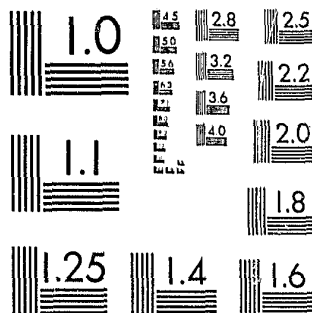


National Criminal Justice Reference Service



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INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

1. This report gives information relating to the activities of the Probation and After-Care Service in 1978 and also comparable data for earlier years. Where historical data are given, the tables usually cover the longest period for which comparable information is available, up to a maximum of eleven years. Most of the statistics have been derived from returns of court proceedings completed by police forces and from returns submitted by probation officers and administrative officers in the 56 probation and after-care areas. A new system of reporting by the Probation and After-Care Service was introduced on 1 January 1978 for community service orders and on 1 January 1979 for all other information. The system started with a "census" of clients and provided more comprehensive information on the caseload of the Service at the end of 1978 than was previously available. Because of initial delays in both the receipt and processing of information from the new system, the data for 1978 available for inclusion in this report were incomplete. In particular, one area had not made any returns relating to the end of 1978 by the time the tables were prepared and estimates have been made for the missing returns. Other missing returns are thought to be few but some slight revisions to the 1978 figures may be necessary when the 1979 probation and after-care statistics are published. The Home Office wishes to thank all those officers who have made returns for their co-operation.

2. The report is arranged in four parts. Part 1 provides some basic information about the clients of the Probation and After-Care Service and provides an overall view of the casework of the Service as at the end of each year. In Part 2 the work of the Service is considered in detail, giving information about the commencements and terminations of the different types of supervision/after-care administered by the Service, together with information on the completion of inquiry reports, welfare work in prisons and miscellaneous duties, such as assisting the homeless and helping with matrimonial problems. Part 3 gives details of the number of officers in post, their average caseload and some results from a sample study - the National Activity Recording Study - on the number of hours worked by probation officers and the extent of evening and weekend working. Part 4 provides information on the cost of running the Probation and After-Care Service.

CHANGES IN LEGISLATION

3. The statistics given in this volume may be affected by the following changes in legislation in recent years.

Criminal Justice Act 1967

- The Act provided for the early release on parole of prisoners serving determinate sentences who have served not less than one third of their sentence or twelve months, whichever is the longer

Children and Young Persons Act 1969

- An offender under the age of 17 years could no longer be placed on probation
- Supervision orders for young offenders were introduced
- Juvenile courts were required to consider reports in both care and criminal proceedings
- Local authorities were empowered to make investigations and provide courts with information about young persons
- Provision was made for children subject to supervision orders to be supervised by local authorities except in particular circumstances
- The existing power to make approved school orders and the provision for release under supervision were removed

Family Law Reform Act 1969

- The Act introduced wardship supervision orders

Divorce Reform Act 1969

- The Act amended the grounds for divorce and judicial separation and made divorce easier

Guardianship of Minors Act 1971

- The Act introduced guardianship supervision orders

Criminal Justice Act 1972

- The courts were given the power when passing a suspended sentence of over 6 months to make a suspended sentence supervision order
- The Act introduced a new power to make a community service order requiring the offender to perform between 40 and 240 hours of unpaid service to the community
- The Act gave the courts power to require an offender to attend a day training centre as a condition of a probation order
- Courts were empowered to defer passing sentence for up to 6 months in certain circumstances

Children Act 1975

- Introduced an order for the supervision of a child for whom the court had refused an adoption order
- Added a new section to the Children and Young Persons Act 1969. This section made provision for the appointment of a guardian ad litem of a child or young person in proceedings on an application for the discharge of a supervision or care order that was unopposed by the local authority

Bail Act 1976

- Increased the use of non-custodial remands

Criminal Law Act 1977

- The maximum period of borstal after-care supervision was reduced from two years to one year as from 1 December 1977
- The provisions for the statutory after-care of young prisoners were amended and now relate only to prisoners aged under 22 on release. After-care supervision (other than parole) of young prisoners sentenced to 18 months or more ceases at age 22. After-care supervision of young prisoners released on parole ceases at age 22 or on the remission date, whichever is the later. After-care supervision of young prisoners sentenced to less than 18 months ceases after 12 months or at age 22, whichever is the earlier.
- Provision was made for the maximum or minimum periods of probation to be varied. The minimum period was reduced from 1 year to six months with effect from 15 May 1978.

RECORDING PROCEDURE

4. The following counting procedures are employed:

- (1) Court proceedings - The statistics of court proceedings in this report record the total number of court appearances at which a person received the particular type of sentence or order to which the table refers: this recording procedure is referred to as "all persons basis". Sentences or orders made as a result of breach proceedings have not been included. For example, a person who was convicted at one court appearance of three offences and received two community service

orders for two of the offences and a probation order for the third offence would be counted once in each of the tables relating to community service orders and once in each of the tables relating to probation.

- (ii) Persons supervised - In Tables 1, 3 and 4 each person under the supervision of a probation officer or team is counted once. In Tables 3 and 4 when two or more orders were in force, the person has been classified (with one exception) under the type of order with the longest term imposed, or, if the terms imposed were of equal length, under the most recently imposed order. The exception is a person who was subject to two or more orders, one of which was for money payment supervision; by convention any other type of order has been given precedence over money payment supervision, and money payment supervision order has been recorded only when no other type of order was in force. Persons subject solely to community service orders are excluded from Tables 3 and 4. Persons subject to a community service order and another type of order have been counted under the other type of order and not the community service order. In compiling the 1978 figures however, it appeared that prior to 1978 clients who were subject to both criminal supervision and after-care may have been counted twice in Tables 3 and 4 and therefore the 1978 figures have been adjusted so as to correspond with the figures for earlier years.
- (iii) Orders current - In Table 2 each order current at the specified date has been counted once.
- (iv) Commencement/termination of orders - Each order which commenced or terminated within the specified period is counted once.

5. Although care is taken in completing and analysing the returns used to compile the figures in this report, the figures are of necessity subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale recording system of this kind. As a result, although the figures in this report are generally shown to the last digit, the figures are not necessarily accurate to the last digit shown. In some tables components may not add to the total because they have been rounded independently.

6. The following symbols have been used in this report:

- .. = Not available
- = Nil or less than half the final digit shown
- * = Not applicable

PART 1 - THE CLIENTS OF THE PROBATION AND AFTER-CARE SERVICE

1.1 At the end of 1978 there were just over 138,000 persons subject to supervision (including those subject to community service orders) by the Probation and After-Care Service. Table 1 gives details of their age at 31 December 1978 and their sex. At the end of 1978 just over 50 per cent of the clients of the Probation Service were aged under 21 and about 20 per cent were female. Because the figures in Table 1 (and in Table 2 below) have been derived from a new system for recording probation and after-care statistics (described in paragraph 1 of the introduction), comparable figures for previous years are not available.

Table 1 Persons supervised⁽¹⁾ at 31 December 1978 by age and sex

England and Wales	Number of persons and percentages					
	Number of persons			Percentage of persons		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Age at 31 December 1978						
Aged under 14	6,290	5,455	11,745	6	20	8
Aged 14 and under 17	14,118	3,117	17,235	13	12	12
Aged 17 and under 21	37,371	5,332	42,703	34	20	31
Aged 21 and under 25	18,103	3,525	21,628	16	13	16
Aged 25 and under 30	12,010	2,829	14,839	11	10	11
Aged 30 and under 40	13,660	3,650	17,310	12	13	13
Aged 40 and under 50	6,030	1,893	7,923	5	7	6
Aged 50 and under 60	2,677	928	3,605	2	3	3
Aged 60 and over	881	326	1,207	1	1	1
All ages	111,140	27,055	138,195	100	100	100

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(1) Including persons subject to community service orders

1.2 The orders to which clients were subject at the end of 1978 are shown in Table 2 and Figure 1. As some clients are subject to more than one order at any one time the total number of orders in force is greater than the total number of persons subject to supervision. By comparing the totals of Tables 1 and 2 it can be seen that at the end of 1978 the 138,000 clients of the Service were subject to some 153,000 orders, that is an average of about 1.1 orders per client. Clients were frequently subject to more than one community service order but combinations of different types of order also often occurred. The most common combinations were probation and money payment supervision; probation and community service order; and detention centre after-care and supervision under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969.

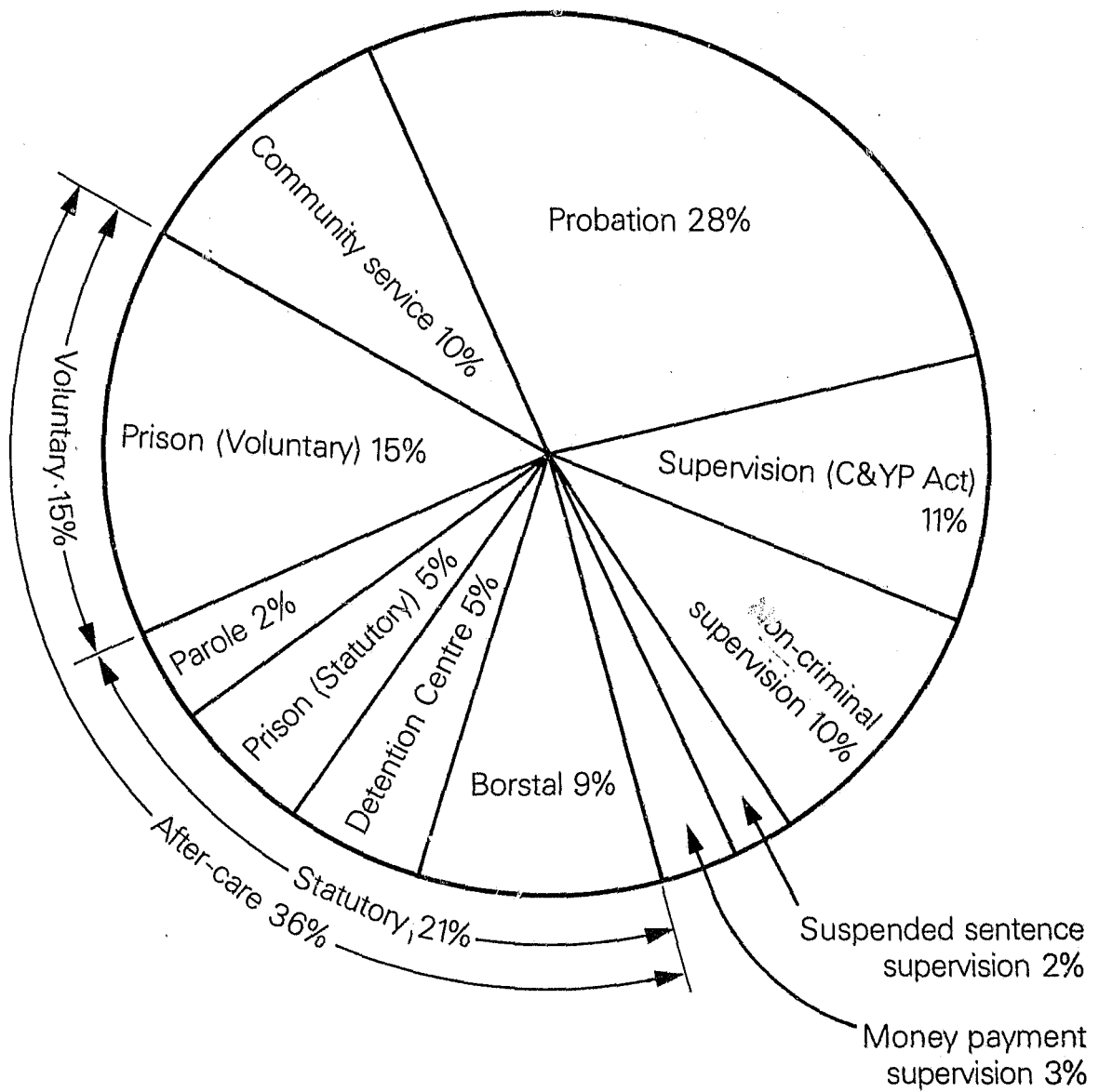
Table 2 Orders/after-care current at 31 December 1978 by type of supervision

England and Wales		
Number of orders/cases and percentages		
Type of Supervision	Number of orders	Percentage of orders
Probation	42,627	28
Supervision under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969	17,609	11
Suspended sentence supervision	2,978	2
Money payment supervision	4,613	3
Community service order	15,366	10
Statutory after-care:		
Borstal	14,526	9
Detention centre	8,139	5
Young prisoner sentenced to less than 18 months	2,544	2
18 months or more	2,671	2
Parole	2,426	2
Life	1,338	1
Detention (1)	347	-
Extended sentence	105	-
Psychiatric hospital conditional discharge	132	-
Voluntary after-care	22,922	15
Total after-care	55,150	36
Matrimonial proceedings	14,005	9
Wardship supervision	162	-
Guardianship supervision	541	-
Children Act 1975 supervision	63	-
Total	153,114	100

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(1) Under the Children and Young Persons Act 1933, section 53(2).

