



Ministry of
JUSTICE

Provisional Quarterly Criminal Justice System Performance Information – December 2009

Ministry of Justice
Statistics bulletin

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Introduction

This quarterly statistical bulletin presents an overview on key metrics about the Criminal Justice System (CJS). It contains information on:

- The number of Offences Brought to Justice
- Public Confidence in the fairness and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System.
- Victim and Witness Satisfaction
- Asset Recovery
- Confiscation Orders
- Enforcement

This bulletin is produced in accordance with arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority. It follows a consistent format and is updated quarterly. The main body of the bulletin compares the most recent data for the period ending December 2009, to an earlier period, typically a year earlier where data are available. Longer term trends are also presented.

In addition the bulletin provides information against the indicators used to monitor Public Service Agreement 24 (PSA 24) – which was about the delivery of a more effective, transparent and responsive Criminal Justice System for victims and for the public. Appendices A, B and C report against these PSA 24 indicators.

Appendix D provides a quarterly break down of the asset recovery, as reported in the England, Wales and Northern Ireland total in the Recovery of criminal assets section.

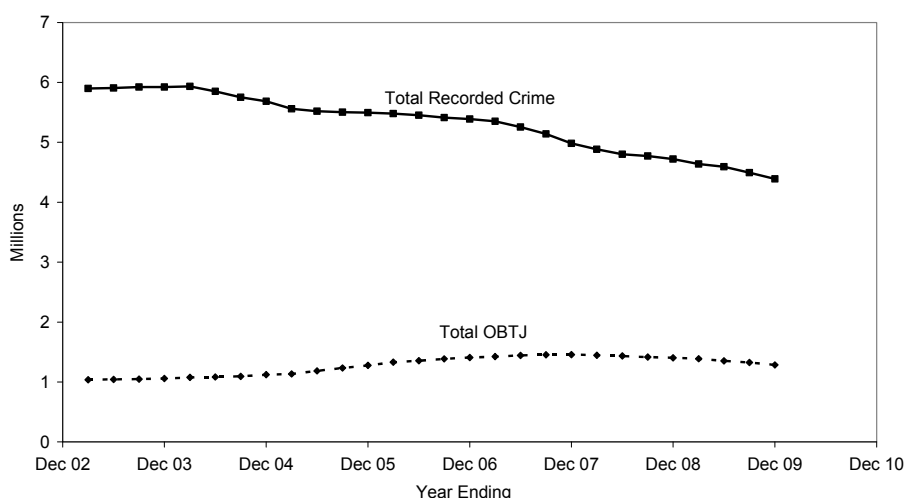
Appendix E presents the data for Offences Brought to Justice (OBTJ) by Criminal Justice System area and offence group. These figures are used in the 'Offences Brought to Justice Crime map'. <http://maps.cjsonline.gov.uk/>

Further information about the performance measures reported in this bulletin, along with additional data, is published at: www.cjsonline.gov.uk/

Effectiveness and efficiency of the Criminal Justice System in bringing offences to justice

The number of Offences Brought to Justice in England and Wales in the year ending December 2009 was 1.29 million. This is a fall of 8 per cent compared with the year ending December 2008^a of 1.40 million. This was driven by a fall in the use of out of court disposals. Over the same period the number of recorded crimes fell 7 per cent from 4.72 million to 4.39 million.

Figure 1: Rolling annual Offences Brought to Justice (OBTJ)⁽¹⁾ and recorded crime



(1) The numbers of Offences Brought to Justice (OBTJ) for 2009 onwards are un-validated data from the courts and police, therefore provided as management information as they are provisional and likely to change.

The number of serious sexual Offences Brought to Justice has risen 4 per cent between the year ending December 2008^a and the year ending December 2009 from 11,797 to 12,218. The number of recorded crimes for these offences has risen 2 per cent over the same period from 37,095 to 37,978.

The number of serious acquisitive Offences Brought to Justice has fallen 11 per cent between the year ending December 2008^a and the year ending December 2009 from 116,948 to 104,176. The number of recorded crimes for these offences has fallen by 11 per cent over the same period from 929,078 to 824,214.

The number of serious violent Offences Brought to Justice has risen by 4 per cent between the year ending December 2008^a and the year ending December 2009 from 9,160 to 9,554. The number of recorded serious violent crimes was 43,391 for the year ending December 2009. Serious violent recorded crimes from April 2008 cannot be compared with earlier periods and therefore historical comparisons are not possible^b.

^a Excludes prosecutions/convictions/remands data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July and August 2008. See explanatory notes for further information.

^b Since April 2008, grievous bodily harm (GBH) without intent has been moved from the 'Other Offences' crime recording category to the 'Serious Violent Offences' category. This change means it is not valid to compare 2008/09 'Other Offences' and 'Serious Violent Offences' crime data against a 2007/08 baseline. Also in April 2008, there was a clarification in the counting rules covering crime recording of GBH with intent, which had the effect of increasing figures in some forces, GBH with intent being a major component of Serious Violent Offences. In light of this, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) has recently undertaken a quality assurance exercise of forces' recording of most serious violence offences. Alongside this exercise a great deal of quality assurance work has been undertaken in forces, leading to the revision of some previously published 2008/09 figures. These revisions are reflected in this bulletin.

Public confidence in the fairness and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System

The proportion of adults who think that the Criminal Justice System (CJS) as a whole is fair (from the British Crime Survey) was 59 per cent for twelve months to December 2009. In comparison with 58 per cent in the twelve months to December 2008, this is a statistically significant increase.

The proportion of adults who think that the CJS as a whole is effective (from the British Crime Survey) was 41 per cent for the twelve months to December 2009. In comparison with 37 per cent for the twelve months to December 2008, this is a statistically significant increase.

The British Crime Survey (BCS) is a face to face survey run by the Home Office in which a sample of people resident in England and Wales are asked about their experiences of crime and their attitudes towards crime-related issues, including the Criminal Justice System.

There are seven lead-in questions to each of the headline CJS measures. These were designed to ensure respondents considered the full Criminal Justice System when answering the overall fairness and effectiveness questions. The lead-in questions were not designed to provide performance information but they do provide useful indications on confidence. The results are published in CJS on-line: www.cjsonline.gov.uk/

Experience of the Criminal Justice System for victims and witnesses

There was a statistically significant increase in the proportion of victims and witnesses who were satisfied with their overall contact with the CJS between 2008 and 2009, increasing from 82 per cent to 84 per cent^c.

Data are taken from the Witness and Victim Experience Survey (WAVES). WAVES interviews victims and prosecution witnesses aged 18 and over whose case resulted in a charge, after the case has closed. Sensitive cases, such as sexual offences, domestic violence, crimes involving a fatality, and any crime where the defendant is a member of the victim's or witness' household, are excluded on ethical grounds. WAVES asks victims and witnesses about all aspects of their experience with the CJS, from reporting a crime to the police, to the final outcome of the case at court.

Table A shows data for various key measures of victim and witness satisfaction with aspects of the CJS. To help understand how services are being received and how they might be improved, the provision of key services offered to assist victims/witnesses within the CJS is also measured. Results for this are presented in Table B.

^c This is based on cases closed in the twelve months to December 2008 and to December 2009 respectively.

