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PBNI Quarterly Caseload Statistics Q3 2024-25

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About this report

The Probation Board for Northern Ireland (PBNI) Annual Caseload Statistics reports provide an overview of the number of service users and the caseload i.e. the number of individual Orders and Licences supervised by PBNI at the end of each financial year, as well as providing comparisons with previous years. The latest annual report and accompanying data tables are available [here](#).

This quarterly series is a subset of the annual information with data provided for key aspects of the work carried out by PBNI. Not all tables presented in the annual report have been replicated quarterly, as in some cases there is minimal change in the figures from quarter to quarter. For example, the gender breakdown of service users and victims remains largely consistent over time.

The quarterly updates for reports completed and victims registered should be treated as provisional as they may be revised when figures are finalised during the production of the end of year annual report.

This publication is in a new HTML format which includes interactive graphics and the ability to automatically download the data presented in the charts.

Statistics on PBNI caseload are collated and produced by statisticians seconded to PBNI from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). Our statistical practice is regulated by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR). OSR sets the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) that all producers of official statistics should adhere to. You are welcome to contact us directly with any comments about how we meet these standards by emailing statsandresearch@probation-ni.gov.uk. Alternatively, you can contact OSR by emailing regulation@statistics.gov.uk or via the [OSR website](#).

Background information about the different types of Orders and Licences, as well as the different reports completed by PBNI, is available in Appendix 1. Technical notes about the source, presentation and quality of the data are available in Appendix 2.

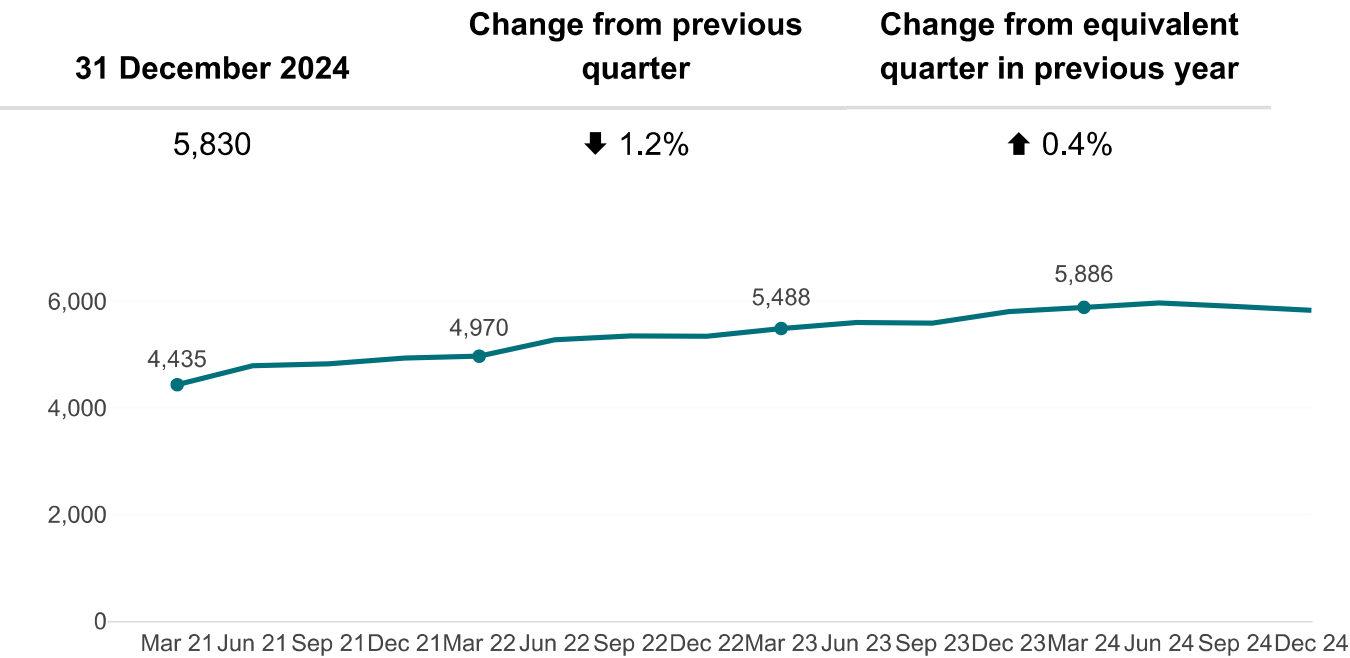
Data in all tables and charts in this report are available from the [PBNI website](#).

Key Facts

Point in time data trends

Caseload supervised	Service users supervised
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Caseload supervised



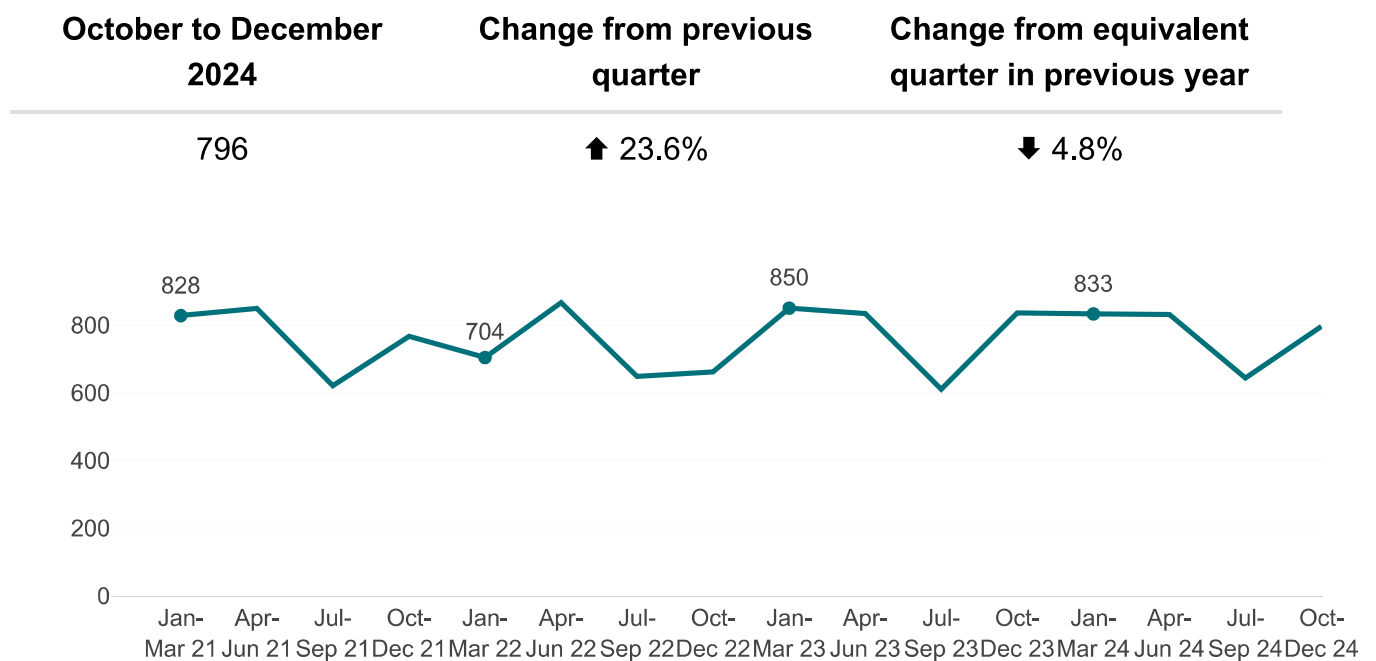
On 31 December 2024:

- 4,202 service users were supervised by PBNI, a decrease of 0.8% on the equivalent figure for 31 December 2023 (4,238).
- The caseload i.e. the number of individual Orders and Licences supervised by PBNI was 5,830, an increase of 0.4% on the equivalent figure for 31 December 2023 (5,807).
- Determinate Custodial Sentences accounted for the largest proportion of caseload (36.7%) supervised by PBNI, followed by Probation Orders (28.9%).
- Over one-third (34.7%) of service users supervised by PBNI were aged 30 to 39.
- Of the service users being supervised by PBNI, 28% were identified as high risk under the Assessment, Case Management & Evaluation System (ACE).
- 679 service users (16.2% of all service users supervised by PBNI) were categorised under the Public Protection Arrangements for Northern Ireland (PPANI).
- 4.2% of service users supervised by PBNI (175 service users) were assessed as Significant Risk of Serious Harm to Others (SROSH).

Quarterly data trends

New caseload	Reports completed (excluding letters)	New victims registered
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Service users supervised

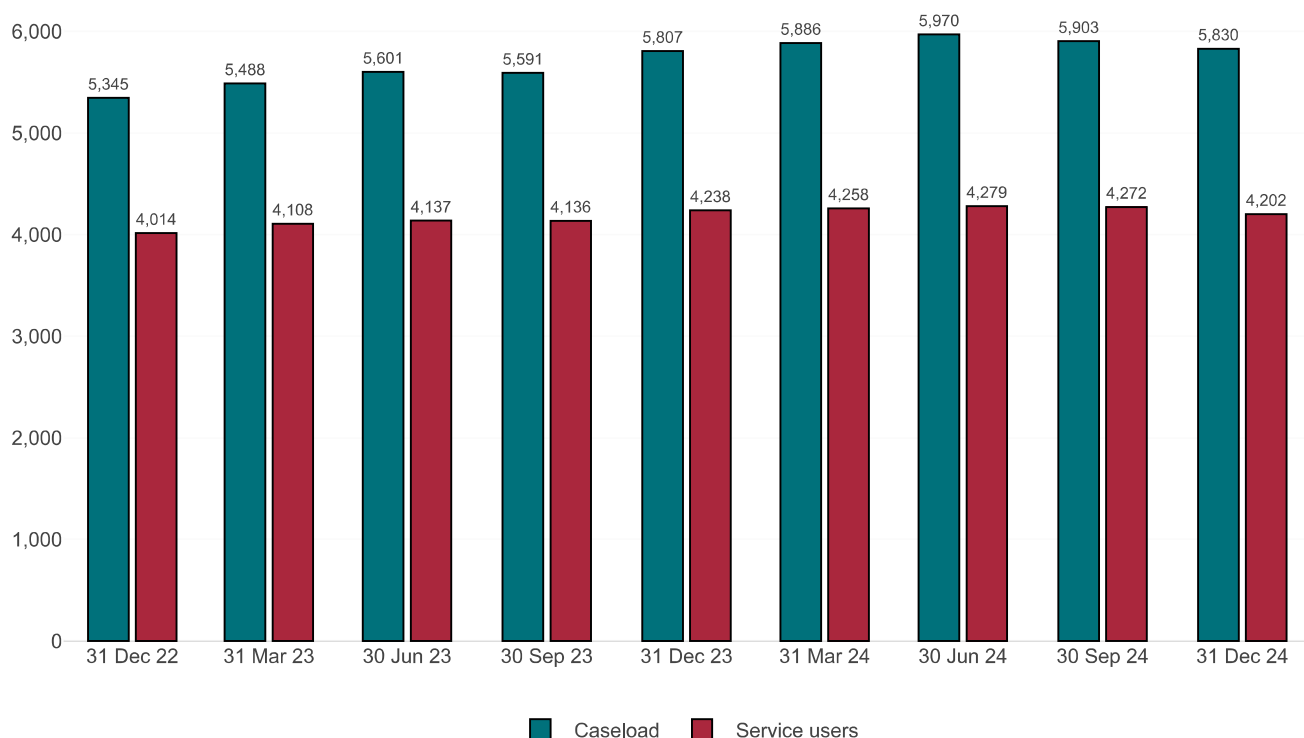


Between 1 October 2024 and 31 December 2024:

- PBNI commenced supervision of 796 new Orders and Licences. This new caseload involved 683 service users. This is a reduction (4.8%) on the equivalent figure for Quarter 3 2023/24 (836).
- 1,599 reports were completed by PBNI staff (excluding letters); the corresponding figure for 2023/24 was 1,664. There has been an overall reduction in the number of reports completed by PBNI annually. There were 7,101 reports (excluding letters) completed between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023, this compares to 6,421 reports between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024.
- The number of new victims registered with PBNI was 94, a 13.3% increase on the figure for 1 October 2023 to 31 December 2023 (83).

