



This analysis looked at the reoffending behaviour of 19,807 males and 2,477 females who participated in the City & Guilds skills and qualification programme in prisons between 2019 and 2023.

City & Guilds provides educational courses to offenders in over 120 prisons across England and Wales, with the aim of equipping them with the knowledge and skills they need to secure employment.

Previous analyses were published in February 2017 and January 2019, covering an earlier cohort. This has been published in the Justice Data Lab statistics collection on GOV.UK, covering separate cohorts and sub-analyses of the programme. In this evaluation, men and women were analysed separately due to the known differences in reoffending behaviour. In addition, three sub-analyses were carried out on age, ethnicity and course type where sample size and matching quality were sufficient.

1. Headline results - male

The overall results show that men who participated in the City & Guilds programme took longer to reoffend than those who did not take part. This result is statistically significant.

The headline analysis in this report measured proven reoffences in a one-year period for a 'treatment group' of 19,807 male offenders who took a course in prison some time between 2019 and 2023 and for a much larger 'comparison group' of similar offenders who did not take one. The analysis estimates the impact of receiving support from City & Guilds on reoffending behaviour.

Overall measurements of the treatment and comparison groups: males

For **100** typical men in the **treatment** group, the equivalent of:

20 of the 100 men committed a proven reoffence within a one-year period (a rate of 20%), **less than 1 man more** than in the comparison group.

67 proven reoffences were committed by these 100 men during the year (a frequency of 0.7 offences per person), **2 offences fewer** than in the comparison group.

152 days was the average time before a reoffender committed their first proven reoffence, **4 days later** than the comparison group.

For **100** typical men in the **comparison** group, the equivalent of:

19 of the 100 men committed a proven reoffence within a one-year period (a rate of 19%).

69 proven reoffences were committed by these 100 men during the year (a frequency of 0.7 offences per person).

148 days was the average time before a reoffender committed their first proven reoffence.



Please note totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts due to rounding.

Overall estimates of the impact of the intervention: males

For **100** typical men who receive support, compared with **100** similar men who do not:



The number of men who commit a proven reoffence within one year after release could be **lower by as many as 0 men, or higher by as many as 1 man**. This is not a statistically significant result.



The number of proven reoffences committed during the year could be **lower by as many as 6 offences, or higher by as many as 1 offence**. This is not a statistically significant result.



On average, the time before an offender committed their first proven reoffence could be **longer by between 1 and 7 days**. **This is a statistically significant result.**

✓ **What you can say about the one-year reoffending rate:**

“This analysis does not provide clear evidence on whether support from City & Guilds increases or decreases the number of participants who commit a proven reoffence in a one-year period.”

✗ **What you cannot say about the one-year reoffending rate:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from City & Guilds increases/decreases/has no effect on the reoffending rate of its participants.”

✓ **What you can say about the one-year reoffending frequency:**

“This analysis does not provide clear evidence on whether support from City & Guilds increases or decreases the number of proven reoffences during a one-year period.”

✗ **What you cannot say about the one-year reoffending frequency:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from City & Guilds increases/decreases/has no effect on the number of proven reoffences committed during a one-year period by its participants.”

✓ **What you can say about the time to first reoffence:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from City & Guilds lengthens the average time to first proven reoffence for its participants.”

✗ **What you cannot say about the time to first reoffence:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from City & Guilds shortens/has no effect on the average time to first proven reoffence for its participants.”

2. Headline results - female

The overall results show that women who participated in the City & Guilds programme were less likely to reoffend than those who did not take part. This result is statistically significant.

The headline analysis in this report measured proven reoffences in a one-year period for a 'treatment group' of 2,477 female offenders who took a course in prison some time between 2019 and 2023 and for a much larger 'comparison group' of similar offenders who did not take one. The analysis estimates the impact of receiving support from City & Guilds on reoffending behaviour.

Overall measurements of the treatment and comparison groups: females

For **100** typical women in the **treatment** group, the equivalent of:

15 of the 100 women committed a proven reoffence within a one-year period (a rate of 15%), **2 women fewer** than in the comparison group.

80 proven reoffences were committed by these 100 women during the year (a frequency of 0.8 offences per person), **3 offences fewer** than in the comparison group.

128 days was the average time before a reoffender committed their first proven reoffence, **5 days earlier** than the comparison group.

For **100** typical women in the **comparison** group, the equivalent of:

17 of the 100 women committed a proven reoffence within a one-year period (a rate of 17%).

83 proven reoffences were committed by these 100 women during the year (a frequency of 0.8 offences per person).

133 days was the average time before a reoffender committed their first proven reoffence.



Please note totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts due to rounding.

Overall estimates of the impact of the intervention: females

For **100** typical women who receive support, compared with **100** similar women who do not:



The number of women who commit a proven reoffence within one year after release could be **lower by between 1 and 4 women. This is a statistically significant result.**



The number of proven reoffences committed during the year could be **lower by as many as 16 offences, or higher by as many as 10 offences.** This is not a statistically significant result.



On average, the time before an offender committed their first proven reoffence could be **shorter by as many as 16 days, or longer by as many as 6 days.** This is not a statistically significant result.

✓ **What you can say about the one-year reoffending rate:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from City & Guilds decreases the number of proven reoffenders during a one-year period.”

✗ **What you cannot say about the one-year reoffending rate:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from City & Guilds increases/has no effect on the reoffending rate of its participants.”

✓ **What you can say about the one-year reoffending frequency:**

“This analysis does not provide clear evidence on whether support from City & Guilds increases or decreases the number of proven reoffences during a one-year period.”

✗ **What you cannot say about the one-year reoffending frequency:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from City & Guilds increases/decreases/has no effect on the number of proven reoffences committed during a one-year period by its participants.”

✓ **What you can say about the time to first reoffence:**

“This analysis does not provide clear evidence on whether support from City & Guilds shortens or lengthens the average time to first proven reoffence.”

✗ **What you cannot say about the time to first reoffence:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from City & Guilds shortens/lengthens/has no effect on the average time to first reoffence for its participants.”

