

Table 1: Number of adult offenders sentenced for offences under the Firearms Act 1968, by court type, 2007-2017

Annex C

Guideline group	Legislation	Section	Offence	Court type	Number of adult offenders sentenced												
					2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		
Group 1	Firearms Act 1968	Minimum term applies 5(1)(a)-(af), (c) 5(1A)(a)	Possess/purchase/acquire a prohibited weapon (automatic)/ammunition/ smooth-bore revolver/ rocket launcher/ mortar/ pump action rifle	MC	4	4	11	7	3	2	1	0	0	3	0		
				CC	245	336	349	301	204	170	205	253	364	460	402		
			<b>Total</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>402</b>			
		Minimum term does not apply 5(1)(b) 5(1A)(b)-(g)	Possess/ purchase a weapon for the discharge of a noxious liquid / gas / electrical incapacitation device / thing	MC	654	635	647	613	537	436	411	314	304	293	205		
			Possess/ purchase/ sell or transfer military equipment	CC	181	254	249	227	234	198	170	171	165	189	153		
			<b>Total</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>358</b>			
		<b>TOTAL SECTION 5 OFFENCES</b>				MC	658	639	658	620	540	438	412	314	304	296	205
						CC	426	590	598	528	438	368	375	424	529	649	555
						<b>Total</b>	<b>1,084</b>	<b>1,229</b>	<b>1,256</b>	<b>1,148</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>738</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>760</b>
		Group 2	Firearms Act 1968	1(1)	Possess a firearm/ammunition without a certificate <sup>1</sup>	MC	-	-	-	-	68	59	50	56	31	49	29
	CC				-	-	-	-	95	80	78	70	70	79	68		
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>				<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>97</b>			
2(1)	Possess a shortened shotgun without a certificate; possess a thing converted into a firearm (aggravated form) <sup>1</sup>			MC	-	-	-	-	0	1	0	2	0	0	0		
				CC	-	-	-	-	13	12	6	13	8	6	14		
	<b>Total</b>			<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>			
TOTAL 1(1) & 2(1)	MC			133	123	108	103	87	83	71	80	45	65	51			
	CC			113	117	122	148	129	111	93	98	100	103	101			
	<b>Total</b>			<b>246</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>152</b>			
Group 3	Firearms Act 1968			21(1) & (4) 21(2) & (4) & Sch 6	Possess a firearm/ shotgun/ air weapon/ ammunition when prohibited for life/ five years	MC	54	34	43	33	41	29	27	26	21	24	20
			CC		48	55	68	62	48	45	35	27	28	36	28		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>102</b>		<b>89</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>48</b>			
Group 4	Firearms Act 1968	19	Possess loaded/unloaded firearm and suitable ammunition in public place	MC	76	38	17	15	10	6	9	5	7	6	2		
				CC	20	15	14	8	11	6	7	5	7	6	5		
			<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>			
		Possess a loaded shotgun in a public place	MC	16	12	4	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0			
				CC	8	9	7	7	1	5	4	2	1	2	2		
			<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>			
		Possess a loaded / unloaded air weapon in a public place	MC	340	243	218	178	123	117	95	87	96	62	68			
				CC	26	31	32	43	28	10	6	5	7	7	6		
			<b>Total</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>74</b>			
		Possess an imitation firearm in a public place	MC	0	32	70	60	61	55	43	53	55	60	85			
	CC		0	15	26	24	23	32	46	50	43	52	35				
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>47</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>120</b>					

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

Note

1) Data for these offences not available prior to 2011.

