

Justice and Defence

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Justice and Defence

- There were 105,840 headline offences in 2002 of which 38% were detected.
- In 2002, 85% of homicide victims were male.
- In 2001, of the 12,841 arrested for drink/driving, 53% were convicted.
- The number of prisoners increased by 28% between 1997 and 2001.
- In 2002, there were 40 times as many male as female prisoners.
- The numbers in the permanent Defence Force have decreased by 17% since 1995.

Introduction

The statistics in this chapter relate to a number of aspects of justice and defence. They have been obtained from the reports of the Garda Síochána, the Department of Justice, Equality & Law Reform, the Courts Service, the Prison Service, the Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner and the Defence Forces.

Crime figures up to 1999 reflect a former classification of crimes as indictable/non-indictable. With the introduction of the PULSE information system in the Garda Síochána, a new classification of crimes as headline/non-headline has been introduced. The figures for 2000 onwards refer to the new classification of headline crimes. While this reflects to a large extent what in the past was defined as indictable crime, the terms are not identical and so direct comparisons cannot be made between years prior to 2000 and subsequent years. Caution is required generally in looking at trends in crimes and offences over time, particularly when talking about the number of headline offences. There can be changes in recording rules and enforcement practices, and levels of reporting by the public. There were also changes in the definition of offences.

There were 105,840 headline offences recorded in 2002, of which 38 per cent were detected. This was a substantial increase on 2001 when the corresponding figure was 86,621. The detection rate varied considerably by offence group, ranging from only 20 per cent for burglary, to 81 per cent for homicide.

The number of indictable crimes recorded from 1950 had risen greatly by the end of the century and continues to rise. The average daily number of prisoners in custody has increased significantly from 2,422 in 1997 to 3,112 in 2001.

Table 6.1

The effect of a change in classification from indictable offences to headline offences is outlined in the chapter introduction.

Table 6.3

Statistics for 2002 are provisional/operational and are subject to re-classification between murder and manslaughter on direction of the DPP or during trial.

Table 6.4

Rape Section 4 is a broader definition of the offence than that used in previous legal definitions. The victim may be male or female.

Table 6.7

The figures in this table are based on the 1996 Census results.

Table 6.12

Annual figures refer to the period from 1 August in the previous year to 31 July in the current year.

In some cases, Interim Barring Orders have been granted on foot of an application for Protection Orders and vice versa.

Table 6.13

The figures in this table refer to first instance recommendations only. Figures for decisions on asylum applications granted and refused in any year may pertain to applications received in earlier years.

Table 6.15

Figures as at 31 March. Personnel in the naval forces have been entered at equivalent army rank.

Table 6.1 Indictable/headline offences and murders recorded

Year	Indictable/headline offences recorded	Number of murders
1950	12,231	9
1955	11,531	4
1960	15,375	3
1965	16,736	7
1970	30,756	11
1975	48,387	23
1980	72,782	21
1985	91,285	25
1990	87,658	17
1995	102,484	43
2000	73,276	39
2001	86,621	52
2002	105,840	52

Source: Garda Síochána

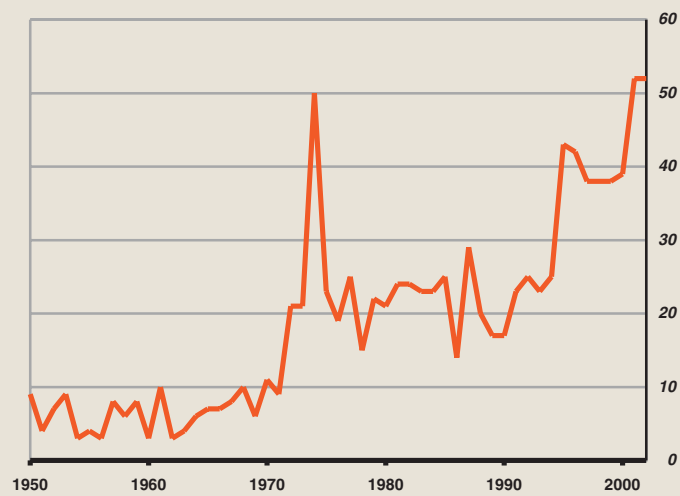
Number of murders recorded

Table 6.2 Headline offences and detection rate, 2002

Offence group	Number		
	Recorded	Detected	Detection rate %
Homicide	114	92	81
Assault	5,688	4,089	72
Sexual	3,147	2,131	68
Arson	1,493	321	22
Drugs	2,934	2,924	100
Larceny	58,100	20,559	35
Burglary	25,511	5,006	20
Robbery	2,945	1,047	36
Fraud	4,270	2,873	67
Other	1,638	1,153	70
Total	105,840	40,195	38

