



Youth Justice Statistics 2018/19

England and Wales

Youth Justice Board / Ministry of Justice

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The Youth Justice System (YJS) in England and Wales works to prevent offending and reoffending by children. The YJS is different to the adult system and is structured to address the needs of children.

This publication looks at the YJS in England and Wales for the year ending March 2019. It considers the number of children (those aged 10-17) in the system, the offences they committed, the outcomes they received, their demographics and the trends over time.

Main points

21,700 children were cautioned or sentenced



The number of children who received a caution or sentence has fallen by 83% over the last ten years, with a 19% fall in the last year.

11,900 first time entrants to the YJS



The number of first time entrants has fallen by 85% since the year ending March 2009, with an 18% fall since the year ending March 2018.

4,500 knife and offensive weapon offences were committed by children



There was a 1% decrease in these offences compared with the previous year after four year-on-year increases. Levels are 31% lower than those seen in the year ending March 2009.

The average custodial sentence length has increased



The average custodial sentence length given to children increased by more than six months over the last ten years, from 11.4 to 17.7 months.

The number of children held in custody on remand has increased



The number of children held in youth custody on remand increased by 12% in the last year and accounted for 28% of all children in youth custody.

The number of Restrictive Physical Interventions (RPI) and self harm incidents in youth custody have increased



The number of RPIs increased by 16% in the last year, to around 6,300 incidents. The number of self harm incidents has increased by 3%, to around 1,800. For both measures, this is the highest number of incidents in the last five years.

38.4% of children and young people reoffended



The reoffending rate decreased by 2.5 percentage points in the last year, although it remains higher than ten years ago (when it was 37.1%).

For technical details see the accompanying [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#)

We would welcome any feedback to informationandanalysis@yjb.gov.uk

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Things you need to know

This publication draws together a range of statistics about children and young people in the YJS from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 (hereafter the year ending March 2019). Following on from the recommendations in the [Overcoming Barriers to Trust in Crime Statistics](#) report, this publication guides the user through the flow of children aged 10-17 years in the justice system in England and Wales.

The contents of the report will be of interest to government policy makers and those monitoring policy, the agencies engaged with the YJS at both national and local levels, academics, the voluntary and community sector and others who want to understand more about the YJS.

The data described in this publication come from various sources including the Home Office, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Youth Custody Service (YCS), Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and youth secure estate providers. The Information and Analysis Team at the Youth Justice Board (YJB) produce this report, under the direction of the Chief Statistician in the MoJ.

Details of all the administrative databases and bespoke collections used for this report can be found in the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) which provides users with further information on the data sources, data quality and terminology, in particular the types of disposals given to children and young people. Where data are taken from other publications, links can be found within the chapters.

This is an annual report, with the focus on the year ending March 2019, however much of the data used in this report are drawn from quarterly publications and there may be more up to date data available. The purpose of this report is to provide an overall summary of the YJS, allowing users to find everything in one place. All data referenced are available in the Supplementary Tables that accompany this report. Separate tables covering YOT level information are also available, including in an open and accessible format.

Within this publication the words 'child' or 'children' are used to describe those aged 10-17. When the terms 'child or young person' or 'children and young people' are used, it means that 18 year olds may be included in the data. For example, in the reoffending dataset, someone who entered the cohort aged 17 and subsequently reoffended aged 18 will be included.

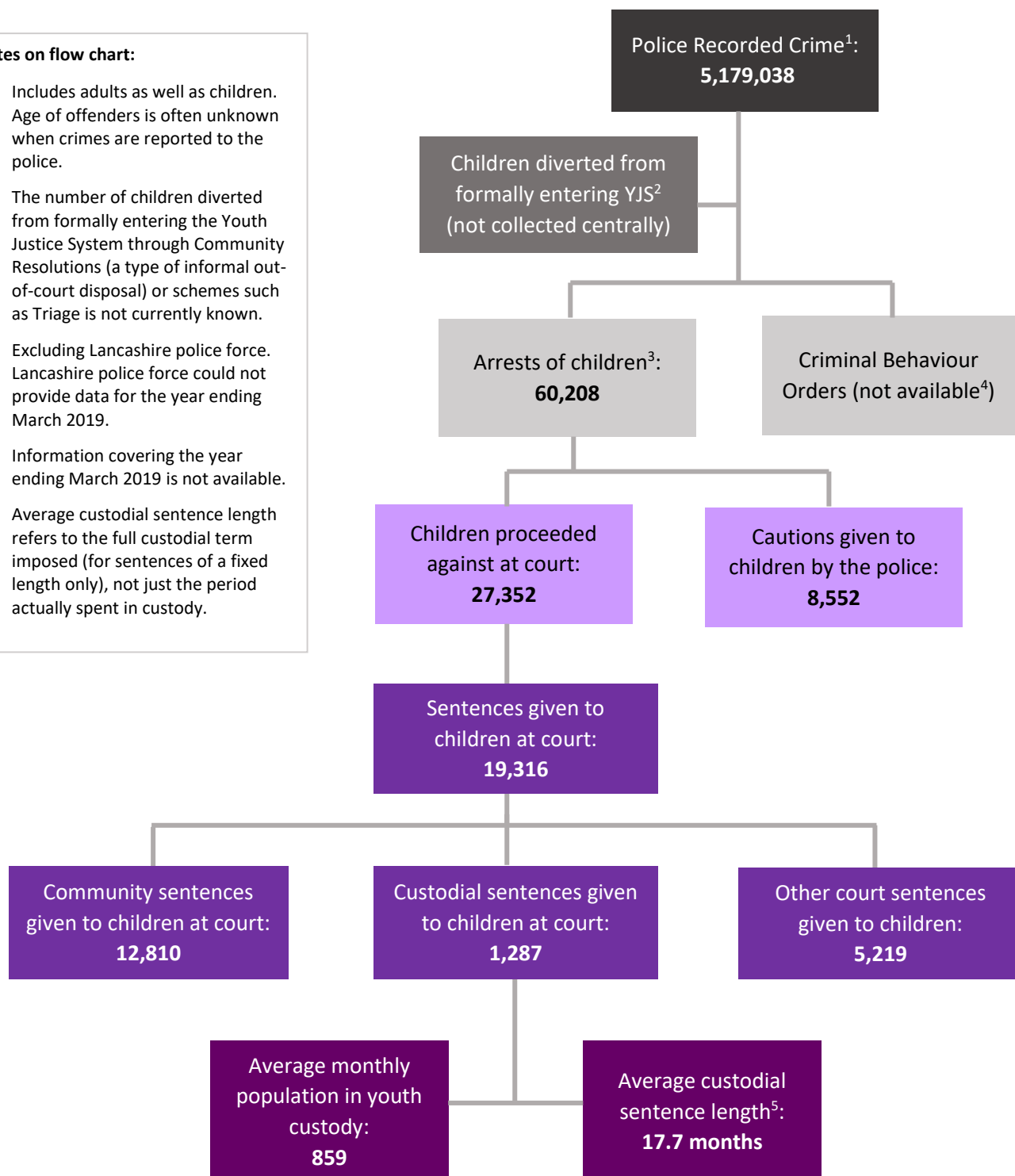
Rounding conventions have been adopted in this publication to aid interpretation and comparisons. Figures greater than 1,000 have been rounded to the nearest 100 and those smaller than 1,000 to the nearest 10. Rates have been reported to one decimal place. Percentages have been calculated from unrounded figures and then rounded to the nearest whole percentage. Unrounded figures have been presented in the Supplementary Tables.

The data in this report are compared with the previous year (the year ending March 2018 in most cases), with the year ending March 2009 as a long-term comparator (ten years). Where a ten year comparator is not available, the year ending March 2014 has been used (five year comparator). Any other reference period is referred to explicitly.

Flows through the Youth Justice System, year ending March 2019

Notes on flow chart:

1. Includes adults as well as children. Age of offenders is often unknown when crimes are reported to the police.
2. The number of children diverted from formally entering the Youth Justice System through Community Resolutions (a type of informal out-of-court disposal) or schemes such as Triage is not currently known.
3. Excluding Lancashire police force. Lancashire police force could not provide data for the year ending March 2019.
4. Information covering the year ending March 2019 is not available.
5. Average custodial sentence length refers to the full custodial term imposed (for sentences of a fixed length only), not just the period actually spent in custody.



1. Gateway to the Youth Justice System

In the year ending March 2019:

- There were just over 60,200 arrests of children (aged 10-17) by the police in England and Wales (excluding Lancashire¹). This has decreased by 77% over the last ten years, with a decrease of 5% in the last year.
 - Black children were over four times more likely than White children to be arrested.
 - Around 8,600 youth cautions were given to children in England and Wales. This is a decrease of 91% compared with the year ending March 2009, with a decrease of 23% in the last year.
-

Description: The Gateway to the Youth Justice System looks at the number of arrests and youth cautions given to children aged 10-17.

Source: Annual data collection from police forces, Home Office (Arrests)
Police National Computer, Ministry of Justice (Youth cautions)

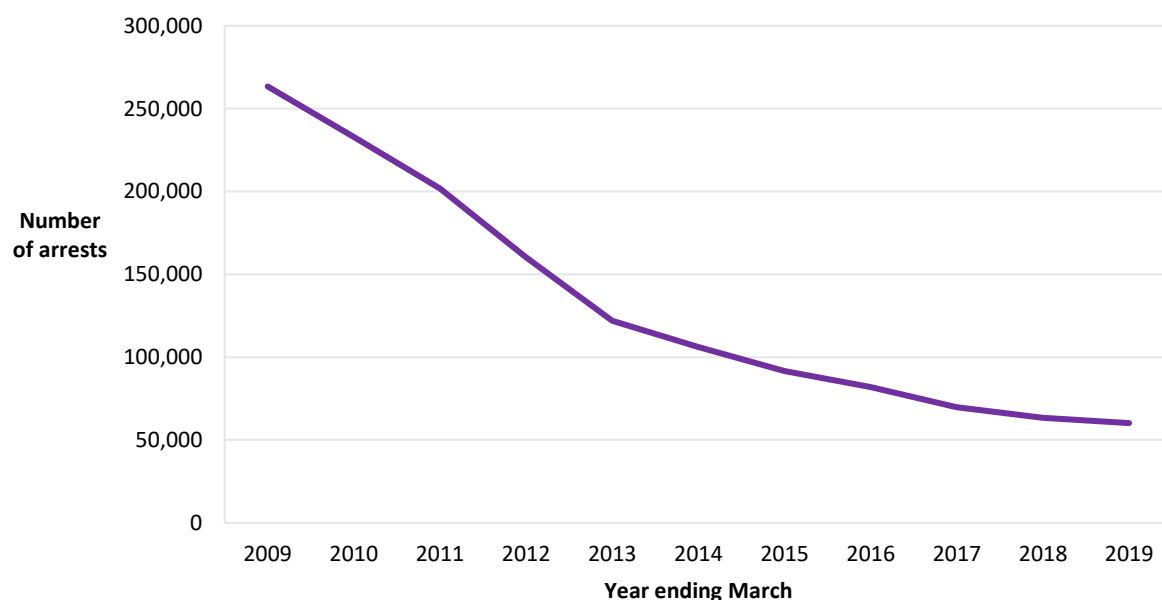
Time period covered: Years ending March 2009 to 2019

Supplementary Tables: Ch 1 – Gateway to the Youth Justice System

More information: [Police Powers and Procedures](#), [Criminal Justice Statistics Quarterly, Ch 11 – Comparisons with the adult system](#), [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#)

1.1 Arrests of children for notifiable offences

Figure 1.1: Trends in arrests of children for notifiable offences, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 1, Table 1.1

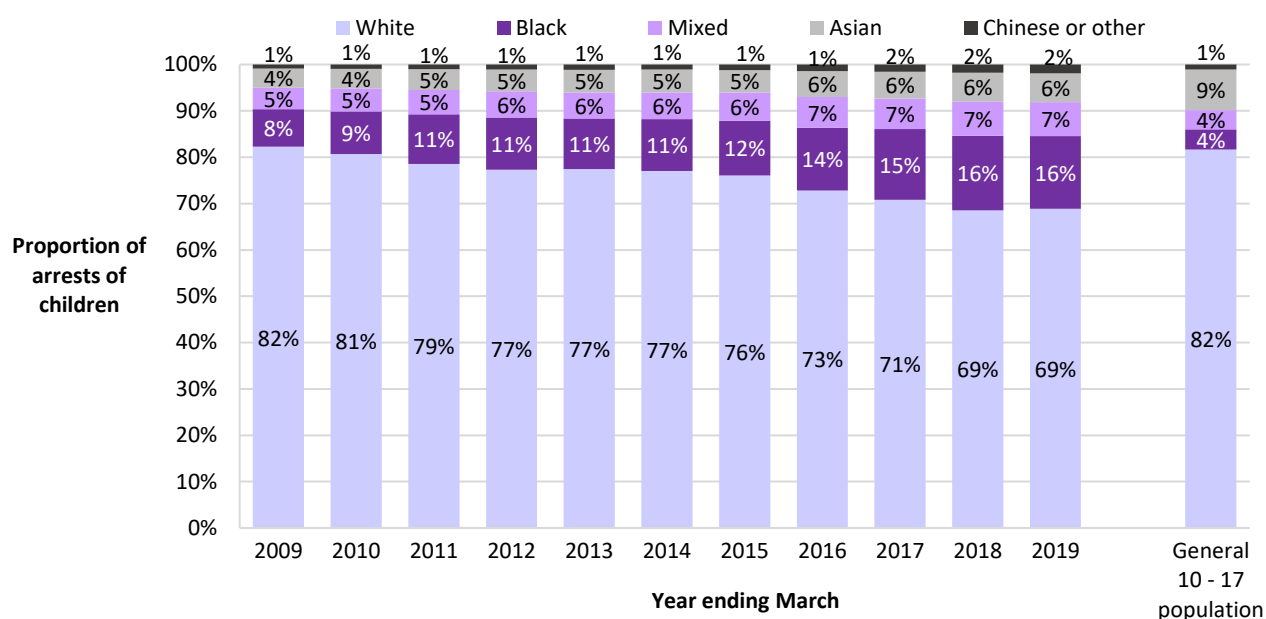
¹ Lancashire could not supply data for the years ending March 2017, 2018 and 2019. Data have been removed for this force for all years so valid comparisons can be made. In the years for which data were available, figures show Lancashire's arrest numbers contributed between 2% and 4% of the total.

In the latest year, there were just over 60,200 arrests of children (aged 10-17) for notifiable offences^{2,3}. This was a fall of 5% compared with the previous year.

This continues the long term downward trend, with the number of arrests falling by 77% since the year ending March 2009. Over this time there have been year-on-year falls of between 5% and 24% (Supplementary Table 1.1), with the year ending March 2019 seeing the smallest year-on-year decrease of the last 10 years.

1.2 Arrests of children by ethnicity^{4,5}

Figure 1.2: Arrests of children for notifiable offences by ethnicity as a proportion of total arrests of children, England and Wales³, years ending March 2009 to 2019⁶



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 1, Tables 1.1

Compared with the year ending March 2009, the numbers of arrests of children of each ethnicity have all decreased significantly, but at different rates. For example, arrests of White children have fallen by 83% compared to 55% for Chinese or Other children. This has led to a change in the proportions of arrests by ethnicity.

In the latest year, 69% (around 37,000) of arrests were of White children. This proportion is a decrease from 82% in the year ending March 2009. Arrests of Black children accounted for 16% (around 8,400) in the latest year, double the proportion of ten years ago. Arrests of Mixed (around 3,900) and Asian (just over 3,300) children made up 7% and 6% of the total respectively in the latest year and have also seen changes in proportions over the last ten years, albeit on a smaller scale.

² Notifiable offences are those offences which require the police to record an incident as a crime and report the occurrence to the Home Office.

³ Lancashire could not supply data for the years ending March 2017, 2018 and 2019. Data have been removed for this force for all years so valid comparisons can be made.

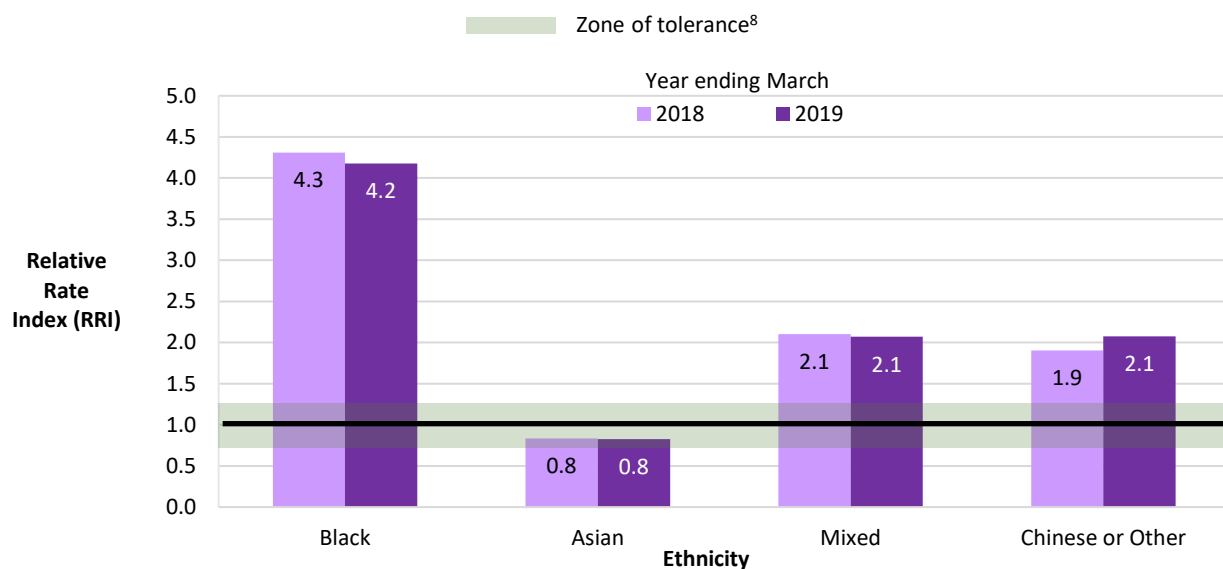
⁴ Ethnicity data are self-identified.

⁵ Does not include where ethnicity was unknown. In the year ending March 2019, the ethnicity was unknown for 11% of arrests for children.

⁶ For ethnicity, population is based on the 2011 census. The ethnic breakdown of the population will likely have changed from 2011, so these figures should be treated as an estimate.

The number of arrests with an unknown ethnicity has increased by 60% from the year ending March 2009 and by 72% compared to the previous year to just over 6,500.

Figure 1.3: Relative Rate Index (RRI) of arrests of children, England and Wales³, years ending March 2018 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 1, Table 1.8

The Relative Rate Index (RRI) is used as a measure of the relative difference in rates of the occurrence of an event or incident type, between different ethnicities.

The black line on Figure 1.3 corresponds to the arrest rate of White children per 10,000 of the general 10 – 17 population⁷. If another ethnicity had an arrest rate equal to that of White children, this would be the equivalent to an RRI of 1.

An RRI greater than 1 indicates an arrest rate that is higher than that of White children. The shaded green box represents the zone of tolerance⁸. Only where the RRI is outside this zone do we consider the difference in arrest rates between White children and those of another ethnicity to be statistically different.

Whilst the RRI for Black children has slightly fallen in the latest year, the RRI shows that they are still over four times as likely as White children to be arrested. Children from Mixed and Chinese or Other ethnicities were around twice as likely to be arrested than White children, while Asian children had a similar chance to White children of being arrested.

Figure 1.3 shows that there is some ethnic disproportionality in arrests, which is often the first interaction a child will have with the Youth Justice System (YJS). This could be a driver of further disproportionality seen at other stages of the system⁹.

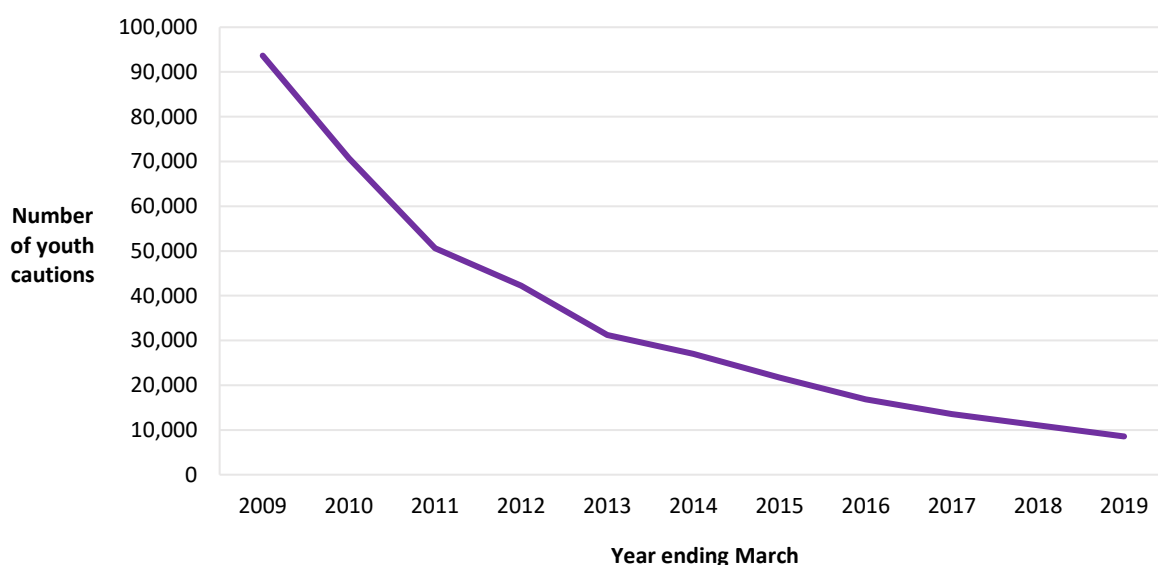
⁷ For ethnicity, population is based on the 2011 census. The ethnic breakdown of the population will likely have changed from 2011, so these figures should be treated as an estimate.

⁸ To assess whether the RRI represents a statistically significant disparity in arrest rate between ethnicities, a z-test has been used where the proportions are assessed at the 95% confidence level.

⁹ See the latest [Race and the Criminal Justice System](#) statistics.

1.3 Youth cautions¹⁰

Figure 1.4: Trends in youth cautions given to children, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 1, Table 1.9

In the year ending March 2019, around 8,600 youth cautions¹¹ were given to children. This is a decrease of 91% since the year ending March 2009, with a decrease of 23% in the latest year.

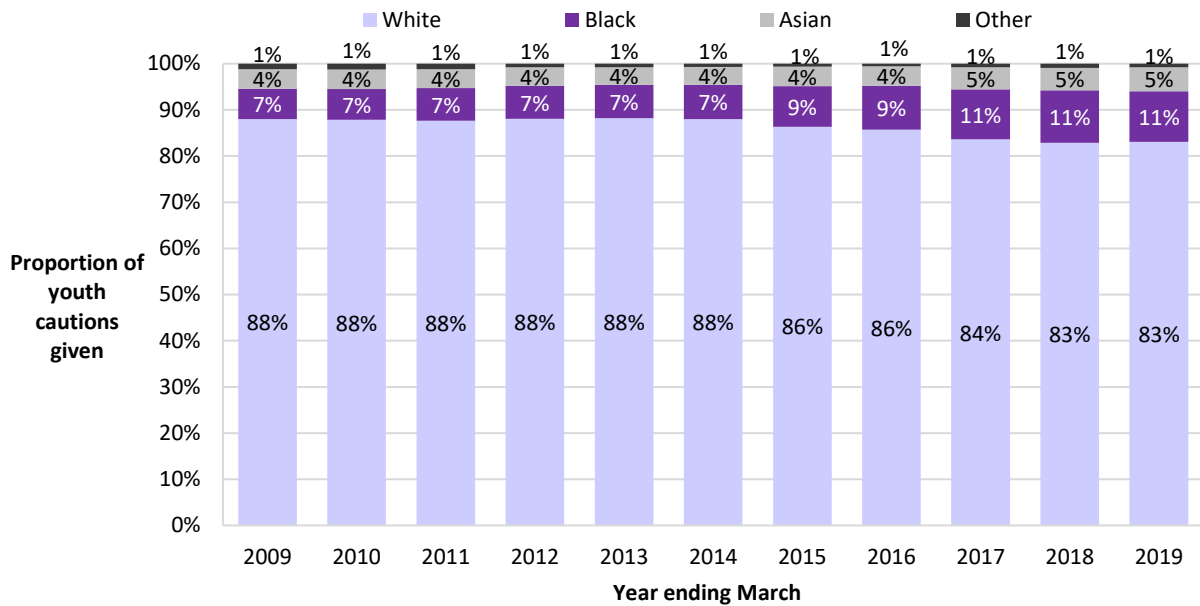
With the exception of public order offences (which saw a minor increase of 2%), the number of youth cautions fell across all other offence types in the last year¹², including a 52% fall for robbery, a 35% decrease for theft offences and a 29% fall for miscellaneous crimes against society (Supplementary Table 1.12).

¹⁰ Includes children recorded as receiving a youth caution, and reprimands and warnings which were the available out of court disposals before youth cautions were introduced in 2013.

¹¹ For all offences except summary motoring offences; no children were issued a youth caution for summary motoring offences between 2009 and 2019.

¹² In the year ending March 2016, the offence groups used as the reason for giving a youth caution were updated to match the groups used in crime statistics. As a result, data on youth cautions broken down by some offence groups from the year ending March 2016 onwards are not directly comparable with previously published data.

Figure 1.5: Trends in proportions of youth cautions given by ethnicity¹³, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 1, Table 1.11

The proportions of youth cautions issued have changed for White and Black children over the last ten years, while remaining broadly stable for Asian and Other children. All ethnic groups have seen decreases in the volume of youth cautions issued over the course of the decade. However, there was a smaller decrease for Black children when compared to other ethnic groups leading to an increase in the proportion of cautions Black children received, from 7% to 11% over the last decade.

¹³ Ethnicity is police officer identified. There is not a Mixed ethnicity group in officer identified ethnicities, so caution should be used if comparing with data using self-identified ethnicities.

2. First time entrants to the Youth Justice System

In the year ending March 2019:

- There were around 11,900 first time entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice System (YJS). The number of FTEs has continued to fall, decreasing by 85% since the year ending March 2009, with an 18% fall since the year ending March 2018.
- The proportion of FTEs receiving a court sentence for their first offence has continued to increase, from 10% to 45% since the year ending March 2009.
- While the number of FTEs from a Black background has decreased since the year ending March 2009, the proportion¹⁴ they comprise of all child FTEs has doubled, from 8% to 16%.

Description: First time entrants to the Youth Justice System are children aged 10-17 who receive their first youth caution or court sentence recorded on the Police National Computer¹⁵

Source: Ministry of Justice extract of Police National Computer

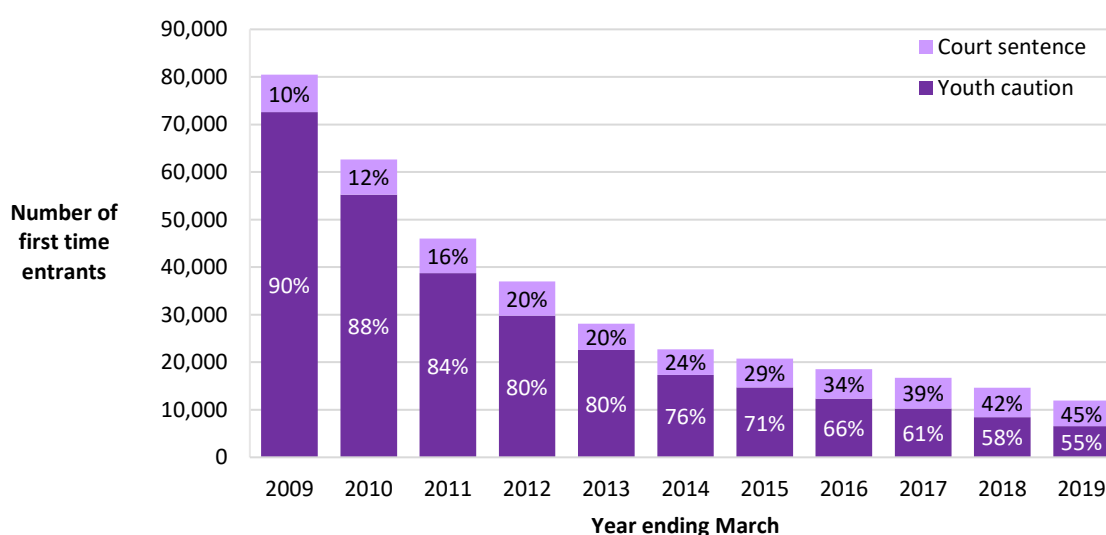
Time period covered: Years ending March 2009 to 2019

Supplementary Tables: Ch 2 – First time entrants to the Youth Justice System

More information: [Criminal Justice Statistics Quarterly](#) (more up to date data available), [Chapter 10 - Criminal histories of children](#), [Ch 11 – Comparisons with the adult system](#), [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#)

2.1 Trends in the number and proportion of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System

Figure 2.1: First time entrants to the Youth Justice System, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



¹⁴ Proportions are based on where ethnicity was known. In the year ending March 2019, the ethnicity was unknown for 14% (around 1,600) of FTEs.

¹⁵ First offences only include offences committed in England and Wales, committed by offenders residing in England and Wales and recorded on the Police National Computer (PNC) by an English or Welsh police force.

The number of FTEs to the YJS (aged 10-17) has continued to fall¹⁶. Compared with the year ending March 2009, the number has fallen by 85% (from 80,500). Since the year ending March 2018, the number fell by 18% to around 11,900.

Children accounted for 11% of all FTEs to the criminal justice system in the year ending March 2019, compared to 28% ten years ago (see [Chapter 11 – Comparisons with the Adult System](#)).

As shown in Figure 2.1, the majority of FTEs to the YJS received a caution¹⁷ in each of the last ten years. However, this proportion has fallen from 90% in the year ending March 2009 (when around 72,600 FTEs received a caution), to 55% (around 6,600 FTEs received a caution) in the year ending March 2019.

The number of FTEs receiving a court sentence (predominantly community sentences) had been falling year-on-year from the year ending March 2009 to 2014, when it increased, before falling again from 2018. Since the year ending March 2009, the proportion of FTEs receiving a sentence has increased from 10% to 45% (Supplementary Table 2.4).

2.2 Characteristics of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System

Figure 2.2: Demographic characteristics¹⁸ of first time entrants compared to the general 10-17 population, England and Wales, year ending March 2019

	Age group		Gender	
	10-14	15-17	Boys	Girls
FTEs	29%	71%	82%	18%
10-17 population ¹⁹	64%	36%	51%	49%

Supplementary Tables: Chapter 2, Tables 2.6

Age

The average age of FTEs aged 10-17 has been increasing over the last ten years²⁰. It increased from 14.7 years old ten years ago to 15.3 in the latest year, though it has remained broadly stable over the last five years. Over the last ten years, the average age of FTEs receiving a sentence has always been higher than the average age of those receiving a youth caution (Supplementary Table 2.10).

