



Ministry  
of Justice

# **Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service Offender Equalities Annual Report**

**2019/20**

Ministry of Justice  
Official Statistics Bulletin

Published 26 November 2020

# Contents

Products published to accompany the HMPPS Offender Equalities Annual Report 2019/20	3
Introduction	4
1. Prison Population	5
2. Transgender Prisoners	7
3. Mother and Baby Units	8
4. Incentives	12
5. Accredited Programmes for Offenders in Custody	16
6. Electronic Monitoring	20
Links to equalities data sources formerly included in this report	23
Further information	30

## **Products published to accompany the HMPPS Offender Equalities Annual Report 2019/20**

The following products are published as part of this release:

- A statistical bulletin, containing commentary on key trends over time for protected characteristics.
- A technical guide, providing further information on how the data are collected and processed; alongside relevant legislative or operational information relating to the topic area.
- A set of tables for each chapter, giving national trends over time; and covering key topic areas in this bulletin.

## Introduction

Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) is an executive agency of the Ministry of Justice; with the goal of helping prison and probation services work together to manage offenders through their sentences. HMPPS replaced the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) on 1 April 2017.

The HMPPS Offender Equalities 2019/20 report contains the latest information on progress and achievements pertaining to equalities objectives, as stated in the Equality Act 2010. This report accompanies the HMPPS Annual Report and Accounts 2019/20<sup>1</sup>.

The Equality Act 2010 lists nine protected characteristics:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and Civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or Belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

This report focuses on those protected characteristics where data are collected, and are of sufficient quality for statistics to be meaningful. In general, this report is limited to analysis on sex, age, race (ethnicity), religion or belief, marriage and civil partnership and sexual orientation for these reasons. Where data are available for other protected characteristics at sufficient quality and with sufficient coverage to be meaningful, they are also presented and considered.

The report presents some analysis by individual characteristic and is meant to serve as a guide for further research. In many cases, more than one factor (e.g. age and another protected characteristic, criminal history, socio-economic) might have an effect on an outcome.

**Data presented in this report have been drawn from administrative IT systems and data collections. Although care is taken when processing and analysing the data, the level of detail collected is subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale recording system.**

---

<sup>1</sup> The HMPPS Annual Report and Accounts is available at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hmpps-annual-report-and-accounts-2019-20>

# 1. Prison Population

---

## **Prisoners from BAME backgrounds made up 27% of all prisoners**

In March 2020, prisoners who declared themselves in the White ethnic group made up almost three quarters (59,946 or 73%) of the prison population in England and Wales. Prisoners who declared their ethnicity as Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic (BAME) represented 22,425 (or 27%) of all prisoners. These proportions have remained similar since 2013.

---

## **Males comprised 96% of the prison population**

Proportionally males make up 96% of the total prison population and females 4%. These proportions have remained static since the beginning of the series.

---

## **Continuing the recent trend, the number of prisoners peaked in the 30 to 39 age group for both the male and female populations**

As at 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2020, 31% of prisoners were in the 30-39 age group, the highest proportion of any age group. For all age groups there was little change in proportion compared to the previous year.

---

## **Almost half (47%) of the prison population that specified a religion or belief identified as being Christian in March 2020**

As at 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2020, Christianity was the most common religion or belief, with 47% of prisoners reporting being Christian, which is 1 percentage point less than last year. The second most prevalent belief is no religion, with 31% of prisoners reporting this.

---

## **In the latest quarter, 97.2% of prisoners who declared a sexual orientation reported that they were heterosexual**

This is broadly comparable with trends reported over the past ten years and identical proportion to last year.

---

This chapter contains a breakdown of sexual orientation data about the prison population in England and Wales, which has not been published elsewhere. Data for protected characteristics relating to gender, age, ethnicity and religion or belief are published in Offender Management Statistics Quarterly (OMSQ), available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/offender-management-statistics-quarterly-october-to-december-2019>

The prison population was 82,990 on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020<sup>2</sup>, which represented less than 1% increase compared with March 2019 (82,634).

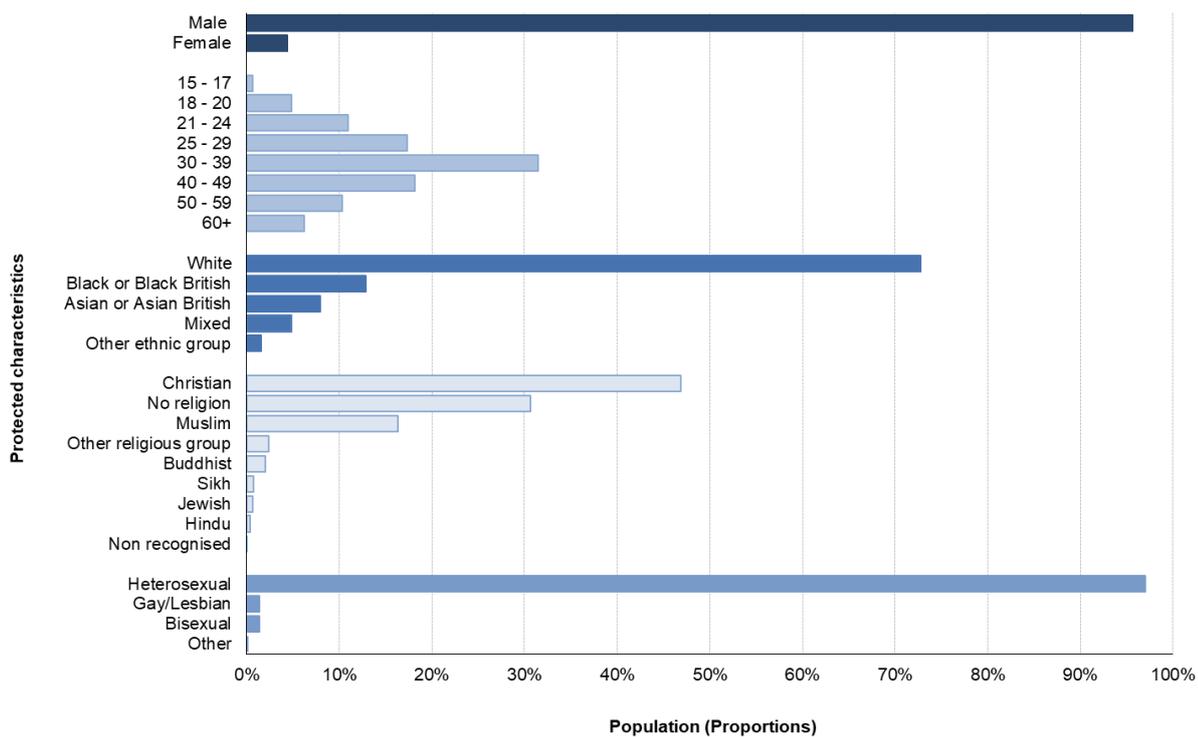
---

<sup>2</sup> The prison population is a snapshot of the number of prisoners across all estates in England and Wales on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

**97.2% of prisoners who recorded a sexual orientation declared that they were heterosexual (Tables 1.2 and 1.3)**

Of prisoners who declared their sexual orientation<sup>3,4</sup> 97.2% (68,909) identified as Heterosexual. Gay/Lesbian and Bisexual offenders accounted for 996 and 983 (1.3% for each) respectively of the total prison population. Those who identified as “Other<sup>4</sup>” comprised 0.2% of the total population, or 125 prisoners. These proportions were calculated excluding individuals whose sexual orientation is stated as “Refusal/Not Disclosed” or “Not Known”.

**Figure 1.1: Prison Population by Protected Characteristic, England and Wales, 2019/2020 (Source: OMSQ, Tables 1.1 and 1.2)**



<sup>3</sup> Sexual orientation is self-reported by prisoners. Data are drawn from internal Management Information and therefore differs from other population totals.

<sup>4</sup> The declaration rate for sexual orientation was 84%, based on an average of the prison population taken over the quarter (between January and March 2020). The declaration rate excludes those who refused or did not disclose their sexuality, or where sexual orientation was not known.

<sup>4</sup> It is not possible to provide information about the “Other” category.

