

Criminal Justice Statistics, 2018

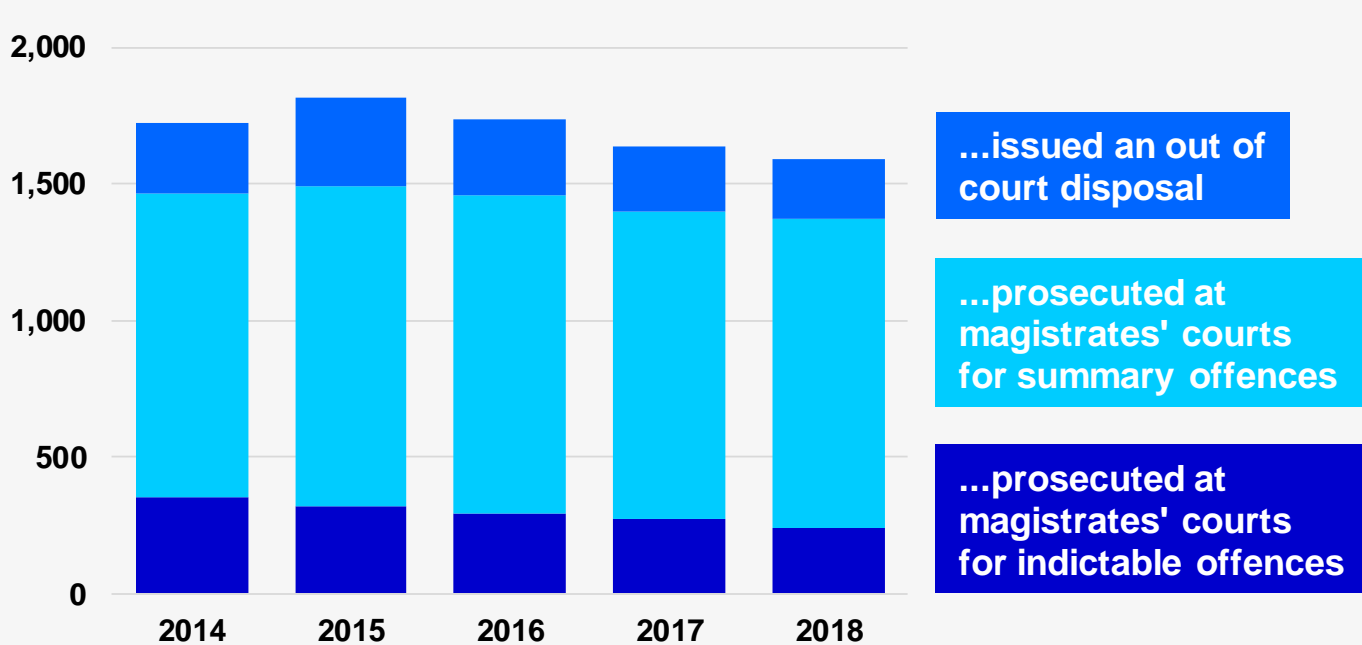


England and Wales

Overview

The number of individuals **prosecuted** or given an **out of court disposal** is at a record low level (1970) to date, with **1.59 million individuals** dealt with in 2018, 3% lower than in 2017.

