

Probation Board for Northern Ireland Caseload Statistics Report

**Quarter Three
2022/23**



About PBNI Statistics

This report provides statistics on PBNI caseload for the third quarter of the financial year, reflecting PBNI caseload at points in time at the end of December 2022. There are also comparators to data in previous years.

Statistics on the number of reports completed, the number of new orders made, and PBNI Victim Information Scheme registrations, are subject to change, particularly for the latest month. When revisions are necessary, the updates occur in each quarterly publication and considered final in the annual publication for the financial year. Percentages presented in this report are subject to rounding.

The data source for all tables and charts presented in this publication from April 2020 onwards is the PBNI's electronic case management system (ECMS). Prior to this date, a different, but compatible case management system was in place. Although care is taken when processing and analysing data increases quality assurance, it is however, subject to inaccuracies inherent in an administrative manual data recording system.

The collation and production of PBNI statistics is by seconded statisticians from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). Statistical production is subject to a UK code of practice, the details of which are available here: [About the Code – Code of Practice for Statistics](https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/about-the-code/) (statisticsauthority.gov.uk)

Special Note about PBNI Statistics in 2020/21

There was a negative impact on PBNI caseload from the introduction of lockdown measures on 23rd March 2020, due to temporary court closures and reduced sittings. From the beginning of the financial year 2020/21, there were significantly fewer new orders made or requests for reports from court. While new orders and reports requested have returned to pre-pandemic levels, one should exercise caution when examining trend information during the 2020/21 financial year.

Contact and Further Information

PBNI statistics production is undergoing updates to the systems used to collate and organise the data for dissemination. During this time, it may be possible to provide regular updates to data not previously included in our publications. PBNI welcome feedback on these statistics and encourage requests for additional information users may wish to have included in future publications.

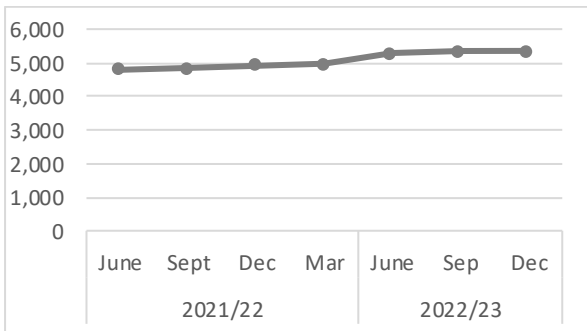
If you would like to forward your views / requests, contact PBNI Statistics & Research Branch e-mail:

statistics&research@probation-ni.gov.uk

Summary

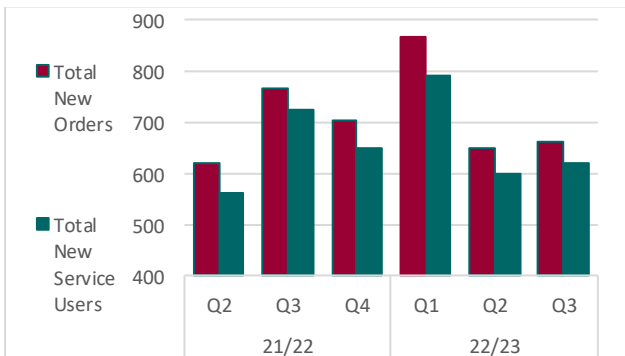
A glossary of order and report types is available at the end of this publication

PBNI Orders and People



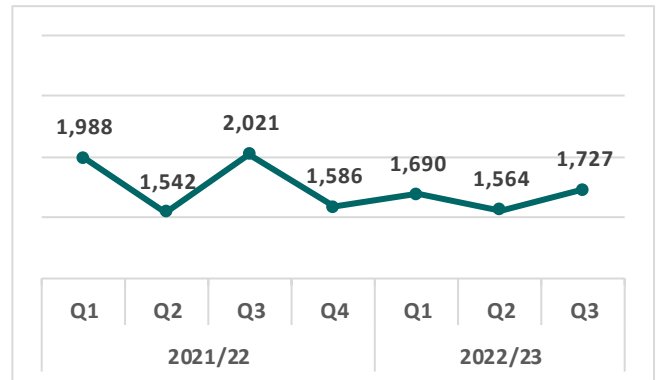
PBNI had **5,345 supervisions** on caseload at the end of December, an **increase of 8%** since December last year. Combination Orders **increased by 12%**, Enhanced Combination Orders **increased by 18%**, and Community Service Orders **decreased by 10%** over the year. Orders relate to **4,014 people**, an **increase of 1%** from December 2021. Females on caseload remained consistent over the year, while males saw a **small increase of 1%**.