## 2. Transgender Prisoners

Information relating to Transgender prisoners will not be published with this edition of the HMPPS Offender Equalities Report. This is because the scheduled data collection exercise did not take place due to operational changes across all prisons in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Data for March/April 2021, along with accompanying commentary, will be published in the 2020/21 edition of the HMPPS Offender Equalities Report in Autumn 2021.

The latest available equalities information on Transgender prisoners up to March/April 2019 is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/hm-prison-and-probation-service-offender-equalities-annual-report-2018-to-2019>

### 3. Mother and Baby Units

---

#### **Women from BAME ethnic backgrounds had a similar percentage of applications approved compared with women from the White ethnic group**

In the 12 months to March 2020, 73% of applications that received a recommendation and were from women with a BAME ethnic background were approved, compared with 76% for women with a White ethnic background. There were 8 approvals for women from a BAME ethnicity which was slightly down on the 10 approvals recorded in the previous 12-month period.

---

#### **Applications from women aged 30 or under recorded the highest levels of approvals**

Women in this age group that received a recommendation had 83% of their applications approved.

---

#### **The proportion of approved applications from women is broadly similar when comparing Christian, and those with no religious belief.**

During the latest year, women who self-identified as having no religion had 77% of applications approved, those who belonged to Christian religion had 75% of applications approved.

---

A Mother and Baby Unit (MBU) is a designated accommodation unit within a women's prison which enables mothers, where appropriate, to have their children with them. Women who are pregnant or who have children under the age of 18 months can apply for a place in an MBU<sup>5</sup>. Statistics on women in MBUs can be found in the HMPPS Annual Digest 2019/20<sup>6</sup>.

There are currently six<sup>7</sup> MBUs in operation across the women's prison estate in England and Wales which provide an overall total capacity of 64 places for mothers. However, there are a total of 70 places for babies to allow for twins and multiple births.

This report provides details of the protected characteristics of women making applications to MBUs and the outcome of the application.

It should be noted that:

- Multiple applications can be submitted by one woman<sup>8</sup>.
- Recommendations on applications (e.g. an approval or refusal) may not be made in the same reporting year as when the application was received.
- Not all applications will receive a recommendation, as the application may not proceed for a number of reasons (e.g. a woman may withdraw her application or leave custody).

---

<sup>5</sup> Further details about the process are given in the Guide.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/hmppps-annual-digest-april-2019-to-march-2020>

<sup>7</sup> The HMP/YOI Askham Grange Mother and Baby Unit is temporarily closed at this time, due to the unit not being able to meet the Covid-19 restrictions. Mothers have been transferred to the nearby HMP/YOI New Hall Mother and Baby Unit and are receiving remote support from their original team of nursery nurses in addition to the supportive provisions available within their new unit.

<sup>8</sup> Multiple applications can be submitted by one woman over the duration of the financial year period; therefore applications volumes will usually be higher than counts for individual mothers.

- An approval to an MBU does not mean that a mother and baby/babies will be received into an MBU, as alternative arrangements could be made for care after the application is submitted.
- An application may be refused for several reasons, for example due to an interim Care Order by Children's Services. All recommendations are based on evidence of what is in the best interests of the baby/babies in each case, in consultation with the relevant professionals and partner agencies.
- Every effort is made to ensure admissions processes are administered in a timely fashion to ensure any anxiety is reduced for applicants, however unavoidable delays might arise in some cases. For example, where an assessment is being carried out by Children's Services.

**The total number of applications received decreased slightly over the period, whereas approved applications and refused applications remained the same compared with the previous year (Tables 3.1 and 3.2)**

In the 12 months ending March 2020, 95 applications were received for admission into an MBU; 2 fewer than in the year ending March 2019, when 97 applications were received. Applications have been falling every year since 2016/17.

- Of the 61 applications which resulted in a recommendation from an Admissions Board, 46 (75%) applications were approved and 15 (25%) refused. This is the same as in the previous 12-month period.
- In 45 cases the women were either released before a recommendation could be made, or who withdrew their application.

**Applications from women aged 30 or younger recorded the highest proportions of approvals<sup>9</sup> (Figure 3.1 and 3.2, Table 3.2)**

In the 12 months ending March 2020, the most applications came from women aged 30 and under (55 applications). 30 of these applications received a recommendation from the Admissions Board, and 25 of the applications were approved.

Applications from women aged over 30 were less likely to be approved, 68% of applications that received recommendations were approved. There were 40 applications from this age group, 31 received a recommendation from the Admissions Board and 21 were approved.

**Women with BAME ethnic backgrounds had a similar percentage of applications approved compared with women from the white ethnic backgrounds (Figure 3.1 and 3.2, Table 3.2)**

In the year to March 2020, of the 95 applications made to Admissions Boards, 79 (83%) were received from women from the white ethnic background and 15 (16%) were from women from a BAME ethnic background.

Women from white ethnic backgrounds comprised 38 (83%) of the 46 total number of approved applications in the latest year; while applications from women from BAME ethnic backgrounds made up 17% (8) of the total number of approved applications.

---

<sup>9</sup> Approved applications out of the total number that were approved or refused.

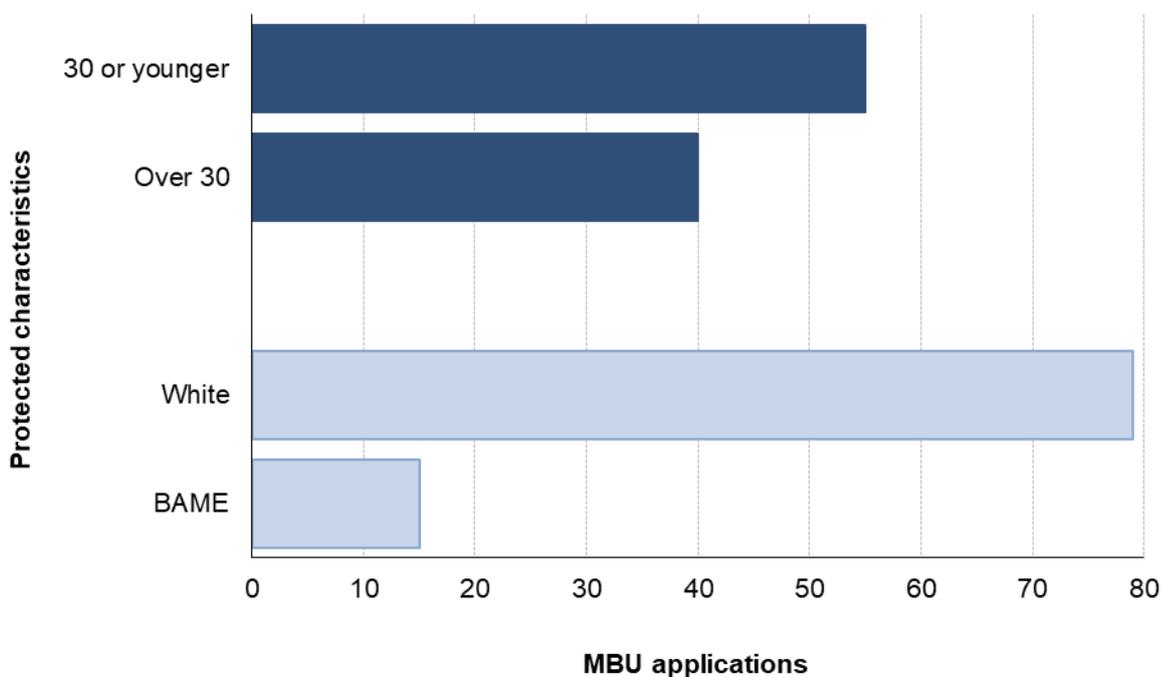
73% of applications from women from a BAME ethnic background were approved by the Board, compared with 76% of applications from women from a white ethnic background.

