



New Zealand
Crime and Victims

survey

HELP CREATE SAFER COMMUNITIES

Survey findings - Cycle 4 report

**Section 9 – *Crime scene
and consequences***

June 2022

Results drawn from Cycle 4 (2020/21) of the
New Zealand Crime and Victims Survey

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2. Data collection was suspended during COVID-19 Alert Levels 4 and 3 (more detail is provided on page 4 of the full report).
3. This report contains highly aggregated data. No identifiable personal data is included in the report.
4. Count estimates in the text have been rounded to the nearest thousands or hundreds. Percentage and mean estimates have been rounded to the nearest whole number or one decimal place. Graphs and tables provide accuracy to one decimal place. Higher precision may be provided where it is important for the content.
5. Unfortunately, due to an error in data collection, this report does not include over 200 interviews from the Hawke's Bay area. Survey results were revised, amended and re-weighted to maintain accuracy and avoid bias.

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This report contains many graphs and infographics that help to visualise key facts and findings. Only those graphs that support the key findings are included. All observations and graphs in the report are based on the **data tables** that accompany this report, which are available on the [NZCVS resources and results web page](#).

If you are reading the report for the first time, it is recommended that you refer to “Cycle 4 Core report - Section 2 – About this report” to help with understanding and presentation of results.

Topic	Key findings
Crime scene and consequences	<p>Based on pooled data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than two-thirds of all incidents (70%) happened either in residential areas or online/over the phone. • More than half (55%) of vehicle offences, 16% of interpersonal violence offences and 21% of physical assaults/robberies happened in public areas. • Almost a third (32%) of sexual assaults, 18% of interpersonal violence offences, and 18% of thefts/damages and vehicle offences happened in business areas. • Almost half of personal victimisations (49%) involved a male offender and a female victim. This proportion increases to 52% for interpersonal violence, 69% for offences by family members and 73% for sexual assault. • 12% of all non-sexual assault incidents involved the use of a weapon. • Every 11th incident (9%) resulted in injury. This proportion increases to 21% for interpersonal violence offences, 28% for offences by family members and 49% for non-sexual assaults. • Every 10th incident (10%) resulted in time taken off work by a victim. This proportion increases to 18% for vehicle offences, 20% for offences by family members and 22% for offences by ex-partner.

Table of Contents

9	Crime scene and consequences.....	5
9.1	Location of crime	5
9.2	Offences by males against females	8
9.3	Use of a weapon, injuries and time off work.....	9

9 Crime scene and consequences

What is included in this section?

This section analyses different factors related to victimisation that are not described in the previous sections. They include location of crime, male-against-female incidents, use of weapons, and some important consequences of victimisation, including injuries and needing to take time off work. Pooled data covering all four cycles was used for the analysis.

What did we find?

- More than two-thirds of all incidents (70%) happened either in residential areas or online/over the phone.
- More than half (55%) of vehicle offences, 16% of interpersonal violence offences and 21% of physical assaults/robberies happened in public areas.
- Almost a third (32%) of sexual assaults, 18% of interpersonal violence offences, and 18% of thefts/damages and vehicle offences happened in business areas.
- Almost half of personal victimisations (48%) involved a male offender and a female victim. This proportion increases to 52% for interpersonal violence, 69% for offences by family members and 73% for sexual assault.
- 12% of all non-sexual assault incidents involved the use of a weapon.
- Every 11th incident (9%) resulted in injury. This proportion increases to 21% for interpersonal violence offences, 28% for offences by family members and 49% for non-sexual assaults.
- Every 10th incident (10%) resulted in time taken off work by a victim. This proportion increases to 18% for vehicle offences, 20% for offences by family members and 22% for offences by ex-partner.

