

Indicator 3: Proven re-offending rate by offenders under the age of 18

Rationale

Strong, stable families and supportive, effective schools provide young people with the structure they need to achieve their potential. Where this is missing, young people may be vulnerable to becoming involved with violent gangs and possibly criminal activity. When young peoples' lives begin to go off course, we must do everything we can to offer an alternative to criminal activity and help them to break free of damaging cycles of offending.

Definition

This indicator measures the proportion of offenders, aged under 18 years, who were either released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court or received a reprimand or warning over a 12 month period who went on to commit a proven re-offence within a one year follow-up period.

A proven re-offence is defined as any offence committed in a one year follow-up period which received a court conviction, caution, reprimand or warning in the one year follow-up or a further six month waiting period (to allow time for cases to progress through the courts).

Latest results

Table 1. Proportion of young offenders who re-offend within one year

	Young offenders cautioned, convicted or released	Proportion who re-offend within one year
Oct 13 to Sep 14	39,482	37.8%

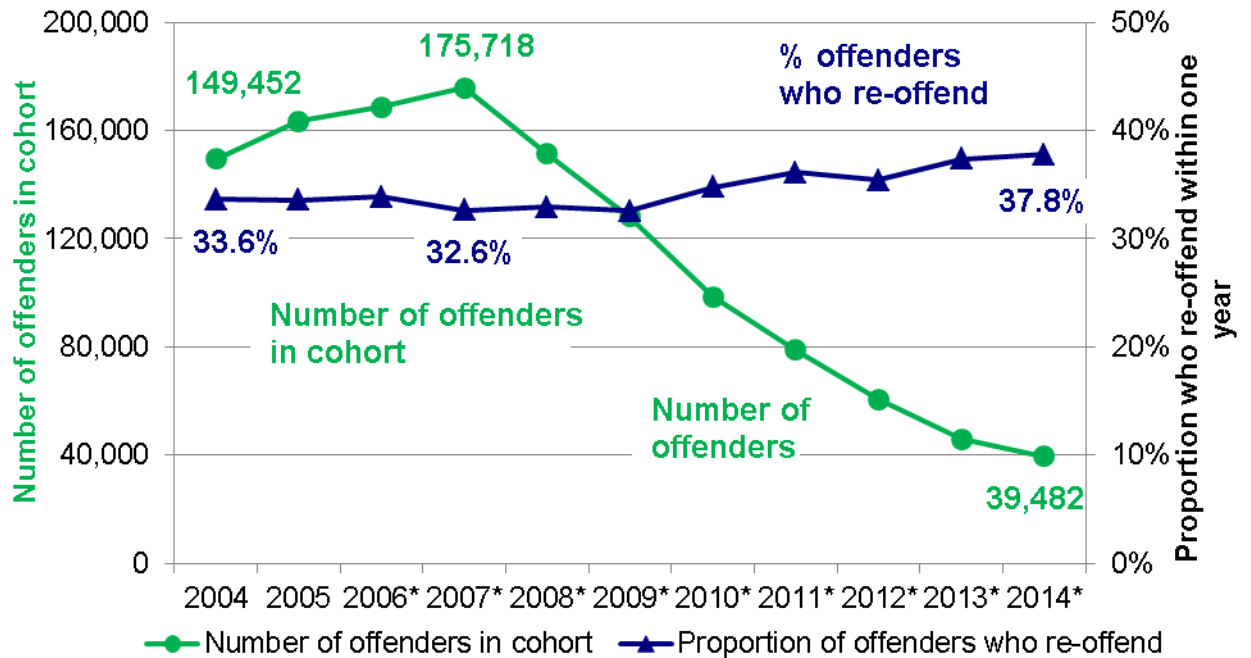
Notes

The number of juvenile offenders has fallen steeply over recent years: the number recorded in 2013/14 is less than a quarter of those recorded in 2006/07, the year with the most juvenile offenders recorded in the last decade. (Figure 1).

There have been substantial decreases in the number of offenders with no previous offences and those receiving a reprimand or final warning. As such, the cohort is now comprised of a larger proportion of offenders whose characteristics mean they are more likely to re-offend than those in earlier cohorts.

As a result, the re-offending rate has risen from 32.6% in 2006/07 to 37.8% in 2013/14 whilst the total number of re-offences committed by this group has fallen in line with the number of offenders from 159,788 to 47,630 over the same period.

Figure 1: Proportion of young offenders (aged under 18) who re-offend within one year (2004 to September 2014)



***Note:** Figures from 2006 to 2014 are for the 12 calendar months up to September each year. Earlier figures are based on calendar year.

Source: Ministry of Justice, 2016, Proven reoffending statistics quarterly bulletin: October 2013 to September 2014

Further information

A detailed description of this measure and further breakdowns of the statistics can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/proven-reoffending-statistics-october-2013-to-september-2014>

Status

Updated: August 2016

Next update: November 2016