



TIIG

INJURY SURVEILLANCE IN THE NORTH WEST OF ENGLAND

Briefing for Commissioners and Providers

Trends in violence across the North West of England

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KEY FINDINGS

- A recent report by Cardiff University found the number of violence-related attendances to Emergency Departments (EDs), Minor Injury Units (MIUs) and Walk-in Centres across England and Wales had decreased. As a response the current report from the Trauma and Injury Intelligence Group (TIIG) focuses upon violence-related attendances to all EDs across the North West of England supplemented by data from the North West Ambulance Service (NWAS).
- TIIG receive and share information on violence-related attendances presenting at EDs across the North West of England. This information is circulated to local partners who are working in community safety for use in local violence protection work.
- The current report found overall that there has been a reduction in the number of ED violence-related attendances across the North West of England which supports the findings in the Cardiff University report.
- Specifically between 2011/12 and 2012/13 there has been an 8% decrease in the number of violence-related attendances to the EDs across the North West of England.
- This decrease was seen across all areas of the North West; between 2011/12 and 2012/13 there was a 13% decrease in the number of violence-related attendances to Merseyside EDs, an 11% decrease in attendances to the EDs across both Cumbria and Lancashire, Cheshire showed an 8% decrease and Greater Manchester had a 5% decrease.
- There were some instances where attendances increased at specific EDs however this was often likely to be due to the downgrading of other local EDs to Urgent Care Centres (UCCs).
- TIIG also warehouses data collected and collated by the North West Ambulance Service (NWAS); violence-related ambulance call outs in 2012/13 decreased by 14% compared to 2011/12.

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In April 2014, Cardiff University (Sivarajasingham, Wells, Moore et al., 2014) published a report looking at violence-related attendances to Emergency Departments (EDs), Minor Injury Units (MIUs) and Walk-in Centres across England and Wales. This report found that the number of people attending EDs, MIUs or Walk in Centres in 2013 had decreased by 12% from the previous year and that overall since 2008, levels of violence had dropped year on year. This report included only those EDs, MIUs and Walk-in Centres which are part of the National Violence Surveillance Network (NVSN) meaning that not all sites across England and Wales were included in the report. Within the North West of England only 19 out of 32 EDs were included in the Cardiff University report.

The purpose of this briefing is to look at violence-related attendances to all EDs across the North West of England, supplemented by North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) data, providing a much more detailed picture of violence-related activity across the region.

TRENDS IN VIOLENCE ACROSS THE NORTH WEST OF ENGLAND (NORTH WEST ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS)

The Trauma and Injury Intelligence Group (TIIG) based at the Centre for Public Health, Liverpool John Moores University is a comprehensive injury intelligence service which collects and disseminates data on Emergency Department (ED) attendances across the North West of England. TIIG was first established in 2001 and routinely collects and shares ED data on intentional and unintentional injuries. TIIG has a wealth of data with up to nine years comparators for some EDs, and as of 2014 TIIG receives data on injury attendances from all EDs throughout the region thus allowing the development of a national representation of the levels of injuries and trends over time.

An essential part of TIIG's remit is sharing timely and detailed information on violence-related attendances presenting to the EDs across the North West of England. This information is circulated to local partners who are working in community safety for use in local violence prevention work. Specifically, TIIG data on violence-related attendances to EDs has been used locally to support strategic and tactical policing, in particular in targeting community safety initiatives at neighbourhood levels, for use in licencing reviews when assaults occur in specific venues across the region and also in looking to reduce the number of domestic violence cases.

Table 1 shows the number of violence-related attendances to each ED across the region. The years provided reflect when EDs joined TIIG and began sharing data. Where full comparisons can be made i.e. 2011/12 to 2012/13, the data shows that there has been an 8% reduction in violence-related attendances across these two years. Over the long term there have also been significant reductions across specific local areas. For example, Arrowe Park Hospital on the Wirral, one of the first EDs to share data with TIIG, has seen a 49% reduction in violence-related attendances between 2006/07 to 2012/13. Between 2011/12 and 2012/13, 25 out of the 32 EDs across the region have seen a reduction in the number of assault attendances and for those that have seen an increase, in some cases this may be in part due to downgrading of other local EDs to Urgent Care Centres (UCCs). For a more detailed breakdown of ED attendances at local level, please see the individual area sections.

Figure 1 shows not only the trends in violence-related attendances to the EDs across the North West but also the number of attendances in each area compared with other areas. Data have been provided for each area only for the years where there is full coverage for that particular area. On the whole, across the five areas there has been a downward trend in violence-related assault attendances. Looking at 2012/13 data, violence-related attendances were highest in Greater Manchester (14,359) followed by Merseyside (7,006), Lancashire (6,120), Cheshire (4,079) and Cumbria (1,563) and this is consistent across all financial years where data are available.

