

JSNA Health and Wellbeing Profile 2026/27

Crime

Summary points

- The total recorded crime rate (all crimes) in Bristol for 2025/26 was 135.5 crimes per 1,000 of the population, higher than the previous year (130.9).
- 24.0% of Bristol residents said fear of crime affects their day-to-day life, higher than the previous year (21.4%).

All Crime Trend

The total number of recorded crimes in Bristol in 2025/26 was 66,989, an increase of 5.2% on the previous year (63,699) and the highest recorded in the last ten years (Figure 1). Crime in 2020/21 was the lowest recorded likely as a result of lockdowns related to the pandemic.

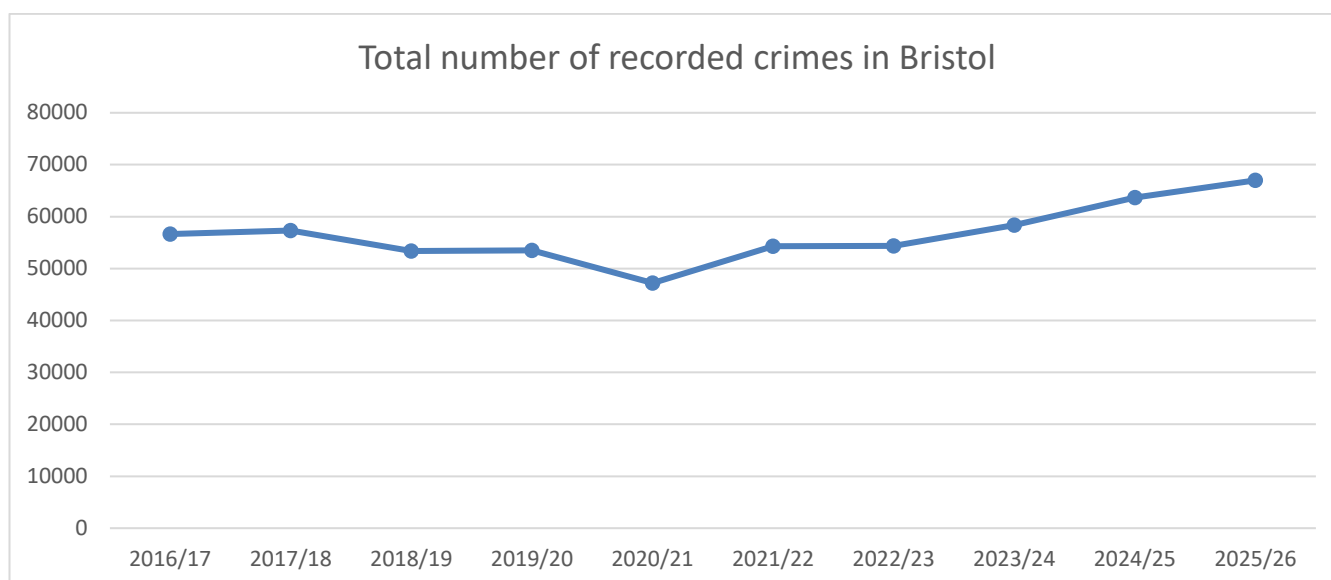


Figure 1: Number of all recorded crimes in Bristol. Source: Avon & Somerset Police 2025/26 (April 2026).

Violence against the person represented 36.2% of all recorded crimes in 2025/26 with 24,244 offences, followed by 13,940 'theft' offences (20.8% of all crime) and 7,965 'public order offences' (11.9% of all crime).

All Crime by ward

The crime offence rate (all crimes) across Bristol for 2025/26 was 135.5 per 1,000 of the population, higher than the previous year (130.9).

The all crime rate (per 1,000 population) within the wards ranged from 50.1 in St George Troopers Hill and 50.8 in Redland to 351.4 in Hotwells & Harbourside and 459.3 in Central (Figure 2). In regard to actual numbers of all crimes by ward, they range from the lowest in St. George Troopers Hill (327) and Redland (690) through to the highest in Lawrence Hill (4,566) and Central (10,330).

When comparing the percentage change from last year, 15 wards experienced decreases in crime whilst 19 experienced an increase. Clifton Down experienced the biggest increase in crime (38.9%) followed by Horfield (26.0%) whilst St George Troopers Hill had the biggest decrease (-13.0%) followed by Froe Vale (-11.1%).

