



**Home Office**

# Home Office Statistical Bulletin



## **Seizures of drugs in England and Wales, 2010/11**

**Second Edition**

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## Second edition – corrections

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Errors in formulae used to compile the quantity breakdown in Summary Table 3 were brought to the attention of the author after publication. These mainly affected figures for cannabis resin seizures made by police. On Summary Table 3a, the numbers of police seizures within quantity categories have been amended as follows: 'under 1g' amended from 17,991 to 3,617; '1-500g' amended from 6 to 14,270; '500g-1kg' amended from 4 to 38; '1-10kg' amended from 0 to 48; '10-100kg' amended from 2 to 23; and, '100kg and over' amended from nil to 7. Two figures for heroin seizures made by police were also affected and have been amended as follows: 'under 1g' amended from 7,573 to 7,572; '100kg and over' amended from nil to 1. Summary Table 3c, Figure 5.1 and associated commentary have also been amended to reflect these corrections. Totals for quantities seized are unaffected.

## Further information

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# Conventions used in figures and tables

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## Table abbreviations

- '0' indicates amount less than 1 (this does not apply when amounts are presented to one decimal point)
- '-' indicates nil amount or, for percentage changes, that the amount is not reported because the base number of offences is less than 50
- '..' indicates data are not available
- '\*' indicates not applicable

## Percentages

Row or column percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.

A percentage may be quoted in the text for a single category that is identifiable in the tables only by summing two or more component percentages. In order to avoid rounding errors, the percentage has been recalculated for the single category and therefore may differ by one percentage point from the sum of the percentages derived from the tables.

## Conversions

1 kilogram (kg) = 1,000 grams (g)

1 tonne (metric ton) = 1,000 kilograms (kg)

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## Summary

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The numbers of seizures made are affected by police activity and changes in recording practices and police powers, such as the introduction of cannabis warnings. Therefore, the number of drug seizures made and quantity of drugs seized should not be taken as measures of drug prevalence in England and Wales. This is addressed in the Drug Misuse Declared publications, based on results from the British Crime Survey.

- There were 212,784 drug seizures by the police and the UK Border Agency (UKBA) in England and Wales in 2010/11, a five per cent decrease on 2009/10.
- Class A seizures decreased by 15 per cent between 2009/10 and 2010/11, to 35,246. Class B seizures fell by four per cent to 175,218, while class C seizures rose by 16 per cent to 7,516.
- Cocaine was again the most commonly seized class A drug in 2010/11, with 17,689 seizures, a 17 per cent decrease on 2009/10. The second highest seized class A drug was heroin at 10,812, a 16 per cent decrease from 2009/10.
- The majority of class B seizures were for cannabis. The 167,381 seizures in 2010/11 compared to 176,830 in 2009/10, a five per cent decrease.
- The number of seizures of 'other class B' drugs increased to 2,722 in 2010/11 from 377 in 2009/10. This is largely due to mephedrone and other cathinone derivatives being made controlled substances in April 2010.
- The most commonly seized class C drug in 2010/11 was benzodiazepine with 2,488 seizures, which was 16 per cent lower than the previous year's 2,957 seizures. This decrease coincided with an increase in the number of 'other class C' drugs seizures, from 991 in 2009/10 to 2,594 in 2010/11. It should be noted that the UKBA has been unable to identify benzodiazepine (or temazepam) seizures from their recording system for 2010/11, with them instead being classified as 'other class C' drugs. In addition, the 78 per cent increase in police seizures of 'other class C' drugs between 2009/10 and 2010/11 is largely due to Gamma-Butyrolactone (GBL) and substituted piperazines, including BZP, being made controlled substances in December 2009.
- There were 2.4 tonnes of cocaine seized in England and Wales in 2010/11, down from 2.6 tonnes in 2009/10. The quantity of cocaine seized has gradually fallen from a peak of 6.9 tonnes seized in 2003.
- Seizures of heroin amounted to 0.7 tonne in England and Wales in 2010/11, down 52 per cent on the 1.5 tonnes seized in 2009/10. This is largely due to the decrease in seizures weighing 100 kg or more by both the police and the UKBA.
- Additionally, 2.8 million doses of anabolic steroids (down 19%) and 0.7 tonne of amphetamines were seized (down 46%). The 59 per cent increase in herbal cannabis and cannabis resin seized, from 30.5 tonnes in 2009/10 to 48.6 tonnes in 2010/11, followed a 53 per cent decrease the previous year (65.1 tonnes in 2008/09).





# 1 Introduction

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This publication presents figures for drug seizures made in 2010/11 in England and Wales by police (including the British Transport Police) and the UK Border Agency (including HM Revenue and Customs<sup>1</sup>). Drug seizure data from the Serious Organised Crime Agency are not included within this publication.<sup>2</sup> Although the UK Border Agency (UKBA) and some police forces may be involved in seizures outside England and Wales, for example in off-shore operations, those seizures are not included in this publication.

The statistics relate to all drugs controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (MDA), which divides drugs into three categories – classes A, B and C – according to their harmfulness, with class A drugs considered to be the most harmful. However, it is not feasible to publish seizure statistics in detail for every drug covered by the MDA. While all drugs are included in the totals, only those in Table 1.1 are covered in detail within this bulletin.<sup>3</sup>

Mephedrone and other cathinone derivatives became controlled drugs in April 2010. While seizures of these particular substances can be individually recorded on the statistical return police forces submit to the Home Office, they are grouped as ‘other class B’ drugs for the purposes of this bulletin. Similarly, a range of psychoactive substances, including GBL and substituted piperazines (e.g. BZP), became controlled drugs in December 2009 and are grouped as ‘other class C’ drugs.

**Table 1.1 Drugs and their classifications under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971**

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<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Class C</b>
Cocaine	Amphetamines <sup>1</sup>	Anabolic Steroids
Crack	Barbiturates <sup>1</sup>	Benzodiazepines
Ecstasy	Cannabis <sup>2</sup>	GHB
Heroin		Ketamine
LSD		Temazepam
Methadone		
Morphine		

---

1. Amphetamines and barbiturates are class A drugs if prepared for injection.
2. Cannabis was reclassified from a class B to a class C drug in January 2004, and then classified back as a class B drug on 26 January 2009.

## Changes to recording practices in 2010/11

In April 2010 Merseyside Police changed the way it recorded drug seizures when it started using data from its forensic services provider rather than an in-house system. The new system focuses primarily on those seizures that are likely to result in larger amounts of drugs. This has resulted in an 86 per cent decrease in the number of seizures being recorded by the force in 2010/11 in comparison to 2009/10, though has had no substantive effect on their quantity data.

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1 For more information see paragraph 4 in the Notes section.

2 For more information see paragraph 5 in the Notes section.

3 Where a seizure is made of a drug that is not listed in Table 1.1, it is aggregated into an ‘other’ class category. Further information on drugs covered under the MDA, including a link to the full list of drugs covered, is available at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/drugs/drug-law/>.

In addition, Kent Police implemented a new system to improve the accuracy for recording seized items, including drugs, in April 2010. This has resulted in an increase in the number of seizures involving trace amounts of drugs, but has not affected the recording of drug quantities.

A new system has been used to record drug seizures and other seized items by the UKBA since April 2010, which has resulted in some of the drugs included in Table 1.1 not being able to be separately identified. For 2010/11, UKBA seizures of methadone are included within the 'other class A' grouping, barbiturates within 'other class B', and benzodiazepines and temazepam within 'other class C'.

### **Box 1.1 Counting rules**

#### **Single or multiple seizures**

A single seizure involves a seizure of one drug quantity within one drug type (e.g. 10 g of cocaine). Where a seizure involves multiple drug types and/or preparation types (e.g. 10 g of cocaine and 5 g of crack), counting rules are applied to this multiple seizure.

#### **Three counts of seizures: total, by drug type and by class**

Multiple seizures involving more than one drug are counted as a single seizure in the total number of seizures, but are counted separately against each individual drug type or drug class involved.

Example: A seizure is made of: 1 kg cocaine; 100 g cannabis resin; and 350 g herbal cannabis. This seizure would be counted as:

- Total:  
One seizure in the overall total for the number of seizures by that agency [quantity not applicable];
- Drug type:  
One seizure of cocaine [1 kg]; one seizure of cannabis resin [100 g]; and one seizure of herbal cannabis [350 g];
- Class:  
One seizure of class A and one seizure of class C [quantity not applicable].

#### **Avoiding double counting**

Seizures from joint operations involving the UKBA and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

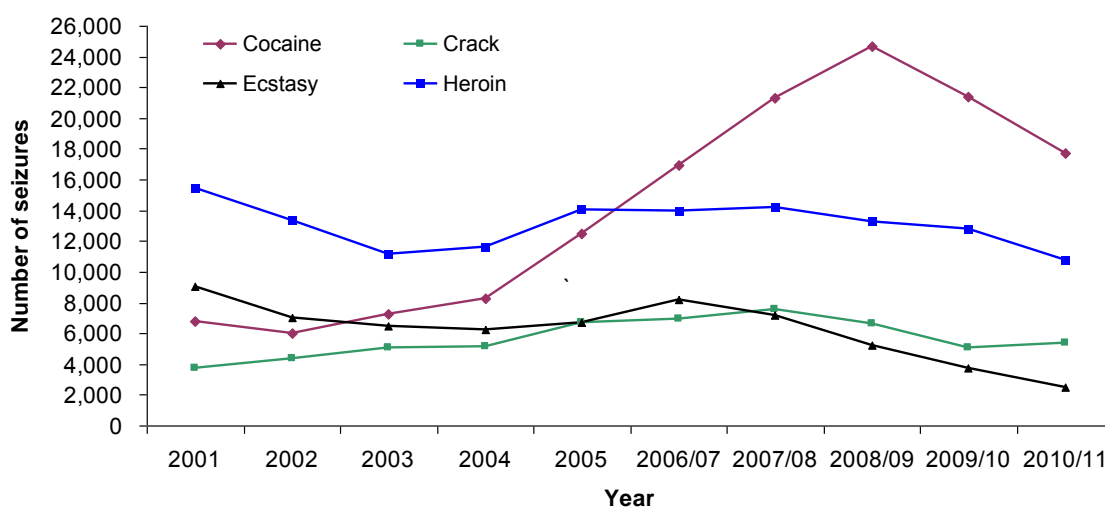
## 2 Number of seizures

The numbers of seizures made are affected by police activity and changes in recording practices and police powers, such as the introduction of cannabis warnings (see Box 2.1). Therefore, the number of drug seizures each year should not be taken as a measure of drug prevalence in England and Wales. This is addressed in the Drug Misuse Declared publications, based on results from the British Crime Survey.<sup>4</sup>

- Police and the UKBA made 212,784 drug seizures in England and Wales in 2010/11, representing a five per cent decrease on 2009/10. The number of seizures more than doubled between 2004 and 2008/09, to a peak of 241,473 seizures, but has since seen two annual decreases. (Summary Table 1c).
- The new system used to record drug seizures by Merseyside Police resulted in the force recording 1,797 seizures in 2010/11, an 86 per cent decrease on the number recorded during the previous year (12,946 seizures). The total number for England and Wales excluding Merseyside's seizures was 207,033 in 2010/11 compared to 207,507 in 2009/10, a decrease of 0.2 per cent.

The remainder of the figures presented in this chapter include data from Merseyside Police.

**Figure 2.1** Number of seizures for the main class A drug types, 2001 to 2010/11



### Class A drugs

- In England and Wales seizures involving class A drugs fell by 15 per cent, to 35,246, in 2010/11. This is the third consecutive annual decrease in seizures of class A drugs, following three consecutive annual increases.
- Cocaine, for the fifth year in succession, was the most commonly seized class A drug, with 17,689 seizures, down 17 per cent on 2009/10. Cocaine seizures rose sharply between 2002 and 2008/09 and, despite the decline in recent years, the number of seizures in 2010/11 was almost triple the 6,015 made in 2002.

