



This analysis looked at the reoffending behaviour of 209 adults who participated in The Clink Restaurant training programme. This is an extension of a previous analysis conducted (April 2018), and additionally includes their 2016 cohort. The overall results show that those who took part in the programme were less likely to reoffend than those who did not. More people would need to be available in order to determine the effect on the frequency of reoffending, and time to reoffend.

The Clink programme provides vocational training in catering, front of house, and cleaning. This gives prisoners skills and qualifications that help them secure employment on release. The headline analysis in this report measured proven reoffences in a one-year period for a 'treatment group' of 209 offenders who received support some time between 2010 and 2016, and for a much larger 'comparison group' of similar offenders who did not receive it. The analysis estimates the impact of the support from The Clink on the reoffending behaviour of people who are similar to those in the treatment group. The support may have had a different impact on 119 other participants whose details were submitted but who did not meet the minimum criteria for analysis.

Overall measurements of the treatment and comparison groups

For **100** typical people in the **treatment** group, the equivalent of:



15 of the 100 people committed a proven reoffence within a one-year period (a rate of 15%), **7 people fewer** than in the comparison group.



46 proven reoffences were committed by these 100 people during the year (a frequency of 0.5 offences per person), **16 offences fewer** than in the comparison group.



189 days was the average time before a reoffender committed their first proven reoffence, **35 days later** than the comparison group.



For **100** typical people in the **comparison** group, the equivalent of:

22 of the 100 people committed a proven reoffence within a one-year period (a rate of 22%).

63 proven reoffences were committed by these 100 people during the year (a frequency of 0.6 offences per person).

154 days was the average time before a reoffender committed their first proven reoffence.

Overall estimates of the impact of the intervention

For **100** typical people who receive support, compared with **100** similar people who do not receive it:



The number of people who commit a proven reoffence within one year after release could be **lower by between 2 and 12 people. This is a statistically significant result.**



The number of proven reoffences committed during the year could be **lower by as many as 38 offences, or higher by as many as 6 offences.** More people would need to be available for analysis in order to determine the direction of this difference.



On average, the time before an offender committed their first proven reoffence could be **shorter by as many as 6 days, or longer by as many as 75 days.** More people would need to be analysed in order to determine the direction of this difference.

Please note totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts due to rounding.

✓ **What you can say about the one-year reoffending rate:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from The Clink may decrease the number of proven reoffenders during a one-year period.”

✗ **What you cannot say about the one-year reoffending rate:**

“This analysis shows that support from The Clink increases/has no effect on the reoffending rate of its participants.”

✓ **What you can say about the one-year reoffending frequency:**

“This analysis would need more participants in order to show whether support from The Clink increases or decreases the number of proven reoffences during a one-year period.”

✗ **What you cannot say about the one-year reoffending frequency:**

“This analysis shows that support from The Clink increases/decreases/has no effect on the number of reoffences committed by its participants.”

✓ **What you can say about the time to first reoffence:**

“This analysis would need more participants in order to show whether support from The Clink shortens or lengthens the average time to first proven reoffence.”

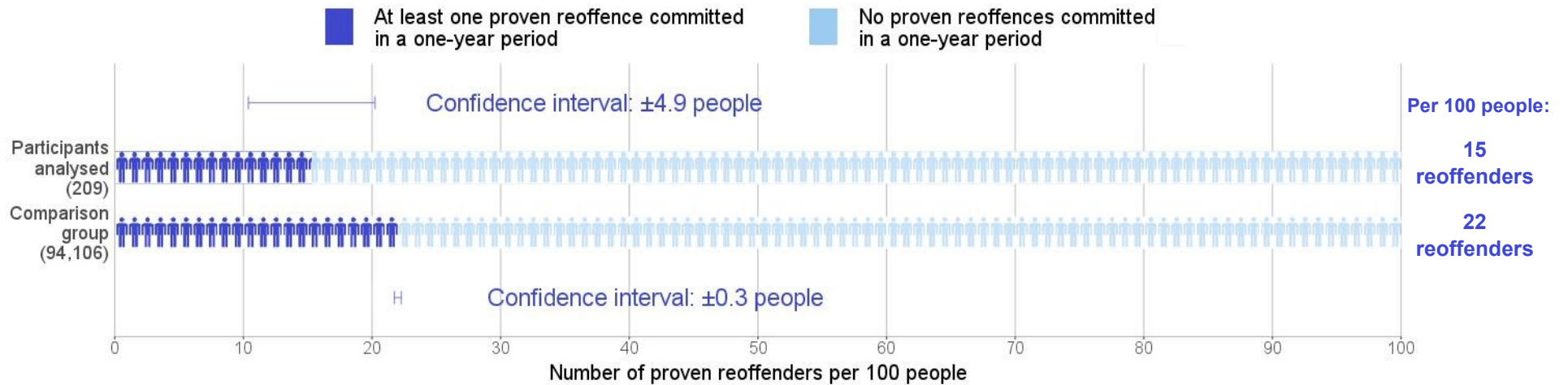
✗ **What you cannot say about the time to first reoffence:**

