



## Offender Management Statistics Bulletin, England and Wales

Quarterly: April to June 2021

Prison population: 30 September 2021

### Main points

**78,756 prisoners in England and Wales as at 30 September 2021**



The total prison population is 1% lower than the same point in the previous year.

**15,206 first receptions into prison between April and June 2021**



The number of first receptions represents an increase of 21% compared to the same period in 2020.

**11,623 releases from sentences between April and June 2021**



This is 13% lower than the same period in 2020. As the prison population shifts towards those serving longer sentences, we expect fewer releases in each period.

**36,659 adjudication outcomes between April and June 2021**



This is a fall of 5% compared to the same period in 2020. Additional days were awarded as punishment on 607 occasions.

**5,362 licence recalls between April and June 2021**



This is a 9% decrease on the same quarter in 2020.

**230,578 offenders on probation at the end of June 2021**



This number has increased by 3% compared to the number supervised as at 30 June 2020.

This publication provides offender management quarterly statistics for the latest date available and provides comparisons to the previous year.

For technical detail please refer to the accompanying guide, '[Guide to offender management statistics](#)'.

## Statistician's comment

In this publication we are reporting on the prison population as at 30 September 2021, with comparisons to the same point in 2020. Over this 12-month period, the total prison population has fallen slightly (1% decrease).

The increasing remand population trend that we have seen since early 2020 has continued (a 6% increase between 30 Sep 2020 and 30 Sep 2021), but all of this increase over the past 12 months has been in the 'convicted unsentenced' remand population (the 'untried' population is virtually unchanged compared to 30 Sep 2020). This likely reflects the impact of partial court recovery following COVID-19 restrictions, resulting in an increase in the number of convicted prisoners awaiting sentence.

Between September 2020 and 2021, the sentenced population has fallen by 2%. This is much smaller than the decreases we have seen over recent quarters (there was a 10% decrease from March 2020 to March 2021, and a 4% decrease from June 2020 to June 2021). As with the remand population mentioned above, this reflects that the normal flow of individuals from the remand to the sentenced population (after sentencing at court) is continuing to recover following COVID-19 restrictions.

On the topic of COVID-19 recovery, the prison population has not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels; the 30 Sep 2021 prison population is still more than 5,000 below the level of 30 Sep 2019, and more than 4,000 below the level of 31 Mar 2020.

The prisoner flows data in this publication cover the period April to June 2021, which means that for the first time we are comparing prisoner flows data between two 'COVID-19 periods' (the comparison period being April to June 2020). The spring 2020 COVID-19 lockdown dramatically affected the normal Criminal Justice System processes – as such, during the April to June 2020 quarter, prisoner first receptions fell to around 12,600 (compared to around 17,000 in the previous quarter). In the latest quarter, there were around 15,200 first receptions – which reflects a 21% increase compared to April to June 2020.

Due to the COVID affected figures seen between April and June 2020, there are several very large annual percentage changes in this current publication (covering the period April to June 2021) – though these tend to be for specific prisoner reception types (i.e. for certain offence groups and sentence lengths).

To illustrate some examples, the number of sentenced first receptions for determinate sentences of '4 years or more' has increased by 405% (i.e. is more than 5 times as high) compared to the same period in 2020 – though this is simply a reflection of a return to pre-COVID levels (of around 400 per quarter). The same is true for the number of immediate sentenced admissions for 'sexual offences' – which is 194% higher than (i.e. almost three times the level seen) in April to June 2020, but again simply reflects a return to pre-COVID levels (of around 700 per quarter).

