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First Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System in Northern Ireland 2014/15

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KEY FINDINGS

- In 2014/15, a total of 9,601 first offences and 21,999 further offences were recorded as dealt with by conviction or diversion in the justice system in Northern Ireland. First offences constituted 30.4% of all offences in 2014/15. Of all first offences, 36.8% (3,537) were dealt with by way of diversionary disposal, compared to 63.2% (6,064) which were dealt with by conviction.
- Of the 9,601 first time entrants to the criminal justice system in 2014/15, 9.7% (930) were in the 10 – 17 year old age group. First offences accounted for 35.7% of all instances where a conviction or diversion was issued to that age group (930 out of 2,608).
- Similarly, 28.8% (2,763) of the first time entrants were by those in the 18 – 24 year old age group. First offences accounted for 31.5% of all instances where a conviction or diversion was issued to that age group (2,763 out of 8,769).
- First offences accounted for 58.4% (3,537) of all instances where a diversionary disposal was issued in 2014/15. People in the 10 – 17 year old age group were most likely (91.1%, 847) to receive a diversion for a first offence.
- Of all offences dealt with by conviction or diversion, 26.2% (6,773) by males¹ were first offences, compared to 49.0% (2,828) by females. Of all first offences dealt with by diversion or conviction, 70.5% were by males, compared to 29.5% by females.
- 52.7% (5,060) of all first offences in 2014/15 were for Motoring offences. Of all instances where a conviction or diversion was issued for offences in that category in 2014/15, 41.4% were for first offences.
- Monetary disposals made up 49.8% (4,779) of all disposals for first offences in 2014/15. First offences accounted for 34.5% of all instances where a monetary penalty was imposed in relation to a conviction or diversion. However, of all instances where imprisonment was imposed as a penalty in 2014/15, first offences accounted for only 6.3% (207 out of 3,284).
- Of first offences dealt with by diversion, 79.5% (2,813) were dealt with by way of caution. However, while 59.0% of all cautions were for first offences, 90.6% (470) of all informed warnings were for first offences.

¹ Figures for Males also include organisations, transgender and gender not specified.

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INTRODUCTION

In the 2011-16 Programme for Government, the Minister outlined a commitment to reduce the level of serious crime by reshaping the approach used to tackle factors leading to criminal behaviours within Northern Ireland. A commitment was given to monitor the number of young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time.

This bulletin presents data on first time entrants to the criminal justice system in Northern Ireland for the year 1 April 2014 – 31 March 2015. It aims to provide an overview of the structure of the known offending population in 2014/15, with information on the breakdown of offences committed by new offenders and the disposals received. Findings for the 2014/15 year will also allow some comparison with figures published previously for 2013/14.

COUNTING RULES

Who are first time entrants to the criminal justice system?

For the sake of this publication, first time entrants to the criminal justice system are those who are recorded by the criminal justice system as having committed a proven first offence, whether it was dealt with by way of diversionary disposal or by conviction. The term ‘first time entrants’ equates directly to that of ‘first offence’, the phraseology used to describe data presented within this document. However, ‘further offences’ do not relate directly to the number of offenders who have committed further offences, as an offender may have had more than one further conviction or diversionary disposal within the time period covered by the report.

What counts as a first offence?

An offence is defined as a ‘first offence’ if it results in the offender receiving their first diversion, warning, caution or conviction – i.e., they have no previous criminal record in Northern Ireland. Offences resulting in further diversions, warnings, cautions or convictions are known as ‘further offences’, since the offender already has a recorded criminal history.

Where an offender has had a diversion imposed, been warned, cautioned or convicted of several offences on the same occasion, only one offence, the principal offence, is counted. The basis for selection of the principal offence is laid down in rules issued by the Home Office. In summary, these stipulate that only offences with an admission or finding of guilty are included and, the principal offence is usually taken as that for which the greatest penalty was imposed.

The offence counted and used in the compilation of figures in this bulletin is the one on which the court took its final decision, or for which a diversionary disposal was issued and recorded as completed with the Public Prosecution Service (PPS). In relation to convictions, this is not necessarily the same offence as that for which the defendant was initially proceeded against. The decision recorded is that reached by the court and takes no account of any subsequent appeal to a higher court.

Out of court disposals not taken into account in this bulletin are Penalty Notices for disorder (PNDs). PNDs are a fixed penalty designed to tackle low-level, anti-social and nuisance offending for offenders aged 18 and over and are issued for a range of minor offences. They were introduced in Northern Ireland on the 6th June 2012 as a result of the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. PNDs provide police with a swift financial punishment to deal with misbehaviour and a practical deterrent to future re-offending. However, they do not require an admission of guilt and do not form part of an individual's criminal record. Further information on PNDs can be accessed at <http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/police-issued-penalty-notices>.

