

YOS Violence Update

September 2025

Official Sensitive - Information Only

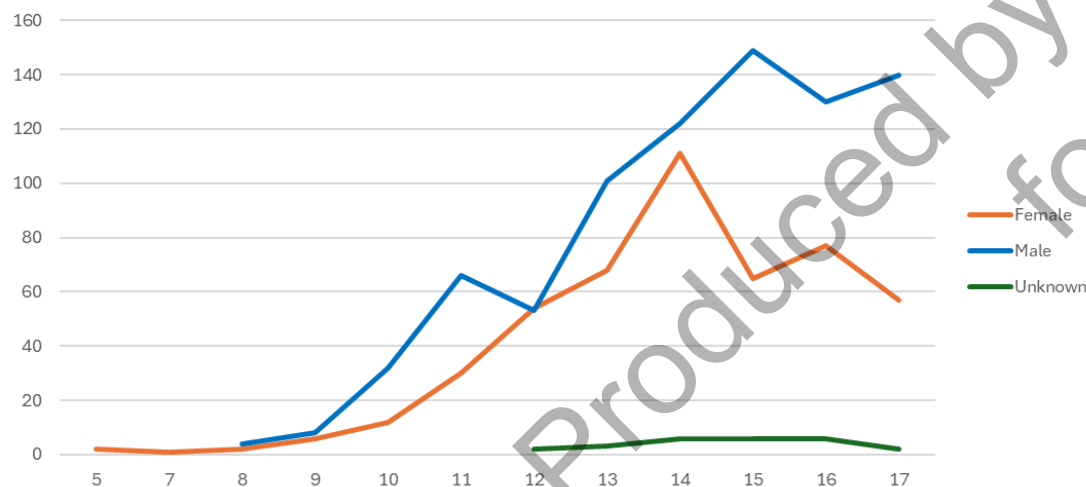
Within the last 12 months (05/09/2024-05/09/2025) there have been 36,594 Violence Against the Person offences recorded by Staffordshire Police; this accounts for 42% of offences. Of those violent offences 37% are domestic related.

For all violent offences mentioned above there were 32,594 identified suspects/offenders. 4,781 were under 18 at the time of the offence (15%). For Stoke only (based on the suspect home addresses) there were 1,319. Therefore, Stoke offenders/suspects accounted for 28% of all under 18s.

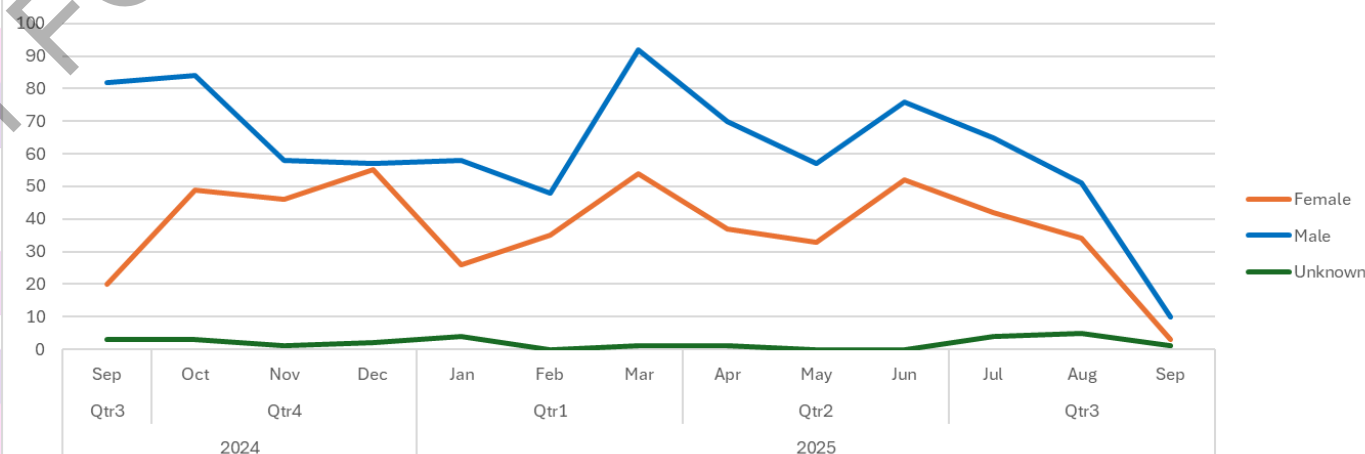
When looking at just Stoke, 15% of all offenders were under 18. Within the under 18's the largest number of offenders were towards the older ages. 14-year-olds accounted for the largest group (18%), followed by 15-year-olds (16.7%), 16-year-olds (16.2%) and 17-year-olds (15.1%). 87% of the under 18 offenders were 12 or above.