Point in time data trends

Figure 1 Service users and caseload supervised by PBNI, 31 December 2022 to 31 December 2024

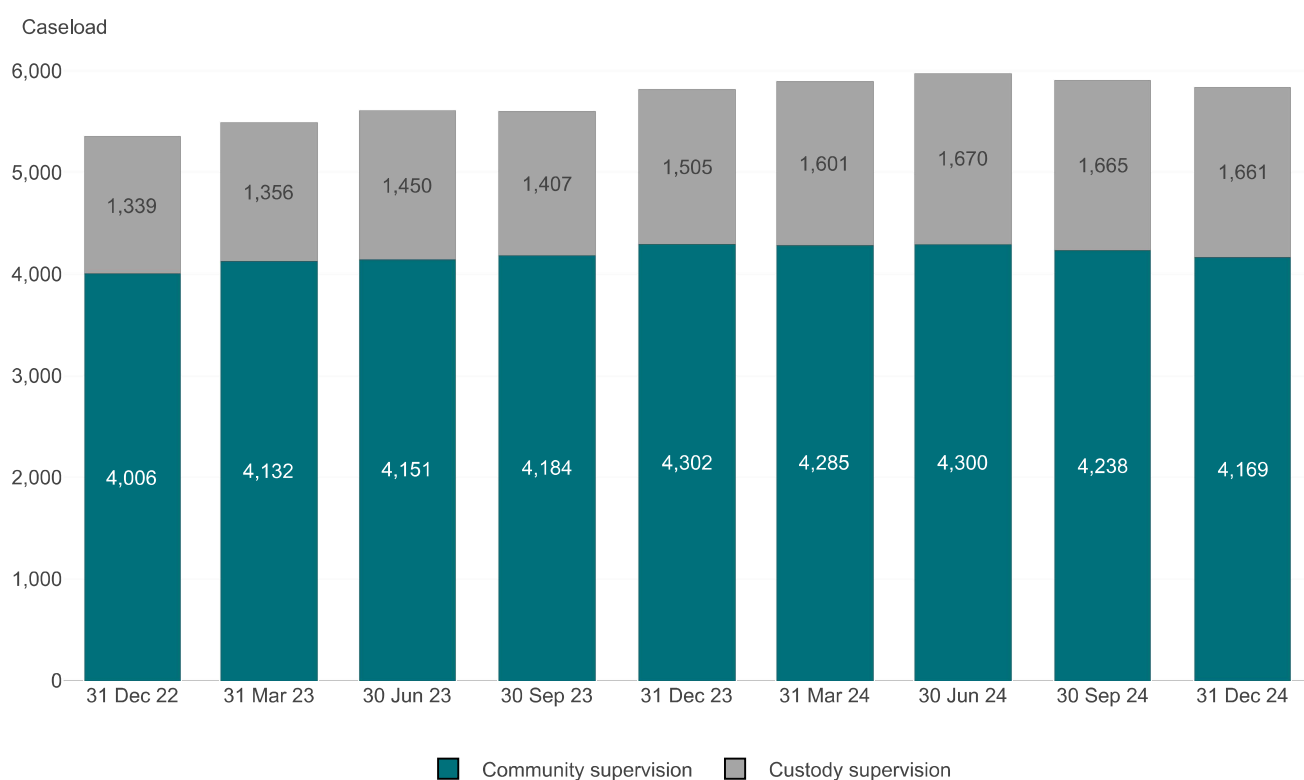


Download data:

[Figure 1.CSV \(1kB\)](#)

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Figure 2 Caseload supervised by PBNI by type of supervision, 31 December 2022 to 31 December 2024

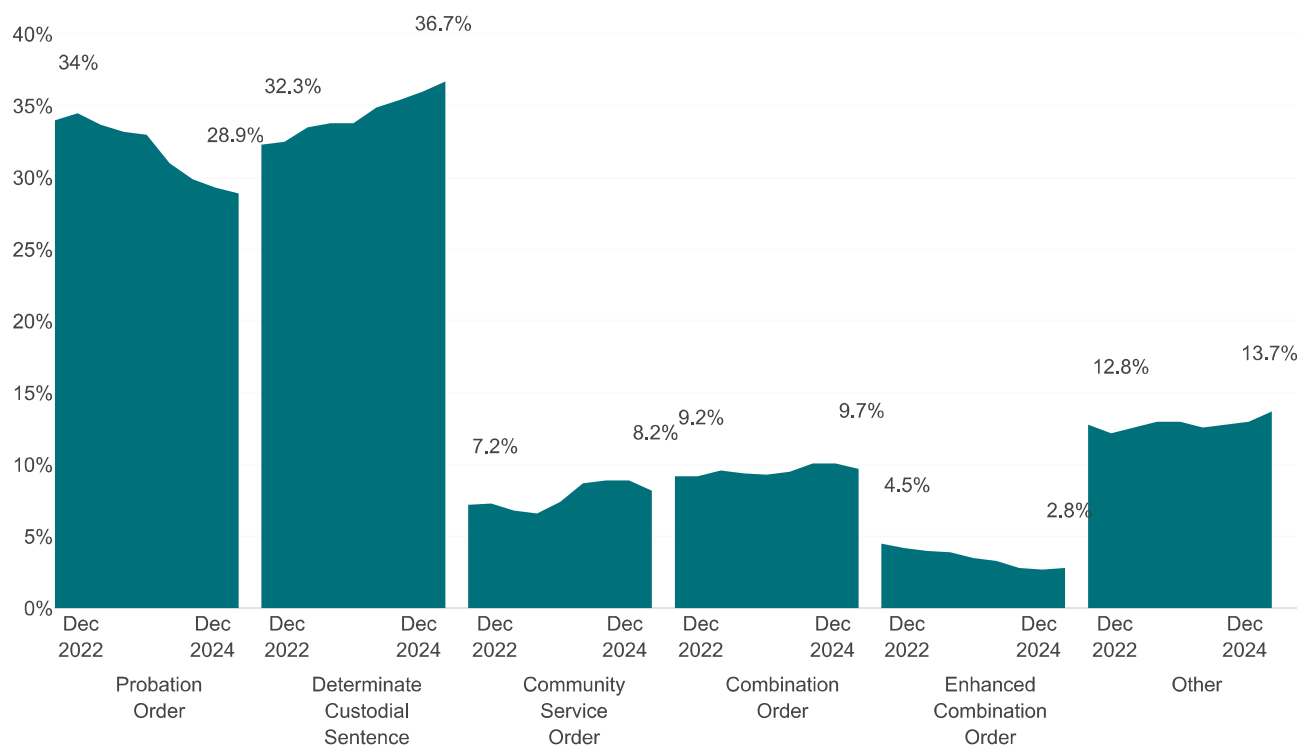


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Figure 3 PBNI caseload by type of Order/Licence, 31 December 2022 to 31 December 2024

