



Ministry of
JUSTICE

Statistical bulletin on the public disorder of 6th to 9th August 2011 – September 2012 update

Ministry of Justice
Statistics bulletin

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Introduction

The following section provides updated information on those brought before the courts for offences related to the public disorder of 6th to 9th August 2011. Information is provided on those individuals brought before the courts; their initial outcomes and sentencing based on data available by 10th August 2012. When reading this section please bear in mind that:

- 1) the group of people brought before the courts is only a subset of all people who took part in the public disorder of 6th to 9th August 2011. It is therefore possible that there are differences between the people brought before the courts to date and all those who took part in the disorder;
- 2) some of the people brought before the courts will have their charges dropped or be acquitted;
- 3) there are still new cases being brought before the courts for events related to the disorder. It is possible that there may be differences in characteristics or age profiles of those brought before the courts later compared to those who have appeared so far;
- 4) In this bulletin, and for consistency with previous publications, comparisons have been made with proceedings in 2010 covering similar offence types seen in the disorder, such as burglary, theft and violent disorder, to provide context to the sentences given;
- 5) The information released in this bulletin updates the previous analysis published on 28th June 2012; in addition information has been provided in this update on previous criminal history.

Executive Summary

The public disorder began on 6th August 2011. On 7th and 8th August 2011 there were further outbreaks of disorder mainly in London. On 9th August the incidents were mainly outside of London.

The following presents court information on those who have appeared before the courts by 10th August 2012 for offences related to the disorder of 6th to 9th August 2011. The police and courts agreed whether an offence was related to the disorder and the courts then returned details of the case centrally to the Ministry of Justice statistics team.

It is important to note that none of the factors explored imply causality with the public disorder events, but provide a background understanding of the characteristics of those brought before the courts. It is also the case that those brought before the courts may have different characteristics from those who took part and have yet to appear before the courts.

Cases by area

Of the 3,103 people who appeared before the courts by 10th August 2012, proceedings were held in the following areas:

- London – 2,246 first hearings
- West Midlands – 334 first hearings
- Greater Manchester – 249 first hearings
- Merseyside – 93 first hearings
- Nottingham – 64 first hearings
- Other areas – 117 first hearings

Gender, Age and Ethnicity

Of the 3,103 people brought before the courts by 10th August 2012, 89 per cent were male and 11 per cent were female. Compared to 2010, for all first hearings for indictable offences, 85 per cent were male and 15 per cent were female.

Of those brought before the courts for offences related to the public disorder, 27 per cent were aged 10-17 (juveniles) and a further 26 per cent were aged 18-20. Only five per cent of those appearing before the courts for the disorder were aged 40 or over.

This is different to the age distribution of those appearing before the courts for similar offences in 2010 when the proportion of juveniles was 16 per cent, the proportion of 18-20 year olds was 15 per cent and the proportion aged 40 or over was 15 per cent.

Breakdowns by area show different age profiles for those appearing before the courts:

- London – 26 per cent were juveniles and four per cent were aged 40 or over
- West Midlands – 29 per cent were juveniles and eight per cent were aged 40 or over
- Greater Manchester – 28 per cent were juveniles and 11 per cent were aged 40 or over
- Nottingham – 39 per cent were juveniles, none were aged 40 or over
- Merseyside – 39 per cent were juveniles and four per cent were aged 40 or over

- Other areas – 33 per cent were juveniles and three per cent were aged 40 or over

Comparisons of the data collected on self-defined ethnicity (where ethnicity was recorded¹) show that 41 per cent of those brought before the courts identified themselves as being from the white ethnic group, 39 per cent from the black ethnic group, 12 per cent from the mixed ethnic group, seven per cent from the Asian ethnic group, and two per cent from the Chinese or other ethnic group.

Progress through the criminal justice system

Court Proceedings

The first stage of the court process is for those accused to have a first hearing at magistrates' courts. 3,103 people had appeared before the court by 10th August 2012 for offences related to the public disorder. Of these, 2,646 (85 per cent) had reached a final outcome.

The offences for which people were most commonly brought before the court were burglary (50 per cent), violent disorder (22 per cent) and theft (15 per cent). The remaining offences covered small numbers of a wide range of offences.

As of 10th August 2012, there had been 2,138 persons found guilty and sentenced for their part in the disorder, 69 per cent of the 3,103 people brought before the courts so far. An additional 16 per cent were dismissed or acquitted. Of those sentenced, 1,405 (66 per cent) have been sentenced to immediate custody with an average custodial sentence length (ACSL) of 17.1 months. This compares to an ACSL of 3.7 months for those convicted at magistrates' courts, but sentenced at any court for similar offences in England and Wales in 2010.

Of the 2,138 persons sentenced, 742 (35 per cent) were sentenced at the magistrates' court, of which 268 (36 per cent) received an immediate custodial sentence for offences related to the public disorder. This compares with 12 per cent of offenders sentenced for similar offences in England and Wales in 2010. The ACSL for offences related to the public disorder given at magistrates' courts was 6.6 months. This compares with 2.5 months for offenders sentenced for similar offences in England and Wales in 2010. This difference was mainly down to the ACSL given for violent disorder, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 7.7 months compared to 3.1 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010; burglary, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 7.2 months, compared to 4.4 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010; and theft and handling, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 4.6 months, compared to 2.0 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010.

