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# **Criminal Justice System All-Crime and Recorded Adult Rape Offences Local Scorecard: Data Quality Note**

## **March 2022 Scorecard**



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## Introduction

This document outlines the different data sources used to compile the statistics presented in the March 2022 all-crime and recorded adult rape offences local scorecards. Each section details any data quality considerations for each source, outlines checks completed (by system owners and statistical processes) and flags any areas of concern. It also provides information on the modelling of local areas, in addition to guidance for interpreting local data and in-depth definitions of the metrics detailed in the scorecard.

The local scorecards contain a concentrated collection of published data from a variety of published sources across the Criminal Justice System, many of which are Official Statistics releases. The local scorecards for all-crime and recorded adult rape present all metrics at a national level and at the 36 Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB) areas. Additionally, in both scorecards, metrics from the crime recorded to police decision stage are published at Police Force Area level and metrics from the police referral to CPS decision to charge stage are published at CPS area level. For more granular court data at the CPS charge to case completion at the Crown Court stage, the [Crown Court Information Tool](#) publishes a number of select metrics down to Crown Court level that only feature in the scorecard at a national level.

The local scorecards represent the first time that more granular, local-level data has been published by some departments and therefore there are some specific cuts of data included within the scorecards that are not included in some departmental quarterly statistical releases. Further details on these, including guidance for interpreting the data and data quality reports, can be found at the end of this document.

## Data sources

### Home Office

The data that forms the basis of the **Crime Recorded to Police Decision** section of the scorecards is produced using the official crime outcomes in England and Wales statistics. There are three crime outcomes data sources:

- Aggregated Crimsec4 return: an aggregated return supplied on monthly basis from small number of police forces;
- Home Office Data Hub (HODH): The HODH allows police forces to provide record-level detail on offences;
- Voluntary returns: The Home Office requested that all forces providing Crimsec4, voluntarily provide additional outcomes data on a quarterly basis.

The Home Office receives monthly data from police forces on crime, crime outcomes and records that were initially recorded as crimes and subsequently transferred to another police force or cancelled. These data are quality assured and analysed by Home Office statisticians and any anomalies or errors identified through this process result in a report being returned to the relevant force for validation or correction. Prior to the publication of crime outcomes, a verification exercise is carried out with all forces. The data held by the Home Office are returned to individual forces asking for confirmation that the data accords with that held on their own systems and to highlight any perceived inconsistencies in their data. Again, forces resubmit data if required.



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The data covers the 43 territorial forces in England and Wales funded by the Home Office. The all-crime scorecard only includes the notifiable offences that the territorial forces are required to inform the Home Office about. As such, it does not include Fraud and Computer Misuse Act offences which are reported to Action Fraud and recorded centrally.

The metrics measuring the number of median days exclude data from the following Police Force Areas: West Midlands, and Northumbria (adult rape figures). These forces did not provide data of sufficient quality to the Home Office Data Hub for the reporting period. At a 'national' level the median days metrics do not include the following Police Force Areas: Greater Manchester, Kent, Staffordshire, West Midlands and Wiltshire. These forces did not provide offence-level data to the Home Office Data Hub for the reporting periods.

The volume of outcomes and offences does not include Greater Manchester Police for 2019 as they have not been able to supply outcomes data for the reporting period. When the required data is provided, these will be included in future publications of the scorecard.

To allow like for like comparisons British Transport Police and Greater Manchester Police have been excluded from metrics reporting national totals under 'Increasing victim engagement', 'Improving quality of justice' and 'Volume'.

### Crown Prosecution Service

The data that forms the basis of the **Police Referral to CPS Decision to Charge** section of the scorecard is derived from the CPS Case Management System (CMS) used by CPS staff for case management purposes and its associated Management Information System (MIS). As with any large-scale recording system, data is subject to possible errors in entry and processing. The CPS does not publish official statistics. The figures are provisional and subject to change as more information is recorded by the CPS. The data is held within a database within the MIS, based on **suspects** (prior to being charged) or **defendants** (after being charged). The scorecards include total data on all suspects or defendants irrespective of sex or gender.

In these statistics, a suspect or defendant represents one person in a single set of proceedings, which may involve one or more charges. A set of proceedings usually relates to an incident or series of related incidents that are the subject of a police file. If a set of proceedings relates to more than one person then each is counted as a suspect or defendant. Sometimes one person is involved in several sets of proceedings during the same year: if so, they are counted as a suspect or defendant on each occasion.

The way in which the CPS collects data is the same whether it is at a national or local level, however you cannot add up local CPS data to create a national figure. This is because the CPS does some work which is not counted in local figures, so it will not appear in Police Force Area, LCJB or CPS Area volumes or rates.

The CPS monitoring of cases involving offences of child abuse, crimes against older people, domestic abuse, hate crime, modern slavery and rape involve the application of monitoring 'flags' or case-markers to applicable cases that are recorded on the CPS' electronic Case Management System (CMS). The data that are produced through the application of the flag are primarily used for monitoring performance on all cases that involve allegations or charges where these categories of criminal offending apply. The data are accurate only to the extent that the flags have been correctly applied.



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The flag is applied from the onset of the case and will remain in place even if the charges are later amended or dropped. If a case commences under a different offence but during the prosecution an applicable charge is preferred, the case is flagged at that stage.

An adult rape case is identified through the absence of a child abuse flag and the application of a rape flag. A child abuse flag is added to the case if there is a victim under the age of 18. A rape flag is added if there is a rape offence, including attempted, conspiracy and incitement, in the case. For further definition of offences applicable to both flags see [CPS published caveats](#).

It is also important to note that at this time, the CPS is unable to distinguish between Police referrals for early advice and referrals for a CPS charging decision. The focus on providing early investigative advice (especially regarding adult rape cases) will lead to an increase in referrals by the police, therefore caution should be taken when looking at the volume of referrals relative to metrics concerning CPS charging decisions. There is work ongoing to create data that separates the number of suspects submitted by the police for early advice and the number submitted for a charging decision.

