Proven Reoffending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin

January to December 2014,
England and Wales

Ministry of Justice
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Contents

Introduction

This quarterly bulletin provides key statistics on Proven Reoffending for adult and juvenile offenders who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court, or received a caution in the period January to December 2014. It presents the proportion of offenders who reoffend (proven reoffending rate) and the number of proven reoffences by offender history, demographics, individual prisons, probation trusts, local authorities and youth offending teams.

How is proven reoffending measured?
A proven reoffence is defined as any offence committed in a one year follow-up period that leads to a court conviction, caution, reprimand or warning in the one year follow-up or within a further six month waiting period to allow the offence to be proven in court as shown in the diagram below.
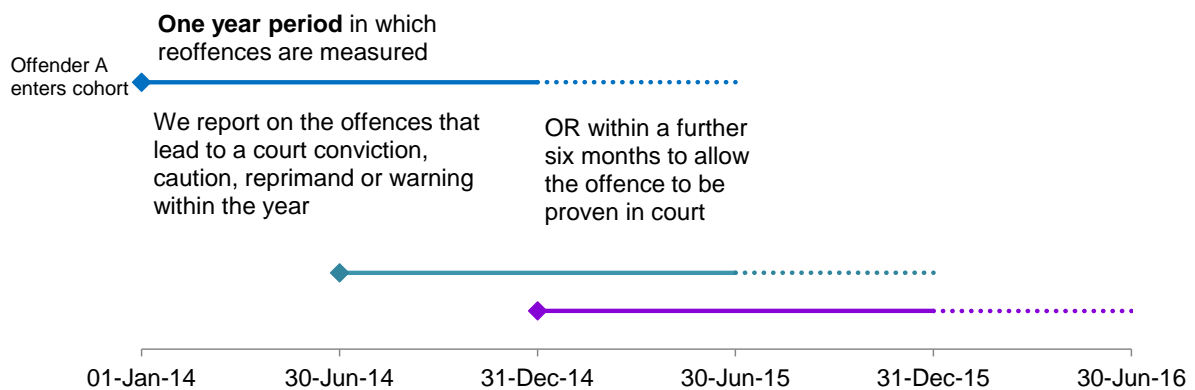
An offender enters cohort if they are released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court, received a caution, or received a reprimand or warning in the period January to December 2013.

Latest figures are provided with comparisons to 2013, and 2004 in order to highlight long-term trends. The full set of results is published separately in a set of Excel tables which provide headline Proven Reoffending statistics, and data tools which provide more detailed breakdowns.

Annex A includes **interim proven reoffending statistics for the Community Rehabilitation Companies and National Probation Service** for the October to December 2015 cohort. Also included in this bulletin are the one year proven reoffending rates of **restricted patients** (Annex B), **the number of Serious Further Offences** (Annex C), and **Sentencing Comparisons** (Annex D).

If you have any feedback, questions or requests for further information about this bulletin, please direct them to statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk.

Key findings

Overall - adult and juvenile offenders

In 2014 around 488,000 adult and juvenile offenders[1] were cautioned[2], received a non-custodial conviction at court or released from custody. Around 125,000 of these offenders committed a proven reoffence within a year.

This gives an overall proven reoffending rate of 25.6%; this rate has remained fairly stable, fluctuating between around 26% and 27% since 2004. The 2014 reoffending rate represents a small decrease of 0.9 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months and a fall of 1.7 percentage points since 2004.

Around 399,000 proven reoffences were committed over the one year follow-up period, with those that reoffended committing, on average, 3.20 reoffences each.

The highest reoffending rate by age group is 39.5%, for offenders aged 10 to 14. The number of offenders in this cohort has fallen by around 84% since 2004. The reoffending rate for this age group overtook offenders aged 15 to 17 in 2013, who previously had a consistently higher reoffending rate but are now second highest.

Less than 1% of all proven reoffences committed over the one year follow-up period were indictable only[3], a small fall from 2004.

Adult offenders

Adult offenders had a proven reoffending rate of 24.5%, representing a small decrease of 0.9 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months and also a fall of 0.9 percentage points since 2004. This rate has been fairly flat since 2004 fluctuating between 24.4% and 25.4%.

Around 352,000 proven reoffences were committed by adults over the one year follow-up period. Those that reoffended committed on average 3.19 reoffences each.

Unsurprisingly, adult offenders with 11 or more previous offences have a higher reoffending rate than those with no previous offences – 45.2% compared to 7.5%.

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[1] A certain proportion of offenders who could not be matched to the Police National Computer (PNC) are excluded from the offender cohort. Therefore, this number does not represent all proven offenders. This means that the number of offenders in this bulletin will be different from the numbers published in Offender Management Statistics Quarterly and Criminal Justice Statistics. Please refer to the 'Definitions and Measurement' document for further information.
[2] Includes reprimands and warnings for juveniles.
[3] Indictable-only offences cover the most serious offences that must be tried at the Crown court; these 'indictable-only' offences include murder, manslaughter, rape and robbery.

In the 2014 cohort, adult offenders with an index offence of 'Theft' had the highest proven reoffending rate of 42.5%. Those with the lowest rate had an index offence of 'Fraud' and reoffended at a rate of 9.8%.

Adult offenders starting a court order

The proven reoffending rate for adult offenders starting a court order (Community sentence or Suspended Sentence Order) was 32.6%, a fall of 4.8 percentage points since 2004, and a fall of 1.7 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months.

Adult offenders released from custody

The proven reoffending rate for adult offenders released from custody in 2014 was 45.5%. This represents a small fall of 0.3 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months and a fall of 3.1 percentage points since 2004. Since 2004, the overall rate for those released from custody has remained relatively stable at around 45% to 49%.

The rate for those released from short sentences has been consistently higher compared to those released from longer sentences. Adults who served sentences of less than 12 months reoffended at a rate of 60%, compared to 33.4% for those who served determinate sentences of 12 months or more. The trends for those released from short and long sentences have both remained broadly flat since 2005 and are consistent with the overall trend.

Juvenile offenders

Around 38,000 juvenile offenders were cautioned, convicted or released from custody in 2014 and around 14,000 of them committed a reoffence. This gives a proven reoffending rate of 37.9%, which is the same as the previous 12 months and an increase of 4.3 percentage points since 2004. However, the cohort has fallen by around 75% since 2004.

Around 47,000 proven reoffences were committed by juveniles over the one year follow-up period. Those that reoffended committed on average 3.27 reoffences each. Juvenile offenders with 11 or more previous offences have a higher reoffending rate than those with no previous offences –76.1% compared to 24.5%.

Juvenile offenders (disposal type)

The reoffending rate for juvenile offenders given a youth caution, reprimand or warning was 31%, an increase of 1.3 percentage points from the previous year and 5.1 percentage points from 2004.
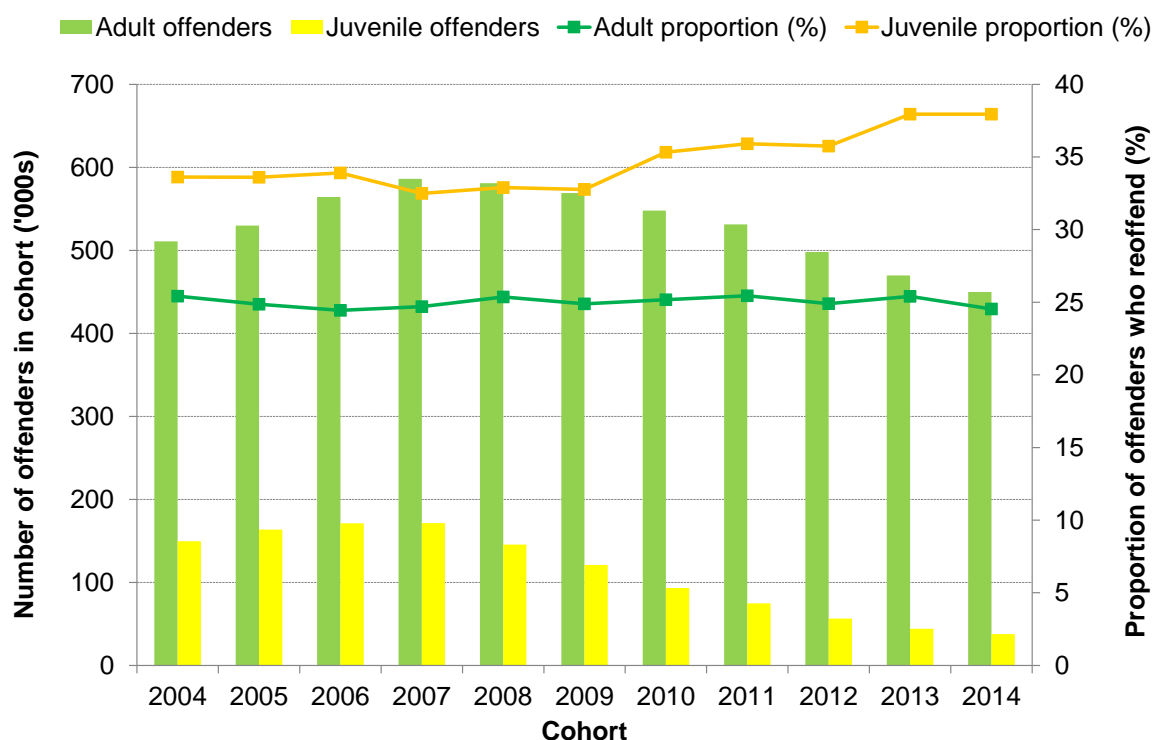
The proven reoffending rate for juvenile offenders released from custody in 2014 was 69.2%. This is a fall of 6.3 percentage points since 2004, but an increase of 2.7 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months.

Main report

Overall - adult and juvenile offenders *(Table A1)*

Adult offenders accounted for 92% (around 450,000) of the January to December 2014 offender cohort, and juvenile offenders accounted for 8% (around 38,000). A certain proportion of offenders who could not be matched to the Police National Computer (PNC) are excluded from the offender cohort. Therefore, this number does not represent all proven offenders.

Figure 1: Proportion of adult and juvenile offenders in England and Wales who commit a proven reoffence, 2004 to 2014

Around 110,000 of all **adult offenders** were proven to have committed a reoffence within a year. This gives a proven reoffending rate of 24.5% which represents a decrease of 0.9 percentage points compared to 2013. Since 2004, there has been little change in this rate, as illustrated in Figure 1. Over this time it has remained steady at around 25%.

