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Correction Notice

Crime and Justice

ST41

Due to a production error, data in the key points under Prisons and sentencing (bullet point 1) and the units used in Table 5 (page 17) and the associated text were incorrect.

Text for Table 6 has been amended as it should refer to people sentenced for indictable offences not people in prison as previously stated.

ONS apologises for any inconvenience caused.

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Crime and Justice

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This chapter reports on data about crimes recorded by the police in the United Kingdom. We also report on information about crime levels, types of offence and victims of crime and how residents of England and Wales perceive changes in levels of crime both nationally and locally. The chapter then discusses statistics on offenders, prisons, sentencing and the police.

Key Points

Crime levels

- Of the 9.6 million crimes in England and Wales in 2010/11, almost two-thirds (5.9 million) were household crime and the remainder 3.8 million offences, were personal crime
- In 2009/10 in England and Wales, crime levels were at their historically lowest levels since the survey began in 1981
- In 2009/10 across the UK, there were 4.8 million crimes recorded by the police a fall of 8 per cent from 5.2 million offences in 2008/09

Offences and victims

- There were 7,006 offences in England and Wales, in which a firearm was reported to have been used and reported to the police in 2010/11. This was a decrease of 36 per cent from the peak of 11,088 in 2005/06
- In England and Wales in 2009/10, 619 deaths were recorded as homicide, a decrease of 4 per cent compared with 644 in 2008/09
- In England and Wales in 2009/10 males aged 16 to 20 in England and Wales were most at risk of being victims of homicide, with a rate of 34 homicides per million people in this age group
- In 2010/11 in England and Wales, repeat victimisation for the main crime types remained at around their lowest level since the first British Crime Survey results for 1981

Perceptions of crime

- The proportion of adults aged 16 and over who thought crime nationally had increased in England and Wales fell from 66 per cent in 2009/10 to 60 per cent in 2010/11
- At a local level in England and Wales, adults aged 16 and over believe that crime is not going up, while at a national level people believe that it is

Offenders

- Criminal justice figures based on administrative data collected by the police and courts in England and Wales, show that in 2010 1.6 million offenders were found guilty of, or cautioned for indictable and summary (including motoring) offences
- In 2010 in England and Wales, the total number of offenders found guilty of or cautioned for indictable offences had increased by 0.8 per cent for males and decreased by 8.0 per cent for females when compared with 2009

- Over four fifths of persons convicted of, or cautioned for indictable offences in England and Wales in 2010 were males (82 per cent)

Prisons and sentencing

- There were 140,800 Public Notice Disorders issued in England and Wales in 2010, of which 13,900 (10 per cent) were for possession of cannabis
- Between 1 June 2000 and 31 December 2009, nearly half (49 per cent) of adults aged 21 and over in England and Wales with an ASBO breached it at least once while 38 per cent breached it more than once
- In 2010, there were 384 prisoners sentenced to life imprisonment in England and Wales, a decrease of 9 per cent when compared with 421 in 2009

Resources

- In 2009/10 in England and Wales, police funding was at its highest recorded level of £12.6 billion, 44 per cent higher than 1995/96 when it was £8.8 billion

Crime levels

This section discusses the incidence of crimeⁱ, while the victims of crime are covered in the offences and victims section.

Table 1 Crime in England and Wales; British Crime Survey¹

			Millions
	All household crime	All personal crime	All crime
1981	7.0	4.1	11.1
1991	10.4	4.7	15.1
1995	12.2	6.9	19.1
1997	10.3	6.1	16.5
2001/02	7.8	4.7	12.5
2002/03	7.5	4.7	12.3
2004/05	6.6	4.1	10.7
2005/06	6.6	4.1	10.7
2006/07	6.9	4.2	11.1
2007/08	6.2	3.8	10.0
2008/09	6.5	3.9	10.4
2009/10	5.9	3.6	9.5
2010/11	5.9	3.8	9.6

¹ Prior to 2001/02, BCS estimates relate to crimes experienced in a given calendar year. From 2001/02 onwards the estimates relate to crimes experienced in the last 12 months based on interviews in the given financial year.

Source: *Crime in England and Wales 2010/11 (HO, 2011)*

The British Crime Survey (BCS) is a sample survey which collects information for England and Wales. It shows that the estimated number of crimes in England and Wales began to rise steadily from 11.1 million in 1981 and continued to rise through the early 1990s to peak at 19.1 million in 1995 (**Table 1**). Subsequently, the number of crimes fell to 9.5 million in 2009/10, the lowest since the survey began, and increased slightly in 2010/11 to 9.6 million. Of these 9.6 million crimes in 2010/11, almost two-thirds (5.9 million) were household crime and 3.8 million crimes, were personal crime. The number of personal crimes increased by 3 per cent between 2009/10 and 2010/11 while there was no noticeable change in the number of household crimes.