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3. Charts of key reoffending measures

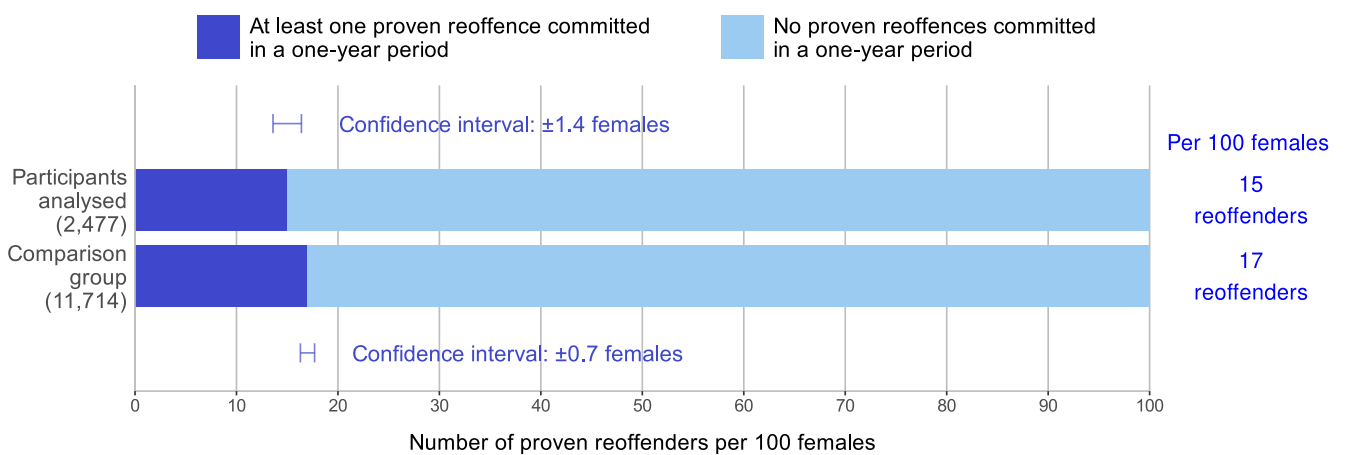
The figures in this section present the key measures of reoffending for the treatment and comparison groups. Figures 1 and 2 show the one-year proven reoffending rate, figures 3 and 4 show the proven reoffending rate frequency, and figures 5 and 6 show the average days to first proven reoffence.

Figure 1: One-year proven reoffending rate for males after support from City & Guilds



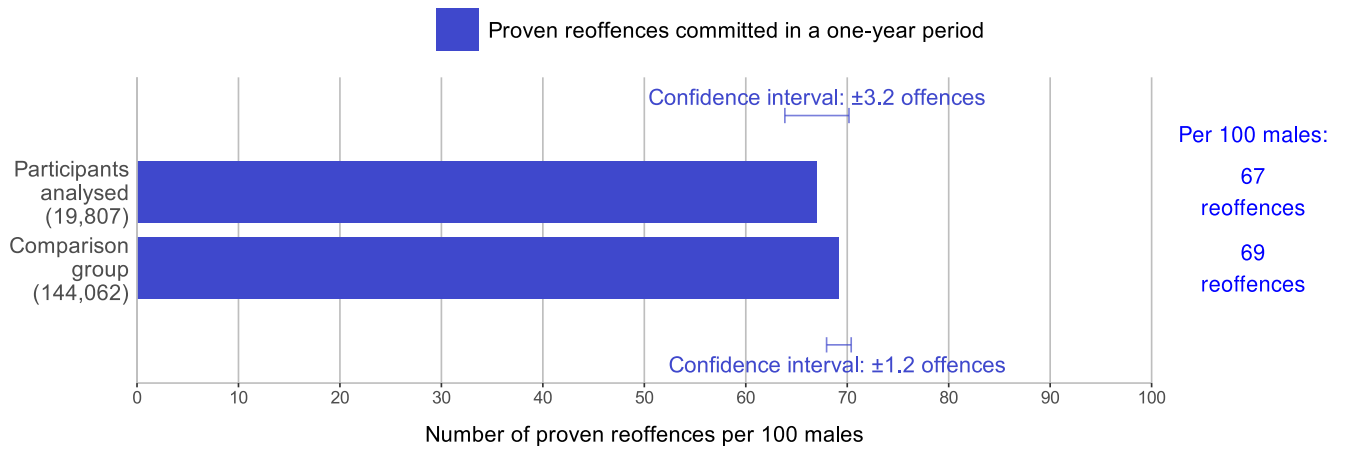
Non-significant difference between groups

Figure 2: One-year proven reoffending rate for females after support from City & Guilds



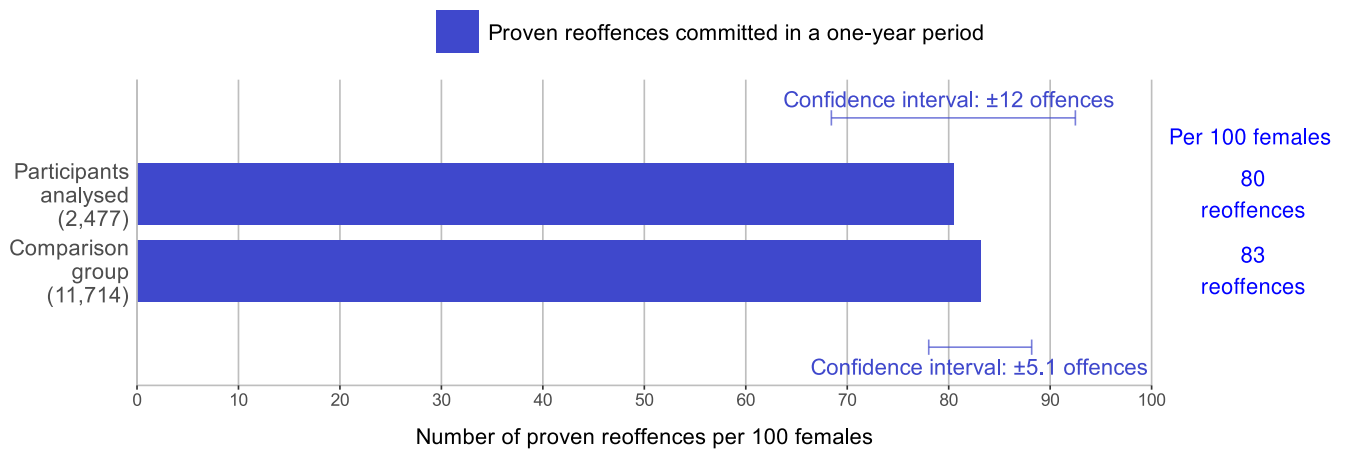
Significant difference between groups

Figure 3: One-year proven reoffending frequency for males after support from City & Guilds



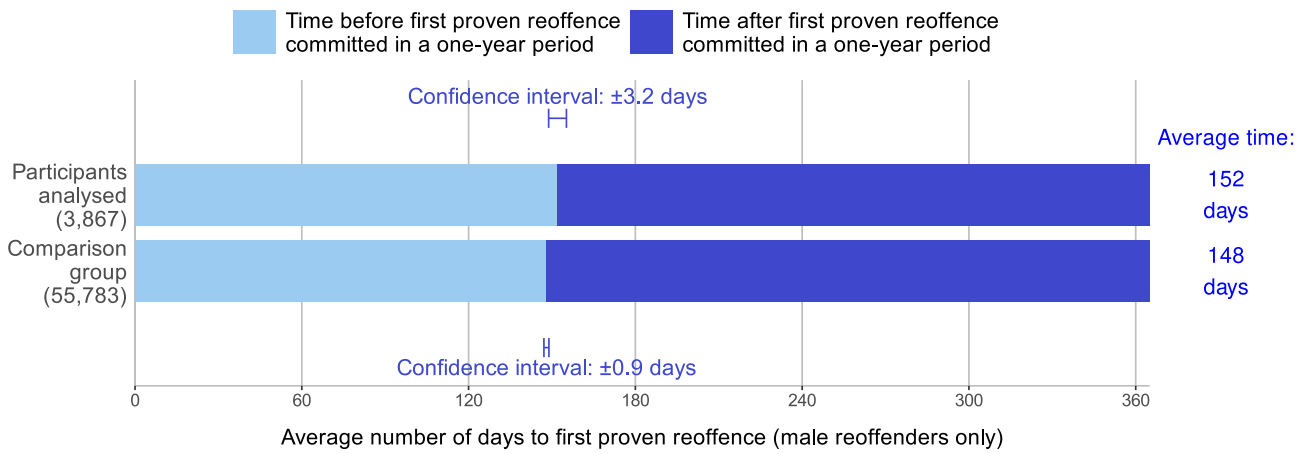
Non-significant difference between groups

