



# **Children and Violence Deep Dive:**

## **Cambridge City**

**2025**

**Final V1.0P**

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# 1. Executive Summary

**This version has numbers redacted or rounded where appropriate to comply with GDPR.**

## **Note on terminology:**

Throughout the report analysis has been conducted on two main cohorts, children aged between 0- to 17-year-old and young people aged between 18- to 24-years-old. Terminology of either 'children' or '0- to 17-year-olds' will be used interchangeably throughout the report depending on the context of the sentence. Similarly, '18- to 24-years-old' or 'young people' will also be used interchangeably.

The 2024 Community Safety Strategic Assessment for Cambridge City highlighted that violence against the person (VAP) was the second highest police recorded offence in the year ending (YE) September 2024 and that VAP has also consistently been the most common offence type for children who offend between YE September 2022 and YE September 2024 (CCC PIT, 2024, p. 8).

This report aims to further explore data on children and young people in the context of violence in Cambridge City. This aligns with Priority 1 of the Cambridge Community Safety Plan (2025-2027) of "Preventing Violence and Exploitation".

For this report, children are classified as aged between 0- to 17-years -old and young people as aged between 18-to 24-years-old. There has also been reference to key stage education groups throughout this report, as requested by Cambridge City Community Safety Partnership.

This report brings together local population data, data provided by Cambridgeshire Constabulary, data provided by Youth Justice Service (YJS), data provided by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Probation Service (CPPS), Cambridgeshire Youth Survey, and highlights from the Youth Endowment Fund report. The majority of data will focus on 2025, unless stated otherwise. Although this report brings together a number of datasets the findings should be treated with caution. This is due to the quality of the data and the small numbers for some of the cohorts.

The report highlights the complex landscape of children and violence in Cambridge City, shaped by the area's unique demographic profile and crime patterns. Cambridge City's population is heavily influenced by its two universities, resulting in a high proportion of young people and a comparatively smaller share of children. Violence Against the Person (VAP) offences remained relatively stable between 2024 and 2025, with 4,133 offences recorded in 2025 and violence without injury consistently making up the largest category. Certain wards—particularly Market, Abbey and King's Hedges—show persistent concentrations of violence across

sub-types. Among suspects, males predominate, with 16 to 17-year-olds most represented within the children's cohort and 20 to 21-year-olds within the young people's cohort. Victim patterns similarly show peaks among 14-, 16-, and 17-year-olds for children, and 20- and 23-year-olds for young people. Youth Justice Service data indicates a significant long-term decline in VAP offences; additional insights highlight common offence types (such as ABH and common assault), demographic overrepresentation of certain age groups, and notable links to mental health needs, SEN, and substance misuse.

## 1.1. Key Findings

The prevalence and pattern of violence in an area is influenced by several factors, and this report specifically focuses on violence in relation to children and young people. Therefore, a few key factors have been considered to understand the Cambridge City perspective, such as the demographic, socio-economic and environmental factors. The city has a distinctive age profile influenced by its universities, resulting in a smaller proportion of children and a large concentration of 18–24-year-olds, particularly in wards like Newnham and Market. Patterns of deprivation vary sharply, with Abbey and King's Hedges being the most deprived areas—an important factor given known links between deprivation and vulnerability to violence.

Other drivers of children's vulnerability include adverse childhood experiences, household instability, parental substance misuse, disability, exclusion from education, limited access to trusted adults, and community environment. Local survey evidence indicates that respondents from Cambridge worry most about knife crime and violence, recognise peer pressure as a major driver of offending, and generally feel safe but with notable pockets of concern.

### **Police recorded VAP offences**

#### *Overview*

- There were 4,133 VAP offences in Cambridge City in 2025. There was little change between 2024 and 2025 (-1%, -28 offences).
- Across the four analysed years, 2022 had the highest number of offences at 4,382. When compared to 2025, this is a decrease of 6% (-249 offences).
- In 2025, violence without injury accounted for 52% of all violence against the person offences. Violence without injury has consistently accounted for the largest proportion of VAP offences between 2022 and 2025.

#### *Geographic analysis*

Three wards consistently feature in the analysis in relation to violence: Market, Abbey, and King’s Hedges. It is not surprising that Market ward features heavily. Although Market has a low proportion of children (see Figure 1) and has low relative deprivation (decile 8; 1 being most deprived and 10 being least deprived) (MHCLG, 2025), it contains a concentration of night-time economy locations. It also has heavy footfall for both retail economy and tourist locations, including popular green spaces (Cambridge BID).

The other two wards that feature are Abbey and King’s Hedges. These wards do contain schools and more relatively deprived areas of the city. According to latest Indices of Deprivation release for 2025, Abbey and King’s Hedges have a high level of relative deprivation with the lowest decile out of all other wards in Cambridge City, decile 5. Similarly, Thorpe Way (Cambridge 006F) sits in Abbey ward, and it remains the LSOA in the lowest decile (2). All other LSOAs in the top 30% most deprived are situated within King’s Hedges or Abbey (MHCLG, 2025).

- Violence with injury
  - Market accounted for over a quarter of all violence with injury offences in Cambridge in 2025 (27%) and had the highest rate per 1,000 of all wards in Cambridge (24.0).
  - Abbey had the second highest rate per 1,000 in 2025 (8.6).
- Violence without injury
  - Market accounted for just under a quarter of all violence without injury offences in Cambridge in 2025 (24%). This is a rate per 1,000 at 47.7, notably higher than the rate per 1,000 for Cambridge (14.2).
  - Abbey had the second highest rate per 1,000 population at 19.5.
- Stalking and harassment
  - Abbey accounted for the highest proportion of stalking and harassment offences in Cambridge City in 2025 and also had the highest rate per 1,000 population (12% and 11.5 respectively).
  - Kings Hedges accounted for the second highest proportion and had the second highest rate per 1,000.

Below are tables that summarise key findings for suspects and victims from police recorded VAP offences in 2025.

**Table 1: Summarised key findings for suspects of police recorded VAP offences in 2025**

Children (0- to 17-year-olds)	Young People (18- to 24-year-olds)	Key Stage Groups
63% were male (90) and 32% were female (45).	60% of these suspects were male (103). 35% were female (60).	Key stage 5 with ages 16 to 18 had the highest count of suspects in the total VAP cohort.

Children (0- to 17-year-olds)	Young People (18- to 24-year-olds)	Key Stage Groups
Ages 16 and 17 each accounted for the highest proportion of this age group regardless of gender.	Those aged 20 accounted for the highest proportion (18%), followed by age 21 (17%)	

**Table 2: Summarised key findings for victims of police recorded VAP offences in 2025**

Children (0- to 17-year-olds)	Young People (18- to 24-year-olds)	Key Stage Groups
53% were male (182) and 43% were female (148).  Those aged 14, 16 and 17 accounted for the highest proportion (12% each).	43% of victims were male (181). 50% were female (211).  Those aged 20 and 23 accounted for the highest proportion (17% each).	Key stage 3 with ages 11 to 14 had the highest count of victims in the total VAP cohort.

## Youth Justice Service (YJS)

### Overview

- YJS indicates a significant 58% decline in VAP offences between 2021 and 2025.
- Compared to other districts, Cambridge City has had the second lowest number of VAP offences for the years 2024 and 2025. This contrasts with Cambridge City having the highest number of VAP offences in 2021.

### Out of Court Resolutions (OCRs)

- OOCRs make up the largest proportion compared to court sentences and charges, and the proportion of OOCRs has steadily increased from 62% in 2021 to 84% in 2025.
- Within OOCRs, Community Resolution Police Facilitated and Deferred Prosecution Outcome 22 have been and are currently the most common OCR outcomes. Both are non-substantive outcomes.

### VAP Offence types

- Most VAP offences have a low offence gravity score of 3 and are thus low harm.

- The most common VAP offence types are Assault a person thereby occasioning them actual bodily harm, Assault by beating, and Common assault, and all three VAP offence types have an offence gravity score of 3.

### *Demography*

- Male children make up the biggest proportion, and this ranges from 55% in 2024 to 73% in 2022.
- The 14 to 15 age group makes up the biggest proportion of children who offend with VAP offences. Key Stage 4 with the age group 14 to 16 has the largest number of children who offend with VAP offences.
- White British consistently makes up the largest proportion with a range of 51% in 2021 to 68% in 2024. This is followed by Asian, Black and Other with a range of 19% in 2024 to 38% in 2023. The smallest proportion is White Other with a range of 4% in 2025 to 18% in 2021.

### Assetplus

Between 2021 and 2025,

- 15% of the total five-year cohort had contact with mental health services;
- 12% of the total five-year cohort had SEN or disabilities identified;
- 26% of the total five-year cohort had evidence of substance misuse.

## 1.2. Considerations

This section provides initiatives and geographic areas the partnership should consider alongside existing activity. For more examples of interventions and activities, the Youth Endowment Fund website provides a range of evidence. The CSP works closely with the county serious violence operational delivery group already. Furthermore, the CSP should consider how to make best use of those funds that are available via the operational delivery group.

### 1.2.1. Initiatives

As part of the CSP's Priority 1, "Preventing Violence and Exploitation", it is essential that preventative interventions are implemented to align with recognised best practice. Below are four examples of interventions that could be considered for Cambridge.

- **Community Engagement and Safe Spaces Hub** – The Haven Youth project in Darlington provides a valuable example of a community-based hub offering structured activities, mentoring, and a trusted environment for young people.

- **Education and Awareness** – Examples include awareness campaigns such as the Knife Angel exhibition and rollout of public bleed-control kits and ensuring the bleed-control kits are strategically located in identified hotspots.
- **Technology** – Introduce Virtual Reality led education sessions in schools, alternative provision, and youth services, ensuring that content is coproduced with young people and practitioners to maximise relevance and impact. Virtual Reality (VR) tools are increasingly used in educational settings to simulate scenarios involving risk, peer pressure, and conflict.
- **Sport Centred Intervention** – Work with academies like Martin Gray Academy and Youth Sport Trust to deliver evidence-aligned, sport-based engagement activities such as structured training sessions, mentoring, and targeted diversionary programmes that support resilience, positive behaviour, and youth development in line with recognised best practice.

### 1.2.2. Geographic

As part of the CSP's Priority 1 of "Preventing Violence and Exploitation", initiatives discussed in the previous section should be prioritised to the following three wards:

- Market
- Abbey
- King's Hedges

## 2. Context

In order to understand the broader context and factors that influence violence in Cambridge City, a number of additional datasets and national research has been included within this report.