### Ministry of Justice

The data at the **CPS Charge to Case Completion in Court** stage is produced using the respective criminal court management information systems (MIS) and data warehousing facilities drawing data directly from court-based administrative systems. For the Magistrates' Courts data this is LIBRA and for the Crown Court data this is Xhibit while both jurisdictions also report data through the new Common Platform system.

LIBRA and Xhibit are used by court staff for case management purposes. This contains information about the incidences and dates of major events as each case proceeds in the criminal courts. Being from an administrative system, data are subject to clerical and inputting errors - the volume of these errors is low and assumed to be random across all cases. As such they are not believed to impact on the integrity of the data.

The 'Common Platform' is a new digital case management system for the magistrates' and Crown Courts. The system seeks to streamline data collection, data accessibility and improve the way criminal cases are processed across the Criminal Justice System. It will eventually replace the existing 'legacy' criminal court systems, with a single, streamlined system. The roll out of the Common Platform system remains ongoing across all criminal courts in England and Wales.

Most published metrics include Common Platform data. Where possible, estimates have been included to ensure that trends are robust and coherent. Where it is omitted, the data represents a small number of cases and does not impact any published trends in the current release. Work is ongoing with Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service (HMCTS) and partner agencies to better understand the implications this system change has for the published National Statistics series, their uses (such as the scorecards) and the underlying methodologies. We are committed to ensuring that these statistics remain accurate, robust and coherent for users during the operational transition of data systems at the criminal courts.

Information on where witnesses have provided evidence via section 28 has been obtained from the system used by court staff to schedule and manage the recording and playback of the recorded hearings and as such covers all such hearings carried out in the period covered by this report. As with other case management systems the data are subject to clerical and input errors, but the volume is low and is not expected to impact on the integrity of the data.



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This system does not record the offence(s) defendant(s) have been charged with; this information has been obtained by matching this data using unique case references to Xhibit (mentioned above) to extract and identify adult rape offences. The match rate achieved was over 95% and the missing items were mainly cases held on Common Platform. A very small number were missing for other reasons.

This data covers witnesses in cases with at least one adult rape offence

- Where the witness is the complainant, their identity is protected by legislation
- This covers live cases that may still be progressing through courts (virtually all other measures cover cases that have concluded).

### **Advice on using and interpreting the scorecard data**

The data within the all-crime and recorded adult rape scorecard aims to capture the majority of the Criminal Justice System through metrics that break the system down into three key stages: crime recorded to police decision, police referral to CPS decision to charge, and CPS charge to case completion at Court.

Crimes recorded by the police and the subsequent outcomes allocated to these crimes are captured by Home Office. A subset of these offences will be referred on to the CPS for early advice, a charging decision, or prosecution. For some offences the CPS must make the charging decision before a prosecution can commence. Ministry of Justice and HMCTS data then captures all cases reaching the criminal court system from the point of receipt to completion. This data includes cases prosecuted by the CPS where the decision to charge was made by the police or the CPS. It also includes cases prosecuted by the CPS that were not investigated by the police, and cases prosecuted by other prosecuting authorities besides the CPS. While the metrics within the scorecard do not allow for a read-across of data for the entire Criminal Justice System, they measure performance of the priorities at each of these three distinct stages.

The 2019 data used in the scorecards is calculated as an average of the 2019 calendar year, Jan-Dec 2019. Including 2019 data provides a robust snapshot of performance of the CJS in 2019, prior to the pandemic, without setting a comparison with specific quarters of data and provides a useful barometer for assessing more recent system performance from Q1 2021 onwards. Quarterly variations in the majority of the scorecard metric data for 2019 annual average figures are minimal which suggests the quarterly figures for 2019 are not notably impacted by reporting changes or seasonal variations.

There are several key points to consider when interpreting the data in the scorecard metrics. These considerations apply universally to all three sets of data provided by the Home Office, CPS, and MoJ/HMCTS respectively:

#### **Counting rules**

Each department collects, collates and publishes metrics differently. The different counting basis relates to the operational priorities of each department, e.g., Home Office will count and consider all notifiable crimes recorded whereas the Ministry of Justice counts those which reach court – which will be the subset of notifiable offences resulting in charges, and a range of other summary offences that also result in a formal court case.



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Further information regarding the individual counting basis of each metric can be found in 'Metric definitions' and in the supporting documentation for each published release outlined at the end of this document.

## **Data linkage**

It is not currently possible to accurately track individual offences or defendants across the Criminal Justice System for the purposes of statistical reporting. As such there are no overarching cross-Criminal Justice System metrics included within the current scorecard report. Work to better link the administrative data held across the Criminal Justice System is ongoing and is a high priority for enabling more joined up reporting and analysis of the drivers which impact the system as a whole.

## **Timing and movement of cases through the system**

Although each metric is reported at the same point in time, this relates to a different point in the progress of a case through the Criminal Justice System. Comparisons across departmental measures will reflect these different stages. For example, the MoJ data will count defendants dealt with at court in a given quarterly period – these will result from offences recorded by the Home Office in earlier periods, and similarly referrals made to the CPS in earlier periods.

## **Offence allocation**

The way that offences are selected for reporting differs across the scorecards. Although the same source list of defined offence codes is common across departments, the way that this is allocated to the underlying measures means that comparisons are difficult to accurately interpret. For example, the CPS will apply a rape flag to a suspect's case even if subsequently the rape offence is dropped, or the suspect is charged with a different offence (a sexual assault for example). The MoJ however, allocates the most serious offence in a case as the principal offence at the point of the case being received into the court system.

For more information see Annex 2:

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/publications/cps-vawg-report-2019.pdf>

## **Use of mean and median in timeliness metrics**

For policing metrics that measure timeliness within the scorecard, the median number of days has been used as this excludes outliers (for example, due to recording errors) and represents a more accurate reflection of policing performance. For the timeliness metrics that measure CPS and court performance however, the mean number of days is calculated. The mean tells us about all cases, including the outliers which is an accurate reflection of what the CPS and courts deal with.