Figure 4: One-year proven reoffending frequency for females after support from City & Guilds



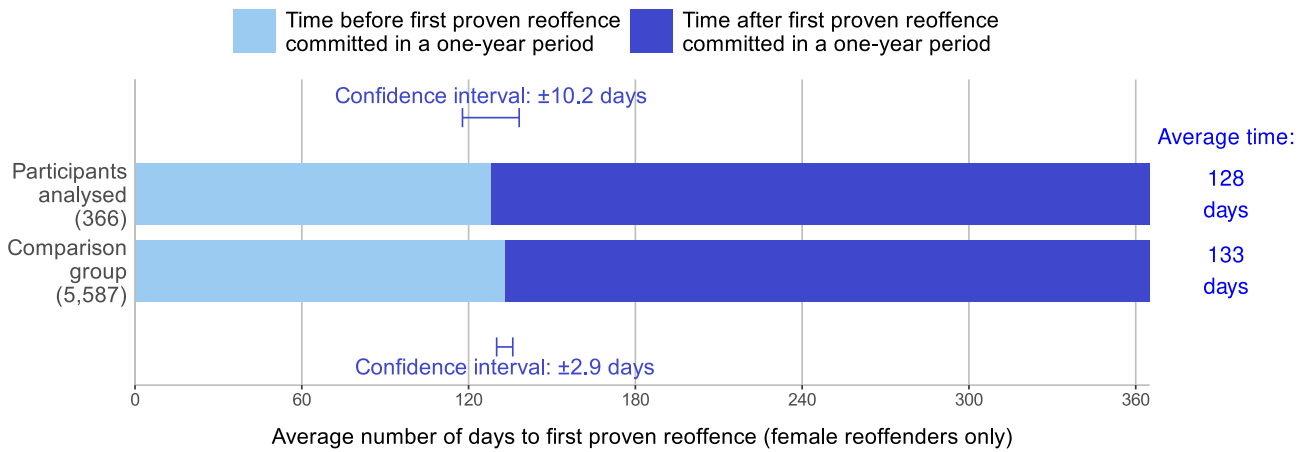
Non-significant difference between groups

Figure 5: Average time (days) to first proven reoffence for males after support from City & Guilds



Significant difference between groups

Figure 6: Average time (days) to first proven reoffence for females after support from City & Guilds



Non-significant difference between groups

4. Results in detail

The headline results in this report refer to the following:

1. **Male Overall analysis:** treatment group matched to offenders across England and Wales using demographics, criminal history and individual risks and needs.
2. **Female Overall analysis:** treatment group matched to offenders across England and Wales using demographics, criminal history and individual risks and needs.

These headline results controlled for offender demographics and criminal history and the following risks and needs: peer group influence, accommodation, employment history, education, financial history, relationships, mental health, thinking skills, and attitudes towards offending.

The sizes of the treatment and comparison groups for reoffending rate and frequency analyses are provided below. To create a comparison group that is as similar as possible to the treatment group, each person within the comparison group is given a weighting proportionate to how closely they match the characteristics of individuals in the treatment group. The calculated reoffending rate uses the weighted values for each person and therefore does not necessarily correspond to the unweighted figures.

Gender	Analysis	Treatment group size	Comparison group size	Reoffenders in treatment group	Reoffenders in comparison group (weighted number)
Male	Overall	19,807	144,062	3,867	55,783 (27,698)
Female	Overall	2,477	11,714	366	5,587 (1,990)

In addition to the headline analyses, three sub-analyses were conducted with the following definitions:

1. **Course type analysis:** Individuals who participated in one of the following training programmes during their custodial sentence:
 - Business and/or Customer Service (Business)
 - Construction and/or Building Services and Engineering (Const/BSE)
 - Employability and/or Personal and Social Skills (Emp/PSS)
 - Engineering and/or Manufacturing and/or Transport (Eng/Manu/Trans)
 - Hospitality and/or Catering (Hosp/Catering)
 - Maths and/or English (Maths/English)

Note: the abbreviated course names shown in brackets are used in results tables where space is limited.

Sample sizes were not sufficient to undertake a sub-analysis for female participants in the Eng/Manu/Trans category. Furthermore, although a sub-analysis was conducted for female participants in the Const/BSE and Emp/PSS course categories, the observed matching quality was not sufficient to report reliable findings.

2. **Age band analysis:** Individuals who were within the following age bands at the time of their release date from prison:

- 18 - 29
- 30 - 39
- 40+

Although a sub-analysis was conducted for female participants in the 18–29 age band, the resulting matching quality was not sufficient to report reliable findings.

3. **Ethnicity analysis:** Individuals who fall within the following ethnic groups:

- Asian
- Black
- White

Due to small sample size, other ethnicities could not be included in this sub-analysis. In addition, although a sub-analysis was conducted for female participants with Asian and Black ethnicity, the resulting matching quality was not sufficient to report reliable findings.

Three measures of one-year reoffending were analysed, as well as four additional measures (see results in Tables 1-7):

1. Rate of reoffending
2. Frequency of reoffending
3. Time to first reoffence
4. Rate of first reoffence by court outcome
5. Frequency of reoffences by court outcome
6. Rate of custodial sentencing for first reoffence
7. Frequency of custodial sentencing

4.1. Significant results

39 measures show a statistically significant result. These provide significant evidence that for:

Male Overall analysis

- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit their first proven reoffence later** than non-participants.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **more likely to commit a triable-either-way first reoffence** than non-participants who commit a triable-either-way first reoffence.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **less likely to commit a summary first reoffence** than non-participants who commit a summary first reoffence.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit fewer summary offences** than non-participants who commit summary offences.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **receive fewer custodial sentences** than non-participants who reoffend.

Male Age: 18 - 29 analysis

- Male participants **commit fewer proven reoffences** within a one-year period than non-participants.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit their first proven reoffence later** than non-participants.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit fewer triable-either-way offences** than non-participants who commit triable-either-way offences.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit fewer summary offences** than non-participants who commit summary offences.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **receive fewer custodial sentences** than non-participants who reoffend.

Male Age: 40+ analysis

- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **less likely to commit an indictable-only first reoffence** than non-participants who commit an indictable-only first reoffence.

Male Ethnicity: Black analysis

- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit their first proven reoffence later** than non-participants.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **less likely to commit a summary first reoffence** than non-participants who commit a summary first reoffence.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **more likely to receive a custodial sentence** for their first reoffence than non-participants who reoffend.

