



Ministry
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Youth Justice Board
Bwrdd Cyfiawnder Ieuentid



Youth Justice Statistics 2014/15

England and Wales

Youth Justice Board / Ministry of Justice
Statistics bulletin

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Contents

Contents	4
Executive Summary	5
Introduction	14
Statement of use	16
Flows through the Youth Justice System	17
Chapter 1: Gateway to the Youth Justice System	21
Chapter 2: First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System	25
Chapter 3: Characteristics of people in the Youth Justice System	29
Chapter 4: Proven offences by young people	32
Chapter 5: Young People Sentenced	35
Chapter 6: Use of remand for young people	40
Chapter 7: Young people in custody in the youth secure estate	46
Chapter 8: Behaviour management in the secure estate	52
Chapter 9: Proven reoffending by young people	65
Chapter 10: Criminal Histories of Young People	74
Chapter 11: Comparisons with the adult system	77
Links to other resources	82
Explanatory notes	84
Contacts	90
Annex A: Performance Outcomes in the YJS	91
Annex B: Resources in Youth Offending Teams	95
Annex C: Levels of crime experienced by young people	99
Annex D: Average Time from Offence to Completion	101
Annex E: Sources used for each chapter	103

Executive Summary

This publication looks at the English and Welsh Youth Justice System (YJS) in the year ending March 2015 in terms of the number of young people in the system, their offences, outcomes and the trends over time. For the first time, the publication includes statistics on the use of force as recorded under the Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint (MMPR) System, which is used in parts of the youth secure estate.

Overview

The YJS in England and Wales works to prevent offending and reoffending by young people under the age of 18. The system is different to the adult system and is structured to address the needs of young people. The YJS is far smaller than the adult system (see [Chapter 11](#) for more details). The Youth Justice Board (YJB) is the executive non-departmental public body that oversees the YJS in England and Wales.

The overall number of young people in the YJS continued to reduce in the year ending March 2015. Reductions have been seen in the number entering the system for the first time (First Time Entrants, FTEs), as well as reductions in those receiving disposals¹, including those receiving custodial sentences.

Compared to the year ending March 2010, there are now 67% fewer young people who were FTEs, 65% fewer young people who received a youth caution or court disposal² and 57% fewer young people (under 18) in custody in the youth secure estate.

The reoffending rate has increased (by 5.6 percentage points since the year ending March 2008, to 38.0% in the year ending March 2014), but there were significant falls in the number of young people in the cohort, the number of reoffenders and the number of reoffences.

¹ A disposal is an umbrella term referring both to sentences given by the court and to youth cautions issued by the police.

² According to the YJMIS data.

Arrests and youth cautions³

In the year ending March 2015 there were around 950,000 arrests for notifiable offences⁴ in England and Wales, of which 94,960 were of people aged 10-17 years. Therefore arrests of 10-17 year olds accounted for 10% of all arrests. This is the same as the proportion of young people in England and Wales of offending age⁵.

The number of arrests of young people has fallen by 13% between the years ending March 2014 and March 2015. This continues the downward trend seen since the peak in arrests in the year ending March 2007. Since the peak it has fallen by 73%.

Young people from Black, Asian or other minority ethnic (BAME) groups⁶ accounted for 23% of arrests of young people in the year ending March 2015, compared with 75% for White young people⁷. The majority of these (11%) were Black young people.

In the year ending March 2015, the Police issued 20,080 youth cautions (previously reprimands and final warnings)⁸. This is a decrease of 22% on the 25,625 given in the year ending March 2014, and a decrease of 81% on the 106,403 given in the year ending March 2005. Compared with the year ending March 2014, use of cautions fell for all offence types in the year ending March 2015, except for possession of weapons, which rose by 12%.

Proven offences by young people

Overall young people were convicted of 87,160 proven offences (those resulting in a caution or conviction) in the year ending March 2015. The number of proven offences has been decreasing; it has fallen by 4% from the year ending March 2014 and by 70% since the year ending March 2005.

The number of proven offences has fallen amongst most offence types, but increased for violence against the person offences, criminal damage offences and sexual offences compared with the previous year. This has led to a change in the proportional makeup of proven offences by offence type.

The largest proportion of proven offences in the year ending March 2015 were violence against the person offences, which also increased the most compared with

³ Youth cautions (which include youth conditional cautions) are the only out of court disposals currently available for young people. See explanatory notes for further details.

⁴ Notifiable offences are those offences which require the police to record an incident as a crime and report the occurrence to the Home Office.

⁵ In England and Wales people of offending age are classed as those aged 10 years or older. The general 10-17 population figures are from the ONS mid year estimates for 2014.

⁶ Ethnicity information is self-identified.

⁷ Ethnicity was not stated or unknown for 2% of young people

⁸ Historical comparisons between Youth & Youth Conditional Cautions and Reprimands & Warnings should be treated with caution because of changes in legislation. For further information, see Explanatory Notes.

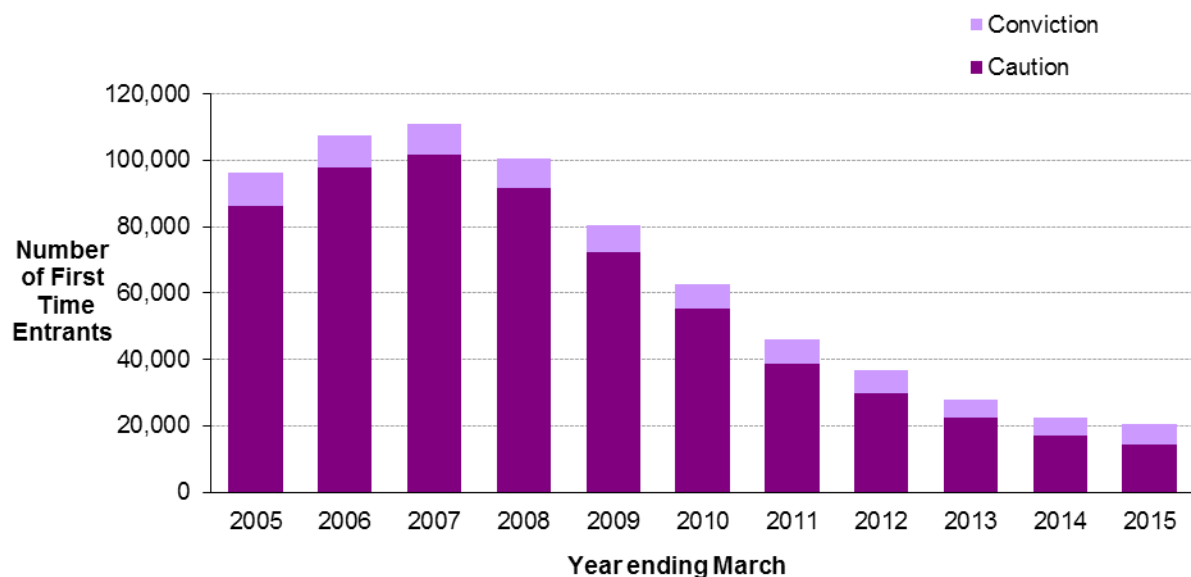
March 2010 (by 4 percentage points) and now make up 24% of total offences over this period. Drug offences and sexual offences also increased, by 2 percentage points and 1 percentage point respectively. On the other hand, the largest decrease was for theft and handling stolen goods which decreased by 4 percentage points. The proportions for criminal damage offences, burglary and robbery remained fairly constant between the years ending March 2010 and March 2015.

First Time Entrants (FTEs)

The number of FTEs in the YJS has continued to fall since it peaked at 110,784 in the year ending March 2007 (**figure ES.1**). In the year ending March 2015 there were 20,544 FTEs. This represents a fall of 9% in the last year and a fall of 82% since the peak number of FTEs.

Of the 20,544 FTEs in the year ending March 2015, 70% received a caution, with the remaining receiving convictions (predominantly resulting in community sentences). The proportion of FTEs receiving a caution has fallen since the year ending March 2005 when they accounted for 90% of FTE disposals.

Figure ES.1: Trends in first time entrants, years ending March 2005 to March 2015



In the year ending March 2015, 31% of FTEs to the YJS were young people aged 10-14 and the average age of a FTE was 15.2 years.

Young people from BAME⁹ groups accounted for 18% of all FTEs in the year ending March 2015 while White young people accounted for 75%¹⁰. This compares to 15% BAME and 82% White in the year ending March 2010¹¹. Since the year ending March 2010, the number of BAME young people entering the YJS has fallen by 61% compared with a 70% fall for White young people.

Young people receiving a substantive outcome¹²

There were 37,946 young people who received a substantive outcome in England and Wales in the year ending March 2015. This number has reduced by 9% from the year ending March 2014 and by 65% since the year ending March 2010.

Use of remand for young people

Young people were remanded at court on 18,414 occasions in the year ending March 2015 (down by 12% on the previous year). In the majority of these cases (87%) the young person was bailed, while in 5% of cases the young person was remanded in the community. In the remaining 8% of cases the young person was remanded in custody. Two thirds (66%) of these custodial remands did not result in a subsequent custodial sentence. On average, there were 240 young people held in the youth secure estate on remand at any one time in the year ending March 2015, representing 23% of the average custodial population.

Young people sentenced

In the year ending March 2015, there were 30,960 young people sentenced in England and Wales. This has fallen by 10% in the last year.

The number of young people sentenced to immediate custody fell by 19% between the years ending March 2014 and March 2015 (from 2,260 to 1,834). This number has fallen by 70% since the year ending March 2005, when 6,127 young people were sentenced to immediate custody.

The average custodial sentence length for young people sentenced for indictable offences was 14.9 months. This is based on the full custodial term (for fixed term sentences only) not just the period actually spend in custody.

Information published by the MoJ in *Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System 2014*¹³ show that in the year ending December 2014, a greater proportion of young people from BAME groups sentenced for indictable offences received

⁹ Ethnicity as recorded by Police on the Police National Computer (not self-reported).

¹⁰ The remaining 7% had unknown ethnicity.

¹¹ The proportion with unknown ethnicity has increased from 2% to 7% over the same period.

¹² A substantive outcome is an out of court or court disposal. The figures in this section come from an extract of the live YJMIS system taken in December 2015.

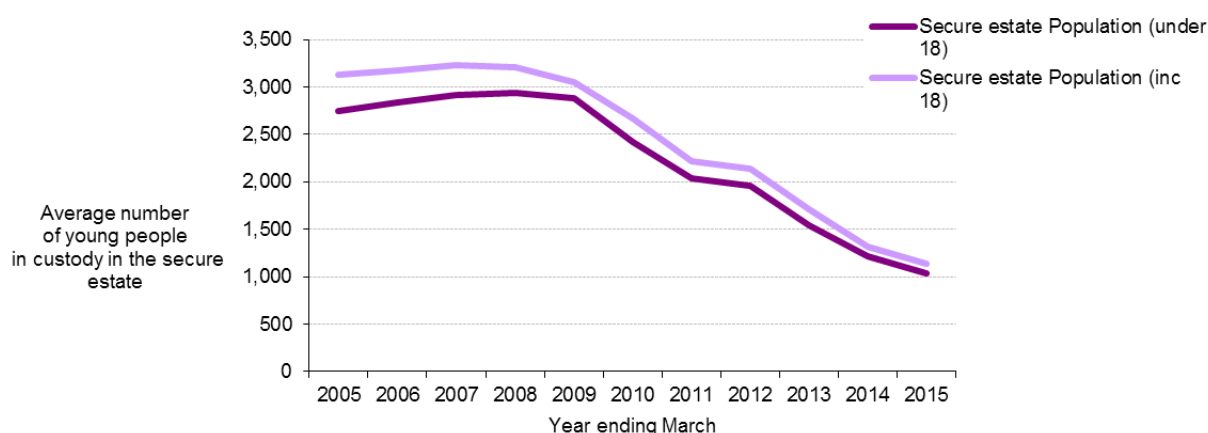
¹³ Published on 26 November 2015 and available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/race-and-the-criminal-justice-system-2014> Proportions are based on individuals with known ethnicity only.

custodial sentences (11%) and a smaller proportion received community sentences (71%) compared with White young people (8% and 74% respectively).

Young people in custody in the youth secure estate¹⁴

The average population of young people in custody in the year ending March 2015 was 1,037. The average population in custody has reduced by 15% in the last year, and by 65% from the peak in the year ending March 2008 (figure ES.2).

Figure ES.2: Average custody population, years ending March 2005 to March 2015



Just as there has been a decline in the average number of young people held in the secure estate, in general there has also been a decline in the number of young people in each offence group since the year ending March 2010.

In the year ending March 2015, 60% of the young people held in custody in the secure estate were from a White ethnic background. Young people from a Black ethnic background accounted for 21% of young people in custody in the secure estate. This compares to 78% of young people who received a substantive outcome in that year who were from a White ethnic background and 9% who were from Black young people across the same period.

¹⁴ Note that although the YJB is only responsible for placing 10-17 year olds. Young people aged over 17 remain in custody in the youth secure estate if they only have a short period of their sentence left to serve, to avoid disrupting their regimes. The data presented in this summary are for the under 18 population only.

The average number of days a young person spent in the secure estate in one episode was 100 days in the year ending March 2015. This remained relatively unchanged from the year ending March 2014 when the average was 99.

The average number of days young people spent in the secure estate by legal basis for detention also remained unchanged for Detention and Training Orders (DTOs) (108 days) and remand (52 days)¹⁵. The average time in custody in the secure estate reduced however for young people detained on long term sentences from 409 days in the year ending March 2014 to 323 days in year ending March 2015.

Behaviour management in the youth secure estate

In the year ending March 2015, there were 28.2 restrictive physical interventions¹⁶ per 100 young people in custody in the youth secure estate. This rate is broadly unchanged when compared with the rate in the previous year (28.4), but follows on from the general increase seen since the year ending March 2010 (when it was 17.6).

In the year ending March 2015, the number of self harm incidents¹⁷ per 100 young people has continued to increase compared with both the year ending March 2010 and the year ending March 2014. The rate was 5.3 in the year ending March 2010 and increased to 6.6 in the year ending March 2014 and 7.7 in the year ending March 2015.

In the year ending March 2015, the number of assaults¹⁸ per 100 young people increased compared with both the year ending March 2010 and the year ending March 2014. In the year ending March 2010 it was 9.0 and increased to 14.3 in the year ending March 2014 and 16.2 in the year ending March 2015.

The number of single separation¹⁹ incidents per 100 young people has decreased quite noticeably, from 94.7 in the year ending March 2010 to 39.0 in the year ending March 2014 and 35.5 in the year ending March 2015.

¹⁵ Please note that the time in the secure estate by legal basis refers to the most precedent legal basis only. See [chapter 7](#) for further details.

¹⁶ Defined as any occasion when force is used with the intention of overpowering or to overpower a young person. Overpower is defined as restricting movement or mobility.

¹⁷ Self harm in custody is defined as any act by which a young person deliberately harms themselves irrespective of the method, intent or severity of any injury.

¹⁸ Figures for assaults in two Secure Training Centres have been revised this year following an error in the data. For more information please see the explanatory notes on data sources and quality.

¹⁹ Single separation refers to the confining of a young person in their bedroom, to another room or area as a means of control and without the young person's permission or agreement, without a member of staff being present and with the door locked in order to prevent exit. The data are only collected for Secure Training Centres and Secure Children's Homes.

There were a total of 2,475 use of force incidents as recorded under the Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint (MMPR)²⁰ system across the five establishments where MMPR has been implemented for the year ending March 2015. This gives an average of 206 use of force incidents per month²¹, and an average of 30 incidents per 100 young people in custody per month. MMPR techniques were involved in 1,439 of these incidents (58%) or an average of 120 incidents per month.

Deaths in custody and number of safeguarding and public protection incidents

In the year ending March 2015, there were no deaths of young people in custody in the secure estate²². Prior to that, there were three deaths during the year ending March 2012. Between the years ending March 2005 and March 2015, there have been eight deaths.

In the year ending March 2015, there were 213 safeguarding and public protection incidents²³. This compares to 254 incidents in the year ending March 2014. It should be noted that in 2013, a new system for reporting these incidents was introduced, so it is too early to say if this is an emerging trend²⁴.

Reoffending by young people

38.0% of young people from the year ending March 2014 cohort reoffended within 12 months of their index disposal or release from custody²⁵ (the reoffending rate), with an average of 3.12 reoffences per reoffender. The reoffending rate for young people has been generally increasing since the year ending March 2008 (by 5.6 percentage points) and by 1.9 percentage points since the year ending March 2013.

²⁰ MMPR is a behaviour management and restraint system that has been developed specifically for staff working with young people in Secure Training Centres and under-18 Young Offender Institutions. See [Chapter 8](#) for further details.

²¹ Two out of the five establishments do not have the full 12 months of data for the year ending March 2015, and because of this, monthly rather than yearly results have been presented.

²² The most recent death was in July 2015. This will be reported in next year's Annual Statistics (year ending March 2016).

²³ There is a requirement for YOTs to report to the YJB safeguarding and/or public protection incidents that occur involving a child under (or recently under) their supervision. Mandatory reporting is required when a child is charged with offences of murder/manslaughter, rape or a MAPPA serious further offence; or if they die (in any circumstances) or are the victim or alleged victim of a suicide attempt or rape. For a more detailed breakdown of the data, information about deaths in custody and safeguarding more generally, refer to the YJB Safeguarding Report, April 2013 - March 2015 available at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/486686/Safeguarding_Report.pdf.

²⁴ For more information on this change, and deaths in custody and safeguarding more generally, refer to the YJB Safeguarding Report, April 2013 - March 2015 available at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/486686/Safeguarding_Report.pdf

²⁵ The index disposal is the type of sentence the offender received that led to their being included in the cohort.

There has been a big change in the number of young people in the cohort (on which reoffending statistics are based); the number has gone down in each year since the year ending March 2007. There have also been decreases in the number of young people that subsequently reoffend and the number of reoffences they committed. However, within this smaller cohort the reoffending rate is higher because the total number of offenders in the cohort has gone down at a faster rate than the number of reoffenders (by 69% for offenders and 66% for reoffenders, compared with the year ending December 2003).

Cautions account for half of the index disposals given to offenders in the cohort. The reoffending rate for young people who received this disposal type had the largest increase between the years ending March 2013 and March 2014 (increasing by 4.3 percentage points to 30.6% in the year ending March 2014). Only 2% of index disposals were for young people released from custody. The reoffending rate for these reduced (by 0.8 percentage points to 67.1 in the year ending March 2014).

The reoffending rate for 10-14 year olds is now higher than that for 15-17 year olds (38.9% and 37.8%, respectively), this higher rate for 10-14 year olds was first seen in proven reoffending quarterly statistics published in October 2015.

Criminal history of young people

The proportion of young people sentenced for indictable offences and who were previously known to the YJS has decreased over time. In the year ending March 2005, 88% of the young people sentenced for an indictable offence, had one or more previous convictions or cautions. By the year ending March 2015 this proportion had fallen to 77%.

In the year ending March 2015, 4% of young people sentenced for an indictable offence had 15 or more previous convictions or cautions. This figure has risen from the 2% in the year ending March 2005 but remained the same from 4% in the year ending March 2014.

In the year ending March 2015, young people convicted and cautioned had on average 2.3 previous convictions/cautions. After remaining relatively stable between the years ending March 2005 to March 2007, the average number of previous convictions or cautions has been generally increasing (except in the last year, when it decreased from 2.5 to 2.3 in March 2015).

Average time from offence to completion

The criminal court timeliness measure is an estimated average of the time criminal cases spend in the Criminal Justice System, across both Magistrates' and Crown tiers of criminal court.

In the year ending March 2015, for all completed criminal cases²⁶ involving young people, the average number of days from the time that the offence took place until the case was completed (and a final decision was made) was 119 days (the median

²⁶ In magistrates and at Crown Courts.

was 87 days). This is an increase on 111 days (median 82 days) in the previous year and continues the upward trend since year ending March 2011.

Introduction

These statistics concentrate on young people in the Youth Justice System (YJS) from 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 (hereafter the year ending March 2015). Following on from the recommendations in the *Overcoming Barriers to Trust in Crime Statistics* report²⁷ this publication guides the user through the flows of the justice system in England and Wales for young people aged 10-17 years.

The data described in this document come from various sources including the Home Office (HO), Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and youth secure estate providers. The report is produced by the Analysis team and the Information team in the Youth Justice Board (YJB) under the direction of the Chief Statistician in the MoJ.

Details of all of the administrative databases, bespoke collections and research findings used for this report can be found in the [Explanatory notes](#). Where data are taken from other publications, links can be found within the chapters. A separate Glossary has been published alongside this report to provide users with further information on the terminology, especially the types of disposals given to young people.

As this is an annual report, the focus is on the year ending March 2015, however, much of the data used in this report are drawn from quarterly publications, and in some cases more up to date information may be available. We hope this document provides an overall summary of the YJS which allows users to find everything in one place. All data referred to are available in the supplementary tables that accompany this report.

The data in this report are compared with the previous year (the year ending March 2014 in most cases) as a short term comparator, the year ending March 2010 as a medium term comparator and where data are available, a longer time series is provided back to the year ending March 2005. Any other reference period is referenced explicitly.

This publication starts by looking at the number of [young people](#) arrested and given youth cautions (previously reprimands and final warnings). It then goes on to look at those who are [entering the system for the first time](#). The publication continues to describe the [characteristics of young people](#) who have been convicted, in terms of their demographics.

The publication also covers the [proven offences](#) committed by young people and the [sentences](#) they received. There are separate chapters on the [use of remand](#) (both in custody and in the community) for young people; details of the profile of [young people in custody](#) in the youth secure estate and [behaviour management in the youth secure estate](#).

²⁷ www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/reports---correspondence/reports/index.html

Towards the end of the publication we look at trends in proven [youth reoffending](#), the [criminal histories](#) of young people in the system and the differences between the trends in the [youth and adult system](#).

In addition, there are annexes to the publication that cover [key outcome measures](#) relating to youth justice, as well as information on [budget and staffing levels](#) in YOTs. There is a reference to the [Crime Survey for England and Wales](#) as well as an annex on the [average number of days from offence to completion](#). There are also details of the [data sources](#) used in this publication.

For the first time, the publication includes statistics on the use of force as recorded under the Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint (MMPR) system, a behaviour management and restraint system that has been developed specifically for staff working with young people in Secure Training Centres (STCs) and under 18 Young Offender Institutions (YOIs)²⁸.

The publication also includes additional information on the ethnic group of young people (for example average age of first time entrants to the YJS by ethnicity) and further comparisons with young adults.

²⁸ This information has previously been published in three adhoc statistical bulletins, the first of which was in January 2014 and covered the first six months' use of MMPR at Rainsbrook STC, the first establishment to implement MMPR. The information is being incorporated in this National Statistics publication as there is now information from a greater number of establishments over a longer time period than previously available.

Statement of use

The focus for this publication is to draw together a range of statistical data about young people (aged 10-17 years) in the Youth Justice System (YJS) in the year ending March 2015. The publication is intended to help users understand the various stages of the YJS in England and Wales, and the volume of young people at each stage.

The contents of the report will be of interest to government policy makers and those monitoring policy, the agencies engaged with the YJS at both national and local levels, as well as academics, the voluntary and community sector and others who want to understand more about the YJS.

‘National Statistics’ designation

The UK 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 continue to be observed.

In this publication information is presented mainly on the new offence group breakdowns.

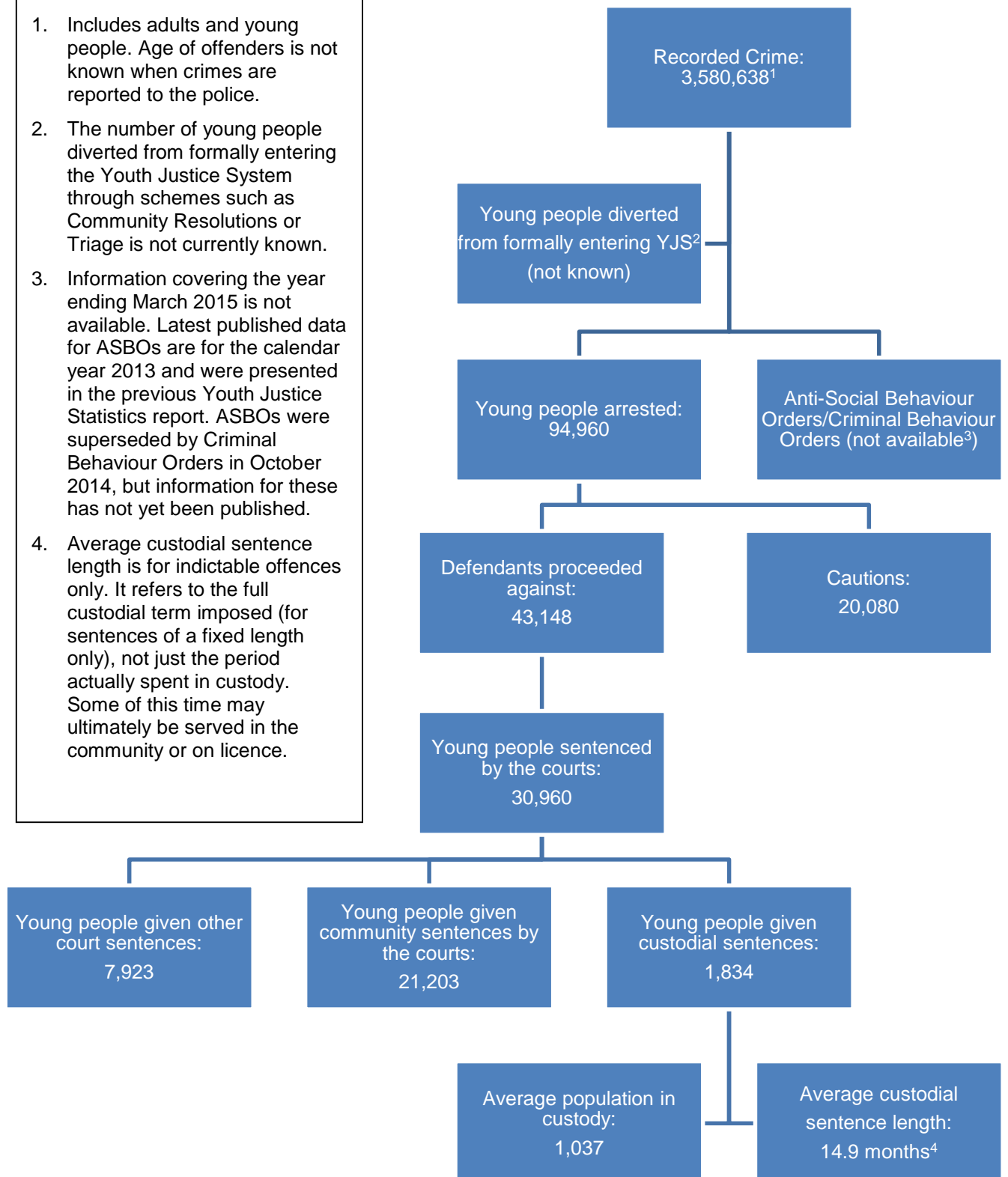
For further information on the terms used in this report, please see the Glossary provided.

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.

Flows through the Youth Justice System, year ending March 2015

Notes on flow chart:

1. Includes adults and young people. Age of offenders is not known when crimes are reported to the police.
2. The number of young people diverted from formally entering the Youth Justice System through schemes such as Community Resolutions or Triage is not currently known.
3. Information covering the year ending March 2015 is not available. Latest published data for ASBOs are for the calendar year 2013 and were presented in the previous Youth Justice Statistics report. ASBOs were superseded by Criminal Behaviour Orders in October 2014, but information for these has not yet been published.
4. Average custodial sentence length is for indictable offences only. It refers to the full custodial term imposed (for sentences of a fixed length only), not just the period actually spent in custody. Some of this time may ultimately be served in the community or on licence.