## **Arrows indicating net changes**

Arrows within the dashboard that indicate net changes are only indicative of the directions of the change (e.g. an increase or decrease) and do not represent statistically significant changes. Arrows are coloured red or green to reflect whether, broadly speaking, the increase or decrease is a positive or negative change in system performance.

## **Rounding data**

Percentage metrics with values of typically less than 5% will be rounded to 1 decimal place. All other metrics will be round to 0 decimal places. The rounded figures will be used to determine whether to include an up or down arrow or whether there has been no change in a metric's performance.





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## Low volume and data suppression methodology

Breaking down scorecard data to local areas increases the likelihood that LCJBs, Police Force Areas and CPS areas will report low volumes. To ensure that data from across government is presented universally in the scorecards, low volumes are defined as values below 5. For metrics that report a value of 0, these values are not suppressed, and zeros will be published. For metrics that report a value between 1 and 4, this data is grouped in the range 1-4 and displayed in a footnote within the scorecard as 'suppressed due to low volumes'. For metrics displaying as percentages or number of days, if the value is based on a volume of 1-4, this data is suppressed and is labelled as 'suppressed due to low volumes in a footnote within the scorecard'.

## CSV documentation

A CSV file is available to download from the CJS scorecard website which contains all values shown in the scorecard. The table below describes each column of the CSV file.

Column	Description
offence_type	Whether the record refers to all offences or recorded adult rape offences.
metric_name	The metric name.
stage	The stage of the Criminal Justice System that the metric falls under. The three stages are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Crime recorded to police decision</li><li>• Police referral to Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) decision to charge</li><li>• CPS charge to case completion in court</li></ul>
priority_area	The priority area within which the metric falls. The priority areas are five areas selected for improvement across the Criminal Justice System. They are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improving timeliness</li><li>• Increasing victim engagement</li><li>• Improving quality of justice</li><li>• Volume</li><li>• Rape review - progress against aims (for recorded adult rape metrics only)</li></ul>
geographic_granularity	Whether the record refers to national data or data for a local area. The available geographic granularities differ according to the metric. The options are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National (available for all metrics)</li><li>• Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB) area (available for all metrics)</li><li>• CPS area</li><li>• Police force area</li></ul>
geographic_area_name	The name of the geographic area: either "National" (England and Wales), or the name of a local area.
period	The period to which the record refers.
date_granularity	Whether the period column refers to a calendar year (January to December, labelled "Annual"), a rolling annual period, a quarter or a quarterly average (equal to the corresponding calendar year figure divided by four).
value	The value of the metric for the given geographic area and period. The value is shown with no rounding applied.





reason_for_missing_data	The reason if the value column is empty. This could be due to suppression of low values (see "Low volume and data suppression methodology" within this data note), or other reasons.
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## Local-level data breakdowns

### Home Office, CPS, MoJ and HMCTS - Local Criminal Justice Board areas

The Home Office, CPS, MoJ and HMCTS data for all scorecard metrics are broken down to Local Criminal Justice Board areas in the all-crime and recorded adult rape offences scorecards. There are 36 Local Criminal Justice Boards which map to individual or multiple Police Force Areas, as outlined at the end of this document. Local Criminal Justice Boards (LCJBs) are the forum in which local criminal justice partners come together to work in the common interest to improve the CJS in their local area. They are pivotal for local collaboration on important cross-system issues, and they work in partnership across agencies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the CJS at the local level and to improve the experiences of victims and witnesses.

Publishing all scorecard metrics broken down at this level will provide oversight of the Criminal Justice System while increasing transparency of data at a granular level.

### Home Office

There are 43 Police Force Areas at which relevant policing metrics in the all-crime and recorded adult rape scorecard are published. The scorecard data only includes the 43 territorial forces funded by the Home Office in England and Wales. The Home Office receives monthly data from police forces on crime, crime outcomes and records that were initially recorded as crimes and subsequently transferred to another police force or cancelled. See the below metrics definition tables for further details.

### Crown Prosecution Service

The CPS data can be presented in a national, or local-level format. Data from 14 CPS Areas are used when presenting local-level data alongside LCJB areas. The CPS operates across England and Wales, with 14 regional teams prosecuting cases locally. Each of these 14 CPS Areas is headed by a Chief Crown Prosecutor and works closely with local police forces and other criminal justice partners. To find out more about CPS Areas please visit [www.cps.gov.uk](http://www.cps.gov.uk). One metric, 'Number of suspects referred by the police to the CPS' is also presented at Police Force Area level, in addition to national, LCJB and CPS Area level.

The data rules outlined earlier in this document (see the 'Data Sources' section) apply to CPS statistics whether they are captured at a national or local level. The CPS collects data for all the scorecard metrics for all 14 CPS Areas. Generally speaking, suspects or defendants recorded in a specific area (e.g. East Midlands) will have been investigated for offences or committed offences in those areas. However, sometimes a CPS Area will take on work for another CPS Area. It is not possible to differentiate these cases in the data, so suspects and defendants are recorded to the CPS Area that is managing the case, and not the CPS Area local to the investigating police force. An example of this is most British Transport Police cases in England and Wales that are referred to the CPS for early advice, a charging decision, or prosecution, are managed by CPS West Midlands.

### Ministry of Justice and HMCTS

National data represent all activity captured across the supporting criminal court administrative systems, regardless of whether a specific region or court location is known. There are



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instances where the geographic location of a case, defendant or trial is not currently known. This includes instances where: (i) data are 'new' and the associated information is not yet completed and (ii) data reported is incomplete and it is not possible to reliably identify a court location. Local breakdowns only include those cases where the court location is known. The sum of local level data will therefore not equate to the national figures.

