

The information contained in the report is produced annually by the Court Service from information provided by all Crown Court centres.

The table to the report shows the performance of all centres in England and Wales against eight key performance measures. As in the last report, Court centres are listed alphabetically in the table. A combined London Group figure is also included, as are average figures for England and Wales.

The eight measures and definitions of what they record are set out below:-

KPI3 (Timeliness)

- Calculated using the number of trials disposed of within 16 weeks + the number of sentences dealt with in 10 weeks + the number of appeals dealt with in 14 weeks all divided by the total number of trials, sentences and appeals disposed of. The Court Service target is 78%. The current performance figure across England and Wales stands at 77.6% compared to 76% for 2000/2001.

Average Waiting Time (weeks)

- Calculated using the waiting time in weeks for each hearing and dividing by the number of committals for trial disposed of. The Court Service target is 8 weeks for defendants in custody and 12 weeks for defendants on bail.

Percentage of Committals outstanding over 16 weeks

- Determined as the number of committals still outstanding after 16 weeks divided by the total number of trials outstanding.

Disposal Rate

- Calculated by dividing the total number of cases disposed of (i.e. effectively dealt with) divided by the total number of days sat by a court. For example, a court sitting for 20 days and disposing of 20 cases would have a disposal rate of one.

Courtroom Usage (hours)

- This records the average number of hours sat in open court divided by the number of days sat. It excludes time spent by Judges carrying out work in chambers. The Court Service target is 4.37 hours.

Cracked Trial Rate

- A cracked trial is any case that is dealt with on the day a trial was scheduled to take place without the trial needing to go ahead. This includes cases where the defendant changes their plea to guilty, or pleads to a lesser charge on the day of the trial. It does not include cases where the defendant pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing before the court. It is calculated by dividing the number of cracked trials by the number of cases disposed of.

Ineffective Trial Rate

- An ineffective trial is a case that is unable to proceed to trial on the day the trial was due to commence. Reasons for ineffective trials may include witnesses or defendant not attending, and lack of available courtroom time. The ineffective trial rate is the number of ineffective trials divided by the number of cases listed for trial. As this records the number of listed cases that do not commence, it includes cases that subsequently have an effective hearing at a later date.

Days Jurors Sit as a % of Attendance and Non-Attendance

- The number Juror Sitting days divided by the sum of the Total Juror Attendance days and the Total Non-Attendance days determines this figure. The Court Service target is 67%.

The report is not a “league table” and should not be used as such. The performance of individual courts is influenced by many factors including geographical location, type of cases dealt with and organisation of work between court centres across groups.

Courts near to major ports and airports e.g. Canterbury, Isleworth and Croydon have high percentages of Customs and Excise cases, and courts in major city centres have a higher proportion of serious crime. Courts with large numbers of long and complex cases e.g. Central Criminal Court will be able to deal with fewer cases per courtroom than courts mainly dealing with straightforward, shorter criminal matters.

Complex cases generally require more preparation time before they are ready for trial resulting in the average waiting times being likely to be longer at these courts.

As in previous years, workload in the London group of courts continues to be distributed between Crown Court centres in accordance with the directions of the Senior Presiding Judge to ensure the most effective listing practice across the group is followed. Consequentially this effects the disposal rate of some court centres, notably the Central Criminal Court which is heavily weighted towards the most high profile and complex criminal cases. For this reason the performance of London courts should not be looked at in isolation from each other.

Resident Judges and Court Managers at all Court centres are asked by the Senior Presiding Judge and the Chief Executive of the Court Service to comment on the figures for their courts and to show what is to be done to improve performance against targets in future years. The responses received and the joint approaches to tackling areas of poor performance demonstrate the courts and the judiciary working together to good effect.