Understanding the flows through the Youth Justice System

In the year ending March 2015 there were about 3.6 million crimes **reported to the police** in England and Wales. At the time of reporting these crimes, the age of the person responsible is not always known.

The police in England and Wales made around 950,000 arrests for notifiable offences in the year ending March 2015, and of these 94,960 (10%) were of young people aged 10-17. Not all young people who come into contact with the police formally enter the Youth Justice System (YJS); some will be diverted through schemes such as Triage or a restorative justice programme²⁹. The number of young people who are diverted from the system at this stage is unknown³⁰. In some cases no further action will be taken against a young person, the case will be dropped or they are found to be not guilty at court, which is why arrest figures are higher than those of disposals.

The complete number of offences committed by young people that come to the attention of the police or other criminal justice agencies will be higher than is shown by these statistics, due to the reasons set out above.

In the year ending March 2015 there were 43,148 young people proceeded against and 20,080 given a youth caution. It should be noted that the same young person may be responsible for more than one offence in a given period (for example a young person may be cautioned for an offence in April and then receive a referral order for a different offence in September).

There are a number of ways offences are dealt with either outside or inside the courts. These are outlined below.

Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBOs) and Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs)

ASBOs are a civil disposal given to young people for low level anti-social behaviour. The ASBO is not a formal criminal disposal, but to breach the conditions of an ASBO can result in a criminal outcome, including a custodial sentence. Data on ASBOs are published by the Home Office and the Ministry of Justice. The latest data are for the year ending December 2013 when 277 ASBOs were issued to young people. Detailed information on ASBOs were presented in last year's Youth Justice Statistics report and for completeness, are included in the supplementary tables published alongside this report.

CBOs were introduced by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and superseded ASBOs with effect from 20 October 2014. However, information on

²⁹ For more information please see the YJB Case Management Guidance on out of court disposals: www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-out-of-court-disposals/use-out-of-court-disposals-section-1-case-management-guidance

³⁰ For more information please see the User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics: www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/116226/user-guide-crime-statistics.pdf

CBOs issued has not yet been published as they have only been available since October 2014.

Youth Cautions (includes youth conditional cautions)

These are the out of court disposals currently available for young people³¹. In the year ending March 2015, 20,080 youth cautions were issued by the Police. Note that from 8 April 2013, reprimands and final warnings were replaced by youth cautions and youth conditional cautions were made available to all 10-17 year olds (they were only available for 16 and 17 year olds in five pilot areas from 26 January 2010).

Court proceedings and young people sentenced

In the year ending March 2015 there were 43,148 defendants (aged 10-17) proceeded against in the courts. Of these 30,960 were sentenced for their offences. Those who were not sentenced may have been found not guilty or had the case against them dropped. Of those that were sentenced:

- 7,923 young people were sentenced to first tier³² sentences (including fines and discharges);
- A further 21,203 young people were sentenced to community sentences, the majority being referrals orders and youth rehabilitation orders. See Glossary for more information;
- A relatively small number of young people were sentenced to immediate custody (1,834) accounting for 6% of all young people sentenced. The average custodial sentence given for indictable only offences was 14.9 months³³. The most common type of custodial sentence given was a Detention and Training Order (DTO), where half the time is typically served in custody and the remainder in the community on licence and under Youth Offending Team (YOT) supervision.

³¹ Previously, penalty notices for disorder were another out of court disposal available for young people. They were financial penalties for low level offences for 16-17 year olds. However they are no longer available for persons under 18 from 8 April 2013.

³² This is an umbrella term used for the following orders made at court: bind overs, discharges, fines and deferred sentences. For more information please see the Glossary.

³³ The average custodial sentence length refers to the full custodial term imposed (for sentences of a fixed length only), not just the period actually spent in custody. Some of this time may ultimately be served in the community on licence.

Information on waiting times

In the year ending March 2015, the average (mean³⁴) time from offence to completion for youth arrest³⁵ for young people was 98 days and the median³⁶ time was 66 days.

The average time from offence to completion consists of the following processes:

- Offence to arrest - mean 12 days, median 0 days;
- Arrest to charge - mean 22 days, median 1 day;
- Charge to first listing at court - mean 18 days, median 15 days;
- First listing to completion - mean 45 days, median 21 days.

³⁴ The mean is the total time for all the relevant criminal cases, divided by the number of cases.

³⁵ Where a Magistrate's youth panel sat and the date of arrest is known.

³⁶ The median is the value that lies in the middle when all the time values are arranged in order of size. Unlike the mean, it is not influenced by a small number of extreme values.

Chapter 1: Gateway to the Youth Justice System

This chapter provides details of young people who were arrested³⁷ and given out of court disposals. During the year ending March 2015, the out of court disposals available to young people were youth cautions and youth conditional cautions³⁸. Previously, out of court disposals also included Penalty Notices for Disorder. However, from 8 April 2013, these were no longer available for persons aged under 18. They are therefore not presented in this report but historical information is available in the previous Youth Justice Statistics report³⁹.

The arrest data come from the Home Office. Further information is available in the Police powers and procedures publication for England and Wales available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/police-powers-and-procedures-england-and-wales>

The data on youth cautions has been taken from the MoJ's Court Proceedings Database (CPD). For further information see the quarterly Criminal Justice Statistics publication:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

Information on young people sentenced can be found in [Chapter 5](#) and definitions can be found in the Glossary.

Key findings

- In the year ending March 2015, there were 94,960 arrests of young people (aged 10-17) for notifiable offences⁴⁰, accounting for 10% of the total number arrested, which is the same as the proportion of young people in the offending age population⁴¹ (that is those aged 10 and over).
- In the year ending March 2015, there were 20,080 youth cautions given to young people in England and Wales. This is a decrease of 22% on the 25,625 given in the year ending March 2014, and a decrease of 81% on the 106,403 given in the year ending March 2005.

³⁷ In previous publications of Youth Justice Statistics, up to date arrest data were not available by the date of publication and therefore information presented was for the year before the relevant period. The arrest data for the year ending March 2015 were published by the Home Office in November 2015 and therefore, for the first time the publication includes arrest data for the relevant period.

³⁸ From 8 April 2013, youth cautions replaced reprimands and warnings and youth conditional cautions were made available to all 10-17 year olds please see explanatory notes for further details.

³⁹ Available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-justice-annual-statistics-2013-to-2014>

⁴⁰ Notifiable offences are those offences which require the police to record an incident as a crime and report the occurrence to the Home Office.

⁴¹ Taken from the ONS mid-year (census) population estimates for 2014.

1.1 Arrests for notifiable offences

Figures on arrests reported to the Home Office rely on incidents being reported to and recorded by the police. They can also be affected by police priorities and practices, and therefore should not be used to infer total levels of crime committed by young people.

In the year ending March 2015, there were 94,960 arrests of young people (aged 10-17) for notifiable offences. Arrests of young people accounted for 10% of total arrests, which is the same as the proportion of young people in the offending age population (that is those aged 10 and over).

While young males accounted for 8% and young females 2% of the total number of people arrested. They each accounted for 5% of the overall offending age population, respectively.

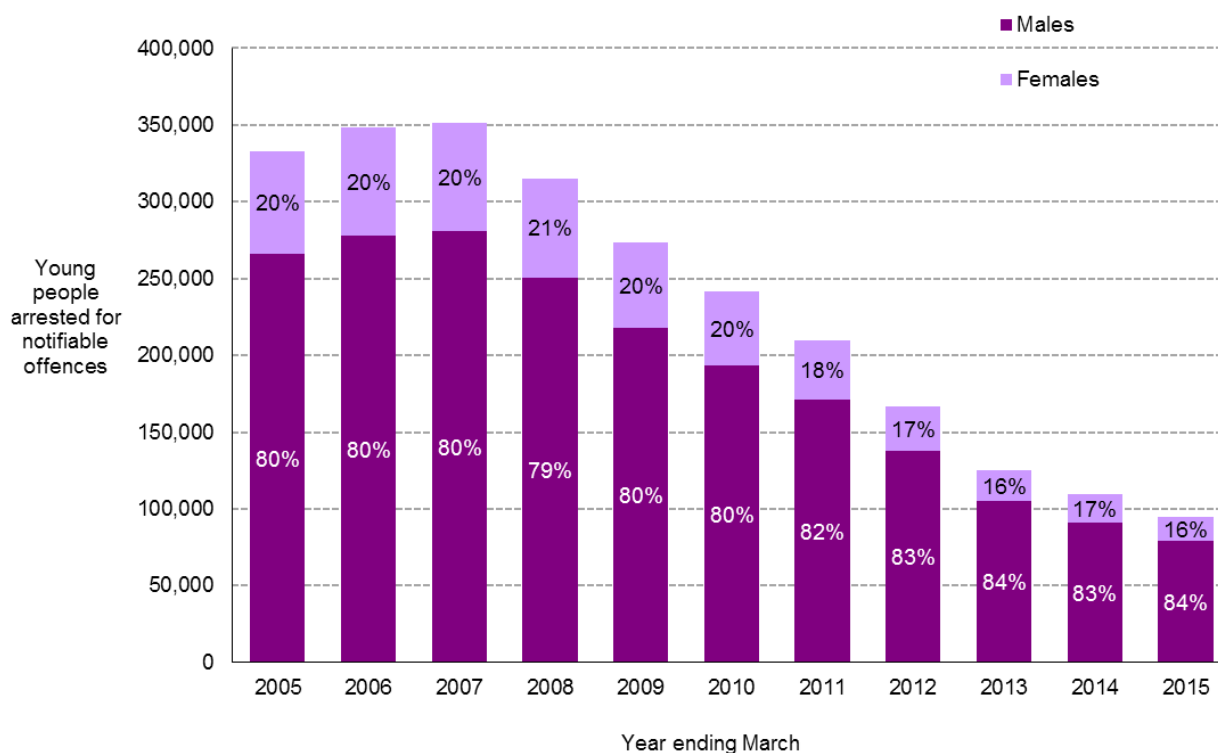
Young people from Black, Asian and other Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups accounted for 23% of total arrests, while 75% were White of all young people arrested⁴².

The downward trend seen since the peak in arrests in the year ending March 2007 has continued. Between the years ending March 2014 and March 2015, arrests of young people fell by 13%. The largest percentage fall in this period was for robbery (down by 27%).

Between the years ending March 2005 and March 2015 arrests of young people fell by 71%, from 332,800 to 94,960. The types of offences that had the largest percentage falls over that period were criminal damage; theft and handling stolen goods; and fraud and forgery. However, in the last year the number of young people arrested for sexual offences increased by 4% to 3,454.

⁴² For 2% of those arrested, ethnicity was not recorded.

Figure 1.1: Trends in arrests of young people for notifiable offences by gender, years ending March 2005 to March 2015



1.2 Youth cautions ⁴³

Excluding motoring offences, there were 20,080 youth cautions given to young people in the year ending March 2015. This was a decrease of 22% on the 25,625 given in the year ending March 2014, and a decrease of 81% on the 106,403 given in the year ending March 2005. At its peak in the year ending March 2007, the number was 131,660.

Between the years ending March 2014 and March 2015 the number of youth cautions fell by 23% for females, and 20% for males.

In general, since peaking in the year ending March 2007, the number of youth cautions has fallen year on year for young people from all ethnic groups (and between the years ending March 2014 and March 2015, those from White groups had the largest percentage fall of 27%). The exception to this was young people from the 'Other' ethnic group; the number receiving youth cautions doubled between the years ending March 2014 and March 2015. However, Other ethnic groups only make

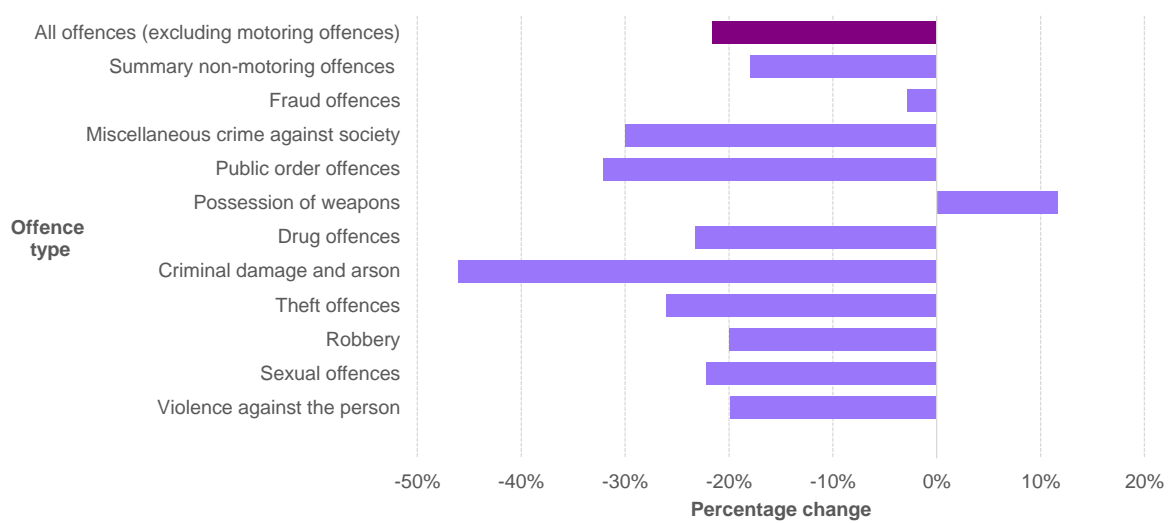
⁴³ Since 8 April 2013 reprimand and final warnings for young people have been replaced with a new out of court disposal: The Youth Caution for young offenders. The guidance is published at the link www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/354050/yjb-youth-cautions-police-YOTs.pdf

See explanatory notes for further details.

up a small proportion of young people receiving a youth caution (1% until the year ending March 2015 when it was 2%).

With the exception of possession of weapons, between the years ending March 2014 and March 2015, there were decreases in the use of cautions across all offence types, including a 46% decrease in the number of young people given youth cautions for criminal damage and arson; and a 32% fall in those for public order offences. There was also a 22% decrease in young people given youth cautions for sexual offences, from 346 to 269. Cautions for possession of weapons increased by 12% from 671 to 749.

Figure 1.2: Percentage change in youth cautions by type of offence, between years ending March 2014 and March 2015



Chapter 2: First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

This chapter provides an overview of the number of first time entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice System (YJS). It is based on data recorded on the Police National Computer (PNC) and covers information up to the year ending March 2015.

This data relates to proven offences only, where a young person is given a formal caution or court disposal. As such this is not a measure of the amount of crime committed by young people, as only a proportion of crimes are detected and resolved, and the age of offender is not known until the point of arrest. For the latest MoJ publication please see:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly.

A FTE is an offender who has received their first reprimand, warning, caution or conviction for an offence processed by a police force in England or Wales or by the British Transport Police. Other sanctions given by the police are not counted.

The figures shown for first offences follow the same definition as for first time entrants and therefore agree with the FTE figures. A further offence is any other primary offence recorded on the PNC that resulted in a reprimand, warning, caution or conviction and where the offender had received at least one of these sanctions on a previous occasion. For more information on criminal histories please see [Chapter 10](#).

Key findings

- The number of FTEs has continued falling since the peak of 110,784 in the year ending March 2007. Between the years ending March 2014 and March 2015, the number has fallen by 9% (from 22,648 to 20,544). Since the year ending March 2010, it has fallen by 67% and since the year ending March 2005, the number has fallen by 79%.
- The proportion of FTEs receiving a caution (previously reprimand or warning⁴⁴) has also continued to fall. In the year ending March 2005, 90% of FTEs had a caution, compared with 70% in the year ending March 2015.
- FTEs to the YJS are getting older. Their average age increased from 14.6 to 15.2 years between the years ending March 2005 and March 2015.

⁴⁴ Since 8 April 2013 reprimand and final warnings for young people have been replaced with a new out of court disposal: The Youth Caution for young offenders. The guidance is published at the link www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/354050/yjb-youth-cautions-police-YOTs.pdf

See explanatory notes for further details

- In the year ending March 2015, there were 52,990 offences⁴⁵ committed by young people (aged 10-17 years) recorded on the PNC, who had at least one offence that resulted in a caution or conviction. Of these 39% were first offences, and the rest were further offences. This compares to 196,481 offences committed by young people in the year ending March 2005, with 49% being first offences.

2.1 Trends in First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

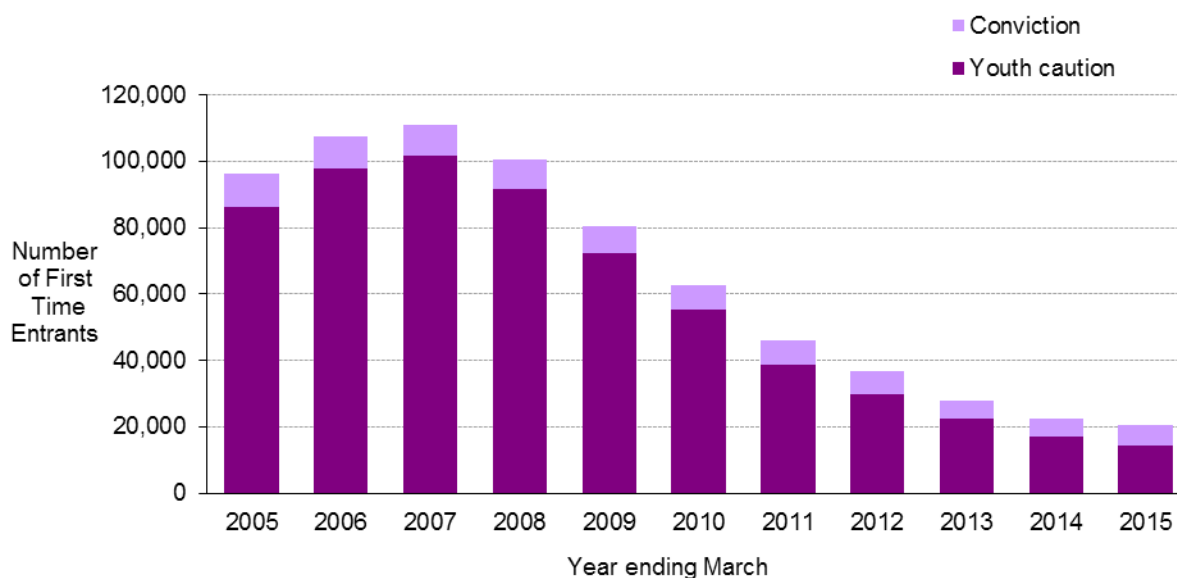
The number of FTEs has continued to fall. The number has fallen by 79% (from 96,165 to 20,544 in the years ending March 2005 to March 2015). Since its peak in the year ending March 2007, it has fallen by 82%. In the last year, it has fallen by 9% (from 22,648 to 20,544 in the years ending March 2014 and March 2015).

Of the 20,544 FTEs in the year ending March 2015, 14,429 (70%) received a caution, with the remaining 6,115 receiving convictions (predominantly community sentences). The proportion of FTEs receiving a youth caution (previously reprimand or warning) has fallen when compared with the year ending March 2005 (when 90% of FTEs had an out of court disposal).

The most common type of offence committed were summary non-motoring offences (less serious offences that can be heard only in the magistrates' court). In the year ending March 2015, 36% of FTEs committed this offence type. This was followed by theft offences (23%) and drug offences (13%). Over the last 10 years, the proportion of theft offences and drug offences has changed while that for summary non-motoring offences has remained broadly the same. Between the years ending March 2005 and March 2015, the proportion of theft offences decreased (from 33% to 23%) while that for drug offences increased (from 6% to 13%).

⁴⁵ Where there were multiple offences on the same occasion, only the recorded primary offence would be counted. Therefore figures may differ from the number of proven offences in chapter 4, which include all offences.

Figure 2.1: Trends in first time entrants, years ending March 2005 to March 2015



2.2 Trends in First Time Entrants by demographic characteristics

In the year ending March 2015, FTEs were 15.2 years old on average, and 31% were aged 10-14. A larger proportion of 17 year olds received a conviction than for the younger age groups.

The number of young females entering the YJS is falling at a greater rate than that for young males (85% fall for females compared with a 76% fall for males since the year ending March 2005). Consequently, females accounted for 31% of all FTEs in the year ending March 2005 compared with 21% in the year ending March 2015.

Young people who were from a Black, Asian or other Minority Ethnic (BAME) group accounted for 18% of all FTEs in the year ending March 2015 while White young people accounted for 75%^{46,47}. This compares to 15% BAME and 82% White in the year ending March 2010⁴⁸. Since the year ending March 2010, the number of BAME young people entering the YJS has fallen by 61% compared with 70% for White young people, so the proportion of BAME young people among FTEs is increasing.

FTEs to the YJS are getting older. Their average age increased from 14.6 to 15.2 years between the years ending March 2005 and March 2015. In general, FTEs who were BAME had a higher average age than those who were White, with those from Other ethnic groups consistently having the highest average age (15.7 years in the year ending March 2015). In the year ending March 2015, Black young people were a comparable age to their White counterparts (both about 15.2 years).

⁴⁶ Ethnicity as recorded by Police on the Police National Computer (not self reported).

⁴⁷ The remaining 7% had unknown ethnicity.

⁴⁸ The proportion with unknown ethnicity has increased from 2% to 7% over the same period.

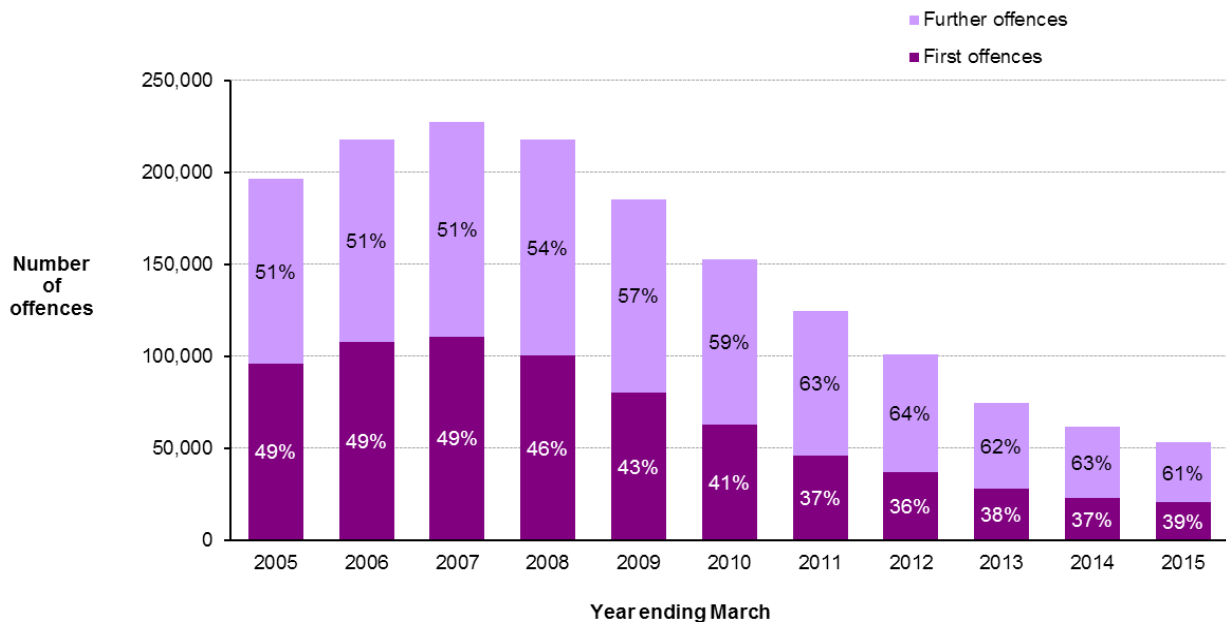
Between the years ending March 2005 and March 2015, the average age for FTEs increased the most for White young people (from 14.5 to 15.2 years) and the least for Black young people (14.8 to 15.2 years).

2.3 First Offences and Further Offences Committed by Young People

In the year ending March 2015, there were 52,990 offences committed by young people; 39% of these (20,544) were first offences and 61% were further offences (32,446).

The number of first and further offences have both decreased since they peaked (first offences peaked in the year ending March 2007, further offences in the year ending March 2008). The proportion of first offences is less than that of further offences. Between the years ending March 2008 and March 2012 the proportion of offences committed which are first offences decreased year on year. Since then, the proportion has remained fairly stable.

Figure 2.2: First and further offences committed by young people, years ending March 2005 to March 2015



Chapter 3: Characteristics of people in the Youth Justice System

This chapter reports on the demographic characteristics of the young people who received an out of court or court disposal (a substantive outcome) in the year ending March 2015. It is important to note that these figures relate to the number of individual young people who received a substantive outcome and not the number of offences or disposals. These data are taken from the Youth Justice Board's (YJB) Youth Justice Management Information System (YJMIS). The data in the YJMIS was submitted by local Youth Offending Teams (YOTs).

In addition to the above YOTs will also be working with young people on prevention programmes and with some young people on disposals from previous years. Therefore the figures presented in this chapter are not a count of the total number of young people that the local YOTs worked with. In addition YOTs do not work with all young people who received youth cautions. Some young people who received cautions will be dealt with by the Police and will not be referred to a YOT.

The data from the YJMIS is available, broken down by each YOT in the local level tables that accompanies this publication.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-justice-statistics.

Key findings

- According to data held on the YJMIS, 37,946⁴⁹ young people received a substantive outcome in the year ending March 2015. This is a reduction of 9%% from 41,569 in the year ending March 2014.
- Overall, 82% of young people who received a substantive outcome were male, and 77% were aged 15 years or older⁵⁰.
- The majority of young people who received a substantive outcome (78%) came from a White ethnic background.

⁴⁹ This figure and all the YJMIS data used in chapters 3 and 6 comes from an extract of the live YJMIS system taken in December 2015.

⁵⁰ YOTs work with a small number of young people who are aged over 17 and are still finishing their disposal.

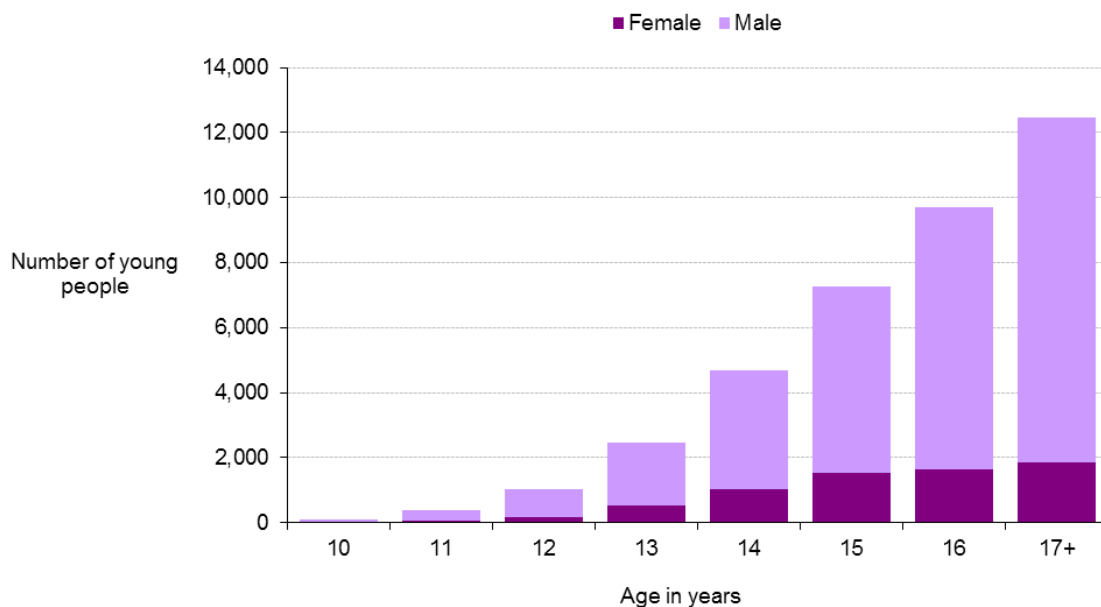
3.1 Demographics of young people in the Youth Justice System

There were 37,946 young people who received a substantive outcome in the year ending March 2015 and 82% of the young people were male.