Figure 1 Orders/after-care current at 31st December 1978



1.3 The number of persons supervised by the Probation and After-Care Service, classified by the main order to which they were subject, is given in Table 3. Clients subject solely to community service orders (9,137 persons) have been excluded from this table since under the old collection system the caseload of community service orders was not collected at the year end. This is the only basis on which a consistent series is at present available of the breakdown by type of order. The total number supervised fell by 6 per cent in 1978, the third consecutive year in which there was a fall. The distribution of the clients by type of supervision has changed little although voluntary after-care and supervision following non-criminal proceedings continued to increase slightly as a proportion while the number of persons subject solely to money payment supervision orders declined.

Table 3 Persons supervised at 31 December by type of supervision⁽¹⁾

England and Wales		Number of persons and percentages					
Type of supervision	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	
<u>Number of persons</u>							
Probation	52,513	51,647	49,592	46,958	43,945	40,365	
Supervision under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969	22,200	22,215	20,419	18,004	18,031	16,627	
Suspended sentence supervision	1,967	3,939	4,005	3,632	3,230	2,829	
Money payment supervision	6,247	6,657	6,304	5,553	5,106	3,002	
Statutory after-care	25,697	26,775	29,552	31,748	33,310	31,538	
Voluntary after-care	16,535	18,661	20,201	21,037	21,559	22,578	
Total after-care	42,232	45,436	49,753	52,785	54,869	54,116	
Non-criminal supervision ⁽¹⁾	11,545	12,224	13,339	14,083	14,570	14,636	
Total number of persons ⁽²⁾	136,704	142,118	143,412	141,015	139,751	131,575	
<u>Percentage of persons</u>							
Probation	38	36	35	33	31	31	
Supervision under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969	16	16	14	13	13	13	
Suspended sentence supervision	1	3	3	3	2	2	
Money payment supervision	5	5	4	4	4	2	
Statutory after-care	19	19	21	23	24	24	
Voluntary after-care	12	13	14	15	15	17	
Total after-care	31	32	35	37	39	41	
Non-criminal supervision ⁽¹⁾	8	9	9	10	10	11	
Total ⁽²⁾	100	100	100	100	100	100	

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(1) Supervision following matrimonial, wardship, guardianship, adoption or divorce proceedings

(2) Excluding clients subject solely to community service orders

AFTER-CARE

1.4 Detailed information about categories of after-care is given in Table 4. Young prisoners have been classified in this table according to their length of sentence, since young prisoners sentenced to a total of less than 18 months imprisonment could be released only under supervision, whereas those sentenced to a total of 18 months or more could be released either on licence or parole.

1.5 There was a fall in the number of borstal pre-release cases between 1975 and 1978 due, at least in part, to the transfer of such work to local authorities although by 1978 the fall seemed to have levelled out. The increase in 1978 in the number of young prisoners sentenced to 18 months or more and receiving pre-release after-care and the similar decrease in the number of persons receiving post-release parole after-care may be attributable to the change in recording procedure described in the introduction (paragraph 1). Young prisoners sentenced to 18 months or more are often released on parole but delays in the start of the new recording procedure may have meant that in a number of cases they were recorded as receiving pre-release after-care when they should have been recorded on parole receiving post-release after-care.

1.6 As from 1 December 1977 the maximum period of borstal after-care was reduced from two years to one year, consequently the after-care for those persons who had already received borstal after-care for more than 12 months could be terminated and a large number of such terminations was made. The resultant fall in the caseload of post-release borstal after-care however, was less than might have been expected.

1.7 At the end of 1978 about two thirds of all statutory after-care was post-release whereas three quarters of all voluntary after-care was pre-release. Between the end of 1975 and the end of 1978, the number of clients receiving pre-release after-care rose by about 8 per cent and the number receiving post-release after-care rose 9 per cent despite the reduction in 1978 in the number subject to after-care following release from borstal.

Table 4 Persons receiving after-care at 31 December
by type of after-care and type of contact

England and Wales		Number of persons			
Type of after-care		1975	1976	1977	1978
<u>Pre-release contacts</u>					
Borstal		6,408	5,992	5,782	5,651
Detention centre		1,824	1,513	1,685	1,687
Young prisoner(1) sentenced to:					
less than 18 months		597	634	758	757
18 months or more		1,403	1,671	1,642	1,993
Life	}	806	843	914	(1,065
Detention(2)					163
Extended sentence					71
All pre-release statutory after-care		11,038	10,653	10,781	11,387
Voluntary after-care		15,093	15,433	15,843	16,886
All pre-release after-care		26,131	26,086	26,624	28,273
<u>Post-release contacts</u>					
Borstal		9,136	10,444	10,733	8,619
Detention centre		5,030	5,366	5,752	6,309
Young prisoner(1) sentenced to:					
less than 18 months		955	1,216	1,481	1,561
18 months or more		639	730	719	640
Parole		2,067	2,578	3,042	2,402
Life	}	291	358	356	(273
Detention(2)					184
Extended sentence					31
Psychiatric hospital	}				(132
conditional discharge					
All post-release statutory after-care		18,118	20,692	22,083	20,151
Voluntary after-care		5,504	6,007	6,162	5,692
All post-release after-care		23,622	26,699	28,245	25,843
<u>Pre- and post-release contacts</u>					
Borstal		15,544	16,436	16,515	14,270
Detention centre		6,854	6,879	7,437	7,996
Young prisoner(1) sentenced to:					
less than 18 months		1,552	1,850	2,239	2,318
18 months or more		2,042	2,401	2,361	2,633
Parole		2,067	2,578	3,042	2,402
Life	}	1,097	1,201	1,270	(1,338
Detention(2)					347
Extended sentence					102
Psychiatric hospital	}				(132
conditional discharge					
All statutory after-care		29,156	31,345	32,864	31,538
Voluntary after-care		20,597	21,440	22,005	22,578
All pre- and post-release after-care		49,753	52,785	54,869	54,116

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(1) Aged 17 and under 21

(2) Detention under section 53(2) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933

PART 2 - THE WORK OF THE PROBATION AND AFTER-CARE SERVICE

(1) SUPERVISION FOLLOWING NON-CUSTODIAL DISPOSALS

(i) Probation

2.1 When a court sentences someone aged 17 or over, it may, with the consent of the offender, make a probation order requiring him to be placed under the supervision of a probation officer for a specified length of time. Until 15 May 1978 the length of a probation order was not less than 1 year or more than 3 years; after that date the lower limit was reduced to 6 months. The court may include in the order further requirements relating to residence, treatment for any mental condition or attendance at a day training centre or some other specified place eg a day centre.

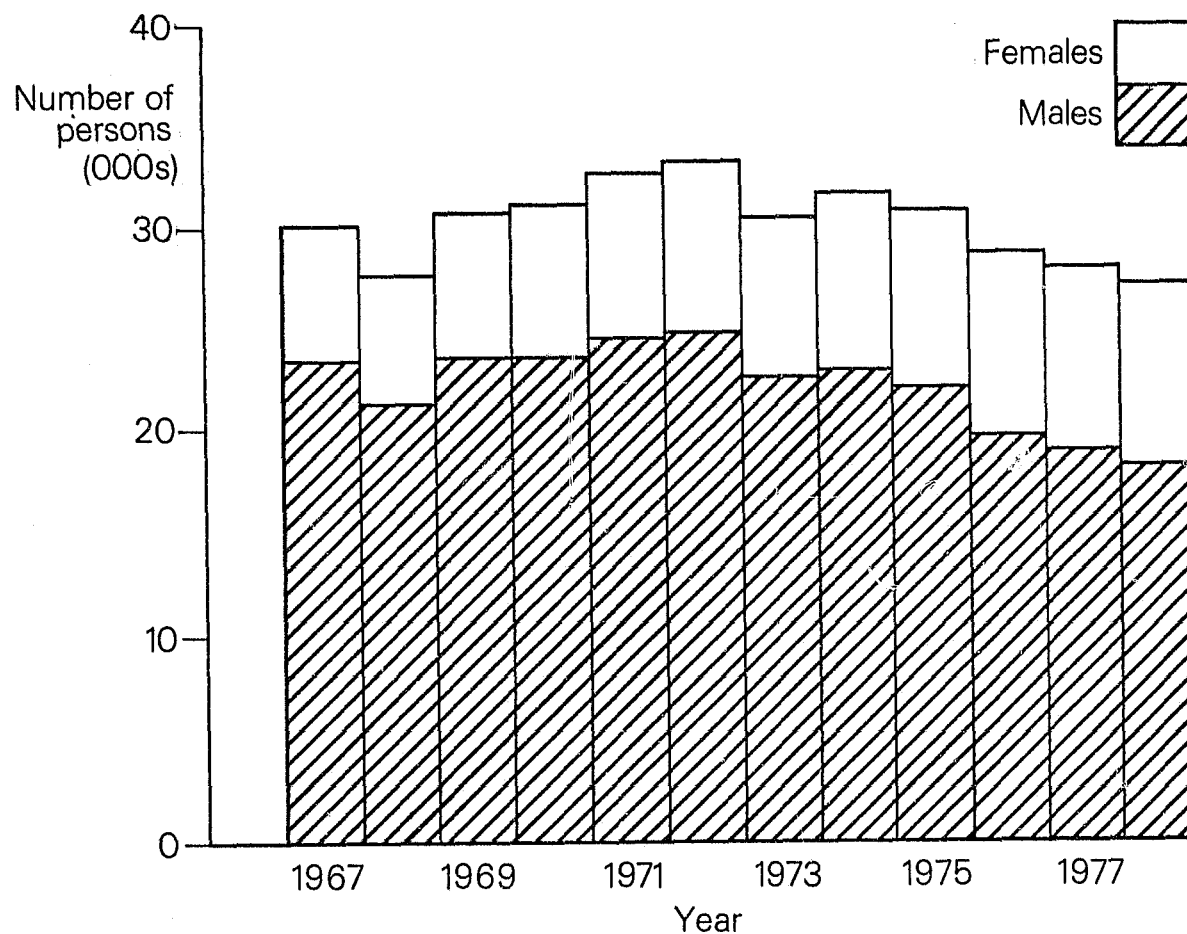
2.2 The number of persons placed on probation by the courts from 1968 to 1978 is shown in Table 5 and is illustrated in Figure 2. From 1 January 1971 probation orders could be given only to persons aged 17 and over, so in order to make the figures comparable over the period, persons aged under 17 are excluded from the figures for the years 1968 to 1970. The number of persons given probation orders made reached a peak of over 33,000 in 1972; and subsequently fell, the fall in 1978 being similar to that in the preceding year. However the number of females given orders continued to rise. In 1978 about one third of all those placed on probation were females compared with less than a quarter ten years earlier.

