



Ministry of  
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**Sentencing statistics  
quarterly brief  
October to December 2008  
England and Wales**

*Provisional data*

Ministry of Justice  
Statistics bulletin

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## Introduction

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

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

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

Where figures have been quoted in the text they have been rounded to the nearest 100.

## Key points – October to December 2008

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

### All courts

- The number of persons sentenced was 75,300 which is a fall of 2.0 per cent on the same quarter in 2007. There was a 6.1 per cent increase in the numbers sentenced at the Crown Court and a fall of 4.8 per cent at magistrates' courts. The number of males sentenced fell by 2.2 per cent while for females it fell 1.2 per cent.
- The number of juveniles and young adults sentenced both fell; juveniles by 10.3 per cent and young adults by 13.9 per cent. The number of adults sentenced rose by 2.3 per cent.
- The number of persons sentenced to immediate custody was unchanged at 18,900. This comprised an 8.7 per cent rise at the Crown Court and a fall of 12.0 per cent at magistrates' courts. There was a 5.3 per cent increase in the number of adults sentenced to immediate custody, while for juveniles it fell by 9.4 per cent and for young adults it fell 24.3 per cent.
- The custody rate for indictable offences at all courts was 25.0 per cent; this is a rise of 0.5 percentage points on 2007 and reflects the rise in the immediate custody rate at the Crown Court and the higher proportion of persons dealt with at the Crown Court .
- The average custodial sentence length for all indictable offences was 16.6 months, excluding life/indeterminate sentences. This is a rise of 1.3 months from 2007 and the highest quarterly figure recorded in the 2 year period covered by the tables.
- The number of persons sentenced to a Suspended Sentence Order (SSO) was 6,500, a fall of 10.2 per cent on the same quarter in 2007. This fall was made up of a 0.9 per cent fall at the Crown Court and a fall of 21.8 per cent at magistrates' courts. The Suspended Sentence Order rate at all courts was 8.6 per cent compared to 9.4 per cent in the same quarter in 2007.
- There were increases in the numbers sentenced for burglary, theft and handling stolen goods and drug offences compared to the same quarter in 2007. The largest percentage increase being for drug

offences up 13.2 per cent. There were decreases in the numbers sentenced for all other offence groups. The largest percentage decreases were for criminal damage, down 27.9 per cent, and fraud and forgery, down by 26.4 per cent on the same quarter in 2007.

### **Magistrates' courts**

There were 54,700 persons sentenced at magistrates' courts. This is a fall of 4.8 per cent on the same period in 2007.

- The immediate custody rate fell by over 1.0 percentage point to 12.7 per cent. The suspended sentence rate fell from 5.6 to 4.6 per cent, the use of fines rose from 19.5 to 21.3 per cent, and the community sentence rate rose from 38.9 per cent to 39.3 per cent.
- The average custodial sentence length fell from 2.8 to 2.6 months.

### **Crown Court**

There were 20,600 persons sentenced at the Crown Court, an increase of 6.1 per cent.

- There was an increase in the immediate custody rate, up from 56.3 to 57.7 per cent.
- The suspended sentence rate fell by 1.3 percentage points to 19.2 per cent.
- There was a decrease in the fine rate, down to 1.6 per cent.
- The community sentence rate rose to 17.0 per cent.
- The average custodial sentence length rose from 24.9 months to 25.1 months.

**Table i: Persons sentenced by disposal**

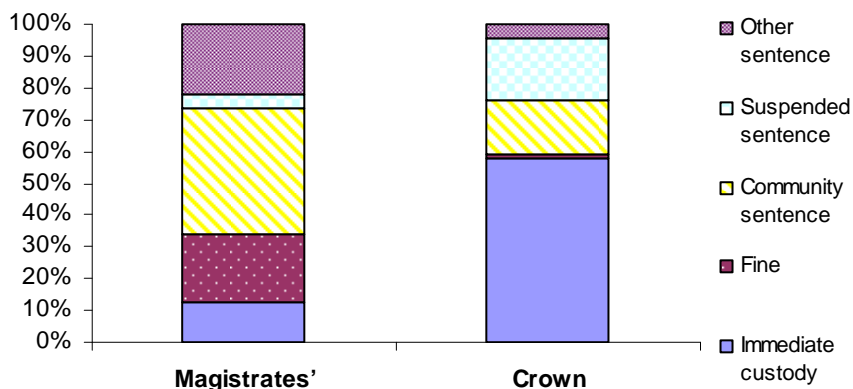
	Magistrates'	Crown	All Courts
<b>Total Sentenced (all ages)</b> <i>(comparing Q4 2008 with Q4 2007)</i>	54,704 -4.8%	20,645 6.1%	75,349 -2.0%
<b>Fine</b>	11,660 4.0%	333 -5.4%	11,993 3.7%
<b>Community sentence</b>	21,496 -3.9%	3,506 9.1%	25,002 -2.2%
<b>Immediate custody</b>	6,949 -12.0%	11,904 8.7%	18,853 0.0%
<b>Suspended sentence</b>	2,505 -21.8%	3,957 -0.9%	6,462 -10.2%
<b>Other sentence</b>	12,094 -5.2%	945 -0.9%	13,039 -4.9%
<b>Average custodial sentence length (months)<sup>(1)</sup></b>	2.6 -7.1%	25.1 0.8%	16.6 8.5%

(1) Excludes life sentences and IPPs.

**Table ii: Persons sentenced by age and sex**

	Magistrates'	Crown	All Courts
<b>Total Sentenced (all ages)</b> <i>(comparing Q4 2008 with Q4 2007)</i>	54,704 -4.8%	20,645 6.1%	75,349 -2.0%
<b>Male</b>	45,606 -5.3%	18,474 6.7%	64,080 -2.2%
<b>Female</b>	9,098 -1.7%	2,171 1.1%	11,269 -1.2%
<b>10-17</b>	10,173 -10.7%	627 -4.3%	10,800 -10.3%
<b>18-20</b>	6,570 -15.3%	2,973 -10.5%	9,543 -13.9%
<b>21 and over</b>	37,961 -0.9%	17,045 10.1%	55,006 2.3%

**Distribution of disposals by court, 2008 Q4 (Figure A)**



## Explanatory notes

### Data sources

The source of the data for this publication is the Courts Proceedings Database, which covers details of every individual sentenced. Data referring to magistrates' courts comes either directly from magistrates' court computer systems, some of which went online with the new LIBRA system, or from police forces. National implementation of LIBRA was completed in February 2009. Data on the Crown Court comes from the Court Service's CREST computer system.

All the statistics shown relate to the principal offence. This is the one attracting the heaviest sentence. Where an offender has been given the same disposal for two or more offences the principal offence is the one for which the statutory maximum is most severe.

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

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

### Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

decrease in average custodial sentence lengths of more serious offences sentenced at the Crown Court.

**Indictable only offences** and **triable-either-way offences** are listed in Appendix 4 of Sentencing Statistics England and Wales 2007. This publication is available at [www.justice.gov.uk/publications/sentencingannual.htm](http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/sentencingannual.htm)

**Immediate custodial sentences** include detention and training orders, young offender institution, unsuspended imprisonment, extended sentences for public protection and indeterminate sentences for public protection<sup>1</sup>.

**Community sentence** – for **adults (18 and over)** the main community sentence, which is supervised by the Probation Service, is the community order introduced by the Criminal Justice Act 2003 for offences committed on or after 4 April 2005. The court must add at least one (but could potentially add all 12) of the following requirements: supervision, unpaid work, specified activities, prohibited activities, accredited programmes, curfew, exclusion, residence, mental health treatment, drug rehabilitation, alcohol treatment and attendance centre requirement for under 25s. For **juveniles** the main community sentences used are the referral order, for first-time offenders who plead guilty on their first court appearance and do not merit a discharge or custodial sentence, and the supervision order (up to 3 years, may have additional requirements) although curfew orders, reparation orders, action plan orders and attendance centre orders are also available. Youth Offending Teams supervise orders for juveniles.

**Suspended Sentence** – available for **adults (18 and over)** only. It is a sentence of custody of under 12 months, suspended for a period ranging from six months to two years. During the suspension period the court sets a number of requirements, from the same options as are available for the community order, and these are supervised by the Probation Service.