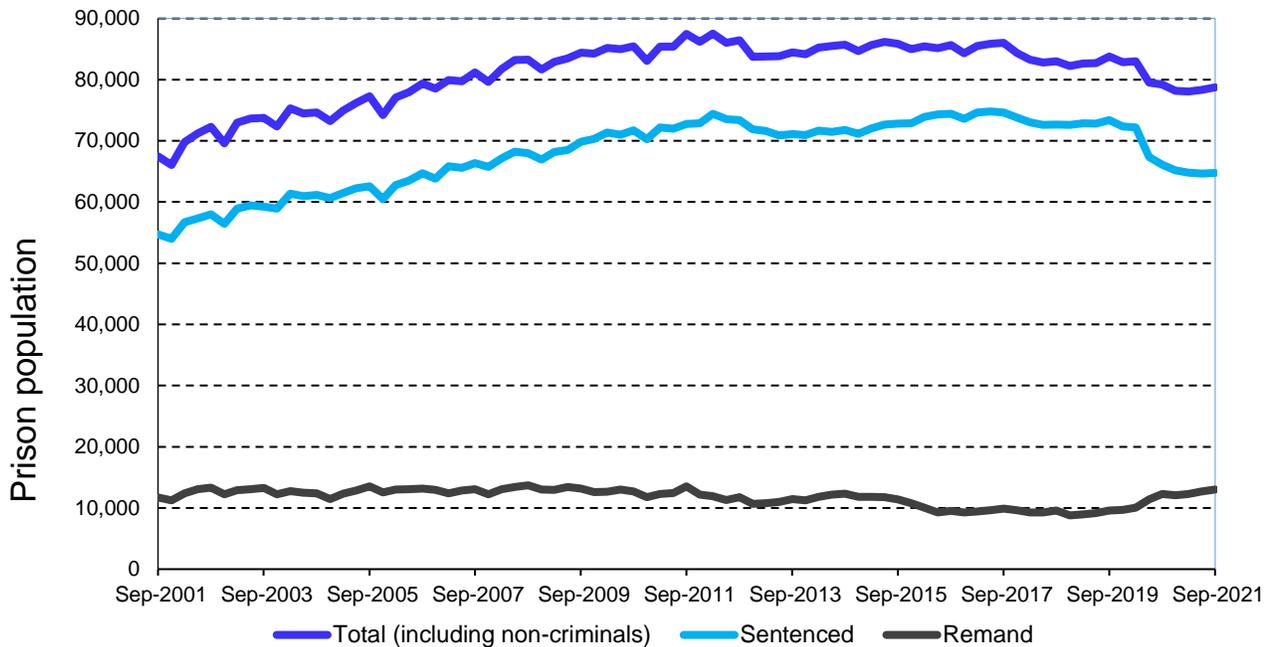
Similar large percentage changes are apparent for the number of Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL) incidences in the latest quarter – which has increased by 304% (i.e. is more than 4 times as high) compared to April to June 2020; and the number of Prisoner Transfers (123% higher than; i.e. more than double) the level seen in April to June 2020. This is associated with changes in operational practices, moving away from COVID-19 restrictions that had been imposed on the prison regime.

# 1. Population

The prison population stood at 78,756 on 30 September 2021.

The sentenced prison population stood at 64,746 (82% of the prison population); the remand prison population stood at 12,990 (16%) and the non-criminal prison population stood at 1,020 (1%)

Figure 1: Prison populations, September 2001 to 2021 (Source: Table 1.1)



## Remand prison population

Following a decreasing trend since 2014, the remand population has dramatically increased since June 2019. As at 30 September 2021, the remand population was 12,990. This is the highest quarterly figure since September 2011. This was driven by a 19% increase in the convicted unsentenced population as compared with 30 September 2020 whilst the untried population remained relatively constant.

The current COVID-19 pandemic has significantly affected normal court operations. Information recently released by the Ministry of Justice<sup>1</sup> suggests that the time between offence and completion at the Crown Court increased by 89% between Q2 2020 and Q2 2021 from a median of 216 days to 408 days. The same metric increased by 3% at magistrates' courts for the same period.

Most of those in custody on remand were being held for either:

- Violence against the person (28% of the untried population and 19% of the convicted unsentenced population)

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-court-statistics-quarterly-april-to-june-2021>

- Drug offences (27% of the untried population and 31% of the convicted unsentenced population).

In contrast, drug offences only make up 16% of the sentenced population. The untried population held for drug offences is 16% higher than it was in September 2020 and the unsentenced population convicted of drug offences was also 44% higher than 12 months ago.

### **Sentenced prison population**

The sentenced population was 64,746, which is 2% lower than the same point 12 months earlier. Broadly speaking, there were increases in the sentenced population serving sentence bands of 'less than 4 years' and decreases in the numbers of those serving '4 years or more' (apart from a 7% rise in those serving an Extended Determinate Sentence).

### **Sexual offenders**

While this is one of the largest offence group of immediate custodial sentenced prisoners, their number has continued to fall since mid-2018 after a record high since at least 2002. There was a 1% decrease (to 11,873) in the immediate custodial sentenced sexual offender population in the 12 months to 30 September 2021.

Sexual offences make up 18% of the sentenced prison population but just 6% of the untried population and 8% of the convicted unsentenced population. This is likely driven by the long sentences typically handed down for sexual offences.

### **'Violence Against the Person (VATP)' and 'Possession of Weapons' offences**

Three in every ten (30%) immediate custodial sentenced prisoners is in prison for a VATP offence. This proportion has increased from the 'one in four' (25%) level seen in recent years.

The number of prisoners serving immediate custodial sentences for a 'Possession of Weapons' offence decreased by 5% between September 2020 and September 2021.

### **Extended Determinate Sentences (EDS)**

EDSs constitute a custodial term, the majority of which is served in prison, followed by an additional extended period of licence in the community. They can be imposed if the offender is found guilty of, or has a previous conviction for, a specific sexual, violent or terrorist offence. On 30 September 2021, 6,274 prisoners were serving such sentences; a 7% increase compared to the same time last year.