Table 2: Sentence outcomes for adult offenders sentenced for offences under the Firearms Act 1968, 2017

Guideline group	Section	Offence	Absolute Discharge	Conditional Discharge	Fine	Community Order	Suspended Sentence	Immediate Custody	Otherwise dealt with <sup>1</sup>	Total
Group 1	Minimum term applies 5(1)(a)-(af), (c) 5(1A)(a)	Possess/purchase/acquire a prohibited weapon (automatic)/ ammunition/ smooth-bore revolver/ rocket launcher/ mortar/ pump action rifle Possess/ purchase disguised firearm	0	0	1	5	46	348	2	402
	Minimum term does not apply 5(1)(b) 5(1A)(b)-(g)	Possess/ purchase a weapon for the discharge of a noxious liquid / gas / electrical incapacitation device / thing Possess/ purchase/ sell or transfer military equipment	1	30	47	96	99	78	7	358
	<b>TOTAL SECTION 5 OFFENCES</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>760</b>
Group 2		Possess a firearm/ammunition without a certificate	2	11	12	5	27	39	1	97
	1(1)	Possess a shortened shotgun without a certificate; possess a thing converted into a firearm (aggravated form)	0	0	0	0	2	12	0	14
	2(1)	Possess shotgun without a certificate	0	8	9	1	9	13	1	41
	<b>TOTAL 1(1) &amp; 2(1)</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>152</b>
Group 3	21	Possess a firearm when prohibited for life / five years due to previous conviction	0	4	6	5	9	24	0	48
Group 4	19	Possess loaded/unloaded firearm and suitable ammunition/shotgun/ airweapon/ imitation firearm in public place	0	10	25	75	48	43	2	203

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

Guideline group	Section	Offence	Absolute Discharge	Conditional Discharge	Fine	Community Order	Suspended Sentence	Immediate Custody	Otherwise dealt with <sup>1</sup>	Total
Group 1	Minimum term applies 5(1)(a)-(af), (c) 5(1A)(a)	Possess/purchase/acquire a prohibited weapon (automatic)/ ammunition/ smooth-bore revolver/ rocket launcher/ mortar/ pump action rifle Possess/ purchase disguised firearm	0%	0%	<0.5%	1%	11%	87%	<0.5%	100%
	Minimum term does not apply 5(1)(b) 5(1A)(b)-(g)	Possess/ purchase a weapon for the discharge of a noxious liquid / gas / electrical incapacitation device / thing Possess/ purchase/ sell or transfer military equipment	<0.5%	8%	13%	27%	28%	22%	2%	100%
	<b>TOTAL SECTION 5 OFFENCES</b>		<b>&lt;0.5%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>100%</b>
Group 2		Possess a firearm/ammunition without a certificate	2%	11%	12%	5%	28%	40%	1%	100%
	1(1)	Possess a shortened shotgun without a certificate; possess a thing converted into a firearm (aggravated form)	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%	86%	0%	100%
	2(1)	Possess shotgun without a certificate	0%	20%	22%	2%	22%	32%	2%	100%
	<b>TOTAL 1(1) &amp; 2(1)</b>		<b>1%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>100%</b>
Group 3	21	Possess a firearm when prohibited for life / five years due to previous conviction	0%	8%	13%	10%	19%	50%	0%	100%
Group 4	19	Possess loaded/unloaded firearm and suitable ammunition/shotgun/ airweapon/ imitation firearm in public place	0%	5%	12%	37%	24%	21%	1%	100%

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

## Note

1) Includes a number of orders, for example hospital orders, confiscation orders and compensation orders.

**Table 3: Estimated average custodial sentence lengths (pre guilty plea) for adult offenders sentenced to immediate custody, and sentence ranges for offences under the Firearms Act 1968, 2017**

