Annex D: Assisting an offender data tables

Number of offenders sentenced for assisting an offender under section 4 of the Criminal Law Act 1967 offences, 2010-2020

	Number of adult offenders sentenced											
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
Assisting an offender – murder	11	16	10	17	12	23	28	16	18	26	16	
Assisting an offender - indictable offence (except murder)	51	38	34	57	40	38	47	33	31	41	18	
Assisting an offender - triable either way offences only	5	15	14	14	15	16	7	17	10	12	8	
Total	67	69	58	88	67	77	82	66	59	79	42	

Number and proportion of adult offenders sentenced for assisting an offender where the offence was murder, 2010-2020

		Number of adult offenders sentenced												
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020			
Discharge	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0			
Fine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Community sentence	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0			
Suspended sentence	4	3	1	2	4	5	5	3	4	7	2			
Immediate custody	6	12	7	15	8	16	21	13	13	19	13			
Otherwise dealt with	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1			
Total	11	16	10	17	12	23	28	16	18	26	16			

		Proportion of adult offenders sentenced											
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		
Discharge	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
Fine	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
Community sentence	9%	6%	20%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
Suspended sentence	36%	19%	10%	12%	33%	22%	18%	19%	22%	27%	13%		
Immediate custody	55%	75%	70%	88%	67%	70%	75%	81%	72%	73%	81%		
Otherwise dealt with	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	6%	0%	6%		
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		

Number and proportion of adult offenders sentenced for assisting an offender where the offence was indictable (except murder), 2010-2020

		Number of adult offenders sentenced												
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020			
Discharge	4	3	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0			
Fine	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1			
Community sentence	12	7	6	10	4	3	3	1	5	7	1			
Suspended sentence	20	12	14	22	22	18	18	15	7	17	10			
Immediate custody	15	16	13	23	13	16	25	15	15	15	5			
Otherwise dealt with	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	1			
Total	51	38	34	57	40	38	47	33	31	41	18			

		Proportion of adult offenders sentenced											
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		
Discharge	8%	8%	0%	2%	0%	3%	2%	0%	3%	0%	0%		
Fine	0%	0%	3%	2%	3%	0%	0%	3%	0%	2%	6%		
Community sentence	24%	18%	18%	18%	10%	8%	6%	3%	16%	17%	6%		
Suspended sentence	39%	32%	41%	39%	55%	47%	38%	45%	23%	41%	56%		
Immediate custody	29%	42%	38%	40%	33%	42%	53%	45%	48%	37%	28%		
Otherwise dealt with	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	10%	2%	6%		
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		

Number and proportion of adult offenders sentenced for assisting an offender where the offence was triable either way, 2010-2020

		Number of adult offenders sentenced												
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020			
Discharge	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	3	5	1	0			
Fine	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1			
Community sentence	3	5	5	4	1	5	1	0	1	1	2			
Suspended sentence	2	3	3	2	9	3	4	7	4	7	5			
Immediate custody	0	6	4	7	3	4	2	7	0	3	0			
Otherwise dealt with	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0			
Total	5	15	14	14	15	17	7	17	10	12	8			

		Proportion of adult offenders sentenced												
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020			
Discharge	0%	0%	14%	7%	0%	12%	0%	18%	50%	8%	0%			
Fine	0%	7%	0%	0%	13%	12%	0%	0%	0%	0%	13%			
Community sentence	60%	33%	36%	29%	7%	29%	14%	0%	10%	8%	25%			
Suspended sentence	40%	20%	21%	14%	60%	18%	57%	41%	40%	58%	63%			
Immediate custody	0%	40%	29%	50%	20%	24%	29%	41%	0%	25%	0%			
Otherwise dealt with	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%			
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%			

Average custodial sentence lengths (ACSL) received by adult offenders sentenced for assisting an offender under section 4 of the Criminal Law Act 1967 offences, 2010-2020

	ACSL (years)											
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Assisting an offender – murder	Mean	2.8	2.3	3.0	3.8	2.3	3.2	2.8	2.2	2.8	3.1	3.0
	Median	2.8	2.8	3.5	2.8	1.8	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.7
Assisting an offender - indictable	Mean	1.8	1.1	1.0	1.8	1.1	1.6	1.5	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.1
offence (except murder)	Median	1.5	0.8	0.8	1.5	0.8	1.4	1.3	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0
Assisting an offender - triable	Mean	-	1.3	*	0.5	*	*	*	2.2	-	*	-
either way offences only	Median	-	0.9	*	0.5	*	*	*	1.3	-	*	-
Total	Mean	2.1	1.5	1.4	2.3	1.5	2.3	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.5
	Median	2.0	1.0	8.0	1.5	1.1	1.8	1.5	2.0	2.3	2.0	2.4

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice

Notes:

1) Figures presented for 2020 include the time period since March 2020 in which restrictions were placed on the criminal justice system due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is therefore possible that these figures may reflect the impact of the pandemic on court processes and prioritisation and the subsequent recovery, rather than a continuation of the longer-term series, so care should be taken when interpreting these figures.