The Crown Court Information Tool publishes a number of select metrics that are also published in the scorecard at a national level. The scorecard dashboard signposts to the [Crown Court Information Tool](#) where a more granular Crown Court level breakdown of key metrics can be found.

The 'flow' of cases and defendants through the criminal courts are not specifically tied to the location of an individual or the initial offence. As such, care should be taken when seeking to make direct comparisons with local level data presented by the Home Office or Crown Prosecution Service. For example, it is known that a high volume of adult rape cases are heard in London but offences will have been committed across England and Wales, with potentially differing locations recorded by the Home Office and CPS measures prior to reaching the Crown Court.

## Metric definitions

The below tables detail the scorecard metrics according to the Criminal Justice partner that collects the data and their accompanying definitions. The tables also indicate the point in the scorecard series at which individual metrics will be included. While the majority were first included in the December 2021 publication, a small number are still in development and are listed here to indicate the additional data that will be collected for future series of the all-crime and recorded adult rape offences scorecard. As the scorecard is an iterative product, there are a number of new metrics that will be included for the first time in the March 2022 publication of the local scorecards. These are appropriately indicated below.

### Home Office

*Metrics in italics are those specific to the scorecard for recorded adult rape offences.*

Plain English metric name	Statistical metric name (linked, where possible to published statistics)	Statistical definition	Included in scorecard from	Published at the following local areas:
<b>Median days from offence recorded to a successful outcome for offences where there is a specific individual victim</b> (a successful outcome is a formal - e.g. charge or caution - or	<a href="#">Median days of offence recorded (victim) to informal/formal outcome</a>	Median days is measured from when victim-based offences were recorded by the police to when a charge/ summons outcome was assigned on the local force record management system.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, Police Force Area



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informal - e.g. cannabis warning – police outcome)				
<b>Median days from offence recorded to a successful outcome for offences where there are no specific individual victims</b> (a successful outcome is a formal - e.g. charge or caution - or informal - e.g. cannabis warning – police outcome)	<a href="#">Median days of offence recorded (state) to informal/formal outcome</a>	Median days is measured from when state-based offences were recorded by the police to when an informal/ formal outcome was assigned on the local force record management system.	December 2021	All-crime: LCJB area, Police Force Area
<b>Median days from offence recorded to the police charging an offender where there is a specific individual victim</b>	<a href="#">Median days of offence recorded (victim) to charge</a>	Median days is measured from when victim-based offences were recorded by the police to when a charge/ summonsed outcome was assigned on the local force record management system.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, Police Force Area
<b>Median days from offence recorded to the police charging an offender where there are no specific individual victims</b>	<a href="#">Median days of offence recorded (state) to charge</a>	Median days is measured from when state-based offences were recorded by the police to when a charge/ summonsed outcome was assigned on the local force record management system.	December 2021	All-crime: LCJB area, Police Force Area
<b>Percentage of investigations closed because the victim does not support further police action</b>	<a href="#">Crime outcomes - victim does not support (%)</a>	The volume of outcomes for 'Evidential difficulties: Victim does not support action (both suspect identified and not identified). Divided by all outcomes assigned.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, Police Force Area



<b>Number and percentage of police recorded offences where the offender is issued with a successful outcome for offences where there are specific individual victims</b> (a successful outcome is a formal - e.g. charge or caution - or informal - e.g. cannabis warning – police outcome)	<a href="#">Volume/Proportion: Informal/formal outcomes (victim)</a>	<p>Volume of victim-based offences were recorded by the police where an informal/ formal outcome was assigned on the local force record management system.</p> <p>Proportions have been calculated by dividing the informal/ formal outcome counts by the total outcome counts for offences where there are specific individual victims.</p>	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, Police Force Area
<b>Number and percentage of police recorded offences where the offender is issued with a successful outcome for offences where there are no specific individual victims</b> (a successful outcome is a formal - e.g. charge or caution - or informal - e.g. cannabis warning – police outcome)	<a href="#">Volume/Proportion: Informal/formal outcomes (state)</a>	<p>Volume of state-based offences were recorded by the police where an informal/ formal outcome was assigned on the local force record management system.</p> <p>Proportions have been calculated by dividing the informal/ formal outcome by the total outcome counts for offences where there are no specific individual victims.</p>	December 2021	All-crime: LCJB area, Police Force Area
<b>Number and percentage of police recorded offences where the investigation</b>	<a href="#">Volume/Proportion: No suspect identified (victim)</a>	<p>Volume of Investigation complete - no suspect identified outcomes for victim-based offences.</p> <p>Proportions have been calculated by dividing</p>	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, Police Force Area



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is closed because no suspect has been identified for offences where there are specific individual victims		the no suspect identified outcome counts by the total outcome counts for offences where there are specific individual victims.		
Number and percentage of police recorded offences where the investigation is closed because no suspect has been identified for offences where there are no specific victims	<a href="#">Volume/Proportion: No suspect identified (state)</a>	<p>Volume of Investigation complete - no suspect identified outcomes, for state-based offences.</p> <p>Proportions have been calculated by dividing the no suspect identified outcome counts by the total outcome counts for offences where there are no specific individual victims.</p>	December 2021	All-crime: LCJB area, Police Force Area
Number of recorded offences where there are specific individual victims	<a href="#">No. of recorded offences (victim)</a>	Volume of victim-based offences.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, Police Force Area
Number of recorded offences where there are no specific victims	<a href="#">No. of recorded offences (state)</a>	Volume of state-based offences.	December 2021	All-crime: LCJB area, Police Force Area
TBC	<i>Percentage of victims without a phone for more than 24 hours</i>	TBC	TBC	
Percentage of cases which result in a charge (out of all adult rape cases with any outcome assigned)	<a href="#">Proportion of crime investigations which result in a charge outcome out of all those cases with a closed investigative outcome</a>	The number of crimes which result in a charge as a proportion of all crimes with an investigative outcome closed in the same year. This could include cases recorded in a previous time period.	December 2021	Adult rape: LCJB area, Police Force Area
Percentage of cases which result in a charge (out of all adult rape cases recorded)	Percentage of cases which result in a charge (out of all adult rape cases recorded)	This metric is an alternative charge ratio metric. This differs to the metric above because it calculates	December 2021	Adult rape: LCJB area, Police Force Area



