

An assessment of the Tackling Knives and Serious Youth Violence Action Programme (TKAP) – Phase II

Liz Ward, Sian Nicholas and Maria Willoughby

Background

The Tackling Knives Action Programme (TKAP) ran initially from June 2008 until March 2009 and aimed to reduce teenage knife crime in ten police force areas in England and Wales. TKAP Phase II was then launched and the programme re-branded into the Tackling Knives and Serious Youth Violence Action Programme. Phase II ran from April 2009 to March 2010 in 16 police force areas (the original ten TKAP forces and six new areas)¹ and aimed to reduce all serious violence involving 13- to 24-year-olds using a range of enforcement, education and prevention initiatives.

¹ The ten original areas included Essex, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Metropolitan Police Service, Merseyside, Nottinghamshire, South Wales, Thames Valley, West Midlands, and West Yorkshire. The six new areas were Bedfordshire, British Transport, Hampshire, Kent, Northumbria, and South Yorkshire.

Aims and methodology

The Home Office Research and Analysis Unit was asked to form an assessment of the success of TKAP Phase II in reducing serious youth violence. A secondary aim of the programme (assessed in Appendix B) was to improve public confidence around serious youth violence in the 16 police force areas.

As the TKAP areas were partly selected due to their high levels of violent crime, a randomised experimental design could not be used to assess the impact of the programme. Instead, a quasi-experimental methodology was applied using a variety of analytical techniques to compare what happened in the TKAP areas during TKAP Phase II with the previous year (2008/09) and before the start of the programme (2007/08). Wherever possible, comparisons were also made with a group of forces not involved in the programme (non-TKAP areas).

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Keywords

Knife crime
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Results

A range of sources of violent crime data were analysed. Of these, Homicide Index and hospital admissions data were the most robust for the purpose of this assessment as they allowed for comparisons between age groups and between TKAP and non-TKAP areas.

Table S1 *Number of homicide offences involving victims and/or principal suspects in the target age group prior to and during TKAP Phase II*

		Number of offences				
		2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	Comparing 07/08 with 09/10	Comparing 08/09 with 09/10
All recorded homicides offences						
Victim aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	136	107	91	-45	-16
	Non-TKAP areas	47	35	29	-18	-6
Principal suspect aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	183	145	133	-50	-12
	Non-TKAP areas	64	72	42	-22	-30
Victim and principal suspect aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	77	72	50	-27	-22
	Non-TKAP areas	24	20	10	-14	-10
Knife/sharp instrument homicide offences						
Victim aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	63	60	43	-20	-17
	Non-TKAP areas	23	13	13	-10	0
Principal suspect aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	76	69	53	-23	-16
	Non-TKAP areas	21	16	12	-9	-4
Victim and principal suspect aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	42	44	27	-15	-17
	Non-TKAP areas	14	6	6	-8	0

Percentages are not shown due to the small numbers. Homicide Index data includes homicides recorded by all 16 Phase II police forces. Homicide offences are shown according to the year in which the police initially recorded the offence as homicide. The data refer to the position as at 28 September 2010. Note that, although data on suspects are presented for 2009/10, these are likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11 as cases progress through the courts.

Current homicide data (correct as at September 2010) suggest positive reductions in the number of homicide victims and/or principal suspects² in the target age group during TKAP Phase II across England and Wales. Reductions were recorded by both TKAP and non-TKAP police forces, and in general were not proportionately greater in the TKAP areas.

Hospital admissions for assault involving those in the target age group reduced between 2007/08 and 2009/10 in both TKAP and non-TKAP areas. Looking specifically at comparisons between the TKAP Phase II period and the previous year, there was a decline in the non-TKAP areas but no change in the TKAP areas. However, there were no statistically significant differences in changes in average admission rates between TKAP and non-TKAP areas over this period.

Impact of the programme was also assessed using British Crime Survey (BCS) and TKAP monitoring data (a special collection of police recorded crime data broken down by age).

² A principal suspect is defined as (i) a person who has been arrested in respect of an offence initially classified as homicide and charged with homicide or (ii) a person who is suspected by the police of having committed the offence but is known to have died or committed suicide prior to arrest/being charged. Note that, although data on suspects are presented for 2009/10, these are likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11 as cases progress through the courts.

Table S2 Number of assault admissions to English NHS hospitals in the target age group

	Number of admissions			Comparing 07/08 with 09/10	Comparing 08/09 with 09/10
	07/08	08/09	09/10		
Hospital admissions for assault aged 13 to 24					
TKAP areas	11,171	10,738	10,740	-3.9%	0.0%
Non-TKAP areas	6,061	5,791	5,664	-6.6%	-2.2%
Hospital admissions for assault by sharp object aged 13 to 24					
Total number	1,674	1,500	1,500	-10.4%	0.0%
Non-TKAP areas	514	507	407	-20.8%	-19.7%

Note: Excludes City of London, British Transport Police, and all Welsh police force areas.

Source: Hospital Episode Statistics Copyright © 2010, re-used with the permission of The Health and Social Care Information Centre. All rights reserved.

Between 2007/08 and 2009/10 the BCS did not show any statistically significant changes in violence with injury rates involving 16- to 24-year-old victims in either the TKAP or non-TKAP areas. However, the available BCS data did not capture all incidents occurring during the TKAP period and data from the 2010/11 BCS are needed to assess the impact of the programme.

TKAP monitoring data showed reductions in several categories of violent crime offences involving victims aged from 13 to 24 in the TKAP areas during the Phase II period. For example, comparing 2008/09 with 2009/10, there was a five per cent reduction in 'all violence'³ offences involving victims aged 13 to 24 and a four per cent reduction in offences involving victims of other ages. However, for the majority of offence types, reductions were not consistently greater for offences involving victims in the target age group than for other ages. Data on police recorded offences involving victims aged from 13 to 24 in the non-TKAP areas were not available for comparison.

Additional analyses to further explore the impact of Phase II

There was considerable variability in trends in serious youth violence during the Phase II period across individual police forces, perhaps suggesting that the programme was more successful in some areas than others or due to the data being more variable at lower geographic levels.

Changes seen in the larger police forces dominated the overall TKAP trends, particularly increases in attempted murder offences and hospital assault admissions involving youth victims in London.

Analysis conducted to further explore the impact of the larger forces on overall trends showed that, even after excluding the TKAP forces with the highest hospital assault admission rates (and thus comparing the most closely matched TKAP and non-TKAP areas) the TKAP areas did not show significantly greater reductions than the non-TKAP areas (in either assault admissions or police recorded violent crime rates). The main findings summarised above do not therefore solely reflect the dominance of figures from the larger police forces.

Further analysis was conducted to look at whether TKAP Phases I and II areas achieved different results in their efforts to reduce violent crime. Phase II of the programme was associated with reductions in all violent incidents involving teenage victims (in the Phase II areas), but increases in teenage knife crime. The results for violent incidents involving victims in the 'new' age group included in Phase II (20 to 24) were also mixed.

Analyses were also conducted to compare the 'new' Phase II areas with the original Phase I areas (areas included in both phases of the programme). The Phase II period coincided with marked reductions in violent incidents and sharp instrument assaults involving 13- to 24-year-olds in the 'new' areas, but results were mixed in the original areas during Phase II. This could suggest that Phase I had an initial impact on teenage knife crime that proved difficult to build on, or perhaps that the reductions seen during Phase I in the original areas, and during Phase II in the new areas, reflect the impact of factors other than TKAP.

³ 'All violence' offences include police recorded offences of attempted murder, wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm (GBH), inflicting GBH without intent, and actual bodily harm (ABH).

Public perceptions

Findings from the British Crime Survey and MORI Crime Tracker survey were used as proxy measures to capture changes in public perceptions of serious youth violence prior to and during TKAP Phase II. Public perceptions of some violent crimes have improved across the country in the last few years, but neither survey was fully able to capture any impact of the programme itself so it is not clear to what extent changes in perceptions could be attributed to TKAP.

Conclusions

Between April 2007 and March 2010, there were reductions across the country in serious violence involving 13- to 24-year-old victims or offenders, with TKAP running in the latter two of the three years. However, comparing the Phase II period with the previous years, improvements in the non-TKAP areas were generally similar or greater in magnitude than those recorded in the TKAP Phase II areas.

The picture is complicated by the fact that pre-existing differences between TKAP and non-TKAP areas meant that a robust comparison group was not obtainable. Furthermore, at least some of the TKAP elements were national in scope, and activities to reduce serious youth violence were concurrently taking place in the non-TKAP areas. As a result of these factors, it is not clear what would have happened in the absence of the programme.

While these findings provide encouraging evidence that serious youth violence declined across the country between 2007/08 and the end of March 2010, given that the reductions were not specific to or consistently greater in the TKAP areas, and taking into account the methodological limitations described above, it is not possible to directly attribute reductions in the TKAP areas during Phase II to TKAP activities.

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I Introduction

Background

The Tackling Knives Action Programme (TKAP) was launched in 2008 by the previous Government administration in response to a number of high-profile knife homicides involving teenage victims. Police recorded crime data on teenage homicides and serious violent crime were used, together with a range of other factors, to identify those police forces of greatest concern. These forces were then invited to participate in introducing a range of local police enforcement, education, and prevention initiatives aimed at reducing knife related violence involving 13- to 19-year-old victims and perpetrators. Ten police forces were involved in TKAP Phase I,⁴ which ran from June 2008 until March 2009.

In April 2009, Phase II was launched and the programme re-branded into the Tackling Knives and Serious Youth Violence Action Programme. The programme ran from April 2009 to March 2010 and its purpose and geographical focus was broadened to target all serious youth violence⁵ involving victims and perpetrators aged 13 to 24. The broadening of the target age group necessitated important changes to the programme, for example it increased its focus on violence in the night-time economy. It was also expanded to include six additional areas, resulting in a total of 16 police forces: Bedfordshire, British Transport (BTP), Essex, Greater Manchester (GMP), Hampshire, Kent, Lancashire, Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), Merseyside, Northumbria, Nottinghamshire, South Wales, South Yorkshire, Thames Valley, West Midlands, and West Yorkshire.⁶

Report aims, methodology and structure

The Home Office published a report in July 2009 which drew on a variety of data sources to form an assessment of the impact of TKAP Phase I on teenage knife crime. Key findings from this report are summarised in Box I. The present report's primary aim is to conduct a similar assessment of the overall success of TKAP Phase II in achieving: a) a reduction in serious youth violence in the TKAP areas, and b) an improvement in public confidence around serious youth violence. Additional analyses are presented that examine force-level data for individual TKAP police force areas, and that attempt to tease apart the separate impacts of TKAP Phases I and II.

The non-random manner in which police forces were selected for involvement in the programme (based in part on their high levels of serious violent crime) meant that a randomised evaluation methodology was not possible. A quasi-experimental methodology has therefore been applied, using a variety of analytical techniques to examine what

4 Essex, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Metropolitan, Merseyside, Nottinghamshire, South Wales, Thames Valley, West Midlands, West Yorkshire; all ten were involved in Phases I and II.

5 For the purpose of this report, serious youth violence includes violent incidents (e.g. police recorded offences or hospital admissions for assault) that involve victims or offenders aged 13 to 24.

6 TKAP Phase 3 ran from April 2010 to March 2011. It focused on serious violence involving 13- to 24-year-olds and provided funding and support to 52 Community Safety Partnerships and BTP.

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happened in the TKAP police force areas and, wherever possible, comparing this to what happened in the non-TKAP areas. The assessment faced a range of methodological challenges, many of which are inherent to evaluating complex, multi-component programmes and some that were created by the changes to the programme between phases which made it difficult to isolate the specific impact of TKAP Phase II. The limitations of this approach are detailed in Chapter 2 (Methodological limitations).

Box I Findings from the TKAP Phase I monitoring report

Selected findings from the TKAP Phase I: Overview of key trends from a monitoring programme report (Home Office, 2010) comparing the TKAP Phase I period – July 2008 to March 2009 – with the same period the previous year:

- Stop and searches increased and offensive weapon possession offences decreased by 13 per cent (involving people aged 19 and under).
- There was no change in the number of provisionally recorded sharp-instrument homicides among victims aged 19 and under in TKAP areas, and a slight increase among victims aged 20 and over. There was a more marked reduction in sharp-instrument ‘all violence’ offences among victims aged 19 and under (17%) than in offences involving older victims (8%).
- There was a 28 per cent reduction in admissions to hospitals for assault by a sharp object among victims aged 19 and under in TKAP areas, compared with a 16 per cent drop in non-TKAP areas.⁷

The findings suggested that fewer young people were becoming victims of knife crime during the TKAP Phase I period, and that TKAP activities may have contributed to a decline in some measures and persisting reductions in others. However, there were important limitations to the data and caution should therefore be applied when interpreting these trends in relation to TKAP.

This report presents an entirely statistical assessment of TKAP Phase II and does not include an implementation or process evaluation. Furthermore, because of the large cost of undertaking a full evaluation and the difficulties in attributing causal links between specific aspects of the programme and particular outcome measures, this report does not include a cost-benefit analysis of TKAP. It is also beyond the scope of this report to address wider concerns related to violent crime, its prevalence or causes.

The rest of the report is structured as follows: The section below summarises the activities and initiatives that comprised TKAP Phase II. Chapter 2 details the methodology used in the analyses undertaken for this report. The results of analyses conducted to form an assessment of the impact of TKAP Phase II on serious youth violence are presented in the main body of the report (Chapter 3). Additional analyses – for example looking at comparisons between more closely matched groups of police forces – and analyses to form an assessment of the programme’s impact on public perceptions of serious youth violence are described in later Appendices. The main findings are summarised throughout the report and Chapter 4 notes the conclusions.

TKAP Phase II activities

The programme was led jointly by the Home Office and Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), and delivered in partnership with various other government departments and agencies including the police, Department for Education,⁸ Ministry of Justice, and the Department of Health.

⁷ The report quoted reductions of 32 per cent and 18 per cent for TKAP and non-TKAP areas respectively. These figures were provisional and are superseded by the final data presented in Box I.

⁸ Previously Department for Education and Skills.

TKAP Phase II entailed both a 'local' and 'national' programme of work. At a local level, each area received a share of £4-5m per year of central government funding to develop their own plans, priorities and problem profiles. For the purpose of this report it is important to note that each police force focused their activities in the specific areas that were identified through their problem profile as being most at risk for serious youth violence. Appendix A summarises some of the local approaches taken. Funding was spent fairly equally on: enforcement (e.g. increased stop and searches); education and engagement (e.g. additional evening activities); and prevention and communication activities (e.g. anti-knife media campaigns).

A centrally held budget supported 'national' projects, which were implemented across all TKAP areas, or across England and Wales. These are described in more detail in Appendix A and included a drive to increase the number of hospital Accident and Emergency departments sharing data on assaults with local police and Community Safety Partnerships, and knife awareness campaigns such as the TV, internet and poster advertising campaign 'It Doesn't Have To Happen'.

Given the national media focus on youth violence and knife crime, it is likely that non-TKAP areas also developed a response to these issues in their local areas. In addition, it is worth noting that TKAP of course did not mark the onset of action aimed at tackling serious youth violence; for example, the MPS began Operation Blunt – which aimed to reduce knife crime in the capital – before TKAP was announced. The fact that other approaches aimed at reducing serious youth violence were ongoing prior to TKAP and during the programme in the non-TKAP areas complicates the authors' attempts to identify any specific impact of Phase II. These issues must therefore be taken into account, alongside the methodological limitations described in Chapter 2, when interpreting the findings of this report.

2 Method

Analyses

TKAP Phase II aimed to deliver two goals: a) a reduction in all serious youth violence involving young people aged from 13 to 24, both as victims and perpetrators; and b) an improvement in public confidence around serious youth violence.

In the following sections, data on serious youth violence (Chapter 3) are examined for evidence of the programme's impact. Although the programme aimed to reduce violent crime involving young victims and perpetrators, because of the limited availability of data on offenders, the data described in Chapter 3 of this report mostly focus on young victims of violent crime. Appendix B summarises analyses to form an assessment of the programme's impact on public perceptions of serious youth violence and Appendix C examines data on police recorded weapon possession offences to explore the impact of TKAP Phase II on knife carrying.

The findings in this report are strengthened by the use of multiple data sources and a combination of analytical techniques. These vary depending on the characteristics of each data source, and range from simple comparisons to statistical significance tests⁹ of difference-in-difference analyses (See Appendix H – Statistical significance for details).

- At the most basic level, comparisons are made between data for the time periods prior to and during TKAP Phase II.
- Because Phase I activities were ongoing in some Phase II areas during 2008/09, comparisons are made both between 2008/09 and 2009/10, and between 2007/08 (i.e. pre-TKAP) and 2009/10.

⁹ Throughout the report, statistical significance is tested at $p < 0.05$ (2-tailed).

- Where possible, comparisons are made between these years for both TKAP and non-TKAP areas, and for violence involving victims and/or offenders in the target age group and of other ages.
- Statistical significance tests are used wherever data enable direct comparisons between TKAP and non-TKAP areas.

Further analyses of serious youth violence measures are additionally conducted in Chapter 3 to explore, among other themes: the consistency of trends across police force areas; the identification of and comparisons between a more closely matched sub-set of TKAP and non-TKAP areas; and the impact that prolonged intervention activity (focused on reducing serious violence involving 13- to 19-year-old victims) had in the ten police force areas involved in both Phases I and II.

The following section describes the data sources used in this report. Further information about each is presented in the Technical Appendix (Appendix H).

Data sources

Serious violent crime

This report includes three types of data on serious youth violence: the British Crime Survey (BCS); police recorded crime data; and NHS data on admissions for assault to hospitals in England. As is widely acknowledged, no single data source provides a full and accurate depiction of crime trends. Given the limitations of each (see Box 2 for a summary of these), and to provide a stronger assessment of violent crime trends, this report includes all three data sources.

British Crime Survey

The BCS is a large-scale face-to-face victimisation survey of adults aged 16 years and over who are resident in households in England and Wales.¹⁰ This report includes analysis of 'violence with injury' experienced by respondents in the year prior to interview.¹¹ National Statistics on BCS data are published annually and quarterly (e.g. Flatley *et al.*, 2010).

Police recorded violent crime

Three types of police recorded violent crime data are used in this report.

- The Homicide Index (HI) is the Home Office's administrative database on incidents of homicides in England and Wales. The HI includes details about victims and principal suspects, including age. National Statistics on homicide data are published annually (e.g. Smith *et al.*, 2011).
- Police recorded crime (PRC) include violent offences and violent offences involving knives or sharp instruments recorded by police forces across England and Wales. National Statistics on these data are published annually and quarterly (e.g. Flatley *et al.*, 2010).
- Since police-recorded crime data are not typically broken down by age, a separate monitoring programme was established to collect management data on violent crime offences by age of victim, and on offences involving knives or sharp instruments, from each of the 16 TKAP Phase II police forces.^{12,13} 'Baseline' data were requested (April 2007 to March 2009) and the Phase II data collection ran from April 2009 to March 2010.¹⁴

10 The BCS was recently expanded to include respondents aged under 16; however, these data are currently not comparable to the main survey sample and this report focuses on respondents aged from 16 to 24.

11 Note that the BCS asks each respondent about crimes they have experienced in the 12 months prior to interview. Interviews for the 2009/10 BCS were conducted between April 2009 and March 2010. Consequently, the reference period for the 2009/10 BCS spreads over 23 months. Therefore, more recent data from the 2010/11 BCS would be needed to capture all violent crime reported to the BCS which occurred during the TKAP Phase II period.

12 To minimise the burden on police forces, monitoring data were only requested from April 2007 onwards from TKAP forces, and were not requested from non-TKAP forces.

13 West Yorkshire Police did not permit publication of data supplied to the TKAP monitoring programme; consequently, these data are presented for 15 police forces only.

14 Differences between National Statistics on police recorded crime and TKAP monitoring data are expected as the two datasets were requested at different times and cases are continuously revised on the individual force crime recording systems as further information about cases becomes available.

Two bespoke aggregate measures of violent crime are used throughout this report: ‘most serious violence’ (MSV) and ‘all violence’. MSV¹⁵ comprises recorded offences of attempted murder, wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm (GBH), and inflicting GBH without intent. A clarification to the recording of GBH with intent in April 2008 resulted in an increased number of GBH (and therefore MSV) offences in some forces (see Technical Appendix for further detail). However, the ‘all violence’ measure – which comprises all offences included in MSV, and additionally includes offences of actual bodily harm and other injury – should not be affected by the change in recording GBH.

Box 2 Limitations of violent crime measures

- Police recorded crime data can quantify a wide range of offences for small geographical areas; however, data are not typically broken down by age of victim/offender and are affected by changes in crime reporting/recording.
- British Crime Survey data can be split by age and are less affected by changes in reporting/recording than police recorded crime, but do not effectively quantify rarer events, or enable small geographical breakdowns.
- Hospital admissions data can also be split by age and geographical area. However, they comprise only those assault injuries that result in hospital admittance and are influenced by medical staff compliance in questioning patients and the willingness of patients to report the cause of their injury.

Admissions to English National Health Service (NHS) hospitals for assault

The NHS Information Centre collects information on admissions from hospitals across England.¹⁶ Age related admissions for injuries resulting from assault or assault by sharp object are presented here for patients residing in TKAP and non-TKAP areas. Assault requiring admission to, and not just attendance at, hospital is taken as a measure of serious violence. National Statistics on hospital admissions data are published by the Information Centre annually (see <http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk>).

Public perceptions of serious youth violence (see Appendix B)

Appendix B presents findings from two national public surveys to capture changes in public perceptions of serious youth violence prior to and during TKAP Phase II:

- BCS data on perceptions of change in violent and weapon related crime in the TKAP and non-TKAP areas (available since 2008/09); and
- data from Ipsos MORI’s ‘Crime tracker’ survey on public perceptions of local and national crime (run quarterly between February 08 and November 09).

Since the BCS does not explicitly ask about serious youth violence and Crime Tracker data cannot be broken down by geographical area to compare TKAP and non-TKAP areas, the analysis of these data is limited and can therefore only provide proxy measures of Phase II’s impact on perceptions of serious youth violence.

Enforcement activity (see Appendix C)

To investigate the impact of TKAP Phase II on knife carrying and related enforcement activity, Appendix C explores data from two sources:

- MoJ data on the outcomes of Criminal Justice System (CJS) disposals for weapon possession offences (published quarterly; see MoJ, 2011); and

¹⁵ This differs from the MSV measure previously included in Crime in England and Wales publications.

¹⁶ These figures include only persons resident in the English TKAP and non-TKAP police force areas at the time of admission. The NHS Information Centre does not publish data for Welsh hospitals. The number of admissions to hospital is not necessarily the same as the number of people, since a single person may have been admitted more than once for the same or similar injury.

- police recorded possession offences by geographical area (National Statistics are published alongside police-recorded crime; Flatley *et al.*, 2010).

These data are heavily influenced by changes in police practice which affects interpretation in relation to TKAP: for example, increases in possession offences may indicate the success of enforcement focused parts of the programme, but could also signal the failure of education-based attempts to reduce knife carrying.

Methodological limitations

Although this report examines multiple data sources via a range of analytical techniques, several important methodological considerations must be taken into account when considering its findings:

- In 2008, there was a change to the Home Office Counting Rules for grievous bodily harm with intent (See Technical Appendix for further information). While this change predates TKAP Phase II, the transition may not have taken effect immediately, leading to a potential increase in recorded GBH (and therefore Most Serious Violence) offences during the first part of 2008/09 that influenced comparisons made here between 2009/10 and 2008/09. However, since this affects only one of the many measures used, and would affect recorded crime in both TKAP and non-TKAP areas, this factor does not undermine the report's overall findings.
- The 16 police forces involved in TKAP Phase II were selected in part because they recorded high rates or counts of serious violent crime, compared to most non-TKAP forces. For this reason, a) reductions in violence may reflect an element of regressing to the mean;¹⁷ and b) non-TKAP areas as a whole do not serve as an appropriate comparison group for the TKAP areas. In the absence of a true comparison group, selected randomly from forces that report similar levels of serious youth violence, comparisons between TKAP and non-TKAP areas cannot fully answer counterfactual questions concerning what would have happened if the intervention had not taken place.
- A range of factors also make it difficult to isolate any specific impact of the intervention, both when comparing data across time periods and between TKAP and non-TKAP areas: a) TKAP built upon and contributed to other existing local initiatives that also targeted serious youth violence; b), some TKAP initiatives were implemented nation-wide (see Appendix A) and similar strategies aimed at reducing serious youth violence may have been employed locally within the non-TKAP areas; c) many TKAP activities (see Appendix A) were focused on small, high-risk locations and the analysis of data at police force level may conceal reductions in these areas.
- Some aspects of TKAP Phase II might not be expected to immediately impact upon measures of serious youth violence or public confidence (e.g. knife education programmes). Since the longer-term effects of the programme can not yet be assessed, any long term impact of these activities is not captured in this report.
- Although TKAP Phase II aimed to deliver a reduction in serious youth violence involving young victims and perpetrators, due to the limited amount of offender data available, the majority of the findings of this report examine its impact on victims of violent crime only.

For these reasons, caution must be applied when interpreting the findings of this report, particularly in terms of drawing conclusions about the impact of the TKAP Phase II intervention.

¹⁷ i.e. The tendency of extremes in fluctuating patterns to move back towards the average – these can easily be mistaken for a real effect. See Morton and Torgenson (2003).

3 Results – serious youth violence

The primary aim of TKAP Phase II was to achieve a reduction in serious violent offences involving victims or offenders aged 13 to 24. Three measures of serious violence are used here to form an assessment of the programme's success: the British Crime Survey, police recorded crime data, and data on NHS hospital admissions. Of these, only police recorded crime data - and specifically the Homicide Index - provide a measure of serious violence involving both young victims and offenders (or principal suspects); the others only provide measures of serious violence involving young victims. Appendix C describes two measures of offender-based enforcement activity; however, as these data are heavily influenced by police activity, it is very difficult to interpret trends in relation to TKAP activities.

A range of sources of violent crime data were analysed. Of these, Homicide Index and hospital admissions data were the most robust for the purpose of this assessment as they allowed for comparisons between TKAP and non-TKAP areas for the target age group (13 to 24). The results of analyses using these data are presented first, followed by a summary of other findings.

Serious violent crime during and prior to TKAP Phase II

Key findings:

A variety of data sources were analysed in this section to assess the impact of TKAP Phase II. The most robust for the purpose of this assessment were the Homicide Index and NHS data on hospital assault admissions. The results of these analyses are presented first, followed by a summary of other findings:

Homicides

- As shown in Figures 2 to 7, current data suggest reductions across England and Wales in the number of homicides in which the victim and/or suspect was aged 13 to 24 prior to and during TKAP Phase II.
- For the most part, reductions were recorded by both TKAP and non-TKAP areas but were not proportionately greater for the TKAP Phase II areas.

Hospital assault admissions

- As shown in Table I, there were encouraging reductions in admissions to English hospitals for assault and admissions for assault by sharp object involving patients aged 13 to 24 in the years prior to and during Phase II.
- There were reductions between 2007/08 and 2008/09 in assault admissions and sharp object assault admissions in TKAP and non-TKAP areas; however, there was no change in either of the TKAP areas between 2008/09 and 2009/10. Statistical significance testing revealed no significant difference between the changes in average admission rates in the TKAP and non-TKAP areas between these periods.

Other findings

- The British Crime Survey did not show any statistically significant changes in violence with injury rates involving victims aged from 16 to 24 in the years prior to or during Phase II in the TKAP or non-TKAP areas. However, the reporting period for the 2009/10 BCS stretches back to April 2008 and it therefore includes incidents occurring prior to Phase II; more recent data are needed to better assess the programme's impact.
- Looking at TKAP monitoring data (a special collection of police recorded crime data broken down by age), there were reductions in several categories of violent crime offences involving victims aged 13 to 24 in the TKAP areas during the Phase II period. However, reductions were not consistently greater than for offences involving victims of other ages. Non-TKAP police recorded crime data for victims aged 13 to 24 are not available for comparison.