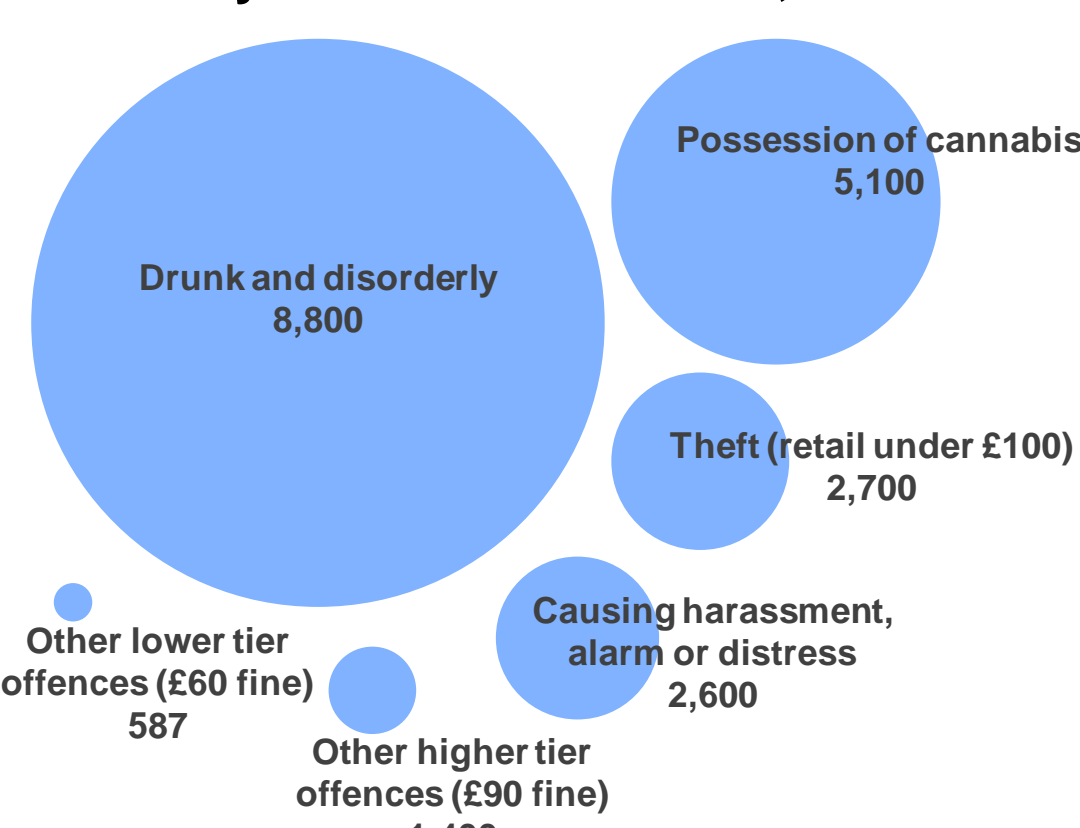
Number of individuals (in thousands) who were:



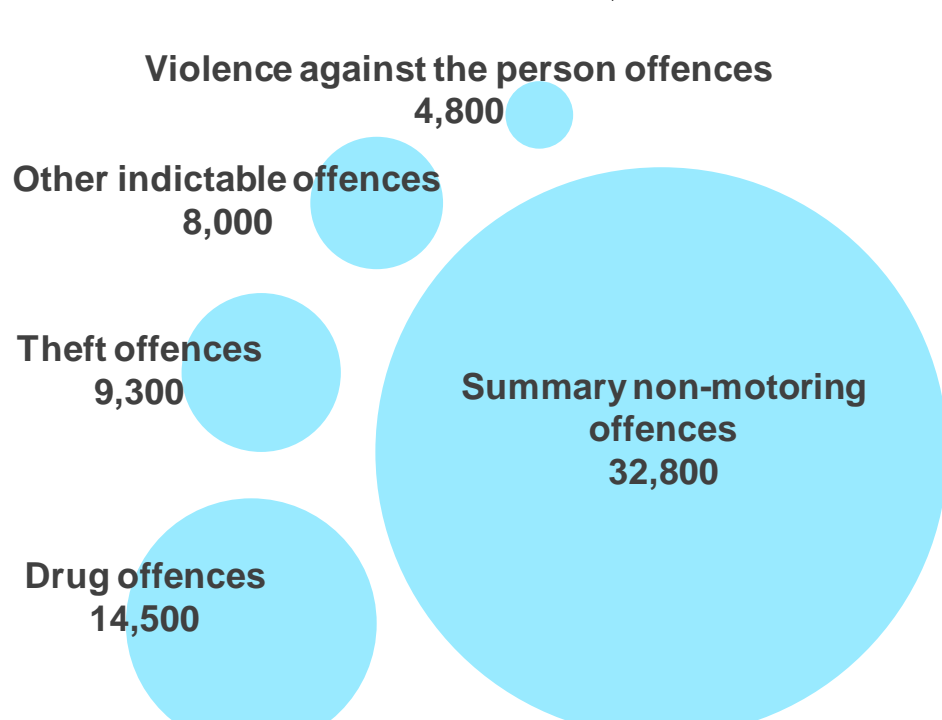
Out of court disposals

The use of **out of court disposals** continues to **decline**, with a 64% fall since 2008. In 2018, a total of 219,000 received a **caution, cannabis/khat warning, community resolution or penalty notice for disorder**.

