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Home Office Statistical Bulletin

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Crime Outcomes in England and Wales 2013/14

(First edition)

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Important information

There was a significant change from the former detections framework to the new outcomes framework in April 2013, and subsequently there is a change to the way in which statistics in this bulletin are presented. Therefore the Chief Statistician and Head of Profession for Statistics in the Home Office, following discussions with the UK Statistics Authority, has requested that the Authority approve that this bulletin is designated as Official Statistics, rather than National Statistics. This reflects the transitional nature of this bulletin and the fact that we are taking this opportunity to consult users of the statistics on how the data should best be presented in future, prior to inviting the UK Statistics Authority to assess the new output. The correspondence between the Chief Statistician in the Home Office and the UK Statistics Authority can be found on the correspondence section of the UK Statistics Authority website:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/reports---correspondence/correspondence>

This decision was also influenced by the recent changes to the designation of police recorded crime data. In accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, statistics based on police recorded crime data were assessed against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and found not to meet the required standard for designation as National Statistics. The full assessment report can be found on the UK Statistics Authority website:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/assessment-report-268---statistics-on-crime-in-england-and-wales.pdf>

Given that the outcomes data come from the same source as police recorded crime data, i.e. the returns sent in by police forces, the issues raised by the UK Statistics Authority in their assessment of crime data are also relevant for the outcomes data.

We have made every effort to ensure that these statistics: meet identified user needs (including providing new analysis and greater transparency); are well explained and readily accessible; are produced according to sound methods; and are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest. However, we are committed to developing and evaluating them further over the next year, based on further communication with both the data providers (police forces) and users of the statistics. It is then our intention that the statistics will be assessed, with a view to them gaining National Statistics status.

Further information

The “Crimes detected in England and Wales, 2012/13” bulletin is available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/crimes-detected-in-england-and-wales>

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.

Executive Summary

BACKGROUND - THE NEW OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

- A new, broader outcomes framework was introduced in two phases from April 2013. This framework, containing 19 categories, covers the full range of ways in which the police can deal with a crime.
- Full data based on this new framework are not yet available. However, in this bulletin preliminary findings based on partial data are presented, and plans for the July 2015 bulletin are outlined.

2013/14 OUTCOMES DATA

The key findings from the 2013/14 outcomes data were:

- Between 2012/13 and 2013/14 the proportion of all offences dealt with by a charge/summons increased from 16.5 per cent to 17.2 per cent, mainly due to an increase in the number of theft offences dealt with in this way. This is the highest rate since the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) in 2002/03.
- The change in the charge/summons rate varied considerably by offence type, generally reflecting the changes in recorded crime between the two years. This was indicated by the charge/summons rates remaining fairly similar. The number of charge/summons increased for theft offences (up 6%), violent offences (up 6%), and sexual offences (up 17%), but fell for robbery (down 8%) and criminal damage offences (down 4%).
- Charge/summons rates vary considerably by offence type. Over two thirds (68%) of 'possession of weapons' offences were dealt with via a charge/summons, while around one in nine (11%) of theft offences were.
- 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%, from 282 to 166). This was partly due to changes in the guidance on issuing cautions.

INTENTIONS FOR THE JULY 2015 BULLETIN

Next year the Home Office intends to publish analysis of outcomes in two main ways:

1. All outcomes assigned during the previous financial year (2014/15). This will be based on the broader outcomes framework introduced in April 2014 (outcomes 1-19). Preliminary analysis is presented in section 3.2.
2. The subset of outcomes that relate to offences recorded in 2014/15 i.e. excluding those outcomes that relate to offences from previous years. This would indicate, for example, the proportion of offences that resulted in a charge/summons, the proportion that resulted in a suspect not being identified, and the proportion that were still under investigation. Preliminary analysis is presented in section 3.3.

Additionally, the Home Office also intends to present analysis on the time between offences being recorded and an outcome being assigned to them. Preliminary analysis is presented in section 3.4.

1 - Introduction

1.1 – OVERVIEW

This bulletin reports on the outcomes of crimes recorded by the 43 police forces in England and Wales, plus the British Transport Police. It replaces the annual detections bulletin following the introduction of the new outcomes framework in April 2013. The move from detections to outcomes is a significant change, with an emphasis on greater transparency on how all crimes recorded by the police are dealt with. The previous focus on detections (i.e. crimes resolved via a sanction against the offender, such as a charge, summons or caution) gave a partial picture of the work police do to investigate and resolve crime.

This publication represents the transition from the old detections bulletin to the new outcomes framework. In section 1.8 we describe our intentions to consult with users of these statistics on how outcomes data are presented in the future.

1.2 – BACKGROUND: THE OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

In October 2012, a public consultation was launched to propose a new framework for recorded crime outcomes, which would replace the existing detections framework. The majority of respondents supported the proposals for this new framework and agreed that it would provide increased transparency on how crimes are dealt with by the police. As discussed in sections 1.4 and 1.5, the new framework provides a more complete set of information on how the police deal with crime, with all crimes now assigned an outcome.

The Government response to this consultation was published in March 2013, with the Government committing to adopt this new framework. This consultation response can be found here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/157796/consultation-response.pdf

1.3 – THE OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK INTRODUCED IN APRIL 2013

Following the consultation, the Government introduced a new crime outcomes framework in April 2013. Given that there was some disagreement in the consultation responses on how to deal with cases where no further action was taken by the police, the Government decided to adopt a phased approach to implementing the new framework. This allowed further discussion with the police and other stakeholders to ensure that the content and terminology used for the final set of additional outcomes was based on a full understanding of their impact.

The outcomes framework introduced in April 2013 therefore did not cover cases where the police took no further action. It did, however, expand the existing detections framework, by providing more detail on out of court disposals. Importantly, data on community resolutions were collected from all police forces on a mandatory basis, having previously been a voluntary collection.

This framework was therefore an important first step in the transition to a full set of crime outcomes in April 2014 (see section 1.4). The outcomes framework introduced in April 2013 can be seen in table 1.1, alongside the detections framework that it replaced.

1.4 – THE BROADER OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK INTRODUCED IN APRIL 2014

In late 2013, the Government finalised the broader outcomes framework that would be introduced in April 2014. This broader framework builds on the nine categories included in the April 2013 outcomes framework, by adding a further ten outcomes. These covered a range of scenarios where a crime would previously have been classed as ‘undetected’ or ‘no further action taken’, and therefore never received a formal ‘outcome’ in the published figures. The new, expanded framework further increases the transparency of police recorded crime data, with every recorded crime now given an outcome. Therefore it will be possible to see the outcome assigned to every crime that is dealt with by the police.

It is important to bear in mind that at any given time, there will also be a subset of offences where the investigation of the crime is still ongoing and an outcome has not yet been assigned. Therefore while every crime will eventually be given an outcome under the April 2014 framework, this may take some time while the crimes are investigated. Data on outcomes for a given period will therefore be subject to ongoing revisions as investigations into crimes are completed and outcomes are assigned. This is discussed further in section 3.3.

Table 1.1 shows the three frameworks alongside each other for comparison:

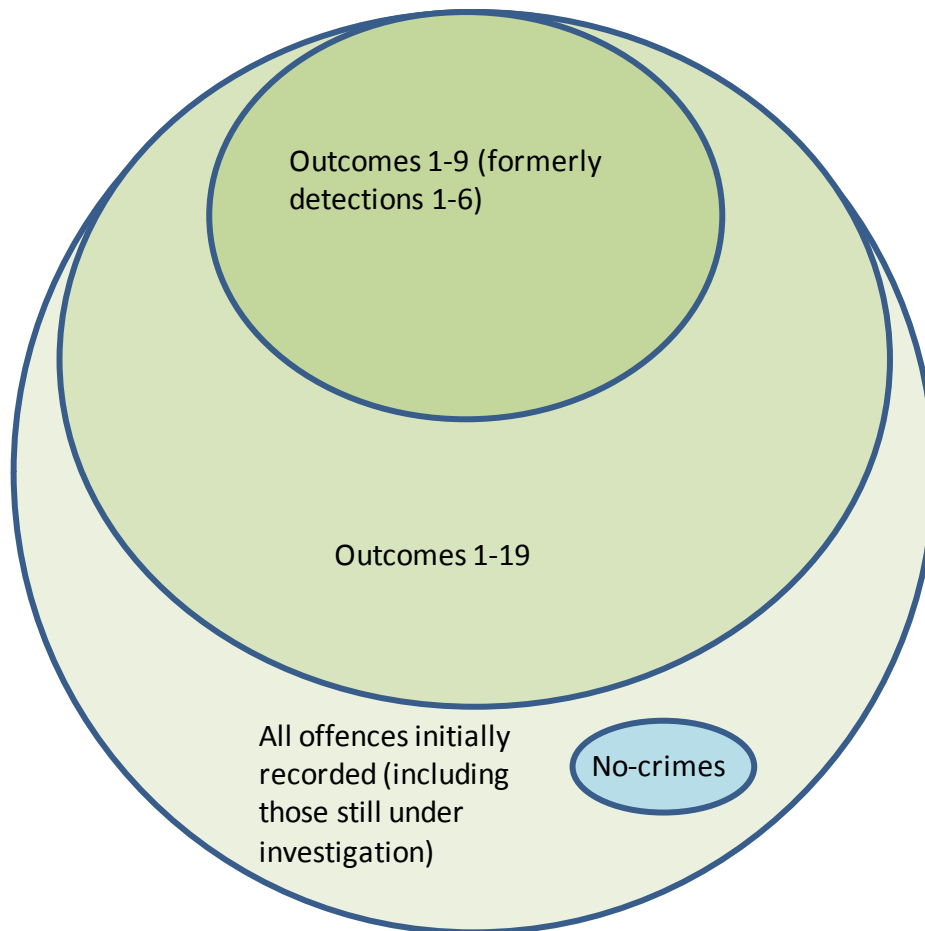
- The detections framework in place until April 2013 (outcomes 1-6)
- The outcomes framework in place between April 2013 and March 2014 (outcomes 1-9)
- The broader outcomes framework in place from April 2014 onwards (outcomes 1-19)

Table 1.1: Detection types in place prior to April 2013 and the outcomes frameworks in place thereafter

Detections framework – prior to April 2013 (outcomes 1-6)	Outcomes framework – April 2013 to March 2014 (outcomes 1-9)	Outcomes framework – April 2014 onwards (outcomes 1-19)
1. Charge/Summons	1. Charge/Summons	1. Charge/Summons
2. Caution	2. Caution – youths	2. Caution – youths
	3. Caution – adults	3. Caution – adults
3. Taken into consideration (TIC) – previously recorded	4. Taken into consideration (TIC)	4. Taken into consideration (TIC)
4. Taken into consideration (TIC) – not previously recorded		
5. Fixed Penalty Notices	6. Penalty Notices for Disorder	6. Penalty Notices for Disorder
6. Other	5. The Offender has Died (indictable only/sexual offences)	5. The Offender has Died (all offences)
	7. Cannabis Warning	7. Cannabis Warning
	8. Community Resolution	8. Community Resolution
	9. Prosecution not in the public interest (CPS) (indictable only offences)	9. Prosecution not in the public interest (CPS) (all offences)
<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	10. Formal action against the offender is not in the public interest (Police decision)
<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	11. Prosecution prevented - Named suspect identified but is below the age of criminal responsibility
<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	12. Prosecution prevented - Named suspect identified but is too ill (physical or mental health) to prosecute
<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	13. Prosecution prevented - Named suspect identified but victim or key witness is dead or too ill to give evidence
<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	14. Evidential Difficulties Victim Based – Named suspect not identified: The crime is confirmed but the victim either declines/ or is unable to support further police investigation to identify the offender.
<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	15. Named Suspect identified: the crime is confirmed and the victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action
<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	16. Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim does not support (or has withdrawn support from) police action
<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	17. Prosecution time limit expired: Suspect identified but prosecution time limit has expired.
<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	18. Investigation Complete: No suspect identified. Crime investigated as far as reasonably possible - case closed pending further investigative opportunities becoming available
<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	<i>Data not collected by the Home Office</i>	19. National Fraud Intelligence Bureau - filed (NFIB only) - A crime of fraud has been recorded but has not been allocated for investigation, because the assessment process at the NFIB has determined there are insufficient lines of enquiry to warrant such dissemination.