Table 5 Persons aged 17 and over placed on probation by sex of offender

England and Wales			Number of persons and percentages			
Year	Number of persons			Percentage of persons		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1968	21,141	6,492	27,633	77	23	100
1969	23,487	7,185	30,672	77	23	100
1970	23,638	7,430	31,068	76	24	100
1971	24,766	7,924	32,690	76	24	100
1972	24,867	8,272	33,139	75	25	100
1973	22,690	7,828	30,518	74	26	100
1974	22,904	8,633	31,537	73	27	100
1975	22,149	8,750	30,899	72	28	100
1976	19,898	8,804	28,702	69	31	100
1977	18,919	8,809	27,728	68	32	100
1978	17,926	8,840	26,766	67	33	100

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis

**Figure 2 Persons aged 17 and over placed on probation
England and Wales**



CLASS NO. 871	AUTHOR Home Office Statistical Department		L. C. CARD NUMBER NCJ# 1217		CARD SETS ORD'D L.C.
ACC. NO.	REPORT ON THE PROBATION AND AFTER CARE STATISTICS (ENGLAND AND WALES)				
LIST PRICE	PL 1977	PUBLISHER	YEAR	L.J.	
DEALER	Mr. G. Wilkins Home Office Room 1806 - W Tolworth Tower Jitco Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey, England	EDITION	Wt.		
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2.3 The decline in the total use of probation represents not only a fall in absolute numbers of persons given orders but also a decrease in the proportionate use of probation by the courts since the total number of persons found guilty has risen in the period 1971 to 1978. The fall in the use of probation has been accompanied by an increase in the use by the courts of alternative non-custodial sentences, including community service orders which first became available in 1973 and fines. The use of cautioning for those committing minor offences also increased.

2.4 Details of the changes in the lengths of probation orders made since 1971 are given in Table 6. Probation orders could, until 1978 be of any length from 1 year to 3 years but in practice nearly all orders of more than 1 year were made for a whole number of years, so for the purpose of this report orders over 1 year are referred to as being of 2 years or 3 years even though a small number of shorter orders - usually for 18 months or 30 months respectively - are included. Orders of less than 1 year are shown separately since such length orders became available only from 15 May 1978.

Table 6 Persons placed on probation by length of order

England and Wales							Number of persons	
Length of order	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Under 1 year ⁽²⁾	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	537
1 year	3,756	3,707	3,905	4,476	4,847	5,407	6,479	6,736
2 years ⁽¹⁾	20,253	21,052	20,864	21,623	21,744	19,995	18,947	17,431
3 years ⁽¹⁾	8,681	8,380	5,749	5,438	4,308	3,300	2,302	2,062
Total	32,690	33,139	30,518	31,537	30,899	28,702	27,728	26,766

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis

(1) Including a small number of orders for less than the full number of years

(2) From 15 May 1978

2.5 The decrease in the use of probation referred to above was associated with a decrease in the use of long probation orders; during the period 1971 to 1978 the number of people receiving three year orders fell by three quarters and since 1975 the number of persons receiving two year orders also fell. In contrast, the number of people receiving one year orders increased and in 1978 was 80 per cent higher than in 1971. From 15 May 1978 the courts were able to make probation orders of between 6 months and 1 year and just over 500 persons were given such orders in 1978.

2.6 The types of offence for which offenders received probation orders are shown in Tables 7 and 8. In 1978 about two thirds of offenders put on probation had been found guilty of burglary, or of theft and handling stolen goods. The distribution by type of offence was different for males and females, a higher proportion of the females put on probation were given orders for theft and handling stolen goods - mainly shoplifting - or for fraud and forgery, and a higher proportion of the males were given orders for burglary. Table 7 shows that the types of offence for which probation was given changed little over the period 1974 to 1978.

Table 7 Persons placed on probation by type of offence

England and Wales		Number of persons and percentages									
Type of offence	Number of persons					Percentage of persons					
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	
Violence against the person	1,450	1,464	1,377	1,395	1,349	5	5	5	5	5	
Sexual offence	1,068	938	799	757	713	3	3	3	3	3	
Burglary	5,365	5,586	4,689	4,559	4,193	17	18	16	16	16	
Robbery	96	103	86	90	90	-	-	-	-	-	
Theft and handling stolen goods	15,012	14,898	14,266	13,731	13,111	48	48	50	50	49	
Fraud and forgery	2,154	2,096	1,992	1,944	1,808	7	7	7	7	7	
Criminal damage	1,621	1,581	1,548	1,505	1,654	5	5	5	5	6	
Other indictable offence	550	567	673	645	678	2	2	2	2	3	
Non-indictable offence	4,221	3,666	3,272	3,102	3,170	13	12	11	11	12	
All offences	31,537	30,899	28,702	27,728	26,766	100	100	100	100	100	

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis

Table 8 Persons placed on probation by sex and type of offence

England and Wales 1978		Number of persons and percentages				
Type of offence	Number of persons			Percentage of persons		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Violence against the person	1,018	331	1,349	6	4	5
Sexual offence	705	8	713	4	-	3
Burglary	3,746	447	4,193	21	5	16
Robbery	64	26	90	-	-	-
Theft and handling stolen goods	7,605	5,506	13,111	42	62	49
Fraud and forgery	987	821	1,808	6	9	7
Criminal damage	1,317	337	1,654	7	4	6
Other indictable offence	348	330	678	2	4	3
Non-indictable offence	2,136	1,034	3,170	12	12	12
All offences	17,926	8,840	26,766	100	100	100

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis

2.7 A little over 10 per cent of the people placed on probation had special requirements included in their probation order during each of the years 1973 to 1978. Table 9 shows the nature of these requirements - in 1978 about 1 in 20 of the females placed on probation had requirements included in their orders, compared with about 1 in 8 of the males. While the number of persons given probation orders with special requirements fell by about 15 per cent between 1973 and 1978 the number of persons given orders with a requirement of residential mental treatment fell by 43 per cent over the same period. The use of day training centre orders introduced in 1974 increased steadily between 1974 and 1977 but seems to have stabilised at around 170-190.

Table 9 Persons placed on probation by type of requirement

England and Wales		Number of persons and percentages				
Type of requirement	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
<u>Number of persons</u>						
Probation order with:						
Non-residential mental treatment	1,347	1,279	1,053	1,001	1,000	1,006
Residential mental treatment	638	525	496	479	417	361
Residential without mental treatment	1,386	1,436	1,480	1,397	1,378	1,327
Day training centre order	*	131	150	160	189	172
Probation order with no additional requirements						
	27,147	28,166	27,720	25,665	24,744	23,900
Total	30,518	31,537	30,899	28,702	27,728	26,766
<u>Percentage</u>						
Probation order with:						
Non-residential mental treatment	4	4	3	3	4	4
Residential mental treatment	2	2	2	2	2	1
Residential without mental treatment	5	5	5	5	5	5
Day training centre order	*	—	—	1	1	1
Probation order with no additional requirements						
	89	89	90	89	89	89
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis

2.8 Information on the probation orders terminated during 1978 and the three previous years is given in Tables 10 and 11. About 27,000 orders were terminated in 1978, some 4 per cent fewer than in 1977. In 1978, 62 per cent of all probation orders ran their full course and as might be expected, a higher proportion of the shorter orders ran their course than of the longer ones (Table 11). About one sixth of all orders were terminated early for reasons other than good progress. Between 1975 and 1978 the proportion of normal terminations rose for each length of probation order, and overall the proportion of orders which ran their course increased from 55 per cent in 1975 to 62 per cent in 1978. There was a similar fall in the proportion of orders which were terminated early for reasons other than good progress.

Table 10 Terminations of probation orders by reason for termination

England and Wales	Percentage of terminations			
Reason for termination	1975	1976	1977	1978
Ran their full course	55	56	60	62
Replaced by conditional discharge	5	6	5	5
Terminated early for good progress	16	16	15	15
Terminated early for other reasons(1)	23	22	19	18
Total number (= 100%)	30,217	29,075	28,173	27,044

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(1) Includes the probationer breaching the conditions of his order or being found guilty of a further offence.

Table 11 Terminations of probation orders by length of order and reason for termination

England and Wales	Percentage of terminations			
Length of order and reason for termination	1975	1976	1977	1978
1 year and less:				
Ran their full course	77	77	79	81
Replaced by conditional discharge	2	3	3	2
Terminated early for good progress	6	7	8	7
Terminated early for other reasons(1)	15	13	11	10
Total number (= 100%)	4,308	4,598	5,105	6,245
2 years:				
Ran their full course	53	55	58	57
Replaced by conditional discharge	5	6	5	5
Terminated early for good progress	18	17	16	17
Terminated early for other reasons(1)	24	23	21	20
Total number (= 100%)	20,045	19,781	19,112	17,666
3 years:				
Ran their full course	46	42	48	51
Replaced by conditional discharge	6	8	7	6
Terminated early for good progress	21	23	21	21
Terminated early for other reasons(1)	27	28	24	21
Total number (= 100%)	5,864	4,696	3,956	3,133

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(1) Includes the probationer breaching the conditions of his order or being found guilty of a further offence

2.9 Some differences in the reasons for termination for offenders in different age groups can be seen in Table 12. In 1978, amongst those in the youngest age group, there were proportionately slightly fewer normal terminations and more terminations for "other reasons" - mainly cases where the probationer breached the conditions of his order or was found guilty of a further offence. This pattern was present even after allowance was made for differences in the lengths of orders imposed on those in different age groups.

Table 12 Terminations of probation orders by age at commencement of order and reason for termination

Reason for termination	Percentage of terminations			
	Aged 17 and under 21	Aged 21 and under 30	Aged 30 and over	Total
Ran their full course	59	64	64	62
Replaced by conditional discharge	4	5	5	5
Terminated early for good progress	16	15	15	15
Terminated early for other reasons(1)	21	17	16	18
Total number (= 100%)	10,547	8,305	8,192	27,044

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(1) Includes the probationer breaching the conditions of his order or being found guilty of a further offence

(ii) Supervision orders under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969

2.10 Juvenile courts and the Crown Court are able to give supervision orders to persons aged under 17 who are the subject of criminal proceedings; juvenile courts can also give supervision orders to persons who are the subject of care proceedings. Supervision orders may be for any period up to three years and may be administered by the Probation and After-Care Service or by the local authority social services; probation officers normally supervise juveniles aged 14 and over but do sometimes supervise those under 14. Care orders may also be imposed following either criminal proceedings or care proceedings but they are not administered by the Probation and After-Care Service.

2.11 In 1978, about 20,700 juveniles were given supervision orders as shown in Table 13, and about 93 per cent of them were as a result of criminal proceedings. In 1978 the number of orders made in criminal proceedings was 6 per cent less than in 1977 but the number of supervision orders made in care proceedings was higher than in the previous year. However, the majority of care proceedings (about 80 per cent) continued to result in care orders rather than supervision orders.

Table 13 Juveniles given supervision orders under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 by age and type of proceedings

England and Wales		Number of juveniles				
Type of proceedings and age	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	
Criminal proceedings						
10 and under 14	7,305	6,463	5,684	5,868	5,421	
14 and over	15,901	14,582	13,859	14,575	13,706	
Total	23,206 ⁽¹⁾	21,045 ⁽¹⁾	19,543 ⁽¹⁾	20,443 ⁽¹⁾	19,127 ⁽¹⁾	
Care proceedings						
Under 10	394	563	525	483	559	
10 and under 14	374	470	366	287	353	
14 and over	669	825	785	542	633	
Total	1,437	1,858	1,676	1,312	1,545	

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis and returns of care proceedings from courts

(1) Includes about 160 persons who attained the age of 17 during the course of court proceedings

2.12 In 1978 about 70 per cent of the supervision orders made in criminal proceedings were for 2 years (Table 14); the distribution of the lengths of supervision orders was broadly similar to that for probation orders, in 1978 there was a further increase in the use of short supervision orders and a decrease in the use of both 2 year and 3 year supervision orders; the number of 1 year orders increased by 6 per cent and the number of 3 year orders decreased by 7 per cent on 1977.

Table 14 Juveniles given supervision orders under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 following criminal proceedings by length of order

England and Wales		Number of juveniles			
Length of order	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
1 year ⁽¹⁾	3,879	3,312	3,368	4,201	4,439
2 years ⁽¹⁾	16,688	15,564	14,384	14,858	13,397
3 years ⁽¹⁾	2,639	2,169	1,791	1,384	1,291
Total	23,206 ⁽²⁾	21,045 ⁽²⁾	19,543 ⁽²⁾	20,443 ⁽²⁾	19,127 ⁽²⁾

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis

(1) Includes a small number of orders for less than the full number of years

(2) Includes about 160 persons who attained the age of 17 during the course of court proceedings.

