



Report on Crime 1976

Report for the year ended 31 December, 1976,
Commissioner, Garda Síochána, to the Minister for Justice.

GARDA SÍOCHÁNA,
HEADQUARTERS,
DUBLIN, 8.
FEBRUARY, 1978

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FOREWORD

Commissioner of the Garda Síochána
to the Minister for Justice

I have the honour to submit my Report on the Garda Síochána for the year 1976.

Indictable offences which were recorded during the year numbered 54,382. This was an increase of 5,995, or 12.4%, over the figure for the previous crime accounting year, when 48,387 indictable offences were recorded. There were 19 murders, four less than in 1975. Detected crimes amounted to 22,482, or 41.3% of the total number recorded. The detection rate in 1975 was 43.4%.

I gladly and thankfully acknowledge, on behalf of the Garda, our indebtedness to the general public, whose sustained goodwill found expression throughout the year in an ever-intensifying co-operation which, particularly in the domain of information and intelligence, has proved of incalculable value to the Gardaí in dealing with crime and subversion.

I gratefully acknowledge, too, the support and co-operation received from the Press: the fair minded and responsible reportage of current events is, indeed, essential to the preservation of those free institutions which are the hallmark of a democratic state, and among which the Press itself occupies an honoured place.

A special tribute is due to Radio Telefís Éireann for its whole-hearted assistance and unfailing co-operation.



Commissioner

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PART I - CRIME

Crime statistics have been computerised since the 1st January, 1976. Certain crime categories have been further broken down to provide more information concerning the type of property affected. Some crime categories have been re-grouped under one or other of the four main groups of indictable offences. The crime groups, with categories of offences in each group, are shown in the statistical return of indictable offences for 1976 on pages 8 - 17.

Sections 24 to 27 of the Larceny Act, 1916, were repealed by the Criminal Law (Jurisdiction) Act, 1976, which came into force on 1st June, 1976. Offences under these Sections, namely, Sacrilege, Burglary, Housebreaking and Breaking and Entering with Intent to Commit a Felony, committed since 1st June, 1976, are recorded as Burglary or Aggravated Burglary in accordance with the provisions of the Act of 1976. Offences of this nature committed prior to the 1st June, 1976, are recorded as they were designated under the repealed Sections of the Larceny Act, 1916. These changes account for any significant increase in offences of Burglary and any corresponding decrease in offences of Sacrilege, Housebreaking and Breaking and Entering with Intent, etc., in the figures for 1976.

Indictable Offences:

Indictable Offences which came to the notice of the Garda Síochána during the year ended 31st December, 1976, number 54,382 as compared with 48,387 in the year ended 31st December, 1975, an increase of 5,995 (12.4%).

Offences Recorded and Detected 1967 - 1976

Year	Recorded	Detected	Percentage Detected
1967	20,558	13,213	64%
1968	23,104	14,227	61%
1969	25,972	15,879	61%
1970	30,756	15,242	50%
1971	37,781	17,518	46%
1972	39,237	17,047	43.4%
1973	38,022	18,094	47.6%
1974	40,096	19,287	48%
1975	48,387	21,011	43.4%
1976	54,382	22,482	41.3%

The figures for indictable offences are broken down in the following table:

	Offences Recorded		Increase	Decrease	Offences Detected	
	1976	1975			1976 %	1975 %
Offences Against the Person	1,714	1,456	258 (17.7%)		90.3%	89.1%
Offences Against Property With Violence	20,903	16,432	4,471 (27.2%)		43.8%	48.4%
Larcenies, etc.	31,540	29,362	2,178 (7.4%)		36.7%	36.8%
Other Indictable Offences	225	1,137		912 (80.2%)	89.3%	85.7%
Totals:	54,382	48,387	6,907	912	41.3%	43.4%
				5,995 (12.4%)		

In the Dublin Metropolitan Area, 29,872 indictable offences were recorded, an increase of 3,065 (11.4%) on the figures for 1975; and of the total crimes recorded in the State 54.9% occurred in the Dublin Metropolitan Area.

The Dublin Metropolitan Area has an estimated population of 829,660, or 28% of the total population of the State.

Dublin and the rest of the State compared

Year	Area	Indictable Crime Recorded	% of Total	Number of crimes per 1,000 of population
1976	D.M.A.	29,872	54.9	36.0
	In the rest of the State	24,510	45.1	11.4
1975	D.M.A.	26,807	55.4	32.3
	In the rest of the State	21,580	44.6	10.1

Detection of Crime:

The overall detection rate in 1976 was 41.3% (43.4% in 1975). The detection rate varies from 90.3% in offences against the person to 36.7% in the less serious forms of larceny.

The total number of indictable offences detected was 22,482. Proceedings were taken in 21,028 cases; 686 cases were dealt with under the Juvenile Liaison Officer Scheme; and 768 cases were dealt with by way of formal caution of Juveniles in areas where the Juvenile Liaison Officer Scheme is not in operation.

Offences Against The Person (Group I):

Murder, manslaughter, dangerous driving causing death, traffic fatalities, possession of firearms with intent to endanger life, assault and related offences fall into this group. In all, 1,714 such offences were recorded, an increase of 17.7% on 1975, with a detection rate of 90.3%. The detection rate in 1975 was 89.1%.

Offences Recorded and Detected in this Group 1972 - 1976.

Year	Recorded	Detected	Percentage Detected
1972	1,321	1,194	89.7%
1973	1,655	1,490	90%
1974	1,709	1,484	86.8%
1975	1,456	1,298	89.1%
1976	1,714	1,546	90.3%

The overall figure of 1,714 "Offences Against The Person" includes 606 (35.4%) committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area; and the detection rate in the Dublin Metropolitan Area was 81.5% (74.7% in 1975).

Murder:

There were 19 murders in 1976, as compared with 23 murders in 1975. There were 6 offences of attempted murder.

Manslaughter:

There were 15 cases of manslaughter in 1976, 12 of which arose out of road accidents.

Traffic Fatalities:

There were 515 traffic fatalities in 1976, and 12 of these were recorded as manslaughter. In 1975 there were 592 road traffic fatalities, 5 of which were recorded as manslaughter.

Twenty-eight persons (46 in 1975) were charged with dangerous driving causing death, and 16 persons (19 in 1975) were charged with dangerous driving causing serious bodily injury.

Offences Against Property With Violence (Group II):

Offences of Burglary, Aggravated Burglary, Robbery, Arson, (offences of Sacrilege, Housebreaking, Breaking and Entering, etc., committed between 1st January and 1st June, 1976), and serious malicious damage to property are included in this group. In all, 20,903 such offences were recorded in 1976, an increase of 27.2% on 1975, with a detection rate of 43.8% (48.4% in 1975).

