

Youth justice in Lancashire (2019/20)

Key findings for the Lancashire-14 area

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1 Overview

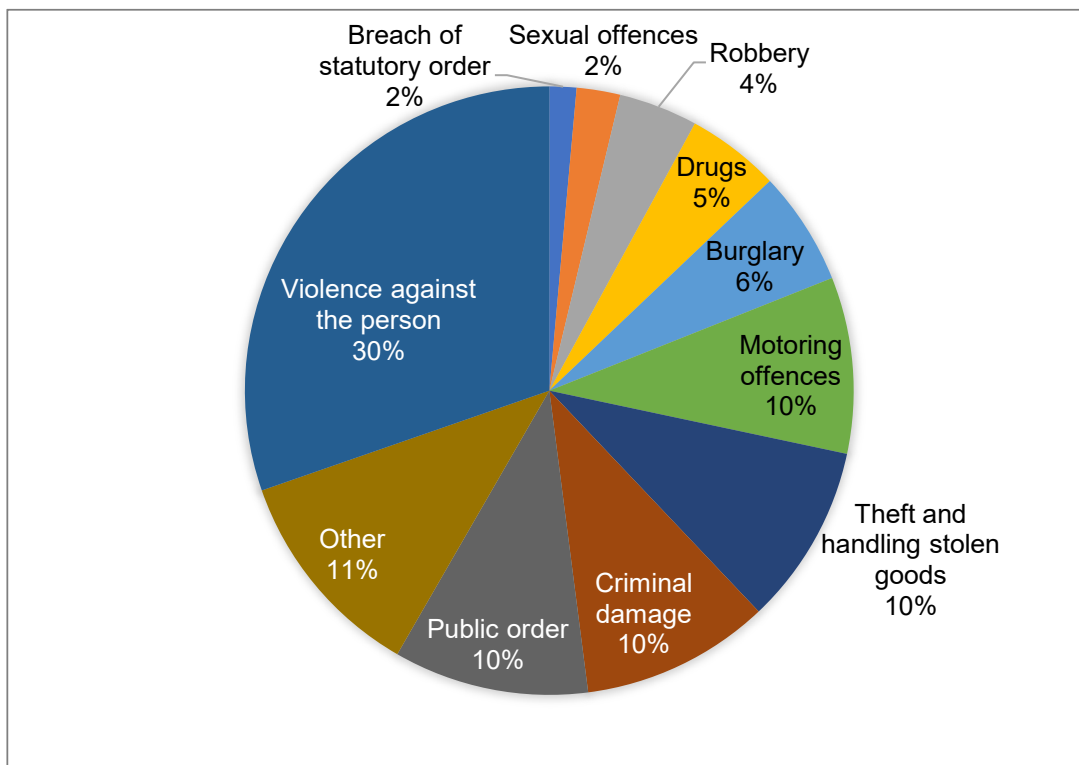
The Ministry of Justice publishes a range of annual statistics which concentrate on the flow of young people (aged 10-17) through the Youth Justice System in England and Wales. This article is a summary of the statistics for Lancashire-14.

For background information on youth justice data sources, concepts and definitions, please read the Ministry of Justice [guide to youth justice statistics](#)

2 Types of offences

Violence against the person is the most common offence for a young offender (30%), followed by other offences (11%), criminal damage (10%) and public order (10%).

Chart 1 Types of offences, year ending March 2020



Source: [Ministry of Justice, Youth justice statistics](#)

Over the six year period from March 2015 to March 2020, there has been a significant reduction in the number of proven offences. Violence against the person reducing by -57%, criminal damage by -71% and motoring offences by -63%.

Table 1 Number of proven offences, March 2015 to March 2020

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Breach of statutory order	243	190	98	48	34	13
Burglary	239	173	124	120	111	55
Criminal damage	316	300	237	176	147	91
Drugs	85	83	58	56	67	45
Motoring offences	228	235	237	153	144	85
Other	360	336	237	229	191	103
Public order	212	173	143	149	129	94
Robbery	38	40	15	18	32	38
Sexual offences	39	46	48	38	8	21
Theft and handling stolen goods	420	281	148	135	107	87
Violence against the person	574	557	415	358	361	275
Grand Total	2,754	2,414	1,760	1,480	1,331	907

Source: [Ministry of Justice, Youth justice statistics](#)

3 Demographics

Youth offending teams work with 10 to 17 year olds. The largest group of those managed by YOTs in the Lancashire-14 area are in the oldest age group, 15-17 years (81.6%), compared with 77.7% in England and Wales as a whole.

Table 2 Young people cautioned or sentenced by age, year ending March 2020

YOT	Age group	
	10 to 14	15 to 17
Blackburn with Darwen	9	33
Blackpool	15	54
Lancashire-12	39	188
Lancashire-14	63	275
%	18.4	81.6
England and Wales	4,236	14,790
%	22.3	77.7

Source: [Ministry of Justice, Youth justice statistics](#)

By an over-whelming majority, most young offenders are male.

Table 3 Young people cautioned or sentenced by gender, year ending March 2020

YOT	Gender		
	Male	Female	Not known
Blackburn with Darwen	38	4	
Blackpool	59	10	
Lancashire-12	205	21	
Lancashire-14	302	35	
%	89.6	10.4	
England and Wales	16,188	2,829	9
%	85.1	14.9	0.0

Source: [Ministry of Justice, Youth justice statistics](#)

The ethnic breakdown is slightly more biased towards white offenders. In the 2011 census, 86% of the Lancashire-14 area were white and 88% of offenders were white. In comparison, 69% of offenders in England and Wales as a whole were white.