2.13 The types of offence for which juveniles were given supervision orders were similar in 1978 to those in 1977, with theft and handling stolen goods and burglary the most frequent offences in each year (Tables 15 and 16). As in earlier years, the proportion of girls who were given supervision orders for offences of theft and handling stolen goods was higher than the corresponding proportion of boys; the reverse was true for orders for offences of burglary. The proportion of juveniles given supervision orders for burglary was about double the proportion of adults given probation orders for this type of offence, ie 34 per cent compared with 16 per cent.

Table 15 Juveniles given supervision orders under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 following criminal proceedings by type of offence

England and Wales		Number of juveniles and percentages									
Type of offence	Number of juveniles					Percentage of juveniles					
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	
Violence against the person	931	803	795	750	723	4	4	4	4	4	
Sexual offence	297	264	254	245	225	1	1	1	1	1	
Burglary	8,370	7,678	6,749	7,026	6,484	36	36	35	34	34	
Robbery	225	214	185	151	153	1	1	1	1	1	
Theft and handling stolen goods	10,432	9,642	9,193	9,711	9,139	45	46	47	48	48	
Fraud and forgery	255	253	232	241	214	1	1	1	1	1	
Criminal damage	1,485	1,342	1,343	1,354	1,223	6	6	7	7	6	
Other indictable offence	66	65	48	42	32	-	-	-	-	-	
Non-indictable offence	1,145	784	744	923	934	5	4	4	5	5	
	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)						
All offences	23,206	21,045	19,543	20,443	19,127	100	100	100	100	100	

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis

(1) Includes about 160 persons who attained the age of 17 during the course of court proceedings

Table 16 Juveniles given supervision orders under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 following criminal proceedings by sex and type of offence

England and Wales 1978			Number of juveniles and percentages			
Type of offence	Number of juveniles			Percentage of juveniles		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Violence against the person	534	189	723	3	7	4
Sexual offence	223	2	225	1	—	1
Burglary	6,099	385	6,484	37	14	34
Robbery	127	26	153	1	1	1
Theft and handling stolen goods	7,286	1,853	9,139	45	67	48
Fraud and forgery	148	66	214	1	2	1
Criminal damage	1,110	113	1,223	7	4	6
Other indictable offence	23	9	32	—	—	—
Non-indictable offence	816	118	934	5	4	5
All offences	16,366	2,761	19,127	100	100	100

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis

(1) Includes about 160 persons who attained the age of 17 during the course of court proceedings

2.14 There was a fall of about 2 per cent in the number of supervision orders held by the Probation and After-Care Service which terminated in 1978 compared with 1977 (Table 17). As with probation orders, some 60 per cent of the supervision orders which terminated in 1978 had run their full course, but the rise in this proportion in 1976 and 1977 did not continue into 1978.

Table 17 Terminations of supervision orders under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 by reason for termination

England and Wales	Percentage of terminations			
Reason for termination	(1) 1975	1976	1977	1978
Ran their full course	51	57	60	60
Discharged early following a care order or while in custody	9	8	8	7
Discharged by a court making a care order or imposing punishment	5	4	3	3
Discharged early by the court for other reason	26	23	22	23
Terminated early for other reason	9	8	7	7
Total number (= 100%)	13,617	12,535	11,299	11,079

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(1) For about 650 probation orders which terminated in 1975 the offender's age at commencement was recorded as under 17. These orders have been included with Children and Young Persons Act 1969 supervision

2.15 The proportion of the supervision orders which were terminated in 1978 which had run their full course was slightly higher for those in the older age group (Table 18).

Table 18 Terminations of supervision orders under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 by age at commencement of order and reason for termination

England and Wales 1978	Percentage of terminations		
Reason for termination	Aged under 14	Aged 14 and under 18	Total
Ran their full course	57	60	60
Discharged early following a care order or while in custody	10	7	7
Discharged by a court making a care order or imposing other punishment	8	3	3
Discharged early by the court for other reasons	20	23	23
Terminated early for other reasons	6	8	7
Total number (= 100%)	1,135	9,944	11,079

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(iii) Suspended sentence supervision orders

2.16 A court which passes a sentence of immediate imprisonment for a term of not more than 2 years may order that the sentence shall not take effect unless, during a specified period of not more than two years the offender commits another offence punishable with imprisonment. When the term of such a suspended sentence is for more than 6 months the courts, since 1973, have been able to place the offender under the supervision of a probation officer for a period not exceeding the period of suspension.

2.17 About 35,000 persons were given suspended sentences in 1978 and of these about 4 per cent, (just over 1,500 persons) were given suspended sentence supervision orders. Although the number of suspended sentences imposed has remained fairly steady in the past three years the number with a supervision requirement has fallen. In 1978 the number of such supervision orders imposed fell by about 13 per cent compared with the preceding year, 1977, when the number was 20 per cent lower than in 1976 (Table 19). The pattern of offences for which orders were given in 1978 however remained fairly stable, although a slight fall was noticeable in the proportion of orders given for theft and handling stolen goods. The distribution of the types of offence for which suspended sentence supervision orders were imposed differs from the corresponding distribution for probation orders (Table 7) in that higher proportions of suspended sentence supervision orders were imposed for offences of violence against the person and for burglary. About six times as many males as females received suspended sentence supervision orders (Table 20) and, as with probation orders, a smaller proportion of the suspended sentence supervision orders received by females was for burglary and a larger proportion for theft and handling stolen goods or fraud and forgery. The proportion of the suspended sentence supervision orders given to females for offences of violence against the person was also higher than the proportion given to males.

Table 19 Persons given suspended sentence supervision orders by type of offence

England and Wales		Number of persons and percentages									
Type of offence	Number of persons					Percentage of persons					
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	
Violence against the person	199	225	235	172	179	9	10	11	10	12	
Sexual offence	113	109	98	69	76	5	5	4	4	5	
Burglary	838	859	759	582	526	36	36	35	33	34	
Robbery	27	52	39	41	31	1	2	2	2	2	
Theft and handling stolen goods	735	756	723	596	465	32	32	33	34	30	
Fraud and forgery	204	220	219	161	136	9	9	10	9	9	
Criminal damage	60	70	57	64	72	3	3	3	4	5	
Other indictable offence	85	59	58	57	41	4	3	3	3	3	
Non-indictable offence	42	9	5	23	15	2	-	-	1	1	
All offences	2,303	2,359	2,193	1,765	1,541	100	100	100	100	100	

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis

Table 20 Persons given suspended sentence supervision orders by sex and type of offence

England and Wales 1978		Number of persons and percentages					
Type of offence	Number of persons			Percentage of persons			
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Violence against the person	141	38	179	11	18	12	
Sexual offence	72	4	76	5	2	5	
Burglary	500	26	526	38	12	34	
Robbery	27	4	31	2	2	2	
Theft and handling stolen goods	387	78	465	29	37	30	
Fraud and forgery	96	40	136	7	19	9	
Criminal damage	61	11	72	5	5	5	
Other indictable offence	30	11	41	2	5	3	
Non-indictable offence	15	-	15	1	-	1	
All offences	1,329	212	1,541	100	100	100	

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis

(iv) Community service orders

2.18 The community service order was introduced by the Criminal Justice Act 1972. Under the terms of this Act an offender aged 17 and over who has been found guilty of an offence punishable with imprisonment may be ordered to perform unpaid work for a specified number of hours, not less than 40 or more than 240. Such work normally has to be performed within 12 months of sentence. Community service arrangements first became available in six out of the 56 probation areas in 1973. By the beginning of 1978 arrangements were available throughout 35 areas and in part of 20 and by the end of the year arrangements were available in almost every part of England and Wales (ie throughout 55 areas and in part of the remaining one area).

2.19 The information for 1978 on community service orders given in this section was obtained from the new probation and after-care statistical system; prior to 1978 the information came either from special four-monthly returns from community service organisers or from the reports of court proceedings. The change in the source means that 1978 information on the commencement of community service orders may not be entirely comparable with figures for previous years.

2.20 With the increased availability of community service arrangements, the number of persons given community service continued to rise in 1978; some 13,900 persons were given community service orders in 1978. This was a rise of 22 per cent on the previous year. Table 21 shows figures from 1974 and shows that in all years relatively few of the orders were for the maximum 240 hours. However over the years 1975 to 1978 there was a fall in the proportion of persons given the shorter orders and a rise in the proportion of persons given the longer orders, in 1978 18 per cent of orders were for less than 100 hours compared with 23 per cent in 1977 and 46 per cent in 1976.

Table 21 Persons given community service orders
by sex and number of hours specified

England and Wales		Number of persons				
Number of hours specified	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	
Male:						
Less than 100	466	1,421	3,738	2,387	2,257	
100 and less than 150	271	923	3,125	5,313	6,111	
150 and less than 200	147	393	1,157	1,892	2,706	
200 and up to and including 240	87	108	261	1,108	1,849	
All males	971	2,845	8,281	10,700	12,923	
Females:						
Less than 100	30	88	273	241	267	
100 and less than 150	9	33	136	314	450	
150 and less than 200	5	2	39	61	124	
200 and up to and including 240	4	6	8	40	91	
All females	48	129	456	656	932	
Male and female:						
Less than 100	496	1,509	4,011	2,628	2,524	
100 and less than 150	280	956	3,261	5,627	6,561	
150 and less than 200	152	395	1,196	1,953	2,830	
200 and up to and including 240	91	114	269	1,148	1,940	
Total	1,019	2,974	8,737	11,356	13,855	

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis (1974-7) and
probation and after-care statistical returns (1978)

2.21 The offences for which community service orders were given are shown in Tables 22 and 23. As with probation orders the most frequent offences were theft and handling stolen goods and burglary, and the proportion given orders for theft and handling stolen goods and for fraud and forgery was higher for females than males. The distribution of the types of offence for which these orders were given was similar in each of the years 1974 to 1978 despite the large increase in the number of orders. Small changes in the distribution by type of offence should not be regarded as of significance since this classification is subject to reporting errors eg the slight fall in the proportion of persons given orders for burglary in 1978 compared with 1977 and the corresponding rise in the proportion for theft and handling stolen goods is the result of the change of recording procedure introduced in 1978.

Table 22 Persons given community service orders by type of offence

England and Wales		Number of persons and percentages									
Type of offence	Number of persons					Percentage of persons					
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	
Violence against the person	75	227	552	726	1,123	7	8	6	6	8	
Sexual offence	8	19	40	33	95	1	1	-	-	1	
Burglary	186	714	1,963	2,703	2,397	18	24	22	24	17	
Robbery	6	16	44	53	80	1	1	1	-	1	
Theft and handling stolen goods	472	1,279	3,995	5,251	6,845	46	43	46	46	49	
Fraud and forgery	44	143	373	447	735	4	5	4	4	5	
Criminal damage	38	150	483	558	654	4	5	6	5	5	
Other offence	190	426	1,287	1,585	1,926	19	14	15	14	14	
All offences	1,019	2,974	8,737	11,356	13,855	100	100	100	100	100	

Source: Criminal statistics on an all persons basis (1974-7) and probation and after-care statistical returns (1978)

Table 23 Persons given community service orders by sex and type of offence

England and Wales 1978			Number of persons and percentages			
Type of offence	Number of persons			Percentage of persons		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Violence against the person	1,080	43	1,123	8	5	8
Sexual offence	78	17	95	1	2	1
Burglary	2,340	57	2,397	18	6	17
Robbery	75	5	80	1	1	1
Theft and handling stolen goods	6,274	571	6,845	49	61	49
Fraud and forgery	646	89	735	5	10	5
Criminal damage	631	23	654	5	2	5
Other offence	1,799	127	1,926	14	14	14
All offences	12,923	932	13,855	100	100	100

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

2.22 Just over half of all those given community service orders in 1978 were under 21 (Table 24). A higher proportion of those under 21 given orders had committed offences of violence against the person, burglary and criminal damage, while a higher proportion of those aged 30 and over had been given orders for fraud and forgery.

