

Probation Board for Northern Ireland Caseload Statistics Report

**Financial Year
2020/21**

Published May 2021



Introduction

This report provides statistics on the PBNI caseload for the 2020/21 financial year (1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021). Throughout the report comparable statistics are provided for previous years.

Statistics on the total caseload are on a point in time basis, i.e. as at the end of the financial year (31st March). Statistics on the number of reports completed, the number of new orders made, and PBNI Victim Information Scheme registrations cover the entire financial year (i.e. 1st April – 31st March).

The data presented in this publication are drawn from the PBNI's electronic case management system (ECMS). Although care is taken when processing and analysing to quality assure the data, the data is subject to inaccuracies inherent in an administrative data recording system. Where percentages have been presented in this report they are subject to rounding.

PBNI statistics are collated and produced by statisticians seconded to the organisation from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). Statistics published in this report have been subject to validation and quality assurance processes, details of which will be published in due course, as these processes are currently under review. The tables presented in this report are available to on request from the contact details below.

Lockdown measures in relation to Covid-19 were introduced on 23rd March 2020 and have had an impact on PBNI caseload. Courts in Northern Ireland were stood down to all but the most urgent cases, as set by the Lord Chief Justice. This will therefore create a temporary decrease in new orders added to the caseload and reports requested for courts.

We welcome comment and feedback on these statistics. If you would like to forward your views, contact PBNI Statistics & Research Branch at 02890 522522, or e-mail: statistics&research@probation-ni.gov.uk

Report Summary

Section 1: PBNI Total Caseload (Page 4)

- The number of people on the PBNI caseload at 31st March 2021 was 3,507, which is a 17% decrease compared to the previous year (4,216).
- The number of orders being supervised by PBNI at 31st March 2021 is 4,074 (as one person can have more than one order) decreased by 12% in comparison to the previous year.
- Females represent one in ten persons on the current caseload (Table 2, below). The number of females on the PBNI caseload has decreased by 8% over the last four years, from 400 in March 2017 to 369 in March 2021.
- Just over one third of the current caseload (34%) is aged 40 or above.

Section 2: Reports Completed by PBNI for Courts (Page 9)

- There were 4,223 reports (all report types) completed between 1st April 2020 and 31st March 2021. This represents a decrease of 50% on 2019/20 (8,509).
- The combined total of Pre-Sentence Reports and Magistrates' Court Reports completed during 2020/21 was 2,006, which is a decrease of 52% from 2019/20 (4,178).
- The majority of those on whom a pre-sentence report was completed were male (85%) and 15% were female.
- The median age of those on whom a pre-sentence report was completed was 32, up from 31 in the previous year.
- Just over one quarter of those persons on whom a pre-sentence report was completed were aged 40 and above (26%), down from 28% in the previous year.

Section 3: New Orders added to PBNI Caseload (Page 11)

- At 2,250, the number of new statutory orders added to the PBNI caseload between 1st April 2020 and 31st March 2021 is 32% lower than the number made in 2019/20 (3,289).
- In terms of the main community disposals, the number of Community Service Orders made in 2020/21 (239) is 70% lower than in 2019/20 (786). The number of Combination Orders has decreased by 40% to 248, compared with 412 in the previous year and the number of Probation Orders has also decreased by 20% to 1,037.
- The number of Determinate Custodial Sentences increased by 11% in 2020/21 to 547 compared to 492 in 2019/20.
- The number of new Probation Orders added to the caseload during 2020/21, at 1,037, represents a decrease of 20% compared with 2019/20, when 1,299 were added.
- The number of new Community Service Orders added to the Probation Board caseload during 2020/21 continues to decrease, down 70% compared with the previous year.

Section 4: PBNI Victims Information Scheme (Page 14)

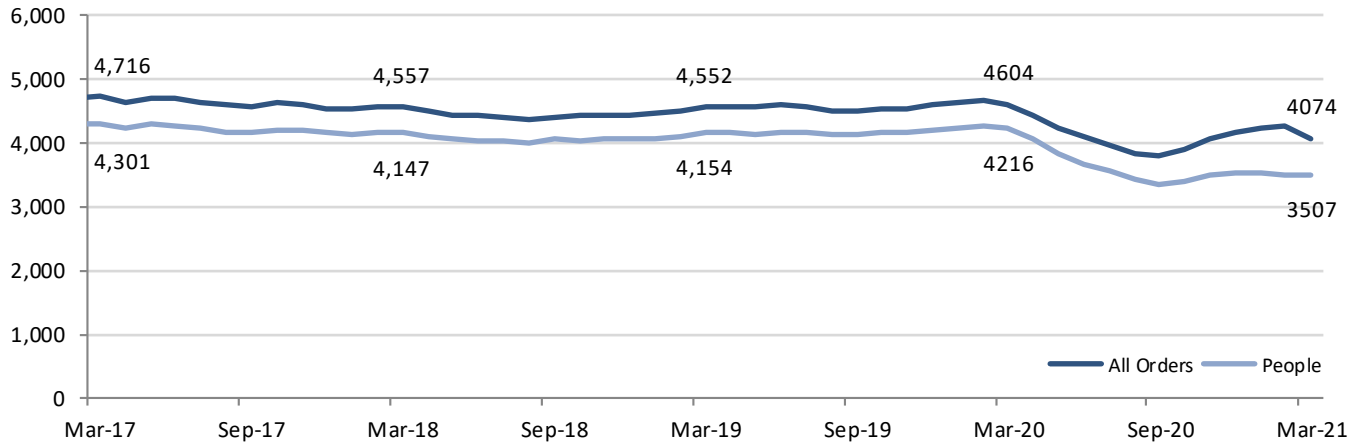
- At the end of March 2021 there were 368 victims registered on the PBNI Victim Information Scheme. Of those victims registered in March 2021, 65% were female and 35% male.
- During 2020/21, there were 259 new registrations to the Scheme, which is 39% higher than in 2019/20 (186).

