



Ministry of
JUSTICE



Criminal Justice Statistics
Quarterly Update to March 2012
Ministry of Justice
Statistics bulletin

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Introduction

This report presents the key trends on the latest twelve months (April 2011 to March 2012) of activity in the Criminal Justice System (CJS) for England and Wales.

All data for January to March 2012 are provisional.

For this edition of the publication data relating to outstanding failure to appear warrants is included for the first time. Additionally for this edition contains updated statistics on defendants relating to the public disorder of 6th to 9th August 2011. This chapter presents information on numbers brought before the courts, initial outcomes and sentencing based on data available on 10th August 2012.

Alongside the publication is a technical document titled "Criminal Justice Statistics: Background, Definitions and Measurement". This document provides users with detailed information on the concepts and methods used in compiling this bulletin, including the quality of the data. A copy of the technical document can be found at: www.justice.gov.uk/publications/statistics-and-data/criminal-justice/criminal-annual.htm

Where appropriate comparisons are made between different sources covering activity in the Criminal Justice System (CJS). In particular, comparisons are made to numbers of crimes recorded by the police (often the starting point for crimes dealt with by other CJS agencies) rather than estimates from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW). The CSEW provides robust estimates of trends in crimes against the population resident in households, including those never reported to the police, but excludes other crimes such as those against businesses or so-called 'victimless' crime. Therefore police recorded crime provides a more meaningful comparison for measures relating to the wider CJS. Findings from the CSEW and recorded crime are published together in statistical bulletins by the Home Office.

The data provides users with information about proven offending and its outcomes in England and Wales. The contents of this bulletin will be of interest to government policy makers in the development of policy and their subsequent monitoring and evaluation. Others will be interested in the way different crimes are dealt with in the Criminal Justice System.

Information about statistical revisions, forthcoming changes and the symbols and conventions used in the bulletin are given in the explanatory notes section.

If you have any feedback, questions or requests for further information about this statistical bulletin, please direct them to the appropriate contact given at the end of this report.

Main findings

Overview of the Criminal Justice System in the 12 months ending March 2012

In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 1.96 million individuals¹ given an out of court disposal or proceeded against at court. This compares with 2.10 million individuals in the 12 months ending March 2011, a decline of 6.8 per cent. This included a 7.9 per cent fall in the use of out of court disposals (from 458,600 to 422,600) – continuing the fall in the use of out of court disposals since the peak in the 12 months ending March 2007.

There was also a 6.5 per cent fall in the number of defendants proceeded against at court (from 1,639,800 to 1,533,900). This continues the decrease observed since the peak in 12 months ending March 2004, which has been mainly driven by falls in prosecutions for summary offences, which have fallen by 27.0 per cent during this period.

Since the 12 months ending March 2004, convictions for summary offences have fallen largely in line with trends in prosecutions. Convictions for indictable offences have not followed this pattern however, and since the 12 months ending March 2001 have fluctuated between 303,000 and 351,000, giving a broadly flat trend in convictions for indictable offences over the last decade.

Table Q1.1: Activity in the Criminal Justice System, 12 months ending March 2008 to 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	12 months ending					Percentage change 12 months ending March 2011 to 12 months ending March 2012
	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012	
Out of court disposals	659,258	601,128	519,330	458,637	422,626	-7.9%
Cannabis warnings ⁽¹⁾	102,097	104,027	84,529	79,017 ^(P)	77,914 ^(P)	-1.4%
Penalty Notices for Disorder ⁽²⁾	201,293	174,959	161,575	138,266	121,863	-11.9%
Cautions	355,868	322,142	273,226	241,354	222,849	-7.7%
Defendants proceeded against	1,714,074	1,639,639	1,690,980	1,639,772	1,533,920	-6.5%
Indictable offences ⁽³⁾	400,831	402,146	418,910	436,515	405,943	-7.0%
Summary offences	1,313,243	1,237,493	1,272,070	1,203,257	1,127,977	-6.3%
Defendants convicted	1,409,932	1,366,088	1,400,296	1,359,480	1,280,528	-5.8%
Indictable offences	313,648	320,990	331,170	352,171	333,166	-5.4%
Summary offences	1,096,284	1,045,098	1,069,126	1,007,309	947,362	-6.0%
Prison receptions⁽⁴⁾	94,300	100,100	93,273	90,783	89,828	-1.1%
Probation starts⁽⁵⁾	163,081	168,451	167,797	166,219	158,901	-4.4%

(1) Data for British Transport Police have been included for year ending March 2012 only.

(2) Number of Penalty Notices for Disorder issued to offenders aged 16 and over.

(3) Indictable offences include those triable-either-way.

(4) Receptions for offenders given a custodial sentence (includes fine defaulters).

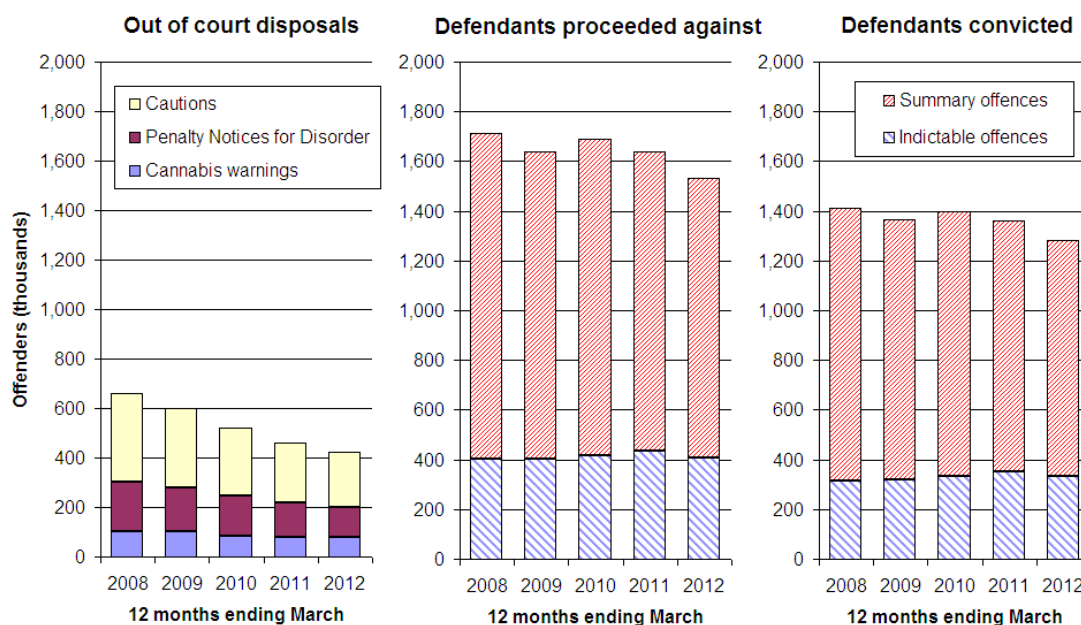
(5) Offenders starting Community Order or Suspended Sentence Order supervision by the Probation Service.

(P) Provisional

Note: Figures for cannabis warnings appearing in this publication are provisional and may be revised following Home Office validation. Finalised National Statistics will be published by the Home Office in July 2013 by financial year.

¹ Includes people and companies.

Figure 1.1: Summary of activity in the Criminal Justice System, 12 months ending March 2008 to 12 months ending March 2012



Out of Court Disposals

Since the 12 months ending March 2008, the use of out of court disposals has decreased by 35.9 per cent (from 659,300 to 422,600 in 12 months ending March 2012). The decline in the use of out of court disposals coincided with the replacement in April 2008 of a target to increase offences brought to justice, with one placing more emphasis on bringing serious crime to justice. The latter target was subsequently removed in May 2010.

There is evidence, however, that the rate of decline in the use of out of court disposals is slowing. The 7.9 per cent decline between 12 months ending March 2011 and 12 months ending March 2012 compares to an average annual fall of 11.4 per cent between 12 months ending March 2008 and 12 months ending March 2011.

Police cautions

There were 222,800 cautions administered in the 12 months ending March 2012 (including juveniles given a reprimand or warnings), representing a 7.7 per cent decrease compared with the 12 months ending March 2011 (241,400). This continues the downward trend in the use of cautions observed since a peak in the 12 months ending March 2007, with the 12 months ending March 2012 figure representing a 37.9 per cent decrease compared with the 12 months ending March 2007 total (359,000).

The decrease in cautions between the 12 months ending March 2011 and the 12 months ending March 2012 was largely driven by the decline in cautions administered for indictable offences. In particular, the largest relative decrease was observed for the indictable offence group *violence against the person*, which fell by 27.0 per cent (from 20,700 to 15,000).

Four in every five cautions issued for indictable offences are for *violence against the person, theft and handling or drug offences*.

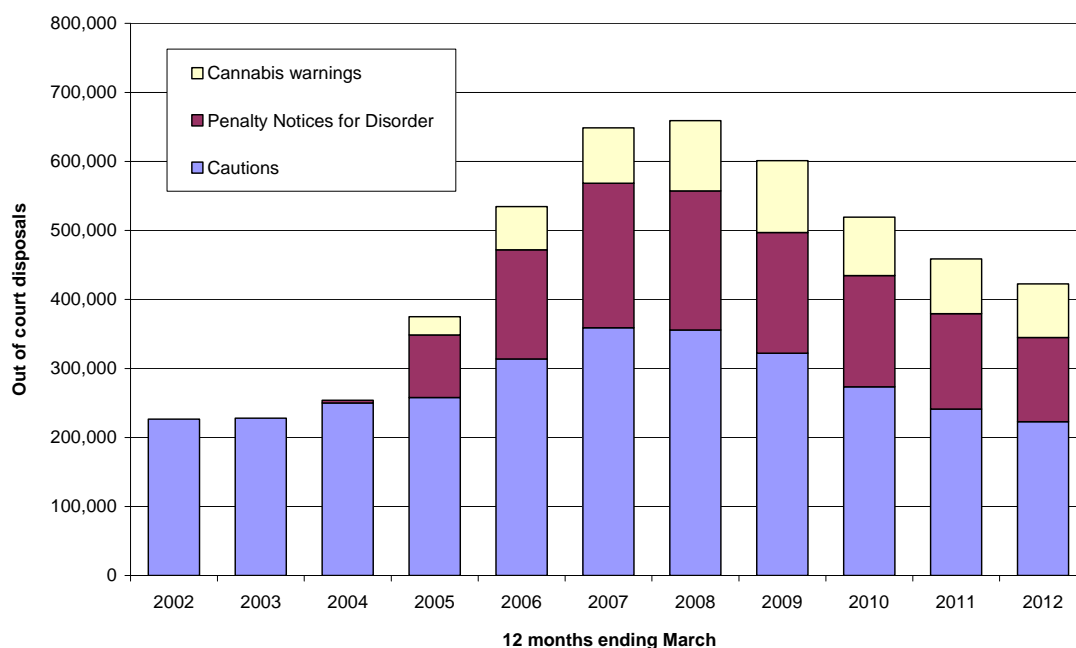
Penalty Notices for Disorder (PND) and cannabis warnings

There were 121,900 PNDs issued in the 12 months ending March 2012, a decrease of 11.9 per cent compared with the 12 months ending March 2011 (138,300). Similar to cautions, this continues the downward trend in issues of PNDs observed since a peak in the 12 months ending March 2007, with the 12 months ending March 2012 figure representing a 41.8 per cent decrease compared with the 12 months ending March 2007 total (209,400).

This decrease between the 12 months ending March 2011 and the 12 months ending March 2012 has been observed in all offence groups except for *Misuse of public telecommunications system*, *Possession of category 4 firework*, *Sale of alcohol to drunken person*, *Consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 on relevant premises* and *possession of cannabis*, for which the issuing of PNDs has increased year-on-year since coming into effect in 2009.

PNDs issued for *possession of cannabis* increased by 1,700 (from 14,400 to 16,100, a 11.9 per cent rise) between the 12 months ending March 2011 and the 12 months ending March 2012. However, cannabis warnings decreased by 1,100 (from 79,000 to 77,900, a 1.4 per cent decline) over the same period. This suggests that the use of out of court disposals for those in possession of cannabis has remained constant but with an increased usage of PNDs rather than cannabis warnings.

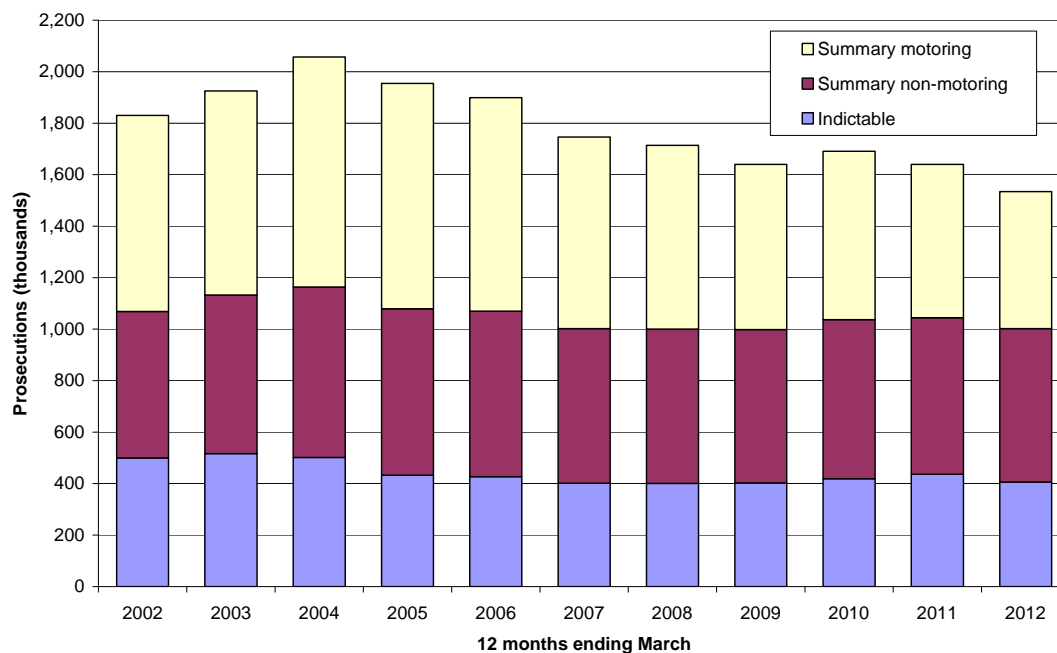
Figure 1.2: Out of court disposals, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012



Court proceedings and sentencing

In the 12 months ending March 2012 there were 1.53 million defendants proceeded against in magistrates' courts and 1.28 million offenders convicted of a criminal offence at all courts. Prosecutions and convictions peaked in the 12 months ending March 2004, and both have since fallen by 25.4 per cent and 16.9 per cent respectively. These falls have largely been driven by declines in proceedings for summary non motoring and summary motoring offences.

Figure 1.3: Defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts by offence type, 12 months ending March 2011 to 12 months ending March 2012



For the more serious indictable offences, prosecutions have fallen by 19.1 per cent since March 2004, but the number of convictions remained broadly flat over the same period. As a result, the conviction ratio increased from 66.5 per cent in March 2004 to 82.1 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2012 - the highest ratio in 11 years.

Looking over the past year, there were 6.5 per cent fewer proceedings in the 12 months ending March 2012 (comparing to 1.64 million in the previous 12 month period). This in turn resulted in a decrease of 5.8 per cent in offenders convicted and sentenced. Again these trends were largely driven by summary motoring and summary non-motoring offences. In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were:

- 405,900 prosecutions and 333,200 convictions for indictable offences - a decrease of 7.0 and 5.4 per cent compared with the previous 12 month period.
- 596,500 prosecutions and 487,000 convictions for summary non-motoring offences - a decrease of 1.9 per cent and 1.3 per cent respectively compared with the previous 12 month period.
- 531,500 prosecutions and 460,300 convictions for summary motoring offences - a decrease of 10.7 per cent and 10.4 per cent respectively compared with the previous 12 month period.

Figure 1.4a: Percentage change in convictions by offence type and offence group, 12 months ending March 2011 to 12 months ending March 2012

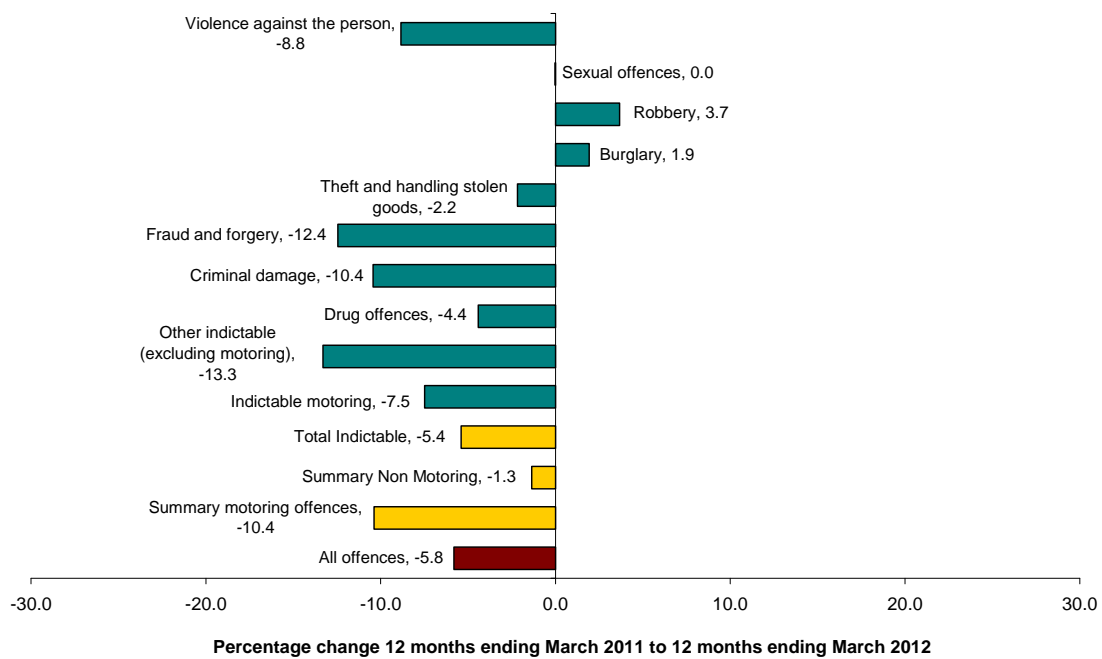
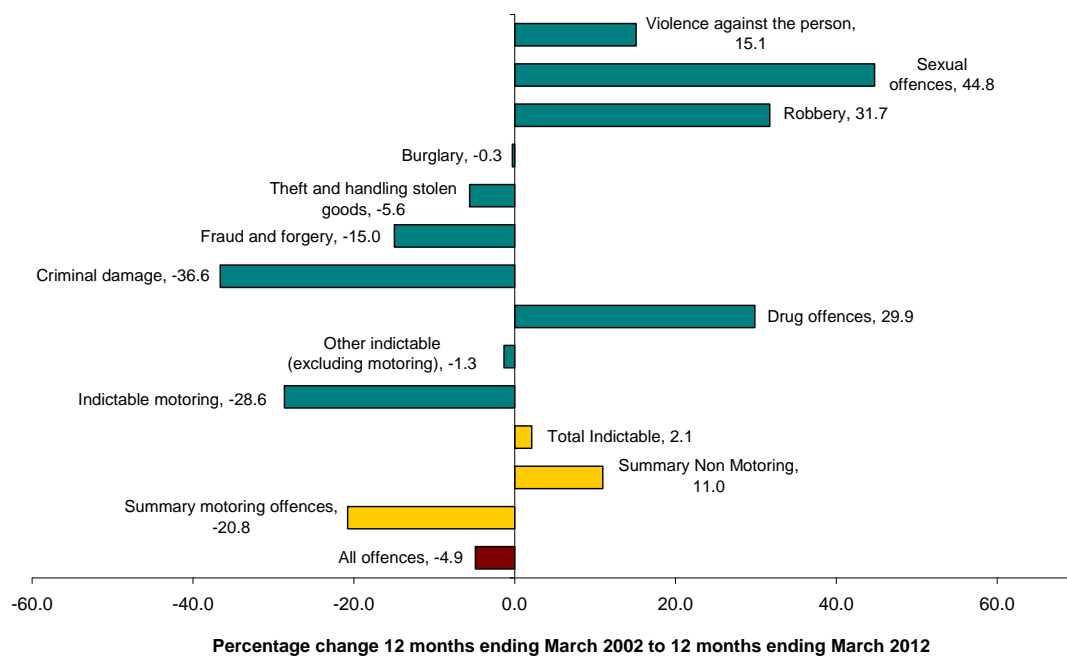


Figure 1.4b: Percentage change in convictions by offence type and offence group, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012



Immediate custody

In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 101,200 persons sentenced to immediate custody, a decrease of 1.0 per cent from 102,300 persons in the same period a year earlier and 7.8 per cent lower than the peak over the last 10 years of 109,800 persons sentenced to immediate custody in the 12 months ending March 2003.

While absolute numbers of persons sentenced to immediate custody have decreased in recent years, the immediate custody rate (the proportion of those sentenced who are sentenced to immediate custody) has risen from a low of 6.7 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2007 to 8.0 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2012. This illustrates the fact that, since 2007, the overall number of offenders sentenced at court has decreased faster than the number of persons sentenced to immediate custody.

Table Q1.2: Offenders sentenced by principal sentence, 12 months ending March 2008 to 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales						Percentage change 12 months ending March 2011 to 12 months ending March 2012
12 months ending						
	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012	
Total offenders sentenced⁽¹⁾	1,408,465	1,365,078	1,398,217	1,357,923	1,279,553	-5.8%
Total persons sentenced⁽²⁾	1,400,567	1,356,831	1,389,694	1,350,108	1,272,965	-5.7%
Immediate custody (persons)	96,932	100,174	99,745	102,259	101,241	-1.0%
Suspended sentence (persons)	41,406	41,472	45,913	48,750	47,234	-3.1%
Community sentence (persons)	194,552	193,566	190,817	187,773	170,007	-9.5%
Fines (all offenders)	932,998	897,656	938,500	887,467	839,735	-5.4%
Other disposals (all offenders)	142,577	132,210	123,242	131,674	121,336	-7.9%
Average custodial sentence length (months) ⁽³⁾	12.4	13.5	13.7	13.9	14.8	6.5%
Percentage of those sentenced⁽⁴⁾						Percentage point change
Immediate custody (persons)	6.9	7.4	7.2	7.6	8.0	0.4
Suspended sentence (persons)	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.7	0.1
Community sentence (persons)	13.9	14.3	13.7	13.9	13.4	-0.6
Fines (all offenders)	66.2	65.8	67.1	65.4	65.6	0.3
Other disposals (all offenders)	10.1	9.7	8.8	9.7	9.5	-0.2

(1) The time lag between conviction and sentencing for cases committed for sentence at Crown Court can result in small differences between total offenders convicted and sentenced within reporting years.

(2) For sentences of immediate custody, suspended sentence and community sentence, 'persons' is the same as 'offenders', as 'others' (such as companies or public bodies) cannot receive these sentences.

(3) Average custodial sentence length excludes life and indeterminate sentences.

(4) May not sum to 100 per cent as all rates are not calculated on the same basis.

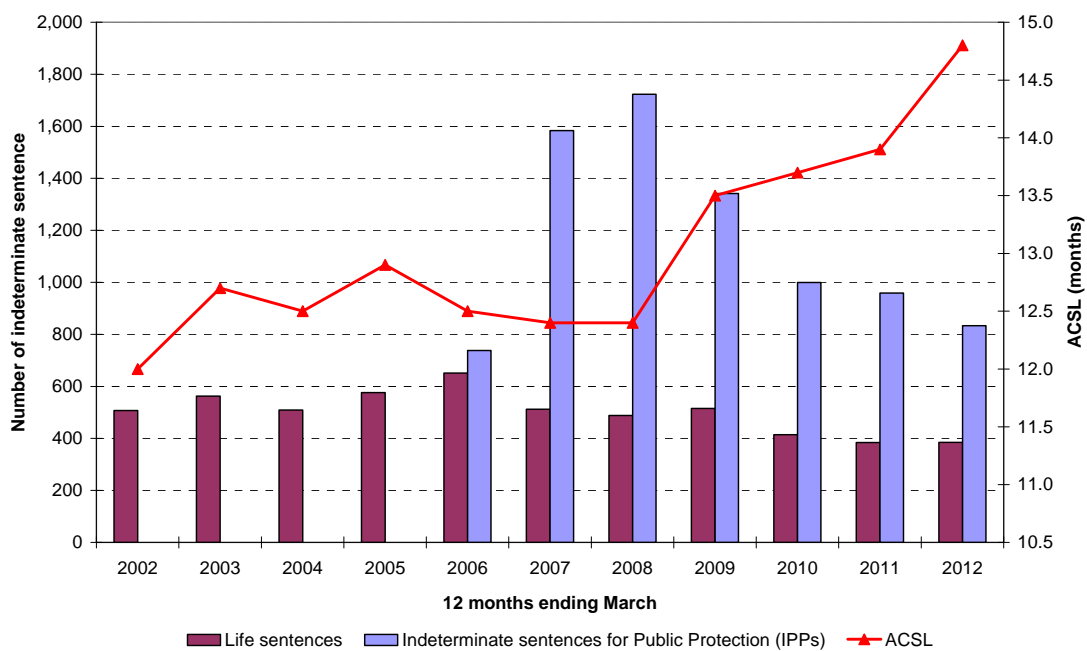
In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 1,218 indeterminate sentences (either a life sentence or an Indeterminate sentence for Public Protection – an IPP) handed down, a 9.3 per cent decrease from 1,343 in the same period a year earlier. This continued the fall since the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act (CJIA) 2008 was introduced, which restricted the use of IPPs. Within this group, the number of life sentences remained broadly the same. The decrease in indeterminate sentences has coincided with an increase in longer determinate sentences. In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 664 custodial sentences of over 10 years and less than life handed down, a 17.9 per cent increase from 563 in the same period a year earlier.

In the 12 months ending March 2012, the Average Custodial Sentence Length (ACSL) was 14.8 months, an increase of 0.9 months compared to the 12 months ending March 2011, and an increase of 2.8 months compared to the 12 months ending March 2002. The rise in ACSL has been driven by the change in the case mix of people getting custodial sentences and longer sentences for indictable offences:

- In the 12 months ending March 2002, summary motoring offences accounted for 15.8 per cent of immediate custodial sentences, with an ACSL of 3.4 months. By the 12 months ending March 2012, they accounted for just 3.0 per cent of immediate custodial sentences, with a reduction in ACSL to 3.1 months.

- In the 12 months ending March 2002, indictable offences accounted for 75.8 per cent of immediate custodial sentences, with an ACSL of 14.8 months. By the 12 months ending March 2012, they accounted for 83.3 per cent of immediate custodial sentences, with an increase in ACSL to 17.2 months. In particular, *sexual offences* saw a rise in ACSL from 40.9 months in the 12 months ending March 2005 to 53.0 months in the 12 months ending March 2012, following the implementation of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.
- The decrease in indeterminate sentences mentioned above coincides with an increase in long determinate sentences (10 years or more) from 563 in the 12 months ending March 2011 to 664 in the latest period, a 17.9 per cent increase and the highest number in the last 11 years.

Figure 1.5: Offenders receiving an indeterminate custodial sentence and average custodial sentence length for all offenders; 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012



Fines

Fines are the most common sentence passed at court, accounting for around two-thirds of all sentences handed down by the criminal courts (65.6 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2012). In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 839,700 fines handed down (99.8 per cent of these being issued at magistrates' courts), a decrease of 5.4 per cent from the same period a year earlier and the lowest number of fines handed out over the last 11 years.

The majority of fines issued in the 12 months ending March 2012 were for summary offences, with only 6.8 per cent issued for indictable offences.

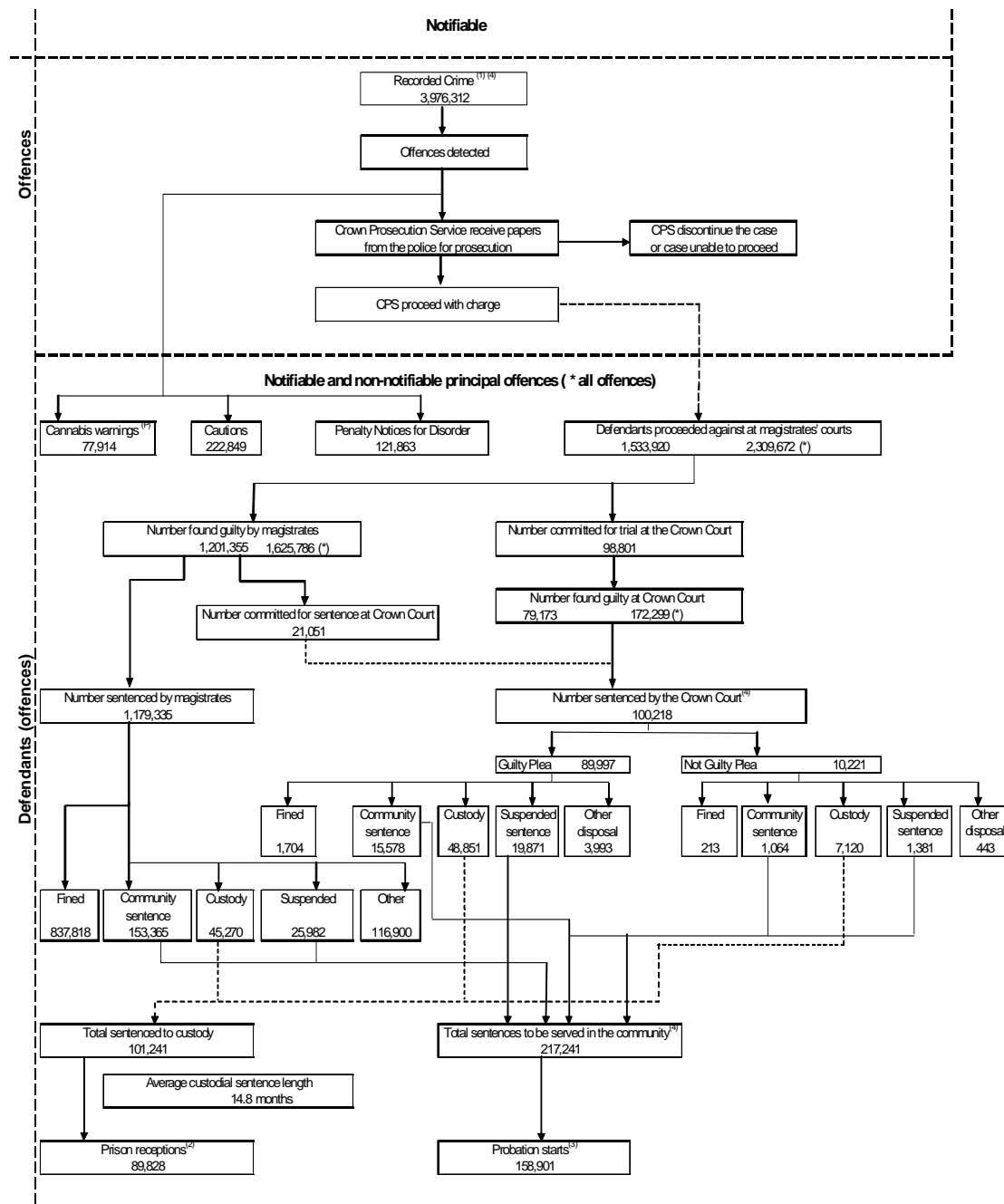
The fine rate of 65.6 per cent is consistent with that seen in the same period a year earlier, and has declined from a peak of 70.0 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2004. The decline has been due to a decline in prosecutions and subsequent conviction for summary motoring offences – the offence type for which fines are most commonly given.

Suspended Sentences and Community Orders

In the 12 months ending March 2012, 170,000 people (or 13.4 per cent of persons sentenced) were given a Community Sentence, a decrease of 9.5 per cent from the same period a year earlier.

In the 12 months ending March 2012, 47,200 people (or 3.7 per cent of persons sentenced) were given a Suspended Sentence Order, a decrease of 3.1 per cent from the same period a year earlier.

Figure 1.6: Flows through the Criminal Justice System, 12 months ending March 2012



(1) Covers all indictable offences, including triable either way, plus a few closely associated summary offences.

(2) Receptions for offenders given a custodial sentence (figures include fine defaulters)

(3) Offenders starting Community Order or Suspended Sentence Order supervision by the Probation Service

(4) Data for British Transport Police have been included for year ending March 2012 only.

