



Home Office

Individuals referred to and supported through the *Prevent* Programme, April 2016 to March 2017

Statistical Bulletin 06/18

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Further information

The 'Individuals referred to and supported through the *Prevent* Programme, April 2016 to March 2017' publication and other Home Office statistical releases are available from the [Statistics at Home Office](#) pages on the GOV.UK website.

The dates of forthcoming publications are pre-announced and can be found via the [GOV.UK statistical release calendar](#).

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1 Key findings

1.1 People Referred to *Prevent*

In 2016/17, a total of 6,093 individuals were subject to a referral due to concerns that they were vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

The education sector (1,976) and Police (1,946) each accounted for 32% of referrals in 2016/17.

Of the 6,093 individuals referred in 2016/17, 2,199 (36%) left the process requiring no further action, 2,748 (45%) were signposted to alternative services and 1,146 (19%) were deemed suitable, through preliminary assessment, to be discussed at a Channel panel.

In 2016/17, 332 people received Channel support following a Channel panel. Of these, 292 (88%) individuals have subsequently left the process, and 40 (12%) are currently still receiving Channel support. Of those who have left the Channel process, 231 (79%) did so with no further terrorism-related concerns. The remaining 61 (21%) individuals withdrew from the Channel process, although in some cases support from other services may still be in place and any terrorism risk that might be present is managed by the police.

1.2 Age

In 2016/17, of the 6,093 individuals referred, the majority (3,487; 57%) were aged 20 years or under. Those aged 20 years or under also made up the majority of the 1,146 individuals discussed at a Channel panel (697; 61%) and the 332 individuals that received Channel support (226; 68%).

1.3 Gender

In 2016/17, of the 6,093 individuals referred, the majority were male (4,971; 82%). Males also made up the majority of the 1,146 individuals discussed at a Channel panel (943; 82%) and the 332 individuals that received Channel support (290; 87%).

1.4 Type of Concern

In 2016/17, of the 6,093 individuals referred, 3,704 (61%) were referred for concerns related to Islamist extremism and 968 (16%) were referred for concerns related to right wing extremism.

Concerns about Islamist extremism also accounted for the majority of the 1,146 individuals discussed at a Channel panel (760; 66%) and the 332 individuals that received Channel support (184; 55%).

Of the 1,146 individuals discussed at a Channel panel, 271 were referred for extreme right wing related concerns (24%) and this proportion increased for the 332 individuals who received Channel support (124; 37%).

1.5 Region

In 2016/17, of the 6,093 individuals referred, the largest proportion was from London (1,502; 25%), followed by the South East region (787; 13%).

The largest proportion of the 1,146 individuals discussed at a Channel panel in 2016/17 was from London (254; 22%), followed by the West Midlands region (216; 19%). Of the 332 individuals receiving Channel support, the largest proportion was from the West Midlands region (75; 23%), followed by the South East region (56; 17%).

2 Introduction

2.1 General Introduction

This release contains statistics on the number of individuals referred to and supported through the *Prevent* Programme in England and Wales from April 2016 to March 2017. It includes their journey from referral to support, followed by demographic statistics, including: age, gender, concern raised by the initial referrer and geographical location of the individual. [Data tables in Annex A](#) include data relating to the individuals referred to and supported through the *Prevent* Programme from April 2016 to March 2017. [Data tables in Annex B](#) include data of individuals referred to and supported through the Channel programme from April 2012 to March 2016. It should be noted that 2015/16 was the first year of data since the Prevent Duty came into force, with a large number of agencies, institutions and groups first receiving Prevent training during that year. When making comparisons with previous years, this should be taken into account.

This introduction gives a brief overview of how vulnerable people are supported through the *Prevent* programme. For more information about the process, please see the following publications on the GOV.UK website: [Prevent Strategy](#), [Prevent Duty Guidance](#) and [Channel Duty Guidance](#).

2.2 The Prevent Strategy

The *Prevent* Strategy, published by the Government in July 2011, forms part of the Government's wider counter-terrorism strategy, known as CONTEST. It aims to safeguard people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. *Prevent* addresses all forms of terrorism, including when it is inspired by Islamist or by extreme right wing ideologies.

