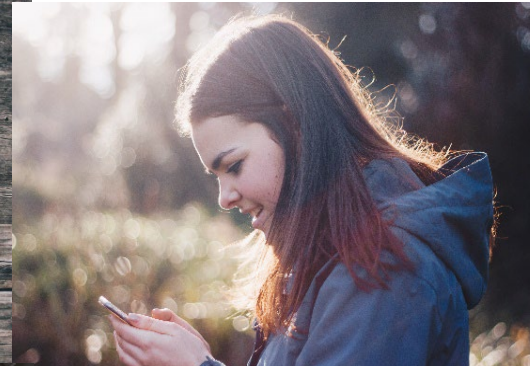


Northern Ireland Youth Justice Agency Annual Workload Statistics 2023/24

T. Brown
19 September 2024



Department of
Justice

An Roinn Dí agus Cirt
Máinnstríe O tha Laa

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1 | Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of the workload provided by the Youth Justice Services (YJS) and Custodial Services (Woodlands Juvenile Justice Centre, (JJC)) directorates within Youth Justice Agency (YJA) during 2023/24 and how it has changed over time. The principal findings are summarised below -

- During 2023/24, there was a total of 1,493 YJA PSNI Referral Schemes for 1,425 children.
- In 2023/24 males accounted for 61.4% of PSNI referral schemes.
- In 2023/24 the highest number of CRN and Vaping schemes [Note 1] was for children aged 14 (209) while those aged 13 accounted for the highest number of Sexting Schemes (83).
- The number of YJA referrals to the YJS in 2023/24 was 1,525, an increase of 12.0% from 2022/23 (1,361).
- Diversionary referrals (55.7%; 850) accounted for the largest proportion of all YJA referrals in 2023/24, followed by Court Ordered (24.1%; 367) and Earlier Stage Diversions (13.6%; 207).
- The number of individuals receiving YJA referrals in 2023/24 (809) increased by 4.5% from the previous year (774).
- The total number of individuals in custody decreased by 5.5% (110, 2022/23; 104, 2023/24).
- As in previous years males accounted for the majority of YJA referrals (71.9%) and of children receiving YJA referrals (74.8%) and in custody (76.0%).



1. Due to the low numbers of Vaping Schemes, these have been combined with CRN Schemes for the purposes of this analysis.

1 | Executive Summary

- During 2023/24, 64.6% of YJA referrals and 64.5% of individuals receiving YJA referrals were aged 15 and over; the corresponding figure for children in custody was 83.7%.
- In 2023/24, 46.2% of children in custody were Catholic; 24.0% were Protestant.
- Of the children in custody during 2023/24, 43.3% were in care (36.5% were subject to a care order; 6.7% were voluntary accommodated).
- In terms of local government district, Belfast had the highest number of YJA referrals (360) and the highest number of children receiving YJA referrals (219). Derry City and Strabane had the highest number of admissions to custody (34) while Belfast had the highest number of children in custody (19). Regarding children in custody, Derry City and Strabane had the highest rate per 1,000 at 1.0.
- In 2023/24, there was a total of 3,534 days of custody provided by the JJC, 8.1% lower than in 2022/23 (3,844) and 42.9% lower than in 2019/20 (6,194). Of these days 6.2% were for PACE, 78.9% for remand and 14.9% for sentence.
- The total number of admissions to the JJC was 4.5% lower in 2023/24 (214) than in 2022/23 (224). Overall movements within the JJC, that is new admissions plus internal changes of status, such as PACE to Remand, was 4.1% lower in 2023/24 (301) than in the previous year (314).
- Of the 1,236 statutory referrals during 2023/24, the highest proportion involved violence against the person (42.6%; 527).

2 | Introduction

Context

The Youth Justice Agency (YJA) aims to make communities safer by helping children to stop offending. Working with 10-17 year olds who have offended or are at serious risk of offending, it provides a range of services, often delivered in partnership with others, to help the children address their offending behaviour, divert them from crime, assist their integration into the community and to meet the needs of victims. These front-line services are delivered by the Youth Justice Services (YJS) and Custodial Services (Woodlands Juvenile Justice Centre, (JJC)) directorates within YJA.

Youth Justice Services (YJS)

The YJS directorate provides a range of services for children, their families, communities and victims via five area teams spread across the province – Belfast, Eastern, Northern, Southern and Western. As an established part of the Northern Ireland criminal justice system, YJS provides a number of disposals to facilitate YJA’s restorative approach focusing on the needs of children and victims. While the most frequently used disposal is youth conferencing, other disposals including community orders are also provided. An overview of the different disposals used are detailed in [Appendix 1](#).

YJS also carries out earlier stage diversion work with children on the cusp of or involved in the early stages of offending to help divert them from the formal justice system. An element of this work is carried out via a variety of awareness raising schemes with children referred by PSNI (YJA PSNI Referral Schemes). Referrals may be made when a young person receives a Community Resolution Notice (CRN) for an applicable offence (e.g. drugs, alcohol, public order, criminal damage) or when PSNI Youth Diversion Officers identify children who may benefit from awareness sessions relating to social media (sexting) or vaping (introduced in 2023/24).

2 | Introduction

CRNs can be issued to anyone aged 10 years or over for a range of minor offences. Following a CRN referral, YJA delivers educational sessions on drugs, alcohol, public order, criminal damage etc. with new topic categories being added as appropriate.

Chapter 3 of this report provides an overview of the workload of YJS and the children involved, both through the PSNI Referral Schemes and YJA Referrals. It focuses specifically on the numbers of schemes and YJA referrals, each of which is analysed by age and gender, and the individuals receiving YJA referrals in terms of age, gender, area of residence and offence type. If a child requires further support to desist from offending following completion of a PSNI Referral Scheme, a referral to the Children's Diversion Forum may be considered which could lead to an Earlier Stage Diversion case referral to YJA. Children accessing support as the result of a Children's Diversion Forum will be counted in the YJA Referral figures. To avoid the risk of double counting PSNI Referral Schemes and YJA Referrals are reported separately within this publication.

Custodial Services

Woodlands JJC provides custodial facilities, offering a wide range of services and support to help prevent children from re-offending. It can accommodate up to 48 young boys and girls aged between 10 and 17 placed in custody.

The children in the JJC may be held on either a Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Order, remand or when sentenced (see Appendix 1 for definitions). Information is recorded on each admission, each change of status (for example, when a young person transfers from PACE to remand) and each discharge.

2 | Introduction

An overview of the workload of custodial services is provided in Chapter 4, specifically the total number of admissions to and changes of status within the JJC (for example when a child transfers from PACE to remand) and individuals in custody. Admissions plus changes of status within the JJC constitute the daily workload of the centre and are collectively referred to as movements. Discharges are not included as all admissions will ultimately result in a discharge.

About this report

The following methodological considerations should be taken into account when reading this report -

- The YJS statistics in this report relate specifically to referrals received from the Public Prosecution Service (PPS) and the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service (NICTS). These figures do not reflect the number of plans/orders made by PPS/NICTS as children may withdraw their consent and receive another disposal. In addition, an agreement can be reached at the conference for no further action to be taken against the young person i.e. a plan is not required. We also receive voluntary referrals which are reported in Chapter 3.
- In terms of individual involvement with the YJA, a child is counted on their first involvement with each individual work area: YJA PSNI referral schemes; YJA referrals; and custody, within the given year. Each child therefore will only be counted once within each of the three work areas. For example, a child who has been in contact with both JJC and YJS in 2023/24 will be counted once in the JJC statistics and once in the YJS statistics for 2023/24. Similarly, a child who has been the subject of a PSNI referral scheme and has also received a YJA referral will be counted in each set of statistics.

2 | Introduction

- Furthermore, individual children involved with JJC are counted on their first movement during each financial year; therefore a child will only be counted once within a given financial year but could be counted within more than one financial year. Admissions is the total number of times children have been admitted to the JJC during each financial year as some children may be admitted to custody on more than one occasion. Movements constitutes admissions plus any changes of status within JJC.
- The primary data source for this report is the YJA's case management system, used for the day to day management of cases supervised by the Agency, both within a custodial and community setting.
- Information is based on data extracted after 1 July each year, for example the data for 2023/24 will be extracted after 1 July 2024.
- Statistics from youth engagement clinic referrals are not included in this report but are available in a separate report ([Youth Engagement Statistics for Northern Ireland](#) – opens in new window).
- Our statistical practice is regulated by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR). OSR sets the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the [Code of Practice for Statistics \(opens in a new window\)](#) that all producers of official statistics should adhere to. You are welcome to contact us directly with any comments about how we meet these standards. Alternatively, you can contact OSR by emailing regulation@statistics.gov.uk or via the OSR website.

3 | Youth Justice Services

About this chapter

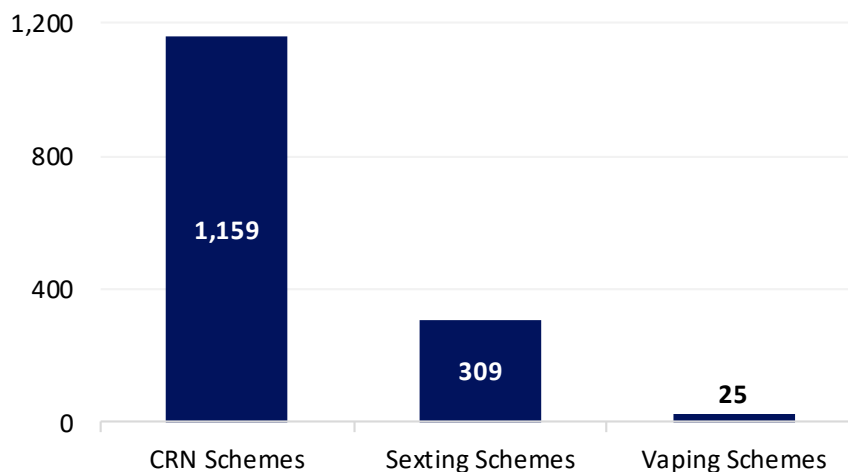
This chapter provides an overview of YJA PSNI referral schemes (3.1) by gender and age and the numbers of YJA referrals and individual children involved (3.2) by gender, age, area of residence and offence category. A full breakdown of all the data is detailed in Appendix 3. Information relating to religion is collected via a Section 75 Equality monitoring form. A response to the monitoring form is not compulsory and as a result the YJS figures are low; a breakdown by religion has therefore not been included.

3.1 YJA PSNI Referral Schemes

A Community Resolution Notice (CRN) can be issued to someone 10 years or over for a range of minor offences. The YJA receives CRN referrals from the Police and delivers educational sessions on topics such as drugs, alcohol, public order or criminal damage with new topic categories being added as appropriate. In addition, YJA delivers awareness raising sessions in relation to social media (sexting) and vaping (introduced in 2023/24). CRNs, sexting schemes and vaping schemes are collectively termed YJA PSNI Referral Schemes.

During 2023/24, there was a total of 1,493 YJA PSNI Referral Schemes for 1,425 children. The 1,493 YJA PSNI Referral Schemes comprised 1,159 CRNs, 309 Sexting Schemes and 25 Vaping Schemes (Figure 1; [Table 1, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 1: YJA PSNI referral schemes, 2023/24

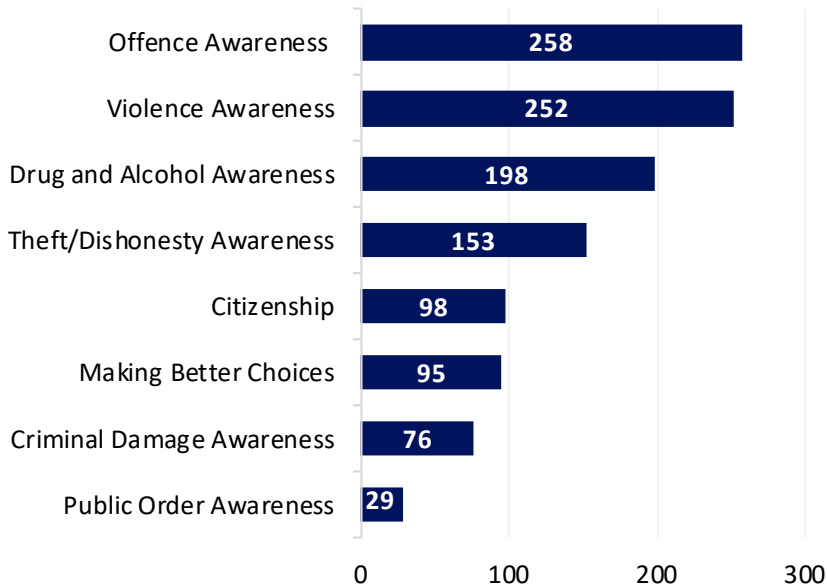


3 Youth Justice Services

CRN Referral Schemes

CRN referral schemes are delivered over a range of topics. In 2023/24 the most common CRN referral schemes were Offence Awareness (258, 22.3%), Violence Awareness (252, 21.7%) and Drug and Alcohol Awareness (198, 17.1%) (Figure 2; [Table 2, Appendix 3](#)).

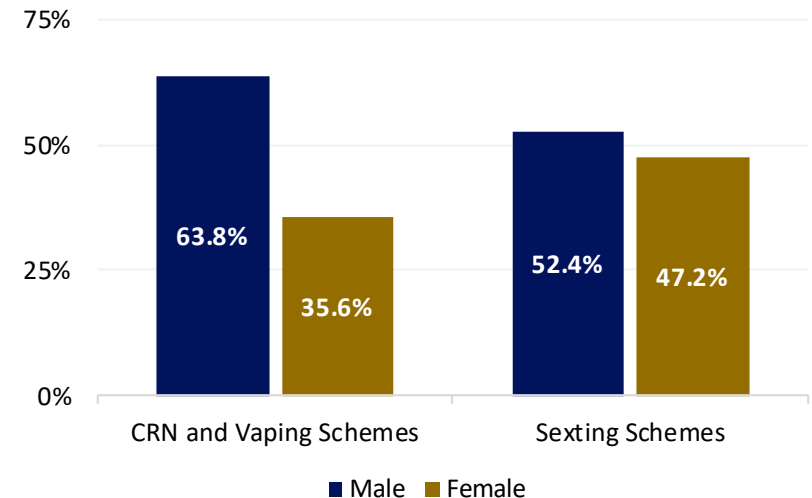
Figure 2: CRN referral schemes by topic, 2023/24



Gender

In 2023/24 males accounted for 61.4% of all YJA PSNI referral schemes while females accounted for 38.0% [Note 1]. The proportional distribution between males and females for Sexting Schemes (52.4% and 47.2% respectively) is much closer than that for CRN and Vaping Schemes (63.8% and 35.6%) [Note 2]. (Figure 3; [Table 3, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 3: YJA PSNI referral schemes by gender, 2023/24



1. Figures for each gender may not sum to 100% as providing gender is optional and for a small proportion is not available.
2. Due to the low numbers of Vaping Schemes, these have been combined with CRN Schemes for the purposes of this analysis.