Overall, there were encouraging reductions across the country in almost all measures of serious violence involving victims or offenders aged 13 to 24 (with the exception of BCS data) since the start of Phase II. When data were split between TKAP and non-TKAP areas, reductions in the non-TKAP areas were generally similar or greater in magnitude than those recorded in the TKAP areas.

It is possible that ‘National’ TKAP initiatives (e.g. legislative changes or knife awareness campaigns) or efforts to reduce violent crime by non-TKAP police forces contributed to reductions in non-TKAP areas; however, it is beyond the scope of this report to test these hypotheses. The fact that reductions were not specific to or consistently greater in the TKAP areas – and taking into account other methodological limitations – makes it impossible to directly attribute reductions in the TKAP areas to Phase II activities.

Homicides

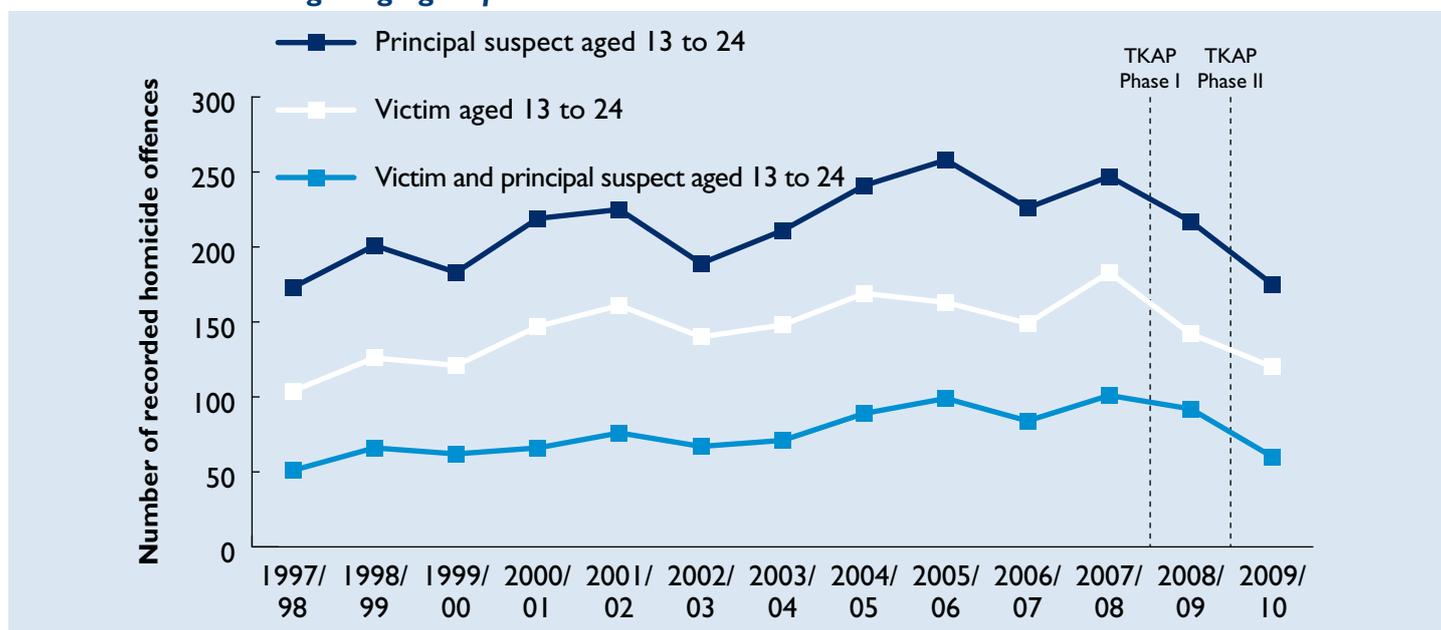
Homicide offences across England and Wales

In 2009/10, there were 619 recorded offences of homicide across England and Wales, four per cent less than in 2008/09. Of the offences recorded during 2009/10, 19 per cent involved a victim aged between 13 to 24 and 28 per cent involved a principal suspect¹⁸ aged 13 to 24; both the victim and principal suspect were aged 13 to 24 in five per cent of recorded homicides.

Figure 1 presents trends in homicide offences for which the victim, principal suspect, or both victim and principal suspect were in the target age group. Particular caution should be taken in interpreting data on principal suspects for 2009/10, since these are likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11 as cases progress through the courts.

To differing degrees, all three lines showed reductions in the years prior to and during Phase II. Figure G1 (Appendix G) presents the same data for sharp instrument offences and all three trends show reductions over this period.

Figure 1 Trends in homicide offences in England and Wales involving victims and principal suspects in the target age group



Source: data are taken from Homicide Index data and refer to the position as at 28 September 2010. Homicide offences are shown according to the year in which the police initially recorded the offence as homicide. Note that, although data on suspects are presented for 2009/10, these are likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11 as cases progress through the courts.

¹⁸ A principal suspect in a homicide case is defined as (i) a person who has been arrested in respect of an offence initially classified as homicide and charged with homicide or (ii) a person who is suspected by the police of having committed the offence but is known to have died or committed suicide prior to arrest/being charged. Note that, although data on suspects are presented for 2009/10, these are likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11 as cases progress through the courts.

Although comparisons were not tested for statistical significance, and caution should always be taken in interpreting homicide data because of the small numbers involved, the figures show a decline in homicides and sharp instrument homicides involving victims and/or principal suspects in the target age group during the years in which TKAP was implemented.

The following section examines homicide trends in the TKAP and non-TKAP areas to explore the extent to which local TKAP Phase II activities contributed to these reductions.

Homicide offences in the TKAP and non-TKAP areas

In 2009/10, nearly two-thirds (62%) of all homicides and 70 per cent of sharp instrument homicides recorded across England and Wales were recorded by the TKAP Phase II police forces.¹⁹ Figures 2 to 7 summarise the number of homicide offences and sharp instrument homicide offences involving the target age group in both the TKAP and non-TKAP areas.

Comparing the number of homicides recorded in 2009/10 with each of the two previous years, there were reductions in all types shown, with two exceptions: between 2008/09 and 2009/10 there was no change in the number of sharp instrument offences in which the homicide victim was aged 13 to 24 and no change in the number of offences in which the victim and principal suspect was aged 13 to 24 in the non-TKAP areas. These were the only instances in which non-TKAP forces did not record a reduction and very small numbers were involved; all other reductions were proportionately similar or greater in non-TKAP than TKAP areas.

The greatest reductions for both TKAP and non-TKAP areas were in homicides where both the victim and principal suspect were aged 13 to 24. However, these figures should be interpreted with caution since they are likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11 as cases progress through the courts and additional principal suspects are charged.

Overall, the data (correct as at September 2010) suggest a positive downward trend in recent years in the number of homicides in which the victim and/or principal suspect was aged 13 to 24 across England and Wales. However, for several reasons, care must be taken when interpreting these data in relation to TKAP. First, as noted above, the number of principal suspects is likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11. Second, statistical significance testing was not applied to these comparisons. Third, the comparisons involve small numbers, which are subject to greater fluctuation caused by random variation. Finally, as will be discussed in Chapter 3 (Force-level differences in serious youth violence), there is considerable variability between individual TKAP police force areas, so the reductions across the group of TKAP areas do not necessarily reflect reductions in individual force areas.

¹⁹ Tables 11 and 12 (Appendix I) presents the number of homicide offences in which the victim and/or principal suspect was aged 13 to 19, 20 to 24 or 13 to 24 in the TKAP and non-TKAP areas between 1997/8 and 2009/10.

Figure 2 Homicide offences involving victims aged 13 to 24^a

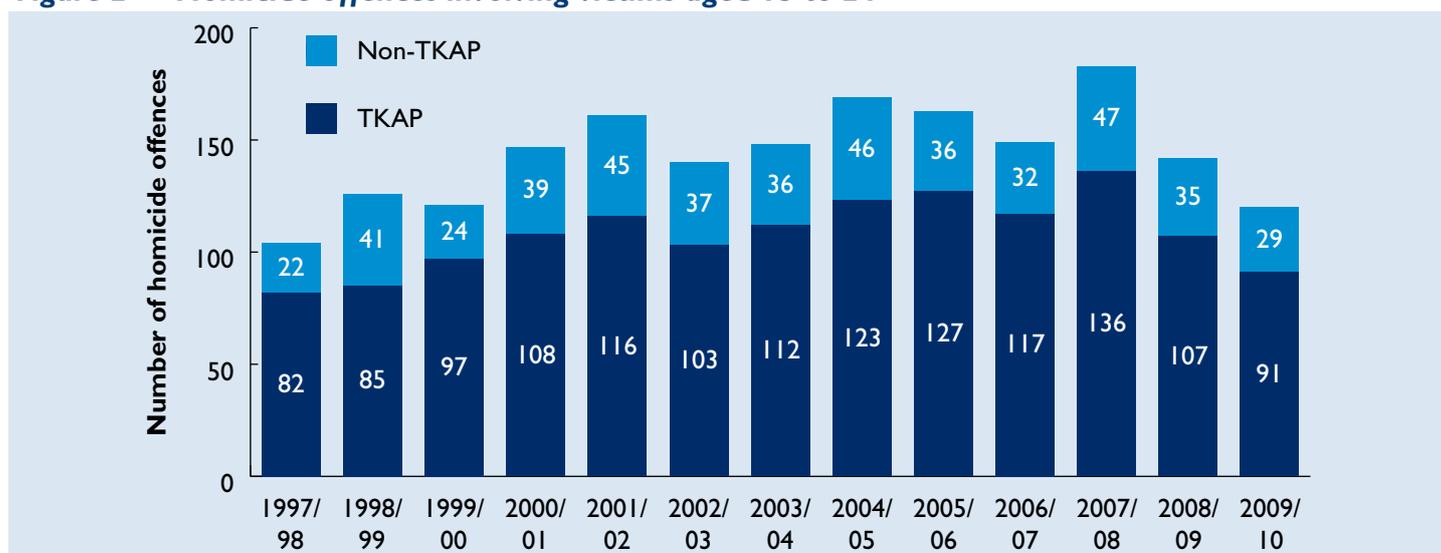


Figure 3 Sharp instrument homicide offences involving victims aged 13 to 24^a

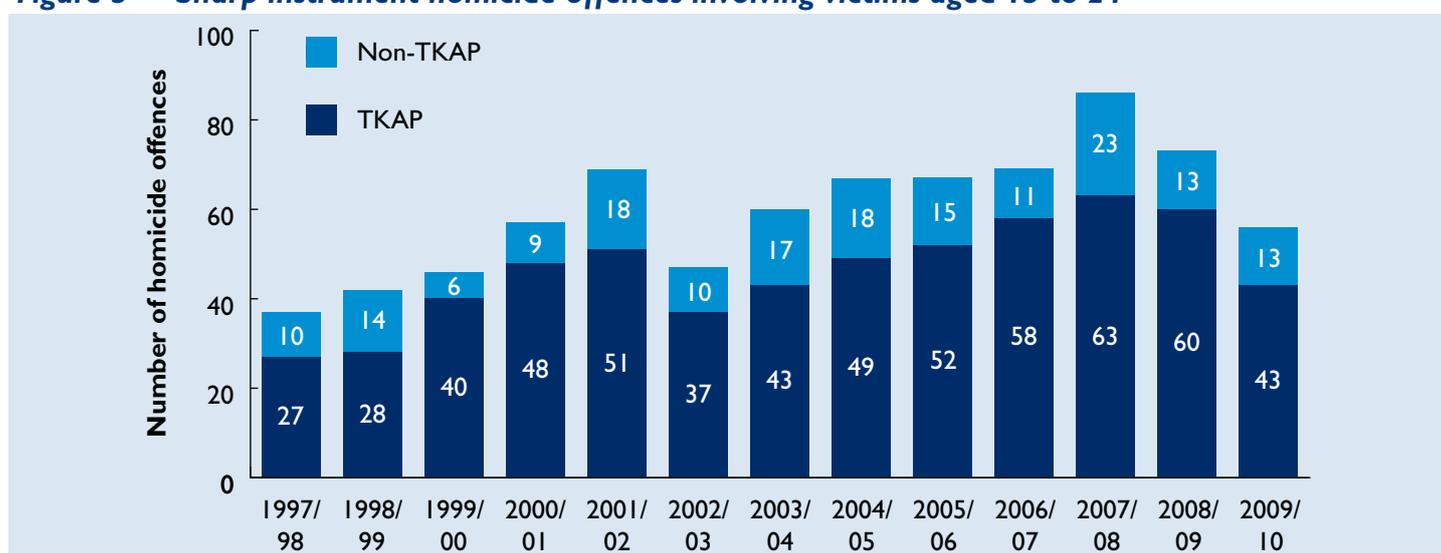


Figure 4 Homicide offences involving principal suspects aged 13 to 24^a



^a Source: data are taken from Homicide Index data and refer to the position as at 28 September 2010. Homicide offences are shown according to the year in which the police initially recorded the offence as homicide. Note that, although data on suspects are presented for 2009/10, these are likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11 as cases progress through the courts.

Figure 5 Sharp instrument homicide offences involving principal suspects aged 13 to 24^a



Figure 6 Homicide offences involving victims and principal suspects aged 13 to 24^a

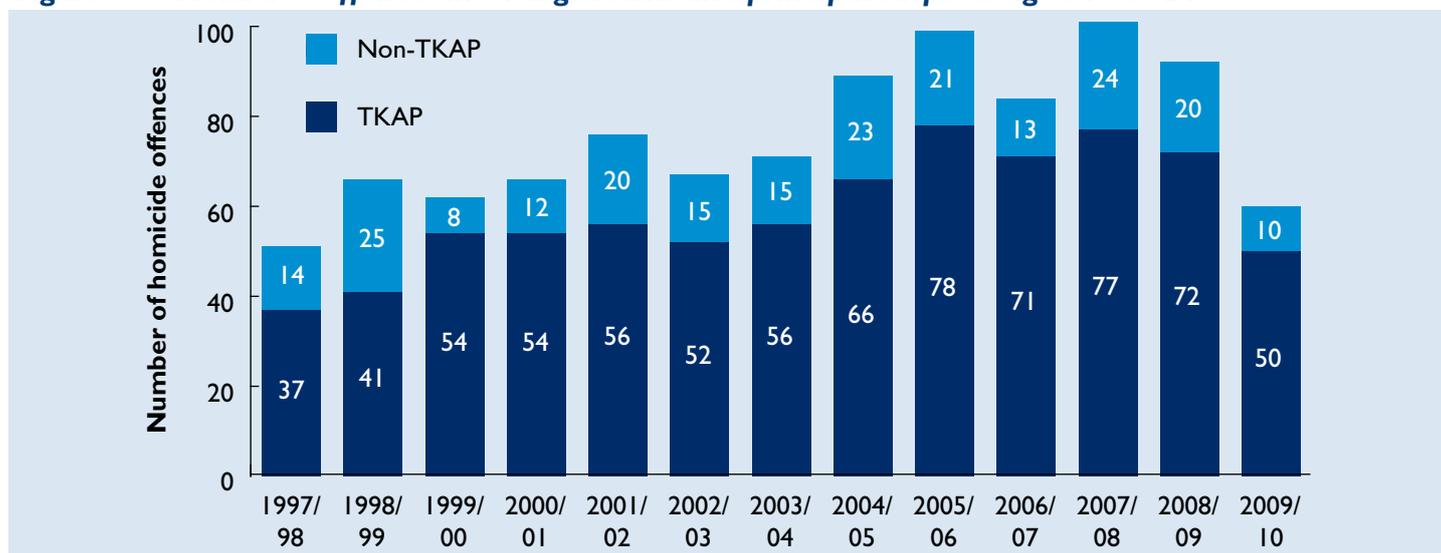
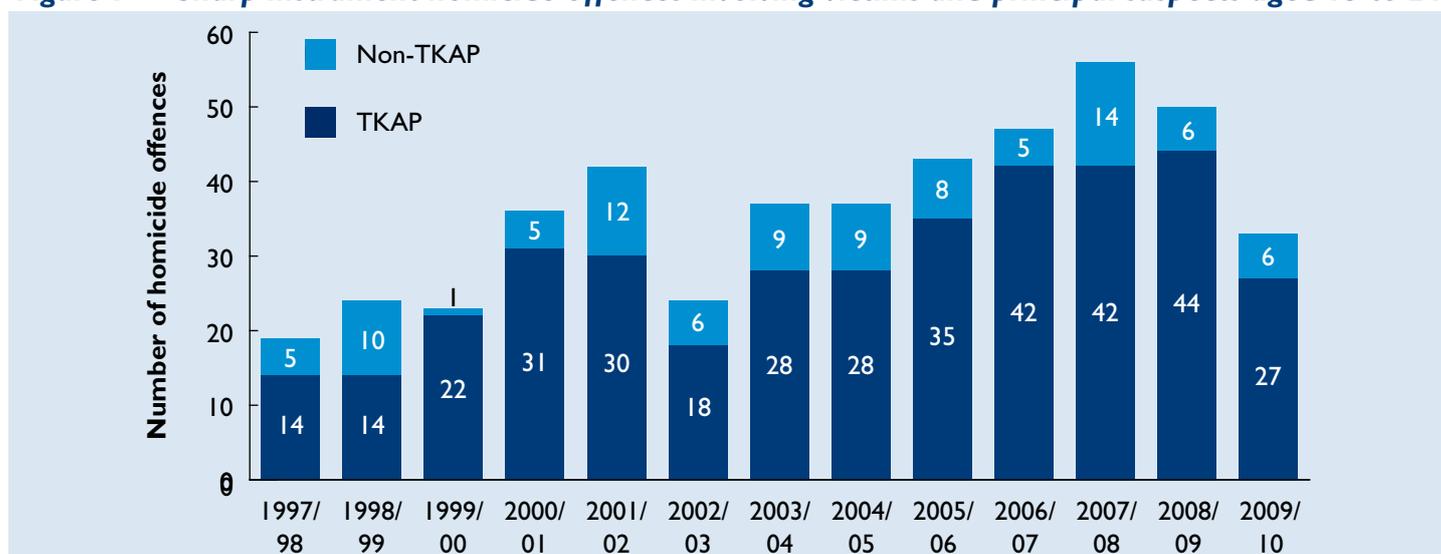


Figure 7 Sharp instrument homicide offences involving victims and principal suspects aged 13 to 24^a



^a Source: data are taken from Homicide Index data and refer to the position as at 28 September 2010. Homicide offences are shown according to the year in which the police initially recorded the offence as homicide. Note that, although data on suspects are presented for 2009/10, these are likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11 as cases progress through the courts.

NHS hospital admissions

NHS data on hospital admissions for assault were analysed to test whether admissions of those aged from 13 to 24 in the TKAP areas statistically significantly²⁰ reduced during the TKAP Phase II period, compared to admissions of those aged 13 to 24 in non-TKAP areas.

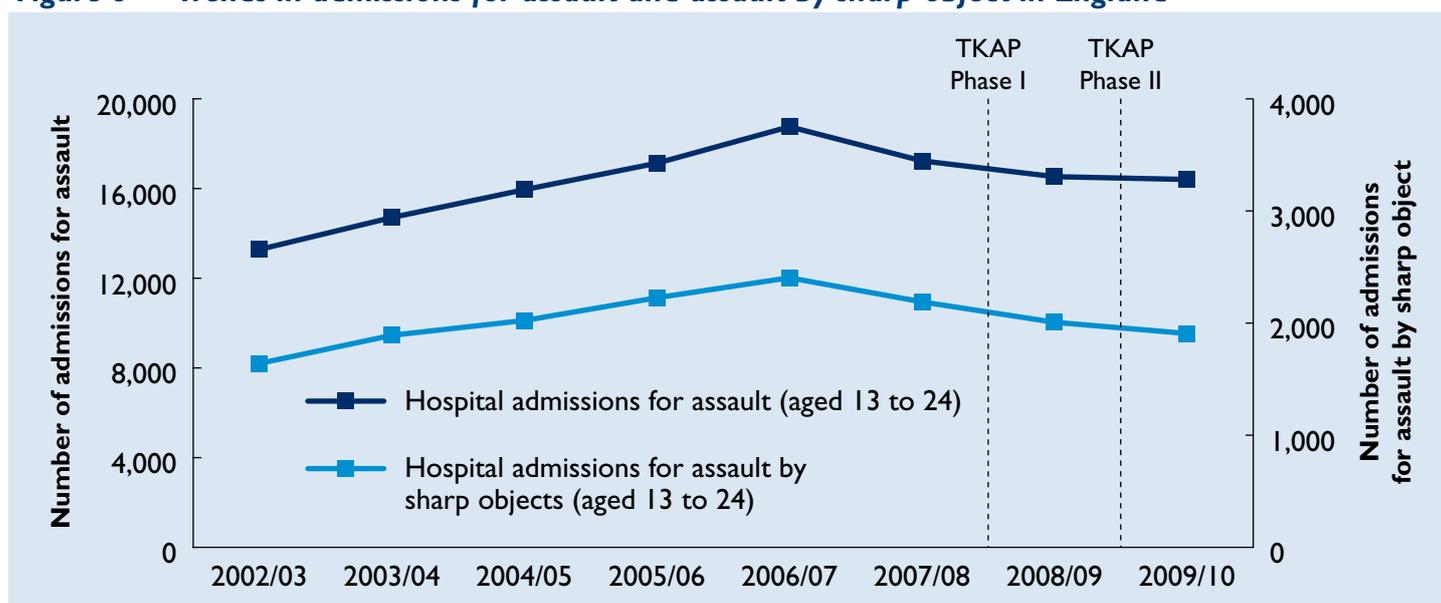
However, it should be noted that these data are collected only for English hospitals²¹ and exclude those in Wales. Furthermore, the data only include those individuals who choose to go to hospital, who are willing to report that they were assaulted, and who are admitted to hospital; they are therefore likely to only include relatively severe injuries caused by assault. Despite these caveats, these comparisons represent the strongest assessment of the impact of TKAP Phase II on serious youth violence presented in this report.

NHS assault admissions to English hospitals

Figure 8 presents trends in hospital admissions for assault and assault by sharp object to English hospitals in the target age group. Both measures show identical patterns, with increases between 2002/03 and 2006/07 and year-on-year reductions between 2006/07 and 2009/10. Consistent with Homicide Index data, these figures also suggest that violent incidents involving victims in the target age group declined in recent years across England. Notably, however, the reductions in hospital admissions for assault began prior to the start of TKAP, suggesting that other factors may have triggered the reversal in trends.

The longer-term trends shown in Figure 8 are consistent across both TKAP and non-TKAP areas (data not shown). The next section looks specifically at the impact of TKAP Phase II on assault admissions between 2007/08 and 2009/10.

Figure 8 Trends in admissions for assault and assault by sharp object in England



Note: Graph excludes British Transport Police and all Welsh police force areas; Source: Hospital Episode Statistics Copyright © 2010, re-used with the permission of The Health and Social Care Information Centre. All rights reserved.

NHS assault admissions in the TKAP and non-TKAP areas

Table 1 and Figures 9 and 10 present hospital admissions for assault and assault by sharp object involving patients in the target age group prior to and during Phase II. Comparing 2007/08 with 2009/10, there were reductions in both types of assaults in both TKAP and non-TKAP areas; however, comparing 2008/09 and 2009/10, there was no change in the number of admissions for assault or assault by sharp object in the TKAP areas, but reductions in both types of admissions in the non-TKAP areas.

²⁰ Throughout this report, 'significant' denotes statistical significance at $p < 0.05$ (two-tailed).

²¹ Therefore, individuals who were admitted to English hospitals but who lived elsewhere in the UK, or outside of the UK, are not included in these figures (see Appendix H (NHS admissions to hospitals in England for assault) for further information).

Table 1 Number of hospital admissions for assault and assault by sharp object involving patients in the target age group during and prior to the TKAP Phase II period

	Annual Total			Comparing 07/08 with 09/10	Comparing 08/09 with 09/10
	07/08	08/09	09/10		
Hospital admissions for assault aged 13 to 24					
TKAP areas	11,171	10,738	10,740	-3.9%	0.0%
Non-TKAP areas	6,061	5,791	5,664	-6.6%	-2.2%
Hospital admissions for assault by sharp object aged 13 to 24					
Total number	1,674	1,500	1,500	-10.4%	0.0%
Non-TKAP areas	514	507	407	-20.8%	-19.7%

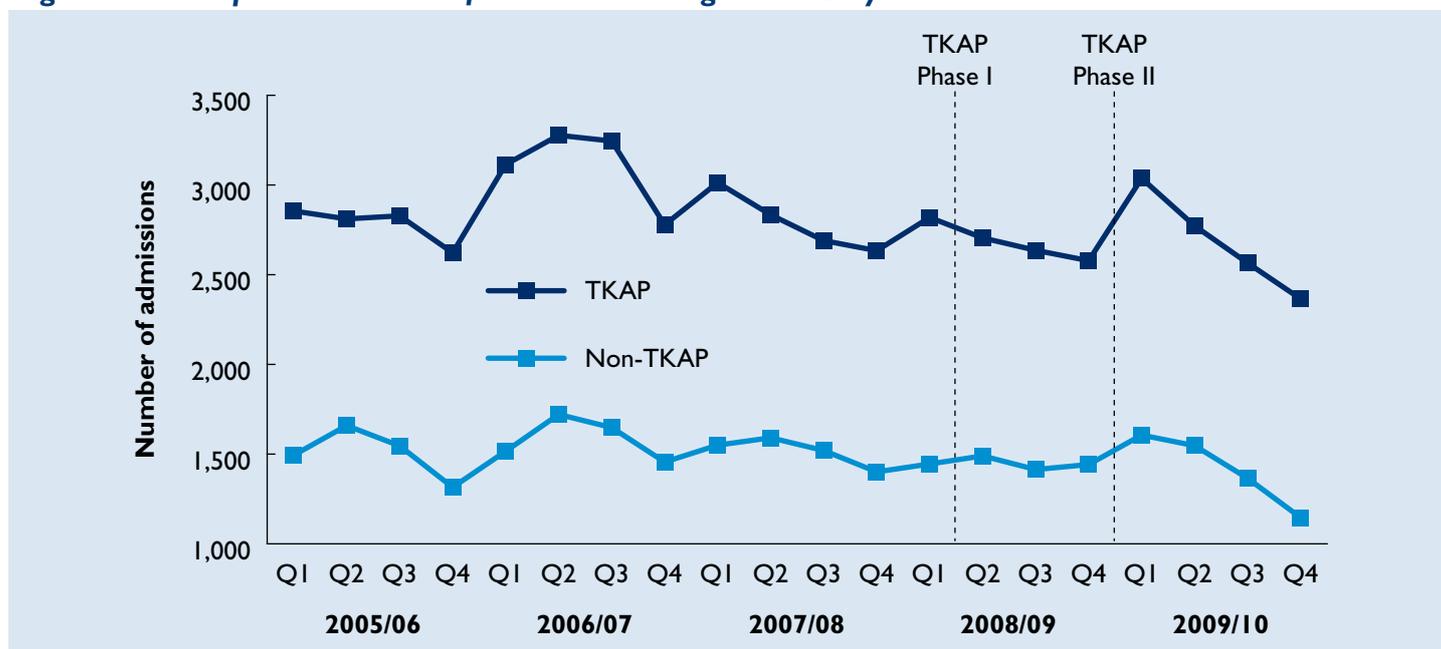
Note: Excludes City of London, British Transport Police, and all Welsh police force areas.

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To further analyse these data, and to take account of differences between police force population sizes, hospital admissions data were converted into rates per population.²² Difference-in-difference analyses were then conducted to compare the average admission rate per police force in the TKAP and non-TKAP areas between years (comparing both 2007/08 and 2008/09 with 2009/10). None of the results were statistically significant indicating that average admission rates did not decrease significantly more (or less) in the TKAP areas than the non-TKAP areas.²³

While it is not clear looking at the overall figures why there were reductions in assault admissions in the TKAP areas between 2007/08 and 2008/09 but no further reductions between 2008/09 and 2009/10, a more detailed analysis of force-level hospital admissions data provides important insights in Chapter 3 (Force level differences in serious youth violence).

