



Ministry  
of Justice



# **Proven Re-offending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin**

October 2012 to September 2013,  
England and Wales

Ministry of Justice  
Statistics Bulletin

30 July 2015

# Contents

Introduction .....	3
Key findings .....	6
Main report.....	9
Adult and juvenile offenders .....	9
Gender .....	11
Age.....	12
Disposal (sentence) type .....	13
Adult offenders released from custody or commencing a court order .....	13
Adult offenders released from custody .....	13
Juvenile offenders released from custody .....	14
Adult offenders commencing a court order .....	14
Comparing the effectiveness of sentences.....	15
Adult offenders by individual prison.....	16
Adult offenders by probation trust.....	16
Index offence.....	17
Previous offences.....	18
List of quarterly tables.....	19
Annex A .....	21
Annex B .....	32
Annex C .....	34
Explanatory notes .....	42
Contact points.....	43

## Introduction

The Proven Re-offending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin provides key statistics on proven re-offending in England and Wales. It gives proven re-offending figures for adult and juvenile offenders, who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court, received a caution, or received a reprimand or warning between October 2012 and September 2013. A proven re-offence is defined as any offence committed in a one year follow-up period that leads to a court conviction, caution, reprimand or warning in the one year follow-up or within a further six month waiting period to allow the offence to be proven in court.

This quarterly bulletin presents the proportion of offenders who re-offend (proven re-offending rate) and the number of proven re-offences those offenders commit by age group, gender, criminal history and offence type. Also included are proven re-offending rates for serious proven re-offending, different types of sentence, and for individual prisons, probation trusts, local authorities and youth offending teams.

Latest figures are provided with comparisons to October 2011 to September 2012 and the year 2002 in order to highlight long-term trends. Note that 2000 is the earliest year for which proven re-offending data exist on a comparable basis and re-offending data for this period can be found in previous issues of the bulletin. The full set of results is provided separately in Excel tables at:

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics)

The accompanying 'Definitions and Measurement' document, which is available at the same link, provides more detailed information.

Users interested in the latest interim re-conviction estimates from the Peterborough Payment by Results pilots should refer to figures in Annex A. Final results for the Doncaster pilot are published separately alongside this bulletin.

As announced in the previous report, Annex A also contains re-offending outcomes from the "Employment & Re-offending" payment by results (PbR) pilot.

### **Public consultation**

Alongside this bulletin, we have also published a public consultation on proposals to change the presentation of the data in re-offending statistics produced from October 2017. These changes will be the direct consequence of reforms made to the probation services through introducing the Offender Rehabilitation Act in February 2015.

The consultation is seeking views on a number of questions, one of which is the proposed use of version 4 of the Offender Group Reconviction Scale

(OGRS4) score. This is used by the Transforming Rehabilitation (TR) programme as a predictor of re-offending based on age, gender and criminal history and we are proposing to have this replace the 'adjusted to baseline' rate that was previously presented in this bulletin. Further information on OGRS4 is available in Annex A of this report.

Other questions in this consultation relate to changing the cohort sizes to measure re-offending so they align with the adult re-offending measures used to monitor the payment by results element of these reforms. This change will have the added advantage of providing a more responsive assessment of re-offending but at the expense of providing a more granular level breakdown by geography.

### **Format changes to tables**

From the next publication of this report, which will be published 29 October 2015 and will cover the period January to December 2013, we will be publishing tables 4, 7, 13-15, 18-19 and 22-25 in comma separated values (CSV) format. By reducing the number of tables and instead providing information in a more flexible format, it will become far easier for users to locate and extract the specific information they require.

To illustrate this change we have also provided table 15 in a CSV format with an accompanying pivot table. These provide exactly the same information as published but now in a more flexible and machine friendly format.

These changes in presenting data have already been introduced in other Ministry of Justice publication such as Criminal Justice Statistics and user feedback has been positive.

This bulletin is published alongside three inter-related bulletins:

- **Offender Management Statistics Quarterly Bulletin, January to March 2015, England and Wales:** provides key statistics relating to offenders who are in prison or supervised in the community. It covers flows into these services (receptions into prison or probation starts) and flows out (discharges from prison or probation terminations) as well as the caseload of both services at specific points in time. It also includes information on returns to custody following recall.
- **Safety in Custody Statistics Quarterly update to March 2015, England and Wales:** provides statistics on death, self harm and assault incidents whilst in prison custody.
- **Accredited Programmes, Annual Bulletin 2014/15:** provides statistics on accredited programmes undertaken across prison and probation trusts during each financial year. Key figures include the number of starts and completions by programme.

Taken together, these publications present users with a more coherent overview of offender management, re-offending among adults and young people and the safety of offenders whilst in prison custody.

The next edition of this bulletin, covering the period January to December 2013, will be published on 29 October 2015 at 9.30am.

**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.**

# Key findings

## Overview – latest 12 month period compared to the previous 12 month period and 2002

	2002	12 months ending September 2012	12 months ending September 2013	Percentage change 2002 to 2013 <sup>1</sup>	Percentage change 2012 to 2013 <sup>1</sup>
<b>All offenders</b>					
Proportion of offenders who re-offend (%)	28.9	26.0	26.4	-2.5pp ↓	0.4pp ↑
Average number of re-offences per re-offender	3.51	2.94	3.07	-12.6% ↓	4.6% ↑
Average number of re-offences per offender	1.01	0.76	0.81	-20.0% ↓	6.1% ↑
Number of re-offences	641,321	433,144	420,764	-34.4% ↓	-2.9% ↓
Number of re-offenders	182,485	147,456	136,937	-25.0% ↓	-7.1% ↓
Number of offenders in cohort	632,065	566,296	518,424	-18.0% ↓	-8.5% ↓
<b>Adult offenders</b>					
Proportion of offenders who re-offend (%)	27.6	24.9	25.3	-2.3pp ↓	0.4pp ↑
Average number of re-offences per re-offender	3.59	2.94	3.08	-14.3% ↓	4.5% ↑
Average number of re-offences per offender	0.99	0.73	0.78	-21.4% ↓	6.3% ↑
Number of re-offences	491,373	370,624	368,189	-25.1% ↓	-0.7% ↓
Number of re-offenders	136,943	125,950	119,713	-12.6% ↓	-5.0% ↓
Number of offenders in cohort	495,664	505,574	472,332	-4.7% ↓	-6.6% ↓
<b>Juvenile offenders</b>					
Proportion of offenders who re-offend (%)	33.4	35.4	37.4	4pp ↑	2pp ↑
Average number of re-offences per re-offender	3.29	2.91	3.05	-7.3% ↓	5.0% ↑
Average number of re-offences per offender	1.10	1.03	1.14	3.8% ↑	10.8% ↑
Number of re-offences	149,948	62,520	52,575	-64.9% ↓	-15.9% ↓
Number of re-offenders	45,542	21,506	17,224	-62.2% ↓	-19.9% ↓
Number of offenders in cohort	136,401	60,722	46,092	-66.2% ↓	-24.1% ↓

1. pp = percentage point and percentage changes may not add up due to rounding of raw figures

## Overall - adult and juvenile offenders

Between October 2012 and September 2013, around 518,000 adult and juvenile offenders<sup>1</sup> were cautioned<sup>2</sup>, convicted (excluding immediate custodial sentences) or released from custody. Around 137,000 of these offenders committed a proven re-offence within a year. This gives an overall proven re-offending rate of 26.4%. This represents a small increase of 0.4 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months and a fall of 2.5 percentage points since 2002. Since 2002, the overall proven re-offending rate for adult and juvenile offenders has remained fairly stable, fluctuating between around 26% and 29% (Table 1). In addition:

- Around 421,000 proven re-offences were committed over the one year follow-up period, with those that re-offended committing, on average, 3.07 re-offences each (both adults and juveniles) (Table 1);

<sup>1</sup> A certain proportion of offenders who could not be matched to the Police National Computer (PNC) are excluded from the offender cohort. Therefore, this number does not represent all proven offenders. Please refer to the 'Definitions and Measurement' document for more detail at [www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics). This means that the number of offenders in this bulletin will be different from the numbers published in the Offender Management Quarterly Statistics Bulletin available at [www.gov.uk/government/collections/offender-management-statistics-quarterly](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/offender-management-statistics-quarterly) and the Criminal Justice Statistics report available at [www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly).

<sup>2</sup> Includes reprimands and warnings for juveniles.

- Unsurprisingly, offenders with 11 or more previous offences have a higher re-offending rate than those with no previous offences – 47.5% compared to 10.3% in the most recent figures and the same pattern can be seen for previous years (Table 6c); and
- Less than 1% of all proven re-offences committed over the one year follow-up period were serious violent or sexual offences with very little change since 2002 (Table 8).