PBNI New Orders



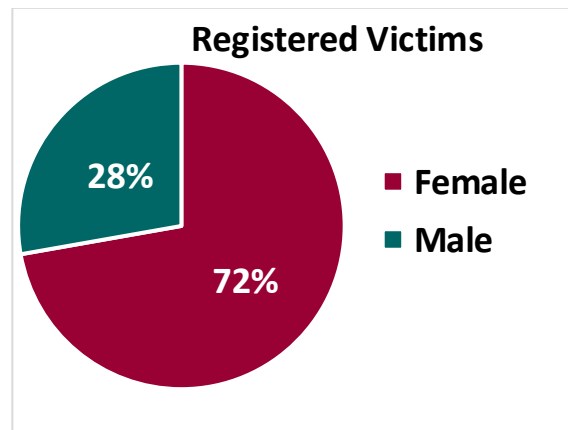
Q3 22/23 had **662** new orders, a decrease of **14%** compared to the same period in 2021/22. There were **621** new Service users on caseload in Q3 2022/23, also down **14%** from last year

PBNI Reports Completed for Court



1,727 reports were completed in Q3 22/23, **down 15%** compared to the same period last year. There was a **35% decrease** in the number of CCS/PSR reports and an increase of **18%** in 'Other Reports' completed in Q3 2022/23 compared to the same period in the previous year. Most report completions, **51%**, were for the Magistrates Courts.

PBNI Victim Information Scheme

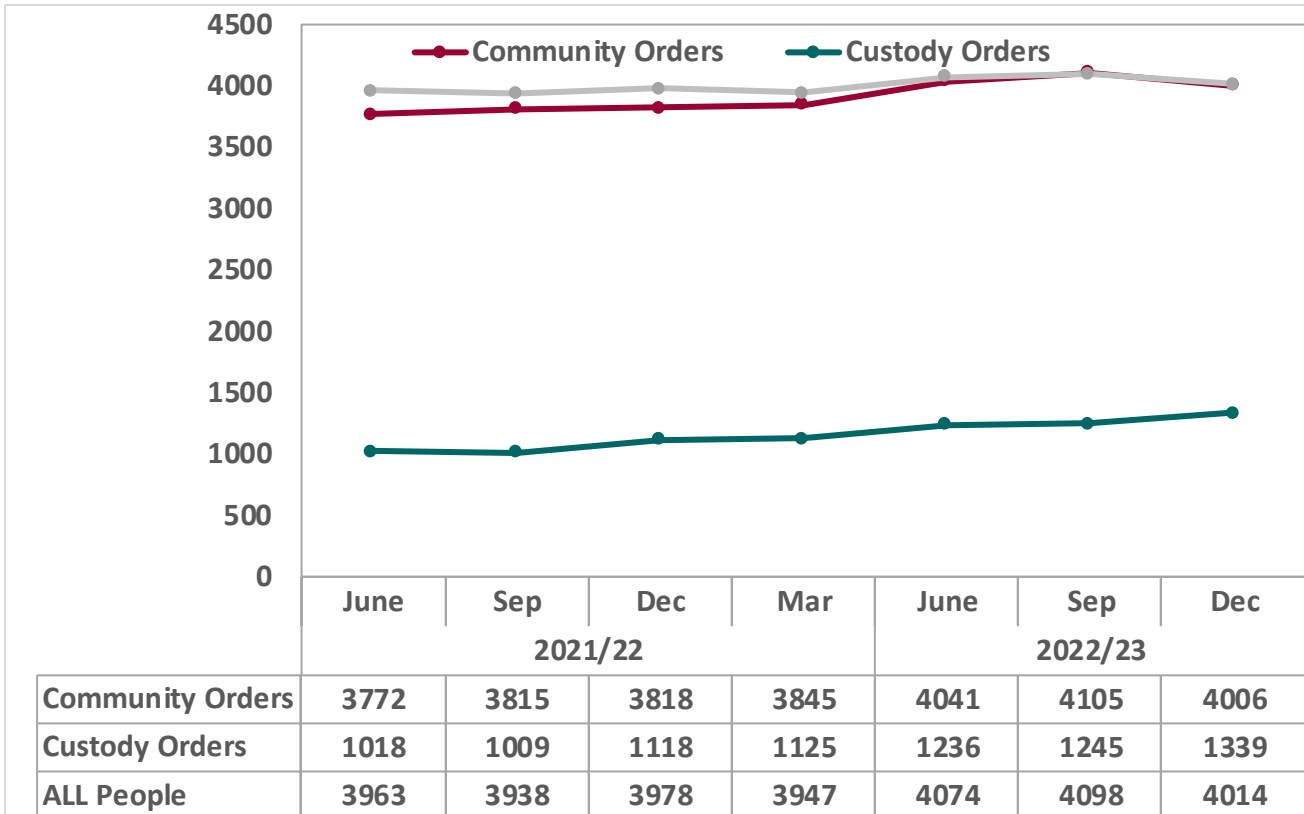


At the end of December 2022, there were 468 victims registered on the PBNI Victim information scheme, with 72 added in Q3 22/23. 72% were female, 28% male.

PBNI Orders and People

Figure 1: Community and Custody Orders on PBNI Caseload

30th June 2021 to 31st December 2022



Commentary on Trend

- PBNI had a total of **5,345** orders on caseload at the end of December: an increase of **8%** on December 2021.
- Custody orders account for **25%** of all orders on caseload and **860 (21%)** of people on caseload. Prison teams are managing an additional **11%** of service users since this time last year
- There were **4,014** people on orders: a ratio of 1.3 orders to people. There was a 1% increase in the number of people on caseload compared with December 2021.

*An individual may be subject to more than one type of order and multiple orders of the same type.