Source: Garda Síochána Summary of Headline Offence Statistics

Table 6.3 Homicide victims by age and sex, 2002

Age	Murder		Manslaughter	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 10	0	0	0	0
11 - 20	5	2	1	0
21 - 30	19	1	3	0
31 - 40	9	2	3	0
41 - 50	8	4	0	0
51 - 60	2	0	1	0
61 - 70	0	0	0	0
71 and over	0	0	0	0
Total	43	9	8	0

Source: Garda Síochána

Victims of assault and sexual offences by sex, 2001

Table 6.4 Victims of assault and sexual offences by sex, 2001

Offence	Number		
	Male	Female	Total
Assault causing harm	2,374	740	3,114
Sexual offences	474	1,166	1,640
Sexual assault	376	672	1,048
Aggravated sexual assault	2	16	18
Sexual offence involving mentally impaired person	1	9	10
Gross indecency	33	0	33
Buggery	31	5	36
Unlawful carnal knowledge	0	78	78
Rape Section 4	31	35	66
Rape of a female	0	335	335
Incest	0	16	16

Source: Garda Síochána Annual Report

Table 6.5 Robberies and aggravated burglaries

Offence	Number				
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Involving firearms	252	221	290	203	232
Robbery with use of firearm	88	61	133	152	171
Aggravated burglary with use of firearm	164	160	157	51	61
Involving use of syringe	893	442	384	361	371
Robbery with use of syringe	590	318	274	320	350
Aggravated burglary with use of syringe	303	124	110	41	21

Source: Garda Síochána Annual Report

Number of robberies and aggravated burglaries

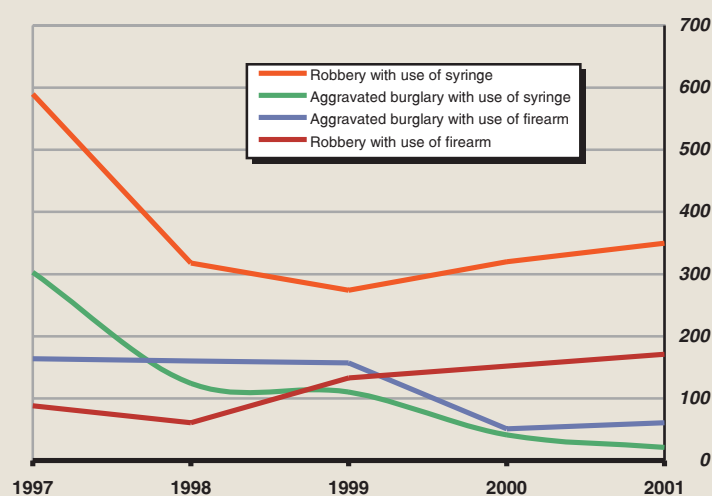


Table 6.6 Arrests and convictions for drink/driving offences

Year	Number of arrests	Number of convictions	Conviction rate
1997	7,541	4,379	58%
1998	8,707	5,756	66%
1999	9,570	5,853	61%
2000	10,433	6,593	63%
2001	12,841	6,790	53%

Source: Garda Síochána Annual Report

Table 6.7 Crime rate per Garda Division

Per 1,000 population

Garda Division	1998	1999	2000	2001
Eastern Region				
Carlow/Kildare	20	19	18	22
Laois/Offaly	11	13	13	16
Longford/Westmeath	17	18	17	19
Louth/Meath	22	20	16	19
Dublin Metropolitan Region				
Eastern	28	26	24	22
North Central	147	139	124	134
Northern	22	20	20	23
South Central	124	113	97	106
Southern	30	27	24	28
Western	25	24	23	32
Northern Region				
Cavan/Monaghan	10	10	9	13
Donegal	10	11	8	11
Sligo/Leitrim	13	13	15	16
South Eastern Region				
Tipperary	11	11	10	14
Waterford/Kilkenny	19	21	20	23
Wexford/Wicklow	16	18	16	18
Southern Region				
Cork City	29	26	21	24
Cork North	14	12	10	13
Cork West	10	11	9	11
Kerry	12	11	10	13
Limerick	19	18	17	21
Western Region				
Clare	12	10	8	16
Galway West	16	15	13	21
Mayo	8	9	9	11
Roscommon/Galway East	9	9	8	10

Source: Garda Síochána Annual Report

Table 6.8 Numbers in each rank of the Garda Síochána

Year	Number				
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Commissioner ranks	12	13	13	13	13
Chief Superintendents	44	46	46	46	47
Superintendents	163	168	168	169	170
Inspectors	263	262	263	293	289
Sergeants	1,844	1,866	1,876	1,897	1,933
Gardaí	8,462	8,880	9,092	9,222	9,362
Total	10,788	11,235	11,458	11,640	11,814

