



Department of
Justice

www.justice-ni.gov.uk

Analytical Services Group

The Northern Ireland Prison Population 2015 and 2015/16

Research and Statistical Bulletin 24/2016

September 2016

E Crone

This is a National Statistics publication.

National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They are produced free from any political interference and undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs.

For general enquiries about National Statistics, contact the National Statistics Public Enquiry Service at:
Room D265, Office for National Statistics,
Government Buildings, Cardiff Road,
Newport, South Wales, NP10 8XG

Tel: 0845 6013034
Minicom: 01633 815044
E-mail: info@ons.gsi.gov.uk
Fax: 01633 652747

Internet: www.statistics.gov.uk

Produced by Analytical Services Group,
Department of Justice.

For further information write to:

**Analytical Services Group,
Laganside House,
Oxford Street,
Belfast BT1 3LA**

Telephone: 028 9052 5151

Email: statistics.research@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk

This bulletin is available on the Internet at:

www.justice-ni.gov.uk

Contents

National Statistics.....	3
Introduction	3
Users.....	3
Executive Summary.....	5
Average Daily Prison Population	5
Receptions	5
International Comparisons.....	6
Average Daily Prison Population	7
Figure 1: Average Daily Prison Population 2003-2015.....	7
Average Daily Prison Population by Prisoner Type.....	8
Figure 2: Average Daily Prison Population by Prisoner Type, 2003-2015	8
Remand Prisoners	8
Immediate Custody Prisoners.....	8
Fine Defaulter and Non-Criminal Prisoners.....	8
Average Daily Prison Population by Gender	9
Figure 3: Average Daily Prison Population by Gender, 2003-2015.....	9
Average Daily Immediate Custody Prison Population by Current Age	9
Figure 4: Average Daily Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Current Age, 2015.....	9
Average Daily Immediate Custody Prison Population by Sentence Length.....	10
Figure 5: Average Daily Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Sentence Length, 2015	10
Average Daily Immediate Custody Prison Population by Principal Offence	10
Figure 6: Average Daily Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Principal Offence, 2015.....	10
Receptions into Prison	11
Figure 7: Prison Receptions, 2004-2015.....	11
Prison Receptions by Prisoner Type	11
Remand Prisoners	11
Immediate Custody Prisoners.....	11
Fine Defaulter and Non-Criminal Prisoners.....	12
Figure 8: Prison Receptions by Prisoner Type, 2009-2015	12
Prison Receptions by Gender	12
Immediate Custody Receptions by Age at Reception.....	12
Figure 9: Immediate Custody Receptions by Age at Reception, 2015.....	13
Immediate Custody Receptions by Sentence Length.....	13
Figure 10: Immediate Custody Receptions by Sentence Length, 2015.....	13
Immediate Custody Receptions by Principal Offence.....	14
Figure 11: Immediate Custody Receptions by Principal Offence, 2015.....	14
International Comparisons.....	14
Figure 12: Prison Population* per 100,000 Population, Selected European Jurisdictions ...	15
Figure 13: Female Prison Population* per 100,000 Population, Selected European Jurisdictions	15
Appendix One: Tables.....	16
Table 1: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population by Prisoner Type, Gender and Establishment	16
Table 2: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Current Age	17
Table 3: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Current Age, Gender and Sentence Length.....	18

Table 4: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Sentence Length.....	19
Table 5: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Current Age, Gender and Principal Offence.....	20
Table 6: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Principal Offence	21
Table 7: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions by Prisoner Type, Gender and Establishment ..	22
Table 8: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Age at Reception	23
Table 9: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Age at Reception, Gender and Sentence Length	24
Table 10: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Sentence Length.....	25
Table 11: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Age at Reception, Gender and Principal Offence	26
Table 12: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Principal Offence.....	27
Appendix Two: Notes for Readers	28
Methodology and Counting Rules	28
Average Prisoner Population	28
Receptions Data.....	28
Age	29
Offence Grouping.....	29
Principal Offence.....	29
Sentence Length	29
Type of Prisoner	29
Significant Testing.....	30
Quality Assurance/Validation	30

National Statistics

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is the Department of Justice's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

Introduction

This bulletin provides key statistics relating to the average daily prison population levels and receptions for Northern Ireland during 2015 and 2015/16. It includes information by establishment, custody type, gender, age, sentence length and principal offence categories. It also includes some international data for comparison purposes.

Information on the methodology used, data validation and definition of terms can be found in the Methodology and Counting Rules section and Quality Assurance/Validation section at the back of this bulletin.

The contents of the report will be of interest to the public, government policy makers, academics and others who want to understand more about the prison population in Northern Ireland.

Users

The statistics included in this publication are used extensively and meet a broad spectrum of user needs as shown below:

User	Summary of main statistical needs
DOJ Minister/Director General of the Northern Ireland Prison Service	Use the statistics to monitor the prison population and capacity of the prison estate
NI Assembly	Statistics are used to answer assembly questions
Policy teams in DOJ	Statistics are used to inform policy development and to monitor impact of changes over time and the impact they have on the system
Agencies responsible for offender management	Current and historical robust administrative data are used to support performance management information at national and local levels within each agency to complement their understanding of the current picture and trends over time

Academia, students and businesses	Used as a source of statistics for research purposes and to support lectures, presentations and conferences
Journalists	Used as a compendium of robust data on prison population
General public	Data are used to respond to ad-hoc requests and requests made under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act

Executive Summary

Average Daily Prison Population

- ◆ The average daily prison population during 2015 was 1,661; this was a decrease of 9.2% from the previous year and was the first time since 2010 that the prison population decreased.
- ◆ During 2015 Crown Court disposals decreased by 35.6% and custodial convictions in the Crown Court fell by 38.4%. The Legal Aid Dispute during 2015 and early 2016 had an impact on disposals and delay within the Crown Court process during this period.
- ◆ For the fourth year in a row the average daily remand prisoner population fell, decreasing by 5.5% in 2015 (421 to 398).
- ◆ For the first time since 2010 the average daily immediate custody prison population decreased. During 2015 this population fell by almost 11% (151) to 1,255.
- ◆ Fine defaulters account for only 0.3% (5) of the prison population, whilst non-criminal prisoners account for only 0.1% (2).
- ◆ The average daily prison population decreased for males and females, the male population fell by 9.0% (1,763 to 1,605), whilst the female population decreased by 16.4% (67 to 56).
- ◆ The largest proportion of the prison population was aged between 21 and 29 years (35.1%). The proportion this age group accounts for has been decreasing since 2013: 39.5% in 2013 and 38.0% in 2014.
- ◆ Custodial sentences of 1 year or under accounted for 25.5% of immediate custody prisoners.
- ◆ Not all offence categories recorded a decrease in numbers from 2014 to 2015. Drug Offences and Other Offences increased from 2014 to 2015 (18.4% and 14.0% respectively).
- ◆ Principal offences classified as Public Order Offences decreased by the largest percentage (129 to 53; 58.9%).
- ◆ The change in the proportion of principal offences recorded as Other Offences and Public Order Offences from 2014 to 2015 was significant.

Receptions

- ◆ Total Prison Receptions fell to 4,757 during 2015, a fall of 3.3%.
- ◆ For the fourth year in a row remand receptions fell, decreasing by 3.8% during 2015 to 2,633.
- ◆ The number of prisoners received under sentence of immediate custody during 2015 was 1,644, a decrease of 18.7% compared to the previous year.
- ◆ The number of fine default receptions increased during 2015 to 456 receptions from 139 the year before.
- ◆ Non-Criminal receptions still represent a relatively small number of receptions (0.5%), 24 for 2015.
- ◆ Unlike male receptions, female receptions increased during 2015 from 317 to 334 (5.4%). This increase can be attributed to an increase in fine default receptions (from 7 in 2014 to 53 in 2015), as female remand and immediate custody receptions both fell.

- ◆ Those aged between 21 and 29 years of age accounted for 43.0% of all immediate custody receptions.
- ◆ Sentences of 1 year and under accounted for the largest proportion of sentenced receptions for both total sentence and total custody sentence (67.4% and 76.1% respectively).
- ◆ The change in the proportion of principal offences recorded as VAP, Public Order Offences and Drug Offences from 2014 to 2015 was significant.
- ◆ Only two out of the 13 offence groupings recorded an increase in receptions during 2015, namely Drug Offences (17.7%; +25 receptions) and Misc. Sexual (30.0%; +3 receptions).

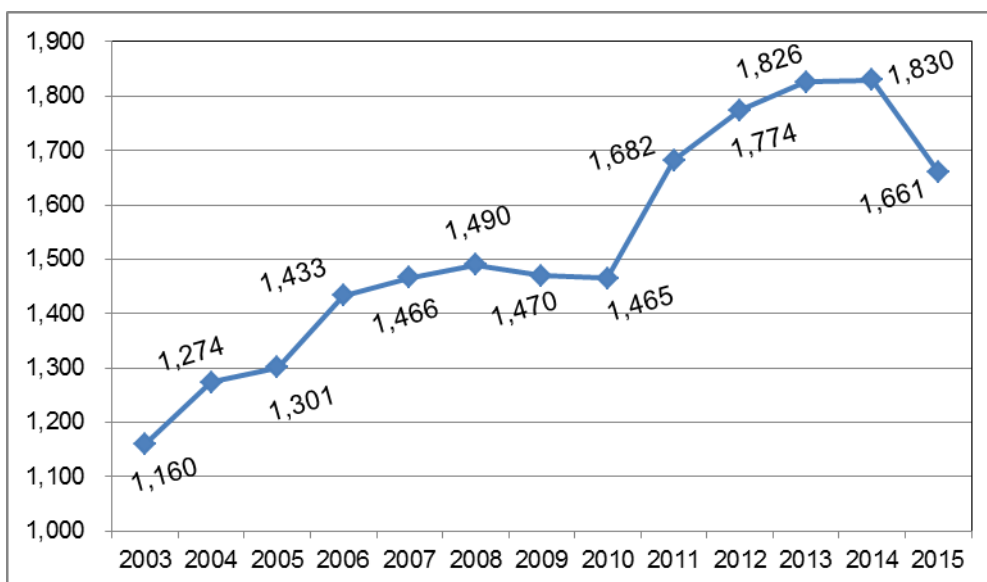
International Comparisons

- ◆ During 2015 Northern Ireland had 87 prisoners for every 100,000 people in the population; this compared to a figure of 80 for the Republic of Ireland and 148 for England and Wales and 143 for Scotland.
- ◆ Northern Ireland had 2.9 female prisoners for every 100,000 people in the population, Republic of Ireland 2.7, England and Wales 6.8 and Scotland 7.1.

Average Daily Prison Population

The average daily prison population during 2015 was 1,661; this was a decrease of 9.2% from the previous year and was the first time since 2010 that the prison population decreased (Figure 1 below). This was the lowest average daily prisoner population for 5 years. From 2003 to 2015 there were only 3 years in which the average daily prisoner population decreased, namely 2009, 2010 and 2015.

