



Final proven reoffending statistics for Community Rehabilitation Companies and the National Probation Service

July to September 2018 and October to December 2018

Main points

This publication provides the **final** proven reoffending results for the **July to September 2018** and **October to December 2018** offender cohorts being managed by Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRC) under payment by results (PbR) arrangements.

July to September 2018

Eleven CRCs achieved **significant reductions** in the **binary rate**



Eleven CRCs in the July to September 2018 cohort will receive a **payment** for statistically significant reductions in the **binary rate** compared to the 2011 baseline.

One CRC saw **significant increases** in the **binary rate**



Norfolk and Suffolk CRC will receive a financial deduction for a statistically significant increase in the binary rate compared to the 2011 baseline.

October to December 2018

Fifteen CRCs achieved **significant reductions** in the **binary rate**



Fifteen CRCs in the October to December 2018 cohort will receive a **payment** for statistically significant reductions in the **binary rate** compared to the 2011 baseline.

None of the CRCs saw **significant increases** in the **binary rate**



None of the CRCs in the October to December 2018 cohort will receive a financial deduction for statistically significant increases in the **binary rate** compared to the 2011 baseline.

Statistician's comment

This report covers **final** proven reoffending results for the **July to September 2018** and **October to December 2018** offender cohorts that are being managed by CRCs under PbR arrangements. A proven reoffence is measured over a one-year follow-up period and a further six-month waiting period to allow the offence to be proven in court.¹

Since management of the first offender cohorts under PbR arrangements began in October 2015, the number of CRCs receiving payments as a result of achieving statistically significant reductions in their reoffending rates has ranged from nine to 17. In contrast, over the years, CRCs receiving payment deductions due to statistically significant increases in rates has hovered between zero and two.

Latest figures, however, show a rise in the number of CRCs receiving payments in the **October to December 2018** cohort compared to **July to September 2018** (15 and 11 CRCs respectively). Whilst similar differences have been observed between previous quarterly cohorts, it is worth noting that the waiting period for the **October to December 2018** cohort coincides with the operational restrictions following the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As reduced volumes of cases have been processed at the criminal courts, these restrictions have led to increases in outstanding cases in Magistrates' and Crown Courts.² The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic may have had a reasonably small effect on the proven reoffending results for the latest offender cohort, but it is too early to tell. This will be considered further in future PbR statistics releases as the follow-up period for reoffending progresses.

¹ A full description of the measure of reoffending is provided in the guide to proven reoffending statistics, which is available at: www.gov.uk/government/statistics/payment-by-results-statistics-october-2015-to-december-2019

² Reported in Criminal Court Statistics Quarterly: www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-court-statistics-quarterly-april-to-june-2020

1. Introduction

This publication provides the **final** proven reoffending results for the **July to September 2018** and **October to December 2018** offender cohorts that are being managed by CRCs under PbR arrangements. These results reflect the changes to the CRC contracts,³ announced in 2018, which resulted in an adjustment to the binary measure and a change to the frequency baseline⁴ against which CRCs are compared.

The one-year proven reoffending measures used to assess CRC performance are:

- the **binary** rate (proportion of offenders who reoffend); and
- the **frequency** rate (the average number of reoffences per reoffender)

The binary rate for each CRC is subject to an adjustment for changes in the case mix of offenders being supervised, using the Offender Group Reconviction Scale (OGRS), version 4/G,⁵ to allow performance to be assessed against the baseline year of 2011.⁶ This is referred to as the **OGRS4/G-adjusted binary reoffending rate**.

The publication also includes final results for the National Probation Service (NPS). However, please note that final results for the NPS have not changed as a result of the contract variations since they are not compared against a baseline threshold in the same way.