Of the 2,138 persons sentenced, 1,396 (65 per cent) were sentenced at the Crown Court, of which 1,137 (81 per cent) received immediate custodial sentences with an ACSL of 19.6 months. This compares to an ACSL of 11.3 months for offenders committed for sentence at the Crown Court for similar offences in England and Wales 2010.

¹ For 395 of the 3,103 defendants self-defined ethnicity was recorded as not stated or unknown (13 per cent of defendants).

Prison Population

As at 31st August 2012 there were 606 offenders in prison (including remands) for offences related to the public disorder and a further 837 who were given custodial sentences had already been released from prison.

Previous Criminal History

By matching information on those involved in the public disorder with the Police National Computer (PNC) we have been able to assess previous cautions and convictions of those who appeared before the courts by 10th August 2012. For the 2,826 (91%) defendants that could be matched:

- Overall 78 per cent of those who have appeared before the courts for offences related to the public disorder had a previous caution or conviction;
- 83 per cent of adults and 64 per cent of juveniles had a previous caution or conviction.

Comparisons can be made with previous criminal histories and number of people receiving their first conviction, caution, reprimand or warning during 2010/11. This shows that:

- 22 per cent of those brought before the courts for their role in the public disorder had no previous cautions or convictions. This compares with 23 per cent of those dealt with for indictable offences in 2010/11.
- 41 per cent of those brought before the courts had more than 5 previous offences. This compares with 50 per cent of those dealt with for indictable offences in 2010/11.

Court proceedings [Tables 1.1 – 1.13]

If there is sufficient evidence against a defendant and none of the out of court disposals are appropriate, the police will formally charge the suspect. The law then requires the defendant to be brought before a magistrates' court as soon as possible. The defendant can be summoned to appear in court or remanded on bail or in custody.

Key points (data as of 10th August 2012):

- 3,103 defendants had an initial hearing at magistrates' courts. The majority of these hearings were in London (72 per cent).
- Of these cases, 846 (27 per cent) were aged 10-17 and 2,257 (73 per cent) were adults.
- 89 per cent of defendants were male.
- 35 per cent of defendants were from a White ethnic background, 34 per cent were from a Black ethnic background, 10 per cent were from a Mixed background, six per cent were from an Asian ethnic background, two per cent were of another ethnic background, and 13 per cent were not stated or not recorded.
- The average custodial sentence length for offences related to the public disorder was 17.1 months.

These tables show the final outcome of cases for those convicted and sentenced and for those without an outcome their current bail status, by age group. Please note that for those awaiting an outcome, at subsequent hearings, bail conditions may be changed or the case may be dismissed.

Tables 1.1a and 1.1b: Defendants brought before the courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, (data as of 10th August 2012)

Table 1.1a - Defendants awaiting final outcome

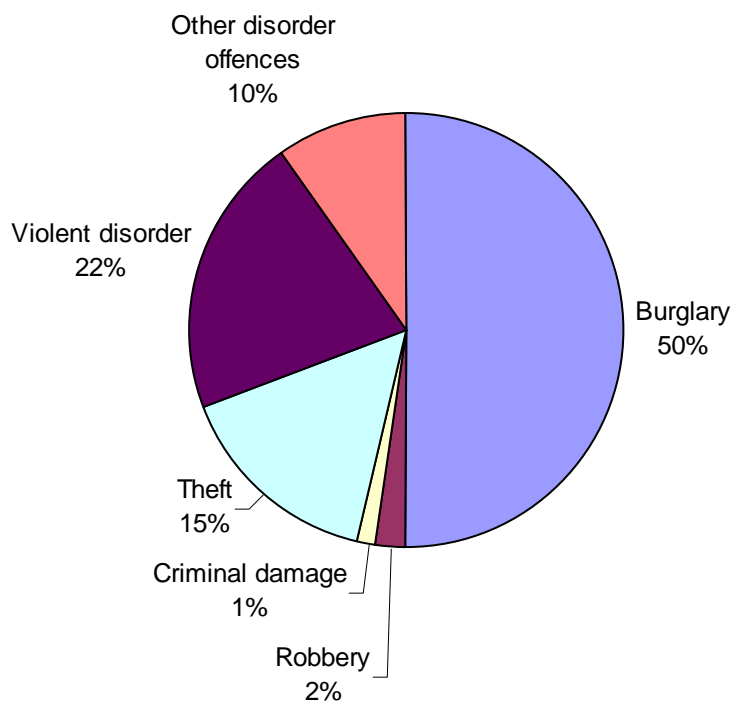
Age group	Hearing not yet completed			Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remand on conditional bail	Remanded in custody		
10 to 17	21	41	24	1	87
18 to 20	40	66	42	1	149
21 to 24	28	39	24	4	95
25 to 30	13	45	18	1	77
31 to 34	7	7	4	1	19
35 to 39	2	5	9	-	16
40 plus	4	5	5	-	14
Total	115	208	126	8	457

Table 1.1b: Final defendant outcome at court

Age group	Convicted and sentenced			Not convicted	Total final outcomes
	Sentenced to immediate custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Total sentenced	Dismissed/acquitted	
10 to 17	233	395	628	132	760
18 to 20	389	126	515	143	658
21 to 24	364	81	445	101	546
25 to 30	200	57	257	86	343
31 to 34	89	16	105	19	124
35 to 39	42	14	56	10	66
40 plus	88	44	132	17	149
Total	1,405	733	2,138	508	2,646

For the 3,103 offenders that have been brought before the court, the most common offences were burglary (50 per cent), violent disorder (22 per cent) and theft (15 per cent).

