

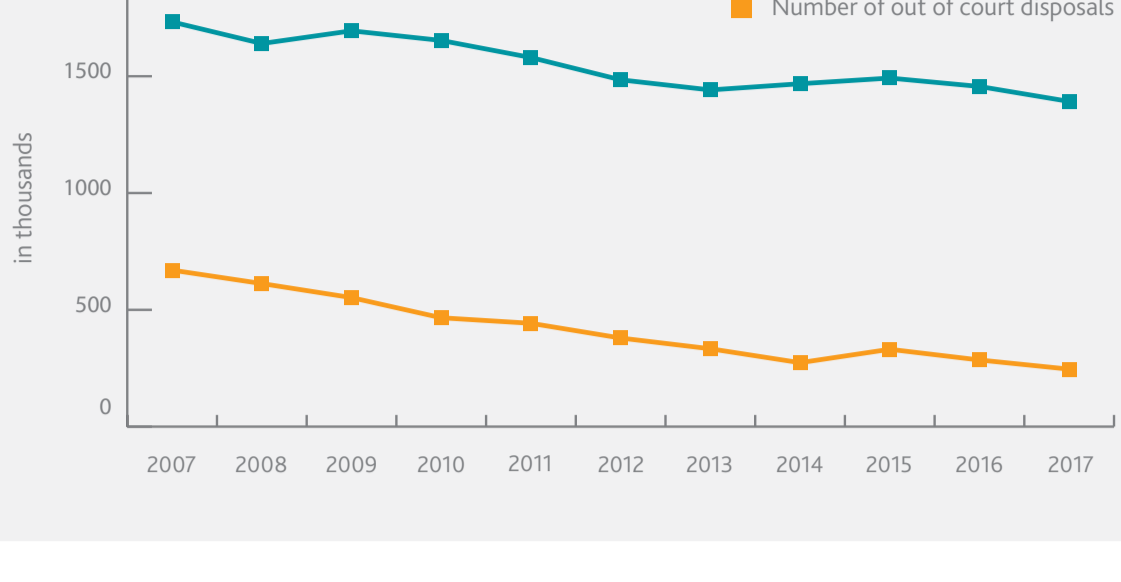
Criminal Justice Statistics

England and Wales, 2017



Overview

The number of defendants and companies formally dealt with by the Criminal Justice System in 2017 was 1.64 million, this continued the falling trend over the past decade. In the most recent year the number of defendants prosecuted fell 4% the number of out of court disposals issued fell by 14%.

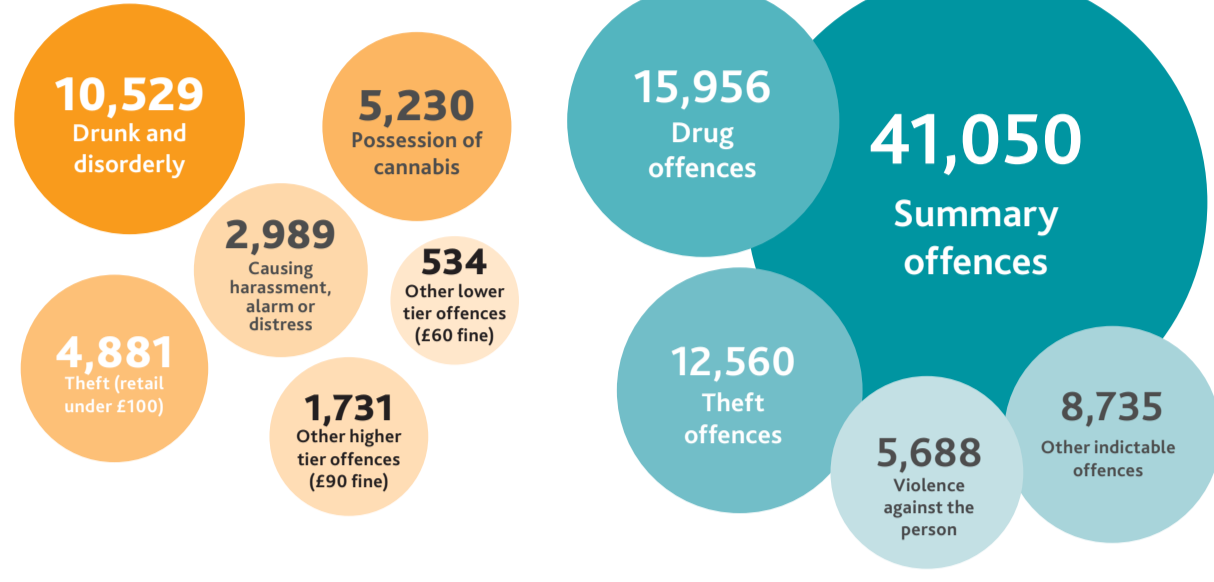


Out of court disposals

In the most recent year: the number of penalty notices for disorder fell by 28%, and the number of cautions fell by 19%