Data source

The data used in this bulletin were taken from the Causeway Data Sharing Mechanism (DSM1). They were extracted primarily based on records contained on the Criminal Records Viewer (CRV). The CRV is held on Causeway and utilises data which originated in the PSNI, PPS and from Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service. Causeway is an interconnected information system, launched as a joint undertaking by the Criminal Justice Organisations (CJOs) in Northern Ireland.

Data quality and validation

Although numerous validation exercises have been conducted in relation to both prosecutions data and diversions data, to ensure data quality, the statistics contained in this publication nevertheless still originate from various administrative data sources and caution should therefore be exercised when making comparisons with previous years. These data sources have different purposes, aims and objectives and are kept for non-statistical purposes, e.g., CRV is maintained for reviewing and vetting individuals' criminal records.

Interpreting the data

Figures for first time entrants to the justice system in Northern Ireland, as reported in this bulletin, are based on those who have had a conviction at any time since 1960 and those who had either a conviction or a diversionary disposal since the implementation of the Causeway system DSM1, in December 2009. This means that the reported rate of first offences may be slightly higher than the actuality, as, in some cases, first offences would have been dealt with by means of diversionary disposal, information on which is not available prior to the introduction of DSM1. However, any likely impact of this statistical effect should lessen with the passing of time. Reoffending statistics suggest that, in most crime categories, persons who commit a proven re-offence do so within one year. As a result, the first year when it might be considered that the effect of diversions data being unavailable for the period prior to 2010 might be reduced is 2011/12 and data have therefore been provided as part of this series from that point forward.

In this publication, first offences dealt with by conviction are distinct from those instances counted as a first conviction. This is because an individual receiving a first conviction may have previously been dealt with within the justice system by way of diversion. The following table compares first offences where a conviction has been imposed in 2014/15 with those cases of first convictions where diversions previously received have not been taken into consideration. The difference between the two rates is explained by the inclusion of diversions information for those cases where a diversion was an offender's first true first contact with the justice system.

First convictions and first offences dealt with by conviction, 2014/15

First convictions	First offence dealt with by conviction	All convictions	First convictions as % all convictions	First offences as % all convictions
7,221	6,064	25,543	28.3%	23.7%

Statistical coverage

The data included in the bulletin are based on those who were convicted in a court, or who had a diversionary disposal recorded as completed in Northern Ireland for the year 1 April 2014 – 31 March 2015. Statistical coverage is restricted to those criminal prosecutions or diversions in which the Police Service for Northern Ireland, or Harbour Police were involved and breaches of community sentences. Prosecutions brought by government departments, public bodies and private individuals are not included.

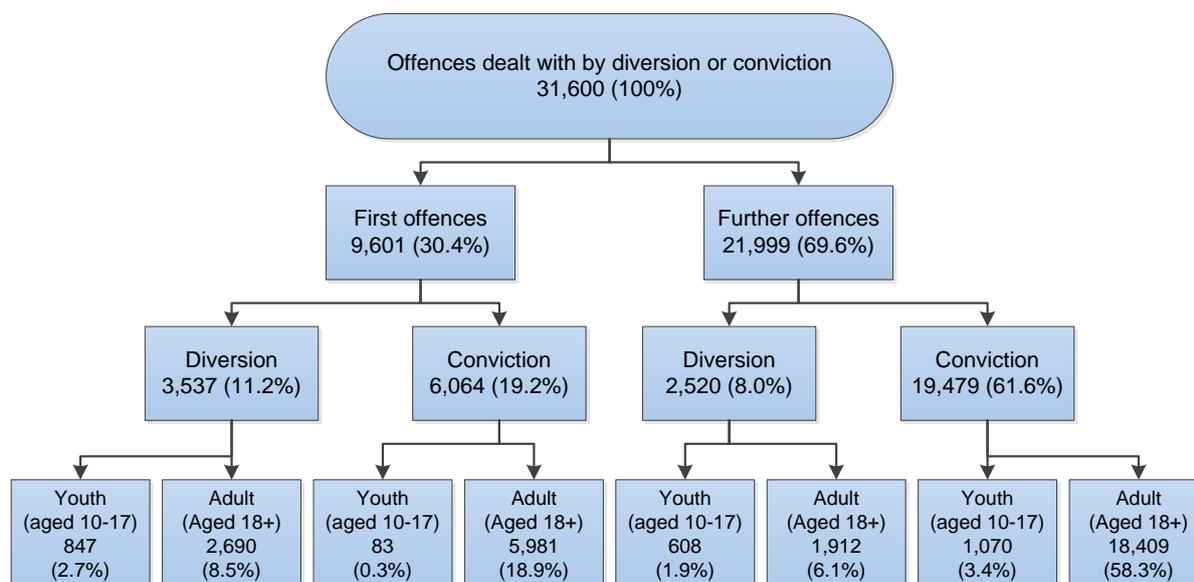
MAIN FINDINGS

Overview

In 2014/15, a total of 31,600 (first and further) offences were recorded as dealt with by conviction or diversion in the criminal justice system in Northern Ireland, a reduction of 13.6% (4,985) on the total number of offences (36,585) recorded as dealt with in this way through the criminal justice system in 2013/14. Of these, 9,601 (30.4%) were first offences and 21,999 (69.6%) were further offences. As detailed in the counting rules, the number of first offences equates directly to the number of first time entrants to the justice system, so the number of first time entrants (first offences) to the criminal justice system in 2014/15 was 9,601 (30.4% of all offences in 2014/15), a reduction of 17.3% (2,009) on the number of first offences in 2013/14, when the number of first offences was 11,610 (31.7% of all offences in 2013/14).

