

Northern Ireland Fact Sheet

April 2019¹

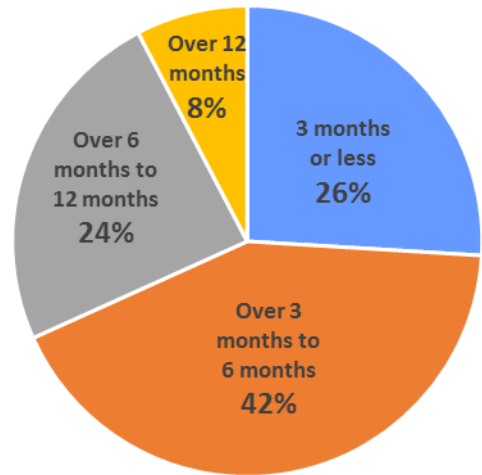
423

women were sent to prison in Northern Ireland in 2017/18.

30% of women sentenced to immediate imprisonment were sentenced for **theft offences.**

68% of women were sentenced to **less than 6 months.**

58% of women were sent to prison on **remand** in 2017/18.



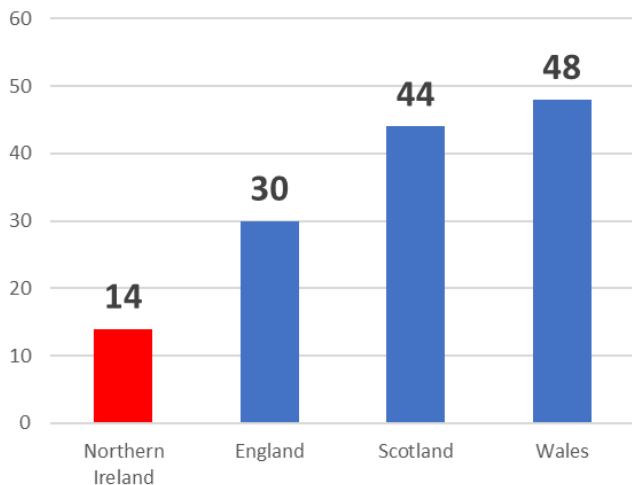
In 2016/17 the average cost per prisoner in Northern Ireland was

£53,408²

In 2017/18 the average daily number of women in prison in Northern Ireland was

57

Northern Ireland has the lowest imprisonment rate of **14 women per 100,000** of the population in the UK.³



The number of women received into prison in Northern Ireland has **increased by 38%** in the past 3 years.

The number of women sentenced to **3 months or less, doubled** from 2016/17 to 2017/18.

“The population of Ash House remained a complex one, with many of the women experiencing mental health issues, high levels of self-harming behaviour, domestic violence and drug and alcohol abuse”⁴

¹ The data on this fact sheet is taken from the following source unless otherwise stated: The Northern Ireland Prison Population 2017/18, Belfast: Department of Justice

² House of Commons (2018) UK Prison Population Statistics Briefing Paper

³ London: Home Office and Office for National Statistics, Population Pivot Tool mid-2016 UK, London: ONS. England and Wales- Ministry of Justice (2018) Court Outcomes by Police Force Area Data Tool, Criminal Justice System statistics quarterly: December 2017, London: MoJ. Scotland- Table 10b, The Scottish Government (2018) Criminal proceedings in Scotland 2016–17, Edinburgh: The Scottish Government. Northern Ireland- Table 8, The Northern Ireland Prison Population 2017/18 Tables open data format, Belfast: Department of Justice These rates should be treated with caution, as they have been calculated using multiple data sources and imprisonment figures from various time frames, 2016/17 and 2017. The rates are used created using 2016 estimated general population data from the Office for National Statistics

⁴ Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland (2016) Report on an unannounced inspection of Ash House women's prison Hydebank wood.