<b>cases recorded)</b>		<i>the percentage of crimes where a decision has been made to charge, out of the total number of crimes recorded in the same quarterly period. These include open and completed investigations – investigations where a decision has been made and investigations where a decision has not yet been made.</i>		
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## Additional definitions

### Police Recorded Crime

- **Victim based** - all police-recorded crimes where there is a specific victim. This victim could be an individual, an organisation or corporate body. This category includes violent crimes directed at a specific individual or individuals, sexual offences, robbery, all theft offences (including burglary and vehicle offences), criminal damage and arson. It excludes fraud and computer misuse act offences which are not recorded by the territorial forces in England and Wales but centrally by the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau at the City of London Police.
- **State based** - all police-recorded crimes where there are no specific individual victims and this includes public order offences, drug offences, possession of weapons other miscellaneous crimes against the state.
- **Adult rape offences** include offence codes: rape of a male aged 16 or over (19F) and rape of a female aged 16 or over (19C).

### Police recorded crime investigations

- **Successful Outcomes** consists of the following outcomes: Charged/Summonsed (outcome 1), Taken into consideration (outcomes 4), Out-of-court formal (outcomes 2, 3 & 6) and Out-of-court informal (outcomes 7 & 8).
- All '**Other outcomes**' used in the rape scorecard is all outcomes apart from a charge or summons.

### **Crown Prosecution Service**

*Please note the links below take you to the specific Excel file containing the metric. To read about the CPS quarterly publication which provides commentary on the data that is published and explains further how to interpret CPS data, please click [here](#).*

*Metrics in italics are those specific to the scorecard for recorded adult rape offences.*



Plain English metric name	Statistical metric name	Statistical definition	Included in scorecard from	Published at the following local areas:
<b>Mean days from first police referral to CPS making the decision to authorise a charge</b>	<a href="#">Mean days from police referral to CPS decision to charge</a>	The number of calendar days from the first referral by police to the CPS making a decision to charge. The police may have referred for an early advice or charging decision. This metric is the total time taken and may include multiple CPS consultations and time taken by the police to complete further investigative work.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area
<b>Percentage of CPS consultations completed within 28 days</b> (a consultation occurs when a CPS prosecutor has considered new information received from the police and completes a legal review) The metric does not include legal reviews completed after the CPS has made the decision to authorise a charge.	Proportion of CPS consultations completed within 28 days	The proportion of consultations completed within 28 calendar days. Charging pilot custody cases are excluded due to a different timescale of 3 hours.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area
<b>Percentage of prosecutions that are stopped post charge because a victim did not provide evidence or has withdrawn</b>	Proportion of prosecutions that are stopped post charge because a victim did not provide evidence or has withdrawn	The proportion of non-convictions where the victim no longer supports the prosecution, does not, or refuses to attend. When a prosecution is ongoing a victim is referred to by the legal term complainant. The data presented is sourced from CPS data that uses the term complainant.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area





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<b>Percentage of CPS charged prosecutions that are stopped due to an incorrect charging decision</b> (based on an assessment by a lawyer, at any time during prosecution proceedings, that the charge authorised by the CPS was incorrect)	Proportion of CPS charged prosecutions stopped due to an incorrect charging decision	The proportion of all prosecutions where a charge was authorised by the CPS that were not convicted due to an incorrect charging decision.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area
<b>Percentage of cases where appropriate legal decisions are made</b>	Percentage of cases where appropriate legal decisions are made	TBC	August 2022	
<b>Percentage of cases that meet the national file quality standard</b> (this relates to a universal standard for file quality which is determined by the Directors Guidance on Charging, used by police officers and prosecutors)	Proportion of cases that meet the national file quality standard	TBC	August 2022	
<b>Number of suspects where the CPS has made a legal decision to either: authorise a charge, advise the police the prosecution code has not been met, or to make an out of court disposal</b>	<a href="#">Volume of pre-charge legal decisions</a>	The volume of suspects referred by the police for a charging decision and the CPS have given a legal decision. A legal decision is either a charge, no further action or out of court disposal	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area
<b>Number of suspects authorised to be charged by CPS</b>	<a href="#">Volume of suspects authorised to be charged by the CPS</a>	The volume of suspects referred by the police for a charging decision and the CPS has authorised a charge. A charge means that a first hearing has been registered on CPS case management system.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area
<b>Percentage of legal decisions that result in a charge</b>	TBC	The proportion of all legal decisions where a charge was authorised by the CPS. This is	May 2022	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB



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		published on the CPS website as part of the quarterly publication.		area, CPS area
<b>Percentage of legal decisions where the prosecution code has not been met</b>	TBC	The proportion of all legal decisions where the prosecution code was not met. This is published on the CPS website as part of the quarterly publication.	May 2022	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area
<b>Percentage of legal decisions that result in an out of court disposal</b>	TBC	The proportion of all legal decisions that result in an out of court disposal. This is published on the CPS website as part of the quarterly publication.	May 2022	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area
<b>Number of suspects finalised as 'pending response – further investigation' (previously named as admin finalised)</b>	<a href="#">Volume of suspects finalised as pending response – further investigation</a>	Decisions recorded as pending response – further investigation (formally known as Administrative finalisations) are finalised in the CPS Case Management System for administrative reasons following a request for further information being sent to the investigating authority. These are not legal decisions and may not be the end of the case.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area
<b>Number of prosecutions where the decision was made by the CPS to stop the prosecution</b>	<a href="#">Volume of prosecutions dropped</a>	The number of prosecutions that were stopped by the CPS.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area
<b>Number of suspects referred by the police to the CPS for either early advice or for a charging decision</b>	<a href="#">Volume of referrals from the police for a charging decision</a>	<p>The volume of suspects referred by the police, a suspect is only counted once for either early advice or a charging decision.</p> <p>At this time, it is not possible to separate the data on suspects referred for early advice and suspects referred for a charging decision. The CPS and police</p>	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, Police Force Area, CPS area