9.1 Location of crime

For each reported crime incident (or group of incidents) the NZCVS asked where the incident happened. The answers were grouped into six major locations:

- **residential** (inside a house, caravan, campervan or tent; in a garage, carport, shed or outbuilding; inside a residential building, corridor, stairs, lift etc; outside a house on the same premises as garden, yard, driveway, walkways etc)
- **public** (on the street, road, footpath, berm; in a park, bush, forest, beach, lake; on transport or in/around transport facilities)

- **business/retail** (in a restaurant, café, bar, pub, nightclub; in a shop, petrol station; in a recreational place like a cinema, bowling alley, casino, or gym; in the office, factory, warehouse; in a car park; in a farm or orchard)
- **community** (in a religious or cultural place like a marae, church or mosque; in or around a sports ground; in a school, university or hospital)
- **online or over the phone** (including via any digital means – eg, text message, email)
- **other** (to be specified).

Pooled data was used for the analysis. Overall, 46% of incidents took place in residential locations. A quarter of incidents (25%) happened either online or over the phone. Much lower proportions of incidents happened in public areas (12%), business locations (12%) and community locations (4%). About 2% of locations were not identified. The overall distribution of the incidents is presented on Figure 9.1 below.

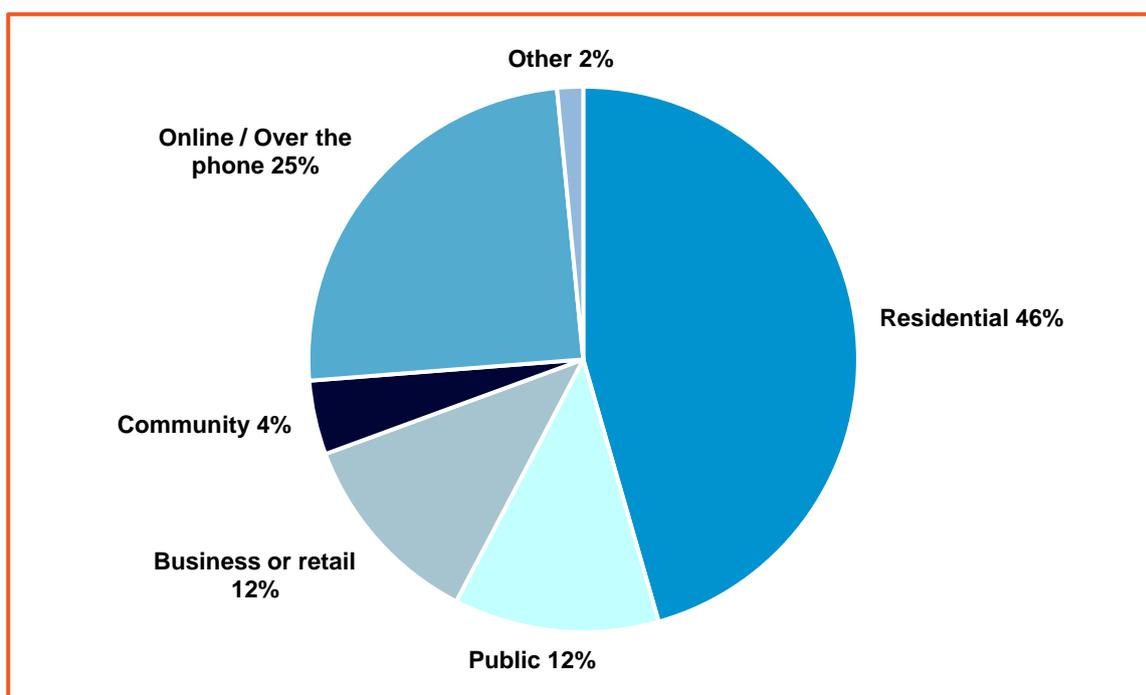


Figure 9.1 Distribution of incidents, by location (pooled data)

Note. The total exceeds 100% due to rounding.

However, the distribution of the incident locations varies significantly depending on the offence type. Not surprisingly, household crime such as burglary and trespass occurred almost completely in residential locations (Figure 9.2). Also, almost three-quarters of offences by family members (74%) happened in residential areas.

