



A National Statistics publication for Scotland



The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

CRIME AND JUSTICE

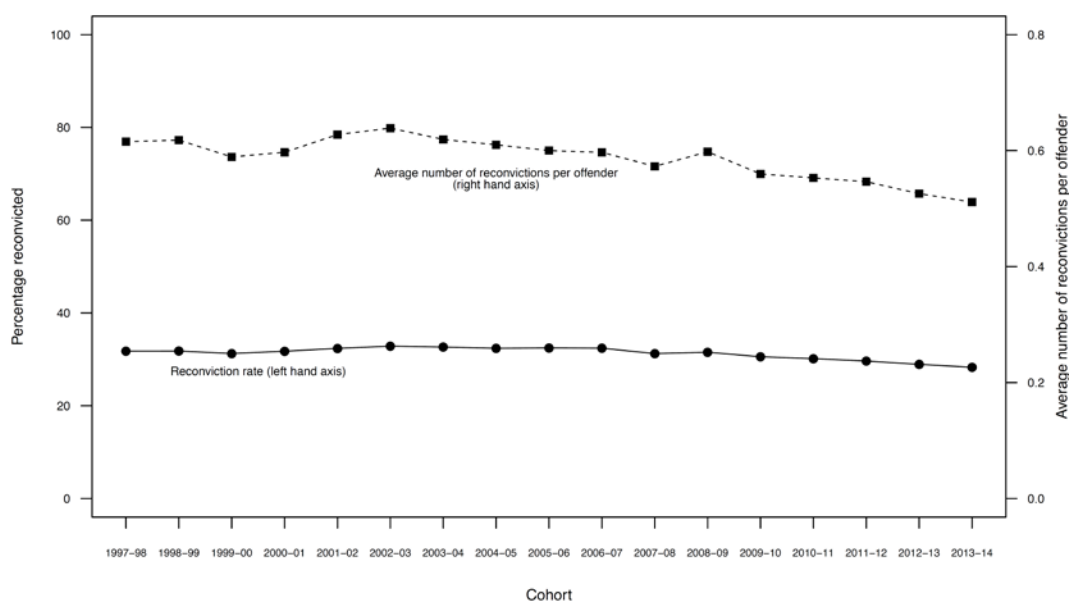
Reconviction Rates in Scotland: 2013-14 Offender Cohort

This bulletin forms part of the Scottish Government series of statistical bulletins on the criminal justice system. Statistics are presented on the number of individuals who were released from a custodial sentence or given a non-custodial sentence in 2013-14 and then subsequently reoffended in 2014-15, along with selected trends from 1997-98.

In addition to the statistics presented here detailed tables are published as background statistics on the [Scottish Government Crime and Justice Statistics website](#).

Both the reconviction rate and average number of reconvictions per offender have decreased since 2012-13, continuing a general decline over the past 17 years. Since 2012-13, the reconviction rate has fallen by 0.6 percentage points, from 28.9 to 28.3 and the average number of reconvictions per offender has fallen by 0.02, nearly 4 per cent, from 0.53 to 0.51 ([Chart 1](#) and [Table 1](#)).

Chart 1: Reconviction rates and the average number of reconvictions per offender: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts



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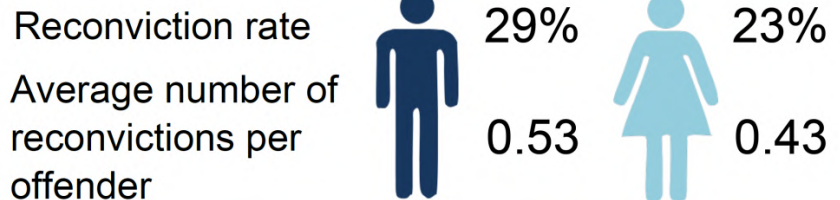
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Reconviction rates in Scotland: 2013-14 offender cohort

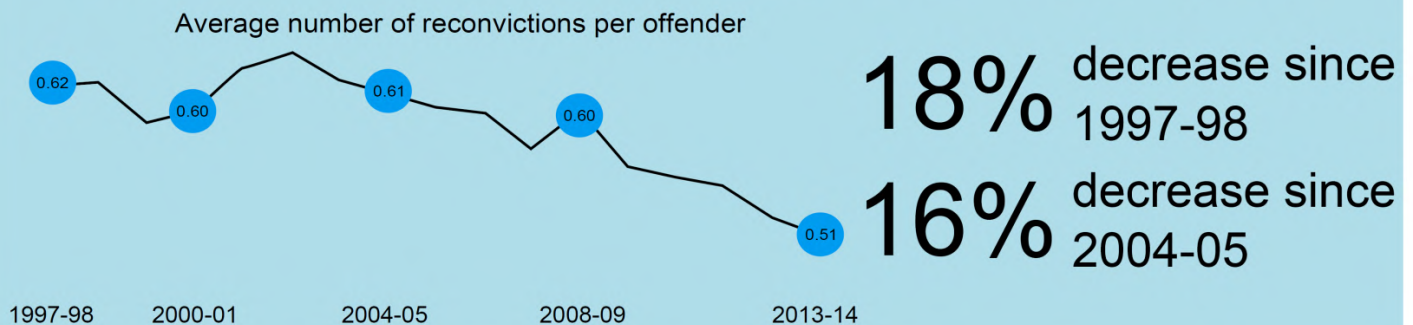
In 2013-14, 3 in 10 (28%) offenders were reconvicted within a year



Men are more likely to reoffend than women



Reconvictions are the lowest for seventeen years



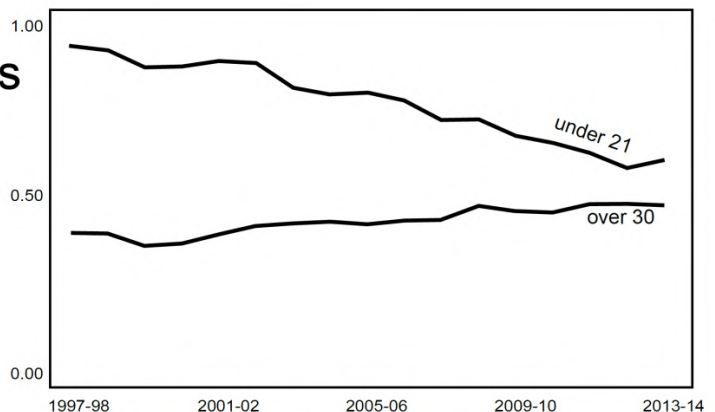
Decline in reconviction rates driven largely by youth offenders



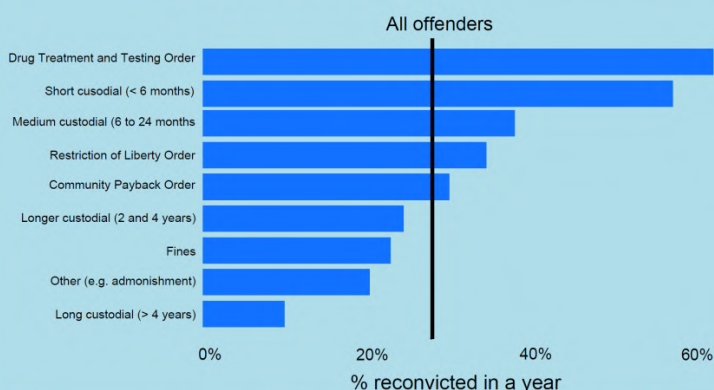
Youth reoffending has fallen by almost a third over the past decade



BUT, reoffending among the over 30s has risen



Short custodial sentences have higher reconviction rates



Of those released from a custodial sentence of 6 months or less:

57% are reconvicted within a year

38% are back in prison within a year

Key points

Headline figures for the 2013-14 cohort ([Table 1](#))

- Both the reconviction rate and average number of reconvictions per offender are at their lowest values for 17 years. Between 2004-05 and the most recent cohort of 2013-14, the reconviction rate decreased by 4.1 percentage points from 32.4 per cent to 28.3 per cent. In the same period, the average number of reconvictions per offender decreased by around 16 per cent from 0.61 to 0.51.

Age and gender

([Table 2](#) to [Table 5](#))

- Male offenders have more reconvictions on average than female offenders. In 2013-14, the average number of reconvictions per offender for male offenders was 0.53 which is 23 per cent higher than the value of 0.43 for female offenders ([Table 2](#)).
- There has been a marked fall in the average number of reconvictions per offender for offenders aged under 25 since 1997-98. In 1997-98, the average number of reconvictions per offender in the under 21 age group was 0.93 and it has decreased by 34 per cent to 0.61 in 2013-14. In the last ten years, the average number of reconvictions per offender for the 21 to 25 age group decreased by 30 per cent from 0.71 to 0.50 ([Table 3](#)).
- In contrast to the longer term decrease, the average number of reconvictions per offender for individuals aged under 21 has increased by 5 per cent from 0.58 in 2012-13 to 0.61 in 2013-14, the first increase since 2005-06. This change is primarily due to an increase in the average number of reconvictions per offender for males of this age category, which increased by 3 per cent from 0.61 to 0.63 since 2012-13. The average number of reconvictions per offender for females aged under 21 is unchanged from 2012-13 ([Table 5](#)) with a value of 0.43.
- In contrast to the younger age groups, the average number of reconvictions per offender for the older age groups have generally increased over the same period. Between 2004-05 and 2013-14, the average number of reconvictions per offender increased by 14 per cent for the 31 to 40 age group, from 0.50 to 0.57, and by 16 per cent for the over 40 age group, from 0.32 to 0.37 ([Table 3](#)).

Index crime

([Table 6](#))

- As in previous years, offenders who commit a crime of dishonesty have the highest average number of reconvictions per offender (0.94 in 2013-

14), whereas offenders who commit a sexual crime have the lowest (0.15 in 2013-14), compared to offenders that committed other crimes.

- Since 2012-13, the largest decrease in the average number of reconvictions per offender is for those who committed a sexual crime, which decreased by nearly 17 per cent from 0.18 to 0.15. Over the same time period, the average number of reconvictions per offender increased for those convicted of criminal damage, for the second consecutive year, by 8 per cent (from 0.51 to 0.55), and for offenders who committed a crime of dishonesty by 1 per cent (from 0.93 to 0.94), the first increase since 2008-09.

Index disposal¹ and sentence length

[\(Table 8\)](#) and [\(Table 9\)](#)

- Offenders with an index disposal of a Community Payback Order (CPO) in 2013-14 had an average number of reconvictions per offender of 0.55 ([Table 8](#)). This average was 11 per cent lower than the figure of 0.62 for those offenders with index disposals of Community Service Orders and Probation Orders in 2009-10, immediately prior to the introduction of CPOs.
- Offenders given a Drug Treatment and Testing Order (DTTO) have the highest average number of reconvictions per offender compared to other disposals, with a value of 1.66 for the 2013-14 cohort. While this is the first year-on-year increase since 2006-07, rising from a value of 1.58 in 2012-13, it represents a 25 per cent decline in the last ten years from the 2004-05 value of 2.2 ([Table 8](#)).
- The average number of reconvictions per offender for those given a Restriction of Liberty Order (RLO) has decreased by 13 per cent since 2012-13, from 0.68 to 0.59 ([Table 8](#)), and by 52 per cent since 2004-05, from 1.24.
- Offenders released from a custodial sentence had an average number of reconvictions per offender of 0.84 which represents a 6 per cent decrease since 2012-13 ([Table 8](#)). As in previous years, those released from shorter sentences of 3 months or less have, on average, a higher number of reconvictions (1.33) than those released from longer custodial sentences, such as between 3 and 6 months (1.08) and over 4 years (0.12) ([Table 9](#)). However, this difference may be explained by the type of offenders who are more likely to get short custodial sentences; these individuals typically commit relatively low level crimes such as shoplifting but more often, in higher volumes and are more likely to be reconvicted.

¹ Caution is needed when comparing reconvictions between different disposals. A disposal may affect the reconviction rates, but different disposals are given for different types of offending behaviour, which are themselves also likely to affect reconviction rates.

Introduction

The statistics presented in this bulletin are derived from the data used in the [Criminal Proceedings in Scotland](#) statistical bulletin. The Criminal Proceedings data is in turn derived from information held on the Criminal History System (CHS) maintained by Police Scotland, who are also responsible for managing its operation.

Changes made to this year's report

The changes made to this year's report are as follows:

- The rankings of the severity of disposals have been changed from that used in previous publications so as to be in line with the [Criminal Proceedings in Scotland](#) statistical bulletin. The implication of this change is discussed in [Section 1.4](#).
- A methodological change was implemented for this year's publication to estimate of those given Early and Effective Interventions (EEIs) the percentage of individuals who received another non-court disposal within one year as well as the average number of non-court disposals per individual within a year. EEIs are measures used by the police to redirect juveniles away from the adult courts and the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA). This is the first time these statistics have been published and they are described in [Section 2](#).
- For comparison the overall average number of reconvictions per offender has been added to the breakdowns shown by individual variables in [Charts 3, 4, 5](#) and [6](#).
- Two new charts have been included for the first time in this bulletin:
 - [Chart 7](#) compares the reconviction rates of index disposals and lengths of custodial sentences for the 2013-14 cohort.
 - [Chart 10](#) shows the number of individual convicted in 2014-15 by last sentence and number of previous convictions over the last ten years.

Background

The Scottish justice system

Recidivism is where someone has received some form of criminal justice sanction (such as a community sentence or a fine) and goes on to commit another offence. Determining recidivism is important, as it illustrates the effectiveness of the criminal justice system on the punishment and rehabilitation of offenders. Reconviction rates are a proxy measure for recidivism, as not all offences committed or recorded by the police will necessarily result in a conviction in court (see [Annex A1](#)).

Scotland's criminal justice system offers many different possible outcomes and interventions at each stage of the offender's journey. This system is summarised in the Audit Scotland report ([An Overview of Scotland's criminal justice system](#)) and is shown in [Chart 2](#). Not all offences reported to the police result in a conviction, and reoffending is not the same thing as reconviction as the intervention of the criminal justice system takes place between these two events. Reconviction can be affected by many different variables that are not necessarily related to the incidence of crime (see page 8 of the [Criminal Proceedings in Scotland](#) publication).

For the majority of the analyses in this bulletin, we measure the reconvictions of a cohort of offenders within a follow-up period of one year after a conviction. A cohort is defined as all the offenders that are either estimated to have been released from a custodial sentence, or given a non-custodial sentence, in a specified financial year. For example, the 2013-14 cohort is the group of offenders who were released from a custodial sentence, or were given a non-custodial sentence, between the 1st April 2013 and the 31st March 2014 (See [Annex Table A1](#) and [Annex A5](#) for definitions and more details). In this bulletin, for clarity, the cohort may be referred to by its year alone.

The "index conviction" is the reference conviction which is determined by either:

- (a) the estimated release date for a custodial sentence imposed for the conviction, or
- (b) the sentence date for non-custodial sentences imposed for the conviction.

Whichever conviction had the earliest of these dates in a given financial year is defined as the index conviction for an individual offender. The crime which resulted in the index conviction is the "index crime", and the sentence given for the index conviction is the "index disposal". (See [Annex Table A1](#) and [Annex A5](#) for definitions and more details).

Measures of reconviction: the reconviction rate

The reconviction rate is presented as the percentage of offenders in the cohort who were reconvicted one or more times within a specified follow up period from the date of the index conviction. For most analyses in this bulletin, the

follow-up period is one year, except for [Table 12](#) where a two year follow up period is presented and for [Table 15](#) and [Table 16](#) where the previous conviction history of offenders over a ten year period is presented. For example, the 2013-14 reconviction rate is 28.3 per cent ([Table 1](#)), and this means that just over a quarter of offenders were reconvicted at least once in the year following their non-custodial conviction or release from a custodial sentence in 2013-14. The definitions in [Annex Table A1](#) provide more details about the terminology used in this publication.

Information presented in this bulletin is derived from the Scottish Offenders Index (SOI), which is a subset of the [Criminal Proceedings in Scotland](#) dataset. The SOI contains all convictions, and the main offence involved was either a crime in Groups 1-5 of the Scottish Government's classification of crimes, or some offences in Group 6. Minor sentences, such as drunkenness and the majority of vehicle offences, are excluded. See [Annex B1](#), [Annex B3](#), and [Annex Table A2](#) for more details.

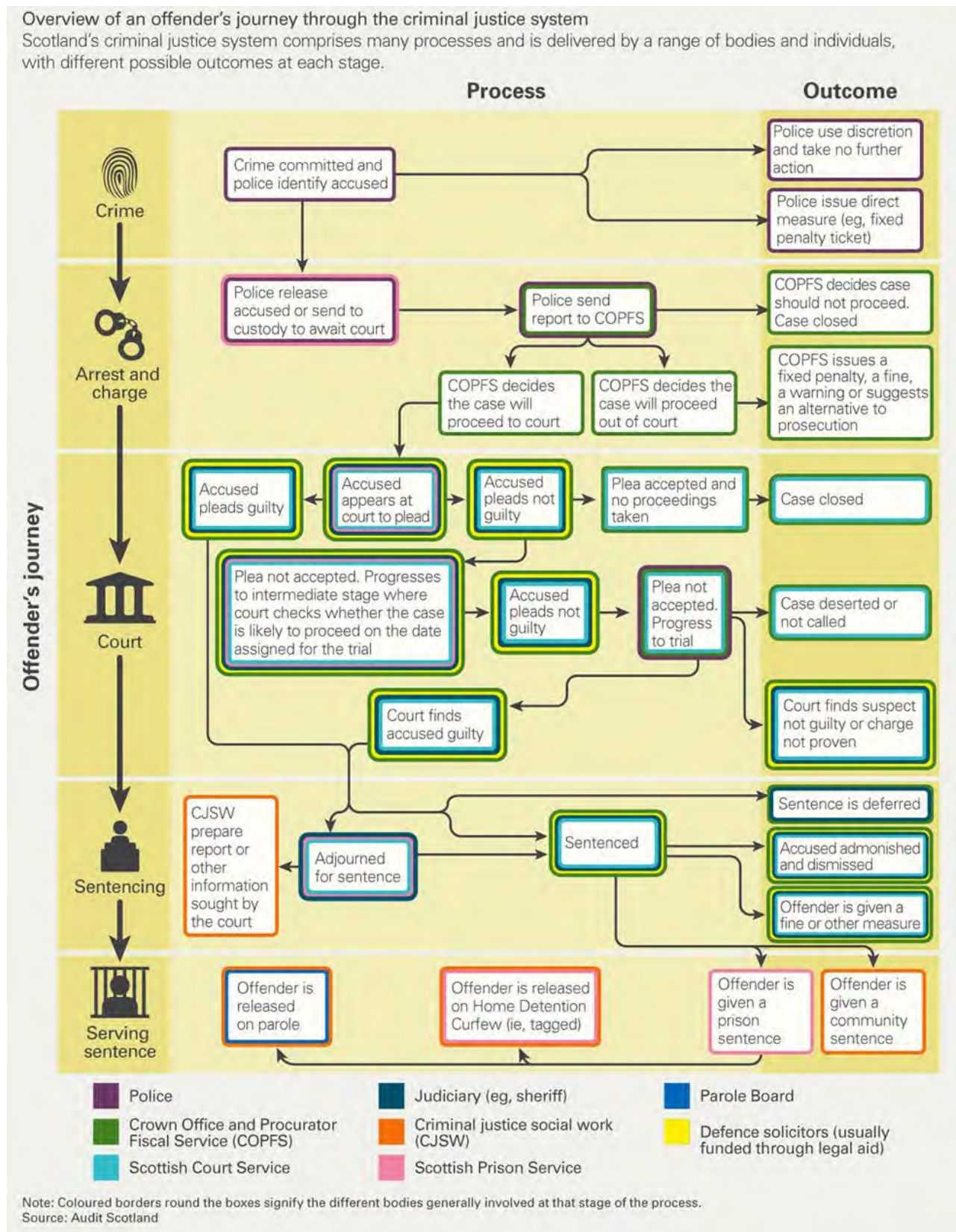
Measures of reconviction: average number of reconvictions per offender

The reconviction rate provides an indication of progress in tackling overall offender recidivism. This measure, however, may not be sensitive enough to detect individual-level progress as a result of interventions and programmes in the criminal justice system. Such programmes may have been successful in reducing the number of reconvictions, but not complete desistance from crime, by an offender. This bulletin provides a more detailed analysis of reconvictions by also reporting the complementary measure of the average number of reconvictions per offender.

