



Ministry
of Justice



Offender Management Statistics Quarterly Bulletin

January to March 2013, England and
Wales

Ministry of Justice
Statistics bulletin

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Introduction

This publication provides key statistics relating to offenders who are in prison or under Probation Service supervision. It covers flows into these services (receptions into prison or probation starts) and flows out (discharges from prison or probation terminations) as well as the caseload of both services at specific points in time. Latest figures for the quarter January to March 2013 are provided compared to the same period in 2012 for each topic as well as reference to longer term trends, with the exception of the prison population where more recent data is available (30 June 2013).

The contents of the report will be of interest to the public, government policy makers, the agencies responsible for offender management at both national and local levels, and others who want to understand more about the prison population, probation caseload, licence recalls and returns to custody.

The statistics included in this publication are used extensively and meet a broad spectrum of user needs as shown below.

User	Summary of main statistical needs
MOJ Ministers	Use the statistics to monitor the prison population and capacity of the prison estate; monitor effectiveness of probation service and whether resources are deployed efficiently; assess policy impacts (e.g. changes to sentencing guidance)
MPs and House of Lords	Statistics are used to answer parliamentary questions – approximately 100 are answered each year using prison and probation data
Policy teams	Statistics are used to inform policy development, to monitor impact of changes over time and to model future changes and their impact on the system
Agencies responsible for offender management	Current and historical robust administrative data are used to support performance management information at national and local levels within each agency to complement their understanding of the current picture and trends over time
Academia, students and businesses	Used as a source of statistics for research purposes and to support lectures, presentations and conferences, e.g. data on female foreign national prisoners are included in 'The Criminalisation of Migrant Women' report published by the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge in July 2012
Journalists	Used as a compendium of robust data on offender management so that an accurate and coherent story can be told on the prison population and probation service

Voluntary sector	Data are used to inform policy work, responses to consultations and briefing papers by analysing trends and changes to the prison population, e.g. the Prison Reform Trust use published offender management data to compile the 'Bromley Briefing Prison Factfiles'
General public	Data are used to respond to ad-hoc requests and requests made under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act: offender management data is used to answer around 100 FOIs each year

This bulletin is published alongside three inter-related bulletins:

- **Proven Re-offending Statistics Quarterly:** provides proven re-offending figures for offenders who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court, received a caution, reprimand, warning or tested positive for opiates or cocaine in the 12 months ending September 2011.
- **Safety in Custody Statistics Quarterly update to March 2013:** provides statistics on death, self harm and assault incidents whilst in prison custody.
- **Accredited Programmes, Annual Bulletin 2012/13:** provides statistics on accredited programmes undertaken across prison and probation trusts during each financial year. Key figures include the number of starts and completions by programme.

Taken together, these publications present users with a more coherent overview of offender management including re-offending among both adults and young people, the safety of offenders whilst in prison custody and the programmes undertaken by offenders whilst in prison or under Probation Service supervision.

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics, it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