### **Adult offenders**

Around 472,000 adult offenders were cautioned, convicted or released from custody between October 2012 and September 2013 and around 120,000 of them committed a re-offence. This gives a proven re-offending rate of 25.3%, representing a small increase of 0.4 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months and a fall of 2.3 percentage points since 2002. Proven re-offending rates for adult offenders have remained fairly flat since 2002 fluctuating between around 24% and 28% and since 2004 have remained steady at around 25% (Table 1).

### **Adult offenders released from custody**

The proven re-offending rate for adult offenders released from custody between October 2012 and September 2013 was 45.4%. This represents a small increase of 0.2 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months and a fall of 7.2 percentage points since 2002. In addition:

- since 2004, the overall rate for those released from custody has remained relatively stable at around 45% to 49%;
- adults who served sentences of less than 12 months re-offended at a rate of 58.8%, compared to 34.2% for those who served sentences of 12 months or more<sup>3</sup>;
- the rate for those released from short sentences has been consistently higher compared to those released from longer sentences; and
- the trends for those released from short and long sentences have both remained broadly flat since 2005 and are consistent with the overall trend (Table 17a).

### **Adult offenders starting a court order**

The proven re-offending rate for adult offenders starting a court order (Community Order or Suspended Sentence Order) was 34.2%, a fall of 5.6

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<sup>3</sup> Excludes indeterminate sentences for public protection and life sentence prisoners.

percentage points since 2002, and an increase of 0.6 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months (Table 16a).

### **Juvenile offenders**

Around 46,000 juvenile offenders were cautioned, convicted or released from custody between October 2012 and September 2013 and around 17,000 of them committed a re-offence. This gives a proven re-offending rate of 37.4%, up 2.0 percentage points from the previous 12 months (Table 1).

### **Juvenile offenders released from custody**

The proven re-offending rate for juvenile offenders released from custody between October 2012 and September 2013 was 66.5%. This represents a decrease of 1.7 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months and a fall of 8.3 percentage points since 2002 (Table 17b).

## Main report

This report provides key statistics on proven re-offending in England and Wales. It gives proven re-offending figures for adult and juvenile offenders<sup>1</sup> who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court, received a caution, or received a reprimand or warning, between October 2012 and September 2013. A proven re-offence is defined as any offence committed in a one year follow-up period that leads to a court conviction, caution, reprimand or warning in the one year follow-up. Following this one year follow-up, a further six month waiting period is allowed for the offence to be proven in court.

### Overall - adult and juvenile offenders (*Table 1*)

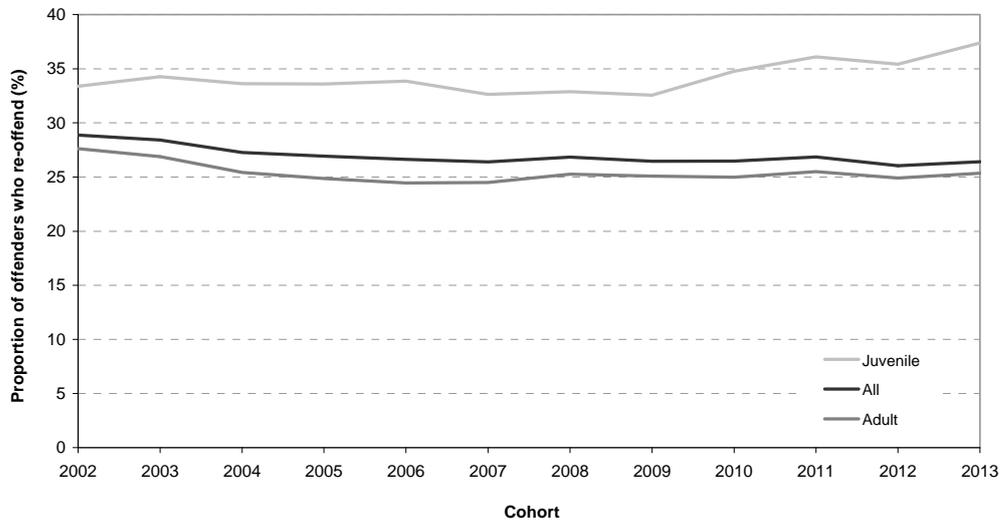
Adult offenders accounted for 91% (around 472,000) of the October 2012 to September 2013 offender cohort, and juvenile offenders accounted for 9% (around 46,000).

Around 120,000 of all **adult offenders** were proven to have committed a re-offence within a year. This gives a proven re-offending rate of 25.3% which represents a small increase of 0.4 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months. Since 2002, there has been little change in this rate, as illustrated in Figure 1. Over this time it has ranged from around 24% to 28% and since 2004 it has remained steady at around 25%.

The proven re-offending rate for **juvenile offenders** is higher, and in the last 12 months it has increased from 35.4% in the 12 months ending September 2012 to 37.4% in the 12 months ending September 2013, mainly driven by an increase in the rate for 15 to 17 year olds.

While the juvenile re-offending rate has seen an increase of 4.0 percentage points since 2002, the total number of juvenile offenders in the cohort has fallen by around 66%, with particular reductions among those with no previous offences and those receiving a reprimand or final warning. Due to this, juvenile offenders in the criminal justice system are, on balance, more challenging to work with. This is reflected in the higher average number of previous offences per juvenile offender, which was 2.59 in the 12 months ending September 2013 and 1.90 in 2002. In spite of this, the re-offending rate for juveniles released from custody continues to fall, meaning that the overall increase in juvenile re-offending has been driven by those who re-offend after receiving a reprimand or warning (Table 16b).

**Figure 1: Proportion of adult and juvenile offenders in England and Wales who commit a proven re-offence, 2002 to 12 months ending September 2013<sup>1</sup>**

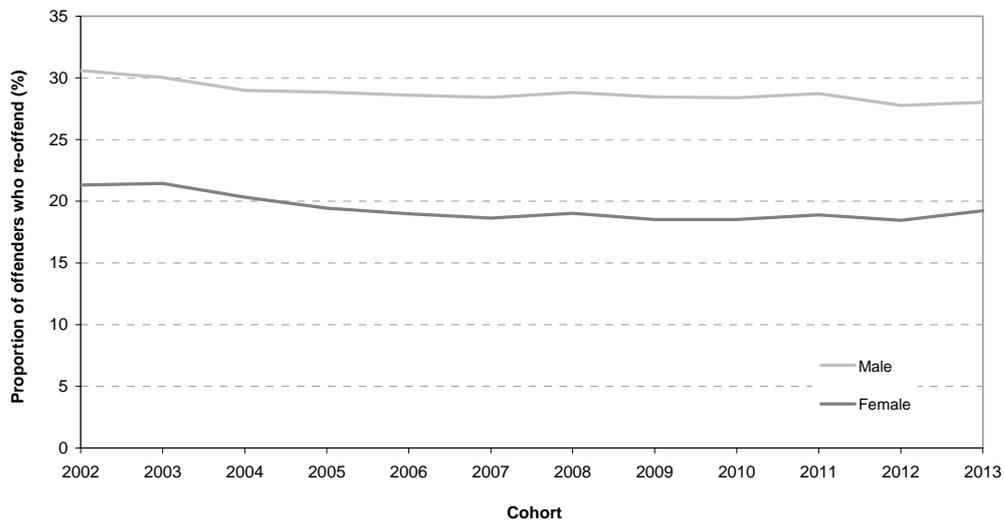


1. For 2006 to 2013, data are for the 12 months ending September

## Gender (Table 2)

In the October 2012 to September 2013 cohort, 82% were male and 18% were female – a gender split that has changed little since 2002. Male offenders from the October 2012 to September 2013 cohort re-offended at a higher rate of 28.0% compared to female offenders who re-offended at a rate of 19.2%. Both rates have remained broadly stable since 2002 (Figure 2). Between 2002 and the 12 months ending September 2013, the proven re-offending rate for male and female offenders decreased by 2.6 and 2.1 percentage points respectively.

