

Content overlaps and differences in fear of crime surveys

Five self-administered surveys currently in use in Region Stockholm, Sweden, were selected:

- Swedish Crime Survey (SCS): National survey specifically addressing different aspects of perceived safety
- Statistics Sweden's Citizen Survey: National, public survey
- County Administrative Board of Stockholm's Citizen Survey: Regional, public survey
- City of Stockholm Crime Survey: Local (municipality) survey specifically addressing different aspects of perceived safety
- Stockholm Police Perceived Safety Survey: Regional survey specifically addressing different aspects of perceived safety

The 2023 versions of these five surveys were obtained either from the organizations' websites or through direct contact with representatives from each organization.

Fear of crime as an affective outcome

In total, 24 items within the five surveys were identified as addressing fear of crime as an affective outcome.

These items included interrogatory phrases about different types of crime, asking "*How often have you been worried about...*" or "*Are you worried about...*". Table A1.1 shows the types of crimes each of the five surveys asked questions about. They can be categorized into four content areas: *Theft and property damage* (n = 7), *Threats and harassment* (n = 4), *Violence* (n = 7), and *Sexual offences* (n = 6).

Among the tailored surveys specifically addressing perceived safety, the SCS and the City of Stockholm Crime Survey had items representing all four categories while the Stockholm Police Perceived Safety Survey did not have any items representing *Threats and harassment* or *Sexual offences*. The County Administrative Board of Stockholm's Citizen Survey had only one item, which was categorized as *Violence*.

Table A1.1. Item content for fear of crime as an affective outcome in each of the five surveys.

	Swedish Crime Survey, SCS	Statistics Sweden's Citizen Survey	County Administrative Board of Stockholm's Citizen Survey	City of Stockholm Crime Survey	Stockholm Police Perceived Safety Survey
Burglary	●	●		●	
Burglary in own home					●
Burglary in a storage unit, basement, attic, or garage					●
Theft/vandalism of a vehicle	●				
Car, motorcycle, moped, or bicycle subjected to theft or vandalism					●
Fraud when purchasing online	■				
Threats, harassment, and online fraud				■	
Threats and harassment on the internet		■			
Identity theft		■			
Mugging/robbery	▲			▲	
Assault	▲				
Violence or threats of violence			▲		
Assault or violence outside the home				▲	
Assault or violence at home				▲	
Being attacked or assaulted in the neighbourhood where you live					▲
Sexual assault or rape	★				
Sexual harassment or similar offenses		★			
Sexual harassment outside the home				★	
Sexual harassment at home				★	
Rape outside the home				★	
Rape at home				★	

The colours indicate areas of shared content across the different surveys: *Theft and property damage* (green ●), *Threats and harassment* (purple ■), *Violence* (blue ▲) and *Sexual offences* (orange ★).

Fear of crime as a behavioural outcome

The surveys included 19 items which were intended to assess fear of crime as a behaviour outcome, with phrases such as “*Due to your fear of crime, has it ever happened that...*”. Table A1.2. lists the behaviours that were asked about in each of the five surveys. These have been categorized into four content areas: *Avoidance of activities* (n = 6), *Way of travelling and mode of transport* (n = 4), *Caution outdoors* (n = 4), and *Risk mitigation and disruptions to daily life* (n = 4). The City of Stockholm Crime Survey accounted for almost two-thirds of these items (61%, n = 11) and included items in all four of the content areas. Statistics Sweden's Citizen Survey, on the other hand, did not address the consequences of fear of crime at all. The three other surveys each had two or three consequence items, all belonging to the categories *Avoidance of activities* and *Way of travelling and mode of transport*.

Table A1.2. Item content for fear of crime as a behavioural outcome in each of the five surveys.

	Swedish Crime Survey, SCS	Statistics Sweden's Citizen Survey	County Administrative Board of Stockholm's Citizen Survey	City of Stockholm Crime Survey	Stockholm Police Perceived Safety Survey
Avoided activities (e.g., going for a walk, visiting a restaurant, or meeting someone)	●				
Avoided activities (e.g., walk, cinema, visiting acquaintances)			●		
Avoided activities (e.g., cinema, restaurant, or similar)				●	
Avoided going to the cinema, theatre, or similar					●
Avoided going to a restaurant, pub, dance venue, amusement park, or other entertainment venues					●
Avoided attending a sporting event					●
Chose a different route or mode of transportation	■				
Took a taxi home when it was late				■	
Took a detour to get home				■	
Avoided using public transportation or trains					■
Did not go outdoors at certain times of the day				▲	
Did not go outdoors alone in the evening				▲	
Was extra cautious and alert when outdoors				▲	
Felt afraid when outdoors alone in the evening				▲	
Did not leave the apartment unattended for long periods				★	
Thought about crime and sometimes had trouble sleeping				★	
Was extra careful with valuables and cash				★	
Thought about who to start a conversation with				★	

The colours indicate areas of shared content across the different surveys: *Avoidance of activities* (green ●), *Way of travelling and mode of transport* (purple ■), *Caution outdoors* (blue ▲) and *Risk mitigation and disruptions to daily life* (orange ★).