The proven reoffending rate for **juvenile offenders** is higher, standing at 37.9% in 2014, the same as 2013. While the juvenile reoffending rate has seen an increase of 4.3 percentage points since 2004, the cohort has fallen by around 75%. The average number of previous offences per juvenile offender was 2.52 in 2014 and 2.58 in 2004. In spite of the increase in the overall juvenile reoffending rate since

2004, the reoffending rate for juveniles released from custody has fallen over the same period.

Males and Females *(Table A2)*

In the 2014 cohort, 81% were male and 19% were female – a split that has changed little since 2004. Male offenders from the 2014 cohort reoffended at a higher rate of 27.1% compared to female offenders who reoffended at a rate of 18.7%. Both rates have remained broadly stable since 2004 (Figure 2). Between 2004 and 2014, the proven reoffending rate for male and female offenders decreased by 1.8 and 1.6 percentage points respectively.

Figure 2: Proportion of adult and juvenile offenders in England and Wales who commit a proven reoffence, by sex, 2004 to 2014
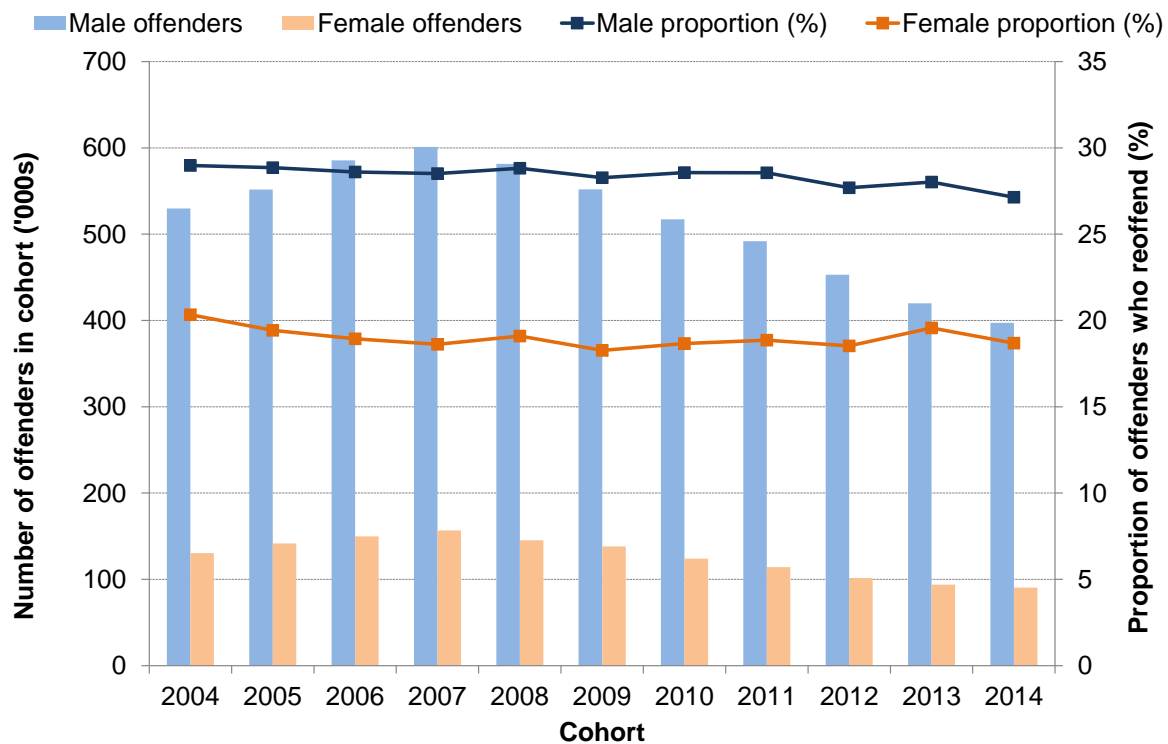
A summary report was published in November 2014 by a range of agencies relating to the experience of women in the criminal justice system. This report can be found here.

Age *(Table A3)*

The highest reoffending rate by age group is 39.5%, for offenders aged 10 to 14. This cohort has fallen by around 84% since 2004. The age group with the second highest reoffending rate was for those offenders aged 15 to 17, at 37.5%

Figure 3 shows that the proven reoffending rate generally falls with increasing age. Since 2004 the age distribution of reoffending has changed. Compared to 2004, the proven reoffending rate has increased for 10 to 17 year olds and for those aged 30 and over, but has fallen for offenders aged 18 to 29.

Figure 3: Proportion of adult and juvenile offenders in England and Wales who commit a proven reoffence, by age, 2004 and 2014

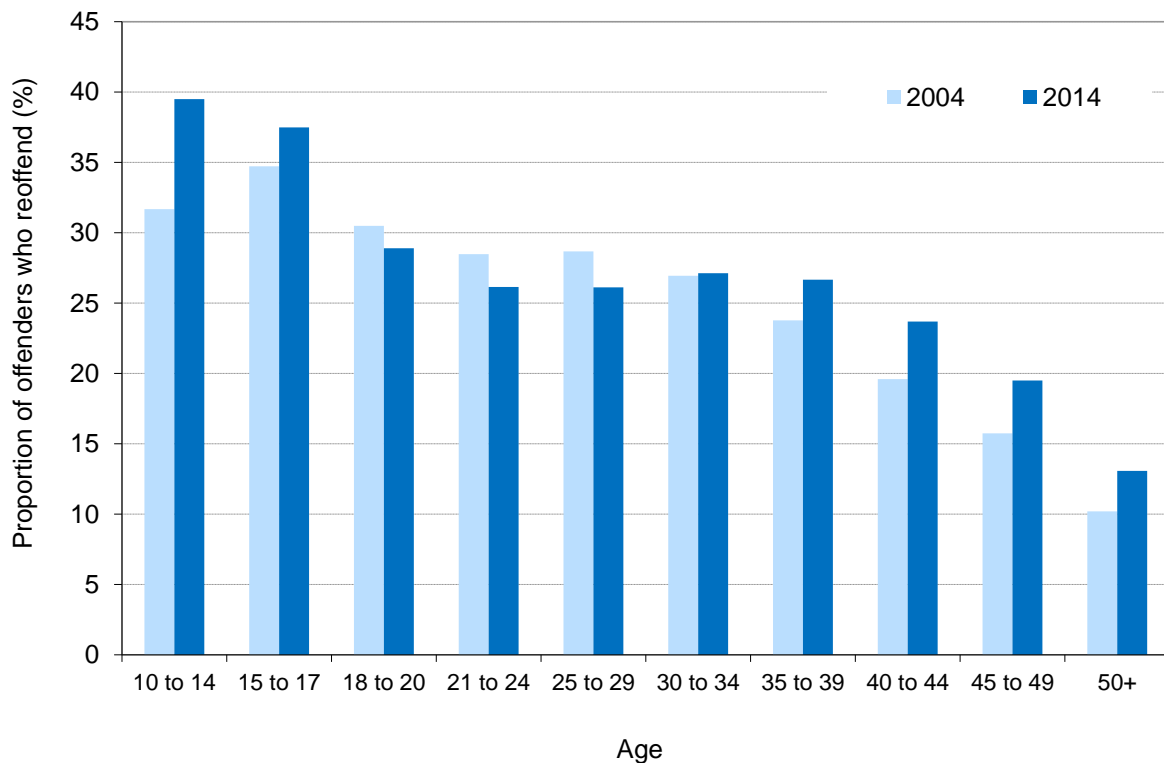## Index offence *(Table A4a, b)*

The offence that leads to an offender being included in the offender cohort is called the index offence. In the 2014 cohort, adult offenders with an index offence of 'Theft' had the highest proven reoffending rate of 42.5%. This was followed by those with an index offence of 'Robbery' with a rate of 34.6%. Those with the lowest rate had an index offence of 'Fraud' and reoffended at a rate of 9.8%. Additionally, with a fall of 9.0 percentage points, the 'Fraud' index offence category saw the largest decrease between 2004 and 2014. In contrast, the largest increase of 6.3 percentage points over the same period occurred for those with an index offence of 'Public Order' with a reoffending rate of 29.3%.

In the 2014 cohort, juvenile offenders with an index offence of 'Theft' also had the highest proven reoffending rate of 43.3%. Those with the lowest rate had a 'sexual' index offence and reoffended at a rate of 13.3%. The 'Summary motoring' index offence category, had the largest decrease between 2004 and 2014 with a fall of 10.7 percentage points to a reoffending rate of 30.4%. The largest increase of 11.7 percentage points over the same period occurred for those with an index offence of 'Theft' with a reoffending rate of 43.3%.

Figure 4: Proportion of adult and juvenile offenders in England and Wales who commit a proven reoffence, by index offence, 2014
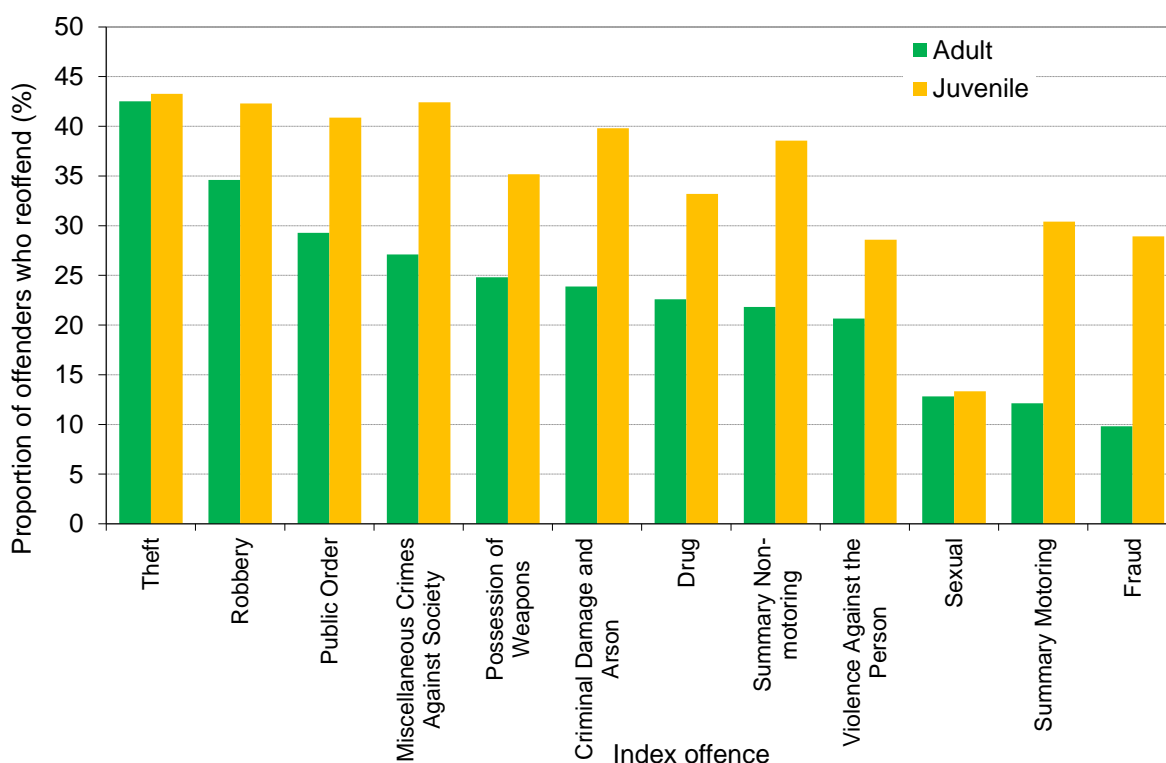
Previous offences *(Table A5a, b)*

Generally, offenders with a large number of previous offences have a higher rate of proven reoffending than those with fewer previous offences and this is true for both adults and juveniles. In the 2014 cohort, for adults, the proven reoffending rates ranged from 7.5% for offenders with no previous offences to 45.2% for offenders with 11 or more previous offences. For juveniles these figures were 24.5% and 76.1% respectively.