Table 1: Overview – latest period compared to the previous year

	Percentage change 30 June 2012 to	
	30 June 2013	30 June 2013
Prison population	83,842	-3% ↓
Remand	10,986	-3% ↓
Untried	7,755	1% ↑
Convicted unsentenced	3,231	-12% ↓
Under sentence	71,233	-3% ↓
Fine Defaulters	134	6% ↑
Less than or equal to 6 months	4,687	-6% ↓
Greater than 6 months to less than 12 months	2,173	-12% ↓
12 months to less than 4 years	19,558	-8% ↓
4 years or more (excluding indeterminate sentences)	26,382	4% ↑
Indeterminate sentences	13,186	-4% ↓
Recalls	5,113	-6% ↓
Non criminal	1,623	40% ↑
	Percentage change January-March	
	January-March 2013	2012 to 2013
Prison receptions		
First receptions	26,423	-13% ↓
Remand - untried	11,388	-13% ↓
Remand - convicted unsentenced	8,094	-13% ↓
Under sentence	20,639	-7% ↓
Fine Defaulters	270	-22% ↓
Less than or equal to 6 months	9,466	-12% ↓
Greater than 6 months to less than 12 months	2,254	-1% ↓
12 months to less than 4 years	6,340	-6% ↓
4 years or more (excluding indeterminate sentences)	2,232	16% ↑
Indeterminate sentences	77	-58% ↓
Prison discharges		
Determinate sentences	19,908	-9% ↓
Less than or equal to 6 months	7,959	-12% ↓
Greater than 6 months to less than 12 months	2,110	-7% ↓
12 months to less than 4 years	7,315	-9% ↓
4 years or more (excluding indeterminate sentences)	2,524	5% ↑
Indeterminate sentences	157	-13% ↓
Indeterminate sentence for public protection (IPP)	80	-25% ↓
Life sentence	77	4% ↑
Average percentage of time served⁽¹⁾		
Determinate sentences	51%	-2 pp ↓
Less than or equal to 6 months	53%	-3 pp ↓
Greater than 6 months to less than 12 months	47%	0 pp →
12 months to less than 4 years	49%	0 pp →
4 years or more (excluding indeterminate sentences)	55%	-3 pp ↓
Probation starts		
All court orders	38,828	-14% ↓
All community sentences	27,320	-16% ↓
Community order	26,785	-15% ↓
Other sentences	11,660	-7% ↓
Suspended sentence order	11,548	-7% ↓
Pre release supervision	10,964	-15% ↓
	Percentage change 31 March 2012	
	31 March 2013	to 31 March 2013
Persons supervised by the Probation Service		
All court orders	112,090	-10% ↓
All community sentences	76,619	-11% ↓
Community order	74,768	-10% ↓
All pre CJA orders	146	-61% ↓
Other sentences	37,949	-9% ↓
Deferred sentence	95	27% ↑
Suspended sentence order	37,865	-9% ↓
All pre and post release supervision	111,511	0% →
Pre release supervision	70,049	-2% ↓
Post release supervision	41,882	3% ↑
	January-March 2013	
Licence recalls		
Recalled in latest quarter	4,011	
Not returned to custody by 31 March 2013	69	
Total not returned to custody by 31 March 2013	998	

1) Average percentage of time served includes time served on remand; change in percentages are given as percentage point change (pp).

Prison population

The prison population grew rapidly between 1993 to 2008 – an average of 4 per cent a year. This rapid rise was driven by:

- Increased numbers of people sentenced to immediate custody from 1993 to 2002.
- Increases in the average custodial sentence length and increased use of indeterminate sentences.
- Increase in numbers recalled to prison following breaches of the conditions of licence and these offenders spending longer in prison once recalled.

The rise in the prison population slowed considerably from the summer of 2008 with an average annual increase of 1 per cent (Figure 1.1), until the public disorder seen in UK cities from 6 to 9 August 2011 which had an immediate impact on the prison population.

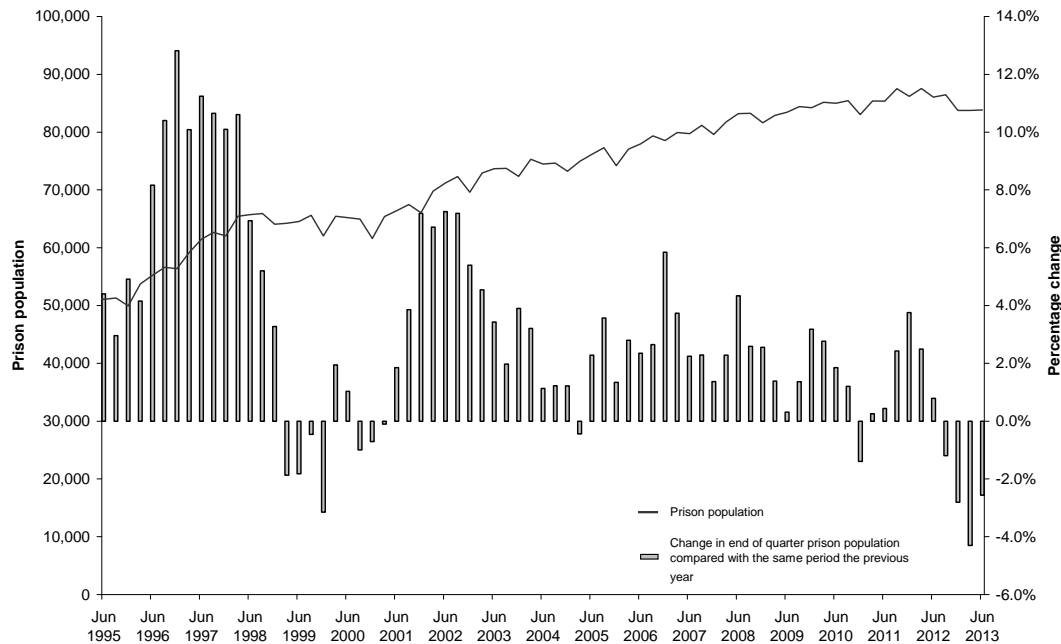
The flatter trend prior to the disorder partly reflected the introduction of the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act (CJIA) 2008, which changed sentencing and offender management in ways which helped to reduce growth in the prison population. For more information, see [CJIA 2008](#).