Penalty notices for disorder, 2018



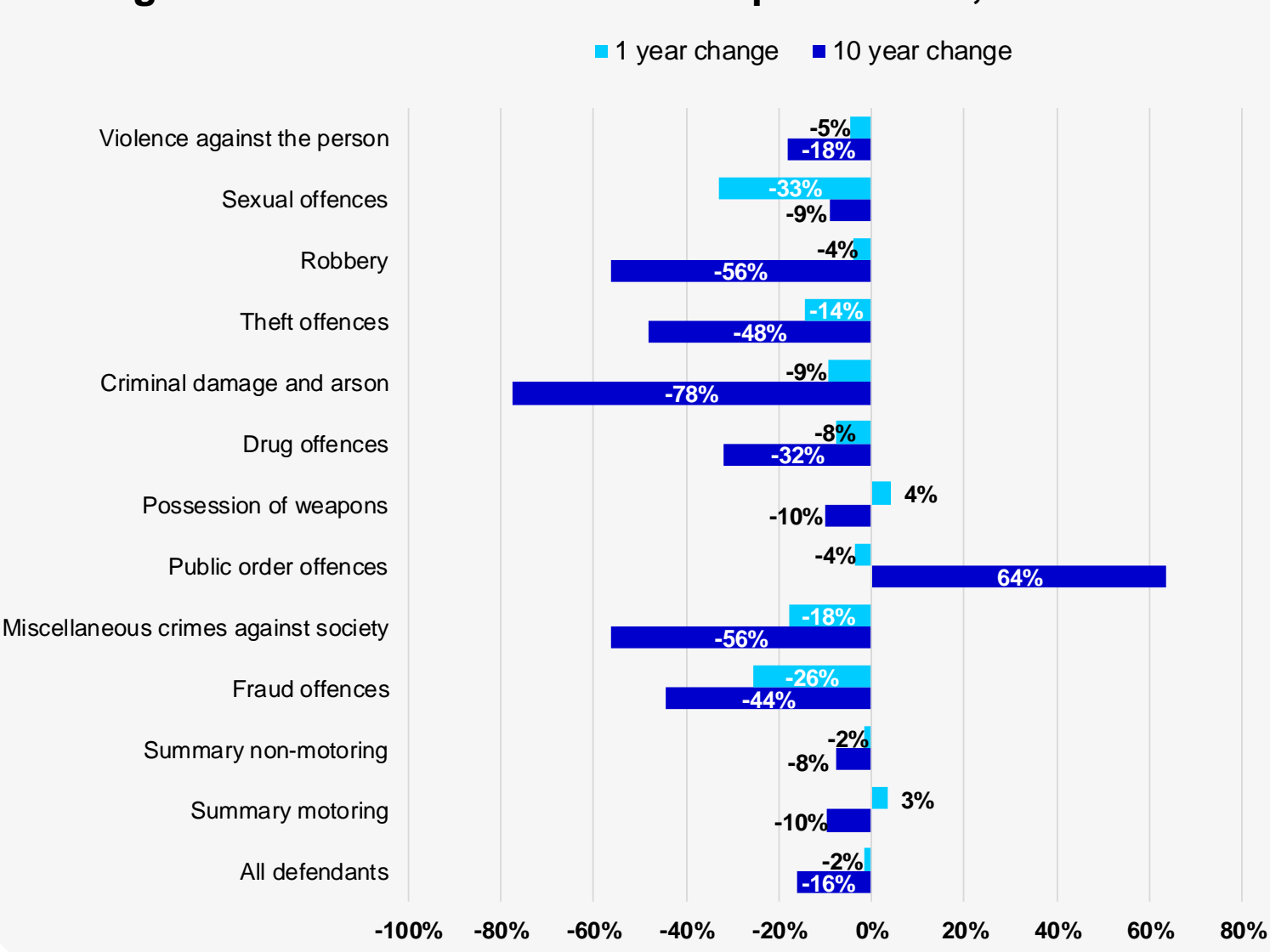
Cautions issued, 2018



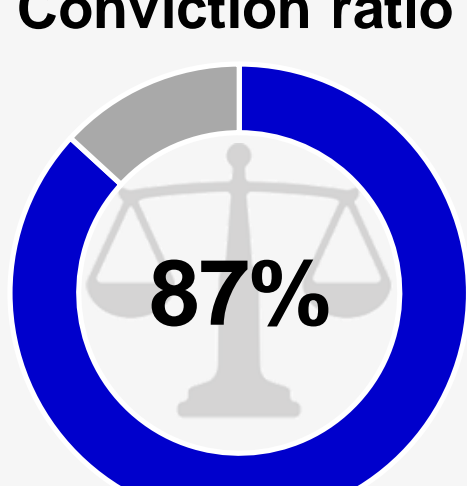
Prosecutions and convictions

1.38 million defendants were **prosecuted** at magistrates' courts in 2018, **▼ 2%** over the latest year and **▼ 16%** since 2008. Decreases were seen across all offences groups apart from **possession of weapons**, **▲ 4%** and **summary motoring offences**, **▲ 3%**.