<sup>4</sup> See the latest edition of 'Drug Misuse Declared: Findings from the British Crime Survey', available at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/hosb1211/>.

- Seizures of heroin fell by 16 per cent between 2009/10 and 2010/11 to 10,812, its third consecutive annual fall.

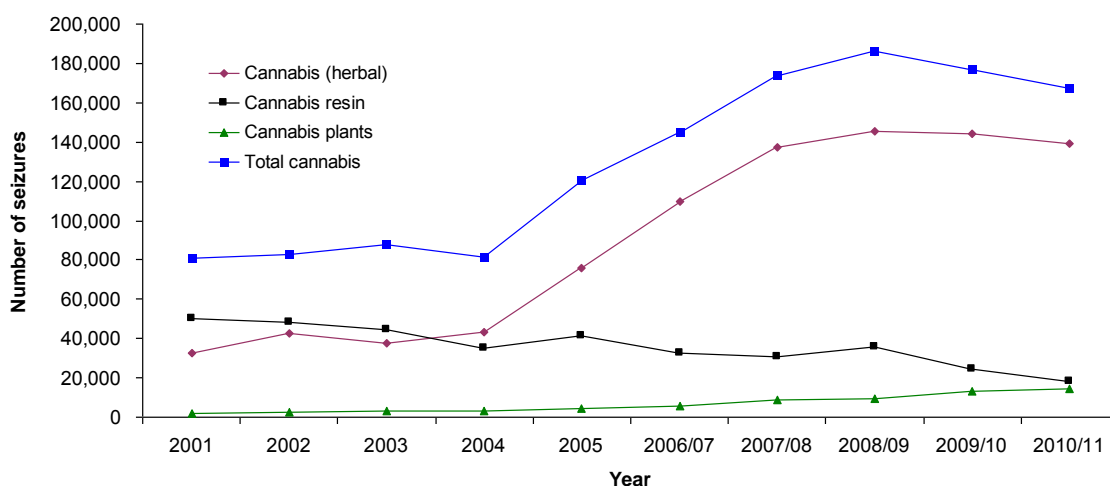
Other notable class A drug seizures include the following:

- Crack seizures increased by six per cent, to 5,380 in 2010/11. The number of crack seizures peaked in 2007/08 (7,578 seizures), and was followed by two annual decreases.
- Ecstasy seizures fell to 2,535 in 2010/11, a 32 per cent decrease. Seizures are now almost two-thirds of 2006/07 levels, following four consecutive annual falls.
- There were also 1,067 seizures of methadone (up 3%), 95 seizures of LSD (down 7%) and 114 seizures of morphine (up 2%).

### Class B drugs

- In 2010/11, there was a four per cent decrease in seizures of class B drugs, to 175,218.
- The majority of class B seizures were for cannabis, with 167,381 seizures in 2010/11, down from 176,830 in 2009/10. This included falls in the number of herbal cannabis and cannabis resin seizures (down 4% and 25% respectively), and an increase in the number of cannabis plants seized (up 12%).
- In the three years prior to the introduction of cannabis warnings in 2004 (see Box 2.1), cannabis seizures averaged 84,000 a year. Since then cannabis seizures have averaged 150,000 a year.
- The second highest number of seizures for a class B drug was for amphetamines with 7,177 in 2010/11, down from 7,302 in 2009/10.
- In addition, the number of 'other class B' drugs rose six-fold between 2009/10 (377 seizures) and 2010/11 (2,722 seizures). The increase is largely due to mephedrone and other cathinone derivatives becoming controlled drugs in April 2010.

**Figure 2.2** Number of cannabis seizures, 2001 to 2010/11

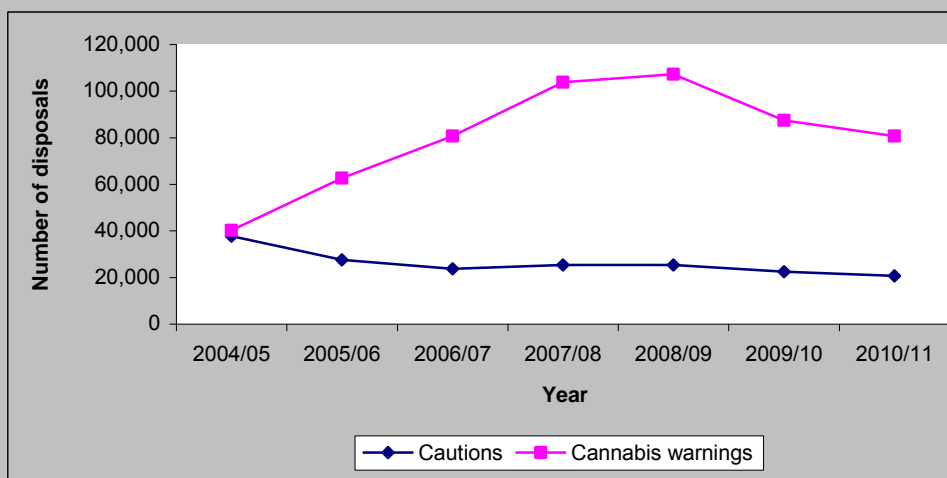


## Class C drugs

- In 2010/11 there were 7,516 seizures involving class C drugs, a 16 per cent rise on 2009/10. The most seized class C drugs in 2010/11 were benzodiazepines, with 2,488 seizures. Although this was a decrease of 16 per cent on 2009/10, it should be noted that UKBA seizures of benzodiazepines could not be separately identified in 2010/11 and that they are instead included within the 'other class C' total.
- There were 250 seizures of temazepam in 2010/11, a 12 per cent fall on the 285 seizures in 2009/10. However, similarly to benzodiazepines, the UKBA has not been able to separately identify seizures of temazepam from their recording system for 2010/11.
- The number of 'other class C' drugs rose by 162 per cent, from 991 in 2009/10 to 2,594 in 2010/11. For police seizures this is largely due to Gamma-Butyrolactone (GBL) and substituted piperazines, including BZP, being made controlled substances in December 2009. For the UKBA this is likely to be due to seizures of benzodiazepines and temazepam being unable to be separately identified from its recording system.
- Seizures of anabolic steroids decreased by 23 per cent to 674 from a peak of 871 in 2009/10.
- Ketamine became a controlled drug in 2006 and is categorised under 'other class C' for police forces until 2008/09 and for the UKBA until 2009/10. The 1,792 ketamine seizures in 2010/11 was an 11 per cent increase on the 1,612 made in 2009/10.

### Box 2.1 WARNINGS FOR CANNABIS POSSESSION

With effect from 1 April 2004 the Home Office issued guidance to all police forces in relation to the recording of formal warnings for cannabis possession, which was in line with Association of Chief Police Officers' guidance. Information about this can be found on the Home Office website at: <http://drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/publication-search/cannabis/potency?view=Binary>. The guidance gave an additional disposal option of a formal warning for cannabis possession (from 16 January 2007 renamed cannabis warnings). Whereas a simple caution involves processing an individual at a police station, a cannabis warning can be completed on the street. The widespread and growing use of this new disposal is thought to have been a large contributory factor in the increase in the number of police seizures for cannabis since April 2004. Additionally, on 26 January 2009, issuing penalty notices for disorder for cannabis possession was introduced as an option for the police.



Between 2004/05 and 2010/11, the number of cautions issued for cannabis possession fell by 45 per cent, from 37,738 to 20,658. Cannabis warnings increased year-on-year from 40,138 in 2004/05 to a peak of 107,241 in 2008/09, then saw two annual decreases. In 2010/11 there were 80,658 warnings issued, eight per cent lower than in 2009/10, though still more than twice the level seen in 2004/05.

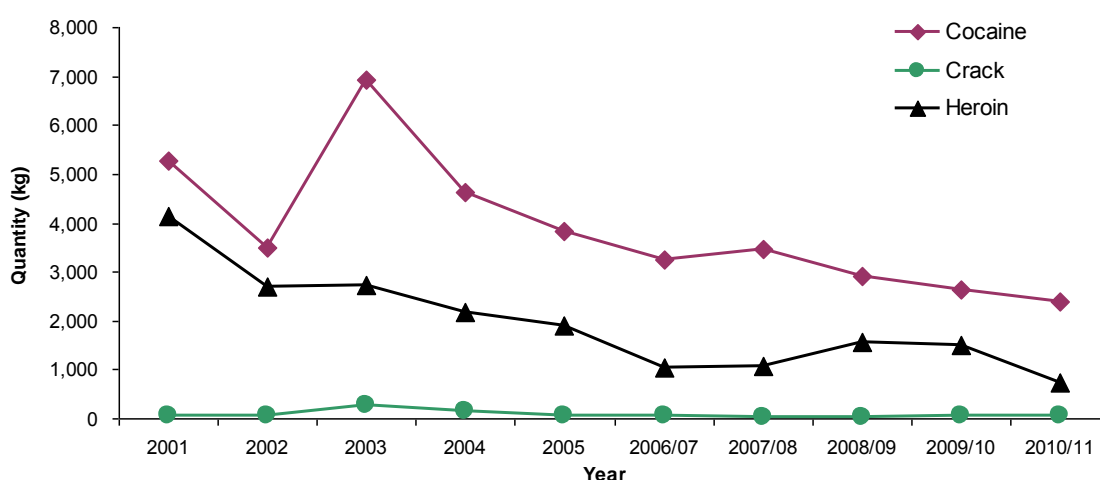
### 3 Quantity of drugs seized

Quantities data fluctuate from year to year and do not necessarily move in line with the number of seizures made (Summary Tables 1 and 2). Whilst most drug seizures consist of relatively small quantities (Summary Table 3), annual totals of drugs seized can be greatly influenced by a small number of large seizures. As with the *number* of drug seizures, any large quantity of seizures should not be taken as an indication of drug prevalence or availability.

#### Class A drugs

- In 2010/11, there were 2.4 tonnes<sup>5</sup> of cocaine seized (down 10% on 2009/10), 0.7 tonne of heroin (down 52%) and 50 kg of crack (down 16%). In addition, over 357,000 doses of ecstasy (up 109% on 2009/10) and nearly 172,000 doses of methadone (up 15% on 2009/10) were seized in 2010/11.
- For cocaine, 61 per cent of the 17,689 seizures were of quantities of less than one gram with a further 35 per cent between one and 500 grams.
- Seventy per cent of the 10,812 seizures of heroin were under one gram and a further 29 per cent were between one and 500 grams.
- Of the 5,380 seizures of crack made in 2010/11, just 0.2 per cent consisted of amounts over 500 grams.
- The majority of unweighed class A drug seizures in 2010/11 were for ecstasy with 2,535 seizures; 94 per cent of these seizures were between 1–50 doses.
- There were also high proportions of seizures consisting of 1–50 doses for morphine (79%) and LSD (83%). The proportion of methadone seizures consisting of 1–50 doses stood at 61 per cent.

Figure 3.1 Quantity of weighed class A drug types seized, 2001 to 2010/11



<sup>5</sup> Where 1 tonne is equal to 1,000 kg.

## Class B drugs

- A combined total of 48.6 tonnes of herbal cannabis and cannabis resin was seized in 2010/11, compared to 30.5 tonnes in 2009/10. This 59 per cent increase followed a 53 per cent decrease between 2008/09 and 2009/10. There was a four per cent decrease in the number of cannabis plants seized in 2010/11 (729,502) compared to the previous year (758,943).
- Of the 139,209 seizures of herbal cannabis, just under 25 per cent (34,192 seizures) weighed under one gram and just under 75 per cent (104,063 seizures) weighed between one and 500 grams.
- There were 18,293 seizures of cannabis resin, of which 18,085 (99%) weighed less than 500 grams.
- Eighty-six per cent of cannabis plant seizures were for 50 plants or fewer.
- There was a 46 per cent decrease in the quantity of amphetamines seized in 2010/11 compared to the year before (0.7 tonne compared to 1.3 tonnes in 2009/10), and a 76 per cent decrease since the 2008/09 peak of 2.9 tonnes.