The findings from this report support the findings from the Cardiff University report in that overall there has been a decrease in violence-related attendances. Whilst the 2011/12 to 2012/13 findings across the North West of England show a lower percentage decrease than in the Cardiff University report (8% and 12% respectively) it is of note that TIIG has been in existence since 2001 and for many EDs the largest of their attendance decreases occurred in the first few years following their joining the TIIG injury intelligence service.

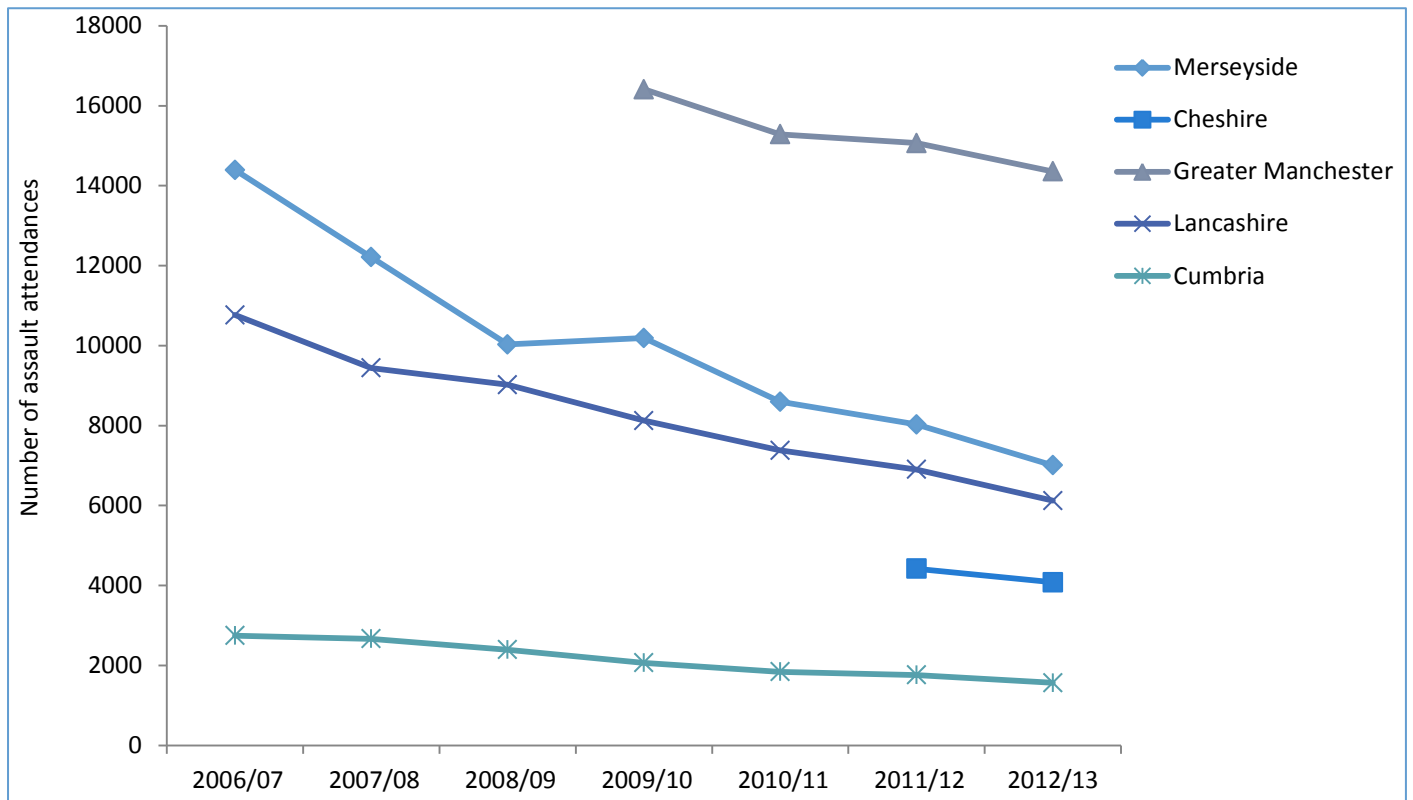
If you would like more information about TIIG or to request North West ED data then please contact Jennifer Brizell (J.S.Brizell@ljmu.ac.uk) or Karen Critchley (K.A.Critchley@ljmu.ac.uk).