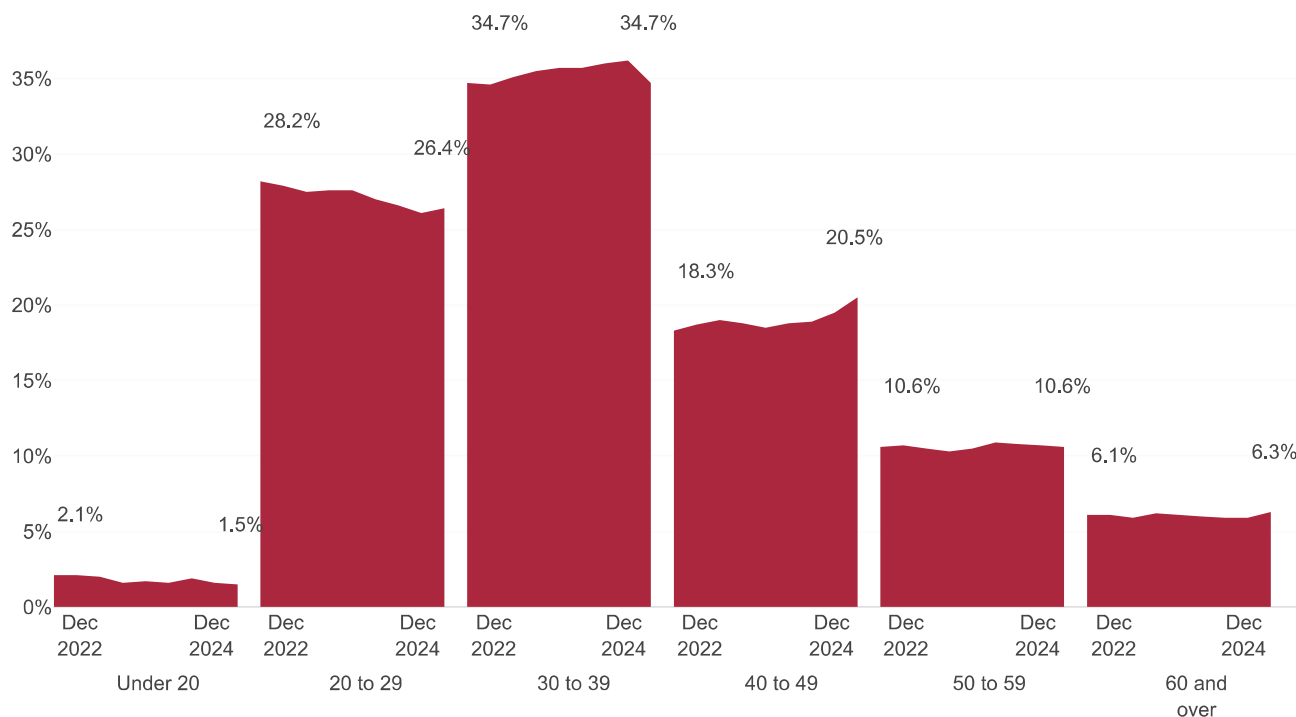


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Figure 4 Service users supervised by PBNI by age, 31 December 2022 to 31 December 2024

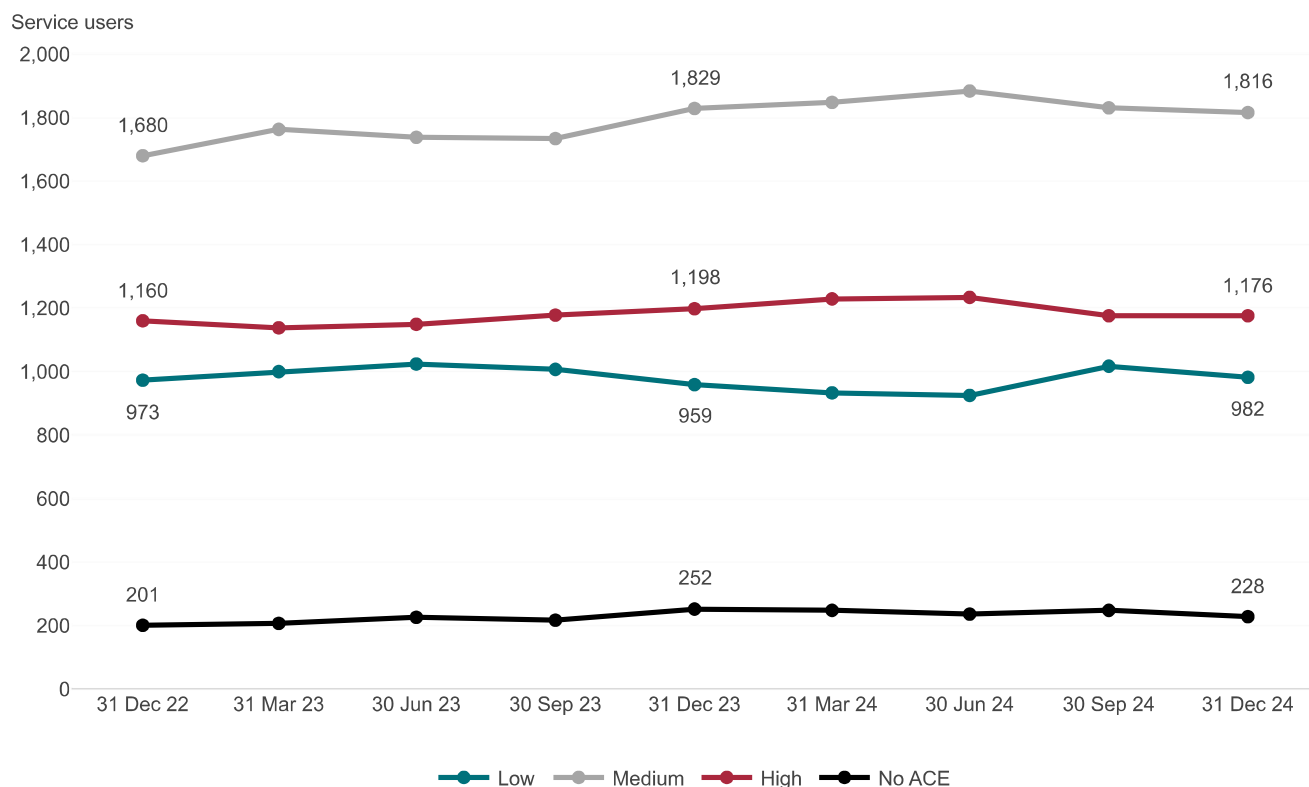


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Figure 5 Service users supervised by PBNI by ACE category, 31 December 2022 to 31 December 2024