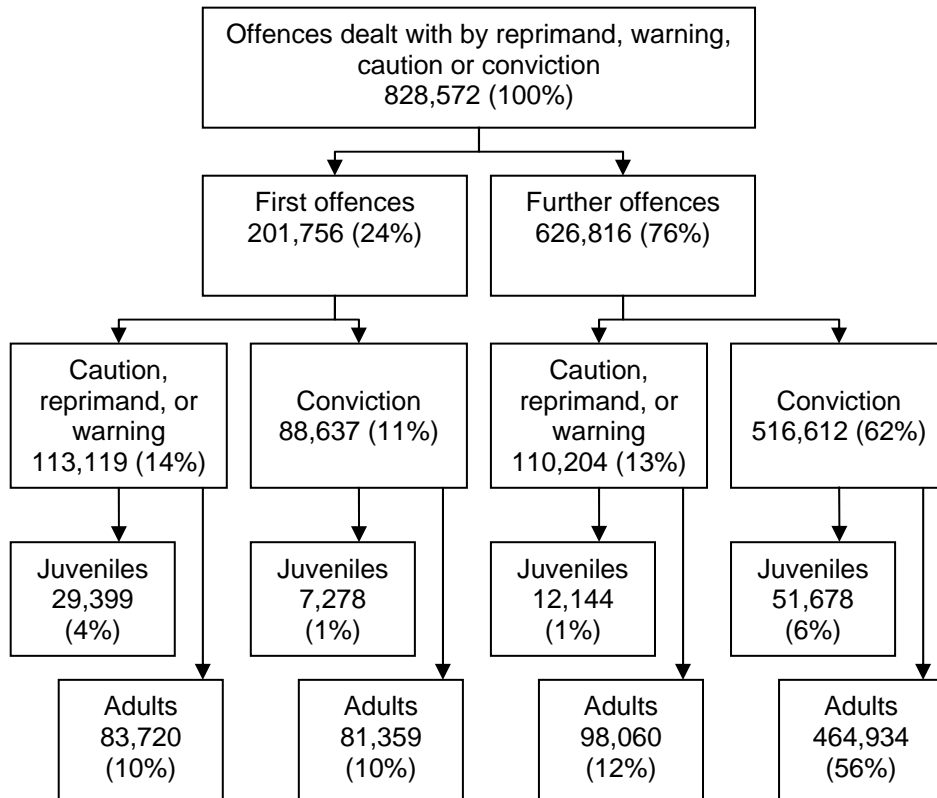
* Total number of all offences in comparison with the total number of defendants on a principal offence basis.

Offending Histories

This section provides an overview of the changing structure of the known offending population with information on the breakdown of offences committed by new offenders and repeat offenders, the trends in new entrants to the criminal justice system, and breakdowns of the criminal histories of cautioned and sentenced offenders.

- In the 12 months ending March 2012, 24.3 per cent of proven offences were committed by offenders with no previous criminal offences. This compares to 25.9 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2011 and reflects a fall in the use of cautions.
- There were 201,800 First Time Entrants (people who received their first conviction, caution, reprimand or warning) in the 12 months ending March 2012. This is a fall of 11.2 per cent from the 227,200 first time entrants in the 12 months ending March 2011. This fall was driven by a reduction of 20.1 per cent in the number of Juvenile First Time Entrants. Adult first time entrants fell by 8.9 per cent over the same period.
- The differing trends in adult and juvenile first time entrants are largely due to the different disposals received. 50.7 per cent of adult first time entrants received an out of court disposal whereas 80.2 per cent of juvenile first time entrants received an out of court disposal. This is due to the use of out of court disposals falling more sharply for juveniles as a proportion of all disposals given, since 2007.
- The rate of Juvenile First Time Entrants per 100,000 of population now stands at 710, a fall of 20.1 per cent from the 12 months ending March 2011.
- In the 12 months ending March 2012, 10.0 per cent of offenders convicted of indictable offences had no previous criminal offences, whilst 31.8 per cent had 15 or more previous offences. This compares with 10.4 per cent and 29.5 per cent respectively in the 12 months ending March 2011.

Figure 1.7: First offences and further offences in the 12 months ending March 2012



Offences

This section differs from the previous section in that it considers the total number of notifiable² offences.

Much of the activity in the Criminal Justice System starts with the police, when a crime is reported, investigated and detected. The Home Office report on the police activity and the crimes they deal with. In the 12 months ending March 2012, recorded crime decreased by 2.8 per cent, from 4.09 million in the 12 months ending March 2011 down to 3.98 million offences.

Over the same period, for the equivalent notifiable offences, the use of out of court disposals decreased by 7.1 per cent. Specifically, Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) were down 14.3 per cent, cautions decreased 6.3 per cent and cannabis warnings reduced by 1.4 per cent. Convictions for notifiable offences also decreased, by 4.7 per cent.

Table Q1.3: Recorded crime and notifiable offence outcomes, 12 months ending March 2008 to 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	12 months ending					Percentage change 12 months ending March 2011 to 12 months ending March 2012
	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012	
Recorded Crime⁽¹⁾	4,884,402	4,637,830	4,278,221	4,092,589	3,976,312	-2.8%
Out of court disposals	614,496	557,581	476,794	419,302	389,455	-7.1%
Cannabis warnings ⁽¹⁾	102,097	104,027	84,529	79,017	77,914 ^(P)	-1.4%
Penalty Notices for Disorder ⁽²⁾	136,702	115,625	107,467	90,199	77,271	-14.3%
Cautions	375,697	337,929	284,798	250,086	234,270	-6.3%
Proceedings	977,315	960,685	1,001,162	1,016,626	948,942	-6.7%
Convictions	738,851	754,516	750,449	764,889	729,302	-4.7%
Offences taken into consideration⁽¹⁾	106,653	101,647	79,120	74,166	65,960	-11.1%
Proven offences⁽³⁾	1,460,000	1,413,744	1,306,363	1,258,357	1,184,717	-5.9%

(1) Data for British Transport Police have been included for year ending March 2012 only.

(2) Number of Penalty Notices for Disorder issued to offenders aged 16 and over.

(3) Includes out of court disposals, convictions and offences taken into consideration.

(P) Provisional

Note: Figures for cannabis warnings appearing in this publication are provisional and may be revised following Home Office validation. Finalised National Statistics will be published by the Home Office in July 2013 by financial year.

² Notifiable offences include all offences that could possibly be tried by jury (i.e. indictable and triable-either-way offences) plus a few additional closely related summary offences, such as assault without injury. Offence groups in notifiable offence tables in this section therefore differ from groups shown in other sections which may be restricted to indictable offences only.

Table Q1.4 - Recorded crime and notifiable offence outcomes by offence group, 12 months ending March 2011 and 12 months ending March 2012

Offence Group	12 months ending	Recorded crime⁽¹⁾	Cannabis warnings^(P)⁽¹⁾	Penalty Notices for Disorder⁽²⁾	Cautions	Proceedings	Convictions
Violence against the person	March 2011	808,027	-	30,983	99,600	328,836	221,060
	March 2012	762,515	-	23,234	93,644	301,560	206,615
Sexual offences	March 2011	54,199	-	-	1,810	33,322	19,055
	March 2012	53,665	-	-	1,697	32,057	19,757
Burglary	March 2011	521,891	-	-	3,901	45,412	31,784
	March 2012	501,053	-	-	3,663	46,007	32,473
Robbery	March 2011	75,511	-	-	252	19,997	12,389
	March 2012	74,690	-	-	245	19,725	12,828
Theft and handling stolen goods	March 2011	1,498,801	-	38,828	54,483	223,903	190,085
	March 2012	1,522,561	-	33,323	49,830	220,025	187,560
Fraud and forgery	March 2011	144,980	-	-	6,655	71,367	52,531
	March 2012	141,241	-	-	6,207	59,370	45,426
Criminal damage	March 2011	694,447	-	5,962	31,169	79,262	62,512
	March 2012	631,221	-	4,572	27,110	73,080	58,207
Drug offences	March 2011	228,677	79,017	14,426	44,635	111,603	98,262
	March 2012	229,103	77,914	16,142	45,533	107,006	94,281
Other notifiable offences	March 2011	66,056	-	-	7,581	102,924	77,211
	March 2012	60,263	-	-	6,341	90,112	72,155
All Notifiable Offences	March 2011	4,092,589	79,017	90,199	250,086	1,016,626	764,889
	March 2012	3,976,312	77,914	77,271	234,270	948,942	729,302

(1) Data for British Transport Police have been included for year ending March 2012 only.

(2) Number of Penalty Notices for Disorder issued to offenders aged 16 and over.

(P) Provisional

Note: Figures for cannabis warnings appearing in this publication are provisional and may be revised following Home Office validation. Finalised National Statistics will be published by the Home Office in July 2013 by financial year.

Table Q1.5 - Summary of criminal justice statistics, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

	England and Wales												Thousands
	12 months ending											Percent change, 12 months ending March 2011 to 12 months ending March 2012 ⁽⁵⁾	
	March 2002	March 2003	March 2004	March 2005	March 2006	March 2007	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012	March 2012	March 2012
Crime measured by Crime Survey for England and Wales ⁽¹⁾	12,532	12,260	11,642	10,679	10,715	11,060	10,002	10,446	9,503	9,623	9,527	9,527	-1.0%
Notifiable offences	5,525	5,975	6,014	5,638	5,555	5,428	4,952	4,703	4,338	4,151	3,976	3,976	-4.2%
- offences recorded by the police ⁽²⁾	227	228	250	258	314	359	356	322	273	241	223	223	-7.7%
Number of offenders cautioned ⁽³⁾	142	145	154	158	191	206	200	178	150	132	119	119	-9.7%
Number of offenders issued Penalty Notices for Disorder	..	..	..	91	158	209	201	175	162	138	122	122	-11.9%
Number of offenders issued <i>indictable offences</i> ⁽⁴⁾	6	26	42	44	49	59	53	49	49	-7.1%
Number of offenders issued cannabis warnings (all indictable)	..	..	..	..	..	80	102	104	85	79	78	78	-1.4%
Defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts	1,830	1,925	2,057	1,955	1,899	1,746	1,714	1,640	1,691	1,640	1,534	1,534	-6.5%
of which for <i>indictable offences</i> ⁽⁴⁾	500	517	502	433	427	401	402	402	419	437	406	406	-7.0%
Defendants found guilty at magistrates' courts	1,289	1,364	1,481	1,451	1,433	1,344	1,344	1,294	1,321	1,274	1,201	1,201	-5.7%
of which for <i>indictable offences</i> ⁽⁴⁾	272	281	276	252	256	246	251	252	256	272	258	258	-5.2%
Defendants sentenced at the Crown Court after summary conviction	16	17	16	15	19	17	17	18	17	19	21	21	11.4%
Defendants tried at the Crown Court	76	79	80	77	78	78	84	91	99	108	99	99	-8.3%
Defendants found guilty at the Crown Court	57	60	60	59	59	59	66	72	79	85	79	79	-6.8%
of which for <i>indictable offences</i> ⁽⁴⁾	54	58	57	56	57	56	62	69	75	80	76	76	-6.0%
Total offenders found guilty at both courts	1,346	1,425	1,541	1,510	1,493	1,404	1,410	1,366	1,400	1,359	1,281	1,281	-5.8%
of which for <i>indictable offences</i> ⁽⁴⁾	326	339	334	308	313	302	314	321	331	352	333	333	-5.4%
Total offenders found guilty or cautioned ⁽³⁾	1,573	1,652	1,791	1,768	1,807	1,763	1,766	1,688	1,674	1,601	1,503	1,503	-6.1%
of which for <i>indictable offences</i> ⁽⁴⁾	468	484	487	466	504	508	513	499	481	484	452	452	-6.6%
Total sentenced (offenders)	1,345	1,423	1,539	1,509	1,491	1,403	1,408	1,365	1,398	1,358	1,280	1,280	-5.8%
Magistrates' court	1,272	1,346	1,463	1,434	1,413	1,326	1,326	1,274	1,302	1,254	1,179	1,179	-6.0%
Crown Court	73	77	76	74	78	77	83	91	96	104	100	100	-3.5%
Sentence													
Custody	108	110	109	103	102	94	97	100	100	102	101	101	-1.0%
Suspended Sentence	3	3	3	3	16	37	41	41	46	49	47	47	-3.1%
Community Sentence	166	192	194	201	204	190	195	194	191	188	170	170	-9.5%
Fine	924	971	1,078	1,054	1,026	943	933	898	939	887	840	840	-5.4%
Other Sentences	143	148	156	148	144	138	143	132	123	132	121	121	-7.9%

(1) Crime Survey for England and Wales estimates relate to crimes experienced in the 12 months prior to interview.

(2) Data for British Transport Police have been included for year ending March 2012 only.

(3) Cautions, written warnings and all fixed penalties for summary motoring offences are not covered in this volume but are published in the Home Office Statistical Bulletin, 'Motoring offences and breath tests'.

(4) Indictable offences include those triable-either-way.

(5) Not statistically significant. see Section 8 of the User Guide to Crime Statistics for England and Wales: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Crime+in+England+and+Wales>

Table Q1.6 - "Proven Offenders" in the criminal justice system by offence group and outcomes, 12 months ending March 2011 and 12 months ending March 2012

Offence Group	12 months ending	Cannabis warnings ⁽¹⁾	Penalty Notices for Disorder ⁽²⁾	Cautions	Proceedings	Convictions	Conviction Ratio (%) ⁽³⁾	Proven Offenders ⁽⁴⁾	Sentenced ⁽⁵⁾	Discharged	Fine	Community Sentence	Suspended Sentence	Otherwise dealt with	Custody Rate (%) ⁽⁶⁾	Average custodial sentence length (months) ⁽⁷⁾
Violence against the person	March 2011	-	-	20,668	65,951	44,894	68.1	65,562	44,599	1,909	2,077	16,078	8,991	1,504	14,040	31.5
	March 2012	-	-	15,095	56,934	40,928	71.9	56,023	40,696	1,722	2,273	13,234	8,056	1,214	14,197	19.3
Sexual offences	March 2011	-	-	1,433	10,367	5,952	57.4	7,415	5,935	130	115	1,670	487	145	3,388	57.1
	March 2012	-	-	1,465	9,849	5,951	60.4	7,386	5,938	104	107	1,626	529	132	3,440	50.4
Burglary	March 2011	-	-	3,471	32,356	24,521	75.8	27,992	24,258	546	384	9,127	2,693	637	10,871	44.8
	March 2012	-	-	3,196	32,788	24,984	76.2	28,190	24,723	496	359	8,488	2,762	493	12,125	18.8
Robbery	March 2011	-	-	250	14,174	8,868	62.6	9,118	8,878	18	4	2,837	512	300	5,207	58.7
	March 2012	-	-	239	13,900	9,194	66.1	9,433	9,206	11	-	2,907	548	272	5,468	35.0
Theft and handling stolen goods	March 2011	-	38,828	46,205	136,363	122,557	89.9	207,590	122,156	25,326	17,100	43,047	8,182	6,026	22,475	18.4
	March 2012	-	33,323	41,405	133,833	119,901	89.6	194,629	119,629	24,532	16,999	41,477	8,684	5,504	22,433	4.1
Fraud and forgery	March 2011	-	-	5,990	25,466	20,882	82.0	26,872	20,746	2,379	2,833	7,065	3,379	410	4,680	11.6
	March 2012	-	-	5,440	21,328	18,283	85.7	23,723	18,220	2,018	2,490	5,925	3,312	339	4,136	12.9
Criminal damage	March 2011	-	-	5,019	9,799	7,684	78.4	12,703	7,652	1,571	812	3,149	450	555	1,115	14.6
	March 2012	-	-	4,576	8,750	6,882	78.7	11,458	6,811	1,298	773	2,734	414	472	1,120	16.4
Drug offences	March 2011	79,017	14,426	41,667	67,989	62,511	91.9	197,621	62,024	9,091	23,833	13,326	3,958	2,118	9,698	15.6
	March 2012	77,914	16,142	41,892	65,252	59,754	91.6	195,702	59,305	8,453	22,556	12,223	4,320	2,113	9,640	16.3
Indictable motoring offences	March 2011	-	-	7,084	70,364	50,945	72.4	58,029	50,636	3,799	13,384	10,593	5,209	6,410	11,241	22.6
	March 2012	-	-	5,736	59,806	44,173	73.9	49,909	44,077	3,300	11,492	7,393	4,472	6,813	10,607	10.6
Other indictable offences	March 2011	-	-	-	3,686	3,357	91.1	3,357	3,356	50	294	988	858	35	1,131	33.7
	March 2012	-	-	-	3,503	3,106	88.7	3,106	3,140	36	236	820	857	38	1,153	9.7
Indictable offences⁽⁸⁾	March 2011	79,017	53,254	131,787	436,515	352,171	80.7	616,229	350,240	44,819	60,836	107,880	34,719	18,140	83,846	16.4
	March 2012	77,914	49,465	119,044	405,943	333,166	82.1	579,589	331,745	41,970	57,285	96,827	33,954	17,390	84,319	17.2
Summary non-motoring	March 2011	-	85,012	109,567	608,113	493,675	81.2	688,254	493,941	47,048	346,282	64,243	9,713	11,942	14,713	2.5
	March 2012	-	72,398	103,805	596,457	487,013	81.7	663,216	487,356	43,535	351,651	59,108	9,206	10,017	13,839	2.5
Summary motoring offences	March 2011	-	-	-	595,144	513,634	86.3	513,634	513,742	6,931	480,349	15,650	4,318	2,794	3,700	0.7
	March 2012	-	-	-	531,520	460,349	86.6	460,349	460,452	6,139	430,799	14,072	4,074	2,285	3,083	0.7
Summary Offences	March 2011	-	85,012	109,567	1,203,257	1,007,309	83.7	1,201,888	1,007,683	53,979	826,631	79,893	14,031	14,736	18,413	2.7
	March 2012	-	72,398	103,805	1,127,977	947,362	84.0	1,123,565	947,808	49,674	782,450	73,180	13,280	12,302	16,922	2.6
All Offences	March 2011	79,017	138,266	241,354	1,639,772	1,359,480	82.9	1,818,117	1,357,923	98,798	887,467	187,773	48,750	32,876	102,259	13.9
	March 2012	77,914	121,863	222,849	1,533,920	1,280,528	83.5	1,703,154	1,279,553	91,644	839,735	170,007	47,234	29,692	101,241	14.8

(1) Data for British Transport Police have been included for year ending March 2012 only.

(2) Number of Penalty Notices for Disorder issued to offenders aged 16 and over.

(3) Conviction ratio is calculated as the number of convictions as a proportion of the number of proceedings.

(4) Defendants who have been proven to have committed an offence (includes convictions, cautions, cannabis warnings and Penalty Notices for Disorder).

(5) Figures are based on defendants sentenced each year. Some of those sentenced may have been found guilty in a previous year so the number of offenders sentenced may exceed the number of guilty defendants.

(6) Custody rate is calculated as the proportion of the total number of persons sentenced who are sentenced to immediate custody.

(7) Average custodial sentence length excludes life and indeterminate sentences.

(8) Indictable offences include those triable-either-way.

(P) Provisional

Note: Figures for cannabis warnings appearing in this publication are provisional and may be revised following Home Office validation. Finalised National Statistics will be published by the Home Office in July 2013 by financial year.

Out of Court Disposals [Tables Q2.1 – Q2.5]

Out of Court Disposals aim to deal with low risk, low-level and mostly first-time offenders outside of the court system in the appropriate circumstances. Out of Court Disposals are not suitable for contested or more serious cases. They would not normally be considered for those who offend repeatedly (subject to relevant guidance). Out of court disposals can include cannabis warnings, penalty notices for disorder and cautions^{3 4}.

Cannabis warnings

For a first time offence of cannabis possession an adult is usually issued with a 'cannabis warning'.

There were 77,900 cannabis warnings issued in the 12 months ending March 2012, 1.4 per cent fewer than the 79,000 warnings issued in the 12 months ending March 2011.

Penalty Notices for Disorder

Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) are more commonly known as 'on the spot fines'. PNDs are a fixed penalty of £50 or £80 designed to tackle low-level, anti-social and nuisance offending for offenders aged 16 or over and are issued for a range of minor offences.

There were 121,900 PNDs issued for the 12 months ending March 2012, a decrease of 11.9 per cent compared with the 12 months ending March 2011 and a fall of 41.8 per cent when compared with the peak of 209,400 PNDs issued in 12 months ending March 2007.

Four offences accounted for 88.5 per cent of all PNDs issued in the 12 months ending March 2012, namely:

- 'Retail theft of goods under the value of £200' – 27.3 per cent of all PNDs issued in the 12 months ending March 2012 (33,300);
- 'Drunk and disorderly behaviour' – 28.8 per cent (35,100);
- 'Behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress' –19.1 per cent (23,200)
- 'Possession of cannabis' - 13.2 per cent (16,100) of all PNDs issued.

There has been a year on year decrease in PNDs since their peak in 12 months ending March 2007. This decreasing trend has been observed in all offence groups except possession of cannabis, which has increased year on year since coming into effect in 12 months ending March 2009. This coincided with the replacement in April 2008 of a target to increase offences brought to justice, with one placing more emphasis on bringing serious crime to justice.

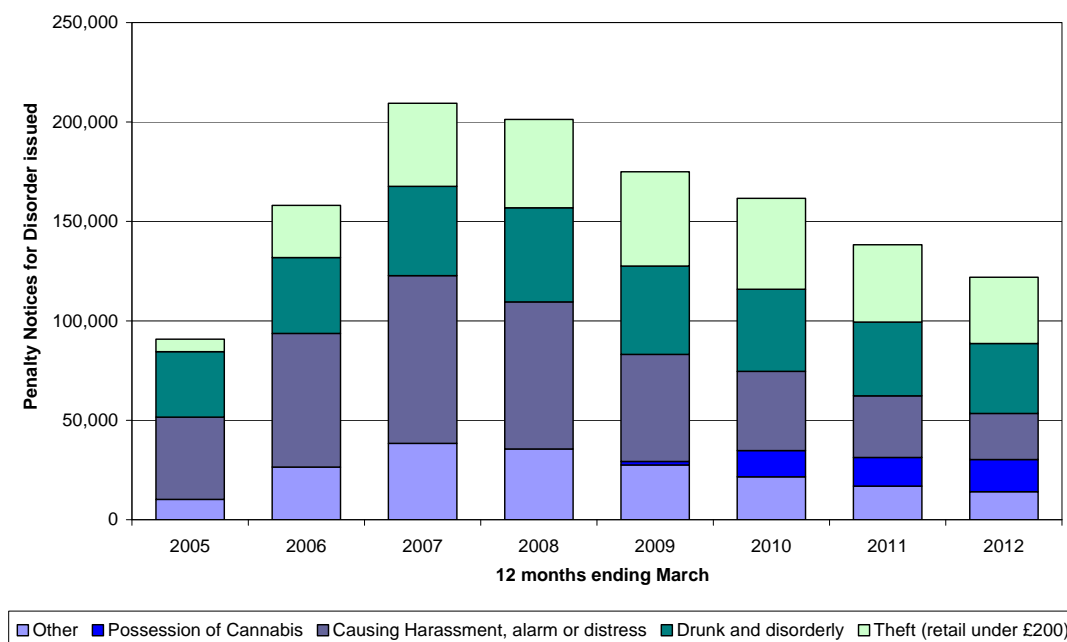
However, the decrease in cannabis warnings over the same period suggests that the use of out of court disposals for those in possession of cannabis has remained constant, but with an increased usage of PNDs rather than cannabis warnings.

³ Cautions, written warnings and all fixed penalties for summary motoring offences are not covered in this volume but are published in the Home Office Statistical Bulletin 'Motoring offences and breath tests'

⁴ Including reprimands and warnings for juveniles.

In the 12 months ending March 2012, 116,300 (95.4 per cent) of PNDs were issued to persons aged 18 and over (adults), with 5,600 (4.6 per cent) issued to persons aged 16 to 17.

Figure 2.1: Penalty Notices for Disorder issued, 12 months ending March 2005 to 12 months ending March 2012



In the 12 months ending March 2012, 92,900 (76.2 per cent) of PNDs were issued to males and 29,000 (23.8 per cent) to females. The four most common offences committed by males were:

- ‘Drunk and disorderly’ – 29,100 (31.3 per cent);
- ‘Causing Harassment, alarm or distress’ – 20,000 (21.5 per cent);
- ‘Theft (retail under £100)’ – 17,600 (18.9 per cent) and
- ‘Possession of Cannabis’ – 15,300 (16.5 per cent).

The four most common offences committed by females were:

- ‘Theft (retail under £100)’ – 15,700 (54.4 per cent);
- ‘Drunk and disorderly’ – 6,000 (20.6 per cent);
- ‘Causing Harassment, alarm or distress’ – 3,300 (11.3 per cent); and
- ‘Wasting police time’ – 1,000 (3.5 per cent).

In the 12 months ending March 2012, 86,100 (70.7 per cent) PNDs were issued to white people, 2,300 (1.9 per cent) to black people, and (5.1 per cent) to Asian people. This split has remained fairly constant over the years for high volume offences.

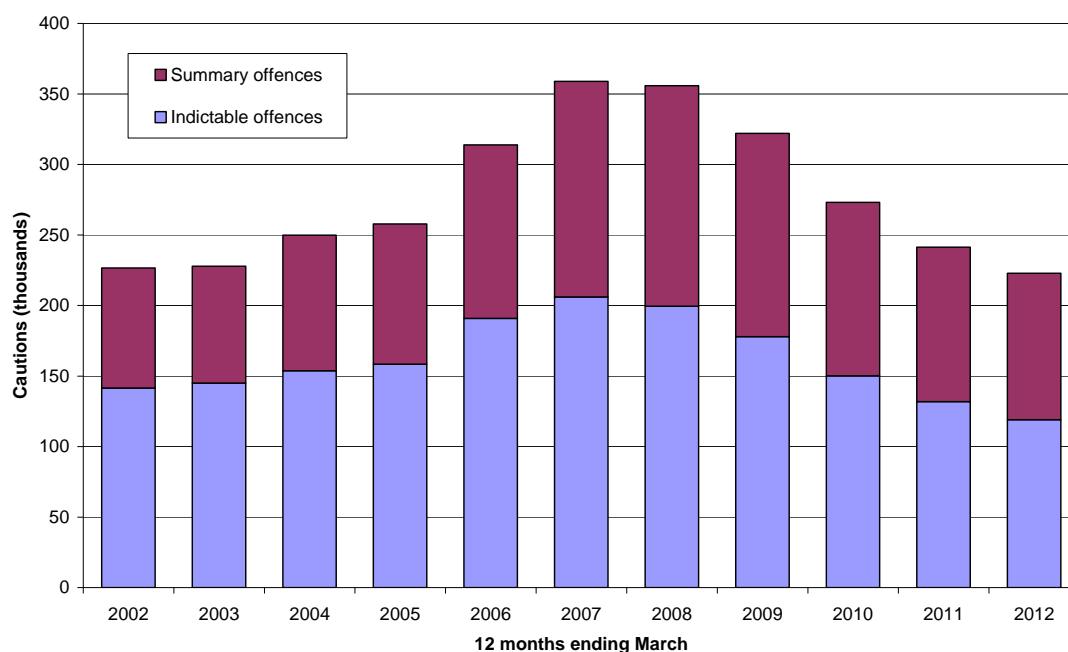
Cautions

A caution can be given when there is sufficient evidence for a conviction and it is not considered to be in the public interest to institute criminal proceedings. Additionally, an offender must admit guilt and consent to a caution in order for one to be given. A formal caution may be given by, or on the instructions of, a senior police officer. Cautions have traditionally been mostly used for juvenile and first time offenders. A system of reprimands and final warnings replaced cautioning for juveniles in June 2000.

There were 222,800 cautions issued in the 12 months ending March 2012, 7.7 per cent fewer than in the 12 months ending March 2011, continuing a downward trend in the use of cautions since a peak in the 12 months ending March 2007. This coincided with the replacement in April 2008 of a target to increase offences brought to justice, with one placing more emphasis on bringing serious crime to justice.

Compared with the 12 months ending March 2011 there were decreases in cautions given for both indictable (9.7 per cent decrease) and summary offence types (5.3 per cent decrease).

Figure 2.2: Offenders cautioned by offence type, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012



In the 12 months ending March 2012 there were 222,800 offenders cautioned, including juveniles given a reprimand or final warning.

- This was 7.7 per cent fewer than the 241,400 cautions issued in the 12 months ending March 2011, and 37.9 per cent fewer than the peak of 359,000 cautions issued in the 12 months ending March 2007.
- The largest decrease compared with the 12 months ending March 2011 was in cautions issued for the indictable offence *violence against the person* which decreased by 27.0 per cent.
- The largest increase compared with the 12 months ending March 2011 was in cautions issued for *sexual offences* which increased by 2.2 per cent to 1,465.

- Around four in every five cautions issued for indictable offences are for *violence against the person, theft and handling or drug offences*. Of the 119,000 cautions issued for indictable offences in the 12 months ending March 2012, 35.2 per cent were for *drug offences*, 34.8 per cent for *theft and handling* and 12.7 per cent for *violence against the person*.

The cautioning ratio⁵ for the 12 months ending March 2012 was 21.4 per cent, this has declined from a peak of 31.3 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2007. This coincided with the replacement in April 2008 of a target to increase offences brought to justice with one placing more of an emphasis on targeting serious crime.

The cautioning ratio varies across offence group and is typically higher for indictable offences than summary offences.

Within indictable offences the cautioning ratio is highest for *drug offences* (41.2 per cent), *criminal damage* (39.9 per cent) and *violence against the person* (26.9 per cent), and is lowest for *robbery* (2.5 per cent).

The cautioning ratio for *violence against the person* in the 12 months ending March 2012 is the lowest in the series. There have been steady annual decreases from a peak of 57.7 per cent of offenders receiving a caution in the 12 months ending March 2007.

⁵ The proportion of offenders either cautioned or convicted that are given a caution.

Table 2.1 - Number of Penalty Notices for Disorder issued to offenders aged 16 and over by offence, 12 months ending March 2005 to 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	All Ages												Age 16-17			Age 18 and over								
	12 months ending												12 months ending			12 months ending								
	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012								
Higher Tier Offences (£80)	1,604	2,869	4,051	3,836	3,351	3,089	2,843	2,702	2,722	349	314	220	205	173	117	1,498	2,597	3,702	3,522	3,131	2,884	2,670	2,885	
Wasting police time	208	499	1,075	1,082	873	714	699	717	717	16	98	81	47	48	49	192	469	977	989	792	667	651	688	
Misuse of public telecommunications system	65	100	105	80	83	75	55	40	40	10	12	12	8	8	1	55	89	93	68	75	67	47	39	
Giving false alarm to fire and rescue authority	41,416	67,184	84,279	73,988	53,840	39,787	30,983	23,234	31,533	6,308	6,546	4,324	2,820	2,006	1,288	38,263	60,876	76,033	67,422	48,516	36,967	28,977	21,946	
Causing harassment, alarm or distress	280	675	669	631	497	340	347	319	32	92	88	103	77	56	52	228	583	571	528	420	284	295	288	
Throwing fireworks ⁽¹⁾	32,872	38,105	44,679	47,299	44,388	41,391	37,139	35,090	1,793	2,463	3,080	2,898	2,428	1,620	1,175	31,079	35,642	41,799	44,401	41,960	39,227	35,519	33,915	
Drunk and disorderly ⁽²⁾	3,541	14,134	21,727	18,297	12,525	8,881	5,962	4,572	361	1,720	3,084	2,511	1,668	1,043	619	402	3,180	12,414	18,648	15,786	10,857	7,838	5,343	4,170
Criminal Damage (under £500) ⁽³⁾	6,266	26,195	41,784	44,437	47,408	45,657	38,828	33,323	440	2,279	4,336	4,248	4,047	3,512	2,522	1,779	5,626	23,916	37,448	40,189	43,361	42,145	36,306	31,544
Theft (total under £200) ⁽³⁾	18	36	49	37	22	14	24	9	1	3	7	3	3	2	1	17	33	42	34	19	14	22	8	
Breach of fireworks curfew ⁽⁴⁾	14	16	24	24	24	24	24	24	3	5	3	5	8	3	4	11	11	21	19	49	22	17	20	
Possession of category 4 firework ⁽⁴⁾	22	47	80	102	70	59	57	42	19	43	73	101	61	48	47	39	3	4	7	1	9	11	10	
Possession by a person under 18 of adult firework ⁽⁴⁾	1	32	60	82	72	91	62	83	-	2	2	-	3	1	-	1	30	58	82	69	90	62	82	
Sale of alcohol to drunken person ⁽⁵⁾	-	12	56	66	93	94	54	42	-	1	5	-	3	3	2	1	-	11	51	66	90	91	52	41
Supply of alcohol to a person under 18	282	2,536	3,171	3,703	3,010	2,573	2,027	1,447	9	90	88	80	40	35	27	17	273	2,446	3,083	3,623	2,970	2,538	2,000	1,430
Sale of alcohol to a person under 18 ⁽⁶⁾	102	235	444	586	461	420	297	242	11	28	42	58	25	19	18	10	91	207	402	538	406	401	279	232
Purchasing alcohol for a person under 18 ⁽⁶⁾	28	71	67	60	49	35	33	33	11	15	15	17	11	7	8	8	17	56	52	43	38	28	27	25
Purchasing alcohol for a person under 18 for consumption on the premises	52	247	319	416	252	177	117	94	6	23	26	34	17	10	9	5	46	224	293	382	235	167	108	89
Delivery of alcohol to a person under 18 or allowing such delivery ⁽⁶⁾	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Possession of Cannabis ⁽⁶⁾	-	-	-	-	1,852	13,142	14,426	16,142	-	-	-	-	23	170	168	336	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lower Tier Offences (£50)	135	280	1,340	1,410	1,599	1,448	1,449	1,274	30	88	314	289	255	224	183	129	105	192	1,026	1,141	1,344	1,224	1,266	1,145
Trespassing on a railway	73	14	12	32	29	12	11	10	4	3	4	13	7	6	6	2	69	11	8	19	22	6	5	8
Throwing stones at a train / railway	3,004	2,999	2,688	1,961	1,314	915	740	635	50	118	135	109	43	22	17	20	2,854	2,891	2,453	1,852	1,721	883	723	615
Drunk in a highway	572	729	1,148	1,584	1,829	1,440	1,143	1,067	28	69	156	149	127	74	42	35	544	660	992	1,445	1,702	1,366	1,101	1,032
Consumption of alcohol in a designated public place	186	842	1,252	1,351	1,151	1,112	883	676	40	206	271	308	213	163	119	65	146	636	891	1,043	938	949	764	611
Depositing and leaving litter ⁽³⁾	21	88	78	77	28	24	18	22	20	77	72	76	24	16	13	18	1	11	6	1	4	8	5	4
Consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 on relevant premises ⁽³⁾	12	26	14	7	6	3	4	1	1	2	-	1	2	-	-	-	11	24	14	6	4	3	4	1
Allowing consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 on relevant premises ⁽³⁾	-	35	102	145	100	60	43	23	-	29	93	145	85	52	35	18	-	6	9	-	-	15	8	5
Buying or Attempting to buy alcohol by a person under 18 ⁽⁶⁾	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	86,751	152,998	202,839	194,716	168,903	156,561	133,975	118,155	5,973	13,385	19,584	17,023	13,047	10,148	7,332	5,284	80,778	139,608	183,275	177,893	155,656	146,413	126,643	112,871
Total Higher Tier Offences	4,003	5,013	6,534	6,577	6,056	5,014	4,291	3,708	173	592	1,045	1,070	756	557	415	287	3,630	4,421	5,489	5,507	5,300	4,457	3,876	3,421
Total Lower Tier Offences	90,754	158,006	209,373	201,283	174,959	161,575	138,266	121,863	6,146	13,977	20,609	18,093	13,803	10,705	7,747	5,571	84,608	144,029	188,764	183,200	161,156	150,870	130,519	116,292

(1) Offence moved from the lower tier (£50) to the upper tier (£80) on 5th March 2004.