The average number of reconvictions per offender is a measure of the number of times that offenders in a cohort are reconvicted within the follow-up period. It is calculated as the total number of reconviction events of all the offenders in the cohort, divided by the total number of offenders in the cohort. For example, the average number of reconvictions per offender for the 2013-14 cohort over one year is 0.51 ([Table 1](#)), which means that, on average, offenders have about half a reconviction in a one year follow up period. It should be noted that as this measure is an average, there may be variation in the number of reconvictions that individual offenders have: for example any group may include offenders with no reconvictions and some offenders with multiple reconvictions.

In this bulletin we also measure the proportion of people who receive a non-court disposal and who go on to receive another non-court disposal within a year. The cohort for non-court disposals is defined as the group of people who receive a non-court disposal from the police or Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS), such as a fine or warning, in a given financial year.

Chart 2: An offender's journey through the criminal justice system.



(Source: Audit Scotland 2011 *An overview of Scotland's criminal justice system*)

1. Main findings: reconviction rates for court disposals

1.1 Headline figures

[\(Table 1\)](#)

There were 42,193 offenders discharged from custody or given a non-custodial sentence in 2013-14, a number which has generally been declining every year from 53,327 in 2006-07 but has increased by 1.1 per cent (478 offenders) from 41,715 in 2012-13.

The reconviction rate and average number of reconvictions per offender ([Table 1](#) and [Chart 1](#)) have generally been declining over the past decade. There was a slight increase in both the reconviction rate and average number of reconvictions per offender in 2008-09 which is likely to be due to the Summary Justice Reforms (see Annex E in the [Criminal Proceedings in Scotland](#) publication) which meant that cases were processed faster through the courts. Between 2004-05 and 2013-14, the reconviction rate has fallen by 4.1 percentage points from 32.4 to 28.3, and the average number of reconvictions per offender has fallen by 16 per cent from 0.61 to 0.51. These reductions are set against the context of a falling number of crimes recorded by the police since 2004-05 ([Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2014-15](#)). Crime and victimisation surveys also reveal a similar pattern of falling incidence of crime ([Scottish Crime and Justice Survey, 2014-15](#)).

1.2 Age and gender

[\(Table 2, Table 3, Table 4 and Table 5\)](#)

Headlines for gender

Continuing a persistent long-term trend, males have higher reconviction rates and a higher average number of reconvictions per offender than females ([Table 2](#)). The average number of reconvictions per offender for the 2013-14 cohort was 0.53 for males, and 0.43 for females which represents a 2 and 4 per cent decrease since 2012-13 respectively. The reconviction rates were 29.4 per cent for males and 22.9 per cent for females, representing a 0.6 and 1.0 percentage point decrease since 2012-13 respectively.

Aged under 21²

Offenders under the age of 21 had the highest reconviction rate of all the age groups (34.1 per cent) in 2013-14, as well as the highest average number of reconvictions per offender (0.61). This was 7 per cent higher than for the age

² While all individuals in this category for the 2013-14 cohort are aged 14 or more in the previous ten years there were 6 records for individuals aged 12 and 13 records of individuals aged 13.

group with the second highest average number of reconvictions per offender, which was the 31 to 40 age category at 0.57 ([Table 3](#)).

Whilst reconvictions for offenders aged under 21 used to be considerably higher than the other age groups, they have showed substantial declines over time to their current levels which are now more similar to the other age groups. In 1997-98 the difference between the under 21 age group and the next highest group, 21-25 age group, for the average reconvictions per offender was 0.3 whereas in the most recent cohort the difference with the next highest age group, 31 to 40, is 0.04 (Chart 3).

Males aged under 21 had the highest reconviction rate (35.7 per cent) and average number of reconvictions per offender (0.63) of any age-gender combination in 2013-14. The average number of reconvictions per offender was only slightly higher than that for males aged 31 to 40, who had an average of 0.59 reconvictions per offender in the same year ([Table 4](#) and [Chart 3](#)).

The average number of reconvictions per offender has decreased by 34 per cent from its highest level of 0.93 in 1997-98 to 0.61 in 2013-14. The reconviction rate of the under 21 age group has increased for the first time since 2005-06, rising by nearly 1 percentage point from 33.4 in 2012-13 to 34.1 in 2013-14. Despite the recent increase the current value is still 5.3 percentage points lower than 39.4 per cent in 2004-05 and 8.3 percentage points lower than the 1997-98 value of 42.4 ([Table 3](#)).

Aged between 21 to 25

There has also been a long-term decline in the reconviction rate and average number of reconvictions per offender in the 21 to 25 age group in the past ten years. The reconviction rate decreased by 7.2 percentage points from 36.5 per cent in 2004-5 to 29.3 per cent in 2013-14; and in the same period the average number of reconvictions per offender decreased from 0.71 to 0.50, a 30 per cent reduction ([Table 3](#)).

Aged between 26 and 30

Unlike the younger age group, the figures for the 26 to 30 year age group have shown no clear trend in the past ten years ([Table 3](#)). Between 2004-05 and 2011-12 the average number of reconvictions per offender fluctuated between 0.62 and 0.68 and in 2013-14 dropped to the lowest value in the last ten years, 0.56, representing a 5 per cent decrease since 2012-13 and the second consecutive year on year decrease. The reconviction rate for this age group has also decreased since 2012-13 to a ten year low value of 31 per cent, a decrease of 0.4 percentage points since 2012-13.

Aged over 30

Reconvictions of the older age groups have generally increased over the past ten years. Between 2004-05 and 2013-14, the reconviction rate for offenders aged 31 to 40 and those aged over 40 both increased by 1.3 percentage points, from 28.9 per cent to 30.2 per cent, and from 19.2 to 20.5 respectively. In the same time period, the average number of reconvictions per offender for the 31 to 40 age group has increased by 14 per cent from 0.50 to 0.57, and for the over 40 age group, it has increased by nearly 16 per cent from 0.32 to 0.37. In contrast to the longer term increase, the reconviction rate is unchanged since 2012-13 while the average number of reconvictions per offender for the 31 to 40 age group have shown a slight decline in the past year. The reconviction rate and average number of reconvictions per offender for the over 40 age group are still considerably lower than for the other age groups ([Table 3](#)).

Males

Patterns of change in reconvictions (both rates and averages numbers) for males of different age groups were generally the same ([Table 4](#)) as those for all offenders ([Table 3](#)), with males comprising the majority of offenders (83 per cent in 2013-14).

Since 2004-05 the average number of reconvictions per offender have decreased for males under 21 by 24 per cent (from 0.83 in 2004-05 to 0.63 in 2013-14) and for males aged 21 to 25 by 28 per cent (from 0.71 in 2004-05 to 0.51 in 2013-14). The average number of reconvictions per offender for males aged 26 to 30 have followed no clear trend over the past ten years. The average number of reconvictions per offender have increased for the older age groups. Males aged 31 to 40 have increased by nearly 16 per cent (from 0.51 in 2004-05 to 0.59 in 2013-14) and males aged over 40 years have increased by 15 per cent (from 0.33 in 2004-05 to 0.38 in 2013-14) ([Table 4](#) and [Chart 3](#)).

Females

Reconvictions for females aged under 21 and aged between 21 to 25 have decreased over the past ten years. The average number of reconvictions per offender decreased by nearly 26 per cent for females aged under 21 (from 0.58 in 2004-05 to 0.43 in 2013-14) and by around 39 per cent (from 0.69 in 2004-05 to 0.42 in 2013-14) for females age 21 to 25. Reconvictions for females aged 26 to 30 have been fluctuating over the past ten years. Reconvictions for females aged 31 to 40, and females over 40, have generally remained level over the past ten years ([Table 5](#) and [Chart 4](#)).

Contrasting males and females

Males and females differ in the age group with the highest levels of reconvictions. In 2013-14, females aged 26-30 had the highest average

number of reconvictions per offender (0.53) of all female age groups whereas in males this age group is the third highest. For males the under 21 age group had the highest average number of reconvictions per offender (0.63) whereas in females this age group is the third highest. In both females and males, the over 40 age group had the lowest average number of reconvictions per offender of all age groups with values of 0.32 and 0.38 respectively ([Table 5](#) and [Chart 4](#)).

Chart 3: Average number of reconvictions per offender, males by age: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts

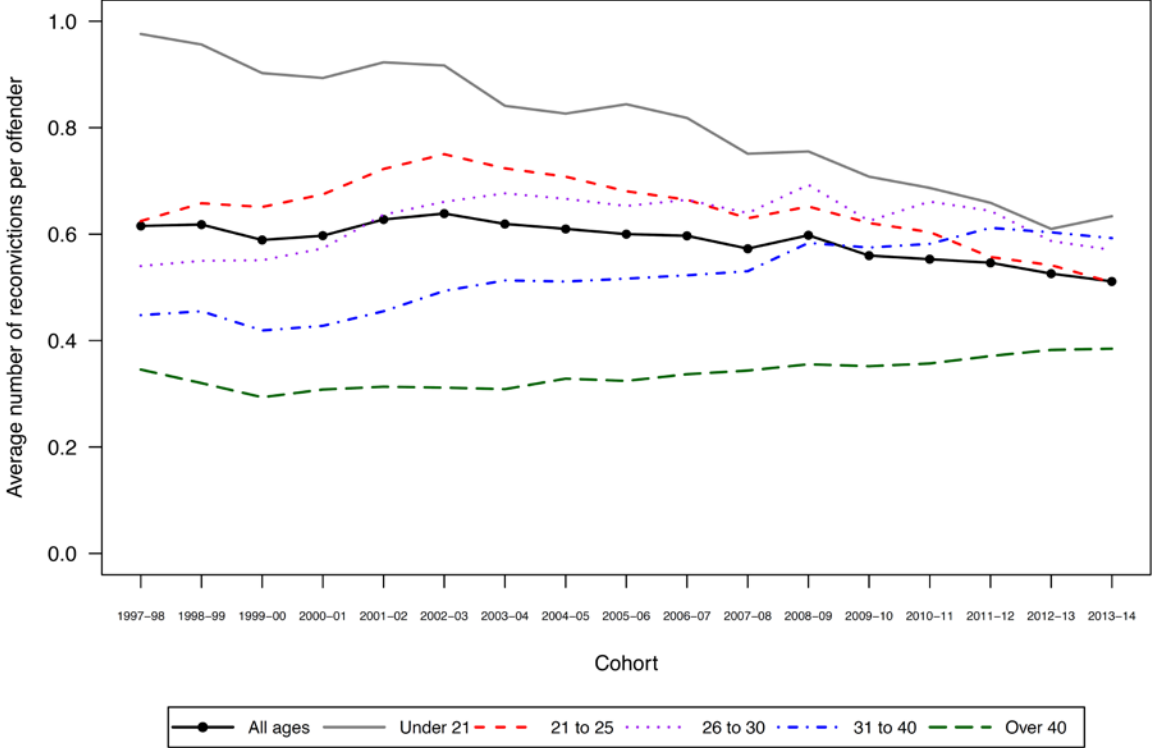
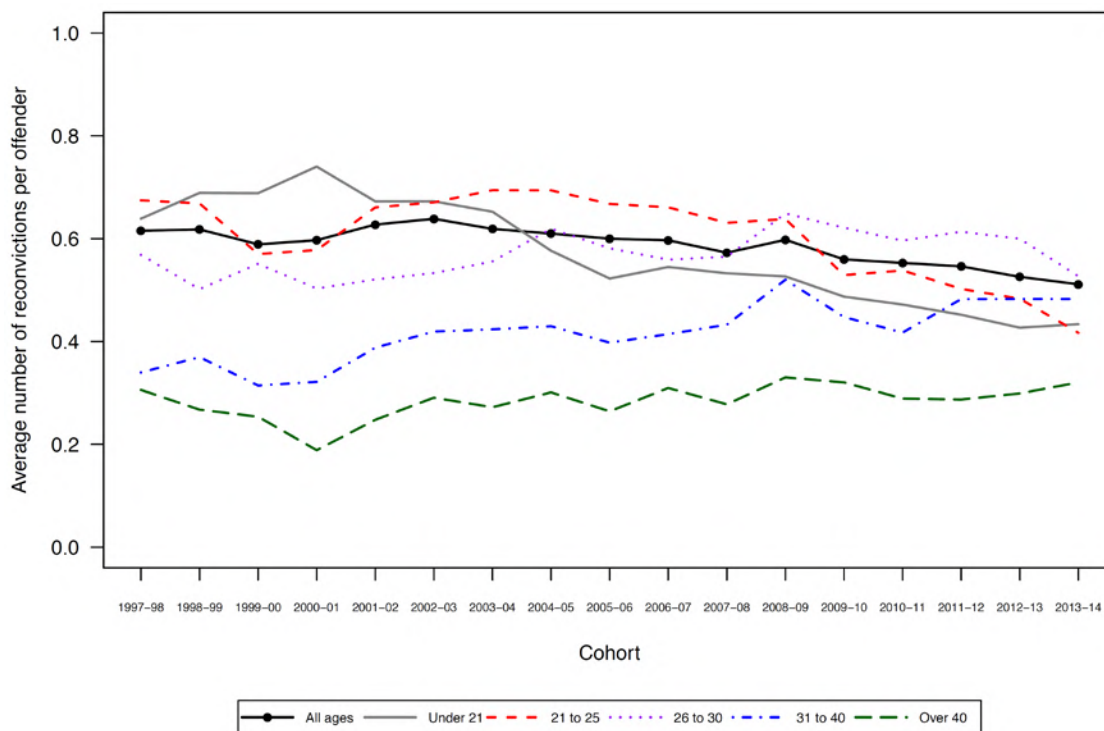


Chart 4: Average number of reconvictions per offender, females by age: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts



1.3 Index crime

([Table 6](#) and [Table 7](#))

An “index crime” is the crime which resulted in an “index conviction”. This means it is the crime relating to the earliest conviction within a financial year of either:

- (a) the estimated release date for a custodial sentence imposed for the conviction, or
- (b) the sentence date for non-custodial sentences imposed for the conviction.

Whichever conviction has the earliest of these dates in a given financial year is defined as the index conviction (see [Annex Table A1](#) and [Annex A5](#) for definitions).

In general the data shows that offenders who were convicted for lower level index crimes (i.e. shoplifting), which tend to be committed in higher volumes, are more likely to be reconvicted than those who commit more serious crimes (i.e. sexual crimes). As has been true since 1997-98, offenders with an index crime of dishonesty, e.g. shoplifting (see [Annex Table A2](#) for crime groupings), have the highest average number of reconvictions per offender and reconviction rate of any index crimes ([Table 6](#) and [Chart 5](#)). For the 2013-14 cohort, the average number of reconvictions per offender for offenders who were convicted of crimes of dishonesty was 0.94, and the reconviction rate was 41.3 per cent.

By index crime: sexual crimes

Offenders in the 2013-14 cohort who had an index crime of a sexual crime had the lowest average number of reconvictions per offender (0.15) and the lowest reconviction rate (10.3 per cent) of any index crime ([Chart 5](#) and [Table 6](#)). The reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender for an index sexual crime are both lower in 2013-14 than they were in 2012-13, continuing a decline in both measures of reconvictions that followed an increase between 2009-10 and 2011-12. This earlier rise in part reflects an increased level of reporting in the wake of high profile cases. However, this is set against an increase of 24 per cent in the number of offenders (from 574 to 709) since 2004-05. Also, as these averages are based on small numbers of offenders, compared with other index crimes, caution should be taken in drawing any longer term conclusions as small underlying numbers are sensitive to large fluctuations in percentage change.

Other index crimes

Offenders from the 2013-14 cohort who had index crimes other than sexual crimes or crimes of dishonesty had an average number of reconvictions per offender between 0.33 and 0.55. The reconviction rates were between 21.9 and 31.3 per cent. The average number of reconvictions per offender for all index crimes has decreased since 2012-13 with the exception of criminal damage and dishonesty which increased by 7.8 per cent (from 0.51 to 0.55) and 1.1 per cent (from 0.93 to 0.94) respectively ([Table 6](#) and [Chart 5](#)).

Reconviction crime by index crime

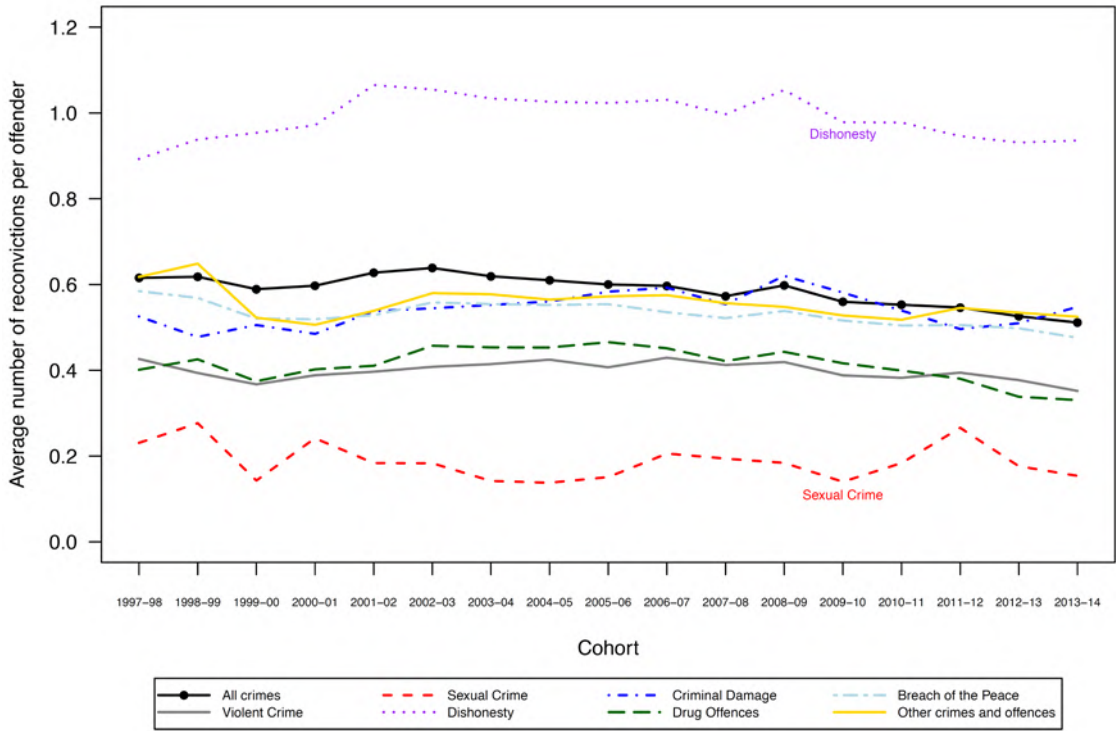
[Table 7](#)³ shows the types of crimes that offenders in the 2013-14 cohort were reconvicted for, by the index crime. Overall, more offenders were reconvicted for breach of the peace than any other type of crime (10.3 per cent of all offenders), and fewer offenders were reconvicted for a sexual crime than any other type of crime (0.3 per cent of all offenders).