Figure 1.1 shows how the outcomes framework introduced in April 2014 includes the same categories as the previous detections and outcomes frameworks, but also provides additional information on other crime outcomes.

Figure 1.1 – diagram showing how all crimes initially recorded are dealt with by the police



Note: Not to scale

In addition to expanding the April 2013 outcomes framework, changes have also been made to the guidance provided to the police on recording outcomes. For example, in cases where there is a change in the outcome assigned by the police, the police should change the outcome to reflect the latest recorded. This is particularly relevant in the case of outcome 18, where no suspect is initially identified, but subsequent evidence may identify a suspect and lead to another outcome. In these cases the outcome should be updated to reflect this change, meaning that outcomes data are likely to be revised over time as police forces update the outcomes of some crimes.

1.5 – INTERPRETING THE OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

The outcomes framework changes the way in which the Home Office are able to report on how crimes are dealt with by the police. Under the new outcomes framework a broader range of information on how the police deal with crime will be available, compared with the narrow definition of a detected crime that was available previously. All crimes will now be assigned an outcome. As table 1.1 shows, in addition to the former outcome types (1-6) such as charge/summons and caution, data will now be available on cases where there have been, for example, evidential difficulties in proceeding, or the victim is unwilling to proceed, or no suspect has been found.

As a result, the concept of a detection rate is not appropriate as an overall picture of how crimes are dealt with, or as a measure of police activity. This is because it only considers a small subset of the ways in which the police actually deal with crimes. It can also lead to perverse incentives in target

setting amongst police forces. Therefore in future we do not intend to publish a detection rate that is aligned with those shown in previous years. However, data on the individual outcomes that constituted the detection rate will continue to be collected and published as part of the full set of outcomes (1-19). For 2013/14, these data are shown in chapter 2. For continuity, we show data based on the former detection rate in Annex B of this publication, but urge consideration of the information highlighted here when interpreting this rate.

Great care needs to be taken when making comparisons between police forces. In some cases making any such comparisons may be misleading, given that different police forces use outcomes in different ways and will have a different mix of crimes to deal with. For example, some police forces may implement more community resolutions than others, depending on their approach, the nature of the crimes they deal with and the views of their communities. For example, a force that deals with a disproportionately high number of drug offences may apply a different mix of outcomes compared with a force that deals with a higher proportion of violent offences. A comparison of outcome rates by police force can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crime-outcomes-in-england-and-wales-2013-to-2014>

This bulletin considers rates only when focusing on a particular type of outcome, and primarily shows breakdowns by offence group. These are the cases where more meaningful comparisons can be drawn. An example would be comparing the charge/summons rates for burglary offences across police forces. It does consider the overall rates of some individual outcomes, although changes in these from one period to the next can be affected by a change in the crime mix.

1.6 – DATA SHOWN IN THIS BULLETIN

The new, broader outcomes categories were introduced in April 2014, and so it is not possible to show a full set of annual statistics in this bulletin based on them. However, they will be reported on in the next annual bulletin, in July 2015. In chapter 3 there is some preliminary data analysis based on the full set of outcomes (1-19) for a subset of forces. Additional analysis based on data provided by some forces via the Home Office Data Hub is also provided. These both highlight the intention to report these data in future bulletins and are presented for consideration by users.

Chapter 2 in this bulletin focuses on outcomes 1-6 shown in table 1.1, as these were the ones for which data was collected between April 2013 and March 2014. This period was before the broader set of outcomes (1-19) was implemented.

The Home Office Data Hub allows forces to provide record-level detail on offences, vastly increasing the opportunities for analysis of police recorded crime data. Crucially in the case of crime outcomes, the Data Hub also allows outcomes to be linked to their relevant offence. Previously, data has only been available on the total number of offences and the total number of outcomes recorded in any given period, with no way of linking the two together to produce figures on a common set of crimes. Using the Data Hub it is possible to see which outcome is applied to each offence. Some preliminary analysis based on this extra information is shown in chapter 3. This analysis is intended to be expanded in future publications. This kind of analysis can provide further transparency for both crime and outcome data.

1.7 – POLICE RECORDED CRIME

The police recorded crime data used in this bulletin are supplied by police forces to the Home Office, and are then published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in “Crime in England and Wales: Year ending March 2014”:

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

ONS publish 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 chapter 2, the

headline outcome statistics in this bulletin exclude fraud. For consistency, ONS's series of police recorded crime used for comparisons is the version that excludes fraud.

In accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, statistics based on police recorded crime data have been assessed against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and found not to meet the required standard for designation as National Statistics. The full assessment report can be found on the UK Statistics Authority website:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/assessment-report-268---statistics-on-crime-in-england-and-wales.pdf>

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

1.8 – CONSULTATION

To reflect the change in the outcomes framework from April 2014, it is the intention of the Home Office Statistics Unit to present outcomes in a number of different ways in future years, taking advantage of the increased transparency that the new framework brings. Many of these changes are shown in chapter 3, and in section 3.6 a series of questions are asked on these changes, and how valuable users would find them.

The Home Office Statistics Unit invites users to consider these proposed changes and would very much value comments and feedback to help shape future publications.

2 Outcomes Statistics for 2013/14

2.1 – INTRODUCTION

Statistics on crimes recorded by the police that appear in “Crimes in England and Wales: Year ending March 2014” are based on notifiable offences. These 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 summary (heard only by magistrates) offences, such as assault without injury. For a list of all notifiable offences please 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>

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 the number of outcomes they have recorded each year. Historically, it has not been possible to link individual outcomes to the crime that they relate to. However, in chapter 3 the intention to report on these data in future years is discussed, using data available via the Home Office Data Hub.

The outcome (formerly detection) rates described in this chapter are the number of a particular outcome recorded in a period as a proportion of crimes recorded in the same period. In practice, this means that some crime types could show an outcome rate of over 100 per cent, as some outcomes are recorded in a different year to the year that the police recorded the crime. This is sometimes the case for relatively low volume crimes.

Outcome 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 outcome rates are the offences most influenced, in terms of their recorded numbers, by proactive policing to apprehend offenders. For example, drug offences are often resolved at the point of the crime being ‘discovered’, as are many of the offences in the ‘other crimes against society’ category.

There may also be circumstances in which a crime may have been fully investigated, but an outcome is not recorded. An example would be 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. These cases are included in the outcome framework (outcomes 1-19) introduced in April 2014, but data on these for all police forces will only be available in future annual publications.

Fraud offences

In April 2011, Action Fraud began taking over the recording of fraud offences from the individual police forces in England and Wales, a process that was completed by the end of March 2013. The implementation of Action Fraud as a single national fraud reporting centre appears to have led to an increase in the number of fraud offences recorded, as this provides an easier way for the public to report such offences, and centralises expertise in these cases. While forces continue to investigate frauds following this change, they do so only for those cases referred to them by Action Fraud.

Outcomes data for the National Fraud Investigation Bureau (NFIB) are included in section 2.3 of this bulletin. However, because this is the first time that these data have been made available, and they are subject to ongoing quality assurance, they should be treated with caution at this stage. They are therefore excluded from the main outcomes figures, given the complexity involved in these data (see figure 2.2).

Community Resolutions

Data on community resolutions were previously collected from police forces on a voluntary basis, and in 2012/13 around half of forces supplied figures to the Home Office. However, for 2013/14 all forces were required to provide these data under the “Other” outcomes category. As a result, the number of outcomes in the “Other” category will be higher than those shown in previous years.

2.2 – OUTCOME NUMBERS BY OUTCOME TYPE AND OFFENCE GROUP

Table 2.1 shows the number of each outcome recorded by the police in 2013/14, by offence group, alongside the number of offences that were recorded during the same period. The outcomes data are based on the limited subset of outcomes for which data were available in 2013/14, namely outcomes 1-6 from table 1.1, plus separate data on cannabis warnings.

Table 2.1: Outcomes recorded in 2013/14, by outcome type (outcomes 1-6) and offence group

Offence group	Recorded crime	England and Wales, Recorded crime					
		Charge/summons	Cautions	TICs ¹	PNDs ²	Cannabis Warnings ³	Other ⁴
<i>Number of outcomes</i>							
Violence against the person	634,586	166,712	60,722	102	116	n/a	37,081
Sexual offences	64,200	15,254	1,416	70	17	n/a	855
Robbery	57,818	11,448	166	280	0	n/a	103
Theft offences	1,845,243	203,419	31,750	39,147	20,111	n/a	44,146
Criminal damage and arson	506,190	46,195	18,214	1,012	2,047	n/a	19,051
Drug offences	198,176	69,884	34,409	94	14,768	63,967	687
Possession of weapons offences	20,620	14,067	3,083	1	2	n/a	398
Public order offences	134,433	52,519	10,347	38	9,790	n/a	6,202
Misc. crimes against society	45,433	24,491	4,082	205	44	n/a	822
Total	3,506,699	603,989	164,189	40,949	46,895	63,967	109,345
<i>Outcome rate (%)</i>							
Violence against the person		26.3	9.6	0.0	0.0	n/a	5.8
Sexual offences		23.8	2.2	0.1	0.0	n/a	1.3
Robbery		19.8	0.3	0.5	0.0	n/a	0.2
Theft offences		11.0	1.7	2.1	1.1	n/a	2.4
Criminal damage and arson		9.1	3.6	0.2	0.4	n/a	3.8
Drug offences		35.3	17.4	0.0	7.5	32.3	0.3
Possession of weapons offences		68.2	15.0	0.0	0.0	n/a	1.9
Public order offences		39.1	7.7	0.0	7.3	n/a	4.6
Misc. crimes against society		53.9	9.0	0.5	0.1	n/a	1.8
Total		17.2	4.7	1.2	1.3	n/a	3.1

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

2. Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs).