Table 1. Violence trends across the North West of England (2004/05 to 2012/13)

Hospital	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2006/07-2012/13	2008/09-2012/13	2011/12-2012/13
Arrowe Park Hospital	2872	2857	2808	2455	2200	2035	1616	1591	1435	-48.9	-34.8	-9.8
University Hospital Aintree	3004	3143	3209	2981	2628	2787	2493	2180	1972	-38.5	-25.0	-9.5
Alder Hey Children's NHS Hospital		670	603	443	354	343	305	285	218	-63.8	-38.4	-23.5
The Royal Liverpool University Hospital		4295	4370	3800	2590	2561	2121	2005	1740	-60.2	-32.8	-13.2
Whiston Hospital		1940	2171	1387	1238	1439	1255	1245	1049	-51.7	-15.3	-15.7
Southport District General Hospital			1234	1146	1018	1025	807	719	592	-52.0	-41.8	-17.7
Blackpool Victoria Hospital			3080	2722	2564	2365	2116	2040	1501	-51.3	-41.5	-26.4
Chorley and South Ribble Hospital			811	788	811	785	727	652	620	-23.6	-23.6	-4.9
Ormskirk and District General Hospital			316	177	141	169	78	85	69	-78.2	-51.1	-18.8
Royal Blackburn Hospital & Burnley General Hospital			4165	3374	3124	2644	2390	2142	2146	-48.5	-31.3	0.2
Royal Lancaster Infirmary			402	490	488	422	447	381	325	-19.2	-33.4	-14.7
Royal Preston Hospital			1993	1890	1892	1736	1618	1602	1459	-26.8	-22.9	-8.9
Cumberland Infirmary			1313	1214	1046	937	909	902	731	-44.3	-30.1	-19.0
Furness General Hospital			479	511	456	480	369	365	364	-24.0	-20.2	-0.3
West Cumberland Hospital			858	804	758	581	562	494	468	-45.5	-38.3	-5.3
Westmorland General Hospital*			97	136	133	68	-	-	-			
Leighton Hospital					1432	1361	1168	1267	1165		-18.6	-8.1
Macclesfield District General Hospital					601	633	558	571	581		-3.3	1.8
Fairfield General Hospital					1026	933	852	1173	880		-14.2	-25.0
Manchester Royal Infirmary					2437	2393	2091	1722	2017		-17.2	17.1
North Manchester General Hospital					1184	1267	1430	1577	1698		43.4	7.7
Rochdale Infirmary					1750	1597	1061	729	701		-59.9	-3.8
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary					1528	1448	1302	1057	1055		-31.0	-0.2
Royal Oldham Hospital					1547	1384	1278	1593	1724		11.4	8.2
Tameside General Hospital					1603	1588	1248	1038	947		-40.9	-8.8
Trafford General Hospital					617	476	416	545	556		-9.9	2.0
Wythenshawe Hospital						598	1051	987	795			-19.5
Salford Royal						1798	1787	1750	1495			-14.6
Stepping Hill Hospital						1183	1287	1306	1201			-8.0
The Royal Bolton Hospital						1748	1485	1587	1290			-18.7
Countess of Chester Hospital								1053	918			-12.8
Warrington Hospital								1528	1415			-7.4
North West EDs								36171	33127			-8.4

*ED services at Westmorland General Hospital closed in 2010.

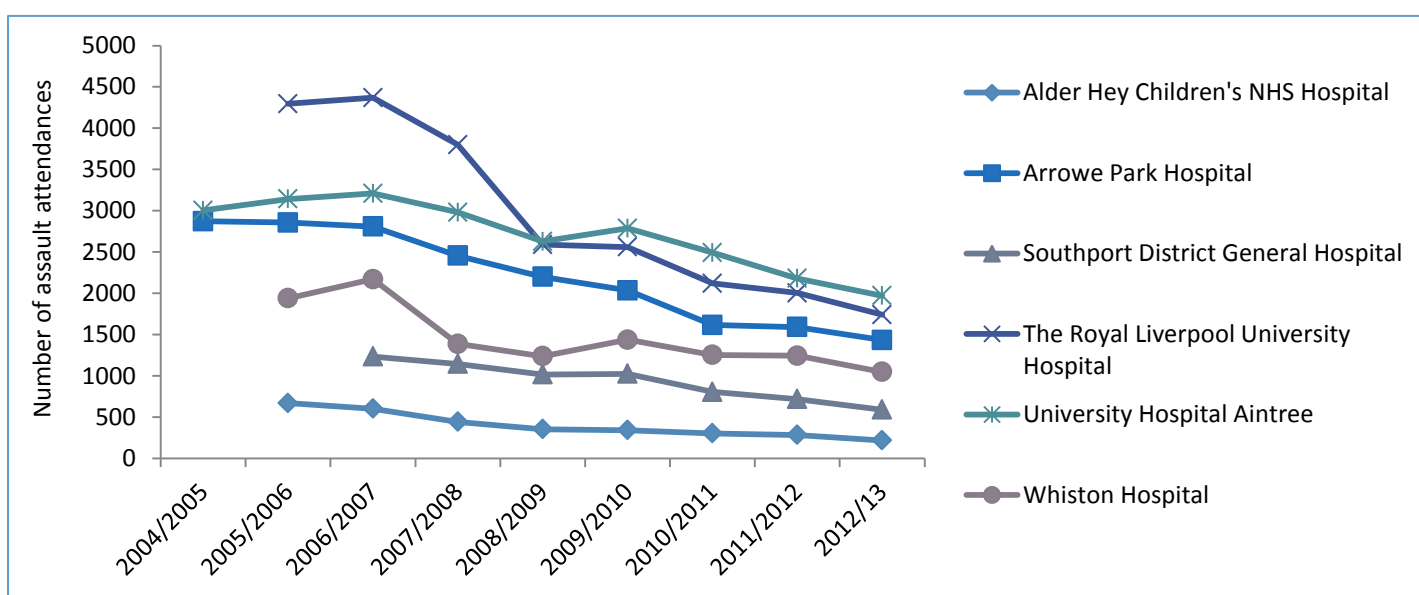
Figure 1. Violence trends across the North West of England (2006/07 to 2012/13)