Table 24 Persons given community service orders by age at commencement of order and type of offence

England and Wales 1978					Number of persons and percentages			
Type of offence	Number of persons				Percentage of persons			
	Aged 17 and under 21	Aged 21 and under 30	Aged 30 and over	All ages	Aged 17 and under 21	Aged 21 and under 30	Aged 30 and over	All ages
Violence against the person	701	332	90	1,123	10	7	4	8
Sexual offence	42	30	23	95	1	1	1	1
Burglary	1,434	753	210	2,397	19	17	10	17
Robbery	55	14	11	80	1	-	1	1
Theft and handling stolen goods	3,523	2,143	1,179	6,845	49	47	56	49
Fraud and forgery	142	303	290	735	2	7	14	5
Criminal damage	400	190	64	654	6	4	3	5
Other offence	907	773	246	1,926	13	17	12	14
All offences	7,204	4,538	2,113	13,855	100	100	100	100

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

2.23 Tables 25 to 29 give details of the terminations of community service orders. Table 25 shows that for three quarters of the orders terminated in 1978 the specified hours of community service were completed by the offender. This proportion fell from 80 per cent in 1975/6 to 76 per cent in 1978, whereas the proportion of early terminations because of a failure to comply with the requirements or conviction of a further offence, rose from 17 per cent to 22 per cent over the same period. These changes may be the result of the rapid rise in the past 5 years in the use of community service orders but changes in the lengths of orders imposed may also have affected the figures. A relationship can be seen in Table 26 between the proportion of orders which were completed and the length of the order; about 80 per cent of the shortest orders (40-100 hours) were completed whereas the corresponding proportion for the longest orders (200-240 hours) was just under 70 per cent.

Table 25 Terminations of community service orders by reason for termination

England and Wales		Number of terminations and percentages						
Reason for termination	Number of terminations				Percentage of terminations			
	(1)	(1)	(1)		(1)	(1)	(1)	
	1975/6	1976/7	1977/8	1978	1975/6	1976/7	1977/8	1978
Specified number of hours completed	1,723	5,156	7,978	11,146	80	81	78	76
Failure to comply with requirements	153	638	1,141	1,556	7	10	11	11
Conviction of another offence	208	433	839	1,634	10	7	8	11
Other change in circumstances	64	170	269	269	3	3	3	2
Offender died				28				-
Other reason				126				1
Total	2,148	6,397	10,227	14,759	100	100	100	100

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(1) 1 April to 31 March

Table 26 Terminations of community service orders by reason for termination and length of order

England and Wales 1978		Number of terminations and percentages				
Reason for termination	40 and less than 100 hours	100 and less than 150 hours	150 and less than 200 hours	200 and up to and including 240 hours	Total	
<u>Number of orders</u>						
Specified number of hours completed	2,547	5,401	2,017	1,181	11,146	
Failure to comply with requirements	306	732	312	206	1,556	
Conviction of another offence	311	669	358	296	1,634	
Other change in circumstances	56	94	72	47	269	
Offender died	5	13	5	5	28	
Other reason	19	53	29	25	126	
Total	3,244	6,962	2,793	1,760	14,759	
<u>Percentage of terminations</u>						
Specified number of hours completed	79	78	72	67	76	
Failure to comply with requirements	9	11	11	12	11	
Conviction of another offence	10	10	13	17	11	
Other change in circumstances	2	1	3	3	2	
Offender died	-	-	-	-	-	
Other reason	1	1	1	1	1	
Total	100	100	100	100	100	

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

2.24 Table 27 gives the reason for termination by age group of the offender and shows that 82 per cent of the orders given to offenders aged 30 and over were completed compared with 73 per cent of those given to offenders who were under 21. The older group also had proportionately fewer terminations than the younger group because of conviction for another offence, but about the same proportion of terminations for failure to comply with requirements. This pattern was present even after allowance was made for differences in the length of orders imposed on those in different age groups.

Table 27 Terminations of community service orders by age at commencement of order and reason for termination

England and Wales 1978					Number of terminations and percentages			
Reason for termination	Number of terminations				Percentage of terminations			
	Aged 17 and under 21	Aged 21 and under 30	Aged 30 and over	All ages	Aged 17 and under 21	Aged 21 and under 30	Aged 30 and over	All ages
Specified number of hours completed	5,694	3,599	1,853	11,146	73	76	81	76
Failure to comply with requirements	828	515	213	1,556	11	11	9	11
Conviction of another offence	1,043	468	123	1,634	13	10	5	11
Other change in circumstances	113	99	57	269	1	2	3	2
Offender died	6	19	3	28	-	-	-	-
Other reason	66	34	26	126	1	1	1	1
Total	7,750	4,734	2,275	14,759	100	100	100	100

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

2.25 Tables 28 and 29 show how long community service orders took to complete. There was considerable variation in the time taken to complete orders for groups of orders of approximately the same length. Community service orders which terminated normally (ie the specified number of hours was completed) took on average just over 7 months to complete but as might be expected the longer orders took longer to complete. For the longest orders (200-240 hours) 8 per cent were terminated within 3 months and 29 per cent took more than 12 months and while for the shortest orders (40-100 hours) some 21 per cent were terminated in less than 3 months and 8 per cent took more than 12 months. Orders which terminated because of a failure to comply with requirements took on average just over 8 months to termination but unlike those orders terminated normally, the time taken to termination seemed unrelated to the length of the order imposed. About half of the orders of whatever imposed length were terminated between 3 and 9 months. Orders terminated because of conviction for a further offence took on average just under 8 months to termination but again the time taken to termination seemed unrelated to the length of the order imposed.

Table 28 Average time taken to terminate community service orders by reason for termination and length of order

England and Wales 1978					Months
Reason for termination	40 and less than 100 hours	100 and less than 150 hours	150 and less than 200 hours	200 and up to and including 240 hours	Total
Specified number of hours completed	6.1	7.1	8.2	9.0	7.3
Failure to comply with requirements	8.8	8.2	8.5	8.3	8.4
Conviction of another offence	7.5	7.7	8.1	7.5	7.7
Other reasons	7.5	8.8	8.7	7.9	8.4
Total	6.5	7.3	8.2	8.6	7.5

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

Table 29 Terminations of community service orders by reason for termination, length of order and time taken to terminate order

England and Wales 1978		Percentage of terminations			
Reason for termination and time taken to complete order	40 and less than 100 hours	100 and less than 150 hours	150 and less than 200 hours	200 and up to and including 240 hours	Total
<u>Specified number of hours completed</u>					
Less than 3 months	21	12	9	8	13
3 months and less than 6 months	38	32	22	18	30
6 months and less than 9 months	20	28	28	22	25
9 months and less than 12 months	14	17	24	23	18
12 months and over	8	12	18	29	14
Total number (= 100%)	2,547	5,401	2,017	1,181	11,146
<u>Failure to comply with requirements</u>					
Less than 3 months	8	7	8	9	7
3 months and less than 6 months	24	27	23	20	25
6 months and less than 9 months	25	25	28	29	26
9 months and less than 12 months	16	19	13	23	18
12 months and over	29	22	29	19	24
Total number (= 100%)	306	732	312	206	1,556
<u>Conviction of another offence</u>					
Less than 3 months	12	9	10	12	10
3 months and less than 6 months	29	30	24	28	28
6 months and less than 9 months	24	27	26	24	26
9 months and less than 12 months	19	15	18	16	17
12 months and over	16	19	21	19	19
Total number (= 100%)	311	669	358	296	1,634
<u>Other reasons</u>					
Less than 3 months	11	15	9	5	11
3 months and less than 6 months	31	14	16	19	19
6 months and less than 9 months	20	19	31	48	27
9 months and less than 12 months	20	17	14	12	16
12 months and over	18	35	29	16	27
Total number (= 100%)	80	160	106	77	423

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(v) Money payment supervision

2.26 During 1978 4,500 money payment supervision orders were terminated, almost 7 per cent fewer than in the previous year (Table 30). The pattern of reasons for termination remained largely the same as in recent years; about 45 per cent of these orders were not completed, about one tenth being terminated because the offender was committed to prison in default of payment.

Table 30 Terminations of money payment supervision orders
by reason for termination

England and Wales	Percentage of terminations			
Reason for termination	1975	1976	1977	1978
Completion of payment	54	55	56	57
Payment remitted	4	4	4	3
Offender committed to prison in default of payment	10	9	10	11
Other reasons (includes offender absconding)	32	31	31	29
Total number (= 100%)	5,970	5,243	4,781	4,467

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(2) SUPERVISION FOLLOWING CUSTODIAL DISPOSALS

Statutory after-care

2.27 After-care is mandatory for those who have been released from borstal or a detention centre, for persons aged under 22 on release from prison and for all those released from custody on licence or parole. Persons released from custody who are not subject to statutory after-care or whose statutory after-care has expired may request voluntary after-care. The term "after-care" is used to include contacts made both before and after discharge from custody; thus clients may either be currently in custody (pre-release contact) or have been released (post-release contact).

2.28 The number of terminations of statutory after-care orders and licences increased from about 15,400 in 1975 to just over 20,600 in 1978, an increase of about one third (Table 31). Compared with 1977, a slightly higher proportion in 1978 was of borstal after-care, as a result of the reduction in the maximum period of borstal after-care supervision which became effective from 1 December 1977. There were differences in the distribution of terminations compared with the distribution of caseload (Table 4) mainly because the different types of after-care involve different lengths of supervision eg borstal after-care (prior to 1978) lasted on average about 18 months while parole, which is in force until the estimated date of release, lasted on average about 8 months.

Table 31 Terminations of statutory after-care by type of after-care

England and Wales	Percentage of terminations			
Type of after-care	1975	1976	1977	1978
Borstal	36	31	32	35
Detention centre	34	35	33	31
Prison:				
Young prisoners:				
Less than 18 months sentence	5	6	7	8
18 months sentence or more	6	6	5	5
Parole	18	21	22	20
Others on licence	1	1	1	1
Total number (= 100%)	15,423	16,665	18,365	20,626

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

2.29 The pattern of reasons for termination remained fairly constant over the period 1975 to 1978 (Table 32). In 1978 83 per cent of the after-care cases were terminated on the normal date or in advance of the normal date for good progress; in 1975 the corresponding proportion was 82 per cent. Cases terminated in advance for other reasons in 1978 include cases in which supervision was suspended following the reduction in the length of post-release borstal after-care.

Table 32 Terminations of statutory after-care by reason for termination

England and Wales		Percentage of terminations			
Reason for termination	1975	1976	1977	1978	
On normal date	70	71	72	68	
In advance for good progress	12	13	14	15	
In advance for other reasons	17	16	14	17	
Total number (= 100%)	15,423	16,665	18,365	20,626	

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(3) NON-CRIMINAL SUPERVISION

Matrimonial, guardianship and wardship supervision

2.30 Table 33 shows the number of matrimonial, guardianship and wardship supervision orders which terminated in each of the years 1973 to 1978, with the reasons. The number of terminations increased steadily over the period, while the proportion of orders which were terminated because the child was committed to the care of the local authority fell from 10 per cent in 1973 to 6 per cent in 1978.

Table 33 Terminations of matrimonial, guardianship and wardship supervision orders by reason for termination

England and Wales		Percentage of terminations				
Reason for termination	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Time expired	27	27	26	26	27	30
Discharged - supervision no longer necessary	63	65	65	67	66	65
Committed to care of local authority	10	9	9	7	6	6
Total number (= 100%)	1,799	2,121	2,311	2,701	2,813	3,263

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(4) REPORTS FOR THE COURTS

(i) Social inquiry reports

2.31 Social inquiry reports may be prepared for both magistrates' and higher courts either as pre-trial or pre-sentence reports. They provide information about the social and domestic background of the accused to assist the court in the task of sentencing.

2.32 For the period 1973 to 1978, Table 34 shows the number of social inquiry reports completed by probation officers and the type of court for which they were prepared. In 1978 the number of reports prepared was slightly lower than in 1977, but was again close to 220,000, as it has been since 1974. The ratio of social inquiry reports prepared (either before trial or before sentence) to persons proceeded against at magistrates' courts for non-motoring offences was about 1 to 5 and for those tried at the Crown Court about 9 to 10.