Offences Recorded and Detected in this Group 1972 - 1976

Year	Recorded	Detected	Percentage Detected
1972	11,600	5,596	48.2%
1973	11,800	5,977	50.7%
1974	12,973	6,786	52.3%
1975	16,432	7,946	48.4%
1976	20,903	9,152	43.8%

Of the offences in this group 11,047 were committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area, 52.8% of the total figure, with a detection rate of 47.3% (54% in 1975).

Robbery:

There were 909 robberies recorded in 1976, 206 more than in 1975, and 186 of these robberies were cases of armed robbery. There were 153 armed robberies in 1975. Criminal proceedings were taken in 365 cases, a detection rate of 40.2%. The detection rate in 1975 was 45.4%.

Arson and Malicious Damage:

There were 572 cases of malicious damage and 272 (47.6%) were detected. The total figure includes 147 offences of Arson. In 1975 out of a total figure of 567, 138 were offences of Arson.

Offences which involved breaking and entering premises, namely, Burglary, Aggravated Burglary, Sacrilege, Housebreaking, Entering with Intent and Possession of Housebreaking Tools, amounted to 19,372; and 8,055 (41.6%) such offences were detected. In 1975, there were 15,160 offences of this nature and 7,333 or 48.4% were detected.

Larcenies, Etc. (Group III):

Larcenies, Forgeries and Frauds of various kinds fall into this group. There were 31,540 such offences in 1976, an increase of 2,178 (7.4%) on 1975. 11,583 (36.7%) were detected. In 1975, the detection rate for this group was 36.8%.

Offences Recorded and Detected in this Group 1972 - 1976

Year	Recorded	Detected	Percentage Detected
1972	25,568	9,612	37.5%
1973	23,567	9,724	41.3%
1974	24,345	10,061	41.3%
1975	29,362	10,793	36.8%
1976	31,540	11,583	36.7%

The overall figure of 31,540 recorded offences in this group includes 18,107 offences (57.4%) committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area with a detection rate of 5,120 (28.3%). In 1975, the detection rate was 27.5% in the Dublin Metropolitan Area.

The number of larcenies from unattended vehicles, 11,560, increased by 2,046 (21.5%) on the previous year.

Thefts of motor vehicles, 835, were up by 269 (47.5%) on the previous year.

Other Indictable Offences (Group IV):

This is a general crime group with a total of 225 offences. The number of these offences detected was 201 (89.3%). The overall figure decreased by 912 (80.2%) on 1975, when the detection rate was 85.7%. Of these offences 112 were committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area and 95 (84.8%) were detected in the Dublin Metropolitan Area.

Offences Recorded and Detected in this Group 1972 - 1976

Year	Recorded	Detected	Percentage Detected
1972	748	646	86.4%
1973	1,000	903	90.3%
1974	1,069	956	89.4%
1975	1,137	974	85.7%
1976	225	201	89.3%

Offences of Forgery and Uttering which were heretofore included in this group are now included in Group III; and this accounts for the significant decrease in the number of crimes in this group in 1976.

INDICTABLE OFFENCES RECORDED AND DETECTED BY GARDA DIVISIONS AND FOUR PROVINCIAL CITY DISTRICTS - YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1976.

Division	Group I Offences Against The Person		Group II Offences Against Property With Violence		Group III Larcenies, etc.		Group IV Other Indictable Offences		Total Indictable Offences	Percentage variation on 1975 figures		Number of detections 1976
	Recorded	Detected	Recorded	Detected	Recorded	Detected	Recorded	Detected		Increase	Decrease	
Carlow/Kildare	50	49	740	286	678	376	10	10	1,478	19.3		721 (48.8%)
Cavan/Monaghan	56	50	191	94	278	138	16	16	541	16.3		298 (55.1%)
Cork E.R.	218	208	2,247	1,016	2,732	1,363	9	9	5,206	16.5		2,596 (49.9%)
Cork W.R.	46	45	259	120	244	146	3	2	552		2.3	313 (56.7%)
Donegal	75	71	257	114	550	197	6	6	888	1.8		388 (43.7%)
D.M.A.	606	494	11,047	5,227	18,107	5,120	112	95	29,872	11.4		10,936 (36.6%)
Galway W.R.	50	47	411	138	767	287	2	2	1,230		5.5	474 (38.5%)
Kerry	37	35	253	109	583	314	7	7	880		0.3	465 (52.8%)
Leix/Offaly	49	47	265	119	414	259	9	8	737	17.2		433 (58.8%)
Limerick	90	88	1,512	585	2,038	847	5	5	3,645	36.0		1,525 (41.8%)
Longford/Westmeath	44	44	436	176	697	384	6	5	1,183	3.3		609 (51.5%)
Louth/Meath	142	123	1,128	318	1,540	630	21	19	2,831	9.6		1,090 (38.5%)
Mayo	32	31	107	65	294	210	2	2	435		8.0	308 (70.8%)
Roscommon/Galway	42	42	147	71	311	218	5	3	505	9.5		334 (66.1%)
Sligo/Leitrim	20	20	183	110	224	169	1	1	428	32.1		300 (70.1%)
Tipperary	71	68	439	184	550	249	2	2	1,062	10.1		503 (47.4%)
Waterford/Kilkenny	31	29	426	161	600	292	8	8	1,065		11.5	490 (46.0%)
Wexford	55	55	855	259	933	384	1	1	1,844	32.1		699 (37.9%)
Total for the State	1,714	1,546	20,903	9,152	31,540	11,583	225	201	54,382	12.4		22,482 (41.3%)
Total less figures for Dublin	1,108	1,052	9,856	3,925	13,433	6,463	113	106	24,510	13.6		11,546 (47.1%)
City Districts:												
Cork	106	99	1,633	737	1,992	921	4	4	3,735	14.4		1,761 (47.1%)
Limerick	44	43	1,189	471	1,537	620	4	4	2,774	35.2		1,138 (41.0%)
Galway	19	19	267	83	560	194	2	2	848		11.9	298 (35.1%)
Waterford	6	5	181	37	246	113			433		14.3	155 (35.8%)

AGE GROUPS - CONVICTED PERSONS 1976

- (a) Age groups of persons convicted, or against whom the charge was held proved and order made without conviction in respect of crimes which were pending on 1st January, 1976:

Under 14 years	14 - 17 years	17 - 21 years	Over 21 years	Total
236	650	686	1,285	2,857

- (b) Age groups of persons convicted or against whom the charge was held proved and order made without conviction in respect of crimes which were committed during 1976 :

Under 14 years	14 - 17 years	17 - 21 years	Over 21 years	Total
498	1,238	1,923	4,006	7,665

Total (a) and (b)

Under 14 years	14 - 17 years	17 - 21 years	Over 21 years	Total
734	1,888	2,609	5,291	10,522

1972 to 1976

Year	Under 14 years	14 - 17 years	17 - 21 years	Over 21 years	Total
1972	705	2,458	3,370	5,767	12,300
1973	770	1,974	3,271	5,703	11,718
1974	980	2,200	3,445	5,953	12,578
1975	876	2,434	3,827	6,600	13,737
1976	734	1,888	2,609	5,291	10,522

Juveniles (under 17 years of age) convicted or against whom the charge was held proved and order made without conviction.