Annex 1: Definitions (Page 15)

Section 1: PBNI Total Caseload

This section provides details on the current caseload managed by PBNI
 Statistics are presented on a Point In Time [PIT] basis, i.e. as at 31st March 2021

Figure 1: Total Caseload as at 31st March [Point in Time]: March 2017 - March 2021



- The number of people on the PBNI caseload at 31st March 2021 was 3,507, which is a 17% decrease compared to the previous year (4,216).
- The number of orders being supervised by PBNI at 31st March 2021 is 4,074 (as one person can have more than one order) decreased by 12% in comparison to the previous year.
- Females represent one in ten persons on the current caseload (Table 2, below). The number of females on the PBNI caseload has decreased by 8% over the last four years, from 400 in March 2017 to 369 in March 2021.
- Just over one third of the current caseload (34%) is aged 40 or above.
- Lockdown measures in relation to Covid-19 were introduced on 23rd March 2020 and courts in Northern Ireland were stood down to all but the most urgent cases. This has therefore had an impact on PBNI caseload during 2020/21.

Figure 2: Gender and Age profile of persons on PBNI Caseload as at 31st March 2021

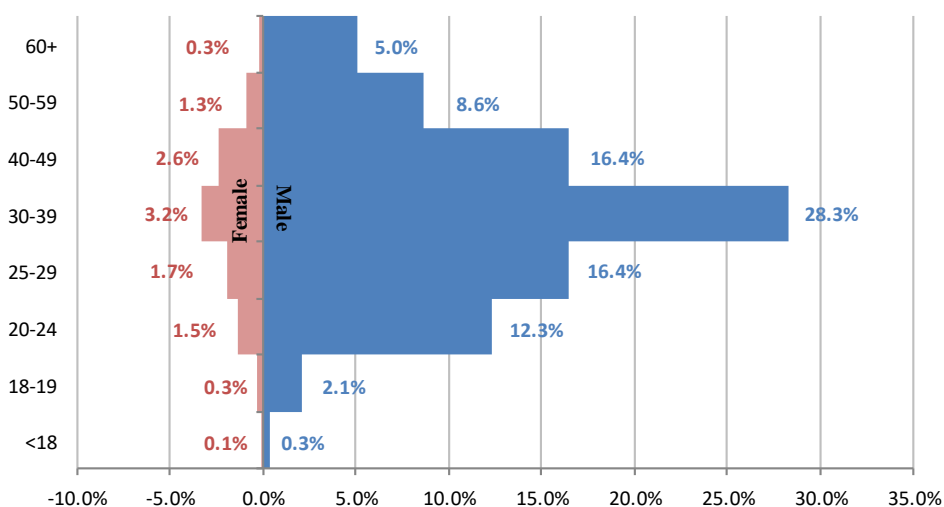


Table 1: Orders on Caseload as at 31st March [Point in Time]: March 2017 – March 2021

Type of Supervision		31 st Mar 2017	31 st Mar 2018	31 st Mar 2019	31 st Mar 2020	31 st Mar 2021	% change Mar 2021 on Mar 2020
Orders	Combination Order	394	388	435	460	367	-20%
	Community Service Order	694	679	558	530	375	-29%
	Custody Probation Order	72	59	39	39	40	-
	Determinate Custodial Sentence	1,302	1,253	1,191	1,168	1,168	0%
	Juvenile Justice Centre Order	7	14	11	12	4	-
	Probation Order	1,464	1,360	1,504	1,541	1,391	-10%
	Enhanced Combination Order	121	159	186	244	184	-25%
	Other Orders*	4	1	2	3	1	-
Licences	Life Sentence/ Licence	254	248	251	244	233	-5%
	Sex Offender Licence	92	85	80	75	70	-7%
	GB Licence	51	54	45	51	33	-35%
Public Protection Sentences	Extended Custodial Sentence	209	200	185	174	152	-13%
	Indeterminate Custodial Sentence	39	39	41	48	55	-
Non-statutory	Inescapable Voluntary	12	15	20	13	-	-
	Remand/Sentence	1	3	4	2	1	-
Total Orders		4,716	4,557	4,552	4,604	4,074	-12%
Total People** (Unique Count, does not total)		4,301	4,147	4,154	4,216	3,507	-17%

- Percentage change is not shown as the denominator is less than 50. *Includes Community Responsibility Order, Supervision & Treatment Order and Supervised Activity Order. Please note that an Enhanced Combination Order pilot started operating during 2015/16. **Unique count, an individual may be subject to more than one type of order and multiple orders of the same type.

The table above shows the number of orders by type on the caseload at the end of each financial year since 2017 and includes a year-on-year comparison between the position at 31st March 2020 and 31st March 2021.

- At 31st March 2021, there were 3,507 people subject to 4,074 orders on the PBNI caseload. Please be aware that an individual may be subject to more than one type of order and multiple orders of the same type.
- The number of Community Service Orders decreased by 29% in March 2021 compared to March 2020 whilst the number of Determinate Custodial Sentences remained the same.
- Four in five people (3,242, 80%) were allocated to PBNI teams in the community, with the remainder in custody (832, 20%).
- At 31st March 2021, there were 184 Enhanced Combination Orders as part of a pilot scheme, which came into effect during 2015/16. This is a decrease of 25% from the previous year (244, March 2020).

