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Crimes detected in England and Wales 2012/13

(Second edition)

Kevin Smith (Editor), Paul Taylor and Meghan Elkin

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Further information

Copies of other Home Office publications (including crime statistics releases prior to April 2012) are available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/series/crime-statistics#publications>

Copies of crime statistics publications from April 2012 are available from the Office for National Statistics website: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Crime+and+Justice>

This includes the *User Guide to Crime Statistics*, a useful reference guide with explanatory notes regarding the issues and classifications that are key to the production and presentation of the crime statistics.

The dates of forthcoming publications are pre-announced and can be found via the UK National Statistics Publication Hub: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/index.html>

For further information about police recorded crime statistics, please email:

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This statistical bulletin is produced to the highest professional standards and is free from political interference. It has been produced by statisticians working in the Home Office Statistics Unit in accordance with the Home Office's [Statement of Compliance](#) with the *Code of Practice for Official Statistics*, which covers our policy on revisions and other matters. The Home Office Statistics Unit works under the direct line management of the Home Office Chief Statistician, who reports to the National Statistician with respect to all professional statistical matters.

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FRAMEWORK OF CRIME OUTCOMES

The last statistical bulletin on detections, published in July 2012, included a statement that the Home Office planned to move away from the concept of detections and the term 'sanction detections' towards a broader and more transparent framework of crime outcomes to better reflect how the police are responding to all recorded crimes.

The Home Office consulted on those proposals during the autumn of 2012 and after considering the responses Ministers announced to Parliament early in 2013 that the Home Office would be proceeding with the development of that new framework. Both the consultation document and the Home Office response can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/crime-outcomes-consultation>

As a first step, from April 2013 the previous regime of detections (including sanction detections) was recast as part of a framework of recorded crime outcomes and community resolution outcomes and were formally incorporated in that framework. During 2013 work is underway to consult with stakeholders on finalising these new crime outcome categories. The Home Office intends to announce the full details of the new categories framework by the autumn of 2013 for implementation in April 2014.

As a result of these changes, this will be the last statistical bulletin referring to detections. Future statistical releases will refer to crime outcomes. Whilst the current methods of detection will all be retained in the new framework and will continue to be presented in statistical releases, some of the rigid rules that set out how and when they are claimed may be reconsidered.

1 Introduction

This bulletin reports on the levels and trends in detections and detection rates recorded by the 43 police forces in England and Wales and the British Transport Police.

Previous detections bulletins have focused on sanction detections; that is formal sanctions where the offender is charged or summonsed, cautioned, reprimanded or given a final warning. Sanction detections also include Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs), warnings for cannabis possession and offences that are asked to be taken into consideration by a court (TICs).

This bulletin has a wider focus on overall detections to reflect the greater range of detection methods available to the police over the last two years. Overall detections consist of the sanction detections outlined above (which still make up the vast majority of detections, 94% in 2012/13) and non-sanction detections. The latter comprise detections where the offence is counted as cleared up but either no further action was taken against the offender or the matter has been resolved by the use of a locally based community resolution or the application of Restorative Justice (RJ) techniques. These locally based resolutions and RJ techniques are part of the wider range of options the police have had available for dealing with offenders over the last two years (see Notes for further information).

In January 2011 the Home Secretary invited the National Statistician to conduct an independent Review of Crime Statistics for England and Wales. The National Statistician's report was published on 6 June 2011 and can be accessed here:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/national-statistician/ns-reports--reviews-and-guidance/national-statistician-s-reviews/national-statistician-s-review-of-crime-statistics.html>

The Home Secretary accepted the recommendation to transfer responsibility for the publication of crime statistics for England and Wales to the Office for National Statistics (ONS). That transfer took effect in April 2012. However, the Home Office Statistics Unit continues to be responsible for publishing statistics on other aspects of police activity, including detections, arrests and other powers.

Detailed figures of crimes recorded by the police are published separately by ONS in *Crime in England and Wales: Quarterly First Release to March 2013*, a copy of which is available at:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Crime+in+England+and+Wales>

Recorded crime statistics provide an important context to detections figures, and are quoted where relevant in this bulletin.

Following a public consultation, ONS has changed in the way in which the crime statistics are presented. The focus is now on victim-based crime and other crimes against society and these classifications align more closely with the crime tree as used by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC). More information on the HMIC crime tree is available at:

<http://www.hmic.gov.uk/crime-and-policing-comparator/>

The tables in this detections bulletin have been amended to reflect the new groupings that are now presented by ONS.

For the *Crime in England and Wales, Year Ending March 2013* publication, ONS is publishing police recorded crime statistics both including and excluding fraud (as measured by a combination of data from the police and Action Fraud). For the reasons documented in the text box at the beginning of Chapter 2, the headline detection statistics in this bulletin exclude fraud. For consistency, ONS's series of police recorded crime used for comparisons is the version that excludes fraud.

2 Detections

Throughout this statistical bulletin total numbers for both offences recorded and detected by the police are shown **excluding** fraud offences.

Since April 2011 police forces in England and Wales have moved away from recording fraud offences themselves as a result of the implementation of Action Fraud as a single national fraud reporting centre. While forces continue to investigate frauds following this change, they do so only on those cases referred to them by Action Fraud. Furthermore, data are not yet available on how many of these crimes are detected. By the end of March 2013 all 43 territorial police forces in England and Wales and the British Transport Police had transferred the recording of these offences to Action Fraud.

Therefore, to preserve consistency between the detection statistics and the ONS crime statistics (which from the year ending March 2013 publication are presented both including and excluding fraud), fraud figures have been excluded from the headline detections total, as well as from the detection rates and trend data. This is necessary to ensure that figures for detections for all police forces contain the same set of offences.

For completeness, this statistical bulletin also shows headline tables in Section 2.6, including the subset of fraud figures that continued to be recorded by the police during 2012/13, although these should be treated with caution as they will not be consistent across all forces, and are therefore not directly comparable.

2.1 SUMMARY

- There were 3,502,320 offences (excluding fraud) recorded by the police in 2012/13 and 1,012,151 offences were detected. Of these, 947,053 were sanction detections (94% of all detections) and 65,098 were non-sanction detections (6%). The overall detection rate (i.e. the number of detections divided by the number of crimes) was 28.9 per cent in 2012/13, 0.3 percentage points higher than 28.6 per cent in 2011/12 (Table 3).
- The overall detection rate in 2012/13 was the highest since the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) in April 2002, although the detection rate has been either 28 or 29 per cent over the last five years.
- Since 2010/11, the sanction detection rate has fallen slightly (ranging from 28.0 per cent to 27.0 per cent) while the non-sanction detection rate has increased (from 0.2% to 1.9%). This reflects the increased use of locally based resolutions and uptake of Restorative Justice (RJ) techniques which are counted as non-sanction detections in this bulletin.
- As in previous years, there was a wide variation in overall detection rates for different types of crime, with the highest detection rate of 94 per cent for drug offences and the lowest rate of 16 per cent for offences of criminal damage and arson.
- Detection rates showed little change for many offence groups between 2011/12 and 2012/13. The offence group with the largest increase in the detection rate was drug offences (up 1.3 percentage points). The offence group with the largest decrease in the detection rate was public order offences (down 3.1 percentage points).
- The proportion of offences detected by means of a charge or a summons rose slightly, by 0.2 percentage points between 2011/12 to 2012/13 (from 16.4% to 16.6%). The rate for all other methods of sanction detections fell slightly between 2011/12 and 2012/13. The largest decrease was for Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) down 0.2 percentage points (from 1.9% to 1.7%).

2.2 INTRODUCTION

Statistics on crimes recorded by the police that appear in the National Statistics for England and Wales are based on notifiable offences. These offences include all offences that could possibly be tried by jury (including some less serious offences, such as minor theft, that would not normally be dealt with in this way) plus a few closely related offences, such as assault without injury. For a list of all notifiable offences see Appendix 1 of the ONS *User Guide*, which can be found under the Guidance and Methodology section:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Crime+in+England+and+Wales>

Detected crime is a term that describes notifiable offences that have been 'cleared up' by the police.

Detections can be broadly divided into two categories: sanction and non-sanction detections. The former occurs where the offender receives some formal sanction and the latter occurs in certain circumstances where the offence was cleared up but either no further action is taken against an offender, for example, where the alleged offender has died, or in certain cases the offence was cleared up by the use of a form of locally based community resolution (see Notes for further information).

From April 2011 the Home Office has been receiving data supplied on a voluntary basis by police forces on crimes 'cleared up' by the application of locally based community resolutions or by the application of RJ techniques. RJ is a more formal course of action administered by trained practitioners whereas less formal community-based resolutions are where the offender has made an admission and the victim is satisfied that such a resolution may be used. This may amount to an apology to the victim or agreement to carry out some activity, such as repairing damage caused.

The 43 territorial police forces in England and Wales and the British Transport Police provide the Home Office with aggregate returns on the number of notifiable crimes and number of detections they have recorded each year. It is not currently possible to link individual detections to individual crimes from these records. The detection rates described in this bulletin are the number of offences recorded as detected in a given year as a proportion of the total number of crimes recorded in the same period. In practice, this means that some crimes could show a detection rate of over 100 per cent. However, this may reflect that some crimes are detected in a different year to the year that the police recorded the crime.

Detection rates are not a direct measure of police investigative performance and need to be interpreted with care. For example, some of the offences with the highest detection rates are the offences most influenced, in terms of their recorded numbers, by proactive policing to apprehend offenders (e.g. drug offences which are often detected at the point of the crime being 'discovered', and many of the offences in the 'other crimes against society' category). This means that overall detection rates can be influenced by the extent to which the police prioritise action against different types of offending. There may also be circumstances in which a crime may be considered 'solved' but in which a detection is not claimed – for example, where the police are satisfied that they have identified an offender but the victim is unwilling to cooperate further in an investigation or does not wish for formal action to be taken.