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

## Contact points for further information

Current and previous editions of this publication are available for download at [www.justice.gov.uk/publications/sentencingquarterly.htm](http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/sentencingquarterly.htm)

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

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

England and Wales	Males sentenced										Percentage change				
	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008	
<b>Magistrates' courts</b>															
Juveniles (under 18)															
Number sentenced	9,683	10,405	10,600	10,339	9,771	9,464	9,225	9,204	8,665	0.9	-9.0	-13.0	-11.0	-11.3	
Number given immediate custody	780	754	817	820	716	723	758	685	626	-8.2	-4.1	-7.2	-16.5	-12.6	
Number given fines	533	562	522	528	550	471	529	492	433	3.2	-16.2	1.3	-6.8	-21.3	
Number given community sentences	7,253	7,799	8,011	7,732	7,370	7,095	6,727	6,776	6,531	1.6	-9.0	-16.0	-12.4	-11.4	
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given other sentences	1,117	1,290	1,250	1,259	1,135	1,175	1,211	1,250	1,075	1.6	-8.9	-3.1	-0.7	-5.3	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.2	7.6	7.3	7.4	7.2	7.1	8.4	3.5	5.1	-0.5	-6.1	
Young Adults (18-20)															
Number sentenced	6,510	7,212	7,133	7,057	6,823	6,506	6,089	6,051	5,727	4.8	-9.8	-14.6	-14.3	-16.1	
Number given immediate custody	798	842	898	896	852	723	551	480	372	6.8	-14.1	-38.6	-46.4	-56.3	
Number given fines	1,669	1,817	1,753	1,647	1,585	1,563	1,481	1,674	1,678	-5.0	-14.0	-15.5	1.6	5.9	
Number given community sentences	2,232	2,451	2,474	2,516	2,441	2,269	2,222	2,161	2,143	9.4	-7.4	-10.2	-14.1	-12.2	
Number given suspended sentences	361	394	358	337	393	340	266	281	212	8.9	-13.7	-25.7	-16.6	-46.1	
Number given other sentences	1,450	1,708	1,650	1,661	1,552	1,611	1,569	1,455	1,322	7.0	-5.7	-4.9	-12.4	-14.8	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.4	-1.4	-5.3	-4.7	-9.5	-9.9	
Adults (21 and over)															
Number sentenced	29,384	32,752	31,431	32,445	31,581	33,279	32,332	32,539	31,214	7.5	1.6	2.9	0.3	-1.2	
Number given immediate custody	4,835	5,195	4,968	5,411	5,395	5,834	5,519	5,499	5,085	11.6	12.3	11.1	1.6	-5.7	
Number given fines	7,811	8,456	8,101	8,231	7,765	8,086	8,062	8,765	8,153	-0.6	-4.4	-0.5	6.5	5.0	
Number given community sentences	7,881	9,213	8,647	8,866	8,774	8,947	8,687	8,711	9,074	11.3	-2.9	0.5	-1.7	3.4	
Number given suspended sentences	2,118	2,243	2,215	2,298	2,284	2,268	2,113	1,955	1,862	7.8	1.1	-4.6	-14.9	-18.5	
Number given other sentences	6,739	7,645	7,500	7,639	7,363	8,144	7,951	7,609	7,040	9.3	6.5	6.0	-0.4	-4.4	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	-3.0	-2.9	-3.6	-9.1	-6.6	
<b>The Crown Court</b>															
Juveniles (under 18)															
Number sentenced	548	606	603	576	598	622	647	609	584	9.1	2.6	7.3	5.7	-2.3	
Number given immediate custody	367	374	370	374	372	382	367	385	363	1.4	2.1	-0.8	2.9	-2.4	
Number given fines	0	3	2	3	4	1	3	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given community sentences	159	202	195	172	177	216	231	200	190	11.3	6.9	18.5	16.3	7.3	
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given other sentences	22	27	36	27	45	23	46	24	31	*	*	*	*	*	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	21.6	21.0	20.5	21.6	20.2	21.6	21.2	23.5	22.0	-6.2	2.9	3.5	8.8	8.8	
Young Adults (18-20)															
Number sentenced	2,760	3,125	2,910	2,918	3,077	2,982	2,903	2,825	2,740	11.5	-4.6	-0.2	-3.2	-11.0	
Number given immediate custody	1,571	1,768	1,701	1,738	1,766	1,663	1,691	1,681	1,613	12.4	-5.9	-0.6	-3.3	-8.7	
Number given fines	39	55	46	49	48	38	44	34	33	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given community sentences	656	670	622	556	633	586	662	602	600	-3.5	-12.5	6.4	8.3	-5.2	
Number given suspended sentences	398	500	402	475	510	593	373	365	375	28.1	18.6	-7.2	-23.2	-26.5	
Number given other sentences	96	132	139	100	120	102	133	143	119	25.0	-22.7	-4.3	43.0	-0.8	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	23.2	20.9	20.0	20.5	20.7	21.2	22.2	22.6	22.2	-10.9	1.2	10.9	10.1	7.5	
Adults (21 and over)															
Number sentenced	12,408	13,734	13,049	13,457	13,639	14,544	15,389	15,409	15,150	9.9	5.9	17.9	14.5	11.1	
Number given immediate custody	7,405	7,935	7,569	7,876	8,001	8,654	9,189	9,202	9,144	8.0	9.1	21.4	16.8	14.3	
Number given fines	272	374	302	297	271	317	302	271	271	-0.4	-15.2	0.0	-8.8	0.0	
Number given community sentences	2,089	2,260	2,027	2,034	1,919	2,106	2,111	2,173	2,163	-8.1	-6.8	4.1	6.8	12.7	
Number given suspended sentences	2,098	2,510	2,510	2,653	2,816	2,854	3,114	3,109	2,935	34.2	13.7	24.1	17.2	4.2	
Number given other sentences	544	655	641	597	632	613	673	654	637	16.2	-6.4	5.0	9.5	0.8	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	26.6	25.9	25.9	25.8	26.7	25.6	26.6	26.4	26.1	0.4	-1.1	2.5	2.3	-2.4	
<b>All courts</b>															
Juveniles (under 18)															
Number sentenced	10,231	11,011	11,203	10,915	10,369	10,086	9,872	9,813	9,249	1.3	-8.4	-11.9	-10.1	-10.8	
Number given immediate custody	1,147	1,128	1,187	1,194	1,088	1,105	1,125	1,070	989	-5.1	-2.0	-5.2	-10.4	-9.1	
Number given fines	533	565	524	531	554	472	532	492	433	3.9	-16.5	1.5	-7.3	-21.8	
Number given community sentences	7,412	8,001	8,206	7,904	7,547	7,311	6,958	6,976	6,721	1.8	-8.6	-15.2	-11.7	-10.9	
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given other sentences	1,139	1,317	1,286	1,286	1,180	1,198	1,257	1,274	1,106	3.6	-9.0	-2.3	-0.9	-6.3	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	11.5	11.4	11.1	11.6	11.7	12.0	11.6	13.0	12.5	2.2	4.9	4.7	12.1	6.6	
Young Adults (18-20)															
Number sentenced	9,270	10,337	10,043	9,975	9,900	9,488	8,992	8,876	8,467	6.8	-8.2	-10.5	-11.0	-14.5	
Number given immediate custody	2,369	2,610	2,599	2,634	2,618	2,386	2,242	2,161	1,985	10.5	-8.6	-13.7	-18.0	-24.2	
Number given fines	1,708	1,872	1,799	1,696	1,633	1,601	1,525	1,708	1,711	-4.4	-14.5	-15.2	0.7	4.8	
Number given community sentences	2,888	3,121	3,096	3,072	3,074	2,855	2,884	2,763	2,743	6.4	-8.5	-6.8	-10.1	-10.8	
Number given suspended sentences	759	894	760	812	903	933	639	646	587	19.0	4.4	-15.9	-20.4	-35.0	
Number given other sentences	1,546	1,840	1,789	1,761	1,672	1,713	1,702	1,598	1,441	8.2	-6.9	-4.9	-9.3	-13.8	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.0725	14.9	13.9	14.3	14.5	15.4	17.2	18.0	18.4	-9.5	3.7	24.0	25.6	26.5	
Adults (21 and over)															
Number sentenced	41,792	46,486	44,480	45,902	45,220	47,823	47,721	47,948	46,364	8.2	2.9	7.3	4.5	2.5	
Number given immediate custody	12,240	13,130	12,537	13,287	13,396	14,488	14,708	14,701	14,229	9.4	10.3	17.3	10.6	6.2	
Number given fines	8,083	8,830	8,403	8,528	8,036	8,403	8,364	9,036	8,424	-0.6	-4.8	-0.5	6.0	4.8	
Number given community sentences	9,970	11,473	10,674	10,900	10,693	11,053	10,798	10,884	11,237	7.3	-3.7	1.2	-0.1	5.1	
Number given suspended sentences	4,216	4,753	4,725	4,951	5,100	5,122	5,227	5,064	4,797	21.0	7.8	10.6	2.3	-5.9	
Number given other sentences	7,283	8,300	8,141	8,236	7,995	8,575	8,624	8,263	7,677	9.8	5.5	5.9	0.3	-4.0	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.7	16.2	16.3	15.9	16.5	15.9	17.1	17.1	17.3	-0.7	-2.0	5.2	7.3	4.6	

(1) 2008 data is provisional.

