



Demand for Youth Custody in London and the South East

Analysis in this pack is based on the most recently published data as at 25th September 2018

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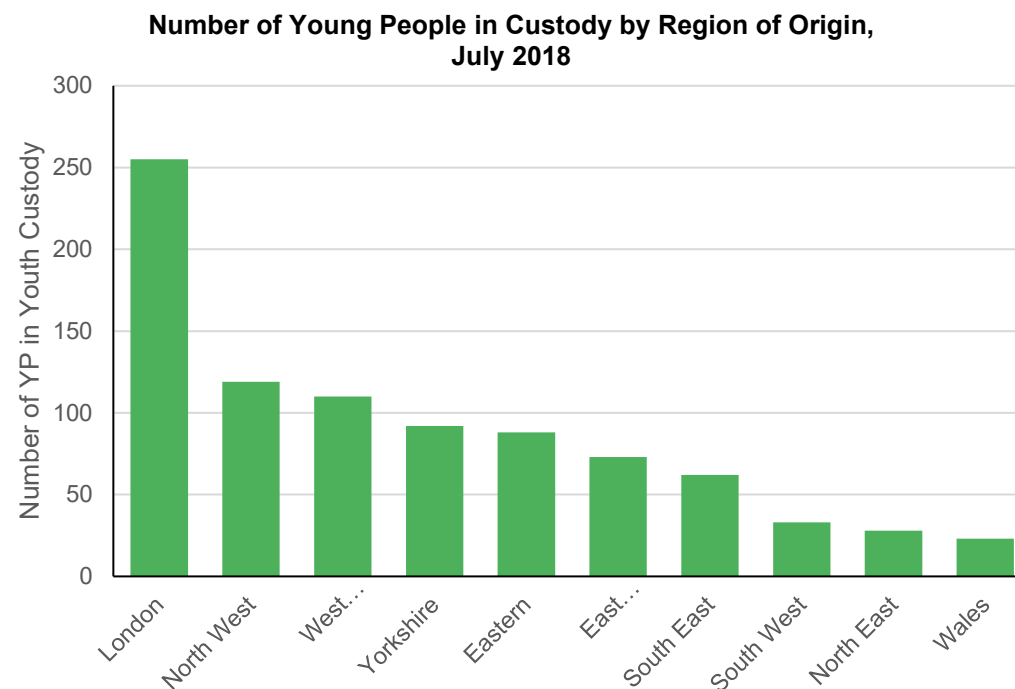
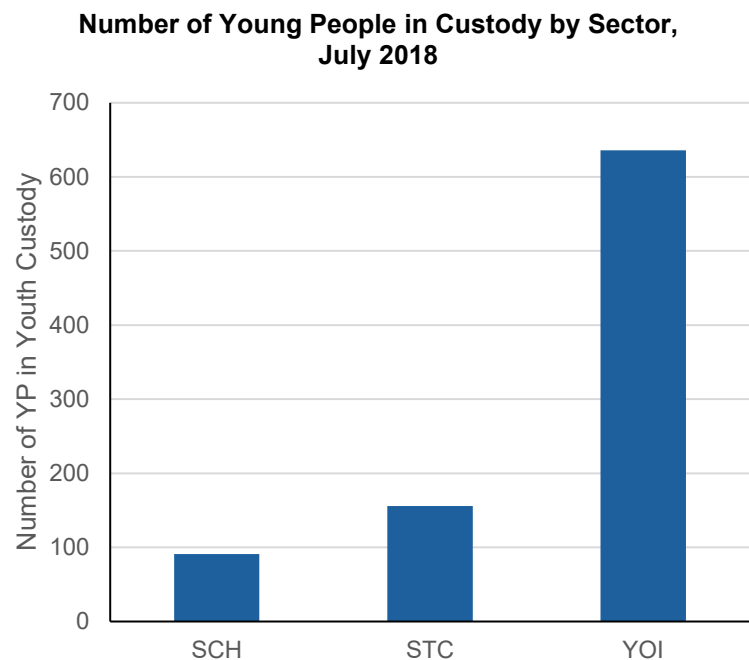


Demand by region and sector

Source: Youth custody data July 2018, table 2.4 and 2.9.

At the end of July 2018, the number of under-18s in custody was 883 (968 including 18 year olds). On average, 792 of those under-18s (**90%**) were held in **Secure Training Centres (STCs) or under-18 Young Offender Institutions (YOIs)**.

Of those under-18s in youth custody at the end of July 2018, **317 young people (36%) originated from London and South East YOTs**. Combined demand from London and the South East is the highest in the country, with 255 YP originating from London and 62 from the South East at the end of July 2018.



To note: This data is provisional. The figures will be finalised in the 2017/18 Youth Justice Statistics in January 2019.