2.3 Identification and Referrals

If a member of the public, or someone working with the public has a concern about a person they know who may be radicalised, they can raise these concerns with their local authority safeguarding team or the police for an assessment.

Staff working in organisations which have contact with the public may receive training which can help them to identify people who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism, and what to do about it. Local authorities, schools, colleges, universities, health bodies, prisons, probation organisations, and the police are subject to a statutory duty through the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to include in their day-to-day work consideration of the need to safeguard people from being drawn into terrorism.

2.4 Initial Assessment

A very early screening stage by police may eliminate some referrals before they are recorded on the Prevent Case Management tracker if they are based on incomplete and obviously inaccurate information. All referrals with a concern around vulnerability to radicalisation are screened by the police to check that the individual is not already part of, or should be part of, a terrorism investigation, as in most cases these individuals are not appropriate for Channel support. Once this has taken place, in many cases the initial assessment of a referral concludes that no further action is required. In others, a person's vulnerability may be assessed as not linked to radicalisation and an onward referral might be made for another form of support. These referrals are confidential and do not result in a criminal record or any other form of sanction.

2.5 The Channel Programme

The Channel programme in England and Wales is a voluntary initiative that provides a multi-agency approach to support people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. For those individuals where the police assess there is a risk of radicalisation, a Channel panel chaired by the local authority, and attended by other partners, such as representatives from education and health services, will meet to discuss the referral, assess the extent of the vulnerability, and decide on a tailored package of support to be offered to the individual. Channel panels will only offer support where they consider that it is

necessary and proportionate to do so, given all the circumstances of the case. A Channel panel may decide that a person’s vulnerabilities are not terrorism-related and refer the person to other forms of support. Information shared among partners is strictly in accordance with the terms of the Data Protection Act.

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 placed the Channel programme on a statutory footing and created a duty on each local authority in England and Wales to ensure that there is a panel in place for its area. Statutory guidance for Channel panels was published in March 2015.

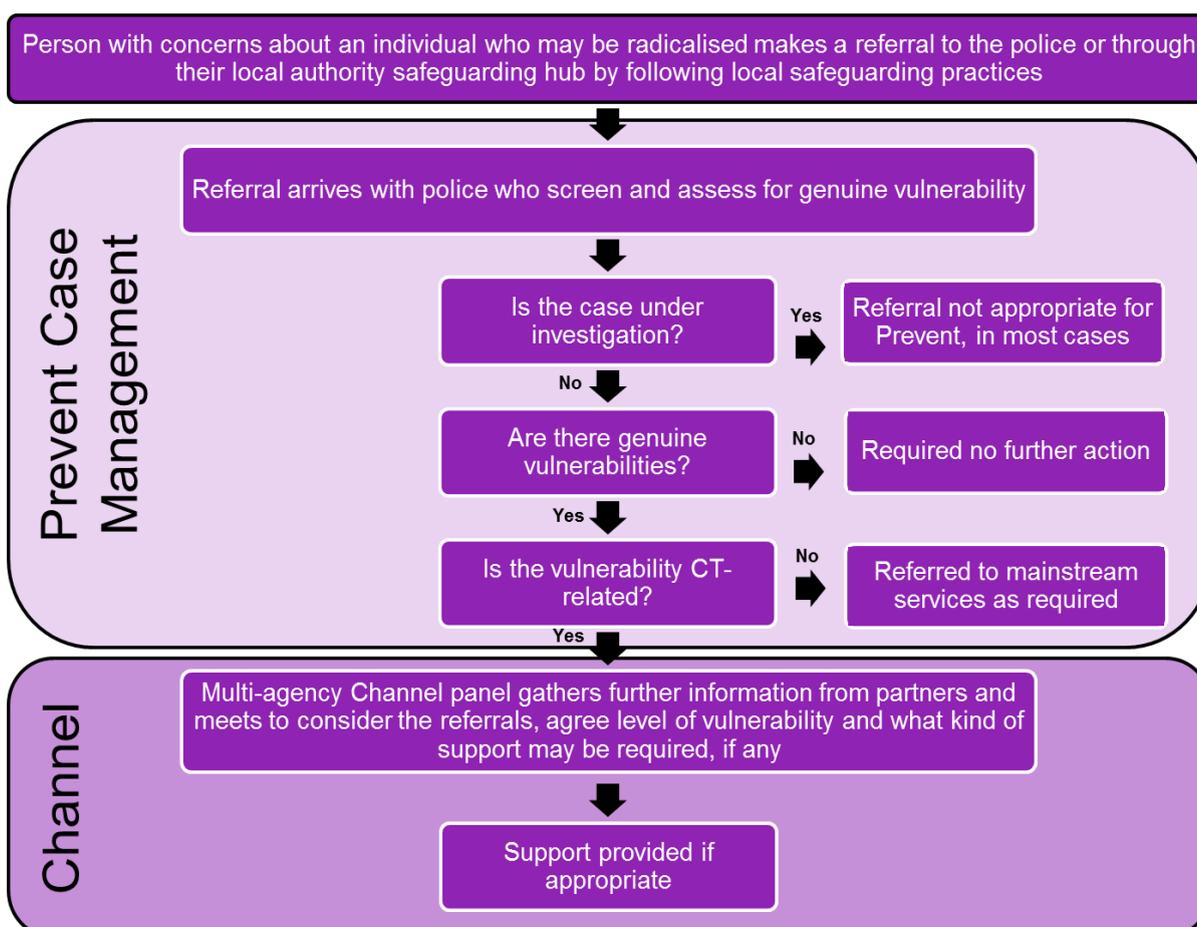
2.6 Providing support and leaving the programme