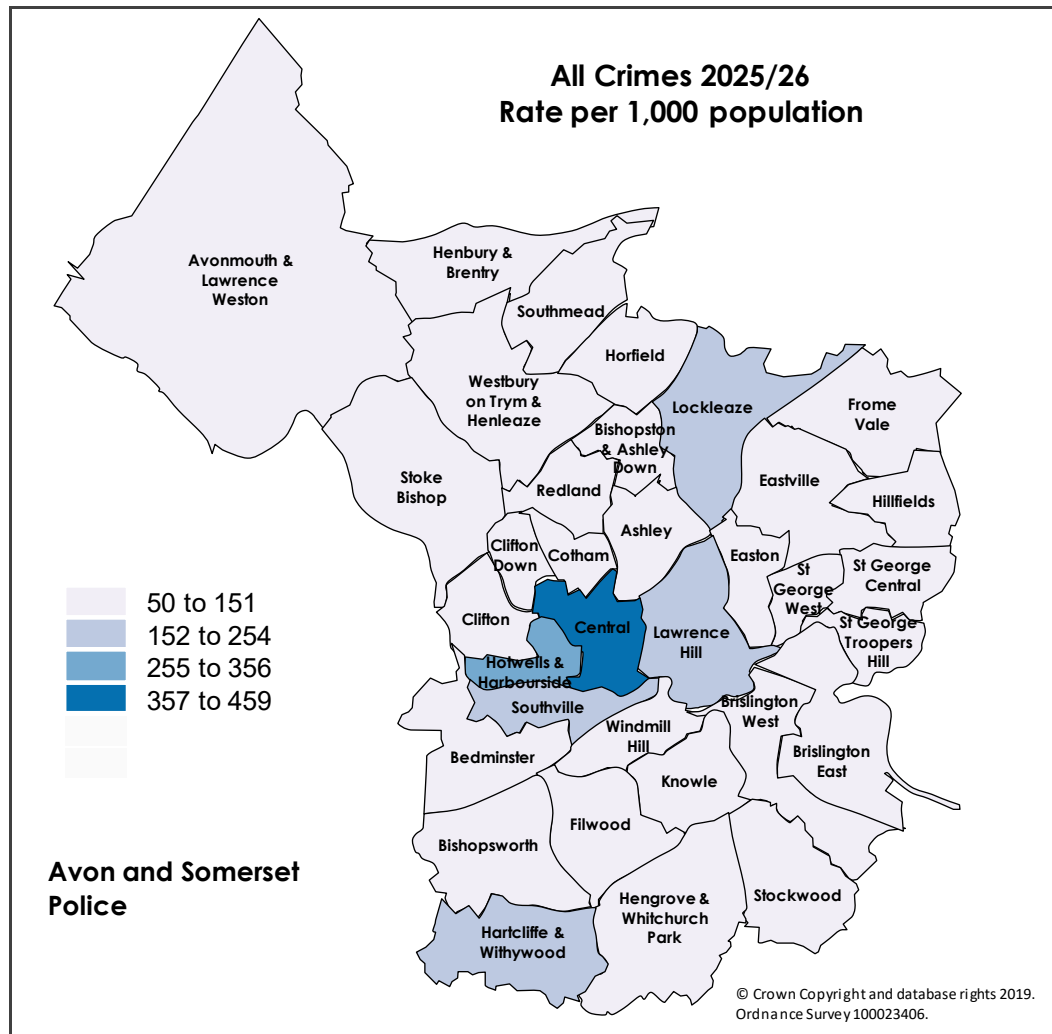


Figure 2: Rate per 1,000 population of all recorded crimes 2025/26. Source: Avon and Somerset Police

Violence against the person (VAP) and Hate Crime

As the largest contributor to total crime (of all the crime types) VAP consists of a number of categories including murder, manslaughter, assault, threats to kill and harassment. There were 24,244 recorded VAP crimes in 2025/26, an increase of 3.9% on the previous year, equal to 902 additional crimes.

Equalities data: Police data for 2025/26 shows an almost equal split between male (49.4%) and female (50.6%) victims. This is Police data where gender is known / recorded. Data is based on a count of victims (i.e. not multiple violence against the same person).

There were 3,291 recorded hate crimes in 2025/26 an increase of 12.4% when compared to the previous year. All categories of hate crime experienced an increase compared to 2024/25.

Religion or belief hate crime recorded the biggest increase (47.1%) followed by gender hate crime (23.0%). 67% of hate crime in 2025/26 was recorded on the basis of racial prejudice, followed by sexual orientation (10.6%) and disability (7.7%).

