

19 July 2012

Statistical News Release: Crimes detected in England and Wales 2011/12

The latest National Statistics on crimes detected by the police in England and Wales are released today. These are based on data collected from the 43 Home Office police forces and the British Transport Police.

Levels and trends in crimes detected

The key points from the latest release are:

- There were 3,976,312 offences recorded by the police in 2011/12 and 1,075,927 offences detected by means of a sanction detection. There were an additional 54,183 crimes detected by means of a non-sanction detection. The overall detection rate (i.e. the number of detections divided by the number of crimes) was 28 per cent in 2011/12. The overall sanction detection rate was 27 per cent.
- The number of sanction detections fell by seven per cent between 2010/11 and 2011/12. The number of recorded crimes fell by four per cent in the same period.
- The sanction detection rate rose between 2002/03 and 2007/08 and then remained steady at 28 per cent between 2008/09 and 2010/11 before falling to 27 per cent in 2011/12.
- As in previous years, there is a wide variation in sanction detection rates for different types of crime, with the highest detection rate of 92 per cent for drug offences and the lowest rate of 11 per cent for offences against vehicles.
- Sanction detection rates showed little change for most offence groups between 2010/11 and 2011/12. The exceptions were falls of two percentage points in fraud and forgery and one percentage point in violence against the person, other theft offences, drug offences and other offences.
- There were falls in all the methods of sanction detection between 2010/11 and 2011/12. The number of offences detected by means of a charge or summons fell by four per cent. There were also substantial falls in the number of offences detected by other methods with cautions and offences taken into consideration down 11 per cent and Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) down 14 per cent.

Notes to editors

1. It is not possible to link individual detections to individual crimes. The detection rates described in the bulletin are the number of offences recorded as detected in a given year as a proportion of the total number of crimes recorded in the same period.

2. 'Crimes detected in England and Wales 2011/12' is available online on the UK National Statistics Publication Hub as well as the Home Office Science website.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/hosb0812/>

3. Also released today is 'Crime in England and Wales: Quarterly First Release to March 2012' available on the Office for National Statistics website.

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Crime+in+England+and+Wales>

For all press enquiries, please contact the Home Office Press Office who will liaise with Home Office Statistics:

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