Figure 1: Average Daily Prison Population 2003-2015



Whilst many factors influence the prison population (e.g. sentencing trends, crime rates, policy changes) the Legal Aid Dispute during 2015 and early 2016 no doubt had a part to play in the decrease in the prison population experienced in Northern Ireland during 2015.

In May 2015 new rules were introduced in relation to legal aid remuneration which resulted in a number of solicitors and counsels withdrawing their representation from a range of court cases. The dispute ended in January 2016 and affected defendants' access to legal aid representation, with the result that many cases were stalled during the dispute. This had an impact on disposals and delay within the Crown Court process during the period of the dispute.

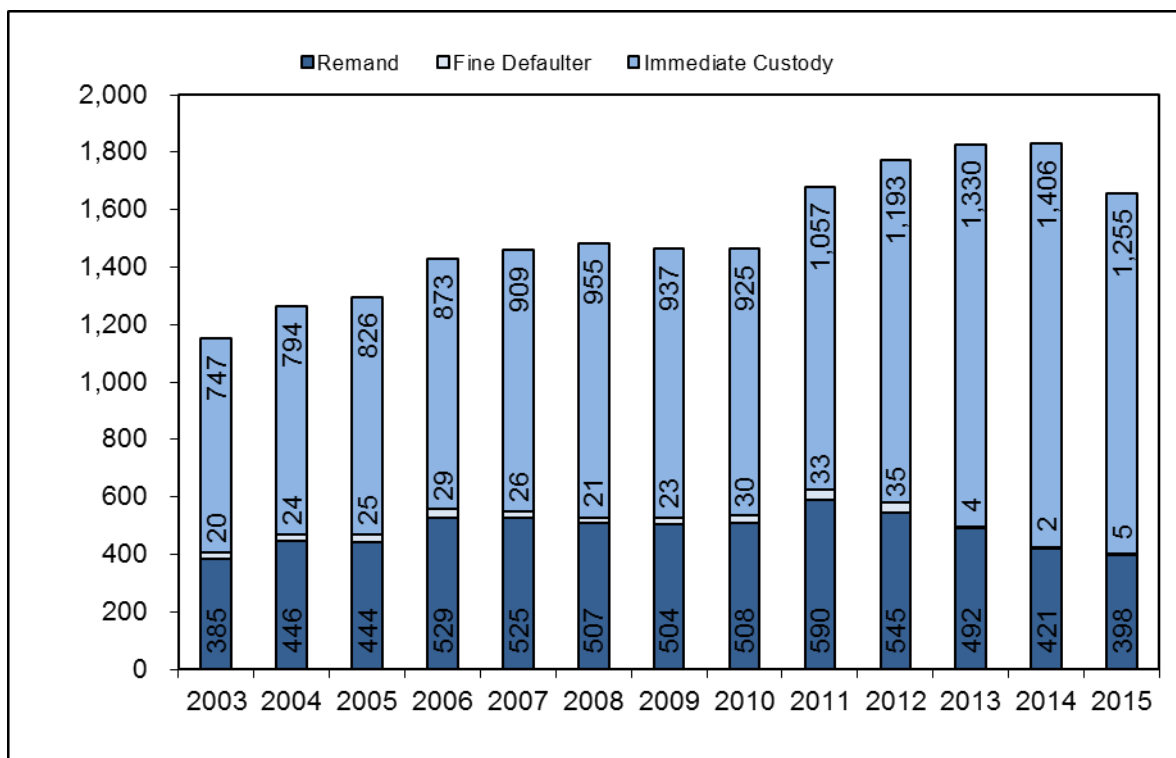
Statistics from the 2015 Judicial Statistics produced from the Northern Ireland Court Service (link: http://www.courtsni.gov.uk/en-GB/Publications/Targets_and_Performance/Documents/Judicial%20Statistics%202015/Judicial%20Statistics%202015.pdf) show that during 2015 there was a 35.6% drop in disposals from the previous year (2,163 in 2014: 1,394 in 2015). Furthermore, statistics from the 2015 Court Prosecutions, Conviction and Out of Court Disposals bulletin show that 43.4% of all findings from the Crown Court end up as a custodial conviction. (link: <https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/publications/r-s-bulletin-212016-court-prosecutions-conviction-and-out-court-disposals-statistics-northern>) Figures from this report also show that custodial convictions in the Crown Court decreased by 38.4% (926 to 570) from 2014 to 2015. Looking at these figures it is not surprising that the prison population in Northern Ireland decreased during 2015.

Not all of the decrease can be explained by the Legal Aid Dispute, which affected Crown Court Disposals. Figures from the 2015 Court Prosecutions, Conviction and Out of Court Disposals bulletin also show that custodial convictions in the Magistrates' Court fell by 3.1% during 2015. However this decrease was less than that experienced the year before when custodial convictions in the Magistrates' Court fell by 6.6%.

The decrease in prison population occurred across all three prison establishments (Table 1). The average daily prison population of Maghaberry (the largest prison) decreased by 8.2% (86); Magilligan decreased by 4.8% (27); Hydebank Wood College Males decreased by 29.5% (46) and Hydebank Wood College Females decreased by 16.4% (11).

Average Daily Prison Population by Prisoner Type

Figure 2: Average Daily Prison Population by Prisoner Type, 2003-2015



Remand Prisoners

For the fourth successive year, the average daily remand population fell. During 2015 the remand population was 398, a reduction of 23 (5.5%). This decrease was the lowest percentage decrease of the previous four years (Figure 2). Although the remand population decreased, the proportion of overall prisoners on remand (24.0%) slightly increased from the previous years' figure of 23.0%.

Immediate Custody Prisoners

During 2015 the average daily immediate custody prison population fell by almost 11% (151) to 1,255 and was the first time since 2010 to decrease. Given the Legal Aid Dispute mentioned in the earlier section and subsequent reduction in custodial convictions in the Crown Court and the Magistrates' Court it was not surprising to see the immediate custody prison population decreasing during 2015 (Figure 2).

Fine Defaulter and Non-Criminal Prisoners

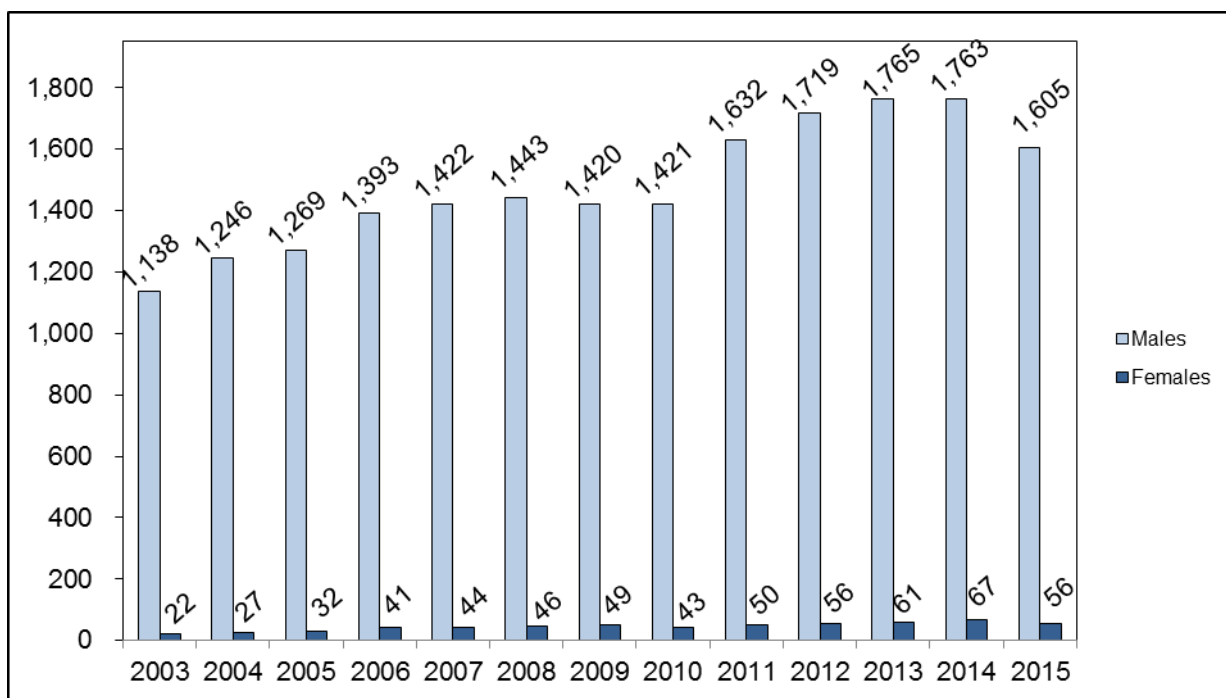
Fine Defaulter and non-criminal prisoners continue to account for a small proportion of the overall average daily prison population. Fine Defaulters accounted for only 0.3% (5), whilst non-criminal prisoners accounted for only 0.1% (2) of the average daily prison population (Table 1).

Historically fine defaulters accounted for a larger proportion of the prison population (2% in 2012; 35) however a Judicial Review into fine defaulters led to the temporary suspension of fine defaulters being sent to prison. The outcome of this review led to the introduction of Fine Default Hearings in June 2014.

Whilst this had the effect of fine defaulters being sent to prison again the numbers have not reached their previous levels.

Average Daily Prison Population by Gender

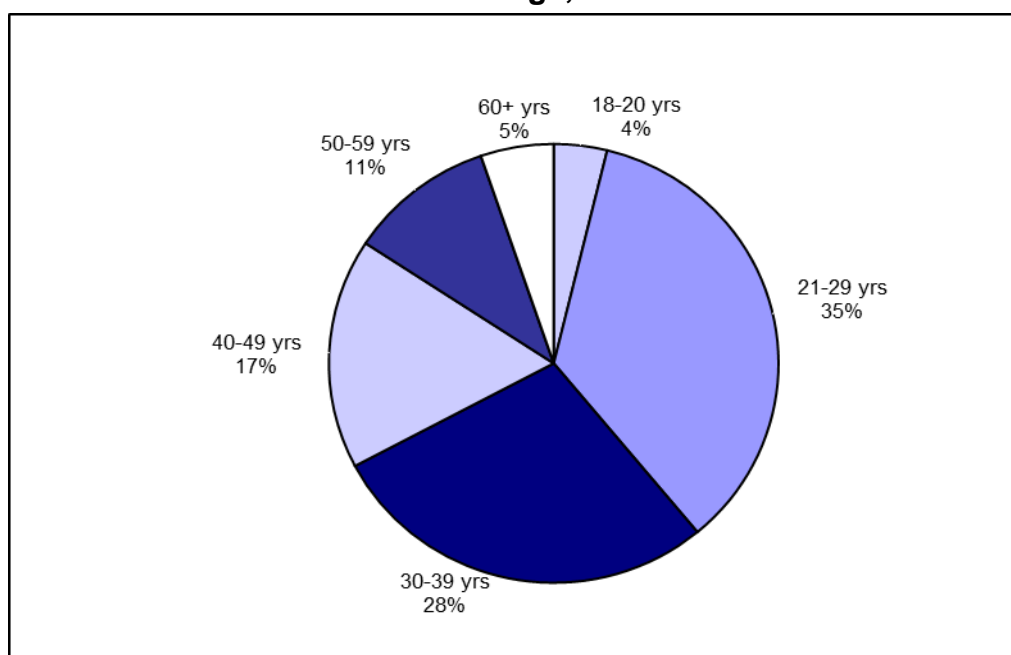
Figure 3: Average Daily Prison Population by Gender, 2003-2015



The average daily prison population decreased for both males and females from 2014 to 2015. The population for males fell from 1,763 to 1,605 (9.0%), whilst the female population decreased by 16.4% (from 67 to 56) (Figure 3 and Table 1).