Source: Garda Síochána Annual Report

Table 6.9 Average daily number of prisoners in custody

Institution	Number				
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Arbour Hill	139	139	138	139	135
Castlereagh	25	109	195	190	186
Cloverhill	–	–	–	213	374
Cork	268	262	271	267	274
Curragh	72	94	93	94	98
Fort Mitchel	101	101	100	89	95
Limerick (male)	132	182	226	225	171
Limerick (female)	12	12	14	13	14
Loughan House	70	48	56	66	72
Midlands	–	–	–	–	241
Mountjoy (male)	650	729	826	723	504
Mountjoy (female)	51	59	70	59	82
Portlaoise	164	155	148	167	145
St. Patrick's	208	187	194	193	206
Shanganagh Castle	48	41	39	28	27
Shelton Abbey	47	47	46	25	27
Training Unit	85	85	87	89	89
Wheatfield	350	360	368	368	372
Total	2,422	2,610	2,871	2,948	3,112

Source: Irish Prison Service Annual Report

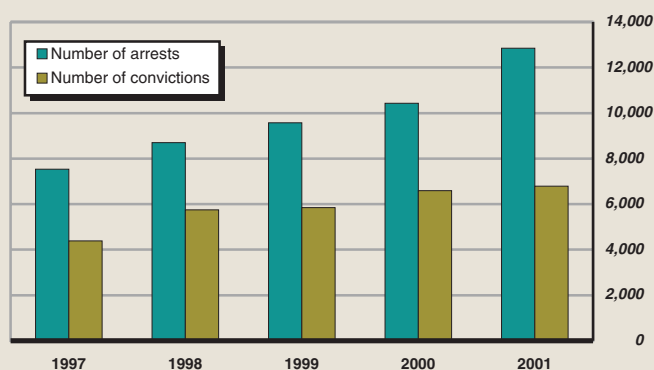
Number of arrests and convictions for drink/driving offences

TABLE 6.10

TABLE 6.11

Table 6.10 Prisoners in custody by age and sex, 1 June 2001

Number

Age	Male	Female	Total
15 - 16	20	5	25
17 - 20	438	8	446
21 - 24	572	21	593
25 - 29	573	14	587
30 - 39	575	9	584
40 - 49	246	4	250
50 and over	215	5	220
Total	2,639	66	2,705

Source: Irish Prison Service Annual Report

Table 6.11 Prisoners by length of sentence and sex, 1 June 2001

Number

Sentence	Male	Female	Total
Life	114	4	118
10 years or more	194	0	194
5 up to 10 years	602	9	611
3 up to 5 years	465	12	477
2 up to 3 years	248	6	254
1 up to 2 years	441	14	455
6 - 12 months	355	12	367
under 6 months	220	9	229
Total	2,639	66	2,705

Source: Irish Prison Service Annual Report

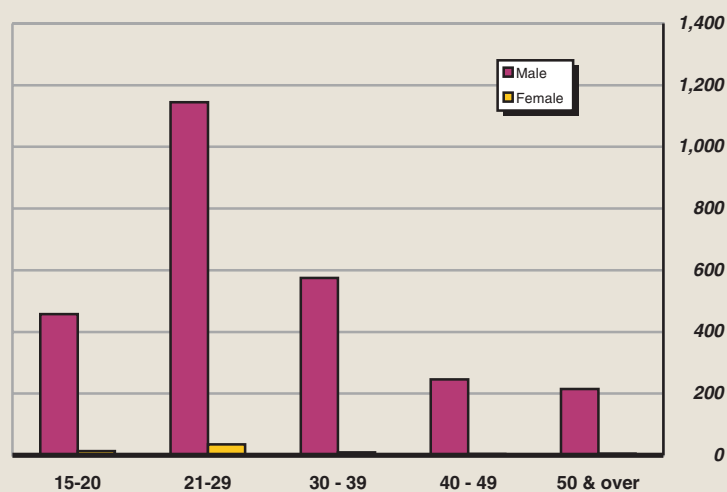
Age and sex profile of prisoners in custody, 1 June 2001

Table 6.12 Applications under the Domestic Violence Act

	Number				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Barring orders					
Applications	4,792	4,668	4,908	4,470	4,067
Granted	2,004	2,219	2,319	2,067	1,740
Protection orders					
Applications	4,409	3,619	4,381	4,263	3,677
Granted	3,474	3,390	3,467	3,711	3,248
Safety orders					
Applications	1,779	2,039	2,336	2,903	2,814
Granted	837	970	988	1,232	1,187
Interim barring orders					
Applications	733	1,120	506	1,159	852
Granted	677	1,002	415	1,007	706

Source: Courts Service Annual Report

TABLE 6.12

TABLE 6.13

Table 6.13 Details of asylum applications

	Number		
Year	Applications	Granted asylum	Refused asylum
1998	4,626	128	1,202
1999	7,724	166	4,737
2000	10,938	211	6,282
2001	10,325	458	6,501
2002	11,634	893	7,469