3. Cannabis Warnings include a small number of community resolutions for possession of cannabis in 2013/14.

4. Mainly consists of community resolutions, plus a small number of cases where the offender has died, or the CPS has decided that prosecution is not in the public interest. This does not include the broader set of outcomes (10-19) introduced in April 2014.

n/a Not applicable.

As table 2.1 shows, the proportion of offences that result in a charge/summons varies considerably by offence type. For example:

- 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.
- Violent (26%) and sexual (24%) offences both had about a quarter of offences leading to a charge/summons.

Given the different natures of the crime types shown in this table, it is unsurprising that some outcome types are more common for some crime types than others. This reflects the severity of the crime types, and the guidance on outcomes given to police forces.

As previously mentioned, the number of outcomes and number of recorded offences should be compared with caution, as the outcomes do not necessarily relate to the same period as the offences. Some of the outcomes will refer to offences that were recorded in previous years, and were allocated an outcome following completion of the investigation. The outcome rate should therefore be treated as indicative only.

Between 2012/13 and 2013/14 the proportion of offences dealt with by a charge/summons increased

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from 16.5 per cent to 17.2 per cent. This is the highest rate since the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) in 2002/03, with the long term trend shown in table A. However, it is important to bear in mind that the change in the charge/summons rate varied considerably by offence type, and that changes in this rate can be influenced by the changes in the crime mix between years. For example, if there is a large increase in the crimes that are more likely to receive a charge/summons in a particular year, you would reasonably expect the 'overall' rate to increase.

Table 2.2 shows that for most offence types, the number of charge/summons in 2013/14 has changed from the previous year in a similar way to the number of recorded crimes. In other words, if recorded crime has increased, the number of charge/summons has also increased, and vice versa.

Table 2.2 – Number of charge/summons by offence group, 2012/13 and 2013/14

	England and Wales, Recorded crime					
	2012/13	2013/14	%	2012/13	2013/14	%
	<i>Number of offences</i>		change	<i>Number of charge/summons</i>		change
Violence against the person	601,139	634,586	5.6	157,835	166,712	5.6
Sexual offences	53,620	64,200	19.7	13,041	15,254	17.0
Robbery	65,155	57,818	-11.3	12,477	11,448	-8.2
Theft offences	1,900,948	1,845,243	-2.9	192,548	203,419	5.6
Criminal damage and arson	529,713	506,190	-4.4	47,909	46,195	-3.6
Drug offences	208,002	198,176	-4.7	70,949	69,884	-1.5
Possession of weapons offence	19,910	20,620	3.6	13,396	14,067	5.0
Public order offences	132,204	134,433	1.7	52,291	52,519	0.4
Misc. crimes against society	42,500	45,433	6.9	24,122	24,491	1.5
Total	3,553,191	3,506,699	-1.3	584,568	603,989	3.3

1. 2012/13 data includes some estimated data on 'making off without payment' offences (see notes page)

The exception to this is theft offences, where the number of recorded crimes has decreased by 2.9 per cent, while the number of charge/summons has increased by 5.6 per cent. This is likely to be driven by shoplifting, which saw an increase in both the number of offences (up 7%) and charge/summons (up 11%) between 2012/13 and 2013/14. Because shoplifting accounted for over half (56%) of all charge/summons assigned to theft offences but only 17 per cent of all theft offences, this helps explain why the crime and charge/summons numbers for theft offences moved in different directions between the two years.

Table 2.2b – Number of charge/summons by offence group, 2012/13 and 2013/14

	England and Wales, Recorded crime					
	2012/13	2013/14	2012/13	2013/14	2012/13	2013/14
	<i>Number of offences</i>		<i>Number of charge/summons</i>		<i>Charge/summons rate (%)</i>	
Shoplifting	300,623	321,008	103,390	114,364	34.4	35.6
All other theft offences ¹	1,600,325	1,524,235	89,158	89,055	5.6	5.8

1. 2012/13 data includes some estimated data on 'making off without payment' offences (see notes page)

Table 2.3 shows a different trend for cautions. The number of offences dealt with via a caution decreased for all offence types between 2012/13 and 2013/14, continuing the fall in the use of this outcome since 2007/08 (Table A). In several cases the fall since 2012/13 was despite the number of offences increasing in this period, with examples being violent and sexual offences. While the decrease in the use of cautions continues the trend since 2007/08, in the last year there have been additional changes in the way that simple cautions were used by the police. For example, in April 2013 the Ministry of Justice announced a review into the use of cautions. Following this, the use of simple cautions for serious offences was ended in September 2013, as described here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chris-grayling-simple-cautions-for-serious-offences-to-be-scraped>

In addition to this, the Ministry of Justice also produced new guidance in November 2013, stating that offenders should not get more than one caution in a two year period for the same or a similar offence.

These two factors, along with an increase in the availability and use of community resolutions by the police, are likely to have driven some of the reduction in cautions between the two years. However, as highlighted above the downward trend began well before these changes.

Table 2.3 – Number of cautions by offence group, 2012/13 and 2013/14

	England and Wales, Recorded crime					
	2012/13	2013/14	%	2012/13	2013/14	%
	change			change		
	<i>Number of offences</i>			<i>Number of cautions</i>		
Violence against the person	601,139	634,586	5.6	67,519	60,722	-10.1
Sexual offences	53,620	64,200	19.7	1,671	1,416	-15.3
Robbery	65,155	57,818	-11.3	282	166	-41.1
Theft offences	1,900,948	1,845,243	-2.9	35,859	31,750	-11.5
Criminal damage and arson	529,713	506,190	-4.4	19,790	18,214	-8.0
Drug offences	208,002	198,176	-4.7	38,526	34,409	-10.7
Possession of weapons offence	19,910	20,620	3.6	3,920	3,083	-21.4
Public order offences	132,204	134,433	1.7	11,634	10,347	-11.1
Misc. crimes against society	42,500	45,433	6.9	4,442	4,082	-8.1
Total	3,553,191	3,506,699	-1.3	183,643	164,189	-10.6

1. 2012/13 data includes some estimated data on 'making off without payment' offences (see notes page)

2.3 – FRAUD OUTCOMES DATA – EXPERIMENTAL STATISTICS

The way in which fraud offences are reported has changed in recent years. From April 2011, Action Fraud gradually took responsibility for recording fraud offences. However, because this transfer was rolled out at different times for different forces, the transfer was only completed for all police forces by the end of March 2013¹.

The 2013/14 data are therefore the first full year where all fraud offences were reported to, and recorded by, Action Fraud. We are able to present outcomes data for fraud offences that received an outcome during this period. The source of these data depends on when the offence that led to the outcome occurred. The majority of the data come from the National Fraud Investigation Bureau (NFIB), who recorded all fraud offences in 2013/14 (and some prior to that). However, some data are from police forces, who recorded outcomes relating to some offences from previous years.

This is the first set of data provided by the NFIB in this way and the data are subject to ongoing development and quality assurance. Therefore these statistics are deemed to be experimental statistics and should be interpreted with caution. In next year's publication, a fuller set of statistics on fraud outcomes will be published.

The process by which outcomes are recorded by Action Fraud is shown in the flow chart in figure 2.2.

¹ For more information on the switch to Action Fraud, please see the "Crime in England and Wales: Year ending March 2014" bulletin, published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS):

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

Figure 2.2 – How Fraud Outcomes are Recorded

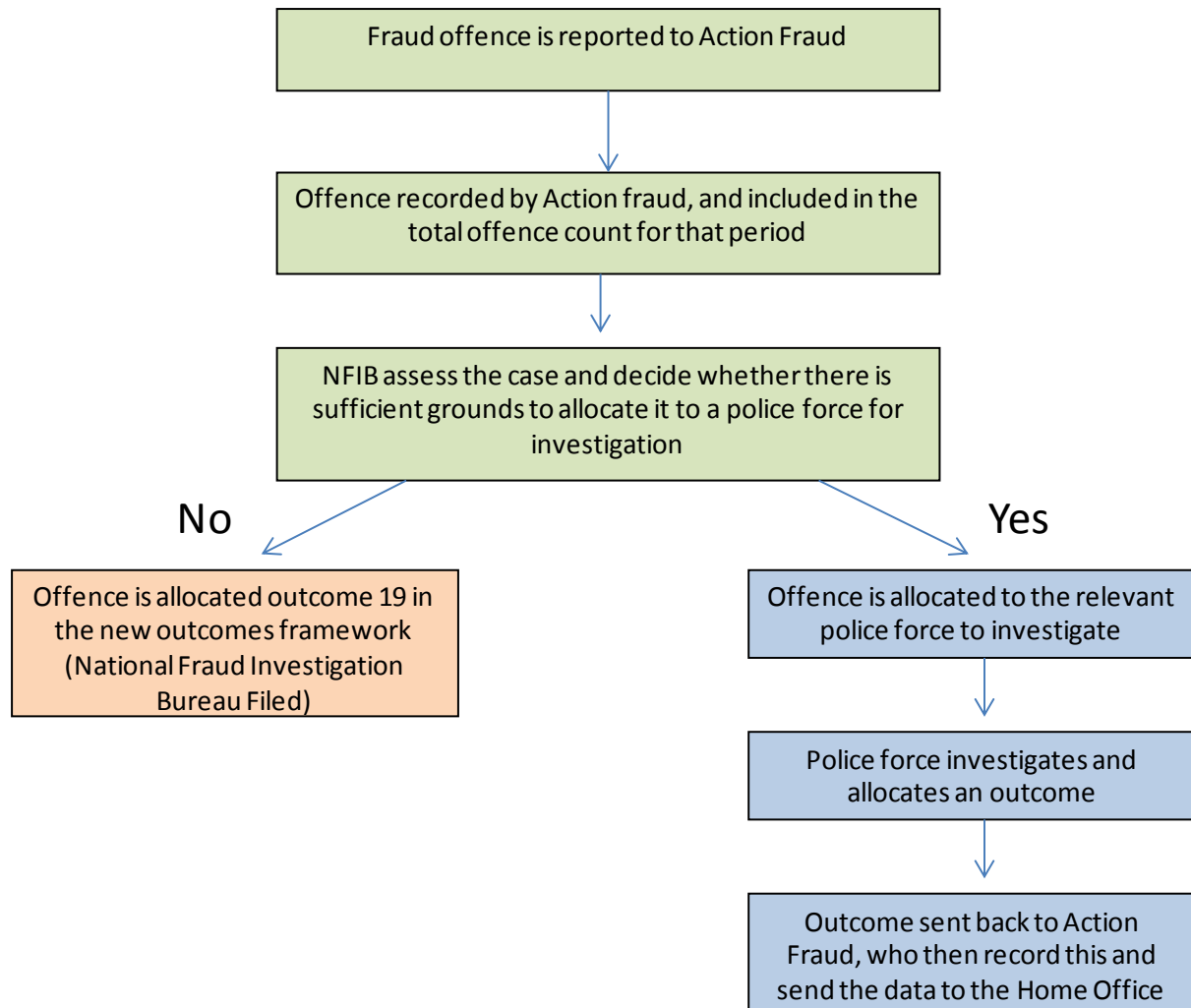


Table 2.4 shows fraud outcomes recorded in 2013/14. As discussed in section 2.1, in some cases outcomes recorded in 2013/14 will relate to offences recorded in earlier years. This table therefore shows the two ways in which fraud outcomes were recorded in 2013/14. The first row shows outcomes that were recorded by police forces in 2013/14. These relate to offences that were recorded by the police force before 2013/14 (before their transition to Action Fraud). The second row shows outcomes recorded by Action Fraud. These relate to offences that were recorded by Action Fraud and were allocated back to police forces to investigate, with an outcome subsequently achieved.