### 2.1. Population

This section details the proportion of the population of children (0-to-17-year old) and young people (18- to 24-years-old) all wards in Cambridge City. In each graph these proportions are displayed alongside Cambridge City and Cambridgeshire as comparison figures. Data has been collated from local population estimates produced by Policy, Performance and Intelligence Service in Cambridgeshire County Council. The latest estimates are for mid-2023 (CCC PIT, 2025).

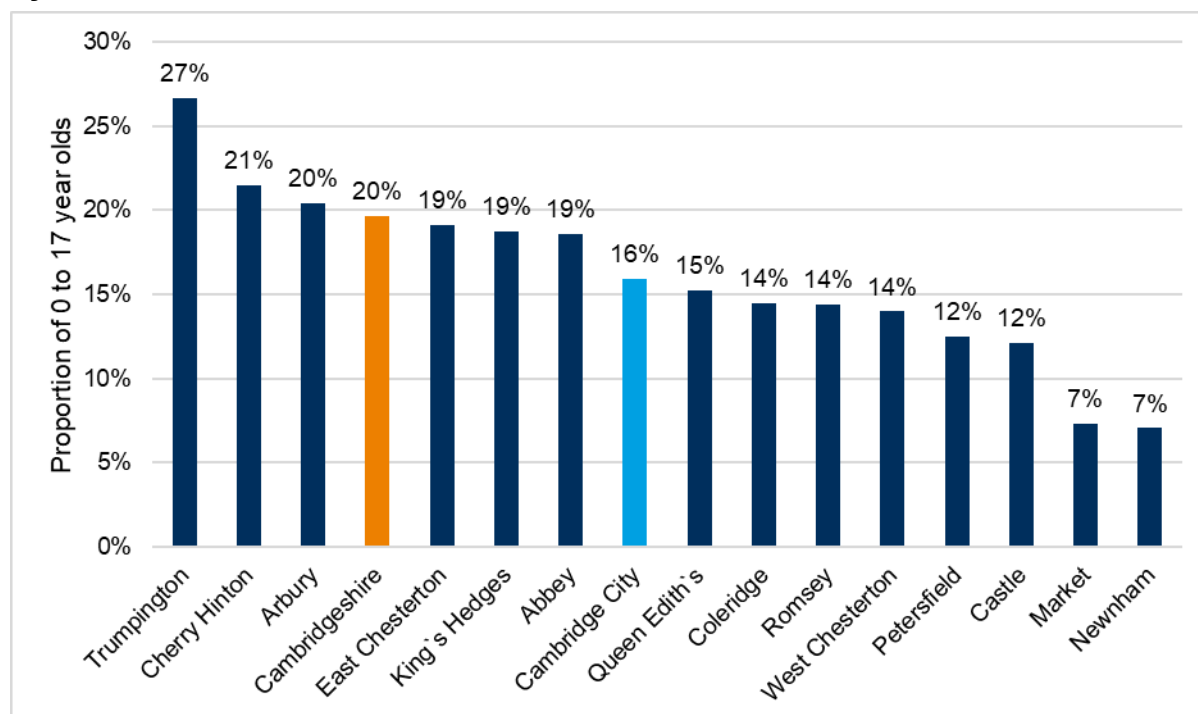
When understanding the population of children and young people in Cambridge City, it should be noted that Cambridge City has two universities and a different age demographic in comparison to the other districts.

### 2.1.1. Children (0-to-17-year-old)

Cambridge City has a lower proportion of children in the total population compared with Cambridgeshire as a whole (16% vs 20%).

Within Cambridge City, Trumpington ward has the highest proportion of children, with over a quarter of the population (27%).

**Figure 1: Proportion of population aged 0- to 17-year-olds in Cambridge City, by ward**



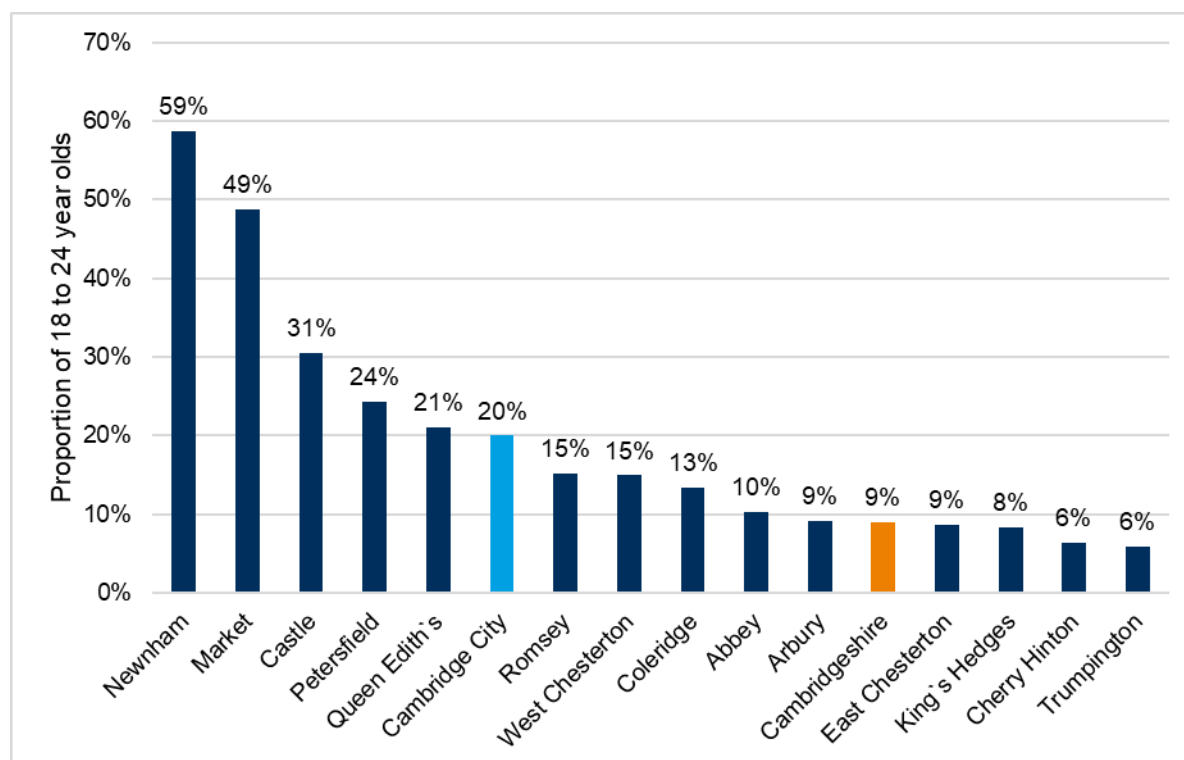
Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Communities and Demography PI Team, using local population estimates data (CCC PIT, 2025).

### 2.1.2. Young people (18- to 24-year-olds)

Almost two thirds of Newnham's population are young people (59%). Newnham encompasses a lot of the University of Cambridge colleges, and therefore, this provides an explanation for the notable difference in the population of children and the population of young people.

Castle and Market border Newnham and these wards also contain University of Cambridge colleges. Almost half of Market's population and almost a third of Castle's population are young people (49% and 31% respectively).

**Figure 2: Proportion of population of 18- to 24-year-olds in Cambridge City, by ward**



Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Communities and Demography PI Team, using local population estimates (CCC PIT, 2025).

### 2.1.3. Total cohort of children and young people

Further analysis of the distribution of five-year age groups within the 0- to 24-year-old population across Cambridge City is below. This offers further understanding to the differences between these age groups particularly across wards.

- 91% of Newnham’s 0 to 24 population were aged between 15 to 24. This is the same as Market’s proportion.
- 75% of Castle’s 0 to 24 population were aged between 15 to 24.
- Trumpington has the lowest proportion of 20- to 24-year-olds (14%).

**Table 3: Age distribution of 0- to 24-year-olds population in Cambridge City by five- year age bands per ward**

Ward	0 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 24	Under 25 population
Abbey	17%	18%	19%	16%	29%	3,185
Arbury	16%	20%	23%	17%	25%	2,945
Castle	10%	9%	6%	23%	52%	3,796
Cherry Hinton	18%	24%	23%	17%	18%	2,647
Coleridge	12%	15%	15%	23%	35%	2,937
East Chesterton	18%	20%	20%	16%	25%	2,766
King`s Hedges	19%	20%	19%	16%	26%	3,028

<b>Ward</b>	<b>0 to 4</b>	<b>5 to 9</b>	<b>10 to 14</b>	<b>15 to 19</b>	<b>20 to 24</b>	<b>Under 25 population</b>
Market	3%	2%	4%	28%	63%	6,071
Newnham	2%	3%	4%	31%	60%	7,606
Petersfield	9%	9%	10%	24%	49%	4,336
Queen Edith`s	8%	11%	14%	18%	49%	4,460
Romsey	16%	14%	12%	13%	45%	3,246
Trumpington	22%	25%	22%	17%	14%	4,136
West Chesterton	10%	13%	16%	19%	41%	2,659
<b>Cambridge City</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>53,818</b>

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Communities and Demography PI Team, using local population estimates (CCC PIT, 2025).

### 2.1.4. Age breakdown by School Key Stage Groups

Table 4 shows ages distributed across the key stage education groups. Caution should be taken when comparing figures between key stages as ages overlap between groups.

Key Stage 2 with ages 7 to 11 has the highest population across both Cambridge City and Cambridgeshire. This is followed by Early Years Foundation Stage with ages 0 to 4 for both Cambridge City and Cambridgeshire.

**Table 4: Population of children in Cambridge City and Cambridgeshire, by key stage education group**

<b>Key Stage</b>	<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Cambridge City Population</b>	<b>Cambridgeshire Population</b>
Early Years Foundation Stage	0 to 4	6,095	34,130
Key Stage 1	5 to 7	3,950	23,380
Key Stage 2	7 to 11	7,020	41,045
Key Stage 3	11 to 14	5,625	32,940
Key Stage 4	14 to 16	4,055	23,765
Key Stage 5	16 to 18	5,110	23,385
	<b>Total population (unique count)</b>	<b>26,410</b>	<b>146,315</b>

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Communities and Demography PI Team, using local population estimates (CCC PIT, 2025).

## 2.2. Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IoD) 2025

In October 2025, the latest release of IoD was published; the previous release was published in 2019 (MHCLG, 2025; MHCLG, 2019). Below is a summary of key findings for Cambridge City, which aims to help provide context to some of the geographic findings throughout the report. Whilst Cambridge City has pockets of

relatively deprived areas, as a whole it ranks as relatively less deprived than other areas.