Average Daily Immediate Custody Prison Population by Current Age

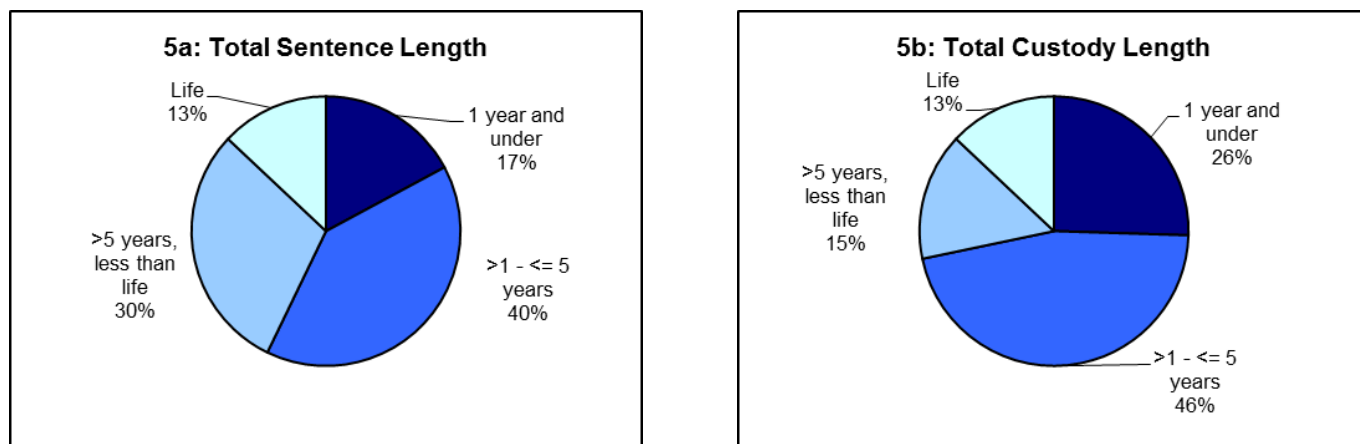
Figure 4: Average Daily Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Current Age, 2015



As was the case in the previous two years, the largest proportion of the prison population was aged between 21 to 29 years (35.1%). However, the proportion this age group accounts for has been decreasing since 2013: 39.5% in 2013 and 38.0% in 2014 (Figure 4 and Table 2).

Average Daily Immediate Custody Prison Population by Sentence Length

Figure 5: Average Daily Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Sentence Length, 2015



Figures 5a and 5b shows the breakdown of total sentence length and total custody length for prisoners under sentence of immediate custody during 2015. During 2015, 40.0% of the average daily prison population were sentenced to a total sentence (includes both the custody and licence element of the sentence) of greater than one year and less than or equal to 5 years whilst 17.1% were sentenced to 1 year and under. When looking solely at the custodial element, 46.2% were sentenced to greater than 1 year and less than or equal to 5 years and 25.5% sentenced to 1 year and under (Table 4).

Average Daily Immediate Custody Prison Population by Principal Offence

Figure 6: Average Daily Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Principal Offence, 2015

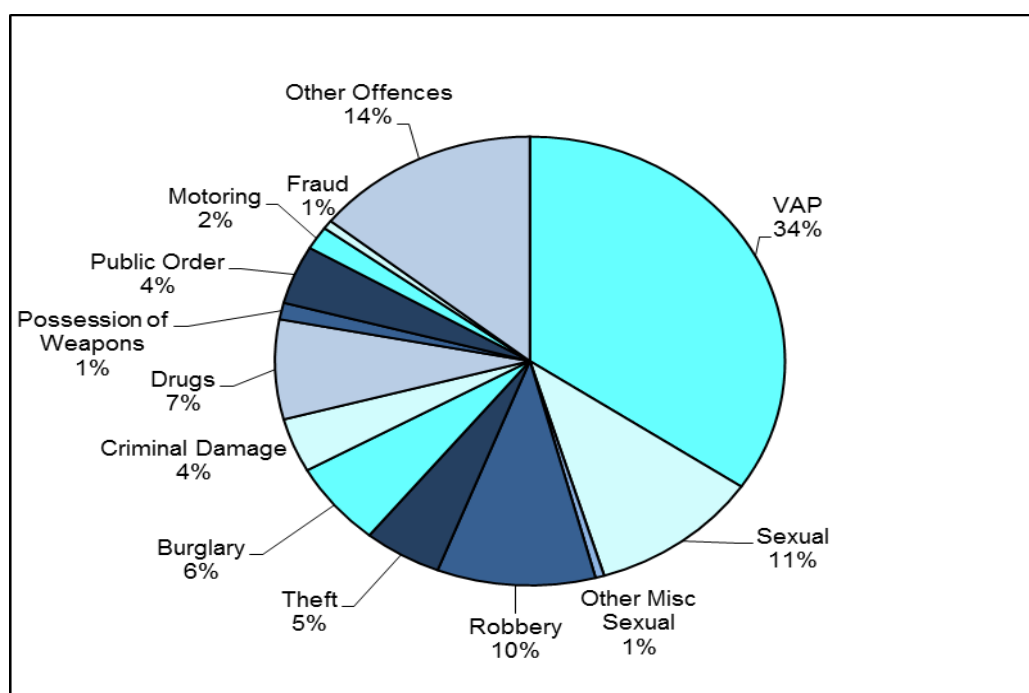


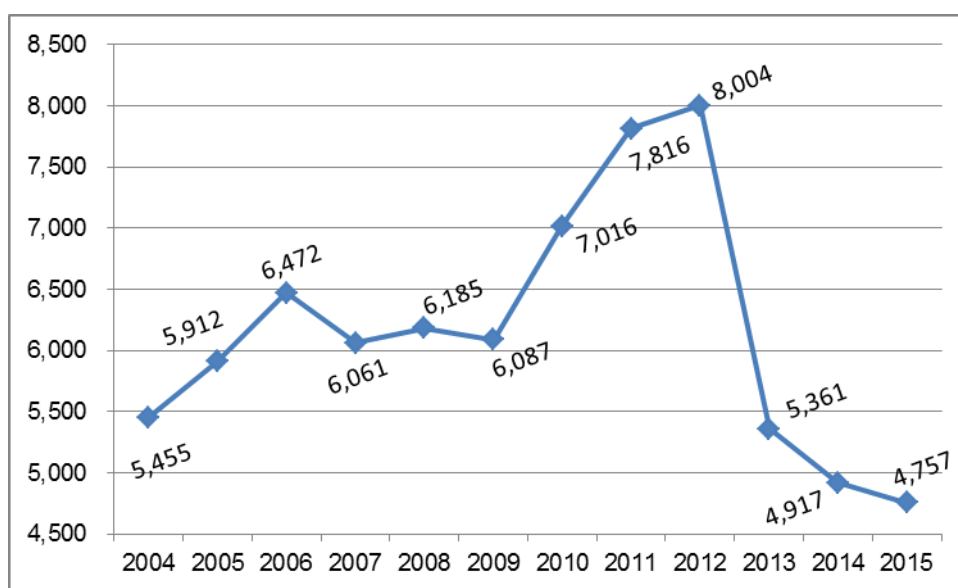
Figure 6 shows that 34.4% of all principal offences were categorised as Violence against the Person (VAP). Notably not all offence categories recorded a decrease in numbers from 2014 to 2015. Drug Offences and Other Offences increased from 2014 to 2015 (18.4% and 14.0% respectively).

Principal offences classified as Public Order Offences decreased by the largest percentage (129 to 53; 58.9%) and along with Other Offences were the only two categories where the change in proportion of offences classified into these categories were significant (Table 6).

Receptions into Prison

Total Prison Receptions fell to 4,757 during 2015, a fall of 3.3% (160) (Figure 7). This was a smaller decrease than the previous year when receptions fell by 8.3% (444). Given the Legal Aid dispute a larger decrease may have been expected, however a rise in fine default receptions during 2015 can explain why total receptions fell by a smaller than expected number (Refer fine default section below and Table 7).

Figure 7: Prison Receptions, 2004-2015



The 4,757 receptions during 2015 were made by 2,810 prisoners, giving a reception rate of 1.7 which was the same as in 2014.

Prison Receptions by Prisoner Type

Remand Prisoners

Remand receptions fell by 3.8% during 2015 to 2,633, and was the fourth year in a row that receptions for remand prisoners fell. Remand receptions accounted for 55.4% of all receptions during 2015 (Figure 8 and Table 7).

Immediate Custody Prisoners

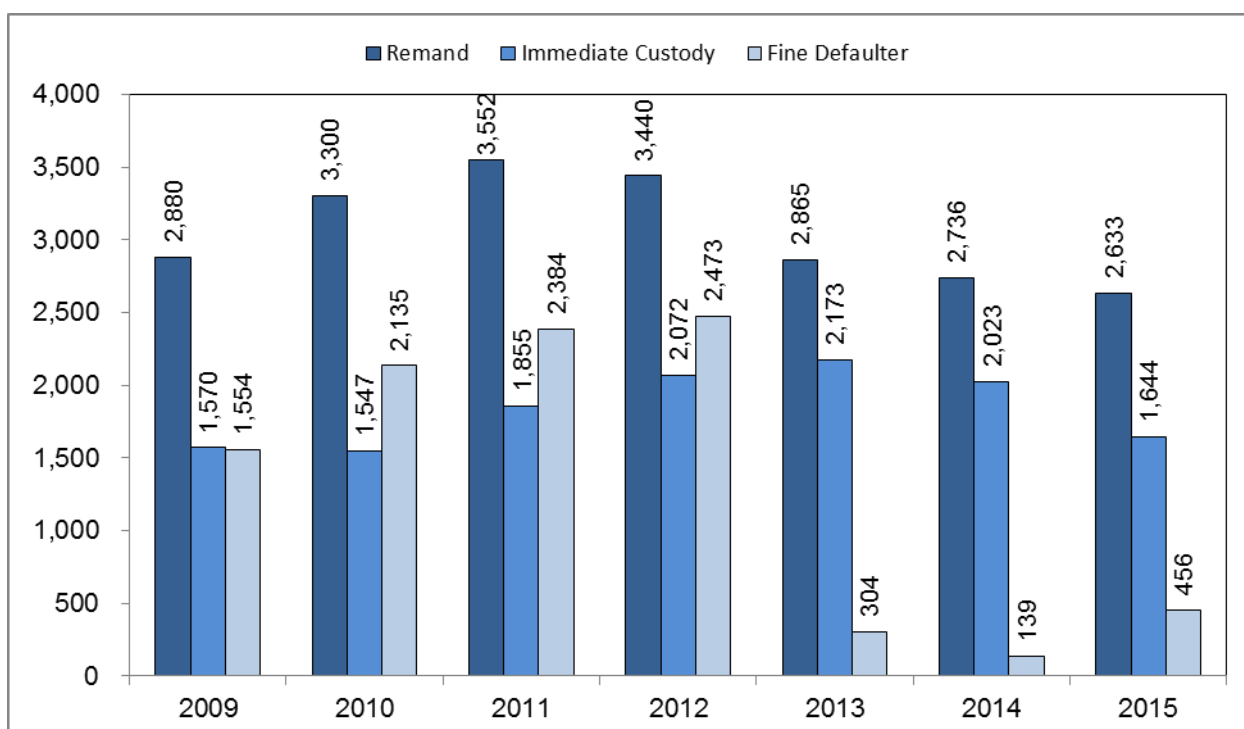
The number of prisoners received under sentence of immediate custody during 2015 was 1,644, a decrease of 18.7% compared to the previous year. This is perhaps where the impact of the Legal Aid Dispute was most notable. The reduction in disposals in the Crown Court (mentioned in the averages section) and the reduction in numbers receiving a custodial sentence in both the Crown Court and Magistrates' Court (mentioned in the averages section) led to a lower immediate custody reception level for 2015 (Figure 8 and Table 7).