The increasing average age of FTEs is reflected in the changes in the number of FTEs in each age group, as the number in the younger age group (10-14 year olds) has decreased at a higher rate over the last ten years than the number in the older age group (15-17 year olds). In the latest year, 10-14 year olds decreased by 24% whereas those aged 15-17 years old decreased by 16% (Supplementary Table 2.6).

¹⁶ See [Analysis of trends in first time entrants to the youth justice system](#) for more information.

¹⁷ Since 8 April 2013 there have been a number of changes in out of court disposals. Reprimands and final warnings were replaced by youth cautions for all 10-17 year olds and youth conditional cautions were made available for all 10-17 year olds. Guidance is published in [Youth Cautions Guidance for Police and Youth Offending Teams](#).

¹⁸ Proportions are based on where gender is known. In the year ending March 2019, gender was unknown for 2% (around 200) of child FTEs.

¹⁹ For age and gender, population is based on 2018 mid-year estimates.

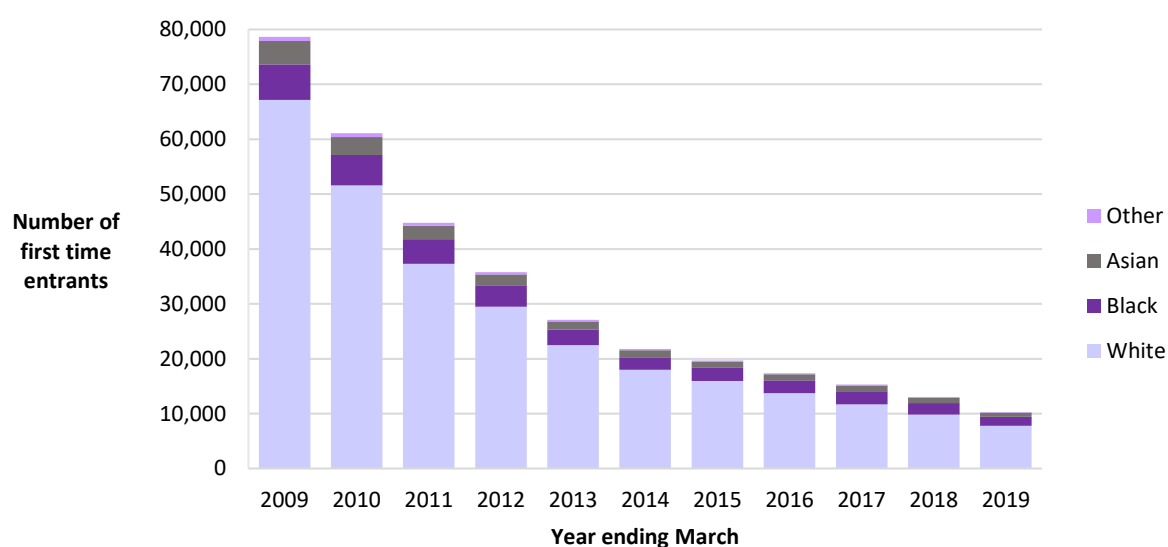
²⁰ Based on the numbers of FTEs by age on date of caution or sentence.

Gender

There have always been more boys than girls who are FTEs to the Youth Justice System. In the year ending March 2019, boys comprised 82% of the total FTEs, whilst making up 51% of the general 10-17-year-old population¹⁸.

The number of FTEs has fallen for both boys and girls over the last decade, with the larger percentage decrease seen in girls. The number of FTEs who are girls has fallen by 92% (from over 25,700 to around 2,100) over the last ten years. This compares to a decrease of 82% for FTEs who are boys over the same period (from just under 54,500 to 9,600). In the latest year, there was a 21% fall in FTEs who are girls compared to an 18% decrease in boys (Supplementary Table 2.6).

Figure 2.3: The number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System by ethnicity^{21,22}, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 2, Table 2.7

Ethnicity

As shown in Figure 2.3, the number of 10-17 year old FTEs has been falling for each ethnicity (except for FTEs from a Black ethnic background in which there were small increases between the years ending March 2014 and 2015 and the years ending March 2016 and 2017). FTEs from a White ethnic background have fallen at the fastest rate, by 88% over the last ten years, resulting in the proportion they comprise of all FTEs reducing from 85% to 75%.

The proportion of FTEs from a Black background has doubled over the last ten years, from 8% to 16%. The proportion of FTEs from an Asian background has increased from 5% to 7% over the same period, whereas the proportion of FTEs from an Other ethnic background has remained stable at 1%.

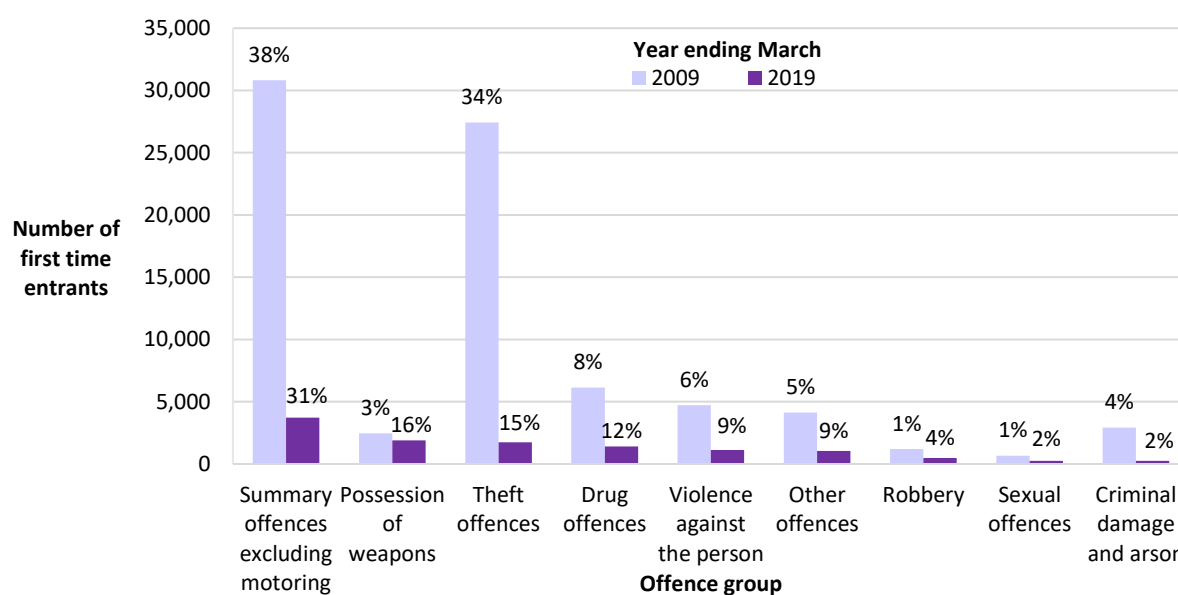
²¹ Proportions are based on where ethnicity was known. In the year ending March 2019, the ethnicity was unknown for 14% (around 1,600) of FTEs.

²² Ethnicity is police officer identified. There is not a 'Mixed' ethnicity group in officer identified ethnicities, so caution should be used if comparing with data using self-identified ethnicities.

2.3 Types of offences committed by first time entrants to the Youth Justice System²³

In the year ending March 2019, the most common offences committed by 10-17 year old FTEs were summary offences excluding motoring. This offence type made up nearly one third (around 3,700) of all offences committed by FTEs and includes lower level offences such as common assault and low level criminal damage. Possession of weapon offences were the next most common and made up 16% of all offences committed by FTEs, a proportion which has been increasing over the last ten years. Compared with the year ending March 2009, the proportion of theft offences fell from 34% to 15%.

Figure 2.4: Number of offences committed by first time entrants by offence group, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 and 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 2, Table 2.2

Supplementary Table 2.2 shows that in the year ending March 2019 there were fewer offences committed by FTEs to the YJS for all offence groups compared with ten years ago. However, in the latest year, there was a slight increase in the number of FTEs committing possession of weapons offences. This group has been increasing over the last five years (to 1,900 offences in the latest year). This has led to a change in the proportions of some offence groups.

The offence groups that have seen the largest percentage point increases compared with ten years ago are:

- Possession of weapons offences, increasing by 13 percentage points, to 16%;
- Drug offences increasing by 4 percentage points to 12%; and
- Violence against the person which also increased by 4 percentage points to 9%.

²³ Summary offences are usually heard only in magistrates' courts. Indictable offences are the most serious cases, such as murder and rape, which must be heard at the Crown Court. See the Glossary in [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

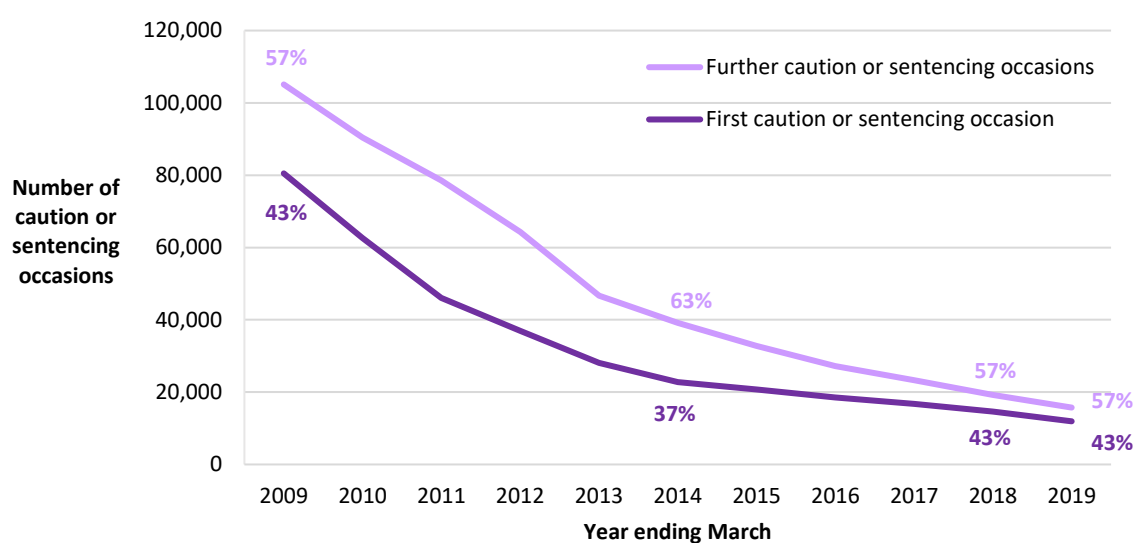
While robbery and sexual offences have also seen proportional increases over the last ten years (up 3 percentage points and 1 percentage point respectively), they still comprise a very small proportion of all FTE offences.

The offence groups that have seen the largest percentage point decreases compared with ten years ago are:

- Theft offences, decreasing by 19 percentage points to 15%; and
- Summary offences excluding motoring, decreasing 7 percentage points to 31%.

2.4 First offences and further caution or sentencing occasions of children

Figure 2.5: Number and proportion of first and further caution or sentencing occasions of children, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 2, Table 2.1

In the year ending March 2019, there were around 27,700 caution or sentencing occasions of children; 43% of these were first caution or sentencing occasions (around 11,900) and 57% were further occasions (around 15,700).

The numbers of first and further caution or sentencing occasions have both decreased over the last ten years. In the year ending March 2009, first caution or sentencing occasions made up 43% of all caution or sentencing occasions of children. These fell to a low of 36% in the year ending March 2012, and have been steadily increasing since, to 43% in the latest year (Supplementary Table 2.1).

3. Demographic characteristics of children in the Youth Justice System

In the year ending March 2019:

- Around 21,700 children^{24,25} received a caution or sentence, a fall of 83% compared with ten years ago, with a fall of 19% in the latest year.
 - The 19% fall in the number of children who received a caution or sentence in the most recent year is the largest year-on-year decrease since the year ending March 2013.
 - The proportion of Black children given a caution or sentence is almost three times higher than the proportion of Black children in the 10-17 population²⁶.
-

Description: The number and demographic characteristics of children given a caution or sentence.

Source: Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF) based on YOT case management system caseload data.

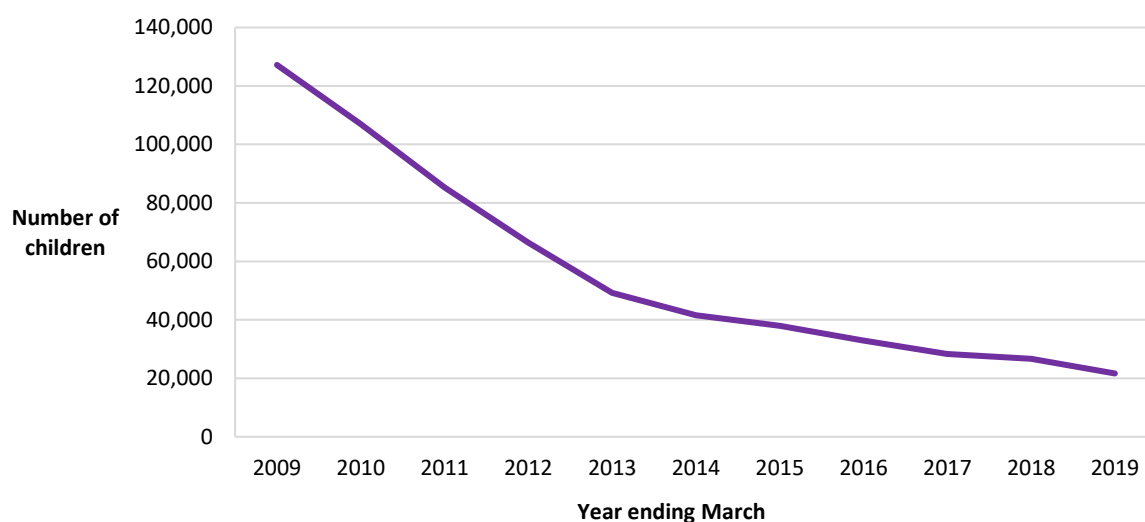
Time period covered: Years ending March 2009 to 2019 (Number of children receiving a caution or sentence)
Years ending March 2010 to 2019 (Characteristics of children receiving a caution or sentence)

Supplementary Tables: Ch 3 – Demographic characteristics of children in the Youth Justice System

More information: [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#), Local level data tables

3.1 Number of children who received a caution or sentence

Figure 3.1: Number of children given a caution or sentence, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 3, Table 3.9

²⁴ While children are only counted once in each Youth Offending Team (YOT) regardless of the number of offences committed or cautions or sentences given, there will be some double counting nationally where children who received a caution or sentence in one YOT then transfer to another YOT and receive another caution or sentence in the same period.

²⁵ Figures include those who were aged under 18 on the date of first court appearance but aged 18 on date of sentence.

²⁶ For ethnicity, population is based on the 2011 census. The ethnic breakdown of the population will likely have changed from 2011, so these figures should be treated as an estimate.

Around 21,700 children²⁴ received a caution or sentence in the year ending March 2019. There have been year-on-year falls in each of the last ten years, and in the latest year, 83% fewer children received a caution or sentence than in the year ending March 2009.

The 19% fall in the number of children who received a caution or sentence in the most recent year is the biggest year-on-year decrease since the year ending March 2013.

3.2 Demographic characteristics of children who received a caution or sentence

Figure 3.2: Demographic characteristics^{27,28} of children receiving a caution or sentence compared to the general 10-17 population, England and Wales, year ending March 2019

	Age Group ²⁸		Gender	
	10-14	15-17+	Boys	Girls
Children receiving a caution or sentence	23%	77%	85%	15%
10-17 population ²⁹	64%	36%	51%	49%

Supplementary Tables: Chapter 3, Tables 3.2 and 3.3

Boys made up 51% of the general 10-17 population in England and Wales, but accounted for 85% of the total number of children who received a caution or sentence in the latest year. This proportion has been steadily increasing.

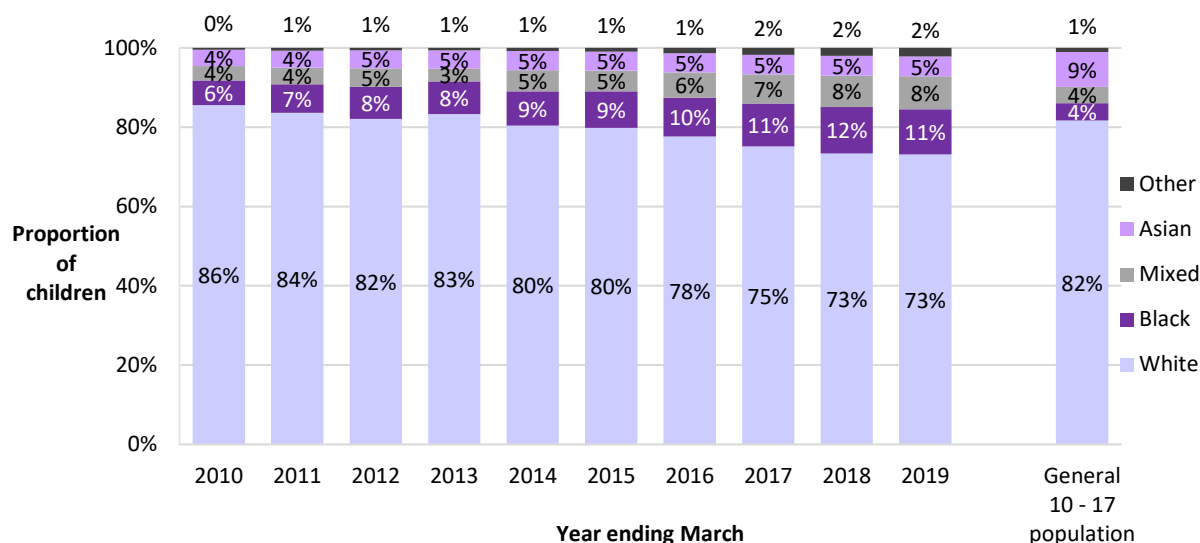
Most children who received a caution or sentence were aged 15-17 (77%), with 17 year olds accounting for the largest share (33%) in the year ending March 2019.

²⁷ Proportions are calculated where gender was known. In the year ending March 2019, gender was unknown for 0.1% of children who received a youth caution or sentence.

²⁸ Age is calculated at the time of caution or for those sentenced, at the time of the first hearing. This is because these young people may still be supported by the Youth Offending Team, even if they turn 18 before the sentence is passed. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

²⁹ For age and gender, population is based on Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2018 mid-year estimates.

Figure 3.3: Number and proportion of children receiving a caution or sentence by ethnicity^{30,31,32,33}, England and Wales, years ending March 2010 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 3, Table 3.1

Supplementary Table 3.1 shows that the number of children given cautions or sentences has varied by ethnicity over the last ten years. This has led to changes in the proportions each ethnic group make up of all cautions and sentences.

Figure 3.3 shows that:

- The proportion of Black children cautioned or sentenced has been increasing over the last ten years, though it saw a minor decrease in the latest year and the proportion is almost three times that of the general 10-17 population.
- Children from a Mixed ethnic background are also overrepresented, accounting for 8% of those receiving a caution or sentence compared to 4% of the general 10-17 population.

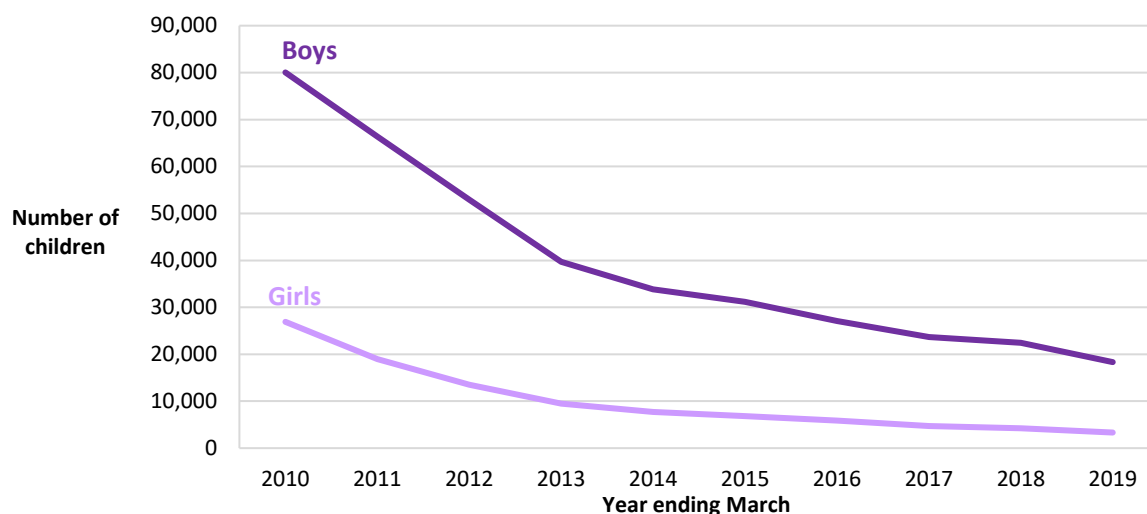
³⁰ A ten year comparison is not available.

³¹ Proportions are calculated on where ethnicity was known. In the year ending March 2019, ethnicity was unknown for 4% of children who received a youth caution or sentence.

³² For ethnicity, population is based on the 2011 census. The ethnic breakdown of the population will likely have changed from 2011, so these figures should be treated as an estimate.

³³ Ethnicity data are self-identified.

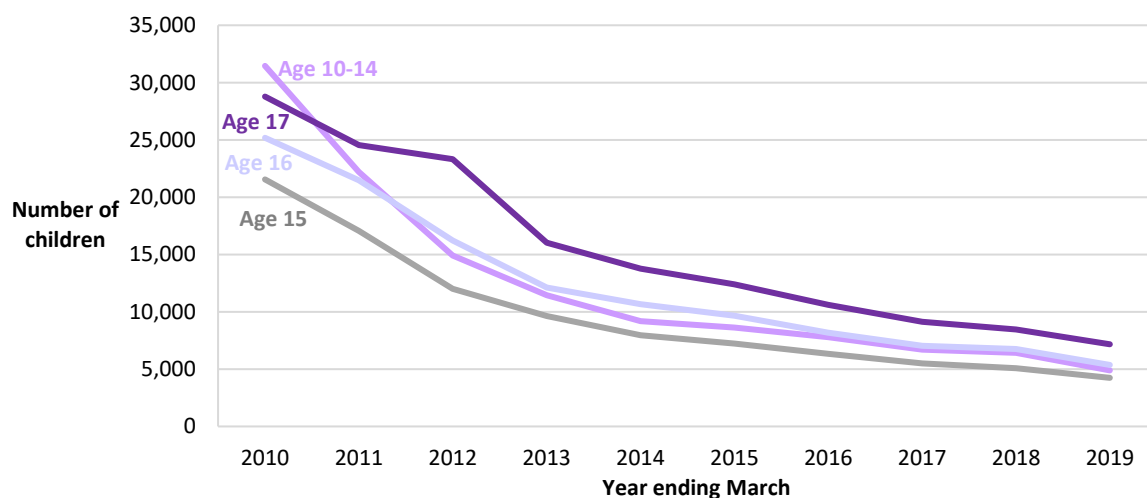
Figure 3.4: Number of children receiving a caution or sentence by gender, England and Wales, years ending March 2010 to 2019³⁰



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 3, Table 3.2

In the year ending March 2019, there were around 3,300 girls and 18,300 boys who received a caution or sentence. Compared with the year ending March 2010, the numbers of girls and boys receiving a caution or sentence have fallen by 88% and 77% respectively.

Figure 3.5: Number of children receiving a caution or sentence by age³⁴, England and Wales, years ending March 2010 to 2019³⁰



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 3, Table 3.3

Figure 3.5 shows that there have been decreases in the number of cautions and sentences given to children across all ages.

In the latest year, those aged 17 years³⁴ made up the largest proportion of children receiving a caution or sentence, accounting for a third (33%). The proportion of children who received a caution or sentence by each age has remained broadly stable over the last five years.

³⁴ Age is calculated at the time of caution or for those sentenced, at the time of the first hearing. This is because these young people may still be supported by the Youth Offending Team, even if they turn 18 before the sentence is passed.

4. Proven offences by children

In the year ending March 2019:

- The number of proven offences committed by children has continued to fall and was 76% lower than the year ending March 2009, with a 16% fall in the latest year, to around 58,900 proven offences.
- The number of proven offences committed by children fell for all offence groups compared to the previous year, except robbery offences, which increased by 5%.
- Whilst the number of violence against the person offences has followed an overall downward trend, this offence group has been steadily increasing as a proportion of all offences over the last ten years, and now accounts for 30% of all proven offences.
- Knife and offensive weapon sentencing statistics show that there were under 4,500 knife or offensive weapon offences resulting in a caution or sentence committed by 10-17 year olds. This is a fall of 31% compared with the year ending March 2009, with a 1% fall in the latest year, though numbers remain higher than five years ago.

Description: All proven offences (indictable and summary) committed by children. A proven offence is one for which a child receives a caution or sentence³⁵.

Source: Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF) (Proven offences by children)
Police National Computer (Knife and offensive weapon sentencing statistics)

Time period covered: Years ending March 2009 to 2019 (Proven offences by children)
Years ending March 2009 to 2019 (Knife and offensive weapon sentencing statistics)

Supplementary Tables: Ch 4 – Proven offences by children

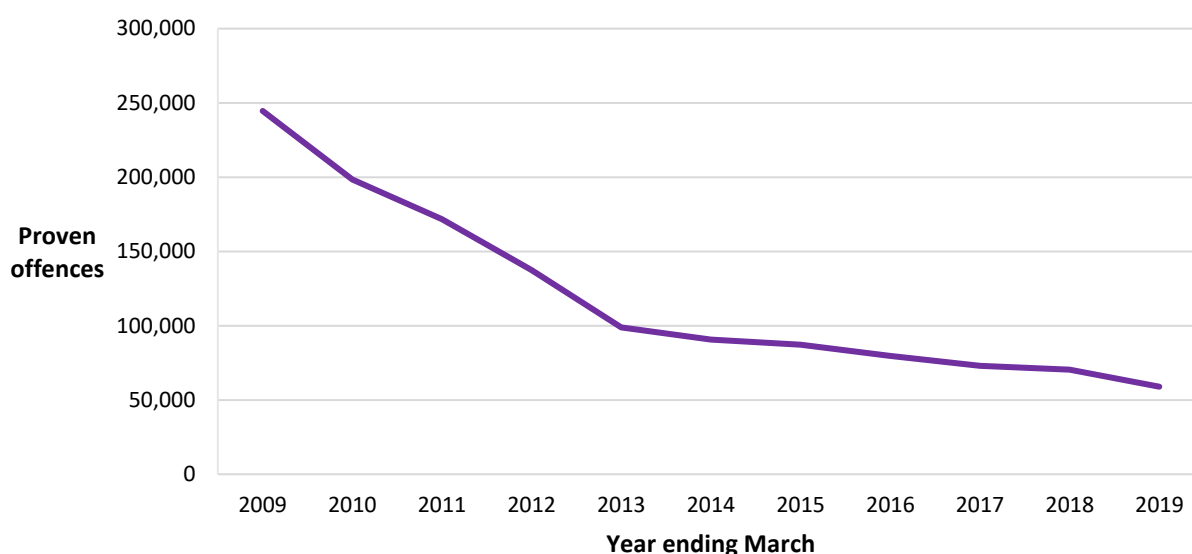
More information: [Knife and offensive weapon sentencing statistics](#) (more up to date data available),

[Ch 11 – Comparisons with the adult system](#), [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#), Local level data tables

³⁵ These data include all offences for which a child is given a youth caution or sentence for, and not just the primary offence. The offence breakdown differs from the main offence types used by the MoJ. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

4.1 Trends in proven offences by children

Figure 4.1: Number of proven offences by children, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 4, Table 4.1

The number of proven offences committed by children³⁶ has continued to fall. In the year ending March 2019, there were just over 58,900 proven offences committed by children which resulted in a caution or sentence in court. This is a fall of 76% from the year ending March 2009 when there were around 244,600 proven offences.

As Figure 4.1 shows, there were larger falls in the number of proven offences committed by children between the years ending March 2009 and 2013, with more modest decreases since then, however the 16% fall in the latest year is the largest year-on-year fall in the last five years.

Offence volumes

Supplementary Table 4.1 shows that in the last ten years, the number of proven offences has fallen across all offence groups. Breach of statutory order and theft and handling stolen goods are the two offence groups to see the largest fall over this time (89% and 86% respectively).

While there have been decreases across most offence groups, robbery offences have increased by 5% to around 2,500 offences over the last year. This is the second consecutive year robbery offences have increased.

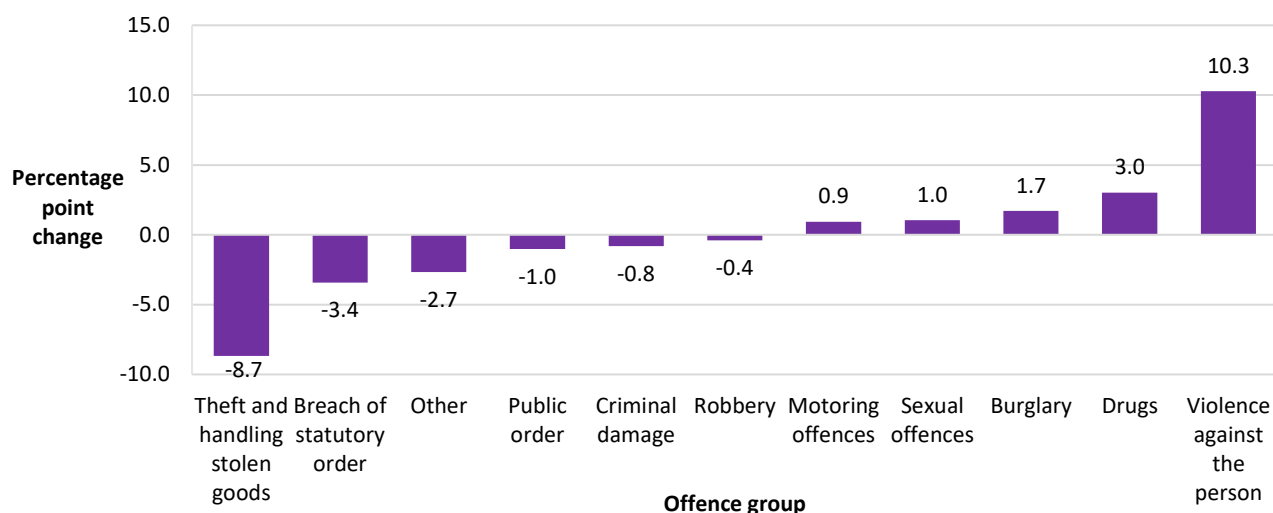
³⁶ Age is calculated at the time of caution or for those sentenced, at the time of the first hearing. This is because these young people may still be supported by the Youth Offending Team, even if they turn 18 before the sentence is passed. This count does not include a small number of offences committed by young people who turn 18 before their first hearing. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

Supplementary Table 4.3 shows that in the year ending March 2019, most proven offences were committed by children who were³⁷:

- Aged 15-17 (77%),
- Boys (86%), and
- White (74%).