[Table 7](#) also shows that for those offenders with index crimes of crimes of dishonesty, drug offences, or breach of the peace; the majority of those reconvicted were for the same type of crime as their index crime. However, for those convicted of violent crimes, criminal damage, or other crimes, the majority of those reconvicted were for breach of the peace. Similarly, for those convicted of sexual crimes, the majority of those reconvicted were for other crimes or offences. It is important to note that even index crimes where the majority of those offenders reconvicted were for the same crime as the index crime, there were some offenders who were reconvicted for different crimes to

³ The information in [Table 7](#) is not comparable with figures in publications prior to the 2011-12 Offender Cohort bulletin. The table has been constructed from the "persons proceeded against" datasource, whereas in publications prior to the 2011-12 Offender Cohort bulletin, the table has constructed from a different datasource: the "offences relating to persons proceeded against" datasource.

their index crimes. This suggests that offenders don't necessarily specialise in a particular type of crime.

Chart 5: Average number of reconvictions per offender, by index crime: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts



1.4 Index disposal

(Table 8)

A disposal is the sentence given for a court conviction (i.e. custodial or community sentence), or the action taken in non-court cases (i.e. Anti-social Behaviour Fixed Penalty Notices or Fiscal Fines). The index disposal is the sentence received for an index conviction (see [Annex Table A1](#) and [Annex A5](#) for definitions). If a person is convicted for more than one charge, then it is the disposal for the main crime/offence that is considered the index disposal (see [Annex A4](#)). A disposal may affect the reconviction rates, but different disposals are given for different types of offending behaviour, which are also likely to affect reconviction rates. There has been some evidence of a decline in the average number of reconvictions per offender across all types of disposals since 2004-05 ([Chart 6](#)).

The rankings of the severity of disposals, and therefore the order they are presented in [Table 8](#), have been changed from those in the previous bulletins to be in line with those used in the [Criminal Proceedings in Scotland](#) statistical bulletin. From this bulletin, the ranking of Restriction of Liberty Orders (RLO) has been swapped with that of Community Payback Orders (CPO), with the other disposals remaining in the same positions. This ranking is important

because, if a person is convicted twice on the same day, the highest ranked, or most severe, disposal is used.

Drug Treatment and Testing Orders

Offenders given a Drug Treatment and Testing Order (DTTO) have the highest average number of reconvictions per offender and the highest reconviction rate compared to the other disposals ([Table 8](#) and [Chart 6](#)). The number of offenders who received a DTTO in the 2013-14 cohort was 328. The average number of reconvictions per offender was 1.66 for this cohort which represents an increase of 5 per cent on the 2012-13 value of 1.58, and the reconviction rate was 62.8 per cent which is a 2.3 percentage point decrease on the 2012-13 value of 65.1.

Over time, there has been a decline in the average number of reconvictions per offender for offenders who are given a DTTO. In the past ten years, the average number of reconvictions per offender for DTTOs decreased by around half of an offence (0.54) per offender, on average, from 2.2 in 2004-05 to 1.66 in 2013-14. In the same period there has also been a decline in reconviction rates for those given DTTOs. The reconviction rate for 2013-14 was 62.8 per cent, which is 15.6 percentage points lower than the rate of 78.4 per cent in 2004-05.

The transition from Legacy Orders to Community Payback Orders

Community Payback Orders (CPOs) were introduced by the [Criminal Justice and Licensing \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#) and came into effect from 1 February 2011. The CPO replaces provisions for Community Service Orders (CSO), Probation Orders (PO) and Supervised Attendance Orders (SAO) – the “legacy orders” - for any offences committed after this date. As a result, the legacy orders are now mainly being used in cases which have taken longer to progress from the offence being committed to sentencing in court. This may bias comparisons with other types of disposal. In line with previous bulletins, SAOs are still grouped under “other”, due to the small numbers issued.

There has been a transition period between the phasing out of the legacy orders and the establishment of CPOs between 2010-11 up to the most recent cohort 2013-14, due to the different disposals being given for offences committed before or after the 1st February 2011. The first cohort of offenders with an index disposal of a CPO in 2010-11 was therefore very small as they had to commit a crime and also be convicted between 1 February and 31 March 2011. As CPOs have become established, the number of offenders with an index disposal of a CPO increased from 174 in 2010-11 to 10,551 in 2013-14, whereas those with an index disposal of a legacy order decreased from 8,245 to 202 in the same period ([Table 8](#)).

During the transition period from legacy orders to CPOs between 2010-11 and the most recent cohort of 2013-14, there were changes in the characteristics of offenders that were given these disposal types. Therefore caution is needed

when comparing changes between the two disposal types during the transition period. [Annex D](#) details how three offender characteristics (number of previous convictions, gender and age) changed for CPOs and legacy orders during the transition period. Changes in offender characteristics are also likely to be responsible for the decreases in reconvictions of offenders given CPOs and legacy orders during the transition period, as both disposals showed an increase in the proportion of groups of offenders that typically have lower reconviction rates.

The 10,551 offenders with an index disposal of a CPO in 2013-14 had a reconviction rate of 30.4 per cent, which is 3.2 percentage points lower than the reconviction rate (33.6 per cent) of the legacy orders in 2009-10 before CPOs were introduced. The average number of reconvictions per offender for individuals given a CPO in 2013-14 was 0.55, 11 per cent lower than the figure of 0.62 for the legacy orders in 2009-10.

Custodial sentences

Those offenders released from a custodial sentence in the 2013-14 cohort had a higher reconviction rate and average number of reconvictions per offender than offenders given any other disposal except a DTTO. The reconviction rate for offenders released from custody in the 2013-14 cohort was 43.8 per cent, a 0.20 percentage point increase on the 2012-13 rate of 43.6 per cent. The average number of reconvictions per offender has decreased by 6 per cent since in the last year from 0.89 in 2012-13 to 0.84 in 2013-14 ([Table 8](#) and [Chart 6](#)).

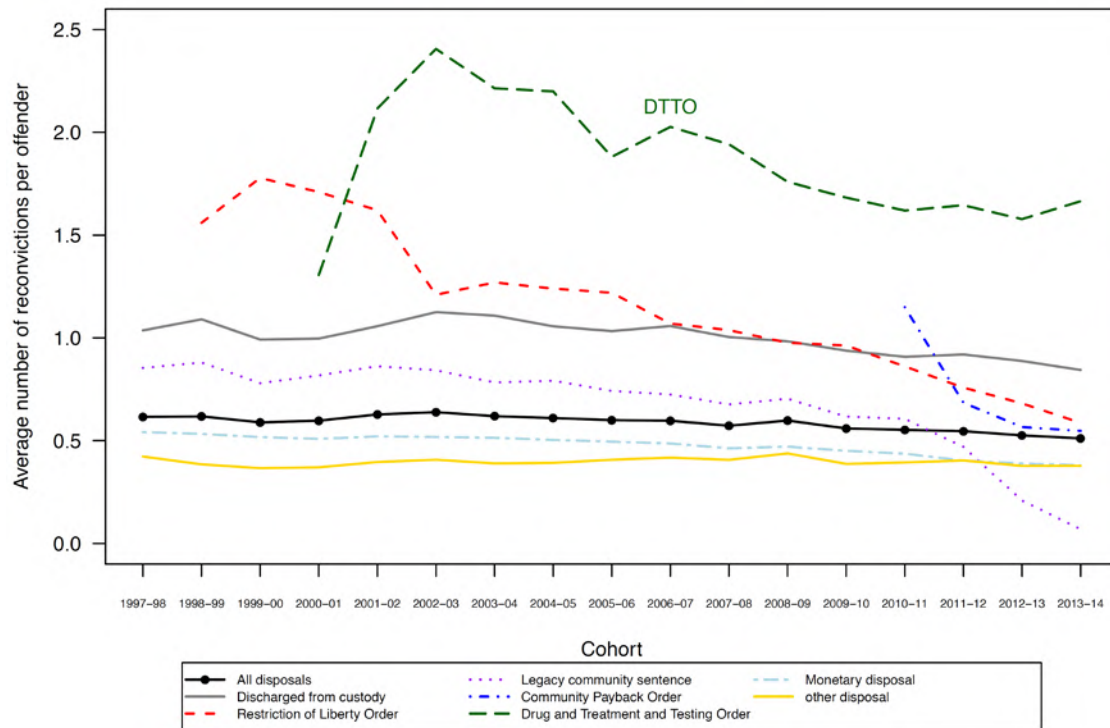
Over the last decade, there has been a decline in the average number of reconvictions per offender for those released from custodial sentences, decreasing by nearly 21 per cent 1.06 in 2004-05 to 0.84 in 2013-14 ([Table 8](#), [Chart 6](#)). It may be interesting to note that the long term decline in the reconviction rate for custodial sentences has been set against a sustained overall increase in the prison population during the 00s. Since 2011-12, the prison population has been falling by about 2% a year. However, the relationship between patterns of reconviction and the prison population is not straightforward and one should not necessarily infer a direct causal link between the two. Trends in and drivers of the prison population are discussed in detail in the publication [Prison statistics and population projections Scotland:2013-14](#).

Monetary disposals

There has been a continual decrease in the number of individuals who were given a monetary disposal since 2006-07. In 2006-07 there were 28,500 offenders with an index monetary disposal which has since nearly halved to 14,829 in 2013-14. This may in part reflect the impact of Summary Justice Reform which was designed to take less serious cases out of the court system (see [Non-Court disposals](#)). During this period, the average number of

reconvictions for offenders with an index monetary disposal fell from 0.49 to 0.38, a decrease of 22 per cent.

Chart 6: Average number of reconvictions per offender by index disposal: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts



1.5 Sentence length of custodial index conviction

(Table 9)

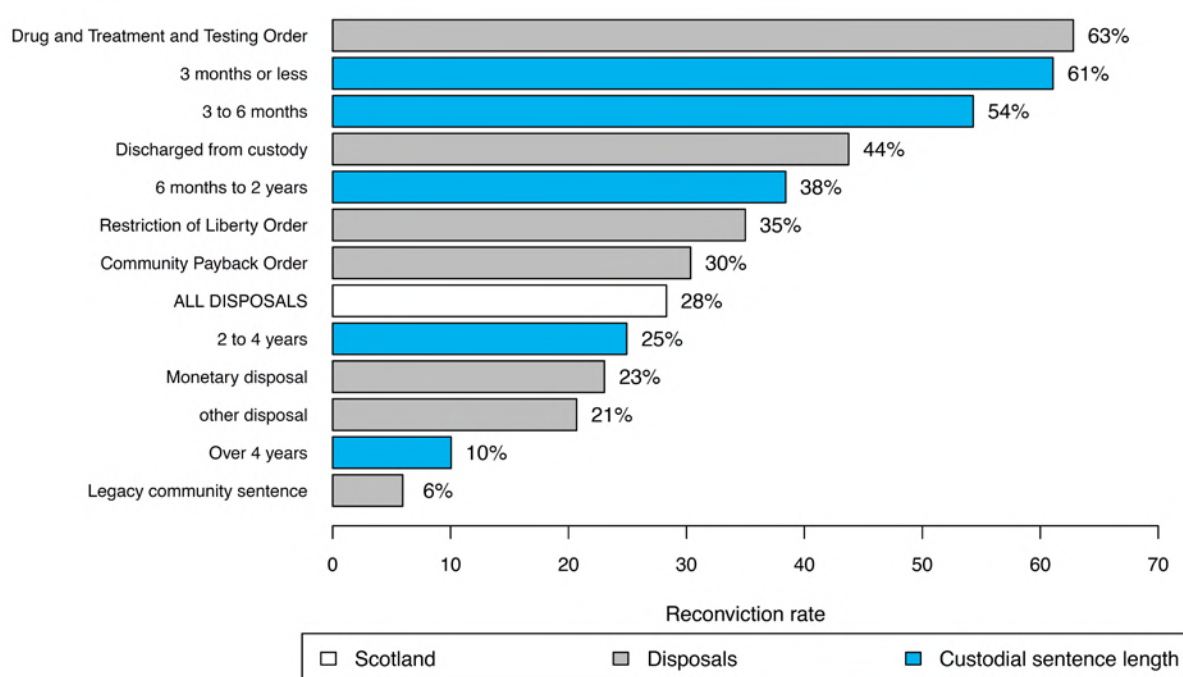
Offenders who were released from a custodial sentence of 3 months or less have a higher reconviction rate and average number of reconvictions per offender compared to those released from longer custodial sentences (Table 9 and Chart 7). Offenders who commit relatively low level crimes but in high volumes are more likely to be reconvicted (see Section 1.3), and these offenders are more likely to get short custodial sentences. In contrast, longer custodial sentences are given to offenders that commit high level crimes, but these offenders tend to commit these crimes in low volumes, and hence are less likely to be reconvicted. For those released from short sentences of under 3 months, the average number of reconvictions per offender was 1.33, representing a 4 per cent decrease since 2012-13, and the reconviction rate was 61.1 per cent, a decrease of 0.50 percentage points since 2012-13. On the other hand, offenders released from sentences of over 4 years had an average number of reconvictions per offender of 0.12 and a reconviction rate of 10 per cent in 2013-14, both of which represent a general decline over the past ten years.

1.6 Conviction history prior to index conviction

(Table 10)

Conviction history is a strong predictor for the likelihood of reconviction, as reconviction rates increase with increasing numbers of previous reconvictions. Offenders with more than 10 previous convictions in the past ten years have the highest reconviction rates, whereas offenders with no previous convictions in the past ten years have the lowest reconviction rates. This pattern holds true even when age, sex, or disposal (all of which have an association with the likelihood of reconviction) are taken into account (Table 10⁴)

Chart 7: Reconviction rates for index disposals and sentence lengths for the 2013-14 cohort¹



1. Chart 7 shows reconviction rates broken down by disposal type. This includes the category “disposal from custody” which shows reconviction rates for all offenders discharged from a custodial sentence in 2013-14, as well as a further breakdown of this category by length of custodial sentence for comparison.

1.7 Two year rates

(Table 12)

Historically, the reconviction rates in Scotland have been reported with a two year follow-up period. From the 2009-10 cohort bulletin onwards, the focus has been mainly on a follow-up period of one year rather than two years as, in general, the one year rate tracks the two year rate and has the benefit of being more timely.

⁴ The information in Table 10 is not comparable with figures in previous publications. Earlier publications will show fewer prior convictions as these represent cumulative convictions since 1989.

Using the two year follow up period there has been a decline in the reconviction rate and in the average number of reconvictions per offender in the past 10 years ([Table 12](#)). Since 2005-06 the average number of reconvictions per offender has fallen by 13 per cent from 1.13 to 0.98 in 2012-13 and the reconviction rate has shown a 4.3 percentage point reduction from 44.8 to 40.5 in 2012-13.

These declining trends mirror those seen for the one year follow up period ([Table 1](#)) but as the number of reoffenders for the two year follow up period will also include those who reoffend over longer time periods, the associated values will typically be greater such as:

- In 2012-13 the two-year reconviction rate was 12.2 percentage points higher than the rate using a one year follow on period; and
- The average reconvictions per offender is around half an reconviction per offender (0.47) higher for the two year rate.

2. Main findings: reconviction rates for non-court disposals

Changes were introduced as a result of the Criminal Proceedings Act 2007 and these were collectively known as Summary Justice Reform. They were designed to take less serious cases out of the justice system at an earlier stage, and to improve the efficiency of court processes.

In 2007-08, new options became available to the police for dealing with minor offences. These included Anti-Social Behaviour Fixed Penalty Notices (ASBFPNs) and Formal Adult Warnings for crimes such as breach of the peace, urinating, consuming alcohol in a public place, and for other, more minor offences.

Prosecution in court is only one of a range of options available for dealing with people who have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal. Procurators Fiscal have had long standing powers to issue Fiscal Fines as an alternative to court prosecution for a range of offences and to provide a conditional offer of a Fixed Penalty Notice to offenders for speeding offences and other road traffic related offences. In addition to these and as part of Summary Justice Reform, the Scottish Parliament provided prosecutors with powers to issue an enhanced range of fiscal fines and to award compensation to victims, through Fiscal Compensation Orders. Collectively these non-court prosecution options are used to deal with less serious offences.

2.1 Police disposals

[\(Table 13\)](#)

Of all the individuals given a non-court disposal (by the police or COPFS) in 2013-14, those given Early and Effective Interventions had the highest percentage of individuals who received another non-court disposal within one year (29.4) and the highest average number of non-court disposals per individual (0.54) of any non-court disposal ([Table 13](#) and [Table 14](#)).

Of the individuals given an ASBFPN between 2008-09 and 2013-14 the percentage who received another non-court disposal within one year decreased by 3 percentage points from 28.5 per cent to 25.5 per cent. There has been a decline in the average number of non-court disposals per individual, for the first time since 2008-09, with a 13 per cent decline from 0.54 in 2012-13 to 0.47 in 2013-14 ([Table 13](#)).

Of the individuals given a Formal Adult Warning between 2008-09 and 2013-14, the percentage who received another non-court disposal within one year decreased by 5.3 percentage points from 18.1 per cent to 12.8 per cent, and there was a 25 per cent decrease in the average number of non-court disposals per individual from 0.28 to 0.21 ([Table 13](#)).

2.2 Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) disposals

(Table 14)

Of those individuals given a COPFS disposal in 2013-14, those given a Fiscal Fine had the highest percentage of individuals who received another non-court disposal (21.5 per cent) and the highest average number of non-court disposals per individual (0.33). Individuals given a Fiscal Fixed Penalty had the lowest percentage of individuals who received another non-court disposal (8.8 per cent) and the lowest average number of non-court disposals per individual (0.10).

Between 2008-09 and 2013-14, those given Fiscal Fines, Fiscal Combined Fines with Compensation, and Fiscal Compensation Orders have all seen a decrease in the percentage of individuals who received another non-court disposal within one year and a decrease in the average number of non-court disposals per individual. This is in contrast to those given Fiscal Fixed Penalties, where the average number of non-court disposals per individual has decreased year on year for the first time since 2008-09 and the percentage of individuals who received another non-court disposal within one year has decreased by 1.2 percentage points from 10.0 to 8.8 since 2012-13 which is contrast to the generally upward trend shown since 2008-09.

Fiscal Work Orders (FWO) were introduced in Scotland on 1st April 2015. Reconviction statistics for FWO will not be included in this publication till the 2016-17 publication as a full two years of data will be required to assess their effectiveness.

