



Home Office

Crime and Policing Analysis Unit  
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[www.gov.uk/home-office](http://www.gov.uk/home-office)

**Our Ref: FOI 56511  
December 2019**

Dear Jim Johnson,

Thank you for your email of 15 November 2019, in which you ask for information regarding:

1. Whether the Home Office still collects data relating to domestic abuse by sexual orientation
2. Statistics relating to domestic abuse by sexual orientation from the year 2010 onwards
3. Meeting minutes, email correspondence or any other documentation explaining or relating to the decision to stop publishing statistics relating to domestic abuse by sexual orientation in the 2011 edition and subsequent reports and in other publications by the Home Office

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The information you refer to is based on estimates from the Crime Survey of England and Wales (CSEW; previously known as the British Crime Survey). Questions on sexual orientation were added to the survey in April 2007. As the 2008/09 report you reference states, due to the relatively small number of respondents to the survey who identified themselves as being gay, lesbian or bisexual, data from two survey years (2007/08 and 2008/09) were combined to yield sufficient numbers for the purposes of the analysis contained in Table 3.07.

We have carried out a thorough search and we have established that the Home Office does not hold any information on the decision making process relating to the publication of domestic abuse statistics by sexual orientation. However, I believe the analysis was not repeated the following year as the intention was to repeat every two years due to the need to combine survey years for analysis.

Responsibility for the CSEW and publication of crime statistics for England and Wales was transferred from the Home Office to the independent Office for National Statistics (ONS) in April 2012. Decisions on what information is published from the CSEW since this time has been for ONS to make. ONS published figures by sexual orientation in their Domestic Abuse in England and Wales publication last year, which can be found in Tables 8 (for 16 to 59 year olds) and 10 (for 60 to 74 year olds):

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

Data for 2018/19 can be found in Table 6A here:

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

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to [foirequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foirequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk), quoting reference 56511. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request would be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you were to remain dissatisfied after an internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the FOIA.

Yours sincerely

Sam Butler  
Crime and Policing Analysis Unit