Offence volumes as a proportion of total

Figure 4.2: Percentage point change in the proportion of proven offences committed by children, England and Wales, between the years ending March 2009 and 2019^{38,39}



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 4, Table 4.1

Whilst the number of proven offences committed by children has fallen for all crime types when compared with ten years ago, the proportions of these offence groups has been changing (Figure 4.2). Violence against the person offences have seen the greatest increase in proportion, gradually increasing from 19% in the year ending March 2009 to 30% of proven offences in the latest year.

Theft and handling stolen goods offences have seen the largest proportional decrease in the last ten years, nearly halving from 20% in the year ending March 2009 to 11% in the latest year.

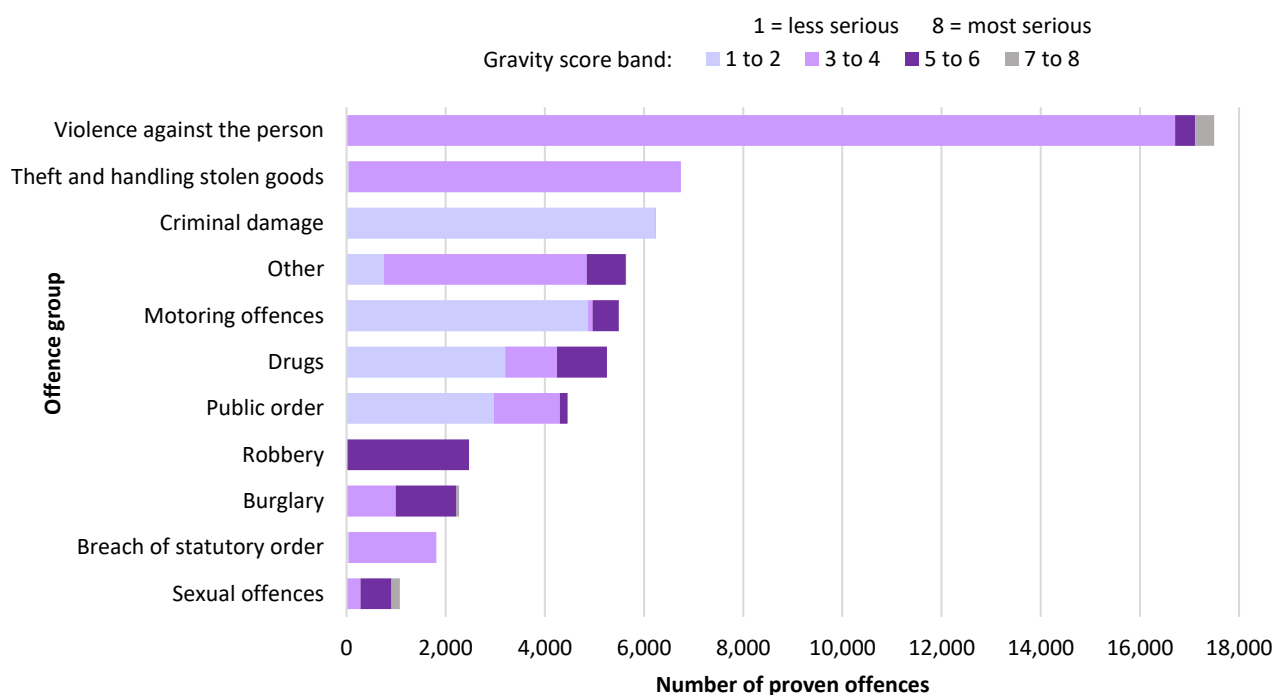
³⁷ Proportions are based on where the demographic characteristics were known. In the year ending March 2019, the ethnicity was not known for 3% of the proven offences committed by children, and the gender was not known for less than 1% of the proven offences committed by children.

³⁸ See Supplementary Tables: Chapter 4, Table 4.2 for the breakdown of the offences which are grouped into 'Other' offences.

³⁹ Based on YJB offence groups, which differ from Ministry of Justice offence groups. For example, Possession of Weapons offences sit within the Violence Against the Person group in the YJB offence groups, but are a distinct category in MoJ groupings.

4.2 Types of proven offences by children

Figure 4.3: Proven offences by children, by offence group and gravity score band, England and Wales, year ending March 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 4, Table 4.1 and 4.4

Of the around 58,900 proven offences committed by children in the latest year, the main offence type was violence against the person, which accounted for 30% of all proven offences by children in the latest year. Sexual offences have always made up the smallest proportion of proven offences over the last ten years, accounting for 2% in the latest year.

4.3 Offence group by gravity score⁴⁰

An offence's seriousness, or 'gravity score' is scored out of eight, ranging from one (less serious) up to eight (most serious).

As Figure 4.3 shows, while violence against the person offences made up the largest share of offences, only a small proportion of these offences (5%) had a higher gravity score of five to eight⁴¹. For robbery, burglary and sexual offences, the majority had a higher gravity score of five to eight⁴².

In the latest year, just under 230 proven offences committed by children had the highest gravity score of eight, which accounts for 0.4% of all proven offences (Supplementary Table 4.4).

⁴⁰ The offence list reflects that of the Police National Legal Database (PNLD) and is in line with other criminal justice agencies.

⁴¹ Proportions are based on where gravity score was known. In the year ending March 2019, the gravity score was not known for less than 1% of all proven offences.

⁴² Robbery offences all carry a gravity score of six. Burglary offences carry gravity scores of between three and seven, with sexual offences ranging from one to eight, depending on the specific offence title.

Figure 4.4: Proportion of proven offences by gravity score band and demographic characteristics⁴³, England and Wales, year ending March 2019

		Gravity score band		Total
		Less serious: 1 to 4	Most serious: 5 to 8	
Age	10-14	90%	10%	100%
	15-17	86%	14%	100%
Ethnicity	Asian	78%	22%	100%
	Black	77%	23%	100%
	Mixed	83%	17%	100%
	Other	86%	14%	100%
	White	89%	11%	100%
Gender	Girls	95%	5%	100%
	Boys	85%	15%	100%

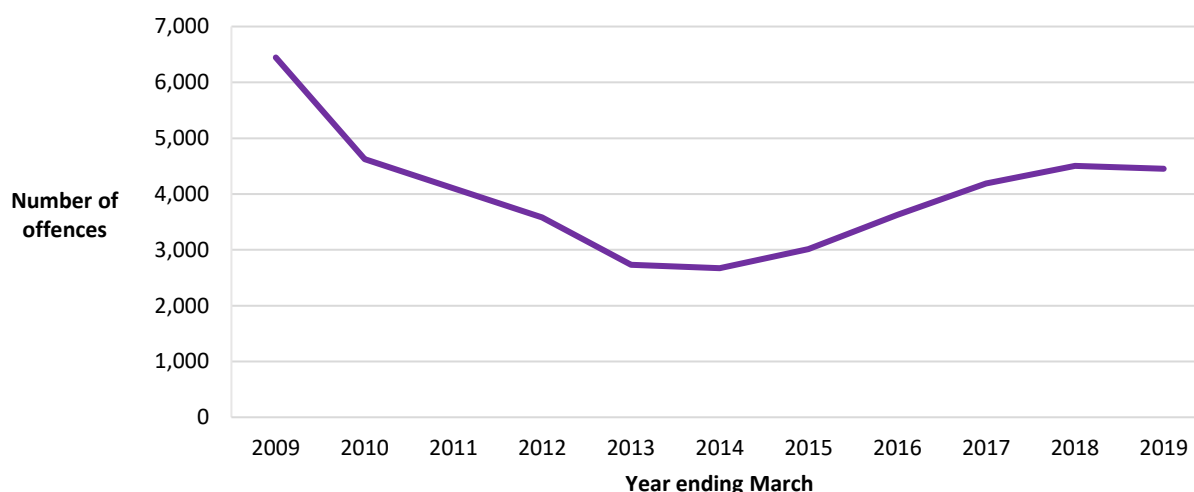
Supplementary Tables: Chapter 4, Table 4.5

Figure 4.4 shows that the proportion of proven offences with a gravity score in the higher band (of five to eight), was greater for:

- Those aged 15-17 (14% compared to 10% of offences committed by 10-14 year olds),
- Black children (23%, with other ethnic groups ranging from 11% to 22%), and
- Boys (15%, compared to 5% for girls).

4.4 Knife or offensive weapon offences committed by children

Figure 4.5. Knife or offensive weapon offences committed by children, resulting in a caution or sentence, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 4, Table 4.6

In the year ending March 2019, there were around 4,500 knife or offensive weapon offences committed by children resulting in a caution or sentence, which is 31% lower than ten years ago with a decrease of 1% compared with the previous year. While this is the first year-on-year decrease since

⁴³ Proportions are based on where the demographic characteristics were known. In the year ending March 2019, the ethnicity of the child was not known for 3%, and the gender was not known for less than 1% of the proven offences committed by children.

the year ending March 2014, the number of knife or offensive weapon offences remains higher than five years ago.

In the latest year, the majority (97%) of knife and offensive weapon offences committed by children were possession offences and the remaining 3% were threatening with a knife or offensive weapon offences. These proportions have remained broadly stable over the last five years⁴⁴.

Supplementary Table 4.6 shows that in the year ending March 2019, just over half of disposals given to children (51%) for a knife or offensive weapon offence were a community sentence. This is the same as the previous year, but an increase of 3 percentage points compared with ten years ago. The proportion of children sentenced to immediate custody has decreased from 14% to 12% in the last year, but remains higher than the year ending March 2009, when it was 8%. A further 29% received a caution, which is the same as the previous year but down from 38% ten years ago.

⁴⁴ A ten year comparison is not available. In December 2012 offences involving threatening with a knife or offensive weapon in a public place or in a school premises were introduced and included from this point on.

5. Sentencing of children

In the year ending March 2019:

- There were just over 19,300 occasions where children were sentenced at all courts, which is 78% lower than ten years ago, with a 16% fall in the latest year.
- Of all sentencing occasions for indictable offences, the proportion involving White children has decreased from 74% to 65% over the last five years⁴⁵. Conversely, the proportion of sentencing occasions involving Black children for indictable offences increased from 14% to 20% over the same period.
- The average custodial sentence length for all offences has increased by six months over the last ten years from 11.4 months to 17.7 months.

Description: Children (aged 10-17) proceeded against and sentenced after being found guilty of proven offences by court type and type of offence.

Source: Court Proceedings Database

Time period covered: Years ending March 2014 to 2019 (Sentencing by ethnicity)
Years ending March 2009 to 2019 (All other data)

Supplementary Tables: Ch 5 – Sentencing of children

More information: [Criminal Justice Statistics Quarterly](#), [Chapter 10 – Criminal histories of children](#), [Ch 11 – Comparisons with the adult system](#), [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#)

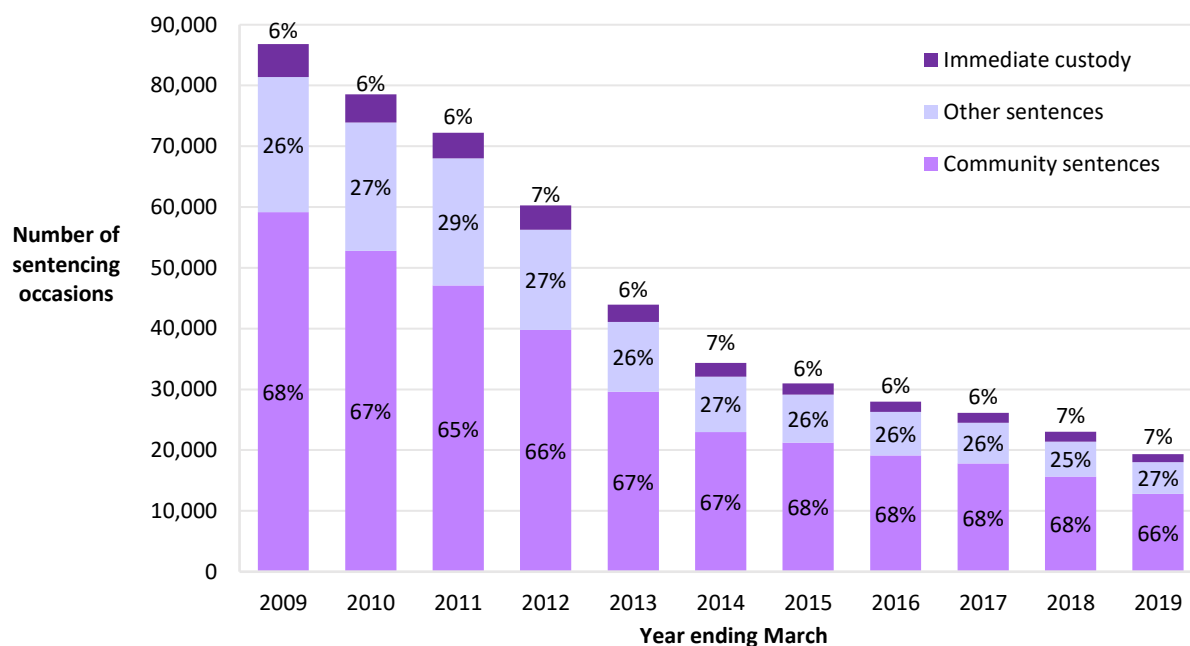
5.1 Children proceeded against

There were around 27,400 children proceeded against in the year ending March 2019, a fall of 75% compared to ten years ago, with a fall of 13% in the latest year. Over half (57%) of these proceedings were for indictable offences, 35% were for summary non-motoring offences and the remaining 8% were for summary motoring offences (Supplementary Table 5.1).

⁴⁵ A ten year comparison is not available.

5.2 Sentencing of children in all courts⁴⁶

Figure 5.1: Number of sentencing occasions of children sentenced in all courts by sentence type, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 5, Table 5.3

There were just over 19,300 occasions where children were sentenced in all courts in the latest year, which is 78% lower than ten years previously. There have been year-on-year falls in the number of sentencing occasions of children over the last ten years, with a fall of 16% in the most recent year. The percentage fall over the last ten years has been fairly consistent between different sentence types; between 76% and 78%, hence the proportions by sentence type have remained broadly the same. As Figure 5.1 shows, although the number of custodial sentences fell by 76% over the last ten years, the proportion of custodial sentences has remained broadly stable, varying between 6% and 7% over this period.

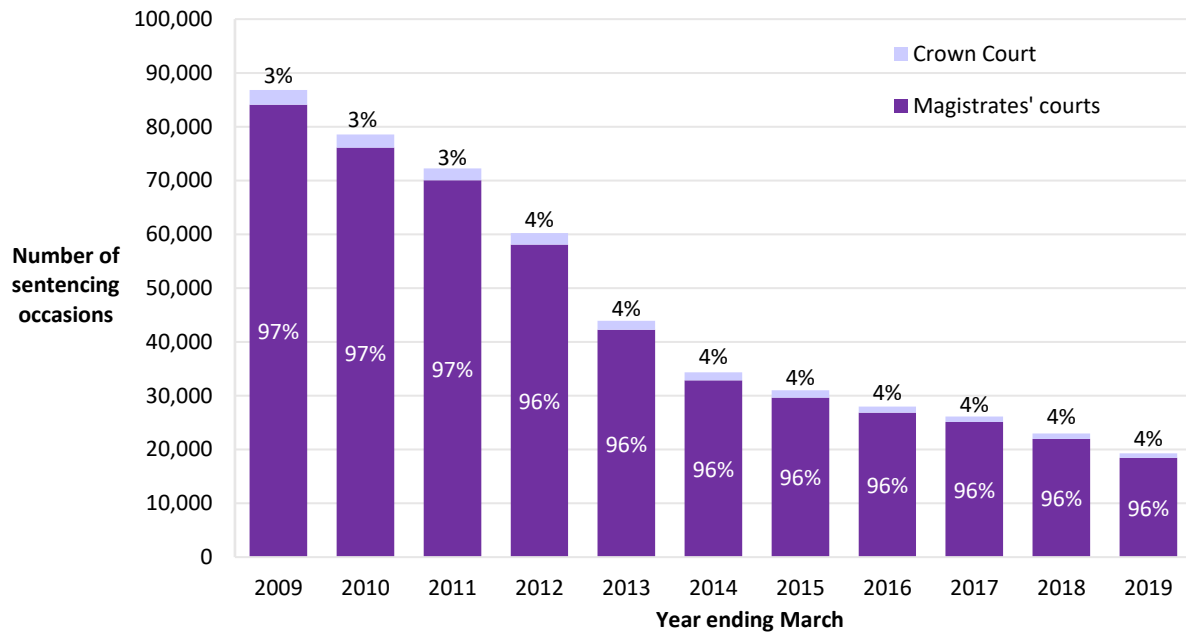
Supplementary Table 5.3 shows that in the year ending March 2019, of the 19,300 sentencing occasions of children for all types of offences in all courts there were:

- Just under 1,300 sentences to immediate custody (7% of all sentences), with most (76%) of these being Detention and Training Orders;
- Around 12,800 community sentences (66% of all sentences), of which 65% were Referral Orders (around 8,400), 34% were Youth Rehabilitation Orders (around 4,400) and the remaining 1% (around 80) were Reparation Orders.
- Just over 5,200 other types of sentences (27% of all sentences); these include discharges, fines and other less common disposals.

⁴⁶ Children can be counted more than once if they are sentenced for different offences at different points in the year, so this chapter refers to sentencing occasions rather than individual children. Only the most serious sentence issued on each sentencing occasion is counted.

5.3 Children sentenced by court type⁴⁷

Figure 5.2: Number and proportion of sentencing occasions of children by court type, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 5, Tables 5.4

Depending on the seriousness of the offence, cases will either be heard in a magistrates' court⁴⁸ from start to finish or will be referred from a magistrates' court to the Crown Court. The Crown Court only hears cases involving more serious offences, so a much smaller number of children are sentenced in this type of court compared with magistrates' courts. In the latest year just 4% (around 870) of all sentencing occasions of children were at the Crown Court. This proportion has remained broadly stable over the last ten years varying between 3% and 4% (Figure 5.2).

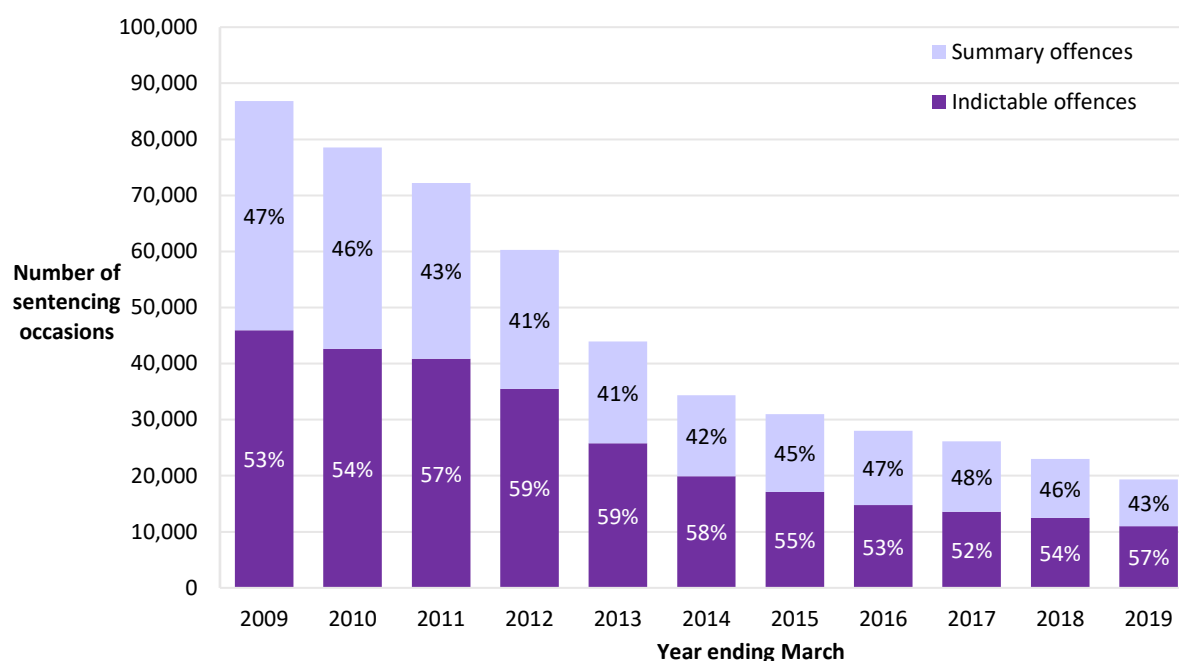
The Crown Court tries the most serious cases and this is reflected in the types of sentences given. In the year ending March 2019, custodial sentences were given in 51% (440) of sentencing occasions of children at the Crown Court. This compares to just 5% (around 850) of the more than 18,400 sentencing occasions at magistrates' courts.

⁴⁷ The Crown Court only hears cases for the most serious offences. The majority of indictable offences are triable either way. These can be tried in the magistrates' courts or the Crown Court depending on the circumstances of the case. Summary offences are less serious offences and can only be heard in magistrates' courts.

⁴⁸ Cases for 10-17 year olds start in the youth court, which is a type of magistrates' court.

5.4 Children sentenced at all courts by type of offence^{46,49}

Figure 5.3: Number of sentencing occasions of children sentenced in all courts by type of offence, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 5, Tables 5.4a and 5.4b

Of the 19,300 occasions in which children were sentenced in the year ending March 2019, 57% were for indictable offences and 43% were for summary offences. This compares to 53% for indictable offences and 47% for summary offences ten years ago. However, this proportion has not changed consistently, rising in some years but falling in others.

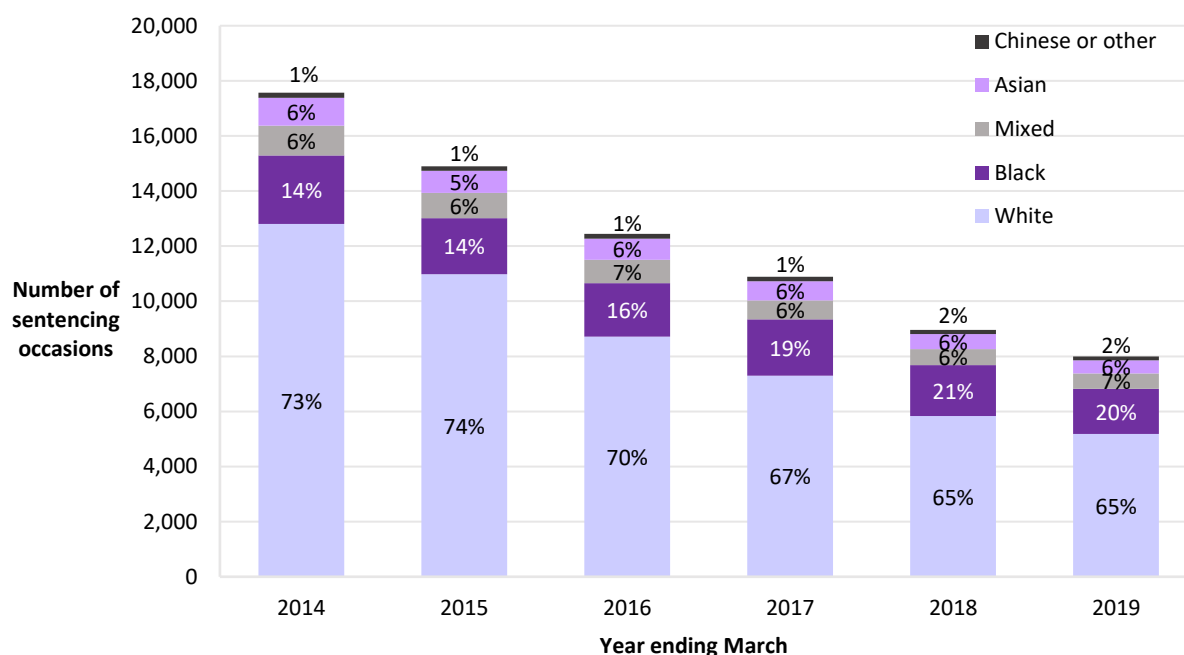
Of the almost 11,000 occasions on which children were sentenced for indictable offences in the latest year, the majority (73%) involved a community sentence, whereas, of the just over 8,300 occasions in which children were sentenced for summary offences, 58% involved a community sentence.

In the year ending March 2019, 11% of the occasions in which children were sentenced for indictable offences involved a sentence to immediate custody, compared with 1% for summary offences (Supplementary Tables 5.4a and 5.4b).

⁴⁹ Criminal offences are divided into three main offence groups; Indictable; Summary non-motoring; and Summary motoring. In this chapter, summary motoring offences and summary non-motoring offences are grouped together. Please refer to the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for further details of these offence groups.

5.5 Children sentenced for indictable offences by ethnicity^{50,51,52}

Figure 5.4: Number of sentencing occasions of children sentenced for indictable offences in all courts by ethnicity, England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019⁵³



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 5, Table 5.6c

In the year ending March 2019, there were around 5,200 sentencing occasions on which White children were sentenced at court for indictable offences⁵⁴. This compares with around 1,600 occasions involving children from Black, 570 from Mixed, 470 from Asian and 150 from Chinese or Other ethnic groups.

While there have been year-on-year decreases in the number of occasions in which children of each ethnicity group have been sentenced at court for indictable offences, the decrease in sentencing occasions for White children has been at a higher rate than for those in other ethnic groups. This has led to a decrease in the proportion of all occasions in which White children were sentenced for indictable offences from 73% in the year ending March 2014 to 65% in the latest year. Conversely, over the same period the proportion of all occasions in which Black children were sentenced for indictable offences increased from 14% to 20%. The proportions for other groups have remained broadly stable.

⁵⁰ Data on summary level offences are not included as many children are not required to be present when sentenced so data on ethnicity is limited.

⁵¹ See [Race and the Criminal Justice System](#) for more information.

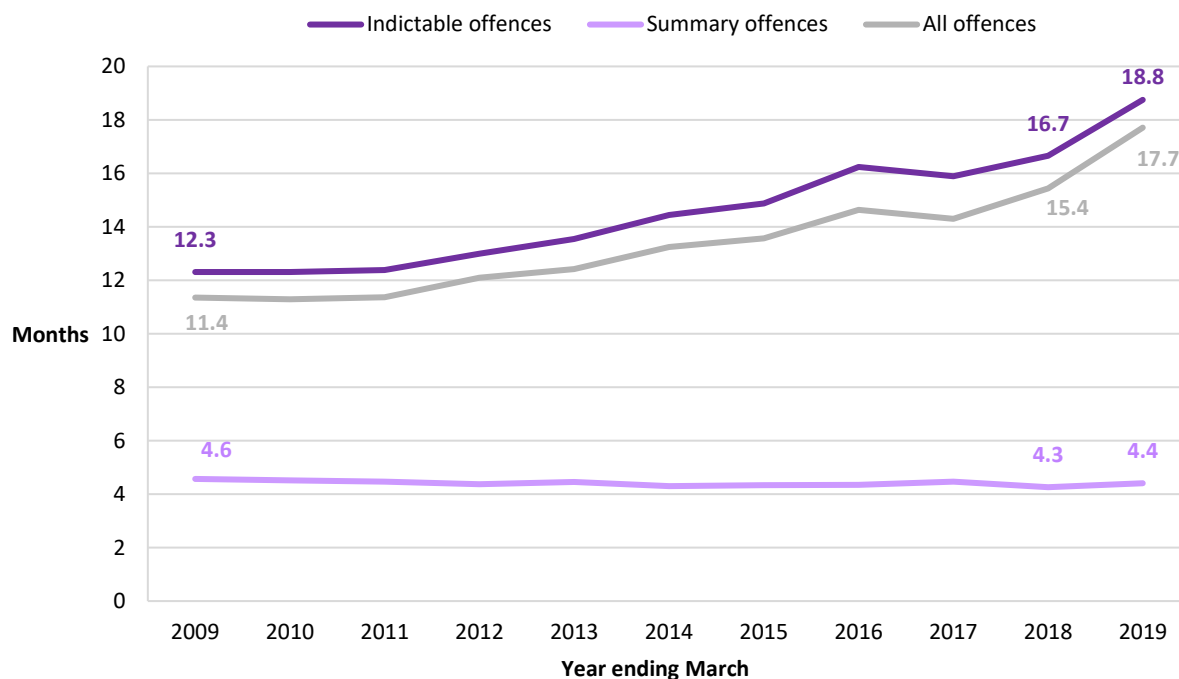
⁵² Ethnicity data are self-identified.

⁵³ A ten year comparison is not available.

⁵⁴ Proportions are calculated where ethnicity is known. In the year ending March 2019, ethnicity was unknown for 27% of children sentenced for indictable offences at all courts. This proportion is slightly lower than the previous year when 28% were unknown but much higher than the year ending March 2014 when there were 12% unknown, therefore caution needs to be used when interpreting these figures.

5.6 Average custodial sentence length (ASCL)^{55,56}

Figure 5.5: Average custodial sentence length in months by type of offence, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 5, Tables 5.4a and 5.4b

For children sentenced to custody, the ACSL varied based on the type of offence the child was sentenced for. In the latest year, the ACSL for all offences was 17.7 months; 18.8 months for indictable offences and 4.4 months for those sentenced to immediate custody for summary offences.

While the ACSL remained broadly stable since the year ending March 2009 for summary offences, it has increased by over six months for all offences over the same period, from 11.4 to 17.7 months and by over two months from the previous year's average of 15.4 months.

⁵⁵ This is the whole sentence length given in court and not necessarily the amount of time spent in custody.

⁵⁶ Excludes life and indeterminate sentences.

6. Use of remand for children

In the year ending March 2019:

- There were just over 11,000 remand episodes⁵⁷ of which the majority (83%) were bail remands, with youth detention accommodation remands accounting for 11%, and the remaining 6% being community remands with intervention.
 - The number of children held on remand in youth custody has increased by 12% in the last year, to just over 240 children⁵⁸, and now accounts for 28% of all children in youth custody. This is the largest proportion in the last ten years.
 - Two thirds (66%) of children given a remand to youth detention accommodation did not subsequently receive a custodial sentence⁵⁹. This is an increase of three percentage points compared with the previous year.
-

Description: Use of remand for children aged 10-17 in the Youth Justice System, characteristics of the custodial remand population and the outcomes for children following custodial remand.

Source: Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF) (Remand episodes)
Secure Accommodation Clearing House System (SACHS), eAsset and the Youth Justice Application Framework (Custodial remand population)
Court Proceedings Database (Outcomes following a custodial remand)

Time period covered: Year ending March 2019 (Remand episodes by demographics)^{57,60}
Years ending March 2014 to 2019 (Remand episodes)^{57,60}
Years ending March 2009 to 2019 (Custodial remand population)⁶¹
Years ending March 2014 to 2019 (Outcomes following custodial remand)⁶⁰

Supplementary Tables: Ch 6 – Use of remand for children

More information: [Youth Custody Data](#) (more up to date data available), [Race and the Criminal Justice System](#), [Chapter 7 – Children in youth custody](#), [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#)

When a court makes the decision to remand a child they have a range of bail options, community remands with interventions (including remand to local authority accommodation) and remands to youth detention accommodation for more serious offences.