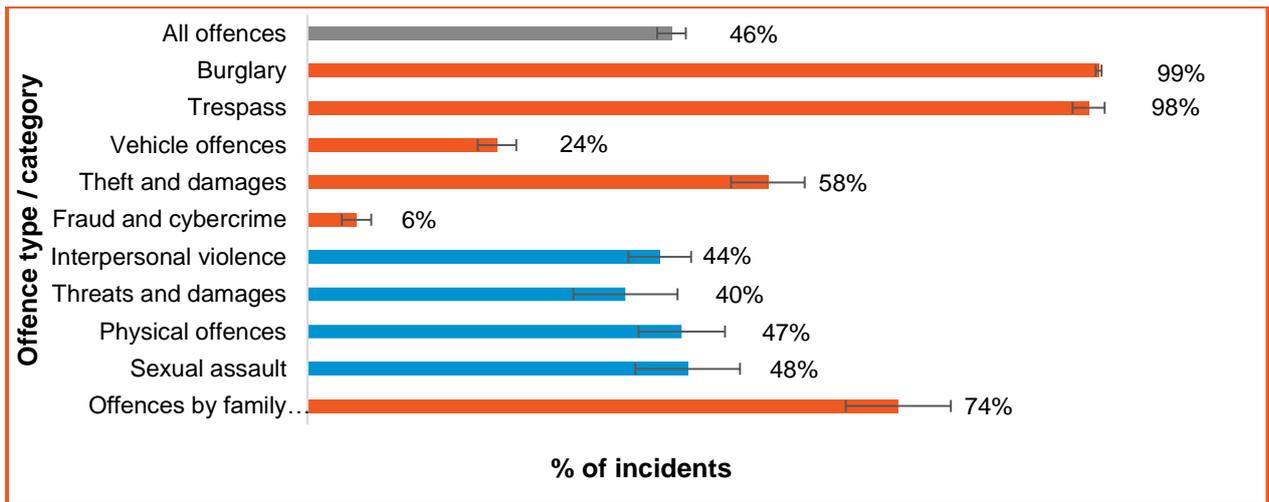


Figure 9.2 Percentage of incidents that occurred in residential locations, by offence categories (pooled data)

Vehicle offences and physical assault and robbery are the most common offences that occurred in public areas (Figure 9.3).