3 Youth Justice Services

Age

In 2023/24 children aged 14 accounted for the highest number of CRN and Vaping Schemes (209; 17.7%) [Note 1] followed by those aged 13 (208; 17.6%) and those aged 15 (200; 16.9%). In 2023/24, children aged 13 accounted for the highest number of Sexting Schemes (83; 26.9%) followed by those aged 14 (67; 21.7%) and those aged 15 (50; 16.2%). Those aged 10 accounted for the lowest numbers for both CRN and Vaping Schemes (14; 1.2%) and Sexting Schemes (6; 1.9%) (Figures 4 and 5, [Table 4, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 4: Numbers of PSNI referral schemes by age, 2023/24

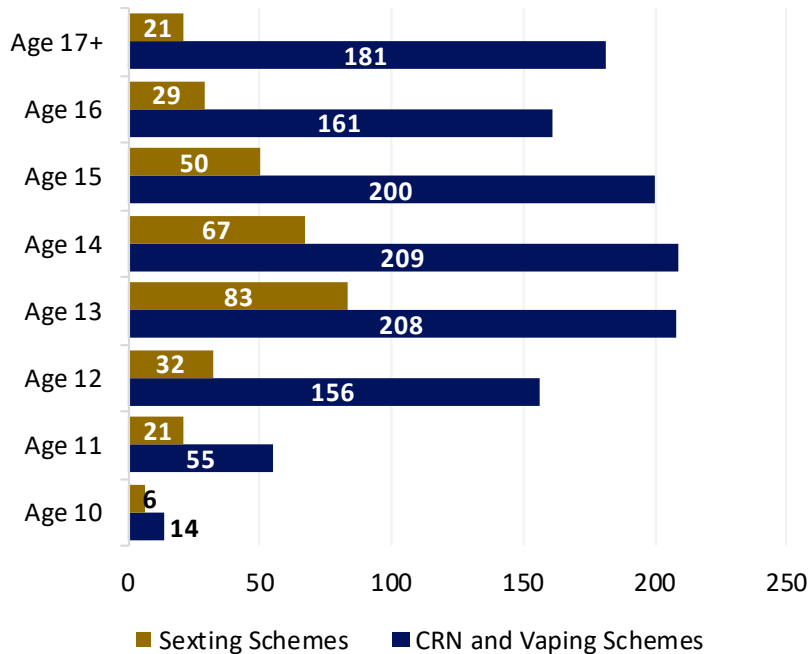
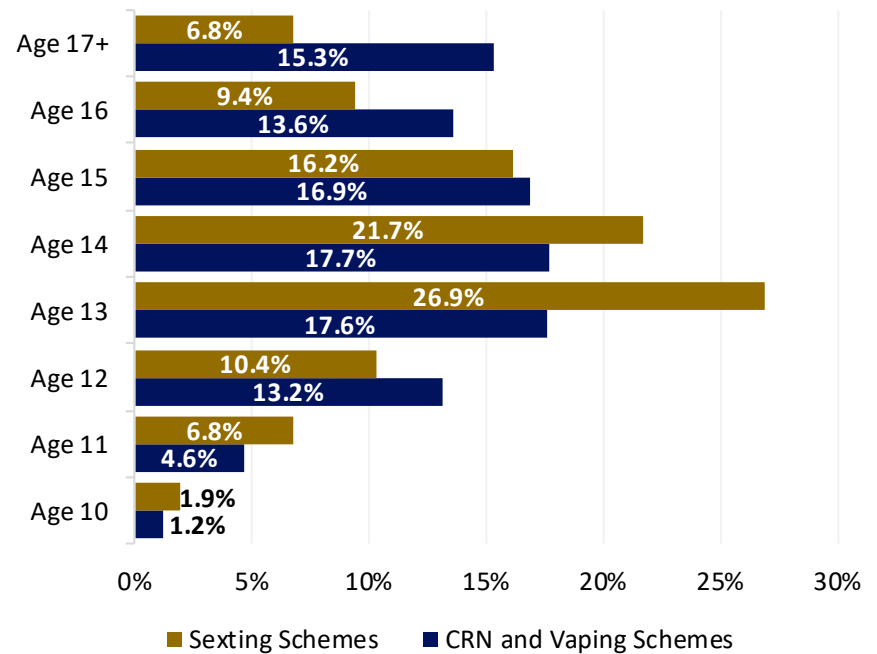


Figure 5: Percentage of PSNI referral schemes by age, 2023/24



1. Due to the low numbers of Vaping Schemes, these have been combined with CRN Schemes for the purposes of this analysis.

3 Youth Justice Services

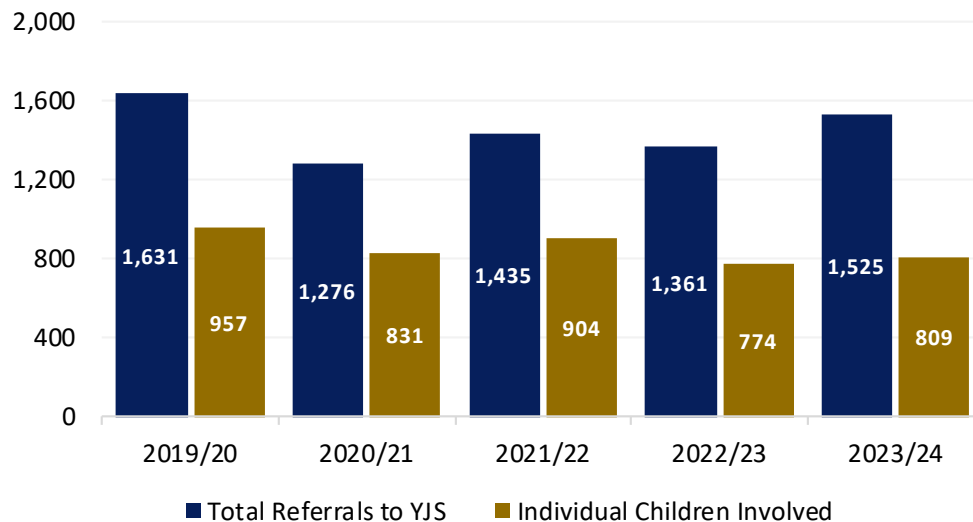
3.2 YJA Referrals

This section provides information in relation to YJA referrals which include statutory (diversionary, court ordered and community order referrals), earlier stage diversion referrals, voluntary referrals and other referrals (PBNI, Bail Support and JJCOs).

Number of children referred and total YJA referrals

During 2023/24, 809 individual children were referred to YJS, equating to 4.0 children in every 1,000 [note 1] and an increase of 4.5% on 2022/23 (774); total referrals to the YJS (1,525) increased by 12.0% on the previous year (1,361). Neither the numbers of children nor the number of YJA referrals have reached the pre-Covid 19 levels in 2019/20 (957 and 1,631 respectively) (Figure 6; [Table 5, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 6: Individual children referred and total referrals to YJS, 2019/20 to 2023/24



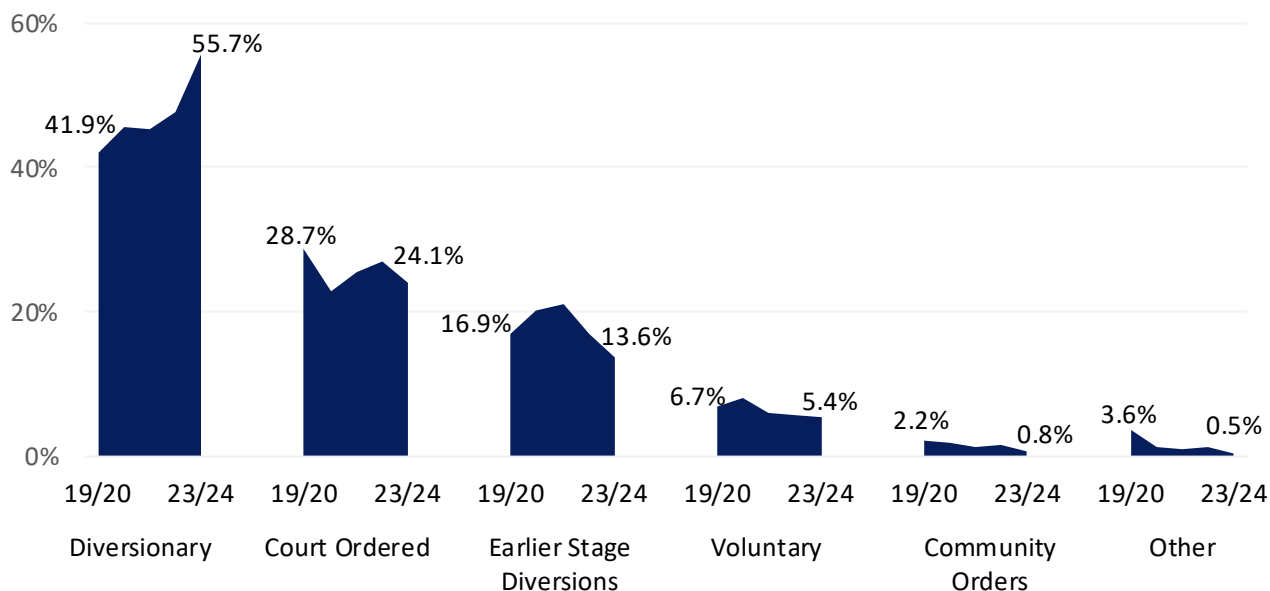
1. Rate per 1,000 population aged 10 to 17. The number of children aged 10 to 17 in Northern Ireland on 30 June 2022 was 201,115. Population data source: [2022 Mid-Year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland \(opens in a new window\)](#)

3 Youth Justice Services

Types of referral

In 2023/24, the proportion of diversionary referrals was at its highest level for the reporting period at 55.7%, an increase of eight percentage points since 2022/23 (47.6%). The proportion of court ordered referrals has ranged between 22.8% and 28.7% in the reporting period with the figure for 2023/24 being 24.1%. In 2023/24 the proportion of Earlier Stage Diversions was 13.6%, a decrease on the previous year (16.9%). The remaining referrals in 2023/24 were made up of voluntary referrals (5.4%), community orders [note 1] (0.8%) and other referrals [note 2] (0.5%) (Figure 2; [Table 6, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 7: YJS referrals by type, 2019/20 to 2023/24



Insight – Earlier stage diversion provides support to children on the cusp of or involved in the early stages of offending to help divert them from the formal criminal justice system.

Of the 193 children who completed Earlier Stage Diversion referrals in 2022/23, less than one in six (15.0%) received a statutory referral to YJA within a year of completion.

1. Community order referrals include attendance centre orders, community responsibility orders and reparation orders.
2. Other referrals include Juvenile Justice Centre orders where YJS are involved in supervising the community element, reducing offending programmes, bail support cases and work with probation.

3 Youth Justice Services

Gender

In 2023/24 males accounted for 74.8% of individual children referred and 71.9% of referrals to the YJS, representing the lowest proportion in each category over the reporting period. In 2023/24 females accounted for 24.6% of children referred, an increase of two percentage points from 2022/23 (22.6%). The proportion of referrals attributable to females increased by seven percentage points over the five year period (2019/20, 20.0%). (Figures 8 and 9; [Tables 7 and 8, Appendix 3](#)).

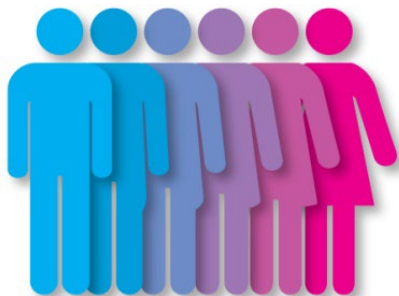


Figure 8: Gender breakdown [note 1] of individual children referred to YJS, 2019/20 to 2023/24

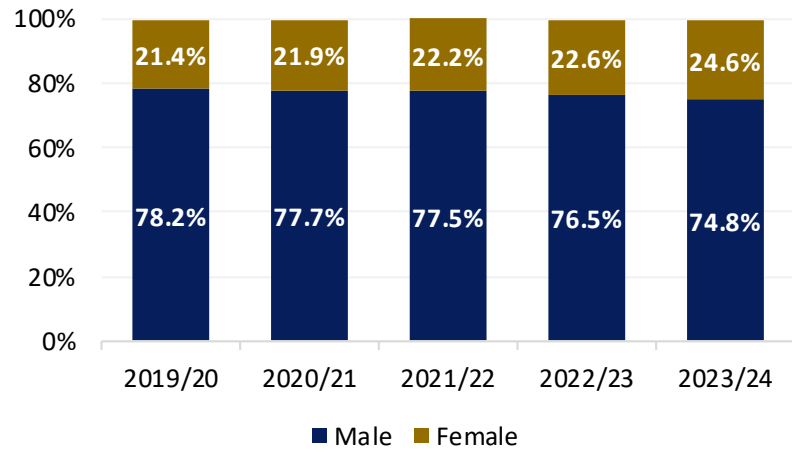
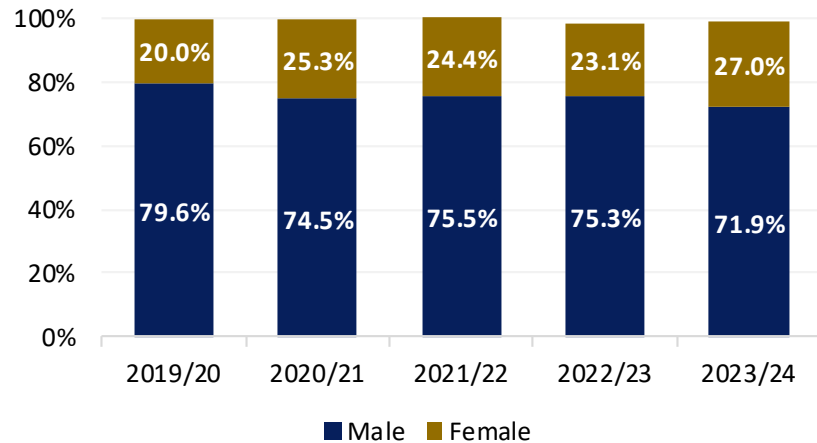


Figure 9: Gender breakdown [note 1] of total referrals to YJS, 2019/20 to 2023/24



1. Figures for each gender may not sum to 100% as providing gender is optional and for a small proportion is not available.

3 Youth Justice Services

Age - Individuals

During the financial year, the proportion of individual children referred in the 10 to 13 year old and 16 year old age brackets increased to their highest level in the five year period (20.8% and 21.5% respectively). The proportion of individual children referred in the 14 year old age bracket in 2023/24 (14.7%) decreased on the previous year (15.2%) while the proportion of individuals aged 17 and over decreased to its lowest level in the reporting period (25.8%). Children aged 15 and over accounted for 64.5% of individual children referred during 2023/24 (Figure 10; [Table 9, Appendix 3](#)).