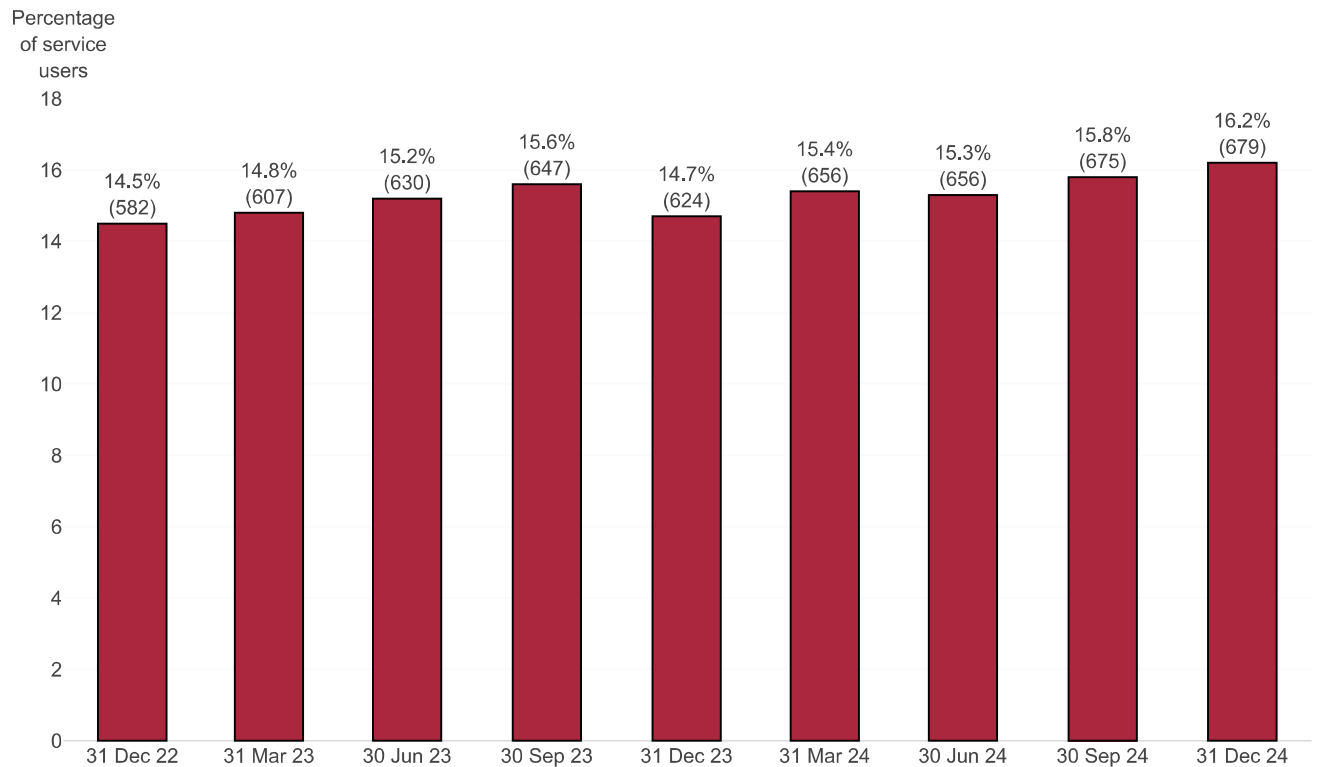
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[Figure 5.CSV \(1kB\)](#)

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Assessment, Case Management & Evaluation System (ACE) is used to assess the likelihood of re-offending within a two-year period, based on the prevalence of various social, personal, and offending related issues. A scoring system is used to identify the likelihood of re-offending with a score of 0 to 15 indicating a low risk, a score of 16 to 29 indicating a medium risk and a score of 30 or more indicating a high risk.

Figure 6 Percentage of service users categorised under PPANI, 31 December 2022 to 31 December 2024



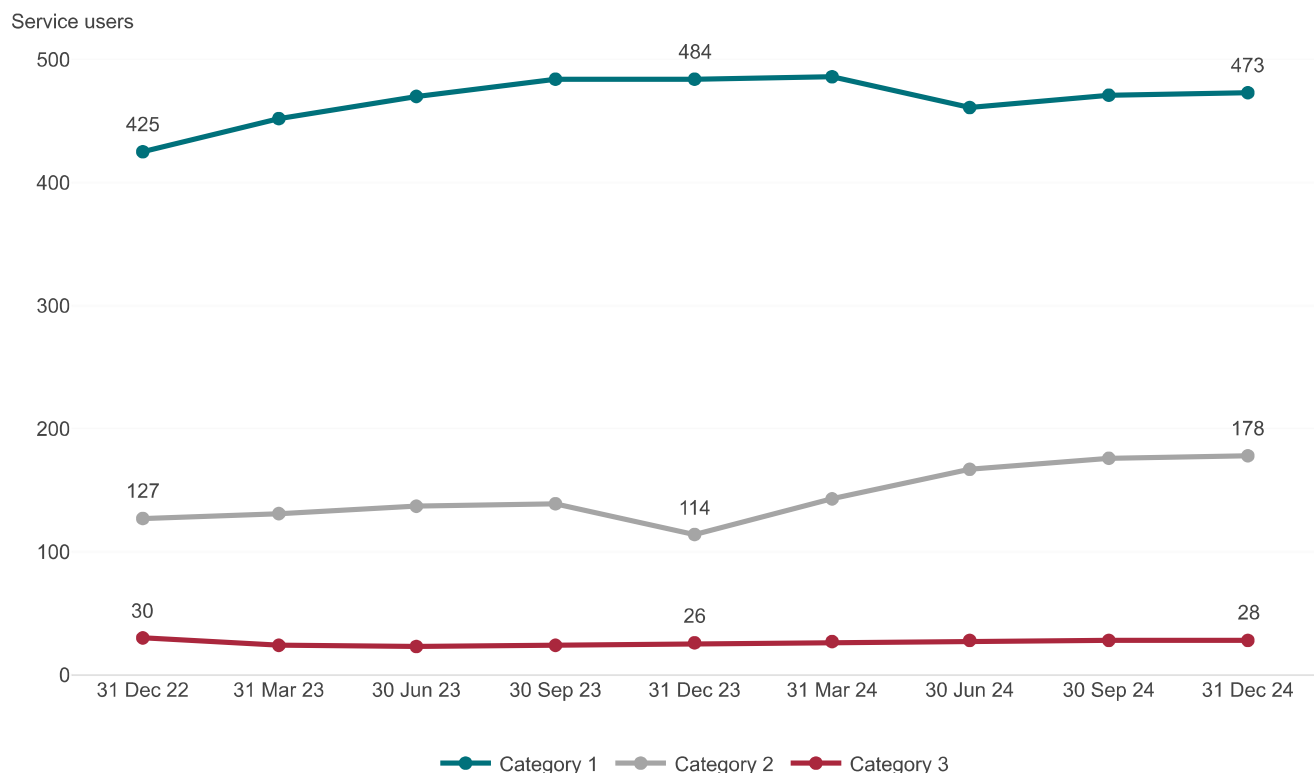
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Public Protection Arrangements for Northern Ireland (PPANI) provides assessment and management of the risks posed by certain sexual and violent individuals. Service users categorised under PPANI are assigned a category from one to three, with Category 1 indicating low risk and Category 3 indicating high risk.