Between 2004 and 2014, the largest decrease in the proven reoffending rate for adults was among offenders with 11 or more previous offences, at 3.9 percentage points. For juveniles the largest decrease was for those who had committed between seven and 10 previous offences (5.9 percentage points).

Adult offenders with 11 or more previous offences represented just under a third of all adult offenders in the 2014 cohort, but committed over two thirds of all adult proven reoffences. For juvenile offenders this group made up only 6% of all juvenile offenders, but committed nearly a fifth (18%) of all juvenile proven reoffences.

Figure 5: Proportion of adult and juvenile offenders in England and Wales who commit a proven reoffence, by number of previous offences, 2014
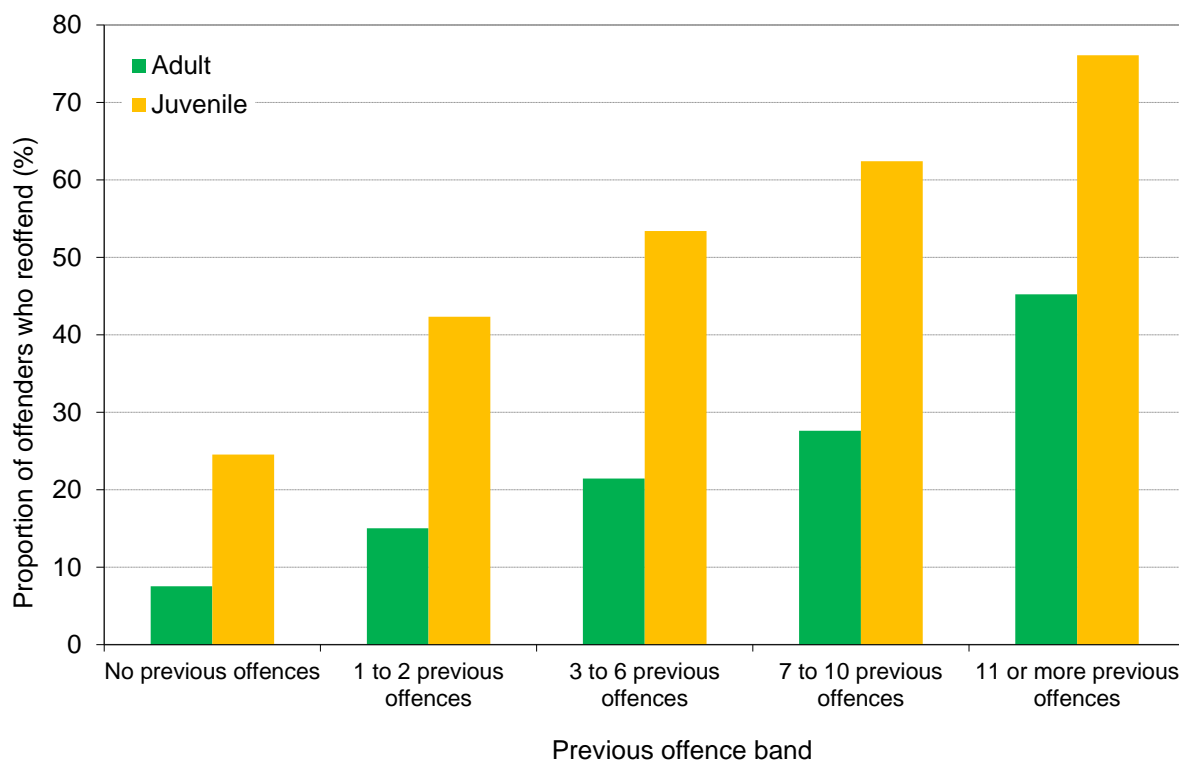
Index disposal (sentence) type *(Table C1a, b)*

The index disposal of the offender is the type of sentence the offender received for their index offence. For the Proven Reoffending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin, this is defined as custody, court order, or other disposal resulting from a conviction at court, such as a fine or discharge, or caution.

Adult offenders released from custody or commencing a court order

Between January and December 2014, around 171,000 adult offenders were released from custody or commenced a court order. Around 59,000 of these offenders were proven to have committed a reoffence within a year. This gives a proven reoffending rate of 34.5%, a fall of 5.3 percentage points since 2004.

Adult offenders commencing a court order

Between January and December 2014, around 124,000 adult offenders started a court order and around 40,000 of these (32.6%) committed a proven reoffence within a year. This represents a decrease of 1.7 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months, and a fall of 4.8 percentage points since 2004.

The Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 introduced Suspended Sentence Orders (SSOs) without requirements attached. Offenders sentenced to such SSOs are not supervised by the Probation Service. There have been increasing numbers of such orders given since they were introduced in December 2012. The reoffending rate for these SSOs without requirements is 34.5%. The reoffending rate for SSOs with requirements is 29.9%.

These figures should not be compared to assess the effectiveness of different types of SSOs, as there is no control for known differences in offender characteristics and the type of sentence given. Please refer to the chapter 'Comparing the effectiveness of sentences' on page 16 for more details.

Adult offenders released from custody *(Table C2a)*

Between January and December 2014, around 56,000 adult offenders were released from custody and around 26,000 of these (45.5%) were proven to have committed a reoffence within a year. The rate has decreased by 3.1 percentage points since 2004, and has decreased slightly by 0.3 percentage points since the same period 12 months ago.

Just under half (47%) of the adult offenders released from custody in 2014 were released from a custodial sentence of less than 12 months. These offenders had a

proven reoffending rate of 60% compared to 33.4% for those who served sentences of 12 months or more.

The rate for those released from short sentences has been consistently higher compared to those released from long sentences, as shown in Figure 6. However, the reoffending rate for those released from sentences of more than 10 years has seen an increase over the last ten years, and now stands at 15.6%.

Figure 6: Proportion of adult offenders released from custody who commit a proven reoffence, by custodial sentence length, 2004 to 2014
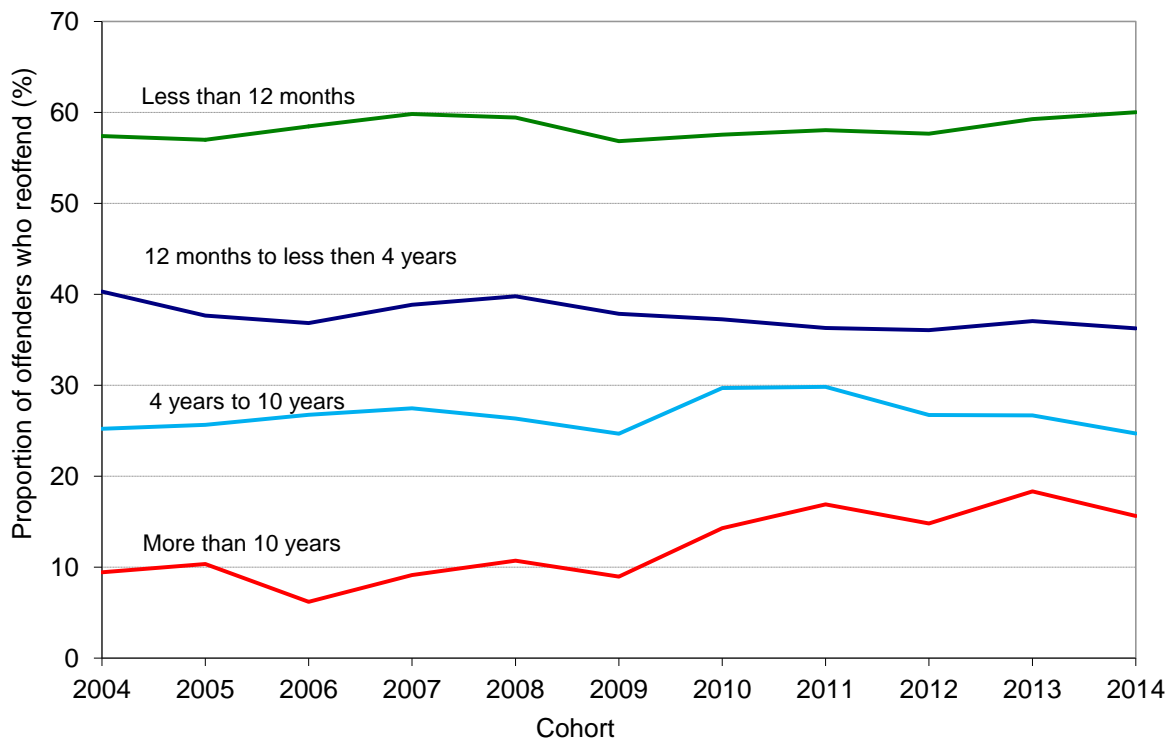
Juvenile offenders given a reprimand, warning or youth caution *(Table C1b)*

The reoffending rate for juvenile offenders given a youth caution was 31%, an increase of 1.3 percentage points from the previous year and 5.1 percentage points since 2004. Reprimands and warnings for youths were abolished under Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 with effect from 8 April 2013 and replaced with youth cautions.

Youth cautions are a formal out-of-court disposal that can be used as an alternative to prosecution for juvenile offenders in certain circumstances. A Youth Caution may be given for any offence where the young offender admits an offence, there is sufficient evidence for a realistic prospect of conviction but it is not in the public interest to prosecute.