When considering the outcome rates shown in table 2.4, it is important to bear in mind that the outcomes recorded by Action Fraud only account for those offences that were allocated back to police forces to investigate. They do not include those cases where there was deemed to be insufficient grounds for further investigation, and so were not referred back to police forces. The relatively low outcome rates compared with other offence types needs to be considered in this light. In 2013/14 just over 39,000 offences were disseminated back to police forces to investigate. This represents 19 per cent of all offences recorded by Action Fraud.

Table 2.4 – Fraud Outcomes Data, 2013/14 (Experimental Statistics)

Offence group	Total recorded offences ¹	England and Wales, Recorded crime				
		Charge/summons	Cautions	TICs ²	PNDs ³	Other ⁴
<i>Number of outcomes</i>						
Outcomes recorded by police forces ²		2,381	227	353	1	189
Outcomes recorded by Action Fraud ³		5,767	1,504	670	13	625
Total	211,344	8,148	1,731	1,023	14	814
<i>Outcome rate (%)</i>						
Outcome rate		3.9	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.4

1. Almost all of these offences were recorded by Action Fraud.

2. Offences recorded by police forces prior to 2013/14, and outcomes recorded by police forces in 2013/14

3. Offences recorded by Action Fraud in 2013/14, and outcomes recorded by Action Fraud in 2013/14

4. Mainly consists of community resolutions, plus a small number of cases where the offender has died, or the CPS has decided that prosecution is not in the public interest. This does not include the broader set of outcomes (10-19) introduced in April 2014.

In this bulletin, the outcomes data provided by the NFIB only covers the same limited subset of outcomes (outcomes 1-6) as for other crime outcomes shown in section 2.2. However, the data published next year will include the full set of crime outcomes (1-19), including those offences that were filed by the NFIB (outcome 19) where there were deemed to be insufficient grounds for further investigation.

3 Future plans for Reporting on Outcomes

3.1 - OUTLINE OF INTENTIONS

As discussed in chapter 1, an expanded outcomes framework was introduced in April 2014. In the next annual publication in July 2015, the first full year's data based on this full outcomes framework will be published. This chapter sets out how these data will be presented, and asks for feedback from users of the statistics on this approach. It also shows some new analysis based on data provided by a subset of forces via the Home Office Data Hub. There are three main areas where the Home Office proposes to present data in future publications:

- The total number of outcomes recorded in a period, for the full set of outcomes (1-19). For 2013/14, this was possible (see section 2.2) for the limited subset of outcomes (1-6 in table 1.1) that corresponded with the old detections framework. See section 3.2 for more details.
- How crimes recorded in a given period have been dealt with. This involves linking outcomes to the offence that they relate to. This is only possible via the Home Office Data Hub (a record level crime database), which contains information on both the outcome date and the date when the offence was recorded. See section 3.3 for more details.
- The time lag between offences being recorded and an outcome being recorded for that offence. This analysis has not previously been possible from the data that the Home Office hold, but is again made possible by using the Home Office Data Hub. Section 3.4 shows this for the limited subset of outcomes (1-9) on which data was collected in 2013/14. In future years data for the full set of outcomes (1-19) will be published.

3.2 – OUTCOMES BASED ON THE FULL APRIL 2014 FRAMEWORK

In chapter 2, data were presented on the same headline outcome types (outcomes 1-6 in table 1.1) that were reported on in previous years. However, since the introduction of the new framework in April 2014, data are now supplied by most police forces based on the full range of outcomes (1-19). Next year it is intended that this bulletin will be based on these outcomes.

Some police forces have started recording against the new framework slightly later than others, due to the considerable changes to administrative systems that were required. Most of these have started doing so at the beginning of July 2014. This will need to be considered when interpreting the data on the full set of outcomes next year, as some forces will have a full year of data under the new framework, while others will have part of the year based on the full set of outcomes, and part based on the limited subset provided previously.

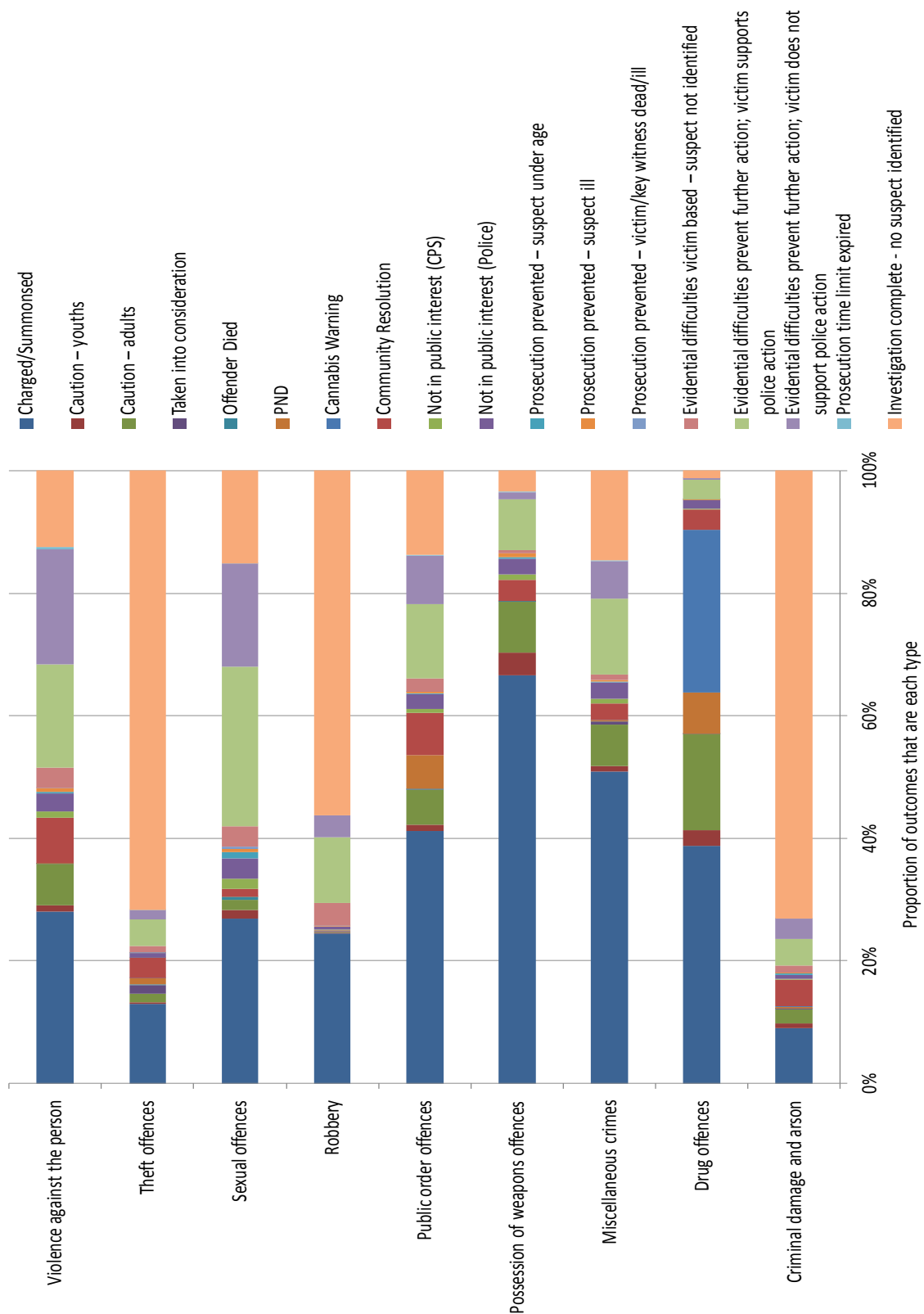
Figure 3.1 shows partial data for the first two months of the full outcomes framework (1-19), for a subset of police forces. It therefore includes those crimes where there are evidential difficulties, or a suspect is not identified, or where a prosecution is prevented. This is the first time such data have been available. The data are presented for illustrative purposes only, and represent all outcomes recorded by police forces in these months, not just those relating to crimes that were recorded in those months. It therefore allows consideration of police workload, as the figures reflect the total number of each type of outcome that have been assigned in that period. In the next bulletin, it is intended that analysis at police force level will be published.

Although the data in figure 3.1 are partial and preliminary, they give an indication of how outcomes vary by offence type. For example:

- Possession of weapons offences are most likely to be resolved by a charge/summons, with around two thirds (67%) of the total outcomes being this type. This contrasts with theft offences, where only 13 per cent of outcomes were charges/summons.
- 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 were the least likely, with these accounting for only one per cent of outcomes.

Figure 3.1 – Outcomes by outcome type and offence group, indicative data



Source: Home Office Recorded Crime Database, subset of forces, April and May 2014 data

1. Based on those crimes where an outcome has been assigned. This does not include crimes that are still under investigation i.e. yet to be assigned an outcome.

2. The numbers behind this chart are in the supplementary online data tables document, which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crime-outcomes-in-england-and-wales-2013-to-2014>

3.3 – OUTCOMES OF ALL OFFENCES RECORDED IN A PERIOD

As well as looking at the total number of outcomes recorded in a given period, the Home Office Data Hub offers the opportunity to look at how the police deal with all the crimes that they record in a period. For example, when police recorded crime figures are published by the ONS for the year 2014/15, it will be possible to look at the outcomes for all of these crimes. It will then be possible to see the proportion of crimes that resulted in a charge/summons, the proportion that resulted in a caution, the proportion that were still under investigation, and so on. This will provide a level of transparency that has never previously been available.

At present, these data can only be collected for police forces that provide data via the Home Office Data Hub as this allows offences to be linked to their outcome. However, we hope to expand this collection across other police forces from 2014/15 onwards.

Table 3.1 shows data from a subset of forces that have provided data via the Home Office Data Hub in the first two months of 2014/15. This is only for illustrative purposes but gives an indication of the usefulness of the data. For example, it allows you to see what proportion of crimes recorded in a given period are still under investigation, what proportion have been given an outcome, and of the latter group, which outcomes are most common.