Table A: Victim and Witness satisfaction with the Criminal Justice System

| Satisfaction with the CJS | Levels of satisfaction ³ | Percentages ¹ and base sizes ² | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| | | 12 months to December 2008 | 12 months to December 2009 ⁴ |
| Satisfied with overall contact with the CJS | Satisfied | 82 | 84* |
| | Neutral | 2 | 2 |
| | Dissatisfied | 15 | 13* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>36,998</i> | <i>38,030</i> |
| Satisfied with information provided about the CJS process | Satisfied | 83 | 84* |
| | Neutral | 2 | 2 |
| | Dissatisfied | 14 | 12* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>36,998</i> | <i>38,030</i> |
| Satisfied with how well they've been kept informed of case progress | Satisfied | 77 | 79* |
| | Neutral | 2 | 2 |
| | Dissatisfied | 20 | 18* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>36,998</i> | <i>38,030</i> |
| Satisfied with the way they were treated by CJS staff | Satisfied | 90 | 91* |
| | Neutral | 2 | 2 |
| | Dissatisfied | 7 | 6* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>36,998</i> | <i>38,030</i> |
| Satisfied with how they were dealt with prior to attending court | Satisfied | 87 | 87 |
| | Neutral | 2 | 1 |
| | Dissatisfied | 11 | 11 |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>8,487</i> | <i>7,862</i> |
| Satisfied with consideration shown before giving evidence in court | Satisfied | 90 | 91* |
| | Neutral | 1 | 1 |
| | Dissatisfied | 8 | 8 |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>4,848</i> | <i>4,478</i> |
| Satisfied with court facilities | Satisfied | 86 | 87* |
| | Neutral | 2 | 2 |
| | Dissatisfied | 11 | 9* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>8,475</i> | <i>7,853</i> |
| Victims satisfied with their contact with the Youth Offending Team | Satisfied | 83 | 81 |
| | Neutral | 3 | 3 |
| | Dissatisfied | 12 | 14 |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>976</i> | <i>974</i> |
| Satisfied with the support that the Witness Service provided | Satisfied | 96 | 96 |
| | Neutral | 1 | 1 |
| | Dissatisfied | 3 | 3 |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>5,837</i> | <i>5,400</i> |
| Victims satisfied with their contact with Victim Support | Satisfied | 82 | 86* |
| | Neutral | 4 | 3* |
| | Dissatisfied | 12 | 10* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>4,325</i> | <i>5,041</i> |

* Denotes a statistically significant change at the 5 per cent significance level.

1. Percentages of victims and witnesses, unless otherwise specified.

2. The number of respondents answering each question is shown as "base" in italics.

3. Respondents indicated whether they were "completely", "very" or "fairly" satisfied/dissatisfied. These responses have been aggregated to overall categories representing 'satisfied' or 'dissatisfied'. 'Neutral' respondents stated that they were "Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied".

4. Data are provisional.

Note. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Witness & Victim Experience Survey (OCJR).

Table B: Victim and Witness satisfaction with the Criminal Justice System, provision of key services

| | | Percentages ¹ and base sizes ² | |
|---|-------------|--|---|
| | | 12 months to December 2008 | 12 months to December 2009 ³ |
| Services offered within the CJS | | | |
| Victims offered the opportunity to make a Victim Personal Statement | Percentage | 41 | 43* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>19,749</i> | <i>19,364</i> |
| Victims who felt their views as set out in the Victim Personal Statement were taken into account during the CJS process | Percentage | 66 | 69* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>4,521</i> | <i>4,666</i> |
| Of those who required emotional/practical support, those who were offered relevant services | Percentage | 69 | 71 |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>3,823</i> | <i>3,775</i> |
| Offered a court familiarisation visit before the trial | Percentage | 63 | 66* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>8,487</i> | <i>7,862</i> |

* Denotes a statistically significant change at the 5 per cent significance level.

1. Percentages of victims and witnesses, unless otherwise specified.

2. The number of respondents answering each question is shown as "base" in italics.

3. Data are provisional.

Note. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Witness & Victim Experience Survey (OCJR).

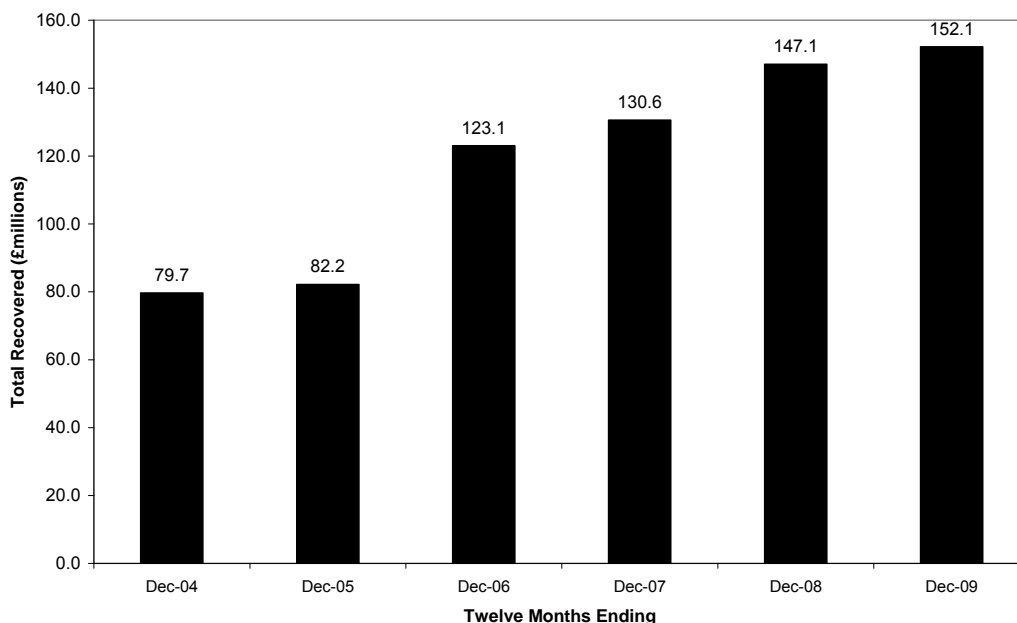
Victim satisfaction with the police (from police user satisfaction surveys), was 83 per cent for the year ending March 2009 in comparison to the baseline of 81 per cent for the year to March 2008^d (statistically significant increase).

^d Victim satisfaction with the police data is available on an annual basis.

Recovery of criminal assets

The value of assets recovered across England, Wales and Northern Ireland for April to December 2009 was £110 million. The value of assets recovered has increased from £147 million in 12 months ending December 2008 to £152 million in 12 months ending December 2009.

Figure 2: The value of assets recovered across England, Wales and Northern Ireland



Confiscation

The amount collected, including compensation, from the enforcement of confiscation^e orders across England and Wales between April and December 2009 was £46 million^f.

The value of new confiscation orders obtained across England and Wales from April to December 2009 was £74 million. This compares with a figure of £89 million for April to December 2008.

The number of confiscation orders obtained across England and Wales from April to December 2009 was 3,504. This compares with a figure of 3,593 for April to December 2008.

The number of restraint orders^g obtained across England and Wales from April to December 2009 was 964. This compares with a figure of 1,091 for April to December 2008.

^e Confiscation is a process for the removal of the assets from a convicted criminal. A confiscation order is made to the Crown Court after conviction to deprive the criminal of the benefit obtained from crime.

^f The amount collected for 2009/10 confiscation enforcement apply only to orders enforced by HMCS and CPS branch and are thus not comparable with 2008/9 which apply to orders collected across all agencies.

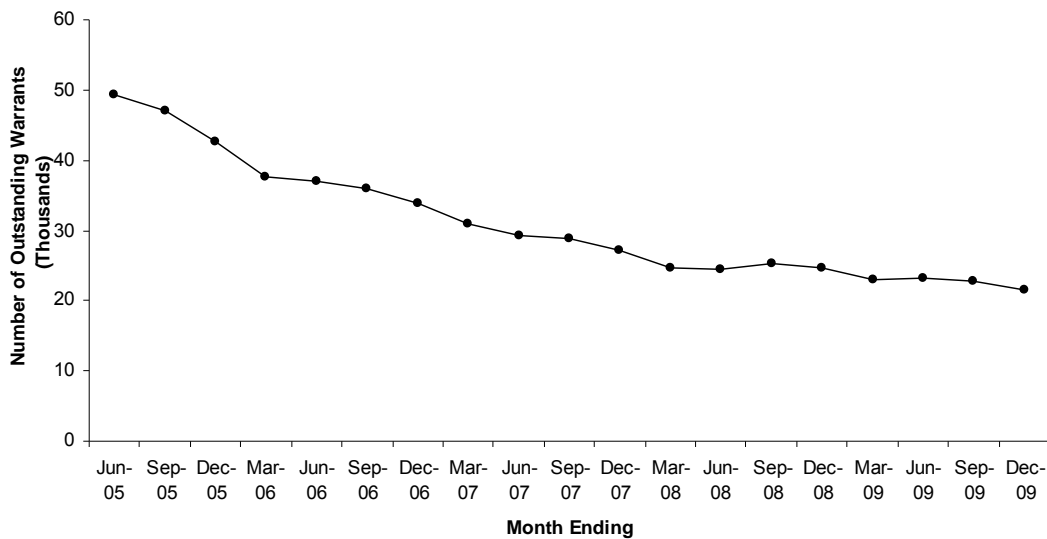
^g A restraint order is an order to freeze the assets of a suspect.