Figure 1.1: First hearings for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, at magistrates' courts, by offence group (data as of 10th August 2012)



The proportion of offenders sentenced who received an immediate custodial sentence for offences related to the public disorder at magistrates' courts was 36 per cent. This compares with 12 per cent for offenders sentenced for similar offences in England and Wales in 2010.

For the 2,138 offenders that have been sentenced, the largest proportions were for burglary (53 per cent), violent disorder (19 per cent) and theft (16 per cent).

Table 1.2: Defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts, found guilty and sentenced at all courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by type of sentence and offence (data as of 10th August 2012)

Offence	First hearing	Found guilty	Sentenced	Sentence breakdown					
				Absolute / conditional discharge	Fine	Community sentence	Suspended sentence	Immediate custody	Otherwise dealt with
Burglary	1,554	1,148	1,136	7	1	211	91	825	1
Robbery	64	45	45	-	-	9	2	34	-
Criminal damage	45	30	30	3	2	12	4	9	-
Theft	479	346	344	8	9	79	69	178	1
Violent disorder ⁽¹⁾	661	414	410	11	5	77	12	283	22
Other riot offences ⁽²⁾	300	175	173	10	19	42	24	76	2
Total	3,103	2,158	2,138	39	36	430	202	1,405	26

(1) Violent disorder (includes following offences: Violent disorder, Riot, Affray, Summary causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress, Summary harassment, alarm or distress, Assault with intent to resist apprehension or assault a person assisting a constable, Common assault offences, Assaulting a constable and offences under Public Order Act and Justice of the Peace Act).

(2) Other offence type (includes following offences: Having an article with a blade or point in public place, Possession of offensive weapons without lawful authority or reasonable excuse, Having possession of a controlled drug (Cannabis)).

Table 1.3: Defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts, found guilty and sentenced at all courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by type of sentence, sex and age group (data as of 10th August 2012)

Sex / Age group	First hearing	Found guilty	Sentenced	Sentence breakdown					
				Absolute / conditional discharge	Fine	Community sentence	Suspended sentence	Immediate custody	Otherwise dealt with
Males									
10 to 17	724	521	518	12	3	283	7	210	3
18 to 20	726	467	462	9	7	15	54	360	17
21 to 24	590	412	410	6	5	15	42	340	2
25 to 30	385	236	234	2	8	10	23	189	2
31 to 34	125	93	91	-	1	2	8	79	1
35 to 39	69	45	43	-	1	1	7	34	-
40 plus	138	113	113	4	7	5	18	78	1
Total	2,757	1,887	1,871	33	32	331	159	1,290	26
Females									
10 to 17	123	110	110	1	-	85	1	23	-
18 to 20	81	55	53	1	2	3	18	29	-
21 to 24	51	36	35	-	-	4	7	24	-
25 to 30	35	23	23	-	-	3	9	11	-
31 to 34	18	14	14	1	-	1	2	10	-
35 to 39	13	13	13	1	1	1	2	8	-
40 plus	25	20	19	2	1	2	4	10	-
Total	346	271	267	6	4	99	43	115	-
Total									
Aged 10 to 17	847	631	628	13	3	368	8	233	3
Aged 18 to 20	807	522	515	10	9	18	72	389	17
Aged 21 to 24	641	448	445	6	5	19	49	364	2
Aged 25 to 29	420	259	257	2	8	13	32	200	2
Aged 30 to 34	143	107	105	1	1	3	10	89	1
Aged 35 to 39	82	58	56	1	2	2	9	42	-
Aged 40 and over	163	133	132	6	8	7	22	88	1
Total	3,103	2,158	2,138	39	36	430	202	1,405	26

Table 1.4: Immediate custody rate⁽¹⁾ for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by court and offence group (data as of 10th August 2012)

Court type / Offence category	Offences related to the public disorder of 6th to 9th August 2011		Immediate custody rate in England and Wales 2010 for similar offences
	Immediate custodial sentences	Immediate custody rate for those sentenced	
<u>Magistrates' courts</u>			
Burglary	126	39%	23%
Robbery	2	25%	13%
Criminal damage	3	13%	16%
Theft	57	40%	2%
Violent disorder ⁽²⁾	61	39%	13%
Other disorder offences ⁽³⁾	19	22%	2%
Total	268	36%	12%
<u>Crown Court</u>			
Burglary	699	86%	68%
Robbery	32	86%	41%
Criminal damage	6	86%	52%
Theft	121	60%	46%
Violent disorder ⁽²⁾	222	87%	42%
Other disorder offences ⁽³⁾	57	66%	36%
Total	1,137	81%	33%

To note: Crown Court data for 2010 are based on cases that were found guilty at the magistrates' courts and committed for sentence at the Crown Court in order to give the most reliable comparison with disorder cases which have been sentenced so far.

(1) Proportion of offenders sentenced who received an immediate custodial sentence.

(2) Violent disorder includes following offences: Violent disorder, Riot, Affray, Summary causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress, Summary harassment, alarm or distress, Assault with intent to resist apprehension or assault a person assisting a constable, Common assault offences, Assaulting a constable and offences under Public Order Act and Justice of the Peace Act.