⁵⁷ Excluding Wandsworth YOT and Kent YOT. Due to technical issues, Wandsworth YOT did not submit remand case level data for the years ending March 2017 to 2019 and Kent YOT did not submit remand case level data for the year ending March 2019.

⁵⁸ The average custodial remand population figures are averages of 12 monthly snapshots of the custodial population in the secure estate for children, 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.

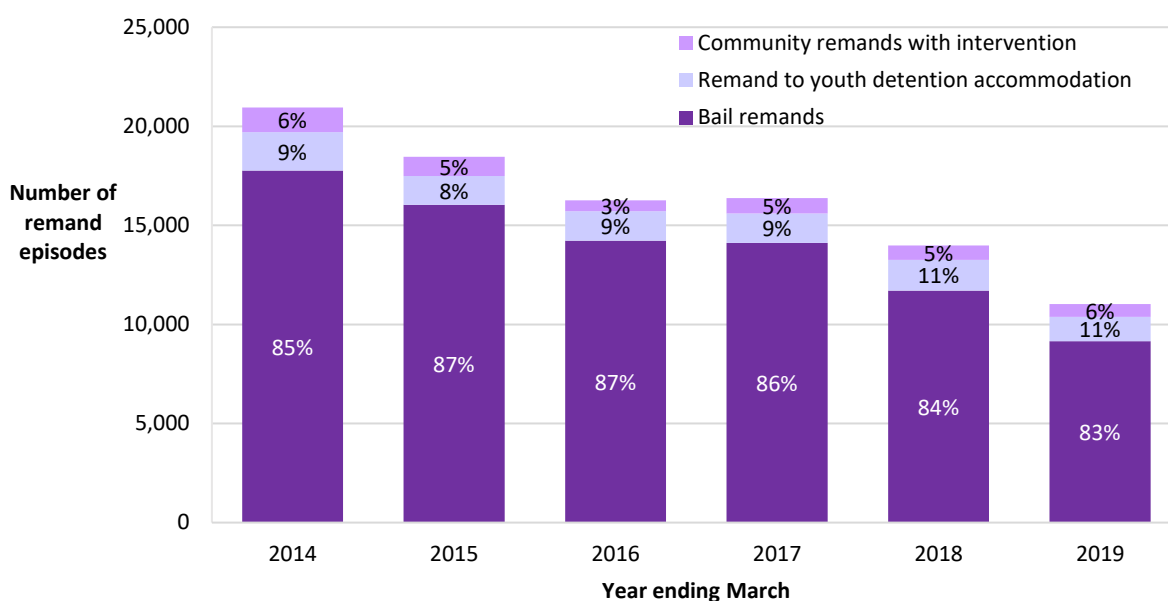
⁵⁹ Excluding those children who failed to appear and those who were committed by magistrates for trial or sentence at the Crown Court.

⁶⁰ A ten year comparison is not available.

⁶¹ Further data on children and young people (including 18 year olds who remain in the youth secure estate) held on custodial remand are available from 2015/16 onwards in [Youth Custody Data](#).

6.1 Types of remand given to children

Figure 6.1: Type of remand given to children, England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019⁶⁰



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 6, Table 6.2

There were just over 11,000 remands given to children in the year ending March 2019, of which:

- the majority (83%) were bail remands,
- 11% were remands to youth detention accommodation; and
- the remaining 6% were community remands with intervention.

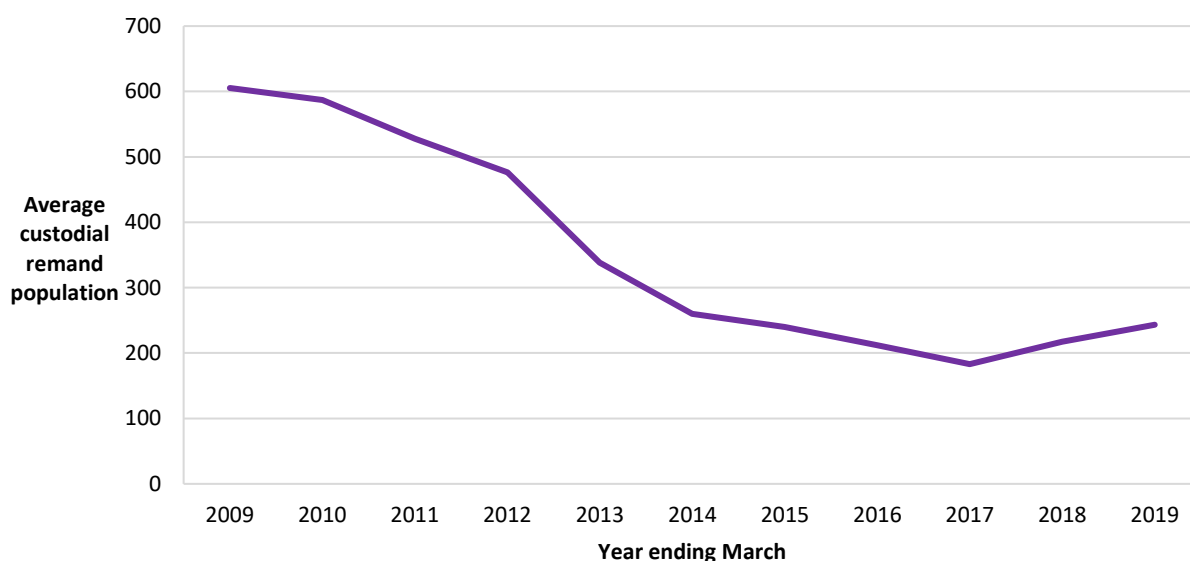
The number of remands given to children has decreased over the last two years, with a fall of 21% in the latest year.

For remands given in the year ending March 2019, the breakdown of demographics (Supplementary Table 6.1) shows:

- Most episodes (89%) involved boys, rising to 97% for remands to youth detention accommodation.
- The majority (86%) involved children aged 15-17, with 41% aged 17 years old.
- Around one third (34%) of all remand episodes involved Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic (BAME) children, and this figure rises to 48% for remands to youth detention accommodation.

6.2 Average monthly population of children in youth custody on remand

Figure 6.2: Average monthly population of children on remand in youth custody, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 6, Table 6.3

There was an average monthly population of just over 240 children remanded in youth custody at any one time in the year ending March 2019, which was 60% lower than ten years ago. However, there was a 12% increase compared with the previous year, which is the second consecutive year-on-year increase following decreases in the years ending March 2009 to 2017.

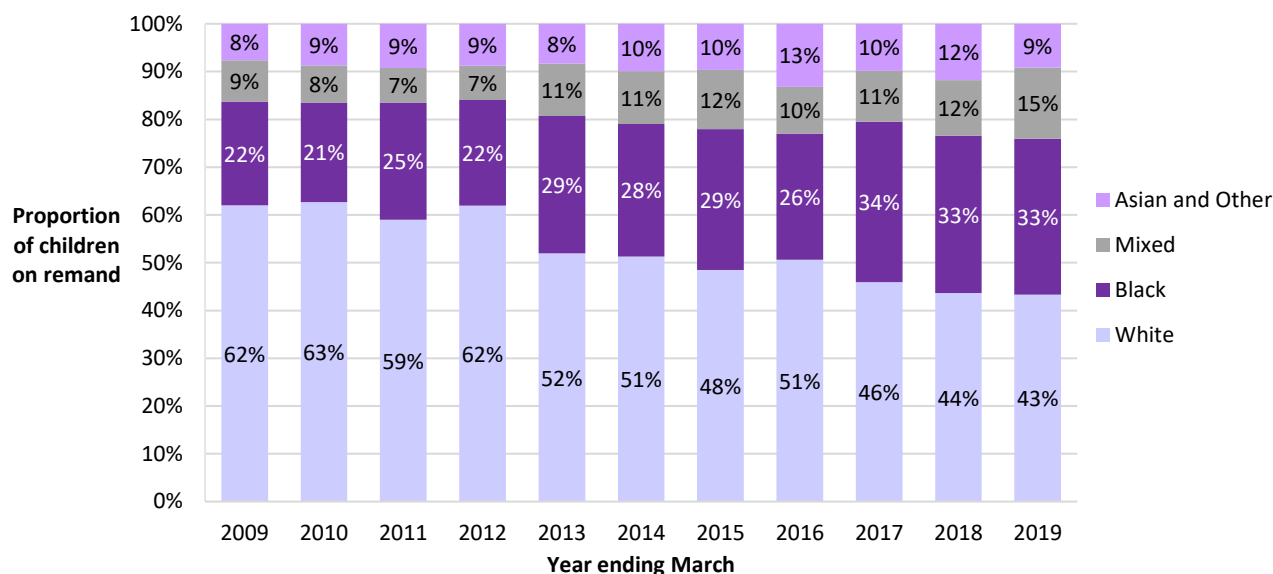
Children remanded in youth custody accounted for over a quarter (28%) of the average custody population in the latest year, an increase from 24% in the previous year. This is the highest proportion seen in the last ten years. Prior to the year ending March 2019, the proportion of the total custody population that children remanded to youth custody comprised had fluctuated between 21% and 26% (Supplementary Table 6.3).

Supplementary Tables 6.3 and 6.4 show that for children remanded in youth custody, the largest share were:

- In a Young Offender's Institution (73%);
- Male (96%, a proportion which has remained broadly stable over the last ten years); and
- Aged 17 (48%, a decrease from 51% in the previous year and the smallest proportion seen over the last ten years for this age).

See [Chapter 7](#) for information on the length of time children spent in youth custody on remand.

Figure 6.3: Proportion of children in youth custody on remand by ethnicity^{62,63}, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 6, Table 6.3

Supplementary Table 6.3 shows that in the latest year, the number of children remanded to youth custody has increased for each ethnic group, except for Asian and Other. However, figure 6.3 shows that the proportions that Black and White children comprise of the total number of children on remand in youth custody have remained at a similar level from the previous year.

Figure 6.3 also shows that:

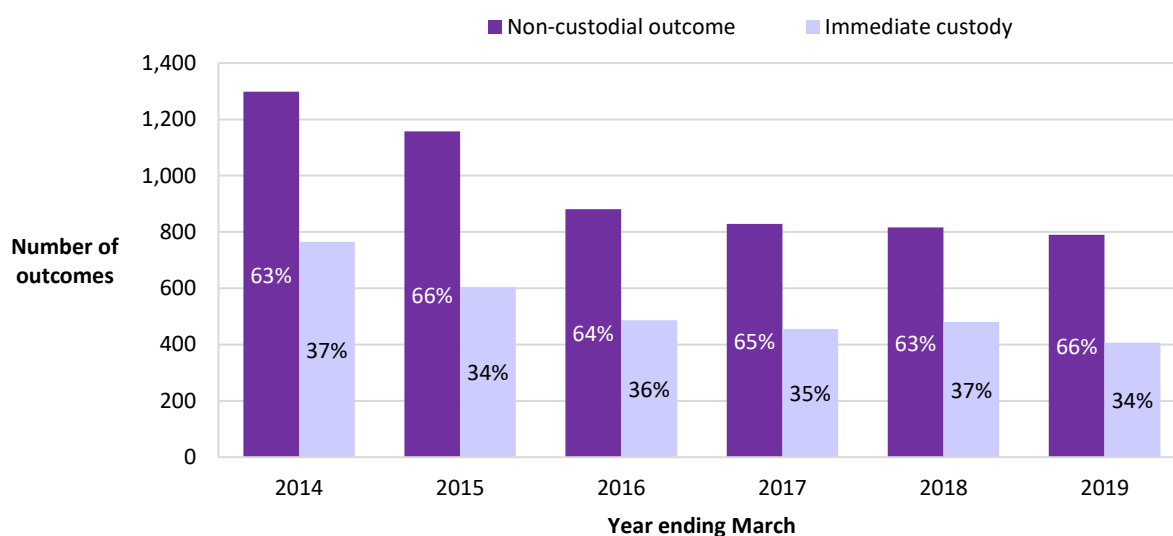
- Over the last ten years the proportion of children from a White background remanded in youth custody has seen a general downward trend, falling from 62% to 43%, the lowest level in the last ten years.
- The proportion of children from a Black ethnic background has fluctuated over the last ten years but has seen an overall increase, accounting for a third (33%) of children remanded in youth custody in the latest year, down from 34% in year ending March 2017, but an increase compared to 22% ten years ago.
- Children from a Mixed ethnic background account for 15% of those remanded in youth custody in the latest year, which is an increase compared to both the previous year (12%) and ten years ago (9%).
- The proportion of children from an Asian or Other background has fallen to 9% compared with the previous year. This proportion has fluctuated between 8% and 13% over the last ten years.

⁶² Proportions are calculated where ethnicity was known. In the year ending March 2019, the ethnicity was unknown for 2% of the monthly average remand population.

⁶³ Ethnicity data are self-identified.

6.3 Outcomes for children following remand to youth detention accommodation

Figure 6.4: Outcomes following remand to youth detention accommodation given to children, England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019⁶⁴



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 6, Table 6.6

In the year ending March 2019, the majority (66%) of outcomes for children remanded to youth detention accommodation at some point during court proceedings did not subsequently result in a custodial sentence⁶⁵. This has remained broadly stable since the year ending March 2014, fluctuating between 63% and 66%.

In the latest year, there were nearly 1,200 outcomes following a remand to youth detention accommodation. Just under a third (32%) of these outcomes resulted in acquittal.

Of the 66% (almost 800) outcomes which did not result in a custodial sentence, over half (52%) resulted in a non-custodial sentence and the remaining 48% resulted in acquittal (a not guilty verdict in court).

The proportion of outcomes for those who were remanded to youth detention accommodation at some point during court proceedings which did not result in a youth detention accommodation sentence varies by court type. In the latest year, 45% of those sentenced at the Crown Court and 81% of those sentenced at magistrates' courts did not go on to receive a custodial sentence. (Supplementary Table 6.6)

This proportion also varies by ethnicity (Supplementary Table 6.7). The proportion of outcomes for those remanded to youth detention accommodation who did not go on to get a custodial sentence varies from 67% for Black children, to 66% for White children, to 63% for Asian children, and to 90% of Chinese and Other children, though this final figure should be considered in light of the small sample size (less than 25 children).

⁶⁴ A ten year comparison is not available.

⁶⁵ Excluding those children who failed to appear and those who were committed by magistrates for trial or sentence at the Crown Court.

7. Children in youth custody

In the year ending March 2019:

- There was an average of just under 860 children in custody at any one time during the year. This is a fall of 70% compared with ten years ago, with a 4% fall compared with the previous year.
- The number of children in youth custody from a Black background has increased by 6% in the last year, and now accounts for 28% of the youth custody population. This compares to 15% ten years ago.
- There has been a continued increase in the number and proportion of children in youth custody for violence against the person offences, most notably in the latest year, in which this offence group accounts for over half (51%) of the youth custody population.
- Just over half (52%) of custodial episodes ended within three months (1 to 91 nights), a fall from 58% compared with the previous year.

Description: Children (aged 10-17) in youth custody in England and Wales. To avoid disrupting their regimes, young people aged 18 may remain in the youth secure estate if they have only a short period of their sentence left to serve. Data on the total youth custody population including 18 year olds are available in the Supplementary Tables.

The average monthly custody population figures presented in the first part of this chapter are the average of 12 monthly snapshots of the custodial population in the youth secure estate, 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.

Source: Secure Accommodation Clearing House System (SACHS), eAsset and the Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF)

Time period covered: Years ending March 2001 to 2019 (Children in youth custody)
Years ending March 2009 to 2019 (Further information on children in custody)
Years ending March 2015 to 2019 (Length of time spent in youth custody)⁶⁶

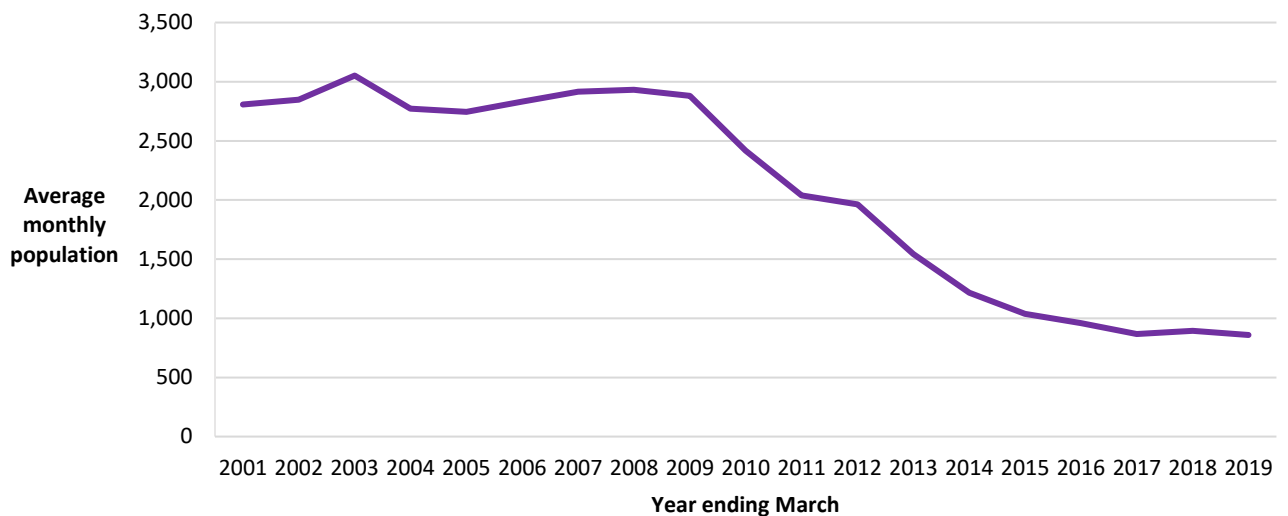
Supplementary Tables: Ch 7 – Children in youth custody

More information: [Youth Custody Data](#) (more up to date data available), [Length of time spent in Youth Custody](#), [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#)

⁶⁶ A ten year comparison is not available.

7.1 Average monthly youth custody population

Figure 7.1: Average monthly youth custody population, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2001 to 2019



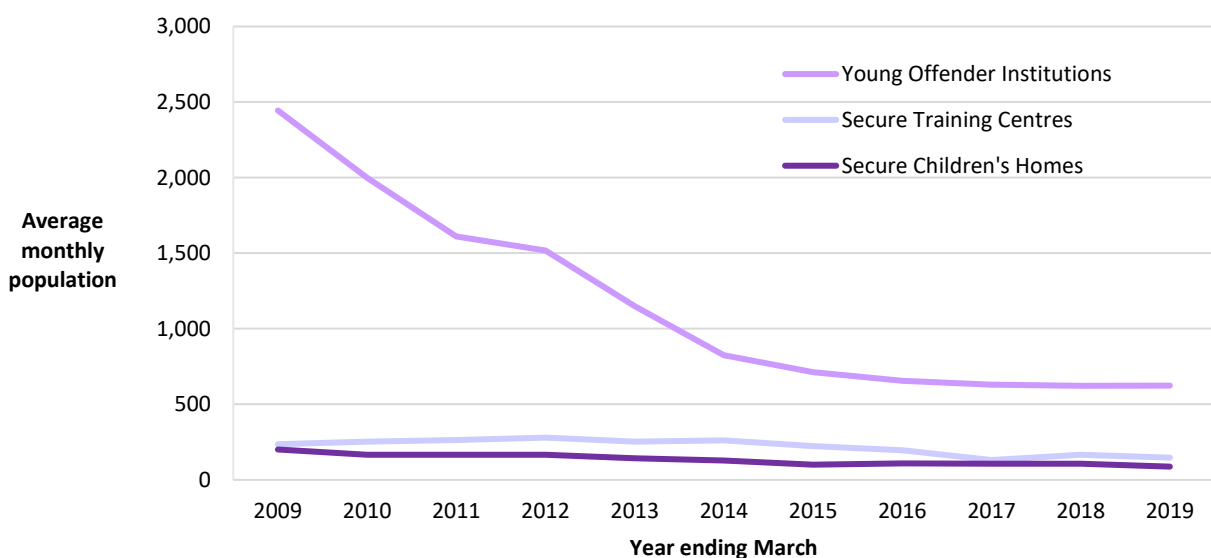
Supplementary Tables: Chapter 7, Table 7.2

The average monthly number of children in custody has fallen in the last year. The number of children in custody did rise slightly in the previous year, but in the latest year the overall downward trend has continued.

In the year ending March 2019, there was an average of just under 860 children in custody at any one time. This is a reduction of 70% from ten years ago, when there was an average of around 2,900 children in custody, with a 4% fall in the latest year.

7.2 Average monthly youth custody population by sector

Figure 7.2: Average monthly youth custody population by sector, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 7, Table 7.3

While the largest long-term fall in the average monthly youth custody population has been seen in the number of children in Young Offender Institutions (YOI)⁶⁷, falling 74% over the last ten years, the average YOI population has remained broadly stable over the last couple of years. In the year ending March 2019, the majority (73%) of children in custody were held in this sector.

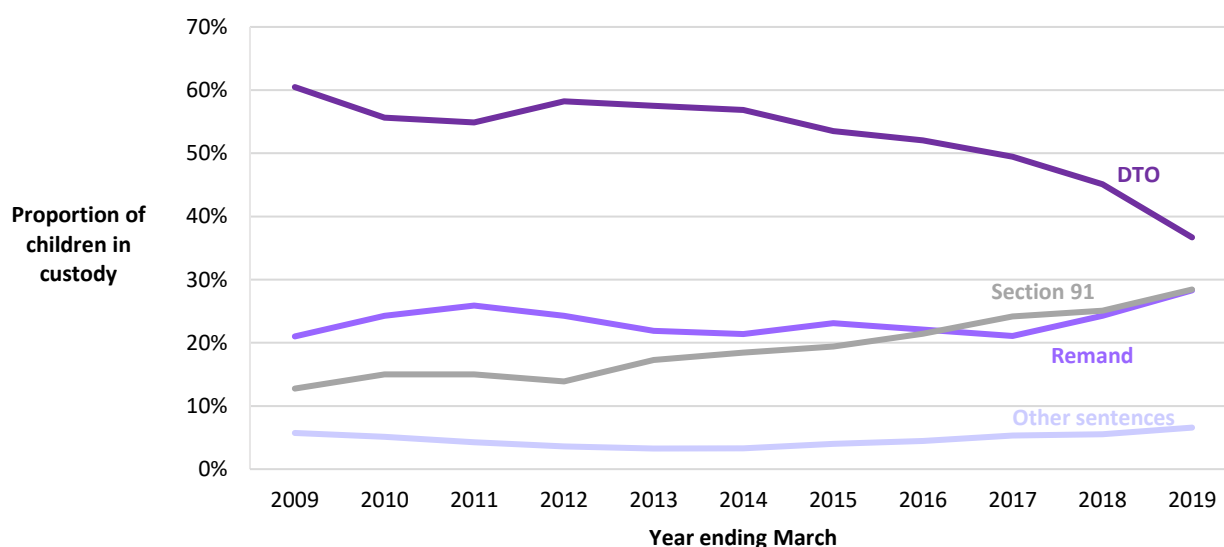
The average monthly population of Secure Children’s Homes (SCH) has also fallen over the last ten years, by 56%, with a 17% fall compared with the previous year, accounting for 10% of the youth secure estate.

The population held in Secure Training Centres (STC) has also fallen over the long term, decreasing by 38% over the last ten years, with an 11% decrease compared with the previous year. Of all children in custody, 17% were held in a STC in the latest year.

7.3 Legal basis for detention of children in custody

Information on the legal basis for detention relates to the most serious legal basis for which a child is placed in custody⁶⁸.

Figure 7.3: Average monthly youth custody population by legal basis for detention⁶⁹ as a proportion of the total, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 7, Table 7.5

⁶⁷ Only males between the ages of 15 and 17 can be placed in a YOI in the youth secure estate. Since August 2013, females are not placed in YOIs in the youth secure estate, therefore females up to the age of 18 are held in SCHs and STCs.

⁶⁸ A child may have multiple custodial orders simultaneously; in this section legal basis refers to the most serious custodial order. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

⁶⁹ Other sentences include Section 226, Section 226B, Section 90 and those detained under civil matters. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

Figure 7.3 shows that in the latest year, the number of children serving a Detention and Training Order (DTO)⁷⁰, a Section 91⁷¹ sentence or on custodial remand was more evenly distributed than in previous years. Over a third (37%) of children were serving a DTO, 28% were serving a Section 91 sentence and another 28% were on remand. The remaining 7% were serving other sentences^{72,73}.

Whilst the number of children in custody has decreased for all legal basis types over the last ten years, the distributions of the proportions of these sentences has been changing:

- The proportion of children serving a DTO has remained the highest share, but has seen the largest decrease, from 60% to 37%.
- The proportion of those serving a Section 91 sentence has steadily increased from 13% to 28%.
- The proportion of those held on remand has increased from 21% to 28%, with the latest year showing the greatest increase compared with other legal basis types (up four percentage points).
- The proportion of children on Other sentences increased slightly, from 6% to 7%.

7.4 Offences resulting in children going into custody

Over the last five years⁷⁴, there has been a decline in the average number of children held for each offence group, except for violence against the person and breach of statutory order⁷⁵. The number of children in youth custody for violence against the person offences increased by 43% compared with five years ago, with a 21% increase in the last year (Supplementary Table 7.6).

⁷⁰ DTOs are determinate custodial sentences which can last from four months to 24 months in length. A child spends the first half of the order in custody and the second half in the community on licence.

⁷¹ If a child is sentenced for a certain serious offence other than murder for which an adult could receive at least 14 years in custody, they may be sentenced under Section 91 of the Powers of the Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

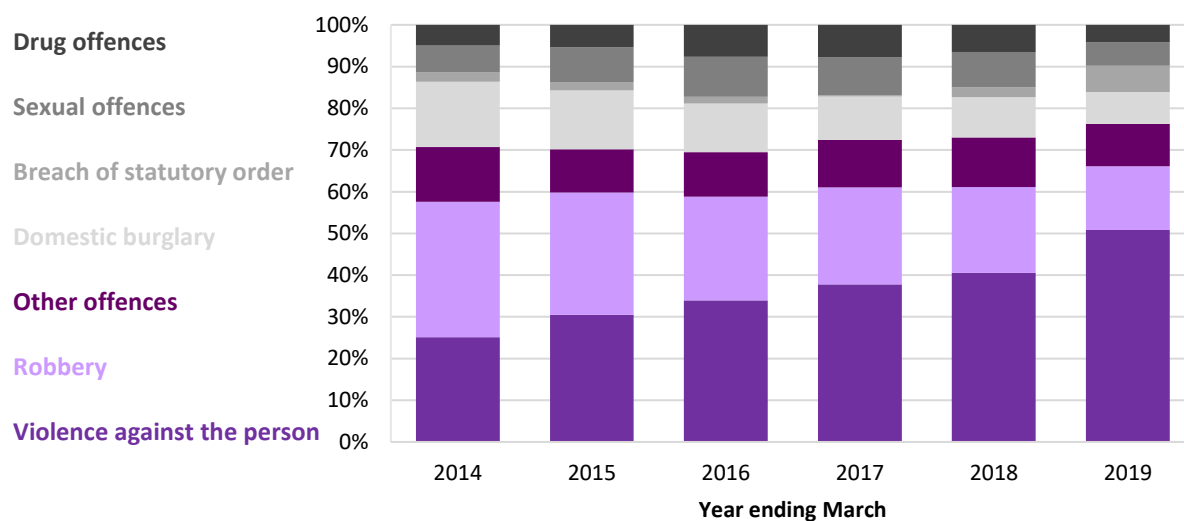
⁷² Proportions may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

⁷³ Other sentences include those serving Detention for Public Protection (section 226), Extended Determinate Sentence (section 226B), Detention at Her Majesty's Pleasure (section 90) and those detained under civil matters. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for full details.

⁷⁴ A ten year comparison is not available.

⁷⁵ Between the years ending March 2018 and 2019, a change in data recording between administrative systems may account for the increase.

Figure 7.4: Proportion of children in custody by offence group, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 7, Table 7.6

There has been a continued increase in the number and proportion of children in youth custody for violence against the person offences, most notably in the latest year, in which this offence group accounts for over half (51%) of the youth custody population. The proportion of children in custody for robbery meanwhile has more than halved, from 32% to 15% over the last five years.

7.5 Demographics of children in custody

Figure 7.5: Demographics of the youth custody population compared to the general 10-17 population⁷⁶, England and Wales, year ending March 2019

	Age Group		Gender	
	10-14	15-17	Boys	Girls
Youth custody population	5%	95%	97%	3%
10-17 population	64%	36%	51%	49%

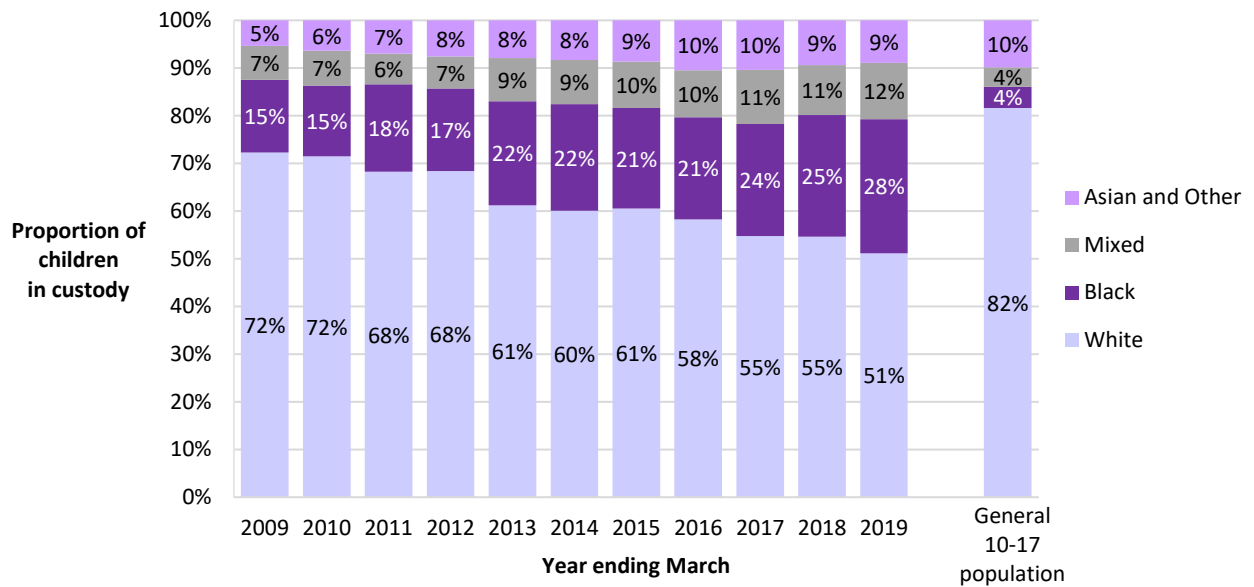
Supplementary Tables: Chapter 7, Table 7.9

In the latest year, the majority of children in the youth secure estate were boys (97%), which is broadly similar to the previous year although an increase compared with the year ending March 2009 (93%).