Although the figures in table 3.1 are preliminary, they still give an indication of how offences are dealt with by the police. Of the subset of recorded offences shown, at the end of May 2014 74 per cent had been assigned an outcome already, whilst 26 per cent were still under investigation. Of those assigned an outcome, over half had led to a completed investigation with no suspect found.

Table 3.1 – Outcomes of the offences recorded by a subset of forces in early 2014/15

Offences allocated an outcome	74%
Charge/Summons	12%
Caution - Youths	<1%
Caution - Adults	3%
Taken into consideration	<1%
The Offender has Died (all offences)	<1%
Penalty Notice for Disorder	1%
Cannabis warning	1%
Community resolution	3%
Prosecution not in the public interest (CPS) (all offences)	<1%
Formal action against the offender is not in the public interest (Police)	1%
Prosecution prevented – Named suspect identified but is below the age of criminal responsibility	<1%
Prosecution prevented – Named suspect identified but is too ill (physical or mental health) to prosecute	<1%
Prosecution prevented – Named suspect identified but victim or key witness is dead or too ill to give evidence	<1%
Evidential Difficulties Victim Based – Named suspect not identified: The crime is confirmed but the victim either declines/ or is unable to support further police investigation to identify the offender	1%
Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim does not support (or has withdrawn support from) police action	5%
Named Suspect identified: victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action	4%
Prosecution time limit expired: Suspect identified but prosecution time limit has expired	<1%
Investigation Complete: No suspect identified. Crime investigated as far as reasonably possible – case closed pending further investigative opportunities becoming available	43%
Offences not yet assigned an outcome	26%
Total offences	100%

Source: Home Office Data Hub, subset of forces, April and May 2014 data

To gain the full benefits from this analysis, it is important that it is repeated over time. For example, at the end of 2014/15 it is likely that there will be a significant proportion of crimes recorded in the year that are still under investigation, particularly where the crime was recorded at the end of the year and police investigations are at an early stage. However, many of these crimes will then be dealt with in the following months, with an outcome assigned during the following year. We will continue to revise

this analysis to reflect the evolution of such outcomes, allowing users to see how the crimes in the period are gradually all given an outcome.

3.4 – THE TIME GAP BETWEEN OFFENCES AND OUTCOMES

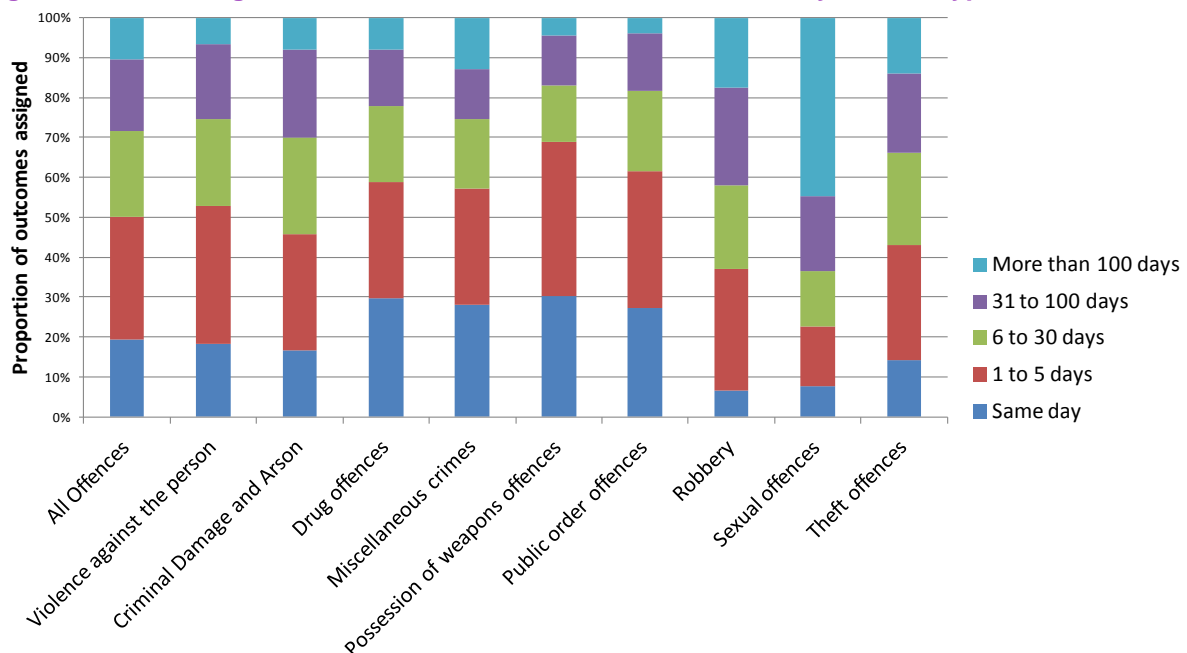
As discussed, until now it has not been possible to link outcomes to their corresponding offences. However, the Home Office Data Hub now allows this analysis to be undertaken for police forces that provide data via this method. This provides a new opportunity for analysis, as it will be possible to compare the date when offences were recorded with the date when an outcome was assigned for that offence.

Figure 3.2 shows some of the early findings from this analysis. This analysis is based on a subset of forces that provide data via the Home Office Data Hub. It should be interpreted with caution as it excludes several police forces, notably the Metropolitan Police, which accounts for a large proportion of crime outcomes. In addition to this, the analysis only covers the April 2013 outcomes framework (outcomes 1-9 in table 1.1), and does not cover the full range of outcomes (1-19) introduced in April 2014. Once these new outcomes are included, the results may differ depending on how quickly the new outcomes are assigned. Nevertheless, this analysis still provides a useful indication of the length of time taken for different crimes to be assigned an outcome.

Figure 3.2 shows the number of days between an offence being recorded and an outcome being assigned for that offence, both for all offences and for specific offence groups. This shows that in 2013/14, 50 per cent of the offences were assigned an outcome within five days of the offence being recorded, and three quarters (75%) were assigned an outcome within 30 days. Ten per cent took more than 100 days to be assigned an outcome.

This picture varies considerably depending on the offence type. For example, sexual offences generally took much longer to be assigned an outcome than other offence types, with almost half (45%) taking over 100 days. This is likely to be due to the complexity of these cases, and the level of investigation needed. In contrast, offences such as possession of weapons were generally resolved much more quickly, with over two thirds (69%) assigned an outcome within five days. This may reflect the nature of this type of offence, where the offender is usually identified and dealt with at the same time as the crime comes to the attention of the police (and is recorded).

Figure 3.2 – The length of time between offences and outcomes, by offence type, 2013/14



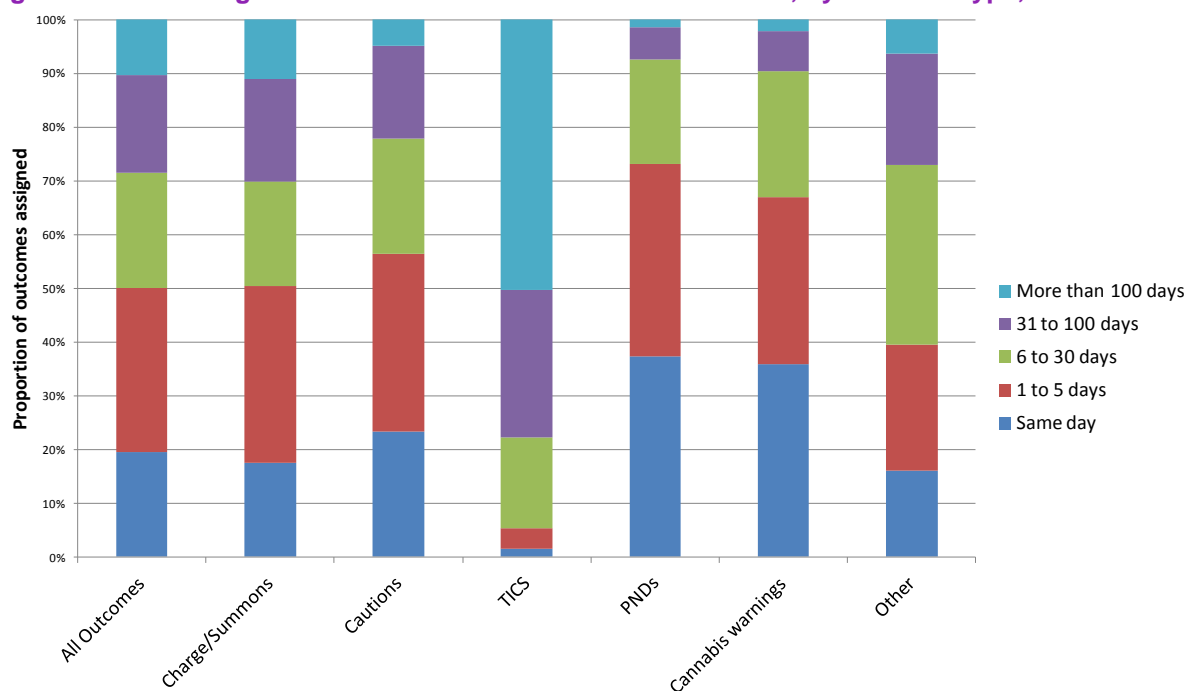
Source: Home Office Data Hub, subset of forces, 2013/14 data

1. Only includes the limited subset of outcomes available in the April 2013 outcomes framework (outcomes 1-9). It does not include the extra outcome types (10-19) in the April 2014 framework.

2. The numbers behind this chart are in the supplementary online data tables document, which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crime-outcomes-in-england-and-wales-2013-to-2014>

Figure 3.3 shows how the time taken for an outcome to be assigned to a crime varies by outcome type. In the case of Penalty Notices for Disorder and cannabis warnings, most of these outcomes (73% and 67% respectively) are assigned within five days of the offence being recorded. In over a third of cases (37% and 36% respectively), the outcome is assigned on the same day. For charge/summons, 18 per cent of outcomes are assigned on the same day, and for cautions this figure is 23 per cent. As might be expected, Taking into consideration (TIC)s were the outcome type that generally took longest to assign, with half of these (50%) happening more than 100 days after the offence was recorded.

Figure 3.3 – The length of time between offences and outcomes, by outcome type, 2013/14



Source: Home Office Data Hub, subset of forces, 2013/14 data

1. TICs are offences asked to be taken into consideration by a court.
2. PNDs are Penalty Notices for Disorder.
3. Cannabis Warnings include a small number of community resolutions for possession of cannabis in 2013/14.
4. The “other” category mainly consists of community resolutions, plus a small number of cases where the offender has died, or the CPS has decided that prosecution is not in the public interest. This does not include the broader set of outcomes (10-19) introduced in April 2014.
5. Only includes the limited subset of outcomes available in the April 2013 outcomes framework (outcomes 1-9). It does not include the extra outcome types (10-19) in the April 2014 framework.
6. The numbers behind this chart are in the supplementary online data tables document, which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crime-outcomes-in-england-and-wales-2013-to-2014>

This analysis is based on a subset of forces only. However, as more forces make the transition to the Home Office Data Hub in the coming months, the benefits and extent of the analysis will increase. Next year, this analysis will be updated with the following improvements:

- (a) More forces included, as forces move towards providing data via the Home Office Data Hub.
- (b) The full set of outcomes (1-19) will be included in the analysis.