The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) estimated that there were 945,000 crimes committed against adults living in private households in Scotland in 2009/10, compared with 1.04 million in 2008/09, a decrease of 10 per cent. Of the 945,000 crimes committed in 2009/10, 679,000 (72 per cent) were property crimes, a decrease of 51,000 (7 per cent) compared with 2008/09. The remaining 266,000 (28 per cent) crimes were violent crimes of assault and robbery, a decrease of 54,000 (16 per cent) compared with 2008/09.

The Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS) estimated that there were 189,000 crimes committed against adults living in private households in the 12 months prior to interview in 2009/10, an increase of 7 per cent compared with 2008/09 (176,000), but more than a third (36 per cent) lower than the peak of 295,000 in 2003/04.

The BCS estimates of crime are considerably higher than the number of offences recorded by the police. Many crimes included in responses to the BCS are not reported to the police for a variety of reasons. For example, people may consider that the crime was too trivial or that it was not worthwhile reporting because there was no loss involved. Police recorded crime statistics provide a good measure of trends in well-reported crimes. They are an important indicator of police workload and can be used for local crime-pattern analysis. They do not, however, include crimes that have not been reported to the police or that the police decided not to record.

Table 2 **Offences recorded by the police: by type of offence¹, 2009/10**

United Kingdom	Percentages			
	England & Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Theft and handling stolen goods	35.3	34.6	24.4	35.1
Theft from vehicles	7.8	3.0	3.7	7.4
Theft of vehicles	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7
Criminal damage	18.6	27.6	24.2	19.4
Violence against the person ²	20.1	3.3	27.4	19.1
Burglary ³	12.5	7.0	11.5	12.1
Drug offences	5.4	11.7	2.9	5.8
Fraud and forgery	3.5	2.6	3.1	3.4
Robbery	1.7	0.7	1.2	1.6
Sexual offences	1.3	0.8	1.8	1.2
Other offences ⁴	1.6	12.4	3.6	2.3
All notifiable offences (=100%) (thousands)	4,339	338	109	4,786

1 See note¹: Types of offences.

2 In Scotland, violence against the person includes robbery.

3 In Scotland, burglary is recorded as housebreaking which includes dwellings, non dwellings and other premises.

4 Northern Ireland includes 'offences against the state'. Scotland excludes 'offending while on bail'. Also includes offences against vehicle and other thefts.

Source: Home Office; Scottish Government; Police Service of Northern Ireland

In 2009/10 in the UK there were 4.8 million crimes recorded by the police (**Table 2**), a fall of 8 per cent from 5.2 million offences in 2008/09. Of the 4.8 million offences recorded in the UK in 2009/10, 4.3 million (91 per cent) were in England and Wales. Of these 35 per cent were for theft and handling stolen goods followed by 20 per cent for violence against the person.

Police in Scotland recorded 338,000 crimes in 2009/10, the most common was theft and handling stolen goods (35 per cent) followed by criminal damage (28 per cent). Police in Northern Ireland recorded 109,000 crimes in 2009/10 of which, 27 per cent were for violence against the person and 24 per cent for theft and handling stolen goods.

Offences and victims

Firearms are defined as having been used in an incident if they are fired, used as a blunt instrument against a person or used as a threat.

Figure 1 Firearm offences (excluding air weapons):¹ by type of weapon

England & Wales
Number of offences

1 See noteⁱⁱⁱ. The National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS).

2 Imitation handguns, which are converted to fire bullets like handguns, are counted as handguns.

3 Other firearms include unidentified firearms, CS gas, disguised firearms, machine guns, pepper spray, stun guns and other specified weapons (the majority being paintball guns).

4 Year 2010/11 includes the 12 victims of Derrick Bird. Data for police recorded firearms offences are provisional and are submitted via an additional detailed return. Final data are due for publication in January 2012.

Source: *Crime in England and Wales 2010/11* (HO, 2011)

There were 7,006 offences in England and Wales, in which a firearm was reported to have been used and reported to the police in 2010/11. This was a decrease of 36 per cent from the peak of 11,088 in 2005/06 and a decrease of 13 per cent compared with 2009/10. This decrease is largely driven by a reduction in the number of offences involving the use of handguns which has fallen 17 per cent from 3,744 offences in 2009/10 to 3,090 offences in 2010/11 (**Figure 1**).

The term 'homicide' covers the offences of murder, manslaughter and infanticide. The offence infanticide was created by the *Infanticide Act 1922*^{iv} and refined in 1938.

Figure 2 Offences currently recorded as homicide: by sex of victim and apparent method of killing, England and Wales, 2009/10

Percentage of all homicides

1 Motor Vehicle excludes death by careless/dangerous driving and aggravated vehicle taking.

2 Includes asphyxiation.

3 'Other' includes all other apparent methods and where the method is unknown.

Source: *Homicides, Firearm Offences and Intimate Violence 2009/10* (HO, 2010)

In England and Wales in 2009/10, 619 deaths were recorded as homicide, a decrease of 4 per cent compared with the previous year when 644 homicides were recorded. Over two thirds of victims of homicide were men in 2009/10 (68 per cent of all victims).