(3) Other disorder offence types includes following offences: Having an article with a blade or point in public place, Possession of offensive weapons without lawful authority or reasonable excuse, Having possession of a controlled drug (Cannabis).

For all offences related to the public disorder at magistrates' courts, the average custodial sentence length (ACSL) was 6.6 months. This compares with 2.5 months for offenders sentenced for similar offences in England and Wales in 2010. This reflects the higher ACSL given for offences such as violent disorder, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 7.7 months compared to 3.1 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010; burglary, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 7.2 months, compared with 4.4 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010; and theft and handling, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 4.6 months, compared with to 2.0 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010.

At the Crown Court, the ACSL was 19.6 months, this compares to 11.3 months for offenders committed for sentence at the Crown Court for similar offences in England and Wales in 2010.

The longest custodial sentence given to date for an individual's part in the public disorder was 30 years (360 months).

Table 1.5: Sentencing comparison for offenders convicted following the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, with similar offences committed in England and Wales in 2010, (data as of 10th August 2012)

	For offences committed during the public disorder				During 2010			
	Total sentenced	Sentenced to custody	Immediate custody rate (%)	Average custodial sentence length (months)	Total sentenced	Sentenced to custody	Immediate custody rate (%)	Average custodial sentence length (months)
Juvenile (youth courts)	526	165	31.4	8.0	34,796	1,843	5.3	7.3
Adult - magistrates' courts	216	103	47.7	4.3	166,746	22,867	13.7	2.1
All ages - magistrates' courts	742	268	36.1	6.6	201,542	24,710	12.3	2.5

Table 1.6: Average custodial sentence length (months) for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by court and offence group, (data as of 10th August 2012)

Court type / Offence category	Completed court cases relating to the disorder	England and Wales 2010 (based on similar offences)
<u>Magistrates' courts</u>		
Burglary	7.2	4.4
Robbery	10.0	8.8
Criminal damage	3.8	6.8
Theft	4.6	2.0
Violent disorder ⁽¹⁾	7.7	3.1
Other disorder offences ⁽²⁾	4.5	3.1
Total	6.6	2.5
<u>Crown Court</u>		
Burglary	17.4	16.2
Robbery	29.8	10.8
Criminal damage	17.5	7.7
Theft	10.0	6.6
Violent disorder ⁽¹⁾	30.6	9.9
Other disorder offences ⁽²⁾	18.5	7.6
Total	19.6	11.3
All Courts	17.1	3.7

To note: Crown Court data for 2010 are based on cases that were found guilty at the magistrates' courts and committed for sentence at the Crown Court in order to give the most reliable comparison with disorder cases which have been sentenced so far.

(1) Violent disorder (includes following offences: Violent disorder, Riot, Affray, Summary causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress, Summary harassment, alarm or distress, Assault with intent to resist apprehension or assault a person assisting a constable, Common assault offences, Assaulting a constable and offences under Public Order Act and Justice of the Peace Act).

(2) Other disorder offences includes following offences: Having an article with a blade or point in public place, Possession of offensive weapons without lawful authority or reasonable excuse, Having possession of a controlled drug (Cannabis).

Figure 1.2: Average custodial sentence length (months) for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, and England and Wales in 2010 (data as of 10th August 2012)

