Criminal Justice Statistics, 2018

England and Wales

Overview

The conviction ratio remained the most common sentence over the last year.

Out of court disposals

The use of out of court disposals continues to decline, with a 64% fall since 2008. In 2018, 76% of those dealt with by the Police (prior to court) were dealt with by the Police (prior to court), compared to 87% in 2017.

Penalty notices for disorder, 2013

Cautions issued, 2018

Prosecutions and convictions

1.2 million offenders were prosecuted at magistrates' courts in 2018, 13% over the latest year, and 9% since 2010. Offenders were prosecuted across all offence groups, apart from possession of weapons, by 4% or summary reoffending offenders, 5%.

Remands

The proportion of defendants remanded in custody has remained stable. The number 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 of defendants remanded in custody decreased by 7%. A similar trend was observed at magistrates' courts.

Sentencing

Compared to 2017, the number of defendants sentenced at all courts fell by 1% to 1.19 million. Fines remained the most common sentence.

Motoring

Speeding offenders accounted for 27% of prosecutions for motoring offences and decreased by 4% to 1.19 million in 2018, if the trend in the previous year continues.

Offending histories

Offenders with long criminal careers now account for nearly two-thirds (67%) of the offending population, an increase of 27% in the percentage over the last decade.