- Cambridge City is one of the least deprived districts nationally, ranked 255 out of 296 local authorities (41st least deprived).
- Castle and Newnham are the least deprived wards, both with an average IMD decile of 10, while Abbey and King's Hedges are the most deprived (average decile 5).
- 43 of Cambridge City's 78 LSOAs fall into the highest (least deprived) 3 deciles (8 -10).
- Whilst only 5 LSOAs fall into the lowest (most deprived) 3 deciles (1–3), all 5 LSOAs are situated in Abbey and Kings Hedges wards.
- Thorpe Way (Cambridge 006F) situated in Abbey ward falls into the lowest decile (2).
- Living Environment is the most deprived domain, though it now ranks as less relatively deprived nationally since 2019 (from rank 51 to 97).
- Barriers to Housing and Services domain shows the most notable change (from rank 96 to 263).
- Income-related deprivation increased, with 13% of residents experiencing income deprivation and 25% of children affected (IDACI), both representing an increase in proportion since 2019.

Source: [English indices of deprivation 2025: statistical release - GOV.UK](#) and [The English Indices of Deprivation 2019](#)

## 2.3. Drivers of Children's Vulnerability to Violence

In light of the rising levels of violence highlighted in the key findings and in alignment with the CSP's Priority 1 on Preventing Violence and Exploitation, it is essential to identify the factors and influences that drive children toward involvement in violent activities and to consider targeted actions to address them. Children's exposure to violence is strongly influenced by a combination of family, environmental, and developmental factors. This section of the report outlines a series of common drivers, many of which align with evidence on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). These adversities such as social media, household instability, parental substance misuse, domestic violence, collectively increase children's risk of both experiencing violence and demonstrating violent behaviour later in life. The research also highlights intergenerational cycles of violence, emotional dysregulation within families, and neighbourhood level influences. Importantly considering these factors provides potential opportunities, such as working with families, schools and the broader communities within the city.

### **Influencing Factors**

These factors are grouped into three categories:

**1. Individual**

- Having two or more ACEs significantly raises risk, and six or more ACEs particularly involving parental drug use, single parenthood, domestic violence, physical abuse, or long-term parental illness further heightens this risk factors (Villadsen, A., Libuy, N. and Fitzsimons, E., 2025).
- The impact social media has on children’s violent behaviour and development.
- Having a disability increases the likelihood of experiencing violence. In one study commissioned by the World Health Organisation found that children with disabilities were 3.7 times more likely than non-disabled children to be victims of any sort of violence (Pan American Health Organisation, 2012).

**2. Household Level Drivers**

- A range of household circumstances increase vulnerability to violence, including single parent families, parental breakup, domestic abuse, parental alcohol or drug misuse, and parental illness/disability (Villadsen, A., Libuy, N. and Fitzsimons, E., 2025).
- Low parental involvement in children’s activities.
- Low family income and unemployment in the family. (HM Inspectorate of Probation, 2024)

**3. Broader Environmental Factors**

- Lack of access to trusted adults at school or through clubs or being excluded from school.
- Correlation analysis with deprivation and broader safety issues
- Lack of diversionary activities in schools and the community.
- Living in an unstable or unpredictable neighbourhood.

Citations have been added throughout; however, there are also links to the data sources for influencing factors below:

[Adverse and positive childhood experiences, and their association with children’s involvement in violence | Youth Endowment Fund.](#)

[Children displaying violent behaviour – HM Inspectorate of Probation](#)

[Children with disabilities more likely to experience violence - PAHO/WHO | Pan American Health Organization](#)

## 2.4. National evidence

There are four reports which make up the Youth Endowment Fund's annual Children, Violence and Vulnerability report for 2025. This section aims to summarise some of the findings within this first report which looks at the scale of violence affecting children (Youth Endowment Fund, 2025).

Nearly 11,000 children aged between 13 and 17 in England and Wales were surveyed.

- In the past year, one in five children had been victims of violence and one in eight were perpetrators of violence (18% and 13% respectively). Half of children who were surveyed had witnessed violence committed against someone else (50%).
- Often those who had been victims of violence were also perpetrators of violence as well. 39% of victims had also carried out violence and over half of perpetrators had also been victims of violence (53%).
- Injury is more common in teenagers who have frequent violent experiences (five or more times) as a perpetrator and/ or a victim.
- Weapon carrying also links to victimisation; 79% of those who carried a weapon were also victims of violence.
- In 90% of cases, where teenage children had caused serious harm to others, adults in authority had responded.
  - 29% got in trouble at school,
  - 24% were excluded from school
  - 24% said the police were involved.

Despite these proportions, only 39% were offered support to ensure it didn't happen again. This suggests that support is less consistent than punishment.

- 70% had seen real-world violence shared on social media; this proportion had not changed since 2024 report.
- 36% had seen and participated in online content about harming specific groups of people; this participation either involved supporting or challenging the opinions.

Source: [Children, Violence and Vulnerability 2025 | Youth Endowment Fund.](#)

## 3. Youth Voice from Cambridgeshire Youth Survey

Under section 507B of the Education Act 1996 (Education Act 1996), local authorities in England have a legal duty, so far as reasonably practicable, to secure for qualifying young persons (13 - 19 years old or up to 24 for those with special educational needs) in the authority's area access to:

- sufficient educational leisure-time activities which are for the improvement of their well-being, and sufficient facilities for such activities; and
- sufficient recreational leisure-time activities which are for the improvement of their well-being, and sufficient facilities for such activities. This relates to out-of-school hours and settings.

The duty covers educational and recreational leisure time activities for the improvement of young people's wellbeing and facilities for these activities.

The Cambridgeshire Youth Survey led by Cambridgeshire County Council is a new initiative intended to inform a County Youth Offer that responds to the current needs of local young people and fully utilises the available opportunities through collaboration and a multi-agency approach.

The survey supports compliance with new statutory guidance by being closer to communities and allowing young people to have a voice on the recreational and educational leisure time activities, environments and services that might best support them given local need. It listens to the lived experience of young people and the current issues impacting their lives and subsequently building on existing knowledge of the current picture. The survey was conducted across Cambridgeshire at a district level, so opportunities for participation are varied and significant.

The Cambridge City District Youth Survey was conducted between 3rd June 2024 through to 15th August 2024. The survey was open to all young people aged 11 – 19 years old (up to 24 years old with SEND needs). The collaborative effort to create the survey involved a partnership comprising statutory and voluntary sector organisations, see B.2 Project Team – Youth Survey for Cambridge City the Appendix for a list of organisations involved. Cambridgeshire County Council's Communities Services, and Targeted Support Team provided project management, co-ordination, and administration of the survey as well as funding to cover incentives and publicity materials.

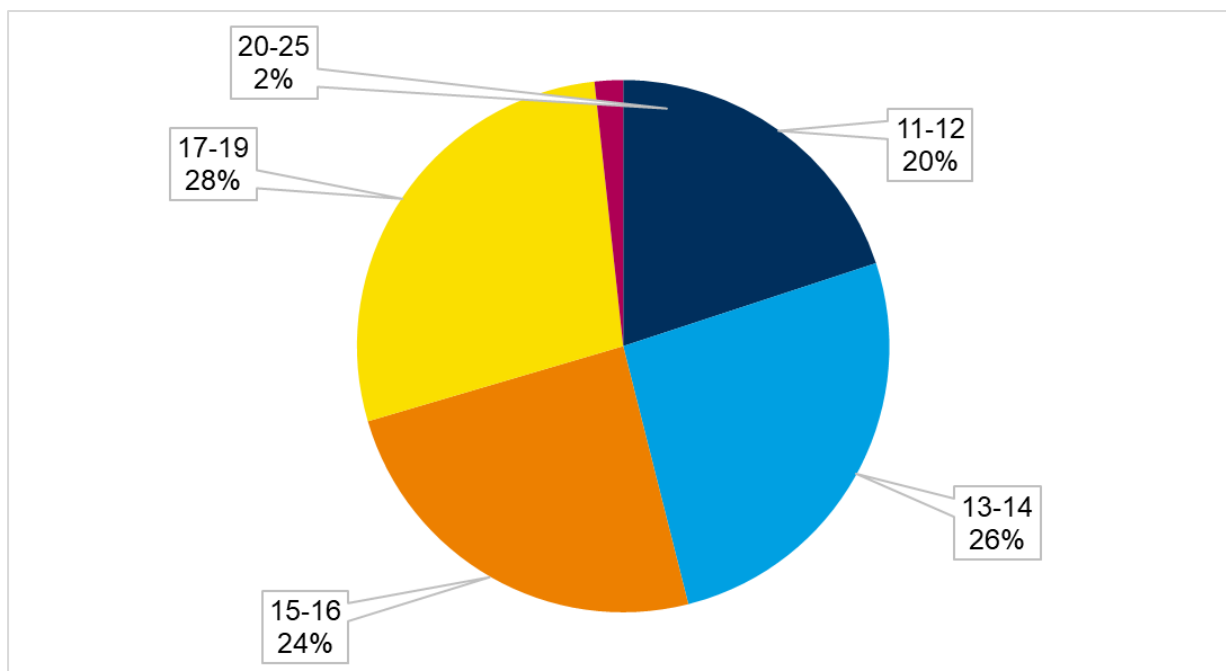
The survey was open to all young people aged between 11- to 19-years-olds, which targets those at secondary school and sixth form age. The survey was shared with schools through connections of the Targeted Support Team, and then also shared at various opportunities and events (see B.3 List of schools and events where Youth Survey for Cambridge City was shared in the Appendix for list of schools and events).

Some brief analysis on relevant survey questions has been done for the purpose of this deep dive report; however, further detail and qualitative analysis can be found in a district wide report.

In Cambridge City, the Youth Survey received 415 responses. In total, 406 responses were analysed. As questions were not mandatory, the number of questions which were answered varied each time. Respondents were aged between

11 and 19 and up to age 24 with SEND needs. The majority of respondents (28%) were aged between 17 and 19. Responses were fairly evenly split between 13-14, 15-16 and 17-19.

**Figure 3: Proportion of age groups of the respondents to Youth Survey in Cambridge City**



Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council's Communities and Demography PI Team using Cambridgeshire Youth Survey data.