There were 8,630 young people aged 10-14⁵¹ receiving a substantive outcome in the year ending March 2015, a reduction of 6% from the 9,179 in the year ending March 2014. Young people aged 10-14 accounted for 23% of the young people sentenced in the year ending March 2015, compared with 22% in the year ending March 2014.

The number of young females aged 10-14 receiving a substantive outcome was 6,802 in the year ending March 2015, a reduction of 12% from the year ending March 2014. The number of young males aged 10-14 was 6,829 and the number of young males aged 15 and over was 24,402 in the year ending March 2015, representing a reduction of 4% and 9% from the year ending March 2014.

Figure 3.1: Age and gender of young people convicted of an offence, year ending March 2015



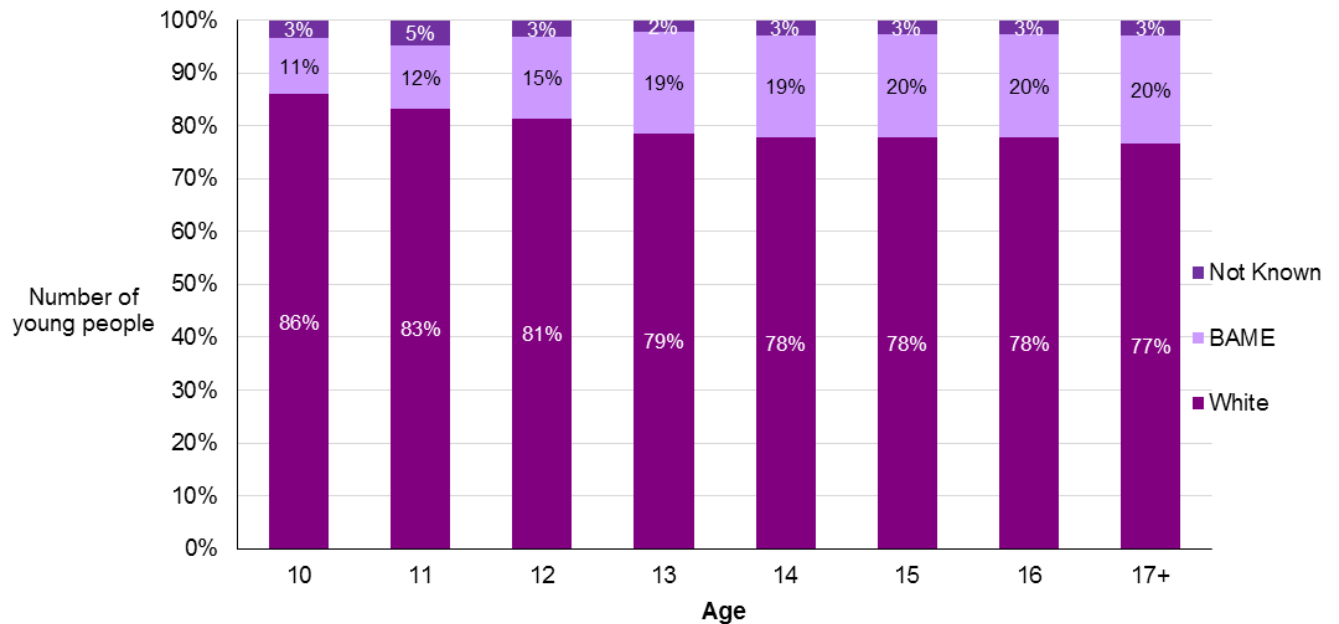
Young people from a White ethnic background⁵² accounted for 78% of all young people receiving a substantive outcome in the year ending March 2015. Those from a Black ethnic background accounted for 9% and those from an Asian ethnic background for 5%. Young people from a Mixed ethnic background also accounted for 5%. The Chinese and other ethnic group made up 1%.

⁵¹ Age is taken at the point a young person receives a substantive outcome, not the age they were when they committed the offence.

⁵² Ethnicity data from YJMIS is self reported.

These proportions have been fairly stable since the year ending March 2010. There has been a reduction in the number of young people with ethnicity recorded as 'unknown', from 7% in the year ending March 2014 to 3% in the year ending March 2015⁵³.

Figure 3.2 Proportion of young people convicted on an offence by self-identified ethnicity, year ending March 2015



⁵³ A historical issue with a number of YOT case management systems was fixed within the year ending March 2015 which has led to the reduction in young people with an ethnicity recorded as unknown.

Chapter 4: Proven offences by young people

This chapter covers proven offences by young people in the year ending March 2015⁵⁴. It includes information on the types of offences committed by young people in the year ending March 2015 and over time. The data has been taken from the Youth Justice Board's (YJBs) Youth Justice Management Information System (YJMIS) database. The offence breakdown differs from the main offence types⁵⁵ used by the MoJ.

Key findings

- Young people aged between 10 and 17 (at date of sentence) committed 87,160 proven offences for which they received a disposal in the year ending March 2015 according to YJMIS data. This is down by 4% from the year ending March 2014.
- The number of proven offences committed by young people has reduced by more than two thirds (70%) since the year ending March 2005.
- The main offence types for young people in the year ending March 2015 were; violence against the person (24% of the total), theft and handling (17%) and criminal damage (12%).

4.1 Types of proven offences by young people

In the year ending March 2015, there were 87,160 proven offences by young people resulting in a formal disposal (either in or out of court).

The main offence types for young people in the year ending March 2015 were;

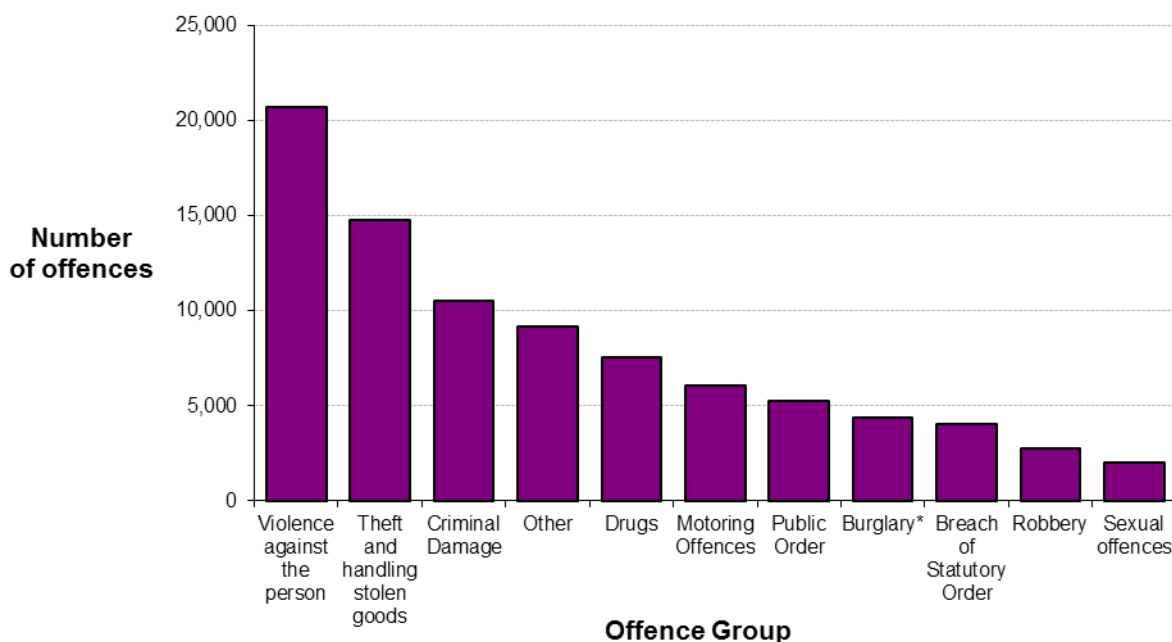
- Violence against the person (24%),
- Theft and handling (17%)
- Criminal damage (12%)

There were 2,000 sexual offences for which a young person was convicted or cautioned in the year ending March 2015, this accounted for 2% of all offences.

⁵⁴ Based on data extracted from YJMIS taken in December 2015.

⁵⁵ The main offence groups used in this report differ from those used by the MoJ, for example the offence of common assault is classed as a summary offence by the MoJ, while here it is included under violence against the person. Burglary includes domestic and non-domestic burglary. Further details on 'other' offences can be found in the supplementary tables.

Figure 4.1: Proven offences by young people, year ending March 2015

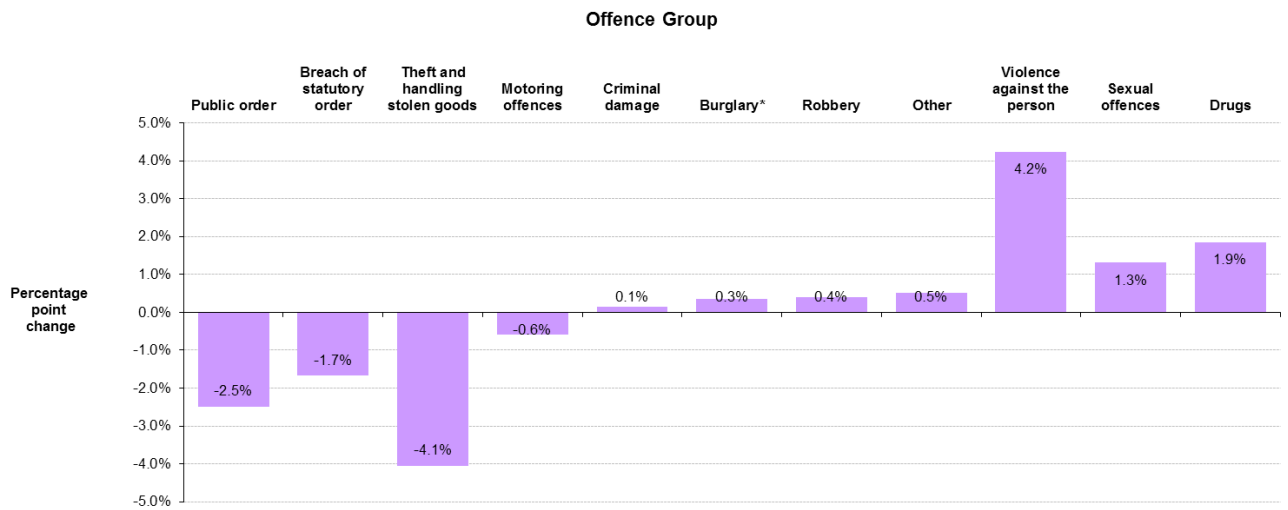


4.2 Trends in Proven offences by young people

The number of proven offences by young people has fallen by 70% between the years ending March 2005 and March 2015. The number of proven offences fell by 4% in the last year, from 90,769 proven offences in the year ending March 2014 to 87,160 in the year ending March 2015.

Between the years ending March 2010 and March 2015 the prevalence of different offence types, as a proportion of all proven offences, has changed. The largest increase was in violence against the person, which increased by 4 percentage points to 24% of all offences. Drug offences and sexual offences also increased, by 2 percentage points and 1 percentage point respectively. On the other hand, the largest decrease was for theft and handling stolen goods which decreased by 4 percentage points. The proportions for criminal damage offences, burglary and robbery remained fairly consistent over this period (all changed by less than 0.5 percentage points).

Figure 4.2: Percentage point change in proven offences by young people, years ending March 2010 and March 2015



Chapter 5: Young People Sentenced

This chapter covers young people proceeded against, found guilty at courts and sentenced for proven offences in the year ending March 2015. The data has mostly been taken from the MoJ's Court Proceedings Database (CPD). For more information please see:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

This chapter also covers information on parenting orders from the CPD and information about the requirements associated with Youth Rehabilitation Orders (YROs) taken from the YJB's Youth Justice Management Information System (YJMIS) - see the Glossary for more details.

Key findings

- In the year ending March 2015 there were 43,148 young people proceeded against at magistrates' courts, a fall of 10% on the number in the year ending March 2014 and following the downward trend seen since the year ending March 2005.
- 30,949 young people were found guilty at courts in the year ending March 2015 which was 72% of all young people proceeded against.
- In the year ending March 2015, there were 30,960 young people (aged 10-17) sentenced at criminal courts in England and Wales. The total number of young people sentenced fell by 10% from 34,362 in the year ending March 2014.
- The number of young people sentenced to immediate custody fell by 19%, from 2,260 in the year ending March 2014 to 1,834 in the year ending March 2015. The number of young people sentenced to immediate custody has fallen by 70% since the year ending March 2005, when there were 6,127 young people receiving this type of sentence.

5.1 Young people proceeded against

In the year ending March 2015, there were 43,148 young people proceeded against at magistrates courts. Of these, 23,935 (55%) were for indictable offences, 16,578 (38%) were for summary non-motoring offences and 2,635 (6%) were for summary motoring offences.

In the year ending March 2015, 30,949 young people were found guilty at courts, with 72% of these being males aged 15-17. Of all young people found guilty, the most common offence types were:

- summary non-motoring (accounting for 38% of all offences);
- theft offences (22%); and
- drug offences (8%).

5.2 Young people sentenced

In the year ending March 2015, there was a total of 30,960 young people sentenced for all types of offences. When examined by type of sentence:

- 1,834 young people were sentenced to immediate custodial sentences, with most (86%) of these being Detention and Training Orders (DTOs);
- 21,203 young people were sentenced to community sentences, including 12,777 Referral Orders and 8,238 Youth Rehabilitation Orders (YROs) which made up 39% of all community sentences
- 7,923 young people were sentenced to other types of sentences (these include discharges, fines and otherwise dealt with disposals. See the separately published Glossary for more details).

5.3 Trends in the number of young people sentenced

The total number of young people sentenced at court has fallen by 10% from 34,362 in the year ending March 2014 to 30,960 in the year ending March 2015.

Since the year ending March 2005 the total number of young people sentenced at court has fallen by 67%, from 94,645 in the year ending March 2005 to 30,960 in the year ending March 2015.

The number of young people sentenced to immediate custody fell by 19% from 2,260 in the year ending March 2014 to 1,834 in the year ending March 2015. The number of young people receiving this type of sentence has fallen by 70% since the year ending March 2005, when there were 6,127 young people sentenced to immediate custody.

The number of young people sentenced to community sentences fell by 8% from 22,981 in the year ending March 2014 to 21,203 in the year ending March 2015. The number of young people receiving these types of sentences has fallen by 63% since the year ending March 2005, when 57,025 young people were sentenced to community sentences.

For community sentences, the number of young people given YROs fell by 17% between the year ending March 2014 and the year ending March 2015, from 9,932 to 8,238. The number of young people being sentenced to a Referral Order has remained fairly static in the last year; 12,746 in the year ending March 2014 and 12,777 in the year ending March 2015.

Figure 5.1: Trends in the number of young people sentenced, years ending March 2005 to March 2015



5.4 Trends in the number of young people sentenced for indictable offences⁵⁶

There were 30,960 young people sentenced for all offences in the year ending March 2015, of these 17,055 (55%) were for indictable offences. The figure of 17,055 in the year ending March 2015 represented a reduction of 63% since the year ending March 2005 and a 14% reduction since the year ending March 2014. Males accounted for 89%⁵⁷ of all young people sentenced for indictable offences. This proportion has fluctuated between 85 and 89% (where the gender is known) in the last decade.

⁵⁶ Criminal offences are divided into three main offence groups; Indictable; Summary non-motoring; and Summary motoring. Please refer to the glossary for further details of these offence groups. This chapter focuses on Indictable offences only as Summary non-motoring offences (such as TV license evasion) and Summary motoring offences (such as speeding and driving whilst disqualified) are often unlikely to result in a court disposal.

⁵⁷ Based on where gender is known.

5.5 Youth Rehabilitation Orders

This section covers details of the requirements associated with Youth Rehabilitation Orders (YROs) recorded by Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) for the year ending March 2015, in the YOT case management systems. These data are a further breakdown of the types and number of requirements taken from the YJB's Youth Justice Management Information System (YJMIS).

The YRO is a generic community sentence for young people. It was designed to simplify sentencing, while improving the flexibility of interventions available to address individual needs and risks. There are 18 different types of requirements⁵⁸ that can be attached to a YRO, and it is possible for one young person to have multiple requirements. For further details of the type of requirements available, please see the Glossary.

In the year ending March 2015, 8,238 young people were given YROs by the courts according to data from the MoJ.

Please note that a large number of YROs (3,309) recorded in YJMIS did not have any requirement data attached to them. This represents 40% of all YROs. All YROs given should have requirements attached⁵⁹.

In the year ending March 2015 according to YJMIS, 18,443 requirements were recorded on 7,227 young people (more details are given in Table 5.6 of the supplementary tables).

- A quarter of YROs given had only one requirement attached to them, with 31% having two requirements attached. Only 7% of YROs had five or more requirements attached.
- The most commonly used single requirement type was a Supervision requirement. It was used in 35% of the recorded YRO requirements.
- Other common requirements included; 'Activity' (18% of requirements), 'Curfew' (14%), 'Electronic Monitoring' (12%), 'Programme' (7%), 'Unpaid Work' (4%) and 'Attendance Centre Orders' (3%).

5.6 Parenting Orders

A court may impose an order on a parent or carer when their son or daughter aged 10–17 years is convicted of an offence; is subject to an Anti-Social Behaviour Order or Sex Offender Order; where a Child Safety Order is made; or where a parent has been convicted of failing to make sure that the young person attends school. Parenting orders can be imposed on parents either as an attachment to their child's

⁵⁸ To enhance data presentation, requirement types that have been used less than 100 times are grouped under the heading 'All other'. Please see the Glossary for more details.

⁵⁹ Please see explanatory notes for further details.

sentence or as an attachment to a sentence they themselves have received. These data come from the Court Proceedings Database held by MoJ.

In the year ending March 2015 there were 276 parents issued with parenting orders by the courts, of which 215 were attached to young people's sentences and 61 issued to adults directly as part of their sentence. The number fell by 26%, from 371 in the year ending March 2014. Since the year ending March 2011 the number of people sentenced to parenting orders has fallen by 71% (from 936 to 276).

Chapter 6: Use of remand for young people

This chapter covers information on the use of remand for young people in the Youth Justice System. When the court makes the decision to remand a young person they have a number of options, including custodial remands, community remands including remand to local authority accommodation or a range of bail options (see the Glossary for more details on remand types).

Data for this chapter is gathered from a number of sources and covers:

1. Types of remand⁶⁰ given to young people as reported by YOTs from the YJB's Youth Justice Management Information System (YJMIS);
2. Characteristics of the population in custody on remand from YJB's eAsset system (see data sources for information);
3. Outcomes for young people following custodial remand from the MoJ's Court Proceedings Database.

Key findings

- There were 18,414 remand episodes⁶¹ given by the courts for young people in the year ending March 2015, down by 12% on the year ending March 2014.
- Remand decisions that involved young people being bailed (conditional or unconditional bail) accounted for 87% of remand episodes.
- There were a further 5% of remand episodes where a young person was remanded in the community, including remand to local authority accommodation.
- 8% of remand episodes involved young people being remanded to custody.
- The average population in custody on remand in the year ending March 2015 was 240 young people, accounting for 23% of the average custodial population, compared with 24% in the year ending March 2010.
- While the overall number of young people in custody has fallen by 15% in the year ending March 2015, the number on remand has fallen by 8%.

⁶⁰ Including conditional and unconditional bail, community remand and remand to custody.

⁶¹ The total number of sentencing occasions with substantive remand. Data are presented in this way because the data model used in YJMIS requires the remand to be linked to a sentencing occasion or court hearing.

- For those young people remanded to custody in the year ending March 2015, 66% were not given a custodial outcome following their remand. Of these, 32% were acquitted and 34% were given other court convictions.
- The average time spent on remand was 52 days in year ending March 2015; which remained broadly unchanged compared with year ending March 2014 when the average was 51 days.

6.1 Types of remand given to young people

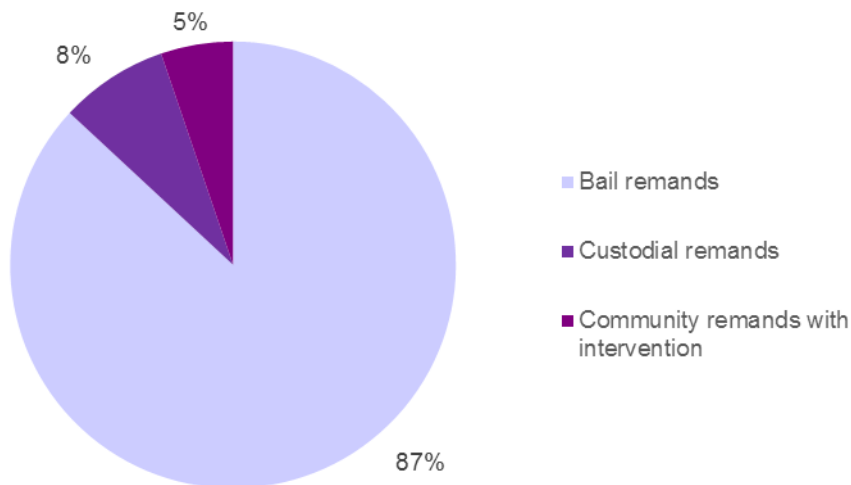
Data for this section is reported by YOTs from the YJB's Youth Justice Management Information System (YJMIS);

This section presents the number of remand decisions made in the year ending March 2015. The most restrictive remand decision applied during the course of the court proceeding is presented in this chapter. So, where a young person was given more than one remand decision during the court process, only the most restrictive is shown. Remand episodes do not equate to the number of young people. One young person can have multiple remand episodes throughout the year.

In the year ending March 2015, there were 18,414 court sentencing occasions where young people were given a type of remand as part of the court process. This is a reduction of 12% from the 20,953 sentencing occasions with a remand in the year ending March 2014. Of the 18,414 occasions in the year ending March 2015 where young people were given a substantive type of remand:

- For 1,456 occasions custodial remand was the most restrictive decision applied, down by 25% from the year ending March 2014;
- For 972 occasions community remand episodes (with an intervention), were the most restrictive decision applied, down by 23% from the year ending March 2014;
- For 16,032 occasions bail remand episodes (conditional and unconditional) were the most restrictive decision, down by 10% since the year ending March 2014.

Figure 6.1: Type of remand decisions for young people, year ending March 2015



6.2 Characteristics of the population in the secure estate on remand

These data comes from the eAsset database which consists of data from the youth secure estate. For more information on the general youth population in custody see [Chapter 7](#).

There was an average of 240 young people aged under 18 in custody on remand at any one time in the year ending March 2015. The majority (70%) were held in a Young Offender Institution (YOI).

Young people held on remand accounted for 23% of the average secure estate population in the year ending March 2015, compared with 21% in the year ending March 2014.

While the overall number of young people in custody in the secure estate has fallen by 15% between the year ending March 2014 and the year ending March 2015, the number on remand has fallen by 8%.

Most young people in custody in the secure estate on remand were there for serious offences, including; 39% for violence against the person offences, 25% for robbery and 13% for burglary offences. The proportion of young people on remand for violence against the person offences increased from 26% in the year ending March 2014.

The average time spent on remand was 52 days in the year ending March 2015; which remained broadly unchanged compared with the year ending March 2014 when the average was 51 days ([Chapter 7](#)).

Of the average population in custody in the secure estate on remand in the year ending March 2015:

- Over half (53%) were aged 17;
- 97% were male;
- 48% were White and 29% were Black.

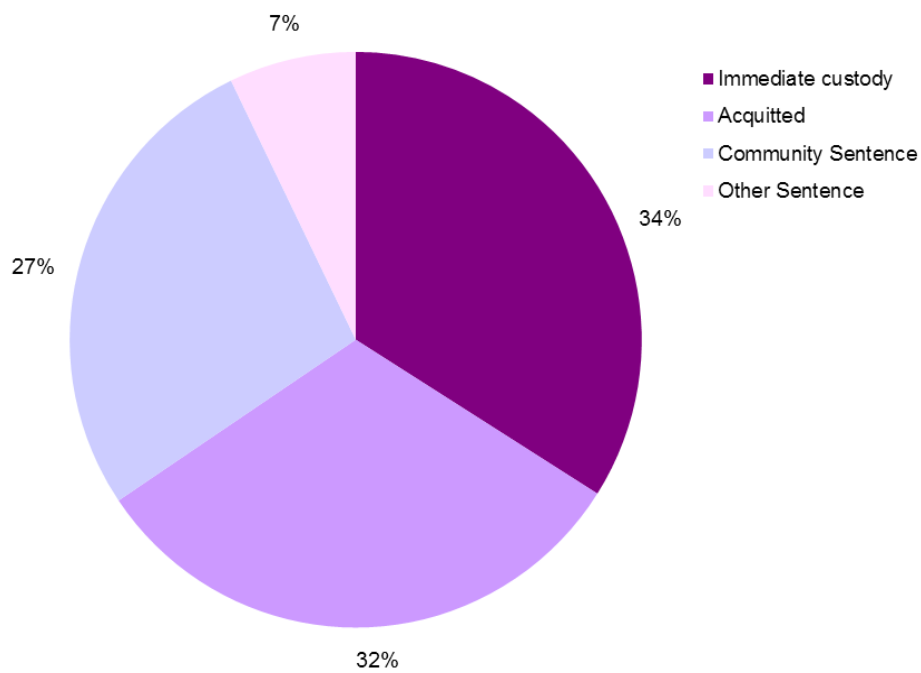
6.3 Outcomes for young people following custodial remand, year ending March 2015

Not all young people placed in custodial remand were subsequently given a custodial sentence. Data from the MoJ's Court Proceedings Database shows the outcomes for young people remanded into custody.

For those young people given custodial remand in the year ending March 2015, 66% were not given a custodial outcome following their remand. Of these, 32% were acquitted⁶² and 34% were given other court convictions (27% community sentences and 7% other sentences). The percentage of young people not given a custodial sentence following a custodial remand has increased from 54% in the year ending March 2010 to 66% in the year ending March 2015. The figure was slightly up from the year ending March 2014 when 63% of young people were given a non-custodial outcome following a custodial remand.

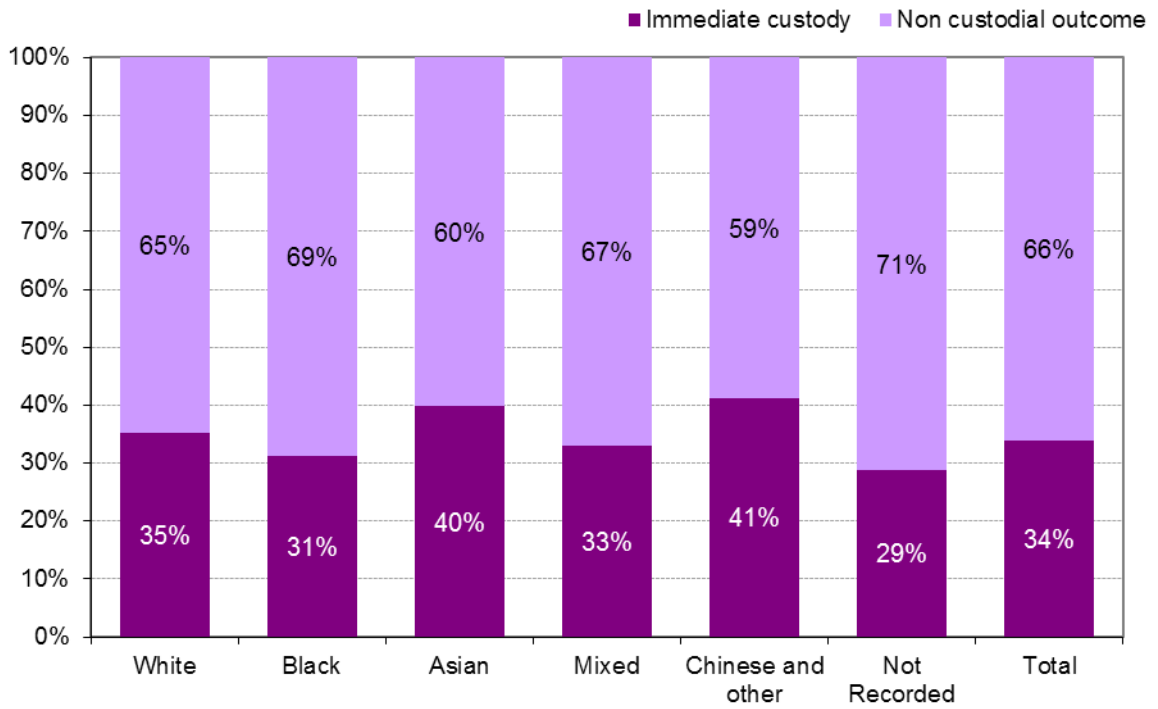
⁶² 'Acquittal' at magistrates courts' includes proceedings that are discontinued, withdrawn or dismissed and those discharged under s6 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980.