## Class C drugs

- The quantity of anabolic steroids seized decreased by 19 per cent, from 3.4 million doses in 2009/10 to 2.8 million doses in 2010/11.
- There was also a large decrease in the quantity of benzodiazepines seized (from 6.8 million doses in 2009/10 to 664,292 doses in 2010/11, down 90%). As with the fall in the *number* of benzodiazepine seizures, this is likely to be due to the UKBA being unable to separately identify benzodiazepines from its recording system for 2010/11.
- The quantity of ketamine seized increased by 173 per cent, from 0.3 tonne in 2009/10 to 0.8 tonne in 2010/11.

### Box 3.1 CALCULATING QUANTITIES OF DRUGS

The quantities of drugs seized are summarised in terms of tonnes (for larger quantities), kilograms, doses or plants (for cannabis plants only). Most drugs can plausibly be seized in a preparation form other than kilograms or doses. Therefore, in order to present all seized quantities within a given drug type in terms of one comparable unit (either kilograms or doses), conversion factors are applied to estimate the overall quantity of drugs seized.

Conversion factors were revised from the 2005 publication to reflect trends in average drug preparations. These were used for annual 'Seizures in Drugs in England and Wales' publications since 2006/07's, and will be reviewed periodically in the future. All revisions to quantities conversion factors and units for presentation have been made on the advice of the Forensic Science Service. Some drugs that were previously presented in kilograms are presented in doses from 2005. As the basis for these calculations has changed, figures for seizure quantities for prior to 2005 are not directly comparable with the published data for the last six years.

Amount groupings (e.g. under 1 gram, 1–50 doses) presented in the breakdowns shown in Summary Tables 3a and 3c of this publication include data on all seizures made by police forces. For the UKBA's data in Summary Tables 3b and 3c, quantities requiring conversion are not included in the breakdowns, although they are included in the total estimated quantity (kilograms or doses).

## 4 Purity of drugs

Data on the average purities of different types of drugs have been obtained from the Forensic Science Service (FSS) and are based on the average of all analysed drug samples submitted to the FSS. In general, the purity from the UKBA seizures is higher than that from the police force seizures. This reflects the fact that their seizures will tend to be made higher in the supply chain and before 'cutting' (the addition of active agents to increase profit margins) occurs.

- Between 2009/10 and 2010/11, cocaine seized by the UKBA showed a smaller increase in purity (up 1.6 percentage points), compared to seizures made by the police (up 7.1 percentage points).
- The purity of crack seized by the police and UKBA rose by 3.0 and 15.4 percentage points respectively compared to 2009/10 figures. For seizures by the UKBA, purity of crack is likely to vary considerably from year to year due to the small number of crack seizures taking place (for example, four in 2009/10 and 13 in 2010/11).
- The purity of heroin seized has decreased for both the police and the UKBA since 2009/10 (down 14.1 and 12.6 percentage points respectively).
- The purity of amphetamines seized by the police shows a slight increase (up 1.0 percentage point), whereas that seized by the UKBA shows a substantial rise (up 17.9 percentage points).

**Table 4.1 Average purity<sup>1</sup> of drug seizures analysed by the FSS by drug type and authority, 2009/10 and 2010/11**

Percentages	England and Wales, FSS			
	Police		UKBA	
	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11
Cocaine	21	28	63	64
Crack	29	32	47	62
Heroin	44	30	54	42
Amphetamines	8	9	31	49

1. Data represent the average from the year's submissions rather than the average of individual quarters shown in Summary Table 4.



## 5 Seizures by authority

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### Number of seizures

- In 2010/11, 208,830 or 98 per cent of seizures were made by police forces with the remaining 3,954 or two per cent made by the UKBA. The number of seizures made by the police fell by five per cent, while those made by the UKBA rose slightly (up 0.2 per cent) compared to 2009/10.
- For police forces, class A seizures fell by 15 per cent, class B fell by four per cent and class C rose by 24 per cent.
- For the UKBA, class A seizures rose by four per cent, class B rose by 11 per cent while class C fell by 17 per cent.
- Police forces accounted for 96 per cent of all seizures of class A drugs and 99 per cent of all seizures of class B drugs. For class C drugs, police forces were responsible for 86 per cent of seizures.
- Within the class A drugs seized, the police were responsible for 99 per cent of crack, ecstasy, heroin, and morphine seizures, 98 per cent of LSD seizures and 95 per cent of cocaine seizures.
- For class B drugs, over 99 per cent of seizures of cannabis and amphetamines were conducted by the police. All seizures of cannabis plants were made by the police.
- Of drugs in class C, all seizures of GHB in 2010/11 were conducted by the police. The UKBA was responsible for 17 per cent of anabolic steroid seizures and six per cent of ketamine seizures.
- It is not possible to calculate the proportion of methadone, barbiturates, benzodiazepines and temazepam seized by the police and UKBA for 2010/11 since the latter has not been able to separately identify these drugs on its recording system.

**Table 5.1 Number and percentage of drug seizures by class, drug type and authority, 2010/11<sup>1</sup>**

Drug class	Drug type	Police forces		UKBA		Total
		Number	%	Number	%	
<b>Class A drugs</b>	Cocaine	16,852	95	837	5	17,689
	Crack	5,367	100	13	0	5,380
	Ecstasy	2,522	99	13	1	2,535
	Heroin	10,702	99	110	1	10,812
	LSD	93	98	2	2	95
	Methadone <sup>2</sup>	1,067	..	..	..	1,067
	Morphine	113	99	1	1	114
	Other class A	599	66	313	34	912
	<b>All class A<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>33,959</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>1,287</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>35,246</b>
<b>Class B drugs</b>	Cannabis	165,998	99	1,383	1	167,381
	Amphetamines	7,135	99	42	1	7,177
	Barbiturates <sup>2</sup>	22	..	..	..	22
	Other class B	2,475	91	247	9	2,722
	<b>All class B<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>173,581</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>1,637</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>175,218</b>
<b>Class C drugs</b>	Anabolic steroids	561	83	113	17	674
	Benzodiazepines <sup>2</sup>	2,488	..	..	..	2,488
	GHB	66	100	-	0	66
	Ketamine	1,683	94	109	6	1,792
	Temazepam <sup>2</sup>	250	..	..	..	250
	Other class C	1,728	67	866	33	2,594
	<b>All class C<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>6,435</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7,516</b>
Unknown	Unknown	3,677	100	-	0	3,677
<b>All seizures<sup>3</sup></b>		<b>208,830</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>3,954</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>212,784</b>

1. Seizures from joint operations involving the UKBA and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.
2. Seizures of methadone (class A), barbiturates (class B), benzodiazepines and temazepam (both class C) could not be separately identified from the UKBA's recording system for 2010/11. They are instead included within the relevant 'other class' total.
3. As a seizure can involve more than one drug, figures for individual drugs and drug classes cannot be added together to produce totals.

## Quantity of seizures

Although the UKBA accounted for only two per cent of seizures in 2010/11, the proportion they seized in terms of quantity was much higher. This is due to the fact that the agency is often involved in high profile operations where large quantities of drugs are seized, for example at airports or ferry ports.

This is highlighted in Figure 5.1. Almost two-thirds of the quantity of drugs seized by police (62 per cent) and more than half of that seized by the UKBA (53 per cent) fell within the 1–500g or 51–100 doses or plants groupings. A further 37 per cent of the drugs seized by police weighed less than one gram or consisted of between 1–50 doses or plants, while only three per cent of seizures made by the UKBA fell within these groupings. In contrast, 35 per cent of UKBA seizures weighed more than one kilogram, compared to less than one per cent of police seizures. A breakdown by drug type is shown in Summary Table 3.

- In 2010/11, the UKBA seized 64 per cent of cocaine by quantity (76% in 2009/10), 57 per cent of heroin (55% in 2009/10) and less than one per cent of ecstasy (32% in 2009/10).
- For class B drugs, the UKBA seized 19 per cent of amphetamines (40% in 2009/10).

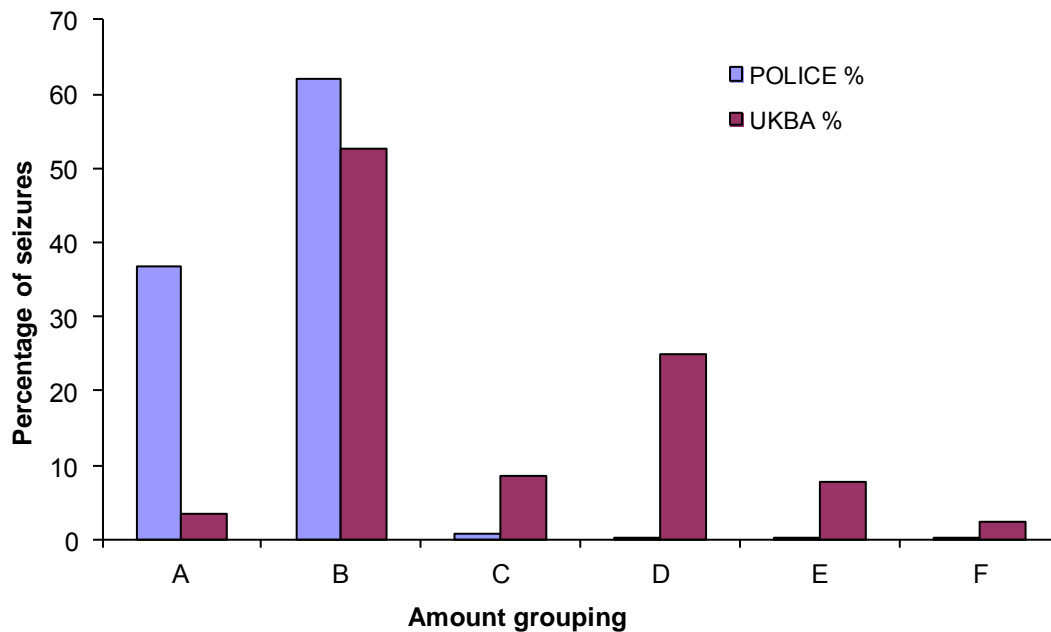
- All cannabis plant seizures (729,502 plants) were made by local police forces in 2010/11, while the UKBA seized 28.9 tonnes (60%) of the herbal and resin cannabis seized in 2010/11 compared to 19.6 tonnes (40%) seized by the police. This shows that, despite the growth in domestic production, there are still sizeable imports being attempted.
- Within class C drugs the UKBA seized 88 per cent of anabolic steroids (98% in 2009/10) and 72 per cent of ketamine (28% in 2009/10). Five kilograms of GHB were seized in 2010/11, all of which was seized by the police.
- As with the number of drugs seized in 2010/11, the quantity of methadone, barbiturates, benzodiazepines and temazepam seized by the UKBA could not be separately identified from its recording system.

**Table 5.2 Quantity and percentage of drugs seized by class, drug type and authority, 2010/11<sup>1</sup>**

Drug class	Drug type	Units <sup>2</sup>	Police forces		UKBA		Total
			Quantity	%	Quantity	%	
<b>Class A drugs</b>	Cocaine	kg	868	36	1,519	64	2,387
	Crack	kg	36	72	14	28	50
	Ecstasy	doses (000s)	357	100	0	0	357
	Heroin	kg	311	43	420	57	732
	LSD	doses (000s)	3	80	1	20	4
	Methadone <sup>3</sup>	doses (000s)	172	..	..	..	172
	Morphine	doses (000s)	8	99	0	1	9
<b>Class B drugs</b>	Cannabis (herbal)	kg	7,096	34	13,597	66	20,693
	Cannabis resin	kg	12,523	45	15,344	55	27,866
	Cannabis plants	plant	729,502	100	-	0	729,502
	Amphetamines	kg	573	81	137	19	710
	Barbiturates <sup>3</sup>	doses (000s)	0	..	..	..	0
<b>Class C drugs</b>	Anabolic steroids	doses (000s)	333	46	2,459	342	719
	Benzodiazepines <sup>3</sup>	doses (000s)	664	..	..	..	664
	GHB	kg	5	100	-	0	5
	Ketamine	kg	221	28	581	72	802
	Temazepam <sup>3</sup>	doses (000s)	9	..	..	..	9

1. Seizures from joint operations involving the UKBA and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.
2. Drugs can be seized in a variety of forms or preparation types. In this table, quantities of drugs have been converted to weights (kg), doses (000s) or plants. To present all seized quantities within a given drug type in terms of one comparable unit, conversion factors are applied to estimate the overall quantity for that drug.
3. Seizures of methadone, barbiturates, benzodiazepines and temazepam could not be separately identified from the UKBA's recording system for 2010/11.