Of all offences dealt with by diversion or conviction, 19.2% (6,057) were dealt with by way of diversion, compared to 80.8% (25,543) dealt with by way of conviction. Of all first offences, 36.8% (3,537) were dealt with by way of diversionary disposal, compared to 63.2% (6,064) which were dealt with by conviction.

Figure 1: First offences and further offences of all offenders in Northern Ireland, 2014/15



Note:

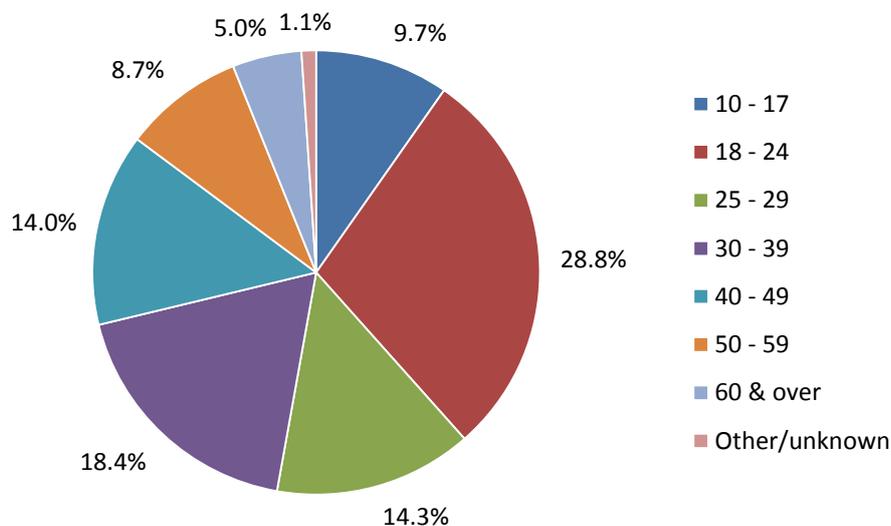
1. The percentages shown in the diagram relate to the total number of offences committed in the top box in the figure.

Age Group

In 2014/15, 9.7% of all first offences (930 out of 9,601 first offences) were committed by young people in the 10 – 17 year old age group, compared with 7.6% of all further offences (1,678 out of 21,999 further offences). Of all proven convictions and

diversions for the 10 – 17 year old age group, 35.7% (930) were first offences (Table 1a).

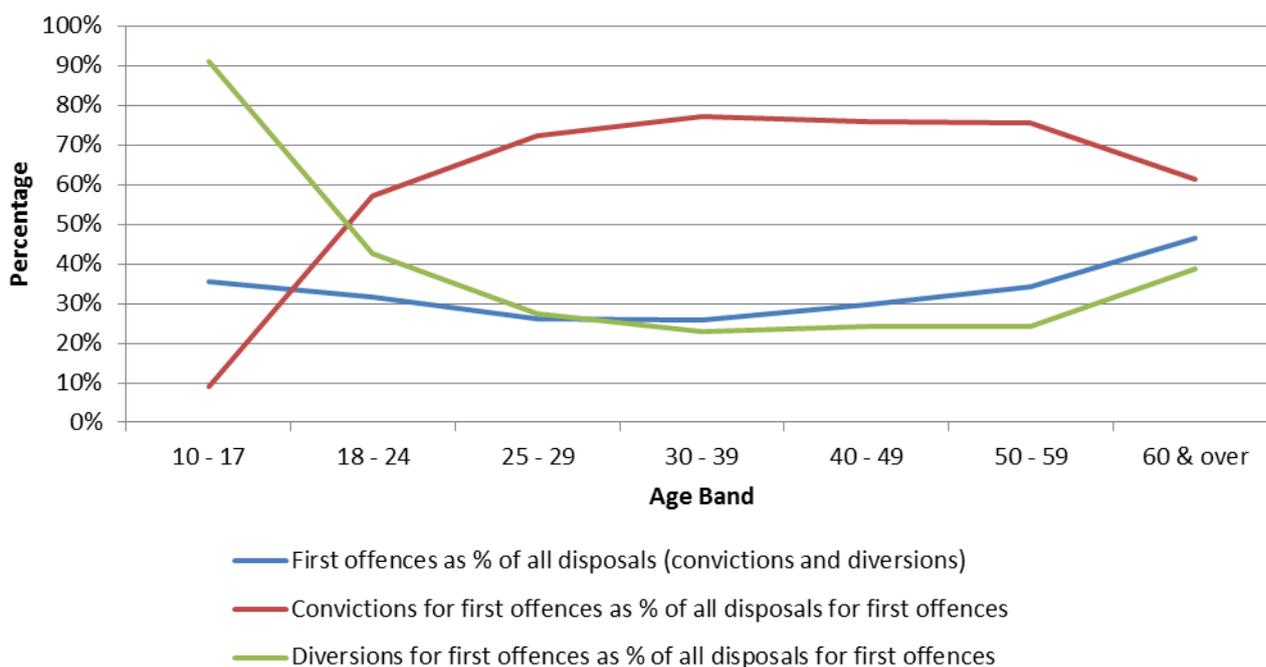
Figure 2: First offences by age band of offender, 2014/15



