

Lancashire Picture
Key Lancashire Estimates

In Lancashire, it is estimated that nearly 60,000 women are experiencing domestic violence in any year. This is likely to be a conservative estimate as domestic violence may not even be reported to surveys. For half those experiencing domestic violence, there are children aged under 16 in the household (Mirrlees-Black, 1999) so, if an average of 2 children per woman is assumed, then we have at least as many children living with domestic violence in any given year.

Area	Population (Census 2001)	Yearly Costs in £ (approx £440 per head of population)*	Population of Adult Women (Census 2001)	Yearly Prevalence of Domestic Violence (1 woman in 10)**
Lancashire	1,414,731	622,481,640	594,495	59,450
Lancashire County Council Area	1,134,976	499,389,440	478,693	47,869
Blackburn w Darwen	137,471	60,487,240	54,459	5,446
Blackpool	142,284	62,604,960	61,343	6,134
Burnley	89,541	39,398,040	36,935	3,694
Chorley	100,449	44,197,560	41,334	4,133
Fylde	73,249	32,229,560	32,180	3,218
Hyndburn	81,487	35,854,280	33,213	3,321
Lancaster	133,914	58,922,160	58,456	5,846
Pendle	89,252	39,270,880	36,534	3,653
Preston	129,642	57,042,480	54,151	5,415
Ribble Valley	53,961	23,742,840	22,780	2,278
Rosendale	65,657	28,889,080	26,893	2,689
South Ribble	103,863	45,699,720	43,662	4,366
West Lancashire	108,377	47,685,880	46,232	4,623
Wyre	105,584	46,456,960	46,323	4,632

*Yearly Costs in £ (£440 per head population)

The latest research, "The Cost of Domestic Violence" by Sylvia Walby (University of Leeds) September 2004, commissioned by the Government Department - Women and Equality Unit, estimates the yearly cost of domestic violence in England and Wales for the state, employers and those who are subjected to it.

The report estimates that there is a wide-ranging financial impact of domestic violence, which, were it spread out equally amongst the population, would amount to nearly £440 per person. Breakdown of agency, economic & human costs for Lancashire in the "Statistics: Lancashire Picture" are calculated marginally differently (i.e. population of study divided by population of Lancashire) which accounts for slight differences in totals for Lancashire, county council, unitary & district areas detailed in the table above.

In England and Wales in any one year, including all costs, the total cost of domestic violence for the state, employers and victims is estimated at around £23 billion. The methodology is based on the Home Office framework for costing crime and develops this so as to include the specific cost related to domestic violence. The estimate of costs provides an additional perspective for examining the devastating consequences of domestic violence for society as well as for victims. The report demonstrates the scale of the impact of domestic violence on our local community by estimating its cost and shows the cost of inaction.

**Yearly Prevalence of Domestic Violence (1 woman in 10)

Sources are as follows:

- Council of Europe (2002). Recommendation Rec(2002)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the protection of women against violence adopted on 30 April 2002 and Explanatory Memorandum. Council of Europe: Strasbourg, France (refers to at least 10 separate studies).
- Betsy STANKO, Debbie CRISP, Chris HALE & Hebe LUCRAFT (1998) *Counting the Costs: estimating the impact of domestic violence in the London Borough of Hackney* SWINDON Crime Concern
- British Crime Survey 1998.