Fine Defaulter and Non-Criminal Prisoners

The number of fine default receptions increased during 2015 to 456 receptions from 139 the year before. Although this was a large increase the numbers of fine default receptions are still much lower than the levels during 2012 (2,473). The drop in numbers during 2013 and 2014 occurred as a direct result of the Judicial Review, which led to the temporary suspension of fine defaulters being sent to prison. The Judicial Review was concluded in 2014 and resulted in the introduction of Fine Default Hearings, hence the increase in fine default receptions during 2015, but not to the levels experienced previously (Figure 8 and Table 7).

The number of non-criminal receptions (mainly immigrant detainees) still represents a relatively small number of total receptions (0.5%), with the number being 24 for 2015 (Table 7).

Figure 8: Prison Reception by Prisoner Type, 2009-2015



Prison Reception by Gender

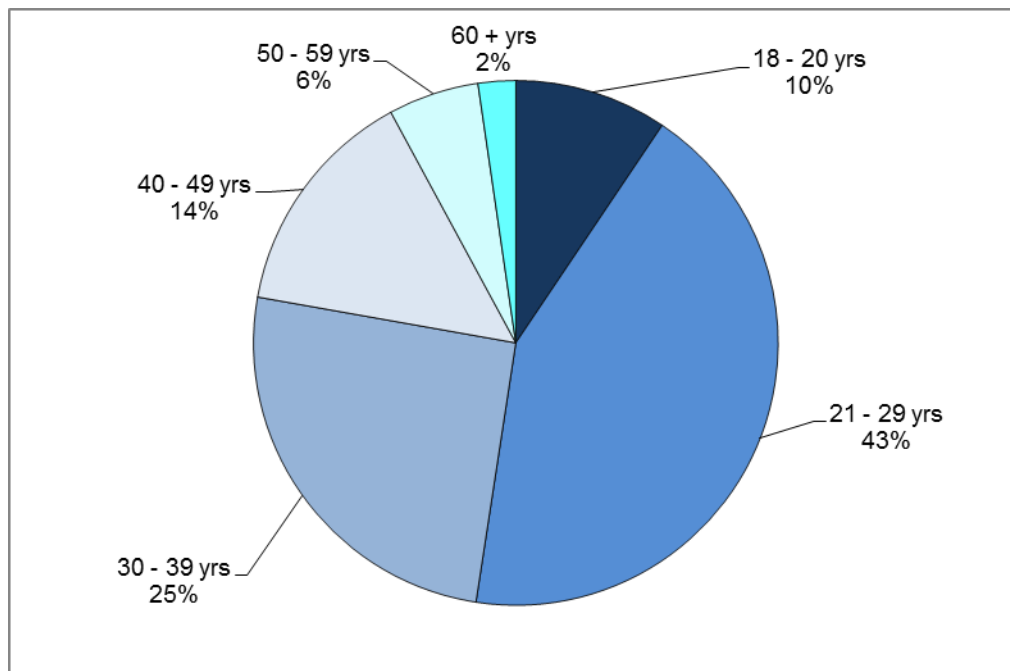
Unlike male receptions, female receptions increased during 2015 from 317 to 334. This increase can be attributed to an increase in female fine default receptions (from 7 in 2014 to 53 in 2015), as female remand and immediate custody receptions decreased (Table 7).

Females made up a significantly larger percentage of all remand receptions (7.3%; 191 out of 2,633) than immediate custody receptions (5.4%; 89 out of 1,644) (Table 7).

Immediate Custody Reception by Age at Reception

Those aged between 21 and 29 years of age made up 43.0% of all immediate custody receptions during 2015 (Figure 9). Once again this was the largest age category for both male and female prisoner immediate custody receptions (43.2% for males; 40.4% for females), followed by those aged 30 to 39 years (25.2% for males and 28.1% for females) (Table 8).

Figure 9: Immediate Custody Receptions by Age at Reception, 2015

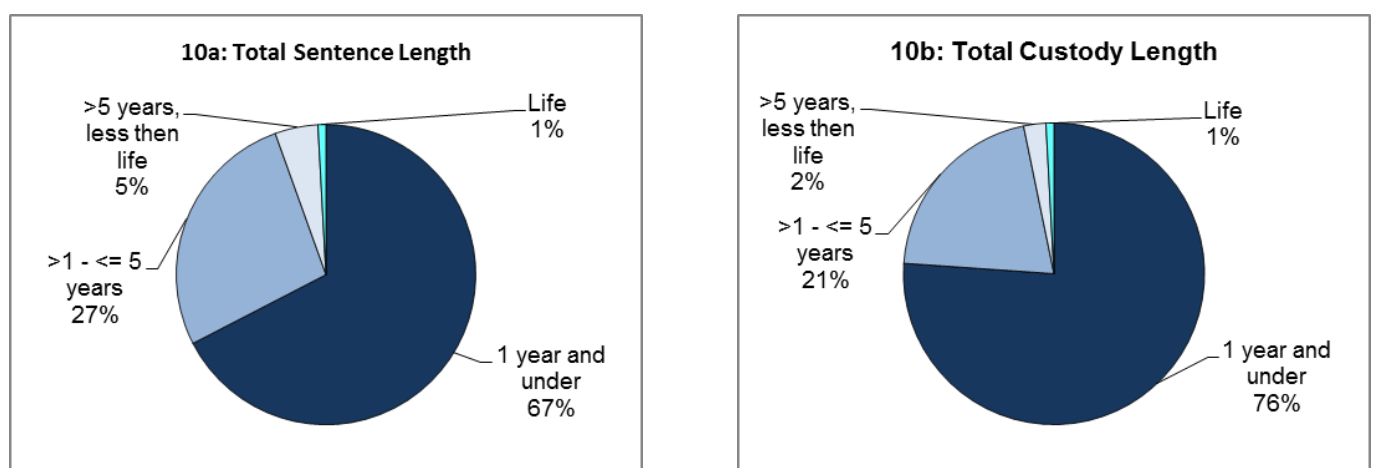


Immediate Custody Receptions by Sentence Length

Figure 10a and Figure 10b show the breakdown of sentences for immediate custody receptions for both the total sentence length and the custody sentence length.

Sentences of 1 year and under accounted for the largest proportion of sentenced receptions for both total sentence and total custody sentence (67.4% and 76.1% respectively) (Table 10). The breakdown of sentence lengths during 2015 was similar to 2014.

Figure 10: Immediate Custody Receptions by Sentence Length, 2015



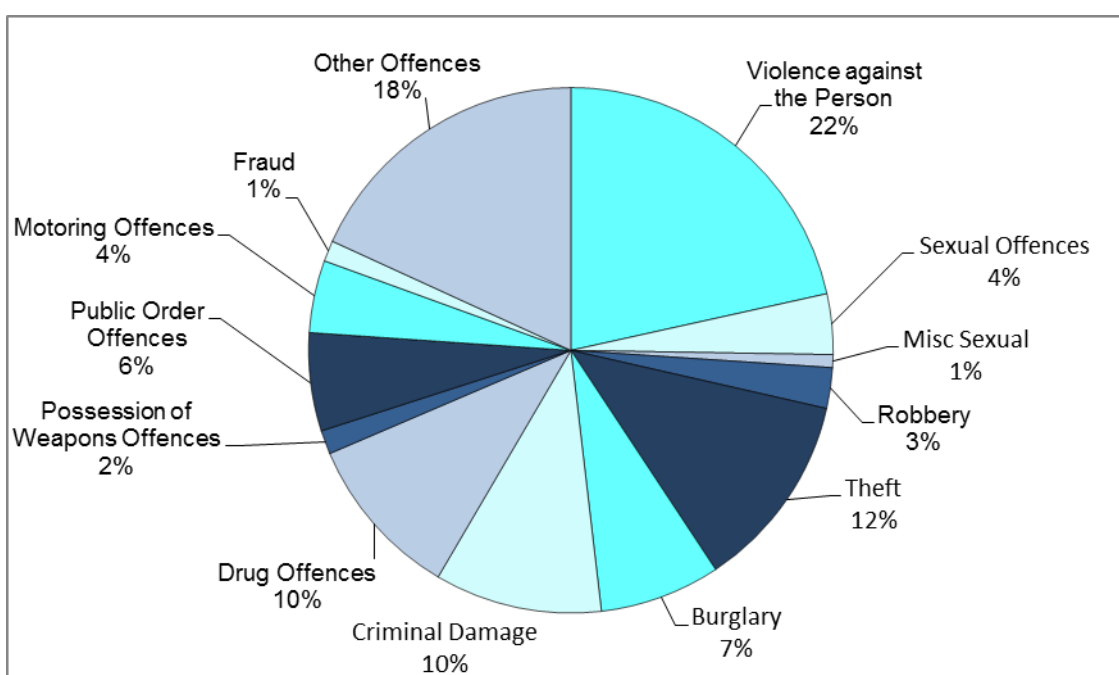
Immediate Custody Receptions by Principal Offence

As in previous years, Violence against the Person (VAP) offences made up the majority of immediate custody receptions for 2015, with 21.5% being for this category (Figure 11 and Table 12). Although receptions in this category fell from 2014, its share of immediate custody receptions actually increased (17.9% in 2014 to 21.5% in 2015). This along with Public Order Offences and Drug Offences were the only offence groupings where the change in their share of overall offences from 2014 to 2015 was a significant change.

Public Order Offences fell by the largest percentage of all the offence groupings, (68.2%; from 311 to 99).

Only two out of the 13 offence groupings saw an increase in receptions, namely Drug Offences (by 17.7%; +25) and Misc. Sexual (by 30.0%; +3).