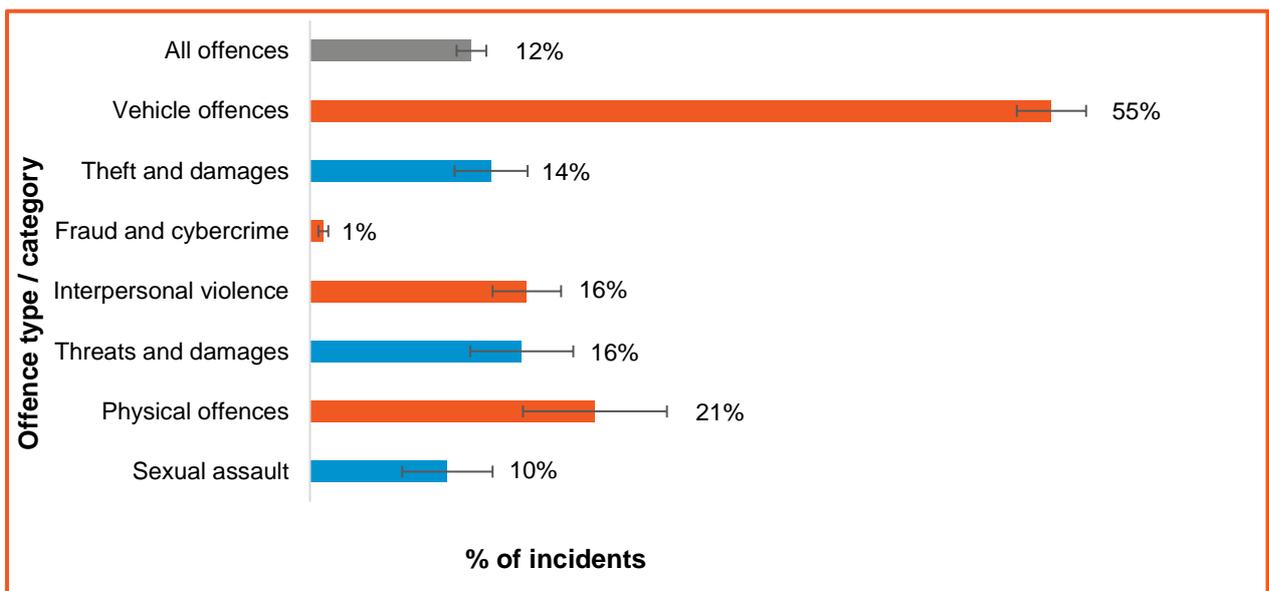


Figure 9.3 Percentage of incidents that occurred in public areas, by offence categories (pooled data)

Business/retail areas were characterised by a high prevalence of sexual assaults and overall interpersonal violence offences, followed by vehicle offences and theft and damage offences (Figure 9.4).