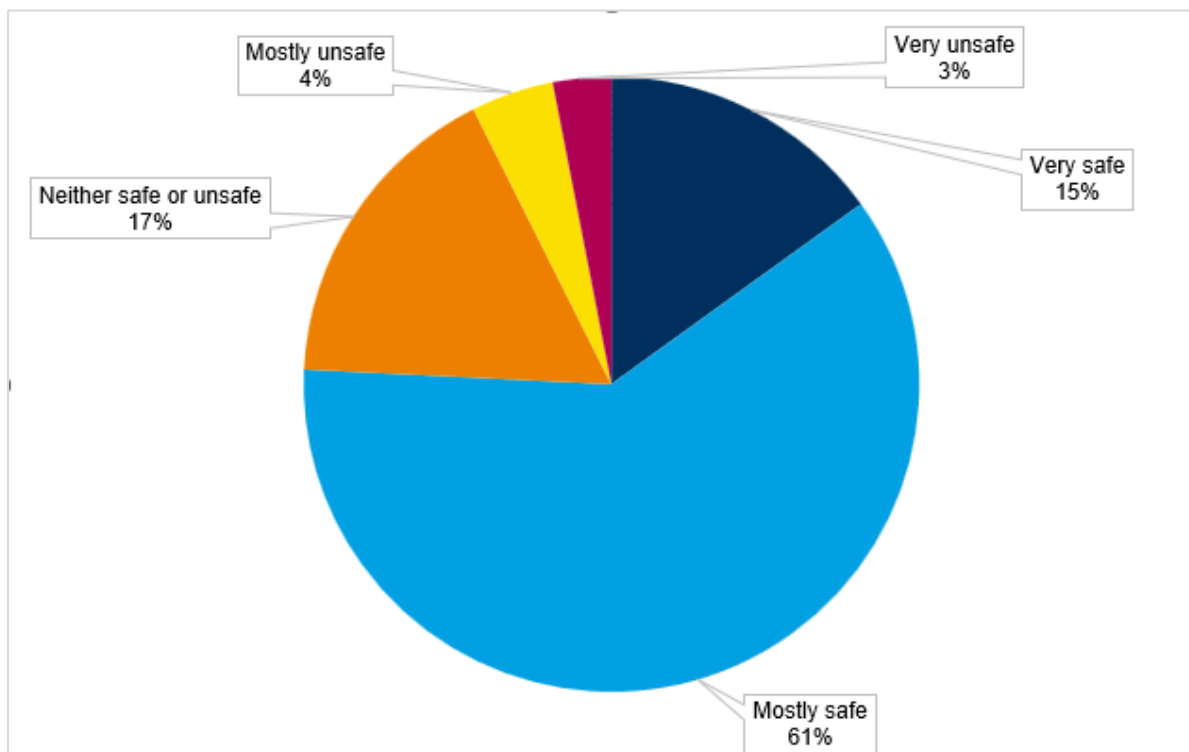
### 3.1. Views on Crime and Community Safety

Feeling safe is important to an individual's overall wellbeing. By understanding where and when children and young people feel unsafe, it may indicate where additional action is required. This section analyses some questions in relation to crime and safety.

When asked "How safe do you feel in Cambridge?", 392 responses were collected and analysed. Figure 4 shows the results.

- The highest proportion of responses were for those who 'mostly' felt safe in Cambridge (61%).
- 7% of responses stated they felt 'mostly unsafe' or 'very unsafe' in Cambridge.
- 17% of responses stated that they neither felt safe or unsafe in Cambridge.

**Figure 4: Proportion of responses to "How safe do you feel in Cambridge?"**

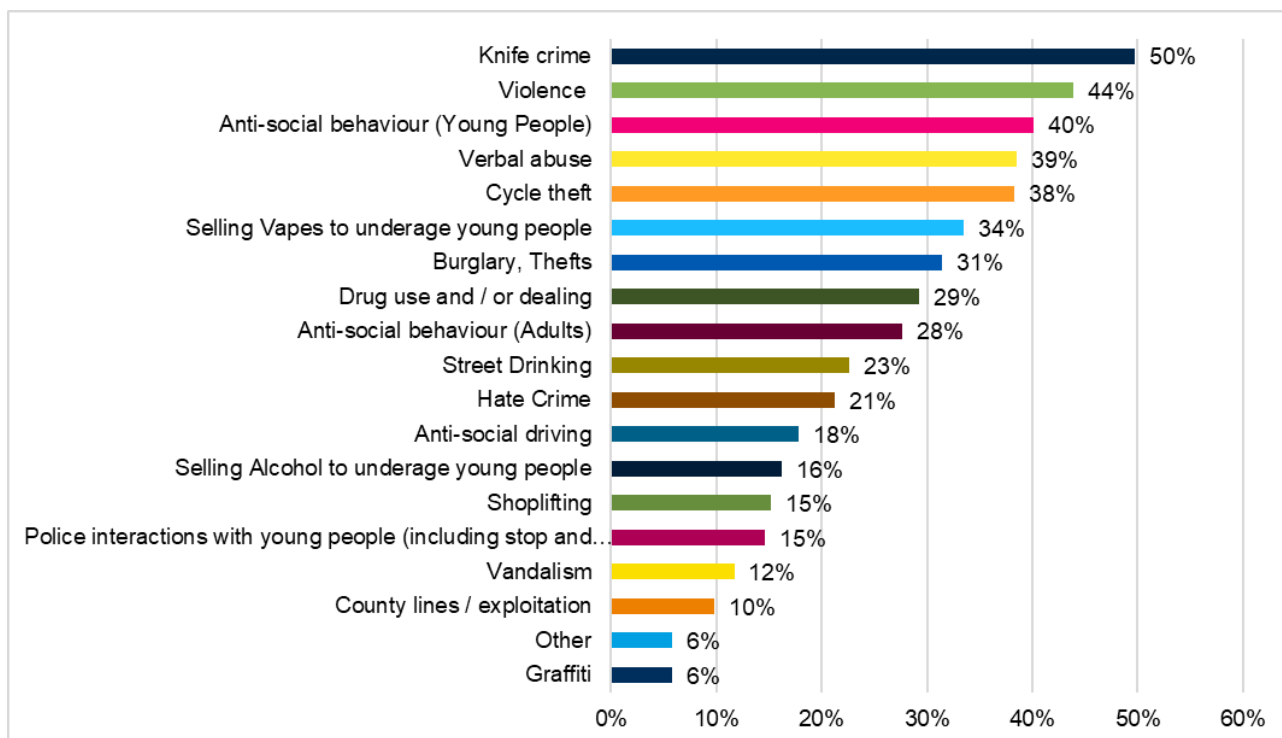


Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council's Communities and Demography PI Team using Cambridgeshire Youth Survey data.

For the question, "What crime related issues are you worried about in Cambridge?", 376 responses were collected and analysed. Respondents could select multiple answers to the question. Figure 5 below shows the results.

- The most selected answer to this question was 'Knife crime' (50%).
- This was followed by 'violence' (44%).

**Figure 5: Proportion of responses to “What crime related issues are you worried about in Cambridge?”**

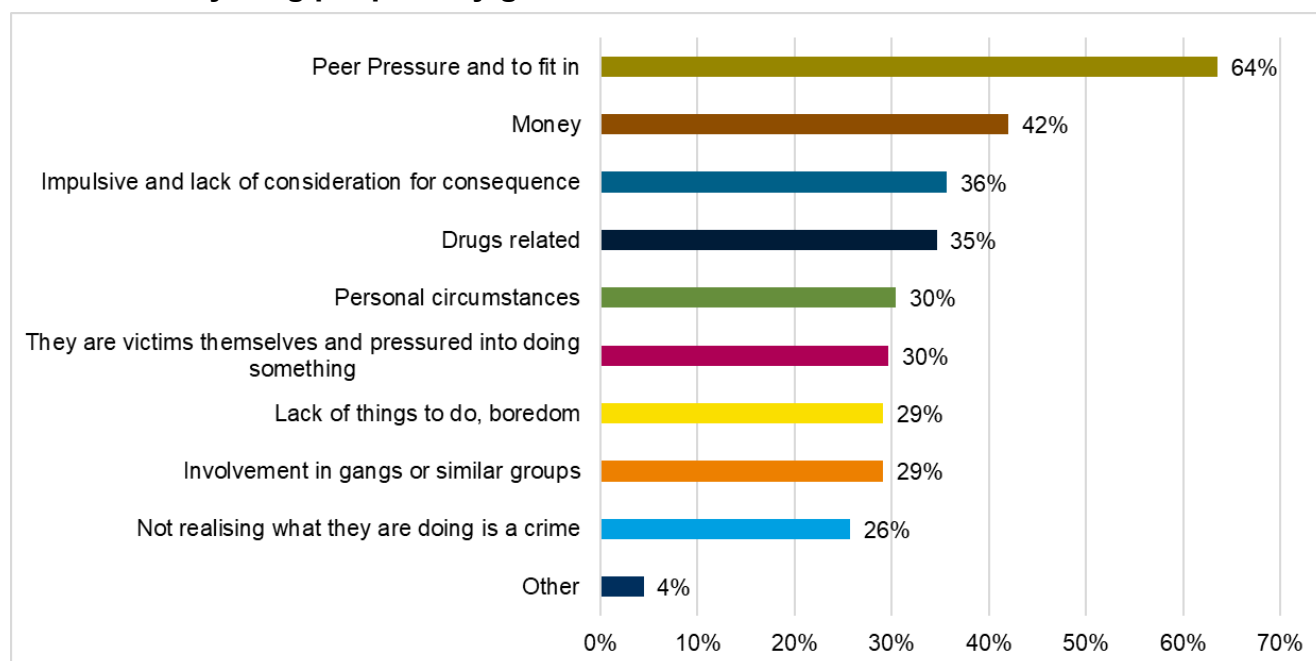


Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council’s Communities and Demography PI Team using Cambridgeshire Youth Survey data.

For the question, “What do you believe are the main reasons that young people may get involved in crime?”, 381 responses were collected and analysed. Respondents could select multiple answers to the question.

- The most selected answer to this question was ‘peer pressure to fit in’ (64%).
- This was followed by ‘money’ (42%).

**Figure 6: Proportion of responses to “What do you believe are the main reasons that young people may get involved in crime?”**



Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council’s Communities and Demography PI Team using Cambridgeshire Youth Survey data.

When asked “If you were to see anti-social behaviour or criminal activity who would you tell?”, there were 380 responses. The majority of respondents answered ‘family’ (38%). This was followed by ‘police’ with almost a quarter of respondents selecting this (22%).