**Figure 2: Proportion of adult and juvenile offenders in England and Wales who commit a proven re-offence, by gender, 2002 to 12 months ending September 2013<sup>1</sup>**



1. For 2006 to 2013, data are for the 12 months ending September

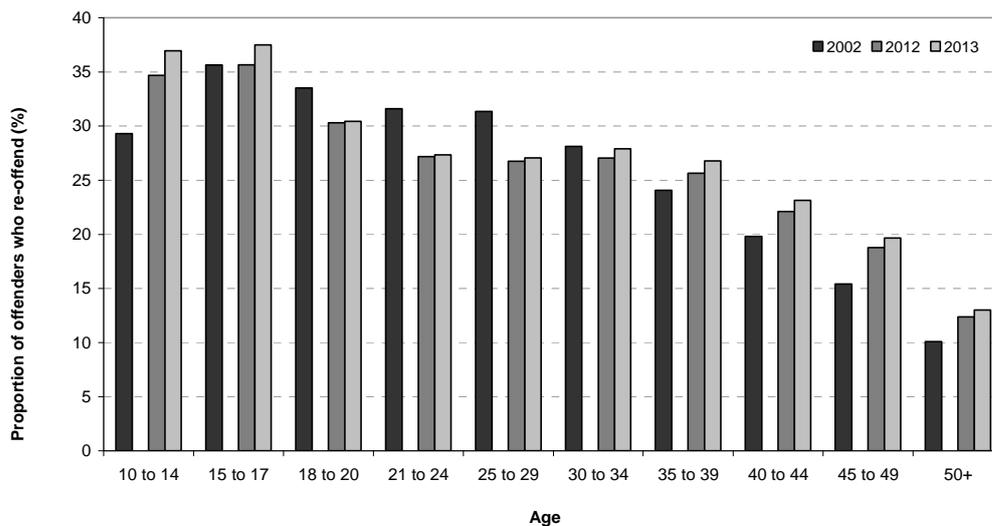
### Age (Table 3)

Since 2002, the proven re-offending rate for offenders aged 15 to 17 has been consistently higher than the rate in any other age group. In the 12 months ending September 2013, the rate among offenders in this age group increased from 35.7% in the previous 12 months to 37.5%. At 36.9%, rates for 10 to 14 year olds are the second highest.

Compared to 2002, the proven re-offending rate for offenders in the cohort for October 2012 to September 2013 increased for 10 to 17 year olds and for those aged 35 and over, but fell for offenders aged 18 to 34.

Figure 3 shows that the proven re-offending rate for those aged 18 and over generally falls with increasing age.

**Figure 3: Proportion of adult and juvenile offenders in England and Wales who commit a proven re-offence, by age, 2002, 12 months ending September 2012 and 12 months ending September 2013<sup>1</sup>**



1. For 2012 and 2013, data are for the 12 months ending September

## **Disposal (sentence) type**

### **Adult offenders released from custody or commencing a court order (Table 16a)**

Between October 2012 and September 2013, around 173,000 adult offenders were released from custody or commenced a court order. Around 62,000 of these offenders were proven to have committed a re-offence within a year. This gives a proven re-offending rate of 35.7%.

Since 2005, the rate has remained fairly flat at around 35% to 38%.

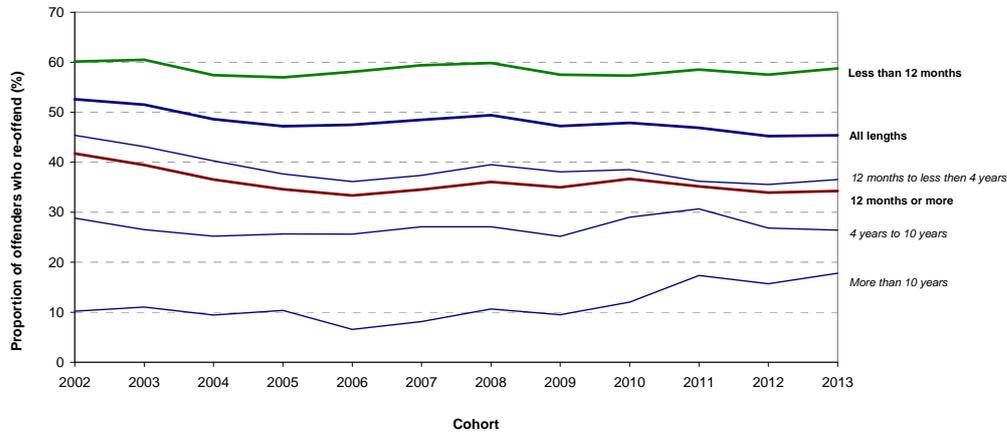
### **Adult offenders released from custody (Table 17a)**

Between October 2012 and September 2013, around 60,000 adult offenders were released from custody and around 27,000 of these (45.4%) were proven to have committed a re-offence within a year. The rate has decreased by 7.2 percentage points since 2002, and has increased slightly from 45.2% for the same period 12 months ago.

Just under half of the adult offenders released from custody between October 2012 and September 2013 were released from a custodial sentence of less than 12 months. These offenders had a proven re-offending rate of 58.8% compared to 34.2% for those who served sentences of 12 months or more<sup>3</sup>.

The rate for those released from short sentences has been consistently higher compared to those released from long sentences, as shown in Figure 4. However, the re-offending rate for those released from sentences of more than 10 years has seen an increase over recent years, and now stands at 17.8% (up from 12.0% in year ending September 2010). This is consistent with the higher than average number of previous offences for these prisoners compared to earlier years.

**Figure 4: Proportion of adult offenders released from custody who commit a proven re-offence, by custodial sentence length, 2002 to 12 months ending September 2013**



1. For 2006 to 2013, data are for the 12 months ending September

### Juvenile offenders released from custody (*Table 17b*)

Between October 2012 and September 2013, around 1,300 juvenile offenders were released from custody and around 900 of these (66.5%) were proven to have committed a re-offence within a year. This represents a decrease of 1.7 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months and fall of 8.3 percentage points since 2002.

### Adult offenders commencing a court order (*Table 16a*)

Between October 2012 and September 2013, around 122,000 adult offenders started a court order and around 42,000 of these (34.2%) committed a proven re-offence within a year. This represents an increase of 0.6 percentage points compared to the previous 12 months, and a fall of 5.6 percentage points since 2002.

## Comparing the effectiveness of sentences

Proven re-offending rates by index disposal (sentence type) should not be compared to assess the effectiveness of sentences, as there is no control for known differences in offender characteristics and the type of sentence given. The '2013 Compendium of Re-offending Statistics and Analysis' compares like for like offenders which enables a more reliable comparison of proven re-offending rates between offenders receiving different sentences. The findings from the Compendium show that offenders sentenced to less than 12 months in custody had a higher proven re-offending rate than similar, matched offenders receiving:

- a community order, of 6.4 percentage points for 2010;
- a suspended sentence order, of 8.6 percentage points for 2010;
- a 'court order' (either a community order or a suspended order), of 6.8 percentage points for 2010.

Non-custodial sentences were also compared:

- Suspended sentence orders had a lower re-offending rate than community orders (3.2 percentage points for 2010);
- Community orders had a higher re-offending rate than fines, though the difference was small (0.9 percentage points in 2010);
- Conditional discharges had a lower re-offending rate than: Community orders (5.1 percentage points for 2010); and Fines (5.5 percentage points for 2010).

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/2013-compendium-of-re-offending-statistics-and-analysis](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2013-compendium-of-re-offending-statistics-and-analysis)

## **Adult offenders by individual prison (*Tables 20a and b*)**

Among prisons that released 30 or more offenders between October 2012 and September 2013, proven re-offending rates varied considerably from 3.1% to 74.3% for offenders with a sentence of less than 12 months and from 1.4% to 53.9% for offenders with a sentence of 12 months or more. A large part of this variability reflects the mix of offenders who are held in different prisons and, therefore, comparisons between prisons should not be made using these raw re-offending rates.

## **Adult offenders by probation trust (*Table 22*)**

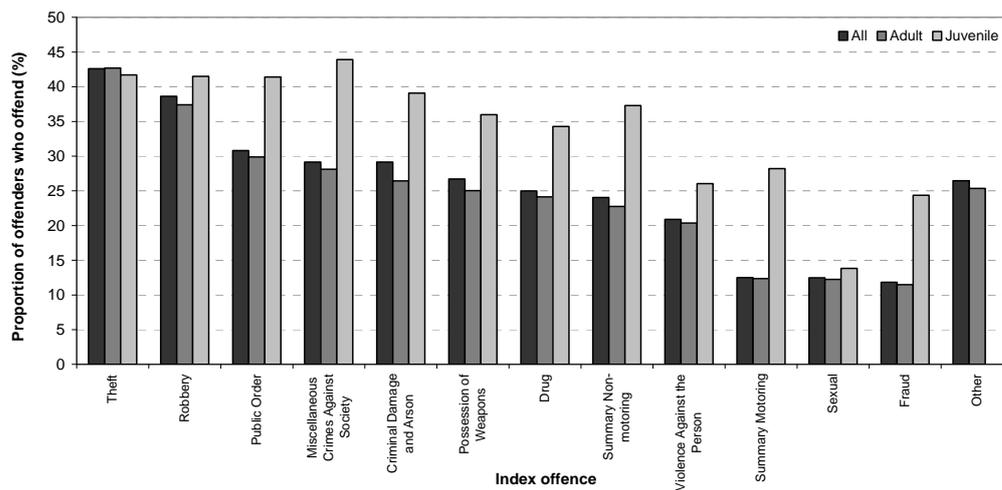
For the period this report covers, offenders given a court order were managed by the Probation Service which comprised of 35 probation trusts. Proven re-offending rates for these offenders are presented by probation trust in Table 22. This takes the first court order commencement from within each probation trust as the start point for measuring re-offending and subsequent events as proven re-offences.

