**Home Office Statistical Work Programme 2014/15**

The Home Office Statistics Unit was established in April 2008. The Unit is headed by the Chief Statistician, who is directly responsible to the Home Office Chief Scientific Advisor and on professional statistical matters he is accountable to the National Statistician.

The Unit comprises of around 50 staff, of which half are professional statistical grades. We are located on two sites almost equally split across the Home Office Head Quarters in London and in Croydon. Our teams are responsible for statistics on various aspects of crime, policing, immigration, animal scientific procedures, alcohol licensing and terrorism. Roughly one-third of our time is spent on publications and associated work; one third is spent on policy briefing & advice, Parliamentary Questions & Freedom of Information and general requests from stakeholders; and the remaining third is spent on development of new and existing products, stakeholder engagement, and management associated overheads. Within the department, we are highly regarded for our analytical use of statistics; our briefing advice; our support of the evidence base; and our professional statistical expertise as we contribute to the department’s outputs and policy developments. Additionally, our teams provide statistical advice to colleagues in the departmental Arms Length Bodies, Agencies, and Inspectorates etc.

We work closely with statisticians in other departments, most notably with the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on crime statistics and migration statistics and with the Ministry of Justice on crime and criminal justice statistics. Most recently this has involved producing joint publications or making contributions to their publications.

In the first six years of the Unit we have embraced new and more efficient ways of producing our publications, broadened the scope and content of our outputs, introduced new publications and delivered on the transparency agenda.

This is the second annual publication of our work programme. It outlines our most significant outputs, highlights some of our recent developments on these outputs and gives details of some of our future plans. Of course, in these times of reducing resources, we remain mindful of budgetary pressures so it is important that we continue to prioritise our resources and seek user views in doing so. This work programme invites your comments as our customers.

**David Blunt**

**Chief Statistician**

**Home Office Statistical Work Programme 2014/15**

**Background**

Home Office Statistics provide parliament, government colleagues, academics and wider users amongst the public with reliable statistical information, analysis and advice. Our aim is to support government policy development through provision of a credible evidence base, support monitoring and operational decision making, to aid the accountability of the Home Office to parliament and contribute to making a wide range of data available for public use. Our statisticians publish data on a wide range of topics;

* international migration
* police numbers
* police powers and procedures
* police crime detections and outcomes
* crime related outputs (business crime, metal theft, hate crime, racist incidents)
* criminal drug use and drug seizures
* terrorist arrests and outcomes
* alcohol licensing
* scientific procedures on animals

Home Office Statistics staff also provide significant support to our partners in Office for National Statistics (ONS) teams in publishing key outputs, as well as working collaboratively on releases with Ministry of Justice (MoJ) statistical teams. In addition, the Home Office Chief Statistician has a close working relationship with its Arms Length Bodies (e.g. Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC), National College of Policing and the Independent Police Complaints Commission) and provides professional advice, guidance and support on statistical matters.

The Home Office Statistics Unit also support statistical staff who work outside of the Unit, but within the Home Office (e.g. supporting Human Resources and Civil Service Learning teams). They also provide support to non-statistical Home Office teams who publish official statistics (e.g. statistics on the police use of tasers and football related arrests and banning orders)

Our staff strive to ensure the statistics we produce are relevant, of high quality, are available in open forms that users can readily find, understand and use whilst adhering to the UK Statistics Authority professional code and standards. To this end we seek to engage with users to take account of their views (e.g. via the Migration Statistics User Forum or the Criminal Justice Statistics Network).

This programme sets out details of the National and Official Statistics that the Home Office plans to release during 2014/15, recent developments to releases and plans for future improvements. National Statistics are the subset of Official Statistics that have been assessed or deemed to be compliant with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Publication dates for all Home Office Official Statistics are pre-announced in accordance with the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html) and available on the [UK National Statistics Publication Hub](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/release-calendar/index.html?newquery=*&newoffset=0&theme=&source-agency=Home+Office&uday=31&umonth=12&uyear=2013&lday=1&lmonth=4&lyear=2013&coverage=&designation=&geographic-breakdown=&title=&pagetype=calendar-entry&sortBy=).

**Migration statistics**

Latest figures are published on those subject to immigration control including data on asylum, removals and voluntary departures, managed migration and detention. In addition, statistics on visas (including detailed information collected in support of visa applications), admissions, extensions, settlement and citizenship are also published on our website.

