

# **Sentencing statistics quarterly brief**

## **January to March 2008**

## **England and Wales**

*Provisional data*

Ministry of Justice  
Statistics bulletin

Published 30<sup>th</sup> October 2008

# Sentencing Statistics January to March 2008

## Introduction

This publication has been prepared by Offender Management & Sentencing Analytical Services (formerly RDS NOMS) - Sentencing Statistics and NOMS Projections, to provide the latest trends in sentencing in England and Wales, based on provisional sentencing data. Key statistics presented are set in the context of sentencing patterns over the last 2 years (since 2006). It considers the total numbers sentenced for indictable offences in all courts as well as a breakdown for magistrates' courts and the Crown Court. The focus is primarily on use of fines, community sentences, immediate custody, suspended sentences and average custodial sentence lengths (ACSL) (which exclude life and indeterminate sentences). Information by offence type and for individual sentences is provided in the accompanying tables.

**All figures relate to indictable only and triable-either-way offences** (taken together these are known as indictable offences).

Statistics quoted in this publication for 2007 and 2008 are **provisional**. The final 2007 data will be published by the end of 2008. Final 2008 data will be published in the annual bulletin of sentencing statistics at the end of 2009. This provisional data may change in future quarterly briefs.

## Key points - January to March 2008

All key points highlighted below are for indictable offences and are comparisons with the first quarter of 2007.

### Key points

#### All courts

- The number sentenced for indictable offences across all age groups was 80,600, up 1.9 per cent on a year earlier, and the largest quarterly figure in the last 2 years. The increase occurred amongst those aged 21 or over. There was a larger increase at the Crown Court than at magistrates' courts.
- The increase was mainly among drug offences (up 19.7 per cent) although theft and handling stolen goods offences also increased (up 4.6 per cent). Most of the percentage decreases for other offence groups were small apart from criminal damage (down 21.0 per cent) and indictable motoring offences (down 16.3 per cent).
  - The fine rate was 15.0 per cent, down from 16.0 per cent, with decreases at both types of court
  - The community sentence rate was roughly unchanged at 34 per cent, with decreased use at magistrates' courts balanced by increased use at the Crown Court

- The immediate custody rate was 24.9 per cent, up from 23.3 per cent, with increased use at both types of court
- The suspended sentence rate was 7.2 per cent, down from 8.4 per cent, reflecting decreased use at the Crown Court
- The average custodial sentence length was 14.9 months, down from 15.2 months. This figure excludes the growing number of life/indeterminate sentences.

### **Magistrates' courts**

- There were 60,100 people sentenced at magistrates' courts, up 0.7 per cent on the same period in 2007.
  - The immediate custody rate was 14.1 per cent, up from 12.8 per cent, and the suspended sentence rate was unchanged at 5.3 per cent.
  - The use of community sentences dropped from 39.1 per cent to 37.6 per cent, and the fine rate from 20.4 per cent to 19.4 per cent.
  - The average custodial sentence length fell slightly from 2.8 months to 2.7 months.

### **Crown Court**

- There were 20,500 persons sentenced at the Crown Court, an increase of 5.3 per cent.
  - There was an increase in the use of immediate custodial sentences up to 56.4 per cent from 55.5 per cent.
  - The suspended sentence rate fell to 12.8 per cent from 18.2 per cent.
  - There was a decrease in the fine rate, down to 1.9 per cent from 2.4 per cent.
  - The community sentence rate rose to 23.6 per cent from 18.8 per cent
  - The average custodial sentence length fell slightly from 24.6 months to 24.5 months

Table 1: Offenders sentenced by disposal

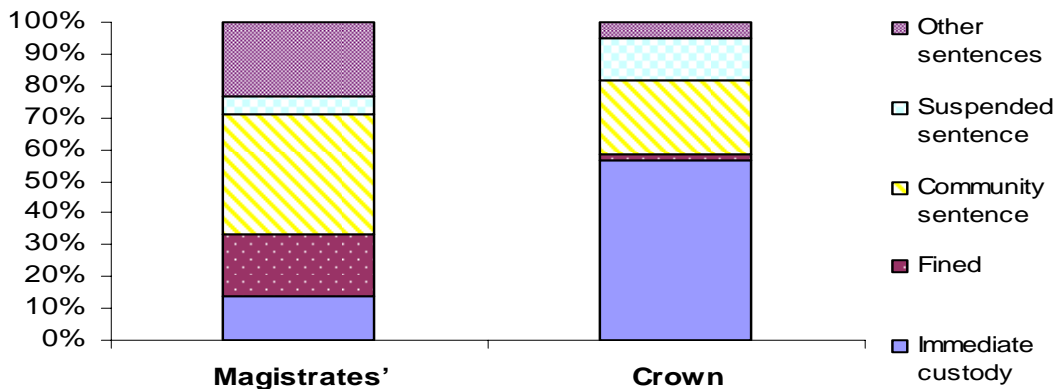
	Magistrates'	Crown	All Courts
<b>Total Sentenced (all ages)</b> <i>(comparing Q1 2008 with Q1 2007)</i>	60,122 0.7%	20,469 5.3%	80,591 1.9%
<b>Immediate custody</b>	8,504 11.4%	11,538 7.0%	20,042 8.8%
<b>Fine</b>	11,669 -4.2%	385 -19.1%	12,054 -4.7%
<b>Community sentence</b>	22,606 -3.0%	4,831 32.0%	27,437 1.7%
<b>Suspended sentence</b>	3,194 1.6%	2,626 -25.7%	5,820 -12.9%
<b>Other sentence</b>	14,149 4.9%	1,089 10.6%	15,238 5.3%
<b>Average custodial sentence length (months)<sup>(1)</sup></b>	2.7 -3.6%	24.5 -0.4%	14.9 -2.6%

1. ACSL excludes life sentences and IPPs.

Table 2: Offenders sentenced by age and sex

	Magistrates'	Crown	All Courts
<b>Total Sentenced (all ages)</b> <i>(comparing Q1 2008 with Q1 2007)</i>	60,122 0.7%	20,469 5.3%	80,591 1.9%
<b>Male</b>	50,684 0.6%	18,155 4.0%	68,839 1.5%
<b>Female</b>	9,438 1.4%	2,314 17.1%	11,752 4.2%
<b>10-17</b>	11,444 -6.1%	685 2.1%	12,129 -5.7%
<b>18-20</b>	7,572 -7.2%	2,937 -12.0%	10,509 -8.6%
<b>21 and over</b>	41,106 4.5%	16,847 9.2%	57,953 5.8%

Distribution of disposals by court, 2008 Q1 (Figure A)



## Explanatory notes

### Data sources

The source of the data for this publication is the Courts Proceedings Database, which covers details of every individual sentenced. Data referring to magistrates' courts comes either directly from magistrates' court computer systems or from police forces. Data on the Crown Court comes from the Court Service's CREST computer system.

All the statistics shown relate to the principal offence. This is the one attracting the heaviest sentence.

Although care is taken in processing and analysing the returns, the detail collected is subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large scale recording system. Therefore, the figures are not necessarily accurate to the last digit shown. Average custodial sentence lengths are extracted to one decimal place.

### Definitions

**Juveniles:** offenders aged 10-17 at sentence

**Young adults:** offenders aged 18-20 at sentence

**Adults:** offenders aged 21 or over at sentence

**Average custodial sentence length:** this excludes life and other indeterminate sentences.

Offenders receiving an indeterminate sentence of Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) for a serious offence would previously have received a lengthy determinate sentence that would have been included in the calculation of average custodial sentence length. These longer sentences are now effectively excluded from the calculation. The IPP's are given for the more serious offences. Therefore, this may result in a decrease in average custodial sentence lengths of more serious offences sentenced at the Crown Court.

**Indictable only offences** and **triable-either-way offences** are listed in Appendix 4 of Sentencing Statistics England and Wales 2006. This publication is available at <http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/sentencingannual.htm>

**Immediate custodial sentences** include S90-92 PCC(S) Act 2000, detention and training orders, young offender institution, unsuspended imprisonment, intermittent custody, extended sentences for public protection and indeterminate sentences for public protection<sup>1</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> Introduced by the Criminal Justice Act 2003 for offences committed on or after 4 April 2005

**Community sentences** include community rehabilitation orders, supervision orders, community punishment orders, attendance centre orders, community punishment and rehabilitation orders, curfew orders, reparation orders, action plan orders, drug treatment and testing orders, referral orders and community orders<sup>1</sup>

**Suspended sentences** include fully suspended sentences and suspended sentence orders<sup>1</sup>

Where the number of offenders sentenced in a particular group is less than 50, we do not show the percentage change. This is because smaller numbers do not always give a meaningful percentage change. In these cases, the percentage change is denoted with a star (\*).

