



3 April 2014

**Statistical News Release**  
**Police Powers and Procedures, England and Wales 2012/13**

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 1.1 million persons **arrested** by the police for recorded crimes in 2012/13, down 12% on 2011/12. The number of recorded crimes decreased by 7% over the same period.
- The police **stopped and searched** 1.0 million persons and/or vehicles under section 1 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) and associated legislation in 2012/13, 12% fewer than in 2011/12. Stops and searches on suspicion of drugs accounted for 51% of the total. At 10%, the proportion of people arrested following a section 1 stop and search was 1 percentage point higher than the previous year.
- Police also made 5,346 stops and searches in anticipation of violence (under section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994), down 89% on 2011/12.
- The police issued 1.3 million **fixed penalty notices** for motoring offences in 2012, down 9% on 2011. Speed limit offences accounted for over half of the notices issued.
- The police carried out 682,558 screening **breath tests** during 2012, 1% fewer than in 2011. The number of positive or refused tests also fell by 6% and accounted for 11% of the total.

The statistical release, 'Police Powers and Procedures, England and Wales 2012/13' 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 or 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 2012/13' is available via the UK Statistics Authority and GOV.UK websites.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/release-calendar/index.html>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/police-powers-and-procedures-england-and-wales-2012-to-2013>

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:**

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