1972 - 1976

Year	Total number of persons convicted	Juveniles (under 17 years) convicted	
1972	12,301	3,163	(25.7%)
1973	11,718	2,744	(23.4%)
1974	12,578	3,180	(25.3%)
1975	13,737	3,310	(24.1%)
1976	10,522	2,622	(24.9%)

There were 10,861 cases of indictable offences pending in the District Court and 807 awaiting trial on 1st January, 1977, compared with 4,929 pending in the District Court and 952 awaiting trial on 1st January, 1976.

NATURE OF OFFENCES (1)	No. of Offences reported or known (2)	No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were commenced (3)	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES													Still Pending in District Court (16)	Crime for which perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown (17)	Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted or against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction.										
			Informations refused (4)	Dealt with on Indictment and						Dealt with Summarily and								(18)		(19)		(20)		(21)		(22) Total		
				Convicted (5)	Acquitted (6)	Found insane & incapable of pleading (7)	Nolle Prosequi entered (8)	Adjudged Sine Die or otherwise dismissed (9)	Committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial (10)	Convicted (11)	Dismissed (12)	Charge proved & order made without Conviction (13)	Charge withdrawn (14)	Adjudged Sine Die or otherwise disposed of (15)	Under 14 Years			14 - 17 Years		17 - 21 Years		Above 21 Years						
															M			F	M	F	M	F	M	F				
Group 1 Offences Against The Person																												
1. Murder (of persons aged above one year)	19	14		1	1					4															1			
2. Murder (of infants aged one year and under)																												
3. Infanticide																												
4. Attempt to murder	6	3		2						1													3		3			
5. Threats, Conspiracy, or Incitement to Murder																												
6. Manslaughter (other than Traffic Fatalities)	3	3		1						1														1	1			
7. Manslaughter (Traffic Fatalities)	12	11		3	3					3													3		3			
8. Dangerous Driving Causing Death	29	28		5	4		1			7	2												1	6	7			
9. Dangerous Driving Causing Serious Bodily Harm	16	16		3			1			1	2	1		3									1	3	4			
10. Wounding and other Acts endangering life (Felonies)	73	67		7	2					9	15				2								3	10	14	27		
11. Wounding and other Acts endangering life (Gardai on Duty)	5	5		1						1	2													1		1		
12. Assault, Wounding and other like offences (Misdemeanours)	630	535		18	1					10	195	45	5	8	6	6								8	58	141	4	211
13. Assault, Wounding and other like offences (Gardai on Duty)	621	618	1	18	2			3	35	226	10	8	8	8									7	68	8	166	11	260
14. Endangering Railway Passengers																												
15. Intimidation and Molestation	3	1								1																		

INDICTABLE OFFENCES WHICH BECAME KNOWN TO THE GARDAI DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1976

NATURE OF OFFENCES (1)	No. of Offences reported or known (2)	No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were Commenced (3)	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES													Still Pending in District Court (16)	Crimes for which perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown (17)	Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted or against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction.									
			Informations refused (4)	Dealt with on Indictment and (5)-(10)						Dealt with Summarily and (11)-(15)					(18)			(19)		(20)		(21)		Total (22)			
				Convicted (5)	Acquitted (6)	Fatal Inmate & acceptable of Pleading (7)	Nolle Prosequi entered (8)	Adjourned sine Die or otherwise Disposed of (9)	Committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial (10)	Convicted (11)	Dismissed (12)	Charge proved & order made without Conviction (13)	Charge withdrawn (14)	Adjourned sine Die or otherwise Disposed of (15)	M			F	M	F	M	F	M		F		
																										Under 14 Years	14 - 17 Years
M		F		M		F		M		F		M		F													
Group I																											
Offences Against The Person																											
16. Intimidation by threatening letters, notices, etc.	8	2		1										1					1								
17. Cruelty to or Neglect of children (on indictment)	5	4	1					1	1	1										1	1						
18. Abandoning Children under two years	1	1								1										1	1						
19. Child Stealing	1	1							1																		
20. Procuring Abortion																											
21. Concealment of Birth	2	1												1	1												
22. Homosexuality and attempts	24	21			4					5							2			3	5						
23. Bestiality and attempts	1	1							1																		
24. Other unnatural offences	27	22		1					2	6									1	6	7						
25. Rape	32	25		1	5				4	3		1							1	4	5						
26. Indecent Assault on Females	89	54		4	1				2	22	2	1	2					1	4	20	25						
27. Defilement of Girls under 15 years	9	9			4					1										1	1						
28. Defilement of Girls between 15 and 17 years	6	6		1						1										2	2						
29. Incest	10	8		2					1	1									2	1	3						
30. Procuration																											

INDICTABLE OFFENCES WHICH BECAME KNOWN TO THE GARDAI DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1976

NATURE OF OFFENCES (1)	No. of Offences reported or known (2)	No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were commenced (2)	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES													Crimes for which perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown (17)	Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted or against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction.							
			Informations refused (4)	Dealt with on Indictment and					Dealt with Summarily and					Still Pending in District Court (16)	(18)		(19)		(20)		(21)		Total (22)	
				Convicted (5)	Acquitted (6)	Found insane & incapable of Pleading (7)	Notice Prosequi entered (8)	Adjourned sine die or otherwise discontinued (9)	Committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial (10)	Convicted (11)	Dismissed (12)	Charge proved & order made without Conviction (13)	Charge Withdrawn (14)		Adjourned sine die or otherwise disposed of (15)		Under 14 Years	14 - 17 Years	17 - 21 Years	Above 21 Years				
																	M	F	M	F	M	F		M
Group I Offences Against The Person																								
31. Abduction																								
32. Bigamy																								
33. Kidnapping	2	2													2									
34. Possession of Firearms with Intent to endanger life	51	47		12	3		1		9	3	1			1				2		9	2	13		
35. Possession of Firearms while taking Vehicle without authority	10	1													1									
36. Use of Firearms to resist arrest or aid escape	1	1		1																1		1		
37. Possession of Firearms or Ammunition in suspicious circumstances	12	12							3	2										2		2		
38. Carrying Firearm with criminal intent	6	2							1						1									
Total - Group I	1,714	1,521	2	82	21	9	3	4	99	488	59	14	22	17	701	25		22	151	9	387	17	586	