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

(3) Suspended sentences are not available for juveniles

\* Number too small to give a meaningful percentage change

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

England and Wales	Females sentenced										Percentage change				
	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008	
<b>Magistrates' courts</b>															
Juveniles (under 18)															
Number sentenced	1,659	1,786	1,855	1,806	1,616	1,572	1,556	1,547	1,508	-2.6	-12.0	-16.1	-14.3	-6.7	
Number given immediate custody	68	56	62	64	63	70	79	64	63	-7.4	25.0	27.4	0.0	0.0	
Number given fines	40	45	56	60	37	40	35	39	34	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given community sentences	1,342	1,453	1,494	1,462	1,321	1,265	1,224	1,241	1,218	-1.6	-12.9	-18.1	-15.1	-7.8	
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given other sentences	209	232	243	220	195	197	218	203	193	-6.7	-15.1	-10.3	-7.7	-1.0	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	6.9	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.7	6.5	6.1	-12.4	3.5	8.2	2.0	1.7	
Young Adults (18-20)															
Number sentenced	841	945	904	936	934	909	846	819	843	11.1	-3.8	-6.4	-12.5	-9.7	
Number given immediate custody	72	74	72	80	77	56	56	44	38	6.9	-24.3	-22.2	*	*	
Number given fines	147	151	163	138	157	135	139	147	183	6.8	-10.6	-14.7	6.5	16.6	
Number given community sentences	279	336	317	348	334	334	300	292	327	19.7	-0.6	-5.4	-16.1	-2.1	
Number given suspended sentences	54	50	33	44	57	44	23	28	25	5.6	*	*	*	*	
Number given other sentences	289	334	319	326	309	340	328	308	270	6.9	1.8	2.8	-5.5	-12.6	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.3	2.0	2.2	1.8	2.0	-3.2	-7.1	-8.9	-30.1	-14.5	
Adults (21 and over)															
Number sentenced	5,819	6,575	6,469	6,457	6,709	6,668	6,639	6,526	6,747	15.3	1.4	2.6	1.1	0.6	
Number given immediate custody	682	713	736	759	798	849	835	871	765	17.0	19.1	13.5	14.8	-4.1	
Number given fines	1,067	1,148	1,149	1,126	1,122	1,079	1,113	1,160	1,179	5.2	-6.0	-3.1	3.0	5.1	
Number given community sentences	1,774	2,058	2,049	2,025	2,119	2,033	1,960	1,970	2,203	19.4	-1.2	-4.3	-2.7	4.0	
Number given suspended sentences	411	457	440	406	468	441	421	363	406	13.9	-3.5	-4.3	-10.6	-13.2	
Number given other sentences	1,885	2,199	2,095	2,141	2,202	2,266	2,310	2,162	2,194	16.8	3.0	10.3	1.0	-0.4	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.9	1.9	0.6	-0.7	-0.2	-6.9	-8.6	
<b>The Crown Court</b>															
Juveniles (under 18)															
Number sentenced	50	65	60	80	57	42	60	53	43	*	*	0.0	-33.8	*	
Number given immediate custody	19	33	25	45	25	18	25	17	14	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given fines	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given community sentences	24	27	27	31	26	21	30	28	20	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given other sentences	6.0	5.0	8.0	4.0	6.0	3	5	8	9	*	*	*	*	*	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	22.7	19.0	15.1	17.7	12.6	22.0	19.4	14.9	15.6	-44.4	15.8	28.6	-16.0	23.4	
Young Adults (18-20)															
Number sentenced	234	214	210	247	244	234	247	213	233	4.3	9.3	17.6	-13.8	-4.5	
Number given immediate custody	74	69	66	97	92	71	90	77	88	24.3	2.9	36.4	-20.6	-4.3	
Number given fines	0	1	4	1	1	1	1	2	3	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given community sentences	93	71	76	66	78	83	80	70	88	-16.1	16.9	5.3	6.1	12.8	
Number given suspended sentences	49	53	50	62	57	55	50	48	43	*	3.8	*	*	*	
Number given other sentences	18	20	14	21	16	24	26	16	11	*	*	*	*	*	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	21.1	22.3	22.1	17.2	21.8	19.5	19.0	17.5	16.9	3.5	-12.5	-14.2	1.7	-22.5	
Adults (21 and over)															
Number sentenced	1,616	1,697	1,764	1,873	1,847	2,040	2,127	1,953	1,895	14.3	20.2	20.6	4.3	2.6	
Number given immediate custody	572	608	654	666	695	775	827	700	682	21.5	27.5	26.5	5.1	-1.9	
Number given fines	22	43	20	31	28	28	21	36	26	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given community sentences	447	429	440	414	380	471	464	427	445	-15.0	9.8	5.5	3.1	17.1	
Number given suspended sentences	443	472	511	587	609	610	684	661	604	37.5	29.2	33.9	12.6	-0.8	
Number given other sentences	132	145	139	175	135	156	131	129	138	2.3	7.6	-5.8	-26.3	2.2	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	20.4	21.9	20.6	21.5	18.6	20.7	19.5	19.9	22.2	-8.7	-5.3	-5.3	-7.5	19.3	
<b>All Courts</b>															
Juveniles (under 18)															
Number sentenced	1,709	1,851	1,915	1,886	1,673	1,614	1,616	1,600	1,551	-2.1	-12.8	-15.6	-15.2	-7.3	
Number given immediate custody	87	89	87	109	88	88	104	81	77	1.1	-1.1	19.5	-25.7	-12.5	
Number given fines	41	45	56	60	37	40	35	39	34	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given community sentences	1,366	1,480	1,521	1,493	1,347	1,286	1,254	1,269	1,238	-1.4	-13.1	-17.6	-15.0	-8.1	
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given other sentences	215	237	251	224	201	200	223	211	202	-6.5	-15.6	-11.2	-5.8	0.5	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	10.3	10.7	8.7	11.0	7.9	9.3	9.6	8.3	7.8	-23.6	-12.8	10.7	-24.6	-1.1	
Young Adults (18-20)															
Number sentenced	1,075	1,159	1,114	1,183	1,178	1,143	1,093	1,032	1,076	9.6	-1.4	-1.9	-12.8	-8.7	
Number given immediate custody	146	143	138	177	169	127	146	121	126	15.8	-11.2	5.8	-31.6	-25.4	
Number given fines	147	152	167	139	158	136	140	149	186	7.5	-10.5	-16.2	7.2	17.7	
Number given community sentences	372	407	393	414	412	417	380	362	415	10.8	2.5	-3.3	-12.6	0.7	
Number given suspended sentences	103	103	83	106	114	99	73	76	68	10.7	-3.9	-12.0	-28.3	-40.4	
Number given other sentences	307	354	333	347	325	364	354	324	281	5.9	2.8	6.3	-6.6	-13.5	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	11.7384	11.8	11.8	10.4	12.7	11.6	12.4	11.7	12.4	7.9	-1.6	5.3	12.1	-2.1	
Adults (21 and over)															
Number sentenced	7,435	8,272	8,233	8,330	8,556	8,708	8,766	8,479	8,642	15.1	5.3	6.5	1.8	1.0	
Number given immediate custody	1,254	1,321	1,390	1,425	1,493	1,624	1,662	1,571	1,447	19.1	22.9	19.6	10.2	-3.1	
Number given fines	1,089	1,191	1,169	1,157	1,150	1,107	1,134	1,196	1,205	5.6	-7.1	-3.0	3.4	4.8	
Number given community sentences	2,221	2,487	2,489	2,439	2,499	2,504	2,424	2,397	2,648	12.5	0.7	-2.6	-1.7	6.0	
Number given suspended sentences	854	929	951	993	1,077	1,051	1,105	1,024	1,010	26.1	13.1	16.2	3.1	-6.2	
Number given other sentences	2,017	2,344	2,234	2,316	2,337	2,422	2,441	2,291	2,332	15.9	3.3	9.3	-1.1	-0.2	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	10.336	11.0	10.7	11.1	9.7	10.9	10.6	9.8	11.4	-6.5	-0.9	-1.0	-11.5	17.9	

(1) 2008 data is provisional.