Figure 6.2: Outcomes following custodial remand, year ending March 2015



In the year ending March 2015, 41% of young people Chinese or other ethnic group and 40% of Asian young people were given a custodial sentence following a custodial remand. This compares with 35% of White young people and 33% of Mixed young people and 31% of Black young people.

Figure 6.3 Outcomes for young people on custodial remand⁶³, by self-identified ethnicity as a percentage of total, year ending March 2015



⁶³ Including those remanded in custody at any stage of proceedings at magistrates' courts or at the Crown Court who may also have been given bail at some stage of those proceedings.

Chapter 7: Young people in custody in the youth secure estate

This chapter provides data on the population of young people in custody in the youth secure estate during the year ending March 2015. The custody data are from the YJB's eAsset database, which consists of data from the youth secure estate (Young Offender Institutions [YOIs], Secure Children's Homes [SCHs] and Secure Training Centres [STCs]). The YJB changed from the Secure Accommodation Clearing House System (SACHS) data to the eAsset database from March 2012. Data prior to April 2012 are from the SACHS database.

Due to the different recording systems there may be some changes between the year ending March 2012 and the year ending March 2013.

For provisional data after March 2015 please see the Youth Custody Statistics:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-custody-data

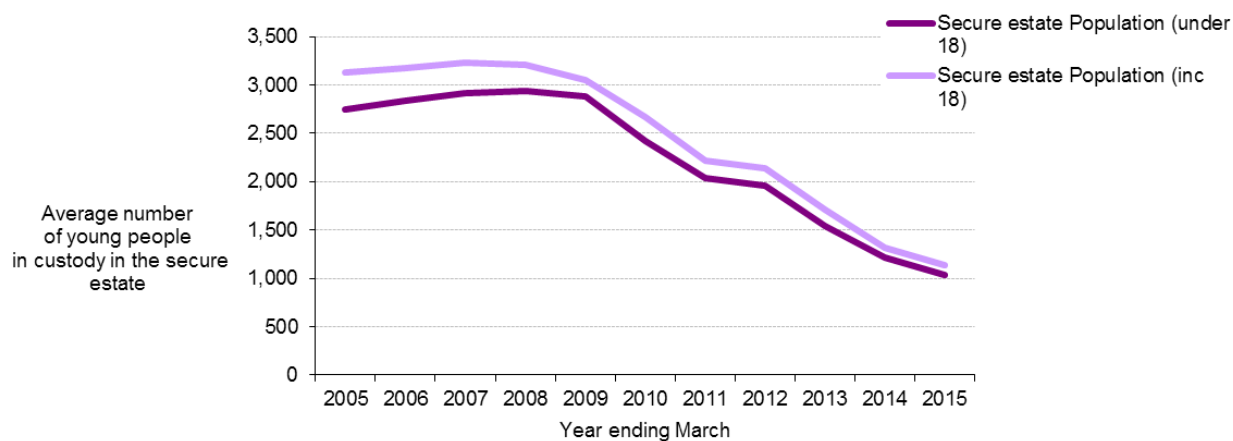
Please note that although the YJB is only responsible for placing 10-17 year olds, young people aged over 17 remain in the youth secure estate if they only have a short period of their sentence left to serve, to avoid disrupting their regimes. Unless stated otherwise, the data presented here are for the under 18 population only.

All female YOIs were decommissioned in July and August 2013, therefore any 17 and 18 year old females that remain in the youth secure estate will be held in STCs or SCHs.

Key findings

- The average under 18 population in the secure estate in the year ending March 2015 was 1,037, down by 15% from an average of 1,216 in the year ending March 2014.
- The average under 18 population in the secure estate has fallen by 62% from 2,746 in the year ending March 2005.
- The highest proportion of young people held in the secure estate were there for violence against the person offences, accounting for 30% of the secure estate population in the year ending March 2015. The proportion of young people held for this offence also increased the most from the year ending March 2014, by 5 percentage points.

Figure 7.1: Average secure estate population, years ending March 2005 to March 2015



7.1 Legal basis for detention for young people in the secure estate

Over half (54%) of the average population of young people (under 18) in the secure estate in the year ending March 2015 were serving a Detention and Training Order (DTO). A further 23% were held on remand. The remaining 23% were serving long-term sentences (see the Glossary for more details).

7.2 Offences resulting in young people going into the secure estate

Just as there has been a decline in the average number of young people held in the secure estate, in general there has also been a decline in the number of young people in each offence group since the year ending March 2010. The exceptions to this from the year ending March 2014 were the slight increases in the average number of young people held in the secure estate for violence against the person and sexual offences.

Most young people held in the secure estate in the year ending March 2015 were there for serious offences, including:

- 30% for violence against the person offences;
- 29% for robbery offences;
- 15% for burglary offences.

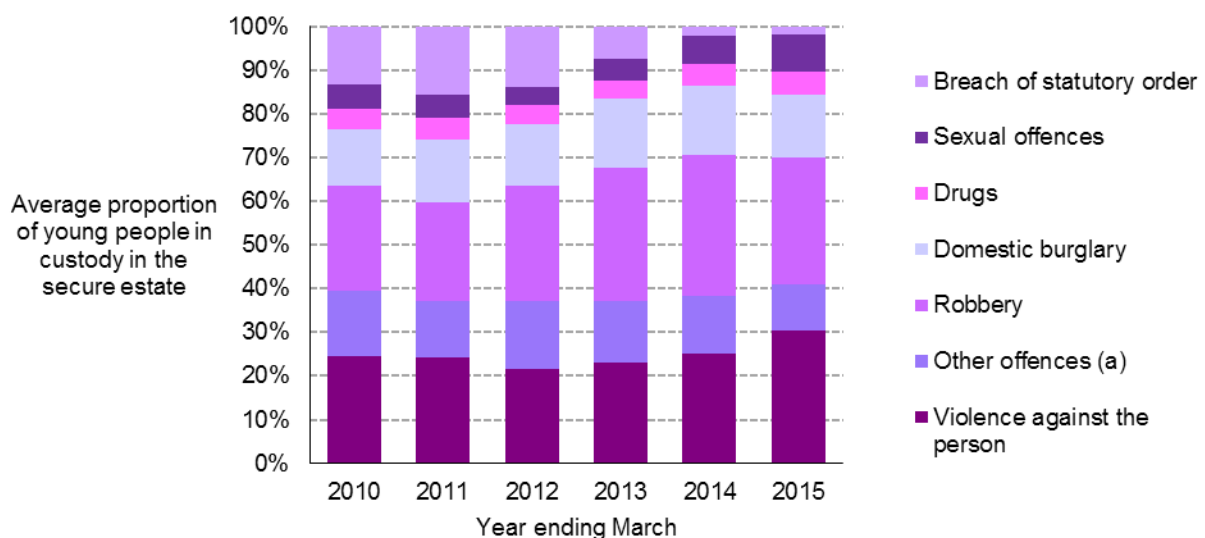
The proportion of young people in the secure estate for violence against the person offences has increased from 25% to 30% of the average population between the year ending March 2010 and the year ending March 2015.

Over the same time period, the proportion of young people in the secure estate for robbery has risen from 24% of the population to 29% of the population.

From the year ending March 2010 to the year ending March 2015, the proportion of those held in the secure estate for sexual offences has increased from 5% to 8%.

The number of young people held in the secure estate for breach of statutory order has reduced from 13% in the year ending March 2010, to 2% in the year ending March 2015. A change in data recording between different administrative systems may account for a large part of this decrease⁶⁴.

Figure 7.2: Proportion of average secure estate population (under 18) by primary offence group, years ending March 2010 to March 2015



(a) List of offence groups counted under Other offences are: arson, breach of bail, criminal damage, death or injury by dangerous driving, fraud and forgery, motoring offences, non domestic burglary, not known, other, public order, racially aggravated, theft and handling stolen goods, vehicle theft / unauthorised taking.

7.3 Demographic characteristics of young people in the secure estate

In the year ending March 2015, 96% of the young people (under 18) held in the secure estate were male. Most (96%) of the young people (under 18) held in the secure estate were aged 15-17 years.

In the year ending March 2015, 60% of the young people held in custody were from a White ethnic background⁶⁵. Young people from a Black ethnic background accounted for 21% of young people in custody. This compares to 78% of young

⁶⁴ Within the SACHS administrative system, the offence group for Breaches of DTO were recorded as Breach of Statutory Order, however, within eAsset the original offence of the DTO is recorded.

⁶⁵ Ethnicity data from eAsset and SACHS is self-reported

people who received a substantive outcome in that year who were from a White ethnic background and 9% who were from Black young people in that year.

[CHAPTER 3](#)

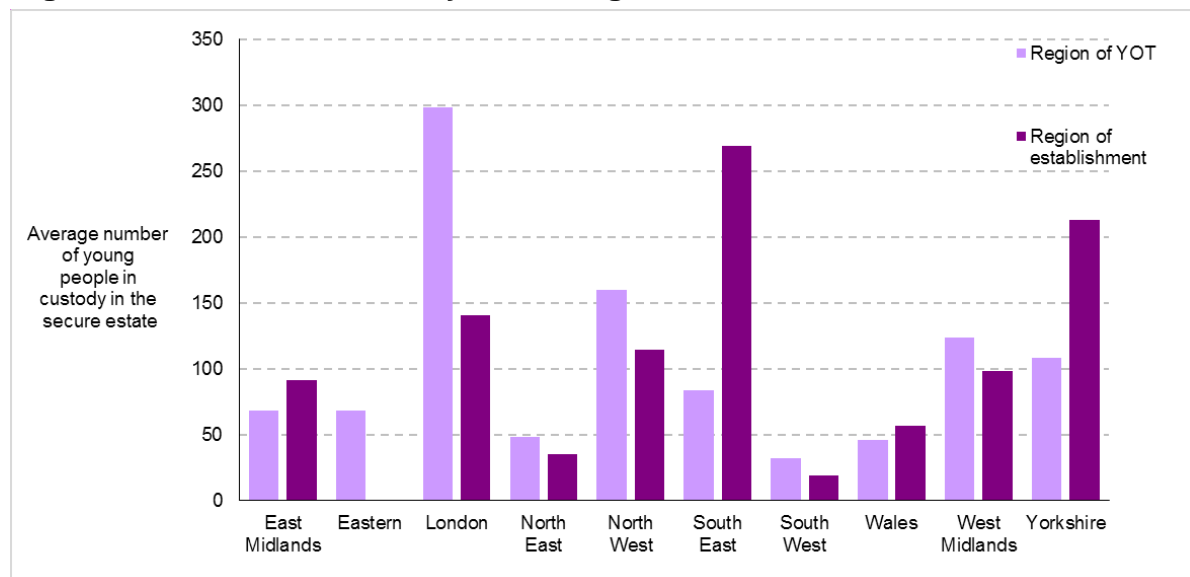
In the year ending March 2015, of those held in the secure estate, 37% of young people with from the Chinese and other ethnic background were held on remand. This is compared with 19% of young people from a White ethnic background, 32% of young people from a Black ethnic background, 29% of young people with a Mixed ethnic background and 23% from an Asian ethnic background.

7.4 Location for young people (under 18) held in the secure estate

In the year ending March 2015, most (69%) young people (under 18) held in the secure estate were in YOIs, 21% were in STCs and the remaining 10% in SCHs. See Glossary for more information.

In the year ending March 2015, 29% of young people in the secure estate were attached to London YOTs. The one London establishment accommodated 14% of the total custodial population⁶⁶. In the same period, 8% of young people in the secure estate were attached to YOTs from the South East region, the four establishments located in the South East⁶⁷ held 26% of the custodial population. It is not always possible to place young people in establishments close to their homes as placement decisions are determined by a number of factors, including the risks and needs of individual young people and available capacity at establishments.

Figure 7.3: Average secure estate population (under 18) by region of YOT and region of establishment, the year ending March 2015



⁶⁶ Feltham YOI is the only London establishment, and holds young boys aged 15-17 sentenced or remanded to Youth Detention Accommodation.

⁶⁷ The four establishments in the South East region are: Cookham Wood YOI, Kent; Medway STC, Kent; Oakhill STC, Hertfordshire; and Swanwick Lodge SCH, Hampshire.

7.5 Time in days spent in the youth secure estate for young people (under 18)

The figures below refer to the time in days young people spend within the youth secure estate. Some young people serving long term sentences or those who are remanded beyond their 18th birthday will transition to the over 18 custody. These young people are not included in the figures below. The figures refer to those young people who leave the secure estate before their 18th birthday.

The figures presented are for both the average time a young person spent in the secure estate in a single custodial episode and the average length of time spent by legal basis for detention. These figures represent the young person's most serious type of legal basis only.

The average number of days a young person spent in the secure estate in one episode was 100 days in the year ending March 2015. This remained relatively unchanged from the year ending March 2014 when the average was 99.

The average number of days young people spent in the youth secure estate solely on remand⁶⁸ was 52 days, the same as in the year ending March 2015.

The average number of days a young person spent in the youth secure estate with a DTO as their most serious type of legal basis for detention⁶⁹ remained relatively unchanged from 109 in the year ending March 2014 to 108 in the year ending March 2015. For young people detained under a long term sentence the average number of days spent in the secure estate reduced from 409 in the year ending March 2014 to 323 in year ending March 2015.

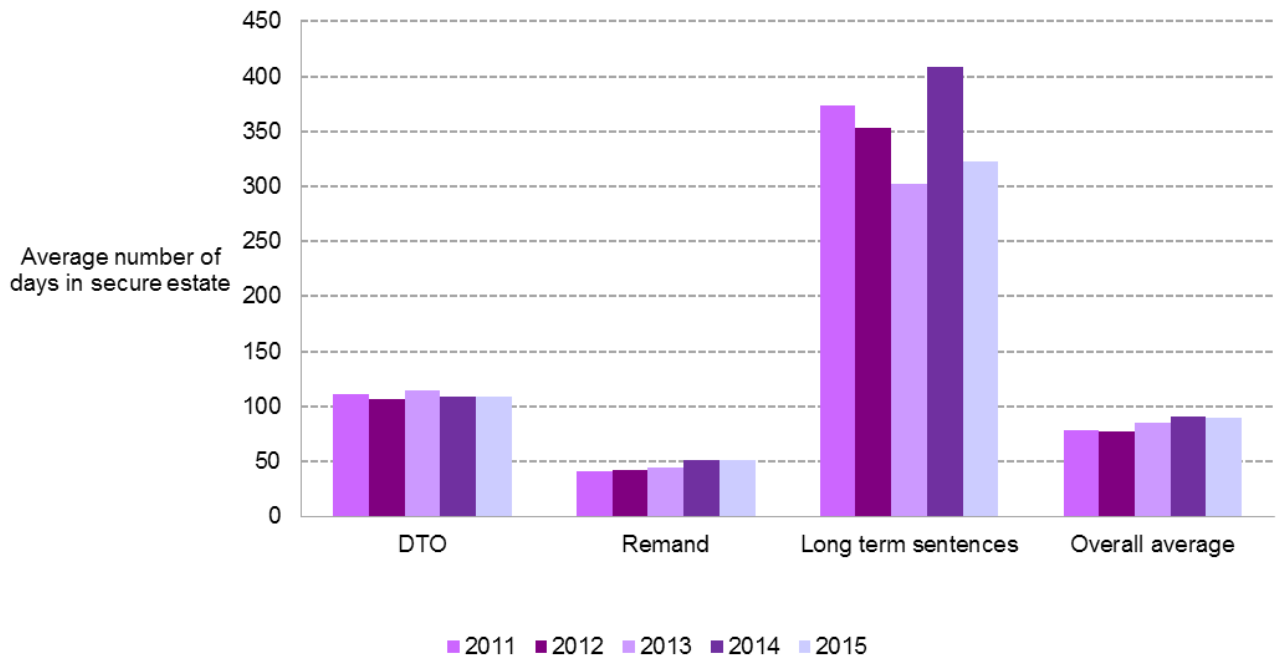
This does not necessarily represent young people spending less time in custody with a long term sentence as their legal basis for detention overall, as many young people serving long term sentences will not leave custody but transition to the adult estate. However, the figures show that young people who leave custody before 18 spend less time in the secure estate with a long term sentence as their legal basis for detention.

The overall average number of days spent in the secure estate according to legal basis for detention largely remained unchanged from 90 days in the year ending March 2014 to 89 in the year ending March 2015.

⁶⁸ Young people may have continued to be remanded for some matters whilst sentenced for others.

⁶⁹ This represents the time the young person spent in the secure estate with a DTO as their most serious type of legal basis. They may have received a different sentence which may have taken precedence as their legal basis, therefore the figures may not represent the full length of the custodial part of their DTO. The length does not include the period of DTO's served in the community.

Figure 7.4: Average time in days spent in the youth secure estate by legal basis of detention, years ending March 2010 to March 2015



Chapter 8: Behaviour management in the secure estate

This chapter covers information on behaviour management in the youth secure estate. "Behaviour management" refers to the processes and policies by which youth secure establishments promote positive behaviour and manage challenging and difficult behaviour amongst young people. The data include some 18 year olds who are kept in the youth secure estate.

The first section of this chapter covers the use of Restrictive Physical Intervention (RPI) on young people, incidents of self harm, assaults and the use of single separation involving young people in custody in the secure estate. The data cover the year ending March 2010 to the year ending March 2015.

From the year ending March 2010 to the year ending March 2015 the overall population in custody in the secure estate fell ([Chapter 7](#)), which means it is important to look at the change in the rate, in other words the number of incidents per 100 young people in the population of the secure estate, as well as the raw numbers. Please note that slight changes in small figures can result in large percentage changes. Full information can be found in the supplementary tables.

The second section covers the use of force as recorded under the Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint (MMPR) system. MMPR is a behaviour management and restraint system that has been developed specifically for staff working with young people in Secure Training Centres (STCs) and under-18 Young Offender Institutions (YOIs).

The terms use of force and restrictive physical intervention can be used synonymously within practice, however, within this publication have distinct definitions and counting rules as to the techniques and levels of physical intervention used. Within the establishments which have implemented the MMPR system, the use of all physical intervention will be measured and counted against the use of force definition and counting rules. This includes the use of MMPR techniques and any use of force that is not a MMPR technique at all levels. Under the RPI definition and counting rules, only those physical interventions which are restrictive are counted.

MMPR techniques have been implemented in five secure establishments. Two out of the five establishments do not have the full 12 months of data for the year ending March 2015, and because of this, the focus will be on monthly rather than yearly analysis. This data is reported on in section two of this chapter.

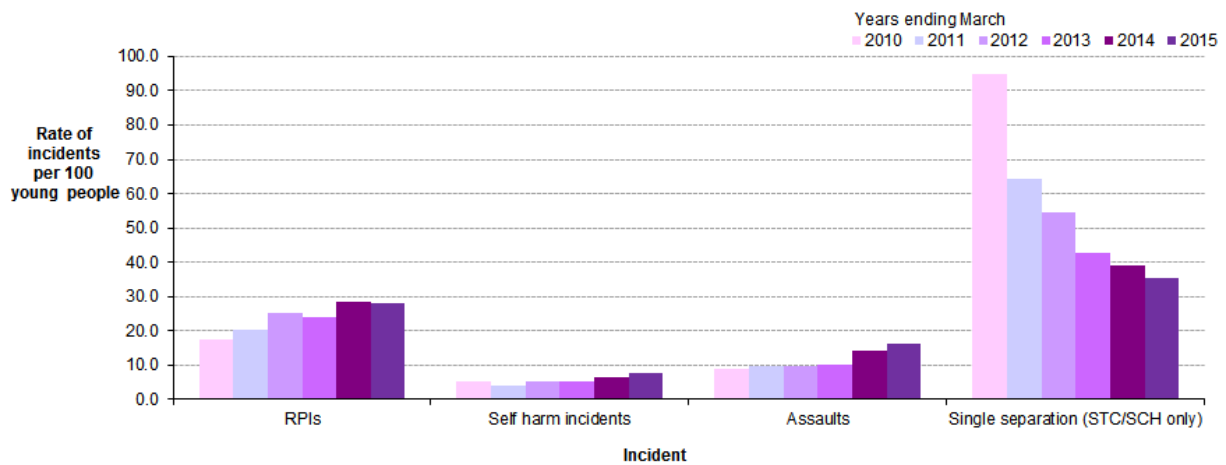
Key findings

- In the year ending March 2015, the number of RPIs per 100 young people increased compared with the year ending March 2010 and remains consistent with the year ending March 2014 (an increase from 17.6 in the year ending March 2010 to 28.4 in the year ending March 2014 and 28.2 in the year ending March 2015).
- In the year ending March 2015, the number of self harm incidents per 100 young people has continued to increase compared with both the year ending March 2010 and March 2014 (from 5.3 in the year ending March 2010 and 6.6 in the year ending March 2014 to 7.7 in the year ending March 2015).
- In the year ending March 2015, the number of assaults per 100 young people increased compared with both the year ending March 2010 and March 2014 (from 9.0 in the year ending March 2010 and 14.3 in the year ending March 2014 to 16.2 in the year ending March 2015).
- In the year ending March 2015, the number of single separation incidents per 100 young people in STCs and Secure Children's Homes (SCHs) decreased compared with both the year ending March 2010 and March 2014 (from 94.7 in the year ending March 2010 and 39.0 in the year ending March 2014 to 35.5 in the year ending March 2015).
- There were a total of 2,475 use of force incidents across the five establishments for the year ending March 2015. This gives an average of 206 incidents per month, and an average of 30 incidents per 100 young people in the five secure establishments per month.
- MMPR techniques were involved in 1,439 of the incidents (58%), which gives an average of 120 incidents per month.

8.1 Behaviour management and safety in the youth secure estate

For each type of incident, the rates per 100 young people are presented. Due to the way the data are collected we are unable to link incidents to individual young people therefore we cannot provide a distribution of incidents per young people (in other words how many people were only involved in any one incident).

Figure 8.1: Trend in the rate of behaviour management incidents per 100 young people in custody in the secure estate, years ending March 2010 to March 2015



Use of Restrictive Physical Intervention (RPI)

An RPI is defined as “any occasion when force is used with the intention of overpowering or to overpower a young person. Overpower is defined as 'restricting movement or mobility'”. RPIs should only be used on young people as a last resort, for example to prevent them causing harm to themselves or others.

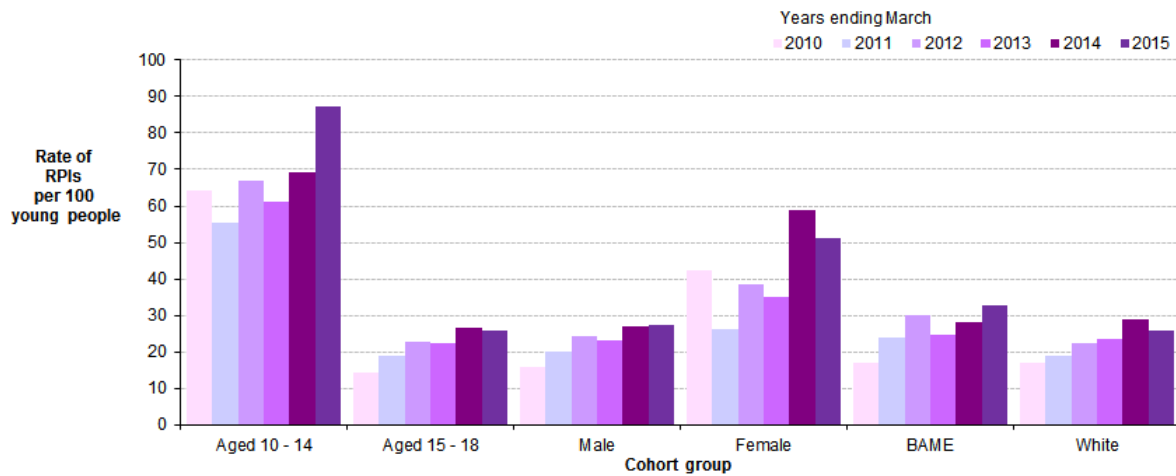
The number of RPIs per 100 young people increased by 60% from the year ending March 2010 (17.6 RPIs per 100 young people to 28.2 in the year ending March 2015) and remains consistent compared with the year ending March 2014 with a decrease of less than 1% (from 28.4 RPIs per 100 young people to 28.2 in the year ending March 2015).

The number of RPIs per 100 young people in custody in the secure estate in the year was higher for the younger age group (10-14), females and young people who were Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic (BAME) than other cohort groups⁷⁰.

In the year ending March 2015 there were 111 RPIs involving injury to young people, nearly all (95%) of these were minor injuries. There were 8% fewer injuries to young people following an RPI than in the year ending March 2014. In the year ending March 2015 RPIs involving injury to young people account for 2% of the total number of RPIs recorded. This is the same as the year ending March 2014 and is a decrease from 4% in the year ending March 2010.

⁷⁰ RPI data from bespoke returns is based on self-reported ethnicity.

Figure 8.2: Rate of RPIs per 100 young people in custody in the secure estate, years ending March 2010 to March 2015



Self harm by young people in custody in the secure estate

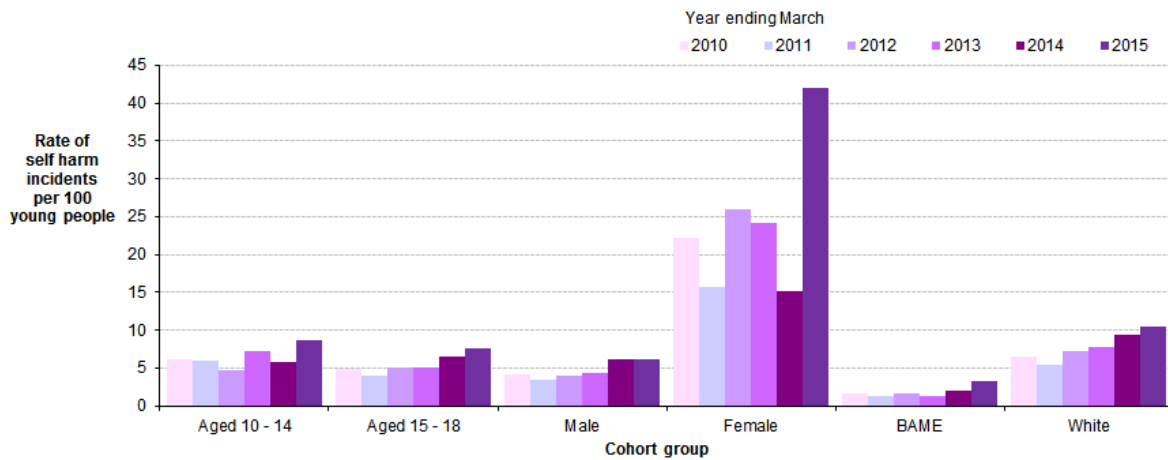
Self harm in custody is defined as any act by which a young person deliberately harms themselves irrespective of the method, intent or severity of any injury. There were 1,315 incidents of self harm in the year ending March 2015, down by 36% since the year ending March 2010 and in line with the year ending March 2014.