Age - Referrals

In 2023/24, referrals for children aged 10 to 13 years accounted for 21.1% of all referrals to YJS, an increase of nearly 7 percentage points since 2019/20 (14.3%). The proportion of overall referrals also increased in the 16 year old age bracket to 25.1% from 2022/23 (19.8%). The proportions in each of the remaining age categories decreased with the biggest change being for those aged 15 years old (2023/24, 16.9%; 2022/23, 22.9%). During 2023/24, referrals for those aged 16 and over accounted for 47.7% of all referrals, an increase from 2022/23 (43.5%) (Figure 11; [Table 10, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 10: Age breakdown of individual children referred to YJS, 2019/20 to 2023/24

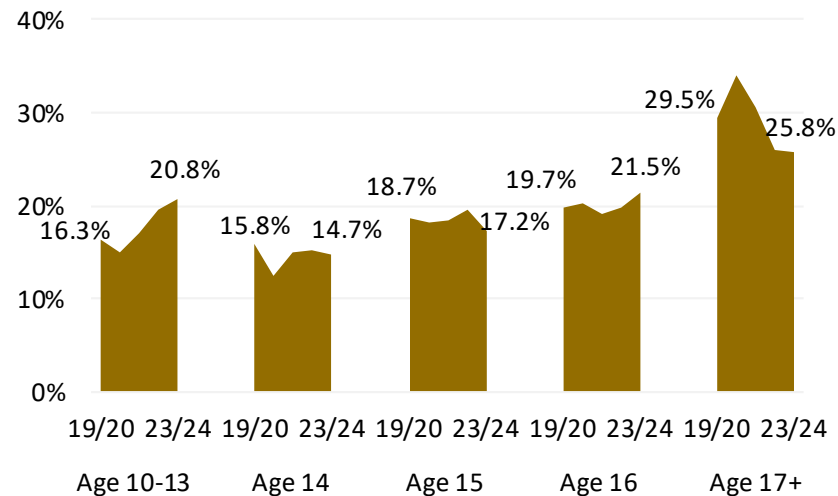
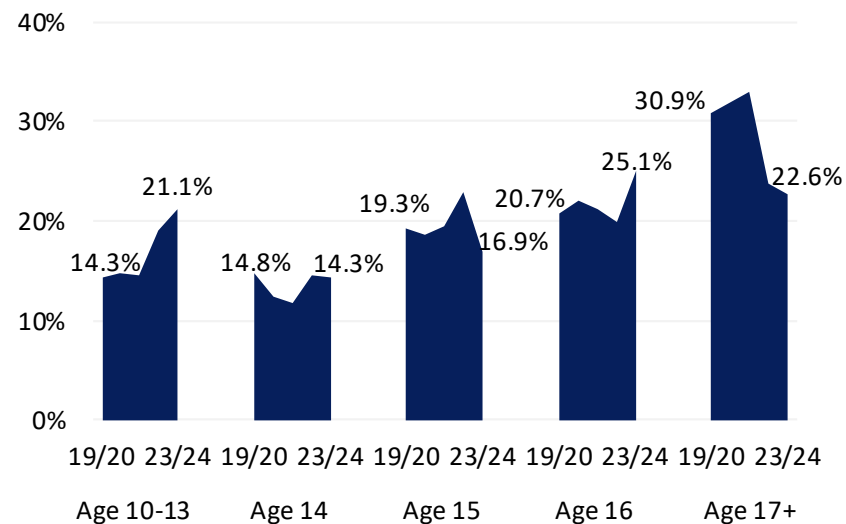


Figure 11: Age breakdown of YJS referrals, 2019/20 to 2023/24

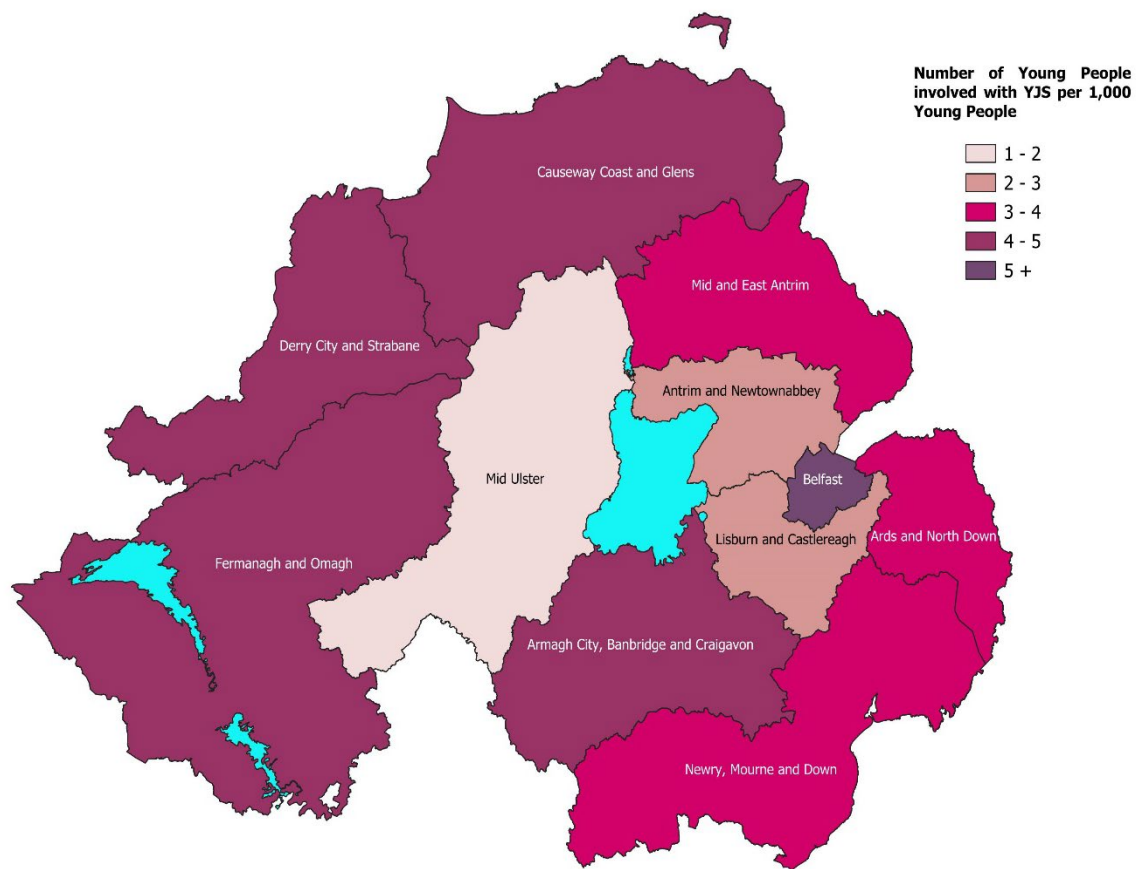


3 Youth Justice Services

Figure 12: Individual children referred to YJS by area of residence [note 2], 2023/24

Individuals by area of residence

Figure 12 shows the number of individual children referred to YJS by local government district in 2023/24. Belfast had the highest rate of children referred at 6.5 per 1,000 population [note 1] aged 10 to 17. This was followed by Fermanagh and Omagh (4.4), Derry City and Strabane (4.3) and Causeway Coast and Glens (4.3). The lowest rates seen were in Antrim and Newtownabbey (2.5) and Mid Ulster (1.6). [Table 11 in Appendix 3](#) provides a breakdown of figures for the last five financial years.



1. Rate per 1,000 population aged 10 to 17. Population data source: [2022 Mid-Year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland \(opens in a new window\)](#)

2. The information is based on each young person's area of residence at the time of their first referral within the given year.

3 | Youth Justice Services

Referrals by area of residence

Table 1 shows the number of referrals by area for the last five years. Belfast had the largest number during 2023/24 (360, 23.6%). This was followed by Ards and North Down (237, 15.5%), Newry, Mourne and Down (151, 9.9%) and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon (148, 9.7%). Mid Ulster had the lowest number of referrals (44, 2.9%) with the remaining districts ranging between 3.8% and 9.2% of referrals ([Table 12, Appendix 3](#)).

Table 1: Referrals by area of residence, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Area	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Antrim and Newtownabbey	111	113	108	90	58
Ards and North Down	159	110	128	155	237
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	140	101	152	147	148
Belfast	406	294	294	231	360
Causeway Coast and Glens	95	74	124	124	124
Derry City and Strabane	176	150	152	154	140
Fermanagh and Omagh	138	73	95	96	96
Lisburn and Castlereagh	93	80	55	89	91
Mid and East Antrim	126	107	147	104	76
Mid Ulster	72	57	73	52	44
Newry, Mourne and Down	112	117	106	118	151
Resident outside NI	0	0	1	1	0
Unassigned [note 1]	3	0	0	0	0
Northern Ireland	1,631	1,276	1,435	1,361	1,525

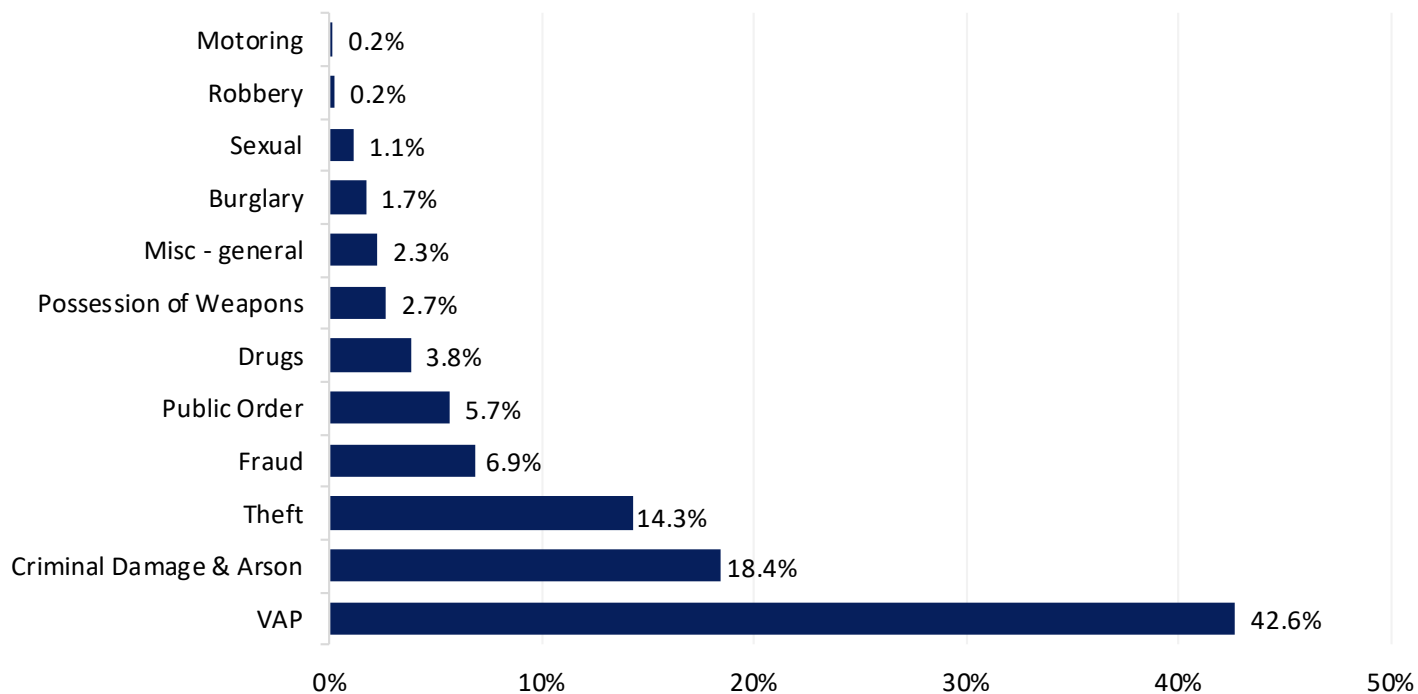
1. Accurate address information was unavailable for these cases.

3 Youth Justice Services

Offence type

Of the 1,236 statutory referrals [note 1] during 2023/24, the highest proportion involved violence against the person (42.6%; 527), followed by criminal damage and arson (18.4%, 228), theft (14.3%; 177), fraud (6.9%; 85) and public order offences (5.7%; 70). The remaining categories each came in at under 4.0% with motoring being the lowest at 0.2% (2) (Figure 13, [Table 13, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 13: Statutory referrals by offence type, 2023/24



1. Statutory referrals includes Diversionary, Court Ordered, Community Orders and Other (JJCO, Probation and Bail).

4 | Custodial Services

About this chapter

This chapter provides an overview of the gender, age, religion, looked after status and area of residence profile of individual children in custody, admissions to and total movements within the JJC. A full breakdown of all the data is detailed in Appendix 3.

Admissions and changes of status (for example when a young person transfers from PACE to remand) within the JJC are collectively referred to as movements. These events constitute the daily workload of the centre. Discharges are not included as all admissions will ultimately result in a discharge.



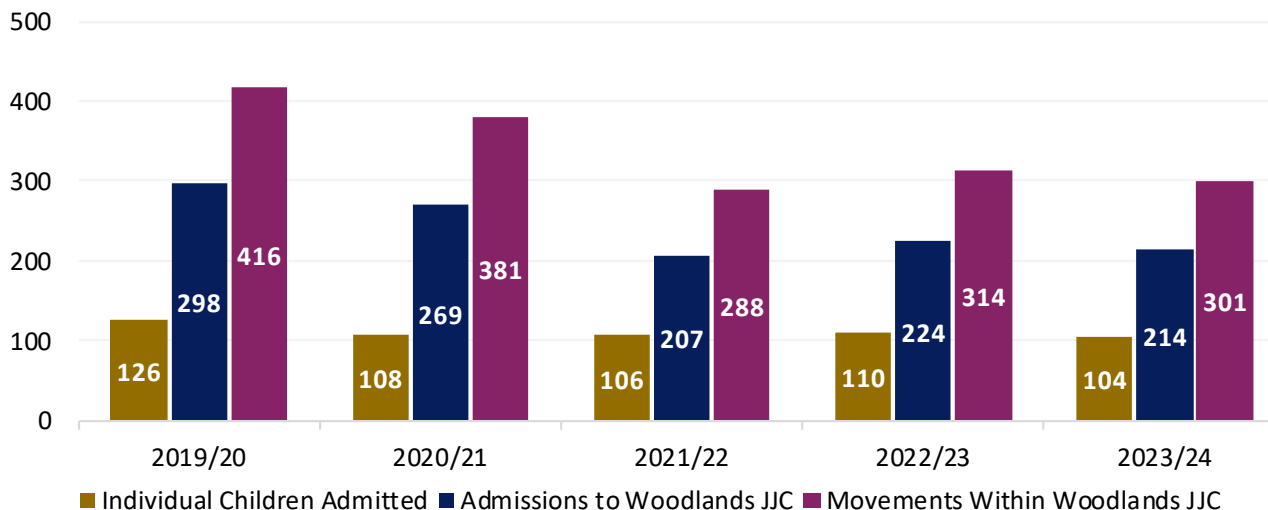
4 | Custodial Services

Individual Children Admitted, Total Admissions and Total Movements within JJC

The number of individual children admitted to the JJC decreased by 5.5% to 104 in 2023/24 (110, 2022/23) and by 17.5% over the five year period (126, 2019/20). The latest figure equates to 0.5 in every 1,000 [note 1] children aged 10-17 in Northern Ireland (Figure 14; [Table 14, Appendix 3](#)).

Over the five year period, admissions to the JJC have ranged between 207 and 298. In 2023/24, the number of admissions to the JJC (214) fell by 4.5% on the previous year (224). There were 301 movements within JJC in 2023/24, a decrease of 4.1% on 2022/23 (314).

