



Ministry
of Justice

A User Guide to Criminal Justice System Statistics Quarterly (CJSQ)

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National Statistics Publication: Criminal Justice Statistics Quarterly (CJSQ)

The CJSQ publication covers trends in the use of out of court disposals, defendants prosecuted, offenders convicted, remand and sentencing decisions. Each quarterly publication includes the statistical bulletin and overview tables. The annual publication, year ending December, also includes motoring trends and the data tools (see below).

Products published as part of the CJSQ publication

The statistical bulletin

The bulletin is published with each quarterly publication, in pdf and html formats, covering the key trends within the Criminal Justice System for year ending a given quarter.

- Quarter 1: Year ending March
- Quarter 2: Year ending June
- Quarter 3: Year ending September
- Quarter 4: Year ending December (annual publication)

The bulletin covers the following chapters:

- Out of Court Disposals
- Prosecutions and Convictions
- Remands
- Sentencing
- Motoring (annual only)

Overview tables

The overview tables cover the trends year ending a given quarter for the CJS. “Q” tables are produced for all editions, “A” tables are included in the annual edition only.

- Tables Q1.1 to Q1.4 – cover overall trends cross-cutting prosecutions, convictions, sentences, out of court disposals and police charge/recorded crime data.
- Tables Q2.1 and A2.1 – cover out of court disposals data relating to PNDs and Cautions.
- Tables Q3.1 to Q3.5 and A3.1 – cover prosecutions and convictions.
- Tables Q4.1 to Q4.4 – cover remands by police and at Magistrates’ and Crown courts.
- Tables Q5.1 to Q5.4 – cover sentencing decisions.
- Tables A6.1 and A6.2 – cover motoring offences.

Data tools

The annual publication includes a set of interactive data tools, allowing more in-depth breakdowns of our published data, including, but not limited to, individual offences, demographics (sex, ethnicity, age) and Police Force Area – see Table 1 in Annex A for details.

- **Outcomes by offence** – data on prosecutions, convictions and sentences on a principal offence basis at all courts, breakdown to individual Home Office offence codes
- **Magistrates’ court** – similar to the outcomes by offence tool; including the results of proceedings at Magistrates’ courts e.g. proceedings discontinued, charge dismissed, committed for trial at Crown Court etc
- **Crown court** – similar to the outcomes by offence tool; including the results of defendants appearing at Crown Courts e.g. not tried, acquitted and sentenced etc. Also includes plea at Crown Court

- **Remands: Magistrates' Court tool and Remands: Crown Court tool** – includes remand status at respective court: not remanded, bail and custody (remand status with police can be found as a field in the Remands: Magistrates' Court tool)
- **Motoring tool** – includes motoring offences with filters for type/period of disqualification
- **Out of court disposals** – includes Cautions (caution type, where issued and their outcome) and Penalty Notices for Disorder (where issued and their outcome)
- **All offence prosecutions and convictions by Home Office offence code tool** – includes offences on an all offence basis, that is, the total number of offences a defendant is prosecuted for (principle offences plus non-principal offences)

The outcomes by offence, Magistrates' and Crown Court tools were improved in 2021 to allow users to break down statistics more easily. Due to functionality, the time series will be reduced to 5 years. Previous years can be found in our previous annual publications. If required, we will upload an earlier time series at a later date to assist users.

Please refer to the footnotes and guidance within each pivot tool for more information.

Offence group classification

The annual publication includes the machine-readable offence group classification, allowing users to look up offences and their corresponding Home Office offence codes for use in our data tools.

Highlight row 1 and *Ctrl+Shift+L* to turn filters on within the Excel worksheet. For more specific searches use custom filter.

Experimental statistics – Defendants prosecuted for combination of offences (csv)

The annual publication includes our Experimental Statistics, whereby combination of offences for which a defendant has been prosecuted can be viewed. The Experimental Statistics zip file contains a Word document with instructions on how to access and manipulate the CSV contained.

Data behind interactive tools

The data contained within all of the data tools published alongside the annual edition can be found in CSV format in the Data behind the interactive tools zip file. These files are in an accessible format that can be used to create pivot tools or enter data into other programs.

We are aware of an issue some users have found when trying to access our data tools using a MacBook. By accessing the CSVs in this folder and looking to your settings, this issue is able to be mitigated and MacBook users can create their own pivot tools.

Infographic

The annual publication includes an infographic in PDF format, showing visualisations of key messages from the publication.

For feedback or questions related to the content of this publication, please contact us at CJS_Statistics@justice.gov.uk

Annex A

Table 1: Variables available in each data tool, 2021.

		Outcomes by offence data tool	Magistrates' court data tool	Crown Court data tool	Out of court disposals data tool	Remands: Magistrates' Court data tool	Remands: Crown Court data tool	Motoring data tool	All offence prosecutions and convictions by Home Office offence code
	Variables available	2017-2021	2017-2021	2017-2021	2011-2021	2016-2021	2016-2021	2011-2021	2017-2021
<i>Period</i>	Year	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Quarter	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<i>Offence details</i>	Offence type	Y	Y	Y	NA	Y	Y	N	Y
	Offence group	Y	Y	Y	NA	Y	Y	N	Y
	Offence	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
	HO offence code	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y
	Motoring offence group	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA
	Detailed motoring offence	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA
	Period of disqualification	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA
	Type of disqualification	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA
<i>Demo-graphics</i>	Sex	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Ethnicity	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Age group	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Age range	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Court type/Courts	N	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Y	N
	Plea at the Crown Court	N	NA	Y	NA	NA	Y	N	N
	Police Force Area/Force Code	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N

<i>Principal/All-offence</i>	Principal Offence (or marker)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	All-offence	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y
<i>Out of Court Disposals</i>	Cautions	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Caution type	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
	PNDs	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
	PNDs: issued by	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
	PNDs: where issued	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
<i>Remands</i>	Failure to Appear (FTA)	NA	NA	NA	NA	Y	Y	NA	NA
	Remand status with Police	NA	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA	NA	NA
	Remand status with magistrates'	NA	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA	NA	NA
	Remand status at the Crown Court	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA	NA
<i>Prosecutions convictions and sentencing outcomes</i>	Proceeded against/Prosecutions	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y
	Found guilty/Convicted	Y	Y	Y	NA	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Sentenced and Sentence outcome	Y	Y	Y	NA	Y	Y	Y	N
	Average custodial sentence length	Y	Y	Y	NA	Y	Y	Y	N
	Average fine	Y	Y	Y	NA	N	N	Y	N
	Average Compensation	Y	Y	Y	NA	N	N	N	N
	Compensation (All disposal level)	Y	Y	Y	NA	N	N	N	N

Key

Y = Present in the data tool

N = Not present in the data tool

NA = Not applicable in that tool