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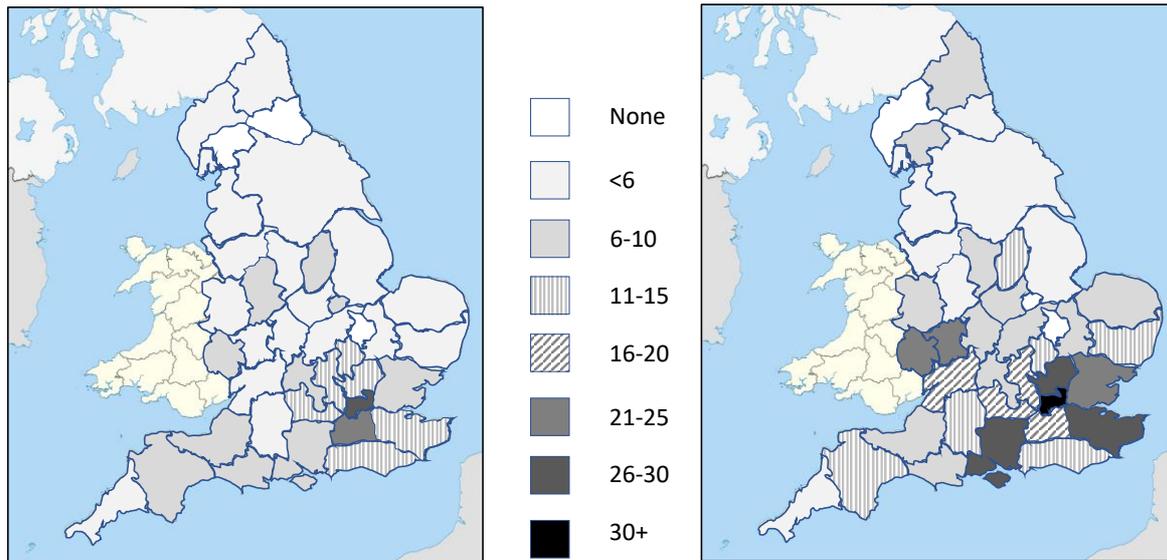


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# Blood Money and the Bloody Code: The impact of financial rewards on criminal justice in eighteenth-century England

## Figures and Tables

**Figure 1: £40 Rewards by County, 1748-52 (left) and 1780-84 (right), per 100,000 population: Burglary, Highway Robbery and Housebreaking**



Sources: The National Archives (London), Treasury Warrant Books, T 53/43-44 and T 53/54-57, supplemented by Sheriff's Cravings T 64/262, T 90/148 and T 90/163-65. Sheriff's Cravings are missing for 1748, 1750, and for some counties: Durham for both periods and London for 1748-52. Population figures are from E. A. Wrigley, 'English county populations in the later eighteenth century', *Economic History Review* 60, 1, Table 5.

**Table 1: Old Bailey £40 Rewards for Burglary, Highway Robbery and Housebreaking**

| <b>Years</b> | <b>Offence</b>  | <b># of Rewards</b> | <b># of Convicts</b> | <b>Rewards as % of Convicts</b> |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1727-31      | Burglary        | 40                  | 41                   | 97.6                            |
|              | Highway Robbery | 105                 | 116                  | 90.5                            |
|              | Housebreaking   | 7                   | 7                    | 100.0                           |
| 1748-52      | Burglary        | 21                  | 22                   | 95.5                            |
|              | Highway Robbery | 94                  | 100                  | 94.0                            |
|              | Housebreaking   | 3                   | 6                    | 50.0                            |
| 1780-84      | Burglary        | 81                  | 87                   | 93.1                            |
|              | Highway Robbery | 198                 | 201                  | 94.5                            |
|              | Housebreaking   | 8                   | 8                    | 100.0                           |
| Totals       | Burglary        | 142                 | 150                  | 94.7                            |
|              | Highway Robbery | 397                 | 417                  | 95.2                            |
|              | Housebreaking   | 18                  | 21                   | 85.7                            |
| TOTAL        |                 | 557                 | 588                  | 94.7                            |

Sources: The National Archives (London), Treasury Warrant Books, T 53/33-36, T 53/43-44 and T 53/54-57, supplemented by Sheriff's Cravings E 197/32-33, T 64/262, T 90/148 and T 90/163-65; Tim Hitchcock, Robert Shoemaker, Clive Emsley, Sharon Howard and Jamie McLaughlin, *et al.*, *The Old Bailey proceedings online, 1674-1913* ([www.oldbaileyonline.org](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org), version 8.0, March 2018). To compile this table, all defendants charged with each offence who were convicted of the full offence at the Old Bailey and sentenced to death were identified, and then checked against the records of rewards (each reward is for one convict). Some adjustments have been made to the Old Bailey Online categorisations of offence types and verdicts to correct tagging errors.