### **Indeterminate sentences**

As at 30 September 2021, there were 9,254 (8,306 male; 326 female) indeterminate sentenced prisoners (those serving Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) sentences and life sentences). Although this represents a slight overall decrease (-2%), there was a 24% increase in the number of prisoners serving indeterminate sentences in the 18-20 years age bracket when compared with 30 September 2020.

The number of unreleased prisoners (6,971) serving life sentences is broadly unchanged from one year ago but there was a small (5%) decrease in the number of prisoners still held beyond their tariff expiry date. The number of unreleased IPP prisoners fell by 12% to 1,661. At point of sentencing, offenders are given a minimum time period ("tariff") that they need to serve in prison before they can apply to the Parole Board for release. The majority of the unreleased IPP prisoners have been held for more than eight years beyond the end of their tariff.

The number of recalled prisoners serving life sentences increased by 10% to 658 when compared to September 2020 whilst the number of recalled Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) prisoners was unchanged from one year ago.

### **Recall to custody**

The overall prison population who have been recalled to custody (9,254 prisoners) is virtually unchanged (less than 1% increase) from the total a year earlier.

### **Foreign National Offenders (FNOs)**

There were 9,812 (2,749 remand, 6,103 sentenced and 960 non-criminal) foreign nationals held in custody as at 30 September 2021; representing 12% of the total prison population.

In contrast to the annual fall in the total prison population, the number of FNOs in the prison population has increased by 4% compared to 30 September 2020. This can be attributed to the effect of COVID-19 on the normal operations of FNO early removal schemes. The number of non-criminal foreign national prisoners increased by 20% compared to 30 September 2020.

The most common nationalities after British Nationals in prisons are Albanian (15% of the FNO prison population), Polish (9%), Romanian (7%), Irish (6%), Lithuanian (4%), and Jamaican (4%).

## 2. Prison receptions and admissions

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**15,206 offenders were received into custody as first receptions in the latest quarter.**

9,359 were remand first receptions, 5,793 were sentenced first receptions and 54 were civil non-criminal first receptions.

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### Offender first receptions

The total number of first receptions between April and June 2021 was 21% higher than the same quarter in 2020, which can be attributed in part to recovery in court processes following the impacts of the department's response to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020<sup>2</sup>. While the number of first receptions has increased this quarter, it has not yet reached the levels seen prior to the pandemic. Between April and June 2021, the number of first receptions remained lower (17% lower) than the same quarter in 2019. This is reflected in the court processes that have improved since the early months of the pandemic but not recovered to pre-pandemic levels (see footnote 1).

There were 2,520 first receptions of foreign nationals during Q2 2021, which is 14% higher compared to the same quarter in 2020. However, the representation of foreign nationals amongst first receptions has decreased slightly since 2020 - around 17% of first receptions were foreign nationals in this quarter compared to 18% in Q2 2020. The five foreign nationalities with the highest numbers of first receptions in the latest quarter were: Albanian (444), Polish (278), Romanian (274), Irish (124) and Lithuanian (107). When taken together, these five nationalities accounted for just under half (49%) of the 2,520 first receptions of foreign nationals in Q2 2021.

### Prison admissions

As compared to the same quarter in 2020, the number of untried and recall admissions decreased – untried by 2% and recall admissions by 14%. The number of convicted unsentenced and sentenced admissions increased – convicted unsentenced by 24% and sentenced by 39%.

This can be attributed to the increased number of court outcomes arising from court recovery following an easing of the impacts of COVID-19 on court functions.