### **Contact points for further information**

Current and previous editions of this publication are available for download at <http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/sentencingquarterly.htm>

Press enquiries should be directed to the Ministry of Justice press office:

#### **Becky Dearden**

Tel: 020 33 34 35 36

Email: [press.office@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:press.office@justice.gsi.gov.uk)

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to:

#### **Katherine Williamson**

Email: [Katherine.Williamson10@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Katherine.Williamson10@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

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

General information about the official statistics system of the UK is available from [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)

© Crown copyright Produced by the Ministry of Justice

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

**Table 1 Males sentenced for indictable offences by type of court, age group, type of sentence and quarter, 2006-2008<sup>(1)</sup>**

England and Wales	Males sentenced									Percentage change				
	Q1 2006	Q2 2006	Q3 2006	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008
<b>Magistrates' courts</b>														
Juveniles (under 18)														
Number sentenced	9,780	9,427	9,678	9,615	10,405	10,600	10,339	9,771	9,839	6.4	12.4	6.8	1.6	-5.4
Number given immediate custody	830	832	882	775	754	817	820	716	765	-9.2	-1.8	-7.0	-7.6	1.5
Number given fines	583	537	445	527	562	522	528	550	493	-3.6	-2.8	18.7	4.4	-12.3
Number given community sentences	7,146	6,906	7,246	7,196	7,799	8,011	7,732	7,370	7,357	9.1	16.0	6.7	2.4	-5.7
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*
Number given other sentences	1,221	1,152	1,105	1,117	1,290	1,250	1,259	1,135	1,224	5.7	8.5	13.9	1.6	-5.1
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.6	7.4	-4.1	-4.1	0.0	8.6	5.7
Young Adults (18-20)														
Number sentenced	7,134	6,722	6,996	6,445	7,212	7,133	7,057	6,823	6,643	1.1	6.1	0.9	5.9	-7.9
Number given immediate custody	954	802	939	796	842	898	896	852	727	-11.7	12.0	-4.6	7.0	-13.7
Number given fines	2,025	1,848	1,813	1,680	1,817	1,753	1,647	1,585	1,606	-10.3	-5.1	-9.2	-4.5	-11.6
Number given community sentences	2,307	2,293	2,338	2,211	2,451	2,474	2,516	2,441	2,321	6.2	7.9	7.6	10.4	-5.3
Number given suspended sentences	191	304	421	346	394	358	337	393	331	106.3	17.8	-20.0	13.6	-16.0
Number given other sentences	1,657	1,475	1,485	1,432	1,708	1,650	1,661	1,552	1,658	3.1	11.9	11.9	8.4	-2.9
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.6	-3.6	3.7	3.7	0.0	-3.7
Adults (21 and over)														
Number sentenced	34,058	31,610	31,399	29,149	32,757	31,434	32,447	31,581	34,202	-3.8	-0.6	3.3	8.3	4.4
Number given immediate custody	5,857	5,444	5,281	4,810	5,195	4,968	5,411	5,395	6,002	-11.3	-8.7	2.5	12.2	15.5
Number given fines	9,625	8,450	8,352	7,761	8,456	8,101	8,231	7,765	8,287	-12.1	-4.1	-1.4	0.1	-2.0
Number given community sentences	9,217	8,575	8,303	7,796	9,213	8,647	8,866	8,774	9,185	0.0	0.8	6.8	12.5	-0.3
Number given suspended sentences	1,619	1,868	2,233	2,100	2,243	2,215	2,298	2,284	2,357	38.5	18.6	2.9	8.8	5.1
Number given other sentences	7,740	7,273	7,230	6,682	7,650	7,503	7,641	7,363	8,371	-1.2	3.2	5.7	10.2	9.4
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	-4.2	-4.2	-4.2	0.0	-4.3
<b>The Crown Court</b>														
Juveniles (under 18)														
Number sentenced	629	544	577	556	606	603	576	598	639	-3.7	10.8	-0.2	7.6	5.4
Number given immediate custody	407	350	384	372	374	370	374	372	374	-8.1	5.7	-2.6	0.0	0.0
Number given fines	2	1	1	0	3	2	3	4	1	*	*	*	*	*
Number given community sentences	196	169	173	158	202	195	172	177	228	3.1	15.4	-0.6	12.0	12.9
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*
Number given other sentences	24	24	19	26	27	36	27	45	36	*	*	*	*	*
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	22.7	23.2	21.4	22.1	20.9	20.4	21.6	20.1	20.9	-7.9	-12.1	0.9	-9.0	0.0
Young Adults (18-20)														
Number sentenced	2,952	2,612	2,787	2,791	3,125	2,910	2,918	3,077	2,729	5.9	11.4	4.7	10.2	-12.7
Number given immediate custody	1,606	1,465	1,632	1,592	1,768	1,701	1,738	1,766	1,584	10.1	16.1	6.5	10.9	-10.4
Number given fines	65	45	54	39	55	46	49	48	38	*	*	*	*	*
Number given community sentences	935	687	657	667	670	622	556	633	818	-28.3	-9.5	-15.4	-5.1	22.1
Number given suspended sentences	226	322	352	397	500	402	475	510	163	121.2	24.8	34.9	28.5	-67.4
Number given other sentences	120	93	92	96	132	139	100	120	126	10.0	49.5	8.7	25.0	-4.5
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	22.1	21.1	21.3	23.3	21.0	20.0	20.5	20.6	21.3	-5.0	-5.2	-3.8	-11.6	1.4
Adults (21 and over)														
Number sentenced	13,599	12,451	12,643	12,561	13,734	13,050	13,457	13,642	14,787	1.0	4.8	6.4	8.6	7.7
Number given immediate custody	8,184	7,572	7,594	7,497	7,935	7,569	7,876	8,001	8,725	-3.0	0.0	3.7	6.7	10.0
Number given fines	305	259	269	273	374	302	297	274	317	22.6	16.6	10.4	0.4	-15.2
Number given community sentences	3,119	2,451	2,275	2,110	2,260	2,027	2,034	1,919	2,996	-27.5	-17.3	-10.6	-9.1	32.6
Number given suspended sentences	1,303	1,603	1,898	2,130	2,510	2,510	2,653	2,816	2,028	92.6	56.6	39.8	32.2	-19.2
Number given other sentences	688	566	607	551	656	642	597	632	721	-4.7	13.4	-1.6	14.7	9.9
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	26.4	26.7	26.5	26.7	25.9	25.9	25.8	26.7	25.6	-1.9	-3.0	-2.6	0.0	-1.2
<b>All courts</b>														
Juveniles (under 18)														
Number sentenced	10,409	9,971	10,255	10,171	11,011	11,203	10,915	10,369	10,478	5.8	12.4	6.4	1.9	-4.8
Number given immediate custody	1,237	1,182	1,266	1,147	1,128	1,187	1,194	1,088	1,139	-8.8	0.4	-5.7	-5.1	1.0
Number given fines	585	538	446	527	565	524	531	554	494	-3.4	-2.6	19.1	5.1	-12.6
Number given community sentences	7,342	7,075	7,419	7,354	8,001	8,206	7,904	7,547	7,585	9.0	16.0	6.5	2.6	-5.2
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*
Number given other sentences	1,245	1,176	1,124	1,143	1,317	1,286	1,286	1,180	1,260	5.8	9.4	14.4	3.2	-4.3
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	12.2	12.0	11.4	11.5	11.4	11.1	11.6	11.7	11.6	-6.6	-7.5	1.8	1.7	1.8
Young Adults (18-20)														
Number sentenced	10,086	9,334	9,783	9,236	10,337	10,043	9,975	9,900	9,372	2.5	7.6	2.0	7.2	-9.3
Number given immediate custody	2,560	2,267	2,571	2,388	2,610	2,599	2,634	2,618	2,311	2.0	14.6	2.5	9.6	-11.5
Number given fines	2,090	1,893	1,867	1,699	1,872	1,799	1,696	1,633	1,644	-10.4	-5.0	-9.2	-3.9	-12.2
Number given community sentences	3,242	2,980	2,995	2,878	3,121	3,096	3,072	3,074	3,139	-3.7	3.9	2.6	6.8	0.6
Number given suspended sentences	417	626	773	743	894	760	812	903	494	114.4	21.4	5.0	21.5	-44.7
Number given other sentences	1,777	1,568	1,577	1,528	1,840	1,789	1,761	1,672	1,784	3.5	14.1	11.7	9.4	-3.0
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	14.7	14.4	14.4	16.1	14.9	13.9	14.3	14.5	15.2	1.4	-3.5	-0.7	-9.9	2.0
Adults (21 and over)														
Number sentenced	47,657	44,061	44,042	41,710	46,491	44,484	45,904	45,223	48,989	-2.4	1.0	4.2	8.4	5.4
Number given immediate custody	14,041	13,016	12,875	12,307	13,130	12,537	13,287	13,396	14,727	-6.5	-3.7	3.2	8.8	12.2
Number given fines	9,930	8,709	8,621	8,034	8,830	8,403	8,528	8,039	8,604	-11.1	-3.5	-1.1	0.1	-2.6
Number given community sentences	12,336	11,026	10,578	9,906	11,473	10,674	10,900	10,693	12,181	-7.0	-3.2	3.0	7.9	6.2
Number given suspended sentences	2,922	3,471	4,131	4,230	4,753	4,725	4,951	5,100	4,385	62.7	36.1	19.8	20.6	-7.7
Number given other sentences	8,428	7,839	7,837	7,233	8,306	8,145	8,238	7,995	9,092	-1.4	3.9	5.1	10.5	9.5
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.0	16.2	16.3	16.7	16.2	16.3	15.9	16.5	15.7	1.3	0.6	-2.5	-1.2	-3.1

(1) 2007 and 2008 data is provisional.

