

Table 1: Number of adult offenders sentenced for offences under the Firearms Act 1968, 2014-2017^{1,2}

Guideline group	Legislation	Section	Offence	Number of adult offenders sentenced			
				2014	2015	2016	2017
Group 8	Firearms Act 1968	5(2A)(a)	Manufacture weapon / ammunition specified in section 5(1) of the Firearms Act 1968	0	0	4	0
		5(2A)(b)	Sell / transfer prohibited weapon / ammunition	0	0	10	19
		5(2A)(c)	Possess prohibited weapon / ammunition for sale / transfer	0	0	4	5
		5(2A)(d)	Purchase / acquire prohibited weapon / ammunition for sale / transfer	0	0	0	1
		TOTAL SECTION 5(2A) OFFENCES		0	0	18	25

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

Notes

1) These offences came into force on 14 July 2014.

2) Cases in 2016 may have been sentenced prior to the Stephenson judgment.

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 ²	Total
Group 8	5(2A)(a)	Manufacture weapon / ammunition specified in section 5(1) of the Firearms Act 1968 ¹	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
	5(2A)(b)-(d)	Sell / transfer prohibited weapon / ammunition, Possess/purchase/acquire prohibited weapon / ammunition for sale / transfer	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	25

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 ²	Total
Group 8	5(2A)(a)	Manufacture weapon / ammunition specified in section 5(1) of the Firearms Act 1968 ¹	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%
	5(2A)(b)-(d)	Sell / transfer prohibited weapon / ammunition, Possess/purchase/acquire prohibited weapon / ammunition for sale / transfer	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

Notes

1) Data shown for this offence relates to 2016 (as no offenders were sentenced in 2017), and may therefore include cases sentenced prior to the Stephenson judgment.

2) 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 ^{1,3}	Median sentence length ^{2,3}	Sentence range (using estimated pre GP sentence lengths)
Group 8	5(2A)(a)	Manufacture weapon / ammunition specified in section 5(1) of the Firearms Act 1968 ^{4,5}	17 years 9 months	20 years 3 months	8 years - 22 years 6 months' custody
	5(2A)(b)-(d)	Sell / transfer prohibited weapon / ammunition, Possess/purchase/acquire prohibited weapon / ammunition for sale / transfer	12 years	9 years	5 years 7 months - 26 years 6 months' custody

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

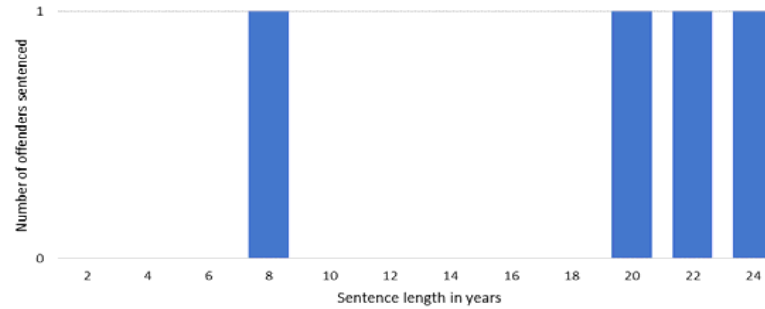
Notes

- 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) The ACSLs and ranges shown for this offence relate to 2016 (as no offenders were sentenced in 2017), and may therefore include cases sentenced prior to the Stephenson judgment.
- 5) These figures should be treated with caution, due to the low number of offenders sentenced for this offence.

Figure 1: 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

Section 5(2A)(a) offences - Manufacture weapon / ammunition specified in section 5(1) of the Firearms Act 1968, 2016^{1,2}

Sentence length (years)	No. of offenders sentenced	Proportion of offenders sentenced
<=2	0	0%
2-4	0	0%
4-6	0	0%
6-8	1	25%
8-10	0	0%
10-12	0	0%
12-14	0	0%
14-16	0	0%
16-18	0	0%
18-20	1	25%
20-22	1	25%
22-24	1	25%
Total	4	100%

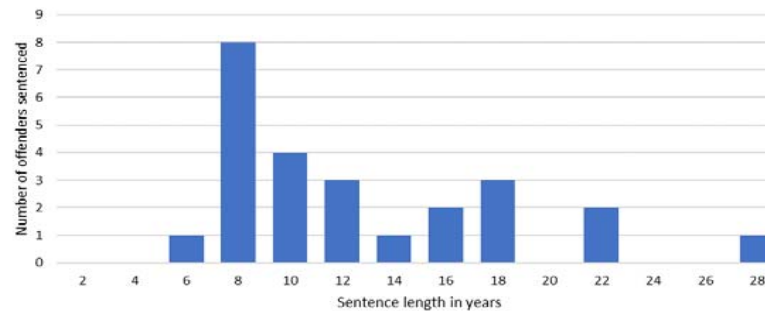


Notes:

- 1) The data shown for this offence relates to 2016 (as no offenders were sentenced in 2017), and may therefore include cases sentenced prior to the Stephenson judgment.
- 2) These proportions should be treated with caution, due to the low number of offenders sentenced for this offence.

Section 5(2A)(b)-(d) offences - Sell / transfer prohibited weapon / ammunition, Possess/purchase/acquire prohibited weapon / ammunition for sale / transfer, 2017

Sentence length (years)	No. of offenders sentenced	Proportion of offenders sentenced
<=2	0	0%
2-4	0	0%
4-6	1	4%
6-8	8	32%
8-10	4	16%
10-12	3	12%
12-14	1	4%
14-16	2	8%
16-18	3	12%
18-20	0	0%
20-22	2	8%
22-24	0	0%
24-26	0	0%
26-28	1	4%
Total	25	100%



Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

Notes:

Separate sentence length breakdowns for section 5(2A)(b)-(d) offences have not been shown due to low volume. Sentence length intervals do not include the lower bound, but do include the upper bound sentence length. For example, the category '<=2' includes sentence lengths less than and equal to 2 years, and '2-4' includes sentence lengths over 2 years, and up to and including 4 years.