Figure 7 Service users categorised under PPANI by category, 31 December 2022 to 31 December 2024

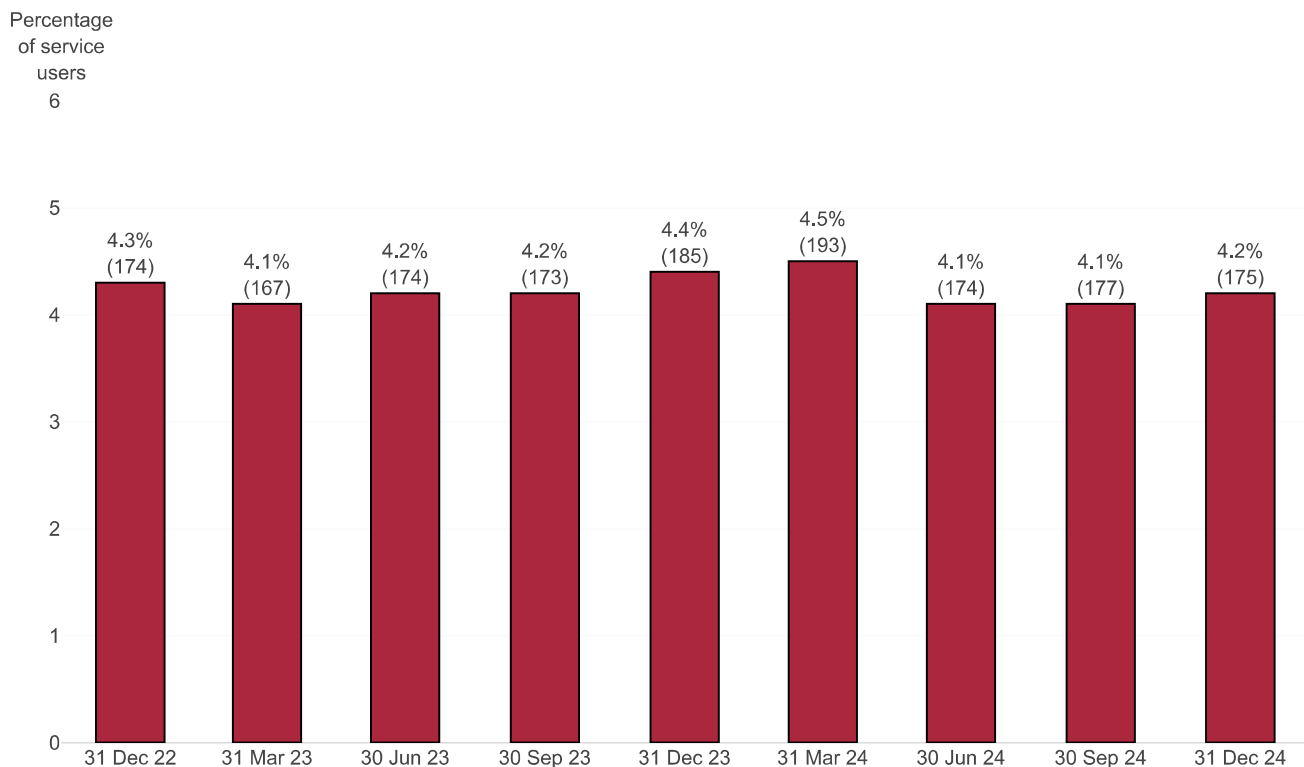


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Figure 8 Percentage of service users assessed as SROSH, 31 December 2022 to 31 December 2024



Download data:

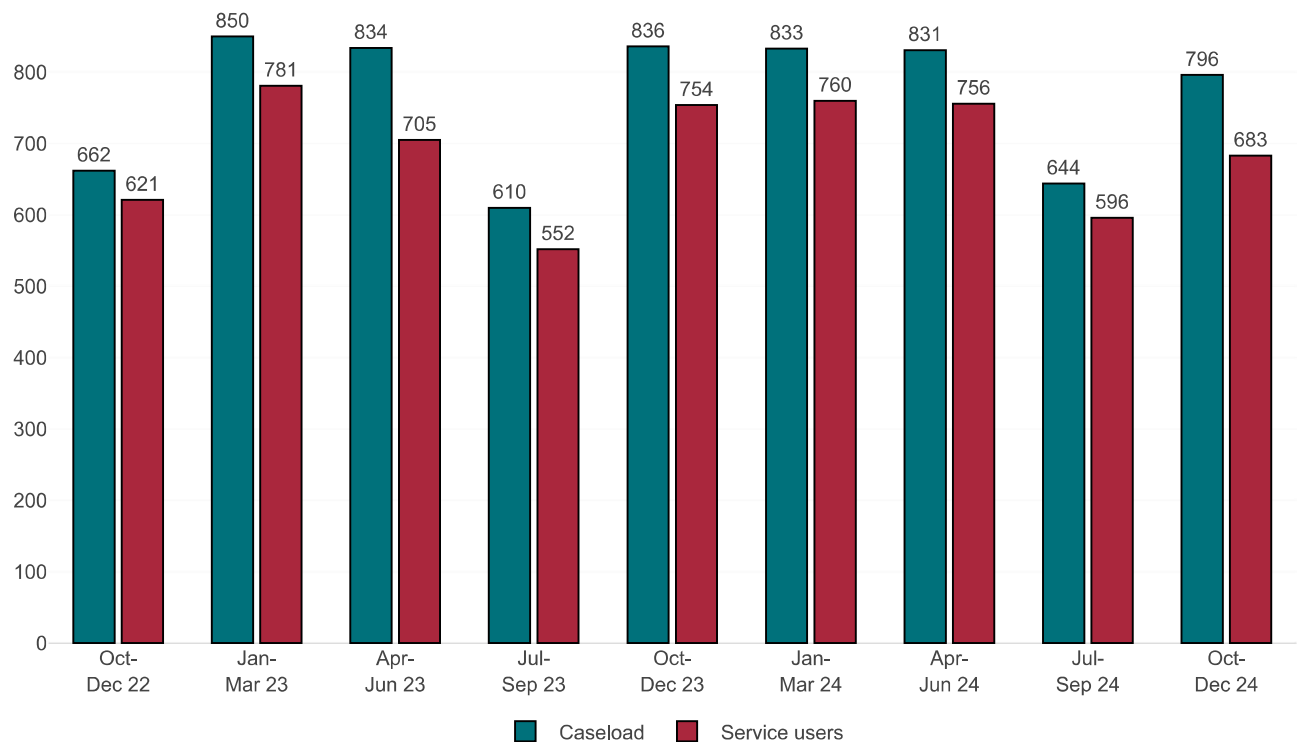
[Figure 8.CSV \(1kB\)](#)