(2) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences. Offenders receiving an indeterminate sentence for public protection for a serious offence committed from 4 April 2005 would previously have included in the average custodial sentence length and are no longer. This may result in a decrease in average custodial sentence lengths.

(3) Suspended sentences are not available for juveniles

\* Number too small to give a meaningful percentage change

**Table 2 Females sentenced for indictable offences by type of court, age group, type of sentence and quarter, 2006-2008<sup>(1)</sup>**

England and Wales										Females sentenced					Percentage change								
Court, age group and sentence										Q1 2006	Q2 2006	Q3 2006	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008
<b>Magistrates' courts</b>																							
Juveniles (under 18)																							
Number sentenced	1,640	1,648	1,669	1,638	1,786	1,786	1,806	1,616	1,605		8.9	8.4	8.2	-1.3	-10.1								
Number given immediate custody	58	61	71	68	56	56	64	63	71		-3.4	-8.2	-9.9	-7.4	26.8								
Number given fines	50	46	38	40	45	45	60	37	40		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given community sentences	1,342	1,357	1,350	1,324	1,453	1,453	1,462	1,321	1,293		8.3	7.1	8.3	-0.2	-11.0								
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given other sentences	190	184	210	206	232	232	220	195	201		22.1	26.1	4.8	-5.3	-13.4								
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	5.8	7	6.3	6.9	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.0	6.1		1.7	-11.4	1.6	-13.0	3.4								
Young Adults (18-20)																							
Number sentenced	1,050	961	981	832	945	904	936	934	929		-10.0	-5.9	-4.6	12.3	-1.7								
Number given immediate custody	108	87	71	72	74	72	80	77	56		-31.5	-17.2	12.7	6.9	-24.3								
Number given fines	198	179	181	145	151	163	138	157	136		-23.7	-8.9	-23.8	8.3	-9.9								
Number given community sentences	362	335	346	276	336	317	348	334	344		-7.2	-5.4	0.6	21.0	2.4								
Number given suspended sentences	31	37	43	54	50	33	44	57	43		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given other sentences	351	323	340	285	334	319	326	309	350		-4.8	-1.2	-4.1	8.4	4.8								
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.4	2.4	2.8	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.3	2.1		-8.3	0.0	-7.1	-4.2	-4.5								
Adults (21 and over)																							
Number sentenced	6,868	6,435	6,288	5,773	6,575	6,469	6,469	6,709	6,904		-4.3	0.5	2.9	16.2	5.0								
Number given immediate custody	797	788	757	679	713	736	736	798	883		-10.5	-6.6	-2.8	17.5	23.8								
Number given fines	1,301	1,165	1,103	1,056	1,148	1,149	1,149	1,122	1,107		-11.8	-1.4	4.2	6.3	-3.6								
Number given community sentences	2,129	2,037	1,955	1,757	2,058	2,049	2,049	2,119	2,106		-3.3	0.6	4.8	20.6	2.3								
Number given suspended sentences	340	376	455	410	457	440	440	468	463		34.4	17.0	-3.3	14.1	1.3								
Number given other sentences	2,301	2,069	2,018	1,871	2,270	2,163	2,202	2,287	2,345		-1.3	4.5	9.1	22.2	3.3								
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0		-4.8	0.0	-4.8	0.0	0.0								
<b>The Crown Court</b>																							
Juveniles (under 18)																							
Number sentenced	71	44	55	49	65	60	80	57	46		-8.5	36.4	45.5	16.3	-29.2								
Number given immediate custody	26	19	26	19	33	25	45	25	17		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given fines	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given community sentences	39	23	19	24	27	27	31	26	23		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given other sentences	6	2	7	5	5	8	4	6	6		*	*	*	*	*								
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	18.9	16.4	15.7	22.7	19.0	15.1	16.8	12.8	22.2		0.5	-7.9	7.0	-43.6	16.8								
Young Adults (18-20)																							
Number sentenced	276	205	268	238	214	210	247	244	208		-22.5	2.4	-7.8	2.5	-2.8								
Number given immediate custody	121	69	86	74	69	66	97	92	63		-43.0	-4.3	12.8	24.3	-8.7								
Number given fines	6	2	2	0	1	4	1	1	1		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given community sentences	108	82	93	94	71	76	66	78	97		-34.3	-7.3	-29.0	-17.0	36.6								
Number given suspended sentences	28	36	65	52	53	50	62	57	20		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given other sentences	13	16	22	18	20	14	21	16	27		*	*	*	*	*								
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	19.5	20.3	19.4	20.8	22.3	22.1	17.7	21.6	20.6		14.4	8.9	-8.8	3.8	-7.6								
Adults (21 and over)																							
Number sentenced	1,806	1,618	1,647	1,605	1,697	1,764	1,873	1,847	2,060		-6.0	9.0	13.7	15.1	21.4								
Number given immediate custody	701	650	633	567	608	654	666	695	775		-13.3	0.6	5.2	22.6	27.5								
Number given fines	27	18	24	22	43	20	31	28	28		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given community sentences	620	493	447	444	429	440	414	380	669		-30.8	-10.8	-7.4	-14.4	55.9								
Number given suspended sentences	312	340	415	443	472	511	587	609	415		51.3	50.3	41.4	37.5	-12.1								
Number given other sentences	146	117	128	129	145	139	175	135	173		-0.7	18.8	36.7	4.7	19.3								
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	21.5	21.9	23.2	20.2	21.9	20.6	21.5	18.6	20.6		1.9	-5.9	-7.3	-7.9	-5.9								
<b>All Courts</b>																							
Juveniles (under 18)																							
Number sentenced	1,711	1,692	1,724	1,687	1,851	1,846	1,886	1,673	1,651		8.2	9.1	9.4	-0.8	-10.8								
Number given immediate custody	84	80	97	87	89	81	109	88	88		6.0	1.3	12.4	1.1	-1.1								
Number given fines	50	46	41	41	45	45	60	37	40		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given community sentences	1,381	1,380	1,369	1,348	1,480	1,480	1,493	1,347	1,316		7.2	7.2	9.1	-0.1	-11.1								
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		*	*	*	*	*								
Number given other sentences	196	186	217	211	237	240	224	201	207		20.9	29.0	3.2	-4.7	-12.7								
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	9.8	9.2	8.8	10.3	10.7	8.7	11.0	7.9	9.2		9.2	-5.4	25.0	-23.3	-14.0								
Young Adults (18-20)																							
Number sentenced	1,326	1,166	1,249	1,070	1,159	1,114	1,183	1,178	1,137		-12.6	-4.5	-5.3	10.1	-1.9								
Number given immediate custody	229	156	157	146	143	138	177	169	119		-37.6	-11.5	12.7	15.8	-16.8								
Number given fines	204	181	183	145	152	167	139	158	137		-25.5	-7.7	-24.0	9.0	-9.9								
Number given community sentences	470	417	439	370	407	393	414	412	441		-13.4	-5.8	-5.7	11.4	8.4								
Number given suspended sentences	59	73	108	106	103	83	106	114	63		74.6	13.7	-1.9	7.5	-38.8								
Number given other sentences	364	339	362	303	354	333	347	325	377		-2.7	-1.8	-4.1	7.3	6.5								
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	11.4	10.1	11.7	11.7	11.8	11.8	10.4	12.7	11.7		3.5	16.8	-11.1	8.5	-0.8								
Adults (21 and over)																							
Number sentenced	8,674	8,053	7,935	7,378	8,272	8,233	8,342	8,556	8,964		-4.6	2.2	5.1	16.0	8.4								
Number given immediate custody	1,498	1,438	1,390	1,246	1,321	1,390	1,402	1,493	1,658		-11.8	-3.3	0.9	19.8	25.5								
Number given fines	1,328	1,183	1,127	1,078	1,191	1,169	1,180	1,150	1,135		-10.3	-1.2	4.7	6.7	-4.7								
Number given community sentences	2,749	2,530	2,402	2,201	2,487	2,489	2,463	2,499	2,775		-9.5	-1.6	2.5	13.5	11.6								
Number given suspended sentences	652	716	870	853	929	951	1,027	1,077	878		42.5	32.8	18.0	26.3	-5.5								
Number given other sentences	2,447	2,186	2,146	2,000	2,415	2,302	2,377	2,422	2,518		-1.3	5.3	10.8	21.1	4.3								
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	10.9	11.0	11.5	10.3	11.0	10.7	11.1	9.7	10.6		0.9	-2.7	-3.5	-5.8	-3.6								

(1) 2007 and 2008 data is provisional.

