



Ministry of
JUSTICE

Statistical notice

Additional statistics on prisoners
serving indeterminate sentences and
changes to Youth Justice Statistics

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Additional statistics relating to prisoners serving indeterminate sentences and changes to Youth Justice Statistics

Introduction

1. Additional summary statistics on tariff length for prisoners serving indeterminate sentences are to be included in the Offender Management Statistics Quarterly Bulletin.
2. Changes have been made to the Youth Justice Statistics to give users information on the flow of young people through the criminal justice system. This meets one of the recommendations from the “Overcoming Barriers to Trust in Crime Statistics” report by the UK Statistics Authority.

Summary

Statistics relating to prisoners serving indeterminate sentences

3. These additional statistics will present the number of prisoners serving Indeterminate Sentences for Public Protection and Life sentences, indicating the tariff length and whether or not the tariff expiry date has passed.
3. Until now no regular data on tariff lengths has been published. Following the publication of the green paper on sentencing reform in December 2010 and the introduction of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders’ Bill in June 2011 there has been an increased interest in tariff length for indeterminate sentences. Commencing on 26 January 2012 with figures for 31 December 2011 this data will be published quarterly in the prison population section of the Offender Management Statistics Quarterly bulletin and tables.
4. IPPs (and DPPs for young offenders) and life sentences are jointly classified as ‘indeterminate sentences’. Figures previously published in the population section of Offender Management Statistics Quarterly Bulletin focus on indeterminate sentences overall, rather than providing separate figures for life and IPP sentences. However, release and recall data are already provided separately for IPPs in the relevant sections of the Offender Management Statistics Quarterly Bulletin:
www.justice.gov.uk/publications/statistics-and-data/prisons-and-probation/oms-quarterly.htm
5. Information relating to IPP, DPP and life sentence tariff lengths is held by the Offender Management and Public Protection Group, NOMS in the Public Protection Database. The data to be published comes from this management information source.
6. The sentence of Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) was created by the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and implemented for offences committed after 4 April 2005. The sentence of Detention for Public Protection applies for offenders under 18 years of age. The aim was to create a sentence that would allow for the indefinite detention of offenders deemed to be dangerous but whose offence was not serious enough to merit a life sentence. An IPP sentence is very similar to a life sentence. The court must set a tariff, or minimum term, which the offender must serve in prison; this reflects the seriousness of the crime. After the tariff has expired, the offender may apply regularly to the Parole Board for release. If released, the offender will be on licence for at least 10 years. The Criminal

Justice and Immigration Act (CJIA) 2008 revised the rules for IPPs, introducing a minimum tariff of 2 years. This was designed to help reduce the growth in the prison population.

Youth Justice Statistics

7. For 2010/11 the Youth Justice Statistics will focus on looking at the trends and flows of young people through the Youth Justice Statistics and where possible uses data from official MoJ sources, Home Office and YJB data to provide a consistent narrative.

The publication can be found at:

www.justice.gov.uk/publications/statistics-and-data/youth-justice/statistics.htm

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