Male Ethnicity: White analysis

- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **less likely to commit an indictable-only first reoffence** than non-participants who commit an indictable-only first reoffence.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **more likely to commit a triable-either-way first reoffence** than non-participants who commit a triable-either-way first reoffence.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **less likely to commit a summary first reoffence** than non-participants who commit a summary first reoffence.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit fewer summary offences** than non-participants who commit summary offences.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **receive fewer custodial sentences** than non-participants who reoffend.

Male Business and/or Customer Service (Business) analysis

- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit fewer summary offences** than non-participants who commit summary offences.

Male Engineering and/or Manufacturing and/or Transport (Eng/Manu/Trans) analysis

- Male participants **commit fewer proven reoffences** within a one-year period than non-participants.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit fewer triable-either-way offences** than non-participants who commit triable-either-way offences.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **receive fewer custodial sentences** than non-participants who reoffend.

Male Hospitality and/or Catering (Hosp/Catering) analysis

- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **less likely to commit a summary first reoffence** than non-participants who commit a summary first reoffence.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit fewer summary offences** than non-participants who commit summary offences.

Male Maths and/or English (Maths/English) analysis

- Male participants are **more likely to commit a proven reoffence** within a one-year period than non-participants.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **less likely to commit an indictable-only first reoffence** than non-participants who commit an indictable-only first reoffence.
- Male participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit fewer summary offences** than non-participants who commit summary offences.

Female Overall analysis

- Female participants are **less likely to commit a proven reoffence** within a one-year period than non-participants.
- Female participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit more triable-either-way offences** than non-participants who commit triable-either-way offences.

Female Age: 30 - 39 analysis

- Female participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **more likely to receive a custodial sentence** for their first reoffence than non-participants who reoffend.

Female Age: 40+ analysis

- Female participants are **less likely to commit a proven reoffence** within a one-year period than non-participants.
- Female participants **commit fewer proven reoffences** within a one-year period than non-participants.
- Female participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **more likely to commit a triable-either-way first reoffence** than non-participants who commit a triable-either-way first reoffence.

Female Ethnicity: White analysis

- Female participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit more triable-either-way offences** than non-participants who commit triable-either-way offences.

Female Hospitality and/or Catering (Hosp/Catering) analysis

- Female participants who reoffend within a one-year period **commit more triable-either-way offences** than non-participants who commit triable-either-way offences.
- Female participants who reoffend within a one-year period are **more likely to receive a custodial sentence** for their first reoffence than non-participants who reoffend.
- Female participants who reoffend within a one-year period **receive more custodial sentences** than non-participants who reoffend.

Female Maths and/or English (Maths/English) analysis

- Female participants are **less likely to commit a proven reoffence** within a one-year period than non-participants.

Note: Indictable-only, Triable-either-way, and Summary are classifications of offences based on severity, with Indictable-only being the most severe and Summary the least. For more information, see the Additional information on the dataset and terminology section.

4.2. Tables of all reoffending measures

Tables 1 to 7 show the overall measures of reoffending. Rates are expressed as percentages and frequencies expressed per person. Tables 3 to 7 include reoffenders only, and are only shown where the total number of offenders in the treatment group is greater than 30. In tables 4 to 7, court and custodial outcomes are only shown if the number of offenders in both the treatment and comparison groups is greater than 10 for that outcome.

In tables 4 and 5, court outcomes of indictable, either-way, and summary are classifications of offences based on severity, with Indictable being the most severe and Summary the least. For more information, see the Additional information on the dataset and terminology section.

Results that are statistically significant are presented in **bold**.

Table 1: Proportion of men and women who committed a proven reoffence in a one-year period (reoffending rate) after support from City & Guilds compared with a matched comparison group

Gender	Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	Treatment group rate (%)	Comparison group rate (%)	Estimated difference (% points)	Significant difference? (p-value)
Male	Overall	19,807	144,062	20	19	0 to 1	No (0.32)
	Age: 18 - 29	7,559	42,033	21	21	-1 to 1	No (0.59)
	Age: 30 - 39	6,819	39,303	20	20	-1 to 1	No (0.38)
	Age: 40+	5,347	40,274	17	17	-1 to 1	No (0.74)
	Ethnicity: Asian	1,808	8,781	14	13	-1 to 2	No (0.41)
	Ethnicity: Black	3,278	15,265	17	16	-1 to 2	No (0.27)
	Ethnicity: White	14,034	98,146	21	21	-1 to 1	No (0.80)
	Business	506	100,004	18	17	-2 to 4	No (0.50)
	Const/BSE	2,949	130,617	15	15	-2 to 1	No (0.30)
	Emp/PSS	317	115,420	20	18	-2 to 7	No (0.34)
	Eng/Manu/Trans	525	90,613	18	19	-4 to 2	No (0.54)
	Hosp/Catering	2,899	93,137	18	19	-2 to 1	No (0.26)
	Maths/English	11,172	124,580	22	21	0 to 2	Yes (0.02)
	Female	Overall	2,477	11,714	15	17	-4 to -1
Age: 30 - 39		996	4,925	21	22	-4 to 2	No (0.40)
Age: 40+		922	3,664	9	13	-6 to -2	Yes (<0.01)
Ethnicity: White		1,984	7,180	17	18	-3 to 1	No (0.17)
Business		196	6,247	10	10	-4 to 5	No (0.82)
Hosp/Catering		664	9,052	15	16	-3 to 2	No (0.71)
Maths/English		1,319	10,487	17	20	-5 to -1	Yes (<0.01)

Table 2: Number of proven reoffences committed in a one-year period (reoffending frequency - offences per person) by men and women who received support from City & Guilds compared with a matched comparison group

Gender	Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	Treatment group frequency	Comparison group frequency	Estimated difference	Significant difference? (p-value)
Male	Overall	19,807	144,062	0.67	0.69	-0.06 to 0.01	No (0.21)
	Age: 18 - 29	7,559	42,033	0.61	0.66	-0.1 to 0	Yes (0.03)
	Age: 30 - 39	6,819	39,303	0.78	0.77	-0.05 to 0.08	No (0.70)
	Age: 40+	5,347	40,274	0.62	0.62	-0.06 to 0.07	No (0.93)
	Ethnicity: Asian	1,808	8,781	0.37	0.37	-0.07 to 0.06	No (0.91)
	Ethnicity: Black	3,278	15,265	0.44	0.42	-0.04 to 0.07	No (0.49)
	Ethnicity: White	14,034	98,146	0.78	0.82	-0.09 to 0	No (0.07)
	Business	506	100,004	0.62	0.55	-0.12 to 0.25	No (0.51)
	Const/BSE	2,949	130,617	0.42	0.47	-0.11 to 0	No (0.05)
	Emp/PSS	317	115,420	0.82	0.64	-0.15 to 0.51	No (0.28)
	Eng/Manu/Trans	525	90,613	0.44	0.65	-0.32 to -0.09	Yes (<0.01)
	Hosp/Catering	2,899	93,137	0.65	0.65	-0.09 to 0.1	No (0.90)
	Maths/English	11,172	124,580	0.77	0.79	-0.07 to 0.03	No (0.42)
	Female	Overall	2,477	11,714	0.8	0.83	-0.16 to 0.1
Age: 30 - 39		996	4,925	1.14	1.1	-0.2 to 0.28	No (0.75)
Age: 40+		922	3,664	0.4	0.57	-0.32 to -0.03	Yes (0.02)
Ethnicity: White		1,984	7,180	0.94	0.92	-0.14 to 0.18	No (0.78)
Business		196	6,247	0.35	0.5	-0.35 to 0.06	No (0.16)
Hosp/Catering		664	9,052	1.03	0.8	-0.07 to 0.53	No (0.13)
Maths/English	1,319	10,487	0.86	0.95	-0.26 to 0.09	No (0.33)	