Other factors, over and above the direct impact of the 2011 public disorder, contributed to an increased prison population for a temporary period which now appears to be over. The falling remand population, and continued decline in the number of under-18s in custody during 2012 and into 2013, mean that the prison population is now tracking between the low and medium projections¹.

The 'Story of the Prison Population 1993 to 2012' provides an in-depth examination of what happened to the prison population between 1993 and 2012 and the major factors contributing to the changes in the prison population www.gov.uk/government/publications/story-of-the-prison-population-1993-2012

¹ Prison population projections 2012-2018 available at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/prison-population-projections-ns

Figure 1.1: Quarterly prison population and annual percentage change, England and Wales, December 1995 to June 2013



The prison population at 30 June 2013 was 83,842, a decrease of 2,206 (3 per cent) compared to 30 June 2012 when the total population was 86,048.

At 30 June 2013, there were:

- 79,989 males in prison - a fall of 2 per cent over the year
- 3,853 females in prison - a fall of 7 per cent over the year

The overall decrease in the total prison population over the last year comprised decreases in both the remand and the sentenced segments of the prison population.

The remand population fell by 3 per cent, driven entirely by the fall in the convicted unsentenced population (down 12 per cent), while the untried population rose 1 per cent. However this 1 per cent rise in the untried population was due to a 'day of the week effect' – 30 June 2013 was a Sunday, and the remand population on a Sunday is typically higher than on any other day of the week as prisoners continue to enter prison on remand, but no other court hearings take place. If 30 June 2013 had fallen on any other day of the week, it is likely the year on year change would instead have been around a 1 per cent fall. A 1 per cent fall would still be a change from recent trends. In recent quarters we have seen much larger falls in the untried population partly reflecting falling volumes going through the courts, and partly reflecting the introduction, in December 2012, of measures restricting the use of remand for offenders who

would be unlikely to receive a custodial sentence². It is likely that the full impact of these remand measures has now been realised, contributing to the much flatter trend in the latest quarter.

The sentenced population fell by 2,329, or 3 per cent, over the last year. All age groups saw a fall with adults (age 21+) down 1,082 or 2 per cent; young adults (18-20) down 934 or 16 per cent; and 15-17 year olds down almost a third, falling by 313, to 682. Similar patterns were seen in both the male and female populations.

These trends are consistent with those seen in prison receptions - falling numbers of both males and females entering prison on remand and to serve a sentence.

Within the adult sentenced population, the numbers serving long determinate sentences of 4 years or more continued to rise (up 4 per cent from 23,979 to 24,977), while the numbers serving shorter sentences continued to fall. Almost a third of the increase in the numbers serving long determinate sentences was due to the introduction of the new Extended Determinate Sentence (EDS) (see paragraph below) - 300 offenders were serving such a sentence as at 30 June 2013.

The number of prisoners serving indeterminate sentences (either a life sentence or an Indeterminate Sentence for Public Protection – an IPP) fell by four per cent to 13,186 with the IPP and life sentence populations falling by 8 per cent and 1 per cent respectively. The fall in the indeterminate sentence population reflects the sentencing changes introduced in December 2012 which abolished the IPP (IPPs can now only be imposed in very exceptional circumstances) and introduced the new EDS which is available for offenders that would previously have received an IPP or an extended sentence.