Penalty Notices for Disorder, 2017

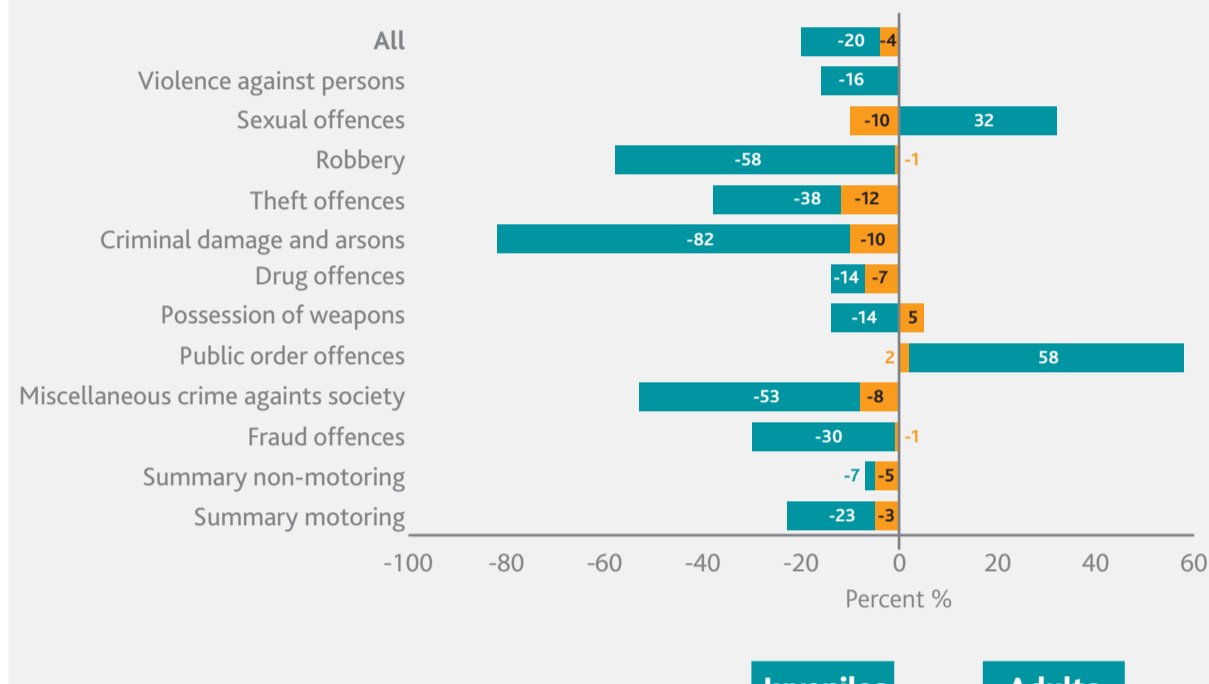
Offenders given cautions, 2017



Prosecutions and convictions

The total number of defendants prosecuted has decreased by 20% overall in the past decade, and the composition of prosecutions at the magistrates' court has changed:

Change in the number of defendants prosecuted (2007-2017)



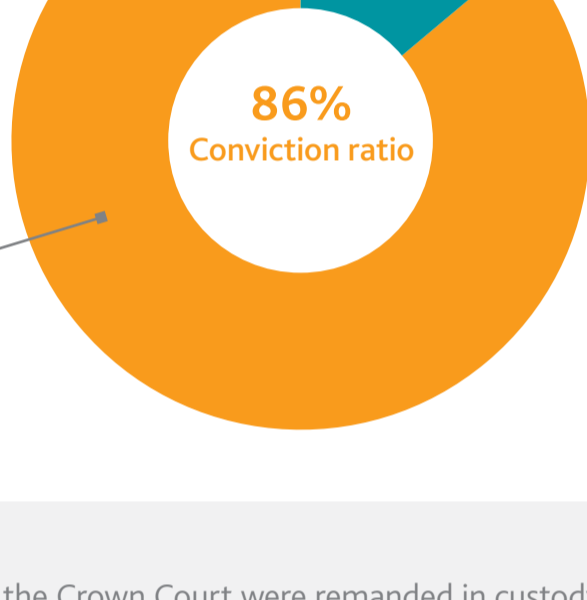
...and the number of juveniles convicted has fallen much more steeply than adults:



Conviction ratio

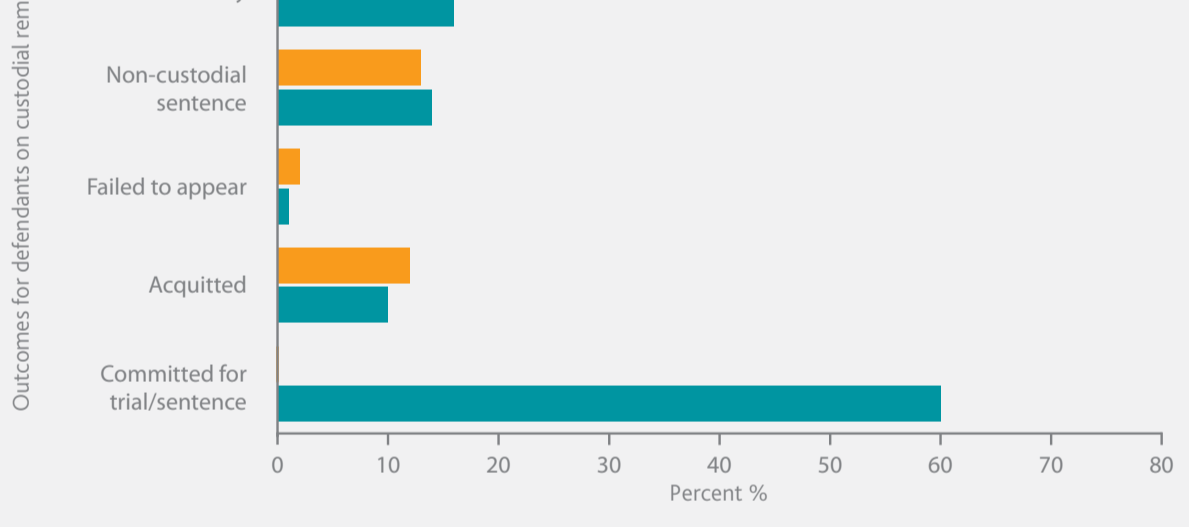
The overall conviction ratio increased in the latest year, from 85% in 2016 to 86% in 2017. It has seen a steady increase of around one percentage point per year since 2013.

1pp increase since 2016



Remands

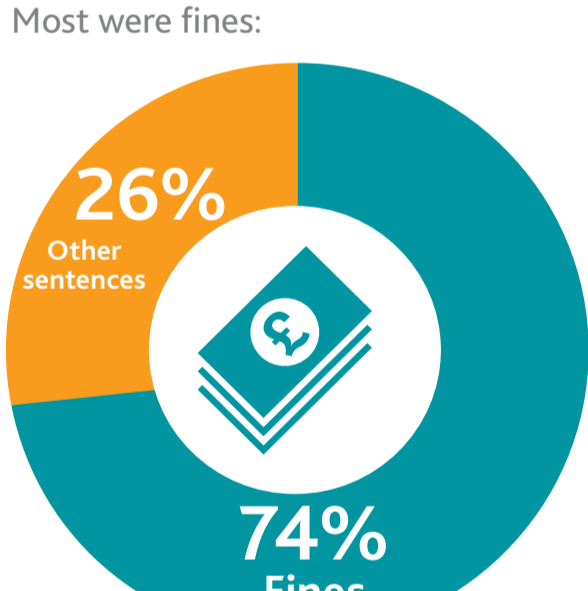
35% of defendants tried or sentenced at the Crown Court were remanded in custody. Most people (73%) remanded in custody at the Crown Court were later sentenced to immediate custody, and most (60%) remanded at the magistrates' court were then committed for trial or sentence at the Crown Court:



Sentencing

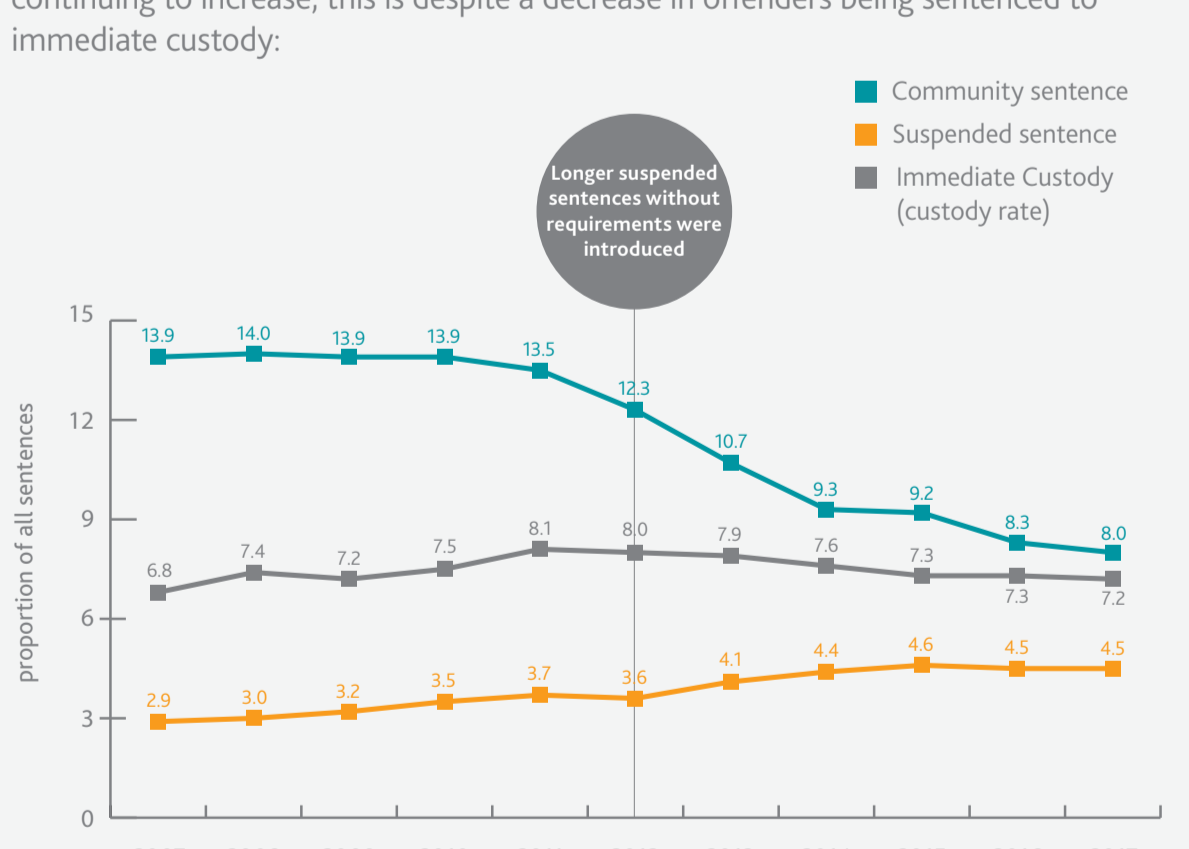
1.20 million offenders received sentences at courts in England and Wales in 2017. Most were fines:

Average custodial sentence length has increased by:



since 2007, to 16.9 months in 2017.

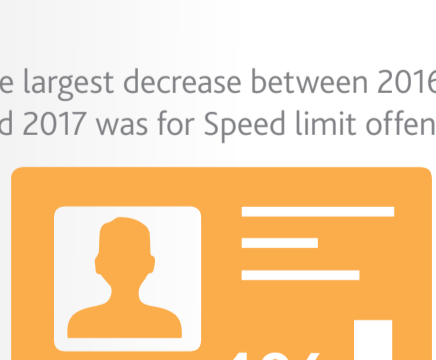
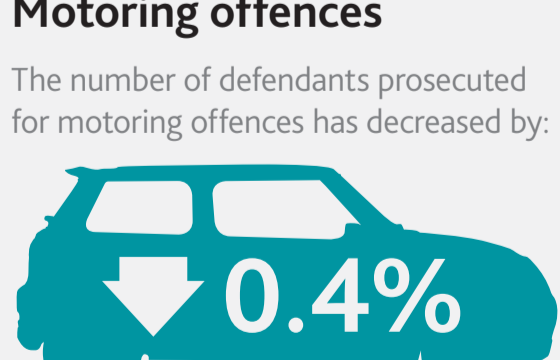
Community sentences continue to decline and suspended sentences have been increasing. Custody rate remains stable and average custodial sentence length is continuing to increase, this is despite a decrease in offenders being sentenced to immediate custody:



Motoring offences

The number of defendants prosecuted for motoring offences has decreased by:

The largest decrease between 2016 and 2017 was for Speed limit offences



between 2016 and 2017.

Offending histories

Offenders with long criminal careers now account for over a third of the offending population, proportion of first time offenders is now at 10-year high with 13%.

Proportion of convictions for indictable offences by previous offending history