12. Acquitted/convicted under the Offences (Miscellaneous)

13. Found Insane & incapable of Pleading

INDICTABLE OFFENCES WHICH BECAME KNOWN TO THE GARDAI DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1976

NATURE OF OFFENCES (1)	No. of Offences reported or known (2)	No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were commenced (3)	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES												Still Pending in District Court (16)	Crimes for which perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown (17)	Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted or against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction.									
			Informations refused (4)	Dealt with on Indictment and (5)						Dealt with Summarily and (6)							18) Under 14 Years (18)		19) 14 - 17 Years (19)		20) 17 - 21 Years (20)		21) Above 21 Years (21)		Total (22)	
				Convicted (5)	Acquitted (6)	Found insane & incapable of Pleading (7)	Nolle Prosequi entered (8)	Adjourned sine Die or otherwise disposed of (9)	Committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial (10)	Convicted (11)	Dismissed (12)	Charge proved & order made with-out Conviction (13)	Charge Withdrawn (14)	Adjourned sine Die or otherwise disposed of (15)			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
																	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Group II																										
Offences Against Property With Violence																										
54. Unlawful seizure of Aircraft																										
55. Unlawful seizure of vehicle	7	1												1												
56. Sacrilege	57	20		2						8				10	3			1		2		6	9			
57. Housebreaking	4,871	2,010	2	73				2	101	639	28	83	7	44	831	148	121	4	255	6	178	8	268	2	842	
58. Attempts to break into houses	100	62		4					4	20	2				32	1	2		3		7		5	1	18	
59. Breaking into Shops, Warehouses, etc.	2,295	1,030	2	31	1			2	51	356	14	14	3	23	533	41	31		129	8	107	5	90	1	371	
60. Breaking into other premises	1,077	392		8					14	169	2	14	1	10	174	32	21		69	1	70		28	1	190	
61. Attempts to break into Shops, Warehouses, etc.	168	106		2					3	39	5	2	1		54	1			7	2	7		13		29	
62. Entering with intent to commit a Felony (Larceny Act, 1916, S.27)	382	243		10	1				7	82	6	9	2	6	120	15	11		32	7	21	1	29		101	
63. Possession of Housebreaking Tools, etc.	36	34		2				1	4	12	3	1	1		10	2			1		6		8		15	
Totals — Group II	20,903	8,713	7	302	18			8	386	2770	119	150	27	128	4,798	439	242	4	750	34	736	38	891	21	2,716	

INDICTABLE OFFENCES WHICH BECAME KNOWN TO THE GARDAI DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1976

NATURE OF OFFENCES (1)	No. of Offences reported or known (2)	No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were commenced (3)	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES													Still Pending in District Court (18)	Crimes for which perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown (17)	Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted or against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction.																						
			Informations refused (4)	Dealt with on indictment and (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10)						Dealt with Summarily and (11) (12) (13) (14) (15)					(16)			(18)		(19)		(20)		(21)		Total (22)														
				Convicted	Acquitted	Found insane & fit to be kept in Hospital	Nolle Prosequi entered	Adjourned sine die or otherwise disposed of	Committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial	Convicted	Dismissed	Charge proved & order made without Conviction	Charge withdrawn	Adjourned sine die or otherwise disposed of				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F															
																											Under 14 Years	14 - 17 Years	17 - 21 Years	Above 21 Years										
Group III Larcenies, etc.																																								
64. Larceny of Horses, Cattle and Sheep	176	65		3				1	8	21	1				31	2			2		8							23	2								35			
65. Larceny of other Livestock	32	14								2					12	2																								
66. Larceny from Person	2,245	361	1	9						21	103	9	7		5	206	7	8	34	21		13	4	19	6												105			
67. Larceny in house to value of £5, or with menaces	348	122		3	1					2	58	2	2	1	2	51	19			2	1	15	3	27	8												56			
68. Larceny from dwellinghouses by employees	53	33						1	1	12			1			18	3				1	1	1	5	2												10			
69. Larceny of firearms	29	7		1						1		1				4												2									2			
70. Larceny of explosives	1																																							
71. Larceny of motor cars	360	83		4						9	20	1		2		47																						21		
72. Larceny of motor cycles, scooters, etc.	433	49		2				1	1	12	1	1				31	3			4		12		2														18		
73. Larceny of motor lorries	10	1									1																	1									1			
74. Larceny of other M.P.V.'s.	32	7									1					6												1									1			
75. Larceny of Pedal Cycles	314	144		5				1	4	48	4	6	1	7		68	49	3		4		11	1	27	1												47			
76. Larceny of M.P.V. Accessories	724	172		3						7	75	1	2		3	81	14			17		32		45														94		
77. Larceny from unattended vehicles	11,560	2,320	2	28	2			2	65	564	28	25	5	29	1,570	103	39			66		199	5	163	3													475		
78. Larceny of Petrol/Diesel	386	316	2	12	1					7	171	5	18	1	5	94	4			12		91	1	91														195		

NATURE OF OFFENCES (1)	No. of Offences reported or known (2)	No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were Concluded (3)	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES													Still Pending in District Court (16)	Crime for which perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown (17)	Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted or against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction.									
			Informations refused (4)	Dealt with on Indictment and (5)-(10)						Dealt with Summarily and (11)-(15)					(18)			(19)		(20)		(21)		Total (22)			
				Convicted (5)	Acquitted (6)	Found Insane & Incapable of Pleading (7)	Notte Prosequi entered (8)	Adjourned Sine Die or otherwise disposed of (9)	Committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial (10)	Convicted (11)	Dismissed (12)	Charge proved & order made without Conviction (13)	Charge Withdrawn (14)	Adjourned Sine Die or otherwise disposed of (15)	M (M)			F (F)	M (M)	F (F)	M (M)	F (F)	M (M)		F (F)		
				Under 14 Years (18)	14 - 17 Years (19)	17 - 21 Years (20)	Above 21 Years (21)																				
Group III Larcenies, etc.																											
79. Larceny from Shops and Stalls	3,272	2,166		52	1					42	992	50	119	18	33	859	312	85	8	66	40	94	97	309	474	1,173	
80. Larceny of Cash, Cheques, etc.	1,241	542		10	1					5	238	12	11	3	4	258	83	13	4	27	2	46	3	92	25	212	
81. Larceny of Drugs	8	5									2					3								2		2	
82. Larceny of T.V.'s, Radios, etc.	130	42									13				1	28	4					2	1	5		8	
83. Larceny of Jewellery/Watches	179	57		1						3	213	4	3			23	8	3		18		3	5	2	1	32	
84. Larceny of Cigarettes	52	19		2							4					13	9			1		4		3		8	
85. Larceny of Copper, Lead, etc.	181	59		3							25	2	2			27	7			13		8		12		33	
86. Other Larcenies (exceeding £50 in value)	2,255	458		24						29	159	15	14	4	2	211	19	3		22	1	41	3	150	11	231	
87. Other Larcenies (not exceeding £50 in value)	4,759	1,357	2	57	2			1	46	521	33	69	8	45	573	286	49	2	81	8	137	9	355	34	675		
88. Embezzlement	109	103		4						3	29	1				66	2			1		3	3	27	2	36	
89. Obtaining Goods by False Pretences	584	444		19				2	3	145	10	2	1	7	255	1	1		4		4		111	12	132		
90. Frauds by Agents, Trustees, Directors, etc.	15	15						1		1						13								1		1	
91. Fraud by Bogus Advertiser																											
92. Fraud by Bogus Salesman	18	17								14						3								1		1	
93. Fraud by Bogus Company	2																										