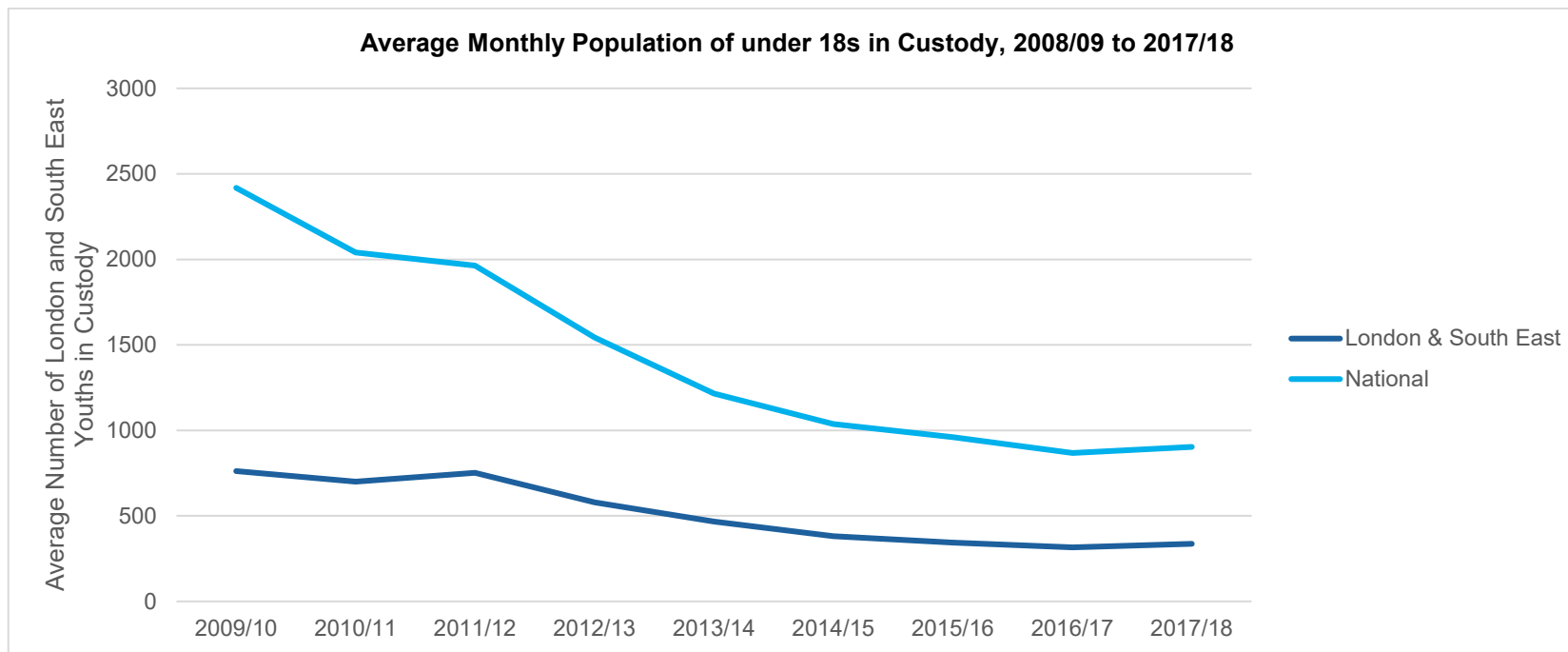
These figures are based on monthly snapshots of the custodial population in the secure estate for children and young people, taken on the last Friday of the month or first Friday of the following month, depending on which is nearer to the actual month end.

Demand for custody over time for young people from London and the South East

Source: Youth custody data July 2018, table 2.9.

Between the peak in 2009/10 and 2017/18, average monthly demand for custody for young people from **London and the South East has fallen by 56%**.

Comparatively, average monthly demand from across **England and Wales has fallen by 63%** over the same period.



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Custodial sites in the London and the South East region

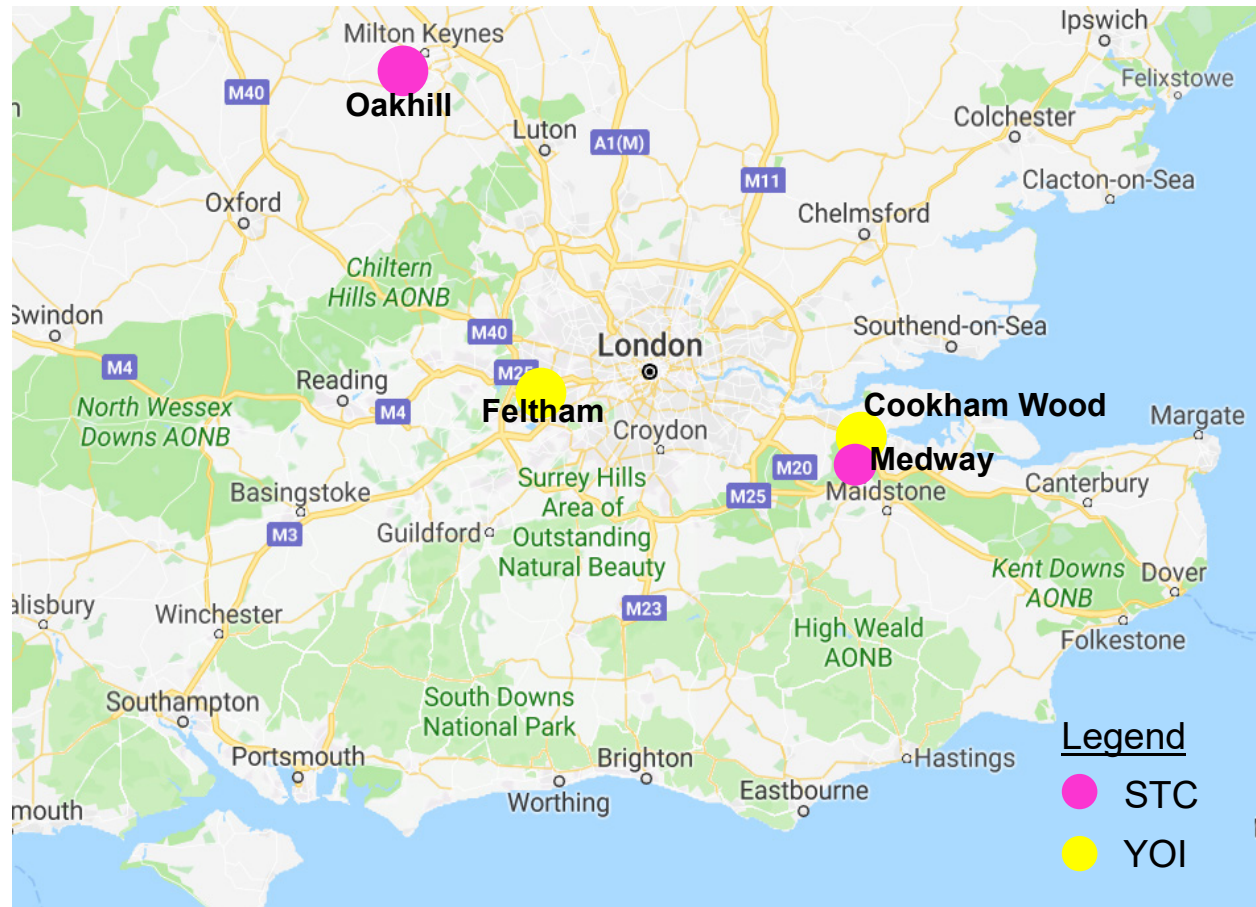
Source: Youth custody data July 2018, table 2.9. and 2.10

The map below shows the sites in the youth estate that are in the London and South East Region – broken down by sector.

