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NOTES AND DEFINITIONS

Purpose

This spreadsheet provides the data behind figures 3 to 10 in a paper published on Remand and Bail outcomes at Sheriff courts.

[Sheriff Courts - remand and bail outcomes: occasional paper](#)

The figure linked to each table is noted above the tables.

Source of information

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service (SCTS) collect management information on all hearings at Scottish Courts. Extracts from their database going back to 1 April 2015 have been provided to Scottish Government for analysis. This management information forms the basis of the tables provided in this spreadsheet.

Data quality

- i. The data provided by SCTS is management information and has not been subject to the same quality assurance processes that data used for eg Official Statistics might be. Although not likely, it is possible that individual entries may change or be updated over time.
- ii. The paper describes the process followed to clean the data for this analysis. Future analysis employing the same data may not be entirely consistent.
- iii. Overall, the data quality is deemed sufficient to draw conclusions about trends over time, and about proportions of cases with different characteristics (such as proportion remanded and proportion bailed). However, because total numbers may be subject to change, they have been rounded to the nearest two significant figures, or to the nearest 10. Numbers below 10 have been suppressed to avoid disclosure of personal information.

Outcomes by Procedure Type

Numbers and likelihoods of each outcome for the accused for new solemn petitions and summary complaints in Sheriff courts, during the period of April 2016 to March 2021.

This data is displayed in figure 3 of the paper.

Numbers below 100 are rounded to the nearest 10. Percentages and numbers of 100 and above are rounded to two significant figures.

Procedure Type	Accused Outcome	Number	Proportion of Outcomes (%)
SOLEMN-PETITION	Remand	19,000	40%
SOLEMN-PETITION	Bail	27,000	57%
SOLEMN-PETITION	Ordained	50	0.11%
SOLEMN-PETITION	Warrant	910	1.9%
SOLEMN-PETITION	Final Diet	60	0.12%
SOLEMN-PETITION	Other/NA	320	0.69%
SOLEMN-PETITION	Total	47,000	100%
SUMMARY	Remand	25,000	7.7%
SUMMARY	Bail	140,000	42%
SUMMARY	Ordained	110,000	32%
SUMMARY	Warrant	7,700	2.3%
SUMMARY	Final Diet	36,000	11%
SUMMARY	Other/NA	13,000	4.1%
SUMMARY	Total	330,000	100%

Remand likelihood

Numbers and likelihoods of remand for new solemn petitions and summary complaints in Sheriff courts, during the period of April 2016 to March 2021, depending on the appearance type and whether the case involved bail aggravation.

This data is displayed in figure 4 of the paper.

Numbers less than 10 are removed, indicated by *. Numbers between 10 and 99 are rounded to the nearest 10. Percentages and numbers of 100 and above are rounded to two significant figures.

Procedure Type	Appearance court type	Presence of bail aggravator	Number remanded	Proportion remanded (%)
SOLEMN-PETITION	Custody Court	Bail aggravation	7,600	63%
SOLEMN-PETITION	Custody Court	No bail aggravation	11,000	37%
SOLEMN-PETITION	Undertakings Court	Bail aggravation	40	11%
SOLEMN-PETITION	Undertakings Court	No bail aggravation	120	2.5%
SOLEMN-PETITION	Other	Bail aggravation	*	80%
SOLEMN-PETITION	Other	No bail aggravation	*	41%
SUMMARY	Custody Court	Bail aggravation	13,000	26%
SUMMARY	Custody Court	No bail aggravation	12,000	10%
SUMMARY	Undertakings Court	Bail aggravation	40	0.99%
SUMMARY	Undertakings Court	No bail aggravation	70	0.15%
SUMMARY	Other	Bail aggravation	60	0.41%
SUMMARY	Other	No bail aggravation	90	0.095%

Callings by Yr Proc Type

Number of first bail decision points in Sheriff courts over time, in total and by procedure type.

This data is displayed in figure 5 of the paper.

Numbers of 100 and above are rounded to two significant figures.