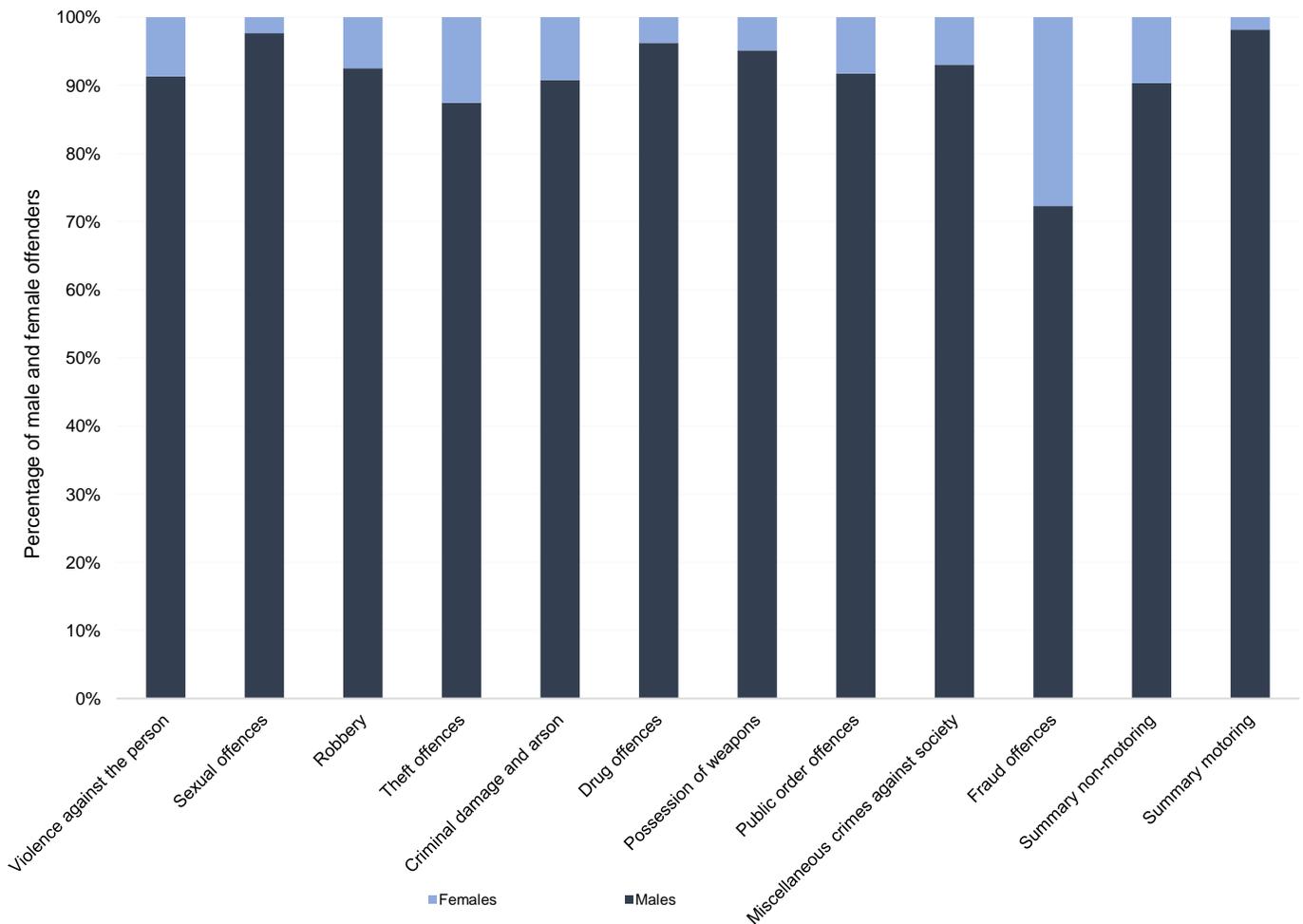
When considering immediate custodial sentenced admissions by offence group, violence against the person and drug offences had the largest number of sentenced admissions overall. The largest overall increases, as compared to Q2 2020, occurred in the sexual offences (up by 194%) group. This can be attributed to the impact of COVID-19 on court processes and the continued prioritisation of more serious offences. As compared to females, males made up a larger proportion of sentenced receptions across each offence, but there are certain offences where this difference was more pronounced- summary motoring offences, sexual offences and drug offences (see figure 2 below).

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-court-statistics-quarterly-january-to-march-2021/criminal-court-statistics-quarterly-january-to-march-2021>

The largest representation of females was in the fraud offence group (they accounted for 28% of all immediate custodial sentenced admissions for fraud offences).

**Figure 2: Representation (percentage) of male and female immediate custodial sentenced prisoner admissions in each offence group between April and June 2021 (Source: Table 2.5b)**



When compared with the same quarter last year, the sentence length band with the largest increase in the number of admissions was 4 years or more (excluding indeterminate sentences), with a 139% increase, which can also be attributed to the prioritisation of prosecutions for more serious offences that carry longer sentences, as mentioned above.

### Former Members of the Armed Forces

When individuals are first received into custody, they complete a Basic Custody Screening (BCS) process. This serves to identify their needs in areas including employment, childcare and healthcare. As part of this process, they are asked whether they had served in the armed services. Between April and June 2021, 173 matched individuals first received into custody answered that they had served in the armed services - this represented 2% of those who provided a response to the question at the point of their first reception during the latest quarter.

### 3. Releases

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#### **11,623 offenders were released from custody in the latest quarter.**

11,486 releases from determinate sentences and 137 from indeterminate sentences.

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#### **Prison releases from custodial sentences**

The number of prisoner releases between April and June 2021 was 13% lower than the same quarter in 2020.