Of the Under-18 Young Offender Institutions (YOI), Feltham in London and Cookham Wood in Kent are the two closest. However, in July 2018 only 135 YP in custody were being held at Feltham compared to 255 young people in the youth estate being from London.

The two closest Secure Training Centres (STC) are Oakhill in Milton Keynes and Medway in Kent.

There are no Secure Children's Home (SCH) with justice beds in the London and South East regions. The closest Secure Children's Home is Vinney Green in Bristol.

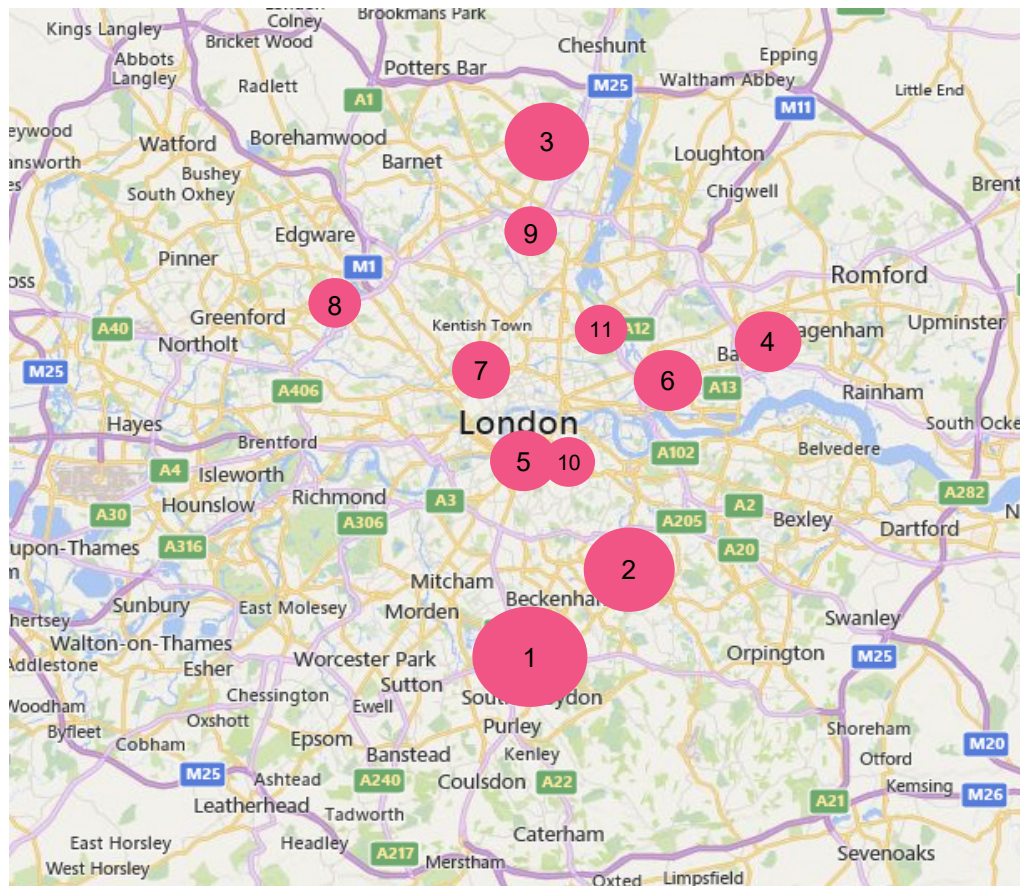


Young people sentenced to custody by YOTs in London

Source: Youth justice annual statistics 2016/17, local level data (second edition), custodial sentences data.

There are 31 Young Offender Teams (YOTs) in the London region. In 2016/17, the Croydon area had the most custodial sentences for young people, followed by Lewisham and Enfield.

The diagram below shows the 11 London YOTs with the most custodial sentences for young people. Together these 11 areas accounted for 62% of all London YP sentenced to custody in 2016/17.