The number of self harm incidents per 100 young people in the year ending March 2015 has increased by 46% compared with the year ending March 2010 (5.3 incidents per 100 young people to 7.7 incidents per 100 young people in the year ending March 2015), and has shown an increase of 17% between the year ending March 2014 and the year ending March 2015 (from 6.6 to 7.7 incidents of self harm per 100 young people).

The rate of self harm incidents per 100 young people in the secure estate was markedly higher for females than their male counterparts and for white young people compared with BAME young people⁷¹.

⁷¹ Self harm data from bespoke returns is based on self-reported ethnicity.

Figure 8.3: Rate of self harm per 100 young people in custody in the secure estate, years ending March 2010 to March 2015



Assaults involving young people in custody in the secure estate⁷²

Assaults are defined as “the intentional use of unnecessary force that results in physical contact with the victim”. The victim of an assault can either be another young person or a staff member or visitor. The number of assaults per 100 young people in custody in the secure estate increased by 79% between the year ending March 2010 and the year ending March 2015 (9.0 assaults per 100 young people compared to 16.1 in the year ending March 2015) and by 13% compared with the year ending March 2014 (14.3 assaults per 100 young people in the year ending March 2014 compared with 16.2 in the year ending March 2015).

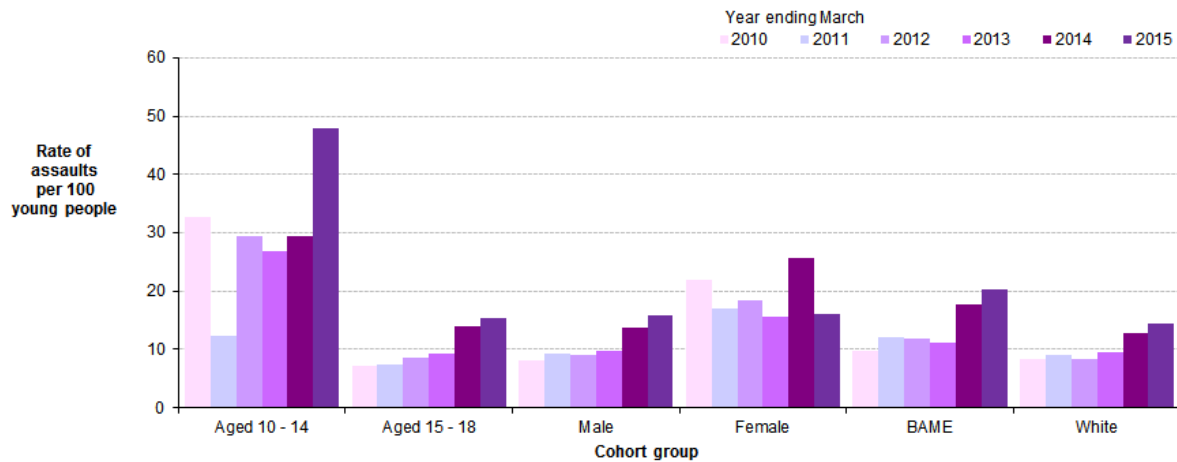
The number of assaults per 100 young people in the secure estate was higher for the younger age group (10-14 year olds) and BAME young people than other cohort groups⁷³.

There were 1,790 incidents of assault where the victim was a young person, down by 14% since both the years ending March 2010 and March 2014. There were 979 incidents of assault where the victim was a staff member or visitor. This is up by 19% since the year ending March 2014 and down by 31% since the year ending March 2010.

⁷² Please note that figures for assaults in two STCs have been revised this year following an error in the data. For more information please see the explanatory notes on data sources and quality.

⁷³ Assaults data from bespoke returns is based on self-reported ethnicity.

Figure 8.4: Rate of assault per 100 young people in custody in the secure estate, years ending March 2010 to March 2015



Single separation in STCs and SCHs

Single separation refers to the confining of a young person in their bedroom, to another room or area as a means of control and without the young person's permission or agreement, without a member of staff being present and with the door locked in order to prevent exit. The data are only collected for STCs and SCHs.

The number of single separation incidents per 100 young people in the secure estate decreased by 63% from the year ending March 2010 to the year ending March 2015 (from 94.7 incidents per 100 young people in the year ending March 2010 to 35.5 in the year ending March 2015) and there was a decrease of 9% compared with the year ending March 2014 (from 39.0 incidents per 100 young people compared with 35.5 in the year ending March 2015).

The proportion of young people who are placed in single separation while in custody in the secure estate differs by age, with higher rates for the younger group (10-14), females and white young people than other cohort groups⁷⁴.

⁷⁴ Single separation data from bespoke returns is based on self-reported ethnicity.

8.2 Use of force incidents in the youth secure estate

This section reports on the use of force under the Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint (MMPR) system. MMPR is a behaviour management and restraint system that has been developed specifically for staff working with young people in STCs and under-18 YOIs. MMPR puts considerable emphasis on using appropriate de-escalation and deceleration techniques (non-physical interventions) to ensure that force is only ever used as a last resort, when no other intervention is possible or appropriate.

YJB started collecting MMPR data from March 2013 and MMPR techniques have been implemented in five secure establishments: three STCs (Rainsbrook, Oakhill and Medway) and two under-18 YOIs (Wetherby and Hindley).⁷⁵ A full 12 months of data for the year ending March 2014 is available for only one establishment and due to this the analysis in this report will focus only on the period year ending March 2015. Monthly data for the year ending March 2014 is available in the supplementary tables.

Although the data collected under the MMPR system are rich in terms of detail and quality, there are a number of limitations which need to be considered. It is important to note that the number of months on which the averages are based varies according to the month that each establishment started using MMPR.

The statistics cover a period of 12 months for three of the five secure establishments,⁷⁶ and shorter periods for the other two secure establishments.⁷⁷ The average per month calculations is based on the aggregate total of all the establishments. So the averages will report a lower value where establishments have less than 12 months data.

The data presented also vary according to the day of the month each establishment started using MMPR. For example, MMPR went live at Medway on 2 June 2014 and data collection started from this date. Therefore, there are limitations to making any direct comparisons between establishments, and identifying any definitive trends.

Use of force incidents

There were a total of 2,475 use of force incidents across the five secure establishments for the year ending March 2015. This gives an average of 206 incidents per month, and an average of 30 incidents per 100 young people in the five secure establishments per month.

75 MMPR went live at Rainsbrook STC on 4 March 2013, Oakhill STC on 2 September 2013, Medway STC on 2 June 2014, Wetherby YOI on 23 October 2013, and Hindley YOI on 6 January 2014.

76 Rainsbrook STC, Oakhill STC and Wetherby YOI.

77 Medway STC, 10 months data (June 2014 to March 2015). Hindley YOI has been decommissioned, 9 months data (April 2014 to January 2015).

MMPR Techniques employed in use of force

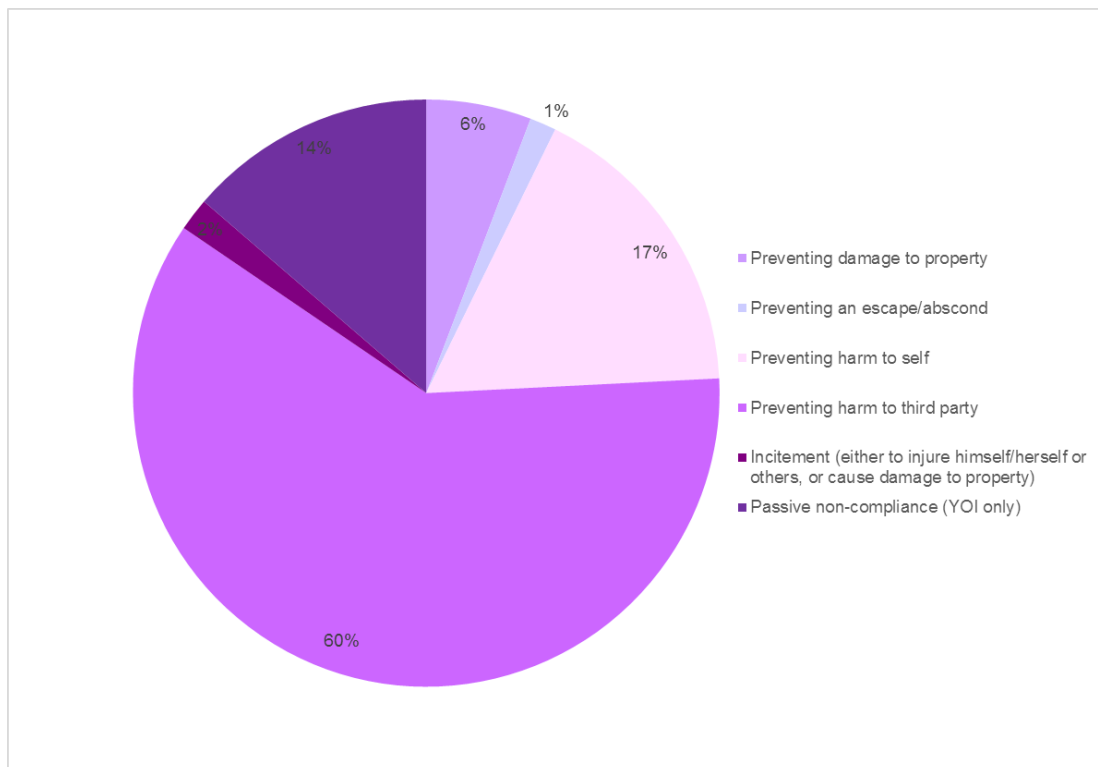
Of the 2,475 incidents of use of force, 1,439 (58%) involved an MMPR technique, which gives an average of 120 incidents per month.

Most incidents (42%) involving the use of MMPR techniques were resolved using high-level interventions, 601 in total. Pain-inducing techniques were involved in 36 incidents (3%). The use of pain inducing techniques for the under-18 secure estate must be restricted to circumstances where it is necessary to protect a child or others from an immediate risk of serious physical harm.

Reason for use of force

The main reason reported for the use of force⁷⁸ was “preventing harm to a third party”, 1,864 incidents (60%). The reason “passive non-compliance” (available in YOIs only) was given in 423 incidents (14%).

Figure 8.5 Reason for use of force, year ending March 2015



⁷⁸ There may be more than one reason for restraint in a single incident.

Duration of use of force

The majority of use of force across the five establishments lasted for less than two minutes⁷⁹, 1,639 incidents (66%). A further 25% lasted between three to five minutes, 8% between six to ten minutes, 1% between 11 to 15 minutes, and 1% lasted for more than 15 minutes.

Handcuffs used and Injuries

Handcuffs were used in 256 incidents (10%). There were 39 incidents (2%) which involved a minor injury requiring medical treatment⁸⁰, and two incidents involved a serious injury requiring hospital treatment⁸¹.

⁷⁹ If the same techniques have been used on more than one occasion, the total duration for multiple applications is recorded and not the duration of single applications.

⁸⁰ **Minor injury requiring medical treatment:** This includes cuts, scratches, grazes, blood noses, concussion, serious bruising and sprains where medical treatment is given by a member of staff or a nurse. Treatment could include cleaning and dressing wounds, providing pain relief, and monitoring symptoms by a health professional (e.g. in relation to concussion). This includes first aid administered by a staff member.

⁸¹ **Serious injury requiring hospital treatment:** This includes serious cuts, fractures, loss of consciousness, damage to internal organs, and poisoning. Where 24-hour healthcare is available the young person may remain onsite. At other establishments, the young person will be taken to a local hospital. Treatment will reflect the more serious nature of the injuries sustained and may include stitches, re-setting bones, operations and providing overnight observation.

Table 8.1: Average and total number of use of force incidents across the five establishments, year ending March 2015⁸²

	Year ending March 2015		
	Total number of use of force incidents by...	Average number of use of force incidents per month by...	% share
Type of force used			
MMPR technique	1,439	120	58%
Non-MMPR technique	1,036	86	42%
Total	2,475	206	100%
Highest level technique used in each MMPR incident			
Low level	313	26	22%
Medium level	489	41	34%
High level	601	50	42%
Pain-inducing	36	3	3%
Total	1,439	120	100%
Reason for use of force			
Preventing damage to property	179	15	6%
Preventing an escape/abscond	45	4	1%
Preventing harm to self	524	44	17%
Preventing harm to third party	1,864	155	60%
Incitement (either to injure himself/herself or others, or cause damage to property)	56	5	2%
Passive non-compliance (YOI only)	423	35	14%
Total	3,091	258	100%
Duration of use of force			
0-2 mins	1,639	137	66%
3-5 mins	608	51	25%
6-10 mins	186	16	8%
11-15 mins	22	2	1%
15 mins+	20	2	1%
Total	2,475	206	100%
Use of handcuffs during a use of force incident	256	21	10%
Minor injury requiring medical treatment	39	3	2%
Serious injury requiring hospital treatment	2	0	0%

⁸² Reason for use of force: there may be more than one reason for restraint in a single incident.

Demographic characteristics of young people involved in use of force incidents

Table 8.2 gives an indication of the demographic characteristics of young people across the five secure establishments and also of those involved in use of force incidents. As the figures refer to the five establishments currently reporting under the MMPR system, the proportions may not match those reported on in chapter 7 on this report.

Males accounted for an average of 192 incidents per month compared to 15 incidents per month involving females⁸³. 93% of the total incidents involved males, in comparison 96% of the population in the five secure establishments were male. 7% of the total incidents involved females, which is higher compared with the proportion of the population in the five secure establishments who were female (4%).

10-14 year olds⁸⁴ accounted for an average of 10 incidents per month compared to 196 incidents per month involving 15-18 year olds. 5% of the total incidents involved 10-14 year olds, in comparison 3% of the population in the five secure establishments were 10 – 14 year olds. 95% of the total incidents involved 15-18 year olds, in comparison 15-18 year olds accounted for 97% of the population in the five secure establishments.

White young people accounted for an average of 132 incidents per month. 64% of the total incidents involved White young people, in comparison 69% of the population in the five secure establishments were white young people. Black young people accounted for an average of 43 incidents per month. 21% of the total incidents involved Black young people, which is higher in comparison with the proportion of the population in the five secure establishments who were Black (16%).

⁸³ Females are not placed in YOIs.

⁸⁴ 10-14 year olds are not placed in YOIs.

Figure 8.6 Proportion of use of force incidents by self-identified ethnicity, year ending March 2015

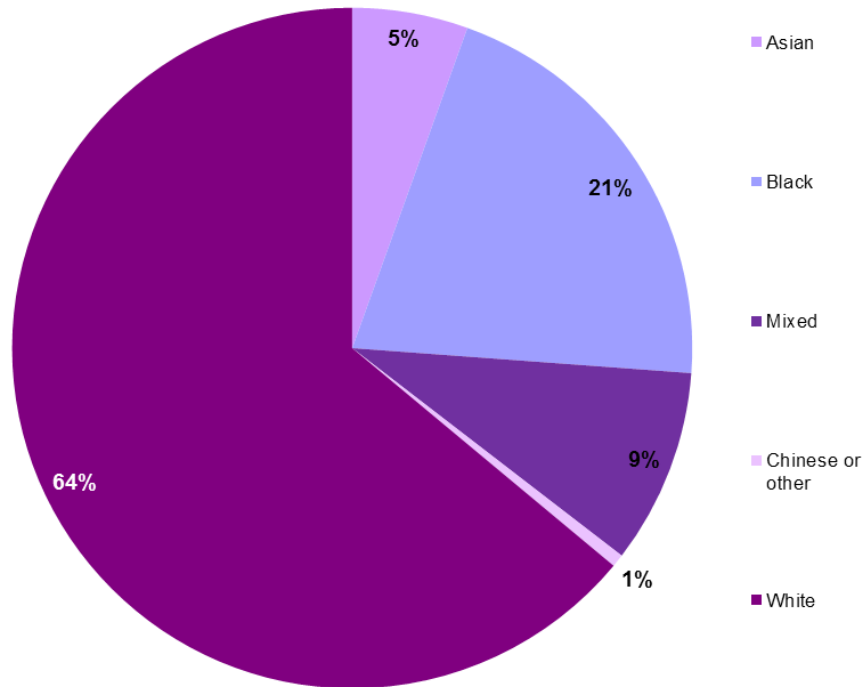


Table 8.2: Use of force incidents by characteristics of young people across the five establishments, year ending March 2015

	Year ending March 2015			
	Average per month		Proportion of average per month ^c	
	Incidents	Incidents per 100 in custody ^b	Incidents	Custody population
Total	206	30	100%	100%
Gender				
Male	192	30	93%	96%
Female	15	50	7%	4%
Age group				
10 - 14	10	53	5%	3%
15 - 18	196	30	95%	97%
Ethnicity				
Asian	11	27	5%	6%
Black	43	40	21%	16%
Mixed	19	37	9%	8%
Chinese or other	1	25	1%	1%
White	132	28	64%	69%
Not stated	0	2	0%	1%

(a) The total for this column is weighted average therefore it will not be equal to the simple sum of each member of a category.

(b) Sum of the percentages may appear not to add up to 100% due to rounding.

There are many factors that can influence the behaviour of young people and staff and thus affect the number and type of incidents within individual secure establishments. These include the different risks and needs of individual young people, the frequency and severity of assaults by young people and the overall approach (and effectiveness) of behaviour management within any secure establishment.

Chapter 9: Proven reoffending by young people, year ending March 2014 cohort

This section provides key statistics on proven reoffending for young people who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court, or received a caution, a reprimand or warning⁸⁵ between April 2013 and March 2014.

A proven reoffence 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 chapter focuses on reoffending by young people who entered the cohort in the year ending March 2014, comparing with the year ending March 2013 and with the year ending December 2003 (as a long term comparator). The data used is from the Police National Computer database. A more detailed publication covering adult and youth reoffending is published by the Ministry of Justice and is available here:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics

Key findings

- In the year ending March 2014 there were 42,299 young people who were given a caution, who received a non-custodial conviction at court or who were released from custody. This is the number of young people in the cohort used for reoffending statistics.⁸⁶ Of these, 16,083 committed a proven reoffence within the one year follow-up period. This gives a proven reoffending rate of 38.0%.
- The reoffending rate for young people rose by 1.9 percentage points compared with the year ending March 2013. This continues the general upward trend seen since the year ending March 2008.
- The young people who reoffended committed a total of 50,184 reoffences with an average of 3.12 offences each.
- The number of young people in the cohort (and the subsequent number of reoffenders and reoffences that they committed) has gone down every year since the year ending March 2008. The number in the cohort has decreased by 20% compared with the year ending March 2013. Over the same period, the number of reoffenders has decreased by 15% and the number of reoffences by 12%.
- While the reoffending rate for those released from custody is 67.1%, it reduced by 0.8 percentage point between the years ending March 2013 and

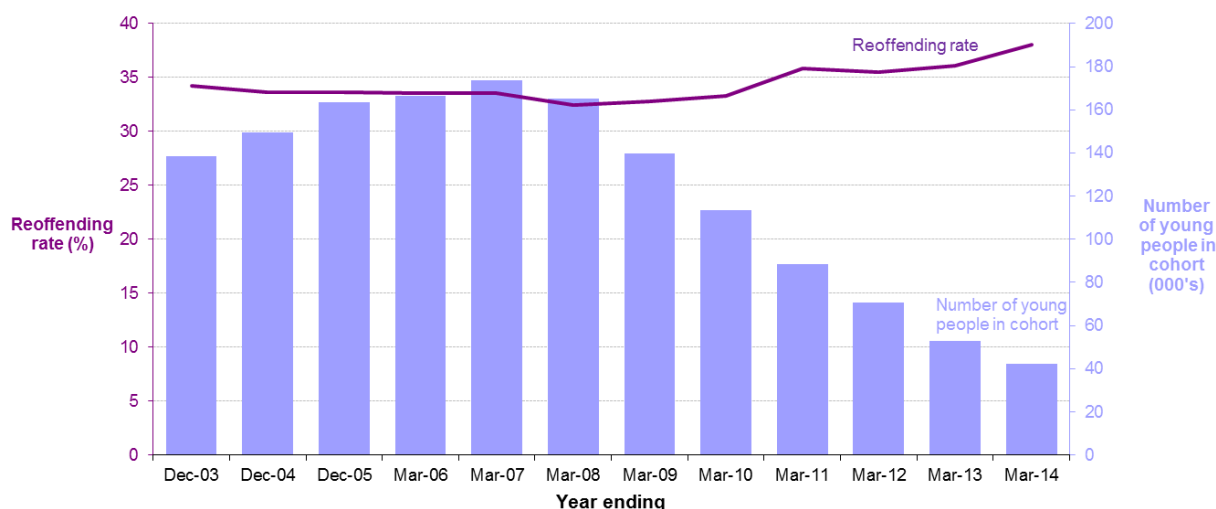
⁸⁵ Reprimands and warnings were abolished on 8 April 2013 by the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 and replaced by youth cautions and youth conditional cautions. However, they are still reported on here as the cohort years are prior to the change.

⁸⁶ The cohort comprises of both first time offenders and known offenders.

March 2014. Those young people who received a caution for their index disposal⁸⁷ had the highest increase in the reoffending rate (4.3 percentage points). Cautions accounted for half of all index disposals in the cohort.

- The reoffending rate for 10-14 year olds is now higher than that for 15-17 year olds (38.9% and 37.8%, respectively), this higher rate for 10-14 year olds was first seen in proven reoffending quarterly statistics published in October 2015.

Figure 9.1: Reoffending rate and number of offenders in cohort, years ending December 2003 to March 2014



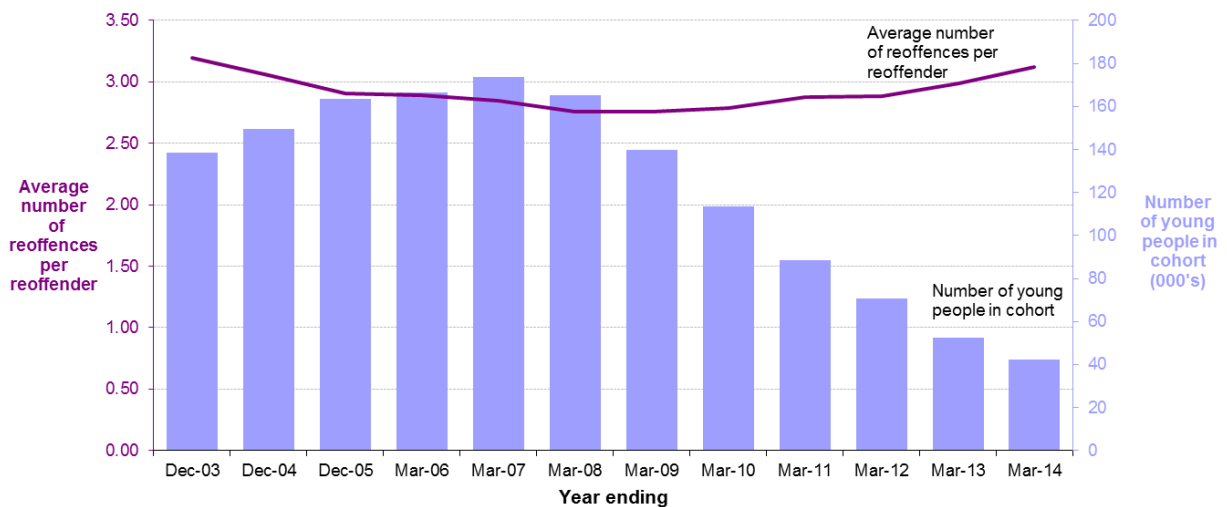
9.1 Reoffending Rate

In the year ending March 2014, the reoffending rate for young people rose by 1.9 percentage points to 38.0% compared with the year ending March 2013, and by 3.8 percentage points compared with the year ending December 2003.

The young people who reoffended committed an average of 3.12 reoffences each. This represents an increase of 4% compared with the year ending March 2013, and a decrease of 2% compared to 2003.

⁸⁷ The index disposal of the offender is the type of sentence the offender received for their index offence. For the Proven Re-offending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin, this is defined as custody, court order, or other disposal resulting from a conviction at court, such as a fine or discharge, caution, reprimand or final warning.

Figure 9.2: Average number of reoffences per reoffender and number of offenders in cohort, years ending December 2003 to March 2014



9.2 Changes to the reoffending cohort over time

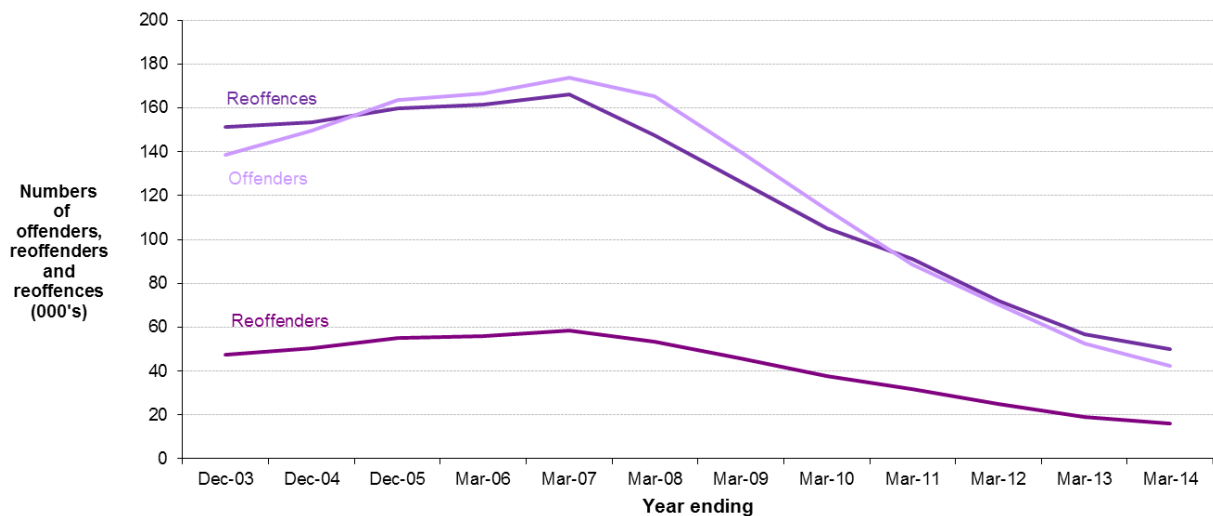
Accompanying the upward trend in the reoffending rate is a downward trend in the number of offenders in the cohort (and the subsequent number of reoffenders and reoffences that they committed). Each of these peaked in the year ending March 2007.

The trend in the reoffending rate can in part be explained by the size and composition of the cohort, which has changed considerably over recent years.

In the year ending December 2003, 138,379 young people formed the offending cohort; in the year ending March 2014 the size of the cohort had fallen by 69% to 42,299. The corresponding number of reoffenders has decreased from 47,406 to 16,083, a fall of 66%. As the size of the total offender cohort has fallen by a greater proportion than the number of reoffenders, the reoffending rate has increased.

Similarly, over the same period, the number of reoffences has decreased from 151,452 to 50,184, a fall of 67%.