Figure 11: Immediate Custody Receptions by Principal Offence, 2015

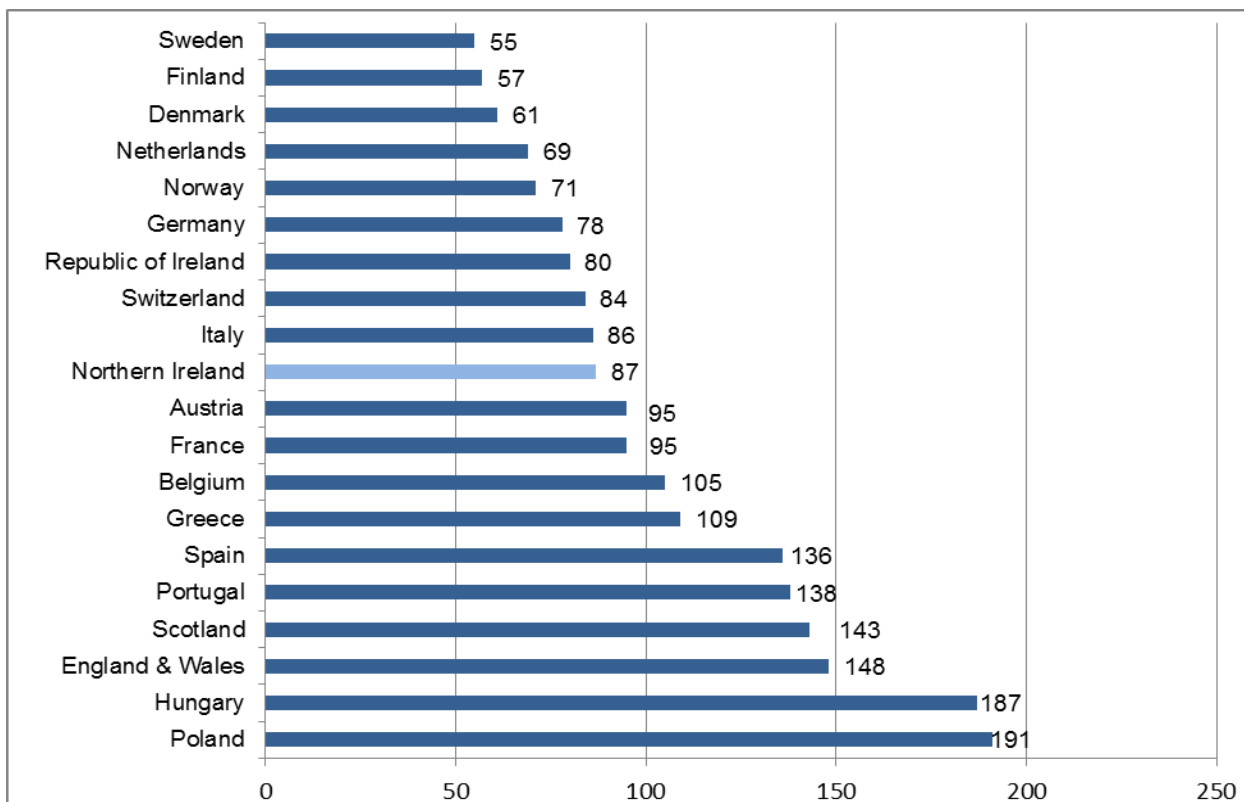


International Comparisons

The Institute for Criminal Policy Research (ICPR) published the “World Prison Population List (11th edition)” in February 2016. (Link: http://www.prisonstudies.org/research-publications?shs_term_node_tid_depth=27) This report provides information on the number of prisoners held in 223 prison systems in independent countries and dependent territories. Figure 12 shows for a selection of European countries the prison population per 100,000 in the population. Northern Ireland had 87 prisoners for every 100,000 people in the population, the equivalent figure for Scotland was 143 and England and Wales 148. The rate in the Republic of Ireland was 80. The publication stated that the Seychelles (799) was the country with the highest rate, followed by the United States (698).

In September 2015, The Institute for Criminal Policy Research (ICPR) also published the third edition of the World Female Imprisonment list. Figure 13 shows the rates for selected countries taken from this report. Northern Ireland had one of the lowest rates from the selected countries, with a rate of 2.9 female prisoners for every 100,000 people in the population. This rate was similar to that of the Republic of Ireland (2.7). England and Wales had a rate of 6.8 whilst Scotland had a rate of 7.1. In comparison the USA had a rate of 64.6.

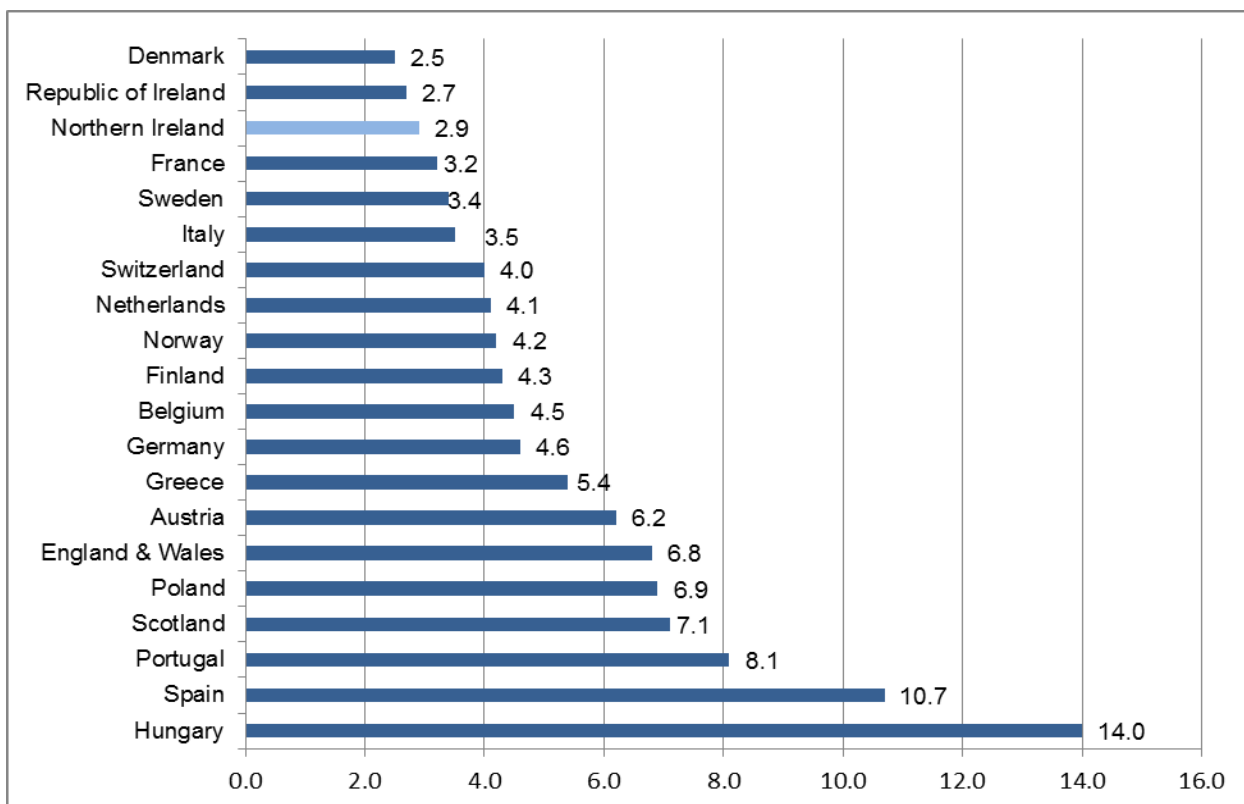
Figure 12: Prison Population* per 100,000 Population, Selected European Jurisdictions



Source: World Prison Population List (11th Edition)

Notes: * information is the latest available as at the end of October 2015

Figure 13: Female Prison Population* per 100,000 Population, Selected European Jurisdictions



Source: World Female Imprisonment List (3rd Edition)

Notes: * information is the latest available as at the end of July 2015

Appendix One: Tables

Table 1: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population by Prisoner Type, Gender and Establishment

		2013	2014	2015	2014/15*	2015/16*
Remand	Maghaberry	422	359	345	357	339
	Hydebank Wood College Males	53	41	36	41	36
	Hydebank Wood College Females	17	21	18	21	18
	Total	492	421	398	419	393
Immediate Custody	Maghaberry	624	689	613	671	584
	Magilligan	545	558	531	556	506
	Hydebank Wood College Males	117	114	74	106	66
	Hydebank Wood College Females	44	45	38	44	35
	Total	1,330	1,406	1,255	1,376	1,192
Fine Defaulter	Maghaberry	3	1	4	2	5
	Hydebank Wood College Males	0	0	0	0	0
	Hydebank Wood College Females	0	0	1	0	1
	Total	4	2	5	3	6
Non Criminal	Maghaberry	1	1	2	1	2
	Hydebank Wood College Males	0	0	0	0	0
	Hydebank Wood College Females	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	1	1	2	1	2
Males		1,765	1,763	1,605	1,734	1,539
Females		61	67	56	65	53
Establishment	Maghaberry	1,050	1,050	964	1,031	931
	Magilligan	545	558	531	556	506
	Hydebank Wood College Males	170	156	110	147	102
	Hydebank Wood College Females	61	67	56	65	53
	Total	1,826	1,830	1,661	1,799	1,592

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March
Components may not sum to totals due to rounding

Table 2: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Current Age

		2013	2014	2015	2014/15*	2015/16*
MALES	18 - 20 years	81	73	47	66	42
	21 - 29 years	514	522	430	504	400
	30 - 39 years	311	356	348	354	333
	40 - 49 years	214	215	203	210	199
	50 - 59 years	107	137	126	138	120
	60 + years	58	58	63	59	62
	Total	1,286	1,361	1,217	1,333	1,157
FEMALES	18 - 20 years	1	2	1	2	0
	21 - 29 years	12	13	11	13	10
	30 - 39 years	10	8	7	7	7
	40 - 49 years	14	14	10	14	9
	50 - 59 years	7	8	7	7	6
	60 + years	0	1	2	2	2
	Total	44	45	38	44	35
ALL	18 - 20 years	82	75	48	68	43
	21 - 29 years	526	534	441	517	410
	30 - 39 years	321	364	355	361	340
	40 - 49 years	228	229	213	224	208
	50 - 59 years	114	145	132	146	126
	60 + years	58	59	66	61	65
	Total	1,330	1,406	1,255	1,376	1,192

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March
Components may not sum to totals due to rounding

Table 3: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Current Age, Gender and Sentence Length