Table 1: Types of Supervision

June 2021 to December 2022 with comparison to December 2021

Table 1: Point in time Type of Order/Licence	Jun-21	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	% Change Dec 21 on Dec 22
Combination	463	448	440	438	490	509	494	12%
Community Service	475	459	425	408	418	408	384	-10%
Custody Probation	53	58	66	65	71	74	60	-9%
Juvenile Justice Centre	5	4	3	3	4	4	6	-
Probation	1,621	1,693	1,749	1765	1850	1839	1816	4%
ECO	197	199	203	211	239	247	240	18%
Other Orders*	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	-
DCS	1,394	1,385	1,475	1496	1616	1663	1725	17%
Life	232	232	234	232	232	234	234	0%
Sex Offender	75	76	71	68	68	74	76	7%
GB	42	40	37	32	29	29	30	-
Extended Custodial	178	176	178	187	191	196	207	16%
Indeterminate Custodial	53	52	53	53	57	57	59	11%
Remand/Sentence	1	1	1	1	1			-
Other Non Statutory				9	10	15	13	-
Point in Time Orders and Licences	4,790	4,824	4,936	4970	5277	5350	5345	8%
Point in time - People on an Order	3,963	3,938	3,978	3947	4074	4098	4014	1%

* Other Orders includes Supervised Activity Order, Supervision And Treatment Order, Youth Conference Order

Commentary on Orders

- Enhanced Combination Orders have steadily increased since the beginning of April 2021, a small drop this quarter saw **240 ECOs** on caseload at the end of December 2022: **18%** more than on caseload this time last year.
- Combination orders dropped slightly compared to last quarter despite a general upward trend. Overall, combination orders have increased by **12%** since last year.
- Probation orders make up the highest proportion of orders at **34%** of caseload, followed by Determinate Custodial Sentences which account for **32%**. While probation orders have increased by **4%** since last year, this is a lower rate of increase than Determinate Custodial Sentences which rose by **17%** during the same time frame.
- Community Service Order trend continues in a downward trajectory. There are now **10% (41)** fewer CSOs than in December 2021. The reduction in CSO is likely, in part, to be due to the ECO and CO orders issued to service users who presented with additional needs during the time-period.

Table 2: Age and Gender of People on Caseload

June 2021 to December 2022 with comparison to December 2021

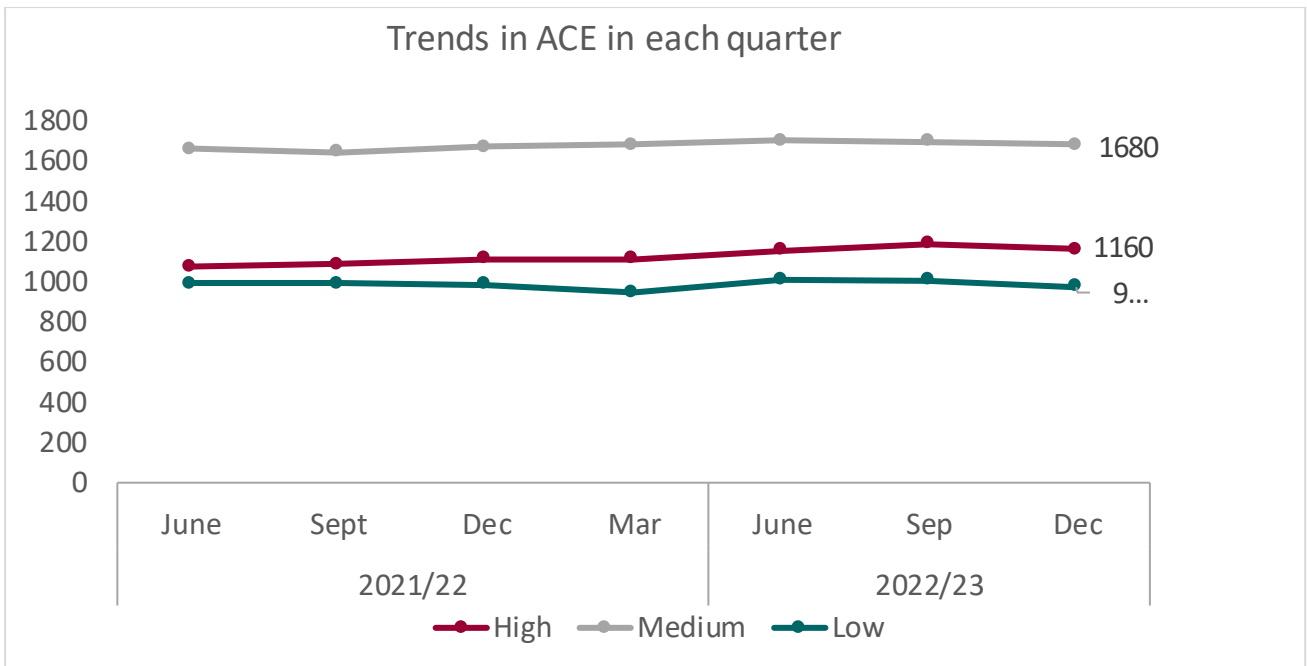
Number of People	Jun-21	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	% Change Dec 21 on Dec 22	Profile of Caseload
Female	435	439	457	451	472	472	455	0%	11%
Male	3,528	3,499	3,521	3,496	3,602	3,626	3,559	1%	89%
Under 20	109	92	84	81	83	72	83	-1%	2%
20-24	533	549	518	526	540	516	476	-8%	12%
25-29	733	718	704	695	695	694	657	-7%	16%
30-39	1,300	1,291	1,352	1,335	1,386	1,423	1,393	3%	35%
40-49	733	719	728	707	733	739	736	1%	18%
50-59	362	373	379	387	406	416	426	12%	11%
60 and over	193	196	213	216	231	238	243	14%	6%
Total People	3,963	3,938	3,978	3,974	4,074	4,098	4,014	1%	100%

