

## Recorded Crime - Burglary

<b>General details</b>	Crime reported to and recorded by the police
<b>Area output</b>	The data are postcoded and georeferenced and can be aggregated to any set of geographical boundaries
<b>Time period</b>	Data supplied quarterly, but reported annually Other information from the British Crime Survey
<b>Source</b>	West Yorkshire Police
<b>Provider</b>	West Yorkshire Police
<b>Comments</b>	

### 1 Introduction

1.1 Key elements of burglaries as defined by the Theft Act 1968 are entry (or attempted entry) to a building as a trespasser with the intent to steal property from it and actually stealing (or attempting to steal) or vandalising property while inside.

1.2 In recording burglaries, the police distinguish between **non-domestic** burglaries (which include burglaries to businesses and some burglaries from sheds and outhouses where they are not clearly connected to the inhabited property) and **domestic** burglaries (which include break-ins to all inhabited dwellings and sheds or garages that are connected to the main dwelling).

1.3 Recorded crime is a proportion of all crime. The British Crime Survey (BCS) estimated that only 42% of all crimes are reported to and recorded by the police in 2003/4. Reporting rates for burglary are higher than for some other crimes, about 78% according to BCS in 2003/4 where there was a loss of property.

1.4 In the annual report to the Home Office "Crime in England and Wales 2003/4", the authors make the following statement about the recorded crime figures:

*"Recorded crime statistics are affected by changes in reporting and recording practices. There have been two major changes to the recording of crimes since 1997/8. In April 1998, the Counting Rules for Recorded Crime were expanded to include certain additional summary offences. In April 2002, the National Crime Recording Standard was introduced to ensure greater consistency between forces in recording crime and to take a more victim-orientated approach to crime recording.*

*Both these changes resulted in an increase in the number of crimes recorded. Certain offences, such as minor violent crime, were more affected by these changes than others. It is likely there has been some continuing impact on the number of recorded crimes in 2003/4 as a result of audits to improve recording. All of these factors need to be considered when looking at the trends in recorded crime"*

## 2 National and Regional Figures

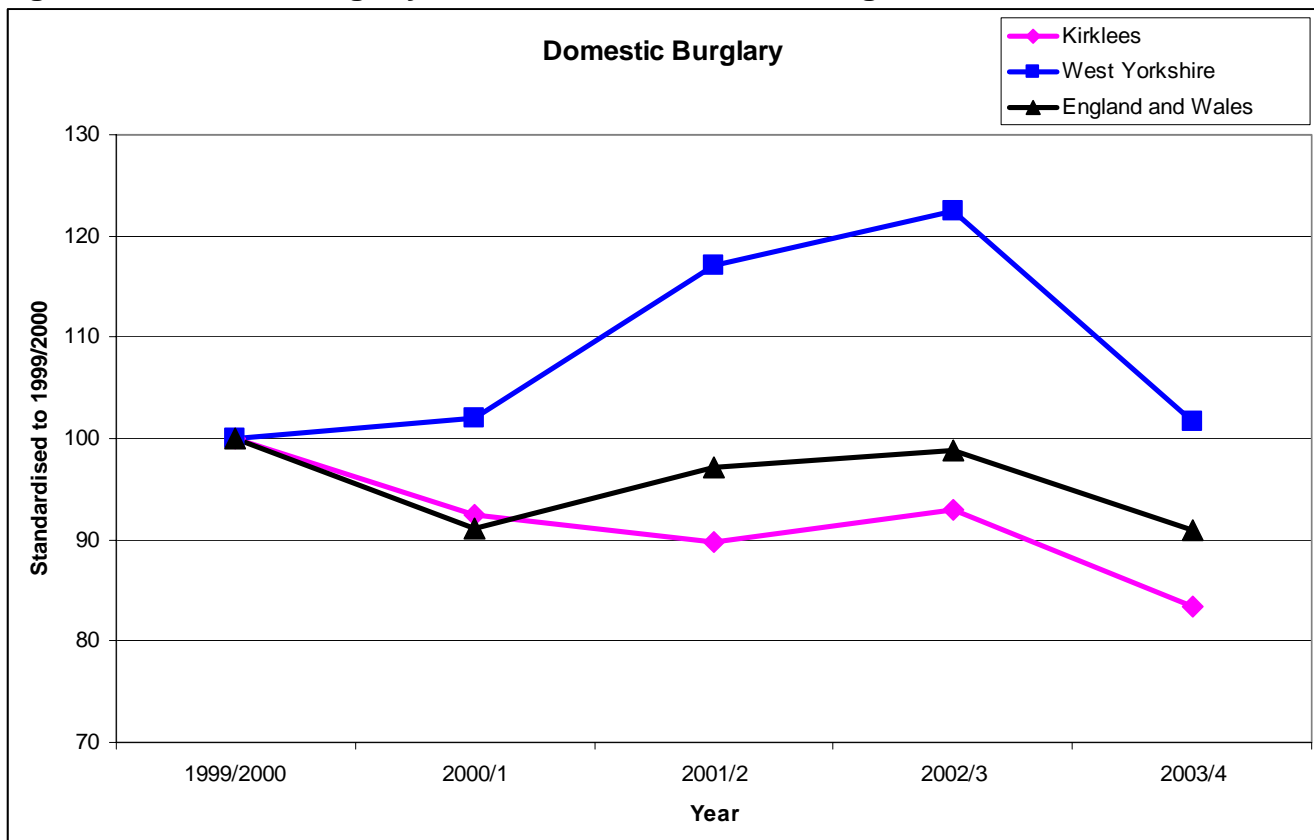
2.1 The number of domestic burglaries, recorded by the police in England and Wales has fallen to just over 400,000 in the year 2003/4 from a recent high of about 644,000 in 1995, a decrease of 37%.

**Table 1: Domestic Burglaries, Kirklees, West Yorkshire and Nationally, 1999 to 2004**

Year	Kirklees	West Yorkshire	England and Wales
2003/4	4,269	30,126	402,333
2002/3	4,758	36,295	437,571
2001/2	4,595	34,678	430,361
2000/1	4,730	30,206	402,984
1999/2000	5,119	29,624	442,602

2.2 In Figure 1 the numbers of domestic burglaries in Kirklees, West Yorkshire and England and Wales have been standardised to the 1999/2000 figure. While burglaries have increased in West Yorkshire and have now returned to the 1999/2000 figure, the Kirklees and national figures have shown an overall decline, in Kirklees by about 17%.

