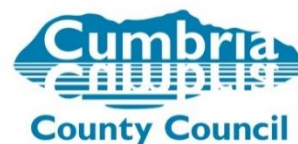


Crime and Community Safety Strategic Assessment

Sexual Violence Summary

Cumbria 2021-22



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1 Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide an update on sexual violence data around the issues that have an impact on the safety of Cumbria's communities. Data cover a range of topics including:

- Sexual offences and alcohol-related sexual offences
- Child sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation
- Prosecutions and convictions
- Support provided to victims of sexual violence.

Data have been gathered from local and national sources. Analysis has been undertaken to understand which Cumbrian communities have the greatest need for support to stay safe. The document has been written and produced by Cumbria County Council with recorded crime data provided by Cumbria Constabulary.

Any ward data reflect boundary changes in place at December 2022.

1.1 Sexual Violence trends

Patterns of crime over the last two years have been significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and government restrictions on social contact. Since restrictions were lifted following the third national lockdown in early 2021, police recorded crime data indicate that certain offence types are returning to or exceeding the levels seen before the pandemic, while sexual offences recorded by the police have exceeded pre-pandemic levels. (*ONS CSEW 2022*).

This has been mirrored in Cumbria where sexual offences have significantly increased during the last 12 months, exceeding pre-pandemic levels in line with national trends. Within Cumbria, sexual offences continue on an upward trajectory; data forecasting indicates that sexual offences will increase 37% by 2025-26 compared to 2021-22. The increase is partially attributable to the willingness of victims to come forward to report such offences and the improvements in recording practices (*Cumbria Constabulary, 2022b*).

Whilst Cumbria is a relatively safe county in which to live, work and visit, with levels of crime and community safety better in many areas than those experienced nationally or regionally, evidence suggests that there are some areas of concern in terms of sexual offences.

Links between crime and deprivation are well documented and have long been understood. Within Cumbria there are 56 communities (Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)) that rank within the 20% most deprived within England according to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019, with the most deprived community in the county located within Old Barrow and Hindpool ward in Barrow-in-Furness. In total, just over one third of Cumbria's 56 most deprived communities (34%; 19) are located within the five wards identified as being least safe in terms of sexual offences.

The five wards which data suggest are least safe in terms of reported sexual offences are listed below. The number in brackets after the ward name shows the number of communities (LSOAs) within the ward that rank within the 20% most deprived in England.

- St Michael's, Allerdale (1)
- Moss Bay and Moorclose, Allerdale (4)
- Old Barrow and Hindpool, Barrow-in-Furness (9)
- Castle, Carlisle (3)
- Currock, Carlisle (2)

1.2 Sexual Violence: who is at risk?

- Victims of sexual offences are most likely to be female, aged 10-17 years (the majority of this offending is to cause or incite a child to watch or engage in sexual activity, or sexual communication with a child which is often committed over the internet and not a direct contact offence).
- Adult sexual offenders are most likely to be male, aged 18-44 years.
- Young male offenders aged 10-17 years make up one in five known offenders in 2021-22.
- It should be noted that statements above relating to adult and young male offenders is based on a relatively small number of offenders overall (147) and should therefore be treated with a degree of caution.
- Clients referred to Safety Net, The Bridgeway and The Birchall Trust are most likely to be adult females.
- Clients referred to Victim Support for sexual violence support are most likely to be female, under 25 years.
- Clients referred to Victim Support for domestic violence with sexual violence support are most likely to be female, aged 25-44 years.
- Up to one in five victims seeking sexual violence support are male.

Anecdotally services in Cumbria are seeing an increase in child on peer type sexual offences. Police data indicate an increase in reported offences since 2019-20 which supports this view; however this increase is not considered statistically significant overall. Additional data from the various support services are not available for this report. This is a trend which will be reviewed and reported on in the next update.

2 Sexual Violence – geographical differences across Cumbria

2.1 Cumbria and districts: sexual violence statistical comparison

Indicator	Allerdale count rate	Barrow count rate	Carlisle count rate	Copeland count rate	Eden count rate	S. Lakes count rate	CUMBRIA count rate
Sexual offences <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2021-22</i>	334 3.5	278 4.1	424 3.8	228 3.4	150 2.7	239 2.3	1,706 3.4
Sexual offences (alcohol-related) <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2021-22</i>	41 0.4	64 0.9	81 0.7	33 0.5	18 0.3	40 0.4	288 0.6
Child Sexual Abuse (reports) <i>rate per 1,000 population aged 0-17 yrs 2021-22</i>	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	810 9.0
Child Sexual Exploitation (reports) <i>rate per 1,000 population aged 0-17 yrs 2021-22</i>	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	188 2.1
Hospital admissions, violence (inc sexual violence) <i>DSR per 100,000 population 2018-19 to 2020-21</i>	60 23.5	95 51.6	95 31.7	45 25.7	15 13.2	55 20.5	370 28.2

Key: trend over 12 months

= increase	= decrease	= no significant change	= not comparable
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Notes:

Sexual offences / alcohol-related sexual offences: as the district is not known for some counts, district counts may not equal the county total

Hospital admissions are rounded to the nearest 5; district counts may not equal the county total.

2.2 Allerdale district

- Allerdale has two wards within the top 10 highest ward rates for sexual offences in 2021-22 (St Michael's, 8.6 per 1,000 population; Moss Bay and Moorclose, 7.8 per 1,000).
- St Michael's ward is within the highest ward rates for alcohol-related sexual offences in 2021-22 (1.7 per 1,000).

2.3 Barrow-in-Furness district

- Highest rate for sexual offences in 2021-22 of all Cumbria's districts (4.1 per 1,000 population).
- The rate for sexual offences (4.1 per 1,000 population) is 1.3 times higher in 2021-22 in Barrow-in-Furness than the national (England & Wales) rate of 3.3 per 1,000.
- Old Barrow and Hindpool ward is within the top 10 highest ward rates for sexual offences in 2021-22 (9.8 per 1,000).
- Barrow-in-Furness has the highest rate for alcohol-related sexual offences in 2021-22 of all Cumbria's districts (0.9 per 1,000 population).
- The rate for alcohol-related sexual offences (0.9 per 1,000 population) is 1.7 times higher in 2021-22 in Barrow-in-Furness than the Cumbria rate of 0.6 per 1,000.
- Five wards are within the highest ward rates for alcohol-related sexual offences in 2021-22 (Hindpool, 4.3 per 1,000 population; Barrow Island, 3.4 per 1,000; Central, 1.4 per 1,000; Ormsgill, 1.2 per 1,000; Risedale, 1.2 per 1,000).
- Barrow-in-Furness has the highest rate for hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence) 2018/19 to 2020/21 of all Cumbria's districts (51.6 DSR per 100,000 population). Barrow-in-Furness is the only district to have rates that are statistically similar to rates in England and the North West (41.9 and 61.6 DSR per 100,000 population respectively); rates for all other districts are better than those in England and the North West.
- High proportion of high risk domestic violence with sexual violence cases supported by Victim Support (90.1% of all cases in Barrow-in-Furness).

2.4 Carlisle district

- The rate for sexual offences (3.8 per 1,000 population) is 1.2 times higher in 2021-22 in Carlisle than the national (England & Wales) rate of 3.3 per 1,000.
- Castle ward has the highest rate for sexual offences of all Cumbria's wards in 2021-22 (15.8 per 1,000), 4.8 times higher than the England & Wales rate of 3.3 per 1,000. Three further wards sit within the top 10 highest ward rates for sexual offences in 2021-22 (Currock, 8.3 per 1,000; Belah, 7.1 per 1,000; Botcherby, 6.1 per 1,000).
- Carlisle has the second highest rate for alcohol-related sexual offences in 2021-22 of all Cumbria's districts (0.7 per 1,000 population).
- The rate for alcohol-related sexual offences (0.7 per 1,000 population) is 1.3 times higher in 2021-22 in the Carlisle district than the Cumbria rate of 0.6 per 1,000.
- Three wards are within the highest ward rates for alcohol-related sexual offences in 2021-22 (Cathedral & Castle, 3.4 per 1,000 population; Currock & Upperby, 1.7 per 1,000; Newtown & Morton North, 1.2 per 1,000).
- Largest proportional increase in alcohol-related sexual offences of all Cumbria's districts in 2021-22 compared to 2019-20 (+68.8%; +33 offences).
- Carlisle has the second highest rate for hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence) 2018/19 to 2020/21 of all Cumbria's districts (31.7 DSR per 100,000 population); this is higher than the Cumbria average of 28.2 DSR per 100,000 although statistically better than the rates in England and the North West (41.9 and 61.6 DSR per 100,000 population respectively)

- Largest proportion of all sexual violence cases supported by Victim Support in Cumbria in 2021-22 (35.4% of all cases).
- Largest proportion of all domestic violence with sexual violence cases supported by Victim Support in Cumbria in 2021-22 (30.9% of all cases).
- Carlisle has the largest proportion of victims supported by Safety Net in 2021-22 (51.2% of all new and existing cases).
- Carlisle district has a highest rate of referrals to The Bridgeway services (0.7 per 1,000 population).

2.5 Copeland district

- Copeland has three wards within the top 10 highest ward rates for sexual offences in 2021-22 (Millom; 5.9 per 1,000; Egremont, 5.5 per 1,000; Kells and Sandwith, 4.9 per 1,000).
- Whitehaven Central ward has one of the highest ward rates for alcohol-related sexual offences in 2021-22 (1.5 per 1,000 population).
- Smallest proportion of all Victim Support sexual violence supported cases in Cumbria 2021-22 (9.5% of all cases).
- Largest proportional change in the sexual violence cases supported by Victim Support in 2021-22 compared to 2020-21 (+225%; +18).

2.6 Eden district

- Largest proportional increase in sexual offences of all Cumbria's districts in 2021-22 compared to 2019-20 (+48.5%; +49).
- Eden has the lowest rate for alcohol-related sexual offences in 2021-22 of all Cumbria's districts (0.3 per 1,000 population). However, Brough ward has one of the highest ward rates for alcohol-related sexual offences in 2021-22 (1.5 per 1,000 population).
- Lowest rate for hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence) 2018/19 to 2020/21 of all Cumbria's districts (13.2 DSR per 100,000 population).
- Smallest proportion of all domestic violence with sexual violence cases supported by Victim Support in Cumbria in 2021-22 (5.8% of all cases).
- Largest proportion of domestic violence with sexual violence victims aged 35 to 44 years supported by Victim Support; 46.2% of all domestic violence with sexual violence victims supported in Eden.

2.7 South Lakeland district

- Lowest rate for sexual offences in 2021-22 of all Cumbria's districts (2.3 per 1,000 population).
- Kendal Town ward has one of the highest rates for alcohol-related sexual offences in 2021-22 (1.5 per 1,000 population).
- Second lowest rate for hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence) 2018/19 to 2020/21 of all Cumbria's districts (20.5 DSR per 100,000 population).
- Largest proportion of sexual violence victims aged 13-17 years supported by Victim Support; 60.5% of all sexual violence victims supported in South Lakeland.
- Largest proportion of male victims supported by Victim Support; 18.4% of all sexual violence victims supported in South Lakeland.
- South Lakeland has the lowest rate of referrals to The Bridgeway services (0.3 per 1,000 population).