Commentary on People

- The number of people on orders at the end of December 2022 was **4,014**, representing a **1%** increase since last year.
- The number of females on caseload has **remained consistent** compared to the same period last year, despite an overall upward trend. Males on caseload saw a slight increase of 1%, and account for 89% of caseload.
- All age groups 30+ have increased in the past year, with the **3 youngest age groups** all seeing a **decrease**.
- The **20-24** age group has seen the biggest decrease, **down 8% in the last year**. Under 20's remained the smallest age demographic, accounting for 2% of caseload.

Figure 2: ACE Bands of Service Users on PBNI caseload.

June 2021 to December 2022

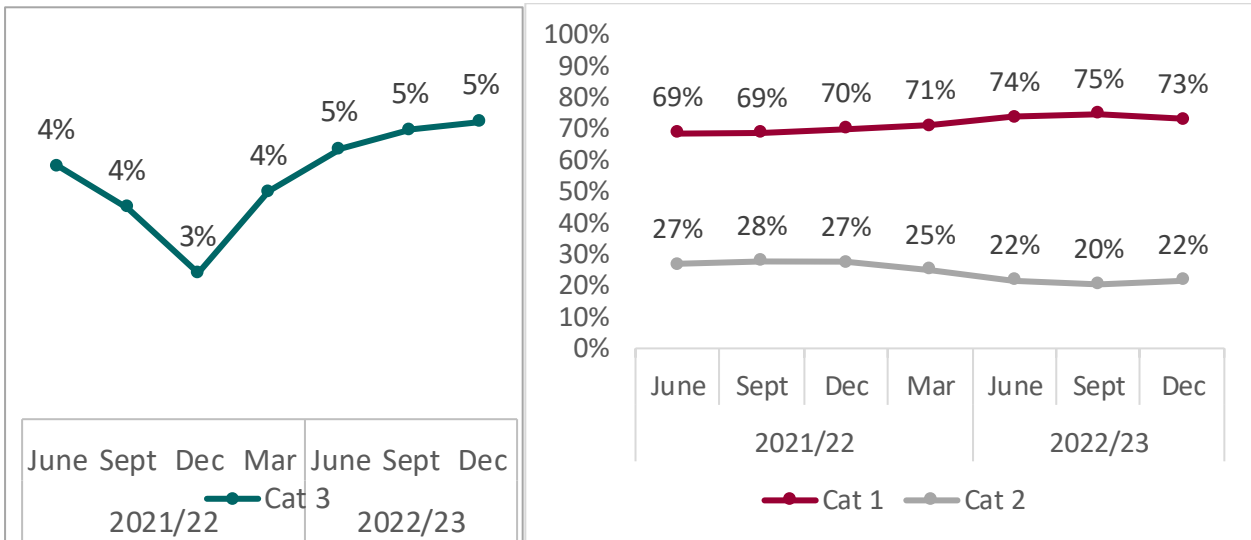


Commentary on ACE

- ACE bands have remained fairly consistent over the time period.
- The breakdown of ACE bands remained the same compared to the same period last year, with 30% High ACE, 44% Medium ACE and 26% Low ACE.
- 95% of caseload this quarter had received an ACE assessment.

Figure 3: PPANI Categories of Service Users on PBNI caseload.