Those aged 17 have made up at least half of the youth custody population in each of the last ten years, and accounted for 54% in the latest year (Supplementary Table 7.10).

⁷⁶ For age and gender, population is based on 2018 mid-year estimates.

Figure 7.6: Proportion of children in custody by ethnicity, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019^{77,78,79,80}



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 7, Table 7.11

While all ethnic groups have seen a decrease in the average custody population over the last ten years, they have been falling at different rates which has led to a change in the proportion each ethnic group comprises.

Figure 7.6 shows that over the last ten years:

- The proportion of White children in youth custody has been falling, from 72% to 51%.
- The proportion of children from a Black ethnic background has increased the most, and now accounts for 28% of the youth custody population.
- Children from Mixed or Asian and Other ethnic backgrounds have also increased in proportion, to 12% and 9% respectively.

Supplementary Table 7.9 shows that for the January 2019 snapshot, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) children made up the majority (51%) of the youth custody population for the first time since the data series began⁸¹.

⁷⁷ Proportions are calculated where ethnicity is known. The ethnicity was unknown for 1% of the custodial population in the year ending March 2019.

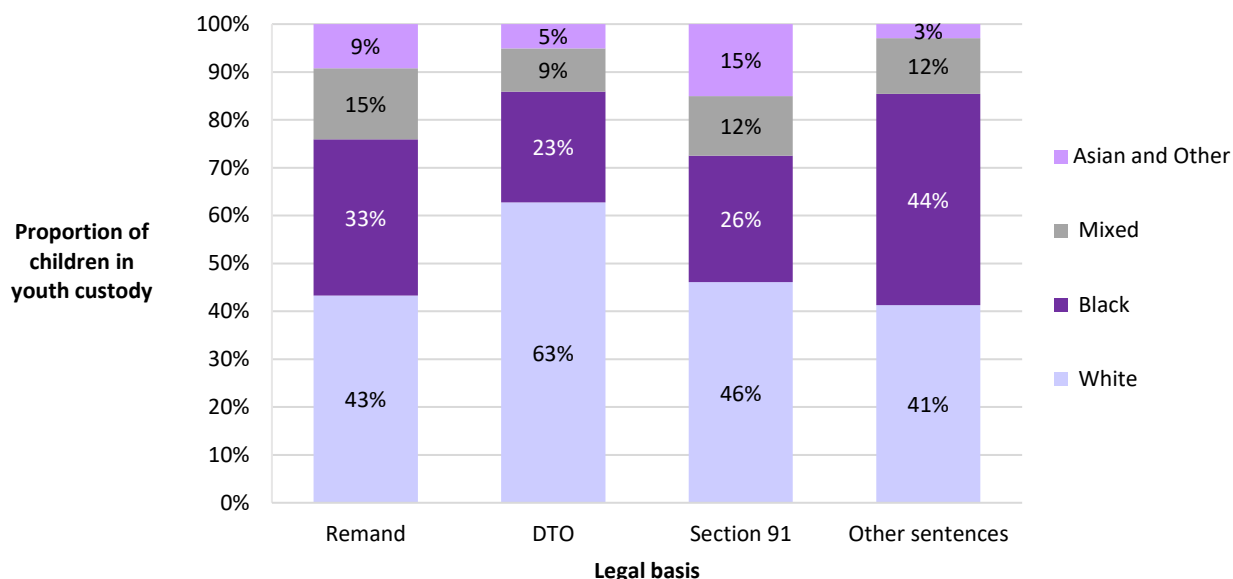
⁷⁸ Ethnicity data are self-reported.

⁷⁹ For ethnicity, population is based on the 2011 census. The ethnic breakdown of the population will likely have changed from 2011, so these figures should be treated as an estimate.

⁸⁰ See [Exploratory analysis of the youth secure estate by BAME groups](#) and [Trends in associations between ethnic background and being sentenced to custody for young offenders in England and Wales](#) for more information.

⁸¹ More up to date data are published in the [Youth Custody Report](#).

Figure 7.7: Proportion of children in custody by ethnicity and legal basis for detention, youth secure estate in England and Wales, year ending March 2019⁸²



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 7, Table 7.13

Supplementary Table 7.14 shows that the proportions each ethnicity make up by legal basis has been changing over the last ten years:

- The proportion of White children held on each legal basis has fallen.
- Black children have seen the greatest proportional increases in those held on remand, where the proportion has increased from 22% to 33%, and Other sentences, which has more than doubled from 20% to 44% over the same period.

7.6 Region of home YOT and distance from home for children in custody

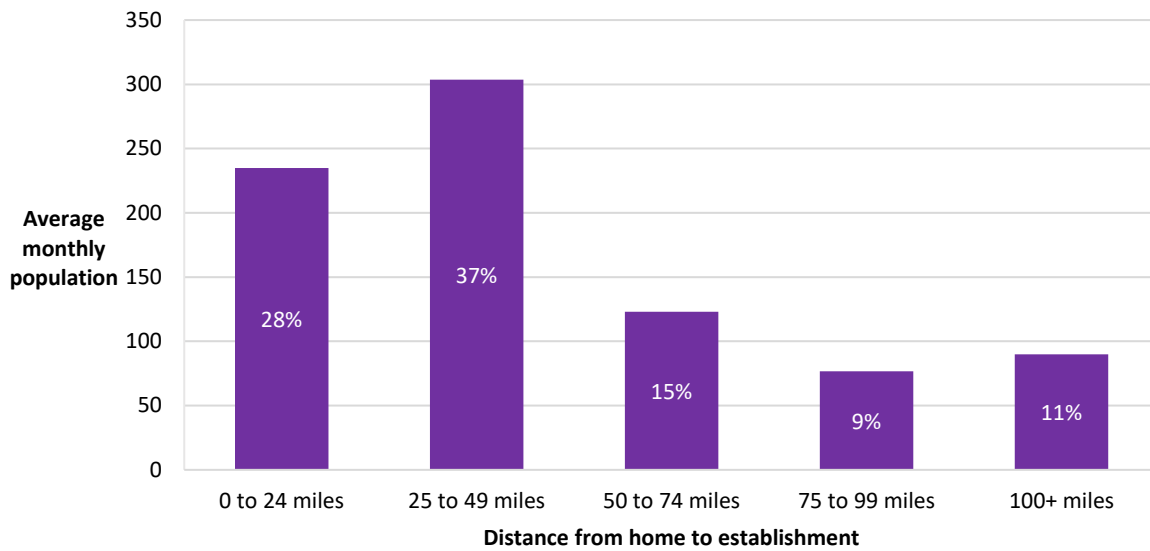
Supplementary Table 7.17 shows that in the year ending March 2019, children attached to London YOTs made up the largest share of children in youth custody (29%). This has remained broadly stable over the last few years.

For children in the secure estate, the distance between their home address and the secure establishment they are placed in can vary (see Figure 7.8). It is not always possible to place children in an establishment close to their home as placement decisions are determined by a number of factors, including the risks and needs of the individual child and available capacity at establishments⁸³.

⁸² Proportions are based on where ethnicity is known. The ethnicity was unknown for 1% of the population in the year ending March 2019.

⁸³ See [The Youth Custody Service Placement Team: Overview of operational procedures](#) for further information on how placement decisions are made.

Figure 7.8: Number and proportion of children in custody by distance from home, youth secure estate in England and Wales, year ending March 2019^{84,85,86,87}



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 7, Table 7.7

As Figure 7.8 shows, while 65% of children in custody were in an establishment less than 50 miles from their home address, 11% were placed in an establishment 100 miles or more from their home.

⁸⁴ See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for information on establishments in the youth secure estate and their location.

⁸⁵ Distance is measured in miles, and is the direct geographical distance between the child’s home to establishment.

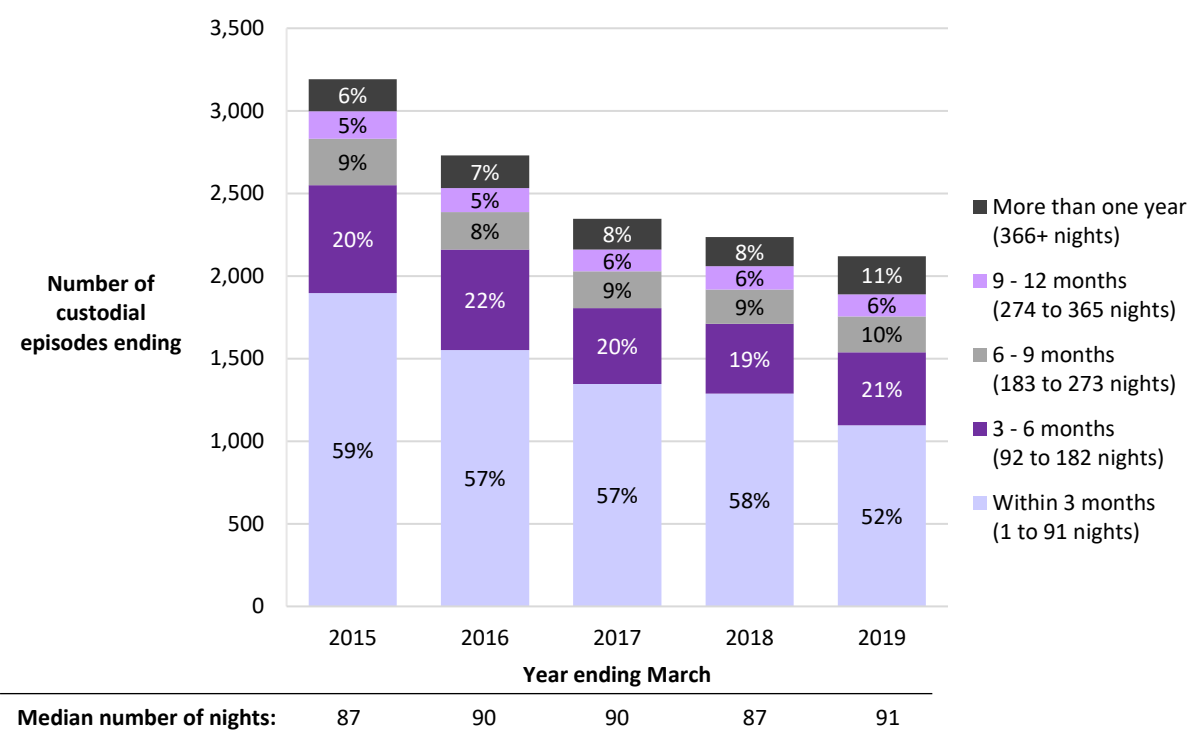
⁸⁶ Proportions are based on where distance was known. In the year ending March 2019, the distance from home band was unknown for 4% of children in the youth secure estate.

⁸⁷ Data are only available for the years ending March 2016 to 2019.

Length of time spent in youth custody^{88,89}

7.8 Custodial episodes ending by nights spent in the youth secure estate

Figure 7.9: Number and proportion⁹⁰ of custodial episodes ending by nights spent in the youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2015 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 7, Table 7.25

In the year ending March 2019, around 2,100 custodial episodes in the youth secure estate ended. Just over half (52%) ended within three months (1 to 91 nights). While the number of custodial episodes ending within three months has been decreasing each year, the proportion this comprised of all episodes ending had remained broadly similar until the most recent year, where it has fallen by six percentage points. Of the just under 1,100 custodial episodes that ended within three months in the latest year, 15% ended within seven nights. This proportion has remained stable over the last four years (except for the previous year when it was 18%).

In the latest year, 230 custodial episodes lasted more than one year (366 nights or more). This is an increase compared to previous years, which has led to the proportion increasing from 8% to 11%.

The median number of nights spent in youth custody per custodial episode was 91 nights in the year ending March 2019. This is an increase of four nights compared with the previous year and is the highest median since the time series began.

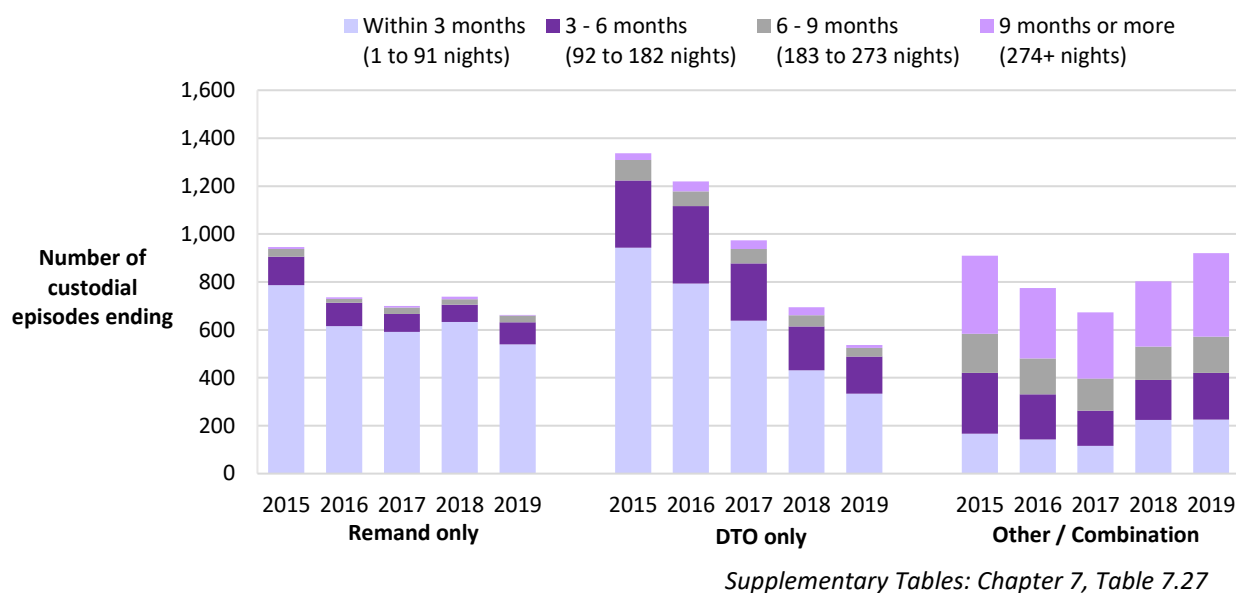
⁸⁸ See [Length of time spent in youth custody](#) for the previous one-off publication, published in April 2018.

⁸⁹ Data are only available from the year ending March 2015 onwards due to a change in database and methodology. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

⁹⁰ Proportions may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

7.9 Custodial episodes ending by nights spent in the youth secure estate and legal basis for detention

Figure 7.10: Number of custodial episodes ending by nights spent in youth custody and legal basis for detention, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2015 to 2019



'Remand only' episodes

Overall, children are spending longer on 'Remand only'⁹¹ episodes than in previous years. While most 'Remand only' episodes continued to end within three months, this proportion has decreased from 86% in the previous year to 81% in the latest year.

Of all the 'Remand only' custodial episodes that ended within three months (around 540), just over a quarter (27%, around 150 episodes) ended within seven nights. This is a decrease from 34% in the previous year and is now the lowest proportion since the time series began (Supplementary Table 7.27).

The median number of nights spent on remand in the latest year was 29, which is an increase of six nights compared with the previous year.

Detention and Training Order (DTO) only episodes

For those held on a DTO only⁹², most episodes (62%) ended within three months, which is the same as the previous year, but a decrease compared with the year ending March 2015.

The median number of nights spent on DTO only episodes was 90 nights, which is unchanged compared with the previous three years.

⁹¹ 'Remand only' refers to custodial episodes where the child had only received remand custodial order/s and did not go on to receive a custodial sentence immediately after the remand ended.

⁹² DTO only refers to custodial episodes where the child had only received DTO custodial order/s. This does not include any DTO recalls.

Other / Combination legal basis episodes⁹³

In the latest year, 920 custodial episodes that ended were Other / Combination legal basis episodes (Supplementary Table 7.27). Nearly a quarter (24%) of these episodes ended within three months, however the majority still ended after six months or more (54%).

The median number of nights spent on this type of custodial order was 200 in the latest year, an increase from 187 in the previous year. This legal basis includes long term sentences, which explains the longer number of nights seen per custodial episode than other legal basis types.

7.10 Custodial episodes ending by nights spent in the youth secure estate and ethnicity⁹⁴

In the latest year, the number of custodial episodes ending has fallen for both White and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME)⁹⁵ children, to around 1,200 and 920 respectively.

Figure 7.11: Proportion of custodial episodes ending by nights spent and ethnicity, youth secure estate in England and Wales, year ending March 2019

	Number of nights					Total
	1 – 91	92 – 182	183 – 273	274 – 365	366+	
BAME	51%	20%	10%	7%	12%	100%
White	52%	21%	11%	6%	10%	100%

Supplementary Tables: Chapter 7, Table 7.26

As shown in Figure 7.11, just over half of custodial episodes ended within three months (1 to 91 nights) for both BAME and White children. In the latest year the proportions of custodial episodes ending within the number of night bands are more comparable across the ethnic groups than in previous years (Supplementary Table 7.26).

While the proportion of custodial episodes that lasted more than one year (366 nights or more) has been higher for BAME children than White children in each of the last five years, in the latest year the difference was smaller than in the previous year (Supplementary Table 7.26).

In the latest year the median number of nights per custodial episodes was the same for White and BAME children (both 91 nights).

⁹³ Other / Combination refers to custodial episodes where the child had received a combination of orders (for example remand and DTO) and/or where the child had received one of the following custodial orders; All Recalls, Section 90, Section 91, Section 226, Section 226b, Section 228 or a Breach of Gang Injunction (a civil order).

⁹⁴ Proportions are based on where ethnicity is known. In the year ending March 2019, ethnicity was not known for 1% of all custodial episodes ending.

⁹⁵ Due to small numbers it is not possible to split these data by individual ethnicity.

8. Behaviour management in the youth secure estate

In the year ending March 2019:

- The number of Restrictive Physical Interventions (RPIs) has seen the largest increase of the four Behaviour Management measures, increasing by 16% to around 6,300. This has continued the upward trend seen over the last three years, and is the highest number of RPIs in the last five years.
 - The number of self harm incidents has increased by 3% in the last year to around 1,800 incidents. This is the highest number of self harm incidents seen in the last five years and the number of injuries as the result of self harm has continued to increase.
 - In Secure Children's Homes (SCHs) and Secure Training Centres (STCs)⁹⁶, the number of assaults by children has decreased by 5% in the last year to just over 2,200 incidents.
 - There were over 7,200 use of force incidents across the eight Secure Training Centres and Young Offender Institutions. This is an average of 59.6 incidents per 100 children and young people per month.
-

Description: Information on behaviour management and use of force in the youth secure estate⁹⁷.

Source: NOMIS' Incident Reporting System (Assault incidents in Young Offender Institutions)
Bespoke returns submitted to the Youth Custody Service from establishments (All other data)

Time period covered: Years ending March 2014 to 2019 (Behaviour management data, excluding assault incidents in YOIs)⁹⁸
Year ending March 2019 (Assault incidents in YOIs)⁹⁹
Year ending March 2019 (Use of force data)¹⁰⁰

Supplementary Tables: Ch 8 – Behaviour management in the youth secure estate

More information: [Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint: safeguarding processes, governance arrangements and roles and responsibilities](#), [Safety in Custody statistics](#), [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#),

This chapter covers all children and young people in the youth secure estate, which includes some 18 year olds who remain in the youth secure estate for a short time¹⁰¹.

In this publication, assaults data for Young Offender Institutions (YOIs) have been drawn from a new data source (NOMIS' Incident Reporting System (IRS)) compared to previous publications. This change in data source and counting rules improves the accuracy of the data presented but results in a break in time series and means that in this publication information cannot be aggregated to

⁹⁶ Comparable data for YOIs are not available.

⁹⁷ See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for definitions of each behaviour management measure.

⁹⁸ A ten year comparison is not available. Data from the year ending March 2012 onwards are available in the accompanying Supplementary Tables.

⁹⁹ Due to a change in data source, only data for the year ending March 2019 are available for assault incidents in YOIs. See the start of this chapter and the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

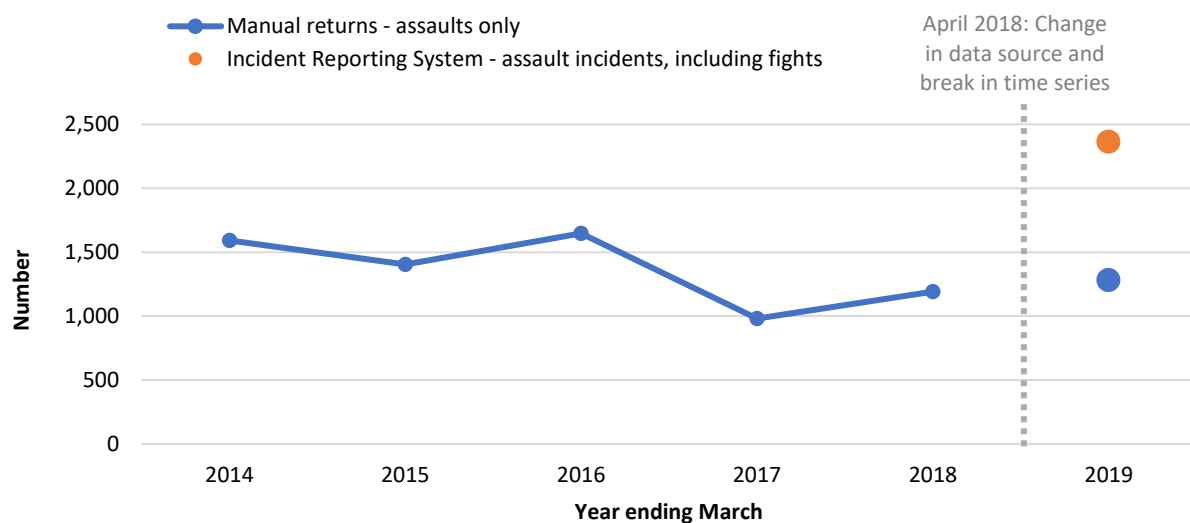
¹⁰⁰ Due to the staggered roll-out of MMPR in establishments, no trend data are yet available due to establishments implementing MMPR at different times in the year. Where possible, annual averages from the year ending March 2014 have been included in the Supplementary Tables for individual establishments.

¹⁰¹ To avoid disrupting their regimes, young people aged 18 may remain in the youth secure estate if they have only a short period of their sentence left to serve.

provide a total for assaults across the whole youth secure estate. This publication therefore reports on assaults in YOIs separately to those in SCHs and STCs. Data on assaults in YOIs prior to the year ending March 2019 can be found in previous [Youth Justice Statistics](#) publications. See Figure 8.1 (below) for a comparison of the two data sources, and the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information on the change of methodology.

For the year ending March 2020 publication, all three youth secure estate sectors will have moved to consistent reporting aligned to IRS' methodology. This will make comparison possible, whilst also better aligning to other published data.

Figure 8.1: Comparison of data sources for assaults in YOIs



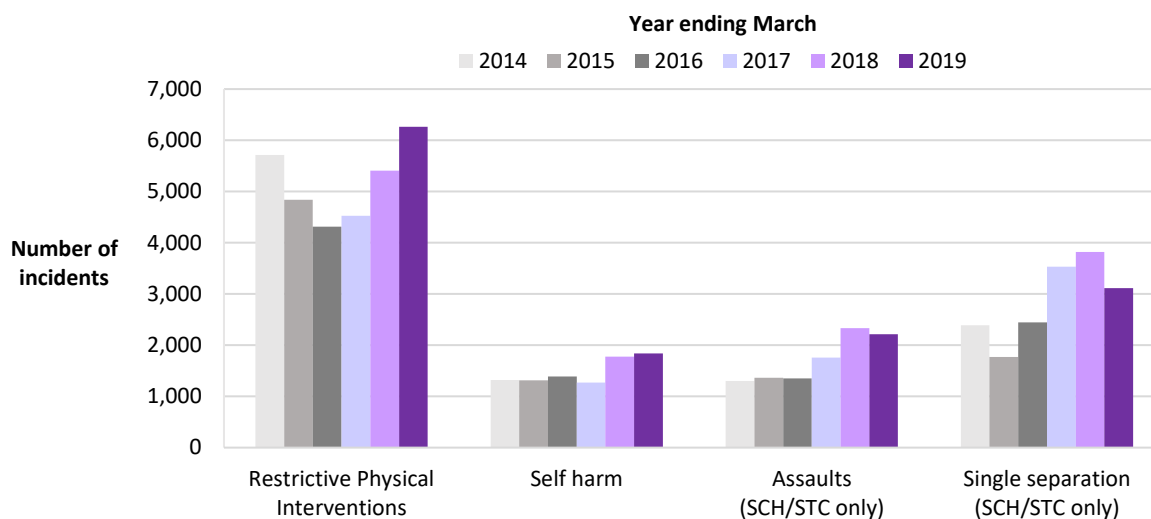
The custodial population data used to calculate average monthly rates in this chapter is based on the number of children and young people in custody on the 1st of each month plus any new admissions during the month.

Due to the way the data are collected for RPIs, self harm, single separation and assaults in SCHs and STCs, it is not possible to link incidents to individual children or young people. Therefore, a distribution of incidents per child and young person (in other words how many people were involved in any one incident) cannot be provided.

When making comparisons between groups based on gender and age, it is important to consider that the relatively small number of females and those aged 10-14 in the youth secure estate make the rates for those groups volatile.

8.1 Trends in the number of behaviour management incidents in the youth secure estate

Figure 8.2: Trend in the number of behaviour management incidents, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 8, Table 8.2

8.2 Use of Restrictive Physical Intervention in the youth secure estate

A Restrictive Physical Intervention (RPI) is any occasion in which force is used to overpower or with the intention of overpowering a child or young person¹⁰². RPIs should only be used on children and young people as a last resort, for example to prevent them causing harm to themselves or others.

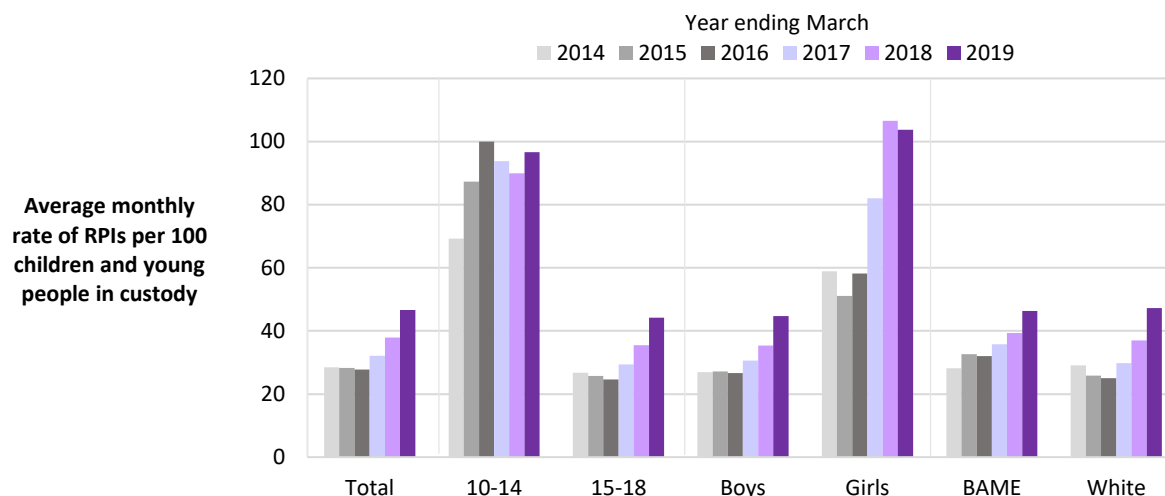
As shown in Figure 8.2, in the year ending March 2019, there were around 6,300 RPIs, up 16% compared with the previous year. This continues the upward trend seen over the last three years, and is the highest number of RPIs in the last five years.

The number of RPIs has been increasing over the last three years and the average monthly rate of RPIs per 100 children and young people in custody has followed the same trend. In the latest year, the average monthly rate of RPIs per 100 children and young people in custody was 46.6, an increase from the previous year (37.9) and the highest average monthly rate in the last five years (Figure 8.3).

The average number of RPI incidents per child and young person involved has gradually increased over the last five years, from 1.5 to 1.8 in the latest year (Supplementary Table 8.3).

¹⁰² Overpower is restricting movement or mobility.

Figure 8.3: Average monthly rate of RPIs per 100 children and young people in custody by demographic characteristics^{103,104,105}, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 8, Table 8.6

Figure 8.3 shows that in the year ending March 2019 the average monthly rate of RPIs per 100 children and young people in custody was higher for:

- Those aged 10-14 (an average monthly rate of 96.7 per 100 children and young people compared to 44.2 for those aged 15-18) as has been the trend since the time series began;
- Girls (at 103.7 compared to 44.7 for boys); and
- White children (at 47.2 compared to 46.3 for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) children and young people). This is the first time the rate has been higher for White children and young people than BAME children and young people since the year ending March 2014.

¹⁰³ Data include any 18 year olds who remain in the youth secure estate.

¹⁰⁴ RPI data from bespoke returns are based on self-reported ethnicity.

¹⁰⁵ When making comparisons between groups based on gender and age, it is important to consider that the relatively small number of females and those aged 10-14 in the youth secure estate make the rates for those groups volatile.

Figure 8.4: The number of injuries requiring medical treatment to children or young people by severity of injury resulting from an RPI, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019^{106,107}

Severity of RPI injury requiring medical treatment	Year ending March					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Minor injury requiring medical treatment on site	131	105	84	92	76	54
Serious injury requiring hospital treatment	3	4	3	8	2	7
Total injuries requiring medical treatment	134	109	87	100	78	61
Proportion of RPIs that resulted in an injury requiring medical treatment	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%

Supplementary Tables: Chapter 8, Table 8.8

In the year ending March 2019, 1% of all RPIs resulted in injuries which required medical treatment. This proportion is unchanged from the previous year, and has remained broadly stable over the last five years (Supplementary Table 8.7).

As shown in Figure 8.4, there were around 60 RPIs that resulted in an injury requiring medical treatment, of which:

- Most (89%) were minor injuries requiring medical treatment on site; and
- 11% (seven incidents) were serious injuries requiring hospital treatment.

Overall, the number of injuries requiring medical treatment due to an RPI has been steadily decreasing over the last five years, except for the year ending March 2017 when it increased compared to the previous year. In the last year the overall downward trend has continued, falling 22% to just over 60 injuries requiring medical treatment (Supplementary Table 8.7).

8.3 Self harm in the youth secure estate

Self harm in custody is any act by which a child or young person deliberately harms themselves irrespective of the method, intent or severity of any injury.

The number of self harm incidents has increased by 3% in the latest year, to over 1,800 incidents and is the highest number of incidents seen over the previous five years.