Custodial sentences from the eleven highest London YOTs, 2016/17

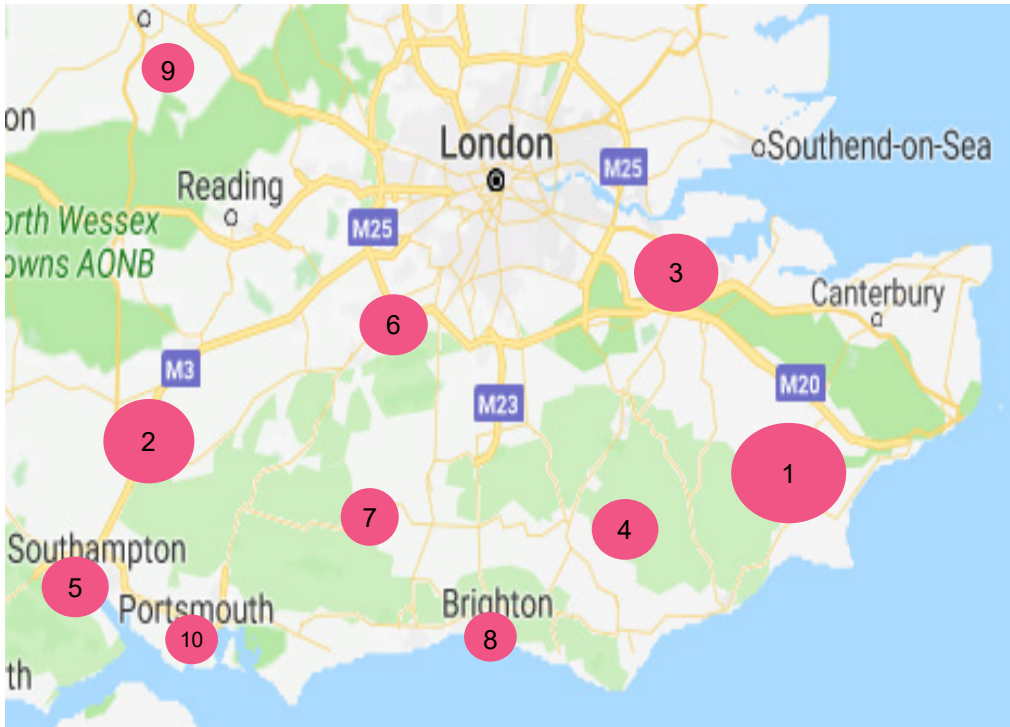
Home YOT	Number of custodial sentences for YP, 2016/17	Proportion of all custodial sentences for YP in London
Croydon (1)	50	9%
Lewisham (2)	39	7%
Enfield (3)	37	7%
Barking & Dagenham (4)	32	6%
Lambeth (5)	32	6%
Newham (6)	32	6%
Islington (7)	29	5%
Brent (8)	25	4%
Haringey (9)	25	4%
Southwark (10)	25	4%
Waltham Forest (11)	25	4%
Total custodial sentences from 11 highest London YOTs, 2016/17	351	62%

Young people sentenced to custody by YOTs in South East

Source: Youth justice annual statistics 2016/17, local level data (second edition), custodial sentences data.

There are 19 Young Offender Teams (YOTs) in the South East region. In 2016/17, the Kent area had the most custodial sentences for young people, followed by Hampshire and Medway.

The diagram below shows the 10 South East YOTs with the most custodial sentences for young people. Together these 10 areas accounted for 89% of all South East YP custodial sentences for young people in 2016/17.



Custodial sentences from the ten highest South East YOTs, 2016/17

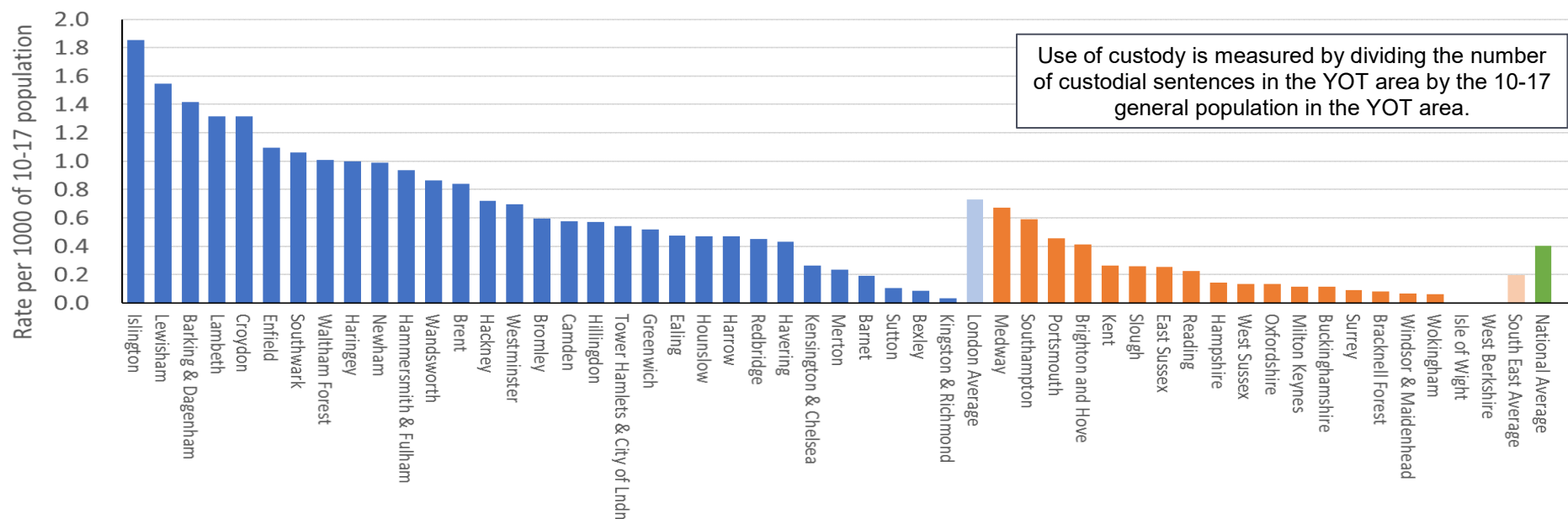
Home YOT	Number of custodial sentences for YP, 2016/17	Proportion of all custodial sentences for YP in SE
Kent (1)	38	24%
Hampshire (2)	18	11%
Medway (3)	18	11%
East Sussex (4)	12	8%
Southampton (5)	11	7%
Surrey (6)	10	6%
West Sussex (7)	10	6%
Brighton and Hove (8)	9	6%
Oxfordshire (9)	8	5%
Portsmouth (10)	8	5%
Total custodial sentences from 10 highest South East YOTs, 2016/17	142	89%

Use of custody relative to the general 10-17 aged population

Source: Youth justice annual statistics 2016/17, local level data (second edition), custodial sentences data.

In 2016/17, the majority of London YOTs had a higher rate of custody than the national average. The rate of custody for Islington was over four and a half times the national average.

Custodial Sentences per 1,000 10-17 year old in the general population in 2016/17



Islington had the highest use of custody rate in London and Medway had the highest in the South East, with approx. 1.9 and 0.7 custodial sentences for every 1,000 YP in the area respectively. 25 of the 31 YOTs from the London region had a use of custody rate higher than the national average (0.4), whereas only 4 of the 19 YOTs from the South East region had a rate above the national average.