3 Rates and trends

3.1 Rates and trends: Sexual offences

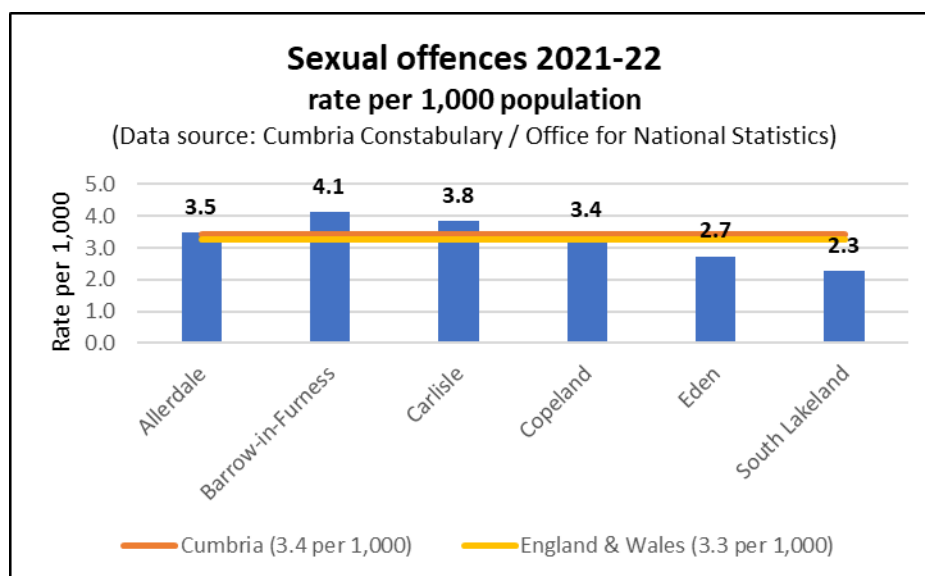
Data source for this section: Cumbria Constabulary 2022a / Office for National Statistics 2022 / Ministry of Justice 2021

Sexual offences data covers **ALL sexual offences** (ie alcohol-related sexual offences, Child Sexual Abuse and Child Sexual Exploitation).

Sexual offences							
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% change 1 year	% change 2 years	Nr. change 1 year	Nr. change 2 years
Allerdale	300	240	334	39.2	11.3	94	34
Barrow-in-Furness	266	211	278	31.8	4.5	67	12
Carlisle	347	321	424	32.1	22.2	103	77
Copeland	174	160	228	42.5	31.0	68	54
Eden	101	103	150	45.6	48.5	47	49
South Lakeland	226	179	239	33.5	5.8	60	13
Cumbria	1,414	1,237	1,706	37.9	20.7	469	292

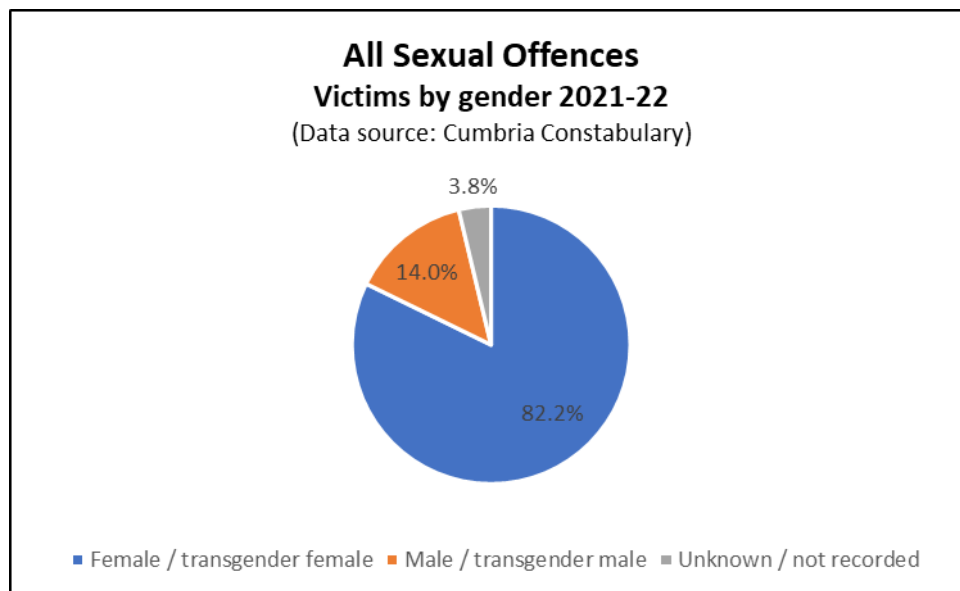
May not sum to the county total; district not recorded against a small number of offences.

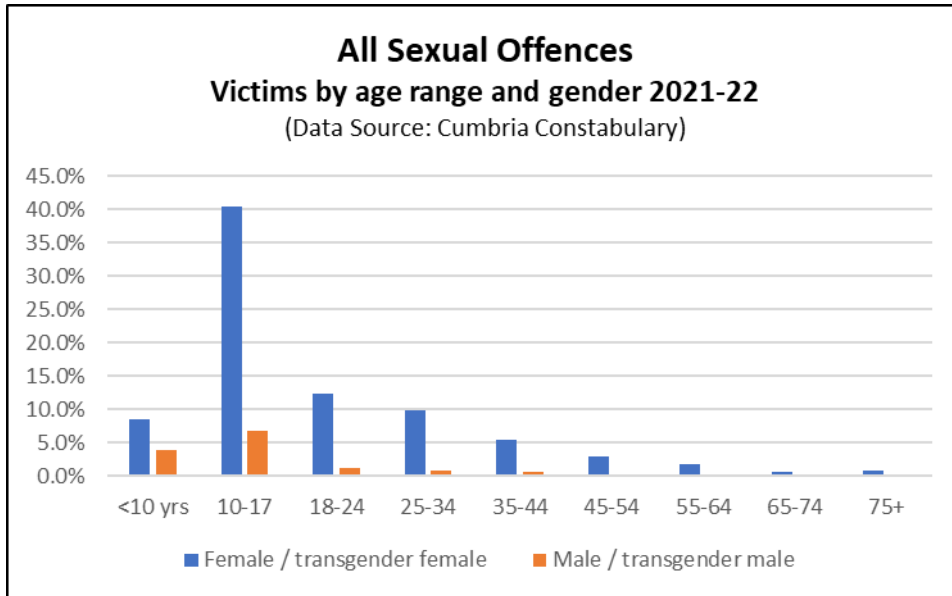
Reported offences for the financial year 2020-21 are heavily influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic, where police forces nationwide experienced a downturn in recorded sexual offences. Figures for 2021-22 are high compared to 2019-20, however offences for 2019-20 were lower than expected and run below the median line for the period April 2018 to December 2022.



Sexual offences - 10 highest crime rates by ward, 2021-22				
District	Ward name	Number of crimes	Rate per 1,000 population	Number of deprived communities*
Carlisle	Castle	85	15.8	3
Barrow-in-Furness	Old Barrow and Hindpool	110	9.8	9
Allerdale	St Michael's	41	8.6	1
Carlisle	Currock	50	8.3	2
Allerdale	Moss Bay and Moorclose	51	7.8	4
Carlisle	Belah	41	7.1	0
Carlisle	Botcherby	40	6.1	1
Copeland	Millom	34	5.9	1
Copeland	Egremont	34	5.5	0
Copeland	Kells and Sandwith	34	4.9	2

*Number of LSOAs in the ward within the 20% most deprived in England (IMD, 2019)





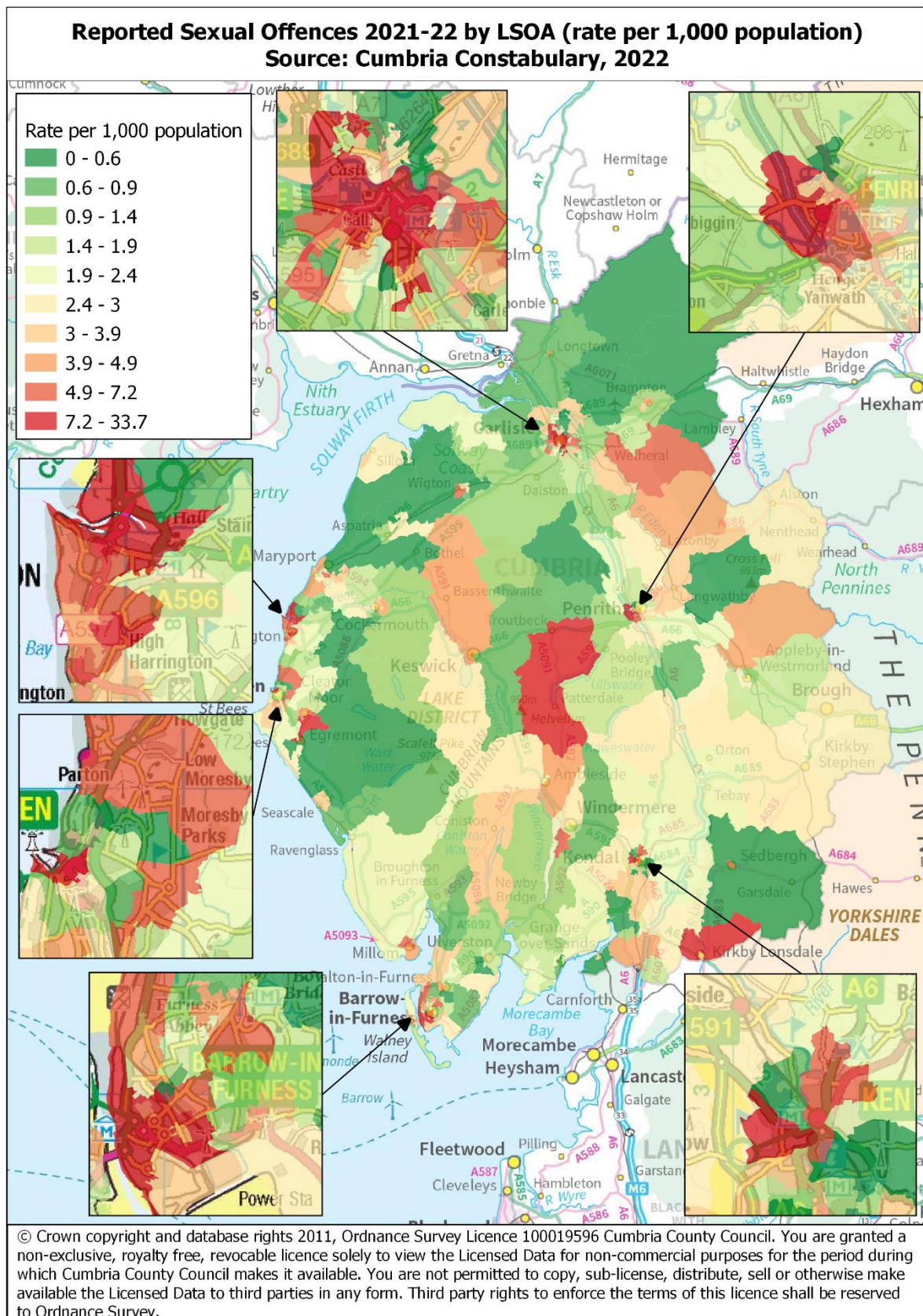
The majority of offences involving young victims are around causing or inciting a child to watch or engage in sexual activity, or sexual communication with a child which is often committed over the internet and not a direct contact offence.



NB: The offenders by age range and gender chart above is based on a relatively small number (147) and should therefore be treated with a degree of caution.

3.1.1 Map: All Reported Sexual Offences 2021-22

The map below is based on sexual offences data covering all sexual offences (ie including alcohol-related sexual offences, Child Sexual Abuse and Child Sexual Exploitation).



