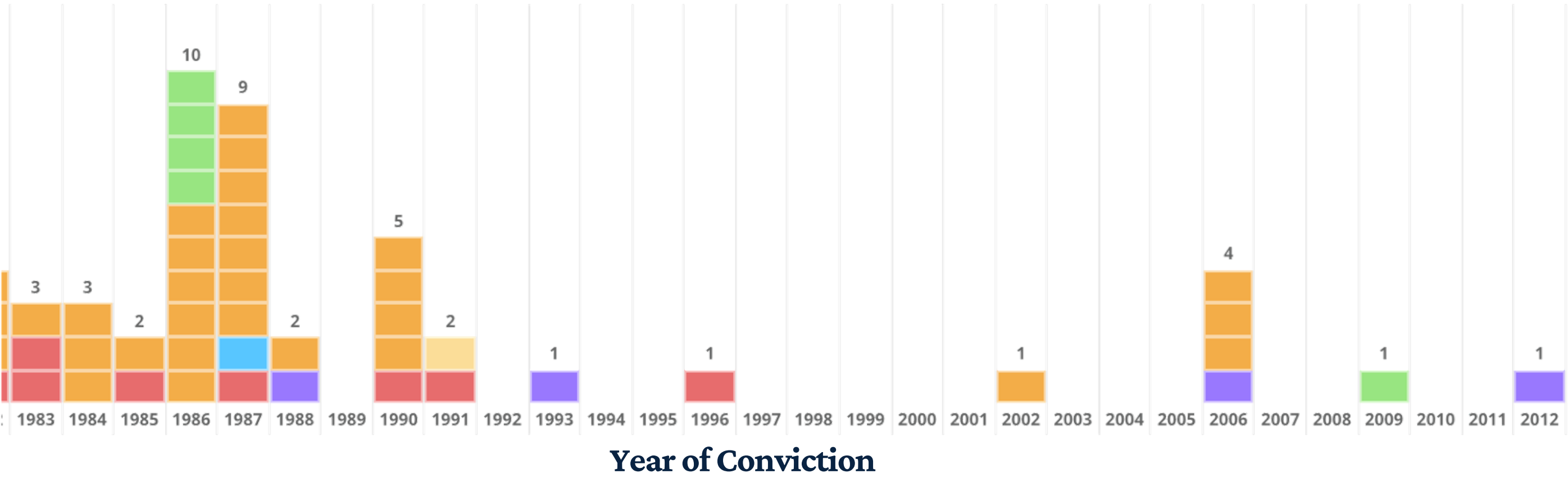


Miscarriages of Justice and Unreliable Confessions

Total cases: 91
Years lost: 942
Average years lost: 10.35



 **Murder**
52 cases

 **Robbery / burglary**
29 cases

 **Sexual Offences**
6 cases

 **Manslaughter / non-fatal offences**
against person 5 cases

 **Drug Offences**
4 cases

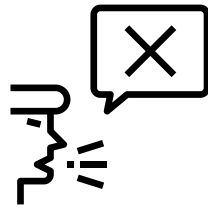
Common causes of unreliable confessions



Interrogative Pressure



Psychological Vulnerability



Misrepresentation of Statements by Police or Witnesses

Common evidence used on appeal

49%

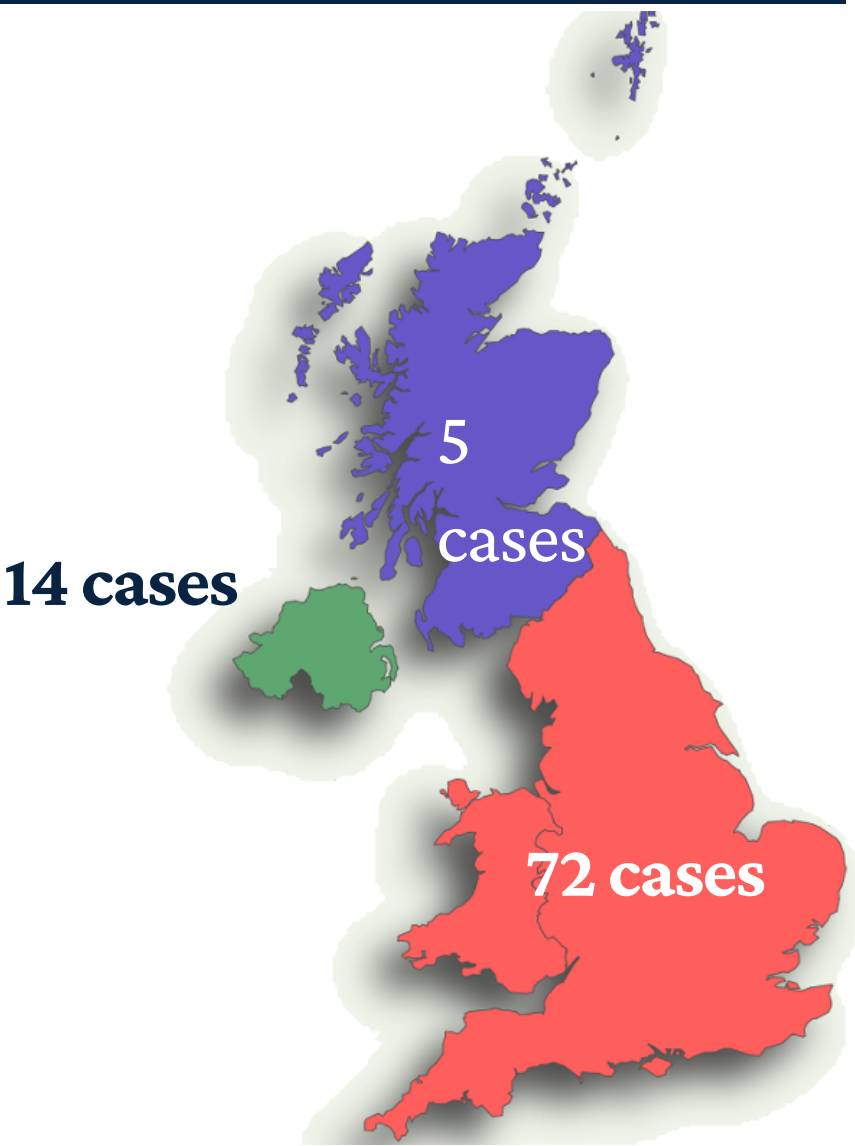
Undermining the investigation

4%

DNA Evidence

86%

Undermining the confession itself



Ian Lawless.
Medical evidence suggested confessions resulted from 'need for attention.'



Judith Ward.
Confession changed several times and prosecution selected parts to construct a plausible account.



Sean Hodgson.
Confessed to rape and murder but acquitted when DNA evidence showed he was innocent.