Table 3: Average time (days) to first proven reoffence in a one-year period for men and women who received support from City & Guilds, compared with a matched comparison group (reoffenders only)

Gender	Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	Treatment group time (days)	Comparison group time (days)	Estimated difference	Significant difference? (p-value)
Male	Overall	3,867	55,783	152	148	1 to 7	Yes (0.02)
	Age: 18 - 29	1,597	14,017	156	150	1 to 12	Yes (0.02)
	Age: 30 - 39	1,371	15,689	151	149	-4 to 8	No (0.46)
	Age: 40+	892	15,139	146	144	-6 to 8	No (0.78)
	Ethnicity: Asian	247	2,192	161	166	-19 to 8	No (0.40)
	Ethnicity: Black	542	4,520	171	160	2 to 19	Yes (0.01)
	Ethnicity: White	2,999	39,526	147	144	0 to 7	No (0.07)
	Business	90	33,252	166	152	-7 to 36	No (0.19)
	Const/BSE	431	47,852	164	157	-2 to 17	No (0.12)
	Emp/PSS	63	39,995	137	149	-37 to 11	No (0.29)
	Eng/Manu/Trans	94	30,387	146	151	-25 to 15	No (0.61)
	Hosp/Catering	519	31,677	155	150	-4 to 14	No (0.27)
	Maths/English	2,438	46,791	149	146	-1 to 8	No (0.12)
Female	Overall	366	5,587	128	133	-16 to 6	No (0.35)
	Age: 30 - 39	211	2,567	135	133	-12 to 16	No (0.80)
	Age: 40+	82	1,504	118	133	-36 to 5	No (0.14)
	Ethnicity: White	336	3,270	127	127	-12 to 10	No (0.90)
	Hosp/Catering	100	3,938	129	135	-27 to 14	No (0.55)
	Maths/English	220	4,825	127	130	-16 to 11	No (0.71)

Table 4.1: Proportion of men supported by City & Guilds with first proven reoffence in a one-year period (reoffending rate) by court outcome, compared with similar non-participants (reoffenders only)

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	Court outcome	Treatment group rate (%)	Comparison group rate (%)	Estimated difference (% points)	Significant difference? (p-value)
Overall	3,867	55,783	Indictable	2	3	-1 to 0	No (0.07)
			Either way	63	60	0 to 4	Yes (0.01)
			Summary	24	26	-3 to -1	Yes (<0.01)
Age: 18 - 29	1,597	14,017	Indictable	3	3	-1 to 0	No (0.36)
			Either way	63	62	-1 to 4	No (0.21)
			Summary	24	26	-4 to 1	No (0.16)
Age: 30 - 39	1,371	15,689	Indictable	2	2	-1 to 0	No (0.38)
			Either way	60	58	-1 to 5	No (0.19)
			Summary	26	28	-5 to 0	No (0.08)
Age: 40+	892	15,139	Indictable	1	2	-2 to 0	Yes (0.03)
			Either way	65	62	0 to 6	No (0.06)
			Summary	21	23	-4 to 1	No (0.24)
Ethnicity: Asian	247	2,192	Indictable	5	4	-2 to 4	No (0.43)
			Either way	61	55	-1 to 12	No (0.09)
			Summary	27	30	-9 to 3	No (0.37)
Ethnicity: Black	542	4,520	Indictable	3	3	-2 to 1	No (0.91)
			Either way	71	68	-1 to 7	No (0.10)
			Summary	19	23	-8 to -1	Yes (0.01)
Ethnicity: White	2,999	39,526	Indictable	2	2	-1 to 0	Yes (0.05)
			Either way	61	59	0 to 4	Yes (0.02)
			Summary	24	26	-4 to -1	Yes (<0.01)
Business	90	33,252	Either way	67	60	-3 to 17	No (0.19)
			Summary	22	26	-13 to 5	No (0.34)
Const/BSE	431	47,852	Indictable	3	3	-2 to 1	No (0.71)
			Either way	59	60	-5 to 4	No (0.82)
			Summary	30	28	-3 to 6	No (0.50)
Emp/PSS	63	39,995	Either way	68	61	-5 to 19	No (0.23)
			Summary	24	26	-13 to 9	No (0.73)
Eng/Manu/Trans	94	30,387	Either way	62	61	-10 to 11	No (0.92)
			Summary	27	27	-9 to 9	No (0.98)
Hosp/Catering	519	31,677	Indictable	3	3	-1 to 1	No (0.97)
			Either way	66	62	0 to 8	No (0.06)
			Summary	20	25	-9 to -2	Yes (<0.01)
Maths/English	2,438	46,791	Indictable	2	3	-1 to 0	Yes (0.02)
			Either way	62	60	0 to 3	No (0.14)
			Summary	24	25	-3 to 0	No (0.06)

Table 4.2: Proportion of women supported by City & Guilds with first proven reoffense in a one-year period (reoffending rate) by court outcome, compared with similar non-participants (reoffenders only)

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	Court outcome	Treatment group rate (%)	Comparison group rate (%)	Estimated difference (% points)	Significant difference? (p-value)
Overall	366	5,587	Either way	69	66	-2 to 8	No (0.20)
			Summary	19	17	-3 to 6	No (0.46)
Age: 30 - 39	211	2,567	Either way	69	65	-2 to 11	No (0.16)
			Summary	19	20	-6 to 5	No (0.91)
Age: 40+	82	1,504	Either way	85	69	8 to 24	Yes (<0.01)
Ethnicity: White	336	3,270	Either way	70	68	-3 to 8	No (0.34)
			Summary	19	15	0 to 8	No (0.08)
Hosp/Catering	100	3,938	Either way	71	69	-7 to 11	No (0.67)
			Summary	20	16	-4 to 12	No (0.36)
Maths/English	220	4,825	Either way	70	68	-4 to 8	No (0.55)
			Summary	19	16	-3 to 8	No (0.31)

Table 5.1: Number of proven reoffences in a one-year period (reoffending frequency) by court outcome for men supported by City & Guilds, compared with similar non-participants (reoffenders only)