**Applications from women of Christian faith and those with no religion were most common (Table 3.2)**

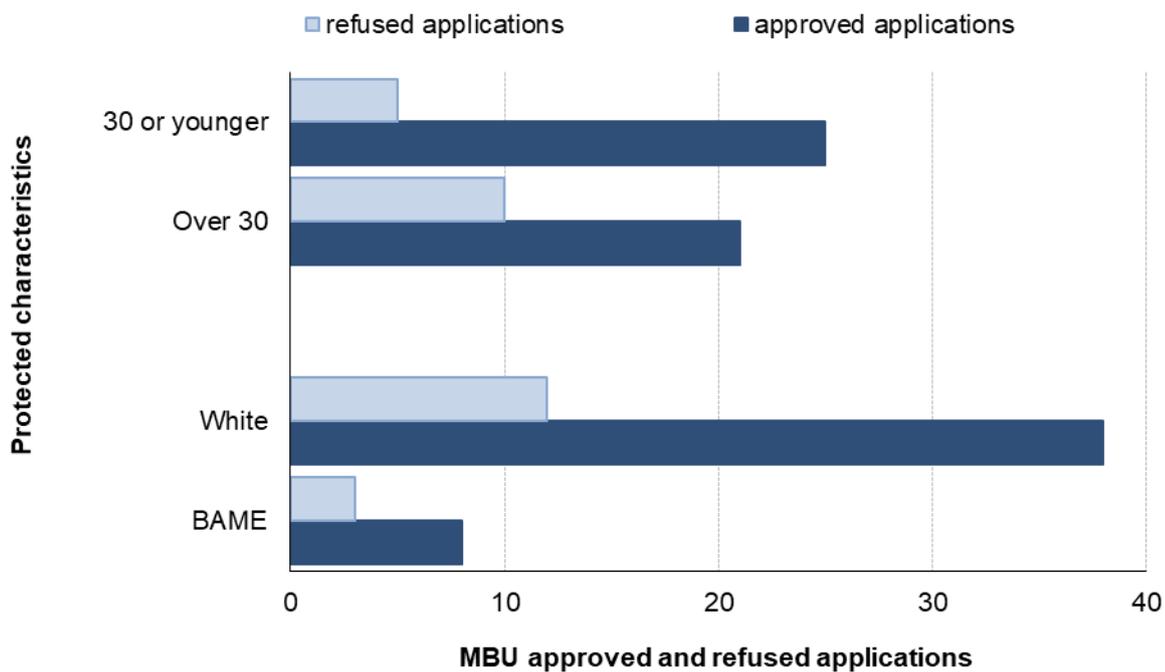
In the 12 months ending March 2020, the highest number of applications made were from those self-identifying as Christian and from those who had no religion, accounting for 40 (42%) and 44 (46%) applications respectively.

Out of the total number of applications which received a recommendation from the board, 75% were approved for women who self-identified as Christian and 77% were from those with no religion.

**Figure 3.1: Number of applications by protected characteristics, received to an MBU in England and Wales, the 12 months ending March 2020 (Source: Table 3.2)**



**Figure 3.2: Number of applications by protected characteristics, approved and refused to an MBU in England and Wales, the 12 months ending March 2020 (Source: Table 3.2)**



## 4. Incentives

---

### **The proportion of prisoners on Basic Incentives status was highest for Black or Black British and Mixed prisoners**

On 31 March 2020, 5% and 4% respectively of prisoners with a Basic Incentives status were of Black or Black British and Mixed ethnicity. This compares with 3% for prisoners who identified as White or Asian and Asian British.

---

### **Considering religion, Jewish and Muslim prisoners had the highest proportion of individuals with a Basic Incentives status**

In the latest year, prisoners identifying as Jewish or Muslim had 5% and 4% respectively of individuals with Basic Incentives status.

---

### **A higher proportion of male than female prisoners were on Enhanced Incentives status**

48% of male prisoners compared with 42% of female prisoners were on an Enhanced Incentives status.

---

### **The proportion of prisoners on an Enhanced Incentives status increased with age**

21% of prisoners aged between 18-20 were on Enhanced Incentives status compared with 70% for prisoners aged 60 and over.

---

### **The proportion of heterosexual prisoners on Enhanced Incentives was lower than for gay/lesbian or bisexual prisoners**

48% of heterosexual prisoners compared with 60% of gay/lesbian and 55% of bisexual prisoners were on Enhanced Incentives status.

---

An incentives scheme (formerly known as Incentives and Earned Privileges - IEP) was introduced in 1995 with the expectation that prisoners would earn additional privileges through demonstrating responsible behaviour and participation in work or other constructive activity. They allow prisoners to earn privileges through good behaviour and engagement in the regime and rehabilitation. Privileges can also be lost through poor behaviour. The IEP scheme operated on four levels: Basic, Entry, Standard and Enhanced, until August 2019 when Entry level was abolished. It was replaced by the Incentives Policy Framework in January 2020. The new policy has a greater focus on incentivising positive behaviour, providing consistency in key areas, whilst giving governors greater flexibility to tailor incentives to the local needs and challenges in their prison.

Prisoners typically start on Standard level, and positive behaviour can be rewarded with progression to Enhanced (or levels above Enhanced, where individual prisons have chosen to operate an incentives scheme with levels above Enhanced), while poor behaviour can result in prisoners being placed on Basic – with the associated increase or reduction in privileges. Basic level provides access to the safe, legal and decent requirement of a normally running regime.

## General Incentives trends (Source: Table 4.1)

On 31 March 2020:

- 49% of prisoners had Standard Incentives status and 47% had Enhanced status; while 3% had Basic status<sup>10</sup>.
- The proportion of prisoners with Enhanced status has been rising since March 2016, when 36% of prisoners had Enhanced status.
- Until March 2020, the proportion of prisoners with Standard status had been falling year-on-year, from 52.1% in March 2016 to 48% in March 2019.
- There was a fall in the proportion of prisoners with Basic status, from 6% in March 2019 to 3% in March 2020; following year-on-year increases ranging from 3% in March 2014 to 7% in March 2018.

## Prisoners with Basic Incentives status (Table 4.1, Figure 4.1)

On 31 March 2020:

- The proportion of prisoners with a Basic Incentives status was higher for males (3%) than for females (1%).
- The proportion of prisoners with a Basic Incentives status decreased with age. Prisoners in the 18-20 and 21-24 age groups had the largest percentage of individuals on Basic Incentives status (9% and 5% respectively), whilst those in the 60 and over age group had the lowest percentage at less than 1%.
- Black or Black British and Mixed ethnicity prisoners had the highest proportion of prisoners on Basic Incentives status, 5% and 4% respectively. This was higher than for Asian and Asian British and White<sup>11</sup> prisoners (each 3%) at the same point in time.
- Prisoners with a Jewish or Muslim religion had the highest proportions of individuals with a Basic Incentives status, at 5% and 4% respectively.
- Heterosexual<sup>12</sup> prisoners had the highest proportion of individuals on Basic Incentives status at 4%.

