



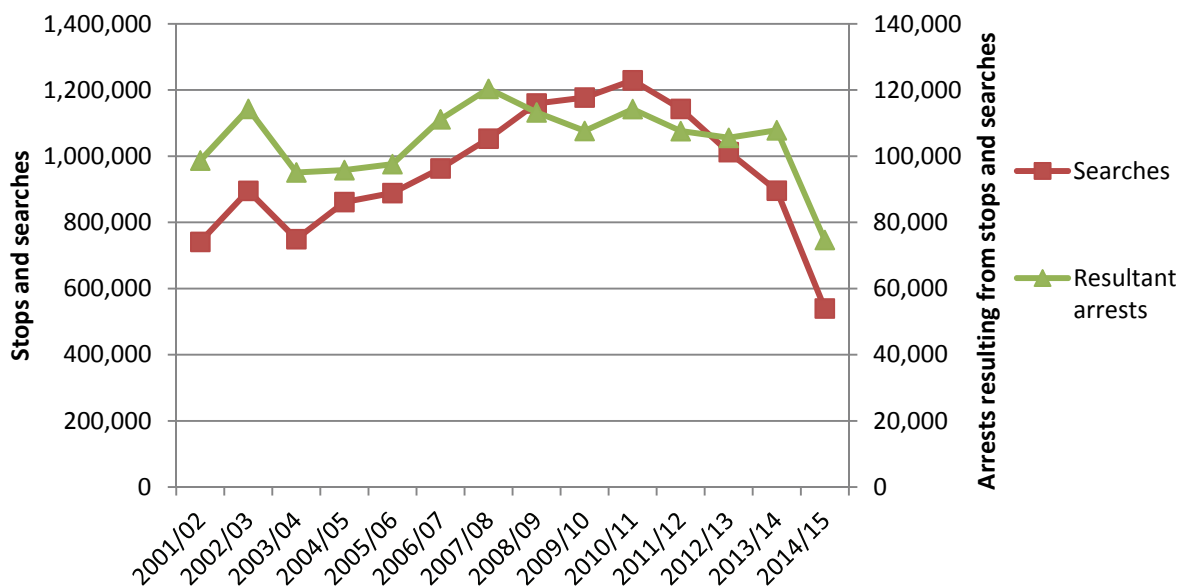
19 November 2015

Statistical News Release

Police Powers and Procedures, England and Wales, year ending 31 March 2015

This National Statistics release contains figures on arrests, detentions, road checks, intimate searches, stops and searches, breath tests and fixed penalty notices. The key findings are as follows:

Figure 1: Number of stops and searches and resultant arrests, 2001/02 to 2014/15



1. Stops and searches include those under section 1 PACE and section 60. Section 44 and 47a stops are excluded due to a change in the legislation that means that none of these stops have been carried out since 2010/11.

Stop and Search

- There were 541,000 stops and searches conducted by police in England and Wales, a fall of 40% compared with the previous year. This was the lowest number of stops and searches carried out since the current data collection began in 2001/2.
- The number of arrests resulting from stops and searches fell by 31% from the previous year, also to the lowest number since the current collection began (74,712).
- Fourteen per cent of stops led to an arrest, up 2 percentage points compared with 12% in the previous year.

- Since the year ending March 2011, stops of BME individuals (down 68%) have fallen by more than those of white individuals (down 55%). Stops on those who were black have fallen by 70%.

Best Use of Stop and Search (NOT OFFICIAL STATISTICS)

Additional provisional data on stop and search are presented, based on a subset of forces that have provided data so far. They are taken from the police.uk website, and are not official statistics. They show that:

- 28 percent of stops and searches resulted in an outcome. In the remaining 72% of cases nothing was found during the course of the search.
- In around three quarters of cases where an object was found, the outcome was linked to the reason for the initial stop.

Arrests

- There were 950,000 arrests carried out by police in England and Wales, a fall of seven per cent on the previous year, and continuing the downward trend since a peak in 2006/07, when there were almost 1.5 million arrests.
- The majority (80%) of persons arrested considered themselves to be White. Those who considered themselves to be Black or Black British were almost three times as likely to be arrested as those who identified themselves as White.
- The increase in number of arrests for sexual offences (up 8%) and violence against the person (up 1%) reflected an increase in recorded crime for these offence types. However, the recorded crime increases were much greater.

Fixed Penalty Notices

- There were around 1.02 million fixed penalty notices (FPNs) issued for motoring offences by police in England and Wales in 2014, a fall of 11% compared with the previous year. However, the number of FPNs issued for speed limit offences increased by 4 per cent over this period.

Breath Tests

- Police in England and Wales carried out 607,000 breath tests in 2014, a fall of 10% compared with the 676,000 carried out in the previous year. Eleven percent of these were positive or refused, up 1 percentage point on the previous year.

Notes to editors

1. 'Police Powers and Procedures England and Wales, year ending 31 March 2015' is available via the GOV.UK websites.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-powers-and-procedures-england-and-wales-year-ending-31-march-2015>

2. Tables providing a greater level of detail on each of the topics, and a User Guide giving further information about the measures, are also being published.

For all press enquiries, please contact the Home Office Press Office who will liaise with Home Office Statistics:

News desk - 020 7035 3535

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Please note: the press office deals with enquiries from the media only. Members of the public should phone 020 7035 4848.