Proven re-offending rates varied considerably between probation trusts from 28.2% to 43.3%. A large part of this variability reflects the mix of offenders who are given a court order and, therefore, comparisons between probation trusts should not be made using these raw re-offending rates.

## Index offence (Table 5c)

The offence that leads to an offender being included in the offender cohort is called the index offence. In the October 2012 to September 2013 cohort, offenders with an index offence of 'Theft' had the highest proven re-offending rate of 42.6%. This was closely followed by those with an index offence of 'Robbery' with a rate of 38.6%. Those with the lowest rate had an index offence of 'Fraud' and re-offended at a rate of 11.8%. Additionally, with a fall of 11.2 percentage points, the 'Fraud' index offence category saw the largest decrease between 2002 and the 12 months ending September 2013. In contrast, the largest increase over the same period occurred for those with an index offence of 'Public Order'.

**Figure 5: Proportion of adult and juvenile offenders in England and Wales who commit a proven re-offence, by index offence, 12 months ending September 2013**

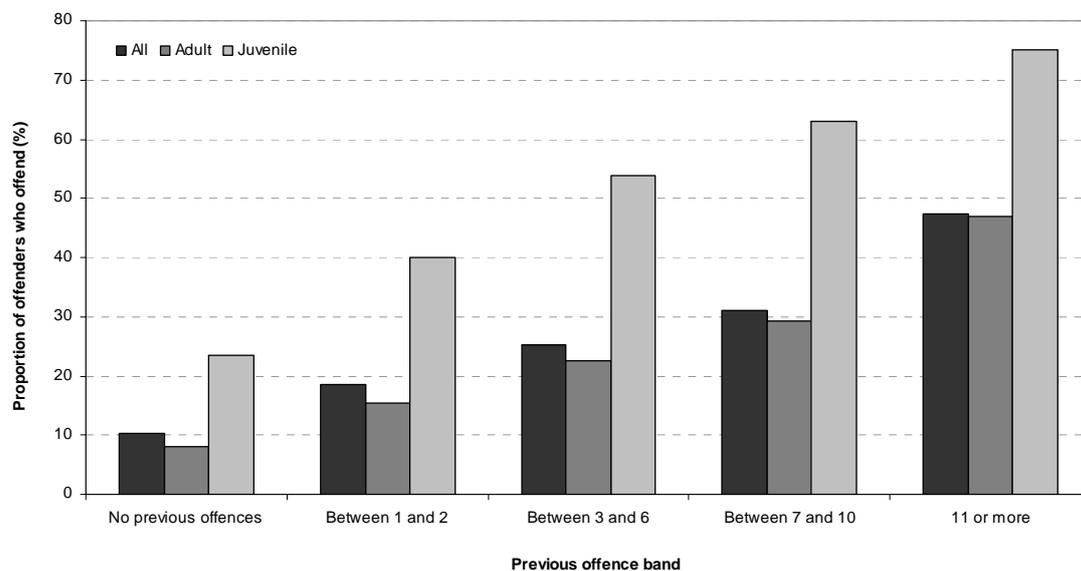


## Previous offences (Table 6a, b and c)

Generally, offenders with a large number of previous offences have a higher rate of proven re-offending than those with fewer previous offences and this is true for both adults and juveniles. In the October 2012 to September 2013 cohort, the proven re-offending rates ranged from 10.3% for offenders with no previous offences to 47.5% for offenders with 11 or more previous offences. Between 2002 and the 12 months ending September 2013, the largest decrease in the proven re-offending rate was among offenders with seven to ten previous offences.

Adult offenders with 11 or more previous offences represented just under a third of all adult offenders in the October 2012 to September 2013 cohort, but committed over two thirds of all adult proven re-offences. Juvenile offenders with 11 or more previous offences had a proven re-offending rate of 75.0%. This group make up only 6% of all juvenile offenders, but committed nearly a fifth (19%) of all juvenile proven re-offences.

**Figure 6: Proportion of adult and juvenile offenders in England and Wales who commit a proven re-offence, by previous offence band, 12 months ending September 2013**



## List of quarterly tables

### Proven re-offending – overview

- Table 1** Summary proven re-offending data, by adults and juveniles 2002 to September 2013
- Table 2** Proven re-offending data, by gender, 2002 to September 2013
- Table 3** Proven re-offending data, by age, 2002 to September 2013
- **Table 4 is published annually in October** -----
- Table 5a** Adult proven re-offending data, by index offence, 2002 to September 2013
- Table 5b** Juvenile proven re-offending data, by index offence, 2002 to September 2013
- Table 5c** Adult and juvenile proven re-offending data, by index offence, 2002 to September 2013
- Table 6a** Adult proven re-offending data, by number of previous offences, 2002 to September 2013
- Table 6b** Juvenile proven re-offending data, by number of previous offences, 2002 to September 2013
- Table 6c** Adult and juvenile proven re-offending data, by number of previous offences, 2002 to September 2013
- **Table 7 is published annually in October** -----
- Table 8** Adult and juvenile serious proven re-offending data, 2002 to September 2013
- **Tables 9 to 12 are published annually in October** -----
- Table 13a** Proven re-offending of adult offenders, by upper-tier local authority, 2005 to September 2013 rolling quarters
- Table 13b** Proven re-offending of juvenile offenders, by upper-tier local authority, 2005 to September 2013 rolling quarters
- Table 13c** Proven re-offending of adult and juvenile offenders, by upper-tier local authority, 2005 to September 2013 rolling quarters
- Table 14a** Proven re-offending of adult offenders, by lower-tier local authority, 2005 to September 2013 rolling quarters

- Table 14b** Proven re-offending of juvenile offenders, by lower-tier local authority, 2005 to September 2013 rolling quarters
- Table 14c** Proven re-offending of adult and juvenile offenders, by lower-tier local authority, 2005 to September 2013 rolling quarters
- Table 15** Juvenile proven re-offending data, by Youth Offending Team and upper-tier local authority, 2005 to September 2013 rolling quarters

**Proven re-offending by index disposal, probation trust and prison**

- Table 16a** Adult proven re-offending data, by index disposal, 2002 to September 2013
- Table 16b** Juvenile proven re-offending data, by index disposal, 2002 to September 2013
- Table 17a** Adult proven re-offending data, by custodial sentence length, 2002 to September 2013
- Table 17b** Juvenile proven re-offending data, by custodial sentence length, 2002 to September 2013

----- **Tables 18 and 19 are published annually in October** -----

- Table 20a** Proven re-offending of adult offenders given sentences of less than 12 months, by individual prison, based on first release from each prison, 2007 to September 2013
- Table 20b** Proven re-offending of adult offenders given sentences of 12 months or more, by individual prison, based on first release from each prison, 2007 to September 2013
- Table 21** Juvenile proven re-offending data, by individual prison or secure accommodation, based on first release from each prison or secure accommodation, 2007 to September 2013
- Table 22** Adult proven re-offending data by probation trust based on first commencement from each trust, 2005 to September 2013

----- **Table 23 is published annually in October** -----

- Table 24** Proven re-offending data for adult offenders commencing a court order, by National Probation Service Division, 2012 to September 2013

----- **Table 25 is published annually in October** -----

## Annex A

### Interim re-conviction figures for Peterborough Payment by Results pilots

#### Background

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) published “*Breaking the Cycle: Effective Punishment, Rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders*” in December 2010. This Green Paper included a commitment for the MoJ to commission a series of initial ‘payment by results’ (PbR) pilot projects to test the principle that PbR can result in service improvements by delivering better outcomes for the public at the same or less cost.

The MoJ currently has a prison based PbR pilot operating in HMP Peterborough, which began on 9 September 2010.

The final results for the pilot will be based on a 12 month re-conviction measure which counts offences committed in the 12 months following release from prison, and resulting in conviction at court either in those 12 months or in a further 6 month period (allowing time for cases to progress through the courts).

Given the high level of public interest in relation to the reforms set out in the MoJ publication “*Transforming Rehabilitation – a strategy for reform*”, the MoJ began publishing interim re-conviction figures for cohort 1 from June 2013 and interim re-conviction figures for cohort 2 of the Peterborough pilot in July 2014. These were the earliest opportunities that MoJ statisticians judged the number of offenders being reported on to be large enough to provide robust interim figures.

The cohort 1 results of the Peterborough pilot were published on 7 August 2014<sup>4</sup>.

As a consequence of the necessary time lag, final results for Peterborough cohort 2 will be available in summer 2016.

These figures are updated in this dedicated annex to each edition of the MoJ’s quarterly *Proven Re-offending Statistics* bulletin.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/final-results-for-cohorts-1-payment-by-results-prison-pilots>

## Methodology

Offenders enter the PbR pilots after their first eligible release from the prison within the cohort period. Cohort 2 contains all eligible offenders released between 2 July 2012 and 1 July 2014.