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

(3) Suspended sentences are not available for juveniles

\* Number too small to give a meaningful percentage change

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

England and Wales	Persons sentenced										Percentage change				
	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008	
<b>Magistrates' courts</b>															
Juveniles (under 18)															
Number sentenced	11,342	12,191	12,455	12,145	11,387	11,036	10,781	10,751	10,173	0.4	-9.5	-13.4	-11.5	-10.7	
Number given immediate custody	848	810	879	884	779	793	837	749	689	-8.1	-2.1	-4.8	-15.3	-11.6	
Number given fines	573	607	578	588	587	511	564	531	467	2.4	-15.8	-2.4	-9.7	-20.4	
Number given community sentences	8,595	9,252	9,505	9,194	8,691	8,360	7,951	8,017	7,749	1.1	-9.6	-16.3	-12.8	-10.8	
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given other sentences	1,326	1,522	1,493	1,479	1,330	1,372	1,429	1,453	1,268	0.3	-9.9	-4.3	-1.8	-4.7	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.0	6.3	2.9	4.3	0.0	-5.4	
Young Adults (18-20)															
Number sentenced	7,351	8,157	8,037	7,993	7,757	7,415	6,935	6,870	6,570	5.5	-9.1	-13.7	-14.0	-15.3	
Number given immediate custody	870	916	970	976	929	779	607	524	410	6.8	-15.0	-37.4	-46.3	-55.9	
Number given fines	1,816	1,968	1,916	1,785	1,742	1,698	1,620	1,821	1,861	-4.1	-13.7	-15.4	2.0	6.8	
Number given community sentences	2,511	2,787	2,791	2,864	2,775	2,603	2,522	2,453	2,470	10.5	-6.6	-9.6	-14.4	-11.0	
Number given suspended sentences	415	444	391	381	450	384	289	309	237	8.4	-13.5	-26.1	-18.9	-47.3	
Number given other sentences	1,739	2,042	1,969	1,987	1,861	1,951	1,897	1,763	1,592	7.0	-4.5	-3.7	-11.3	-14.5	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.4	-2.9	-3.7	-7.1	-11.1	-7.7	
Adults (21 and over)															
Number sentenced	35,203	39,327	37,900	38,902	38,290	39,947	38,971	39,065	37,961	8.8	1.6	2.8	0.4	-0.9	
Number given immediate custody	5,517	5,908	5,704	6,170	6,193	6,683	6,354	6,370	5,850	12.3	13.1	11.4	3.2	-5.5	
Number given fines	8,878	9,604	9,250	9,357	8,887	9,165	9,175	9,925	9,332	0.1	-4.6	-0.8	6.1	5.0	
Number given community sentences	9,655	11,271	10,696	10,891	10,893	10,980	10,647	10,681	11,277	12.8	-2.6	-0.5	-1.9	3.5	
Number given suspended sentences	2,529	2,700	2,655	2,704	2,752	2,709	2,534	2,318	2,268	8.8	0.3	-4.6	-14.3	-17.6	
Number given other sentences	8,624	9,844	9,595	9,780	9,565	10,410	10,261	9,771	9,234	10.9	5.7	6.9	-0.1	-3.5	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	-3.8	0.0	-4.3	-8.7	-4.5	
<b>The Crown Court</b>															
Juveniles (under 18)															
Number sentenced	598	671	663	656	655	664	707	662	627	9.5	-1.0	6.6	0.9	-4.3	
Number given immediate custody	386	407	395	419	397	400	392	402	377	2.8	-1.7	-0.8	-4.1	-5.0	
Number given fines	1	3	2	3	4	1	3	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given community sentences	183	229	222	203	203	237	261	228	210	10.9	3.5	17.6	12.3	3.4	
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given other sentences	28	32	44	31	51	26	51	32	40	*	*	*	*	*	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	21.6	20.8	20.1	21.2	19.7	21.6	21.1	23.1	21.8	-8.9	3.8	5.0	9.0	10.7	
Young Adults (18-20)															
Number sentenced	2,994	3,339	3,120	3,165	3,321	3,216	3,150	3,038	2,973	10.9	-3.7	1.0	-4.0	-10.5	
Number given immediate custody	1,645	1,837	1,767	1,835	1,858	1,734	1,781	1,758	1,701	12.9	-5.6	0.8	-4.2	-8.4	
Number given fines	39	56	50	50	49	39	45	36	36	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given community sentences	749	741	698	622	711	669	742	672	688	-5.1	-9.7	6.3	8.0	-3.2	
Number given suspended sentences	447	553	452	537	567	648	423	413	418	26.8	17.2	-6.4	-23.1	-26.3	
Number given other sentences	114	152	153	121	136	126	159	159	130	19.3	-17.1	3.9	31.4	-4.4	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	23.1	21.0	20.1	20.4	20.7	21.1	22.1	22.3	21.9	-10.4	0.5	10.0	9.3	5.8	
Adults (21 and over)															
Number sentenced	14,024	15,431	14,813	15,330	15,486	16,584	17,516	17,362	17,045	10.4	7.5	18.2	13.3	10.1	
Number given immediate custody	7,977	8,543	8,223	8,542	8,696	9,429	10,016	9,902	9,826	9.0	10.4	21.8	15.9	13.0	
Number given fines	294	417	322	328	299	345	323	307	297	1.7	-17.3	0.3	-6.4	-0.7	
Number given community sentences	2,536	2,689	2,467	2,448	2,299	2,577	2,575	2,600	2,608	-9.3	-4.2	4.4	6.2	13.4	
Number given suspended sentences	2,541	2,982	3,021	3,240	3,425	3,464	3,798	3,770	3,539	34.8	16.2	25.7	16.4	3.3	
Number given other sentences	676	800	780	772	767	769	804	783	775	13.5	-3.9	3.1	1.4	1.0	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	26.2	25.6	25.5	25.5	26.1	25.2	26.0	26.0	25.8	-0.3	-1.6	2.0	2.0	-1.1	
<b>All Courts</b>															
Juveniles (under 18)															
Number sentenced	11,940	12,862	13,118	12,801	12,042	11,700	11,488	11,413	10,800	0.9	-9.0	-12.4	-10.8	-10.3	
Number given immediate custody	1,234	1,217	1,274	1,303	1,176	1,193	1,229	1,151	1,066	-4.7	-2.0	-3.5	-11.7	-9.4	
Number given fines	574	610	580	591	591	512	567	531	467	3.0	-16.1	-2.2	-10.2	-21.0	
Number given community sentences	8,778	9,481	9,727	9,397	8,894	8,597	8,212	8,245	7,959	1.3	-9.3	-15.6	-12.3	-10.5	
Number given suspended sentences <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given other sentences	1,354	1,554	1,537	1,510	1,381	1,398	1,480	1,485	1,308	2.0	-10.0	-3.7	-1.7	-5.3	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	11.4	11.4	10.9	11.5	11.4	11.8	11.4	12.6	12.1	0.1	3.5	4.6	9.6	6.1	
Young Adults (18-20)															
Number sentenced	10,345	11,496	11,157	11,158	11,078	10,631	10,085	9,908	9,543	7.1	-7.5	-9.6	-11.2	-13.9	
Number given immediate custody	2,515	2,753	2,737	2,811	2,787	2,513	2,388	2,282	2,111	10.8	-8.7	-12.8	-18.8	-24.3	
Number given fines	1,855	2,024	1,966	1,835	1,791	1,737	1,665	1,857	1,897	-3.5	-14.2	-15.3	1.2	5.9	
Number given community sentences	3,260	3,528	3,489	3,486	3,486	3,272	3,264	3,125	3,158	6.9	-7.3	-6.4	-10.4	-9.4	
Number given suspended sentences	862	997	843	918	1,017	1,032	712	722	655	18.0	3.5	-15.5	-21.4	-35.6	
Number given other sentences	1,853	2,194	2,122	2,108	1,997	2,077	2,056	1,922	1,722	7.8	-5.3	-3.1	-8.8	-13.8	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	15.8	14.7	13.8	14.1	14.4	15.2	16.9	17.6	18.0	-9.0	3.4	22.5	24.8	25.0	
Adults (21 and over)															
Number sentenced	49,227	54,758	52,713	54,232	53,776	56,531	56,487	56,427	55,006	9.2	3.2	7.2	4.0	2.3	
Number given immediate custody	13,494	14,451	13,927	14,712	14,889	16,112	16,370	16,272	15,676	10.3	11.5	17.5	10.6	5.3	
Number given fines	9,172	10,021	9,572	9,685	9,186	9,510	9,498	10,232	9,629	0.2	-5.1	-0.8	5.6	4.8	
Number given community sentences	12,191	13,960	13,163	13,339	13,192	13,557	13,222	13,281	13,885	8.2	-2.9	0.4	-0.4	5.3	
Number given suspended sentences	5,070	5,682	5,676	5,944	6,177	6,173	6,332	6,088	5,807	21.8	8.6	11.6	2.4	-6.0	
Number given other sentences	9,300	10,644	10,375	10,552	10,332	11,179	11,065	10,554	10,009	11.1	5.0	6.7	0.0	-3.1	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.0	15.7	15.7	15.5	15.8	15.4	16.4	16.4	16.7	-1.5	-1.9	4.5	5.8	5.7	