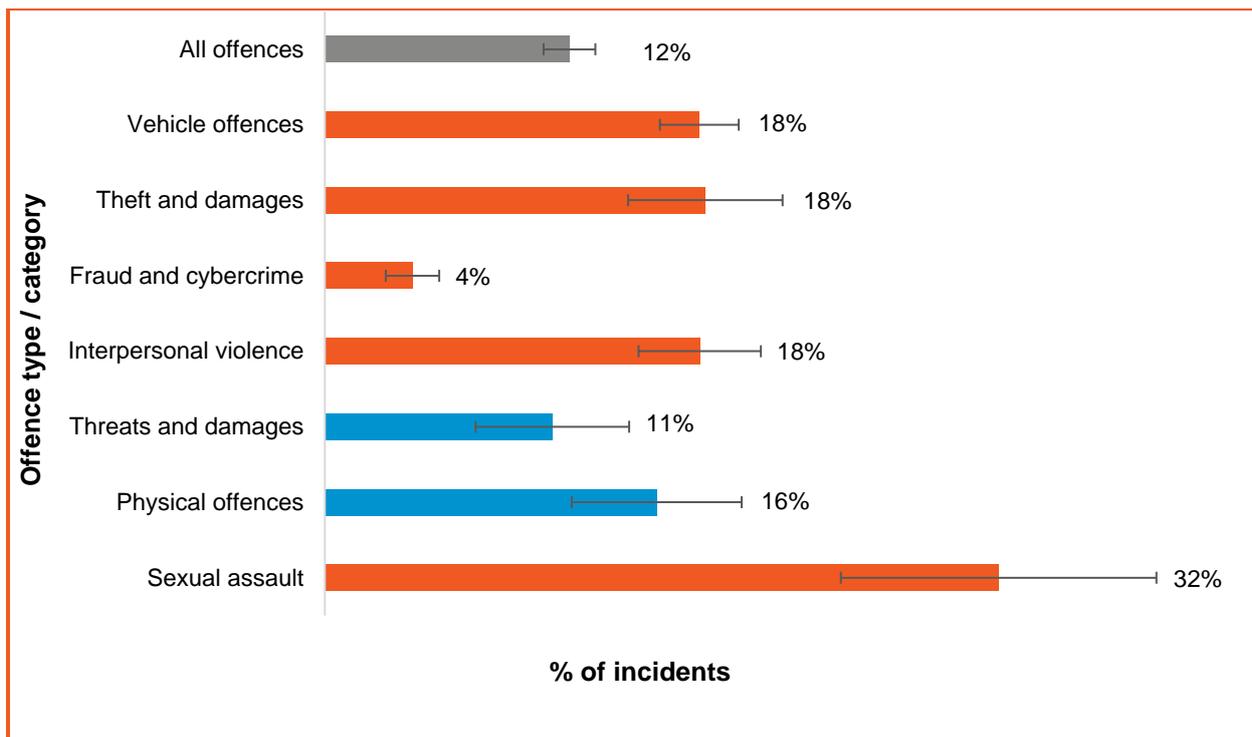


Figure 9.4 Percentage of incidents that occurred in business/retail areas, by offence category (pooled data)

Community areas are comparatively safer, with 4% of all incidents happening there. Offence categories that happened relatively more often in community areas include physical assault and robberies (13%), theft and damage (9%), and interpersonal violence offences (8%).

A quarter (25%) of all incidents occurred online or over the phone. They include 86% of all fraud and cybercrime incidents, and 27% of threats and damages offences.

9.2 Offences by males against females

If victims came into contact with offenders or found out who the offenders were, the NZCVS asked a question about the sex of the offender. This allowed high-level analysis of male-against-female offences. We found that in almost half (49%) of all personal offences where the sex of the offender was known to the victim, males were the offenders and females were the victims. This proportion increased to 52% for interpersonal violence offences, 53% for assaults and robberies, 69% for offences by family members, and 73% for sexual assaults, which was the only offence type with the proportion significantly higher than the national average (Figure 9.5).

Notably, proportions of offences where the offender and victim were of the same sex are much lower – 29% were male-against-male offences, and 13% were female-against-female offences. 10% of offences were female-against-male.

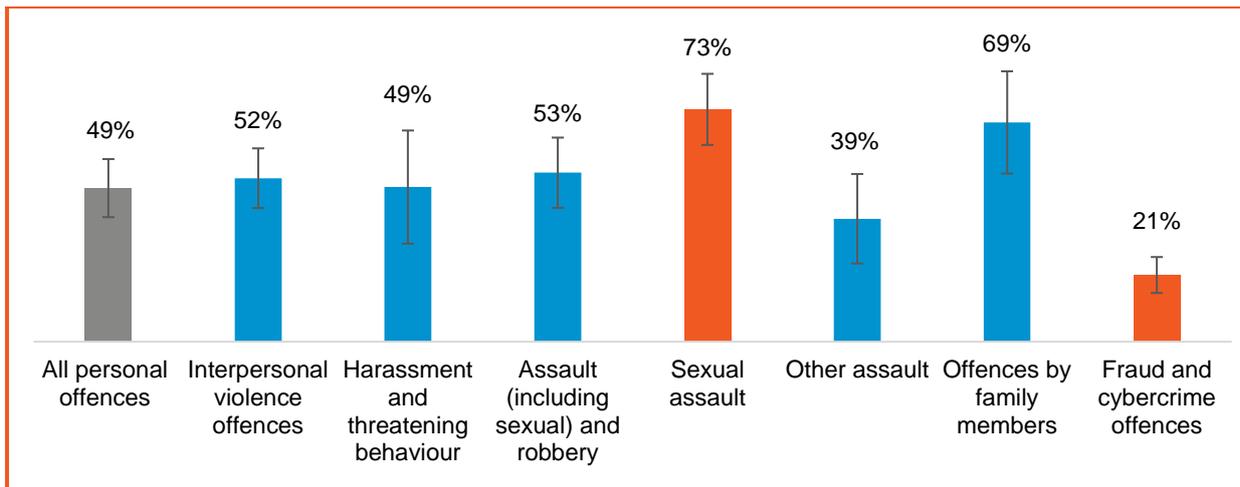


Figure 9.5 Percentage of male-against-female incidents, by offence category (pooled data)

9.3 Use of a weapon, injuries and time off work

Use of a weapon by offenders was checked only for other (non-sexual) assaults. Overall, offenders used a weapon in 12% of all non-sexual assaults (pooled data). No statistically significant difference in the use of a weapon was found for particular demographic groups. The analysis was limited due to a small sample size.