Figure 9.3: Number of offenders, reoffenders and reoffences, years ending December 2003 to March 2014



9.3 Reoffending by demographic characteristics

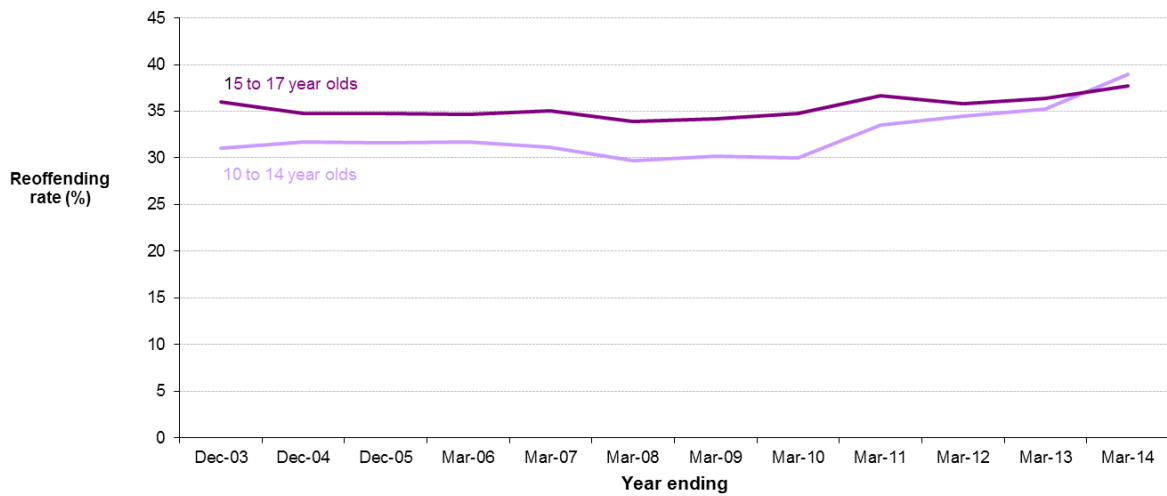
Historically, the reoffending rate for 10-14 year olds has been lower than that for 15-17 year olds. However, in general the reoffending rate for 10-14 year olds has been increasing faster than that for 15-17 year olds. Compared with year ending December 2003 the rate increased by 7.9 percentage points for 10-14 year olds and by 1.8 percentage points for 15-17 year olds. The reoffending rate for 10-14 year olds is now higher than that for 15-17 year olds (38.9% and 37.8%, respectively), this higher rate for 10-14 year olds was first seen in proven reoffending quarterly statistics published in October 2015.

The majority of young people in the cohort were aged 15-17 with the proportion aged 10-14 reducing (from 35% in the year ending December 2003 to 23% in the year ending March 2014). The number of 10-14 year olds in the cohort has decreased by 25% and 15-17 year olds by 18% compared with the year ending March 2013. Since the year ending December 2003, the number of 10-14 year olds has decreased by 80% and 15-17 year olds by 64%.

There have also been increases in the average number of reoffences per reoffender, increasing by 9% (to 3.34) compared with the year ending March 2013 for 10-14 year olds and by 3% (to 3.05) for 15-17 year olds.

Young males, who make up 80% of the offender cohort, were much more likely to reoffend than young females; in the year ending March 2014 the reoffending rate for young males was 40.4% compared with 28.4% for young females. Compared with the year ending March 2013, the reoffending rate increased by 1.7 percentage points for young males and by 2.2 percentage points for young females.

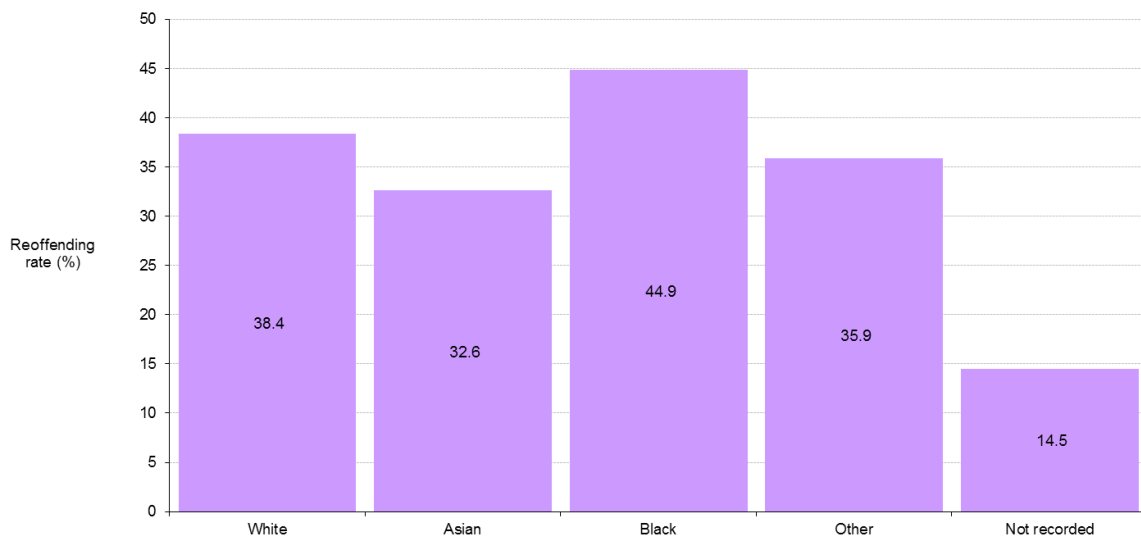
Figure 9.4: Reoffending rate by age group, years ending December 2003 to March 2014



The reoffending rate increased across all ethnic groups.⁸⁸ Compared to the year ending March 2013, the reoffending rate for White young people increased by 2.3 percentage points, Black young people by 1.0 percentage point, Asian young people by 0.8 percentage point, and Other young people by 0.6 percentage point. White young people account for the majority of the offending cohort (81%, compared with 11% for Black young people and 5% for Asian young people). However, Black young people had the highest reoffending rate of 44.9%, followed by 38.4 for White young people.

⁸⁸ The ethnicity of a person is as defined by the Police on the Police National Computer and is based on appearance. It does not correspond with the self-reported ethnicity provided by young people and recorded by YOTs on YJMIS. The categories on PNC are limited and restricted to White, Black, Asian, Other or not recorded.

Figure 9.5: Reoffending rate by ethnicity, year ending March 2014



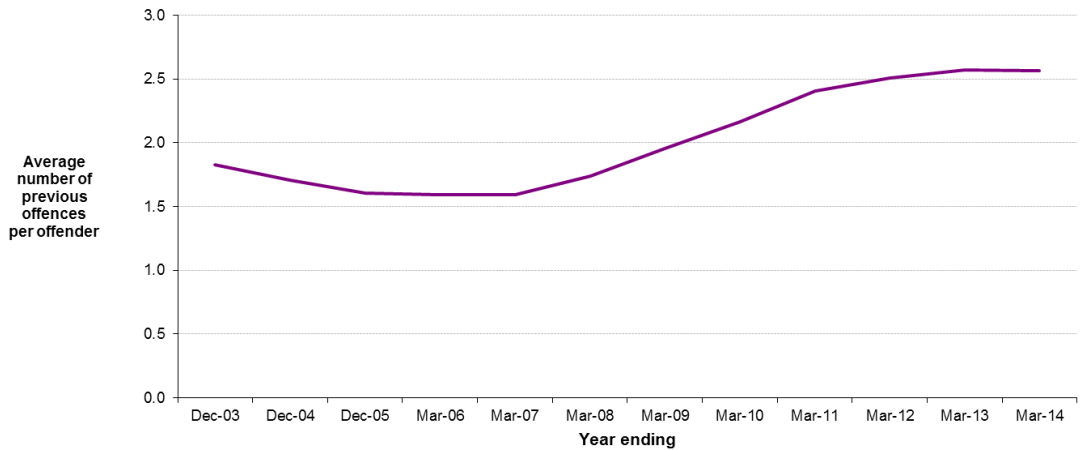
9.4 Reoffending by criminal history, and time to reoffence

As expected, the rate of reoffending increases with the number of previous offences. Those with no previous offences had a reoffending rate of 24.2%, compared with those with 11 or more previous offences who had a reoffending rate of 74.3%. However, young people with 11 or more previous offences were the only group to see a reduction in the reoffending rate (by 1.3 percentage points) compared with the year ending March 2013.

A quarter of the total reoffences were committed by young people with no previous offences, while those with 11 or more previous offences made up only 6% of all young offenders, but committed nearly a fifth (18%) of all proven reoffences committed by young people.

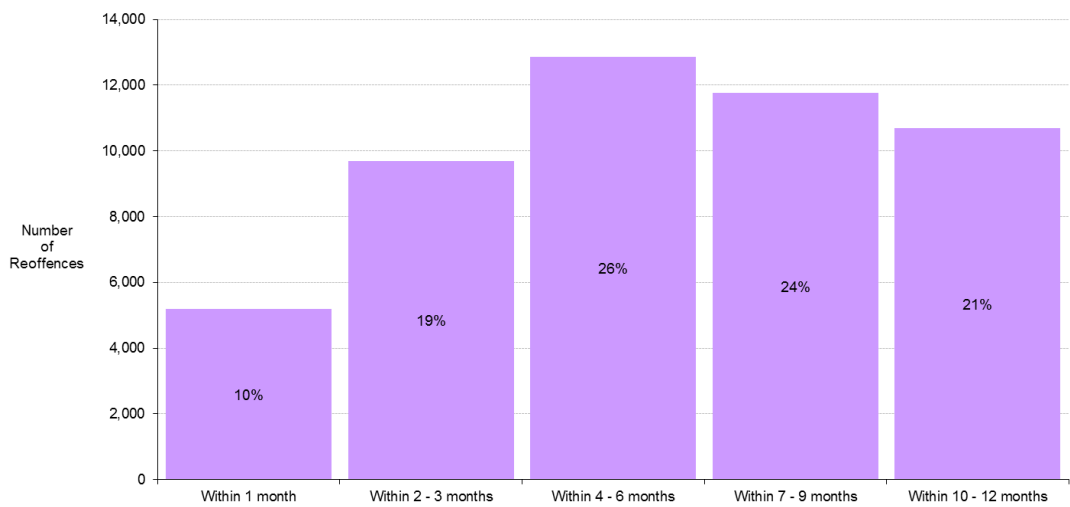
The average number of previous offences per offender in the cohort remained stable at 2.57 between the years ending March 2013 and March 2014, and rose by 40% compared with the year ending December 2003.

Figure 9.6: Average number of previous offences per offender, years ending December 2003 to March 2014



In the year ending March 2014, 10% of the total reoffences occurred within the first month, and 55% occurred within the first 6 months.

Figure 9.7: Reoffences by time to reoffence, year ending March 2014



9.5 Reoffending by index offence, and index disposal, year ending March 2014

The offence that leads to an offender being included in the offender cohort is called the index offence.

Young people with an index offence of miscellaneous crimes against society⁸⁹ and of theft had the highest reoffending rates (45.8% and 42.1%, respectively). Those with the lowest rate had an index offence of sexual offences and reoffended at a rate of 12.1%.

Comparing with the year ending March 2013, the reoffending rate fell for the following index offences: fraud (by 4.2 percentage points), sexual (by 2.8 percentage points), public order (by 1.7 percentage points), and robbery (by 1.0 percentage point).

Over the same period, the reoffending rate rose for the following index offences: Miscellaneous crimes against society (by 4.6 percentage points), summary motoring (by 3.8 percentage points), violence against the person (by 3.3 percentage points), and possession of weapons (by 3.2 percentage points). The reoffending rate also rose for summary non-motoring, theft, criminal damage and arson, and drug related offences.

The index disposal is the type of sentence the offender received for their index offence. Those young people who received a caution for their index disposal had a reoffending rate of 30.6%, those that received a first-tier disposal (such as a youth referral order or a discharge) had a reoffending rate of 43.9%, and those given a Youth Rehabilitation Order⁹⁰ (YRO) had a reoffending rate of 64.5%. Those released from custody had a reoffending rate of 67.1%, this is a 0.8 percentage point decrease compared the year ending March 2013.

Those young people who received a caution for their index disposal had the highest increase in the reoffending rate (4.3 percentage points) compared with the year ending March 2013. Caution is also the only index disposal group to see an increase in the reoffending rate compared to the year ending December 2003. For the year ending March 2014, cautions accounted for half of all index disposals given to offenders in the cohort⁹¹.

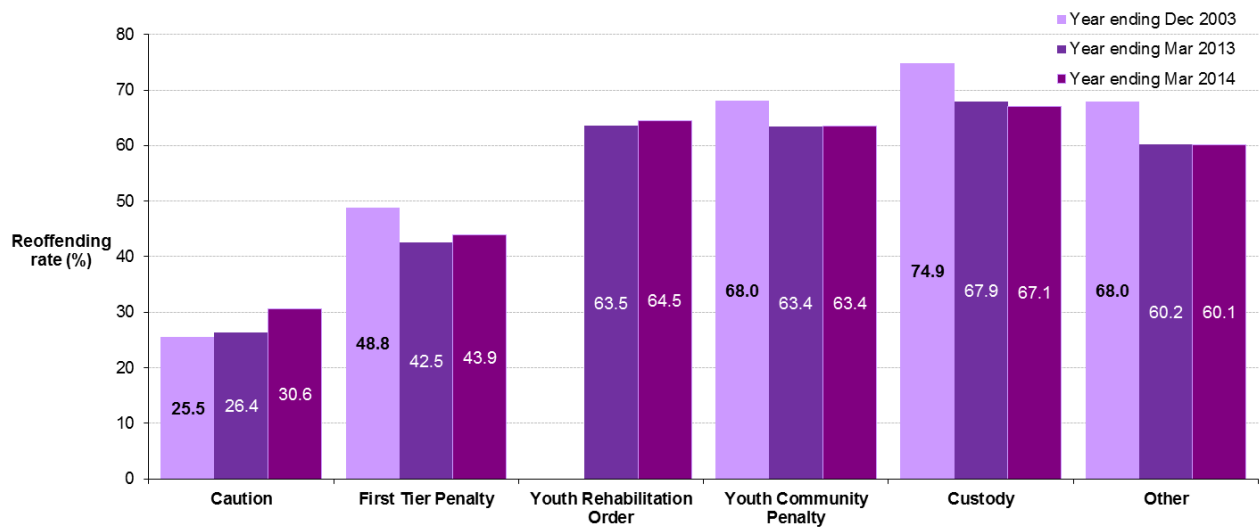
Proven reoffending rates by index disposal (sentence type) should not be compared to assess the effectiveness of sentences, as there is no control for known differences in offender characteristics and the type of sentence given.

⁸⁹ Miscellaneous crimes against society comprises a variety of offences. The largest volume offences include: handling stolen goods, threat to commit criminal damage and perverting the course of justice.

⁹⁰ Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO) came into force on 30th November 2009.

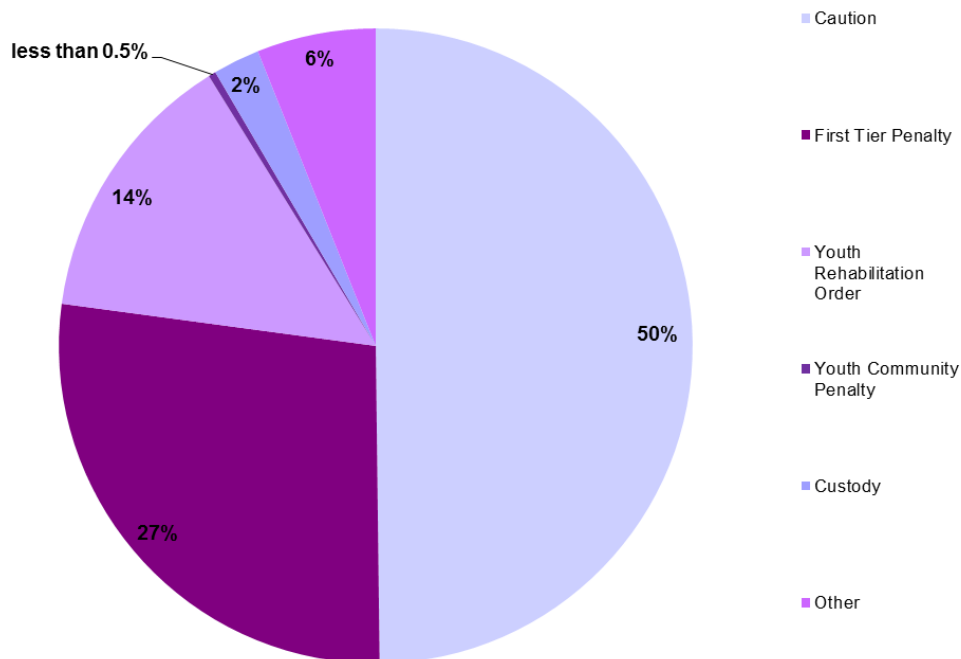
⁹¹ Some offenders will appear in more than one disposal category and so the number of offenders in each category will not sum to the total number of offenders. More information is available in the reoffending 'Definitions and Measurement' document published by the Ministry of Justice at www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics

Figure 9.8: Reoffending rate by index disposal^(a), years ending December 2003, March 2013 and March 2014



^(d) Youth Rehabilitation Orders came into force on 30 November 2009.

Figure 9.9: Type of index disposal given to offenders in the cohort, year ending March 2014



Chapter 10: Criminal Histories of Young People

This chapter presents information on the criminal histories of young people in the Youth Justice System (YJS). A young person is counted as having a criminal history if their Police National Computer (PNC) record shows that, at the time of receiving a caution or conviction, they had previously committed one or more offences that had resulted in one of these sanctions. This PNC data excludes a range of summary offences so the figures presented here focus on the criminal histories of young people sentenced for indictable offences only (offences that can but not must be heard at a Crown Court).

An offender's criminal history counts the number of occasions on which an offender has previously received a conviction, caution or youth caution for any offence and has been recorded on the PNC, including some offences committed outside of England and Wales¹⁴. This count differs from First Time Entrants (FTEs) because all offenders prosecuted by an English or Welsh police force, irrespective of country of residence, are included. This chapter covers information up to the year ending March 2015. For the latest MoJ publication please see:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

Key findings

- In the year ending March 2015, 77% of young people sentenced for indictable offences had previous cautions or convictions and 23% had 0 previous convictions or cautions.
- The proportion of young people sentenced to custody who had 0 previous cautions or convictions was 9% in the year ending March 2015. This proportion has fluctuated between 5 and 9% since the year ending March 2005.
- In the year ending March 2015, 68% of young people cautioned for indictable offences had no previous cautions or convictions.
- In the year ending March 2015, young people cautioned and convicted cautioned had on average 2.3 previous convictions/cautions.

10.1 Criminal history of young people in the Youth Justice System

In the year ending March 2015, there were 30,851 young people sentenced or cautioned for indictable offences. Of these, 18,250 were sentenced and 12,601 were cautioned. There has been a downward trend since the 12 months ending March 2008 in the numbers sentenced for indictable offences or cautioned.

10.2 Average number of previous convictions/cautions of young people convicted and cautioned for any offence

In the year ending March 2015, young people convicted and cautioned had on average 2.3 previous convictions/cautions. This has increased from average of 1.7 previous convictions/cautions in the year ending March 2005, and decreased from 2.5 previous convictions/cautions in the year ending March 2014.

10.3 Criminal histories of young people sentenced for indictable offences⁹²

Of the 18,250 young people sentenced for indictable offences in the year ending March 2015, 77% had previous convictions or cautions, a fall from the 82% of the year ending March 2014. The proportion of young people sentenced for an indictable offence who have a previous criminal history has also been reducing since the year ending March 2008. The proportion was 90% in the year ending March 2008, reducing to 82% in the year ending March 2014 and 77% in the year ending March 2015.

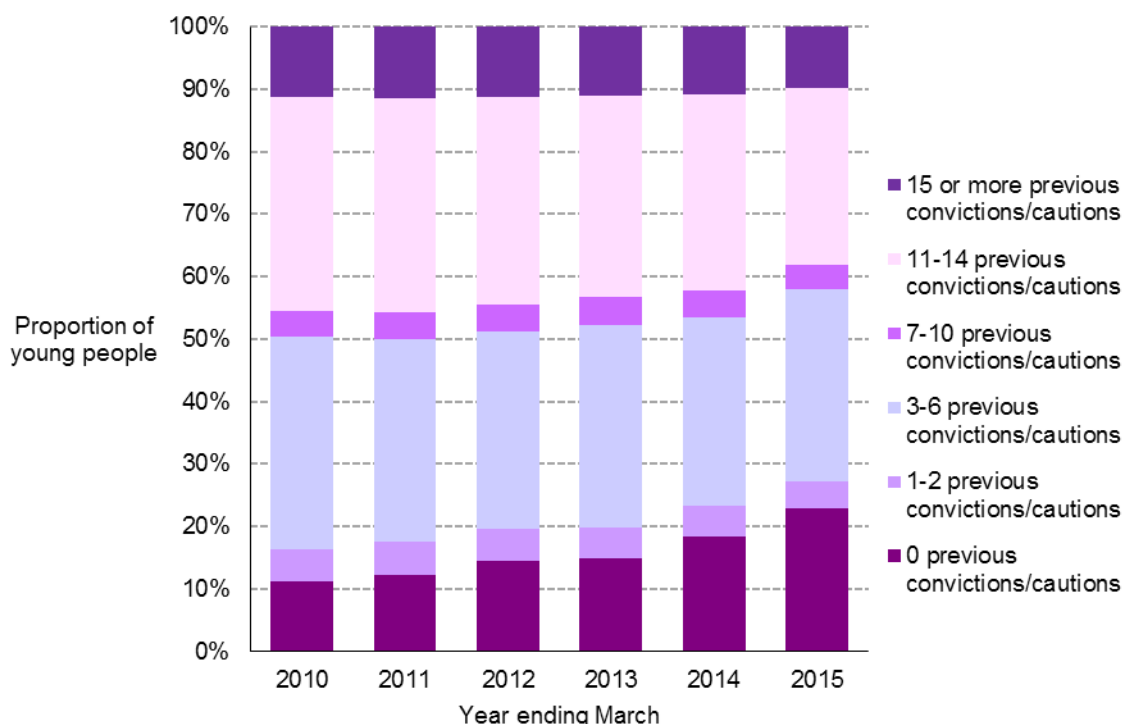
In the year ending March 2015, 23% of the young people sentenced for indictable offences had no previous convictions or cautions. This was 18% in the year ending March 2014 and the proportion has increased since the year ending March 2008 when it was 10%.

In the year ending March 2015, 4% of young people sentenced for an indictable offence had 15 or more previous cautions of convictions. This figure has remained the same since the year ending March 2014.

The proportion of young people sentenced to custody who had 0 previous offences was 9% in the year ending March 2015. This proportion has fluctuated between 5 and 9% in the last decade.

⁹² Criminal offences are divided into three main offence groups; Indictable; Summary non-motoring; and Summary motoring. Please refer to the glossary for further details of these offence groups. This chapter focuses on Indictable offences only as Summary non-motoring offences (such as TV license evasion) and Summary motoring offences (such as speeding and driving whilst disqualified) are often unlikely to result in a court disposal

Figure 10.1 Proportion of young people sentenced for indictable offences by criminal history, years ending March 2010 to March 2015



10.4 Criminal histories of young people cautioned for indictable offences

In the year ending March 2015, 68% of young people who received a caution for an indictable offence had no previous cautions or convictions. 5% of young people given a caution in the year ending March 2015 had three or more previous cautions or convictions.

Examined by type of disposal, 67% of those with no previous cautions or convictions received a caution, whilst those with 11 or more previous cautions or convictions tended to be sentenced to a community sentence or immediate custody.

Chapter 11: Comparisons with the adult system

This chapter provides a comparison between young people (10-17 years), young adults (where available, which covers 18-20 years) and adults (21 years and over) in the Criminal Justice System (CJS) in England and Wales. This chapter includes comparisons of; first time entrants, offences and disposals, knife possession, sentencing, population in custody and reoffending.

Key findings

- Young people (10-17) accounted for 13% of first time entrants to the criminal justice system in the year ending March 2015. Young adults and adults (18 years and over) accounted for 87%⁹³.
- Young people (10-17) sentenced for indictable offences accounted for 6% of the total people sentenced in the year ending March 2015 with 17,055 court sentences, compared to 9% for young adults (18-20) and 85% for adults (21 and over).
- Young people (10-17) in custody accounted for 1% of the total prison population in June 2015.
- In the year ending March 2014 the proportion of people who reoffended was highest for young people aged 10-17, with a reoffending rate of 38.0%. Young adults (18-20) had a reoffending rate of 29.9%, while adults (21 and over) had a rate of 24.5).
- Young people accounted for 19% (2,792 offenders) of the total number of offences involving the possession of a knife or offensive weapon resulting in a caution or sentence in the year ending March 2015. This is 9 percentage points higher than the proportion of young people of offending age⁹⁴.

11.1 First Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System in England and Wales

- Young people (10-17) accounted for 13% (20,544) of first time entrants to the criminal justice system in the year ending March 2015. Young adults and adults (18 years and over) accounted for 87% (133,035).
- In the year ending March 2005, young people accounted for 33% of first time entrants to the criminal justice system. This proportion was broadly stable until

⁹³ For FTE data a breakdown between young adults (18-21) and adults (21 and over) are not available.

⁹⁴ Young people aged 10-17 make up 10% of the general population aged over 10 years of England and Wales.

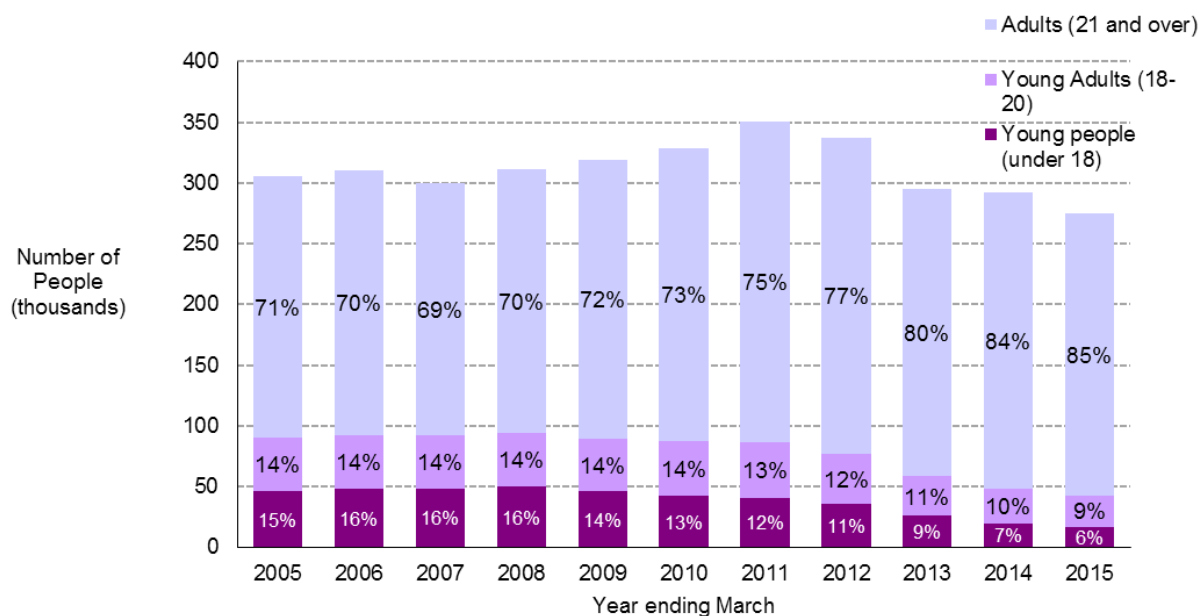
the year ending March 2009 when it started to fall year on year to its present level of 13%.

11.2 Offences, disposals and knife possession sentencing in the Criminal Justice System in England and Wales

- Young people (10-17) sentenced for all offences accounted for 3% of the total people sentenced in the year ending March 2015. This compares to young adults (18-20) who accounted for 7%, with adults accounting for 91%⁹⁵ of the total people sentenced.
- Young people (10-17) sentenced for indictable offences accounted for 6% of the total people sentenced in the year ending March 2015 with 17,055 court sentences, compared to 9% for young adults (18-20) and 85% for adults (21 and over).
- Young people accounted for 20% (90 offenders) of the total number of offences involving threatening with a knife or offensive weapon in the year ending March 2015.
- Young people accounted for 19% (2,792 offenders) of the total number of offenders convicted or cautioned for a possession of a knife or offensive weapon offence in the year ending March 2015.
- The number of young people convicted or cautioned for a possession of a knife or offensive weapon increased by 12%, compared to a 4% reduction for adults from the year ending March 2014 to March 2015.
- The percentage of BAME young people convicted or cautioned for a possession of a knife or offensive weapon was 39% in the year ending March 2014 to March 2015. This compares to 20% for young adults and with 16% for adults.
- The proportion of young people (10-17) sentenced to immediate custody for possession of a knife or offensive weapon was 9% compared to 30% of adults (18 and over).