Figure 5.1 Percentage distribution of police and UKBA main class A and B seizures, 2010/11



Where

A = "Under 1 g" or "1–50 doses/plants"	D = "1–10 kg" or "501–1,000 doses/plants"
B = "1–500 g" or "51–100" doses/plants"	E = "10–100 kg" or "1,001–10,000 doses/plants"
C = "500 g to 1 kg" or "101–500 doses/plants"	F = "100 kg and over" or "over 10,000 doses/plants"

### Number of seizures by region

- With the exception of the North West, proportions of the number of drug seizures on a regional level varied little from 2009/10 to 2010/11. The four percentage point decrease for the North West is due to Merseyside Police changing the way it has recorded drug seizures since April 2010.
- At 30 per cent, the largest proportion of drug seizures took place in London, the most heavily populated region in England and Wales.
- Outside of London, the largest proportion of seizures took place in the South East (12%) and the smallest proportion in the North East (4%).
- The UKBA and British Transport Police each accounted for two per cent of seizures in England and Wales. Their data cannot be broken down by region.

**Table 5.3 Number of seizures of controlled drugs expressed as a percentage by government region or authority and year<sup>1</sup>**

Percentages								England and Wales		
Police force region or authority	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
North East Region	6	5	6	5	5	5	4	4	4	4
North West Region <sup>2</sup>	13	13	14	13	12	13	14	14	14	10
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	8	7	7	10	7	7	5	6	7	7
East Midlands Region <sup>3</sup>	5	4	4	6	5	6	5	5	4	5
West Midlands Region	10	10	11	9	9	9	8	8	8	8
Eastern Region <sup>4</sup>	5	4	6	7	6	5	5	6	6	7
London Region	21	23	18	18	24	28	32	32	30	30
South East Region	10	11	11	11	11	10	10	10	11	12
South West Region	9	9	10	8	9	7	6	6	6	7
Wales	7	7	8	8	6	5	6	6	6	6
National Crime Squad	0	0	0	0	0	..	..	..	..	..
British Transport Police	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	3	2
<b>Total Police</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>98</b>
<b>UKBA</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>All authorities</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

1. Reporting of drug seizures was moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07.
2. Merseyside Police data from 1999 to 2007/08 are estimated. Seizure data for 2010/11 were taken from a new system using data from the force's forensic services provider (see Introduction).
3. The 2003 figure excludes Nottinghamshire as the force did not submit data.
4. The 2008/09 figure includes Norfolk data for between 1 April 2008 and 31 January 2009 only.

**Summary Table 1 Number of drug seizures by drug class, type and year<sup>1</sup>, 2001 to 2010/11**

1a: Seizures made by police forces<sup>2,3</sup>

Drug class	Drug type	2001	2002	2003 <sup>4</sup>	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09 <sup>5</sup>	2009/10	2010/11	% change 2009/10 to 2010/11
<b>Class A</b>	Cocaine	5,077	4,776	6,094	7,154	11,310	15,776	20,092	23,635	20,351	16,852	-17
	Crack	3,735	4,362	5,013	5,151	6,694	6,943	7,567	6,615	5,077	5,367	6
	Ecstasy	8,975	6,960	6,401	6,190	6,634	8,141	7,148	5,197	3,712	2,522	-32
	Heroin	15,335	13,268	11,086	11,574	13,984	13,878	14,118	13,131	12,728	10,702	-16
	LSD	152	50	127	139	203	165	144	128	101	93	-8
	Methadone	945	764	562	630	938	933	1,008	1,065	1,028	1,067	4
	Morphine <sup>6</sup>	..	..	..	..	90	79	100	109	110	113	3
	Other class A <sup>6</sup>	518	744	625	545	617	642	616	538	599	599	0
<b>All class A<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>31,843</b>	<b>28,506</b>	<b>30,226</b>	<b>29,551</b>	<b>39,243</b>	<b>43,179</b>	<b>46,546</b>	<b>46,408</b>	<b>40,033</b>	<b>33,959</b>	<b>-15</b>	
<b>Class B</b>	Herbal cannabis	30,139	39,045	34,823	40,682	73,671	106,208	134,636	142,840	143,395	138,091	-4
	Cannabis resin	49,252	47,244	43,426	34,497	40,731	31,781	30,182	35,159	24,022	18,003	-25
	Cannabis plants	1,807	2,326	2,840	2,930	4,327	5,805	8,539	9,380	12,920	14,411	12
	<b>Total cannabis<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>77,344</b>	<b>78,542</b>	<b>84,360</b>	<b>78,648</b>	<b>117,437</b>	<b>140,667</b>	<b>170,002</b>	<b>182,930</b>	<b>175,450</b>	<b>165,998</b>	<b>-5</b>
	Amphetamines	6,258	6,119	6,136	6,438	7,772	8,418	8,820	7,698	7,263	7,135	-2
	Barbiturates <sup>9</sup>	..	..	..	..	18	26	13	21	21	22	-
	Other class B <sup>10</sup>	324	264	201	182	208	245	171	217	321	2,475	671
<b>All class B<sup>7,8,9</sup></b>	<b>81,805</b>	<b>89,359</b>	<b>85,293</b>	<b>6,621</b>	<b>7,992</b>	<b>8,635</b>	<b>8,970</b>	<b>189,125</b>	<b>181,318</b>	<b>173,581</b>	<b>-4</b>	
<b>Class C</b>	Anabolic steroids	88	73	117	155	257	457	391	546	530	561	6
	Benzodiazepines	1,025	995	763	684	905	1,366	1,457	1,816	2,141	2,488	16
	GHB <sup>11</sup>	.	.	21	21	29	61	63	47	59	66	12
	Ketamine <sup>12</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,269	1,513	1,683	11
	Temazepam	292	198	201	202	208	243	278	292	231	250	8
	Other class C <sup>13</sup>	58	40	74	187	379	1,165	1,689	779	969	1,728	78
<b>All class C<sup>7,8</sup></b>	<b>1,395</b>	<b>1,262</b>	<b>1,219</b>	<b>76,873</b>	<b>119,183</b>	<b>143,366</b>	<b>173,019</b>	<b>4,573</b>	<b>5,198</b>	<b>6,435</b>	<b>24</b>	
<b>Unknown</b>	415	444	477	42	886	2,444	2,234	2,645	3,061	3,677	20	
<b>All drugs<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>Police forces total<sup>2,3</sup></b>	<b>112,330</b>	<b>115,100</b>	<b>110,760</b>	<b>108,458</b>	<b>163,933</b>	<b>189,583</b>	<b>221,543</b>	<b>233,793</b>	<b>220,453</b>	<b>208,830</b>	<b>-5</b>

**Summary Table 1 (cont'd) Number of drug seizures by drug class, type and year<sup>1</sup>, 2001 to 2010/11**

1b: Seizures made by the UKBA <sup>14,15</sup>

		2001	2002	2003 <sup>4</sup>	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09 <sup>5</sup>	2009/10	2010/11	% change 2009/10 to 2010/11
<b>Class A</b>	Cocaine	1,720	1,239	1,157	1,125	1,202	1,141	1,254	1,024	1,026	837	-18
	Crack	45	25	25	13	11	12	11	8	4	13	-
	Ecstasy	105	84	74	66	54	43	25	21	12	13	-
	Heroin	112	89	109	94	88	64	68	171	108	110	2
	LSD	4	1	4	5	1	4	1	4	1	2	-
	Methadone <sup>16</sup>	7	2	3	5	6	3	4	4	8	..	..
	Morphine <sup>6</sup>	2	1	3	3	0	3	1	8	2	1	-
	Other class A	166	181	109	74	107	202	154	100	85	313	268
	<b>All class A <sup>7,16</sup></b>	<b>2,119</b>	<b>1,574</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>1,352</b>	<b>1,442</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>1,319</b>	<b>1,235</b>	<b>1,287</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Class B</b>	Herbal cannabis	2,667	3,321	2,650	2,390	2,486	3,441	2,890	2,513	1,061	1,118	5
	Cannabis resin	954	1,019	795	722	723	809	688	636	317	290	-9
	Cannabis plants	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	<b>Total cannabis <sup>8</sup></b>	<b>3,310</b>	<b>3,977</b>	<b>3,152</b>	<b>2,869</b>	<b>2,990</b>	<b>3,932</b>	<b>3,587</b>	<b>3,217</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>1,383</b>	<b>0</b>
	Amphetamines	90	62	72	66	65	59	43	62	39	42	-
	Barbiturates <sup>9,17</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	4	7	..	..
	Other class B <sup>10</sup>	6	11	6	9	38	70	114	383	56	247	341
	<b>All class B <sup>7,8,9,17</sup></b>	<b>3,375</b>	<b>4,029</b>	<b>3,202</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>3,536</b>	<b>1,470</b>	<b>1,637</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Class C</b>	Anabolic steroids	50	47	66	114	151	89	126	259	341	113	-67
	Benzodiazepines <sup>18</sup>	3	43	141	146	842	895	1,358	2,222	816	..	..
	GHB <sup>11</sup>	.	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	..
	Ketamine <sup>12</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	99	109	10
	Temazepam <sup>18</sup>	8	4	1	11	4	55	126	317	54	..	..
	Other class C <sup>18</sup>	12	11	12	17	468	124	143	309	22	866	-
	<b>All class C <sup>7,8,9</sup></b>	<b>73</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>3,154</b>	<b>4,431</b>	<b>5,058</b>	<b>5,036</b>	<b>3,011</b>	<b>1,307</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>-17</b>
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>All drugs <sup>7</sup> UKBA <sup>14,15</sup></b>	<b>5,406</b>	<b>5,543</b>	<b>4,756</b>	<b>4,465</b>	<b>5,869</b>	<b>6,516</b>	<b>6,588</b>	<b>7,680</b>	<b>3,948</b>	<b>3,954</b>	<b>0</b>	