(1) 2008 data is provisional.

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

(3) Suspended sentences are not available for juveniles

\* Number too small to give a meaningful percentage change

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

England and Wales	Persons sentenced										Percentage change				
	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008	
<b>Magistrates' courts</b>															
<b>Males</b>															
Number sentenced	45,577	50,369	49,164	49,841	48,175	49,249	47,646	47,794	45,606	5.7	-2.2	-3.1	-4.1	-5.3	
Number given immediate custody	6,413	6,791	6,683	7,127	6,963	7,280	6,828	6,664	6,083	8.6	7.2	2.2	-6.5	-12.6	
Number given fines	10,013	10,835	10,376	10,406	9,900	10,120	10,072	10,931	10,264	-1.1	-6.6	-2.9	5.0	3.7	
Number given community sentences	17,366	19,463	19,132	19,114	18,585	18,311	17,636	17,648	17,748	7.0	-5.9	-7.8	-7.7	-4.5	
Number given suspended sentences	2,479	2,637	2,573	2,635	2,677	2,608	2,379	2,237	2,074	8.0	-1.1	-7.5	-15.1	-22.5	
Number given other sentences	9,306	10,643	10,400	10,559	10,050	10,930	10,731	10,314	9,437	8.0	2.7	3.2	-2.3	-6.1	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	-4.5	-3.4	-3.4	-6.9	-3.6	
<b>Females</b>															
Number sentenced	8,319	9,306	9,228	9,199	9,259	9,149	9,041	8,892	9,098	11.3	-1.7	-2.0	-3.3	-1.7	
Number given immediate custody	822	843	870	903	938	975	970	979	866	14.1	15.7	11.5	8.4	-7.7	
Number given fines	1,254	1,344	1,368	1,324	1,316	1,254	1,287	1,346	1,396	4.9	-6.7	-5.9	1.7	6.1	
Number given community sentences	3,395	3,847	3,860	3,835	3,774	3,632	3,484	3,503	3,748	11.2	-5.6	-9.7	-8.7	-0.7	
Number given suspended sentences	465	507	473	450	525	485	444	391	431	12.9	-4.3	-6.1	-13.1	-17.9	
Number given other sentences	2,383	2,765	2,657	2,687	2,706	2,803	2,856	2,673	2,657	13.6	1.4	7.5	-0.5	-1.8	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.2	2.2	-3.7	0.0	4.2	-8.3	-8.3	
<b>Persons</b>															
Number sentenced	53,896	59,675	58,392	59,040	57,434	58,398	56,687	56,686	54,704	6.6	-2.1	-2.9	-4.0	-4.8	
Number given immediate custody	7,235	7,634	7,553	8,030	7,901	8,255	7,798	7,643	6,949	9.2	8.1	3.2	-4.8	-12.0	
Number given fines	11,267	12,179	11,744	11,730	11,216	11,374	11,359	12,277	11,660	-0.5	-6.6	-3.3	4.7	4.0	
Number given community sentences	20,761	23,310	22,992	22,949	22,359	21,943	21,120	21,151	21,496	7.7	-5.9	-8.1	-7.8	-3.9	
Number given suspended sentences	2,944	3,144	3,046	3,085	3,202	3,093	2,823	2,628	2,505	8.8	-1.6	-7.3	-14.8	-21.8	
Number given other sentences	11,689	13,408	13,057	13,246	12,756	13,733	13,587	12,987	12,094	9.1	2.4	4.1	-2.0	-5.2	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.6	-2.9	-3.6	-3.4	-10.3	-7.1	
<b>The Crown Court</b>															
<b>Males</b>															
Number sentenced	15,716	17,465	16,562	16,951	17,314	18,148	18,939	18,843	18,474	10.2	3.9	14.4	11.2	6.7	
Number given immediate custody	9,343	10,077	9,640	9,988	10,139	10,699	11,247	11,268	11,120	8.5	6.2	16.7	12.8	9.7	
Number given fines	311	432	350	349	323	356	349	305	304	3.9	-17.6	-0.3	-12.6	-5.9	
Number given community sentences	2,904	3,132	2,844	2,762	2,729	2,908	3,004	2,975	2,953	-6.0	-7.2	5.6	7.7	8.2	
Number given suspended sentences	2,496	3,010	2,912	3,128	3,326	3,447	3,487	3,474	3,310	33.3	14.5	19.7	11.1	-0.5	
Number given other sentences	662	814	816	724	797	738	852	821	787	20.4	-9.3	4.4	13.4	-1.3	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	25.8	24.8	24.7	24.7	25.4	24.8	25.8	25.8	25.4	-1.7	0.0	4.5	4.5	0.0	
<b>Females</b>															
Number sentenced	1,900	1,976	2,034	2,200	2,148	2,316	2,434	2,219	2,171	13.1	17.2	19.7	0.9	1.1	
Number given immediate custody	665	710	745	808	812	864	942	794	784	22.1	21.7	26.4	-1.7	-3.4	
Number given fines	23	44	24	32	29	29	22	38	29	*	*	*	*	*	
Number given community sentences	564	527	543	511	484	575	574	525	553	-14.2	9.1	5.7	2.7	14.3	
Number given suspended sentences	492	525	561	649	666	665	734	709	647	35.4	26.7	30.8	9.2	-2.9	
Number given other sentences	156	170	161	200	157	183	162	153	158	0.6	7.6	0.6	-23.5	0.6	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	20.5	21.8	20.6	20.8	18.8	20.7	19.5	19.6	21.5	-8.4	-5.0	-5.3	-5.8	14.4	
<b>Persons</b>															
Number sentenced	17,616	19,441	18,596	19,151	19,462	20,464	21,373	21,062	20,645	10.5	5.3	14.9	10.0	6.1	
Number given immediate custody	10,008	10,787	10,385	10,796	10,951	11,563	12,189	12,062	11,904	9.4	7.2	17.4	11.7	8.7	
Number given fines	334	476	374	381	352	385	371	343	333	5.4	-19.1	-0.8	-10.0	-5.4	
Number given community sentences	3,468	3,659	3,387	3,273	3,213	3,483	3,578	3,500	3,506	-7.4	-4.8	5.6	6.9	9.1	
Number given suspended sentences	2,988	3,535	3,473	3,777	3,992	4,112	4,221	4,183	3,957	33.6	16.3	21.5	10.7	-0.9	
Number given other sentences	818	984	977	924	954	921	1,014	974	945	16.6	-6.4	3.8	5.4	-0.9	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	25.5	24.6	24.4	24.4	24.9	24.5	25.3	25.3	25.1	-2.3	-0.4	3.7	3.7	0.8	
<b>All Courts</b>															
<b>Males</b>															
Number sentenced	61,293	67,834	65,726	66,792	65,489	67,397	66,585	66,637	64,080	6.8	-0.6	1.3	-0.2	-2.2	
Number given immediate custody	15,756	16,868	16,323	17,115	17,102	17,979	18,075	17,932	17,203	8.5	6.6	10.7	4.8	0.6	
Number given fines	10,324	11,267	10,726	10,755	10,223	10,476	10,421	11,236	10,568	-1.0	-7.0	-2.8	4.5	3.4	
Number given community sentences	20,270	22,595	21,976	21,876	21,314	21,219	20,640	20,623	20,701	5.2	-6.1	-6.1	-5.7	-2.9	
Number given suspended sentences	4,975	5,647	5,485	5,763	6,003	6,055	5,866	5,711	5,384	20.7	7.2	6.9	-0.9	-10.3	
Number given other sentences	9,968	11,457	11,216	11,283	10,847	11,668	11,583	11,135	10,224	8.8	1.8	3.3	-1.3	-5.7	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.2	15.7	15.5	15.4	15.9	15.6	16.7	17.0	17.1	-1.7	-0.6	7.7	10.4	7.5	
<b>Females</b>															
Number sentenced	10,219	11,282	11,262	11,399	11,407	11,465	11,475	11,111	11,269	11.6	1.6	1.9	-2.5	-1.2	
Number given immediate custody	1,487	1,553	1,615	1,711	1,750	1,839	1,912	1,773	1,650	17.7	18.4	18.4	3.6	-5.7	
Number given fines	1,277	1,388	1,392	1,356	1,345	1,283	1,309	1,384	1,425	5.3	-7.6	-6.0	2.1	5.9	
Number given community sentences	3,959	4,374	4,403	4,346	4,258	4,207	4,058	4,028	4,301	7.6	-3.8	-7.8	-7.3	1.0	
Number given suspended sentences	957	1,032	1,034	1,099	1,191	1,150	1,178	1,100	1,078	24.5	11.4	13.9	0.1	-9.5	
Number given other sentences	2,539	2,935	2,818	2,887	2,863	2,986	3,018	2,826	2,815	12.8	1.7	7.1	-2.1	-1.7	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	10.5	11.1	10.7	11.0	9.9	10.8	10.7	9.9	11.3	-5.5	-2.7	0.0	-10.0	14.1	
<b>Persons</b>															
Number sentenced	71,512	79,116	76,988	78,191	76,896	78,862	78,060	77,748	75,349	7.5	-0.3	1.4	-0.6	-2.0	
Number given immediate custody	17,243	18,421	17,938	18,826	18,852	19,818	19,987	19,705	18,853	9.3	7.6	11.4	4.7	0.0	
Number given fines	11,601	12,655	12,118	12,111	11,568	11,759	11,730	12,620	11,993	-0.3	-7.1	-3.2	4.2	3.7	
Number given community sentences	24,229	26,969	26,379	26,222	25,572	25,426	24,698	24,651	25,002	5.5	-5.7	-6.4	-6.0	-2.2	
Number given suspended sentences	5,932	6,679	6,519	6,862	7,194	7,205	7,044	6,811	6,462	21.3	7.9	8.1	-0.7	-10.2	
Number given other sentences	12,507	14,392	14,034	14,170	13,710	14,654	14,601	13,961	13,039	9.6	1.8	4.0	-1.5	-4.9	
Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	15.7	15.3	15.1	15.0	15.3	15.1	16.2	16.3	16.6	-2.4	-1.3	7.3	8.7	8.5	