Figure 3: Probation Orders at Point in Time 31st March 2017 to 31st March 2021

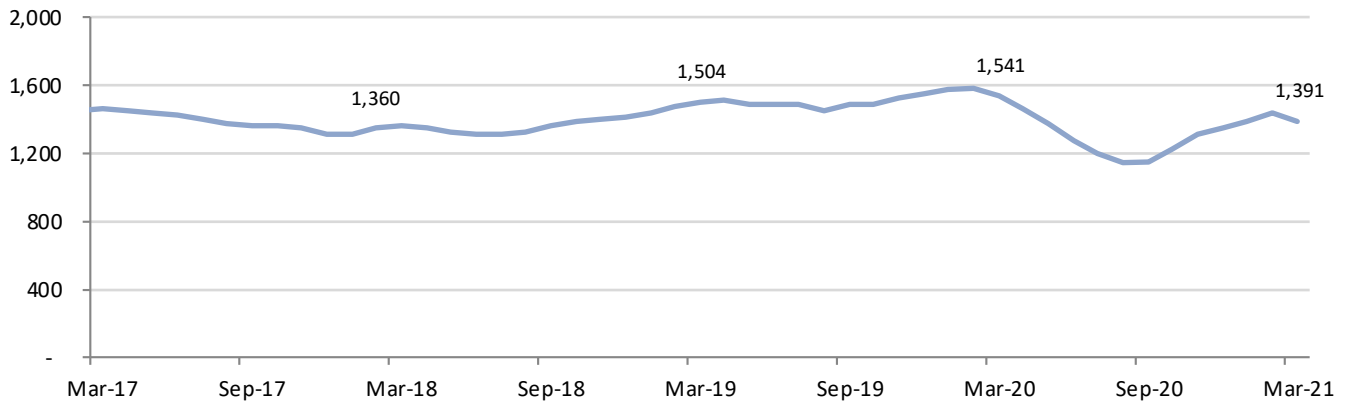


Figure 4: Community Service Orders at Point in Time 31st March 2017 to 31st March 2021

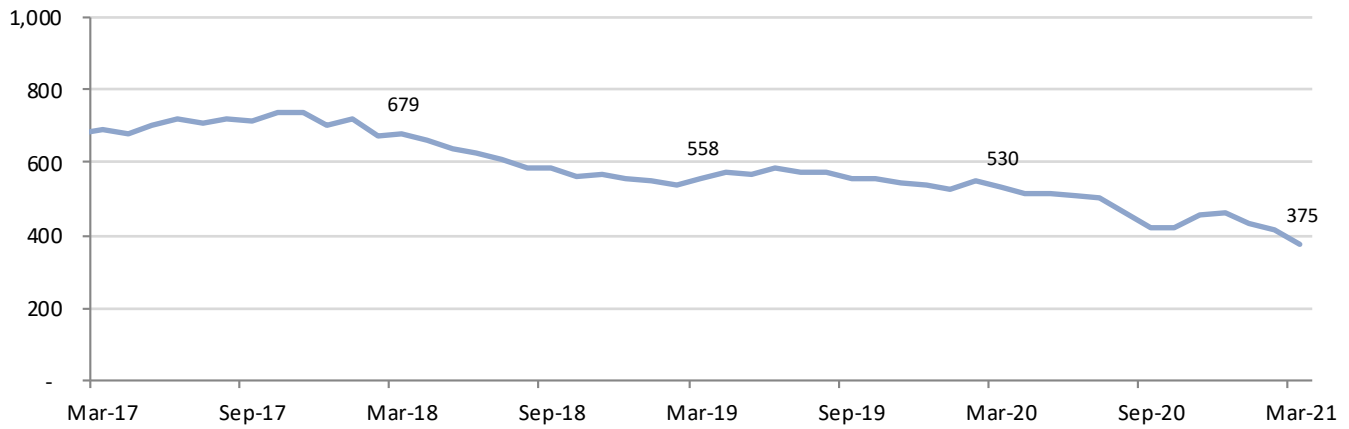
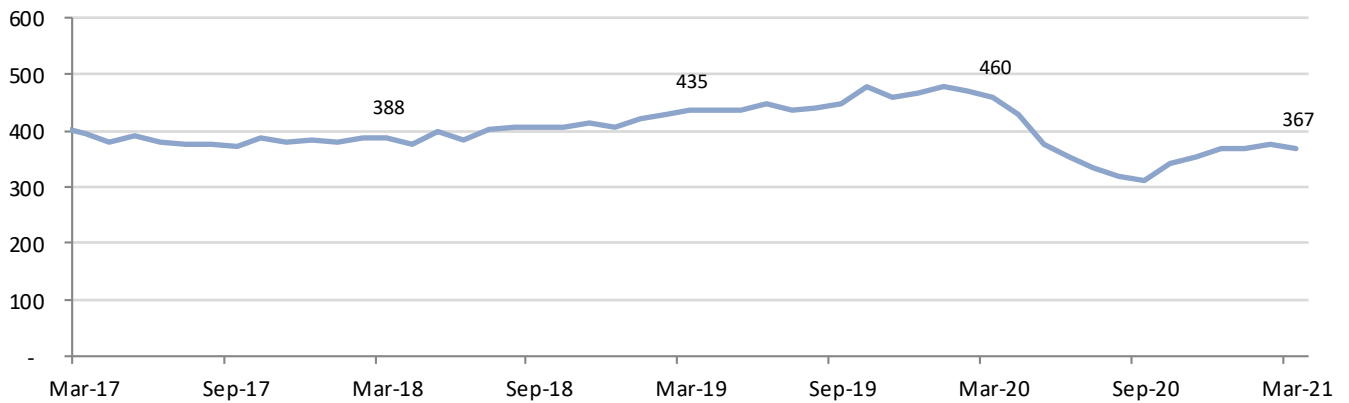


Figure 5: Combination Orders at Point in Time 31st March 2017 to 31st March 2021



- In terms of the main types of community order under supervision, the number of Probation Orders has decreased by 10% from 1,541 at 31st March 2020 to 1,391 at 31st March 2021.
- The number of Community Service Orders has fallen by 29% to 375.
- Combination orders have increased by 20% to 367 compared to 460 in the previous year.
- Due to the Lockdown measures in relation to Covid-19 introduced in March 2020, a reduction in court activity at the beginning of 2020/21 has had an impact on the caseload during the financial year.