The prison pilots use a 12 month re-conviction measure which differs from the National Statistics proven re-offending measure. The key difference is that re-convictions only count offences for which the offender was convicted at court, whereas the National Statistics proven re-offending measure also includes out of court disposals (cautions). However, the time periods used for both measures are the same – offences committed within 12 months of release from prison and convicted at court (or cautioned for the proven re-offending measure) either in those 12 months, or in a further 6 month period (allowing time for cases to progress through the courts).

The Peterborough pilot includes offenders released from custodial sentences of less than 12 months.

Additionally, there are a number of other differences between the pilot and the National Statistics proven re-offending measure in terms of which offenders are counted within the cohort. These differences were set out in the PbR contracts; see Table A1 in the *Appendix* for more details.

### Final (outcome) re-conviction measures for the prison pilot

For the Peterborough pilot the outcome measure is the frequency of re-conviction events<sup>5</sup> (based on offences committed within 12 months of release from prison and convicted at court within those 12 months or a further 6 month period). This is often referred to as a frequency measure. Success of each cohort will be determined by comparison with a control group (of comparable offenders from across the country).

### Interim re-conviction measures for the prison pilots

In publishing these interim figures MoJ aims to give the most useful figures for as much of each cohort as possible at a given point in time.

Initially, this is done by providing figures based on re-conviction periods half the length of those used for the final results, for an increasing proportion of each cohort. These cover offences committed in the 6 months following release from prison, and resulting in conviction at court either in those 6

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<sup>5</sup> If an offender is re-convicted of multiple offences on one sentencing occasion, this counts as one re-conviction event.

months or in a further 3 month period (allowing time for cases to progress through the courts).

Subsequently, when the data becomes available, we provide figures based on the full re-conviction period used for the final results: covering offences committed in the 12 months following release from prison, and resulting in conviction at court either in those 12 months or in a further 6 month period, again for an increasing proportion of the cohort.

These figures are updated on a quarterly basis. See Table A3 in the *Appendix* for a timeline of the publication of these figures.

The interim figures for Peterborough in this bulletin correspond to 6 month re-conviction figures. They cover offenders released in the entire 24 months of the cohort 2 period.

## **Interpreting interim re-conviction figures**

The interim re-conviction figures presented here give an indication of progress in the second cohorts of the pilots to date. However, care should be taken when interpreting these interim figures for the following reasons:

- These figures measure re-convictions within the 6 months after release from prison rather than 12 months; and
- Success for Peterborough will be determined based on comparison with a control group of comparable offenders from across the country, which is not available for these interim figures.

Users should therefore be aware that the figures presented provide our best assessment of change at this point in time. The final results will be available in summer 2016.

## **Interim figures**

### **Peterborough – Cohort 2**

The cohort 2 figures presented in this statistical bulletin are 6 month re-conviction figures for offenders released from Peterborough in the entire 24 months of the cohort 2 period.

Success of the Peterborough pilot will be measured against a control group of similar offenders released from other prisons, with the target met if the frequency of re-conviction events is 10.0% lower for the Peterborough cohort 2 than for the control group, or 7.5% lower across Peterborough cohort 1 and cohort 2 combined. It is not possible to replicate that comparison for these interim figures. Instead, in order to provide some context for the Peterborough

figures, we have provided equivalent national figures for the same periods. The national figures are based on other local<sup>6</sup> prisons which exclude Peterborough and Doncaster<sup>7</sup>.

**Table 1 and Figure 1: Peterborough (and national equivalent) interim 6 month re-conviction figures for offenders released in the first 24 months of the cohort 2 period**

Discharge period	Peterborough			National local prisons		
	Cohort size	Re-conviction rate	Frequency of re-conviction events per 100 offenders	Cohort size	Re-conviction rate	Frequency of re-conviction events per 100 offenders
July07-Jun09	1,282	41.0%	84	40,335	39.7%	72
July08-Jun10	1,213	39.6%	82	41,041	38.9%	73
July09-Jun11	1,056	36.6%	79	39,142	39.0%	77
July10-Jun12	1,045	38.1%	76	37,896	40.0%	82
July11-Jun13	1,026	39.2%	76	37,254	39.9%	83
July12-Jun14	1,001	40.2%	83	34,649	40.5%	85

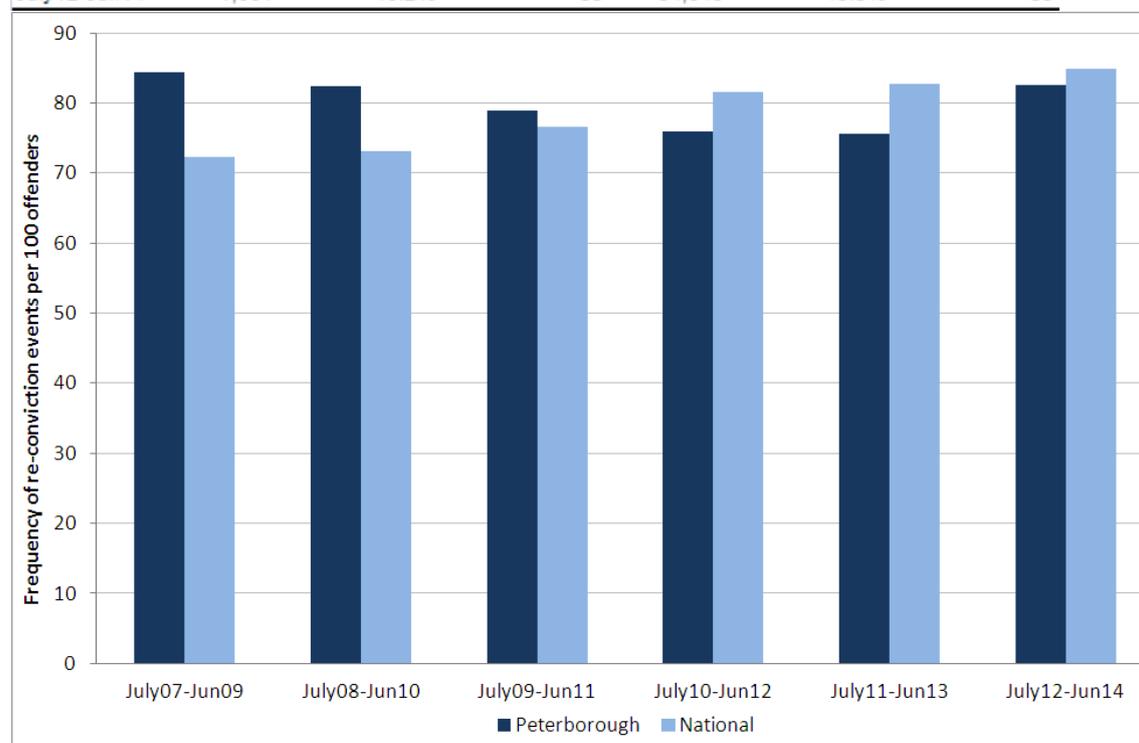


Table 1 shows that for offenders released from Peterborough between 2 July 2012 and 30 June 2014 (the full cohort 2 period), there were an average of 83 re-conviction events per 100 offenders. This shows a rise of 0.2%<sup>8</sup> compared

<sup>6</sup> Since HMP Peterborough is a local prison, the underlying characteristics of the prison and its offenders will be more similar to those of local prisons. See Annex C for a definition of local prison.

<sup>7</sup> Since a PbR pilot was also ongoing in HMP Doncaster during the cohort period

<sup>8</sup> Due to a rounding effect  $83 \div 82 = 0.2\%$  rise

to an average of 82 re-conviction events per 100 offenders released from Peterborough between July 2008 and June 2010<sup>9</sup>.

Nationally, the equivalent figures show a rise of 16% from 73 to 85 re-conviction events per 100 offenders.

These interim figures show our best assessment of change at this point in time (see the section *Interpreting interim re-conviction figures*). The final results will be available in summer 2016.