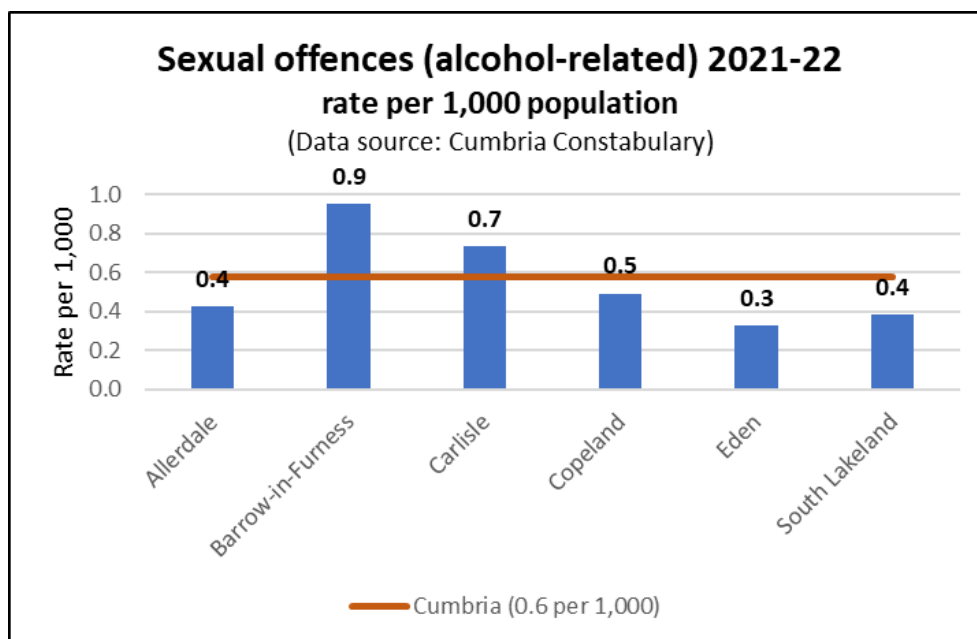
3.2 Rates and trends: Alcohol-related sexual offences

Data source for this section: Cumbria Constabulary 2022a

Alcohol-related sexual offences are a sub-set of all sexual offences.

Sexual offences (alcohol-related)							
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% change 1 year	% change 2 years	Nr. change 1 year	Nr. change 2 years
Allerdale	49	29	41	41.4	-16.3	12	-8
Barrow-in-Furness	45	31	64	106.5	42.2	33	19
Carlisle	48	54	81	50.0	68.8	27	33
Copeland	20	24	33	37.5	65.0	9	13
Eden	14	6	18	200.0	28.6	12	4
South Lakeland	46	19	40	110.5	-13.0	21	-6
Cumbria	222	163	288	76.7	29.7	125	66

The decrease in reported sexual offences in 2020-21 is likely to be a direct influence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the closure of the night time economy for long periods of lockdown. The increase in 2021-22 is considered to be a return to pre-COVID levels. Figures for all sexual offences for 2019-20 were lower than expected and run below the median line for the period April 2018 to December 2022.



Sexual offences (alcohol-related) - highest crime rates by ward, 2021-22				
District	Ward name	Number of crimes	Rate per 1,000 population	Number of deprived communities*
Barrow-in-Furness	Hindpool	24	4.3	5
Carlisle	Cathedral & Castle	32	3.4	2
Barrow-in-Furness	Barrow Island	8	3.4	2
Carlisle	Currock & Upperby	15	1.7	2
Allerdale	St Michael's	6	1.7	1
Copeland	Whitehaven Central	8	1.5	1
Eden	Brough	2	1.5	0
South Lakeland	Kendal Town	10	1.5	0
Barrow-in-Furness	Central	6	1.4	3
Barrow-in-Furness	Ormsgill	7	1.2	3
Barrow-in-Furness	Risedale	7	1.2	5
Carlisle	Newtown & Morton North	11	1.2	3

*Number of LSOAs in the ward within the 20% most deprived in England (IMD, 2019)

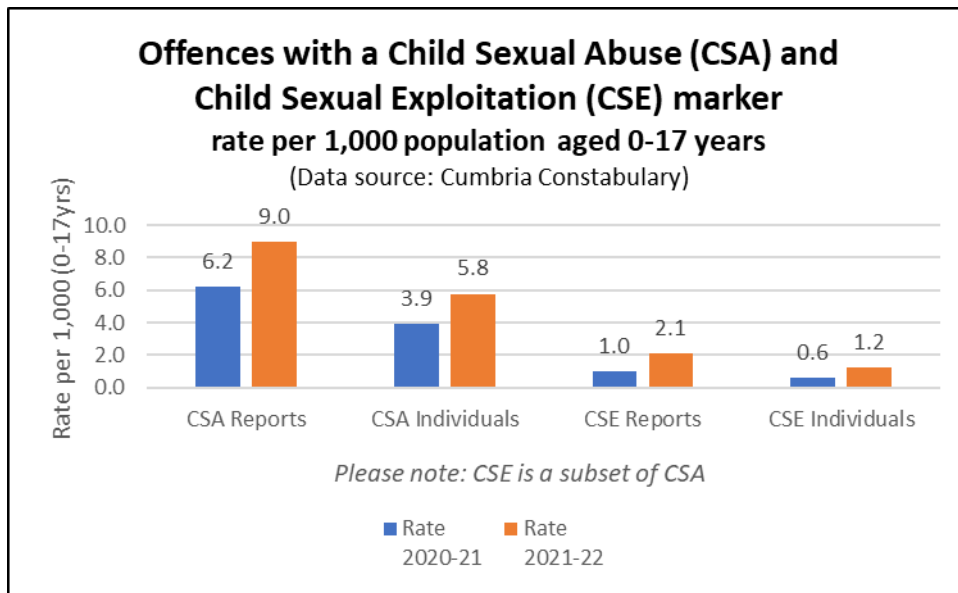
3.3 Child Sexual Abuse and Child Sexual Exploitation

Data source for this section: Cumbria Constabulary 2022a

From 2020-21 Child Sexual Exploitation figures have been split out between Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Sexual Abuse (CSA). Previously these figures were combined; it is therefore not possible to compare CSE data to figures prior to 2020-21.

Crimes with a Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) marker				
Cumbria	Number of offences 2020-21	Number of offences 2021-22	% change 1 yr	Nr change 1 yr
Number of reports	572	810	41.6	238
Number of individuals	364	522	43.4	158
Avg reports per individual	1.6	1.6		
Crimes with a Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) marker				
Cumbria	Number of offences 2020-21	Number of offences 2021-22	% change 1 yr	Nr change 1 yr
Number of reports	90	188	108.9	98
Number of individuals	54	112	107.4	58
Avg reports per individual	1.7	1.7		

Note: CSE is a subset of CSA



3.4 Child peer on peer sexual offences

Data source for this section Cumbria Constabulary 2022c

CHILD PEER ON PEER RECORDED SEXUAL OFFENCES							
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% change 1 year	% change 2 years	Nr. change 1 year	Nr. change 2 years
CUMBRIA	179	104	242	132.7	35.2	138	63

Child peer on peer sexual offences are increasing, and ordinarily that is image sharing. Nationally just under two thirds of all child sexual abuse committed by children is in relation to indecent images of children. The internet and technology is sadly a contributing factor. (Cumbria Constabulary, 2022c).

Statistical testing carried out by Cumbria Constabulary suggests the increase in peer on peer sexual offences shown in the table above is not statistically significant.

3.5 Rates and trends: Hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence)

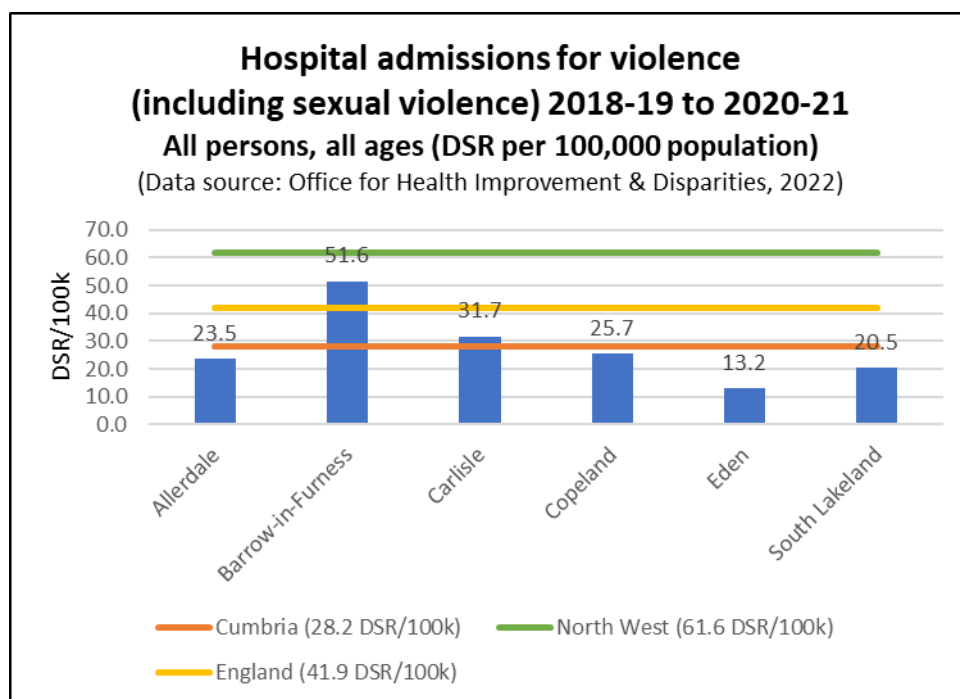
Data source for this section: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2022

Hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence) All persons, all ages, 2018-19 to 2020-21					
	Count	DSR* per 100,000	Recent trend	Compared to England average	Compared to North West average
Allerdale	60	23.5	-	Better	Better
Barrow-in-Furness	95	51.6	-	Similar	Similar
Carlisle	95	31.7	-	Better	Better
Copeland	45	25.7	-	Better	Better
Eden	15	13.2	-	Better	Better
South Lakeland	55	20.5	-	Better	Better
Cumbria	370	28.2	-	Better	Better
North West	13,460	61.6	-	-	-
England	71,043	41.9	-	-	-

*DSR = Directly Standardised Rate

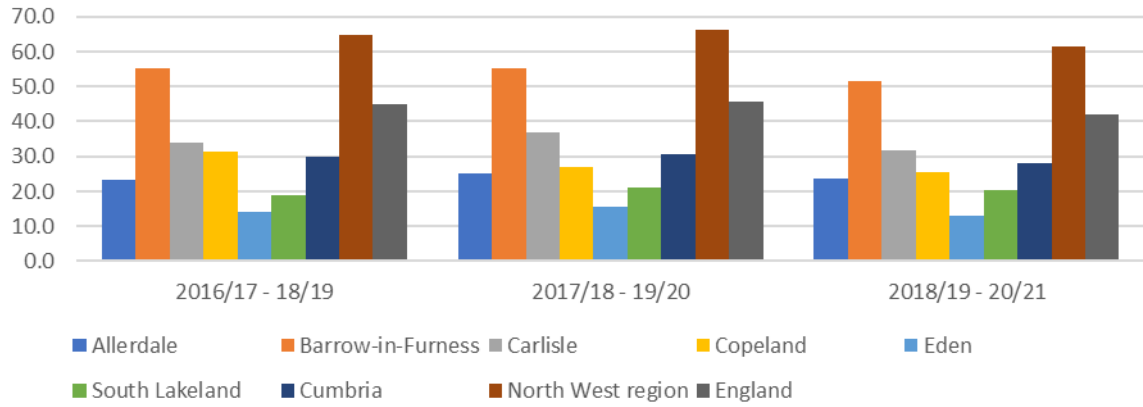
Counts rounded to the nearest 5, district counts may not equal the county total.