(2) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences. Offenders receiving an indeterminate sentence for public protection for a serious offence committed from 4 April 2005 would previously have included in the average custodial sentence length and are no longer. This may result in a decrease in average custodial sentence lengths.

(3) Suspended sentences are not available for juveniles

\* Number too small to give a meaningful percentage change

**Table 3 Persons sentenced for indictable offences by type of court, age group, type of sentence and quarter, 2006-2008<sup>(1)</sup>**

England and Wales											Persons sentenced					Percentage change								
Court, age group and sentence											Q1 2006	Q2 2006	Q3 2006	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008
<b>Magistrates' courts</b>																								
Juveniles (under 18)																								
Number sentenced	11,420	11,075	11,347	11,253	12,191	12,386	12,145	11,387	11,444	6.8	11.8	7.0	1.2	-6.1										
Number given immediate custody	888	893	953	843	810	873	884	779	836	-8.8	-2.2	-7.2	-7.6	3.2										
Number given fines	633	583	483	567	607	567	588	587	533	-4.1	-2.7	21.7	3.5	-12.2										
Number given community sentences	8,488	8,263	8,596	8,520	9,252	9,464	9,194	8,691	8,650	9.0	14.5	7.0	2.0	-6.5										
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*										
Number given other sentences	1,411	1,336	1,315	1,323	1,522	1,482	1,479	1,330	1,425	7.9	10.9	12.5	0.5	-6.4										
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.4	7.3	-2.8	-4.1	0.0	5.7	4.3										
Young Adults (18-20)																								
Number sentenced	8,184	7,683	7,977	7,277	8,157	8,037	7,993	7,757	7,572	-0.3	4.6	0.2	6.6	-7.2										
Number given immediate custody	1,062	889	1,010	868	916	970	976	929	783	-13.7	9.1	-3.4	7.0	-14.5										
Number given fines	2,223	2,027	1,994	1,805	1,968	1,916	1,785	1,742	1,742	-11.5	-5.5	-10.5	-3.5	-11.5										
Number given community sentences	2,669	2,628	2,684	2,487	2,787	2,791	2,864	2,775	2,665	4.4	6.2	6.7	11.6	-4.4										
Number given suspended sentences	222	341	464	400	444	391	381	450	374	100.0	14.7	-17.9	12.5	-15.8										
Number given other sentences	2,008	1,798	1,825	1,717	2,042	1,969	1,987	1,861	2,008	1.7	9.5	8.9	8.4	-1.7										
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5	-3.6	3.7	0.0	-3.7	-7.4										
Adults (21 and over)																								
Number sentenced	40,926	38,045	37,687	34,922	39,332	37,903	38,916	38,290	41,106	-3.9	-0.4	3.3	9.6	4.5										
Number given immediate custody	6,654	6,232	6,038	5,489	5,908	5,704	6,147	6,193	6,885	-11.2	-8.5	1.8	12.8	16.5										
Number given fines	10,926	9,615	9,455	8,817	9,604	9,250	9,380	8,887	9,394	-12.1	-3.8	-0.8	0.8	-2.2										
Number given community sentences	11,346	10,612	10,258	9,553	11,271	10,696	10,915	10,893	11,291	-0.7	0.8	6.4	14.0	0.2										
Number given suspended sentences	1,959	2,244	2,688	2,510	2,700	2,655	2,738	2,752	2,820	37.8	18.3	1.9	9.6	4.4										
Number given other sentences	10,041	9,342	9,248	8,553	9,920	9,666	9,843	9,650	10,716	-1.2	3.5	6.4	12.8	8.0										
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	-4.3	0.0	0.0	-4.3	0.0										
<b>The Crown Court</b>																								
Juveniles (under 18)																								
Number sentenced	700	588	632	605	671	663	656	655	685	-4.1	12.8	3.8	8.3	2.1										
Number given immediate custody	433	369	410	391	407	395	419	397	391	-6.0	7.0	2.2	1.5	-3.9										
Number given fines	2	1	4	1	3	2	3	4	1	*	*	*	*	*										
Number given community sentences	235	192	192	182	229	222	203	203	251	-2.6	15.6	5.7	11.5	9.6										
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*										
Number given other sentences	30	26	26	31	32	44	31	51	42	*	*	*	*	*										
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	22.5	23.4	20.8	21.6	20.8	20.1	21.2	19.7	21.0	-7.6	-14.1	1.9	-8.8	1.0										
Young Adults (18-20)																								
Number sentenced	3,228	2,817	3,055	3,029	3,339	3,120	3,165	3,321	2,937	3.4	10.8	3.6	9.6	-12.0										
Number given immediate custody	1,727	1,534	1,718	1,666	1,837	1,767	1,835	1,858	1,647	6.4	15.2	6.8	11.5	-10.3										
Number given fines	71	47	56	39	56	50	50	49	39	*	*	*	*	*										
Number given community sentences	1,043	769	750	761	741	698	622	711	915	-29.0	-9.2	-17.1	-6.6	23.5										
Number given suspended sentences	254	358	417	449	553	452	537	567	183	117.7	26.3	28.8	26.3	-66.9										
Number given other sentences	133	109	114	114	152	153	121	136	153	14.3	40.4	6.1	19.3	0.7										
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	21.9	20.9	21.3	23.1	21.0	20.1	20.4	20.7	21.3	-4.1	-3.8	-4.2	-10.4	1.4										
Adults (21 and over)																								
Number sentenced	15,405	14,069	14,290	14,166	15,431	14,814	15,330	15,489	16,847	0.2	5.3	7.3	9.3	9.2										
Number given immediate custody	8,885	8,222	8,227	8,064	8,543	8,223	8,542	8,696	9,500	-3.8	0.0	3.8	7.8	11.2										
Number given fines	332	277	293	295	417	322	328	302	345	25.6	16.2	11.9	2.4	-17.3										
Number given community sentences	3,739	2,944	2,722	2,554	2,689	2,467	2,448	2,299	3,665	-28.1	-16.2	-10.1	-10.0	36.3										
Number given suspended sentences	1,615	1,943	2,313	2,573	2,982	3,021	3,240	3,425	2,443	84.6	55.5	40.1	33.1	-18.1										
Number given other sentences	834	683	735	680	801	781	772	767	894	-4.0	14.3	5.0	12.8	11.6										
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	25.7	26.1	26.3	26.2	25.6	25.5	25.5	26.1	25.2	-0.4	-2.3	-3.0	-0.4	-1.6										
<b>All Courts</b>																								
Juveniles (under 18)																								
Number sentenced	12,120	11,663	11,979	11,858	12,862	13,049	12,801	12,042	12,129	6.1	11.9	6.9	1.6	-5.7										
Number given immediate custody	1,321	1,262	1,363	1,234	1,217	1,268	1,303	1,176	1,227	-7.9	0.5	-4.4	-4.7	0.8										
Number given fines	635	584	487	568	610	569	591	591	534	-3.9	-2.6	21.4	4.0	-12.5										
Number given community sentences	8,723	8,455	8,788	8,702	9,481	9,686	9,397	8,894	8,901	8.7	14.6	6.9	2.2	-6.1										
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*										
Number given other sentences	1,441	1,362	1,341	1,354	1,554	1,526	1,510	1,381	1,467	7.8	12.0	12.6	2.0	-5.6										
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	12.1	11.9	11.2	11.4	11.4	10.9	11.5	11.4	11.4	-5.8	-8.4	2.7	0.0	0.0										
Young Adults (18-20)																								
Number sentenced	11,412	10,500	11,032	10,306	11,496	11,157	11,158	11,078	10,509	0.7	6.3	1.1	7.5	-8.6										
Number given immediate custody	2,789	2,423	2,728	2,534	2,753	2,737	2,811	2,787	2,430	-1.3	13.0	3.0	10.0	-11.7										
Number given fines	2,294	2,074	2,050	1,844	2,024	1,966	1,835	1,791	1,781	-11.8	-5.2	-10.5	-2.9	-12.0										
Number given community sentences	3,712	3,397	3,434	3,248	3,528	3,489	3,486	3,486	3,580	-5.0	2.7	1.5	7.3	1.5										
Number given suspended sentences	476	699	881	849	997	843	918	1,017	557	109.5	20.6	4.2	19.8	-44.1										
Number given other sentences	2,141	1,907	1,939	1,831	2,194	2,122	2,108	1,997	2,161	2.5	11.3	8.7	9.1	-1.5										
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	14.4	14.1	14.3	15.8	14.7	13.8	14.1	14.4	15.0	2.1	-2.1	-1.4	-8.9	2.0										
Adults (21 and over)																								
Number sentenced	56,331	52,114	51,977	49,088	54,763	52,717	54,246	53,779	57,953	-2.8	1.2	4.4	9.6	5.8										
Number given immediate custody	15,539	14,454	14,265	13,553	14,451	13,927	14,689	14,889	16,385	-7.0	-3.6	3.0	9.9	13.4										
Number given fines	11,258	9,892	9,748	9,112	10,021	9,572	9,708	9,189	9,739	-11.0	-3.2	-0.4	0.8	-2.8										
Number given community sentences	15,085	13,556	12,980	12,107	13,960	13,163	13,363	13,192	14,956	-7.5	-2.9	3.0	9.0	7.1										
Number given suspended sentences	3,574	4,187	5,001	5,083	5,682	5,676	5,978	6,177	5,263	59.0	35.6	19.5	21.5	-7.4										
Number given other sentences	10,875	10,025	9,983	9,233	10,721	10,447	10,615	10,417	11,610	-1.4	4.2	6.3	12.8	8.3										
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	15.5	15.6	15.8	16.0	15.7	15.7	15.5	15.8	15.2	1.3	0.6	-1.9	-1.3	-3.2										

