



26 January 2012

Statistical News Release: Police Service Strength, England and Wales, 30 September 2011

The latest National Statistics on police service strength in England and Wales produced by the Home Office are released today.

This is a mid-year update, containing statistics on number of police officers and staff in post in the 43 police forces of England and Wales as at 30 September 2011.

The key points from the latest release are:

There were 135,838 full-time equivalent (FTE) Police Officers in the 43 police forces of England and Wales as at 30 September 2011. This is a decrease of 6,012 officers or 4.2 per cent compared to a year earlier.

Police officer strength, also including officers seconded to Central Services (such as the National Policing Improvement Agency or Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary), stood at 136,261 as at 30 September 2011, 6,102 fewer than a year earlier.

Other figures for the 43 forces in England and Wales show that:

- There were 69,407 FTE police staff in post on 30 September 2011 (down 8,820 or 11.3 per cent on 30 September 2010);
- There were 15,469 FTE Police Community Support Officers in post (down 907 or 5.5 per cent);
- There were 3,746 FTE Designated Officers in post (up 222 or 6.3 per cent); and
- There were 19,366 (head count) special constables (up 2,594 or 15.5 per cent).

Notes to editors

1. 'Police Service Strength, England and Wales, 30 September 2011' is available online on the UK Statistics Authority website as well as the Home Office Research, Development and Statistics website.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/police-research/hosb0312/>

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