

Age group breakdown

Change to a more detailed breakdown

Note

The Council has obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) to consider the possible effects of its guidelines on different demographic groups and is committed to exploring and understanding potential disparities within sentencing outcomes between these groups. To do this, the Council utilises sentencing data from the Court Proceedings Database (CPD), which contains information on offenders' demographic characteristics. This includes the age of offenders at the date of sentencing, which is then aggregated by the Council to form the six age groups seen in the published data tables.

The Council has made the decision to publish a more detailed breakdown of these age groups. Currently the age groups used are 18 to 21; 22 to 29; 30 to 39; 40 to 49; 50 to 59; 60 and over; and Not recorded/ not known. However, the Council has decided to move to a new breakdown: 18 to 20; 21 to 24; 25 to 29; 30 to 39; 40 to 49; 50 to 59; 60 to 69; 70 and over; and Not recorded/ not known.

This decision has been made following feedback from the Council's recent consultation on the Firearms Importation offences guideline which highlighted that our current breakdown does not allow users to identify "young adults" as defined in our General Guideline: overarching principles. The Council has considered this further and as a result has made the decision to move to this more detailed breakdown. This will allow the Council to align more closely with its overarching guideline as well as with the Ministry of Justice National Statistics publication '*Criminal Justice Statistics quarterly*', which uses the same data source and the same, more detailed breakdown of the age groups.

Starting immediately, the Council will use this more detailed age group breakdown in all guideline development and statistical publications going forward.

The Council welcomes feedback on these tables and other aspects of its published statistics. Users are welcome to contact the Council with any comments by emailing:

Research@sentencingcouncil.gov.uk