June 2021 to December 2022

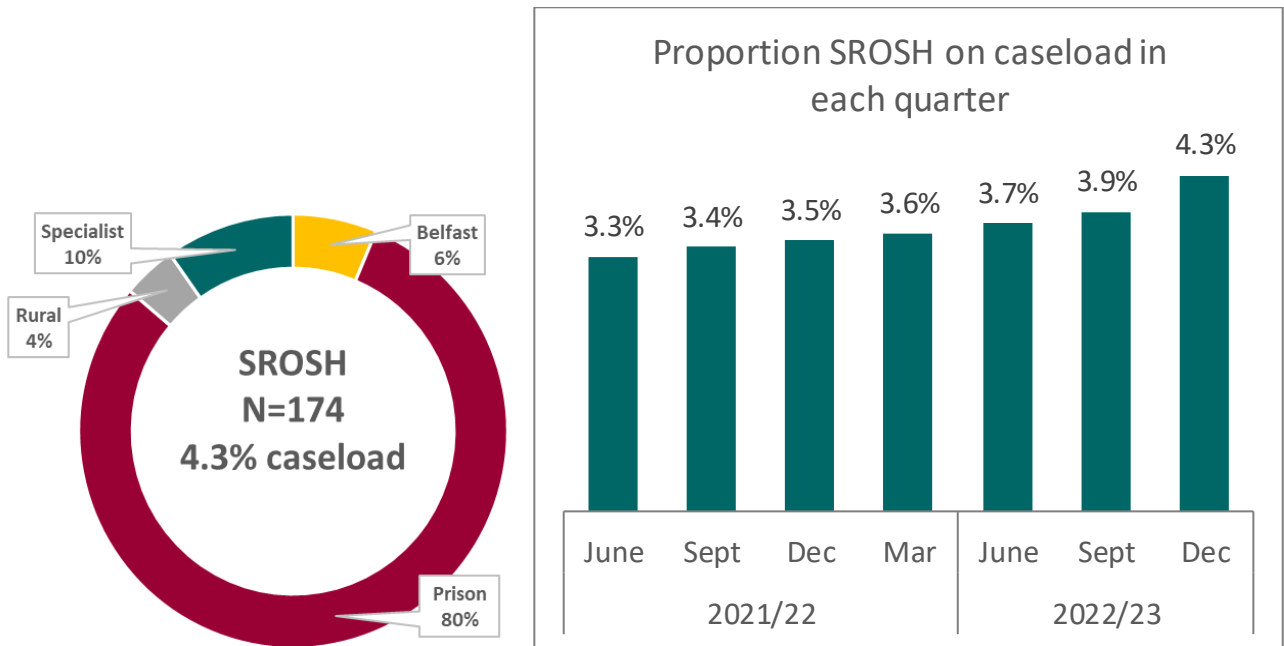


Commentary on PPANI

- **14%** of total caseload have been categorised as PPANI, up from **13%** in December 2021.
- **73%** of those categorised as PPANI were assigned as Category 1. There are now 425 services users under PPANI Cat 1, an **increase from 70%** of PPANI this time last year.
- **22%** of those categorised as PPANI were assigned as Category 2. This means there are now 127 service users under PPANI Cat 2, a **decrease from 27%** this time last year.
- **5% (30 service users)** were categorised as PPANI Category 3: an **increase from 3%** in December 2021.

Figure 4: SROSH Service Users on PBNI caseload.

June 2021 to December 2022



Commentary on SROSH

- There are 174 service users on caseload who are considered to be SROSH. This accounts for **4.3%** of current caseload, representing an **increase in proportion of caseload from 3.5%** in December 2021.
- **80%** of SROSH service users are being supervised by Prison teams. This is a slight **decrease** from December 2021, when **81%** of SROSH service users were assigned to Prison teams.
- **6%** of SROSH service users are being supervised by Belfast teams, **decreasing from 7%** this time last year.
- **4%** of SROSH service users are being supervised by Rural teams. This is consistent with Q2 last year.
- **10%** of SROSH service users are being supervised by Specialist teams and is **up by 1 percentage point from 9%** in December 2021.