**Table 2: Defendants Prosecuted for Theft at the Old Bailey, 1720-1790**

| <b>Offence</b>        | <b>£40 Reward available?</b> | <b># Defendants</b> | <b>% of all Thefts</b> |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Highway Robbery       | Yes                          | 3157                | 7.8                    |
| Burglary              | Yes                          | 2772                | 6.8                    |
| Pickpocketing         | No                           | 1631                | 4.0                    |
| Shoplifting           | No                           | 1512                | 3.7                    |
| Housebreaking         | Yes                          | 521                 | 1.3                    |
| Robbery               | No                           | 491                 | 1.2                    |
| All Old Bailey Thefts |                              | 40,680              | 100.0                  |

Crimes highlighted in grey were subject to rewards. Source: Tim Hitchcock, Robert Shoemaker, Clive Emsley, Sharon Howard and Jamie McLaughlin, *et al.*, *The Old Bailey proceedings online, 1674-1913* ([www.oldbaileyonline.org](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org), version 8.0, March 2018), statistics search.

**Table 3: Old Bailey Defendants Tried for Highway Robbery During Periods With and Without £100 Proclamations in Effect**

| <b>From</b>   | <b>To</b>     | <b>Proc. in Effect?</b> | <b># OB Sessions</b> | <b>Defendants Tried</b> | <b>Defendants per Session</b> |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| January 1715  | January 1720  | No                      | 41                   | 101                     | 2.46                          |
| March 1720    | July 1727     | Yes                     | 60                   | 238                     | 3.97                          |
| August 1727   | February 1728 | No                      | 5                    | 12                      | 2.4                           |
| May 1728      | May 1745      | Yes                     | 138                  | 687                     | 4.98                          |
| July 1745     | January 1749  | No                      | 29                   | 63                      | 2.17                          |
| February 1749 | May 1750      | Yes                     | 10                   | 109                     | 10.9                          |
| July 1750     | December 1750 | No                      | 4                    | 45                      | 11.25                         |
| January 1751  | June 1752     | Yes                     | 12                   | 67                      | 5.6                           |
| July 1752     | December 1756 | No                      | 36                   | 120                     | 3.33                          |
| <b>Total</b>  |               | <b>No</b>               | <b>115</b>           | <b>341</b>              | <b>2.97</b>                   |
| <b>Total</b>  |               | <b>Yes</b>              | <b>220</b>           | <b>1101</b>             | <b>5.0</b>                    |

Periods highlighted in grey were when £100 proclamations were in effect. Source: Tim Hitchcock, Robert Shoemaker, Clive Emsley, Sharon Howard and Jamie McLaughlin, *et al.*, *The Old Bailey proceedings online, 1674-1913* ([www.oldbaileyonline.org](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org), version 8.0, March 2018), statistics search.

**Table 4: Verdicts for Selected Theft Offences at the Old Bailey, 1720-90  
(Counting by Defendant)**

| <b>Offence</b>  | <b>Reward?</b> | <b>% Full Guilty</b> | <b>% Part Guilty</b> | <b>% All Guilty</b> | <b>Total Defs</b> |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Highway Robbery | Yes            | 42.9                 | 12.1                 | 55.0                | 3157              |
| Burglary        | Yes            | 28.8                 | 32.4                 | 61.2                | 2772              |
| Housebreaking   | Yes            | 22.6                 | 44.5                 | 67.1                | 521               |
| Pickpocketing   | No             | 9.8                  | 40.6                 | 50.4                | 1631              |
| Shoplifting     | No             | 10.4                 | 63.9                 | 74.3                | 1512              |

Crimes highlighted in grey were subject to rewards. Source: Tim Hitchcock, Robert Shoemaker, Clive Emsley, Sharon Howard and Jamie McLaughlin, *et al.*, *The Old Bailey proceedings online, 1674-1913* ([www.oldbaileyonline.org](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org), version 8.0, March 2018), statistics search. The overall pattern holds when controlling for the gender of the defendant.

**Table 5: Old Bailey Rewardees' Roles and Frequencies of Appearance, 1728-33**

| <b>Role</b>      | <b>One sessions</b> | <b>Two sessions</b> | <b>Three sessions</b> | <b>Four to seven sess.</b> | <b>Total</b>  |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Victim           | 74                  | 4                   | 0                     | 0                          | 78            |
| Accomplice       | 20                  | 1                   | 0                     | 0                          | 21            |
| Parish officer   | 22                  | 5                   | 1                     | 2                          | 30            |
| Other witness    | 115                 | 5                   | 2                     | 4                          | 126           |
| Unknown          | 213                 | 15                  | 1                     | 1                          | 230           |
| <b>Total (%)</b> | 91.5%               | 6.2%                | 0.8%                  | 1.4%                       | 485<br>(100%) |

Source: London Metropolitan Archives, MJ/GB/B/017-018 and CLA/047/LJ/11/013; The National Archives (London), E 407/27-29; checked against relevant trial accounts in the Old Bailey *Proceedings*: Tim Hitchcock, Robert Shoemaker, Clive Emsley, Sharon Howard and Jamie McLaughlin, *et al.*, *The Old Bailey proceedings online, 1674-1913* (www.oldbaileyonline.org, version 8.0, March 2018). The unit of analysis is a 'sessions', a single meeting of the court on successive days (there were eight per year), since rewardees often appeared in more than one trial relating to the same crime at a single sessions.