**Figure 1: Domestic burglary standardised to 1999/2000 figures**



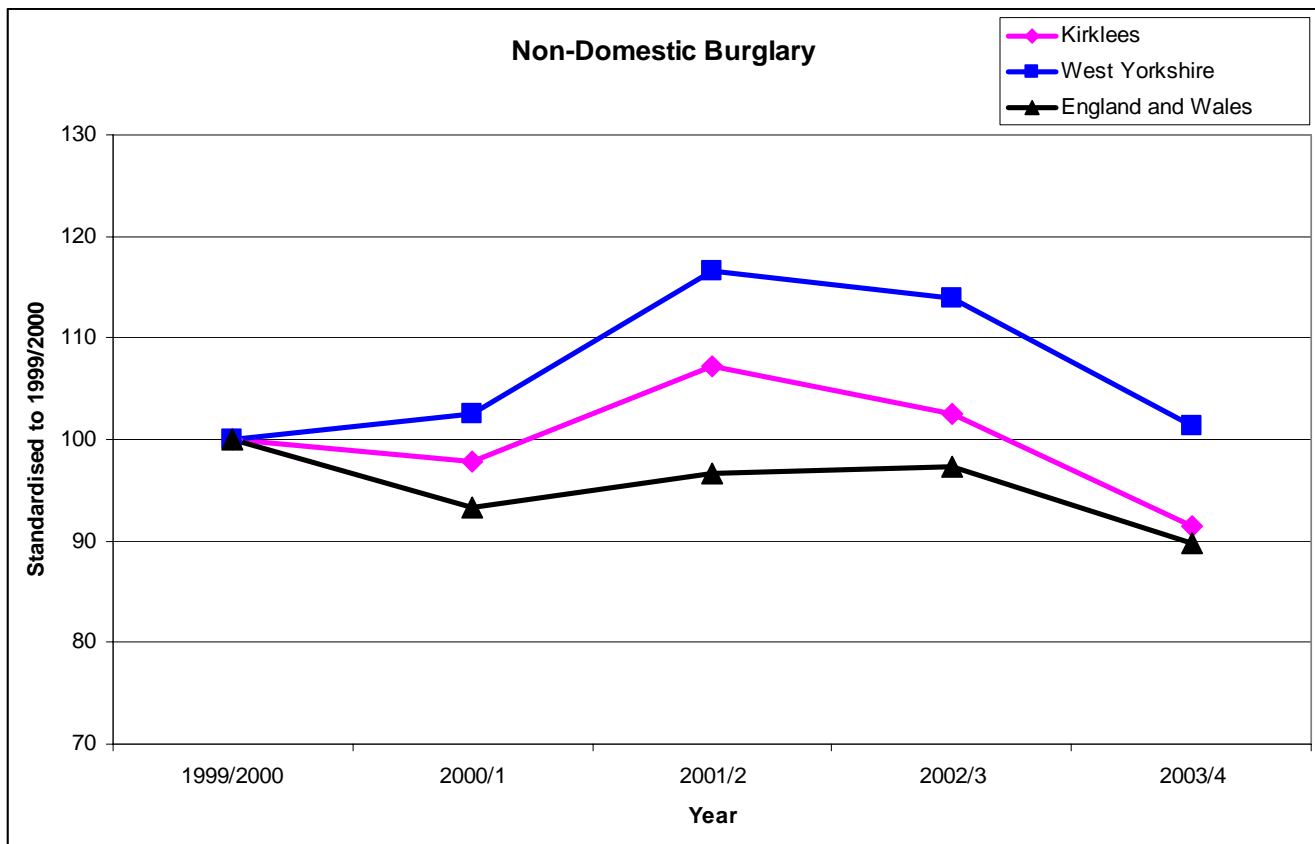
2.3 Non-domestic burglaries have also declined nationally from a recent high of about 596,000 in 1995 to about 416,000 in 2003/4, a fall of almost 30%.

**Table 2: Non Domestic Burglaries, Kirklees, West Yorkshire and Nationally, 1999 to 2004**

Year	Kirklees	West Yorkshire	England and Wales
2003/4	4,785	29,671	416,309
2002/3	5,356	33,359	451,256
2001/2	5,602	34,140	448,174
2000/1	5,117	29,992	433,043
1999/2000	5,228	29,266	463,866

2.4 In Figure 3, the numbers of non-domestic burglaries in Kirklees, West Yorkshire and England and Wales have been standardised to the 1999/2000 figure. Over the five years from 1999, the figures for England and Wales and for Kirklees have fallen by about 10% although most of the decline is between 2002/3 and 2003/4. The figure in West Yorkshire has just returned to the 1999/2000 level after a big rise in 2000/1.