Quality of Life Survey

In 2024/25, 24.0% of residents across Bristol said fear of crime affects their day-to-day life, higher than the previous year (21.4%). Levels of concern are significantly higher for people living in the 10% most deprived areas (40.8%), a deprivation gap of 16.8% compared with the Bristol average.

By sub-locality, fear of crime is highest in the Inner City (33.2%), followed by North and West Outer areas of Bristol (27.1%) and lowest in the North and West Inner areas of Bristol (11.7%). By ward, fear of crime is highest in Lawrence Hill (51.9%) followed by Hartcliffe & Withywood (41.5%) and Hengrove and Whitchurch Park (37.5%). People with the lowest fear of crime live in Clifton (5.3%) and Clifton Down (7.3%) (Figure 3).

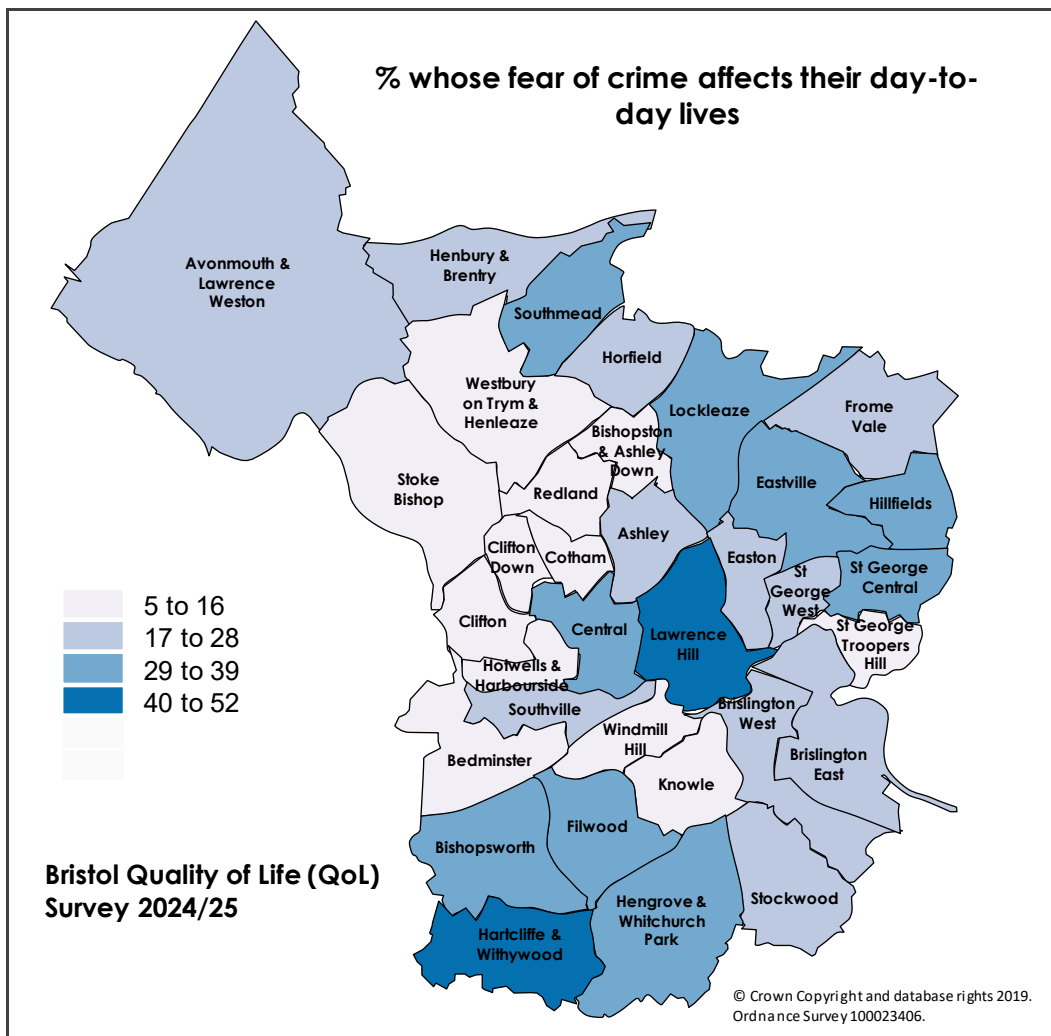


Figure 3: Fear of crime affecting daily life; Source: Quality of Life 2024/25

Fear of crime is significantly worse than average in some equalities groups including residents of Asian ethnicity (38.6%) and disabled people (34.7%).

