

YEAR 8 GEOGRAPHY - CRIME

1. KEY VOCABULARY		2. GEOGRAPHY OF CRIME	
Crime	An offence punishable by law	<p>Geographers study crime to find hotspots where crimes are likely to occur. The information is used to plan safer living spaces and to prevent international crimes such as drug trafficking and piracy. Geography is important when studying crime because when a crime happens it always has a location, a time and a reason. Understanding the patterns behind this helps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to see where crimes are most likely to be committed • to combat crime • to design areas to be more crime-proof <p>Crime can happen on an international scale as well as national or local. Heroin trafficking and piracy are two examples of international crime.</p>	
Crime Hotspot	An area with a higher amount of crime compare to other places nearby		
Law	system of rules which a particular country or community recognises as regulating the actions of its members .		
Victim	a person harmed, injured, or killed as a result of a crime, accident, or other event or action	3. LOCATION OF CRIME	
Cyber Crime	Criminal activities carried out by means of computers or the internet.	<p>The location of a crime is important. There are several factors that can increase the rate of crime in an area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large centre of population means there is a greater opportunity to commit a crime. • Good road and transport links allow criminals to move around more easily. <p>Public space where there is no sense of ownership. In a private space it is easy to spot who is out of place or not there for a valid reason.</p>	
Sentence	punishment that was actually ordered or could be ordered by a trial court in a criminal procedure	4. TRENDS OF CRIME AND REASONS WHY	
Assault	Make a physical attack on someone.	<p>By looking at the prison population in England and Wales some trends can be seen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • men make up 95 per cent of those convicted of crime, and sentenced • men aged 20 or under make up approximately ten per cent of the prison population • over ten per cent of the UK prison population are foreign nationals • before being sent to prison, nearly three quarters of criminals were receiving financial help (benefits) from the government <p>Reasons for people committing crime include poverty and unemployment. That is why many schemes to help areas with high crime rates involve training people to give them work-based skills.</p>	
Fraud	Wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain.		

5. MAPPING CRIME

Mapping crime shows where crimes were committed but that does not tell the full story. It is important to understand how crime affects services in the area and communities.

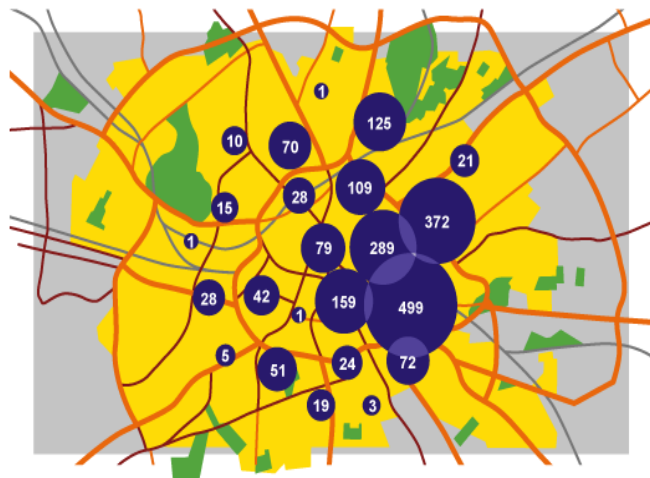
Some ways that crime affects local services:

- The National Health Service has to treat people who have suffered physically from crime.

The local council has to review the safety of areas and has to carry out **cost/benefit analyses** on whether to improve an area, eg adding street lighting or CCTV.

- The prison service has to house people who are jailed because of crime.

Shopkeepers and retailers may not stock certain items because of the fear of shoplifting or other related crimes.



Key
 Number of anti-social crimes committed

6. DESIGNING OUT CRIME

- **Designing areas** and houses to make it more difficult for crimes to be committed
- **adding warnings** and alarms so that people are more aware of when crimes are being committed
- **tracking goods** and people after a crime has been committed

Methods used when designing out crime in housing estates are:

- Cul-de-sacs - to make it easy to notice someone who is not supposed to be there.
- Open spaces in public areas and footpaths - to allow everyone to keep an eye on suspicious behaviour. It is better to avoid having covered areas such as underpasses.

Building houses looking out over the public areas - to increase the amount of **defensible space**. **Target hardening** of existing buildings and areas is another way to help reduce crime. This means that someone might add locks to their windows. A building might have high fences built around it, warning signs added or CCTV installed.

7. INTERNATIONAL CRIME

Land— Due to globalisation, international trade has increased. Some of this increase in trade is illegal. One type of illegal international trade on land is the drug trade.

Seas— When a person or group of people attack and rob a ship, this is called **piracy**. Often the ship's crew are held **hostage** for a **ransom**. Pirates may base themselves on a **mothership**, usually acquired by pirate activity, which is large enough to carry fuel and weapons. They then try and board large cargo ships using small vessels. The ships they board usually have valuable goods on them, such as oil.

Areas where piracy is common include the waters around:

- The Horn of Africa, Indonesia and Central America