**Table 2: Gender and Age profile of persons on the PBNI Caseload as at 31st March [Point in Time]:
March 2017 – March 2021**

Number of people	31 Mar 2017	31 Mar 2018	31 Mar 2019	31 Mar 2020	31 Mar 2021	% change 31 Mar 2021 on 31 Mar 2020	31 Mar 2021 Profile*
Female	400	409	452	448	369	-18%	11%
Male	3,901	3,738	3,702	3,768	3,138	-17%	89%
Less than 18	37	28	21	22	13	-	0%
18-19	140	134	109	96	86	-10%	3%
20-24	750	655	640	619	479	-23%	14%
25-29	905	863	811	831	643	-23%	18%
30-39	1,234	1,224	1,277	1,325	1,108	-16%	32%
40-49	660	654	720	729	660	-9%	19%
50-59	383	381	374	391	333	-15%	10%
60+	192	208	202	203	185	-9%	5%
Total People	4,301	4,147	4,154	4,216	3,507	-17%	100%

*Individual Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

- At 89%, males account for the majority of those on the caseload at 31st March 2021, with females accounting for 11%. The number of females on the caseload at 31st March 2021 decreased by 18% to 369 compared to 448 in the previous year.
- The median age of those on the caseload at 31st March 2021 was 34, up from 31 in the previous year.
- The table above presents an age and gender breakdown of those on the caseload at 31st March 2021 and shows that over one-third (34%) are aged 40 and above.
- At 737, the number of people aged under 25 on the caseload is 4% lower than at 31st March 2019 (770 people).

Table 3: Number of People under supervision in the community per 1,000 people in the population by Home Council Area: 31st March 2021

Council	No. per 1,000 NI population*
Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	1.1
Ards & North Down Borough Council	1.1
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council	1.3
Belfast City Council	2.5
Causeway Coast & Glens District Council	0.9
Derry City & Strabane District Council	1.8
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	1.2
Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council	1.3
Mid & East Antrim Borough Council	1.5
Mid Ulster District Council	0.8
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council	0.8
Northern Ireland	1.4

* Based on NISRA 2019 Population Estimates (those aged 10 and above).
These figures exclude individuals in custody and those with missing address information.

- Four in five (80%) people on the PBNI caseload at 31st March 2021 were allocated to PBNI teams in the community, with the remainder in custody.
- The number of people under supervision in the community equates to 1.4 per 1,000 people in the population.
- At 2.5 people under supervision by PBNI per 1,000 people in the population, the rate was highest in Belfast City Council Area.

Section 2: Reports Completed by PBNI for Courts

This section provides details of the reports completed by PBNI for courts across Northern Ireland

Figure 6: Reports* Completed – All Types and Pre Sentence Reports (Including Magistrates’ Court Reports & Pre-Sentence Reports): Rolling 12 Month Total to end March 2021

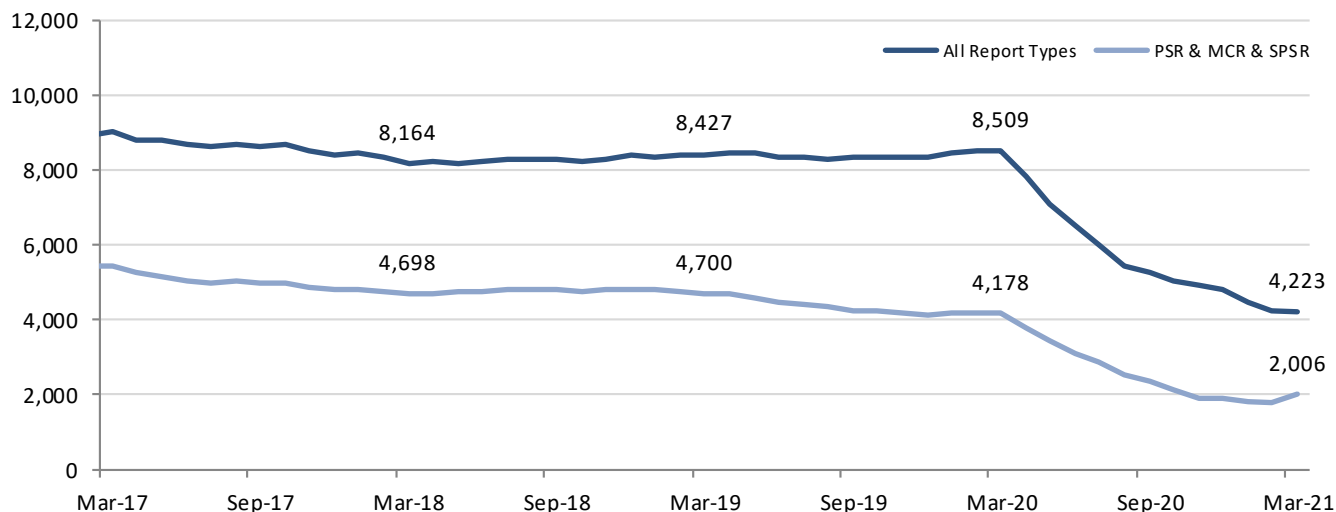


Table 4: Reports* Completed by PBNI: 2016/17 to 2020/21

Type of Report	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	% change 2020/21 on 2019/20
Pre-Sentence Report (PSR)	4,734	3,372	1,205	1,191	399	-66%
Magistrates’ Court Report (MCR) / Short Pre-Sentence Reports‡ (SPSR)	731	1,326	3,495	2,987	1,607	-46%
Addendum Report	1,437	1,297	1,372	1,337	260	-81%
Breach/Recall/Revocation Reports	1,274	1,232	1,306	1,379	304	-78%
Parole Commissioners/Life Sentence Unit Reports	80	109	43	30	0	-
Other**	784	828	1,006	1,585	1,653	+4%
Total Reports	9,040	8,164	8,427	8,509	4,223	-50%

- Percentage change is not shown as the denominator is less than 50.

*All Report Types. Excludes explanatory letters to courts. **Includes Home Circumstances Report, Probation Officers Report, Prison Release Plan, and Home Leave Report. Also includes missing report type.

- There were 4,223 reports (all report types) completed between 1st April 2020 and 31st March 2021. This represents a decrease of 50% on 2019/20 (8,509). As outlined at the beginning of those report, courts were stood down to all but the most urgent cases due to Covid-19 at the beginning of 2020/21. This will therefore have an impact on the total number of reports completed during the financial year.
- The combined total of Pre-Sentence Reports and Magistrates’ Court Reports completed during 2020/21 was 2,006, which is a decrease of 52% from 2019/20 (4,178).
- Magistrates’ Court Reports (MCRs) accounted for 38% of all reports completed during 2020/21.