3. Comparing reconviction rates across administrative areas

[\(Table 11\)](#)

The reconviction rate for an administrative area is based on information for offenders convicted in courts that fall within that administrative area's boundary. Typically an offender would go to a court located in the same administrative area in which they live, though occasionally an offender may be seen by a court located in a different administrative area. Similarly an offender may not always be supervised in the area in which they are convicted and subsequent reconvictions may have occurred in different areas. In addition, the areas that courts serve don't exactly match administrative areas for Local Authorities or Community Justice Authorities (CJAs) (see [Annex A10](#) and the footnote of [Table 11](#)).

Reconviction rates vary across administrative areas (based on court location). [Table 11](#) and show that the highest reconviction rate in the 2013-14 cohort was for offenders whose index conviction was given at courts in both the Clackmannanshire and Dundee City areas (32.8 per cent each), with the former having the highest average number of convictions per offender (0.66). The lowest reconviction rate (13.8 per cent), and lowest average number of reconvictions per offender (0.18), were both for offenders whose index conviction was given at a court in the Orkney Islands. These are unadjusted figures which do not take account of underlying differences in population size and the characteristics of offenders in each area. It should also be noted that several Local Authorities have small numbers of offenders, within which small between year fluctuations in the numbers of offenders reconvicted may lead to larger changes in the reconviction rate and average number of reconvictions per offender than for Local Authorities with larger numbers of offenders.

[Table 11](#) also includes measures of the reconviction rate and average number of reconvictions per offender at the Community Justice Authority (CJA) level for the 2013-14 cohort. It shows that the highest average number of reconvictions per offender (0.58) and highest reconviction rate (30.1 per cent) were both in the Glasgow CJA. The lowest average number of reconvictions per offender (0.44) and the lowest reconviction rate (25.1 per cent) are for the Northern CJA.

3.1 Accounting for the variability between local authorities

Reconviction rates are a Scottish Government National Indicator on [Scotland Performs](#). As such, they are commonly used to rank performance across different jurisdictions, such as Community Justice Authorities and Local Authorities. However, there is an inherent problem in using this approach since it implicitly assumes that a difference in reconviction rate reflects a 'real'

difference between organisations. In reality, all systems within which these organisations operate, no matter how stable, will produce variable outcomes in the normal run of events. In particular, outcomes in jurisdictions with smaller sized populations tend to vary more than those in jurisdictions with larger populations. The question we need to answer is therefore: Is the observed variation more or less than we would normally expect?

In this respect, it is better to use a method of comparison that takes account of inherent variability between jurisdictions⁵. The funnel plot is a simple statistical method that takes into account the variability of different sized populations and so highlights whether there are differences that may be attributed to some other special cause⁶.

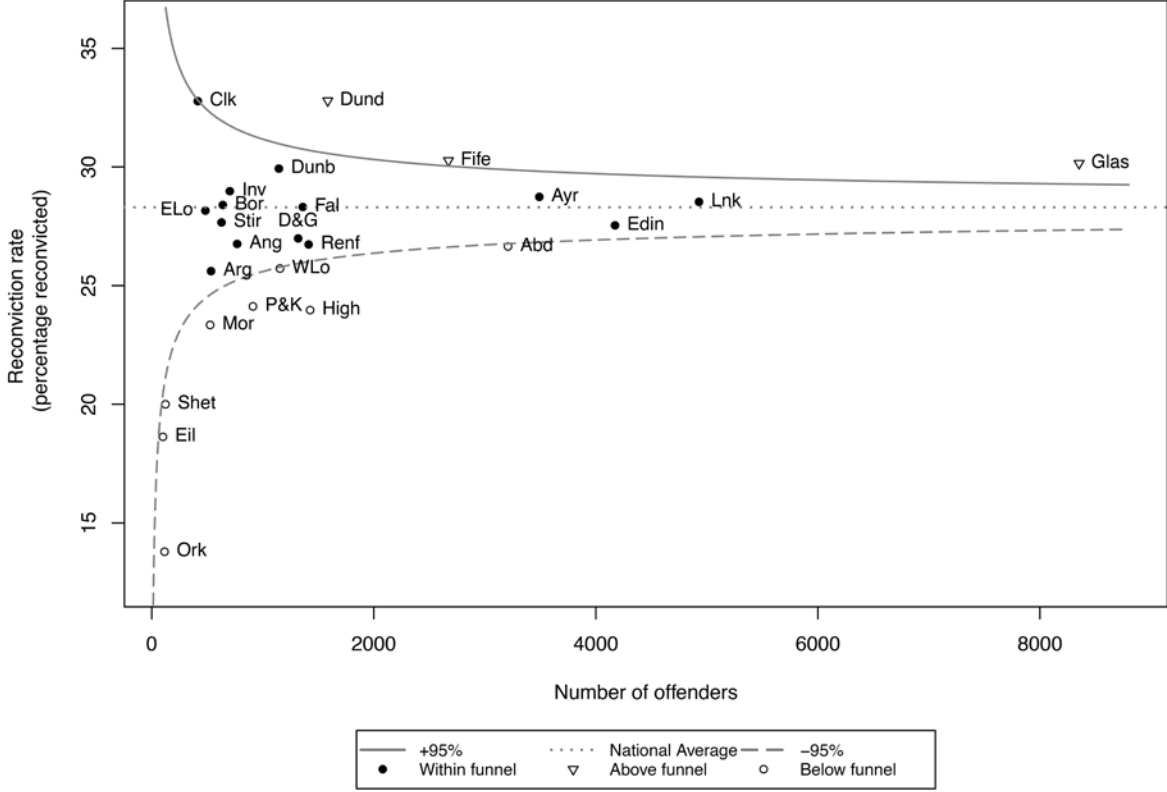
[Table 11](#) shows the average number of reconvictions per offender and reconviction rates for each Local Authority group and [Chart 8](#) shows the reconviction rates against the number of offenders. The plot takes into account the increased variability of the Local Authorities with smaller populations, where a small increase in the number of reconvictions may lead to a large percentage change in the reconviction rate. Rates for Local Authorities which lie inside the funnel are not significantly different from the national rate, and we can then usefully focus on possible explanations for rates which deviate significantly from the national figure. In this case, the cut-off level for statistical significance is 95 per cent (or two standard deviations from the mean): if there were no difference between Local Authorities apart from that which could reasonably be attributed to random variation, we would expect that 5 per cent of the authorities (i.e. only 1 of them) would lie outside the funnel.

[Chart 8](#) shows that Dundee City, Glasgow City, and Fife lie above the funnel, and so have higher reconviction rates than expected. Aberdeen, Highland, Moray, Perth and Kinross, Na h-Eileanan Siar, the Shetland Islands and the Orkney Islands lie below the funnel and so have lower rates than expected. Whilst this is useful for highlighting that there are practical differences in reconviction rates between each Local Authority, even after taking into account differences in population sizes, it does not allow us to identify if this disparity is due to variation in the characteristics of offenders in each area or a variation in practices between different Local Authorities. Different offender characteristics between Local Authorities could include: age, gender, crime, disposal, ethnicity, deprivation, etc.

⁵ Royal Statistical Society (2003) *Performance Indicators: Good, Bad, and Ugly* Royal Statistical Society Working Party on Performance Monitoring in the Public Services.
<http://www.rss.org.uk/Images/PDF/publications/rss-reports-performance-monitoring-public-services-2003.pdf>

⁶ Battersby, J. & Flowers, J. (2004) *Presenting performance indicators* Eastern Region Public Health Observatory. Obtained from <http://www.erpho.org.uk/viewResource.aspx?id=7518>

Chart 8: Reconviction rates by Local Authority group: 2013-14 cohort⁷

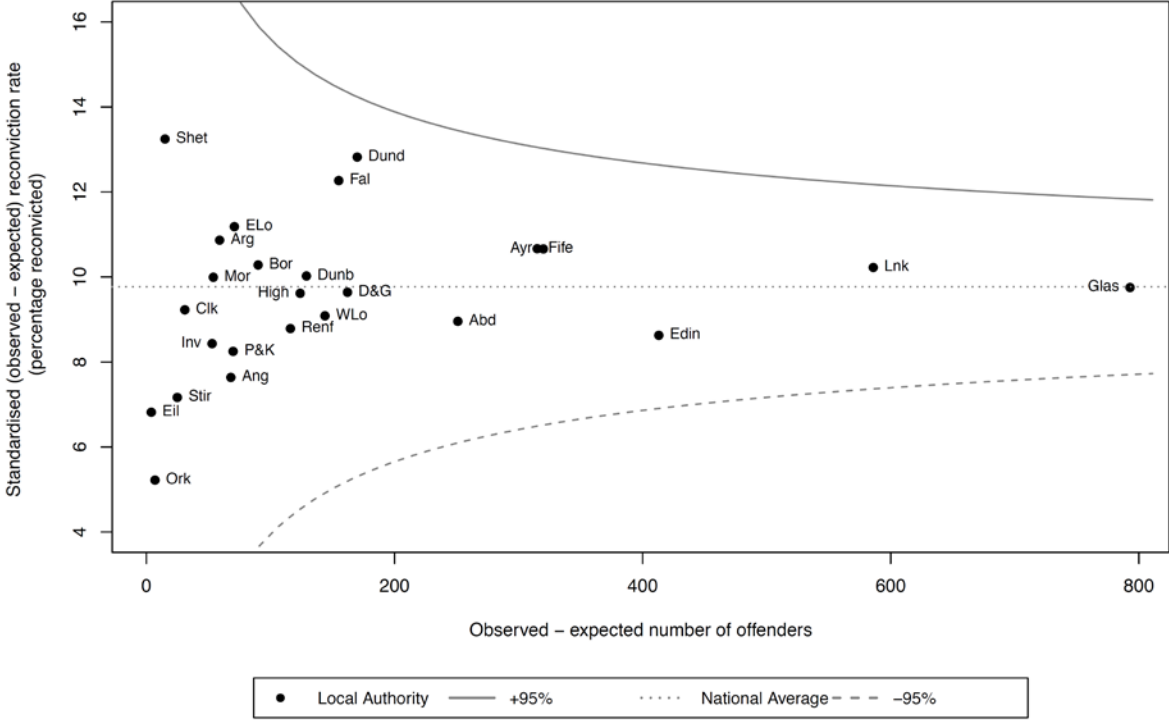


[Chart 9](#) is standardised to take into account differences between Local Authorities attributable to the characteristics of offenders, such as the number of previous offences, sentence, gender, and age. It provides the standardised reconviction rates⁸ against the observed number of offenders minus expected number of offenders. Since all Local Authorities are within the funnel it suggests that the apparent differences in reconviction rates in [Chart 8](#) are primarily attributable to either the variation in the characteristics of the offenders, the type of crime they committed, or the sentence they received, rather than differences in ‘performance’ between the Local Authorities. This overall conclusion for all local authorities on the 2013-14 cohort is consistent with the findings of the 2012-13 cohort provided in the [Reconviction Rates in Scotland: 2012-13 Offender Cohort](#) publication. Previous publications that have presented findings at the CJA level, also showed that CJAs were within the funnels with either one year (the [2013](#) and [2012](#) reconvictions publications) or two year reconviction rates (the [2011](#) reconvictions publication).

⁷ Abbreviations for local authority groups used in [Chart 8](#) and [Chart 9](#): Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire (Abd), Angus (Ang), Argyll & Bute (Arg), East North and South Ayrshire (Ayr), Scottish Borders (Bor), Clackmannanshire (Clk), East & West Dunbartonshire (Dunb), Dumfries & Galloway (D&G), Dundee City (Dund), Edinburgh and Midlothian (Edin), East Lothian (ELo), Falkirk (Fal), Fife (Fife), Glasgow City (Glas), Highland (High), Inverclyde (Inv), Moray (Mor), Na h-Eileanan Siar (Eil), North and South Lanarkshire (Lnk), Orkney Islands (Ork), Perth and Kinross (P&K), East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire (Renf), Shetland Islands (Shet), Stirling (Stir), West Lothian (WLo).

⁸ Spiegelhalter, D. J. (2005) *Funnel plots for comparing institutional performance* Statistics in Medicine 24 1185-1202.

Chart 9: Standardised reconviction rates by Local Authority group: 2013-14 cohort⁸



4. Number and type of previous convictions: 2005-06 to 2014-15

([Table 15](#) and [Table 16](#))

This section presents information on previous convictions for those offenders who were convicted on at least one occasion in 2014-15 ([Table 15](#) and [Table 16](#)). These two tables are compiled on a different basis to the remainder of this publication; looking at the number of individuals convicted at least once in 2014-15 and then examining their conviction history over the previous ten years. In contrast, all other tables in this publication focus on those convicted in 2013-14 and then count how many were reconvicted in the 2014-15 follow up period.

Of the 44,744 individuals convicted at least once in 2014-15 for a crime or relevant offence, 64 per cent had at least one prior conviction in the previous ten years, whilst 13 per cent had over 10 previous convictions ([Table 16](#)).

As is consistent with the findings of the 2012-13 cohort provided in the [Reconviction Rates in Scotland: 2012-13 Offender Cohort](#) publication sentencing is influenced by offending history as well as the circumstances of a particular case. [Table 15](#) and [Chart 10](#) shows that:

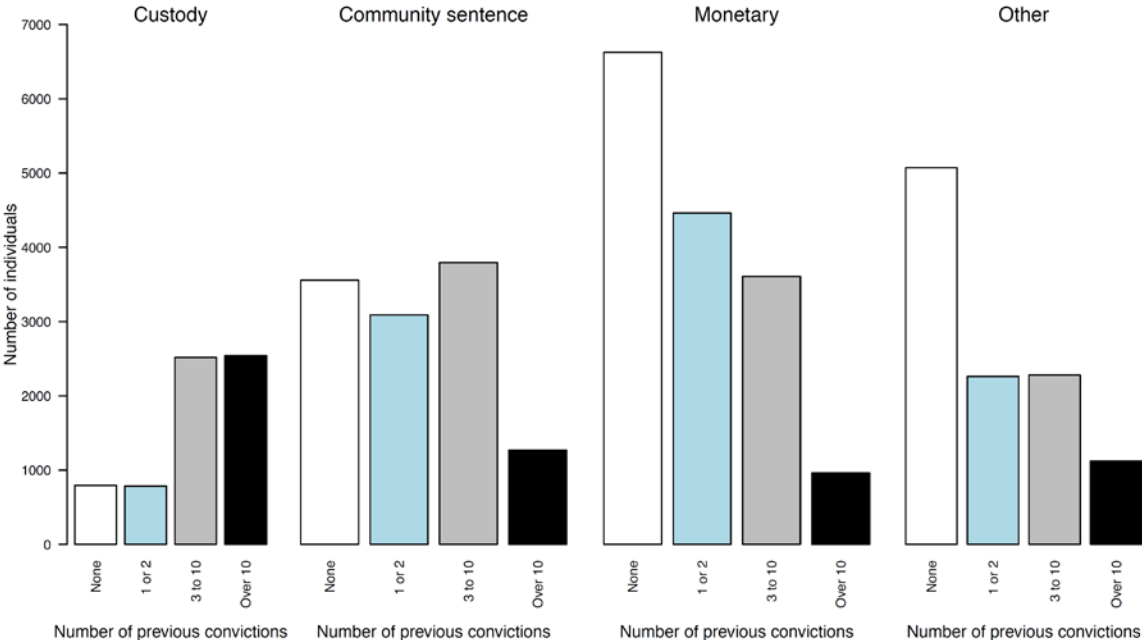
- The number of custodial sentences given increases with the number of previous convictions of an individual offender over the past ten years. Only 5 per cent of first time offenders were given custodial sentences while this value increases to 21 per cent of those with between 3 and 10 previous convictions and 43 per cent of those with more than 10 previous convictions in the past ten years.
- A high proportion of first time offenders are given a caution/admonition (32 per cent) but for offenders with more previous convictions this value decreases from 21 per cent for those with one or two convictions to 19 per cent for those with 3 to 10 and more than 10 previous convictions.
- The proportion of offenders given community sentences is the same for first time offenders and offenders with more than 10 previous convictions (22 per cent each). Offenders with one or two and between 3 and 10 previous convictions are more likely to be given community sentences at 29 and 31 per cent respectively.
- First time offenders and those with one or two previous convictions are most likely to be given fines (41 and 42 per cent respectively). Offenders with more than 10 previous convictions are least likely to be given fines (16 per cent).

The number of prior convictions for serious offences is strongly linked to the likelihood of getting a custodial sentence: about 10 per cent of those with no prior solemn convictions (i.e. in the high or sheriff solemn court) get a custodial

sentence, rising to 36 per cent and 60 per cent for those with 1 or 2 and 3 to 10 solemn convictions respectively.

Over the past ten years the proportion of prolific offenders, those with more than ten previous convictions, has remained relatively constant ([Table 16](#)). Thirteen per cent of offenders in 2004-05 had over 10 previous convictions in the previous ten years, and this has fluctuated between 12 and 14 per cent for subsequent years. Thirteen per cent of offenders in 2014-15 had over 10 previous convictions in the previous ten years.

Chart 10: Number of individuals convicted in 2014-15, by last disposal in 2014-15 and the number of previous convictions since 2005-06



Tables

The following symbols are used throughout the tables in this bulletin:

-	Nil
*	Less than 0.5
n/a	Not available
**	Rates based on fewer than 10 people and not suitable for publication

All percentages, reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender are shown in italics.

These tables can also be found, with additional datasets that contain supplementary information, on the [datasets](#) page.

In Tables 1 to 12, the number of offenders that are reconvicted, and the number of reconvictions, are omitted from the bulletin for clarity. These values are included in the additional [datasets](#) which accompany this bulletin.

The definitions of reconviction rate and the average number of reconvictions per offender are described in [Annex Table A1](#).

Table 1: Reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts

Cohort	Number of offenders¹	Reconviction rate¹	Average number of reconvictions per offender¹
1997-98	53,444	31.8	0.62
1998-99	49,145	31.8	0.62
1999-00	44,231	31.3	0.59
2000-01	41,569	31.8	0.60
2001-02	43,648	32.4	0.63
2002-03	44,860	32.9	0.64
2003-04	46,985	32.7	0.62
2004-05	49,372	32.4	0.61
2005-06	50,327	32.5	0.60
2006-07	53,310	32.4	0.60
2007-08	53,054	31.2	0.57
2008-09	49,661	31.5	0.60
2009-10	47,417	30.6	0.56
2010-11	44,705	30.1	0.55
2011-12	43,833	29.6	0.55
2012-13	41,715	28.9	0.53
2013-14	42,193	28.3	0.51

1. Figures for previous cohorts may differ from previously published figures as updated information is fed into the Scottish Offenders Index.

