



Home Office

10 September 2015

Statistical News Release

Operation of police powers under the Terrorism Act 2000 and subsequent legislation: Arrests, outcomes, stops and searches: Great Britain, financial year ending 31 March 2015

This statistical release brings together information on terrorism arrests and outcomes, prison populations, stops and searches, court appeals, port examinations and police cordons.

Terrorism arrests and outcomes

In the year ending 31 March 2015:

- There were 299 persons arrested for terrorism related offences, an increase of 31% compared with the 229 arrests the previous year. This was the highest number of arrests since the data collection began in September 2001, higher than the 284 arrests in the year of the 7 July London bombings (year ending 31 March 2006).
- The most recent increase was driven mainly by a rise in arrests between October and December 2014, which saw 106 arrests. The most recent quarter (January to March 2015) saw 67 arrests.
- All age groups, except 25-29 year olds, saw a rise in the number of arrests. Most notably, the number of 18-20 year olds arrested more than doubled compared with the previous year, from 20 to 43 arrests.
- Seventy-eight per cent of those arrested considered themselves to be of British, or British dual nationality. This proportion has seen a rapid increase since the year ending 31 March 2011, where only 52% of those arrested considered themselves to be British.
- Of the 118 persons charged following a terrorism-related arrest, 100 (85%) were charged with a terrorism-related offence, the highest proportion since the data collection began. Of the 100 persons charged with a terrorism-related offence, 35 have been prosecuted, of which 33 have been convicted. Sixty-two were awaiting prosecution and the remaining 3 were not proceeded against.

According to the Crown Prosecution Service, in the year ending 31 March 2015, 52 persons were proceeded against for terrorism-related offences (up from 43 in the previous year). Of these, 42 (81%) were convicted. In the same period 15 persons convicted for terrorism-related offences launched an appeal.

As at 31 March 2015, there were 192 persons in custody for terrorism-related offences and domestic extremism/separatism, an increase of 38 compared to 31 March 2014.

Stops and searches under sections 43 and 47A of the Terrorism Act 2000

In the year ending 31 March 2015:

- The Metropolitan Police Service stopped and searched 411 persons under section 43 of TACT 2000. This represents a 9% fall on the previous year's total of 450.
- There were no stops and searches made under s47A of the Terrorism Act 2000. This follows the repeal of s44 and its replacement with s47A.

Port examinations under Schedule 7 to the Terrorism Act 2000

In the year ending 31 March 2015:

- Around 32,000 persons were stopped at ports in Great Britain under Schedule 7 to TACT 2000, a fall of 28% on the previous year.
- The number of detentions following examinations was 1,300, which almost tripled from the 500 in the previous year. This increase is in part due to the introduction of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, which ensures a mandatory detention takes place where an examination lasts for more than an hour.

Notes to editors

Arrests and outcomes data are as at 8 July 2015, the date of data provision to the Home Office.

The next quarterly release is due to be published in winter 2015. Further details of what this release will include can be found in section 6 of the bulletin.

The report is available online through the UK Statistics Authority website as well as the GOV.UK website.

This statistical release has been produced by statisticians working in the Home Office Statistics Unit. Although this output is not currently given National Statistics accreditation, the protocols for such statistics have been mirrored as closely as possible.

The governance arrangements in the Home Office for statistics were strengthened on 1 April 2008 to place the statistical teams under the direct management of a Chief Statistician who reports to the National Statistician with respect to all professional statistical matters.