

Office of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland:

# *Equality monitoring*

## *Report*

### *2006-2011*

*Published October 2011*

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# Executive Summary

This report presents the findings of five years' data from the Police Ombudsman's Equality Monitoring Survey, which covers all Section 75 categories, as well as employment status and country of birth. Between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2011 there were 16,226 complainants to the Office, of whom 34% returned equality monitoring survey forms.

The survey found that the services of the Office were being taken up by all of the groups monitored. However, there were disproportionately high numbers of young men, ethnic minorities, single, separated, divorced or co-habiting people, people with disabilities, unemployed people, people with dependants and people who supported other political parties outside the five main Northern Ireland parties or did not support any party. There were lower than expected proportions of women, people with no religious beliefs, people born in Northern Ireland and Sinn Fein voters.

Trends have been largely stable.

Allegations of Oppressive Behaviour were more likely to be made by: men generally; young men compared with older men; young women compared with older women; Catholics; people who are single; unemployed people; students; people who are not working due to illness; and people who do not have dependants. Allegations of Failure in Duty were more likely to be made by: women generally; older women compared with younger women; older men compared with younger men; people with religious beliefs other than the main Christian churches; people from EU countries outside the UK and Ireland compared with people from Northern Ireland; divorced people; married people; and people with dependants. Allegations of Incivility were more likely to be made by women generally. Allegations of Discriminatory Behaviour were more likely to be made by people with minority ethnic backgrounds and gay, lesbian or bisexual people.

# Introduction

This report covers The Police Ombudsman Equality Monitoring Survey from 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2011, during which time we recorded 16,226 complaints. The survey questionnaire included the categories of age, gender, marital status, religious belief, race, disability, sexual orientation, employment status, dependants, political opinion and country of birth.

Between April 2006 and March 2011 the Office had received back 5,503 completed questionnaires, representing a sample size of 34% of all complainants. Not all respondents completed all questions, resulting in response rates to each question ranging from 22% for the political opinion question to 34% for the marital status question.

In addition to those respondents who declared their gender on the monitoring form, it was also possible to determine a majority of complainants' genders from their title or salutation, so that there was a total sample of 97% for whom gender was known.

In addition to those who declared their age on the monitoring form, it was also possible to determine complainants' ages from the date of birth that they provided, giving an overall sample of 58% for whom age was known.

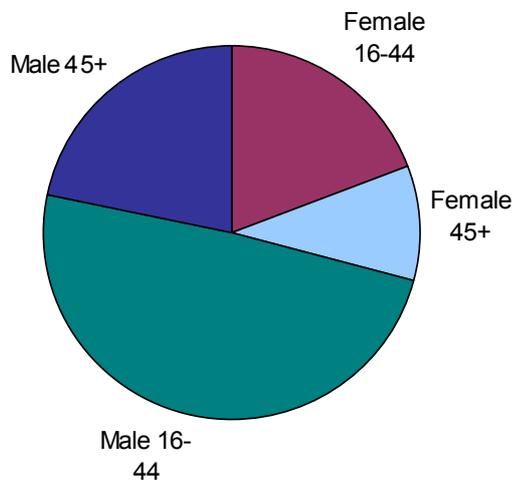
# Survey Findings

## Gender and Age

Seventy percent of complainants were male and thirty percent were female. Some 69% were aged under 45: 23% were aged 16-24; 20% were aged 25-34; and 26% were aged 35-44. Only 4% of the sample was aged over 65.

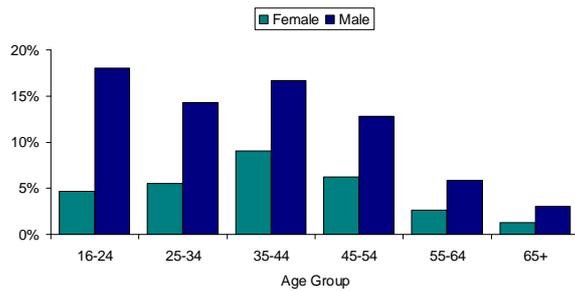
In terms of gender and age combined <sup>1</sup>, almost half of complainants were young men (Figure 1). The largest proportion of females in the sample fell within the 35-44 age range (Figure 2, Table 1).

**Figure 1: Gender and Age Group (1)**



<sup>1</sup> For some complainants only age was known and for others only gender was known, resulting in a slightly different age group distribution within gender, as illustrated in Figures 1 and 2.

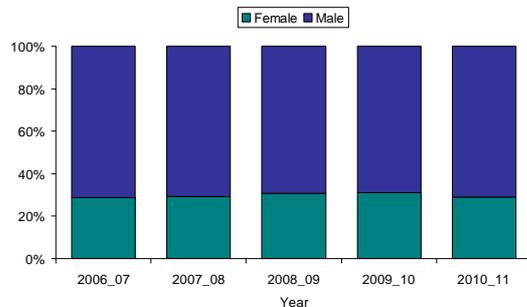
**Figure 2: Gender and Age Group (2)**



**Trends**

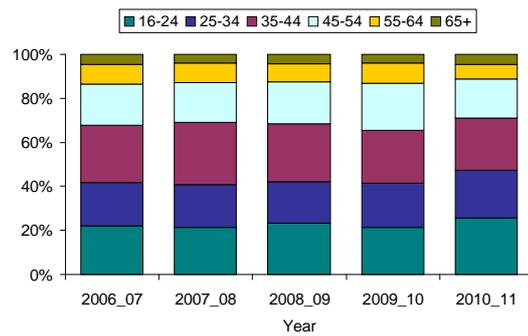
Trends in the gender of complainants have remained stable over the past five years (Figure 3, Table 2).

**Figure 3: Annual Trends, Gender**



The proportions of complainants within each age group have remained relatively stable over the past five years (Figure 4, Table 3). However, between 2006/07 and 2009/10, the 35-44 age group consistently made up the largest proportion of complainants, but in 2010/11 the 16-24 age group comprised the largest proportion.

**Figure 4: Annual Trends, Age Group**



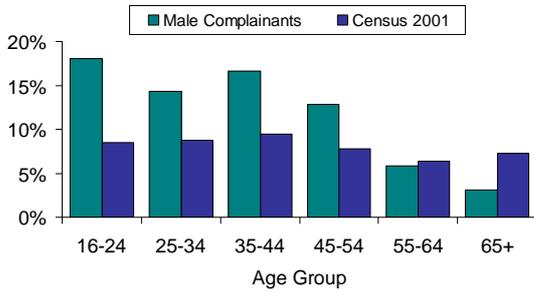
**Comparison to NI Population**

Compared to the population generally<sup>2</sup>, males, and young men in particular, are over-represented among complainants (Figure 5, Table 4). Males make up 71% of complainants compared with 48% of the population. Whilst cumulatively males aged between 16 and 45 make up just over a quarter of the population, they comprise almost half of complainants. Within the age bands presented the biggest differential is for 16-24 year-old males. There is some research evidence to suggest that young men may be more likely to come into contact with the police and, because of the nature of the contact, to also be more likely to experience inappropriate police behaviour<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, Northern Ireland Census 2001, Key Statistics

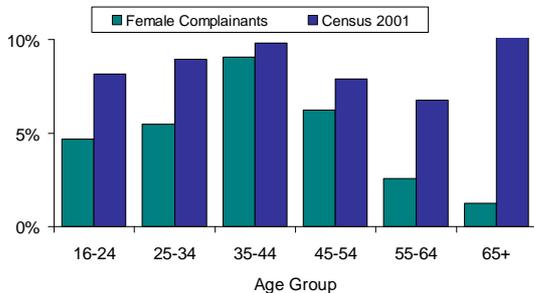
<sup>3</sup> Improving Engagement: Building Trust in Policing with Young People; Shared Space No. 11 March 2011, Community Relations Council

**Figure 5: Age Group, Male Complainants and Census**



Females are generally under-represented within the complainant profile, comprising 52% of the population compared with 29% of complainants (Figure 6, Table 5). The greatest differential is for women aged 65 and over.