The largest fall was in the number of releases from sentences of 12 months to less than 4 years, which was 18% lower than during the same period in 2020. This reflects the general trend in the prison population away from short sentenced offenders, to those serving longer determinate sentences. Additionally, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic the prosecution of more serious offences has been prioritised, meaning that fewer prisoners have been received into prison and thus been released from the shorter sentences handed out for less serious offences.<sup>3</sup>

Between April and June 2021 there was an increase in the number of prisoners released from longer sentences, including indeterminate sentences, as compared to the same period the previous year.

#### **Releases on Home Detention Curfew (HDC)**

The number of offenders released on HDC in the latest quarter dropped by 19% from the same quarter in 2020, down to 2,288. The number eligible for HDC over the same period also fell but to a lesser extent, to 9,189, a decrease of 13% since the same quarter in 2020.

#### **Releases on Temporary Licence (ROTL)**

Most ROTL was suspended for much of the pandemic period. Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) has, however, worked closely with public health authorities to re-introduce access to ROTL<sup>4</sup> when and where it is safe to do so, and taking into account the changing national restrictions.

As a result of these recent changes to prison regimes, ROTL numbers have increased. There were 51,083 incidences of ROTL during the quarter ending June 2021, which represents a fourfold increase compared to the same quarter in 2020. Of the ROTL incidences in the latest quarter 69% were for 'Work Related' reasons. 2 prisoners were released under the COVID-19 temporary release codes in 2021 Q2, both for compassionate reasons.

The number of individuals receiving at least one incidence of ROTL between April and June 2021 also rose following the changes to prison regimes, which increased fourfold from the same quarter in 2020. 3,026 individuals were released on temporary licence in the latest quarter. This figure has almost tripled since the previous quarter but remains below pre-pandemic levels.

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<sup>3</sup> [https://www.cps.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/legal\\_guidance/Interim-CPS-Charging-Protocol-Covid-19-crisis-response.pdf](https://www.cps.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/legal_guidance/Interim-CPS-Charging-Protocol-Covid-19-crisis-response.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-national-framework-for-prison-regimes-and-services>

There were 105 Temporary Release Failures (TRFs) between April and June 2021. This is a rise of 91 compared with the previous quarter and 88 compared with the same period in 2020. TRFs as a proportion of temporary release incidences stood at 1 in 500 between April and June 2021.

**Prisoner transfers**

Between April and June 2021 there were 16,531 incidences of prisoner transfer, with 14,484 prisoners having at least one incidence of transfer. Both figures have roughly doubled over the past year as non-essential transfers have resumed after being stopped at the end of March 2020 in response to the pandemic.

## 4. Licence Recalls

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**The number of licence recalls between April and June 2021 was 5,362, of which 446 were recalls from Home Detention Curfew (HDC).**

The total number of recalls decreased by 9% compared to the same quarter in 2020.

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The total number of quarterly recalls trended upwards between October-December 2016 and July-September 2019. There was a marked increase in the number of quarterly recalls from early 2018 to July-September 2019, mostly due to increases in the number of HDC recalls and recalls of offenders from determinate sentences of 12 months or more. However, the number of quarterly recalls has trended downwards since the start of 2020, including before COVID-19 restrictions were introduced. The latest number represents a decrease of 9% from the same quarter a year ago.

The guidance for courts and prisons implemented in 2020 has remained in place so as to assist courts, custodial and detention staff in addressing Covid-19 hence reducing the rate of transmission within prisons. This has had a continuing effect on the number of court proceedings and new entrants into custody<sup>5</sup>.

Following relative stability up to January-March 2020, the number of quarterly recalls of offenders released from a sentence of under 12 months has generally been falling. For the first time since July-September 2016, the number fell below 2,000 in April-June 2020 (partly due to the introduction of COVID-19 restrictions), and it has continued to stay below 2,000. The latest figure (1,705) is a decrease of 13% from a year ago and a slight increase of 1% from the previous quarter.

Following general increases from late 2016, quarterly recalls of offenders with a sentence of 12 months or more (including those with indeterminate sentences), like the overall recalls, have trended downward since the start of 2020. Between April and June 2021, there were 3,657 recalls of such offenders, a decrease of 8% in comparison to the same quarter in the previous year.

Ethnicity proportions in quarterly recalls have remained relatively stable, with about 8 in 10 recalls being white, 8% being black and 4% being Asian.

There usually is more than one reason for recalling an offender on licence. Of recalls in April-June 2021, about 39% involved a charge of further offending, 74% involved non-compliance, 29% involved failure to keep in touch, and 25% involved failure to reside.