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Service users assessed as Significant Risk of Serious Harm to Others (SROSH), are considered to present a high likelihood of committing a further offence, causing serious harm.

Quarterly data trends

Figure 9 New caseload supervised by PBNI and count of service users involved, Quarter 3 2022/23 to Quarter 3 2024/25



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[Figure 9.XLSX \(8kB\)](#)

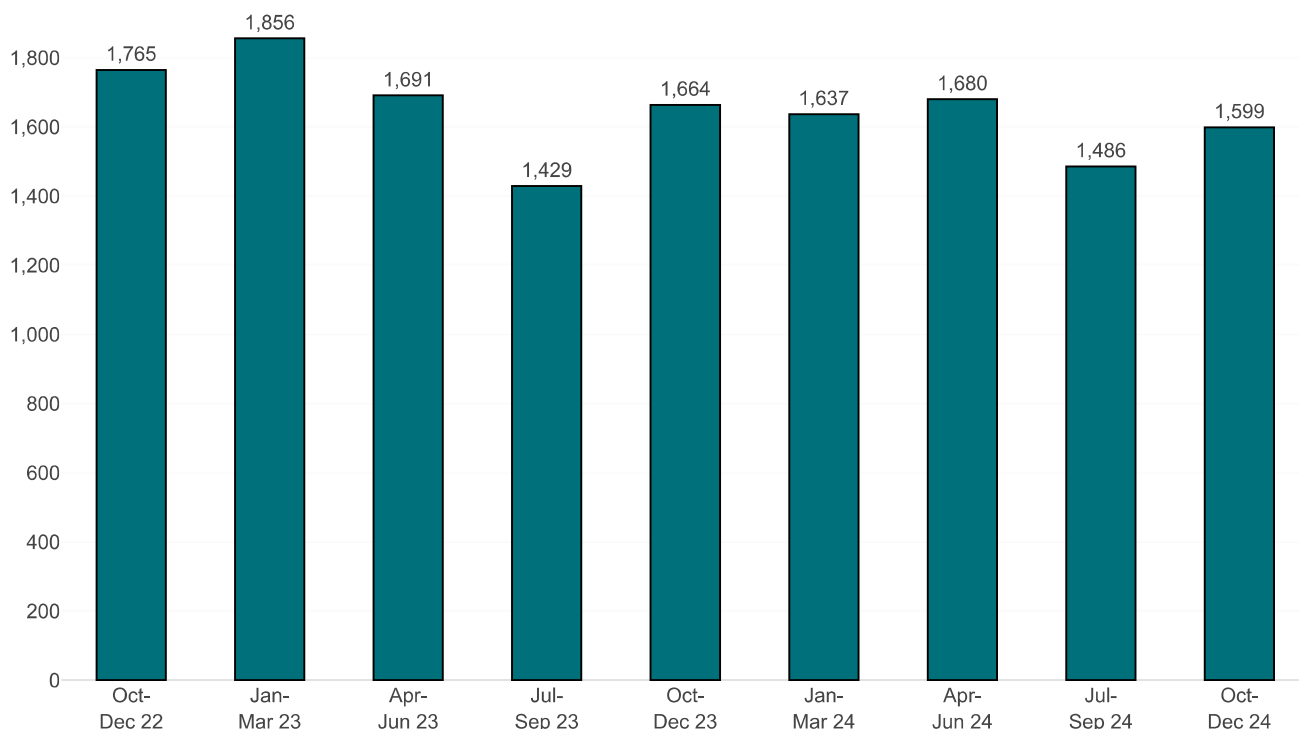
Table 1 New caseload supervised by PBNI by type of Order/Licence, Quarter 3 2022/23 to Quarter 3 2024/25

Type of Order/Licence	Oct-Dec 22	Jan-Mar 23	Apr-Jun 23	Jul-Sep 23	Oct-Dec 23	Jan-Mar 24	Apr-Jun 24	Jul-Sep 24	Oct-Dec 24
Combination Order	74	100	91	85	102	106	106	92	102
Community Services Order (CSO)	122	150	120	132	171	206	175	157	138
Probation Order (PO)	274	341	315	250	329	298	293	228	279
Enhanced Combination Order (ECO)	21	32	27	20	21	23	35	13	33
Determinate Custodial Sentence (DCS)	144	209	248	104	179	183	203	124	204
All Other Orders/Licences [Note 1]	27	18	33	19	34	17	19	30	40
New caseload	662	850	834	610	836	833	831	644	796

[Note 1] Other Orders/Licences include Custody Probation Orders, Extended Custodial Sentences (ECS), GB Transfer Licences, Indeterminate Custodial Sentences (ICS), Juvenile Justice Centre Orders (JJCO), Life Sentence Licences, Sex Offender Licences, Supervised Activity Orders and Non Statutory Orders.

