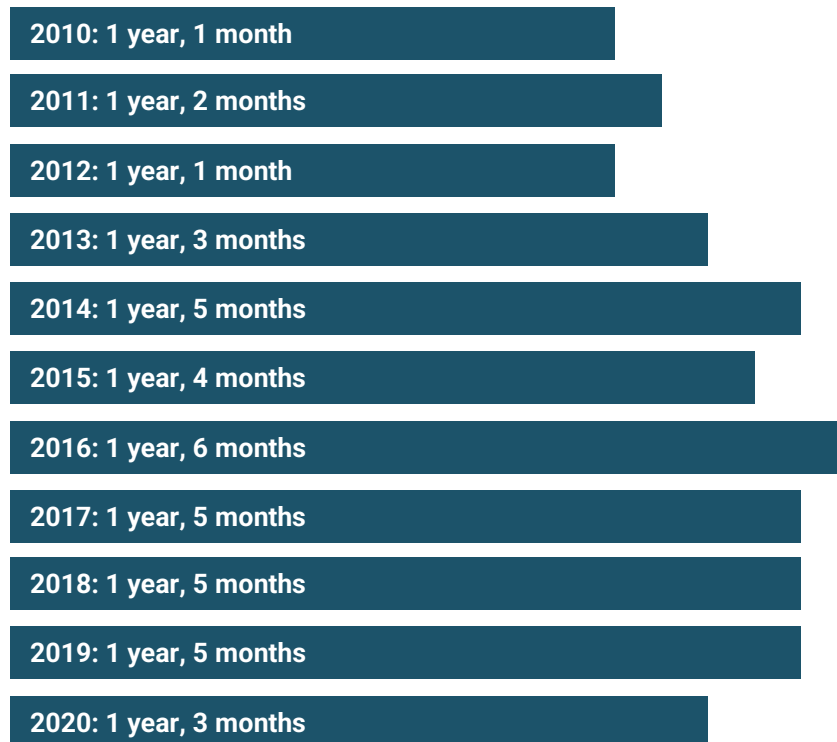


## Sexual assault

Average custodial sentence length for adults sentenced for sexual assault



Source: Ministry of Justice (2021) *Criminal Justice System Statistics publication: Outcomes by Offence 2010 to 2020: Pivot Table Analytical Tool for England and Wales*

Adults sentenced for the offence of sexual assault during the 2010-2020 period have received an average custodial sentence length of between 1 year and 1 month and 1 year and 6 months. The general trend is a very gradual increase in average sentence length until 2016 followed by a slight decrease to 2020. The most recent guideline for this offence dates from 2014. The extent to which this guideline has had any impact on the average length of sentence given to offenders is difficult to determine as little research has been carried out.