Code	Names	KPI 3	Average Waiting Time (weeks)	% committals outstanding over 16 weeks	Disposal Rate	Courtroom Usage (hours)	Cracked Trial Rate	Ineffective Trial Rate	Days jurors sits as a % of attendance and non attendance
100	England and Wales	77.6%	14.68	38.0%	0.79	4.36	23.4%	23.9%	63.8%
1	London Group	76.6%	14.43	37.6%	0.51	4.53	20.7%	25.8%	73.6%
401	Aylesbury	80.1%	12.62	37.6%	0.94	4.44	13.7%	26.6%	51.2%
461	Basildon	82.9%	12.49	45.1%	0.50	3.98	17.6%	24.3%	53.7%
404	Birmingham	78.0%	13.69	39.6%	1.17	4.51	29.7%	27.5%	68.9%
428	Blackfriars	77.6%	15.37	35.6%	0.52	4.81	19.8%	22.5%	69.7%
470	Bolton	67.4%	19.05	55.7%	1.27	4.66	34.8%	29.5%	60.6%
406	Bournemouth	87.1%	11.35	24.5%	0.61	4.35	18.0%	15.7%	48.5%
402	Bradford	80.8%	13.96	35.3%	0.90	4.14	22.4%	21.0%	71.0%
408	Bristol	77.5%	15.06	40.9%	0.81	4.12	20.4%	25.7%	57.9%
409	Burnley	72.7%	17.02	49.8%	1.00	4.61	35.5%	31.5%	53.8%
413	C.C.C.	52.8%	24.46	52.2%	0.20	4.40	11.6%	16.6%	79.5%
410	Cambridge	82.1%	13.71	43.4%	0.88	3.97	20.5%	19.1%	53.3%
479	Canterbury	70.3%	15.83	39.6%	0.54	4.35	19.5%	27.6%	57.3%
411	Cardiff	93.1%	9.27	21.8%	0.98	4.74	16.0%	14.1%	69.1%
412	Carlisle	70.0%	17.71	53.3%	0.75	4.90	23.7%	24.3%	65.2%
414	Chelmsford	80.7%	14.38	30.3%	0.45	4.17	16.4%	24.9%	66.9%
415	Chester	90.9%	9.79	21.3%	0.85	4.09	17.5%	17.1%	45.7%
416	Chichester	56.3%	22.90	57.2%	1.04	4.17	23.0%	14.7%	45.7%
417	Coventry	78.4%	13.30	31.9%	1.43	3.89	22.7%	24.2%	48.2%
418	Croydon	90.1%	7.82	41.1%	0.71	4.54	19.6%	27.7%	65.4%
419	Derby	80.7%	14.24	34.7%	1.55	3.90	23.6%	24.9%	64.7%
420	Doncaster	83.1%	12.17	25.0%	1.55	3.80	27.1%	28.0%	48.5%
407	Dorchester	83.8%	13.12	37.8%	0.66	4.43	12.9%	18.6%	43.8%
422	Durham	77.7%	14.39	21.7%	1.64	3.98	31.7%	27.4%	38.6%
423	Exeter	82.1%	13.69	33.0%	0.76	3.83	13.1%	10.0%	53.9%
424	Gloucester	83.7%	15.50	28.2%	0.97	4.17	17.4%	26.9%	60.3%

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425	Grimsby	72.2%	19.27	35.2%	1.08	4.22	26.6%	18.3%	50.2%
474	Guildford	74.5%	14.18	39.1%	0.61	4.09	18.6%	24.3%	56.1%
468	Harrow	77.0%	14.11	36.0%	0.61	4.41	25.8%	26.2%	71.3%
403	Hull	86.6%	11.07	27.4%	0.95	4.51	32.6%	11.7%	54.7%
440	I.L.S.H.	78.4%	14.05	30.5%	0.60	4.56	22.5%	27.1%	71.1%
426	Ipswich	83.8%	12.80	30.3%	0.67	4.44	18.9%	17.0%	56.4%
475	Isleworth	83.3%	11.22	29.4%	0.80	4.70	18.7%	23.6%	70.2%
427	Kingston-upon-Thames	70.9%	16.79	40.1%	0.44	4.50	20.7%	28.0%	70.1%
429	Leeds	81.8%	12.99	34.7%	0.93	4.28	20.4%	18.2%	75.5%
430	Leicester	76.0%	14.52	41.7%	1.09	3.72	21.7%	26.8%	56.3%
431	Lewes	68.0%	16.94	31.1%	0.76	4.15	22.9%	26.0%	55.9%
432	Lincoln	85.1%	12.08	32.8%	0.89	4.19	19.8%	18.8%	48.7%
433	Liverpool	64.0%	19.60	40.0%	0.95	4.61	31.6%	21.3%	73.4%
476	Luton	78.4%	13.94	22.1%	0.63	4.45	19.9%	22.6%	67.0%
434	Maidstone	72.5%	16.54	41.8%	0.67	4.24	20.4%	28.5%	60.7%
435	Manchester (Crown Square)	60.0%	21.67	49.2%	0.77	4.92	30.0%	21.5%	72.7%
436	Manchester (Minshull Street)	71.5%	15.33	46.8%	1.07	4.76	31.7%	26.9%	71.7%
437	Merthyr Tydfil	96.5%	8.09	5.6%	1.12	4.33	20.7%	11.3%	51.3%
464	Middlesex Guildhall	75.7%	14.27	29.7%	0.54	4.46	23.2%	30.8%	70.6%
439	Newcastle	84.0%	13.64	33.7%	0.97	3.66	27.2%	15.3%	59.0%
478	Newport (IOW)	55.1%	24.04	41.8%	0.94	3.64	20.6%	26.4%	55.9%
442	Northampton	77.6%	15.62	35.0%	0.92	4.28	17.1%	18.7%	49.7%
443	Norwich	84.2%	13.44	31.7%	0.74	4.19	19.8%	20.9%	61.5%
444	Nottingham	89.0%	10.46	24.4%	1.29	3.58	21.4%	23.8%	58.4%
445	Oxford	84.0%	12.47	27.6%	0.73	4.31	19.8%	17.5%	46.4%
473	Peterborough	78.5%	14.75	39.6%	0.92	4.75	16.9%	31.9%	46.2%
446	Plymouth	85.5%	10.68	33.6%	0.82	3.35	15.0%	18.1%	51.0%