MERSEYSIDE

Across Merseyside there are six Emergency Departments (EDs). The Trauma and Injury Intelligence Group (TIIG) has at least seven financial years' worth of data for each ED across Merseyside with nine years for Arrowe Park Hospital and University Hospital Aintree. Between 2011/12 and 2012/13 there was a 13% decrease in assault attendances to Merseyside EDs which is higher than the regional average (8%) and the figure found in the Cardiff University report for England and Wales (12%). EDs across Merseyside have been part of the TIIG injury surveillance system since at least 2006/07 and the decrease in assault attendances between 2006/07 and 2012/13 is very high, range from 39% decrease at University Hospital Aintree to 64% decrease at Alder Hey Children's Hospital. Additionally, both Alder Hey Children's Hospital and Arrowe Park Hospital there has been a decrease in the number of assault attendances each financial year (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Violence trends across Merseyside (2004/05 to 2012/13)



Arrowe Park Hospital collect information on the number of assault attendances that were alcohol related (Table 2). Whether an assault was alcohol related is specified by asking the patient whether they had consumed alcohol three hours previously to being assaulted. As the number of assault attendances decreased year on year at Arrowe Park Hospital the number of alcohol related assault attendances also decreased (47% decreased from 2004/05 to 2012/13). However, the proportion of assault attendances which were alcohol related did not differ considerably across the nine year period (ranging from 37% in 2008/09 to 51% in 2012/13).

Table 2. Alcohol and Violence trends at Arrowe Park Hospital (2004/05 to 2012/13)

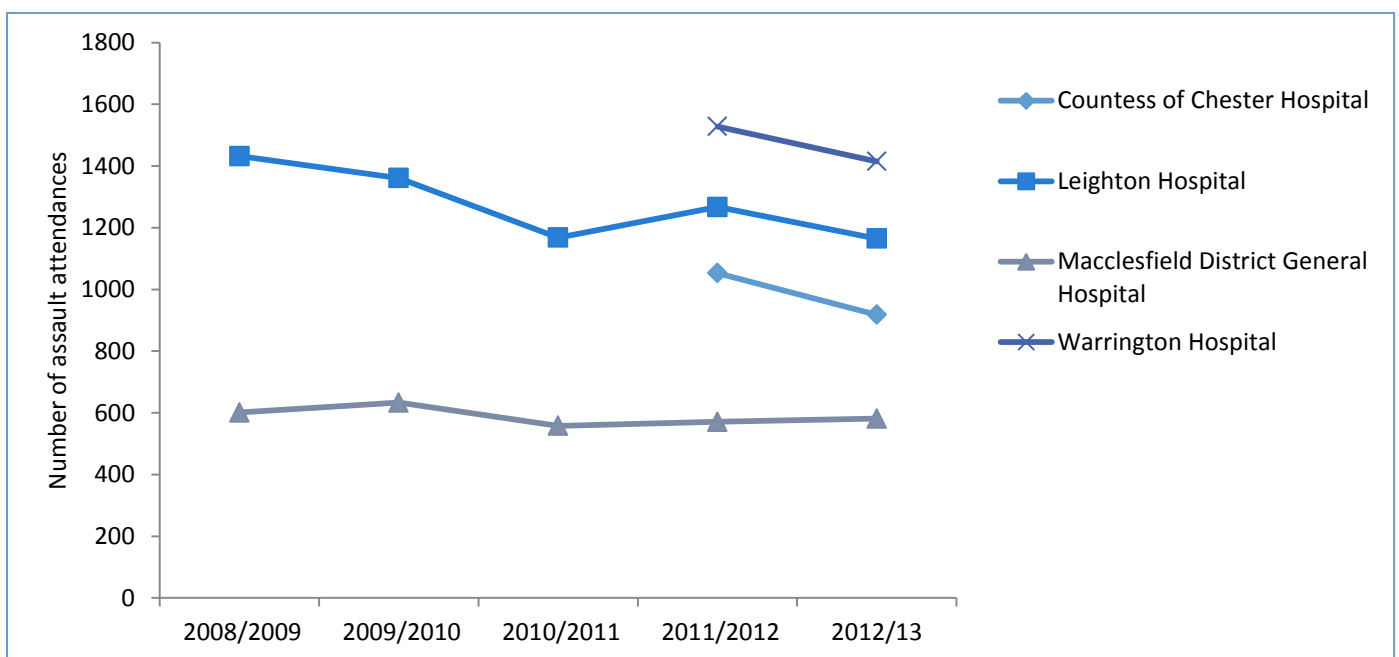
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	% change
Merseyside										
Arrowe Park Hospital	1398	1359	1291	1046	807	975	754	762	735	-47
% Alcohol related	49%	48%	46%	43%	37%	48%	47%	48%	51%	N/A