The area with the lowest use of custody rate in London was Kingston and Richmond with 0.03 custodial sentences for every 1000 YP in the area. For the South East, both Isle of Wight and West Berkshire had zero sentences in 2016/17.

Demographics of those in Youth Custody from London and the South East (1)

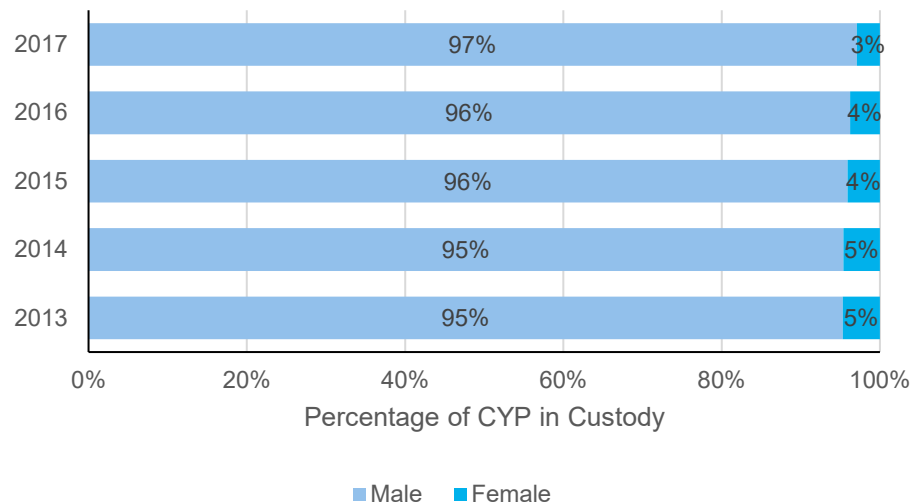
Source: Youth justice annual statistics 2016/17, supplementary tables 7.16 and 7.17.

The age and sex demographics of those in youth custody from London and the South East has remained relatively constant from 2012/13 to 2016/17.

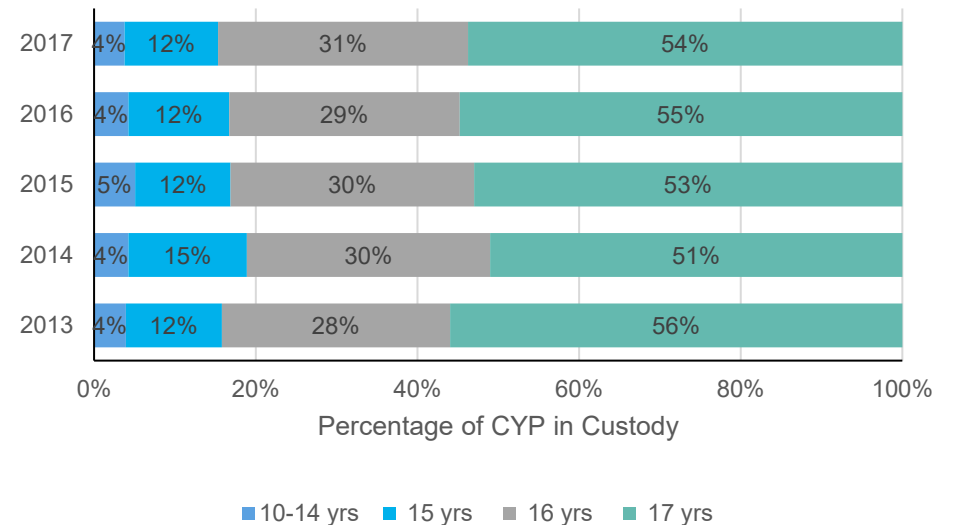
2016/17 data shows that **young people in custody from London and the South East were mostly male (97%)**. This is largely similar to the national breakdown across England and Wales. This is an increase compared to 2012/13, when 95% of the youth custody cohort from London and the South East were male.

The majority of the 2016/17 custody cohort from London and the South East were 17 years old (54%). This proportion of 17 year olds is 2 percentage points lower than in 2012/13.

Average Monthly Youth Custody Population, London and South East by Gender, Years Ending March 2013-March 2017



Average Monthly Youth Custody Population, London and the South East by Age, Years Ending March 2013-March 2017



Demographics of those in Youth Custody from London and the South East (2)

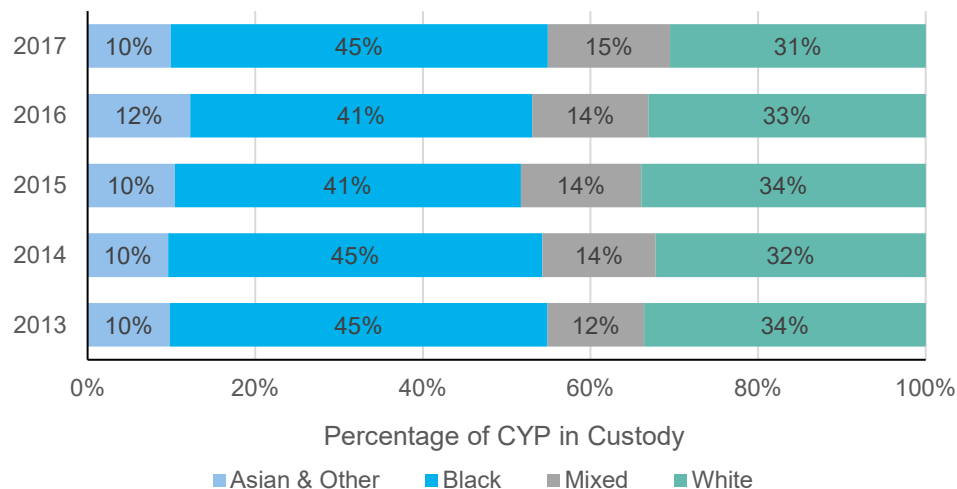
Source: Youth justice annual statistics 2016/17, supplementary tables 7.18 and 7.19.