Figure 2 shows that in 2009/10, as in previous years, the most common method of killing was by a sharp instrument^v, used in 35 per cent of homicides where the victim was male and 31 per cent of those where the victim was female. The second most common method of killing men was hitting, kicking, etc. (27 per cent). The second most common homicide method for female victims was strangulation used in 1 in 5 (21 per cent) of these homicides.

According to the Home Office, *Homicides 'Firearm Offences and Intimate Violence 2009/10'* (HO, 2010) supplementary report when data for the three years 2007/08 to 2009/10 is combined, males aged 16 to 20 were found to be most at risk of being victims of homicide, with a rate of 34 homicides per million people in this age group. The second most at risk age group were males aged under one year at a rate of 31 per million (although this is the smallest population analysed and involves very small numbers of homicides) followed by males aged 21 to 29 at a rate of 30 per million.

The risk of becoming a victim of crime varies according to personal characteristics with men more likely to be at risk than women except in cases of domestic violence.

Figure 3 Adults who were victims of crime:¹ by personal characteristic, 2010/11

England & Wales

Percentages²

1 Adults aged 16 and over who reported being a victim of crime one or more times in the 12 months prior to interview.

2 Percentage of all those who reported being a victim of crime.

3 Visited nightclub/disco once a week or more in the last month.

Sources: *Crime in England and Wales 2010/11 (HO, 2011)*

The 2010/11 BCS reported that just over a fifth (21 per cent) of adults aged 16 and over in England and Wales who reported being a victim of crime had visited a nightclub once a week or more prior to interview (**Figure 3**). As with previous years, men aged 16 to 24 also had a high occurrence of being a victim of crime followed by full time students and women aged 16 to 24. Similarly, the Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS) for 2009/10 also reports that men aged between 16 and 24 were more likely to be victims of a crime.

There are also differences in the rates of being a victim of crime according to the respondent's occupation. For example, the proportion of victims who were full-time students was two and a half times higher than the proportion in managerial and professional occupations: this could be related to the differences in age groups for these two occupations.

According to the 2010/11 BCS, offences with injury in England and Wales accounted for just over half (55 per cent) of all violent incidents and nearly half (45 per cent) of all police recorded violence against the person offences.

Repeat victimisation is defined as being a victim of the same type of crime (e.g. vandalism) more than once in the last 12 months. Levels of repeat victimisation account for differences between incidence rates and prevalence rates.

Figure 4 Repeat victimisation:¹ by type of offence, England and Wales, 2010/11

Percentages²

¹ Proportion of victims victimised more than once, in the 12 months to interview.

² Percentages of all those who reported being a victim of the specific offence.

³ Excludes burglaries. Includes theft from both inside and outside a dwelling and from garages, sheds and outbuildings not directly linked to the dwelling.

Sources: *Crime in England and Wales 2010/11* (HO, 2011)

BCS data shows that levels of repeat victimisation vary by offence type (**Figure 4**). In 2010/11, the most common repeat victimisation was 'domestic violence' with 44 per cent of victims of this offence reporting that they had been victimised more than once in the last year. One reason for this may be that victims are able to take more preventative measures against repeat victimisation for some crime types such as theft from the person. It is likely to be more difficult for a victim of domestic violence to avoid repeat victimisation.

Repeat victimisation for the main crime types remain at around their lowest level since the first BCS results for 1981. Since BCS crime peaked in 1995 (see **Table 1**), the proportion of victims who reported being victimised more than once has fallen for most crime types, notably acquaintance violence (from 37 per cent to 19 per cent), vehicle-related theft (from 28 per cent to 15 per cent) and stranger violence (from 24 per cent to 16 per cent).

Perceptions of crime

The BCS also asks respondents whether they think that crime has increased nationally and in their local area. In contrast to responses to the 2008/09 BCS, when there was a marked increase compared to the previous year, in 2010/11 there was a fall in the proportion of people who thought crime nationally had increased from 66 per cent in 2009/10 to 60 per cent in 2010/11, returning to similar levels seen in 2004/05 and 2005/06. Similarly, the perception of crime at local level also fell from 31 per cent in 2009/10 to 28 per cent in 2010/11.

Table 3 Perceptions of changing crime levels: by type of crime,^{1,2} 2009/10

	Percentages			
	National level		Local level	
	Gone up a lot	Gone up a little	Gone up a lot	Gone up a little
Knife crime	69	21	7	20
Bank/credit card fraud	65	25	19	31
Gun crime	51	30	3	10
People getting beaten up	47	34	8	24
Mugging/street robberies	40	37	5	21
Vandalism	35	35	7	25
Homes broken into	30	38	7	26
Cars being broken into	30	34	7	23
Cars being stolen	28	32	5	18

1 British Crime Survey respondents were asked if they thought specific crimes had increased locally or nationally. Data are the proportion of people who answered 'increased a lot' or 'increased a little'.