**Juvenile offenders released from custody** *(Table C1b)*

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Between January and December 2014 around 1,100 juvenile offenders were released from custody and around 800 of these (69.2%) were proven to have committed a reoffence within a year. This represents a fall of 6.3 percentage points since 2004, but an increase of 2.7 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months.

Figure 7: Proven adult reoffending - Offenders, reoffenders and proportion of offenders who reoffend by index disposal and custodial sentence length, 2014
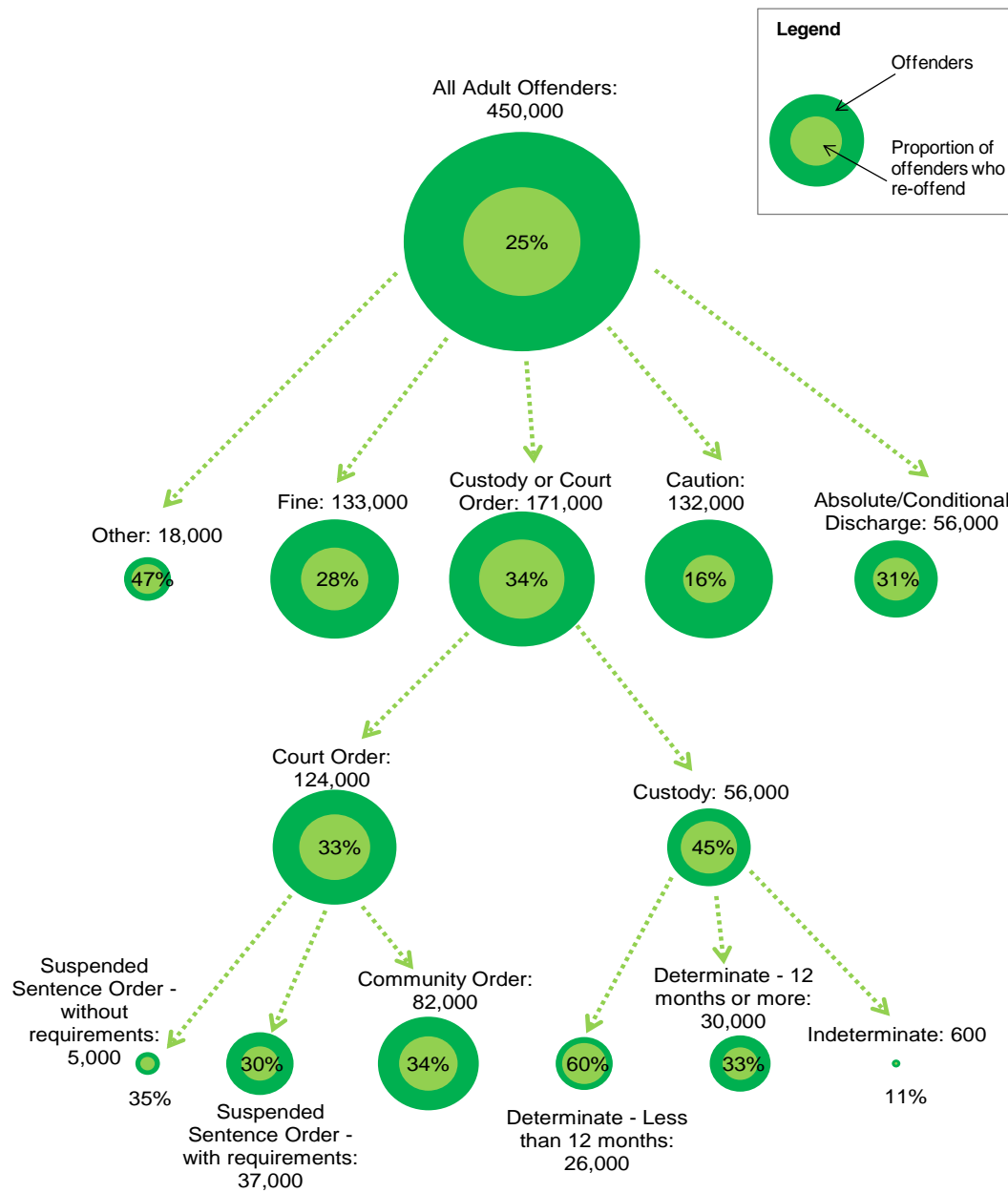
Number of offenders in each disposal category do not sum to the total number of offenders. This is due to a difference in methodology to provide a realistic and relevant view of proven reoffending by disposal type.

The first event within each disposal is taken as the start point. Therefore, some offenders will appear in more than one disposal category. Please see the definitions and measurement paper for more information.

Data are rounded to the nearest 1,000; except for indeterminate sentences which are rounded to the nearest 100.

Comparing the effectiveness of sentences

Proven reoffending rates by index disposal (sentence type) should not be compared to assess the effectiveness of sentences, as there is no control for known differences in offender characteristics and the type of sentence given.

The 'The impact of short custodial sentences, Community Orders and Suspended Sentence Orders on reoffending' compares like for like offenders which enables a more reliable comparison of proven reoffending rates between offenders receiving different sentences.

Short-term custody (less than 12 months in prison, without supervision on release) for the 2008 to 2011 cohorts was consistently associated with higher rates of proven reoffending than community orders and suspended sentence orders ('court orders').

Over a one year follow-up period, a higher proportion of people reoffended having been sentenced to short term custody than other, similar people given:

- a community order, of 3 percentage points higher;

- a suspended sentence order, of 7 percentage points higher.

Short term custody was associated with up to one more reoffence per person on average than both community and suspended sentence orders.

In the '2013 Compendium of Re-offending Statistics and Analysis', suspended sentence orders had a lower reoffending rate than matched offenders given community orders (3.2 percentage points for 2010);

Other non-custodial sentences are compared in Annex D.

Adult offenders by individual prison *(Prison/youth secure accommodation/probation region data tool)*

Among prisons that released 30 or more offenders in 2014, proven reoffending rates varied considerably from 8.1% to 77.2% for offenders with a sentence of less than 12 months and from 2.2% to 58.9% for offenders with a sentence of 12 months or more. A large part of this variability reflects the mix of offenders who are held in different prisons and, therefore, comparisons between prisons should not be made using these raw reoffending rates.

Adult offenders by probation area *(Prison/youth secure accommodation/probation region data tool)*

This publication provides proven reoffending measures by region for offenders starting a court order and managed by NPS or CRCs in the period from January 2014 to December 2014.

Proven reoffending rates for offenders starting a court order varied from 31.4% to 37.4% between the seven regions. A large part of this variability reflects the mix of offenders who are given a court order and, therefore, comparisons between regions should not be made using these raw reoffending rates.

Measuring proven reoffending

There is no agreed international standard for measuring and reporting reoffending. An offender's journey through the criminal justice system can be a complex one; offenders can appear on numerous occasions.

Measuring true reoffending is complex. Official records are taken from either the police or courts, but they will underestimate the true level of reoffending because only a proportion of crime is reported and/or detected and not all crimes are recorded on one central system. Furthermore, other methods for measuring reoffending, such as self-report studies, which do not identify the offender, are likely to be unreliable. Therefore, this report aims to estimate proven reoffending for a specified group of offenders using data mainly from the Police National Computer.

Since this report measures reoffending on a consistent basis across all groups, it is possible to tailor analysis of reoffending to meet specific requirements.

The headline measure
This is the overall measure of reoffending and is presented for different demographic groups and by offence. To provide this **overview of proven reoffending**, offenders are tracked and their proven reoffending behaviour is recorded, taking the **first event**[4] in the **relevant period** as the start point and subsequent events as proven reoffences. Users should refer to tables A1 to A6, B1 to B4 and the proven reoffending overview data tool for these statistics.

Index disposal
In this measure offenders are tracked and their proven reoffending behaviour is recorded **within** each disposal (caution, court order, release from custody, etc.) Users should refer to tables C1 to C3 for these statistics and the proven reoffending by index disposal data tool for these statistics.

Prison/Probation Area
In this measure offenders are tracked and their proven reoffending behaviour is recorded **within** each operational unit (prison or probation area) taking the first event **within** each as the start point and subsequent events as reoffences.

Consultation

This quarterly bulletin was developed in response to a consultation in late 2010 and early 2011 by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) on "Improvements to Ministry of Justice Statistics".

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[4] An event is one of the following: a release from custody, convicted at court with a non-custodial sentence, received a caution, reprimand or warning.

Users

The contents of this bulletin will be of interest to Government policy makers, the agencies responsible for offender management at both national and local levels, providers, practitioners and others who want to understand more about proven reoffending.

In particular there are two MoJ impact indicators which will be monitored using results from this bulletin:

- Adult and juvenile reoffending – the percentage of adult and juvenile offenders who reoffend.

- The percentage of adults released from custody who reoffend.

Government policy makers also use these statistics to develop, monitor and evaluate key elements of its policies including those on payments by results, legal aid and sentencing guidelines. Offender management agencies use these statistics to gain a local understanding of the criminal justice system, understand performance and to highlight best practice. Key agencies include: the National Offender Management Service, the Youth Justice Board, private and voluntary sector providers of prison and probation services and local authorities.

Annex A: Interim Proven Reoffending Statistics for the Community Rehabilitation Companies and National Probation Service Quarterly Bulletin (October to December 2015, England and Wales)

Introduction

The first set of statistics based on **one year proven reoffending** for adult offenders being managed in the community in England and Wales by **Community Rehabilitation Companies** (CRCs) under **Payment by Results**[5] (PbR) arrangements, and by the **National Probation Service** (NPS), will be published in **October 2017**. This is the measure against which CRCs will be assessed for the PbR element of the Transforming Rehabilitation reforms.

To address this interim gap in knowledge, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) included proposals in its July 2015 consultation on "*Changes to the reoffending statistics following the introduction of the Rehabilitation Programme*"[6] to provide early insights into CRC and NPS performance in reducing reoffending. Respondents to the consultation supported these proposals and opted for a **reoffending-to-date-based interim measure.**

This annex was developed in response to the consultation and will provide **interim proven reoffending statistics** for the following offender cohorts until final results for these cohorts become available.

- PbR eligible[7] offenders managed by CRCs; and

- Offenders managed by the NPS who meet the same eligibility criteria as those in the CRC PbR cohorts.

This issue of the quarterly bulletin presents interim proven reoffending statistics for the **October to December 2015** offender cohorts[8].

It is important to note that, while interim results help to address the information gap until final results are published, they will only give a broad indication of progress and, therefore, care should be taken when interpreting them. The measure against which CRCs will be assessed for PbR will be based on the final results published in October 2017, compared against a 2011 baseline[9].