Contract variation

Under contract variations, the following changes have been made to the binary and frequency measures, for assessing CRC performance:

1. An additional adjustment has been made to the **OGRS4/G-adjusted binary reoffending rate** to account for a change in the data source in October 2015, as explained in the published technical note.⁷
2. As announced in the 'Strengthening probation, building confidence' consultation document,⁸ the baseline year, against which CRC performance on the frequency of reoffending is compared, has now changed. All CRCs are now compared against a 2015/16 baseline, with the exception of Merseyside CRC, which has retained the 2011 baseline.

Both adjustments were applied retrospectively to all final CRC cohorts in the October 2018 bulletin.⁹

³ Voluntary ex ante transparency (VEAT) notices for all CRCs were published in July and August 2018. Please see example: <https://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:335172-2018:TEXT:EN:HTML&src=0>

⁴ All CRCs are now compared against a 2015/16 frequency baseline, with the exception of Merseyside CRC which has retained its 2011 baseline.

⁵ Further information on the Offender Group Reconviction Scale 4/G can be found in the guide to proven reoffending statistics, which is available at: www.gov.uk/government/statistics/payment-by-results-statistics-october-2015-to-december-2019

⁶ The 2011 PbR baselines and associated methodology documents are available at: www.gov.uk/government/collections/transforming-rehabilitation

⁷ www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-community-rehabilitation-companies-contracts

⁸ <https://consult.justice.gov.uk/hm-prisons-and-probation/strengthening-probation-building-confidence>

⁹ www.gov.uk/government/statistics/payment-by-results-statistics-october-2015-to-december-2017

To aid the user, and in the interests of transparency, the accompanying tables include the actual binary rates before any adjustments alongside the **OGRS4/G-adjusted binary rates** and **2018 contract-adjusted binary rates**. Further information on these changes is available in section 4.

From this point forward, the **2018 contract-adjusted binary rate** will be referred to as the **adjusted binary rate**.

Interim statistics

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to change its data gathering, access and release practices, focusing efforts on priority analysis and statistics. Consequently, in line with guidance from the Office for Statistics Regulation,¹⁰ the interim proven reoffending statistics were permanently withdrawn from this publication in April 2020.

For technical detail on how final proven reoffending is measured, please refer to the accompanying guide to proven reoffending statistics.¹¹

¹⁰ www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Regulatory-guidance_changing-methods_Coronavirus.pdf

¹¹ www.gov.uk/government/statistics/payment-by-results-statistics-october-2015-to-december-2019

2. Final results

Final results are based on a **cohort of offenders being managed by CRCs in the community under PbR arrangements following probation reforms**. All offenders have been subject to the full one-year follow-up period and the additional six-month waiting period as detailed in the guide to proven reoffending statistics.¹²

Comparisons of performance between different CRCs and previous cohorts can now be made by comparing the adjusted binary rates. It remains the case, however, that **comparisons cannot be made between CRCs and the NPS** due to differences in the offenders being managed.

July to September 2018

Binary:

1. Payments on the binary rate will be made only for achieving statistically significant reductions in reoffending compared to the 2011 baseline reoffending rate. Deductions will be applied for statistically significant increases.
2. **Eleven of the 21 CRCs** in the **July to September 2018** cohort will receive a **payment** for achieving statistically significant **reductions** in the adjusted binary reoffending rate when compared to the 2011 baseline reoffending rates.
3. **Norfolk and Suffolk CRC** will receive a financial deduction for a statistically significant **increase** in the adjusted binary reoffending rate when compared to the 2011 baseline reoffending rates.
4. The remaining **nine CRCs** will not receive a payment or deduction on the adjusted binary reoffending rate.

Frequency:

1. We cannot say which CRCs have met their frequency rate targets from a single quarterly cohort as frequency rate targets are based on annual cohorts only.

October to December 2018

Binary:

1. **Fifteen of the 21 CRCs** in the **October to December 2018** cohort will receive a **payment** for achieving statistically significant **reductions** in the adjusted binary reoffending rate when compared to the 2011 baseline reoffending rates.
2. **None of the CRCs** in the **October to December 2018** cohort saw a statistically significant **increase** in the adjusted binary reoffending rate when compared to the 2011 baseline reoffending rates.
3. The remaining **six CRCs** will not receive a payment or deduction on the adjusted binary reoffending rate.