©Crown Copyright, source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2022



Hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence) all persons, all ages (DSR per 100k) 2016-17/18-19 to 2018-19/20-21

(Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, 2022)



3.6 Rates and trends: Sexual violence support

3.6.1 Referrals to Safety Net

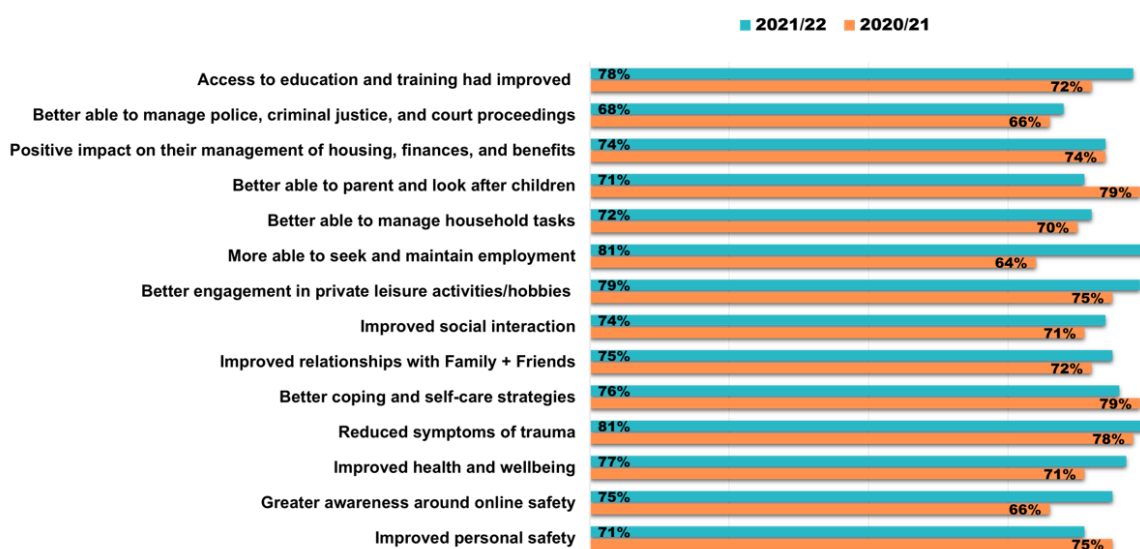
Data source for this section: Safety Net (UK) 2022

Safety Net, Cumbria							
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% change 1 year	% change 3 years	Nr. change 1 year	Nr. change 3 years
Total cases	886	1,000	1,116	11.6	26.0	116	230
New cases	-	440	459	4.3	-	19	-
Existing cases	-	261	283	8.4	-	22	-
Enquiries / Helpline	n/a	299	374	25.1	-	75	-

Total cases show a consistent increase over a three year period. There are likely to be a variety of reasons behind this. Public awareness around the issue of sexual violence has increased with some very high profile cases. Safety Net’s social media presence has also been increased, and as Safety Net has become more established, more people are aware of the services on offer. (Safety Net, 2022)

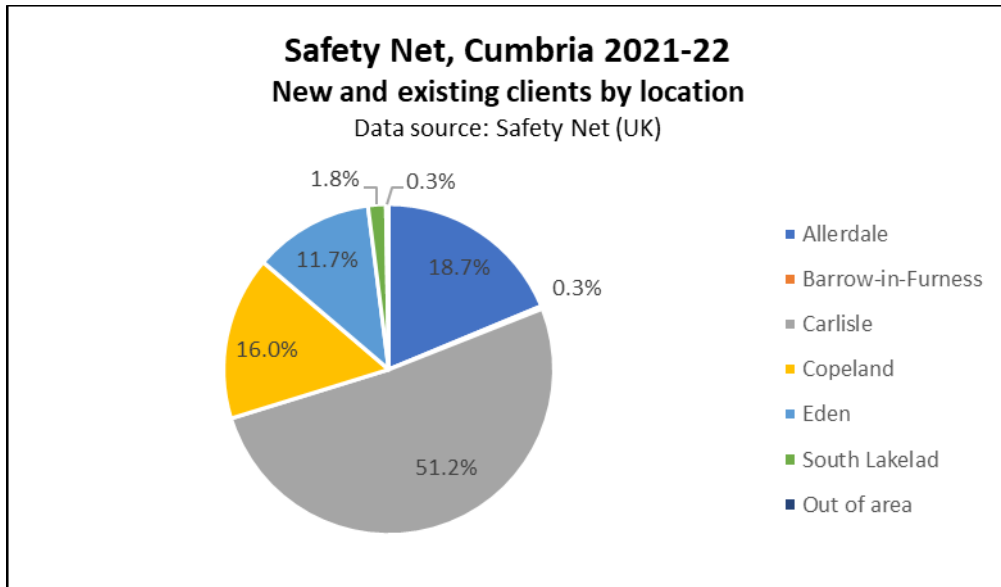
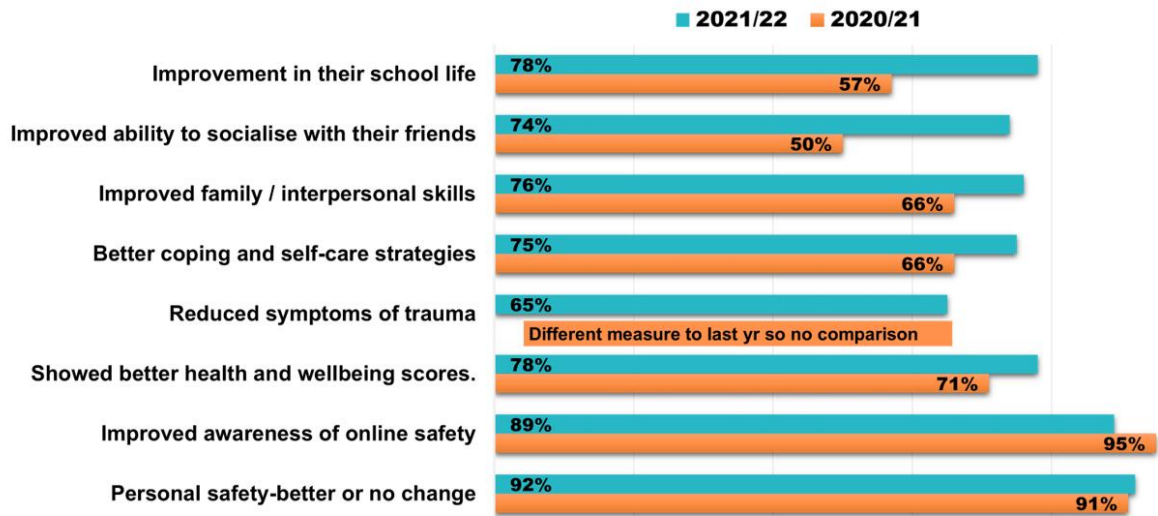
Safety Net outcome summary – adults

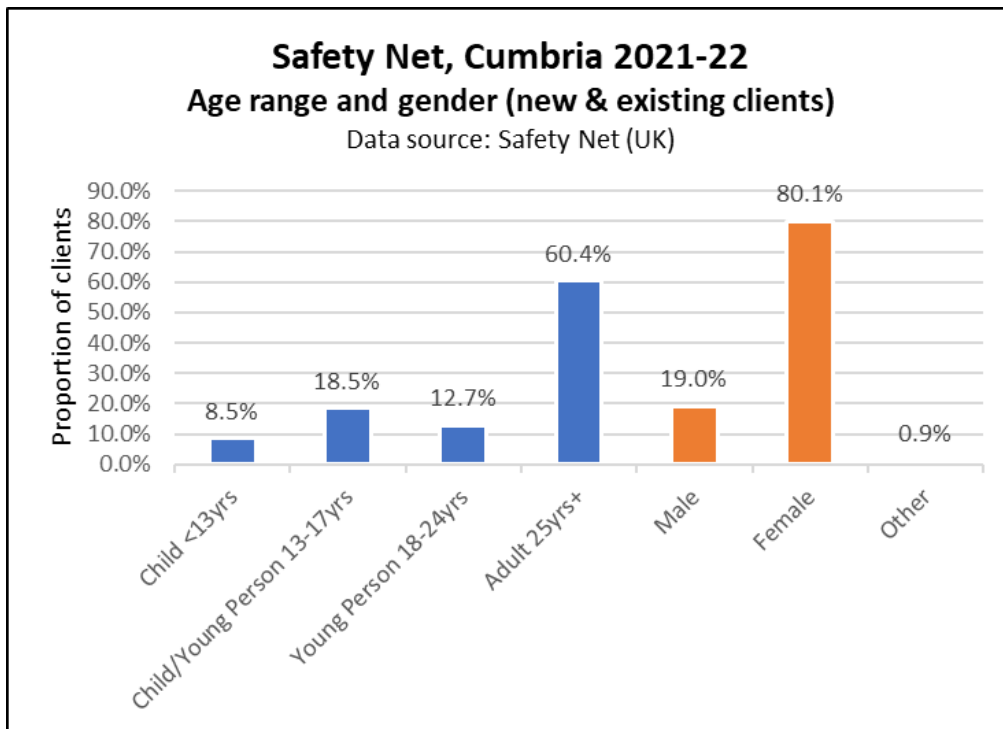
Adult Outcomes



Safety Net outcome summary – children and young people

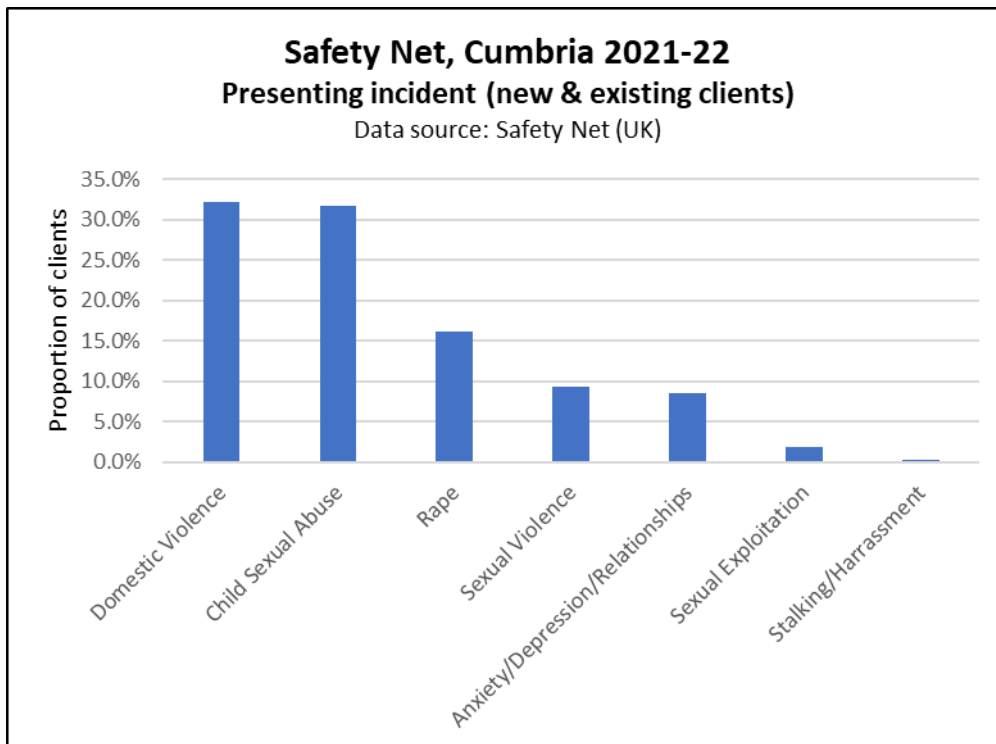
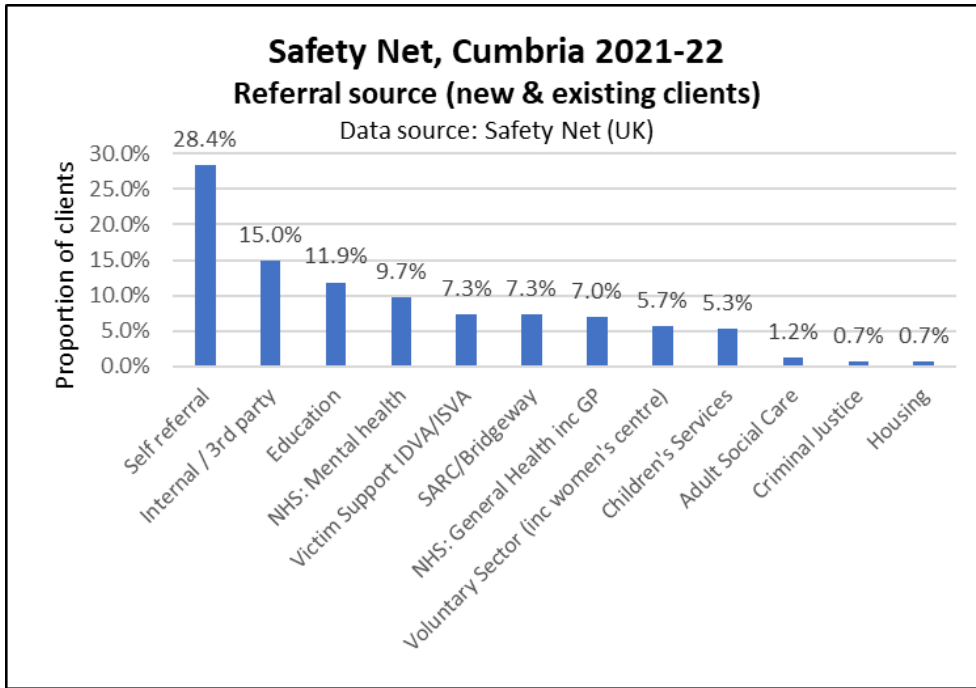
CYP Outcomes