Change in the number of defendants prosecuted, 2008-2018



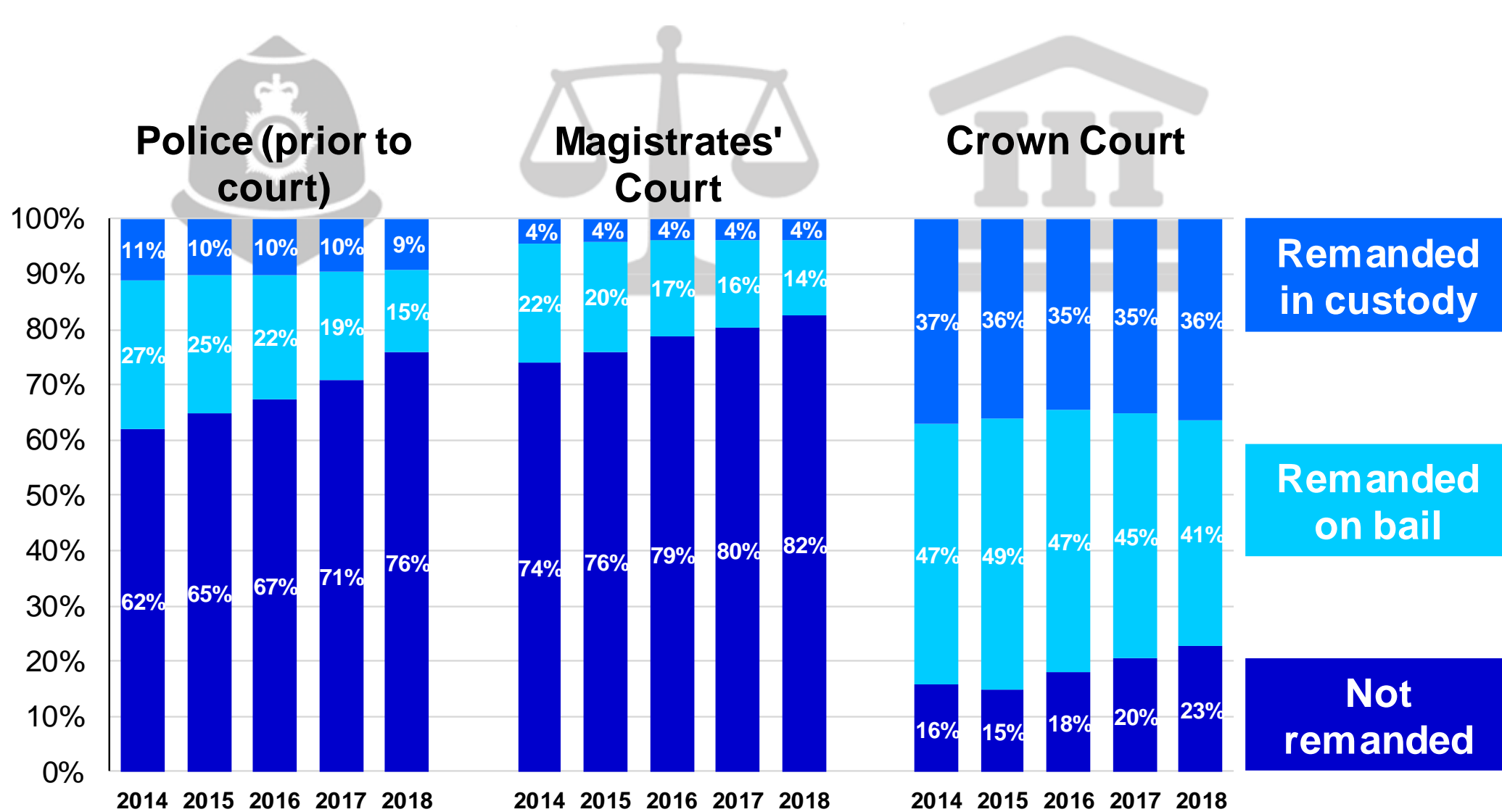
Conviction ratio



Convictions **decreased** by 1% in the latest year and the overall **conviction ratio** has remained stable.

Remands

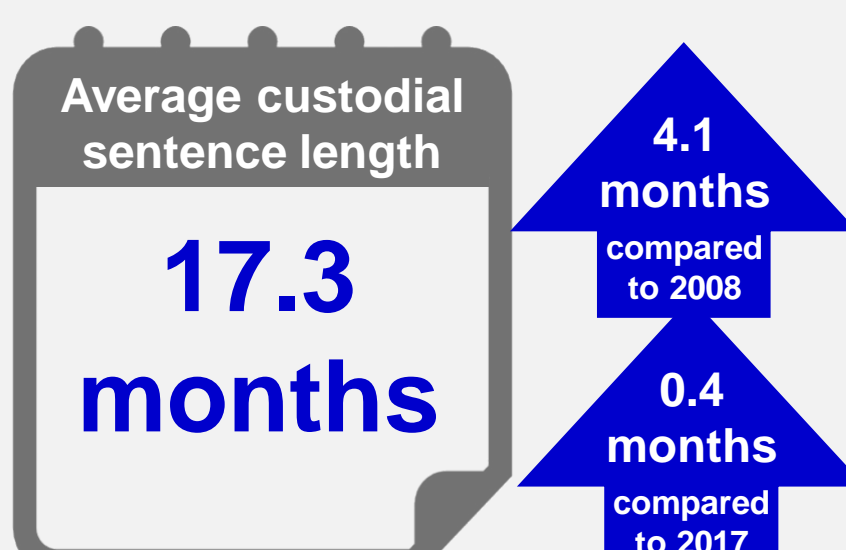