Guideline group	Section	Offence	Mean sentence length <sup>1,3</sup>	Median sentence length <sup>2,3</sup>	Sentence range (using estimated pre GP sentence lengths)
Group 1	<b>Minimum term applies</b> 5(1)(a)-(af), (c) 5(1A)(a)	Possess/purchase/acquire a prohibited weapon (automatic)/ ammunition/ smooth-bore revolver/ rocket launcher/ mortar/ pump action rifle Possess/ purchase disguised firearm	6 years 6 months	7 years 6 months	Fine - 10 years' custody
	<b>Minimum term does not apply</b> 5(1)(b) 5(1A)(b)-(g)	Possess/ purchase a weapon for the discharge of a noxious liquid / gas / electrical incapacitation device / thing Possess/ purchase/ sell or transfer military equipment	1 year 7 months	1 year 1 month	Discharge - 8 year's custody
	<b>TOTAL SECTION 5 OFFENCES</b>		<b>5 years 7 months</b>	<b>6 years 5 months</b>	<b>Discharge - 10 year's custody</b>
Group 2	1(1)	Possess a firearm/ammunition without a certificate Possess a shortened shotgun without a certificate; possess a thing converted into a firearm (aggravated form) <sup>4</sup>	3 years 1 month 2 years 5 months	3 years 1 year 11 months	Discharge - 5 years' custody SSO - 4 years' custody
	2(1)	Possess shotgun without a certificate <sup>4</sup>	2 years 10 months	2 years 3 months	Discharge - 5 years' custody
	<b>TOTAL 1(1) &amp; 2(1)</b>		<b>2 years 11 months</b>	<b>3 years</b>	<b>Discharge - 5 years' custody</b>
Group 3	21	Possess a firearm when prohibited for life / five years due to previous conviction	1 year 8 months	1 year 3 months	Discharge - 4.5 years' custody
Group 4	19	Possess loaded/unloaded firearm and suitable ammunition/shotgun/ airweapon/ imitation firearm in public place	10 months	6 months	Discharge - 4.5 years' custody

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

## Notes

- 1) The mean is calculated by taking the sum of all values and then dividing by the number of values.
- 2) The median is the value which lies in the middle of a set of numbers when those numbers are placed in ascending or descending order.
- 3) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences.
- 4) These figures should be treated with caution, due to the low number of offenders sentenced to immediate custody for this offence.

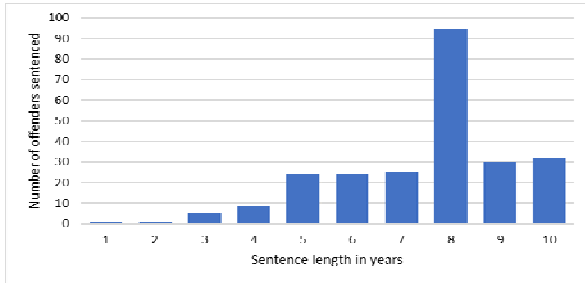
**Estimated distribution of custodial sentence lengths for adult offenders sentenced to immediate custody for offences under the Firearms Act 1968, before any reduction for guilty plea, 2017**

Note: Sentence length intervals do not include the lower bound, but do include the upper bound sentence length. For example, the category "1" includes sentence lengths less than, and equal to, 1 year, and "2" includes sentence lengths over 1 year, and up to and including 2 years.

**Group 1**

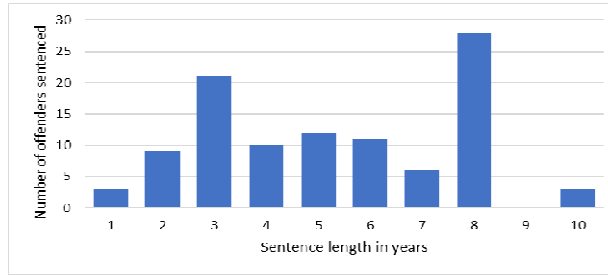
**Minimum term applies**

**Figure 1:** 5(1)(a)-(af), (c) - Possess/purchase/acquire a prohibited weapon (automatic)/ ammunition/ smooth-bore revolver/ rocket launcher/ mortar/ pump action rifle, 2017



