	3	-	2	3	12	AB451	Banff	-	4	3	4	5
AB155	Midstocket	1	1	1	2	2	7	AB452	Portsoy	-	1	-	3	1
AB156	Summerhill, Woodend	9	3	5	7	8	32	AB453	Banff outlying areas	-	1	-	-	-
AB157	Broomhill	-	1	2	-	1	4	AB510	Kintore, Oldmeldrum	2	4	1	5	5
AB158	Hazlehead, Kingswells	15	4	2	3	7	31	AB511	Inverurie	-	-	-	1	-
AB159	Cults	3	2	2	1	1	9	AB513	Inverurie, Pt Elphinstone	6	6	4	8	1
AB165	Cornhill, Cairncry Rd	11	12	12	9	10	54	AB514	Inverurie	3	3	3	2	-
AB166	Mastrick, Sheddocksley	7	10	10	4	6	37	AB515	Kemnay	7	1	4	5	1
AB167	Northfield, Cummings Pk	12	22	22	12	9	77	AB518	Rothienorman	3	1	-	1	-
AB210	Dyce	4	5	2	1	2	14	AB526	Insch	1	1	-	-	-
AB217	Dyce	2	4	5	5	6	22	AB534	Turriff	1	1	2	1	1
AB219	Bucksburn	15	3	5	14	11	48	AB535	Turriff	1	-	-	-	-
AB228	Bridge of Don	10	5	12	7	5	39	AB538	Fyvie	1	2	-	1	-
AB238	Bridge of Don	2	3	4	4	8	21	AB544	Huntly	1	2	-	1	-
AB241	Seaton, Aberdeen Uni	9	8	9	11	9	46	AB546	Huntly	-	-	-	1	-
AB242	Tillydrone, Woodside	27	19	9	11	17	83	AB548	Huntly	3	-	3	2	2
AB243	Kittybrewster, Powis*	43	27	34	35	27	166	Moray						
AB244	Woodside, Hilton	4	5	5	5	-	19	AB379	Ballindaloch	2	-	-	-	-
AB245	King St / east to Beach	16	19	13	19	6	73	AB387	Rothies	1	-	-	-	-
AB251	George St, Hutcheon St	11	16	7	15	13	62	AB389	Aberlour	1	-	-	-	1
AB252	Rosemount, ARI area	14	19	8	13	16	70	AB554	Dufftown	-	-	1	-	1
AB253	Froghall, Westburn	11	5	4	8	12	40	AB555	Keith	10	4	9	4	1
Aberdeenshire								AB561	Buckie	9	3	10	3	4
AB301	Laurencekirk	2	1	3	4	-	10	AB564	Cullen	-	1	-	2	-
AB314	Torphins	-	-	1	1	-	2	AB565	Portgordon	1	2	1	1	1
AB315	Banchory	4	3	1	2	1	11	IV301	Elgin*	11	18	12	14	16
AB326	Westhill	5	5	2	-	4	16	IV304	Bishopmill	6	2	3	5	3
AB327	Dunecht / Westhill	-	-	-	-	1	1	IV305	Lossiemouth	-	-	4	1	1
AB338	Alford	2	2	2	-	1	7	IV306	New Elgin	7	6	11	9	4
AB344	Tarland	1	-	-	2	-	3	IV308	Elgin	4	1	1	1	2
AB345	Aboyne	2	2	1	2	-	7	IV316	Lossiemouth	5	4	2	4	2
AB355	Ballater	-	-	1	-	1	2	IV327	Fochabers	1	2	2	6	1
AB368	Strathdon	-	-	-	1	-	1	IV361	Forres	5	6	6	4	4
AB387	Rothies	-	-	1	1	-	2	IV362	Near Forres	2	2	-	1	-
AB392	Stonehaven	11	2	2	8	4	27	IV363	Kinloss	1	-	1	-	1
AB393	Newtonhill	1	2	-	-	3	6	DD100	Inverbervie	-	2	1	-	-

*mostly police related

Geographic Locations: Total Incidents by Postcode (5-digit), 2020-2024



Appendix: Data Tables

Victim Ethnicity & Nationality (racist incidents, excluding police)

	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		Total	
'White' UK	7	2%	49	18%	36	15%	24	9%	27	11%	143	11%
'White' non-UK	64	23%	70	25%	57	23%	41	15%	35	14%	268	21%
Asian	51	18%	59	21%	52	21%	56	21%	52	21%	272	21%
African	50	18%	43	16%	45	18%	62	23%	49	20%	243	19%
Other	30	11%	24	9%	18	7%	17	6%	20	8%	99	8%
Unknown	79	28%	30	11%	37	15%	71	26%	67	27%	265	21%
Total	281	-	275	-	245	-	271	-	250	-	1290	

'Other' includes Arab, South American, Mixed/Multiple and Gypsy/Traveller. Where victim ethnicity is 'unknown,' the data was not collected or the incident did not target a specific person (e.g. graffiti).

Perpetrator Ethnicity & Nationality (racist incidents, excluding police victims)

	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		Total	
'White' UK	172	64%	153	57%	158	66%	110	43%	119	49%	712	56%
'White' or 'N/A'	-	-	18	7%	23	10%	37	15%	34	14%	112	9%
Ethnic Minority	16	6%	15	6%	15	6%	17	7%	19	8%	82	6%
Unknown	82	30%	82	31%	43	18%	91	36%	73	30%	371	29%
Total	270	-	268	-	239	-	255	-	245	-	1277	

'Ethnic minority' includes racialised people (any nationality), 'white' non-UK nationals, and Gypsy/Travellers. The number of individuals is greater than the number of incidents, as some incidents had multiple victims or perpetrators.