In 2016/17, on average, 69% of young people in custody from London and the South East were from a BAME background – compared to 66% in 2012/13. The number sentenced for Section 91 offences has also increased as a proportion.

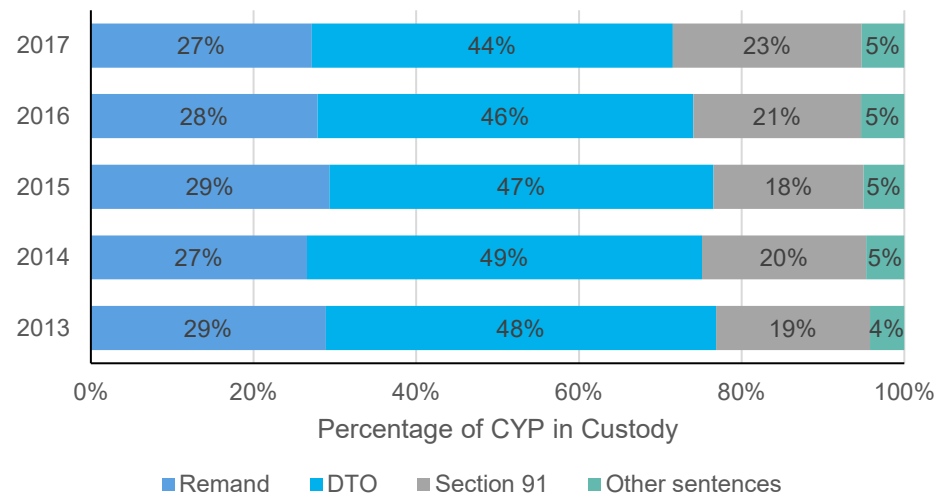
In 2016/17, on average, 69% of young people in custody from London and the South East were from a BAME background. This is an increase of 2 percentage points compared to 2015/16 and a 3 percentage point increase compared to 2012/13.

The proportion of the London and South East cohort incarcerated for more serious crimes (Section 91) has also increased over the last five years. **Section 91 offences represented 23% of demand in 2016/17**, compared to 19% in 2012/13.

Average Monthly Youth Custody Population, London and South East by Ethnicity, Years Ending March 2013-March 2017



Average Monthly Youth Custody Population, London and South East by Legal Basis for Detention, Years Ending March 2013-March 2017



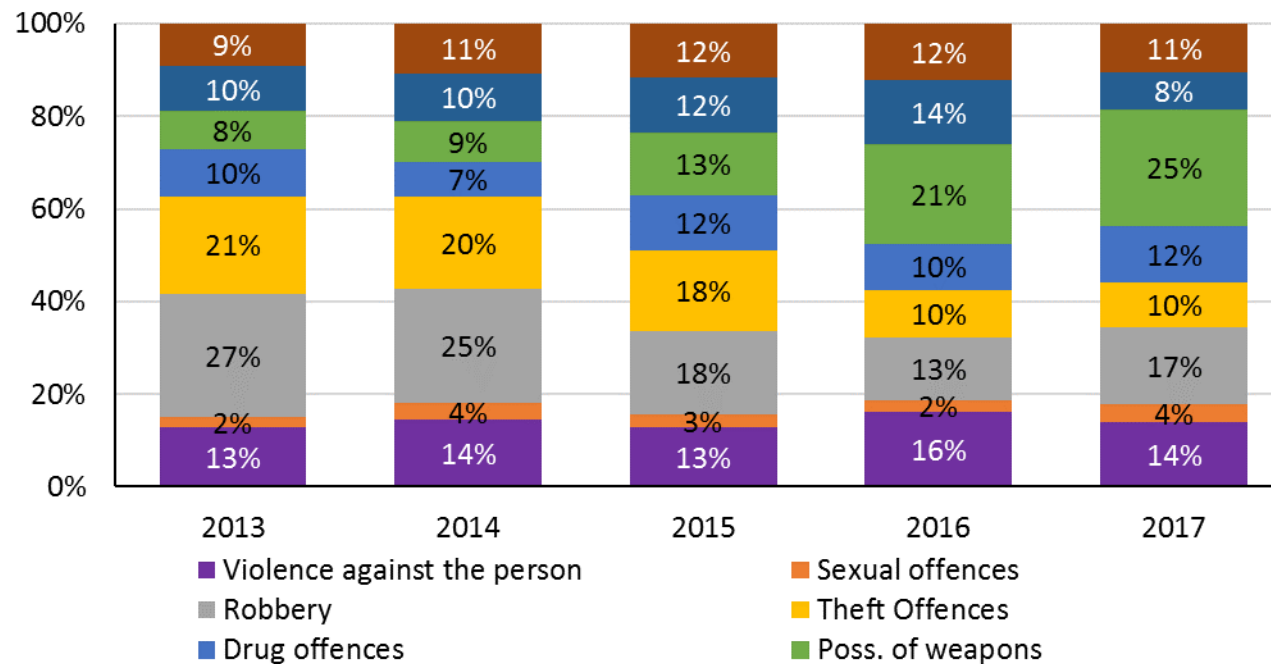
Offence mix of those sentenced to custody in London and the South East

Source: Criminal justice system statistics December 2017, court outcomes by police force area data tool.

In the last five years, there has been a shift in London and the South East towards possession of a weapon offences and away from robbery and theft offences in terms of the proportion of all young people sentenced to custody.

In 2013, 8% of young people sentenced to custody had a principal offence in the possession of weapons category. This proportion has more than tripled to 25% in 2017 as a result of increases in the numbers sentenced to custody for these offences, whilst the overall number of custodial sentences fell.

Proportion of Young People Sentenced to Immediate Custody in London and the South East by Offence Group, 2013 to 2017



The offence groups which have seen the **most notable decline between 2013 and 2017 are theft and robbery.**

Over this time period, the proportion of custodial sentences for young people accounted for by theft has more than halved from 21% to 10%.