Table 5: Gender and Age profile of people* on whom a pre-sentence report was completed: 2019/20 and 2020/21

	Profile 2019/20	Profile 2020/21	% Point Change
Female	17%	15%	-2%
Male	83%	85%	2%
Less than 18	1%	1%	0%
18-19	4%	5%	1%
20-24	16%	16%	0%
25-29	20%	20%	0%
30-39	31%	32%	1%
40-49	16%	16%	0%
50-59	9%	8%	-1%
60 +	3%	2%	-1%
Total	100%	100%	0%

*Each person is counted only once within the year. For those people on whom more than one report was completed during the year, age is taken at the date of their first report. **Subject to rounding

- The majority of those on whom a pre-sentence report was completed were male (85%) and 15% were female.
- The median age of those on whom a pre-sentence report was completed was 32, up from 31 in the previous year.
- Just over one quarter of those persons on whom a pre-sentence report was completed were aged 40 and above (26%), down from 28% in the previous year.

Section 3: New Orders added to PBNI Caseload

This section provides details of the new orders added to the PBNI caseload during 2020/21.

Table 6: New Orders* Starting during the year: 2016/17 – 2020/21**

Type of Supervision		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020/	% change
		/17	/18	/19	/20	21	2020/21 on 2019/20
Orders	Combination Order	333	326	391	412	248	-40%
	Community Service Order	1,003	914	831	786	239	-70%
	Custody Probation Order	15	16	11	14	12	-
	Determinate Custodial Sentence	621	496	486	492	547	+11%
	Enhanced Combination Order	108	104	122	170	117	-31%
	Juvenile Justice Centre Order	28	38	29	22	6	-
	Probation Order	1,153	1,022	1,216	1,299	1,037	-20%
	Other Orders*	4	0	1	31	0	-
Licences	Life Sentence/ Licence	10	3	15	1	3	-
	Sex Offender Licence	2	3	8	7	11	-
	GB Licence	25	25	35	27	7	-
Public Protection Sentences	Extended Custodial Sentence	35	20	20	20	20	-
	Indeterminate Custodial Sentence	4	4	2	8	3	-
Total Orders		3,341	2,971	3,167	3,289	2,250	-32%
Total People**		3,046	2,704	2,867	2,975	1,836	-38%

- Percentage change is not shown as the denominator is less than 50. *Includes Community Responsibility Order, Supervised Activity Order, and Supervision & Treatment Order. An Enhanced Combination Order pilot started operating during 2015/16 and during 2019/20 was extended to include the North West court area. **Please note that a person can receive more than one new order during the year.

***New Non-statutory cases are not included in these figures.

- Due to the Coronavirus pandemic which started mid-March 2021, court business was reduced and this will have an impact on the orders added to the PBNI caseload.
- At 2,250, the number of new statutory orders added to the PBNI caseload between 1st April 2020 and 31st March 2021 is 32% lower than the number made in 2019/20 (3,289).
- In terms of the main community disposals, the number of Community Service Orders made in 2020/21 (239) is 70% lower than in 2019/20 (786). The number of Combination Orders has decreased by 40% to 248, compared with 412 in the previous year and the number of Probation Orders has also decreased by 20% to 1,037.
- The number of Determinate Custodial Sentences increased by 11% in 2020/21 to 547 compared to 492 in 2019/20.
- In addition to there were 117 Enhanced Combination Orders made in 2020/21 as part of a pilot scheme which came into effect during 2015/16 and this represents a decrease of 31% compared with the previous year.