Participation in the Channel programme is voluntary and confidential. Many types of support are available, addressing educational, vocational, mental health, and other vulnerabilities. Ideological mentoring is common.

A Channel panel will, on a monthly basis, monitor the progress of an individual in receipt of Channel support. When the panel decides that a person has no further terrorism-related concerns they will leave the Channel programme. Support to address particular non-radicalisation related concerns could continue in some cases and would be managed outside of the Channel programme.

People in receipt of support from the Channel programme but who drop out, may be offered alternative forms of support by the local authority or other providers. In these circumstances, any risk of terrorism that they might present will be managed by the police.

Figure 2.1: *Prevent* process flow diagram



Source: Home Office

2.7 Experimental Statistics

Due to the provisional nature of this dataset, these statistics have been designated as **Experimental Statistics**. It was acknowledged that there was a need for greater consistency in recording referrals across the regions. Work has been undertaken to improve this.

If you have any comments on the content or presentation of these statistics, please email: to PreventCommunications@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk.

3 People referred to *Prevent*

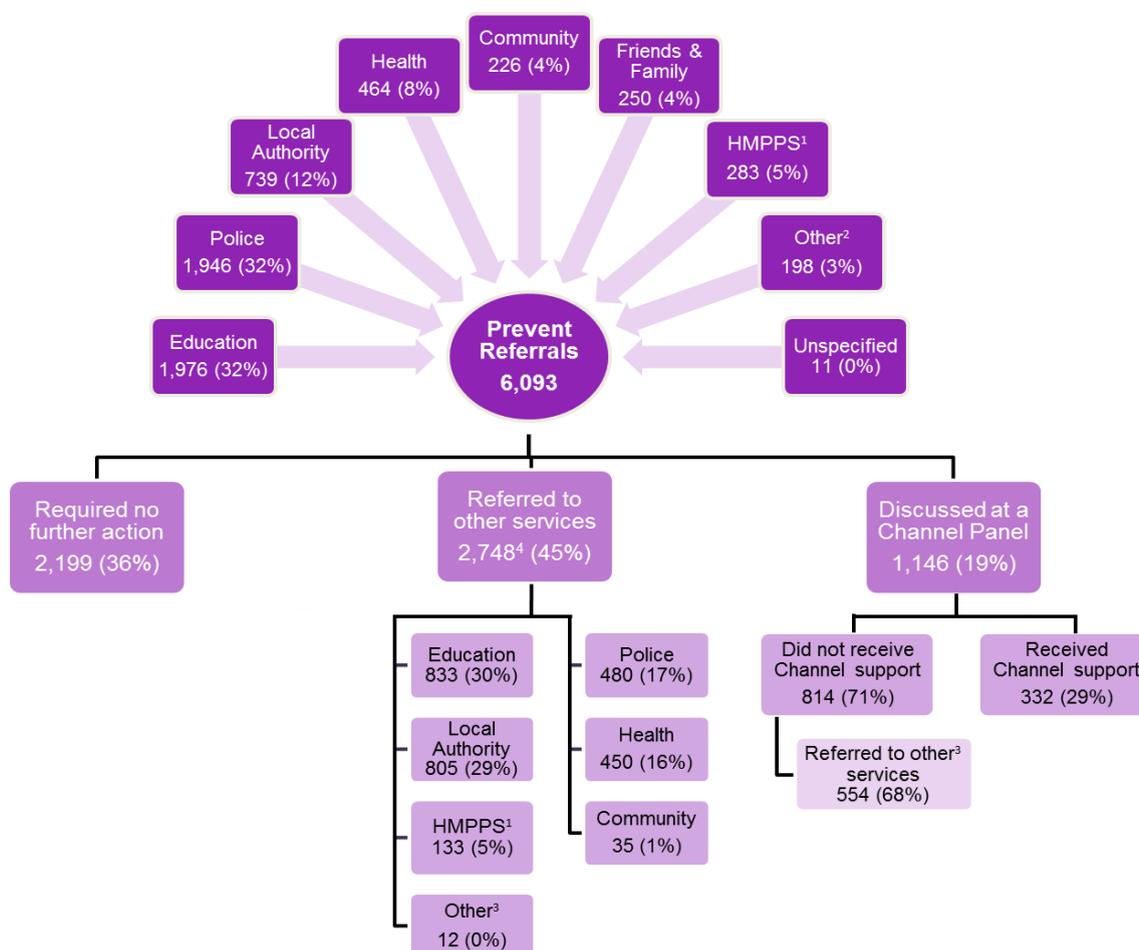
3.1 Introduction