Table 2: Reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender, by gender: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts

Gender	Number of offenders	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
Males			
1997-98	45,705	32.9	0.63
1998-99	41,842	32.9	0.64
1999-00	37,566	32.2	0.61
2000-01	35,272	32.7	0.62
2001-02	36,963	33.4	0.65
2002-03	37,779	33.9	0.66
2003-04	39,511	33.7	0.64
2004-05	41,525	33.2	0.63
2005-06	42,205	33.7	0.62
2006-07	44,761	33.4	0.62
2007-08	44,384	32.2	0.59
2008-09	41,427	32.5	0.61
2009-10	39,402	31.7	0.58
2010-11	36,986	31.5	0.57
2011-12	36,440	30.8	0.56
2012-13	34,672	30.0	0.54
2013-14	35,005	29.4	0.53
Females			
1997-98	7,739	25.4	0.51
1998-99	7,303	25.8	0.52
1999-00	6,665	25.7	0.49
2000-01	6,297	26.4	0.48
2001-02	6,685	26.8	0.51
2002-03	7,081	27.3	0.52
2003-04	7,474	27.2	0.53
2004-05	7,847	27.9	0.52
2005-06	8,122	26.2	0.48
2006-07	8,549	27.1	0.49
2007-08	8,670	26.5	0.49
2008-09	8,234	26.5	0.53
2009-10	8,015	25.1	0.47
2010-11	7,719	23.9	0.45
2011-12	7,393	24.1	0.46
2012-13	7,043	23.9	0.45
2013-14	7,188	22.9	0.43

Table 3: Reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender, by age: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts

Age	Number of offenders¹	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
Under 21			
1997-98	13,790	42.4	0.93
1998-99	12,984	42.1	0.92
1999-00	11,785	41.0	0.87
2000-01	11,005	41.5	0.87
2001-02	11,231	41.2	0.89
2002-03	11,058	41.3	0.89
2003-04	11,315	40.6	0.82
2004-05	11,647	39.4	0.79
2005-06	12,113	41.4	0.80
2006-07	12,688	40.6	0.78
2007-08	12,404	38.2	0.72
2008-09	10,755	37.9	0.72
2009-10	9,323	36.8	0.68
2010-11	8,242	36.1	0.66
2011-12	7,433	35.0	0.63
2012-13	6,090	33.4	0.58
2013-14	5,391	34.1	0.61
21 to 25			
1997-98	12,183	34.1	0.63
1998-99	10,763	34.4	0.66
1999-00	9,455	34.5	0.64
2000-01	8,993	35.5	0.66
2001-02	9,477	36.5	0.71
2002-03	9,926	37.1	0.74
2003-04	10,338	36.4	0.72
2004-05	10,592	36.5	0.71
2005-06	10,586	35.2	0.68
2006-07	11,241	35.3	0.66
2007-08	11,139	34.3	0.63
2008-09	10,107	34.2	0.65
2009-10	9,807	33.7	0.61
2010-11	9,000	32.9	0.59
2011-12	8,888	31.1	0.55
2012-13	8,402	31.0	0.53
2013-14	8,292	29.3	0.50
26 to 30			
1997-98	9,595	30.3	0.54
1998-99	8,674	30.4	0.54
1999-00	7,454	31.5	0.55
2000-01	6,943	31.2	0.56
2001-02	7,167	33.3	0.62
2002-03	7,129	34.5	0.64
2003-04	7,259	35.6	0.66
2004-05	7,527	34.5	0.66
2005-06	7,588	34.8	0.64
2006-07	8,011	34.7	0.65
2007-08	8,253	33.6	0.63
2008-09	7,989	34.9	0.68
2009-10	7,895	32.9	0.62
2010-11	7,481	33.5	0.65
2011-12	7,435	32.8	0.64
2012-13	7,415	31.4	0.59
2013-14	7,219	31.0	0.56

(continued on following page)

Table 3 (continued)

Age	Number of offenders¹	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
31 to 40			
1997-98	11,462	25.2	0.43
1998-99	10,816	25.4	0.44
1999-00	10,063	24.6	0.40
2000-01	9,440	24.9	0.41
2001-02	10,137	26.3	0.44
2002-03	10,576	27.4	0.48
2003-04	11,291	28.5	0.50
2004-05	12,075	28.9	0.50
2005-06	11,956	28.5	0.49
2006-07	12,642	29.0	0.50
2007-08	12,199	28.6	0.51
2008-09	11,637	30.2	0.57
2009-10	11,220	30.3	0.55
2010-11	10,840	29.9	0.55
2011-12	10,803	30.7	0.59
2012-13	10,580	30.2	0.58
2013-14	11,037	30.2	0.57
Over 40			
1997-98	6,408	18.7	0.34
1998-99	5,900	18.3	0.31
1999-00	5,464	16.8	0.29
2000-01	5,181	17.8	0.29
2001-02	5,633	17.5	0.30
2002-03	6,170	18.4	0.31
2003-04	6,780	17.4	0.30
2004-05	7,529	19.2	0.32
2005-06	8,083	19.2	0.31
2006-07	8,728	19.5	0.33
2007-08	9,059	19.5	0.33
2008-09	9,173	19.8	0.35
2009-10	9,172	19.2	0.35
2010-11	9,142	19.7	0.34
2011-12	9,274	20.2	0.36
2012-13	9,228	20.6	0.37
2013-14	10,254	20.5	0.37

1. There were a small number of offenders (3 per cohort on average) where their age could not be determined. These offenders aren't included in this table.

Table 4: Reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender, males by age: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts

Age	Number of offenders¹	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
Under 21			
1997-98	12,076	44.2	0.98
1998-99	11,283	43.9	0.96
1999-00	10,196	42.6	0.90
2000-01	9,600	42.6	0.89
2001-02	9,780	42.7	0.92
2002-03	9,619	43.0	0.92
2003-04	9,810	42.2	0.84
2004-05	10,159	41.0	0.83
2005-06	10,488	43.3	0.84
2006-07	10,991	42.3	0.82
2007-08	10,677	39.7	0.75
2008-09	9,230	39.6	0.76
2009-10	7,981	38.6	0.71
2010-11	7,051	38.0	0.69
2011-12	6,347	36.9	0.66
2012-13	5,195	34.9	0.61
2013-14	4,621	35.7	0.63
21 to 25			
1997-98	10,557	34.8	0.62
1998-99	9,215	35.0	0.66
1999-00	8,038	35.2	0.65
2000-01	7,695	36.0	0.67
2001-02	8,091	37.2	0.72
2002-03	8,441	37.8	0.75
2003-04	8,784	37.0	0.72
2004-05	8,942	36.7	0.71
2005-06	9,003	35.9	0.68
2006-07	9,583	35.9	0.66
2007-08	9,427	34.9	0.63
2008-09	8,553	35.1	0.65
2009-10	8,318	34.7	0.62
2010-11	7,601	33.8	0.60
2011-12	7,620	32.0	0.56
2012-13	7,148	32.0	0.54
2013-14	7,069	30.5	0.51
26 to 30			
1997-98	8,146	30.7	0.54
1998-99	7,349	30.8	0.55
1999-00	6,309	31.8	0.55
2000-01	5,818	31.8	0.57
2001-02	6,009	34.2	0.64
2002-03	5,970	35.4	0.66
2003-04	5,996	36.6	0.68
2004-05	6,258	34.8	0.67
2005-06	6,229	35.5	0.65
2006-07	6,641	35.2	0.66
2007-08	6,839	34.2	0.64
2008-09	6,570	35.5	0.69
2009-10	6,500	33.2	0.62
2010-11	6,171	34.3	0.66
2011-12	6,126	33.5	0.64
2012-13	6,178	32.1	0.59
2013-14	6,016	31.5	0.57

(continued on following page)

Table 4 (continued)

Age	Number of offenders¹	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
31 to 40			
1997-98	9,499	26.0	0.45
1998-99	8,990	26.2	0.46
1999-00	8,349	25.5	0.42
2000-01	7,786	25.8	0.43
2001-02	8,364	26.9	0.46
2002-03	8,621	28.1	0.49
2003-04	9,268	29.4	0.51
2004-05	9,834	29.8	0.51
2005-06	9,779	29.6	0.52
2006-07	10,323	29.8	0.52
2007-08	9,962	29.4	0.53
2008-09	9,530	31.0	0.58
2009-10	9,122	31.5	0.57
2010-11	8,720	31.5	0.58
2011-12	8,751	31.7	0.61
2012-13	8,635	31.2	0.60
2013-14	8,961	31.4	0.59
Over 40			
1997-98	5,424	19.2	0.35
1998-99	4,999	18.8	0.32
1999-00	4,668	17.2	0.29
2000-01	4,370	18.6	0.31
2001-02	4,717	17.9	0.31
2002-03	5,128	18.6	0.31
2003-04	5,652	17.9	0.31
2004-05	6,330	19.5	0.33
2005-06	6,705	19.8	0.32
2006-07	7,223	20.0	0.34
2007-08	7,479	19.9	0.34
2008-09	7,544	20.3	0.36
2009-10	7,481	19.9	0.35
2010-11	7,443	20.4	0.36
2011-12	7,596	21.1	0.37
2012-13	7,516	21.4	0.38
2013-14	8,338	21.3	0.38

1. There were a small number of offenders (1 per cohort on average) where their age could not be determined. These offenders aren't included in this table.

Table 5: Reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender, females by age: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts

Age	Number of offenders	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
Under 21			
1997-98	1,714	29.6	0.64
1998-99	1,701	30.0	0.69
1999-00	1,589	30.5	0.69
2000-01	1,405	34.0	0.74
2001-02	1,451	31.2	0.67
2002-03	1,439	30.2	0.67
2003-04	1,505	30.2	0.65
2004-05	1,488	28.5	0.58
2005-06	1,625	28.6	0.52
2006-07	1,697	29.5	0.55
2007-08	1,727	28.8	0.53
2008-09	1,525	27.5	0.53
2009-10	1,342	26.4	0.49
2010-11	1,191	24.6	0.47
2011-12	1,086	24.1	0.45
2012-13	895	24.4	0.43
2013-14	770	24.4	0.43
21 to 25			
1997-98	1,626	29.7	0.67
1998-99	1,548	30.5	0.67
1999-00	1,417	30.6	0.57
2000-01	1,298	32.0	0.58
2001-02	1,386	32.5	0.66
2002-03	1,485	33.2	0.67
2003-04	1,554	33.1	0.69
2004-05	1,650	34.9	0.69
2005-06	1,583	31.0	0.67
2006-07	1,658	31.7	0.66
2007-08	1,712	30.6	0.63
2008-09	1,554	29.2	0.64
2009-10	1,489	27.8	0.53
2010-11	1,399	27.7	0.54
2011-12	1,268	25.9	0.50
2012-13	1,254	25.4	0.48
2013-14	1,223	22.6	0.42
26 to 30			
1997-98	1,449	28.0	0.57
1998-99	1,325	27.8	0.50
1999-00	1,145	29.7	0.55
2000-01	1,125	28.2	0.50
2001-02	1,158	28.8	0.52
2002-03	1,159	30.0	0.53
2003-04	1,263	30.9	0.56
2004-05	1,269	33.1	0.62
2005-06	1,359	31.6	0.58
2006-07	1,370	32.3	0.56
2007-08	1,414	30.6	0.57
2008-09	1,419	32.4	0.65
2009-10	1,395	31.5	0.62
2010-11	1,310	29.7	0.60
2011-12	1,309	29.3	0.61
2012-13	1,237	28.2	0.60
2013-14	1,203	28.0	0.53

(continued on following page)

Table 5 (continued)

Age	Number of offenders¹	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
31 to 40			
1997-98	1,963	21.2	0.34
1998-99	1,826	21.6	0.37
1999-00	1,714	20.0	0.31
2000-01	1,654	21.0	0.32
2001-02	1,773	23.2	0.39
2002-03	1,955	24.3	0.42
2003-04	2,023	24.6	0.42
2004-05	2,241	24.9	0.43
2005-06	2,177	24.0	0.40
2006-07	2,319	25.4	0.41
2007-08	2,237	25.2	0.43
2008-09	2,107	26.8	0.52
2009-10	2,098	25.0	0.45
2010-11	2,120	23.0	0.42
2011-12	2,052	26.3	0.48
2012-13	1,945	25.8	0.48
2013-14	2,076	24.8	0.48
Over 40			
1997-98	984	15.9	0.31
1998-99	901	15.3	0.27
1999-00	796	14.1	0.25
2000-01	811	13.3	0.19
2001-02	916	15.3	0.25
2002-03	1,042	17.2	0.29
2003-04	1,128	15.4	0.27
2004-05	1,199	17.7	0.30
2005-06	1,378	16.0	0.26
2006-07	1,505	17.5	0.31
2007-08	1,580	17.4	0.28
2008-09	1,629	17.4	0.33
2009-10	1,691	16.3	0.32
2010-11	1,699	16.8	0.29
2011-12	1,678	15.9	0.29
2012-13	1,712	17.1	0.30
2013-14	1,916	17.2	0.32

1. There were a small number of offenders (1 per cohort on average) where their age could not be determined. These offenders aren't included in this table.

Table 6: Reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender, by index crime: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts

Index crime	Number of offenders	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
Violent crime			
1997-98	11,432	25.5	0.43
1998-99	10,850	23.5	0.39
1999-00	10,276	22.9	0.37
2000-01	9,751	23.9	0.39
2001-02	10,074	24.0	0.40
2002-03	10,297	24.0	0.41
2003-04	10,783	24.6	0.41
2004-05	11,607	24.8	0.42
2005-06	12,353	24.7	0.41
2006-07	12,947	25.4	0.43
2007-08	13,268	24.6	0.41
2008-09	12,971	25.5	0.42
2009-10	12,760	23.8	0.39
2010-11	12,492	24.0	0.38
2011-12	12,468	23.9	0.39
2012-13	11,609	23.2	0.38
2013-14	11,221	22.2	0.35
Sexual crime¹			
1997-98	286	13.6	0.23
1998-99	282	15.2	0.28
1999-00	392	9.7	0.14
2000-01	410	13.9	0.24
2001-02	419	11.9	0.18
2002-03	420	11.7	0.18
2003-04	458	9.8	0.14
2004-05	574	9.1	0.14
2005-06	517	10.3	0.15
2006-07	491	14.1	0.21
2007-08	474	12.9	0.19
2008-09	489	12.3	0.18
2009-10	493	9.7	0.14
2010-11	479	11.9	0.18
2011-12	523	13.2	0.27
2012-13	624	12.2	0.18
2013-14	709	10.3	0.15
Dishonesty			
1997-98	15,224	40.3	0.89
1998-99	14,128	41.5	0.94
1999-00	12,697	43.1	0.95
2000-01	11,637	44.0	0.97
2001-02	11,723	45.9	1.07
2002-03	11,567	46.0	1.05
2003-04	10,861	45.9	1.03
2004-05	10,655	45.9	1.03
2005-06	9,909	46.4	1.02
2006-07	9,993	46.6	1.03
2007-08	9,803	44.8	1.00
2008-09	9,531	45.0	1.05
2009-10	9,174	44.2	0.98
2010-11	9,128	43.5	0.98
2011-12	8,746	42.3	0.95
2012-13	8,013	41.9	0.93
2013-14	7,815	41.3	0.94
Criminal damage			
1997-98	3,592	28.8	0.53
1998-99	3,327	27.2	0.48
1999-00	2,981	28.5	0.51
2000-01	2,966	28.8	0.48
2001-02	2,986	30.7	0.54
2002-03	3,071	30.6	0.54
2003-04	3,536	29.7	0.55
2004-05	3,647	31.2	0.56
2005-06	3,625	33.0	0.58
2006-07	3,889	33.0	0.59
2007-08	3,902	31.9	0.55
2008-09	3,162	33.9	0.62
2009-10	2,836	32.7	0.58
2010-11	2,457	30.8	0.54
2011-12	2,209	29.7	0.50
2012-13	1,924	31.0	0.51
2013-14	1,928	31.3	0.55

(continued on following page)

Table 6 (continued)

Index crime	Number of offenders	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
Drug offences			
1997-98	5,652	26.3	0.40
1998-99	5,321	27.5	0.43
1999-00	4,838	25.5	0.37
2000-01	4,181	26.1	0.40
2001-02	4,693	25.3	0.41
2002-03	4,672	28.0	0.46
2003-04	5,523	29.3	0.45
2004-05	5,772	28.8	0.45
2005-06	5,796	29.5	0.47
2006-07	6,822	28.0	0.45
2007-08	6,586	27.3	0.42
2008-09	5,704	27.1	0.44
2009-10	5,945	26.9	0.42
2010-11	5,940	26.0	0.40
2011-12	5,674	23.9	0.38
2012-13	5,415	22.3	0.34
2013-14	5,590	21.9	0.33
Breach of the peace²			
1997-98	13,721	31.4	0.58
1998-99	12,116	31.3	0.57
1999-00	10,312	29.7	0.52
2000-01	9,749	29.7	0.52
2001-02	10,331	30.3	0.53
2002-03	10,868	30.9	0.56
2003-04	11,453	31.0	0.55
2004-05	12,274	31.1	0.55
2005-06	12,934	31.4	0.55
2006-07	13,660	31.1	0.54
2007-08	13,376	30.2	0.52
2008-09	12,145	30.0	0.54
2009-10	11,271	29.3	0.52
2010-11	9,609	28.6	0.50
2011-12	9,856	29.0	0.51
2012-13	10,327	28.7	0.50
2013-14	10,966	28.1	0.48
Other crimes and offences			
1997-98	3,537	30.4	0.62
1998-99	3,121	32.4	0.65
1999-00	2,735	29.8	0.52
2000-01	2,875	29.4	0.51
2001-02	3,422	30.5	0.54
2002-03	3,965	32.6	0.58
2003-04	4,371	33.0	0.58
2004-05	4,843	32.0	0.56
2005-06	5,193	32.2	0.57
2006-07	5,508	33.1	0.58
2007-08	5,645	31.4	0.56
2008-09	5,659	30.7	0.55
2009-10	4,938	30.6	0.53
2010-11	4,600	30.4	0.52
2011-12	4,357	31.5	0.55
2012-13	3,803	30.8	0.53
2013-14	3,964	31.1	0.52

1. Sexual crime excludes offences associated with prostitution. The latter are included in other crimes and offences. Breach of sexual offender order and breach of sexual harm order are included in other crimes and offences.

2. Breach of the peace grouping, in line with the *Criminal Proceedings in Scotland* publication, includes the offences of "threatening or abusive behaviour" and "offence of stalking", which are part of the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010; and "offensive behaviour at football" and "threatening communications" (under the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communication Scotland Act 2012)".

Table 7: Reconviction rates for crimes by index crime: 2013-14 cohort

Index crime ^{3,4} 2013-14	Total number (=100%)	Percentage reconvicted within 1 year for ¹ :							
		Any crime ²	Violent crime	Sexual crime ⁵	Crimes of dishonesty	Criminal damage	Drug offences	Breach of the peace ⁶ and offences	Other crimes
All offenders	42,193	28.3	7.8	0.3	9.4	1.9	4.1	10.3	4.2
Violent crime	11,221	22.2	8.6	0.3	4.1	1.9	2.0	9.0	3.4
Sexual crime ⁵	709	10.3	2.3	2.1	0.8	0.4	0.4	3.1	4.1
Crimes of dishonesty	7,815	41.3	7.1	0.2	29.5	1.8	5.7	8.9	4.2
Criminal damage	1,928	31.3	10.8	0.3	6.3	4.5	3.4	13.9	4.7
Drug offences	5,590	21.9	4.0	0.1	5.0	0.9	9.3	5.7	2.6
Breach of the peace ⁶	10,966	28.1	8.6	0.3	4.9	2.2	2.9	14.5	4.5
Other crimes and offences	3,964	31.1	9.2	0.3	6.7	2.4	4.1	11.5	7.9

1. Shading has been added to the table for the reconvictions of each crime type to visually distinguish the different reconviction rates. The darker the shading, the higher the reconviction rate. White numbers are used on darker backgrounds for contrast.