Within the indeterminate sentenced population, 43 per cent were serving an IPP (5,620) while 57 per cent were serving life sentences (7,566). A total of 3,549 (63 per cent) IPP prisoners had passed their tariff expiry date. There were 43 offenders serving a whole life sentence as at 30 June 2013. In addition to this, 6 prisoners serving whole life sentences were being treated in secure hospitals.

The number of non-criminals in prison rose by 461, or 40 per cent, to 1,623 at 30 June 2013. The increase in the non-criminal population is a direct result of NOMS agreement with the Home Office to hold a number of immigration detainees in the prison estate. These are not serving prisoners and are therefore classified as non-criminals. There has also been a small increase in the capacity and population of the NOMS operated Immigration Removal Centre (IRC) estate which has also impacted on the overall increase in the number of non-criminals.

The foreign national prisoner population was 10,786 as at 30 June 2013, accounting for 13 per cent of the prison population (the same proportion as in

² Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act 2012: services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/legalaidsentencingandpunishmentofoffenders.html

recent quarters). This figure includes Immigration Removal Centres (IRCs). When looking at the population excluding IRCs, 12 per cent were foreign national prisoners (again the same proportion as in recent quarters).

An increasing proportion of sentenced prisoners are serving sentences for the most serious offences. As at 30 June 2013, 27 per cent of the sentenced population had committed violence against the person offences, an increase from 21 per cent in 2000. Similarly, the proportion serving sentences for sexual offences increased from 10 per cent in 2000 to 15 per cent in June 2013. In contrast, the number serving sentences for motoring offences has fallen steadily over time, now comprising 1 per cent of the sentenced population compared with 4 per cent in 2000 and the proportion serving sentences for burglary has fallen from 17 per cent in 2000 to 10 per cent as at 30 June 2013.

Prison receptions

In the quarter ending March 2013, there were 26,423 first receptions into prison, a fall of 13 per cent compared to the same period in the previous year.

There was a 13 per cent fall in the number of untried receptions – those remanded in custody awaiting trial – in the quarter ending March 2013 compared to the quarter ending March 2012. Convicted unsentenced receptions – those remanded in custody awaiting sentence – also fell by 13 per cent. The fall in the number of untried receptions was greater for females than males, 24 per cent and 12 per cent respectively, with a similar trend was seen for convicted unsentenced receptions (down 20% and 12% for females and males respectively).

For both types of remand, some of this fall is due to the remand measures introduced in December 2012 restricting the use of remand for offenders who would be unlikely to receive a custodial sentence³. This trend is a continuation from previous quarters.

There was a 7 per cent fall in the number of prisoners received under sentence in the quarter ending March 2013 (20,625) compared to the quarter ending March 2012. This fall was driven by falling numbers of sentences of less than 4 years, while longer determinate sentences continued to rise. The largest fall was seen among the shortest sentences (6 months or less) which fell by 12 per cent, while the number of long determinate sentences (4 years or more) was up 16 per cent over the last year.

The rise in numbers received into prison to serve a long determinate sentence partly reflects the impact of sentencing changes introduced in December 2012

³ Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act 2012: services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/legalaidsentencingandpunishmentofoffenders.html

which abolished IPPs and introduced the new extended determinate sentence⁴. These changes also resulted in a large fall in the number of offenders entering prison to serve an indeterminate sentence (down 58 per cent).

Prison discharges

A total of 19,908 offenders were discharged from determinate sentences in the quarter ending March 2013, a fall of 9 per cent from the quarter ending March 2012.

This fall was driven by falling numbers discharged from sentences of less than 4 years, while numbers released from longer sentences continued to rise. The largest fall was seen among the shortest sentences (6 months or less) which fell by 12 per cent in the quarter ending March 2013 compared to the same quarter in 2012. This is consistent with the falling number of receptions within this sentence band which also fell by 12 per cent over the same period. As prisoners sentenced to 6 months or less spend relatively short periods in custody (1.7 months for those discharged in the current quarter), a fall in prison receptions will impact the volume of discharges very quickly (either in the same quarter or the following quarter).