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<sup>9</sup> July 2008 – June 2010 is used for comparison as it is the most recent period that does not overlap with the pilot cohort 1 period

## Appendix to Annex A

**Table A1: Comparison of Peterborough PbR re-conviction and National Statistics proven re-offending measures**

	<b>National Statistics measure of proven re-offending (for any prison)</b>	<b>Peterborough PbR prison pilot re-conviction measures</b>
<b>The cohort</b>	All offenders who were discharged from custody, over a 12 month period, regardless of sentence length. Excludes those in prison for breach	Male offenders aged 18 or over discharged from Peterborough prison between 9 September 2010 and 1 July 2012 (cohort 1) or 2 July 2012 and 1 July 2014 (cohort 2), after serving sentences of less than 12 months. Differences from National Statistics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excludes those who serve the whole of their custodial sentence on remand</li> <li>• Excludes foreign national offenders recorded as having been deported on release from prison</li> <li>• Includes those in prison for breach</li> </ul>
<b>The period to measure re-convictions/re-offending</b>	12 months for offences to occur and a further 6 months for offences to be proven (through conviction at court or a caution)	12 months for offences to occur and a further 6 months for offences to be re-convicted  Note: excludes cautions
<b>The headline measure</b>	Proportion of offenders who commit one or more proven re-offences	Frequency of re-conviction events
<b>What counts</b>	Offences committed in the 12 months following release from prison, and proven by conviction at court or a caution either in those 12 months or in a further 6 months	Any re-conviction event (sentencing occasion) relating to offences committed in the 12 months following release from prison, and resulting in conviction at court either in those 12 months or in a further 6 months  Note: excludes cautions

## OGRS score data

Re-offending is related to the characteristics of offenders, for example offenders with a large number of previous convictions are more likely to re-offend than those with fewer previous convictions, and changes in re-conviction rates over time can be related to changes in the mix of offenders being worked with rather than a real change in the level of their re-offending.

The Offender Group Reconviction Scale (OGRS)<sup>10</sup> is a predictor of re-offending based on age, gender and criminal history, which are risk factors known to be associated with the likelihood of re-offending. OGRS scores range from 0 to 1, with a lower score representing a lower likelihood of re-offending. The scores can be used to compare the relative likelihood of re-offending either over time or between different groups of offenders, with a higher/lower rate meaning a group of offenders who are more/less likely to re-offend. For example if Offender Group A have an average OGRS score of 0.44, and Offender Group B have an average OGRS score of 0.58, this means that Offender Group A are less likely to re-offend.

Tables A2 shows the average OGRS scores for each of the offender groups that are measured in the tables above. These include offenders released from Peterborough prison as well as those for the equivalent national groups of offenders. The figures are approximate because a small portion of offenders from each group are not included due to some data being unavailable.

**Table A2: Peterborough (and national equivalent) OGRS scores for offenders released in the first 24 months of the cohort 2 period**

Discharge period	Average OGRS score	
	Peterborough	National
July07-Jun09	0.49	0.51
July08-Jun10	0.49	0.51
July09-Jun11	0.49	0.51
July10-Jun12	0.48	0.51
July11-Jun13	0.48	0.51
July12-Jun14	0.50	0.52

<sup>6</sup> For more details on OGRS see Ministry of Justice Research Summary 7/09 *OGRS 3: the revised Offender Group Reconviction Scale* at: [webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110201125714/http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/offender-assessment-system.htm](http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110201125714/http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/offender-assessment-system.htm)

**Table A3: Timeline for publication of re-conviction figures**

	<b>October 2015</b>	<b>January 2016</b>
Peterborough	12 month re-conviction figures for the first 18 months of cohort 2 (a 24 month cohort)	12 month re-conviction figures for the first 21 months of cohort 2 (a 24 month cohort)

**Table A4: Other information on the pilot**

<b>Prison / Area</b>	<b>Start date of pilot</b>	<b>Number of eligible participants for Cohort 1</b>	<b>Number of eligible participants to date for Cohort 2</b>
Peterborough Social Impact Bond (SIB)	9 September 2010	1,034 <sup>11</sup>	1001 <sup>12</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Eligible participants from Cohort 1 from 9 September 2010 to 1 July 2012.

<sup>12</sup> Eligible participants from Cohort 2 from 2 July 2012 to 30 June 2014. This is the entire Peterborough pilot cohort 2 period , but the figure is provisional at this stage and subject to revision.

# **Employment & Re-offending PbR pilot outcomes**

## **Executive Summary**

The Employment & Re-offending pilot was launched in September 2012 by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and saw short-sentenced offenders referred to a Work Programme provider. Half of these providers had the incentive of a payment by results (PbR) scheme on the reduction of a re-conviction measure.

There were two issues that hampered the validity of any final results. Firstly, the pilot was negatively affected by a very low offender throughput and was terminated in June 2013. Secondly, out of the 610 offenders that were considered for measurement, only 319 were found to be eligible based on the pilot specifications on geography and offender profile, and of these just 128 were referred to a PbR provider. This level of attrition from the original set of offenders means there could be undetected biases in the remaining eligible sample. The small sample size also implies a lower than intended statistical power, meaning that it is unlikely that we detect an effect from the intervention, even if there is one.

Therefore, MoJ and DWP do not consider the available data to have enough quality for a robust and reliable interpretation of any re-conviction outcomes. As a consequence, MoJ statisticians have decided not to publish any re-conviction outcomes. For transparency and in line with the Official Statistics Code of Practice, however, MoJ will publish in this document the specifics on the quality issues and the sample size limitations.

## **Background**

In August 2011, the Deputy Prime Minister announced plans for pilot projects co-commissioned by MoJ and the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), to test whether asking Work Programme providers to deliver tailored support to prison leavers can lead to improved employment and re-offending outcomes.

The Employment & Re-offending pilot was launched in September 2012 and saw short-sentenced offenders referred to a Work Programme provider in two areas: Wales and the West Midlands. One provider in each of the pilot areas was incentivised by PbR on re-conviction. Prison leavers were randomly

allocated to an intervention or control group. Table A5 shows the names of the Work Programme providers for each area.

**Table A5: Incentivised and control Work Programme providers for each area**

	<b>PbR</b>	<b>Control</b>
<b>Wales</b>	Rehab Jobfit	Working Links
<b>West Midlands</b>	ESG Holdings Limited	Serco Ltd

The pilot did not see the expected offender throughput and it was terminated in June 2013.

## **Methodology**

Initially there were 610 offenders attached to a Work Programme provider, who were referred between September 2012 and June 2013. 281 of these were in the intervention group, and 329 were in the control group.

In order to confirm eligibility and measure the re-conviction rates for these offenders it was necessary to gather information from two other sources: the Police National Computer (PNC) for re-convictions and the Prison National Offender Management Information System (PNOMIS) to confirm the re-offending starting point, sentence length and discharge prison.

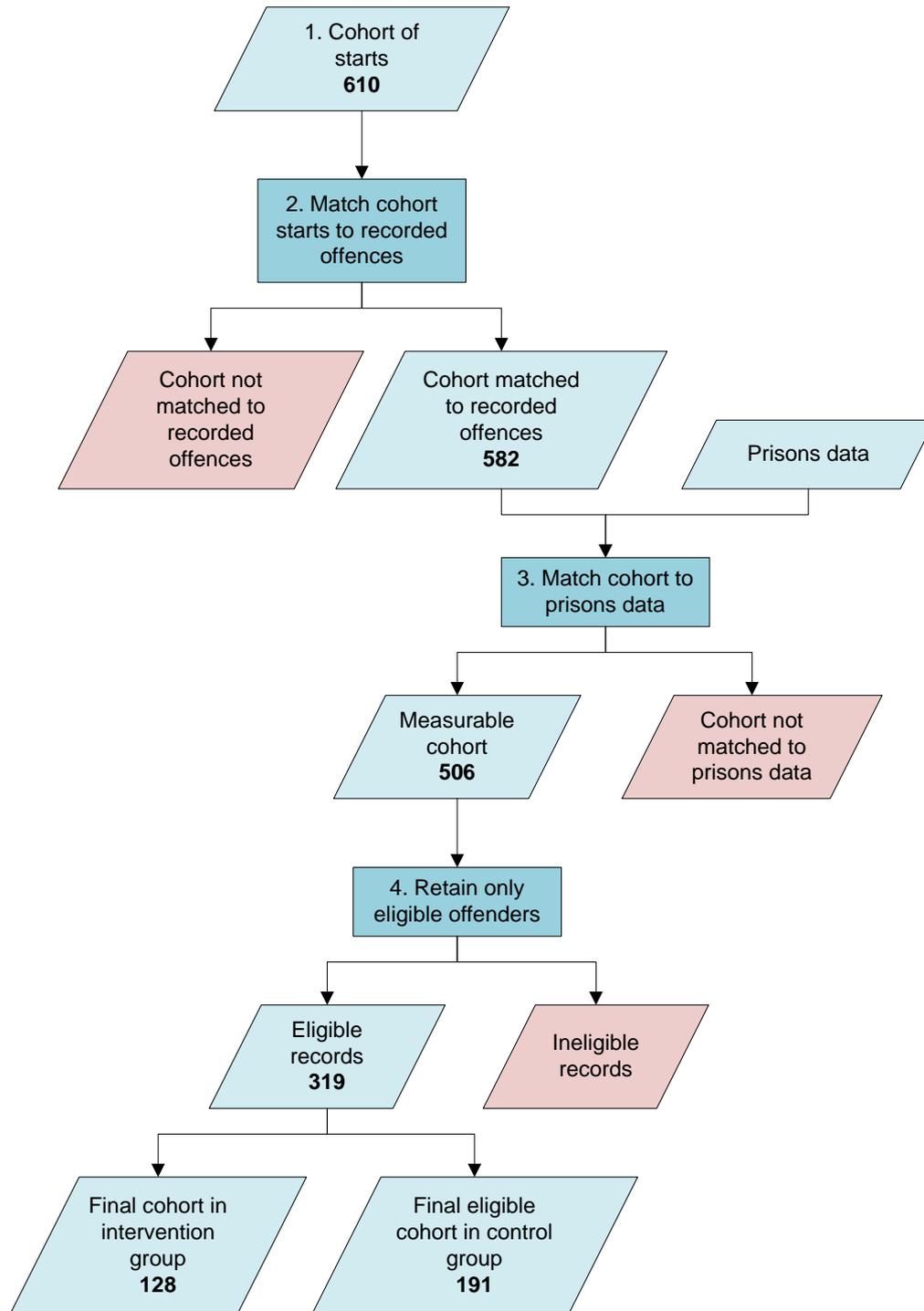
The look up of the 610 referred offenders on the PNC had a 95% retention rate. That is 582 of the original offenders were found on the PNC.