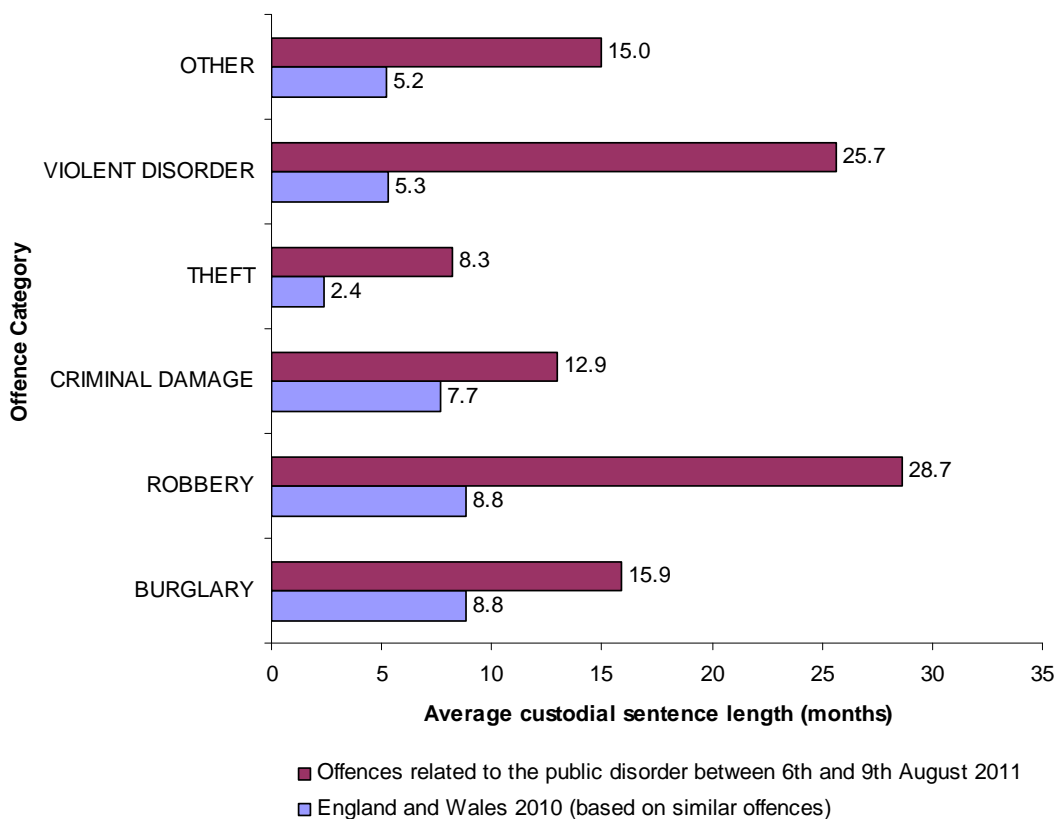
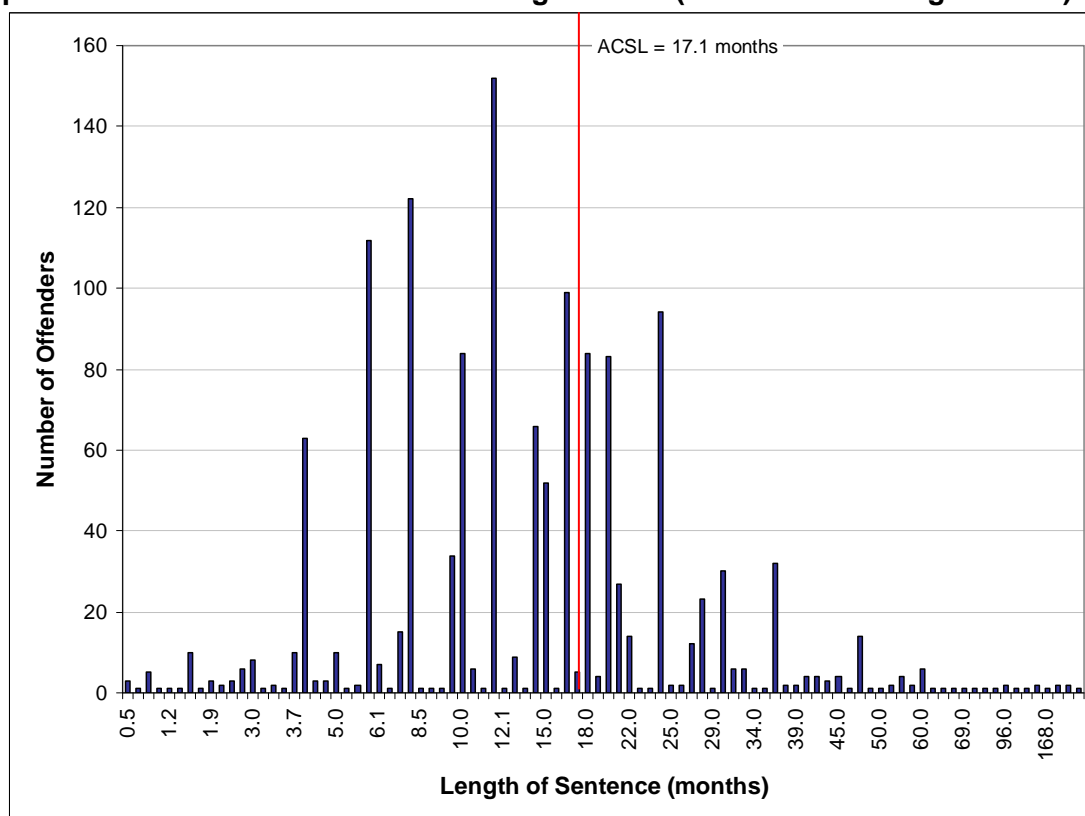


Figure 1.3: Distribution of sentence length (months) for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011 (data as of 10th August 2012)



As of the 10th August 2012, there have been 24 successful appeals against sentences given at the magistrates' courts and 13 successful appeals against sentences given at the Crown Court that have been included in the statistics. For the Crown Court appeals, ten had their sentences reduced, two had all or part of their sentence quashed and one had their sentence increased (this was an appeal by the Attorney General's office for an unduly lenient sentence).

Ethnicity

The ethnicity statistics included in this publication are based on each defendant's self-defined ethnicity, as recorded by the courts. This approach uses the Office for National Statistics 2001 Census classifications, which allows an individual to choose how their ethnicity is recorded from a list of 16 options, or they can choose not to declare it. Due to small numbers in some categories the 16 point ethnicity classification was then collapsed to the 5 point classification in this section. Information is presented on the following ethnic groupings: 'White'², 'Black'³, 'Asian'⁴, 'Mixed'⁵, 'Other'⁶ and 'Not Stated'. The fuller 16 point classification can be found in the tables below.

For those defendants whose ethnicity is known⁷, 41 per cent were from the white ethnic group, 39 per cent were from the black ethnic group, 12 per cent were from the mixed ethnic group, seven per cent the Asian ethnic group, and two per cent were from the Chinese or other ethnic group.