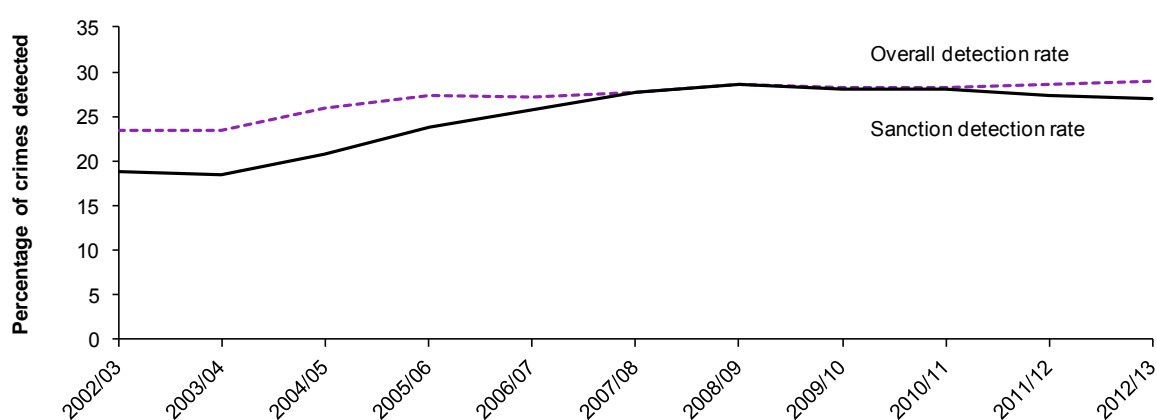
Previous detection bulletins have focused on sanction detections; given the greater range of detection methods available to the police over the last two years this bulletin has widened the focus to overall detections.

2.3 DETECTION NUMBERS AND RATES

In 2012/13, 3,502,320 offences (excluding fraud) were recorded by the police and there were 1,012,151 offences detected (also excluding fraud). Of these, 947,053 were sanction detections (94% of all detections) and 65,098 were non-sanction detections (6%). The detection rate in 2012/13 was 28.9 per cent, a slight rise on the previous year, when the rate was 28.6 per cent.

Over the longer term, the overall detection rate increased from 2004/05, when it stood at 23.4 per cent, to 27.3 per cent in 2005/06, before gradually increasing further, to 28.9 per cent in 2012/13. This latest figure is the highest detection rate since the introduction of the NCRS in April 2002, which may in part be due to the greater range of detections available to forces (Table 3; Figure 2.1).

Figure 2.1 Detection rates in England and Wales, 2002/03 to 2012/13



The sanction detection rate in 2012/13 was 27.0 per cent, a slight fall from 27.3 per cent in 2011/12 and down from 28.0 per cent in 2010/11. This fall in the sanction detection rate has occurred at the same time as a rise in the non-sanction detection rate, from 0.2 per cent in 2010/11, to 1.9 per cent in 2012/13 (Table 3). Before this fall, the sanction detection rate had increased from 18.4 per cent in 2003/04 to a peak of 28.5 per cent in 2008/09.

This increase in the number of non-sanction detections since 2008/09 is partly accounted for by special arrangements that have allowed some police forces piloting Youth Restorative Disposals (YRDs) to record them under this category. Additionally, since April 2011, some forces have been returning local community-based resolutions and RJ¹ outcomes on a voluntary basis. The combination of these two factors (particularly the latter from 2010/11) has seen the number of non-sanction detections rise from 2,832 in 2008/09 to 65,098 in 2012/13. The number of non-sanction detections accounted for six per cent of all detections in 2012/13, up from less than one per cent in 2010/11.

The overall number of offences recorded by the police fell by nine per cent between 2011/12 and 2012/13, while the fall in the total number of detections was slightly lower, at eight per cent (Table 2b). Reductions in the number of detections between 2011/12 and 2012/13 should be considered alongside the fall in the level of police recorded crime.

¹ It is not possible to disaggregate the number of community-based resolutions or RJ detections from other non-sanction detections in these statistics.

2.4 DETECTIONS BY METHOD OF DETECTION

In 2012/13, 16.6 per cent of offences were detected by charge or summons (581,129 detections). As in previous years, this was the most common detection method and the rate is little changed from last year, when 16.4 per cent of offences were detected this way (629,874 offences). There has been a gradual increase in the proportion of offences detected by a charge or summons since 2006/07, when 12.8 per cent of offences were detected in this way (669,799 offences). While there has been an increase in the proportion of offences detected by charge or summons, the actual number of detections by this method has been declining over the last ten years, as have total recorded crime numbers (Table 3).

Table 2a Offences detected by offence group and method, 2012/13

Offence group	England and Wales, Recorded crime								
	Total recorded crime ¹	Overall detections	Total sanction detections	Charge/summons	Cautions	TICs ²	PNDs ³	Cannabis Warnings ⁴	Non-sanction detections ⁵
	<i>Number of detections</i>								
Violence against the person	601,134	248,285	225,599	157,813	67,481	89	216	n/a	22,686
Sexual offences	53,540	15,285	14,857	13,043	1,671	132	11	n/a	428
Robbery	65,156	13,535	13,474	12,476	282	716	0	n/a	61
Theft offences	1,850,156	325,861	301,554	189,176	35,084	50,808	26,486	n/a	24,307
Criminal damage and arson	529,719	85,075	73,049	47,897	19,775	1,961	3,416	n/a	12,026
Drug offences	208,017	194,995	194,639	70,931	38,503	88	15,904	69,213	356
Possession of weapons offence	19,913	17,570	17,318	13,393	3,915	3	7	n/a	252
Public order offences	132,203	82,103	77,718	52,282	11,629	44	13,763	n/a	4,385
Misc. crimes against society	42,482	29,442	28,845	24,118	4,437	237	53	n/a	597
Total	3,502,320	1,012,151	947,053	581,129	182,777	54,078	59,856	69,213	65,098
	<i>Detection rate (%)</i>								
Violence against the person		41.3	37.5	26.3	11.2	0.0	0.0	n/a	3.8
Sexual offences		28.5	27.7	24.4	3.1	0.2	0.0	n/a	0.8
Robbery		20.8	20.7	19.1	0.4	1.1	0.0	n/a	0.1
Theft offences		17.6	16.3	10.2	1.9	2.7	1.4	n/a	1.3
Criminal damage and arson		16.1	13.8	9.0	3.7	0.4	0.6	n/a	2.3
Drug offences		93.7	93.6	34.1	18.5	0.0	7.6	33.3	0.2
Possession of weapons offences		88.2	87.0	67.3	19.7	0.0	0.0	n/a	1.3
Public order offences		62.1	58.8	39.5	8.8	0.0	10.4	n/a	3.3
Misc. crimes against society		69.3	67.9	56.8	10.4	0.6	0.1	n/a	1.4
Total		28.9	27.0	16.6	5.2	1.5	1.7	2.0	1.9

1. Total recorded crime excluding fraud offences

2. Offences asked to be taken into consideration by a court.

3. Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs).

4. Cannabis Warnings include a small number of community resolutions for possession of cannabis in 2012/13.

5. Includes Restorative Justice and community resolution data submitted on a voluntary basis by some forces in 2012/13.

n/a Not applicable.

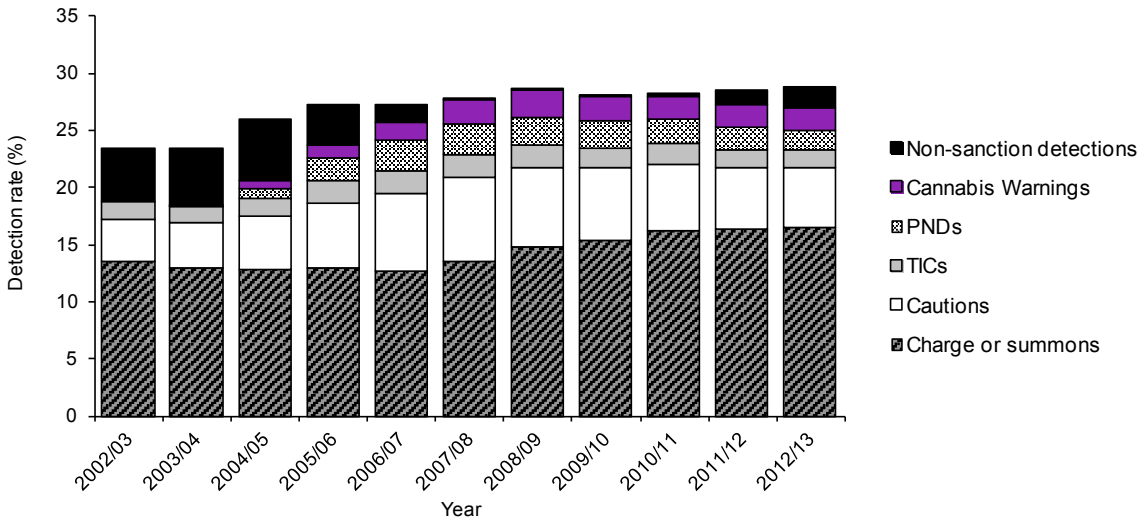
In 2012/13, as in previous years, the second most common method of detection was by caution, accounting for 5.2 per cent of offences (182,777 offences). The trend in the proportion of offences being detected by caution and has been falling since its peak of 7.3 per cent in 2007/08 (349,603 offences; Table 3).

In 2012/13, 1.7 per cent of offences were detected by way of a PND (59,856 offences) while 1.5 per cent were detected by those offences that were asked to be taken into consideration by a court (TICs) (54,078 offences). Over the longer term, the proportion of offences detected by either PNDs or TICs has also been falling (Table 3).

The proportion of offences detected by a Cannabis Warning has been 2.0 per cent for the last three years. There have been changes in the use of Cannabis Warnings since the introduction of police powers to issue PNDs for cannabis possession came into effect on 26 January 2009. There were 13,489 PNDs issued for drug offences in 2009/10 compared with 15,904 in 2012/13. Over the same period, Cannabis Warnings fell from 87,332 to 69,213 in 2012/13. Possession of cannabis and other drug offences generally only come to light as a result of police activity and the detection rate for drug offences as a result is high (Table 4).

Figure 2.2 shows the long term trend in detection rates by method of detection. There was a shift away from non-sanction detections as a result of the new rules in 2007/08, which limited the occasions for which such disposals could be applied. Several forces had already made the decision to move away from non-sanction detections even prior to the formal change in rules. However, there has been a rise in non-sanction detections in the last couple of years as community resolutions and RJ outcomes have fed into the figures. The figure also illustrates the increase in the issuing of PNDs and Cannabis Warnings since their introduction nationally in 2004/05; although the use of PNDs in particular has shown decreases in recent years (Table 3).