61% of offenders under 18 were male. This is a much smaller proportion than what we see for Serious Violence and Knife Crime and crime in general (which is around 82% of offenders being male – however this is likely to be impacted on domestic incidents whereas under 16's would not class as domestic offence and therefore only a small proportion of this cohort would qualify for it being classed as a domestic incident

Number of Stoke-on-Trent Offenders by Age and Gender (last 12 months)



Month of Offending for Stoke-on-Trent Offenders Under 18 by Gender (last 12 months)
05/09/2024-05/09/2026



Relationship to Victims

Location - Of the 1,319 under 18 offenders in Stoke, 557 lived in the same neighbourhood as their victim (42%) (33% in the same RIA). The cohort of offenders/suspects home addresses were evenly split between Stoke North and Stoke South.

Gender: 55% of victims (where an offender was under 18) were female.

803 of the offenders offended against someone of the same gender as them (61%).

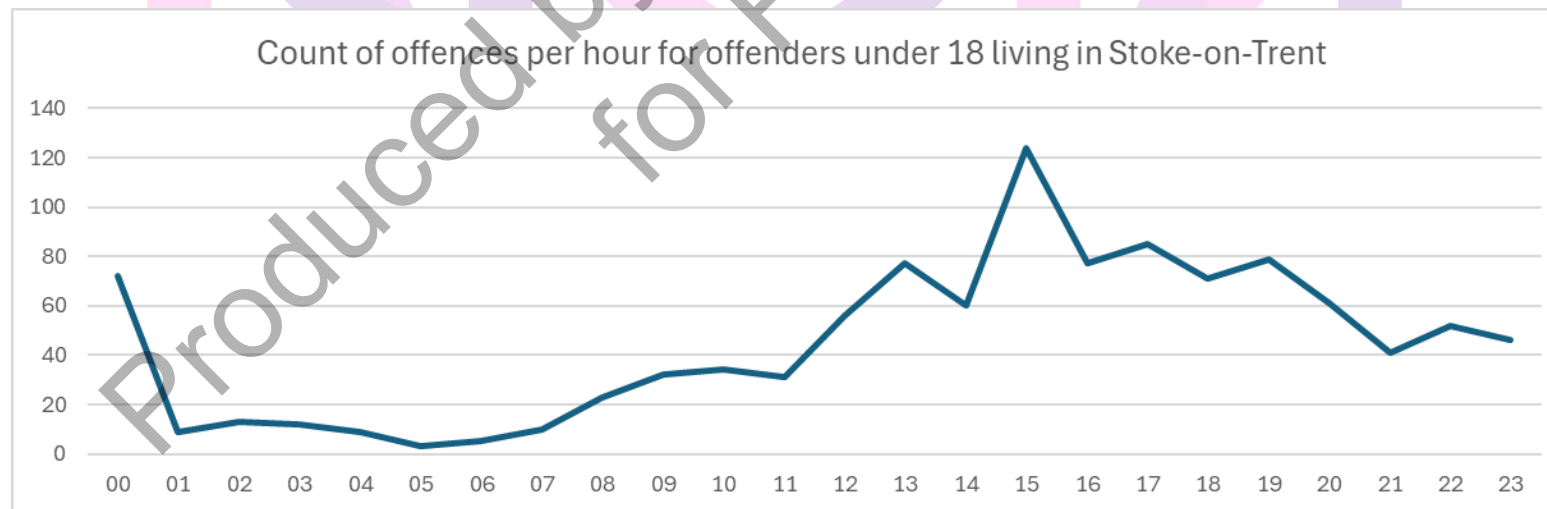
54% of Male offenders offended against another male (808) with 45% (360) offending against a female (8 missing details)