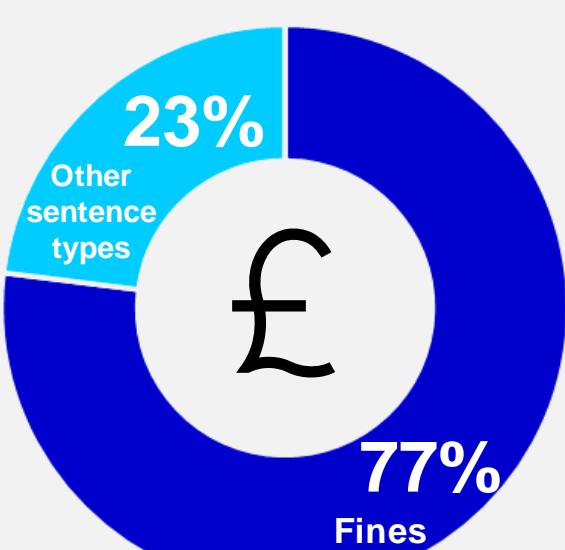
The proportion of defendants **remanded on bail** has continued to fall. The number of defendants **remanded on bail by the Police prior to appearing at court** decreased by 24%, while the number **remanded in custody** decreased 7%. A similar trend was observed at **courts**.