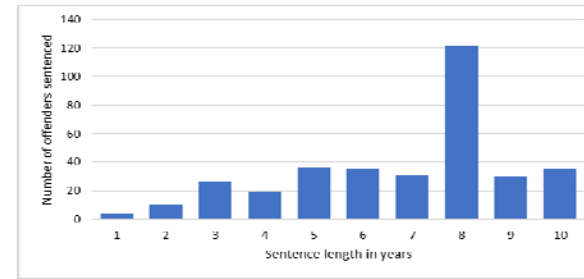
**Minimum term applies**

**Figure 2:** 5(1A)(a) - Possess/ purchase prohibited weapon (disguised firearm), 2017



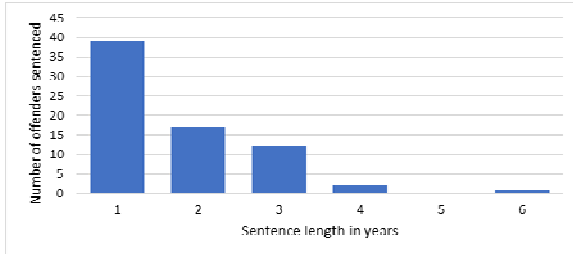
**Minimum term applies (all)**

**Figure 3:** 5(1)(a)-(af),(c) & 5(1A)(a) combined, 2017



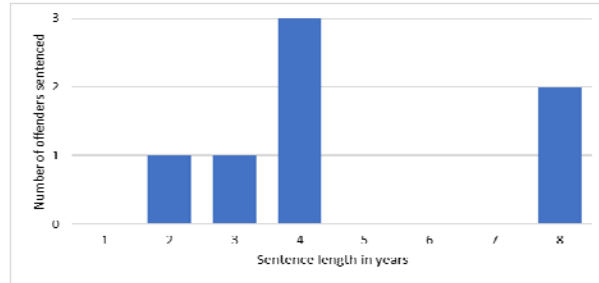
**Minimum term does not apply**

**Figure 4:** 5(1)(b) - Possess/ purchase a weapon for the discharge of a noxious liquid / gas / electrical incapacitation device / thing, 2017