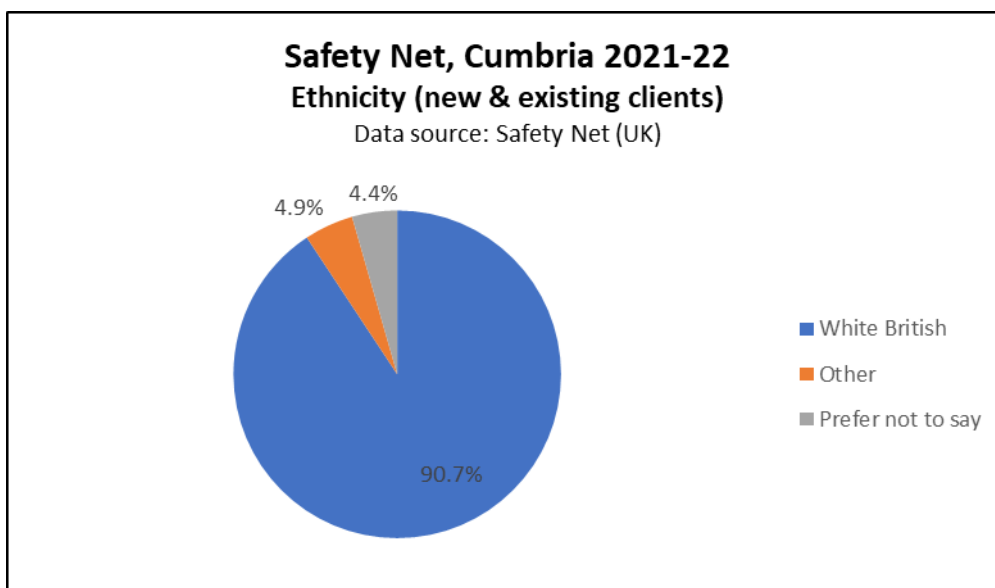




The proportion of new and existing male clients has decreased slightly from 22% of all new and existing cases in 2019-20 and 2020-21 to 19% in 2021-22. The reason for this is unclear but may be a legacy of COVID-19 lockdown periods. However, Safety Net has a very high proportion of males in service compared to service nationally. (*Safety Net, 2022*)

New and existing adult clients (aged 18+ years) made up 80% of cases in 2020-21, with child and young person clients (0-17 years) accounting for 20% of cases. The chart above shows a smaller proportion of new and existing clients aged 18+ years in 2021-22 (73%) and a correspondingly larger proportion of those aged 0-17 years (27%). The COVID-19 pandemic is likely to have had an impact on referrals for younger people in 2020-21 due to lock down as schools were closed and home visits from social services were reduced. Many children and young people are referred to Safety Net through schools projects. Safety Net's schools work recommenced in 2021-22, reflected in the higher proportion of child and young person referral in 2021-22. (*Safety Net, 2022*)





More information about Safety Net can be found here: <https://www.safetynetuk.org/>

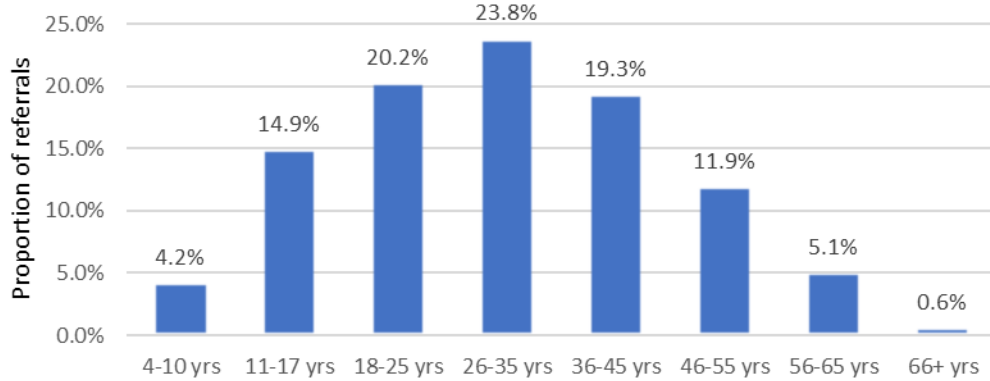
3.6.2 Referrals to The Birchall Trust

Data source for this section: *The Birchall Trust 2022*

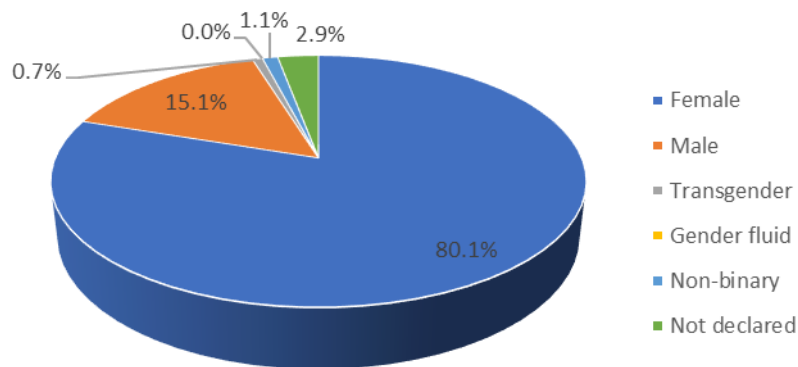
The Birchall Trust				
Clients (new and existing)	2020-21	2021-22	% change 1 year	Nr. change 1 year
Clients engaging with The Birchall Trust during the year (receiving advice, information, support)				
Adults	-	622	-	-
Children & Young People	-	165	-	-
Total engaging	-	787	-	-
Clients receiving counselling sessions during the year				
Adults	295	272	-7.8	-23
Children & Young People	75	64	-14.7	-11
Total receiving counselling	370	336	-9.2	-34
Clients completing counselling sessions during the year				
Adults				
Clients completing counselling	-	196	-	-
Number of counselling sessions received	-	4,596	-	-
Average counselling sessions per client	-	23.4	-	-
Children & Young People				
Clients completing counselling	-	43	-	-
Number of sessions delivered	-	801	-	-
Average counselling sessions per client	-	18.6	-	-

There are a number of reasons for a drop in the overall number of clients supported in 2021-22 compared to the previous year. Some therapists have left the service and a number of others have reduced their working hours. This has had an impact on client allocation and waiting time and as a consequence there has not been the capacity to support as many clients. (*The Birchall Trust, 2022*)

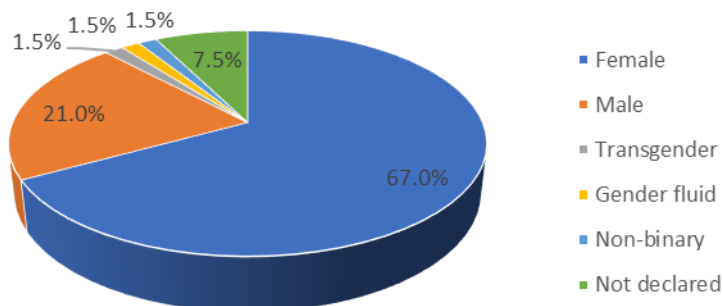
Sexual Violence support, Cumbria 2021-22
Age range, clients receiving counselling from The Birchall Trust
 (Data source: The Birchall Trust)



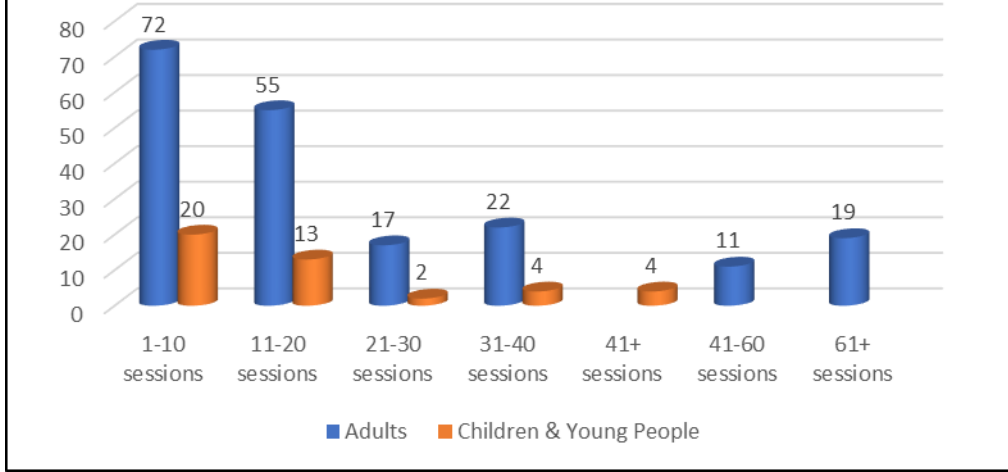
Sexual Violence support, Cumbria 2021-22
Gender, adults receiving counselling from The Birchall Trust
 (Data source: The Birchall Trust)



Sexual violence support, Cumbria 2021-22
Gender, Children & Young People receiving counselling from The Birchall Trust
 (Data source: The Birchall Trust)



Sexual Violence support, Cumbria 2021-22
Clients who have completed counselling, number of
counselling sessions delivered by The Birchall Trust
 (Data source: The Birchall Trust)

