



## Transparency Data

### **End of Custody Supervised Licence (ECSL) detailed data, England and Wales**

#### **Monthly ECSL Releases from 17 October 2023 to 9 September 2024**

- **Demographic and Offence characteristics data**

#### **Monthly ECSL Caseload (last Sunday of each month, to September 2024)**

### **Policy Background**

This document contains information relating to the operation of ECSL (End of Custody Supervised Licence), which was announced by the then Lord Chancellor on 16 Oct 2023:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-governments-approach-to-criminal-justice#eosl>

ECSL allowed certain determinate sentenced prisoners to be released prior to their Conditional Release Date.

From the start of its use, prisoners in certain prisons could be released a maximum of 18 days prior to their Conditional Release Date. This was increased to a maximum of 35 days on 8 March 2024 ([announcement link](#)) and a maximum of 70 days on 23 May 2024. ECSL was also iteratively rolled out to a larger number of male prisons, as well as being active in some prisons within the female estate from 5 March 2024 to 14 May 2024, during which time female prisoners could be released a maximum of 18 days prior to their Conditional Release Date.

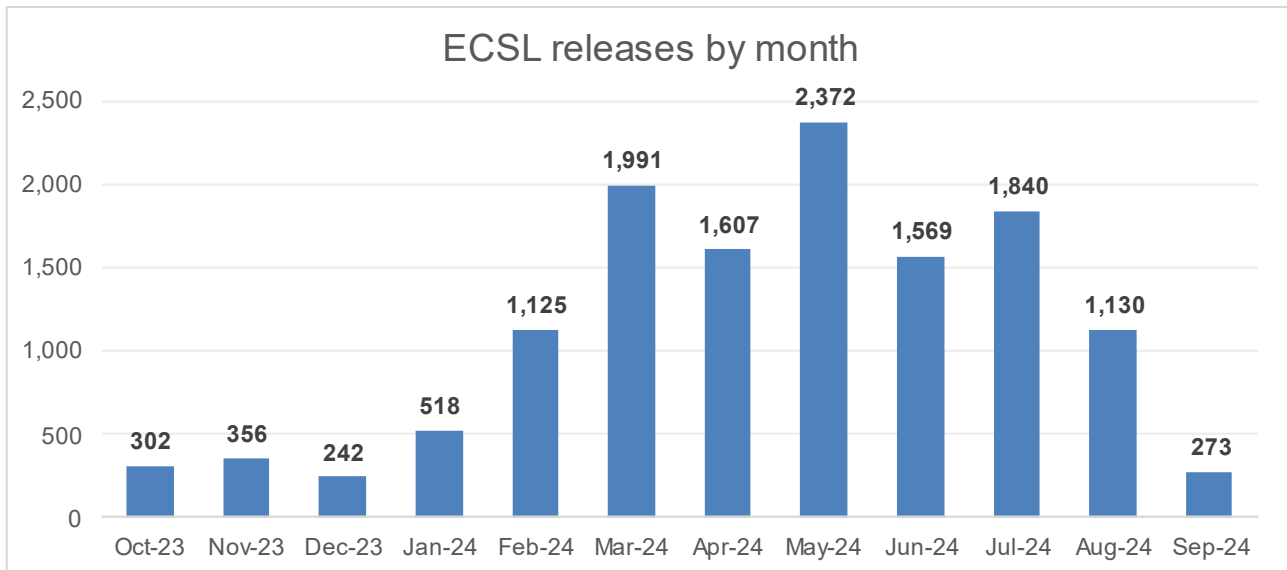
ECSL was in operation from 17 October 2023 until 9 September 2024, therefore this publication presents the final number of ECSL releases across its entire duration.

### **Number of ECSL releases**

The number of ECSL releases between 17 October 2023 and 9 September 2024 was **13,325**.

## Releases by month

ECSL releases were at their highest in May and March 2024, concurrent with expansions in the number of days prisoners could be released for (bringing more prisoners in scope for release).



## Prisoner demographics

### Sex

Of the total 13,325 ECSL releases between 17 October 2023 and 9 September 2024, 99% (13,206) were releases from male prison establishments and 1% (119) were from female establishments.

### Age

The age group with the largest number of ECSL releases was '30-39', accounting for nearly two fifths of releases (39%).

### Nationality group

British Nationals accounted for 93% of the total ECSL releases.

### Ethnicity

White prisoners accounted for 79% of the ECSL releases, 8% were releases of prisoners of Black / Black British ethnicity and 6% were releases of Asian / Asian British prisoners.

## Offence characteristics

### [Main]<sup>1</sup> Offence group

Two thirds (67%) of those released on ECSL had a 'Violence Against The Person' (VATP) offence (26% of the total), a 'Theft offence' (also 26% of the total), or a 'Drug Offence' (15% of the total).

### [Effective]<sup>2</sup> Sentence length

Half (51%) of those released on ECSL had a sentence length of less than 12 months.

Only 1 in 7 (14%) ECSL releases were from determinate sentences of 4 years or more.

### Releasing prison

HMP Liverpool released the largest number of prisoners on ECSL (402 releases), followed by HMP Altcourse (396) and HMP Cardiff (386).

## ECSL Caseload

'ECSL caseload' figures represent those who (on the specified date) were between their ECSL release date and the date when they would have been expected to be released without ECSL, and who were not known to have returned to custody.

To aid comparability between time points (and to remove the effects of variation in releases by day of the week), the last Sunday of each month has been reported here.

The highest monthly ECSL caseload came at the end of July 2024, at 2,203. Substantial increases in caseload in May and March 2024 were associated with increases in the number of days prisoners could be released for (and linked increases in releases).

As at 29 September 2024, the remaining ECSL caseload was **815**, though to note that had ECSL not existed then a number of these prisoners would have been released anyway following the introduction of SDS40 from 10 September 2024 (N.B. this caseload figure does not account for whether they would have been SDS40-eligible).

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<sup>1</sup> The offence information presented here is on a 'main offence' basis, consistent with regularly published statistics on releases, and so does not include any secondary offences of which they may also have been convicted.

<sup>2</sup> The sentence length information presented here is on an 'Effective sentence length' basis. This is a different measure to that used in published Offender Management Statistics (and elsewhere), where 'Judicially Imposed Sentence Length' (JISL) is used. This simply reflects the sentence length information available in the ECSL releases data.

## Further information

This publication of transparency data presents the number of ECSL releases between 17 October 2023 and 9 September 2024, broken down by prisoner demographics and offence characteristics.

This data has been extracted from a mixture of live operational reporting systems, with daily manual reconciliation. As with any data extracted from administrative systems, it is subject to possible errors with data entry and processing, and may have been subject to minor revisions from previous time periods. Being based on different sources and methodology, this data will not align with regularly published releases data from Offender Management Statistics.

Our statisticians regularly review the content of publications, and we are actively considering the most appropriate means of routinely publishing updated data. 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. Please send any comments you have on this publication including suggestions for further developments or reductions in content.

## Accompanying files

- Data tables

## Contact

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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-justice/about/media-enquiries>

Non-Press enquiries relating to this publication should be sent to: [OMSQ-SiC-publications@justice.gov.uk](mailto:OMSQ-SiC-publications@justice.gov.uk)

**URL:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/end-of-custody-supervised-licence-ecsl-detailed-data>

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