	2014			2015			2014/15*			2015/16*		
	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length
ADULT MALES (Aged 21 and Over)												
Life	166	166	166	157	157	157	165	165	165	156	156	156
>10yrs, less than life	114	71	0	116	70	0	114	71	0	116	68	0
>5yrs and <=10yrs	258	115	18	246	115	19	259	114	18	235	117	21
>4yrs and <=5yrs	94	56	41	76	54	42	88	56	42	74	51	41
>3yrs and <=4yrs	115	94	82	108	95	76	115	95	81	98	93	74
>2yrs and <=3yrs	150	159	175	139	140	163	147	157	173	130	133	154
>1yr and <=2yrs	170	273	237	144	261	218	166	268	233	134	247	200
>6mths and <=12mths	117	220	105	98	171	71	113	211	101	90	152	57
>3mths and <=6mths	79	107	19	65	86	11	77	106	19	60	75	8
<=3 months	24	25	0	20	21	0	22	23	0	21	21	0
No Licence	0	0	444	0	0	412	0	0	434	0	0	403
missing data	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Total	1,287	1,287	1,287	1,170	1,170	1,170	1,266	1,266	1,266	1,115	1,115	1,115
YOUNG MALES (Aged Less than 21)												
Life	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
>10yrs, less than life	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
>5yrs and <=10yrs	9	1	0	5	3	0	8	1	0	5	3	0
>4yrs and <=5yrs	5	1	0	3	1	0	4	1	0	2	1	0
>3yrs and <=4yrs	9	4	3	4	1	1	7	3	2	3	1	1
>2yrs and <=3yrs	13	7	10	8	4	6	11	7	8	7	3	5
>1yr and <=2yrs	13	21	21	6	13	13	12	18	19	5	11	11
>6mths and <=12mths	10	21	10	11	15	5	10	19	9	10	14	4
>3mths and <=6mths	10	13	2	6	8	1	10	13	2	6	7	1
<=3 months	3	3	0	3	3	0	3	3	0	2	2	0
No Licence	0	0	27	0	0	21	0	0	25	0	0	20
missing data	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	73	73	73	47	47	47	66	66	66	42	42	42
ALL MALES	1,361	1,361	1,361	1,217	1,217	1,217	1,333	1,333	1,333	1,157	1,157	1,157
ADULT FEMALES (Aged 21 and Over)												
Life	8	8	8	6	6	6	8	8	8	6	6	6
>5yrs, less than life	4	2	0	6	3	0	5	2	0	6	3	0
>1yr and <=5yrs	16	12	9	13	12	11	16	13	10	12	11	11
>6mths and <=12mths	7	12	7	6	8	3	7	11	6	5	7	2
>3mths and <=6mths	6	8	1	4	6	0	5	6	0	5	6	0
<=3 months	2	2	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	1	1	0
No Licence	0	0	19	0	0	16	0	0	18	0	0	15
missing data	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	43	43	43	37	37	37	42	42	42	34	34	34
YOUNG FEMALES (Aged Less than 21)												
Life	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
>5yrs, less than life	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
>1yr and <=5yrs	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
>6mths and <=12mths	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
>3mths and <=6mths	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
<=3 months	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Licence	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1
ALL FEMALES	45	45	45	38	38	38	44	44	44	35	35	35

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March

Life includes those detained at the Secretary of State's Pleasure

Components may not sum to totals due to rounding

Table 4: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Sentence Length

	2014			2015			2014/15*			2015/16*		
	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length
MALES												
Life	167	167	167	157	157	157	166	166	166	156	156	156
>10yrs, less than life	115	71	0	117	70	0	115	71	0	117	68	0
>5yrs and <=10yrs	267	116	18	251	118	19	266	115	18	240	119	21
>4yrs and <=5yrs	99	57	41	79	55	42	91	57	42	76	52	42
>3yrs and <=4yrs	124	98	84	112	96	77	122	99	83	101	94	75
>2yrs and <=3yrs	163	166	185	147	144	169	158	164	181	137	136	159
>1yr and <=2yrs	183	295	259	151	274	231	178	286	252	140	258	211
>6mths and <=12mths	127	242	114	109	187	76	123	230	109	100	167	62
>3mths and <=6mths	89	120	21	71	94	12	87	119	21	66	82	8
<=3 months	27	28	0	23	23	0	25	26	0	23	24	0
No Licence	0	0	471	0	0	433	0	0	459	0	0	423
missing data	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Total Males	1,361	1,361	1,361	1,217	1,217	1,217	1,333	1,333	1,333	1,157	1,157	1,157
FEMALES												
Life	8	8	8	6	6	6	8	8	8	6	6	6
>5yrs, less than life	4	2	0	6	3	0	5	2	0	6	3	0
>1yr and <=5yrs	17	12	10	13	12	11	17	13	11	12	11	11
>6mths and <=12mths	8	13	7	6	9	3	7	12	6	5	7	2
>3mths and <=6mths	7	9	1	5	6	0	6	7	0	5	6	0
<=3 months	2	2	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	1	1	0
No Licence	0	0	20	0	0	17	0	0	19	0	0	15
missing data	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Females	45	45	45	38	38	38	44	44	44	35	35	35
ALL												
Life	175	175	175	163	163	163	174	174	174	162	162	162
>5yrs, less than life	386	189	18	374	192	19	386	188	18	362	190	21
>1yr and <=5yrs	586	628	579	502	580	530	566	618	569	465	551	497
>6mths and <=12mths	135	254	121	115	195	79	131	243	115	105	174	64
>3mths and <=6mths	96	129	22	76	100	13	93	126	22	71	88	9
<=3 months	29	30	0	24	25	0	26	28	0	25	25	0
No Licence	0	0	491	0	0	450	0	0	478	0	0	438
missing data	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Total	1,406	1,406	1,406	1,255	1,255	1,255	1,376	1,376	1,376	1,192	1,192	1,192

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March

Life includes those detained at the Secretary of State's Pleasure

Components may not sum to totals due to rounding

Table 5: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Current Age, Gender and Principal Offence

	2013		2014		2015		2014/15*		2015/16*	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
AGED 21 AND OVER										
Violence against the Person	402	19	423	18	401	19	420	19	386	18
Sexual Offences	150	1	156	0	133	0	153	0	128	0
Misc. Sexual	8	0	8	0	7	0	7	0	6	0
Robbery	143	2	139	2	118	2	133	2	112	2
Theft	51	6	55	8	55	3	55	7	49	2
Burglary	77	1	76	1	69	0	75	1	61	0
Criminal Damage	51	2	46	2	40	4	45	2	38	4
Drug Offences	73	2	75	0	86	4	74	1	84	3
Possession of Weapons Offences	19	0	22	0	14	0	19	0	14	0
Public Order Offences	77	2	110	2	48	2	108	2	37	2
Motoring Offences	21	0	27	0	20	0	25	0	20	0
Fraud	11	2	11	2	8	0	9	2	7	0
Other Offences	121	6	142	8	169	3	144	6	171	3
Missing	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Total Aged 21 and Over	1,204	43	1,287	43	1,170	37	1,266	42	1,115	34
AGED LESS THAN 21										
Violence against the Person	20	0	13	1	12	1	13	1	12	0
Sexual Offences	4	0	5	0	3	0	5	0	2	0
Misc. Sexual	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	11	0	9	0	6	0	8	0	5	0
Theft	5	0	5	1	3	0	4	1	4	0
Burglary	7	0	7	0	7	0	7	0	7	0
Criminal Damage	5	0	4	0	5	0	5	0	5	1
Drug Offences	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Possession of Weapons Offences	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Public Order Offences	9	1	17	0	3	0	15	0	1	0
Motoring Offences	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Fraud	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Offences	15	0	7	0	6	0	6	0	5	0
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aged Less than 21	81	1	73	2	47	1	66	2	42	1
ALL	1,286	44	1,361	45	1,217	38	1,333	44	1,157	35

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March

Offence Classification and Principal Offence Methodology was revised and updated for the 2013 publication, therefore comparisons with pre 2013 data are not possible

Misc. Sexual includes sexual offences which for England and Wales have moved to the Other Offences Categories but for clarity are included in a separate category here - e.g. making/possessing/distributing indecent photos of children and possession of extreme pornographic images
Components may not sum to totals due to rounding

Table 6: Average Daily Northern Ireland Prison Population under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Principal Offence

		2013	2014	2015	2014/15*	2015/16*
MALES	Violence against the Person	422	436	413	432	397
	Sexual Offences	154	161	136	157	130
	Misc. Sexual	8	8	7	7	6
	Robbery	154	148	124	141	117
	Theft	56	60	59	59	53
	Burglary	84	83	76	82	67
	Criminal Damage	56	50	45	49	43
	Drug Offences	76	76	86	75	84
	Possession of Weapons Offences	20	24	15	20	15
	Public Order Offences	86	127	51	123	39
	Motoring Offences	22	28	21	27	21
	Fraud	11	11	8	9	7
	Other Offences	137	149	175	151	176
	Missing	1	0	1	0	1
Total		1,286	1,361	1,217	1,333	1,157
FEMALES	Violence against the Person	19	19	19	20	18
	Sexual Offences	1	0	0	0	0
	Misc. Sexual	0	0	0	0	0
	Robbery	2	2	2	2	2
	Theft	6	9	3	8	2
	Burglary	1	1	0	1	0
	Criminal Damage	2	2	4	2	4
	Drug Offences	2	0	4	1	3
	Possession of Weapons Offences	0	0	0	0	0
	Public Order Offences	2	2	2	2	2
	Motoring Offences	0	0	0	0	0
	Fraud	2	2	0	2	0
	Other Offences	6	8	3	6	3
	Missing	0	0	0	0	0
Total		44	45	38	44	35
ALL	Violence against the Person	441	455	432	452	416
	Sexual Offences	155	161	136	157	130
	Misc. Sexual	8	8	7	7	6
	Robbery	156	150	126	143	119
	Theft	62	69	62	67	55
	Burglary	84	84	76	83	68
	Criminal Damage	58	52	49	51	47
	Drug Offences	77	76	90	76	87
	Possession of Weapons Offences	21	24	15	21	15
	Public Order Offences	88	129	53	125	40
	Motoring Offences	23	29	21	27	21
	Fraud	13	13	8	11	7
	Other Offences	143	157	179	157	179
	Missing	1	0	1	0	1
Total		1,330	1,406	1,255	1,376	1,192

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March

Offence Classification and Principal Offence Methodology was revised and updated for the 2013 publication, therefore comparisons with pre 2013 data are not possible

Misc. Sexual includes sexual offences which for England and Wales have moved to the Other Offences Categories but for clarity are included in a separate category here - e.g. making/possessing/distributing indecent photos of children and possession of extreme pornographic images
Components may not sum to totals due to rounding

Table 7: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions by Prisoner Type, Gender and Establishment