This section presents statistics on the number of individuals referred due to concerns of vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism. It includes the sector of referral and information on how these individuals are assessed and supported, including those who required no further action, a referral to another service, or were reviewed by a Channel panel for support through the Channel programme.

3.2 The Referral Process

In 2016/17, a total of 6,093 individuals were subject to a referral due to concerns that they were vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism (Figure 3.1). The education sector made the most referrals (1,976) accounting for 32%, followed by the police (1,946) also accounting for 32% of referrals.

Figure 3.1: Sector of referral and subsequent journey, 2016/17



Source: Table P.01-02, Home Office

Notes:

1. Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service.
2. 'Other' sector of referral includes employment, fire services, HMRC, HO Immigration Enforcement, military and other.
3. 'Other' services include HMRC, employment, HO Immigration Enforcement, military and other.
4. Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Of the 6,093 individuals referred in 2016/17:

- 2,199 (36%) left the process requiring no further action;
- 2,748 (45%) were signposted to alternative services;
- 1,146 (19%) were deemed suitable, through preliminary assessment, to be discussed at a Channel panel.

Of the 2,748 individuals who were referred to alternative services for support, they were most commonly signposted to the education sector (833; 30%).

Of the 1,146 individuals deemed suitable through preliminary assessment to be discussed at a Channel panel in 2016/17:

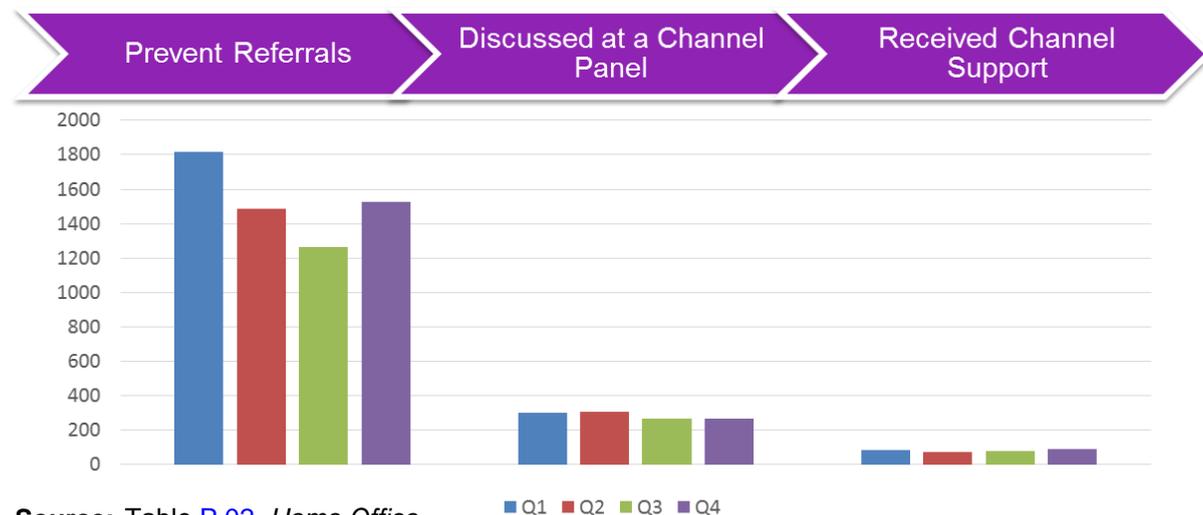
- 814 (71%) individuals did not receive Channel support. Of these 814, 554 (68%) were signposted to alternative services;
- 332 (29%) individuals received support through the Channel programme. Of the 332, 292 (88%) have left the Channel process and 40 (12%) are currently still receiving Channel support¹.

Of the 292 individuals who received Channel support in 2016/17 and have subsequently left the process, 231 (79%) left with no further terrorism-related concerns. The remaining 61 (21%) individuals withdrew from the Channel process, although in some cases support from other services may still be in place and any terrorism risk that might be present is managed by the police.

3.3 Referrals by financial quarter

The number of referrals in 2016/17 steadily decreased between Q1 and Q3 with a peak of 1,817 referrals in Q1 to a low of 1,264 referrals in Q3. However, the number of referrals increased by 21% from Q3 to Q4 (1,526). The number of individuals discussed at a Channel panel and receiving Channel support appears much more consistent across the four quarters.

Figure 3.2: Referrals by financial quarter, 2016/17



Source: Table P.02, Home Office

¹ At the date of provision (28 February 2018) 12% were still currently receiving Channel support.