Young people in the 10 – 17 year old age group received 24.0% (1,455) of all diversionary disposals (23.9% (847) of all diversions for first offences), compared to 4.5% (1,153) of all convictions (1.4% (83) of convictions for first offences) (Tables 1c and 1d).

In 2014/15, 28.8% (2,763) of first offences were by people in the 18 – 24 year old age group. Of these, 42.7% (1,180) were dealt with by way of diversion and 61.3% of all diversions for 18 – 24 year olds were for first offences. First offences by 18 – 24 year olds made up only 23.1% (1,583) convictions for that age group in 2014/15, but 26.1% of all convictions for first offences in 2014/15 (Tables 1c and 1d).

Figure 3: First offences as percentage of first/all convictions and diversions by age band of offender, 2014/15



The rate of first convictions in 2014/15, whether or not it was for a first offence, was 28.3% (7,221) overall (down from 29.3% in 2013/14). This compares to a rate of 23.7% (6,064) for convictions for first offences only (down slightly from 24.8% in 2013/14). For those in the 10 - 17 year old age group, the rate of first convictions overall was 21.4% (247), down from 22.6% in 2013/14. However, for first offences, the rate of conviction for 10 – 17 year olds was 7.2% (83), lower than the rate of 7.8% for 2013/14. People in the 10 – 17 year old age group were most likely (91.1%, 847) to receive a diversion for a first offence in 2014/15 (Tables 1b, 1c and 1d).

Gender

In 2014/15, 26.2% (6,773) of all offences by males² dealt with by conviction or diversion were first offences, compared to 49.0% (2,828) by females. Of all first offences dealt with by diversion or conviction, 70.5% were by males, compared to 29.5% by females (Table 2a).

In 2014/15, 55.2% (2,524) of all diversions issued to males² were for first offences, while 20.0% (4,249) of all convictions handed down to males in 2014/15 were for first offences. The rate of first convictions in 2014/15, whether or not it was for a first offence, was 24.4% (5,183) for males (Tables 2b, 2c and 2d).

For females, 68.3% (1,013) of all diversions were for first offences and 42.4% (1,815) of all convictions were for first offences. The rate of first convictions in 2014/15, whether or not it was for a first offence, was 47.6% (2,038) for females (Tables 2b, 2c and 2d).

Offence Classification

Of all first offences dealt with by way of diversion or conviction, 52.7% (5,060) were for motoring offences, while 12.6% (1,208) were for violence against the person offences (VAP), 8.6% (823) were for drugs and 6.8% (650) were for offences in the theft category (Table 3a).

Of all offence classifications, sexual offences (47.0%, 94), motoring offences (41.4%, 5,060) and fraud (38.0%, 93) were the offence classifications where first offences made up the largest proportion of the total convictions and diversions for offences in those categories in 2014/15 (Table 3a).

² Figures for Males also include organisations, transgender and gender not specified.

