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| **Indicator:** | **(Indicator 38) Average time taken to complete criminal cases** |

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| **Responsible Statistician:** | Joan Ritchie, Department of Justice |
| **Web Link to Statistical Publication:** | https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/topics/prosecution-and-conviction-statistics |
| **Frequency of update:** | Annual |
| **Time lag:** | 3 - 6 months |
| **Data Source:** | Administrative Data. Source for the data is the DoJ Causeway Management Information System. Causeway is a data sharing mechanism that has improved the performance and enhanced the interconnection of the Northern Ireland criminal justice organisations by the e-sharing of common information through end to end technical and business processes. |
| **National Statistics Status** | Official Statistics |
| **Quality Report:** | Quality reports contained within methodology section of each publication. |
| **Historic Data available from:** | 2011/12 |
| **Time-series trend:** | **Average1 time taken to complete criminal cases (median number of days taken)**   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **2013/14** | **2014/15** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** | **2017/18** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | | 143 | 143 | 146 | 165 | 162 | 167 | 149 |   1 Figures supplied are the Median time taken, from Offence Reported Date to Courts Disposal Date. The Median is the value below which 50 per cent of cases were completed.  2. Figures relate to the number of calendar days from Offence Reported Date to Courts Disposal Date. Court recess dates are not taken into account.  3. Figures relate to cases disposed at court during the time period specified. Each period is a financial year, running from 1st April to the following 31st March.  4. Figures relate to cases brought on behalf of the PSNI, Harbour and Airport police in Northern Ireland that resulted in a court disposal.  5. Figures do not include cases where the case was dismissed but a caution was administered, fixed penalty registrations, penalty notices for disorder or cases resulting from a breach of a court order. Successful youth engagement cases were also excluded. |
| **For Survey Data**  **Sample size and confidence interval for the latest available year:** | N/A |
| **UK/RoI/International comparisons:** | UK:  UK Regional: Nothing directly comparable is published.  RoI: No  International (please specify countries): Not known |
| **Issues in relation to this data, e.g. data limitations, future data availability, changes to methodology** | While every care has been taken in collating the data, they are subject to the limitations inherent in any large-scale recording system and to variation in recording practice over time.  The measure is based on all criminal cases which complete all parts of judicial process, ie, those which are resolved at court within the specified period. Figures do not include cases where the case was dismissed but a caution was administered, fixed penalty registrations, penalty notices for disorder or cases resulting from a breach of a court order. Successful youth engagement cases were also excluded. |
| **Is this measure being used to monitor performance against your current/latest Departmental/ Agency Plan** | Yes |
| **If yes, please specify any particular baseline point/year for the measure which is being for performance monitoring purposes** | 2014/15 |

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| **Technical Assessment Panel** |  |
| **Baseline Year** | 2014/15 |
| **Criteria for reporting change from the baseline** | +/- 4 days |

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| **Available groupings\*** | **Yes/No** | **Notes** |
| **NI Level** | Yes |  |
| **Parliamentary Constituency level** | No |  |
| **Local Government District (2014) level** | No |  |
| **Deprivation Quintile** | No |  |
| **NISRA Geography Urban/Rural Measure** | No |  |
| **Gender** | Yes |  |
| **Age** | Yes | Youth cases measured separately from adult ones in relation to magistrates’ courts. |
| **Marital Status** | No |  |
| **Religion** | No |  |
| **Political Opinion** | No |  |
| **Disability** | No |  |
| **Dependants** | No |  |
| **Sexual Orientation** | No |  |
| **Racial Group** | No |  |
| **Lowest level geography at which the measure is available:** | Northern Ireland. | |

\* Due to confidentiality constraints, in some instances breakdowns may not be available due to small numbers