Figure 2.2 Detection rates by method, England and Wales, 2002/03 to 2012/13



Note: Non-sanction detections in the above chart include data on YRDs first piloted in some forces from 2008/09 and RJ and community resolutions data voluntarily returned by some police forces from 2011/12. Cannabis Warnings include a small number of community resolution disposals for possession of cannabis in 2012/13.

Table 4 shows the number of detections and the detection rate by offence group and method of detection between 2008/09 and 2012/13.

2.5 DETECTION RATES BY OFFENCE GROUP

The detection rate for drug offences is the highest of all offence groups. This reflects the fact that in a high proportion of these cases the crime is detected at the same time as it is discovered. In addition, it is reasonably simple to clear up a crime of cannabis possession (the largest category of drug offences) by issuing a Cannabis Warning to the offender, which can be done immediately without requiring a visit to a police station. In contrast, detection rates are lower for crimes such as criminal damage and arson, where the offence generally only comes to light some time after it has been committed and the offender/s have left the scene. Such offences are more difficult to detect and these factors should be kept in mind when comparing differences in detection rates between offence groups. The detection rates for each of the main offence groups in 2012/13 can be seen in Figure 2.3.

Figure 2.3 Detection rates by offence group, England and Wales, 2012/13

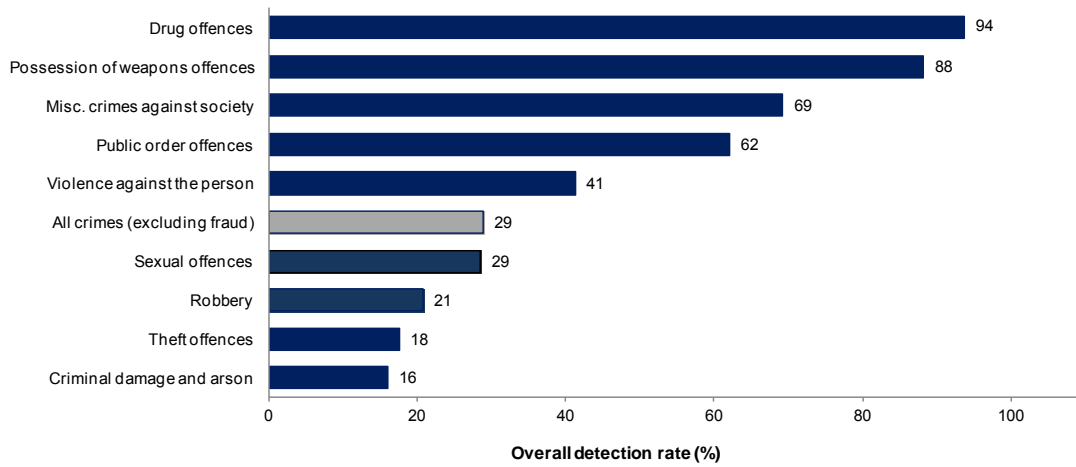


Table 2b summarises the number of detections and rates of detections by key offence groups for the last two years (see also Table 1 for a detailed breakdown). Table 2c shows the same information for sanction detections, while 2d shows non-sanction detections.

There were small rises in the detection rate for four of the nine offence groups, while five showed decreases. The largest increase was for drug offences, which increased by 1.3 percentage points and the largest decrease was in public order offences, which fell by 3.1 percentage points.

Table 2b Number of detections and detection rates by offence group, 2011/12 and 2012/13

	England and Wales, Recorded crime								
	2011/12	2012/13	% change	2011/12	2012/13	% change	2011/12	2012/13	% point change
	<i>Number of offences</i>			<i>Number of detections</i>			<i>Detection rate (%)</i>		
Violence against the person	626,720	601,134	-4.1	260,500	248,285	-4.7	41.6	41.3	-0.3
Sexual offences	52,760	53,540	1.5	15,569	15,285	-1.8	29.5	28.5	-1.0
Robbery	74,688	65,156	-12.8	15,483	13,535	-12.6	20.7	20.8	0.0
Theft offences	2,013,428	1,850,156	-8.1	352,667	325,861	-7.6	17.5	17.6	0.1
Criminal damage and arson	626,008	529,719	-15.4	93,038	85,075	-8.6	14.9	16.1	1.2
Drug offences	229,099	208,017	-9.2	211,829	194,995	-7.9	92.5	93.7	1.3
Possession of weapons offences	23,688	19,913	-15.9	21,020	17,570	-16.4	88.7	88.2	-0.5
Public order offences	150,858	132,203	-12.4	98,391	82,103	-16.6	65.2	62.1	-3.1
Misc. crimes against society	44,981	42,482	-5.6	31,607	29,442	-6.8	70.3	69.3	-1.0
Total	3,842,230	3,502,320	-8.8	1,100,104	1,012,151	-8.0	28.6	28.9	0.3

Table 2c Number of sanction detections and sanction detection rates by offence group, 2011/12 and 2012/13

	England and Wales, Recorded crime								
	2011/12	2012/13	% change	2011/12	2012/13	% change	2011/12	2012/13	% point change
	<i>Number of offences</i>			<i>Number of sanction detections</i>			<i>Sanction detection rate (%)</i>		
Violence against the person	626,720	601,134	-4.1	242,323	225,599	-6.9	38.7	37.5	-1.1
Sexual offences	52,760	53,540	1.5	15,291	14,857	-2.8	29.0	27.7	-1.2
Robbery	74,688	65,156	-12.8	15,427	13,474	-12.7	20.7	20.7	0.0
Theft offences	2,013,428	1,850,156	-8.1	333,588	301,554	-9.6	16.6	16.3	-0.3
Criminal damage and arson	626,008	529,719	-15.4	83,623	73,049	-12.6	13.4	13.8	0.4
Drug offences	229,099	208,017	-9.2	211,528	194,639	-8.0	92.3	93.6	1.2
Possession of weapons offences	23,688	19,913	-15.9	20,815	17,318	-16.8	87.9	87.0	-0.9
Public order offences	150,858	132,203	-12.4	94,803	77,718	-18.0	62.8	58.8	-4.1
Misc. crimes against society	44,981	42,482	-5.6	31,070	28,845	-7.2	69.1	67.9	-1.2
Total	3,842,230	3,502,320	-8.8	1,048,468	947,053	-9.7	27.3	27.0	-0.2

Non-sanction detections by offence category

The non-sanction detection rate for total offences has risen by around 0.5 of a percentage point between 2011/12 and 2012/13 (from 1.3% to 1.9%). This increase is driven by the increase in the use of community resolutions and RJ techniques employed by a number of the police forces that have supplied data to the Home Office. The offence groups with the largest increases were 'violence against the person' (increasing from a non-sanction detection rate of 2.9% to 3.8%) and 'public order offences' (increasing from a non-sanction detection rate of 2.4% to 3.3%).

In terms of volume, 37 per cent of non-sanction detections were for theft offences (24,307 detections) and 35 per cent for violence against the person (22,686 detections). For violence against the person, over 96 per cent of the non-sanction detections were for assault with and without injury offences.

Table 2d Number of non-sanction detections and non-sanction detection rates by offence group, 2011/12 and 2012/13

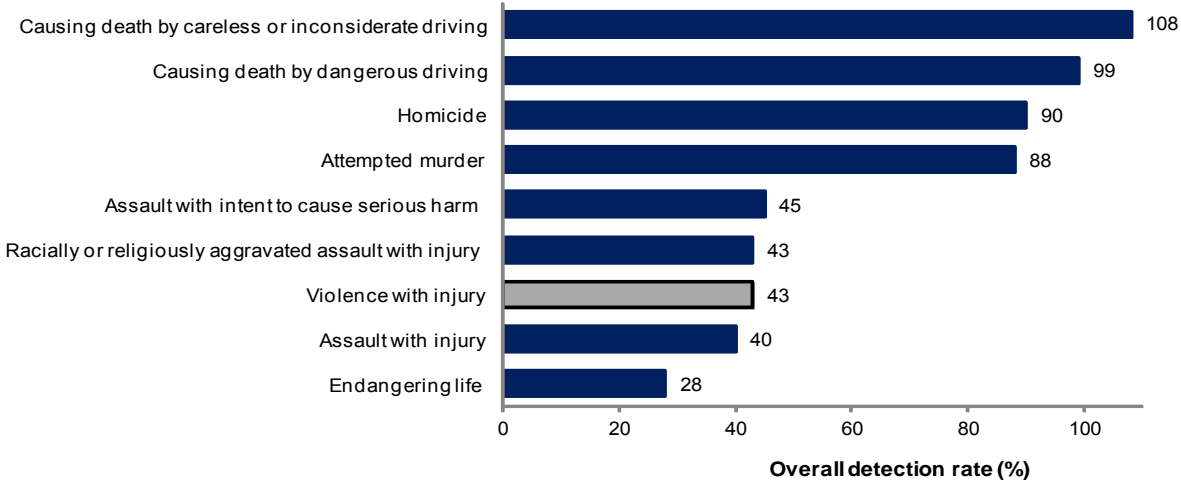
	England and Wales, Recorded crime								
	2011/12	2012/13	% change	2011/12	2012/13	% change	2011/12	2012/13	% point change
	<i>Number of offences</i>			<i>Number of non-sanction detections</i>			<i>Non-sanction detection rate (%)</i>		
Violence against the person	626,720	601,134	-4.1	18,177	22,686	24.8	2.9	3.8	0.9
Sexual offences	52,760	53,540	1.5	278	428	54.0	0.5	0.8	0.3
Robbery	74,688	65,156	-12.8	56	61	8.9	0.1	0.1	0.0
Theft offences	2,013,428	1,850,156	-8.1	19,079	24,307	27.4	0.9	1.3	0.4
Criminal damage and arson	626,008	529,719	-15.4	9,415	12,026	27.7	1.5	2.3	0.8
Drug offences	229,099	208,017	-9.2	301	356	18.3	0.1	0.2	0.0
Possession of weapons offences	23,688	19,913	-15.9	205	252	22.9	0.9	1.3	0.4
Public order offences	150,858	132,203	-12.4	3,588	4,385	22.2	2.4	3.3	0.9
Misc. crimes against society	44,981	42,482	-5.6	537	597	11.2	1.2	1.4	0.2
Total	3,842,230	3,502,320	-8.8	51,636	65,098	26.1	1.3	1.9	0.5

Violence against the person

As highlighted above, the detection rate for violence against the person was 41.3 per cent, 0.3 percentage points lower than last year. Detection rates for violence against the person have been around 40 per cent for the last five years.