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	Court outcome	Treatment group frequency	Comparison group frequency	Estimated difference	Significant difference? (p-value)
Overall	3,867	55,783	Indictable	0.05	0.06	-0.02 to 0.01	No (0.43)
			Either way	2.10	2.16	-0.17 to 0.06	No (0.35)
			Summary	0.82	0.91	-0.13 to -0.05	Yes (<0.01)
Age: 18 - 29	1,597	14,017	Indictable	0.06	0.07	-0.02 to 0.01	No (0.38)
			Either way	1.63	1.80	-0.29 to -0.04	Yes (<0.01)
			Summary	0.78	0.90	-0.18 to -0.06	Yes (<0.01)
Age: 30 - 39	1,371	15,689	Indictable	0.04	0.04	-0.02 to 0.01	No (0.40)
			Either way	2.42	2.39	-0.20 to 0.26	No (0.80)
			Summary	0.93	0.97	-0.10 to 0.04	No (0.39)
Age: 40+	892	15,139	Indictable	0.06	0.06	-0.04 to 0.03	No (0.90)
			Either way	2.46	2.29	-0.10 to 0.43	No (0.22)
			Summary	0.73	0.79	-0.15 to 0.03	No (0.18)
Ethnicity: Asian	247	2,192	Indictable	0.09	0.07	-0.05 to 0.08	No (0.61)
			Either way	1.62	1.55	-0.21 to 0.36	No (0.60)
			Summary	0.73	0.87	-0.30 to 0.02	No (0.08)
Ethnicity: Black	542	4,520	Indictable	0.04	0.05	-0.03 to 0.01	No (0.37)
			Either way	1.68	1.67	-0.18 to 0.19	No (0.93)
			Summary	0.62	0.68	-0.15 to 0.04	No (0.27)
Ethnicity: White	2,999	39,526	Indictable	0.05	0.06	-0.02 to 0.01	No (0.62)
			Either way	2.24	2.32	-0.22 to 0.07	No (0.29)
			Summary	0.86	0.97	-0.16 to -0.06	Yes (<0.01)
Business	90	33,252	Either way	2.32	1.93	-0.39 to 1.17	No (0.32)
			Summary	0.70	0.90	-0.40 to -0.01	Yes (0.04)
Const/BSE	431	47,852	Indictable	0.05	0.06	-0.04 to 0.02	No (0.69)
			Either way	1.62	1.80	-0.41 to 0.06	No (0.14)
			Summary	0.87	0.88	-0.12 to 0.10	No (0.87)
Emp/PSS	63	39,995	Either way	2.76	2.18	-0.73 to 1.89	No (0.38)
			Summary	0.89	0.89	-0.29 to 0.30	No (0.99)
Eng/Manu/Trans	94	30,387	Either way	1.27	2.11	-1.13 to -0.56	Yes (<0.01)
			Summary	0.73	0.90	-0.40 to 0.07	No (0.17)
Hosp/Catering	519	31,677	Indictable	0.05	0.06	-0.04 to 0.00	No (0.13)
			Either way	2.39	2.11	-0.08 to 0.66	No (0.13)
			Summary	0.74	0.86	-0.24 to -0.01	Yes (0.03)
Maths/English	2,438	46,791	Indictable	0.05	0.06	-0.02 to 0.02	No (0.85)
			Either way	2.16	2.30	-0.28 to 0.01	No (0.06)
			Summary	0.84	0.93	-0.15 to -0.04	Yes (<0.01)

Table 5.2: Number of proven reoffences in a one-year period (reoffending frequency) by court outcome for women supported by City & Guilds, compared with similar non-participants (reoffenders only)

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	Court outcome	Treatment group frequency	Comparison group frequency	Estimated difference	Significant difference? (p-value)
Overall	366	5,587	Either way	3.96	3.22	0.15 to 1.33	Yes (0.01)
			Summary	0.76	0.78	-0.17 to 0.11	No (0.70)
Age: 30 - 39	211	2,567	Either way	3.82	3.26	-0.22 to 1.35	No (0.16)
			Summary	0.78	0.74	-0.16 to 0.24	No (0.70)
Age: 40+	82	1,504	Either way	3.38	2.93	-0.48 to 1.37	No (0.34)
			Summary	0.52	0.67	-0.42 to 0.12	No (0.28)
Ethnicity: White	336	3,270	Either way	4.13	3.43	0.06 to 1.35	Yes (0.03)
			Summary	0.75	0.78	-0.19 to 0.12	No (0.68)
Hosp/Catering	100	3,938	Either way	5.42	3.67	0.26 to 3.23	Yes (0.02)
			Summary	0.71	0.65	-0.16 to 0.27	No (0.61)
Maths/English	220	4,825	Either way	3.63	3.19	-0.25 to 1.12	No (0.21)
			Summary	0.80	0.77	-0.16 to 0.24	No (0.71)

Table 6: Proportion of men and women who received a custodial sentence for their first proven reoffence after support from City & Guilds, compared with similar non-participants (reoffenders only)

Gender	Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	Treatment group rate (%)	Comparison group rate (%)	Estimated difference (% points)	Significant difference? (p-value)
Male	Overall	3,867	55,783	56	56	-2 to 1	No (0.60)
	Age: 18 - 29	1,597	14,017	57	57	-2 to 3	No (0.88)
	Age: 30 - 39	1,371	15,689	55	55	-4 to 2	No (0.56)
	Age: 40+	892	15,139	55	54	-3 to 4	No (0.69)
	Ethnicity: Asian	247	2,192	60	55	-2 to 11	No (0.15)
	Ethnicity: Black	542	4,520	60	53	2 to 11	Yes (<0.01)
	Ethnicity: White	2,999	39,526	55	56	-4 to 0	No (0.08)
	Business	90	33,252	62	55	-3 to 18	No (0.14)
	Const/BSE	431	47,852	52	55	-7 to 3	No (0.36)
	Emp/PSS	63	39,995	54	55	-13 to 12	No (0.90)
	Eng/Manu/Trans	94	30,387	63	56	-3 to 17	No (0.18)
	Hosp/Catering	519	31,677	56	57	-5 to 3	No (0.61)
	Maths/English	2,438	46,791	56	56	-2 to 2	No (0.85)
	Female	Overall	366	5,587	52	48	-1 to 10
Age: 30 - 39		211	2,567	53	44	2 to 16	Yes (0.02)
Age: 40+		82	1,504	50	47	-8 to 14	No (0.62)
Ethnicity: White		336	3,270	52	50	-4 to 7	No (0.53)
Hosp/Catering		100	3,938	61	50	1 to 21	Yes (0.03)
Maths/English		220	4,825	49	47	-5 to 8	No (0.64)

Table 7: Number of custodial sentences received in a one-year period by men and women who received support from City & Guilds, compared to similar non-participants (reoffenders only)