		2013	2014	2015	2014/15*	2015/16*
Remand	Maghaberry	2,236	2,194	2,100	2,122	2,170
	Hydebank Wood College Males	420	350	342	350	340
	Hydebank Wood College Females	209	192	191	182	215
	Total	2,865	2,736	2,633	2,654	2,725
Immediate Custody	Maghaberry	1,783	1,710	1,404	1,611	1,253
	Hydebank Wood College Males	258	195	151	185	143
	Hydebank Wood College Females	132	118	89	103	84
	Total	2,173	2,023	1,644	1,899	1,480
Fine Defaulter	Maghaberry	244	121	373	184	405
	Hydebank Wood College Males	33	11	30	19	35
	Hydebank Wood College Females	27	7	53	21	55
	Total	304	139	456	224	495
Non Criminal	Maghaberry	17	18	22	19	24
	Hydebank Wood College Males	1	1	1	1	1
	Hydebank Wood College Females	1	0	1	0	1
	Total	19	19	24	20	26
Males		4,992	4,600	4,423	4,491	4,371
Females		369	317	334	306	355
Establishment	Maghaberry	4,280	4,043	3,899	3,936	3,852
	Hydebank Wood College Males	712	557	524	555	519
	Hydebank Wood College Females	369	317	334	306	355
	Total	5,361	4,917	4,757	4,797	4,726

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March
 Females includes Transgender persons

Table 8: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Age at Reception

		2013	2014	2015	2014/15*	2015/16*
MALES	18 - 20 years	244	182	146	172	141
	21 - 29 years	911	812	671	775	606
	30 - 39 years	453	480	392	445	354
	40 - 49 years	267	254	226	239	192
	50 - 59 years	124	132	84	120	69
	60 + years	42	45	36	45	34
	Total		2,041	1,905	1,555	1,796
FEMALES	18 - 20 years	8	10	9	8	7
	21 - 29 years	48	41	36	32	37
	30 - 39 years	34	30	25	25	27
	40 - 49 years	21	25	9	23	5
	50 - 59 years	18	11	8	12	8
	60 + years	3	1	2	3	0
	Total		132	118	89	103
ALL	18 - 20 years	252	192	155	180	148
	21 - 29 years	959	853	707	807	643
	30 - 39 years	487	510	417	470	381
	40 - 49 years	288	279	235	262	197
	50 - 59 years	142	143	92	132	77
	60 + years	45	46	38	48	34
	Total		2,173	2,023	1,644	1,899

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March

Table 9: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Age at Reception, Gender and Sentence Length

	2014			2015			2014/15*			2015/16*		
	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length
ADULT MALES (Aged 21 and Over)												
Life	12	12	12	14	14	14	12	12	12	10	10	10
>10yrs, less than life	28	21	0	20	8	0	18	13	0	18	8	0
>5yrs and <=10yrs	89	25	5	52	31	8	70	15	2	42	29	7
>4yrs and <=5yrs	36	20	19	33	9	6	45	20	14	18	6	5
>3yrs and <=4yrs	74	35	25	64	28	14	74	30	19	46	29	10
>2yrs and <=3yrs	138	87	74	132	65	60	137	83	83	96	54	34
>1yr and <=2yrs	257	235	182	176	213	159	227	233	175	148	159	104
>6mths and <=12mths	332	466	157	273	356	88	327	448	142	252	303	56
>3mths and <=6mths	455	515	40	388	427	21	447	498	34	362	392	16
<=3 months	301	306	1	249	250	0	265	270	1	253	255	0
No Licence	0	0	1,207	0	0	1,031	0	0	1,140	0	0	1,003
missing data	1	1	1	8	8	8	2	2	2	10	10	10
Total	1,723	1,723	1,723	1,409	1,409	1,409	1,624	1,624	1,624	1,255	1,255	1,255
YOUNG MALES (Aged Less than 21)												
Life	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
>10yrs, less than life	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
>5yrs and <=10yrs	2	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	1
>4yrs and <=5yrs	1	0	0	2	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	1
>3yrs and <=4yrs	10	1	1	1	0	1	7	0	1	0	0	0
>2yrs and <=3yrs	13	2	5	9	3	4	10	3	6	7	2	2
>1yr and <=2yrs	26	24	21	10	11	10	19	20	15	8	9	7
>6mths and <=12mths	36	52	17	43	50	7	37	48	9	43	46	6
>3mths and <=6mths	59	67	6	46	49	1	60	65	4	48	51	1
<=3 months	34	35	0	32	32	0	34	35	0	31	31	0
No Licence	0	0	131	0	0	122	0	0	136	0	0	123
missing data	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	182	182	182	146	146	146	172	172	172	141	141	141
ALL MALES	1,905	1,905	1,905	1,555	1,555	1,555	1,796	1,796	1,796	1,396	1,396	1,396
ADULT FEMALES (Aged 21 and Over)												
Life	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
>5yrs, less than life	2	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0
>1yr and <=5yrs	22	15	11	15	8	8	26	19	15	7	3	4
>6mths and <=12mths	22	28	8	17	20	6	20	25	8	16	18	3
>3mths and <=6mths	40	42	0	27	32	2	30	33	0	34	37	2
<=3 months	22	22	0	20	20	0	17	17	0	19	19	0
No Licence	0	0	89	0	0	64	0	0	72	0	0	68
missing data	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	108	108	108	80	80	80	95	95	95	77	77	77
YOUNG FEMALES (Aged Less than 21)												
Life	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
>5yrs, less than life	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
>1yr and <=5yrs	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
>6mths and <=12mths	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
>3mths and <=6mths	6	6	0	5	5	0	5	5	0	3	3	0
<=3 months	2	2	0	3	3	0	2	2	0	3	3	0
No Licence	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	8	0	0	6
Total	10	10	10	9	9	9	8	8	8	7	7	7
ALL FEMALES	118	118	118	89	89	89	103	103	103	84	84	84

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March

Life includes those detained at the Secretary of State's Pleasure

Table 10: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Sentence Length

	2014			2015			2014/15*			2015/16*		
	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length	Total Length	Custody Length	Licence Length
MALES												
Life	13	13	13	14	14	14	13	13	13	10	10	10
>10yrs, less than life	28	21	0	20	8	0	18	13	0	19	8	0
>5yrs and <=10yrs	91	25	5	55	31	8	71	15	2	45	30	8
>4yrs and <=5yrs	37	20	19	35	10	7	48	20	14	18	7	6
>3yrs and <=4yrs	84	36	26	65	28	15	81	30	20	46	29	10
>2yrs and <=3yrs	151	89	79	141	68	64	147	86	89	103	56	36
>1yr and <=2yrs	283	259	203	186	224	169	246	253	190	156	168	111
>6mths and <=12mths	368	518	174	316	406	95	364	496	151	295	349	62
>3mths and <=6mths	514	582	46	434	476	22	507	563	38	410	443	17
<=3 months	335	341	1	281	282	0	299	305	1	284	286	0
No Licence	0	0	1,338	0	0	1,153	0	0	1,276	0	0	1,126
missing data	1	1	1	8	8	8	2	2	2	10	10	10
Total Males	1,905	1,905	1,905	1,555	1,555	1,555	1,796	1,796	1,796	1,396	1,396	1,396
FEMALES												
Life	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
>5yrs, less than life	2	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0
>1yr and <=5yrs	23	15	12	16	8	8	26	19	15	8	3	4
>6mths and <=12mths	23	30	8	17	21	7	21	26	8	16	19	4
>3mths and <=6mths	46	48	0	32	37	2	35	38	0	37	40	2
<=3 months	24	24	0	23	23	0	19	19	0	22	22	0
No Licence	0	0	98	0	0	72	0	0	80	0	0	74
missing data	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Females	118	118	118	89	89	89	103	103	103	84	84	84
ALL												
Life	13	13	13	14	14	14	13	13	13	10	10	10
>5yrs, less than life	121	47	5	76	39	8	91	29	2	65	38	8
>1yr and <=5yrs	578	419	339	443	338	263	548	408	328	331	263	167
>6mths and <=12mths	391	548	182	333	427	102	385	522	159	311	368	66
>3mths and <=6mths	560	630	46	466	513	24	542	601	38	447	483	19
<=3 months	359	365	1	304	305	0	318	324	1	306	308	0
No Licence	0	0	1,436	0	0	1,225	0	0	1,356	0	0	1,200
missing data	1	1	1	8	8	8	2	2	2	10	10	10
Total	2,023	2,023	2,023	1,644	1,644	1,644	1,899	1,899	1,899	1,480	1,480	1,480

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March

Life includes those detained at the Secretary of State's Pleasure

Table 11: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Age at Reception, Gender and Principal Offence

	2013		2014		2015		2014/15*		2015/16*	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
AGED 21 AND OVER										
Violence against the Person	378	19	312	14	295	18	322	14	229	17
Sexual Offences	93	0	85	1	60	0	70	1	50	0
Misc. Sexual	18	0	10	0	13	0	11	0	9	0
Robbery	94	4	51	2	34	1	53	2	23	1
Theft	192	28	185	37	166	14	184	29	139	16
Burglary	120	4	125	7	92	2	113	7	72	4
Criminal Damage	155	17	138	9	124	19	140	9	114	19
Drug Offences	161	6	129	5	152	8	147	9	120	3
Possession of Weapons Offences	35	3	33	0	20	0	19	0	21	0
Public Order Offences	202	13	259	13	85	5	198	7	94	7
Motoring Offences	74	1	90	2	68	2	76	2	74	2
Fraud	28	8	18	3	21	0	16	2	17	0
Other Offences	245	21	287	15	274	11	272	13	289	8
Missing	2	0	1	0	5	0	3	0	4	0
Total Aged 21 and Over	1,797	124	1,723	108	1,409	80	1,624	95	1,255	77
AGED LESS THAN 21										
Violence against the Person	48	2	31	5	37	3	32	4	34	1
Sexual Offences	6	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Misc. Sexual	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	12	0	6	0	6	0	9	0	2	0
Theft	30	0	25	1	18	1	21	1	25	1
Burglary	18	0	22	0	26	2	24	0	21	2
Criminal Damage	35	2	24	2	24	2	30	2	23	2
Drug Offences	10	0	7	0	5	1	6	0	2	1
Possession of Weapons Offences	6	0	4	0	4	0	3	0	3	0
Public Order Offences	33	3	37	2	9	0	23	1	11	0
Motoring Offences	8	0	5	0	3	0	3	0	4	0
Fraud	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Other Offences	38	1	19	0	13	0	19	0	16	0
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aged Less than 21	244	8	182	10	146	9	172	8	141	7
ALL	2,041	132	1,905	118	1,555	89	1,796	103	1,396	84

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March

Offence Classification and Principal Offence Methodology was revised and updated for the 2013 publication, therefore comparisons with pre 2013 data are not possible

Misc. Sexual includes sexual offences which for England and Wales have moved to the Other Offences Categories but for clarity are included in a separate category here - e.g. making/possessing/distributing indecent photos of children and possession of extreme pornographic images

Table 12: Northern Ireland Prison Receptions under Sentence of Immediate Custody by Gender and Principal Offence