¹² A full description of the measure of reoffending is provided in the guide to proven reoffending statistics, which is available at: www.gov.uk/government/statistics/payment-by-results-statistics-october-2015-to-december-2019

Figure 1: Final adjusted binary rates for the **July to September 2018** payment by results cohorts, by CRC (Source: Table A2, Final proven reoffending statistics for CRCs and the NPS, October to December 2018, England and Wales)

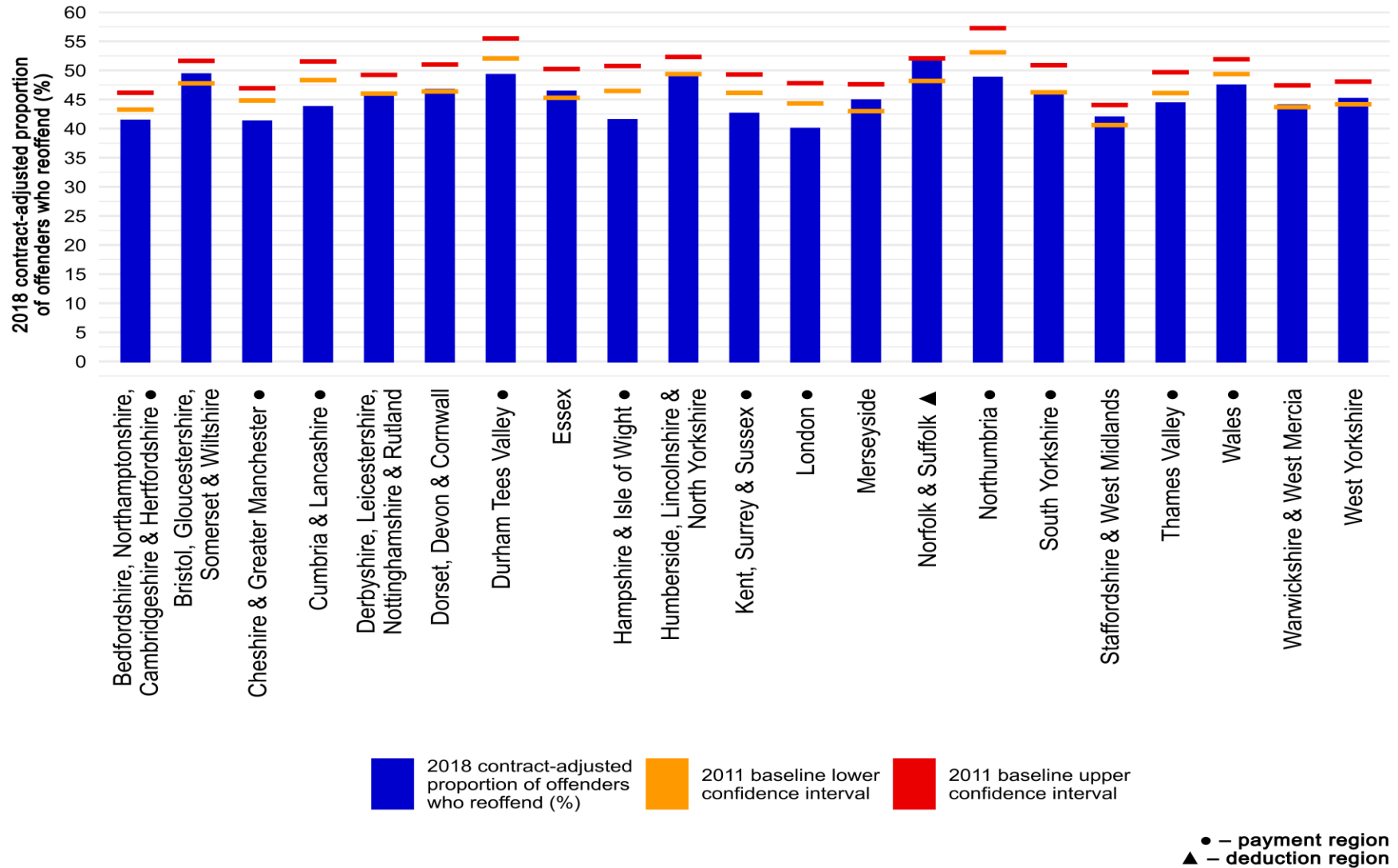


Figure 2: Final adjusted binary rates for the **October to December 2018** payment by results cohorts, by CRC (Source: Table A1, Final proven reoffending statistics for CRCs and the NPS, October to December 2018, England and Wales)