CHESHIRE

Across Cheshire there are four EDs. TIIG has at least two financial years' worth of data for each ED across Cheshire with four years for Leighton Hospital and Macclesfield Hospital. Between 2011/12 and 2012/13 there was an 8% decrease in assault attendances to Cheshire EDs which is the same as the regional average (8%) but lower than the figure found in the Cardiff University report for England and Wales (12%).

Both Leighton Hospital and Macclesfield District General Hospital had fluctuations in the number of assault attendances; however between the start of data collection (2008/09) and 2012/13 there were decreases in the number of violence-related attendances (19% and 3% respectively). As the data for Countess of Chester Hospital and Warrington Hospital is only available from 2011/12 it is not possible to make comparisons beyond 2011/12 and 2012/13 comparisons (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Violence trends across Cheshire (2008/09 to 2012/13)

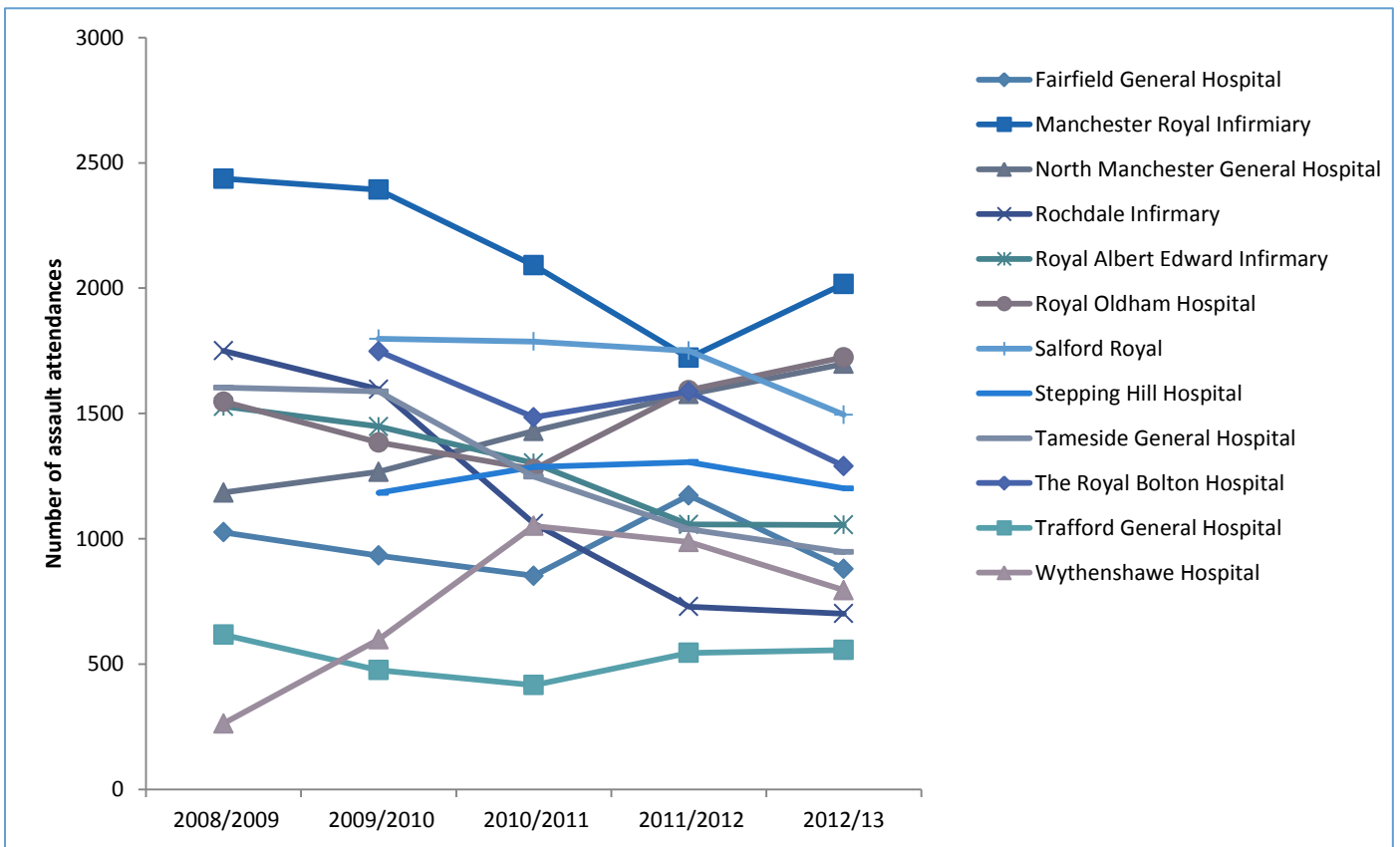


GREATER MANCHESTER

Across Greater Manchester there are twelve EDs. TIIG has at least four financial years' worth of data for each ED across Greater Manchester with five years for Fairfield General Hospital, Manchester Royal Infirmary, North Manchester General Hospital, Rochdale Infirmary, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Royal Oldham Hospital, Tameside General Hospital, Trafford General Hospital and Wythenshawe Hospital. Between 2011/12 and 2012/13 there was a 5% decrease in assault attendances to Greater Manchester EDs which is below both the regional average (8%) and the figure found in the Cardiff University report for England and Wales (12%). Violence-related attendances have fluctuated across Greater Manchester however this may in part due to the restructure of EDs such as the downgrading of Rochdale Infirmary to an Urgent Care Centre (UCC) in 2011. Attendances who may have previously attended Rochdale Infirmary may have attended other local EDs such as a Fairfield General Hospital, Royal Oldham Hospital and North Manchester General Hospital.

Several EDs saw reductions in assault attendances year on year. This included Rochdale Infirmary, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Salford Royal and Tameside General Hospital (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Violence trends across Greater Manchester (2008/09 to 2012/13)