Violence against the person comprises offences which vary widely in their severity and the detection rates vary in each offence classification. The detection rate for violence with injury was 43 per cent; two percentage points higher than the overall violence against the person category. As can be seen in Figure 2.4, the most serious crimes within this offence group (homicide, attempted murder, causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving and causing death by dangerous driving) have a detection rate of more than double the average detection rate of the group. In fact, six of the eight offence classifications presented (those with enough offences to allow for analysis) have a detection rate higher than the average of the whole violence with injury sub-group. The average is far lower due to the volume of the offence 'assault with injury', which accounts for 93 per cent of the offences of the total violence with injury category (Table 1) and has a detection rate of 40 per cent.

Figure 2.4 Detection rates for violence with injury, England and Wales, 2012/13

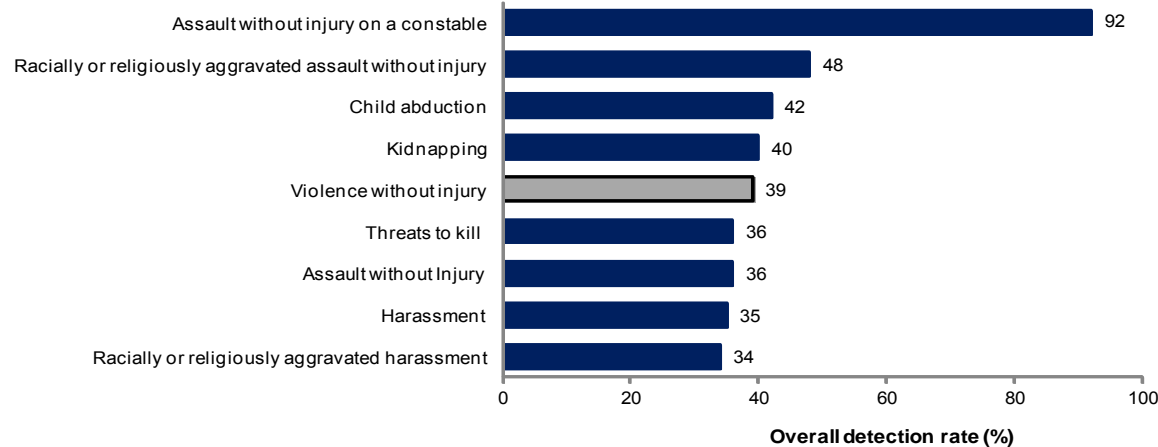


Note: Offences detected in 2012/13 may have been initially recorded in an earlier year and for this reason some percentages may exceed 100.

Figure 2.5 shows the detection rates for violence without injury. The 'assault without injury on a constable' offence classification has a detection rate of 92 per cent, the only offence with more than double the average detection rate. This is to be expected as by definition this crime has a police officer present to witness the crime and to arrest the offender.

The overall detection rate for violence without injury was 39 per cent; four percentage points lower than the overall violence against the person category.

Figure 2.5 Detection rates for violence without injury, England and Wales, 2012/13



The violence against the person category has the highest rate of non-sanction detections of all the offence groups, at 3.8 per cent in 2012/13 (Table 2d). This equates to 22,686 non-sanction detections, around one third (35 per cent) of all non-sanction detections in this year. In comparison, violence against the person offences accounted for 17 per cent of all recorded crime. The vast majority (over 96%) of non-sanction detections were for assault with and without injury offences.

Sexual offences

The overall detection rate for sexual offences in 2012/13 was 28.5 per cent. This is one percentage point lower than in 2011/12 (29.5%). The detection rate for rape in 2011/12 was 23 per cent; six percentage point lower than the overall sexual offences category. The detection rate for 'other sexual offences' was 31 per cent.

Since 2007/08 there have been increases in the number of rape offences recorded by the police (up 29 per cent). There are likely to be two main factors for the increase in recorded rape offences. Firstly, extra guidance for the recording of sexual offences was incorporated into the Home Office Counting Rules from 1 April 2010 and this reflected good practice guidance issued prior to this by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO). More recently, evidence from a 2013 report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary² suggests that there may be an increased willingness on the part of victims to come forward and report sexual offences following high profile media reports and court cases concerning historic sexual offences. For example, analysis of police recorded crime data for 29 police forces has shown that there was a 59 per cent increase in the number of sexual offences that took place 20 or more years ago recorded in 2012/13, compared with the previous year.³

Although the number of rape offences detected has increased since 2007/08 (up by 17 per cent), the increase has not kept pace with the increase in recorded offences. As a result, the detection rate for rape has fallen from 26 per cent to 23 per cent between 2007/08 and 2012/13. This fall in the detection rate should be considered alongside the changes to police recorded sexual offences detailed above. The trend in the detection rate for other sexual offences is fairly flat over the same time period.

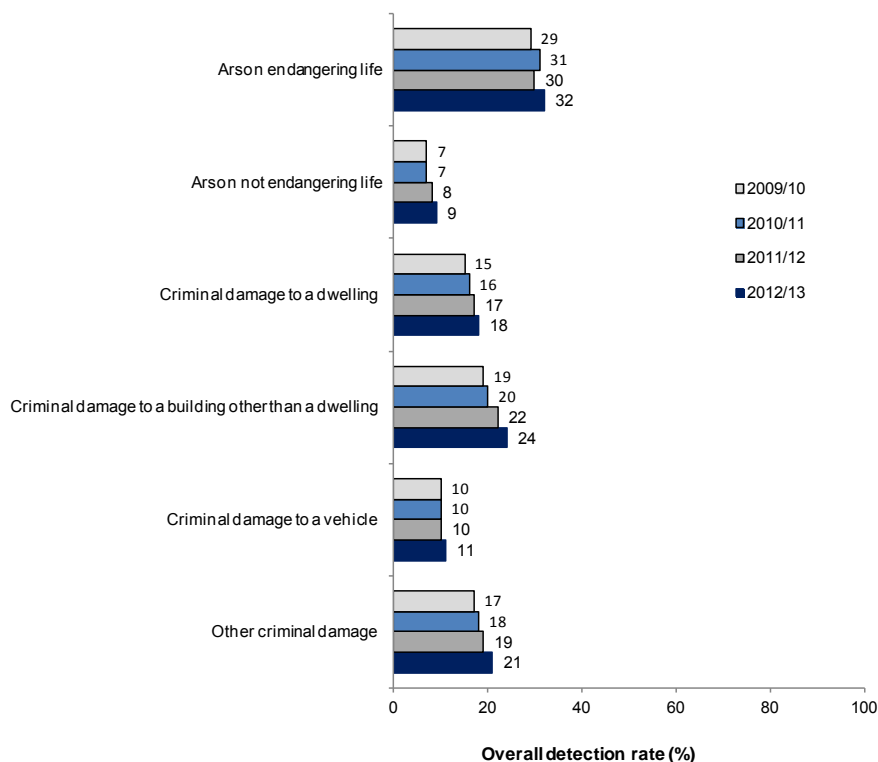
Criminal damage and arson

The detection rate for the criminal damage and arson category in 2012/13 was 16 per cent. This is the lowest rate of any of the main offence groups and reflects the fact that many of these crimes are discovered after the offender/s have left the scene. However, over the last couple of years the detection rates for these offences have been increasing (Figure 2.6).

² See HMIC's 2013 report '[Mistakes were made](#)'

³ Analysis of data from 27 forces supplied to the Home Office Data Hub. In 2012/13, these 27 forces recorded 9,080 sexual offences that took place in a previous financial year, compared with 7,729 in 2011/12, an increase of 17 per cent. The increase is more marked in offences that took place 20 or more years before the date of recording; these offences increased by 59 per cent, from 1,610 offences in 2011/12 to 2,567 offences in 2012/13. It is important to note that this is a partial picture as the analysis only covers 29 of the 43 territorial police forces of England and Wales and notably excludes the Metropolitan Police Service.

Figure 2.6 Detection rates for criminal damage and arson, England and Wales, 2009/10 to 2012/13



Within this offence group, ‘arson endangering life’ offences have a higher detection rate (32 per cent) than other offences. Arson offences not endangering life have a much lower detection rate, at nine per cent.

Drug offences

The detection rate for drug offences has consistently been the highest for all of the police recorded crime offence groups and has fluctuated between 92 per cent and 95 per cent since 2002/03. There was a slight increase in the detection rate by 1.3 percentage points (from 93.7% to 94.0%) between 2011/12 and 2012/13.

There have been considerable changes in the method of detection of drugs offences in recent years, in part reflecting changes to police powers.

- In 2008/09, 44 per cent of all drug offences were detected by means of a Cannabis Warning. Since then the use of this method of disposal has fallen to 33 per cent in 2012/13.
- PNDs for cannabis possession have been available since January 2009 and in 2009/10 13,489 were issued. This figure has risen to 15,904 in 2012/13 and is thought to have contributed to the fall in Cannabis Warnings issued. For example, in 2008/09 just 0.4 per cent of drugs offences were detected by a PND⁴; by 2012/13 this proportion had increased to 7.6 per cent.
- The Cannabis Warnings figures for 2012/13 include a small number of community resolutions disposals for possession of cannabis, although it is not possible to quantify the exact numbers.

⁴ PNDs were available to the police for use for just over two months of the year 2008/09 after their introduction.

Public order and possession of weapons offences

Detection rates for public order and possession of weapons offences are relatively high when compared with the overall detection rate. The detection rate of possession of weapons offences in 2012/13 was 88 per cent (as many of these crimes will be discovered and detected at the same time), for public order offences the rate was 62 per cent. However, while the trend of possession of weapons offences has been consistently high, the detection rate for public order offences has been falling since 2008/09, when it was 71 per cent.