2 BCS estimates for 2010/11 are based on face to face interviews with 46,654 adults aged 16 and over.

Source: *Crime in England and Wales 2009/10 (HO, 2010a)*

The published 2010/11 BCS data about perceptions of crime does not give the same detailed breakdown as shown for 2009/10 in **Table 3**. In response to the BCS questions about specific crimes at national level, an estimated 69 per cent of people living in private households in England and Wales in 2009/10 believed that knife crime had gone up a lot nationally over the last two years, while 21 per cent believed it had gone up a little. Perceptions of an increase in bank/credit card fraud were also quite high at a national level in 2009/10, with 65 per cent of people believing it has gone up a lot and a quarter (25 per cent) of people believing it has gone up a little. This may be a reflection of media concerns at the time of the survey about these two types of crime.

There is a considerable contrast between people's perceptions of crime at a local level and national level: at local level a lower proportion of people believe that crime is going up compared to their beliefs of crime at a national level. For specific crimes at local level 7 per cent of people believed that knife crime had gone up a lot and one in five (20 per cent) of people thought it had gone up a little. Perceptions of bank/credit card crime were also believed to have increased at local

level with 19 per cent of people stating that they thought bank/credit card crime fraud had gone up a lot in their area and 31 per cent thinking it had gone up a little.

Figure 5 Perceived and actual likelihood of being a victim of crime:^{1,2} by crime type

England and Wales

Percentages

1 Percentages are of households/car-owning households and adults.

2 BCS estimates for 2010/11 are based on face to face interviews with 46,654 adults aged 16 and over.

Sources: *Crime in England and Wales 2010/11 (HO, 2011)*

In addition to questions on perceptions of crime, BCS also asks how likely people think it would be that they would be a victim of crime in the next 12 months. As can be seen in **Figure 5**, the perception of the rates of victimisation by burglary, car crime and violent crime are a lot higher than the actual rates.

Between 2009/10 and 2010/11 there was very little difference in the actual rates of victims of burglary, car crime and violent crime. However, the perception of the likelihood of being a victim has decreased for all three types of crime. The largest change was in the perceived likelihood of being a victim of car crime which reduced by four percentage points from 21 per cent in 2009/10 to 17 per cent in 2010/11. The perception of being a victim of violent crime decreased from 15 per cent to 13 per cent and the perceived likelihood of being a victim of burglary also decreased from 15 per cent in 2009/10 to 13 per cent in 2010/11.

Although there is disparity between people's perceptions and their actual risk of crime, people were more likely to perceive they would be a victim of crime in more common types of crime, such as car crime than less common crimes such as violent crime. However, in 2010/11 people overestimated the risk of being a victim of burglary (5 times), violent crimes (4 times) and vehicle crimes (4 times).

Offenders

Figure 6 Persons convicted or cautioned for indictable offences:^{1,2} by age

1 People found guilty of, or cautioned for, indictable offences. Excludes persons where sex 'Not Stated' and other offenders, i.e. companies, public bodies, etc

2 For motoring offences only persons found guilty are included; these offences may attract written warnings, which are not included in this figure.

Source: *Criminal Justice Statistics, England and Wales 2010* (MOJ, 2011)

Criminal justice statistics based on administrative data collected by the police and courts show that in 2010 1.6 million offenders were found guilty of or cautioned for indictable and summary (including motoring) offences in England and Wales.

Figure 6 shows that the highest number of persons convicted of, or cautioned for indictable offences in England and Wales in 2010 were those aged 20 to 29 and 10 to 19 (174,800 and 119,600 respectively). The most noticeable change over the time period shown is a reduction for those 10 to 19 since 2007 (178,400 in 2007 to 119,600 in 2010).

Over four fifths (82 per cent) of persons convicted of, or cautioned for indictable offences in England and Wales in 2010 were males. Overall the recorded figure in 2010 is the lowest in five years, at 481,400, a decrease of 1 per cent compared with 2009.

Figure 7 Persons found guilty of, or cautioned for, indictable offences:¹ by sex² and type of offence 2010

England and Wales
Thousands

1 See note^{vi}: Types of offence in England and Wales.

2 Excludes persons whose sex was not recorded

3 Includes fraud and forgery and indictable motoring offences

Source: *Criminal Justice Statistics, England and Wales 2010* (MOJ, 2011)

Figure 7 shows that in 2010, the most common type of indictable offence for which males and females were found guilty or cautioned was theft and handling of stolen goods, 123,700 (31 per cent of all offences) for males and 45,200 (53 per cent of all offences) for females.

For males the second most common type of crime was drug offences at 92,500 (23 per cent) followed by violence against the person 55,400 (14 per cent). The second most common offence type for females was violence against the person 11,200 (13 per cent).

The total number of offenders found guilty of or cautioned for indictable offences increased 0.8 per cent for males and decreased 8.0 per cent for females in 2010 compared with 2009. The biggest increase was for male offenders in the 'sexual offences' category from 6,400 to 7,000 (9.4 per cent) whilst the biggest decrease was for female offenders in the 'robbery' category from 800 to 700 (12.5 per cent).