Figure 7: All New Orders: Rolling 12 Month Total to end March 2021

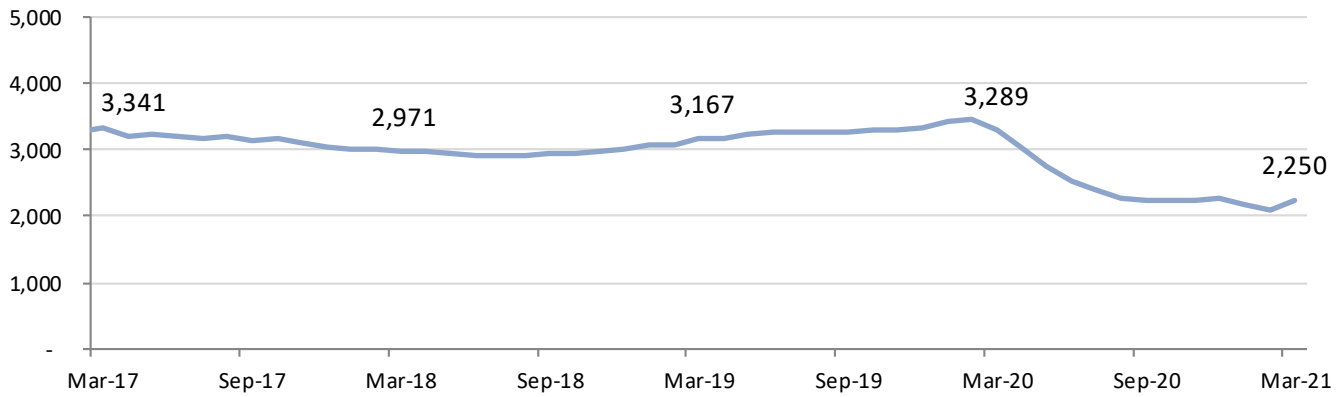


Figure 8: New Probation Orders: Rolling 12 Month Total to end March 2021

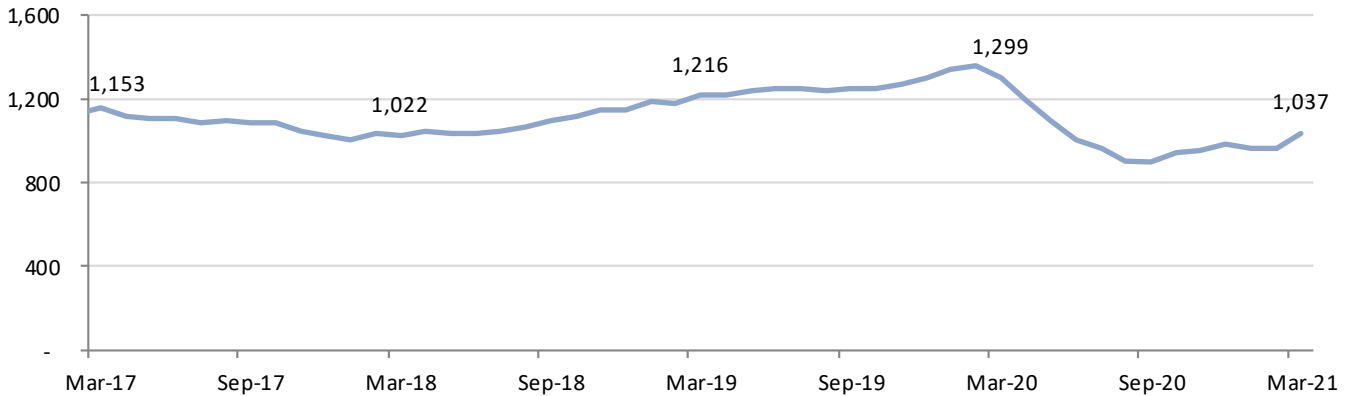
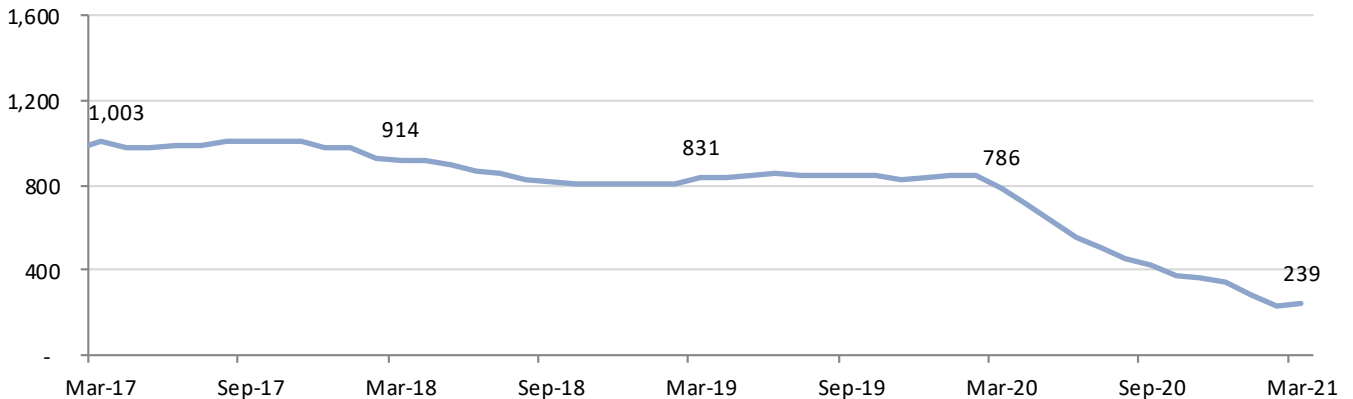


Figure 9: New Community Service Orders: Rolling 12 Month Total to end March 2021



- The charts above give a picture of the new orders added to the Probation Board caseload with rolling 12 month totals for selected types of order. The total number of new orders added to the caseload as at 31st March 2021 is 2,250 and this represents a decrease of 32% compared with the same period, one year previously.
- The number of new Probation Orders added to the caseload during 2020/21, at 1,037, represents a decrease of 20% compared with 2019/20, when 1,299 were added.
- The number of new Community Service Orders added to the Probation Board caseload during 2020/21 continues to decrease, down 70% compared with the previous year.