Table 4 Young people cautioned or sentenced by ethnicity, year ending March 2020

YOT	Ethnicity		
	Non-white	White	Not Known
Blackburn with Darwen	13	29	
Blackpool	4	63	2
Lancashire-12	20	205	1
Lancashire-14	37	297	3
%	11.0%	88.1%	0.9%
England and Wales	5,316	13,100	610
%	27.9%	68.9%	3.2%

Source: [Ministry of Justice, Youth justice statistics](#)

4 Use of justice

Use of Justice is the number of young people receiving custodial sentences expressed as a rate per 1,000 of 10-17 year old population. The use of justice rate is lower in Lancashire than in the North West and England. 4% of numbers cautioned or sentenced received a custodial sentence, 15% a community sentence, 56% first tier¹ and 25% pre-court disposals.

Table 5 Use of custody, year ending March 2020

District	Custodial sentences	10-17 population mye 2019	Rate per 1,000 of 10-17 population
Blackburn with Darwen	2	17,129	0.12
Blackpool	3	12,494	0.24
Lancashire-12	15	111,454	0.13
Lancashire-14	20	141,077	0.14
North West	205	676,707	0.30
England	1,167	5,185,725	0.23

Source: [Ministry of Justice, Youth justice statistics](#)

5 Outcomes

A referral order is the most common outcome for a young offender (31%), followed by a youth caution (16%) and a youth rehabilitation order (15%).

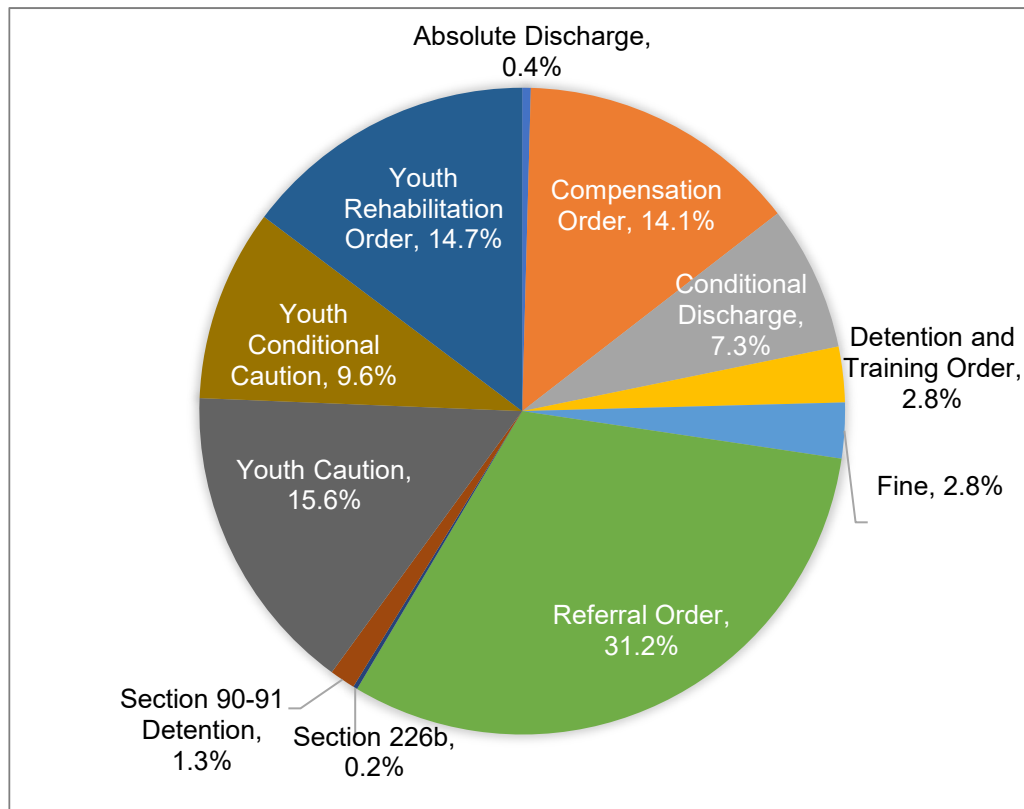
Table 6 The number of youth cautions or sentences given to children, year ending March 2020

Outcome	Blackburn with Darwen	Blackpool	Lancashire-12	Lancashire-14
Referral Order	20	26	100	146
Youth Caution	13	15	45	73
Youth Rehabilitation Order	10	17	42	69
Compensation Order	13	4	49	66
Youth Conditional Caution	2	14	29	45
Conditional Discharge	1	5	28	34
Detention and Training Order	2	1	10	13
Fine	3	2	8	13
Section 90-91 Detention		2	4	6
Absolute Discharge	1		1	2
Section 226b			1	1
Total	65	86	317	468

Source: [Ministry of Justice, Youth justice statistics](#)

¹ This is an umbrella term used for the following orders made at court: bind over, discharges, fines and deferred sentences

Chart 2: Percentage split of youth cautions or sentences, year ending March 2020



Source: Ministry of Justice, Youth justice statistics