## Summary Table 1 (cont'd) Number of drug seizures by drug class, type and year<sup>1</sup>, 2001 to 2010/11

1c: Total seizures made by police forces<sup>2</sup> and UKBA<sup>13</sup>

		2001	2002	2003 <sup>4</sup>	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09 <sup>5</sup>	2009/10	2010/11	% change 2009/10 to 2010/11
<b>Class A</b>	Cocaine	6,797	6,015	7,251	8,279	12,512	16,917	21,346	24,659	21,377	17,689	-17
	Crack	3,780	4,387	5,038	5,164	6,705	6,955	7,578	6,623	5,081	5,380	6
	Ecstasy	9,080	7,044	6,475	6,256	6,688	8,184	7,173	5,218	3,724	2,535	-32
	Heroin	15,447	13,357	11,195	11,668	14,072	13,942	14,186	13,302	12,836	10,812	-16
	LSD	156	51	131	144	204	169	145	132	102	95	-7
	Methadone <sup>16</sup>	952	766	565	635	944	936	1,012	1,069	1,036	1,067	3
	Morphine <sup>6</sup>	2	1	3	3	90	82	101	117	112	114	2
	Other class A <sup>16</sup>	684	925	734	619	724	844	770	638	684	912	33
<b>All class A<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>33,962</b>	<b>30,080</b>	<b>31,682</b>	<b>30,903</b>	<b>40,685</b>	<b>44,635</b>	<b>48,054</b>	<b>47,727</b>	<b>41,268</b>	<b>35,246</b>	<b>-15</b>	
<b>Class B</b>	Herbal cannabis	32,806	42,366	37,473	43,072	76,157	109,649	137,526	145,353	144,456	139,209	-4
	Cannabis resin	50,206	48,263	44,221	35,219	41,454	32,590	30,870	35,795	24,339	18,293	-25
	Cannabis plants	1,808	2,328	2,840	2,930	4,327	5,805	8,539	9,380	12,920	14,411	12
	<b>Total cannabis<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>80,654</b>	<b>82,519</b>	<b>87,512</b>	<b>81,517</b>	<b>120,427</b>	<b>144,599</b>	<b>173,589</b>	<b>186,147</b>	<b>176,830</b>	<b>167,381</b>	<b>-5</b>
	Amphetamines	6,348	6,181	6,208	6,504	7,837	8,477	8,863	7,760	7,302	7,177	-2
	Barbiturates <sup>9,17</sup>	..	..	..	..	18	30	17	25	28	22	-
	Other class B <sup>10,17</sup>	330	275	207	191	246	315	285	600	377	2,722	622
	<b>All class B<sup>7,8</sup></b>	<b>85,180</b>	<b>93,388</b>	<b>88,495</b>	<b>6,696</b>	<b>8,095</b>	<b>8,763</b>	<b>9,130</b>	<b>192,661</b>	<b>182,788</b>	<b>175,218</b>	<b>-4</b>
<b>Class C</b>	Anabolic steroids	138	120	183	269	408	546	517	805	871	674	-23
	Benzodiazepines <sup>18</sup>	1,028	1,038	904	830	1,747	2,261	2,815	4,038	2,957	2,488	-16
	GHB <sup>11</sup>	.	.	21	21	29	61	63	47	59	66	12
	Ketamine <sup>12</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,269	1,612	1,792	11
	Temazepam <sup>18</sup>	300	202	202	213	212	298	404	609	285	250	-12
	Other class C <sup>18</sup>	70	51	86	204	847	1,289	1,832	1,088	991	2,594	162
<b>All class C<sup>7,8,9</sup></b>	<b>1,468</b>	<b>1,366</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>80,027</b>	<b>123,614</b>	<b>148,424</b>	<b>178,055</b>	<b>7,584</b>	<b>6,505</b>	<b>7,516</b>	<b>16</b>	
<b>Unknown</b>	415	444	477	42	887	2,444	2,234	2,645	3,061	3,677	20	
<b>All drugs<sup>7</sup> Total</b>	<b>117,736</b>	<b>120,643</b>	<b>115,516</b>	<b>112,923</b>	<b>169,802</b>	<b>196,099</b>	<b>228,131</b>	<b>241,473</b>	<b>224,401</b>	<b>212,784</b>	<b>-5</b>	



## NOTES TO ACCOMPANY SUMMARY TABLE 1

1. Reporting of drug seizures has been moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07.
  2. Includes seizures made by British Transport Police.
  3. All figures from 1999 to 2007/08 include estimates for Merseyside Police.
  4. 2003 figures do not include data from Nottinghamshire police force area.
  5. 2008/09 figures from Norfolk cover the period from 1 April 2008 to 31 January 2009 only.
  6. Morphine is grouped under 'other class A' by police forces until 2005 and is not separately identifiable.
  7. As a seizure can involve more than one drug, figures for individual drugs and drug classes cannot be added together to produce totals.
  8. Cannabis was reclassified from a class B to a class C drug in January 2004, and then classified back as a class B drug on 26 January 2009. For clarity, cannabis is listed under class B for the entire time series shown. It has not, however, been considered as a class B drug throughout the time series when calculating the class totals. The totals for 'all class B' drugs are therefore much lower on account of this between 2004 and 2007/08 than the years before and after this period, with the 'all class C' being much higher.
  9. Barbiturates are grouped under 'other class B' until 2005 and are not separately identifiable.
  10. 2010/11 figures for 'other class B' drugs include mephedrone and other cathinone-based drugs, which became controlled drugs in April 2010.
  11. GHB became a controlled drug in 2003.
  12. Ketamine became a controlled drug in 2006. It is grouped in 'other class C' and not separately identified until 2008/09 for forces and 2009/10 for UKBA.
  13. 2010/11 figures for 'other class C' drugs include GBL, 1,4-Butanediol, oripavine and BZP, which became controlled drugs in December 2009.
  14. Includes data from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). Seizures from joint operations involving the UKBA (or HMRC) and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.
  15. UKBA data prior to 2004 have been amended in line with police data counting rules.
  16. Seizures of methadone could not be separately identified from the UKBA's recording system for 2010/11. They are instead included within the 'other class A' total.
  17. Seizures of barbiturates could not be separately identified from the UKBA's recording system for 2010/11. They are instead included within the 'other class B' total.
  18. Seizures of benzodiazepines and temazepam could not be separately identified from the UKBA's recording system for 2010/11. They are instead included within the 'other class C' total.
- \* denotes data not applicable.  
.. denotes data not available.  
'- for percentages, indicates that data are not reported because the base number is less than 50.

**Summary Table 2 Quantity of drugs seized<sup>1,2,3</sup> by drug class, type and year<sup>4</sup>, 2001 to 2010/11**

2a: Quantity seized by police forces<sup>5,6</sup>

Drug class	Drug type	Unit <sup>8,9</sup>	2001	2002	2003 <sup>10</sup>	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09 <sup>11</sup>	2009/10	2010/11	% change 09/10 to 10/11
<b>Class A</b>	Cocaine	kg	1,054	171	2,026	1,334	1,062	1,005	401	408	646	868	34
	Crack	kg	34	42	253	136	49	47	36	29	59	36	-39
	Ecstasy	dose (000s)	2,208	647	2,998	1,767	1,384	1,890	342	299	116	357	209
	Heroin	kg	2,833	1,687	1,100	1,192	813	500	364	517	687	311	-55
	LSD	dose (000s)	7	5	2	7	1,137	6	3	19	2	3	-
	Methadone <sup>8</sup>	kg / dose (000s)	102	51	34	62	65	102	106	205	150	172	15
	Morphine <sup>8,12</sup>	kg / dose (000s)	..	..	..	..	6	4	5	3	6	8	-
<b>Class B</b>	Herbal cannabis <sup>13</sup>	kg	7,587	4,044	14,741	2,940	3,067	2,884	3,238	4,454	4,697	7,096	51
	Cannabis resin <sup>13</sup>	kg	21,138	9,157	29,527	22,848	26,446	2,434	2,774	6,083	1,410	12,523	788
	Cannabis plants <sup>13</sup>	plant	71,491	55,131	85,312	93,469	220,019	363,679	535,888	643,510	758,943	729,502	-4
	Amphetamines	kg	1,017	722	886	981	1,017	571	905	754	794	573	-28
	Barbiturates <sup>14</sup>	dose (000s)	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	23	1	0	-
<b>Class C</b>	Anabolic steroids	kg / dose (000s)	1	15	0	2	56	90	82	128	85	333	293
	Benzodiazepines	kg / dose (000s)	6	1	3	1	968	199	116	176	687	664	-3
	GHB <sup>15</sup>	kg	*	*	6	1	1	9	7	2	4	5	-
	Ketamine <sup>16</sup>	kg	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	27	211	221	5
	Temazepam <sup>8</sup>	kg / dose (000s)	0	0	0	0	7	9	14	91	16	9	-

**Summary Table 2 (cont'd) Quantity of drugs seized<sup>1,2,3</sup> by drug class, type and year<sup>4</sup>, 2001 to 2010/11**

2b: Quantity seized by the UKBA<sup>7</sup>

Drug class	Drug type	Unit <sup>8,9</sup>	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	% change 09/10 to 10/11
<b>Class A</b>	Cocaine	kg	4,214	3,336	4,902	3,306	2,759	2,240	3,052	2,508	1,997	1,519	-24
	Crack	kg	22	14	12	4	2	13	1	4	0	14	-
	Ecstasy	dose (000s)	4,193	3,485	3,901	2,973	1,635	4,795	623	247	55	0	-99
	Heroin	kg	1,314	1,020	1,619	978	1,094	530	695	1,035	830	420	-49
	LSD	dose (000s)	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	1	1	1	-
	Methadone <sup>8,17</sup>	kg / dose (000s)	4	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	..
	Morphine <sup>9</sup>	kg / dose (000s)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Class B</b>	Herbal cannabis <sup>13</sup>	kg	23,222	31,050	15,608	18,595	17,515	22,948	16,855	28,908	13,254	13,597	3
	Cannabis resin <sup>13</sup>	kg	39,515	32,757	41,168	40,387	24,145	17,416	13,936	25,716	11,153	15,344	38
	Cannabis plants <sup>13</sup>	plant	16	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	Amphetamines	kg	627	488	693	276	1,074	818	906	2,185	532	137	-74
	Barbiturates <sup>14,17</sup>	dose (000s)	..	..	..	..	0	310	0	0	0	0	..
<b>Class C</b>	Anabolic steroids	kg / dose (000s)	80	382	157	555	2,481	4,969	6,907	3,816	3,345	2,459	-26
	Benzodiazepines <sup>17</sup>	kg / dose (000s)	1	2	3	0	1,756	3,086	668	2,981	6,118	..	..
	GHB <sup>15</sup>	kg	*	*	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	Ketamine <sup>16</sup>	kg	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	82	581	608
	Temazepam <sup>8,17</sup>	kg / dose (000s)	..	0	0	0	15	500	94	118	125	..	..

## Summary Table 2 (cont'd) Quantity of drugs seized<sup>1,2,3</sup> by drug class, type and year<sup>4</sup>, 2001 to 2010/11

2c: Total quantity seized by police forces<sup>5,6</sup> and the UKBA<sup>7</sup>

Drug class	Drug type	Unit <sup>8,9</sup>	2001	2002	2003 <sup>10</sup>	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09 <sup>11</sup>	2009/10	2010/11	% change 09/10 to 10/11
<b>Class A</b>	Cocaine	kg	5,267	3,506	6,928	4,640	3,821	3,244	3,453	2,916	2,643	2,387	-10
	Crack	kg	56	56	266	140	51	60	37	33	59	50	-16
	Ecstasy	dose (000s)	6,401	4,132	6,899	4,740	3,019	6,685	965	547	171	357	109
	Heroin	kg	4,147	2,707	2,719	2,170	1,907	1,030	1,059	1,552	1,516	732	-52
	LSD	dose (000s)	7	5	2	37	1,137	6	3	20	3	4	-
	Methadone <sup>8,17</sup>	kg / dose (000s)	106	51	60	62	65	102	106	205	150	172	15
	Morphine <sup>8,12</sup>	kg / dose (000s)	0	0	0	0	6	4	5	4	6	9	-
<b>Class B</b>	Herbal cannabis <sup>13</sup>	kg	30,809	35,094	30,349	21,535	20,583	25,832	20,093	33,363	17,951	20,693	15
	Cannabis resin <sup>13</sup>	kg	60,653	41,915	70,695	63,234	50,591	19,851	16,710	31,799	12,563	27,866	122
	Cannabis plants <sup>13</sup>	plant	71,507	55,152	85,312	93,469	220,019	363,679	535,888	643,510	758,943	729,502	-4
	Amphetamines	kg	1,645	1,210	1,580	1,257	2,091	1,390	1,811	2,939	1,326	710	-46
	Barbiturates <sup>14,17</sup>	dose (000s)	..	..	..	..	1	311	2	23	1	0	-
<b>Class C</b>	Anabolic steroids	kg / dose (000s)	81	398	157	557	2,538	5,059	6,988	3,944	3,430	2,792	-19
	Benzodiazepines <sup>17</sup>	kg / dose (000s)	6	3	5	1	2,723	3,285	784	3,157	6,805	664	-90
	GHB <sup>15</sup>	kg	*	*	40	1	1	9	7	2	4	5	-
	Ketamine <sup>16</sup>	kg	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	27	293	802	173
	Temazepam <sup>8,17</sup>	kg / dose (000s)	0	0	0	0	22	508	108	209	141	9	-93

1. Where the quantity of a seizure is recorded as 'trace' it is not included in these figures.

2. Drugs can be seized in a variety of forms or preparation types. In this table, quantities of drugs have been converted to weights (kg), doses (000s) or plants. To present all seized quantities within a given drug type in terms of one comparable unit, conversion factors are applied to estimate the overall quantity for that drug.