For those cases which have yet to come to a final conclusion at court,

- 31 per cent of defendants from the white ethnic group and 26 per cent of defendants from the black ethnic group were remanded on unconditional bail;
- 39 per cent of defendants from the white ethnic group and 45 per cent of defendants from the black ethnic group were remanded on conditional bail;
- 27 per cent of defendants from the white ethnic group and 28 per cent of defendants from the black ethnic group were remanded in custody.

This compares to 33 per cent of defendants from the white ethnic group and 45 per cent of defendants from the black ethnic group remanded in custody during 2010 for England and Wales.

For defendants that have been sentenced, 64 per cent from the white ethnic group and 68 per cent from the black ethnic group were given an immediate custodial sentence. This compares to 23 per cent and 27 per cent respectively, sentenced to immediate custody for indictable offences during 2010 for England and Wales.

For proceedings that are complete 16 per cent of defendants from the white ethnic group and 25 per cent of defendants from the black ethnic group were found not

² From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification White includes: - White – British, White – Irish, and White – Other

³ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Black includes: - Black – African, Black – Caribbean, and Black – Other.

⁴ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Asian includes: - Asian – Bangladeshi, Asian – Indian, Asian – Pakistani, and Asian – Other.

⁵ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Mixed includes: - White and Black African, White and Black Caribbean, White and Asian, and Any other mixed background.

⁶ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Other includes: - Chinese and Other.

⁷ Excludes 395 defendants whose ethnicity was given as Not Stated or not recorded at court.

guilty. This includes cases where proceedings were discontinued by the prosecution, acquittals, and proceedings dismissed by the judge or magistrates.

Tables 1.7a and 1.7b: Defendants brought before the courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by self-defined ethnicity⁽¹⁾, (data as of 10th August 2012)

Table 1.7a: Defendants awaiting final outcome

Ethnicity	Hearing not yet completed				Total
	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remand on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	
White – British	30	35	30	3	98
White – Irish	2	4	1	-	7
White – Other	6	9	3	1	19
Black – Caribbean	17	39	18	2	76
Black – African	13	17	14	-	44
Black – Other	15	21	17	-	53
Asian – Indian	1	1	1	-	3
Asian – Pakistani	4	3	1	-	8
Asian – Bangladeshi	1	3	1	-	5
Asian – Other	2	6	6	-	14
White and Black Caribbean	4	17	7	-	28
White and Black African	1	1	1	-	3
White and Asian	1	1	-	-	2
Any other mixed background	4	3	2	1	10
Chinese	-	-	-	-	-
Other	3	4	2	-	9
Not Stated / not recorded	11	44	22	1	78
Total	115	208	126	8	457

Table 1.7b: Final defendant outcome at court

Ethnicity	Convicted and sentenced			Not convicted	Total final outcomes
	Sentenced to immediate custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Total sentenced	Dismissed / acquitted	
White – British	451	263	714	132	846
White – Irish	15	6	21	1	22
White – Other	61	25	86	20	106
Black – Caribbean	211	102	313	126	439
Black – African	131	61	192	48	240
Black – Other	107	46	153	46	199
Asian – Indian	14	10	24	3	27
Asian – Pakistani	27	14	41	8	49
Asian – Bangladeshi	11	7	18	5	23
Asian – Other	33	7	40	9	49
White and Black Caribbean	84	58	142	34	176
White and Black African	20	7	27	5	32
White and Asian	4	2	6	-	6
Any other mixed background	27	27	54	10	64
Chinese	1	1	2	2	4
Other	29	8	37	10	47
Not Stated / not recorded	179	89	268	49	317
Total	1,405	733	2,138	508	2,646

(1) Ethnicity is self defined ethnicity reported on the 16+1 scale as used in the 2001 census.

Table 1.8: Defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts, found guilty and sentenced at all courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by type of sentence and self-defined ethnicity⁽¹⁾, (data as of 10th August 2012)

Ethnicity	First hearing	Found guilty	Sentenced	Sentence breakdown						Average Custodial Sentence Length (Magistrates)	Average Custodial Sentence Length (Crown)
				Absolute / conditional discharge	Fine	Community sentence	Suspended sentence	Immediate custody	Otherwise dealt with		
White	1,098	824	821	21	17	165	75	527	16	6.3	18.6
Black	1,051	667	658	7	10	121	67	449	4	6.8	21.5
Asian	178	124	123	2	1	23	10	85	2	6.4	16.2
Mixed	321	232	229	4	3	63	23	135	1	7.7	22.9
Other	60	40	39	-	1	6	2	30	-	6.8	18.3
Not stated / recorded	395	271	268	5	4	52	25	179	3	5.8	17.2
Total	3,103	2,158	2,138	39	36	430	202	1,405	26	6.6	19.6

(1) Ethnicity is self defined ethnicity reported on the 16+1 scale as used in the 2001 census and mapped to the 5+1 scale:

The ethnic backgrounds of those appearing before the courts vary by area (where ethnicity was known). In London, 33 per cent of defendants were from the white ethnic group and 46 per cent were from the black ethnic group. In Merseyside, 73 per cent of defendants were from the white ethnic group and 13 per cent were from the black ethnic group.