(1) 2007 and 2008 data is provisional.

(2) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences. Offenders receiving an indeterminate sentence for public protection for a serious offence committed from 4 April 2005 would previously have included in the average custodial sentence length and are no longer. This may result in a decrease in average custodial sentence lengths.

(3) Suspended sentences are not available for juveniles

\* Number too small to give a meaningful percentage change

**Table 4 Persons sentenced for indictable offences (all ages) by type of court, type of sentence and quarter, 2006-2008<sup>(1)</sup>**

England and Wales										Persons sentenced					Percentage change								
Court, age group and sentence										Q1 2006	Q2 2006	Q3 2006	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008
<b>Magistrates' courts</b>																							
<b>Males</b>																							
Number sentenced	50,972	47,759	48,073	45,209	50,374	49,167	49,843	48,175	50,684	-1.2	2.9	3.7	6.6	0.6									
Number given immediate custody	7,641	7,078	7,102	6,381	6,791	6,683	7,127	6,963	7,494	-11.1	-5.6	0.4	9.1	10.4									
Number given fines	12,233	10,835	10,610	9,948	10,835	10,376	10,406	9,900	10,386	-11.4	-4.2	-1.9	-0.5	-4.1									
Number given community sentences	18,670	17,774	17,887	17,203	19,463	19,132	19,114	18,585	18,863	4.2	7.6	6.9	8.0	-3.1									
Number given suspended sentences	1,810	2,172	2,654	2,446	2,637	2,573	2,635	2,677	2,688	45.7	18.5	-0.7	9.4	1.9									
Number given other sentences	10,618	9,900	9,820	9,231	10,648	10,403	10,561	10,050	11,253	0.3	5.1	7.5	8.9	5.7									
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	0.0	-3.3	-3.3	-3.4	-3.4									
<b>Females</b>																							
Number sentenced	9,558	9,044	8,938	8,243	9,306	9,159	9,211	9,259	9,438	-2.6	1.3	3.1	12.3	1.4									
Number given immediate custody	963	936	899	819	843	864	880	938	1,010	-12.5	-7.7	-2.1	14.5	19.8									
Number given fines	1,549	1,390	1,322	1,241	1,344	1,357	1,347	1,316	1,283	-13.2	-2.4	1.9	6.0	-4.5									
Number given community sentences	3,833	3,729	3,651	3,357	3,847	3,819	3,859	3,774	3,743	0.4	2.4	5.7	12.4	-2.7									
Number given suspended sentences	371	413	498	464	507	473	484	525	506	36.7	14.5	-2.8	13.1	-0.2									
Number given other sentences	2,842	2,576	2,568	2,362	2,836	2,714	2,748	2,791	2,896	-0.2	5.4	7.0	18.2	2.1									
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	-4.2	0.0	-4.0	-4.0	0.0									
<b>Persons</b>																							
Number sentenced	60,530	56,803	57,011	53,452	59,680	58,326	59,054	57,434	60,122	-1.4	2.7	3.6	7.4	0.7									
Number given immediate custody	8,604	8,014	8,001	7,200	7,634	7,547	8,007	7,901	8,504	-11.3	-5.8	0.1	9.7	11.4									
Number given fines	13,782	12,225	11,932	11,189	12,179	11,733	11,753	11,216	11,669	-11.6	-4.0	-1.5	0.2	-4.2									
Number given community sentences	22,503	21,503	21,538	20,560	23,310	22,951	22,973	22,359	22,606	3.6	6.7	6.7	8.8	-3.0									
Number given suspended sentences	2,181	2,585	3,152	2,910	3,144	3,046	3,119	3,202	3,194	44.2	17.8	-1.0	10.0	1.6									
Number given other sentences	13,460	12,476	12,388	11,593	13,484	13,117	13,309	12,841	14,149	0.2	5.1	7.4	10.8	4.9									
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7	-3.4	0.0	-3.3	-3.4	-3.6									
<b>The Crown Court</b>																							
<b>Males</b>																							
Number sentenced	17,180	15,607	16,007	15,908	17,465	16,563	16,951	17,317	18,155	1.7	6.1	5.9	8.9	4.0									
Number given immediate custody	10,197	9,387	9,610	9,461	10,077	9,640	9,988	10,139	10,683	-1.2	2.7	3.9	7.2	6.0									
Number given fines	372	305	324	312	432	350	349	326	356	16.1	14.8	7.7	4.5	-17.6									
Number given community sentences	4,250	3,307	3,105	2,935	3,132	2,844	2,762	2,729	4,042	-26.3	-14.0	-11.0	-7.0	29.1									
Number given suspended sentences	1,529	1,925	2,250	2,527	3,010	2,912	3,128	3,326	2,191	96.9	51.3	39.0	31.6	-27.2									
Number given other sentences	832	683	718	673	815	817	724	797	883	-2.0	19.6	0.8	18.4	8.3									
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	25.3	25.5	25.4	25.8	24.8	24.7	24.7	25.4	24.8	-2.0	-3.1	-2.8	-1.6	0.0									
<b>Females</b>																							
Number sentenced	2,153	1,867	1,970	1,892	1,976	2,034	2,200	2,148	2,314	-8.2	8.9	11.7	13.5	17.1									
Number given immediate custody	848	738	745	660	710	745	808	812	855	-16.3	0.9	8.5	23.0	20.4									
Number given fines	33	20	29	23	44	24	32	29	29	*	*	*	*	*									
Number given community sentences	767	598	559	562	527	543	511	484	789	-31.3	-9.2	-8.6	-13.9	49.7									
Number given suspended sentences	340	376	480	495	525	561	649	666	435	54.4	49.2	35.2	34.5	-17.1									
Number given other sentences	165	135	157	152	170	161	200	157	206	3.0	19.3	27.4	3.3	21.2									
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	20.9	21.7	22.3	20.5	21.8	20.6	20.8	18.8	20.4	4.3	-5.1	-6.7	-8.3	-6.4									
<b>Persons</b>																							
Number sentenced	19,333	17,474	17,977	17,800	19,441	18,597	19,151	19,465	20,469	0.6	6.4	6.5	9.4	5.3									
Number given immediate custody	11,045	10,125	10,355	10,121	10,787	10,385	10,796	10,951	11,538	-2.3	2.6	4.3	8.2	7.0									
Number given fines	405	325	353	335	476	374	381	355	385	17.5	15.1	7.9	6.0	-19.1									
Number given community sentences	5,017	3,905	3,664	3,497	3,659	3,387	3,273	3,213	4,831	-27.1	-13.3	-10.7	-8.1	32.0									
Number given suspended sentences	1,869	2,301	2,730	3,022	3,535	3,473	3,777	3,992	2,626	89.1	50.9	38.4	32.1	-25.7									
Number given other sentences	997	818	875	825	985	978	924	954	1,089	-1.2	19.6	5.6	15.6	10.6									
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	25.0	25.2	25.5	25.5	24.6	24.4	24.4	24.9	24.5	-1.6	-3.2	-4.3	-2.4	-0.4									
<b>All Courts</b>																							
<b>Males</b>																							
Number sentenced	68,152	63,366	64,080	61,117	67,839	65,730	66,794	65,492	68,839	-0.5	3.7	4.2	7.2	1.5									
Number given immediate custody	17,838	16,465	16,712	15,842	16,868	16,323	17,115	17,102	18,177	-5.4	-0.9	2.4	8.0	7.8									
Number given fines	12,605	11,140	10,934	10,260	11,267	10,726	10,755	10,226	10,742	-10.6	-3.7	-1.6	-0.3	-4.7									
Number given community sentences	22,920	21,081	20,992	20,138	22,595	21,976	21,876	21,314	22,905	-1.4	4.2	4.2	5.8	1.4									
Number given suspended sentences	3,339	4,097	4,904	4,973	5,647	5,485	5,763	6,003	4,879	69.1	33.9	17.5	20.7	-13.6									
Number given other sentences	11,450	10,583	10,538	9,904	11,463	11,220	11,285	10,847	12,136	0.1	6.0	7.1	9.5	5.9									
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	15.5	15.6	15.6	16.2	15.7	15.5	15.4	15.9	15.4	1.3	-0.6	-1.3	-1.9	-1.9									
<b>Females</b>																							
Number sentenced	11,711	10,911	10,908	10,135	11,282	11,193	11,411	11,407	11,752	-3.7	2.6	4.6	12.6	4.2									
Number given immediate custody	1,811	1,674	1,644	1,479	1,553	1,609	1,688	1,750	1,865	-14.2	-3.9	2.7	18.3	20.1									
Number given fines	1,582	1,410	1,351	1,264	1,388	1,381	1,379	1,345	1,312	-12.3	-2.1	2.1	6.4	-5.5									
Number given community sentences	4,600	4,327	4,210	3,919	4,374	4,362	4,370	4,258	4,532	-4.9	0.8	3.8	8.7	3.6									
Number given suspended sentences	711	789	978	959	1,032	1,034	1,133	1,191	941	45.1	31.1	15.8	24.2	-8.8									
Number given other sentences	3,007	2,711	2,725	2,514	3,006	2,875	2,948	2,948	3,102	0.0	6.0	8.2	17.3	3.2									
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	10.9	10.8	11.4	10.5	11.1	10.7	11.0	9.9	10.6	1.8	-0.9	-3.5	-5.7	-4.5									
<b>Persons</b>																							
Number sentenced	79,863	74,277	74,988	71,252	79,121	76,923	78,205	76,899	80,591	-0.9	3.6	4.3	7.9	1.9									
Number given immediate custody	19,649	18,139	18,356	17,321	18,421	17,932	18,803	18,852	20,042	-6.2	-1.1	2.4	8.8	8.8									
Number given fines	14,187	12,550	12,285	11,524	12,655	12,107	12,134	11,571	12,054	-10.8	-3.5	-1.2	0.4	-4.7									
Number given community sentences	27,520	25,408	25,202	24,057	26,969	26,338	26,246	25,572	27,437	-2.0	3.7	4.1	6.3	1.7									
Number given suspended sentences	4,050	4,886	5,882	5,932	6,679	6,519	6,896	7,194	5,820	64.9	33.4	17.2	21.3	-12.9									
Number given other sentences	14,457	13,294	13,263	12,418	14,469	14,095	14,233	13,795	15,238	0.1	6.0	7.3	11.1	5.3									
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	15.1	15.2	15.2	15.7	15.3	15.1	15.0	15.3	14.9	1.3	-0.7	-1.3	-2.5	-2.6									