75% of Female offenders offended against another female (486) whilst 24% (117) offended against a male (6 missing details)

(It should be noted that the numbers of victims and offenders will not correlate due to there being several incidents where there may be multiple suspects and one victim or vice versa).

Age: The majority of offenders offended against individuals of a similar age (18% offended against someone the same age, 19% against someone who was one year older/younger and 8% against someone 2 years older/younger). The age gaps then broadened by showing much larger age gaps of 20-29-years which could suggest offences against relatives rather than other juveniles/peers.

Looking at victims under 18 (this is different to the victims discussed above as this accounts for all offenders regardless of age) there were 35,970 identified; 5,490 were under 18 with 1,628 in Stoke based on home address (30%). 828 of identified under 18 victims in Stoke were female (51%).



Offence types/Characteristics

Risk flags:

Where a suspect has been identified and under 18 at the time of offence (1,319 suspects) the following flags have been noted.

Domestic Abuse Qualifier: 156 (12%)

Town Centre: 114 (9%)

Online flag: 182 (14%)

Alcohol Qualifier: 12 (1%)

No child sexual exploitation flags

Hate Crime: 32 (2%)

Vulnerability flag: 46 (3%)

Repeats – 700 of 4870 repeat offenders were under 18 of these 199 were from Stoke-on-Trent. Of those repeats 84 had 3 or more offences connected to them, 34 offenders had between 5-10 offences each with 3 offenders having 11-13 offences each in the space of one year. Therefore, we can see that repeat offenders do have an impact on the number of offences seen for under 18s. Of the repeat offenders 65 (33%) were also recorded as a victim in at least one violent offence in the same year.

There were 142 repeat victims under the age of 18. Of the 142 41 (29%) were also named as a suspect in a violent incident in the same year.

Serious Violence (excluding Knife Crime) – Overall for offences which have identified an under 18 suspect there has been no change in the number of offences seen since last year (September to September), however in Stoke alone there has been reductions. Both Stoke North and Stoke South have seen 2 less offences each equating to -8% for North and -11% for Stoke South. Stoke North remains the largest for figures with 24 offences in the last year. Stoke South is fourth highest behind Tamworth and East Staffs.

Knife Crime – Overall for under 18's have seen a 13% decrease in Knife Crime in the last year with Stoke South remaining the same but Stoke North seeing a 31% decrease (5 less crimes) – When removing domestic this reduces to -27% 4 crimes)

Possession of weapon – Overall under 18's have seen a 25% increase. Both Stoke North and Stoke South have seen an increase of 14 offences (Stoke North from 25 -> 39 – 56%) (Stoke South from 26 -> 40 – 54%). When removing domestic offences Stoke North decreases slightly (46%) and Stoke South increases (60%)

Less Serious Violent Crime with Injury	390
Sec 47 ABH	371
Constable Sec 47 ABH	15
Racially Aggravated ABH	3
Emergency worker Sec 47 ABH	1
More Serious Violent Crime with Injury	58
Sec 18 GBH	30
Non-fatal strangulation	17
Sec 20 Malicious wounding	10
Other Violence against the person offences	1
Other Violence against the person	871
Common Assault Sec 39	366
Harassment	353
Malicious Communications	37
Constable Assault	36
Stalking	34
Racially Aggravated Harassment	18
Threats to kill	13
Other Violence against the person offences	5
Controlling/Coercive Behaviour	4
Racially Aggravated Common Assault	2
Abduction Of Child	1
Cruelty / Neglect or Abandonment - Child or Young Person	1
Modern Slavery	1

Relationship to Victims – Additional Request

Following the board meeting it was asked if the time of offending and when offences occurred altered when we consider the age gap between victims. When an age gap is low it is highly likely an under 18 offender is offending against a peer, someone from school, or maybe a sibling who is close in age. However, when the age gap is then larger the relationship may change. When all victims were included (shown by the top two graphs), we saw a peak of offences between 3-4pm which is as schools are finishing and an increase towards the end of each term time – corroborating the idea that offences occur between peers, therefore, it was requested to look at when the age gap is larger to see if this impacts the times of offences.

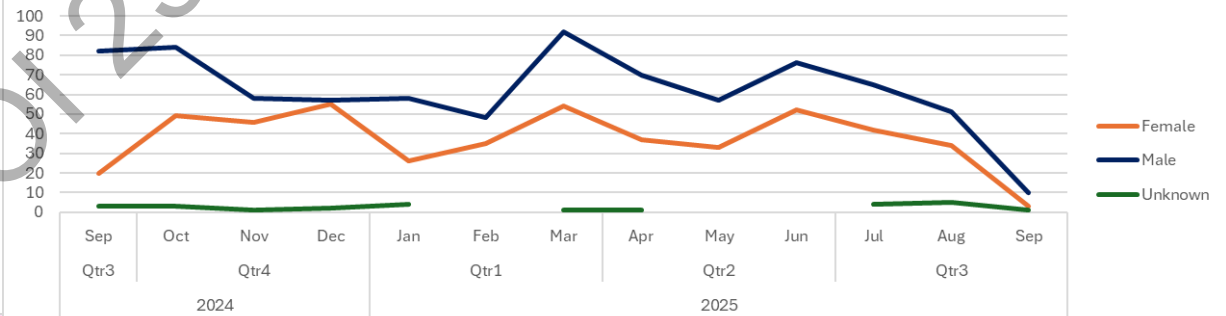
When we look at offenders offending against victims who are 10+ year older (which could potentially be teachers, officers, carers and with larger age gaps – parents/guardians/older relatives) we do see a change in offence times with a peak now being seen later in the day, there is still an increase from 3-4 but this is not as big as the peak seen between 5-6pm (a time when most under 18's would have returned to their homes from school).

It was also noted in terms of when in the year offences happened, when the younger age differences were removed there are some changes. There are still some peaks seen towards the end of terms, with a peak in December for females; but then no other noticeable peak (just a usual increase seen in summer months). For males we do not see the same peaks, except for in March and a new spike in July; showing that the peaks shown in the first graph are heavily impacted by offending during school months when you include peers and less so when peer offending is removed.

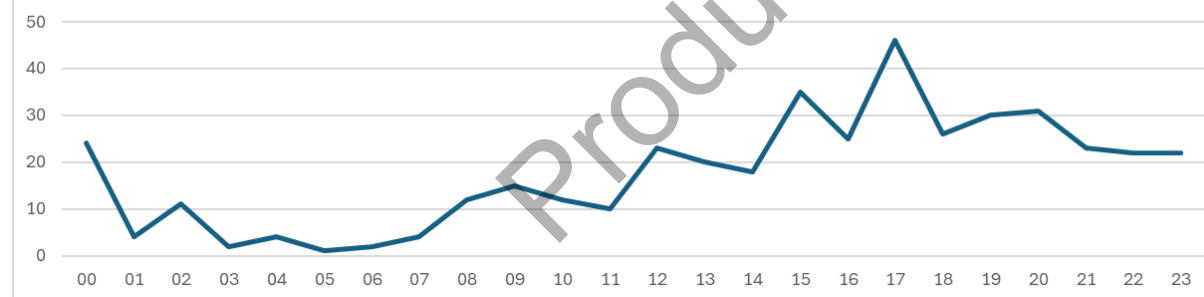
Count of offences per hour for offenders under 18 living in Stoke-on-Trent



Count of offences per month for offenders under 18 when the victim is 10 (or more) years older than the suspect



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