INDICTABLE OFFENCES WHICH BECAME KNOWN TO THE GARDAI DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1976

NATURE OF OFFENCES (1)	No. of Offences reported or known (2)	No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were commenced (3)	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES													Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted or against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction.											
			Informations refused (4)	Dealt with on Indictment and (5) Convicted (6) Acquitted (7) Found Incompetent & incapable of Pleading (8) Nolle Prosequi entered (9) Adjourned Sine Die or otherwise (10) Committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial						Dealt with Summarily and (11) Convicted (12) Dismissed (13) Charge proved & order made without Conviction (14) Charge Withdrawn (15) Adjourned Sine Die or otherwise disposed of					Still Pending in District Court (16)	Crimes for which perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown (17)	(18) Under 14 Years		(19) 14 - 17 Years		(20) 17 - 21 Years		(21) Above 21 Years		Total (22)		
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F														
94. Fraud by obtaining credit	54	40		3							21	4			12	1							21	3	24		
95. Fraudulent Conversion	35	35							1	4				1		29							4		4		
96. Falsification of Accounts	1	1							1																		
97. Other Frauds	84	71		3					4	37				2	4	21	4		2		1		22	1	26		
98. Receiving Stolen Goods (exceeding £100 in value)	167	161	2	8	5			1	11	34	5			1		94	6				8		31	3	42		
99. Receiving Stolen Goods (not exceeding £100 in value)	322	305	1	14				1	6	113	24	2	4	5		135	17		4		30	3	69	9	115		
100. Cheating	3	1								1													1				
101. Forgery and Uttering	1,289	951		64				1	21	404	8	28	2	2		421	17		7	1	53	9	288	93	451		
102. Coinage Acts - Offences Against	4	2												2													
103. Debtors (Ir.) Act - Offences Against	62	44		4							17	2	1			20	5				2	2	15	1	20		
104. Post Office Acts - Offences Against	11	7									3					4							4		4		
Totals - Group III	31,540	10,596	10	338	13			13	303	3886	219	317	56	154		5,287	987		204	48	374	54	826	150	1944	691	4,291

INDICTABLE OFFENCES WHICH BECAME KNOWN TO THE GARDAI DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1976

NATURE OF OFFENCES (1)	No. of Offences reported or known (2)	No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were commenced (3)	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES													Still Pending in District Court (16)	Crimes for which perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown (17)	Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted or against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction.												
			Informations refused (4)	Dealt with on Indictment and							Dealt with Summarily and							(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)								
				Convicted (5)	Acquitted (6)	Found insane & incapable of Pleading (7)	Nolle Prosequi entered (8)	Adjourned sine Die or otherwise disposed of (9)	Committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial (10)	Convicted (11)	Dismissed (12)	Charge proved & order made without Conviction (13)	Charge withdrawn (14)	Adjourned sine Die or otherwise disposed of (15)	Under 14 Years								14 - 17 Years		17 - 21 Years		Above 21 Years		Total	
															M								F	M	F	M	F	M		F
Group IV Other Indictable Offences																														
105. Official Secrets Act																														
106. Treason Act 1939 - Offences Against																														
107. Offences Against the State Act 1939 - Breaches of	61	61		35	16				10																3	31	34			
108. Riot or Unlawful Assembly	1	1		1																					2	1	3			
109. Incitement																														
110. Bribery																														
111. Perjury																														
112. Indecent Exposure (Public Indecency)	25	15							1	6	1														2	4	6			
113. Keeping a disorderly house																														
114. Attempting to Commit Suicide																														
115. Brothel Keeping																														
116. Prison Breach																														
117. Escape from Lawful Custody	9	9		1							4														2	1	3			
118. Rescue from Lawful Custody																														
119. False Imprisonment	3	1																												

INDICTABLE OFFENCES WHICH BECAME KNOWN TO THE GARDAI DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1976

NATURE OF OFFENCES (1)	No. of Offences reported or known (2)	No. of Offences in which Criminal Proceedings were commenced (3)	RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS IN CASES												Still Pending in District Court (16)	Crimes for which perpetrators were detected but for which no proceedings are shown (17)	Number (by Sex and Age Groups) of Persons convicted at against whom the Charge was held proved and Order made without Conviction.									
			Informations refused (4)	Dealt with on Indictment and (5) (6) (7) (8) (9)					Dealt with Summarily and (11) (12) (13) (14) (15)					(18) Under 14 Years			(19) 14 - 17 Years		(20) 17 - 21 Years		(21) Above 21 Years		(22) Total			
				Convicted	Acquitted	Found insane & incapable of pleading	Nolle Prosequi entered	Adjourned sine die or otherwise committed for Trial and still awaiting Trial	Convicted	Dismissed	Charge proved & order made without Conviction	Charge Withdrawn	Adjourned sine die or otherwise disposed of	M			F	M	F	M	F	M		F		
120. Public Mischief	6	5								2			1							2		2				
121. Conspiracy	7	7					1			1										2		2				
122. Destroying or disposing of Dead Bodies																										
123. Electoral Acts - Offences Against																										
124. Personation																										
125. Embracery																										
126. Misprision of Felony																										
127. Wireless Telegraphy Act																										
128. Corruption																										
129. Clergymen (obstructing during Service)																										
130. Other Indictable Offences	113	99		3	1			1	8	23	3			2								22				
Totals - Group IV	225	198		40	17		1	1	19	36	4		1	4				4		13	1	53	1	72		
Grand Totals	54,382	21,028	19	762	69	9	4	26	807	7180	401	481	106	303	10861	1,454	446	52	1150	88	1726	198	3275	730	7,665	

VALUE OF PROPERTY STOLEN AND RECOVERED IN 1976.

Table showing: (1) For offences against property with violence numbered 39, 40, 56, 57, 59 and 60 of Statistical return of indictable offences for 1976.
 (2) Larcenies, etc. (offences against property without violence) numbered 64 to 87 inclusive of statistical return of indictable offences for 1976.