2. Offenders may be reconvicted for more than one type of crime in a year, so the row totals for the specific crime groups will not necessarily equal the overall percentage in "Any crime".

3. In previous years this table (Table 12 in the 2011-12 Offender Cohort bulletin) has given a more detailed breakdown of crimes, but they have now been omitted for greater clarity. More detailed breakdowns are still included in the additional datasets which accompany this bulletin.

4. Prior to the Reconvictions Rates in Scotland 2011-12 Cohort Bulletin, this table was constructed from a different datasource: the "offences relating to persons proceeded against" datasource. For consistency with the other court reconviction tables, this table is now produced from the "persons proceeded against" datasource. Therefore this table cannot be compared with those in bulletins prior to the 2011-12 Cohort Bulletin.

5. Sexual crime excludes offences associated with prostitution. The latter are included in other crimes and offences. Breach of sexual offender order and breach of sexual harm order are included in other crimes and offences.

6. Breach of the peace grouping, in line with the Criminal Proceedings in Scotland publication, includes the offences of "threatening or abusive behaviour" and "offence of stalking", which are part of the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010; and "offensive behaviour at football" and "threatening communications" (under the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communication Scotland Act 2012)".

Table 8: Reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender, by index disposal: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts

Index disposal ¹	Number of offenders	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
Discharged from custody			
1997-98	6,118	48.4	1.04
1998-99	5,821	49.1	1.09
1999-00	5,744	46.3	0.99
2000-01	5,573	47.4	1.00
2001-02	5,950	47.9	1.06
2002-03	6,010	49.9	1.13
2003-04	5,886	50.1	1.11
2004-05	6,127	47.9	1.06
2005-06	6,239	47.4	1.03
2006-07	6,909	48.5	1.06
2007-08	7,060	46.8	1.00
2008-09	7,406	47.1	0.98
2009-10	7,433	45.9	0.94
2010-11	7,290	45.2	0.91
2011-12	7,313	44.3	0.92
2012-13	7,433	43.6	0.89
2013-14	7,108	43.8	0.84
Restriction of Liberty Order²			
1997-98	-	-	-
1998-99	25	60.0	1.56
1999-00	54	68.5	1.78
2000-01	62	62.9	1.71
2001-02	58	72.4	1.62
2002-03	224	54.0	1.21
2003-04	371	58.2	1.27
2004-05	442	57.7	1.24
2005-06	524	54.0	1.22
2006-07	548	52.4	1.07
2007-08	556	50.9	1.04
2008-09	594	47.8	0.98
2009-10	511	49.5	0.96
2010-11	461	45.1	0.86
2011-12	496	40.1	0.76
2012-13	559	36.3	0.68
2013-14	643	35.0	0.59
Legacy community order (CSO, PO)³			
1997-98	6,084	39.6	0.85
1998-99	5,949	40.3	0.88
1999-00	5,594	38.5	0.78
2000-01	5,645	38.9	0.82
2001-02	6,085	40.5	0.86
2002-03	6,557	40.7	0.84
2003-04	6,451	39.0	0.78
2004-05	7,093	39.7	0.79
2005-06	7,772	38.3	0.74
2006-07	7,611	38.1	0.72
2007-08	8,115	36.5	0.68
2008-09	8,853	37.1	0.70
2009-10	8,658	33.6	0.62
2010-11	8,245	33.7	0.61
2011-12	3,773	27.6	0.47
2012-13	660	14.5	0.21
2013-14	202	5.9	0.07
Community Payback Order⁴			
1997-98	-	-	-
1998-99	-	-	-
1999-00	-	-	-
2000-01	-	-	-
2001-02	-	-	-
2002-03	-	-	-
2003-04	-	-	-
2004-05	-	-	-
2005-06	-	-	-
2006-07	-	-	-
2007-08	-	-	-
2008-09	-	-	-
2009-10	-	-	-
2010-11	174	54.6	1.15
2011-12	6,110	36.6	0.68
2012-13	9,466	32.5	0.57
2013-14	10,551	30.4	0.55

(continued on following page)

Table 8 (continued)

Index disposal	Number of offenders	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
Drug Treatment and Testing Order⁵			
1997-98	-	-	-
1998-99	-	-	-
1999-00	1	-	-
2000-01	36	58.3	1.31
2001-02	95	74.7	2.12
2002-03	143	75.5	2.41
2003-04	201	79.1	2.21
2004-05	231	78.4	2.20
2005-06	268	70.1	1.88
2006-07	303	75.2	2.03
2007-08	327	70.9	1.94
2008-09	361	67.6	1.76
2009-10	362	66.3	1.68
2010-11	373	66.8	1.62
2011-12	279	62.0	1.65
2012-13	315	65.1	1.58
2013-14	328	62.8	1.66
Monetary disposal			
1997-98	32,894	29.5	0.54
1998-99	29,560	29.4	0.53
1999-00	25,604	28.9	0.52
2000-01	23,817	28.9	0.51
2001-02	24,864	29.0	0.52
2002-03	24,851	29.1	0.52
2003-04	26,685	29.5	0.51
2004-05	27,462	29.2	0.50
2005-06	27,037	29.3	0.50
2006-07	28,500	29.0	0.49
2007-08	27,496	27.6	0.46
2008-09	22,844	26.7	0.47
2009-10	20,961	26.6	0.45
2010-11	18,679	25.6	0.44
2011-12	17,123	24.1	0.40
2012-13	14,801	23.3	0.39
2013-14	14,829	23.0	0.38
Other disposal⁶			
1997-98	8,348	23.0	0.42
1998-99	7,790	21.5	0.38
1999-00	7,234	21.7	0.37
2000-01	6,436	22.2	0.37
2001-02	6,596	22.5	0.40
2002-03	7,075	23.0	0.41
2003-04	7,391	22.1	0.39
2004-05	8,017	22.3	0.39
2005-06	8,487	23.7	0.41
2006-07	9,439	23.7	0.42
2007-08	9,500	23.2	0.41
2008-09	9,603	23.6	0.44
2009-10	9,492	22.1	0.39
2010-11	9,483	21.9	0.39
2011-12	8,739	22.6	0.40
2012-13	8,481	21.2	0.38
2013-14	8,532	20.7	0.38

1. Caution is needed when comparing reconvictions between different disposals. A disposal may affect the reconviction rates, but different disposals are given for different types of offending behaviour, which are themselves also likely to affect reconviction rates.

2. Restriction of Liberty Orders were not available nationally until 2002.

3. Legacy community order refers to Community Service Orders (CSOs) and Probation Orders (POs) which were replaced by Community Payback Orders for crimes or offences committed after 1 February 2011. Legacy community orders given after 1 February are for crimes or offences committed prior to 1 February 2011.

4. Community Payback Orders (CPOs) were introduced by the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 and came into effect from 1 February 2011. The CPO replaces provisions for Community Service Orders, Probation Orders, and Supervised Attendance Orders.

5. Drug Treatment and Testing Orders were first introduced on a pilot basis in Glasgow and Fife in 1999, and were subsequently rolled out across Scotland in phases, concluding with Argyll and Bute in 2006.

6. Includes Supervised Attendance Orders.

Table 9: Reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender, by custodial sentence length: 1997-98 to 2013-14 cohorts

Custodial sentence length	Number of offenders	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
3 months or less			
1997-98	2,724	56.7	1.33
1998-99	2,555	59.3	1.42
1999-00	2,540	55.5	1.28
2000-01	2,393	58.0	1.31
2001-02	2,463	58.2	1.37
2002-03	2,638	61.4	1.49
2003-04	2,472	63.1	1.51
2004-05	2,563	61.5	1.44
2005-06	2,723	59.2	1.37
2006-07	3,063	60.8	1.40
2007-08	2,870	59.0	1.35
2008-09	2,361	59.6	1.38
2009-10	2,068	58.9	1.32
2010-11	1,823	61.7	1.35
2011-12	1,404	59.6	1.36
2012-13	1,403	60.6	1.38
2013-14	1,295	61.1	1.33
Over 3 months to 6 months			
1997-98	1,459	58.0	1.22
1998-99	1,403	57.9	1.31
1999-00	1,330	56.7	1.23
2000-01	1,325	58.0	1.24
2001-02	1,431	57.2	1.33
2002-03	1,382	60.1	1.37
2003-04	1,346	59.8	1.33
2004-05	1,338	57.3	1.31
2005-06	1,371	56.9	1.31
2006-07	1,470	58.0	1.29
2007-08	1,453	57.9	1.34
2008-09	1,900	55.1	1.20
2009-10	1,935	54.1	1.15
2010-11	2,024	53.2	1.11
2011-12	2,334	53.3	1.19
2012-13	2,299	51.8	1.13
2013-14	2,213	54.3	1.08
Over 6 months to 2 years			
1997-98	978	35.1	0.62
1998-99	856	34.8	0.61
1999-00	891	35.9	0.64
2000-01	821	35.3	0.64
2001-02	935	36.8	0.65
2002-03	863	33.7	0.60
2003-04	937	35.2	0.66
2004-05	992	34.2	0.65
2005-06	984	34.6	0.62
2006-07	1,092	35.3	0.65
2007-08	1,392	36.4	0.64
2008-09	1,746	41.5	0.73
2009-10	2,029	40.1	0.75
2010-11	2,024	38.2	0.70
2011-12	2,098	39.2	0.73
2012-13	2,296	39.2	0.71
2013-14	2,210	38.4	0.67

(continued on following page)

Table 9 (continued)

Custodial sentence length	Number of offenders	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
Over 2 years to less than 4 years			
1997-98	555	25.8	0.38
1998-99	525	25.1	0.42
1999-00	512	21.1	0.32
2000-01	533	21.8	0.32
2001-02	574	28.0	0.46
2002-03	557	27.8	0.50
2003-04	549	27.3	0.44
2004-05	625	24.5	0.42
2005-06	540	21.9	0.36
2006-07	663	25.2	0.44
2007-08	718	24.7	0.40
2008-09	844	26.4	0.43
2009-10	845	28.3	0.46
2010-11	950	27.2	0.43
2011-12	944	27.4	0.44
2012-13	929	26.2	0.40
2013-14	862	24.9	0.38
Over 4 years			
1997-98	402	21.6	0.31
1998-99	482	20.5	0.27
1999-00	471	14.4	0.17
2000-01	501	15.6	0.17
2001-02	547	17.4	0.23
2002-03	570	17.9	0.23
2003-04	582	18.2	0.23
2004-05	609	15.9	0.20
2005-06	621	17.7	0.21
2006-07	621	14.0	0.16
2007-08	627	13.7	0.16
2008-09	555	15.0	0.19
2009-10	556	16.7	0.18
2010-11	469	13.2	0.16
2011-12	533	13.7	0.16
2012-13	506	10.5	0.12
2013-14	528	10.0	0.12

Table 10: Reconviction rates by offender characteristics: 2013-14 cohort

Index disposal in 2013-14 by age	Percentage of male offenders reconvicted ¹				Percentage of female offenders reconvicted ¹			
	Number of previous convictions ²				Number of previous convictions ²			
	None	1 or 2	3 to 10	Over 10	None	1 or 2	3 to 10	Over 10
All	12	19	32	53	7	19	33	54
under 21	23	40	55	72	15	36	53	**
21 to 25	11	21	41	61	6	23	41	64
26 to 30	9	16	32	59	7	20	42	60
31 to 40	7	14	26	52	6	15	28	54
over 40	5	9	19	46	4	13	25	47
Discharged from custody	10	18	37	59	**	23	37	63
under 21	23	32	55	70	**	**	**	**
21 to 25	**	18	44	58	**	**	47	81
26 to 30	13	18	30	61	**	**	48	61
31 to 40	7	12	27	59	**	**	35	61
over 40	**	8	27	56	**	**	**	57
Community Payback Orders³	17	24	34	50	9	25	39	55
under 21	30	47	58	69	22	44	59	**
21 to 25	14	23	43	61	9	26	50	62
26 to 30	10	17	35	55	**	26	44	66
31 to 40	9	15	27	48	**	18	30	51
over 40	7	9	19	42	**	15	30	52
Legacy community orders⁴	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
under 21	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	-
21 to 25	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
26 to 30	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
31 to 40	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
over 40	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Restriction of Liberty Order	23	32	39	46	**	**	39	**
under 21	38	52	52	**	**	**	**	-
21 to 25	**	**	48	62	**	**	**	**
26 to 30	**	**	28	**	**	**	**	**
31 to 40	**	**	38	47	**	**	**	**
over 40	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Drug Treatment and Testing Order	**	**	59	68	**	**	41	63
under 21	-	-	-	-	-	**	**	-
21 to 25	**	-	**	**	**	**	**	**
26 to 30	**	**	**	79	**	**	**	**
31 to 40	**	**	60	69	-	-	**	78
over 40	-	**	**	58	**	-	**	**
Monetary	11	18	28	50	8	19	32	50
under 21	19	36	54	83	17	27	**	**
21 to 25	11	21	37	66	7	25	37	**
26 to 30	9	15	31	60	7	20	43	65
31 to 40	7	14	27	47	9	17	32	52
over 40	5	9	17	43	**	14	25	43
Other⁵	10	15	26	48	6	15	26	49
under 21	22	35	52	**	10	31	64	**
21 to 25	8	17	36	67	**	17	26	61
26 to 30	7	12	27	58	7	15	34	55
31 to 40	7	12	21	45	5	9	18	49
over 40	5	8	17	39	4	12	22	43

1. Shading has been added to the table to distinguish the different reconviction rates visually. The darker the shading, the higher the reconviction rate. Numbers in the boxes that are greater than 50 have been coloured white to distinguish them from darker backgrounds.

2. Convictions since the start of 1989. Caution should be exercised when comparing this table with similar tables in previous publications. There will be fewer previous convictions in earlier cohorts because convictions didn't start to be recorded in the SOI until 1989.

3. Community Payback Orders (CPOs) were introduced by the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 and came into effect from 1 February 2011. The CPO replaces provisions for Community Service Orders, Probation Orders, and Supervised Attendance Orders and came into effect from 1 February 2011. The CPO replaces provisions for Community Service Orders, Probation Orders and Supervised Attendance Orders.

4. Legacy community order refers to Community Service Orders (CSOs) and Probation Orders (POs) which were replaced by Community Payback Orders for crimes or offences committed after 1 February 2011. Legacy community orders given after 1 February are for crimes or offences committed prior to 1 February 2011.

5. Includes Supervised Attendance Orders.

Table 11: Reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender, by CJA and Local Authority group: 2013-14 cohort

Community Justice Authority (CJA) ¹	Local Authority group ²	Number of offenders	Reconviction rate	Average number of reconvictions per offender
Scotland³		42,193	28.3	0.51
Fife & Forth Valley	All	5,077	29.6	0.52
	Clackmannanshire	415	32.8	0.66
	Falkirk	1,360	28.3	0.52
	Fife	2,673	30.3	0.53
	Stirling	629	27.7	0.45
Glasgow³	All	8,352	30.1	0.58
	Glasgow City ^{3,4}	8,352	30.1	0.58
Lanarkshire⁵	All	4,929	28.5	0.51
	North and South Lanarkshire ⁵	4,929	28.5	0.51
Lothian & Borders	All	6,452	27.3	0.53
	East Lothian	483	28.2	0.44
	Edinburgh and Midlothian ⁶	4,173	27.5	0.57
	Scottish Borders	641	28.4	0.49
	West Lothian	1,155	25.7	0.43
Northern	All	5,506	25.1	0.44
	Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire ⁷	3,209	26.6	0.49
	Na h-Eileanan Siar	102	18.6	0.25
	Highland	1,427	24.0	0.39
	Moray	527	23.3	0.38
	Orkney Islands	116	13.8	0.18
	Shetland Islands	125	20.0	0.24
	North Strathclyde⁸	All	3,799	28.0
South West Scotland	Argyll & Bute	535	25.6	0.36
	East and West Dunbartonshire ^{8,9}	1,146	29.9	0.52
	East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire ¹⁰	1,414	26.7	0.43
	Inverclyde	704	29.0	0.48
Tayside	All	4,809	28.3	0.48
	Dumfries & Galloway	1,319	27.0	0.44
	East, North, and South Ayrshire ¹¹	3,490	28.7	0.49
Unknown	All	3,268	28.9	0.52
	Angus	770	26.8	0.51
	Dundee City	1,586	32.8	0.59
	Perth & Kinross	912	24.1	0.41
	All	1	0.0	0.00
	Unknown	1	0.0	0.00

1. Approximate areas are based on where the courts of the offenders' index convictions are located, including high Courts. Some sheriff court boundaries cover more than one CJA, see relevant footnotes below.

2. Approximate areas are based on where the courts of the offenders' index convictions are located, including high courts. Some sheriff court boundaries include more than one Local Authority area, so they are grouped together so that there are 25 groups of Local Authorities rather than all 32 being displayed separately. See relevant footnotes below.

3. Glasgow Sheriff Court also serves parts of East Dunbartonshire (North Strathclyde CJA), and North Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire (Lanarkshire CJA). However, since this analysis is based on approximation of court areas, numbers for Glasgow Sheriff Court are only included within the Glasgow CJA and Glasgow Local Authority area.

4. Includes the Stipendiary Magistrates court.

5. North and South Lanarkshire (Airdrie, Hamilton and Lanark Sheriff Courts). Some parts of North and South Lanarkshire (Lanarkshire CJA) are also covered by Glasgow Sheriff Court, but the figures for Glasgow Sheriff Court are only included within the Glasgow Local Authority and Glasgow CJA area.

6. City of Edinburgh and Midlothian (Edinburgh Sheriff Court).

7. Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire (Aberdeen, Banff, Stonehaven and Peterhead Sheriff Courts).

8. Parts of East Dunbartonshire (North Strathclyde CJA) are also served by Glasgow Sheriff Court, but the figures for Glasgow Sheriff Court are only included within the Glasgow Local Authority and Glasgow CJA area.

9. East and West Dunbartonshire (Dumbarton Sheriff Court).

10. Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire (Paisley Sheriff Court).

11. East, North, and South Ayrshire (Kilmarnock and Ayr Sheriff Courts).

Table 12: Two year reconviction rates and two year average number of reconvictions per offender: 1997-98 to 2012-13 cohorts

Cohort	Number of offenders¹	Reconviction rate¹	Average number of reconvictions per offender¹
1997-98	53,444	42.6	1.10
1998-99	49,145	42.5	1.08
1999-00	44,231	42.9	1.08
2000-01	41,569	43.8	1.13
2001-02	43,648	44.2	1.16
2002-03	44,860	45.3	1.18
2003-04	46,985	44.7	1.15
2004-05	49,372	44.5	1.13
2005-06	50,327	44.8	1.13
2006-07	53,310	44.1	1.09
2007-08	53,054	42.5	1.06
2008-09	49,661	42.4	1.08
2009-10	47,417	41.5	1.03
2010-11	44,705	41.1	1.02
2011-12	43,833	40.8	0.99
2012-13	41,715	40.5	0.98

1. Figures for previous cohorts may differ from previously published figures as updated information is fed into the Scottish Offenders Index.