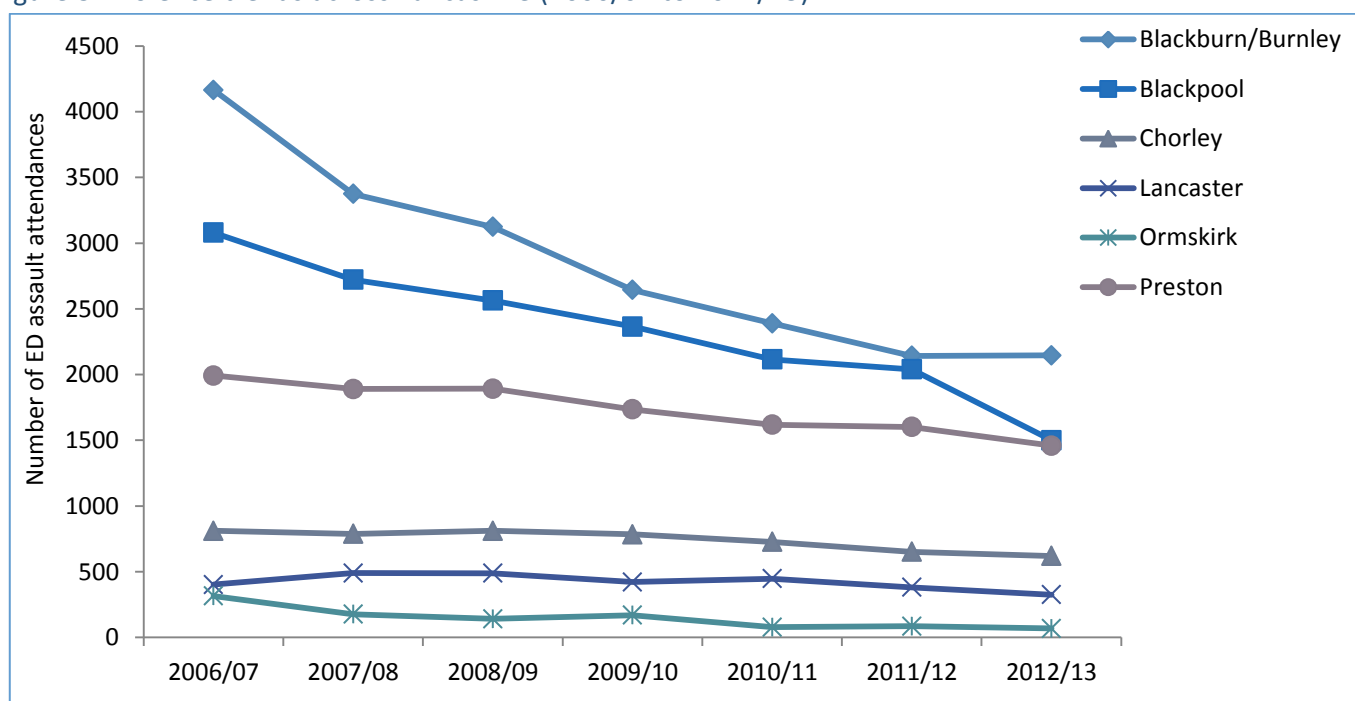


LANCASHIRE

There are six EDs across Lancashire and TIIG has data available from 2006/07 for each of the EDs. There was an 11% reduction in assault-related attendances to the EDs in Lancashire between 2011/12 and 2012/13. This figure is higher than the regional average (8%) but just below the figure for England and Wales reported by Cardiff University (12%).

Between 2006/07 and 2012/13, attendances to Ormskirk District General Hospital decreased by 78%. However, data included attendances to the Minor Injuries Unit between 2006/07 and 2009/10 therefore a 78% reduction in assault attendees is a somewhat inaccurate representation. Other than Ormskirk District General Hospital, Blackpool Victoria Hospital saw the greatest reduction in