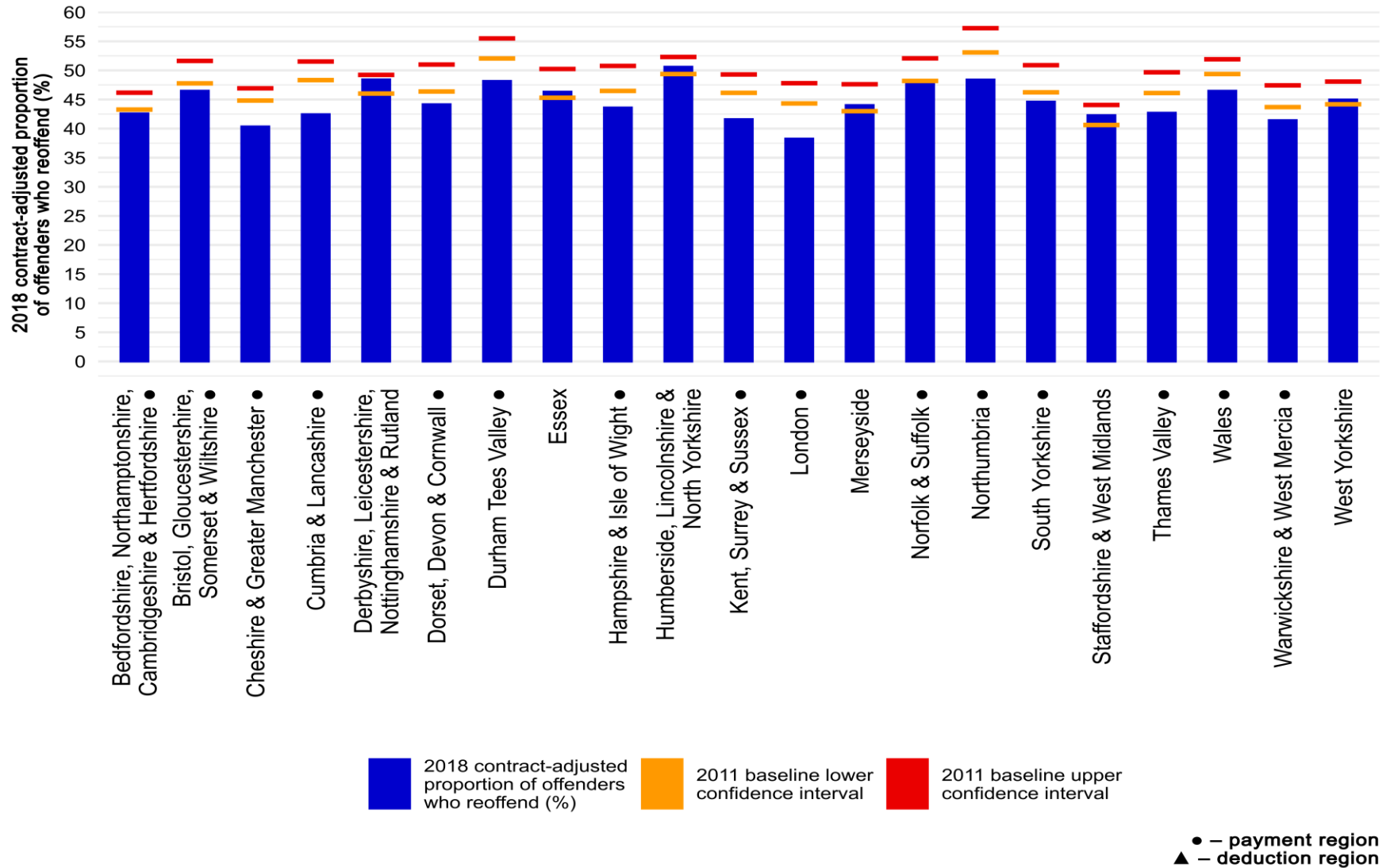