Figure 14: Individual children admitted, total admissions and total movements within JJC, 2019/20 to 2023/24



1. Rate per 1,000 population aged 10 to 17. The number of children aged 10 to 17 in Northern Ireland on 30 June 2022 was 201,115.

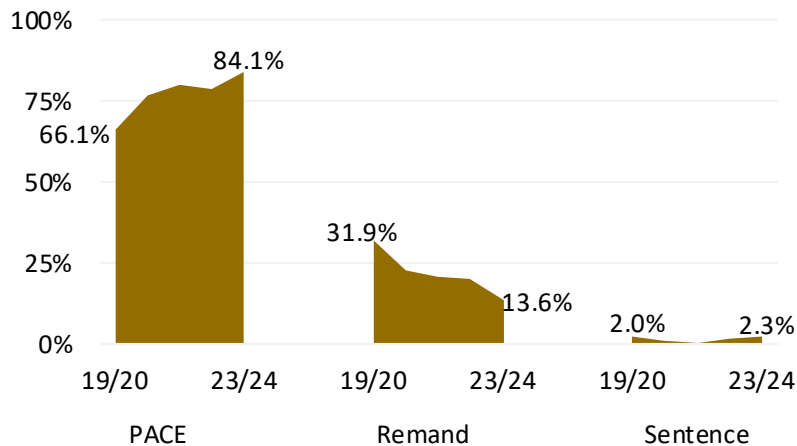
Population data source: [2022 Mid-Year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland \(opens in a new window\)](#)

4 Custodial Services

Admissions and movements by status

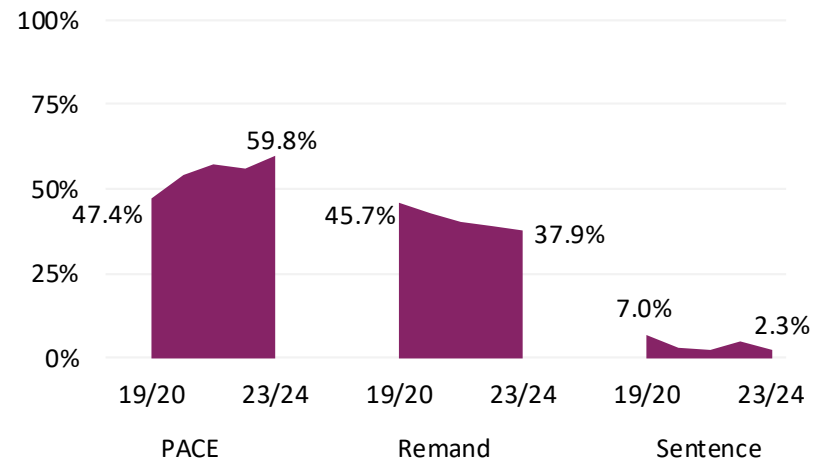
In 2023/24 there were 214 admissions to the JJC (Figure 15) - 180 (84.1%) related to PACE, 29 (13.6%) to remand and 5 (2.3%) to sentence admissions. Over the five year period, the number of admissions attributed to PACE has remained constant, averaging around 185 while the proportion has increased from 66.1% in 2019/20 to its highest level of 84.1% in 2023/24. The proportion of admissions attributed to remand is at its lowest level in the period, representing a decrease of 18 percentage points since 2019/20 (31.9%) (Figure 15; [Table 15, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 15: Admissions by status, 2019/20 to 2023/24



Of the 301 movements within JJC in 2023/24, 180 (59.8%) related to PACE, 114 (37.9%) to remand and 7 (2.3%) were sentence movements. The proportion of PACE movements has increased by 12 percentage points over the five year period (2019/20, 47.4%) while the proportions of both remand and sentence movements have reduced over the same period (2019/20, 45.7% and 7.0% respectively) (Figure 16; [Table 16, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 16: Movements by status, 2019/20 to 2023/24



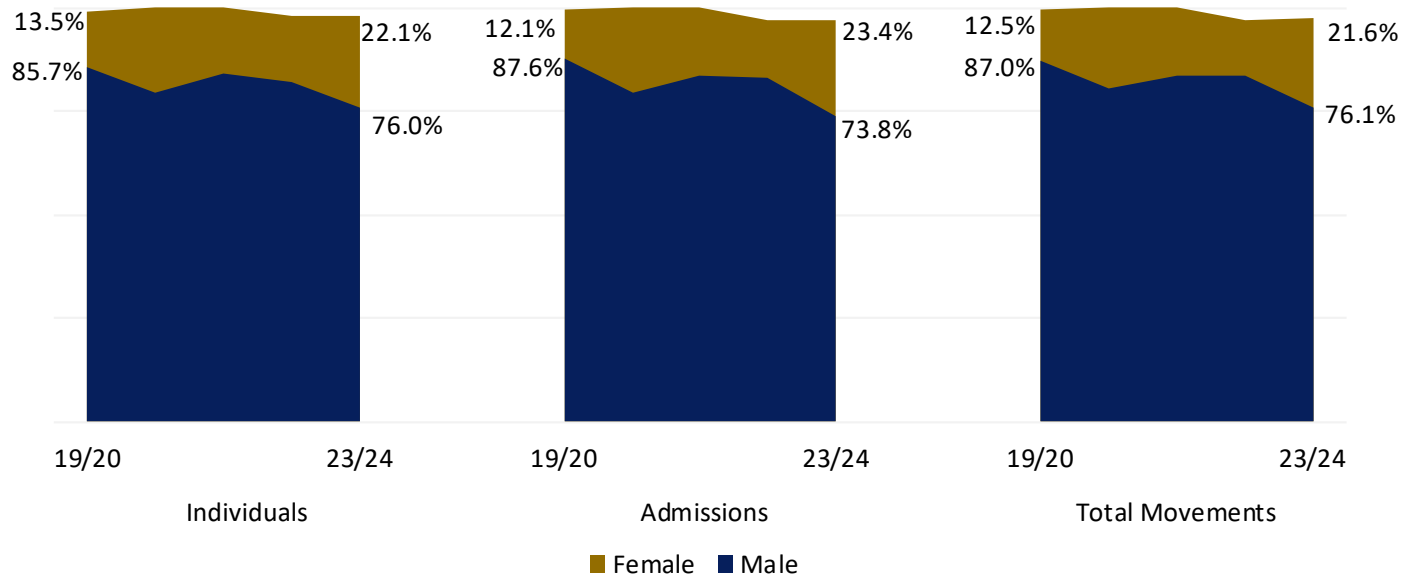
4 | Custodial Services

Gender

Males consistently accounted for the vast majority of individual children in custody, admissions to and movements within the JJC over the last five years (Figure 17; [Tables 17-19, Appendix 3](#)) although the proportions in each category have decreased from 2022/23. In terms of individuals, children in the JJC in 2023/24 were predominantly male (76.0%), a decrease from 81.8% in 2022/23. The proportion of children in JJC who were female has increased from 13.5% in 2019/20 to 22.1% in 2023/24 (Table 17, Appendix 3).

The proportions of admissions and total movements accounted for by males decreased in 2023/24 to 73.8% and 76.1% respectively (2022/23, 83.0% and 83.4%) (Tables 18 and 19, Appendix 3).

Figure 17: Gender breakdown [note 1] of individuals, admissions to and total movements within the JJC, 2019/20 to 2023/24



1. Figures for each gender may not sum to total number of individuals, admissions and total movements as providing gender is optional and for a small proportion is not available.

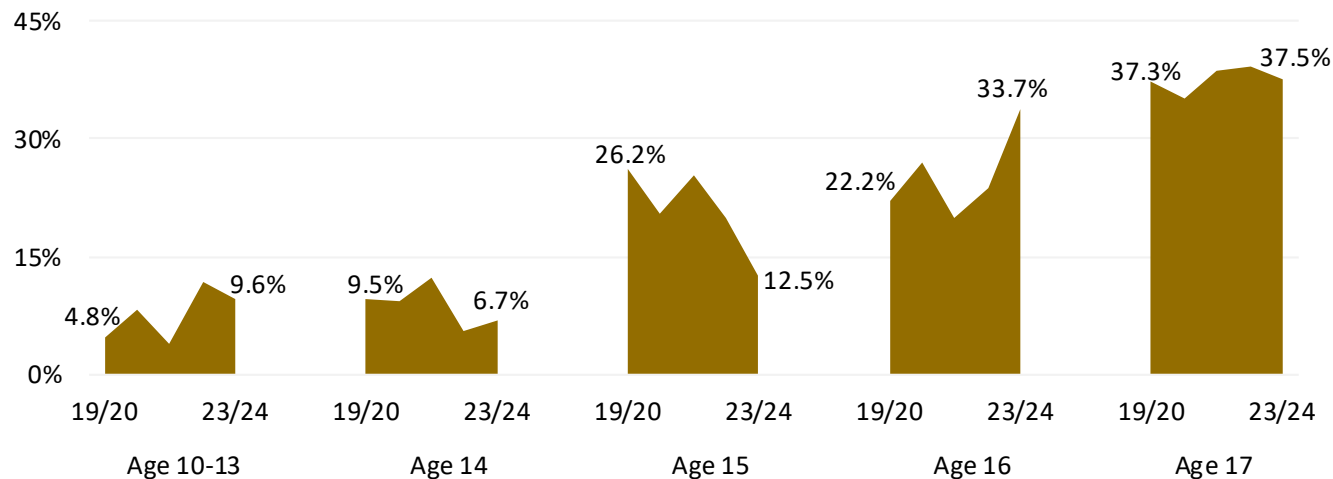
4 Custodial Services

Age

There were 10 (9.6%) children in custody aged 10 to 13, a decrease of two percentage points from 2022/23 (11.8%) (Figure 18; [Table 20, Appendix 3](#)). Children aged 14 accounted for 6.7% (7) of the 104 children in custody while the number and proportion of children in custody during 2023/24 aged 15 were at their lowest levels in the five year period (13, 12.5%).

In 2023/24, 74 (71.2%) of the children in custody were aged 16 and over, an increase from 2022/23 (69, 62.7%). The proportion of 16 year old individuals in 2023/24 (33.7%) has increased by 10 percentage points since 2022/23 (23.6%). The proportion of individual children aged 17 decreased slightly in 2023/24 to 37.5% (2022/23, 39.1%). However, those aged 17 continue to account for the highest proportion of individual children in custody.

Figure 18: Age breakdown of individual children in custody, 2019/20 to 2023/24



4

Custodial Services

Age

The proportion of admissions for those aged 10-13 has decreased from 16.5% in 2022/23 to 12.6% in 2023/24. The proportion of admissions for those aged 16 and over is at its highest level in the five year period (70.1%), an increase of nearly 12 percentage points from 58.4% in 2019/20. The proportions of admissions for 14 and 16 year olds increased in 2023/24 with the proportion in each of the other age groups decreasing from 2022/23 (Figure 19; [Table 21, Appendix 3](#)).

The proportions of movements for those aged 10-13 decreased by six percentage points from 16.6% in 2022/23 to 10.3% in 2023/24. The proportion of movements in this age group and for those aged 15 decreased in 2023/24 while the proportions in each of the other age categories increased. The proportion of movements attributed to those aged 16 and over increased to 72.4%, its highest level in the reporting period (Figure 20; [Table 22, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 19: Age breakdown of admissions to JJC, 2019/20 to 2023/24

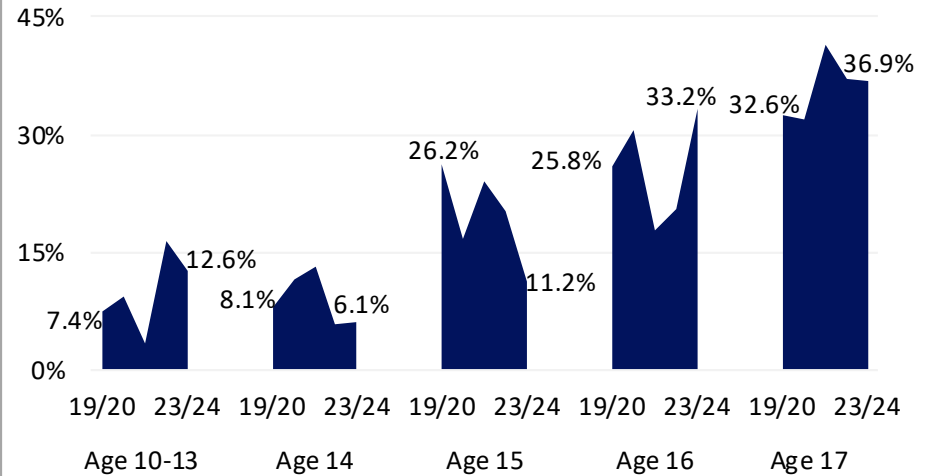
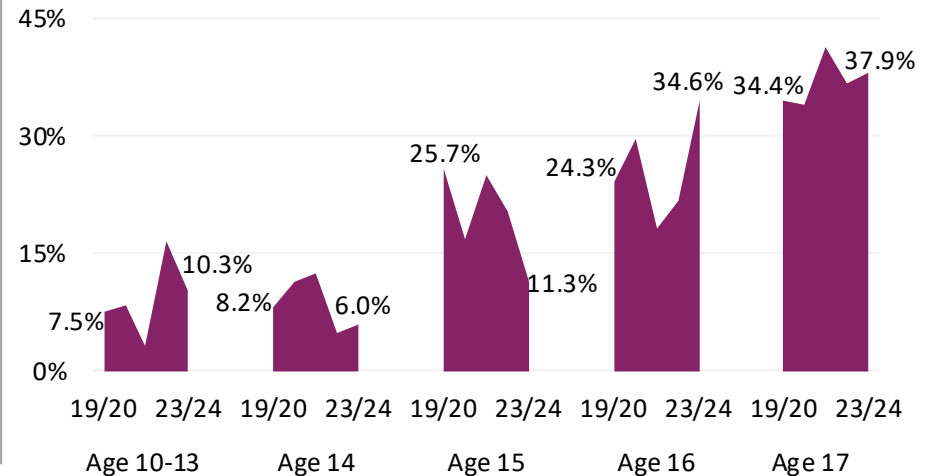


Figure 20: Age breakdown of total movements within JJC, 2019/20 to 2023/24

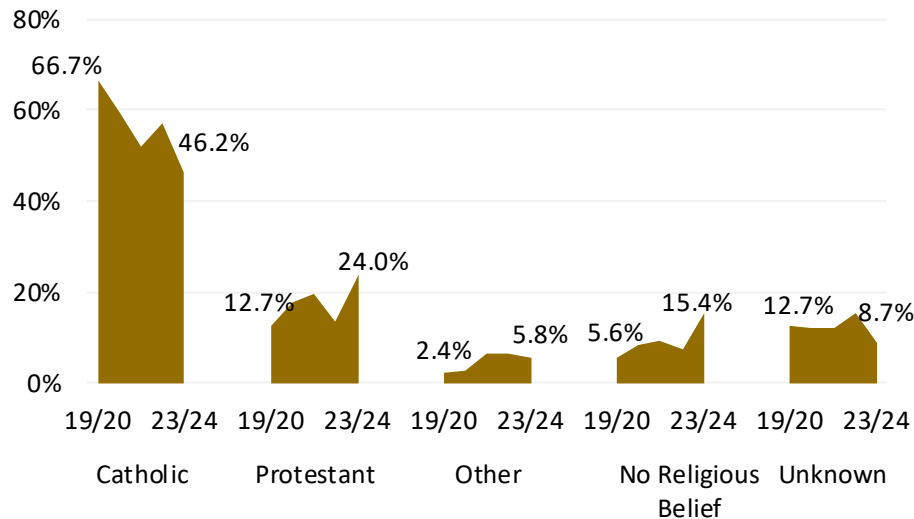


4 | Custodial Services

Religion [Note 1]

