



Home Office

17 July 2014

Statistical News Release: Crime Outcomes in England and Wales 2013/14

(Previously Crimes Detected in England and Wales)

The latest statistics on crime outcomes are released today. This is a transitional bulletin following the introduction of the new outcomes framework in April 2013, which replaced the previous detections framework. This was then expanded further to a broader framework in April 2014. The bulletin contains:

1. Outcomes data for 2013/14, based on the limited subset of outcomes available prior to April 2014.
2. An introduction to the broader outcomes framework introduced in April 2014.
3. An outline of future reporting on the outcomes framework from July 2015, including some preliminary data.
4. Data on no-crimes (annex A).

Key Aspects of the New Framework

- From April 2014, the police have assigned one of 19 outcome types to every crime that is recorded. This contrasts with the former detections regime, where only around 30% of crimes were assigned an 'outcome'.
- The 19 outcomes include those from the previous detections framework, plus outcomes covering a range of other scenarios, such as those where there are evidential difficulties, or where no suspect is identified.
- The new framework provides much greater transparency on the ways police resolve all crimes. For more information on the full transition from detections to outcomes, see p.7 of the bulletin.

Key Points from the Outcome Data for 2013/14

- Between 2012/13 and 2013/14 the proportion of offences dealt with by a charge/summons increased from 16.5 per cent to 17.2 per cent, the highest rate since the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) in 2002/03. This change is partly influenced by the change in the crime mix between the years and partly by an increase in charge/summons rates for some crimes.
- The change in the charge/summons rate varied considerably by offence type. The number of charge/summons increased for violent offences (up 6%) and sexual offences (up 17%), but fell for robbery (down 8%) and criminal damage (down 4%) offences.
- Charge/summons rates vary considerably by offence type. Over two thirds (68%) of 'possession of weapons' offences are dealt with via a charge/summons, whilst around one tenth (11%) of theft offences are dealt with in this way.

- The number of offences dealt with by a caution in 2013/14 fell for all offence types compared with the previous year, with a particularly large percentage fall for robbery offences (down 41%). This is likely to be partly due to changes in the guidance for the police on issuing cautions.

Intentions for Future Bulletins

In this bulletin, preliminary data from the full 19 outcomes for April and May 2014 are presented, with the intention to provide a fuller set of data in July 2015. Some of the initial findings are:

- Sexual offences (46%) and violent offences (39%) had a greater proportion of outcomes where there were evidential difficulties than other crime types.
- Criminal damage and arson offences (73%) and theft offences (72%) were the offence types that were most likely to result in a suspect not being identified. Drug offences (1%) were the least likely.
- Of the offences recorded by a subset of forces in April and May 2014, at the end of May 2014, 74 per cent had been assigned an outcome, while 26 per cent were still under investigation. These percentages varied considerably by crime type.
- For the first time, the bulletin includes some preliminary analysis of the length of time between a crime being recorded and an outcome being assigned (see section 3.4).

Notes

1. In the 2013/14 data it was not possible to link individual outcomes to individual crimes. The rates described in chapter 2 of the bulletin are the number of offences assigned an outcome in a given year as a proportion of the total number of crimes recorded in the same period.

2. 'Crime Outcomes in England and Wales 2013/14' is available online:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crime-outcomes-in-england-and-wales-2013-to-2014>.

3. Also released today is 'Crime in England and Wales: Quarterly First Release to March 2014' available on the Office for National Statistics (ONS) website:
<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Crime+in+England+and+Wales>.

4. Throughout the 'Crime outcomes in England and Wales 2013/14' bulletin, the total numbers for both offences recorded and assigned an outcome by the police are shown excluding fraud offences. This is due to a change in the recording of fraud offences as the result of the implementation of Action Fraud as a national reporting centre. Outcome data for offences recorded by Action Fraud are presented for the first time in this bulletin, as experimental statistics. These are subject to further development and quality assurance.

For all press enquiries, please contact the Home Office Press Office who will liaise with Home Office Statistics:

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