**Figure 6: Age Group, Female Complainants and Census**



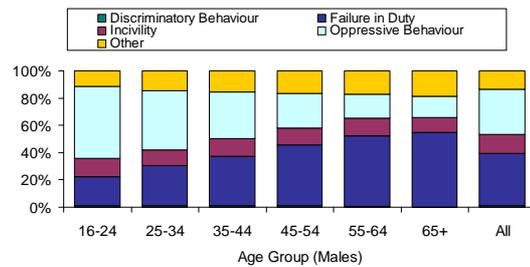
**Allegations**

Male complainants were generally more likely to make allegations of Oppressive Behaviour than their female counterparts, whilst female complainants were more likely than male complainants to make allegations of Failure in Duty or Incivility.

There were differences in the types of allegation made against police officers by men and women of different age groups

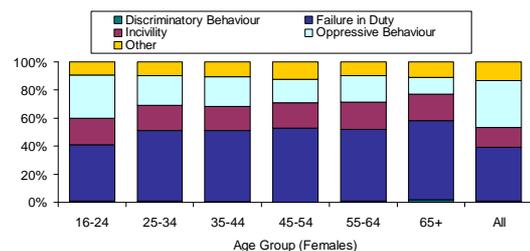
(Figures 7 and 8, Table 6). Oppressive behaviour accounted for the greatest proportion of allegations made by 16-24 year-old males and 25-34 year-old males and the likelihood of making Oppressive Behaviour allegations decreases with age. The likelihood of males to allege Failure in Duty increases with age. Males aged 35-44 were just as likely to allege Failure in Duty as they were to allege Oppressive Behaviour.

**Figure 7: Allegations by Age Group (Males)**



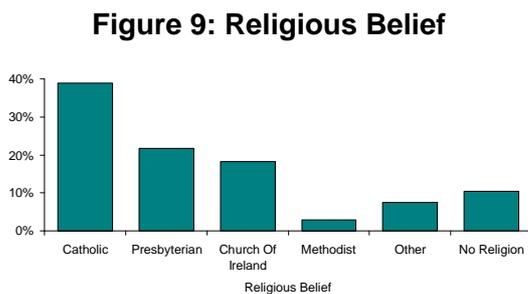
For females across all age bands, the greatest proportions of allegations were of Failure in Duty and the likelihood of making such allegations compared with other types generally increased with age (Figure 8). Women aged 16-24 were more likely than older women to make allegations of Oppressive Behaviour,

**Figure 8: Allegations by Age Group (Females)**



## Religious Belief

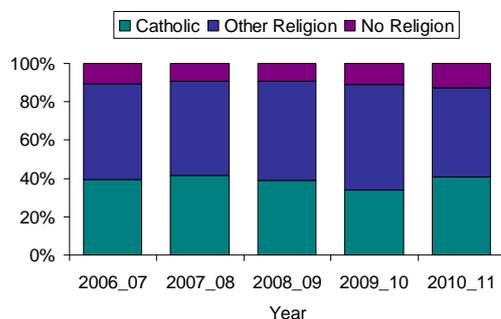
Thirty nine percent of complainants were Catholic, 22% Presbyterian, 18% Church of Ireland, 3% Methodist, 6% had other Christian beliefs, 1% had other beliefs and 10% had no religious belief (Figure 9, Table 7).



### Trends

The proportions of complainants who had Catholic or other Christian beliefs have remained generally stable over the past five years. However, there was a dip in the proportion of Catholic respondents in 2009/10 (Figure 10, Table 8).

**Figure 10: Annual Trends, Religious Belief**

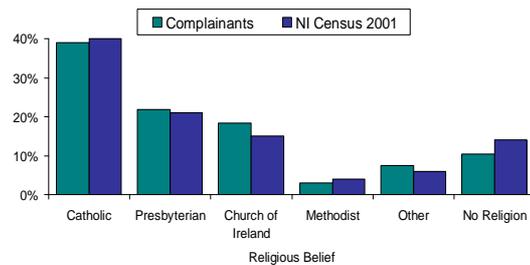


### Comparison to NI Population

The profile of complainants is slightly different to that of the population generally, based on the 2001 population

census. A higher proportion of complainants were Church of Ireland and a smaller proportion had no religious beliefs (Figure 11, Table 9).

**Figure 11: Religious Belief, Complainants and Census<sup>4</sup>**

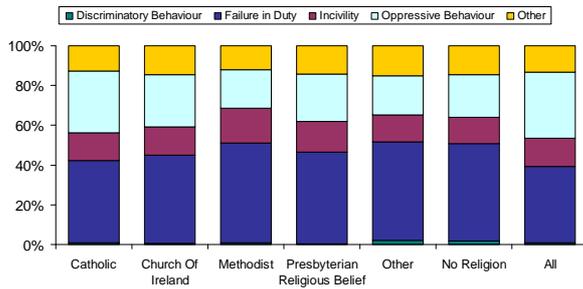


### Allegations

There were some differences in the types of allegation made against police officers across the various religious beliefs monitored (Figure 12, Table 10). Respondents with an 'Other' religious belief were more likely to allege Failure in Duty than those from a Catholic or Church of Ireland faith. Similarly, those with no religious belief and Presbyterian respondents were more likely to allege Failure in Duty than Catholics. Aside from Methodists, Catholic complainants were more likely than complainants of other religious beliefs and those complainants with no religious belief to make allegations of Oppressive Behaviour. Allegations of discriminatory behaviour accumulate to at least 1% of the total within all religious beliefs, with the exception of Presbyterian complainants.

<sup>4</sup> 'Other' includes Other Religious Beliefs and Other Christian Beliefs.

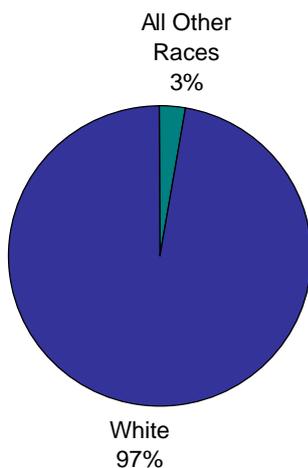
**Figure 12: Allegations by Religious Belief<sup>5</sup>**



## Racial Group

Ninety seven percent of complainants described themselves as White (Figure 13, Table 11). Three per cent of respondents were from ‘other’ ethnic groups. Whilst every effort is made within the Office to monitor according to the main racial groups in Northern Ireland, the majority of the non-White respondents described themselves as belonging to ‘other’ race or ethnic groupings.

**Figure 13: Racial Group**

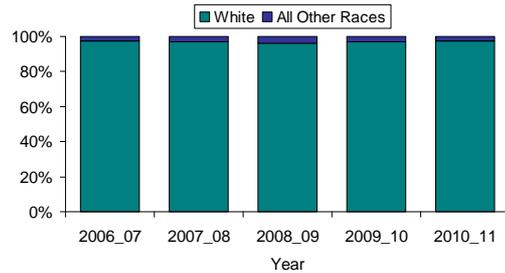


<sup>5</sup> ‘Other’ includes Other Religious Beliefs and Other Christian Beliefs.