Tables 1.9a and 1.9b: Number and proportion of defendants brought before the courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by self-defined ethnicity⁽¹⁾ and region, (data as of 10th August 2012)

Table 1.9a: Number of defendants

Ethnicity	Region						Total
	London	West Midlands	Nottingham	Greater Manchester	Merseyside	Other	
White – British	503	107	22	179	67	66	944
White – Irish	25	2	-	2	-	-	29
White – Other	109	3	1	9	-	3	125
Black – Caribbean	425	65	11	5	1	8	515
Black – African	245	17	-	17	3	2	284
Black – Other	210	18	10	4	8	2	252
Asian – Indian	21	8	-	-	-	1	30
Asian – Pakistani	33	20	-	3	-	1	57
Asian – Bangladeshi	22	6	-	-	-	-	28
Asian – Other	53	7	-	-	3	-	63
White and Black Caribbean	134	30	16	15	3	6	204
White and Black African	30	-	-	5	-	-	35
White and Asian	4	3	-	1	-	-	8
Any other mixed background	60	6	2	1	4	1	74
Chinese	3	-	-	1	-	-	4
Other	45	4	1	2	3	1	56
Not Stated / not recorded	324	38	1	5	1	26	395
Total	2,246	334	64	249	93	117	3,103

Table 1.9b: Percentage of defendants

Ethnicity	Region						Total
	London	West Midlands	Nottingham	Greater Manchester	Merseyside	Other	
White – British	26%	36%	35%	73%	73%	73%	35%
White – Irish	1%	1%	-	1%	-	-	1%
White – Other	6%	1%	2%	4%	-	3%	5%
Black – Caribbean	22%	22%	17%	2%	1%	9%	19%
Black – African	13%	6%	-	7%	3%	2%	10%
Black – Other	11%	6%	16%	2%	9%	2%	9%
Asian – Indian	1%	3%	-	-	-	1%	1%
Asian – Pakistani	2%	7%	-	1%	-	1%	2%
Asian – Bangladeshi	1%	2%	-	-	-	-	1%
Asian – Other	3%	2%	-	-	3%	-	2%
White and Black Caribbean	7%	10%	25%	6%	3%	7%	8%
White and Black African	2%	-	-	2%	-	-	1%
White and Asian	0%	1%	-	0%	-	-	0%
Any other mixed background	3%	2%	3%	0%	4%	1%	3%
Chinese	0%	-	-	0%	-	-	0%
Other	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%	1%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

(1) Ethnicity is self defined ethnicity reported on the 16+1 scale as used in the 2001 census.

Prison Population [Table 2.1]

As at 31st August 2012 there were 606 offenders in prison (including remands) for offences related to the public disorder and a further 837 who were given custodial sentences had already been released from prison.

Table 2.1: Prison population on 31 August 2012, for persons imprisoned for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011

Age group / Nationality	Males	Females	Total
Total in prison	590	16	606
Aged 15-17	39	.	39
Aged 18-20	163	3	166
Adult (21+)	388	13	401
UK Nationals	490	12	502
Foreign Nationals	81	3	84
Nationality not recorded	19	1	20

Previous criminal histories [Tables 3.1 – 3.2]

By matching information on those involved in the public disorder with the Police National Computer (PNC) we have been able to assess previous cautions and convictions of those who appeared before the courts by 10th August 2012. For the 2,826 (91%) defendants that could be matched:

- Overall 78 per cent of those who have appeared before the courts for offences related to the public disorder had a previous caution or conviction.
- 83 per cent of adults and 64 per cent of juveniles had a previous caution or conviction.

Comparisons can be made with previous criminal histories and number of people receiving their first conviction, caution, reprimand or warning. This shows that:

- 22 per cent of those brought before the courts for their role in the public disorder had no previous cautions or convictions. This compares with 23 per cent of those dealt with for indictable offences in 2010/11.
- 41 per cent of those brought before the courts had more than 5 previous offences. This compares with 50 per cent of those dealt with for indictable offences in 2010/11.

Table 3.1: Criminal histories of suspects involved in public disorder between 6th August and 9th August 2011 - data as of 28th September 2011

England and Wales			Percentages and numbers of defendants						
Previous offences	Juveniles			Adults			All persons		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
None	34.3	47.7	36.3	15.1	31.9	16.8	19.9	37.2	21.9
1	18.4	16.8	18.2	10.3	11.7	10.5	12.3	13.4	12.5
2	9.8	13.1	10.3	7.8	9.9	8.0	8.3	10.9	8.6
3 - 5	18.4	10.3	17.2	15.8	15.0	15.7	16.4	13.4	16.1
6 - 10	9.9	8.4	9.7	16.0	9.4	15.3	14.5	9.1	13.9
11 - 14	4.0	1.9	3.7	7.2	5.2	7.0	6.4	4.1	6.2
15 - 49	5.0	1.9	4.5	22.1	12.2	21.1	17.8	8.8	16.8
50 or more	0.2	0.0	0.1	5.6	4.7	5.5	4.3	3.1	4.1
Total number of defendants (100%)	624	107	731	1,882	213	2,095	2,506	320	2,826

Table 3.2: Criminal histories of all offenders who received a reprimand, warning, caution or sentence for an indictable offence in the 12 months to the end of March 2011