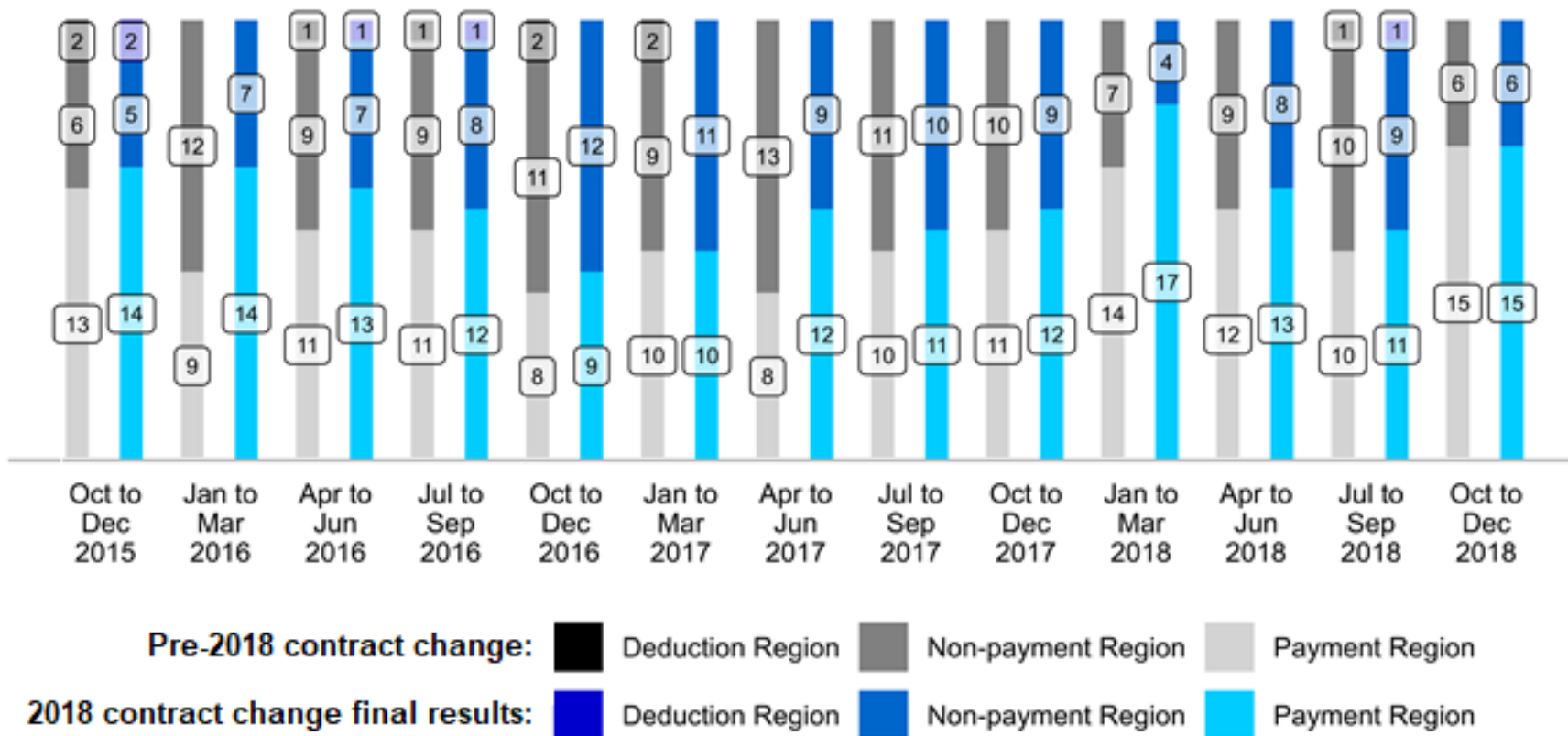