Figure 9 Hospital admissions for assault among 13- to 24-year-olds



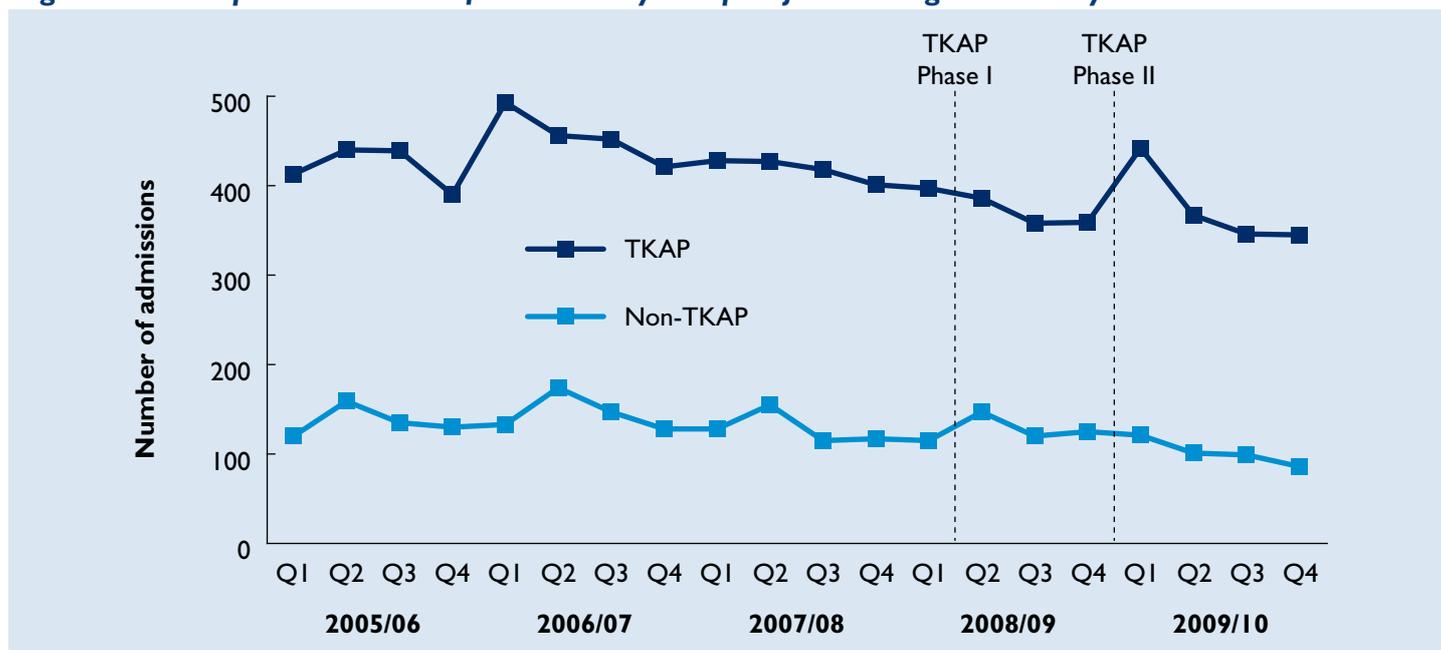
Note: Excludes City of London, British Transport Police, and all Welsh police force areas.

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²² See Tables I3 and I4, Appendix I for converted data.

²³ Regression coefficients are summarised in Table I.5, Appendix I.

Figure 10 Hospital admissions for assault by sharp object among 13- to 24-year-olds



Note: Excludes City of London, British Transport Police, and all Welsh police force areas.

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British Crime Survey: incidents of violence with injury

BCS data on incident rates of violence with injury enable comparisons between TKAP and non-TKAP police force areas, and between those aged 16 to 24 (i.e. part of the target age group) and those aged 25 and over. The sample size was insufficient to analyse incidents involving only more severe injuries (e.g. wounding) or those involving weapons. Therefore, only the broader offence group of ‘violence with injury’ is analysed here.

Table I.7 (Appendix I) summarises the estimated annual victimisation rates (per 10,000 adults) for violence with injury in the TKAP and non-TKAP police force areas prior to and during Phase II.²⁴ Overall, BCS data show no significant changes in violence rates in either the TKAP or non-TKAP areas during TKAP Phase II.

However, it should be noted that: a) the BCS data presented here do not include responses from victims aged 13 to 15; b) respondents were asked about the 12 months prior to interview and consequently 2009/10 BCS data include reports of incidents that occurred prior to TKAP Phase II; and c) these figures are based on a small sub-sample of the BCS and are therefore more prone to fluctuation. Relatively large differences would therefore be needed to detect statistically significant changes. More recent data and data from younger respondents would be needed to form a better assessment of the impact of TKAP Phase II activities on BCS violent crime.

Police recorded crime: violent crime offences

Two further sources of police recorded violent crime data are used here: police recorded crime (PRC) data and TKAP monitoring data. For both, data on attempted murder offences, most serious violence (MSV), all violence, personal robbery, and violent offences involving a sharp instrument were analysed.

For the reasons detailed below, neither data source enables an accurate measurement of the impact of TKAP Phase II as they do not allow for comparisons between measures of violent crime involving victims in the target age group for both TKAP and non-TKAP areas. Therefore, although these data sources contribute important findings to help understand key trends in TKAP and non-TKAP areas, care should be taken in their interpretation.

²⁴ Due to small sub-samples – especially where data are divided by age groups and/or geographical locations – only a few differences are likely to be found statistically significant; caution therefore must be taken in interpreting findings. Fluctuations within the small subgroups are likely to explain why victimisation rates are higher in non-TKAP than TKAP areas in 2005/06 and 2008/09.

National Statistics on police recorded violent crime offences

Appendix D presents PRC data on violent offences recorded prior to and during TKAP Phase II in the TKAP and non-TKAP areas. There were consistent reductions in recorded offences in the TKAP and non-TKAP areas, suggesting that violent crime and sharp instrument offences reduced nationwide over this period. However, reductions in rates of MSV, all violence, and personal robbery did not significantly differ between the TKAP or non-TKAP areas, nor did changes in attempted murder offences indicate a TKAP specific effect.

Since PRC data are not broken down by age, these results provide only a proxy indicator of serious youth violence. According to TKAP monitoring data, the target age group accounted for 43 per cent of MSV offences recorded in the TKAP areas in 2009/10 and 42 per cent of all violence offences. Since 13- to 24-year-olds are likely to account for less than half of all serious violent offences, it is plausible that a TKAP specific effect was not detectable within these results.

TKAP monitoring data

Appendix D also includes a summary of basic comparisons between TKAP monitoring data on serious violent crime involving victims aged 13 to 24 and of other ages. In the years prior to and during Phase II, the TKAP forces recorded reductions in offences of serious youth violence (involving victims in the target age group) in all categories of violent offences and most categories of sharp instrument offences (except attempted murder and MSV).

For some offence types (e.g. for MSV and all violence) there were greater reductions in offences involving victims in the target age group than in offences involving other ages; other results (e.g. for attempted murder, personal robbery, and most categories of sharp instrument offences) showed greater reductions in offences involving victims of other ages. However, it is not clear how specific the TKAP Phase II activities were in targeting individuals aged 13 to 24, and comparing these measures may not therefore represent a fair assessment of the programme. Furthermore, in absence of data from non-TKAP forces – or, better still, a well-matched comparison group – it is not clear that police recorded violent crime reduced as a result of TKAP activities, or because of other factors.

Force-level differences in serious youth violence

This report has described overall trends across the group of police force areas involved in TKAP Phase II. This section now considers variability between trends for the 16 individual police force areas. Individual variability between forces is especially important to consider as a small number of TKAP police forces – namely the MPS, Greater Manchester, and West Midlands – are known to account for a large proportion of the police recorded violent offences and NHS hospital admissions recorded in the TKAP areas.²⁵ Therefore, the overall trends for BCS incidents, police recorded violent crime data and NHS hospital data across all TKAP Phase II areas are likely to be heavily influenced by these police forces.

Key findings

- There was considerable variability in trends in serious youth violence during the Phase II period across individual police forces, perhaps due to the programme being more successful in some areas than others or due to the data being more variable at lower geographic levels.
- This variability will have made it more difficult to detect any overall effect of TKAP and highlights the difficulties inherent in assessing the impact of multi-site interventions as a whole.
- For example, Homicide Index data shows that the Metropolitan Police Service concurrently recorded large reductions in homicide offences and increases in attempted murder offences involving victims in the target group between 2008/09 and 2009/10; these changes dominated the overall trends in police recorded crime across TKAP areas.

²⁵ 62.7 per cent of MSV offences involving victims aged 13 to 24 in 2009/10 and 48.6 per cent of MSV recorded in the TKAP areas – from TKAP monitoring data; 46 per cent of English hospital admissions for assault aged 13 to 24 recorded in the TKAP areas in 2009/10.

- Analysis conducted to further explore the impact of the larger forces on overall trends showed that, even after excluding the TKAP forces with the highest hospital assault admission rates (and thus comparing better matched TKAP and non-TKAP areas) the TKAP areas did not show significantly greater reductions than the non-TKAP areas (in either assault admissions or police recorded violent crime rates). The main findings summarised earlier in this chapter do not therefore solely reflect the dominance of the larger police forces.

The subsequent sections examine force-level differences in police recorded violent crime data using TKAP monitoring data and NHS hospital admissions.²⁶ It should be noted, however, that many TKAP activities were focused on specific high-risk locations, and analysing the data at force level may mean that changes in these areas are not detected.

Force-level differences in serious youth violence

There are wide fluctuations between force-level comparisons of Homicide Index data. Some of these data are summarised below but it should be noted that the numbers are extremely small and should therefore be treated with caution (force-level data are not shown and only data on homicide victims, not principal suspects, are analysed).²⁷

As shown in Figure 2, the TKAP forces together recorded 16 fewer homicides involving victims aged 13 to 24 between 2008/09 and 2009/10 (107 to 91). Across the same period, the MPS recorded 17 fewer homicides (51 to 34), which is greater than the reduction seen across all combined TKAP areas. Comparing sharp instrument homicides involving victims aged 13 to 24 in 2008/09 with 2009/10, the MPS recorded 15 fewer offences (32 to 17), almost entirely accounting for the overall reduction of 17 homicides across the TKAP areas (60 to 43).

Similarly, as shown in Figure 11, there was some variability in results for NHS admissions data across the TKAP police force areas. Comparing 2007/08 with 2009/10, there were reductions across the whole period in seven police force areas.²⁸ Assault admissions reduced between 2008/09 and 2009/10 in 11 of the 14 English TKAP areas, and increases were only recorded in the West Midlands, Essex, and the MPS. For Essex and West Midlands alone, both comparisons showed increases.

Sharp object admissions also reduced for 11 forces, remained the same in the West Midlands, and increased in the MPS and Kent. Increases in the MPS over this period are substantial (19 per cent and 29 per cent for assault admission and sharp object assault admissions respectively).²⁹ If figures for the MPS are excluded, assault admissions dropped by five per cent and sharp object assault admissions by 14 per cent across the remaining TKAP areas between 2008/09 and 2009/10. The next section examines serious youth violence trends in the London area in more detail.

TKAP monitoring data also show wide variation across TKAP police forces.³⁰ For example, comparing the number of offences involving victims aged 13 to 24 in 2008/09 and 2009/10, eight forces recorded fewer MSV offences and 12 recorded fewer all violence offences; the magnitude of reductions ranged widely. All other forces recorded increases in these measures.

The variation across forces in both PRC and NHS data may be due to violent crime data being more erratic when examined at police-force level, or that the programme was more successful in some areas than others, perhaps due to heterogeneity between forces or differences in the way the programme was implemented (see Appendix A). Furthermore, four of the six additional areas (South Yorkshire, Bedfordshire, Northumbria, and BTP) commenced TKAP activities at various time-points before the official start of TKAP Phase II, which may also have influenced variability across the areas.

²⁶ BCS violence data cannot be examined at force-level due to small sample sizes. To focus on the target age group, only TKAP monitoring data and hospital admissions data are analysed.

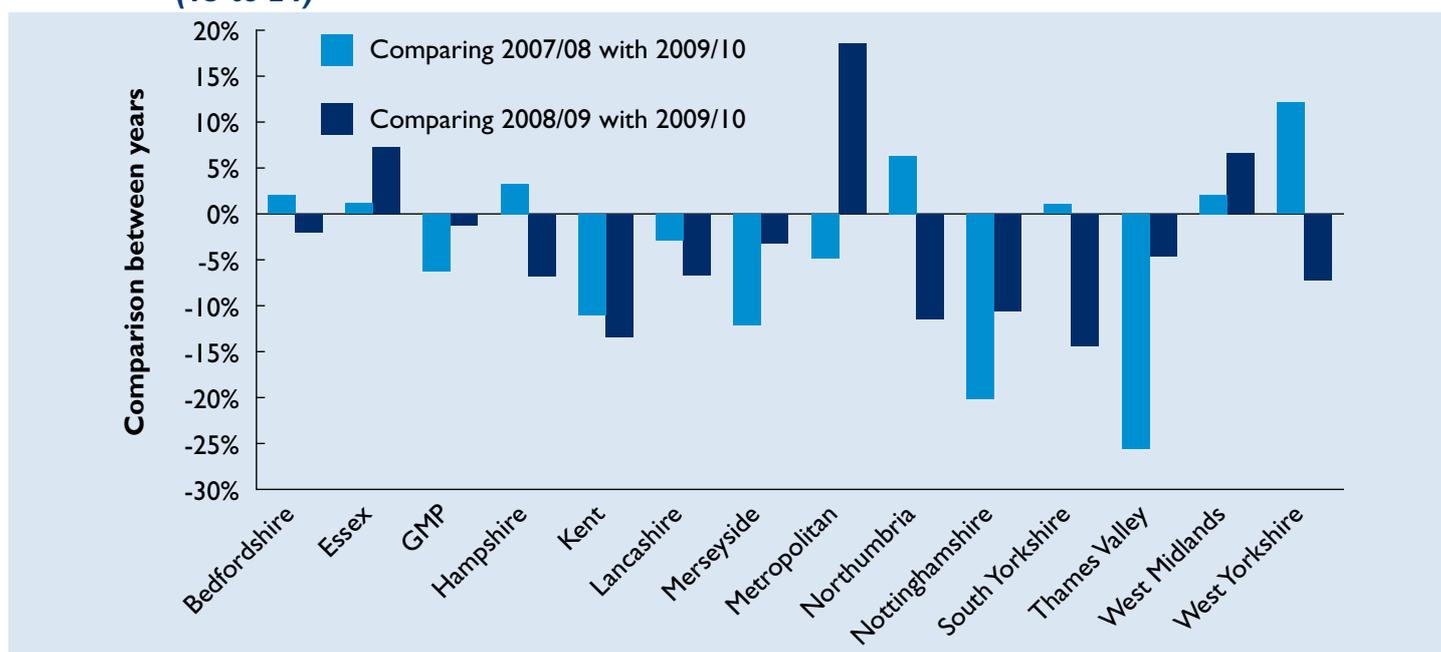
²⁷ Moreover, analyses have not been conducted to test whether the fluctuations described in this section are statistically significant or not.

²⁸ See Appendix I (Table I.3 and I.4) for force level breakdowns of NHS assault admissions data.

²⁹ See Appendix I for force level breakdowns of NHS sharp object assault admissions data.

³⁰ See Appendix I (Tables I.11 to I.18) for force level breakdowns of TKAP monitoring data.

Figure 11 Comparisons of hospital admissions for assault involving patients in the target age group (13 to 24)



Note: Excludes British Transport Police and South Wales.

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Trends in serious youth violence in London

As noted above, changes in the number of homicides involving victims in the target age group recorded by the MPS had a substantial impact on the results of overall comparisons of homicide data across the TKAP forces.

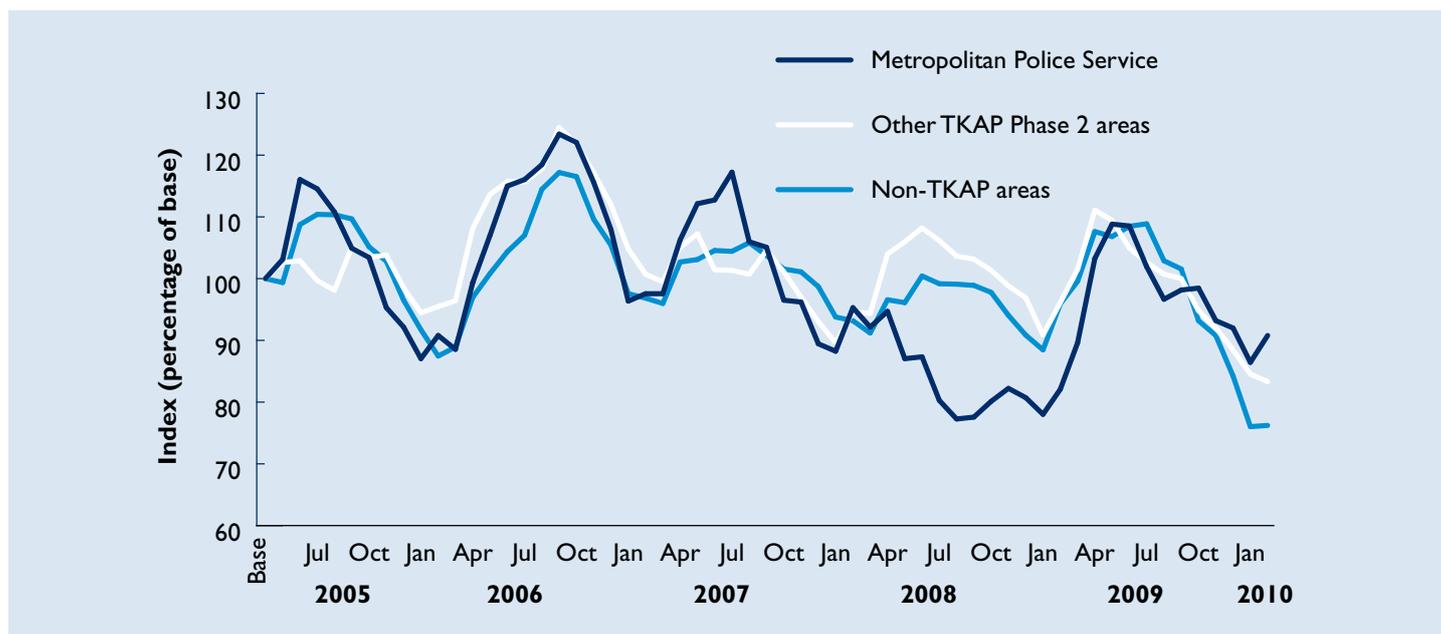
It is striking to note that the MPS recorded substantial increases between 2008/09 and 2009/10 in attempted murder offences involving victims in the target age group (from 25 to 54 offences), alongside sizeable reductions in homicide offences (from 51 to 34). However, combining both homicides and attempted murders, there were 76 offences in 2008/09 and 88 in 2009/10, suggesting a small overall increase in the most serious violent offences that involved victims in the target age group during the Phase II period.

Interestingly, the greatest reductions in MPS homicide offences between 2008/09 and 2009/10 were in homicides involving victims aged 13 to 19 (26 to 12), with a smaller reduction in offences involving victims aged 20 to 24 (25 to 22); differences in the programme’s impact on these age groups will be discussed later in this chapter.

As noted previously, hospital assault admissions increased substantially among 13- to 24-year-olds between 2008/09 and 2009/10 in the MPS. Figure 12 tracks indexed trends in these data, looking at the MPS, TKAP areas (excluding the MPS), and non-TKAP areas between 2005/06 and 2009/10. MPS assault admissions dropped markedly in 2008/09, suggesting that an abnormally low number of assault victims were admitted to hospital during the 2008/09 period. The same analysis of assaults by sharp object is presented in Appendix G (see Figure G2) and shows a similar pattern for MPS figures.

The trends are consistent with TKAP monitoring data on MPS recorded offences of attempted murder and personal robbery, and attempted murder and all violence involving knives and sharp instruments, all of which show reductions between 2007/08 and 2008/09 and increases between 2008/09 and 2009/10. Further investigation would be needed to understand this reduction, and to account for the increases recorded during the TKAP Phase II period.

Figure 12 Trends in NHS hospital admissions for assault in the MPS, the remaining TKAP areas, and the non-TKAP areas



Note: Data presented as three-month moving averages. Graph excludes all Welsh police force areas. Indexed base is the average number of monthly assault admissions in 2005/06.

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Comparisons between a matched sample of TKAP and non-TKAP police force areas

In the results reported thus far, where statistical significance tests are used, TKAP areas have not shown significantly greater reductions in serious youth violence when compared with non-TKAP areas. One possible explanation is that some TKAP police force areas (especially the largest police forces, i.e. the MPS and West Midlands) have a different type of serious youth violence problem to other TKAP and non-TKAP areas, which influences the success of their attempts to reduce youth violence and skewed the overall results across TKAP Phase II areas.

To test this hypothesis, and to apply a more methodologically robust approach to forming an assessment of the impact of TKAP Phase II, comparisons were made between a better matched sample of TKAP and non-TKAP police force areas. After ranking all police force areas, a group of ‘trimmed’ police force areas was selected that were comparable in terms of their average number of assault and assault by sharp object admissions prior to TKAP Phase II. The group included seven ‘trimmed’ TKAP and 12 ‘trimmed’ non-TKAP forces. The exact method used to select the ‘trimmed’ forces is detailed in Appendix E.

There were year-on-year reductions in average rates of hospital admissions for assault for both ‘trimmed’ TKAP and non-TKAP areas between 2007/08 and 2009/10 and the trends for the two groups follow almost identical trajectories. Consistent with this, difference-in-difference analyses found no significant differences between changes in the average rates for ‘trimmed’ TKAP and non-TKAP forces in the years prior to and during TKAP Phase II. Analyses of sharp object assault admission rates also showed no significant differences. These results demonstrate that even after excluding the TKAP forces with the highest assault admission rates, the ‘trimmed’ TKAP areas did not show significant reductions in admission rates, when compared with ‘trimmed’ non-TKAP areas.

Impact of TKAP Phases I and II activities on knife crime involving teenage victims in the original TKAP areas

TKAP Phase I (June 2008 to March 2009) aimed to reduce the carrying of knives, related homicides or other serious stabbings that involved teenage victims or offenders. TKAP Phase II has continued to target knife crime involving 13- to 19-year-old victims or offenders as well as focusing on serious violence more broadly. Consequently, TKAP activities from

June 2008 to March 2010 focused continuously on reducing sharp instrument related violence involving teenage victims or offenders in the original TKAP Phase I areas. Analyses were conducted to form an assessment of the impact of this continued focus on sharp instrument violence involving teenage victims using NHS admissions data.

Key findings

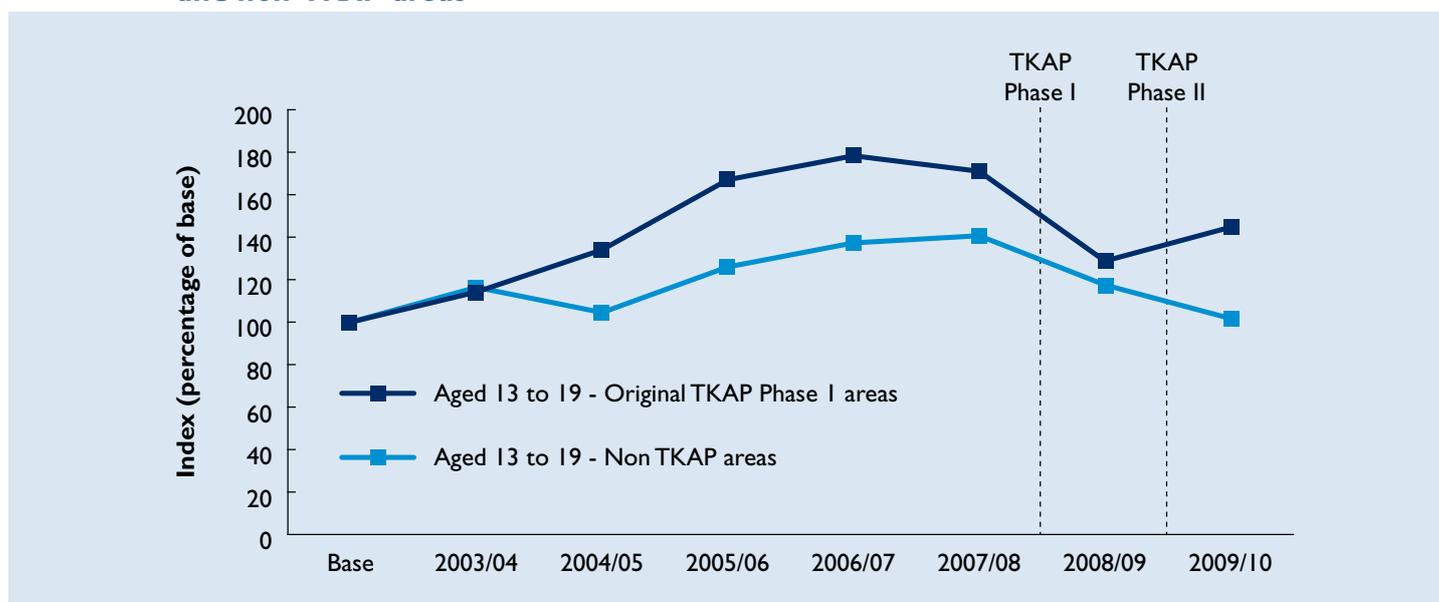
TKAP Phases I and II focused continuously on reducing sharp instrument violence involving teenagers in the original TKAP Phase I areas. This section considers the impact of this continued focus.

- Comparing the TKAP Phase I period with the previous year, hospital admissions for assault by sharp object involving teenagers decreased by 28 per cent in the original TKAP Phase I areas and by 16 per cent in non-TKAP areas.
- Comparing the TKAP Phase II period with the previous year, there was a 12 per cent increase in admissions in the Phase I areas, and a 13 per cent decrease in the non-TKAP areas. However, there were no statistically significant differences between teenage knife crime trends for the original TKAP Phase I and non-TKAP areas during the TKAP Phase II period.

Figure 13 presents indexed time-series trends in sharp object assault admissions among 13- to 19-year-olds in the original TKAP Phase I areas and the non-TKAP areas.³¹ Across the whole TKAP period (2007/08 to 2009/10), there was a 15 per cent reduction (773 to 654) in sharp object assault admissions involving teenagers in the TKAP Phase I areas (areas included in both phases of the programme), and a 28 per cent reduction (249 to 180) in the non-TKAP areas.

Comparing the TKAP Phase I period (the nine months from July 2008 to March 2009) with the same period the previous year, there was a 28 per cent reduction in admissions for assault by sharp object among teenagers in the TKAP Phase I areas (589 to 422), and a 16 per cent reduction in the non-TKAP areas (189 to 159). Statistical significance tests were not conducted on these results.

Figure 13 Indexed trends in admissions for assault by sharp object in the original Phase I TKAP forces and non-TKAP areas



Note: Graph excludes City of London, British Transport Police, and all Welsh police force areas. Indexed base is the total number assault admissions in 2002/03.

31 For these analyses, non-TKAP areas are areas that did not receive funding in TKAP Phases I or II.

Comparing the TKAP Phase II period with the previous 12 months, the number of sharp object admissions involving teenagers increased by 12 per cent in the original TKAP Phase I areas (582 to 654) and decreased by 13 per cent in the non-TKAP areas (208 to 180). However, reflecting the variability in results for individual police force areas, difference-in-difference analyses found no significant differences when comparing these results across the original TKAP Phase I and non-TKAP areas (results not shown).