Figure 4: First offences by offence classification, 2014/15

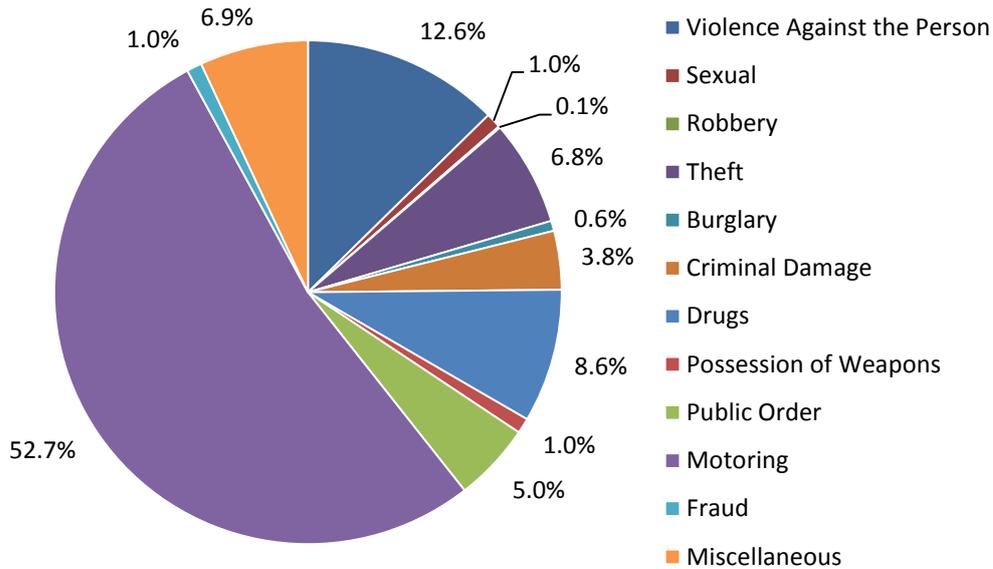
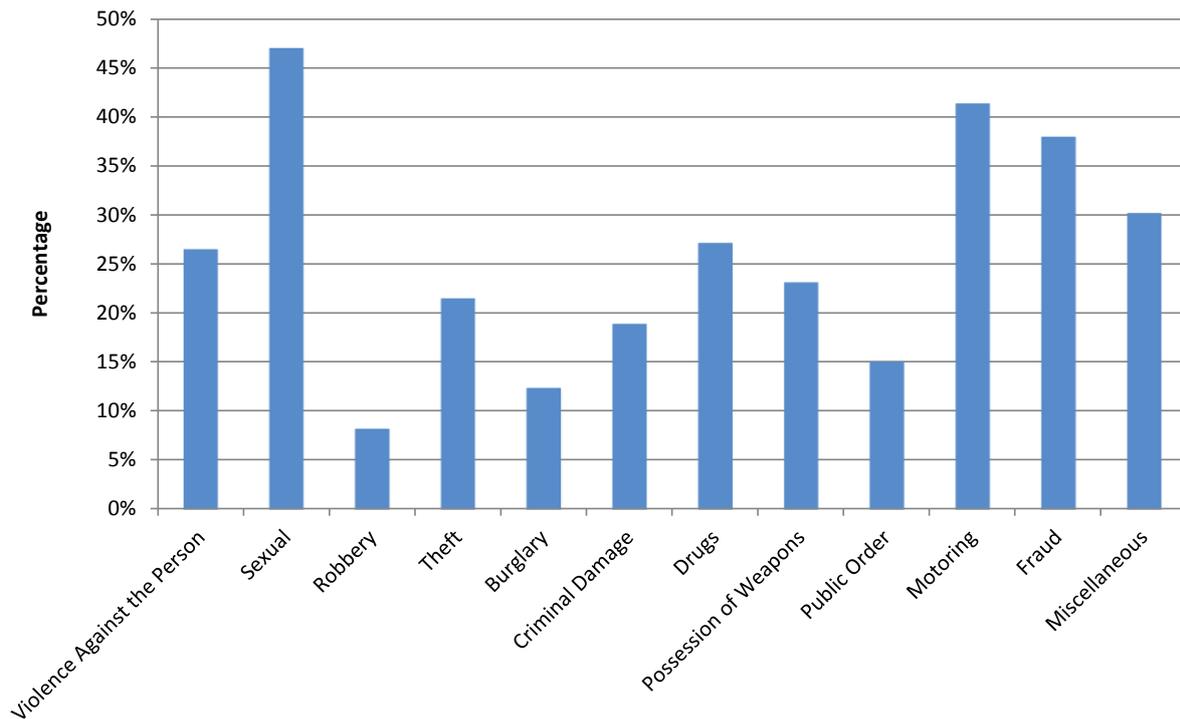


Figure 5: First offences as percentage of all convictions and diversions by offence classification, 2014/15



As was the case in 2013/14, robbery (8.3%, 9), burglary (12.4%, 62) and public order (15.1%, 482) were the offence classifications where first offences made up the smallest proportion of the total convictions or diversions for offences in those categories in 2014/15 (Table 3a).

The offence categories where first offences were dealt with mainly by diversion in 2014/15 were drugs (80.7%, 664), criminal damage (70.2%, 254) and public order (69.9%, 337). Conversely, first offences in the motoring (86.3%, 4,369), sexual

(80.9%, 76) and fraud (69.9%, 65) categories were mostly dealt with by conviction in 2014/15 (Table 3e).