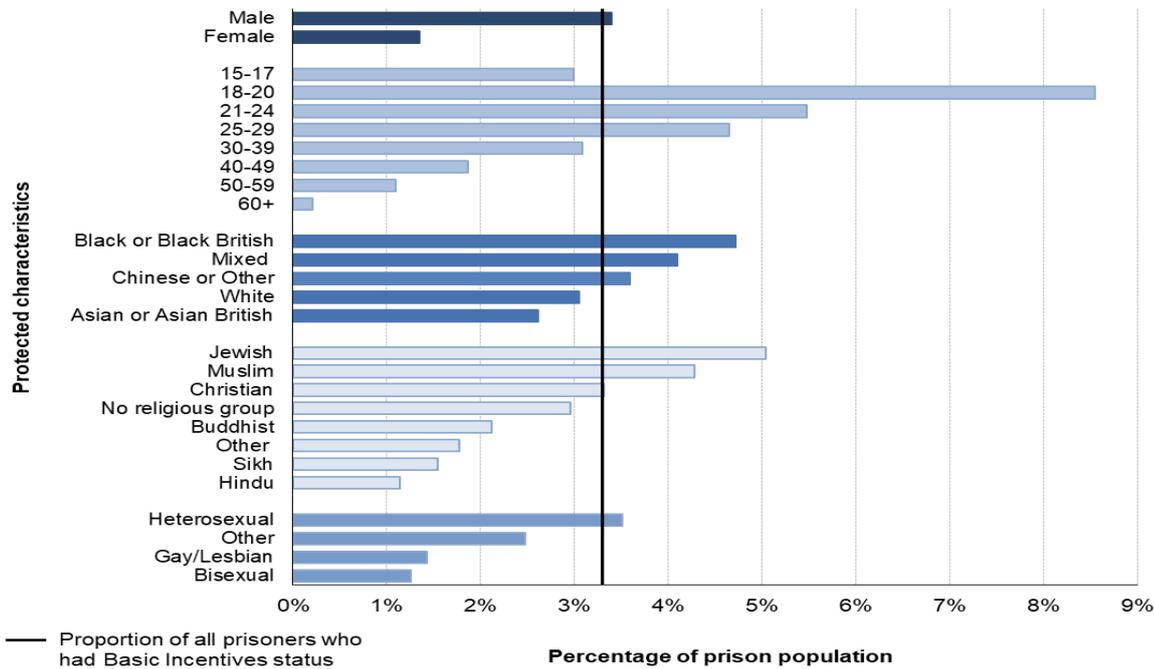
---

<sup>10</sup> The reference point for this data is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2020, operational changes to the way prisons were run were enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This affected the Incentives regime and as certain regime mitigations were put into place, Basic Incentives was only used in exceptional circumstances. As such, the percentage of prisoners on Basic Incentives status is lower in the current reporting year.

<sup>11</sup> The ethnicity "White" includes White British, White gypsy, White Irish and White Other.

<sup>12</sup> Disclosure rates are lower for sexual orientation than for other protected characteristics, with 17% of prisoner's sexuality being not known, not disclosed or refused.

**Figure 4.1: Percentage of prisoners with Basic Incentives status split by protected characteristic, 31 March 2020 (Source: Table 4.1)**

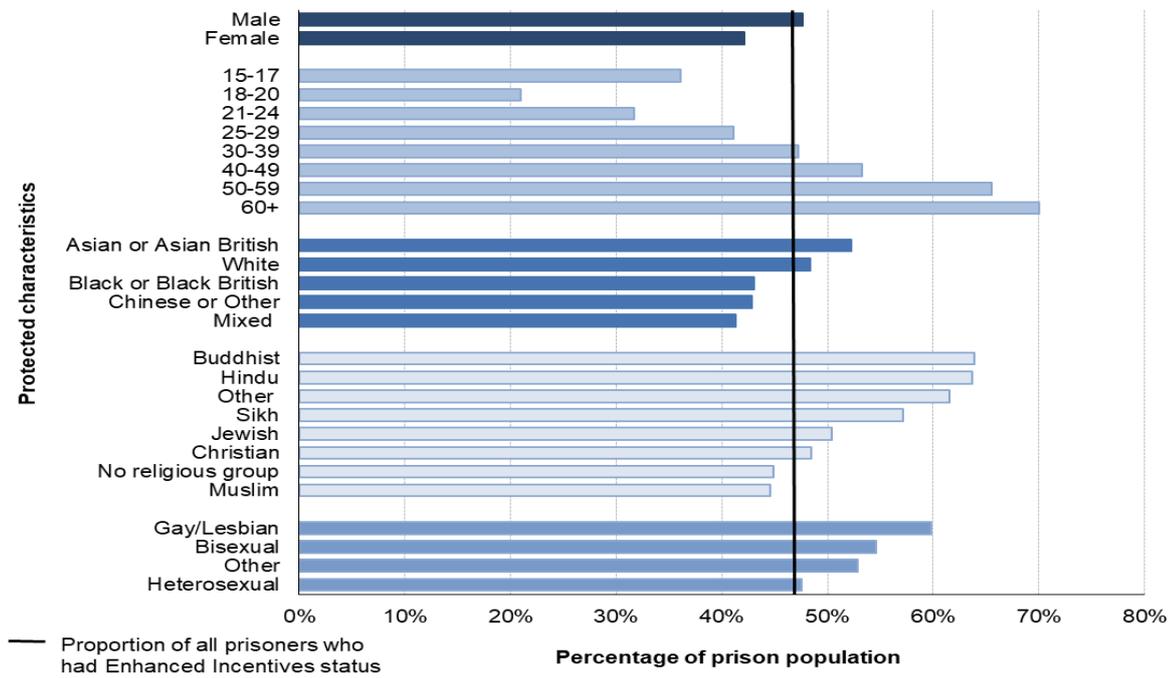


**Prisoners with enhanced Incentives status (Table 4.1, Figure 4.2)**

On 31 March 2020:

- There was a higher proportion of male prisoners with Enhanced Incentives status than females (48% and 42% respectively).
- The proportion of individual prisoners with an Enhanced Incentives status increased with age for those aged 18 and over; with 21% of prisoners aged 18-20 and 70% of those aged 60 and over having an Enhanced Incentives status. 36% of young prisoners aged between 15-17 had an Enhanced status.
- Asian and Asian British and White ethnic group prisoners had the highest proportion of individuals on Enhanced Incentives status; 52% and 48% respectively. The proportion of prisoners with an Enhanced Incentives status was lowest in the Mixed ethnic group at 41%. Black and Black British and Chinese or Other ethnic group categories each had 43% of prisoners having Enhanced status.
- When religious belief is examined, prisoners who declared as either Buddhist or Hindu had the highest proportion of prisoners on Enhanced Incentives status each with 64% on 31 March 2020. This was followed closely by prisoners with a religion or belief in the Other category at 62%. This was higher than for individuals who had no religion or identified their religion as Muslim each recording 45% respectively at the same point in time. Prisoners who declared their religious belief as Christian had lower proportions with an Enhanced Incentives status, at 49%.
- The proportion of prisoners with an Enhanced Incentives status was highest among those whose sexual orientation was reported as Gay/Lesbian (60%) and for Bisexual prisoners (55%). It was lowest for Heterosexual prisoners (48%).

**Figure 4.2: Percentage of prisoners with Enhanced Incentives status split by protected characteristic, 31 March 2020 (Source Table 4.1)**



## 5. Accredited Programmes for Offenders in Custody

---

### **94% of accredited programme starts are for male offenders**

In the 12 months ending March 2020, there were 5,726 accredited programme starts. Male offenders started 5,353 accredited programmes. The number of starts for female offenders was 361, making up 6% of the total number of starts.

---

### **Male offenders in custody aged 60 years and over made up 3% of the total volume of starts**

82% of starts for this age group were for offenders starting sexual offending programmes, up from 75% in the previous year.

---

### **White ethnic group offenders in custody accounted for 75% of programme starts**

23% of starts by white prisoners were for offenders starting sexual offending programmes, compared to 11% for BAME offenders.

---

### **There were 5,216 accredited programme completions<sup>13</sup> in the financial year ending March 2020**

Male offenders made up 93% (4,862) of the total number of completions and females in custody comprised 7% (341) of all completions.

---

### **Of all offenders completing accredited programmes in custody, 88% of individuals were single, not married and not in a civil partnership**

46% of offenders in this group began general offender programmes, 33% began violence or domestic violence programmes.

---

### **There were 30 starts and 14 completions for the new Healthy Identity Intervention (HII)<sup>14</sup> programme**

22 of the 30 starts were for participants aged between 25 and 49 years.

---

### **There were nine starts and four completions for the new Identity Matters programme**

Five of the nine starts were for participants aged 23 years or less.

---

Accreditation is a system for ensuring that treatment programmes offered to offenders, which aim to reduce reoffending, have a proper theoretical basis, and are designed in accordance with the 'What Works' literature.

---

<sup>13</sup> Total volumes over the financial year for starts and completions will not necessarily match. This is because an offender who completed in the current financial year might have started the programme in previous years.

<sup>14</sup> The Healthy Identity Intervention (HII) programme was introduced on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2019; and is designed for those who have committed extremist offences.

HMPPS commissions a range of accredited programmes<sup>15</sup>; varying in length, complexity and mode of delivery. Programmes have been developed to target the particular risks and needs for different types of offending behaviour. To achieve accreditation, programmes must be assessed to make sure they are targeting the right people, focusing on the right things, and being delivered in a way that is most likely to reduce reoffending. All HMPPS-commissioned accredited programmes are subject to quality assurance processes to ensure programme integrity is maintained and developed.