(2) Offence moved from the lower tier (£50) to the upper tier (£80) on 1st November 2004.

(3) Offence added with effect from 1 November 2004. Penalty notices are no longer available for theft of goods valued at over £100 and may only be used for criminal damage up to a value of £300 from July 2009 onwards.

(4) Offence added with effect from 11 October 2004.

(5) Offence added with effect from 04 April 2005.

(6) Offence added with effect from 27 January 2009.

(7) Revised statutory guidance on PND's published in July 2009 limited the use of PND's for cannabis possession to offenders aged 18 and over. Since this time a number of forces issued penalty notices for disorder for

Table 2.2 - Number of Penalty Notices for Disorder issued to offenders age 16 and over by ethnicity, 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	White	Black	Asian	Other	Not Recorded/ Not Known	Total
Offence						
Higher Tier Offences (£80)						
Wasting police time	1,841	38	149	256	418	2,702
Misuse of public telecommunications system	567	5	12	19	114	717
Giving false alarm to fire and rescue authority	29	1	4	-	6	40
Causing Harassment, alarm or distress	15,972	426	1,301	1,016	4,519	23,234
Throwing fireworks ⁽¹⁾	202	7	24	23	63	319
Drunk and disorderly ⁽²⁾	27,129	314	702	594	6,351	35,090
Criminal Damage (under £500) ⁽³⁾	3,490	39	128	136	779	4,572
Theft (retail under £200) ⁽³⁾	23,605	857	1,776	1,393	5,692	33,323
Breach of fireworks curfew ⁽⁴⁾	7	-	-	-	2	9
Possession of category 4 firework ⁽⁴⁾	12	1	1	1	9	24
Possession by a person under 18 of adult firework ⁽⁴⁾	20	1	8	3	10	42
Sale of alcohol to drunken person ⁽⁵⁾	37	2	10	20	14	83
Supply of alcohol to a person under 18	20	-	3	2	17	42
Sale of alcohol to a person under 18 ⁽³⁾	766	44	123	266	248	1,447
Purchasing alcohol for a person under 18 ⁽³⁾	211	-	3	6	22	242
Purchasing alcohol for a person under 18 for consumption on the premises	25	-	2	1	5	33
Delivery of alcohol to a person under 18 or allowing such delivery ⁽³⁾	69	-	2	3	20	94
Possession of Cannabis ⁽⁶⁾	9,612	396	1,872	1,630	2,632	16,142
Lower Tier Offences (£50)						
Trespassing on a railway	806	38	46	28	356	1,274
Throwing stones at a train / railway	7	-	-	-	3	10
Drunk in a highway	451	11	12	15	146	635
Consumption of alcohol in a designated public place	760	66	49	42	150	1,067
Depositing and leaving litter ⁽³⁾	460	25	45	34	112	676
Consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 on relevant premises ⁽³⁾	14	-	1	1	6	22
Allowing consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 on relevant premises ⁽³⁾	1	-	-	-	-	1
Buying or Attempting to buy alcohol by a person under 18 ⁽⁵⁾	20	-	-	-	3	23
Totals						
Total Higher Tier Offences	83,614	2,131	6,120	5,369	20,921	118,155
Total Lower Tier Offences	2,519	140	153	120	776	3,708
Total all offences	86,133	2,271	6,273	5,489	21,697	121,863

(1) Offence moved from the lower tier (£50) to the upper tier (£80) on 5th March 2004.

(2) Offence moved from the lower tier (£50) to the upper tier (£80) on 1st November 2004.

(3) Offence added with effect from 1 November 2004. Penalty notices are no longer available for theft of goods valued at over £100 and may only be used for criminal damage up to a value of £300 from July 2009 onwards.

(4) Offence added with effect from 11 October 2004.

(5) Offence added with effect from 04 April 2005.

(6) Offence added with effect from 27 January 2009.

Table Q2.3 - Offenders cautioned by type of offence, 12 months ending March 2012⁽¹⁾

England and Wales	Number of offenders (thousands)											
	12 months ending											
Type of offence	Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012	
All offenders												
Indictable offences												
Violence against the person	19.6	25.3	30.7	38.9	54.1	56.9	49.4	34.7	25.4	20.7	15.1	
Sexual offences	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.5	
Burglary	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.7	6.8	7.8	6.5	5.2	4.0	3.5	3.2	
Robbery	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	
Theft and handling stolen goods	60.9	53.2	56.5	62.5	69.3	73.4	70.0	64.7	56.6	46.2	41.4	
Fraud and forgery	5.5	5.5	5.6	6.2	7.4	8.1	8.5	8.1	6.9	6.0	5.4	
Criminal damage	3.3	3.2	4.2	5.7	7.8	9.2	8.6	7.6	5.9	5.0	4.6	
Drug offences	40.1	46.0	43.8	31.5	35.4	38.1	44.2	47.2	42.1	41.7	41.9	
Other (excluding motoring offences)	4.1	4.6	5.5	5.9	7.6	9.9	9.8	8.6	7.5	7.1	5.7	
Total (excluding motoring offences)	141.5	145.1	153.8	158.4	190.9	206.0	199.5	177.9	150.1	131.8	119.0	
Summary offences												
(excluding motoring offences)	85.1	82.8	96.0	99.4	123.0	153.0	156.3	144.3	123.1	109.6	103.8	
All offences												
(excluding motoring offences)	226.6	227.9	249.8	257.8	313.9	359.0	355.9	322.1	273.2	241.4	222.8	

(1) All cautions data from 2011 have been sourced from the Police National Computer.

Table Q2.4 - Proportion of offenders cautioned who were cautioned or found guilty, by type of offence, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012⁽¹⁾

England and Wales	12 months ending												Percentages	
	Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012			
Type of offence														
All offenders														
Indictable offences														
Violence against the person	36	40	44	50	56	58	54	45	37	32	27			
Sexual offences	23	22	24	25	27	28	27	24	21	19	20			
Burglary	20	18	18	20	23	25	22	18	15	12	11			
Robbery	7	5	6	6	8	8	6	4	2	3	3			
Theft and handling stolen goods	32	30	32	37	40	42	40	37	34	27	26			
Fraud and forgery	20	20	21	23	26	29	29	28	25	22	23			
Criminal damage	23	22	27	33	39	42	42	46	43	40	40			
Drug offences	47	48	47	46	47	49	49	46	42	40	41			
Other (excluding motoring offences)	8	9	9	10	12	17	18	17	13	12	11			
Total (excluding motoring offences)	31	30	32	34	38	41	39	36	31	27	27			
Summary offences (excluding motoring offences)	16	15	16	16	19	24	24	22	19	18	18			
All offences (excluding motoring offences)	23	22	23	24	28	31	31	28	25	22	21			

(1) All cautions data from 2011 have been sourced from the Police National Computer.

Table Q2.5 - Persons cautioned for all offences by ethnicity, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012⁽¹⁾

England and Wales	Number of offenders (thousands)					
	Total	White	Black	Asian	Other	Unknown
12 months ending						
Mar 2002	226.6	194.3	13.4	9.9	2.5	6.5
Mar 2003	227.8	193.9	14.6	10.4	2.5	6.4
Mar 2004	249.8	212.1	15.4	10.8	2.8	8.8
Mar 2005	257.8	215.8	13.4	13.2	3.8	11.6
Mar 2006	313.9	259.9	19.3	13.9	4.3	16.5
Mar 2007	359.0	294.6	22.6	15.7	5.2	20.9
Mar 2008	355.9	294.0	22.9	16.3	5.0	17.6
Mar 2009	322.1	266.4	22.2	15.6	5.3	12.6
Mar 2010	273.2	226.3	19.0	13.8	4.8	9.4
Mar 2011	241.4	201.1	17.4	12.5	4.1	6.2
Mar 2012	222.8	186.7	16.1	11.3	3.2	5.6

(1) All cautions data from 2011 have been sourced from the Police National Computer.

Court proceedings [Tables Q3.1 – Q3.6]

If there is sufficient evidence against the defendant and none of the out of court disposals are appropriate, the police will formally charge the suspect. The law then requires the defendant to be brought before a magistrates' court as soon as possible. The defendant can be summoned to appear in court or remanded on bail or custody.

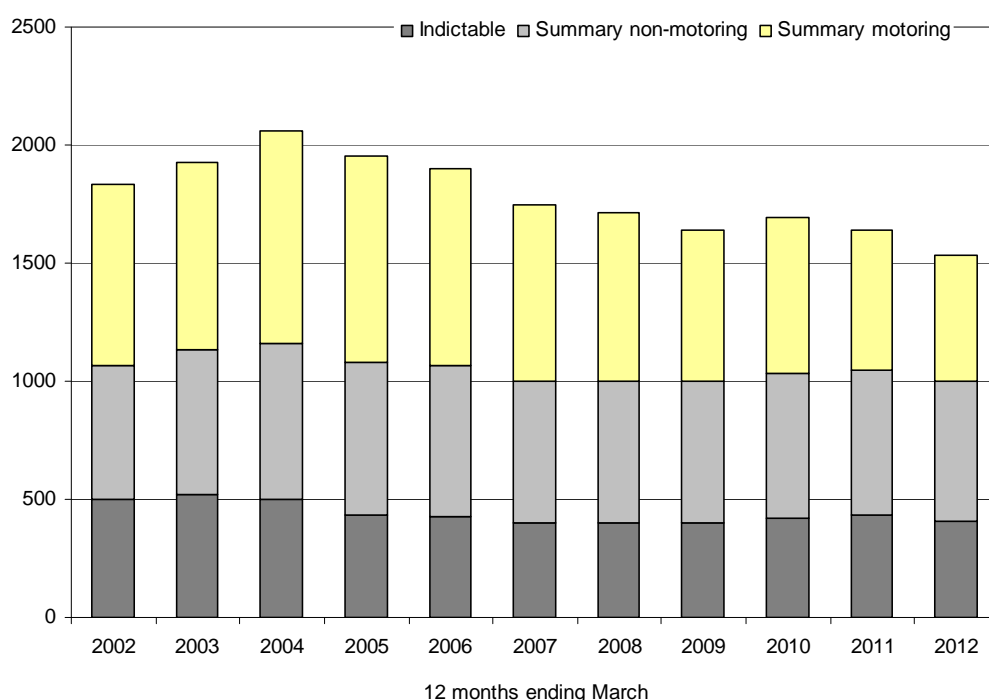
Magistrates' courts

Virtually all criminal court cases start in a magistrates' court and less serious offences can be handled entirely within this court.

There were 1.53 million defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts in the 12 months ending March 2012, a decrease of 6.5 per cent from the 1.64 million proceedings in the 12 months ending March 2011.

The total proceedings figure can be split into two offence groups – summary proceedings, which cover the less serious offences such as TV license evasion and common assault, and indictable proceedings (including triable-either-way offences), which cover the more serious offences. Compared to the previous 12 months proceedings for both offence groups decreased in the 12 months ending March 2012 – a drop of 6.3 per cent for summary offences (from 1.20 million to 1.13 million) and a drop of 7.0 per cent for indictable offences (from 436,500 to 405,900).

Figure 3.1: Defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts by type of offence, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012



Summary proceedings can be dealt with entirely within the magistrates' courts and make up around three quarters of all proceedings. Of the 1.13 million summary proceedings completed in the 12 months ending March 2012, just under half (531,500, or 47.1 per cent) of these proceedings related to summary motoring proceedings, which include offences such as speeding, driving while disqualified and drunk driving.

The 6.3 per cent drop in proceedings for summary offences between the 12 months ending March 2011 and 2012 is not split evenly between summary motoring and summary non-motoring proceedings:

- Defendants proceeded against for summary motoring offences fell by 10.7 per cent from 595,100 to 531,500.
- Defendants proceeded against for summary non-motoring offences fell by 1.9 per cent from 608,100 to 596,500.

Over the past decade, defendants proceeded against peaked at 2.06 million in the 12 months ending March 2004. Compared to this peak, there were 25.4 per cent fewer defendants proceeded against in the 12 months ending March 2012. This was made up of a 19.1 per cent decrease in those proceeded against for indictable offences, a 9.8 per cent decrease in those proceeded against for summary non-motoring offences and a 40.5 per cent decrease in those proceeded against for summary motoring offences.

Remands

Police remands are the decisions made by a police officer on whether to detain or bail a defendant pending their first appearance in court or send a notice summoning them to appear in court. Court remands are the court's decision on whether a defendant charged with a criminal offence should be held in custody or released on bail during the period up to and including the trial, or while awaiting sentence.

Defendants are more likely to be remanded in custody for indictable offences than summary offences. As a result the proportion of defendants remanded in custody at the Crown Court is higher than at magistrates' courts.

Police remands

In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 1.6 million defendants directed to appear at magistrates' courts⁶, a decrease of 6.7 per cent compared with the 1.72 million in the 12 months ending March 2011. Of these, 32.0 per cent were granted bail by the police, 11.5 per cent were remanded in custody and the remaining 56.5 per cent directed to appear via summonses.

The proportion of defendants remanded in custody has increased every year since the 12 months ending March 2008, driven mainly by the rise in defendants remanded in custody for indictable offences.

The proportion of those remanded in custody varies by offence type:

- 28.4 per cent (127,300) for indictable offences in the 12 months ending March 2012, 0.3 percentage points higher than in the 12 months ending March 2011 and 12.1 percentage points higher than in the 12 months ending March 2008;
- 7.3 per cent (44,800) for summary non-motoring offences in the 12 months ending March 2012, 0.4 percentage points lower than in the 12 months ending March 2011 and;
- 2.3 per cent (12,400) for summary motoring offences, 0.9 percentage points higher than in the 12 months ending March 2011.

⁶ Including here those who failed to appear.

Magistrates' courts

In the 12 months ending March 2012, 1.6 million defendants were proceeded against at magistrates' courts⁷. Of these it was estimated⁸ that:

- bail was granted to 32.6 per cent, 1.2 percentage points lower than in the 12 months ending March 2011. This decrease in the proportion granted bail represented a reversal of the upward trend seen since the 12 months ending March 2008, when bail was granted to 24.4 per cent of defendants;
- 3.8 per cent were remanded in custody, 0.5 per cent higher than in the 12 months ending March 2011; and
- the remaining 63.5 per cent had their case concluded at the magistrates' courts without being remanded, 0.6 percentage points higher than in the 12 months ending March 2011.

The proportion of defendants remanded into custody at magistrates' courts has remained broadly consistent at around three to four per cent since the 12 months ending March 2005.

The proportion of defendants remanded in custody by magistrates' courts by offence type in the 12 months ending March 2012 was 11.2 per cent (50,200) for indictable cases, 1.6 per cent (10,000) for summary non-motoring offences and 0.2 per cent (1,300) for summary motoring offences.

Outcomes of cases dealt with by magistrates' courts

Of the 1.02 million defendants not remanded by magistrates in the 12 months ending March 2012:

- a custodial sentence was given to 2.3 per cent (23,200);
- 2.5 per cent (26,400) were committed to the Crown Court for sentence or trial;
- those acquitted or not proceeded against accounted for 14.8 per cent (150,500);
- a further 77.9 per cent (795,100) were given a non-custodial sentence.

Of the 523,900 defendants remanded on bail:

- a custodial sentence was given to 2.5 per cent (13,200);
- 11.4 per cent (59,700) were committed to the Crown Court for sentence or trial;
- 15.2 per cent (79,800) were acquitted or not proceeded against, a decrease of 0.2 percentage points on the 12 months ending March 2011;

⁷ Including here those who failed to appear.

⁸ Remand figures are estimated through a matching process with prisons remand reception data – see the 'Remands' section of technical document "A Guide to Criminal Justice Statistics" for more details.

- a further 62.5 per cent (327,000) were given a non-custodial sentence, an increase of 0.2 percentage points on the 12 months ending March 2011.

Of the 61,400 defendants remanded in custody:

- a custodial sentence was given to 14.5 per cent (8,900), an increase of 0.9 percentage points on the 12 months ending March 2011;
- a further 19.7 per cent (12,100) were given a non-custodial sentence;
- 50.0 per cent (30,700) were committed to the Crown Court for sentence or trial;
- those acquitted or not proceeded against accounted for 12.1 per cent (7,400).

Crown court remands

In the 12 months ending March 2012, the proportion of defendants tried at the Crown Court who were remanded on bail was 49.7 per cent. This represented a decrease of 3.4 percentage points from the 12 months ending March 2011 (53.1 per cent), and reversed the upward trend seen since the 12 months ending March 2009 (49.0 per cent). By contrast, between the 12 months ending March 2011 and the 12 months ending March 2012, the proportion of defendants remanded in custody increased from 33.8 per cent to 34.4 per cent.

Outcomes of cases dealt with at the Crown Court

Of the 42,300 defendants remanded in custody by the Crown Court in the 12 months ending March 2012:

- a sentence was given to 86.8 per cent - 73.4 per cent of those remanded in custody received a custodial sentences (31,000);
- those acquitted or not proceeded against accounted for 11.5 per cent (4,900).

Of the 61,000 defendants remanded on bail by the Crown Court in the 12 months ending 2012:

- a sentence was given to 73.1 per cent – 24.5 per cent of those bailed received a custodial sentences (14,900);
- those acquitted or not proceeded against accounted for 24.1 per cent (14,700)

Failure to appear

Each year a proportion of defendants fail to appear in court having been summonsed to appear or granted bail. The court will issue the police with a warrant for the apprehension and detention of these defendants.

In the 12 months ending March 2012, approximately 71,600 defendants failed to appear to bail or summons at magistrates' courts; 4.5 per cent of those directed to appear in that period. In the 12 months ending March 2012, approximately 2,900 defendants failed to appear to bail at the Crown Court, the same as in the 12 months ending March 2011.

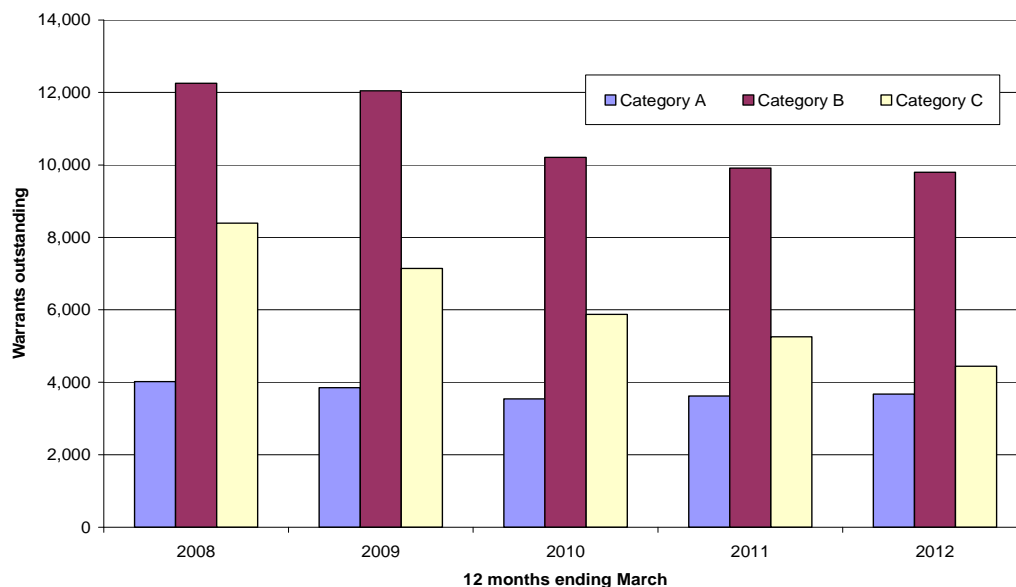
Failure to Appear Warrants (outstanding)

Failure to Appear (FTA) warrants are issued by courts when defendants do not attend court on a specified date having either been summonsed or granted bail at an earlier stage. Police forces attempt to execute warrants by locating and apprehending the defendant. These may relate to defendants who failed to appear at court during a different period.

The overall number of FTA warrants outstanding⁹ in England and Wales has been steadily decreasing, from 25,000 in the 12 months ending March 2008 to 17,900 for the 12 months ending March 2012, a 28.5 per cent fall.

The largest fall in FTA warrants was observed for Category¹⁰ C warrants which decreased by 47.1 per cent from just under 8,400 at the end of March 2008 to just over 4,400 at the end of March 2012. The corresponding decreases for the number of outstanding Category A and Category B warrants were 8.6 per cent and 20.1 per cent respectively over the same time period.

Figure 3.2: Number of FTA warrants outstanding, by Category, England & Wales, 12 months ending March 2008 to 12 months ending March 2012:



⁹ Outstanding FTA warrants are those that have been issued by the local area but have not been executed or withdrawn – see 'A Guide to Criminal Justice Statistics' for further information.

¹⁰ FTA warrants are categorised as A, B or C depending on the seriousness of the offence for which the defendant is wanted and the risk to the public – see 'A Guide to Criminal Justice Statistics' for further information.

Table Q3.1 - Defendants directed to appear at magistrates' courts⁽¹⁾ by type of offence and how directed to appear, 12 months ending March 2005 to 12 months ending March 2012 (e)

England and Wales	Defendants (thousands)												Defendants (thousands and percentages)				
	12 months ending March												Percentages				
	2005 ⁽²⁾	2006 ⁽²⁾	2007 ⁽²⁾	2008 ⁽²⁾ (3)	2009	2010	2011	2012	2005	2006	2007	2008 ⁽³⁾	2009	2010	2011	2012	
How directed to appear																	
Indictable offences																	
Summonsed	52.1	48.5	48.0	46.0	41.5	38.9	40.2	45.5	10.1	9.7	10.2	9.9	9.0	8.4	8.3	10.1	
Arrested and bailed	375.4	361.3	341.9	345.0	315.3	297.1	306.5	276.0	72.5	72.1	72.8	73.7	68.6	64.0	63.5	61.5	
Arrested and held in custody ⁽⁴⁾	90.2	91.6	79.8	76.0	103.0	128.0	135.7	127.3	17.4	18.3	17.0	16.3	22.4	27.6	28.1	28.4	
Total	517.7	501.3	469.7	467.0	459.9	464.0	482.4	448.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Summary offences (other than motoring)																	
Summonsed	445.3	436.1	398.2	385.0	390.5	403.1	389.5	400.4	66.1	64.8	63.1	61.7	63.0	63.3	62.3	65.5	
Arrested and bailed	203.0	208.4	207.4	214.0	195.3	187.7	187.4	166.4	30.1	31.0	32.9	34.3	31.5	29.5	30.0	27.2	
Arrested and held in custody ⁽⁴⁾	25.2	28.6	25.5	25.0	33.9	45.6	48.1	44.8	3.7	4.3	4.0	4.0	5.5	7.2	7.7	7.3	
Total	673.5	673.1	631.1	624.0	619.8	636.4	625.0	611.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Summary motoring offences																	
Summonsed	767.6	718.6	628.9	604.0	550.1	573.2	525.8	460.7	81.5	80.7	80.1	81.0	82.2	84.6	85.6	84.5	
Arrested and bailed	158.2	156.8	145.4	133.0	110.0	93.7	79.4	71.9	16.8	17.6	18.5	17.9	16.4	13.8	12.9	13.2	
Arrested and held in custody ⁽⁴⁾	16.2	15.1	10.9	9.0	9.2	10.4	8.8	12.4	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.4	2.3	
Total	942.1	890.5	785.3	745.0	669.4	677.3	613.9	545.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
All offences																	
Summonsed	1,264.9	1,203.2	1,075.1	1,035.0	982.2	1,015.2	955.5	906.6	59.3	58.3	57.0	56.4	56.2	57.1	55.5	56.5	
Arrested and bailed	736.6	726.5	694.6	692.0	620.7	578.5	573.3	514.3	34.5	35.2	36.8	37.7	35.5	32.5	33.3	32.0	
Arrested and held in custody ⁽⁴⁾	131.6	135.4	116.3	110.0	146.2	183.9	192.5	184.6	6.2	6.6	6.2	6.0	8.4	10.3	11.2	11.5	
Total	2,133.0	2,065.1	1,886.0	1,837.0	1,749.1	1,777.7	1,721.3	1,605.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

(e) Magistrates' courts data are estimated.

(1) Total number of persons proceeded against includes those who failed to appear to a summons, or to bail, who are excluded from the proceedings figures given in other chapters. Approximately 71,600 persons (4.5 per cent of those directed to appear) failed to appear in the 12 months ending March 2012.

(2) Data on bail and remand for the 12 months ending March 2005 to the 12 months ending March 2008 have been subject to a process used to generate estimates at England and Wales level. The nature of this process means that there will be slight differences between the totals in this table and table Q3.2 except when these tables present data covering a 12 month period to the end of December. Data for 2009 onwards are not affected because an improved estimation process has been applied to data relating to those years.

(3) Excludes remands data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July, and August 2008. Data for 2008 have been revised and now include approximately 16,600 defendants who failed to appear which were omitted from previously published versions of this table.

(4) Includes those remanded for part of the time in custody and part on bail.

Note: Some figures may not sum due to rounding.

Table Q3.2 - Defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts⁽¹⁾ who were remanded by magistrates, by type of offence and type of remand, 12 months ending March 2005 to 12 months ending March 2012 (e)

Type of offence	England and Wales															
	Defendants (thousands)						Defendants (thousands and percentages)									
	12 months ending March						Percentages									
	2005 ⁽²⁾	2006 ⁽²⁾	2007 ⁽²⁾	2008 ⁽²⁾	2009	2010	2011	2012	2005	2006	2007	2008 ⁽³⁾	2009	2010	2011	2012
Indictable offences																
Not remanded	198.8	200.5	190.9	202.9	146.4	115.5	130.2	123.7	38.5	40.0	40.6	43.5	31.8	24.9	27.0	27.6
Remanded on bail	271.9	257.8	240.1	224.4	262.8	294.3	304.7	275.0	52.7	51.4	51.0	48.1	57.1	63.4	63.2	61.3
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	45.5	43.1	39.4	39.4	50.7	54.2	47.4	50.2	8.8	8.6	8.4	8.4	11.0	11.7	9.8	11.2
Total	516.2	501.4	470.4	466.8	459.9	464.0	482.4	448.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Summary offences (other than motoring)																
Not remanded	524.6	517.0	475.9	472.0	439.3	432.9	424.9	429.3	77.8	76.8	75.5	75.6	70.9	68.0	68.0	70.2
Remanded on bail	140.4	146.3	144.1	141.8	168.6	191.7	191.7	172.4	20.8	21.7	22.9	22.7	27.2	30.1	30.7	28.2
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	9.6	10.1	10.2	10.4	11.9	11.8	8.4	10.0	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.9	1.9	1.3	1.6
Total	674.6	673.5	630.1	624.2	619.8	636.4	625.0	611.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Summary motoring offences																
Not remanded	830.0	779.7	695.6	658.7	568.2	574.2	527.8	467.2	87.7	87.8	88.3	88.5	84.9	84.8	86.0	85.7
Remanded on bail	108.3	102.3	87.7	81.6	98.1	101.1	85.0	76.5	11.5	11.5	11.1	11.0	14.7	14.9	13.8	14.0
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	7.6	6.1	4.6	3.7	3.1	2.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2
Total	945.9	888.1	787.9	744.0	669.4	677.3	613.9	545.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All offences																
Not remanded	1,553.2	1,497.3	1,362.2	1,333.9	1,153.8	1,122.5	1,082.9	1,020.2	72.7	72.6	72.1	72.7	66.0	63.1	62.9	63.5
Remanded on bail	520.6	506.5	471.8	447.9	529.6	587.1	581.5	523.9	24.4	24.6	25.0	24.4	30.3	33.0	33.8	32.6
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	62.7	59.3	54.2	53.5	65.7	68.1	56.9	61.4	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.8	3.8	3.3	3.8
Total	2,136.5	2,063.0	1,888.3	1,835.3	1,749.1	1,777.7	1,721.3	1,605.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(e) Magistrates' courts data are estimated.

(1) Total number of persons proceeded against includes those who failed to appear to a summons, or to bail, who are excluded from the proceedings figures given in other chapters.

(2) Data on bail and remand for the 12 months ending March 2005 to the 12 months ending March 2008 have been subject to a process used to generate estimates at England and Wales level. The nature of this process means that there will be slight differences between the totals in this table and table Q3.1 except when these tables present data covering a 12 month period to the end of December. Data for 2009 onwards are not affected because an improved estimation process has been applied to data relating to those years.

(3) Excludes remands data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July, and August 2008.

(4) Including those remanded in custody at any stage of proceedings at magistrates' courts who may also have been given bail at some stage of those proceedings.

Note: Some figures may not sum due to rounding.

Table Q3.3 - Defendants tried at the Crown Court⁽¹⁾ by remand status during trial at the Crown Court by offence type, 12 months ending March 2005 to 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	Defendants (thousands and percentages)															
	Defendants (thousands)						Percentages									
	12 months ending March															
Type of offence	2005	2006	2007	2008 ⁽²⁾	2009	2010	2011	2012	2005	2006	2007	2008 ⁽²⁾	2009	2010	2011	2012
Indictable offences																
Not remanded	13.9	15.9	14.6	14.1	15.9	14.9	14.9	17.2	14.9	16.5	15.5	14.3	14.9	13.2	12.2	14.8
Remanded on bail	39.6	41.8	44.8	48.5	52.0	58.6	65.0	58.0	42.5	43.6	47.7	49.2	48.8	52.0	53.1	49.9
Remanded in custody ⁽²⁾	39.6	38.2	34.6	36.0	38.7	39.2	42.4	41.1	42.6	39.9	36.8	36.5	36.3	34.8	34.7	35.3
Total	93.1	95.9	93.9	98.6	106.6	112.7	122.3	116.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Summary offences (other than motoring)																
Not remanded	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.8	12.4	16.8	17.7	21.2	26.0	24.8	26.1	32.6
Remanded on bail	1.5	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.9	3.4	2.7	57.9	56.2	58.3	58.1	54.6	55.9	54.1	48.3
Remanded in custody ⁽²⁾	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.1	29.7	27.1	24.0	20.6	19.4	19.4	19.8	19.1
Total	2.7	3.1	3.4	3.9	4.4	5.3	6.2	5.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Summary motoring offences																
Not remanded	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	33.0	34.9	34.7	36.7	38.8	43.8	44.9	49.3
Remanded on bail	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	42.3	40.5	44.8	48.1	47.9	45.5	45.9	39.7
Remanded in custody ⁽²⁾	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	24.7	24.5	20.5	15.2	13.3	10.7	9.2	11.0
Total	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All offences																
Not remanded	14.5	16.7	15.4	15.3	17.4	16.6	17.0	19.4	15.0	16.7	15.7	14.8	15.6	14.0	13.1	15.8
Remanded on bail	41.4	43.9	47.1	51.3	54.9	61.9	68.8	61.0	42.9	44.0	48.1	49.5	49.0	52.1	53.1	49.7
Remanded in custody ⁽²⁾	40.6	39.3	35.5	36.9	39.7	40.3	43.8	42.3	42.1	39.4	36.2	35.7	35.4	33.9	33.8	34.4
Total	96.5	99.8	98.1	103.6	112.0	118.9	129.5	122.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(1) Total number of persons proceeded against includes those who failed to appear to a summons, or to bail, who are excluded from the proceedings figures given in other chapters.