Impact of TKAP Phase II on the old and new elements of the programme (different age groups and police force area coverage)

Further analyses were conducted to explore whether TKAP Phase II had a different impact on the ‘old’ and ‘new’ elements of the programme. Firstly, did TKAP Phase II activities have a different impact on serious youth violence involving victims and offenders aged 13 to 19 (targeted during Phase I) and aged 20 to 24 (who were only targeted from the start of Phase II)? Secondly, did it have a different impact on serious youth violence in the original TKAP Phase I areas and the ‘new’ TKAP Phase II areas?

Key findings

This section explored the impact of TKAP Phase II activities on ‘new’ and ‘old’ aspects of the programme.

1. Analyses were first conducted to assess whether Phase II had a different impact on violence involving victims aged 13 to 19 and 20 to 24 (who were only targeted from the start of Phase II).

TKAP monitoring data and hospital admissions data both show some decreases in all violent incidents involving teenage victims during Phase II, and increases in violent incidents involving sharp instruments and teenage victims. There were mixed findings also for incidents involving older victims.

2. Secondly, analyses considered whether Phase II had a different impact in the original TKAP Phase I areas and the ‘new’ TKAP Phase II areas.

Looking at TKAP monitoring data and assault admissions data, and comparing the Phase II period with the previous year, there were marked reductions in violent incidents and sharp instrument incidents involving victims in the target age group recorded in the six ‘new’ areas. The original Phase I areas had seen marked reductions during Phase I, but there were mixed findings for incidents recorded during Phase II.

Assessing the impact of TKAP Phase II on serious youth violence involving victims aged 13 to 19 and 20 to 24

Given the shift from focusing activities on 13- to 19-year-olds in Phase I to additionally targeting 20- to 24-year-olds in Phase II, analyses were conducted using homicide, NHS admissions and TKAP monitoring data to form an assessment of whether TKAP Phase II had a different impact on serious violence involving victims in the two age groups. However, it should be noted that none of the following comparisons are tested for statistical significance, and a more thorough and robust assessment would be needed to test the findings further.

Table 2 summarises Homicide Index data on offences involving victims or principal suspects aged 13 to 19 and 20 to 24 in the TKAP areas. Given the small numbers involved, and the caveats already considered at the beginning of this chapter, caution should be taken in interpreting these figures in relation to TKAP, especially those related to principal suspects.

Comparing 2007/08 with 2009/10, there were reductions in every category of homicide and sharp instrument homicide offences. Looking at comparisons between 2008/09 and 2009/10, Table 2 provides a mixed set of results: there was a reduction in offences involving teenage victims and an increase in homicides involving 20- to 24-year-old victims. However, principal suspect data show the opposite pattern, with an increase in offences involving teenage principal suspects and reductions in offences involving older principal suspects. Sharp instrument homicide data show reductions between these periods in all offence types except homicides involving teenage principal suspects in the TKAP areas.

Table 2 Number of homicide offences involving victims and principal suspects in the target age group during and prior to the TKAP Phase II period in the TKAP Phase II areas

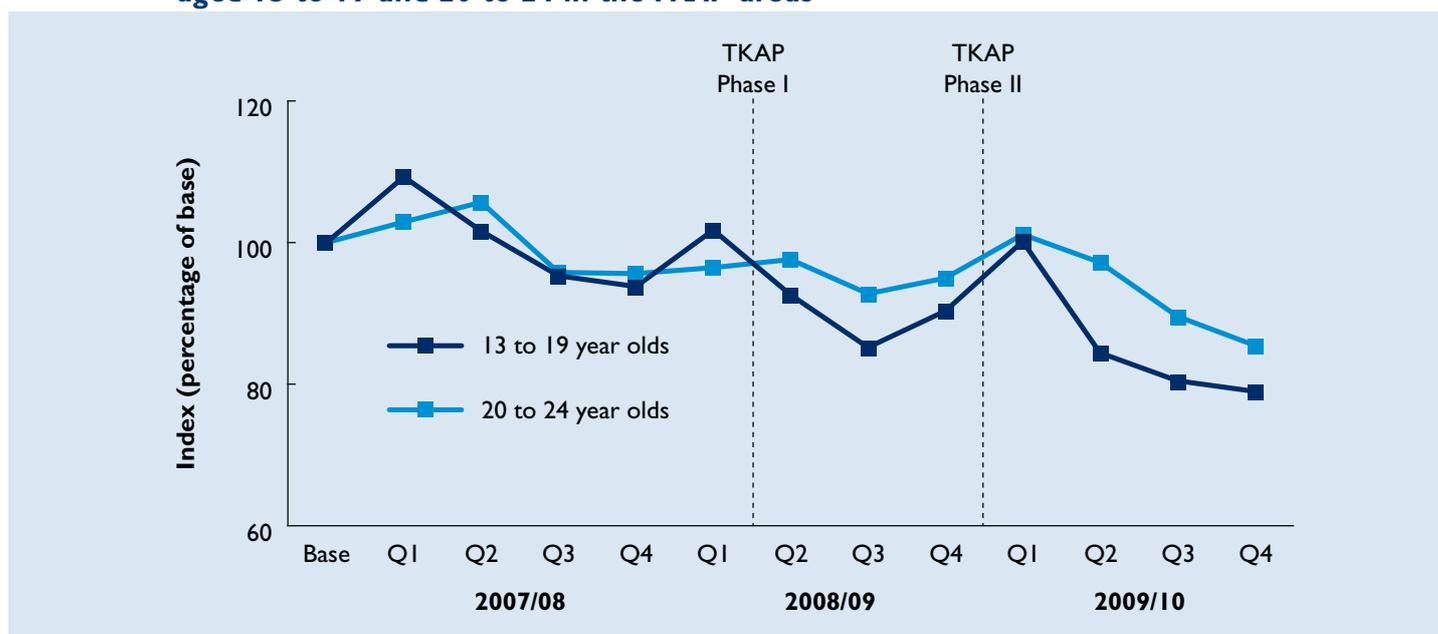
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
All homicides			
Victim aged 13 to 19	69	52	31
Principal suspect aged 13 to 19	84	57	66
Victim aged 20 to 24	67	55	60
Principal suspect aged 20 to 24	99	88	67
Sharp instrument homicides			
Victim aged 13 to 19	36	32	20
Principal suspect aged 13 to 19	35	26	29
Victim aged 20 to 24	27	28	23
Principal suspect aged 20 to 24	41	43	24

Note: Due to the small numbers shown, percentage changes between years are not presented. Homicide offences in the non-TKAP areas are presented in Tables I.1 and I.2 (Appendix I)

Figure 14 presents indexed trends for TKAP monitoring data on ‘all violence’ offences involving victims aged 13 to 19 and 20 to 24. Comparing 2007/08 with 2009/10, there were reductions in ‘all violence’ offences and offences involving a sharp instrument involving victims aged 13 to 19 and 20 to 24. There were also reductions in assault and assault by sharp object admissions involving both age groups in the TKAP Phase II areas.

When specifically comparing offences recorded in the TKAP areas during Phase II period with offences recorded during the previous year, there was a seven per cent reduction (52,857 to 48,948) in ‘all violence’ offences involving teenage victims, and a three per cent reduction in offences involving 20- to 24-year-old victims (42,484 to 41,395). For the same periods, there was a two per cent reduction in hospital assault admissions involving teenagers in the TKAP areas (5,271 to 5,171), and a small two per cent increase in assault admissions involving 20- to 24-year-olds (5,467 to 5,568).

Figure 14 Indexed trends in TKAP monitoring data on recorded all violence offences involving victims aged 13 to 19 and 20 to 24 in the TKAP areas



Note: Graph excludes City of London, British Transport Police, and all Welsh police force areas. Indexed base is the total number assault admissions in 2002/03.

Looking at TKAP monitoring data on sharp instrument offences during this period, 'all violence' offences involving teenage victims increased by four per cent (2,647 to 2,537) and offences involving victims aged 20 to 24 showed little change (2,402 to 2,382). There was a seven per cent increase in teenage sharp object assault admissions (688 to 733), and a six per cent reduction in admissions of those aged 20 to 24 (812 to 767).

Overall, both data sources suggest *decreases* in violent incidents involving teenage victims, and mixed findings for incidents involving older victims. In contrast, violent incidents involving sharp instruments show the reverse pattern, with *increases* in incidents involving teenagers, and, again, mixed findings for incidents involving older victims during TKAP Phase II.

The differences between trends for the two age groups are not tested for statistical significance and it is not clear if or to what extent they are influenced by TKAP activities. However, the contrasting trends in knife crime data are particularly interesting, given the broadening of the programme's focus in Phase II to include all violent crime, and to include the older age group. Although there were increases in teenage knife crime, 2009/10 levels remained lower than in 2007/08. This finding may suggest that the reductions achieved during Phase I were difficult to maintain during Phase II, or could be explained by other factors, such as a 'regression to the mean' effect.³²

Differences in trends between the original TKAP Phase I and 'new' TKAP Phase II police force areas³³

Analyses were conducted to compare trends in serious youth violence in the original ten TKAP Phase I areas with trends in the six 'new' TKAP Phase II areas, to look for evidence that TKAP activities had a different impact on the two groups.

Indexed graphs of TKAP Monitoring data (see Figures G3 and G4, Appendix G) show that the two groups of areas followed similar overall trends in all violence offences (and all violence offences involving knives/sharp instruments) prior to and during TKAP Phase II. Comparing the Phase II period with the previous year, all violence offences involving victims in the target age group decreased by four per cent in the original Phase I areas (71,887 to 68,959), and decreased by nine per cent in the 'new' Phase II areas (23,454 to 21,384). Sharp instrument offences involving victims in the target age group showed little change in the original Phase I areas (4,265 to 4,251) and reduced by 15 per cent in the 'new' areas (784 to 668).

Figure 15 shows trends in hospital admissions for assault in the original TKAP Phase I areas, the areas not included in either phases of TKAP, and the 'new' Phase II areas in the years prior to TKAP Phase II. In the 'new' TKAP Phase II areas, there was an increase between 2007/08 and 2008/09, followed by a decline between 2008/09 and 2009/10. Comparing the Phase II period with the previous year, assault admissions involving victims in the target age group increased by three per cent in the original Phase I areas (8,288 to 8,561) and decreased by 11 per cent in the 'new' Phase II areas (2,450 to 2,178). Sharp object admissions increased by four per cent (1,250 to 1,304) in the Phase I areas, and decreased by 22 per cent in the 'new' areas (250 to 196).

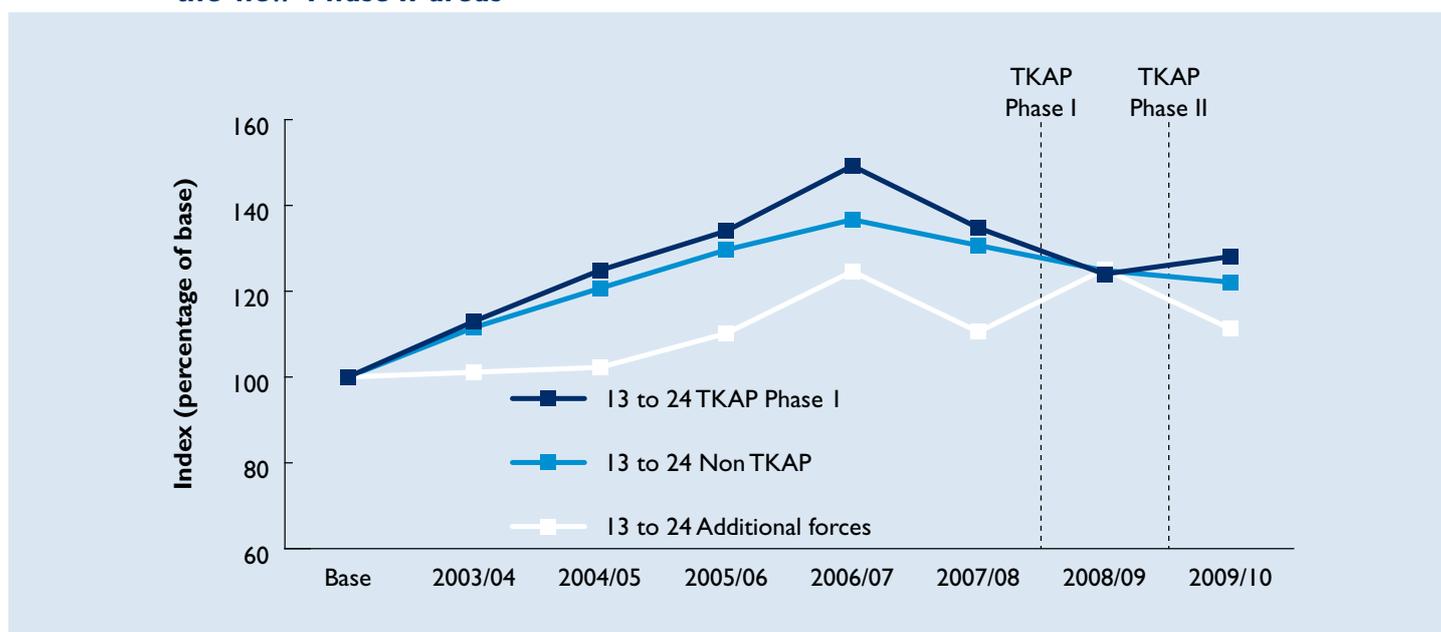
Both data sources show marked decreases in violent incidents and incidents involving sharp instruments that involved victims in the target age group in the new TKAP Phase II areas. In comparison, there were mixed findings for incidents in the original Phase I areas. These trends are not tested for statistical significance. The larger reduction in the 'new areas' may point to the impact of TKAP Phase II activities in these areas – which may not have received targeted activity prior to TKAP – but could also be explained by natural variation or a 'regression to the mean' effect.

Two further points should be taken into account in relation to these findings: a) that TKAP Phase I areas included those areas with the largest number of recorded incidents, which may have influenced these trends; and b) that there was wide variation in trends across the Phase I and the six 'new' forces.

³² See Chapter 2 (Methodological limitations).

³³ As previously noted in this chapter (Force level differences in serious youth violence), these findings may have been influenced by the early commencement of TKAP activities in four of the 'new' forces (South Yorkshire, Bedfordshire, Northumbria, and BTP).

Figure 15 Indexed trends in assault admissions in the target age group in the original TKAP areas and the 'new' Phase II areas



Note: Graph excludes British Transport Police and all Welsh police force areas. Indexed base is the number of admissions in 2002/03. Source: Hospital Episode Statistics Copyright © 2010, re-used with the permission of The Health and Social Care Information Centre. All rights reserved.

Consistency of trends across different measures of serious youth violence

The measures of serious youth violence used here are likely to be influenced by a range of factors other than TKAP Phase II activities, including seasonal influences and the impact of other interventions aimed at reducing violent crime (e.g. Blunt 2). Analyses (described in Appendix F) were conducted to assess the consistency of trends across measures of serious youth violence.

Key findings

A combined examination of the three serious violence measures (BCS, PRC, and NHS) used in this report showed strong associations between hospital assault admissions and police recorded crime measures. Although there was evidence that they do comprise overlapping aspects of serious violent crime, the measures include violence incidents of differing severity and scope, which highlights the importance of including findings from multiple data sources.

4 Conclusions

The key findings of this report are summarised throughout the text. There were important reductions in many measures of serious youth violence involving 13- to 24-year-olds and the data described in Appendix B suggest that there were some improvements in public perceptions of several violent crime types during the Phase II programme.

These falls built on the reductions in serious violence seen in the TKAP Phase I areas during 2008/09. The improvements during TKAP Phase II were mostly consistent across both TKAP and non-TKAP areas, suggesting that factors other than local TKAP initiatives alone helped to achieve these reductions. It is possible that 'National' TKAP initiatives (e.g. legislative changes or knife awareness campaigns) or efforts to reduce violent crime by non-TKAP police forces contributed to reductions in non-TKAP areas; however it is beyond the scope of this report to test these hypotheses.

Interestingly, TKAP Phase II was associated with reductions in some measures of violent crime involving teenage victims, but increases in teenage knife crime. There were also reductions in violent crime involving victims in the target age group in the six 'new' areas, but increases in the original Phase I areas. This could suggest that Phase I had an initial impact on teenage knife crime that proved difficult to sustain, or perhaps that the reductions seen during Phase I in the original areas, and during Phase II in the new areas, reflect more random variation and were unrelated to the programme's impact.

As noted in Chapter 2 (Methodological limitations), in the absence of a true comparison group, selected randomly from a group of forces that reported similar levels of serious youth violence, the findings described here do not definitively answer counterfactual questions about what would have happened in absence of TKAP. Of course, given that the intervention was intentionally focused on those police forces that recorded comparatively higher counts of serious violence problems, the random selection of forces was not an option. Yet, without a true comparison group and information about the counterfactual, one cannot know whether serious youth violence would have actually increased or decreased in the absence of TKAP Phase II activities, and therefore cannot estimate the true impact of the programme.

There are some other important points to note about the findings. Firstly, there was wide variability between the 16 police force areas in terms of increases or reductions in the various measures of serious youth violence considered. There are many potential explanations for this, such as qualitative differences between the forces themselves and natural variation in violent crime. This variability will have made it difficult to detect any real impact of the programme – whether positive or negative – on overall trends.

It was also the case that several of the larger police forces dominated the overall trends for some measures and thus could have hidden evidence of the programme's impact among the smaller forces. However, analyses that made comparisons between a subset of more closely matched TKAP and non-TKAP police force areas did not show a difference in results for the two sets of areas. These analyses do not circumvent the counterfactual issues noted above, but they do demonstrate that the previous findings do not solely reflect the dominance of overall trends in serious violence by trends in the larger police force areas.

A similar report on the impact of TKAP Phase I detected some overall shifts in measures of sharp instrument violent crime around the start of the programme that were more marked among teenage victims in the TKAP areas (Ward & Diamond, 2009). However, these findings were not tested for statistical significance and, for the same reasons noted above, could not be conclusively linked to TKAP activities. The present report provides a more statistically robust attempt to form an assessment of the impact of the intervention, in addition to continuing to use the variety of data sources employed in the previous report. Both reports focus on the overall impact of complex multi-component interventions. While beyond the scope of this report, in future, a closer examination of the impact of individual activities in local areas (as described in Appendix A) – in combination with an overall assessment of the impact of the intervention – could help to identify causal links between attempts to reduce serious youth violence and their outcomes.

In conclusion, these findings provide encouraging evidence that serious youth violence declined across the country in recent years. However, given that reductions were not specific to or consistently greater in the TKAP areas, and taking into account the methodological limitations described above, it is impossible to directly attribute reductions in the TKAP areas to Phase II activities.

Appendix A TKAP Phase II activities

‘National’ TKAP Phase II initiatives

A centrally held budget supported ‘national’ projects, which were implemented across all TKAP Phase II areas, or nationwide. These included the following.

- **Tougher sentencing guidelines** for offences involving the possession of a knife.
- **Improved data sharing.** As highlighted in the Coalition Programme for Government, Emergency Department information sharing has the potential to support areas in targeting action at high risk times and places. A drive to increase the number of Emergency Departments sharing data on assaults with local police and Community Safety Partnerships has resulted in more hospitals sharing data. During TKAP Phase II, the number of Emergency Departments sharing data increased from 45 to 109.
- **Investment in the voluntary sector** to build a coalition with victims and community groups to help them campaign against knife crime and work to divert young people from violence. £1.5m a year over three years was invested in 144 local community projects in the original 10 TKAP areas through the Home Office Community Fund.
- **Knife awareness education.** The Home Office TV, internet and poster advertising campaign ‘It Doesn’t Have To Happen’ was launched in TKAP Phase I and continued into Phase II (total 2009/10 budget of £2m). The campaign aimed to dissuade young people from carrying knives and its audience included millions of 10- to 16-year-olds. The Home Office also made a commitment to educate two million young people about knives – with 200,000 young people attending weapon awareness programmes since April 2009.
- **Targeted work with young offenders.** A programme (the Knife Crime Prevention Programme – KCPP) to teach 2,000 young knife offenders annually across 97 Youth Offender Teams (YOTs) about the dangers of knife carrying.
- **Keeping young people safe from harm.** A programme of investment in positive activities for young people, particularly on Friday or Saturday nights; 26,523 young people were engaged in 5,220 additional positive activities on Friday and Saturday nights between January and March 2009.

Local TKAP Phase II initiatives

Local areas used TKAP funding to develop and conduct a range of initiatives aimed at reducing serious youth violence involving young people aged 13 to 24. These can be roughly divided into three groups: a) activities that focused on preventing knife carrying or opportunities for violence (Prevention); b) activities that focused on educating young people about the potential harms of knife carrying and weapon use (Education); and c) enforcement activities which focused on identifying young people carrying weapons and preventing violent crime through increased police presence (Enforcement).

The sections below summarise a selection of the numerous prevention, education, and enforcement based activities that were funded by TKAP Phase II in the 16 police force areas. This list is not comprehensive but reflects the wide range of initiatives that were developed and implemented as part of the programme.³⁴

Prevention

TKAP funding was used in various ways to work with communities and at-risk young people in order to prevent knife carrying and violent crime.

³⁴ Note that in some cases (e.g. Blunt 2 in the MPS), TKAP funding contributed to ongoing activities, and did not solely fund the initiative described.

- Test purchase operations were used across the TKAP areas to assess whether under-age people were able to purchase knives illegally.
- Diversionary activities were introduced in selected neighborhoods so that young people at risk of committing violent crime offences were engaged in positive activities (e.g. 'Your Space' in Lancashire). For example, West Midlands police organised boxing sessions and a garden development project at which young people at risk of gang involvement and violence worked together to create a garden.
- TKAP funding was used in many areas to purchase 'polycarbonates' to replace glasses and glass bottles in licensed premises. Polycarbonates are virtually unbreakable and therefore reduce the harm potential of breakable glass in incidents of alcohol-fuelled violent crime.
- Several police forces used the funding to pay for video surveillance to monitor problems arising in high-risk places and involving known 'risky' individuals (e.g. Operation Leopard in Merseyside, and CCTV on buses in Lancashire).
- The Holiday Weapons Initiative encouraged local police and UK Border Agency activity to reduce the number of illegal knives and offensive weapons being brought into the UK and raise awareness among travellers of the legislation regarding bringing weapons into the country. The operation ran from July to September 2009.
- Many police forces organised events to improve community engagement about serious youth violence (e.g. Youth Advisory Panels in Merseyside and various events in Northumbria). For example, a range of community based activities were launched in the West Midlands including community consultation, conflict resolution and parental support workshops, and a youth forum named 'Youth 4 'em'.

Education

Various innovative techniques were used to spread anti-knife carrying and weapon awareness messages to young people in the TKAP Phase II areas.

- In some areas, websites were developed to spread knife awareness messages (e.g. No More Knives in Bedfordshire).
- Bluetooth technology was used to deliver messages to young people about positive activities to engage in locally (e.g. 'Have fun, Stay safe' in Nottingham, Nottinghamshire).
- Bespoke programmes were developed and delivered in schools and theatres to educate young people about knives, guns and gangs. Examples include: 'Firearms and Knife Education' (FAKE) in Hampshire; 'Da Boyz Banged Up' and 'The Terriers Play' in Merseyside; 'Stolen lives' in London; a weapons awareness DVD entitled 'Spoiled for choice' in Northumbria; and 'Stolen Lives/My Life: My Choice' in West Midlands. Primary school pupils in Blaenrhondda (South Wales) were given lessons about the dangers of guns/knives from the police force's Armed Response Unit.
- Additionally, 'Knife and gun education' (KAGE) provided young people in Nottinghamshire with pledge cards which they could carry to show their personal pledge to be weapon free. In Thames Valley, music nights were branded with an anti-knife crime theme; poster and T-shirt design competitions were run; and wrist bands with anti-knife pledge were provided for young people to wear to show their support for the campaign.
- In some areas media campaigns were also used to inform members of the community about TKAP activities (e.g. Joint Agency Neighbourhood Newsletters in Lancashire).
- Many areas also used media campaigns to carry messages about knife crime and its consequences (e.g. 'Choose a different ending' in London). In Nottinghamshire, the winning design from a design competition to develop an anti-knife crime marketing campaign was displayed on public transport. A radio campaign was used in South Wales to warn about alcohol-fuelled domestic violence and in Milton Keynes (Thames Valley) a social marketing agency delivered violent crime awareness activities aimed at 16- to 24-year-olds in the city centre, including TKAP branded

water bottles. Working jointly with community and statutory local agencies, West Midlands police developed a youth focused media resource called CDC Radio.

Enforcement

Following the development of local problem profiles, police forces focused enforcement activities on areas, individuals, and times that were most risky for serious youth violence. There are several examples of targeted operations.

- Operation StaySafe, which involved police officers engaging with vulnerable persons and moving them to a place of safety, was used across the TKAP Phase II areas. In Birmingham, West Midlands police also set up Operation Hay, using overt and covert patrols and surveillance technology to prevent violence on known risky routes.
- Operation Portcullis was originally implemented by South Yorkshire Police in November 2009 and was subsequently expanded to nine other areas (Hackney, Croydon, Kent, Manchester, Liverpool, Doncaster, Preston, Slough, and Nottingham). The operation involved the deployment of a wide range of statutory and voluntary agencies over a 24 hour period. In the early evening, Operation StaySafe initiatives involved the deployment of youth task force resources including Police, Youth Offending Teams and Social Workers to engage young people and signpost them towards positive activities. Where young people at risk were discovered, they were either taken home or conveyed to a designated place of safety. In the late evening, the operation focused on enforcement activities, targeting locations and premises where serious violence offences had recently been committed.
- Many of the forces ran specific enforcement operations at risky times of the year. The British Transport Police ran 'Winter Night' which involved the use of high visibility patrols and knife arch metal detectors to check individuals travelling between the afternoon and last trains. Likewise, in London, 'Autumn Nights' involved increased patrols around peak crime dates during the Bonfire and Halloween period and 'Winter Nights' included the involvement of licensing officers, test purchasers, and trading standards in efforts to combat alcohol related violence.
- Other specific enforcement activities that used TKAP funding included: Operation Animism to tackle low level anti-social behaviour and prevent escalation to violence in Mansfield and Ashfield (Nottinghamshire); and Operation Blunt 2 (London), which involved week-long raids using screening arches at transport hubs, stop and search tactics and open space searches for weapons. South Yorkshire Police also increased street-based teams, police and youth services in Sheffield.

Appendix B Public perceptions of serious youth violence

Improving public perceptions of serious youth violence was a secondary aim of TKAP Phase II. This section presents data on public perceptions of violent crime from the BCS and the Ipsos MORI 'Crime Tracker' survey.³⁵ (See Appendix H for further information about the surveys) Ideally, an assessment of its success would involve comparisons between the perceptions of serious youth violent crime (i.e. violent crimes involving victims or offenders aged 13 to 24) of people living in TKAP areas and the perceptions of residents in non-TKAP areas. However, neither BCS nor Crime Tracker data permit a full assessment of the programme's impact on perceptions of serious youth violence. Instead, BCS data are used to examine wider perceptions of violent crime in TKAP and non-TKAP areas, and Crime Tracker data are used to examine national trends in perceptions of violent crime during the first eight months of the programme.

³⁵ While BCS data enable comparisons between TKAP and non-TKAP areas, the Crime Tracker's sample size is too small to examine the two areas separately. Moreover, only one question in the Crime Tracker Survey explicitly asks about perceptions of serious violence involving young people. The BCS does not include a question specifically about perceptions of serious youth violence.