Procedure Type	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
SOLEMN-PETITION	8,900	8,600	9,300	9,400	11,000
SUMMARY	74,000	69,000	62,000	68,000	55,000
Total	83,000	78,000	71,000	77,000	66,000

Callings by Yr Proc App

Number of first bail decision points in Sheriff courts over time, by procedure type and appearance court type.

This data is displayed in figure 6 of the paper.

Numbers less than 10 are removed, indicated by *. Numbers between 10 and 99 are rounded to the nearest 10. Numbers of 100 and above are rounded to two significant figures.

Procedure Type	Appearance Court Type	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
SOLEMN-PETITION	Custody Court	8,200	7,900	8,300	8,400	8,900
SOLEMN-PETITION	Undertakings Court	700	740	970	1,000	1,800
SOLEMN-PETITION	Other	*	*	*	*	10
SUMMARY	Custody Court	41,000	36,000	33,000	35,000	22,000
SUMMARY	Undertakings Court	9,000	11,000	10,000	9,600	15,000
SUMMARY	Other	24,000	22,000	19,000	23,000	18,000

Outcomes by Yr Proc Type

Outcomes of first bail decision points in Sheriff courts over time, in total and by procedure type.

This data is displayed in figure 7 of the paper.

Numbers less than 10 are removed, indicated by *. Numbers between 10 and 99 are rounded to the nearest 10. Numbers of 100 and above are rounded to two significant figures.

Procedure Type	Accused outcome	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
SOLEMN-PETITION	Remand	3,400	3,500	3,900	3,800	4,100
SOLEMN-PETITION	Bail	5,300	4,900	5,100	5,400	6,200
SOLEMN-PETITION	Ordained	*	*	10	*	20
SOLEMN-PETITION	All other outcomes	220	180	230	230	430
SUMMARY	Remand	6,000	5,500	5,300	5,200	3,200
SUMMARY	Bail	31,000	30,000	27,000	29,000	23,000
SUMMARY	Ordained	24,000	22,000	19,000	23,000	20,000
SUMMARY	All other outcomes	13,000	12,000	11,000	11,000	8,800
Total	Remand	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	7,000
Total	Bail	36,000	35,000	32,000	34,000	29,000
Total	Ordained	24,000	22,000	19,000	23,000	20,000
Total	All other outcomes	13,000	12,000	11,000	11,000	9,200

Sol Outcomes by Bail

Outcomes of first bail decision points for solemn petitions in Sheriff courts over time, by bail aggravation.

This data is displayed in figure 8 of the paper.

Numbers below 100 are rounded to the nearest 10. Numbers of 100 and above are rounded to two significant figures.

Bail Aggravator	Accused outcome	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Bail aggravation	Remand	1,400	1,300	1,500	1,500	2,000
Bail aggravation	Bail	710	700	750	890	1,500
Bail aggravation	All other outcomes	60	50	70	60	130
No bail aggravation	Remand	2,100	2,200	2,400	2,300	2,100
No bail aggravation	Bail	4,600	4,200	4,400	4,500	4,800
No bail aggravation	All other outcomes	160	140	180	180	310

Sol Cases by Bail

Number of first bail decision points for solemn petitions in Sheriff courts over time, by bail aggravation.

This data is displayed in figure 9 of the paper.

Numbers are rounded to two significant figures.

Bail Aggravator	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Bail aggravation	2,100	2,100	2,300	2,400	3,700
No bail aggravation	6,800	6,500	7,000	6,900	7,100

Sol Outcome Props by Bail

Outcome likelihood of first bail decision points for solemn petitions in Sheriff courts over time, by bail aggravation.

This data is displayed in figure 10 of the paper.

Percentages are rounded to two significant figures.

Bail Aggravator	Accused outcome	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Bail aggravation	Remand	64%	64%	64%	61%	56%
Bail aggravation	Bail	33%	33%	33%	37%	41%
Bail aggravation	All other outcomes	2.9%	2.3%	2.9%	2.6%	3.7%
No bail aggravation	Remand	30%	33%	35%	33%	29%
No bail aggravation	Bail	67%	65%	62%	64%	67%
No bail aggravation	All other outcomes	2.4%	2.1%	2.5%	2.6%	4.4%