Every 11th incident (9%) resulted in injuries (Figure 9.6). While injuries were uncommon for household offences (1% of incidents, significantly lower than the average level), the proportion increased to 12% for all personal offences and became significantly higher than the overall level for interpersonal violence offences (21%), and especially for other (non-sexual) assaults, where victims were injured in every second incident (49%).

More than a quarter of offences by family members resulted in physical injuries (28%). The same proportion of victims were physically injured in incidents involving intimate partners, both ex-partners (22%) and current partners (35%). Both proportions are significantly higher than the average level. Note that offences by family members also include non-physical offence types like threats, harassment or property damage.

Victims were also physically injured in 12% of all sexual assaults.

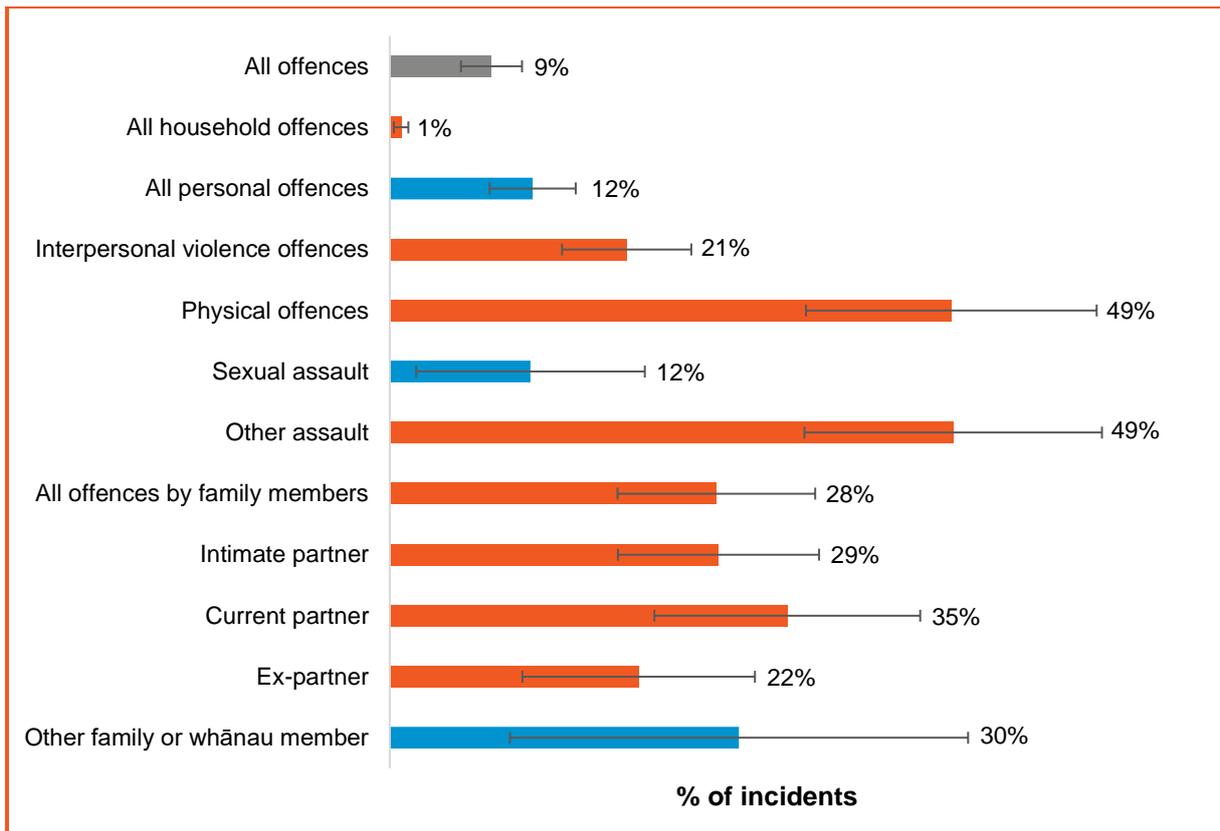


Figure 9.6 Percentage of incidents where victims were injured, by offence category (pooled data)