(2) Including those remanded in custody at any stage of proceedings at the Crown Court who may also have been given bail at some stage of those proceedings. Remand status of defendants shown is based on decisions made during proceedings at the Crown Court which may be different to that recorded in Table Q3.4, A3.1, A3.6, A3.7, A3.8, A3.9, A3.10 and A3.11.

Note: Some figures may not sum due to rounding.

Table Q3.4 - Defendants⁽¹⁾ tried at the Crown Court by ethnicity⁽²⁾, by remand status before trial or sentence and offence group, 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales		Defendants (thousands)				
Offence group ⁽³⁾ and remand status	Total	Ethnicity				Not recorded
		White	Black	Asian	Other	
Defendants (thousands)						
Violence against the person	27.1	20.3	2.6	1.6	0.8	1.7
Not remanded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bailed	18.1	13.8	1.5	1.1	0.5	1.1
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	8.9	6.5	1.1	0.5	0.3	0.6
Sexual offences	7.3	5.3	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.6
Not remanded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bailed	5.0	3.8	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.3
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	2.3	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Burglary	13.8	10.8	1.3	0.4	0.4	0.9
Not remanded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bailed	5.4	4.2	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.3
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	8.4	6.6	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.6
Robbery	8.0	4.8	1.7	0.6	0.3	0.7
Not remanded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bailed	3.5	2.0	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.4
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	4.5	2.8	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.3
Theft and handling stolen goods	13.8	10.0	1.3	0.8	0.5	1.2
Not remanded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bailed	9.4	6.8	0.9	0.6	0.3	0.8
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	4.4	3.2	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.4
Fraud and forgery	8.1	3.6	1.2	0.8	0.4	2.1
Not remanded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bailed	6.1	2.8	0.7	0.6	0.2	1.8
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	1.9	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.3
Criminal damage	2.1	1.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Not remanded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bailed	1.2	1.0	0.1	0.1	-	0.1
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	0.9	0.7	0.1	-	-	0.1
Drug offences	17.2	11.3	2.3	1.6	0.8	1.3
Not remanded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bailed	12.2	8.9	1.3	0.9	0.3	0.7
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	5.1	2.4	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.6
Other indictable offences	16.7	11.3	1.4	1.3	0.5	2.1
Not remanded	0.3	-	-	-	-	0.2
Bailed	11.5	8.1	0.8	0.9	0.3	1.4
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	4.9	3.2	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.5
Indictable motoring offences	2.3	1.5	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2
Not remanded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bailed	1.8	1.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Remanded in custody ⁽⁴⁾	0.5	0.4	-	0.1	-	-
Total indictable offences	116.4	80.7	12.7	8.1	3.9	10.9
Total not remanded	0.4	0.1	-	-	-	0.3
Total bailed	74.1	52.5	6.9	5.4	2.2	7.1
Total remanded in custody⁽⁴⁾	41.9	28.0	5.8	2.7	1.8	3.6

(1) Includes those who failed to appear.

(2) Third party observed (4+1) ethnicity data.

(3) Includes indictable offence groups only. In 2011, these accounted for 95 per cent of all cases tried at the Crown Court.

(4) Includes those remanded for part of the time in custody and part on bail. Remand status shown is that recorded at the point of committal from the magistrates' court to the Crown Court for trial or sentence which may differ from that recorded in Table Q3.3 and Q3a.

Note: Some figures may not sum due to rounding.

Table Q3.5 - Defendants⁽¹⁾ proceeded against at magistrates' courts by type of offence and age group, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

Type of offence	12 months ending												Number (thousands)
	Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2008 ⁽²⁾	Mar 2009 ⁽²⁾	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012	
Aged 10-17													
England and Wales													
number proceeded against (thousands)													
Indictable	83.7	78.5	74.4	67.2	68.0	66.4	65.0	58.4	55.4	53.6	45.7		
Summary non motoring	44.0	42.5	44.4	45.1	46.2	46.3	46.4	41.9	38.1	34.7	27.3		
Summary motoring	21.7	22.4	23.0	20.1	17.6	13.8	11.1	8.7	7.3	5.7	4.6		
All offences	149.4	143.4	141.8	132.4	131.8	126.5	122.4	108.9	100.7	94.1	77.7		
Aged 18 and over													
England and Wales													
Number (thousands)													
number proceeded against (thousands)													
Indictable	416.2	438.3	427.6	365.5	359.2	335.1	335.9	343.8	363.5	382.9	360.2		
Summary non motoring	524.1	573.4	617.0	601.0	596.4	554.4	552.8	554.6	579.6	573.4	569.1		
Summary motoring	740.7	770.3	870.6	856.0	811.7	730.4	703.0	632.4	647.1	589.4	527.0		
All offences	1,681.0	1,782.0	1,915.1	1,822.5	1,767.3	1,619.9	1,591.6	1,530.7	1,590.2	1,545.7	1,456.3		
All ages													
England and Wales													
Number (thousands)													
number proceeded against (thousands)													
Indictable	499.9	516.7	501.9	432.7	427.2	401.4	400.8	402.1	418.9	436.5	405.9		
Summary non-motoring	568.1	615.9	661.4	646.1	642.7	600.7	599.2	596.4	617.7	608.1	596.5		
Summary motoring	762.4	792.7	893.7	876.1	829.2	744.2	714.0	641.0	654.4	595.1	531.5		
All offences	1,830.4	1,925.4	2,057.0	1,954.9	1,899.1	1,746.4	1,714.1	1,639.6	1,691.0	1,639.8	1,533.9		

(1) Including those of unknown sex and "other defendants" i.e. companies, public bodies, etc.

(2) Excludes data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July and August 2008.

Note: Some figures may not sum due to rounding.

Table Q3.6 - Number of Failure to Appear (FTA) Warrants outstanding⁽¹⁾ in England and Wales, by category⁽²⁾ of warrant, 12 months ending March 2008 to 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales					
12 months ending March	Category ⁽²⁾			Total ⁽³⁾	
	A	B	C		
2008	4,019	12,254	8,393	25,039	
2009	3,850	12,048	7,145	23,043	
2010	3,539	10,209	5,872	19,620	
2011	3,622	9,911	5,256	18,789	
2012	3,674	9,797	4,439	17,910	

(1) Includes outstanding domestic warrants and outstanding exported warrants. Every effort is made to ensure that the figures presented are accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that these data have been extracted from live systems used by police forces principally for operational reasons. As such, they are subject to change over time. For these reasons, care should be taken to ensure data collection processes and their inevitable limitations are taken into account when those data are used.

(2) Failure to Appear warrants are assigned a category depending on the seriousness of the offence for which the defendant or offender has failed to appear at court having been bailed or summonsed. Category A warrants are issued in relation to the most serious offences - see 'A Guide to Criminal Justice Statistics' for further information.

(3) For March 2008, South Yorkshire were unable to supply a breakdown by category of category of warrant, but were able to supply an aggregate total. Therefore the total number of warrants outstanding as at March 2008 will exceed the total of each of the three categories of warrant.

Note: These data are reported to the Ministry of Justice by police forces. As such, they are not directly comparable with other data presented in this chapter and other chapters in the Criminal Statistics bulletin, which are returned directly from administrative data systems used by magistrates' courts and the Crown Court.

Offenders found guilty [Tables Q4.1 – Q4.3]

A conviction is where a person or a company is found guilty of a criminal offence at either the magistrates' courts or the Crown Court.

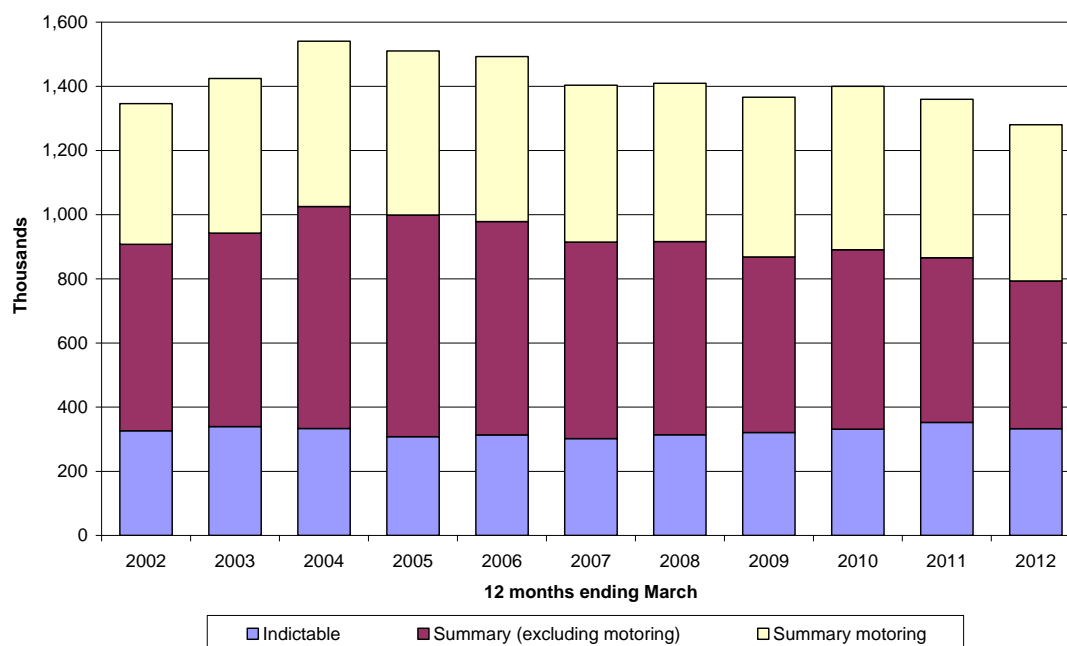
Trends in convictions

There were 1.53 million defendants' proceeded against at magistrates' courts in the 12 months ending March 2012 resulting in 1.28 million offenders convicted and sentenced during the 12 month period. This compares with 1.64 million proceedings (6.5 per cent decrease) and 1.36 million convictions (5.8 per cent decrease) in the 12 months ending March 2011.

In 12 months ending March 2012, there were:

- 405,900 prosecutions which resulted in 333,200 convictions for indictable offences – a decrease of 7.0 and 5.4 per cent respectively compared to the same period for the previous year. Prosecutions for indictable offences peaked at 516,700 in March 2003 and have fallen by 21.4 per cent since then, while convictions have remained between 302,000 and 352,000.
- 596,500 prosecutions which resulted in 487,000 convictions for summary non-motoring offences – a decrease of 1.9 per cent and 1.3 per cent respectively since the 12 months ending March 2011.
- 531,500 prosecutions which resulted in 460,300 convictions for summary motoring offences – a decrease of 10.7 per cent and 10.4 per cent respectively since 12 months ending March 2011 and a continuation of the large falls in both prosecutions and convictions for summary motoring offences since 12 months ending March 2005.

Figure 4.1: Offences found guilty by offence type, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012



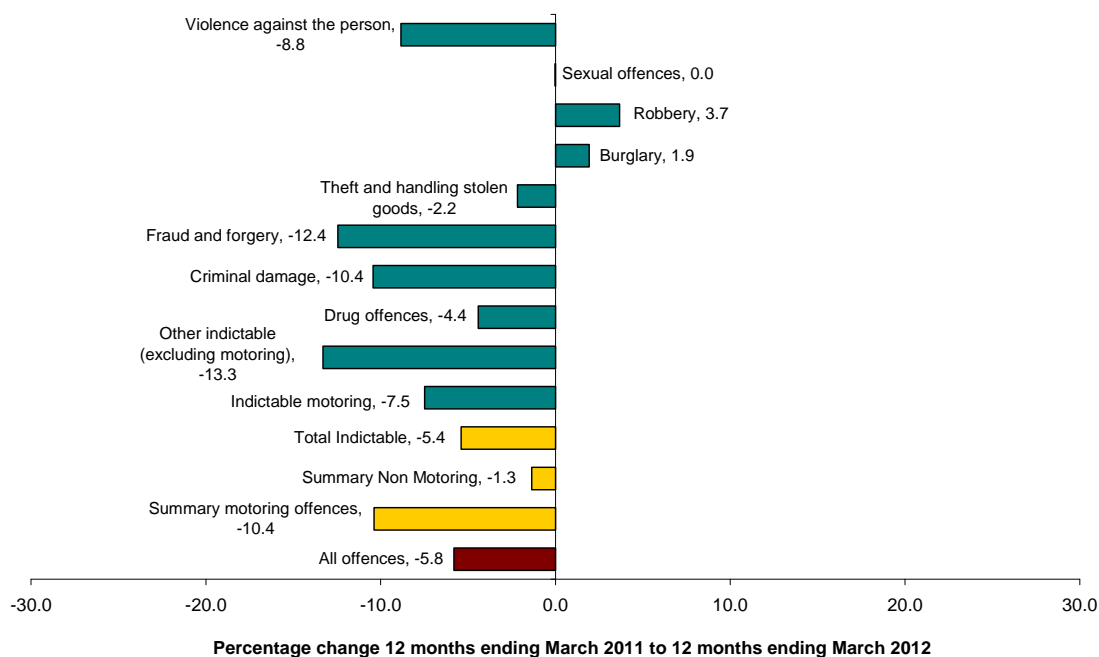
Convictions for indictable offences accounted for 26.0 per cent of the total offenders found guilty in the 12 months ending March 2012. This represents the highest proportion in the last eleven years and continues the trend of year on year rises since the 12 months ending March 2007, when the percentage was 21.5 per cent. In the 12 months ending March 2012, summary non-motoring offences accounted for 38.0 per cent, and summary motoring offences accounted for 35.9 per cent of all convictions respectively.

Convictions by offence group

Two of the ten indictable offence groups showed an increased number of convictions in the 12 months ending March 2012 compared to the 12 months ending March 2011. These are:

- *Robbery offences* which increased by 3.5 per cent from 8,900 to 9,200, and the conviction ratio increased by 3.5 percentage points to 66.1 per cent.
- *Burglary* convictions increased by 1.9 per cent from 24,500 to 25,000, and the conviction ratio increased by 0.4 percentage point to 76.2 per cent.

Figure 4.2: Percentage change in convictions by offence type and offence group, 12 months ending March 2011 to 12 months ending March 2012



Conviction demographics

A total of 930,400 males were found guilty in the 12 months ending March 2012, accounting for 72.7 per cent of all persons convicted. This compares with 297,100 females found guilty, 23.2 per cent of all persons. The proportion of convictions accounted for by males has decreased by 12.2 percentage points from 84.9 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2002. This trend has been driven by a decrease in males found guilty of summary motoring offences and an increase in females found guilty of summary non-motoring offences (including TV license evasion and common assault) over the period.

A total of 58,900 juveniles (those aged 10 to 17) were found guilty during the 12 months ending March 2012 (4.6 per cent of all persons found guilty).

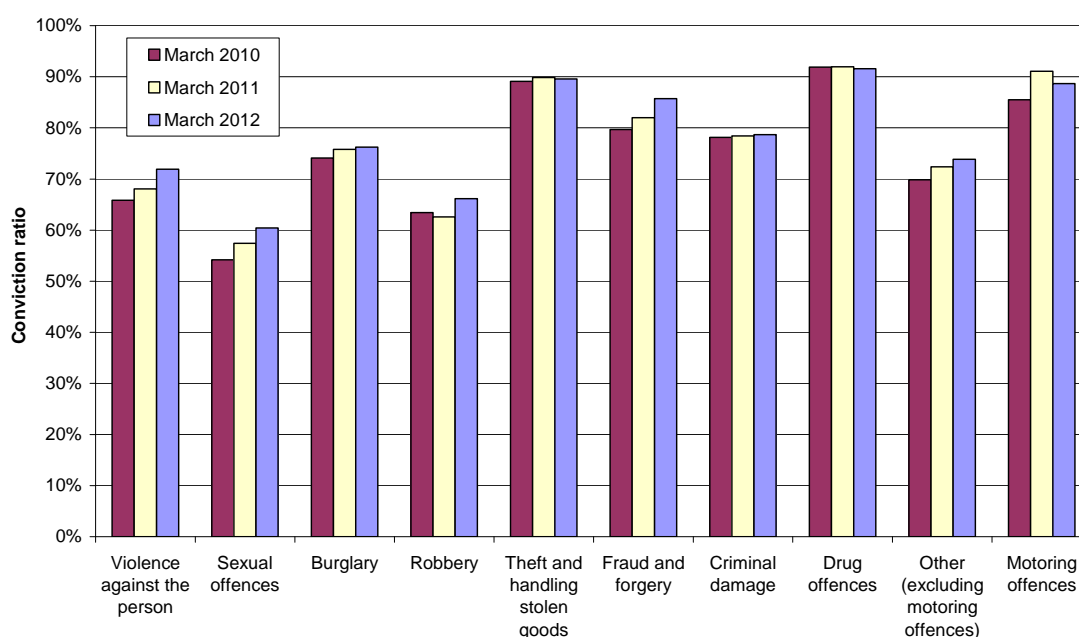
In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 332,500 offenders found guilty of an indictable offence, of which 90 per cent were of a known ethnicity. This represents a 38.5 percentage point increase in known ethnicity since 2008, the year in which the LIBRA case management system was rolled out in magistrates' courts.

For all indictable offences, 9.4 per cent of offenders were black, again varying by offence type – ranging from 4.3 per cent for *Criminal damage* to 25.7 per cent for *Robbery*.

Conviction ratio

The conviction ratio is defined as the proportion of defendants proceeded against who were found guilty. In the 12 months ending March 2012, the conviction ratio for all offences was 83.5 per cent, an increase of 0.6 percentage points compared to the 12 months ending March 2011. The overall conviction ratio has risen by 10.0 percentage points since 2002.

Figure 4.3: Conviction ratio by indictable offence group, 12 months ending March 2010 to 12 months ending March 2012



Compared to the 12 months ending March 2011, in the 12 months ending March 2012, there was:

- an increase of 1.4 percentage points in the conviction ratio for indictable offences (82.1 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2012).
- an increase of 0.5 percentage points in the conviction ratio for summary non-motoring offences (81.7 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2012).
- an increase of 0.3 percentage points in the conviction ratio for summary motoring offences (86.6 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2012).

In the 12 months ending March 2012, the conviction ratio increased for seven of the ten indictable offence groups compared to the 12 months ending March 2011. Compared to the 12 months ending March 2002, conviction ratios have risen for all indictable offence groups. The largest increase has been for *Violence against the person*, which has increased by 24.7 percentage points from a conviction rate of 47.2 per cent to 71.9 per cent across the 11 year period.

Table Q4.1 - Offenders⁽¹⁾ found guilty at all courts by offence group, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	Number of offenders (thousands)											
	12 months ending											
Offence group	Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012	
Indictable offences												
Violence against the person	35.6	38.3	38.4	38.8	42.0	41.6	41.8	42.1	43.4	44.9	40.9	
Sexual offences	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.3	6.0	6.0	
Burglary	25.1	26.6	25.7	23.3	23.1	23.1	23.7	23.8	22.7	24.5	25.0	
Robbery	7.0	7.9	7.3	7.3	7.4	8.3	8.7	8.6	8.4	8.9	9.2	
Theft and handling stolen goods	127.0	125.5	117.6	106.3	104.0	99.4	106.5	112.5	112.3	122.6	119.9	
Fraud and forgery	21.5	21.4	21.2	20.2	21.0	19.5	21.3	20.6	20.8	20.9	18.3	
Criminal damage	10.9	11.0	11.4	11.5	12.1	12.8	11.8	9.0	7.8	7.7	6.9	
Drug offences	46.0	50.3	48.9	37.4	40.4	39.6	46.4	54.3	58.2	62.5	59.8	
Other (excluding motoring offences)	44.8	48.8	53.1	53.2	53.3	48.4	44.2	41.3	48.7	50.9	44.2	
Motoring offences	4.4	5.1	5.5	5.2	4.7	4.3	4.1	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.1	
Total	326.2	339.2	333.7	307.9	313.0	301.9	313.6	321.0	331.2	352.2	333.2	
Summary offences												
Summary non-motoring	438.9	481.8	515.5	511.3	514.1	488.5	493.9	498.2	509.7	493.7	487.0	
Summary motoring	581.0	603.5	691.7	690.8	665.7	613.2	602.4	546.9	559.4	513.6	460.3	
Total	1,019.9	1,085.4	1,207.2	1,202.1	1,179.8	1,101.7	1,096.3	1,045.1	1,069.1	1,007.3	947.4	
All offences ⁽³⁾	1,346.1	1,424.5	1,540.9	1,510.0	1,492.8	1,403.6	1,409.9	1,366.1	1,400.3	1,359.5	1,280.5	

(1) Includes sex 'not stated' and other offenders, i.e. companies, public bodies etc.

(2) Excludes convictions data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July, and August 2008.

(3) May not sum due to rounding.

Table Q4.2 - Offenders found guilty at all courts by offence group and age group, 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	Offence group	Number of offenders (thousands)							
		All offenders	All ages	Aged 10-17	Aged 18 and over	All ages	Aged 10-17	Aged 18 and over	Other offenders ⁽¹⁾
	Indictable offences								
	Violence against the person	40.9	36.1	4.0	32.1	4.7	0.7	4.0	0.1
	Sexual offences	6.0	5.9	0.5	5.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
	Burglary	25.0	23.7	4.4	19.3	1.2	0.3	1.0	0.1
	Robbery	9.2	8.4	3.3	5.1	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.0
	Theft and handling stolen goods	119.9	94.6	9.6	85.1	24.7	2.0	22.7	0.5
	Fraud and forgery	18.3	12.5	0.3	12.2	5.2	0.1	5.1	0.6
	Criminal damage	6.9	6.1	1.2	4.9	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.0
	Drug offences	59.8	55.3	4.7	50.6	4.3	0.2	4.1	0.2
	Other (excluding motoring offences)	44.2	38.0	2.5	35.5	4.9	0.3	4.5	1.3
	Motoring offences	3.1	2.9	0.1	2.8	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0
	Total	333.2	283.4	30.6	252.8	46.8	4.2	42.6	2.9
	Summary offences								
	Summary motoring	460.3	354.6	3.5	351.1	82.2	0.3	81.9	23.6
	Summary non-motoring	487.0	292.4	16.1	276.3	168.2	4.2	163.9	26.4
	Total	947.4	647.0	19.6	627.4	250.3	4.5	245.8	50.1
	All offences⁽²⁾	1,280.5	930.4	50.2	880.2	297.1	8.7	288.5	53.0

(1) Includes sex 'not stated' and other offenders, i.e. companies, public bodies etc.

(2) May not sum due to rounding.

Table Q4.3 - Conviction ratio⁽¹⁾ by offence group, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012⁽²⁾

England and Wales	Percentages											
	12 months ending											Mar 2012
Offence group	Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012	Mar 2012
Indictable offences												
Violence against the person	47.2	48.5	48.6	56.7	60.7	65.8	69.5	68.8	65.8	68.1	71.9	71.9
Sexual offences	49.3	47.7	48.3	49.6	50.2	55.6	58.5	59.3	54.2	57.4	60.4	60.4
Burglary	60.1	61.5	63.5	69.9	72.7	75.5	77.0	76.9	74.1	75.8	76.2	76.2
Robbery	47.3	52.5	53.5	60.3	57.8	60.6	64.5	64.1	63.4	62.6	66.1	66.1
Theft and handling stolen goods	77.8	78.0	79.2	83.0	84.5	85.4	87.7	89.6	89.1	89.9	89.6	89.6
Fraud and forgery	72.0	71.9	72.6	76.5	79.2	79.4	83.2	84.6	79.7	82.0	85.7	85.7
Criminal damage	58.1	59.6	61.5	67.2	71.3	72.7	76.0	79.3	78.1	78.4	78.7	78.7
Drug offences	85.7	86.2	87.7	89.4	90.3	90.0	91.7	92.7	91.9	91.9	91.6	91.6
Other (excluding motoring offences)	50.7	50.7	52.9	59.5	61.4	62.5	63.4	64.4	69.8	72.4	73.9	73.9
Motoring offences	72.4	76.6	77.5	81.2	85.7	85.9	86.1	90.5	85.5	91.1	88.7	88.7
Total	65.3	65.6	66.5	71.2	73.3	75.2	78.2	79.8	79.1	80.7	82.1	82.1
Summary offences												
Summary non-motoring	77.2	78.2	78.0	79.1	80.0	81.3	82.4	83.5	82.5	81.2	81.7	81.7
Summary motoring	76.2	76.1	77.4	78.8	80.3	82.4	84.4	85.3	85.5	86.3	86.6	86.6
Total	76.7	77.0	77.6	79.0	80.2	81.9	83.5	84.5	84.0	83.7	84.0	84.0
All offences	73.5	74.0	74.9	77.2	78.6	80.4	82.3	83.3	82.8	82.9	83.5	83.5

(1) Proportion of defendants proceeded against who were found guilty.

(2) Excludes convictions data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July, and August 2008.

Sentencing [Table Q5.1 – Q5.9]

When someone is convicted of a crime, they will be given a sentence by a court which reflects the seriousness of the offence or offences committed by the offender. Sentences are generally time spent in prison, a community sentence, a fine or discharge.

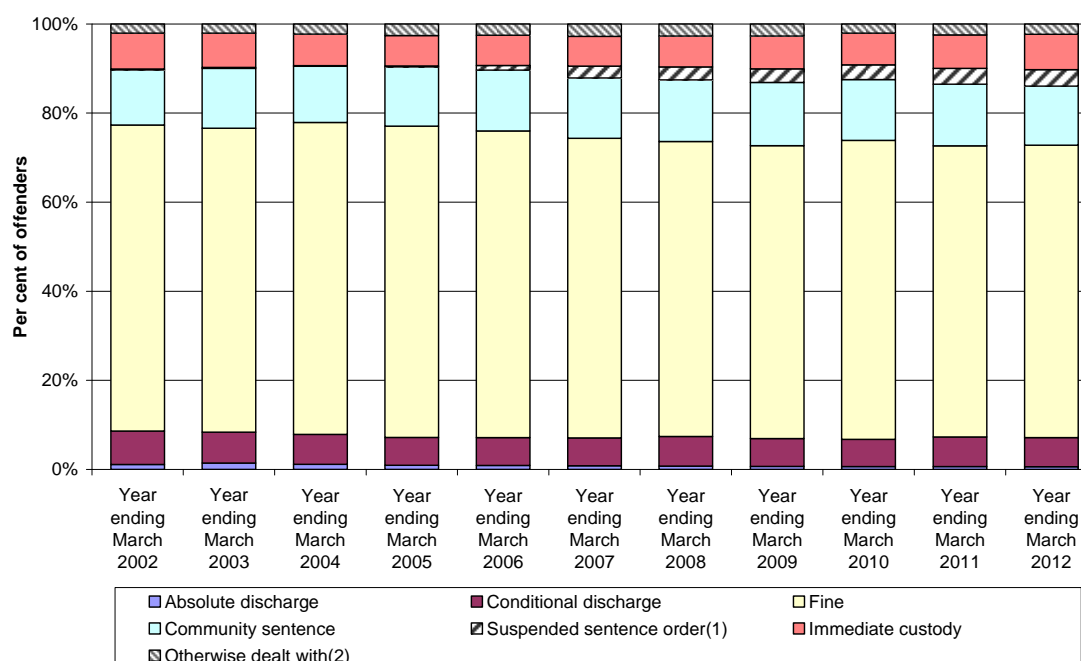
In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 1.28 million¹¹ offenders sentenced following a criminal conviction, a decrease of 5.8 per cent from 1.36 million offenders sentenced in the 12 months ending March 2011. The public disorder of August 2011 had little impact on these figures as those convicted for the public disorder accounted for less than one per cent of offenders in the 12 months ending March 2012. Compared to the 12 months ending March 2011, there was:

- a decrease of 5.9 per cent in offenders sentenced for summary offences (947,800 compared to 1,007,700) and a decrease of 5.3 per cent in offenders sentenced for indictable offences (331,700 compared to 350,200).
- a decrease of 6.0 per cent in offenders sentenced at magistrates' courts (1,179,300 compared to 1,254,000) and a decrease of 3.5 per cent in offenders sentenced at the Crown Court (100,200 compared to 103,900).

Sentence outcomes for all offences

In the long term, there has been an increase in the number of Suspended Sentence Orders (SSO) reflecting the change in legislation when it was introduced on 4 April 2005.

Figure 5.1: Sentence outcomes handed down by courts, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012



(1) Fully suspended sentence for offences committed prior to 4 April 2005, suspended sentence order from 4 April 2005.

(2) Includes outcomes such as compensation, hospital and guardianship orders, police cells, and recognizances.

Although the SSO should only be used where the court is minded to pass a custodial sentence of less than 12 months, the increase in offenders sentenced with a SSO

¹¹ Includes 6,588 organisations such as companies and public bodies.

has not been offset by a similar decrease in offenders sentenced with a custodial sentence of less than 12 months.

Custodial sentences

In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 101,200 persons sentenced to immediate custody, a decrease of 1.0 per cent from 102,300 persons in the same period a year earlier and 7.8 per cent lower than the peak of 109,800 persons sentenced to immediate custody in the 12 months ending March 2003. Of these, 45,300 custodial sentences were imposed at magistrates' courts and 56,000 were imposed at Crown Courts, a decrease of 6.1 per cent and an increase of 3.6 per cent respectively compared to the same period a year earlier.

While absolute numbers of persons sentenced to immediate custody have decreased in recent years, the immediate custody rate (the proportion of those sentenced who are sentenced to immediate custody) has risen from a low of 6.7 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2007 to 8.0 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2012. This illustrates the fact that, since 2007, the overall number of offenders sentenced at court has decreased faster than the number of persons sentenced to immediate custody.

There were 1,218 indeterminate sentences (either a life sentence or an Indeterminate sentence for Public Protection – an IPP) handed down in the 12 months ending March 2012, a 9.3 per cent decrease from 1,343 in the same period a year earlier. This continued the fall since the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act (CJIA) 2008 was introduced, which restricted the use of IPPs. Within this group, the number of life sentences remained broadly the same (385 in the 12 months ending March 2012, compared to 384 in the same period a year earlier). The decrease in indeterminate sentences has coincided with an increase in longer determinate sentences. In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 664 custodial sentences of over 10 years and less than life handed down, a 17.9 per cent increase from 563 in the same period a year earlier.

In the 12 months ending March 2012, the Average Custodial Sentence Length (ACSL) was 14.8 months, an increase of 0.9 months compared to the 12 months ending March 2011, and an increase of 2.8 months compared to the 12 months ending March 2002. The rise in ACSL has been driven by the change in the case mix of people getting custodial sentences and longer sentences for indictable offences:

- In the 12 months ending March 2002, summary motoring offences accounted for 15.8 per cent of immediate custodial sentences, with an ACSL of 3.4 months. By the 12 months ending March 2012, they accounted for just 3.0 per cent of immediate custodial sentences, with a reduction in ACSL to 3.1 months.
- In the 12 months ending March 2002, indictable offences accounted for 75.8 per cent of immediate custodial sentences, with an ACSL of 14.8 months. By the 12 months ending March 2012, they accounted for 83.3 per cent of immediate custodial sentences, with an increase in ACSL to 17.2 months. In particular, *sexual offences* saw a rise in ACSL from 40.9 months in the 12 months ending March 2005 to 53.0 months in the 12 months ending March 2012, following the implementation of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.
- The decrease in indeterminate sentences mentioned above coincides with an increase in long determinate sentences (10 years or more) from 563 in the 12 months ending March 2011 to 664 in the latest period, a 17.9 per cent increase and the highest number in the last 11 years.

At the magistrates' courts, the ACSL increased by 0.1 months from the 12 months ending March 2011 to 2.6 months in the latest period, whilst at the Crown Court the ACSL increased by 0.6 months from the 12 months ending March 2011 to 24.9 months.

Suspended Sentence Orders

In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 47,200 Suspended Sentence Orders handed down, a decrease of 3.1 per cent from the same period a year earlier. Of these sentences:

- 26,000 persons received their sentence at the magistrates' courts, a decrease of 1.7 per cent compared to the same period a year earlier. This type of sentence was given to 2.2 per cent of persons in a magistrate's court in the 12 months ending March 2012, an increase from 1.9 per cent of persons in the 12 months ending March 2007.
- 21,300 persons received their sentence at the Crown Court, a decrease of 4.7 per cent compared to the same period a year earlier. Just over one fifth (21.2 per cent) of persons were given a suspended sentence at the Crown Court, an increase from 15.5 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2007. Between the 12 months ending March 2002 and March 2006, only 1.9 to 5.3 per cent of persons were given a suspended sentence at the Crown Court.