Between April and June 2021, 141 IPP prisoners and 59 prisoners serving a life sentence were re-released, having previously been returned to custody for a breach of licence conditions. These together represent an increase of 42% from the same quarter a year ago.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-and-prisons>

<https://www.judiciary.uk/announcements/message-from-the-lord-chief-justice-courts-recovery/>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-courts-and-tribunals-planning-and-preparation>

**Offenders not returned to custody**

Of all those released on licence and recalled to custody due to breaching the conditions of their licence between April 1999 and June 2021, there were 2,004 who had not been returned to custody by the end of September 2021.

A further 17 offenders had not been returned to custody as of September 2021 after recall between 1984 and April 1999, meaning the total number of offenders not returned to custody at the end of September 2021 was 2,021. These figures include some offenders believed to be dead or living abroad but who have not been confirmed as dead or deported.

Of the 2,021 not returned to custody by 30 September 2021, 309 had originally been serving a prison sentence for violence against the person offences and a further 61 for sexual offences.

## 5. Probation

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**The total number of offenders on probation (i.e. court orders and pre/post-supervision) at the end of June 2021 was 230,578.**

This represents a 3% increase compared to the end of June 2020.

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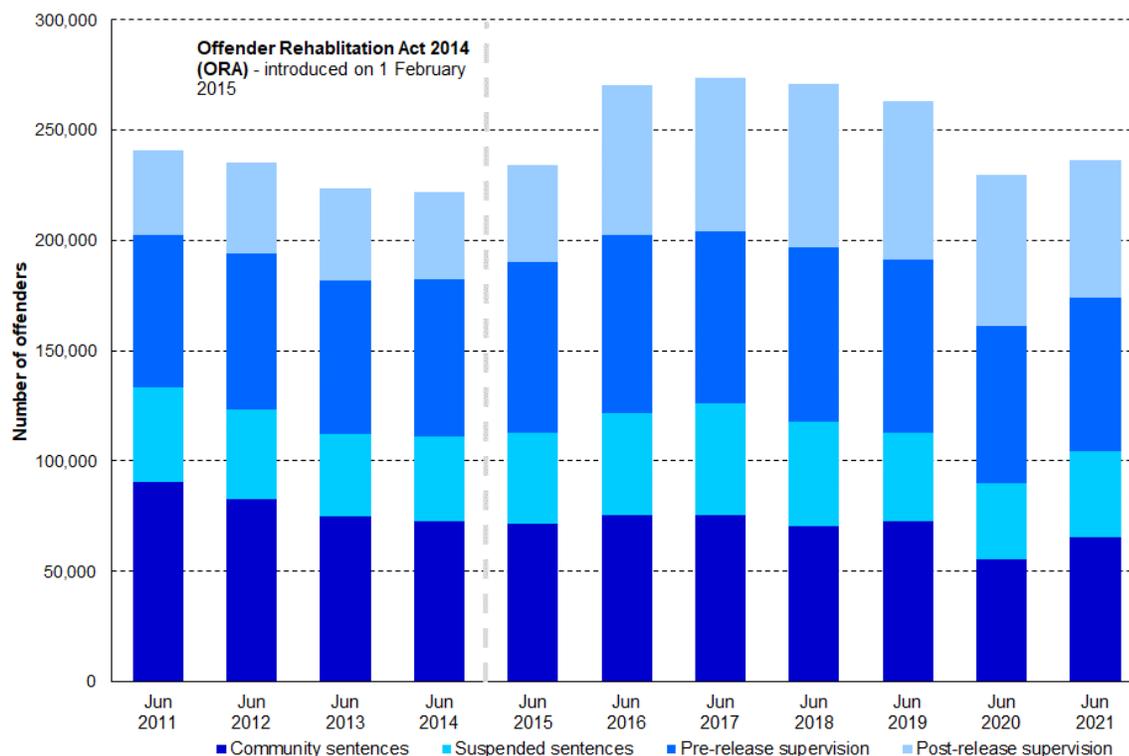
In March 2020, operational restrictions were introduced in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These measures, which included temporary court closures, meant larger decreases in probation starts during the quarterly period April to June 2020 were observed, subsequently leading to lower numbers of offenders on the caseload throughout 2020 compared to the period prior to the pandemic. Although, the effects can still be seen in the latest figures, there are clear signs that figures are returning to pre-pandemic levels, particularly as substantial increases in the number of offenders starting probation supervision can be seen in the latest period compared to a year ago.

As at 30 June 2021, there were 230,578 offenders supervised by the Probation Service (Figure 3), representing a 3% increase compared to the 30 June 2020 and a 3% increase compared to the 31 March 2021.

Between the end of June 2020 and the end of June 2021, court order caseload increased by 16% from 88,639 to 102,767, with the number of offenders on a community order (CO) and those on a suspended sentence order (SSO) with requirements increasing by 19% and 13% respectively.

The total caseload of offenders supervised before or after release from prison at the end of June 2021 was 131,650, representing a decrease of 6% compared to the end of June 2020.