3.5 – FUTURE TIMELINESS OF OUTCOMES STATISTICS

At present, outcome statistics are published on an annual basis, with the statistics published covering the previous financial year. Going forward, it is intended to present a set of core tables on outcomes on a more regular basis. From early 2015, a small set of tables on a quarterly basis will be published, to show two things:

- (a) The total number of outcomes recorded in the previous quarter, by outcome type and offence type.

- (b) The outcomes assigned to offences recorded in the previous quarter, i.e. how many resulted in charges, cautions, and so on.

As previously discussed, the second of these are likely to be revised considerably from one quarter to the next, as more offences from the period are given an outcome. This constant change will mean that the same table is likely to look quite different with each quarterly update, until eventually all offences recorded in a given period will have been given an outcome.

3.6 – CONSULTATION WITH USERS

This chapter has shown how the Home Office Statistics Unit intends to present data on the full outcomes framework in future publications. However, in order to do this we need to fully understand our users' needs, and we would therefore welcome opinions on these intentions from users of these data. Therefore we would like to gather opinions on the following questions:

1. How do you use the outcomes (and former detections) publications?
2. Do you find it helpful to see outcomes shown both in terms of the total outcomes recorded in a period, and those that specifically relate to crimes recorded in that period?
3. Do you find one of these approaches more useful than the other? If so, why?
4. Would you like to see some of the new outcome types grouped when the data are presented in future? If so, what groups would you like to see?
5. How useful did you find the analysis on the gap between offences being recorded and outcomes being recorded? Could this analysis be improved in any way?
6. Would you find it helpful if a basic set of tables on outcomes were made available on a quarterly basis?
7. Are there any other ways in which you think the changes could be presented better?

Please send responses to these questions, along with any other comments that you may have, to crimestats@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk by the 10 October 2014. The Home Office Statistics Unit will then publish a short response summarising the results of the consultation, and clarifying our future intentions.

Annex A – No-Crimes in England and Wales

A1 – DEFINITIONS AND CIRCUMSTANCES FOR NO-CRIMES

A no-crime occurs when the police have originally recorded an offence, but have subsequently determined that the crime did not take place, or was recorded in error. Cases where an incident is never recorded as a crime in the first place are not included.

Offences may be no-crimes in one of the following situations:

1. The crime was committed outside the jurisdiction of the police force in which it was recorded. In this case it will be no-crimes and referred to the appropriate force.
2. Additional verifiable information becomes available that determines that no notifiable crime has been committed.
3. The crime is part of a crime that has already been recorded.
4. An incident has been recorded as a crime by mistake.
5. The crime was one of assault (not more serious than actual bodily harm) and there is clear evidence that the offender acted in self defence.

In the statistics shown in this section, no-crimes are always recorded in the same financial year as the offence that was originally recorded. So if, for example, an offence was recorded in January and then subsequently no-crimes in the next financial year (e.g. May), the no-crime will be recorded for the previous financial year. This ensures that the total count of offences in any given year is correct.

A2 – NO-CRIME STATISTICS

Data on no-crimes are shown in table A1. This shows that overall, 3.1 per cent of all offences that were initially recorded as crimes in 2013/14 were subsequently no-crimes. However, no-crime rates vary considerably by offence group. The highest no-crime rates were seen for miscellaneous offences, whilst the lowest rates were seen for robbery offences. The no-crime rate for rape offences was 7.3 per cent in 2013/14.

An additional online table shows these no-crime rates for individual forces, and can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/no-crimes-data-2013-to-2014>

An 'Open data' table on no-crimes is also available, showing no-crime data by police force for each of the last three financial years. This is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/police-recorded-crime-open-data-tables>

Table A1: Number and proportion of 'no crimes', by offence group, 2013/14

	Offences initially recorded	No-crimes	Offences recorded	No-crimes as % of offences initially recorded
Violence against the person	656,503	21,917	634,586	3.3
Sexual offences	67,863	3,663	64,200	5.4
<i>of which: Rape</i>	22,368	1,643	20,725	7.3
Robbery	59,004	1,186	57,818	2.0
Theft offences	1,905,234	59,991	1,845,243	3.1
Criminal damage and arson	517,199	11,009	506,190	2.1
Drug offences	202,508	4,332	198,176	2.1
Possession of weapons offences	22,192	1,572	20,620	7.1
Public order offences	140,301	5,868	134,433	4.2
Misc. crimes against society	49,840	4,407	45,433	8.8
Total (excluding fraud offences)	3,620,644	113,945	3,506,699	3.1

1. Excludes fraud offences as responsibility for recording and no-crimes these had transferred to Action Fraud in 2013/14

A3 – HMIC FINDINGS ON THE QUALITY OF NO-CRIMING

In 2012, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of the Constabulary (HMIC) produced a review of Police Crime Recording practices. This included a section on 'no crimes', which found that the average proportion of 'no crime' decisions that were correct was 87 per cent across all crime types, and 84 per cent for violent offences.

The range of correct 'no crime' decisions varied between 75 per cent and 100 per cent across police forces. The full HMIC report can be found here:

<http://www.hmic.gov.uk/media/review-police-crime-incident-reports-20120125.pdf>

HMIC are conducting a further round of crime data integrity inspections in 2013/14. These are investigating the accuracy of crime recording across all police forces, and include a further assessment of the appropriateness and accuracy of no-crime recording. Once these inspections are completed, HMIC intend to produce a final report in Autumn 2014.

An interim report detailing the results from the first 13 forces was published in May 2014. One of the weaknesses that HMIC identified with police recording practices was crimes being inappropriately recorded as no-crimes. The report can be found here:

<http://www.hmic.gov.uk/publication/crime-recording-a-matter-of-fact-interim-report/>

A4 – COMPARING NO-CRIMES ACROSS POLICE FORCES

It is important to exercise caution when comparing no-crime data across police forces. A particularly high or low number of no-crimes should not necessarily be interpreted positively or negatively, as different forces may use no-crimes in different ways. For example, whilst one force may record all crimes immediately and then later no-crime a significant proportion of these, others may wait longer to judge whether an offence constitutes a crime or not, and thus are likely to record fewer no-crimes overall. This means that a firm conclusion cannot be drawn when comparing no-crime numbers across forces, as any differences seen may just reflect differences in recording practices. More details of this can be found in the HMIC reports mentioned above.

Additionally, comparisons between forces need to be made with caution because some forces may deal more frequently with offence types that are more likely to be no-crimes.

Annex B – Former Detection rates

B1: THE DETECTION RATE CONCEPT

In previous detections bulletins, the Home Office has published an overall detection rate, showing the number of detections recorded in a period divided by the number of crimes recorded in the same period. Given the new outcomes framework, the concept of a detection rate is now outdated, as a fuller set of information becomes available to comprehensively show how the police deal with crimes. Therefore, it is no longer appropriate to publish a detection rate as an indicator of how the police deal with crime. However, the outcomes that make up the detection rate will still be published as part of the wider outcomes framework.

The Home Office will not publish a detection rate in the next outcomes bulletin for the following reasons:

1. The full outcomes framework (outcomes 1-19), where every offence has an outcome, means that the concept of an outcome rate no longer has meaning. Eventually the outcome rate will be 100 per cent once all crimes in a period have been fully investigated.
2. The previous detections framework lacked transparency as it only accounted for around 30 per cent of crimes, despite many of the remaining 70 per cent of crimes having been fully investigated, including many cases where suspects have been identified. Therefore while the detection rate was the best tool available in the past, it does not account for the new outcome types.
3. Rates can be misleading when comparing across police forces. These rates are not a direct measure of police investigative performance, and can vary considerably depending on the types of crime that a particular force tends to deal with. Additionally, proactive policing initiatives can also affect the rates for each outcome (and can affect the level of crime recorded). As a result, outcome rates only really have merit when used to compare specific outcome types, for certain crimes. For example, comparing caution rates for criminal damage across forces may be useful. However, comparing the overall outcome rate, or even the caution rate, across forces is far less helpful, as one force may deal with considerably more crimes that are likely to be cautioned than another.

B2: FORMER DETECTION RATES

For comparative purposes and because this is a transitional publication to the new outcomes framework, in this section an overall detection rate and a detection rate for the main crime types are provided. Table B1 shows these for 2013/14, compared with 2012/13. This comparison needs to be treated with additional caution, because in 2013/14 data on community resolutions were provided by almost all police forces. In 2012/13, providing these data was optional and approximately half of all forces provided them. Additionally, there has been a movement away from the use of cautions over the last year (see section 2.2), in some cases towards the use of community resolutions. As a result, the rates across the two years cannot be directly compared. The most reliable comparison is the charge/summons rate.

Crime Outcomes in England and Wales 2013/14

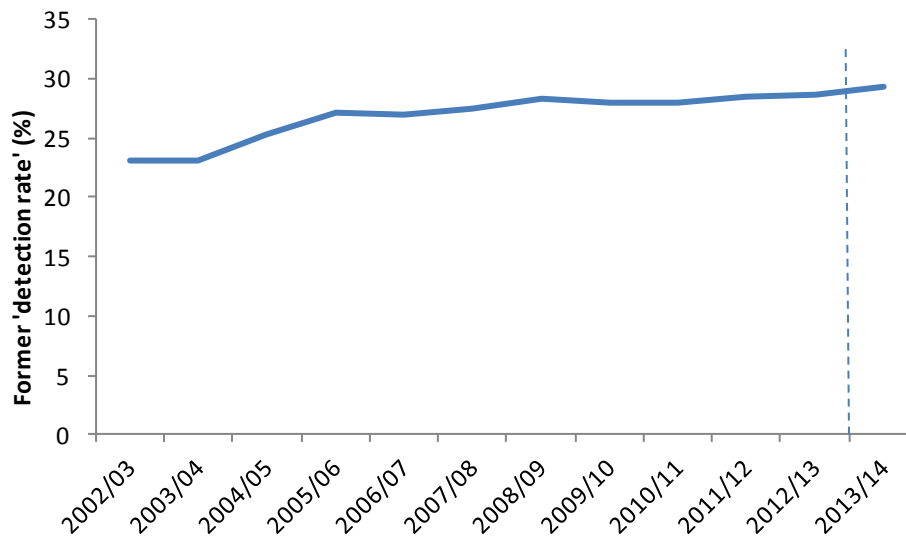
Table B1: Former detection rates by crime type (excluding fraud offences), 2012/13 and 2013/14

	England and Wales, Recorded crime								
	2012/13	2013/14	% change	2012/13	2013/14	% change	2012/13	2013/14	% point change
	Number of offences			Number of detections			Former 'detection rate' (%)		
Violence against the person	601,139	634,586	5.6	248,340	264,733	6.6	41.3	41.7	0.4
Sexual offences	53,620	64,200	19.7	15,283	17,612	15.2	28.5	27.4	-1.1
Robbery	65,155	57,818	-11.3	13,536	11,997	-11.4	20.8	20.7	0.0
Theft offences	1,900,948	1,845,243	-2.9	332,952	338,573	1.7	17.5	18.3	0.8
Criminal damage and arson	529,713	506,190	-4.4	85,101	86,519	1.7	16.1	17.1	1.0
Drug offences	208,002	198,176	-4.7	195,061	183,809	-5.8	93.8	92.8	-1.0
Possession of weapons offences	19,910	20,620	3.6	17,578	17,551	-0.2	88.3	85.1	-3.2
Public order offences	132,204	134,433	1.7	82,117	78,896	-3.9	62.1	58.7	-3.4
Misc. crimes against society	42,500	45,433	6.9	29,450	29,644	0.7	69.3	65.2	-4.0
Total (excluding fraud)	3,553,191	3,506,699	-1.3	1,019,418	1,029,334	1.0	28.7	29.4	0.7

1. 2013/14 rates include data on community resolutions for almost all forces. 2012/13 data only include these data for 22 forces.