assault attendances in the seven-year period (-51%), followed by Royal Blackburn Hospital and Burnley General Hospital (-48%) (Figure 5). Attendances to Blackpool Victoria Hospital decreased year on year whereas all other EDs had slight fluctuations in the number of violence-related attendances. However, attendances to each ED in Lancashire decreased overall between 2006/07 and 2012/13.

Figure 5. Violence trends across Lancashire (2006/07 to 2012/13)

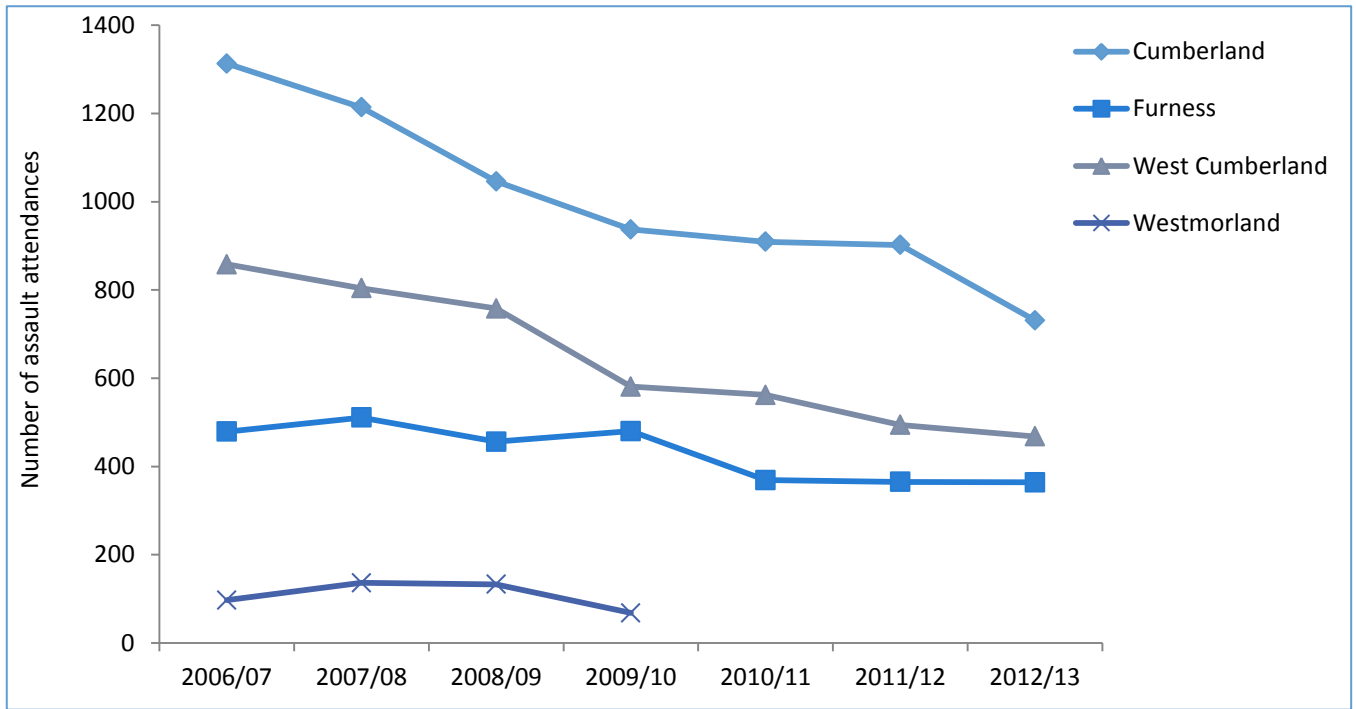


CUMBRIA

There are currently three EDs in Cumbria, with data available from 2006/07. Between 2011/12 and 2012/13 violence-related attendances decreased by 11%, which is greater than the regional average (8%) but just under the 12% reported by Cardiff University for England and Wales.

