



Ministry  
of Justice

# **Justice Data Lab Statistics**

## **June 2014**

12<sup>th</sup> June 2014



# Ministry of Justice

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## **Introduction**

This report presents a summary of the requests for re-offending information through the Justice Data Lab for the period 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2014.

This report has been produced and published in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. This report will be updated and published on the second Thursday of each month for the duration of the Justice Data Lab pilot.

### **What is the Justice Data Lab initiative and how does it work?**

The Justice Data Lab has been launched as a pilot from April 2013. During the pilot, a small team from Analytical Services within the Ministry of Justice (the Justice Data Lab team) is supporting organisations that provide offender services by allowing them easy access to aggregate re-offending data, specific to the group of people they have worked with. This service is intended to support organisations in understanding their effectiveness at reducing re-offending.

Participating organisations supply the Justice Data Lab with details of the offenders who they have worked with, and information about the services they have provided. The Justice Data Lab team matches these individuals to the re-offending datasets held within the Ministry of Justice and uses statistical modelling techniques to generate a matched control group of individuals with very similar characteristics. As a standard output, the Justice Data Lab supplies aggregate one year proven re-offending rates for the group of offenders the organisation has worked with, and those of the matched control group of similar offenders.

The re-offending rates for the organisation's group and the matched control group are also compared using statistical testing to assess the impact of the organisation's work on reducing re-offending. The results are then returned to the organisation with explanations of the key metrics, and any caveats and limitations necessary for interpretation of the results.

Finally, the tailored reports produced for each organisation are published on the Ministry of Justice website to promote transparency and ensure that findings produced through this service can be used by others to improve the rehabilitation of offenders.

## **Key Findings**

### **To date:**

This publication reports on the Justice Data Lab requests received in the thirteen months between the launch of the Justice Data Lab on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2013, and 31<sup>st</sup> May 2014. During this period there were 87 requests for re-offending information through the Justice Data Lab. Of these requests;

- 61 reports have been published previously.
- 16 requests could not be answered as the minimum criteria for a Data Lab analysis had not been met.
- 1 request was withdrawn by the submitting organisation.
- The remaining requests will be processed in due course.

### **The following activity has taken place this month:**

- No new reports are ready for publication this month. We have been working on a substantial request received in a previous month that has been identified as involving several individual requests, which will be published in due course.
- Alongside this, we have also been doing some development work, including developing and testing indicators on the severity of proven re-offending over the 1 year follow up period, and time to re-offending. These indicators will be included as standard in requests in due course.
- This month we have re-published the summary tables which accompanied the Justice Data Lab Statistics May 2014 to ensure that these statistics continue to be accessible; no changes have been made to the information in these tables.

## **Contact points for further information**

Justice Data Lab team

Justice Statistics Analytical Services

7<sup>th</sup> Floor, 102 Petty France, London SW1H 9AJ

Tel: 020 3334 4396

Email: [justice.datalab@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:justice.datalab@justice.gsi.gov.uk)

For further guidance about the Justice Data Lab, and how to access the service, please refer to the guidance which can be found at the following link:

[www.justice.gov.uk/justice-data-lab](http://www.justice.gov.uk/justice-data-lab)

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