PBNI New Orders and People

Figure 5: New Orders and People on New Orders

Quarter totals Q1 2021/22 to Q3 2022/23

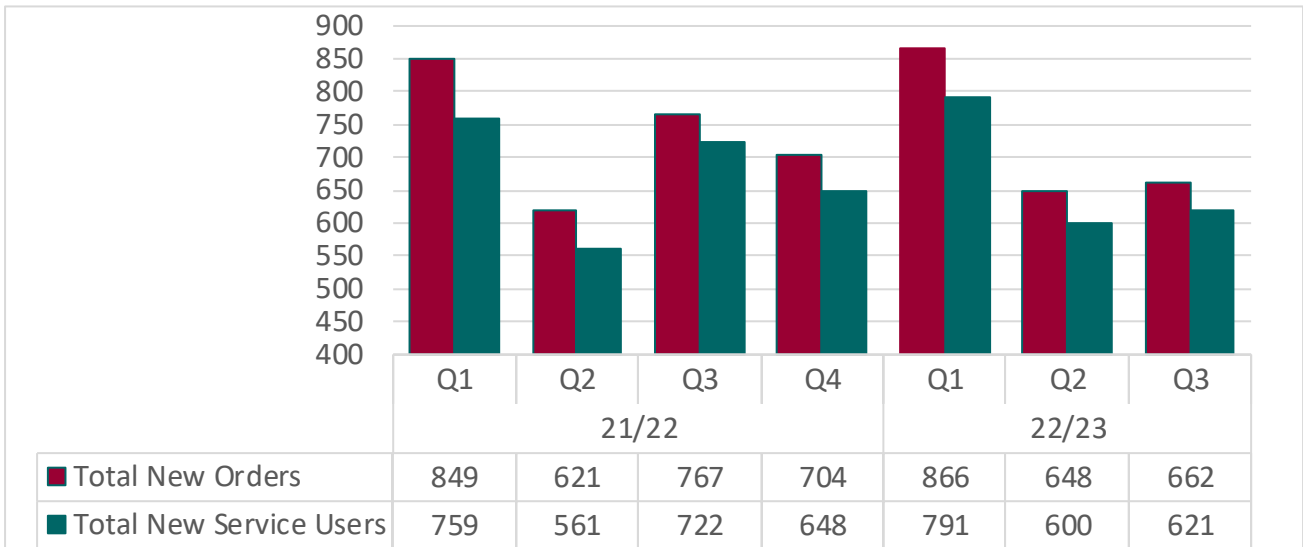


Table 3: New Orders by order type

Quarter totals Q1 2021/22 to Q3 2022/23

New Orders	Jun-21	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	% Change on Q3 21/22 to Q3 22/23
Combination Order	107	63	78	86	109	84	74	-5%
Community Service Order	133	110	129	124	131	96	122	-5%
Enhanced Combination Order	35	26	32	35	64	35	21	-
Probation Order	349	281	318	295	353	269	274	-14%
Determinate Custodial Sentence	209	124	184	139	189	140	144	-22%
All Other Orders	16	17	26	25	20	24	27	-
Total New Orders	849	621	767	704	866	648	662	-14%
Total New Service Users	759	561	722	648	791	600	621	-14%
Ratio of New Orders to People	1.12	1.11	1.06	1.09	1.09	1.08	1.07	

Commentary on New Orders

- The graph and data table above show all new orders and people on new orders by each quarter total from Q1 2021/22 to Q3 2022/23. Q3 22/23 new orders have **increased** slightly compared with the previous quarter.
- New orders **decreased by 14%** from last year, with an equal **14% decrease** in new service users.
- All orders saw a decrease compared to the same period last year.
- Determinate Custodial Sentences saw the biggest decrease, **down 22%** from Q3 2021/22.