**Figure 3: Non-Domestic burglary standardised to 1999/2000 figures**

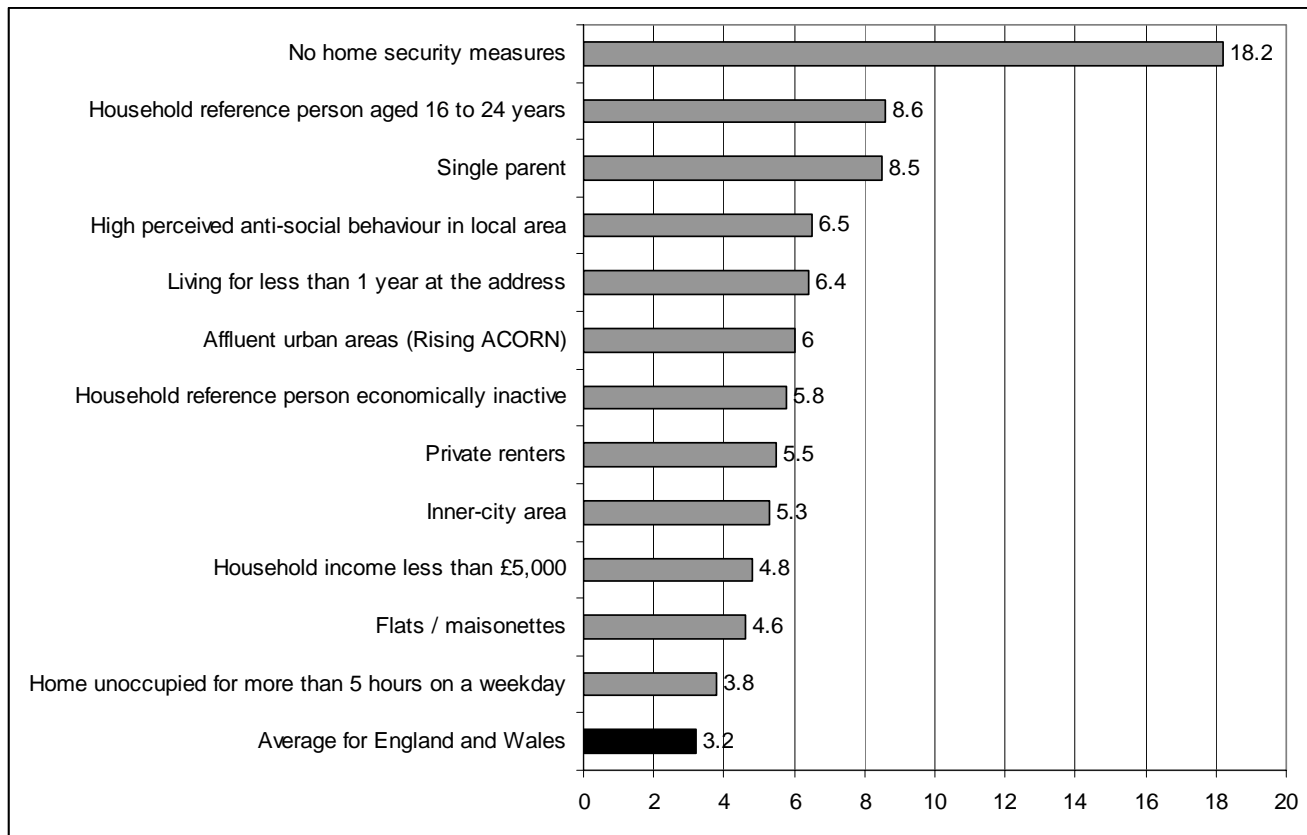


2.5 Households are not equally at risk of burglary. The British Crime Survey identified significant risk factors, of which the absence of home security measures is the most notable and puts the household at six times the average risk of being burgled. Such measures include deadlocks and secure window locks.

2.6 Figure 4 shows the relative risk of being burgled in the last year (2003/4) taken from the British Crime Survey (BCS). Overall the BCS found that 3.2% of domestic properties had been burgled but for houses with inadequate security precautions, the figure was 18.2%.

Other factors that increased risk included being young, being single, living in rented accommodation, having moved recently and not being in work.

**Figure 4 :Households most at risk of burglary (from 2003/4 British Crime Survey)**



2.7 Once a property has been burgled, it is five times more likely than properties that have not been burgled, to be burgled again. In Kirklees repeat burglaries comprise 10% of all domestic burglaries and this rate has remained stable over the last 4 years.

### 3 Kirklees Figures Domestic burglary

**Table 3: Domestic burglary per 1000 households by Area Committees.**

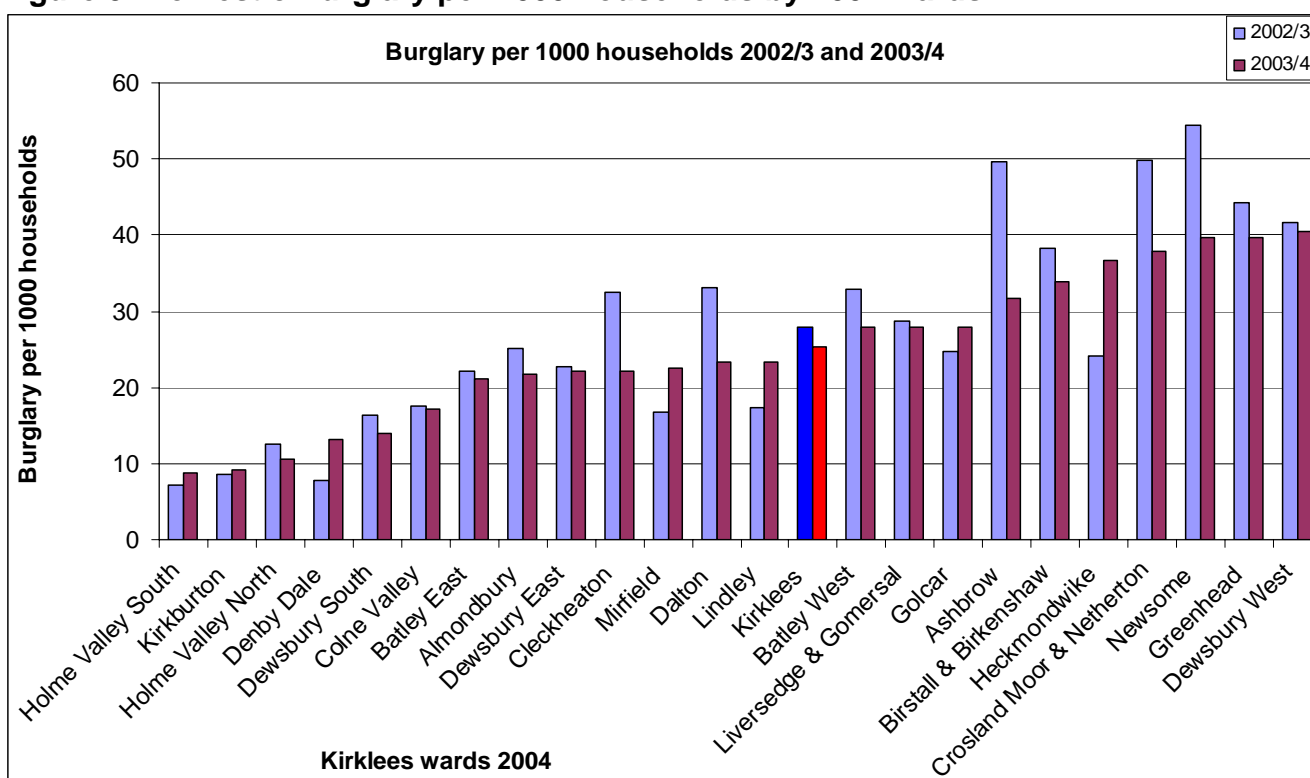
	Total households (Council Tax 2003)	Domestic Burglary 2002/3	Burglary per 1000 households 2002/3	Total households (Council Tax 2004)	Domestic Burglary 2003/4	Burglary per 1000 households 2003/4	Diffnce 2002/3 - 2003/4
Agbrigg	20715	239	11.5	20934	326	15.6	4.0
Batley	20666	645	31.2	20733	575	27.7	-3.5
Dewsbury	21062	569	27.0	21200	545	25.7	-1.3
Huddersfield North	23593	885	37.5	23692	752	31.7	-5.8
Huddersfield South	31420	1285	40.9	31533	971	30.8	-10.1
Spennings	21166	605	28.6	21370	615	28.8	0.2
The Valleys	29804	468	15.7	30173	495	16.4	0.7
<b>Kirklees</b>	<b>168426</b>	<b>4696</b>	<b>27.9</b>	<b>169635</b>	<b>4279</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>-2.7</b>

3.1 While Kirklees as a whole has seen a reduction of about 10% in the number of domestic burglaries between years ending 2003 and 2004, the decline has not been consistent throughout the district. Figures for Area Committees for the last two years are shown in Table 3.

