## Home Office Statistical Bulletin

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## Firearm and Shotgun Certificates in England and Wales 2011/12

Rachel Murphy

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# Firearm and Shotgun Certificates in England and Wales 2011/12 

## SUMMARY

There were 141,820 firearm certificates on issue on 31 March 2012, an increase of 0.3 per cent compared with 141,347 on issue at the end of March 2011.

The number of firearms covered by such certificates (477,888 firearms) increased in the last year and is the highest number since these figures were first collected in 1995.

There were 562,696 shotgun certificates on issue on 31 March 2012, a fall of 0.3 per cent from the 564,269 on issue at the end of March 2011. The longer-term trend since 2002 in shotgun certificates is relatively flat.

There were 11,502 new firearm certificates granted in 2011/12, an increase of two per cent from the 11,286 certificates granted during 2010/11. This follows an increase of 19 per cent between 2009/10 and 2010/11 and a six per cent fall between 2008/09 and 2009/10

There were 31,254 new shotgun certificates granted during 2011/12, an eight per cent increase compared with $2010 / 11$ when 29,068 shotgun certificates were granted.

Around one per cent of new applications for firearm certificates and two per cent of new applications for shotgun certificates were refused in 2011/12, similar to the level in the previous four years.

A total of 349 firearm certificates were revoked in 2011/12, a fall of $14 \%$ since $2010 / 11$ and the first decrease since 2005/06. The number of shotgun certificates revoked fell by six per cent, from 1,379 in 2010/11 to 1,301 in 2011/12.

There were 3,417 registered firearm dealers on 31 March 2012, an increase of seven per cent compared with the figure of 3,205 last year, and the highest number since these figures were first collected in 1995.

There were 3,399 people covered by firearm visitors' permits and 8,075 people covered by shotgun visitors' permits in 2011/12. Both of these figures are the highest numbers since the series began in 1995.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents information on firearm and shotgun certificates under the Firearms Acts 1968 to 1997. It covers certificates issued by police forces in the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012, as well as historical trend data and police force comparisons. The bulletin also provides information on the number of registered firearm dealers, visitors' permits and European Firearm Passes (EFP) issued.

This bulletin has previously been published in March each year, but as the data now come directly from the National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS) we are able to produce it in a more timely fashion.

The definitions of a firearm and a shotgun are provided in Box 1. Further details of the legislation covering the licensing of firearms are given in the notes at the end of this report.

## Box 1 Definitions

According to the Firearms Act 1968, a firearm means a lethal barrelled weapon of any description from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged. It includes any prohibited weapon, any component part of such a weapon and any accessory to such a weapon designed or adapted to diminish the noise or flash caused by the firing of the weapon.

It is - with certain statutory exceptions - an offence to possess, purchase, or acquire any firearm or ammunition to which Section 1 of the Firearms Act 1968 applies without holding a firearm certificate.

Section 1 of the 1968 Act applies to all firearms except a shotgun or an air gun.
A shotgun is defined as a smooth-bore gun (not being an air gun) which: (i) has a barrel not less than 24 inches in length and does not have any barrel with a bore exceeding two inches in diameter; (ii) either has no magazine or has a non-detachable magazine incapable of holding more than two cartridges; and (iii) is not a revolver gun. Other smooth-bore guns may require a firearm certificate.

It is - with certain statutory exceptions - an offence for a person to possess, purchase, or acquire any shotgun without holding a shotgun certificate

Data for this bulletin are taken from the National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS). The NFLMS is a register of all persons who have applied for, or have been granted, a certificate to possess or acquire a firearm or shotgun. It is a web-based national register of all firearm certificate holders. The NFLMS updates the Police National Computer with details of individuals who own firearms and/or shotguns and records details of anyone who has been refused a certificate or had one revoked. In addition, the NFLMS maintains information on people, companies and dealers that have requested firearms and/or shotgun certificates. It also holds information on weapons and their history.

The NFLMS is used by all police forces in England and Wales, and is a live operational system that allows police forces to interrogate the data. To produce statistics for this bulletin a 'snapshot' was taken on 1 April 2012 and data were extracted for the financial year (1 April 2011 - 31 March 2012).

Due to the transition from in-force data collection systems to the NFLMS during 2006, robust data relating to 2006/07, and numbers of weapons and persons covered by certificates for 2007/08, are not available.

Statistics on crimes involving the use of a firearm during 2010/11 were published separately in Homicides, Firearm Offences and Intimate Violence (Smith et al., 2012) ${ }^{1}$.

## 2. FIREARM CERTIFICATES (See Notes, paragraphs $2,3,4,5,6$ and 9 )

There are three series of data collections covering firearms certificates. The data on firearm certificates on issue have been collected since 1971, with a break of 12 years before it started again in 1983, since when they have been collected every year. The data collection on new and renewal applications has been running every year since 1983, and the data on number of firearms covered by certificates on issue have been collected every year since 1995.

## Number of certificates on issue

There were 141,820 firearm certificates on issue at the end of March 2012, a slight increase of 0.3 per cent compared with the 141,347 on issue at the end of March 2011. This follows a slight fall of 0.3 per cent between 2009/10 and 2010/11 (Table 1 and Figure 1).

The number of firearm certificates on issue generally declined between 1971, soon after the introduction of the 1968 Firearms Act, and 2002. Since then, there has been an upward trend before the slight fall in 2010/11. The number of firearm certificates on issue in 2011/12 is 20 per cent higher than in 2002.

The number of firearms covered by such certificates ${ }^{2}$ (477,888 firearms) also increased and is the highest number since these figures were first collected in 1995.

The number of firearms covered by certificates on issue decreased from a high of 418,300 in 1996 to 295,000 in 1998 and corresponded with the tightening of gun control through the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 prompted by the Dunblane massacre. Since 1998 the number of firearms covered by certificates has increased by 62 per cent.

The rise in the number of firearms since 1998 is largely explained by an increase in the average number of firearms covered by each certificate. The average number of firearms per certificate on 31 March 2012 was 3.4 (Table 1). This number is slightly higher than the 3.3 firearms per certificate reported in 2010/11 and the highest since figures were first collected in 1995. The number of firearms per certificate has gradually increased from 2.2 in 1999 to the figure of 3.4 reported this year.

Details for applications, renewal, variation and revocations, as well as certificates and firearms held by population for each police force area in 2011/12 are given in Table 2.

The police forces with the highest number of firearm certificates on issue were Devon and Cornwall $(9,728)$, Thames Valley $(6,448)$ and North Yorkshire $(6,164)$.

The number of firearms covered by certificates on issue per head of population was highest in DyfedPowys (2,500 per 100,000 population), North Yorkshire (2,237 per 100,000 population) and Cumbria ( 2,101 per 100,000 population). The police forces with the lowest number of firearms covered by certificates on issue per head of population were City of London (163 per 100,000 population),

[^0]Metropolitan Police (205 per 100,000 population) and Merseyside (270 per 100,000 population) and This pattern is not surprising as those police forces with the highest number of firearms per head of population are in the more rural areas, where the population tends to be lower and firearms are more frequently used for employment and leisure activities.

Figure 1 Firearm certificates on issue, 2002 to 2011/12

*2006/07 data are not available ( see Introduction)

## New applications and renewals

There were 11,502 new firearm certificates granted in 2011/12, an increase of two per cent from the 11,286 certificates granted during 2010/11. This follows an increase of 19 per cent between 2009/10 and 2010/11 and a six per cent fall between 2008/09 and 2009/10 (Table 1).

In 2011/12 one per cent of new applications for firearm certificates were refused, similar to the level seen in previous years.

There were 35,723 renewal applications granted in 2011/12. In 1995 the renewal cycle for firearm certificates changed from three years to five years, so it is not appropriate to directly compare year-onyear changes for renewals.