(1) 2008 data is provisional.

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

(3) Suspended sentences are not available for juveniles

\* Number too small to give a meaningful percentage change

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

England and Wales	Persons sentenced									Percentage change				
	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008
<b>Magistrates' courts</b>														
Immediate custodial sentences														
Detention and training order	848	810	879	884	779	793	837	749	689	-8.1	-2.1	-4.8	-15.3	-11.6
Young offender institution	870	916	970	976	929	779	607	524	410	6.8	-15.0	-37.4	-46.3	-55.9
Unsuspended imprisonment	5,517	5,908	5,704	6,170	6,193	6,683	6,354	6,370	5,850	12.3	13.1	11.4	3.2	-5.5
Total immediate custody	7,235	7,634	7,553	8,030	7,901	8,255	7,798	7,643	6,949	9.2	8.1	3.2	-4.8	-12.0
Community sentences														
Community rehabilitation order	314	373	339	316	274	271	264	265	261	-12.7	-27.3	-22.1	-16.1	-4.7
Supervision order	1,730	1,890	1,893	1,799	1,624	1,513	1,438	1,263	1,248	-6.1	-19.9	-24.0	-29.8	-23.2
Community punishment order	407	360	303	314	340	294	283	314	244	-16.5	-18.3	-6.6	0.0	-28.2
Attendance centre order	418	415	477	437	477	425	406	329	335	14.1	2.4	-14.9	-24.7	-29.8
Community punishment and rehabilitation order	231	272	225	261	208	231	185	275	260	-10.0	-15.1	-17.8	5.4	25.0
Curfew order	860	926	969	920	985	960	831	1,068	1,057	14.5	3.7	-14.2	16.1	7.3
Reparation order	420	450	510	446	459	488	418	456	414	9.3	8.4	-18.0	2.2	-9.8
Action plan order	573	620	690	625	527	518	467	479	509	-8.0	-16.5	-32.3	-23.4	-3.4
Drug treatment and testing order	14	7	5	4	1	2	4	2	0	*	*	*	*	*
Referral order <sup>(2)</sup>	4,185	4,504	4,563	4,461	4,197	4,018	3,951	3,880	3,731	0.3	-10.8	-13.4	-13.0	-11.1
Community order <sup>(3)</sup>	11,609	13,493	13,018	13,366	13,267	13,223	12,873	12,820	13,437	14.3	-2.0	-1.1	-4.1	1.3
Total community sentences	20,761	23,310	22,992	22,949	22,359	21,943	21,120	21,151	21,496	7.7	-5.9	-8.1	-7.8	-3.9
Other sentences														
Absolute or conditional discharge	8,757	10,842	10,423	10,634	10,246	10,253	10,319	9,473	9,004	17.0	-5.4	-1.0	-10.9	-12.1
Fine	11,267	12,179	11,744	11,730	11,216	11,374	11,359	12,277	11,660	-0.5	-6.6	-3.3	4.7	4.0
Suspended sentence <sup>(4)</sup>	2,944	3,144	3,046	3,085	3,202	3,093	2,823	2,628	2,505	8.8	-1.6	-7.3	-14.8	-21.8
Otherwise dealt with	2,932	2,566	2,634	2,612	2,510	3,480	3,268	3,514	3,090	-14.4	35.6	24.1	34.5	23.1
Total other sentences	25,900	28,731	27,847	28,061	27,174	28,200	27,769	27,892	26,259	4.9	-1.8	-0.3	-0.6	-3.4
<b>The Crown Court</b>														
Immediate custodial sentences														
S90-92 PCC(S) Act 2000	102	109	82	119	84	114	99	128	116	-17.6	4.6	20.7	7.6	38.1
Detention and training order	247	259	272	263	277	245	261	263	258	12.1	-5.4	-4.0	0.0	-6.9
Young offender institution	1,538	1,710	1,652	1,734	1,741	1,634	1,666	1,707	1,630	13.2	-4.4	0.8	-1.6	-6.4
Unsuspended imprisonment	8,121	8,709	8,379	8,680	8,849	9,570	10,163	9,964	9,900	9.0	9.9	21.3	14.8	11.9
Total immediate custody	10,008	10,787	10,385	10,796	10,951	11,563	12,189	12,062	11,904	9.4	7.2	17.4	11.7	8.7
Community sentences														
Community rehabilitation order	64	79	60	45	37	49	51	54	48	*	*	-15.0	*	*
Supervision order	80	85	104	79	84	99	110	94	89	5.0	16.5	5.8	19.0	6.0
Community punishment order	100	114	47	36	37	63	74	56	56	*	-44.7	*	*	*
Attendance centre order	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	3	1	*	*	*	*	*
Community punishment and rehabilitation order	56	54	45	42	33	52	45	48	48	*	-3.7	*	*	*
Curfew order	48	67	44	54	63	49	68	59	52	*	*	*	9.3	-17.5
Reparation order	3	2	0	1	0	0	4	0	1	*	*	*	*	*
Action plan order	7	7	5	3	5	1	6	3	2	*	*	*	*	*
Drug treatment and testing order	10	4	6	3	0	1	0	1	0	*	*	*	*	*
Community order <sup>(3)</sup>	3,099	3,246	3,075	3,010	2,952	3,168	3,220	3,182	3,209	-4.7	-2.4	4.7	5.7	8.7
Total community sentences	3,468	3,659	3,387	3,273	3,213	3,483	3,578	3,500	3,506	-7.4	-4.8	5.6	6.9	9.1
Other sentences														
Absolute or conditional discharge	406	520	496	483	478	501	493	493	475	17.7	-3.7	-0.6	2.1	-0.6
Fine	334	476	374	381	352	385	371	343	333	5.4	-19.1	-0.8	-10.0	-5.4
Suspended sentence <sup>(4)</sup>	2,988	3,535	3,473	3,777	3,992	4,112	4,221	4,183	3,957	33.6	16.3	21.5	10.7	-0.9
Otherwise dealt with	412	464	481	441	476	420	521	481	470	15.5	-9.5	8.3	9.1	-1.3
Total other sentences	4,140	4,995	4,824	5,082	5,298	5,418	5,606	5,500	5,235	28.0	8.5	16.2	8.2	-1.2
<b>All courts</b>														
Immediate custodial sentences														
S90-92 PCC(S) Act 2000	102	109	82	119	84	114	99	128	116	-17.6	4.6	20.7	7.6	38.1
Detention and training order	1,095	1,069	1,151	1,147	1,056	1,038	1,098	1,012	947	-3.6	-2.9	-4.6	-11.8	-10.3
Young offender institution	2,408	2,626	2,622	2,710	2,670	2,413	2,273	2,231	2,040	10.9	-8.1	-13.3	-17.7	-23.6
Unsuspended imprisonment	13,638	14,617	14,083	14,850	15,042	16,253	16,517	16,334	15,750	10.3	11.2	17.3	10.0	4.7
Total immediate custody	17,243	18,421	17,938	18,826	18,852	19,818	19,987	19,705	18,853	9.3	7.6	11.4	4.7	0.0
Community sentences														
Community rehabilitation order	378	452	399	361	311	320	315	319	309	-17.7	-29.2	-21.1	-11.6	-0.6
Supervision order	1,810	1,975	1,997	1,878	1,708	1,612	1,548	1,357	1,337	-5.6	-18.4	-22.5	-27.7	-21.7
Community punishment order	507	474	350	350	377	357	357	370	300	-25.6	-24.7	2.0	5.7	-20.4
Attendance centre order	419	416	478	437	479	426	406	332	336	14.3	2.4	-15.1	-24.0	-29.9
Community punishment and rehabilitation order	287	326	270	303	241	283	230	323	308	-16.0	-13.2	-14.8	6.6	27.8
Curfew order	908	993	1,013	974	1,048	1,009	899	1,127	1,109	15.4	1.6	-11.3	15.7	5.8
Reparation order	423	452	510	447	459	488	422	456	415	8.5	8.0	-17.3	2.0	-9.6
Action plan order	580	627	695	628	532	519	473	482	511	-8.3	-17.2	-31.9	-23.2	-3.9
Drug treatment and testing order	24	11	11	7	1	3	4	3	0	*	*	*	*	*
Referral order <sup>(2)</sup>	4,185	4,504	4,563	4,461	4,197	4,018	3,951	3,880	3,731	0.3	-10.8	-13.4	-13.0	-11.1
Community order <sup>(3)</sup>	14,708	16,739	16,093	16,376	16,219	16,391	16,093	16,002	16,646	10.3	-2.1	0.0	-2.3	2.6
Total community sentences	24,229	26,969	26,379	26,222	25,572	25,426	24,698	24,651	25,002	5.5	-5.7	-6.4	-6.0	-2.2
Other sentences														
Absolute or conditional discharge	9,163	11,362	10,919	11,117	10,724	10,754	10,812	9,966	9,479	17.0	-5.4	-1.0	-10.4	-11.6
Fine	11,601	12,655	12,118	12,111	11,568	11,759	11,730	12,620	11,993	-0.3	-7.1	-3.2	4.2	3.7
Suspended sentence <sup>(4)</sup>	5,932	6,679	6,519	6,862	7,194	7,205	7,044	6,811	6,462	21.3	7.9	8.1	-0.7	-10.2
Otherwise dealt with	3,344	3,030	3,115	3,053	2,986	3,900	3,789	3,995	3,560	-10.7	28.7	21.6	30.9	19.2
Total other sentences	30,040	33,726	32,671	33,143	32,472	33,618	33,375	33,392	31,494	8.1	-0.3	2.2	0.8	-3.0