### **Offenders who started<sup>16,17</sup> an Accredited Programme<sup>18</sup> (Tables 5.1 to 5.7)**

In the 12 months ending March 2020:

- There were 5,726 accredited programme starts during the financial year ending March 2020. 45% (2,593) of these were general offending programmes and 28% (1,592) were violence-related programmes. Sexual offending programmes made up 20% (1,133) of the total volume of programme starts, while domestic violence and substance misuse programmes comprised 4% and 3% (210 and 168 respectively) of the total number of accredited programme starts.
- A total of 30 prisoners started the new HII programme after its introduction on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2019. Male prisoners made up 27 of the starts and 22 starts were made by prisoners aged between 25 and 49 years of age. Eighteen of the 30 prisoners who started the programme were from one of the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) ethnicity backgrounds.
- Male offenders comprised 94% (5,353) of the total number of accredited programme starts, while females in custody made up 6% (361) of all starts.
- One-third (34%, 1,972) of accredited programmes were started by offenders aged between 30 to 39 years, and 49% (972) of starts across this age group were for general offending programmes. 16% (895) of starts were for offenders aged under 25, and offenders in this age category most commonly started general offending (48%) and violence programmes (39%). Offenders aged 60 and over comprised 3% (172) of the total volume of starts, and 82% (141) of starts were for sexual offending programmes.
- Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) offenders in custody comprised 25% (1,449) and White ethnic group offenders 75% (4,242) of programme starts. 85% (963) of starts for sexual offending programmes were for White ethnic group offenders, compared with 15% (164) for offenders with a BAME ethnicity. Around one-third (33%, 521) of starts for violence

---

<sup>15</sup> A complete list of accredited programmes for offenders in custody can be found at: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/883024/descriptions-accredited-programmes.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/883024/descriptions-accredited-programmes.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> Under exceptional circumstances, offenders in custody can start more than one accredited programme in any financial year. The figures presented in this chapter refer to the number of starts and might not equal the number of offenders who started any given programme during the same financial year.

<sup>17</sup> From 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, changes to usual operations of accredited programme delivery were implemented in response to the impact of COVID-19 in prisons. In most cases, no new programme starts occurred from this date; the exception being for a very small number of the Democratic Therapeutic Communities (DTC) programme starts until the end of the reporting year on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, and these were scaled down in accordance to local infection control requirements.

<sup>18</sup> Programmes relating to domestic violence and sexual offending are available for male prisoners only. Certain programmes relating to general offending (KAINOS and New Me Strengths) and violence (Kaizen Violence, Identity Matters and Becoming New Me) are available for male prisoners only.

programmes were for offenders from a BAME ethnicity, compared with 67% (1,063) for White ethnic group offenders. As a proportion of all starts for BAME ethnicity background offenders, 36% of programme starts were for violence programmes compared with 25% for White ethnic group offenders.

- 88% (4,414) of all programme starts were for individuals who were single, not married and not in a civil partnership, compared with 7% (349) for those married or in a civil partnership.

### **Offenders who completed an Accredited Programme (Tables 5.8 to 5.14, Figure 5.1)**

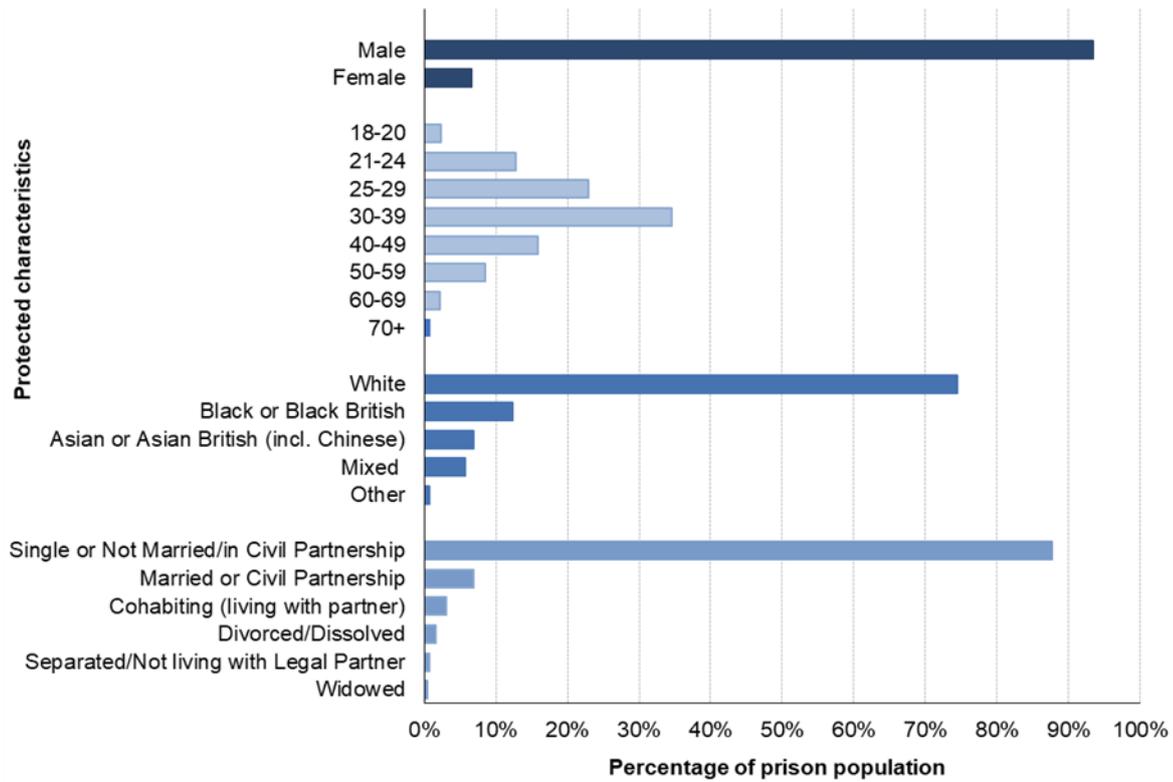
In the 12 months ending March 2020:

- There were 5,216 programme completions over the 12-month period. General offending programmes accounted for almost half (46%, 2,377) of all accredited programmes completed in custody, while around one quarter (27%, 1,419) were violence programmes. Sexual offending programmes comprised 20% (1,069) of total completions. There were 189 domestic violence programme completions (4% of total completions) and 148 substance misuse programme completions (3%).
- There were 14 completions for the new HII programme since 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019. Male prisoners made up twelve of the completions and six were aged between 40 to 49 years. Nine of the 14 prisoners who completed the programme were from one of the BAME ethnicity backgrounds.
- Male offenders comprised 93% (4,862) of the total number of accredited programmes completions in custody and females in custody 7% (341) of all completions.
- 35% (1,797) of completed accredited programmes were for offenders in the 30-39 age group. Offenders in custody aged 18-20 completed 2% (124) of completed accredited programmes. Whilst offenders aged 60 and over comprised 3% (159) of the total number of completions, 12% (125) of all sexual offending programme completions were for this age group.
- While White ethnic group offenders in custody accounted for 74% (3,863) of programme completions<sup>19</sup>, they comprised 85% (908) and 95% (139) respectively of sexual offending and substance misuse completions. BAME offenders in custody accounted for 26% (1,324) of programme completions. Around one third (34%, 475) of violence programmes were completed by BAME offenders; with 18% (254) of the total number of completions across all ethnicities being for offenders in the Black and Black British ethnic group.
- Of all offenders completing accredited programmes in custody, 88% (4,001) of individuals were single, not married and not in a civil partnership. 7% were married or in a civil partnership, whilst 3% identified as cohabiting.

---

<sup>19</sup> On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, 73% of the overall prison population had a White ethnic background while 27% were from a BAME ethnicity background. Please note that the prison population count was a snapshot of the population on this date, whereas accredited programme completions covers the full 12 month financial year period from April 2019 to March 2020.