As the result of 10% of incidents, victims needed to take time off work (Figure 9.7). This proportion is about the same for both household and personal offences. Within the personal offences category this proportion is higher for interpersonal violence offences (13%), robberies and other offences (20%) and offences by family members (20%), but the difference is not statistically significant. A significantly higher proportion of incidents with time taken off work was recorded for vehicle offences.

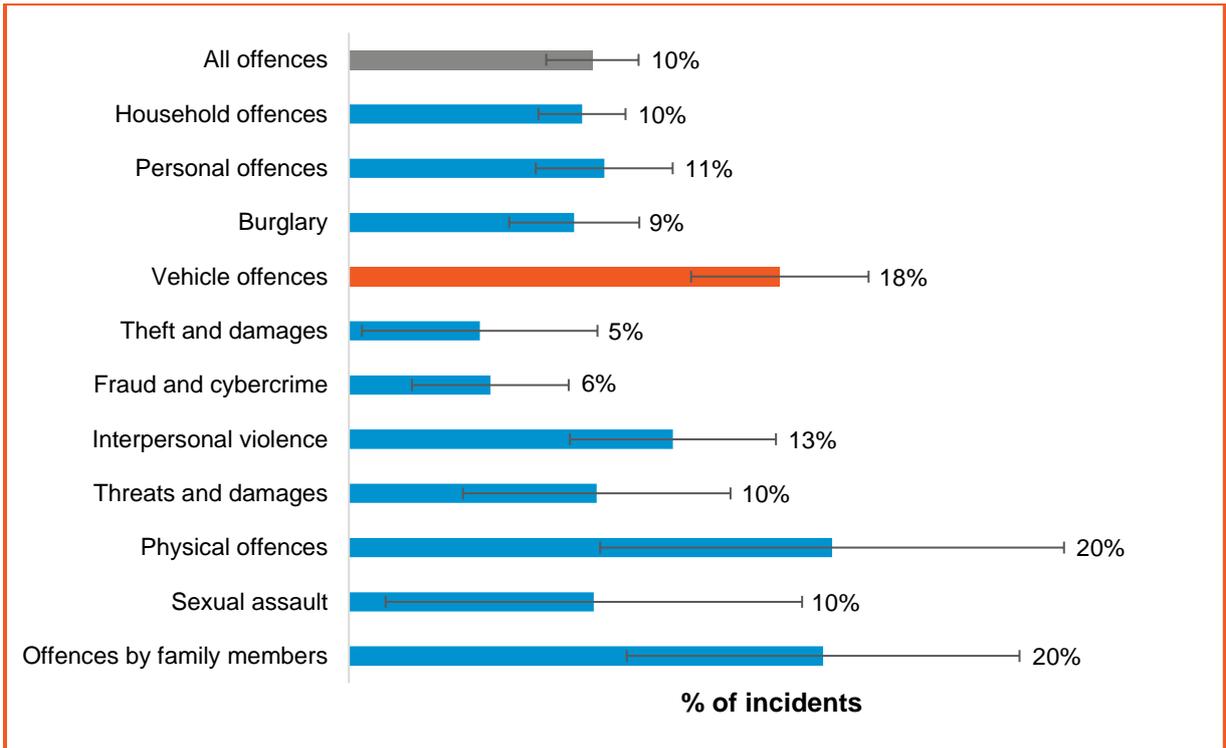


Figure 9.7 Percentage of incidents where victims had to take time off work, by offence category (pooled data)