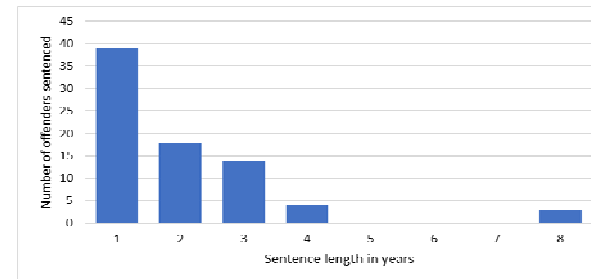
**Minimum term does not apply**

**Figure 5:** 5(1A)(b)-(g) - Possess/ purchase/ sell or transfer military equipment, 2017



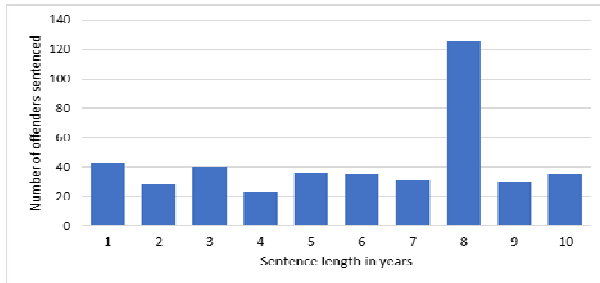
**Minimum term does not apply (all)**

**Figure 6:** 5(1)(b) & 5(1A)(b)-(g) combined, 2017



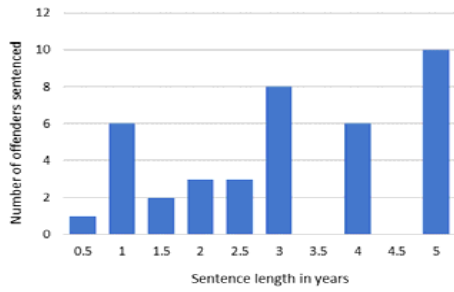
**All Group 1 offences**

**Figure 7:** 5(1)(a)-(af),(c), 5(1A)(a), 5(1)(b) & 5(1A)(b)-(g) combined, 2017

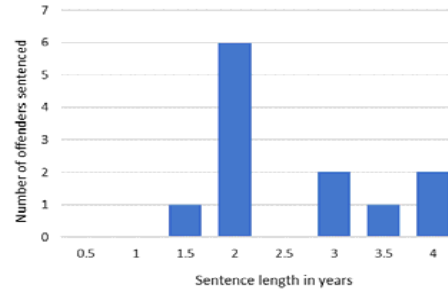


**Group 2**

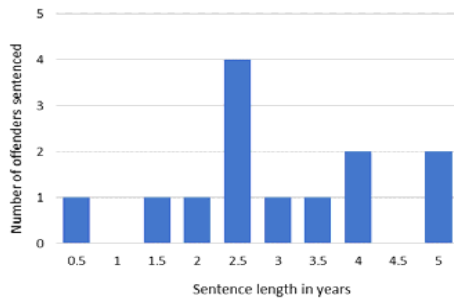
**Figure 8:** 1(1) - Possess a firearm/ammunition without a certificate, 2017



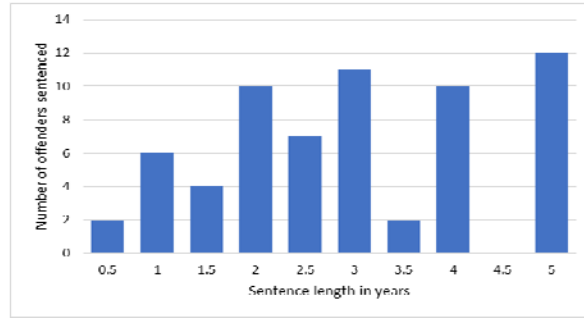
**Figure 9:** 1(1) & 2(1) - Possess a shortened shotgun without a certificate; possess a thing converted into a firearm (aggravated form), 2017



**Figure 10:** 2(1) - Possess shotgun without a certificate, 2017

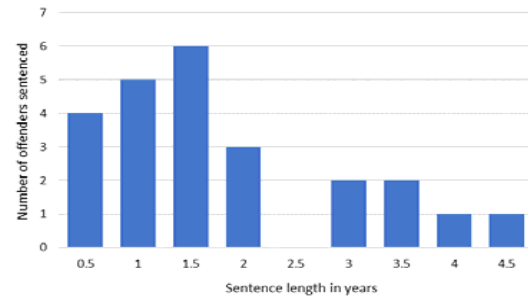


**Figure 11:** 1(1) & 2(1) combined - Possess a firearm/ ammunition/ shortened shotgun/ shotgun without a certificate, 2017



**Group 3**

**Figure 12:** 21 - Possess a firearm when prohibited for life / five years due to previous conviction, 2017



**Group 4**

**Figure 13:** 19 - Possess loaded/unloaded firearm and suitable ammunition/shotgun/ airweapon/ imitation firearm in public place, 2017

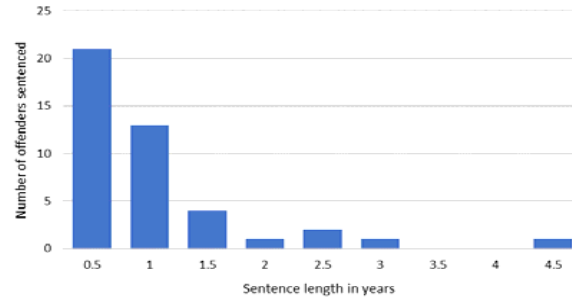


Table 4: Number of adult offenders sentenced for section 5 offences, by type of weapon, 2017

## Offences under 5(1), 5(1A) where minimum term applies

Section	Sub-section	Offence	Number of offenders sentenced	Proportion of all offences where minimum term applies	Proportion of all 5(1) & 5(1A) offences
5(1)	(a)	Possess/sell/transfer an automatic prohibited weapon	26	7%	4%
	(ab)	Possess prohibited weapon - self loading/pump action rifle	0	0%	0%
	(aba)	Possess a small firearm (less than 30cm)	200	52%	27%
	(ac)	Possess prohibited weapon - smooth bore gun	8	2%	1%
	(ad)	Possess prohibited weapon - smooth bore revolver	2	1%	0%
	(ae)	Possess prohibited weapon - mortar/rocket launcher	0	0%	0%
	(af)	Possess an air weapon using self contained gas cartridge system	4	1%	1%
	(c)	Possess prohibited ammunition	5	1%	1%
5(1A)	(a)	Possess/ purchase prohibited weapon (disguised firearm)	138	36%	19%
	<b>Total</b>		<b>383</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>52%</b>