## Revocations of certificates

Firearm certificates can be revoked if the Chief Police Officer is satisfied that the holder can no longer be entrusted with firearms, according to the Firearms Act 1968. For example, if the holder is of unsound mind or no longer has a good reason for having a firearm.

In 2011/12, a total of 349 firearm certificates were revoked (Table 2), a fall of 14\% since 2010/11 (Table 5). This is the first decrease since 2005/06.

## 3. SHOTGUN CERTIFICATES (See Notes, paragraphs 2, 3, 7, 8 and 9)

There are three series of data collections covering shotgun certificates. The data on shotgun certificates on issue have been collected since 1971, with a break of 12 years before it started again in 1983, since when they have been collected every year. The data collection on new and renewal applications has been running every year since 1983, and the data on number of shotguns covered by certificates on issue have been collected every year since 1995.

## Number of certificates on issue

There were 562,696 shotgun certificates on issue at the end of March 2012, a 0.3 per cent reduction compared with 564,269 at the end of March 2011 (Table 3 and Figure 2).

The number of shotgun certificates on issue peaked in 1988 (at 882,000 ) before falling to 559,000 in 2002. Since 2002, the trend in the number of shotgun certificates held has been relatively flat. The number of certificates on issue this year is more than a third lower (36\%) than the 1988 peak.

Shotgun certificates in force at the end of March 2012 covered $1,328,647$ shotguns, a decrease of 0.6 per cent from the 1,336,701 on issue at the end of March 2011.

The average number of shotguns per certificate in 2011/12 was 2.4 , the same as in $2010 / 11$. The average number of shotguns per certificate has been relatively steady over the last ten years (Table $3)$.

Details for applications, renewal, variation and revocations, as well as certificates and shotguns held by population for each police force are given in Table 4.

The police forces with the highest number of shotgun certificates on issue were Devon and Cornwall $(30,653)$, Thames Valley $(27,618)$ and West Mercia $(26,639)$.

The number of shotguns covered by certificates on issue per head of population was highest in DyfedPowys ( 8,689 per 100,000 population), Norfolk ( 6,417 per 100,000 population) and Suffolk ( 5,788 per 100,000 population). The police forces with the lowest number of shotguns covered by certificates on issue per head of population were City of London (360 per 100,000 population), Merseyside ( 552 per 100,000 population) and Metropolitan Police ( 635 per 100,000 population).

As with firearms, this is not unexpected as the police forces with the highest number of shotguns per head of population reflect the more rural nature of the areas, with lower population and shotguns used more frequently for employment and recreational activities.

Figure 2 Shotgun certificates on issue, 2002 to 2011/12

*2006/07 data are not available ( see Introduction)

## New applications, renewals and revocations

There were 31,254 new shotgun certificates granted during 2011/12, an eight per cent increase compared with $2010 / 11$ when 29,068 shotgun certificates were granted (Table 3). The number of renewal certificates in 2011/12 was 137,913.

As with firearm certificates, the renewal of shotgun certificates changed from a three to a five-year cycle in 1995, so it is not appropriate to directly compare year-on-year changes.

In 2011/12, around two per cent of new applications for shotgun certificates, and less than one per cent of applications for the renewal of shotgun certificates, were refused. The number of shotgun certificates revoked fell by six per cent, from 1,379 in 2010/11 to 1,301 in 2011/12. Last year's figure of 1,379 was the highest since the series began in 1992 (Table 5).

## 4. FIREARM DEALERS (see Notes, paragraphs 10 and 11)

On 31 March 2012, there were 3,417 registered firearm dealers in England and Wales, an increase of seven per cent from the 3,205 dealers registered in 2010/11 and the highest figure since records began in 1995. The number of registered firearm dealers declined between 1996 and 2003/04, from 2,490 to 1,950 (a decline of $22 \%$ ) but has since risen (Table 6 and Figure 3).

This increase is partly due to the introduction of the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006, which required businesses selling air weapons to register with the police as firearm dealers. This Act, which came into force on 1 October 2007, allowed businesses to apply for registration from 6 April 2007 (see Notes, paragraph 10). The effect of the Act can be seen in the relatively high number of applications that were granted for previously unregistered dealers in 2007/08 (1,273 were granted in that year compared with fewer than 300 in all previous years; Table 6).

Details for applications, removals and registered dealers for each police force area are given in Table 7.

Figure 3 Firearm dealers registered, 1995 to 2011/12

*2006/07 data are not available ( see Introduction)

## 5. VISITORS' PERMITS (See Notes, paragraph 12)

In 2011/12, a total of 3,399 people were covered by individual and group firearm visitors' permits, a 25 per cent increase compared with 2010/11, when 2,559 people were covered. The figures tend to fluctuate from year to year, but this year's figure is the highest number since the series began in 1995 (Tables 8 and 9 , and Figure 4). This increase is likely to be related to the Olympics being held in the United Kingdom in 2012 as a number of sports use firearms.

In 2011/12 8,075 people were covered by shotgun visitors' permits, an increase of three per cent compared with 2010/11 $(7,856)$ and the highest number since the series began (Tables 8 and 10, and Figure 4).

Figure 4 Visitors' permits, 1995 to 2011/12


[^1]
## 6. EUROPEAN FIREARMS PASSES (EFPs) AND ARTICLE 7 AUTHORITIES

(See Notes, paragraph 13)

The police began to issue EFPs in January 1993. At the end of March 2012, 14,792 EFPs were on issue in England and Wales (Table 11), a decrease of two per cent compared with the 15,030 EFPs on issue at the end of March 2011 . $^{3}$

During 2011/12, 14 applications for Article 7 Authorities were granted to certificate holders, compared with nine during 2010/11 (Table 12). ${ }^{4}$

[^2]
## NOTES

## Accuracy of the statistics

1. The statistics in this bulletin for years up to and including 2005/06 were compiled by each police force and included in an annual aggregate return to the Home Office. Figures from 2007/08 onwards have been extracted from the National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS) by the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA). They are subject to the measurement inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale recording system. To ensure the reliability of data, prior to publication, each force was asked to check their own provisional data and supply revised figures where necessary.