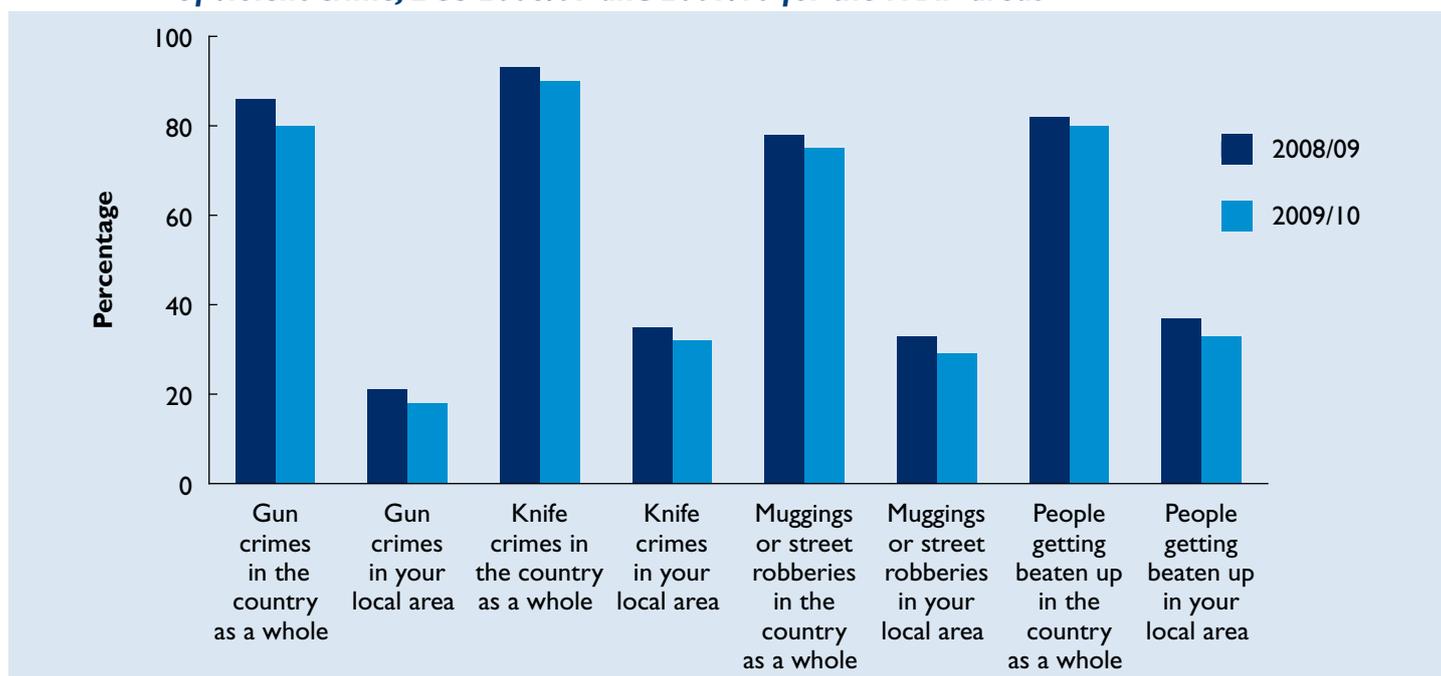
Key findings

- The BCS and Crime Tracker provide evidence that public perceptions of serious violence improved across the country after the start of TKAP.
- The 2009/10 BCS asked respondents what they thought had happened to the number of crimes in the last few years (i.e. including a period prior to TKAP Phase II) and, for almost all of the violent crime types assessed here, reductions were seen in the number of people thinking crime had increased in both TKAP and non-TKAP areas.
- It is not clear to what extent improvements in public perceptions of violent crime reflect the impact of TKAP Phase II.

British Crime Survey (BCS)

Since 2008/09, the BCS has included questions asking whether respondents thought different types of crime had increased, decreased, or stayed the same over the past few years, both in the country as a whole and in their local area. The proportion of respondents perceiving that different aspects of violent crime had increased in previous years³⁶ is used here as a measure of public perceptions of violent crime. However, since the questions ask about changes over the 'past few years' and do not specifically ask about changes taking place during the TKAP intervention period, it is therefore possible that responses are influenced by events taking place prior to TKAP Phase II. Furthermore, since the questions do not explicitly ask about changes in serious youth violence, it proves difficult to relate them directly to TKAP activities.

Figure B1 Proportion of people who think violent crime has gone up over the past few years by type of violent crime; BCS 2008/09 and 2009/10 for the TKAP areas



Note: Differences between the 08/09 and 09/10 BCS were statistically significant for all crime types.

The 2008/09 and 2009/10 BCS both show that a larger proportion of respondents perceive violent crime to be increasing more nationally than locally, a finding that is discussed further in the next section (see Figure B1 for responses in the TKAP areas).³⁷ Between the two years, with one exception,³⁸ there were significant reductions in the proportion of

³⁶ Respondents are asked to respond to questions relating to gun crime, knife crime, muggings or street robberies, and 'people getting beaten up'. Respondents choose from five response options: 'gone up a lot'; 'gone up a little'; 'stayed about the same'; 'gone down a little'; or 'gone down a lot'. Table H8 (Appendix H) summarises the proportion of respondents that selected 'gone up a little' or 'gone up a lot'.

³⁷ Table I.8 in Appendix I presents raw data for both TKAP and non-TKAP areas.

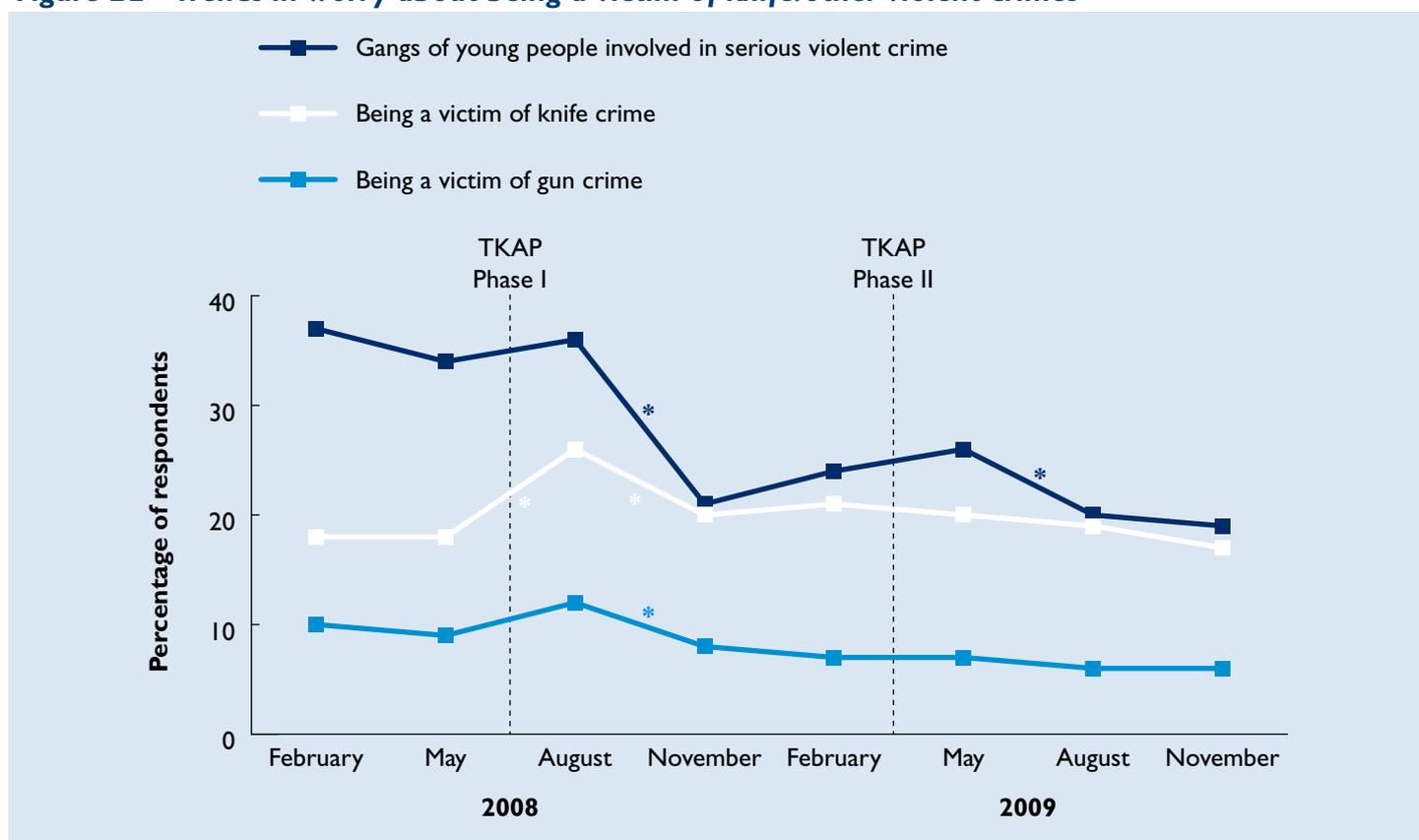
³⁸ There was no significant reduction in the proportion of respondents that perceived that gun crime had gone up in their local area.

respondents perceiving increases in all four violent crime types – both in their local area and in the whole country. This suggests that public perceptions of violent crime improved significantly over the period after the start of TKAP Phase II. These differences were found in both TKAP Phase II and non-TKAP areas, suggesting that improvements in public perceptions were not exclusive to TKAP Phase II areas.

Crime Tracker

Crime Tracker respondents who reported that during the previous month they had worried about ‘being a victim of crime’ at least monthly were asked to select the crimes that they were most concerned about from a list of 13. Respondents were also asked to cite the three most important crime issues that they felt were facing Britain. Across the two questions, two responses align relatively closely with the crime types targeted by TKAP Phase II activities: the first asks whether respondents worried about ‘gangs of young people involved in serious violent crime’; and the second is if respondents give the spontaneous response that ‘too many crimes involving young people’ is one of the most important crime issues facing Britain.

Figure B2 Trends in worry about being a victim of knife/other violent crimes



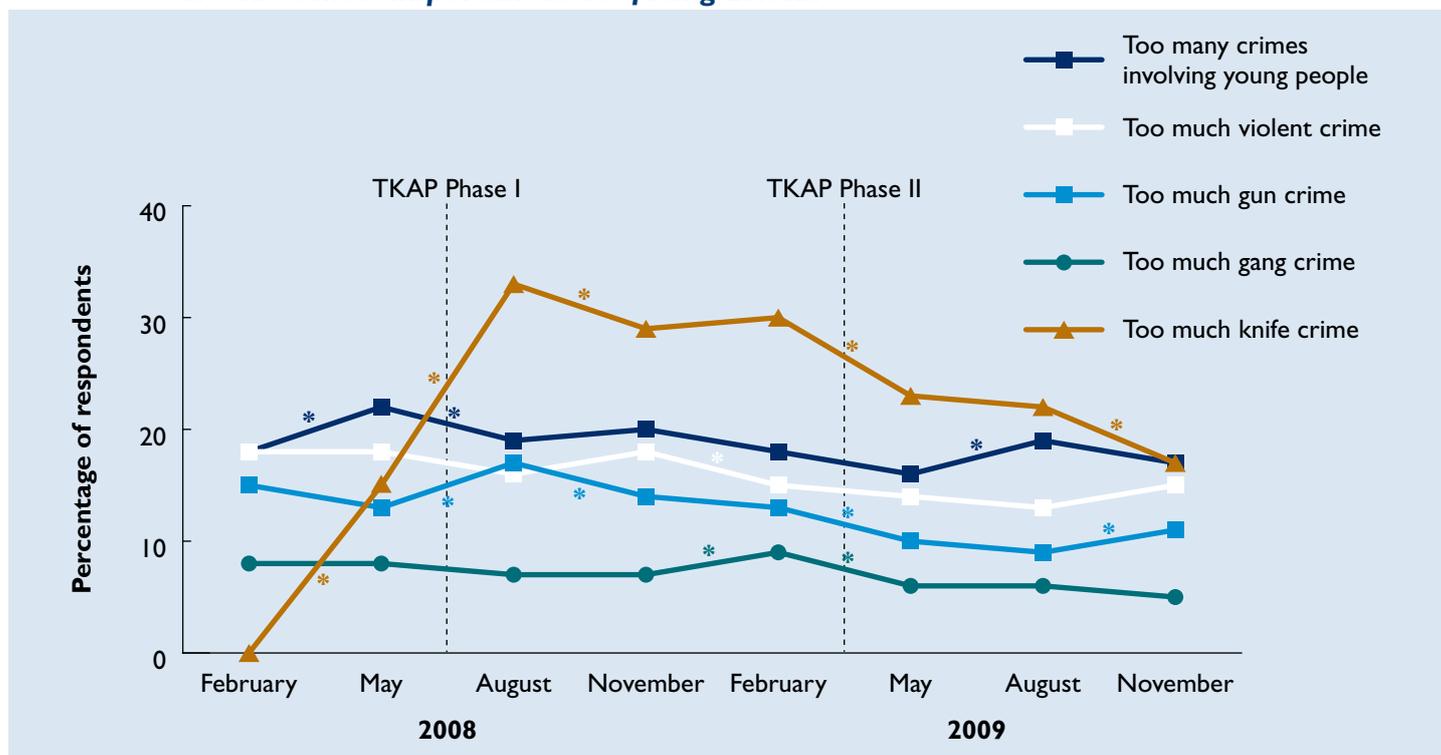
Note: This graph represents responses from a subset of the full sample (e.g. 550 respondents in August 2009); quarterly data are presented; data collected for monitoring purposes at other intervals are not shown; * denotes statistically significant change between consecutive survey waves. Base: respondents who reported worrying about being a victim of crime in the last month.

As shown in Figure B2, of those people who reported worrying about being a victim of crime, the proportion worrying about knife and gun crime has remained stable since the start of TKAP Phase II. The proportion reportedly worrying about gangs of young people involved in serious violent crime reduced significantly between March and August 2009.³⁹

³⁹ Notably, the proportion of respondents that cited other crime types among ‘the three most important crime issues that they felt were facing Britain’ also remained stable or reduced during the TKAP Phase II period. This suggests that the significant reduction in the proportion of respondents reportedly worrying about gangs of young people involved in serious violent crime did not coincide with – or result from – an increase in concern about other crime types.

There were also significant reductions in the proportion of respondents citing ‘too much knife crime’ and ‘too much gang crime’ as one of the three most important crime issues people felt were facing Britain during the TKAP Phase II period (February 2009 compared with November 2009; see Figure B3); however there were no significant changes for any of the other three concerns.⁴⁰

Figure B3 Proportion of people who think that too much knife, gun, gang, or violent crime is one of the three most important issues facing Britain



Note: Quarterly data only are presented. Data collected for monitoring purposes at other intervals are not shown. Only responses of two per cent or more for two consecutive waves are shown. * denotes statistically significant change between consecutive survey waves. ‘Too many crimes involving young people’ also included responses of ‘too many young offenders’ and ‘lack of parental discipline and control’.

Drivers of public perceptions of violent crime

Consistent with BCS findings, the proportion of Crime Tracker respondents citing too much knife/gun/gang/violent crime as important issues in their *local* area was considerably lower than the proportion citing that these were issues facing Britain as a whole.

The findings from both surveys suggest that different factors may influence local and national perceptions of crime. In August 2009, a follow-up question was introduced on the Crime Tracker survey to ask respondents what made them think that crime had gone up or down in the past two years.⁴¹ Their results indicated that the media was – by a significant margin – the most likely influence on perceptions of national change, whereas personal experience and the experiences

⁴⁰ Among other spontaneous responses, comparing February 2009 to November 2009, there were significant increases in the proportion of respondents that perceived punishment (20% to 26%) (‘Punishment’ included: ‘punishment/sentences are too lenient’; ‘punishment doesn’t fit the crime’; and ‘prisons are not harsh or strict enough’) or burglary (2% to 6%) to be one of the most important crime issues facing Britain today. Because different individuals were sampled at different time points, it is not possible to determine whether these changes reflect a direct shift in concerns from one crime issue to another.

⁴¹ See Chapter 3 of the Ipsos MORI publication Closing the Gaps: Crime and Public Perceptions <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/publications/publication.aspx?oltemId=11>

of others known to the respondent had the strongest impact on perceptions of change in local crime.⁴² Bespoke Home Office analysis of the 2009/10 BCS also shows that 52 per cent of respondents report that 'News programmes on TV/radio' or 'Local newspapers' were the most influential source of information about the Criminal Justice System.

The findings in Chapter 3 of this report suggest that there have been reductions in incidents of serious youth violence across the country over the past few years. A reduction in the number of individuals with personal experiences of violence might be expected to improve perceptions of local crime issues, but the above research suggests that the impact of these reductions upon perceptions of national crime would be dependent upon media representations of crime. It is also not clear whether or how the knife awareness media campaigns used widely in TKAP Phase I and II influenced perceptions of violent crime.⁴³

To summarise, both the Crime Tracker and BCS show improvements in public perceptions of several violent crime types. However, there also appears to be no change in the public's perceptions of some violent crime types analysed, most notably the Crime Tracker responses on 'crimes involving young people'.

Appendix C Enforcement activity data

TKAP Phase II aimed to reduce serious youth violence involving young offenders and young victims. The data described in Chapter 3 of this report focus on measures of serious violence involving young victims. Two measures of offender-based enforcement activity are considered below: Criminal Justice System (CJS) disposals for possession of knife or other offensive weapon offences; and National Statistics on police recorded offences for the possession of a knife or other offensive weapon.

These data are not easy to interpret in relation to knife carrying: a reduction in police recorded possession offences could mean that fewer people are carrying knives – perhaps as a result of educational or preventative measures – or could mean that individuals who continue to carry knives have become more skilled at identifying and avoiding police searches. Additionally, TKAP involved increased enforcement activities which may have contributed to decreases in knife possession offences. While enforcement activity data does not give us a clear assessment of the impact of TKAP Phase II on knife related crime, the data does provide useful information about the direction of current trends in recorded offences for the possession of knives and other offensive weapons.

CJS disposals for knife and other offensive weapon offences

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) publishes regular bulletins on CJS disposals for possession of knife or other offensive weapon offences that lead to cautions or sentences.⁴⁴ Across England and Wales, the provisional number of offences involving possession of a knife or offensive weapon resulting in a caution or sentence has fallen in recent years, reducing by 16 per cent between 2008/09 and 2009/10 (to 23,724). In line with the changes in sentencing guidelines and ACPO guidance, there have been reductions, comparing 2006/07 with 2009/10, in the number of offences involving offenders of all ages that have resulted in caution or community penalty, and increases in the number resulting in suspended sentences and immediate custody (Ministry of Justice, 2010).

⁴² Headline results are available at <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100418065544/http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/mori-polls-2009/tracker-august-20092835.pdf?view=Binary>

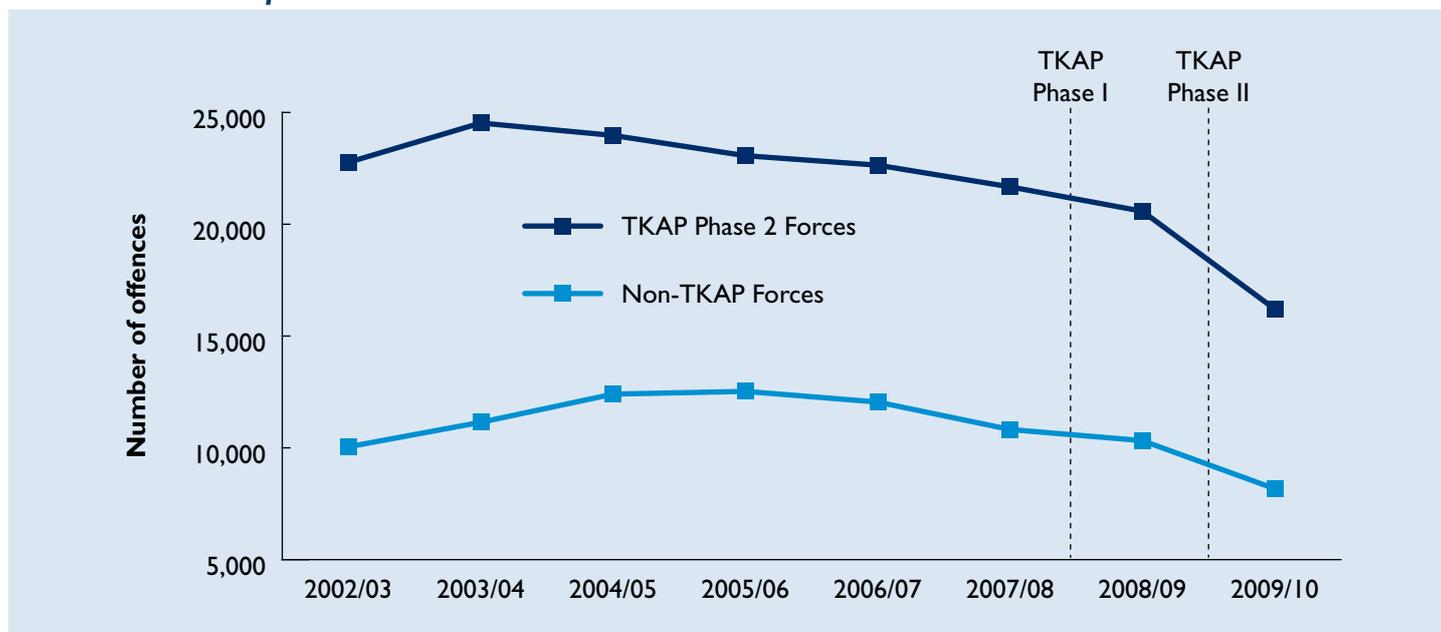
⁴³ The Home Office conducted Community Impact Assessments to explore the likely impact of media campaigns and to help improve their effectiveness.

⁴⁴ For further details, please see <http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/knife-possession-sentencing.htm>

Police recorded offences of possession of a knife or other offensive weapon

Police recorded offences for the possession of a knife or other offensive weapon⁴⁵ can only be used to assess changes in the number of offenders of all ages. Figure C1 presents recorded possession offences in the TKAP Phase II and non-TKAP areas. Consistent with reductions in CJS figures, there has been an overall downward trend for both TKAP and non-TKAP areas since 2005/06. However, difference-in-difference estimates comparing 2009/10 with 2008/09 were not statistically significant, suggesting that there was no significant difference in changes to offence rates, comparing TKAP with non-TKAP areas.⁴⁶

Figure C1 Possession of a knife or other offensive weapons offences in the TKAP Phase II and non-TKAP forces



In 2008, the Home Office Counting Rules introduced a separate offence category for the possession of an article with a blade or point; consequently, data on these offences for victims of all ages are only available from 2008/09. Difference-in-difference estimates comparing TKAP with non-TKAP areas and comparing offence rates for 2008/09 with 2009/10 were not statistically significant, suggesting that TKAP activities did not significantly impact on offence rates in the TKAP areas.

Conclusions

There were reductions in the number of offences of possession of a knife or other offensive weapon during the implementation of TKAP Phase II, but these reductions were not significantly greater (or smaller) for TKAP than non-TKAP areas. However, because these data are heavily influenced by police activity, it is not clear what this finding means in relation to the impact of TKAP. On the one hand, education and prevention-based TKAP activities focused on deterring against and preventing knife carrying, which – if successful – could have been expected to reduce possession offences during the TKAP Phase II period. On the other hand, TKAP enforcement activities – if successful – would be expected to increase the number of individuals carrying knives that were apprehended during the TKAP Phase II period. Consequently, it is impossible to interpret the overall reductions in offences, or the absence of a TKAP specific effect on reductions in possession offences as evidence of either a positive or negative impact of the programme as a whole.

⁴⁵ Data are published in Crime in England and Wales <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb1210.pdf>

⁴⁶ Regression coefficients are summarised in Table I.9, Appendix I.

Appendix D Police recorded serious violent crime during and prior to TKAP Phase II (other data sources)

Two further sources of police recorded violent crime data are analysed here: police recorded crime (PRC) data and TKAP monitoring data. For both, data are presented on attempted murder offences (which, like homicides, comprise a measure of the most serious violent offences) most serious violence (MSV), all violence, and personal robbery. Data are also presented for violent offences involving a sharp instrument.

PRC data enable comparisons between TKAP and non-TKAP forces but, since they include victims of all ages, they provide only a proxy indicator for serious youth violence. In contrast, the TKAP monitoring data collection comprises data broken down by age of victim from TKAP forces only, and therefore enables comparisons between age groups but not between TKAP and non-TKAP areas. Neither data source enables an accurate measurement of the impact of TKAP Phase II as they do not allow for comparisons between measures of violent crime involving the target age group for both TKAP and non-TKAP areas. Therefore, although these data sources contribute important findings to help understand the picture of changes in TKAP and non-TKAP areas, care should be taken in their interpretation.

Police recorded violent crime offences in England and Wales

Table D1 presents police recorded violent crime offences (and offences that involved knives/sharp instruments) before and during TKAP Phase II. Comparing the periods shown, the TKAP police forces recorded reductions in offences for every offence category except attempted murder. The non-TKAP police forces recorded reductions in every offence category except MSV, which increased by three per cent between 2008/09 and 2009/10.

For attempted murder offences, the TKAP areas recorded a reduction between 2007/08 and 2008/09 but an increase during 2009/10;⁴⁷ in contrast, recorded offences in non-TKAP areas increased between 2007/08 and 2008/09, and reduced during 2009/10. These contrasting trends make it difficult to compare the two sets of forces. The findings are clearer for attempted murder offences involving sharp instruments: non-TKAP areas recorded a 15.8 per cent reduction in offences between 2008/09 and 2009/10, whereas TKAP forces recorded a 1.1 per cent increase.

Analyses examining all violent and sharp instrument offences except attempted murder across these periods found no statistically significant differences between the TKAP and non-TKAP areas.⁴⁸ The relatively small number of attempted murder offences did not permit statistical significance testing of these comparisons between years.

In summary, there were positive reductions in almost every measure of recorded crime offences involving victims aged 13 to 24 in the TKAP areas. Overall, when comparing results for TKAP and non-TKAP areas, comparisons between the numbers of attempted murder offences were more favourable for non-TKAP areas; however, the reductions in rates of MSV, all violence, and personal robbery were not significantly different.

However, it should be emphasised that, since PRC data are not broken down by age, these results provide only a proxy indicator of serious youth violence. According to TKAP monitoring data, the target age group accounted for 43 per cent of MSV offences recorded in the TKAP areas in 2009/10, 42 per cent of all violence offences, and 56 per cent of robbery offences. Since 13- to 24-year-olds are likely to account for less than half of all serious violent offences, it is plausible that a TKAP specific effect was not detectable within these results.

⁴⁷ TKAP Phase I was ongoing in ten of the sixteen forces during 2008/09 and may have contributed to reductions in attempted murder offences in the TKAP areas between 2007/08 and 2008/09.

⁴⁸ See Table I.10, Appendix I, for regression coefficients.

Table D1 Police recorded violent crime offences and offences involving sharp instruments involving victims of all ages prior to and during TKAP Phase II

	Police force area	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	Comparing 07/08 with 09/10	Comparing 08/09 with 09/10
All offences						
Attempted murder	TKAP areas	458	401	426	-7.0%	6.2%
	Non-TKAP areas	160	173	157	-1.9%	-9.2%
MSV	TKAP areas	-	28,902	27,882	-	-3.5%
	Non-TKAP areas	-	11,670	12,058	-	3.3%
All violence	TKAP areas	274,224	261,119	246,054	-10.3%	-5.8%
	Non-TKAP areas	169,229	154,967	151,098	-10.7%	-2.5%
Personal robbery	TKAP areas	62,042	57,213	54,947	-11.4%	-4.0%
	Non-TKAP areas	12,438	12,666	11,261	-9.5%	-11.1%
Sharp instrument offences						
Attempted murder	TKAP areas	-	179	181	-	1.1%
	Non-TKAP areas	-	95	80	-	-15.8%
MSV	TKAP areas	-	6,668	6,647	-	-0.3%
	Non-TKAP areas	-	2,267	2,011	-	-11.3%
All violence	TKAP areas	-	12,557	11,872	-	-5.5%
	Non-TKAP areas	-	4,781	4,199	-	-12.2%
Personal robbery	TKAP areas	-	14,033	13,177	-	-6.1%
	Non-TKAP areas	-	2,423	2,242	-	-7.5%

Note: excludes BTP and City of London to enable difference-in-difference analyses of rates per population.