## 4. Police record Violence Against the Person (VAP) Offences

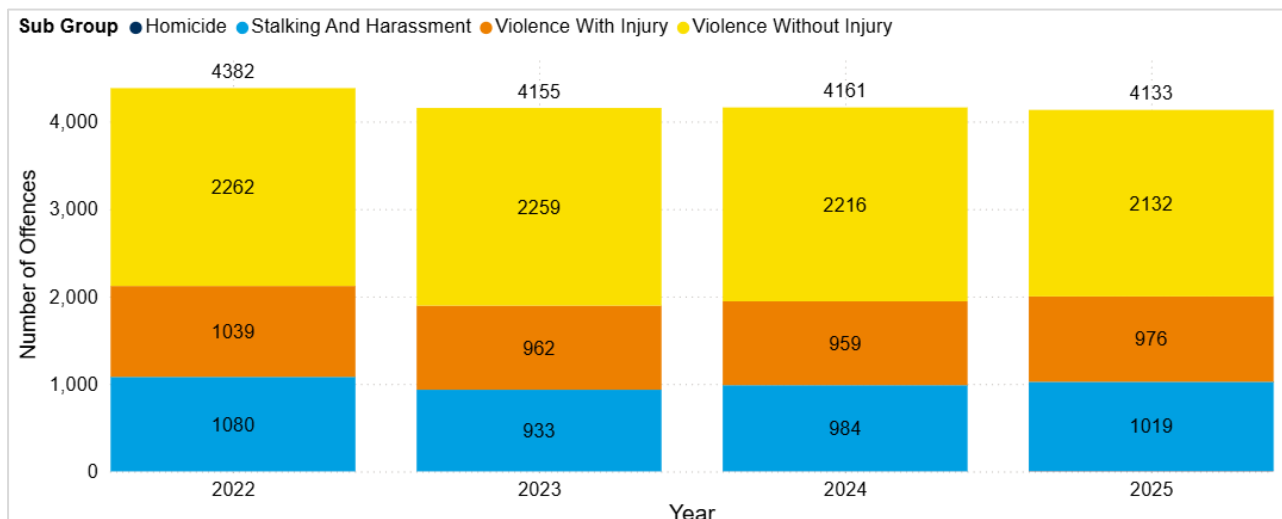
This section will analyse data provided by Cambridgeshire Constabulary, covering type of offences, geographic data, and demographics of suspects and victims.

### 4.1. Overview

- There were 4,133 violence against the person offences in Cambridge City in 2025. There was little change between 2024 and 2025 (-1%, -28 offences).
- Across the four analysed years, 2022 had the highest number of offences at 4,382. When compared to 2025, this is a decrease of 6% (-249 offences).
- In 2025, violence without injury accounted for 52% of all violence against the person offences. Violence without injury has consistently accounted for the largest proportion of VAP offences between 2022 and 2025.

- All sub-groups remained stable compared to the previous year.

**Figure 7: Annual trend of violence against the person offences by subgroup in Cambridge City, 2022 to 2025**



Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Communities and Demography PI Team, using data provided by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

Due to the variety of offences which are categorised under both ‘violence with injury’ and ‘violence without injury’ subgroups, further insight into the short titles is below.

The majority of violence with injury offences in 2025 were ‘Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (ABH)’ accounting for 66%, as shown in Table 5. ‘Non-fatal strangulation and suffocation’ was introduced as an offence in June 2022 as part of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and accounted for the second highest proportion in 2025 (9%).

**Table 5: Top 5 offences under ‘violence with injury’ in Cambridge City, 2025**

Short title	Count	Proportion
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (ABH)	643	66%
Non-fatal strangulation and suffocation	84	9%
Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm	65	7%
Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control injuring any person or assistance dog	62	6%
Administer poison/noxious thing to injure/annoy	37	4%

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Communities and Demography PI Team, using data provided by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

Crime markers can be added to any offence type by the police; they can provide further detail about an offence type. It is worth noting that there is a potential level of inconsistency in the application of the marker. A domestic abuse (DA) marker can be added to any offence by the police. Of the 643 ABH offences recorded in 2025, just

over a quarter were marked as domestic abuse (27%, 174 offences). The majority of 'non-fatal strangulation and suffocation' offences in 2025 were marked as domestic abuse (80%, 67).

The majority of violence without injury were 'assault without injury – common assault and battery' accounting for 79%. This is followed by 'threats to kill' with 9%.

**Table 6: Top 5 offences under 'violence without injury' in Cambridge City, 2025**

Short title	Count	Proportion
Assault without injury – Common assault and battery	1679	79%
Threats to kill	193	9%
Assault or assault by beating of a constable	107	5%
Racially or religiously aggravated common assault or beating	51	2%
Assault or assault by beating of an emergency worker (except a constable)	40	2%

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Communities and Demography PI Team, using data provided by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

## 4.2. Geographic Analysis

### 4.2.1. Violence with injury

- Market accounted for over a quarter of all violence with injury offences in Cambridge in 2025 (27%) and had the highest rate per 1,000 of all wards in Cambridge (24.0). Despite this, the number of violence with injury offences have been decreasing in Market between 2022 and 2024. In the last year offences, offences saw little change (+1%, +2 offences).
- All except four wards saw increases in the last year. These four wards were Castle, East Chesterton, King's Hedges, and West Chesterton.
- Newnham saw the largest percentage increase between 2024 and 2025, with albeit small numbers (+40%, +4 offences).
- Castle saw the largest percentage increase between 2022 and 2025 (+73%, +8 offences).
- Abbey had the second highest rate per 1,000 in 2025 (8.6).

### 4.2.2. Violence without injury

- Market accounted for just under a quarter of all violence without injury offences in Cambridge in 2025 (24%). This is a rate per 1,000 at 47.7, notably higher than the rate per 1,000 for Cambridge (14.2).
- Number of offences in Market ward have seen incremental decreases year on year between 2022 and 2025. Overall, between 2022 and 2025, offences have decreased by 12% (-71 offences).

- Abbey had the second highest rate per 1,000 population at 19.5. Abbey ward saw incremental increases between 2022 and 2024. However, offences decreased by 17% between 2024 and 2025 (-43 offences).
- Newham saw the largest percentage increase between 2022 and 2025 (+39%, +9 offences).

#### 4.2.3. Stalking and Harassment

- Abbey accounted for the highest proportion of stalking and harassment offences in Cambridge City in 2025 and also had the highest rate per 1,000 population (12% and 11.5 respectively).
- Kings Hedges accounted for the second highest proportion and had the second highest rate per 1,000. Despite this, the number of stalking and harassment offences in King's Hedges has decreased between 2022 and 2025, from 124 to 106. Between 2024 and 2025, there was small increase (+2%, +2 offences).
- Despite a notable increase between 2023 and 2024 (+22%, +24 offences), Abbey saw a decrease in the number of offences between 2024 and 2025 (-5%, -6 offences).
- Both East Chesterton and Queen Edith's also saw notable increases in the last year.
  - East Chesterton saw an increase of 24% (+19 offences).
  - Queen Edith's saw an increase of 27% (+11 offences).
- Along with Abbey and Kings Hedges, three other wards had a rate higher than the rate in Cambridge City of 6.8. These wards were Cherry Hinton (8.6), East Chesterton (9.8), and Arbury (8.5). Trumpington had the same rate per 1,000 at 6.8.

### 4.3. Suspects

The following section analyses data of suspects residing in Cambridge City recorded by Cambridgeshire Constabulary for VAP offences recorded in 2025. Whilst this may provide some insight into activity and demographics of suspects, it is important to be aware that the data is first and foremost a reflection of the data held by the police. It is a reflection of just a subset of the crimes recorded by the police, as not all crimes will have an associated suspect record. Some crime types may be more likely to have associated suspect records, and individuals with certain characteristics may be more vulnerable to being associated with crimes than others. Moreover, this analysis refers to suspects of crimes, who may or may not have since been confirmed as offenders. Demographic data on age at incident start and gender has been included, ethnicity has not been included as it is currently self-reported and not reliably filled in. See Technical Note A.1 Suspects and Victims Analysis Methodology for methodology details.

Following a similar structure to the sections above, suspects analysis has been split into those who are aged between children aged between 0- to 17-year-old and young people, those aged between 18- to 24-years-old. The total cohort has been analysed along with further analysis by crime subgroup.

#### 4.3.1. Children (0- to 17-year-olds)

##### **All VAP offences**

There were 1,274 unique suspects of VAP offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 11% of these were aged between 0- to 17-year-old (142). Of those aged between 0-to-17-year old:

- 63% were male (90) and 32% were female (45).
- Ages 16 and 17 each accounted for the highest proportion of this age group regardless of gender.

##### **Violence with injury offences**

There were 378 unique suspects of violence with injury offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 11% of these were aged between 0- to 17-year-old (41 suspects). Of those aged between 0-to-17-year old:

- 71% were male (29 suspects).
- Those aged 17 at the time of the offence accounted for the highest proportion of this age group (22%), followed by aged 16 at 17%.

##### **Violence without injury offences**

There were 698 unique suspects of violence without injury offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 14% of these were aged between 0- to 17-year-old (98 suspects). Of those aged between 0-to-17-year old:

- 58% were male (57 suspects).
- Age 17 accounted for the largest proportion of this age group (21%), followed by age 16 at 17%.

##### **Stalking and harassment offences**

There were 403 unique suspects of stalking and harassment offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 7% of these were aged between 0- to 17-year-old (27 suspects). Of those aged between 0-to-17-year old:

- 70% were male (19 suspects) and 26% were female (7 suspects).
- Age 17 accounted for the largest proportion of this age group (22%), followed by age 12 (19%).

#### 4.3.1.1. Home District Analysis

As mentioned, above, the analysis is predominantly focused on those who are residing in Cambridge City. However, to provide context, the analysis in Table 7 looks at the home district of those who were suspects of VAP offences that occurred in Cambridge City. It should be noted that the analysis has been done in a way that means there may be duplicates between each 'Home District' group. Duplicates may occur where a person is a suspect for multiple VAP offences in 2025 and also moved either into Cambridge City, out of Cambridge City and between other districts or outside Cambridgeshire. There are instances where Cambridge City has been noted as the home district for these individuals and subsequently for another offence the home district is marked as unknown. Due to this, the proportion of suspects do not total 100%. Therefore, caution should be taken drawing conclusions from this data.

72% of the suspects (aged between 0-to-17-year old) for VAP offences in Cambridge City in 2025 also lived in Cambridge City.

**Table 7: Proportion of suspects of VAP offences occurring in Cambridge City in 2025, who were aged 0- to 17-year-old by their home district**

Home district	Proportion of suspects
Cambridge City	72%
Other Cambridgeshire District	17%
Outside of Cambridgeshire	9%
Unknown	7%

Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Communities and Demography PI Team, using data provided by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

#### 4.3.2. Young People (18- to 24-year-olds)

##### All VAP offences

There were 1,274 unique suspects of VAP offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 13% of which were aged between 18 and 24 years old (171). Of those suspects who were aged between 18 to 24:

- 60% of these suspects were male (103). 35% were female (60).
- Those aged 20 accounted for the highest proportion (18%), followed by age 21 (17%).

##### Violence with injury offences

There were 378 unique suspects of violence with injury offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 16% of these were aged between 18- to 24-years-old (60 suspects). Of those suspects who were aged between 18 to 24:

- 70% were male (42 suspects).

- 19-year-olds accounted for the largest proportion of this age group (20%).

### **Violence without injury offences**

There were 698 unique suspects of violence without injury offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 26% of these were aged between 18- to 24-years-old (86 suspects). Of those suspects who were aged between 18 to 24:

- 63% were male (54 suspects).
- 20-year-olds accounted for the largest proportion of this age group (19%).