Prisons and sentencing

The majority of offenders in Britain will go on to commit another crime, with almost half of all offences committed by people that have already been through the system. A re-conviction is defined as any offence committed in the one-year follow up period proven by a court conviction. It should be noted that any offences committed in the one-year follow up period are not necessarily of the same offence type as the initial offence.

Figure 8 Percentage of reconviction rate: by offence¹

England & Wales

Percentages

¹ Data are at Q1 (January to March) in each year.

² Does not include soliciting or prostitution also excludes offences against a child.

Source: *Adult re-convictions: results from the 2009 cohort (MOJ, 2011a)*

Theft from vehicles showed the lowest proportional differences in reconvictions between 2008 and 2009, from 75 per cent of all offences in Q1 2008 to 64 per cent in Q1 2009, a fall of 11 percentage points **Figure 8** The next largest decrease was sexual reconvictions which decreased from 27 per cent in 2008 to 23 per cent in 2009, a fall of 4 percentage points. The biggest increase was in serious violence which includes offences involving grievous bodily harm (GBH), where reconvictions increased by 2 percentage points from 19 per cent to 21 per cent.

The Ministry of Justice has an executive agency known as the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) which brings together HM Prison Service and the Probation Services to deliver sentences and other orders of the courts in custodial and community settings in England and Wales to protect the public and reduce re-offending by helping offenders to reform their lives.

Information from the National Offender Management Service Annual Report and Accounts 2009 to 2010 shows that offenders entering the system present a range of challenges which need to be addressed; 48 per cent have a reading age at or below the expected level of an 11-year-old and 82 per cent have a writing level at or below that expected of an 11-year-old, 62 per cent of newly sentenced prisoners report using an illegal drug during the four-week period before custody (28 per cent using heroin and 25 per cent using crack cocaine), 44 per cent need help with alcohol misuse and 22 per cent want help with mental health problems.

Figure 9 Drug treatment programme completions while in prison: by age¹, 2009/10

England & Wales

Numbers

¹ Age bands reflect those in use on the data collection forms at the time.

Source: HM Prison Service

In 2009/10, 75 per cent of prisoners who started the NOMS Drug Treatment Programme in England and Wales successfully completed it. Prisoners completing the programme were more likely to be aged 31 to 40 years, followed by those aged 22 to 26 years (**Figure 9**).

Apart from custodial and community sentences, offenders can also receive cautions for some offences, penalty notices and civil notices such as Anti-Social Behaviour Orders^{vii} (ASBOs). The number of fixed penalty notices for motoring offences detected by camera, Penalty Notices for Disorder^{viii} (PNDs) and ASBOs are discussed below.

Table 4 Fixed penalties for motoring offences detected by cameras:¹ by type of offence

England and Wales			Thousands
	Speeding offences	Traffic light offences	All offences
2000	599	52	651
2001	878	46	924
2002	1,135	71	1,206
2003	1,670	115	1,785
2004	1,787	113	1,900
2005	1,824	124	1,948
2006	1,689	120	1,808
2007	1,296	109	1,406
2008	1,048	100	1,147
2009	935	92	1,027

1 Includes paid, fixed penalties only. Offences where the fixed penalty was not paid are not counted, as further action was taken.

Source: *Police Powers and Procedures England and Wales 2009/10 (HO, 2011a)*

There were a little over 1 million fixed penalty notices for traffic light and speeding offences detected by camera in 2009, a decrease of 120,000 (10 per cent) compared with 2008 (**Table 4**). This followed the larger decrease of 259,000 (18 per cent) between 2008 and 2009. There were 935,000 fixed penalties for speeding offences in 2009 which accounted for 91 per cent of all fixed penalties for motoring offences in 2009. This is the lowest number of fixed penalties for speeding since 2001 when there were 878,000 fixed penalties.

Fixed penalties paid for traffic light offences in 2009 were at their lowest level of 92,000 since a peak of 124,000 offences in 2005. Cameras are also used to provide evidence for other offences, such as unauthorised use of a bus lane but these data are not collected separately by the Home Office.

Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) more commonly known as ‘on the spot fines’ were introduced under the *Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001* as part of the strategy to tackle low-level, anti-social and nuisance offending. PNDs were initially piloted in four police-force areas in 2002 and rolled out to all police forces in England and Wales in 2004.

Table 5 **Number of Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) issued: by offence**

England and Wales	Number issued					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Causing harassment, alarm or distress	64,007	82,235	77,827	57,773	43,338	32,317
Drunk and disorderly	37,038	43,556	46,996	44,411	43,570	37,119
Criminal damage (under £500)	12,168	20,620	19,946	13,427	10,145	6,253
Retail theft	21,997	38,772	45,596	45,616	48,161	40,170
Possession of cannabis ¹	..	..	..	..	11,491	13,916
Other	11,271	16,014	17,629	14,937	13,688	10,994
Total	146,481	201,197	207,544	176,164	170,393	140,769

1 PNDs for possession of cannabis were only issued from 2009 onwards. Offence added with effect from 27 January 2009.

Source: *Criminal Justice Statistics, England and Wales 2010* (MOJ, 2011)

There were 140,800 Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) issued in 2010 a decrease of 30,000 (17 per cent) compared with 2009. Of the 140,800 PNDs issued, 13,900 were for possession of cannabis^{ix} (10 per cent of all PNDs issued). Retail theft (40,200), drunk and disorderly (37,100) and behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress (32,300) accounted for a further 78 per cent of all PNDs issued (**Table 5**).