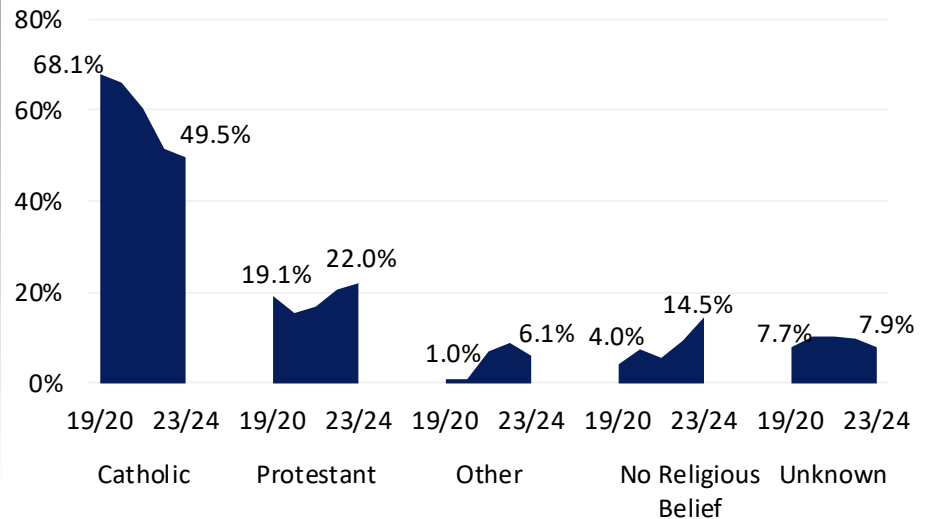
In 2023/24, the proportion of children in custody who were Catholic decreased to 46.2%, it's lowest level in the five year period and a reduction of 11 percentage points from 2022/23 (57.3%). The proportion of children in custody who were Protestant increased to 24.0% in 2023/24, it's highest level in the reporting period. The proportion of children with no religious belief was 15.4%, 5.8% had other religious beliefs and the remaining 8.7% were unknown (Figure 21; [Table 23, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 21: Religion breakdown of individuals involved with JJC, 2019/20 to 2023/24



In 2023/24, the proportion of admissions attributed to Catholic children decreased to its lowest level in the period (49.5%) while Protestant children accounted for 22.0% of admissions, an increase from 2022/23 (20.5%). Those with no religious beliefs accounted for 14.5% of admissions and those with other religious beliefs accounted for 6.1% of admissions. The religious backgrounds of the remaining 7.9% of admissions were unknown (Figure 22; [Table 24, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 22: Total admissions by religion, 2019/20 to 2023/24



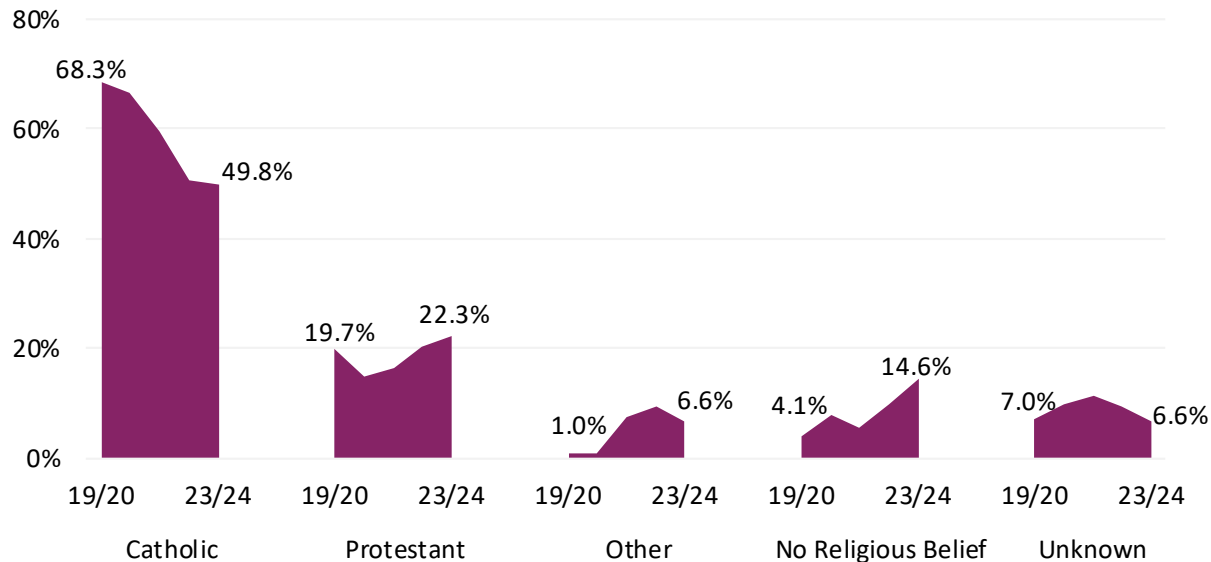
1. Unlike other demographic information this is self-reported by the child and can therefore not be validated.

4 | Custodial Services

Religion [Note 1]

In 2023/24, the proportions of movements attributed to Catholic children (49.8%) decreased to its lowest level in the five year period. The proportion of movements for Protestant children in 2023/24 was 22.3%, an increase from 2022/23 (20.4%). The proportion of movements for children with no religious beliefs increased to its highest level in the period (2023/24, 14.6%). Children with other religious beliefs and those whose religious beliefs were unknown each accounted for 6.6% of movements in 2023/24 (Figure 23; [Table 25, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 23: Movements by religion, 2019/2020 to 2023/24



1. Unlike other demographic information this is self-reported by the child and can therefore not be validated.

4 Custodial Services

Looked after status [Note 1]

Figure 24 shows the proportion of children in custody by their looked after status over the past five years. In 2023/24, 43.3% were in care (36.5% were subject to a care order and 6.7% were voluntary accommodated), representing the highest rate in the five year period. The proportion of children in custody who were not in care (56.7%) decreased on the previous year (58.2%) ([Table 26, Appendix 3](#)).

The proportion of admissions to the JJC involving children subject to care orders or in voluntary accommodation has increased by eight percentage points since 2022/23 (50.4%) to 58.4% in 2023/24. Similarly, the proportion of movements within the JJC attributed to looked after children increased by seven percentage points to 56.1% in 2023/24 (2022/23, 49.0%) (Figures 25 and 26; [Tables 27 and 28, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 24: Looked after status of children in custody, 2019/20 to 2023/24

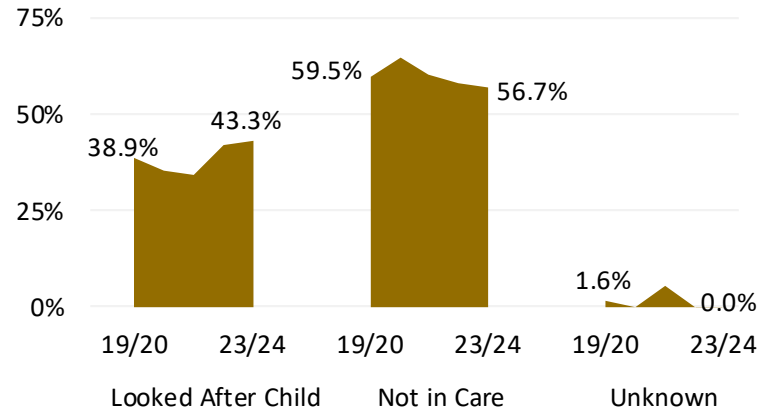


Figure 25: Admissions to JJC by looked after status, 2019/20 to 2023/24

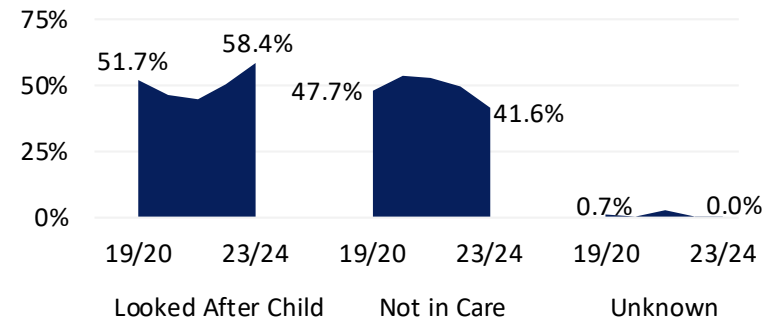
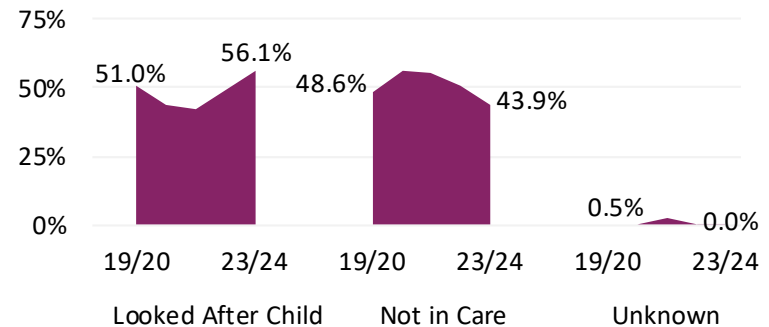


Figure 26: Total movements within JJC by looked after status, 2019/20 to 2023/24



1. Looked after status is determined based on the child's first admission within the relevant financial year.

4 Custodial Services

Area of residence

Table 2 shows that Belfast consistently accounted for the largest number of children in custody over the five year period - 19 of 104 in 2023/24 (18.3%). This was followed by Derry City and Strabane (17, 16.3%) and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon district (13, 12.5%). In 2023/24, Derry City and Strabane had the highest rate per 1,000 population (1.0) [note 1] followed by Belfast and Causeway Coast and Glens (0.6 each) ([Table 29, Appendix 3](#)).

The largest number of admissions to and movements within JJC in 2023/24 came from the Derry City and Strabane area (34 and 51 respectively) ([Tables 30 and 31, Appendix 3](#)).

Table 2: Children in custody by area of residence and rate per 1,000 population [Note 1], 2019/20 to 2023/24

Area	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Antrim and Newtownabbey	3	4	5	5	5
Ards and North Down	12	11	7	11	8
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	10	8	18	13	13
Belfast	40	29	23	22	19
Causeway Coast and Glens	2	5	5	6	8
Derry City and Strabane	22	22	13	16	17
Fermanagh and Omagh	6	1	4	3	6
Lisburn and Castlereagh	4	7	5	4	5
Mid and East Antrim	4	3	4	2	3
Mid Ulster	3	1	7	7	6
Newry, Mourne and Down	11	13	10	13	9
Resident outside NI	5	3	4	8	1
Unassigned [Note 2]	4	1	1	0	4
Total	126	108	106	110	104

Area	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Antrim and Newtownabbey	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Ards and North Down	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.5
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5
Belfast	1.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
Causeway Coast and Glens	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6
Derry City and Strabane	1.4	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.0
Fermanagh and Omagh	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5
Lisburn and Castlereagh	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Mid and East Antrim	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2
Mid Ulster	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Newry, Mourne and Down	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4
Resident outside NI	..	..	..	..	..
Unassigned [Note 2]	..	..	..	..	..
Total	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5

1. Rate per 1,000 population aged 10 to 17. Population data source: [2022 Mid-Year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland \(opens in a new window\)](#).

2. Accurate address information was unavailable for these cases.

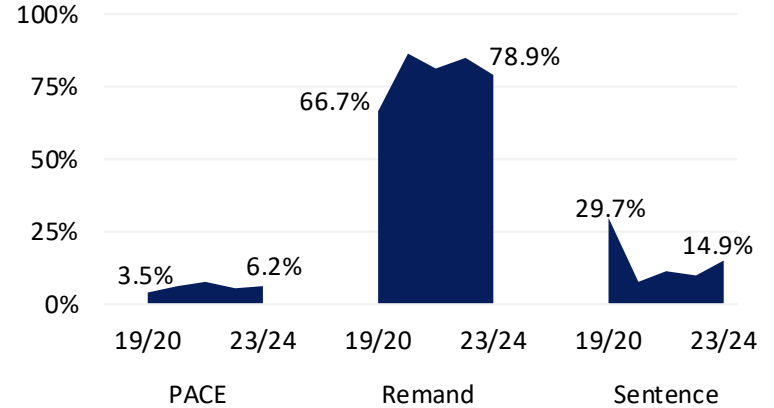
4 | Custodial Services

Average population

In 2023/24 the total average daily population in the JJC was 10 children, a decrease from 2022/23 (11).

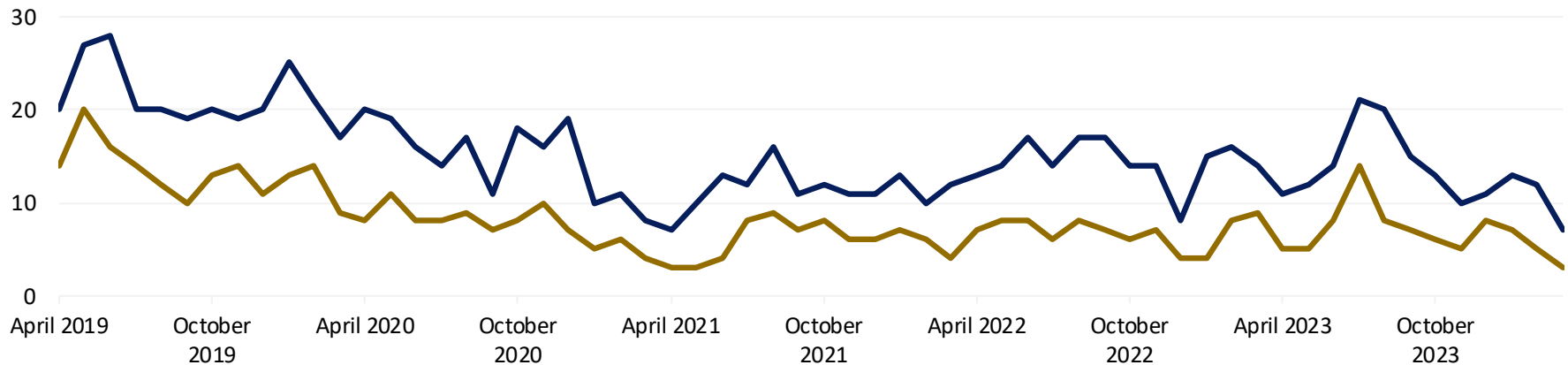
A large number of children are admitted to the JJC under PACE and so will remain in the centre for, at most, a few days. As a result, these admissions have very little impact on the average population with the largest percentage resulting from those children on remand (Figure 27, [Table 32, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 27: Average population by status, 2019/20 to 2023/24



There has been a general reduction in the JJC population over the last 5 years. The highest level recorded in 2023/24 was 21 with annual maximum figures ranging between 16 and 28 over the five year period. The minimum monthly population during 2023/24 was 3, a decrease of 1 on the lowest monthly population seen in 2022/23 (Figure 28).