### **Stalking and harassment offences**

There were 403 unique suspects of stalking and harassment offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 12% of these were aged between 18- to 24-years-old (47 suspects). Of those suspects who were aged between 18 to 24:

- 51% of those suspects were male (24 suspects).
- Ages 20 and 24 accounted for the largest proportion of this age group (19% each).

#### **4.3.2.1. Home District**

The table below looks at the home district of young people who were suspects of VAP offences that occurred in Cambridge City. Please see note under section 4.3.1, which details caveats for this analysis.

53% of the suspects for VAP offences in Cambridge City also live in Cambridge City. It would be expected that the proportion of those residing outside of Cambridgeshire might increase given that young people are able to move around more.

**Table 8: Proportion of suspects of VAP offences occurring in Cambridge City in 2025, who were aged 18- to 24-years-old by their home district**

<b>Home district</b>	<b>Proportion of suspects</b>
Cambridge City	53%
Other Cambridgeshire District	15%
Outside of Cambridgeshire	17%
Unknown	20%

Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Communities and Demography PI Team, using data provided by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

#### **4.3.3. Population Comparison**

This section will compare proportions of five-year age groups between 0 to 24 years old of the suspects cohort and Cambridge City. This section references Table 3 in Section Total cohort of children and young people.

Ages 15 to 19 were largely overrepresented in comparison to Cambridge City population across all VAP crime types. For total VAP cohort, ages 15 to 19 accounted for 39% of the cohort, overrepresented compared to Cambridge City population at 21%.

Ages 10 to 14 were slightly overrepresented in comparison to Cambridge City population across all VAP crime types. For the violence without injury cohort, ages 10 to 14 accounted for 22%, compared with 13% of Cambridge City population.

#### 4.3.4. Key Stage Groups

To provide further context, suspects have been grouped into age groups based on school key stages. Caution should be taken when comparing figures between key stages as ages overlap between groups.

Key stage 5 with ages 16 to 18 had the highest count of suspects in the total VAP cohort.

**Table 9: Number of suspects of VAP offences occurring in Cambridge City in 2025, who were aged 0 to 18 years old by key stage education group**

Key Stage	Age Group	Total VAP cohort	Violence with injury cohort	Violence without injury cohort	Stalking and harassment cohort
Early Years Foundation Stage	0 to 4	<10	<10	<10	<10
Key Stage 1	5 to 7	<10	<10	<10	<10
Key Stage 2	7 to 11	20	<10	15	<10
Key Stage 3	11 to 14	55	16	34	13
Key Stage 4	14 to 16	69	19	49	10
Key Stage 5	16 to 18	73	21	50	15
	<b>Total unique suspects</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>32</b>

Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Communities and Demography PI Team, using data provided by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

#### 4.4. Victims

The following section analyses data of victims of VAP offences residing in Cambridge City recorded by Cambridgeshire Constabulary, and of offences recorded in 2025. Whilst this may provide some insight into activity and demographics of victims, it is important to be aware that the data is first and foremost a reflection of the data held by the police. It is a reflection of just a subset of the crimes recorded by the police. Demographic data on age at incident start and gender has been included, ethnicity has not been included as it is currently self-reported and not a reliably filled

in. See Technical Note A.1 Suspects and Victims Analysis Methodology for methodology details.

Following a similar structure to the sections above, victims' analysis has been split into those who are aged between children aged between 0- to 17-year-old and young people, those aged between 18- to 24-years-old. The total cohort has been analysed along with further analysis by crime subgroup.

#### 4.4.1. Children (0- to 17-year-olds)

##### **All VAP offences**

There were 2,475 unique victims of VAP offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. Of these, 343 were aged between 0- to 17-year-old (14%). Of those aged between 0 to 17:

- Within this cohort, 53% were male and 43% were female (182 and 148 respectively). 4% were recorded as unknown (13).
- Those aged 14, 16 and 17 accounted for the highest proportion (12% each).

##### **Violence with injury offences**

There were 636 unique victims of violence with injury offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 15% of these were aged between 0- to 17-year-old (96 victims). Of those aged between 0 to 17:

- 65% were male (62 victims).
- 14-year-olds accounted for the largest proportion of this age group (15%). Followed by ages 16 (14%) and 17 (11%).

##### **Violence without injury offences**

There were 1,319 unique victims of violence without injury offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 16% of these were aged between 0- to 17-year-old (209 victims). Of those aged between 0 to 17:

- 53% were male and 43% were female (110 and 90 respectively).
- Age 14 accounted for the largest proportion of this age group (12%).

##### **Stalking and harassment offences**

There were 734 unique victims of stalking and harassment offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 9% of these were aged between 0- to 17-year-old (63 victims). Of those aged between 0 to 17:

- The majority were female (62%, 39 victims).
- Age 16 accounted for the largest proportion of this age group (22%).

#### 4.4.2. Young People (18-to 24-year-olds)

##### **All VAP offences**

There were 2,475 unique victims of VAP offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. Of these, 418 were aged between 18- to 24-years-old (17%). Of those aged between 18 to 24:

- 43% were males and 50% were females (181 and 211 respectively). 6% were recorded as unknown (26).
- Those aged 20 and 23 accounted for the highest proportion (17% each).

##### **Violence with injury offences**

There were 636 unique victims of violence with injury offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. Of these, 18% were aged between 18 and 24 years old (114 victims). Of those aged between 18 and 24:

- 53% were male (60 victims) and 41% were female (47 victims)
- Ages 20 and 21 accounted for the largest proportion of this age group at 18% each.

##### **Violence without injury offences**

There were 1319 unique victims of violence without injury offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 17% of these victims were aged between 18 to 24 (220 victims). Of those aged between 18 to 24:

- Gender was fairly evenly split, with 49% male (107 victims), and 46% female (102 victims).
- 23-year-olds accounted for the largest proportion of this age group (19%).

##### **Stalking and harassment offences**

There were 734 unique victims of stalking and harassment offences recorded in 2025, who were residing in Cambridge City. 15% of these victims were aged between 18 to 24 (108 victims). Of those aged between 18 to 24:

- The majority were female (70%, 76 victims).
- 21-year-olds accounted for the largest proportion of this age group (20%). More specifically, females aged 21 and 22 account for almost a third of the victims in this cohort (31%).

#### 4.4.3. Population Comparison

This section will compare proportions of five-year age groups between 0 to 24 years old of the victims cohort and Cambridge City. This section references Table 3 in Section Total cohort of children and young people.

For all VAP offences, 10 to 14 years accounted for 20% of the cohort, overrepresented compared to Cambridge City proportion of 10 to 14 years (13%).

All age groups including ages 10 and above were overrepresented for stalking and harassment offences. The most notable difference was in 15- to 19-year-olds, of which accounted for 33% of the cohort, compared to Cambridge City proportion of 21%.

#### 4.4.4. Key Stage Groups

To provide further context, Table 10 shows ages distributed across the key stage education groups. Caution should be taken when comparing figures between key stages as ages overlap between groups.

Key stage 3 with ages 11 to 14 had the highest count of victims in the total VAP cohort.

**Table 10: Number of victims of VAP offences occurring in Cambridge City in 2025, who were aged 0 to 18 years old by key stage education group**

Key stage	Age group	Total VAP cohort	Violence with injury cohort	Violence without injury cohort	Stalking and harassment cohort
Early Years Foundation Stage	0 to 4	27	<12	17	<12
Key Stage 1	5 to 7	34	<12	25	<12
Key Stage 2	7 to 11	82	23	55	<12
Key Stage 3	11 to 14	131	32	82	27
Key Stage 4	14 to 16	107	27	60	30
Key Stage 5	16 to 18	126	35	64	36
	<b>Total unique victims</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>73</b>

Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Communities and Demography PI Team, using data provided by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

## 5. Youth Justice Service (YJS)

### 5.1. Overview

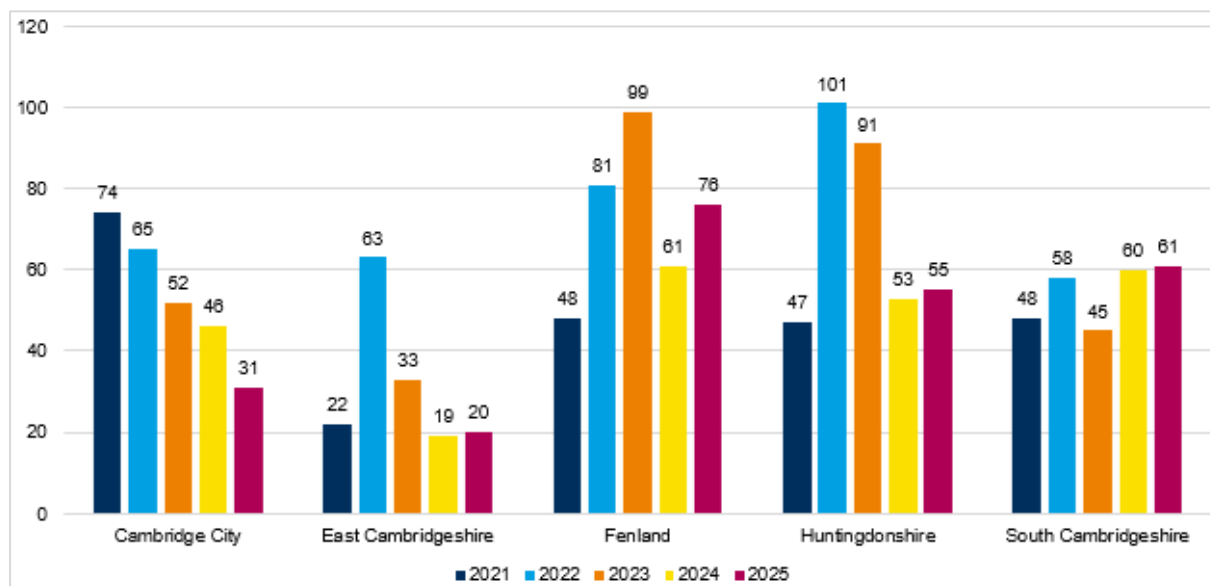
This section analyses data provided by Cambridgeshire Youth Justice Service (YJS), and it focuses on offences of violence against the person (VAP) associated with children residing in Cambridge City. As mentioned earlier in Section 2, children denotes those aged 0-to-17-year old. The focus on this analysis is predominantly ages 10 to 17 but it should be noted that data includes a very small number of 18-year-olds.