## Offences under 5(1), 5(1A) where minimum term does not apply

Section	Sub-section	Offence	Number of offenders sentenced	Proportion of all offences where minimum term does not apply	Proportion of all 5(1) & 5(1A) offences
5(1)	(b)	Possess/ purchase a weapon for the discharge of a noxious liquid / gas / electrical incapacitation device / thing	347	98%	47%
5(1A)	(b)	Possess prohibited weapon - rocket/ exploding ammunition	0	0%	0%
	(c)	Possess prohibited weapon - launcher	0	0%	0%
	(d)	Possess prohibited ammunition - incendiary	0	0%	0%
	(e)	Possess prohibited ammunition (armour- piercing)	0	0%	0%
	(f)	Possess prohibited ammunition - expanding	7	2%	1%
	(g)	Possess prohibited ammunition - a missile	1	0%	0%
	<b>Total</b>		<b>355</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>48%</b>

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

**Table 5: Estimated average custodial sentence lengths (pre guilty plea) for adult offenders sentenced to immediate custody, and sentence ranges for section 5 offences, by type of weapon<sup>1</sup>**

Section	Sub-section	Offence	No. sentenced to immediate custody	Mean sentence length <sup>2,4</sup>	Median sentence length <sup>3,4</sup>	Custodial sentence range (using estimated pre GP sentence lengths)
Minimum term applies	(a)	Possess/sell/transfer an automatic prohibited weapon	24	7 years 11 months	7 years 9 months	2 years 3 months - 10 years
	(ab)	Possess prohibited weapon - self loading/pump action rifle <sup>5</sup>	23	6 years 8 months	7 years 1 month	1 year 8 months - 9 years 9 months
	(aba)	Possess a small firearm (less than 30cm)	188	7 years	7 years 6 months	11 months - 10 years
	(ac)	Possess prohibited weapon - smooth bore gun <sup>5</sup>	68	6 years 10 months	7 years 6 months	11 months - 10 years
	(ad)	Possess prohibited weapon - smooth bore revolver <sup>5</sup>	25	6 years	5 years 11 months	1 year 4 months - 10 years
	(ae)	Possess prohibited weapon - mortar/rocket launcher <sup>5</sup>	1	*	*	3 years
	(af)	Possess an air weapon using self contained gas cartridge system <sup>5</sup>	24	6 years	7 years 1 month	1 year 4 months - 9 years
	(c)	Possess prohibited ammunition <sup>5</sup>	15	4 years 3 months	4 years 6 months	1 month - 7 years 6 months
5(1A)	(a)	Possess/ purchase prohibited weapon (disguised firearm)	103	4 years 11 months	5 years	9 months - 10 years
Minimum term does not apply	5(1)	(b) Possess/ purchase a weapon for the discharge of a noxious liquid / gas / electrical incapacitation device / thing	71	1 year 4 months	10 months	1 month - 5 years 7 months
	(b)	Possess prohibited weapon - rocket/ exploding ammunition	0	-	-	-
	(c)	Possess prohibited weapon - launcher <sup>5</sup>	1	*	*	7 years 6 months
	(d)	Possess prohibited ammunition - incendiary <sup>5</sup>	1	*	*	4 months
	(e)	Possess prohibited ammunition (armour- piercing)	0	-	-	-
	(f)	Possess prohibited ammunition - expanding <sup>5</sup>	46	3 years 4 months	2 years 4 months	1 month - 10 years
	(g)	Possess prohibited ammunition - a missile <sup>5</sup>	3	*	*	1 year 6 months - 7 years 6 months