As well as those discharged from determinate sentences, 80 offenders were discharged from an Indeterminate sentence for Public Protection (IPP), down from 107 in the quarter ending March 2012. A further 77 offenders were discharged from a life sentence, up very slightly from 74 the previous year. In addition, 26 indeterminate sentenced prisoners were removed under the Tariff Expired Removal Scheme (TERS) - this scheme allows indeterminate sentenced foreign national prisoners, who are liable to removal from the UK, to be removed from prison and the country upon, or any date after, the expiry of their tariff without reference to the Parole Board.

Those discharged from determinate sentences in the quarter ending March 2013 had, on average, served 51 per cent of their sentence in custody (including time on remand). On average males served a greater proportion of their sentence in custody – 52 per cent compared to 46 per cent for females in the quarter ending March 2013. This gender difference is consistent over time, and partly reflects the higher proportion of females who are released on Home Detention Curfew (HDC – under which certain offenders can be released on an electronically monitored curfew up to 135 days before the halfway point of their sentence when they would otherwise be released).

A total of 2,643 prisoners were released on HDC in the quarter ending March 2013, a 19 per cent decrease from the quarter ending March 2012. To be considered for release under HDC, an offender must be serving a sentence of

⁴ www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/10/part/3/chapter/5

less than 4 years and the number of prisoners serving such sentences has been falling (see population section above). The decrease in the population will have a direct impact on the number that can be considered for HDC release and subsequently on the number of prisoners that are released on HDC. Prisoners released on HDC in the quarter ending March 2013 spent an average of 2.9 months on HDC, up slightly from 2.8 months in the quarter ending March 2012.

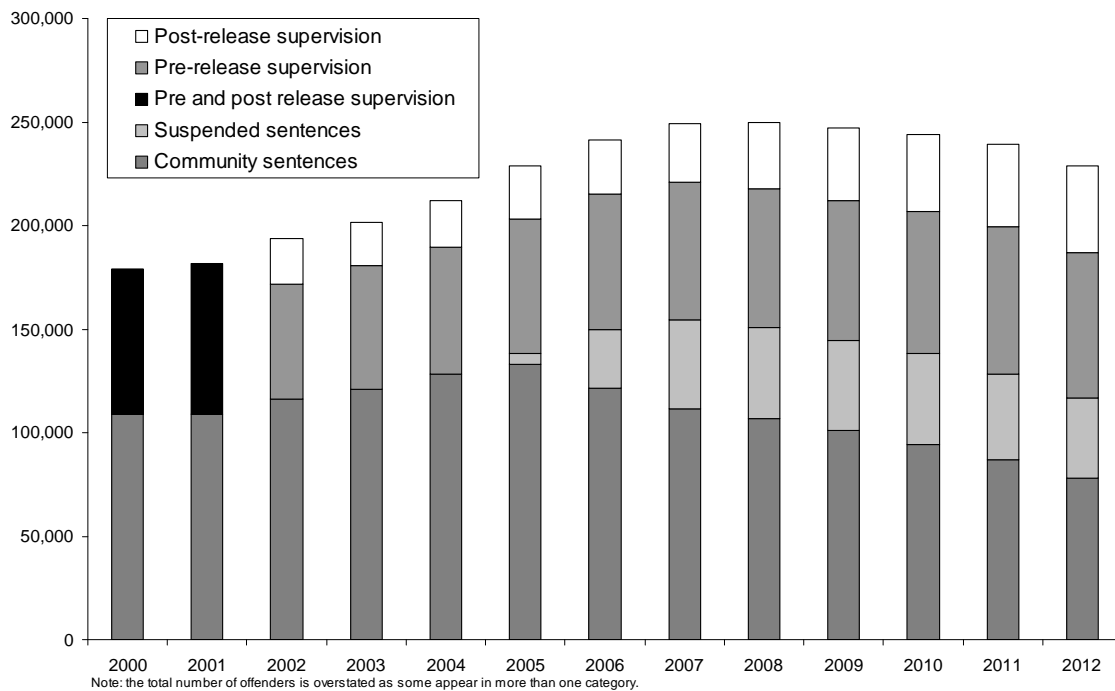
Probation

The total annual probation caseload (court orders and pre and post release supervision) increased by 39 per cent between 2000 and 2008 to 243,434. Since then the probation caseload has fallen year on year, reaching 224,283 at the end of 2012. The rise between 2000 and 2008 was driven by:

- Introduction of new court orders, in particular the Suspended Sentence Order (SSO) in 2005 (under the Criminal Justice Act 2003).
- Increase in pre and post-release supervision caseload due to:
 - continued growth in the number of offenders serving custodial sentences of 12 months or more who require supervision on release from custody,
 - offenders spending longer periods on licence after release from custody under CJA 2003.

The number being supervised at the end of 2012 (the caseload) continued the decrease seen in each of the previous four years; community orders fell by 9 per cent and SSOs by 8 per cent compared to 2011. As at the end of March 2013, the caseload fell again – down 5 per cent compared to the end of March 2012.

Figure 1.2: Number of offenders under Probation Service supervision (at end December), 1995-2012



Looking at the latest quarter, the court order caseload continued to decrease, with the community order caseload down 10 per cent and the SSO caseload down 9 per cent between the quarters ending March 2012 and March 2013. The number of offenders starting court orders also decreased over this period, with starts of community orders down 15 per cent and SSO starts down 7 per cent.

The caseload of offenders supervised before or after release from prison showed no real change over the past year. However, this overall flat trend included a 3 per cent rise in the number supervised post release, which is consistent with the increasing numbers sentenced to long custodial sentences (who will therefore spend longer on licence after release). Starts of pre release supervision fell by 15 per cent between the quarters ending March 2012 and March 2013, broadly consistent with trends in prison receptions where the number of offenders starting prison sentences (excluding adults sentenced to less than 12 months who are not currently supervised on licence after release) also fell over the same period.

The number of requirements started under court orders continued to fall between the quarters ending March 2012 and March 2013, in line with the decrease in the number of court order starts. Much of this decrease was driven by falls in the number of curfew and unpaid work requirements given under both community orders and SSOs. Use of all requirements fell with the exception of drug treatment requirements given as part of an SSO (up by 4 per cent over the same period.)

Of the 26,423 community orders terminated in the quarter ending March 2013, 67 per cent had run their full course or were terminated early for good progress, a slight increase on the 66 per cent in the previous quarter ending March 2012. There was a slight decrease for SSOs which had run their full course or were terminated early for good progress from 69 to 68 per cent.

A total of 44,326 court reports were prepared in the quarter ending March 2013, 16 per cent down on the quarter ending March 2012, with falls seen for all types of report, reflecting the continuing downward trend in the number of cases being dealt with by the courts.

In general, courts follow the sentences proposed in PSRs, particularly where an immediate custodial sentence has been recommended - 89 per cent of such proposed sentences in PSRs resulted in immediate custody.

Licence recalls

Offenders serving a sentence of twelve months and over are released from prison, in most cases automatically at the half way point of their sentence, under licensed supervision to the Probation Service. They are all subject to a set of standard licence conditions, requiring them to report regularly to the Probation Service, live at an address approved by the Probation Service and to be of good behaviour.

A key element of public protection is that offenders released on licence should be effectively supervised in the community and swiftly recalled to custody if their behaviour gives cause for concern. It is explained to offenders at the outset that they may be recalled to custody if they breach any of the conditions of their licence.

There are various reasons why offenders are recalled to custody for breaching their licence conditions besides committing a further offence. For example, an offender may be recalled if there is any deterioration in behaviour which leads the Probation Service to conclude that there is an increased risk of the offender committing further offences.