Figure 8 below shows VAP offences by district of residence for children who have offended, where the offence occurred between 2021 and 2025. Data Note: Children who have offended, may be associated with more than one crime type, more than one violent offence, and the data includes those multiple offences which can have occurred within the same year or across multiple years. Therefore, caution needs to be taken when using the data. And unless stated the figures refer to number of offences rather than number of children.

There has been a significant 58% decline in VAP offences in Cambridge City between 2021 and 2025.

Compared to other districts, Cambridge City has had the second lowest number of VAP offences for the years 2024 and 2025 and the third lowest number of VAP offences for 2022 and 2023. This contrasts with Cambridge City having the highest number of VAP offences in 2021.

**Figure 8: Violence against the person (VAP) offences by year occurred and by district of residence of children who offend, 2021 to 2025**



Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy and Insight Team, using data sourced from CCC Child Youth Justice Management System

Table 11 breaks down VAP offences of children in Cambridge City by out of court resolution (OOCR) outcome types between 2021 and 2025. OOCRs make up the largest proportion compared to court sentences and charges over the time period. The proportion of OOCRs has steadily increased from 62% in 2021 to 84% in 2025. The proportion of court sentences has likewise decreased year on year between 2021 to 2025.

**Table 11: VAP offence outcome types of children who offend in Cambridge City, 2021 to 2025**

Outcome Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Charge	0	0	0	0	<5
Court Sentences	28	24	17	11	<5
Out of Court Resolutions	46	41	35	35	26
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>31</b>

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy and Insight Team, using data sourced from CCC Child Youth Justice Management System

Table 12 breaks down the OOCRs outcomes of VAP offences of children in Cambridge City between 2021 and 2025. Community Resolution Police Facilitated, Deferred Prosecution Outcome 22, and Youth Restorative Disposal are the most common outcomes; however, Youth Restorative Disposals have recently decreased to zero in 2024 and 2025.

Community Resolution Police Facilitated and Deferred Prosecution Outcome 22 are both non-substantive outcomes. This contrasts to Youth Cautions and Youth

Conditional Cautions that are substantive outcomes and have had smaller numbers between 2021 and 2025.

**Table 12: Out of court resolution outcomes of VAP offences of children who offend in Cambridge City, 2021 to 2025**

<b>OOCRs by Outcome</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Community Resolution Police Facilitated	15	16	12	23	8
Deferred Prosecution Outcome 22	9	7	<5	7	10
Out of Court Resolution	0	0	0	0	<5
Outcome 20	0	0	0	<5	<5
Outcome 21	0	<6	0	<5	0
Youth Caution	<7	<6	<5	<5	0
Youth Conditional Caution	<7	6	7	<5	<5
Youth Restorative Disposal	14	6	11	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>26</b>

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy and Insight Team, using data sourced from CCC Child Youth Justice Management System

Table 13 similarly breaks down court sentence outcomes of VAP offences of children between 2021 and 2025. Referral orders are the most common court sentence outcome over the time period, and there has been a steady decrease between 2021 and 2025. Other court sentence outcomes have either had small numbers or have shown no clear consistent patterns.

**Table 13: Court Sentences outcomes of VAP offences of children who offend in Cambridge City, 2021 to 2025**

<b>Court Sentences by Outcome</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Community Punishment and Rehabilitation Order (CO)	<5	0	0	<5	0
Conditional Discharge	0	5	0	<5	0
Detention + Training Order (Custody)	<5	<5	0	0	0
Referral Order	22	13	8	6	<6
Section 250 (was Section 91 Order)	<5	0	0	0	0
Youth Rehabilitation Order	0	<5	<7	0	0
Youth Rehabilitation Order ISS Requirement Band 1	0	0	<7	0	<6
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>&lt;6</b>

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy and Insight Team, using data sourced from CCC Child Youth Justice Management System

## 5.2. VAP offence gravity score

Table 14 below shows the count of VAP offences by offence gravity score associated with children residing in Cambridge City who have offended between 2021 and 2025. A high offence gravity score (e.g. 7) is more serious than a low

score (e.g. 3), and the VAP offence types are sorted by largest to smallest offence gravity score.

Between 2021 and 2025, over 90% of VAP offences have a low offence gravity score of 3 and are thus low harm. The most common VAP offences are Assault a person thereby occasioning them actual bodily harm, Assault by beating, and Common assault, and all three VAP offence types have an offence gravity score of 3.

**Table 14: Count of VAP offences by offence gravity score by children who offend in Cambridge City, 2021 to 2025**

Offence gravity score	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Scores 5 to 7	7	1	2	1	2
Score 3	67	64	50	45	29
% of offences with offence gravity score 3 out of total	91%	98%	96%	98%	94%
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>31</b>

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy and Insight Team, using data sourced from CCC Child Youth Justice Management System

### 5.3. Demographics of Youth Justice Cohort

Table 15 below shows the annual total cohort of children with VAP offences between 2021 and 2025. Except for 2021, the total cohort of children has decreased each year between 2022 and 2025. The average number of VAP offences per child decreased from 1.9 in 2021 to 1.2 in 2025.

**Table 15: Total cohort of children with VAP offences in Cambridge City, 2021 to 2025**

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total cohort (i.e. number of children)	39	44	34	31	26
VAP offences (i.e. total number of offences associated with these children)	74	65	52	46	31
Average VAP offences per child	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.2

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy and Insight Team, using data sourced from CCC Child Youth Justice Management System

In terms of gender, male children make up the biggest proportion of children who offend, and the proportion of males averaged 67% between 2021 and 2025. In 2024, there was a notable dip in the male proportion to 55%.

Table 16 breaks down the annual cohort of children by age groups. The 14 to 15 age group makes up the biggest proportion over the time period. The next largest proportion is the 16 to 17 age group except for 2023 when the 10 to 13 age group was the second largest.

**Table 16: Percentage of children who offend associated with VAP offences by age group in Cambridge City, 2021 to 2025**

Age Groups	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
10 to 13	18%	<11%	35%	32%	19%
14 to 15	44%	48%	41%	39%	35%
16 to 17	38%	30%	24%	<16%	46%
18	0%	<11%	0%	<16%	0%
Total cohort	39	44	34	31	26

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy and Insight Team, using data sourced from CCC Child Youth Justice Management System

Table 17 shows ages distributed across the key stage education groups. Caution should be taken when comparing figures between key stages as ages overlap between groups. Key Stage 4 with the age group 14 to 16 has the largest number of children with VAP offences.

Key Stage 3 with the age group 11 to 14 has the second largest number of children with VAP offences for the years 2022 to 2024 while Key Stage 5 has the second largest number of children with VAP offences for the years 2021 and 2025.

**Table 17: Number of children who offend associated with VAP offences by key stage group in Cambridge City, 2021 to 2025**

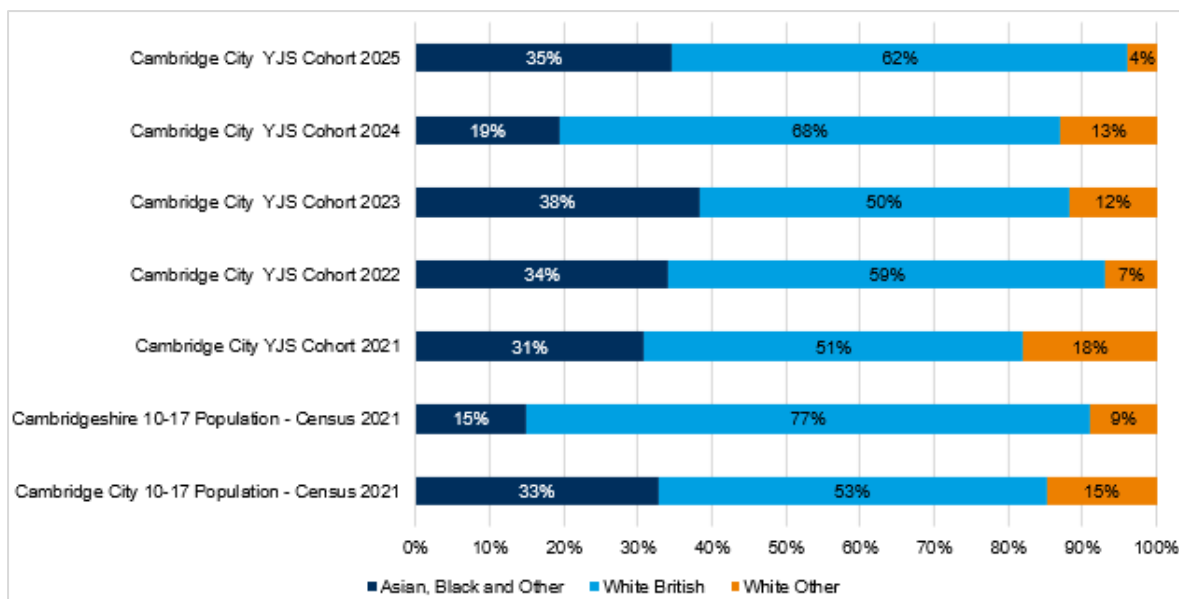
Key Stage	Ages within Key Stage	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Key Stage 2	Age 10 to 11	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
Key Stage 3	Age 11 to 14	13	21	18	13	8
Key Stage 4	Age 14 to 16	27	32	18	18	19
Key Stage 5	Age 16 to 18	15	14	8	9	13

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy and Insight Team, using data sourced from CCC Child Youth Justice Management System

Figure 9 shows the percentage of children with VAP offences by ethnicity group. White British consistently makes up the largest proportion with a range of 51% in 2021 to 68% in 2024. This is followed by Asian, Black and Other with a range of 19% in 2024 to 38% in 2023. The smallest proportion is White Other with a range of 4% in 2025 to 18% in 2021.

For 2025, the 62% proportion of White British is over-represented compared to the 53% White British proportion of the Census 2021 10-17 population in Cambridge City. The 35% proportion of Asian, Black and Other is close to the 33% Asian, Black and Other proportion of the Census 2021 10-17 population in Cambridge City. However, the 4% proportion of White Other is under-represented compared to the 15% White Other proportion of the Census 2021 10-17 population in Cambridge City.

**Figure 9: Percentage of children who offend associated with VAP offences by ethnicity group in Cambridge City, 2021 to 2025**



Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy and Insight Team, using data sourced from CCC Child Youth Justice Management System.

## 5.4. Assetplus

The data for the analysis below comes from the Assetplus assessment tool. Numbers are very small, and therefore, analysis is aggregated over the five-year period from 2021 to 2025.

- Mental health - Between 2021 to 2025, 15% of the total five-year cohort had contact with mental health services.
- SEN or Disabilities identified - Between 2021 to 2025, 12% of the total five-year cohort had SEN or disabilities identified.
- Evidence of substance misuse - Between 2021 to 2025, 26% of the total five-year cohort had evidence of substance misuse. Cannabis was the most used substance, and this was followed by alcohol.

