



Report on Crime 1977

Report for the year ended 31 December, 1977,
Commissioner, Garda Síochána, to the Minister for Justice.

GARDA SÍOCHANA,
HEADQUARTERS,
DUBLIN, 8.

JULY 1978.

Dublin
Published by the Stationery Office

To be purchased from the
Government Publications Sale Office,
G.P.O. Arcade, Dublin

or through any bookseller.

(Pri. No. 7045)

Price 60p

Produced & Printed at Garda H. Qrs. D.8.

Report
on Crime 1977

Report for the year ended 31 December, 1977,
Commissioner, Garda Síochána, to the Minister for Justice.

GARDA SÍOCHANA,
HEADQUARTERS,
DUBLIN, 8.
JULY 1978.

CONTENTS

	Page
Foreword	1 - 2
INDICTABLE OFFENCES	
Recorded and detected 1968-1977	3
Recorded and detected 1976-1977	3
Dublin and the rest of the state compared	4
Recorded and detected by Garda Divisions, 1977	7
Known to the Gardai 1977	10 - 19
Value of property stolen and recovered, 1977	20
OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON	
Recorded and detected 1973-1977	4
Murder and Manslaughter	4 - 5
Analysis of murders	21
Traffic Fatalities	5
OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY WITH VIOLENCE	
Recorded and detected 1973-1977	5
Robbery, Arson and Malicious Damage	5
Analysis of Armed Robbery	22
OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY WITHOUT VIOLENCE (LARCENIES ETC).	
Larcenies	5
Recorded and detected 1973-1977	6
OTHER INDICTABLE OFFENCES	
Recorded and detected 1973-1977	6
Age Groups - Convicted persons	8
Non-Indictable Offences - Proceedings and persons	23 - 24
Crime Prevention	25
Juvenile Liaison Officer Scheme	26
Drugs	27 - 29
Sub Aqua	30
Dog Handling Unit	30
'999' Emergency Service	30
Weights and Measures	30
Road Traffic	30
Public Relations and Press Office	31
Traffic Offences - Drink and Driving	32 - 33
'Fine on the Spot' notices - Parking Violations	34
'Fine on the Spot' notices - Non display of licence disc	35

Commissioner of the Garda Síochána
to the Minister for Justice.

REPORT ON CRIME, 1977

In 1977, sixty two thousand, nine hundred and forty six (62,946) indictable offences were recorded, showing an increase of eight thousand, five hundred and sixty four (8,564) or 15.7% over the figure for the previous year. Increases were recorded in all four crime groups and these were most significant in relation to offences against property with violence and offences against property without violence (larcenies etc.).

The overall detection rate at 38.8% revealed a decrease of 2.5% on that recorded in 1976.

Of the total crime recorded in the State thirty five thousand, eight hundred and ninety nine (35,899) or 57% occurred in the Dublin Metropolitan Area where the detection rate was 33.2%.

Offences against the person totalled 2,063 or an increase of 349 (20.3%) on the previous year. The detection rate in this group was 87.34% as compared with 90.20% in 1976. Of the total crimes in this group 850 or 41.17% were recorded in the Dublin Metropolitan Area.

This crime group includes murder, attempts to murder and rape. There were 25 cases of murder and 22 of these were detected, as against 19 recorded and 14 detected in 1976. Attempts to murder numbered 6 and 4 of these were detected, while in 1976 the figures were 6 recorded and 3 detected.

There were 60 reported cases of rape with 45 detections; in 1976 there were 32 cases with 25 detections.

Offences against property with violence numbered 23,154, an increase of 2,251 or 10.77% on the figure for the previous year. The detection rate for this group was 41% as compared with 43.78% in 1976. Of the total crime recorded in this group 12,678 or 54.76% occurred in the Dublin Metropolitan Area. This crime group includes armed robbery, aggravated burglary and robbery.

There were 236 cases of armed robbery as compared with 186 in 1976. Cases of aggravated burglary numbered 259, and 45 of these involved the use of firearms. There were 817 cases of robbery as against 723 in the previous year.

Offences against property without violence (larcenies etc.) amounted to 37,465, an increase of 5,925 or 18.8% on the figure for the previous year. The detection rate in this group was 34.5% as compared with 36.72% in 1976. Of the total crime recorded in this group 22,195 or 59.24% were committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area.

Larcenies of motor cars numbered 344 as compared with 360 in the previous year. Larcenies from unattended vehicles at 14,500 showed an increase of 2,940 or (25.43%) on the figure for the previous year.

The total value of all property stolen amounted to £8,068,617. 00 and of this property valued £1,014,254. 00 (12.6%) was recovered.

The continued upward trend in cases of burglary and larceny from unattended vehicles again demonstrated the necessity for the public to take greater precautions to safeguard their property.

Towards the end of the year the increase in Garda manpower and the deployment of the additional personnel available for uniform and crime duties together with the favourable response of the public to crime prevention advice brought about a significant decrease in robberies, particularly those involving the use of firearms.

On behalf of the Garda Síochána, I wish to express my thanks to the general public for the good will and co-operation given to the force during the year and to put on record that their help has proved of immeasurable value.

I gratefully acknowledge the help and co-operation received from the Press and compliment them on the responsible and fair manner in which they reported events.

I should also like to extend thanks to Radio Telefis Eireann for their co-operation and assistance during the past year.

P. M. Conaghan

Commissioner.

INDICTABLE OFFENCES

Indictable offences which came to the notice of the Garda Síochána during the year ended 31st December, 1977, numbered 62,946 as compared with 54,382 in the year ended 31st December, 1976, an increase of 15.7%.

OFFENCES RECORDED AND DETECTED 1968-1977

Year	Recorded	Detected	Percentage Detected
1968	23,104	14,227	61%
1969	25,972	15,879	61%
1970	30,756	15,242	50%
1971	37,781	17,518	46%
1972	39,237	17,047	43.4%
1973	38,022	18,094	47.6%
1974	40,096	19,287	48%
1975	48,387	21,011	43.4%
1976	54,382	22,482	41.3%
1977	62,946	24,439	38.8%

The figures for Indictable Offences are broken down in the following table.