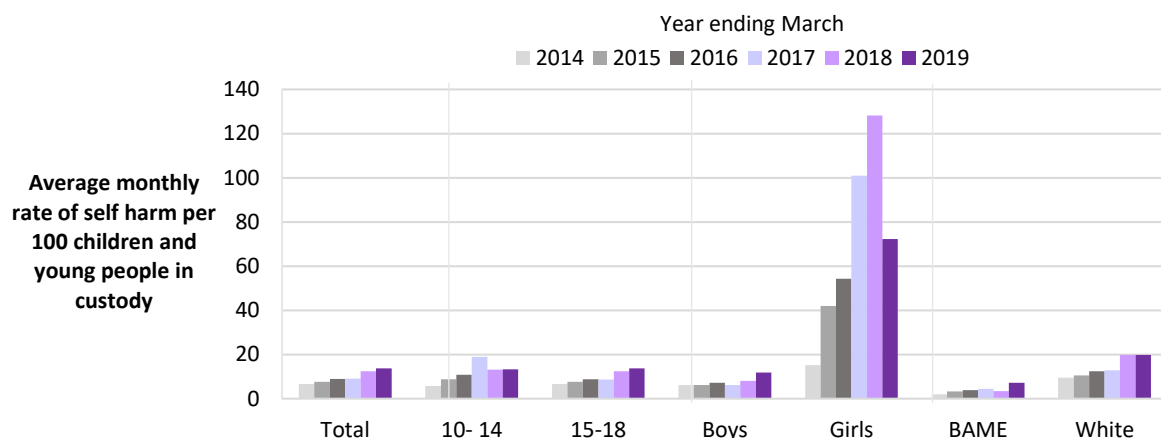
Figure 8.2 shows that the number of self harm incidents has seen a 3% increase in the latest year and the average monthly rate of self harm incidents per 100 children and young people in custody has been increasing over the last five years. In the latest year, there was an average of 13.7 self harm incidents per 100 children and young people in custody per month, up from 12.5 in the previous year and just over double the rate compared with the year ending March 2014 (6.6).

The average monthly rate of self harm incidents per child and young person involved has decreased in the latest year to 2.0 per month, but remains higher than the year ending March 2014 (1.7) (Supplementary Table 8.3).

¹⁰⁶ From the year ending March 2017 onwards there were some small changes to the counting rules for RPI incidents requiring medical treatment. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

¹⁰⁷ If a child received more than one injury in the same incident, only the most serious injury in each incident is counted.

Figure 8.5: Average monthly rate of self harm incidents per 100 children and young people in custody by demographic characteristics^{108,109,110}, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 8, Table 8.11

Looking at the demographic characteristics of the children and young people involved in self harm incidents (Figure 8.5), in the year ending March 2019 the average monthly rate of self harm per 100 children and young people in custody was higher for:

- Girls (at 72.3, compared to 11.8 for boys), although the average monthly rate of self harm by girls has seen a notable decrease in the latest year;
- Those aged 15-18 for the first time since the year ending March 2014 (at 13.7, compared to 13.3 for 10-14 year olds). The rates between the age groups are now also more comparable;
- White children and young people (at 19.8, compared to 7.2 for BAME children and young people), who have consistently had a higher rate over the last five years, however the rate for BAME children has more than doubled in the last year.

Figure 8.6: The number of injuries requiring medical treatment to children and young people by severity of injury as a result of self harm, youth secure estate in England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019^{111,112}

Severity of self harm injury requiring medical treatment	Year ending March					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Minor injury requiring medical treatment on site	168	146	178	319	501	621
Serious injury requiring hospital treatment	13	22	15	19	34	39
Total injuries requiring medical treatment	181	168	193	338	535	660
Proportion of self harm incidents that resulted in an injury requiring medical treatment	14%	13%	14%	27%	30%	36%

Supplementary Tables: Chapter 8, Table 8.13

¹⁰⁸ Data include any 18 year olds who remain in the youth secure estate.

¹⁰⁹ Self harm data from bespoke returns are based on self-reported ethnicity.

¹¹⁰ When making comparisons between groups based on gender and age, it is important to consider that the relatively small number of females and those aged 10-14 in the youth secure estate make the rates for those groups volatile.

¹¹¹ From the year ending March 2017 onwards there were some small changes to the counting rules for self harm incidents requiring medical treatment. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

¹¹² If a child received more than one injury in the same incident, only the most serious injury in each incident is counted.

In the year ending March 2019, 36% of self harm incidents resulted in injuries which required medical treatment (Supplementary Table 8.12). This is the highest proportion in the last five years.

As shown in Figure 8.6, in the year ending March 2019 there were 660 incidents of self harm that resulted in an injury requiring medical treatment, of which:

- 94% were minor injuries requiring medical treatment on site; and
- 6% required hospital treatment.

There has been a continued increase in the number of injuries requiring medical treatment to children and young people following a self harm incident over the last three years, with a 23% increase in the latest year. Young Offender Institutions have driven the increase in the latest year, and this sector has also seen an increase in the number and rate of self harm incidents (Supplementary Table 8.9).

8.4 Assaults in the youth secure estate¹¹³

The definition of an assault is different in SCHs and STCs compared to YOIs. For more information see the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#).

In SCHs and STCs, assaults are defined as the intentional use of unnecessary force by a child or young person that results in physical contact with the victim.

In this publication, assaults data for Young Offender Institutions have been drawn from a new data source (NOMIS' Incident Reporting System (IRS)) compared to previous publications. This change in data source and counting rules improves the accuracy of the data presented but results in a break in time series and means that in this publication, information cannot be aggregated to provide a total for assaults across the whole youth secure estate. For the 2019/20 publication, all three youth secure estate sectors will have moved to consistent reporting aligned to IRS' methodology which will make comparison possible, whilst also better aligning to other published data.

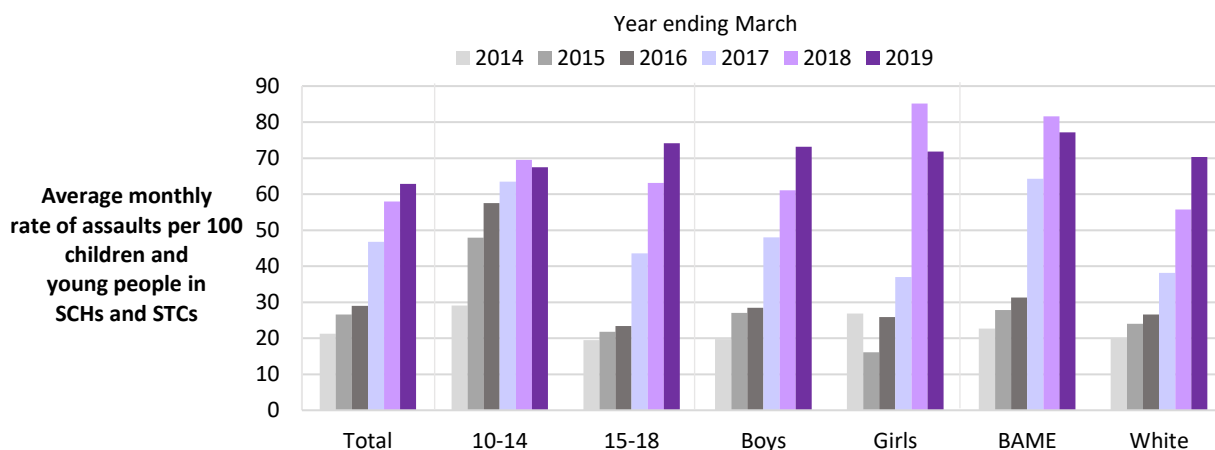
Assaults in SCHs and STCs

In SCHs and STCs, there were around 2,200 assaults by children and young people in the year ending March 2019. This is a 5% decrease compared with the previous year but is 70% higher than five years ago.

The average number of assaults per child and young person involved per month in SCHs and STCs has remained broadly stable over the last three years (1.8), having seen previous increases.

¹¹³ For the year ending March 2019, assault data is collected using a different system and under different definitions and counting rules for YOIs compared to SCHs and STCs. The information is therefore not comparable and cannot be meaningfully aggregated to provide a total across all sectors of the youth secure estate. From the year ending March 2020, the counting rules for all three sectors will be aligned and a comparison will be possible.

Figure 8.7: Average monthly rate of assaults per 100 children and young people in custody¹¹⁴, SCHs and STCs in England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 8, Table 8.16

When making comparisons between groups based on gender and age, it is important to consider that the relatively small number of females and those aged 10-14 in the youth secure estate make the rates for those groups volatile.

The average monthly rate of assaults in SCHs and STCs has continued to increase over the last five years. In the year ending March 2019, there was an average monthly rate of 62.9 assaults per 100 children and young people in SCHs and STCs, which is an increase compared with the previous year (58.0) and the year ending March 2014 (21.2).

Figure 8.7 shows that for demographic characteristics^{115,116} of the children and young people committing assaults, in the year ending March 2019 the average monthly rates per 100 children and young people in SCHs and STCs were higher for:

- Those aged 15-18 for the first time in the last five years (at 74.2, compared to 67.5 for those aged 10-14 years old);
- Boys (at 73.1, compared to 71.9 for girls), and the difference between the genders is now more comparable than in previous years;
- BAME children and young people (at 77.2, compared to 70.3 for White children and young people).

The victim of an assault can be either another child or young person¹¹⁷, a staff member or a visitor.

Supplementary Table 8.17 shows that in SCHs and STCs in the year ending March 2019, just over half of victims of an assault (53%) were another child or young person, with the remaining 47% of victims being a staff member or visitor. This is different when compared with the previous two years, where the majority of victims had been a staff member or visitor.

¹¹⁴ Data include any 18 year olds who remain in the youth secure estate.

¹¹⁵ Assaults data from bespoke returns are based on self-reported ethnicity.

¹¹⁶ Demographics are based on the perpetrators of the assaults.

¹¹⁷ For the year ending March 2018 onwards this includes where the victim was a Welfare placement in a SCH. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

Figure 8.8: The number of injuries requiring medical treatment to children and young people by severity of injury resulting from an assault by a child or young person, SCHs and STCs in England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019^{118,119,120}

Severity of assault injury requiring medical treatment	Year ending March					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Minor injury requiring medical treatment on site	96	99	87	121	108	88
Serious injury requiring hospital treatment	13	17	8	17	8	15
Total injuries requiring medical treatment	109	116	95	138	116	103
Proportion of proven assaults by children and young people that resulted in an injury requiring medical treatment	8%	8%	7%	8%	5%	5%

Supplementary Tables: Chapter 8, Table 8.19

In the year ending March 2019, 5% of all assaults by children and young people in SCHs and STCs resulted in injuries which required medical treatment. This proportion has fluctuated between 5% and 8% over the last five years (Supplementary Table 8.18).

In the year ending March 2019 there were around 100 injuries requiring medical treatment sustained by children and young people in SCHs and STCs as the result of an assault, of which:

- 85% were minor injuries requiring medical treatment on site; and
- 15% were serious injuries requiring hospital treatment.

The number of injuries requiring medical treatment has decreased from just under 120 injuries to around 100 injuries in the last year.

Assaults in YOIs

Assault data is collected using different systems and has different definitions and counting rules for STCs / SCHs and YOIs. The information is therefore not comparable and cannot be meaningfully aggregated to provide a total across all sectors of the youth secure estate.

In YOIs an assault incident is defined as 'unwanted physical contact between two or more individuals, excluding Use of Force or anything of a purely verbal or threatening nature.'

In YOIs, there were around 2,400 assault incidents by children in the latest year.

In YOIs, the average monthly rate of assault incidents per 100 children and young people was 32.5, and there were 1.3 assault incidents per child and young person involved.

¹¹⁸ These data include all injuries requiring medical treatment and may therefore include the perpetrators as well as victims.

¹¹⁹ From the year ending March 2017 onwards there were some small changes to the counting rules for assault incidents requiring medical treatment. See the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

¹²⁰ If a child received more than one injury in the same incident, only the most serious injury in each incident is counted.

The average monthly rate of assault incidents per 100 children and young people was higher for those from a BAME background, at 37.1 compared to White children (26.2)¹²¹.

Supplementary Table 8.19 shows there were around 260 incidents of assault that resulted in an injury to a child or young person. Most injuries sustained were minor injuries^{122,123}.

8.5 Single separation in SCHs and STCs¹²⁴

Single separation refers to the confining of a child or young person in an area as a means of control, without the child or young person's permission or agreement. A member of staff is not present and the door is locked to prevent exit. The data in this section refer only to SCHs and STCs.

There were around 3,100 single separation incidents in Secure Children's Homes (SCHs) and Secure Training Centres (STCs) in the year ending March 2019. This is an 18% decrease compared with the previous year, and the first year-on-year fall since the year ending March 2015.

The average monthly rate of single separation incidents per 100 children and young people follows a similar trend to the number of incidents (Section 8.1) and had been increasing from the year ending March 2016 before seeing a fall in the latest year. In the latest year, the average monthly rate was 88.5 per 100 children and young people. While this is a decrease compared to the previous year (94.9), it remains much higher than the rate five years ago (39.0).

The average monthly rate of single separation incidents per child and young person has fluctuated over the last five years, with the most recent year falling for the second consecutive year to 2.8.

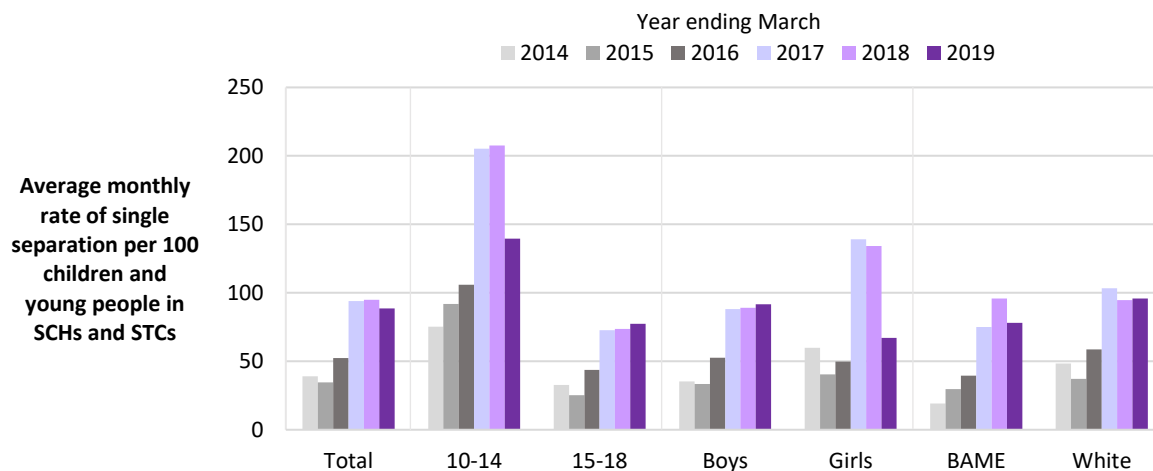
¹²¹ Only males between the ages of 15 and 17 can be placed in a YOI in the youth secure estate. Therefore, the rate for age band and gender is the same as the total rate for YOIs (32.5).

¹²² The system used to record assault incidents in YOIs does not classify injuries in terms of whether treatment was required but on the seriousness of the type of injury. Grazes, scratches or abrasions, minor bruises, superficial cuts and swellings are categorised as minor injuries. Bites, black eyes, broken noses, broken teeth, crushing, cuts requiring sutures, extensive/multiple bruising, fractures, scalds or burns, stabbing, temporary/permanent blindness are categorised as serious injuries.

¹²³ This is a count of the number of assault incidents which resulted in an injury, regardless of incident type. Where an incident results in both a minor and serious injury to a child or young person they are included on each count, and so the sum of incidents by injury type is therefore higher than the total count of incidents.

¹²⁴ Data are only published for SCHs and STCs. Comparable data are not held for public YOIs.

Figure 8.9: The average monthly rate of single separation incidents per 100 children and young people in custody by demographic characteristics^{125,126,127}, SCHs and STCs only, England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 8, Table 8.22

Figure 8.9 shows that in the year ending March 2019 average monthly rates were higher for:

- Those aged 10-14 (who had a much higher rate of 139.5 compared to 77.4 for those aged 15-18), although this has seen a large decrease in the last year;
- White children and young people (95.9 compared to 78.1 for those from a BAME background); and
- Boys, for the first time since the year ending March 2016 (91.5 compared to 67.0 for girls).

8.6 Use of force incidents in STCs and YOIs

Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint (MMPR) is a behaviour management and restraint system that has been developed specifically for staff working with children and young people in STCs and under-18 YOIs. MMPR puts considerable emphasis on using appropriate de-escalation and deceleration techniques (non-physical interventions) to ensure that force is only ever used as a last resort, when no other intervention is possible or appropriate. Within MMPR, any physical intervention is counted as a Use of Force, unlike the RPI system which only counts those physical interventions deemed restrictive¹²⁸.

¹²⁵ Data include any 18 year olds who remain in the youth secure estate.

¹²⁶ When making comparisons between groups based on gender and age, it is important to consider that the relatively small number of females and those aged 10-14 in the youth secure estate make the rates for those groups volatile.

¹²⁷ Single separation data from bespoke returns are based on self-reported ethnicity.

¹²⁸ Owing to the different definitions of Use of force, MMPR and RPI a particular use of force may be classed as MMPR, RPI, both MMPR and RPI, or neither (see Diagram 1).

Diagram 1: Relationship between Use of Force, MMRP and RPI

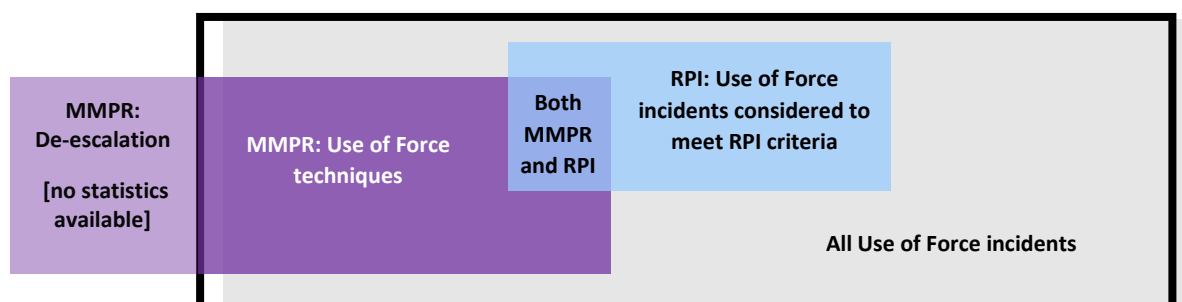


Diagram 1 (not drawn to scale) is a schematic representation of a complex issue: it is illustrative only. For more details, see the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#). Sections 8.6 to 8.9 of this chapter refer to all use of force techniques highlighted by the bold outline in the diagram.

The YJB started collecting MMRP data from March 2013 and by the end of March 2018 MMRP techniques had been implemented in all three STCs and all five under-18 YOIs¹²⁹. This section covers the whole of the year ending March 2019 for all eight secure establishments and is the first time full-year data has been available for all establishments¹³⁰. This is also the first year in which MMRP data was collected by the Youth Custody Service (YCS) instead of by the YJB.

Comparisons with previous years should be avoided as the different start dates in establishments mean that figures in each year cover different establishments with separate regimes. For instance, figures for the year ending March 2015, cover all three STCs open at that time but only two YOIs (Hindley and Wetherby). From July 2017 onwards, data cover the same three STCs but also all five under-18 YOIs then open.

8.7 Characteristics of use of force incidents in STCs and YOIs

There were over 7,200 use of force¹³¹ incidents in STCs and YOIs in the year ending March 2019. This is an average of just over 600 incidents per month, and a rate of 59.6 incidents per 100 children and young people in STCs and YOIs per month (Supplementary Table 8.23).

In the year ending March 2019, MMRP techniques were involved in 68% of all use of force incidents, an average of around 410 MMRP incidents per month (Supplementary Table 8.27). The remaining 32% of use of force incidents did not involve any MMRP techniques.

¹²⁹ See Annex B in the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for details of the establishments using MMRP and the dates when they started using it.

¹³⁰ Owing to the staggered roll-out of MMRP no comparisons can be drawn from trend data due to establishments going live with MMRP at different points since 2013.

¹³¹ All uses of MMRP or RPI count as a use of force. It is possible that a use of force is neither MMRP or RPI, however all uses of MMRP and RPI are classed as use of force.

In the year ending March 2019, the highest level technique^{132,133} recorded in each MMPR incident was:

- Pain inducing¹³⁴ for 3% of all MMPR incidents,
- High level used for 50% of all MMPR incidents,
- Medium level for 31% of all MMPR incidents and
- Low level for 16% of all MMPR incidents.

Supplementary Table 8.24 shows that the most common reason given for use of force being applied was “preventing harm to a third party” (90% of use of force incidents)¹³⁵. Just over a quarter of incidents (28%) had preventing the child or young person harming themselves given as a reason for the use of force.

Just over half (55%) of use of force incidents in STCs and YOIs lasted for two minutes or less. A further 33% lasted between three and five minutes. The remaining 12% of incidents lasted for six minutes or more. Handcuffs were used in 16% of incidents (over 1,100) (Supplementary Table 8.24).

8.8 Use of force incidents involving injuries requiring medical treatment¹³⁶

There were around 60 occasions in which children and young people required medical treatment for an injury following the use of force (1% of all incidents). Of these, just under 50 injuries were minor injuries requiring medical treatment on site and nine were serious injuries requiring hospital treatment.

Establishments are also required to record a number of warning signs and symptoms which are not in themselves injuries but may be indicative of an underlying medical condition, which in turn may be related to the use of force¹³⁷. These are included in the use of force data return¹³⁸. Warning signs were observed on just over 230 occasions¹³⁹ during the year ending March 2019 (Supplementary Table 8.26).

¹³² More than one technique may be used in a single incident and each technique may be used more than once in a single incident. This section only counts the highest level technique used in an incident, whereas Supplementary Table 8.28 provides a breakdown of all techniques used.

¹³³ See Supplementary Table 8.27 for data on the highest level technique used in MMPR incidents.

¹³⁴ The use of pain inducing techniques for the under-18 secure estate must be restricted to circumstances where it is necessary to protect a child, young person, or others from an immediate risk of serious physical harm.

¹³⁵ There may be more than one reason for use of force in a single incident.

¹³⁶ If a child received more than one injury in the same incident, only the most serious injury in each incident is counted.

¹³⁷ These include: Lost or reduced consciousness, abruptly/unexpectedly stopped struggling or suddenly calmed down, blueness of lips/fingernails/ear lobes (cyanosis), tiny pin point red dots seen on the skin (upper chest, neck, face, eye lids), difficulty breathing, complaints of feeling sick, vomiting, and complaints of difficulty breathing.

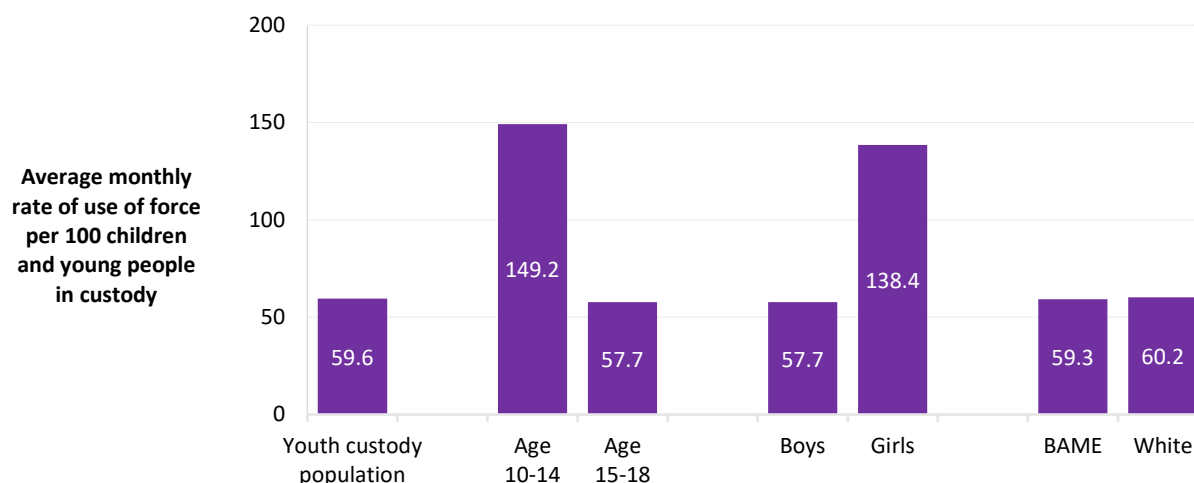
¹³⁸ Detailed reports on each such occasion are sent directly to the MMPR National Team within Her Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) as part of the Serious Injuries and Warning Signs (SIWS) process.

¹³⁹ More than one medical warning sign may be observed during a single incident: At least one warning sign was observed during 230 use of force incidents, making up 3% of the total incidents recorded.

8.9 Demographic characteristics of children and young people involved in use of force incidents

When making comparisons between groups based on gender and age, it is important to consider that the relatively small number of females and those aged 10-14 in the youth secure estate make the rates for those groups volatile.

Figure 8.10: Average monthly rate of use of force incidents per 100 children and young people in custody by demographics^{140,141}, STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, year ending March 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 8, Table 8.25

In the year ending March 2019, the average monthly rate of use of force per 100 children and young people in custody was higher for:

- Those aged 10-14 years (at 149.2 compared to 57.7 for 15-18 year olds);
- Girls (at 138.4 compared to 57.7 for boys); and
- White children and young people (60.2 compared to 59.3 for BAME children and young people, although these two rates were very close).

¹⁴⁰ Data include any 18 year olds who remain in the youth secure estate.

¹⁴¹ Use of force data are based on self-reported ethnicity.

9. Proven reoffending by children and young people

For the year ending March 2018 aggregated cohort ¹⁴²:

- The long term falls in the number of offenders, reoffenders and reoffences has continued. The number of offenders in the annually aggregated cohort has fallen by 86% over the last ten years, the number of reoffenders has fallen by 85% and the number of reoffences being committed has dropped by 80%.
- Of the just under 28,400 children and young people^{143,144} in the annual aggregated cohort, 38.4% reoffended within 12 months. While this is a decrease of 2.5 percentage points compared with the previous year, the reoffending rate is still higher than the year ending March 2008 (when it was 37.1%).
- Of those children and young people who did reoffend, they committed over 44,100 reoffences giving an average of 4.05 reoffences per reoffender (frequency rate). This is the highest frequency rate seen in the last ten years.

Description: Proven reoffending by children and young people entering the cohort between April 2017 and March 2018. The focus in this chapter is on the annual data based on the aggregate of the four quarterly offender cohorts¹⁴⁵.

Children and young people enter the reoffending cohort if they receive a caution, a non-custodial sentence at court or were released from custody during the cohort period¹⁴⁴. A proven reoffence is any offence committed in a one year follow-up period that leads to a caution or court sentence, either within the one year follow-up or within a further six months to allow the offence to be proven in court. Users should be cautious though when making any comparisons between cohorts before and after the October 2015 offender cohort period. This is because there was a change in data source from October 2015 onwards.

Source: Ministry of Justice extract of Police National Computer

Period covered: Aggregated cohorts for the years ending March 2008 to 2018

Supplementary Tables: Ch 9 – Proven reoffending by children and young people

More information: [Proven reoffending statistics](#), [How the measure of proven reoffending has changed and the effect of these changes](#), [Response to consultation on changes to proven reoffending statistics](#), [Ch 11 – Comparisons with the adult system](#), [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#)

¹⁴² Children and young people who received a caution, a non-custodial sentence at court, or who were released from custody.

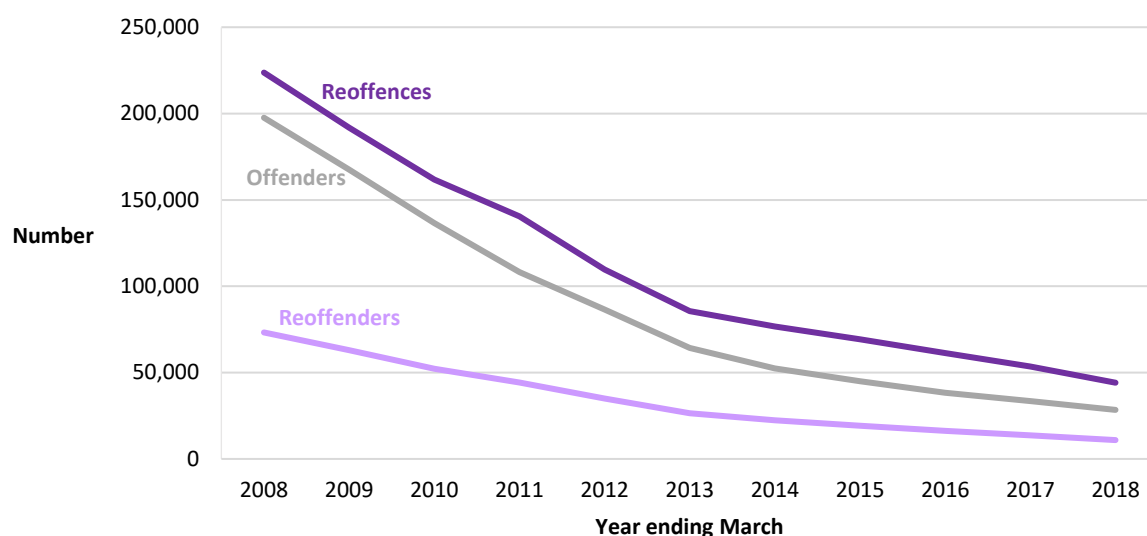
¹⁴³ The annual figure is based on the aggregate of four quarterly offender cohorts. Please note, it is possible for a child or young person to appear in the annual cohort more than once.

¹⁴⁴ Someone who entered the cohort aged 17 and reoffended aged 18 will be included in the figures.

¹⁴⁵ In October 2017 a new methodology was adopted by the MoJ to construct the proven reoffending measure. Please see [How the measure of proven reoffending has changed and the effect of these changes](#) for more information.

9.1 Offenders, reoffenders and reoffences^{146,147,148}

Figure 9.1: Number of offenders, reoffenders and reoffences, children and young people, England and Wales, for those entering the cohort in the years ending March 2008 to 2018



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 9, Table 9.1

As shown in Figure 9.1, for children and young people, the long term falls in the number of offenders, reoffenders and the number of reoffences they committed have continued.

The number of offenders in the annually aggregated cohort¹⁴⁹ has fallen by 86% over the last ten years. The number of reoffenders has fallen by 85% and the number of reoffences being committed has dropped by 80%.

¹⁴⁶ Data on children and young people released from YOIs are taken from a different source (PNOMIS) from October 2017 onwards.