(1) 2007 and 2008 data is provisional.

(2) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences. Offenders receiving an indeterminate sentence for public protection for a serious offence committed from 4 April 2005 would previously have included in the average custodial sentence length and are no longer. This may result in a decrease in average custodial sentence lengths.

(3) Suspended sentences are not available for juveniles

\* Number too small to give a meaningful percentage change

**Table 5 Persons sentenced for indictable offences by type of court, type of sentence (detailed) and quarter, 2006-2008<sup>(1)</sup>**

England and Wales	Persons sentenced									Percentage change				
	Q1 2006	Q2 2006	Q3 2006	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008
<b>Magistrates' courts</b>														
Immediate custodial sentences														
Detention and training order	888	893	953	843	810	879	884	779	836	-8.8	-1.6	-7.2	-7.6	3.2
Young offender institution	1,062	889	1,010	868	916	970	976	929	783	-13.7	9.1	-3.4	7.0	-14.5
Unsuspended imprisonment	6,654	6,232	6,038	5,489	5,908	5,704	6,170	6,193	6,885	-11.2	-8.5	2.2	12.8	16.5
Total immediate custody	8,604	8,014	8,001	7,200	7,634	7,553	8,030	7,901	8,504	-11.3	-5.8	0.4	9.7	11.4
Community sentences														
Community rehabilitation order	654	443	366	312	373	339	316	274	282	-43.0	-23.5	-13.7	-12.2	-24.4
Supervision order	1,631	1,620	1,726	1,725	1,890	1,893	1,799	1,624	1,551	15.9	16.9	4.2	-5.9	-17.9
Community punishment order	890	671	543	408	360	303	314	340	316	-59.6	-54.8	-42.2	-16.7	-12.2
Attendance centre order	421	429	433	418	415	477	437	477	434	-1.4	11.2	0.9	14.1	4.6
Community punishment and rehabilitation order	346	314	265	231	272	225	261	208	242	-21.4	-28.3	-1.5	-10.0	-11.0
Curfew order	967	926	934	850	926	969	920	985	1,012	-4.2	4.6	-1.5	15.9	9.3
Reparation order	442	438	419	414	450	510	446	459	501	1.8	16.4	6.4	10.9	11.3
Action plan order	649	651	590	569	620	690	625	527	528	-4.5	6.0	5.9	-7.4	-14.8
Drug treatment and testing order	60	28	22	14	7	5	4	1	2	*	*	*	*	*
Referral order <sup>(2)</sup>	4,156	3,948	4,083	4,137	4,504	4,563	4,461	4,197	4,147	8.4	15.6	9.3	1.5	-7.9
Community order <sup>(3)</sup>	12,287	12,035	12,157	11,482	13,493	13,018	13,366	13,267	13,591	9.8	8.2	9.9	15.5	0.7
Total community sentences	22,503	21,503	21,538	20,560	23,310	22,992	22,949	22,359	22,606	3.6	6.9	6.6	8.8	-3.0
Other sentences														
Absolute or conditional discharge	10,551	9,757	9,361	8,680	10,842	10,423	10,634	10,246	10,601	2.8	6.8	13.6	18.0	-2.2
Fine	13,782	12,225	11,932	11,189	12,179	11,744	11,730	11,216	11,669	-11.6	-3.9	-1.7	0.2	-4.2
Suspended sentence <sup>(4)</sup>	2,181	2,585	3,152	2,910	3,144	3,046	3,085	3,202	3,194	44.2	17.8	-2.1	10.0	1.6
Otherwise dealt with	2,909	2,719	3,027	2,913	2,571	2,637	2,614	2,501	3,548	-11.6	-3.0	-13.6	-14.1	38.0
Total other sentences	29,423	27,286	27,472	25,692	28,736	27,850	28,063	27,165	29,012	-2.3	2.1	2.2	5.7	1.0
<b>The Crown Court</b>														
Immediate custodial sentences														
S90-92 PCC(S) Act 2000	145	109	103	109	109	82	119	84	105	-24.8	-24.8	15.5	-22.9	-3.7
Detention and training order	255	231	278	244	259	272	263	277	257	1.6	17.7	-5.4	13.5	-0.8
Young offender institution	1,682	1,500	1,668	1,605	1,753	1,693	1,772	1,781	1,579	4.2	12.9	6.2	11.0	-9.9
Unsuspended imprisonment	8,963	8,285	8,306	8,163	8,666	8,338	8,642	8,809	9,597	-3.3	0.6	4.0	7.9	10.7
Total immediate custody	11,045	10,125	10,355	10,121	10,787	10,385	10,796	10,951	11,538	-2.3	2.6	4.3	8.2	7.0
Community sentences														
Community rehabilitation order	513	162	73	67	79	60	45	37	54	-84.6	-63.0	-38.4	-44.8	-31.6
Supervision order	93	79	81	82	85	104	79	84	107	-8.6	31.6	-2.5	2.4	25.9
Community punishment order	830	270	123	97	114	47	36	37	97	-86.3	-82.6	-70.7	-61.9	-14.9
Attendance centre order	1	4	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	*	*	*	*	*
Community punishment and rehabilitation order	270	122	58	56	54	45	42	33	59	-80.0	-63.1	-27.6	-41.1	9.3
Curfew order	110	52	58	46	67	44	54	63	57	-39.1	-15.4	-6.9	37.0	-14.9
Reparation order	2	1	1	3	2	0	1	0	0	*	*	*	*	*
Action plan order	3	5	3	7	7	5	3	5	1	*	*	*	*	*
Drug treatment and testing order	76	43	21	7	4	6	3	0	1	*	*	*	*	*
Community order <sup>(3)</sup>	3,119	3,167	3,245	3,131	3,246	3,075	3,010	2,952	4,454	4.1	-2.9	-7.2	-5.7	37.2
Total community sentences	5,017	3,905	3,664	3,497	3,659	3,387	3,273	3,213	4,831	-27.1	-13.3	-10.7	-8.1	32.0
Other sentences														
Absolute or conditional discharge	510	431	447	402	520	496	483	478	508	2.0	15.1	8.1	18.9	-2.3
Fine	405	325	353	335	476	374	381	355	385	17.5	15.1	7.9	6.0	-19.1
Suspended sentence <sup>(4)</sup>	1869	2,301	2,730	3,022	3,535	3,473	3,777	3,992	2,626	89.1	50.9	38.4	32.1	-25.7
Otherwise dealt with	487	387	428	423	464	482	441	476	581	-4.7	24.5	3.0	12.5	25.2
Total other sentences	3,271	3,444	3,958	4,182	4,995	4,825	5,082	5,301	4,100	52.7	40.1	28.4	26.8	-17.9
<b>All courts</b>														
Immediate custodial sentences														
S90-92 PCC(S) Act 2000	145	109	103	109	109	82	119	84	105	-24.8	-24.8	15.5	-22.9	-3.7