Figure 3: Number of CRCs in the payment, non-payment and deduction regions in each final cohort for the binary measure (Source: Tables A1 to A13, Final proven reoffending statistics for CRCs and the NPS, October to December 2018, England and Wales)¹³



¹³ Two contract variations associated with the binary and frequency measures of reoffending were agreed with CRCs in 2018.

3. Changes to the CRC contracts and implications for the final results

Adjustment to the binary result

1. The data source for offender starts in each PbR cohort changed between the procurement process for CRC contracts and the measurement of outcomes for the first PbR cohort: moving from pNOMIS (prison releases) and Form 20 (community order / suspended sentence starts) to nDelius (the case management system for probation).
2. The MoJ explored the reoffending results and found a difference in the overall binary reoffending measure resulting from the change in the data source.¹⁴ Further analysis found this would have had a subsequent impact on the PbR mechanism, i.e. the 'adjusted' binary rate that incorporates OGRS4/G adjustments.
3. Consequently, the MoJ decided to make an adjustment to the OGRS4/G-adjusted binary reoffending rate for all CRCs. The adjustment is a reduction in the binary reoffending rate of 0.44 percentage points. Further information on the data source adjustment and the analysis is available in the published technical note.¹⁵

Adjustment to the frequency result

1. In July 2018, the MoJ launched a public consultation about the future of probation services.¹⁶ In order to stabilise probation delivery in the immediate term, the MoJ announced an adjustment to the baseline year against which performance on the frequency of reoffending is compared. This was to better reflect the performance of providers since contracts began.
2. As a result, all CRCs are now compared against a 2015/16 frequency baseline, with the exception of Merseyside CRC which has retained its 2011 baseline.

Both the adjustment to the frequency and binary measures were applied retrospectively and revised results for cohorts October to December 2015 through to July to September 2016 were published in October 2018.

¹⁴ www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/658380/how-the-measure-of-reoffending-has-changed-and-the-effect-of-these-changes.pdf

¹⁵ www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-community-rehabilitation-companies-contracts

¹⁶ <https://consult.justice.gov.uk/hm-prisons-and-probation/strengthening-probation-building-confidence/>

4. Further information

Final results presented in this publication are based on a one-year reoffending rate. Upcoming publications of final results are listed in the following table:

Cohort	Published in
January to March 2019, 2018/19	January 2021
April to June 2019	April 2021
July to September 2019	July 2021
October to December 2019	October 2021

Accompanying files

As well as this bulletin, the following products are published as part of this release:

- A technical document providing detail on how reoffending is measured, information on how the data is collected and processed, and background information on the Transforming Rehabilitation reforms.
- A data quality statement which outlines our policies for producing quality statistical outputs and the information provided to maintain our users' understanding and trust.
- A set of tables providing final proven reoffending data for the CRCs and NPS.
- A data tool providing final proven reoffending data for the CRCs and NPS, by age group and gender.

Future publications

Our statisticians regularly review the content of publications. Development of new and improved statistical outputs is usually dependent on reallocating existing resources. As part of our continual review and prioritisation, we welcome user feedback on existing outputs including content, breadth, frequency and methodology.

Contact

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