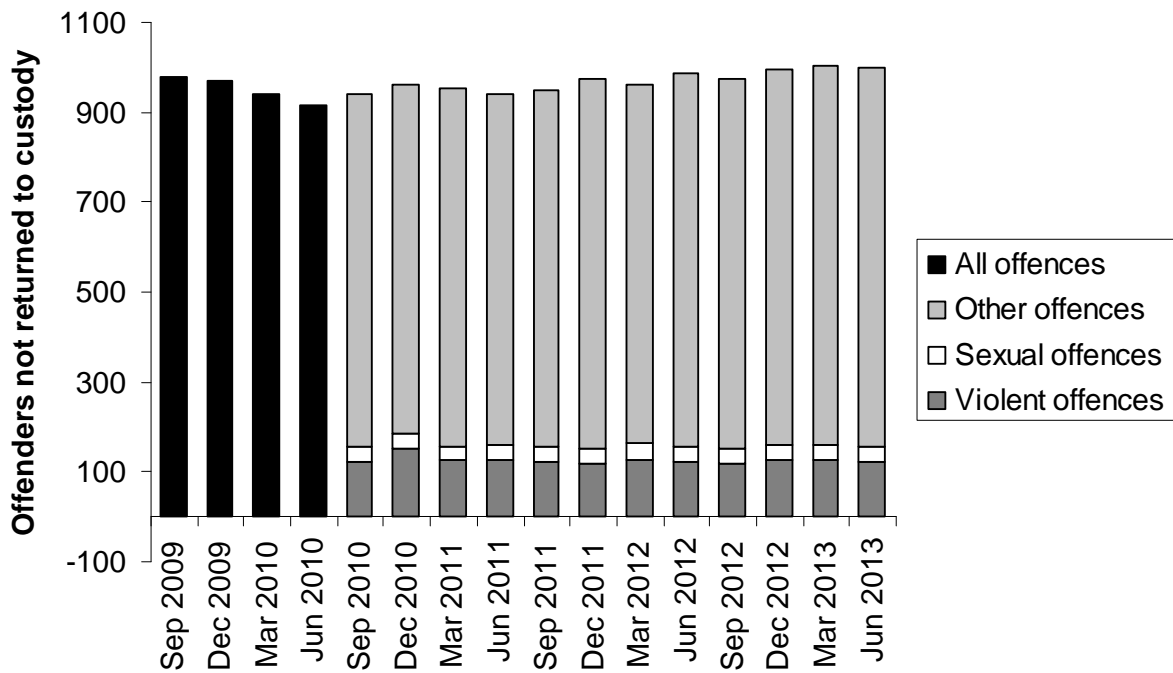
Over the period 1999 to March 2013, a total of 622,000 offenders were released from prison on licence supervision. Between April 1999 and March 2013, 155,498 of those released on licence were recalled to custody for breaching the conditions of their licence, e.g. failing to report to their probation officer. Of all those recalled to custody, only 998 had not been returned to custody by the end of June 2013. This total may include some offenders believed to be dead or living outside of the UK but who have not been confirmed as dead or deported.

Of the 998 not returned to custody by 30 June 2013, 123 had originally been serving a prison sentence for violence against the person offences and a further 35 for sexual offences.

During the quarter ending March 2013, a total of 4,011 offenders had their licence revoked and were recalled. By 30 June 2013, 3,942 of these recalled offenders had been returned to custody and 69 had not been returned to custody.

The end-to-end measure across all agencies involved in the process is for 75 per cent of recalled offenders to be returned to custody within 74 hours for emergency recalls and 144 hours for standard recalls. In the quarter ending 31 March 2013, 3,752 (81 per cent) were returned within agreed timescales.

Figure 1.3: Number of offenders not returned to custody by quarter, by major offence group



(1) Offence categories changed from Sep 2010 so not shown for earlier periods

References

This publication and associated spreadsheet files of the tables contained in this document and detailed information of definitions, sources and key legislative changes are available for download at

www.gov.uk/government/publications/offender-management-statistics-quarterly--2

Bulletins from earlier related series are available at

www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-justice/about/statistics

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Appendix A – Data sources and quality

The data presented in this publication are drawn from administrative IT systems. Although care is taken when processing and analysing the returns, the detail collected is subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large scale recording system. While the figures shown have been checked as far as practicable, they should be regarded as approximate and not necessarily accurate to the last whole number shown in the tables. Where figures in the tables have been rounded to the nearest whole number, the rounded components do not always add to the totals, which are calculated and rounded independently.