Community sentences

There were 170,000 community sentences handed down in the 12 months ending March 2012, a decrease of 9.5 per cent from the same period a year earlier. For adults, Community Orders accounted for nearly all the community sentences given to adults (99.6 per cent), while for juveniles the Referral Order was still the most common sentence (accounting for 52.3 per cent of all juvenile community sentences). The Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO) introduced in 2010 accounted for a further 44.5 per cent of all juvenile community sentences in the 12 months ending March 2012. Of the 170,000 community sentences handed down:

- 153,400 persons received their sentence at magistrates' courts, a 9.0 per cent fall from the same period a year earlier. Over the past ten years, the magistrates' court community sentence rate (the proportion of all offenders sentenced at the magistrates' court receiving a community sentence) has ranged between 11.5 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2002 and 13.9 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2009.
- 16,600 persons received their sentence at the Crown Court. This was a 13.8 per cent decrease from the same period a year earlier. The Crown Court community sentence rate decreased from a peak over the period of 30.1 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2005 to a low of 16.6 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2012.

Fines

Fines continue to be the most common sentence due to the large volumes issued at magistrate's courts. In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 839,700 fines handed down (99.8 per cent of these being issued at magistrates' courts), a decrease of 5.4 per cent from the same period a year earlier. Of the offenders receiving fines in the 12 months ending March 2012:

- The majority were issued for summary offences, with only 6.8 per cent issued for indictable offences.
- The fine rate for indictable offences at all courts was 17.3 per cent, a similar proportion to the previous two years. This has decreased from 23.9 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2002.

Other sentences

Other sentences comprise absolute and conditional discharges and 'otherwise dealt with' sentences. The latter category deals with a miscellaneous group containing: mental health disposals; ancillary orders; and other procedural disposals. There were 121,300 other sentences handed down in the 12 months ending March 2012. These comprised:

- 83,700 conditional discharges, a decrease of 7.2 per cent from the same period a year earlier and a fall of 16.8 per cent compared with the 12 months ending March 2002.
- 7,900 absolute discharges, a decrease of 8.1 per cent from the same period a 12 months earlier and a fall of 47.4 per cent compared with the 12 months ending March 2002.
- 29,700 offenders 'otherwise dealt with', a decrease of 9.7 per cent from the same period a year earlier but an increase of 6.8 per cent compared with the 12 months ending March 2002.

Sentence outcomes by age band

In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 1.21 million adults (aged 18 and over) sentenced, a decrease of 5.0 per cent from the same period a year earlier and 15.4 per cent from the 12 months ending March 2004, when the highest number of adults were sentenced over the 11 year period (1.43 million).

The proportion of adult offenders receiving fines decreased by 3.7 percentage points over the last decade, from 72.0 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2002 to 68.3 per cent in the latest period.

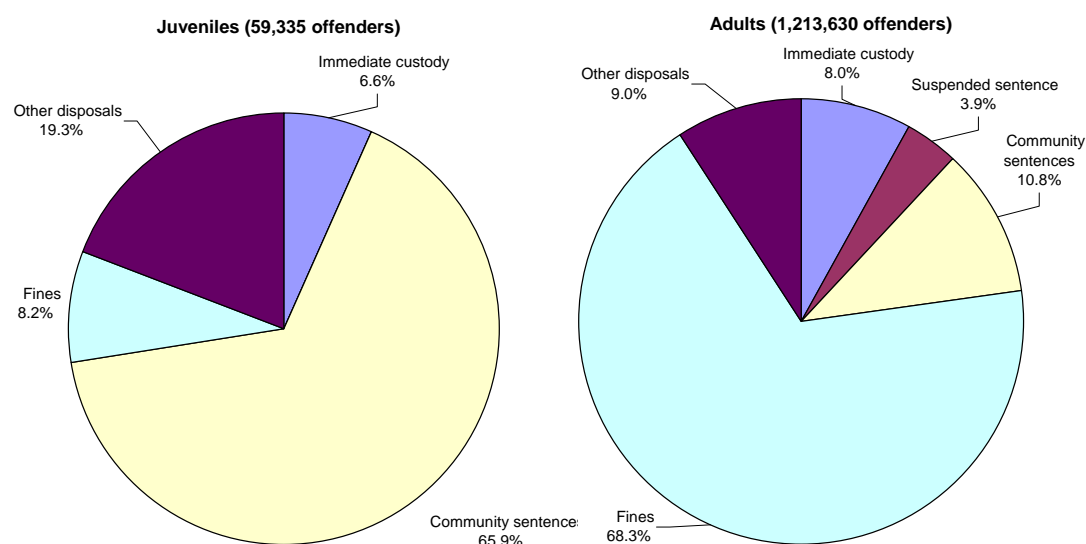
In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 59,300 juveniles (aged 10-17) sentenced, a decrease of 17.6 per cent from the same period a year earlier and 37.5 per cent from the 12 months ending March 2002.

The number of juveniles sentenced remained relatively constant between the years ending 2002 and 2008 but the number and proportion of community sentences for juveniles increased, from 43,600 to 64,900 over the period (up 48.7 per cent). While the number of juveniles sentenced has decreased since the 12 months ending March 2008, the community sentence rate for juveniles has remained between 65.2 and 68.1 per cent.

The large increase in the community sentence rate for juveniles over the last decade has been offset by decreases in the fine rate, from 23.3 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2002 to 8.2 per cent in the latest period.

Figure 5.2 provides a breakdown of all the sentence outcomes for juveniles and adults, showing how offences committed by juveniles and adults are dealt with differently by the courts.

Figure 5.2: Sentence outcomes by age band, 12 months ending March 2012



Offenders sentenced by ethnicity

Data on the ethnicity of offenders is currently held for offenders who have been convicted of an indictable offence. In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 331,000 persons sentenced for indictable offences, of which 90.5 per cent were of a known ethnicity. Of these persons:

- 74.6 per cent were White; 9.3 per cent were Black; and 4.8 per cent were Asian. The remaining 1.7 per cent were of 'other' ethnicity.
- The immediate custody rate for indictable offences for all ethnicities was 25.4 per cent. This varied between ethnicities with: White offenders having a custody rate of 24.6 per cent; Black offenders having a custody rate of 29.0 per cent; Asian offenders having a custody rate of 30.6 per cent; and 'other' having a custody rate of 43.7 per cent.

These differences are likely to relate to a range of factors including variations in the offences committed and the plea entered by people from different ethnic backgrounds. For more information see the publication '*Race and the Criminal Justice System*'¹².

Sentence outcomes and offence types by gender

In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 929,700 sentences given to males and 297,000 to females. This represents a decrease for both males and females compared with the same period a year earlier (7.4 per cent and 2.4 per cent decreases respectively). While for males this represents a continuing decrease since the 12 months ending March 2004, for females this constitutes a second consecutive annual decrease after an upward trend between 12 months ending March 2002 and March 2010 (a 33.2 per cent increase between these years).

¹² www.justice.gov.uk/publications/statistics-and-data/criminal-justice/race.htm

Table Q5.1 Offenders sentenced by offence group and outcome, all courts, 12 months ending March 2012

Offence group	Outcome	12 months ending												Number of offenders	
		Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009 ⁽²⁾	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012			
All indictable offences	Total number sentenced	324,767	337,935	332,433	306,719	311,498	301,339	312,272	320,076	328,874	350,240	331,745			
	<i>Number given:</i>														
	Immediate custody	82,068	83,712	81,672	77,404	76,978	72,260	75,500	79,930	80,236	83,846	84,319			
	Suspended sentence	2,131	1,930	2,089	2,160	9,114	23,415	28,026	28,663	31,835	34,719	33,954			
	Community sentences	102,393	112,474	109,790	109,762	111,569	101,972	103,725	105,697	105,647	107,880	96,827			
	Fines	77,510	78,548	76,274	61,407	57,910	50,136	48,521	51,973	56,291	60,836	57,285			
	Absolute discharge	2,102	3,070	3,060	2,403	2,370	2,160	2,214	1,808	1,701	1,836	1,754			
	Conditional discharge	47,780	46,821	47,119	41,138	41,007	38,435	41,392	39,610	39,649	42,983	40,216			
	Otherwise dealt with	10,783	11,380	12,429	12,445	12,550	12,961	12,894	12,395	13,515	18,140	17,390			
	Average custodial sentence length (months) ⁽¹⁾	14.8	15.6	15.7	16.1	15.6	15.3	15.1	16.3	16.5	16.4	17.2			
Summary non-motoring offences	Total number sentenced	438,718	481,662	515,304	511,061	514,021	488,329	493,735	498,074	509,864	493,941	487,356			
	<i>Number given:</i>														
	Immediate custody	9,124	9,443	10,043	11,252	12,323	12,507	13,789	14,284	14,599	14,713	13,839			
	Suspended sentence	245	230	273	359	2,524	6,733	7,487	7,819	9,253	9,713	9,206			
	Community sentences	35,600	42,370	44,988	52,318	59,388	60,419	65,859	66,654	66,209	64,243	59,108			
	Fines	337,989	372,397	396,303	384,354	377,653	347,557	342,958	351,706	364,285	346,282	351,651			
	Absolute discharge	4,259	5,825	4,725	4,083	4,038	3,673	3,581	3,167	2,949	2,828	2,606			
	Conditional discharge	43,611	43,183	46,791	43,928	44,397	42,421	45,927	41,802	42,136	44,220	40,929			
	Otherwise dealt with	7,890	8,214	12,181	14,767	13,698	15,019	14,134	12,642	10,433	11,942	10,017			
	Average custodial sentence length (months) ⁽¹⁾	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5			
Summary motoring offences	Total number sentenced	581,046	603,508	691,692	690,812	665,720	613,173	602,458	546,928	559,479	513,742	460,452			
	<i>Number given:</i>														
	Immediate custody	17,096	16,686	17,429	14,297	12,351	9,181	7,643	5,960	4,910	3,700	3,083			
	Suspended sentence	334	347	402	418	3,909	6,854	5,893	4,990	4,825	4,318	4,074			
	Community sentences	28,232	36,968	39,031	38,499	32,722	27,689	24,968	21,219	18,961	15,650	14,072			
	Fines	508,327	519,767	605,282	608,716	590,559	545,669	541,519	493,973	517,924	480,349	430,799			
	Absolute discharge	8,655	11,209	9,958	7,686	6,686	5,719	4,986	4,414	4,348	3,932	3,540			
	Conditional discharge	9,265	8,857	9,443	9,071	8,395	7,016	5,907	3,994	3,609	2,999	2,599			
	Otherwise dealt with	9,137	9,674	10,147	12,125	11,098	11,045	11,542	12,378	4,902	2,794	2,285			
	Average custodial sentence length (months) ⁽¹⁾	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1			
All offences	Total number sentenced	1,344,531	1,423,104	1,539,429	1,508,592	1,491,239	1,402,841	1,408,465	1,365,078	1,398,217	1,357,923	1,279,553			
	<i>Number given:</i>														
	Immediate custody	108,288	109,841	109,144	102,953	101,652	93,948	96,932	100,174	99,745	102,259	101,241			
	Suspended sentence	2,710	2,507	2,764	2,937	15,547	37,002	41,406	41,472	45,913	48,750	47,234			
	Community sentences	166,225	191,812	193,809	200,579	203,679	190,080	194,552	193,566	190,817	187,773	170,007			
	Fines	923,827	970,712	1,077,859	1,054,477	1,026,122	943,362	932,998	897,656	938,500	887,467	839,735			
	Absolute discharge	15,016	20,105	17,743	14,172	13,094	11,552	10,781	9,389	8,998	8,596	7,900			
	Conditional discharge	100,656	98,861	103,353	94,137	93,799	87,872	93,226	85,406	85,394	90,202	83,744			
	Otherwise dealt with	27,810	29,268	34,757	39,337	37,346	39,025	38,570	37,415	28,850	32,876	29,692			
	Average custodial sentence length (months) ⁽¹⁾	12.0	12.7	12.5	12.9	12.5	12.4	12.4	13.5	13.7	13.9	14.8			

(1) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences.

(2) Excludes data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July and August 2008.

Table Q5.2 Offenders sentenced by offence group and outcome, magistrates' courts, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

Offence group	Outcome	12 months ending												Number of offenders
		Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009 ⁽¹⁾	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012		
All indictable offences	Total number sentenced	255,318	264,241	259,388	235,810	237,310	228,518	234,431	234,616	238,979	253,297	237,635		
	<i>Number given:</i>													
	Immediate custody	37,982	38,318	37,737	34,511	33,305	30,899	31,793	30,990	30,990	30,055	31,618	30,139	
	Suspended sentence	531	473	544	606	5,110	11,827	12,482	11,544	11,544	12,433	13,516	13,686	
	Community sentences	83,795	91,039	87,989	88,661	90,679	87,248	90,540	91,271	90,683	90,559	81,949	81,949	
	Fines	75,582	76,633	74,242	59,581	56,118	48,493	46,875	50,427	50,427	54,703	59,106	55,976	
	Absolute discharge	2,035	2,997	2,999	2,345	2,321	2,110	2,166	1,749	1,749	1,637	1,754	1,686	
	Conditional discharge	45,854	44,794	44,886	39,059	39,011	36,689	39,479	37,741	37,741	37,617	40,706	38,586	
	Otherwise dealt with	9,539	9,987	10,991	11,047	10,766	11,252	11,096	10,894	10,894	11,851	16,038	15,613	
	Average custodial sentence length (months)	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	
Summary non-motoring offences	Total number sentenced	436,302	479,214	512,749	508,452	511,005	485,051	489,956	493,823	504,817	487,938	482,075		
	<i>Number given:</i>													
	Immediate custody	8,574	8,928	9,502	10,693	11,605	11,726	12,829	13,094	13,094	13,300	13,095	12,282	
	Suspended sentence	223	214	263	344	2,447	6,446	7,090	7,305	7,305	8,366	8,780	8,363	
	Community sentences	34,671	41,434	44,069	51,301	58,312	59,401	64,708	65,380	65,380	64,742	62,410	57,487	
	Fines	337,634	372,040	395,921	384,000	377,304	347,177	342,562	351,363	363,839	345,837	351,257	351,257	
	Absolute discharge	4,251	5,823	4,718	4,081	4,031	3,660	3,573	3,158	3,158	2,932	2,816	2,593	
	Conditional discharge	43,124	42,670	46,248	43,419	43,876	41,901	45,351	41,151	41,151	41,472	43,377	40,287	
	Otherwise dealt with	7,825	8,105	12,028	14,614	13,430	14,740	13,843	12,372	12,372	10,166	11,623	9,806	
	Average custodial sentence length (months)	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	
Summary motoring offences	Total number sentenced	580,267	602,696	690,896	690,058	664,987	612,420	601,432	545,908	558,598	512,797	459,625		
	<i>Number given:</i>													
	Immediate custody	16,800	16,405	17,150	14,054	12,126	8,976	7,407	5,713	5,713	4,678	3,499	2,849	
	Suspended sentence	330	343	398	417	3,886	6,789	5,799	4,885	4,885	4,698	4,148	3,933	
	Community sentences	28,029	36,708	38,797	38,268	32,530	27,542	24,819	21,057	21,057	18,837	15,491	13,929	
	Fines	508,108	519,565	605,045	608,488	590,355	545,438	541,157	493,607	493,607	517,623	480,024	430,585	
	Absolute discharge	8,654	11,208	9,957	7,685	6,684	5,719	4,985	4,414	4,414	4,346	3,930	3,538	
	Conditional discharge	9,249	8,842	9,421	9,053	8,379	6,995	5,873	3,966	3,966	3,586	2,975	2,581	
	Otherwise dealt with	9,097	9,625	10,128	12,093	11,027	10,961	11,392	12,266	12,266	4,830	2,730	2,210	
	Average custodial sentence length (months)	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	
All offences	Total number sentenced	1,271,887	1,346,150	1,463,033	1,434,320	1,413,302	1,325,989	1,325,819	1,274,347	1,302,394	1,254,032	1,179,335		
	<i>Number given:</i>													
	Immediate custody	63,356	63,651	64,389	59,258	57,036	51,601	52,029	49,797	49,797	48,033	48,212	45,270	
	Suspended sentence	1,084	1,030	1,205	1,367	11,443	25,062	25,371	23,734	23,734	25,497	26,444	25,982	
	Community sentences	146,495	169,181	170,855	178,230	181,521	174,191	180,067	177,708	177,708	174,262	168,460	153,365	
	Fines	921,325	968,238	1,075,208	1,052,069	1,023,777	941,108	930,594	895,397	895,397	936,165	884,967	837,818	
	Absolute discharge	14,940	20,029	17,674	14,111	13,036	11,489	10,724	9,321	9,321	8,915	8,500	7,817	
	Conditional discharge	98,227	96,306	100,555	91,531	91,266	85,585	90,703	82,858	82,858	82,675	87,058	81,454	
	Otherwise dealt with	26,461	27,717	33,147	37,754	35,223	36,953	36,331	35,532	35,532	26,847	30,391	27,629	
	Average custodial sentence length (months)	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	

(1) Excludes data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July and August 2008.

Table Q5.3 Offenders sentenced by offence group and outcome, the Crown Court, 12 months ending March 2012

Offence group	Outcome	12 months ending												Number of offenders
		Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012		
All indictable offences	Total number sentenced	69,449	73,694	73,045	70,909	74,188	72,821	77,841	85,460	89,895	96,943	94,110		
	<i>Number given:</i>													
	Immediate custody	44,086	45,394	43,935	42,893	43,673	41,361	43,707	48,940	50,181	52,228	54,180		
	Suspended sentence	1,600	1,457	1,545	1,554	4,004	11,588	15,544	17,119	19,402	21,203	20,268		
	Community sentences	18,598	21,435	21,801	21,101	20,890	14,724	13,185	14,422	14,964	17,321	14,878		
	Fines	1,928	1,915	2,032	1,826	1,792	1,643	1,646	1,550	1,588	1,730	1,309		
	Absolute discharge	67	73	61	58	49	50	48	59	64	82	68		
	Conditional discharge	1,926	2,027	2,233	2,079	1,996	1,746	1,913	1,869	2,032	2,277	1,630		
	Otherwise dealt with	1,244	1,393	1,438	1,398	1,784	1,709	1,798	1,501	1,664	2,102	1,777		
	Average custodial sentence length (months) ⁽¹⁾	25.1	26.4	26.8	26.9	25.6	25.1	24.5	25.2	25.0	25.1	25.6		
Summary non-motoring offences	Total number sentenced	2,416	2,448	2,555	2,609	3,016	3,278	3,779	4,251	5,047	6,003	5,281		
	<i>Number given:</i>													
	Immediate custody	550	515	541	559	718	781	960	1,190	1,299	1,618	1,557		
	Suspended sentence	22	16	10	15	77	287	397	514	887	933	843		
	Community sentences	929	936	919	1,017	1,076	1,018	1,151	1,274	1,467	1,833	1,621		
	Fines	355	357	382	354	349	380	396	343	446	445	394		
	Absolute discharge	8	2	7	2	7	13	8	9	17	12	13		
	Conditional discharge	487	513	543	509	521	520	576	651	664	843	642		
	Otherwise dealt with	65	109	153	153	268	279	291	270	267	319	211		
	Average custodial sentence length (months) ⁽¹⁾	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.2	2.9		
Summary motoring offences	Total number sentenced	779	812	796	754	733	753	1,026	1,020	881	945	827		
	<i>Number given:</i>													
	Immediate custody	296	281	279	243	225	205	236	247	232	201	234		
	Suspended sentence	4	4	4	1	23	65	94	105	127	170	141		
	Community sentences	203	260	234	231	192	147	149	162	124	159	143		
	Fines	219	202	237	228	204	231	362	366	301	325	214		
	Absolute discharge	1	1	1	1	2	0	1	0	2	2	2		
	Conditional discharge	16	15	22	18	16	21	34	28	23	24	18		
	Otherwise dealt with	40	49	19	32	71	84	150	112	72	64	75		
	Average custodial sentence length (months) ⁽¹⁾	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1		
All offences	Total number sentenced	72,644	76,954	76,396	74,272	77,937	76,852	82,646	90,731	95,823	103,891	100,218		
	<i>Number given:</i>													
	Immediate custody	44,932	46,190	44,755	43,695	44,616	42,347	44,903	50,377	51,712	54,047	55,971		
	Suspended sentence	1,626	1,477	1,559	1,570	4,104	11,940	16,035	17,738	20,416	22,306	21,252		
	Community sentences	19,730	22,631	22,954	22,349	22,158	15,889	14,485	15,858	16,555	19,313	16,642		
	Fines	2,502	2,474	2,651	2,408	2,345	2,254	2,404	2,259	2,335	2,500	1,917		
	Absolute discharge	76	76	69	61	58	63	57	68	83	96	83		
	Conditional discharge	2,429	2,555	2,798	2,606	2,533	2,287	2,523	2,548	2,719	3,144	2,290		
	Otherwise dealt with	1,349	1,551	1,610	1,583	2,123	2,072	2,239	1,883	2,003	2,485	2,063		
	Average custodial sentence length (months) ⁽¹⁾	24.7	26.0	26.3	26.4	25.2	24.6	24.0	24.5	24.4	24.3	24.9		

(1) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences.

Table Q5.4 Offenders and persons sentenced by outcome and rate, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	Number of offenders/persons and rates											
	12 months ending											
	Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009 ⁽²⁾	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012	
Total persons sentenced	1,334,996	1,413,914	1,529,019	1,498,584	1,482,259	1,395,278	1,400,567	1,356,831	1,389,694	1,350,108	1,272,965	
Males	1,098,917	1,157,399	1,256,753	1,222,347	1,195,234	1,119,878	1,107,302	1,035,061	1,040,187	1,003,857	929,720	
Females	236,079	256,515	272,266	276,237	287,025	275,400	290,552	294,227	314,564	304,294	297,034	
Not Stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,713	27,543	34,943	41,957	46,211	
Total offenders sentenced of which: Others	1,344,531	1,423,104	1,539,429	1,508,592	1,491,239	1,402,841	1,408,465	1,365,078	1,398,217	1,357,923	1,279,553	
	9,536	9,191	10,410	10,008	8,980	7,563	7,898	8,247	8,523	7,815	6,588	
Sentence												
Immediate custody Rate ⁽¹⁾	108,288 8.1	109,841 7.8	109,144 7.1	102,953 6.9	101,652 6.9	93,948 6.7	96,932 6.9	100,174 7.4	99,745 7.2	102,259 7.6	101,241 8.0	
Suspended sentence Rate ⁽¹⁾	2,710 0.2	2,507 0.2	2,764 0.2	2,937 0.2	15,547 1.0	37,002 2.7	41,406 3.0	41,472 3.1	45,913 3.3	48,750 3.6	47,234 3.7	
Community sentences Rate ⁽¹⁾	166,225 12.5	191,812 13.6	193,809 12.7	200,579 13.4	203,679 13.7	190,080 13.6	194,552 13.9	193,566 14.3	190,817 13.7	187,773 13.9	170,007 13.4	
Fine Rate	923,827 68.7	970,712 68.2	1,077,859 70.0	1,054,477 69.9	1,026,122 68.8	943,362 67.2	932,998 66.2	897,656 65.8	938,500 67.1	887,467 65.4	839,735 65.6	
Absolute discharge Rate	15,016 1.1	20,105 1.4	17,743 1.2	14,172 0.9	13,094 0.9	11,552 0.8	10,781 0.8	9,389 0.7	8,998 0.6	8,596 0.6	7,900 0.6	
Conditional discharge Rate	100,656 7.5	98,861 6.9	103,353 6.7	94,137 6.2	93,799 6.3	87,872 6.3	93,226 6.6	85,406 6.3	85,394 6.1	90,202 6.6	83,744 6.5	
Otherwise dealt with Rate	27,810 2.1	29,268 2.1	34,757 2.3	39,337 2.6	37,346 2.5	39,025 2.8	38,570 2.7	37,415 2.7	28,850 2.1	32,876 2.4	29,692 2.3	

(1) Rates are calculated on persons for sentences of immediate custody, suspended sentence and community sentence as 'others' cannot receive this sentence.

(2) Excludes data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July and August 2008.

Table Q5.5 Persons sentenced to immediate custody and average custodial sentence length⁽¹⁾ at all courts by offence group, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	12 months ending												Persons sentenced		
	12 months ending														
	Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009 ⁽²⁾	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012				
Violence against the person	11,420	11,800	11,765	12,252	12,934	12,290	12,480	13,880	14,082	14,040	14,197				
Sexual offences	2,395	2,597	2,566	2,781	2,737	2,849	2,791	2,970	3,095	3,388	3,440				
Burglary	12,704	12,947	11,784	10,297	9,530	9,132	9,322	10,053	9,906	10,871	12,125				
Robbery	4,972	5,894	5,111	4,808	4,577	4,749	4,787	5,219	5,038	5,207	5,468				
Theft and handling stolen goods	27,189	26,987	25,438	21,533	20,525	19,109	20,302	20,874	19,949	22,475	22,433				
Fraud and forgery	3,787	3,776	4,002	4,064	4,861	4,378	5,505	5,600	5,198	4,680	4,136				
Criminal damage	1,185	1,193	1,237	1,261	1,295	1,334	1,296	1,119	1,061	1,115	1,120				
Drug offences	8,610	8,106	8,135	7,726	7,933	7,462	8,585	9,384	9,625	9,698	9,640				
Other (excl motoring offences)	7,841	8,189	9,215	10,494	10,613	9,294	8,911	9,467	11,008	11,241	10,607				
Indictable motoring offences	1,965	2,223	2,419	2,188	1,973	1,663	1,521	1,364	1,274	1,131	1,153				
All indictable offences	82,068	83,712	81,672	77,404	76,978	72,260	75,500	79,930	80,236	83,846	84,319				
Summary non-motoring offences	9,124	9,443	10,043	11,252	12,323	12,507	13,789	14,284	14,599	14,713	13,839				
Summary motoring offences	17,096	16,686	17,429	14,297	12,351	9,181	7,643	5,960	4,910	3,700	3,083				
All summary offences	26,220	26,129	27,472	25,549	24,674	21,688	21,432	20,244	19,509	18,413	16,922				
All offences	108,288	109,841	109,144	102,953	101,652	93,948	96,932	100,174	99,745	102,259	101,241				

England and Wales	12 months ending												Average custodial sentence length ⁽¹⁾		
	12 months ending														
	Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009 ⁽²⁾	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012				
Violence against the person	17.0	18.0	18.7	18.8	17.5	16.9	16.6	17.5	17.9	17.6	19.3				
Sexual offences	37.8	39.6	39.9	40.9	41.2	41.5	42.7	46.3	47.8	50.4	53.0				
Burglary	16.9	17.4	17.3	17.3	17.3	17.2	16.3	17.9	18.7	18.9	18.8				
Robbery	36.4	38.7	39.5	37.6	34.3	31.3	31.6	32.9	31.3	35.7	35.0				
Theft and handling stolen goods	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.4				
Fraud and forgery	8.4	8.3	8.8	9.5	10.4	10.8	10.1	10.8	10.4	11.6	12.9				
Criminal damage	16.5	16.0	16.8	16.1	14.3	12.9	13.1	16.5	18.4	17.9	19.7				
Drug offences	33.3	34.6	35.7	36.7	35.5	33.2	32.1	32.8	31.7	30.7	30.7				
Other (excl motoring offences)	9.5	10.1	9.3	8.8	8.9	9.4	9.9	10.7	9.9	9.9	10.6				
Indictable motoring offences	7.9	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.5	9.1	9.0	9.4	9.3	9.5	9.7				
All indictable offences	14.8	15.6	15.7	16.1	15.6	15.3	15.1	16.3	16.5	16.4	17.2				
Summary non-motoring offences	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5				
Summary motoring offences	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1				
All summary offences	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.6				
All offences	12.0	12.7	12.5	12.9	12.5	12.4	12.4	13.5	13.7	13.9	14.8				

(1) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences.

(2) Excludes data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July and August 2008.

Table Q5.6 Persons sentenced to immediate custody at all courts by length of sentence and average custodial sentence length⁽¹⁾, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	12 months ending												Number of persons					
	Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009 ⁽²⁾	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012							
Persons given immediate custody and sentence length																		
All offences																		
Total persons sentenced	1,334,996	1,413,914	1,529,019	1,498,584	1,482,259	1,395,278	1,400,567	1,366,831	1,389,694	1,350,108	1,272,965							
Number given immediate custody	108,288	108,841	109,144	102,953	101,652	93,948	96,932	100,174	99,745	102,256	101,241							
<i>Percentage given immediate custody (%)</i>	<i>8.1</i>	<i>7.8</i>	<i>7.1</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>6.7</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>7.4</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>8.0</i>							
Up to and including 3 months	41,903	41,589	41,349	38,421	36,872	33,665	35,357	36,009	35,938	38,317	36,141							
Over 3 months and up to and including 6 months	29,185	28,971	30,089	27,273	26,833	23,529	23,487	21,811	20,972	20,079	19,185							
Over 6 months and less than 12 months	5,623	5,566	5,452	5,702	5,899	5,716	6,359	7,120	7,129	7,035	7,595							
12 months	5,574	5,557	5,263	5,167	5,536	5,239	5,453	5,778	5,725	5,771	5,712							
Over 12 months and up to and including 18 months	6,581	7,000	6,570	6,167	6,394	6,159	6,263	6,956	7,372	7,506	8,051							
Over 18 months and up to and including 3 years	10,608	11,159	10,583	10,428	10,525	10,391	10,519	11,798	12,111	12,645	13,231							
Over 3 years and less than 4 years	1,701	1,984	1,933	1,971	1,735	1,446	1,469	1,715	1,845	1,958	2,010							
4 years	2,046	2,196	2,174	2,018	1,695	1,617	1,621	1,972	1,928	2,035	2,008							
Over 4 years and up to and including 5 years	1,853	2,133	2,073	2,092	1,865	1,649	1,683	2,015	2,013	2,086	2,112							
Over 5 years and up to and including 10 years	2,374	2,748	2,715	2,751	2,542	2,155	2,183	2,689	2,828	2,921	3,314							
Over 10 years and less than life	333	375	434	387	367	286	327	454	471	563	664							
Indeterminate sentence ⁽³⁾	:	:	:	:	:	738	1,723	1,342	999	959	833							
Life	507	563	509	576	651	512	488	515	414	384	385							
Average custodial sentence length (months)⁽¹⁾	12.0	12.7	12.5	12.9	12.5	12.4	12.4	13.5	13.7	13.9	14.8							
Indictable offences																		
Total persons sentenced	323,435	336,766	330,954	305,623	310,446	300,235	311,242	319,171	328,101	349,423	331,034							
Number given immediate custody	82,068	83,712	81,672	77,404	76,978	72,260	75,500	79,930	80,236	83,846	84,319							
<i>Percentage given immediate custody (%)</i>	<i>25.4</i>	<i>24.9</i>	<i>24.7</i>	<i>25.3</i>	<i>24.8</i>	<i>24.1</i>	<i>24.3</i>	<i>25.0</i>	<i>24.5</i>	<i>24.0</i>	<i>25.5</i>							
Up to and including 3 months	27,341	27,404	26,735	24,481	23,770	21,750	23,095	23,672	23,760	26,371	25,180							
Over 3 months and up to and including 6 months	17,533	17,032	17,237	15,666	15,271	13,768	14,325	13,925	13,669	13,653	13,224							
Over 6 months and less than 12 months	5,618	5,563	5,447	5,701	5,896	5,714	6,354	7,107	7,114	7,012	7,595							
12 months	5,574	5,556	5,262	5,166	5,534	5,235	5,451	5,772	5,719	5,761	5,712							
Over 12 months and up to and including 18 months	6,580	6,999	6,570	6,167	6,393	6,157	6,262	6,954	7,367	7,502	8,051							
Over 18 months and up to and including 3 years	10,608	11,159	10,583	10,428	10,523	10,388	10,519	11,798	12,109	12,641	13,231							
Over 3 years and less than 4 years	1,701	1,984	1,933	1,971	1,734	1,446	1,469	1,715	1,845	1,958	2,010							
4 years	2,046	2,196	2,174	2,018	1,695	1,617	1,621	1,972	1,928	2,035	2,008							
Over 4 years and up to and including 5 years	1,853	2,133	2,073	2,092	1,865	1,649	1,683	2,015	2,013	2,086	2,112							
Over 5 years and up to and including 10 years	2,374	2,748	2,715	2,751	2,541	2,155	2,183	2,689	2,828	2,921	3,314							
Over 10 years and less than life	333	375	434	387	367	286	327	454	471	563	664							
Indeterminate sentence ⁽³⁾	:	:	:	:	:	738	1,723	1,342	999	959	833							
Life	507	563	509	576	651	512	488	515	414	384	385							
Average custodial sentence length (months)⁽¹⁾	14.8	15.6	15.7	16.1	15.6	15.3	15.1	16.3	16.5	16.4	17.2							

(1) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences.

(2) Excludes data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July and August 2008.

(3) Sentences of imprisonment for public protection introduced by the Criminal Justice Act 2003 on 4 April 2005.