Figure 10 Reports completed (excluding letters) by PBNI, Quarter 3 2022/23 to Quarter 3 2024/25

Reports completed



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[Figure 10.CSV \(1kB\)](#)

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Table 2 Reports completed by PBNI by type of report, Quarter 3 2022/23 to Quarter 3 2024/25

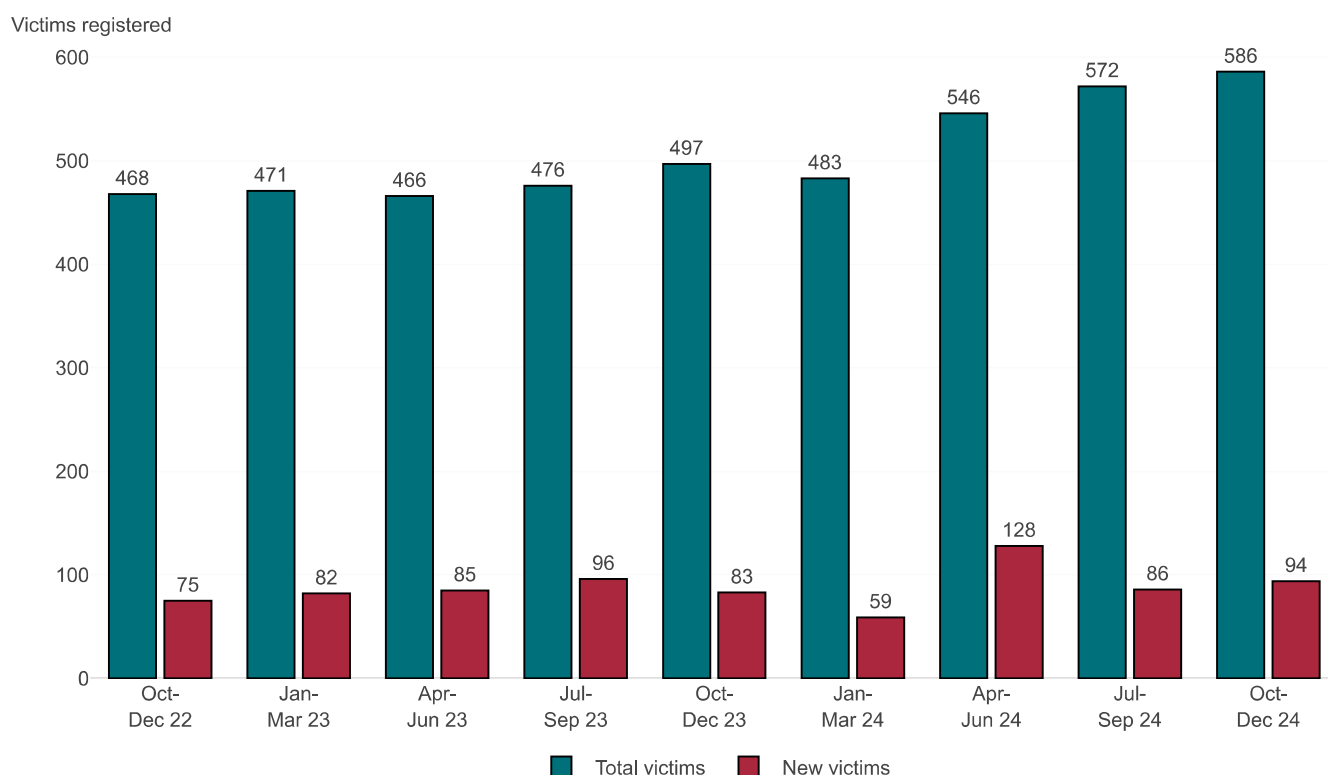
Type of Report	Oct-Dec 22	Jan-Mar 23	Apr-Jun 23	Jul-Sep 23	Oct-Dec 23	Jan-Mar 24	Apr-Jun 24	Jul-Sep 24	Oct-Dec 24
Addendum Report	205	210	203	150	189	164	182	179	157
Breach Report	197	194	184	164	158	150	128	140	159
Crown Court Report (CCR)/Pre-Sentence Report (PSR)	321	337	327	193	319	315	341	217	373
Magistrates' Court Report (MCR)	897	843	739	749	776	776	762	730	641
Short Adjournment Report (SAR) [Note 2]	z	88	107	65	133	133	131	107	129
Other Reports [Note 3]	116	86	104	86	57	81	108	94	119
Letter to Court	584	658	477	415	442	398	480	406	442
Missing Report Type	29	98	27	22	32	18	28	19	21

Type of Report	Oct- Dec 22	Jan- Mar 23	Apr- Jun 23	Jul- Sep 23	Oct- Dec 23	Jan- Mar 24	Apr- Jun 24	Jul- Sep 24	Oct- Dec 24
Total Reports (including letters)	2,349	2,514	2,168	1,844	2,106	2,035	2,160	1,892	2,041
Total Reports (excluding letters)	1,765	1,856	1,691	1,429	1,664	1,637	1,680	1,486	1,599

[Note 2] Short Adjournment Reports (SARs) were not introduced until 2023.

[Note 3] Other Reports include Probation Officers Report, Recall Report, Substance Misuse Court (SMC) Progress Report, SMC Suitability Report, SMC Assessment & Intervention Report, Revocation and Home Circumstances Report

Figure 11 Victims registered with PBNI, Quarter 3 2022/23 to Quarter 3 2024/25



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[Figure 11.XLSX \(7kB\)](#)

PBNI operate a Victim Information Scheme to assist victims of crime. This scheme is one of three victim information schemes in Northern Ireland. PBNI's scheme is managed by Probation's Victim Information Unit (VIU) with staff working closely with colleagues in the Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS) in a co-located team. All schemes are voluntary, so victims won't receive information about the sentence of the person who has offended unless they have registered. Further details on all three schemes can be found on [NI Direct's website](#).

Appendix 1: Technical Notes

Data Source

In this report the primary data source is the PBNI's electronic case management system (ECMS), used for the day to day management of cases and orders supervised by PBNI. Prior to April 2020 data was sourced from the Probation Information Management System (PIMS).

Data relating to victims is collated and validated by the PBNI Victim Information Unit and provided to the PBNI Statistics and Research Team on request.

Analysis and Presentation of Statistics

The data used in this report is extracted using the reporting tool within ECMS (Report Studio) and a custom build query tool called 'the Cube' which operates within Microsoft Excel. The data is validated, maintained and analysed using a combination of Microsoft Excel and the programming language R.

For ease of use, figures are presented as whole numbers throughout the text, tables and charts. Percentages are rounded to one decimal place. Data tables are published alongside this bulletin in Microsoft Excel.

Data Quality and Validation

The PBNI's electronic case management system (ECMS) is a live system with multiple users that relies on staff to input information. Therefore, like many administrative systems, the resultant statistics are potentially subject to error, timely updating of information or to the system not being able to cater for every scenario encountered. As the system is used for the day to day case management, this helps to moderate these issues. A suite of validation reports have been designed to help administrative staff identify errors and make corrections, where possible.

Appendix 2: Definitions

See [Appendix 2: Definitions](#) here.

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