2.33 Since the implementation on 1 January 1971 of the provisions of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969, concerning the care and treatment of juveniles through court proceedings, the responsibility for writing the reports on children aged under 14 has gradually been transferred from the Probation and After-Care Service to the local authority social services, and between 1973 and 1978 there was a decline in the number of reports prepared for juvenile courts.

Table 34 Social inquiry reports completed by type of court for which the report was prepared

England and Wales					Number of reports	
Prepared for	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Magistrates' courts:						
Adult	103,071	106,695	109,240	106,724	110,451	107,160
Juvenile	52,510	56,646	51,451	47,469	51,593	49,560
The Crown Court	51,160	54,582	60,769	60,856	61,478	60,645
Total	206,741	217,923	221,460	215,049	223,522	217,365

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(ii) Other inquiries

2.34 Over the same period there was an increase in the number of inquiries made concerning custody of and/or access to children - the number in 1978 was about the same as in 1977 but just over 30 per cent more than that in 1973 (Table 35) - reflecting the increase in divorce in recent years. Before 1976, guardian ad litem inquiries were carried out only under the various adoption rules but since 1976 inquiries may be made under the Children Act 1975. However, despite this increase in the statutory grounds for inquiry, the number of such reports prepared by probation officers fell after 1975 and by 1978 was about 3,500. This fall may be the result of the transfer of some of this work to local authority social services. For the second successive year the number of means inquiries also fell and at just under 2,900 reports in 1978 was lower than in any year since 1973.

Table 35 Reports of inquiries other than social inquiries,
carried out for the courts by type of inquiry

England and Wales				Number of reports		
Type of enquiry	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Inquiries concerning custody of and access to children	14,818	15,641	17,953	18,443	19,606	19,432
Guardian ad litem inquiries	4,893	4,622	4,734	4,158	3,890	3,461
Means inquiries	3,061	3,293	3,246	3,437	3,215	2,877

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(5) OTHER WORK

(i) Work in Prison Department establishments

2.35 Some probation officers work in Prison Department establishments where they prepare reports for a number of purposes, including the reception and allocation of prisoners and consideration of their suitability for home leave or parole. The total number of reports prepared by these probation officers reached a new high in 1978 but was not much higher than the earlier peak in 1975 (Table 36); the number has fluctuated since 1974 between about 88,000 and 94,000 although the number of persons recommended for parole rose by just over 40 per cent between 1973 and 1978. The number of reports prepared for local review committees or the Parole Board remained fairly constant during that period at around 11,000.

Table 36 Reports prepared by probation officers in Prison Department establishments by type of report

England and Wales	Number of reports					
Type of report	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Reports for local review committees or the Parole Board	11,219	10,722	11,065	11,323	11,310	11,102
Other reports	62,049	77,369	81,136	76,635	77,543	82,896
Total	73,268	88,091	92,201	87,958	88,853	93,998

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(ii) Miscellaneous work

Requests for accommodation

2.36 Tables 37 and 38 give information about requests for accommodation dealt with by probation officers in 1978. The distribution of the sources of requests and their outcome in 1978 was similar to that in preceding years although there was a slight rise in the proportion of requests arising from persons on release from custody. The large number of requests from people for whom probation officers have no statutory responsibility (4,735 requests in 1978) includes requests from ex-offenders and casual callers.

Table 37 Requests for accommodation dealt with by probation officers by source of request

England and Wales	Number of requests received				
Source of request	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Persons requiring accommodation on release from custody	8,924	9,660	8,359	9,172	7,925
Other persons for whom the probation officer has a statutory responsibility	7,542	9,236	6,830	7,544	6,095
Other persons contacting the probation officer	6,255	6,847	5,233	5,453	4,735
Requests from all sources	22,721	25,743	20,422	22,169	18,755

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

Table 38 Requests for accommodation dealt with by probation officers by source and outcome of request

England and Wales	Percentage of requests				
	Outcome of request				All outcomes
Source of request	Placed in after-care hostel	Found accommodation in other hostel	Found other accommodation	Unplaced	
Persons requiring accommodation on release from custody	66	42	41	33	42
Other persons for whom the probation officer has a statutory responsibility	24	37	35	27	32
Other persons contacting the probation officer	9	21	24	40	25
Requests from all sources (= 100%)	2,052	3,831	9,076	3,796	18,755

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

(iii) Conciliation cases

2.37 In recent years the amount of matrimonial conciliation casework carried out by probation officers has declined substantially (Table 39) possibly because of a transfer of this work to the local authority social services and/or because divorce is now easier to obtain. In 1978 about 4,500 cases (including voluntary requests for assistance) were referred to the Service, a decrease of about 1,000 compared with 1977, reducing the number of cases to less than a third of what it had been five years earlier.

Table 39 Conciliation cases referred to probation officers by source of referral

England and Wales				Number of referrals		
Source of referral	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
<hr/>						
Referred by:						
Magistrates' courts	3,683	2,920	2,162	1,450	1,306	1,052
Divorce courts	453	637	561	549	694	717
Referred from other sources (including voluntary requests for assistance)	11,387	7,966	6,274	4,702	3,406	2,710
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	15,523	11,523	8,997	6,701	5,406	4,479

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns

PART 3 - THE STAFF OF THE PROBATION AND AFTER-CARE SERVICE

(1) MANPOWER

3.1 As a result of constraints on Probation and After-Care Service expenditure the number of officers in post increased very slightly in the last two years (Table 40) whereas in the period 1970 to 1976 there was a steady growth in numbers. However, at the end of 1978 the number of full-time probation officers in post was over 50 per cent more than at the end of 1970. The percentage increases in the number of full-time officers between 1970 and 1976 varied from year to year, reaching a peak of 11 per cent in 1972-73, then falling to 4-5 per cent for each of the next three years. The increase between 1977 and 1978 was just over 1 per cent. Details of ancillary workers are also given in Table 40 and show the increased use made of these staff. In 1978, 765 ancillaries were in post; an increase of 18 per cent on the figure for 1977.

Table 40 Staff in post at 31 December by type of employment and sex of officer

England and Wales		Number of officers								
Type of employment and sex of officer	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	
Full-time:										
Established:										
Male	2,411	2,547	2,735	2,983	3,079	3,162	3,289	3,320	3,357	
Female	941	1,061	1,204	1,344	1,464	1,573	1,744	1,760	1,814	
All established	3,352	3,608	3,939	4,327	4,543	4,735	5,033	5,080	5,171	
Temporary:										
Male	36	42	52	63	56	67	44	10	4	
Female	38	39	37	59	73	67	35	9	9	
All temporary	74	81	89	122	129	134	79	19	13	
All full-time	3,426	3,689	4,028	4,449	4,672	4,869	5,112	5,099	5,184	
Part-time:										
Male	22	20	21	23	23	32	29	26	29	
Female	55	60	72	86	81	97	105	95	105	
All part-time	77	80	93	109	104	129	134	121	134	
All probation officers	3,503	3,769	4,121	4,558	4,776	4,998	5,246	5,220	5,318	
<u>Other staff</u>										
Ancillary workers										
- Full-time	*	..	..	..	..	505	593	593	705
- Part-time	*	..	..	..	..	15	41	57	60

Source: Probation and After-Care Department records

3.2 Table 41 shows how the increase in the establishment of the Probation and After-Care Service since 1974 has been reflected in the grades and employment of officers. At the end of 1978 there were about 3,700 established maingrade officers in post (excluding those in Prison Department establishments) slightly more than there were at the end of 1977. The proportion of maingrade posts has remained fairly constant at just under 70 per cent of all posts in the period 1974 to 1978.

Table 41 Probation officers in post at 31 December by grade and type of employment

England and Wales 1978			Number of officers		
Grade and type of employment	1974	(1) 1975	1976	1977	1978
Chief	54	55	55	59	59
Deputy and assistant chief	138	156	163	162	170
Senior	787	777	822	830	847
Maingrade - established	3,243	3,384	3,604	3,623	3,693
- temporary	124	128	77	17	12
- part-time	74	101	110	101	115
Seconded to Prison Department establishments:					
Assistant chief	-	-	-	1	1
Senior	}	}	{	82	79
Maingrade - established				323	322
- temporary				2	1
- part-time	30	28	24	20	19
All seconded probation officers	356	397	415	428	422
All probation officers	4,776	4,998	5,246	5,220	5,318

Source: Probation and After-Care Department records

(1) As at 31 September

(2) CASELOADS

3.3 Changes in the average caseloads of maingrade officers are shown in Table 42. These caseloads have been obtained by dividing the total number of cases administered by maingrade probation officers by the number of maingrade officers (excluding temporary and part-time maingrade officers and officers with specialist functions who do not have a caseload). Senior probation officers are excluded even though they may have a caseload because with their additional role as staff supervisors their caseload is much lower than maingrade officers. Even with these exclusions the caseload per main grade officer remains a very approximate indication of the workload of the Service as it takes no account of the large amount of non-supervisory work done by the Probation and After-Care Service. Although the number of full-time maingrade probation officers in post has remained steady in the last two years, there was a slight fall in 1978 in the average number of cases dealt with by a maingrade officer; 34 cases per officer in 1978 compared with 36 cases in 1977 and 37 cases in 1973.

Table 42 Average caseloads of maingrade officers⁽¹⁾
as at 31 December by type of supervision

England and Wales	Average number of cases					
Type of supervision	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Probation	14.5	13.8	12.9	12.5	11.7	10.4
C & YP Acts	5.9	5.9	5.4	4.8	4.8	4.4
Matrimonial, guardianship and wardship	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.6
Suspended sentence	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7
Money payment	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.5
After-care:						
Statutory	5.9	7.2	7.7	8.4	9.0	8.2
Voluntary	5.6	4.9	5.2	5.5	5.7	5.9
Total	37.0	37.0	36.4	36.4	36.4	33.7

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns and Probation and After-Care Department records

⁽¹⁾ Excluding temporary and part-time officers and officers with specialist functions who do not have a caseload

3.4 Tables 43(a), (b) and (c) show for each probation and after-care area the average number of supervision and after-care cases as at 31 December 1978 and the average number of reports completed per maingrade officer. Many factors contribute to the wide variation between areas in these averages including differences in the types of client supervised in different areas, different sentencing patterns, the additional travelling involved in rural areas and area variations in methods of working.

Table 43(A) Average number of supervision cases as at 31 December 1978 by area and type of case