Table 13: Individuals given police disposals and subsequent non-court disposals, by disposal type: 2008-09 to 2013-14 cohorts

(see note 1)

Police disposal	Number of individuals	Percentage of individuals given a non-court disposal within a year of receiving a police disposal²	Average number of non-court disposals per individual within a year of receiving a police disposal²
ASBFPN			
2008-09	39,078	28.5	0.48
2009-10	48,231	27.5	0.47
2010-11	42,835	27.4	0.49
2011-12	41,492	27.9	0.53
2012-13	42,061	27.9	0.54
2013-14	42,851	25.5	0.47
Formal Adult Warning			
2008-09	6,819	18.1	0.28
2009-10	7,476	14.7	0.22
2010-11	6,774	13.3	0.20
2011-12	7,556	14.5	0.22
2012-13	7,324	14.9	0.24
2013-14	6,496	12.8	0.21
Restorative Justice Warning			
2008-09	2,292	7.8	0.09
2009-10	2,166	6.0	0.07
2010-11	1,657	6.2	0.08
2011-12	965	6.3	0.07
2012-13	524	13.2	0.19
2013-14	341	15.0	0.22
Early and Effective Interventions			
2008-09	35	17.1	0.20
2009-10	173	24.9	0.31
2010-11	261	23.8	0.31
2011-12	476	21.6	0.34
2012-13	1,018	25.3	0.42
2013-14	1,789	29.4	0.54

1. The non-court disposals dataset is independent of the dataset on court convictions.

2. Includes any non-court disposal within one year of receiving a police disposal, and therefore could include COPFS disposals as well as police disposals.

Table 14: Individuals given COPFS disposals and subsequent non-court disposals, by disposal type: 2008-09 to 2013-14 cohorts

(see note 1)

COPFS disposal	Number of individuals	Percentage of individuals given a non-court disposal within a year of receiving a COPFS disposal²	Average number of non-court disposals per individual within a year of receiving a COPFS disposal²
Fiscal Fine			
2008-09	30,228	25.7	0.39
2009-10	28,100	23.4	0.35
2010-11	28,165	22.9	0.34
2011-12	32,966	24.7	0.35
2012-13	37,726	24.7	0.35
2013-14	36,961	21.5	0.33
Fiscal Fixed Penalty			
2008-09	17,064	8.7	0.10
2009-10	17,439	9.4	0.11
2010-11	19,016	9.6	0.11
2011-12	19,698	9.2	0.11
2012-13	20,139	10.0	0.12
2013-14	21,966	8.8	0.10
Fiscal Combined Fine with Compensation			
2008-09	1,157	23.8	0.35
2009-10	1,739	19.0	0.25
2010-11	1,888	19.1	0.25
2011-12	2,267	19.0	0.23
2012-13	1,954	20.8	0.27
2013-14	1,590	18.5	0.26
Fiscal Compensation			
2008-09	1,648	25.7	0.36
2009-10	1,661	20.1	0.28
2010-11	1,531	20.1	0.26
2011-12	1,111	21.5	0.27
2012-13	851	19.9	0.26
2013-14	676	16.3	0.22

1. The non-court disposals dataset is independent of the dataset on court convictions.

2. Includes any non-court disposal within one year of receiving a COPFS disposal, and therefore could include police disposals as well as COPFS disposals.

Table 15: Individuals convicted in 2014-15, by gender, age and number and type of previous convictions in 10 years from 2005-16 to 2014-15

(see notes 1 and 2)

Number and type of previous convictions from 2005-06 to 2014-15 ³	Total	Gender		Age ⁴			(Last) sentence in 2014-15			
		Male	Female	under 21	21 to 30	over 30	Custody	DTTO ⁵	Monetary	Other ⁶
Number of persons with charge proved	44,744	37,035	7,708	5,068	15,908	23,767	6,640	11,710	15,655	10,739
All previous convictions⁷										
None	16,050	12,532	3,517	2,713	4,797	8,539	796	3,558	6,625	5,071
1 or 2	10,597	8,815	1,782	1,275	3,686	5,636	785	3,089	4,460	2,263
3 to 10	12,202	10,508	1,694	961	4,841	6,400	2,518	3,795	3,608	2,281
Over 10	5,895	5,180	715	119	2,584	3,192	2,541	1,268	962	1,124
Previous custodial sentences										
None	33,047	26,400	6,646	4,440	11,433	17,173	1,856	9,043	13,330	8,818
1 or 2	4,974	4,485	489	368	1,751	2,855	1,496	1,293	1,324	861
3 to 10	5,104	4,661	443	255	2,096	2,753	2,272	1,140	861	831
Over 10	1,619	1,489	130	5	628	986	1,016	234	140	229
Previous community sentences										
None	27,387	22,083	5,303	3,533	8,688	15,165	2,223	6,431	11,276	7,457
1 or 2	11,044	9,521	1,523	1,128	4,171	5,745	2,328	3,499	3,142	2,075
3 to 10	6,091	5,261	830	406	2,911	2,774	1,985	1,725	1,211	1,170
Over 10	222	170	52	1	138	83	104	55	26	37
Previous solemn convictions⁸										
None	37,304	30,181	7,122	4,644	12,728	19,931	3,692	10,026	14,048	9,538
1 or 2	6,396	5,849	547	402	2,644	3,350	2,318	1,508	1,497	1,073
3 to 10	1,043	1,004	39	22	535	486	629	176	110	128
Over 10	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Previous convictions for crimes of violence										
None	40,457	33,172	7,284	4,768	13,654	22,034	4,941	10,702	14,765	10,049
1 or 2	4,127	3,716	411	292	2,132	1,703	1,601	983	869	674
3 to 10	160	147	13	8	122	30	98	25	21	16
Over 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Previous convictions for crimes of dishonesty										
None	32,786	26,972	5,813	4,305	11,248	17,232	3,056	8,707	12,672	8,351
1 or 2	6,203	5,251	952	601	2,628	2,974	1,357	1,726	1,915	1,205
3 to 10	4,145	3,457	688	160	1,575	2,410	1,452	970	870	853
Over 10	1,610	1,355	255	2	457	1,151	775	307	198	330
Previous convictions for drug offences										
None	36,164	29,523	6,640	4,846	12,867	18,450	4,390	9,551	13,094	9,129
1 or 2	6,954	6,063	891	210	2,574	4,170	1,708	1,822	2,132	1,292
3 to 10	1,602	1,426	176	12	464	1,126	537	334	420	311
Over 10	24	23	1	0	3	21	5	3	9	7

1. This table is compiled on a different basis to tables 1-12; using individuals convicted in 2014-15 (and counting their previous convictions over 10 years) rather than those convicted in 2013-14 (and counting how many are reconvicted in the 2014-15 follow up period).

2. Changes have been made to how this table is reported since the 2011-12 Offender Cohort bulletin. For improved clarity, and to allow comparisons between and down columns, as well as across rows, the absolute numbers of offenders are reported. Prior to the 2011-12 Offender Cohort bulletin, the relative proportions of offenders across a single row in each column were reported as percentages.

3. From the Reconvictions Rates in Scotland 2010-11 Cohort Bulletin onwards, changes have been made to the way this table is reported. The number and type of previous convictions are now based upon a 10 year window.

4. Age as at date of last conviction in 2013-14.

5. Community Sentence refers to Restriction of Liberty Orders, Drug Treatment and Testing Orders, Community Service Orders, Probation Orders and Community Payback Orders (CPOs). Community Payback Orders (CPOs) were introduced by the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 and came into effect from 1 February 2011. The CPO replaces provisions for Community Service Orders, Probation Orders and Supervised Attendance Orders.

6. The 'Other' category includes Supervised Attendance Orders. It also includes: remit to children's hearing; community reparation order; caution; admonition; absolute discharge; insanity; guardianship; and hospital order.

7. Convictions for crimes or common assault, breach of the peace, racially aggravated conduct or harassment, firearms offences or social security offences. Excludes convictions outside of Scotland.

8. Convictions in the high court or in a sheriff and jury court.

Table 16: Individuals convicted 2005-06 to 2014-15, by number of previous convictions in 10 years
(see note 1)

Number and type of previous convictions ²	1996-97 to 2005-06		1997-98 to 2006-07		1998-99 to 2007-08		1999-00 to 2008-09		2000-01 to 2009-10		2001-02 to 2010-11		2002-03 to 2011-12		2003-04 to 2012-13		2004-05 to 2013-14		2005-06 to 2014-15	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Number of persons with charge proved (=100%)	50,591		53,819		53,557		50,555		48,359		45,656		44,942		42,526		43,123		44,744	
All previous convictions³																				
None	17,882	35	18,990	35	18,717	35	17,346	34	16,465	34	15,347	34	14,833	33	13,872	33	14,731	34	16,050	36
1 or 2	12,951	26	13,664	25	13,654	25	12,313	24	11,901	25	10,940	24	10,704	24	10,103	24	10,337	24	10,597	24
3 to 10	13,650	27	14,826	28	14,908	28	14,342	28	13,595	28	13,021	29	13,089	29	12,401	29	11,994	28	12,202	27
Over 10	6,108	12	6,339	12	6,278	12	6,554	13	6,398	13	6,348	14	6,316	14	6,150	14	6,061	14	5,895	13

1. This table is compiled on a different basis to tables 1-12: using individuals convicted in 2014-15 (and counting their previous convictions over 10 years) rather than those convicted in 2013-14 (and counting how many are reconvicted in the 2014-15 follow up period).

2. The number and type of previous convictions in 10 year windows.

3. Convictions for crimes or common assault, breach of the peace, racially aggravated conduct or harassment, firearms offences or social security offences. Excludes convictions outside of Scotland.

Annex

Annex A – Definitions, counting rules, and pseudo reconvictions

Background and definitions

A1 Information on **convictions** and **reconvictions** is not the same thing as information on **offending** and **reoffending**, or **recidivism**. Not all offences which are committed are reported to the police, while some of those that are reported and recorded do not result in an offender being identified, charged and a report being sent to the Procurator Fiscal. For cases which are reported to the Procurator Fiscal, it may be decided to take no proceedings, or to employ some alternative to prosecution such as a warning letter or a fiscal fine. Where persons are prosecuted, the proceedings may end up being dropped, e.g. witnesses fail to turn up. Convictions and reconvictions are therefore a subset of actual offending and reoffending, and reconviction rates are only a proxy measure of reoffending rates.

A2 Generally only the initial court sentence is included in the statistics on convictions, so that, for example, a person fined is regarded as fined, even if he or she subsequently goes to prison in default of payment. Similarly, the offenders released from prison who are included in the analysis in this bulletin will only include those directly sentenced to prison, i.e. persons released after imprisonment for fine default are excluded. Also, no account is taken of the outcome of appeals, or of interim decisions such as deferral of sentence.

Table A1 Definitions

The following terminology is applied throughout the bulletin:

Average number of reconvictions per offender – in a cohort, the total number of reconvictions from a court recorded within a specified follow up period from the date of index convictions, divided by the total number of offenders in the cohort with index convictions from a court. Unless otherwise stated, the average number of reconvictions per offender that are quoted in this bulletin are for a follow-up period of one year. It should be noted that because this measure is an average, there may be variation in the number of reconvictions of offenders within the group the measure is applied to: for example, the group may include some offenders who have no reconvictions and some offenders with multiple reconvictions.

Cohort – all offenders who either received a non-custodial conviction or were released from a custodial sentence in a given financial year, from the 1st April to the 31st March the following year. In the analyses for non-court disposals, a cohort is all the individuals who either received a police or COPFS disposal in a given financial year. In this bulletin, for ease of communication, the cohort may be referred to by year alone.

Conviction – a formal declaration by the verdict of a jury or the decision of a judge in a court of law that someone is guilty of a criminal offence.

Crime or Offence – an action that is deemed to be illegal under common or statutory law. Contraventions of the law are divided, for statistical purposes only, into crimes and offences.

Custodial reconviction – a reconviction which resulted in a custodial sentence being imposed.

Date of the index conviction – the sentence date for non-custodial convictions or the estimated date of discharge from custody for custodial convictions.

Date of the index non-court disposal – the date the non-court disposal was imposed.

Disposal – the sentence given for a court conviction, or the action taken in non-court cases.

Index conviction – the reference conviction which is determined by either: (a) the estimated release date for a custodial sentence imposed for the conviction, or (b) the sentence date for non-custodial sentences imposed for the conviction. Whichever conviction has the earlier of these dates in a given financial year is the index conviction.

Index crime or offence – the main crime or offence of the index conviction.

Index disposal – the type of sentence imposed for the index conviction.

Index non-court disposal – the reference police or COPFS disposal imposed (e.g. a fine), which is the first non-court disposal given to an individual in a given financial year.

Previous convictions – convictions preceding the index conviction.

Pseudo reconviction – convictions which occur after the index conviction, but relate to offences committed prior to the index conviction.

Recidivism – repeated reoffending after being convicted.

Reconviction – convictions which occur after the relevant date of the index conviction.

Reconviction rate – the percentage of offenders with index convictions from a court in the cohort who were reconvicted one or more times by a court within a specified follow up period from the relevant date of the index conviction. Unless otherwise stated, the reconviction rates that are quoted in this bulletin are for a follow-up period of one year.

Reoffending – the action of committing a further offence after a conviction.

Counting rules

A3 If more than one set of court proceedings against an offender is disposed of on the same day, then each proceeding will be counted as a separate conviction record in the SOI database.

A4 Where a person is convicted for more than one charge, then it is the main crime/offence which is recorded in the SOI. The main crime/offence is taken to be the charge receiving the severest penalty. If more than one charge receives the same (or a combined) penalty, then the main crime/offence is the one judged to be the most serious based on the Scottish Government's classification of crimes and offences. The exception to this is where an offender was sentenced for a crime against public justice (such as failure to appear) and other crimes/offences on the same day, then the most serious of the latter is taken as being the main crime/offence (even where the crime against public justice had attracted the heaviest penalty).

A5 In order to produce meaningful analysis on reconvictions, a decision is made as to which of an individual's convictions in a series is to be taken as a reference point, known as the **index conviction**. In this bulletin, the rule for choosing the index conviction is:

- (a) the first occasion in the financial year in question when an individual was given a non-custodial sentence, or
- (b) the first date when an individual was estimated to have been released from prison from a custodial sentence.

Whichever conviction has the earlier of these dates in a given financial year is the index conviction. The crime and sentence linked to this index conviction are referred to throughout this bulletin as the **index crime** and **index disposal**, respectively. In the case of the reconviction rate, the analysis then considers the proportion of these individuals who are reconvicted within one year (or two years in [Table 12](#)) from the date of sentence or the estimated prison release date, i.e. from the relevant date of the index conviction, whereas the average number of reconvictions per offender considers the number of times offenders are reconvicted in the same period. Convictions for a crime against public justice, such as committing an offence while on bail, are not considered as index convictions. If the first conviction in the year for a particular offender was for such an offence, their next conviction which wasn't a crime against public justice was taken instead. Where an individual had no further convictions in the year for crimes other than crimes against public justice they are not included in the data set.

A6 Information on the actual release dates of prisoners is not linked with the conviction data held on the SOI. For the purposes of the analysis in this bulletin, the date of release for offenders given a custodial sentence has therefore been estimated from their date of sentence, the length of sentence imposed, assumptions about time spent on remand and release on parole, and information about whether the offender had been granted bail. The release date estimated by this approach will not always tie in with the actual release date because, for example the offender may be serving other custodial sentences. However, this is not judged to be significant for the purposes of the current analysis. The main

exception to this relates to offenders discharged from life sentences or, for some cohorts, very long determinate custodial sentences – see below.

A7 The method described above cannot be used to accurately identify the release date for offenders serving life sentences or, in some instances, very lengthy determinate sentences. Therefore this category of offender will not have been available for possible selection for the set of index convictions in each cohort year. However, the number of offenders involved is relatively small (only around 50 offenders receive such sentences each year) and so will not affect the analysis presented in this bulletin significantly. Separate research evidence ([Life Sentence Prisoners in Scotland, Scottish Office, Machin et al, 1999](#)) shows that just over one quarter of the 491 life sentence prisoners released on licence were reconvicted. However, this figure may not be directly comparable with the reconviction rates presented in this bulletin, as the reconvictions for life sentence prisoners may have been for minor offences which are excluded from analysis in this bulletin, or reconvictions may have occurred more than a year after release from custody.

A8 The counting rules for non-court disposals are similar to those for analysing court reconvictions in that the first police or COPFS disposal in the financial year in question is counted as the index non-court disposal. Further non-court disposals from either the police or COPFS within one year of the index non-court disposal are counted, regardless whether the index non-court disposal was issued by the police or COPFS.

Data definitions

A9 The age of each person relates to their age at the time that sentence was passed. This also applies to offenders discharged from a custodial sentence, i.e. their age at the date of sentence is taken rather than the estimated release date.

A10 The areas that courts serve don't exactly match administrative areas for Local Authorities or Community Justice Authorities (CJAs). For example, Edinburgh Sheriff Court serves the Local Authority areas of the City of Edinburgh and Midlothian; and Glasgow Sheriff Court, which covers the Glasgow CJA, also covers parts of East Dunbartonshire which is the North Strathclyde CJA. As a result, in [Table 11](#), [Chart 8](#) and [Chart 9](#) in this bulletin, CJAs and Local Authorities are based on approximate areas. Some Local Authorities are grouped together so that there are 25 grouped Local Authorities presented, rather than all 32 being displayed separately. See the footnote of [Table 11](#) for details of the approximations for each administrative area.

A11 Crimes and offences and sentence type have been grouped in this bulletin as follows:

Table A2 Crime Groupings

Crime category	Crimes and offences included
Violent crime	Murder, culpable homicide, attempted murder, serious assault, robbery, common assault, death involving a motor vehicle, other violence.
Sexual crime	<p>Sexual crime includes sexual assault and other sexual crimes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual assault includes: rape; attempted rape; contact sexual assault (13-15 yr. old or adult 16+); sexually coercive conduct (13-15 yr. old or adult 16+); sexual offences against children under 13 years; and lewd and libidinous practices. • Other sexual crimes includes: other sexually coercive conduct; other sexual offences involving 13-15 year old children; taking, distribution, possession etc. of indecent photos of children; incest; unnatural crimes; public indecency; sexual exposure; and other sexual offences. <p>These are the notifiable crimes for an offender who has been placed on the sex offenders register. The definitions are aligned with the <i>Criminal Proceedings in Scotland</i> publication. Sexual crime excludes offences associated with prostitution.</p>
Prostitution	Procuration (excluding homosexual acts); brothel keeping; immoral traffic; offences related to prostitution; procuration of homosexual acts; procuration of sexual services from children under 18; and soliciting services of a person engaged in prostitution.
Dishonesty	Housebreaking, theft by opening lockfast places, theft of motor vehicle, other theft, fraud, other crimes of dishonesty and social security offences.
Criminal damage	Fire-raising, vandalism.
Drug offences	Illegal importation, supply or possession of drugs, other drug offences.
Breach of the peace	Breach of the peace, racially aggravated harassment, racially aggravated conduct, threatening or abusive behaviour, offence of stalking, offensive behaviour at football, and threatening communications (under the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communication Scotland Act 2012).
Other crimes and offences	Crimes against public justice, (breach of sexual offender order and breach of sexual harm order are included in crimes against public justice), handling offensive weapons (in possession of an offensive weapon; having in a public place an article with a blade or point, and restriction of weapons), miscellaneous firearm offences, other crimes and offences (not elsewhere specified).
Serious violent crime	As per violent crime, but including only those convictions which took place in the high court or a sheriff solemn court.
Serious crime	All convictions which took place in the high court or in a sheriff solemn court, and any other convictions for serious assault, robbery,

	possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life etc., abduction, attempted rape and indecent assault.
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Table A3 Sentence groupings

Sentence category	Sentences included
Custody	Custodial sentence to prison, young offender's institution, or child detention, excluding life and indeterminate sentences.
CPO	Community Payback Order ⁹
CSO	Community Service Order
PO	Probation Order (with or without CSO or RLO)
DTTO	Drug Treatment and Testing Order
RLO	Restriction of Liberty Order
Monetary	Fine, compensation order, caution.
Other	Supervised Attendance Orders, absolute discharge, remit to children's hearing, admonishment, hospital order, guardianship order, finding of insanity, hospital order & restricted order, supervision and treatment order and disposals not elsewhere specified.
Police disposals	Anti-Social Behaviour Fixed Penalty Notices (ASBFPNs), Formal Adult Warnings and Early and Effective Interventions (EElS)
Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service disposals	Fiscal Fines, Fiscal Compensation Orders, Fiscal Fixed Penalties.