Enforcement

The payment rate for financial impositions across England and Wales was 82 per cent for April to December 2009. This compares with a payment rate of 85 per cent for April to December 2008. The payment rate is calculated by dividing the amount paid to Her Majesty's Court Service (HMCS) over a month, quarter or financial year (or year to date) by the new net amount owed^h over the same period.

The number of outstanding Failure to Appearⁱ warrants has decreased from 24,629 at the end of December 2008 to 21,496 at the end of December 2009.

Figure 3: Number of outstanding Failure to Appear warrants



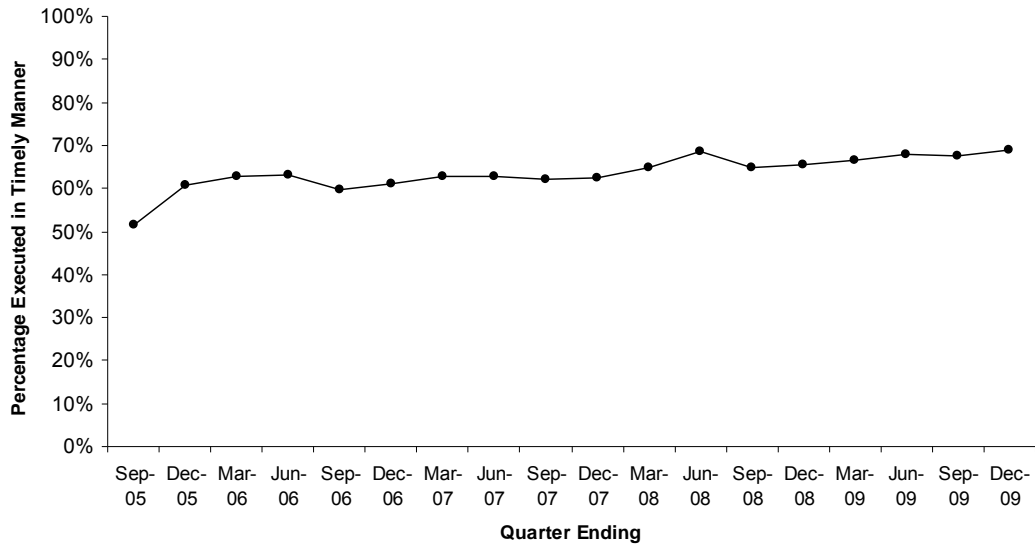
The Failure to Appear warrant stock/flow ratio was 2.9 at the end of December 2009. The stock/flow ratio was 2.6 at the end of December 2008, (the stock/flow ratio is calculated as the number of warrants outstanding at the end of the most recent month divided by the average number of warrants received monthly during the most recent 3 months).

^h Amount imposed plus net transfers minus value of fines legally cancelled minus value of fines administratively cancelled and plus the value of fines written back.

ⁱ Failure to Appear warrants are issued when a defendant commits a bail offence by failing to appear in court.

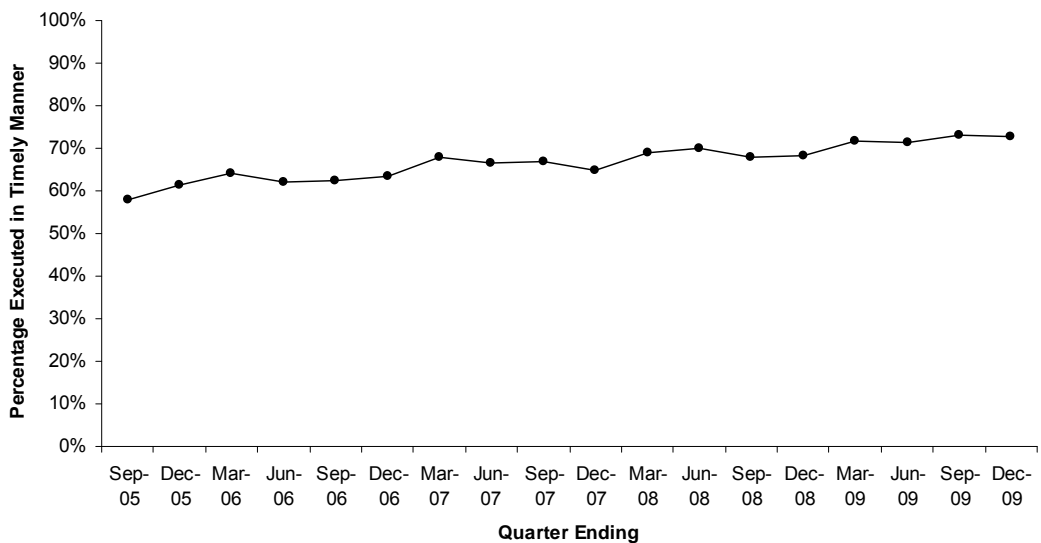
The proportion of Category A Failure to Appear warrants executed in a timely manner (within 14 days of receipt), for the quarter ending December 2009, was 69 per cent. For the quarter ending December 2008 the figure was 66 per cent.

Figure 4.1: Category A Failure to Appear warrants executed in a timely manner (within 14 days of receipt)



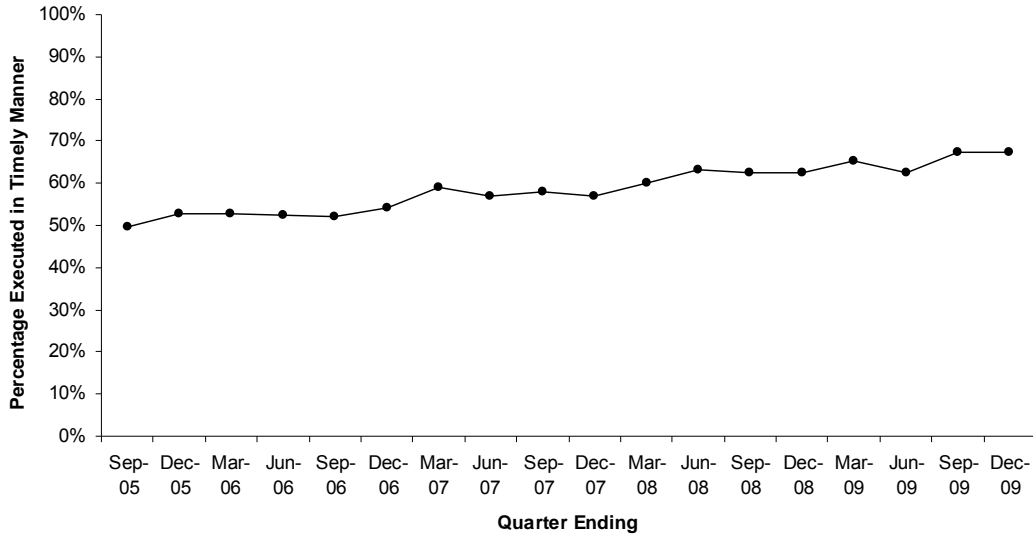
The proportion of Category B Failure to Appear warrants executed in a timely manner (within 21 days of receipt), for the quarter ending December 2009, was 73 per cent. For the quarter ending December 2008 the figure was 68 per cent.