The programme of reforms that led to opening up probation services to private and third sector rehabilitation providers through 21 CRCs, and the creation of the new

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[5] PbR is paid for the achievement of statistically significant reductions in reoffending against the baseline year of 2011 as set out in Transforming Rehabilitation contracts with CRCs.
[6] The consultation and response to consultation are available at:
www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-reoffending-statistics-following-the-introduction-of-the-rehabilitation-programme
[7] A full list of PbR eligible offenders is provided in the *Definitions and Measurement* document.
[8] Note that while CRCs (under public ownership until February 2015) and the NPS began operating in June 2014, a bedding-in period was allowed before assessing performance against targets.
[9] The 2011 PbR baselines and associated methodology documents are available at:
www.gov.uk/government/collections/transforming-rehabilitation

public sector NPS, is further explained in the *Background* section in the *Appendix* at the end of this annex; and a timetable for the publication of interim and final results can be found in *Table A2* of the *Appendix*.

Interim results will be provided in this dedicated annex to each edition of the MoJ's quarterly bulletin on *Proven Reoffending Statistics*.

The *Definitions and Measurement* document, published alongside this bulletin, provides more detailed information about the interim measure.

If you have any feedback, questions or requests for further information about this report, please direct them to statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk.

Methodology

Final reoffending results
The final reoffending results for the CRC and NPS offender cohorts will be based on a **one year proven reoffending measure**. One year proven reoffending is defined as any offence committed in a one year follow-up period that leads to a court conviction or caution in the one year follow-up period or within a further six month waiting period to allow the offence to be proven in court as shown in the diagram below.
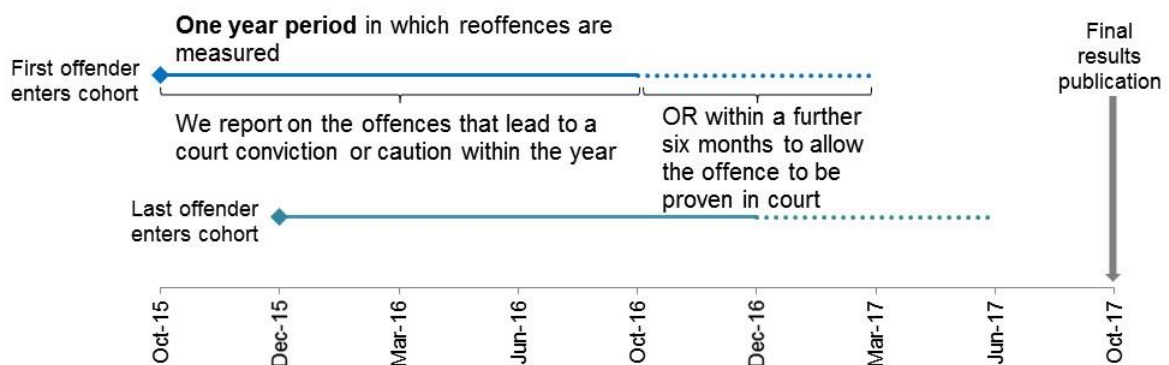
The following two reoffending measures will be used to assess CRC and NPS performance:

- the **binary** rate (proportion of offenders who reoffend); and

- the **frequency** rate (the average number of reoffences per reoffender).

The performance of each CRC in reducing reoffending, on both the binary and frequency measures, will be assessed against a baseline year of 2011. Furthermore, the binary rate for each CRC will be adjusted for changes in the case mix of offenders being supervised, using the Offender Group Reconviction Scale, version 4/G[10] (OGRS4/G), before performance is assessed against the baseline.

Interim reoffending results
The interim reoffending results will cover any **proven reoffending-to-date** as recorded on the MoJ extract of the Police National Computer (PNC). Interim statistics for the October to December 2015 offender cohorts will, therefore, include any proven reoffences committed between 1 October 2015 and the 4 August 2016. This will mean that some offenders in the three-month cohort will have had a longer follow-up period in which to reoffend, e.g. an 'offender start' on the 1 October 2015 will have had up to 10 months to reoffend, whereas an 'offender start' on the 31

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[10] Further information on the Offender Group Reconviction Scale 4/G can be found in the *Definitions and Measurement* document, and in the *Offender Group Reconviction Scale* section in the *Appendix*.

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December 2015 will have had up to seven months to reoffend as shown in the diagram below.
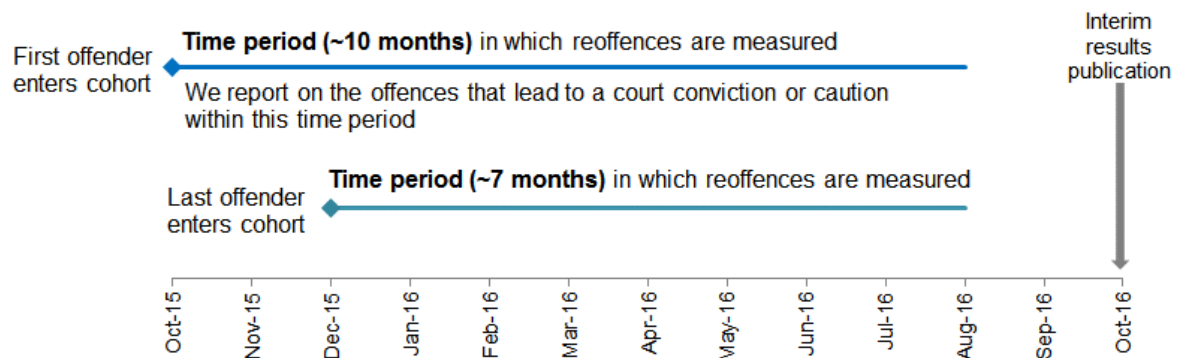
While the binary rate for CRC final results will be adjusted using OGRS4/G, this will not be possible for the interim results - OGRS4/G only offers a one and two year prediction of reoffending and interim results are based upon a reoffending-to-date measure. Average OGRS4/G scores have, however, been provided in *Table A1* of the *Appendix* for individual CRCs. *Table A1* also includes the corresponding scores from the baseline year of 2011 which will enable users of this report to assess whether or not CRC cohorts are more or less likely to reoffend than offenders from the baseline year.

Interpreting the interim results

Tables 1 and 2 should be interpreted with caution for two main reasons:

1. **They are interim estimates which are based on provisional data and a reoffending-to-date measure, rather than a measure with defined follow-up and waiting periods**. As a result, they are susceptible to availability of data and are more volatile than the one year reoffending measure. The one year proven reoffending measure (by which PbR will be assessed) allows 12 months for reoffending to occur, and then a further six months for cases to progress through the courts, and an additional one month for police forces to enter and validate the data.

2. **These figures have not been adjusted for the mix of offenders in the cohort**. The final set of results for each cohort will be adjusted for changes in the case mix of offenders being supervised (using OGRS4/G) before performance is assessed against the 2011 baseline.

It is too early to assess whether CRCs are meeting their targets. These results are intended to provide a broad indication of progress only.

What we can say
1. The interim results provide a broad indication of progress at this point in time.

2. These results do not necessarily reflect what the final results will show in October 2017. (Interim results are based on a reoffending-to-date measure and have not been OGRS4/G-adjusted. Final results will be based on a one year reoffending measure and will be adjusted for changes in the case mix of offenders being supervised (using OGRS) before performance is assessed against the baseline year of 2011.)

3. The average OGRS4/G scores show that, in all but two cases (London CRC and South Yorkshire CRC), each CRC is managing offenders that are less likely to reoffend compared to the baseline year of 2011.

What we cannot say
1. CRC A is on target / not on target to achieve statistically significant reductions in reoffending against the baseline year of 2011.

2. The interim results show that CRC A is performing better or worse than CRC B. (Interim results have not been OGRS4/G-adjusted, therefore, comparisons between different CRCs will not be possible.)

3. The interim results show that CRCs are performing better or worse than the NPS. (Due to differences in the types of offender being managed between the CRCs (low to medium risk offenders) and the NPS (high risk offenders), comparisons between CRCs and the NPS should not be made.)

Interim results

Table 1: Interim proven reoffending results for the October to December 2015 payment by results cohorts, by Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

CRC name	Number of offenders in the eligible cohort	Number of offenders in the measurable cohort	Number of reoffenders	Number of reoffences	Proportion of offenders who reoffend (%)	Average number of reoffences per reoffender
Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire & Hertfordshire	1,315	1,269	406	1,649	32.0	4.06
Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset & Wiltshire	1,206	1,138	404	1,484	35.5	3.67
Cheshire & Greater Manchester	2,290	2,184	666	2,152	30.5	3.23
Cumbria & Lancashire	1,107	1,050	331	1,168	31.5	3.53
Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire & Rutland	1,892	1,773	562	2,046	31.7	3.64
Dorset, Devon & Cornwall	881	849	276	907	32.5	3.29
Durham Tees Valley	875	852	365	1,843	42.8	5.05
Essex	726	688	218	798	31.7	3.66
Hampshire & Isle of Wight	763	743	239	869	32.2	3.64
Humberside, Lincolnshire & North Yorkshire	1,201	1,169	458	1,703	39.2	3.72
Kent, Surrey & Sussex	1,499	1,409	447	1,757	31.7	3.93
London	4,439	4,126	1,340	4,324	32.5	3.23
Merseyside	1,108	1,043	262	871	25.1	3.32
Norfolk & Suffolk	585	559	191	782	34.2	4.09
Northumbria	797	773	323	1,384	41.8	4.28
South Yorkshire	883	850	347	1,499	40.8	4.32
Staffordshire & West Midlands	2,773	2,625	850	3,282	32.4	3.86
Thames Valley	846	811	287	1,186	35.4	4.13
Wales	2,246	2,160	754	2,635	34.9	3.49
Warwickshire & West Mercia	723	692	243	965	35.1	3.97
West Yorkshire	1,420	1,331	453	1,659	34.0	3.66

Figure 1: Interim binary rates for the October to December 2015 payment by results cohorts, by Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