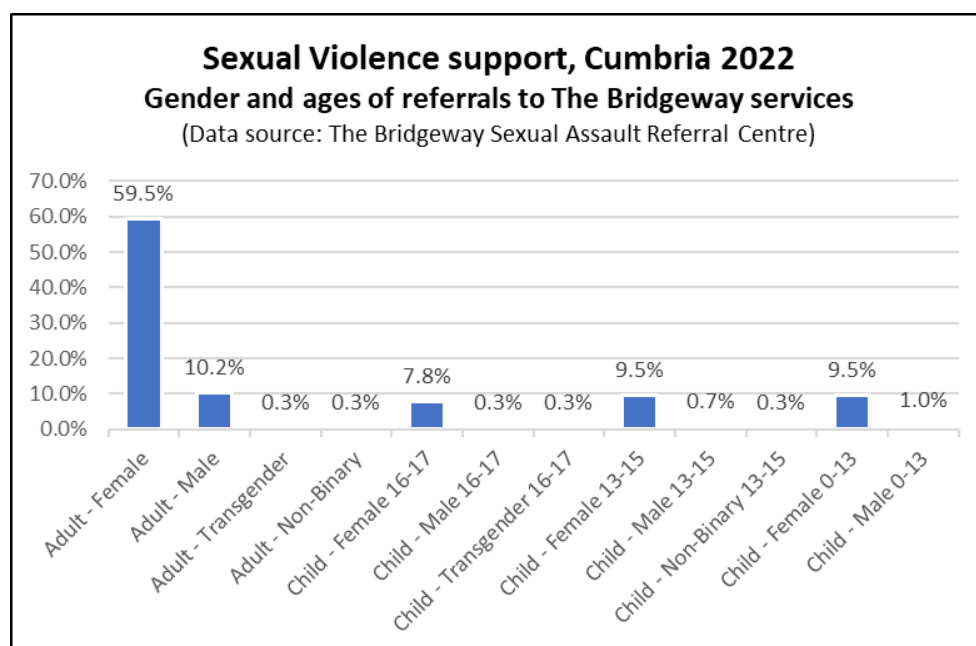
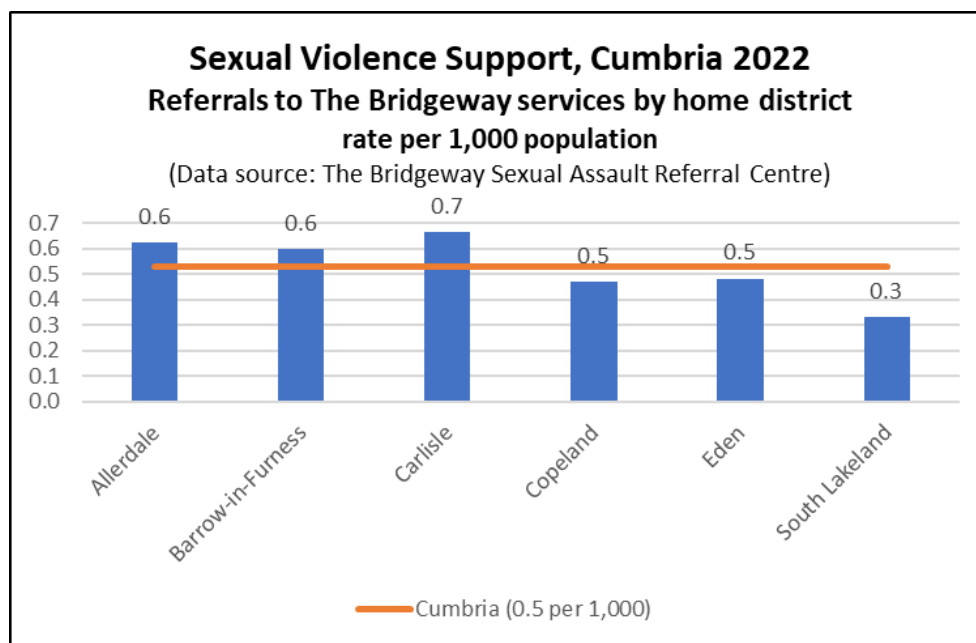


The majority of clients, both adults and children and young people received between 10 and 40 counselling sessions. Those with more complex issues (around 15% of adults and 23% of children and young people) received support for longer with extra sessions provided according to their individual needs. (*The Birchall Trust, 2022*)

3.6.3 Referrals to The Bridgeway Sexual Assault Referral Centre

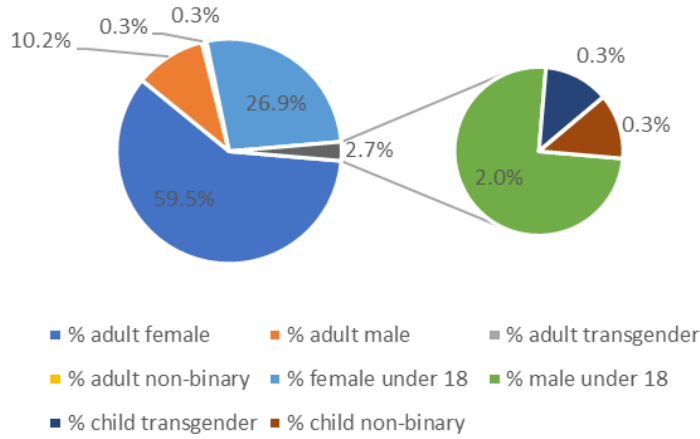
Data source for this section: *The Bridgeway Sexual Assault Referral Centre 2022*

The Bridgeway Sexual Assault Referral Centre							
	2020	2021	2022	% change 1 year	% change 2 years	Nr. change 1 year	Nr. change 2 years
Adult referrals	179	209	207	-1.0	15.6	-2	28
Under 18 referrals	54	81	87	7.4	61.1	6	33
Female	196	263	254	-3.4	29.6	-9	58
Male	35	25	36	44.0	2.9	11	1
Transgender	2	1	2	100.0	0.0	1	0
Non-Binary	0	1	2	100.0	n/a	1	2
Not recorded / unknown	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0
Total number accessing services	233	290	294	1.4	26.2	4	61



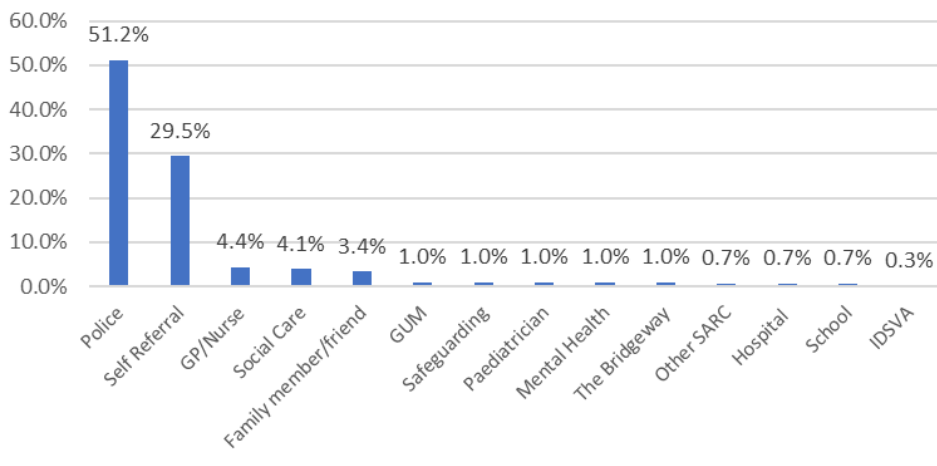
Sexual Violence support, Cumbria 2022 Broad age and gender of referrals to The Bridgeway services

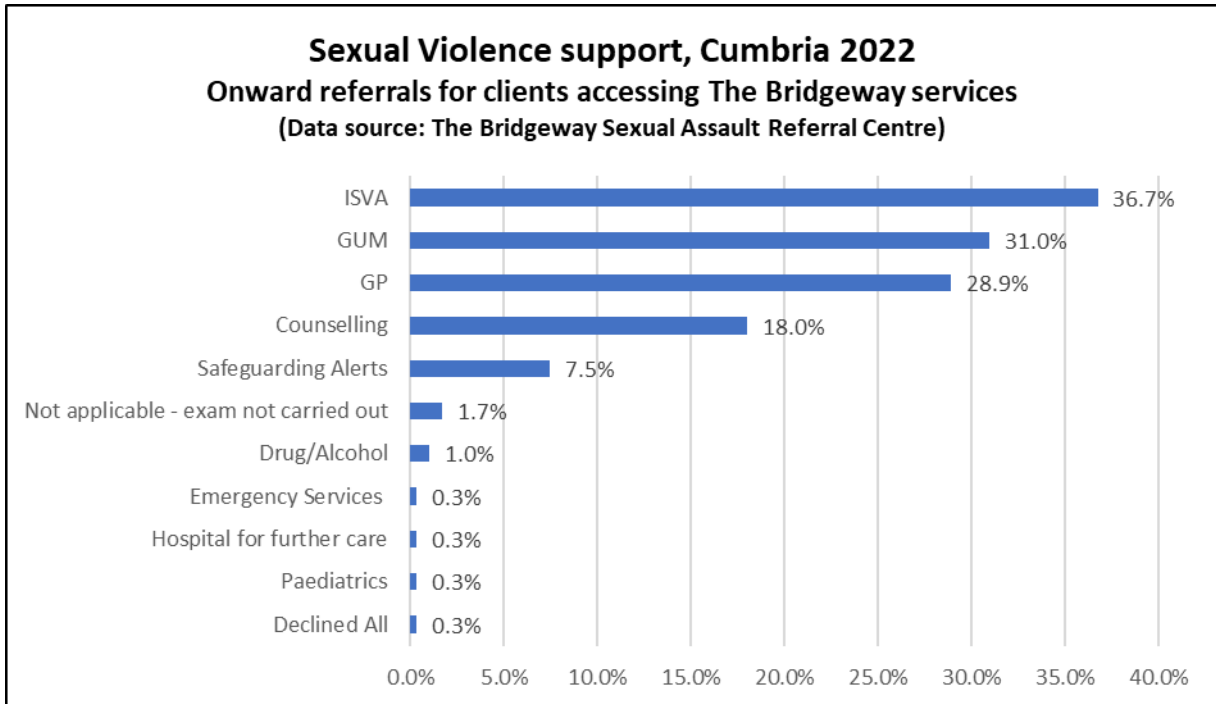
(Data source: The Bridgeway Sexual Assault Referral Centre)



Sexual Violence support, Cumbria 2022 Source of referrals to The Bridgeway

(Data source: The Bridgeway Sexual Assault Referral Centre)





Clients may have more than one onward referral; the total may therefore sum to more than 100%.

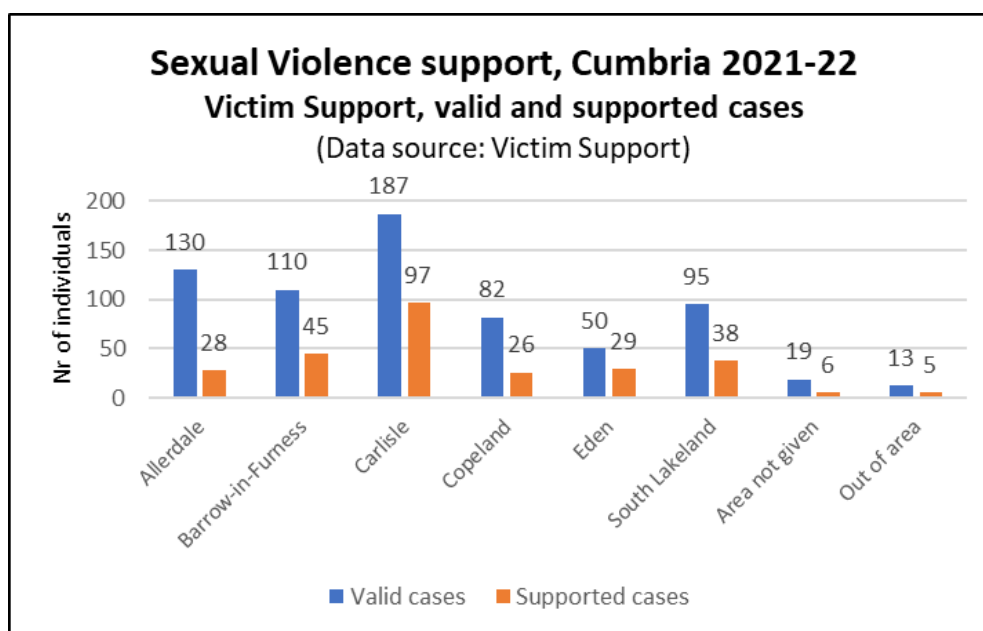
3.6.4 Referrals to Victim Support

All cases referred to Victim Support will be eligible for an offer of support, but not all individuals will take up that offer, and despite best efforts it may not always be possible to successfully contact a victim, hence the difference between the number of valid cases and the number of people supported. The number of people supported is those with whom Victim Support have made successful contact and have delivered a service.