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

**Table 6: Estimated average custodial sentence lengths (pre guilty plea) for adult offenders sentenced to immediate custody, and sentence ranges for section 5 offences, 2017**

Section	Sub-section	Offence	No. sentenced to immediate custody	Mean sentence length <sup>2,4</sup>	Median sentence length <sup>3,4</sup>	Custodial sentence range
Minimum term applies	5(1)	(a)-(af),(c) Possess/sell/transfer a prohibited weapon	245	7 years 2 months	7 years 6 months	11 months - 10 years
	5(1A)	(a) Possess/ purchase prohibited weapon (disguised firearm)	103	4 years 11 months	5 years	9 months - 10 years
Minimum term does not apply	5(1)	(b) Possess/ purchase a weapon for the discharge of a noxious liquid / gas / electrical incapacitation device / thing	71	1 year 4 months	10 months	1 month - 5 years 7 months
	5(1A)	(b)-(g) Possess prohibited weapon (military equipment)	7	4 years 3 months	3 years 5 months	1 year 9 months - 8 years

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

**Notes**

- 1) Where possible, the most recent data available (relating to 2017) has been provided. For some offences, however, figures shown cover the period 2011-2017 due to low volumes.
- 2) The mean is calculated by taking the sum of all values and then dividing by the number of values.
- 3) The median is the value which lies in the middle of a set of numbers when those numbers are placed in ascending or descending order.
- 4) Excludes life and indeterminate sentences.
- 5) Figures for this offence cover the period 2011-2017 due to low volumes.

\* ACSLs have not been shown due to the extremely low number of offenders sentenced to immediate custody for this offence.

- No offenders sentenced to immediate custody for this offence.

### Analysis on adult offenders sentenced for section 5 offences where the minimum term applies

Table 7: Proportion of adult offenders receiving a sentence below the minimum term, 2007-2017<sup>1</sup>

All section 5 offences sentenced below the minimum term

Type of disposal	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Discharge, fine, CO or SSO	18%	14%	16%	17%	14%	13%	12%	16%	22%	16%	13%
Immediate custodial sentence of less than 5 years	25%	20%	25%	24%	24%	22%	28%	21%	20%	22%	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>33%</b>

5(1)(a)-(af), (c) - Possess/ purchase prohibited weapon

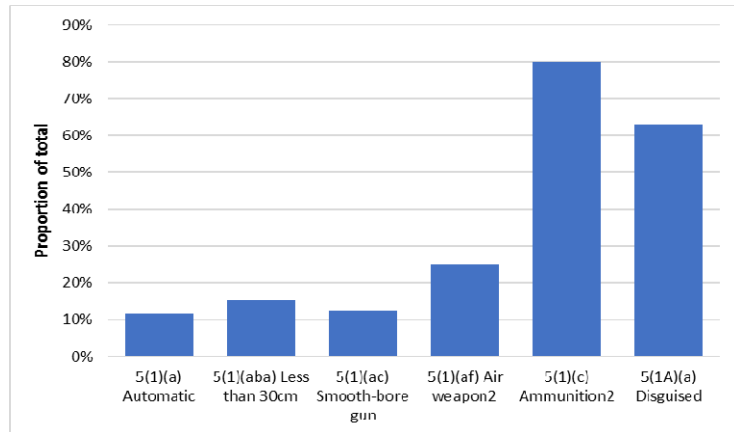
Type of disposal	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Discharge, fine, CO or SSO	17%	14%	16%	16%	13%	13%	10%	9%	10%	5%	6%
Immediate custodial sentence of less than 5 years	25%	20%	25%	24%	23%	16%	23%	14%	12%	14%	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>17%</b>

5(1A)(a) - Possess/ purchase prohibited weapon (disguised firearm)

Type of disposal	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Discharge, fine, CO or SSO	*	*	*	*	*	18%	17%	30%	41%	32%	25%
Immediate custodial sentence of less than 5 years	*	*	*	*	*	54%	44%	33%	34%	34%	38%
<b>Total</b>						<b>71%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>63%</b>