⁹⁵ Percentages may not total due to rounding.

Figure 11.1: People sentenced for indictable offences by age, years ending March 2005 to March 2015



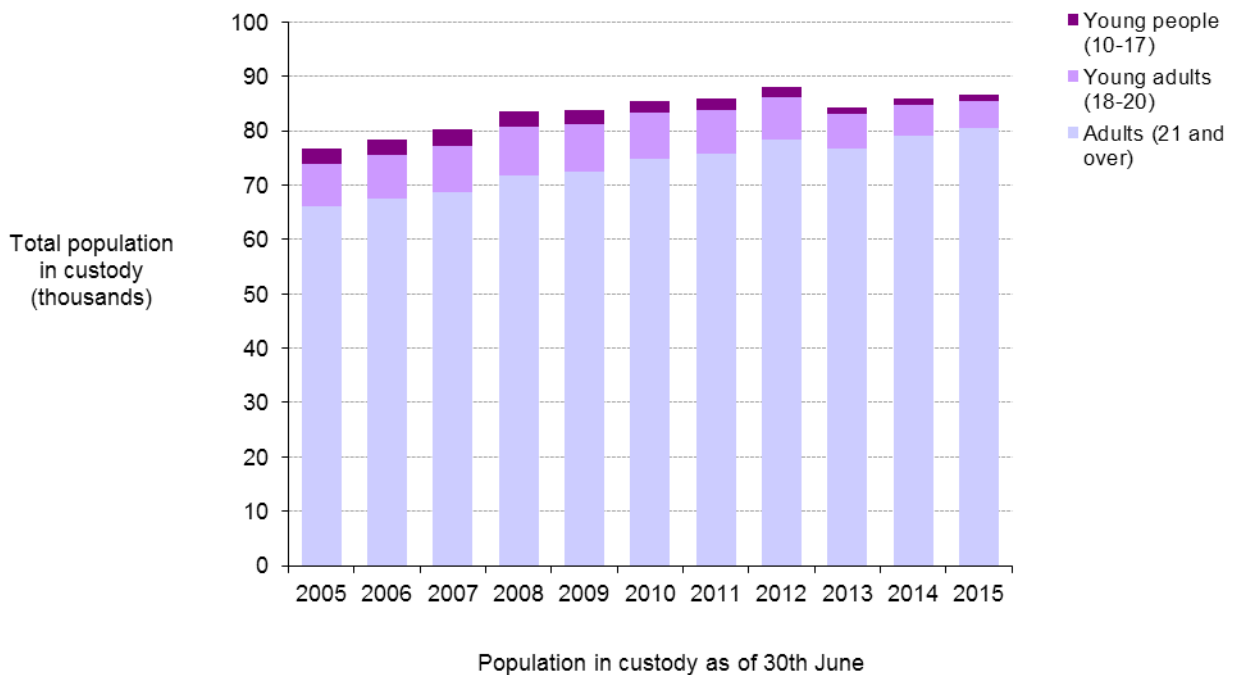
11.3 Population in custody, 2005 to 2015

- Young people (10-17) in custody accounted for 1% of the total prison population in June 2015. This proportion has fallen from 4% in June 2005.
- The population in custody in the youth secure estate (under 18) was 1,016⁹⁶ at the end of June 2015, compared to 5,050 young adults (18-20) and 80,463 adults (21 and over) in prison.
- In the last year, the total population in custody increased by 1%. There was a 2% increase in the adult (21 and over) custody population, an 11% decrease in the young adult (18-20) custody population and an 8% decrease in the under 18 custody population.

⁹⁶ Sourced from Offender Management Quarterly Statistics

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/offender-management-statistics-quarterly>

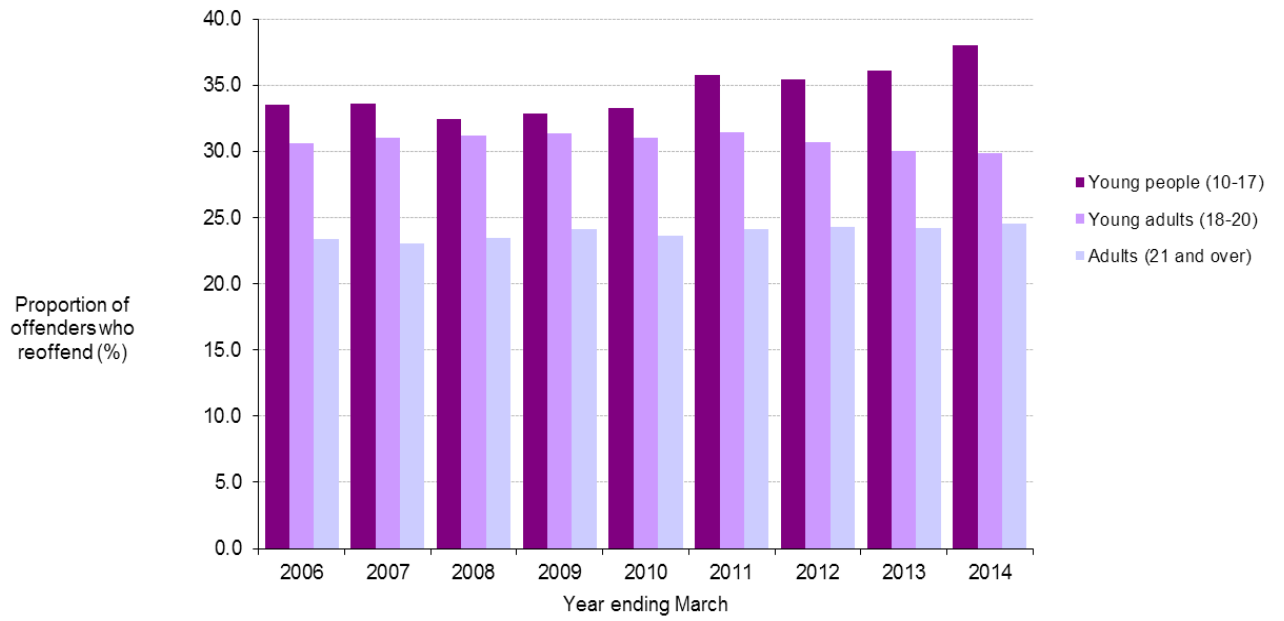
Figure 11.2: Population in custody by age, 30 June 2005 to 2015



11.4 Reoffending in England and Wales (offending cohort for the year ending March 2014)

- In the year ending March 2014 the proportion of people who reoffended was highest for young people aged 10-17, with a reoffending (binary) rate of 38.0%. Young adults (18-20) had a reoffending rate of 29.9%, while adults (21 and over) had a rate of 24.5.
- Compared with the year ending March 2013, rates for young people increased by 1.9 percentage points, young adults decreased by 0.15 percentage points and adults (21 and over) have increased by 0.34 percentage points.
- The average number of reoffences per reoffender was highest for adults with an average of 3.16 reoffences per reoffender. The figures were 3.12 for young people and 2.84 for young adults. Rates for all the three groups have gone up compared with the year ending March 2013.

Figure 11.3: Proportion of people who reoffend, years ending March 2006 to March 2014



Links to other resources

Arrest statistics

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-powers-and-procedures-england-and-wales>

Data on arrests for notifiable offences are included within this annual Home Office statistical release.

Anti-Social Behaviour statistics

www.gov.uk/government/collections/antisocial-behaviour

The latest annual bulletin (published in October 2014) presents the number of anti-social behaviour orders issued in the period 1 April 1999 to 31 December 2013 and breached in the period 1 June 2000 to 31 December 2013.

Crime in England and Wales statistics

<http://www.crimesurvey.co.uk/>

This quarterly bulletin presents key statistics on crime in England and Wales taken from statistics from two different sources: the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW, previously known as the British Crime Survey), and police recorded crime. The publication also includes statistics on the victimisation and experiences of crime from young people aged 10-15.

Criminal Justice Statistics

www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

This quarterly bulletin presents key statistics on activity in the Criminal Justice System (CJS) for England and Wales. The data provides users with information about proven offending and its outcomes in England and Wales. It contains statistics for adults and young people on; offences, out of court disposals, court disposals and offending histories (including first time entrants and previous disposals).

Race and the Criminal Justice System

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/race-and-the-criminal-justice-system>

This biennial publication compiles statistics from data sources across the CJS, to provide a combined perspective on the typical experiences of different ethnic groups in England and Wales. It reports statistical information on the representation of black and minority ethnic groups as suspects, offenders and victims within the CJS and on employees within criminal justice agencies.

Criminal Court Statistics

www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-court-statistics

This quarterly bulletin presents National Statistics on activities in magistrates' courts and Crown Courts in England and Wales. The figures give a summary overview of the volume of cases dealt with by these courts over time, with statistics also broken down for the main types of case involved.

Also published are detailed breakdowns of the headline court caseload and timeliness statistics, broken down by court or Local Justice Area.

Reoffending of young people

www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics

This report provides key statistics on proven reoffending in England and Wales. It gives proven reoffending figures for offenders who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court, received a caution, reprimand, warning or tested positive for opiates or cocaine between April 2013 and March 2014.

Knife Possession Sentencing

www.gov.uk/government/collections/knife-possession-sentencing-quarterly

This quarterly report contains key statistics describing trends in cautioning and sentencing, probation supervision and the prison population for offences involving the possession of a knife or offensive weapon in England and Wales.

Young people in custody in the secure estate

www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-custody-data

This monthly report covers information on the population in custody within the youth secure estate. The data provides users with the breakdown of the population in custody each month as well as trend data from year ending March 2006 onwards (at a detailed level).

Explanatory notes

Data sources and quality

Most of the figures in this report have been drawn from administrative IT systems, which, as with any large scale recording system, are subject to possible errors with data entry and processing and may be subject to change over time. Steps are taken to improve the completeness and accuracy of this information each year.

Other figures have been taken from official published statistics, which may be National Statistics. Further details on the sources of information are given in [Annex E](#).

'National Statistics' is the national standard for official statistics. The 'National Statistics' Quality Mark indicates that the statistics have been produced in accordance with the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#). The Code of Practice requires the statistics to be produced, managed and disseminated to high professional standards. The statistics must be well-explained and meet users' needs. The 'National Statistics' standard has statutory backing.

1. Data from the Ministry of Justice

Some of the data in this report has been taken from previously published statistical bulletins published by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and other government departments. In these cases links to original publication are provided. Please see these publications for comments on the quality of this data.

For more information about the databases used and definitions used in the Criminal Justice System please see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly>

2. Data from the Youth Justice Board

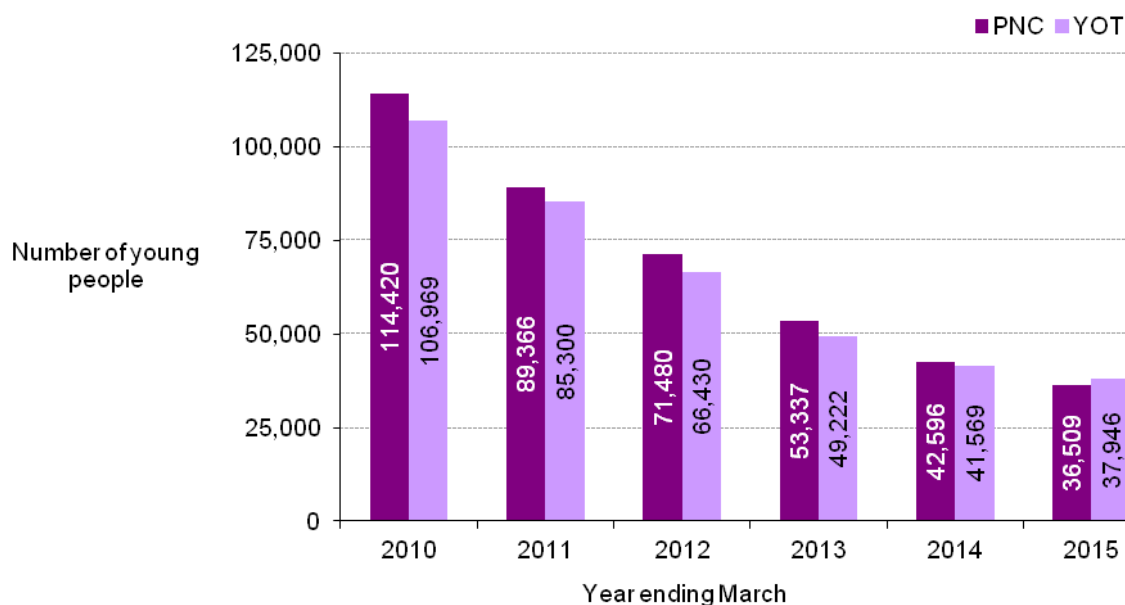
Some of the data in this publication come from Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and do not come from the police or courts. As such, the data given in this publication may differ from that presented in other Ministry of Justice publications. The data for the year ending March 2015 have been taken from the Youth Justice Board's Youth Justice Management Information System (YJMIS). This system contains summary and case level data on young people convicted of an offence. Prior to April 2009, only summary level data was submitted to the Youth Justice Board (YJB).

Comparison with PNC

Historically there has been a difference in the figures of young people convicted taken from PNC and YJMIS, with the PNC figure being higher than that on YJMIS. These figures have however, the difference between the figures has been reducing year on year. In the year ending March 2015, for the first time in this publication series, the number of young people receiving a substantive outcome as recorded by YOTs was higher than that recorded on PNC. This is being investigated and may be

due to changes in data recording following a move to new YOT Case Management Systems or due to different recording practices across local police forces.

Figure EN1: Trends in the number of young people convicted of an offence: comparing data from YOTs and the PNC, years ending March 2010 to March 2015



In the year ending March 2015 a large number of YROs (3,309) recorded in YJMIS did not have any requirement data attached to them. This represents 40% of all YROs. All YROs given should have requirements attached. An investigation into this issue indicated that most of the missing requirements have been recorded on the YOTs' case management system but that there is a technical problem with one of these systems that means that the requirements data are not feeding through to the YJMIS. The YJB are working with the provider of the system to resolve this.

In the year ending March 2015 there were 157 YOTs in England and Wales. The YJB received complete data returns from all but one YOT in that year.

This YOT was unable to send data due to technical problems with their case management system. They were however able to send their figures in summary level form for inclusion.

Considerable effort has gone into improving the quality of the data in the YJMIS over the last few years. Revised data recording guidance and updates to the technology has led to more complete and accurate datasets. This work continued during the year ending March 2015.

The data on young people in the secure estate during the year ending March 2015 comes from the YJB's eAsset database and data on young people in the secure estate prior to April 2012 comes from the YJB's Secure Accommodation Clearing House System (SACHS) database. The quality of the information recorded on these

databases is generally assumed to be relatively high as they are the operational systems that place young people in custody. A number of key fields are used for which completion is mandatory when booking a young person into custody. However, both sources are subject to possible errors when entering data as well as changes over time due to being operational databases that are regularly updated. Different checks on the data help improve and maintain the quality:

Ongoing improvements to data entry validation reduce the risk of incorrect recording; Identification of duplicate records improves the reliability of the stored information; Visual checks on single variables as well as different variable groupings are carried out to ensure only permitted combinations result; Data trends are also examined to assist with quality assuring the data; Different data sources are used to ensure the figures are sensible and sound.

Unexpected differences are investigated which can result in unit data being interrogated to pinpoint the anomaly. Missing and inconsistent information is checked with individual establishments. The YJB have been working on a project to improve the quality of historic and current information held on the eAsset system, through making amendments to the IT system itself and increased levels of checks of information on the system with data providers.

The Behaviour Management data are taken from monthly data returns from establishments to the YJB. In some cases the total figures for age, gender and ethnicity may not add up to the same figures due to recording issues. These small variations will not make any difference to the overall rates. To improve the quality, the data was subject to a validation exercise with establishments prior to publication.

Data received from the establishments through monthly returns is validated through a reconciliation process on an annual basis. During this year's data quality exercise, an error was identified within the assaults figures for two Secure Training Centres (STCs). Subsequently these have been checked and revised. Therefore, figures in this publication will not match those previously published in the year ending March 2014 publication.

The Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint (MMPR) system has been introduced and is being rolled out amongst STCs and Young Offender Institutions (YOIs) in England and Wales. For the period April 2014 to March 2015, five establishments have been using the technique and information has been collected from them on a monthly basis.

3. Data from the Office of National Statistics

The Crime Survey for England and Wales is a nationally-representative survey of individuals aged 16 years and over living in private households in England and Wales. The Crime Survey for England and Wales includes questions that allow us to look at the perceptions of older teenagers and adults with regard to the Youth Justice System (YJS). The main Crime Survey for England and Wales publication can be found at:

<http://www.crimesurvey.co.uk/>

Details on the methodology can be found at:

www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/crime-statistics-methodology/guide-to-finding-crime-statistics/crime-survey-for-england-and-wales--csew-/index.html

4. Data from the Home Office

Data on arrests are taken from the Home Office statistical release 'Police Powers and Procedures England and Wales year ending 31 March 2015'.

The figures presented in 'Police Powers and Procedures year ending 31 March 2015' were correct at the time of publication, and may include revisions submitted by forces for the years covered by, and received since the publication of the previous year's edition.

Figures for the years ending March 2005 and 2006 are estimated due to unavailable data from some police forces. As a result, figures are presented rounded to the nearest hundred.

Press enquiries about the arrests data should be made to the Home Office's press office on 020 7035 3535.

All other enquiries about the arrests data should be made directly to Home Office Statistics via: policestats@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

Implementation of changes to offence classifications

In July 2013, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) re-designed the classifications used to present police recorded crime statistics, following recommendations from the National Statistician's review of Crime Statistics in England and Wales in June 2011. The changes to classifications were implemented in the ONS statistical bulletin *Crime in England and Wales, year ending March 2013*, published in July 2013, alongside a methodological note⁹⁷ providing more detail on the changes and their impact on time-series for key measures.

No change has been made to the coverage of offences in the police recorded crime series, and most changes are presentational, with some offences moving between classifications or being separated out of existing groupings.

In this publication information is presented on the new offence group breakdowns where possible. Therefore, please note that offence groups and classification may vary between chapters and data sources.

⁹⁷ www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/crime-statistics-methodology/presentational-changes-on-police-recorded-crime-in-england-and-wales.pdf

Ethnicity classifications

Two measures of recording ethnicity are utilised throughout this publication: officer identified ethnicity and self-identified ethnicity.

Officer identified ethnicity is as recorded by a police officer or a member of the administrative or clerical team and is based on visual appearance. It is based on a 4+1 classification as follows: White, Black, Asian, Other and 'Unknown' or 'not recorded'. This is the ethnicity information presented for information from the PNC (data on cautions, first time entrants, reoffending and criminal histories).

"Self-identified ethnicity" is the ethnicity defined by the individual, and categories are based on the ONS classifications from 2001⁹⁸. Self-identified ethnicity is based on a 5+1 classification as follows: White, Black, Asian, Mixed, Chinese or Other and 'Unknown' or 'not recorded'. This is the ethnicity presented for information from the Home Office (data on arrests), from the YJB (characteristics of young people according to YJMIS, outcomes following remand, young people in custody in the secure estate and behaviour management) and for parenting orders.

Changes to Cautions for young people

From 8 April 2013, youth cautions and youth conditional cautions were made available to all 10-17 year olds (originally, from 26 January 2010 youth conditional cautions were only available for 16 and 17 year olds in five pilot areas). Youth cautions (which include youth conditional cautions) are the only out of court disposals currently available for young people. Previously, penalty notices for disorder were another out of court disposal available for young people however from 8 April 2013 they are no longer available for persons under 18.

Historical comparisons between Youth & Youth Conditional Cautions and Reprimands & Warnings should therefore be treated with caution.

Under the old system, a young person could receive a Reprimand for a first offence and if they commit a further offence, a final warning. Once a young person had received a final warning, any further offences, regardless of severity would result in a charge and if found guilty a court disposal. Under the new system, a young person can be given a Youth Conditional Caution even if they have previously had a court disposal. This allows for more appropriate disposals to be given based on the nature of the offence.

Symbols and conventions

The units of measurement in this publication are offenders, offences and disposals; these are given as full numbers where available. The percentages are rounded to

⁹⁸ The ONS introduced two further categories to the Census in 2011: 'White – Gypsy or Irish Traveller' and 'Arab'; and moved 'Chinese' to the broader Asian category. To allow for comparability within the time series presented in this publication, Chinese are placed in the 'Chinese and Other', following the 2001 Census.

the nearest number or one decimal place. The following symbols have been used throughout the tables in this bulletin:

- = Nil / Zero
- .. = Not available
- * = small values (less than five cases)
- n/a = not available

Revisions policy

Data are received from YOTs and the secure estate on a rolling basis which may lead to slight changes to published figures. Revisions are only made when there is a significant change or when an error was identified in the original data.

For the revisions policy for data taken from other sources see their respective publications.

User Consultation

The UK Statistics Authority has assessed the Youth Justice Statistics Annual Report and it has been designated official national statistics.

To this end, we are consulting a wide range of stakeholders through a future YJB Stakeholder's Survey on how well the Youth Justice Statistics Annual Report fulfils their needs. We would like to hear how you use the report and whether you think there's anything we could improve.

Please answer the following, emailing your responses to the YJB at analysis@yjb.gsi.gov.uk by **30 September 2016**.

1. Do you use the Youth Justice Statistics Annual Report (text and Excel tables)?
2. Which of these statistics do you use, and for what purposes? Please be as specific as possible. For example, if you use the statistics to provide briefings and further analysis to others, it would be helpful to know what the end use is.
3. Have you any comments on the quality of the information or methods of analysis?
4. What further information would you like?
5. Do you have any comments on the presentation of the report?

Contacts

Press enquiries should be directed to the Ministry of Justice press office:
Tel: 020 3334 3536

Email: newsdesk@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to:

Steve Ellerd-Elliott
Ministry of Justice
Justice Statistics Analytical Services
7th Floor
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ

Victoria Obudulu
Youth Justice Board
102 Petty France
London SW1H 9AJ
Tel: 020 3334 5403

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

General information about the official statistics system of the UK is available from: www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/

For enquires direct to the YJB please email: analysis@yjb.gsi.gov.uk

Spreadsheet files of the tables contained in this document are also available for download with this publication.

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Alternative formats are available on request from esd@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Annex A: Performance Outcomes in the YJS

This annex covers information on the performance outcomes for the Youth Justice System (YJS). During the year ending March 2015, England and Wales had three indicators; two Impact Indicators on first time entrants to the YJS and Reoffending for young people, and a Transparency Indicator on the use of custody. There were a further three Welsh Youth Justice indicators around young people's access to suitable accommodation, their engagement in education, training and employment (ETE) and their access to substance misuse services.

A.1 England and Wales Impact Indicators

First Time Entrants:

First time entrants (FTEs) to the criminal justice system are classified as young people aged 10-17 years, resident in England and Wales, who received their first reprimand, warning, caution or conviction, based on data recorded by the police on the PNC⁹⁹ (See [chapter 2](#)).

- There were 20,544 first time entrants to the Youth Justice System in England and Wales in the year ending March 2015.
- The number of FTEs has fallen by 82% from the peak of 110,784 in year ending March 2007. The number of FTEs fell again by 67% between the years ending March 2010 and 2015.

Reoffending by young people:

A proven reoffence is defined as a new offence committed within the one-year follow up period of being released from custody or given a caution/conviction, which is proved by another formal disposal (See [chapter 9](#)).

- Results from the year ending March 2014 cohort show that the rate of reoffending for young people was 38.0%. This is an increase of 1.9 percentage points since the year ending March 2013.
- The average number of reoffences per reoffender was 3.12 in the year ending March 2014, up from 2.99 reoffences per reoffender in the year ending March 2013.

⁹⁹ For further information on this dataset please visit: www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

A.2 England and Wales Transparency Indicator

Use of custody:

The Transparency Indicator on the use of custody is measured as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 young people (aged 10-17) in the population. These data is taken from the YJB's Youth Justice Management Information System (YJMIS).

For information on young people in custody see [Chapter 7](#).

- Data from YJMIS show that there were 0.46 custodial sentences per 1,000 young people in year ending March 2015, compared with 0.53 in year ending March 2014 and 1.01 in year ending March 2010.
- The custody rate has been stable for the last decade accounting for between 6 and 8% of all disposals. This is against a background of a reduction in the number of young people coming before the courts, and those receiving custody.

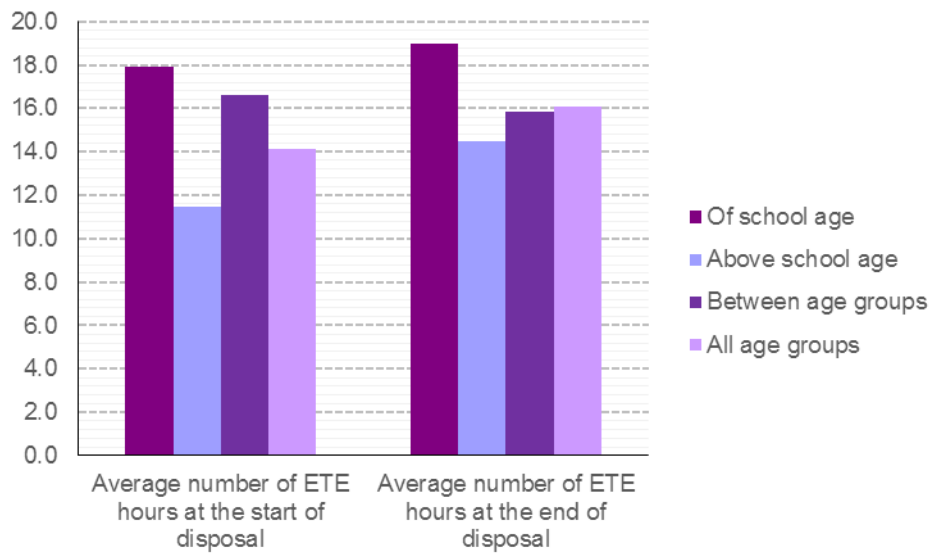
Welsh Youth Justice Indicators

Engagement in education, training and employment (ETE) for young people in the Youth Justice System:

The measure looks at the change in the average number of hours of ETE per week young people in Wales complete at the start and at the end of their disposal.

- In Wales during the year ending March 2015, young people had an average of 14.2 hours of ETE per week at the beginning of their disposals and an average of 16.1 at the end of their disposals. This represented a 13.5% increase in the average number of hours they completed. During the year ending March 2014, the percentage increase was 8.3%.