Sentencing

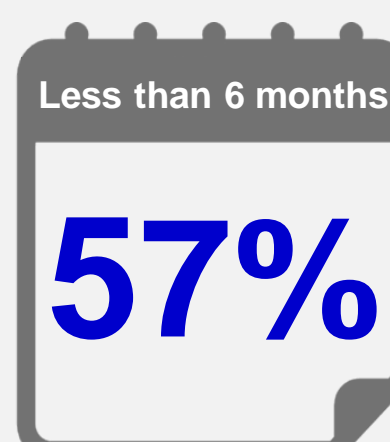
Compared to 2017, the number of **offenders sentenced** at all courts fell by 1% to **1.19 million**.

Fines remained the most common sentence.



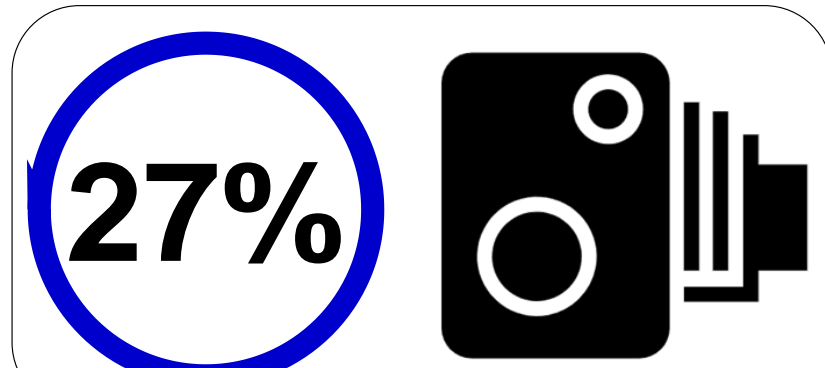
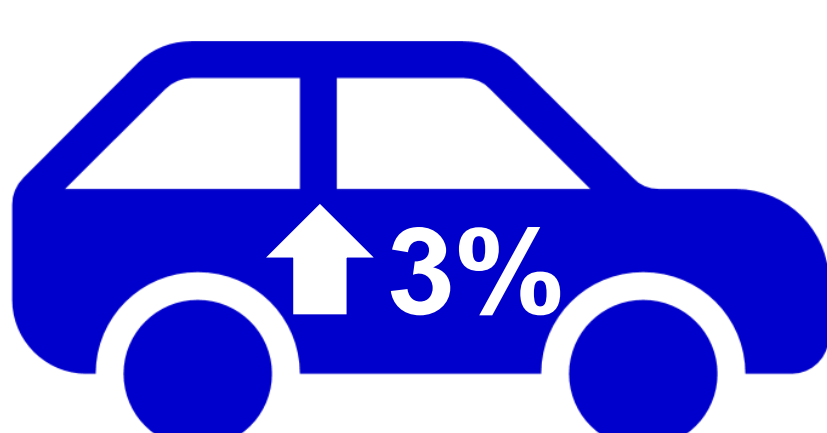
Offenders sentenced to immediate custody

These proportions have remained similar over the last decade, as has the proportion of those receiving longer sentences.



Motoring

Prosecutions, convictions and sentences for motoring offences have all **increased** by 3% over the last year.



'Speed limit offences' accounted for 27% of prosecutions for motoring offences and **increased** by 7% to 189,000 in 2018, the highest in a decade.

Offending histories

Offenders with **long criminal careers** now account for nearly two-fifths (37%) of the offending population, an increase of 10 percentage points since 2008.

Proportion of convictions for indictable offences by previous offending history