3.2 The Huddersfield Area Committee areas have seen the greatest fall in domestic burglaries, with almost 450 fewer incidents and a combined drop in rate of 8 per thousand households. However, the Huddersfield Area Committee areas still have the overall highest rate of domestic burglary at about 31 per thousand households.

3.3 In Agbrigg (and to a lesser extent in the Valleys), where rates have traditionally been low, the number of domestic burglaries has risen by 30% and the rate by 4 per thousand households

**Figure 5: Domestic Burglary per 1000 households by 2004 wards.**



3.4 Figure 5 shows that there are large variations in the rate of domestic burglaries between wards over the last two years; the rate in wards in rural south Kirklees (Kirkburton, Holme Valley, Denby Dale) is less than a quarter that in the urban wards of Dewsbury West and Greenhead. The figure also shows that there have been large reductions in rates over the previous year in Cleckheaton, Dalton, Ashbrow, Crosland Moor and Newsome.

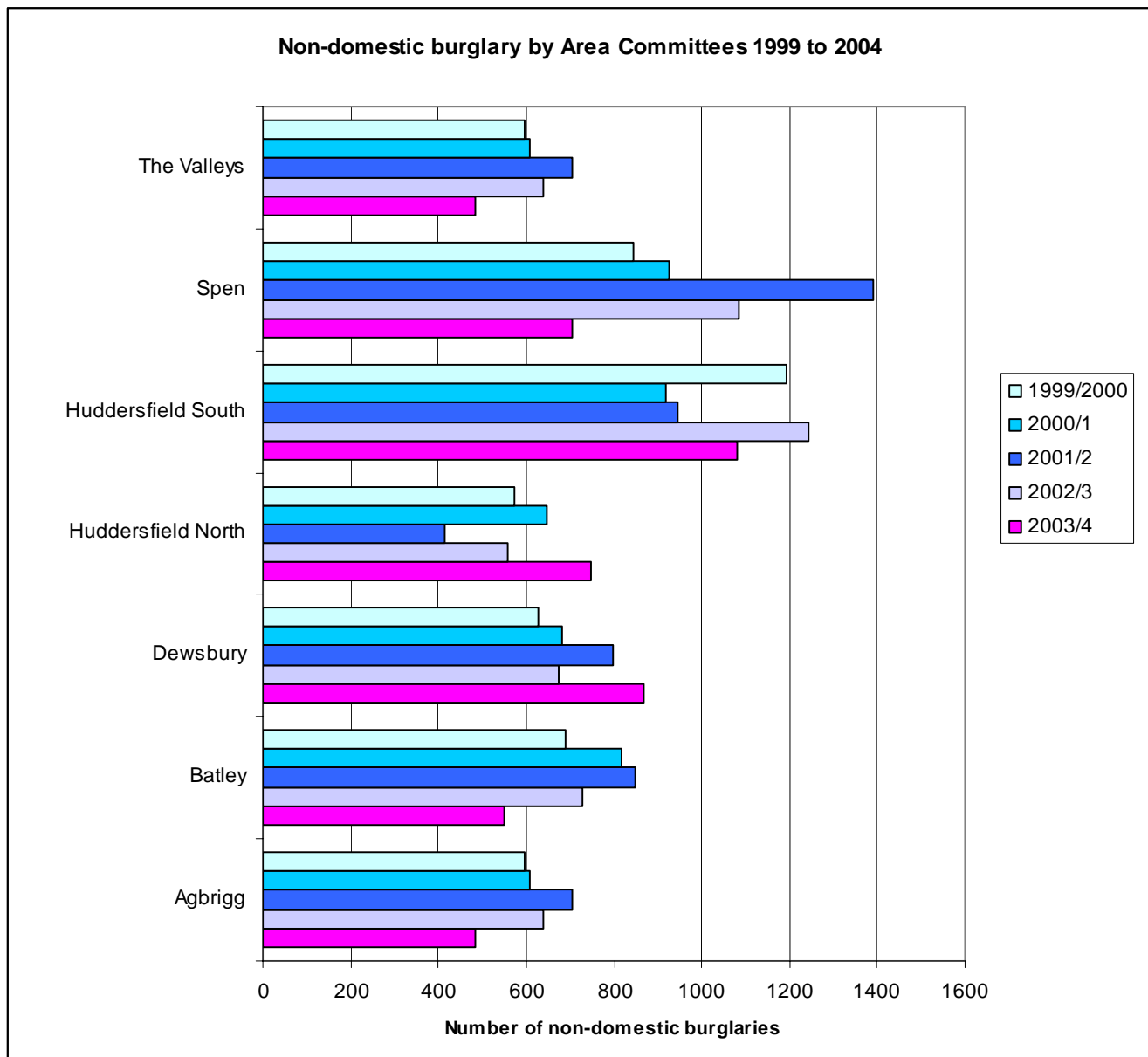
3.5 However, it is important not to read too much into figures from a single year. Figure 14 in Appendix 1 shows how the number of burglaries per ward fluctuated over the last five years

## Non-domestic burglary

3.6 As with domestic burglary, the overall Kirklees decline in non-domestic burglary conceals a mixed picture across the district. Figure 6 shows that non-domestic burglary has fallen reasonably steadily in Agbrigg, Batley and the Valleys, but has risen in Huddersfield North and Dewsbury.

3.7 In Huddersfield South, the figures are highest (partly because it has four wards rather than the three wards of most of the other Area Committees) and have both risen and fallen over the last five years.