Nationally and locally reports of sexual violence decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic. With the easing of restrictions victims may have been more able to safely disclose, report or talk to someone. The proportional increase in the number of valid cases in 2021-22 does not match the proportional increase in the number receiving support. This is likely to be the result of a number of factors. Firstly, as with the sector more widely there have been staffing and recruitment challenges which would have had an impact on engagement and supported levels with existing staff managing greater numbers while newer staff are trained. In addition much of the support during the pandemic would have been telephone based or virtual, and as restrictions were eased face to face support recommenced which takes more time and reduces overall capacity. Other factors such as support at court would also have recommenced more fully which again take up quite a lot of resource. Although valid cases may have increased this also means that there will be a higher number of more complex medium/high risk cases which by definition take more time/support. This coupled with the impacts on staffing resource has an impact on overall capacity.

3.6.4.1 Victim Support: Sexual Violence support

Data source for this section: Victim Support 2022



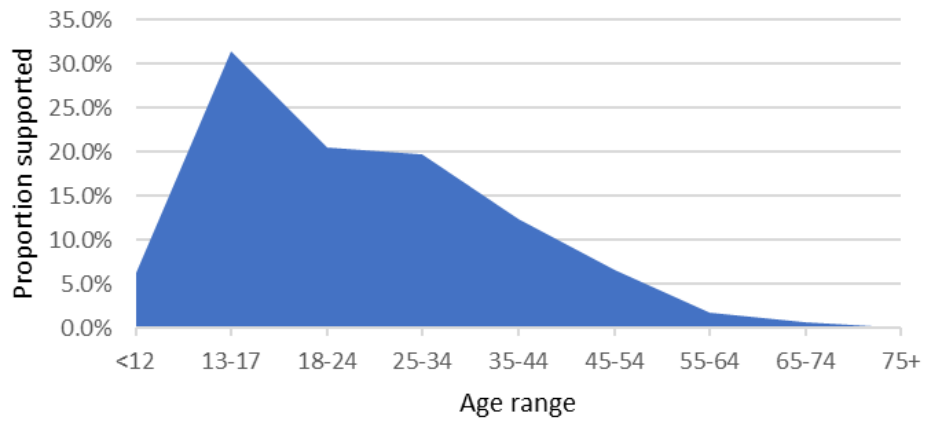
Victim Support - valid case numbers, sexual violence							
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% change 1 year	% change 2 years	Nr. change 1 year	Nr. change 2 years
Allerdale	43	53	130	145.3	202.3	77	87
Barrow-in-Furness	73	49	110	124.5	50.7	61	37
Carlisle	90	71	187	163.4	107.8	116	97
Copeland	29	27	82	203.7	182.8	55	53
Eden	24	19	50	163.2	108.3	31	26
South Lakeland	56	40	95	137.5	69.6	55	39
Not given	25	8	19	137.5	-24.0	11	-6
Out of area	5	3	13	333.3	160.0	10	8
Total	345	270	686	154.1	98.8	416	341

Victim Support - sexual violence, total number receiving support							
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% change 1 year	% change 2 years	Nr. change 1 year	Nr. change 2 years
Allerdale	33	24	28	16.7	-15.2	4	-5
Barrow-in-Furness	34	20	45	125.0	32.4	25	11
Carlisle	58	48	97	102.1	67.2	49	39
Copeland	19	8	26	225.0	36.8	18	7
Eden	15	12	29	141.7	93.3	17	14
South Lakeland	33	27	38	40.7	15.2	11	5
Not given	19	6	6	0.0	-68.4	0	-13
Out of area	4	2	5	150.0	25.0	3	1
Total	215	147	274	86.4	27.4	127	59

Sexual Violence support, Cumbria 2021-22

Victim Support, supported cases by age

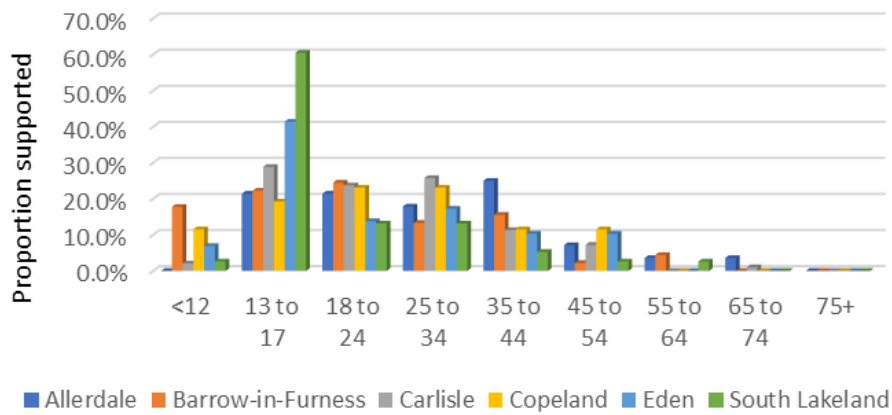
(Data source: Victim Support)

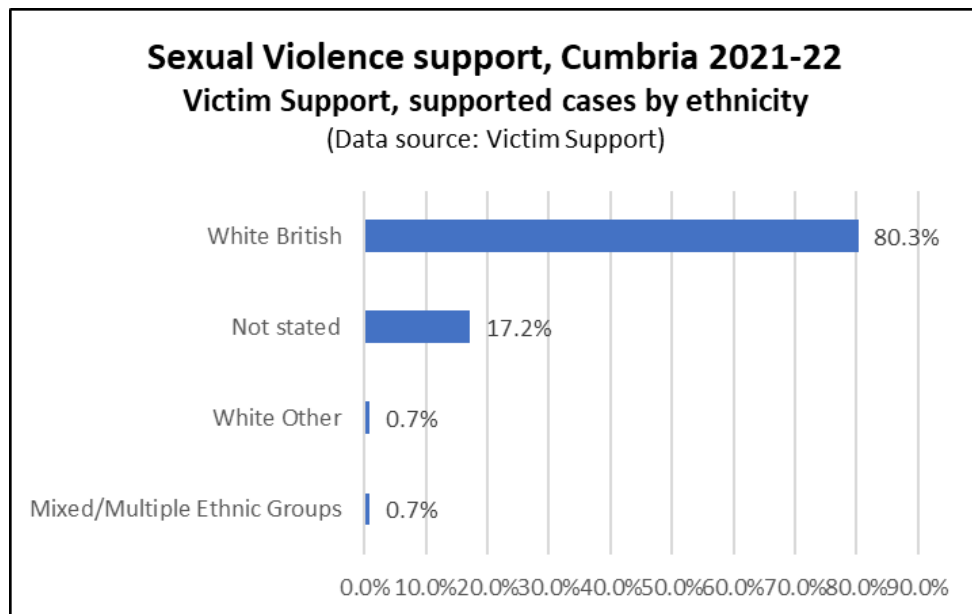
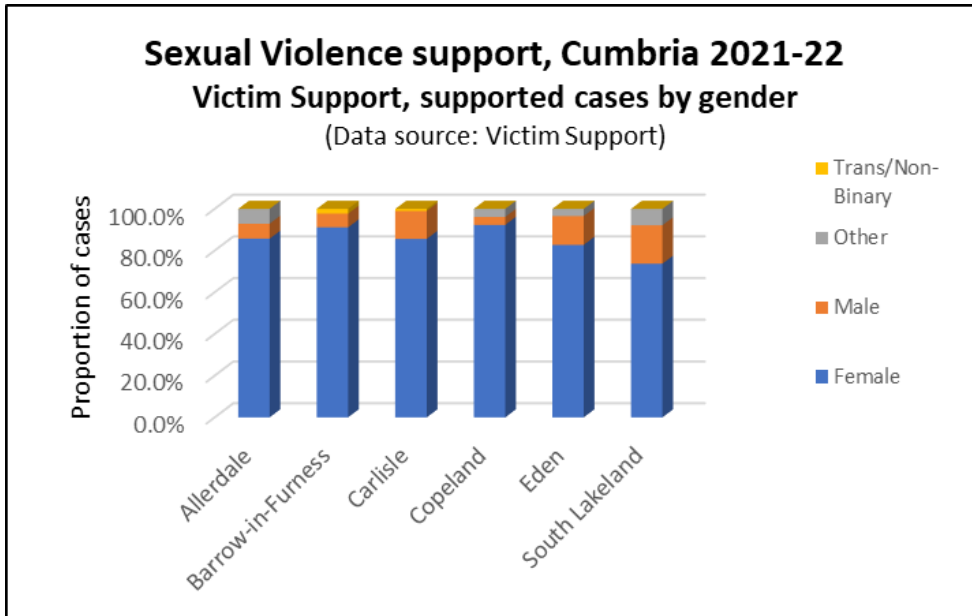


Sexual Violence support, Cumbria 2021-22

Victim Support, supported cases by age

(Data source: Victim Support)

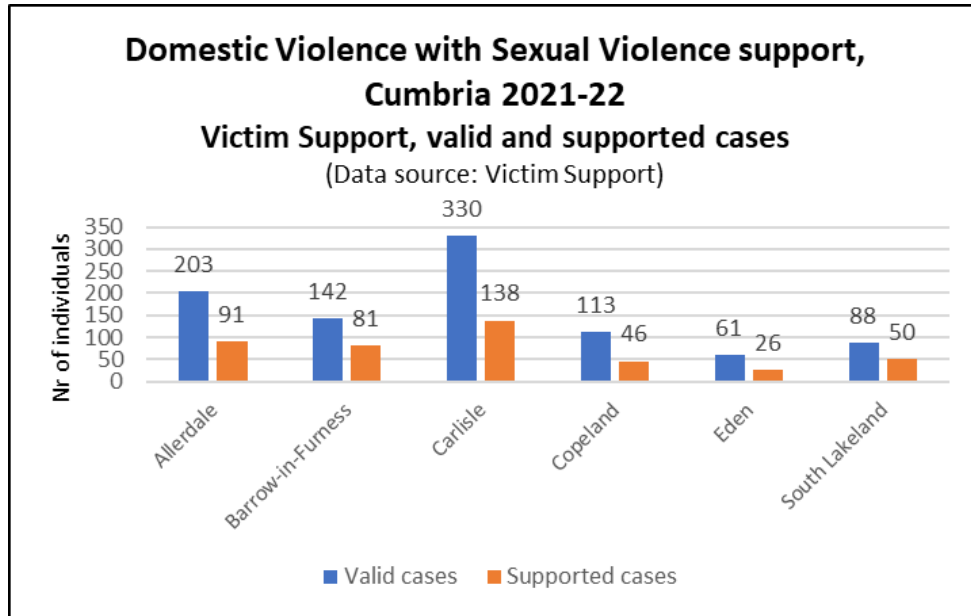




3.6.4.2 Victim Support: Domestic Violence with Sexual Violence support

Data source for this section: Victim Support 2022

It should be noted that the cases illustrated below are in addition to the domestic violence cases supported by Victim Support in the previous section.