		have taken the active policy decision to increase the use of early advice to help improve quality. This means that comparison with historical data will need to be conducted with caution.		
<b>Number of suspects awaiting a charging decision by CPS, or early advice to be provided by CPS or with the police to conduct further investigation</b> Pre-charge caseload	Volume of outstanding pre-charge proceedings	The volume of suspects live on the CPS Case Management System at the end of a reporting period, and which are carried forward into the next reporting period. The pre-charge case volume metric will include all cases that are live on the CPS system. This means that it will include suspects that have been returned to the police for further investigation.	May 2022	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area
<b>Number of defendants with current live proceedings in magistrates' courts and at the Crown Court</b>	Volume of outstanding prosecution proceedings	The volume of defendants live on the CPS Case Management System at the end of a reporting period, and which are carried forward into the next reporting period. The post-charge case volume metric includes all prosecution cases live on the CPS Case Management System at the end of each quarterly period, in magistrates' courts and at the Crown Court. The data will include cases in the magistrates' courts which will subsequently be sent to the Crown Court for trial as well as those dealt with summarily. The metric excludes cases committed for sentence at the Crown Court, appeals, extradition and	May 2022	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area



		proceeds of crime proceedings.		
<b><i>Number of suspects where CPS have closed the suspect's file on the CPS case management system after a legal decision is made or where further investigation is required prior to a charging decision</i></b>	<i>Volume of finalised pre-charge decisions</i>	<i>The volume of suspects referred by the police for a charging decision which has been finalised on the CPS Case Management System. This includes legal decisions and cases finalised as awaiting response – further investigation.</i>	<i>December 2021</i>	Adult rape: LCJB area, CPS area

## Ministry of Justice

*Metrics in italics are those specific to the scorecard for recorded adult rape offences.*

Plain English metric name	Statistical metric name	Statistical definition	Included in scorecard from	Published at the following local areas:
<b>Number of outstanding cases which have been at the Crown Court for more than 12 months</b>	<a href="#"><i>Volume of outstanding cases "for trial" older than 12 months</i></a>	Outstanding duration refers to the time between the receipt of a case in a specific Crown Court and the end of the reporting period, for example counts in Q3 2020 relate to cases which are open as at the end of September 2020.  'For trial' cases are assigned at the point of receipt into the Crown Court - we know that most of these cases will result in the entry of a guilty plea and that only a minority will require a trial.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Number of outstanding cases which have been at the Crown Court for more than 12 months (custody cases)</b>	<a href="#"><i>Volume of outstanding cases "for trial" older than 12 months (custody)</i></a>	Outstanding duration refers to the time between the receipt of a case in a specific Crown Court and the end of the reporting period, for example counts in Q3 2020 relate to cases which are open as at the end of September 2020.	March 2022	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area



		'For trial' cases are assigned at the point of receipt into the Crown Court - we know that most of these cases will result in the entry of a guilty plea and that only a minority will require a trial. This metric is calculated for cases where the principal defendant is in custody.		
<b>Number of outstanding cases which have been at the Crown Court for more than 12 months (non-custody cases)</b>	<a href="#">Volume of outstanding cases "for trial" older than 12 months (non-custody)</a>	<p>Outstanding duration refers to the time between the receipt of a case in a specific Crown Court and the end of the reporting period, for example counts in Q3 2020 relate to cases which are open as at the end of September 2020.</p> <p>'For trial' cases are assigned at the point of receipt into the Crown Court - we know that most of these cases will result in the entry of a guilty plea and that only a minority will require a trial. This metric is calculated for cases where the principal defendant is not in custody, including a small number of cases where the custody status is 'unknown'.</p>	March 2022	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Mean days from charge to case completion at the Crown Court</b> (completion means any outcome, including guilty pleas, acquittals and convictions)	<a href="#">Mean days from charge to completion at Crown Court*</a> *End-to-end timeliness estimates are provided as part of the Criminal Court Statistics Quarterly release (Table 4). Table 4 includes estimates from offence to completion but does not currently include an estimate from	Estimated mean durations in days from a charge being given (prior to entering the criminal courts) and the completion of the case – this is based on the number of defendants in valid cases that were disposed of in the reporting period. Valid case counts exclude appeals, 'bring backs' and 'committals for breach' (sentence cases only), transfers out and cases which have been issued a bench warrant and cases which have	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area



	charge to completion.	no hearing recorded (e.g. main, plea or preliminary).		
<b>Mean days from charge to case completion at the Crown Court for custody cases</b> (completion means any outcome, including guilty pleas, acquittals and convictions)	N/A – this metric is not currently published	Estimated mean durations in days from a charge being given (prior to entering the criminal courts) and the completion of the case – this is based on the number of defendants in valid cases that were disposed of in the reporting period. Valid case counts exclude appeals, 'bring backs' and 'committals for breach' (sentence cases only), transfers out, cases which have been issued a bench warrant and cases which have no hearing recorded (e.g. main, plea or preliminary). This metric is calculated for defendants with a custody remand status.	March 2022	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Mean days from charge to case completion at the Crown Court for non-custody cases</b> (completion means any outcome, including guilty pleas, acquittals and convictions)	N/A – this metric is not currently published	Estimated mean durations in days from a charge being given (prior to entering the criminal courts) and the completion of the case – this is based on the number of defendants in valid cases that were disposed of in the reporting period. Valid case counts exclude appeals, 'bring backs' and 'committals for breach' (sentence cases only), transfers out and cases which have been issued a bench warrant and cases which have no hearing recorded (e.g. main, plea or preliminary). This metric is calculated for defendants without a custody remand status, including a small number of cases where the custody status is 'unknown'.	March 2022	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area