Table Q5.7 Juveniles sentenced for all offences by type of sentence (detailed), 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

Sentence	12 months ending											Persons sentenced	
	Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009 ⁽¹⁾	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012		
Immediate custodial sentences													
S90-92 PCC(S) Act 2000	570	695	485	550	480	416	401	477	406	420	381		
Detention and training order	6,915	6,412	5,799	5,553	5,526	5,468	5,230	4,873	4,212	3,715	3,482		
Young offender institution	-	3	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Extended sentence for public protection	*	*	*	2	98	95	102	41	12	11	25		
Indeterminate sentence for public protection (IPP)	*	*	*	*	37	58	60	59	27	36	37		
Total immediate custody	7,485	7,110	6,288	6,109	6,141	6,037	5,793	5,450	4,657	4,182	3,925		
Community sentences													
Community rehabilitation order	2,436	2,350	2,230	2,010	1,747	1,679	1,812	1,742	1,374	173	28		
Supervision order	11,324	9,924	10,036	10,012	10,827	11,554	11,463	9,186	6,978	613	26		
Community punishment order	4,089	3,058	2,743	2,549	2,185	1,912	1,853	1,731	1,338	93	2		
Attendance centre order	5,008	3,091	2,758	2,718	2,828	2,868	3,156	2,557	1,879	186	97		
Community punishment and rehabilitation order	1,732	1,591	1,464	1,304	1,177	1,258	1,306	1,481	1,389	157	4		
Curfew order	1,599	2,449	3,238	4,113	4,114	4,324	4,826	5,592	4,900	928	170		
Reparation order	8,154	3,665	3,045	3,084	3,371	3,782	4,148	4,003	3,279	2,000	940		
Action plan order	8,689	4,948	4,307	4,581	4,859	4,902	4,693	4,022	2,421	101	3		
Drug treatment and testing order	70	72	61	52	24	10	11	5	-	-	-		
Referral order ⁽²⁾	521	25,198	25,523	26,602	30,443	30,530	31,597	28,808	27,795	24,709	20,453		
Community order ⁽³⁾	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	59	-	-		
Youth Rehabilitation order	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,360	18,001	17,395		
Total community sentences	43,622	56,346	55,405	57,025	61,575	62,819	64,865	59,127	52,772	46,961	39,118		
Other sentences													
Absolute or conditional discharge	16,793	13,740	13,888	12,184	12,228	11,626	11,911	10,748	9,979	9,850	8,262		
Fine	22,068	12,473	14,981	14,956	13,597	11,150	9,996	8,800	7,683	6,070	4,859		
Suspended sentence ⁽⁴⁾	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-		
Otherwise dealt with	4,902	3,767	3,971	4,349	2,995	2,951	2,762	2,693	3,470	4,966	3,171		
Total other sentences	43,763	29,980	32,840	31,489	28,823	25,727	24,670	22,241	21,132	20,886	16,292		
Total sentenced	94,870	93,436	94,533	94,623	96,539	94,583	95,328	86,818	78,561	72,029	59,335		

(1) Excludes data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July and August 2008.

(2) Referral orders now include numbers of extension of referral orders, and may therefore not be the same as previously published figures.

(3) Community orders were introduced by the Criminal Justice Act 2003 for offences committed from 4 April 2005.

(4) Suspended sentences are not available for juveniles.

Table Q5.8 Adults sentenced by type of sentence (detailed), 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

Sentence	12 months ending											Persons sentenced					
	Mar 2002	Mar 2003	Mar 2004	Mar 2005	Mar 2006	Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Mar 2009 ⁽¹⁾	Mar 2010	Mar 2011	Mar 2012						
Immediate custodial sentences																	
S90-92 PCC(S) Act 2000	-	3	9	5	13	13	6	13	16	7	3						
Young offender institution	17,905	16,792	15,336	14,186	14,230	13,250	13,765	13,400	13,686	12,689	11,443						
Unuspended imprisonment	82,843	85,303	86,535	81,313	78,946	71,887	74,750	79,573	79,979	83,964	84,485						
Extended sentence of imprisonment (EPP)	55	633	965	1,200	1,453	1,179	955	455	435	494	589						
Indeterminate sentence for public protection (IPP)	*	*	*	*	701	1,526	1,663	1,283	972	923	796						
Intermittent custody	*	*	11	140	168	56	-	-	-	-	-						
Total immediate custody	100,803	102,731	102,856	96,844	95,511	87,911	91,139	94,724	95,088	98,077	97,316						
Community sentences																	
Community rehabilitation order	57,204	62,678	60,040	57,231	18,918	1,130	328	223	181	68	24						
Community punishment order	45,580	47,973	48,425	50,838	21,358	2,155	466	301	187	46	14						
Attendance centre order	576	491	544	680	428	326	257	198	228	120	79						
Community punishment and rehabilitation order	12,108	13,926	14,040	14,578	6,202	655	214	168	157	36	2						
Curfew order	2,590	4,781	7,863	11,385	5,719	2,061	1,784	1,493	1,043	756	408						
Drug treatment and testing order	4,545	5,602	7,444	8,820	3,349	155	17	4	1	-	1						
Referral order ⁽²⁾	*	15	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						
Community order ⁽³⁾	*	*	*	22	86,130	120,779	126,621	132,052	136,248	139,786	130,361						
Total community sentences	122,603	135,466	138,404	143,554	142,104	127,261	129,687	134,439	138,045	140,812	130,889						
Other sentences																	
Absolute or conditional discharge	98,608	104,969	106,963	95,901	94,451	87,596	91,997	83,892	84,280	88,840	83,317						
Fine	892,553	949,370	1,053,035	1,029,846	1,003,849	924,913	915,318	880,987	922,491	873,710	828,375						
Suspended sentence ⁽⁴⁾	2,710	2,507	2,764	2,937	15,544	37,002	41,405	41,472	45,913	48,750	47,234						
Otherwise dealt with	22,849	25,435	30,464	34,879	34,261	36,012	35,693	34,499	25,316	27,890	26,499						
Total other sentences	1,016,719	1,082,281	1,193,226	1,163,563	1,148,105	1,085,523	1,084,413	1,040,850	1,078,000	1,039,190	985,425						
Total sentenced	1,240,126	1,320,478	1,434,486	1,403,961	1,385,720	1,300,695	1,305,239	1,270,013	1,311,133	1,278,079	1,213,630						

(1) Excludes data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July and August 2008.

(2) Referral orders now include numbers of extension of referral orders, and may therefore not be the same as previously published figures.

(3) Community orders were introduced by the Criminal Justice Act 2003 for offences committed from 4 April 2005.

(4) Fully suspended sentence for offences committed prior to 4 April 2005, suspended sentence order for offences committed from 4 April 2005.

Table Q5.9 Persons⁽¹⁾ sentenced at all courts for indictable offences by ethnicity and result, 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	Offence type / group	Ethnicity					
		Total	White	Black	Asian	Other	Unknown
Indictable offences							
	Absolute discharge	1,749	1,364	146	49	19	171
	Conditional discharge	40,209	32,051	2,721	1,228	440	3,769
	Fine	56,596	41,001	5,727	2,948	572	6,348
	Community sentence	96,827	74,045	8,785	4,111	1,121	8,765
	Suspended sentence	33,954	25,308	2,559	1,742	725	3,620
	Immediate custody	84,319	60,810	8,961	4,836	2,430	7,282
	Otherwise dealt with	17,380	12,532	2,050	898	252	1,648
	Total	331,034	247,111	30,949	15,812	5,559	31,603

(1) Includes cases reported to the Ministry of Justice as sex ' not stated'.

Offences [Tables 6.1 – 6.4]

This chapter differs from the others in the publication by counting on an all offence basis, as opposed to a principal offence basis.

Courts and the police typically deal with defendants charged with more than one offence, for example in the 12 months ending March 2012 each defendant was charged with an average of 1.4 offences.

This average rate of offences per offender has decreased slightly year on year since the 12 months ending March 2004, when it stood at an average of 1.7 offences per offender.

In comparison with the previous year the number of convicted offences fell by 6.2 per cent to 1.78 million in the 12 months ending March 2012. Over the same period, the total number of convicted offenders fell by 5.8 per cent to 1.28 million in the 12 months ending March 2012.

Convictions (all offence basis)

In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 1.78 million convicted offences, a decrease of 6.2 per cent from 1.90 million in the 12 months ending March 2011. Since a peak over the last decade of 2.57 million in the 12 months ending March 2004, there have been year on year decreases in total convicted offences, with an overall fall of 30.7 per cent when comparing the 12 months ending March 2012 total with the 12 months ending March 2004.

The decrease has been driven in the main by convictions for summary motoring offences, which have fallen by 53.9 per cent between the 12 months ending March 2004 and the 12 months ending March 2012 (from 1.33 million to 615,200).

Indictable offences accounted for 31.7 per cent of convicted offences in the 12 months ending March 2012. This represented a slight increase on the 12 months ending March 2011 (31.2 per cent) and a continuation of an increasing trend observed since the 12 months ending March 2005 (22.5 per cent) due to the decrease in summary motoring convictions.

Summary motoring offences accounted for 34.5 per cent of all offences in the 12 months ending March 2012, a series low over the last decade. In the series peak of the 12 months ending March 2004, summary motoring offences accounted for 51.9 per cent of all offences, with the proportion having fallen year on year since.

Cautions (all offence basis)

In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 250,400 cautions issued for all offences, a decrease of 5.5 per cent from 264,900 in the 12 months ending March 2011. This decrease continues the downward trend observed since the peak of 392,500 offences cautioned in 12 months ending March 2007.

There were 132,700 cautions for indictable offences in the 12 months ending March 2012, a 7.8 per cent decrease on the previous year, continuing the decreasing trend since the peak over the last decade of 223,600 cautions for indictable offence in the 12 months ending March 2007.

The remaining 117,600 cautions in the 12 months ending March 2012 were for summary non-motoring offences, a 2.7 per cent decrease on the previous year.

Indictable offences accounted for 53.0 per cent of cautions (132,700) in the 12 months ending March 2012. This proportion has been broadly declining since a peak of 63.8 per cent in 12 months ending March 2003 (63.8 per cent).

Offences Brought to Justice (notifiable offences)

One measure of justice outcomes is Offences Brought to Justice (OBTJ). An offence is said to have been brought to justice when a 'notifiable offence'¹³ results in an offender being convicted, cautioned, issued with a Penalty Notice for Disorder (PND) or a cannabis warning, or having an offence taken into consideration at court.

In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 1.19 million OBTJs, a decrease of 5.7 per cent from 1.26 million in the 12 months ending March 2011. Recorded crime totals fell by 2.8 per cent over the same period.

Offences brought to justice increased from 1.00 million in 12 months ending March 2002 to a series high of 1.45 million in the 12 months ending March 2008. The total has been steadily falling since the 12 months ending March 2008. Cautions and convictions account for the vast majority (81.3 per cent) of all OBTJs in the 12 months ending March 2012.

The decline in the use of out of court disposals coincided with the replacement in April 2008 of a target to increase offences brought to justice, with one placing more emphasis on bringing serious crime to justice. The latter target was subsequently removed in May 2010.

Convictions accounted for 61.5 per cent of all OBTJs in the 12 months ending March 2012, similar to the proportion as in 12 months ending March 2011 (60.9 per cent). The proportion declined from a peak of 68.6 per cent in 12 months ending March 2003 to 48.8 per cent in 12 months ending March 2007, followed by a year on year increase to 12 months ending March 2012. This trend is driven by the patterns in the use of out of court disposals.

In the 12 months ending March 2012, the main offence groups which make up OBTJs were *violence against the person* (27.9 per cent), *theft and handling stolen goods* (25.4 per cent) and *drug offences* (19.7 per cent).

The proportion of all OBTJs accounted for by *violence against the person* has increased by 6.4 percentage points since 12 months ending March 2002. Similarly, *drug offences* have increased in proportion by 7.9 percentage points since the 12 months ending March 2002. However, over the same period, *theft and handling stolen goods* decreased by 9.4 percentage points.

¹³ Notifiable offences are those offences which require the police to record an incident as a crime and report the occurrence to the Home Office.

Table 6.1 - Cautions administered by offence group, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾

England and Wales	Number of offences (thousands)												
	12 months ending												
	March 2002	March 2003	March 2004	March 2005	March 2006	March 2007	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012		
Offence group													
Violence against the person	20.6	26.6	32.3	40.8	56.2	59.1	51.1	36.1	26.5	21.8	16.2		
Sexual offences	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.7	2.0	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.6		
Burglary	6.8	6.2	6.0	6.3	7.4	8.5	7.1	5.7	4.3	3.9	3.7		
Robbery	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2		
Theft and handling stolen goods	70.6	59.8	64.4	71.3	79.1	83.1	79.2	74.2	64.0	52.3	48.0		
Fraud and forgery	6.8	6.8	6.7	7.3	8.8	9.2	9.6	8.9	7.7	6.6	6.2		
Criminal damage	3.9	3.5	4.5	6.1	8.6	10.0	9.4	8.3	6.4	5.4	4.9		
Drug offences	41.6	47.6	45.6	33.3	37.7	40.4	47.1	50.1	44.3	44.6	45.5		
Other indictable offences	4.5	4.8	5.9	6.2	8.0	10.3	10.3	9.0	8.0	7.6	6.4		
Summary non-motoring offences	92.4	89.0	104.0	109.7	135.1	169.0	173.0	158.3	138.5	120.9	117.6		
All offences ⁽⁶⁾	249.3	246.1	271.4	283.1	343.5	392.5	389.4	352.6	301.5	264.9	250.4		

(1) Excluding all motoring offences.

(2) Includes reprimands and final warnings for juveniles (e.g. those aged 10 to 17).

(3) On an all offence basis.

(4) Cautions data for Dyfed Powys and Lancashire for December 2010 have been sourced from Police National Computer.

(5) All cautions data from January 2011 have been sourced from the Police National Computer.

(6) May not sum due to rounding.

Table 6.2 - Convictions by offence group, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

England and Wales	Number of offences (thousands)											
	12 months ending											
	March 2002	March 2003	March 2004	March 2005	March 2006	March 2007	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012	
Offence group												
Violence against the person	47.5	51.7	52.2	52.3	56.0	55.1	54.8	54.5	57.8	60.0	56.2	
Sexual offences	12.0	12.7	12.7	13.9	14.5	15.2	15.4	16.5	17.1	18.9	19.8	
Burglary	35.1	36.8	35.9	32.0	31.5	31.4	31.7	32.1	30.7	31.9	32.5	
Robbery	10.5	12.3	11.5	11.3	11.1	12.5	13.1	12.9	12.5	12.4	12.9	
Theft and handling stolen goods	195.0	194.3	187.1	166.7	163.5	155.9	164.6	176.5	173.4	178.9	177.7	
Fraud and forgery	44.6	44.0	44.3	43.8	45.0	39.9	43.3	47.3	52.0	53.3	46.0	
Criminal damage	17.3	17.9	18.9	19.2	20.1	21.4	18.7	13.9	12.3	11.7	10.5	
Drug offences	75.5	82.4	83.1	66.3	71.2	69.3	78.0	88.5	91.2	98.4	94.4	
Other indictable offences	118.3	131.4	147.3	136.4	132.3	119.8	120.2	117.3	120.9	122.9	111.1	
Indictable motoring offences	12.9	13.7	14.4	11.8	10.1	8.4	7.9	6.6	4.6	4.3	4.0	
Summary non-motoring offences	534.5	585.5	630.1	625.7	631.1	600.2	609.8	616.3	628.3	608.5	601.3	
Summary motoring offences	1,118.3	1,179.0	1,334.3	1,284.0	1,186.5	1,031.4	917.1	794.9	788.4	698.6	615.2	
All offences⁽³⁾	2,221.5	2,361.8	2,571.7	2,463.2	2,373.0	2,160.5	2,074.5	1,977.4	1,989.0	1,899.7	1,781.7	

(1) On an all offence basis.

(2) Excludes convictions data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July, and August 2008.

(3) May not sum due to rounding.

Table 6.3 - Number of offences brought to justice (notifiable) over a 12 month period by outcome and numbers of recorded crimes, 12 months ending March 2002 - 2012⁽¹⁾

12 months ending	England and Wales							Total OBTJs	Recorded crimes ⁽⁷⁾
	Offences brought to justice (OBTJ)								
	Offences taken into consideration ⁽²⁾	Penalty notices for disorder ⁽³⁾	Formal warnings for cannabis possession ⁽⁴⁾	Cautions ⁽⁵⁾⁽⁶⁾	Convictions	Number of offences (thousands)			
Mar-02	90	*	*	228	683	1,002	5,525		
Mar-03	99	*	*	225	712	1,038	5,898		
Mar-04	98	4	*	248	729	1,080	5,935		
Mar-05	106	49	27	268	688	1,138	5,560		
Mar-06	117	110	63	329	708	1,327	5,479		
Mar-07	121	147	80	380	694	1,422	5,351		
Mar-08	107	137	102	376	724	1,446	4,883		
Mar-09 ⁽⁸⁾	102	116	104	338	742	1,402	4,638		
Mar-10	79	106	85	285	750	1,305	4,278		
Mar-11	74	89	79	249	765	1,257	4,093		
Mar-12	66	78	78	234	729	1,185	3,976		

(1) Data for British Transport Police have been included for March 2012 only.

(2) Offences taken into consideration by the court and previously recorded by the police, figures for April 2004 onwards include offences not previously recorded.

(3) Piloted in 2002 and introduced nationally in 2004.

(4) Introduced in April 2004.

(5) Cautions data for Dyfed Powys and Lancashire for December 2010 have been sourced from Police National Computer.

(6) All cautions data from January 2011 have been sourced from the Police National Computer.

(7) The introduction of the National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS) in April 2002 resulted in significant increases in the number of crimes

(8) Excludes convictions data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July, and August 2008.

Note - figures for cannabis warnings & offences taken into consideration appearing in this publication are provisional and may be revised following Home Office validation. National Statistics for the financial year 2011/12 are expected to be published during 2012 by the Home Office.

Table 6.4 - Number of offences brought to justice (notifiable) by offence group, 12 months ending March 2002 - 2012 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾

Offence group	England and Wales											
	Number of offences (thousands)											
	12 months ending											
	March 2002	March 2003	March 2004	March 2005	March 2006	March 2007	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012	
Violence against the person	216	237	266	330	412	464	460	410	382	359	331	
Sexual offences	15	15	16	16	17	17	17	17	17	19	19	
Burglary	75	82	78	70	75	78	72	72	64	64	61	
Robbery	13	14	13	13	13	15	15	14	13	13	14	
Theft and handling stolen goods	349	337	350	325	356	370	369	367	335	317	301	
Fraud and forgery	79	77	73	77	73	62	62	65	65	63	55	
Criminal damage	94	95	106	120	144	162	156	136	116	103	93	
Drug offences	119	132	119	127	173	191	229	245	233	236	234	
Other offences	42	49	58	59	64	64	66	75	80	82	77	
All offences⁽⁶⁾	1,002	1,038	1,080	1,138	1,327	1,422	1,446	1,402	1,305	1,257	1,185	

(1) Data for British Transport Police have been included for March 2012 only.

(2) Includes estimates for incomplete data.

(3) Excludes convictions data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July, and August 2008.

(4) Cautions data for Dyfed Powys and Lancashire for December 2010 have been sourced from Police National Computer.

(5) All cautions data from January 2011 have been sourced from the Police National Computer.

(6) May not sum due to rounding.

Offending Histories [Tables Q7.1 – Q7.5, Q7a - Q7I]

Information presented in this section differs from previous sections on convictions, cautions and sentencing, in that all information in this chapter is taken from the Police National Computer (PNC). The main difference is that the PNC does not include a range of less serious summary offences (such as TV licence evasion and a range of motoring offences) and so the figures reported are not comparable or match figures reported in the previous chapters.

This section provides an overview of the changing structure of the known offending population with information on the breakdown of offences committed by new offenders and repeat offenders, the trends in new entrants to the criminal justice system, and breakdowns of the criminal histories of cautioned and sentenced offenders.

Key points in the 12 months ending March 2012:

- 24.3 per cent of proven offences were committed by offenders with no previous criminal offences, this compares to 25.9 per cent in the 12 months ending March 2011 and reflects a fall in the use of cautions
- There were 201,800 First Time Entrants (people who received their first conviction, caution, reprimand or warning). This is a fall of 11.2 per cent from the 227,200 first time entrants in the 12 months ending March 2011. This fall was driven by a reduction of 20.1 per cent in the number of Juvenile First Time Entrants. Adult first time entrants fell by 8.9 per cent.
- The differing trends in adult and juvenile first time entrants are largely due to the different disposals received. 50.7 per cent of adult first time entrants received an out of court disposal whereas 80.2 per cent of juvenile first time entrants received an out of court disposal. Thus the trends in out of court disposals will affect Juvenile First Time entrants more than adults. See Pages 4 and 5 for details on trends in Out of Court Disposals.
- The rate of Juvenile First Time Entrants per 100,000 of population now stands at 710, a fall of 20.1 per cent from the 12 months ending March 2011.
- 10.0 per cent of offenders convicted of indictable offences had no previous criminal offences, whilst 31.8 per cent had 15 or more previous offences, these compare to 10.4 per cent and 29.5 per cent respectively in the 12 months ending March 2011.

First offences and further offences

An offence is defined as a first offence if it results in the offender receiving their first reprimand, warning, caution or conviction – i.e. they have no previous criminal history recorded on the PNC. Offences resulting in further reprimands, warnings, cautions or convictions are known as further offences since the offender already has a recorded criminal history.

In the 12 months ending March 2012, a total of 828,600¹⁴ first offences and further offences were recorded, a decrease of 5.7 per cent compared with 878,300 recorded in the 12 months ending March 2011. Of these recorded offences:

¹⁴ When an offender has been cautioned or convicted of several offences on the same occasion only one offence has been counted; the figures therefore represent counts of separate cautioning or

- First offences accounted for 24.3 per cent (201,800), a fall of around two percentage points compared with the 12 months ending March 2011;
- Further offences accounted for 75.7 per cent (626,800), a rise of around two percentage points compared with the 12 months ending March 2011.

Figure 7.1: First offences and further offences, 12 months ending March 2012

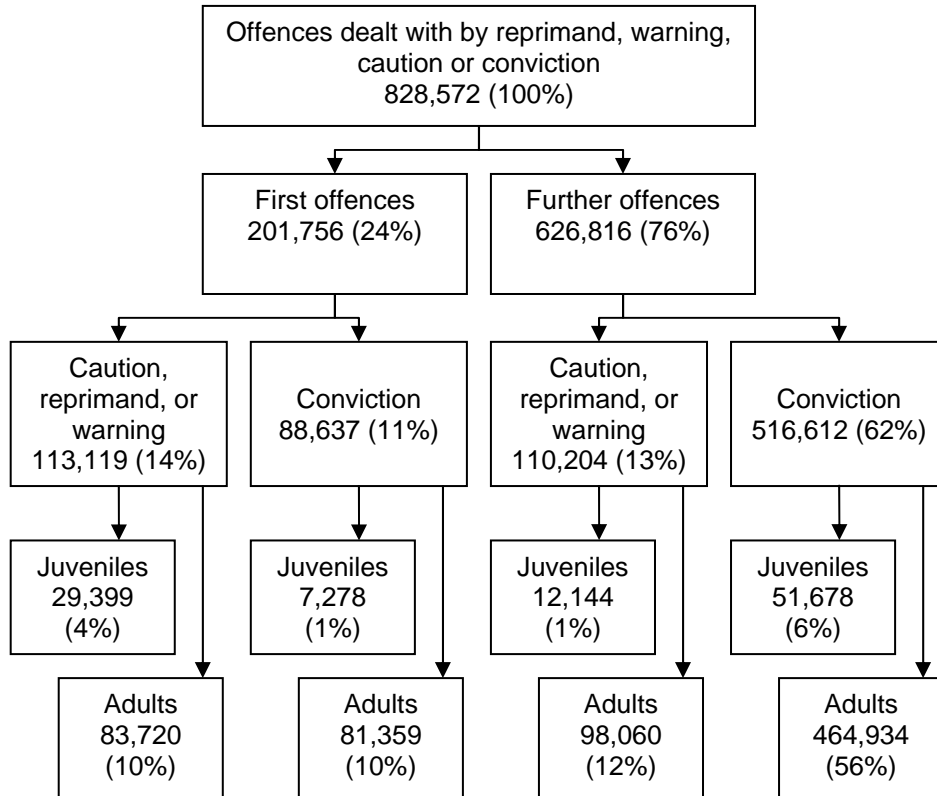


Figure 7.1 shows the breakdown of all proven offences recorded in the 12 months ending March 2012. The percentages in the diagram relate to the total number of offences committed in the top box of the figure.

- 18.2 per cent of first offences (36,700 out of 201,800 first offences) are committed by juveniles, compared to 10.2 per cent of further offences (63,800 out of 626,800 further offences);
- Juveniles received 18.6 per cent of cautions, reprimands and warnings compared to 9.7 per cent of convictions.

Figure 7.2 shows the peak for juveniles in 2007 and the subsequent large falls in offending which are associated with the removal of a target in April 2008 to increase offences brought to justice and a move towards bringing more serious crimes to justice. Figure 7.3 shows a different pattern for adults, with first time entrants falling back after the peak in 2007, but further offending continuing to rise.

sentencing occasions as recorded on the PNC rather than counts of every proven offence. This means that the first offence figures described here are equal to the figures for first time entrants described below

Figure 7.2: Number of juvenile first and further offences in England and Wales, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

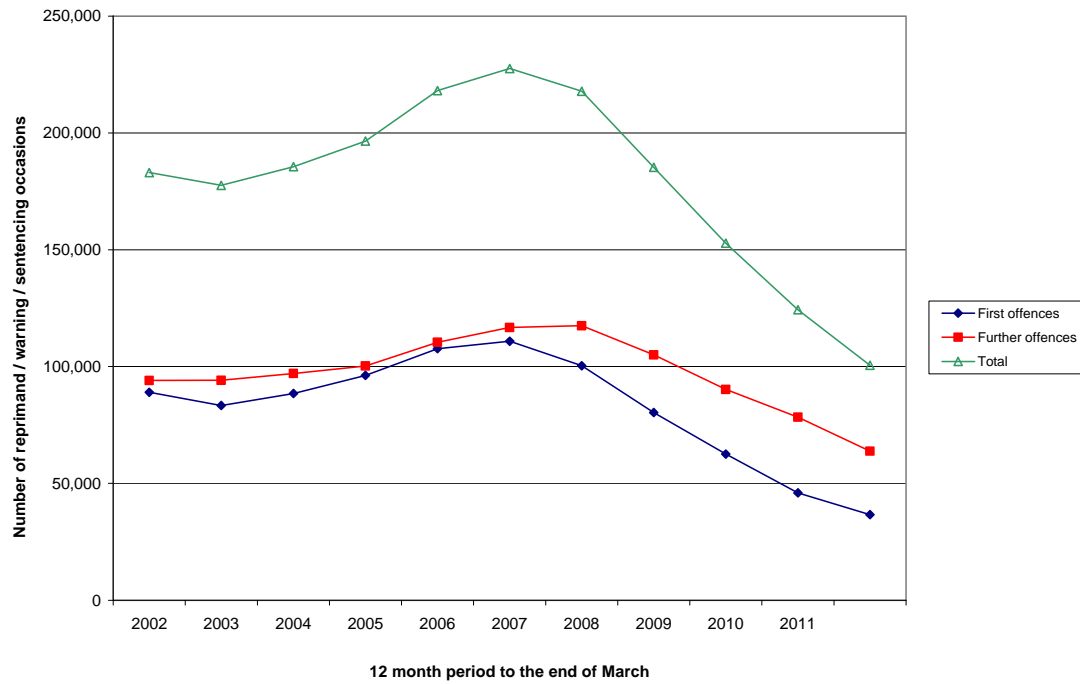
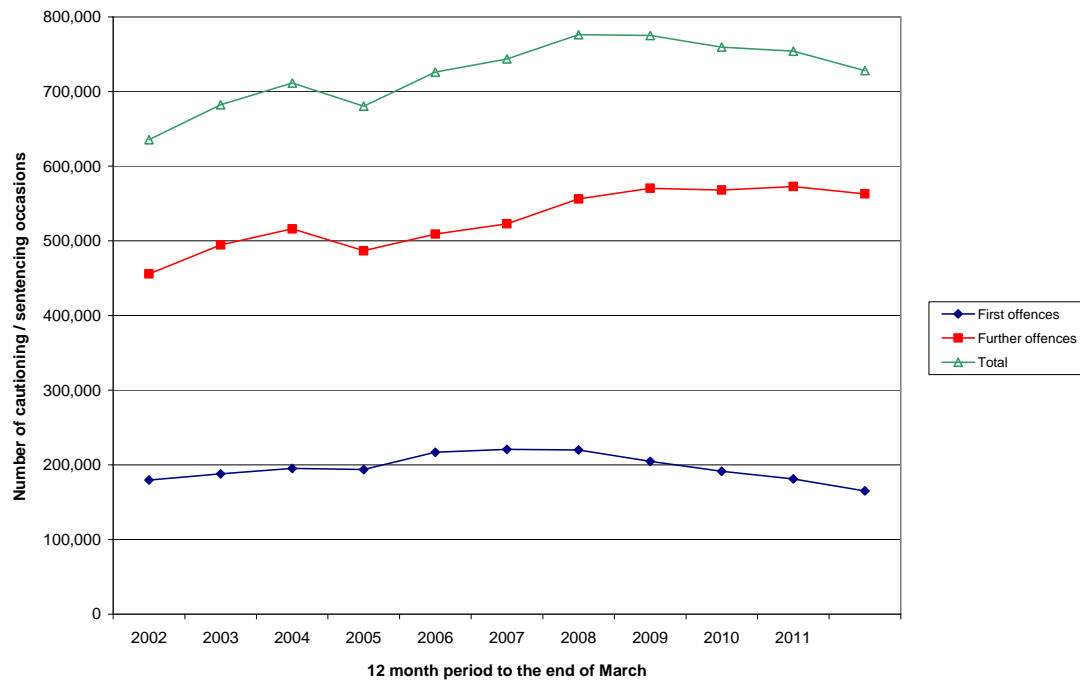


Figure 7.3: Number of adult first and further offences in England and Wales, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012



First time entrants to Criminal Justice system

First time entrants to the criminal justice are classified as offenders, resident in England and Wales, who received their first reprimand, warning, caution or conviction, based on data recorded by the police on the PNC.

In the 12 months ending March 2012, there were 201,800 first time entrants (FTE) to the criminal justice system, a decrease of 11.2 per cent compared to the 12 months period ending March 2011, and 24.9 per cent when compared with the 12 months period ending March 2002.

- Juvenile first time entrants accounted for 18.2 per cent (36,700) of all first time entrants, a fall of two percentage points compared with 12 months ending March 2011, and 15 percentage points when compared with the 12 months ending March 2002.
 - The rate per 100,000 of population has fallen 20.1 per cent from 889 to 710 over the last 12 months
- Adult first time entrants to the criminal justice system in the 12 months ending March 2012 accounted for 81.8 per cent (165,100) of all the new entrants, an increase of two percentage points compared to the 12 months ending March 2011. Of these:
 - The rate per 100,000 of population has fallen 8.9 per cent from 416 to 379 over the last 12 months
- The decline in the use of reprimands, warnings and cautions in dealing with FTEs is consistent with the reduction in the use of these disposals for all offenders and coincides with the increasing focus on more serious offending.

Criminal Histories

An offender is counted as having a criminal history if their PNC record shows that, at the time of receiving a reprimand, warning, caution or conviction, they had previously committed one or more offences that had resulted in one of these sanctions. The PNC data excludes a range of summary offences, and therefore unlike the other sections of offending histories, the criminal histories section focuses on the criminal histories of offenders cautioned or sentenced for indictable offences only.

Offenders cautioned¹⁵ for indictable offences on the PNC

In the 12 months ending March 2012, a total of 119,900 offenders received reprimands, warnings or cautions for indictable offences, a decrease of 11.5 per cent compared with the 12 months ending March 2011. Of these:

- 49.2 per cent (59,000) have at least one previous conviction/caution recorded compared to 46.9 per cent (63,600) in 12 months ending March 2011.
- 3.9 per cent (4,600) of offenders who received warnings/reprimands or cautions for indictable offences had 15 or more previous convictions/cautions an increase of around half a percentage point compared with the 12 months ending March 2011, and over two percentage points compared to 12 months ending March 2002.

¹⁵ Includes Juveniles receiving reprimands or warnings

Offenders sentenced for indictable offences on the PNC

In the 12 months ending March 2012, a total of 326,800 offenders were sentenced for indictable offences, a slight decrease compared with the 12 months ending March 2011. Of these:

- 31.8 per cent of all offenders sentenced for indictable offences had 15 or more previous convictions or cautions recorded against them, an increase of two percentage points against the 12 months ending March 2011 and 14 percentage points compared with the 12 months ending March 2002;
- 10.0 per cent of all offenders sentenced for indictable offences had no previous convictions or cautions recorded against them, a fall of less than half a percentage point compared to the 12 months ending March 2011, and two percentage points lower than in the 12 months ending March 2002.

Criminal history by sentence type

The criminal history of offenders receiving different sentences varies by type of sentence, with custodial sentences associated with higher levels of previous offences. In the 12 months ending March 2012:

- 45.8 per cent of adult offenders receiving immediate custodial sentences had 15 or more previous convictions/cautions.
- 29.8 per cent of adult offenders receiving a community sentence had 15 or more previous convictions/cautions.