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447	Portsmouth	75.9%	17.14	30.9%	0.66	3.95	19.5%	17.4%	58.5%
448	Preston	63.7%	22.01	53.9%	0.87	4.48	33.8%	27.7%	63.5%
449	Reading	80.6%	12.82	27.7%	0.51	4.00	19.4%	25.1%	58.2%
480	Salisbury	64.2%	16.24	40.0%	0.64	4.00	20.3%	8.3%	51.9%
451	Sheffield	84.0%	11.87	30.8%	0.92	4.31	25.7%	20.7%	62.8%
452	Shrewsbury	75.7%	16.24	41.4%	0.93	4.18	23.5%	26.6%	61.1%
453	Snaresbrook	77.8%	14.08	47.8%	0.54	4.51	19.0%	32.6%	85.1%
454	Southampton	74.8%	16.65	31.4%	0.72	4.15	17.8%	22.0%	54.8%
471	Southwark	76.3%	15.02	31.4%	0.45	4.63	17.6%	22.9%	82.2%
450	St. Albans	76.1%	15.87	21.1%	0.66	4.60	22.5%	24.4%	57.4%
455	Stafford	75.1%	15.41	40.9%	0.89	4.49	22.8%	24.7%	63.2%
456	Stoke-on-Trent	80.9%	15.48	45.3%	1.18	4.61	17.3%	23.7%	58.5%
457	Swansea	89.4%	10.09	20.7%	0.81	5.65	14.8%	10.4%	77.9%
458	Swindon	85.0%	10.95	37.3%	0.71	3.89	7.5%	18.8%	49.3%
459	Taunton	77.3%	14.09	40.0%	0.90	3.62	15.1%	17.6%	48.5%
460	Teesside	73.5%	16.53	39.1%	1.11	4.26	30.6%	27.0%	65.0%
477	Truro	69.1%	18.24	36.4%	0.92	4.54	14.8%	22.6%	54.8%
462	Warrington	83.8%	11.65	25.2%	1.01	4.47	16.7%	15.9%	47.6%
463	Warwick	84.7%	11.33	27.4%	1.31	3.47	23.1%	19.9%	43.1%
465	Winchester	77.9%	14.45	47.4%	0.48	3.98	20.2%	23.1%	54.9%
421	Wolverhampton	70.7%	17.15	39.9%	1.22	4.26	26.1%	33.5%	62.1%
469	Wood Green	70.4%	15.70	28.9%	0.56	4.37	25.0%	23.6%	66.1%
472	Woolwich	72.2%	16.14	31.6%	0.51	4.59	28.4%	24.1%	66.0%
466	Worcester	81.8%	12.43	39.3%	1.13	4.18	18.8%	28.1%	48.2%
467	York	85.1%	11.06	32.3%	1.28	4.13	26.2%	12.6%	49.0%