



Ministry  
of Justice

## **Statistical Notice**

Further breakdown of statistics on releases on temporary licence, July to September 2014, England and Wales

9 March 2015



## Background

This ad-hoc statistical notice presents a further breakdown of already published information on releases on temporary licence (ROTL).

Statistics on ROTL are published in the 'Offender Management Statistics Quarterly' bulletin. The most recent edition of this bulletin was published on 29 January 2015 and covered statistics up to the quarter July to September 2014. It can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/offender-management-statistics-quarterly-july-to-september-2014>

The statistics presented in this ad-hoc statistical notice are a further breakdown of Table 3.4 of the 'Prison releases: July to September 2014' tables that were published as part of this bulletin.

Users should refer to 'Offender Management Statistics Quarterly' for definitions of the terms used in this statistical notice, and for commentary to help interpret these results.

The figures provided in this ad-hoc statistical notice have been drawn from administrative IT systems which, as with any large scale recording system, are subject to possible errors with data entry and processing.

## Further breakdowns of statistics on temporary licence

Table 1 provides information on the number of incidences and individuals released on temporary licence in England and Wales in quarterly periods for the year ending September 2014. Information for the quarter July to September 2013 is also provided to give a comparison to the same period in the previous year. This is consistent with how these statistics are presented in Table 3.4 of 'Offender Management Statistics Quarterly'.

The breakdown provided in Table 1 aims to show how ROTL releases differ between short and long sentenced prisoners. This table therefore breaks down the number of incidences and the number of individuals released into two categories, one relating to those serving sentences of four years or more (including indeterminate sentences), and the other relating to all other sentences.

Users should be aware that this latter category for all other sentences includes incidences and individuals released where centrally held data on ROTL did not have a record of the prisoner's sentence length, and therefore the statistics provided for those serving sentences of four years or more (including indeterminate sentences) may be an underestimate. From the quarter for July to September 2013, to the same period in 2014, no more than 7% of incidences of release did not have the sentence length recorded, and no more than 6% of individuals released did not have the sentence length recorded.

When comparing the quarter July to September 2014 to the same period in 2013, these statistics show that:

- The total number of incidences of ROTL has fallen by 23%, and that the number of incidences for individuals serving sentences of four years or more (including indeterminate sentences) has fallen broadly in line with this. Consequently, the proportion of incidences of release from sentences of four years or more (including indeterminate sentences) remains broadly unchanged over the period.
- The overall number of individuals receiving ROTL has fallen by 29%, and that whilst the number of released individuals serving sentences of four years or more (including indeterminate sentences) has fallen broadly in line with this, the number released from all other sentences has fallen at a greater rate. Consequently, the proportion of individuals receiving ROTL whilst serving sentences of four years or more (including indeterminate sentences) has increased over the period.

**Table 1: Releases on temporary licence, by sentence length, July to September 2013, to July to September 2014, England and Wales**

	<b>Jul-Sep 2013</b>	<b>Oct-Dec 2013</b>	<b>Jan-Mar 2014</b>	<b>Apr-Jun 2014</b>	<b>Jul-Sep 2014</b>	<b>Change Jul-Sep 2013 to 2014</b>
<b>Males and Females</b>						
<b>Incidences of release on temporary licence</b>	<b>140,944</b>	<b>131,350</b>	<b>125,332</b>	<b>120,075</b>	<b>108,877</b>	<b>-23%</b>
Sentences of 4 years or more ( <u>including</u> indeterminate sentences)	116,555	109,915	104,733	100,232	91,205	-22%
All other sentences <sup>(1)</sup>	24,389	21,435	20,599	19,843	17,672	-28%
<b>Incidences of release on temporary licence</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	
Sentences of 4 years or more ( <u>including</u> indeterminate sentences)	83%	84%	84%	83%	84%	1pp
All other sentences <sup>(1)</sup>	17%	16%	16%	17%	16%	-1pp
<b>Individuals<sup>(2)</sup> released on temporary licence</b>	<b>6,240</b>	<b>5,815</b>	<b>5,523</b>	<b>5,080</b>	<b>4,409</b>	<b>-29%</b>
Sentences of 4 years or more ( <u>including</u> indeterminate sentences)	4,686	4,382	4,185	3,894	3,436	-27%
All other sentences <sup>(1)</sup>	1,554	1,433	1,338	1,186	973	-37%
<b>Individuals released on temporary licence</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	
Sentences of 4 years or more ( <u>including</u> indeterminate sentences)	75%	75%	76%	77%	78%	3pp
All other sentences <sup>(1)</sup>	25%	25%	24%	23%	22%	-3pp

(1) This includes cases where sentence length is not recorded.

(2) One individual may be released on temporary licence in more than one quarter of the year.



## Contacts

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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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