## Regulations on the issue of certificates and permits

2. On 1 January 1995, the renewal cycle for both firearm and shotgun certificates changed from three to five years. Therefore it is not appropriate to directly compare year-on-year changes for renewals. So, for example, an individual who was issued a firearm certificate in 1994 would have needed to have renewed three years later, in 1997. For certificates issued in 1995, the renewal would not be due until the year 2000. Therefore it is not appropriate to directly compare year-on-year changes due to changes in the pattern of renewals in the late 1990s.
3. All persons acquiring or in possession of a firearm or shotgun must have a certificate issued by the Chief Police Officer of the police force area in which the person lives, unless they are otherwise exempt. Persons sentenced to any form of custody for a period of three years or more are prohibited from possessing firearms for life. Those sentenced to three months or more but less than three years are subject to a five-year prohibition from the date of their release.
4. Firearm certificates are issued for weapons covered by section 1 of the 1968 Firearms Act (as amended), including rifles, muzzle-loading revolvers and shotguns with magazines that are capable of holding more than two cartridges. The Chief Police Officer must be satisfied that an applicant has good reason for wanting a weapon, is fit to be entrusted with it, and that the public safety or the peace will not be endangered. The certificate lists the number, type and serial number of each weapon held and any conditions attached (a standard condition is that weapons and ammunition are held in a secure place when not in use).
5. The Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 banned all firearms with a barrel less than 30 cm in length or with an overall length of less than 60 cm . Certain types of firearms remain exempt, including muzzleloading guns, firearms used for the humane killing of animals, flare pistols and vintage pistols held as war trophies or collectors' items.
6. Section 39 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 banned air weapons that use, or are designed or adapted for use with, a self-contained gas cartridge system. With effect from 20 January 2004, under section 5(3) of the 1968 Act, such weapons could not be purchased, acquired, manufactured, sold or transferred without the Secretary of State's authority. The offence of possession was brought into force separately under subsection 4 and came into effect on 30 April 2004. This made provision for existing owners to keep and continue to use their weapons, provided the weapons were added to a firearm certificate (new or variation). Existing owners who did not wish to apply for a certificate were able to hand their weapon into the police for disposal by 30 April 2004.
7. Shotgun certificates, covered by section 2 of the 1968 Act and section 2 of the 1988 Act, permit the holder to possess any number of shotguns. These can include pump-action and self-loading weapons that have a magazine that is incapable of holding more than two cartridges, but excludes large magazine smooth-bore guns. Apart from the general prohibitions applying to all types of firearm,
applications may not be granted or renewed if a Chief Police Officer has reason to believe that the applicant is prohibited by the Firearms Acts from possessing a shotgun or if he/she is satisfied that the applicant does not have a good reason for possessing, purchasing or acquiring one. Nor may applications be granted or renewed unless the Chief Police Officer is satisfied that the applicant can be permitted to possess a shotgun without danger to the public safety or to the peace (section 3 of the 1988 Act). The certificate specifies the description of the shotguns including, if known, the identification numbers of the guns.
8. Certain types of weapons (e.g. machine guns) are prohibited under section 5 of the 1968 Act as amended by section 1 of the 1988 Act; their possession can only be authorised by the Secretary of State after careful enquiries by the police.
9. The Firearms (Period of Certificate) Order 1994 came into effect on 1 January 1995. The Order extends the life of all firearm and shotgun certificates granted or renewed after that date to five years. To alter the number and type of weapons held on a firearm certificate, an application for a variation must be made to the Chief Police Officer. The expiry date of a shotgun certificate can be aligned with the holder's firearm certificate (section 11 of the 1988 Act). In 1989, forces began recording the number of weapons for both firearm and shotgun certificates on their computer systems.
10. Section 13 of the 1988 Act increased the registration period for dealers from one to three years. The grounds for refusal of new applications for registration were extended and a register of transactions must be retained for at least five years.
11. Section 31 of the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 required businesses that sell air weapons to register with the police as dealers. The section was brought into place in two stages: businesses were able to apply for registration from 6 April 2007 and the offence of not being registered came into effect on 1 October 2007.

## Regulations on the issue of visitors' permits

12. The conditions for exemptions from holding a firearm certificate were revised in sections 15 to 19 of the 1988 Act. Visitors' permits were introduced allowing the holder to possess a firearm or shotgun without holding a certificate. Permits are in force for a period not exceeding 12 months. Group applications may be made for up to 20 persons (section 17 of the 1988 Act).
13. Each EU state was required to amend its firearms legislation to meet the requirements of the 1991 EC Weapons Directive. In the UK these changes were made by means of the Firearms Acts (Amendment) Regulations 1992, which made provision for the police to issue two new documents to British residents: the European Firearms Pass (EFP) and an Article 7 Authority.
(a) The EFP is broadly speaking a passport for firearms. EU residents intending to take their firearm or shotgun to another EU state will need an EFP issued by their State of residence. There is only one criterion for the issue of an EFP to a British resident, that the applicant must possess a valid firearm or shotgun certificate. The EFP does not replace the certificate.
(b) Article 7 of the Weapons Directive requires any EU resident wanting to purchase certain types of firearms, or ammunition for such firearms, outside his or her State of residence to have the prior authority of their own State. In England, Wales and Scotland this agreement is at the discretion of the local Chief Police Officer. Firearms cannot be brought into the UK if an individual does not hold an appropriate firearm certificate, even if Article 7 Authority has been granted.

## Table abbreviations

‘-' indicates nil
'..' indicates that data are not available.

Firearm Certificate Statistics for Scotland in 2011 can be found here:
http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00393877.pdf

Table 1 Firearm certificates: applications, certificates on issue and firearms covered by certificates: 1971 and 1983 to 2011/12 ${ }^{1,2}$

| Numbers |  |  |  |  |  |  | England and Wales |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Applications |  |  |  |  |  | Firearm certificates on issue | Number of firearms covered by rtificates on issue ${ }^{4}$ | Average number of firearms per certificate |
|  | New applications |  |  | Renewal applications ${ }^{3}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Granted | Refused | \% refused | Granted | Refused | \% refused |  |  |  |
| 1971 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |  | 190,600 | .. | .. |
| $1983{ }^{5}$ | 10,500 | 230 | 2.1 | 43,400 | 200 | 0.5 | 159,800 | .. | .. |
| $1984{ }^{5}$ | 11,400 | 220 | 1.9 | 43,700 | 180 | 0.4 | 160,300 | .. | .. |
| $1985{ }^{5}$ | 11,700 | 220 | 1.8 | 44,200 | 150 | 0.3 | 160,400 | .. | .. |
| $1986{ }^{5}$ | 12,100 | 260 | 2.1 | 43,600 | 240 | 0.5 | 160,300 | .. | .. |
| $1987{ }^{5}$ | 11,500 | 230 | 2.0 | 42,600 | 280 | 0.7 | 159,000 | .. | .. |
| $1988{ }^{5}$ | 10,100 | 240 | 2.3 | 41,400 | 410 | 1.0 | 155,400 | .. | .. |
| 1989 | 10,800 | 260 | 2.4 | 40,500 | 300 | 0.7 | 149,400 | .. | .. |
| 1990 | 11,200 | 230 | 2.0 | 38,700 | 240 | 0.6 | 142,500 | .. | .. |
| 1991 | 10,100 | 180 | 1.8 | 38,400 | 170 | 0.4 | 138,600 | .. | .. |
| 1992 | 10,600 | 160 | 1.5 | 38,500 | 120 | 0.3 | 136,800 | .. | .. |
| 1993 | 10,900 | 120 | 1.1 | 37,300 | 170 | 0.5 | 138,400 | .. | .. |
| 1994 | 11,700 | 120 | 1.0 | 37,900 | 130 | 0.3 | 140,200 | .. | .. |
| 1995 | 10,900 | 110 | 1.0 | 38,500 | 110 | 0.3 | 141,700 | 413,600 | 2.9 |
| 1996 | 10,200 | 160 | 1.5 | 38,100 | 120 | 0.3 | 141,900 | 418,300 | 2.9 |
| 1997 | 6,800 | 120 | 1.7 | 32,800 | 80 | 0.2 | 133,600 | 305,000 | 2.3 |
| 1998 | 5,900 | 110 | 1.8 | 1,600 | 10 | 0.6 | 131,900 | 295,000 | 2.2 |
| 1999 | 5,000 | 90 | 1.8 | 250 | 0 | 0.0 | 132,300 | 296,400 | 2.2 |
| 2000 | 5,900 | 80 | 1.3 | 26,200 | 90 | 0.3 | 125,400 | 296,800 | 2.4 |
| 2001 | 7,100 | 80 | 1.1 | 31,300 | 110 | 0.4 | 119,600 | 301,000 | 2.5 |
| 2002 | 8,600 | 80 | 0.9 | 28,800 | 90 | 0.3 | 117,700 | 311,000 | 2.6 |
| 2002/03 | 8,600 | 70 | 0.8 | 25,100 | 70 | 0.3 | 118,600 | 316,700 | 2.7 |
| 2003/04 | 7,700 | 80 | 1.0 | 4,100 | 10 | 0.2 | 122,100 | 342,200 | 2.8 |
| 2004/05 | 9,100 | 150 | 1.6 | 8,300 | 10 | 0.1 | 126,400 | 358,300 | 2.8 |
| 2005/06 | 8,600 | 90 | 1.0 | 29,100 | 40 | 0.1 | 127,900 | 368,600 | 2.9 |
| 2006/07 ${ }^{6}$ | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2007/08 ${ }^{6}$ | 11,601 | 123 | 1.0 | 30,158 | 50 | 0.2 | 128,528 | .. | .. |
| 2008/09 | 10,046 | 133 | 1.3 | 9,668 | 24 | 0.2 | 138,728 | 435,383 | 3.1 |
| 2009/10 | 9,462 | 105 | 1.1 | 13,500 | 15 | 0.1 | 141,775 | 451,131 | 3.2 |
| 2010/11 | 11,286 | 129 | 1.1 | 34,132 | 34 | 0.1 | 141,347 | 464,839 | 3.3 |
| 2011/12 | 11,502 | 119 | 1.0 | 35,723 | 50 | 0.1 | 141,820 | 477,888 | 3.4 |