PBNI Reports completed for Courts

Figure 6: Reports Completed

Quarter totals Q1 2021/22 to Q3 2022/23

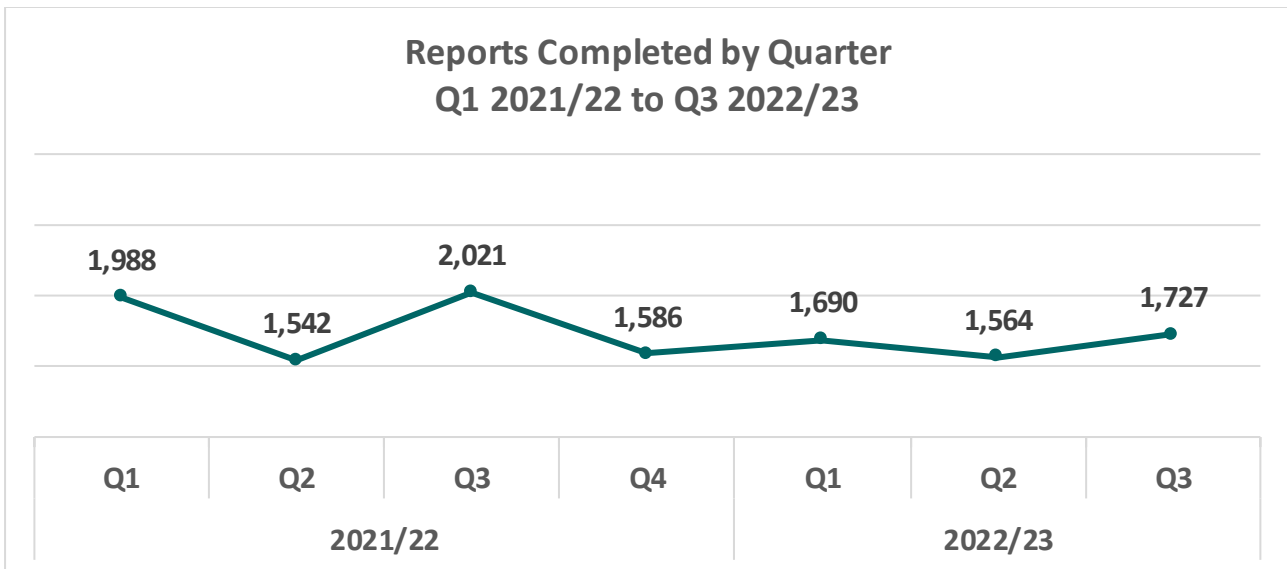


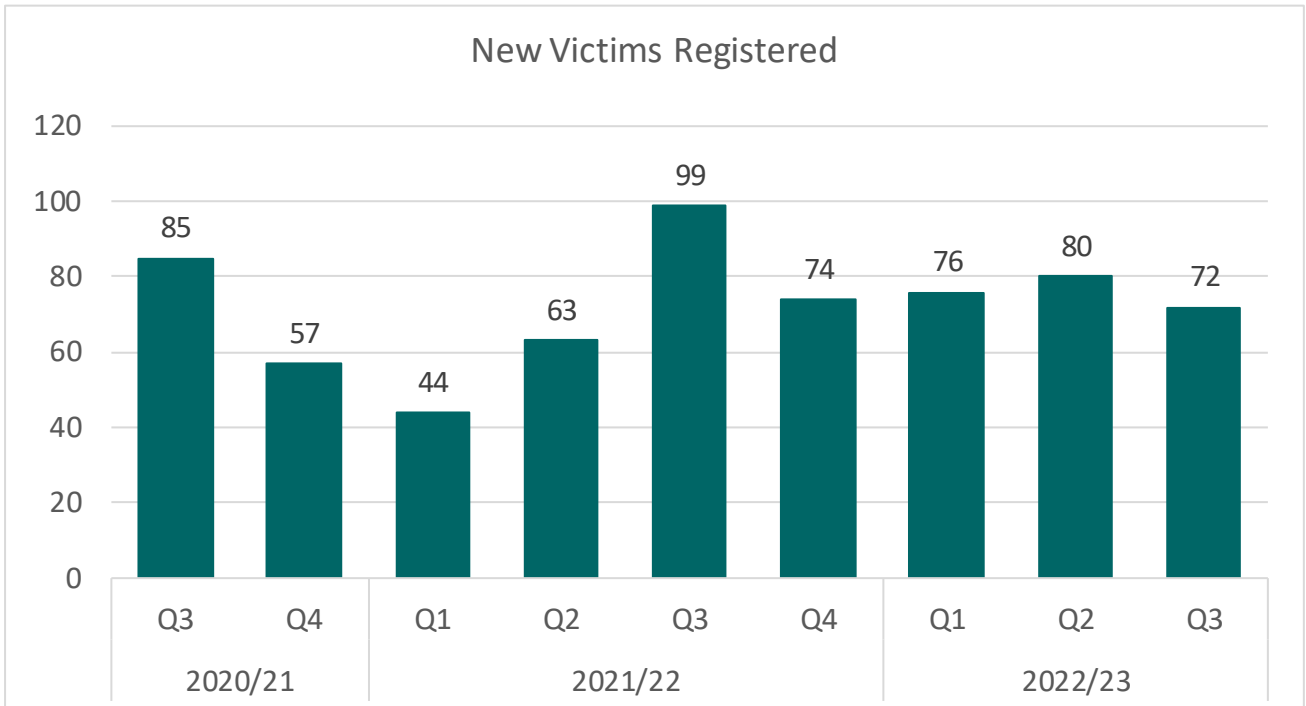
Table 4: Reports Completed by report type in Q3 2022/2023.

Report Type	Q1 21/22	Q2 21/22	Q3 21/22	Q4 21/22	Q1 22/23	Q2 22/23	Q3 22/23	% of Reports (excluding Letters)	Change in last year
Addendum	165	200	232	201	160	210	203	12%	-13%
Breach	166	192	193	188	154	218	188	11%	-3%
CCR/PSR	489	219	487	335	376	208	318	18%	-35%
MCR	1,093	858	1,014	791	939	835	877	51%	-14%
Other Reports*	75	73	95	69	61	89	112	6%	18%
Letter to Court	441	517	377	499	538	498	573	-	52%
Missing Report Type	0	0	0	2	0	4	29	-	-
Total Including Letters	2,429	2,059	2,398	2,085	2,228	2,062	2,300	-	-4%
Total Excluding Letters	1,988	1,542	2,021	1,586	1,690	1,564	1,727	-	-15%

Commentary on Reports Completed

- **1,727** reports were completed in Q3 2022/2023 when letters to court are excluded. This represents a 15% decrease compared to the same period last year. There was a total of **2,300** reports completed when letters to court are considered.
- **MCRs** made up the highest proportion of reports completed within the quarter, accounting for **51%** of all reports (excluding letters). There has however been a drop in MCRs from the same time last year, **down 14%**.
- **CCR and PSR** saw the biggest reduction and are **down by 35%** compared with the same period last year.
- Letters to court saw the largest increase, up 52% from last year. They accounted for **25%** of the total reports completed within the quarter.

PBNI Victim Information Scheme



Commentary on Victims Registered

- There were 468 victims registered on the scheme at the end of December 2022, which is down 2% from the previous quarter.
- There was a total of 72 new victims registered in Q3 22/23, which is a decrease of 10% from Q2.
- Registered victims consist of 72% females and 28% males. Male registration is down from 29% of victims registered last quarter.

PBNI Glossary of Orders and Sentences

<p>Combination Order</p>	<p>Combines a Probation Order and a Community Service Order. The period of Probation supervision can last from 1 to 3 years. The Community Service part of the Order can range from 40 to 100 hours and must be completed as instructed.</p>
<p>Community Service Order</p>	<p>Requires an offender to do unpaid work in the community. It may be given to someone 16 or over if the offender consents, and is between 40 and 240 hours and must be completed within 12 months.</p>
<p>Custody Probation Order</p>	<p>Requires an offender to serve a period of imprisonment followed by a period of supervision in the community (the period of supervision will be 1 to 3 years commencing on date of release), and is unique to Northern Ireland. This order cannot be made unless the offender consents. Although Custody Probation Orders remain on the statute books, Determinate Custodial Sentences were made available from 1 April 2009. This is only a valid disposal where the offence was committed prior to April 2009.</p>
<p>Determinate Custodial Sentence</p>	<p>Requires an offender to serve a period of imprisonment followed by a period of supervision in the community. The court will specify the length of both custody and community supervision at sentencing. This will be the standard determinate sentence for all offenders, and has been available to the courts from 1 April 2009.</p>
<p>Enhanced Combination Order</p>	<p>A pilot Order with a focus on rehabilitation, reparation, restorative practice, and desistance, and has been available to a number of pilot court divisions from October 2015. The period of Probation supervision can last from 1 to 3 years. The Community Service part of the Order can range from 40 to 100 hours and must be carried out at an accelerated pace.</p>