Figure 10: Age of people* given a new order: 2020/21

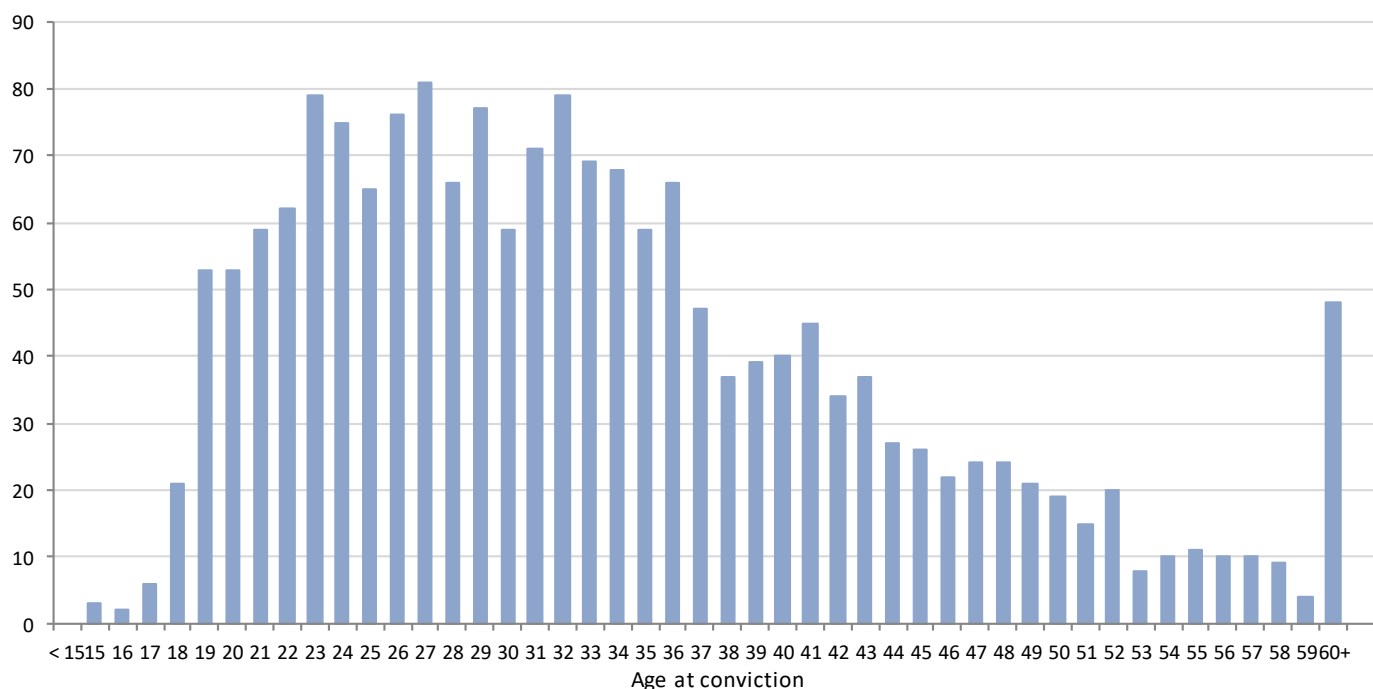


Table 7: Gender and Age profile of people* given a new order: 2020/21

2020/21	No. per 1,000		
	N	%	NI population**
Female	253	14%	0.3
Male	1,583	86%	2.0
Less than 18	11	1%	0.1
18-19	74	4%	1.7
20-24	328	18%	2.8
25-29	365	20%	3.0
30-39	594	32%	2.4
40-49	300	16%	1.2
50-59	116	6%	0.5
60+	48	3%	0.1
Total People	1,836	100%	1.1

*Each person is counted only once within the year. For those people receiving more than one order during the year, their age is taken at the date of their first conviction. ** Based on 2019 NISRA Population Estimates (those aged 10 and above)

- During 2019/20 there were 1,836 people given an order at court which was added to the PBNI caseload. This equates to a rate of 1.1 people per 1,000 in the Northern Ireland population**.
- At 86%, the vast majority of those given an order at court which was added to the PBNI caseload during 2020/21 were male.
- In terms of age, the median age of those persons receiving a new order during 2020/21 was 32. In addition, persons aged 20 to 39 accounted for seven in ten of those given an order at court (1,287 people, 70%).

Section 4: PBNI Victim Information Scheme

This section provides details on the number of registrations to the PBNI Victim Information Scheme

Figure 11: New Registrations to the PBNI Victim Information Scheme by month: March 2016 to March 2021

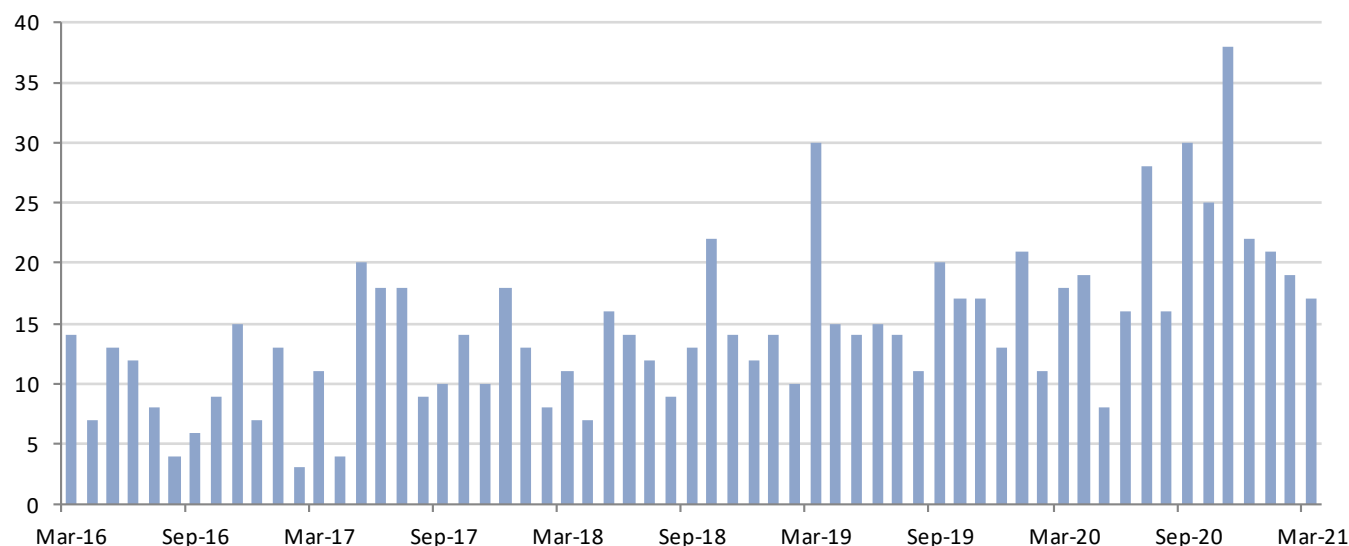


Table 8: Work completed by the PBNI Victim Information Scheme*: 2016/17 to 2020/21

	2016/ 17	2017 /18	2018 /19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21	% change 2020/21 on 2019/20
New Registrations	108	153	173	186	259	+39%
No. of victim reports completed for the Parole Commissioners	7	14	11	8	14	-

- Percentage change is not shown as the denominator is less than 50.

Please note that Victim Registrations are person based, each person may have multiple contacts and reports across different years.

*This information relates to the PBNI Victim Information Scheme only, i.e. it does not include statistics relating to the co-located NI Prison Service or Department of Justice Victims Schemes.

- At the end of March 2021 there were 368 victims registered on the PBNI Victim Information Scheme. Of those victims registered in March 2021, 65% were female and 35% male.
- During 2020/21, there were 259 new registrations to the Scheme, which is 39% higher than in 2019/20 (186).

Glossary of Orders

A **Combination Order** is a sentence that combines a Probation Order and a Community Service Order. The period of Probation supervision can last from 1 to 3 years. The Community Service part of the Order can range from 40 to 100 hours and must be completed as instructed.

A **Community Service Order** requires an offender to do unpaid work in the community. It may be given to someone 16 or over if the offender consents, and lasts between 40 hours and 240 hours and must be completed within 12 months.