3. New conversion factors were introduced in 2005, in consultation with the Forensic Science Service. Quantities data prior to 2005 are not comparable with later data.

4. Reporting of drug seizures was moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07.

5. Includes seizures made by British Transport Police.

6. All figures from 1999 to 2007/08 include estimates for Merseyside Police.

7. Includes data from HRMC. Seizures from joint operations involving the UKBA and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

8. From 2005, quantities for methadone, morphine, barbiturates, anabolic steroids, benzodiazepines and temazepam are presented in doses rather than kg.

9. Doses include dots, tablets and squares.

10. 2003 figures do not include data from Nottinghamshire police force area.

11. 2008/09 figures from Norfolk cover the period from 1 April 2008 to 31 January 2009 only.

12. Morphine is grouped under 'other class A' by police forces until 2005 and is not separately identifiable.

13. Cannabis was reclassified from a class B to a class C drug in January 2004, and then classified back as a class B drug on 26 January 2009.

14. Barbiturates are grouped under 'other class B' until 2005 and are not separately identifiable.

15. GHB became a controlled drug in 2003.

16. Ketamine became a controlled drug in 2006. It is grouped in "Other class C" and not separately identified until 2008/09 for forces and 2009/10 for UKBA.

17. Seizures of methadone, barbiturates, benzodiazepines and temazepam could not be separately identified from the UKBA's recording system for 2010/11.

## Summary Table 3 Seizures of controlled drugs by drug class, type and amount seized<sup>1,2</sup>, 2010/11

### 3a: Seizures made by police forces<sup>3</sup>

Drug type	Unit <sup>4</sup>	Class	Total number of seizures	Weighed amount seized							Total (kg)	Average (g)
				Under 1g	1g to 500g	500g to 1kg	1kg to 10kg	10kg to 100kg	100kg and over			
Cocaine	kg	A	16,852	10,866	5,844	51	85	4	2	868	51	
Crack	kg	A	5,367	3,559	1,800	2	6	-	-	36	7	
Heroin	kg	A	10,702	7,572	3,073	21	31	4	1	311	29	
Herbal cannabis	kg	B	138,091	34,148	103,443	218	256	19	7	7,096	51	
Cannabis resin	kg	B	18,003	3,617	14,270	38	48	23	7	12,523	696	
Amphetamines	kg	B	7,135	3,281	3,722	55	66	10	1	573	80	
				Unweighed amount seized								
				1-50 doses / plants	51-100 doses / plants	101-500 doses / plants	501-1,000 doses / plants	1,001-10,000 doses / plants	Over 10,000 doses / plants	Total (000s of doses/plants)	Average (doses/plants)	
Ecstasy	dose	A	2,522	2,369	72	58	5	13	5	357	141	
LSD	dose	A	93	79	2	4	1	4	3	3	37	
Methadone	dose	A	1,067	653	163	216	24	10	1	172	162	
Morphine	dose	A	113	90	7	12	4	-	-	8	74	
Cannabis plants	plant	B	14,411	12,359	783	1,060	146	62	1	730	51	

### 3b: Seizures made by the UKBA<sup>5,6</sup>

Drug type	Unit <sup>4</sup>	Class	Total number of seizures	Weighed amount seized <sup>6</sup>							Total (kg)	Average (g)
				Under 1g	1g to 500g	500g to 1kg	1kg to 10kg	10kg to 100kg	100kg and over			
Cocaine	kg	A	837	11	393	126	262	31	1	1,519	1,815	
Crack	kg	A	13	2	8	1	1	1	-	14	1,072	
Heroin	kg	A	110	4	32	19	41	13	-	420	3,821	
Herbal cannabis	kg	B	1,118	44	620	41	239	130	35	13,597	12,162	
Cannabis resin	kg	B	290	12	186	12	43	12	24	15,344	52,909	
Amphetamines	kg	B	42	6	16	3	10	1	-	137	3,270	
				Unweighed amount seized <sup>6</sup>								
				1-50 doses / plants	51-100 doses / plants	101-500 doses / plants	501-1,000 doses / plants	1,001-10,000 doses / plants	Over 10,000 doses / plants	Total (000s of doses/plants)	Average (doses/plants)	
Ecstasy	dose	A	13	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	23	
LSD	dose	A	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	430	
Methadone <sup>7</sup>	dose	A	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Morphine	dose	A	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	120	
Cannabis plants	plant	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

### 3c: Seizures made by police forces<sup>3</sup> and UKBA<sup>5,6</sup>

Drug type	Unit <sup>4</sup>	Class	Total number of seizures	Weighed amount seized <sup>6</sup>							Total (kg)	Average (g)
				Under 1g	1g to 500g	500g to 1kg	1kg to 10kg	10kg to 100kg	100kg and over			
Cocaine	kg	A	17,689	10,877	6,237	177	347	35	3	2,387	135	
Crack	kg	A	5,380	3,561	1,808	3	7	1	-	50	9	
Heroin	kg	A	10,812	7,576	3,105	40	72	17	1	732	68	
Herbal cannabis	kg	B	139,209	34,192	104,063	259	495	149	42	20,693	149	
Cannabis resin	kg	B	18,293	3,629	14,456	50	91	35	31	27,866	1,523	
Amphetamines	kg	B	7,177	3,287	3,738	58	76	11	1	710	99	
				Unweighed amount seized <sup>6</sup>								
				1-50 doses / plants	51-100 doses / plants	101-500 doses / plants	501-1,000 doses / plants	1,001-10,000 doses / plants	Over 10,000 doses / plants	Total (000s of doses/plants)	Average (doses/plants)	
Ecstasy	dose	A	2,535	2,373	72	59	5	13	5	357	141	
LSD	dose	A	95	79	2	4	2	4	3	4	46	
Methadone <sup>7</sup>	dose	A	1,067	653	163	216	24	10	1	172	162	
Morphine	dose	A	114	90	7	13	4	-	-	8	75	
Cannabis plants	plant	B	14,411	12,359	783	1,060	146	62	1	730	51	

1. Drugs can be seized in a variety of forms or preparation types. In this table, quantities of drugs have been converted to kg, doses (000s) or plants. To present all seized quantities within a given drug type in terms of one comparable unit, conversion factors are applied to estimate the overall quantity for that drug. New conversion factors were introduced in 2005, in consultation with the Forensic Science Service. Quantities data prior to 2005 are not comparable with later data.

2. Quantities data for all drugs are not applicable as conversion factors are not applied to all drugs.

3. Includes seizures made by British Transport Police.

4. Doses include dots, tablets and squares.

5. Includes seizures made by the HMRC. Seizures from joint operations involving the UKBA and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

6. Quantity data from the UKBA requiring conversion are not included in the weighed and unweighed breakdowns in 3b and 3c. Therefore, the total number of seizures for any particular drug will not be the sum of the quantity breakdowns. The UKBA's quantity data are, however, included in the total estimated quantity and average quantity columns.

7. Seizures of methadone could not be separately identified from the UKBA's recording system for 2010/11.

- denotes nil.

.. denotes data not available.

**Summary Table 4 Average purities of drug seizures analysed by the Forensic Science Service by drug type and year<sup>1</sup>, 2003 to 2010/11**

Percentages		England and Wales, FSS							
Year <sup>1</sup>	Quarter	For police forces				For the UKBA			
		Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	Amphetamines	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	Amphetamines
<b>2003</b>	Q1 (Jan-Mar)	45	66	42	12	68	80	51	43
	Q2 (Apr-Jun)	53	70	28	12	72	71	37	65
	Q3 (Jul-Sep)	53	70	29	11	70	64	36	34
	Q4 (Oct-Dec)	51	72	32	9	69	87	22	18
<b>2004</b>	Q1 (Jan-Mar)	46	72	34	9	71	79	42	42
	Q2 (Apr-Jun)	40	63	41	9	69	81	46	27
	Q3 (Jul-Sep)	41	55	41	10	64	80	43	34
	Q4 (Oct-Dec)	44	64	43	9	69	81	50	17
<b>2005</b>	Q1 (Jan-Mar)	43	65	48	12	71	77	50	54
	Q2 (Apr-Jun)	40	65	47	9	67	77	44	47
	Q3 (Jul-Sep)	43	65	47	10	65	63	46	56
	Q4 (Oct-Dec)	44	64	45	11	68	74	55	42
<b>2006/07</b>	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	36	51	41	10	66	..	54	12
	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	30	47	42	10	65	..	49	53
	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	29	44	43	10	63	74	58	72
	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	32	52	45	9	68	..	47	20
<b>2007/08</b>	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	34	52	50	10	67	..	52	20
	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	35	51	50	11	70	..	59	34
	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	30	49	51	11	65	..	61	51
	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	32	48	52	14	64	..	45	22
<b>2008/09</b>	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	30	47	49	9	64	81	60	28
	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	28	42	34	8	64	55	45	43
	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	26	42	36	6	62	..	46	33
	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	22	31	38	7	57	57	47	73
<b>2009/10</b>	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	16	23	42	5	62	..	54	26
	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	21	27	46	10	63	49	58	17
	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	22	33	46	9	61	..	51	34
	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	23	34	42	9	65	24	46	7
<b>2010/11</b>	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	27	31	36	10	67	57	52	52
	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	27	32	34	9	65	70	46	..
	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	29	33	27	10	66	78	31	41
	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	30	31	16	7	58	..	33	40

1. Reporting of drug seizures has been moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07 to be comparable with other crime publications.

2. Data represent the average of all analysed drug samples submitted to the FSS. Data refer to the year that information on the analysis was provided rather than the year of seizure.