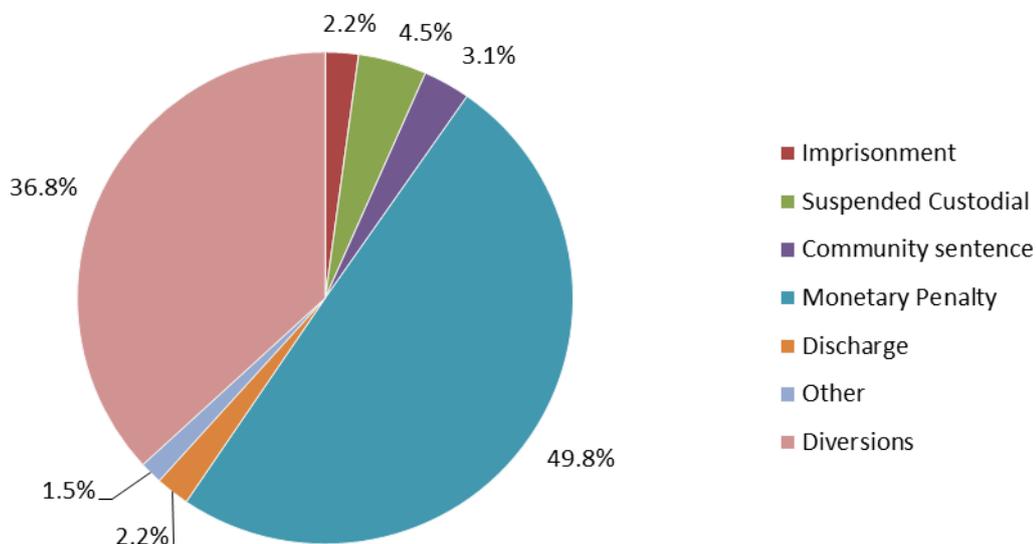
Disposal type

Of all first offences in 2014/15, 36.8% (3,537) were dealt with by way of diversion, compared to 38.2% (4,431) in 2013/14. This accounted for 11.2% of all disposals in 2014/15, whether for first offences or further offences dealt with by diversion or conviction (Table 4a).

Monetary penalties were imposed for 49.8% (4,779) of first offences and first offences accounted for 34.5% of those receiving a monetary penalty upon conviction, down slightly from 35.5% in 2013/14. Imprisonment disposals were the outcome in relation to only 2.2% (207) of all first offences. In fact, only 6.3% of all imprisonment disposals in 2014/15 were for first offences (Table 4a).

Suspended custodial disposals were imposed in relation to 4.5% (429) of all first offences, though, of those offences for which a suspended custodial disposal was the outcome, 10.3% were for first offences. Community sentences were imposed in 3.1% (295) of disposals for first offences and, of those offences for which a community sentence was the outcome, 10.4% were for first offences in 2014/15 (Table 4a).

Figure 6: First offences by disposal type, 2014/15



For first offences dealt with by way of diversion in 2014/15, most (79.5%, 2,813) were dealt with by way of caution, whereas informed warnings (13.3%, 470) and PPS ordered youth conferences plans (7.2%, 254) accounted for substantially smaller proportions of the total. First offences made up 90.6% (470 out of 519) of all informed warnings issued in 2014/15. This compares to 59.0% (2,813 out of 4,770) of cautions and 33.1% (254 out of 768) of PPS ordered youth conference plans (Table 4d).

APPENDIX 1

Table 1a: First offences^{1,2} as percentage of all convictions and diversions by age band, 2014/15

Age band	2013/14	2014/15		
	First offences as % of all convictions and diversions	First offences	All convictions and diversions	First offences as % of all convictions and diversions
10 - 17	38.3%	930	2,608	35.7%
18 - 24	31.7%	2,763	8,769	31.5%
25 - 29	26.9%	1,377	5,287	26.0%
30 - 39	27.8%	1,767	6,818	25.9%
40 - 49	31.2%	1,347	4,537	29.7%
50 - 59	35.9%	836	2,441	34.2%
60 & over	53.4%	480	1,031	46.6%
Other/unknown	88.3%	101	109	92.7%
Total	31.7%	9,601	31,600	30.4%

Table 1b: First convictions as percentage of all convictions by age band, 2014/15

Age band	2013/14	2014/15		
	First convictions as % all convictions	First convictions	All convictions	First convictions as % all convictions
10 - 17	22.6%	247	1,153	21.4%
18 - 24	32.3%	2,244	6,844	32.8%
25 - 29	24.9%	1,126	4,633	24.3%
30 - 39	26.2%	1,466	6,050	24.2%
40 - 49	29.0%	1,073	3,900	27.5%
50 - 59	33.1%	666	2,079	32.0%
60 & over	47.7%	311	789	39.4%
Other/unknown	87.2%	88	95	92.6%
Total	29.3%	7,221	25,543	28.3%

Table 1c: First offences^{1,2} as percentage of all convictions by age band, 2014/15

Age band	2013/14	2014/15		
	First offences as % all convictions	First offences	All convictions	First offences as % all convictions
10 - 17	7.8%	83	1,153	7.2%
18 - 24	22.8%	1,583	6,844	23.1%
25 - 29	22.5%	998	4,633	21.5%
30 - 39	24.5%	1,364	6,050	22.5%
40 - 49	27.6%	1,021	3,900	26.2%
50 - 59	31.6%	633	2,079	30.4%
60 & over	46.3%	294	789	37.3%
Other/unknown	84.9%	88	95	92.6%
Total	24.8%	6,064	25,543	23.7%

Table 1d: First offences^{1, 2} as percentage of all diversions by age band, 2014/15