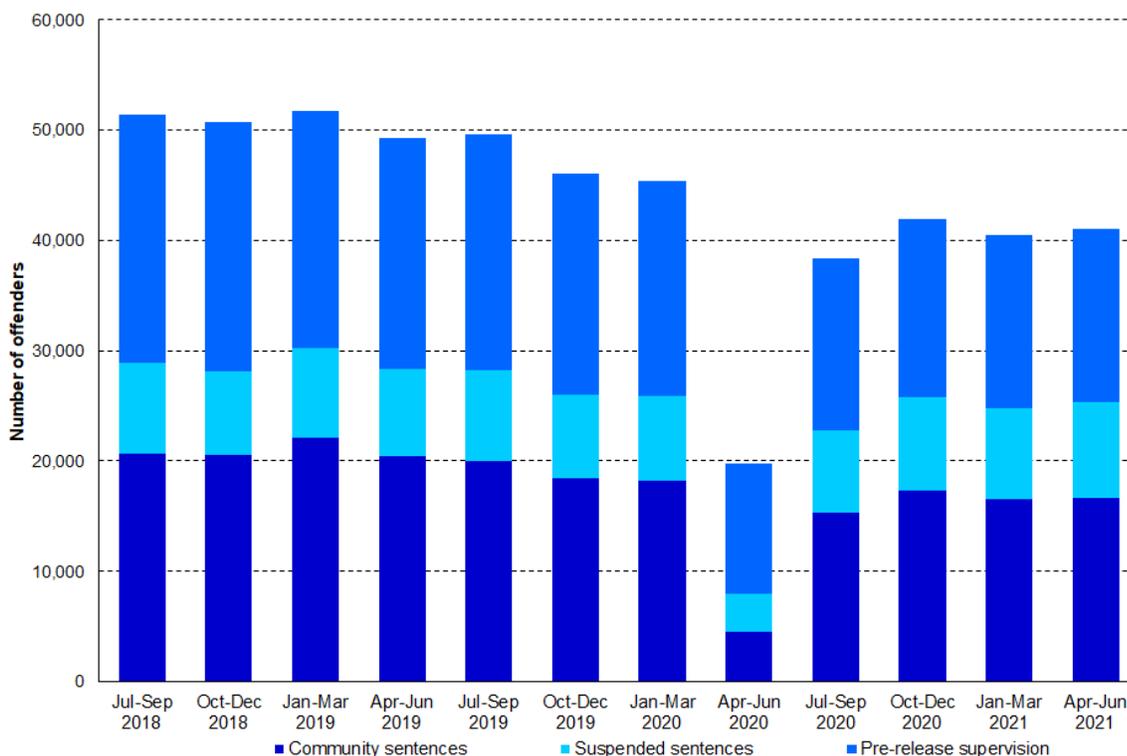
**Figure 3: Number of offenders under Probation Service supervision, 30 June 2011 to 30 June 2021 (source for 2018 to 2021: Table 4.6; source for years prior to 2018: Table 4.7)**



Between April to June 2021, 41,006 offenders started court order or pre-release probation supervision (Figure 4), representing an increase of 1% on the previous quarter and an increase of 108% compared to the same quarter a year ago (i.e. the quarter when operational restrictions were implemented). Furthermore, following the substantial falls in the quarter April to June 2020, the latest figures for probation starts are showing a return to the trends seen prior to the pandemic.

Between April to June 2021, the number of offenders starting court orders increased by 2% following the previous quarter and by 219% compared to the same quarter a year ago. The number of offenders starting COs increased 1% to 16,441 compared to the previous quarter and increased by 275% compared to the same quarter a year ago. Meanwhile, the number of offenders starting SSOs with requirements increased 5% to 8,663 compared to the previous quarter and increased by 153% compared to the same quarter in the previous year. Over the latest quarter, there was, however, a very slight decrease in the number of offenders starting pre-release supervision compared to the previous quarter (from 15,744 to 15,728) but an increase of 33% compared to the same quarter a year ago.

**Figure 4: Number of offenders starting supervision under the Probation Service, July to September 2018 to April to June 2021 (source: Table 4.1)**



Between April and June 2021, 25,677 requirements started under COs and 14,968 requirements started under SSOs, representing increases of 278% and 158% respectively compared to the same period in the previous year. Over the same period, rehabilitation requirements started under COs and SSOs increased by 305% to 10,838 and by 178% to 6,771 respectively; it remains the most common requirement included within a CO or SSO. Under COs and SSOs, there were substantial increases across most requirement types compared to the same quarter in 2020. Most notably under COs, mental health, unpaid work and alcohol treatment requirements increased by 388% to 249, by 360% to 7,463 and by 341% to 794 respectively. Under SSOs, alcohol treatment, unpaid work and drug treatment requirements increased by 220% to 471, by 187% to 3,698 and by 165% to 549 respectively.