Source: Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner

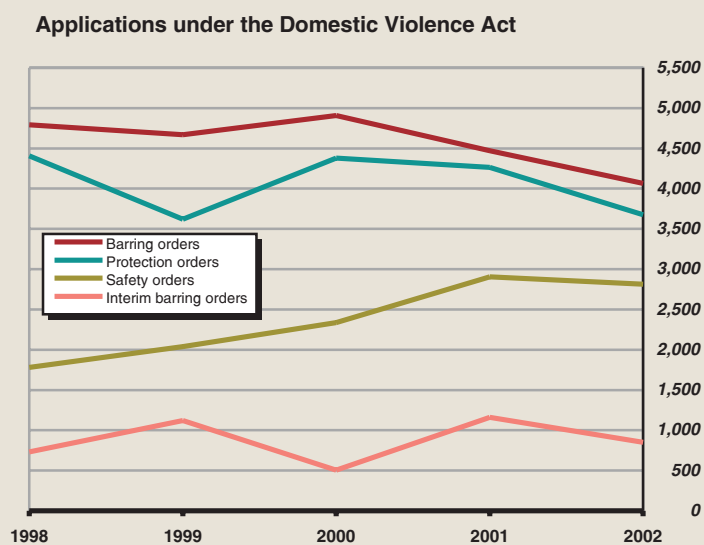


Table 6.14 Defence Forces (permanent and reserve)

Year	Number	
	Permanent Defence Force	Reserve Defence Force
1960	8,965	24,569
1965	8,199	21,946
1970	8,574	20,253
1975	12,059	17,221
1980	13,383	19,249
1985	13,778	16,358
1990	13,233	15,982
1995	12,742	16,188
2000	10,958	13,967
2001	10,675	13,076
2002	10,559	13,365

Source: Defence Forces

TABLE 6.14

Persons granted asylum

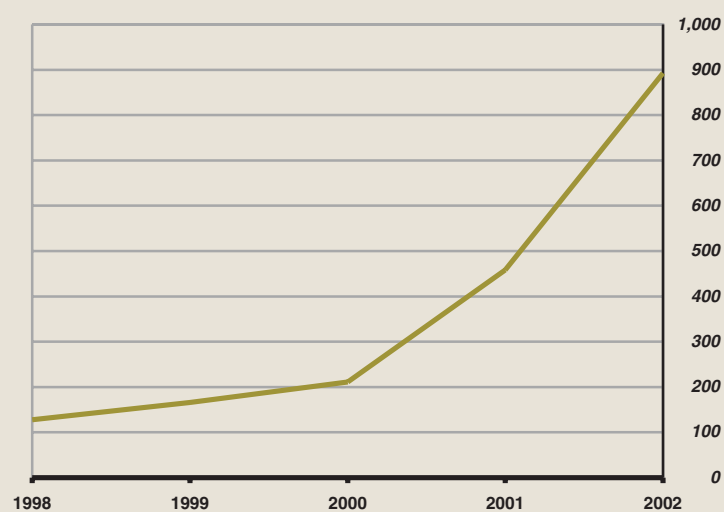


Table 6.15 Numbers in each rank of the Defence Forces

Rank	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Commissioned Officers	1,346	1,296	1,246	1,243	1,270
Lieutenant-General	1	1	1	1	1
Major-General	3	2	3	3	3
Brigadier-General	8	9	7	8	9
Colonel	38	36	32	37	38
Lieutenant-Colonel	133	133	130	131	140
Commandant	429	434	444	440	442
Captain	486	434	392	355	327
Lieutenant	183	176	165	174	211
2nd Lieutenant	65	71	72	94	99
Non-Commissioned Officers	4,289	4,102	4,117	3,985	3,962
Sergeant-Major	43	40	45	48	49
Battalion Quartermaster-Sergeant	50	46	48	51	48
Company Sergeant	235	229	236	248	265
Company Quartermaster-Sergeant	315	293	273	258	279
Sergeant	1,403	1,346	1,336	1,291	1,354
Corporal	2,243	2,148	2,179	2,089	1,967
Private	5,715	5,715	5,476	5,296	5,194
Cadet	84	96	119	108	133
Total Permanent Defence Force	11,434	11,209	10,958	10,632	10,559
Total Reserve Defence Force	14,854	14,514	13,967	13,097	13,365
Reserve of Officers (First Line)	215	203	194	179	186
Reserve of Men (First Line)	293	280	283	287	267
Reserve (Second Line) All Ranks	14,346	14,031	13,490	12,631	12,912

Source: Defence Forces

TABLE 6.15

Numbers in the Defence Forces