“This analysis shows that support from The Clink shortens/lengthens/has no effect on the average time to first reoffence for its participants.”

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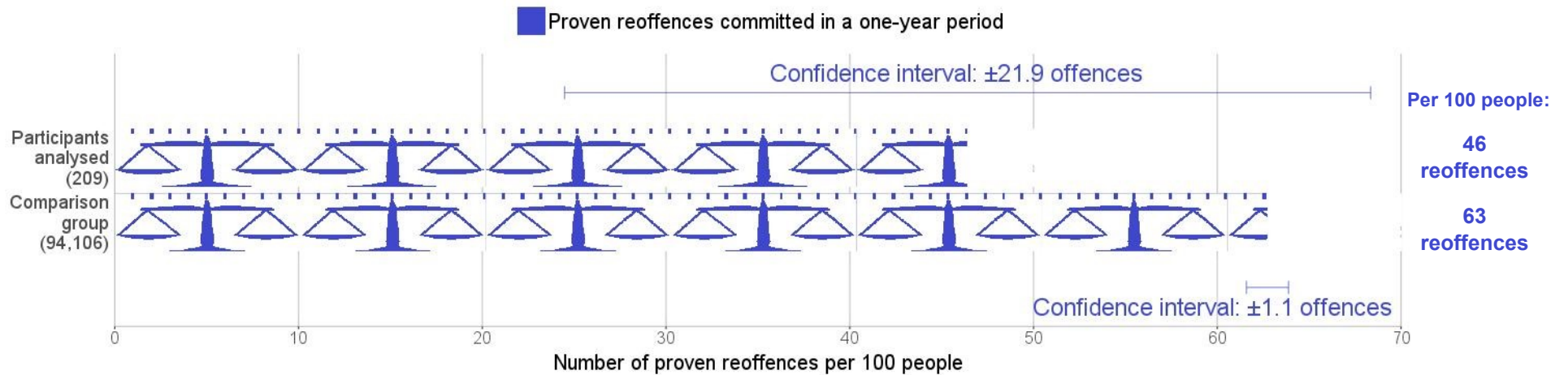
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One-year proven reoffending rate after support from The Clink