2.6 FRAUD OFFENCES

As stated earlier, this statistical bulletin has shown total numbers for both offences recorded and detected by the police **excluding** police recorded fraud offences. This is in order to bring this publication in line with the ONS's publication of recorded crime statistics (see text box at beginning of Chapter 2).

For completeness, a headline table including fraud offences recorded by the police is shown below. These figures exclude frauds recorded by Action Fraud as data on the detections for these offence groups are not yet available. These data should be treated with caution, as they will not be consistent across all police forces and are therefore not directly comparable. However, in terms of the overall detection rate, both the 'with' and 'without' fraud police recorded crime series show a 0.3 percentage point increase in the detection rate over the last year. Further tables including fraud can be found in the tables that accompany the bulletin.

Table 2e Number of detections and detection rates by offence group, including fraud offences, 2011/12 and 2012/13

	England and Wales, Recorded crime								
	2011/12	2012/13	% change	2011/12	2012/13	% change	2011/12	2012/13	% point change
	<i>Number of offences</i>			<i>Number of detections</i>			<i>Detection rate (%)</i>		
Violence against the person	626,720	601,134	-4.1	260,500	248,285	-4.7	41.6	41.3	-0.3
Sexual offences	52,760	53,540	1.5	15,569	15,285	-1.8	29.5	28.5	-1.0
Robbery	74,688	65,156	-12.8	15,483	13,535	-12.6	20.7	20.8	0.0
Theft offences	2,013,428	1,850,156	-8.1	352,667	325,861	-7.6	17.5	17.6	0.1
Criminal damage and arson	626,008	529,719	-15.4	93,038	85,075	-8.6	14.9	16.1	1.2
Drug offences	229,099	208,017	-9.2	211,829	194,995	-7.9	92.5	93.7	1.3
Possession of weapons offences	23,688	19,913	-15.9	21,020	17,570	-16.4	88.7	88.2	-0.5
Public order offences	150,858	132,203	-12.4	98,391	82,103	-16.6	65.2	62.1	-3.1
Misc. crimes against society	44,981	42,482	-5.6	31,607	29,442	-6.8	70.3	69.3	-1.0
Fraud	134,119	112,718	-16.0	29,786	25,368	-14.8	22.2	22.5	0.3
Total (including Fraud)	3,976,349	3,615,038	-9.1	1,129,890	1,037,519	-8.2	28.4	28.7	0.3

Table 1 Detection rates by individual offence, 2011/12 and 2012/13^{1,2,3}

Numbers and percentages		England and Wales, Recorded crime						
		2011/12			2012/13 ⁴			% point change in detection rate between 2011/12 and 2012/13 ⁷
Offence	Number of offences ⁵	Number of detections	Detection rate % ⁶	Number of offences ⁵	Number of detections	Detection rate % ⁶		
VICTIM BASED CRIME		3,393,604	737,257	22	3,099,705	688,041	22	0.5
1	Murder							
4.1	Manslaughter							
4.10	Corporate manslaughter	553	551	100	552	497	90	-9.6
4.2	Infanticide							
	Homicide	553	551	100	552	497	90	-9.6
2	Attempted murder	483	374	77	408	360	88	10.8
4.3	Intentional destruction of viable unborn child	3	3	-	1	1	-	-
4.4	Causing death by dangerous driving	200	201	101	171	169	99	-1.7
4.6	Causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs	24	20	-	14	14	-	-
4.8	Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	179	174	97	136	147	108	10.9
5A	Inflicting grievous bodily harm (GBH) with intent	17,777	9,054	51	..	606	..	..
5B	Use of substance or object to endanger life	315	123	39	..	9	..	..
5C	Possession of items to endanger life	298	111	37	..	2	..	..
5D	Assault with intent to cause serious harm	..	..	..	17,006	7,662	45	..
5E	Endangering life	..	..	..	776	217	28	..
6	Endangering railway passengers	214	41	19	..	32	..	..
7	Endangering life at sea	6	4	-	..	1	..	..
8F	Inflicting grievous bodily harm (GBH) without intent	14,409	5,892	41	..	395	..	..
8H	Racially or religiously aggravated inflicting GBH without intent	169	74	44	..	6	..	..
37.1	Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking	7	4	-	8	7	-	-
4.7	Causing or allowing death of child or vulnerable person	6	4	-	8	3	-	-
4.9	Causing death by driving: unlicensed or disqualified or uninsured drivers	6	3	-	10	14	-	-
8G	Actual bodily harm (ABH) and other injury	301,223	126,508	42	..	6,088	..	..
8J	Racially or religiously aggravated ABH or other injury	2,688	1,244	46	..	137	..	..
8K	Poisoning or female genital mutilation	118	28	24	..	4	..	..
8N	Assault with injury	..	..	..	290,959	117,049	40	..
8P	Racially or religiously aggravated assault with injury	..	..	..	2,579	1,103	43	..
	Violence with injury	338,125	143,862	43	312,076	134,026	43	0.4
3A	Conspiracy to murder	36	20	-	28	19	-	-
3B	Threats to kill	7,643	2,631	34	7,359	2,633	36	1.4
8L	Harassment	48,141	17,778	37	54,527	19,104	35	-1.9
8M	Racially or religiously aggravated harassment	1,625	614	38	1,499	503	34	-4.2
11	Cruelty to and neglect of children	6,081	3,551	58	..	115	..	..
11A	Cruelty to children/young persons	..	..	..	6,367	3,238	..	..
12	Abandoning a child under the age of two years	12	11	-	..	..	..	..
13	Child abduction	532	218	41	514	217	42	1.2
14	Procuring illegal abortion	3	1	-	5	2	-	-
36	Kidnapping	1,516	608	40	1,387	561	40	0.3
104	Assault without injury on a constable	15,873	14,632	92	14,526	13,406	92	0.1
105A	Assault without injury	202,509	74,193	37	198,399	72,105	36	-0.3
105B	Racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury	4,071	1,830	45	3,895	1,859	48	2.8
	Violence without injury	288,042	116,087	40	288,506	113,762	39	-0.9
	TOTAL VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	626,720	260,500	42	601,134	248,285	41	-0.3

Table 1 (contd) Detection rates by individual offence, 2011/12 and 2012/13^{1,2,3}

Offence	2011/12			2012/13 ⁴			% point change in detection rate between 2011/12 and 2012/13 ⁷	
	Number of offences ⁵	Number of detections	Detection rate % ⁶	Number of offences ⁵	Number of detections	Detection rate % ⁶		
VICTIM BASED CRIME (contd)								
19C	Rape of a female aged 16 and over	9773	1,706	17	9,618	1,789	19	1.1
19D	Rape of a female child under 16	2,777	741	27	2,792	776	28	1.1
19E	Rape of a female child under 13	2,212	936	42	2,364	889	38	-4.7
19F	Rape of a male aged 16 and over	387	52	13	415	49	12	-1.6
19G	Rape of a male child under 16	288	113	39	352	93	26	-12.8
19H	Rape of a male child under 13	601	229	38	786	236	30	-8.1
	Rape	16,038	3,777	24	16,327	3,832	23	-0.1
17A	Sexual assault on a male aged 13 and over	1,261	380	30	1,399	331	24	-6.5
17B	Sexual assault on a male child under 13	1,011	400	40	1,267	346	27	-12.3
20A	Sexual assault on a female aged 13 and over	15,794	4,505	29	15,516	4,398	28	-0.2
20B	Sexual assault on a female child under 13	3,991	1,621	41	4,171	1,510	36	-4.4
21	Sexual activity involving a child under 13	1,808	656	36	2,174	679	31	-5.1
22B	Sexual activity involving a child under 16	3,971	1,403	35	4,460	1,399	31	-4.0
22A	Causing sexual activity without consent	203	62	31	192	56	29	-1.4
23	Incest or familial sexual offences	637	224	35	509	188	37	1.8
70	Sexual activity, etc. with a person with a mental disorder	101	33	33	115	38	33	0.4
71	Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography	159	132	83	176	95	54	-29.0
72	Trafficking for sexual exploitation	59	19	32	70	30	43	10.7
73	Abuse of position of trust of a sexual nature	176	73	41	192	83	43	1.8
88A	Sexual grooming	371	184	50	373	174	47	-2.9
88C	Other miscellaneous sexual offences	163	53	33	160	70	44	11.2
88D	Unnatural sexual offences	11	17	-	16	6	-	-
88E	Exposure and voyeurism	7,006	2,030	29	6,423	2,050	32	2.9
	Other sexual offences	36,722	11,792	32	37,213	11,453	31	-1.3
	TOTAL SEXUAL OFFENCES	52,760	15,569	30	53,540	15,285	29	-1.0
34A	Robbery of business property	6,770	2,033	30	6,121	1,914	31	1.2
34B	Robbery of personal property	67,918	13,450	20	59,035	11,621	20	-0.1
	TOTAL ROBBERY OFFENCES	74,688	15,483	21	65,156	13,535	21	0.0
28A	Burglary in a dwelling	198,853	34,729	17	185,150	31,402	17	-0.5
28B	Attempted burglary in a dwelling	40,287	3,911	10	37,385	3,623	10	0.0
28C	Distraction burglary in a dwelling	4,467	887	20	3,305	606	18	-1.5
28D	Attempted distraction burglary in a dwelling	368	88	24	257	49	19	-4.8
29	Aggravated burglary in a dwelling	1,337	452	34	1,183	377	32	-1.9
	Domestic burglary	245,312	40,067	16	227,280	36,057	16	-0.5
30A	Burglary in a building other than a dwelling	223,153	23,425	10	202,436	19,846	10	-0.7
30B	Attempted burglary in a building other than a dwelling	32,473	1,924	6	29,960	1,582	5	-0.6
31	Aggravated burglary in a building other than a dwelling	110	39	35	120	38	32	-3.8
	Non-domestic burglary	255,736	25,388	10	232,516	21,466	9	-0.7

Table 1 (contd) Detection rates by individual offence, 2011/12 and 2012/13^{1,2,3}