		2013	2014	2015	2014/15*	2015/16*
MALES	Violence against the Person	426	343	332	354	263
	Sexual Offences	99	86	61	71	50
	Misc. Sexual	18	10	13	11	9
	Robbery	106	57	40	62	25
	Theft	222	210	184	205	164
	Burglary	138	147	118	137	93
	Criminal Damage	190	162	148	170	137
	Drug Offences	171	136	157	153	122
	Possession of Weapons Offences	41	37	24	22	24
	Public Order Offences	235	296	94	221	105
	Motoring Offences	82	95	71	79	78
	Fraud	28	19	21	17	17
	Other Offences	283	306	287	291	305
	Missing	2	1	5	3	4
Total		2,041	1,905	1,555	1,796	1,396
FEMALES	Violence against the Person	21	19	21	18	18
	Sexual Offences	0	1	0	1	0
	Misc. Sexual	0	0	0	0	0
	Robbery	4	2	1	2	1
	Theft	28	38	15	30	17
	Burglary	4	7	4	7	6
	Criminal Damage	19	11	21	11	21
	Drug Offences	6	5	9	9	4
	Possession of Weapons Offences	3	0	0	0	0
	Public Order Offences	16	15	5	8	7
	Motoring Offences	1	2	2	2	2
	Fraud	8	3	0	2	0
	Other Offences	22	15	11	13	8
	Missing	0	0	0	0	0
Total		132	118	89	103	84
ALL	Violence against the Person	447	362	353	372	281
	Sexual Offences	99	87	61	72	50
	Misc. Sexual	18	10	13	11	9
	Robbery	110	59	41	64	26
	Theft	250	248	199	235	181
	Burglary	142	154	122	144	99
	Criminal Damage	209	173	169	181	158
	Drug Offences	177	141	166	162	126
	Possession of Weapons Offences	44	37	24	22	24
	Public Order Offences	251	311	99	229	112
	Motoring Offences	83	97	73	81	80
	Fraud	36	22	21	19	17
	Other Offences	305	321	298	304	313
	Missing	2	1	5	3	4
Total		2,173	2,023	1,644	1,899	1,480

*Refers to the period 01 April to 31 March

Offence Classification and Principal Offence Methodology was revised and updated for the 2013 publication, therefore comparisons with pre 2013 data are not possible

Misc. Sexual includes sexual offences which for England and Wales have moved to the Other Offences Categories but for clarity are included in a separate category here - e.g. making/possessing/distributing indecent photos of children and possession of extreme pornographic images

Appendix Two: Notes for Readers

Methodology and Counting Rules

The data used in this bulletin are derived from analysing the daily prison population for a given year, taken from the Northern Ireland Prison Service Management Information System (PRISM). As this is mainly an administrative database, rigorous validation procedures are followed to ensure the data presented is as accurate as possible. More details on the validation procedures followed are included in the Quality Assurance/Validation Section of this report.

Whilst vigorous validation procedures were carried out by the Analytical Services Group of the Department of Justice, the data is subject to the limitations inherent in any large scale recording system and to variation in recording practice over time.

Unlawfully at large prisoners are excluded from these numbers.

For ease of use figures in pie charts are given as whole numbers whereas percentages throughout the text are to one decimal point.

Average Prisoner Population

Daily Population snapshots are downloaded from the PRISM system; the average daily prisoner population for a given year is derived from the average of these.

Receptions Data

Receptions are counted whenever there is a change in a prisoner's custody type from one day to the next. For example, if during the time period in question a prisoner is committed into prison as a remand prisoner, then without being released is sentenced, this would count as one remand reception and one sentenced reception.

However, if a sentenced prisoner receives another sentence whilst currently serving a sentence, this will not be counted as a new sentenced reception, as the custody type has not changed.

Caution needs to be exercised when looking at Fine Default receptions. Fine Default prisoners are counted on the system as sentenced prisoners, so if a prisoner is sentenced and subsequently (without being released) serves some time as a fine default prisoner their status does not change. In essence this means that a Fine Default reception is only picked up if there is a change from remand to fine default, or if they are committed to prison as a fine default prisoner. Therefore Fine Default receptions shown in this report may well undercount the actual number of Fine Default Receptions. This is not an issue when calculating the fine default average prison population figures as they can be identified as Fine Defaults.

If a prisoner is released and is subsequently committed on the same or different custody status this is counted as a new reception.

The receptions data are based on the premise that when a person is received more than once during a year he will be counted separately on each occasion, including each occasion of change of status between remand and sentenced/fine defaulter during the same period of custody.

If a prisoner is committed and released on the same day then they will not be included in this analysis as the daily population snapshot is taken at midnight.

The methodology for producing receptions data from 2009 onwards has changed from previous years. So too has the source from whence the data originates. Therefore caution should be exercised when making comparisons with previous years.

Age

For the daily averages the age of a prisoner is calculated at the time of the snapshot.

For the receptions information, the age of a prisoner is calculated at age of reception.

Some of the tables in this bulletin refer to 'adult' and 'young' prisoners. An 'adult' is aged 21 years and over and a 'young' prisoner is aged under 21 years.

Offence Grouping

An extensive exercise was carried out in late 2013 by statisticians across Criminal Justice in Northern Ireland, to reclassify all offences into main offence groupings, as far as possible, that are more in line with England and Wales. Due to this exercise receptions data published prior to 2009 on offence groupings will not be directly comparable with those from 2009 onwards. Data relating to averages pre 2013 on offence groupings will also not be directly comparable, as data published on averages pre 2013 used the old classification system.

Principal Offence

Where a person is received under sentence for two or more offences, only the principal offence is used. Following a review during 2013 by statisticians in the Department of Justice, Northern Ireland, an updated algorithm for calculating principal offence was adopted. Details on this can be found in a special paper using the link <https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/publications/methodology-paper-adoption-and-implementation-principal-offence-northern-ireland>.

Due to the way data is stored and extracted in PRISM, sentence lengths for each individual offence cannot be extracted, as such calculating principal offence using actual sentence length is not possible. Instead principal offence using the principal at trial algorithm is used as the basis for calculating principal offence for prison statistics. This calculates principal offence based on the offence that has the statutory highest maximum sentence. For offences with the same highest maximum sentence then further flags are used to calculate the principal offence. More detail on this can be found in the above report. Due to slight differences in data, the methodology is adapted for Prison purposes. PRISM holds a flag which determines if the offence is a main offence or not; this flag is used in the Prison methodology. The actual offence date is held in PRISM but due to difficulties extracting this, it cannot be used as a method for calculating principal offence. As such this step in the process is replaced by ordering based on the numerical offence code for each offence.

Sentence Length

If a person is received under sentence for two or more offences at the same time, sentence length is taken as the longest of any concurrent sentences, with consecutive sentences being treated as one sentence equal in length to the sentences added together.

However, if a sentenced prisoner receives another sentence whilst currently serving a sentence, the sentence details of the first sentence are used to work out sentence lengths.

Type of Prisoner

Currently there are three prison establishments in Northern Ireland - HMP Magilligan, HMP Maghaberry and Hydebank Wood College. Female prisoners are held in a separate unit within Hydebank Wood College. HMP Magilligan only accommodates sentenced prisoners who are transferred from a sentenced status. Therefore prisoners in Magilligan do not change custody type and as such there are no receptions for Magilligan.

Whilst the prison population consists mainly of offenders sentenced by the courts to immediate custody for criminal offences, it also includes fine defaulters, remand prisoners and a small number of non-criminal prisoners.

Fine defaulters are those who have been given a fine by the courts and have not paid the fine within a stipulated time, and have then been the subject of a warrant issued by the court. The duration of sentence is dependent upon the amount of the unpaid fine and ranges from one week where the default is £200 or less, to ten years where the default exceeds £1 million. Fine defaulters aged under 17 are no longer held in custody, due to changes brought about by the Criminal Justice Order (1998), and are not included in this bulletin.

Remand prisoners include those charged with an offence and whom the courts have ruled should be detained in custody pending trial; those whom the courts have permitted to be released on bail pending trial but have not as yet met the conditions (usually financial) of the bail; those who had been released on bail but have subsequently been re-admitted to prison because they breached a condition of bail; and those who have been found guilty by the court but have been ordered to be detained in custody pending sentence.

Non-criminal prisoners are mainly made up of those being held under the terms of the Immigration Act.

Significant Testing

Findings in this report were compared using statistical testing. This was done to provide a level of confidence as to whether there was a real difference in findings between years or categories, or whether apparent differences were simply within the range expected with chance variation. The test employed was a Chi Square, which tests for association between two categorical variables - for example, gender (males and females) and offence category (Theft and non-Theft). Where a statistically significant result was found (i.e. a result with a probability of less than 5% under chance conditions) this has been reported in the text.

Quality Assurance/Validation

The steps taken to quality assure this information for statistical purposes are described below.

The data used to derive the information originates from the Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS) case management system (PRISM). This is a live recording system which is used extensively by NIPS for day to day case management purposes. As such the information extracted, while subject to human data entry error, needs to be highly accurate as it is the main information tool used to manage prisoners on a day-to-day basis, to list their status/privileges and, for that matter to regulate discharge dates/record sentence lengths. It is used not only by Prison Service Staff but also Probation Staff. The data from which the average population and receptions information are derived are therefore core fields, the accuracy of which is a requirement for the effective handling of day-to-day prison operations.

It is perhaps important to emphasise that Prison Service Staff themselves have a vested interest in the complete reliability of the data populated into the fields used for this analysis. Information is not derived from subsidiary screens which do not contribute to the officer's own capacity to discharge his/her duties or which can be bypassed without impacting immediately on the officer's own work.

The procedure undertaken to derive the statistics now has the following stages. A data download is extracted from PRISM which includes details on individual prisoners. This is used as the primary source of information to calculate the prison population. Rigorous validation exercises are then conducted to ensure that the information produced is as accurate as possible.

These Quality Assurance/Validation procedures can be split into two parts, firstly ensuring the data from PRISM is accurate and up to date. For this purpose, manual checks are carried out and data corrected to ensure:

- that all sentenced prisoners have a sentence length;
- that there are no sentence lengths that are discrepant (e.g. murder offences attracting a sentence of 7 days);
- that the total effective sentence adds up to the custody sentence plus the licence sentence;
- that the stated age of prisoners is appropriate and realistic (e.g. no-one aged 8,108, etc.);
- that the gender of prisoners is appropriate for the prison establishment (e.g. no male prisoners in a female prison); and
- that a general check of the data as a whole suggests no other anomalies.

Any such discrepancies identified at this stage (for which there may on, albeit rare, occasion be a valid reason) are checked out against the Integrated Court Operations System (ICOS), the Criminal Records Viewer and additional screens on PRISM itself. Any issues are resolved on an individual basis.

Secondly, an extensive manual cross checking exercise is conducted using PRISM to ensure that after manipulating the data, the information produced is correct. A list of all receptions for each prisoner is listed and details are then cross checked manually against the records held on PRISM.

Whilst these checking procedures are extensive and robust, the statistics contained in the publication are inevitably subject to the limitations inherent in any large-scale recording system and to variations in recording practice over time. However, as PRISM is used extensively for the operation of the core business and the fields used are fields in the accuracy of which officers themselves have a strong vested interest, one can now be confident in the accuracy and robustness of the source administrative data to a degree much greater than would normally be the case with administrative systems requiring lower degrees of operational precision.

Analytical Services Group,
Department of Justice,
Laganside House,
Oxford Street,
Belfast, BT1 3LA.

Email: statistics.research@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk

Telephone: 028 9052 5151

www.justice-ni.gov.uk