## Trends

The proportion of complainants who described themselves as White has changed little over the past five years (Figure 14, Table 12).

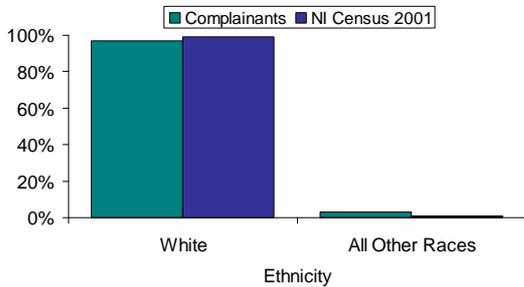
**Figure 14: Annual Trends, Racial Group**



## Comparison to NI Population

Because of the relatively small proportions of non-White racial groupings in Northern Ireland and the small numbers of complainants involved, it is not possible to do a reliable comparison of the racial profile of complainants against the population generally. However, one general observation is that there appears to be a greater proportion of complainants who are not White than one would expect from the general population, based on census figures (Figure 15 Table 13). This observation should be interpreted with caution, as the disparity may be a result of factors such as the over-representation of young men within complainants and the changing ethnic composition of Northern Ireland in recent years, rather than an increased propensity for people from ethnic minorities to make complaints about the police.

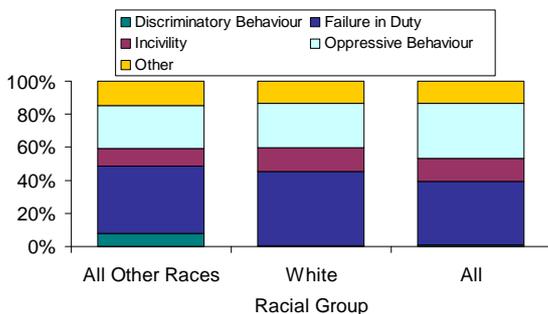
**Figure 15: Racial Group, Complainants and Census**



**Allegations**

There were some small differences in the types of allegation made against police officers by White and by minority ethnic complainants (Figure 16, Table 14). Overall, the greatest proportion of allegations made by both White and minority ethnic complainants was related to Failure in Duty. Allegations of discriminatory behaviour comprised 1% of allegations made by White complainants, but accounted for 8% of those made by complainants from ethnic minorities.

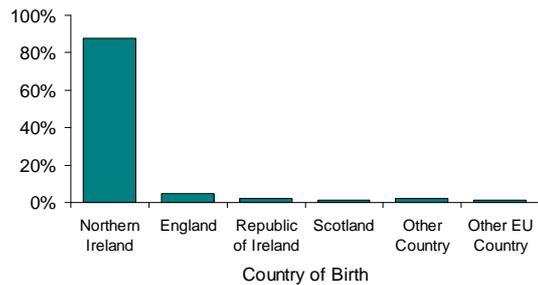
**Figure 16: Allegations by Racial Group**



**Country of Birth**

Following OPONI sponsored research into the experiences of Black and Minority Ethnic Communities in Northern Ireland<sup>6</sup> a question on Country of Birth was added to the complainant monitoring form in April 2006. Eighty eight percent of complainants had been born in Northern Ireland, 5% had been born in England, 2% in the Republic of Ireland, 1% in Scotland, 1% in other European countries and 2% in other countries outside the European Union (Figure 17, Table 15).

**Figure 17: Country of Birth**

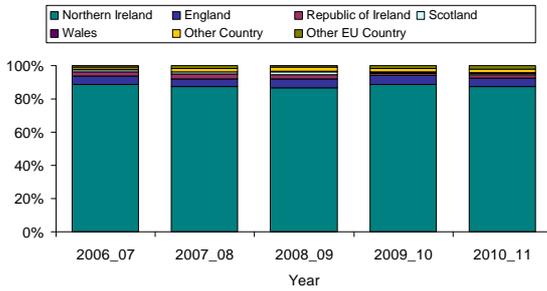


**Trends**

There has been a stable trend in the country of birth of complainants, with almost 9 in 10 complainants having been born in Northern Ireland each year (Figure 18, Table 16).

<sup>6</sup> Policing, Accountability and the Black and Minority Ethnic Communities in Northern Ireland, Institute for Conflict Research, 2006

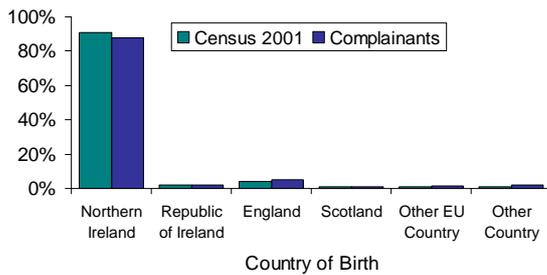
**Figure 18: Annual Trends, Country of Birth**



**Comparison to NI Population**

A lower proportion of complainants had been born in Northern Ireland and a slightly higher proportion had been born in England compared to the general population. The distributions of other countries of birth were similar (Figure 19, Table 17). The small differences observed may be due to the changing demographic profile of Northern Ireland in recent years following the Census.

**Figure 19: Country of Birth, Complainants and Census**

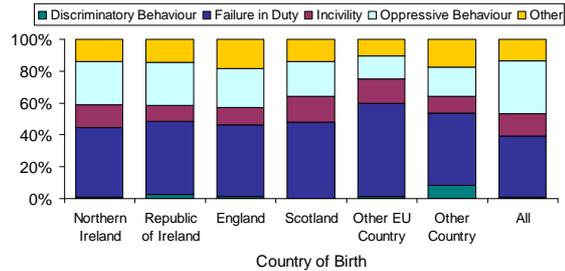


**Allegations**

Failure in duty made up the greatest proportion of allegations made by complainants irrespective of their country of birth, however complainants who were born in an 'other EU country' were significantly more likely than Northern Ireland-born complainants to make

allegations of this type. There were no other significant differences in the types of allegations made by people who had been born in different countries (Figure 20, Table 18).

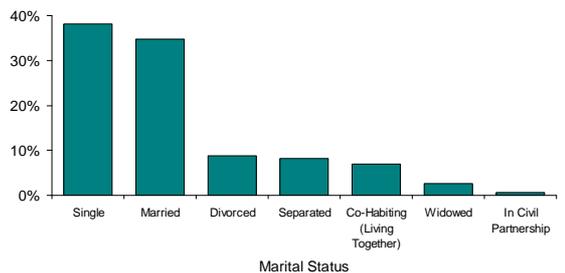
**Figure 20: Allegations by Country of Birth**



**Marital Status**

The greatest proportion of complainants (38%) were single; 35% were married, 9% were divorced, 8% were separated, 7% were living with a partner, 3% were widowed and 1% were in civil partnership (Figure 21, Table 19).

**Figure 21: Marital Status**

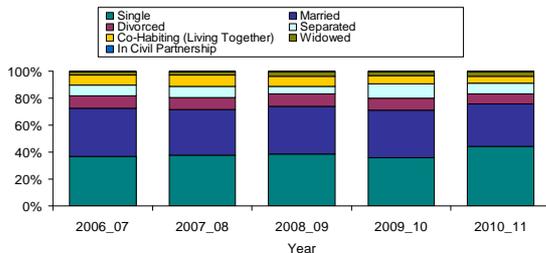


**Trends**

The proportion of single complainants rose between 2006/07 and 2010/11; prior to 2010/11, similar proportions of complainants were married or single yet

in 2010/11, there were significantly more single complainants than married (Figure 22, Table 20).