Age band	2013/14	2014/15		
	First offences as % all diversions	First offences	All diversions	First offences as % all diversions ³
10 - 17	59.5%	847	1,455	58.2%
18 - 24	60.9%	1,180	1,925	61.3%
25 - 29	54.5%	379	654	58.0%
30 - 39	50.5%	403	768	52.5%
40 - 49	52.3%	326	637	51.2%
50 - 59	60.1%	203	362	56.1%
60 & over	73.1%	186	242	76.9%
Other/unknown	100.0%	13	14	*
Total	58.3%	3,537	6,057	58.4%

Table 2a: First offences^{1, 2} as percentage of all convictions and diversions by gender, 2014/15

Gender	2013/14	2014/15		
	First time offenders as % of all convictions and diversions	First offences	All convictions and diversions	First offences as % of all convictions and diversions
Male ⁴	27.4%	6,773	25,833	26.2%
Female	51.5%	2,828	5,767	49.0%
Total	31.7%	9,601	31,600	30.4%

Table 2b: First convictions as percentage of all convictions by gender, 2014/15

Gender	2013/14	2014/15		
	First convictions as % all convictions	First convictions	All convictions	First convictions as % all convictions
Male ⁴	25.6%	5,183	21,260	24.4%
Female	48.0%	2,038	4,283	47.6%
Total	29.3%	7,221	25,543	28.3%

Table 2c: First offences^{1, 2} as percentage of all convictions by gender, 2014/15

Gender	2013/14	2014/15		
	First time offenders as % all convictions	First offences	All convictions	First offences as % all convictions
Male ⁴	21.0%	4,249	21,260	20.0%
Female	43.7%	1,815	4,283	42.4%
Total	24.8%	6,064	25,543	23.7%

Table 2d: First offences^{1, 2} as percentage of all diversions by gender, 2014/15

Gender	2013/14	2014/15		
	First time offenders as % all diversions	First offences	All diversions	First offences as % all diversions
Male ⁴	53.9%	2,524	4,573	55.2%
Female	72.3%	1,013	1,484	68.3%
Total	58.3%	3,537	6,057	58.4%

Table 3a: First offences^{1, 2} as percentage of all convictions and diversions by offence classification, 2014/15

Offence classification	2013/14	2014/15		
	First offences as % of all convictions and diversions	First offences	All convictions and diversions	First offences as % of all convictions and diversions
Violence Against the Person	28.3%	1,208	4,554	26.5%
Sexual	44.4%	94	200	47.0%
Robbery	9.2%	9	109	8.3%
Theft	24.8%	650	3,020	21.5%
Burglary	12.4%	62	499	12.4%
Criminal Damage	19.1%	362	1,912	18.9%
Drugs	25.2%	823	3,030	27.2%
Possession of Weapons	24.2%	94	406	23.2%
Public Order	19.0%	482	3,198	15.1%
Motoring	43.4%	5,060	12,228	41.4%
Fraud	38.3%	93	245	38.0%
Miscellaneous	29.8%	664	2,199	30.2%
Total	31.7%	9,601	31,600	30.4%

Table 3b: First convictions as percentage of all convictions by offence classification, 2014/15

Offence classification	2013/14	2014/15		
	First convictions as % all convictions	First convictions	All convictions	First convictions as % all convictions
Violence Against the Person	24.6%	791	3,412	23.2%
Sexual	42.8%	81	177	45.8%
Robbery	10.7%	12	105	11.4%
Theft	15.1%	351	2,334	15.0%
Burglary	11.3%	56	435	12.9%
Criminal Damage	13.1%	185	1,411	13.1%
Drugs	15.0%	267	1,793	14.9%
Possession of Weapons	18.9%	53	295	18.0%
Public Order	14.0%	267	2,578	10.4%
Motoring	43.4%	4,763	11,278	42.2%
Fraud	32.1%	71	196	36.2%
Miscellaneous	21.8%	324	1,529	21.2%
Total	29.3%	7,221	25,543	28.3%

Table 3c: First offences^{1, 2} as percentage of all convictions by offence classification, 2014/15

Offence classification	2013/14	2014/15		
	First offences as % all convictions	First offences	All convictions	First offences as % all convictions
Violence Against the Person	17.7%	573	3,412	16.8%
Sexual	39.2%	76	177	42.9%
Robbery	8.6%	6	105	5.7%
Theft	10.8%	240	2,334	10.3%
Burglary	7.3%	34	435	7.8%
Criminal Damage	7.6%	108	1,411	7.7%
Drugs	8.1%	159	1,793	8.9%
Possession of Weapons	12.1%	33	295	11.2%
Public Order	8.7%	145	2,578	5.6%
Motoring	40.3%	4,369	11,278	38.7%
Fraud	30.3%	65	196	33.2%
Miscellaneous	16.4%	256	1,529	16.7%
Total	24.8%	6,064	25,543	23.7%

Table 3d: First offences^{1, 2} as percentage of all diversions by offence classification, 2014/15