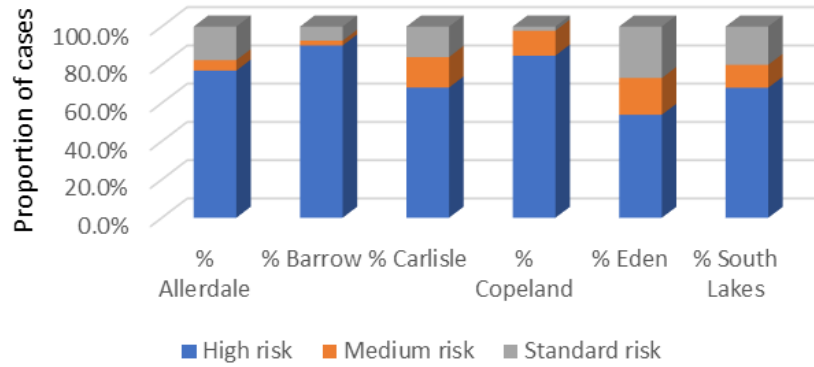
Victim Support - valid case numbers, domestic violence with sexual violence							
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% change 1 year	% change 2 years	Nr. change 1 year	Nr. change 2 years
Allerdale	145	166	203	22.3	40.0	37	58
Barrow-in-Furness	164	142	142	0.0	-13.4	0	-22
Carlisle	276	259	330	27.4	19.6	71	54
Copeland	112	141	113	-19.9	0.9	-28	1
Eden	51	52	61	17.3	19.6	9	10
South Lakeland	109	112	88	-21.4	-19.3	-24	-21
Not given	17	11	10	-9.1	-41.2	-1	-7
Out of area	2	12	32	166.7	1,500.0	20	30
Total	876	895	979	9.4	11.8	84	103

Victim Support - domestic violence with sexual violence, total number receiving support							
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% change 1 year	% change 2 years	Nr. change 1 year	Nr. change 2 years
Allerdale	132	140	91	-35.0	-31.1	-49	-41
Barrow-in-Furness	124	106	81	-23.6	-34.7	-25	-43
Carlisle	219	231	138	-40.3	-37.0	-93	-81
Copeland	101	110	46	-58.2	-54.5	-64	-55
Eden	45	48	26	-45.8	-42.2	-22	-19
South Lakeland	85	84	50	-40.5	-41.2	-34	-35
Not given	11	9	4	-55.6	-63.6	-5	-7
Out of area	1	10	10	0.0	900.0	0	9
Total	718	738	446	-39.6	-37.9	-292	-272

Domestic Violence with Sexual Violence support, Cumbria 2021-22

Victim Support, supported cases by risk level

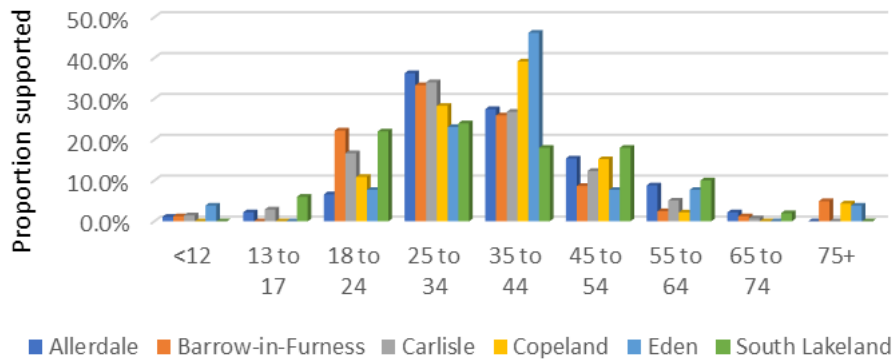
(Data source: Victim Support)



Domestic Violence with Sexual Violence support, Cumbria 2021-22

Victim Support, supported cases by age

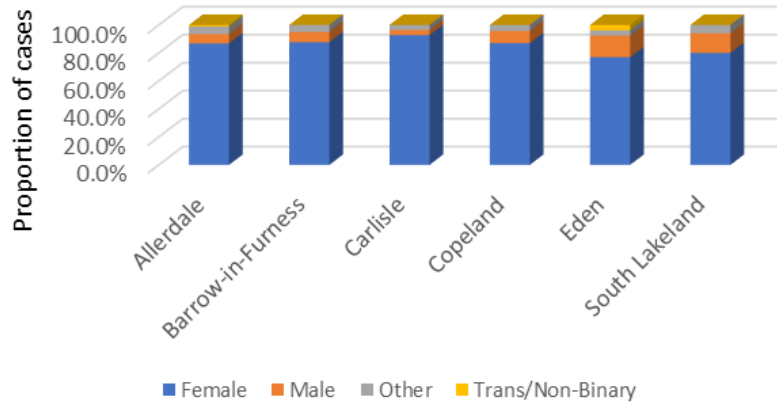
(Data source: Victim Support)



**Domestic Violence with Sexual Violence support,
Cumbria 2021-22**

Victim Support, supported cases by gender

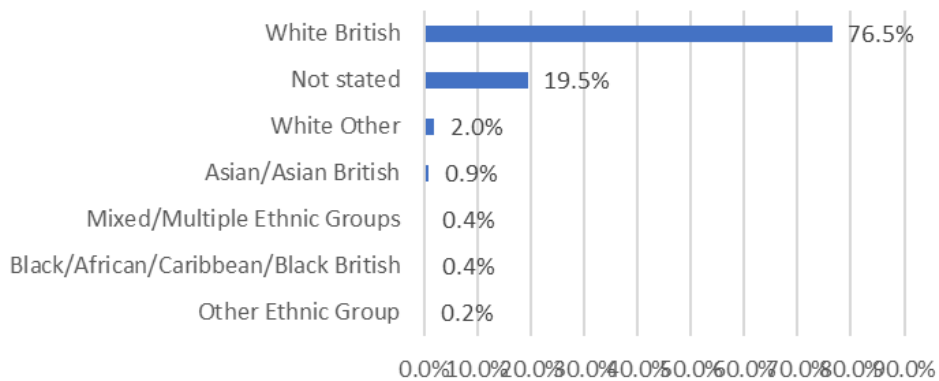
(Data source: Victim Support)



**Domestic Violence with Sexual Violence support,
Cumbria 2021-22**

Victim Support, supported cases by ethnicity

(Data source: Victim Support)

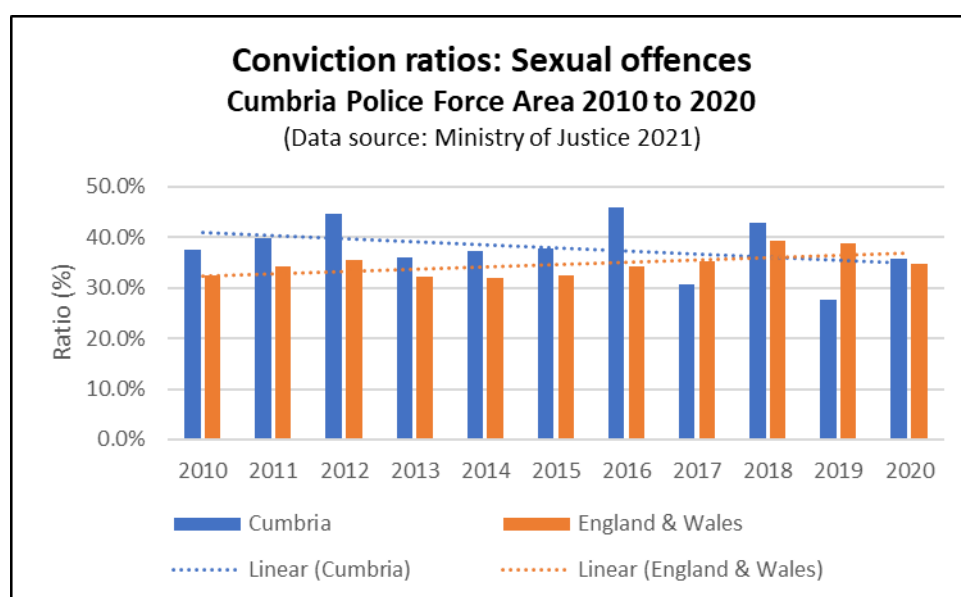
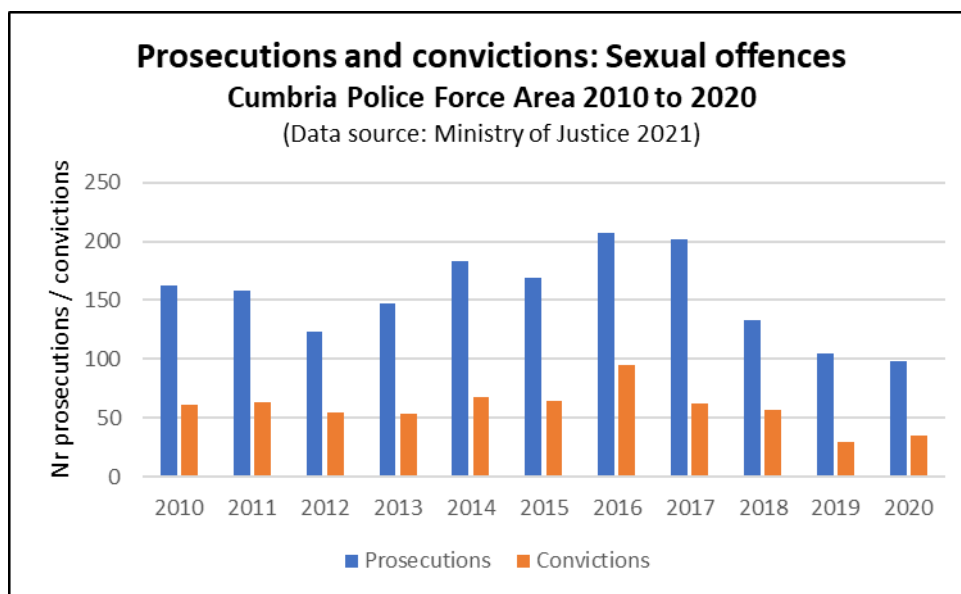


3.7 Prosecutions and convictions

Data source for this section: Ministry of Justice 2021

Prosecutions and Convictions (Data source: Ministry of Justice 2021)						
	Average pa 2017-19 (prior to Covid-19)		2020		% change 2020 vs 2017-19*	
	Cumbria	England & Wales	Cumbria	England & Wales	Cumbria	England & Wales
Sexual offences						
Prosecutions	147	15,697	98	12,023	-33.2	-23.4
Convictions	49	5,877	35	4,165	-29.1	-29.1
Conviction ratio (%)	33.6%	37.4%	35.7%	34.6%	2.1%	-2.8%

*Percentage change for prosecutions and convictions, percentage point change for conviction ratio



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The Bridgeway (2022). Data for clients referred to The Bridgeway December 2015 to December 2022. Provided by The Bridgeway Manager, by email 01/02/2023.

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5 Useful links and supporting information

Crown Prosecution Service (2019). *Violence against Women and Girls crime report 2018-19*.
<https://www.cps.gov.uk/publication/violence-against-women-and-girls>

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<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2022>

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<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/crimeinenglandandwalesappendixtables>

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<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/wellbeing/bulletins/measuringnationalwellbeing/april2020tomarch2021>

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<https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/thenatureofviolentcrimeinenglandandwalesyearendingmarch2020>

6 Acronyms

CSA	Child sexual abuse
CSE	Child sexual exploitation
DSR	Directly standardised rate
GP	General Practice
GUM	Genitourinary medicine clinic
IDVA	Independent domestic violence advisor
IMD	Indices of Multiple Deprivation
ISVA	Independent sexual violence advisor
LSOA	Lower Super Output Area
ONS	Office for National Statistics
SARC	Sexual assault referral centres
UK	United Kingdom