The largest reduction of assault attendances were to West Cumberland Hospital (-45%) and Cumberland Infirmary (-44%), where attendances decreased year on year (Figure 6). At Furness General Hospital, there were fluctuations between 2006/07 and 2009/10, however a 24% reduction overall.

Figure 6. Violence trends across Cumbria (2006/07 to 2012/13)^



^ ED services at Westmorland General Hospital closed in 2010.

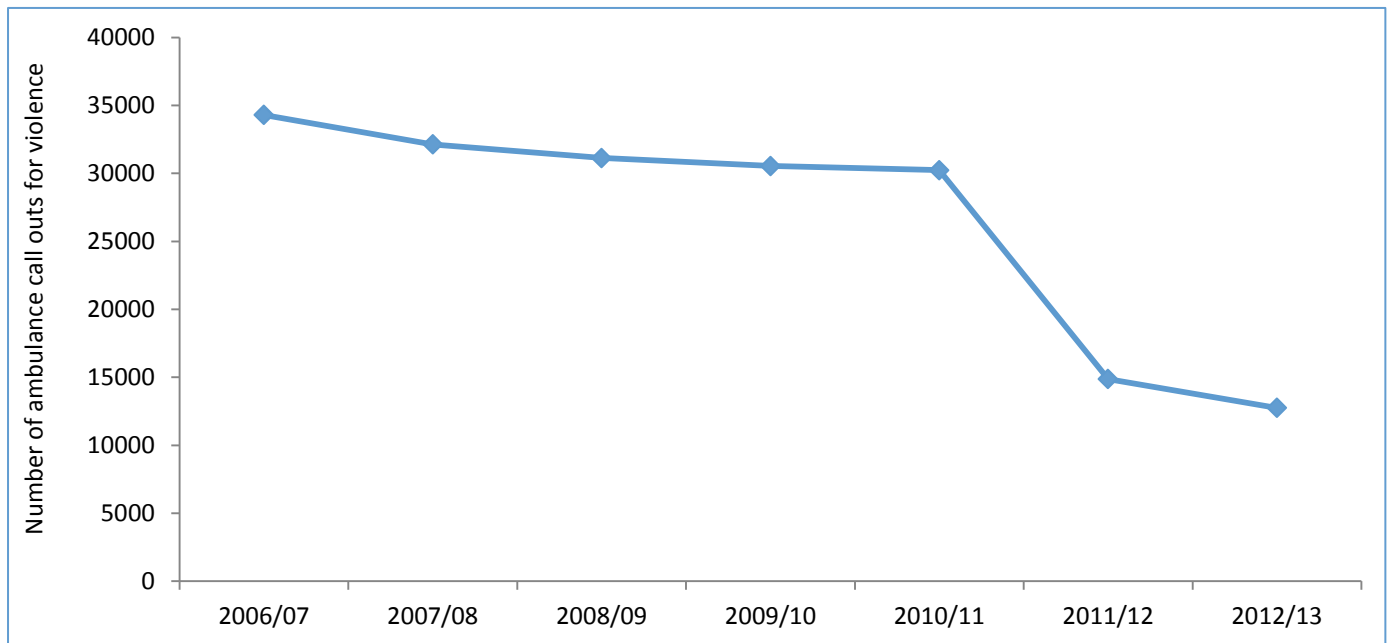
TRENDS IN VIOLENCE (NORTH WEST AMBULANCE SERVICE)

TIIG warehouses data accessed from the North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) since 2006/07. Violence-related ambulance call outs can be identified through a number of call out categories (assault, assault/rape, assault/sexual assault, stab/gunshot/penetrating trauma).

There was a 14% reduction in violence-related call outs between 2011/12 and 2012/13. This reduction is greater than the 8% decrease in assault attendances to the region's EDs, as reported by TIIG, and the 12% reduction in ED attendances across England Wales reported by Cardiff University.

The number of violence-related call outs have decreased year on year since 2006/07 (Figure 7). There was a substantial drop in call outs between 2010/11 and 2011/12, however, this was likely due to changes in recording practices and categorising of data.

Figure 7. Violence trends in ambulance call outs (2006/07 to 2012/13)



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