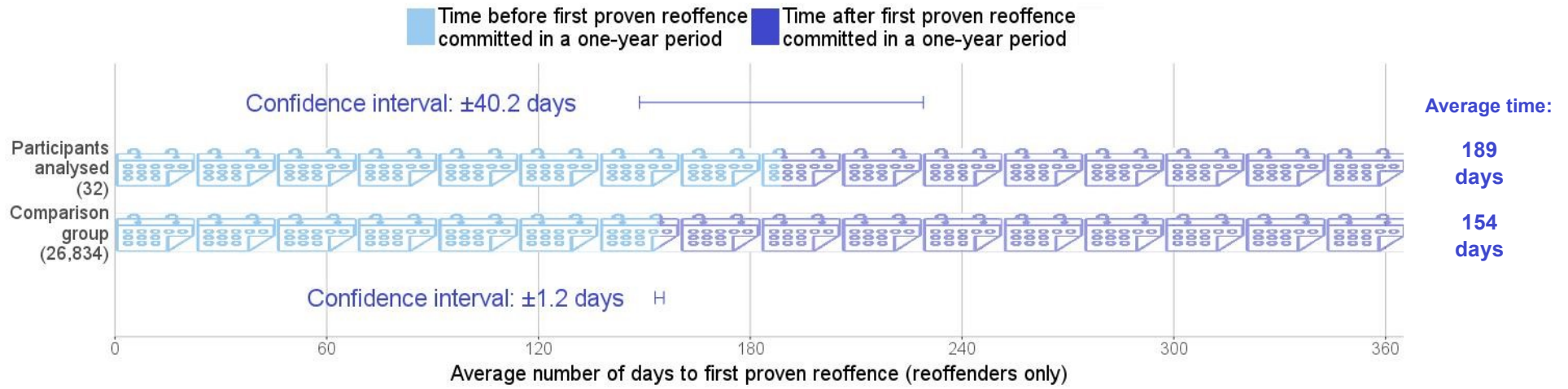
Significant difference between groups

One-year proven reoffending frequency after support from The Clink



Non-significant difference between groups

Average time to first proven reoffence after support from The Clink



Non-significant difference between groups

The Clink in their own words

“ The Clink Charity has been reducing reoffending for the past 10 years by providing vocational training in partnership with Her Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service, delivering accredited NVQ City and Guilds qualifications in:

- Food and Beverage Service
- Food Preparation and Cookery
- Basic Food Hygiene
- Barista Skills
- Horticulture

The Clink trains serving prisoners to gain skills and qualifications that will enable them to secure full-time employment upon release. It is one of the only organisations working on both sides of the wall ensuring smooth reintegration back into society. We do this using our 5-step integrated programme where we train the prisoners during the last 6 to 18 months of their sentence and then continue to support them for at least the first 12 months on the outside. This dramatically reduces the chance of a Clink Graduate reoffending.

There are 3 training restaurants in men’s prisons: HMP High Down, HMP Cardiff and HMP Brixton as well as 3 training projects in women’s prisons: a restaurant at HMP Styal, a production kitchen at HMP Downview and Clink Gardens at HMP Send.

Our objective is to reduce reoffending by providing structured learning in a real-life working environment, serving diners (who are also learning that the prison population is a cross section of society and that they want, need and deserve a second chance). The Clink helps the prisoners in training develop life and employment skills in preparation for release into employment in the hospitality and horticulture industries. Trainees learn to take responsibility as individuals and also to work as part of a team. They learn time keeping, team work, customer service and at the same time develop their self-esteem and confidence.

Our full-time support workers provide an intensive support package before and after release into the community, including help with accommodation, debts, substance misuse, employment, budgeting and life skills.

We are proud that alongside our partner, Her Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service, we continue to achieve extraordinary outcomes and meet our key objective of reducing reoffending. We do this in an economical way, while delivering our core values of compassion, professionalism and integrity, in an environment that can sometimes seems bleak, with so many daily challenges. The Clink changes attitudes, transforms lives and creates second chances and we have demonstrated what can be achieved when society collectively engages to help those who want and deserve a second chance. ”

Response from The Clink to the Justice Data Lab analysis

“ The Clink Charity welcome the findings of The Justice Data Lab (JDL) report into the effectiveness of The Clink integrated training programs. This latest report is testament to the dedicated work by The Clink Charity in partnership with HMPPS, and clearly shows a reduction in reoffending rates.

We are delighted that the latest results find that The Clink has maintained its strong performance in reducing reoffending rates, and that the JDL identifies that prisoners' who took part in the programme were less likely to reoffend than those who did not. These new results have again shown a statistically significant reduction in reoffending against comparative groups at a national level. Very few interventions have achieved such a positive outcome in a JDL analysis.

We were disappointed to learn that 125 of our graduates (37%) were excluded from the research due to them not being identified on the PNC (Police National Computer) or because they did not have a matching record in the reoffending database.

- Nevertheless, the aggregate findings between 2009 and 2016 show that the Clink graduates had a 15% reoffending rate compared to the comparison group's 22%. This is an improvement of 7 percentage points and is a statistically significant result. The results for Brixton prison in particular indicate a reoffending rate of 11% compared to the comparison group's 32%. This is an improvement of 21 percentage points and is a statistically significant result.