TKAP monitoring data

TKAP monitoring data comprise a special collection of data (broken down by age) on police recorded violent offences from the 16 police forces involved in TKAP Phase II. These data enable basic comparisons between offences involving victims in the target age group and offences involving victims of other ages; however, in absence of data from non-TKAP forces, statistical significance tests were not conducted.

Table D2 presents basic comparisons between offences recorded prior to and during TKAP Phase II for attempted murder, MSV,⁴⁹ all violence, and personal robbery offences, and for violent offences that involved a knife or sharp instrument. Data are not available for all forces for all years⁵⁰ and the number of forces represented by the data varies between analyses. Comparing the years shown, the TKAP police forces recorded fewer offences of serious youth violence (involving victims in the target age group) in all categories of violent offences and most categories of sharp instrument offences (except attempted murder and MSV). However, when comparing these results to changes in offences involving victims of other ages, the overall picture is mixed.

⁴⁹ Due to changes in Home Office Counting Rules, TKAP monitoring data on MSV offences can only be analysed from 2008/09 onwards.

⁵⁰ West Yorkshire did not permit the publication of their TKAP monitoring data and are excluded from these analyses; Hampshire did not provide data for 2007/08; and Merseyside did not provide 2007/08 data on offences involving knives or sharp instruments. See Tables 111 to 118, Appendix I, for raw data.

Table D2 TKAP monitoring data comparing recorded violent crime offences in the TKAP areas prior to and during TKAP Phase II

		2007/08	2009/10	Comparing 07/08 with 09/10	2008/09	2009/10	Comparing 08/09 with 09/10
All offences							
Attempted murder	13 to 24	153	134	-19	139	137	-2
	Other ages	269	266	-3	222	271	+49
Personal robbery	13 to 24	33,321	27,411	-17.7%	29,203	27,962	-4.3%
	Other ages	26,391	25,201	-4.5%	26,390	25,633	-2.9%
MSV	13 to 24	-	-	-	11,761	11,500	-2.2%
	Other ages	-	-	-	16,550	15,970	-3.5%
All violence	13 to 24	95,216	84,178	-11.6%	95,341	90,343	-5.2%
	Other ages	142,487	128,355	-9.9%	142,309	136,147	-4.3%
Sharp instrument offences							
Attempted murder	13 to 24	52	65	+13	58	68	+10
	Other ages	104	102	-2	109	107	-2
Personal robbery	13 to 24	7,281	6,197	-14.9%	6,605	6,375	-3.5%
	Other ages	4,675	4,617	-1.2%	5,028	4,814	-4.3%
MSV	13 to 24	-	-	-	2,955	3,015	+2.0%
	Other ages	-	-	-	3,758	3,545	-5.7%
All violence	13 to 24	5,172	4,919	-10.3%	5,049	4,919	-2.6%
	Other ages	6,908	6,096	-11.8%	7,124	6,543	-8.2%

Notes: Due to changes in the classification of GBH offences, MSV data can only be compared from 2008/09 onwards. *Comparisons between 2007/08 and 2009/10 of all offences exclude data for Hampshire and comparisons between 2007/08 and 2008/09 of sharp instrument offences exclude data for Merseyside and Hampshire; West Yorkshire police are excluded from all analyses. 'Other ages' includes victims aged 0 to 12 and 25 and over.

Comparing 2008/09 with 2009/10, some results (e.g. for MSV and all violence) show more favourable comparisons for offences involving victims in the target age group than offences involving victims of other ages, whereas other results (e.g. for attempted murder, personal robbery, and most categories of sharp instrument offences) show the reverse. Comparisons between 2007/08 and 2009/10 show greater reductions in offences involving 13- to 24-year-olds than offences involving other age groups for attempted murder, but similar reductions in offences involving both age groups for all violence and personal robbery.

Overall, these data show reductions in offences involving victims in the target age group for most types of violent and sharp instrument offences. However, the reductions were not consistently greater for offences involving victims in the target age group than for victims of other ages. It is possible that some TKAP activities – e.g. improved sharing of hospital data – helped to reduce violent crime incidents involving victims of all ages, but this hypothesis is purely speculative and cannot be tested using these data.

Appendix E Comparisons between a matched sample of TKAP and non-TKAP police force areas

As noted earlier, the 16 TKAP Phase II police forces were selected in part because they recorded high rates or counts of serious violent crime, compared to most non-TKAP police forces. Because the TKAP forces include the MPS, West Midlands, and GMP – which account for a large proportion of all violent youth crime recorded in England and Wales⁵¹ – the non-TKAP areas as a whole do not serve as a well-matched comparison group for the TKAP areas. In an attempt to circumvent this issue, and to apply a more methodologically robust approach to forming an assessment of the impact of TKAP Phase II, analyses in this section aim to make comparisons between a selection of ‘trimmed’ TKAP and ‘trimmed’ non-TKAP forces that are more closely matched in their recorded levels of serious youth violence prior to TKAP Phase II.⁵²

Identifying ‘trimmed’ groups of police forces

NHS hospital admissions data were used to identify the ‘trimmed’ groups of police force areas.⁵³ First, the number and rates of admissions for assaults and assaults by sharp object for those aged 13 to 24 in 2007/08 and 2008/09 were ranked across 38 English police forces.⁵⁴ These rankings were combined to form a single overall ranking, which ranged from one (the highest rates/counts of admissions) to 38 (the lowest rates/counts). Second, simple cut-offs were used to identify a ‘trimmed’ group of forces: forces were excluded if their ranking was higher than the highest ranked non-TKAP area (Cheshire, ranked 8th) or lower than the lowest ranked TKAP area (Bedfordshire, ranked 26th). The 19 forces that fell between these cut-offs were retained; these included seven ‘trimmed’ TKAP⁵⁵ and 12 ‘trimmed’ non-TKAP forces.⁵⁶

An examination of admissions data for 2007/08 – i.e. before the start of TKAP – showed that there were, on average, 798 hospital assault admission per police force area across all English TKAP areas (i.e. untrimmed), and 253 across all non-TKAP areas. For the ‘trimmed’ groups, there were, on average, 386 assault admissions per TKAP area and 349 per non-TKAP area. Evidently, in terms of average assault admissions, the ‘trimmed’ areas are more closely matched than the ‘untrimmed’ areas. Since force-level data are needed to make comparisons between the two ‘trimmed’ groups, analyses were undertaken using PRC data (for victims of all ages) and NHS hospital admissions data (for victims in the target age group).

Comparisons between ‘trimmed’ groups of police forces

There were year-on-year reductions in the average rate of admissions for assault for both ‘trimmed’ groups between 2006/07 and 2009/10 (see Figure E1) with the trends following almost identical trajectories. Consistent with this, difference-in-difference analyses found no significant differences between changes in the average rates for ‘trimmed’ TKAP and non-TKAP forces, between both 2007/08 and 2008/09 and the TKAP Phase II period.⁵⁷ Results of analyses of admission rates for assault by sharp object were similar, with no significant differences seen between ‘trimmed’ TKAP and non-TKAP areas.

51 In 2009/10, these three forces accounted for 4,964 (30.3%) of the 16,403 English hospital admissions for assault aged 13 to 24 recorded in English TKAP and non-TKAP areas in 2009/10.

52 ‘Most Similar Families’ were not used because these groupings are used to identify comparable forces for individual police forces, rather than for a group of forces.

53 NHS data were selected, rather than another data source, because it provided data broken down by for both TKAP and non-TKAP areas, at police force level.

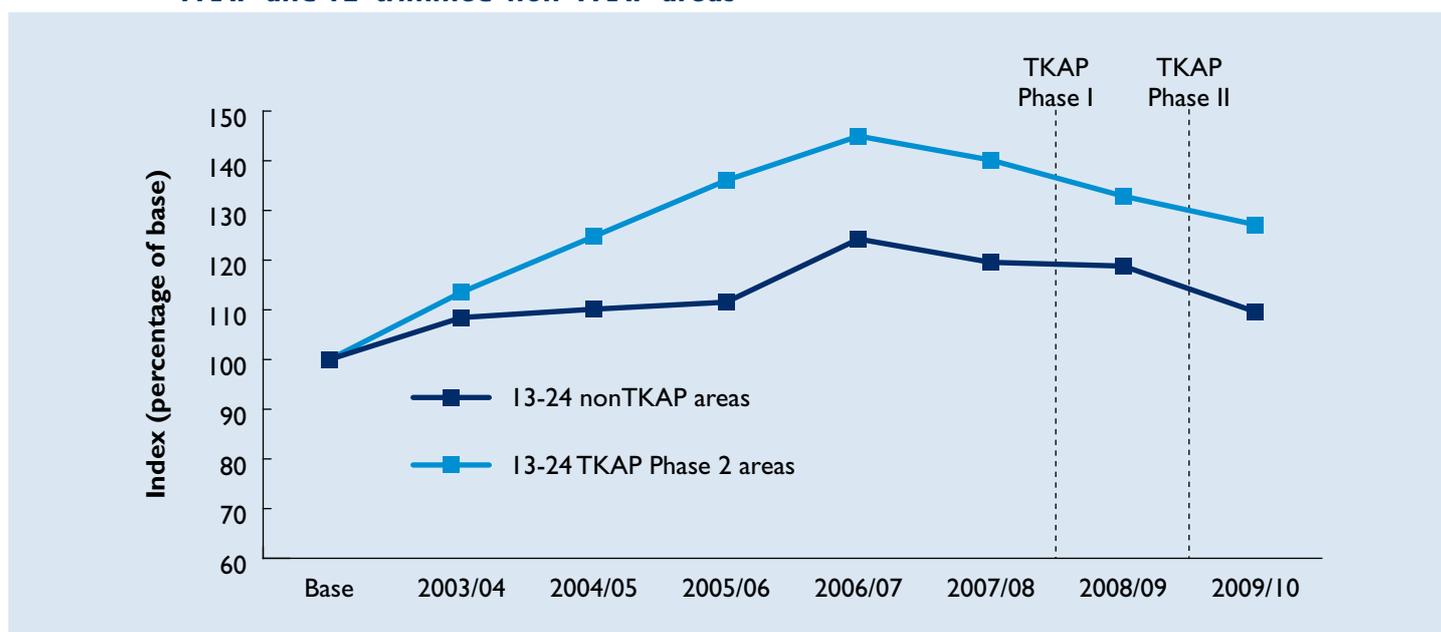
54 Excluding City of London.

55 Including: South Yorkshire (ranked 9th), Nottinghamshire (ranked 11th), Kent (16th), Thames Valley (19th), Essex (21st), Hampshire (22nd), Bedfordshire (26th).

56 Including: Cheshire (8th), Cleveland (10th), Durham (12th), Avon and Somerset (13th), Leicestershire (14th), Humberside (15th), Derbyshire (17th), Sussex (18th), Devon and Cornwall (20th), Cambridgeshire (23rd), Northamptonshire (24th), West Mercia (25th).

57 Regression coefficients are presented in Table I.6, Appendix I.

Figure E1 Indexed trends in assault admissions among those aged 13 to 24 in the seven ‘trimmed’ TKAP and 12 ‘trimmed’ non-TKAP areas



Source: Hospital Episode Statistics Copyright © 2010, re-used with the permission of The Health and Social Care Information Centre. All rights reserved. Indexed base is the number of admissions in 2002/03

Difference-in-difference analyses (not shown) were also conducted using PRC data and found no significant differences between ‘trimmed’ TKAP and ‘trimmed’ non-TKAP areas in changes in offences of MSV, all violence, and personal robbery (and sharp instrument offences) comparing the TKAP Phase II period with previous years.⁵⁸ However, since these data cannot be broken down by age, these estimates serve only as proxy indicators for the impact of TKAP activities.

Conclusions

It was previously reported (at the beginning of Chapter 3) that differences in the nature of serious youth violence, especially for very large police forces such as the MPS or West Midlands, may partly account for why TKAP areas have not reported greater reductions in serious youth violence when compared with non-TKAP areas. These results demonstrate that, even after excluding the TKAP forces with the highest assault admission rates, analyses of police recorded and NHS assault admissions data still showed no difference between those areas receiving TKAP funding and those not involved in the programme. The same limitations to interpretation described in Chapter 2 (Methodological limitations) also apply here and caution should be taken in interpreting these findings.

Appendix F Consistency of trends across the various measures of serious youth violence

The measures of serious youth violence used here are likely to be influenced by a range of factors other than TKAP Phase II activities, including seasonal influences and the impact of other interventions aimed at reducing violent crime (e.g. Blunt 2). Analyses using three approaches to measuring serious youth violence have been presented in this report: the British Crime Survey, police recorded crime, and hospital admissions data. This section briefly considers the consistency of trends across these measures.

⁵⁸ Comparing average rates between 07/08 and 09/10 (where possible) and between 08/09 and 09/10.

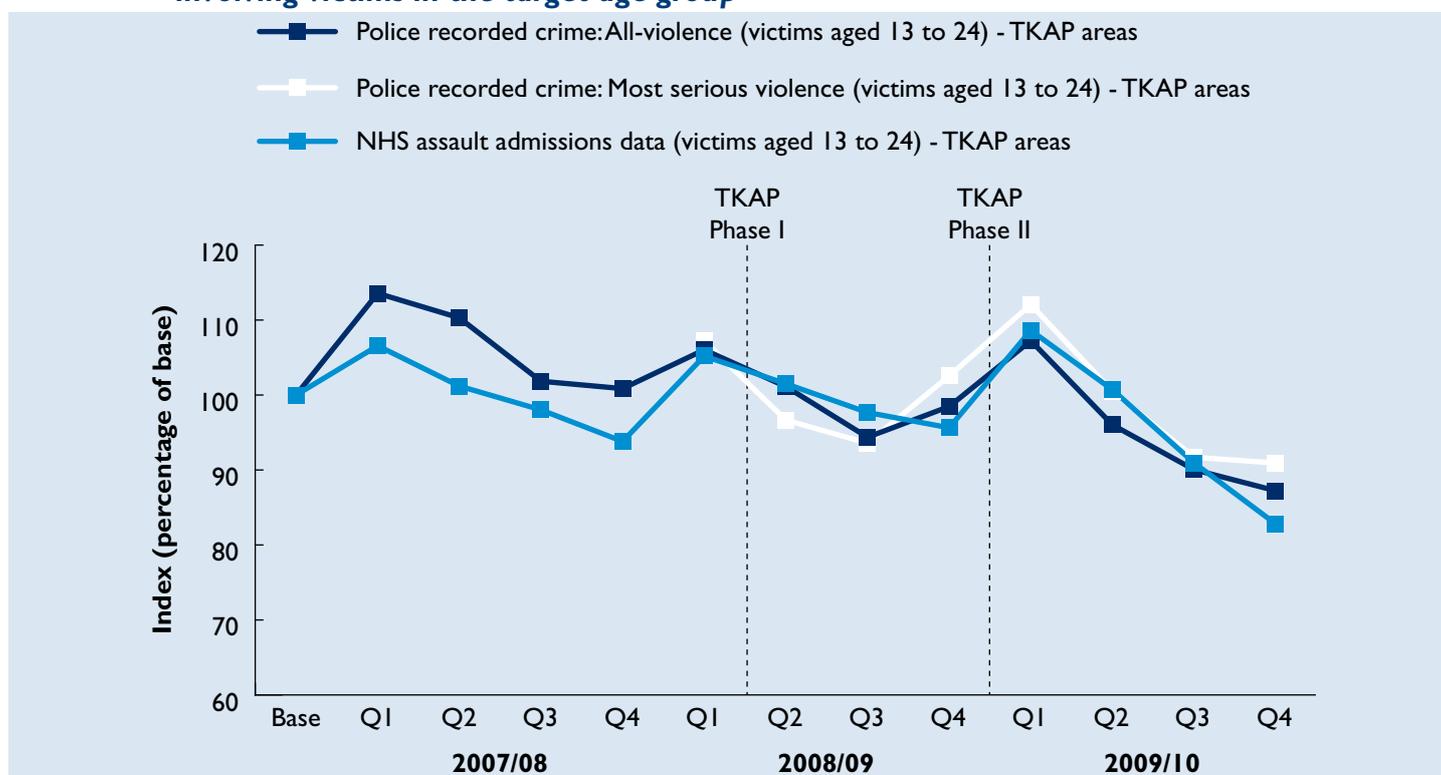
Notably, there is wide variation in the number of incidents of assault recorded using each of the three approaches, which probably reflects variability in the overlap between data sources. The BCS includes all incidents of violence that involve injury, however minor. NHS admissions data, on the other hand, only include assaults involving injuries serious enough to warrant hospital admission and are therefore likely to account for only a small proportion of BCS incidents. For example, in 2009/10, 40,603 individuals were admitted to an English hospital for assault, around four per cent of the estimated 1,065,000 incidents of violence with injury which were reported to the BCS.⁵⁹ PRC data rely on individuals being willing to report offences to the police. For example, in the 2009/10 BCS, respondents said that the police came to know about the incident in 45 per cent of violent incidents (Flatley *et al.*, 2010).

Figure F1 shows indexed quarterly trends in hospital admissions for assault and police recorded ‘all violence’ and MSV offences for the TKAP Phase II police force areas before and during TKAP Phase II. All three measures follow very similar trajectories, which are likely to be heavily influenced by seasonal patterns. A similar pattern can be seen when mapping trajectories for sharp instrument related offences (not shown).

Chapter 3 described trends in homicide offences and hospital assault admissions involving victims aged between 13 and 24. While there was greater fluctuation in homicide figures, both data sources showed reductions between 2007/08 and 2009/10. Similar reductions were seen in most categories of police recorded violent crime offences involving victims of all ages across England and Wales (Appendix D1), and across most types of offences involving victims aged 13 to 24 in the TKAP areas (Appendix D2).

Overall, police recorded crime data and hospital admissions data point to similar trends over the past two years. When figures for 2010/11 become available, it will be interesting to note whether these data continue to follow a downward trend.

Figure F1 Indexed quarterly trends in assault admissions and police recorded violent offences involving victims in the target age group



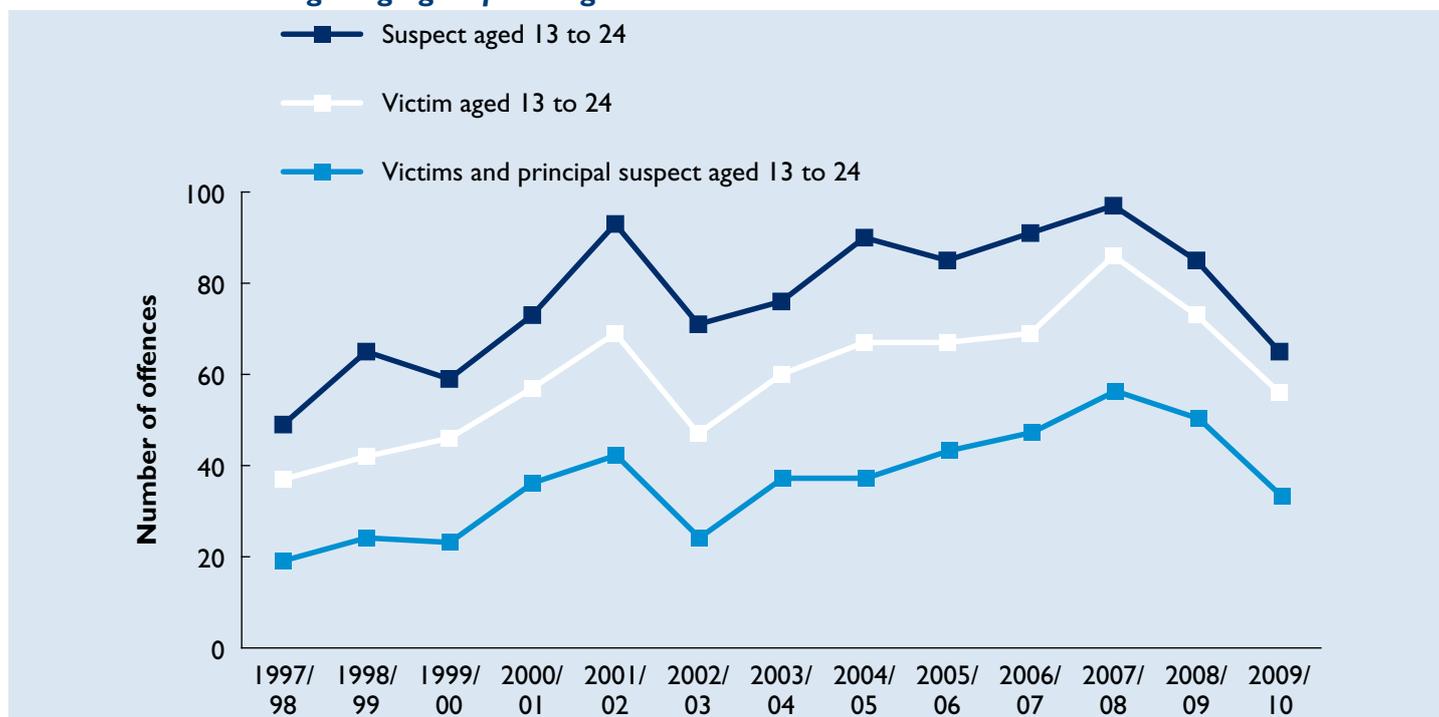
Note: PRC data (TKAP monitoring data) excludes Hampshire and West Yorkshire; NHS data excludes British Transport Police and all Welsh police force areas. Indexed base is the average figure for 2008/09 – the first year for which all three data sources provide data.

Source: Hospital Episode Statistics Copyright © 2010, re-used with the permission of The Health and Social Care Information Centre. All rights reserved.

⁵⁹ Indeed, in the 2009/10 BCS the victim had a hospital stay of one or more nights in five per cent of incidents of violence with injury,

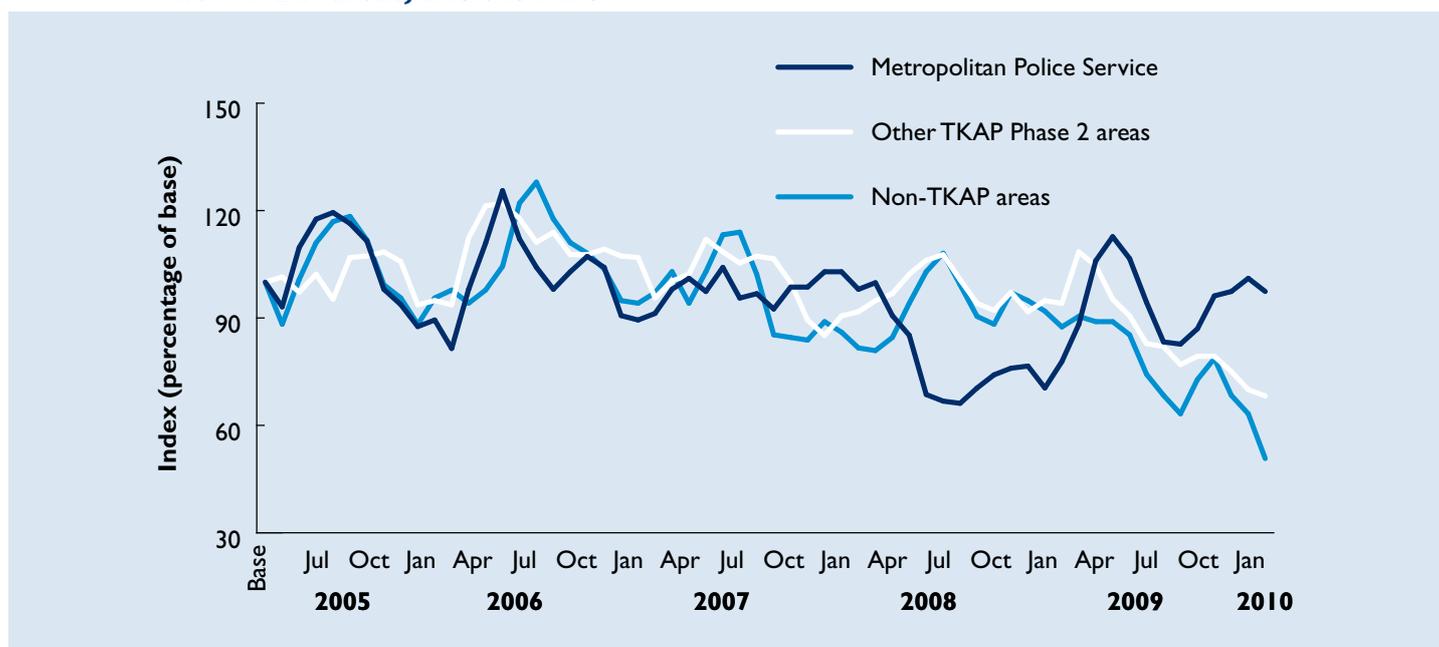
Appendix G Additional graphs

Figure G1 Number of sharp instrument homicide offences involving victims and/or principal suspects in the target age group in England and Wales



Note: Homicide offences are shown according to the year in which the police initially recorded the offence as homicide. The data refer to the position as at 28 September 2010. Although data on suspects are presented for 2009/10, these are likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11 as cases progress through the courts.

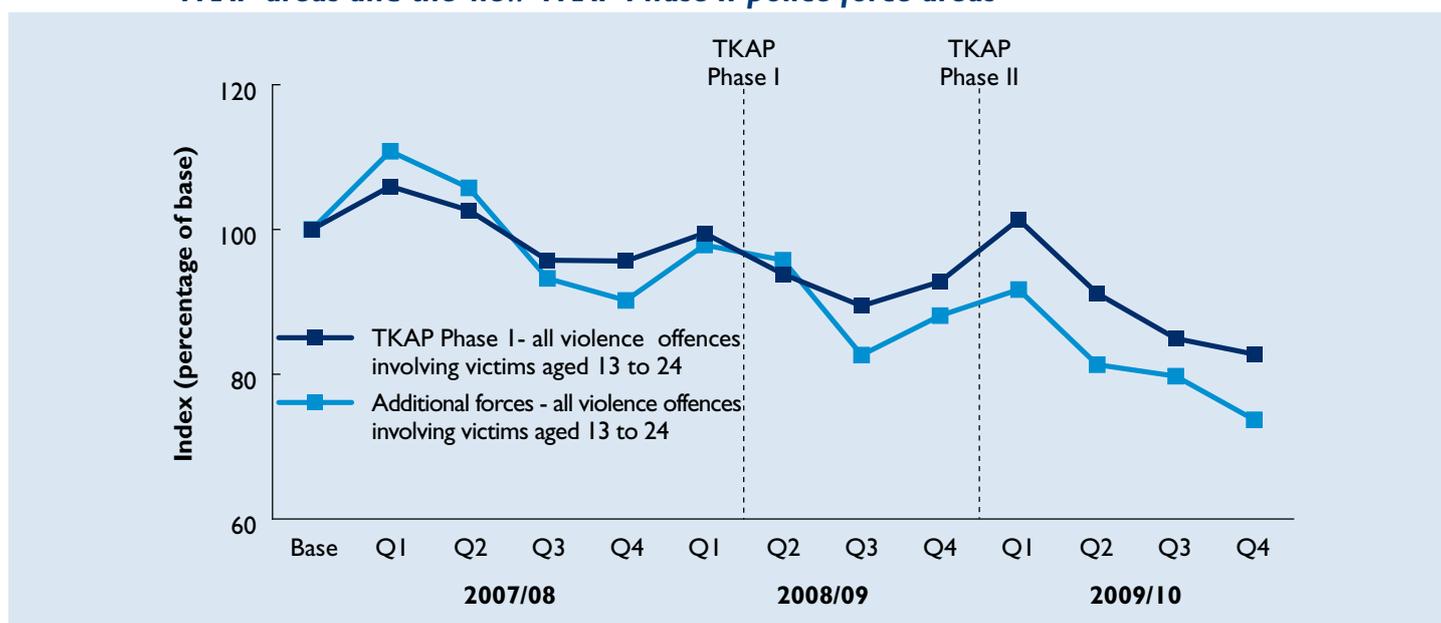
Figure G2 Indexed trends in sharp object assault admissions in 13 TKAP areas (excluding MPS), 24 non-TKAP areas, and the MPS



Note: Data presented as three-month moving averages. Graph excludes City of London, British Transport Police, and all Welsh police force areas. Indexed base is the average number of monthly assault admissions in 2005/06.