Out of the 582 referrals, 87% were matched to a prison discharge on PNOMIS, which left the count to 506 offenders. However, of these offenders, only 63% complied with the eligibility criteria.

The overall retention rate was 52%, leaving the sample to 319 (191 control + 128 intervention).

The following process map at Figure A1 summarises the methodology described above, with the number of offenders in the dataset written in bold.

**Figure A1: Process map for obtaining the final unique, eligible cohort.**



## Annex B

### Measuring proven re-offending

There is no agreed international standard for measuring and reporting re-offending. An offender's journey through the criminal justice system can be a complex one; offenders can appear on numerous occasions.

Measuring true re-offending is complex. Official records are taken from either the police or courts, but they will underestimate the true level of re-offending because only a proportion of crime is reported and/or detected and not all crimes are recorded on one central system. Furthermore, other methods for measuring re-offending, such as self-report studies, which do not identify the offender, are likely to be unreliable. Therefore, this report aims to estimate proven re-offending for a specified group of offenders using data mainly from the Police National Computer.

Since this report measures re-offending on a consistent basis across all groups, it is possible to tailor analysis of re-offending to meet specific requirements:

- The headline measure – this is the overall measure of re-offending and is presented for different demographic groups and by offence. To provide this **overview of proven re-offending**, offenders are tracked and their proven re-offending behaviour is recorded, taking the **first event**<sup>13</sup> in the **relevant period** as the start point and subsequent events as proven re-offences. Users should refer to tables 1 to 11 and 13 to 15 for the headline measure<sup>14</sup>.
- A headline measure where the first event is related to criminal justice and offender management – this provides a realistic and relevant view of proven re-offending by disposal (sentence type), prison and probation trust. Offenders are tracked and their proven re-offending behaviour is recorded **within** each disposal (caution, court order, release from custody, etc.) or operational unit (prison or probation trust<sup>15</sup>) taking the first event **within** each as the start point and subsequent events as re-offences. Users should refer to tables 12 and 16 to 25 for this headline measure<sup>32</sup>.
- An early estimate of proven re-offending for young offenders– this uses a shorter follow-up and waiting period, but otherwise measures re-offending in exactly the same way as the headline measure. This provides an earlier indication of proven re-offending trends for young offenders and is published as management information alongside the accompanying proven re-offending tables.

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<sup>13</sup> An event is one of the following: a release from custody, convicted at court with a non-custodial sentence, received a caution, reprimand or warning.

<sup>14</sup> Tables 4, 7, 9 to 12, 18, 19, 23 and 25 are published annually in October.

<sup>15</sup> Probation Trusts ceased to exist on 1 June 2014, and were replaced with the National Probation Service and 21 Community Rehabilitation Companies. However, since the reporting period for this bulletin covers October 2012 to September 2013, we have continued to publish statistics at Probation Trust level in the accompanying tables. Changes to relevant tables will be consulted on in due course.

- A re-conviction measure for use by payment by results pilots – this is the measure used in the prison pilots at HMP Peterborough and HMP Doncaster which measures court convictions. For more details, please refer to Annex A.

For a more detailed explanation, please see the accompanying ‘Definitions and Measurement’ document at:

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics)

## **Consultation**

This quarterly bulletin was developed in response to a consultation in late 2010 and early 2011 by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) on “Improvements to Ministry of Justice Statistics”.

## **Users**

The contents of this bulletin will be of interest to Government policy makers, the agencies responsible for offender management at both national and local levels, providers, practitioners and others who want to understand more about proven re-offending.

In particular there are two MoJ impact indicators<sup>16</sup> which will be monitored using results from this bulletin:

- Adult and juvenile re-offending – the percentage of adult and juvenile offenders who re-offend.
- The percentage of adults released from custody who re-offend.

Government policy makers also use these statistics to develop, monitor and evaluate key elements of its policies including those on payments by results, legal aid and sentencing guidelines. Offender management agencies use these statistics to gain a local understanding of the criminal justice system, understand performance and to highlight best practice. Key agencies include: the National Offender Management Service, the Youth Justice Board, private and voluntary sector providers of prison and probation services and local authorities.

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<sup>16</sup> [www.gov.uk/government/publications?departments%5B%5D=ministry-of-justice](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications?departments%5B%5D=ministry-of-justice)

## Annex C

### Glossary of terms

#### Re-offending terms

**Cohort** – this is the group of individuals whose re-offending is measured.

**Index offence** – the index offence is the proven offence that leads to an offender being included in the cohort.

**Index disposal** – the index disposal of the offender is the type of sentence the offender received for their index offence.

**Start point (also known as the index date)** – this is the set point in time from when re-offences are measured.

**Follow-up period** – this is the length of time proven re-offending is measured over.

**Waiting period** – this is the additional time beyond the follow-up period to allow for offences committed towards the end of the follow-up period to be proved by a court conviction, caution, reprimand or final warning.

**Re-conviction** – where an offender is convicted at court for an offence committed within a set follow-up period and convicted within either the follow-up period or waiting period.

**Proven re-offence** – where an offender is convicted at court or receives some other form of criminal justice sanction for an offence committed within a set follow-up period and disposed of within either the follow-up period or waiting period.

**Cohort used in the Proven Re-offending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin** – the proven re-offending cohort consists of all offenders released from custody, otherwise sanctioned at court, receiving a caution, or reprimand or warning in each year. This cohort's criminal history is collated and criminal behaviour is tracked over the following one year. Any offence committed in this one year period which is proven by a court conviction or out-of-court disposal (either in the one year period, or in a further six months waiting period) counts as a proven re-offence.

**Cohort used in the Early Estimates of Re-offending** – the early estimates cohort consists of all offenders released from custody, otherwise sanctioned at court, receiving a caution, or reprimand or warning in each year. This cohort's criminal history is collated and criminal behaviour is tracked over the following three months. Any offence committed in this three month period

which is proven by a court conviction or out-of-court disposal (either in the three month period, or in a further three months waiting period) counts as a proven re-offence.

### **Disposal (sentence type)**

**Fine** – a financial penalty imposed following conviction.

**Court orders** – court orders include community sentences, community orders and suspended sentence orders supervised by the Probation Service. They do not include any pre or post release supervision.

**Criminal Justice Act 2003 (CJA03)** – for offences committed on or after 4 April 2005, the new community order replaced all existing community sentences for adults. The Act also introduced a new suspended sentence order for offences which pass the custody threshold. It also changed the release arrangements for prisoners. See Appendix A of Offender Management Caseload Statistics 2009 for more information.

**Community order** – for offences committed on or after 4 April 2005, the new community order introduced under the CJA 2003 replaced all existing community sentences for those aged 18 years and over. This term refers to all court orders except suspended sentence orders and deferred sentences which may have a custodial component to the sentence. The court must add at least one, but could potentially add all 12 requirements depending on the offences and the offender. The requirements are:

- unpaid work (formerly community service/community punishment) – a requirement to complete between 40 and 300 hours' unpaid work;
- activity – for example, to attend basic skills classes;
- programme – there are several designed to reduce the prospects of re-offending;
- prohibited activity – a requirement not do so something that is likely to lead to further offence or nuisance;
- curfew – which is electronically monitored;
- exclusion – this is not used frequently as there is no reliable electronic monitoring yet available;
- residence – requirement to reside only where approved by probation officer;
- mental health treatment (requires offender's consent);
- drug rehabilitation (requires offender's consent);

- alcohol treatment (requires offender's consent);
- supervision – meetings with probation officer to address needs/offending behaviour; and
- attendance centre – between a minimum of 12 hours and a maximum of 36 in total which includes three hours of activity.

Typically, the more serious the offence and the more extensive the offender's needs, the more requirements there will be. Most orders will comprise of one or two requirements, but there are packages of several requirements available where required. The court tailors the order as appropriate and is guided by the Probation Service through a pre-sentence report.