4 Demographics

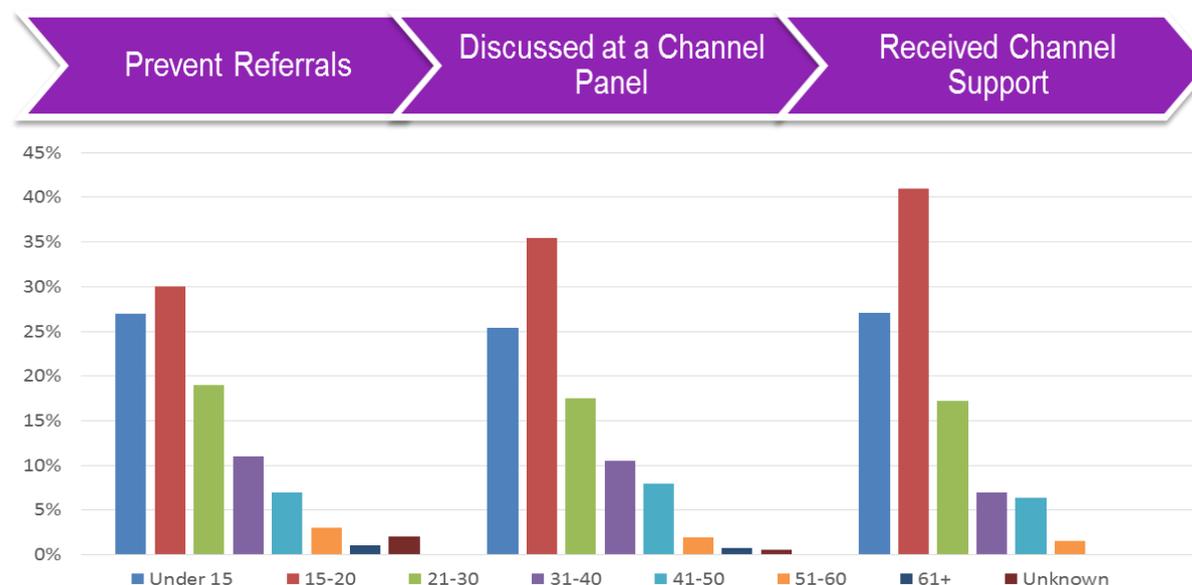
4.1 Introduction

This section presents statistics on individuals: referred due to concerns about their vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism; discussed at a Channel panel; and receiving Channel support by different demographics. These include age, gender, concern raised by the initial referee and geographical location of the individual.

4.2 Age

In 2016/17, of the 6,093 individuals referred, the majority (3,487; 57%) were aged 20 years or under (Figure 4.1). Those aged 20 years or under also made up the majority of the 1,146 individuals discussed at a Channel panel (697; 61%) and the 332 individuals that received Channel support (226; 68%).

Figure 4.1: Age group of those referred, discussed at a Channel panel and who received Channel support, 2016/17



Source: Table [D.01](#), *Home Office*

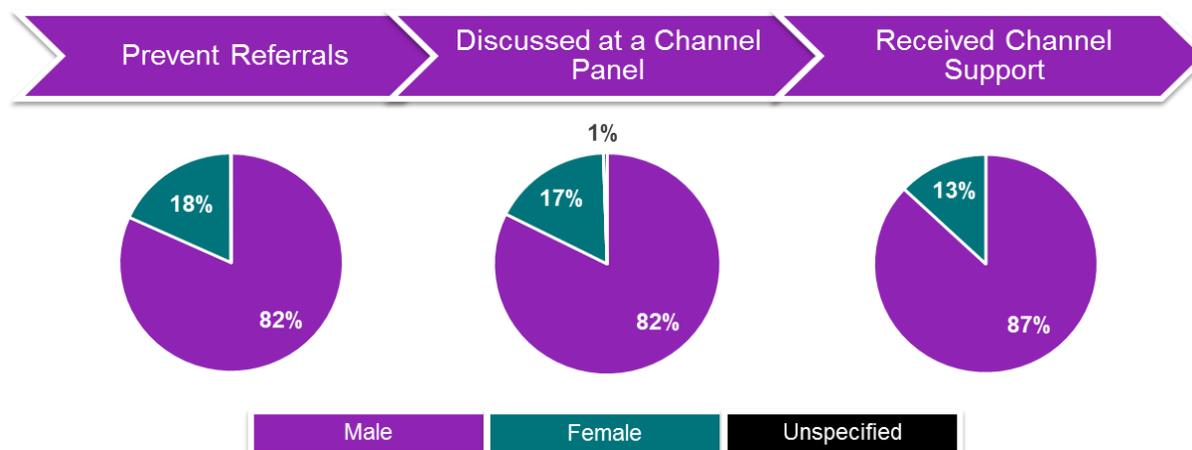
Age by Sector of Referral

Individuals referred in 2016/17 from the education sector had the youngest median age (14) whereas referrals from the health sector had the oldest median age (29).

4.3 Gender

In 2016/17, of the 6,093 individuals referred, the majority were male (4,971; 82%). Males also made up the majority of the 1,146 individuals discussed at a Channel panel (943; 82%) and the 332 individuals that received Channel support (290; 87%).