<b>Mean days from charge to case arriving at the Crown Court</b>	<p><a href="#">Mean days from charge to completion (Magistrates Court) *</a></p> <p>*End-to-end timeliness estimates are provided as part of the Criminal Court Statistics Quarterly release (Table 4). Table 4 includes estimates from offence to charge, charge to first listing at Magistrates and first listing at Magistrates to completion at Magistrates (which, for cases sent to Crown Court, is equivalent to receipt at Crown Court). Table 4 does not currently include a single estimate from charge to case completion at Magistrates Court.</p>	<p>Estimated mean durations in days from a charge being given (prior to entering the criminal courts) and the completion of the case at the Magistrates' courts – this is given only for cases which subsequently go up to Crown Court and have completed. This is based on the number of defendants in valid cases that were disposed of in the reporting period. Valid case counts exclude appeals, 'bring backs' and 'committals for breach' (sentence cases only), transfers out, cases which have been issued a bench warrant and cases which have no hearing recorded (e.g. main, plea or preliminary).</p>	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Mean days from charge to case arriving at the Crown Court for custody cases</b>	N/A – this metric is not currently published	<p>Estimated mean durations in days from a charge being given (prior to entering the criminal courts) and the completion of the case at the magistrates' courts – this is given only for cases which subsequently go up to Crown Court and have completed. This is based on the number of defendants in valid cases that were disposed of in the reporting period. Valid case counts exclude appeals, 'bring backs' and 'committals for breach' (sentence cases only), transfers out and cases which have been</p>	March 2022	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area





		issued a bench warrant and cases which have no hearing recorded (e.g. main, plea or preliminary). This metric is calculated for defendants with a custody remand status.		
<b>Mean days from charge to case arriving at the Crown Court for non-custody cases</b>	N/A – this metric is not currently published	Estimated mean durations in days from a charge being given (prior to entering the criminal courts) and the completion of the case at the magistrates' courts – this is given only for cases which subsequently go up to Crown Court and have completed. This is based on the number of defendants in valid cases that were disposed of in the reporting period. Valid case counts exclude appeals, 'bring backs' and 'committals for breach' (sentence cases only), transfers out and cases which have been issued a bench warrant and cases which have no hearing recorded (e.g. main, plea or preliminary). This metric is calculated for defendants without a custody remand status, including a small number of cases where the custody status is 'unknown'.	March 2022	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Mean days from case arriving at the Crown Court to case completion at the Crown Court</b> (completion means any outcome, including guilty pleas, acquittals and convictions)	<a href="#">Mean days from sending to Crown Court to completion at Crown Court*</a> *End-to-end timeliness estimates are provided as part of the Criminal Court Statistics Quarterly release (Table 4). Table 4 includes estimates from sending to Crown	Estimated mean durations in days from receipt into the Crown Court and the completion of the case – this is based on the number of defendants in valid cases that were disposed of in the reporting period. Valid case counts exclude appeals, 'bring backs' and 'committals for breach' (sentence cases only), transfers out and cases which have been	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area



	<p>Court to main hearing, and from main hearing to completion at Crown Court. Table 4 does not currently include a single estimate from sending to Crown Court to completion at Crown Court.</p>	<p>issued a bench warrant and cases which have no hearing recorded (e.g. main, plea or preliminary).</p>		
<p><b>Mean days from case arriving at the Crown Court to case completion at the Crown Court for custody cases</b> (completion means any outcome, including guilty pleas, acquittals and convictions)</p>	<p>N/A – this metric is not currently published</p>	<p>Estimated mean durations in days from receipt into the Crown Court and the completion of the case – this is based on the number of defendants in valid cases that were disposed of in the reporting period. Valid case counts exclude appeals, 'bring backs' and 'committals for breach' (sentence cases only), transfers out and cases which have been issued a bench warrant and cases which have no hearing recorded (e.g. main, plea or preliminary). This metric is calculated for defendants with a custody remand status.</p>	<p>March 2022</p>	<p>All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area</p>
<p><b>Mean days from case arriving at the Crown Court to case completion at the Crown Court for non-custody cases</b> (completion means any outcome, including guilty pleas, acquittals and convictions)</p>	<p>N/A – this metric is not currently published</p>	<p>Estimated mean durations in days from receipt into the Crown Court and the completion of the case – this is based on the number of defendants in valid cases that were disposed of in the reporting period. Valid case counts exclude appeals, 'bring backs' and 'committals for breach' (sentence cases only), transfers out and cases which have been issued a bench warrant and cases which have no hearing recorded (e.g. main, plea or preliminary).</p>	<p>March 2022</p>	<p>All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area</p>



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		This metric is calculated for defendants without a custody remand status.		
<b>Percentage of cases in which prosecution offer no evidence because the victim or witness no longer supports prosecution</b>	<a href="#">Proportion of listed trials in which prosecution offers no evidence as victim no longer supports prosecution</a>	<p>A trial that does not go ahead on the day of trial as planned and does not require a further relisting (a 'cracked' trial) as the victim no longer supports prosecution. This is calculated as a proportion of all listed trials.</p> <p>This measure does not currently include Common Platform data.</p>	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Percentage of cases which resulted in a completed trial</b>	<a href="#">Proportion of defendants dealt with who went to trial</a>	Proportion of not guilty pleas for defendants dealt with, e.g. NGP / GP + NGP + Dropped (excludes no plea entered).	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Percentage of cases which are rearranged on the day of trial</b>	<a href="#">Proportion of listed trials which are rearranged on the day of trial ('ineffective')</a>	<p>A trial which goes ahead on the planned date and occurs is then considered as 'effective', a trial that is listed but does not go ahead is considered either cracked, ineffective or vacated as detailed in the supporting guidance document which is available here: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-court-statistics">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-court-statistics</a></p> <p>This measure does not currently include Common Platform data.</p>	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Percentage of cases that don't proceed to trial on the day because the prosecution does not proceed</b>	<a href="#">Proportion of listed trials that don't proceed to trial on the day and don't require rearranging because the prosecution does not proceed ('cracked')</a>	<p>A trial that does not go ahead on the day and does not require relisting (a 'cracked' trial) due to the prosecution ending the case, as a proportion of all listed trials.</p> <p>This measure does not currently include Common Platform data.</p>	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Guilty plea rate for serious cases at the Magistrates Court'</b>	<a href="#">Guilty plea rate for defendants dealt with in</a>	Includes plea entry for defendants dealt with in 'for trial' cases which have completed in the	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area