The largest decrease in the number of PNDs issued between 2009 and 2010 was for the criminal damage (under £500), which decreased by 38 per cent from 10,100 in 2009 to 6,300 in 2010, down from a peak of 21,000 in 2006. The only increase was in the issue of PNDs for cannabis possession which increased by 21 per cent to 13,900 from 11,500 in 2009.

Anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) were introduced in England and Wales under the *Crime and Disorder Act (1998)*.

Figure 10 Anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) issued and proven to have been breached

England and Wales

Numbers

1 Includes ASBOs issued on application by magistrates and county courts and ASBOs made following conviction for a relevant criminal offence at the Crown Court and at magistrates' courts.

2 ASBOs may be issued in one area and breached in another and may be breached more than once and in more than one year.

3 Excludes data for Cardiff magistrates' court for April, July, and August.

Source: *Anti-social behaviour order statistics, England and Wales 2009 (HO, 2010b)*

Figure 10 shows the total number of ASBOs issued increased in England and Wales from 1,300 in 2003 to a peak of 4,100 in 2005, but have since decreased steadily to reach 1,700 in 2009. In 2009 1,100 ASBOs were breached, equivalent to 68 per cent of the number which were issued in that year (although the breaches may relate to ASBOs issued in previous years). The ratio of breached ASBOs to ASBOs issued was relatively low in 2003 and 2004 (42 and 41 per cent respectively), the highest ratio of breached to issued ASBOs was in 2007 at 70 per cent.

There were differences between age groups in breaches of ASBOs. Between 1 June 2000 and 31 December 2009, nearly half (49 per cent) of adults aged 21 and over with an ASBO breached it at least once and 38 per cent breached it more than once. A much larger proportion of juveniles breached their ASBOs at least once; 73 per cent of 12 to 14-year-olds, 71 per cent of those aged between 10 and 11 and 65 per cent of those aged between 15 and 17.

Table 6 **Persons sentenced for indictable offences: by type of offence and sex, 2010**

England & Wales			Numbers
	Males	Females	All ¹
Violence against the person	39,057	5,325	44,458
Drug offences	56,532	4,723	61,435
Sexual offences	5,694	73	5,772
Robbery	7,816	680	8,514
Other offences ²	50,790	6,781	58,139
Burglary	22,571	976	23,599
Theft and Handling	94,913	25,939	121,230
Fraud and Forgery	14,090	6,280	20,865
Motoring offences	3,232	169	3,410
Total	294,695	50,946	347,422

1 All persons includes persons whose sex was not recorded and excludes organisations such as companies and public bodies.

2 Other offences include criminal damage.

Source: *Criminal Justice Statistics, England and Wales 2010 (MOJ, 2011)*

There were 347,422 people sentenced for indictable offences in England and Wales as at December 2010; of these 294,695 (85 per cent) were male and 50,946 (5 per cent) were female (**Table 6**). The indictable offence type for which both males and females were most commonly sentenced was theft and handling, 94,913 (32 per cent of all male offences) and 25,939 (51 per cent of all female offences).

The second next most common offence for males was drug offences, 56,532 (19 per cent of all offences by males) while the second most common offence for females was other offences including criminal damage, 6,781 (13 per cent of all offences by females).

Life imprisonment, or its equivalent, must be imposed on all persons aged 10 and over convicted of murder. This sentence may also be imposed for a number of the most serious crimes including manslaughter, robbery, rape, assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, aggravated burglary and certain firearms offences.

Table 7 People sentenced to life imprisonment:¹ by sex

England & Wales			Numbers
	Males	Females	All people
2000	446	21	467
2001	484	19	503
2002	536	19	555
2003	489	24	513
2004	548	22	570
2005	594	31	625
2006	531	16	547
2007	471	21	492
2008	495	28	523
2009	401	20	421
2010	364	20	384

¹ See note^x

Source: *Criminal Justice Statistics, England and Wales 2010* (MOJ, 2011)

In 2010, 384 persons were sentenced to life imprisonment in England and Wales, a decrease of 9 per cent compared with 421 persons in 2009 (**Table 7**). Of the 384 persons sentenced to life imprisonment, 364 were male and 20 female. The number of persons sentenced in 2010 is the lowest figure during the eleven year period.

Resources

Figure 11 Police revenue funding, in real terms¹

England & Wales

£ Millions

¹ Adjusted for inflation using Gross Domestic Product (GDP) deflators.