Figure 28: Maximum and minimum monthly population, 2019/20 to 2023/24



4 | Custodial Services

Number of custody days

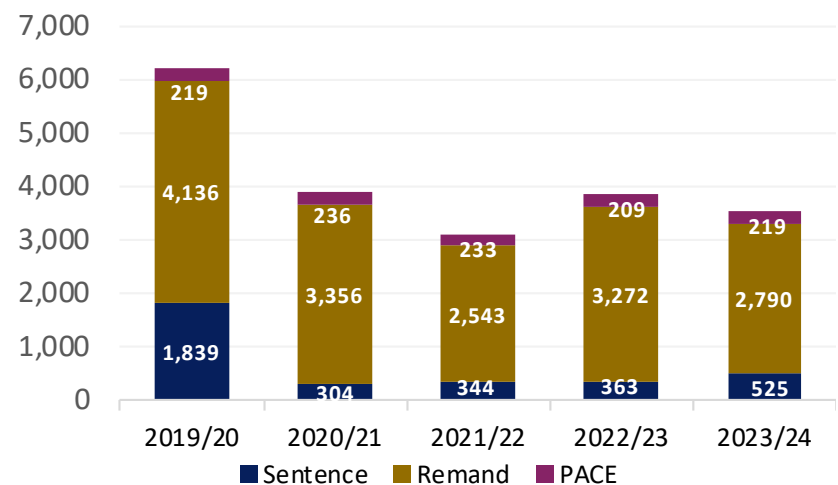
As already mentioned, children admitted to the JJC on PACE will typically reside in the centre for a short period of time, usually one or two days; those on remand or sentence will normally reside in the centre for longer periods of time.

When examining the transactional work of the JJC, movements related to PACE make up a high proportion of the workload (59.8% in 2023/24; see Figure 16). However, because these movements result in a short period of custody within the centre they account for a small proportion of the actual custody days. In contrast, sentence movements account for a much smaller proportion of the workload (2.3% in 2023/24) but contribute to a larger proportion of the custody days, as these movements bring with them a longer stay within the centre.

It should be noted that the minimum unit of measurement is one full day, but many children are admitted for less than this duration. In these cases, this is counted as one custody day.

Figure 29 shows the number of custody days attributed to PACE, remand and sentence movements over the last five years. In 2023/24 there were 3,534 days of custody provided by the JJC, 219 for PACE, 2,790 for remand and 525 for sentence. The number of custody days overall has decreased by 42.9% in the five year period (2019/20, 6,194 days). The proportion of days related to sentence and PACE has increased since 2022/23, while the proportion relating to remand has decreased ([Table 33, Appendix 3](#)).

Figure 29: Custody days by status, 2019/20 to 2023/24



4 | Custodial Services

Custody conversion estimate for PACE admissions

To produce a custody conversion estimate we must first make the assumption that each admission to the JJC can only result in two outcomes: either the individual is released from the JJC without charge, or their status within custody will progress over time from PACE to remand to sentence. This implies that all children who receive a final disposal other than a custodial sentence should not enter custody.

Working on this assumption we can look at the number of PACE admissions compared to the number of PACE outcomes to create a conversion estimate, i.e. of all children admitted into the JJC on PACE how many are subsequently remanded by court or sentenced to custody? There are inherent problems with this approach; for example, some movements in the current year will relate to admissions which occurred in the previous year and admissions during the current year will have subsequent movements in the following year, so the estimate will only ever be an approximation of the “use” of the JJC.

Table 3 shows all PACE admissions in the period and all PACE to remand/sentence movements in the same period. These two figures can then be used to produce a PACE to remand/sentence conversion estimate. The PACE conversion rate increased from 43.2% (76) in 2022/23 to 47.2% (85) in 2023/24, representing a decrease in the percentage of children admitted to the JJC on PACE having been released without having been remanded by court or sentenced to custody.

Table 3: Custody conversion estimate, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	PACE Admissions	PACE to Remand/Sentence	Conversion Rate
2019/20	197	96	48.7%
2020/21	207	102	49.3%
2021/22	165	74	44.8%
2022/23	176	76	43.2%
2023/24	180	85	47.2%

Appendix 1 – Definitions

CUSTODY

Children may be held in the Juvenile Justice Centre either on:

- PACE - These children are held under the Police and Criminal Evidence Order 1989 until they can be questioned by police or until a court date becomes available.
- Remand – These children are remanded in custody either awaiting trial or sentence.
- Sentence – These children are held in custody as a result of a sentence of criminal court. Persons committed in default of a payment of a fine are normally included in this group. The majority of children sentenced to the Juvenile Justice Centre will be given a Juvenile Justice Centre Order (JJCO).

Bail Support

The Youth Justice Agency provides Bails Support services to children. This option is offered as an alternative to remand in custody, which means that the court can consider bail, even where there are ‘substantial grounds’ for refusal.

Fine Default

On occasion, a fine can be seen by the courts as an appropriate disposal for some offences. If the individual fails to pay the fine this can result in them being admitted to custody for a short period of time (usually three or four days). Whilst this is not a common disposal for children there have been a small number over recent years sentenced to the Juvenile Justice Centre for fine default.

Appendix 1 – Definitions

CUSTODY

Juvenile Justice Centre Order (JJCO)

This order was introduced on 31st January 1999 under the Criminal Justice (Children) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, to replace the training school order. It is available for children and is for a period of six months unless the court specifies a longer period not exceeding two years. The period of detention is for one half of the period of the order, with the remainder comprising a period of close supervision in the community.

“YOC Order” (Sentence of Detention in the Young Offenders Centre)

This disposal was introduced on 12th December 1968 as part of the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968. It is available for those over 16 but under 21 years of age, who were convicted of an offence that would normally attract a custodial sentence if the individual was over 21 years of age.

Since 1st November 2012 the Justice Minister has given an undertaking that no young person under 18 years of age will be held anywhere other than the Juvenile Justice Centre. As a result the sentence statistics in this bulletin include children sentenced to Juvenile Justice Centre Orders, YOC Orders and fine default.

Appendix 1 – Definitions

NON-CUSTODIAL DISPOSALS SUPERVISED BY YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICES

Attendance Centre Order (ACO)

Requires an offender, aged under 18, to attend a designated attendance centre and undertake a structured programme of activities. The order should not be less than 12 hours and no more than 24 hours. The times at which the offender attends the centre should avoid interference, so far as practicable, with school hours or working hours.

Community Responsibility Order (CRO)

A form of community service which may be imposed on a child, currently under the age of 18, and combines a specified number of hours to be spent on practical activities and instruction on citizenship. The aggregate number of hours specified in the order must not be less than 20 and not more than 40. In addition, the number of hours spent on instruction in citizenship must not be less than one half of the aggregate number of hours in the order.

Diversionary Youth Conference (DYC)

The PPS decides whether or not to refer a young person to a diversionary conference. These conferences however can only take place where the offender has admitted the offence. A diversionary conference is a meeting or a series of meetings held to consider how a young person should be dealt with for an offence. A conference plan will be produced, which will be presented to the prosecutor for their approval. If the prosecutor accepts the plan, the young person must comply. However, if the young person fails to comply or the prosecutor doesn't accept the plan, then the prosecutor can refer the case to court.

Appendix 1 – Definitions

NON-CUSTODIAL DISPOSALS SUPERVISED BY YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICES

Reparation Order (RO)

Requires the offender to make reparation either to the victim of the offence or some other person affected by it, or to the community at large. The order may currently be made only where the offender is under the age of 18 years. An order must not require the offender to make reparation for more than 24 hours or to make reparation to any person without their consent. Forms which reparation might take could be, for example, repairing property which has been damaged or removing graffiti.

YJA PSNI Referral Schemes

Community Resolution Notice, Sexting and Vaping Schemes are an alternative way of dealing with less serious crimes, allowing PSNI officers to use their professional judgement when dealing with offences such as low level Public Disorder, Criminal Damage, Theft, minor assaults, minor drug related offences, sexting and vaping. These schemes allow victims a quick resolution to the harm caused to them whilst giving those who commit the offence support to avoid further offending and the opportunity to repair the harm caused by their behaviour, without attracting a criminal record. If further work is deemed to be required on completion of these pieces of work, referrals for Earlier Stage Diversion work through CRN, Sexting or Vaping Interventions can be made.

Appendix 1 – Definitions

NON-CUSTODIAL DISPOSALS SUPERVISED BY YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICES

Youth Conference Order (YCO)

Youth conferencing aims to balance the needs of the victim and the young offender by agreeing plans of action which satisfy the victim and create opportunities for the young person to make amends and stop committing crime. A referral to YJS can be made either by diversion via the PPS, or at court at the point of sentencing. In either case the child must admit the offence and be willing to take part in the conference. The conference agrees a plan for the child to complete comprising of various elements relevant to the child, the impact of the offence and their offending behaviour. The period of the plan must not be more than one year. A plan resulting from a court-ordered conference, subsequently agreed by the court, will form the basis of a Youth Conference Order.

Youth Engagement Clinics (YEC)

Youth engagement is a tripartite initiative involving PSNI, PPS and YJA which was piloted in 2012/13 and is now fully implemented and operational across Northern Ireland. This intervention aims to keep children who have offended away from the formal Court environment, whilst encouraging them to take responsibility for their behaviour and to take up whatever support is seen as necessary: to help prevent further offending behaviour and harm. Youth engagement clinics are hosted by YJA and delivered jointly, with Police Youth Diversion Officers. Youth engagement clinics can result in a number of diversionary disposals including informed warnings and restorative cautions (both PSNI led) and diversionary youth conferences, which are taken forward by YJA.

Appendix 2 – Technical Notes

Area Statistics

Area statistics in this publication have been based on the young person's home address postcode at time of admission to the JJC or referral to YJS. If this information is unavailable then, where possible, the most recent home address postcode information held for the individual has been used.

It should also be noted that areas which contain care homes will have a greater concentration of referrals as children in care will have these addresses recorded as their permanent place of residence at the time of referral.

Data Source

The primary data source for this report is the YJA's case management system, used for the day to day management of cases supervised by the Agency, both within a custodial and community setting.

Data quality and validation

Following guidance provided by the Office for National Statistics on the Quality Assessment of Administrative Data, information pertaining to data quality and validation is continually assessed. A number of accuracy, quality assurance/ validation procedures have been conducted upon the dataset used to compile this data series, to ensure the data extracted are accurate, complete and fit for the statistical purposes for which they are to be used. Both automated and manual checks have been carried out at individual case level and data corrected, where possible, to ensure that key fields are complete and logical and a general check of the data as a whole suggests no other anomalies. Full details of the data quality checks and processes that are in place are documented in the [Quality Assurance of Administrative Data \(QAAD\) \(opens in a new window\)](#) document on the DoJ website.

Appendix 2 – Technical Notes

Data quality and validation (continued)

Within the 2017/18 YJS dataset, there was an increase in the number of records where religion had not been recorded. Due to quality concerns related to the missing values, information by religion was removed from 2017/18 onwards. This is under continuing annual review.

Statistical coverage

The statistics in this publication are based on the number of admissions to, and status changes, within JJC and the number of YJS referrals over a five year period (from the financial year 2019/20 to 2023/24). Tables with data from earlier years (from financial year 2008/09 to 2023/24) are available within the Microsoft Excel and OpenDocument Spreadsheet format documents available at www.justice-ni.gov.uk. Validated information in relation to PSNI Referral Schemes has been included for the first time in 2023/24 – historical data is therefore not available.

Analysis and Presentation of Statistics

The data used in this report is extracted using Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio and is validated, maintained and analysed using a combination of Microsoft SQL Server Management and IBM SPSS.

For ease of use, figures are given as whole numbers throughout the text, tables and charts. Percentages and population rates are rounded to one decimal place. Whilst tables of information have been included in Appendix 3, the tables are also published alongside this bulletin in Microsoft Excel and OpenDocument Spreadsheet format, for ease of use.

Appendix 3 – Data Tables

Table 1: YJA PSNI referral schemes, 2023/24

Financial Year	CRN Schemes	Sexting Schemes	Vaping Schemes	Total Schemes
2023/24	1,159	309	25	1,493

Financial Year	CRN Schemes	Sexting Schemes	Vaping Schemes	Total Schemes
2023/24	77.6%	20.7%	1.7%	100.0%

Table 2: CRN referral schemes by topic, 2023/24

CRN Scheme	Number	Percent
Offence Awareness	258	22.3%
Violence Awareness	252	21.7%
Drug and Alcohol Awareness	198	17.1%
Theft/Dishonesty Awareness	153	13.2%
Citizenship	98	8.5%
Making Better Choices	95	8.2%
Criminal Damage Awareness	76	6.6%
Public Order Awareness	29	2.5%
Total	1,159	100.0%

Appendix 3 – Data Tables

Table 3: YJA PSNI referral schemes by gender, 2023/24

Scheme Type	Male	Female	Total Schemes [Note 1]
CRN and Vaping [Note 2]	755	422	1,184
Sexting	162	146	309
Total	917	568	1,493

Scheme Type	Male	Female	Total Schemes [Note 1]
CRN and Vaping [Note 2]	63.8%	35.6%	99.4%
Sexting	52.4%	47.2%	99.7%
Total	61.4%	38.0%	99.5%

1. Figures for each gender may not sum to 100% as providing gender is optional and for a small proportion is not available.
2. Due to the low numbers of Vaping Schemes, these have been combined with CRN Schemes for the purposes of this analysis.

Table 4: YJA PSNI referral schemes by age, 2023/24

Age	CRN and Vaping Schemes [Note 1]	Sexting Schemes	Total Schemes
Age 10	14	6	20
Age 11	55	21	76
Age 12	156	32	188
Age 13	208	83	291
Age 14	209	67	276
Age 15	200	50	250
Age 16	161	29	190
Age 17+	181	21	202
Total	1,184	309	1,493

Age	CRN and Vaping Schemes [Note 1]	Sexting Schemes	Total Schemes
Age 10	1.2%	1.9%	1.3%
Age 11	4.6%	6.8%	5.1%
Age 12	13.2%	10.4%	12.6%
Age 13	17.6%	26.9%	19.5%
Age 14	17.7%	21.7%	18.5%
Age 15	16.9%	16.2%	16.7%
Age 16	13.6%	9.4%	12.7%
Age 17+	15.3%	6.8%	13.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

1. Due to the low numbers of Vaping Schemes, these have been combined with CRN Schemes for the purposes of this analysis.