Nearly 43% of residents (42.7%) feel anti-social behaviour (ASB) is a problem locally, higher than the previous year (41%). This rises to 71.0% for residents living in the 10% most deprived areas compared to 16.4% for residents living in the 10% least deprived areas. By ward, residents living in Hartcliffe & Withywood (73.3%) and Filwood (68.8%) feel anti-social behaviour is much more of an issue than residents living in Clifton (13.3%) and Westbury-on-Trym and Henleaze (15.0%) (Figure 4).

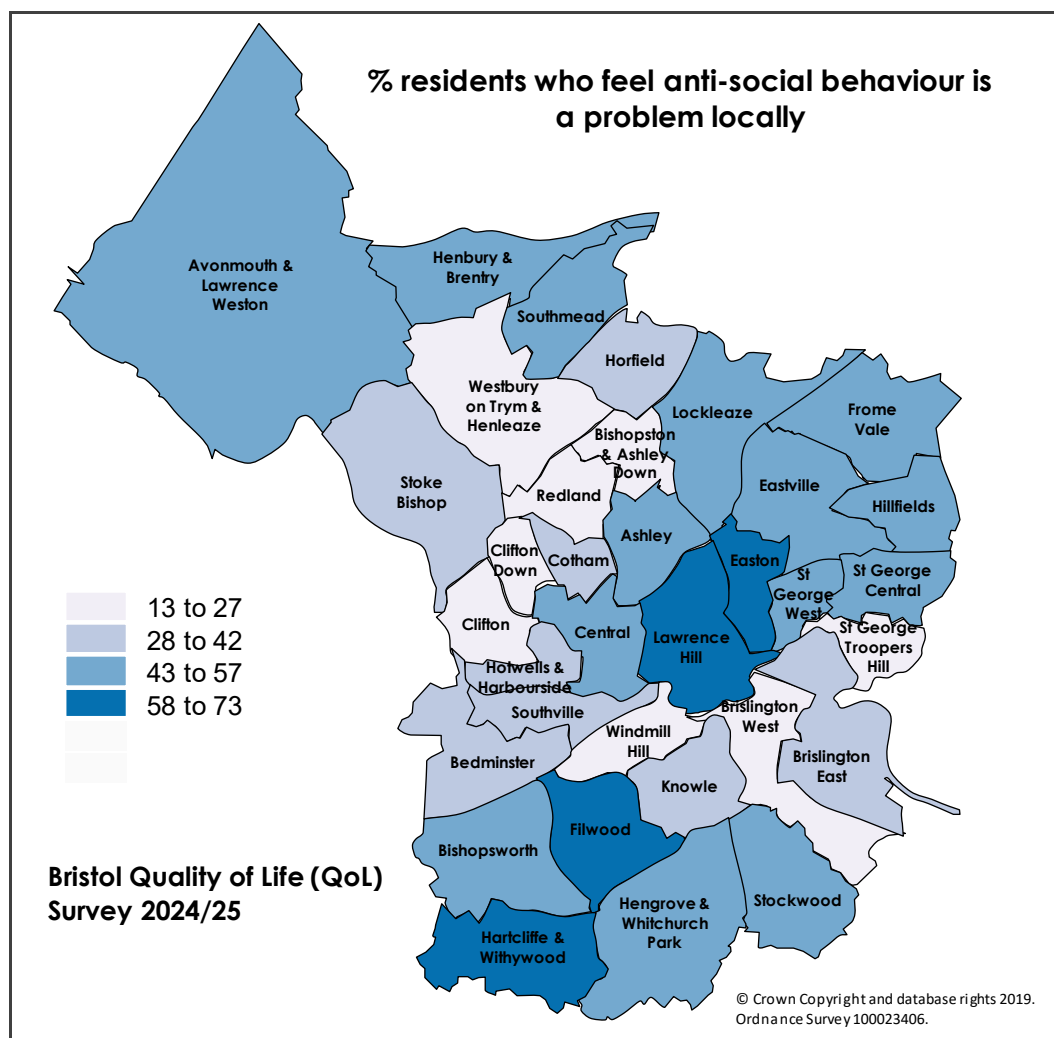


Figure 4: % who feel anti-social behaviour is a problem locally; Source: Quality of Life 2024/25.

Residents of mixed / multiple ethnicity (51%), single parents (50.3%) and disabled people (50.0%) feel anti-social behaviour is more of a problem locally than other equalities groups.