Table Q7.1 First offences and further offences committed by offenders of all ages⁽¹⁾ and resulting in a reprimand, warning, caution or conviction, England and Wales, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

	Number of offences and percentages								
	Males and females ⁽²⁾			Males			Females		
	First offences	Further offences	Total	First offences	Further offences	Total	First offences	Further offences	Total
12 month period to the end of March	Number of offences								
2002	268,697	549,839	818,536	197,990	476,918	674,908	69,265	72,868	142,133
2003	271,304	588,526	859,830	200,064	509,320	709,384	70,040	79,114	149,154
2004	283,740	613,097	896,837	207,468	528,256	735,724	74,584	84,715	159,299
2005	289,914	587,050	876,964	207,568	503,852	711,420	80,326	83,039	163,365
2006	324,486	619,586	944,072	231,299	532,432	763,731	91,228	86,908	178,136
2007	331,465	639,693	971,158	235,640	549,006	784,646	93,800	90,390	184,190
2008	320,336	673,530	993,866	226,694	576,311	803,005	91,671	96,815	188,486
2009	284,893	675,431	960,324	202,076	578,041	780,117	80,796	96,968	177,764
2010	253,949	658,304	912,253	179,110	563,731	742,841	72,657	94,072	166,729
2011	227,151	651,111	878,262	162,054	558,478	720,532	62,224	92,057	154,281
2012	201,756	626,816	828,572	145,559	537,921	683,480	54,049	88,192	142,241
12 month period to the end of March	Percentage of Total								
2002	32.8	67.2	100.0	29.3	70.7	100.0	48.7	51.3	100.0
2003	31.6	68.4	100.0	28.2	71.8	100.0	47.0	53.0	100.0
2004	31.6	68.4	100.0	28.2	71.8	100.0	46.8	53.2	100.0
2005	33.1	66.9	100.0	29.2	70.8	100.0	49.2	50.8	100.0
2006	34.4	65.6	100.0	30.3	69.7	100.0	51.2	48.8	100.0
2007	34.1	65.9	100.0	30.0	70.0	100.0	50.9	49.1	100.0
2008	32.2	67.8	100.0	28.2	71.8	100.0	48.6	51.4	100.0
2009	29.7	70.3	100.0	25.9	74.1	100.0	45.5	54.5	100.0
2010	27.8	72.2	100.0	24.1	75.9	100.0	43.6	56.4	100.0
2011	25.9	74.1	100.0	22.5	77.5	100.0	40.3	59.7	100.0
2012	24.3	75.7	100.0	21.3	78.7	100.0	38.0	62.0	100.0

(1) Primary offences, as recorded on the Police National Computer, classified according to whether or not the offender had any previous reprimands, warnings, cautions or convictions

(2) Figures include cases where age or gender is unknown

Table Q7.2 Number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system⁽¹⁾ in England and Wales, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012 by gender and age group

12 month period to the end of March	Males and females ⁽²⁾			Males			Females		
	Juveniles	Adults	All ages	Juveniles	Adults	All ages	Juveniles	Adults	All ages
2002	88,984	179,713	268,697	64,409	133,581	197,990	24,485	44,780	69,265
2003	83,374	187,930	271,304	60,358	139,706	200,064	22,915	47,125	70,040
2004	88,454	195,286	283,740	63,260	144,208	207,468	25,092	49,492	74,584
2005	96,199	193,715	289,914	66,638	140,930	207,568	29,414	50,912	80,326
2006	107,695	216,791	324,486	74,147	157,152	231,299	33,344	57,884	91,228
2007	110,826	220,639	331,465	75,845	159,795	235,640	34,605	59,195	93,800
2008	100,393	219,943	320,336	67,941	158,753	226,694	32,081	59,590	91,671
2009	80,329	204,564	284,893	54,354	147,722	202,076	25,652	55,144	80,796
2010	62,555	191,394	253,949	42,064	137,046	179,110	20,223	52,434	72,657
2011	45,910	181,241	227,151	32,830	129,224	162,054	12,835	49,389	62,224
2012	36,677	165,079	201,756	27,188	118,371	145,559	9,271	44,778	54,049

(1) Offenders recorded on the Police National Computer (PNC) by an English or Welsh police force as having received their first conviction, caution, reprimand or warning. Offences resulting in Penalty Notices for Disorder are not counted as first offences.

(2) Including offenders whose gender is not recorded on the PNC.

Table Q7.3 First time entrants to the criminal justice system⁽¹⁾ in England and Wales, 12 months ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012, as a rate per 100,000 of the population⁽²⁾, by gender and age group

12 month period to the end of March	Rates per 100,000 of the population								
	Males and females ⁽³⁾			Males			Females		
	Juveniles	Adults	All ages	Juveniles	Adults	All ages	Juveniles	Adults	All ages
2002	1,644	443	585	2,321	684	888	929	213	293
2003	1,522	461	586	2,146	710	890	860	223	294
2004	1,609	476	610	2,240	728	916	939	233	312
2005	1,750	469	619	2,359	705	910	1,100	238	334
2006	1,967	519	687	2,635	778	1,005	1,253	269	377
2007	2,042	524	698	2,719	783	1,016	1,312	273	386
2008	1,862	518	670	2,453	770	970	1,224	273	375
2009	1,507	478	592	1,988	709	858	988	251	329
2010	1,192	443	524	1,563	652	755	790	237	294
2011	889	416	466	1,240	608	678	510	221	251
2012	710	379	414	1,027	557	609	368	201	218

(1) Offenders recorded on the Police National Computer (PNC) by an English or Welsh police force as having received their first conviction, caution, reprimand or warning. Offences resulting in Penalty Notices for Disorder are not counted as first offences.

(2) Population has been based on mid-year population estimates for each age group supplied by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The previous year's estimate has been used for calculating the rate in the subsequent years. For example 2001 mid year estimate has been used for calculating the rate of 2002 and so on. However, the rates for 2012 have been calculated using 2010 mid year estimates due to delay of the ONS.

(3) Including offenders whose gender is not recorded on the PNC.

Table Q7.4 Proportion of offenders sentenced or cautioned for indictable offences by previous criminal history and sentence received in 12 months ending March 2012

England and Wales	Number and Percentage						All offenders
	Number of previous convictions/cautions						
	0	1-2	3-6	7-10	11-14	15+	
	Juveniles						
Caution	71.4	27.2	1.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	24,695
Absolute discharge	10.1	36.6	37.8	6.5	3.6	5.4	841
Conditional discharge	2.2	17.4	48.3	18.4	7.3	6.4	2,835
Fine	1.1	19.1	49.9	17.8	7.0	5.2	1,322
Community sentence	18.7	37.2	30.8	8.1	3.1	2.2	24,418
Immediate custody	7.7	14.7	30.2	20.8	12.4	14.2	4,387
Other ⁽¹⁾	9.2	21.8	35.4	16.4	9.4	7.8	1,458
All court convictions ⁽²⁾	14.7	31.5	33.2	11.2	5.0	4.4	35,300
All disposals ⁽²⁾	38.0	29.7	20.0	6.6	3.0	2.6	59,995
	Adults						
Caution	45.4	26.2	15.2	5.4	3.0	4.8	95,172
Absolute discharge	9.6	10.5	14.4	8.6	8.1	48.8	861
Conditional discharge	8.8	18.5	19.2	11.7	9.0	32.9	34,002
Fine	5.9	15.4	23.9	14.8	10.4	29.6	55,218
Community sentence	10.2	15.8	21.4	13.3	9.5	29.8	69,149
Fully Suspended	16.1	17.2	19.8	11.9	8.6	26.4	31,858
Immediate custody	9.2	9.3	14.0	11.6	10.1	45.8	84,734
Other ⁽¹⁾	8.2	11.3	17.0	12.3	9.3	41.9	15,677
All court convictions	9.5	14.1	19.0	12.7	9.7	35.1	291,499
All disposals	18.3	17.0	18.1	10.9	8.0	27.7	386,671

(1) The 'Other' category includes some deferred sentences that the police will update on the PNC at a later

(2) For juveniles the all disposals figures include fully suspended sentences.

Table Q7.5 Offenders sentenced for indictable offences by previous criminal history and sentence received, 12 month ending March 2002 to 12 months ending March 2012

England & Wales	Number and percentage of offenders										
	12 Month period to the end of March										
Disposal and number of previous convictions or cautions	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
All ages											
Absolute discharge											
First time offenders	9.6	12.3	11.5	11.7	10.2	9.1	9.7	8.6	9.4	9.6	9.9
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	18.7	32.0	31.3	31.2	29.6	29.2	28.1	29.3	30.3	26.9	23.4
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	25.5	21.5	24.1	23.7	25.0	26.8	24.4	27.2	25.7	26.5	26.0
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	15.3	10.5	9.7	10.0	10.0	9.2	10.0	8.2	7.7	9.1	7.6
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	11.4	8.1	7.0	5.8	6.0	6.3	6.9	6.5	5.8	6.7	5.9
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	19.5	15.7	16.5	17.6	19.2	19.5	20.9	20.2	21.2	21.2	27.3
All offenders (100%)	1,802	2,894	2,839	2,330	2,152	2,041	2,169	1,784	1,641	1,749	1,702
Conditional discharge											
First time offenders	14.3	12.4	11.4	12.2	11.9	11.3	10.2	9.1	9.8	9.4	8.3
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	26.6	22.3	21.3	20.9	20.2	20.0	19.6	19.4	20.0	19.8	18.4
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	23.6	24.3	24.1	23.3	22.8	23.4	23.3	22.9	22.6	22.2	21.4
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	12.9	13.7	13.8	13.1	13.1	12.5	12.9	12.6	12.3	12.3	12.2
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	8.0	9.0	9.3	9.0	9.2	8.9	9.2	9.1	8.8	8.7	8.9
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	14.7	18.3	20.1	21.4	22.8	23.8	24.9	26.9	26.5	27.6	30.9
All offenders (100%)	49,363	48,190	48,899	42,526	41,031	36,583	36,786	35,670	35,491	37,909	36,837
Fine											
First time offenders	9.5	8.6	8.7	9.4	9.1	8.6	7.4	6.7	6.3	6.2	5.8
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	22.2	19.4	18.8	17.9	18.1	18.4	17.6	16.6	17.0	16.7	15.5
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	27.9	27.7	27.1	26.3	26.1	26.0	26.4	25.4	25.6	25.2	24.5
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	14.8	15.5	15.1	14.8	14.7	14.4	15.1	15.1	14.9	14.8	14.8
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	9.1	9.7	9.9	9.8	9.7	9.6	9.8	10.2	10.0	10.1	10.3
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	16.5	19.2	20.3	21.8	22.2	23.0	23.8	25.9	26.2	27.1	29.0
All offenders (100%)	74,462	77,592	76,030	61,580	56,603	48,877	49,603	55,425	55,548	59,122	56,540
Community sentence											
First time offenders	13.9	13.9	14.0	14.2	14.1	12.8	11.6	11.4	11.9	12.5	12.4
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	23.9	25.4	25.3	25.1	26.6	27.4	26.7	24.7	24.1	22.8	21.4
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	28.7	26.7	25.8	25.2	26.1	26.8	27.2	25.7	25.2	24.8	23.8
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	13.9	13.2	12.7	12.4	11.5	11.8	11.9	11.9	11.5	11.8	11.9
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.1	6.7	7.0	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.8
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	12.0	13.0	14.4	15.4	14.7	14.4	15.7	18.9	19.7	20.7	22.6
All offenders (100%)	100,056	109,202	105,967	105,961	105,684	97,572	99,192	102,350	96,446	96,717	93,567
Fully suspended											
First time offenders	33.7	28.5	27.2	27.3	14.8	14.4	14.1	15.1	15.5	16.2	16.1
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	19.0	17.1	16.2	15.4	14.0	15.4	16.5	17.0	17.8	18.0	17.2
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	17.2	18.8	18.9	20.5	19.8	21.0	21.1	20.3	20.7	21.0	19.9
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	10.7	11.5	12.1	11.5	13.8	13.5	13.7	12.8	12.3	12.2	11.9
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	7.0	8.6	8.0	7.9	10.3	10.0	9.3	8.9	8.8	8.3	8.6
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	12.5	15.6	17.7	17.4	27.2	25.7	25.3	25.9	24.8	24.2	26.4
All offenders (100%)	2,084	2,045	2,197	2,384	10,993	25,231	29,918	30,917	31,679	31,497	31,897
Immediate custody											
First time offenders	9.5	9.1	8.9	9.6	10.2	10.0	10.7	10.3	10.4	9.5	9.1
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	9.6	9.0	8.4	8.9	9.1	9.2	9.1	9.4	10.0	9.7	9.6
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	18.9	17.5	16.5	16.1	16.1	16.3	15.7	15.0	15.7	15.0	14.8
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	18.3	17.3	16.3	15.4	14.5	14.3	13.9	13.5	13.0	12.7	12.0
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	14.4	14.6	14.4	13.6	12.9	12.3	12.0	11.7	11.1	11.0	10.2
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	29.3	32.5	35.6	36.4	37.2	37.9	38.5	40.1	39.8	42.3	44.3
All offenders (100%)	82,262	86,357	89,708	86,551	86,368	83,095	86,976	92,880	88,422	88,687	89,121
Other⁽¹⁾											
First time offenders	9.7	8.5	7.2	7.3	8.3	8.4	9.1	10.3	10.4	8.8	8.3
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	16.9	14.2	13.8	13.5	13.9	14.2	12.9	13.7	15.2	14.3	12.2
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	24.1	24.0	23.6	22.4	22.0	22.6	21.6	19.8	20.0	19.1	18.5
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	16.3	16.7	15.6	15.0	14.7	14.9	14.2	13.2	12.9	12.7	12.7
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	11.8	12.1	12.1	11.6	11.6	10.4	10.4	10.3	9.6	9.4	9.3
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	21.1	24.4	27.6	30.2	29.5	29.5	31.9	32.7	31.9	35.7	39.0
All offenders (100%)	13,704	14,238	13,619	12,631	12,293	11,819	12,803	13,302	16,105	18,047	17,135
All disposals											
First time offenders	11.7	11.1	10.9	11.5	11.6	11.1	10.6	10.3	10.6	10.4	10.0
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	19.9	19.0	18.3	18.2	18.5	18.7	18.1	17.4	17.6	17.0	15.9
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	25.0	24.0	23.2	22.5	22.5	22.8	22.6	21.6	21.7	21.3	20.6
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	15.2	14.9	14.5	13.9	13.3	13.2	13.3	13.1	12.7	12.7	12.5
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	10.0	10.3	10.4	10.1	9.7	9.4	9.4	9.5	9.3	9.2	9.2
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	18.3	20.6	22.7	23.9	24.3	24.9	25.9	28.1	28.1	29.5	31.8
All offenders (100%)	323,733	340,518	339,259	313,963	315,124	305,218	317,447	332,328	325,332	333,728	326,799

Juvenile offenders**Absolute discharge**

First time offenders	11.6	16.1	14.3	12.7	10.8	9.1	10.5	6.9	7.9	8.6	10.1
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	29.4	54.2	51.7	47.4	45.4	44.4	43.6	44.3	43.7	39.4	36.6
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	35.8	22.2	26.3	30.4	31.6	34.4	32.8	36.2	35.0	35.9	37.8
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	14.8	4.5	4.8	5.6	6.6	6.9	7.3	5.7	6.9	7.7	6.5
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	5.2	1.7	1.8	2.4	2.7	3.6	3.9	3.7	3.1	4.7	3.6
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	3.2	1.1	1.3	1.5	2.9	1.6	2.0	3.2	3.4	3.7	5.4
All juvenile offenders (100%)	439	1,320	1,409	1,248	1,128	1,093	1,141	989	909	951	841

Conditional discharge

First time offenders	18.3	6.1	5.7	5.2	5.3	4.9	4.2	2.8	3.2	2.7	2.2
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	43.5	27.2	25.3	25.6	24.8	24.5	21.7	21.6	20.7	19.4	17.4
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	26.4	44.6	45.4	47.0	46.1	46.4	48.2	48.0	47.9	47.3	48.3
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	7.9	14.2	14.5	14.5	15.6	15.0	15.6	16.7	16.3	16.8	18.4
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	2.7	5.2	5.9	5.1	5.6	6.1	7.4	6.7	7.1	8.1	7.3
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	1.1	2.7	3.3	2.6	2.7	3.1	2.9	4.2	4.8	5.8	6.4
All juvenile offenders (100%)	7,584	3,748	3,774	3,753	3,811	3,602	3,529	3,434	3,199	3,219	2,835

Fine

First time offenders	6.3	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.2	1.8	1.9	1.0	1.4	1.1
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	42.0	24.9	24.0	24.3	24.7	23.4	22.6	19.1	18.1	19.0	19.1
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	38.3	51.6	51.9	50.5	50.2	49.4	50.5	50.5	50.1	48.9	49.9
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	8.9	15.0	14.9	15.3	14.9	15.6	16.5	17.9	19.6	17.6	17.8
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	3.2	4.7	5.0	5.0	4.9	6.2	5.7	6.5	6.3	7.9	7.0
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	1.3	1.5	2.0	2.8	2.9	3.2	2.8	4.1	4.9	5.2	5.2
All juvenile offenders (100%)	5,826	3,788	3,494	3,108	2,989	2,404	2,503	2,376	1,909	1,700	1,322

Community sentence

First time offenders	13.0	15.1	14.8	15.0	14.3	13.0	12.2	12.5	13.6	15.6	18.7
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	37.7	42.6	43.2	43.0	43.2	42.4	41.0	40.5	40.1	38.5	37.2
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	36.2	31.1	30.7	31.0	31.5	32.3	33.7	33.0	32.6	32.4	30.8
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	9.5	7.9	7.8	7.5	7.4	8.6	8.6	8.9	8.3	8.2	8.1
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.5	2.4	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.1
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.2
All juvenile offenders (100%)	29,988	35,208	34,294	34,641	37,685	38,292	38,627	35,067	30,400	27,075	24,418

Immediate custody

First time offenders	6.3	7.1	6.1	6.0	5.6	5.3	5.8	6.0	7.5	6.4	7.7
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	16.0	15.4	15.3	15.5	14.3	14.8	14.0	15.3	15.2	13.3	14.7
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	36.4	34.2	34.6	33.9	33.7	32.4	32.9	31.0	30.3	30.8	30.2
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	26.4	24.8	24.4	23.9	24.5	25.5	24.4	22.9	21.2	22.2	20.8
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	10.3	12.4	12.3	12.2	13.4	12.9	13.9	13.6	12.7	13.5	12.4
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	4.7	6.1	7.3	8.4	8.6	9.1	9.1	11.2	13.1	13.8	14.2
All juvenile offenders (100%)	6,266	6,221	6,077	6,338	6,610	6,867	6,741	6,398	5,188	4,973	4,387

Other⁽¹⁾

First time offenders	12.5	7.6	6.0	5.4	6.7	6.0	4.9	7.3	10.0	9.9	9.2
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	31.6	26.0	25.2	24.4	25.3	21.9	21.4	21.4	28.0	24.4	21.8
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	34.8	40.1	43.0	42.6	40.8	42.9	43.2	37.7	34.4	33.8	35.4
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	14.8	16.3	15.6	15.9	16.4	18.2	17.5	18.1	13.9	16.5	16.4
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	4.6	6.8	6.4	7.6	7.1	7.3	8.0	9.1	7.4	8.4	9.4
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	1.7	3.2	3.7	4.2	3.7	3.8	5.0	6.3	6.3	7.0	7.8
All juvenile offenders (100%)	2,297	2,017	1,817	1,734	1,771	1,847	1,828	1,760	2,325	2,280	1,458

All disposals⁽²⁾

First time offenders	12.2	12.3	11.9	12.0	11.6	10.7	10.1	10.2	11.3	12.3	14.7
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	36.1	36.7	36.8	36.6	36.8	36.2	34.9	34.3	34.2	32.3	31.5
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	35.0	34.1	34.0	34.1	34.2	34.4	35.7	34.8	34.3	34.3	33.2
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	11.5	11.1	10.9	10.8	10.8	11.8	11.7	12.0	11.2	11.5	11.2
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	3.7	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.4	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.3	5.0
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	1.5	1.8	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	3.5	4.0	4.4	4.4
All juvenile offenders (100%)	52,400	52,303	50,865	50,829	54,058	54,201	54,481	50,149	44,016	40,284	35,300

Adult offenders**Absolute discharge**

First time offenders	9.0	9.1	8.8	10.6	9.6	9.0	8.8	10.7	11.2	10.8	9.6
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	15.3	13.3	11.2	12.6	12.1	11.7	11.0	10.6	13.7	12.0	10.5
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	22.2	20.9	21.9	16.0	17.7	17.9	15.1	16.1	14.1	15.4	14.4
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	15.4	15.4	14.5	15.0	13.8	11.8	13.0	11.4	8.6	10.8	8.6
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	13.4	13.4	12.2	9.6	9.8	9.5	10.2	9.9	9.2	9.0	8.1
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	24.7	27.8	31.5	36.2	37.1	40.1	41.9	41.3	43.3	42.0	48.8
All adult offenders (100%)	1,363	1,574	1,430	1,082	1,024	948	1,028	795	732	798	861

Conditional discharge

First time offenders	13.6	12.9	11.8	12.9	12.6	12.0	10.8	9.7	10.4	10.1	8.8
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	23.5	21.9	21.0	20.4	19.7	19.5	19.4	19.2	19.9	19.8	18.5
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	23.1	22.6	22.4	21.0	20.5	20.9	20.6	20.3	20.1	19.9	19.2
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	13.8	13.7	13.7	13.0	12.8	12.3	12.6	12.1	11.9	11.8	11.7
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	8.9	9.3	9.6	9.4	9.5	9.2	9.4	9.3	9.0	8.7	9.0
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	17.2	19.6	21.5	23.3	24.9	26.1	27.2	29.3	28.7	29.7	32.9
All adult offenders (100%)	41,779	44,442	45,125	38,773	37,220	32,981	33,257	32,236	32,292	34,690	34,002

Fine

First time offenders	9.8	8.9	9.0	9.8	9.5	8.9	7.7	6.9	6.5	6.3	5.9
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	20.5	19.1	18.6	17.5	17.7	18.2	17.3	16.5	17.0	16.7	15.4
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	27.1	26.4	26.0	25.0	24.7	24.8	25.1	24.3	24.7	24.5	23.9
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	15.3	15.5	15.2	14.8	14.7	14.3	15.0	15.0	14.7	14.7	14.8
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	9.6	9.9	10.1	10.1	10.0	9.7	10.0	10.4	10.1	10.2	10.4
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	17.7	20.1	21.2	22.8	23.3	24.0	24.9	26.9	27.0	27.7	29.6
All adult offenders (100%)	68,636	73,804	72,536	58,472	53,614	46,473	47,100	53,049	53,639	57,422	55,218

Community sentence

First time offenders	14.2	13.3	13.6	13.8	14.0	12.7	11.2	10.9	11.1	11.3	10.2
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	17.9	17.2	16.7	16.5	17.4	17.8	17.6	16.5	16.8	16.8	15.8
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	25.5	24.6	23.4	22.4	23.1	23.2	23.0	21.9	21.8	21.9	21.4
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	15.8	15.7	15.1	14.7	13.7	13.9	14.0	13.5	13.0	13.1	13.3
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	9.8	10.4	10.4	10.3	9.7	9.4	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.1	9.5
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	16.8	18.8	20.8	22.3	22.1	23.0	24.8	27.7	27.8	27.8	29.8
All adult offenders (100%)	70,068	73,994	71,673	71,320	67,999	59,280	60,565	67,283	66,046	69,642	69,149

Fully suspended

First time offenders	33.7	28.5	27.2	27.3	14.9	14.5	14.2	15.1	15.5	16.3	16.1
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	19.0	17.1	16.2	15.4	14.0	15.3	16.5	17.0	17.8	18.0	17.2
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	17.2	18.8	18.9	20.4	19.7	21.0	21.0	20.2	20.6	21.0	19.8
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	10.7	11.5	12.1	11.5	13.8	13.5	13.6	12.8	12.3	12.2	11.9
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	7.0	8.6	8.0	7.9	10.3	10.0	9.3	8.9	8.8	8.3	8.6
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	12.5	15.6	17.7	17.5	27.3	25.7	25.4	26.0	24.9	24.2	26.4
All adult offenders (100%)	2,084	2,044	2,197	2,377	10,929	25,135	29,806	30,792	31,593	31,411	31,858

Immediate custody

First time offenders	9.7	9.2	9.1	9.9	10.5	10.5	11.1	10.6	10.5	9.6	9.2
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	9.0	8.5	7.9	8.3	8.7	8.7	8.7	9.0	9.7	9.4	9.3
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	17.5	16.2	15.1	14.7	14.6	14.8	14.3	13.9	14.7	14.0	14.0
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	17.7	16.7	15.7	14.8	13.7	13.3	13.1	12.8	12.5	12.1	11.6
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	14.8	14.8	14.5	13.7	12.9	12.2	11.8	11.6	11.0	10.8	10.1
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	31.3	34.5	37.6	38.6	39.5	40.5	41.0	42.2	41.5	44.0	45.8
All adult offenders (100%)	75,996	80,136	83,631	80,213	79,758	76,228	80,235	86,482	83,234	83,714	84,734

Other⁽¹⁾

First time offenders	9.2	8.6	7.4	7.6	8.5	8.8	9.8	10.7	10.5	8.7	8.2
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	13.9	12.3	12.0	11.7	12.0	12.8	11.5	12.5	13.1	12.8	11.3
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	22.0	21.4	20.6	19.2	18.9	18.9	18.0	17.1	17.5	17.0	17.0
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	16.6	16.8	15.6	14.9	14.4	14.3	13.6	12.5	12.7	12.2	12.3
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	13.3	13.0	13.0	12.2	12.4	11.0	10.8	10.5	10.0	9.5	9.3
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	25.0	27.9	31.3	34.3	33.8	34.2	36.3	36.7	36.2	39.9	41.9
All adult offenders (100%)	11,407	12,221	11,802	10,897	10,522	9,972	10,975	11,542	13,780	15,767	15,677

All disposals

First time offenders	11.6	10.9	10.7	11.4	11.6	11.2	10.8	10.4	10.4	10.1	9.5
1-2 previous convictions/cautions	16.8	15.8	15.1	14.6	14.8	14.9	14.7	14.4	15.0	14.9	14.1
3-6 previous convictions/cautions	23.0	22.2	21.3	20.2	20.1	20.2	19.9	19.3	19.7	19.5	19.0
7-10 previous convictions/cautions	15.9	15.6	15.1	14.5	13.8	13.5	13.6	13.3	13.0	12.8	12.7
11-14 previous convictions/cautions	11.2	11.5	11.5	11.2	10.8	10.4	10.3	10.3	9.9	9.7	9.7
15 or more previous convictions/cautions	21.5	24.0	26.4	28.1	28.8	29.7	30.7	32.4	31.9	32.9	35.1
All adult offenders (100%)	271,333	288,215	288,394	263,134	261,066	251,017	262,966	282,179	281,316	293,444	291,499

(1) For 12 months ending September 2011 the 'Other' category includes some deferred sentences that the police will update on the PNC at a later date when the final decision is known.

(2) For juveniles the all disposals figures include fully suspended sentences

Public Disorder 6th to 9th August 2011 (September 2012 update)

Introduction

The following section provides updated information on those brought before the courts for offences related to the public disorder of 6th to 9th August 2011. Information is provided on those individuals brought before the courts; their initial outcomes and sentencing based on data available by 10th August 2012. When reading this section please bear in mind that:

- 1) the group of people brought before the courts is only a subset of all people who took part in the public disorder of 6th to 9th August 2011. It is therefore possible that there are differences between the people brought before the courts to date and all those who took part in the disorder;
- 2) some of the people brought before the courts will have their charges dropped or be acquitted;
- 3) there are still new cases being brought before the courts for events related to the disorder. It is possible that there may be differences in characteristics or age profiles of those brought before the courts later compared to those who have appeared so far;
- 4) In this bulletin, and for consistency with previous publications, comparisons have been made with proceedings in 2010 covering similar offence types seen in the disorder, such as burglary, theft and violent disorder, to provide context to the sentences given;
- 5) The information released in this bulletin updates the previous analysis published on 28th June 2012; in addition information has been provided in this update on previous criminal history.

Executive Summary

The public disorder began on 6th August 2011. On 7th and 8th August 2011 there were further outbreaks of disorder mainly in London. On 9th August the incidents were mainly outside of London.

The following presents court information on those who have appeared before the courts by 10th August 2012 for offences related to the disorder of 6th to 9th August 2011. The police and courts agreed whether an offence was related to the disorder and the courts then returned details of the case centrally to the Ministry of Justice statistics team.

It is important to note that none of the factors explored imply causality with the public disorder events, but provide a background understanding of the characteristics of those brought before the courts. It is also the case that those brought before the courts may have different characteristics from those who took part and have yet to appear before the courts.

Cases by area

Of the 3,103 people who appeared before the courts by 10th August 2012 proceedings were held in the following areas:

- London – 2,246 first hearings
- West Midlands – 334 first hearings
- Greater Manchester – 249 first hearings
- Merseyside – 93 first hearings
- Nottingham – 64 first hearings
- Other areas – 117 first hearings

Gender, Age and Ethnicity

Of the 3,103 people brought before the courts by 10th August 2012, 89 per cent were male and 11 per cent were female. Compared to 2010, for all first hearings for indictable offences, 85 per cent were male and 15 per cent were female.

Of those brought before the courts for offences related to the public disorder, 27 per cent were aged 10-17 (juveniles) and a further 26 per cent were aged 18-20. Only five per cent of those appearing before the courts for the disorder were aged 40 or over.

This is different to the age distribution of those appearing before the courts for similar offences in 2010 when the proportion of juveniles was 16 per cent, the proportion of 18-20 year olds was 15 per cent and the proportion aged 40 or over was 15 per cent.

Breakdowns by area show different age profiles for those appearing before the courts:

- London – 26 per cent were juveniles and four per cent were aged 40 or over
- West Midlands – 29 per cent were juveniles and eight per cent were aged 40 or over
- Greater Manchester – 28 per cent were juveniles and 11 per cent were aged 40 or over
- Nottingham – 39 per cent were juveniles, none were aged 40 or over
- Merseyside – 39 per cent were juveniles and four per cent were aged 40 or over
- Other areas – 33 per cent were juveniles and three per cent were aged 40 or over

Comparisons of the data collected on self-defined ethnicity (where ethnicity was recorded¹⁶) show that 41 per cent of those brought before the courts identified themselves as being from the White ethnic group, 39 per cent from the Black ethnic group, 12 per cent from the Mixed ethnic group, seven per cent from the Asian ethnic group, and two per cent from the Chinese or Other ethnic group.

Progress through the criminal justice system

Court Proceedings

The first stage of the court process is for those accused to have a first hearing at magistrates' courts. 3,103 people had appeared before the court by 10th August 2012 for offences related to the public disorder. Of these, 2,646 (85 per cent) had reached a final outcome.

The offences for which people were most commonly brought before the court were burglary (50 per cent), violent disorder (22 per cent) and theft (15 per cent). The remaining offences covered small numbers of a wide range of offences.

As of 10th August 2012, there had been 2,138 persons found guilty and sentenced for their part in the disorder, 69 per cent of the 3,103 people brought before the courts so far. An additional 16 per cent were dismissed or acquitted. Of those sentenced, 1,405 (66 per cent) have been sentenced to immediate custody with an average custodial sentence length (ACSL) of 17.1 months. This compares to an ACSL of 3.7 months for those convicted at magistrates' courts, but sentenced at any court for similar offences in England and Wales in 2010.

Of the 2,138 persons sentenced, 742 (35 per cent) were sentenced at the magistrates' court, of which 268 (36 per cent) received an immediate custodial sentence for offences related to the public disorder. This compares with 12 per cent of offenders sentenced for similar offences in England and Wales in 2010. The ACSL for offences related to the public disorder given at magistrates' courts was 6.6 months. This compares with 2.5 months for offenders sentenced for similar offences in England and Wales in 2010. This difference was mainly down to the ACSL given for violent disorder, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 7.7 months compared to 3.1 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010; burglary, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 7.2 months, compared to 4.4 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010; and theft and handling, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 4.6 months, compared to 2.0 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010.

Of the 2,138 persons sentenced, 1,396 (65 per cent) were sentenced at the Crown Court, of which 1,137 (81 per cent) received immediate custodial sentences with an ACSL of 19.6 months. This compares to an ACSL of 11.3 months for offenders committed for sentence at the Crown Court for similar offences in England and Wales 2010.

Prison Population

As at 31st August 2012 there were 606 offenders in prison (including remands) for offences related to the public disorder and a further 837 who were given custodial sentences had already been released from prison.

¹⁶ For 395 of the 3,103 defendants self-defined ethnicity was recorded as not stated or unknown (13 per cent of defendants).

Previous Criminal History

By matching information on those involved in the public disorder with the Police National Computer (PNC) we have been able to assess previous cautions and convictions of those who appeared before the courts by 10th August 2012. For the 2,826 (91 per cent) defendants that could be matched:

- Overall 78 per cent of those who have appeared before the courts for offences related to the public disorder had a previous caution or conviction;
- 83 per cent of adults and 64 per cent of juveniles had a previous caution or conviction.

Comparisons can be made with previous criminal histories and number of people receiving their first conviction, caution, reprimand or warning during 2010/11. This shows that:

- 22 per cent of those brought before the courts for their role in the public disorder had no previous cautions or convictions. This compares with 23 per cent of those dealt with for indictable offences in 2010/11.
- 41 per cent of those brought before the courts had more than 5 previous offences. This compares with 50 per cent of those dealt with for indictable offences in 2010/11.