.. denotes data not available

**Area Table 1 Number of seizures of controlled drugs by seizing authority and year<sup>1,2</sup>, 2001 to 2010/11**

Police force region or authority	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	% change 2009/10 to 2010/11
Cleveland	970	1,010	800	765	2,657	3,143	2,494	2,382	2,462	1,532	-38
Durham	1,490	1,100	1,060	1,601	1,660	2,018	2,056	1,524	1,497	1,716	15
Northumbria	4,490	3,990	4,680	3,526	4,720	4,062	3,648	5,384	5,011	5,328	6
<b>North East Region</b>	<b>6,950</b>	<b>6,100</b>	<b>6,540</b>	<b>5,892</b>	<b>9,037</b>	<b>9,223</b>	<b>8,198</b>	<b>9,290</b>	<b>8,970</b>	<b>8,576</b>	<b>-4</b>
Cheshire	990	1,200	780	633	293	736	1,258	2,024	2,085	2,221	7
Cumbria	930	770	1,100	1,307	1,247	1,313	1,301	1,201	1,489	1,536	3
Greater Manchester	3,940	2,960	4,240	3,064	6,797	10,089	12,581	11,952	10,801	11,740	9
Lancashire	2,960	3,440	3,480	3,311	2,809	2,866	3,505	3,816	4,176	3,812	-9
Merseyside <sup>3</sup>	6,640	6,800	6,540	6,405	9,681	11,196	13,083	13,784	12,946	1,797	-86
<b>North West Region<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>15,460</b>	<b>15,170</b>	<b>16,140</b>	<b>14,720</b>	<b>20,827</b>	<b>26,200</b>	<b>31,728</b>	<b>32,777</b>	<b>31,497</b>	<b>21,106</b>	<b>-33</b>
Humberside	1,620	2,380	1,840	2,359	2,791	2,666	2,458	2,887	2,817	2,993	6
North Yorkshire	650	720	690	1,096	1,481	1,385	1,614	1,602	1,566	1,731	11
South Yorkshire	2,880	1,400	990	3,410	2,388	4,225	4,843	5,514	6,555	6,020	-8
West Yorkshire	4,080	4,440	4,130	4,354	5,551	4,600	2,754	3,410	3,666	4,555	24
<b>Yorkshire and the Humber Region</b>	<b>9,230</b>	<b>8,940</b>	<b>7,650</b>	<b>11,219</b>	<b>12,211</b>	<b>12,876</b>	<b>11,669</b>	<b>13,413</b>	<b>14,604</b>	<b>15,299</b>	<b>5</b>
Derbyshire	1,350	1,390	1,870	1,745	2,010	3,155	2,134	2,417	2,722	3,052	12
Leicestershire	1,450	1,450	1,370	1,517	2,303	1,821	2,338	2,655	2,821	2,899	3
Lincolnshire	1,020	750	1,050	631	560	646	913	745	507	323	-36
Northamptonshire	420	550	520	612	1,837	1,893	1,267	1,354	1,501	2,147	43
Nottinghamshire <sup>4</sup>	1,580	1,170	..	2,073	1,129	3,946	4,864	4,116	2,273	2,528	11
<b>East Midlands Region<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>5,820</b>	<b>5,310</b>	<b>4,810</b>	<b>6,578</b>	<b>7,839</b>	<b>11,461</b>	<b>11,516</b>	<b>11,287</b>	<b>9,824</b>	<b>10,949</b>	<b>11</b>
Staffordshire	1,540	1,470	1,150	1,070	1,799	2,473	3,949	3,325	3,297	3,224	-2
Warwickshire	510	390	660	543	1,090	1,360	1,293	1,289	1,551	1,273	-18
West Mercia	2,290	1,980	1,750	595	2,904	3,314	3,303	3,007	3,113	3,145	1
West Midlands	7,290	8,270	9,710	7,932	10,262	10,732	10,389	10,608	9,596	9,143	-5
<b>West Midlands Region</b>	<b>11,630</b>	<b>12,110</b>	<b>13,270</b>	<b>10,140</b>	<b>16,055</b>	<b>17,879</b>	<b>18,934</b>	<b>18,229</b>	<b>17,557</b>	<b>16,785</b>	<b>-4</b>
Bedfordshire	880	580	690	785	1,036	802	960	1,348	1,101	1,837	67
Cambridgeshire	1,050	1,110	1,320	1,608	1,624	2,249	2,840	2,628	2,270	2,019	-11
Essex	1,890	1,480	1,590	1,634	2,348	1,949	2,747	3,988	3,321	4,281	29
Hertfordshire	1,140	370	890	1,453	1,339	2,802	2,954	3,640	4,933	4,660	-6
Norfolk <sup>5</sup>	870	830	1,410	1,256	1,634	1,089	1,086	569	598	870	45
Suffolk	580	940	800	1,360	1,526	1,365	1,248	1,170	1,014	962	-5
<b>Eastern Region<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>6,410</b>	<b>5,310</b>	<b>6,700</b>	<b>8,096</b>	<b>9,507</b>	<b>10,256</b>	<b>11,835</b>	<b>13,343</b>	<b>13,237</b>	<b>14,629</b>	<b>11</b>
London, City of	470	640	390	594	1,336	899	883	690	771	658	-15
Metropolitan Police	23,980	27,380	20,360	19,255	40,158	54,458	71,404	76,390	66,511	62,714	-6
<b>London Region</b>	<b>24,450</b>	<b>28,020</b>	<b>20,750</b>	<b>19,849</b>	<b>41,494</b>	<b>55,357</b>	<b>72,287</b>	<b>77,080</b>	<b>67,282</b>	<b>63,372</b>	<b>-6</b>
Hampshire	2,520	2,690	2,760	2,002	3,180	1,898	3,781	4,433	5,258	5,044	-4
Kent <sup>6</sup>	1,760	1,760	1,770	1,385	2,970	2,357	2,527	2,404	2,767	4,934	78
Surrey	1,620	1,590	590	397	656	1,479	1,811	1,836	1,693	2,040	20
Sussex	2,020	2,460	2,550	3,989	7,176	6,087	7,529	6,141	6,373	6,364	0
Thames Valley	3,880	4,480	4,860	4,941	3,884	7,550	8,167	8,425	7,666	7,160	-7
<b>South East Region</b>	<b>11,800</b>	<b>12,980</b>	<b>12,530</b>	<b>12,714</b>	<b>17,866</b>	<b>19,371</b>	<b>23,815</b>	<b>23,239</b>	<b>23,757</b>	<b>25,542</b>	<b>8</b>
Avon and Somerset	3,030	3,190	2,560	1,849	6,034	5,241	5,907	6,437	6,383	6,882	8
Devon and Cornwall	3,520	4,210	5,650	3,191	5,963	4,747	4,621	4,057	2,823	2,884	2
Dorset	1,480	1,230	1,330	1,266	1,527	1,540	1,720	1,873	1,903	1,952	3
Gloucestershire	1,190	1,510	1,530	1,496	1,579	1,343	1,811	2,308	2,322	1,976	-15
Wiltshire	1,450	860	750	709	760	706	569	972	1,138	1,354	19
<b>South West Region</b>	<b>10,670</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>11,820</b>	<b>8,511</b>	<b>15,863</b>	<b>13,577</b>	<b>14,628</b>	<b>15,647</b>	<b>14,569</b>	<b>15,048</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>England police total</b>	<b>102,420</b>	<b>104,940</b>	<b>100,210</b>	<b>97,719</b>	<b>150,699</b>	<b>176,200</b>	<b>204,610</b>	<b>214,305</b>	<b>201,297</b>	<b>191,306</b>	<b>-5</b>
Dyfed-Powys	1,980	2,420	2,150	1,382	2,830	2,359	2,181	2,237	2,630	2,876	9
Gwent	1,320	1,370	1,230	1,144	1,210	1,815	2,020	2,302	2,107	2,268	8
North Wales	970	1,270	1,220	1,717	1,607	1,920	2,373	2,531	2,441	2,181	-11
South Wales	3,980	3,920	4,540	4,640	4,661	4,601	6,554	6,720	6,245	6,029	-3
<b>Wales</b>	<b>8,250</b>	<b>8,980</b>	<b>9,140</b>	<b>8,883</b>	<b>10,308</b>	<b>10,695</b>	<b>13,128</b>	<b>13,790</b>	<b>13,423</b>	<b>13,354</b>	<b>-1</b>
<b>National Crime Squad<sup>7</sup></b>	140	30	120	137	104	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>British Transport Police</b>	1,520	1,150	1,290	1,719	2,822	2,688	3,805	5,698	5,733	4,170	-27
<b>Total police</b>	<b>112,330</b>	<b>115,100</b>	<b>110,760</b>	<b>108,458</b>	<b>163,933</b>	<b>189,583</b>	<b>221,543</b>	<b>233,793</b>	<b>220,453</b>	<b>208,830</b>	<b>-5</b>
<b>UKBA<sup>8,9</sup></b>	5,406	5,543	4,756	4,465	5,869	6,516	6,588	7,680	3,948	3,954	0
<b>TOTAL ENGLAND AND WALES</b>	<b>117,736</b>	<b>120,643</b>	<b>115,516</b>	<b>112,923</b>	<b>169,802</b>	<b>196,099</b>	<b>228,131</b>	<b>241,473</b>	<b>224,401</b>	<b>212,784</b>	<b>-5</b>

1. Reporting of drug seizures has been moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07.

2. Figures for the police from 2004 are unrounded. Previous years' data are rounded to the nearest ten; regional totals may not always be the sum of constituent forces due to rounding.

3. Merseyside Police's data from 1999 to 2007/08 are estimated. Also, as a result of the force's 2010/11 data being taken from their forensic services provider's system, there were 86 per cent fewer seizures for Merseyside compared to 2009/10 (see Introduction of bulletin).

4. Nottinghamshire Police did not submit data for 2003. East Midlands data for 2003 does not include data from Nottinghamshire.

5. 2008/09 figures for Norfolk cover the period from 1 April 2008 to 31 January 2009 only.

6. Kent Police recorded 78 per cent more seizures in 2010/11 than 2009/10 as a result of implementing a new system in April 2010 (see Introduction of bulletin).

7. National Crime Squad was merged into the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) on 1 April 2006. SOCA data are not included in this table.

8. Includes data from HMRC. Seizures from joint operations involving the UKBA and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

9. UKBA data prior to 2004 have been amended in line with police data counting rules.

- denotes nil.

.. denotes data not available

**Area Table 2 Drug seizures per million population<sup>1</sup> by police force area and year<sup>2</sup>, 2001 to 2010/11**