Detention and training order	1,143	1,124	1,231	1,087	1,069	1,151	1,147	1,056	1,093	-6.5	2.4	-6.8	-2.9	2.2
Young offender institution	2,744	2,389	2,678	2,473	2,669	2,663	2,748	2,710	2,362	-2.7	11.5	2.6	9.6	-11.5
Unsuspended imprisonment	15,817	14,517	14,344	13,652	14,574	14,042	14,812	15,002	16,482	-6.7	-3.3	3.3	9.9	13.1
Total immediate custody	19,649	18,139	18,356	17,321	18,421	17,938	18,826	18,852	20,042	-6.2	-1.1	2.6	8.8	8.8
Community sentences														
Community rehabilitation order	1,167	605	439	379	452	399	361	311	336	-61.3	-34.0	-17.8	-17.9	-25.7
Supervision order	1,724	1,699	1,807	1,807	1,975	1,997	1,878	1,708	1,658	14.6	17.5	3.9	-5.5	-16.1
Community punishment order	1,720	941	666	505	474	350	350	377	413	-72.4	-62.8	-47.4	-25.3	-12.9
Attendance centre order	422	433	434	419	416	478	437	479	435	-1.4	10.4	0.7	14.3	4.6
Community punishment and rehabilitation order	616	436	323	287	326	270	303	241	301	-47.1	-38.1	-6.2	-16.0	-7.7
Curfew order	1,077	978	992	896	993	1,013	974	1,048	1,069	-7.8	3.6	-1.8	17.0	7.7
Reparation order	444	439	420	417	452	510	447	459	501	1.8	16.2	6.4	10.1	10.8
Action plan order	652	656	593	576	627	695	628	532	529	-3.8	5.9	5.9	-7.6	-15.6
Drug treatment and testing order	136	71	43	21	11	11	7	1	3	*	*	*	*	*
Referral order <sup>(2)</sup>	4,156	3,948	4,083	4,137	4,504	4,563	4,461	4,197	4,147	8.7	5.9	6.3	11.0	7.8
Community order <sup>(3)</sup>	15,406	15,202	15,402	14,613	16,739	16,093	16,376	16,219	18,045	8.7	5.9	6.3	11.0	7.8
Total community sentences	27,520	25,408	25,202	24,057	26,969	26,379	26,222	25,572	27,437	-2.0	3.8	4.0	6.3	1.7
Other sentences														
Absolute or conditional discharge	11,061	10,188	9,808	9,082	11,362	10,919	11,117	10,724	11,109	2.7	7.2	13.3	18.1	-2.2
Fine	14,187	12,550	12,285	11,524	12,655	12,118	12,111	11,571	12,054	-10.8	-3.4	-1.4	0.4	-4.7
Suspended sentence <sup>(4)</sup>	4,050	4,886	5,882	5,932	6,679	6,519	6,862	7,194	5,820	64.9	33.4	16.7	21.3	-12.9
Otherwise dealt with	3,396	3,106	3,455	3,336	3,035	3,119	3,055	2,977	4,129	-10.6	0.4	-11.6	-10.8	36.0
Total other sentences	32,694	30,730	31,430	29,874	33,731	32,675	33,145	32,466	33,112	3.2	6.3	5.5	8.7	-1.8

(1) 2007 and 2008 data is provisional.

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

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

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

\* Number too small to give a meaningful percentage change

**Table 6 Persons sentenced for indictable offences at all courts by offence group and quarter, and sentence length, 2006-2008<sup>(1)</sup>**

England and Wales	Persons sentenced										Percentage change				
	Q1 2006	Q2 2006	Q3 2006	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	
Violence against the person	10,958	10,000	10,563	10,248	10,848	10,237	10,535	10,459	10,539	-1.0	2.4	-0.3	2.1	-2.8	
Sexual offences	1,241	1,171	1,221	1,289	1,328	1,240	1,202	1,294	1,290	7.0	5.9	-1.6	0.4	-2.9	
Burglary	5,769	5,323	5,868	5,669	5,965	5,785	6,132	5,667	5,902	3.4	8.7	4.5	0.0	-1.1	
Robbery	2,042	1,950	2,124	2,052	2,237	2,200	2,186	2,239	2,176	9.5	12.8	2.9	9.1	-2.7	
Theft and handling stolen goods	26,158	24,672	24,188	23,140	26,784	26,189	26,269	26,249	28,012	2.4	6.1	8.6	13.4	4.6	
Fraud and forgery	5,045	4,671	4,432	4,119	4,945	4,868	5,144	4,939	4,873	-2.0	4.2	16.1	19.9	-1.5	
Criminal damage	3,188	3,086	3,194	3,000	3,336	3,108	3,127	2,762	2,636	4.6	0.7	-2.1	-7.9	-21.0	
Drug offences	10,712	10,019	9,652	9,030	10,770	10,920	11,155	11,655	12,889	0.5	9.0	15.6	29.1	19.7	
Other (excluding motoring offences)	13,045	11,931	12,262	11,347	11,414	11,043	11,159	10,352	11,024	-12.5	-7.4	-9.0	-8.8	-3.4	
Indictable motoring offences	1,705	1,454	1,484	1,358	1,494	1,402	1,284	1,274	1,250	-12.4	-3.6	-13.5	-6.2	-16.3	
<b>Total indictable offences</b>	<b>79,863</b>	<b>74,277</b>	<b>74,988</b>	<b>71,252</b>	<b>79,121</b>	<b>76,992</b>	<b>78,193</b>	<b>76,890</b>	<b>80,591</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	
England and Wales	Average custodial sentence length <sup>(2)</sup>										Percentage change				
Offence group	Q1 2006	Q2 2006	Q3 2006	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	
Violence against the person	17.7	16.7	17.0	16.8	17.5	17.3	16.2	16.6	16.0	-1.1	3.6	-4.7	-1.2	-8.6	
Sexual offences	40.0	40.2	41.5	42.3	41.8	42.7	43.5	43.6	41.2	4.5	6.2	4.8	3.1	-1.4	
Burglary	16.8	17.1	16.8	17.6	17.5	15.8	16.5	16.8	16.0	4.2	-7.6	-1.8	-4.5	-8.6	
Robbery	33.7	32.4	31.8	31.9	29.8	30.0	30.7	34.8	31.4	-11.6	-7.4	-3.5	9.1	5.4	
Theft and handling stolen goods	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.0	4.2	3.9	3.8	-2.3	-4.8	-4.5	-9.3	-9.5	
Fraud and forgery	10.3	10.7	11.0	11.4	10.1	10.3	9.9	9.7	10.5	-1.9	-3.7	-10.0	-14.9	4.0	
Criminal damage	12.1	13.8	13.3	14.7	11.6	12.6	11.9	14.5	13.5	-4.1	-8.7	-10.5	-1.4	16.4	
Drug offences	34.1	34.1	32.6	34.3	31.7	31.8	32.4	31.8	32.2	-7.0	-6.7	-0.6	-7.3	1.6	
Other (excluding motoring offences)	8.0	9.2	9.1	9.9	9.6	9.5	9.4	9.6	11.0	20.0	3.3	3.3	-3.0	14.6	
Indictable motoring offences	8.6	9.0	9.1	9.7	8.7	8.8	8.7	9.0	9.0	1.2	-2.2	-4.4	-7.2	3.4	
<b>Total indictable offences</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	

(1) 2007 and 2008 data is provisional.