Anti-Social Behaviour

According to the police definition of anti-social behaviour¹ (ASB) there were 11,034 incidents in 2025/26, an increase on the previous year of 1,778 incidents (+19.2%). There was an increase in the Environmental (75.5%), Personal (30.4%) and Nuisance (10.4%) categories of incident.

Nuisance incidents (e.g. rowdy or inconsiderate neighbours) accounted for 76.6% (8,447) of reported ASB. Personal ASB incidents (e.g. vandalism, begging, street drinking) account for

¹ Other incidents may be recorded under other crime types e.g. Public Order

14.6% of incidents and Environmental ASB incidents (e.g. littering, rubbish dumping) account for 5.3% of incidents (Figure 5).

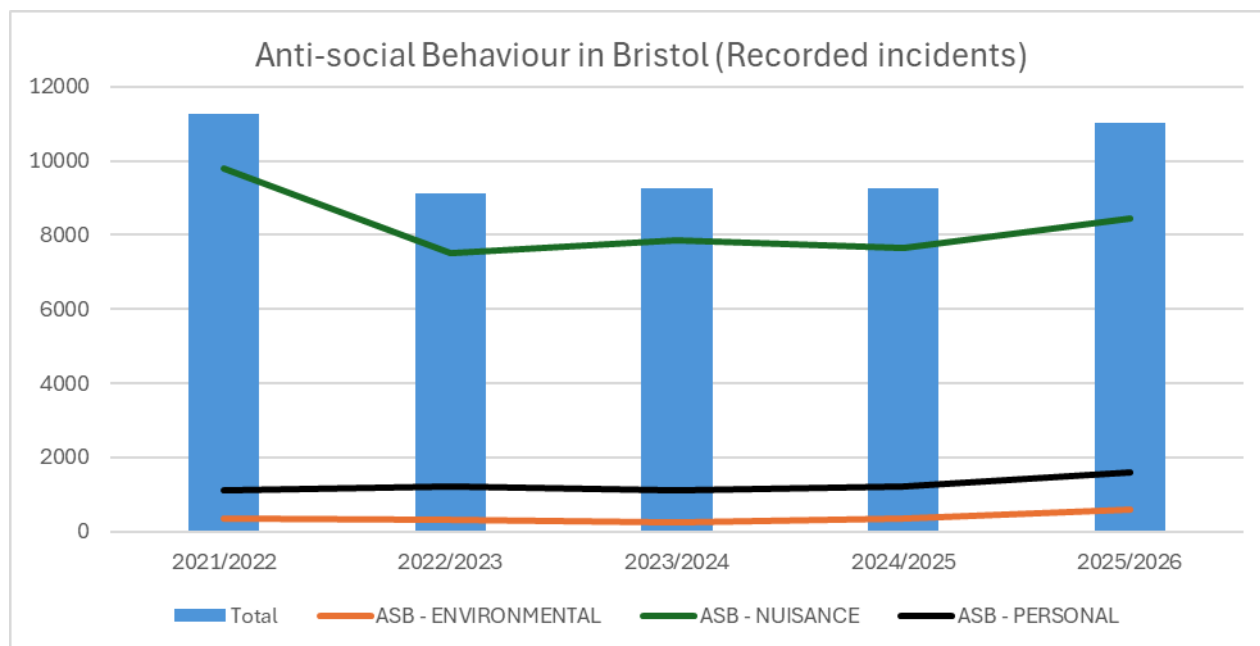


Figure 5: ASB incidents in Bristol by financial year. Source: Avon and Somerset Police

Within Bristol, the highest level of reported ASB incidents was in Central ward which accounted for 20.3% (2,238) of all incidents. Lawrence Hill (873) and Ashley (630) had the next highest number of incidents whilst the lowest number of incidents were recorded in St George Troopers Hill (40), Redland (76) and Bishopston & Ashley Down (80).

Further data / links:

- Open data: [Crime and Policing in England, Wales and Northern Ireland](#)

Covid-19 impact:

The pandemic has had a notable effect on the trends, patterns and nature of crimes. An increase in domestic abuse flagged offences was recorded during 2020. Increases in anti-social behaviour were measured in certain parks and open spaces. There was a rise in hate crime, coinciding with multiple events and campaigns which took place during the pandemic. Owing to the closure of night-time economy businesses (nightclubs, pubs and bars), a significant decrease in offences was measured in Central ward. There is a correlation with levels of incidents/ crimes and changes to government guidance on social isolation and lockdown arrangements. This will have a consequence in future benchmarking analysis of crime trends.

Date updated: April 2026

Date of next update: April 2027