**Figure 6: Non-domestic burglary by Area Committees 1999 to 2004**



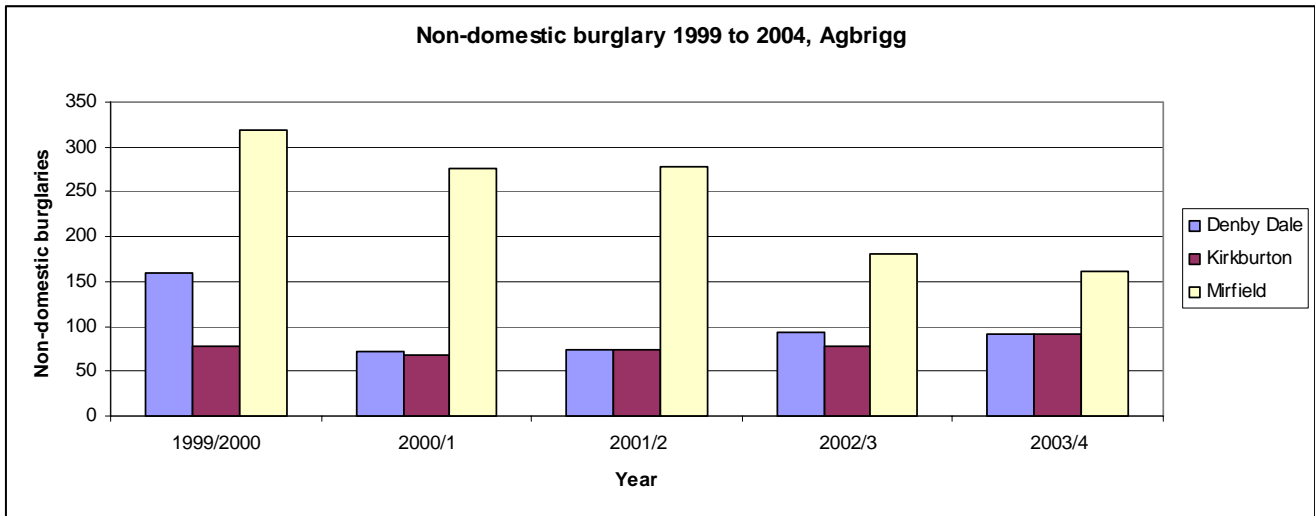
The following paragraphs refer to Figures 7 to 13 below

3.8 In Agbrigg, Mirfield accounts for most of the non-domestic burglaries, which have shown a steady decline over the last five years, (Figure 7).

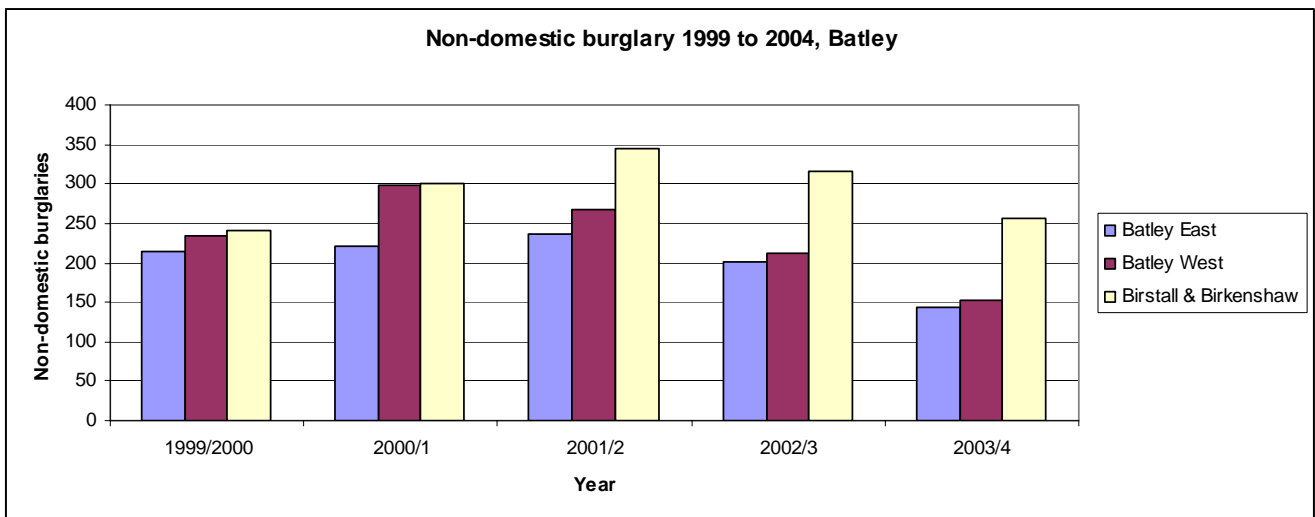
3.9 In Batley non-domestic burglaries have risen and fallen with the fall in Birstall and Birkenshaw less marked than in the other two wards (Figure 8).

3.10 In Dewsbury East and West, the figures for non-domestic burglary have risen to around 350 incidents in 2003/4 (Figure 9).

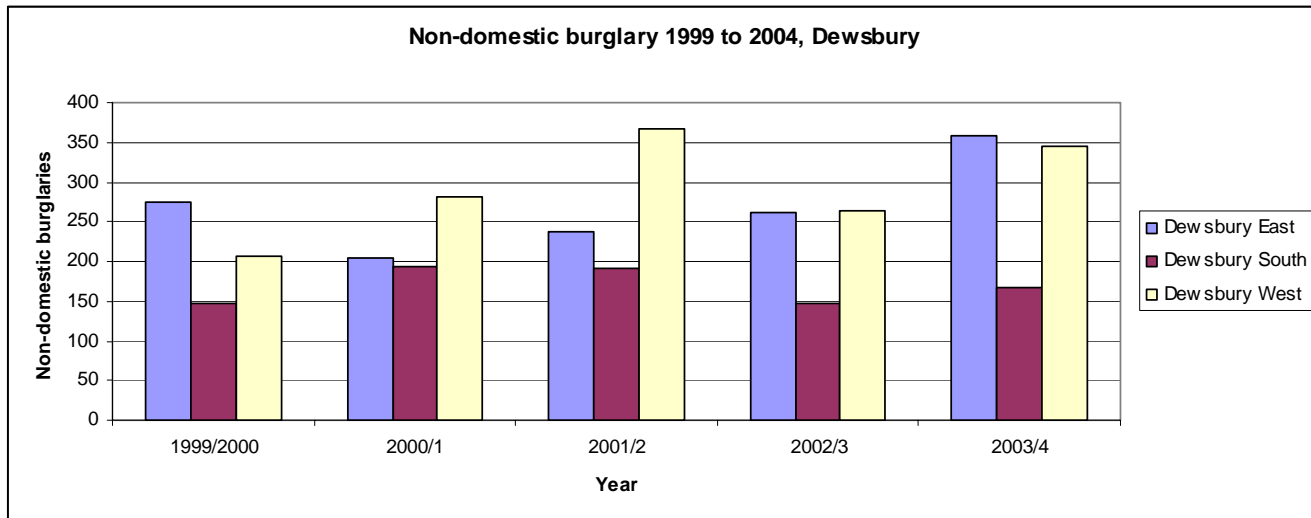
**Figure 7: Non-domestic Burglary 1999 to 2004, Agbrigg**