<p>Extended Custodial Sentence</p>	<p>This may be given at court if the offender has been convicted on indictment of a specified offence, where a life sentence or Indeterminate Custodial Sentence is not appropriate. The court must be of the opinion that there is a significant risk that the offender will re-offend and that such re-offending is likely to cause serious harm to members of the public. The sentence involves a portion of time spent in custody (at least 1 year) and a period under licence conditions (extension period). Prisoners will be referred to the Parole Commissioners of Northern Ireland (PCNI) approximately 6 months prior to the mid-point of their sentence and must demonstrate that they can be safely released into the community. If PCNI direct release, the prisoner will remain on licence for the remainder of the custodial term as well as the licence period set by the court.</p>
<p>GB Transfer Licence</p>	<p>An individual subject to licence may, given the agreement of the Probation Board for Northern Ireland, transfer to Northern Ireland from another jurisdiction in Great Britain.</p>

<p>Indeterminate Custodial Sentence</p>	<p>It may be given at court if the offender has been convicted on indictment of a specified offence, where a life sentence is not appropriate, but an Extended Custodial Sentence is not sufficient. The court must be of the opinion that there is a significant risk that the offender will re-offend and that such re-offending is likely to cause serious harm to members of the public. No release date is given for an ICS. Offenders serving an ICS will be given a “tariff” date which is the earliest date that they may become eligible for consideration for release by the PCNI. The tariff is a minimum of 2 years. An ICS prisoner will remain in custody until they have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the PCNI that they can be released safely into the community.</p>
<p>Inescapable Voluntary</p>	<p>These are offenders who continue to be supervised by PBNI on a voluntary basis following the end of their sentence, usually for the purposes of completing programmes. These are not statutory orders.</p>
<p>Juvenile Justice Centre Order</p>	<p>It requires a young offender (aged between 10 and 17 years) to spend time, normally three months, in a Juvenile Justice Centre and then be supervised in the community by a probation officer, normally for three months.</p>
<p>Life Sentence Licence</p>	<p>An offender serving a life sentence will be released from custody on licence. An individual must comply with the conditions of his licence in order to remain in the community and not be returned to custody.</p>
<p>Probation Order</p>	<p>POs can last between 6 months and 3 years, and puts the offender under the supervision of a Probation Officer for that period. The order may have extra requirements. Offender consent is required.</p>
<p>Remand/Sentence</p>	<p>It refers to persons who are remanded in custody awaiting sentence or who are subject to a custodial sentence not</p>

	involving PBNI supervision on release, with whom PBNI works in order to assess individual risks and needs.
Sex Offender Licence	Article 26 of the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 makes provision for all offenders convicted of a sexual offence to be released on licence under the supervision of a Probation Officer.
Supervised Activity Order	It requires an offender to do unpaid work in the community. It may be given to someone 16 or over if the offender consents, and lasts between 10 hours and 100 hours and must be completed within 12 months.
Supervision and Treatment Order	It requires the specified person to be under supervision for a period of not more than 2 years; and to submit, during that period to treatment under the direction of a medical practitioner with a view to the improvement of his mental condition.

PBNI Glossary of Reports

Addendum Report	is provided to courts to supplement information contained within a Pre-Sentence report, where one has been completed within the previous 12 month period, or to address a specific issue at the request of the Court.
Breach Report	is provided to courts to provide an account of the circumstances leading to breach, details of the non-compliance, an outline of actions taken by the supervising officer, and proposed options available to the court.
Home Circumstances Report	is written by a Probation Officer, usually following a home visit, and provides a suitability assessment of an offender's proposed residence prior to their release from custody.
Home Leave Report	is written by a prison based Probation Officer, and provides a suitability assessment of an prisoner's proposed temporary release from custody.
Magistrates' Court Report (MCR)	is a brief focussed report written by a Probation Officer supplied to Magistrates' courts to assist in sentencing decisions and can be completed on the day. This report type was piloted in five Courts between 1 November 2016 and 31 March 2018 but has been available to all Magistrates the courts from 1 April 2018.
Parole Commissioners/Life Sentence Unit Reports	provide Parole Commissioners with information prior to release; covering offender's attitude to supervision, response to PBNI interventions, risk assessment, post-release supervision plan, and recommendations for release.
Pre-Sentence Report (PSR)	is written by a Probation Officer on an offender before sentencing at court. The purpose of the report is to provide the Judge with information to assist in the sentencing decision. From 1 April 2018, this format of report will be presented solely to Crown Courts.

Probation Officers Reports	are generic reports that Probation Officers provide to courts, for the purposes of providing an update to Sentencers or request an amendment or an extension of an order.
Recall Report	is provided to Parole Commissioners of Northern Ireland (and copied to the Public Protection Branch of the Department of Justice) when the decision to initiate recall proceedings has been taken by PBNI. The report provides an account of the circumstances leading to recall, details of the non-compliance, an outline of actions taken by the supervising officer, and proposed actions to reduce risk in future.
Revocation Report	is provided to courts to provide an account of the offender's circumstances, an explanation for the need for revocation of the order and to assist in the re-sentencing decision