	Offences Recorded		INCREASE	Offences Detected	
	1977	1976		1977 %	1976 %
Offences Against The Person	2,063	1,714	348 (20.3%)	87.3	90.3
Offences Against Property with Violence	23,154	20,903	2,251 (10.8%)	41	43.8
Larcenies etc.	37,465	31,540	5,878 (18.6%)	34.5	36.7
Other Indictable Offences	264	225	39 (17.3%)	84.8	89.3
Totals	62,946	54,382	8,516 (15.7%)	38.8	41.3

In the Dublin Metropolitan Area, 35,899 Indictable Offences were recorded, an increase of 6,027 (20.2%) on the figure for 1976. Of the total crimes recorded in the State 57% occurred in the Dublin Metropolitan Area.

The Dublin Metropolitan Area has an estimated population of 829,660 or 28% of the total population of the State.

DUBLIN AND THE REST OF THE STATE COMPARED

Year	Area	Indictable Crime Recorded	% of Total	Number of crimes per 1,000 of population
1977	D.M.A.	35,899	57	43.0
	In the rest of the State	27,047	43	12.6
1976	D.M.A.	29,872	54.9	32.3
	In the rest of the State	24,510	45.1	10.1

DETECTION OF CRIME

The overall detection rate in 1977 was 38.8% (41.3% in 1976). The detection rate varies from 87.3% in respect of Offences Against the Person to 34.5% in the less serious forms of larceny.

The total number of indictable offences detected was 24,439. Proceedings were taken in 22,612 cases, 1,028 cases were dealt with under the Juvenile Liaison Scheme and the remainder were dealt with by way of the formal caution of juveniles in areas where the Juvenile Liaison Scheme is not in operation and are included in the figure of 1,827 col. 17 of indictable offences table.

OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON (GROUP I)

Murder, Manslaughter, Dangerous Driving Causing Death, Traffic Fatalities, Possession of Firearms with intent to endanger life, assault and related offences comprise this group. In 1977, a total of 2,063 offences were recorded in this group an increase of 20.3% on 1976. The detection rate was 87.3% (90.3% in 1976).

OFFENCES RECORDED AND DETECTED IN THIS GROUP 1973-1977

Year	Recorded	Detected	Percentage Detected
1973	1,655	1,490	90
1974	1,709	1,848	86.8%
1975	1,456	1,298	89.1%
1976	1,714	1,546	90.3%
1977	2,063	1,802	87.3%

The overall figure of 2,063 Offences Against The Person includes 850 (41.2%) committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area where the detection rate was 79% (81.5% in 1976).

MURDER

There were 25 murders in 1977, as compared with 19 in 1976. There were 6 cases of attempted murder.

MANSLAUGHTER

There were 13 cases of manslaughter in 1977, 8 of which arose out of traffic accidents.

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

There were 576 deaths arising from 529 fatal traffic accidents and 8 of these cases were recorded as manslaughter. In 1976 there were 515 traffic fatalities, 12 of which were recorded as manslaughter.

32 persons (28 in 1976) were charged with dangerous driving causing death and 12 persons (16 in 1976) were charged with dangerous driving causing serious bodily injury.

OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY WITH VIOLENCE (GROUP II)

Offences of Burglary, Aggravated Burglary, Robbery, Arson and serious malicious damage to property are included in this Group. A total of 23,154 such offences were recorded in 1977, an increase of 10.8% on 1976 and the detection rate was 41% (43.8% in 1976).

OFFENCES RECORDED AND DETECTED IN THIS GROUP, 1973-1977

Year	Recorded	Detected	Percentage Detected
1973	11,800	5,977	50.7
1974	12,973	6,786	52.3
1975	16,432	7,946	48.4
1976	20,903	9,152	43.8
1977	23,154	9,491	41.

Of the total number of offences in this Group 12,678 (54.8%) were committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area and the detection rate was 43.1% (47.3% in 1976).

ROBBERY

There were 1,053 robberies recorded in 1977, 144 more than in 1976. 236 of these were cases of armed robbery which was an increase of 26.9% on the figure recorded in 1976. Proceedings were taken in 340 cases and the detection rate was 32.3% (40.2% in 1976).

ARSON AND MALICIOUS DAMAGE

There were 770 cases of malicious damage, of which 114 were cases of arson; 355 (46.1%) were detected. In 1976, the total figure was 572 and of these 147 were cases of arson.

Offences of breaking and entering premises, namely, Burglary and Aggravated Burglary amounted to 21,268 of which 8,186 (38.5%) were detected. In 1976, a total of 19,372 offences of this nature were recorded and the detections were 8,055 (41.6%).

LARCENIES ETC. (GROUP III)

Larcenies, forgeries and frauds of various kinds comprise this Group. In 1977, 37,465 such offences were recorded and this was an increase of 5,925 (18.8%) on the figure for 1976.

A total of 12,922 (34.5%) of these offences were detected while the detection rate for 1976 was 36.7%.

OFFENCES RECORDED AND DETECTED IN THIS GROUP, 1973-1977

Year	Recorded	Detected	Percentage Detected
1973	23,567	9,724	41.3
1974	24,345	10,061	41.3
1975	29,362	10,793	36.8
1976	31,540	11,583	36.7
1977	37,465	12,922	34.5

The overall figure of 32,465 offences recorded in this Group includes 22,195 (59.2%) committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area where the detection rate was 5,630 (25.4%). In 1976 the detection rate in the Dublin Metropolitan Area was 28.3%.

The number of larcenies from unattended vehicles, 14,500, was an increase of 2,940 (25%) on the figure for the previous year.

Thefts of motor vehicles, 706, show a decrease of 132 (15.8%) on the figure recorded in 1976.

OTHER INDICTABLE OFFENCES (GROUP IV)

This is a general crime group in which 264 offences were recorded. A total of 224 (84.8%) of these offences were detected.

When compared with 1976, the overall figure shows an increase of 39 (17.3%). Of the total number of offences recorded 176 (66.7%) were committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area and 150 (85.2%) of these were detected.