[^3]Table 2 Firearm certificates: applications for grant, renewal, variation, and revocations, 2011/12; certificates on issue at 31 March 2012 by police force area

| Numbers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | England and Wales |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Police force area | Applications |  |  |  |  |  | Revocations | Firearm certficates on issue at 31 March | Number of firearms covered by certificates in force at 31 March | Average number of firearms per certificate | Number of firearms per 100,000 people |
|  | New applications |  | Renewal applications |  | Variation of certificate |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Granted | Refused | Granted | Refused | Granted | Refused |  |  |  |  |  |
| Avon and Somerset | 421 | 2 | 1,439 | 1 | 362 | 2 | 44 | 5,667 | 17,607 | 3.1 | 1,085 |
| Bedfordshire | 122 | 0 | 422 | 1 | 101 | 0 | 7 | 1,590 | 5,526 | 3.5 | 899 |
| Cambridgeshire | 219 | 2 | 719 | 2 | 166 | 0 | 5 | 2,828 | 8,102 | 2.9 | 1,026 |
| Cheshire | 180 | 2 | 762 | 1 | 138 | 0 | 2 | 2,696 | 8,268 | 3.1 | 819 |
| Cleveland | 105 | 2 | 230 | 0 | 64 | 0 | 2 | 1,021 | 3,154 | 3.1 | 560 |
| Cumbria | 136 | 0 | 701 | 0 | 141 | 0 | 2 | 3,333 | 10,385 | 3.1 | 2,101 |
| Derbyshire | 229 | 3 | 718 | 1 | 203 | 3 | 5 | 3,130 | 11,150 | 3.6 | 1,103 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 906 | 1 | 2,319 | 0 | 570 | 1 | 6 | 9,728 | 26,838 | 2.8 | 1,597 |
| Dorset | 353 | 5 | 848 | 0 | 171 | 2 | 12 | 3,322 | 10,571 | 3.2 | 1,478 |
| Durham | 171 | 4 | 611 | 0 | 210 | 0 | 7 | 2,516 | 8,057 | 3.2 | 1,317 |
| Essex | 413 | 1 | 1,191 | 1 | 345 | 0 | 11 | 4,946 | 17,554 | 3.5 | 1,010 |
| Gloucestershire | 138 | 3 | 701 | 0 | 164 | 0 | 0 | 2,471 | 8,211 | 3.3 | 1,383 |
| Greater Manchester | 211 | 0 | 531 | 0 | 178 | 1 | 6 | 2,141 | 8,952 | 4.2 | 340 |
| Hampshire | 384 | 6 | 1,294 | 6 | 286 | 1 | 19 | 5,042 | 17,256 | 3.4 | 916 |
| Hertfordshire | 195 | 5 | 554 | 2 | 153 | 0 | 4 | 2,275 | 11,202 | 4.9 | 1,011 |
| Humberside | 232 | 1 | 788 | 2 | 205 | 1 | 4 | 2,756 | 8,267 | 3.0 | 897 |
| Kent | 476 | 1 | 1,141 | 3 | 321 | 0 | 4 | 5,050 | 17,473 | 3.5 | 1,038 |
| Lancashire | 257 | 1 | 734 | 0 | 213 | 1 | 5 | 1,529 | 9,489 | 6.2 | 655 |
| Leicestershire | 194 | 4 | 516 | 0 | 136 | 0 | 7 | 2,185 | 7,227 | 3.3 | 727 |
| Lincolnshire | 244 | 3 | 978 | 2 | 241 | 0 | 3 | 3,882 | 10,938 | 2.8 | 1,556 |
| London, City of | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 19 | 6.3 | 163 |
| Merseyside | 72 | 1 | 238 | 1 | 66 | 0 | 2 | 939 | 3,655 | 3.9 | 270 |
| Metropolitan Police | 462 | 10 | 1,055 | 4 | 307 | 2 | 4 | 4,335 | 16,046 | 3.7 | 205 |
| Norfolk | 450 | 3 | 1,180 | 1 | 300 | 1 | 7 | 4,681 | 15,159 | 3.2 | 1,758 |
| Northamptonshire | 146 | 2 | 625 | 1 | 118 | 1 | 5 | 2,468 | 8,177 | 3.3 | 1,190 |
| Northumbria | 275 | 10 | 992 | 1 | 218 | 0 | 26 | 3,615 | 10,726 | 3.0 | 749 |
| North Yorkshire | 469 | 2 | 1,625 | 1 | 363 | 3 | 11 | 6,164 | 17,943 | 2.9 | 2,237 |
| Nottinghamshire | 126 | 5 | 420 | 0 | 110 | 0 | 8 | 1,884 | 7,252 | 3.8 | 667 |
| South Yorkshire | 176 | 0 | 443 | 1 | 191 | 0 | 3 | 1,843 | 6,762 | 3.7 | 509 |
| Staffordshire | 177 | 0 | 568 | 0 | 179 | 0 | 5 | 2,664 | 10,612 | 4.0 | 991 |
| Suffolk | 360 | 4 | 1,121 | 0 | 238 | 0 | 8 | 4,372 | 12,556 | 2.9 | 1,745 |
| Surrey | 272 | 1 | 683 | 0 | 213 | 0 | 1 | 2,890 | 10,996 | 3.8 | 975 |
| Sussex | 464 | 2 | 1,569 | 1 | 335 | 0 | 15 | 5,910 | 22,587 | 3.8 | 1,435 |
| Thames Valley | 448 | 1 | 1,674 | 2 | 360 | 0 | 26 | 6,448 | 21,715 | 3.4 | 964 |
| Warwickshire | 160 | 2 | 627 | 1 | 127 | 0 | 0 | 2,195 | 7,228 | 3.3 | 1,349 |
| West Mercia | 348 | 8 | 1,308 | 2 | 281 | 3 | 22 | 5,782 | 20,705 | 3.6 | 1,736 |
| West Midlands | 119 | 1 | 466 | 1 | 163 | 0 | 8 | 1,903 | 7,729 | 4.1 | 291 |
| West Yorkshire | 277 | 8 | 718 | 2 | 224 | 2 | 6 | 2,802 | 9,744 | 3.5 | 433 |
| Wiltshire | 257 | 6 | 832 | 0 | 237 | 0 | 4 | 3,152 | 10,408 | 3.3 | 1,573 |
| Dyfed-Powys | 391 | 3 | 901 | 4 | 155 | 0 | 12 | 3,737 | 12,650 | 3.4 | 2,500 |
| Gwent | 91 | 0 | 315 | 0 | 124 | 1 | 2 | 1,250 | 4,498 | 3.6 | 801 |
| North Wales | 200 | 2 | 675 | 0 | 152 | 1 | 9 | 2,640 | 7,253 | 2.7 | 1,069 |
| South Wales | 174 | 2 | 491 | 5 | 122 | 0 | 9 | 2,035 | 7,241 | 3.6 | 574 |
| England and Wales | 11,502 | 119 | 35,723 | 50 | 8,951 | 26 | 349 | 141,820 | 477,888 | 3.4 | 865 |