Appendix 3 – Data Tables

Table 5: Referrals to YJS, number of individual children involved and population comparison, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	Referrals To YJS	Individual Children Involved	NI Population Aged 10-17 [Note 1]	Rate Per 1,000
2019/20	1,631	957	190,991	5.0
2020/21	1,276	831	194,156	4.3
2021/22	1,435	904	197,423	4.6
2022/23	1,361	774	197,423	3.9
2023/24	1,525	809	201,115	4.0

1. Rate per 1,000 population aged 10 to 17. Population data source: [2022 Mid-Year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland \(opens in a new window\)](#)

Table 6: YJS referrals by type, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	Diversionary	Court Ordered	Community Earlier Stage		Voluntary	Other [Note 2]	Total Referrals
			Orders [Note 1]	Diversion			
2019/20	684	468	36	275	110	58	1,631
2020/21	582	291	25	258	102	18	1,276
2021/22	650	366	20	301	85	13	1,435
2022/23	648	367	21	230	79	16	1,361
2023/24	850	367	12	207	82	7	1,525

Financial Year	Diversionary	Court Ordered	Community Earlier Stage		Voluntary	Other [Note 2]	Total Referrals
			Orders [Note 1]	Diversion			
2019/20	41.9%	28.7%	2.2%	16.9%	6.7%	3.6%	100.0%
2020/21	45.6%	22.8%	2.0%	20.2%	8.0%	1.4%	100.0%
2021/22	45.3%	25.5%	1.4%	21.0%	5.9%	0.9%	100.0%
2022/23	47.6%	27.0%	1.5%	16.9%	5.8%	1.2%	100.0%
2023/24	55.7%	24.1%	0.8%	13.6%	5.4%	0.5%	100.0%

1. Community order referrals include attendance centre orders, community responsibility orders and reparation orders.
2. Other referrals include Juvenile Justice Centre orders where YJS are involved in supervising the community element, reducing offending programme, bail support cases and work with probation.

Appendix 3 – Data Tables

Table 7: Individual children referred to YJS by gender, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	Male	Female	Total Children [Note 1]
2019/20	748	205	957
2020/21	646	182	831
2021/22	701	201	904
2022/23	592	175	774
2023/24	605	199	809

Financial Year	Male	Female	Total Children [Note 1]
2019/20	78.2%	21.4%	99.6%
2020/21	77.7%	21.9%	99.6%
2021/22	77.5%	22.2%	99.8%
2022/23	76.5%	22.6%	99.1%
2023/24	74.8%	24.6%	99.4%

1. Figures for each gender may not sum to total number of children as providing gender is optional and for a small proportion is not available.

Table 8: YJS referrals by gender, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	Male	Female	Total Referrals [Note 1]
2019/20	1,299	327	1,631
2020/21	950	323	1,276
2021/22	1,083	350	1,435
2022/23	1,025	315	1,361
2023/24	1,096	412	1,525

Financial Year	Male	Female	Total Referrals [Note 1]
2019/20	79.6%	20.0%	99.7%
2020/21	74.5%	25.3%	99.8%
2021/22	75.5%	24.4%	99.9%
2022/23	75.3%	23.1%	98.5%
2023/24	71.9%	27.0%	98.9%

1. Figures for each gender may not sum to total number of referrals as providing gender is optional and for a small proportion is not available.

Appendix 3 – Data Tables

Table 9: Individual children referred to YJS by age, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	10 to 13	14	15	16	17 and over	Total Children
2019/20	156	151	179	189	282	957
2020/21	124	104	151	169	283	831
2021/22	154	135	167	172	276	904
2022/23	151	118	151	153	201	774
2023/24	168	119	139	174	209	809

Financial Year	10 to 13	14	15	16	17 and over	Total Children
2019/20	16.3%	15.8%	18.7%	19.7%	29.5%	100.0%
2020/21	14.9%	12.5%	18.2%	20.3%	34.1%	100.0%
2021/22	17.0%	14.9%	18.5%	19.0%	30.5%	100.0%
2022/23	19.5%	15.2%	19.5%	19.8%	26.0%	100.0%
2023/24	20.8%	14.7%	17.2%	21.5%	25.8%	100.0%

Table 10: YJS referrals by age, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	10 to 13	14	15	16	17 and over	Total Referrals
2019/20	233	242	314	338	504	1,631
2020/21	189	159	238	282	408	1,276
2021/22	208	168	280	305	474	1,435
2022/23	259	198	312	270	322	1,361
2023/24	322	218	257	383	345	1,525

Financial Year	10 to 13	14	15	16	17 and over	Total Referrals
2019/20	14.3%	14.8%	19.3%	20.7%	30.9%	100.0%
2020/21	14.8%	12.5%	18.7%	22.1%	32.0%	100.0%
2021/22	14.5%	11.7%	19.5%	21.3%	33.0%	100.0%
2022/23	19.0%	14.5%	22.9%	19.8%	23.7%	100.0%
2023/24	21.1%	14.3%	16.9%	25.1%	22.6%	100.0%

Appendix 3 – Data Tables

Table 11: Individual children referred to YJS by area of residence and rate per 1,000 population [Note 1], 2019/20 to 2023/24

Area	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Antrim and Newtownabbey	82	86	79	59	39
Ards and North Down	78	61	44	65	63
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	87	62	91	91	101
Belfast	247	206	205	160	219
Causeway Coast and Glens	56	57	83	67	62
Derry City and Strabane	94	85	77	62	72
Fermanagh and Omagh	52	46	68	63	57
Lisburn and Castlereagh	54	40	39	38	46
Mid and East Antrim	76	81	88	62	50
Mid Ulster	43	41	53	34	28
Newry, Mourne and Down	85	66	77	72	72
Resident outside NI	0	0	0	1	0
Unassigned [Note 2]	3	0	0	0	0
Northern Ireland	957	831	904	774	809

Area	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Antrim and Newtownabbey	5.5	5.7	5.2	3.9	2.5
Ards and North Down	5.1	3.9	2.8	4.1	3.9
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	3.8	2.6	3.7	3.7	4.0
Belfast	7.8	6.4	6.3	4.9	6.5
Causeway Coast and Glens	4.0	4.0	5.8	4.7	4.3
Derry City and Strabane	5.9	5.3	4.7	3.8	4.3
Fermanagh and Omagh	4.2	3.7	5.4	5.0	4.4
Lisburn and Castlereagh	3.9	2.8	2.6	2.5	3.0
Mid and East Antrim	5.7	5.9	6.5	4.6	3.6
Mid Ulster	2.6	2.4	3.1	2.0	1.6
Newry, Mourne and Down	4.3	3.3	3.8	3.5	3.5
Resident outside NI	..	..	..	..	..
Unassigned [Note 2]	..	..	..	..	..
Northern Ireland	5.0	4.3	4.6	3.9	4.0

1. Rate per 1,000 population aged 10 to 17. Population data source: [2022 Mid-Year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland \(opens in a new window\)](#)

2. Accurate address information was unavailable for these cases.

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Table 12: Referrals to YJS by area of residence, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Area	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Antrim and Newtownabbey	111	113	108	90	58
Ards and North Down	159	110	128	155	237
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	140	101	152	147	148
Belfast	406	294	294	231	360
Causeway Coast and Glens	95	74	124	124	124
Derry City and Strabane	176	150	152	154	140
Fermanagh and Omagh	138	73	95	96	96
Lisburn and Castlereagh	93	80	55	89	91
Mid and East Antrim	126	107	147	104	76
Mid Ulster	72	57	73	52	44
Newry, Mourne and Down	112	117	106	118	151
Resident outside NI	0	0	1	1	0
Unassigned [Note 1]	3	0	0	0	0
Northern Ireland	1,631	1,276	1,435	1,361	1,525

1. Accurate address information was unavailable for these cases

Table 13: Statutory referrals [note 1] by offence group [note 2], 2023/24

Offence Group	Number	Percent
VAP	527	42.6%
Criminal Damage & Arson	228	18.4%
Theft	177	14.3%
Fraud	85	6.9%
Public Order	70	5.7%
Drugs	47	3.8%
Possession of Weapons	33	2.7%
Misc - general	28	2.3%
Burglary	21	1.7%
Sexual	14	1.1%
Robbery	3	0.2%
Motoring	2	0.2%
No offence recorded [Note 3]	1	0.1%
Total	1,236	100.0%

1. Statutory referrals includes Diversionary, Court Ordered, Community Orders and Other (JCO, Probation and Bail). 2. Offence Groups is a statistical grouping created so NI statistics are comparable. 3. No offence recorded in a Bail Support – Court referral as offence already included.

Appendix 3 – Data Tables

Table 14: Admissions to and movements within JJC and children in custody, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	Movements Within Woodlands	Admissions to JJC Woodlands	Individual Children Admitted	NI Population Aged 10-17	Rate Per 1,000 [Note 1]
2019/20	416	298	126	190,991	0.7
2020/21	381	269	108	194,156	0.6
2021/22	288	207	106	197,423	0.5
2022/23	314	224	110	197,423	0.6
2023/24	301	214	104	201,115	0.5

1. Rate per 1,000 population aged 10 to 17. Population data source: [2022 Mid-Year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland \(opens in a new window\)](#)

Table 15: JJC admissions by status, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	PACE	Remand	Sentence	Total Admissions
2019/20	197	95	6	298
2020/21	207	60	2	269
2021/22	165	42	0	207
2022/23	176	45	3	224
2023/24	180	29	5	214

Financial Year	PACE	Remand	Sentence	Total Admissions
2019/20	66.1%	31.9%	2.0%	100.0%
2020/21	77.0%	22.3%	0.7%	100.0%
2021/22	79.7%	20.3%	0.0%	100.0%
2022/23	78.6%	20.1%	1.3%	100.0%
2023/24	84.1%	13.6%	2.3%	100.0%

Table 16: JJC movements by status, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	PACE	Remand	Sentence	Total Movements
2019/20	197	190	29	416
2020/21	207	162	12	381
2021/22	165	116	7	288
2022/23	176	123	15	314
2023/24	180	114	7	301

Financial Year	PACE	Remand	Sentence	Total Movements
2019/20	47.4%	45.7%	7.0%	100.0%
2020/21	54.3%	42.5%	3.1%	100.0%
2021/22	57.3%	40.3%	2.4%	100.0%
2022/23	56.1%	39.2%	4.8%	100.0%
2023/24	59.8%	37.9%	2.3%	100.0%

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Table 17: Individual children in custody by gender, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	Male	Female	Total Children [Note 1]
2019/20	108	17	126
2020/21	86	22	108
2021/22	89	17	106
2022/23	90	18	110
2023/24	79	23	104

Financial Year	Male	Female	Total Children [Note 1]
2019/20	85.7%	13.5%	99.2%
2020/21	79.6%	20.4%	100.0%
2021/22	84.0%	16.0%	100.0%
2022/23	81.8%	16.4%	98.2%
2023/24	76.0%	22.1%	98.1%

Table 18: Admissions to JJC by gender, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	Male	Female	Total Admissions [Note 1]
2019/20	261	36	298
2020/21	214	55	269
2021/22	173	34	207
2022/23	186	31	224
2023/24	158	50	214

Financial Year	Male	Female	Total Admissions [Note 1]
2019/20	87.6%	12.1%	99.7%
2020/21	79.6%	20.4%	100.0%
2021/22	83.6%	16.4%	100.0%
2022/23	83.0%	13.8%	96.9%
2023/24	73.8%	23.4%	97.2%

Table 19: Movements within JJC by gender, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	Male	Female	Total Movements [Note 1]
2019/20	362	52	416
2020/21	307	74	381
2021/22	241	47	288
2022/23	262	42	314
2022/23	229	65	301

Financial Year	Male	Female	Total Movements [Note 1]
2019/20	87.0%	12.5%	99.5%
2020/21	80.6%	19.4%	100.0%
2021/22	83.7%	16.3%	100.0%
2022/23	83.4%	13.4%	96.8%
2023/24	76.1%	21.6%	97.7%

1. Figures for each gender may not sum to total number of children, admissions or movements as providing gender is optional and for a small proportion is not available.

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Table 20: Individual children in custody by age, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	10 to 13	14	15	16	17 and over	Total Children
2019/20	6	12	33	28	47	126
2020/21	9	10	22	29	38	108
2021/22	4	13	27	21	41	106
2022/23	13	6	22	26	43	110
2023/24	10	7	13	35	39	104

Financial Year	10 to 13	14	15	16	17 and over	Total Children
2019/20	4.8%	9.5%	26.2%	22.2%	37.3%	100.0%
2020/21	8.3%	9.3%	20.4%	26.9%	35.2%	100.0%
2021/22	3.8%	12.3%	25.5%	19.8%	38.7%	100.0%
2022/23	11.8%	5.5%	20.0%	23.6%	39.1%	100.0%
2022/23	9.6%	6.7%	12.5%	33.7%	37.5%	100.0%

Table 21: Admissions to JJC by age, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	10 to 13	14	15	16	17 and over	Total Admissions
2019/20	22	24	78	77	97	298
2020/21	25	31	45	82	86	269
2021/22	7	27	50	37	86	207
2022/23	37	13	45	46	83	224
2023/24	27	13	24	71	79	214

Financial Year	10 to 13	14	15	16	17 and over	Total Admissions
2019/20	7.4%	8.1%	26.2%	25.8%	32.6%	100.0%
2020/21	9.3%	11.5%	16.7%	30.5%	32.0%	100.0%
2021/22	3.4%	13.0%	24.2%	17.9%	41.5%	100.0%
2022/23	16.5%	5.8%	20.1%	20.5%	37.1%	100.0%
2023/24	12.6%	6.1%	11.2%	33.2%	36.9%	100.0%

Table 22: Movements within JJC by age, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	10 to 13	14	15	16	17 and over	Total Movements
2019/20	31	34	107	101	143	416
2020/21	32	43	64	113	129	381
2021/22	9	36	72	52	119	288
2022/23	52	15	64	68	115	314
2023/24	31	18	34	104	114	301

Financial Year	10 to 13	14	15	16	17 and over	Total Movements
2019/20	7.5%	8.2%	25.7%	24.3%	34.4%	100.0%
2020/21	8.4%	11.3%	16.8%	29.7%	33.9%	100.0%
2021/22	3.1%	12.5%	25.0%	18.1%	41.3%	100.0%
2022/23	16.6%	4.8%	20.4%	21.7%	36.6%	100.0%
2023/24	10.3%	6.0%	11.3%	34.6%	37.9%	100.0%

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Table 23: Individual children in custody by religion [note 1], 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	No Religious					Total Children
	Catholic	Protestant	Other	Belief	Unknown	
2019/20	84	16	3	7	16	126
2020/21	64	19	3	9	13	108
2021/22	55	21	7	10	13	106
2022/23	63	15	7	8	17	110
2023/24	48	25	6	16	9	104

Financial Year	No Religious					Total Children
	Catholic	Protestant	Other	Belief	Unknown	
2019/20	66.7%	12.7%	2.4%	5.6%	12.7%	100.0%
2020/21	59.3%	17.6%	2.8%	8.3%	12.0%	100.0%
2021/22	51.9%	19.8%	6.6%	9.4%	12.3%	100.0%
2022/23	57.3%	13.6%	6.4%	7.3%	15.5%	100.0%
2023/24	46.2%	24.0%	5.8%	15.4%	8.7%	100.0%