(1) 2008 data is provisional.

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

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

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

\* Number too small to give a meaningful percentage change

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

England and Wales	Persons sentenced									Percentage change				
	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008
Violence against the person	10,267	10,848	10,237	10,535	10,456	10,361	9,924	9,828	9,666	1.8	-4.5	-3.1	-6.7	-7.6
Sexual offences	1,263	1,323	1,237	1,200	1,294	1,287	1,319	1,265	1,208	2.5	-2.7	6.6	5.4	-6.6
Burglary	5,667	5,965	5,785	6,132	5,667	5,789	5,818	6,201	5,760	0.0	-3.0	0.6	1.1	1.6
Robbery	2,031	2,237	2,200	2,186	2,239	2,118	2,060	2,215	2,086	10.2	-5.3	-6.4	1.3	-6.8
Theft and handling stolen goods	23,314	26,784	26,189	26,269	26,255	27,294	27,200	27,392	27,625	12.6	1.9	3.9	4.3	5.2
Fraud and forgery	4,142	4,945	4,868	5,144	4,940	5,005	4,438	3,824	3,634	19.3	1.2	-8.8	-25.7	-26.4
Criminal damage	3,016	3,336	3,108	3,127	2,762	2,628	2,368	2,427	1,992	-8.4	-21.2	-23.8	-22.4	-27.9
Drug offences	9,052	10,770	10,920	11,155	11,655	12,574	13,242	13,408	13,192	28.8	16.8	21.3	20.2	13.2
Other (excluding motoring offences)	11,375	11,414	11,042	11,159	10,353	10,565	10,473	10,128	9,156	-9.0	-7.4	-5.2	-9.2	-11.6
Indictable motoring offences	1,385	1,494	1,402	1,284	1,275	1,241	1,218	1,060	1,030	-7.9	-16.9	-13.1	-17.4	-19.2
<b>Total indictable offences</b>	<b>71,512</b>	<b>79,116</b>	<b>76,988</b>	<b>78,191</b>	<b>76,896</b>	<b>78,862</b>	<b>78,060</b>	<b>77,748</b>	<b>75,349</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-2.0</b>

England and Wales	Average custodial sentence length <sup>(2)</sup>									Percentage change				
	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008	Q4 2008
Violence against the person	16.6	17.5	17.3	16.2	16.6	16.5	16.7	17.0	18.5	0.3	-5.7	-3.5	4.9	11.4
Sexual offences	42.2	41.8	42.7	43.5	43.6	41.0	44.6	45.2	46.7	3.3	-1.9	4.4	3.9	7.1
Burglary	17.5	17.5	15.8	16.5	16.8	16.1	17.3	18.7	17.5	-3.8	-8.0	9.5	13.3	4.2
Robbery	31.8	29.8	30.0	30.7	34.8	31.5	33.1	32.9	32.5	9.4	5.7	10.3	7.2	-6.6
Theft and handling stolen goods	4.3	4.2	4.0	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.0	-8.9	-7.1	-5.0	-7.1	2.6
Fraud and forgery	11.5	10.1	10.3	9.9	9.7	10.6	11.1	10.9	11.4	-15.3	5.0	7.8	10.1	17.5
Criminal damage	14.6	11.6	12.6	11.9	14.5	13.7	13.5	15.3	16.1	-0.6	18.1	7.1	28.6	11.0
Drug offences	34.2	31.7	31.8	32.4	31.8	32.3	33.3	32.6	32.2	-7.1	1.9	4.7	0.6	1.3
Other (excluding motoring offences)	9.8	9.6	9.5	9.4	9.6	11.0	11.8	11.3	12.0	-2.2	14.6	24.2	20.2	25.0
Indictable motoring offences	9.6	8.7	8.8	8.7	9.0	9.2	9.2	9.4	9.6	-6.4	5.7	4.5	8.0	6.7
<b>Total indictable offences</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.5</b>

(1) 2008 data is provisional.