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(where no further action is required by the magistrates' courts)	<a href="#">serious cases at Magistrates' court</a>	Magistrates' courts during the specified time period, where no further action is required by the Magistrates' courts.		
<b>Guilty plea rate at Crown Court</b> (as a proportion of all defendants who enter a plea, e.g. guilty, not guilty and dropped)	<a href="#">Guilty plea rate for defendants dealt with at the Crown Court</a>	The guilty plea rate is calculated as the volume of defendants who plead guilty as a proportion of all defendants who enter a plea, e.g. guilty, not guilty and dropped.	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Percentage of defendants who plead guilty before a trial starts</b>	<a href="#">Proportion of defendants who plead guilty prior to trial</a>	A guilty plea is recorded when a defendant: (i) pleads guilty to all counts; (ii) pleads guilty to some counts and not guilty to others and no jury is sworn in respect of the not guilty counts; or (iii) pleads not guilty to some or all counts but offers a guilty plea to alternatives which are accepted (providing no jury is sworn in respect of the other counts). The stage at which a defendant pleaded guilty is calculated from the hearing type entered by the court, e.g. prior to trial includes guilty pleas entered at the plea hearing, at the plea and case management hearing or at a newton hearing (no further trial time required).	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Percentage of cases which result in a completed trial plus guilty pleas</b> (an aggregated metric that represents both percentage of cases which resulted in a completed trial and guilty plea rate at the Crown Court)	<a href="#">Cases dealt with where the case was not dropped following commencement at the Crown Court</a>	An aggregated metric that represents both percentage of cases which resulted in a completed trial and guilty plea rate at the Crown Court	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Number of completions</b> (completion means receiving any	<a href="#">Disposals (All cases)</a>	Disposals include cases where a disposal is recorded against each defendant and all their	December 2021	All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area



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outcome, including guilty pleas, acquittals and convictions)		offences and cases that are transferred out.		
<b>Number of outstanding cases at the Crown Court</b> (excluding cases where the case can't progress because the defendant is absent)	<a href="#">Outstanding caseload volumes</a>	A count of all cases where one or more offences remains incomplete at the end of the period. Outstanding cases exclude cases that have a live bench warrant issued on the case, at the end of the period.		All-crime and adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Number of receipts</b> (cases arriving at the Crown Court)	<a href="#">Volume of receipts</a>	Volume of receipts for recorded adult rape offences.	December 2021	Adult rape: LCJB area
<b>Number of witnesses who have given evidence via section 28 in a case with at least one adult rape offence</b>	Number of witnesses who have given evidence via section 28 in a case with at least one adult rape offence	<p><i>This is the number of witnesses who have provided evidence via Section 28 in a case where the defendant(s) have been charged with at least one adult rape offence. In some instances, the witnesses may have provided evidence in the same case against the same defendant(s). The use of Section 28 is a decision for the judiciary based on the circumstances of that case. The intention of the metric is to monitor uptake of Section 28, not assess individual decisions.</i></p> <p><i>Quarterly data for this metric is only available from Q2 2021 (Apr-Jun 2021) onwards, and therefore there are no rolling annual figures available to present in this scorecard.</i></p>	December 2021	Adult rape: LCJB area,

## Local Criminal Justice Board Mapping: Police Force Area to LCJB Area

Police Force Area	LCJB Area
Avon and Somerset	Avon and Somerset
Cambridgeshire	Cambridgeshire
Cheshire	Cheshire



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Cleveland	Cleveland and Durham
Durham	Cleveland and Durham
Cumbria	Cumbria
Derbyshire	Derbyshire
Devon and Cornwall	Devon and Cornwall
Dorset	Dorset
Dyfed Powys	Dyfed Powys
Leicestershire	East Midlands
Lincolnshire	East Midlands
Northamptonshire	East Midlands
Nottinghamshire	East Midlands
Essex	Essex
Gloucestershire	Gloucestershire
Greater Manchester	Greater Manchester
Gwent	Gwent
Hampshire	Hampshire & IoW
Hertfordshire	Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire
Bedfordshire	Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire
Humberside	Humberside
Kent	Kent
Lancashire	Lancashire
Metropolitan	London
City of London	London
Merseyside	Merseyside
Norfolk	Norfolk and Suffolk
Suffolk	Norfolk and Suffolk
North Wales	North Wales
North Yorkshire	North Yorkshire
Northumbria	Northumbria
South Wales	South Wales
Staffordshire	Staffordshire
Surrey	Surrey
Sussex	Sussex
Thames Valley	Thames Valley
Warwickshire	Warwickshire
West Mercia	West Mercia
West Midlands	West Midlands
West Yorkshire	West Yorkshire
Sheffield	South Yorkshire
Wiltshire	Wiltshire

## Publications Guidance

Home Office: [Crime outcomes in England and Wales: Technical Annex - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crime-outcomes-in-england-and-wales-technical-annex)

CPS: <https://www.cps.gov.uk/publication/cps-quarterly-data-summaries>

Ministry of Justice: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-guide-to-criminal-court-statistics>

Crown Court Information Tool: [Crown Court Information | Courts and Tribunals Judiciary](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crown-court-information)