	Less than £1	£1 to £2	£2 to £3	£5 to £10	£10 to £50	£50 to £100	£100 to £200	£200 to £300	£300 to £400	£400 to £500	£500 to £1,000	£1,000 to £5,000	Over £5,000	Total No. of Crimes	Total value of property stolen £	Total value of property recovered £	Number of cases which no property was stolen
Number of offences against property with violence	288	320	958	1,266	5,230	2,757	2,270	1,144	624	448	654	471	49	16,479	3,234,362	361,696	2,207
Number of Larcenies, etc.	759	716	1,801	2,698	12,867	4,909	2,761	914	373	226	378	222	13	28,637	2,267,690	301,414	143

Total value of Property Stolen

1976 £5,502,052

1975 £3,768,997

Total value of Property recovered

£663,110 — 12%

£602,164 — 15.9%

NON-INDICTABLE OFFENCES - PROCEEDINGS AND PERSONS CONVICTED IN THE YEAR 1976

OFFENCES	No. of Offences in which proceedings were taken	Number of Convictions	Number of persons convicted or against whom charge was held proved or order made without conviction
1. (a) Assaults	4,291	2,649	2,915
(b) " Gardai on duty	648	444	485
2. Cruelty to Animals	80	50	51
3. (a) Dogs, Offences in relation to Licensing of (Finance Act, 1925)	1,184	978	937
(b) Dogs' Order, 1966 (wearing of dog collars, etc.)	90	63	70
(c) Dogs, Protection of Livestock Act, 1960 (dogs worrying livestock)	72	49	49
4. School Attendance Act, 1926, Offences against	478	338	371
5. Traffic Acts, Offences against:			
(a) Lighting Regulations - Pedal Cycles			
(i) No front lamp	879	632	725
(ii) No rear lamp	673	509	530
(iii) No reflector	372	269	291
(b) " " - M.P.V.	24,576	18,152	14,545
(c) " " - Animal-drawn vehicles	45	35	33
(d) Licences - Driving	33,435	20,792	19,004
(e) Obstruction	3,534	2,759	2,827
(f) Dangerous Parking	440	338	356
(g) Road Traffic General Bye-Laws, 1964	3,262	2,422	2,562
(h) Local Bye-Laws	45,517	25,728	30,868
(i) Dangerous and Careless Driving	8,706	5,951	6,226
(j) Compulsory Insurance	32,574	18,718	18,055
(k) Drink and Driving:			
(i) Driving or attempting to drive M.P.V. while drunk	1,834	1,163	1,163
(ii) Being in charge of M.P.V. while drunk	174	110	110
(iii) Driving or attempting to drive M.P.V. Blood/Alcohol concentration above prescribed limit	1,072	252	252
(iv) Being in charge of M.P.V. blood/alcohol concentration above prescribed limit	67	31	31
(v) Refusing to provide preliminary specimen of breath	187	128	128
(vi) Refusing to provide or permit taking of blood/urine specimen at Garda Stations	182	115	115

OFFENCES	No. of Offences in which proceedings were taken	Number of Convictions	Number of persons convicted or against whom charge was held proved or order made without conviction
(l) Driving or attempting to drive or being in charge of animal-drawn vehicle while drunk	8	5	5
(m) Driving or attempting to drive pedal cycle while drunk	55	48	48
(n) Exceeding speed limit:			
(i) Built-up area	11,527	9,843	10,302
(ii) Special	1,352	1,204	1,257
(iii) Ordinary	423	374	391
(iv) General	1,851	1,640	1,675
(o) Driving dangerously, defective M.P.V.	191	140	154
(p) Other Offences	10,961	6,995	7,026
(q) Construction Equipment and Use of Vehicles Regulations, 1963:			
(i) Defective tyres	8,462	6,762	6,191
(ii) Defective steering	207	145	156
(iii) Defective brakes	1,608	1,233	1,175
(iv) Other Offences	6,418	4,677	4,188
6. (a) Taking M.P.V. without authority	1,784	1,264	1,393
(b) Unauthorised interference with mechanism of M.P.V.	870	572	686
(c) Taking possession of pedal cycle without consent	83	54	62
7. Road Transport Acts	825	541	496
8. Roads Act and Finance Acts - Excise Licence	56,382	37,769	34,887
9. Intoxicating Liquor Laws, Offences against:			
(a) Illegally on Licensed Premises during closing hours	6,998	5,929	6,038
(b) Drunkenness, Simple	1,955	1,483	1,729
(c) Drunkenness with aggravation	2,585	2,116	2,199
(d) Offences by Licensed Persons (or their Servants) against closing Regulations	1,273	778	788
(e) Other Offences by Licensed Persons (or their Servants)	168	98	97
(f) Supplying or selling drink to persons under 18 years	44	18	20
(g) Offences in connection with Registered Clubs	47	19	22
(h) Other offences against Intoxicating Liquor Laws	500	337	352

NON-INDICTABLE OFFENCES – PROCEEDINGS AND PERSONS CONVICTED IN THE YEAR 1976

OFFENCES	No. of Offences in which proceedings were taken	Number of Convictions	Number of Offences convicted or against whom charge was held proved or order made without conviction
10. Labour Laws, offences against			
11. Malicious Damage to Animals, Fences, etc.	1,946	1,241	1,390
12. Police Regulations, Offences against:			
(a) Dublin Metropolitan Police Acts	907	588	742
(b) Summary Jurisdiction (Ireland) Act, 1851	759	423	586
13. Prostitution	273	224	250
14. Living on earnings of prostitute	5	4	4
15. Loitering with intent	374	206	281
16. Revenue Laws, Offences against	228	127	129
17. Stealing, Receiving or Possessing Stolen Property (not the subject of larceny at Common Law)	86	44	43
18. Street Trading Act, 1926 – Offences against	859	638	594
19. Vagrancy Acts – Offences against:			
(a) Begging	211	154	183
(b) Other Offences	529	305	403
20. Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1926 – Offences against	99	98	97
21. Firearms Acts – Offences against	225	155	160
22. Explosives – Offences against	1	1	1
23. Dangerous Drugs Act 1934 – Health Act 1970 (Offences in relation to dangerous drugs):			
(a) Unlawful possession of dangerous drugs	210	131	145
(b) Unlawfully procuring dangerous drugs	23	7	22
(c) Unlawfully supplying (peddling) dangerous drugs	6	2	2
(d) Other offences	43	10	40
24. Other Offences	7,280	4,702	4,775
TOTAL:	294,913	195,779	193,883

CRIME PREVENTION

While crime prevention is a fundamental duty of every member of the force, in each division specially trained personnel have been assigned to this aspect of police work. In Dublin, the Crime Prevention Unit is located at Osmond House, Ship Street.

During 1976, 99 lectures on crime prevention were given to groups representing various interests such as ladies' clubs, private security training organisations and residents' associations, at different centres in the Dublin area. In addition, lectures and talks on crime prevention were delivered by crime prevention personnel throughout the country. Leaflets advising on home security, pay office security, movements of cash, prevention of armed hold-ups, stock and shop security, and dangers to children, were distributed to the public.