2. 2012/13 data includes some estimated data on 'making off without payment' offences (see notes page)

Figure B1: Former detection rate, 2002/03 to 2013/14



1. 2013/14 rates include data on community resolutions for almost all forces, as indicated by the dashed line. 2012/13 data only include these data for 22 forces. Before 2011/12, only a small number of forces were providing data on them.

Annex C – Crime Outcomes Data Quality

C1 - INTRODUCTION

In January 2014, the UK Statistics Authority published its assessment of ONS crime statistics. It found that statistics based on police recorded crime data, having been assessed against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, did not meet the required standard for designation as National Statistics. The UKSA published a list of requirements for these statistics to regain the National Statistics accreditation.

Some of the requirements of this assessment were to provide more detail on how data sources were used to produce these statistics, along with more information on the quality of the statistics. Additionally, there was also a requirement to provide information on the process used by police forces to submit and revise data, and the validation processes used by the Home Office. In order to ensure that this publication meets the high standards required by the UK Statistics Authority, details are provided below.

C2 – DATA SOURCES USED

Police recorded crime data are supplied to the Home Office by the 43 territorial police forces of England and Wales, plus the British Transport Police. These data are supplied to the Home Office on a monthly basis in an aggregated return. In this return, data on outcomes and 'no crimes' are collected alongside recorded crime data for each crime within the notifiable offence list. Notifiable offences include all offences that could possibly be tried by jury (these include some less serious offences, such as minor theft that would not usually be dealt with this way) plus a few additional closely-related summary offences dealt with by magistrates, such as assault without injury.

The monthly data are cumulative, such that each month's return will contain the data for the financial year to date. When a police force wants to make revisions to this data, they usually do this in the latest monthly return, rather than re-sending a return for the period affected. The exception to this rule is when the revisions affect a previous financial year. In these cases the police force will re-send an end of year return for that year.

Outcomes are currently recorded in the month that the outcome is applied, and not the month in which the original offence occurred. For example, if an offence occurred in January and a suspect was subsequently charged in June, the outcome would be recorded in June. This means that the data on outcomes for a given month does not correspond to the data on offences in that month, or even the same year.

No crimes are recorded in the year in which the original offence was recorded. This is to ensure that the total offences for each year are correct, i.e. a no crime for a previous financial year does not get included in the current year, and falsely lower the total number of offences recorded in the current year.

C3 – DATA VALIDATION PROCESSES

As data are collected from police forces on a monthly basis, the Home Office carry out a series of routine checks and feed the results of these back to police forces. These checks include:

- Looking for any offences where there have been a large number of no-crimes since the previous month.
- Looking for any large or unusual changes in offences, outcomes or no-crimes from the previous month.
- Looking for cases where forces have provided data against an offence classification that no longer exists (e.g. the former fraud classifications).
- Comparing offence types and outcome types against the long term trend, to spot any outliers in the monthly data.

Any outliers or anomalies are usually small.

Police forces are then asked to investigate these trends and either provide an explanation, or resubmit figures where an error has occurred. Where resubmission is required, the force will usually just correct the errors in the latest monthly submission, rather than re-send all of the months in question. In the case of forces providing data via the Home Office Data Hub, the force will send modified versions of the affected records. These then supersede the original versions.

C4 – THE HOME OFFICE DATA HUB

As discussed in chapter 1, the Home Office Data Hub allows police forces to provide record-level detail on offences, vastly increasing the opportunities for the analysis of police recorded crime data. At the time of publication, there were 16 forces providing data solely via the Data Hub, with several others in the 'parallel running' phase, where they are sending data both via the CrimSec4 form (the old way of sending police recorded crime data) and via the Data Hub, with a view to switching exclusively to the Data Hub soon. Some other police forces are in the 'testing' phase, and are working to send in reliable data via the Data Hub. The Home Office are working with these forces to help them with this transition, and are committed to achieving a fully operational Data Hub.

Table A: Number of outcomes and outcome rates by outcome type, 2012/13 and 2013/14

Outcome type	England and Wales, Recorded crime												2012/13 to 2013/14
	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	
<i>Number of outcomes</i>													%
													change
Charge/summons	771,716	752,069	698,640	700,101	673,714	657,230	681,472	651,757	658,713	633,985	584,568	603,989	3.3
Cautions	207,818	220,005	257,783	304,461	351,244	351,552	313,702	264,873	232,355	205,760	183,643	164,189	-10.6
TICs ¹	91,205	88,204	88,386	103,363	111,328	99,021	96,875	76,244	71,896	63,898	55,197	40,949	-25.8
PNDs ^{2,3}	..	3,045	35,919	105,594	139,666	128,978	108,240	102,699	86,010	73,759	59,868	46,895	-21.7
Cannabis Warnings ³	40,138	62,586	80,653	103,804	107,241	87,332	80,659	77,933	69,236	63,967	-7.6
Other ^{4,5,6}	268,021	284,320	265,721	191,187	80,770	911	2,931	7,244	10,375	53,322	66,906	109,345	63.4
Total number of offences (excluding fraud)⁷	5,791,277	5,843,549	5,476,771	5,425,691	5,322,377	4,881,140	4,630,383	4,265,036	4,078,475	3,903,581	3,553,191	3,506,699	-1.3
<i>Outcome rates (%)⁸</i>													%
													point change
Charge/summons	13.3	12.9	12.8	12.9	12.7	13.5	14.7	15.3	16.2	16.2	16.5	17.2	0.8
Cautions	3.6	3.8	4.7	5.6	6.6	7.2	6.8	6.2	5.7	5.3	5.2	4.7	-0.5
TICs ¹	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.2	-0.4
PNDs ^{2,3}	..	0.1	0.7	1.9	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.3	-0.3
Cannabis Warnings ³	0.7	1.2	1.5	2.1	2.3	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	-0.1
Other	4.6	4.9	4.9	3.5	1.5	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.4	1.9	3.1	1.2

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 2012/13.
 4. From 1 April 2007, new rules governing these outcomes significantly limited the occasions on which they could be applied.
 5. Includes data on Youth Restorative Disposals (YRDs) submitted to the Home Office 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 community resolution and restorative justice data submitted on a voluntary basis by some police forces in 2011/12 and 2012/13. These data were then submitted by almost all police forces in 2013/14.
 7. Total number of recorded crimes, whether assigned an outcome or not.
 8. The number of crimes assigned an outcome divided by total number of recorded offences.
 9. Data for the years 2002/03 to 2012/13 contains some estimated data on 'making off without payment' offences, following the creation of a back series of data on these outcomes (see notes page).
 .. Not available.

Table B: Outcomes by offence group and outcome type, 2009/10 to 2013/14 (excluding fraud)

Violence against the person

Outcome type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<i>Number of outcomes</i>					
Charge/summons	175,908	177,526	170,008	157,835	166,712
Cautions	90,860	80,375	71,977	67,519	60,722
TICs ¹	189	141	140	89	102
PNDs ²³	214	211	198	216	116
Other ⁴⁵⁶	1,905	2,753	18,177	22,681	37,081
Total recorded offences⁷	699,011	665,486	626,720	601,139	634,586
<i>Outcome rate (%)⁸</i>					
Charge/summons	25.2	26.7	27.1	26.3	26.3
Cautions	13.0	12.1	11.5	11.2	9.6
TICs ¹	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PNDs ²³	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other ⁴⁵⁶	0.3	0.4	2.9	3.8	5.8

Sexual offences

Outcome type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<i>Number of outcomes</i>					
Charge/summons	13,176	13,708	13,519	13,041	15,254
Cautions	1,789	1,732	1,675	1,671	1,416
TICs ¹	82	90	82	132	70
PNDs ²³	11	8	15	11	17
Other ⁴⁵⁶	107	121	278	428	855
Total recorded offences⁷	53,006	53,940	52,760	53,620	64,200
<i>Outcome rate (%)⁸</i>					
Charge/summons	24.9	25.4	25.6	24.3	23.8
Cautions	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.1	2.2
TICs ¹	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
PNDs ²³	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other ⁴⁵⁶	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.8	1.3

Table B (contd): Outcomes by offence group and outcome type, 2009/10 to 2013/14 (excluding fraud)

Robbery

Outcome type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<i>Number of outcomes</i>					
Charge/summons	14,367	14,649	14,548	12,477	11,448
Cautions	393	356	283	282	166
TICs ¹	622	676	596	716	280
PNDs ²³	0	0	0	0	0
Other ⁴⁵⁶	22	17	56	61	103
Total recorded offences⁷	75,105	76,189	74,688	65,155	57,818
<i>Outcome rate (%)⁸</i>					
Charge/summons	19.1	19.2	19.5	19.1	19.8
Cautions	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3
TICs ¹	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.5
PNDs ²³	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other ⁴⁵⁶	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2

Theft offences

Outcome type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<i>Number of outcomes</i>					
Charge/summons	193,592	202,178	204,095	192,548	203,419
Cautions	61,627	51,208	44,007	35,859	31,750
TICs ¹	70,355	66,892	59,729	51,927	39,147
PNDs ²³	44,314	37,688	32,624	26,498	20,111
Other ⁴⁵⁶	3,168	4,706	20,765	26,120	44,146
Total recorded offences⁷	2,132,620	2,107,446	2,074,779	1,900,948	1,845,243
<i>Outcome rate (%)⁸</i>					
Charge/summons	9.1	9.6	9.8	10.1	11.0
Cautions	2.9	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.7
TICs ¹	3.3	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.1
PNDs ²³	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.1
Other ⁴⁵⁶	0.1	0.2	1.0	1.4	2.4