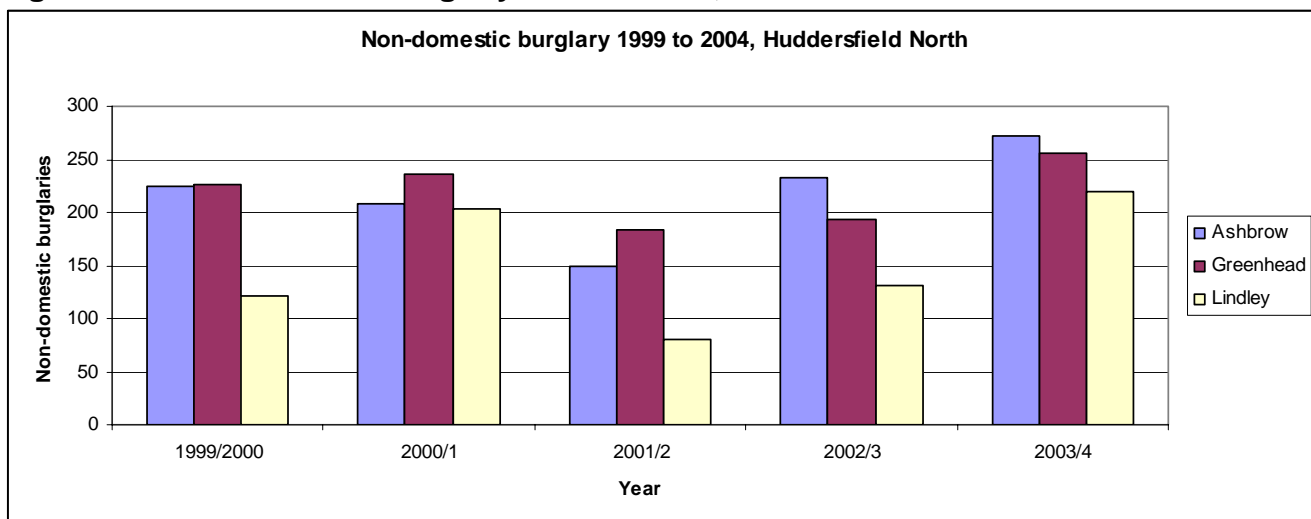
**Figure 8: Non-domestic Burglary 1999 to 2004, Batley**



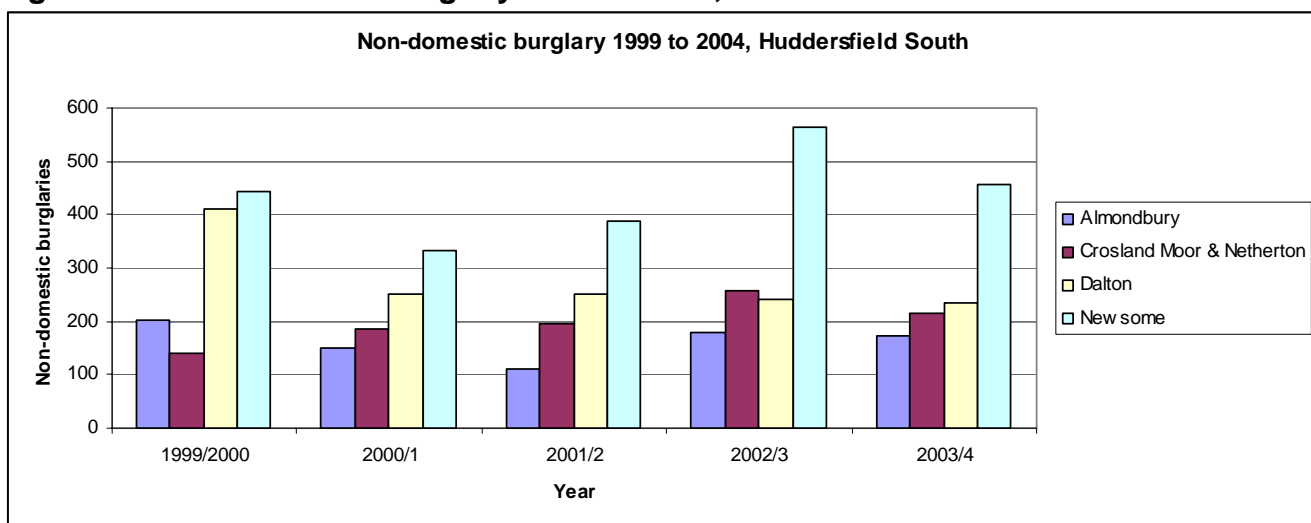
**Figure 9: Non-domestic Burglary 1999 to 2004, Dewsbury**



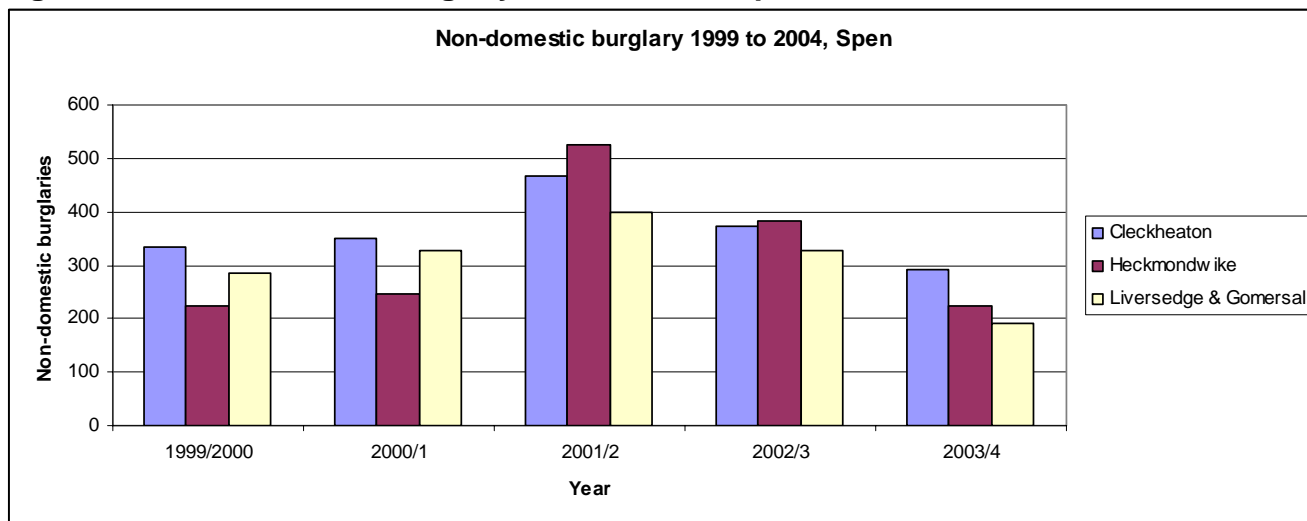
**Figure 10: Non-domestic Burglary 1999 to 2004, Huddersfield North**