Proportion of offenders who reoffend
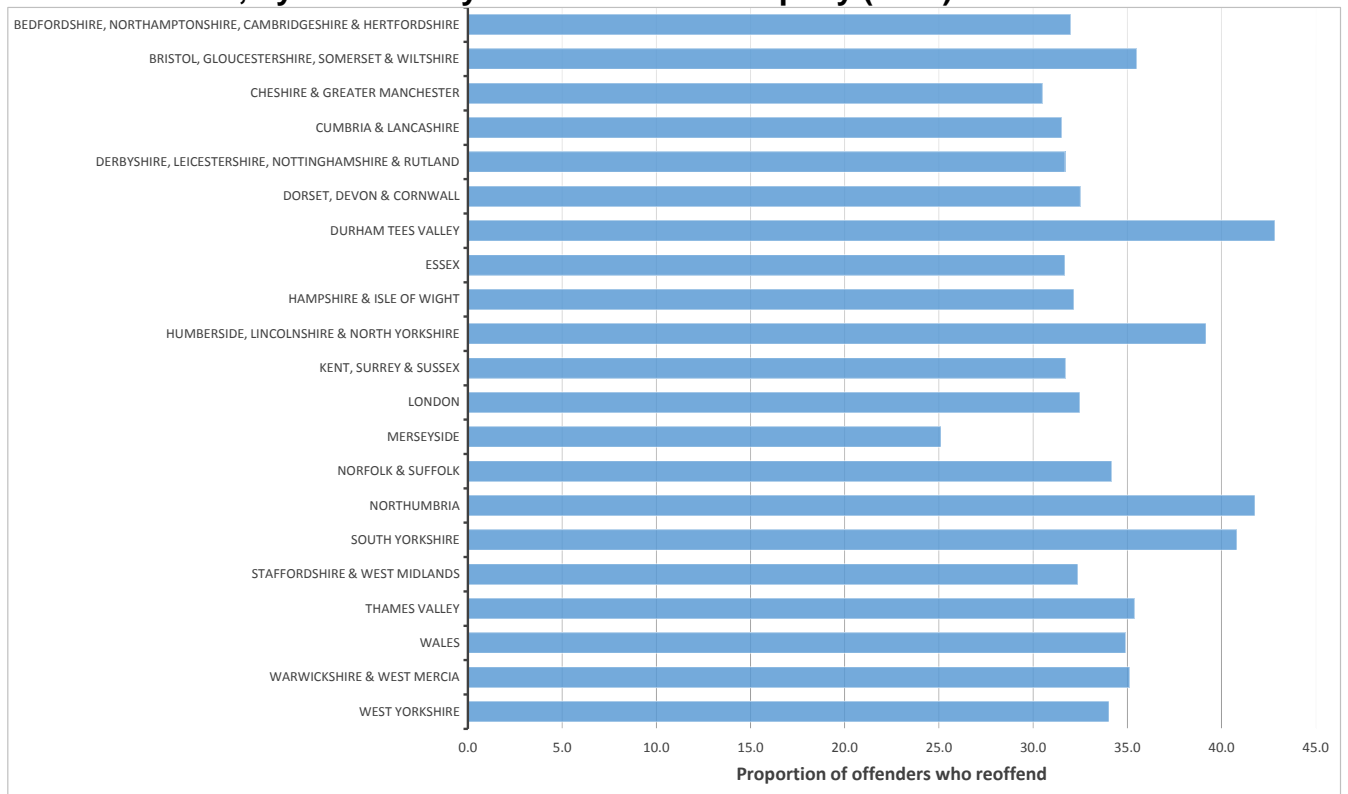
Figure 2: Interim frequency rates for the October to December 2015 payment by results cohorts, by Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

Average number of reoffences per reoffender
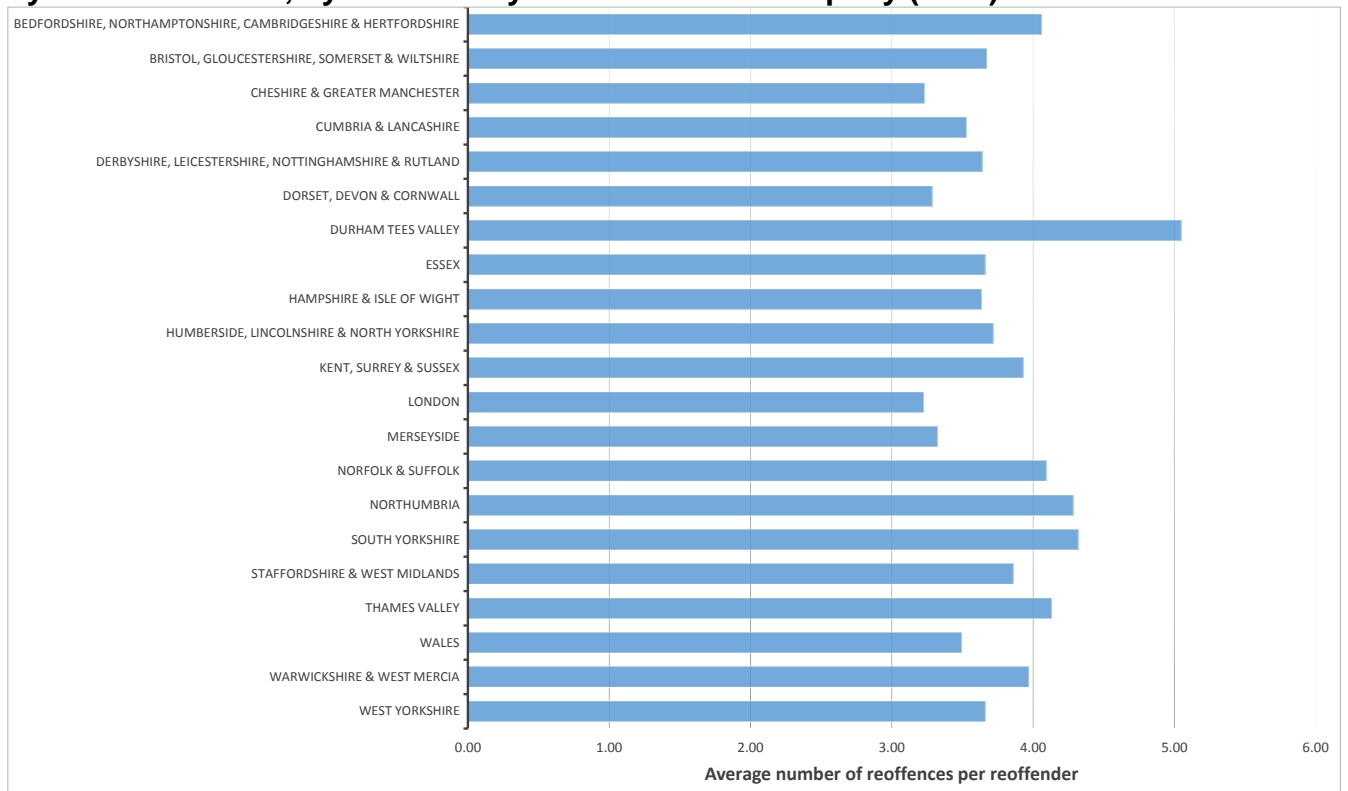
Table 2: Interim proven reoffending results for the October to December 2015 performance measure cohorts, by National Probation Service (NPS) division

NPS division	Number of offenders	Number of reoffenders	Number of reoffences	Proportion of offenders who reoffend (%)	Average number of reoffences per reoffender
London	1,099	267	793	24.3	2.97
Midlands	1,343	363	1,124	27.0	3.10
North East	1,635	478	1,690	29.2	3.54
North West	1,616	424	1,314	26.2	3.10
South East and Eastern	1,217	274	910	22.5	3.32
South West and South Central	1,005	250	838	24.9	3.35
Wales	728	224	682	30.8	3.04

Appendix to Annex A

Background

In *"Transforming Rehabilitation: A Strategy for Reform"*[11]*,* published in 2013, the Secretary of State for Justice set out plans to introduce a new system for the management and rehabilitation of offenders in the community across England and Wales.

The programme, which was fully implemented in February 2015, aims to bring down reoffending rates while continuing to protect the public. The reforms included:

- opening up the market to a diverse range of rehabilitation providers from the private, voluntary and social sectors (including public service mutuals) through 21 CRCs;

- using a 'payment by results' approach to develop and implement effective ways of rehabilitating offenders and rewarding providers that devise and deliver the most effective rehabilitation programmes;

- extending statutory rehabilitation to around 45,000 short sentenced offenders released from prison every year, who have the highest reoffending rates and yet previously received no supervision after release;

- reorganising our prisons to resettle offenders 'through the gate', with continuous support from custody to community. This means the majority of prisoners will be moved to a resettlement prison close to their community at least three months before release; and

- creating a new public sector NPS to manage high risk offenders.

Until the implementation of these reforms, most of the probation services were delivered by 35 Probation Trusts under contract to the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) on behalf of the Secretary of State.

Through these reforms, 21 CRCs are now providing services in their Contract Package Areas (CPAs). The CRCs are owned and run by successful bidders[12] from the 2014 competition and now deliver services under contract to NOMS.

The NPS is a delivery arm of NOMS and delivers services under a service level agreement (SLA) within seven NPS divisions.

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[11] The Ministry of Justice paper "*Transforming Rehabilitation: A Strategy for Reform*" is available at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/transforming-rehabilitation-a-strategy-for-reform
[12] A list of the successful bidders is available at: www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/389727/table-of-new-owners-of-crcs.pdf

CRCs manage the majority of offenders in the community sentenced to Community Orders (COs), Suspended Sentence Orders (SSOs) and those subject to licence conditions or supervision requirements, and deliver rehabilitative support to offenders. The NPS directly manage offenders who pose a high risk of serious harm to the public (including those whose risk has escalated to high during the course of their sentence) or those released from custody who have committed the most serious offences. It has a key role at certain stages of the process for all offenders, for example in advising the courts on sentencing, determining the allocation of offenders and dealing with enforcement action, working closely with CRCs.

Offender Group Reconviction Scale

As proven reoffending is related to the characteristics of offenders, the actual rate of proven reoffending will depend, in part, on the characteristics of offenders coming into the system. This actual rate provides users with sufficient information on what the level of reoffending is and how it is changing over time.

In addition to the actual rate, the OGRS4/G score is used to control for some differences in offender characteristics across different offender groups. OGRS4/G is based on a well-established, peer-reviewed methodology for assessing and representing reoffending risk.

OGRS4/G uses age, gender and criminal history to assess the reoffending risk of a given group of offenders by producing a score between 0 and 1. These scores can be used to compare the relative likelihood of reoffending either over time or between different groups of offenders, with a higher rate meaning a group of offenders who are more likely to reoffend.

In the final results, the binary rate for each CRC will be adjusted by using OGRS4/G, to take account of the influence that differences in offender mix can have on binary rates. OGRS4/G adjusted rates will be used to determine final PbR outcomes. The frequency rate will not be adjusted.

The OGRS4/G adjusted reoffending rate for a given CRC cohort will be calculated as the observed reoffending rate for that cohort plus any difference between the OGRS4/G score in that cohort and the 2011 CRC baseline cohort. This calculation standardises the mix of offenders in each cohort of a given CRC to the 2011 mix for that same CRC.