Table B (contd): Outcomes by offence group and outcome type, 2009/10 to 2013/14 (excluding fraud)

Criminal damage and arson

Outcome type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<i>Number of outcomes</i>					
Charge/summons	58,305	56,545	52,896	47,909	46,195
Cautions	35,196	28,344	23,086	19,790	18,214
TICs ¹	4,245	3,438	2,889	1,961	1,012
PNDs ²³	9,014	6,036	4,752	3,416	2,047
Other ⁴⁵⁶	1,297	1,698	9,415	12,025	19,051
Total recorded offences⁷	800,645	695,084	626,008	529,713	506,190
<i>Outcome rate (%)⁸</i>					
Charge/summons	7.3	8.1	8.4	9.0	9.1
Cautions	4.4	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.6
TICs ¹	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.2
PNDs ²³	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.4
Other ⁴⁵⁶	0.2	0.2	1.5	2.3	3.8

Drug offences

Outcome type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<i>Number of outcomes</i>					
Charge/summons	76,637	79,213	76,170	70,949	69,884
Cautions	43,534	42,693	41,382	38,526	34,409
TICs ¹	210	141	114	88	94
PNDs ²³	13,489	14,568	15,929	15,906	14,768
Cannabis Warnings	87,332	80,659	77,933	69,236	63,967
Other ⁴⁵⁶	182	132	301	356	687
Total recorded offences⁷	235,584	232,922	229,099	208,002	198,176
<i>Outcome rate (%)⁸</i>					
Charge/summons	32.5	34.0	33.2	34.1	35.3
Cautions	18.5	18.3	18.1	18.5	17.4
TICs ¹	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
PNDs ²³	5.7	6.3	7.0	7.6	7.5
Cannabis Warnings	37.1	34.6	34.0	33.3	32.3
Other ⁴⁵⁶	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3

Table B (contd): Outcomes by offence group and outcome type, 2009/10 to 2013/14 (excluding fraud)

Possession of weapons offences

Outcome type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<i>Number of outcomes</i>					
Charge/summons	18,946	17,883	16,080	13,396	14,067
Cautions	6,400	5,357	4,723	3,920	3,083
TICs ¹	13	13	7	3	1
PNDs ²³	3	10	5	7	2
Other ⁴⁵⁶	11	32	205	252	398
Total recorded offences⁷	28,758	26,327	23,688	19,910	20,620
<i>Outcome rate (%)⁸</i>					
Charge/summons	65.9	67.9	67.9	67.3	68.2
Cautions	22.3	20.3	19.9	19.7	15.0
TICs ¹	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PNDs ²³	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other ⁴⁵⁶	0.0	0.1	0.9	1.3	1.9

Public order offences

Outcome type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<i>Number of outcomes</i>					
Charge/summons	71,375	69,408	60,751	52,291	52,519
Cautions	18,879	16,798	13,855	11,634	10,347
TICs ¹	117	126	20	44	38
PNDs ²³	35,586	27,438	20,177	13,762	9,790
Other ⁴⁵⁶	500	778	3,588	4,386	6,202
Total recorded offences⁷	188,254	173,081	150,858	132,204	134,433
<i>Outcome rate (%)⁸</i>					
Charge/summons	37.9	40.1	40.3	39.6	39.1
Cautions	10.0	9.7	9.2	8.8	7.7
TICs ¹	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
PNDs ²³	18.9	15.9	13.4	10.4	7.3
Other ⁴⁵⁶	0.3	0.4	2.4	3.3	4.6

Crime Outcomes in England and Wales 2013/14

Table B (contd): Outcomes by offence group and outcome type, 2009/10 to 2013/14 (excluding fraud)

Miscellaneous crimes against society

Outcome type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<i>Number of outcomes</i>					
Charge/summons	29,451	27,603	25,918	24,122	24,491
Cautions	6,195	5,492	4,772	4,442	4,082
TICs ¹	411	379	321	237	205
PNDs ²³	68	51	59	52	44
Other ⁴⁵⁶	52	138	537	597	822
Total recorded offences⁷	52,053	48,000	44,981	42,500	45,433
<i>Outcome rate (%)⁸</i>					
Charge/summons	56.6	57.5	57.6	56.8	53.9
Cautions	11.9	11.4	10.6	10.5	9.0
TICs ¹	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5
PNDs ²³	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other ⁴⁵⁶	0.1	0.3	1.2	1.4	1.8

Table B (contd): Outcomes by offence group and outcome type, 2009/10 to 2013/14 (excluding fraud)

Total offences⁹

Outcome type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
<i>Number of outcomes</i>					
Charge/summons	651,757	658,713	633,985	584,568	603,989
Cautions	264,873	232,355	205,760	183,643	164,189
TICs ¹	76,244	71,896	63,898	55,197	40,949
PNDs ²³	102,699	86,010	73,759	59,868	46,895
Cannabis Warnings	87,332	80,659	77,933	69,236	63,967
Other ⁴⁵⁶	7,244	10,375	53,322	66,906	109,345
Total recorded offences⁷	4,265,036	4,078,475	3,903,581	3,553,191	3,506,699
<i>Outcome rate (%)⁸</i>					
Charge/summons	15.3	16.2	16.2	16.5	17.2
Cautions	6.2	5.7	5.3	5.2	4.7
TICs ¹	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.2
PNDs ²³	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.3
Cannabis Warnings	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8
Other ⁴⁵⁶	0.2	0.3	1.4	1.9	3.1

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 community resolution and restorative justice data submitted on a voluntary basis by some police forces in 2011/12 and 2012/13. These data were then submitted by almost all police forces in 2013/14.

7. Total number of recorded crimes, whether assigned an outcome or not.

8. The number of crimes assigned an outcome divided by total number of recorded offences.

9. Excludes fraud offences as these are now all recorded by Action Fraud, and so a consistent time series cannot be shown.

10. Data for the years 2002/03 to 2012/13 contains some estimated data on 'making off without payment' offences, following the creation of a back series of data on these outcomes (see notes page)

Notes

For details on the Detections framework, in existence until April 2013, please see Crimes Detected in England & Wales, 2012/13:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crimes-detected-in-england-and-wales-2012-to-2013>

Outcomes Framework

The Detections framework was revised to become the Outcomes framework from April 2013. The purpose of the revision was:

- To **strengthen police discretion** by recognising the full range of possible disposals, including community resolutions, rather than incentivising police officers to pursue a particular outcome because it is perceived as ‘better’ than others. This will empower officers to exercise their professional judgement to ensure that offenders are dealt with by the most appropriate disposal available, in the knowledge that no one outcome is favoured over others – the emphasis should shift from hitting targets to appropriateness.
- By strengthening police discretion, the framework should in turn help to **promote a more victim-oriented approach**, focused on providing a better service to victims of crime by removing perverse incentives for forces to record and pro-actively pursue certain crimes on the basis of locally-set detection targets, and encouraging police officers to consider the needs of victims, and the potential for engaging them in the process.
- To **further increase transparency** in policing, and trust in national statistics, by providing the public with a richer picture of crime, and how it is dealt with in their area. This broader set of information can be used as a tool by which the public can hold the police to account, and as a basis for constructive engagement between communities, the police, and police and crime commissioners. By giving every crime an outcome, we will help the public understand – and therefore support or challenge – police activity.

General Rules section H of [Home Office Counting Rules](#) contains information on recording outcomes. For Home Office purposes, all recorded crimes will be assigned one of the following outcome types:

Outcome 1: Charge / Summons: A person has been charged or summonsed for the (irrespective of any subsequent acquittal at Court).

Outcome 2: Caution – youths: A youth offender has been cautioned by the police.

Outcome 3: Caution – adults: An adult offender has been cautioned by the police.

Outcome 4: Taken into Consideration (TIC): The offender admits the crime by way of a formal police interview and asks for it to be taken into consideration by the court. There must be an interview where the suspect has made a clear and reliable admission of the offence and which is corroborated with additional verifiable auditable information connecting the suspect to the crime.

Outcome 5: The Offender has Died: The offender has died before proceeding could be initiated.

Outcome 6: Penalty Notices for Disorder: A Penalty Notice for Disorder (or other relevant notifiable offence) has been lawfully issued under Section 1 – 11 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001.

Outcome 7: Cannabis Warning: A warning for Cannabis possession has been issued in accordance with ACPO guidance.

Outcome 8: Community Resolution: A community Resolution (with or without formal Restorative Justice) has been applied in accordance with ACPO guidance.

Outcome 9: Prosecution not in the public interest (CPS decision): The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) by virtue of their powers under the Criminal Justice Act 2003 decides not to prosecute or authorise any other formal action.

Outcome 10: Formal action against the offender is not in the public interest (Police decision) (from April 2014).

Outcome 11: Prosecution prevented - Named suspect identified but is below the age of criminal responsibility (from April 2014).

Outcome 12: Prosecution prevented - Named suspect identified but is too ill (physical or mental health) to prosecute (from April 2014).

Outcome 13: Prosecution prevented - Named suspect identified but victim or key witness is dead or too ill to give evidence (from April 2014).

Outcome 14: Evidential difficulties victim based – named suspect not identified: The crime is confirmed but the victim declines or is unable to support further police action to identify the offender (from April 2014).

Outcome 15: Named Suspect identified: the crime is confirmed and the victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action (from April 2014): The crime is confirmed and the victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action. This includes cases where the suspect has been identified, the victim supports action, the suspect has been circulated as wanted but cannot be traced and the crime is finalised pending further action.

Outcome 16: Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim does not support (or has withdrawn support from) police action (from April 2014).

Outcome 17: Prosecution time limit expired: Suspect identified but prosecution time limit has expired (from April 2014).

Outcome 18: Investigation Complete: No suspect identified (from April 2014): The crime has been investigated as far as reasonably possible - case closed pending further investigative opportunities becoming available.

Outcome 19: National Fraud Intelligence Bureau - filed (NFIB only) (from April 2014): A crime of fraud has been recorded but has not been allocated for investigation, because the assessment process at the NFIB has determined there are insufficient lines of enquiry to warrant such dissemination.

Making off Without Payment Outcomes

Since April 2013, a new police recorded offence of 'Making off without payment' has been included within 'All other theft offences'. These offences and outcomes were previously included in the 'fraud offences' group. Making off without payment covers offences in which the offender intentionally fails to pay for goods or services, for example by driving away from a petrol station, or running off from a taxi without paying.

In order to provide a consistent back series of data, the Home Office and ONS requested an ad hoc collection from all forces. Following this collection, a back series of data on making off without payment outcomes was created. This consisted mostly of actual data received from police forces, but also some estimated data where police forces were not able to provide data. This back series has been used where outcomes data prior to 2013/14 are shown in this bulletin.

References

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