The proportion of custodial sentences for young people accounted for by robbery has also decreased from 27% in 2013 to 17% in 2017.

The offence group is based on the principal offence for which the young person was sentenced.

The 'Other' category includes criminal damage, fraud, public order offences and other miscellaneous crimes

Legal Basis and Sentence Length of those sentenced to custody

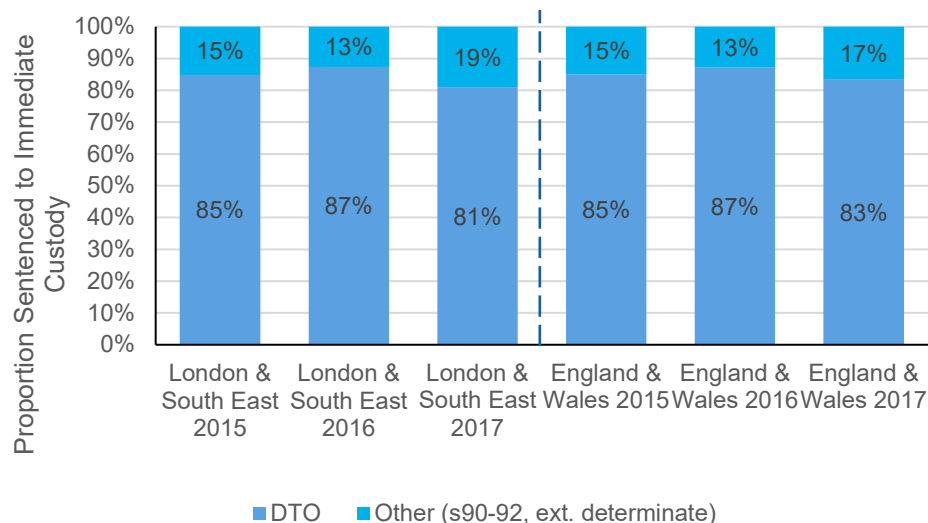
Source: Criminal justice system statistics December 2017, court outcomes by police force area data tool.

There has been a decrease in the proportion of YP given DTOs in London and the South East from 87% in 2016 to 81% in 2017. A greater proportion of YP from these regions received sentences of over 2 years in 2017 than in 2015 & 2016.

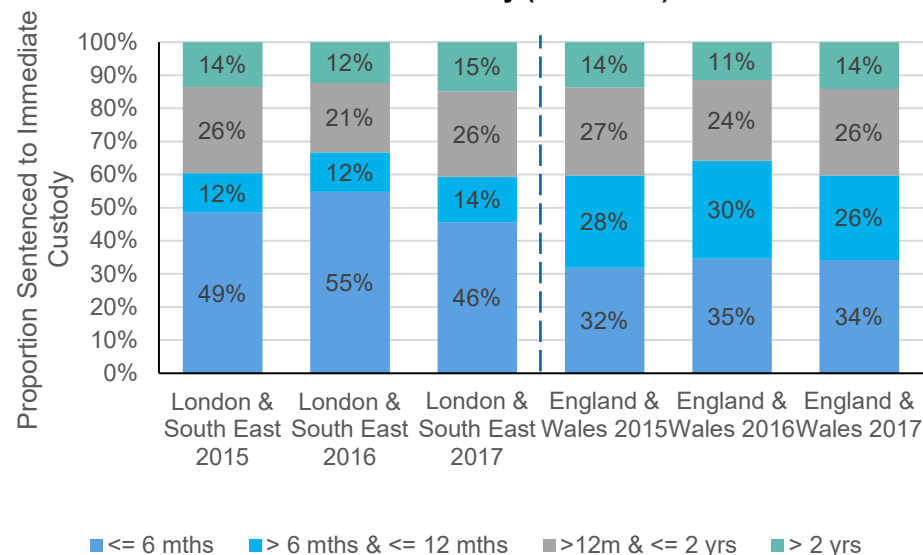
In 2017, **81% of young people sentenced to immediate custody in London and the South East were given a detention and training order** – a decrease from 2016 (87%) and 2015 (85%). On a national level, the proportion has decreased from 85% in 2015 to 83% in 2017.

From 2016 to 2017, there has also **been an increase in the proportion of young people in London and the South East that received custodial sentences of two years or more** (12% to 15%). On a national level, the proportions are similar in 2016 (11%) and 2017 (14%).

Legal Basis for Detention of Young People Sentenced to Immediate Custody (2015-2017)



Sentence Length of Young People Sentenced to Immediate Custody (2015-2017)



