



Ministry  
of Justice

## **Statistical Notice**

Further breakdowns of criminal histories of offenders and proven re-offending

31 March 2014



## Background

This ad-hoc statistical notice presents further breakdowns of already published information on criminal histories and proven re-offending.

Further details on criminal histories can be found in the *Criminal Justice Statistics Quarterly Bulletin* which was last published on 20 February 2014 and covered the 12 months ending September 2013:

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly)

Further details on proven re-offending can be found in the *Proven Re-offending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin* which was last published on 30 January 2014 and covered the 12 months ending March 2012:

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics)

Users should refer to the bulletins listed above and their accompanying *definitions and user guide* documents (also available at the link above) for full explanations of the terms used in this statistical notice, and for commentary to help interpret these results. In particular, it is important to note that these figures have been derived from the Ministry of Justice extract of the Police National Computer. This administrative dataset hold details of all convictions (and cautions) for recordable offences dealt with in England and Wales but does not capture outcomes from some summary offences, such as television licence evasion and speeding.

There are 2 additional breakdowns presented within this statistical notice.

- Table 1 shows the number of offenders sentenced in the 12 months ending September 2013, broken down by the number of previous convictions for each offender and the police force who processed their latest offence. It should be noted that, as in the *Criminal Statistics Quarterly Bulletin*, these figures are based on the number of occasions over the year that offenders were sentenced. As such, some offenders will be represented several times in the table.
- Table 2 shows the number of adult offenders who were released from custodial sentences of less than 12 months between 2005 and 2011; and the number that committed an offence of burglary, theft, a sexual offence or an offence of violence against the person within one year of their release, by probation trust. A proven re-offence is defined as any offence committed in a 12 month follow-up period and resulting in a court conviction or caution in either the 12 month follow-up or within a further six month waiting period (to allow time for the offence to be proven in court).

Figures in Table 2 are calculated differently to those in Table 1 as they are based on a count of individual offenders, rather than sentencing occasions (where offenders convicted on more than one occasion during the year will be represented several times). However, an offender can appear in more than one re-offence group, e.g. if an offender commits a burglary and a sexual offence within 12 months of their release, they will be counted once under 'Burglary' and once under 'Sexual offence'. These figures are also broken down by the probation trust area where the offender was resident at the time of their most recent offence, whereas Table 1 is broken down by the police force involved in processing the latest offence.

## Contacts

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General enquiries about the statistical work of the Ministry of Justice can be e-mailed to: [statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk)

General information about the official statistics system of the UK is available from: [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)

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