If anything, we believe that these numbers understate achievements in reducing reoffending. We are undertaking an internal audit to create a more complete and up-to-date dataset, which will hopefully show even better results than that reported by the JDL at this stage. The Clink is working to prepare this latest data for a follow up JDL analysis. ”

Results in detail

Three analyses were conducted in total, controlling for offender demographics and criminal history and the following risks and needs: employment, education, financial management, relationships, behaviour, thinking skills, and attitudes.

Analyses
1. National analysis: treatment group matched to offenders across England and Wales using demographics, release years, criminal history, and individual risks and needs.
2. 2016 cohort analysis: treatment group matched to offenders across England and Wales using demographics, release years, criminal history, and individual risks and needs.
3. HMP Brixton analysis: treatment group matched to offenders in London using demographics, release years, criminal history, and individual risks and needs.

The headline results in this report refer to the National analysis.

The sizes of the treatment and comparison groups for reoffending rate and frequency analyses are provided below.

Analyses	Controlled for Region	Treatment Group Size	Comparison Group Size	Reoffenders in treatment group	Reoffenders in comparison group
National		209	94,106	32	26,834
2016 cohort		56	13,505	8	3,260
HMP Brixton	✓	38	14,468	4	3,996

In each analysis, **three headline measures** of one-year reoffending were analysed, as well as four additional measures (see results in Tables 1-7):

1. **Rate of reoffending**
2. **Frequency of reoffending**
3. **Time to first reoffence**
4. Rate of first reoffence by court outcome
5. Frequency of reoffences by court outcome
6. Rate of custodial sentencing for first reoffence
7. Frequency of custodial sentencing

Significant results

There is one statistically significant result among the analyses for the headline analysis. This provides significant evidence that:

Nationally

- **Participants are less likely to commit a reoffence** than non-participants

Tables 1-7 show the overall measures of reoffending. Rates are expressed as percentages and frequencies expressed per person. Tables 3 to 7 include reoffenders only, and are only shown where the total number of offenders in the treatment group is greater than 30. Therefore, for this report Tables 3 to 7 refer to the National analysis only.

Table 1: Proportion of people who committed a proven reoffence in a one-year period after support from The Clink, compared with matched comparison groups

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	One-year proven reoffending rate				
			Treatment group rate (%)	Comparison group rate (%)	Estimated difference (% points)	Significant difference?	p-value
National	209	94,106	15	22	-12 to -2	Yes	0.01
2016 cohort	56	13,505	14	19	-14 to 5	No	0.33
HMP Brixton	38	14,468	11	32	-32 to -11	Yes	<0.01

Table 2: Number of proven reoffences committed in a one-year period by people who received support from The Clink, compared with matched comparison groups

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	One-year proven reoffending frequency (offences per person)				
			Treatment group frequency	Comparison group frequency	Estimated difference	Significant difference?	p-value
National	209	94,106	0.46	0.63	-0.38 to 0.06	No	0.14
2016 cohort	56	13,505	0.30	0.54	-0.47 to -0.01	Yes	0.04
HMP Brixton	38	14,468	0.29	0.94	-0.94 to -0.36	Yes	<0.01

Table 3: Average time to first proven reoffence in a one-year period for people who received support from The Clink, compared with matched comparison groups

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	Average time to first proven reoffence in a one-year period, for reoffenders only (days)				
			Treatment group time	Comparison group time	Estimated difference	Significant difference?	p-value
National	32	26,834	189	154	-6 to 75	No	0.09

Table 4: Proportion of people supported by The Clink with first proven reoffence in a one-year period by court outcome, compared with similar non-participants (reoffenders only)

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	One-year proven reoffending rate by court outcome of first reoffence, for reoffenders only					Significant difference?	p-value
			Court outcome	Treatment group rate (%)	Comparison group rate (%)	Estimated difference (% points)			
National	32	26,748	Either way	72	65	-10 to 23	No	0.43	

Note, each court outcome is only shown if the number of offenders in both the treatment and comparison groups is greater than 10 for that outcome.