Crime prevention exhibition stands were made available at the following centres:

- (1) R.D.S., Ballsbridge, Dublin, from 2nd to 6th March, 1976, on the occasion of the Irish Motor Show.
- (2) R.D.S., Ballsbridge, Dublin, from 4th to 8th May, 1976, on the occasion of the Spring Show.
- (3) R.D.S., Ballsbridge, Dublin, from 3rd to 6th August, 1976, on the occasion of the Horse Show.
- (4) Limerick City on 25th and 26th August, 1976, at the Limerick Annual Show.
- (5) Mosney, Co. Meath, from 4th to 6th September, 1976, at the National Community Games.
- (6) Cork City on 30th and 31st October, 1976, at the Ideal Homes Exhibition.
- (7) Dublin (Ireland House), 22nd to 26th November, 1976, Irish Industry Security Association.

The public took a keen interest in the Garda Stand on these occasions. Advice was given on various aspects of security, and crime prevention literature was distributed.

During the year, the Crime Prevention Unit staff carried out 207 crime prevention surveys of business premises and dwellinghouses, together with special security surveys of State and Semi-State buildings. Similar surveys were carried out by crime prevention personnel throughout the country.

Many people seeking crime prevention advice visited the new exhibition room at Osmond House, Ship Street, Dublin, and the exhibition room at the Bridewell Garda Station in Cork City.

The Crime Prevention Unit is also responsible for the "Garda Patrol" weekly television programme which continued to show results in prevention and detection of crime during the year.

GARDA JUVENILE LIAISON OFFICER SCHEME

The Garda Juvenile Liaison Officer Scheme was first established in 1963 in the Dublin Metropolitan Area, and later extended to the cities of Cork, Limerick and Waterford and more recently to large towns throughout the country — Clonmel, Drogheda, Dundalk, Kilkenny, Sligo, Tralee, Wexford and Galway. In 1976, the scheme was extended to Athlone, Cobh, Balbriggan, Carlow, Tullamore and New Ross. Juvenile Liaison Officers will be appointed shortly at Killarney, Longford and Gorey. Garda Juvenile Liaison Officers are specially selected members and receive training in dealing with juveniles involved in deviant and anti-social behaviour. At present, there are 4 Sergeants, 31 Gardai and 2 Ban Ghardai employed in the operation of the scheme.

The aims of the Scheme are to prevent children and young persons under the age of 17 years, who are at risk, from becoming involved in deviant or criminal behaviour; and in the cases of those who have already offended in a minor way, to divert them into legitimate activities and prevent them from becoming adult criminals.

Under the Scheme a minor under the age of 17 years implicated in crime (burglary, larceny and the like) may be dealt with by caution as an alternative to court proceedings and be subject to the surveillance and guidance of the Juvenile Liaison Officer until the age of 17 years is reached. Supervision may be withdrawn before reaching that age if it is considered that no risk is involved.

Since the inception of the Scheme in 1963, **10,385** offenders have been cautioned and supervised by the Garda.

Particulars		Dublin Metropolitan Area	All other Divisions	Total
Juveniles admitted to the scheme since its inception in 1963	Boys	5,566	3,278	8,844
	Girls	962	579	1,541
	Total	6,528	3,857	10,385
Recidivists		831	490	1,321
Cases closed, subject 17 years of age		3,176	1,838	5,014
Cases closed, supervision withdrawn after 2 years		2,006	656	2,662
Visits to delinquents' homes		91,542	57,165	148,707
Visits to Boys' Clubs		9,704	13,129	22,833
Lectures and Meetings		3,031	5,876	8,907

During the year, 686 juveniles were admitted to the Scheme (593 boys and 93 girls).

Outside the areas where Juvenile Liaison Officers have been appointed there is also provision for the cautioning of juveniles under the age of 17 years for certain minor crimes and offences. These young people are subject to a less formal type of surveillance by the local Gardai for as long as may be warranted.

During the year, 768 juveniles within this category were cautioned (697 boys and 71 girls).

DRUGS UNIT

The Drugs Unit, which was formed in 1968, has over the years grown in manpower and volume of work. It is based in Dublin Castle and is available for preventive and detective duties in relation to dangerous drugs in any part of the country. In addition, a number of members in each division have completed attachment courses with the Drugs Unit at Dublin Castle. A dog specially trained to locate drugs is attached to the Drugs Unit and has proved especially helpful in this regard.

During 1976, there was a decrease in the number of persons charged with drug offences: 289 compared with 333 in 1975. Cannabis was the most widely used drug.

Members of the Drugs Unit are available to give advice to parents and teachers, while meetings are regularly held with doctors and associated professional groups on the subject of drug abuse. Members of the Drugs Unit cooperate with the Department of Health in compiling their drug education programme.

Drug supplies are procured by postal smuggling, by means of forged prescriptions, and as proceeds of housebreakings at pharmacies and doctors' surgeries of which there were 141 cases in 1976, 115 of them in the Dublin Metropolitan Area.

In 1976, members of the Drugs Unit continued to liaise with the Customs Service Co-Ordinating Committee on drug abuse, with the various drug advisory centres, and with external police forces in relation to suspected drug traffickers.

A member of the Drugs Unit attended the International Conference on Drug Abuse during 1976 in Paris.

An Information Centre which deals with all aspects of law enforcement relating to drugs has been set up at Headquarters.

The following table gives a break-down of persons charged with drug offences during 1976:

Under 17 years		17 - 21 years		Over 21 years	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
4	—	54	17	201	13

PARTICULARS OF DRUGS SEIZED

Nature of Offence	Quantity Seized	
	1976	1975
Opium (raw or prepared)	4,208 g.	235.28 g.
Morphine	995 t.	275 t.
	51 g. 181 amp	
	20 g. sulphate	216 g. 1389 amp.
Heroin	1.6 g Chinese	150 t. 14 g.
	10 g. 10 t.	
Synthetic Narcotics	2087 t.	5849 t.
Salts of Cocaine	25 g.	858. 25 g.
Cannabis	982. 71 g.	2076 g.
Cannabis Resin	11.24 kg.	28.69 kg.
Liquid Cannabis	11 g.	.20 g.
Cannabis plants	478 plants	Nil
	124 g.	
Cannabis Seeds	850 g.	Nil.
<u>Psychotropic substances</u>	<u>Tablets</u>	
Amphetamines and other stimulants	244 t.	2113 t.
Barbiturates	14,058 t.	10,113 t.
Non-Barbiturate sedatives and tranquilizers	275 t.	125 t.
LSD	Nil	2161 t.

t - tablets; g - grammes.