**Figure 5.1: Completions for accredited programmes in custody by protected characteristic, 12 months ending March 2020 (Source: Tables 5.8 to 5.14)**



## 6. Electronic Monitoring

---

### **The number of offenders who are electronically monitored has decreased year on year since 2015**

At 31 March 2020, there were 10,400 individuals being actively monitored. Of these 10,153 had bail, court sentence or post release orders, compared with 13,384 at 31 March 2015. There has been a general downward trend in the number of subjects actively monitored since 31 March 2015.

---

### **The most common type of order for those being electronically monitored was a court sentence order**

At 31 March 2020, of those who had either a Bail, Court Sentence or Post Release order 39% of offenders had a court sentence, 29% had a post release order and 32% had a bail order.

---

### **89% of electronically monitored offenders (with bail, post release or court sentences) were male**

At 31 March 2020, males made up 89% of offenders on EM and 11% were female. These proportions have remained similar since 2015. Although there are differences between bail, post release and court sentences.

---

### **The proportion of offenders who were electronically monitored and receiving bail, post-release or court sentences was highest in the 21-29 group**

At 31 March 2020, the largest proportion of offenders who were electronically monitored, and receiving bail, post-release or court sentences were aged between 21-29 (31%). The second largest proportion of offenders were aged between 30-39 (29%). Last year the figures were broadly similar, 21-29 age group (31%) was larger than 30-39 age group (27%).

---

### **There were 618 location monitored, electronic monitoring subjects at 31 March 2020**

At 31 March 2020, there were 618 individuals being monitored using GPS technology, increasing from 43 in the year ending March 2019 as the scheme was rolled out nationwide. Since the roll out of GPS technology began in November 2018<sup>20</sup> the number of subjects has increased month on month.

---

Electronic monitoring was introduced in 1999 to support the police, courts, prisons and wider justice system in England and Wales.

It is a way of remotely monitoring and recording information on an individual's whereabouts or movements, using an electronic tag which is normally fitted to a subject's ankle. Information about the compliance of an individual's order is also monitored.

The national roll out of satellite enabled (GPS) location monitoring tags from November 2018 has made GPS tags available as an option for some court and post-custody cohorts. This is in addition

---

<sup>20</sup> The rollout of GPS technology began in November 2018 and completed in September 2019 for adults and March 2020 for those under 18.

to the use of GPS tags to monitor a small number of specialist cases. The tags use satellite technology to record an individual's movements 24 hours a day. There was a regional phased roll-out to ensure each region was sufficiently supported.

Location monitoring tags are available alongside the electronic monitoring of curfew requirements, which remains an important tool for the management and supervision of offenders and defendants. Location tags provide additional functionality, allowing the monitoring of:

- Compliance with exclusion zones.
- Attendance at a required activity or appointment.
- An offender's whereabouts, known as trail monitoring. This can provide offender managers with data about an individual's whereabouts to support rehabilitative conversations.
- Multiple conditions or requirements if necessary, such as a combination of exclusion zones, curfew, monitored attendance and trail monitoring.

Electronic monitoring services have always been provided by private sector companies. Since financial year 2014/15, EMS Capita has supplied the electronic monitoring service under contract to the Ministry of Justice.

At 31 March 2020, there were a total of 10,400 actively monitored<sup>21</sup> subjects, a fall of 3% compared with the same point in the previous year. Information on age and sex is presented for Bail, Court Sentence and Post-Release orders only in this report.

At 31 March 2020, there were 10,153 monitored subjects who had Bail, Court Sentence or Post-Release orders. Of these:

- 89% were male and 11% were female;
- 31% were aged between 21-30, 29% were 30-39. 26% were aged 40 or over, 15% were under 21.

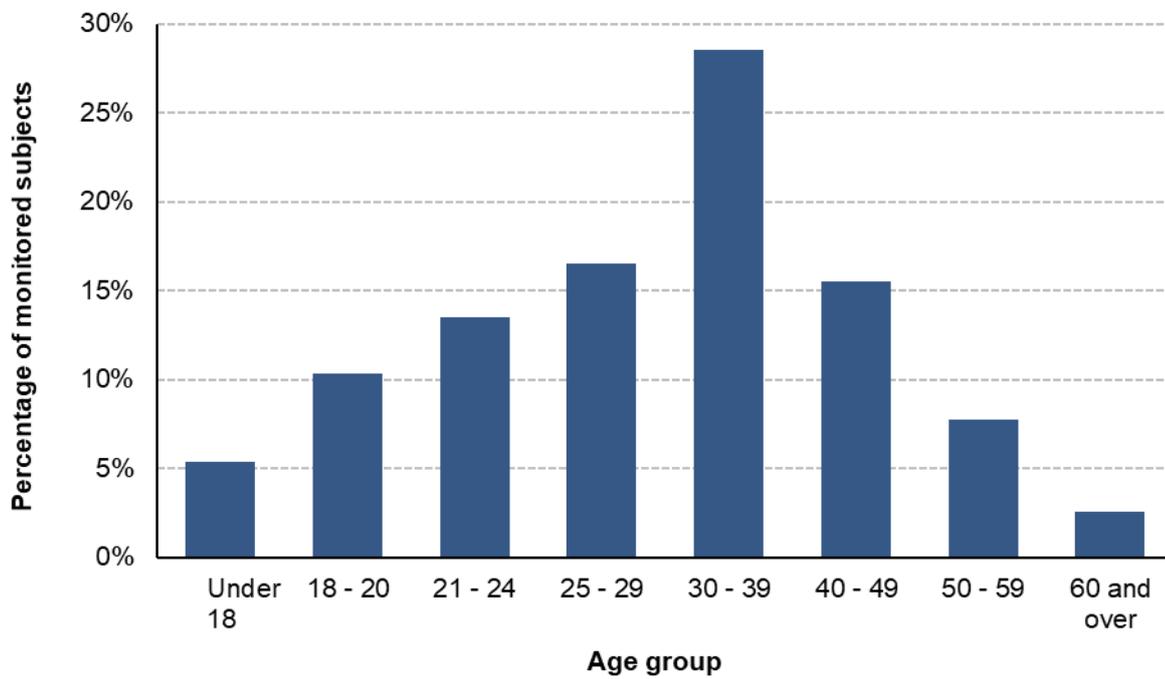
When analysing each order type individually, there are differences in the gender proportions. Bail and Post Release have identical proportions of male offenders at 92%, meaning female offenders make up 8%. Court sentence has a lower proportion of male offenders at 84% and a higher proportion of female offenders at 16%. For location monitored subjects, 96% were male and 4% were female.

For location monitored subjects, the 30-39 age group was the largest, with 34% of offenders being in this category. Figure 6.1 shows the age distribution of all Bail, Court Sentence and Post-Release subjects, on 31 March 2020.

---

<sup>21</sup> Monitored subjects are unique individuals with a live EM order, an electronic tag fitted and a Home Monitoring Unit installed.

**Figure 6.1: Percentage of electronically monitored subjects for Bail, Court Sentence and Post-release (including Location monitored) orders by age group, as at 31 March 2020<sup>22</sup> (Tables 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4)**



<sup>22</sup> Excludes those subjects with a special order or TPIMS.

## Links to equalities data sources formerly included in this report

Much of the equalities data which formed part of previously published editions of this report can be found in four published information sources; namely the Offender Management Statistics Quarterly, the Safety in Custody Statistics Bulletin, Deaths of Offenders in the Community and Proven Reoffending Statistics. Each source includes written commentary and data tables relating to various protected characteristics.