Table 5: Number of proven reoffences in a one-year period by court outcome for people supported by The Clink, compared with similar non-participants (reoffenders only)

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	One-year proven reoffending frequency by court outcome, for reoffenders only					Significant difference?	p-value
			Court outcome	Treatment group frequency	Comparison group frequency	Estimated difference			
National	32	26,748	Either way	2.19	1.83	-0.63 to 1.35	No	0.46	
			Summary	0.81	0.92	-0.57 to 0.35	No	0.64	

Note, each court outcome is only shown if the number of offenders in both the treatment and comparison groups is greater than 10 for that outcome.

Table 6: Proportion of people who received a custodial sentence for their first proven reoffence after support from The Clink, compared with similar non-participants (reoffenders only)

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	One-year rate of custodial sentencing, for reoffenders only					Significant difference?	p-value
			Treatment group rate (%)	Comparison group rate (%)	Estimated difference (% points)				
National	32	26,748	47	48	-20 to 17	No	0.86		

Table 7: Number of custodial sentences received in a one-year period by people who received support from The Clink, compared to similar non-participants (reoffenders only)

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	One-year frequency of custodial sentencing, for reoffenders only (sentences per person)			
			Treatment group frequency	Comparison group frequency	Estimated difference	Significant difference? p-value
National	32	26,748	1.59	1.51	-0.80 to 0.97	No 0.85

Profile of the treatment group

The Clink Restaurant programme being analysed for this report took place in four prisons: HMP Cardiff (Wales), HMP High Down (South East England), HMP Brixton (London) and HMP Styal (North West England). The programme has operated in High Down since 2010, in Cardiff since 2012, in Brixton since 2014, and in Styal since 2015. They all participated during a custodial sentence and were selected based on a set of criteria following their application to the programme. Among other requirements, participants had to be motivated to train and work in the catering trade. Information on those who were included in the treatment group for the headline analysis is below, compared with the characteristics of those who could not be included in the analysis.

Participants included in analysis (209 offenders in National analysis)

- Male 89%, Female 11%
- White 66%, Black 24%, Asian 7%, Other 2%, Unknown 1%
- UK nationality 90%, Foreign nationality 8%, Unknown nationality 2%
- Aged 19 to 64 years at the beginning of their one-year period (average age 21)
- Prison sentence length:
 - Less than 6 months 1%
 - More than 6 months to less than 1 year 1%
 - 1 year to less than 4 years 58%
 - 4 to 10 years 38%
 - Imprisonment for Public Protection 1%

Participants not included in analysis (100 offenders with available data)

- Male 96%, Female 4%
- White 74%, Black 19%, Asian 4%, Other 1%
- UK nationality 87%, Foreign nationality 11%, Unknown nationality 2%

Information on index offences is not available for this group, as they could not be linked to a suitable sentence.

For **19 people** without any records in the reoffending database, no personal information is available.

Please note totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts due to rounding.

Information on individual risks and needs was available for 171 people in the overall treatment group (82%), recorded near to the time of their original conviction.

- 57% had significant problems solving problems
- 42% were unemployed
- 30% had some or significant problems achieving goals

Matching the treatment and comparison groups

The analyses matched a comparison group to the treatment group. A summary of the matching quality is as follows:

- All variables in the national model were well matched
- All variables in the 2016 cohort model were well matched
- All variables in the regional model were well matched

Further details of group characteristics and matching quality, including risks and needs recorded by the Offender Assessment System (OASys), can be found in the Excel annex accompanying this report.

This report is also supplemented by a general annex, which answers frequently asked questions about Justice Data Lab analyses and explains the caveats associated with them.

Numbers of people in the treatment and comparison groups

328 people were submitted for analysis by The Clink



328

19 people (6%) were excluded from the analyses because they could not be identified on the Police National Computer (PNC)



309

100 people (30%) were excluded because they did not have a record in the reoffending database that corresponded to their period of participation with The Clink



209

National treatment group: 64% of the participants submitted
(Comparison group: 94,106 records)



56

**2016 cohort
treatment group**
(Comparison group:
13,505 records)



38

**HMP Brixton
treatment group**
(Comparison group:
14,468 records)

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