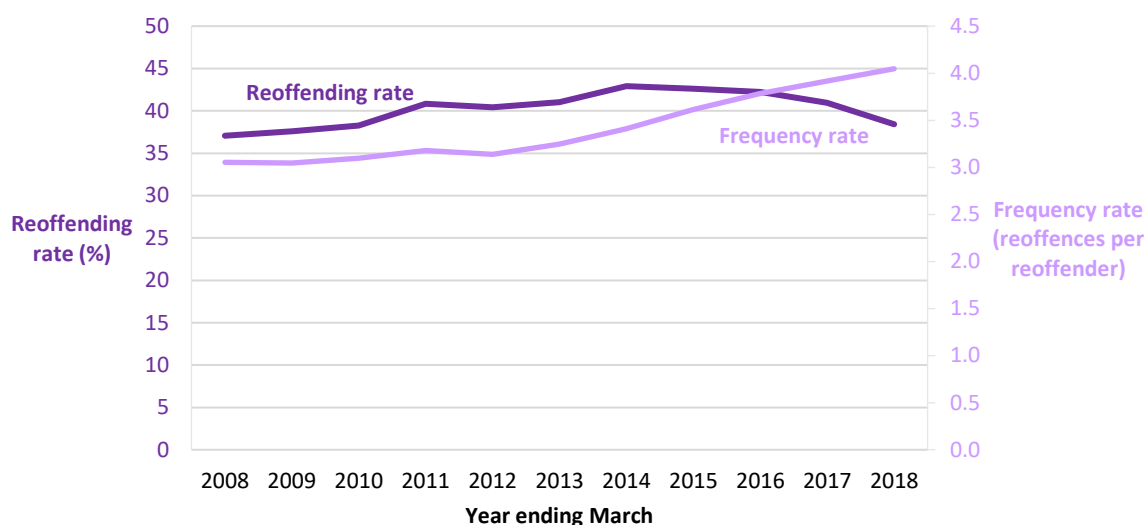
¹⁴⁷ This publication is based on the new methodology adopted in October 2017, including for trends over time, and as such should not be compared with those in publications before 2016/17.

¹⁴⁸ See [Proven reoffending statistics](#) for more detailed analysis on adult and youth reoffending for the January 2018 to March 2018 quarterly cohort.

¹⁴⁹ The annual figure is based on the aggregate of four quarterly offender cohorts. Please note, it is possible for a child or young person to appear in the annual cohort more than once.

9.2 Reoffending rate and frequency rate

Figure 9.2: Reoffending rate and frequency rate for children and young people, England and Wales, for those entering the cohort in the years ending March 2008 to 2018



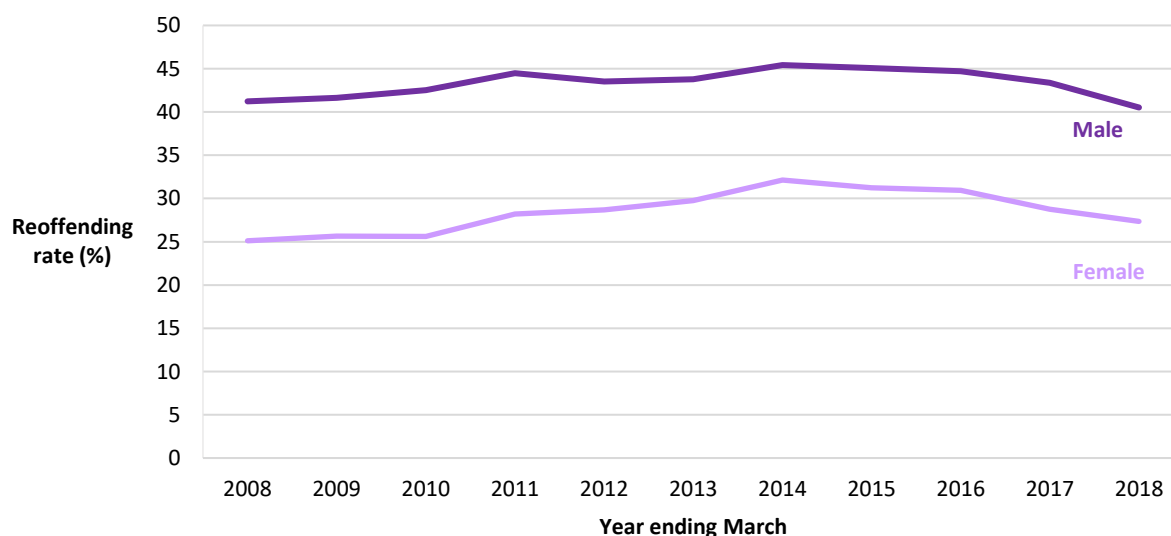
Supplementary Tables: Chapter 9, Table 9.1

For the year ending March 2018 cohort, the reoffending rate for children and young people (the percentage of offenders who reoffended), was 38.4%. As shown in Figure 9.2, while the reoffending rate remains slightly higher than it was ten years ago (37.1%), the rate has been decreasing since the year ending March 2015. The decrease in the last year of 2.5 percentage points is the greatest year-on-year fall seen over the last ten years.

In the latest year, children and young people who reoffended committed an average of 4.05 reoffences each (frequency rate). This has been steadily increasing every year since the year ending March 2013, and is now the highest frequency rate in the last ten years.

9.3 Reoffending by demographic characteristics of children and young people

Figure 9.3: Reoffending rate for children and young people by gender, England and Wales, for those entering the cohort in the years ending March 2008 to 2018



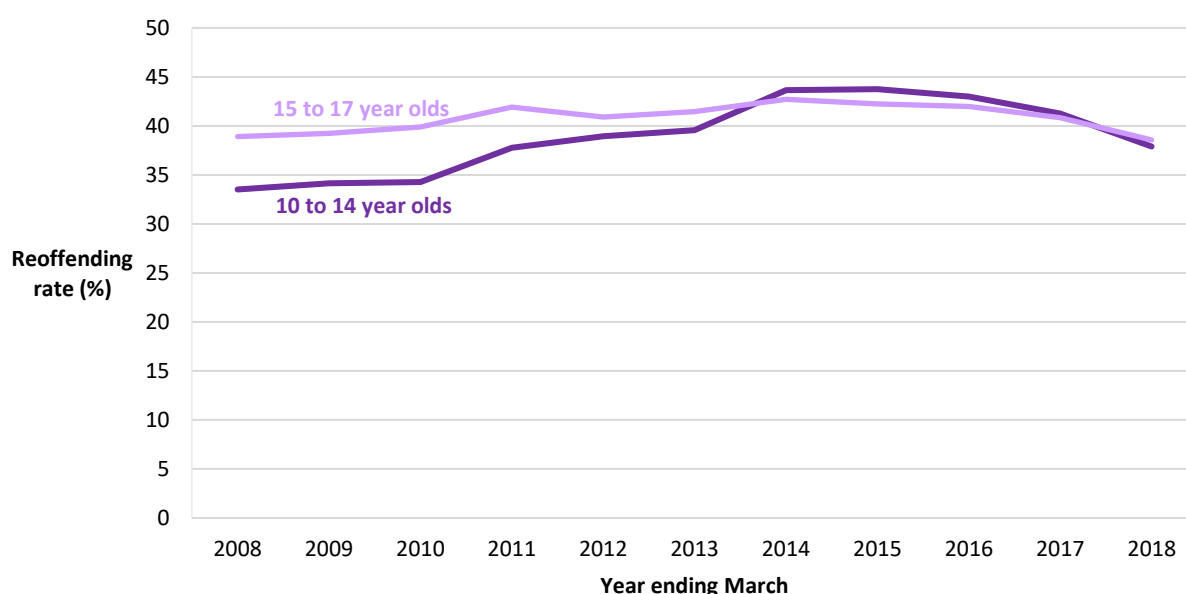
Supplementary Tables: Chapter 9, Table 9.2

Males have always made up the majority of the cohort, and the proportion they account for has been increasing over the last ten years, from 74% to 84% in the year ending March 2018 (Supplementary Table 9.2).

As shown in Figure 9.3, the reoffending rate for males has been higher than for females in each of the last ten years. In the latest year, the reoffending rate for males was 40.5%, compared to 27.4% for females. The reoffending rates for both genders have followed a similar trend and have been decreasing each year since the year ending March 2015.

Supplementary Table 9.2 shows that while the average number of reoffences per reoffender (frequency rate) has always been higher for males than females, it is now more similar between the two genders than it has been in previous years (4.05 and 4.02 respectively).

Figure 9.4: Reoffending rate by age group¹⁵⁰, England and Wales, for those entering the cohort in the years ending March 2008 to 2018



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 9, Table 9.3

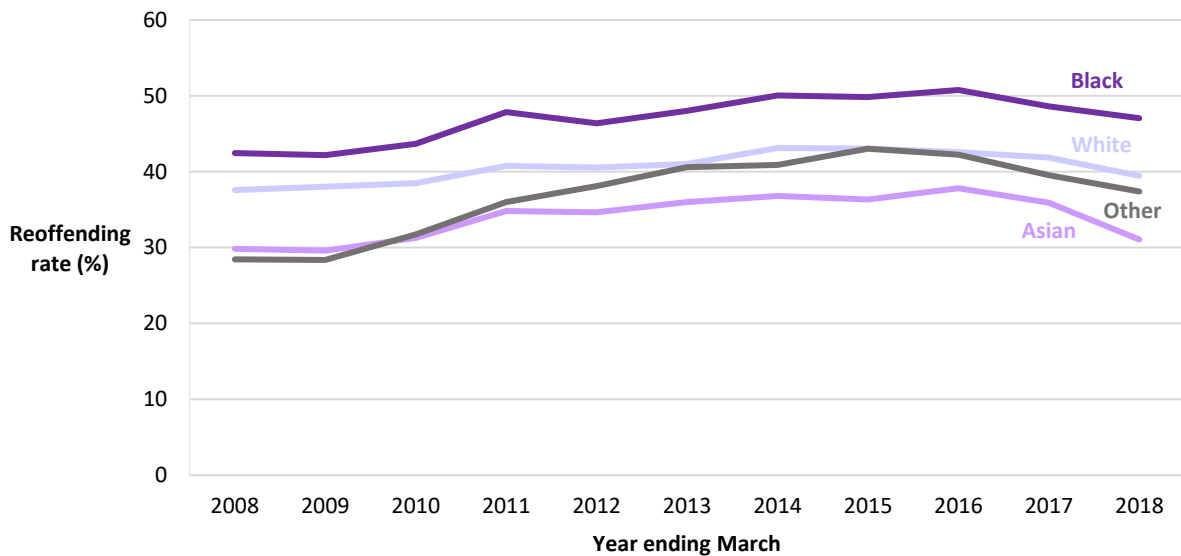
The majority of children and young people who entered the aggregated cohort were aged 15-17, with the proportion increasing from 66% in the year ending March 2008 to 76% in the year ending March 2018 (Supplementary Table 9.3).

Historically, the reoffending rate for 15-17 year olds was higher than that for the younger age group (10-14 year olds). Then from the year ending March 2014 the difference between the two age groups was smaller, and the rate for the younger age group (10-14 year olds) subsequently overtook 15-17 year olds. However, in the latest year, the reoffending rate for the older age group is slightly higher for the first time in four years, at 38.6% compared to 37.9%.

Supplementary Table 9.3 shows that 10-14 year olds who reoffended committed more reoffences on average than those aged 15-17 (4.29 and 3.97 respectively in the latest year), as has been the trend since the year ending March 2012 aggregated cohort.

¹⁵⁰ Someone who entered the cohort aged 17 and reoffended aged 18 will be included in the figures.

Figure 9.5: Reoffending rate for children and young people by ethnicity^{151,152}, England and Wales, for those entering the cohort in the years ending March 2008 to 2018



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 9, Table 9.4

As shown in Figure 9.5, following broad increases since the year ending March 2008, there have been decreases in the reoffending rate across all ethnicities in more recent years.

The reoffending rate has consistently been highest for Black children and young people over the last ten years. In the latest year, 47.1% of Black children and young people reoffended, which is an increase of 4.6 percentage points compared with ten years ago, but a fall of 1.6 percentage points in the last year.

White children and young people make up the majority of the offending cohort (76%)¹⁵¹. This ethnic group had the second highest reoffending rate in the year ending March 2018, at 39.5%. In the latest year, children and young people from a White ethnic background who reoffended committed the highest number of reoffences on average (4.22) than any other ethnic group (Supplementary Table 9.4).

Those from an Other ethnic background have made up a very small proportion of the offending cohort in each of the last ten years (1% or less). Having previously seen much lower reoffending rates, this ethnic group has seen the greatest increase since the year ending March 2008, increasing 8.9 percentage points to 37.4%, however caution should be taken using these figures due to the small cohort size.

Children and young people from an Asian background have had the lowest reoffending rate compared to other ethnic groups since the year ending March 2010. In the latest year this ethnic group saw the largest fall in reoffending rate, falling 4.9 percentage points compared to the previous year from 35.9% to 31.1%.

¹⁵¹ Figure is based on where ethnicity is known. In the aggregated cohort for the year ending March 2018, the ethnicity was unknown for 6% of children and young people who entered the cohort.

¹⁵² Ethnicity is police officer identified. There is not a 'Mixed' ethnicity group in officer identified ethnicities, so caution should be used if comparing with data using self-identified ethnicities.

9.4 Reoffending by criminal history

As might be expected, the rate of reoffending increases with the number of previous offences committed. For the year ending March 2018 aggregated cohort, those with no previous offences had a reoffending rate of 20.5%, compared to 73.1% for those who had committed 11 or more previous offences (Supplementary Table 9.6).

Those who had committed no previous offences made up 44% of all children and young people in the aggregated cohort but committed only 16% of all proven reoffences. Those with 11 or more previous offences made up only 11% of all children and young people in the aggregated cohort but committed 30% of all proven reoffences.

The average number of previous offences per offender had been increasing between the years ending March 2008 and 2011, when the rate of increase slowed before levelling off. From the year ending March 2017, it started to increase again. In the latest year, there was an increase of 4%, to 3.85, which is the highest number of previous offences per offender in the last ten years (Supplementary Table 9.1).

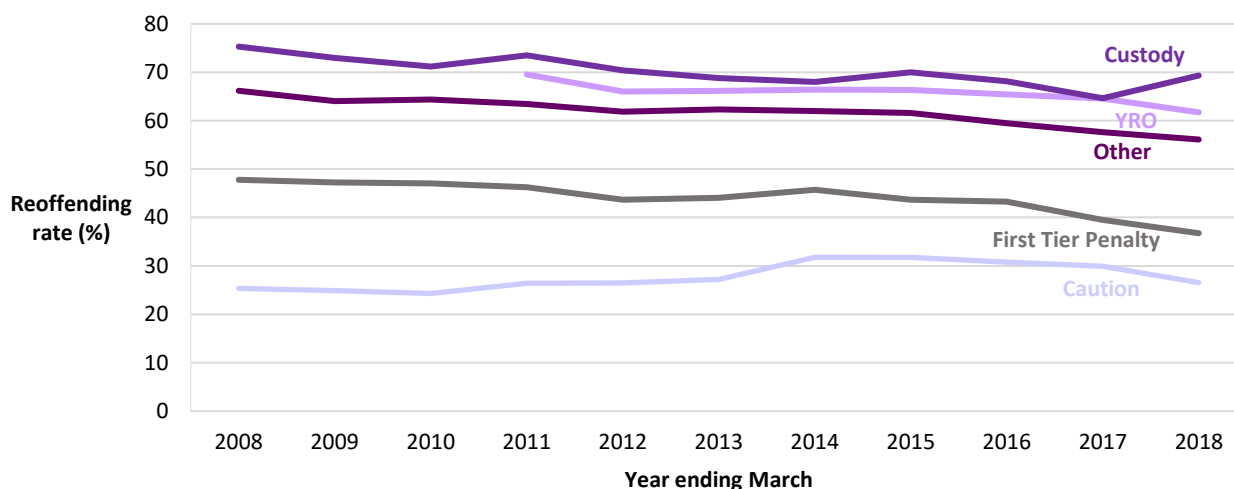
9.5 Reoffending by index offence

The offence that leads to an offender being included in the offender cohort is called the index offence. Supplementary Table 9.5 shows that for the year ending March 2018 cohort:

- Summary non-motoring offences made up the largest proportion of all index offences committed by children and young people, accounting for 34% of the cohort. Theft was the second largest, at 19%. Their associated reoffending rates were 39.3% and 44.2%, respectively.
- Children and young people with an index offence of public order had the highest reoffending rate, at 48.7%, followed by fraud offences (47.7%) and theft offences (44.2%). Public order offences also had the highest frequency rate in the latest year, at 4.78.
- Sexual offences have the lowest reoffending rate, at 15.0%, which has been a consistent trend over the last ten years. However, sexual offences accounted for just 2% of all index offences.

9.6 Reoffending by index disposal

Figure 9.6: Reoffending rate for children and young people by index disposal^{153,154}, England and Wales, for those entering the cohort in the years ending March 2008 to 2018



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 9, Table 9.7

The index disposal is the caution or type of sentence the offender received for their index offence¹⁵⁵.

While cautions made up the largest proportion (37%) of all index disposals in the year ending March 2018 aggregated cohort, children and young people who received a caution had the lowest reoffending rate (26.6%).

As shown in Figure 9.6, the reoffending rate remains highest for those released from custody (except for the year ending March 2017 aggregated cohort, when the rate was equal to those who received a Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO)). Of children released from custody in the year ending March 2018, 69.3% reoffended. This is the only index disposal type to see an increase in reoffending rate in the last year, increasing by 4.7 percentage points, which is the largest year-on-year increase in the last ten years.

Supplementary Table 9.7 shows that the frequency rate for those given a custodial sentence has been the highest of all index disposals in each of the last ten years (except for the year ending March 2013). In the latest year, those given a custodial sentence for their index offence committed an average of 5.27 reoffences each.

As in most previous years, of those whose index disposal was a custodial sentence, those who were given sentences of less than six months had the highest reoffending rate (77.4%) in the latest year (Supplementary Table 9.8).

Proven reoffending rates by index disposal should not be compared to assess the effectiveness of sentences, as there is no control for known differences in offender characteristics, the offence committed, and the type of sentence given.

¹⁵³ Youth Rehabilitation Orders (YROs) came into force on 20 November 2009.

¹⁵⁴ Not including Youth Community Sentences. Youth Community Sentences were replaced by the Youth Rehabilitation Order, but they continue to exist for offenders that committed an offence before the 30 November 2009. Data on this index disposal are available in Supplementary Table 9.7.

¹⁵⁵ A different methodology is used for proven reoffending statistics by disposal type. The first proven offence within each disposal is treated as the start point for measuring proven reoffending. Therefore, some children and young people will appear in more than one disposal category.

10. Criminal histories of children

In the year ending March 2019:

- Children cautioned or sentenced had an average of 2.0 previous cautions or sentences. This was a minor decrease from 2.1 ten years ago and the same as the previous year.
 - Over half (54%) of children cautioned or sentenced had a criminal history, a slight decrease from 56% compared with the year ending March 2009 but the same level as the previous year.
 - Of the children cautioned or sentenced who had a criminal history of 15 or more previous cautions or sentences, 36% were sentenced to immediate custody compared to just 2% for those with no previous criminal history.
-

Description: Number of previous cautions and sentences of children aged 10-17.

A child's criminal history counts the number of occasions on which they previously received a caution or sentence for any offence which has been recorded on the Police National Computer (PNC), including some offences committed outside of England and Wales, irrespective of country of residence. This count differs from First Time Entrants (FTEs) because only those prosecuted by an English or Welsh police force and who are resident in England and Wales are included in the FTE statistics. Criminal histories also differ from proven reoffending statistics which only looks at subsequent proven offending within 12 months.

Source: Police National Computer

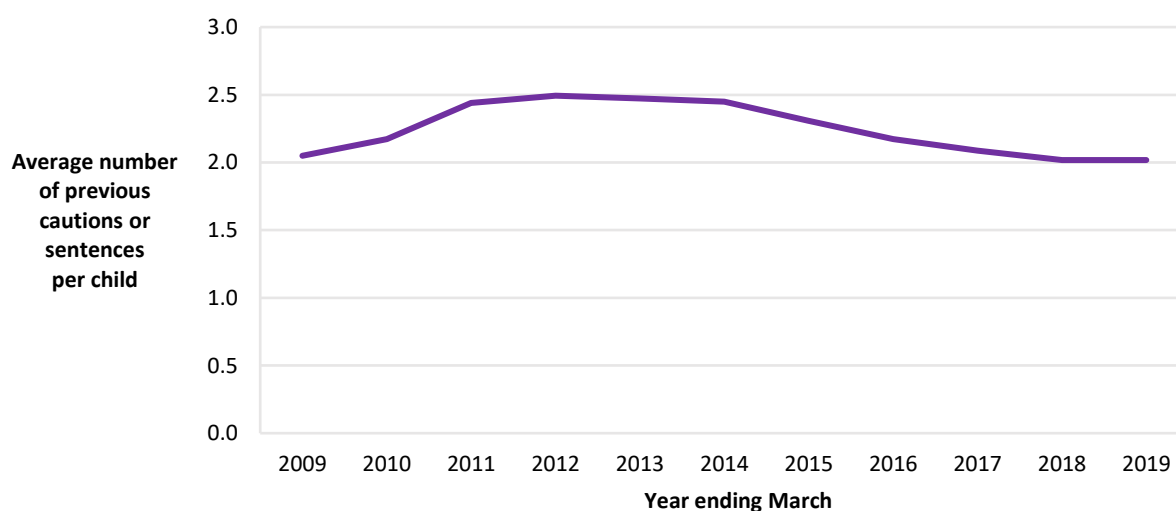
Time period covered: Years ending March 2009 to 2019

Supplementary Tables: Ch 10 – Criminal histories of children

More information: [Criminal Justice Statistics Quarterly](#) (more up to date data available), [Chapter 2 - First time Entrants to the Youth Justice System](#), [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#)

10.1 Criminal histories of children in the Youth Justice System

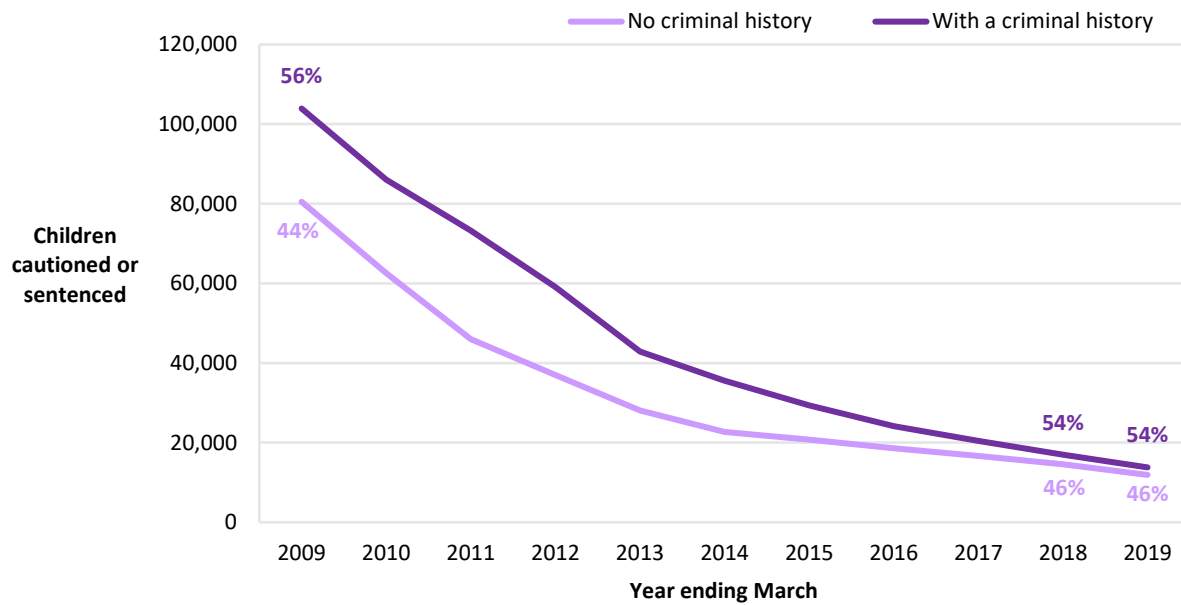
Figure 10.1: Average number of previous cautions or sentences of children cautioned or sentenced for any offence, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 10, Table 10.1

The overall trend in the average number of previous cautions or sentences rose from 2.1 per child in the year ending March 2009 to a peak of 2.5 in the year ending March 2012. Levels then remained fairly stable until the steady decline seen since the year ending March 2015, to 2.0 in the latest year.

Figure 10.2 Number and proportion of children cautioned or sentenced with no criminal history compared with those with a criminal history, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



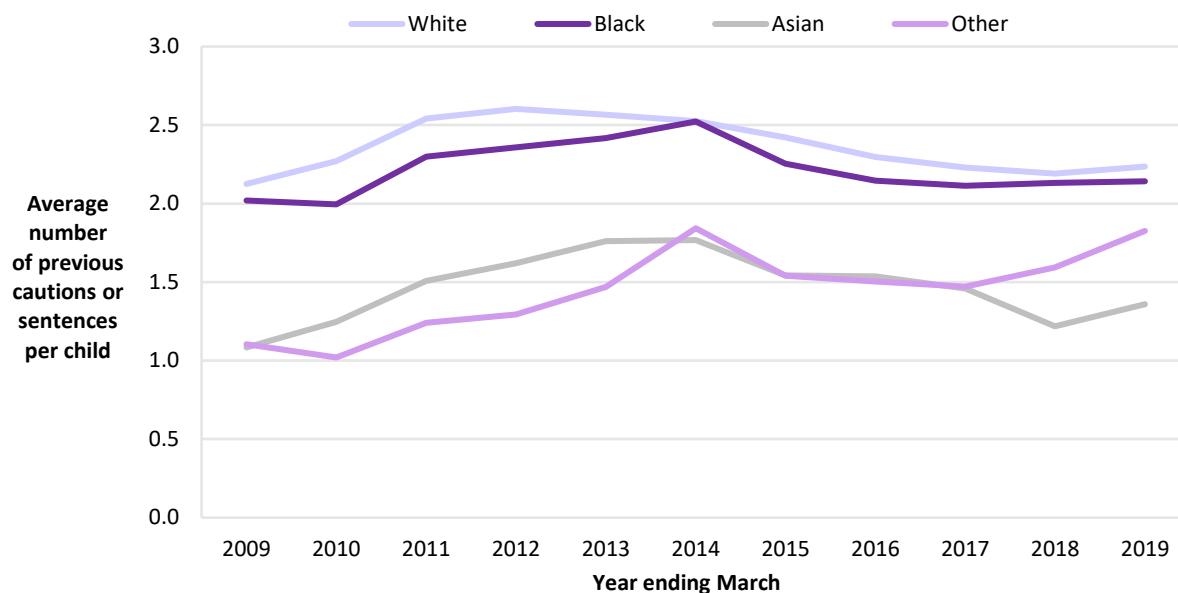
Supplementary Tables: Chapter 10, Table 10.2

The number of children cautioned or sentenced with a criminal history was around 13,800 in the year ending March 2019. This has decreased by 87% since the year ending March 2009 when the figure was just over 103,900.

The proportion of children cautioned or sentenced with a criminal history has been higher than the proportion with no criminal history in each of the last ten years. In the year ending March 2009, the proportion with a criminal history was 56%. This proportion gradually increased over the next three years to a peak of 62% in the year ending March 2012 before gradual year-on-year decreases brought it back down to 54% in the year ending March 2018.

10.2 Criminal histories of children by ethnicity

Figure 10.3: Average number of previous cautions or sentences of children cautioned or sentenced for any offence by ethnicity^{156,157}, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 10, Table 10.1

Figure 10.3 shows that the average number of previous cautions or sentences for children varied by ethnicity. White children had a greater average number of previous cautions or sentences than other ethnicities in each of the last ten years, except for the year ending March 2014 when it was equal to that for Black children.

White children cautioned or sentenced in the year ending March 2019 had an average of 2.2 previous cautions or sentences. There was a minor increase from 2.1 in the year ending March 2009, but it remained the same as last year.

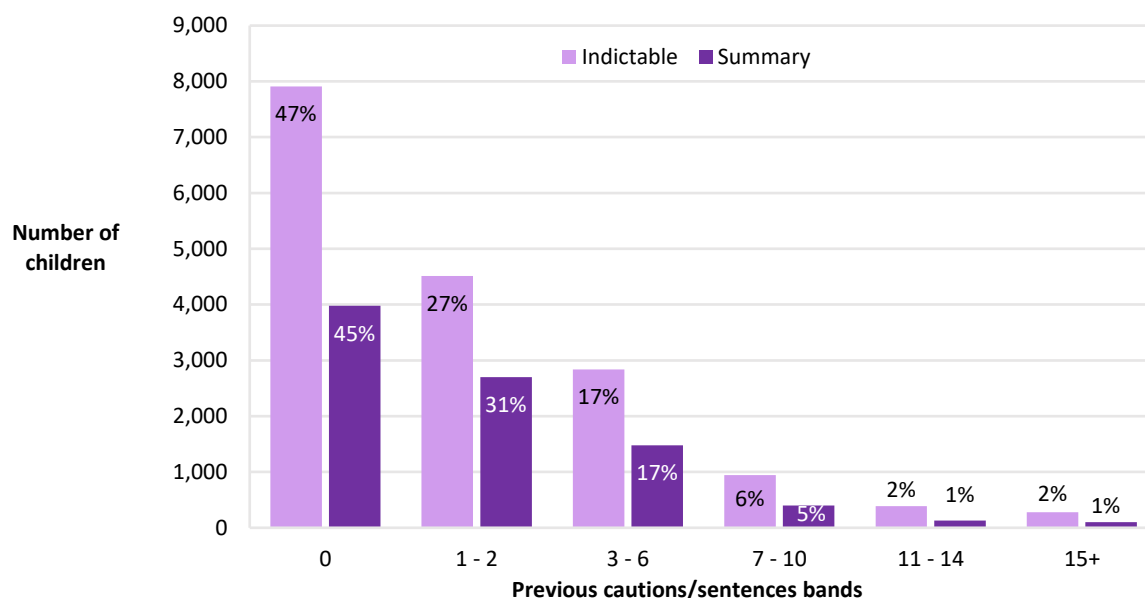
Over the last ten years, Black children had a similar but marginally lower number of previous cautions or sentences as White children, while those from an Other or Asian background had much lower levels of previous cautions or sentences, with 1.8 and 1.4 respectively in the year ending March 2019.

¹⁵⁶ Figures are based on where ethnicity is known. In the year ending March 2019, the ethnicity was unknown for 14% of children cautioned or sentenced.

¹⁵⁷ Based on officer identified ethnicity as opposed to self-identified ethnicity. There is not a 'Mixed' ethnicity group in officer identified ethnicities, so caution should be used if comparing with data using self-identified ethnicities.

10.3 Criminal histories of children – indictable and summary offences¹⁵⁸

Figure 10.4: Number and proportion of children cautioned or sentenced for summary and indictable offences by number of previous cautions and sentences, England and Wales, year ending March 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 10, Table 10.3

Supplementary Table 10.3 shows that while there were almost half as many summary offences as indictable offences (around 8,800 summary offences compared to almost 16,900 indictable offences), the offending histories are quite similar despite indictable offences being more serious, with 55% of children cautioned or sentenced for summary offences having a previous caution or sentence compared to 53% for indictable offences.