Offence classification	2013/14	2014/15		
	First offences as % all diversions	First offences	All diversions	First offences as % all diversions ³
Violence Against the Person	57.4%	635	1,142	55.6%
Sexual	70.0%	18	23	*
Robbery	50.0%	3	4	*
Theft	61.8%	410	686	59.8%
Burglary	41.1%	28	64	43.8%
Criminal Damage	49.8%	254	501	50.7%
Drugs	48.2%	664	1,237	53.7%
Possession of Weapons	60.0%	61	111	55.0%
Public Order	54.2%	337	620	54.4%
Motoring	76.4%	691	950	72.7%
Fraud	70.6%	28	49	*
Miscellaneous	57.3%	408	670	60.9%
Total	58.3%	3,537	6,057	58.4%

Table 3e: First offences^{1,2} as percentage of all convictions and diversions by offence classification and disposal, 2014/15

Offence classification	Disposal type	First offences	All convictions and diversions	First offences as % of all convictions and diversions
Violence Against the Person	Convictions	573	4,554	12.6%
	Diversions	635		13.9%
Sexual	Convictions	76	200	38.0%
	Diversions	18		9.0%
Robbery	Convictions	6	109	5.5%
	Diversions	3		2.8%
Theft	Convictions	240	3,020	7.9%
	Diversions	410		13.6%
Burglary	Convictions	34	499	6.8%
	Diversions	28		5.6%
Criminal Damage	Convictions	108	1,912	5.6%
	Diversions	254		13.3%
Drugs	Convictions	159	3,030	5.2%
	Diversions	664		21.9%
Possession of Weapons	Convictions	33	406	8.1%
	Diversions	61		15.0%
Public Order	Convictions	145	3,198	4.5%
	Diversions	337		10.5%
Motoring	Convictions	4,369	12,228	35.7%
	Diversions	691		5.7%
Fraud	Convictions	65	245	26.5%
	Diversions	28		11.4%
Miscellaneous	Convictions	256	2,199	11.6%
	Diversions	408		18.6%
Total	Convictions	6,064	31,600	19.2%
	Diversions	3,537		11.2%

Table 4a: First offences^{1,2} as percentage of all convictions and diversions by disposal type, 2014/15

Disposal category	2013/14	2014/15		
	First offences as % of all convictions and diversions	First offences	All convictions and diversions	First offences as % of all convictions and diversions
Imprisonment	6.9%	207	3,284	6.3%
Suspended Custodial	11.8%	429	4,166	10.3%
Community sentence	11.6%	295	2,828	10.4%
Monetary Penalty	35.5%	4,779	13,848	34.5%
Discharge	18.8%	212	1,062	20.0%
Other	37.2%	142	355	40.0%
Diversions	58.3%	3,537	6,057	58.4%
Total	31.7%	9,601	31,600	30.4%

Table 4b: First convictions as percentage of all convictions by disposal type, 2014/15

Disposal category	2013/14	2014/15		
	First convictions as % all convictions	First convictions	All convictions	First convictions as % all convictions
Imprisonment	8.1%	244	3,284	7.4%
Suspended Custodial	14.0%	519	4,166	12.5%
Community sentence	19.4%	541	2,828	19.1%
Monetary Penalty	40.3%	5,440	13,848	39.3%
Discharge	28.1%	312	1,062	29.4%
Other	44.6%	165	355	46.5%
Total	29.3%	7,221	25,543	28.3%

Table 4c: First offences^{1,2} as percentage of all convictions by disposal type, 2014/15

Disposal category	2013/14	2014/15		
	First offences as % all convictions	First offences	All convictions	First offences as % all convictions
Imprisonment	6.9%	207	3,284	6.3%
Suspended Custodial	11.8%	429	4,166	10.3%
Community sentence	11.6%	295	2,828	10.4%
Monetary Penalty	35.5%	4,779	13,848	34.5%
Discharge	18.8%	212	1,062	20.0%
Other	37.2%	142	355	40.0%
Total	24.8%	6,064	25,543	23.7%

Table 4d: First offences^{1,2} as percentage of all diversions by disposal type, 2014/15

Disposal category	2013/14	2014/15		
	First offences as % all diversions	First offences	All diversions	First offences as % all diversions
Caution	58.5%	2,813	4,770	59.0%
Informed warning	26.0%	470	519	90.6%
PPS Ordered Youth Conference Plan	87.7%	254	768	33.1%
Total	58.3%	3,537	6,057	58.4%

Source: Department of Justice

Notes:

1. Figures are based on those who have had a conviction at any time since 1960 and those who had either a conviction or a diversionary disposal since the implementation of the Causeway system, DSM1, in December 2009. This means the rate of first time offenders may appear slightly higher than the actuality, as, in some cases, first offences would have been dealt with by means of diversionary disposal. However, any likely impact should lessen with the passing of time.
2. Figures are calculated using principal offence methodology.
3. Percentages cannot be presented where the denominator is less than 50.
4. Includes organisations, transgender and gender not specified.
5. Figures for 2013/14 are included in tables for comparison.

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