## 6. Probation

This section focuses on offenders aged between 18 to 24 who were open to Probation Service at some point in 2025. When referring to the ‘current cohort’ in this section, more specifically this includes offenders aged between 18 to 24 residing in Cambridge City who were sentenced in 2025 for any offence and who also had been convicted of a violent offence (current or previous). Data was provided from the Probation Service through the collation of case management data, offender assessment system data (OASys) and Office of National Statistics (ONS) postcode data. District has been determined by using the postcode of the offender’s current residential address. Caution should be taken when interpreting the data due to small numbers within the cohort.

There were 15 young people in the analysed cohort. The below bullet points summarise the findings of the analysis.

- The majority were male.
- The majority were White British (67%, 10).
- 60% (9) of the cohort had been convicted of at least 2 violence offences.
- ‘Malicious wounding and other like offences (misdemeanours)’ was the most common latest violent offence type (60%, 9).

To provide further context, a larger cohort was analysed. In total, there were 32 18- to 24-year-olds sentenced in 2025 for any offence type. This highlights that 47%, almost half, of offenders sentenced in 2025 had at least one violent offence (current or previous) that they were convicted of.

Source: Offender data provided by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Probation Service (CPPS).

## 7. Glossary

<b>Term/acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
CCC PPI	Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Performance and Intelligence Service – previously PIT (Policy and Insight Team)
Children	For the purpose of this report, children refers to those aged 0-to 17-years-old. Terminology of either ‘children’ or ‘0-to-17-year olds’ will be used interchangeably throughout the report depending on the context of the sentence.
CPPS	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Probation Service
CSEW	Crime Survey for England and Wales
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
ABH	Actual Bodily Harm

<b>Term/acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Domestic Abuse Crime	Domestic Abuse Crime is not limited to specific offences. Any police recorded crime can be flagged as Domestic Abuse related and as such would be counted as a 'Domestic Abuse Crime'.
ONS	Office for National Statistics
OOCR	Out of Control Resolution
PIT	Policy and Insight Team (formerly the Cambridgeshire Research Group)
SEN	Special Educational Needs
VAP (Violence against the person)	<p>Violence against the person is an offence group. "Includes a range of offences from minor offences such as harassment and common assault to serious offences such as murder, actual bodily harm and grievous bodily harm.</p> <p>Minor types include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assault with injury</li> <li>• Common assault</li> <li>• Harassment</li> <li>• Offensive weapon</li> <li>• Other violence</li> </ul> <p>Major types include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Murder (homicide)</li> <li>• Wounding/GBH" (Police.uk, n.d.)</li> </ul> <p>It includes the offence sub groups of Homicide, Stalking and Harassment, Violence Without Injury, and Violence With Injury.</p>
Ward	Wards (or electoral wards), are geographical areas used to elect local authority councillors (ONS, 2023c).
YE	Year Ending
YJS	Youth Justice Service
Young people	For the purpose of this report, young people refers to those aged 18- to 24-years-old. Terminology of either 'young people' or '18- to 24-year olds' will be used interchangeably throughout the report depending on the context of the sentence.

## Appendix A: Technical Notes

### A.1 Suspects and Victims Analysis Methodology

#### **Suspects residing in Cambridge City**

This analysis for suspect demographics was completed on suspect records for VAP offences which had a recorded date between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025. Prior to deduplicating, filtering and geocoding, for all VAP offences in 2025, there were 19,690 suspect records, 1,965 of which had no eastings and northings. Suspect records were then separated by subgroup, excluded records where suspect had been eliminated, and then deduplicated on the first offence in 2025. This left a total of 1,274 suspect records for all VAP offences, and for each subgroup:

- 699 suspect records for violence without injury;
- 378 suspect records for violence with injury;
- 403 suspect records for stalking and harassment.

Suspects homes were matched to a district using easting and northing information. 2,385 records (12% of 19,690) of could not be geocoded to any district. 1,938 records in total were geocoded to Fenland.

#### **Victims residing in Fenland**

This analysis for victim demographics was completed on victim records for VAP offences which had a recorded date between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025. Prior to deduplicating, filtering and geocoding, for all VAP offences in 2025, there were 24,654 victim records, 1,868 of which had no eastings and northings. Victim records were then separated by subgroup, excluded records where victim had been eliminated, and then deduplicated on the first offence. This left a total of 2,475 victim records for all VAP offences, and for each subgroup:

- 1,319 suspect records for violence without injury;
- 636 suspect records for violence with injury;
- 734 suspect records for stalking and harassment.

Victims' homes were matched to a district using easting and northing information. 1,516 records (6% of 24,654) of could not be geocoded to any district. 3,038 records in total were geocoded to Cambridge City.

## Appendix B: Appendix Tables and Lists

### B.1 Appendix Tables

**Table 18: Violence with injury offences in Cambridge City by ward, 2022 to 2025**

Ward	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 Proportion	2022-2025 change	2024-2025 change	2025 rate per 1,000
Abbey	91	81	90	95	10%	+4% (+4)	+6% (+5)	8.6
Arbury	70	68	57	67	7%	-4% (-3)	+18% (+10)	6.7
Castle	11	13	23	19	2%	+73% (+8)	-17% (-4)	2.1
Cherry Hinton	42	38	49	61	6%	+45% (+19)	+24% (+12)	6.4
Coleridge	55	42	49	50	5%	-9% (-5)	+2% (+1)	4.8
East Chesterton	70	67	80	69	7%	-1% (-1)	-14% (-11)	7.0
King's Hedges	75	86	78	67	7%	-11% (-8)	-14% (-11)	6.0
Market	365	302	258	260	27%	-29% (-105)	+1% (+2)	24.0
Newnham	9	16	10	14	1%	+56% (+5)	+40% (+4)	1.2
Petersfield	72	77	87	88	9%	+22% (+16)	+1% (+1)	7.5
Queen Edith's	39	60	40	48	5%	+23% (+9)	+20% (+8)	3.9
Romsey	40	31	41	45	5%	+13% (+5)	+10% (+4)	4.1
Trumpington	63	47	51	60	6%	-5% (-3)	+18% (+9)	4.7
West Chesterton	37	34	46	33	3%	-11% (-4)	-28% (-13)	3.6
<b>Cambridge City</b>	<b>1039</b>	<b>962</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>976</b>	100%	-6% (-63)	+2% (+17)	6.5

**Table 19: Violence without injury offences in Cambridge by ward, 2022 to 2025**

Ward	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 Proportion	2022-2025 change	2024-2025 change	2025 Rate per 1,000
Abbey	234	252	258	215	10%	-8% (-19)	-17% (-43)	19.5
Arbury	136	140	144	147	7%	+8% (+11)	+2% (+3)	14.7
Castle	38	45	33	47	2%	+24% (+9)	+42% (+14)	5.3
Cherry Hinton	94	96	92	98	5%	+4% (+4)	+7% (+6)	10.3
Coleridge	113	120	107	89	4%	-21% (-24)	-17% (-18)	8.5

East Chesterton	187	156	146	164	8%	-12% (-23)	+12% (+18)	16.5
King's Hedges	202	194	188	152	7%	-25% (-50)	-19% (-36)	13.6
Market	587	574	559	516	24%	-12% (-71)	-8% (-43)	47.7
Newnham	23	31	36	32	2%	+39% (+9)	-11% (-4)	2.8
Petersfield	190	170	189	211	10%	+11% (+21)	+12% (+22)	17.9
Queen Edith's	124	128	104	124	6%	0% (0)	+19% (+20)	10.1
Romsey	118	131	116	114	5%	-3% (-4)	-2% (-2)	10.4
Trumpington	112	121	129	134	6%	+20% (+22)	+4% (+5)	10.5
West Chesterton	104	101	115	89	4%	-14% (-15)	-23% (-26)	9.7
<b>Cambridge City</b>	<b>2262</b>	<b>2259</b>	<b>2216</b>	<b>2132</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>-6% (-130)</b>	<b>-4% (-84)</b>	<b>14.2</b>

**Table 20: Stalking and harassment offences in Cambridge City by ward, 2022 to 2025**

Ward	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 proportion	2022-2025 change	2024-2025 change	2025 rate per 1,000
Abbey	126	109	133	127	12%	+1% (+1)	-5% (-6)	11.5
Arbury	91	96	78	85	8%	-7% (-6)	+9% (+7)	8.5
Castle	36	22	38	35	3%	-3% (-1)	-8% (-3)	3.9
Cherry Hinton	70	58	79	82	8%	+17% (+12)	+4% (+3)	8.6
Coleridge	68	57	55	61	6%	-10% (-7)	+11% (+6)	5.8
East Chesterton	105	66	78	97	10%	-8% (-8)	+24% (+19)	9.8
King's Hedges	124	115	106	108	11%	-13% (-16)	+2% (+2)	9.7
Market	89	99	88	73	7%	-18% (-16)	-17% (-15)	6.7
Newnham	18	13	14	22	2%	+22% (+4)	+57% (+8)	1.9
Petersfield	93	61	70	78	8%	-16% (-15)	+11% (+8)	6.6
Queen Edith's	53	55	41	52	5%	-2% (-1)	+27% (+11)	4.2
Romsey	54	51	71	73	7%	+35% (+19)	+3% (+2)	6.7
Trumpington	97	85	81	87	9%	-10% (-10)	+7% (+6)	6.8
West Chesterton	56	46	52	39	4%	-30% (-17)	-25% (-13)	4.2
<b>Cambridge City</b>	<b>1080</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>1019</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>-6% (-61)</b>	<b>+4% (+35)</b>	<b>6.8</b>

## B.2 Project Team – Youth Survey for Cambridge City

- Romsey Mill
- Turtle Dove
- The Kite Trust

- Cambridgeshire County Council – Targeted Support Team
- Anglia Ruskin University – Trusted Adult Scheme
- Youth For Christ – Open House Project
- Cambridge City Council – Community Development Team
- Cambridge City Council – Arts and Culture Team
- Fullscope
- Cambridgeshire County Council – Communities Service
- Cambridge City Council – Community Safety Team

### B.3 List of schools and events where Youth Survey for Cambridge City was shared

#### Educational Settings

- Coleridge Community College
- St Bede's Inter Church School
- Cambridge Academy for Science and Technology
- Castle School
- Trumpington Community College
- Long Road Sixth Form College
- Parkside Community College
- North Cambridge Academy
- The Netherhall School

#### Events and Other Opportunities

- Libraries Service
- Arbury Carnival
- Chesterton Festival
- Midsummer Fair
- Parkers Piece Armed Forces Day.
- Trumpington National play day event
- Abbey Picnic
- The YMCA Project team

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