England and Wales

Number of officers and cases per officer

Probation and After-Care area	Number of main-grade probation officers (1)	Supervision cases per officer					
		Probation	C & IP supervision	Suspended sentence supervision	Money payment supervision	Non-criminal supervision (2)	All supervision cases
Avon	65	12.6	4.4	1.2	1.7	3.8	23.6
Bedfordshire	35	12.3	6.5	0.8	0.4	4.9	24.9
Berkshire	48	11.1	4.2	1.0	0.4	2.2	18.8
Buckinghamshire	24	12.8	5.0	0.9	0.5	4.0	23.3
Cambridgeshire	33	13.6	4.6	0.4	0.5	2.7	21.8
Cheshire	50	11.6	6.1	0.7	0.8	6.6	25.6
Cleveland (3)	46	16.2	5.8	0.7	0.9	3.5	27.1
Cornwall	24	13.5	4.5	0.7	0.5	3.9	23.0
Cumbria	28	13.8	8.3	0.8	0.4	4.5	27.8
Derbyshire	40	12.0	6.4	0.6	1.0	2.9	22.9
Devon	62	14.1	3.0	0.9	0.5	7.5	26.0
Dorset	42	12.2	3.3	0.9	0.9	9.0	26.2
Durham	39.5	10.0	6.3	0.4	0.2	3.6	20.5
Essex	67	13.0	7.2	0.5	0.5	4.8	25.9
Gloucestershire	31	12.6	4.5	0.7	0.3	3.4	21.4
Hampshire	105.5	15.7	4.9	0.9	0.9	9.1	31.5
Hereford and Worcester	43	11.9	3.5	0.4	0.4	11.1	27.4
Hertfordshire	54	11.3	5.6	0.8	1.3	4.0	23.0
Humberside	53	11.5	5.6	0.8	0.8	3.4	22.1
Kent	87.4	11.5	4.2	0.9	0.6	3.0	20.2
Lancashire	94	11.3	4.1	0.8	0.9	3.0	20.1
Leicestershire	57	11.0	5.3	1.1	0.6	4.1	22.0
Lincolnshire	29	17.5	4.9	1.1	2.0	4.2	29.7
Gtr. Manchester	214	9.2	4.9	0.8	0.4	3.0	18.2
Merseyside	169	11.7	2.9	0.8	0.2	3.1	18.7
Norfolk	32	13.4	5.2	1.0	0.3	6.8	26.7
Northamptonshire	38	12.5	7.4	0.7	0.4	3.5	24.4
Northumbria	119	12.2	4.2	0.5	0.7	4.6	22.2
Nottinghamshire	115.5	9.3	3.2	0.5	0.8	3.3	17.1
Oxfordshire	36	12.7	5.5	0.7	0.4	3.9	23.1
Salop	26	11.8	9.2	0.6	1.1	10.2	32.8
Somerset	25	12.0	3.8	0.7	0.4	10.8	27.6
Staffordshire	89	12.2	5.6	0.7	0.6	8.8	27.9
Suffolk	30	12.7	5.1	0.5	1.0	12.1	31.5
Surrey	42	12.0	4.2	0.8	0.4	2.0	19.4
East Sussex	34	12.8	5.8	0.7	3.7	3.5	26.5
West Sussex	24	12.3	5.5	1.0	0.6	3.3	22.7
Warwickshire	28	13.4	4.7	0.3	1.4	7.0	26.9
West Midlands	255	8.9	4.9	0.9	0.2	5.7	20.5
Wiltshire	28	13.9	5.7	0.9	1.8	4.5	26.8
North Yorkshire	30	10.0	5.2	0.3	0.5	3.4	19.5
South Yorkshire	109	8.8	5.5	0.7	2.0	2.9	20.0
West Yorkshire	190	12.2	5.9	0.7	0.4	4.4	23.6
City of London	2	12.0	0.5	0.5	-	-	13.0
Inner London	288	10.2	1.6	1.1	2.2	0.8	15.9
N E London	59	10.7	5.8	0.9	0.6	1.8	19.7
S E London	42	12.6	4.1	1.2	1.0	0.2	19.0
S W London	31	13.1	2.6	0.8	0.5	0.8	17.8
Middlesex	150	10.3	3.3	0.9	0.6	1.1	16.2
Dyfed	17	13.7	7.0	0.4	3.4	5.6	30.1
Gwent	26.5	10.9	11.8	1.1	2.3	6.4	32.4
North Wales	31	10.3	6.2	0.4	0.7	3.1	20.8
Powys	5	10.8	5.6	0.4	0.2	6.8	23.8
South Glamorgan	38	7.4	4.3	0.6	0.8	4.4	17.5
Mid Glamorgan	42	11.6	7.7	1.1	1.9	6.4	28.7
West Glamorgan	23	8.9	7.4	1.3	0.2	1.9	19.6
All areas	3,545.4	11.4	4.7	0.8	0.8	4.1	21.8

Source: Probation and After-Care statistical returns

- (1) Excluding officers working on community service schemes in day training centres or probation/bail hostels and officers wholly seconded to Prison Department establishments. Officers partly seconded to Prison Department establishments and partly working on normal casework were included in this column in proportion to the amount of casework done.
- (2) Supervision following matrimonial, wardship, guardianship, adoption or divorce proceedings.
- (3) Returns for Cleveland were not received in time for inclusion in this table and have therefore been estimated.

Table 43(B) Average number of after-care cases as at 31 December 1978
by area and type of case

England and Wales	Number of main-grade probation officers (1)	Number of officers and cases per officer						
		Detention centre	Hostel	Parole	Life licence	Other	Voluntary	All after-care cases
Avon	65	1.7	3.4	0.6	0.9	1.2	4.0	11.7
Bedfordshire	35	3.1	4.0	0.6	0.2	2.2	4.1	14.3
Berkshire	48	2.9	3.3	0.7	0.3	1.9	5.5	14.6
Buckinghamshire	24	2.5	3.8	0.9	0.6	1.6	7.2	16.6
Cambridgeshire	33	2.0	3.0	0.8	0.2	1.5	6.0	13.4
Cheshire	50	2.7	4.3	0.7	0.4	1.2	8.3	17.5
Cleveland(2)	46	4.9	6.9	1.2	0.2	1.2	4.9	19.2
Cornwall	24	1.6	1.9	0.2	0.2	0.7	5.2	9.9
Cumbria	28	2.6	5.1	0.6	0.5	1.2	8.8	18.8
Derbyshire	40	3.4	5.2	1.0	0.4	2.2	5.6	17.7
Devon	62	1.9	2.4	0.7	0.2	1.0	6.7	13.0
Dorset	42	1.7	3.0	0.5	0.1	1.0	6.1	12.4
Durham	39.5	3.8	3.8	0.4	0.3	1.2	4.5	14.0
Essex	67	2.8	4.2	1.2	0.3	2.0	5.8	16.4
Gloucestershire	31	1.8	3.5	0.5	0.1	0.7	3.8	10.5
Hampshire	105.5	2.1	4.0	0.6	0.4	1.3	4.5	12.9
Hereford and Worcester	43	1.3	2.9	0.8	0.3	0.5	6.2	12.0
Hertfordshire	54	2.0	4.3	0.9	0.3	1.4	6.2	15.1
Humberside	53	3.3	5.3	0.8	0.3	1.9	7.9	19.7
Kent	87.4	1.9	3.7	0.7	0.3	1.3	6.0	13.9
Lancashire	94	2.5	4.3	0.4	0.3	1.8	10.2	19.5
Leicestershire	57	2.0	3.5	0.5	0.2	1.4	5.2	12.8
Lincolnshire	29	2.7	3.3	0.3	0.8	1.6	7.5	16.2
Gtr Manchester	214	2.4	5.0	0.6	0.4	2.1	7.8	18.3
Merseyside	169	2.6	4.9	0.5	0.2	1.8	7.4	17.3
Norfolk	32	2.8	3.8	0.8	0.3	1.2	6.8	15.7
Northamptonshire	38	1.4	3.5	0.6	1.0	1.6	5.8	13.8
Northumbria	119	2.2	5.1	0.4	0.4	1.6	5.8	15.6
Nottinghamshire	115.5	2.0	2.5	0.5	0.3	1.2	6.6	13.1
Oxfordshire	36	2.3	3.7	0.6	0.1	0.9	6.0	13.6
Salop	26	1.8	2.6	0.5	-	1.2	4.2	10.3
Somerset	25	1.6	2.3	0.8	0.2	1.1	5.7	11.7
Staffordshire	89	1.7	2.5	0.4	0.2	1.0	4.9	10.7
Suffolk	30	2.4	4.4	0.9	0.2	1.9	6.3	16.1
Surrey	42	2.1	3.2	0.6	0.3	1.4	5.4	13.0
East Sussex	34	2.2	2.9	0.7	0.4	1.5	4.6	12.4
West Sussex	24	2.4	2.7	0.7	0.4	0.8	5.0	11.9
Warwickshire	28	1.7	2.8	0.3	0.1	0.5	7.0	12.4
West Midlands	255	2.5	3.9	0.7	0.5	1.8	7.8	17.2
Wiltshire	28	2.4	4.2	1.0	0.3	1.2	5.8	14.8
North Yorkshire	30	3.0	4.4	0.7	0.5	1.4	5.2	15.1
South Yorkshire	109	1.8	3.7	0.6	0.4	1.5	7.2	15.0
West Yorkshire	190	2.9	4.9	0.6	0.6	2.0	6.5	17.6
City of London	2	1.0	-	0.5	-	0.5	-	2.0
Inner London	288	1.4	4.3	1.0	0.6	1.9	5.6	14.9
N E London	59	2.8	5.9	1.5	0.4	2.2	7.2	19.9
S E London	42	2.2	4.7	1.0	0.2	1.4	6.0	15.5
S W London	31	1.6	4.1	0.6	0.2	1.1	7.4	15.0
Middlesex	150	1.8	3.7	0.8	0.3	1.4	6.9	14.9
Dyfed	17	0.9	1.8	0.2	0.2	1.0	3.4	7.5
Gwent	26.5	2.5	4.4	0.5	0.2	1.4	5.1	14.1
North Wales	31	2.5	2.8	0.4	0.4	0.8	5.7	12.6
Powys	5	0.6	1.0	-	-	0.8	3.8	6.2
South Glamorgan	38	1.5	3.6	0.7	0.2	2.3	3.9	12.3
Mid Glamorgan	42	2.0	4.1	0.3	0.4	1.4	6.4	14.4
West Glamorgan	23	2.9	5.0	0.3	0.4	1.8	7.2	17.6
All areas	3545.4	2.3	4.0	0.7	0.4	1.6	6.4	15.3

Sources: Probation and After-Care Statistical returns

- (1) Excluding officers working on community service schemes in day training centres or probation/bail hostels and officers wholly seconded to Prison Department establishments. Officers partly seconded to Prison Department establishments and partly working on normal casework were included in this column in proportion to the amount of casework done.
- (2) Returns from Cleveland were not received in time for inclusion in this table and have therefore been estimated.

Table 43(C) Average number of reports prepared during 1978 by area and type of report

England and Wales		Number of officers and reports completed per officer				
Probation and After-Care area	Number of main-grade probation officers	Social inquiry reports		Other reports (2)	All reports	
		Magistrates courts				
		Adult	Juvenile			
	(1)					
Avon	65	37.2	11.6	17.0	12.0	77.9
Bedfordshire	35	33.8	21.2	18.2	9.6	82.8
Berkshire	48	29.2	12.6	18.8	8.9	69.6
Buckinghamshire	24	38.0	18.2	20.0	12.3	88.5
Cambridgeshire	33	38.0	16.2	11.7	12.9	78.8
Cheshire	50	33.1	17.4	15.0	11.2	76.7
Cleveland	46	40.5	22.3	19.1	12.4	94.3
Cornwall	24	46.8	9.7	12.1	13.3	81.8
Cumbria	28	34.1	19.3	20.3	14.4	88.0
Derbyshire	40	31.1	23.7	22.3	14.1	91.1
Devon	62	38.9	7.8	14.8	14.3	75.8
Dorset	42	39.3	7.4	12.8	12.6	72.2
Durham	39.5	28.2	26.1	14.4	9.4	78.0
Essex	67	41.7	19.6	13.1	11.6	86.0
Gloucestershire	31	29.3	9.1	13.1	11.3	62.8
Hampshire	105.5	34.8	11.2	17.2	12.8	76.0
Hereford and Worcester	43	29.9	8.7	8.0	10.0	56.6
Hertfordshire	54	46.2	15.7	11.3	10.4	83.6
Humberside	53	17.7	14.5	22.0	9.2	63.4
Kent	87.4	38.8	10.5	15.9	12.3	77.5
Lancashire	94	29.8	15.7	18.1	11.9	75.6
Leicestershire	57	22.5	12.8	16.6	9.4	61.3
Lincolnshire	29	36.3	9.8	16.7	18.6	81.4
Greater Manchester	214	26.8	22.5	16.8	10.7	76.8
Merseyside	169	32.9	10.0	26.7	7.1	76.7
Norfolk	32	29.8	12.6	16.1	12.2	70.5
Northamptonshire	38	40.8	19.3	19.4	9.5	89.0
Northumbria	119	24.5	15.3	23.4	9.1	72.3
Nottinghamshire	115.5	24.1	11.7	11.0	7.6	54.3
Oxfordshire	36	25.6	13.4	15.6	9.8	64.4
Salop	26	33.5	16.4	12.6	12.2	74.7
Somerset	25	54.2	8.8	9.7	18.6	91.3
Staffordshire	89	27.8	14.4	11.8	8.2	62.2
Suffolk	30	26.5	15.6	13.4	12.1	67.5
Surrey	42	32.2	9.4	14.3	10.0	65.8
East Sussex	34	39.6	14.3	22.6	16.6	93.0
West Sussex	24	30.0	13.5	15.4	9.8	68.7
Warwickshire	28	27.2	12.2	12.8	8.9	61.1
West Midlands	255	16.9	12.5	13.9	7.3	50.6
Wiltshire	28	33.7	14.0	18.5	14.8	81.0
North Yorkshire	30	28.5	19.8	14.4	14.2	76.9
South Yorkshire	109	18.9	13.0	18.7	10.8	61.4
West Yorkshire	190	27.1	23.1	24.3	8.0	82.6
City of London	2	109.0	-	24.5	10.0	143.5
Inner London	288	35.3	3.8	16.5	10.0	65.4
N E London	59	29.4	14.6	21.1	12.2	77.1
S E London	42	28.6	7.0	16.5	9.5	61.6
S W London	31	29.5	3.9	12.1	9.6	55.2
Middlesex	150	23.2	6.5	13.6	6.9	50.3
Dyfed	17	26.8	11.6	9.2	12.9	60.6
Gwent	26.5	41.5	36.8	22.5	14.5	115.3
North Wales	31	44.2	31.6	12.1	12.9	90.9
Powys	5	39.0	6.8	7.2	7.4	60.4
South Glamorgan	38	24.1	20.2	23.2	14.6	81.9
Mid Glamorgan	42	34.6	23.9	18.9	11.9	89.3
West Glamorgan	23	33.6	29.1	32.4	9.2	104.3
All areas	3,545.4	30.2	14.0	17.1	10.3	71.7

Source: Probation and After-Care statistical returns

(1) Excluding officers working on community service schemes, in day training centres or probation/bail hostels and officers wholly seconded to Prison Department establishments.