Key characteristics of the London and South East custody population

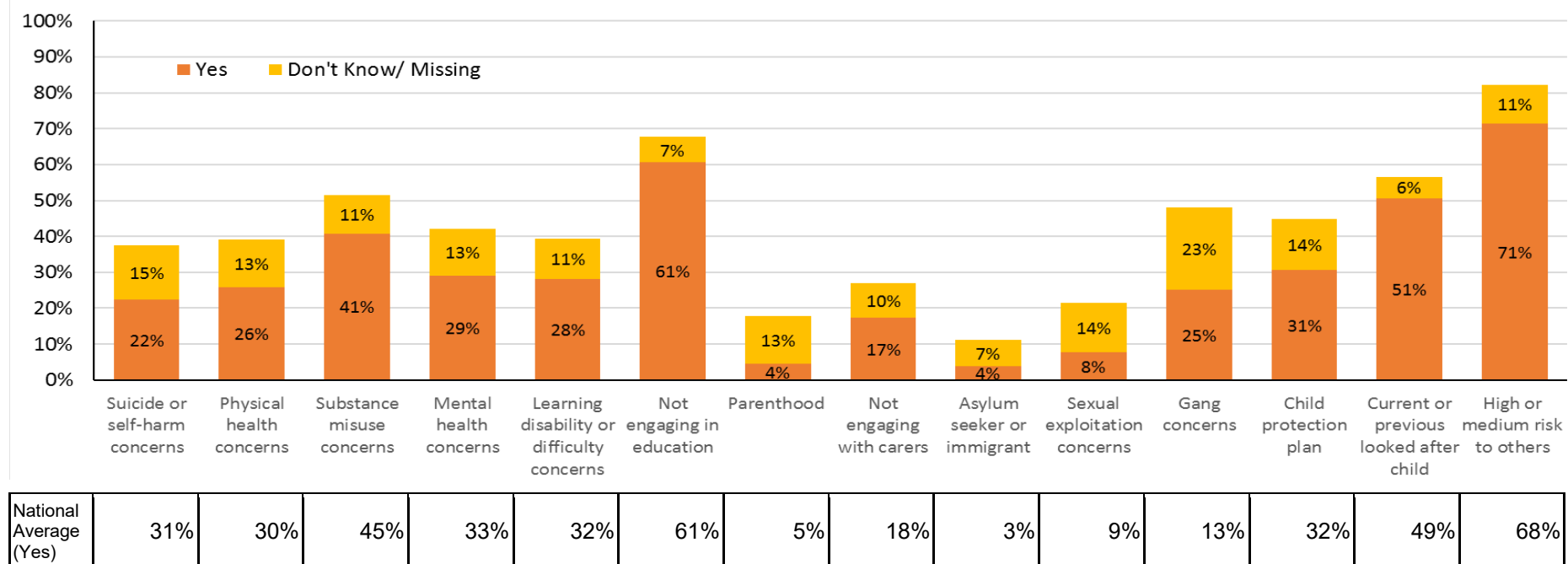
Source: Youth justice statistics 2015/16, key characteristics of admissions to youth custody supplementary table 6.

71% of young people from London and the South East were assessed as a high or medium risk to others on placement in custody. Over half had been looked after (LAC) at some point.

Published custody placement data from the YJB shows that, of the young people entering custody between April 2014 and March 2016 from the London and South East YOTs, **over 2 in 3 were considered a high or medium risk to others**, over 60% were not engaging in education and over half were a LAC or had previously been a LAC.

Across most of the key characteristics of offenders, the characteristics of young people in custody from the London and South East YOTs were in line with the national custodial average. **The only exception to this was 'Gang concerns' (13% national average vs. 25% London & South East).**

Proportion of Youth Custody Admissions from London and South East YOTs Identified with Key Characteristics (April 2014-March 2016)



“Child protection plan” refers to whether a young person has a current or previous child protection plan

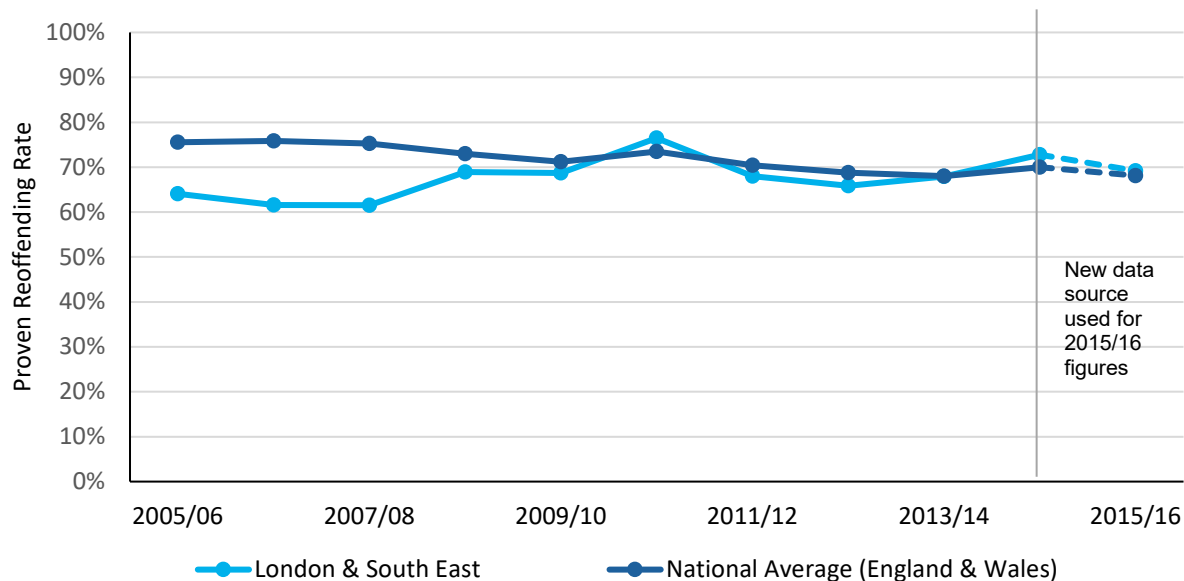
Proven Reoffending of Young People from London and South East

Source: Proven reoffending statistics quarterly March 16, table C2b and youth justice statistics 2016/17 supplementary table 9.10.

The proven reoffending rate for young people released from custodial establishments in London and the South East in 2015/16 was 69%, 1 percentage point higher than the national average. Historically, the reoffending rate has been similar in London and the South East compared to England and Wales.

The overall proven reoffending rate for young people who had been in custody from London and the South East establishments was 69% in 2015/16. This is comparable to the figure for the national average for the 2015/16 cohort (68%). Figures are not published at YOT level for proven reoffending after release from custody.

Proven Reoffending Rate of Youth Leaving Custody, London and the South East vs National Average (England and Wales), 2006 to 2016



Between 2005/06 and 2007/08, the proven reoffending rate in London and the South East differed more from the national rate than in recent years.

It's important to note that caution should be taken when comparing previous years to 2015/16 as there has been a change in the data source used for the latest figures.

To note: As of 2014/15 onwards, London and the South East establishments are defined as the those from the following secure estates: Cookham Wood YOI, Feltham YOI, Medway STC, and Oakhill STC.