In terms of the most frequently used combinations of requirements, large increases were seen in all combinations compared to the same period a year ago. In particular, rehabilitation requirements combined separately with alcohol treatment, curfew requirements and unpaid work requirements increased by 340%, 400% and 405% respectively under COs in April to June 2021 compared to the same period a year ago. Under SSOs, rehabilitation requirements combined separately with drug treatment, alcohol treatment and unpaid work requirements increased by 190%, 276% and 225% respectively.

Between April and June 2021, 65% of 7,846 COs and 76% of 5,062 SSOs (for the supervision period) were terminated successfully, i.e. ran their full course or were terminated early for good progress.

In the quarter April to June 2021, the total number of pre-sentence reports (PSRs) prepared by the Probation Service increased by 8% to 23,111 compared to the previous quarter and by 258% compared to the same quarter in 2020.

Furthermore, 87% of immediate custodial sentences proposed in PSRs resulted in that sentence being given in the year ending June 2021, thus continuing to represent the highest concordance between sentence proposed and sentence given.

## 6. Adjudications

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**There were 36,659 adjudication outcomes between April and June 2021.**

This is a decrease of 5% on the same quarter in the previous year. Additional days were awarded as punishment on 607 occasions in this quarter.

69% of all adjudications were proven.

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There was a 7% increase in the number of proven adjudications (to 25,113) from the same quarter in 2020. This in turn resulted in a 13% rise in the number of punishments (to 42,468).

A third (36%) of proven adjudications were for offences of disobedience and disrespect, with the next largest category being unauthorised transactions (24%). The number of proven adjudications for disobedience/disrespect and violence rose by 22% (to 9,023) and 16% (to 3,863) respectively while unauthorised transactions fell by 9% (to 6,151) on the same quarter of the previous year.

Although the number of proven offences for violence increased in comparison to Q2 2020, the long term upward trend observed up until mid-2019 has reversed with quarterly averages not exceeding 4,000 offences since Q2 2020, largely driven by measures implemented since March 2020 to reduce physical interactions amongst inmates and prison staff impacting on the level of violence in custody.

Additional days were awarded as punishment on 607 occasions between April and June 2021; this has almost trebled compared with the same period in 2020. A total of 9,632 days were awarded in the latest quarter – this has more than doubled in comparison with the same quarter in 2020 (3,935 days between April and June 2020).

Although the overall number of adjudication outcomes decreased in comparison to Q2 2020, following government measures aimed at preventing the spread of Covid-19 through contact, the downward trend has been slowing down since the start of 2021 with average quarterly cases around 36,500. Most of the measures implemented at the start of the lockdown in March 2020 have remained in place, with temporary regime changes to account for differences in prisons across the country, local restriction tiers and in accordance with public health advice.

A number of policy interventions were made to suspend discipline hearings requiring an Independent Adjudicator (IA) between 23 March and 22 June 2020. Referrals to IAs, which have been subject to new guidelines have now resumed but are held virtually. This impacted on the number of referrals, being at 905, far below the averages recorded before the lockdown.

In addition, other changes to the prison regime have been implemented to support operational delivery. Those include new rules for governors: such as limiting movement of prisoners; implementing social distancing; compartmentalising prisons to isolate symptomatic prisoners; quarantine new entrants and so forth. These measures remain in place and taken together have reduced interactions between prisoners and staff, hence reducing adjudications and related punishments<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-national-framework-for-prison-regimes-and-services>

More information about the trends in Adjudications between 2011 and 2018 can be found in [‘The Adjudications Story’](#) publication.

## Further information

This publication presents quarterly and annual data trends.

Our statisticians regularly review the content of publications. Development of new and improved statistical outputs is usually dependent on reallocating existing resources. As part of our continual review and prioritisation, we welcome user feedback on existing outputs including content, breadth, frequency, and methodology. Please send any comments you have on this publication including suggestions for further developments or reductions in content.

## Accompanying files

As well as this bulletin, the following products are published as part of this release:

- A '[Guide to Offender Management Statistics](#)', which provides comprehensive information about data sources and quality, as well as key legislative changes.
- A document outlining the '[Users of Offender Management Statistics](#)'
- A set of data tables, covering each section of this bulletin, including a prison population data tool.

## National Statistics status

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality, and public value. All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.



It is the Ministry of Justice's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected for National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained and reinstated when standards are restored.

## Contact

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Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to the enquiries team within the Data and Analytical Services Directorate (DASD) of the Ministry of Justice:

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**Next update:** 27 January 2022

**URL:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/offender-management-statistics-quarterly>

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