



16 April 2015

Statistical News Release

Police Powers and Procedures, England and Wales, year ending 31 March 2014

Figures were published today on a range of police powers and procedures. The National Statistics release contains figures on arrests, detentions, road checks, intimate searches, stops and searches, breath tests and fixed penalty notices.

These statistics show that:

- There were 1 million persons **arrested** by the police for recorded crimes in the year ending 31 March 2014, down 3% on the previous year. The number of crimes recorded by the police decreased by 1% over the same period.
- The police **stopped and searched** around 896,000 persons and/or vehicles under section 1 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) and associated legislation in the year ending 31 March 2014, 11% fewer than the previous year.
- Stops and searches on suspicion of drugs accounted for 52% of the total.
- At 12%, the proportion of people arrested following a section 1 stop and search was 2 percentage points higher than the previous year.
- Police also made 4,000 stops and searches in anticipation of violence (under section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994), down 26% the previous year.
- The police issued 1.15 million **fixed penalty notices** for motoring offences in 2013, down 13% on 2012. Speed limit offences accounted for 62% of the notices issued.
- The police carried out 680,000 screening **breath tests** during 2013, no change on the 2012 figure. Ten per cent of these were positive or refused.

The statistical release, 'Police Powers and Procedures, England and Wales, year ending 31 March 2014' contains statistics at police force area level, with analyses by age and gender. There is also a limited analysis of arrests and stops and searches by ethnicity of those arrested and stopped. A more comprehensive analysis will be published by the Ministry of Justice, in its next 'Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System' release, in the autumn of 2015.

Notes to editors

1. 'Police Powers and Procedures England and Wales, year ending 31 March 2014' is available via the GOV.UK websites.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-powers-and-procedures-england-and-wales-year-ending-31-march-2014>

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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