Figure 4.2: Category B Failure to Appear warrants executed in a timely manner (within 21 days of receipt)



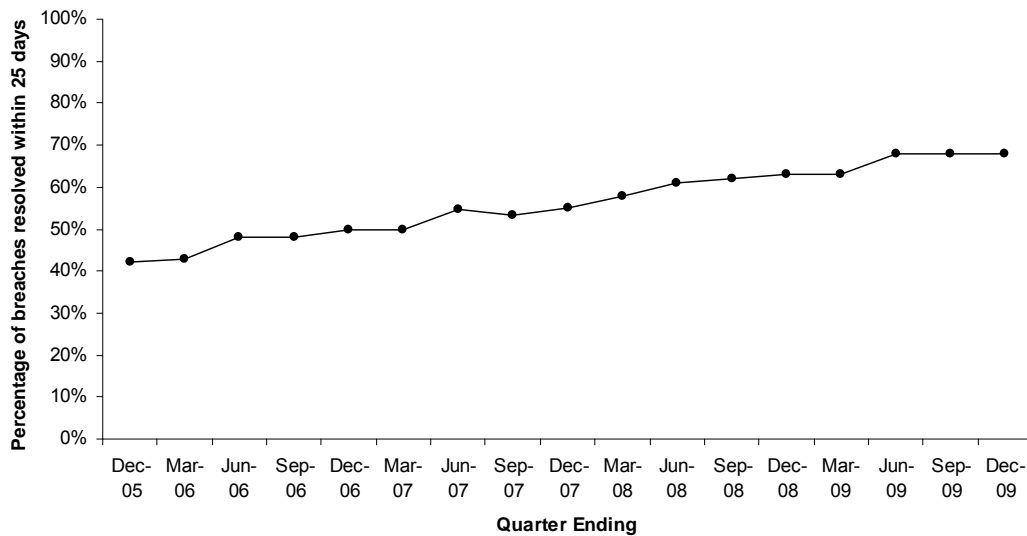
The proportion of Category C Failure to Appear warrants executed in a timely manner (within 28 days of receipt), for the quarter ending December 2009, was 68 per cent. For the quarter ending December 2008 the figure was 62 per cent.

Figure 4.3: Category C Failure to Appear warrants executed in a timely manner (within 28 days of receipt)



For the quarter ending December 2009, 68 per cent of community penalty breaches were resolved within 25 working days of the relevant Unacceptable Failure to Comply^j, compared to 63 per cent for the quarter ending December 2008.

Figure 5: The percentage of community breaches resolved within 25 working days of the relevant unacceptable failure to comply



^j The relevant Unacceptable Failure to Comply is the absence or behaviour which is deemed as unacceptable under Offender Management National Standards and is used by the offender manager/responsible officer to summons the offender to court.

Appendix A: England and Wales Criminal Justice System performance against Public Service Agreement 24

Table A1 presents performance for 12 months ending December 2009 against the baseline periods set out in the Public Service Agreement 24 (PSA 24). These baselines can be different to those in the main body of the report, which presents an overview of performance of the Criminal Justice System (CJS) in accordance with the National Statistics Code of Practice on the release of Official Statistics.

Table A1: England and Wales Criminal Justice System performance data

| Indicator | Baseline performance | Current performance (January 2009 to December 2009) | Change |
|---|------------------------|---|--------|
| Serious Violent OBTJ ⁽¹⁾ | 9,321 ^(r) | 9,554 | 2% |
| Serious Violent Recorded Crime ⁽¹⁾ | 42,473 ^(r) | 43,391 | 2% |
| Serious Sexual OBTJ ⁽²⁾ | 11,655 | 12,218 | 5% |
| Serious Sexual Recorded Crime ⁽²⁾ | 37,646 ^(r) | 37,978 | 1% |
| Serious Acquisitive OBTJ ⁽²⁾ | 119,995 | 104,176 | -13% |
| Serious Acquisitive Recorded Crime ⁽²⁾ | 963,154 ^(r) | 824,214 | -14% |
| Public Confidence in the CJS: Fairness ⁽³⁾ | 56% | 59% | +3 pp* |
| Public Confidence in the CJS: Effectiveness ⁽³⁾ | 37% | 41% | +4 pp* |
| Victim and Witness Satisfaction with the CJS ⁽³⁾ | 81% | 84% | +3 pp* |
| Victim Satisfaction with the Police ⁽⁴⁾ | 81% | 83% | +2 pp* |
| Asset Recovery ⁽⁵⁾ | - | £ 110 million ⁽⁶⁾ | |

(r) Figures are based on revised data and replace those provided in the previous bulletin (September 2009).

(1) Baseline period from April 2008 to March 2009.

(2) Baseline period from April 2007 to March 2008.

(3) Baseline period from October 2007 to March 2008.

(4) Baseline period from April 2007 to March 2008; Current performance refers to period from April 2008 to March 2009.

(5) For England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

(6) Current period from April 2009 to December 2009.

(pp) changes in survey data are in terms of percentage points (pp), i.e. the difference between two percentages.

(*) Denotes a statistically significant change at the 5 per cent significance level.

Appendix B: Public Service Agreement 24 public confidence in the fairness and the effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System

The Public Service Agreement 24 public confidence indicator is a national target. The indicator is made up of two measures: i. public confidence that the Criminal Justice System as a whole is effective, and ii. public confidence that the Criminal Justice System as a whole is fair. The PSA 24 target for public confidence in England and Wales will be met if there is a statistically significant increase (at the five per cent significance level) from the baseline (six months to March 2008^k) by the year ending March 2011 in both the 'effectiveness' and the 'fairness' measures. Local Criminal Justice Boards are not being performance managed against this target.

The proportion of people who think that the Criminal Justice System as a whole is fair (from the British Crime Survey) was 59 per cent for twelve months to December 2009, in comparison with a baseline of 56 per cent in the six months to March 2008, (statistically significant increase).

The proportion of people who think that the Criminal Justice System as a whole is effective (from the British Crime Survey) was 41 per cent for the twelve months to December 2009, in comparison with a baseline of 37 per cent for the six months to March 2008, (statistically significant increase).

There are seven lead-in questions to each of the headline measures. These were designed to ensure respondents considered the full Criminal Justice System when answering the overall fairness and effectiveness questions. The lead-in questions were not designed to provide performance information but they do provide useful indications on confidence and so the information has been published in CJS on-line: www.cjsonline.gov.uk/

^k Comparisons are made between estimates based on 12 months of data (January 2009 to December 2009) and on six months of data (October 2007 to March 2008). Six months to March 08 data are based on interviews with a representative half of the sample for this period. Previous questions on the CJS have not shown seasonality effects therefore it is not anticipated these comparisons will be influenced by this.

Appendix C: Experience of the Criminal Justice System for victims and witnesses

The PSA 24 victim and witness satisfaction indicator is a national target consisting of one question; satisfaction with overall contact with the CJS. The target will be met if there is a statistically significant increase (at the five per cent significance level) from the baseline (cases reaching their outcome in the six months from October 2007 to March 2008) by the year ending March 2011. Table A2 and A3 compare current performance on the overall satisfaction indicator, and other key measures, with the PSA 24 baseline period.