Police force region	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	% change 2009/10 to 2010/11
Cleveland	1,742	1,866	1,444	1,379	4,788	5,653	4,482	4,277	4,408	2,736	-38
Durham	2,456	1,859	1,793	2,708	2,804	3,397	3,444	2,534	2,474	2,828	14
Northumbria	3,175	2,884	3,354	2,528	3,386	2,906	2,607	3,840	3,561	3,759	6
<b>North East Region</b>	<b>2,697</b>	<b>2,424</b>	<b>2,574</b>	<b>2,319</b>	<b>3,557</b>	<b>3,620</b>	<b>3,211</b>	<b>3,628</b>	<b>3,489</b>	<b>3,319</b>	<b>-5</b>
Cheshire	1,006	1,220	792	640	295	739	1,260	2,022	2,079	2,208	6
Cumbria	1,894	1,579	2,250	2,660	2,520	2,644	2,619	2,418	3,003	3,103	3
Greater Manchester	1,524	1,192	1,684	1,212	2,681	3,966	4,926	4,659	4,186	4,514	8
Lancashire	2,071	2,430	2,449	2,316	1,954	1,984	2,422	2,636	2,890	2,637	-9
Merseyside <sup>3</sup>	4,731	4,994	4,795	4,707	7,120	8,241	9,649	10,189	9,588	1,331	-86
<b>North West Region</b>	<b>2,243</b>	<b>2,254</b>	<b>2,382</b>	<b>2,165</b>	<b>3,054</b>	<b>3,831</b>	<b>4,630</b>	<b>4,775</b>	<b>4,582</b>	<b>3,060</b>	<b>-33</b>
Humberside	1,839	2,738	2,089	2,656	3,115	2,955	2,711	3,172	3,079	3,262	6
North Yorkshire	862	958	912	1,440	1,930	1,795	2,080	2,049	1,986	2,173	9
South Yorkshire	2,213	1,105	779	2,677	1,866	3,280	3,745	4,240	5,015	4,570	-9
West Yorkshire	1,923	2,134	1,971	2,068	2,614	2,141	1,269	1,557	1,661	2,046	23
<b>Yorkshire and the Humber Region</b>	<b>1,825</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>1,529</b>	<b>2,231</b>	<b>2,410</b>	<b>2,519</b>	<b>2,267</b>	<b>2,589</b>	<b>2,799</b>	<b>2,910</b>	<b>4</b>
Derbyshire	1,381	1,453	1,927	1,790	2,051	3,203	2,154	2,426	2,719	3,039	12
Leicestershire	1,545	1,568	1,469	1,616	2,431	1,905	2,420	2,723	2,869	2,935	2
Lincolnshire	1,608	1,158	1,600	950	831	950	1,332	1,077	729	463	-37
Northamptonshire	671	872	816	951	2,836	2,888	1,909	2,013	2,210	3,140	42
Nottinghamshire <sup>4</sup>	1,532	1,152	..	2,007	1,083	3,755	4,604	3,877	2,125	2,346	10
<b>East Midlands Region</b>	<b>1,383</b>	<b>1,272</b>	<b>1,139</b>	<b>1,546</b>	<b>1,827</b>	<b>2,649</b>	<b>2,640</b>	<b>2,567</b>	<b>2,218</b>	<b>2,460</b>	<b>11</b>
Staffordshire	1,453	1,403	1,096	1,017	1,704	2,336	3,724	3,130	3,092	3,020	-2
Warwickshire	1,000	770	1,294	1,056	2,108	2,608	2,464	2,436	2,909	2,379	-18
West Mercia	1,997	1,708	1,505	510	2,482	2,824	2,806	2,545	2,623	2,643	1
West Midlands	2,783	3,238	3,775	3,079	3,976	4,138	3,996	4,072	3,659	3,465	-5
<b>West Midlands Region</b>	<b>2,180</b>	<b>2,299</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>1,910</b>	<b>3,016</b>	<b>3,344</b>	<b>3,531</b>	<b>3,389</b>	<b>3,246</b>	<b>3,091</b>	<b>-5</b>
Bedfordshire	1,555	1,024	1,206	1,363	1,792	1,377	1,637	2,277	1,837	3,035	65
Cambridgeshire	1,438	1,563	1,843	2,213	2,215	3,023	3,774	3,454	2,946	2,594	-12
Essex	1,160	916	979	1,001	1,431	1,178	1,649	2,370	1,947	2,488	28
Hertfordshire	1,085	358	856	1,393	1,282	2,665	2,788	3,402	4,551	4,254	-7
Norfolk <sup>5</sup>	1,082	1,040	1,752	1,547	1,999	1,321	1,308	679	706	1,019	44
Suffolk	853	1,404	1,188	2,003	2,224	1,965	1,787	1,660	1,427	1,347	-6
<b>Eastern Region</b>	<b>1,174</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>1,234</b>	<b>1,481</b>	<b>1,728</b>	<b>1,848</b>	<b>2,116</b>	<b>2,362</b>	<b>2,315</b>	<b>2,537</b>	<b>10</b>
London, City of <sup>6</sup>	73,772	88,889	50,974	75,333	161,431	103,931	93,836	65,752	68,049	57,282	-16
Metropolitan Police	3,254	3,813	2,766	2,612	5,423	7,284	9,474	10,062	8,686	8,100	-7
<b>London Region</b>	<b>3,315</b>	<b>3,898</b>	<b>2,816</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>5,597</b>	<b>7,396</b>	<b>9,579</b>	<b>10,139</b>	<b>8,774</b>	<b>8,173</b>	<b>-7</b>
Hampshire	1,411	1,513	1,543	1,114	1,763	1,044	2,070	2,408	2,831	2,698	-5
Kent <sup>7</sup>	1,101	1,113	1,114	867	1,846	1,455	1,550	1,464	1,672	2,962	77
Surrey	1,499	1,501	557	373	616	1,381	1,678	1,683	1,538	1,833	19
Sussex	1,327	1,645	1,698	2,646	4,736	3,995	4,915	3,981	4,102	4,076	-1
Thames Valley	1,823	2,141	2,310	2,338	1,830	3,527	3,787	3,867	3,482	3,217	-8
<b>South East Region</b>	<b>1,454</b>	<b>1,621</b>	<b>1,558</b>	<b>1,574</b>	<b>2,202</b>	<b>2,370</b>	<b>2,896</b>	<b>2,801</b>	<b>2,839</b>	<b>3,028</b>	<b>7</b>
Avon and Somerset	2,004	2,150	1,704	1,221	3,946	3,384	3,779	4,071	4,001	4,286	7
Devon and Cornwall	2,219	2,667	3,554	1,993	3,693	2,913	2,811	2,443	1,693	1,726	2
Dorset	2,119	1,774	1,910	1,817	2,194	2,204	2,450	2,641	2,676	2,749	3
Gloucestershire	2,107	2,673	2,704	2,632	2,759	2,330	3,126	3,948	3,961	3,354	-15
Wiltshire	2,364	1,401	1,214	1,138	1,212	1,118	896	1,512	1,750	2,067	18
<b>South West Region</b>	<b>2,145</b>	<b>2,229</b>	<b>2,377</b>	<b>1,701</b>	<b>3,148</b>	<b>2,670</b>	<b>2,855</b>	<b>3,022</b>	<b>2,796</b>	<b>2,877</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>2,083</b>	<b>2,175</b>	<b>2,064</b>	<b>2,003</b>	<b>3,032</b>	<b>3,504</b>	<b>4,052</b>	<b>4,214</b>	<b>3,911</b>	<b>3,692</b>	<b>-6</b>
Dyfed-Powys	4,101	4,956	4,379	2,797	5,693	4,734	4,358	4,439	5,190	5,680	9
Gwent	2,368	2,480	2,220	2,062	2,178	3,265	3,628	4,127	3,767	4,047	7
North Wales	1,469	1,914	1,830	2,567	2,394	2,858	3,525	3,744	3,600	3,213	-11
South Wales	3,195	3,270	3,763	3,831	3,822	3,758	5,322	5,426	5,012	4,808	-4
<b>Wales</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>3,093</b>	<b>3,132</b>	<b>3,033</b>	<b>3,502</b>	<b>3,625</b>	<b>4,432</b>	<b>4,634</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>4,452</b>	<b>-1</b>
<b>England and Wales average</b>	<b>2,018</b>	<b>2,112</b>	<b>2,049</b>	<b>1,948</b>	<b>2,927</b>	<b>3,375</b>	<b>3,908</b>	<b>4,323</b>	<b>3,943</b>	<b>3,734</b>	<b>-5</b>

1. Rates per million population statistics are created using mid-year population estimates calculated by the Office for National Statistics. UK Border Agency and BTP data cannot be broken down to a regional level and are therefore excluded from both the constituent parts and the totals in this table.

2. Reporting of drug seizures has been moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07.

3. Rates for Merseyside between 2001 and 2007/08 were calculated using estimated figures for number of seizures. Also, as a result of the force's 2010/11 data being taken from their forensic service provider's system, there were 86% fewer seizures compared to 2009/10 (see Introduction of bulletin).

4. 2003 figures do not include data from Nottinghamshire police force area.

5. 2008/09 figures from Norfolk cover the period from 1 April 2008 to 31 January 2009 only.

6. Small resident population should be noted when considering City of London rates.

7. As a result of Kent Police implementing a new system in April 2010, there were 78% more seizures compared to 2009/10 (see Introduction of bulletin).

.. denotes data not available









## NOTES

1. The statistics in this bulletin and accompanying tables relate to the seizure of drugs controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) 1971, which came into force on 1 July 1973. The Act divides drugs into three categories according to their harmfulness. A full list of drugs in each category is given in Schedule 2 to the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, as amended by Orders in Council.
2. The Home Office first collated drug seizure statistics in an electronic format in 1974, originally covering the United Kingdom, rather than England and Wales. Since the introduction of the MDA, there have been various changes to which drugs are covered as well as to recording practices by police forces and other agencies. As such, drug seizure statistics are not directly comparable from year to year and furthermore are not a measure of drug prevalence in society.
3. The statistics of seizures cover those made during the year by police (including the British Transport Police) that have been submitted to the Home Office, as well as information from the UK Border Agency (UKBA), which includes data from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). More detailed figures are given in the publication's area tables.
4. The UKBA was launched in April 2008, creating a new front-line operation formed from the Borders and Immigration Agency, UK Visas as well as staff of HMRC employed at the frontier. As well as retaining responsibility for the inland control of illicit goods such as cigarettes, tobacco and alcohol, HMRC officers retain the legal power to seize drugs if they are discovered while they are conducting their inland duties. Consequently, a small number of drug seizures can be attributed to HMRC. For the purposes of this report these seizures are included in the UKBA's figures.
5. Seizures by the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) have not been separately identified in this report because the majority of their domestic seizures are made in conjunction with local police forces, with the seizure attributed to the police. SOCA publish their own data within their annual report, which includes seizures made outside UK borders and also those made with international partners. Their latest report, for 2010/11, was published in July 2011 and can be found via: <http://www.soca.gov.uk/about-soca/library>.
6. Seizures involving more than one drug are counted as a single seizure in the total number of seizures but are counted separately against each individual drug or drug class involved (see Box 1.1). Annual movements in quantities are often heavily affected by a small number of very large seizures.
7. The UKBA data in this bulletin were supplied as finalised figures, with those for 2010/11 reflecting the position as at 1 September 2011. Data processing and quality assurance were undertaken before handover to the Home Office. For consistency, this has been completed following Home Office counting rules and National Statistics guidance. Previously, the Home Office was sent raw data from the UKBA for processing. All historical data shown in this publication and the associated tables have also been revised.
8. Seizures by the UKBA have historically accounted for about four per cent of the total number of seizures but for the majority of the quantities seized. However, many SOCA seizures are attributed to local police forces when operations have been run together.

9. Information on average (arithmetic mean) drug purities for cocaine, crack, heroin and amphetamines has been provided by the Forensic Science Service (FSS), whose laboratories analyse seizures made by most police forces, the UKBA and HMRC. Such averages do not adequately describe the overall average purity. Not all seizures are sent for analysis although arrangements exist for the police to send for analysis all potential cocaine samples, including crack. FSS data refer to the year that information on the analysis was provided rather than the year of seizure.
10. The conversion factors used to estimate quantities of seizures from the police and the UKBA (including HMRC) have been revised from 2005 data in line with recommendations from the FSS. Average seizures of quantities for valid preparation types by drug type are used as conversion factors to present each drug quantity as one unit (kilograms, doses or plants). From 2005, for approximately half the main drug types the quantities of these seizures are presented in doses rather than kilograms. In previous years only LSD and ecstasy were presented in doses.
11. The method of collecting the statistics for England and Wales changed from 1 January 1993; seizures were reported on a simplified form no longer linked to an offender. The current collection includes all seizures of controlled drugs, whether or not there is an offender, and whether the case results in court proceedings, in a caution, or no further action. In England and Wales, total seizures were about 22 per cent higher in 1993 using the new method of collection than in 1992 using the old method.
12. A new database of drug seizures made by the police was developed between 1999 and 2000 and implemented in September 2000. There are some differences between the way this database counts seizures compared to the two databases it replaced. It was discovered that figures previously published for the period 1993–1999 were undercounting the number of seizures. The historic tables in this bulletin have been updated to take this into account.
13. There have been a number of changes which have affected the statistics in this bulletin over the period covered in the tables, the more significant of which are as follows:
 

01/07/2003	GHB became a controlled drug.
29/01/2004	Reclassification of cannabis from a class B to a class C drug under the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
18/07/2005	Raw magic mushrooms classified as a class A drug. Previously only prepared (such as dried or stewed) magic mushrooms were classified as class A drugs.
01/01/2006	Ketamine classified as a class C drug.
18/01/2007	Methamphetamine (commonly known as “Crystal Meth”) was reclassified from a class B to a class A drug.
26/01/2009	Reclassification of cannabis from a class C to a class B drug.
23/12/2009	Gamma-Butyrolactone (GBL), 1, 4 – Butanediol, Oripavine and Benzylpiperazine (BZP) became class C controlled drugs.
16/04/2010	Mephedrone became a controlled drug (class B). Other cathinone-based substances also became class B controlled drugs, though some were already controlled as class C drugs.
14. Not all drugs that come into the possession of the police have been “seized” in the strictest sense of the word. For example, a member of the public may hand in what appear to be drugs that have been found in the street. These items will be recorded at individual police stations and then destroyed.

15. Although care is taken in completing and analysing the returns used to compile the figures in this bulletin, the figures are subject to the inaccuracies of any large-scale recording system of this kind that involves different organisations. So that the reliability of data could be ensured, a reconciliation exercise was conducted, where each police force or other authority was asked to check their own data and supply revised figures where necessary.
  
15. The figures in the tables in this bulletin are generally shown to the last digit in order to provide a comprehensive record of the information collected. However, the figures are not necessarily accurate to the last digit shown. In some tables components may not add to totals (or the total) because they have been rounded independently.