DANGEROUS DRUGS – PERSONS CHARGED

Garda Division	No. of Persons Charged	Persons Charged		Type of Drug	No. of Persons Charged
		Nationality	No.		
D.M.A.	259	Irish	274	Opium	4
Longford/Westmeath	7	British/Northern Irish	11	Morphine	19
Cork East	5	Canadian	2	Heroin Synthetic	5
Kerry	3	Spanish Indian	1 1	Narcotics	52
Limerick	2			Salts of Cocaine Cannabis	4 40
Louth/Meath	2			Cannabis Resin	98
Donegal	3			Liquid Cannabis	3
Mayo	3			Amphetamines and other Stimulants	12
Wexford	2			Barbiturates	42
Cork West	2			Non-Barbiturates, Sedatives and Tranquillisers	
Sligo/Leitrim	1				10
	289		289		289

SUB-AQUA UNIT

The Garda Sub-Aqua Unit was established on an official basis in 1966. The purpose of the Unit is to carry out underwater searches for:

- (a) Weapons used in the commission of crime, or other evidence of crime deposited in water;
- (b) bodies of victims of crime or drowning accidents.

The Unit carried out twenty-five major search operations during 1976, in rivers and canals, and in the open sea.

DOG HANDLING UNIT

A Dog Handling Unit was introduced in 1960 and has proved useful in pursuit of offenders, and in searching for stolen property, drugs or other evidence. The Unit which has six dogs at its base in Dublin, and one at Sligo, operates in all parts of the country. The dog and his handler are trained together, and work as a team. During 1976, dog teams were concerned in forty-four arrests in the course of numerous patrols and searches.

THE '999' EMERGENCY SERVICE

In 1976, a total of 133,034 emergency '999' calls was received by the Gardai: 118,967 at the Communications Centre, Dublin Castle, 7,794 at the Communications Room, Union Quay, Cork, 4,765 at the Communications Room, William Street, Limerick, 813 at the Communications Room, Waterford, and 695 at Galway Station.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

There are 49 sergeants employed as ex-officio inspectors of weights and measures throughout the country. They are primarily concerned with enforcement of Weights and Measures Acts and the Merchandise Marks Acts. Two of these sergeants are employed in Cork, two in Limerick, two in Bray, two in Howth and one on the verification of taximeters in the Dublin area.

ROAD TRAFFIC

The **Special Traffic Corps** which was set up in 1973 is operational in all Garda divisions throughout the country. The Traffic Corps Unit in each division is under the direct control of the Divisional Chief Superintendent, who exercises day-to-day control through a nominated Inspector. The Special Traffic Corps complements the activities of the Force in general in the management and control of traffic and accident prevention.

In addition to their main duties of traffic control and accident prevention, the Special Traffic Corps afford assistance in various emergency situations, and indeed have made many detections and arrests for crimes and offences unrelated to traffic management. Much useful work is being done by those members who have received special instruction in accident investigation, including for example advanced techniques in vehicle examination, thereby increasing the efficiency with which road accidents and other incidents are investigated.

The Special Traffic Corps is entirely mobile and is fully equipped with all modern aids for accident prevention, traffic diversion and enforcement of legislation such as that covering road traffic and road haulage.

In an effort to enhance road safety and reduce traffic congestion, discussions regularly take place between Garda Officers throughout the country and conferences are held with Road Authorities and other interested bodies. Meetings have been held at many accident "**black spots**" with a view to improving conditions. Consultation with representatives of Local Authorities, Transport Companies, Road Safety Officers, School Committees and other organisations concerned with traffic problems is maintained on an on-going basis.

To create closer public awareness of road safety, lectures are frequently given to schoolchildren in schools and to parent committees and other Associations throughout the State.

During 1976, out of a total number of 2,949 such lectures by Officers of the Garda Síochána 2,832 were given to schoolchildren.

Schoolchildren are also instructed in road behaviour at a Special Traffic School in Clontarf, Dublin, which was set up in 1972 by Dublin Corporation.

TABLE 1

**TRAFFIC OFFENCES – DRINK AND DRIVING
ANNUAL STATISTICS OF BLOOD TESTS,
BLOOD/URINE TESTS, ARRESTS, ETC.**

1. Breath Tests:	
(a) Total number of persons breath tested	3,734
(b) Breath Test positive	2,031
(c) Breath Test negative	1,703
(d) Breath Test refused	222
2. Blood/Urine Tests:	
(a) Blood specimen given	1,731
(b) Urine specimen given	273
(c) Specimen refused	199
3. Arrests:	
(a) For refusing Breath Tests (Sec. 28(3), R.T.A. 1968)	215
(b) Arrests without Breath Test (Sects. 49, 50 R.T.A. 1961)	1,648
Total Arrests:	1,863
4. Analysis of Specimens:	
(a) Under 125 Milligrams	221
(b) Over 125 Milligrams	1,701
(c) Specimens still to be analysed at end of year	68
(d) Insufficient or spoiled, etc.	14
Total Analysis, etc.	2,004

R.T.A. – Road Traffic Act.

TABLE 2

TABLE - NON-INDICTABLE OFFENCES
 TRAFFIC OFFENCES - DRINK AND DRIVING
 SEX AND AGE OF PERSONS FOUND GUILTY

(1) Offence	(2) Persons Convicted	(3) 17 and Under 21		(4) 21 and Over	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
		Driving or attempting to drive M.P.V. while drunk or with a blood alcohol concentration above the prescribed limit.	1,415 (1,916)	84 (135)	
Being in charge of an M.P.V. while drunk or with a blood alcohol concentration above the prescribed limit.	141 (196)	4 (15)		137 (181)	
Refusing to provide, or permit taking of, blood/urine specimen at Garda Stations.	115 (225)	7 (17)		108 (207)	(1)
Refusing to provide preliminary specimen of breath	128 (193)	2 (12)		125 (181)	1

Figures for 1975 are given in brackets.

TRAFFIC — FINES ON THE SPOT — NOTICES ISSUED UNDER SECTION 103, ROAD TRAFFIC ACT, 1971

	D.M.A.		Cork		Limerick		Waterford		Galway		Killarney		Tralee		Athlone	
	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975
Gardaí	43619	41049	3663	4521	808	192	1498	993	1254	2733	102	263	2380	849	108	137
Wardens	192172	183893	55656	31262	6247	10039			2462		2502	1401	786	680	970	995
TOTAL	235791	224942	59319	35783	7055	10231	1498	993	3716	2733	2604	1664	3166	1529	1078	1132
Fines Paid	78633	68136	22909	16532	2951	5712	1072	733	2060	1689	1224	870	2392	1125	597	693
Court Proceedings	33936	25119	999	1621	1085	1490	57	35	1208	169	9		14	13	87	95
Notices Cancelled	55260	55346	2004	2310	1061	281	363	218	416	800	28	5	160	107	189	179
Court Proceedings Pending	67153	76341	33002	14673	1958	2748	4	7		75	1342	787	600	284	205	165
Spoiled Notices	809		405	647			2		32		1	2				