(2) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences. Offenders receiving an indeterminate sentence for public protection for a serious offence previously have been included in the average custodial sentence length and are no longer. This may result in a decrease in average custodial sentence lengths.

**Table 7 Persons sentenced for indictable offences at all courts by quarter, type of sentence and offence group, 2006-2008<sup>(1)</sup>**

England and Wales		Persons sentenced and percentages										
Quarter and type of sentence		Violence against the person	Sexual offences	Burglary	Robbery	Theft and handling stolen goods	Fraud and forgery	Criminal damage	Drug offences	Other (excluding motoring offences)	Motoring offences	Total
2006 Q1	Total number sentenced	10,958	1,241	5,769	2,042	26,158	5,045	3,188	10,712	13,045	1,705	79,863
	% given fines	6%	3%	2%	*	14%	12%	12%	35%	33%	29%	18%
	% given community sentences	43%	29%	45%	34%	37%	37%	46%	24%	24%	30%	34%
	% given immediate custody	30%	56%	42%	62%	20%	25%	11%	19%	20%	27%	25%
	% given suspended sentences	9%	5%	6%	2%	4%	7%	2%	3%	4%	9%	5%
	% given other sentences	12%	7%	5%	2%	24%	20%	28%	19%	19%	4%	18%
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	17.7	40.0	16.8	33.7	4.3	10.3	12.1	34.1	8.0	8.6	15.3
2006 Q2	Total number sentenced	10,000	1,171	5,323	1,950	24,672	4,671	3,086	10,019	11,931	1,454	74,277
	% given fines	6%	4%	2%	*	14%	13%	11%	33%	32%	27%	17%
	% given community sentences	41%	28%	44%	36%	37%	37%	48%	24%	23%	28%	34%
	% given immediate custody	30%	57%	40%	59%	20%	23%	11%	19%	20%	30%	24%
	% given suspended sentences	13%	6%	8%	3%	5%	8%	4%	5%	5%	12%	7%
	% given other sentences	11%	5%	6%	1%	24%	19%	26%	19%	19%	4%	18%
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.7	40.2	17.1	32.4	4.2	10.7	13.8	34.1	9.2	9.0	15.3
2006 Q3	Total number sentenced	10,563	1,221	5,868	2,124	24,188	4,432	3,194	9,652	12,262	1,484	74,988
	% given fines	5%	4%	2%	*	13%	12%	10%	33%	32%	27%	16%
	% given community sentences	40%	25%	44%	38%	37%	35%	49%	23%	22%	27%	34%
	% given immediate custody	29%	59%	41%	57%	20%	23%	11%	19%	20%	31%	24%
	% given suspended sentences	15%	5%	8%	3%	6%	11%	4%	5%	6%	15%	8%
	% given other sentences	10%	7%	6%	2%	24%	19%	26%	20%	19%	4%	18%
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	17.0	41.5	16.8	31.8	4.4	11.0	13.3	32.6	9.1	9.1	15.2
2006 Q4	Total number sentenced	10,248	1,289	5,669	2,052	23,140	4,119	3,000	9,030	11,347	1,358	71,252
	% given fines	5%	3%	2%	*	13%	13%	11%	33%	33%	25%	16%
	% given community sentences	39%	26%	42%	36%	38%	32%	50%	22%	22%	28%	34%
	% given immediate custody	29%	55%	40%	57%	19%	27%	10%	19%	19%	27%	24%
	% given suspended sentences	16%	9%	9%	4%	6%	11%	4%	6%	7%	16%	8%
	% given other sentences	10%	7%	6%	2%	23%	18%	25%	20%	19%	4%	17%
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.8	42.3	17.6	31.9	4.3	11.4	14.7	34.3	9.9	9.7	15.8
2007 Q1	Total number sentenced	10,848	1,328	5,965	2,237	26,784	4,945	3,336	10,770	11,414	1,494	79,121
	% given fines	5%	3%	2%	*	14%	12%	10%	32%	31%	25%	16%
	% given community sentences	39%	26%	44%	40%	38%	33%	45%	23%	24%	26%	34%
	% given immediate custody	30%	56%	39%	54%	18%	25%	10%	18%	19%	28%	23%
	% given suspended sentences	17%	9%	10%	5%	6%	10%	4%	6%	8%	16%	8%
	% given other sentences	10%	5%	5%	2%	24%	20%	31%	20%	18%	6%	18%
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	17.5	41.8	17.5	29.8	4.2	10.1	11.6	31.6	9.7	8.7	15.2
2007 Q2	Total number sentenced	10,237	1,240	5,785	2,200	26,189	4,868	3,108	10,920	11,043	1,402	76,992
	% given fines	4%	2%	2%	*	13%	12%	10%	32%	31%	23%	16%
	% given community sentences	39%	27%	44%	39%	39%	33%	46%	23%	23%	28%	34%
	% given immediate custody	29%	55%	39%	54%	18%	25%	11%	18%	19%	28%	23%
	% given suspended sentences	17%	9%	9%	5%	6%	12%	4%	6%	8%	15%	8%
	% given other sentences	10%	6%	6%	2%	24%	19%	30%	21%	19%	6%	18%
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	17.3	42.7	15.8	30.0	4.0	10.3	12.6	31.8	9.5	8.8	15.0
2007 Q3	Total number sentenced	10,535	1,202	6,132	2,186	26,269	5,144	3,127	11,155	11,159	1,284	78,193
	% given fines	5%	2%	2%	*	13%	10%	10%	32%	30%	24%	15%
	% given community sentences	38%	28%	43%	40%	38%	31%	45%	23%	23%	26%	34%
	% given immediate custody	30%	56%	39%	53%	19%	27%	11%	19%	20%	30%	24%
	% given suspended sentences	17%	8%	10%	5%	6%	13%	5%	6%	8%	15%	9%
	% given other sentences	10%	5%	5%	2%	24%	19%	30%	21%	19%	5%	18%
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.1	43.6	16.5	30.7	4.2	9.9	12.0	32.4	9.4	8.7	14.9
2007 Q4	Total number sentenced	10,519	1,297	5,708	2,249	26,475	4,949	2,775	11,751	10,537	1,281	77,541
	% given fines	5%	3%	2%	*	13%	11%	10%	32%	27%	21%	15%
	% given community sentences	38%	27%	41%	38%	37%	30%	44%	23%	24%	25%	33%
	% given immediate custody	30%	54%	39%	55%	20%	27%	11%	18%	21%	30%	25%
	% given suspended sentences	18%	9%	12%	6%	7%	13%	5%	6%	9%	18%	9%
	% given other sentences	10%	7%	6%	1%	24%	18%	30%	20%	19%	6%	18%
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.6	43.7	16.7	34.7	3.9	9.7	14.3	31.8	9.7	9.1	14.0
2008 Q1	Total number sentenced	10,539	1,290	5,902	2,176	28,012	4,873	2,636	12,889	11,024	1,250	80,591
	% given fines	4%	2%	2%	*	12%	11%	10%	31%	26%	20%	15%
	% given community sentences	41%	30%	41%	38%	37%	31%	44%	24%	26%	32%	34%
	% given immediate custody	30%	57%	42%	56%	20%	27%	12%	18%	23%	30%	25%
	% given suspended sentences	14%	7%	8%	3%	6%	10%	3%	4%	7%	14%	7%
	% given other sentences	10%	5%	7%	2%	25%	20%	31%	22%	18%	4%	19%
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.0	41.2	16.0	31.4	3.8	10.5	13.5	32.2	11.0	9.0	14.9

(1) 2007 and 2008 data is provisional.

(2) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences. Offenders receiving an indeterminate sentence for public protection for a serious offence committed from 4 April 2005 would previously have been included in the average custodial sentence length and are no longer. This may result in a decrease in average custodial sentence lengths.