### **Offender Management Statistics Quarterly (OMSQ)**

Offender Management Statistics Quarterly bulletin, October to December 2019 was released on 30 April 2020<sup>23</sup>. For all editions of this bulletin, link to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/offender-management-statistics-quarterly>

Topic	Metric	Protected Characteristic breakdowns available
<b>Prison population</b> (data at 31 <sup>st</sup> March)	Number of prisoners in establishments across England and Wales	<b>Age and sex:</b> male and female offenders by age group from 15 years of age. Use the totals, which are the sum of remand, sentenced and non-criminal prisoner populations (table 1.3) <b>Ethnicity and sex:</b> male and female offenders by 5+1 ethnic group breakdowns (table 1.4) <b>Religion and sex:</b> male and female offenders by religion or belief (table 1.5)
	Proportion of prison population who are sentenced	<b>Age and sex:</b> male and female offenders by age group from 15 years of age. Use the figures for the sentenced population only (exclude remand and non-criminal prisoner populations) to calculate proportions, excluding values for not known or not recorded. For example, to calculate the sentenced only population for male and female prisoners aged between 15 to 17 years (the numerator), the denominator would be the figure for male and female prisoners aged between 15 to 17 for the whole prison population (including remand, sentenced and non-criminal prisoners) (table 1.3)
<b>Adjudications</b> (calendar year data)	Adjudication outcomes: <i>Proven</i> <i>Dismissed</i> <i>Not proceeded with</i> <i>Others</i>	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table A5.1) <b>Age:</b> age group from 15 years of age (table A5.1) <b>Ethnicity:</b> 5+1 ethnic group breakdowns (table A5.1) <b>Religion:</b> religion or belief categories (table A5.1)
	Total number of offences	
	Proportion of proven adjudications	
	Proportion of dismissed adjudications	
	Adjudication rates per 100 prisoners:	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table A5.1) <b>Age:</b> age group from 15 years of age (table A5.1)

<sup>23</sup> At the time of publishing this report, the latest release of Offender Management Statistics Quarterly: April to June 2020 was released on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020. For the purposes of comparison of figures from earlier editions of HMPPS Offender Equalities report, use the OMSQ figures from the October to December edition as outlined above, which refer to the end of the 2019/20 financial year at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

Topic	Metric	Protected Characteristic breakdowns available
	<i>Proven</i> <i>Dismissed</i> <i>Not proceeded with</i> <i>Others</i>	<b>Ethnicity:</b> 5+1 ethnic group breakdowns (table A5.1)  To calculate rates per 100 prisoners, use volumes from table 6.1 as the numerator and total prison population as the denominator. For example, to calculate proven adjudications for male prisoners (the numerator) per 100 of the male prison population, use the total prison population for males only as the denominator. That is: $100 * (\text{male proven adjudications} / \text{total male prison population})$
	Proven adjudications by type of offence	<b>Age and sex:</b> males and females by age group from 15 years of age (Adjudications .csv dataset) <b>Ethnicity and sex:</b> males and females by 5+1 ethnic group breakdowns (Adjudications .csv dataset) <b>Religion and sex:</b> males and females by religion or belief categories (Adjudications .csv dataset)  Bespoke pivot tables will need to be generated to obtain this data. Ensure the outcome variable is set to “Proved” in the filters field. Select the “Offence” variable to the columns field, protected characteristics variables to the rows field and the “Count” variable to the values field of the pivot table.
	Proven adjudication rates per 100 prisoners: <i>Disobedience/ disrespect</i> <i>Escape/abscond</i> <i>Unauthorised transactions</i> <i>Violence</i> <i>Wilful damage</i> <i>Other offences</i>	<b>Age and sex:</b> males and females by age group from 15 years of age (Adjudications .csv dataset) <b>Ethnicity and sex:</b> males and females by 5+1 ethnic group breakdowns (Adjudications .csv dataset) <b>Religion and sex:</b> males and females by religion or belief categories (Adjudications .csv dataset)  Generate bespoke datasets using pivot tables from the .csv files, filtering using the instructions outlined directly above in proven adjudications by type of offence.  To calculate rates the proven adjudication rates per 100 prisoners, follow and tailor the calculation method outlined above to fit the data. For example, for male prisoners aged between 15 to 17 years for disobedience/disrespect offence (the numerator), use the total number of male prisoners (the denominator) to generate this calculation: $100 * (\text{males aged 15 to 17 proven adjudications for disobedience or disrespect offence} / \text{total male prison population})$
	Punishment outcomes by offence: <i>Additional days added</i> <i>Caution</i> <i>Cellular confinement</i> <i>Exclusion from associated work</i>	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table A5.2) <b>Age:</b> age group from 15 years of age (table A5.2) <b>Ethnicity:</b> 5+1 ethnic group breakdowns (table A5.2) <b>Religion:</b> religion or belief categories (table A5.2)

Topic	Metric	Protected Characteristic breakdowns available
	<i>Extra work</i> <i>Forfeiture of privileges</i> <i>Removal from activity/living unit</i> <i>Stoppage of earnings</i> <i>Other</i>	
	Average number of punishments per offence	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table A5.2) <b>Age:</b> age group from 15 years of age (table A5.2) <b>Ethnicity:</b> 5+1 ethnic group breakdowns (table A5.2) <b>Religion:</b> religion or belief categories (table A5.2)  The average number of punishments is calculated from the total number of punishments divided by the total number of offences.
	Punishment outcome rates per 100 prisoners: <i>Additional days added</i> <i>Caution</i> <i>Cellular confinement</i> <i>Exclusion from associated work</i> <i>Extra work</i> <i>Forfeiture of privileges</i> <i>Removal from activity/living unit</i> <i>Stoppage of earnings</i> <i>Other</i>	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table A5.2) <b>Age:</b> age group from 15 years of age (table A5.2) <b>Ethnicity:</b> 5+1 ethnic group breakdowns (table A5.2) <b>Religion:</b> religion or belief categories (table A5.2)  To calculate rates, follow the calculation method as set out for proven adjudication rates per 100 prisoners; tailored to fit the data for punishment outcomes.
<b>Community Orders and Suspended Sentence Orders</b> <i>(calendar year data for COs and SSOs; data at 31<sup>st</sup> December for previous cautions and convictions data)</i>	Offenders supervised by the Probation Service, at end of period, under Community Orders (COs)	<b>Age and sex:</b> males and females by age group from 18 years of age (table A4.16) <b>Ethnicity and sex:</b> males and females by ethnic group breakdowns (Chinese ethnicity persons are included in the Other ethnicity category) (table A4.17)
	Offenders supervised by the Probation Service, at end of period, under Suspended Sentence Orders (SSOs)	<b>Age and sex:</b> males and females by age group from 18 years of age (table A4.16) <b>Ethnicity and sex:</b> males and females by ethnic group breakdowns (Chinese ethnicity persons are included in the Other ethnicity category) (table A4.17)
	Offenders under supervision by the Probation Service, at end of period by number of previous cautions or convictions <i>(number groupings for previous cautions or convictions are: 0, 1-2, 3-6, 7-10, 11-14, 15 or more)</i>	<b>Age and sex:</b> males and females by age group from 15 years of age (categories are 15-17, young adults 18-20, adults) (usually table A4.21 – contact <a href="mailto:statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk">statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk</a> for more information)
<b>Release on Temporary Licence</b> <i>(calendar year data)</i>	Incidences of release on temporary licence	<b>Ethnicity and Sex:</b> male and female by 5+1 ethnic group breakdowns (table A3.8)
	Individuals released on temporary licence	<b>Ethnicity and Sex:</b> male and female by 5+1 ethnic group breakdowns (table A3.8)
	Incidences of release on temporary licence: <i>Special Purpose Licence</i> <i>Resettlement Day Release</i> <i>Resettlement Overnight Release</i> <i>Childcare Resettlement Release</i>	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table A3.7)

	Individuals released on temporary licence: <i>Determinate sentences</i> <i>Indeterminate sentences</i> <i>Recall</i> <i>Other sentence type</i>	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table A3.7)
<b>Temporary Release Failures</b> <i>(calendar year data)</i>	Number of recorded Temporary Release Failures: Determinate sentences Indeterminate sentences	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table A3.7)
	Failures per 100,000 incidences of release	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table A3.7)
	Number of recorded Temporary Release Failures	<b>Ethnicity and Sex:</b> male and female by 5+1 ethnic group breakdowns (table A3.8)
<b>Home Detention Curfew (HDC)</b> <i>(calendar year data)</i>	Number eligible for release on HDC by sentence length: <i>Less than or equal to 6 months</i> <i>Greater than 6 months to less than 12 months</i> <i>12 months to less than 2 years</i> <i>2 years to less than 4 years</i>	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table A3.5)
	Number released on HDC by sentence length: <i>Less than or equal to 6 months</i> <i>Greater than 6 months to less than 12 months</i> <i>12 months to less than 2 years</i> <i>2 years to less than 4 years</i>	
	Population on HDC at end of period (31 <sup>st</sup> December)	
	Number of HDC recalls by sentence length <i>Less than or equal to 6 months</i> <i>Greater than 6 months to less than 12 months</i> <i>12 months to less than 2 years</i> <i>2 years to less than 4 years</i>	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table A3.6i)
	Number of HDC recalls by reason for recall <i>Breach of curfew conditions</i> <i>Inability to monitor</i> <i>Breach of non-curfew conditions</i>	