Court proceedings

If there is sufficient evidence against a defendant and none of the out of court disposals are appropriate, the police will formally charge the suspect. The law then requires the defendant to be brought before a magistrates' court as soon as possible. The defendant can be summoned to appear in court or remanded on bail or in custody.

Key points (data as of 10th August 2012):

- 3,103 defendants had an initial hearing at magistrates' courts. The majority of these hearings were in London (72 per cent).
- Of these cases, 846 (27 per cent) were aged 10-17 and 2,257 (73 per cent) were adults.
- 89 per cent of defendants were male.
- 35 per cent of defendants were from a white ethnic background, 34 per cent were from a black ethnic background, 10 per cent were from a mixed background, six per cent were from an Asian ethnic background, two per cent were of another ethnic background, and 13 per cent were not stated or not recorded.
- The average custodial sentence length for offences related to the public disorder was 17.1 months.

These tables show the final outcome of cases for those convicted and sentenced and for those without an outcome their current bail status, by age group. Please note that for those awaiting an outcome, at subsequent hearings, bail conditions may be changed or the case may be dismissed.

Tables 8.1a and 8.1b: Defendants brought before the courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, (data as of 10th August 2012)

Table 8.1a - Defendants awaiting final outcome

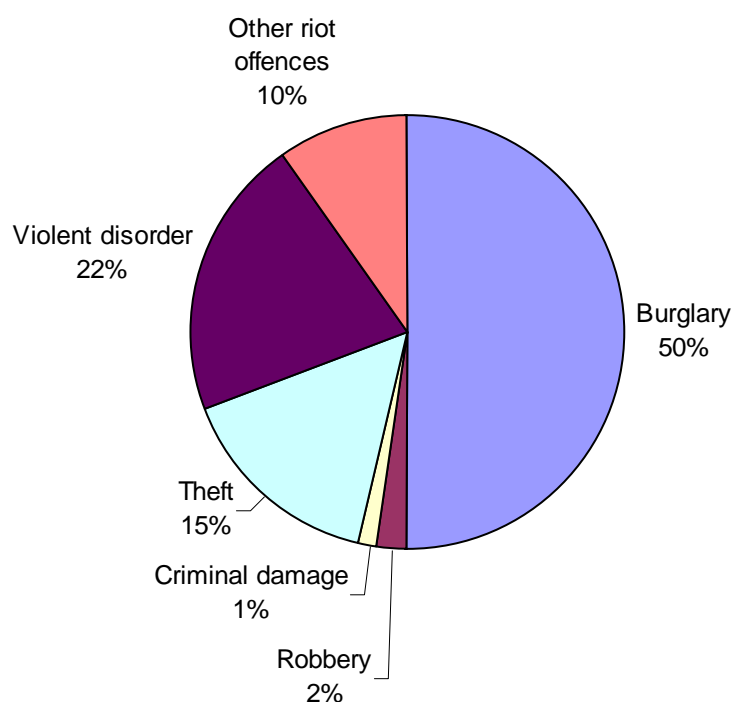
Age group	Hearing not yet completed			Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remand on conditional bail	Remanded in custody		
10 to 17	21	41	24	1	87
18 to 20	40	66	42	1	149
21 to 24	28	39	24	4	95
25 to 30	13	45	18	1	77
31 to 34	7	7	4	1	19
35 to 39	2	5	9	-	16
40 plus	4	5	5	-	14
Total	115	208	126	8	457

Table 8.1b: Final defendant outcome at court

Age group	Convicted and sentenced			Not convicted	
	Sentenced to immediate custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Total sentenced	Dismissed/acquitted	Total final outcomes
10 to 17	233	395	628	132	760
18 to 20	389	126	515	143	658
21 to 24	364	81	445	101	546
25 to 30	200	57	257	86	343
31 to 34	89	16	105	19	124
35 to 39	42	14	56	10	66
40 plus	88	44	132	17	149
Total	1,405	733	2,138	508	2,646

For the 3,103 offenders that have been brought before the court, the most common offences were burglary (50 per cent), violent disorder (22 per cent) and theft (15 per cent).

Figure 8.1: First hearings for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, at magistrates' courts, by offence group (data as of 10th August 2012)



The proportion of offenders sentenced who received an immediate custodial sentence for offences related to the public disorder at magistrates' courts was 36 per cent. This compares with 12 per cent for offenders sentenced for similar offences in England and Wales in 2010.

For the 2,138 offenders that have been sentenced, the largest proportions were for burglary (53 per cent), violent disorder (19 per cent) and theft (16 per cent).

Table 8.2: Defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts, found guilty and sentenced at all courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by type of sentence and offence (data as of 10th August 2012)

Offence	First hearing	Found guilty	Sentenced	Sentence breakdown					
				Absolute / conditional discharge	Fine	Community sentence	Suspended sentence	Immediate custody	Otherwise dealt with
Burglary	1,554	1,148	1,136	7	1	211	91	825	1
Robbery	64	45	45	-	-	9	2	34	-
Criminal damage	45	30	30	3	2	12	4	9	-
Theft	479	346	344	8	9	79	69	178	1
Violent disorder ⁽¹⁾	661	414	410	11	5	77	12	283	22
Other riot offences ⁽²⁾	300	175	173	10	19	42	24	76	2
Total	3,103	2,158	2,138	39	36	430	202	1,405	26

(1) Violent disorder (includes following offences: Violent disorder, Riot, Affray, Summary causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress, Summary harassment, alarm or distress, Assault with intent to resist apprehension or assault a person assisting a constable, Common assault offences, Assaulting a constable and offences under Public Order Act and Justice of the Peace Act).

(2) Other offence type (includes following offences: Having an article with a blade or point in public place, Possession of offensive weapons without lawful authority or reasonable excuse, Having possession of a controlled drug (Cannabis)).

Table 8.3: Defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts, found guilty and sentenced at all courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by type of sentence, sex and age group (data as of 10th August 2012)

Sex / Age group	First hearing	Found guilty	Sentenced	Sentence breakdown					
				Absolute / conditional discharge	Fine	Community sentence	Suspended sentence	Immediate custody	Otherwise dealt with
Males									
10 to 17	723	520	517	12	3	282	7	210	3
18 to 20	726	467	462	9	7	15	54	360	17
21 to 24	590	412	410	6	5	15	42	340	2
25 to 30	385	236	234	2	8	10	23	189	2
31 to 34	125	93	91	-	1	2	8	79	1
35 to 39	69	45	43	-	1	1	7	34	-
40 plus	139	114	114	4	7	6	18	78	1
Total	2,757	1,887	1,871	33	32	331	159	1,290	26
Females									
10 to 17	123	110	110	1	-	85	1	23	-
18 to 20	81	55	53	1	2	3	18	29	-
21 to 24	51	36	35	-	-	4	7	24	-
25 to 30	35	23	23	-	-	3	9	11	-
31 to 34	18	14	14	1	-	1	2	10	-
35 to 39	13	13	13	1	1	1	2	8	-
40 plus	25	20	19	2	1	2	4	10	-
Total	346	271	267	6	4	99	43	115	-
Total									
Aged 10 to 17	846	630	627	13	3	367	8	233	3
Aged 18 to 20	807	522	515	10	9	18	72	389	17
Aged 21 to 24	641	448	445	6	5	19	49	364	2
Aged 25 to 29	420	259	257	2	8	13	32	200	2
Aged 30 to 34	143	107	105	1	1	3	10	89	1
Aged 35 to 39	82	58	56	1	2	2	9	42	-
Aged 40 and over	164	134	133	6	8	8	22	88	1
Total	3,103	2,158	2,138	39	36	430	202	1,405	26

Table 8.4: Immediate custody rate⁽¹⁾ for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by court and offence group (data as of 10th August 2012)

Court type / Offence category	Offences related to the public disorder of 6th to 9th August 2011		Immediate custody rate in England and Wales 2010 for similar offences
	Immediate custodial sentences	Immediate custody rate for those sentenced	
<u>Magistrates' courts</u>			
Burglary	126	39%	23%
Robbery	2	25%	13%
Criminal damage	3	13%	16%
Theft	57	40%	2%
Violent disorder ⁽²⁾	61	39%	13%
Other disorder offences ⁽³⁾	19	22%	2%
Total	268	36%	12%
<u>Crown Court</u>			
Burglary	699	86%	68%
Robbery	32	86%	41%
Criminal damage	6	86%	52%
Theft	121	60%	46%
Violent disorder ⁽²⁾	222	87%	42%
Other disorder offences ⁽³⁾	57	66%	36%
Total	1,137	81%	33%

To note: Crown Court data for 2010 are based on cases that were found guilty at the magistrates' courts and committed for sentence at the Crown Court in order to give the most reliable comparison with disorder cases which have been sentenced so far.

(1) Proportion of offenders sentenced who received an immediate custodial sentence.

(2) Violent disorder includes following offences: Violent disorder, Riot, Affray, Summary causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress, Summary harassment, alarm or distress, Assault with intent to resist apprehension or assault a person assisting a constable, Common assault offences, Assaulting a constable and offences under Public Order Act and Justice of the Peace Act.

(3) Other disorder offence types includes following offences: Having an article with a blade or point in public place, Possession of offensive weapons without lawful authority or reasonable excuse, Having possession of a controlled drug (Cannabis).

For all offences related to the public disorder at magistrates' courts, the average custodial sentence length (ACSL) was 6.6 months. This compares with 2.5 months for offenders sentenced for similar offences in England and Wales in 2010. This reflects the higher ACSL given for offences such as violent disorder, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 7.7 months compared to 3.1 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010; burglary, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 7.2 months, compared with 4.4 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010; and theft and handling, with offenders sentenced for the public disorder receiving 4.6 months, compared with 2.0 months for those sentenced in England and Wales in 2010.

At the Crown Court, the ACSL was 19.6 months; this compares to 11.3 months for offenders committed for sentence at the Crown Court for similar offences in England and Wales 2010.

The longest custodial sentence given to date for an individual's part in the public disorder was 30 years (360 months).

Table 8.5: Sentencing comparison for offenders convicted following the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, with similar offences committed in England and Wales in 2010, (data as of 10th August 2012)

	For offences committed during the public disorder				During 2010			
	Total sentenced	Sentenced to custody	Immediate custody rate (%)	Average custodial sentence length (months)	Total sentenced	Sentenced to custody	Immediate custody rate (%)	Average custodial sentence length (months)
Juvenile (youth courts)	526	165	31.4	8.0	34,796	1,843	5.3	7.3
Adult - magistrates' courts	216	103	47.7	4.3	166,746	22,867	13.7	2.1
All ages - magistrates' courts	742	268	36.1	6.6	201,542	24,710	12.3	2.5

Table 8.6: Average custodial sentence length (months) for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by court and offence group, (data as of 10th August 2012)

Court type / Offence category	Completed court cases relating to the disorder	England and Wales 2010 (based on similar offences)
Magistrates' courts		
Burglary	7.2	4.4
Robbery	10.0	8.8
Criminal damage	3.8	6.8
Theft	4.6	2.0
Violent disorder ⁽¹⁾	7.7	3.1
Other disorder offences ⁽²⁾	4.5	3.1
Total	6.6	2.5
Crown Court		
Burglary	17.4	16.2
Robbery	29.8	10.8
Criminal damage	17.5	7.7
Theft	10.0	6.6
Violent disorder ⁽¹⁾	30.6	9.9
Other disorder offences ⁽²⁾	18.5	7.6
Total	19.6	11.3
All Courts	17.1	3.7

To note: Crown Court data for 2010 are based on cases that were found guilty at the magistrates' courts and committed for sentence at the Crown Court in order to give the most reliable comparison with disorder cases which have been sentenced so far.

(1) Violent disorder (includes following offences: Violent disorder, Riot, Affray, Summary causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress, Summary harassment, alarm or distress, Assault with intent to resist apprehension or assault a person assisting a constable, Common assault offences, Assaulting a constable and offences under Public Order Act and Justice of the Peace Act).

(2) Other disorder offences includes following offences: Having an article with a blade or point in public place, Possession of offensive weapons without lawful authority or reasonable excuse, Having possession of a controlled drug (Cannabis).

Figure 8.2: Average custodial sentence length (months) for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, and England and Wales in 2010 (data as of 10th August 2012)

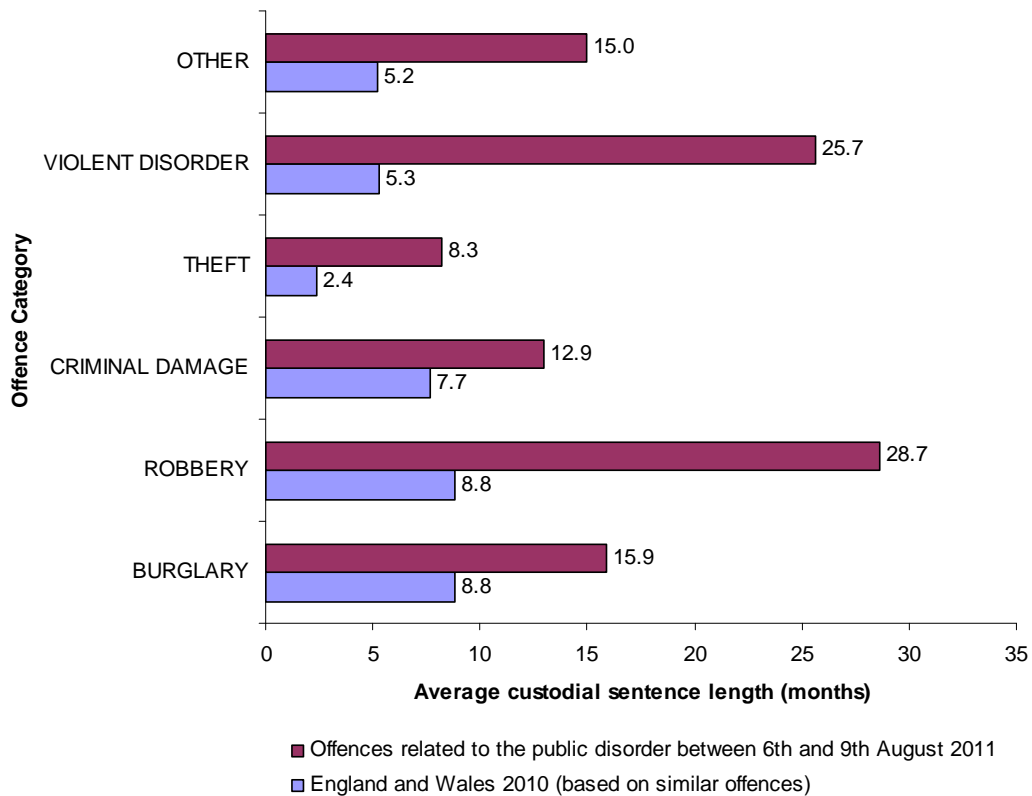
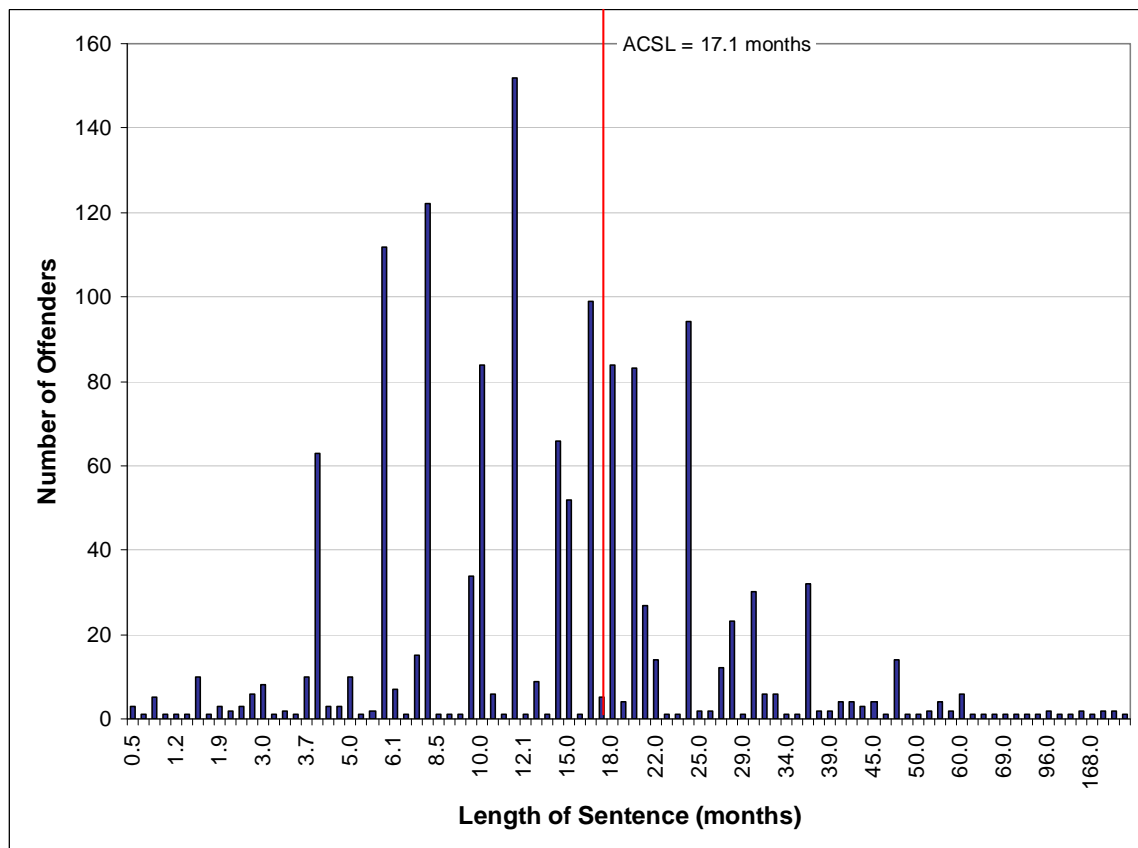


Figure 8.3: Distribution of sentence length (months) for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011 (data as of 10th August 2012)



Appeal

As of the 10th August 2012, there have been 24 successful appeals against sentences given at the magistrates' courts and 13 successful appeals against sentences given at the Crown Court that have been included in the statistics. For the Crown Court appeals, ten had their sentences reduced, two had all or part of their sentence quashed and one had their sentence increased (this was an appeal by the Attorney General's office for an unduly lenient sentence).

Ethnicity

The ethnicity statistics included in this publication are based on each defendant's self-defined ethnicity, as recorded by the courts. This approach uses the Office for National Statistics 2001 Census classifications, which allows an individual to choose how their ethnicity is recorded from a list of 16 options, or they can choose not to declare it. Due to small numbers in some categories the 16 point ethnicity classification was then collapsed to the 5 point classification in this section. Information is presented on the following ethnic groupings: 'White'¹⁷, 'Black'¹⁸, 'Asian'¹⁹, 'Mixed'²⁰, 'Other'²¹ and 'Not Stated'. The fuller 16 point classification can be found in the tables below.

For those defendants whose ethnicity is known²², 41 per cent were from the White ethnic group, 39 per cent were from the Black ethnic group, 12 per cent were from the Mixed ethnic group, seven per cent the Asian ethnic group, and two per cent were from the Chinese or Other ethnic group.

For those cases which have yet to come to a final conclusion at court:

- 31 per cent of defendants from the White ethnic group and 26 per cent of defendants from the Black ethnic group were remanded on unconditional bail;
- 39 per cent of defendants from the White ethnic group and 45 per cent of defendants from the Black ethnic group were remanded on conditional bail;
- 27 per cent of defendants from the White ethnic group and 28 per cent of defendants from the Black ethnic group were remanded in custody.

This compares to 33 per cent of defendants from the White ethnic group and 45 per cent of defendants from the Black ethnic group remanded in custody during 2010 for England and Wales.

For defendants that have been sentenced, 64 per cent from the White ethnic group and 68 per cent from the Black ethnic group were given an immediate custodial sentence. This compares to 23 per cent and 27 per cent respectively, sentenced to immediate custody for indictable offences during 2010 for England and Wales.

For proceedings that are complete 16 per cent of defendants from the White ethnic group and 25 per cent of defendants from the Black ethnic group were found not guilty. This includes cases where proceedings were discontinued by the prosecution, acquittals, and proceedings dismissed by the judge or magistrates.

¹⁷ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification White includes: - White – British, White – Irish, and White – Other

¹⁸ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Black includes: - Black – African, Black – Caribbean, and Black – Other.

¹⁹ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Asian includes: - Asian – Bangladeshi, Asian – Indian, Asian – Pakistani, and Asian – Other.

²⁰ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Mixed includes: - White and Black African, White and Black Caribbean, White and Asian, and Any other mixed background.

²¹ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Other includes: - Chinese and Other.

²² Excludes 395 defendants whose ethnicity was given as Not Stated or not recorded at court.

Tables 8.7a and 8.7b: Defendants brought before the courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by self-defined ethnicity⁽¹⁾, (data as of 10th August 2012)

Table 8.7a: Defendants awaiting final outcome

Ethnicity	Hearing not yet completed				Total
	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remand on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	
White – British	30	35	30	3	98
White – Irish	2	4	1	-	7
White – Other	6	9	3	1	19
Black – Caribbean	17	39	18	2	76
Black – African	13	17	14	-	44
Black – Other	15	21	17	-	53
Asian – Indian	1	1	1	-	3
Asian – Pakistani	4	3	1	-	8
Asian – Bangladeshi	1	3	1	-	5
Asian – Other	2	6	6	-	14
White and Black Caribbean	4	17	7	-	28
White and Black African	1	1	1	-	3
White and Asian	1	1	-	-	2
Any other mixed background	4	3	2	1	10
Chinese	-	-	-	-	-
Other	3	4	2	-	9
Not Stated / not recorded	11	44	22	1	78
Total	115	208	126	8	457

Table 8.7b: Final defendant outcome at court

Ethnicity	Convicted and sentenced			Not convicted	Total final outcomes
	Sentenced to immediate custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Total sentenced	Dismissed / acquitted	
White – British	451	263	714	132	846
White – Irish	15	6	21	1	22
White – Other	61	25	86	20	106
Black – Caribbean	211	102	313	126	439
Black – African	131	61	192	48	240
Black – Other	107	46	153	46	199
Asian – Indian	14	10	24	3	27
Asian – Pakistani	27	14	41	8	49
Asian – Bangladeshi	11	7	18	5	23
Asian – Other	33	7	40	9	49
White and Black Caribbean	84	58	142	34	176
White and Black African	20	7	27	5	32
White and Asian	4	2	6	-	6
Any other mixed background	27	27	54	10	64
Chinese	1	1	2	2	4
Other	29	8	37	10	47
Not Stated / not recorded	179	89	268	49	317
Total	1,405	733	2,138	508	2,646

(1) Ethnicity is self defined ethnicity reported on the 16+1 scale as used in the 2001 census.

Table 8.8: Defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts, found guilty and sentenced at all courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by type of sentence and self-defined ethnicity⁽¹⁾, (data as of 10th August 2012)

Ethnicity	First hearing	Found guilty	Sentenced	Sentence breakdown						Average Custodial Sentence Length (Magistrates)	Average Custodial Sentence Length (Crown)
				Absolute / conditional discharge	Fine	Community sentence	Suspended sentence	Immediate custody	Otherwise dealt with		
White	1,098	824	821	21	17	165	75	527	16	6.3	18.6
Black	1,051	667	658	7	10	121	67	449	4	6.8	21.5
Asian	178	124	123	2	1	23	10	85	2	6.4	16.2
Mixed	321	232	229	4	3	63	23	135	1	7.7	22.9
Other	60	40	39	-	1	6	2	30	-	6.8	18.3
Not stated / recorded	395	271	268	5	4	52	25	179	3	5.8	17.2
Total	3,103	2,158	2,138	39	36	430	202	1,405	26	6.6	19.6

(1) Ethnicity is self defined ethnicity reported on the 16+1 scale as used in the 2001 census and mapped to the 5+1 scale:

The ethnic backgrounds of those appearing before the courts vary by area (where ethnicity was known). In London, 33 per cent of defendants were from the White ethnic group and 46 per cent were from the Black ethnic group. In Merseyside, 73 per cent of defendants were from the White ethnic group and 13 per cent were from the Black ethnic group.

Tables 8.9a and 9b: Number and proportion of defendants brought before the courts for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011, by self-defined ethnicity⁽¹⁾ and region, (data as of 10th August 2012)

Table 8.9a: Number of defendants

Ethnicity	Region						Total
	London	West Midlands	Nottingham	Greater Manchester	Merseyside	Other	
White – British	503	107	22	179	67	66	944
White – Irish	25	2	-	2	-	-	29
White – Other	109	3	1	9	-	3	125
Black – Caribbean	425	65	11	5	1	8	515
Black – African	245	17	-	17	3	2	284
Black – Other	210	18	10	4	8	2	252
Asian – Indian	21	8	-	-	-	1	30
Asian – Pakistani	33	20	-	3	-	1	57
Asian – Bangladeshi	22	6	-	-	-	-	28
Asian – Other	53	7	-	-	3	-	63
White and Black Caribbean	134	30	16	15	3	6	204
White and Black African	30	-	-	5	-	-	35
White and Asian	4	3	-	1	-	-	8
Any other mixed background	60	6	2	1	4	1	74
Chinese	3	-	-	1	-	-	4
Other	45	4	1	2	3	1	56
Not Stated / not recorded	324	38	1	5	1	26	395
Total	2,246	334	64	249	93	117	3,103

Table 8.9b: Percentage of defendants

Ethnicity	Region						Total
	London	West Midlands	Nottingham	Greater Manchester	Merseyside	Other	
White – British	26%	36%	35%	73%	73%	73%	35%
White – Irish	1%	1%	-	1%	-	-	1%
White – Other	6%	1%	2%	4%	-	3%	5%
Black – Caribbean	22%	22%	17%	2%	1%	9%	19%
Black – African	13%	6%	-	7%	3%	2%	10%
Black – Other	11%	6%	16%	2%	9%	2%	9%
Asian – Indian	1%	3%	-	-	-	1%	1%
Asian – Pakistani	2%	7%	-	1%	-	1%	2%
Asian – Bangladeshi	1%	2%	-	-	-	-	1%
Asian – Other	3%	2%	-	-	3%	-	2%
White and Black Caribbean	7%	10%	25%	6%	3%	7%	8%
White and Black African	2%	-	-	2%	-	-	1%
White and Asian	0%	1%	-	0%	-	-	0%
Any other mixed background	3%	2%	3%	0%	4%	1%	3%
Chinese	0%	-	-	0%	-	-	0%
Other	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%	1%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

(1) Ethnicity is self defined ethnicity reported on the 16+1 scale as used in the 2001 census.

Prison Population

As at 31st August 2012 there were 606 offenders in prison (including remands) for offences related to the public disorder and a further 837 who were given custodial sentences had already been released from prison.

Table 8.10: Prison population on 31 August 2012, for persons imprisoned for offences related to the public disorder between 6th and 9th August 2011

Age group / Nationality	Males	Females	Total
Total in prison	590	16	606
Aged 15-17	39	.	39
Aged 18-20	163	3	166
Adult (21+)	388	13	401
UK Nationals	490	12	502
Foreign Nationals	81	3	84
Nationality not recorded	19	1	20

Previous criminal histories

By matching information on those involved in the public disorder with the Police National Computer (PNC) we have been able to assess previous cautions and convictions of those who appeared before the courts by 10th August 2012. For the 2,826 (91 per cent) defendants that could be matched:

- Overall 78 per cent of those who have appeared before the courts for offences related to the public disorder had a previous caution or conviction
- 83 per cent of adults and 64 per cent of juveniles had a previous caution or conviction

Comparisons can be made with previous criminal histories and number of people receiving their first conviction, caution, reprimand or warning. This shows that:

- 22 per cent of those brought before the courts for their role in the public disorder had no previous cautions or convictions. This compares with 23 per cent of those dealt with for indictable offences in 2010/11.
- 41 per cent of those brought before the courts had more than 5 previous offences. This compares with 50 per cent of those dealt with for indictable offences in 2010/11.

Table 8.11: Criminal histories of suspects involved in public disorder between 6th August and 9th August 2011 - data as of 28th September 2011

England and Wales				Percentages and numbers of defendants					
Previous offences	Juveniles			Adults			All persons		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
None	34.3	47.7	36.3	15.1	31.9	16.8	19.9	37.2	21.9
1	18.4	16.8	18.2	10.3	11.7	10.5	12.3	13.4	12.5
2	9.8	13.1	10.3	7.8	9.9	8.0	8.3	10.9	8.6
3 - 5	18.4	10.3	17.2	15.8	15.0	15.7	16.4	13.4	16.1
6 - 10	9.9	8.4	9.7	16.0	9.4	15.3	14.5	9.1	13.9
11 - 14	4.0	1.9	3.7	7.2	5.2	7.0	6.4	4.1	6.2
15 - 49	5.0	1.9	4.5	22.1	12.2	21.1	17.8	8.8	16.8
50 or more	0.2	0.0	0.1	5.6	4.7	5.5	4.3	3.1	4.1
Total number of defendants (100%)	624	107	731	1,882	213	2,095	2,506	320	2,826

Table 8.12 Criminal histories of all offenders who received a reprimand, warning, caution or sentence for an indictable offence in the 12 months to the end of March 2011

England and Wales				Percentages and numbers of offenders					
Previous offences	Juveniles			Adults			All persons		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
None	34.5	53.7	38.4	16.9	33.0	19.7	19.6	36.6	22.6
1	16.1	16.4	16.2	7.7	10.0	8.1	8.9	11.1	9.3
2	10.0	8.2	9.6	5.7	6.3	5.8	6.3	6.7	6.4
3 - 5	16.0	11.0	15.0	11.5	10.9	11.4	12.2	10.9	12.0
6 - 10	10.7	5.6	9.7	11.6	9.4	11.2	11.5	8.7	11.0
11 - 14	4.3	2.0	3.8	6.3	4.6	6.0	6.0	4.1	5.7
15 - 49	8.1	3.0	7.0	24.8	16.8	23.4	22.3	14.4	20.9
50 or more	0.3	0.2	0.3	15.4	9.0	14.3	13.2	7.4	12.2
Total number of offenders (100%)	58,212	14,368	72,838	329,437	66,923	396,939	387,649	81,291	469,777

Data sources and data quality

The data presented in this publication are drawn from administrative IT systems. Although care is taken when processing and analysing the returns, the information collected is subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large scale recording system. While the figures shown have been checked as far as practicable, they should be regarded as approximate and not necessarily accurate to the last whole number shown in the tables. Where figures in the tables have been rounded to the nearest whole number, the rounded components do not always add to the totals, which are calculated and rounded independently.

Court hearings

Justice Statistics Analytical Services within the Ministry of Justice received manual returns from the individual courts who were dealing with defendants identified as being involved in the public disorder. They provided summary information on key details taken from court registers to meet the needs of the courts service, National Offender Management Service (NOMS) and other Criminal Justice agencies for planning purposes.

The offence shown in the tables on court proceedings is the one for which the court took its final decision and is not necessarily the same as the offence for which the defendant was initially prosecuted, for example when the court accepts a guilty plea from the defendant on a lesser charge.

Ethnicity data

Data for the main ethnicity section and tables is based on the information available as at 10th August 2012. The ethnicity statistics are based on each defendant's self-defined ethnicity, as recorded by the courts. This approach uses the Office for National Statistics 2001 Census classification, which allows an individual to choose how their ethnicity is recorded from a list of 16 options, or choose not to declare it. Due to small numbers in some categories the 16 point ethnicity classification was then collapsed to the 5 point classification in this section for reporting purposes. The report therefore presents information on the following ethnic groups: 'White'²³, 'Black'²⁴, 'Asian'²⁵, 'Mixed'²⁶, 'Other'²⁷ and 'Not Stated'.

The executive summary includes a breakdown based on known ethnicity only, so the 395 (13 per cent) not stated/not known cases have been removed – therefore there are some differences between proportions reported. In each case we have stated what approach has been used.

²³ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification White includes: - White – British, White – Irish, and White – Other.

²⁴ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Black includes: - Black – African, Black – Caribbean, and Black – Other.

²⁵ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Asian includes: - Asian – Bangladeshi, Asian – Indian, Asian – Pakistani, and Asian – Other.

²⁶ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Mixed includes: - White and Black African, White and Black Caribbean, White and Asian, and any other mixed background.

²⁷ From the Census 5 point ethnicity classification Other includes: - Chinese and Other.

Explanatory notes

The statistics in this bulletin relate to cases in the Crown and magistrates' courts in England and Wales during 12 months ending December 2011. This is the second set of combined annual criminal statistics to be published by the Ministry of Justice, following the publication of the first three combined quarterly criminal statistics reports. This bulletin subsumes a number of previous bulletins including Criminal Statistics: England & Wales, Quarterly Sentencing Statistics, and Young people aged 10-17 receiving their first reprimand, warning or conviction.

Symbols and conventions

The following symbols have been used throughout the tables in this bulletin:

- = Nil
- * = Not applicable
- .. = Not available
- (R) = Revised data
- (P) = Provisional data

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