Table 3 Shotgun certificates: applications, certificates on issue and shotguns covered by certificates: 1971 and 1983 to 2011/12 ${ }^{1,2}$

| Numbers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | England and Wales |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Applications |  |  |  |  |  | Shotgun certificates on issue | Number of shotguns covered by certificates on issue ${ }^{4}$ | Average number of shotguns per certificate |
|  | New applications |  |  | Renewal applications ${ }^{3}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Granted | Refused | \% refused | Granted | Refused | \% refused |  |  |  |
| 1971 | .. | .. |  | .. | .. |  | 715,500 | .. | . |
| $1983{ }^{5}$ | 46,600 | 500 | 1.1 | 233,700 | 170 | 0.1 | 783,400 | .. | . |
| $1984{ }^{5}$ | 55,600 | 580 | 1.0 | 233,000 | 150 | 0.1 | 798,400 | .. |  |
| $1985{ }^{5,6}$ | 60,500 | 690 | 1.1 | 232,900 | 170 | 0.1 | 819,300 | .. | . |
| $1986{ }^{5}$ | 64,100 | 810 | 1.2 | 239,900 | 160 | 0.1 | 841,000 | .. | . |
| $1987{ }^{5}$ | 65,000 | 960 | 1.5 | 246,300 | 230 | 0.1 | 861,300 | .. | . |
| $1988{ }^{5,6}$ | 56,800 | 980 | 1.7 | 245,000 | 340 | 0.1 | 882,000 | .. | . |
| 1989 | 47,500 | 970 | 2.0 | 226,200 | 330 | 0.1 | 865,100 | .. | . |
| $1990{ }^{5}$ | 37,800 | 550 | 1.4 | 213,500 | 650 | 0.3 | 802,300 | .. | . |
| $1991{ }^{7}$ | 35,500 | 540 | 1.5 | 208,700 | 450 | 0.2 | 724,600 | .. | . |
| 1992 | 33,000 | 530 | 1.6 | 197,200 | 240 | 0.1 | 689,200 | .. | . |
| 1993 | 31,100 | 450 | 1.4 | 195,800 | 190 | 0.1 | 681,100 | .. | . |
| 1994 | 32,200 | 440 | 1.3 | 201,400 | 140 | 0.1 | 670,000 | .. | . |
| 1995 | 24,800 | 360 | 1.4 | 195,900 | 130 | 0.1 | 653,800 | 1,325,800 | 2.0 |
| 1996 | 25,800 | 500 | 1.9 | 193,100 | 230 | 0.1 | 638,000 | 1,335,000 | 2.1 |
| 1997 | 20,800 | 380 | 1.8 | 174,500 | 170 | 0.1 | 623,100 | 1,343,900 | 2.2 |
| 1998 | 16,900 | 380 | 2.2 | 6,600 | 60 | 0.9 | 627,600 | 1,343,100 | 2.1 |
| 1999 | 15,600 | 440 | 2.7 | 2,500 | 10 | 0.4 | 625,700 | 1,327,800 | 2.1 |
| 2000 | 18,200 | 350 | 1.9 | 141,300 | 280 | 0.2 | 602,500 | 1,320,900 | 2.2 |
| 2001 | 22,700 | 370 | 1.6 | 162,400 | 310 | 0.2 | 577,200 | 1,307,600 | 2.3 |
| 2002 | 25,600 | 350 | 1.3 | 152,700 | 300 | 0.2 | 559,000 | 1,314,600 | 2.4 |
| 2002/03 | 26,100 | 350 | 1.3 | 125,200 | 260 | 0.2 | 561,800 | 1,325,400 | 2.4 |
| 2003/04 | 22,500 | 370 | 1.6 | 13,500 | 50 | 0.4 | 569,900 | 1,372,700 | 2.4 |
| 2004/05 | 23,400 | 490 | 2.1 | 46,600 | 40 | 0.1 | 572,400 | 1,384,000 | 2.4 |
| 2005/06 | 25,200 | 380 | 1.5 | 141,100 | 180 | 0.1 | 563,600 | 1,360,800 | 2.4 |
| 2006/07 ${ }^{8}$ | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | . |
| 2007/08 ${ }^{8}$ | 32,358 | 552 | 1.7 | 123,766 | 170 | 0.1 | 549,207 | . | .. |
| 2008/09 | 25,411 | 492 | 1.9 | 25,408 | 93 | 0.4 | 574,946 | 1,366,082 | 2.4 |
| 2009/10 | 23,950 | 462 | 1.9 | 47,137 | 45 | 0.1 | 580,653 | 1,358,522 | 2.3 |
| 2010/11 | 29,068 | 533 | 1.8 | 130,737 | 170 | 0.1 | 564,269 | 1,336,701 | 2.4 |
| 2011/12 | 31,254 | 651 | 2.0 | 137,278 | 191 | 0.1 | 562,696 | 1,328,647 | 2.4 |

[^4]Table 4 Shotgun certificates: applications for grant, renewal, variation, and revocations, 2011/12; certificates on issue at 31 March 2012 by police force area