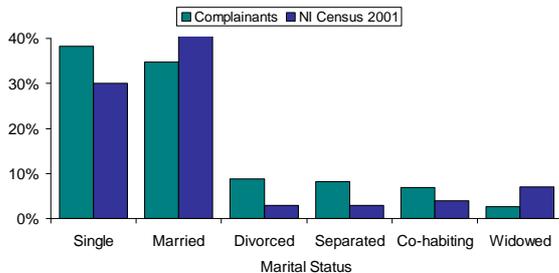
**Figure 22: Annual Trends, Marital Status**



### Comparison to NI Population

The marital status profile of complainants is not what would be expected from the population profile based on the 2001 census (Figure 23, Table 21). There is a greater proportion of single complainants compared with the population generally. The proportions of complainants who were separated or divorced were also higher than the census figures. Married people are therefore under-represented among complainants compared with the population generally.

**Figure 23: Marital Status, Complainants and Census**



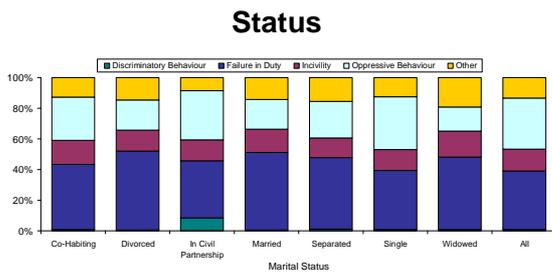
### Allegations

There were some differences in the types of allegation made against police officers depending on the marital status of complainants (Figure 24, Table 22). Failure in duty was the most common allegation type made in all marital status categories with the exception of single people and those who were co-habiting; similar proportions of complainants who were single or co-habiting alleged either Failure in Duty or Oppressive Behaviour.

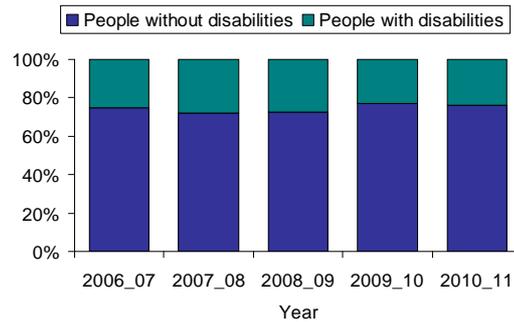
Divorced and married complainants were more likely to make allegations of Failure in Duty than those who were single or co-habiting; in addition, complainants who were separated were also more likely to allege Failure in Duty than those who were single.

Single complainants were equally likely to make allegations of Oppressive Behaviour or Failure in Duty, yet were more inclined than those who were divorced, married, separated or widowed, to allege Oppressive Behaviour. In addition, respondents who were co-habiting were more likely than those who were married to allege Oppressive Behaviour.

**Figure 24: Allegations by Marital Status**



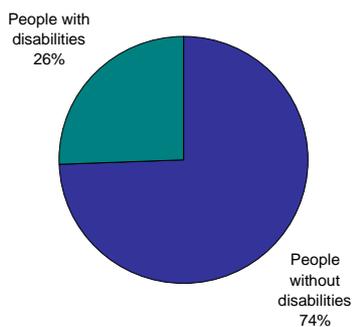
**Figure 26: Annual Trends, Disability**



## Disability

Disability is a complex concept and there are a number of ways of defining it. For monitoring purposes we provided respondents with a description of disability as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act (1995) and asked whether or not they considered themselves to be disabled. Twenty six percent of complainants stated that they had a disability and 74% stated that they did not (Figure 25, Table 23).

**Figure 25: Disability**



## Trends

Between 2006/07 and 2010/11, the proportions of complainants who were disabled have remained fairly stable (Figure 26, Table 24).

## Comparison to NI Population

There is no one definitive accepted measure of the level of disability in Northern Ireland. A number of government departments have estimated the level based on survey or administrative data, depending on their particular policy needs. The level reported by complainants is high compared with some Northern Ireland wide surveys; the NI Survey of People with Activity Limitations and Disabilities (NISALD)<sup>7</sup> estimated that 21% of the adult population in Northern Ireland are limited in their daily activities for reasons associated with a disability or long-term condition. The Family Resources Survey (FRS)<sup>8</sup> estimated 9% of adults to be permanently sick or disabled and the Northern Ireland Labour Force Survey (LFS)<sup>9</sup> found that 19% of respondents (from the working age population) self-reported as disabled. However, the NI

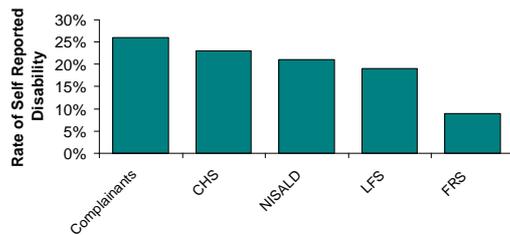
<sup>7</sup> Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, The Prevalence of Disability and Activity Limitations Amongst Adults and Children Living in Private Households in Northern Ireland, Bulletin 1, July 2007

<sup>8</sup> Department of Social Development, Family Resources Survey 2008/09

<sup>9</sup> Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, Labour Force Survey Jan-March 2011

Continuous Household Survey (CHS)<sup>10</sup> estimated that 23% of adults are disabled (Figure 27, Table 25).

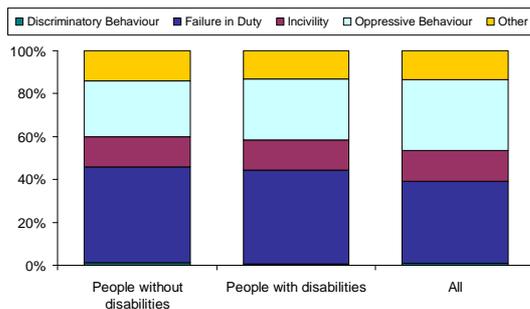
**Figure 27: Disability, Complainants and Survey Measures**



### Allegations

There were no significant differences in the types of allegations made by complainants with a disability compared with those who did not have a disability (Figure 28, Table 26).

**Figure 28: Allegations by Disability Status**

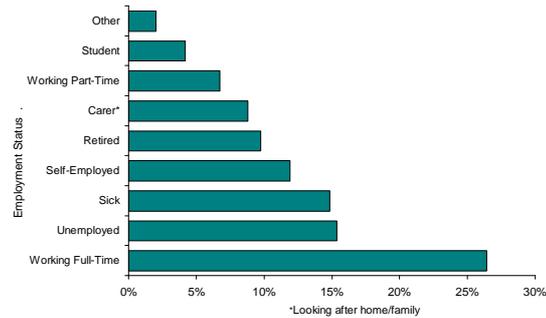


### Employment

Twenty six percent of complainants were full-time employed, 15% were not working because they were sick, 15% were unemployed, 12% were self employed,

9% were caring for their family or home, 10% were retired, 7% were part-time employed, 4% were students, and 2% were otherwise employed (Figure 29, Table 27).