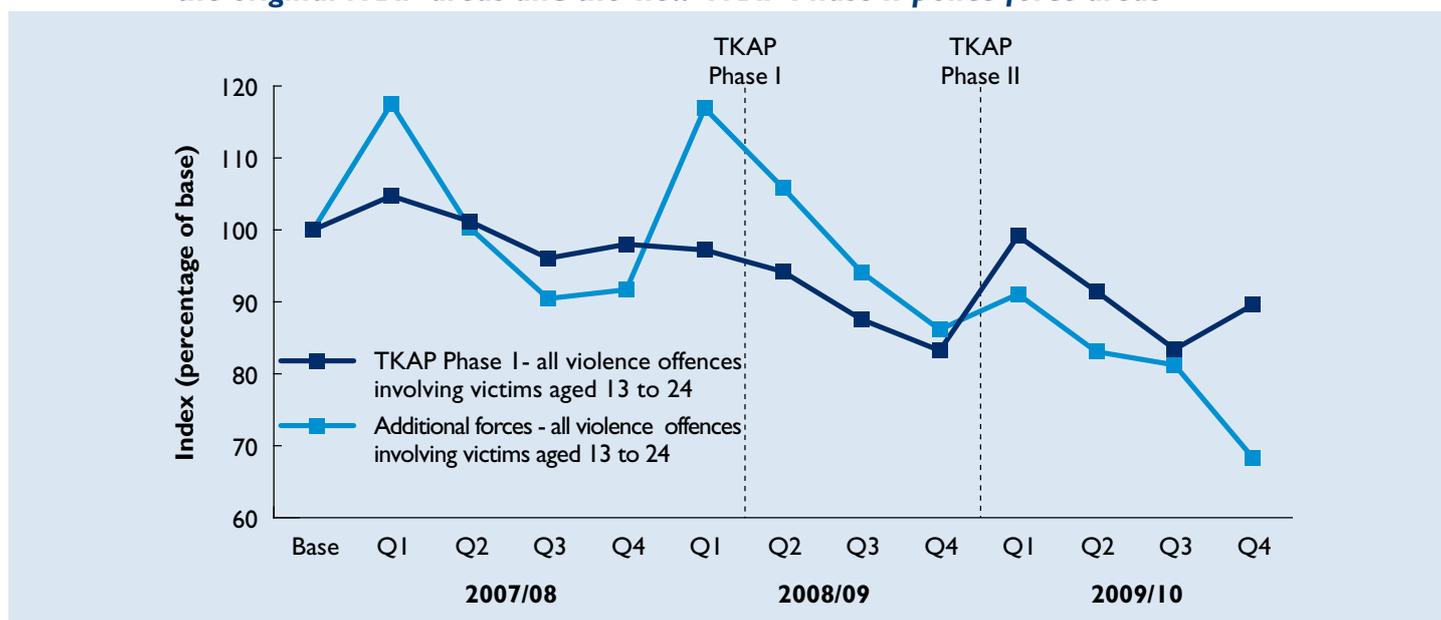
Source: Hospital Episode Statistics Copyright © 2010, re-used with the permission of The Health and Social Care Information Centre. All rights reserved.

Figure G3 Indexed trends in TKAP monitoring data on recorded violence offences in the original TKAP areas and the ‘new’TKAP Phase II police force areas



Notes: Data exclude West Yorkshire and Hampshire. Indexed base is the average number of offences recorded per quarter in 2007/08.

Figure G4 Indexed trends in TKAP monitoring data on sharp instrument recorded violence offences in the original TKAP areas and the ‘new’TKAP Phase II police force areas



Notes: Data exclude West Yorkshire and Hampshire. Indexed base is the average number of offences recorded per quarter in 2007/08.

Appendix H Technical appendix

Serious youth violence

The sections below provide more detailed information about data sources used to analyse serious youth violence in this report. For further information on the British Crime Survey and police recorded crime data, please see the *User Guide to Home Office Statistics*.⁶⁰

British Crime Survey

The BCS is a face-to-face victimisation survey in which people resident in households in England and Wales are asked about their experiences of a range of crimes in the 12 months prior to the interview. BCS estimates for 2009/10 are based on face-to-face interviews with 44,638 respondents carried out between April 2009 and March 2010 (BCS year ending March 2010).

The BCS has a relatively high response rate (76% in 2009/10) and the survey is weighted to adjust for possible non-response bias to ensure the sample reflects the profile of the general population. Being based on a sample survey, BCS estimates are subject to a margin of error (information taken from the *User Guide to Home Office Statistics*).

This report includes analysis of BCS 'violence with injury'.⁶¹ While BCS violence can be classified into more serious and specific types of violence (e.g. wounding; assault with minor injury; assault without injury; robbery), the sample size was too small to analyse differences in these more specific offence groups within the TKAP and non-TKAP areas, and within the target age group.⁶² Importantly, due to small samples sizes – especially where data are broken down by age groups – statistically significant differences are harder to detect and caution therefore must be taken in interpreting findings.

Police recorded crime

Homicide Index

Homicide data presented in this report were extracted from the Homicide Index, which contains detailed information about each homicide recorded by police in England and Wales. It is continually being updated with revised information from the police and the courts. Homicide offences are shown according to the year in which the police initially recorded the offence as homicide. This is not necessarily the year in which the incident took place or the year in which any court decision was made. The data refer to the position as at 28 September 2010, when recording closed down for the purpose of analysis, and will change as subsequent court hearings take place or other information is received (information taken from Smith *et al.*, 2011).

TKAP monitoring programme

Monitoring data on PRC offences are classified, as per the official National Crime Recording Standards, by the date on which the offence is recorded on the police force's crime recording system.⁶³ Consequently, delays may occur between the date the offence occurred and the date it is recorded on the crime system, especially for some offences (e.g. homicides). The data were provided from extracts taken from each force's live crime recording system. As a result, they may differ from data extracted by the forces at other times, such as those used to compile the National Crime Statistics. This is to be expected as cases are revised on live crime recording systems as further information becomes available.

⁶⁰ <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/crimestats-userguide.pdf>

⁶¹ A violent incident is classed as 'violence with injury' if the respondent says yes to the question "Were YOU bruised, scratched, cut or injured in any way?".

⁶² Further methodological information about the British Crime Survey can be found here <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/hosb1109vol2.pdf>

⁶³ Northumbria police advised that they have classified their data by the date on which the offence was 'created' rather than 'recorded'. However, this is likely to impact very little upon their figures.

For all police forces, victims' ages are not identified for offences involving multiple victims that are categorised as a single offence.⁶⁴ The Metropolitan Police Service use an incident-based crime recording system. Consequently, when TKAP monitoring data are extracted to calculate the age of victims, where multiple offences and victims are involved in a single crime incident, it is not possible to determine which offence relate to which victim. Thus, for TKAP data, all victims involved in any incident involving the offence codes detailed below were counted; as a result, the number of victims will not necessarily correspond to the number of offences, and TKAP figures are higher than those reported in the published National Statistics.

Offences

TKAP monitoring data include the following offences.^{65,66}

- Homicide (including murder, manslaughter, and infanticide).
- Attempted murder.
- Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm (GBH).
- Inflicting GBH without intent.
- Actual bodily harm and other injury.
- Robbery of personal property.

For each of these offences, police forces also provided figures on the number of recorded offences involving knives/sharp instruments.

Quality assurance with TKAP forces

The TKAP monitoring data presented in this report were quality assured and approved for publication with each of the TKAP forces in November and December 2010.

Issues to consider with PRC figures

The following issues affect both TKAP monitoring data and published National Statistics on police recorded violent crime.

Clarification of Home Office counting rules

Since April 2008, a clarification in the Home Office Counting Rules for grievous bodily harm (GBH) with intent was issued as part of the annual update of Counting Rules; the aim was to ensure that offences of GBH with intent were recorded on the basis of evidence of clear intent to commit serious injury, irrespective of the degree of injury sustained. Specifically, the 2007/08 offence category 'other wounding' was replaced by separate offence codes for 'inflicting GBH without intent' and 'ABH and other injuries'. While this change predates TKAP Phase II, it is likely that the transition by forces to the application of new Counting Rules may not have taken effect immediately. It is possible, therefore, that the increase among some of the forces in the number of recorded offences for GBH with and without intent between April to September 2009 and the same period in 2008 is due to the recording clarification which was issued in April 2008. The 'all violence' measure used in this report – which includes attempted murder, wounding or carrying out an act endangering life, GBH without intent, and ABH and other injury – should not be affected by the change in Home Office Counting Rules.

Note on recording knife/sharp instrument offences

The TKAP police forces were instructed, as per the Home Office Counting Rules, to include any instrument that is capable of piercing the skin as a 'knife/sharp-instrument'. This may include any of the following: axe, bayonet, broken bottle, bow and arrow, chopper, crossbow/arrow, dagger, dart, flick-knife, broken glass, kitchen knife, knife, knife (flick), knife (kitchen), machete, knife (other), pen (with sharp point), pen knife, pin, razor/razorblade, saw, scalpel, scissors, sharpened object, Stanley knife/blade, syringe needle, sword. Broken bottles and broken glass, whether used or threatened, should be included; unbroken bottles and glass should not be included. Figures were requested for recorded offences involving the 'use' of a knife/sharp-instrument, meaning that a victim is stabbed and the skin pierced.

⁶⁴ For example, a single attempted murder offence is recorded where an offender opens fire on a car containing multiple victims.

⁶⁵ See the 2008/09 Home Office Counting Rules <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/countrules.html>

⁶⁶ Offences of GBH and ABH and other injury include racially/religiously aggravated offences.

Two TKAP forces (West Midlands and BTP) included unbroken bottle and glass offences in their data returns to the Home Office, which are outside the scope of this collection (See *Crime in England and Wales: Quarterly Update to September 2009* for further information; Home Office, 2010). Three TKAP forces (West Midlands, BTP, and Kent) all included unbroken bottle and glass offences in their TKAP monitoring data returns. While the inclusion of unbroken bottle and glass offences by these forces affects the level of offences reported for these forces, it does not affect trends, as practice within each force has been consistent over time.

NHS admissions to hospitals in England for assault

Hospital episodes statistics data are published on the HES online website (<http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk>)⁶⁷ and can be requested from the NHS Information Centre. Previously, the HES 'Topic of Interest' web page has included data on assault and assault by sharp object admissions in the TKAP and non-TKAP areas. The data presented in the present report differ from those published previously by the NHS for two reasons: a) two newly established Local Authorities that were incorrectly included in the 2009/10 data for non-TKAP areas are here correctly included in the TKAP data; and b) previously, data for patients whose place of residence was outside of the non-TKAP areas (e.g. abroad) were included in non-TKAP figures but are excluded from the analyses described in this report.

The figures are for admissions to English hospitals only. Data on admissions to hospitals in South Wales were not included in this document as figures for this period are not yet publicly available.

Assault is defined by the patient and as such the figures extracted for these codes may underestimate the actual number of admissions to hospital for assault related injuries. The following ICD-10 external cause codes comprise 'all assault' in this report.⁶⁸

X85 Assault by drugs medicaments and biological substances; X86 Assault by corrosive substance; X87 Assault by pesticides; X88 Assault by gases and vapours; X89 Assault by other specified chemicals and noxious substances; X90 Assault by unspecified chemical or noxious substance; X91 Assault by hanging strangulation and suffocation; X92 Assault by drowning and submersion; X93 Assault by handgun discharge; X94 Assault by rifle shotgun and larger firearm discharge; X95 Assault by other and unspecified firearm discharge; X96 Assault by explosive material; X97 Assault by smoke fire and flames; X98 Assault by steam hot vapours and hot objects; X99 Assault by sharp object; Y00 Assault by blunt object; Y01 Assault by pushing from high place; Y02 Assault by pushing or placing victim before moving object; Y03 Assault by crashing of motor vehicle; Y04 Assault by bodily force; Y05 Sexual assault by bodily force; Y06 Neglect and abandonment; Y07 Other maltreatment syndromes; Y08 Assault by other specified means; Y09 Assault by unspecified means

Geographical information is based on the home address of the victim, and must be treated with a degree of caution as a signifier of where the injury was inflicted. TKAP areas are not coterminous with police force areas but provide a good approximation. The date of activity is based on the end date of finished admission episodes, which represents the first period of inpatient care under one consultant within one healthcare provider. Please note that admissions do not represent the number of inpatients, as a person may have more than one admission within a given period. These data can be affected by changes in recording practices.

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⁶⁸ The ICD-10 (International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems – 10th Revision) is the World Health Organisation's coding of diseases, symptoms, and injuries and is used as part of health classification systems in countries around the world.

Public perceptions of serious youth violence

British Crime Survey (BCS)

The 2008/09 and 2009/10 BCS⁶⁹ include questions about perceptions of any change in numbers of different types of crime, including gun and knife crime. Specifically, respondents are asked the following.

“I’m now going to ask you about different TYPES of crime. For each I’d like you tell me whether you think the number of crimes has gone up, gone down or stayed the same over the past few years both in the country as a whole and in your local area.”

For the purpose of this report, responses related to the following topics were included:⁷⁰ number of gun crimes; number of knife crimes; number of muggings or street robberies; and number of people getting beaten up.

MORI Crime Tracker Survey

The survey organisation IPSOS MORI conducted face-to-face in-home interviews with respondents aged 16 and over in England and Wales as part of a quota sample ‘Crime Tracker’ survey. The survey used a random selection of output area sampling points with a controlled sample selected at random postcode addresses.⁷¹

Data have been weighted to the Census profile of the population. The following table presents the unweighted base sizes for each age category. Figures are based on August 2009 but are broadly reflective of base sizes in each wave.

All respondents	16 to 24 years	25 to 39 years	40 to 64 years	65 years and over
1,790	226	408	699	456

The four questions for which data are presented in this report are as follows.

- Q1. What would you say are the three most important issues facing Britain today when it comes to crime?
[Spontaneous response from the participant.]
- Q2. What would you say are the three most important issues facing your local area today when it comes to crime?
[Spontaneous response from the participant.]
- Q3. In the last month, how many times, if at all, have you worried about becoming a victim of crime?
[Participant selects from five options.]
- Q4. Which crimes have you worried about?
[Respondent selects from a list of 13.]

Statistical analyses

Comparison between ‘trimmed’ groups of police forces

To apply a more methodologically robust approach to forming an assessment of the impact of TKAP Phase II, comparisons were made between a selection of ‘trimmed’ TKAP and non-TKAP forces that were more closely matched in their average levels of assault admissions prior to TKAP Phase II. These analyses, and the method used to select the ‘trimmed’ forces are detailed in Appendix D.

⁶⁹ <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/hosb1709.pdf>

⁷⁰ For further methodological information, see <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/hosb1109vol2.pdf>

⁷¹ Data tables for selected waves of Crime Tracker data are published at:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100418065544/http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/opinion-polls-data-sets/index.htm>

Statistical significance testing

Tests of statistical significance were used to identify which differences were unlikely to have occurred by chance. In this publication two-tailed tests at the five per cent significance level have been applied.

Indexed charts

In this report, indexed charts are used to present time series data in relation to a fixed point or 'base'. Each data point is presented as a percentage of the base. In most of the graphs presented in this report, the base is the first full year of data. However, where multiple data sources are used, the base is the first full year for which all data sources can provide data.

Difference-in-difference analysis

In this report, difference-in-difference analyses help to take account of differences between TKAP and non-TKAP police force areas that existed prior to the start of an intervention by subtracting the pre-intervention difference in outcomes between the groups from the post-intervention difference in outcomes.

The accuracy and robustness of DiD analyses rely upon the assumption that the trends for the two groups (TKAP and non-TKAP areas) would be the same – or parallel – in absence of the intervention. This can be partly tested by examining trends prior to the start of the intervention. For example, NHS admissions data show that the trends for average assault admission rates are roughly parallel for TKAP and non-TKAP areas before the start of TKAP Phase II. Although this provides some support for the assumption, it is not possible to test whether, in absence of the programme, these trends would have remained parallel. Consequently, as noted throughout the report, in absence of information about the counterfactual, it is not possible to causally link the results of these analyses to TKAP Phase II activities.

Appendix I Additional tables

Table 1.1 Homicides involving victims and/or principal suspects in the target age group

Age (years)	Police force areas	97/98	98/99	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10
Victim aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	82	85	97	108	116	103	112	123	127	117	136	107	91
	Non-TKAP areas	22	41	24	39	45	37	36	46	36	32	47	35	29
Victim aged 13 to 19	TKAP areas	29	34	41	38	50	45	46	45	48	52	69	52	31
	Non-TKAP areas	6	22	15	27	17	17	23	17	16	10	22	14	11
Victim aged 20 to 24	TKAP areas	53	51	56	70	66	58	66	78	79	65	67	55	60
	Non-TKAP areas	16	19	9	12	28	20	13	29	20	22	25	21	18
Principal suspect aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	125	141	140	165	172	140	156	167	201	174	183	145	133
	Non-TKAP areas	48	60	43	54	53	49	55	74	57	52	64	72	42
Principal suspect aged 13 to 19	TKAP areas	55	62	57	77	76	44	74	65	117	87	84	57	66
	Non-TKAP areas	7	28	19	22	19	23	25	22	26	18	29	28	18
Principal suspect aged 20 to 24	TKAP areas	70	79	83	88	96	96	82	102	84	87	99	88	67
	Non-TKAP areas	41	32	24	32	34	26	30	52	31	34	35	44	24
Victim and Principal suspect aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	37	41	54	54	56	52	56	66	78	71	77	72	50
	Non-TKAP areas	14	25	8	12	20	15	15	23	21	13	24	20	10
Victim and Principal suspect aged 13 to 19	TKAP areas	12	10	17	17	22	11	15	22	22	24	28	22	13
	Non-TKAP areas	1	10	2	5	4	6	6	6	9	3	7	5	-
Victim and Principal suspect aged 20 to 24	TKAP areas	14	10	16	16	17	18	19	27	20	18	18	19	13
	Non-TKAP areas	9	5	2	1	10	2	2	9	8	5	9	6	4

Note: Homicide offences are shown according to the year in which the police initially recorded the offence as homicide. The data refer to the position as at 28 September 2010. A principal suspect in a homicide case is defined as (i) a person who has been arrested in respect of an offence initially classified as homicide and charged with homicide or (ii) a person who is suspected by the police of having committed the offence but is known to have died or committed suicide prior to arrest/being charged. Note that, although data on suspects are presented for 2009/10, these are likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11 as cases progress through the courts.

Table 1.2 Sharp instrument homicides involving victims and/or principal suspects in the target age group

Age (years)	Police force areas	97/98	98/99	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10
Victim aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	27	28	40	48	51	37	43	49	52	58	63	60	43
	Non-TKAP areas	10	14	6	9	18	10	17	18	15	11	23	13	13
Victim aged 13 to 19	TKAP areas	9	10	16	19	19	11	14	18	20	26	36	32	20
	Non-TKAP areas	3	7	4	7	7	5	7	3	6	5	9	3	3
Victim aged 20 to 24	TKAP areas	18	18	24	29	32	26	29	31	32	32	27	28	23
	Non-TKAP areas	7	7	2	2	11	5	10	15	9	6	14	10	10
Principal suspect aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	36	51	46	59	74	53	55	63	64	73	76	69	53
	Non-TKAP areas	13	14	13	14	19	18	21	27	21	18	21	16	12
Principal suspect aged 13 to 19	TKAP areas	14	27	20	25	39	18	26	28	32	41	35	26	29
	Non-TKAP areas	3	9	8	8	6	10	9	4	7	6	8	7	4
Principal suspect aged 20 to 24	TKAP areas	22	24	26	34	35	35	29	35	32	32	41	43	24
	Non-TKAP areas	10	5	5	6	13	8	12	23	14	12	13	9	8
Victim and Principal suspect aged 13 to 24	TKAP areas	14	14	22	31	30	18	28	28	35	42	42	44	27
	Non-TKAP areas	5	10	1	5	12	6	9	9	8	5	14	6	6
Victim and Principal suspect aged 13 to 19	TKAP areas	4	6	8	11	14	3	7	12	11	15	20	13	7
	Non-TKAP areas	-	3	-	3	2	2	3	1	3	2	3	1	-
Victim and Principal suspect aged 20 to 24	TKAP areas	6	3	6	11	7	7	10	10	13	9	10	11	7
	Non-TKAP areas	3	1	1	-	7	1	2	6	3	1	7	2	2

Note: Homicide offences are shown according to the year in which the police initially recorded the offence as homicide. The data refer to the position as at 28 September 2010. A principal suspect in a homicide case is defined as (i) a person who has been arrested in respect of an offence initially classified as homicide and charged with homicide or (ii) a person who is suspected by the police of having committed the offence but is known to have died or committed suicide prior to arrest/being charged. Note that, although data on suspects are presented for 2009/10, these are likely to be revised upwards during 2010/11 as cases progress through the courts.

Table 1.3 Admissions to English hospitals for assault among 13- to 24-year-olds

Police force	Admissions for assault						Comparing total for 07/08 with 09/10	Comparing total for 08/09 with 09/10
	Total			Rates and average rates per force (per million)				
	07/08	08/09	09/10	07/08	08/09	09/10		
TKAP police forces areas								
Bedfordshire	146	152	149	1,534	1,597	1,565	2.1%	-2.0%
Essex	353	333	357	1,389	1,310	1,405	1.1%	7.2%
GMP	1,391	1,320	1,304	3,166	3,005	2,968	-6.3%	-1.2%
Hampshire	397	440	410	1,324	1,467	1,367	3.3%	-6.8%
Kent	452	464	402	1,772	1,819	1,576	-11.1%	-13.4%
Lancashire	636	662	618	2,678	2,788	2,602	-2.8%	-6.6%
Merseyside	1,131	1,027	994	4,830	4,386	4,245	-12.1%	-3.2%
Metropolitan	2,725	2,186	2,592	2,377	1,907	2,261	-4.9%	18.6%
Northumbria	680	817	723	2,946	3,539	3,132	6.3%	-11.5%
Nottinghamshire	392	350	313	2,080	1,857	1,661	-20.2%	-10.6%
South Yorkshire	489	577	494	2,189	2,583	2,211	1.0%	-14.4%
Thames Valley	473	369	352	1,363	1,063	1,014	-25.6%	-4.6%
West Midlands	1,047	1,003	1,069	2,285	2,189	2,333	2.1%	6.6%
West Yorkshire	859	1,038	963	2,188	2,644	2,453	12.1%	-7.2%
Non-TKAP police forces areas								
Avon & Somerset	444	496	452	1,723	1,925	1,754	1.8%	-8.9%
Cambridgeshire	208	197	170	1,669	1,580	1,364	-18.3%	-13.7%
Cheshire	514	428	425	3,439	2,863	2,843	-17.3%	-0.7%
Cleveland	324	301	291	3,401	3,160	3,055	-10.2%	-3.3%
Cumbria	110	139	126	1,577	1,993	1,807	14.5%	-9.4%
Derbyshire	370	325	293	2,465	2,165	1,952	-20.8%	-9.8%
Devon & Cornwall	480	441	480	1,890	1,737	1,890	0.0%	8.8%
Dorset	204	182	186	1,974	1,761	1,800	-8.8%	2.2%
Durham	231	311	287	2,328	3,134	2,892	24.2%	-7.7%
Gloucestershire	141	116	130	1,643	1,352	1,515	-7.8%	12.1%
Hertfordshire	203	141	145	1,295	900	925	-28.6%	2.8%
Humberside	399	316	307	2,741	2,171	2,109	-23.1%	-2.8%
Leicestershire	363	341	339	2,134	2,005	1,993	-6.6%	-0.6%
Lincolnshire	197	175	215	1,917	1,703	2,093	9.1%	22.9%
Norfolk	141	137	113	1,148	1,115	920	-19.9%	-17.5%
North Yorkshire	214	204	171	1,713	1,633	1,369	-20.1%	-16.2%
Northamptonshire	169	193	163	1,628	1,859	1,570	-3.6%	-15.5%
Staffordshire	137	178	176	833	1,083	1,071	28.5%	-1.1%
Suffolk	112	72	108	1,109	713	1,069	-3.6%	50.0%
Surrey	207	169	190	1,319	1,077	1,211	-8.2%	12.4%
Sussex	394	332	348	1,804	1,520	1,593	-11.7%	4.8%
Warwickshire	101	125	115	1,319	1,633	1,502	13.9%	-8.0%
West Mercia	290	288	242	1,707	1,695	1,425	-16.6%	-16.0%
Wiltshire	108	184	192	1,152	1,963	2,048	77.8%	4.3%
All TKAP PFAs	11,171	10,738	10,740	2,294	2,297	2,200	-3.9%	0.0%
All non-TKAP PFAs	6,061	5,791	5,664	1,830	1,781	1,740	-6.6%	-2.2%
All England	17,232	16,529	16,404	2,001	1,971	1,910	-4.8%	-0.8%

Note: Data are presented as Totals and Rates. Rates per population are presented per million persons; Sub-totals are averaged across areas. For example, there were, on average, 2001 assault admissions per police force area across England in 200708.

Data exclude City of London, British Transport Police, and all Welsh police force areas.

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Table I.4 Admissions to English hospital for assault by sharp object among 13- to 24-year-olds

Police force	Admissions for assault						Comparing total for 07/08 with 09/10	Comparing total for 08/09 with 09/10
	Total			Rates and average rates per force (per million)				
	07/08	08/09	09/10	07/08	08/09	09/10		
TKAP police forces areas								
Bedfordshire	13	20	12	137	210	126	-7.7%	-40.0%
Essex	32	40	39	126	157	153	21.9%	-2.5%
GMP	182	167	150	414	380	341	-17.6%	-10.2%
Hampshire	32	36	33	107	120	110	3.1%	-8.3%
Kent	55	26	36	216	102	141	-34.5%	38.5%
Lancashire	62	57	48	261	240	202	-22.6%	-15.8%
Merseyside	149	128	95	636	547	406	-36.2%	-25.8%
Metropolitan	650	493	634	567	430	553	-2.5%	28.6%
Northumbria	86	100	75	373	433	325	-12.8%	-25.0%
Nottinghamshire	38	58	44	202	308	234	15.8%	-24.1%
South Yorkshire	50	68	40	224	304	179	-20.0%	-41.2%
Thames Valley	52	51	50	150	147	144	-3.8%	-2.0%
West Midlands	179	145	145	391	316	316	-19.0%	0.0%
West Yorkshire	94	111	99	239	283	252	5.3%	-10.8%
Non-TKAP police forces areas								
Avon & Somerset	50	50	37	194	194	144	-26.0%	-26.0%
Cambridgeshire	24	20	19	193	160	152	-20.8%	-5.0%
Cheshire	39	44	26	261	294	174	-33.3%	-40.9%
Cleveland	35	39	22	367	409	231	-37.1%	-43.6%
Cumbria	9	10	*	129	143	*	*	*
Derbyshire	32	18	18	213	120	120	-43.8%	0.0%
Devon & Cornwall	29	26	34	114	102	134	17.2%	30.8%
Dorset	9	13	*	87	126	*	*	*
Durham	28	31	23	282	312	232	-17.9%	-25.8%
Gloucestershire	6	9	8	70	105	93	33.3%	-11.1%
Hertfordshire	18	13	11	115	83	70	-38.9%	-15.4%
Humberside	34	21	25	234	144	172	-26.5%	19.0%
Leicestershire	34	38	32	200	223	188	-5.9%	-15.8%
Lincolnshire	8	15	10	78	146	97	25.0%	-33.3%
Norfolk	15	8	11	122	65	90	-26.7%	37.5%
North Yorkshire	15	12	10	120	96	80	-33.3%	-16.7%
Northamptonshire	15	21	11	144	202	106	-26.7%	-47.6%
Staffordshire	12	19	12	73	116	73	0.0%	-36.8%
Suffolk	16	*	18	158	*	178	12.5%	*
Surrey	9	16	13	57	102	83	44.4%	-18.8%
Sussex	40	37	17	183	169	78	-57.5%	-54.1%
Warwickshire	7	17	10	91	222	131	42.9%	-41.2%
West Mercia	20	19	13	118	112	77	-35.0%	-31.6%
Wiltshire	10	*	15	107	*	160	50.0%	*
All TKAP PFAs	1,674	1,500	1,500	289	284	249	-10.4%	0.0%
All non-TKAP PFAs	514	507	407	155	157	125	-20.8%	-19.7%
All England	2,188	2,007	1,907	204	204	171	-12.8%	-5.0%

Note: Data are presented as Totals per police force area and Rates. Rates per population are presented per million persons; Sub-totals are averaged across areas. For example, there were, on average, 204 sharp object assault admissions per police force area across England in 200708.