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

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

England and Wales		Persons sentenced and percentages										
Quarter and type of sentence		Violence against the person	Sexual offences	Burglary	Robbery	Theft and handling stolen goods	Fraud and forgery	Criminal damage	Drug offences	Other (excluding motoring offences)	Motoring offences	Total
Q4 2006	Total number sentenced	10,267	1,263	5,667	2,031	23,314	4,142	3,016	9,052	11,375	1,385	71,512
	% given immediate custody	29.0	55.1	39.9	57.2	19.4	26.4	10.3	19.1	18.8	26.5	24.1
	% given fines	5.1	3.2	1.5	0.0	13.0	12.9	10.5	33.0	32.8	25.8	16.2
	% given community sentences	39.7	26.6	42.5	36.7	38.1	31.6	49.9	22.3	22.5	28.2	33.9
	% given suspended sentences	15.8	8.5	9.5	4.2	6.4	11.1	4.0	5.6	6.9	15.7	8.3
	% given other sentences	10.5	6.7	6.5	1.8	23.2	18.0	25.3	20.0	19.0	3.8	17.5
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.6	42.2	17.5	31.8	4.3	11.5	14.6	34.2	9.8	9.6	15.7
Q1 2007	Total number sentenced	10,848	1,323	5,965	2,237	26,784	4,945	3,336	10,770	11,414	1,494	79,116
	% given immediate custody	29.6	56.4	39.4	53.7	17.9	24.5	10.2	18.1	19.3	27.7	23.3
	% given fines	5.0	3.4	2.0	0.3	13.7	12.0	9.5	32.1	31.0	24.6	16.0
	% given community sentences	38.6	26.1	43.6	39.9	38.1	33.0	45.0	23.2	23.9	26.1	34.1
	% given suspended sentences	16.6	9.0	9.6	4.5	6.2	10.2	3.9	6.2	7.9	15.6	8.4
	% given other sentences	10.3	5.1	5.4	1.6	24.2	20.3	31.4	20.4	17.9	6.0	18.2
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	17.5	41.8	17.5	29.8	4.2	10.1	11.6	31.7	9.6	8.7	15.3
Q2 2007	Total number sentenced	10,237	1,237	5,785	2,200	26,189	4,868	3,108	10,920	11,042	1,402	76,988
	% given immediate custody	29.1	55.4	38.6	54.2	18.1	25.2	10.6	18.4	19.4	28.0	23.3
	% given fines	4.5	2.3	1.9	0.5	13.3	11.6	9.6	31.7	30.7	22.7	15.7
	% given community sentences	39.3	27.2	44.1	39.0	38.6	32.7	46.2	23.0	23.3	27.9	34.3
	% given suspended sentences	16.7	9.0	9.4	4.9	6.2	11.9	4.0	5.8	7.9	15.3	8.5
	% given other sentences	10.3	6.1	6.1	1.5	23.8	18.7	29.5	21.1	18.7	6.2	18.2
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	17.3	42.7	15.8	30.0	4.0	10.3	12.6	31.8	9.5	8.8	15.1
Q3 2007	Total number sentenced	10,535	1,200	6,132	2,186	26,269	5,144	3,127	11,155	11,159	1,284	78,191
	% given immediate custody	29.9	56.6	39.5	53.0	18.8	27.2	11.0	18.6	20.3	30.4	24.1
	% given fines	5.0	2.0	2.0	0.3	12.9	10.4	9.8	31.9	30.0	23.6	15.5
	% given community sentences	37.5	27.8	42.9	39.8	38.2	30.6	45.1	22.9	22.5	25.5	33.5
	% given suspended sentences	17.1	8.3	10.2	5.3	6.2	12.6	4.6	6.1	8.3	15.3	8.8
	% given other sentences	10.4	5.3	5.4	1.6	23.9	19.1	29.5	20.5	18.9	5.2	18.1
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.2	43.5	16.5	30.7	4.2	9.9	11.9	32.4	9.4	8.7	15.0
Q4 2007	Total number sentenced	10,456	1,294	5,667	2,239	26,255	4,940	2,762	11,655	10,353	1,275	76,896
	% given immediate custody	30.5	54.1	39.4	54.5	19.5	27.3	11.5	18.5	21.1	30.1	24.5
	% given fines	4.6	2.9	1.9	0.4	12.6	11.4	9.7	31.8	27.2	20.9	15.0
	% given community sentences	37.7	27.0	41.3	38.0	37.4	30.3	44.4	23.5	23.9	25.2	33.3
	% given suspended sentences	17.7	8.5	11.8	5.7	6.9	13.4	4.6	6.0	8.9	18.0	9.4
	% given other sentences	9.5	7.5	5.6	1.4	23.6	17.5	29.9	20.2	18.9	5.8	17.8
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.6	43.6	16.8	34.8	3.9	9.7	14.5	31.8	9.6	9.0	15.3
Q1 2008	Total number sentenced	10,361	1,287	5,789	2,118	27,294	5,005	2,628	12,574	10,565	1,241	78,862
	% given immediate custody	30.2	56.8	42.0	57.5	20.0	29.2	11.6	18.6	22.5	29.4	25.1
	% given fines	4.4	1.6	1.7	0.0	12.5	11.1	9.8	31.0	26.6	20.2	14.9
	% given community sentences	37.4	28.1	39.0	36.0	36.3	28.0	43.2	23.0	23.6	27.7	32.2
	% given suspended sentences	18.2	8.9	10.4	4.8	6.6	13.0	4.4	5.9	9.2	18.6	9.1
	% given other sentences	9.7	4.5	6.9	1.7	24.7	18.7	31.1	21.4	18.2	4.0	18.6
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.5	41.0	16.1	31.5	3.9	10.6	13.7	32.3	11.0	9.2	15.1
Q2 2008	Total number sentenced	9,924	1,319	5,818	2,060	27,200	4,438	2,368	13,242	10,473	1,218	78,060
	% given immediate custody	33.3	58.4	41.6	59.5	19.3	29.5	11.3	19.1	24.4	29.7	25.6
	% given fines	3.8	2.4	1.6	0.2	12.5	11.2	10.8	31.2	25.8	20.0	15.0
	% given community sentences	35.5	26.7	40.2	32.5	36.2	26.7	44.3	22.5	23.3	25.7	31.6
	% given suspended sentences	17.8	7.4	10.3	5.6	6.1	15.2	4.8	5.7	9.9	18.2	9.0
	% given other sentences	9.6	5.2	6.3	2.2	25.9	17.4	28.8	21.4	16.7	6.4	18.7
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	16.7	44.6	17.3	33.1	3.8	11.1	13.5	33.3	11.8	9.2	16.2
Q3 2008	Total number sentenced	9,828	1,265	6,201	2,215	27,392	3,824	2,427	13,408	10,128	1,060	77,748
	% given immediate custody	34.3	57.9	42.1	60.7	18.8	30.0	11.5	16.9	24.4	30.8	25.3
	% given fines	3.8	1.7	1.7	0.0	13.1	12.8	12.3	35.2	27.6	21.0	16.2
	% given community sentences	35.7	25.9	38.9	33.2	36.4	26.4	43.2	22.6	23.0	26.6	31.7
	% given suspended sentences	18.1	9.0	10.3	4.2	5.7	15.4	4.3	5.5	10.0	17.0	8.8
	% given other sentences	8.0	5.5	7.0	1.9	25.9	15.4	28.7	19.9	15.0	4.6	18.0
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	17.0	45.2	18.7	32.9	3.9	10.9	15.3	32.6	11.3	9.4	16.3
Q4 2008	Total number sentenced	9,666	1,208	5,760	2,086	27,625	3,634	1,992	13,192	9,156	1,030	75,349
	% given immediate custody	35.0	59.2	42.4	60.6	17.6	29.4	12.8	16.6	25.6	31.8	25.0
	% given fines	3.8	1.7	1.2	0.0	12.5	12.0	11.0	36.1	27.0	17.5	15.9
	% given community sentences	36.4	27.1	39.9	32.1	38.4	30.5	44.0	23.1	24.7	28.2	33.2
	% given suspended sentences	17.5	7.2	9.3	5.4	6.0	14.9	5.3	5.0	9.7	18.2	8.6
	% given other sentences	7.2	4.9	7.2	1.8	25.5	13.2	26.9	19.3	13.1	4.4	17.3
	Average custodial sentence length (months) <sup>(2)</sup>	18.5	46.7	17.5	32.5	4.0	11.4	16.1	32.2	12.0	9.6	16.6

(1) 2008 data is provisional.

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

0.0 - Less than 0.1 per cent