Figure 4.2: Gender of those referred, discussed at a Channel panel and who received Channel support, 2016/17



Source: Table [D.02](#), Home Office

4.4 Type of Concern

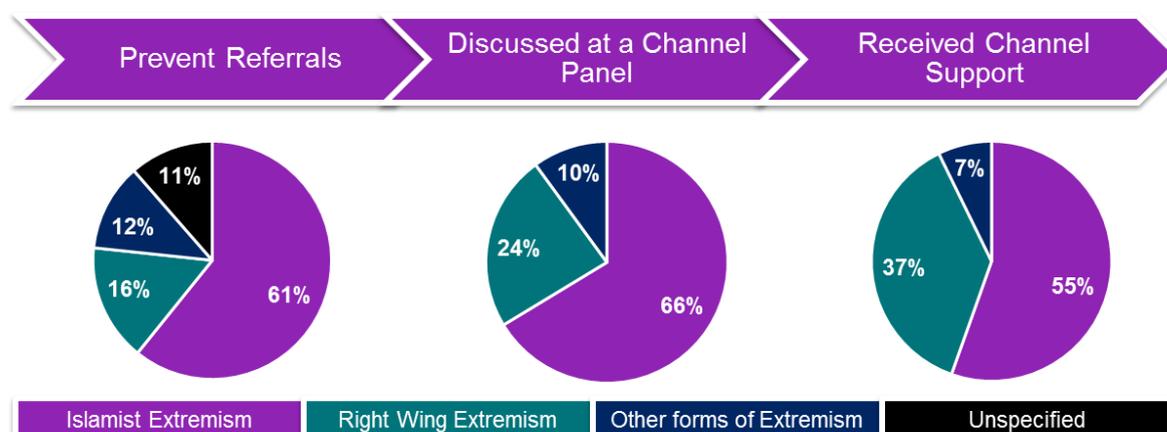
In 2016/17, of the 6,093 individuals referred, 3,704 (61%) were referred for concerns related to Islamist extremism and 968 (16%) were referred for concerns related to right wing extremism (Figure 4.3).

Concerns about Islamist extremism also accounted for the majority of the 1,146 individuals discussed at a Channel panel (760; 66%) and the 332 individuals that received Channel support (184; 55%).

Of the 1,146 individuals discussed at a Channel panel, 271 were referred for concerns related to right wing extremism (24%). Of the 332 people receiving Channel support, 124 had been referred for concerns related to right wing extremism (37%).

Individuals discussed at a Channel panel with extreme right wing related concerns were proportionately more likely to receive Channel support (124 of 271; 46%) than those with Islamist related concerns (184 of 760; 24%).

Figure 4.3²: Type of concern of those referred, discussed at a Channel panel and who received Channel support, 2016/17



Source: Table [D.03](#), Home Office

² Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding

Age by Type of Concern

Of the 3,704 individuals referred for concerns related to Islamist extremism, the largest proportion were aged under 15 (1,058; 29%). Of the 968 referred for concerns related to right wing extremism, the largest proportion were aged 15 to 20 (328; 34%).

Of the 760 individuals discussed at a Channel panel for concerns related to Islamist extremism, the largest proportion were aged 15 to 20 (250; 33%). This was also the case for the 271 individuals discussed at a Channel panel for concerns related to right wing extremism (108; 40% aged 15 to 20).

Of the 184 individuals who received Channel support for Islamist related concerns, the largest proportion were aged 15 to 20 (71; 39%). This was the same for the 124 individuals who received Channel support for concerns related to right wing extremism (54; 44% aged 15 to 20).

Gender by Type of Concern

Referrals for concerns about right wing extremism were proportionately more likely to involve males compared to those related to Islamist extremism. Of the 3,704 individuals referred for concerns related to Islamist extremism, 2,851 (77%) were male, whereas of the 968 referred for concerns related to right wing extremism, 904 were male (93%).

The same picture was seen for the 760 individuals discussed at a Channel panel for concerns related to Islamist extremism (578; 76% male), compared to the 271 individuals discussed at a Channel panel for concerns related to right wing extremism (257; 95% male).

Again, of the 184 individuals who received Channel support for concerns related to Islamist extremism, 147 were male (80%), whereas of the 124 individuals who received Channel support for concerns related to right wing extremism, 119 were male (96%).

4.5 Region

In 2016/17, of the 6,093 individuals referred, the largest proportion was from London (1,502; 25%), followed by the South East (787; 13%), North East (773; 13%) and North West regions (745; 12%), all of whom recorded a similar number of referrals.