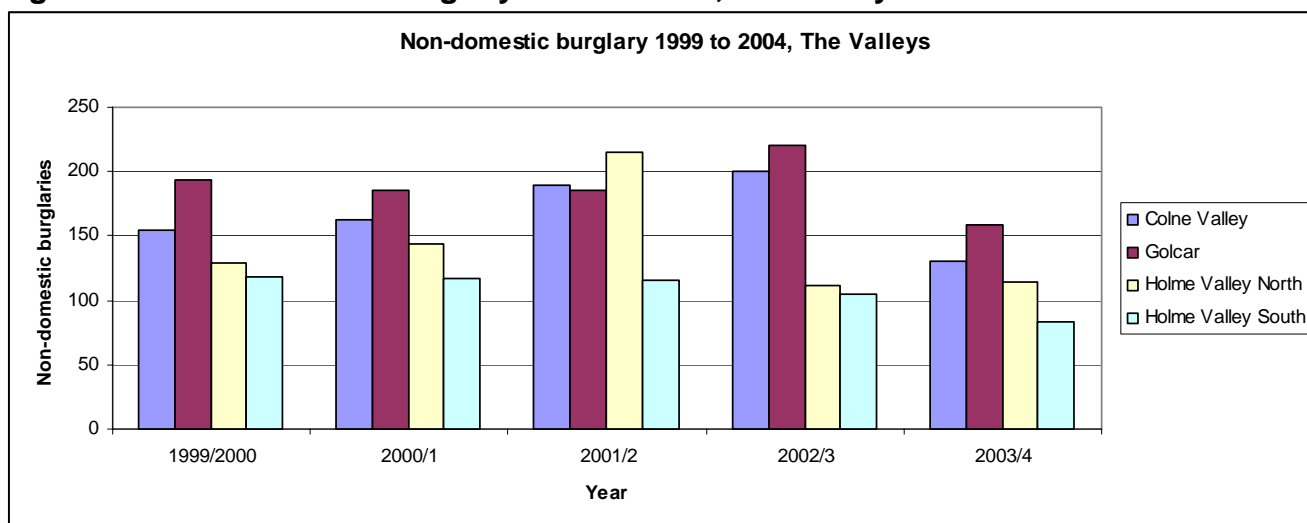
**Figure 11: Non-domestic Burglary 1999 to 2004, Huddersfield South**



**Figure 12: Non-domestic Burglary 1999 to 2004, Spen**



**Figure 13: Non-domestic Burglary 1999 to 2004, The Valleys**



3.11 In Huddersfield North, the figures declined to 2001/2 and then rose to five year highs. (Figure 10).

3.12 Newsome ward has the highest number of non-domestic burglaries and the figure has remained high whilst dropping in the other wards in Huddersfield South (Figure 11).

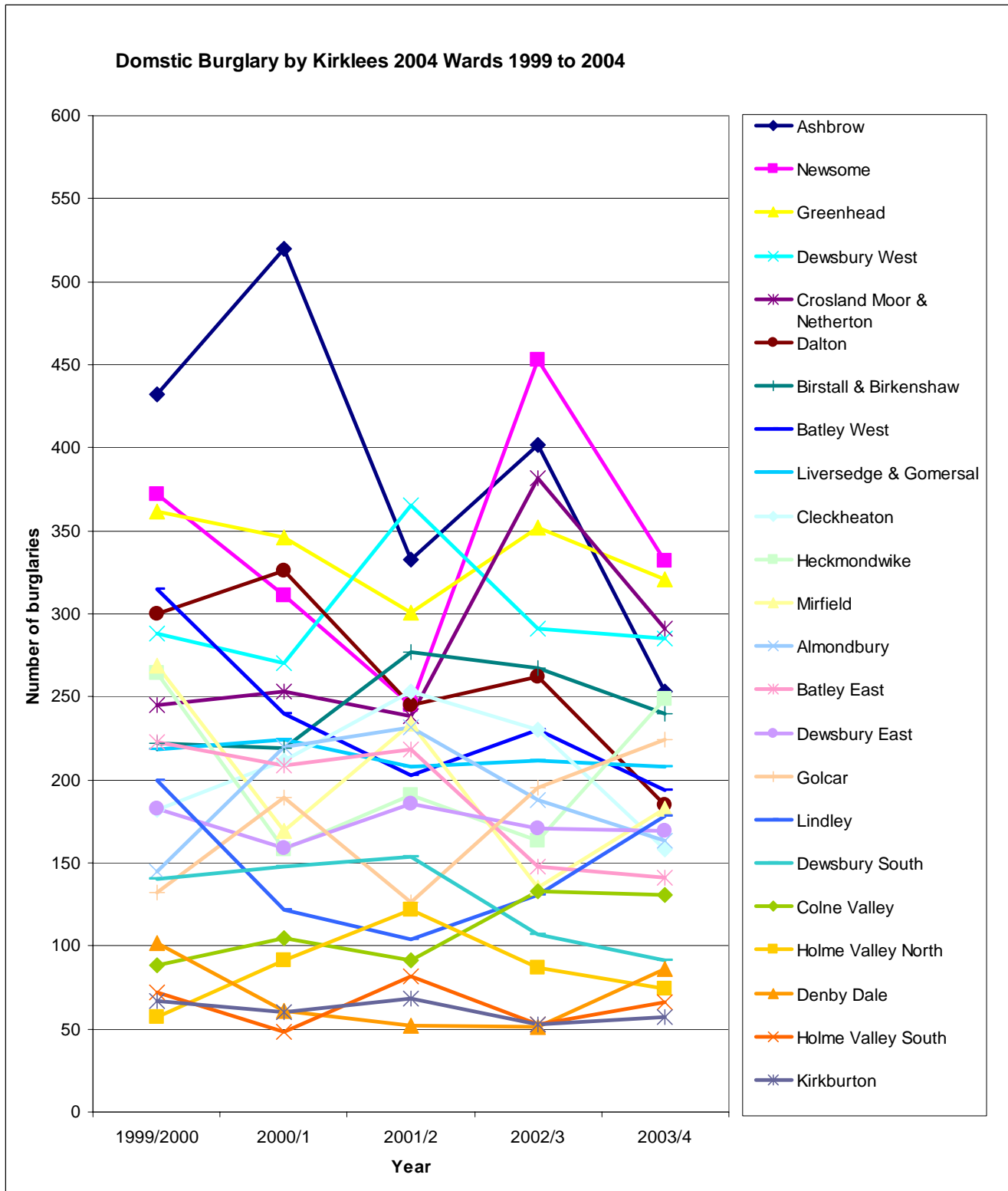
3.13 Non-domestic burglaries rose in all wards of Spen Area Committee to 2001/2 and then have declined (Figure 12).