Source: Central government police revenue funding 1995/96 to 2009/10 (HO, 2010c)

Figure 11 shows that between 1995/96 and 2009/10, police funding^{xi} increased by 44 per cent from £8.8 billion in 1995/96 to £12.6 billion in 2009/10. The highest year-on-year increase was between 2002/03 and 2003/04 when funding increased 8 per cent from £10.2 billion in 2002/03 to £10.9 billion in 2003/04.

Table 8 Police Officer strength: English Regions and Wales¹

	Numbers	
	2009 ²	2010 ²
North East	7,388	7,301
North West	19,922	19,306
Yorkshire and the Humber	12,339	12,102
East Midlands	9,412	9,246
West Midlands	14,315	13,853
Eastern	11,416	11,318
London	34,185	33,778
South East	17,129	16,897
South West	10,899	10,701
Wales	7,349	7,349
Total of all 43 forces	144,353	141,850
Central service secondments	480	513
British Transport Police	2,686	2,652
Total police officer strength³	147,519	145,015

1 Based on full-time equivalent figures rounded to the nearest whole number. Because of rounding there may be an apparent discrepancy between the totals and the sums of the constituent items.

2 Data are as at 30th September in each year.

3 Including British Transport Police Officers in England and Wales only.

Source: *Police Service Strength England and Wales, 30 September 2010 (HO, 2011b)*

In 2010 there were 145,015 full time equivalents (FTE) Police Officers in England and Wales of which 2,652 were British Transport Police (these are additional to the 43 forces of England and Wales) and 513 were Central Service secondments (**Table 8**). While the number of Police Officer remained the same in Wales, there were decreases in the size of the police force in all English regions.

The West Midlands saw the largest percentage decrease in Police Officers between September 2009 and September 2010 of 3.2 per cent (14,315 in September 2009 to 13,853 in September 2010). The next largest decrease was in the North West which decreased by 3.1 per cent (19,922 in September 2009 to 19,306 in September 2010).

There were 16,376 FTE Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's), in the 43 English and Welsh police forces on 30 September 2010, a decline of 2.6 per cent (438) since September 2009.

References:

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(HO, 2010a) *Crime in England and Wales 2009/10*. Available at: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110218135832/http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/azsubjects.html>

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(HO, 2010c) *Central government police revenue funding 1995/96 to 2009/10*. These documents are part of a series of consistent police revenue funding numbers from 1995/96-2009/10. They are designed to allow for funding levels to be compared over time. Available at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/>

(HO, 2011) *Crime in England and Wales 2010/11*. The findings from the latest *British Crime Survey (BCS)* and police recorded crime report is available at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/hosb1011/>

(HO, 2011a) *Police Powers and Procedures England and Wales 2009/10*. Available at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/police-research/hosb0711/>

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<http://sitesearch.justice.gov.uk.openobjects.com/kb5/justice/justice/results.page?ha=&qt=national+offender+management+service+annual+report>

The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey. Latest report available at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/11/01090437/0>

The Northern Ireland Crime Survey. Latest report available at:

http://www.dojni.gov.uk/index/statistics-research/stats-research-publications/current_publications.htm

Notes:

ⁱ Features of the British Crime Survey and police recorded crime. Police recorded crime statistics reflect those crimes reported to the police and so they provide data at a local as well as national level, and they can provide a good measure of the more serious types of crime. However, many crimes are not reported to the police, and for some crimes, for example drug offences, the statistics can be seen as a measure of police activity rather than of crime.

The British Crime Survey (BCS), being a survey of the population, provides a measure of crime that includes incidents that are unreported to the police and unrecorded by the police, and thus provides a good measure of the long term trends in the more common types of crime against individuals or households. On the other hand, it does not cover homicide, commercial crime or 'victimless' crimes.

British Crime Survey	Police Recorded Crime
Sample survey of 46,000 nationally representative households in England and Wales	Uses administrative records
Supports crime statistics and Home Office and Ministry of Justice research	Notifiable crime governed by the National Crime Recording Standard and the Home Office Counting Rules (HOCR)
Good measure of long-term trends	Local data available
Excludes homicides, children, victimless crimes, homeless and communal establishments	Linkage possible with other data in the criminal justice system
Sample size does not support local breakdown	Trends sensitive to changes in the Notifiable Offence List: recording practice: operational decisions on policing: changes in the HOCR

ⁱⁱ **Types of offence in England and Wales.** The figures are compiled from police returns to the Home Office and the Ministry of Justice or directly from court computer systems.

Indictable offences in England and Wales cover those offences that can only be tried at the Crown Court and include the more serious offences.

Summary offences are those for which a defendant would normally be tried at a magistrate's court and are generally less serious – the majority of motoring offences fall into this category.

Triable-either-way offences are triable either on indictment or summarily.

Types of offence in Scotland. In Scotland the term ‘crime’ is reserved for the more serious offences (broadly equivalent to ‘indictable’ and ‘triable-either-way’ offences in England and Wales) while less serious crimes are called ‘offences’. The seriousness of an act is *generally* based on the maximum sentence that can be imposed.