Table A2: Victim and Witness satisfaction with the CJS

| Satisfaction with the CJS | Levels of satisfaction ³ | Percentages ¹ and base sizes ² | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| | | 6 months to March 2008 ⁴ | December 2009 ⁵ |
| Satisfied with overall contact with the CJS | Satisfied | 81 | 84* |
| | Neutral | 2 | 2 |
| | Dissatisfied | 16 | 13* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>17,887</i> | <i>38,030</i> |
| Satisfied with information provided about the CJS process | Satisfied | 81 | 84* |
| | Neutral | 3 | 2* |
| | Dissatisfied | 15 | 12* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>17,887</i> | <i>38,030</i> |
| Satisfied with how well they've been kept informed of case progress | Satisfied | 75 | 79* |
| | Neutral | 2 | 2 |
| | Dissatisfied | 22 | 18* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>17,887</i> | <i>38,030</i> |
| Satisfied with the way they were treated by CJS staff | Satisfied | 89 | 91* |
| | Neutral | 2 | 2 |
| | Dissatisfied | 7 | 6* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>17,887</i> | <i>38,030</i> |
| Satisfied with how they were dealt with prior to attending court | Satisfied | 86 | 87 |
| | Neutral | 2 | 1 |
| | Dissatisfied | 12 | 11 |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>4,521</i> | <i>7,862</i> |
| Satisfied with consideration shown before giving evidence in court | Satisfied | 89 | 91* |
| | Neutral | 1 | 1 |
| | Dissatisfied | 9 | 8 |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>2,622</i> | <i>4,478</i> |
| Satisfied with court facilities | Satisfied | 84 | 87* |
| | Neutral | 2 | 2 |
| | Dissatisfied | 11 | 9* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>4,516</i> | <i>7,853</i> |
| Victims satisfied with their contact with the Youth Offending Team | Satisfied | 83 | 81 |
| | Neutral | 3 | 3 |
| | Dissatisfied | 12 | 14 |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>405</i> | <i>974</i> |
| Satisfied with the support that the Witness Service provided | Satisfied | 96 | 96 |
| | Neutral | 1 | 1 |
| | Dissatisfied | 3 | 3 |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>3,112</i> | <i>5,400</i> |
| Victims satisfied with their contact with Victim Support | Satisfied | 80 | 86* |
| | Neutral | 5 | 3* |
| | Dissatisfied | 14 | 10* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>2,162</i> | <i>5,041</i> |

* Denotes a statistically significant change at the 5 per cent significance level.

1. Percentages of victims and witnesses, unless otherwise specified.

2. The number of respondents answering each question is shown as "base" in italics.

3. Respondents indicated whether they were "completely", "very" or "fairly" satisfied /dissatisfied. These responses have been aggregated to overall categories representing 'satisfied' or 'dissatisfied'. 'Neutral' respondents stated that they were "Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied".

4. Comparisons are made between estimates based on 12 months of data and on 6 months of data (October 2007 to March 2008). It is not anticipated that these comparisons will be influenced by any seasonality effects.

5. Data are provisional.

Note. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Witness & Victim Experience Survey (OCJR)

Table A3: Victim and Witness satisfaction with the Criminal Justice System, provision of key services

| | | Percentages ¹ and base sizes ² | |
|---|-------------|--|--|
| Services offered within the CJS | | 6 months to March 2008 ³ | 12 months to December 2009 ⁴ |
| Victims offered the opportunity to make a Victim Personal Statement | Percentage | 40 | 43* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>9,868</i> | <i>19,364</i> |
| Victims who felt their views as set out in the Victim Personal Statement were taken into account during the CJS process | Percentage | 65 | 69* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>2,221</i> | <i>4,666</i> |
| Of those who required emotional/practical support, those who were offered relevant services | Percentage | 66 | 71* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>1,916</i> | <i>3,775</i> |
| Offered a court familiarisation visit before the trial | Percentage | 64 | 66* |
| | <i>Base</i> | <i>4,521</i> | <i>7,862</i> |

* Denotes a statistically significant change at the 5 per cent significance level.

1. Percentages of victims and witnesses, unless otherwise specified.

2. The number of respondents answering each question is shown as "base" in italics.

3. Comparisons are made between estimates based on 12 months of data and on 6 months of data (October 2007 to March 2008). It is not anticipated that these comparisons will be influenced by any seasonality effects.

4. Data are provisional.

Note. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Witness & Victim Experience Survey (OCJR)

Appendix D: Asset recovery raw quarterly performance data

Table A4 gives the quarterly break down of the value of assets recovered in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Table A4: Value of assets recovered each financial quarter

| Financial quarter to | Value of assets recovered (£ millions) |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Jun-07 | 28.99 |
| Sep-07 | 31.09 |
| Dec-07 | 34.27 |
| Mar-08 | 41.35 |
| Jun-08 | 33.20 |
| Sep-08 | 35.20 |
| Dec-08 | 37.30 |
| Mar-09 | 42.10 ^(r) |
| Jun-09 | 31.02 |
| Sep-09 | 26.50 |
| Dec-09 | 52.52 |

(r) revised since last quarters publication

Appendix E: Offences Brought to Justice figures by offence group for England and Wales by Criminal Justice System area

Since January 2009, the police forces in England and Wales have published recorded crime figures as online 'crime maps'. The figures are divided into five offence groups – burglary, violence, vehicle crime, robbery, and other notifiable offences. This table presents the data for Offences Brought to Justice (OBTJ) in a similar format, for use in the 'Offences Brought to Justice Crime map'. Data is provided for the 12 month period ending December 2009, and for the 12 month period ending December 2008. Crime maps are found here: <http://maps.police.uk/>

Table A5.1: Offences Brought to Justice – by offence group and LCJB area, year ending December 2008

| CJS areas | 12 months ending December 2008 | | | | | Other notifiable offences | All notifiable offences |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Burglary | Violence* | Vehicle | Robbery** | | | |
| England and Wales | 73,630 | 97,183 | 52,121 | 27,997 | 1,151,634 | 1,402,565 | |
| Avon and Somerset | 2,146 | 2,017 | 1,705 | 489 | 33,621 | 39,978 | |
| Bedfordshire | 685 | 1,427 | 483 | 354 | 10,294 | 13,243 | |
| Cambridgeshire | 996 | 1,044 | 680 | 293 | 16,108 | 19,121 | |
| Cheshire | 1,234 | 1,278 | 768 | 430 | 19,663 | 23,373 | |
| Cleveland | 1,158 | 1,364 | 659 | 378 | 18,401 | 21,960 | |
| Cumbria | 423 | 800 | 211 | 110 | 11,594 | 13,138 | |
| Derbyshire | 1,365 | 1,352 | 830 | 374 | 17,875 | 21,796 | |
| Devon and Cornwall | 1,343 | 1,693 | 943 | 396 | 27,131 | 31,506 | |
| Dorset | 450 | 668 | 269 | 195 | 12,772 | 14,354 | |
| Durham | 714 | 1,205 | 235 | 243 | 11,709 | 14,106 | |
| Dyfed Powys | 526 | 637 | 140 | 237 | 10,216 | 11,756 | |
| Essex | 1,495 | 1,822 | 1,190 | 773 | 31,414 | 36,694 | |
| Gloucestershire | 974 | 749 | 1,005 | 183 | 11,511 | 14,422 | |
| Greater Manchester | 4,057 | 5,377 | 3,216 | 1,628 | 60,477 | 74,755 | |
| Gwent | 496 | 953 | 478 | 123 | 13,747 | 15,797 | |
| Hampshire | 1,576 | 2,230 | 647 | 496 | 36,726 | 41,675 | |
| Hertfordshire | 1,385 | 1,955 | 852 | 347 | 20,639 | 25,178 | |
| Humberside | 1,414 | 1,661 | 894 | 340 | 23,131 | 27,440 | |
| Kent | 2,187 | 2,377 | 1,822 | 650 | 33,644 | 40,680 | |
| Lancashire | 2,655 | 2,809 | 2,022 | 791 | 35,353 | 43,630 | |
| Leicestershire | 1,488 | 1,391 | 951 | 467 | 19,096 | 23,393 | |
| Lincolnshire | 935 | 1,054 | 177 | 177 | 13,010 | 15,353 | |
| London | 11,961 | 18,266 | 6,783 | 7,466 | 190,452 | 234,928 | |
| Merseyside | 1,940 | 2,312 | 1,443 | 620 | 40,597 | 46,912 | |
| Norfolk | 1,089 | 819 | 1,198 | 210 | 16,862 | 20,178 | |
| North Wales | 768 | 1,016 | 561 | 232 | 16,210 | 18,787 | |
| North Yorkshire | 616 | 854 | 362 | 178 | 14,325 | 16,335 | |
| Northamptonshire | 1,059 | 1,722 | 863 | 354 | 10,620 | 14,618 | |
| Northumbria | 2,040 | 3,405 | 1,894 | 553 | 37,450 | 45,342 | |
| Nottinghamshire | 2,308 | 3,045 | 1,035 | 552 | 20,205 | 27,145 | |
| South Wales | 1,919 | 2,052 | 1,491 | 829 | 27,126 | 33,417 | |
| South Yorkshire | 2,988 | 4,663 | 4,394 | 689 | 30,073 | 42,807 | |
| Staffordshire | 1,166 | 2,268 | 649 | 303 | 17,813 | 22,199 | |
| Suffolk | 601 | 1,499 | 437 | 204 | 14,464 | 17,205 | |
| Surrey | 504 | 822 | 363 | 369 | 14,606 | 16,664 | |
| Sussex | 1,022 | 1,946 | 510 | 569 | 28,197 | 32,244 | |
| Thames Valley | 2,117 | 2,356 | 1,897 | 939 | 43,155 | 50,464 | |
| Warwickshire | 582 | 1,000 | 482 | 134 | 8,400 | 10,598 | |
| West Mercia | 1,169 | 1,704 | 675 | 340 | 22,457 | 26,345 | |
| West Midlands | 3,190 | 6,890 | 1,688 | 2,001 | 57,751 | 71,520 | |
| West Yorkshire | 6,229 | 3,924 | 4,592 | 1,733 | 41,777 | 58,255 | |
| Wiltshire | 660 | 757 | 627 | 248 | 10,962 | 13,254 | |

Table A5.2: Offences Brought to Justice – by offence group and LCJB area, year ending December 2009

| CJS areas | 12 months ending December 2009 | | | | | Other | All |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----|
| | Burglary | Violence* | Vehicle | Robbery** | Other notifiable offences | All notifiable offences | |
| England and Wales | 66,192 | 89,310 | 43,820 | 25,627 | 1,060,415 | 1,285,364 | |
| Avon and Somerset | 1,650 | 1,856 | 1,147 | 444 | 30,596 | 35,693 | |
| Bedfordshire | 740 | 1,285 | 296 | 303 | 9,038 | 11,662 | |
| Cambridgeshire | 909 | 1,055 | 691 | 410 | 14,477 | 17,542 | |
| Cheshire | 991 | 1,207 | 850 | 383 | 17,264 | 20,695 | |
| Cleveland | 978 | 1,313 | 716 | 285 | 17,877 | 21,169 | |
| Cumbria | 342 | 754 | 176 | 132 | 10,108 | 11,512 | |
| Derbyshire | 1,052 | 1,234 | 667 | 316 | 14,808 | 18,077 | |
| Devon and Cornwall | 1,409 | 1,763 | 1,030 | 361 | 26,908 | 31,471 | |
| Dorset | 513 | 703 | 277 | 142 | 10,424 | 12,059 | |
| Durham | 696 | 1,204 | 297 | 185 | 11,665 | 14,047 | |
| Dyfed Powys | 440 | 586 | 128 | 181 | 9,916 | 11,251 | |
| Essex | 2,094 | 2,026 | 1,586 | 742 | 31,270 | 37,718 | |
| Gloucestershire | 873 | 663 | 589 | 158 | 9,772 | 12,055 | |
| Greater Manchester | 3,807 | 5,215 | 2,025 | 1,471 | 50,018 | 62,536 | |
| Gwent | 522 | 1,008 | 343 | 72 | 13,092 | 15,037 | |
| Hampshire | 1,576 | 2,126 | 664 | 521 | 34,171 | 39,058 | |
| Hertfordshire | 1,445 | 1,843 | 972 | 365 | 19,617 | 24,242 | |
| Humberside | 1,343 | 1,721 | 741 | 334 | 20,371 | 24,510 | |
| Kent | 2,008 | 2,348 | 1,534 | 550 | 32,269 | 38,709 | |
| Lancashire | 2,361 | 2,765 | 1,849 | 609 | 32,675 | 40,259 | |
| Leicestershire | 1,414 | 1,303 | 1,001 | 425 | 17,032 | 21,175 | |
| Lincolnshire | 548 | 954 | 220 | 138 | 11,471 | 13,331 | |
| London | 9,867 | 12,140 | 5,285 | 7,217 | 179,917 | 214,426 | |
| Merseyside | 1,857 | 2,375 | 1,188 | 554 | 36,877 | 42,851 | |
| Norfolk | 890 | 812 | 686 | 217 | 13,131 | 15,736 | |
| North Wales | 595 | 1,005 | 299 | 269 | 16,333 | 18,501 | |
| North Yorkshire | 711 | 921 | 413 | 219 | 13,752 | 16,016 | |
| Northamptonshire | 580 | 1,730 | 404 | 238 | 10,239 | 13,191 | |
| Northumbria | 1,509 | 3,317 | 1,127 | 557 | 35,501 | 42,011 | |
| Nottinghamshire | 1,608 | 3,420 | 920 | 590 | 20,671 | 27,209 | |
| South Wales | 1,591 | 2,206 | 1,318 | 589 | 28,010 | 33,714 | |
| South Yorkshire | 3,029 | 4,189 | 4,539 | 681 | 28,829 | 41,267 | |
| Staffordshire | 852 | 1,810 | 405 | 364 | 14,876 | 18,307 | |
| Suffolk | 485 | 1,395 | 278 | 141 | 13,081 | 15,380 | |
| Surrey | 584 | 782 | 257 | 323 | 13,077 | 15,023 | |
| Sussex | 1,100 | 2,638 | 466 | 556 | 29,868 | 34,628 | |
| Thames Valley | 1,642 | 2,044 | 1,105 | 828 | 33,422 | 39,041 | |
| Warwickshire | 432 | 833 | 239 | 93 | 7,257 | 8,854 | |
| West Mercia | 818 | 1,647 | 572 | 312 | 19,339 | 22,688 | |
| West Midlands | 3,212 | 6,588 | 1,798 | 1,869 | 49,026 | 62,493 | |
| West Yorkshire | 6,452 | 3,766 | 4,328 | 1,247 | 42,004 | 57,797 | |
| Wiltshire | 667 | 760 | 394 | 236 | 10,366 | 12,423 | |

(1) The count of Offences Brought to Justice (OBTJ) was introduced in 2000 to measure the performance of the Criminal Justice System in England and Wales. An offence is considered to have been brought to justice when a notifiable (recorded) offence results in an offender being cautioned, convicted, receiving a penalty notices for disorder or a cannabis warning, or has the offence taken into consideration.

(2) The number of Offences Brought to Justice (OBTJ) is in part affected by the number of recorded crimes in an area. If recorded crime in an area falls there will be fewer offences which can potentially be brought to justice.

(3) It is important to note that there is a difference in the method of counting offences between the recorded crime figures and the Offences Brought to Justice (OBTJ) measure. A single recorded crime can result in more than one conviction or caution and can therefore lead to more than one offence being counted as brought to justice. For example; if a crime is recorded and as result three offenders are convicted each for two offences against the same victim, this counts as a single recorded crime but as six offences brought to justice. In addition, for most offences there will be a delay between the offence being recorded and it being brought to justice; this may result in it being included in the recorded crime figures for one period and the OBTJ figures for a later period. Thirdly, a crime may be brought to justice as a different offence to the offence which was recorded originally. E.g. an offence which was recorded as Actual Bodily Harm (ABH) could, following investigation, result in a conviction for common assault, which would put it outside the violence category. These factors should be borne in mind when the two series are being compared.

(4) The numbers of Offences Brought to Justice (OBTJ) for 2008 and 2009 are un-validated data from the courts service and police administrative systems, therefore provided as management information only as they are provisional and likely to change. All administrative systems by their nature can update information previously held;

business process means that some information relating to a period already published can be subsequently included or amended. Specifically, these counts of OBTJ are updated from the figures previously published in the quarterly Criminal Justice System Performance Information bulletin. The final OBTJ counts will be published as 'National Statistics' in Criminal Statistics England & Wales, available annually on the Ministry of Justice website.

(5) Both the Offences Brought to Justice (OBTJ) and recorded crime data included in the crime maps cover the same offence groups. It should be noted these offence groups are aggregates of offences published elsewhere in 'Criminal Statistics England & Wales' and 'Crime in England & Wales'.

(6) Data shown as available at 23/04/2010.

(7) Excludes prosecutions/convictions/remands data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July and August 2008. See explanatory notes for further information.

(8) Excludes PND data for December 2009 for Cumbria, S. Yorkshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands and Wiltshire; PND data for November 2009 for Hampshire and West Midlands; and PND data for October 2009 for Hampshire as these data are not yet available. The forces are currently conducting a reconciliation exercise covering all PNDs issued in 2009.

*Violence includes murder, attempted murder, manslaughter and wounding (including malicious wounding).

**Robbery includes theft from the person.

Explanatory notes

This bulletin covers the quarterly release of information on the key metrics about the Criminal Justice System.

In addition Appendices A, B and C report on performance against Public Service Agreement 24 (PSA 24). PSA 24 aimed to “Deliver a more effective, transparent and responsive Criminal Justice System for victims and for the public”.

More information on PSA 24 can be found at:

http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pbr_csr07_psacommunities.htm

Release policy

Quarterly information on the performance of the CJS (including performance at LCJB level) has been published since October 2003. Archive data since May 2005 is available at: www.cjsonline.gov.uk/aims_and_objectives/performance_figures/

The data in this Bulletin was classified as Official Statistics in September 2009 and is produced to the standards set out in the UK Statistics Authority’s Code of Practice for Official Statistics: www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html

Key quality issues

Revisions

All statistics quoted in this quarterly bulletin are provisional and subject to revision unless otherwise stated. Throughout the tables in this bulletin, all period figures denoted by (r) are based on revised data and replace those provided in the last bulletin. Data is finalised following the publication of the Criminal Statistics Annual Report, the next publication is due at the end of 2010.

Issues

Data for Victim satisfaction with the police is the same as published in the previous quarter. This data is only available on an annual basis.

During 2008, data (prosecutions, convictions and remands data) from Cardiff Magistrates’ court for April, July and August were corrupted during the transmission to the Ministry of Justice. Despite all efforts by the court staff and IT departments it has proved impossible to retrieve the information. This data is excluded from this report.

Reliability

Every effort is made to ensure that the figures presented in this publication are accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that some of this data has been extracted by the courts and police forces from a variety of administrative data systems and the detail supplied is therefore subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale recording system. It is important that users of the data take these limitations into account when using and interpreting the data presented in this bulletin.

Survey Quality

The data on public confidence and victim and witness satisfaction are based on sample surveys, the British Crime Survey (BCS) and Witness and Victim Experience Survey (WAVES). Surveys are subject to sampling and non sampling errors. The BCS and WAVES are high quality surveys, nevertheless limitations remain. With the regard to sampling error, the margins of error can be calculated. In this bulletin estimates over time are described as differences only when they are statistically significant¹. Information on confidence intervals is available on request from the Ministry of Justice Statistical team.

Definitions

Effectiveness and efficiency of the Criminal Justice System in bringing offences to justice

Bringing offences to justice is a key measure of the effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System. An offence is said to have been brought to justice when a recorded crime results in an offender being convicted, cautioned, issued with a penalty notice for disorder or a cannabis warning, or having an offence taken into consideration. The number of Offences Brought to Justice (OBTJs) is in part affected by the number of recorded crimes in an area. If recorded crime in an area falls there will be fewer offences which can potentially be brought to justice.

Comparing the volume of OBTJs with the volume of recorded crime provides a proxy measure of the effectiveness of the CJS in bringing crime to justice. However, there are differences in how recorded crime and OBTJs are measured that mean caution should be applied when comparing the two. For example: an offence may be brought to justice in a different period to the corresponding recorded crime, one crime could result in a number of offenders brought to justice (e.g. a gang committing a burglary), and a crime recorded by the police as one offence (e.g. GBH) may, once all the evidence has been considered, be subsequently brought to justice as an alternative offence (e.g. ABH). England and Wales data excludes British Transport Police.

¹ Tests of statistical significance are used to identify which differences are unlikely to have occurred by chance. In this bulletin tests at the 5% significance levels have been applied, the level at which there is a one in twenty chance of an observed difference being solely due to chance.

The PSA 24 effectiveness and efficiency target was to demonstrate improvement in bringing serious violent, sexual and acquisitive offences to justice by the end of 2010/11, while also reducing the budgeted CJS spend in bringing offences to justice over the same period.

Success in bringing each of these categories of offences to justice required that any percentage change in the number of offences brought to justice (OBTJs) from the baseline year was greater than the percentage change in the number of recorded crimes over the same period.

For example, if recorded crime increased by 2%, the number of OBTJs must increase by more than 2%, while a 3% fall in recorded crime (a change of -3%) would require a smaller drop in the number of OBTJs (a change of a value greater than -3%, i.e. -2%, -1%, 0% or a positive value).

Public confidence in the fairness and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System

The level of public confidence in the fairness and effectiveness of the CJS is measured through the British Crime Survey.

For each of these, the measure is the proportion of those interviewed who say that they are 'very' or 'fairly' confident, recorded from a four point scale. Don't know and refusal responses are excluded. The questions asked are as follows:

- How confident are you that the CJS as a whole is effective?
- How confident are you that the CJS as a whole is fair?

These questions follow lead-in questions covering issues of effectiveness and fairness.

The British Crime Survey is a face-to-face survey run by the Home Office, in which people resident in households in England and Wales are asked about their experiences of crime and their attitudes towards different crime-related issues such as the police and Criminal Justice System.

In 2008/09, 46,286 respondents aged 16 and over were interviewed (a response rate of 76%). The survey is weighted to adjust for possible non-response bias and ensure the sample reflects the profile of the general population.

Further information on the British Crime Survey can be found at:
www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/hosb1109vol2.pdf

Additional data from the British Crime Survey on public confidence in the Criminal Justice System, including the results from the lead-in questions, can be found at:
www.cjsonline.gov.uk/

The PSA 24 confidence target was to achieve a statistically significant increase across England and Wales (at the five per cent significance level) in both measures from their baseline (six months to March 2008) by the year ending March 2011.

Experience of the Criminal Justice System for victims and witnesses

Victim and Witness satisfaction with the CJS is measured through the Witness and Victim Experience Survey (WAVES).

WAVES is a national quarterly telephone survey of victims and witnesses focusing exclusively on victims and prosecution witnesses involved in cases which resulted in a criminal charge and which have been closed (i.e. an outcome or verdict has been reached, either at court or because the case was dropped by the prosecution)^m. It includes victims and witnesses who attend court as well as those who do not. The survey, undertaken by Ipsos-MORI, conducts over 37,000 interviews a year.

WAVES covers victims and prosecution witnesses aged 18 and over in the following crime types; violence against the person; robbery; burglary; criminal damage; theft and handling stolen goods. Victims and witnesses in sensitive cases, such as, sexual offences or domestic violence, crimes involving a fatality, and any crime where the defendant was a family member or a member of the witnesses' or victims' household, are not included on ethical grounds. Cases involving drug and motoring offences are excluded. It also excludes police officers or other CJS officials assaulted in the course of duty, and all police or expert witnesses.

WAVES asks victims and witnesses in cases where an offender was charged about all aspects of their experiences with the CJS, from their first contact with the police to their experience at court. Interviews ask people about the extent to which they were satisfied with the services they received.

WAVES data relate to the period in which the case was finalised by the CJS, rather than the interview period. Towards the end of the survey respondents are asked:

- *Overall, were you satisfied with the contact you've had with the Criminal Justice System (CJS)?*

The measure is the proportion of those interviewed who say that they are 'completely', 'very' or 'fairly' satisfied, recorded from a seven point scale. Refusals are excluded.

Respondents are questioned about their experiences of the Criminal Justice System rather than about their case. Therefore seasonality is not expected within the data.

Data are weighted to adjust to the known proportion of victims and witnesses in each area (as indicated by the sample leads provided by Local Criminal Justice Boards) and to adjust for the different sized victim and witness populations between Local Criminal Justice Boards. The weighted distribution of respondents

^m Local Criminal Justice Boards responsible for collecting samples are advised to consider anyone as a victim if they were the injured party in a case, regardless of whether they gave evidence in court. All others who were not the injured party are considered as witnesses. Anyone who gave a witness statement and was listed as a witness is eligible for inclusion, regardless of whether they gave evidence in court. At the beginning of the telephone interview, respondents are asked to clarify whether they were a victim or a witness. This self-classification measure is used for analysis.

matches the known distribution of victims and witnesses as a whole. Data are not weighted by crime type.

Further details can be found at:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100402221729/http://lcjb.cjsonline.gov.uk/ncjb/114.html>

WAVES asks respondents about their experiences of a number of key services. These include:

Victim Personal Statement (VPS) - The VPS is a written statement that victims can give to the police. It is different from the witness statement, which is a written or video-recorded account of what happened when the crime was committed. The VPS is a record of the personal impact that the crime has had on the victim. It gives the victim a chance to explain, in their own words, how the crime has affected them – whether physically, emotionally, financially or in any other way.

Victim Support - Victim Support is a national charity for victims and witnesses of crime in England and Wales. They give information and offer emotional support and practical help to victims of crime, their family, friends and anyone else affected.

Witness Service - The Witness Service is run by the national charity Victim Support in every criminal court in England and Wales. It is separate from the police, CPS, courts and Witness Care Units. Witness Service volunteers provide help and support on the day of the trial to witnesses and victims who attend court.

Youth Offending Team - Youth Offending Teams are made up of representatives from the police, Probation Service, social services, health, education, drugs and alcohol misuse and housing officers. They are responsible for addressing offending by those up to the age of 17.

The PSA victim and witness satisfaction target would be met if, over the three year period from the baseline, there was a statistically significant increase (at the five per cent significance level) in the proportion of victims and witnesses that are satisfied with their overall contact with the CJS. In addition to the national (England and Wales) PSA target, LCJB areas had set their own local targets to strive to improve victim and witness satisfaction at a local level. The baseline period covers cases closed six months to March 2008 (i.e. October 2007 to March 2008).

Increasing satisfaction with the police

The level of satisfaction with police is measured through police user satisfaction surveys. The level of satisfaction for each of these measures is defined as the percentage of respondents who say that they are 'completely', 'very' or 'fairly' satisfied, recorded from a seven point scale.

The PSA 24 target was to achieve a statistically significant increase in the percentage of satisfied respondents across England and Wales (at the five per cent significance level) from the baseline (12 months to March 2008) by the year ending March 2011. Over the same time there should be no statistically significant decrease in the percentage of respondents who were completely or very satisfied.

Further information on the police user satisfaction survey can be found at:
http://tna.europarchive.org/20100419081706/http://www.police.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/performance-and-measurement/US_Guidance_2008-09_Revised1.html

Recovery of criminal assets

Asset recovery comprises:

- Confiscation (about 62 per cent of monies recovered at the end of December 2009);
- Cash forfeiture (about 30 per cent);
- Civil recovery and tax recovery (about 8 per cent);
- International asset sharing (less than 1 per cent).

Multiple agencies including Police Forces, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, Crown Prosecution Service, Her Majesty's Court Service, Serious Fraud Office, Serious Organised Crime Agency – all do asset recovery work and contribute to the total amount collected.

Increasing the recovery of assets acquired through criminal activity was a key PSA target for the 2009/10 financial year. Indicator 5 of PSA 24 was to recover criminal assets worth £250 million in 2009/10 across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Confiscation

The England and Wales financial year to date figure includes the data from the 42 CJS areas and additionally the British Transport Police, UK Border Agency, East Midlands Special Operations Unit and Trading Standards. Orders included for the 42 CJS areas are those that have been investigated by a Police Force or a Regional Asset Recovery Team and prosecuted by the Crown Prosecution Service.

The impliedⁿ national (England and Wales) confiscation enforcement target for 2009/10 was to collect £71 million from the enforcement of confiscation orders. This applies only to orders enforced by HMCS or CPS Branch. The target was supported by the national confiscation pipeline target to obtain new confiscation and restraint orders in 2009/10 such that the:

- Value of confiscation orders obtained = £107 million
- Volume of confiscation orders obtained = 4,743
- Volume of restraint orders obtained = 1,062

Fine enforcement

The payment rate for financial impositions is calculated by dividing the amount paid to Her Majesty's Court Service over a month, quarter or financial year (or year to date) by the new net amount owed over the same period. The new net amount owed is the amount imposed plus net transfers minus value of fines legally cancelled minus the value of fines administratively cancelled and plus the amount of fines written back.

ⁿ The implied national target is the sum of Local Criminal Justice Board targets.

Since fines are not always imposed and paid within the same reporting period, it is possible to have a payment rate above 100 per cent. Similarly, the payment rate can be deflated if imposed orders are included where the required payment date has not yet been reached and the fine has not yet been paid.

The national (England and Wales) fines payment rate target was set at 85 per cent for 2009/10.

Defendant attendance

Failure to Appear warrants are issued when defendants fail to comply with bail, and ensure that defendants who commit a Bail Act offence by failing to appear are dealt with for that offence when they are brought back to court.

Warrants are categorised by the police on receipt as either A, B or C according to their priority. Category A warrants are for serious original offences or offenders posing a higher risk whereas Category C warrants are for low level offences. Better performance is indicated by a higher percentage.

The stock/flow ratio is calculated as the number of warrants outstanding at the end of the most recent month divided by the average number of warrants received monthly during the most recent 3 months, better performance is indicated by a lower stock/flow ratio.

The implied^o national (England and Wales) timeliness of execution of warrant targets were:

- 73 per cent of category A warrants to be executed within 14 days
- 72 per cent of category B warrants to be executed within 21 days
- 67 per cent of category C warrants to be executed within 28 days

Local targets played an important role in achieving this.

Community penalties

The National Offender Management Service, Her Majesty's Court Service, the National Probation Service, the Youth Justice Board, Youth Offending Teams, the Police, electronic monitoring contractors and the Office for Criminal Justice Reform work closely together to secure improvements in the compliance with and enforcement of community penalties.

The relevant failure to comply is the absence or behaviour which is deemed as unacceptable under National Standards and is used by the offender manager/responsible officer to summons the offender to court.

Further information on the probation National Standards can be found at:

www.probation2000.com/

The implied^o national (England and Wales) target was to resolve 62 per cent of community penalty breaches within 25 working days of the date of the Relevant Failure to Comply.

^o The implied national target is calculated from the Local Criminal Justice Board targets.

Contact points for further information

Further information on all of the PSA 24 performance indicators can be found on the Criminal Justice System website at:

www.cjsonline.gov.uk/aims_and_objectives/how_performance_is_measured/

The PSA 24 Delivery Agreement can be found on the HM Treasury website at:

www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/pbr_csr07_psa24.pdf

Latest copies of this and other Ministry of Justice statistical bulletins are available at: www.justice.gov.uk/publications/statistics.htm

This data is available broken down by Local Criminal Justice Board area at:

www.cjsonline.gov.uk/aims_and_objectives/performance_figures/

Further information on recorded crime and public confidence can be found at:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100418065544/http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime-victims/crime-statistics/>

Further information on victim satisfaction with the police can be found at:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100418065544/http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime-victims/victims/index.html>

Further information on the British Crime Survey can be found at:

www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/bcs1.html

Further information on crime maps can be found at: www.maps.police.uk/

Press enquiries should be directed to the Ministry of Justice press office:

Tel: 020 3334 3555

Email: newsdesk@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to:

Office for Criminal Justice Reform
Evidence and Analysis
7th Floor
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ

General enquiries about the statistical work of the Ministry of Justice can be e-mailed to: esd@justice.gsi.gov.uk

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

www.statistics.gov.uk

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