The largest proportion of the 1,146 individuals discussed at a panel in 2016/17 was from London (254; 22%) followed by the West Midlands region (216; 19%). Of the 332 individuals receiving Channel support, the largest proportion was from the West Midlands region (75; 23%), followed by the South East region (56; 17%).

Figure 4.4³: Regional distribution of those referred, discussed at a Channel panel and who received Channel support, 2016/17

Region	Prevent Referrals		Discussed at a Channel Panel		Received Channel Support	
	Number	Proportion	Number	Proportion	Number	Proportion
East	496	8%	128	11%	23	7%
East Midlands	538	9%	108	9%	31	9%
London	1,502	25%	254	22%	41	12%
North East	773	13%	101	9%	32	10%
North West	745	12%	93	8%	22	7%
South East	787	13%	154	13%	56	17%
South West	468	8%	49	4%	24	7%
Wales	265	4%	43	4%	28	8%
West Midlands	519	9%	216	19%	75	23%
Total	6,093	100%	1,146	100%	332	100%

Source: Table [D.04](#), *Home Office*

Region by Type of Concern

Of the 3,704 individuals referred for concerns related to Islamist extremism, the largest proportion was from London (1,039; 28%), whereas of the 968 individuals referred for concerns related to right wing extremism, the largest proportion was from the North East (171; 18%).

Of the 760 individuals discussed at a Channel panel for concerns related to Islamist extremism, the largest proportion was from London (214; 28%), whereas of the 271 individuals discussed at a Channel panel for concerns related to right wing extremism, the largest population was from the West Midlands (47; 17%).

Of the 184 individuals who received Channel support for concerns related to Islamist extremism, the largest proportion was in the West Midlands (44; 24%), which was the same for the 124 individuals who received Channel support for concerns related to right wing extremism (26; 21%).

³ Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding

5 Additional points of interest

5.1 Key comparisons between 2015/16 and 2016/17

In 2016/17, 6,093 individuals were referred to Prevent, a 20% decrease in comparison to 2015/16 (7,631).

- Compared to 2015/16, there was a 7% increase in the number of individuals that were deemed suitable through a preliminary assessment to be discussed at a Channel panel in 2016/17 (1071 compared to 1,146).
- In 2016/17, 332 individuals received Channel support following a Channel panel, a 13% decrease in comparison with 2015/16 (380).

There was a 28% increase in the number of extreme right wing referrals in 2016/17 (968) when compared with 2015/16 (759); whilst referrals for concerns related to Islamist extremism decreased by 26% over the same time (2015/16, 4,997; 2016/17, 3,704).

- The proportion of panel discussions regarding extreme right wing related concerns has increased by 44%, from 188 in 2015/16 to 271 in 2016/2017. Similarly, the number of individuals receiving Channel support for extreme right wing related concerns has also increased over the same time period by 27% (2015/16, 98; 2016/17, 124).
- This is in contrast to individuals receiving support for concerns related to Islamist extremism, which has decreased by 30% between 2015/16 (264) and 2016/17 (184).

Despite a 32% decrease in the number of referrals in the West Midlands region between 2015/16 (768) and 2016/17 (519), there has been a 125% increase in the number of individuals discussed at a Channel panel and a 53% increase in the number of individuals receiving Channel support.

5.2 Outcomes assigned to 2015/16 open cases

On November 9 2017, Home Office published statistics on the number of individuals referred to and supported through the Prevent programme in England and Wales from April 2015 to March 2016. At the date of data provision (20 October 2017) 4% of individuals (16) who received Channel support were still receiving support. An update on the status of these cases has been provided in [table C.02 in Annex B](#). This reflects cases that have subsequently closed since the previous publication⁴.

⁴ Of the 16 cases, nine remain open and continue to receive Channel support, seven have now left the process. Of those that have left the Channel process, four have left with no further terrorism-related concerns and two of the cases withdrew from the Channel process. It has since been confirmed that the one remaining case did not receive Channel support and was closed without the individual being discussed at a Channel panel.

Statistical Bulletins are prepared by staff in Home Office Statistics under the National Statistics Code of Practice and can be downloaded from GOV.UK:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/about/statistics>

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