## Safety in Custody Statistics bulletin

Safety in Custody quarterly bulletin, December 2019 was released on 30 April 2020. The bulletin contains calendar year annual tables for self-harm and assaults in prison custody in England and Wales. Calendar year annual deaths in custody data are available in the update to September edition of this bulletin in each year. For all editions of this bulletin, link to: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/safety-in-custody-statistics>

Topic	Metric	Protected Characteristic breakdowns available
<b>Deaths in prison</b>	Number of deaths	<b>Sex:</b> males and females (table 1.2) <b>Age:</b> age group from 15 years of age (table 1.3)
	Deaths per 1,000 prisoners	
	Number of self-inflicted deaths	
	Self-inflicted deaths per 1,000 prisoners	
	Number of natural cause deaths	
	Natural cause deaths per 1,000 prisoners	
<b>Self-harm</b>	Number of self-harm incidents	<b>Age and sex:</b> male and female establishment by age group from 15 years of age (table 2.3) <b>Ethnicity and sex:</b> male and female establishments, including 5+1 ethnicity breakdowns (table 2.7)
	Self-harm incidents per 1,000 prisoners	<b>Sex:</b> male establishment and female establishment breakdowns (table 2.1)
	Number of self-harm individuals	<b>Age and sex:</b> male and female establishment by age group from 15 years of age (table 2.4)
	Self-harm individuals per 1,000 prisoners	<b>Sex:</b> male establishment and female establishment breakdowns (table 2.1)
	Number of self-harm incidents per individual	<b>Sex:</b> male establishment and female establishment breakdowns (table 2.1)
<b>Assaults</b>	Number of assailants	<b>Sex:</b> male and female establishment breakdowns (table 3.2) <b>Age:</b> age groups from 15 years of age (table 3.3) <b>Ethnicity:</b> 5+1 ethnicity breakdowns (table 3.6)
	Number of fighters	<b>Sex:</b> male and female establishment breakdowns (table 3.2) <b>Age:</b> age groups from 15 years of age (table 3.3) <b>Ethnicity:</b> 5+1 ethnicity breakdowns (table 3.6)
	Number of victims	<b>Sex:</b> male and female establishment breakdowns (table 3.2) <b>Age:</b> age groups from 15 years of age (table 3.3) <b>Ethnicity:</b> 5+1 ethnicity breakdowns (table 3.6)

### ***Deaths of Offenders in the Community***

The latest available edition of the Deaths of offenders in the community bulletin, covering deaths of offenders supervised in the community by the probation service in England and Wales can be accessed at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/death-of-offenders-in-the-community>

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Metric</b>	<b>Protected Characteristic breakdowns available</b>
<b>Deaths of offenders in the community</b>	Deaths of offenders in the community	<b>Age and sex:</b> sex by age band, from 15 years of age and NPS/CRC breakdown <b>Ethnicity and sex:</b> sex by ethnic group (5+1, including total BAME) and NPS/CRC breakdown

### ***Proven Reoffending Statistics bulletin***

The proven reoffending statistics bulletin was released on 29 October 2020. This publication will include statistics related to the cohort periods October to December 2018. For this, and previous editions of this bulletin, refer to: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics>

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Metric</b>	<b>Protected Characteristic breakdowns available</b>
<b>Proven reoffending</b>	Proportion of offenders who reoffend (%)	<b>Age and sex:</b> adult and juvenile offenders by sex (table A2) <b>Age:</b> from 10 years of age, categorised into age groups (table A3) <b>Ethnicity:</b> Adult proven reoffending data (table A7a) <b>Ethnicity:</b> Juvenile proven reoffending data (table A7b)
	Average number of reoffences per reoffender	
	Number of reoffences	
	Number of reoffenders	
	Number of offenders in cohort	

### ***Order and Licence Completions statistics***

Please note that these metrics are not currently published. Requests for this data should be sent to: [statistics.enquiries@justice.gov.uk](mailto:statistics.enquiries@justice.gov.uk)

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Metric</b>	<b>Protected Characteristic breakdowns available</b>
<b>Order and Licence Completions</b> <i>(financial year data - 12 months ending March)</i>	Number of order and licence completions – total terminations	<b>Sex:</b> males and females <b>Age:</b> age group from 18 years of age <b>Ethnicity:</b> ethnic group breakdowns (Chinese ethnicity persons are included in the Other ethnicity category)
	Number of order and licence completions – successful terminations	

### ***Absconds statistics***

The HMPPS Annual Digest 2019/20 was published on 30 July, 2020. The report contains absconds data, but not data broken down by protected characteristics. Refer to: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/prison-and-probation-trusts-performance-statistics>  
 In the 2017/18 edition of the HMPPS Offender Equalities Annual Report, the metrics as listed in the table below were published. Requests for this data should now be sent to: [statistics.enquiries@justice.gov.uk](mailto:statistics.enquiries@justice.gov.uk)

Topic	Metric	Protected Characteristic breakdowns available
<b>Absconds</b> <i>(financial year data - 12 months ending March)</i>	Number of absconds	<b>Sex:</b> males and females <b>Age:</b> age group from 15 years of age

### Other sources of equalities information

In addition to data published in this report, HMPSS and the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) publish equalities information in other sources:

- The HMPPS Staff Equalities Annual Report 2019/20<sup>24</sup> will be published in a separate report on 26 November, 2020. This publication includes equalities information for all civil servants employed by HMPPS.
- The most recent edition of Race and the Criminal Justice System 2018<sup>25</sup> was released on 28 November, 2019; and contains information on the representation of Black and Minority Ethnic groups (BAME) as suspects, offenders and victims within the criminal justice system, and on employees within criminal justice agencies.
- A report on Women and the Criminal Justice System 2019<sup>26</sup>, which specifically focuses on the typical experiences of people who come into contact with the criminal justice system, by sex, will be published on 26 November 2020.

---

<sup>24</sup> The HMPPS Staff Equalities Annual Report

<sup>25</sup> The Race in the CJS report is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/race-and-the-criminal-justice-system-statistics-2018>

<sup>26</sup> Women and the Criminal Justice System 2019

## Further information

General information about the official statistics system of the UK is available from:  
[statisticsauthority.gov.uk/about-the-authority/uk-statistical-system](https://statisticsauthority.gov.uk/about-the-authority/uk-statistical-system)

Ministry of Justice publishes data relating to offender management in England and Wales.  
Equivalent statistics for Scotland and Northern Ireland can be found at:  
[www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice](https://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice)  
[www.dojni.gov.uk/index/statistics-research/stats-research-publications.htm](https://www.dojni.gov.uk/index/statistics-research/stats-research-publications.htm)

## Contact

Press enquiries should be directed to the Ministry of Justice press office:  
Tel: 020 3334 3536  
E-mail: [newsdesk@justice.gov.uk](mailto:newsdesk@justice.gov.uk)

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to:  
Lucy Cuppleditch, Responsible Statistician and Head of Operational Analysis Unit  
Prison and Probation Analytical Services  
Ministry of Justice, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ  
E-mail: [statistics.enquiries@justice.gov.uk](mailto:statistics.enquiries@justice.gov.uk)

## Next Update: November 2021

URL: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/prisons-and-probation-statistics](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/prisons-and-probation-statistics)

© Crown copyright

Produced by the Ministry of Justice

Alternative formats are available on request from [statistics.enquiries@justice.gov.uk](mailto:statistics.enquiries@justice.gov.uk)