Table A1: Average OGRS4/G scores for the October to December 2015 payment by results cohorts, by Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

CRC name	Average OGRS4/G score	
	2011 baseline year	October to December 2015 cohort
Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire & Hertfordshire	44.12	43.87
Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset & Wiltshire	49.10	47.64
Cheshire & Greater Manchester	47.67	44.49
Cumbria & Lancashire	48.73	47.58
Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire & Rutland	46.86	45.43
Dorset, Devon & Cornwall	48.69	46.59
Durham Tees Valley	52.95	51.74
Essex	46.57	44.76
Hampshire & Isle of Wight	48.20	46.08
Humberside, Lincolnshire & North Yorkshire	49.45	48.28
Kent, Surrey & Sussex	46.43	44.69
London	43.86	44.01
Merseyside	47.08	40.08
Norfolk & Suffolk	48.56	43.36
Northumbria	53.51	52.75
South Yorkshire	50.78	51.19
Staffordshire & West Midlands	45.42	44.14
Thames Valley	47.82	45.66
Wales	48.79	45.60
Warwickshire & West Mercia	46.71	44.29
West Yorkshire	49.45	47.91

Table A2: Timetable for publication of interim and final results 35

Publication date	Interim reoffending results Quarterly cohort	One year reoffending results Quarterly cohort
October 2016	Oct15 to Dec15	-
January 2017	Jan16 to Mar16	-
April 2017	Apr16 to Jun16	-
July 2017	Jul16 to Sep16	-
October 2017	Oct16 to Dec16	Oct15 to Dec15
January 2018	Jan17 to Mar17	Jan16 to Mar16
April 2018	Apr17 to Jun17	Apr16 to Jun16
July 2018	Jul17 to Sep17	Jul16 to Sep16
October 2018	Oct17 to Dec17	Oct16 to Dec16

Annex B: Proven reoffending rates for restricted patients

Introduction

This annex presents statistics on the reoffending of restricted patients absolutely or conditionally discharged from detention in high secure or other psychiatric hospitals[13]. Statistics on the reoffending of restricted patients was last published in the 'Proven reoffending statistics bulletin January to December 2012[14].

An offender can become a restricted patient by one of two main routes. An offender convicted for a serious offence may be ordered to receive hospital treatment instead of a prison sentence. When making the hospital order, the Court has the option of adding a restriction order for offenders posing a risk of serious harm to others. "Restricted patients" are subject to risk management by the Secretary of State for Justice. Alternatively, if the Court passes a prison sentence, it can simultaneously direct the offender's admission to hospital, or the offender can subsequently be transferred to hospital by the Secretary of State. These prisoners are usually made subject to restrictions. In addition, there are other groups of restricted patients, such as offenders transferred from prison service establishments while unsentenced or untried, or offenders who are unfit to plead or found not guilty by reason of insanity.

The term "restricted patients" in this bulletin refers to persons who have been compulsorily admitted to hospital under Part V of the Mental Health Act 1959, Part III of the Mental Health Act 1983, or the Criminal Procedure (Insanity) Act 1964 as amended by the Criminal Procedure (Insanity and Unfitness to Plead) Act 1991, or the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 (whose provisions came into force on 31 March 2005) and who are subject to a Restriction Order, Restriction Direction or Limitation Direction.

Restricted patients are liable for detention in psychiatric hospitals. Three high secure hospitals are available for those restricted patients who pose a grave and immediate risk.

The term discharge refers to release into the community, by whatever means, with or without conditions. Discharges can be ordered by either the Secretary of State or the First-Tier Tribunal (Mental Health) for England or the Mental Health Tribunal for Wales (which are independent bodies with discharge powers separate from those of the Secretary of State).

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[13] There are three high security hospitals in England and Wales – Ashworth, Broadmoor and Rampton. 'Other' psychiatric hospitals refer to any other psychiatric hospitals in England and Wales which admit restricted patients as well as other patients. These include 'medium secure' and 'low secure' hospitals.
[14] Proven Reoffending Statistics, January to December 2012

Methodology

The methodology used to measure the reoffending of restricted patients is consistent with that used in the main bulletin, using a one year follow-up period and six month waiting period for cases to be proven in court. This means that a reoffence will only count if it is committed within one year of discharge and results in a court conviction, caution, reprimand or warning within 18 months of discharge. More detailed information on the proven reoffending measure is provided in the 'Definitions and Measurement' document which is published alongside this bulletin at the same link.

The figures in this bulletin cover restricted patients absolutely or conditionally discharged from detention in hospital. The reoffending data for restricted patients are based on information sourced from the MoJ's extract of the Police National Computer (PNC) and the Public Protection Unit Database (PPUD) owned by the National Offender Management Service (NOMS).

Caution should be exercised when interpreting the figures, which only represent the reoffending of restricted patients who can be matched to the PNC following their first discharge from hospital between 2010 and 2014. Therefore, the figures do not capture all restricted patients discharged into the community in a given year, or take into account recalls.

Results (see excel tables for Annex B)

In the 12 months ending December 2014 (Table 1), 378 restricted patients[15] were absolutely or conditionally discharged from detention in hospital for the first time. Of these, 14 committed a proven reoffence within a year of discharge. This gives an overall proven reoffending rate of 3.7%, which represents a decrease of just over two percentage points from 2013 and a decrease of 1.6 percentage points compared to 2010. However, due to the small number of reoffenders, the reoffending rate is prone to fluctuation. There is no clear trend in the reoffending rate since 2010, ranging between 3.6% and 5.8%.

As shown in Table 2, males accounted for 89% of the total number of restricted patients discharged in the 12 months ending December 2014, and females 11%. In the 12 months ending December 2014, 4.2% of males reoffended compared to no females. For males, this represents a drop of 1.6 percentage points since 2013 and a decline of 1.1 percentage points since 2010. For females this represents a drop of 6.1 percentage points from 2013 and a decline of 5.4 percentage points since 2010. However, due to the small number of females particularly, these numbers should be interpreted with caution.

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[15] For the reasons explained in footnote 4, this number does not represent the total number of restricted patients absolutely or conditionally discharged in 2014. In 2014, 483 restricted patients were discharged. Of these 378 were matched to the PNC. In 2010, 564 were discharged of which 398 were matched. In 2011, 593 were discharged of which 416 were matched. In 2012, 467 were discharged of which 361 were matched. In 2013, 500 were discharged and 378 were matched to the PNC.

The volatility in the reoffending rates by age group (Table 3) is a consequence of the small numbers involved. It is, therefore, difficult to discern a trend or pattern in the reoffending rates of restricted patients by age group.

Restricted patients with a large number of previous offences (Table 4), generally, have a higher rate of proven reoffending. In the 12 months ending December 2014, the proven reoffending rates ranged from 1.5% for offenders with no previous offences to 5.1% for offenders with 11 or more previous offences. Additionally, while those with 11 or more previous offences represented 42% of all restricted patients, they were responsible for committing 73% of all proven reoffences.

Table 5 shows that only two of the restricted patients discharged in the 12 months ending December 2014 committed an indictable reoffence in the 12 months after discharge. This is equivalent to an indictable proven reoffending rate of 0.53%.

Annex C: Serious further offences

Background

This note provides management information on the total number of Serious Further Offences (SFOs) as collected from the SFO Review Process.

This is an update to the information that was published in the annual proven reoffending publication, which was published on 29 October 2015 and covered the period 2013/14.

www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/472524/proven-reoffending-2013.pdf

Since 1 December 2008, where an offender is charged with an offence listed in Schedule 15a to the Criminal Justice Act 2003, alleged to have been committed within the probation supervision period or within 28 working days of the supervision period terminating, an SFO review will be triggered.

Mandatory SFO reviews are triggered in the following circumstances:

- any eligible offender who has been charged with one of the most serious SFOs – murder, manslaughter, other offence causing death, rape, assault by penetration or a sexual offence against a child under 13 years (including attempted offences); and,

- any eligible offender who has been charged with another offence on the SFO list and is or has been assessed as high/very high risk of serious harm during their current supervision period or has not been subject to a risk assessment during that period.

A review may be carried out on a discretionary basis in the following circumstances:

- Any eligible offender who has been charged with an offence, irrespective of whether that offence is a qualifying offence, and the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) and the supervising probation provider have identified public interest reasons for conducting a review.

Users should refer to the '2012 Compendium of Reoffending Statistics and Analysis' for further definitions of the terms used in this notice, and for commentary to help interpret these.

Care must be taken when interpreting the figures in 2014/15 as a number of cases where offenders have been charged with a qualifying SFO have not concluded their course through the judicial system.

The table in this statistical notice provides the numbers of SFO notifications under the Probation SFO Review Process which resulted in a conviction for a serious further offence between 2009/10 and 2014/15.

The table reflects the number of offenders who received an SFO notification up to 2014/15 and who were subsequently convicted of an SFO, up to 04 October 2015. Some offenders are eventually convicted of offences lesser than the offences with which they were charged and which triggered the SFO notification.

Table 1: SFO notifications received under the NOMS SFO Review Process which resulted in a conviction for England and Wales.

Type of Offence	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15[3]
Murder	59	50	67	50	59	42
Attempted Murder	18	12	13	16	15	14
Manslaughter	33	18	15	16	23	11
Rape /assault by penetration	75	103	76	90	80	90
Arson with Intent to endanger life	9	8	8	7	10	9
Kidnapping /Abduction/False imprisonment	19	2	14	16	19	21
Attempted Kidnapping/Abduction	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other serious sexual or violent offences[1]	95	67	60	74	69	65
All SFO convictions	**308**	**260**	**253**	**269**	**275**	**252**
Offences which did not meet the SFO criteria[2]	54	66	55	65	71	82
All Convictions	**362**	**326**	**308**	**334**	**346**	**334**

1. Any other serious violent or sexual offence which carries a maximum custodial penalty of more than 10 years.

2. Offenders who had been charged with an offence which met the SFO criteria, but were convicted of a less serious offence.

3. Provisional figures subject to change as outstanding cases are completed.

4. Users should note that SFO figures have been revised upwards following further action to pursue outstanding cases with probation providers. This work has now become part of regular reporting and therefore we expect to see smaller differences going forward.

Annex D: Sentencing Comparisons

Introduction

The reoffending rates for sentences provided in the main section of this bulletin are based on offenders with different demographic, offence and criminal history characteristics. It is therefore unclear whether any difference in the reoffending rates is due to the difference in sentence or differences in other characteristics between the groups. This Annex E therefore provides sentencing comparisons after adjusting for observable characteristics.