**Suspended sentence order (SSO)** – the CJA 2003 introduced a new suspended sentence order which is made up of the same requirements as a community order and, in the absence of breach is served wholly in the community supervised by the Probation Service. It consists of an 'operational period' (the time for which the custodial sentence is suspended) and a 'supervision period' (the time during which any requirements take effect). Both may be between six months and two years and the 'supervision period' cannot be longer than the 'operational period', although it may be shorter. Failure to comply with the requirements of the order or commission of another offence will almost certainly result in a custodial sentence.

### **Pre CJA03 Court Orders – Community sentences**

**Community punishment order (CPO)** – the offender is required to undertake unpaid community work.

**Community rehabilitation order (CRO)** - a community sentence which may have additional requirements such as residence, probation centre attendance or treatment for drug, alcohol or mental health problems.

**Community punishment and rehabilitation order (CPRO)** – a community sentence consisting of probation supervision alongside community punishment, with additional conditions like those of a community rehabilitation order.

**Drug treatment and testing order (DTTO)** – a community sentence targeted at offenders with drug-misuse problems.

**Custody** – the offender is awarded a sentence to be served in prison or a Young Offenders Institute (YOI). If the offender is given a sentence of 12 months or over, or is aged under 22 on release, the offender is supervised by the Probation Service on release. It is important to note that the sentence lengths and youth disposals awarded will be longer than the time served in custody. For more information please refer to Appendix A of Offender Management Caseload Statistics 2009.

**Short sentences (under 12 months)** – those sentenced to under 12 months (made under the Criminal Justice Act 1991) spend the first half of their sentence in prison and are then released and considered ‘at risk’ for the remaining period. This means they are under no positive obligations and do not report to the Probation Service, but if they commit a further imprisonable offence during the ‘at risk’ period, they can be made to serve the remainder of the sentence in addition to the punishment for the new offence. The exception to this is those aged 18 to 20 who have a minimum of three month’s supervision on release.

**Sentences of 12 months or over** – the CJA03 created a distinction between standard determinate sentences and public protection sentences. Offenders sentenced to a standard determinate sentence serve the first half in prison and the second half in the community on licence.

### **Youth disposal (sentence type)**

**Reprimand or warning** – a reprimand is a formal verbal warning given by a police officer to a juvenile offender who admits they are guilty for a minor first offence. A final warning is similar to a reprimand, but can be used for either the first or second offence, and includes an assessment of the juvenile to determine the causes of their offending behaviour and a programme of activities is designed to address them.

### **First-tier penalties**

**Discharge** – a juvenile offender is given an absolute discharge when they admit guilt, or are found guilty, with no further action taken. An offender given a conditional discharge also receives no immediate punishment, but is given a set period during which, if they commit a further offence, they can be brought back to court and re-sentenced.

**Fine** – the size of the fine depends on the offence committed and the offender’s financial circumstances. In the case of juveniles under 16, the fine is the responsibility of the offender’s parent or carer.

**Referral order** – this is given to juveniles pleading guilty and for whom it is their first time at court (unless the offence is so serious it merits a custodial sentence or it is of a relatively minor nature). The offender is required to attend a Youth Offender Panel to agree a contract, aimed to repair the harm caused by the offence and address the causes of the offending behaviour.

**Reparation order** – the offender is required to repair the harm caused by their offence either directly to the victim or indirectly to the community.

**Youth Rehabilitation Order** – a community sentence for juvenile offenders, which came into effect on 30 November 2009 as part of the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008. It combines a number of sentences into one generic sentence and is the standard community sentence used for the

majority of children and young people who offend. The following requirements can be attached to a Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO):

- activity requirement
- curfew requirement
- exclusion requirement
- local authority residence requirement
- education requirement
- mental health treatment requirement
- unpaid work requirement
- drug testing requirement
- intoxicating substance misuse requirement
- supervision requirement
- electronic monitoring requirement
- prohibited activity requirement
- drug treatment requirement
- residence requirement
- programme requirement
- attendance centre requirement
- intensive supervision and surveillance
- intensive fostering

The following community sentences are replaced by the YRO, but will continue to exist for those that committed an offence before 30 November 2009. The YRO is only available for those that committed an offence on or after the 30 November 2009.

- action plan order
- curfew order
- supervision order

- supervision order and conditions
- community punishment order
- community punishment and rehabilitation order
- attendance centre order
- drug treatment and testing order
- exclusion order
- community rehabilitation order

### **Prison categories**

**Category B and category C prisons** hold sentenced prisoners of their respective categories, including life sentenced prisoners. The regime focuses on programmes that address offending behaviour and provide education, vocational training and purposeful work for prisoners who will normally spend several years in one prison.

**High security prisons** hold category A and B prisoners. Category A prisoners are managed by a process of dispersal, and these prisons also hold a proportion of category B prisoners for whom they provide a similar regime to a category B prison. The category B prisoners held in a High Security Prison are not necessarily any more dangerous or difficult to manage than those in category B prisons.

**Female prisons**, as the name implies, hold female prisoners. Because of the smaller numbers, they are not divided into the same number of categories although there are variations in security levels.

**Local prisons** serve the courts in the area. Historically their main function was to hold un-convicted and un-sentenced prisoners and, once a prisoner had been sentenced, to allocate them on to a category B, C or D prison as appropriate to serve their sentence.

However, pressure on places means that many shorter term prisoners serve their entire sentence in a local prison, while longer term prisoners also complete some offending behaviour and training programmes there before moving on to lower security conditions. All local prisons operate to category B security standards.

**Open prisons** have much lower levels of physical security and only hold category D prisoners. Many prisoners in open prisons will be allowed to go out of the prison on a daily basis to take part in voluntary or paid work in the community in preparation for their approaching release.

## **Prisoner categories**

These categories are based on a combination of the type of crime committed, the length of sentence, the likelihood of escape, and the danger to the public if they did escape. The four categories are:

**Category A** prisoners are those whose escape would be highly dangerous to the public or national security.

**Category B** prisoners are those who do not require maximum security, but for whom escape needs to be made very difficult.

**Category C** prisoners are those who cannot be trusted in open conditions, but who are unlikely to try to escape.

**Category D** prisoners are those who can be reasonably trusted not to try to escape and are given the privilege of an open prison.

## **Miscellaneous terms**

**National Probation Service** – the National Probation Service generally deals with those aged 18 years and over. (Those under 18 are mostly dealt with by Youth Offending Teams, answering to the Youth Justice Board.) They are responsible for supervising offenders who are given community sentences and suspended sentence orders by the courts, as well as offenders given custodial sentences, both pre and post their release.

**Police National Computer** – the Police National Computer (PNC) is the police's administrative IT system used by all police forces in England and Wales and managed by the National Policing Improvement Agency. As with any large scale recording system the PNC is subject to possible errors with data entry and processing. The MoJ maintains a database based on weekly extracts of selected data from the PNC in order to compile statistics and conduct research on re-offending and criminal histories. The PNC largely covers recordable offences – these are all indictable and triable-either-way offences plus many of the more serious summary offences. All figures derived from the MoJ's PNC database, and in particular those for the most recent months, are likely to be revised as more information is recorded by the police.

**Recordable offences** – recordable offences are those that the police are required to record on the PNC. They include all offences for which a custodial sentence can be given plus a range of other offences defined as recordable in legislation. They exclude a range of less serious summary offences, for example television licence evasion, driving without insurance, speeding and vehicle tax offences.

**Indictable and summary offences** – summary offences are triable only by a magistrates' court. This group includes motoring offences, common assault and criminal damage up to £5,000. More serious offences are classed either

as triable-either-way (these can be tried either at the Crown Court or at a magistrates' court and include criminal damage where the value is £5,000 or greater, theft and burglary) or indictable-only (the most serious offences that must be tried at the Crown Court; these 'indictable-only' offences include murder, manslaughter, rape and robbery). The term indictable offences is used to refer to all triable-either-way and 'indictable-only' offences.

**Offence group** – offences classified into 13 separate offence categories using the Office for National Statistics (ONS) crime classifications. For further information on the classification, please refer to: [www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/crime-statistics-methodology/presentational-changes-on-police-recorded-crime-in-england-and-wales.pdf](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/crime-statistics-methodology/presentational-changes-on-police-recorded-crime-in-england-and-wales.pdf).

## Explanatory notes

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

### Symbols used

..	Not available
0	Nil or less than half the final digit shown
-	Not applicable
*	One or both of the comparison figures are less than 30
(p)	Provisional data

## Contact points

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Tel: 020 3334 3536

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General enquiries about the statistical work of the Ministry of Justice can be e-mailed to: [statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk)

General information about the official statistics system of the United Kingdom is available from <http://statisticsauthority.gov.uk/about-the-authority/uk-statistical-system>

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Alternative formats are available on request from [statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk).



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