\* Proportions not shown due to very low volumes

Figure 14: Proportion of adult offenders receiving a sentence below the minimum term, for each type of weapon, 2017





**Table 8: Adult offenders receiving a sentence below the minimum term, as a proportion of the total number sentenced for each type of weapon, 2011-2017**

Offence	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
5(1)(a) Automatic	30%	44%	29%	20%	30%	33%	12%
5(1)(ab) Pump action rifle	50%	18%	*	*	*	*	*
5(1)(aba) Less than 30cm	37%	27%	31%	20%	17%	14%	16%
5(1)(ac) Smooth-bore gun	31%	0%	8%	23%	17%	30%	13%
5(1)(ad) Smooth-bore revolver	27%	*	*	*	*	*	*
5(1)(ae) Mortar/ rocket launcher	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5(1)(af) Air weapon <sup>2</sup>	0%	60%	40%	50%	64%	75%	25%
5(1)(c) Ammunition <sup>2</sup>	67%	100%	83%	100%	75%	60%	80%
5(1A)(a) Disguised	52%	71%	62%	63%	75%	66%	63%

\* Proportions not shown due to very low volumes

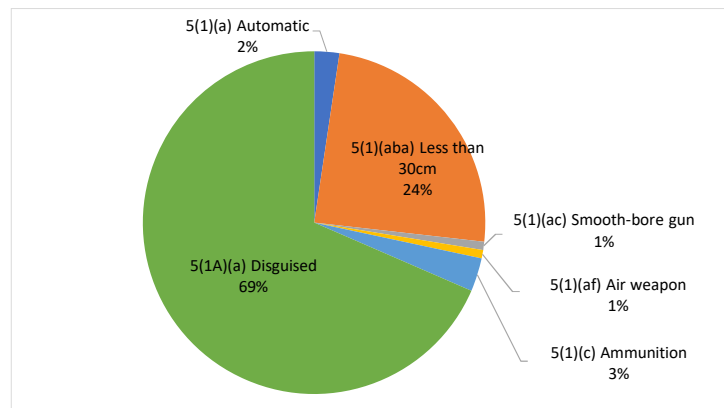
**Table 9: Number of adult offenders receiving a sentence below the minimum term, 2011-2017**

Offence	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
5(1)(a) Automatic	47	9	7	5	10	21	26
5(1)(ab) Pump action rifle	4	2	0	1	0	0	0
5(1)(aba) Less than 30cm	75	93	103	127	173	189	200
5(1)(ac) Smooth-bore gun	16	9	12	13	6	10	8
5(1)(ad) Smooth-bore revolver	3	0	1	1	1	0	0
5(1)(ae) Mortar/ rocket launcher	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
5(1)(af) Air weapon	2	5	5	6	11	8	4
5(1)(c) Ammunition	6	2	6	1	4	5	5
5(1A)(a) Disguised	23	28	52	86	138	191	138

**Table 10 and figure 15: Number and proportion of adult offenders receiving a sentence below the minimum term in 2017, by type of weapon<sup>3</sup>**

Type of weapon	Number	Proportion
5(1)(a) Automatic	3	2%
5(1)(aba) Less than 30cm	31	24%
5(1)(ac) Smooth-bore gun	1	1%
5(1)(af) Air weapon	1	1%
5(1)(c) Ammunition	4	3%
5(1A)(a) Disguised	87	69%
<b>Total</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice



#### Notes

- 1) Cases sentenced below the minimum term are those where the sentence outcome was either a discharge, fine, community order or suspended sentence order, along with cases where the offender was sentenced to an immediate custodial sentence length of less than 5 years (after any reduction for guilty plea).
- 2) Percentages should be treated with caution due to low volumes.
- 3) Excludes 5(1)(ab) & (ae) as no offenders were sentenced for these offences in 2017. Excludes 5(1)(ad) as no offenders received a sentence below the minimum term for this offence in 2017.

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