Impact of data quality issues and revisions

Receptions data

Routine data quality checks identified an issue with how prisoners received into prison to serve indeterminate sentences were recorded within the receptions data. Since the beginning of 2012, between 5 and 20 prisoners per quarter were incorrectly excluded from the reported number of indeterminate sentenced receptions. Revised figures have been provided up to and including the latest quarter in all tables reporting the number of indeterminate sentenced receptions. The annual figures for 2012 have also been updated.

Probation data

From February 2013, there has been a phased introduction and rollout of a national case management information system across all Probation Trusts (n-Delius). As at 31 March 2013, seven trusts have migrated to the new system.

As a result of that migration, there has been an increase in the number of offenders within the migrated trusts with tier of supervision recorded as 'Tier not stated'. Investigations are being undertaken to identify the source of this issue and resolve it prior to further trusts moving to the new system.

Pre-sentence court reports (PSR) data

Evidence provided by Probation Trusts suggested that published statistics on the number of PSRs prepared by each trust were lower than those statistics produced by their internal case management systems.

The PSR data collection process in place until 31 March 2012 entailed each trust providing monthly data on the number of reports prepared that month, with the data extracted on or just after the 15th of the following month, e.g. data for July collected on 15th August. On investigation it emerged that many trusts, particularly those in large metropolitan areas, enter some PSRs onto case management systems after this date due to data collection practicalities. To

address this issue, trusts were asked to submit each monthly return two months later than previously to allow time for additional reports to be recorded, and the impact on the statistics was assessed.

This new extended data collection process has been introduced for data from April 2012, and we estimate that the statistics now capture between 1 and 3 per cent more PSRs per quarter as reported within Tables 4.12 and 4.13.

Subsequent data quality work has shown that the introduction of a longer time lag between the date a PSR is prepared and when data is extracted from case management systems, i.e. more than two months, would capture more court report data (over and above the additional 1 to 3 per cent now included in the two most recent quarters). However, these further increases were mostly seen in the number of court reports prepared for breaches, court reviews and deferred sentences (see below). For standard and fast delivery pre-sentence reports, a two month time lag captures the vast majority of data and there are diminishing returns in extending the data collection period any further.

During the data quality work described above, it emerged that previously published data for court reviews, PSR breach reports and deferred sentences was incomplete in terms of coverage across all trusts and that there were inconsistencies between trusts in the coverage and content of the data extracted from their case management systems. This data has therefore been removed from Table 4.12 for all quarters – the estimated impact on the total number of reports written is a reduction of around 4,500 reports per quarter.

It is hoped that with the introduction and phased rollout of a national management information system for all Probation trusts (nDelius), more accurate and complete data can be produced on PSR breach reports in future. This will be kept under review.

Indeterminate sentences for public protection

Information relating to tariffs for IPP and DPP prisoners and those serving life sentences is held by the Offender Management and Public Protection Group, NOMS, in the Public Protection Unit Database (PPUD).

Licence recalls and returns to custody

Returned to custody – the figures for those returned to custody include people who have died or been deported by the UK Borders Agency as prior to 2007 this information was not collected separately. The information held centrally records whether or not recalled offenders are still wanted for return to custody but for those offenders no longer wanted for return to custody, information is not held on whether the recall was completed by actual return to custody or because the offender died or was deported.

Not returned to custody – this includes those offenders believed to be dead or living outside of the UK but who have not been confirmed as dead or deported.

Symbols used

..	not available
0	Nil or less than half the final digit shown
-	not applicable
*	One or both of the comparison figures are less than 50
(p)	Provisional data
(r)	Revised data

Revisions policy

Figures for prison receptions and discharges for each of the first three quarters of the calendar year are generally revised alongside figures for quarter 4 in the October to December publication each year. Prison population, probation and licence recall figures are not routinely revised, but are corrected if an error is identified.

Any revisions will be accompanied by an explanation for the revision and its impact, along with – where appropriate - an assessment of whether the impact is in line with previous revisions (for example when updating from provisional to final prison discharges data).

Contact points

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General information about the official statistics system of the UK is available from www.statistics.gov.uk

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

www.dojni.gov.uk/index/statistics-research/stats-research-publications.htm

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