

XXXX
XXXX

data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk

March 2018

Dear XXXX

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 180223001

You asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

The rate of FTA warrants issued in Magistrates' Courts in England and Wales over the last seven years and the rate magistrates' courts have been closed over the same period.

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds the information that you have requested and I have provided it in the table below.

England & Wales	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Failure to Attend Warrants issued	115,490	109,521	95,234	94,540	92,983	92,862	93,317
Number of Hearings	3,069,084	2,852,156	2,594,496	2,478,791	2,438,882	2,388,227	2,267,438
Ratio of FTA warrants to Hearings	3.8%	3.8%	3.7%	3.8%	3.8%	3.9%	4.1%
Rate of change in FTA warrants to hearings ratio	Not Available	2.0%	-4.4%	3.9%	0.0%	2.0%	5.8%
Estimated number of sites hearing Magistrates work at End of Year (EoY)	307	223	219	215	212	210	171
Magistrates Courts closed during year	1	84	4	4	3	2	39
Rate of Closure for Magistrates Courts	-0.3%	-27.4%	-1.8%	-1.8%	-1.4%	-0.9%	-18.6%

Notes regarding the above data:

- The data are taken from the Magistrates' Courts case management and management information system which is a live data base and as such is liable to change over time.
- The data has not been checked against published statistics or against court files held locally.
- Although care is taken when processing and analysing the data, the details are subject to inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale case data entry systems and is the best data that is available.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Data Access and Compliance Unit, Ministry of Justice, 10.38, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

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