Statistics on Women and the Criminal Justice System, 2017

England and Wales

**Victims of crime**

A significantly higher proportion of males than females were the victims of violent crime in 2017/18. The proportion of victims of violent crime was 36% for males and 9% for females.

**From offence to criminal court**

The number of Police Notices for Disorder (PND) and cautions issued have been increasing year on year since 2008. However the proportion of PNDs and cautions issued for males and females had remained broadly stable. The number of arrests issued to males were significantly higher than females for every year over the last decade for both males and females.

**At the criminal courts**

A significantly higher proportion of females were represented by a solicitor at the magistrates court compared to the crown court. A considerably smaller proportion of females were represented by a solicitor at the magistrates court compared to the crown court. A larger proportion of females than males were represented by a solicitor at the magistrates court compared to the crown court.

**Offenders in prison**

The proportion of the prison population that were female has remained broadly stable. The number of prison sentences has remained consistent over past decade for both males and females. The mean sentence lengths for males were significantly longer than those for females. For every 100 males and females sentenced to prison women were serving shorter sentences than men. For every 100 males and females sentenced to prison women were serving shorter sentences than men.

**Offender characteristics**

Females were more likely to be a victim of violence; a higher proportion of females than males were sentenced to prison for a higher proportion of males. A larger proportion of males than females self harmed.

**Practitioners**

Less than a third of police officers and court judges were female, compared to two thirds of those working in the Ministry of Justice and the Crown Prosecution Service. Practitioners