| Numbers |  |  |  |  |  | England and Wales |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Police force area | Applications |  |  |  | Revocations | Shotgun certificates on issue at 31 March | Number of shotguns covered by certificates in force at 31 March | Average number of shotguns per certificate | Number of shotguns per 100,000 people |
|  | New app | cations | Renewal a | plications |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Granted | Refused | Granted | Refused |  |  |  |  |  |
| Avon and Somerset | 899 | 24 | 5,039 | 6 | 123 | 20,844 | 45,149 | 2.2 | 2,781 |
| Bedfordshire | 340 | 7 | 1,759 | 2 | 19 | 6,448 | 15,212 | 2.4 | 2,474 |
| Cambridgeshire | 701 | 6 | 3,215 | 2 | 22 | 12,539 | 29,519 | 2.4 | 3,738 |
| Cheshire | 579 | 19 | 3,166 | 1 | 25 | 11,600 | 27,150 | 2.3 | 2,690 |
| Cleveland | 160 | 4 | 557 | 1 | 9 | 2,608 | 5,582 | 2.1 | 991 |
| Cumbria | 255 | 4 | 1,486 | 0 | 10 | 9,558 | 22,564 | 2.4 | 4,564 |
| Derbyshire | 683 | 11 | 2,631 | 1 | 15 | 11,969 | 28,542 | 2.4 | 2,824 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 1,396 | 6 | 7,197 | 3 | 15 | 30,653 | 67,485 | 2.2 | 4,016 |
| Dorset | 738 | 8 | 2,329 | 1 | 40 | 10,955 | 23,909 | 2.2 | 3,344 |
| Durham | 358 | 18 | 1,352 | 2 | 23 | 6,133 | 14,234 | 2.3 | 2,327 |
| Essex | 1,110 | 19 | 5,169 | 12 | 46 | 21,121 | 49,225 | 2.3 | 2,832 |
| Gloucestershire | 539 | 10 | 2,892 | 1 | 2 | 10,538 | 25,991 | 2.5 | 4,379 |
| Greater Manchester | 468 | 14 | 2,087 | 1 | 22 | 8,313 | 18,278 | 2.2 | 695 |
| Hampshire | 1,104 | 43 | 5,384 | 25 | 68 | 21,199 | 49,161 | 2.3 | 2,609 |
| Hertfordshire | 708 | 22 | 2,626 | 1 | 35 | 10,205 | 29,247 | 2.9 | 2,641 |
| Humberside | 493 | 24 | 2,550 | 2 | 20 | 9,662 | 24,522 | 2.5 | 2,662 |
| Kent | 1,224 | 8 | 4,592 | 1 | 19 | 21,632 | 48,916 | 2.3 | 2,905 |
| Lancashire | 794 | 3 | 2,988 | 2 | 19 | 11,605 | 27,936 | 2.4 | 1,928 |
| Leicestershire | 734 | 13 | 2,749 | 1 | 26 | 10,890 | 25,762 | 2.4 | 2,592 |
| Lincolnshire | 680 | 6 | 3,519 | 2 | 14 | 14,323 | 37,672 | 2.6 | 5,359 |
| London, City of | 1 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 31 | 42 | 1.4 | 360 |
| Merseyside | 172 | 7 | 934 | 5 | 11 | 3,504 | 7,473 | 2.1 | 552 |
| Metropolitan Police | 2,529 | 52 | 5,623 | 11 | 65 | 25,408 | 49,613 | 2.0 | 635 |
| Norfolk | 1,347 | 12 | 5,886 | 1 | 36 | 20,424 | 55,335 | 2.7 | 6,417 |
| Northamptonshire | 453 | 10 | 2,304 | 0 | 15 | 9,564 | 22,660 | 2.4 | 3,297 |
| Northumbria | 533 | 41 | 1,863 | 2 | 62 | 9,028 | 20,523 | 2.3 | 1,434 |
| North Yorkshire | 845 | 12 | 3,997 | 2 | 33 | 18,215 | 42,096 | 2.3 | 5,248 |
| Nottinghamshire | 358 | 23 | 1,850 | 7 | 38 | 8,166 | 20,508 | 2.5 | 1,887 |
| South Yorkshire | 573 | 8 | 1,891 | 2 | 28 | 8,280 | 18,400 | 2.2 | 1,385 |
| Staffordshire | 513 | 3 | 2,723 | 0 | 12 | 12,021 | 31,856 | 2.7 | 2,973 |
| Suffolk | 847 | 13 | 3,933 | 2 | 28 | 17,059 | 41,643 | 2.4 | 5,788 |
| Surrey | 916 | 6 | 3,232 | 6 | 5 | 12,902 | 28,403 | 2.2 | 2,520 |
| Sussex | 978 | 12 | 4,627 | 11 | 46 | 19,619 | 47,178 | 2.4 | 2,997 |
| Thames Valley | 1,598 | 28 | 6,795 | 6 | 84 | 27,618 | 64,867 | 2.3 | 2,879 |
| Warwickshire | 425 | 6 | 2,296 | 0 | 15 | 8,809 | 20,557 | 2.3 | 3,835 |
| West Mercia | 1,186 | 74 | 7,792 | 28 | 79 | 26,639 | 67,417 | 2.5 | 5,652 |
| West Midlands | 420 | 9 | 2,285 | 3 | 29 | 8,298 | 17,985 | 2.2 | 677 |
| West Yorkshire | 698 | 27 | 2,461 | 14 | 37 | 10,449 | 22,556 | 2.2 | 1,003 |
| Wiltshire | 818 | 10 | 2,946 | 5 | 26 | 12,877 | 28,723 | 2.2 | 4,341 |
| Dyfed-Powys | 1,019 | 12 | 3,757 | 11 | 30 | 15,837 | 43,970 | 2.8 | 8,689 |
| Gwent | 206 | 2 | 1,708 | 4 | 5 | 5,707 | 14,126 | 2.5 | 2,516 |
| North Wales | 488 | 5 | 3,209 | 1 | 29 | 12,042 | 29,012 | 2.4 | 4,276 |
| South Wales | 368 | 10 | 1,869 | 3 | 16 | 7,404 | 17,648 | 2.4 | 1,400 |
| England and Wales | 31,254 | 651 | 137,278 | 191 | 1,301 | 562,696 | 1,328,647 | 2.4 | 2,405 |

Table 5: Number of firearm and shotgun certificate revocations, 1992 to 2011/12

| Numbers |  | England and Wales |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Firearm certificates | Shotgun certificates |
| 1992 | 146 | 630 |
| 1993 | 147 | 687 |
| 1994 | 193 | 753 |
| 1995 | 206 | 685 |
| 1996 | 392 | 1,163 |
| 1997 | 393 | 1,133 |
| 1998 | 403 | 1,084 |
| 1999 | 341 | 1,003 |
| 2000 | 334 | 940 |
| 2001 | 309 | 810 |
| 2002 | .. | .. |
| $2002 / 03$ | 188 | 623 |
| $2003 / 04$ | 195 | 684 |
| $2004 / 05$ | 314 | 956 |
| $2005 / 06$ | 196 | 699 |
| $2006 / 07$ | .. | .. |
| $2007 / 08^{1}$ | 248 | 904 |
| $2008 / 09$ | 260 | 1,009 |
| $2009 / 10$ | 302 | 1,076 |
| $2010 / 11$ | 404 | 1,379 |
| $2011 / 12$ | 349 | 1,301 |

1. From 2007/08 data are extracted from the NFLMS. Prior to this year, figures were supplied direct to the Home Office from police forces.
.. Data not available

Table 6 Firearm dealers: applications for registration and renewal, granted, and refused; dealers registered, 1995 to 2011/12 ${ }^{1}$

| Numbers | England and Wales |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Applications for registration from dealers |  |  |  | Dealers registered ${ }^{2}$ |
|  | Previously unregistered |  | Previously registered |  |  |
|  | Granted | Refused | Granted | Refused |  |
| 1995 | 193 | 10 | 1,760 | 13 | 2,470 |
| 1996 | 149 | 14 | 240 | 2 | 2,490 |
| 1997 | 102 | 5 | 80 | 2 | 2,400 |
| 1998 | 120 | 6 | 1,360 | 18 | 2,180 |
| 1999 | 172 | 3 | 180 | 1 | 2,090 |
| 2000 | 133 | - | 190 | 2 | 2,070 |
| 2001 | 249 | 3 | 1,150 | 9 | 1,960 |
| 2002/03 | 154 | 2 | 250 | 3 | 1,970 |
| 2003/04 | 281 | 6 | 300 | 1 | 1,950 |
| 2004/05 | 167 | 5 | 1,050 | - | 1,970 |
| 2005/06 | 228 | 1 | 310 | 1 | 2,030 |
| 2006/07 ${ }^{3}$ | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2007/08 | 1,273 | 9 | 1,035 | - | 2,792 |
| 2008/09 | 667 | 7 | 325 | 1 | 2,840 |
| 2009/10 | 628 | 9 | 303 | 2 | 3,182 |
| 2010/11 | 834 | 6 | 1,345 | 5 | 3,205 |
| 2011/12 | 665 | 7 | 636 | 1 | 3,417 |

1. Figures for calendar years are as at 31 December, financial years as at 31 March.
2. Figures up to 2005/06 are rounded; since 2007/08 figures are unrounded.
3. Figures are not available due to the transition from in-force data collection systems to the NFLMS in 2006.

Table 7 Firearm dealers: applications for registration and removals from register, 2011/12; dealers registered at 31 March 2012 by police force area

| Numbers |  |  |  |  | England and Wales |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Police force area | New applications for registration |  | Applications for new certificates from registered dealers |  | Dealers Dealers removed registered at from 31 March register |  |
|  | Granted | Refused | Granted | Refused |  |  |
| Avon and Somerset | 23 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 12 | 96 |
| Bedfordshire | 3 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 37 |
| Cambridgeshire | 2 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 42 |
| Cheshire | 3 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 43 |
| Cleveland | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 19 |
| Cumbria | 11 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 56 |
| Derbyshire | 19 | 1 | 34 | 0 | 5 | 73 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 17 | 0 | 23 | 0 | 3 | 137 |
| Dorset | 11 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 2 | 60 |
| Durham | 4 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 33 |
| Essex | 12 | 0 | 24 | 0 | 3 | 125 |
| Gloucestershire | 3 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 39 |
| Greater Manchester | 8 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 62 |
| Hampshire | 22 | 2 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 108 |
| Hertfordshire | 13 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 67 |
| Humberside | 8 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 2 | 57 |
| Kent | 20 | 0 | 43 | 1 | 4 | 129 |
| Lancashire | 4 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 1 | 22 |
| Leicestershire | 13 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 5 | 51 |
| Lincolnshire ${ }^{1}$ | 10 | 1 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 80 |
| London, City of | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Merseyside | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Metropolitan Police | 59 | 1 | 31 | 0 | 18 | 223 |
| Norfolk | 15 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 57 |
| Northamptonshire | 7 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 53 |
| Northumbria | 8 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 3 | 54 |
| North Yorkshire | 19 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 84 |
| Nottinghamshire | 49 | 0 | 24 | 0 | 4 | 143 |
| South Yorkshire | 9 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 42 |
| Staffordshire | 15 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 110 |
| Suffolk | 11 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 13 | 76 |
| Surrey | 42 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 9 | 191 |
| Sussex | 16 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 117 |
| Thames Valley | 109 | 0 | 33 | 0 | 44 | 250 |
| Warwickshire | 15 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 2 | 142 |
| West Mercia | 16 | 1 | 27 | 0 | 1 | 141 |
| West Midlands | 13 | 0 | 23 | 0 | 5 | 86 |
| West Yorkshire | 7 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 61 |
| Wiltshire | 15 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 1 | 85 |
| Dyfed-Powys | 8 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 50 |
| Gwent | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 27 |
| North Wales | 9 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 3 | 42 |
| South Wales | 7 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 38 |
| England and Wales | 665 | 7 | 636 | 1 | 163 | 3417 |