A **Custody Probation Order** requires an offender to serve a period of imprisonment followed by a period of supervision in the community (the period of supervision will be 1 to 3 years commencing on date of release), and is unique to Northern Ireland. This order cannot be made unless the offender consents. Although Custody Probation Orders remain on the statute books, Determinate Custodial Sentences were made available from 1 April 2009. This is only a valid disposal where the offence was committed prior to April 2009.

A **Determinate Custodial Sentence** requires an offender to serve a period of imprisonment followed by a period of supervision in the community. The court will specify the length of both custody and community supervision at sentencing. This will be the standard determinate sentence for all offenders, and has been available to the courts from 1 April 2009.

An **Enhanced Combination Order** is an intensive pilot project with a focus on rehabilitation, reparation, restorative practice, and desistance, and has been available to a number of pilot court divisions from October 2015. The period of Probation supervision can last from 1 to 3 years. The Community Service part of the Order can range from 40 to 100 hours and must be carried out at an accelerated pace.

An **Extended Custodial Sentence** may be given at court if the offender has been convicted on indictment of a specified offence, where a life sentence or Indeterminate Custodial Sentence is not appropriate. The court must be of the opinion that there is a significant risk that the offender will re-offend and that such re-offending is likely to cause serious harm to members of the public.

The sentence involves a portion of time spent in custody (at least 1 year) and a period of time under licence conditions (extension period).

ECS prisoners will be referred to the Parole Commissioners of Northern Ireland (PCNI) approximately 6 months prior to the mid-point of their sentence and must demonstrate that they can be safely released into the community. If PCNI direct release, the prisoner will remain on licence for the remainder of the custodial term as well as the licence period set by the court.

A **GB Transfer Licence** – any individual subject to licence may, given the agreement of the Probation Board for Northern Ireland, transfer to Northern Ireland from another jurisdiction in Great Britain.

An **Indeterminate Custodial Sentence** may be given at court if the offender has been convicted on indictment of a specified offence, where a life sentence is not appropriate but an Extended Custodial Sentence is not sufficient. The court must be of the opinion that there is a significant risk that the offender will re-offend and that such re-offending is likely to cause serious harm to members of the public. No release date is given for an ICS. Offenders serving an ICS will be given a “tariff” date which is the earliest date that they may become eligible for consideration for release by the PCNI. The tariff is a minimum of 2 years. An ICS prisoner will remain in custody until they have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the PCNI that they can be released safely into the community.

Inescapable Voluntary refers to those offenders who continue to be supervised by PBNI on a voluntary basis following the end of their sentence, usually for the purposes of completing programmes. These are not statutory orders.

A **Juvenile Justice Centre Order** requires a young offender (aged between 10 and 17 years) to spend time, normally three months, in a Juvenile Justice Centre and then be supervised in the community by a probation officer, normally for three months.

A **Life Sentence Licence** means an offender serving a life sentence will be released from custody on licence. An individual must comply with the conditions of his licence in order to remain in the community and not be returned to custody.

A **Probation Order** can last between 6 months and 3 years, and puts the offender under the supervision of a Probation Officer for that period. The order may have extra requirements. Offender consent is required.

Remand/Sentence - refers to persons who are remanded in custody awaiting sentence or who are subject to a custodial sentence not involving PBNI supervision on release with whom PBNI works in order to assess individual risks and needs.

A **Sex Offender Licence** – under article 26 of the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 makes provision for all offenders convicted of a sexual offence to be released on licence under the supervision of a Probation Officer.

A **Supervised Activity Order** requires an offender to do unpaid work in the community. It may be given to someone 16 or over if the offender consents, and lasts between 10 hours and 100 hours and must be completed within 12 months.

A **Supervision and Treatment Order** requires the specified person to be under supervision for a period of not more than 2 years; and to submit, during that period to treatment under the direction of a medical practitioner with a view to the improvement of his mental condition.

Glossary of Reports

An **Addendum Report** is provided to courts to supplement information contained within a Pre-Sentence report, where one has been completed within the previous 12 month period, or to address a specific issue at the request of the Court.

A **Breach Report** is provided to courts to provide an account of the circumstances leading to breach, details of the non-compliance, an outline of actions taken by the supervising officer, and proposed options available to the court.

A **Home Circumstances Report** is written by a Probation Officer, usually following a home visit, and provides a suitability assessment of an offender's proposed residence prior to their release from custody.

A **Home Leave Report** is written by a prison based Probation Officer, and provides a suitability assessment of an prisoner's proposed temporary release from custody.

Magistrates' Court Report (MCR) is a brief focussed report written by a Probation Officer supplied to Magistrates' courts to assist in sentencing decisions and can be completed on the day. This report type was piloted in five Courts between 1 November 2016 and 31 March 2018 but has been available to all Magistrates the courts from 1 April 2018.

Parole Commissioners/Life Sentence Unit Reports provide Parole Commissioners with information prior to release; covering offender's attitude to supervision, response to PBNI interventions, risk assessment, post-release supervision plan, and recommendations for release.

A **Pre-Sentence Report (PSR)** is written by a Probation Officer on an offender before sentencing at court. The purpose of the report is to provide the Judge with information to assist in the sentencing decision. From 1 April 2018, this format of report will be presented solely to Crown Courts.

Probation Officers Reports are generic reports that Probation Officers provide to courts, for the purposes of providing an update to Sentencers or request an amendment or an extension of an order.

A **Recall Report** is provided to Parole Commissioners of Northern Ireland (and copied to the Public Protection Branch of the Department of Justice) when the decision to initiate recall proceedings has been taken by PBNI. The report provides an account of the circumstances leading to recall, details of the non-compliance, an outline of actions taken by the supervising officer, and proposed actions to reduce risk in future.

A **Revocation Report** is provided to courts to provide an account of the offender's circumstances, an explanation for the need for revocation of the order and to assist in the re-sentencing decision.

A **Short Pre-Sentence Report (SPSR)** is a brief report written by a Probation Officer supplied to court to assist in sentencing decisions. This report can be completed on the day and is usually most relevant when a specific sentence is known. As of 1 April 2018, this report type is no longer provided.