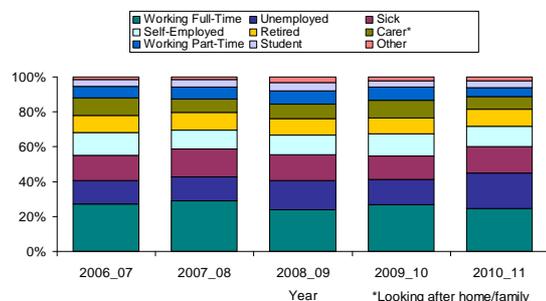
**Figure 29: Employment Status**



### Trends

The proportions of complainants within all employment categories have remained stable over the reporting period. The proportion of complainants in either full or part time employment consistently accounts for around one third of respondents each year (Figure 30, Table 28).

**Figure 30: Annual Trends, Employment Status**



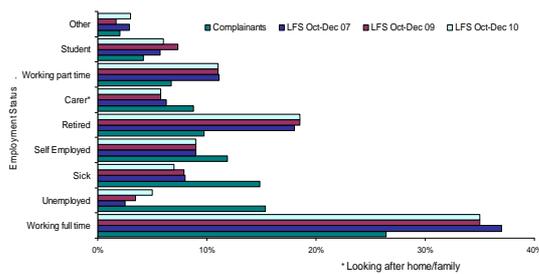
### Comparison to NI Population

The profile of the employment status of complainants is somewhat different to

<sup>10</sup> Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, Continuous Household Survey 2009/10

that of the population generally, based on the Northern Ireland Labour Force Survey (LFS)<sup>11</sup> (Figure 31, Table 29). The most marked difference was for unemployed people, who accounted for 3-5% of the population compared with 15% of complainants. Related to this, complainants are less likely to be working full-time or part-time compared with the general population. Complainants were also more likely to be out of work due to illness or disability.

**Figure 31: Employment Status, Complainants and NI Labour Force**



### Allegations

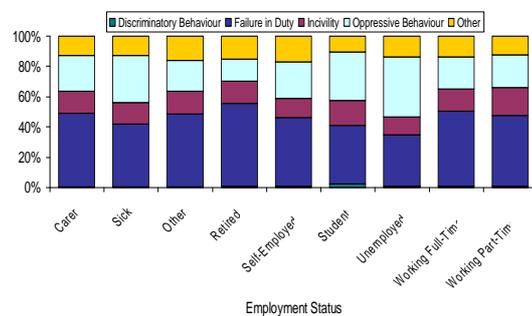
There were some differences in the types of allegation made against police officers according to the employment status of the complainant (Figure 32, Table 30).

For most groups the greatest proportion of allegations related to Failure in Duty. However, for people who were unemployed the proportion of allegations that was of Oppressive Behaviour was greater than the proportion that was of

Failure in Duty. Unemployed people, students and those not working due to illness were more likely than others to allege Oppressive Behaviour.

Aside from students, unemployed complainants were least likely to allege Failure in Duty.

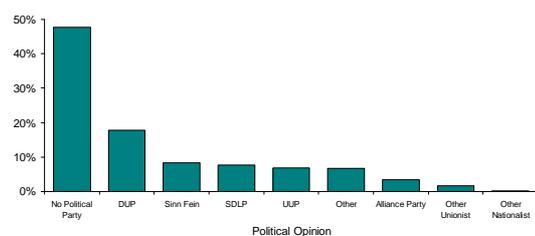
**Figure 32: Allegations by Employment Status**



### Political Opinion

The greatest proportion of complainants (48%) supported no political party; 18% supported the DUP, 8% supported the SDLP, 8% supported Sinn Fein, 7% supported the UUP, 4% supported the Alliance Party, and 9% supported other parties (Figure 33, Table 31).

**Figure 33: Political Opinion**

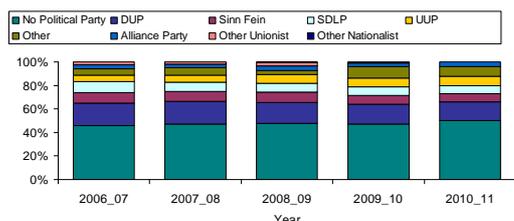


<sup>11</sup> Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, Labour Force Survey Oct 2007 – Dec 2009

## Trends

The proportions of complainants supporting each political party have remained fairly stable over the five year reporting period (Figure 34, Table 32).

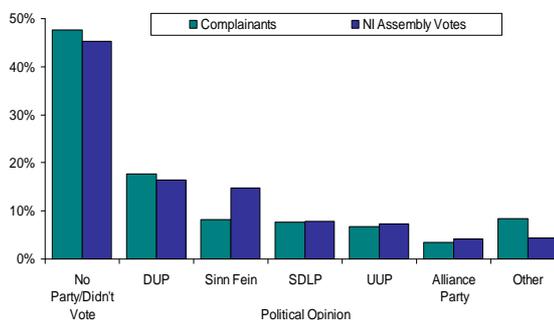
**Figure 34: Annual Trends, Political Opinion**



## Comparison to NI Population

The political opinion profile of complainants is slightly different to that of the population generally, based on voting patterns to the NI Assembly in 2011<sup>12</sup> (Figure 35, Table 33). The proportion of complainants who supported Sinn Fein was smaller than the proportion of votes cast in the 2011 Assembly elections. The proportions of complainants who supported other parties outside the five main Northern Ireland parties or did not support any political party were greater than might be expected compared with the votes cast.

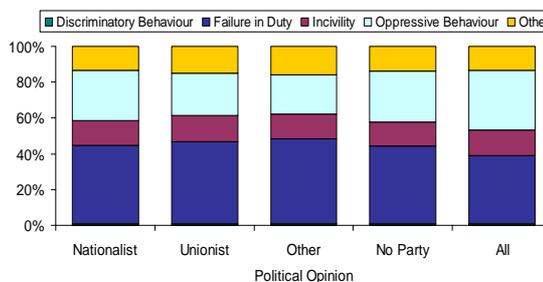
**Figure 35: Political Opinion, Complainants and NI Assembly Votes**



## Allegations

There were no real differences in the types of allegation made against police officers according to the broad category of political opinion stated by respondents in terms of Nationalist or Unionist support (Figure 36, Table 34).

**Figure 36: Allegations by Political Opinion**



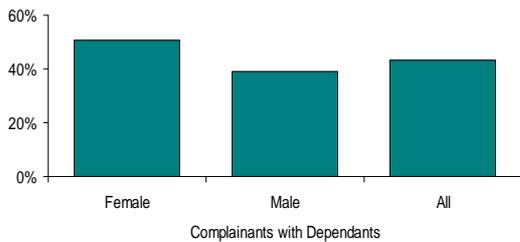
## Dependants

Forty three percent of complainants stated that they had dependants and 57% stated that they did not. Female complainants were more likely than male complainants to state that they had dependants (Figure 37, Table 35). Most complainants stated that their

<sup>12</sup> Electoral Office, 2011 Northern Ireland Assembly Elections

dependants were spouses/partners and children or elderly parents or relatives. However, a number described their dependants as friends or members of their community.

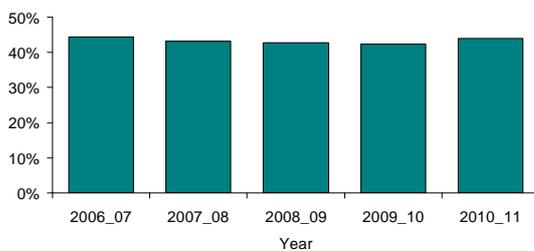
**Figure 37: Persons with Dependants**



### Trends

During the past five years trends in the proportions of respondents stating that they had dependants have been stable (Figure 38, Table 36).