Table 8 Visitors' permits, 1995 to 2011/12 ${ }^{1}$

| Numbers | England and Wales |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Total persons covered ${ }^{2}$ |  |
|  | Firearm certificates | Shotgun certificates |
| 1995 | 1,960 | 5,850 |
| 1996 | 2,400 | 7,120 |
| 1997 | 2,100 | 6,570 |
| 1998 | 2,350 | 7,140 |
| 1999 | 1,920 | 6,420 |
| 2000 | 2,280 | 5,990 |
| 2001 | 1,630 | 5,260 |
| 2002/03 | 2,220 | 5,680 |
| 2003/04 | 1,810 | 5,780 |
| 2004/05 | 2,110 | 6,200 |
| 2005/06 | 1,770 | 5,360 |
| 2006/07 ${ }^{3}$ | . | . |
| 2007/08 | 2,345 | 7,930 |
| 2008/09 | 1,974 | 7,035 |
| 2009/10 | 2,209 | 7,186 |
| 2010/11 | 2,559 | 7,856 |
| 2011/12 | 3,399 | 8,075 |

1. Figures up to 2005/06 are rounded; since 2007/08 figures are unrounded.
2. Due to differences in recording between the NFLMS and the previous in-force collections the number of persons covered by visitors' permits can no longer be broken down by individual and group permits.
3. Figures are not available due to the transition from in-force data collection systems to the NFLMS.

Table 9 Visitors' firearm permits: applications for groups and individuals by police force area, 2011/12

| Numbers |  |  |  |  |  | England and Wales |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Police force area | New applications |  |  |  |  | Variation |  |
|  | On behalf of individuals |  | Group applications |  |  |  |  |
|  | Granted | Refused | Granted | Refused |  | Granted | Refused |
| Avon and Somerset | 120 | - | 2 | - | 143 | - | - |
| Bedfordshire | 8 | - | - | - | 8 | - | - |
| Cambridgeshire | 11 | - | - | - | 11 | - | - |
| Cheshire | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Cleveland | 2 | - | - | - | 2 | - | - |
|  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |
| Cumbria | 27 | - | - | - | 27 | - | - |
| Derbyshire | 5 | - | - | - | 5 | - | - |
| Devon and Cornwall | 54 | - | - | - | 54 | - | - |
| Dorset | 242 | - | - | - | 242 | - | - |
| Durham | 18 | - | - | - | 18 | - | - |
|  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |
| Essex | 36 | - | - | - | 36 | - | - |
| Gloucestershire | 19 | - | - | - | 19 | - | - |
| Greater Manchester | 15 | - | - | - | 15 | - | - |
| Hampshire | 227 | - | 8 | - | 283 | - | - |
| Hertfordshire | 19 | - | 1 | - | 25 | - | - |
|  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |
| Humberside | 9 | - | - | - | 9 | - | - |
| Kent | 18 | - | - | - | 18 | - | - |
| Lancashire | 51 | - | 3 | - | 78 | - | - |
| Leicestershire | 28 | - | 1 | - | 34 | - | - |
| Lincolnshire | 26 | - | - | - | 26 | - | - |
|  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |
| London, City of | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Merseyside | 2 | - | - | - | 2 | - | - |
| Metropolitan Police | 775 | - | 43 | - | 964 | - | - |
| Norfolk | 86 | - | - | - | 86 | - | - |
| Northamptonshire | 8 | - | - | - | 8 | - | - |
|  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |
| Northumbria | 55 | - | - | - | 55 | - | - |
| North Yorkshire | 28 | - | 1 | - | 37 | - | - |
| Nottinghamshire | 7 | - | - | - | 7 | - | - |
| South Yorkshire | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Staffordshire | 34 | - | - | - | 34 | - | - |
|  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |
| Suffolk | 96 | - | 3 | - | 109 | - | - |
| Surrey | 142 | - | 25 | - | 482 | - | - |
| Sussex | 49 | - | 2 | - | 55 | - | - |
| Thames Valley | 121 | - | 2 | - | 137 | - | - |
| Warwickshire | 118 | - | - | - | 118 | - | - |
|  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |
| West Mercia | 23 | - | - | - | 23 | - | - |
| West Midlands | 66 | - | - | - | 66 | - | - |
| West Yorkshire | 2 | - | - | - | 2 | - | - |
| Wiltshire | 134 | - | 1 | - | 140 | - | - |
|  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |
| Dyfed-Powys | 3 | - | - | - | 3 | - | - |
| Gwent | 7 | - | - | - | 7 | - | - |
| North Wales | 7 | - | - | - | 7 | - | - |
| South Wales | 3 | - | - | - | 3 | - | - |
|  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |
| England and Wales | 2,702 | - | 92 | - | 3,399 | - | - |

Table 10 Visitors' shotgun permits: applications for groups and individuals by police force area, 2011/12

| Numbers |  |  |  |  |  | England and Wales |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Police force area | New applications |  |  |  | Total of persons covered | Variation |  |
|  | On behalf of individuals |  | Group applications |  |  |  |  |
|  | Granted | Refused | Granted | Refused |  | Granted | Refused |
| Avon and Somerset | 148 | - | 3 | - | 181 | - | - |
| Bedfordshire | 125 | - | 5 | - | 138 | - | - |
| Cambridgeshire | 101 | - | - | - | 101 | - | - |
| Cheshire | 38 | - | 2 | - | 45 | - | - |
| Cleveland | 13 | - | - | - | 13 | - | - |
| Cumbria | 153 | - | - | - | 153 | - | - |
| Derbyshire | 21 | - | 1 | - | 27 | - | - |
| Devon and Cornwall | 175 | - | 8 | - | 233 | - | - |
| Dorset | 163 | - | - | - | 163 | - | - |
| Durham | 43 | - | - | - | 43 | - | - |
| Essex | 144 | - | 4 | - | 165 | - | - |
| Gloucestershire | 91 | - | 3 | - | 110 | - | - |
| Greater Manchester | 52 | - | 5 | - | 83 | - | - |
| Hampshire | 607 | - | 30 | - | 791 | - | - |
| Hertfordshire | 57 | - | 2 | - | 73 | - | - |
| Humberside | 70 | - | 3 | - | 94 | - | - |
| Kent | 178 | - | 6 | - | 240 | - | - |
| Lancashire | 25 | - | - | - | 25 | - | - |
| Leicestershire | 96 | - | 7 | - | 171 | - | - |
| Lincolnshire | 240 | - | 3 | - | 253 | - | - |
| London, City of | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Merseyside | 26 | - | 1 | - | 33 | - | - |
| Metropolitan Police | 626 | - | 24 | - | 754 | - | - |
| Norfolk | 246 | - | 5 | - | 272 | - | - |
| Northamptonshire | 56 | - | 3 | - | 89 | - | - |
| Northumbria | 321 | - | 10 | - | 385 | - | - |
| North Yorkshire | 253 | - | 16 | - | 357 | - | - |
| Nottinghamshire | 5 | - | - | - | 5 | - | - |
| South Yorkshire | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Staffordshire | 74 | - | 4 | - | 105 | - | - |
| Suffolk | 318 | - | 8 | - | 358 | - | - |
| Surrey | 232 | - | 35 | - | 496 | - | - |
| Sussex | 241 | - | 12 | - | 303 | - | - |
| Thames Valley | 792 | - | 27 | 1 | 867 | - | - |
| Warwickshire | 95 | - | 1 |  | 101 | - | - |
| West Mercia | 175 | - | 6 | - | 198 | - | - |
| West Midlands | 13 | - | - | - | 13 | - | - |
| West Yorkshire | 6 | - | - | - | 6 | - | - |
| Wiltshire | 405 | - | 10 | - | 470 | - | - |
| Dyfed-Powys | 18 | - | - | - | 18 | - | - |
| Gwent | 4 | - | - | - | 4 | - | - |
| North Wales | 111 | - | 3 | - | 135 | - | - |
| South Wales | 2 | - | - | - | 2 | - | - |
| England and Wales | 6,561 | - | 247 | 1 | 8,075 | - | - |