Figure 10.5: Proportion¹⁵⁹ of children cautioned or sentenced with no criminal history compared to those with 15+ previous cautions or sentences by type of disposal, England and Wales, year ending March 2019

Disposal type	Number of cautions and sentences	Caution	Absolute discharge	Conditional discharge	Fine	Community sentence	Immediate custody	Other
No criminal history	11,891	55%	1%	3%	1%	37%	2%	1%
15+ cautions/sentences	381	1%	1%	19%	3%	26%	36%	13%

Supplementary Tables: Chapter 10, Table 10.3

For children cautioned or sentenced with a criminal history of 15 or more previous cautions or sentences, the majority were sentenced to either immediate custody (36%) or to a community sentence (26%). For those with no previous cautions or sentences the majority received either a caution (55%) or a community sentence (37%).

¹⁵⁸ Criminal offences are divided into three main offence groups; Indictable; Summary non-motoring; and Summary motoring. In this chapter, summary motoring offences and summary non-motoring offences are grouped together. Please refer to the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for further details of these offence groups.

¹⁵⁹ Proportions may not sum due to rounding.

11. Comparisons with the adult system

In the year ending March 2019:

- The number of both adult and child first time entrants (FTEs) has continued to fall. Since the year ending March 2009, the number of 10-17 year old FTEs has fallen by 85%, compared to a 54% decrease in adult (18+) FTEs.
 - The overall custodial population is at its lowest level in the last ten years. Children accounted for 1% of the overall custody population.
 - The number of offences involving a knife or offensive weapon committed by children fell by 1% in the last year, but increased by 6% for adults (18+). Of all knife and offensive weapon offences committed in the year ending March 2019, 20% were committed by children.
 - For the year ending March 2019 cohort, children and young people¹⁶⁰ had the highest reoffending rate of the age groups, at 38.4% compared to 29.0% for young adults (aged 18-20) and 28.5% for adults (aged 21 and over).
-

Description: A comparison between children aged 10-17, young adults aged 18-20 (where available) and adults (aged 21+) in the Criminal Justice System in England and Wales. Where different age groups have been used, these have been specified. Any comparisons between the age groups should be treated with caution, due to differences in the youth and adult justice systems.

Source: Police Powers and Procedures statistics (Arrests)
Police National Computer (First time entrants, Reoffending, Offences involving a knife or offensive weapon)
Court Proceedings Database (People sentenced)
P-NOMIS, eAsset and YJAF (Custody population)

Time period covered: Years ending March 2009 to 2019 (Arrests, First time entrants, people sentenced and offences involving a knife or offensive weapon)
Years ending March 2008 to 2018 (Reoffending)
30th June snapshot between 2009 and 2019 (Custody population)

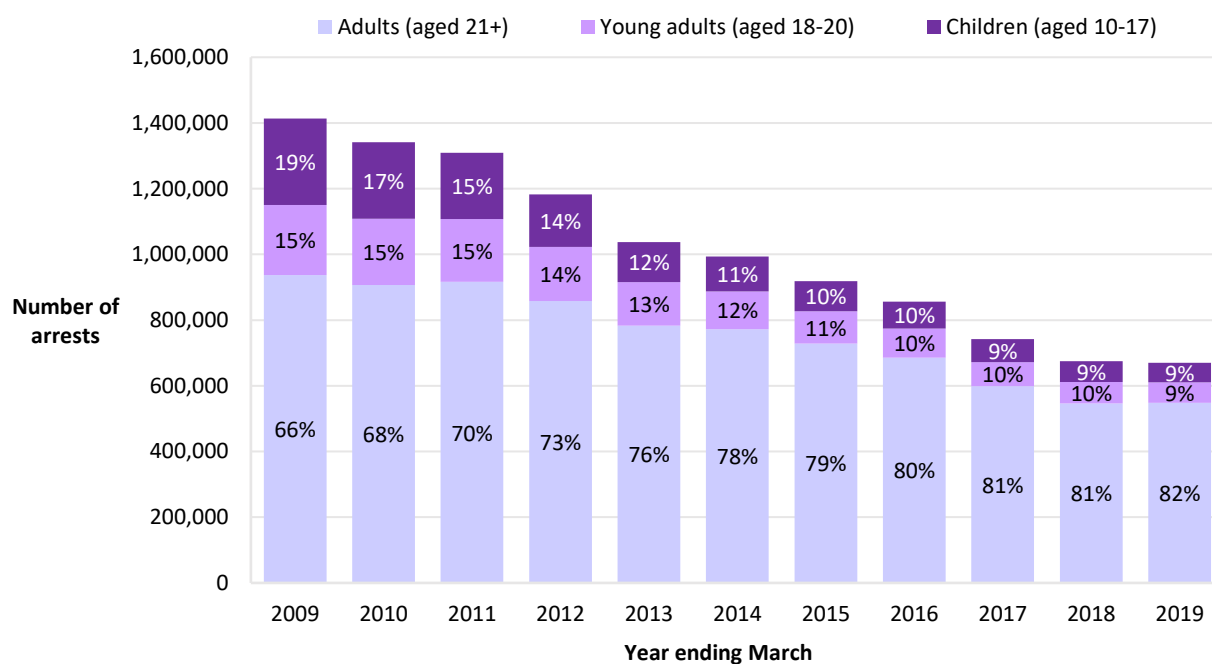
Supplementary Tables: Ch 11 – Comparisons with the adult system

More information: [Police powers and procedures](#), [Proven reoffending statistics](#), [Offender Management Statistics \(Custody\)](#) (more up to date data available), [Criminal Justice Statistics](#) (more up to date data available), [Knife and offensive weapon sentencing statistics](#) (more up to date data available), [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#)

¹⁶⁰ Someone who entered the cohort aged 17 who reoffended aged 18 will be included in the figures.

11.1 Arrests by age group

Figure 11.1: Number and proportion of arrests by age group, England and Wales¹⁶¹, years ending March 2009 to 2019¹⁶²



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 11, Table 11.1

There were around 670,400 arrests in the year ending March 2019, which is a 53% decrease compared with over 1.4 million arrests in the year ending March 2009.

The overall number of arrests has decreased in each of the last ten years for both children (10-17 year olds) and young adults (18-20). Whilst the number of arrests of adults is now 42% lower than ten years ago, there was a small increase in the latest year (less than 1%), the first increase since the year ending March 2011.

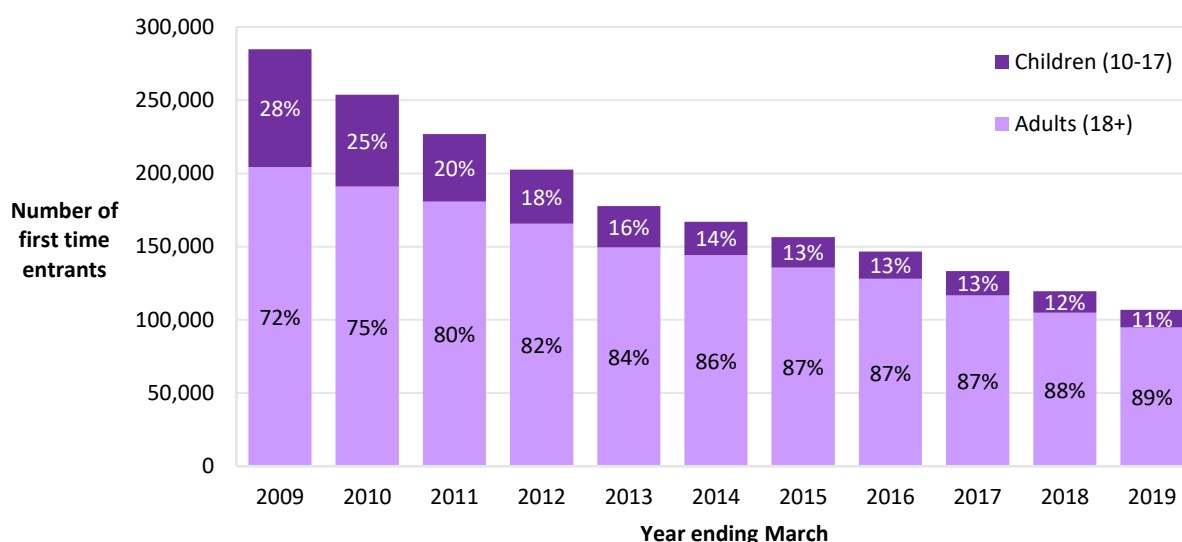
As the volumes of arrests have decreased at different rates across the three age groups, the proportions have changed over the course of the decade. Children accounted for 9% of overall arrests in the year ending March 2019, compared to 19% ten years previously. In the same period, the proportion of young adults arrested has seen the smallest change in share, decreasing from 15% to 9%, while the proportion of adults arrested has increased from 66% to 82%.

¹⁶¹ Lancashire Police could not supply data for the years ending March 2017, 2018, and 2019. Data have been removed for this force for all years so valid comparisons can be made.

¹⁶² Proportions may not sum due to rounding.

11.2 First time entrants to the Criminal Justice System by age group

Figure 11.2: Number and proportion of first time entrants to the Criminal Justice System by age group, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019

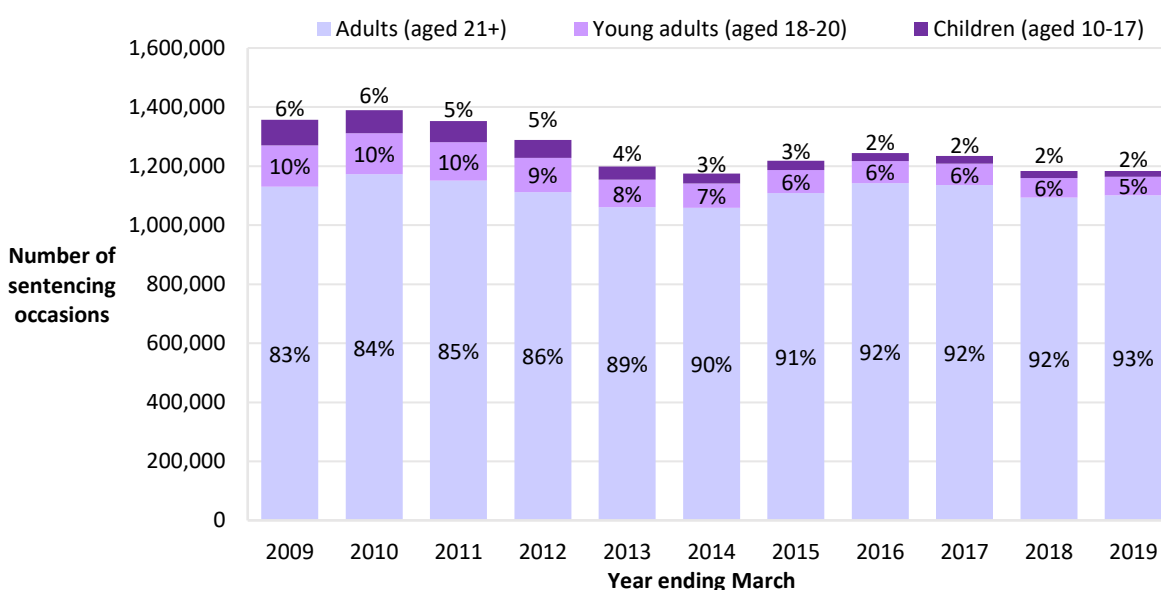


Supplementary Tables: Chapter 11, Table 11.2

In the year ending March 2019, there were around 106,800 first time entrants (FTEs) to the Criminal Justice System, of which 11% were children (aged 10-17). There have been year-on-year decreases for both child and adult (18+) FTEs over the last ten years, however the number of child FTEs has decreased by 85% in this time, compared to a 54% decrease for adults. This has led to a change in the composition of the overall number of FTEs, with those aged 10-17 accounting for a smaller proportion of the total in the latest year at 11%, compared to 28% the year ending March 2009.

11.3 People sentenced at court by age group

Figure 11.3: Number and proportion of sentencing occasions of people by age group, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 11, Table 11.4

In the year ending March 2019, there were around 1.2 million court sentencing occasions. Of these, just over 19,300 (2%) were for children.

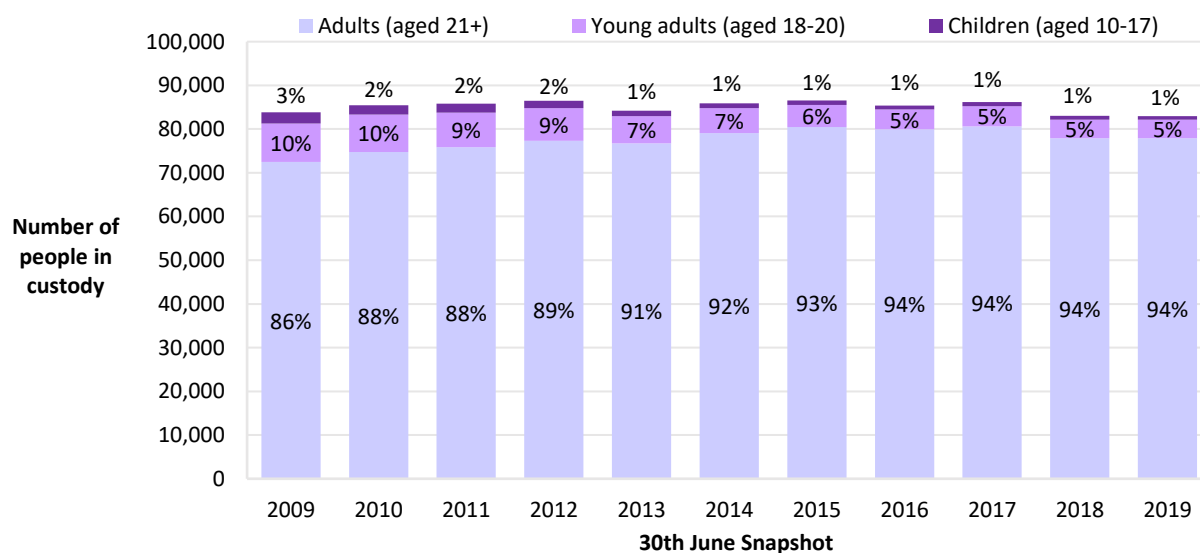
While the overall number of sentencing occasions has reduced by 13% from around 1.4 million in the year ending March 2009, the three age groups have fallen at different rates:

- The number of occasions when children (aged 10-17) were sentenced reduced by 78%;
- The number of occasions when young adults (aged 18-20) were sentenced reduced by 55%; and
- The number of occasions when adults (aged 21+) were sentenced reduced by 3% in the same period.

Of the total sentencing occasions in the year ending March 2019, 74% involved fines given to adults (aged 21+) (Supplementary Table 11.4).

11.4 Custody population by age group¹⁶³

Figure 11.4: Number and proportion of people in custody by age group, England and Wales, 30th June 2009 to 2019



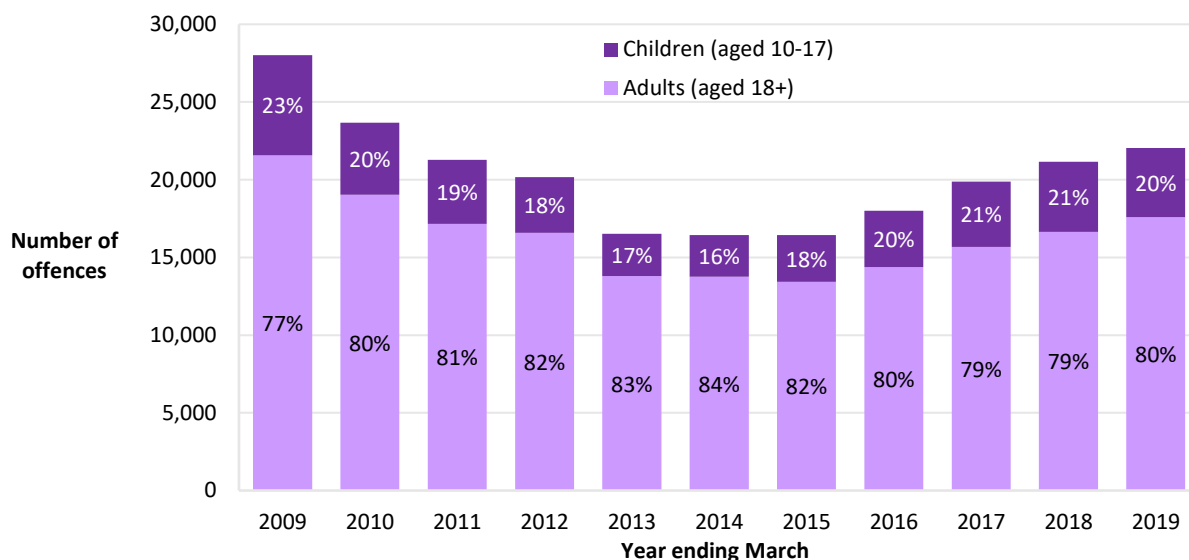
Supplementary Tables: Chapter 11, Table 11.8

There were around 83,000 people in custody on the 30th June 2019. Children accounted for 1% (around 830) of the custodial population while young adults (aged 18-20) accounted for 5% (just under 4,200) and adults (aged 21+) accounted for 94% (around 77,900). These proportions have remained relatively stable over the last five years. The overall custodial population and the custodial population for both children and young adults are at their lowest levels seen in the last ten years.

¹⁶³ In this section the snapshot date for the custodial population across all age groups is 30th June. This differs to Chapter 7 of this publication, where the snapshot of the youth secure estate is 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.

11.5 Knife and offensive weapon offences resulting in a caution or sentence by age group

Figure 11.5: Number and proportion of knife or offensive weapon offences resulting in a caution or sentence, by age group, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019

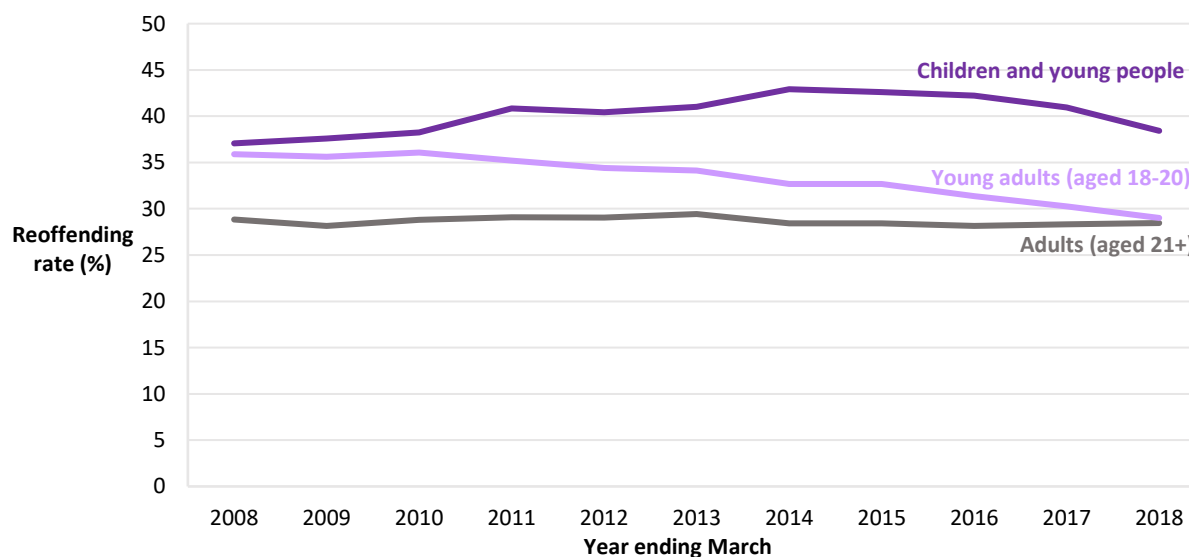


Supplementary Tables: Chapter 11, Table 11.12

As shown in Figure 11.5, the overall number of knife and offensive weapons offences resulting in a caution or sentence has been increasing over the last five years. In the latest year, children were involved in around 4,500 offences of this type, a fall of 1% from the previous year. Adults received around 17,600 cautions or sentences for these type of offences, an increase of 6% from the previous year. This has resulted in the proportion involving children decreasing from 21% to 20%, having previously been increasing.

11.6 Reoffending

Figure 11.6: Annual reoffending rates for children and young people, young adults (aged 18-20) and adults (aged 21+), years ending March 2008 to 2018



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 11, Table 11.7

For the aggregated cohort in the year ending March 2018, children and young people had the highest reoffending rate of the age groups, at 38.4% compared to 29.0% for young adults (aged 18-20) and 28.5% for adults (aged 21+).

Figure 11.6 shows that the difference in the reoffending rates between children and young people and young adults is now greater than it has been historically. For the aggregated cohorts in the year ending March 2018, there was a difference of 9.4 percentage points between the reoffending rate of children and young people compared to young adults, compared to a difference of 1.2 percentage points in the year ending March 2008, 37.1% for children and young people and 35.9% for young adults.

The reoffending rate for young adults has followed a general downward trend over the last ten years, whereas the reoffending rate for children and young people had been generally increasing from the years ending March 2008 to 2014, when it began to fall, with year-on-year decreases since the year ending March 2015. The adult reoffending rate has remained broadly stable since the year ending March 2008 varying by no more than 1.3 percentage points in the ten year period.

Annex A: Deaths in youth custody and community safeguarding and public protection incidents

A1 Deaths in youth custody¹⁶⁴

In the year ending March 2019, there were no deaths of children or young people in custody in the youth secure estate.

Between the years ending March 2009 and 2019, there were five deaths in youth custody¹⁶⁵.

A2 Community safeguarding and public protection incidents

Prior to May 2018, Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) were required to report to the Youth Justice Board (YJB) any community safeguarding and public protection incident (CSPPi) that occurred in the community regarding children. From 8 May 2018, the YJB no longer required local authorities to notify it of new CSPPis. As an annual figure for the year ending March 2019 is not available, it is not included in this publication.

¹⁶⁴ From September 2017, data collection on deaths in custody of justice-placed children became the responsibility of the Youth Custody Service.

¹⁶⁵ Between the years ending March 2008 to 2018 there were six deaths in youth custody. This is an amendment to the 2017/18 publication, which showed there were five deaths. See the Erratum Slip on this year's publication landing page on [Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

Annex B: Levels of crime experienced by children aged 10-15

As shown in the Office for National Statistics [Crime Survey for England and Wales](#) (CSEW), there were an estimated 6.4 million instances of crime against households and resident adults (counted here as those aged 16 and over) in England and Wales for the year ending March 2019¹⁶⁶.

Crime covered by the CSEW increased steadily from the 1981 survey, before peaking in 1995. The CSEW then showed marked falls until the survey year ending March 2005. Following this there were fluctuations from year-to-year but the underlying trend has continued downwards.

Figure B1: Offences experienced by children aged 10-15, Crime Survey for England and Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2019^{167,168,169}

Measure	Year ending March					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Estimated number of incidents (thousands)	866	804	1,007	795	757	841
Estimated percentage who were victims of one incident or more	12%	12%	13%	11%	10%	11%
Estimated percentage who were a victim of a violent offence	6%	5%	6%	6%	4%	5%
Estimated percentage who were a victim of a theft offence	6%	6%	6%	5%	5%	4%
Number of children aged 10-15 surveyed	2,933	2,374	2,804	3,062	3,008	2,850

Source: *Crime Survey for England and Wales, ONS*

Figure B1 shows that an estimated 11% of 10-15 year olds were victims of crime in the year ending March 2019¹⁷⁰.

Of the estimated 841,000 crimes experienced by 10-15 year olds in the year ending March 2019, Table A9a in the appendix tables for the CSEW shows that:

- 54% were categorised as violent offences.
 - Of these offences, 19% were categorised as wounding, 56% were violence with minor injury and 25% were violence without injury.
- 27% were theft offences¹⁷¹;
- 15% were criminal damage to personal property;
- 4% were robbery offences.

¹⁶⁶ Excluding statistics on fraud and computer misuse.

¹⁶⁷ Two methods for classifying incidents recorded in the survey have been used – ‘preferred’ and ‘broad’. The analysis provided here uses the ‘preferred’ measure. See Annex A in [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) for more information.

¹⁶⁸ Given the small sample size for the 10-15 year old element of the CSEW, estimates can fluctuate over time and as a result, trends can be difficult to interpret.

¹⁶⁹ Following a methodological change to the handling of repeat victimisation in the CSEW, these data are not comparable with data published in previous releases. For more information see [Improving victimisation estimates derived from the Crime Survey for England and Wales](#).

¹⁷⁰ The CSEW does not cover homicides. Homicide in England and Wales: year ending March 2019 has yet to be published.

¹⁷¹ For the children and young people’s survey, property offences are restricted to personal level crimes only. See the [User Guide to Crime Statistics for England and Wales](#) for more information.

There was no statistically significant difference in overall incidents of crime in the year ending March 2019 compared to the previous year. However, there were significant differences in the incidents of two specific types of crime: violence without injury, and bicycle thefts. There was a significant increase in violence without injury, however, following a slight dip the previous year, this increase saw incidents return to levels in line with recent years. Incidents of bicycle theft also significantly increased, however, this does not appear to reflect a longer-term trend¹⁷².

The rates of victimisation varied by demographic characteristics¹⁷³:

- Amongst 10-15 year olds, 12 and 13 year olds had the highest rates of victimisation (14% and 13% respectively).
- 14% of boys compared to 7% of girls experienced victimisation.
- 15% of Mixed ethnicity children experienced victimisation compared to 13% of children of Other ethnicity¹⁷⁴, 11% of White children, 9% of Black children and 7% of Asian children.
- 21% of children with a long-standing illness or disability experienced victimisation compared to 10% of those with no long-standing illness or disability.
- 25% of those who were bullied in the last 12 months experienced victimisation compared to 7% of those who were not bullied.

¹⁷² Statistically significant change in the incidents of crime over time is indicated by an asterisk in Table A9a of the [Crime in England and Wales: Appendix Tables](#).

¹⁷³ For a further breakdown, see Table D5 of the [Crime in England and Wales: Annual Trend and Demographic Tables](#).

¹⁷⁴ These ethnic disparities may differ for homicide compared to victimisation captured by the CSEW. [Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System 2018](#) reported that between 2015/16 to 2017/18 “Black children appear to be disproportionately at risk of homicide compared to children from other ethnicities”.

Annex C: Comparison of Youth Offending Team caseloads with Police National Computer data

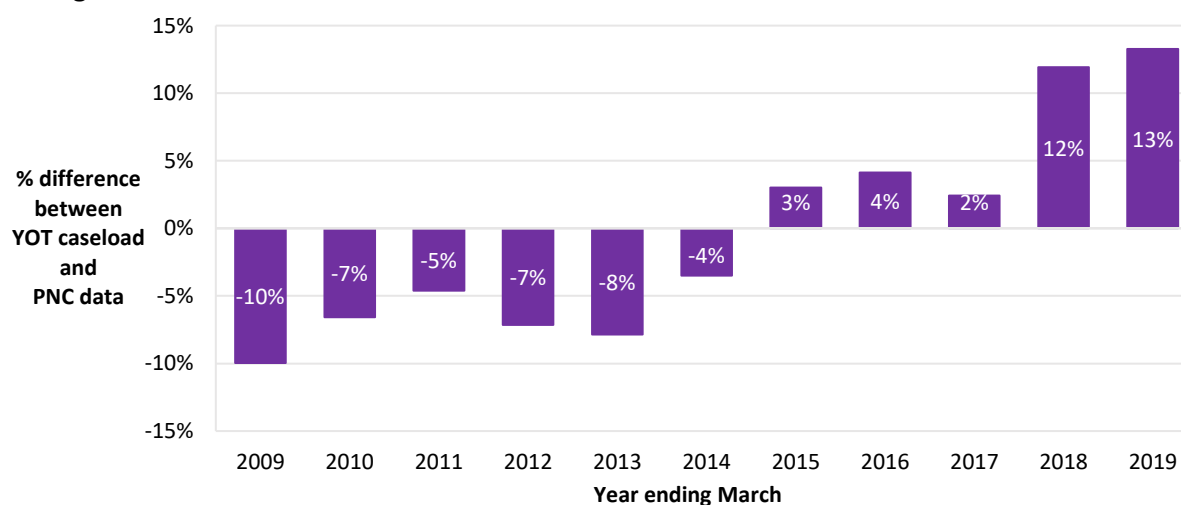
The number of individual children who received a caution or sentence can be sourced from the Youth Offending Team (YOT) caseload data (taken from the Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF)) and also from the Police National Computer (PNC). This Annex looks at the differences between the two sets of data.

Figure C1: Comparison of YOT caseload with PNC data, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019

	Year ending March										
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
YOT caseload	127,197	106,969	85,300	66,430	49,222	41,569	37,946	32,949	28,352	26,681	22,038
PNC	141,282	114,505	89,429	71,546	53,424	43,079	36,831	31,645	27,678	23,839	19,455

Historically there has been a difference in the numbers of individual children cautioned or sentenced taken from the PNC and the YOT caseload, with the PNC figure being higher than that of the YOT caseload. This was thought to be because the police do not always pass on the details of youth cautions that do not require formal intervention to YOTs.

Figure C2: Percentage difference between YOT caseload and PNC data, England and Wales, years ending March 2009 to 2019



The YOT caseload was 13% higher than the PNC data in the year ending March 2019. This is the biggest difference between the two set of figures in the last decade.

In the year ending March 2019, for the fifth consecutive year, the number of children receiving a caution or sentenced as recorded by YOTs was higher than that recorded on the PNC. In the year ending March 2019, there were around 2,600 more children on the YOT caseload than on the PNC. For the YOT caseload data, while children are only counted once in each Youth Offending Team (YOT) regardless of the number of offences committed or cautions or sentences given, there will be some double counting nationally where children who received a caution or sentence in one YOT then transfer to another YOT and receive another caution or sentence in the same period, which may explain why the YOT caseload is higher than the PNC data.

Further information

Most of the figures in this report have been drawn from administrative IT systems, which, as with any large scale recording system, are subject to possible errors with data entry and processing and may be subject to change over time. Steps are taken to improve the completeness and accuracy of this information each year.

Other figures have been taken from official published statistics, which may be National Statistics. Further details on the sources of information are given in the [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#).

Accompanying files

As well as this bulletin, the following products are published as part of this release:

A [Guide to Youth Justice Statistics](#) providing further information on the data included in this publication and how these data are collected and processed. This includes a glossary of the terms used in this bulletin.

A set of additional annexes.

An Infographic, covering the main points.

A set of Supplementary Tables, covering each section of this bulletin.

A set of open explorable data.

A set of maps showing local level data.



National Statistics status

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#). They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is the Ministry of Justice's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected for National Statistics. If concerns arise about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, these will be discussed promptly with the Authority. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

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General information about the official statistics system of the UK is available from:

www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk

For enquires direct to the YJB please email: informationandanalysis@yjb.gov.uk

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