**Figure 38: Annual Trends, Persons with Dependants**

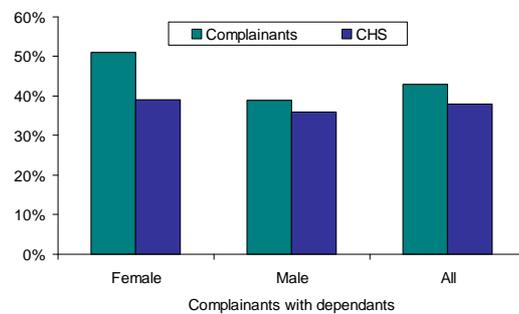


### Comparison to NI Population

There is no definitive accepted measure of the number of individuals in Northern Ireland who have dependants. A number of government departments have estimated the level based on survey or administrative data, depending on their particular policy needs. The NI Continuous Household Survey (CHS) estimated that 38% of adults have

dependant children (36% of males and 39% of females), a lower level than the 43% overall figure estimated by the monitoring data. This will not, however, cover all dependants, including other relatives, friends, neighbours etc., which the complainant data capture and this may account to some degree for the differences found (Figure 39, Table 37).

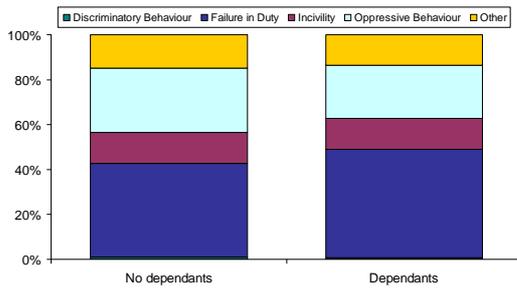
**Figure 39: Dependants, Complainants and CHS**



### Allegations

There were some differences in the types of allegation made against police officers according to whether or not the complainant had dependants (Figure 40, Table 38). Complainants who had dependants were more likely to allege Failure in Duty than those who did not. Complainants who did not have dependants were more likely to allege Oppressive Behaviour than those who did.

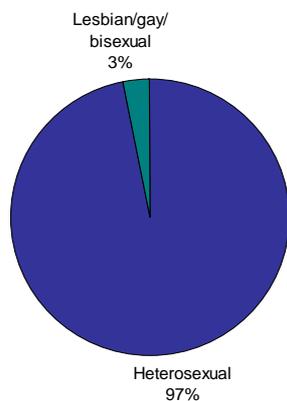
**Figure 40: Allegations by Dependant Status**



### Sexual Orientation

Overall, 3% of complainants declared that they were lesbian, gay or bi-sexual (LGB) (Figure 41, Table 39). This proportion has not varied during the five year reporting period.

**Figure 41: Sexual Orientation**



### Comparison to NI Population

There are no reliable estimates of the size and demographic profile of the LGB population in Northern Ireland. There is a commonly accepted view that about ten percent of people within any population are lesbian or gay men<sup>13</sup>. However, there are survey findings which suggest that

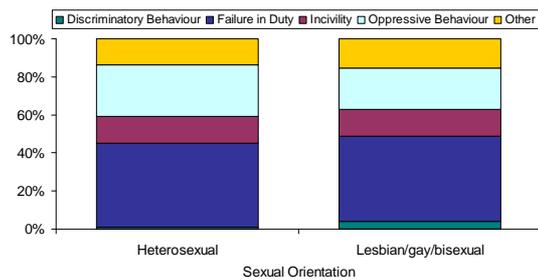
<sup>13</sup> Quoted in, 'Who Lives in a Place like this?', Diversity Matters, Disability Action, Belfast, April 2003

this could be as low as 1%<sup>14</sup>. Thus, it is not clear whether the level of 3% of complainants self-reporting as LGB is representative of the population.

### Allegations

LGB complainants are more likely to make allegations of discriminatory behaviour than heterosexual complainants. There are no other differences in the levels of specific allegation types made (Figure 42, Table 40).

**Figure 42: Allegations by Sexual Orientation**



<sup>14</sup> Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009. ark.ac.uk

## Appendix 1: Background and Methodology

The Office of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland was set up by the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 in order to provide an impartial and independent system for investigating complaints against the police in Northern Ireland. The Office is committed to fulfilling the obligations laid upon it by Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act (1998) (the “equality duties”). To help us achieve this we send every complainant a confidential self-completion questionnaire, asking for information relevant to the nine categories specified in Section 75. As we are committed to providing a service to all individuals and socio-economic groups within our society, we also ask a question on the additional category of employment status, which we consider to be a reliable indicator of economic deprivation. On receipt of returned questionnaires they are input on to the Office’s Case Handling System with the complaint data. Only those officers who are directly involved in the processing of the data have data access permissions. Officers involved in the handling and investigation of the complaint do not, at any time, have access to these data. The equality database is downloaded and analysed using a combination of DI Diver, Microsoft Excel and SPSS packages.

When considering the types of allegation made, there is a difference in the

distribution of allegation types between all complainants and the sub-group of complainants who returned equality monitoring questionnaires (respondents). For all complainants, 38% of allegations were of Failure in Duty and 33% were of Oppressive Behaviour. However, for respondents, 44% of allegations were of Failure in Duty and 26% were of Oppressive Behaviour. Thus complainants who make allegations of Failure in Duty were more likely to return equality monitoring questionnaires than complainants who make allegations of Oppressive Behaviour.

Where possible, reliable comparative population data have been obtained from Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) and other public bodies. There are no comparative police complaints data currently available for other jurisdictions.

The figures in this statistical release are based on information received between April 2006 and March 2011. Figures provided in the tables may not add up to 100% due to the effect of rounding. Figures may also be subject to minor revision. The Police Ombudsman Revisions Policy is available at [www.policeombudsman.org/publications](http://www.policeombudsman.org/publications).

The Office has conducted the Equality Monitoring Survey since it opened in November 2000. All survey findings are published annually and are available on

the Office website at [www.policeombudsman.org/publications](http://www.policeombudsman.org/publications).

### **Statistical Significance**

Statistical significance tests have been carried out on the findings and differences are only reported where they have been found to be statistically significant at the 5% ( $p < 0.05$ ) level of probability (two tailed). This means that for any observed result that is found to be statistically significant one can be 95% confident that this has not happened by chance.

## **Appendix 2: Notes to readers**

### **Official Statistics:**

This is an Official Statistics publication. Official Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They undergo regular data validation checks to ensure that they meet the required standards. They are produced free from any political interference.

### **Data use**

The data collected are used by the Office to monitor and evaluate the service provided to the public and to report to the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland. The data may also be used to answer enquiries from the Northern Ireland Assembly, the Department of Justice, Parliament and the public.

### **Data quality**

OPONI staff carry out regular quality assurance reviews of all data input into the CHS (Case Handling System). For the Equality Monitoring Survey, Research and Performance Directorate Staff input the data on to the CHS and supervisors undertake a 10% data quality check to ensure that transfer of the information is accurate. Where necessary, data may be corrected.

### **Data limitation**

Equality monitoring forms are normally issued to all complainants. However, in some cases forms are not issued, for example when it is impossible to identify the complainant (i.e. the Complaints Officer has recorded the complainant as anonymous), because the complainant's address is not recorded or if only an email address is available. Forms are also not issued if the complainant is recorded as a juvenile.

The Police Ombudsman also investigates matters of public interest and complaints which have been referred to him. In these cases there is not an identifiable complainant and therefore forms are not issued.

In other cases the complainant contacts the Office to ask to be excluded from future surveys. Whilst Office staff aim to persuade the complainant by explaining the background to the survey in some

cases the complainant still wishes to be excluded from all future surveys.