Table 11 European firearm passes: applications for grant, renewal and variation, and cancellations during 2011/12; passes on issue at 31 March 2012, by police force area

| Numbers |  |  |  | England and Wales |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Police force area | Applications |  |  | Cancellations | Passes on issue at 31 March |
|  | Grant of new certificate | Renewal of certificate | Variation of certificate |  |  |
| Avon and Somerset | 72 | 93 | 0 | 70 | 426 |
| Bedfordshire | 29 | 40 | 0 | 14 | 138 |
| Cambridgeshire | 41 | 76 | 0 | 40 | 292 |
| Cheshire | 24 | 37 | 0 | 9 | 223 |
| Cleveland | 5 | 13 | 0 | 2 | 54 |
| Cumbria | 7 | 19 | 0 | 17 | 101 |
| Derbyshire | 21 | 41 | 0 | 10 | 209 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 62 | 97 | 0 | 19 | 404 |
| Dorset | 95 | 22 | 0 | 13 | 281 |
| Durham | 9 | 16 | 0 | 6 | 62 |
| Essex | 98 | 188 | 0 | 65 | 631 |
| Gloucestershire | 43 | 95 | 0 | 31 | 312 |
| Greater Manchester | 25 | 46 | 0 | 25 | 205 |
| Hampshire | 81 | 203 | 0 | 50 | 618 |
| Hertfordshire | 43 | 90 | 0 | 15 | 373 |
| Humberside | 21 | 44 | 0 | 11 | 145 |
| Kent | 134 | 205 | 0 | 93 | 770 |
| Lancashire | 53 | 51 | 0 | 12 | 232 |
| Leicestershire | 24 | 58 | 0 | 8 | 189 |
| Lincolnshire | 51 | 38 | 0 | 15 | 207 |
| London, City of | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Merseyside | 25 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 52 |
| Metropolitan Police | 490 | 581 | 0 | 127 | 2,648 |
| Norfolk | 60 | 63 | 0 | 22 | 242 |
| Northamptonshire | 26 | 98 | 0 | 34 | 248 |
| Northumbria | 18 | 44 | 0 | 22 | 155 |
| North Yorkshire | 37 | 102 | 0 | 10 | 355 |
| Nottinghamshire | 17 | 29 | 0 | 5 | 138 |
| South Yorkshire | 15 | 30 | 0 | 6 | 121 |
| Staffordshire | 23 | 33 | 0 | 10 | 180 |
| Suffolk | 37 | 64 | 0 | 17 | 263 |
| Surrey | 113 | 184 | 0 | 80 | 740 |
| Sussex | 110 | 195 | 0 | 53 | 675 |
| Thames Valley | 148 | 245 | 0 | 59 | 970 |
| Warwickshire | 24 | 81 | 0 | 34 | 250 |
| West Mercia | 62 | 137 | 0 | 41 | 481 |
| West Midlands | 39 | 80 | 0 | 34 | 275 |
| West Yorkshire | 33 | 63 | 0 | 31 | 259 |
| Wiltshire | 52 | 57 | 0 | 9 | 289 |
| Dyfed-Powys | 39 | 28 | 0 | 19 | 155 |
| Gwent | 19 | 34 | 0 | 20 | 138 |
| North Wales | 30 | 19 | 0 | 9 | 102 |
| South Wales | 25 | 68 | 0 | 22 | 181 |
| England and Wales | 2,381 | 3,713 | 0 | 1,190 | 14,792 |

Table 12 Article 7 Authorities: applications for grant, variations and cancellations, by police force area, 2011/12

| Numbers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | England and Wales |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Police force area | Applications |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Variations Cancellations |  |
|  | By certificate holders |  | By non-certificate holders |  | For possession outside UK |  | For ammunition only |  |  |  |
|  | Granted | Refused | Granted | Refused | Granted | Refused | Granted | Refused |  |  |
| Avon and Somerset | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Bedfordshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Cambridgeshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Cheshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Cleveland | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Cumbria | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Derbyshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 1 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Dorset | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Durham | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Essex | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Gloucestershire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Greater Manchester | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Hampshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Hertfordshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Humberside | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Kent | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 1 |
| Lancashire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Leicestershire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Lincolnshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| London, City of | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Merseyside | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Metropolitan Police | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Norfolk | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Northamptonshire | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 1 |
| Northumbria | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| North Yorkshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Nottinghamshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| South Yorkshire | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Staffordshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 1 |
|  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  |
| Suffolk | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Surrey | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Sussex | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | - | 1 |
| Thames Valley | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Warwickshire | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| West Mercia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| West Midlands | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| West Yorkshire | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 2 |
| Wiltshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Dyfed-Powys | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Gwent | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| North Wales | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| South Wales | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| England and Wales | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 |


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ 2011/12 figures will be published in January 2013.
    ${ }^{2}$ This figure includes those actually possessed and those authorised for possession but not yet acquired.

[^1]:    *2006/07 data are not available ( see Introduction)

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ See Table 10 in Firearm certificates 2010/11 Paracha (2012).
    ${ }^{4}$ See Table 11 in Firearm certificates 2010/11 Paracha (2012).

[^3]:    1. Figures for calendar years are as at 31 December, financial years as at 31 March.
    2. Figures up to 2005/06 are rounded; since 2007/08 figures are unrounded.
    3. The extension of the period of the certificates from three years to five years in 1995 meant that no renewals were due in 1998 and 1999. Those shown are delayed applications from 1997.
    4. Full returns for all police forces available only from 1995.
    5. Includes estimates made centrally for a small number of forces.
    6. Figures are not available due to the transition from in-force data collection systems to the NFLMS in 2006.
[^4]:    1. Figures for calendar years are as at 31 December, financial years as at 31 March.
    2. Figures up to 2005/06 are rounded; since 2007/08 figures are unrounded.
    3. The extension of the period of the certificates from three years to five years in 1995 means that renewal figures since this date are not directly comparable. No renewals were due in 1998 and 1999, those shown are delayed applications from 1997.
    4. Full returns for all police forces available only from 1995.
    5. Includes estimates made centrally for a small number of forces.
    6. Records of shotgun certificates on issue were computerised by the Metropolitan Police in 1985 and Thames Valley in 1988 bringing to light previous under-recording of these figures by up to 7,000 in each force.
    7. Reductions of about 9,000 certificates in Essex, 6,000 certificates in Kent and 2,000 in West Mercia occurred in 1991 due to previous over-recording in these forces' figures.
    8. Figures are not available due to the transition from in-force data collection systems to the NFLMS in 2006.