Officers partly seconded to Prison Department establishments and partly working on normal casework were included in this column in proportion to the amount of casework done.

(2) Guardian ad litem, custody and access, means inquiries and local review committee inquiries.

(3) HOURS WORKED

3.5 A sample survey called the National Activity Recording Study was undertaken in November 1977 to investigate the time spent by probation officers on various aspects of their work. The main part of the study was based on a 15 per cent national sample of senior and maingrade probation officers carrying out general duties. In the majority of areas the sample was increased in order to provide area information. The officers included in the study were asked to complete a recording sheet for two weeks, allocating the working day into a series of work categories and into different activities. Some preliminary results were given in "Probation and After-Care Statistics 1977" and further results are given below. More detailed information will be given in a report of the study to be made available later.

3.6 From the data collected, information was obtained on the total hours worked by probation staff during the study (including weekends) and of the amount of "unsocial" time worked. Table 44 gives the distribution of the length of the working week for senior and maingrade probation officers and ancillary workers and shows that during the two week study period about 50 per cent of senior officers, 46 per cent of maingrade officers and 15 per cent of ancillary workers in the sample worked 40 hours or more. The standard working week for probation officers is 38.75 hours including breaks; the figure comparable with Table 44 which excludes breaks is 36.25 hours. Standard hours for ancillary workers are set by individual probation and after-care areas.

Table 44 Senior and maingrade probation officers and ancillary workers in the National Activity Recording Study by length of working week⁽¹⁾ and type of officer

Average length of working week ⁽¹⁾	England and Wales November 1977			Number of officers and percentages		
	Number of officers			Percentage of officers		
	Senior probation officers	Maingrade probation officers	Ancillary workers	Senior probation officers	Maingrade probation officers	Ancillary workers
Less than 34 hours	3	46	52	2	9	19
34 hours and less than 36 hours	9	59	67	7	11	25
36 hours and less than 38 hours	22	84	70	18	16	26
38 hours and less than 40 hours	27	98	39	22	18	15
40 hours and less than 42 hours	19	87	18	15	16	7
42 hours and less than 44 hours	20	48	12	16	9	4
44 hours and less than 46 hours	11	47	2	9	9	1
46 hours and over	14	66	7	11	12	3
Total	125	535	267	100	100	100

Source: National Activity Recording Study

⁽¹⁾ Including work at weekends

3.7 The amount of evening and weekend work carried out during the study is shown in Tables 45 and 46. Weekend work was undertaken by a large proportion of officers; 50 per cent of senior officers, 40 per cent of maingrade officers and 15 per cent of ancillary workers worked during one or both of the two weekends in the study period (Table 45). In general those officers who worked at weekends also worked longer hours during weekdays (ie Monday to Friday). On 24 per cent of working days both senior and maingrade officers worked in excess of 9 hours (including breaks) and on 8 per cent of the working days ancillary workers also worked in excess of 9 hours.

3.8 Evening work (after 6 pm) was also undertaken by a large proportion of officers. Of the 10 weekdays in the study period, 55 per cent of the working days of senior officers extended after 6 pm, 61 per cent of the working days of maingrade officers and 21 per cent of the working days of ancillary workers.

Table 45 Length of working week and proportion of senior and maingrade probation officers and ancillary workers in the National Activity Recording Study by amount of weekend work and grade

England and Wales November 1977				Number of hours and percentage		
Amount of ⁽¹⁾ weekend work (per week)	Length of working week			Percentage of officers		
	Senior probation officer	Maingrade probation officer	Ancillary worker	Senior probation officer	Maingrade probation officer	Ancillary worker
No weekend work	38.9	38.2	35.9	50	60	84
Less than 2 hours	40.8	40.2	37.1	29	19	10
2 hours and less than 4 hours	43.9	43.4	44.3	16	14	4
4 hours and over	47.8	47.8	41.1	6	7	1
Total	40.9	40.1	36.7	100	100	100

Source: National Activity Recording Study

(1) The average for the two weeks of the study including work at weekends

Table 46 Days⁽¹⁾ in the National Activity Recording Study by finishing time and grade

England and Wales November 1977		Percentage of days		
Finishing time	Senior probation officer	Maingrade probation officer	Ancillary worker	
Before 4 pm	1	2	4	
4 pm and before 5 pm	6	9	15	
5 pm and before 6 pm	38	28	61	
6 pm and before 7 pm	22	22	10	
7 pm and before 8 pm	12	16	4	
8 pm and before 9 pm	8	12	3	
9 pm and after	13	11	4	
Total	100	100	100	

Source: National Activity Recording Study

(1) The 10 working days of the study excluding weekends and any days spent as leave

3.9 Information on the average caseload and reports completed per officer (given in Table 43) showed wide variation between probation and after-care areas. The National Activity Recording Study also found wide variation between officers within probation and after-care areas. Nevertheless the figures given in this section indicate that during the study undertaken in November 1977 probation officers were in general working both long and unsocial hours.

PART 4 - THE COST OF THE PROBATION AND AFTER-CARE SERVICE

4.1 The cost of operating the Probation and After-Care Service is shown in Table 47 at 1978 survey prices. Current expenditure on the Probation and After-Care Service increased by three quarters over the financial period 1971/2 to 1977/8 and capital expenditure rose from £1.3 million to £4.6 million in 1976/7, though it fell back slightly in 1977/8. The rise in capital expenditure was largely due to the building of a number of probation and bail hostels.

Table 47 Expenditure on the Probation and After-Care Service
by type of expenditure

England and Wales		£ millions at 1978 survey prices					
Type of expenditure	Financial year						
	1971/2	1972/3	1973/4	1974/5	1975/6	1976/7	1977/8
Current	37.0	39.3	43.1	49.9	57.7	62.6	63.0
Capital	1.3	2.8	3.3	4.3	4.1	4.6	3.1
Total	38.3	42.1	46.4	54.2	61.8	67.2	66.1

Source: Home Office Finance Department records

4.2 The cost of the Probation and After-Care Service is shared between central government and the local authorities. Since 1 April 1973, the Home Office contribution towards the expenditure has been 80 per cent and that of the local authorities 20 per cent, in place of the previous arrangements whereby the cost was borne in equal shares. Since 1 April 1974 central expenditure on training has been wholly financed by central government.

4.3 Expenditure at outturn prices (ie actual expenditure) is shown in Table 48. Because of both inflation and the rise in the number of staff employed, the cost of the Probation and After-Care Service has risen substantially over the period 1970/1 to 1977/8. In 1977/8 the total cost was almost five times that for 1970/1 but the proportion taken up by probation officers' salaries etc fell from 51 per cent in 1970/1 to 40 per cent in 1977/8. The cost of ancillary workers' salaries etc which in 1970/1 was negligible represented 3 per cent of the total cost by 1977/8.

Table 48 Expenditure on the Probation and After-Care Service by
type of expenditure

England and Wales	£ thousands at outturn prices and percentages							
Type of expenditure	1970/1	1971/2	1972/3	1973/4	1974/5	1975/6	1976/7	1977/8
<u>£ thousands</u>								
Salaries: ⁽¹⁾								
Probation officers	6,017	7,307	9,189	11,319	14,037	19,493	22,260	24,370
Clerical assistants	1,869	2,321	2,936	3,385	5,166	7,203	8,538	9,433
Ancillaries	5	34	117	296	684	1,247	1,835	2,129
Other employees	149	186	223	363	723	753	1,050	1,136
Probation officers seconded to Prison Department establishments ⁽²⁾	1,042	1,092	1,520	1,867	2,039
Other expenditure	2,910	3,452	4,040	5,072	7,168	10,381	12,219	13,466
Total	10,950	13,300	16,505	21,477	28,870	40,597	47,769	52,573
Home Office training scheme	888	1,179	1,625	1,951	2,118	2,535	3,670	4,059
Approved probation hostels and homes and bail hostels ⁽³⁾	..	719	768	1,015	1,535	2,316	3,220	4,055
Grand total ⁽⁴⁾	11,838	15,198	18,898	24,443	32,523	45,448	54,659	60,687
<u>Percentage of expenditure</u>								
Salaries: ⁽¹⁾								
Probation officers	51	48	49	46	43	43	41	40
Clerical assistants	16	15	16	14	16	16	16	16
Ancillaries	-	-	1	1	2	3	3	3
Other employees	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
Probation officers seconded to Prison Department establishments	..	..	..	4	3	3	3	3
Other expenditure ⁽²⁾	25	23	21	21	22	23	22	22
Total	92	88	87	88	89	89	87	86
Home Office training scheme	7	8	9	8	7	6	7	7
Approved probation hostels and homes and bail hostels ⁽³⁾	..	5	4	4	5	5	6	7
Grand total ⁽⁴⁾	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Home Office Finance Department records

⁽¹⁾ And superannuation etc

⁽²⁾ Accommodation, travelling etc. from 1974/5 expenditure on material aid to certain categories of offenders in receipt of after-care is included.

⁽³⁾ The figures are provisional and give the net total cost after deducting contributions from residents, staff emolument charges etc and other income, and include on a cumulative basis over 20 years the capital cost of providing new hostels.

⁽⁴⁾ Excluding expenditure on after-care organisations, research, attendance centres NACRO, etc.

4.4 In Table 49 the expenditure figures from Table 48 are expressed as a cost per case administered by the Probation and After-Care Service. The total cost of operating the Probation Service (excluding the cost of officers seconded to Prison Department establishments) has first been allocated to the various types of work using the activity information from the National Activity Recording Study (see paragraph 3.5) and then divided by the caseload for each type of work to give average cost per case/report. These costs should be regarded as approximate orders of magnitude since the National Activity Recording Study covered only a two week period in November 1977. In addition year to year changes may not fully reflect the time spent by the Probation and After-Care Service on different types of work in earlier years because the same allocation of time has been used for all years given in Table 49.

Table 49 Estimated cost per case administered or report completed by the Probation and After-Care Service⁽¹⁾

England and Wales		£ per case		
Type of work	Financial year			
	1975/6	1976/7	1977/8	
Probation	190	240	270	
Supervision under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969	170	190	220	
Other criminal supervision ⁽²⁾	80	100	150	
After-care	170	190	200	
Non-criminal supervision	120	130	140	
Social inquiry reports	40	40	50	
Other reports	160	180	200	

Source: Probation and after-care statistical returns, National Activity Recording Study and Home Office Finance Department returns.

(1) Excluding the cost of officers seconded to Prison Department establishments and those specialising in the administration of community service orders.

(2) Excluding community service orders.

4.5 In the financial year 1977/8 the cost to the Probation and After-Care Service of each person on probation was on average about £270 per year while for each person receiving after-care the cost was about £200 per year.

END