Table 24: Admissions to JJC by religion [note 1], 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	No Religious					Total Admissions
	Catholic	Protestant	Other	Belief	Unknown	
2019/20	203	57	3	12	23	298
2020/21	178	41	3	20	27	269
2021/22	125	35	14	12	21	207
2022/23	115	46	20	21	22	224
2023/24	106	47	13	31	17	214

Financial Year	No Religious					Total Admissions
	Catholic	Protestant	Other	Belief	Unknown	
2019/20	68.1%	19.1%	1.0%	4.0%	7.7%	100.0%
2020/21	66.2%	15.2%	1.1%	7.4%	10.0%	100.0%
2021/22	60.4%	16.9%	6.8%	5.8%	10.1%	100.0%
2022/23	51.3%	20.5%	8.9%	9.4%	9.8%	100.0%
2023/24	49.5%	22.0%	6.1%	14.5%	7.9%	100.0%

Table 25: Movements within JJC by religion [note 1], 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	No Religious					Total Movements
	Catholic	Protestant	Other	Belief	Unknown	
2019/20	284	82	4	17	29	416
2020/21	254	56	4	30	37	381
2021/22	171	47	21	16	33	288
2022/23	159	64	30	31	30	314
2023/24	150	67	20	44	20	301

Financial Year	No Religious					Total Movements
	Catholic	Protestant	Other	Belief	Unknown	
2019/20	68.3%	19.7%	1.0%	4.1%	7.0%	100.0%
2020/21	66.7%	14.7%	1.0%	7.9%	9.7%	100.0%
2021/22	59.4%	16.3%	7.3%	5.6%	11.5%	100.0%
2022/23	50.6%	20.4%	9.6%	9.9%	9.6%	100.0%
2023/24	49.8%	22.3%	6.6%	14.6%	6.6%	100.0%

1. Unlike other demographic information this is self-reported by the child and can therefore not be validated.

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Table 26: Individual children in custody by looked after status, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	Subject to Care Order	Voluntary Accommodated	Not in Care	Unknown	Total Children
2019/20	30	19	75	2	126
2020/21	27	11	70	0	108
2021/22	33	3	64	6	106
2022/23	36	10	64	0	110
2023/24	38	7	59	0	104

Financial Year	Subject to Care Order	Voluntary Accommodated	Not in Care	Unknown	Total Children
2019/20	23.8%	15.1%	59.5%	1.6%	100.0%
2020/21	25.0%	10.2%	64.8%	0.0%	100.0%
2021/22	31.1%	2.8%	60.4%	5.7%	100.0%
2022/23	32.7%	9.1%	58.2%	0.0%	100.0%
2023/24	36.5%	6.7%	56.7%	0.0%	100.0%

Table 27: Admissions to JJC by looked after status, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	Subject to Care Order	Voluntary Accommodated	Not in Care	Unknown	Total Admissions
2019/20	92	62	142	2	298
2020/21	83	42	144	0	269
2021/22	77	15	109	6	207
2022/23	95	18	110	1	224
2023/24	105	20	89	0	214

Financial Year	Subject to Care Order	Voluntary Accommodated	Not in Care	Unknown	Total Admissions
2019/20	30.9%	20.8%	47.7%	0.7%	100.0%
2020/21	30.9%	15.6%	53.5%	0.0%	100.0%
2021/22	37.2%	7.2%	52.7%	2.9%	100.0%
2022/23	42.4%	8.0%	49.1%	0.4%	100.0%
2023/24	49.1%	9.3%	41.6%	0.0%	100.0%

Table 28: Movements within JJC by looked after status, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	Subject to Care Order	Voluntary Accommodated	Not in Care	Unknown	Total Movements
2019/20	129	83	202	2	416
2020/21	116	50	215	0	381
2021/22	100	21	159	8	288
2022/23	129	25	159	1	314
2023/24	139	30	132	0	301

Financial Year	Subject to Care Order	Voluntary Accommodated	Not in Care	Unknown	Total Movements
2019/20	31.0%	20.0%	48.6%	0.5%	100.0%
2020/21	30.4%	13.1%	56.4%	0.0%	100.0%
2021/22	34.7%	7.3%	55.2%	2.8%	100.0%
2022/23	41.1%	8.0%	50.6%	0.3%	100.0%
2023/24	46.2%	10.0%	43.9%	0.0%	100.0%

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Table 29: Individual children in custody by area of residence and rate per 1,000 population [note 1], 2019/20 to 2023/24

Area	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Antrim and Newtownabbey	3	4	5	5	5
Ards and North Down	12	11	7	11	8
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	10	8	18	13	13
Belfast	40	29	23	22	19
Causeway Coast and Glens	2	5	5	6	8
Derry City and Strabane	22	22	13	16	17
Fermanagh and Omagh	6	1	4	3	6
Lisburn and Castlereagh	4	7	5	4	5
Mid and East Antrim	4	3	4	2	3
Mid Ulster	3	1	7	7	6
Newry, Mourne and Down	11	13	10	13	9
Resident outside NI	5	3	4	8	1
Unassigned [Note 2]	4	1	1	0	4
Northern Ireland	126	108	106	110	104

Area	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Antrim and Newtownabbey	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Ards and North Down	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.5
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5
Belfast	1.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
Causeway Coast and Glens	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6
Derry City and Strabane	1.4	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.0
Fermanagh and Omagh	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5
Lisburn and Castlereagh	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Mid and East Antrim	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2
Mid Ulster	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Newry, Mourne and Down	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4
Resident outside NI	..	..	..	..	..
Unassigned [Note 2]	..	..	..	..	..
Northern Ireland	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5

1. Rate per 1,000 population aged 10 to 17. Population data source: [2022 Mid-Year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland \(opens in a new window\)](#)

2. Accurate address information was unavailable for these cases.

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Table 30: Admissions to JJC by area of residence, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Area	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Antrim and Newtownabbey	11	7	12	8	6
Ards and North Down	43	37	18	25	21
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	20	16	39	28	32
Belfast	116	83	50	34	28
Causeway Coast and Glens	2	7	7	14	14
Derry City and Strabane	47	57	25	44	34
Fermanagh and Omagh	13	3	4	4	13
Lisburn and Castlereagh	9	18	5	11	10
Mid and East Antrim	4	3	6	7	9
Mid Ulster	5	4	12	8	16
Newry, Mourne and Down	20	30	24	33	26
Resident outside NI	4	3	4	8	1
Unassigned [Note 1]	4	1	1	0	4
Northern Ireland	298	269	207	224	214

Table 31: Movements within JJC by area of residence, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Area	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Antrim and Newtownabbey	17	13	14	11	9
Ards and North Down	60	46	21	31	26
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	29	20	64	42	43
Belfast	155	117	71	54	39
Causeway Coast and Glens	4	10	11	21	18
Derry City and Strabane	65	88	30	52	51
Fermanagh and Omagh	18	3	4	4	18
Lisburn and Castlereagh	14	26	6	16	13
Mid and East Antrim	7	4	8	8	11
Mid Ulster	7	6	19	16	24
Newry, Mourne and Down	28	43	32	49	43
Resident outside NI	6	3	6	10	1
Unassigned [Note 1]	6	2	2	0	5
Northern Ireland	416	381	288	314	301

1. Accurate address information was unavailable for these cases.

Appendix 3 – Data Tables

Table 32: Average population by status, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	PACE	Remand	Sentence	Average Population
2019/20	1	11	5	17
2020/21	1	9	1	11
2021/22	1	7	1	9
2022/23	1	9	1	11
2023/24	1	8	1	10

Table 33: Custody days by status, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	PACE	Remand	Sentence	Total Custody Days
2019/20	218	4,122	1,837	6,177
2020/21	236	3,356	304	3,896
2021/22	233	2,543	344	3,120
2022/23	209	3,272	363	3,844
2023/24	219	2,790	525	3,534

Financial Year	PACE	Remand	Sentence	Total Custody Days
2019/20	3.5%	66.7%	29.7%	100.0%
2020/21	6.1%	86.1%	7.8%	100.0%
2021/22	7.5%	81.5%	11.0%	100.0%
2022/23	5.4%	85.1%	9.4%	100.0%
2023/24	6.2%	78.9%	14.9%	100.0%

Table 34: PACE to remand/sentence conversion estimate, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Financial Year	PACE Admissions	PACE to Remand/Sentence	Conversion Rate
2018/19	228	94	41.2%
2019/20	197	96	48.7%
2020/21	207	102	49.3%
2021/22	165	74	44.8%
2022/23	176	76	43.2%

Appendix 4 – Quality Assessment

This section provides information about the quality of the data used to produce this publication, and any statistics derived from these data.

Dimension	Assessment by the author
Introduction:-	<p>This report provides an overview of the workload of the YJA during 2023/24 and how it has changed over time. A breakdown of the gender, age, religion, looked after status, area of residence and offence type profile of referrals to and individuals in contact with the YJS and of individuals in custody is provided.</p> <p>Population and workload (i.e. admissions to and changes of status within the JJC) overviews of the custodial services are also included.</p> <p>The primary data source for this report is the YJA’s case management system, used for the day to day management of cases supervised by the Agency, both within a custodial and community setting. Information is based on data extracted after 1 July each year, for example data covering 2023/24 i.e. 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 will be extracted after 1 July 2024.</p>
Relevance:- The degree to which the statistical product meets user needs in both coverage and content.	<p>This report provides a measure of the workload of the YJA i.e. the number of YJA PSNI referral schemes, the number of YJA referrals and the number of movements (admissions to and changes of status) within the JJC that were recorded on YJA’s case management system.</p>

Appendix 4 – Quality Assessment

Dimension	Assessment by the author
<p>Relevance (continued):- The degree to which the statistical product meets user needs in both coverage and content.</p>	<p>YJS referrals along with the individuals in contact with YJS, individuals in custody, admissions to JJC and movements within JJC are presented by gender, age, religion, looked after status, area of residence and offence type as applicable. Some comparisons with figures for the previous four financial years are also included.</p> <p>The numbers of YJA PSNI Referral Schemes are presented by gender and age. No validated historical figures are available as this is the first year of reporting.</p>
<p>Accuracy and reliability:- The proximity between an estimate and the unknown true value.</p>	<p>While every care has been taken in collating and entering the data, they are subject to the limitations inherent in any recording system and to variation in recording practice. While YJA staff have a vested interest in maintaining the accuracy of the data within their management information systems, a number of accuracy, quality assurance/validation procedures have been conducted upon the dataset compiled for this publication, to ensure the data extracted are accurate, complete and fit for the statistical purposes for which they are to be used.</p> <p>Coverage – An individual’s response to the section 75 monitoring form is not compulsory and as a result we do not have full coverage. With this in mind and due to concerns over the quality of reporting, religion for YJS figures has not been included as it has a higher proportion of missing values. This is under continuing annual review.</p>

Appendix 4 – Quality Assessment

Dimension	Assessment by the author
<p>Timeliness and punctuality:- Timeliness refers to the time gap between publication and the reference period. Punctuality refers to the gap between planned and actual publication dates.</p>	<p>The report relates to data from 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2024, and is published on 19th September 2024. The gap between the reference date and the publication date is due to the time it took to resolve various data quality issues. The publication date for the current report is one day earlier than last year’s report.</p>
<p>Accessibility and clarity:- Accessibility is the ease with which users are able to access the data, also reflecting the format in which the data are available and the availability of supporting information. Clarity refers to the quality and sufficiency of metadata, illustrations and accompanying advice.</p>	<p>The report is available on the DoJ website and contains contact details for further information.</p> <p>Explanatory information including sources, discontinuities and missing data have been included.</p>

Appendix 4 – Quality Assessment

Dimension	Assessment by the author
<p>Coherence and comparability:- Coherence is the degree to which data that are derived from different sources or methods, but refer to the same topic, are similar. Comparability is the degree to which data can be compared over time and domain.</p>	<p>There are no alternative sources of information on the workload of the Northern Ireland YJA.</p>
<p>Assessment of user needs and perceptions:- The process for finding out about users and uses, and their views on the statistical products.</p>	<p>The report currently contains contact details in case users wish to provide feedback, comments or queries on the publication.</p> <p>Key stakeholders, notably YJA senior management, regularly communicate their requirements to NISRA. An annual customer satisfaction survey is also undertaken to review the publication by gathering feedback on the statistics produced, how well they meet user needs and whether there are any suggested improvements. The most recent survey conducted in 2022 indicated that 100% of users were satisfied with the report.</p> <p>Users of the statistics when accessing the publications on the DoJ website are also invited to complete a short survey relating to the publication or to provide feedback or comments.</p>

Appendix 4 – Quality Assessment

Dimension	Assessment by the author														
<p>Trade-offs between output and quality components:-</p>	<p>The data used within this publication is from a database used for case management and therefore YJA has a vested interest in maintaining the accuracy of data. A number of accuracy, quality assurance/validation procedures are also conducted upon the dataset, both automated and manual, at individual case level and the data is corrected to ensure when it is extracted it is as accurate, complete and fit for statistical use as possible.</p> <p>An individual's response to the section 75 monitoring form is not compulsory and as a result we do not have full coverage. With this in mind and due to concerns over the quality of reporting, religion for YJS figures has not been included as it has a higher proportion of missing values (41.5% missing for individuals, 35.2% missing for referrals). This is under continuing annual review. Below is the coverage for variables used in this report where full data is not available:</p> <p>Youth Justice Services – YJA PSNI Referral Schemes</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="668 968 1785 1093"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>CRN and Vaping Schemes</th> <th>Sexting Schemes</th> <th>All Schemes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Gender</td> <td>99.4%</td> <td>99.7%</td> <td>99.5%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Youth Justice Services – YJA Referrals</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="668 1200 1298 1315"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Individuals</th> <th>Referrals</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Gender</td> <td>99.4%</td> <td>98.9%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		CRN and Vaping Schemes	Sexting Schemes	All Schemes	Gender	99.4%	99.7%	99.5%		Individuals	Referrals	Gender	99.4%	98.9%
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Appendix 4 – Quality Assessment

Dimension	Assessment by the author																
<p>Trade-offs between output and quality components (continued):-</p>	<p>Custodial Services</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="691 325 1653 554"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Individuals</th> <th>Admissions</th> <th>Movements</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Gender</td> <td>98.1%</td> <td>97.2%</td> <td>97.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Religion</td> <td>91.3%</td> <td>92.1%</td> <td>93.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area</td> <td>96.2%</td> <td>98.1%</td> <td>98.3%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Individuals	Admissions	Movements	Gender	98.1%	97.2%	97.7%	Religion	91.3%	92.1%	93.4%	Area	96.2%	98.1%	98.3%
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<p>Performance, cost and respondent burden:- The effectiveness, efficiency and economy of the statistical output.</p>	<p>The annual operational cost (staff time) of producing the report is approximately 40 days.</p> <p>There is no respondent burden, since the data are held on an administrative system, and data on new cases are automatically collected as part of their admission process.</p>																
<p>Confidentiality, transparency and security:- The procedures and policy used to ensure sound confidentiality, security and transparent practices.</p>	<p>Suppression would be applied where the number of cases in a cell containing personal information is disclosive; this is described in table footnotes. If appropriate, cells are merged.</p> <p>Statistical data is held on a network that is only accessible to the statisticians who need access. Printouts containing individual records or small cell sizes are locked away, and shredded as soon as possible.</p>																