Offence	2011/12			2012/13 ⁴			% point change in detection rate between 2011/12 and 2012/13 ⁷	
	Number of offences ⁵	Number of detections	Detection rate % ⁶	Number of offences ⁵	Number of detections	Detection rate % ⁶		
VICTIM BASED CRIME (contd)								
37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking	6,253	3,782	60	5,648	3,338	59	-1.4
45	Theft from a vehicle	300,377	27,032	9	285,051	23,164	8	-0.9
48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	85,803	12,138	14	74,181	9,664	13	-1.1
126	Interfering with a motor vehicle	25,009	2,323	9	22,490	1,914	9	-0.8
	Vehicle offences	417,442	45,275	11	387,370	38,080	10	-1.0
39	Theft from the person	100,588	4,074	4	109,758	4,603	4	0.1
44	Theft or unauthorised taking of a pedal cycle	115,902	6,548	6	97,291	6,421	7	1.0
46	Shoplifting	308,326	182,295	59	300,627	176,078	59	-0.6
40	Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter	54,518	8,730	16	52,385	8,550	16	0.3
41	Theft by an employee	11,589	6,032	52	10,447	5,442	52	0.0
42	Theft of mail	2,447	129	5	2,880	195	7	1.5
43	Dishonest use of electricity	1,948	1,371	70	2,007	1,372	68	-2.0
47	Theft from automatic machine or meter	6,692	848	13	6,396	761	12	-0.8
49	Other theft or unauthorised taking	491,559	31,576	6	419,702	26,539	6	-0.1
35	Blackmail	1,369	334	24	1,497	297	20	-4.6
	All other theft offences	570,122	49,020	9	495,314	43,156	9	0.1
	TOTAL THEFT OFFENCES	2,013,428	352,667	18	1,850,156	325,861	18	0.1
56A	Arson endangering life	3,100	942	30	2,589	839	32	2.0
56B	Arson not endangering life	24,119	1,887	8	16,717	1,477	9	1.0
	Arson	27,219	2,829	10	19,306	2,316	12	1.6
58A	Criminal damage to a dwelling	155,982	26,390	17	131,155	24,205	18	1.5
58B	Criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling	67,329	14,904	22	57,635	13,681	24	1.6
58C	Criminal damage to a vehicle	259,871	27,260	10	222,772	24,278	11	0.4
58D	Other criminal damage	113,478	21,049	19	97,010	20,020	21	2.1
58E	Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a dwelling	499	102	20	..	5	..	..
58F	Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling	431	151	35	..	5	..	..
58G	Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a vehicle	788	242	31	..	7	..	..
58H	Racially or religiously aggravated other criminal damage	411	111	27	..	8	..	..
58J	Racially or religiously aggravated other criminal damage	..	..	..	1,841	550	30	..
	Criminal damage	598,789	90,209	15	510,413	82,759	16	1.1
	TOTAL CRIMINAL DAMAGE AND ARSON	626,008	93,038	15	529,719	85,075	16	1.2

Table 1 (contd) Detection rates by individual offence, 2011/12 and 2012/13^{1,2,3}

Offence	2011/12			2012/13 ⁴			% point change in detection rate between 2011/12 and 2012/13 ⁷
	Number of offences ⁵	Number of detections	Detection rate % ⁶	Number of offences ⁵	Number of detections	Detection rate % ⁶	
OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	448,626	362,847	81	402,615	324,110	81	-0.4
92A Trafficking in controlled drugs	31,316	27,915	89	29,765	26,553	89	0.1
92C Other drug offences	1,127	1,066	95	1,033	983	95	0.6
92D Possession of controlled drugs (excluding cannabis)	36,453	35,058	96	34,601	32,989	95	-0.8
92E Possession of controlled drugs (cannabis)	160,203	147,790	92	142,618	134,470	94	2.0
TOTAL DRUG OFFENCES	229,099	211,829	92	208,017	194,995	94	1.3
10A Possession of firearms with intent	1,151	609	53	998	537	54	0.9
10B Possession of firearms offences	3,402	2,982	88	3,053	2,653	87	-0.8
10C Possession of other weapons	9,138	8,185	90	7,276	6,475	89	-0.6
10D Possession of article with blade or point	9,762	9,038	93	8,424	7,758	92	-0.5
81 Other firearms offences	229	203	89	161	146	91	2.0
90 Other knives offences	6	3	-	1	1	-	-
TOTAL POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OFFENCES	23,688	21,020	89	19,913	17,570	88	-0.5
9A Public fear, alarm or distress	97,085	65,901	68	81,136	51,713	64	-4.1
9B Racially or religiously aggravated public fear, alarm or distress	20,188	9,732	48	20,420	9,585	47	-1.3
62 Treason	0	0	-	..	..	..	..
62A Violent disorder	..	..	..	656	269	41	..
63 Treason felony	0	0	-	..	..	..	..
64 Riot	3	3	-	..	..	..	..
65 Violent disorder	696	538	77	..	29	..	..
66 Other offences against the State or public order	32,886	22,217	68	29,991	20,507	68	0.8
TOTAL PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	150,858	98,391	65	132,203	82,103	62	-3.1
15 Concealing an infant death close to birth	5	2	-	2	3	-	-
24 Exploitation of prostitution	110	63	57	120	82	68	11.1
26 Bigamy	31	17	-	39	25	-	-
27 Soliciting for the purposes of prostitution	797	780	98	881	872	99	1.1
33 Going equipped for stealing, etc.	3,765	3,148	84	3,476	2,918	84	0.3
38 Profiting from or concealing knowledge of the proceeds of crime	1,779	1,501	84	1,428	1,151	81	-3.8
53H Making or supplying articles for use in fraud	1,301	180	14	1,384	228	16	2.6
53J Possession of articles for use in fraud	1,366	880	64	1,283	735	57	-7.1
54 Handling stolen goods	9,769	9,185	94	8,132	7,770	96	1.5
59 Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage	5,214	1,669	32	4,951	1,687	34	2.1
60 Forgery or use of false drug prescription	361	275	76	379	252	66	-9.7
61 Other forgery	2,124	774	36	2,985	1,150	39	2.1
61A Possession of false documents	1,378	1,130	82	962	866	90	8.0
67 Perjury	151	122	81	134	90	67	-13.6
68 Libel	0	0	-	0	0	-	0.0
69 Offender Management Act offences	583	342	59	1,023	572	56	-2.7
75 Betting, gaming and lotteries	12	12	-	..	2	..	..
76 Aiding suicide	10	3	-	11	1	-	..
78 Immigration offences	344	300	87	..	15	..	..
79 Perverting the course of justice	5,698	3,059	54	4,947	2,755	56	2.0
80 Absconding from lawful custody	414	340	82	482	433	90	7.7

Table 1 (contd) Detection rates by individual offence, 2011/12 and 2012/13^{1,2,3}

Offence	2011/12			2012/13 ⁴			% point change in detection rate between 2011/12 and 2012/13 ⁷	
	Number of offences ⁵	Number of detections	Detection rate % ⁶	Number of offences ⁵	Number of detections	Detection rate % ⁶		
OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY (contd)								
82	Customs and revenue offences	5	3	-	..	..	..
83	Bail offences	3	2	-	2	1	-	
84	Trade descriptions, etc.	263	248	94	..	13	..	
85	Health and safety offences	8	4	-	..	..	..
86	Obscene publications etc.	3,335	2,786	84	3,497	2,757	79	
87	Protection from eviction	68	8	12	..	..	..
89	Adulteration of food	0	2	-	..	..	..
91	Public health offences	289	36	12	..	1	..	
94	Planning laws	1	0	-	..	..	..
95	Disclosure, obstruction, false or misleading statements, etc.	363	298	82	294	282	96	
99	Other notifiable or triable-either-way offences	1,589	989	62	2,509	1,633	65	
802	Dangerous driving	3,239	2,940	91	3,087	2,765	90	
814	Vehicle/driver document fraud	606	509	84	474	383	81	
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY		44,981	31,607	70	42,482	29,442	69	-1.0
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME – ALL OFFENCES (excluding fraud)		3,842,230	1,100,104	29	3,502,320	1,012,151	29	0.3

1. Offences detected in the current year may have been initially recorded in an earlier year and for this reason some percentages may exceed 100.

2. Numbers of recorded crimes and percentages will be affected by changes in reporting and recording.

3. Some forces have revised their 2011/12 data and totals may not agree with those previously published.

4. There are a number of offence codes in 2012/13 that are no longer in use but the police can still record detections for offences that took place in previous years.

5. Total recorded crime whether detected or not.

6. The number of crimes that are cleared up by a detection as a percentage of the total number of recorded offences.

7. Percentage point change based on unrounded figures.

- Indicates that data are not reported because the base number of offences is fewer than 50.

Table 2 Detection rates by offence group and selected offence types, 2002/03 to 2012/13 and percentage point change between 2011/12 and 2012/13

Percentages Offence	England and Wales, Recorded crime											
	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	% point change 2011/12 to 2012/13 ¹
Homicide	88	85	99	91	91	91	94	90	90	100	90	-9.6
Violence with injury	52	50	49	49	44	41	41	40	41	43	43	0.4
Violence without injury	48	42	45	44	41	39	38	36	37	40	39	-0.9
Total violence against the person	50	47	47	47	43	40	40	38	39	42	41	-0.3
Rape	36	31	29	27	26	26	26	26	25	24	23	-0.1
Other sexual offences	37	35	33	35	32	30	31	30	31	32	31	-1.3
Total sexual offences	37	34	32	33	30	29	30	29	29	30	29	-1.0
Total robbery	19	19	20	18	19	20	21	21	21	21	21	0.0
Domestic burglary	15	15	16	17	17	16	16	16	17	16	16	-0.5
Non-domestic burglary	10	10	11	11	11	11	11	10	10	10	9	-0.7
Vehicle offences	9	9	10	10	11	11	11	11	11	11	10	-1.0
Theft from the person	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	0.1
Bicycle theft	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	7	1.0
Shoplifting	60	59	61	63	64	64	63	62	59	59	59	-0.6
All other theft offences	9	8	8	9	9	9	9	8	8	9	9	0.1
Total theft offences	14	14	15	16	17	17	18	18	17	18	18	0.1
Total criminal damage and arson	13	13	14	14	14	14	14	13	14	15	16	1.2
Total drug offences	93	93	95	95	95	95	95	94	93	92	94	1.3
Total possession of weapons offences	88	86	88	88	89	88	90	88	88	89	88	-0.5
Total public order offences	68	62	71	75	76	76	71	67	66	65	62	-3.1
Total miscellaneous crimes against society	79	75	71	70	72	73	72	70	70	70	69	-1.0
TOTAL	23	23	26	27	27	28	29	28	28	29	29	0.3