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### **Further information**

For further information contact:

By Letter:

Research and Performance Directorate  
Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland  
New Cathedral Buildings  
11 Church Street  
Belfast BT1 1PG

By Phone:

028 90569905

By Email:

[research@policeombudsman.org](mailto:research@policeombudsman.org)

# COMPLAINANT MONITORING FORM

## IN CONFIDENCE

This form asks you to supply some information about yourself. We are asking you for this information because by law the Police Ombudsman has to look at trends in complaints against the police.

Your help in supplying this information is very much appreciated.

**If you are under 16 years of age you do not need to fill in this form.**

### 1. AGE

How old are you?

### 2. GENDER

Please tick one box.

Male

Female

### 3. MARITAL STATUS

Please tick one box.

Single

Married

In Civil Partnership

Co-habiting (living together)

Separated

Divorced

Widowed

### 4. EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Please tick one box.

Looking after home and/or family

Student

Not working because you are permanently sick

Unemployed

Retired

Working full-time

Self employed

Working part-time

Other (Please State)

### 5. RELIGIOUS BELIEF

Please tick one box.

Catholic

Methodist

Church of Ireland

Presbyterian

No Religion

Other Christian (Please State)

Other Religious Belief (Please State)

PLEASE TURN OVER

## 6. RACE

Please tick one box.

Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Irish Travelling Community	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black African	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed Ethnic Group	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/>	White	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please State)	<input type="text"/>

## 7. COUNTRY OF BIRTH

Please tick one box.

Northern Ireland	<input type="checkbox"/>	England	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scotland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wales	<input type="checkbox"/>	Republic of Ireland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other EU Country (Please State)	<input type="text"/>	Other Country (Please State)	<input type="text"/>						

## 8. DISABILITY

The Disability Discrimination Act (1995) defines disability as "a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day to day activities". In these terms, do you consider yourself to be disabled?

Yes  No

If 'Yes', please state the nature of your disability.

## 9. SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Please tick one box.

Bi-sexual	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lesbian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Homosexual (gay)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heterosexual (straight)	<input type="checkbox"/>	I do not wish to answer this question	<input type="checkbox"/>		

## 10. DEPENDANTS

Do you have personal responsibility for the care of ...? (Tick each box that applies to your circumstances)

A child or children  A person with a disability  A dependent elderly person

Another dependent person - please provide details

None of the above

## 11. POLITICAL OPINION

Please indicate from the list below the political party that best represents your current political opinion.

The Alliance Party	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sinn Féin	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Social Democratic & Labour Party (SDLP)	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Political Party	<input type="checkbox"/>
I do not wish to answer this question	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please State)	<input type="text"/>

Thank you for completing this form

## Appendix 4: Statistical Tables

Note that proportions may not always add to 100% due to the effects of rounding.

Table 1: Gender and Age Group

Age Group	Female	Female %	Male	Male %	Total	Total %
16-24	437	5%	1684	18%	2121	23%
25-34	512	5%	1334	14%	1846	20%
35-44	845	9%	1553	17%	2398	26%
45-54	579	6%	1194	13%	1773	19%
55-64	241	3%	546	6%	787	8%
65+	116	1%	286	3%	402	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2730</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>6597</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>9327</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 2: Gender by year

Year	Female	Male	Total
2006/07	29%	71%	100%
2007/08	29%	71%	100%
2008/09	31%	69%	100%
2009/10	31%	69%	100%
2010/11	29%	71%	100%

Table 3: Age Group by year

Year	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
2006/07	22%	19%	26%	19%	9%	5%
2007/08	21%	19%	28%	18%	9%	4%
2008/09	23%	19%	26%	19%	9%	4%
2009/10	21%	20%	24%	21%	9%	4%
2010/11	26%	22%	24%	18%	7%	5%

Table 4: Age Group (Male Complainants) and Census

Age Group	Males	Census 2001
16-24	18%	9%
25-34	14%	9%
35-44	17%	9%
45-54	13%	8%
55-64	6%	6%
65+	3%	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>48%</b>

Table 5: Age Group (Female Complainants) and Census

Age Group	Females	Census 2001
16-24	5%	8%
25-34	5%	9%
35-44	9%	10%
45-54	6%	8%
55-64	3%	7%
65+	1%	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>52%</b>

**Table 6: Allegation Types by Gender and Age group**

Allegation Type	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
<b>Females</b>						
Discriminatory Behaviour	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	2%
Failure in Duty	40%	50%	51%	53%	51%	57%
Incivility	19%	18%	17%	18%	19%	19%
Oppressive Behaviour	31%	21%	21%	17%	19%	12%
Other	9%	10%	11%	12%	10%	11%
<b>Sub-total (Females)</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Males</b>						
Discriminatory Behaviour	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%
Failure in Duty	21%	30%	36%	44%	52%	55%
Incivility	14%	12%	13%	13%	13%	11%
Oppressive Behaviour	53%	43%	34%	25%	18%	15%
Other	11%	15%	16%	17%	17%	19%
<b>Sub-total (Males)</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>All Complainants</b>						
Discriminatory Behaviour	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%
Failure in Duty	25%	35%	41%	47%	52%	55%
Incivility	15%	13%	15%	14%	15%	13%
Oppressive Behaviour	49%	37%	30%	23%	18%	14%
Other	11%	13%	14%	15%	15%	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 7: Religious Belief**

Religious Belief	Number	%
Catholic	2107	39%
Presbyterian	1178	22%
Church Of Ireland	989	18%
Methodist	161	3%
Other	402	7%
No Religion	567	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5404</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 8: Religious Belief by year**

Religious Belief	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Catholic	39%	41%	39%	34%	41%
Other Religion	50%	49%	52%	55%	47%
No Religion	11%	9%	9%	11%	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 9: Religious Belief Complainants and Census**

Religious Belief	Complainants	Census 2001
Catholic	39%	40%
Presbyterian	22%	21%
Church of Ireland	18%	15%
Methodist	3%	4%
Other	7%	6%
No Religion	10%	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 10: Allegation type by Religious Belief**

Allegation Type	Catholic	Church Of Ireland	Methodist	Presbyterian	Other	No Religion
Discriminatory Behaviour	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	2%
Failure in Duty	42%	44%	50%	46%	50%	49%
Incivility	14%	14%	18%	15%	14%	13%
Oppressive Behaviour	31%	26%	19%	24%	20%	21%
Other	13%	14%	12%	14%	15%	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 11: Ethnic Origin

Ethnic Origin	Number	%
All Other Races	152	3%
White	5117	97%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5269</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 12: Ethnic Origin by year

Ethnic Origin	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
White	98%	97%	96%	97%	98%
All Other Races	2%	3%	4%	3%	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 13: Ethnic Origin Complainants and Census

Ethnic Origin	Complainants	Census 2001
White	97%	99%
All Other Races	3%	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 14: Allegation type by Ethnic Origin

Allegation Type	All Other	White
Discriminatory Behaviour	8%	1%
Failure in Duty	41%	45%
Incivility	11%	14%
Oppressive Behaviour	26%	27%
Other	15%	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 15: Country of Birth

Country of Birth	Number	%
Northern Ireland	3958	88%
England	228	5%
Republic of Ireland	101	2%
Scotland	53	1%
Wales	9	0%
Other Country	96	2%
Other EU Country	62	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4507</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 16: Country of Birth by year