3.14 In the Valleys Area Committee, there have been fewer non-domestic burglaries in the Holme Valley than the Colne Valley.

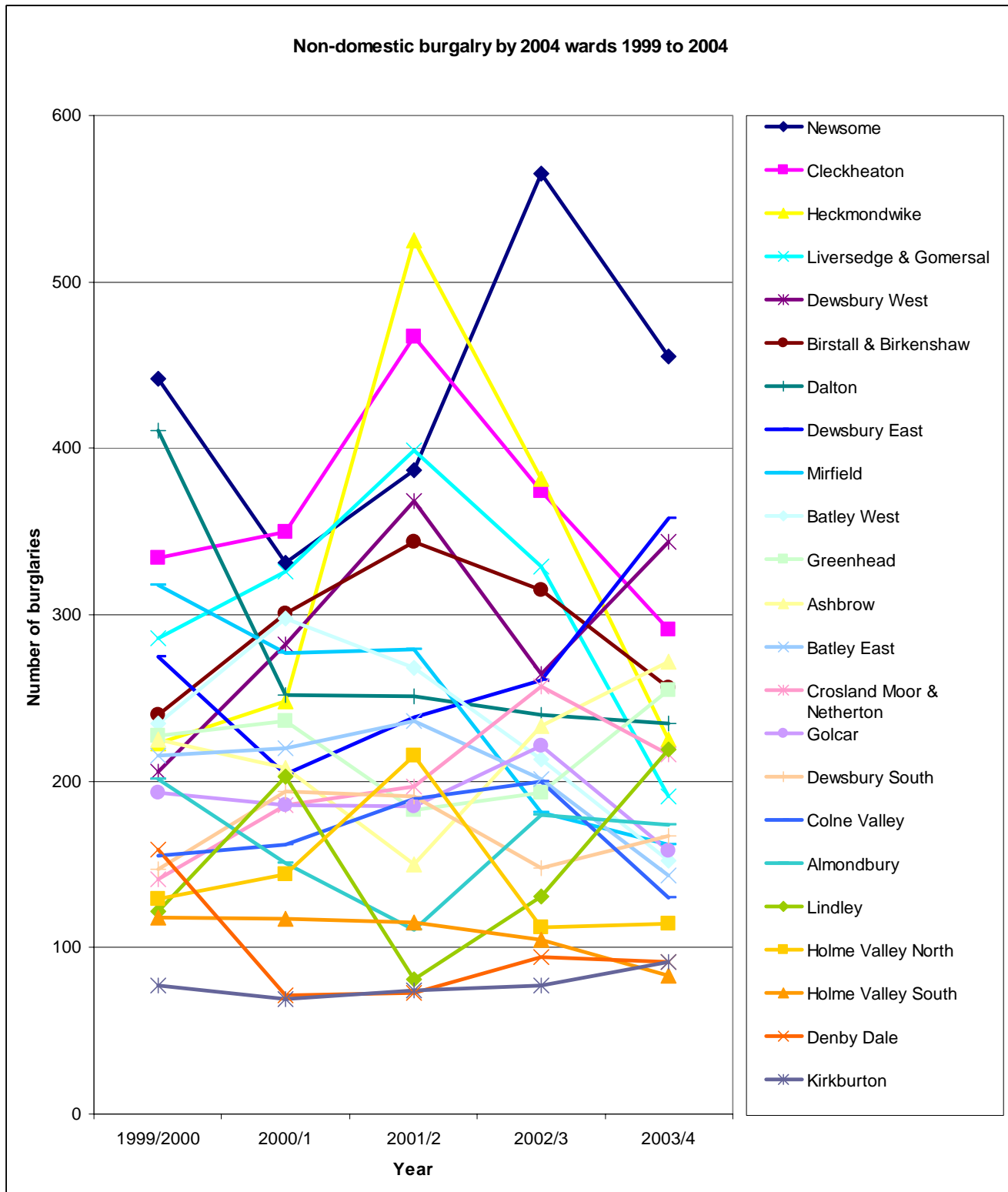
3.15 In Holme Valley South, Denby Dale and Kirkburton, the number of non-domestic burglaries was under 100 for 2003/4, whereas in Newsome the number was over 500 in 2002/3 and over 500 in Heckmondwike in 2001/2. We would expect more non-domestic burglaries in areas with a lot of businesses and, for example, Newsome ward covers Huddersfield town centre.

3.16 As with domestic burglaries, the fluctuation in ward figures between years is quite pronounced as shown by Figure 14 in Appendix 1.

**Appendix 1**  
**Figure 14: Domestic burglary by 2004 wards 199 to 2004**



**Figure 15: Non-domestic burglary by 2004 wards 1999 to 2004**



#### 4 Links and further information

Office for National Statistics

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/default.asp>

Crime in England and Wales 2003/2004

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs04/hosb1004.pdf>

Crime in England and Wales 2003/2004; Quarterly Update to December 2004

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs05/hosb0705.pdf>

Outputs from British Crime Surveys

<http://www.crimestatistics.org.uk/output/Page109.asp>

Kirklees Crime and Disorder Audit 2004

Available from Kirklees Community Safety Unit

#### 5 Indicator archive

Date of the original document	June 2005
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Update author	
Details of update consultation	