1. Percentage point change based on unrounded figures.

Table 3 Number of detections and detection rates by method of detection, 2002/03 to 2012/13

Method of detection	England and Wales, Recorded crime											
	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2011/12 to 2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>												%
												change
Charge/summons	766,574	746,130	693,934	695,634	669,799	653,359	676,255	647,588	654,689	629,874	581,129	-7.7
Cautions	207,394	219,311	249,390	303,231	349,448	349,603	311,568	263,263	231,056	204,697	182,777	-10.7
TICs ¹	87,958	85,099	85,791	100,801	108,217	96,593	93,633	74,124	70,355	62,221	54,078	-13.1
PNDs ^{2,3}	..	3,045	43,526	105,527	139,572	128,943	108,200	102,666	85,996	73,743	59,856	-18.8
Cannabis Warnings ³	..	..	40,138	62,586	80,653	103,804	107,241	87,332	80,659	77,933	69,213	-11.2
Total sanction detections	1,061,926	1,053,585	1,112,779	1,267,779	1,347,689	1,332,302	1,296,897	1,174,973	1,122,755	1,048,468	947,053	-9.7
Non-sanction detections ^{4,5,6}	266,841	282,949	284,321	190,346	80,233	840	2,832	6,715	9,470	51,636	65,098	26.1
All detections	1,328,767	1,336,534	1,397,100	1,458,125	1,427,922	1,333,142	1,299,729	1,181,688	1,132,225	1,100,104	1,012,151	-8.0
Total number of offences⁷	5,662,154	5,710,925	5,373,865	5,337,924	5,240,116	4,807,245	4,550,335	4,194,639	4,011,970	3,842,230	3,502,320	-8.8
<i>Detection rates⁸</i>												%
												point change
Charge/summons	13.5	13.1	12.9	13.0	12.8	13.6	14.9	15.4	16.3	16.4	16.6	0.2
Cautions	3.7	3.8	4.6	5.7	6.7	7.3	6.8	6.3	5.8	5.3	5.2	-0.1
TICs ¹	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.5	-0.1
PNDs ^{2,3}	..	0.1	0.8	2.0	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.7	-0.2
Cannabis Warnings ³	..	..	0.7	1.2	1.5	2.2	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	-0.1
Total sanction detections	18.8	18.4	20.7	23.8	25.7	27.7	28.5	28.0	28.0	27.3	27.0	-0.2
Non-sanction detections ^{4,5,6}	4.7	5.0	5.3	3.6	1.5	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.3	1.9	0.5
All detections	23.5	23.4	26.0	27.3	27.2	27.7	28.6	28.2	28.2	28.6	28.9	0.3

1. Offences asked to be taken into consideration by a court (TICs).

2. Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) (formerly known as fixed penalty notices) were introduced in several police forces in 2003/04 and nationally in 2004/05.

3. Cannabis Warnings for possession of cannabis were introduced in 2004/05. Since 26 January 2009, Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) can also be given for an offence of cannabis possession. Up to the end of March 2009 such PNDs were counted in the same category as Cannabis Warnings. Cannabis warnings include a small number of community resolutions for possession of cannabis in

4. From 1 April 2007, new rules governing non-sanction detections significantly limited the occasions for which such administrative disposals can be applied.

5. Includes data on Youth Restorative Disposals (YRDs) submitted to the Home Office as non-sanction detections from pilots in eight police force areas (Avon and Somerset, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Metropolitan Police, Norfolk, North Wales, Nottinghamshire). The pilot was introduced in 2008/09.

6. Includes Restorative Justice and community resolution data submitted on a voluntary basis by some police forces in 2011/12 and 2012/13.

7. Total recorded crime whether detected or not.

8. The number of crimes that are cleared up by a detection divided by total number of recorded offences.

.. Not available.

Table 4 Detections by offence group and method of detection, 2008/09 to 2012/13

Violence against the person

Method of detection	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>					
Charge/summons	174,690	175,908	177,526	170,008	157,813
Cautions	106,466	90,860	80,375	71,977	67,481
TICs ¹	241	189	141	140	89
PNDs ^{2 3}	287	214	211	198	216
Total sanction detections	281,684	267,171	258,253	242,323	225,599
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	714	1,905	2,753	18,177	22,686
All detections	282,398	269,076	261,006	260,500	248,285
Total recorded offences	709,008	699,011	665,486	626,720	601,134
<i>Detection rate (%)</i>					
Charge/summons	24.6	25.2	26.7	27.1	26.3
Cautions	15.0	13.0	12.1	11.5	11.2
TICs ¹	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PNDs ^{2 3}	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total sanction detections	39.7	38.2	38.8	38.7	37.5
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	0.1	0.3	0.4	2.9	3.8
All detections	39.8	38.5	39.2	41.6	41.3

Sexual offences

Method of detection	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>					
Charge/summons	12,779	13,176	13,708	13,519	13,043
Cautions	2,014	1,789	1,732	1,675	1,671
TICs ¹	146	82	90	82	132
PNDs ^{2 3}	16	11	8	15	11
Total sanction detections	14,955	15,058	15,538	15,291	14,857
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	86	107	121	278	428
All detections	15,041	15,165	15,659	15,569	15,285
Total recorded offences	50,185	53,006	53,940	52,760	53,540
<i>Detection rate (%)</i>					
Charge/summons	25.5	24.9	25.4	25.6	24.4
Cautions	4.0	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.1
TICs ¹	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
PNDs ^{2 3}	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total sanction detections	29.8	28.4	28.8	29.0	27.7
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.8
All detections	30.0	28.6	29.0	29.5	28.5

Table 4 (contd) Detections by offence group and method of detection, 2008/09 to 2012/13

Robbery

Method of detection	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>					
Charge/summons	15,459	14,367	14,649	14,548	12,476
Cautions	555	393	356	283	282
TICs ¹	802	622	676	596	716
PNDs ^{2 3}	0	0	0	0	0
Total sanction detections	16,816	15,382	15,681	15,427	13,474
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	21	22	17	56	61
All detections	16,837	15,404	15,698	15,483	13,535
Total recorded offences	80,130	75,105	76,189	74,688	65,156
<i>Detection rate (%)</i>					
Charge/summons	19.3	19.1	19.2	19.5	19.1
Cautions	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
TICs ¹	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.1
PNDs ^{2 3}	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total sanction detections	21.0	20.5	20.6	20.7	20.7
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
All detections	21.0	20.5	20.6	20.7	20.8

Theft offences

Method of detection	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>					
Charge/summons	206,037	189,423	198,154	199,984	189,176
Cautions	68,907	60,017	49,909	42,944	35,084
TICs ¹	85,125	68,235	65,351	58,052	50,808
PNDs ^{2 3}	45,844	44,281	37,674	32,608	26,486
Total sanction detections	405,913	361,956	351,088	333,588	301,554
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	1,143	2,639	3,801	19,079	24,307
All detections	407,056	364,595	354,889	352,667	325,861
Total recorded offences	2,241,532	2,062,223	2,040,941	2,013,428	1,850,156
<i>Detection rate (%)</i>					
Charge/summons	9.2	9.2	9.7	9.9	10.2
Cautions	3.1	2.9	2.4	2.1	1.9
TICs ¹	3.8	3.3	3.2	2.9	2.7
PNDs ^{2 3}	2.0	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.4
Total sanction detections	18.1	17.6	17.2	16.6	16.3
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.9	1.3
All detections	18.2	17.7	17.4	17.5	17.6

Table 4 (contd) Detections by offence group and method of detection, 2008/09 to 2012/13

Criminal damage and arson

Method of detection	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>					
Charge/summons	64,133	58,305	56,545	52,896	47,897
Cautions	45,901	35,196	28,344	23,086	19,775
TICs ¹	6,370	4,245	3,438	2,889	1,961
PNDs ^{2 3}	13,085	9,014	6,036	4,752	3,416
Total sanction detections	129,489	106,760	94,363	83,623	73,049
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	574	1,297	1,698	9,415	12,026
All detections	130,063	108,057	96,061	93,038	85,075
Total recorded offences	930,327	800,645	695,084	626,008	529,719
<i>Detection rate (%)</i>					
Charge/summons	6.9	7.3	8.1	8.4	9.0
Cautions	4.9	4.4	4.1	3.7	3.7
TICs ¹	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
PNDs ^{2 3}	1.4	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.6
Total sanction detections	13.9	13.3	13.6	13.4	13.8
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.5	2.3
All detections	14.0	13.5	13.8	14.9	16.1

Drug offences

Method of detection	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>					
Charge/summons	72,967	76,637	79,213	76,170	70,931
Cautions	49,418	43,534	42,693	41,382	38,503
TICs ¹	262	210	141	114	88
PNDs ^{2 3}	1,037	13,489	14,568	15,929	15,904
Cannabis Warnings ³	107,241	87,332	80,659	77,933	69,213
Total sanction detections	230,925	221,202	217,274	211,528	194,639
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	41	182	132	301	356
All detections	230,966	221,384	217,406	211,829	194,995
Total recorded offences	243,536	235,584	232,922	229,099	208,017
<i>Detection rate (%)</i>					
Charge/summons	30.0	32.5	34.0	33.2	34.1
Cautions	20.3	18.5	18.3	18.1	18.5
TICs ¹	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
PNDs ^{2 3}	0.4	5.7	6.3	7.0	7.6
Cannabis Warnings ³	44.0	37.1	34.6	34.0	33.3
Total sanction detections	94.8	93.9	93.3	92.3	93.6
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
All detections	94.8	94.0	93.3	92.5	93.7

Table 4 (contd) Detections by offence group and method of detection, 2008/09 to 2012/13