Gender	Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	Treatment group frequency	Comparison group frequency	Estimated difference	Significant difference? (p-value)
Male	Overall	3,867	55,783	1.99	2.11	-0.23 to -0.01	Yes (0.04)
	Age: 18 - 29	1,597	14,017	1.61	1.81	-0.34 to -0.07	Yes (<0.01)
	Age: 30 - 39	1,371	15,689	2.27	2.31	-0.26 to 0.17	No (0.68)
	Age: 40+	892	15,139	2.28	2.17	-0.15 to 0.37	No (0.42)
	Ethnicity: Asian	247	2,192	1.51	1.51	-0.27 to 0.27	No (1.00)
	Ethnicity: Black	542	4,520	1.55	1.43	-0.07 to 0.32	No (0.22)
	Ethnicity: White	2,999	39,526	2.13	2.31	-0.32 to -0.04	Yes (<0.01)
	Business	90	33,252	2.07	1.9	-0.54 to 0.87	No (0.65)
	Const/BSE	431	47,852	1.55	1.75	-0.4 to 0	No (0.05)
	Emp/PSS	63	39,995	2.6	2.1	-0.86 to 1.87	No (0.46)
	Eng/Manu/Trans	94	30,387	1.46	2.03	-0.94 to -0.21	Yes (<0.01)
	Hosp/Catering	519	31,677	2.04	2.04	-0.32 to 0.32	No (1.00)
	Maths/English	2,438	46,791	2.11	2.25	-0.29 to 0.01	No (0.06)
Female	Overall	366	5,587	3.1	2.7	-0.1 to 0.9	No (0.12)
	Age: 30 - 39	211	2,567	2.78	2.6	-0.42 to 0.77	No (0.56)
	Age: 40+	82	1,504	2.51	2.62	-0.99 to 0.78	No (0.81)
	Ethnicity: White	336	3,270	3.17	2.95	-0.32 to 0.77	No (0.41)
	Hosp/Catering	100	3,938	4.28	2.96	0.13 to 2.5	Yes (0.03)
	Maths/English	220	4,825	2.88	2.63	-0.35 to 0.84	No (0.42)

The standard acceptable level of statistical significance to demonstrate impact is 0.05. This means that for the difference between the treatment and comparison groups to be considered statistically significant or impactful, the p-value in the tables above must be 0.05 or lower, indicating that the probability of the result occurring by chance is 5% or less.

5. Profile of the male treatment group

City & Guilds work with over 120 prisons across England and Wales with the aim of providing the knowledge and skills they need to secure employment and realise their potential.

	Participants included in analysis (19,807)	Participants not included in analysis (69,799 with available data)
Sex		
Male	100%	100%
Ethnicity		
White	71%	71%
Black	17%	15%
Asian	9%	9%
Unknown	2%	4%
Other	1%	1%
Nationality		
UK nationality	90%	86%
Foreign nationality	8%	11%
Unknown nationality	2%	3%
Index disposal		
Prison	100%	

Please note totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts due to rounding.

The individuals in the treatment group were aged 18 to 94 years at the beginning of their one-year period (average age 34).

Information on index offences for the 69,799 males not included in the analysis is not available, as they could not be linked to a suitable sentence.

For **10,930 males**, no personal information is available as they could not be identified in our databases.

Information on individual risks and needs was available for 17,840 males in the treatment group (90% of males), recorded near to the time of their original conviction. This information is not complete for all males across all risks considered for this analysis. For those where information is known for specific risks, some key findings are shown below. For more information, see the Excel annex published with this evaluation.

- 92% of male participants had some or significant difficulties with problem solving.
- 64% of male participants would be unemployed upon release or were unemployed and 12% of male participants were not available for work or would not be available for work upon release.
- 61% of male participants had some or significant difficulties with achieving goals.

Note: These percentages represent the proportion of individuals with a recorded risk or need, excluding those where a record could not be found or the risk or need was recorded as 'NA'.

6. Profile of the female treatment group

City & Guilds work with over 120 prisons across England and Wales with the aim of providing the knowledge and skills they need to secure employment and realise their potential.

	Participants included in analysis (2,477)	Participants not included in analysis (5,523 with available data)
Sex		
Female	100%	100%
Ethnicity		
White	83%	80%
Black	9%	10%
Unknown	4%	6%
Asian	3%	3%
Other	1%	1%
Nationality		
UK nationality	90%	87%
Foreign nationality	5%	8%
Unknown nationality	5%	5%
Index disposal		
Prison	100%	

Please note totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts due to rounding.

The individuals in the treatment group were aged 18 to 69 years at the beginning of their one-year period (average age 38).

Information on index offences for the 5,523 females not included in the analysis is not available, as they could not be linked to a suitable sentence.

For **5,354 females**, no personal information is available as they could not be identified in our databases.

Information on individual risks and needs was available for 2,372 females in the treatment group (95% of females), recorded near to the time of their original conviction. This information is not complete for all females across all risks considered for this analysis. For those where information is known for specific risks, some key findings are shown below. For more information, see the Excel annex published with this evaluation.

- 90% of female participants had some or significant difficulties with problem solving.
- 60% of female participants would be unemployed upon release or were unemployed and 25% of female participants were not available for work or would not be available for work upon release.
- 59% of female participants had some or significant difficulties with achieving goals.

Note: These percentages represent the proportion of individuals with a recorded risk or need, excluding those where a record could not be found or the risk or need was recorded as 'NA'.

7. Matching the treatment and comparison groups

The analyses matched the treatment group to a comparison group. A large number of variables were identified and tested for inclusion in the regression models. The matching quality of each variable can be assessed with reference to the standardised differences in means between the matched treatment and comparison groups (see standardised differences annex). Over 95% of variables are categorised as green on JDL's traffic light scale, indicating that the matching quality achieved on the observed variables was very good.

Further details of group characteristics and matching quality, including risks and needs recorded by the Offender Assessment System (OASys), can be found in the Excel annex accompanying this report.

This report is also supplemented by a general annex, which answers frequently asked questions about Justice Data Lab analyses and explains the caveats associated with them.

8. Additional information on the dataset and terminology

Index dates

The index date is the date at which the follow up period for measuring reoffending begins.

- For those with custodial sentences, the index date is the date they are released from custody.

Court outcomes

A 'court outcome' refers to a guilty verdict for a criminal offence based on its offence type. For adults, there are three broad types of offence, based on severity:

- **Indictable only** offences are the most serious and must be tried at the Crown Court.
- **Triable-either-way** offences are of intermediate severity and may be tried at either court based on the circumstances of the case.
- **Summary** offences are the least serious and must be tried at magistrates' courts.

For more information, see [guidance provided by the Sentencing Council \(HTML\)](#)

Multiple qualifications

Some participants have completed multiple qualifications during a given prison sentence. Where this is the case in the headline analysis, or any of the sub-analyses, these are included as separate records for evaluation purposes. Sensitivity analyses were also performed restricting individuals to a single record (their first such course within a given sentence), all of which produced similar results to those allowing multiple records per individual. Given this, it was decided to retain all participations in the final results.

Other considerations

Part of the cohort within this publication overlaps with the COVID-19 pandemic including lockdowns and operational restrictions. It will therefore be affected by the continued recovery of the courts system. Particularly, continued delays in the processing of cases mean that increased numbers of reoffence convictions may fall outside of six-month waiting period and therefore not be counted in these statistics. Programme delivery in prisons may also have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Participants excluded from the analysis

Participants were excluded if they were previously convicted of a sexual offence or if aged 18 or over at the time of release from prison. In addition their intervention must have started within a prison sentence and ended either within the same sentence or up to 60 days after their release from prison.