Country of Birth	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Northern Ireland	89%	87%	87%	89%	88%
England	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Republic of Ireland	2%	3%	3%	1%	2%
Scotland	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Other Country	1%	2%	3%	2%	2%
Other EU Country	1%	2%	1%	2%	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 17: Country of Birth Complainants and Census

Country of Birth	Census 2001	Complainants
Northern Ireland	91%	88%
Republic of Ireland	2%	2%
England	4%	5%
Scotland	1%	1%
Other EU Country	1%	2%
Other Country	1%	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 18: Allegation type by Country of Birth**

Allegation Type	Northern Ireland	Republic of Ireland	England	Scotland	Other EU Country	Other Country
Discriminatory Behaviour	1%	3%	2%	0%	2%	8%
Failure in Duty	44%	46%	45%	48%	58%	45%
Incivility	14%	10%	11%	16%	15%	11%
Oppressive Behaviour	27%	27%	24%	22%	14%	18%
Other	14%	15%	19%	14%	11%	17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 19: Marital Status**

Marital Status	Number	%
Single	2080	38%
Married	1889	35%
Divorced	479	9%
Separated	445	8%
Co-Habiting (Living Together)	379	7%
Widowed	144	3%
In Civil Partnership	30	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5446</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 20: Marital Status by year**

Marital Status	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Single	37%	38%	39%	36%	44%
Married	36%	34%	35%	36%	32%
Divorced	9%	9%	9%	9%	7%
Separated	8%	8%	6%	11%	8%
Co-Habiting (Living Together)	7%	8%	7%	6%	5%
Widowed	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%
In Civil Partnership	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 21: Marital Status, Complainants and Census**

Marital Status	Complainants	Census 2001
Single	38%	30%
Married	35%	52%
Divorced	9%	3%
Separated	8%	3%
Co-habiting	7%	4%
Widowed	3%	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>99%</b>

**Table 22: Allegation type by Marital Status**

Allegation Type	Co-Habiting (Living Together)	Divorced	In Civil Partnership	Married	Separated	Single
Failure in Duty	42%	51%	37%	51%	47%	38%
Oppressive Behaviour	28%	20%	32%	19%	24%	35%
Incivility	16%	14%	14%	15%	13%	14%
Other	13%	15%	8%	14%	16%	12%
Discriminatory Behaviour	1%	1%	8%	1%	1%	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 23: Disability Status**

Disability Status	Number	%
People without disabilities	3855	74%
People with disabilities	1326	26%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5181</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 24: Disability Status by year**

Disability Status	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
People without disabilities	75%	72%	73%	77%	76%
People with disabilities	25%	28%	27%	23%	24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 25: Disability Status, Complainants and Survey Measures**

	Complainants	CHS	NISALD	LFS	FRS
Rate of Self-Reported Disability	26%	23%	21%	19%	9%

**Table 26: Allegation type by disability status**

Allegation Type	People without disabilities	People with disabilities
Discriminatory Behaviour	1%	1%
Failure in Duty	45%	44%
Incivility	14%	14%
Oppressive Behaviour	26%	28%
Other	14%	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 27: Employment Status**

Employment Status	Number	%
Working Full-Time	1432	26%
Unemployed	832	15%
Not Working Because You Are Permanently Sick	804	15%
Self-Employed	645	12%
Retired	528	10%
Looking After Home and/or Family	477	9%
Working Part-Time	364	7%
Student	228	4%
Other	111	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5421</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 28: Employment Status by year**

Employment Status	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Working Full-Time	27%	29%	24%	27%	25%
Unemployed	13%	14%	16%	15%	20%
Not Working Because You Are Permanently Sick	15%	16%	15%	13%	15%
Self-Employed	13%	11%	11%	13%	12%
Retired	10%	10%	10%	9%	10%
Looking After Home and/or Family	10%	8%	8%	10%	8%
Working Part-Time	6%	7%	7%	8%	5%
Student	4%	5%	5%	3%	4%
Other	1%	1%	3%	2%	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 29: Allegation type by Employment Status**

Employment Status	Discriminatory Behaviour	Failure in Duty	Incivility	Oppressive Behaviour	Other	Total
Looking After Home and/or Family	1%	48%	15%	23%	13%	100%
Not Working Because You Are Permanently Sick	1%	41%	14%	31%	13%	100%
Retired	1%	55%	15%	15%	15%	100%
Self-Employed	1%	45%	13%	24%	17%	100%
Student	2%	39%	16%	32%	10%	100%
Unemployed	1%	34%	12%	40%	14%	100%
Working Full-Time	1%	49%	15%	21%	14%	100%
Working Part-Time	1%	47%	18%	22%	12%	100%
Other	0%	48%	15%	20%	16%	100%

**Table 30: Political Opinion**

Political Opinion	Number	%
No Political Party	1675	48%
Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)	623	18%
Sinn Fein (SF)	290	8%
Social Democratic Labour Party (SDLP)	267	8%
Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)	239	7%
Other - please specify	233	7%
Alliance Party (AP)	123	4%
Other Unionist	59	2%
Other Nationalist	5	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3514</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 31: Political Opinion by year**

Political Opinion	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
No Political Party	46%	47%	48%	47%	50%
Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)	19%	19%	18%	17%	15%
Sinn Fein (SF)	9%	9%	9%	8%	7%
Social Democratic Labour Party (SDLP)	9%	8%	7%	7%	7%
Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)	5%	6%	8%	7%	8%
Other - please specify	5%	7%	3%	10%	8%
Alliance Party (AP)	4%	3%	4%	3%	4%
Other Unionist	3%	2%	3%	1%	0%
Other Nationalist	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 32: Political Opinion, Complainants and NI Assembly Votes**

	Complainants	NI Assembly Votes
No Political Party	48%	45%
Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)	18%	16%
Sinn Fein (SF)	8%	15%
Social Democratic Labour Party (SDLP)	8%	8%
Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)	7%	7%
Alliance Party (AP)	4%	4%
Other - please specify	8%	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 33: Allegation type by Political Opinion**

Allegation Type	Nationalist	No Party	Other	Unionist
Discriminatory Behaviour	1%	1%	1%	1%
Failure in Duty	44%	43%	48%	46%
Incivility	14%	14%	14%	15%
Oppressive Behaviour	28%	28%	22%	23%
Other	13%	14%	16%	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 34: Dependants Status by gender**

Dependants Status	Female	Male
Persons without dependants	49%	61%
Persons with dependants	51%	39%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 35: Dependant Status by year**

Dependant Status	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Persons without dependants	56%	57%	57%	58%	56%
Persons with dependants	44%	43%	43%	42%	44%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 36: Persons with dependants, Complainants and Continuous Household Survey, by Gender**

Gender	Complainants	CHS
Female	51%	39%
Male	39%	36%
<b>All</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>38%</b>

**Table 37: Allegation type by Dependants Status**

Allegation Type	Persons without dependants	Persons with dependants
Discriminatory Behaviour	1%	1%
Failure in Duty	42%	48%
Incivility	14%	14%
Oppressive Behaviour	29%	24%
Other	15%	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 38: Sexual Orientation**

Political Opinion	Number	%
Heterosexual	8940	97%
Lesbian/gay/bisexual	245	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9185</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 39: Sexual Orientation by Year**

Sexual Orientation	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Heterosexual	97%	97%	98%	98%	97%
Lesbian/gay/bisexual	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 40: Allegation type by Sexual Orientation**

Allegation Type	Heterosexual	Lesbian/gay/bisexual
Discriminatory Behaviour	1%	4%
Failure in Duty	44%	45%
Incivility	14%	14%
Oppressive Behaviour	27%	22%
Other	14%	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>