Possession of weapons offences

Method of detection	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>					
Charge/summons	23,145	18,946	17,883	16,080	13,393
Cautions	8,903	6,400	5,357	4,723	3,915
TICs ¹	18	13	13	7	3
PNDs ^{2 3}	10	3	10	5	7
Total sanction detections	32,076	25,362	23,263	20,815	17,318
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	13	11	32	205	252
All detections	32,089	25,373	23,295	21,020	17,570
Total recorded offences	35,662	28,758	26,327	23,688	19,913
<i>Detection rate (%)</i>					
Charge/summons	64.9	65.9	67.9	67.9	67.3
Cautions	25.0	22.3	20.3	19.9	19.7
TICs ¹	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PNDs ^{2 3}	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total sanction detections	89.9	88.2	88.4	87.9	87.0
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.9	1.3
All detections	90.0	88.2	88.5	88.7	88.2

Public order offences

Method of detection	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>					
Charge/summons	75,229	71,375	69,408	60,751	52,282
Cautions	21,860	18,879	16,798	13,855	11,629
TICs ¹	193	117	126	20	44
PNDs ^{2 3}	47,878	35,586	27,438	20,177	13,763
Total sanction detections	145,160	125,957	113,770	94,803	77,718
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	219	500	778	3,588	4,385
All detections	145,379	126,457	114,548	98,391	82,103
Total recorded offences	204,289	188,254	173,081	150,858	132,203
<i>Detection rate (%)</i>					
Charge/summons	36.8	37.9	40.1	40.3	39.5
Cautions	10.7	10.0	9.7	9.2	8.8
TICs ¹	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
PNDs ^{2 3}	23.4	18.9	15.9	13.4	10.4
Total sanction detections	71.1	66.9	65.7	62.8	58.8
Non-sanction detections ^{4 5 6}	0.1	0.3	0.4	2.4	3.3
All detections	71.2	67.2	66.2	65.2	62.1

Table 4 (contd) Detections by offence group and method of detection, 2008/09 to 2012/13

Miscellaneous crimes against society

Method of detection	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>					
Charge/summons	31,816	29,451	27,603	25,918	24,118
Cautions	7,544	6,195	5,492	4,772	4,437
TICs ¹	476	411	379	321	237
PNDs ^{2,3}	43	68	51	59	53
Total sanction detections	39,879	36,125	33,525	31,070	28,845
Non-sanction detections ^{4,5,6}	21	52	138	537	597
All detections	39,900	36,177	33,663	31,607	29,442
Total recorded offences	55,666	52,053	48,000	44,981	42,482
<i>Detection rate (%)</i>					
Charge/summons	57.2	56.6	57.5	57.6	56.8
Cautions	13.6	11.9	11.4	10.6	10.4
TICs ¹	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6
PNDs ^{2,3}	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total sanction detections	71.6	69.4	69.8	69.1	67.9
Non-sanction detections ^{4,5,6}	0.0	0.1	0.3	1.2	1.4
All detections	71.7	69.5	70.1	70.3	69.3

Total offences

Method of detection	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>					
Charge/summons	676,255	647,588	654,689	629,874	581,129
Cautions	311,568	263,263	231,056	204,697	182,777
TICs ¹	93,633	74,124	70,355	62,221	54,078
PNDs ^{2,3}	108,200	102,666	85,996	73,743	59,856
Cannabis Warnings ³	107,241	87,332	80,659	77,933	69,213
Total sanction detections	1,296,897	1,174,973	1,122,755	1,048,468	947,053
Non-sanction detections ^{4,5,6}	2,832	6,715	9,470	51,636	65,098
All detections	1,299,729	1,181,688	1,132,225	1,100,104	1,012,151
Total recorded offences	4,550,335	4,194,639	4,011,970	3,842,230	3,502,320
<i>Detection rate (%)</i>					
Charge/summons	14.9	15.4	16.3	16.4	16.6
Cautions	6.8	6.3	5.8	5.3	5.2
TICs ¹	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.5
PNDs ^{2,3}	2.4	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.7
Cannabis Warnings ³	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0
Total sanction detections	28.5	28.0	28.0	27.3	27.0
Non-sanction detections ^{4,5,6}	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.3	1.9
All detections	28.6	28.2	28.2	28.6	28.9

1. Offences asked to be taken into consideration by a court (TICs).

2. Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) (formerly known as fixed penalty notices) were introduced in several forces in 2003/04 and nationally in 2004/05.

3. Cannabis Warnings for possession of cannabis were introduced in 2004/05. Since 26 January 2009, PNDs can also be given for an offence of cannabis possession. Up to the end of March 2009 such PNDs were counted in the same category as Cannabis Warnings. Cannabis warnings include a small number of community resolutions for possession of cannabis in 2012/13.

4. From 1 April 2007, new rules governing non-sanction detections significantly limited the occasions for which such administrative disposals can be applied.

5. Includes data on Youth Restorative Disposals (YRDs) submitted to the Home Office as non-sanction detections from pilots in eight police force areas (Avon and Somerset, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Metropolitan, Norfolk, North Wales, Nottinghamshire). The pilot was introduced in 2008/09.

6. Includes Restorative Justice and community resolution data submitted on a voluntary basis by some police forces in 2011/12 and 2012/13.

Notes

Detected crimes are those that have been 'cleared up' by the police. Not every case where the police know, or think they know, who committed a crime can be counted as a detection and some crimes are counted as detected when the victim might view the case as far from solved. For any crime to be counted as detected sufficient evidence must be available to claim a detection and all of the following conditions must be met:

- a notifiable offence has been committed and recorded;
- a suspect has been identified and has been made aware that they will be recorded as being responsible for committing that crime and what the full implications of this are; and
- one of the methods of detection listed below applies.

The police may use one of several methods to count a crime as detected. They fall into two broad categories; sanction and non-sanction detections. Once a detection has been claimed, any identifiable victim must be informed that the crime has been detected, or in the case of a child, their parent or guardian must be informed.

The detection rate is the number of detections recorded in a given year as a proportion of the total number of crimes recorded in the same period. See General Rules section H of [Home Office Counting Rules \(2013\)](#) for information on counting detections.

Sanction detections

Sanction detections include offences that are cleared up through a formal sanction to the offender. Not all sanction detections will necessarily result in a subsequent conviction. In cases detected by charge or summons, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) may not take forward proceedings or the offender might be found not guilty. A sanction detection can be claimed when an offender has been:

- **Charged or summonsed**

An offence is deemed to be detected if a person has been charged or summonsed for the crime (irrespective of any subsequent acquittal at court).

- **Cautioned, reprimanded or given a final warning**

An offence is deemed to be detected if an offender has been cautioned by the police (including conditional cautions) or given a reprimand or warning under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. A caution may be given by, or on the instructions of, a senior police officer when an offender admits guilt, where there is sufficient evidence for a realistic prospect of conviction and where the offender consents to the caution being issued. Guidance on administering cautions was published in 2005 and later revised in 2008. The guidance can be found at: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130125102358/http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/corporate-publications-strategy/home-office-circulars/circulars-2008/>

- **Had an offence taken into consideration**

An offence is deemed to be detected if the offender admits the crime and asks for it to be taken into consideration by the court and where there is additional verifiable information linking that offender to that crime.

- **Received a Penalty Notice for Disorder**

An offence is deemed to be detected if the police issue a Penalty Notice for Disorder (PND). Such a notice must be issued in accordance with any operational guidance to the police (e.g. *Police Operational Guidance on PNDs* issued by the Home Office in March 2005). A detection is counted if the penalty notice is not contested, is contested but the CPS proceeds with the case, or, in discontinued cases, the dedicated decision maker reviews the case and stands by the original decision.

With effect from 26 January 2009, it became possible for a PND to be given for an offence of cannabis possession. For central reporting purposes any such PNDs were counted as Cannabis Warnings for the period January to March 2009; from April 2009 a system was put in place to correctly record them as PNDs for the relevant offence.

- **Received a warning for cannabis possession**

Prior to January 2007 this detection method was known as a 'formal warning for cannabis possession'. From April 2004 information on police formal warnings for cannabis possession started to be collected centrally (prior to this a pilot scheme was run in parts of London). Those aged 18 and over who are caught in simple possession of cannabis can be eligible for a police Cannabis Warning, which would not involve an arrest. An offence is deemed to be cleared up if a Cannabis Warning has been issued in accordance with guidance from the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO).

Non-sanction detections

Non-sanction detections comprise those where the offence is counted as cleared up but either no further action was taken against the offender or the matter has been resolved by the use of a locally based community resolution or the application of Restorative Justice (RJ) techniques.

- **Non-sanction detections – by no further action**

Prior to April 2007 various reasons were allowed for claiming non-sanction detections where no further action was taken against the offender including where the:

- offender was too ill or mentally disturbed for proceedings to take place;
- complainant or an essential witness was dead;
- victim refused or was unable to give evidence;
- offender was under the age of criminal responsibility;
- police or the CPS decided that it would not be in the public interest to proceed; and
- time limit of six months for commencing prosecution had been exceeded.

From April 2007 there are now only two ways in which non-sanction detections involving no further action may be claimed:

- where the offender dies before proceedings could be initiated or completed;
- where the CPS decides not to prosecute (by virtue of its powers under the Criminal Justice Act 2003).

The use of non-sanction detections involving no further action is now restricted to 'indictable only' offences (those offences that must be tried at Crown Court).

- **Non-sanction detections – by local resolution**

A special arrangement had been in place since 2008/09 to allow some forces piloting Youth Restorative Disposals (YRDs) to record their disposals under this category. YRDs allow operational officers to dispose of low-level crime and neighbourhood disorder where it is not considered to be in the public interest to prosecute. The process involves a meeting between the offender and the victim, an apology and may also include additional action to right the wrong caused (e.g. a form of community payback).

Thereafter, from April 2011, forces have been able to voluntarily submit additional data on crimes 'cleared up' by the application of a form of Restorative Justice (RJ). RJ includes formal action, such as the YRD Youth Restorative Disposal, administered by trained practitioners, as well as less formal community-based resolutions where the offender has made an admission and the victim is satisfied that such a resolution may be used. This may amount to an apology or agreement to carry out some activity, such as repairing the damage caused. Such 'clear ups' are included as non-sanction detections in this bulletin.

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Erratum

Page 17, footnote 3:

Line 1: two instances of 29 were changes to 27, the year 2011/12 was changed to 2012/13.