The effect of pseudo reconvictions

A12 Pseudo reconvictions are convictions which occur after the index conviction, but relate to offences committed prior to the index conviction. They can arise in cases where there are several sets of proceedings in train against an individual for offences committed on a range of dates.

A13 Pseudo reconvictions could potentially have the following effects:

- In theory, they may exaggerate the rate of "real" reconvictions to some extent.
- They will complicate comparisons between reconviction rates for different types of disposal as they tend to be less common for offenders who are discharged from a long custodial sentence compared to those given non-custodial sentences.

⁹ Community Payback Orders (CPOs) were introduced by the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 and came into effect from 1 February 2011. The CPO replaces provisions for Community Service Orders, Probation Orders and Supervised Attendance Orders.

- They will tend to be more significant when considering reconviction rates for groups of offenders with a relatively high frequency of offending, such as younger offenders, or those engaged in acquisitive crime.

A14 However, excluding pseudo reconvictions will not necessarily result in an improved estimate of the reconviction rate, unless one also addresses the issue of offences committed during the follow-up period, but which have a conviction date outside of this period and are therefore currently excluded from the calculation. Excluding both cases is likely to result in a downward bias of the estimate. One year and two year reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender without pseudo reconvictions were shown in [previous publications](#) for the purposes of illustration. The figures up to the 2012-13 cohort can be found in the additional [datasets](#) which accompany this publication.

Annex B – Sources of information, data quality and confidentiality, and revisions

Sources of information

B1 Information presented in this bulletin is based on data held in the SOI, which is derived from the data used in the [Criminal Proceedings in Scotland](#) statistical bulletin. The Criminal Proceedings data is in turn derived from information held on the Criminal History System (CHS) maintained by Police Scotland. It currently contains a record of criminal proceedings against individuals (excluding companies) in Scottish courts as well as information on non-court disposals. The data in the SOI currently covers all convictions where a sentence was imposed since the beginning of 1989, and the main offence involved was either a crime in Groups 1-5 of the Scottish Government's classification of crimes; or some offences in Group 6. The distinction between crimes and offences is made only for statistical reporting purposes. Although the violations allocated under "crimes" tend to be more serious there are some "offences" that have more severe punishments associated with them e.g. drink driving is classified under "offences" in the "motor vehicle offences" section rather than under "crimes". Groups 1-5 of the Scottish Government's classification covers non-sexual crimes of violence, sexual crimes, crimes of dishonesty, fire-raising, vandalism etc. and other crimes. The offences in Group 6 which are included in the SOI are: common assault, breach of the peace, threatening or abusive behaviour, offence of stalking, offensive behaviour at football and threatening communications (under the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communication Scotland Act 2012), racially aggravated harassment or conduct, miscellaneous firearms offences, and social security offences. See [Annex Table A2](#) for a more detailed list of the types of crimes in the SOI.

B2 Each record on the SOI database includes information on the sex and date of birth of the offender, the dates of conviction and sentence, the main offence involved and details of the sentence imposed. Information is also available on any offences which were additional to the main offence involved. Each offender has a unique reference number, which allows individual convictions for that offender to be linked together. The SOI is a statistical database and does not include personal information.

B3 While virtually all convictions since 1989 for the crimes listed in [Annex Table A2](#) are covered by the SOI, some other convictions are not. These include convictions for minor statutory and common law offences (such as drunkenness, and almost all motor vehicle offences), convictions in courts outside of Scotland, convictions prior to 1989, and any relevant convictions not recorded on the CHS by the end of July 2014.

B4 All but the most serious offences alleged to have been committed by children under the age of 16 are generally dealt with by the children's hearings system. The SOI does not currently hold information on offenders' juvenile offending history.

Data quality

B5 The figures in the bulletin have been derived from administrative IT systems which, as with any large scale recording system, are subject to possible errors with data entry and processing. During the production of this bulletin we have put in place processes to ensure that the data are fit for purpose for this publication, which are listed below.

B6 There are standards for the definitions of the data items and their corresponding values that are inputted on the CHS. These standards are agreed by the Integration of Scottish Criminal Justice Information Systems/ Co-ordinating IT and Management Information (ISCJIS/CIMI) programme and should ensure there is consistency across the justice organisations in the information they collect. Given a number of different organisations input information to the CHS, this is crucial.

Further information on the data standards can be found here:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/archive/law-order/iscjis/standards>

B7 The analyses in this bulletin are based on the data published in the [Criminal Proceedings in Scotland](#) statistical bulletin, and the quality assurance process is described in the section on **Data quality: Data validation during production of the statistical bulletin** in Annex B of the [2014-15 Criminal Proceedings](#) bulletin. In summary, the validation processes include automated and manual checks on the data. Any unusual or missing values are referred back to either Police Scotland, the Scottish Court Service (SCS), or the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS). The figures are also checked against case processing information published by COPFS and management information provided by SCS to ensure that the court volumes are consistent. Police Scotland, SCS, COPFS and policy experts within the Scottish Government are also consulted to give insight on an operational level and provide insight into why any significant changes may have occurred. The figures are also checked by Scottish Government statisticians, who have not been involved in the production process, and they may highlight any issues that may have gone unnoticed.

B8 During the production of this bulletin, the data undergoes processing to calculate the frequency and prevalence of reconvictions. The numbers are manually checked to determine whether there are any unusual values, and if so, then the calculations are rechecked. Like the [Criminal Proceedings in Scotland](#) publication, the new figures in this bulletin have undergone a further round of checks by Scottish Government statisticians, and policy experts within the Scottish Government are again consulted to provide insight and context to any significant changes in the figures.

Data confidentiality

B9 Information on the outcomes of court proceedings is publicly available. However, while our aim is for the statistics in this bulletin to be sufficiently detailed to allow a high level of practical utility, care has been taken to ensure that it is not possible to identify an individual and glean any private information relating to them.

B10 Furthermore, to maintain the security and confidentiality of the data received from the data suppliers, only a small number of Scottish Government employees have access to the data. The only personal details received by the Scottish Government in the data extract are those which are essential for the analyses in this bulletin and do not include the names of offenders.

Revisions

B11 The CHS is not designed for statistical purposes. It is dependent on receiving timely information from the SCS, COPFS, and the police. It should also be noted that some types of outcome, such as acquittals, are removed from the system after a prescribed length of time. A pending case on the CHS is updated in a timely manner, but there are occasions when a slight delay may happen. Recording delays of this sort generally affect high court disposals relatively more than those for other types of court. The figures provided in this bulletin reflect the details of court proceedings recorded on the CHS and supplied to the Scottish Government by the end of July 2015 to allow later convictions for 2013-15 to be captured on the CHS.

B12 The CHS is regularly updated, so subsequent analyses will result in revised figures (shown in [Annex Table B1](#)) as late records are added. The first revision of the reconviction rate in the following year's bulletin is typically 0.4 percentage points higher than the figures published initially, and the average number of reconvictions per offender is typically 0.01 to 0.02 higher.

B13 There was a larger increase from the initial published figures at the first revision of the figures for the 2010-11 cohort, than the average increase has been at the first revision of other cohorts. This is because the calculations of index offences and reconvictions, from the 2011-12 cohort bulletin onwards, included new offences which came into effect from 2010, which weren't included in the 2010-11 cohort bulletin. The new offences that were included from the 2011-12 cohort bulletin onwards are threatening or abusive behaviour and offence of stalking, which are part of the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010; and offensive behaviour at football and threatening communications (under the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communication Scotland Act 2012). These offences are grouped under "breach of the peace" in [Table 6](#) and [Table 7](#), in line with the [Criminal Proceedings in Scotland](#) publication.

Table B1 Revisions to reconviction rates

Cohort	Initial published figures		1st revision of published figures		2nd revision of published figures		3rd revision of published figures	
	Reconv. rate	Av. no. of reconv. per offender	Reconv. rate	Av. no. of reconv. per offender	Reconv. rate	Av. no. of reconv. per offender	Reconv. rate	Av. no. of reconv. per offender
2006-07	32.2	0.59* [†]	32.4	0.60* [†]	32.4	0.60 [†]	32.4	0.60 [†]
2007-08	30.9	0.56* [†]	31.2	0.57 [†]	31.3	0.57 [†]	31.2	0.57 [†]
2008-09	31.0	0.58 [†]	31.5	0.60 [†]	31.5	0.60 [†]	31.5	0.60
2009-10	30.1	0.54 [†]	30.5	0.56 [†]	30.6	0.56	30.6	0.56
2010-11	28.4 ^X	0.50 ^{†X}	30.1 ^X	0.55 ^X	30.1	0.55	30.1	0.55
2011-12	29.2	0.53	29.6	0.54	29.6	0.55	-	-
2012-13	28.6	0.51	28.9	0.53	-	-	-	-
2013-14	28.3	0.51	-	-	-	-	-	-

* These figures were not published initially, but it is possible to determine their magnitude retrospectively.

[†] These figures have been previously reported as the reconviction frequency rate, which was the number of reconvictions per 100 offenders. Therefore these figures are the original figure divided by 100 to get the average number of reconvictions per offender.

^X From the 2011-12 bulletin, some new offences that came into effect from 2010 were included in calculations for the reconviction rate and the average number of reconvictions. These offences weren't included in calculations in the 2009-10 or 2010-11 cohort bulletins. The increase in the numbers after revision led to a slightly higher increase at the 1st revision for the 2010-11 cohort than it had been in previous and subsequent years. See note in Annex B13.

Annex C – Uses and users of reconviction rates and average number of reconvictions per offender

C1 The Scottish Government completed a user survey for the reconviction rates in Scotland statistical bulletin in December 2014. The results can be found at the link [here](#). Some of the points noted in the survey have been addressed in this bulletin. However, due to the short period of time from the closing date of the survey to the publication date of this bulletin, other points will be addressed in future versions of this bulletin.

C2 Reconviction rates are a helpful tool in supporting policy development, including the Scottish Government's Reducing Reoffending Programme, Phase 2 (RRP2). This is a collaborative programme with a broad range of stakeholder involvement looking to deliver better outcomes for persistent offenders. Clearly success here is likely to translate to a reduction in crime, victimisation, and the negative effects these can have on local communities and the economy.

C3 The average number of reconvictions per offender is also used to inform the national indicator to [reduce reconviction rates](#) on Scotland Performs, the Scottish Government National Performance Framework. Scotland Performs measures and reports on progress of government in Scotland in creating a more successful country. It was put into place in 2007 by the incoming government at that time.

C4 Progress in terms of the reconviction indicator on Scotland Performs is assessed annually by considering whether or not the latest average number of reconvictions per offender has improved or declined compared to the baseline average number of reconvictions per offender (this was chosen as the number in 2006-07 because that relates to the financial year coinciding with the end of the previous government). The methodology for determining progress is discussed in a [technical note](#) on Scotland Performs.

C5 Users of information on reconviction rates include:

- Community Justice Authorities
- Local Authorities
- Scottish Prison Service
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Court Service
- Risk Management Authority
- Parole Board for Scotland
- Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service
- Health boards
- Victim Support
- Third sector partners

- Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA)
- Association of Directors of Social Work

C6 We are made aware of new users, and their uses of this data, on an ongoing basis and we will continue to include their contributions to the development of reconviction statistics in Scotland.

C7 CJAs use the data for strategic planning so that resources can be targeted effectively. Local Authorities find it useful for identifying local issues and to inform feedback on performance to partners. These data are useful in terms of providing contextual information to help assess the effectiveness of justice programmes, and for gaining understanding about structural patterns in offending, such as the age-crime curve. The data are also used to answer ad-hoc parliamentary questions and freedom of information requests.

Annex D – Characteristics of offenders with an index disposal of a Community Payback Order or a legacy community order between 2009-10 and 2013-14

D1 This section details how different characteristics of offenders with an index disposal of a Community Payback Order (CPO) or a legacy community order (Community Service Orders (CSO) and Probation Orders (PO)) have changed during the transition period from the legacy orders to CPOs. CPOs were introduced on 1st February 2011 and legacy orders are now only given for offences committed prior to 1st February 2011. The characteristics for offenders given legacy orders in 2009-10, prior to the transition period, are also given for comparison.

D2 As detailed below, during the transition period between 2010-11 and up to the most recent cohort of 2013-14, the legacy community orders and CPOs have both shown increased percentages of the types of offenders that generally have a lower likelihood of being reconvicted, i.e. more females, more older offenders, and more offenders with no previous convictions. This may explain, in part, why the reconviction rates of both disposal types decreased during the transition period. The legacy community orders, in particular, have shown large increases in the proportion of these types of offenders, which may be why the reconviction rates of the legacy orders were very low in 2013-14.

Number of previous convictions

D3 Offenders with no, or very few, previous convictions tend to have lower reconviction rates than offenders with more previous convictions (see [Table 10](#)).

D4 For CPO index disposals, the percentage of offenders with no previous convictions increased by 2.9 percentage points from 22.4 per cent of offenders in 2010-11 to 25.3 per cent of offenders in 2013-14, and in the same period the percentage of offenders with over 10 previous convictions decreased by 0.5 percentage points from 20.1 per cent of offenders to 19.6 per cent ([Table D1](#)).

D5 Legacy community order index disposals showed a large increase in the percentage of offenders with no previous convictions and a large decrease in the percentage of offenders with more than 10 previous conviction from 2009-10 (prior to the introduction of the CPOs) to 2013-14. The percentage of offenders with no previous convictions increased by 40.8 percentage points from 27.5 per cent in 2009-10 to 68.3 per cent in 2013-14, and the percentage of offenders with more than 10 previous convictions decreased by 15.5 percentage points from 16 per cent in 2009-10 to 0.5 per cent in 2013-14 ([Table D1](#)).

D6 In 2013-14, which is nearing the end of the transition period, more offenders with a CPO index disposal have over 10 previous convictions than offenders with a legacy order index disposal did in 2009-10. In 2013-14, 19.6 per cent of offenders with a CPO index disposal had more than 10 previous convictions, compared to 16 per cent of offenders with a legacy order index disposal in 2009-10. Additionally, a smaller percentage of offenders with a CPO index disposal in 2013-14 had no

previous convictions (25.3 per cent), compared to those with legacy orders in 2009-10 (27.5 per cent).

Table D1 Percentage of offenders by number of previous convictions within each financial year for index disposals of legacy community orders and CPOs

Sentence	Number of offenders	Percentage of each group within financial year			
		Number of previous convictions			
		None	1 to 2	3 to 10	over 10
CPOs					
2009-10	-	-	-	-	-
2010-11	174	22.4	24.7	32.8	20.1
2011-12	6110	23.4	22.6	34.1	19.9
2012-13	9466	24.3	22.0	35.0	18.7
2013-14	10551	25.3	22.4	32.6	19.6
Legacy					
2009-10	8658	27.5	23.8	32.7	16.0
2010-11	8245	26.5	23.6	33.2	16.7
2011-12	3773	31.1	23.0	31.1	14.8
2012-13	660	46.7	21.2	20.9	11.2
2013-14	202	68.3	19.8	11.4	0.5

Gender

D7 Females generally have lower reconviction rates than males ([Table 2](#)).

D8 The CPO index disposals had a slight increase in the percentage of females, by 2.4 percentage points, from 14.4 per cent in 2010-11 to 16.8 per cent in 2013-14 ([Annex Table D2](#)).

D9 Legacy community order index disposals had an increase in the percentage of females from 18.8 in 2009-10 prior to the introduction of the CPOs, to 45.0 per cent in 2013-14, an increase of 26.2 percentage points ([Annex Table D2](#)).

D10 In 2013-14, which is nearing the end of the transition period, a smaller percentage of females have a CPO index disposal than offenders with a legacy orders index disposal did 2009-10 prior to the transition. In 2013-14, 16.8 per cent of offenders with a CPO index disposal were female, compared to 18.8 per cent of offenders with a legacy order disposal in 2009-10.

Table D2 Percentages of offenders by gender within each financial year for index disposals of legacy community orders and CPOs.

Index Disposal	Number of offenders	Percentage of each group within financial year	
		Gender	
		Male	Female
CPOs			
2009-10	-	-	-
2010-11	174	85.6	14.4
2011-12	6110	85.9	14.1
2012-13	9466	84.1	15.9
2013-14	10551	83.2	16.8
Legacy			
2009-10	8658	81.2	18.8
2010-11	8245	82.1	17.9
2011-12	3773	77.6	22.4
2012-13	660	64.4	35.6
2013-14	202	55.0	45.0

Age

D11 Younger offenders generally have higher reconviction rates than older offenders ([Table 3](#)).

D12 CPO index disposals had a decrease in the percentage of offenders under the age of 21, from 25.3 per cent in 2010-11 to 16 per cent in 2013-14, a decrease of 9.3 percentage points. The percentage of offenders in the other age groups, with the exception of those aged between 21 and 25, showed a slight increase in the same period ([Annex Table D3](#)).

D13 Legacy community orders index disposals had a large decrease in the percentage of offenders under the age of 21 from 24.5 in 2009-10, to 5.9 per cent in 2013-14, a decrease of 18.6 percentage points. In the same period the percentage of offenders over 40 increased 42.4 percentage points from 17.5 per cent to 59.9 per cent ([Annex Table D3](#)).

Table D3 Percentages of offenders by age within each financial year for index disposals of legacy community orders and CPOs.

Index Disposal	Number of offenders	Percentage of each group within financial year				
		Age				
		Under 21	21 to 25	26 to 30	31 to 40	Over 40
CPOs						
2009-10	-	-	-	-	-	-
2010-11	174	25.3	21.3	15.5	20.7	17.2
2011-12	6110	21.7	21.8	15.8	22.9	17.8
2012-13	9466	18.6	21.1	17.7	23.9	18.7
2013-14	10551	16.0	20.6	16.7	24.5	22.1
Legacy						
2009-10	8658	24.5	20.1	16.2	21.7	17.5
2010-11	8245	23.4	20.6	15.6	21.9	18.6
2011-12	3773	20.2	20.6	15.2	22.8	21.2
2012-13	660	9.5	15.9	14.2	21.5	38.8
2013-14	202	5.9	5.4	8.4	20.3	59.9

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ISBN 978-1-78652-267-2 (web only)

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