9. Explanation of Sub-analyses

Course type

Additional data was provided by City & Guilds relating to the qualification programmes individuals completed. These programmes were then grouped into the following higher-level categories (more information on the specific programmes within each category can be found in the Excel annex):

- Business and/or Customer Service (Business)
- Construction and/or Building Services and Engineering (Const/BSE)
- Employability and/or Personal and Social Skills (Emp/PSS)
- Engineering and/or Manufacturing and/or Transport (Eng/Manu/Trans)
- Hospitality and/or Catering (Hosp/Catering)
- Maths and/or English (Maths/English)

Note: the abbreviated course names shown in brackets are used in results tables where space is limited.

The JDL used this data to analyse the reoffending behaviour of individuals who completed a programme within one of these categories. The comparison groups for this sub-analysis only included individuals who had similar characteristics to those identified as participating in one of the respective course categories.

Age band

The JDL categorised the age of the participants at the time of their release date from prison into the following three age categories:

- 18 - 29
- 30 - 39
- 40+

The JDL used this data to analyse the reoffending behaviour of individuals based on the age band they fell into at the time of their release date from prison.

The comparison group for this sub-analysis included individuals with the relevant age band at the time of their release date.

Ethnicity

The JDL analysed the following three ethnic groups:

- Asian
- Black
- White

Due to small sample size, other ethnicities could not be included in this sub-analysis.

The comparison groups for this sub-analysis only included individuals who had the same ethnicities as the treatment group.

10. Limitations and caveats to our findings

Propensity Score Matching (PSM)

This evaluation uses 'Propensity Score Matching' (PSM), which is a quasi-experimental evaluation methodology. It is considered a level 4 on the SMS (Scientific Methods Scale). However, PSM is not as robust as randomised control trials or prospectively matched evaluations. For more information on the strengths and limitations of propensity score matching, see the following published reports:

- [Mews, Hillier, McHugh, & Coxon \(2013\)_\(HTML\)](#)
- [Eaton & Mews \(2019\)_\(HTML\)](#).

A key limitation of PSM is that it can only reduce bias based on information about participants that is recorded and available (called 'observed factors'). Crucially, this information is required for both the treatment and comparison groups. There is a risk that unobserved or unavailable information could influence the results of a PSM evaluation. To mitigate this risk, the JDL strives to include all observed factors expected to be predictive of selection onto the intervention evaluated and of reoffending risk. For more information, see the [JDL Methodology Paper \(HTML\)](#) which outlines the methodology applied in more detail.

Reoffending outcomes and analysis

This evaluation uses the same definition of 'reoffending' as used in the Ministry of Justice's Proven Reoffending National Statistics. More information on this methodology is available on the [Proven reoffending statistics collection \(HTML\)](#). Importantly, this definition does not include crimes that are committed but not recorded by the police or do not lead to a caution or conviction. It also does not adjust for any periods of time individuals are returned to custody, either due to recall or additional sentences, or time spent outside the UK.

There are other rehabilitation outcomes, in addition to reoffending used in this evaluation, which may be important to consider for specific interventions. Examples could include employability, educational or skills attainment, physical or mental health, health of relationships, or attitudes.

Analysis of interventions with female participants tend to have smaller sample sizes compared to similar interventions or analyses with male participants. This should be considered when reviewing results as smaller sample sizes lead to a reduced likelihood of achieving statistical significance.

Multiple corrections method

Statistical significance as defined in this report means that if no real differences exist there is a 5% chance of each result nonetheless being found to be statistically significant. On the same basis though, the chance of at least one of the many results being found to be statistically significant is much higher than 5%. Given the number of analyses and sub-analyses involved in this evaluation, care should therefore be taken when interpreting the findings. While multiple correction methods can be applied to reduce the risk of incorrectly finding a positive treatment effect, they can also increase the likelihood that real differences will not be detected. The results presented in this report have therefore not undergone multiple correction methods. As a result, the findings should be interpreted with appropriate caution, particularly where the differences observed are minimal, or where subgroup sizes are small.

11. Numbers of males in the treatment and comparison groups

100,536 records were submitted for analysis by City & Guilds



100,536

10,930 (11%) records were excluded from the analyses because they could not be identified on the Police National Computer (PNC), or did not have the relevant adjudication result [1]



89,606

65,768 (65%) records were excluded because they did not have a record in the reoffending database that corresponded to their period of participation with City & Guilds [2]



23,838

4,031 (4%) records were excluded because they did not meet inclusion criteria for analysis, or they had previously been convicted of a sexual offence [3]



19,807

Male treatment group: 20% of the male participants submitted
(Comparison group: 144,062 records)

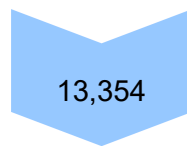
[1] Adjudication results must be guilty to be considered for analysis, as an individual must have committed an initial offence and have been convicted for it in order for the reoffending rate to be measured.

[2] People were excluded from the analysis if they were still in prison or serving life sentences during the period that reoffending was measured. Additionally, the intervention must have started within a prison sentence and ended either within the same sentence or up to 60 days after their release from prison.

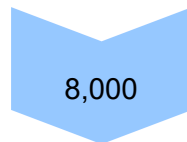
[3] Inclusion criteria includes: Being aged 18 or over at the time of release from prison.

12. Numbers of females in the treatment and comparison groups

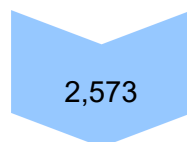
13,354 records were submitted for analysis by City & Guilds



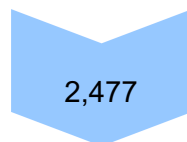
5,354 (40%) records were excluded from the analyses because they could not be identified on the Police National Computer (PNC), or did not have the relevant adjudication result [1]



5,427 (41%) records were excluded because they did not have a record in the reoffending database that corresponded to their period of participation with City & Guilds [2]



96 (1%) records were excluded because they did not meet inclusion criteria for analysis, or they had previously been convicted of a sexual offence [3]



Female treatment group: 19% of the female participants submitted
(Comparison group: 11,714 records)

[1] Adjudication results must be guilty to be considered for analysis, as an individual must have committed an initial offence and have been convicted for it in order for the reoffending rate to be measured.

[2] People were excluded from the analysis if they were still in prison or serving life sentences during the period that reoffending was measured. Additionally, the intervention must have started within a prison sentence and ended either within the same sentence or up to 60 days after their release from prison.

[3] Inclusion criteria includes: Being aged 18 or over at the time of release from prison.

13. Further information

Official Statistics

Our statistical practice is regulated by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR).

OSR sets the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the Code of Practice for Statistics that all producers of official statistics should adhere to.

You are welcome to contact us directly with any comments about how we meet these standards.

Alternatively, you can contact OSR by emailing regulation@statistics.gov.uk or via the OSR website.

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>

Other enquiries about the analysis should be directed to:

Justice Data Lab team

Email: justice.datalab@justice.gov.uk

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