The analysis builds on that presented in the 2013 Compendium of Reoffending and in the research paper 'The reoffending impact of community orders and suspended sentence orders, and of different offender requirements' published in 2015. This is done in two ways; firstly by updating the figures using more recent 2013 reoffending data and a more robust matching methodology than used in the 2013 Compendium, and secondly by adding several new comparisons.

Methodology

As with the two previous analyses, Propensity Score Matching (PSM) was used as the method of creating matched offender groups for each sentencing comparison. The PSM approach involves calculating the probability of receiving the 'treatment' sentence (a propensity score between 0 and 1) using factors associated with both the likelihood of the offender being given this sentence and the probability that the offender will reoffend. Offenders given the 'treatment' sentence are then matched to offenders receiving the 'comparison' sentence on the basis of the propensity scores[16]. After matching, the average treatment effect of receiving the 'treatment' sentence rather than the 'comparison' sentence is calculated as the difference in the mean reoffending rates between the two sentences.

The PSM approach assumes a level of variation in sentencing decisions. This assumption imposes its own limitations to how PSM should be used, since similar cases should be given different sentences only where sentencing decisions are marginal. Where cases are matched, the PSM approach assumes that the eventual choice is, in effect, random – i.e. all of the non-random variation is controlled for. However, it is possible that some unmeasured factor may be responsible for the eventual decision.

Datasets featuring adult[17] offenders in England and Wales in 2013 were constructed for each sentence category to be compared using information taken from the Police

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[16] Numerous algorithms for generating a comparison group using propensity score matching are available; this analysis used Epanechnikov Kernel matching on the propensity score with bandwidth 0.03. This algorithm involves treatment observations being matched to as many comparison observations as possible with the latter being weighted according to the proximity of their propensity scores to those of the treatment observations (the closer the propensity scores the higher the weighting).

[17] Adult offenders are defined as offenders aged 18 or over at the time of their sentence. This is also referred to as the start point or the index date.

National Computer (PNC)[18]. The datasets contain offender, offence, criminal history and reoffending information for each occasion when an adult offender received one of the selected sentences. Offenders were included in each sentence dataset for as many times as they had received the relevant sentence during the time period. So an offender who received two community orders on separate sentencing occasions during the period, for example, would have two records eligible for matching when comparing community orders to another sentence.

Two outcome variables were used to measure reoffending; the one year proven reoffending rate (a binary yes / no measure) and the (mean) number of proven reoffences per offender.

The variables used to create the propensity scores are as listed below[19]:

Offender Demographics
- Age at date of sentence*

- Gender

- Ethnicity

Index Offence (this is the offence that led to the sentence):
- OGRS offence code (condensed 20 categories for the index offence, e.g. robbery, violence, burglary and so on, as in the Offender Group Reconviction Scale 3)

- Severity of index offence (ranked 1 to 3 with 1 being the most severe).

Offending History[20] (prior to index offence)
- Number of previous offences* with breakdown by severity of offence and by whether the conviction or caution was in the last year, not in the last year but within the last five years, or was more than five years before the current sentencing date

- Copas Rate[21]

- Number of previous custodial sentences*

- Number of previous court orders*

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[18] The Police National Computer is the administrative data system used by all police forces in England and Wales. It is managed by the Home Office. The Ministry of Justice receive monthly extracts of data from the PNC.
[19] These had statistically significant relationships at the 0.2 significance level with both the probability of receiving the 'treatment' sentence and with reoffending for some or all of the sentencing comparisons. The 0.2 level of statistical significance is consistent with guidance from the academic literature (e.g. Apel & Sweeten, 2010; Hahs-Vaughn & Onwuegbuzie, 2006; Rosenbaum, 2002) and with previous Ministry of Justice sentencing comparison analyses.
[20] All offending history variables exclude Penalty Notices for Disorder.
[21] The Copas Rate controls for the rate at which an offender has built up convictions. The higher it is, the more likely the offender is to reoffend. The formula is as follows;

$$\text{copas rate} = \log_e \left(\frac{\text{Number of court appearances or cautions } + 1}{\text{Length of criminal career in years } + 10} \right)$$

- Number of previous cautions*

- Age at first contact with the criminal justice system*

This comprises a wider range of variables than used in the 2013 Compendium of reoffending. However, there may be other characteristics that influence both the sentencing decision and the probability of reoffending, such as the offender's plea. It is therefore possible that some of the differences in the reoffending rates found in this analysis reflect differences in the offenders and their offences that could not be covered by the data used. This may be more of an issue for certain comparisons than others, for example magistrates/judges may take into consideration an offender's income when deciding whether to give a fine, though income data was not in the dataset.

In general, some extra caution is advised when interpreting comparisons featuring fines. The PNC does not record all offences for which fines may be given in a court such as TV license evasion or less serious motoring offences. Rather it only covers fines for more serious offences, such as shoplifting, driving over the limit, being drunk and disorderly and possession of cannabis. This means the findings should not be considered in terms of all fines, but rather the more serious offences that might lead to a fine.

When interpreting the results, it is important to consider which sentence is the 'treatment'. For example, when comparing community orders with fines the analysis shows what would have happened to those receiving a community order if they had received a fine, not the other way around. This means that the analysis for this comparison would be more focused on particular offences that might receive a community order or a fine, rather than less serious offences warranting only a fine and not a community order.

Matching quality

The impact estimates exclude treatment cases where there is no common support – that is, which don't have a similar propensity score to any comparison group cases. All comparisons involve less than 0.2 per cent of the treatment group being lost in the matching. The number of treatment cases on support and off support for these comparisons is shown by Table 1.

Following the matching for each comparison, the closeness of the matched groups on characteristics selected for the model was tested using standardised (mean) differences[22]. These can be interpreted as follows:

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[22] The formula for the standardised (mean) difference is as follows, where the x represents the characteristic selected (e.g. age) and s the standard deviation of that characteristic:

$$\text{Standardised difference} = \frac{\left(\overline{x}_{treatment} - \overline{x}_{control}\right)}{\sqrt{\frac{s_{treatment}^2 + s_{control}^2}{2}}}$$

As the propensity score matching algorithm used for this analysis involved a treatment observation being matched to more than one comparison observation, the means and standard deviations were weighted.

• Standardised differences <=5% = groups are closely matched on that particular offender or offence characteristic.

• Standardised differences of 5–10% = a reasonable match quality.

• Standardised differences >10% = a poor quality of matching which could alter the interpretation of the final result.

In this analysis, 97 per cent of standardised differences were five per cent or lower. All those over five per cent were associated with the OGRS offence code breakdown in the comparisons of cautions versus other matched sentences. In total fourteen were between five and ten per cent and just one over ten per cent (this being 11.8 per cent). No comparison involved more than four standardised differences being more than five per cent. Together with the high common support, this suggests the propensity score matching succeeded in creating well-balanced and representative groups on the observed characteristics.

Results *(Table 1)*

The comparisons indicate that over a one-year follow-up period:

- Offenders sentenced to a community order reoffended at a one percentage point higher rate (and committed 0.04 more reoffences on average) than similar, matched offenders receiving police recorded fines. This contrasts with those sentenced to a lower level community order who reoffended at a one and a half percentage point lower rate (and committed 0.08 fewer reoffences on average) than matched offenders receiving police recorded fines.

- Offenders sentenced to absolute or conditional discharges were 4.1 percentage points less likely to reoffend than matched offenders receiving community orders, 1.6 percentage points less likely to reoffend than matched offenders receiving lower level community orders, and 5.4 percentage points less likely to reoffend than matched offenders receiving police recorded fines.

- As the vast majority of discharges were conditional rather than absolute, the comparisons of conditional discharges with matched community orders, lower level community orders and police recorded fines were very similar to those for all discharges.

- Offenders given cautions were 1.4 percentage points more likely to reoffend than matched offenders receiving discharges, 1.6 percentage points more likely to reoffend than matched offenders receiving conditional discharges alone, and 0.8 percentage points less likely to reoffend than matched offenders receiving community orders. There was no statistically significant difference between offenders given cautions and matched lower level community orders.

The updated results for the three comparisons presented in the '2013 Compendium of Reoffending Statistics and Analysis' (community orders versus matched police

recorded fines and conditional discharges versus matched community orders and versus matched police recorded fines) are very similar to those for 2009 and 2010.

Table 1: Proven reoffending outcomes for matched non-custodial sentences in England and Wales, 2013

Treatment	Control	Treatment Size, Matched & Off support	Matched Control Size	Binary & Frequency (Treatment)	Binary & Frequency (Control)	Impact estimate
Community orders	Fines	93,972	150,474	39.0%	38.0%	**1.0%pts***
		128		1.48	1.44	**0.04**
Low level com orders	Fines	47,851	150,474	28.8%	30.3%	**-1.5%pts***
		4		0.90	0.98	**-0.08***
All discharges	Community orders	60,731	94,100	34.9%	39.1%	**-4.1%pts***
		4		1.30	1.51	**-0.21***
All discharges	Low level com orders	60,729	47,855	34.9%	36.5%	**-1.6%pts***
		6		1.30	1.35	**-0.05***
All discharges	Fines	60,734	150,474	35.0%	40.4%	**-5.4%pts***
		1		1.30	1.59	**-0.29***
Conditional discharges	Community orders	58,532	94,100	34.2%	38.6%	**-4.4%pts***
		1		1.21	1.45	**-0.24***
Conditional discharges	Low level com orders	58,531	47,855	34.2%	36.0%	**-1.8%pts***
		2		1.21	1.29	**-0.08***
Conditional discharges	Fines	58,533	150,474	34.2%	39.7%	**-5.5%pts***
		0		1.21	1.50	**-0.30***
Cautions	All discharges	154,807	60,735	17.8%	16.4%	**1.4%pts***
		0		0.44	0.4	**0.04**
Cautions	Conditional discharges	154,807	58,533	17.8%	16.2%	**1.6%pts***
		0		0.44	0.39	**0.06***
Cautions	Community orders	154,807	94,100	17.8%	18.6%	**-0.8%pts***
		0		0.44	0.49	**-0.04**
Cautions	Low level com orders	154,807	47,855	17.8%	17.4%	**0.4%pts**
		0		0.44	0.43	**0.01**

Notes:

* = significant at 0.1 level, ** = significant at 0.05 level, *** = significant at 0.01 level

Low level com orders = Low level community orders

Contact points

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

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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

General information about the official statistics system of the United Kingdom is available from http://statisticsauthority.gov.uk/about-the-authority/uk-statistical-system

Alternative formats are available on request from statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk.