



Ministry of
JUSTICE

Estimates of Initial court hearing outcomes of suspects involved in recent disturbances

Using data available as at midday 5 September 2011

Background

This note presents analysis of the outcome of the initial court hearings for those involved in offences either directly related to the disturbances or heavily influenced by the disturbances. This is based on management information received from the courts and covers all cases where the courts and prosecutors determine it to be related to the disturbances.

These figures should be treated as provisional and will be revised as more information becomes available.

Results

Table 1 – Summary of Suspects brought before the courts for offences relating to the disturbances of 6th to 9th August 2011

Outcome of initial court hearings

England and Wales

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	139	60	44	251	758	32	1284
<i>Juvenile</i>	19	52	7	148	105	15	346
<i>Not known</i>							
Total	158	112	51	399	863	47	1630

1,630 suspects have had an initial hearing at a magistrates' court based on the data available at midday on 5th September. The majority of these hearings were in London (66 per cent).

For those cases where the age is known, 21 per cent (346) were aged 10-17 and 1,284 were adults. From the information currently available around 91 per cent of defendants are male.

For those cases where the defendant is currently on remand, 66 per cent were remanded in custody. By comparison in 2010, 10 per cent of people brought before magistrates' courts were remanded in custody.

As cases are being progressed we will also be collecting any data which has yet to be received centrally on age and initial outcome of hearing.

Where information is available it is estimated that 77 per cent of adults have a caution or conviction for a previous criminal offence. Other information on criminal histories has yet to be validated and the further information on criminal histories will be released on 15 September 2011.

Sentencing – Magistrates' courts

Of those cases where the defendant has been convicted and sentenced, 45 per cent received a custodial sentence, with an average custodial sentence length (ACSL) of 5.1 months. For equivalent offences convicted and sentenced in 2010 the ACSL was 2.5 months and the custody rate was 12.3 per cent. Due to the low volume of cases sentenced in the Crown Court these sentences are not yet being reported in this bulletin.

Table 2 – Sentencing Comparison for offenders convicted following the August 2011 Public Disturbances, with similar offences⁽¹⁾ committed in 2010.

	For offences committed during the recent disturbances				During 2010			
	Total sentenced	Sentenced to custody	Custody rate (%)	Average custodial sentence length (months)	Total sentenced	Sentenced to custody	Custody rate (%)	Average custodial sentence length (months)
Juvenile (youth courts)	69	18	26.1	7.6	34,796	1,843	5.3	7.3
Adult - Magistrates' court	122	69	56.6	4.5	166,746	22,867	13.7	2.1
All ages - Magistrates courts	191	87	45.5	5.1	201,542	24,710	12.3	2.5

(1) Offences of: Violent disorder, Burglary, Robbery, Theft, Affray, Assault/obstructing a police officer, criminal damage, breach of the peace and possession of offensive weapons

Table 3 – Area Summaries of Suspects brought before the courts for offences relating to the disturbances of 6th to 9th August 2011.

London

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	63	23	27	179	555	26	873
<i>Juvenile</i>	7	22	5	78	80	11	203
<i>Not known</i>							
Total	70	45	32	257	635	37	1076

West Midlands

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	21	5	9	21	50	5	111
<i>Juvenile</i>	3	2		13	8	1	27
Total	24	7	9	34	58	6	138

Nottingham

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	2	4	2	9	28		45
<i>Juvenile</i>		2		16	2		20
Total	2	6	2	25	30		65

Greater Manchester

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	49	10		7	74	1	141
<i>Juvenile</i>	8	20		18	2	1	49
<i>Not known</i>							
Total	57	30		25	76	2	190

Merseyside

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	2	16	2	10	14		44
<i>Juvenile</i>		2		13	7	2	24
Total	2	18	2	23	21	2	68

Other

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	2	2	4	25	37		70
<i>Juvenile</i>	1	4	2	10	6		23
<i>Not known</i>							
Total	3	6	6	35	43		93

Future publications

It is intended to release data on this basis on the 8th and 13th of September. A more detailed release will be published on the 15th of September containing detailed information on age, gender, offence committed, sentence given, and previous criminal history.

On the 15th of September I will announce my intentions for future publications on this topic.

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