Types of offence in Northern Ireland. In recoding crimes, the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) broadly follows the Home Office rules for counting crime. As from 1 April 1998 notifiable offences are recorded on the same basis as those in England and Wales. Before the revision of the rules, criminal damage offences in Northern Ireland excluded those where the value of the property damaged was less than £200.

ⁱⁱⁱ The National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) was introduced in April 2002, although some forces adopted NCRS practices before the standard was formally introduced. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable. The introduction of NCRS led to a rise in recording in 2002/03 and, particularly for violent crime, in the following years as forces continued to improve compliance with the new standard.

^{iv} Infanticide is an offence in its own right. *The Infanticide Act 1938* provides that when a mother kills her child, when the child is under 12 months old, and at the time the balance of the mother’s mind was disturbed as a result of her not having fully recovered from the effect of giving birth or due to the effect of lactation, the mother will be guilty of infanticide rather than murder.

^v Includes knives and other sharp instruments.

^{vi} Types of offence in the UK. The figures for England and Wales are compiled from police returns to the Home Office and the Ministry of Justice or directly from court computer systems. **Indictable offences** in England and Wales cover those offences that can only be tried at the Crown Court and include more serious offences. **Summary offences** are those for which a defendant would normally be tried at a magistrates’ court and are generally less serious – the majority of motoring offences fall into this category. **Triable-either-way offences** are triable either on indictment or summarily.

^{vii} An ASBO is a civil order made against a person who has been shown to have engaged in anti-social behaviour. Anti-social behaviour describes a range of everyday nuisance, disorder and crime, from graffiti and noisy neighbours to harassment and street drug dealing. It is sometimes dismissed as trivial, but anti-social behaviour has a huge impact on victims’ quality of life, and it is the public’s number one concern when it comes to local crime issues.

Breach of an ASBO is a criminal offence, which is arrestable and recordable. The ASBO will usually last for a minimum of 2 years. An ASBO does not indicate that a criminal offence has taken place. This means that an ASBO will not appear on your criminal record. However, if you break the terms of the ASBO this is a criminal offence and could result in up to 5 years in prison and a fine. The case could be taken to the magistrate’s court, but in some cases could be referred to the Crown Court.

^{viii} A penalty notice for disorder (PND) is a type of fixed penalty notice that can be issued for a specified range of minor disorder offences. The PND scheme was introduced under the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 and implemented in all 43 police forces in England and Wales in 2004. Under the scheme the police may issue anyone aged 16 years or over who has committed a specified penalty offence with a fixed penalty and to those aged 10-15 in seven pilot police forces. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/penalty-notices/>

^{ix} A new PND for the offence of possession of cannabis was introduced in 2009. Revised statutory guidance on PNDs published in July 2009 limited the use of PNDs for cannabis possession to offenders age 18 and over.

^x Those sentenced to life imprisonment or an indeterminate sentence of imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) has no automatic right to be released. Instead such prisoners must serve a minimum period of imprisonment to meet the needs of retribution and deterrence. This punitive period is announced by the trial judge in open court and is known commonly as the 'tariff' period.

The courts must impose a life sentence on any individual convicted of murder. This is the only sentence available for such a conviction.

The maximum sentence that can be awarded by the Courts for a number of other types of offences, for example, rape, manslaughter and arson is life imprisonment.

Under Section 225 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003, the courts will impose an indeterminate sentence of IPP (Imprisonment for public protection) when the offender is aged 18 or over, is convicted of a serious specified violent or sexual offence committed on or after 4 April 2005-for which the maximum penalty is 10 years or more and who in the court's opinion poses a significant risk of harm to the public.

^{xi} There are four main sources of funding from central government to the police. Two are from the Home Office; Police Main Grant and Specific Grants. The other two are from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and Welsh Assembly Government (WAG); Revenue Support Grant and Redistributed Business Rates.

The Police Allocation Formula (PAF) is essentially a calculation that uses various data sources (such as population density) to share money between police authorities in England and Wales. It is not a calculation of absolute needs that is it does not estimate how much each force needs independently of other forces. Instead it shares out the amount of money designated for police funding between forces based on their relative needs compared with each other.

Designing a system to fund 43 police forces in England and Wales is complex. The PAF is a way to measure the need for policing in areas relative to each other. It uses a range of indicators that are available on a consistent basis for all police authorities.

The first step of the PAF is to divide everything the police services has to do to police the country into 11 categories (tasks). Seven of these relate to reducing/investigating different types of crime

including violence/sexual offences, robbery, vehicle crime, burglary, other crime (high cost) and other crime (low cost). The other four categories are providing reassurance to the public, providing assistance at or reducing road traffic accidents, assistance with non-crime incidents and policing special events such as a protest march or football match.

The PAF is important because it is used to divide the majority of the money available for the total police funding between forces. Consequently, the results of the PAF have a significant impact on how much a force will receive in order to police it.