Ethnicity & Nationality Dynamics (racist incidents with victim ethnicity recorded, excluding police victims)

Perpetrator/Victim	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		Total	
'White' UK/Ethnic Minority	123	61%	134	55%	135	65%	113	57%	121	66%	626	60%
Both Ethnic Minority	13	6%	8	3%	13	6%	13	7%	12	7%	59	6%
Unknown/Ethnic Minority	59	29%	54	22%	24	12%	50	25%	23	13%	210	20%
Both 'White' UK	4	2%	26	11%	27	13%	15	8%	15	8%	87	8%
Ethnic Minority/ 'White' UK	1	0.5%	6	2%	3	1%	3	2%	1	1%	14	1%
Unknown/ 'White' UK	2	1%	17	7%	6	3%	6	3%	11	6%	42	4%
Total	202	-	245	-	208	-	200	-	183	-	1038	

Victim Age (all incidents, excluding police)

	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		Total	
6-15	38	10%	50	13%	46	13%	49	13%	44	12%	227	12%
16-29	104	28%	107	27%	111	31%	97	26%	74	21%	493	26%
30-45	146	40%	142	36%	128	35%	137	36%	126	35%	679	36%
46-59	45	12%	65	16%	42	12%	47	12%	48	13%	247	13%
60+	21	6%	15	4%	14	4%	20	5%	20	6%	90	5%
Unknown	15	4%	17	4%	22	6%	28	7%	45	13%	127	7%
Total	369	-	396	-	363	-	378	-	357	-	1863	

Perpetrator Age (all incidents, excluding police victims)

	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		Total	
6-15	51	14%	63	16%	63	18%	59	16%	59	17%	295	16%
16-29	80	22%	72	19%	73	21%	58	16%	59	17%	342	19%
30-45	72	20%	71	18%	54	15%	77	21%	70	20%	344	19%
46-59	58	16%	41	11%	45	13%	35	10%	39	11%	218	12%
60+	20	6%	15	4%	27	8%	12	3%	18	5%	92	5%
Unknown	79	22%	125	32%	93	26%	118	33%	104	30%	519	29%
Total	360	-	387	-	355	-	359	-	349	-	1810	

Age Dynamics (all incidents, excluding police victims)

	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		Total	
Perpetrator much younger than victim	30	9%	23	9%	10	3%	20	6%	15	4%	98	6%
Perpetrator younger than victim	26	8%	33	13%	50	14%	29	8%	43	13%	181	11%
Similar Ages	137	40%	132	51%	129	37%	133	37%	132	38%	663	40%
Perpetrator older than victim	38	11%	37	14%	30	8%	21	6%	24	7%	150	9%
Perpetrator much older than victim	24	7%	17	7%	30	8%	19	5%	12	3%	102	6%
Unknown	90	26%	17	7%	104	29%	134	38%	117	34%	462	28%
Total	345	-	259	-	353	-	356	-	343	-	1656	

Similar age: ten years apart or less (five years for under-16s). Older/younger: age gap of 11-24 years (6-14 years for under-16s). Much older/younger: age gap of 25 years or more (15 years or more for under-16s).

Victim Gender (all incidents, excluding police)

	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		Total	
Cis Male	213	60%	231	58%	221	60%	220	59%	191	53%	1076	58%
Cis Female	128	36%	146	37%	128	35%	127	34%	116	32%	645	35%
Trans Male	3	1%	1	0.3%	1	0.3%	1	0.3%	3	1%	9	0.5%
Trans Female	4	1%	7	2%	6	2%	10	3%	8	2%	35	2%
Nonbinary	1	0.3%	-	-	2	1%	-	-	-	-	3	0.2%
Unknown	7	2%	10	3%	8	2%	14	4%	44	12%	83	4%
Total	356	-	395	-	366	-	372	-	362	-	1851	

Perpetrator Gender (all incidents, excluding police victims)

	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		Total	
Cis Male	254	72%	277	71%	246	69%	259	72%	297	68%	1333	70%
Cis Female	74	21%	83	21%	79	22%	76	21%	77	18%	389	21%
Unknown	23	7%	31	8%	30	8%	25	7%	60	14%	169	9%
Total	351	-	391	-	355	-	360	-	434	-	1891	

Gender Dynamics (all incidents, excluding police victims)

Perpetrator/Victim	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		Total	
Both Male	162	47%	177	46%	164	46%	169	47%	153	45%	825	46%
Male/Female	75	22%	89	23%	75	21%	76	21%	56	16%	371	21%
Both Female	31	9%	43	11%	36	10%	36	10%	33	10%	179	10%
Female/Male	31	9%	33	9%	40	11%	33	9%	22	6%	159	9%
Multiple, Unknown or Other	45	13%	41	11%	38	11%	42	12%	79	23%	245	14%
Total	344	-	383	-	353	-	356	-	343	-	1779	

'Multiple, Unknown or Other' includes incidents where the victim's or perpetrator's gender was not recorded, where one or both was a mixed-gender group, or where the victim was nonbinary

Day & Time of Incident (all incidents, 2020-2024 total)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total	
Midnight to 6am	38	46	40	38	32	54	89	337	15%
6am to Noon	74	81	75	90	101	92	59	572	25%
Noon to 6pm	91	90	119	123	125	128	85	761	33%
6pm to Midnight	69	65	72	81	113	120	91	611	27%
Total	272 12%	282 12%	306 13%	332 15%	371 16%	394 17%	324 14%	2281	