



Home Office



31 January 2013

Statistical News Release: Police Service Strength, England and Wales, 30 September 2012

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 2012.

The key points from the latest release are:

There were 131,837 full-time equivalent (FTE) Police Officers in the 43 police forces of England and Wales as at 30 September 2012. This is a decrease of 4,001 officers or 2.9 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 132,235 as at 30 September 2012, 4,036 fewer than a year earlier.

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

- There were 65,992 FTE police staff in post on 30 September 2012 (down 3,406 or 4.9 per cent on 30 September 2011);
- There were 14,411 FTE Police Community Support Officers in post (down 1,070 or 6.9 per cent);
- There were 4,099 FTE Designated Officers in post (up 69 or 1.7 per cent); and
- There were 19,159 (headcount) special constables (down 248 or 1.3 per cent).

Notes to editors

1. 'Police Service Strength, England and Wales, 30 September 2012' 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/hosb0113/>

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