Figure A.1: Average number of hours of suitable ETE per week, Wales, year ending March 2015

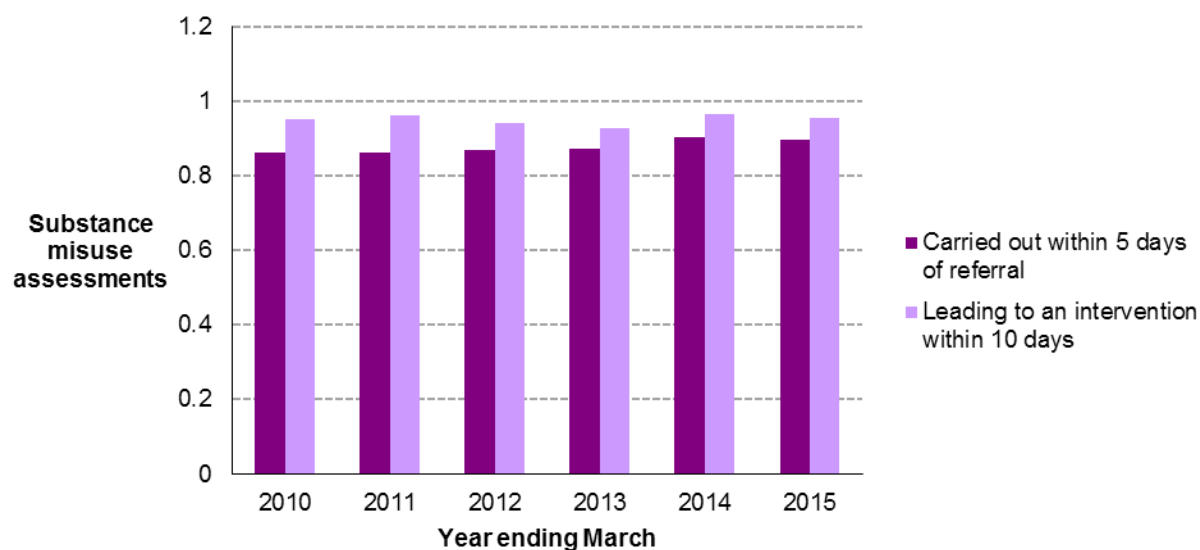


Access to substance misuse services for young people in the Youth Justice System:

Covers the timeliness of assessments for young people with potential substance misuse needs in Wales. Initial assessments should be conducted within five working days of a referral, and interventions should be started within ten working days of their assessment.

- In year ending March 2015, 90% of assessments were conducted within five working days of referral, which remains relatively consistent with the year ending March 2014.
- The proportion of young people with substance misuse needs that started interventions within 10 working days of their assessment was 96% in year ending March 2015, which is relatively unchanged from 97% for the year ending March 2014.

Figure A.2: Substance misuse assessment for young people in Wales, years ending March 2010 to March 2015



Access to suitable accommodation for young people in the Youth Justice System:

This indicator measures the change in the percentage of young people in Wales who were in suitable accommodation at the end of their order, compared to the number at the start.

The percentage of young people who were in suitable accommodation at the start of their order¹⁰⁰ in year ending March 2015 was 97%. This decreased to 94% at the end of their disposal. These figures remain relatively unchanged compared to the year ending March 2014.

In the year ending March 2015, for young people on a custodial disposal, 83% were assessed as having suitable accommodation prior to their disposal. At the end of their disposals this increased to 86% who were assessed as having suitable accommodation. This represents a percentage point increase of 2.4.

This was smaller than the percentage change increase in the year ending March 2014. While 83% were assessed as having suitable accommodation prior to their disposal, 88% were assessed as having suitable accommodation at the end of their disposal, representing a percentage point increase of 4.4.

¹⁰⁰ Relevant orders in this case are referrals, reparations, YROs and custodial sentences.

Annex B: Resources in Youth Offending Teams

Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) work with young people who are in the Youth Justice System or who are on programmes that serve to prevent young people offending for the first time or behaving anti-socially. Most of the YOT caseload comprises young people aged 10 to 17 years; however some 18 year olds who start their disposals before their 18th birthday may also still be engaged with the YOT. The information supplied for the year ending March 2015 was up to date as of 13 January 2016.

YOTs are multi-agency teams made up of representatives from police, probation, education, health and social services, and specialist workers, such as accommodation officers and substance misuse workers.

YOTs are mostly coterminous with local authorities in England and Wales; however there are some exceptions where a single YOT covers two or more local authorities. At the end of March 2015, there were 157 YOTs; 140 in England and 17 in Wales. The composition of YOTs is changing over time; these numbers have changed since the year ending March 2012 and may change again in the future.

Also from the year ending March 2012 the YOT grant from the YJB was one single Youth Justice Good Practice grant with no ring-fenced amounts for designated strands of work. However, starting in the year ending March 2014 other funding streams for designated areas of work were paid to YOTs as detailed in Table B.2 of Annex B in the supplementary tables.

Police funding for the year ending March 2015 was reported split into two separate figures: the funding stream from the local Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) office was reported separately from other Police funding for the first time.

The funding figures below are based on data submitted to the YJB from YOTs, with the exception of the YJB grant which is taken from the YJB's own figures.

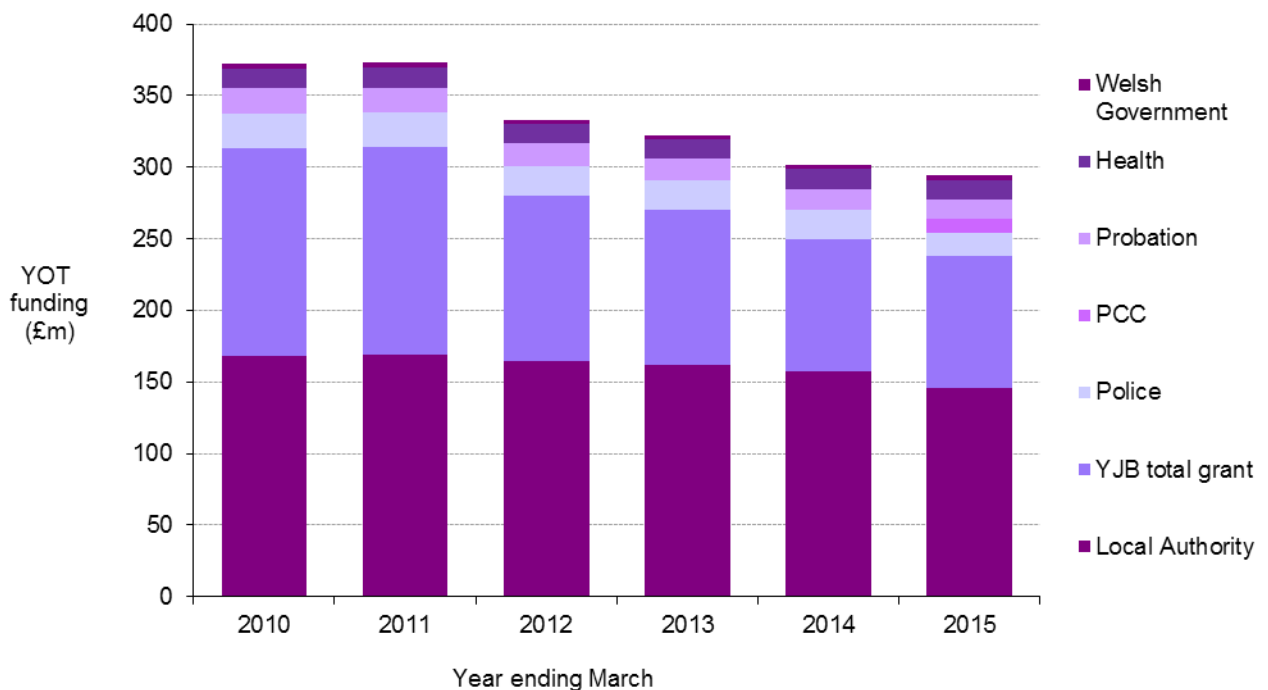
B.1 Overall YOT funding over time

Between the year ending March 2014 and the year ending March 2015 there was a reduction in the overall level of funding available to YOTs from £302m to £299m, a reduction of 1%. This is the lowest level of funding YOTs received since the year ending March 2007 and since the peak in the year ending March 2011 corresponds to a reduction of 20% in overall YOT funding. However, the changes in funding to YOTs since the year ending March 2014 varied widely across the different statutory partners as summarised below.

- The Youth Justice Good Practice Grant remained almost exactly the same, changing by under 1%.
- Total Police funding increased by 28% when that from the local PCC office is included.

- Probation funding decreased by 3%.
- Health services funding decreased by 10%.
- Local Authorities (including education and social services) funding decreased by 7%.
- The Welsh Government Grant increased by 21%.

Figure B.1: Total YOT funding over time, years ending March 2010 to March 2015

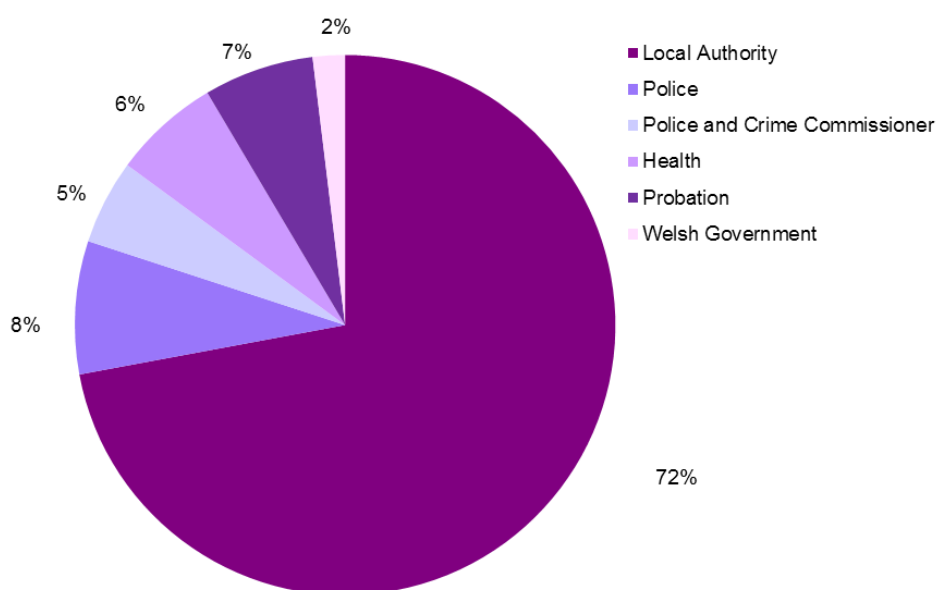


B.2 Partnership funding of YOTs

The Youth Justice Good Practice grant on average makes up about a third (31%) of funding to YOTs, although this figure varies by YOT. The remaining funding comes from Partnership Agencies who work with the YOT to support young people in, or at risk of joining, the Youth Justice System.

In terms of partnership funding Local Authority services contributed the most to YOT funding, providing nearly three quarters (72%) of the total supplied by statutory agencies other than the YJB. The police provided 13% (5% coming from the PCC office and 8% from other police funding streams), probation 7% and health 6%. The Welsh Government provided additional funding to YOTs in Wales, accounting for 15% of all funding to YOTs in Wales.

Figure B.2: Partnership funding of YOTs, the year ending March 2015



B.3 YOT workforce

As of 30 June 2014, a total of 12,894 people were recorded as working for YOTs in some capacity. This is a reduction of just below 10% on the staffing levels reported by YOTs for 30 June 2013. These figures include volunteers, part-time and temporary staff and so are not measures of the full-time equivalent workforce.

YOTs vary in size from fewer than 20 personnel to over 440. This section presents information on the total number of staff across all YOTs, broken down by contract status, gender and ethnicity.

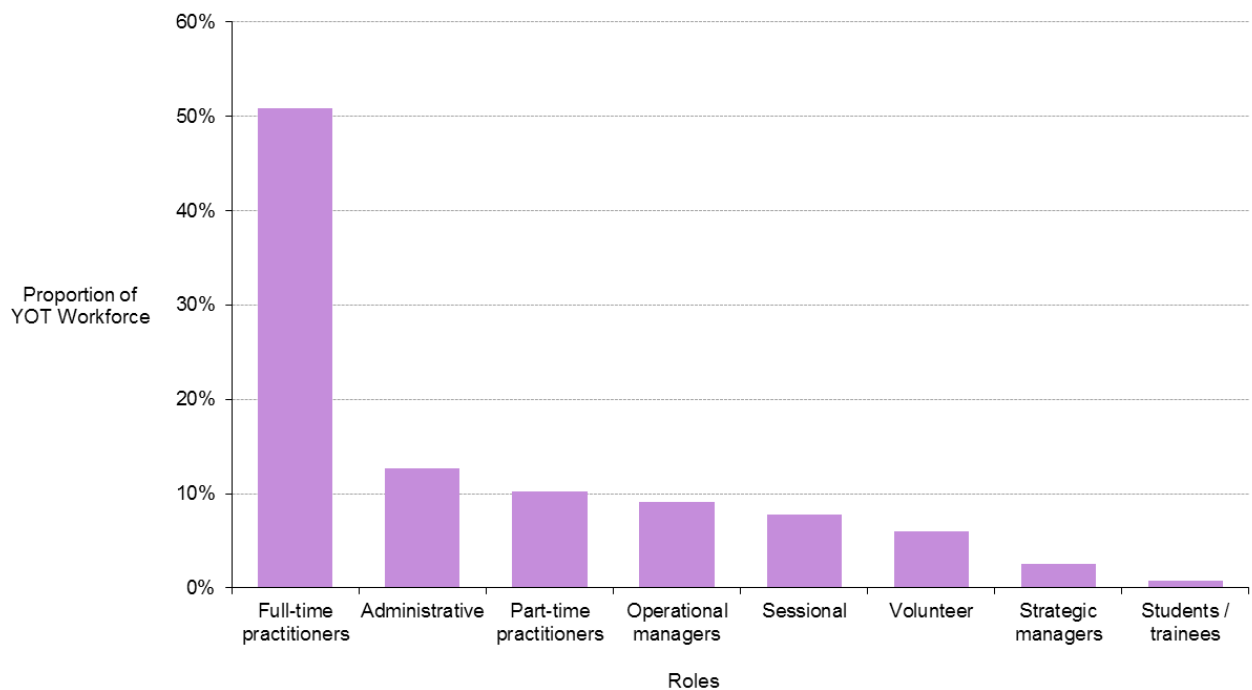
From 30 June 2012 the data recording methodology was changed for staffing figures by contract status. In previous years headcount was used both for numbers broken down by contract status and broken down by gender and ethnicity. Starting in June 2012 the figures broken down by contract type were recorded as full-time equivalents and as a result, the totals recorded under contract type from 30 June 2012 onwards are not comparable to previous years. The totals broken down by contract status are also not comparable to those recorded under gender and ethnicity as these are still recorded as headcount.

From the data submitted, the full-time equivalent numbers at 30 June 2014 were 5,170 practitioners (17% working part-time), 770 operational managers and 215 strategic managers. The corresponding figures for sessional workers and volunteers were 661 and 510 respectively.

Over two-thirds (69%) of the staff were female and 76% classed themselves as being from a White ethnic background. Overall the staffing headcount in all YOTs has reduced by almost 10% between 30 June 2013 and 30 June 2014.

Comparison with the full-time equivalent figures for the year ending March 2014 shows that while the staffing levels in YOTs have fallen for all categories, the proportions of staff in each category have remained approximately the same: The only changes are a slight decrease in the proportion of strategic managers and volunteers and a slight increase in the proportion of full-time practitioners and administrative staff.

Figure B.3: YOT workforce, as of 30 June 2014



Annex C: Levels of crime experienced by young people

The Crime Survey for England and Wales (formerly British Crime Survey) asks people aged 16 and over living in households in England and Wales about their experiences of crime in the last 12 months. These experiences are used to estimate levels of crime in England and Wales. There were an estimated 6.8 million instances of crime against households and resident adults (aged 16 and over) in England and Wales for the year ending March 2015. This represents a 7% decrease compared with the previous year's survey and is the lowest estimate since the survey began in 1981.

Key findings from the survey are available in the main publication at:

<http://www.crimesurvey.co.uk/>

In 2009, the Crime Survey for England and Wales was extended to young people aged 10-15. The primary objective of extending the survey was to provide estimates of the levels of crime experienced by young people and their risk of victimisation.

In addition to questions about experience of crime, the survey also gathers information on a number of crime-related topics such as experience and attitudes towards the police, personal safety, being in public spaces and access to leisure facilities.

In the year ending March 2015, there were an estimated 709,000 crimes experienced by young people aged 10-15 years.¹⁰¹ Of these:

- 53% were categorised as violent crimes (373,000);
- 39% were thefts (278,000);¹⁰²
- 8% were criminal damage to personal property (59,000).

¹⁰¹ Children are often involved in low-level incidents which may involve an offence in law but may not be viewed by participants, or others, as serious enough to amount to a crime. Two methods for classifying incidents recorded in the survey have been used – 'preferred' and 'broad'. The 'Preferred measure' takes into account factors identified as important in determining the severity of an incidence (such as level of injury, value of item stolen or damaged, relationship with the perpetrator) while the 'Broad measure' counts all incidents which would be legally defined as crimes and therefore may include low-level incidents between young people. The analysis provided here uses the 'preferred' measure.

¹⁰² For the children's survey, property offences are restricted to personal crimes only. Any household theft or criminal damage to the house/vehicle is recorded when the adult respondent from the household completes the survey themselves. Three offences from the children's data – theft from or outside the dwelling, bicycle theft, and criminal damage – are all designated as household offences for adult's survey. In the children's data these are included if the property stolen or damaged belonged solely to the child respondent.

Table C1 shows the estimated number of incidents and the estimated percentage of young people aged 10-15 who experienced crime. An estimated 12% of 10-15 year olds were victims of crime in the year ending March 2015. This has remained unchanged for the third consecutive year. Of these, around 6% had been a victim of one or more incidents of violent crime and similarly, around 6% had been a victim of one or more incidents of theft.

Table C1: Offences experienced by young people aged 10-15 in the Crime Survey for England and Wales, year ending March 2010 to March 2015

Measure	Years ending March					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of incidents (thousands)	1,056	918	1,066	817	810	709
Percentage who were victims of one incident or more	14.6%	11.6%	15.1%	12.2%	12.1%	11.8%
Number of young people aged 10-15 in the sample	3,762	3,849	3,930	2,879	2,933	2,374

Source: Crime Survey for England and Wales, ONS

Of the estimated 373,000 violent incidents experienced by young people aged 10-15, 60% resulted in injury to the young person. Around 6% of young people aged 10-15 had experienced one or more incidents of violent crime in the last year; and 4% had experienced one or more incidents of violence with injury. Less than 1% of young people aged 10-15 were victims of robbery in the last year.

There were an estimated 278,000 incidents of theft and 59,000 incidents of damage of personal property experienced by young people aged 10-15 in the year ending March 2015. Of the thefts, 62% were classified as 'other theft of personal property' (172,000 incidents) which includes thefts of property left unattended. Around 6% of young people aged 10-15 had experienced one or more incidents of theft in the last year, with 'other theft of personal property' the most commonly experienced type of theft (around 4%).

Annex D: Average Time from Offence to Completion

The criminal court timeliness measure is an estimated average of the time criminal cases spend in the Criminal Justice System, across both magistrates' and Crown tiers of criminal court. In addition to the mean,¹⁰³ the median¹⁰⁴ is also shown, as the mean can sometimes be skewed by extreme values.

The statistics in the supplementary volumes measure the overall duration in days from offence to completion in the criminal courts, including intermediate stages in that process. 'Time from offence to completion' refers to the time taken between the date an offence is committed and date of verdict/acquittal of the defendant's case, in either magistrates' courts or the Crown Court. For defendants whose case is sent to the Crown Court, these statistics measure the entire duration from offence to completion in the Crown Court, including the time the case was initially dealt with in the magistrates' courts before being passed to the Crown Court.

In the year ending March 2015, for all completed youth criminal cases¹⁰⁵, the average number of days from the time that the offence took place until the case was completed (and a final decision was made) was 119 days (the median was 87 days). This is an increase on 111 days (median 82 days) in the previous year and continues the upward trend.

There were increases in the average amount of time from the offence to the time that the young person was charged at the police station, and also from the charge to the first listing of the case in a magistrate's court.

Table D.3 in the supplementary volumes show the average (mean and median) waiting times from offence to completion, for youth arrest¹⁰⁶ completed criminal cases. For these cases, in the year ending March 2015, the average time from offence to completion was 98 days (the median was 66 days). This is an increase from the average of 89 days (median 61 days) in the year ending March 2014.

The average time from offence to completion consists of the following processes:

- Average time from offence to arrest - mean 12 days, median 0 days ;
- Average time from arrest to charge - mean 22 days, median 1 day;
- Average time from charge to first listing - mean 18 days, median 15 days;
- Average time from first listing to completion - mean 45 days, median 21 days.

¹⁰³ The mean is the total time for all the relevant criminal cases, divided by the number of cases.

¹⁰⁴ The median is the middle value for the relevant criminal cases, that is the time value where half of the cases have a shorter time and half have a longer one.

¹⁰⁵ In magistrates and at Crown Courts.

¹⁰⁶ Where a youth panel sat and the date of arrest is known.

There is variability in the waiting times by offence group. Sexual offences have the longest average times from offence to completion (mean of 367 days, median of 295 days). Possession of weapon offences have the shortest average times from offence to completion (mean of 72 days, median of 51 days).

When examined by ethnic appearance, those who are Black, Asian or Other have a higher average time from offence to completion than for those who are White (mainly at the first listing to completion stage).

Annex E: Sources used for each chapter

The table below shows which data sources are used for each chapter of the report and the quality of the data.

Name	Owner	Description	Quality Status	Source / Other publications	Use in YJ Stats year ending March 2015
Police National Computer (PNC)	MoJ	Information regarding the proven re-offending behaviour of offenders and criminal histories of offenders has been compiled using the Ministry of Justice's extract from the Police National Computer (PNC). The quality of the information recorded on the PNC is generally assumed to be relatively high as it is an operational system on which the police depend, but analysis can reveal errors that are typical when handling administrative datasets of this scale.	NS	1	Chapters 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 and Annex A
Youth Cautions	MoJ	From April 2011 all cautions data are collected from the Police National Computer, the records are validated for accuracy and completeness and amended as necessary. Additionally any apparent cautions given for serious offences, such as rape, are investigated thoroughly with forces. All cautions data prior to April 2011 were collected directly from police forces and have been through the same validation process. From the year ending March 2010 the reporting of conditional cautions was made mandatory, including those given to juveniles aged 16 and 17. This meant from 1 April 2009 all returns distinguish conditional cautions from other caution type interventions. In addition Youth Conditional Cautions (YCC), for juveniles aged 16 or 17, were introduced from 1 April 2009.	NS	1	Chapter 1 and 11
Courts	MoJ	Statistics on prosecutions, convictions and sentencing are either derived from the LIBRA case management system, which holds the magistrates' courts records, or the Crown Court's CREST system which holds the trial and sentencing data. The data includes offences where there has been no police involvement, such as those prosecutions instigated by government departments, private organisations and individuals. From July 1995 all Crown Court data on trials and sentences has been received directly from the Court Service's CREST computer system and from November 2008 all magistrates' courts data has been provided by the LIBRA case management system. All data is subject to a variety of validation checks prior to publication	NS	1	Chapters 5 and 11

YJMIS	YJB	This system contains summary and case level data on young people convicted of an offence. Prior to year ending March 2010 only summary level data was submitted to the YJB via Youth Offending Teams. Data is submitted on a quarterly basis.	Admin System	2	Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6, Annex A and Annex B. Used for the local level data.
eAsset / SACHS	YJB	Data for year ending March 2013 onwards for under 18 year olds for Secure Children's Homes (SCHs), Secure Training Centres (STCs), and Young Offender Institutions (YOIs) comes from the YJB's eAsset database. Data for 18 year old females in SCHs and STCs also comes from eAsset and data for 18 year old males in YOIs comes from NOMS. Data is based on monthly snapshots of the youth secure estate, taken on the last Friday of the month or first Friday of the following month, depending on which is nearer to the actual month end. Data prior to year ending March 2013 comes from the YJB's Secure Accommodation Clearing House System (SACHS) database.	Admin System	3	Chapters 6, 7 and 11
Behaviour management	YJB	The Behaviour Management data are taken from monthly data returns from establishments to the YJB. In some cases the total figures for age, gender and ethnicity may not add up to the same figures due to recording issues. These small variations will not make any difference to the overall rates. Figures on assaults have been revised following an error in the data that was only identified after the publication of the year ending March 2014 dataset.	Admin System	N/A	Chapter 8
Deaths in custody	YJB	Data on deaths in custody (YOIs, STCs and SCHs) is based on information reported to the YJB.	Admin System	12	Executive Summary
Use of force under the Managing and Minimising Physical Restraint (MMPR) system	YJB	MMPR is a behaviour management and restraint system that has been developed specifically for staff working with young people in STCs and under-18 YOIs. All secure establishments currently report restraint incidents against the definition of RPI and this will continue. However, under MMPR, establishments are also required to report more detailed data on all uses of force, irrespective of whether they meet the RPI definition or not. This includes the use of MMPR techniques and any use of force that is not an MMPR technique.	Admin system	N/A	Chapter 8
Arrests	Home Office	The arrests figures relate to arrests for notifiable offences only, which form the basis of recorded crime statistics. The data presented are drawn from returns from the 43 local police forces in England and Wales, and cover trends in arrest rates in England and Wales, as well as breakdowns by offence group, gender and self-defined ethnicity. Figures on arrests reported to the Home Office reflect police activity and should not be used to infer levels of crime committed by offenders, or their specific characteristics.	NS	4	Chapter 1
ASBOs	MoJ	These statistics are based on ASBOs issued after application by a relevant body	OS	5	Chapter 1

		(Including local authorities, police, registered social landlords, housing action trusts, British Transport Police, Transport for London) to magistrates' courts (acting in their civil capacity) or to county courts and ASBOs issued following conviction for a criminal offence either by magistrates' courts (acting in their criminal capacity) or the Crown Court.			
Crime Survey for England and Wales	ONS	The Crime Survey for England and Wales, previously the British Crime Survey (BCS), is one of the largest social research surveys conducted in England and Wales. It asks people resident in households about their experiences of crime in face-to-face interviews.	NS	6	Chapter 12 and Annex C
Mid-year estimates	ONS	Mid 2014 population estimates are available at national level by single year of age and sex and sub nationally (local authority/health area) by five year age group and sex. These include additional selected age groups and broad components of population change. The population estimates reflect the local authority administrative boundaries that were in place on 30 June of the reference year of the tables.	NS	7	Chapter 1, Annex B
Reoffending	MoJ	Key statistics on proven re-offending in England and Wales. It gives proven re-offending figures for offenders who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court, received a caution, reprimand, warning or tested positive for opiates or cocaine between April 2012 and March 2013. Proven reoffending is defined as any offence committed in a one year follow-up period and receiving a court conviction, caution, reprimand or warning in the one year follow-up. Following this one year period, a further six month waiting period is allowed for cases to progress through the courts.	NS	8	Chapter 9
Adults in custody	MoJ	Key statistics relating to offenders who are in prison or under Probation Service supervision. 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.	NS	9	Chapter 11
Average number of days from offence to completion	MoJ	The criminal court timeliness measure is an estimated average of the time criminal cases spend in the CJS, across both magistrates' and Crown tiers of criminal court. These statistics are sourced from the administrative data systems used in the magistrates' courts and Crown Court, and are produced by linking records (the Libra Management Information Timeliness Analysis Report and CREST linked court data, HMCTS). Records are linked based on a combination of variables including given name, middle name, family name, date of birth, sex, postcode, a committal date, and two identifiers: the Arrest/Summons Number (ASN) and Pre-Trials Issue Unique Reference Number (PTIURN)	NS	10	Executive Summary, Annex D

Other publications;

1. www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly
2. www.gov.uk/government/collections/youth-justice-statistics
3. www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-custody-data
4. www.gov.uk/government/collections/police-powers-and-procedures-england-and-wales
5. www.gov.uk/government/collections/antisocial-behaviour
6. www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Crime+in+England+and+Wales
7. <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/pop-estimate/population-estimates-for-uk--england-and-wales--scotland-and-northern-ireland/mid-2014/rft---mid-2014-uk-population-estimates.zip>
8. www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics
9. www.gov.uk/government/collections/prisons-and-probation-statistics
10. www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-court-statistics and www.gov.uk/government/collections/court-statistics-quarterly
11. www.gov.uk/government/statistics/mmpr-data-march-2013-to-march-2014
12. www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/486686/Safeguarding_Report.pdf.

NS denotes National Statistics publications

OS denotes Official Statistics publications

Admin System denotes information is derived from an administrative system.