* Frequency counts of five and below are excluded in accordance with HES regulations regarding data anonymity; where counts are removed, the second smallest data point is also excluded so that missing values cannot be computed by subtraction.

Data exclude City of London, British Transport Police, and all Welsh police force areas.

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Table I.5 Difference-in-difference estimates: average assault admission and sharp object assault admission rates per force for TKAP and non-TKAP areas

	Average assault rates per police force, per million population			Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2007/08 compared with 2009/10	2008/09 compared with 2009/10
Assault admissions					
Non-TKAP	1,830 (s.d. 663)	1,781 (s.d. 627)	1,740 (s.d. 583)	-90	-40
TKAP Phase II areas	2,294 (s.d. 933)	2,297 (s.d. 924)	2,200 (s.d. 864)	-95	-97
Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	+464	+516	+459	DiD estimate: -5 logs: 0.00 (std.error = 0.17)	DiD estimate: -57 logs: -0.03 (std. error = 0.17)
Assault by sharp object					
Non-TKAP	155 (s.d. 77)	157 (s.d. 87)	125 (s.d. 51)	-30	-32
TKAP Phase II areas	289 (s.d. 165)	284 (s.d. 132)	249 (s.d. 127)	-40	-35
Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	+134	+127	+124	DiD estimate: -10 logs: 0.06 (std.error=0.23)	DiD estimate: -4 logs:0.04 (std. error=0.23)

Note: Data exclude City of London, British Transport Police, and all Welsh police force areas.

This regression analysis was repeated using a fixed effects regression model, containing one dummy variable for each police force. This formulation takes into account area-specific effects which the simpler model fails to capture. The results are not shown but also led to the same conclusion.

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Table 1.6 Difference-in-difference estimates: average assault admission and sharp object assault admission rates per force for ‘trimmed’TKAP and ‘trimmed’ non-TKAP areas

	Average assault rates per police force, per million population			Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2007/08 compared with 2009/10	2008/09 compared with 2009/10
Assault admissions					
Non-TKAP	2,244 (s.d.652)	2,151 (s.d. 584)	2,037 (s.d. 586)	-207	-114
TKAP Phase II areas	1,664 (s.d. 356)	1,671 (s.d. 489)	1,543 (s.d. 363)	-121	-128
Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	-580	-480	-494	DiD estimate: +86 logs: +0.02 (std.error = 0.17)	DiD estimate: -14 logs: -0.01 (std. error = 0.18)
Assault by sharp object					
Non-TKAP	209 (s.d. 72)	204 (s.d. 93)	151 (s.d. 52)	-58	-53
TKAP Phase II areas	166 (s.d. 47)	193 (s.d. 85)	155 (s.d. 41)	-11	-38
Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	-43	-11	+4	DiD estimate: +47 logs: +0.28 (std.error = 0.22)	DiD estimate: +15 logs: +0.11 (std. error = 0.26)

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Table 1.7 BCS estimated rates of violence with injury per 10,000 adults in the TKAP and non-TKAP areas

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	Significant change 2002/03 to 2009/10	Significant change 2007/08 to 2008/09	Significant change 2007/08 to 2009/10	Significant change 2008/09 to 2009/10
Rates of violence with injury per 10,000 adults aged 16 to 24												
Non-TKAP	1,101	1,042	991	1,201	1,093	738	1,014	891				
Unweighted base	1,559	1,655	2,023	2,154	2,179	2,146	2,120	1,914				
TKAP	1,057	958	915	774	879	792	626	763				
Unweighted base	1,507	1,555	1,686	1,725	1,709	1,816	1,730	1,752				
Significant difference between TKAP and non-TKAP areas				**			**					
Rates of violence with injury per 10,000 adults aged 25 and over												
Non-TKAP	207	195	179	160	177	152	170	149	**			
Unweighted base	18,101	19,037	24,421	25,993	25,596	25,447	25,042	23,977				
TKAP	236	223	215	187	183	149	150	130	**			
Unweighted base	15,283	15,644	16,939	17,857	17,654	17,494	17,328	16,916				
Significant difference between TKAP and non-TKAP areas												

Source: British Crime Survey.

Note: ** indicates that the difference is statistically significant (p<0.05)

Table 1.8 Proportion of BCS respondents perceiving that the number of crimes have “gone up a lot” or “gone up a little” in the past few years in 2008/09 and 2009/10

	TKAP Phase II areas			Non-TKAP areas			Significant difference between TKAP and non-TKAP areas in 2009/10
	Significant difference between 2008/09 and 2009/10		2008/09	Significant difference between 2008/09 and 2009/10		2009/10	
	2008/09	2009/10		2008/09	2009/10		
All ages							
Gun crimes in the country as a whole	86	80	87	82	**	82	**
Gun crimes in your local area	21	18	8	7			**
Knife crimes in the country as a whole	93	90	95	91	**	91	**
Knife crimes in your local area	35	32	22	20	**	20	**
Muggings or street robberies in the country as a whole	78	75	81	78	**	78	**
Muggings or street robberies in your local area	33	29	25	21	**	21	**
People getting beaten up in the country as a whole	82	80	86	82	**	82	**
People getting beaten up in your local area	37	33	32	28	**	28	**
<i>Unweighted base</i>	6,152	5,073	8,946	7,013			
16 to 24 year olds							
Gun crimes in the country as a whole	80	72	82	77	**	77	
Gun crimes in your local area	19	15	6	7			**
Knife crimes in the country as a whole	89	84	91	87	**	87	
Knife crimes in your local area	37	34	26	21	**	21	**
Muggings or street robberies in the country as a whole	72	76	76	73		73	
Muggings or street robberies in your local area	31	34	27	19	**	19	**
People getting beaten up in the country as a whole	81	79	84	81		81	
People getting beaten up in your local area	44	38	40	33	**	33	
<i>Unweighted base</i>	562	460	687	500			
25 and over							
Gun crimes in the country as a whole	87	81	88	83	**	83	
Gun crimes in your local area	22	18	9	7	**	7	**
Knife crimes in the country as a whole	93	90	95	92	**	92	**
Knife crimes in your local area	35	31	21	20	**	20	**
Muggings or street robberies in the country as a whole	79	75	81	79	**	79	**
Muggings or street robberies in your local area	33	28	24	21	**	21	**
People getting beaten up in the country as a whole	82	80	86	82	**	82	**
People getting beaten up in your local area	35	33	30	28	**	28	**
<i>Unweighted base</i>	5,590	4,613	8,259	6,513			

Source: British Crime Survey.

Note: ** indicates that the difference is statistically significant (p<0.05).

Table 1.9 Difference-in-difference estimates: average offence rates for possession of a knife or other offensive weapon and for possession of an article with a blade or point

	Average no. recorded offences per force (rate per 10,000 population)			Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2007/08 compared with 2009/10	2008/09 compared with 2009/10
Offences for possession of a knife or other offensive weapon					
Non-TKAP	4.53	4.37	3.46	-1.08	-0.91
TKAP Phase II areas	6.70	6.41	5.11	-1.58	-1.29
Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	+2.16	+2.04	+1.65	DiD estimate: -0.51 <i>logs: 0.0</i> (<i>std.error = 0.14</i>)	DiD estimate: -0.38 <i>logs: 0.02</i> (<i>std. error = 0.13</i>)
Offences for possession of an article with a blade or point					
Non-TKAP	-	1.90	1.52	-	-0.38
TKAP Phase II areas	-	3.04	2.38	-	-0.65
Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	-	+1.14	+0.86	-	DiD estimate: -0.28 <i>logs: -0.02</i> (<i>std. error = 0.16</i>)

Note: BTP and City of London are excluded from these analyses.

Each regression analysis was then repeated using a fixed effects regression model, containing one dummy variable for each police force. The advantage of this formulation is that it is able to take into account area-specific effects which the simpler model fails to capture. The results are not shown but also led to the same conclusion.

Table 1.10 Difference-in-difference estimates: average MSV, all violence, and personal robbery offence rates and sharp instrument offence rates

	Average offence rates per police force, per 10,000 population			Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2007/08 compared with 2009/10	2008/09 compared with 2009/10
Most Serious Violence (MSV) offences					
Non-TKAP	-	4.98 (s.d. 1.9)	5.13 (s.d. 2.1)	-	+0.15
TKAP Phase II areas	-	8.02 (s.d. 3.4)	8.12 (s.d. 3.1)	-	+0.09
Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	-	+3.04	+2.98	-	DiD estimate: -0.06 logs: +0.00 (std. error = 0.20)
MSV offences involving knives/sharp instruments					
Non-TKAP	-	0.95 (s.d. 0.4)	0.83 (s.d. 0.4)	-	-0.12
TKAP Phase II areas	-	1.78 (s.d. 0.9)	1.71 (s.d. 0.9)	-	-0.07
Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	-	+0.83	+0.88	-	DiD estimate: +0.05 logs: +0.11 (std. error = 0.21)
All violence offences					
Non-TKAP	70.92 (s.d. 18.7)	65.05 (s.d. 17.1)	63.47 (s.d. 16.6)	-7.45	-1.58
TKAP Phase II areas	90.10 (s.d. 21.4)	85.29 (s.d. 20.8)	79.16 (s.d. 17.7)	-10.94	-6.13
Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	+19.18	+20.25	+15.69	DiD estimate: -3.49 logs: -0.02 (std. error = 0.12)	DiD estimate: -4.56 logs: -0.05 (std. error = 0.12)
All violence offences involving knives/sharp instruments					
Non-TKAP	-	1.94 (s.d. 0.8)	1.70 (s.d. 0.7)	-	-0.24
TKAP Phase II areas	-	3.52 (s.d. 1.4)	3.18 (s.d. 1.4)	-	-0.33
Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	-	+1.58	+1.48	-	DiD estimate: -0.10 logs: +0.04 (std. error = 0.21)
Personal Robbery offences					
Non-TKAP	4.94 (s.d. 3.1)	4.95 (s.d. 3.2)	4.40 (s.d. 2.8)	-0.54	-0.55
TKAP Phase II areas	13.81 (s.d. 10.9)	13.12 (s.d. 9.8)	11.79 (s.d. 9.8)	-2.02	-1.33
Differences and difference-in-difference estimates	+8.87	+8.17	+7.39	DiD est: -1.48 logs: -0.05 (std. error = 0.33)	DiD est: -0.77 logs: -0.03 (std. error = 0.33)

Note: analyses exclude BTP and City of London; Data are not available on personal robbery offences that involve knives/sharp instruments.

Each regression analysis was repeated using a fixed effects regression model, containing one dummy variable for each police force. The advantage of this formulation is that it is able to take into account area-specific effects which the simpler model fails to capture. The results are not shown but also led to the same conclusion.

Table 1.11 TKAP Monitoring data: attempted murder offences in the TKAP areas

TKAP monitoring data Attempted murder	Aged 13 to 24						Other ages			
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	Difference		2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	Difference	
				Comparing 07/08* with 09/10	Comparing 08/09 with 09/10				Comparing 07/08* with 09/10	Comparing 08/09 with 09/10
Bedfordshire	0	2	6	6	4	7	1	4	-3	3
BTP	2	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
Essex	1	6	7	6	1	13	12	16	3	4
Gtr. Manchester	43	29	23	-20	-6	44	43	40	-4	-3
Hampshire	-	4	3	-	-1	-	6	5	-	-1
Kent	5	7	3	-2	-4	9	6	13	4	7
Lancashire	6	4	2	-4	-2	11	12	4	-7	-8
Merseyside	11	12	7	-4	-5	14	7	14	0	7
Metropolitan	40	25	54	14	29	96	59	86	-10	27
Northumbria	0	1	0	0	-1	5	3	2	-3	-1
Nottinghamshire	4	3	2	-2	-1	8	3	8	0	5
South Wales	0	4	1	1	-3	4	8	6	2	-2
South Yorkshire	5	8	8	3	0	9	6	14	5	8
Thames Valley	17	5	2	-15	-3	19	14	10	-9	-4
West Midlands	19	28	17	-2	-11	30	41	48	18	7
15 TKAP forces	153	139	137	-19	-2	269	222	271	-3	49

Notes: Offences involving victims of unknown age are excluded from these analyses. West Yorkshire police did not permit publication of their TKAP monitoring data. *Hampshire did not provide 07/08 data and are excluded from analyses comparing 09/10 and 07/08.

Table 1.12 TKAP Monitoring data: sharp instrument attempted murder offences in the TKAP areas

TKAP monitoring data Attempted murder	Aged 13 to 24						Other ages			
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	Difference		2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	Difference	
				Comparing 07/08* with 09/10	Comparing 08/09 with 09/10				Comparing 07/08* with 09/10	Comparing 08/09 with 09/10
Bedfordshire	0	1	2	2	1	4	1	0	-4	-1
BTP	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Essex	1	4	6	5	2	5	8	11	6	3
Gtr. Manchester	8	9	8	0	-1	9	16	19	10	3
Hampshire	-	1	2	-	1	-	3	3	-	0
Kent	3	6	0	-3	-6	7	4	4	-3	0
Lancashire	2	3	2	0	-1	7	7	2	-5	-5
Merseyside	-	4	1	-	-3	-	2	2	-	0
Metropolitan	28	12	39	11	27	41	39	36	-5	-3
Northumbria	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	-1	-2
Nottinghamshire	2	3	0	-2	-3	1	2	2	1	0
South Wales	0	2	0	0	-2	1	2	4	3	2
South Yorkshire	1	3	0	-1	-3	5	3	5	0	2
Thames Valley	5	4	1	-4	-3	11	4	3	-8	-1
West Midlands	2	5	6	4	1	12	16	16	4	0
15 TKAP forces	52	58	68	13	10	104	109	107	-2	-2

Notes: Offences involving victims of unknown age are excluded from these analyses. West Yorkshire police did not permit publication of their TKAP monitoring data.

*Hampshire and Merseyside did not provide 07/08 data on sharp instrument offences and are excluded from analyses comparing 09/10 and 07/08.

Table I.13 TKAP Monitoring data ‘Most Serious Violence’ offences in the TKAP areas

TKAP monitoring data Most Serious Violence	Aged 13 to 24			Other ages		
	2008/09	2009/10	%Change comparing 2008/09 with 2009/10	2008/09	2009/10	%Change comparing 2008/09 with 2009/10
Bedfordshire	129	169	31.0%	151	229	51.7%
BTP	57	54	-5.3%	77	73	-5.2%
Essex	312	374	19.9%	425	472	11.1%
Gtr. Manchester	1,140	1,000	-12.3%	1,618	1,483	-8.3%
Hampshire	379	357	-5.8%	523	488	-6.7%
Kent	405	293	-27.7%	514	363	-29.4%
Lancashire	570	469	-17.7%	682	670	-1.8%
Merseyside	590	472	-20.0%	857	770	-10.2%
Metropolitan	5,083	4,964	-2.3%	7,421	6,797	-8.4%
Northumbria	284	329	15.8%	370	477	28.9%
Nottinghamshire	248	358	44.4%	406	455	12.1%
South Wales	351	533	51.9%	583	759	30.2%
South Yorkshire	493	580	17.6%	667	776	16.3%
Thames Valley	281	299	6.4%	409	446	9.0%
West Midlands	1,439	1,249	-13.2%	1,847	1,712	-7.3%
15 TKAP forces	11,761	11,500	-2.2%	16,550	15,970	-3.5%

Notes: Offences involving victims of unknown age are excluded from these analyses. West Yorkshire police did not permit publication of their TKAP monitoring data.

Table I.14 TKAP Monitoring data: sharp instrument of ‘Most Serious Violence’ offences in the TKAP areas

TKAP monitoring data Most Serious Violence	Aged 13 to 24			Other ages		
	2008/09	2009/10	%Change comparing 2008/09 with 2009/10	2008/09	2009/10	%Change comparing 2008/09 with 2009/10
Bedfordshire	36	32	-11.1%	38	50	31.6%
BTP	8	9	12.5%	9	4	-55.6%
Essex	63	86	36.5%	109	113	3.7%
Gtr. Manchester	250	245	-2.0%	373	322	-13.7%
Hampshire	50	60	20.0%	93	79	-15.1%
Kent	100	73	-27.0%	134	77	-42.5%
Lancashire	128	87	-32.0%	162	151	-6.8%
Merseyside	122	99	-18.9%	177	166	-6.2%
Metropolitan	1,449	1,633	12.7%	1,676	1,608	-4.1%
Northumbria	48	46	-4.2%	73	87	19.2%
Nottinghamshire	77	83	7.8%	91	79	-13.2%
South Wales	68	60	-11.8%	116	137	18.1%
South Yorkshire	86	84	-2.3%	138	103	-25.4%
Thames Valley	69	74	7.2%	96	122	27.1%
West Midlands	401	344	-14.2%	473	447	-5.5%
15 TKAP forces	2,955	3,015	2.0%	3,758	3,545	-5.7%

Notes: Offences involving victims of unknown age are excluded from these analyses. West Yorkshire police did not permit publication of their TKAP monitoring data.

Table 1.15 TKAP Monitoring data: 'All Violence' offences in the TKAP areas

TKAP monitoring data All Violence	Aged 13 to 24						Other ages					
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% Change comparing 07/08* with 09/10	% Change comparing 08/09 with 09/10		2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% Change comparing 07/08* with 09/10	% Change comparing 08/09 with 09/10	
Bedfordshire	1,746	1,676	1,719	-1.5%	2.6%		2,469	2,279	2,347	-4.9%	3.0%	
BTP	956	901	770	-19.5%	-14.5%		1,270	1,330	1,239	-2.4%	-6.8%	
Essex	4,527	3,782	3,809	-15.9%	0.7%		5,596	5,265	5,167	-7.7%	-1.9%	
Gtr. Manchester	9,063	8,590	7,610	-16.0%	-11.4%		13,180	12,181	11,358	-13.8%	-6.8%	
Hampshire	-	6,468	6,165	-	-4.7%		-	7,906	7,792	-	-1.4%	
Kent	5,417	5,164	4,746	-12.4%	-8.1%		6,894	6,564	5,885	-14.6%	-10.3%	
Lancashire	5,458	5,036	4,435	-18.7%	-11.9%		7,556	6,482	5,894	-22.0%	-9.1%	
Merseyside	3,973	3,302	2,763	-30.5%	-16.3%		5,505	4,689	4,300	-21.9%	-8.3%	
Metropolitan	26,596	25,473	25,421	-4.4%	-0.2%		46,963	46,777	46,052	-1.9%	-1.5%	
Northumbria	4,397	4,091	3,664	-16.7%	-10.4%		5,403	5,270	4,593	-15.0%	-12.8%	
Nottinghamshire	4,354	4,788	4,553	4.6%	-4.9%		6,561	6,937	6,921	5.5%	-0.2%	
South Wales	3,480	3,272	3,768	8.3%	15.2%		6,580	5,236	5,307	-19.3%	1.4%	
South Yorkshire	6,132	5,154	4,320	-29.5%	-16.2%		7,858	7,035	5,894	-25.0%	-16.2%	
Thames Valley	5,717	5,767	5,707	-0.2%	-1.0%		7,981	8,207	8,173	2.4%	-0.4%	
West Midlands	13,400	11,877	10,893	-18.7%	-8.3%		18,671	16,151	15,225	-18.5%	-5.7%	
15 TKAP forces	95,216	95,341	90,343	-11.6%	-5.2%		142,487	142,309	136,147	-9.9%	-4.3%	

Notes: Offences involving victims of unknown age are excluded from these analyses. West Yorkshire police did not permit publication of their TKAP monitoring data.

*Hampshire did not provide 07/08 data and are excluded from analyses comparing 09/10 and 07/08.

Table 1.16 TKAP Monitoring data: sharp instrument 'All Violence' offences in the TKAP

TKAP monitoring data All Violence	Aged 13 to 24						Other ages				
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% Change comparing 07/08* with 09/10	% Change comparing 08/09 with 09/10		2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% Change comparing 07/08* with 09/10	% Change comparing 08/09 with 09/10
Bedfordshire	62	83	80	29.0%	-3.6%		93	114	122	31.2%	7.0%
BTP	33	28	27	-18.2%	-3.6%		13	38	34	161.5%	-10.5%
Essex	157	128	153	-2.5%	19.5%		232	218	210	-9.5%	-3.7%
Gtr. Manchester	400	420	398	-0.5%	-5.2%		606	674	570	-5.9%	-15.4%
Hampshire	-	129	142	-	10.1%		-	220	202	-	-8.2%
Kent	337	293	202	-40.1%	-31.1%		393	337	191	-51.4%	-43.3%
Lancashire	197	213	156	-20.8%	-26.8%		281	293	259	-7.8%	-11.6%
Merseyside	-	170	140	-	-17.6%		-	255	245	-	-3.9%
Metropolitan	2,495	2,062	2,245	-10.0%	8.9%		3,173	2,831	2,748	-13.4%	-2.9%
Northumbria	112	101	91	-18.8%	-9.9%		196	175	161	-17.9%	-8.0%
Nottinghamshire	126	171	137	8.7%	-19.9%		183	215	169	-7.7%	-21.4%
South Wales	108	101	92	-14.8%	-8.9%		186	226	178	-4.3%	-21.2%
South Yorkshire	106	150	126	18.9%	-16.0%		162	227	171	5.6%	-24.7%
Thames Valley	173	230	247	42.8%	7.4%		289	344	380	31.5%	10.5%
West Midlands	866	770	683	-21.1%	-11.3%		1,101	957	903	-18.0%	-5.6%
15 TKAP forces	5,172	5,049	4,919	-10.3%	-2.6%		6,908	7,124	6,543	-11.8%	-8.2%

Notes: Offences involving victims of unknown age are excluded from these analyses. West Yorkshire police did not permit publication of their TKAP monitoring data.

*Hampshire and Merseyside did not provide 07/08 data on sharp instrument offences and are excluded from analyses comparing 09/10 and 07/08.

Table 1.17 TKAP Monitoring data: personal robbery offences in the TKAP areas

TKAP monitoring data	Aged 13 to 24						Other ages					
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% Change comparing 07/08* with 09/10	% Change comparing 08/09 with 09/10		2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% Change comparing 07/08* with 09/10	% Change comparing 08/09 with 09/10	
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% Change comparing 07/08* with 09/10	% Change comparing 08/09 with 09/10		2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% Change comparing 07/08* with 09/10	% Change comparing 08/09 with 09/10	
Personal robbery	709	529	393	-44.6%	-25.7%		393	396	253	-35.6%	-36.1%	
Bedfordshire	694	563	431	-37.9%	-23.4%		279	272	203	-27.2%	-25.4%	
BTP	592	625	478	-19.3%	-23.5%		499	475	405	-18.8%	-14.7%	
Essex	3,209	2,941	2,438	-24.0%	-17.1%		2,865	2,682	2,450	-14.5%	-8.7%	
Gtr. Manchester	-	584	551	-	-5.7%		-	450	432	-	-4.0%	
Hampshire	551	452	387	-29.8%	-14.4%		438	406	329	-24.9%	-19.0%	
Kent	432	348	289	-33.1%	-17.0%		411	381	315	-23.4%	-17.3%	
Lancashire	573	533	516	-9.9%	-3.2%		637	701	671	5.3%	-4.3%	
Merseyside	19,089	15,176	15,706	-17.7%	3.5%		15,217	14,755	15,225	0.1%	3.2%	
Metropolitan	316	268	237	-25.0%	-11.6%		283	264	213	-24.7%	-19.3%	
Northumbria	1,052	1,112	944	-10.3%	-15.1%		798	932	759	-4.9%	-18.6%	
Nottinghamshire	349	316	262	-24.9%	-17.1%		393	299	271	-31.0%	-9.4%	
South Wales	638	574	539	-15.5%	-6.1%		476	463	370	-22.3%	-20.1%	
South Yorkshire	1,087	1,193	1,201	10.5%	0.7%		766	863	796	3.9%	-7.8%	
Thames Valley	4,030	3,989	3,590	-10.9%	-10.0%		2,936	3,051	2,941	0.2%	-3.6%	
West Midlands	33,321	29,203	27,962	-17.7%	-4.2%		26,391	26,390	25,633	-4.5%	-2.9%	

Notes: Offences involving victims of unknown age are excluded from these analyses. West Yorkshire police did not permit publication of their TKAP monitoring data.

*Hampshire did not provide 07/08 data and are excluded from analyses comparing 09/10 and 07/08.

Table 1.18 TKAP Monitoring data: sharp instrument personal robbery offences in the TKAP areas

TKAP monitoring data	Aged 13 to 24						Other ages					
	2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10	
		% Change comparing 07/08* with 09/10		% Change comparing 08/09 with 09/10		% Change comparing 07/08* with 09/10		% Change comparing 08/09 with 09/10		% Change comparing 07/08* with 09/10		% Change comparing 08/09 with 09/10
Personal robbery	104	-29.8%	123	-40.7%	73	68	77	62	77	62	62	-19.5%
Bedfordshire	187	-41.7%	152	-28.3%	109	49	56	44	56	44	44	-21.4%
BTP	122	-16.4%	140	-27.1%	102	105	120	117	120	117	117	-2.5%
Essex	557	-27.8%	569	-29.3%	402	507	481	435	481	435	435	-9.6%
Gtr. Manchester	-	-	79	-11.4%	70	-	49	50	49	50	50	2.0%
Hampshire	105	-30.5%	77	-5.2%	73	60	65	45	65	45	45	-30.8%
Kent	90	-23.3%	70	-1.4%	69	67	98	69	98	69	69	-29.6%
Lancashire	-	-	115	-6.1%	108	-	165	147	165	147	147	-10.9%
Merseyside	4,536	-15.3%	3,504	9.7%	3,844	2,838	2,769	2,822	2,769	2,822	2,822	1.9%
Metropolitan	42	-14.3%	35	2.9%	36	40	32	35	32	35	35	9.4%
Northumbria	206	0.5%	237	-12.7%	207	110	179	151	179	151	151	-15.6%
Nottinghamshire	52	23.1%	99	-35.4%	64	54	73	48	73	48	48	-34.2%
South Wales	106	13.2%	109	10.1%	120	68	95	97	95	97	97	2.1%
South Yorkshire	209	11.5%	237	-1.7%	233	177	197	184	197	184	184	-6.6%
Thames Valley	965	-10.4%	1,059	-18.3%	865	532	572	508	572	508	508	-11.2%
West Midlands	7,281	-14.9%	6,605	-3.5%	6,375	4,675	5,028	4,814	5,028	4,814	4,814	-4.3%
15 TKAP forces												

Notes: Offences involving victims of unknown age are excluded from these analyses. West Yorkshire police did not permit publication of their TKAP monitoring data. *Hampshire and Merseyside did not provide 07/08 data on sharp instrument offences and are excluded from analyses comparing 09/10 and 07/08.

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