

Statistical notice and consultation response

Criminal Justice Statistics: May 2020

The COVID19 pandemic has caused MoJ to have to change its data gathering, access and release practices, focusing efforts on priority analysis and statistics. Our [statement](#) (explains this further and in particular, we are pausing access to the Police National Computer, to minimise non-essential travel by our analysts. In line with [guidance](#) from the Office for Statistics Regulation, the decision has been made to delay the offending histories chapter of this publication. We will keep users updated of any further changes via our published release calendar.

Consultation response

Offending Histories data

1. The offending histories chapter is published quarterly in the Criminal Justice Statistics, presenting key statistics on offending histories.
2. In February users were consulted on our proposal to **publish the offending histories chapter on an annual basis, rather than the current quarterly updates (Annex A)**.
3. We would like to thank all those who took the time to submit a response to the publication. There were several responses and the team are working with those who responded to ensure that the needs of our users are met.
4. No decision will be taken about these statistics until conversations with users are concluded. At which point a more detailed plan will be published.
5. The COVID19 pandemic has caused MoJ to have to change its data gathering, access and release practices, focusing efforts on priority analysis and statistics. Our [statement](#) (explains this further and in particular, we are pausing access to the Police National Computer, to minimise non-essential travel by our analysts. In line with [guidance](#) from the Office for Statistics Regulation, the decision has been made to delay the offending histories chapter of this publication. We will keep users updated of any further changes via our published release calendar.

Contact details and further information

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

Tel: 020 3334 3536

Email: newsdesk@justice.gov.uk

Other queries or comments should be directed to the PNC and criminal histories statistics team:

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Ministry of Justice

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statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Annex A

Statistical notice and consultation

Criminal Justice Statistics: February 2020

Future publication date: 21 May 2020

Consultation on offending histories

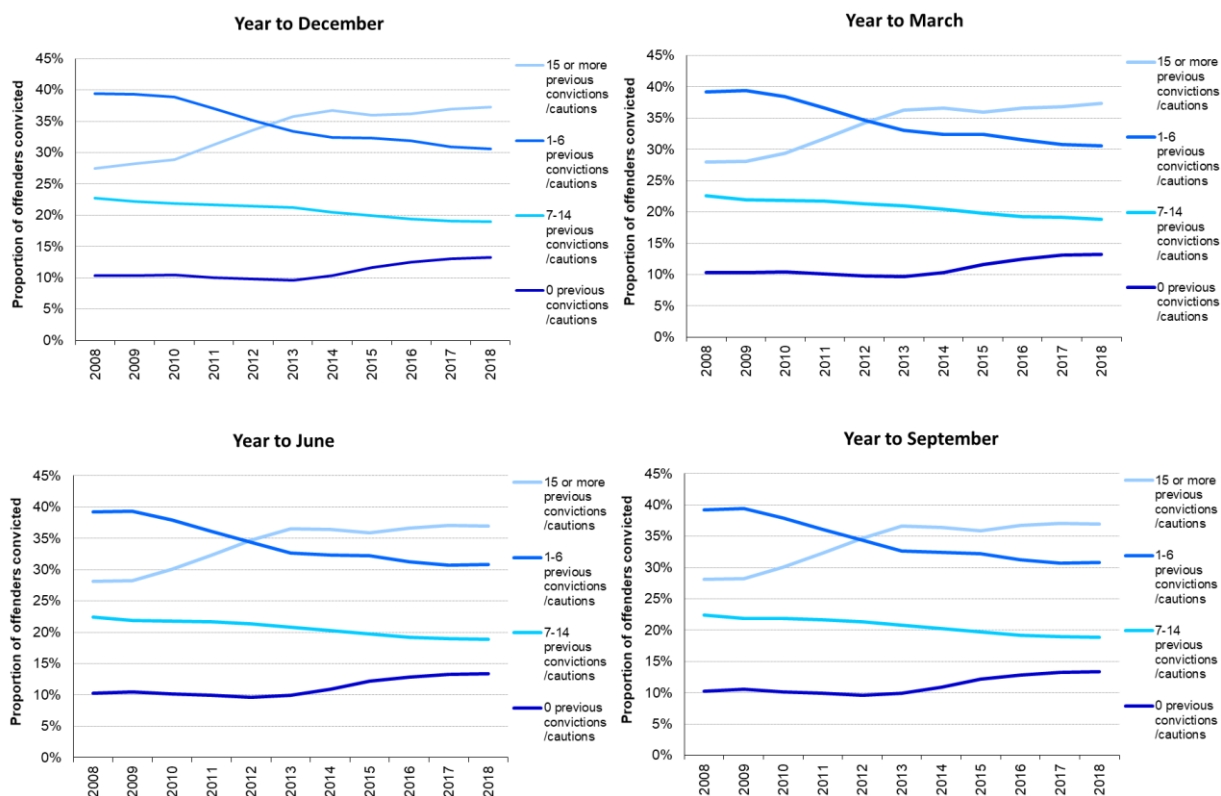
Offending Histories data

1. The offending histories chapter is published quarterly in the Criminal Justice Statistics, presenting key statistics on offending histories.
2. This note is to consult users on our proposal to **publish the offending histories chapter on an annual basis, rather than the current quarterly updates.**
3. It is proposed that the tables, associated commentary and data tools will be published on 21 May 2020 and annually, in May, from then on. The May publication reports on the previous calendar year.
4. The documents affected by the proposed changes would be:
 - The offending histories chapter in Criminal Justice Statistics
 - The associated overview tables (Q6_1 to Q6_6c)
 - The offending histories data tool: previous offence statistics
 - The offending histories data tool
 - The first-time entrants data tool

No other elements of Criminal Justice Statistics than those relating to offending histories would be impacted.

5. This change is proposed as the trends in this series do not change very much on a quarterly basis and there is a lack of user demand for this information on a quarterly basis.

The figures below show that the trends are very similar whichever quarter is used.



6. If you have any comments about this change or other views on the content of the offending histories chapter please email CJS_Statistics@justice.gov.uk. Please put 'Consultation Response' in the title of any emails. Two questions you may wish to consider are:

- Do you agree with the proposed change in frequency for this element of Criminal Justice Statistics?
- Do you agree that offending histories, if published annually, should form part of the May publication?

7. This consultation will run from 20 February 2020 until 20 March 2020

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Other queries or comments on the issues set out in this note should be directed to the PNC and criminal histories statistics team:

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