OFFENCES RECORDED AND DETECTED IN THIS GROUP, 1973-1977

Year	Recorded	Detected	Percentage Detected
1973	1,000	903	90.3
1974	1,069	956	89.4
1975	1,137	974	85.7
1976	225	201	89.3
1977	264	224	84.8

**INDICTABLE OFFENCES RECORDED AND DETECTED BY GARDA DIVISIONS AND FOUR PROVINCIAL
CITY DISTRICTS – YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1977**

	GROUP I Offences Against The Person		GROUP II Offences Against Property with Violence		GROUP III Larcenies, etc.		GROUP IV Other Indictable Offences		Total Indictable Offences	Percentage variation on 1976 figures		Number of detections for 1977	
	Recorded	Detected	Recorded	Detected	Recorded	Detected	Recorded	Detected		Increase	Decrease		
Carlow/Kildare	79	78	652	294	863	432	2	2	1,596	8.0	—	806	(50.5%)
Cavan/Monaghan	47	42	205	103	361	219	5	4	618	14.2	—	368	(59.5%)
Cork East	225	212	2,047	848	2,992	1,482	11	8	5,275	1.3	—	2,550	(48.3%)
Cork West	35	33	288	158	370	243	4	4	697	26.3	—	438	(62.8%)
Donegal	83	65	387	126	491	201	11	11	972	9.5	—	403	(41.5%)
D.M.A.	849	671	12,678	5,469	22,196	5,631	176	150	35,899	20.2	—	11,921	(33.2%)
Galway West	48	41	598	205	882	277	7	5	1,535	24.8	—	528	(34.4%)
Kerry	25	23	238	88	699	277	7	6	969	10.1	—	394	(40.7%)
Leix/Offaly	51	48	243	97	474	288	2	2	770	4.5	—	435	(56.5%)
Limerick	137	129	1,700	681	2,157	884	21	17	4,015	10.2	—	1,711	(42.6%)
Longford/W. Meath	61	60	418	178	843	519	4	4	1,326	12.1	—	761	(57.4%)
Louth/Meath	145	130	1,113	295	1,713	651	7	4	2,978	5.2	—	1,080	(36.3%)
Mayo	49	48	184	88	355	223	—	—	588	35.2	—	359	(61.1%)
Roscommon/Galway E.	24	23	196	114	349	235	2	2	571	13.1	—	374	(65.5%)
Sligo/Leitrim	29	26	228	115	273	182	1	1	531	22.4	—	324	(61.0%)
Tipperary	70	69	582	193	688	339	3	3	1,343	26.5	—	604	(45.0%)
Waterford/Kilkenny	36	35	534	191	739	383	—	—	1,309	22.9	—	624	(47.7%)
Wexford	69	68	863	248	1,021	442	1	1	1,954	6.0	—	759	(38.8%)
Total for the State	2,063	1,802	23,154	9,491	37,465	12,922	264	224	62,946	15.7	—	24,439	(38.8%)
Total, less figures for Dublin	1,213	1,130	10,476	4,022	15,270	7,292	88	74	27,047	10.3	—	12,518	(46.3%)
City Districts													
Cork	113	103	1,533	595	2,233	1,072	8	5	3,887	4.8	—	1,775	(45.7%)
Limerick	92	86	1,176	467	1,668	673	13	9	2,949	6.3	—	1,235	(41.9%)
Galway	20	15	407	100	645	194	2	—	1,074	26.6	—	309	(28.8%)
Waterford	2	2	286	93	365	191	—	—	653	50.8	—	286	(43.8%)

Groups — Convicted Persons, 1977

Age groups of persons convicted, or against whom the charge was held proved and order made without conviction in respect of crimes which were pending on 1st January, 1977.

Under 14 Yrs.	14—17 Yrs.	17—21 Yrs.	Over 21 Yrs.	TOTAL
235	706	833	1,525	3,299

Age groups of persons convicted or against whom the charge was held proved and order made without conviction in respect of crimes which were committed during 1977.

Under 14 Yrs.	14—17 Yrs.	17—21 Yrs.	Over 21 Yrs.	TOTAL
280	1,078	2,011	4,033	7,402

TOTAL: (a) and (b)

Under 14 Yrs.	14—17 Yrs.	17—21 Yrs.	Over 21 Yrs.	TOTAL
515	1,784	2,844	5,558	10,701

1973 — 1977

Year	Under 14 Yrs.	14—17 Yrs.	17—21 Yrs.	Over 21 Yrs.	TOTAL
1973	770	1,974	3,271	5,703	11,718
1974	980	2,200	3,445	5,953	12,578
1975	876	2,434	3,827	6,600	13,737
1976	734	1,888	2,609	5,291	10,522
1977	515	1,784	2,844	5,558	10,701

Juveniles (under 17 years of age) convicted or against whom charge was held proved and order made without convictions

Year	Total Number of Persons Convicted	Juveniles (under 17 years) Convicted	
1973	11,718	2,744	(23.4%)
1974	12,578	3,180	(25.3%)
1975	13,737	3,310	(24.1%)
1976	10,522	2,622	(24.9%)
1977	10,701	2,299	(21.5%)

There were 13,162 cases of indictable offences pending in the District Court and 646 cases awaiting trial on 31st December, 1977, as compared with 10,861 cases pending in the District Court and 807 cases awaiting trial on 31st December, 1976.

INDICTABLE OFFENCES WHICH BECAME KNOWN TO THE GARDAI DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1977

NATURE OF OFFENCES (1)	No. of Offences reported or known (2)	No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were (3)	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES												Still Pending in District Court (16)	Crime for which the perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown. (17)	Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted or against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction,									
			Informations refused (4)	Dealt with on Indictment and (5)-(9)					Committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial (10)	Dealt with Summarily and (11)-(15)							(18)		(19)		(20)		(21)		(22)	
				Commenced	Convicted	Acquitted	Found Insane & incapable of Pleading	Nolle Prosequi entered		Adjourned Sine Die or otherwise disposed of	Convicted	Dismissed	Charge proved & order made without Conviction	Charge Withdrawn			Adjourned Sine Die or otherwise disposed of	Under 14 Years	14 - 17 Years	17 - 21 Years	Above 21 Years	Total				
																							M	F		M
GROUP I																										
Offences Against The Person																										
1. Murder (of persons aged above one year)	25	21		2					3			1		15	1				2	2						
2. Murder (of infants aged one year and under)																										
3. Infanticide	1	1												1												
4. Attempt to Murder	6	3								1				2	1			1		1						
5. Threats, Conspiracy, or Incitement to Murder	1	1							1																	
6. Manslaughter (other than Traffic Fatalities)	5	5		1					1					3					1	1						
7. Manslaughter (Traffic Fatalities)	8	6		3										3	1				3	3						
8. Dangerous Driving Causing Death	33	32		4	1				3			2		22					4	4						
9. Dangerous Driving causing Serious Bodily Harm	12	12	1		1				1	1				8					1	1						
10. Wounding and Other Acts endangering life (Felonies)	98	89		6				1	9	15	4	2		52	1		3	7	8	18						
11. Wounding and other Acts endangering life (Gardai on duty)	6	5								1				4					1	1						
12. Assault, Wounding & other like offences (Misdemeanours)	783	628		17	2		1		9	217	38	3	9	11	321	16		19	1	68	168	5	261			
13. Assault, Wounding and other like offences (Gardai on Duty)	769	747		26	1				31	233	18	11	9	8	410	3		7	3	53	189	13	265			
14. Endangering Railway Passengers	1																									

INDICTABLE OFFENCES WHICH BECAME KNOWN TO THE GARDAI DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1977

(1) NATURE OF OFFENCES	(2) No. of Offences reported or known	(3) No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were Commenced	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES												(16) Still Pending in District Court	(17) Crimes for which the perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown.	Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted or against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction.											
			(4) Informations refused	Dealt with on Indictment and					(10) Committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial	Dealt with Summarily and							(18) Under 14 Years		(19) 14 - 17 Years		(20) 17 - 21 Years		(21) Above 21 Years		(22) Total			
				(5) Convicted	(6) Acquitted	(7) Found Insane & incapable of Pleading	(8) Nolle Prosequi entered	(9) Adjourned Sine Die or otherwise disposed of		(11) Convicted	(12) Dismissed	(13) Charge proved & order made without Conviction	(14) Charge Withdrawn	(15) Adjourned Sine Die or otherwise disposed of			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F				
																	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F				
Group 1 Offences Against The Person																												
29. Incest	4	4																										
30. Procuration	2	2								2																	2	2
31. Abduction	2																											
32. Bigamy																												
33. Kidnapping	1																											
34. Possession of Firearms with intent to endanger life	33	29		6					1	2																7	7	
35. Possession of Firearms while taking Vehicle without authority	17	6							2																			
36. Use of Firearms to resist arrest or aid escape	1																											
37. Possession of Firearms or Ammunition in suspicious circumstances	18	17		2					1	2																4	4	
38. Carrying Firearm with Criminal Intent	6	3							1					1	1													
TOTAL GROUP 1	2,063	1,766	1	75	5		2	1	74	518	64	16	24	22	964	36			34	4	135			424	19	616		

INDICTABLE OFFENCES WHICH BECAME KNOWN TO THE GARDAI DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1977

(1) NATURE OF OFFENCES	(2) No. of Offences reported or known	(3) No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were Commenced	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES												(16) Still Pending in District Court	(17) Crime for which the perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown.	Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted or against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction.									
			(4) Informations refused	(5) Dealt with on Indictment and						(10) Committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial	(11) Dealt with Summarily and						(18) Under 14 Years		(19) 14 - 17 Years		(20) 17 - 21 Years		(21) Above 21 Years		(22) Total	
				(5) Convicted	(6) Acquitted	(7) Found Insane & incapable of Pleading	(8) Nolle Prosequi entered	(9) Adjourned Sine Die or otherwise disposed of	(11) Convicted		(12) Dismissed	(13) Charge proved & order made without Conviction	(14) Charge Withdrawn	(15) Adjourned Sine Die or otherwise disposed of			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Group II Offences Against Property With Violence																										
39. Burglary	21009	8088	5	265	10		2	5	246	2306	105	65	12	82	4985	523	115	3	582	21	719	48	839	16	2343	
40. Aggravated Burglary	259	98		3					4	18	1	1			71	1			3	9		7			19	
41. Robbery	817	293	1	9	1		2		9	57	7	1			206	2	2		14	20	1	28			65	
42. Robbery with Arms	236	47		6	1				6	5					29	3			1	7		8			16	
43. Assaulting dwellinghouses (by firing shots into them or by use of explosives)	4	1													1											
44. Threatening to publish or publishing with intent to extort	2																									
45. Arson	114	49		9	7			1	2	3					27	6						9			9	
46. Killing & Maiming Cattle	7	2								1	1											1			1	
47. Malicious damage to Schools	67	24								10			1		13	5	3		1	5					9	
48. Other malicious injury to property	589	282		9					4	95	10	4	3	2	155	27	1		24	59		59	2		145	
49. Causing an explosion likely to endanger life or damage property	4	1		1																		4			4	
50. Attempting to cause an explosion																										
51. Possession of explosive substances	15	10		3	2				1						4	3						4			4	
52. Making of Explosives	1	1		1																		4			4	

VALUE OF PROPERTY STOLEN AND RECOVERED IN 1977

- Table showing: (1) Offences against property with violence (numbers 39 to 42 inclusive, of statistical return of indictable offences for 1977).
- (2) Larcenies etc. (offences against property without violence numbers 57 to 80 inclusive, of statistical return of indictable offences for 1977).

	Less than £1	£1 to £2	£2 to £5	£5 to £10	£10 to £50	£50 to £100	£100 to £200	£200 to £300	£300 to £400	£400 to £500	£500 to £1000	£1000 to £5000	Over £5000	Total no. of crimes	Total value of property stolen	Total value of property recovered	No. of cases which no property was stolen
(1) No. of offences against property with violence	292	316	914	1203	5860	3213	2698	1313	776	596	966	673	115	18935	£4,939,178. 00	556,998. 00	3386
(2) No. of Larcenies, etc.	773	711	1846	2843	14753	6298	3661	1182	523	315	509	309	27	33750	£3,129,439. 00	457,266. 00	185

Total Value of Property Stolen

1976	£5,502,052. 00
1977	£8,068,617. 00

Total Value of Property Recovered

£ 663,110	12%
£1,014,254	12.6%

AGE ANALYSIS OF MURDERED PERSONS – 1977

Age in years	0 – 9	10 – 14	15 – 16	17 – 20	21 – 29	30 – 64	65 – 74
No. of persons	1	–	1	3	7	10	3

MURDERS RECORDED AND DETECTED IN 1977 BY DIVISIONS

DIVISION	Recorded	Detected
Carlow/Kildare	1	1
Cavan/Monaghan	2	1
Cork East	6	6
Cork West	–	–
Donegal	–	–
D.M.A.	10	8
Galway West	–	–
Kerry	–	–
Laois/Offaly	–	–
Limerick	1	1
Longford/Westmeath	–	–
Louth/Meath	2	2
Mayo	–	–
Roscommon/Galway East	1	1
Sligo/Lettrim	–	–
Tipperary	1	1
Waterford/Kilkenny	–	–
Wexford	1	1
Totals	25	22

ANALYSIS OF ARMED ROBBERIES – LINE 42 TABLE OF INDICTABLE OFFENCES – 1977

DIVISION	House	Bank	P. O.	Betting Office	Licensed Premises	Chemist	Shop	Garage	Factory	Office	Hotel	Petrol Station	Other	TOTAL
Carlow/Kildare	2									1			2	5
Cavan/Monaghan	1	1											1	3
Cork East	1		1										1	3
Cork West														—
Donegal	1	6	2		4				2		1		3	19
D.M.A.	4	31	5	1	12	4	23	6	11	13	5	10	39	164
Galway West														—
Kerry		1												1
Laois/Offaly														—
Limerick	4		1				1		1				2	9
Longford/Westmeath		1												1
Louth/Meath	2	2	1		3			1	1	3			3	16
Mayo		1												1
Roscommon/Galway East														—
Silgo/Leitrim													3	3
Tipperary	1	1						1					1	4
Waterford/Kilkenny	1	2						1				1	2	7
Wexford														—
TOTALS	17	46	10	1	19	4	24	9	15	17	6	11	57	236

Cash analysis of Armed Robberies in 1977 showing value of property stolen by type of premises

	House	Bank	P.O.	Betting Office	Licensed Premises	Chemist	Shop	Garage	Factory	Office	Hotel	Petrol Station	Other	TOTAL
Up to £100	10			1	3	1	7	6	2	1	1	7	12	51
£100 to £500	4		3		5	2	3	2	2	1	—	2	12	36
£500 to £1,000	2	3	2	—	4				1	1	1		3	17
£1,000 to £5,000		23	3		5		7		6	8	4		15	71
£5,000 +	1	20	2		2	1	7	1	4	6		2	15	61
TOTALS	17	46	10	1	19	4	24	9	15	17	6	11	57	236

Non-Indictable Offences – Proceedings and Persons convicted in Year 1977

OFFENCES	No. of Offences in which proceedings were taken	Charges withdrawn or dismissed	Number of convictions	Charges proved & order made without conviction	Adjourned sine die or otherwise disposed of	No. of persons convicted or against whom charge was held proved or order made without conviction.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1. (a) Assaults	5,125	959	3,131	360	675	3,483
(b) " Gardai on duty	584	68	380	45	91	437
2. Cruelty to Animals	146	24	92	17	13	103
3. (a) Dogs, Offences in relation to Licensing of (Finance Act, 1925)	1,082	136	770	138	38	814
(b) Dogs Order, 1966 (wearing of dog collars, etc.)	142	26	100	11	5	93
(c) Dogs, Protection of Livestock Act, 1960 (dogs worrying livestock)	124	29	85	7	3	79
4. School Attendance Act, 1926, Offences against	264	20	168	39	37	203
5. Traffic Acts, Offences against:						
(a) Lighting Regulations—Pedal Cycle (i) No front lamp	918	78	690	107	43	751
" " " " (ii) No rear lamp	792	49	616	85	42	632
" " " " (iii) No reflector	359	31	261	47	20	293
(b) " " —M.P.V.	34,636	3,272	25,491	4,286	1,587	20,487
(c) " " —Animal-drawn vehicles	23	—	22	1	—	19
(d) Licences — Driving	39,130	6,893	24,528	5,767	1,942	22,300
(e) Obstruction	4,051	389	3,253	304	96	3,472
(f) Dangerous Parking	1,988	301	1,433	136	118	1,564
(g) Road Traffic General Bye-Laws, 1964	3,833	495	2,722	466	160	2,798
(h) Local Bye-Laws	87,764	21,862	48,387	10,235	7,280	58,225
(i) Dangerous and Careless Driving	10,164	1,806	6,941	566	851	7,252
(j) Compulsory Insurance	36,647	9,530	19,922	4,992	2,203	19,666
(k) Drink and Driving						
(i) Driving or attempting to drive M.P.V. while drunk	2,214	581	1,344	—	289	1,344
(ii) Being in charge of M.P.V. while drunk	205	35	160	—	10	160
(iii) Driving or attempting to drive M.P.V., blood/alcohol level concentration above prescribed limit	1,795	1,015	682	—	98	682
(iv) Being in charge of M.P.V. blood/alcohol concentration above prescribed limit	105	45	60	—	—	60
(v) Refusing to provide preliminary specimen of breath	254	39	197	—	18	197
(vi) Refusing to provide or permit taking of blood/urine specimen at Garda stations	325	77	224	—	24	224
(l) Driving or attempting to drive or being in charge of animal-drawn vehicle while drunk	3	—	2	1	—	3
(m) Driving or attempting to drive pedal cycle while drunk	34	—	31	1	2	32
(n) Exceeding speed limit (i) Built-up area	15,401	786	13,577	664	374	14,068
" " " (ii) Special	2,283	146	1,933	101	103	1,998
" " " (iii) Ordinary	765	59	659	18	29	668
" " " (iv) General	1,972	107	1,758	50	57	1,797
(o) Driving dangerously, defective M.P.V.	147	27	102	12	6	114
(p) Other offences	14,358	3,165	9,017	1,600	576	8,437
(q) Construction Equipment and Use of Vehicles Regulations, 1963						
" " (i) Defective tyres	11,200	999	9,065	780	356	7,692
" " (ii) " steering	172	16	144	6	6	143
" " (iii) " brakes	2,060	175	1,613	194	78	1,588
" " (vi) Other Offences	9,366	1,127	6,611	1,188	440	6,028
6. (a) Taking M.P.V. without authority	2,141	221	1,522	222	176	1,696
(b) Unauthorised interference with mechanism of M.P.V.	1,287	203	804	182	98	983
(c) Taking possession of pedal cycle without consent	77	3	54	11	9	61
Carried forward	293,936	54,794	188,550	32,639	17,953	190,646

OFFENCES	No. of Offences in which proceedings were taken	Charges withdrawn or dismissed	Number of convictions	Charges proved & order made without conviction	Adjourned sine die or otherwise disposed of	No. of persons convicted or against whom charge was held proved or order made without conviction.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	293,936	54,794	188,550	32,639	17,953 Brought Forward	190,646
7. Road Transport Acts	1,384	291	873	69	151	724
8. Roads Act and Finance Acts—Excise Licence	63,075	11,384	38,418	10,373	2,900	35,393
9. Intoxicating Liquor Laws, Offences against						
(a) Illegally on Licensed Premises during closing hours	8,022	468	6,904	67	583	6,968
(b) Drunkenness, Simple	2,575	168	2,054	248	105	2,252
(c) Drunkenness with aggravation	3,229	272	2,474	299	184	2,704
(d) Offences by Licensed Persons (or their Servants) against closing Regulations	1,613	565	915	—	133	871
(e) Other Offences by Licensed Persons (or their Servants)	131	39	70	2	20	72
(f) Supplying or selling drink to persons under 18 years	63	26	37	—	—	35
(g) Offences in connection with Registered Clubs	68	18	47	—	3	47
(h) Other offences against Intoxicating Liquor Laws	672	72	511	71	18	537
10. Labour Laws, Offences against	5	1	4	—	—	4
11. Malicious Damage to Animals, Fences, etc.	2,397	282	1,612	308	195	1,776
12. Police Regulations, Offences against						
(a) Dublin Metropolitan Police Acts	532	136	241	116	39	343
(b) Summary Jurisdiction (Ireland) Act, 1851	306	51	200	42	13	240
13. Prostitution	475	42	404	21	8	415
14. Living on earnings of prostitute	5	—	5	—	—	5
15. Loitering with intent	396	103	197	66	30	271
16. Revenue Laws, Offences against	138	42	79	3	14	72
17. Stealing, Receiving or Possessing Stolen Property (not the subject or larceny at Common Law)	104	14	64	5	21	69
18. Street Trading Act, 1926, — Offences Against	547	40	393	59	55	375
(a) Begging	340	47	225	66	2	286
(b) Other Offences	466	98	305	38	25	344
20. Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1926 — Offences Against	180	6	171	3	—	160
21. Firearms Acts — Offences Against	252	39	166	27	20	151
22. Explosives — Offences in relation to	—	—	—	—	—	—
23. Dangerous Drugs Act, 1934 — Health Act, 1970 (Offences in relation to dangerous drugs):						
(a) Unlawful possession of dangerous drugs	276	29	97	60	90	150
(b) Unlawfully procuring dangerous drugs	5	—	3	2	—	5
(c) Unlawfully supplying (peddling) dangerous drugs	12	—	2	2	8	3
(d) Other Offences	103	6	23	6	68	26
24. Offences under Juries Act, 1976	620	73	135	137	275	272
25. Other Offences	6,299	1,190	4,119	567	423	4,268
TOTAL	388,226	70,296	249,298	45,296	23,336	249,493

CRIME PREVENTION

The Garda crime prevention advisory service, consisting of specially trained personnel is operational in all Garda divisions. In Dublin, the Crime Prevention Unit is based at Osmond House, Ship Street.

A total of 104 lectures/talks on crime prevention, and home security, were given throughout the year at various centres in the Dublin area to groups such as ladies' clubs, residents' associations and private security training courses. In addition special lectures on cash security and armed hold-ups were given at the Crime Prevention Office, Osmond House, Ship Street, and several hundred Dublin City traders attended. Lectures/talks pertaining to crime prevention were given by crime prevention officers throughout the country. Leaflets advising on home and premises security, pay office security, shop and stock security, vehicle security, movements of cash, prevention of armed hold-ups, staff dishonesty, and dangers to children were distributed to the public.

Crime prevention exhibitions were mounted at the following centres :

- (1) R.D.S. Ballsbridge, Dublin, from 3rd to 7th May, 1977, on the occasion of the Spring Show.
- (2) Tralee, Co. Kerry, from 17th to 19th May, 1977, on the occasion of the Kingdom County Fair.
- (3) Roundwood, Co. Wicklow, on 28th and 29th May, 1977, at the Annual Show.
- (4) Westport, Co. Mayo, from 10th to 12th June, 1977, at the Annual Show.
- (5) Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, on 9th and 10th July, 1977, at the Annual Show.
- (6) Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, on 20th July, 1977 at the Annual Show.
- (7) Mount Melleray, Co. Waterford, from 26th to 30th July, 1977, on the occasion of the Scout Jamboree.
- (8) R.D.S. Ballsbridge, Dublin, from 2nd to 7th August, 1977, on the occasion of the Horse Show.
- (9) Limerick City on 24th and 25th August, 1977, at the Annual Horse Show.
- (10) Athlone, Co. Westmeath, on 27th and 28th August, 1977, at the Annual Show.
- (11) Mosney, Co. Meath, on 3rd, 4th, and 5th September, 1977, on the occasion of Community Games.
- (12) Cork City on 29th and 30th October, 1977, at the Ideal Homes Exhibition.
- (13) Ballsbridge, Dublin, from 15th to 19th November, 1977, at the Science and Careers Exhibition.

Crime prevention literature was distributed at the exhibitions and the public took a keen interest in the Garda stand on each occasion.

Two hundred and twenty seven (227) security surveys of business premises and dwellinghouses, as well as special security surveys of State and Semi-State organisations were carried out by the Crime Prevention Unit staff. Similar surveys were carried out by crime prevention personnel throughout the country.

The Crime Prevention Unit is responsible for the preparation of the "Garda Patrol" weekly television programme. Very helpful cooperation has been received from viewers in many cases.

GARDA JUVENILE LIAISON OFFICER SCHEME

The Scheme was first established in 1963 in the Dublin Metropolitan Area, and later extended to the cities of Cork, Limerick and Waterford, and more recently to large towns throughout the country – Clonmel, Drogheda, Dundalk, Kilkenny, Sligo, Tralee, Wexford, Galway, Athlone, Cobh, Balbriggan, Carlow, Tullamore and New Ross. Juvenile Liaison Officers were appointed at Killarney, Longford and Gorey in 1977. Garda juvenile liaison officers are specially selected members, and receive training in dealing with juveniles involved in deviant and anti-social behaviour. At present there are 4 sergeants, 34 gardai and 2 ban ghardai employed in the operation of the scheme.

The aims of the scheme are to prevent children and young persons under the age of 17 years, who are at risk, from becoming involved in deviant and criminal behaviour; and in the cases of those who have already offended in a minor way, to divert them into legitimate activities, and prevent them from becoming adult criminals.

Under the scheme, a minor under the age of 17 years, implicated in crime (burglary, larceny and the like) may be dealt with by caution as an alternative to court proceedings, and be subject to the surveillance and guidance of the juvenile liaison officer until the age of 17 years is reached. Supervision may be withdrawn before reaching this age if it is considered that no risk is involved.

Since the inception of the scheme in 1963, 11,413 offenders have been cautioned and supervised by the gardai.

Particulars		Dublin Metropolitan Area	All Other Divisions	TOTAL
Juveniles admitted to the Scheme since its inception in 1963	Boys	5,853	3,878	9,731
	Girls	1,007	675	1,682
	Total	6,860	4,553	11,413
Recidivists		851	553	1,404
Cases closed, subject 17 years of age		3,319	2,095	5,414
Cases closed, supervision withdrawn after 2 years		2,143	783	2,926
Visits to Delinquents' Homes		99,777	65,621	165,398
Visits to Boys' Clubs		11,299	15,335	26,634
Lectures and Meetings		3,874	7,031	10,905

During the year, 1,028 juveniles were admitted to the Scheme. (887 boys and 141 girls.)

Outside the areas where juvenile liaison officers have been appointed there is also provision for the cautioning of juveniles under the age of 17 years for certain minor crimes and offences. These young people are subject to a less formal type of surveillance by the local gardai for as long as may be necessary, and are included in the figure of 1,827 at column 17 of Indictable Offences Table.

DRUGS UNIT

The Drugs Unit is based in Dublin Castle, and operates throughout the country. A number of members in each Garda division have undergone drug courses with the Drugs Unit at Dublin Castle.

During 1977 there was an increase in the number of persons charged with drug offences: 381 compared with 289 in 1976. Cannabis continues to be the most widely abused substance.

Home grown cannabis is appearing much more frequently than heretofore. The postal services continue to be used in smuggling cannabis resin from India, Amsterdam and England. During the year it was discovered that quantities of cannabis resin were being imported into the Republic and then exported to England.

The Unit under the auspices of the Health Education Bureau gave 95 lectures to voluntary organisations, to professional groups, and to prison and security services. An on-going advice service is available at the Drugs Unit, Dublin Castle.

A member of the Drugs Unit attended an international conference on drugs in Paris.

The following table gives a breakdown of persons charged with drug offences during 1977.

Under 17 Years		17-21 Years		Over 21 Years	
M	F	M	F	M	F
4	—	102	17	245	13

PARTICULARS OF DRUGS SEIZED

TYPE OF DRUG	QUANTITY SEIZED	
	1977	1976
NARCOTIC DRUGS		
Opium	5g	4.208g
Morphine	130t 154 amp 16g Morphine Hydrochlorate	995t 51g 181 amp 20g Sulphate
Heroin	40t	1.6g Chinese 10g 10t
Synthetic Narcotics	2g 2400t 133amp	2087t
Salts of Cocaine	15g	25g
Cannabis	3456g	982.71g
Cannabis Resin	9978g	11.24kg
Liquid Opium		
Liquid Cannabis	12g	11g
Cannabis Plants	555	478 124g
Cannabis Seeds		850g
PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES		
Amphetamines and other stimulants	285t Methylphenidate 3g Amphetamine Sulphate	244t
Barbiturates	26,400t	14, 058t
Non-barbiturate Sedatives & Tranquillisers	1241t	275t
LSD	2 pyramid tablets	Nil.

amp = ampoule

t = tablet

g = gramme

DANGEROUS DRUGS – PERSONS CHARGED

DIVISION	No. of Persons Charged	Persons Charged		TYPE OF DRUG	No. of Persons Charged
		Nationality	No.		
Dublin Metropolitan Area	283	Irish	356	Opium	1
Carlow/Kildare	5	British	10	Morphine	16
Cavan/Monaghan	–	German	1	Heroin	2
Cork East	49	Turkish	1	Other Opiates	–
Cork West	10	American	5	Synthetic Narcotics	71
Donegal	–	French	2	Coca Leaf	–
Galway West	1	Dutch	1	Cocaine base	–
Kerry	6	Canadian	2	Salts of Cocaine	2
Leix/Offaly	–	Jamaican	1	Cannabis	88
Limerick	10	Northern Irish	2	Cannabis Resin	118
Longford/Westmeath	4			Liquid Opium	1
Louth/Meath	2			Liquid Cannabis	1
Mayo	1			Opium poppies	–
Roscommon/Galway East	–			Opium poppy seeds	–
Sligo/Leitrim	1			Cannabis Plants	1
Tipperary	2			Cannabis Seeds	–
Waterford/Kilkenny	7			Amphetamines and other stimulants	8
Wexford				Barbiturates	36
				Non-Barbiturate sedatives and tranquilizers	32
				LSD	4
TOTALS	381		381		381

SUB-AQUA UNIT

The Garda Sub Aqua Unit was established on an official basis in 1966, for the purpose of carrying out underwater searches for:

- (a) Weapons used in the commission of crime, or other evidence of crime deposited in water.
- (b) Bodies of victims of crime or drowning accidents.

The Unit carried out twenty eight major search operations during 1977, in rivers, harbours, canals and in the open sea.

DOG HANDLING UNIT

The dog handling unit which has been operational since 1960 has continued to prove most useful in the pursuit of wrongdoers and in searches for evidence and stolen property. In 1977 the dog handling unit was involved in the arrest of one hundred and ninety four (194) persons, in the course of patrols and searches.

THE '999' EMERGENCY SERVICE

In 1977, a total of 147,490 emergency '999' calls was received by the Gardai: 132,450 at the Communications Centre, Dublin Castle; 8,566 at the Communications Room, Union Quay, Cork; 4,235 at the Communications Room, Henry Street Limerick; 2,000 at Galway station and 239 at the Communications Room, Waterford.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

There are 49 Sergeants employed as ex-officio inspectors of weights and measures throughout the country. They are concerned primarily with enforcement of Weights and Measures Acts, and the Merchandise Acts. Two of these Sergeants are employed in Cork, two in Limerick, two in Bray, two in Howth, and one on the verification of taxi meters in the Dublin area.

ROAD TRAFFIC

Divisional units of the Traffic Corps were in operation during 1977, and were primarily involved in accident prevention and traffic control duties. The downward trend in traffic accidents of all classes, first noticed in 1973, continued until mid 1977. During the latter part of the year there was an alarming increase in all traffic accidents including fatal accidents. Many of these accidents resulted in multiple deaths and this is reflected in the total fatality figures for the year which showed an increase of 51 deaths over 1976. A total of 576 persons died as a result of road traffic accidents in 1977, as compared with 525 in 1976.

During the year road safety lectures were frequently given to school children, parents' committees and other interested bodies with a view to generating a greater awareness of road safety.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PRESS OFFICE

The service provided by the Public Relations and Press Office is widely used by all branches of the news media as well as the general public. The service ranges from the routine day-to-day handling of queries from press and public sources to the provision of interviews and research facilities for journalists at the Public Relations and Press Office. Members of the office staff make themselves available to service the media at scenes of major newsworthy events in different parts of the country.

The Public Relations and Press Office can be contacted at Garda Headquarters, Phoenix Park, Dublin. Telephone Nos. are 784796, 784719, 710852 and 771156.

TABLE 1
TRAFFIC OFFENCES – DRINK AND DRIVING
ANNUAL STATISTICS OF BLOOD TESTS
BLOOD/URINE TESTS, ARRESTS, ETC.

1. BREATH TESTS		
(a)	Total number of persons breath tested	5,319
(b)	Breath test positive	3,142
(c)	Breath test negative	2,177
(d)	Breath test refused	267
2.		
(a)	Blood Specimen given	2,552
(b)	Urine Specimen given	395
(c)	Specimen refused	336
3. ARRESTS		
(a)	For refusing breath tests (Sec. 28 [3] R.T.A. 1968)	252
(b)	Arrests without breath test (Secs. 49, 50 R.T.A. 1961)	1,964
TOTAL ARRESTS		2,216
4. ANALYSIS OF SPECIMENS		
(a)	Under 125 Milligrams	407
(b)	Over 125 Milligrams	2,458
(c)	Specimens still to be analysed at end of year	19
(d)	Insufficient or spoiled, etc.	63
TOTAL ANALYSIS		2,947

R.T.A. = Road Traffic Act.

TABLE 2

NON INDICTABLE OFFENCES (TRAFFIC)

— DRINK AND DRIVING —

SEX AND AGE OF PERSONS FOUND GUILTY

(1) OFFENCE	(2) Persons Convicted	(3) 17 and under 21		(4) 21 & over	
		M	F	M	F
Driving or attempting to drive M.P.V. while drunk, or with a blood alcohol concentration above the prescribed limit	2,026 (1,415)	135 (84)	—	1,858 (1,317)	33 (14)
Being in charge of M.P.V. while drunk or with a blood alcohol concentration above the prescribed limit	220 (141)	9 (4)	—	210 (137)	1 —
Refusing to provide, or permit taking of, blood/urine specimen at Garda Stations.	224 (115)	11 (7)	—	210 (108)	3 —
Refusing to provide a preliminary specimen of breath	197 (128)	8 (2)	—	183 (125)	6 (1)

Figures for 1976 are given in brackets.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1961 (SECTION 103) (OFFENCES) REGULATIONS 1976

(b) Non-Display of Licence Disc – Fines on the Spot – Notices Issued

1977

96

	Carlow/Kildare	Cavan/Monaghan	Cork East	Cork West	Donegal	D. M. A.	Galway West	Kerry	Leix / Offaly	Limerick	Longford/Westmeath	Louth/Meath	Mayo	Roscommon/Galway East	Sligo/Leitrim	Tipperary	Waterford/Kilkenny	Wexford
Gardai	551	85	2,887	309	–	2,244	2,711	684	364	1,314	339	1,029	503	326	122	512	1,356	21
Wardens	–	–	–	–	–	169	682	–	–	–	118	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	551	85	2,887	309	–	2,413	3,393	684	364	1,314	457	1,029	503	326	122	512	1,356	21
Fines Paid	264	31	609	149	–	618	2,014	296	168	406	198	452	272	143	55	320	764	12
Court Proceedings	3	–	–	9	–	–	138	–	–	28	47	–	21	1	6	9	1	–
Notices Cancelled	–	–	–	8	–	–	312	2	2	107	2	22	3	4	1	3	7	–
Proceedings Pending	284	54	2,270	141	–	1,795	914	384	187	762	207	553	201	176	60	179	583	9
Spoiled Notices	–	–	8	2	–	–	15	2	7	11	3	2	6	2	–	1	1	–

The Road Traffic Act 1961 (Section 103) (Offences) Regulations 1976

extended the fines-on-the-spot system during 1977, on a country wide basis, to the offences of parking violations and non-display of current licence discs. Heretofore the fines-on-the-spot system for parking offences only applied to selected centres, and then only where traffic and/or parking bye-laws were in force.