England and Wales			Percentages and numbers of offenders						
Previous offences	Juveniles			Adults			All persons		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
None	34.5	53.7	38.4	16.9	33.0	19.7	19.6	36.6	22.6
1	16.1	16.4	16.2	7.7	10.0	8.1	8.9	11.1	9.3
2	10.0	8.2	9.6	5.7	6.3	5.8	6.3	6.7	6.4
3 - 5	16.0	11.0	15.0	11.5	10.9	11.4	12.2	10.9	12.0
6 - 10	10.7	5.6	9.7	11.6	9.4	11.2	11.5	8.7	11.0
11 - 14	4.3	2.0	3.8	6.3	4.6	6.0	6.0	4.1	5.7
15 - 49	8.1	3.0	7.0	24.8	16.8	23.4	22.3	14.4	20.9
50 or more	0.3	0.2	0.3	15.4	9.0	14.3	13.2	7.4	12.2
Total number of offenders (100%)	58,212	14,368	72,838	329,437	66,923	396,939	387,649	81,291	469,777

Data sources and data quality

The data presented in this publication are drawn from administrative IT systems. Although care is taken when processing and analysing the returns, the information collected is subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large scale recording system. While the figures shown have been checked as far as practicable, they should be regarded as approximate and not necessarily accurate to the last whole number shown in the tables. Where figures in the tables have been rounded to the nearest whole number, the rounded components do not always add to the totals, which are calculated and rounded independently.

Court hearings

Justice Statistics Analytical Services within the Ministry of Justice received manual returns from the individual courts who were dealing with defendants identified as being involved in the public disorder. They provided summary information on key details taken from court registers to meet the needs of the courts service, National Offender Management Service (NOMS) and other Criminal Justice agencies for planning purposes.

The offence shown in the tables on court proceedings is the one for which the court took its final decision and is not necessarily the same as the offence for which the defendant was initially prosecuted, for example when the court accepts a guilty plea from the defendant on a lesser charge.

Ethnicity data

Data for the main ethnicity section and tables is based on the information available as at 10th August 2012. The ethnicity statistics are based on each defendant's self-defined ethnicity, as recorded by the courts. This approach uses the Office for National Statistics 2001 Census classification, which allows an individual to choose how their ethnicity is recorded from a list of 16 options, or choose not to declare it. Due to small numbers in some categories the 16 point ethnicity classification was then collapsed to the 5 point classification in this section for reporting purposes. The report therefore presents information on the following ethnic groups: 'White'⁸, 'Black'⁹, 'Asian'¹⁰, 'Mixed'¹¹, 'Other'¹² and 'Not Stated'.

The executive summary includes a breakdown based on known ethnicity only, so the 395 (13 per cent) not stated/not known cases have been removed – therefore there are some differences between proportions reported. In each case we have stated what approach has been used.

⁸ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification White includes: - White – British, White – Irish, and White – Other.

⁹ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Black includes: - Black – African, Black – Caribbean, and Black – Other.

¹⁰ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Asian includes: - Asian – Bangladeshi, Asian – Indian, Asian – Pakistani, and Asian – Other.

¹¹ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Mixed includes: - White and Black African, White and Black Caribbean, White and Asian, and any other mixed background.

¹² From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Other includes: - Chinese and Other.

Glossary

Average custodial sentence length (ACSL): Average length of determinate custodial sentences given in months. This excludes indeterminate sentences (life or Imprisonment for Public Protection sentences) as the length of these sentences is not recorded.

Community sentence: When a court imposes a community sentence, the offender doesn't go to prison. But the court says there are specific things the offender can, can't and must do while serving their sentence. The magistrate or judge will decide which combination of these 'requirements' will most effectively punish the offender for their crime, while also reducing the risk of them offending again.

Discharge: When the court decides someone is guilty, but decides not to punish them further at this time, they will be given a 'discharge'. Discharges are given for minor offences. An 'absolute discharge' means that no more action will be taken. A 'conditional discharge' means that the offender won't be punished unless they commit another offence within a set period of time (no longer than three years).

Fine: Fines are the most common criminal sentence. They're usually given for less serious crimes that don't merit a community or prison sentence. They limit the amount of money offenders have to spend. How much someone is fined depends on how serious a crime is, and the offender's ability to pay.

Immediate custody: Prison sentences are given when an offence is so serious that it is the only suitable punishment. A prison sentence will also be given when the court believes the public must be protected from the offender. There are three different types of prison sentence: suspended sentences, determinate sentences (those having a fixed term) and indeterminate sentences (which have only a minimum term and include life sentences).

Otherwise dealt with: Includes a number of orders, for example hospital orders, confiscation orders and compensation orders.

Principal offence: Where more than one offence is considered in a court case or cautioning occasion, the offence that would/did attract the most severe sentencing outcome is deemed to be the Principal offence and other offences also dealt with in that case would be ignored. If two offences in the same case attract the same sentence the offence with the statutory maximum sentence is deemed the 'Principal offence'.

Suspended sentence: A court may give an offender a 'suspended' prison sentence if the time they would otherwise spend in prison is under 12 months. With a suspended sentence, the offender doesn't go directly to prison but they do have to meet conditions in the community, set by the court. These conditions can last for up to two years. If the offender breaks these conditions, or commits another offence, they will usually have to serve the original sentence in prison.

Contacts

Press enquiries should be directed to the Ministry of Justice press office:

Tel: 020 3334 3536

Email: newsdesk@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to the Justice Statistics Analytical Services division of the Ministry of Justice:

John Marais
Acting Chief Statistician
Ministry of Justice
7th Floor
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ
Email: statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

General enquiries about the statistical work of the Ministry of Justice can be e-mailed to: statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

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