A summary of the statistics, including the frequency of publication, is as follows:

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| **Title**: Immigration Statistics  **Frequency**: Quarterly  **Designation**: National Statistics  **NS_RGBSummary:** Statistics relating to those coming to the UK; extending their stay (temporarily or permanently); gaining citizenship; applying for asylum; and being detained or removed, as well as immigration for work, study and family reasons. |
| **Title**: Asylum Statistics  **Frequency**: Monthly  **Designation**: Official Statistics  **Summary:** Monthly statistics relating to people who have applied for asylum. These data are based on provisional management information and are subject to change. |
| **Title**: Figures on children entering detention  **Frequency**: Monthly  **Designation**: Official Statistics  **Summary**: Monthly statistics relating to children entering detention and held solely under Immigration Act powers.  These data are based on provisional management information and are subject to change. |

**Recent developments 2013-14**

We now publish ad hoc short articles that provide more detail on our migration statistics. In August 2013 we published an article on extension of stay by previous immigration category (e.g. indicating the extent of ‘switching’ from study to work). We also collaborated with ONS to provide material for their additional reports on short term migration and seasonal patterns of migration.

In February 2014 our teams led for the first time the production of the latest longitudinal *Migrant Journey* analysis.

We have also enhanced the main quarterly migration statistics release in a number of important ways.

* Data of Certificates of Acceptance of study is now available for the university sector by individual nationality.
* A new, more operationally relevant, definition of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children has been instituted.
* Information is now available on cumulative length of migration detention (i.e. adding together separate spells in detention), this adding to the data on length of detention we have previously published.
* We have brought forward publication of tables on residence documentation for EEA nationals and their family members.

These additions were in response to feedback from users of our data.

**Future Developments 2014-15**

A number of new developments of the statistics are being considered in response to user feedback for 2014/15 subject to data availability and resources being available.

* We plan to release an update of the longitudinal Migrant Journey report, but this time as an official statistics release.
* We will further contribute to the ONS annual articles on short term migration and we are considering producing a short article that provides more detail on short term versus long term migration and to potentially use this data to supplement our standard visa analysis.
* We intend to amend our data tables to take account of the results of an ONS consultation on moving to new world regions for migration statistics with implementation in the summer.

We are also considering:

* Publishing a map showing the regional distribution of asylum seekers that would build on the data already published in tables.
* Producing figures on detention in prisons under Immigration Act powers to set alongside our existing detention figures.
* Further development of the certificate of acceptance of study and certificate of sponsorship (for work) figures.
* Producing extra data relating to the family route including possibly a short article on the impact of July 2012 family rules changes.
* Updating information on extensions by previous immigration category, including on ‘switching’ from study to work.
* Producing additional data on visitor visas, including business visitors.

**Policing Statistics**

We collect data from police forces in England and Wales covering a number of areas, including police personnel, arrests, stop and searches, breath tests, drug seizures and firearm certificates. We also release statistics on terrorism arrests and outcomes based on information from the Office of the National Coordinator of Terrorist Investigations.

A summary of the publications is as follows:

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| **Title:** Police Powers and Procedures, England and Wales  **Frequency**: Annual  **Designation**: National Statistics  **NS_RGBSummary**: Contains chapters on arrests, stop and search, fixed penalty notices and breath tests. |
| **Title**: Police Workforce, England and Wales  **Frequency**: Bi-Annual  **Designation**: National Statistics  **Summary**: Statistics on the numbers of police officers, police staff, police community support officers, designated officers, traffic wardens and special constables in post in the 43 police forces in England and Wales, the British Transport Police and in Central Service secondments. This release was previously titled ‘Police Service Strength, England and Wales' and was re-titled 'Police Service Strength, England and Wales' from July 2013 to better reflect the scope of the release. |
| **Title**: Drug seizures in England and Wales  **Frequency**: Annual  **Designation:** National Statistics  **NS_RGBSummary**: Seizures of class A, B and C drugs by the police and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and the United Kingdom Border Force. |
| **Title**: Firearm Certificates, England and Wales  **Frequency**: Annual  **Designation**: National Statistics  **NS_RGBSummary**: The number of firearm and shotgun certificates on issue on 31 March, new applications and renewals, numbers of registered firearms dealers, and numbers of permits issued. |
| **Title:** Operation of police powers under the Terrorism Act 2000 and subsequent legislation: arrests, outcomes and stops and searches, Great Britain.  **Frequency**: Quarterly  **Designation**: Official Statistics  **Summary**: This report brings together statistical material relating to the Terrorism Act 2000 and subsequent legislation, including arrests and their outcomes, as well breakdowns of stops and searches made under the powers of the Terrorism Act 2000. |

**Recent Developments 2013-14**

The quarterly update on terrorism statistics was extended in December to contain much of the information that was previously only published annually. This was in response to user requests for more detailed quarterly figures.

Following the UK Statistics Authority’s assessment (number 217) into Policing Statistics, enhancements were made to the following to statistics releases:

* Police Powers and Procedures;
* Police Service Strength;
* Firearm Certificates; and
* Drug Seizures

These enhancements include an analysis of revisions since last year’s release; more examples of how the statistics have been used; an indication of future user engagement; and more on quality and methods and the international context wherever possible.

Police Workforce bulletins include extra tables on the number of designated officers, traffic wardens and special constables by police force area in the new html format,

There is increased use of filter tables in arrests and stop and search chapters of the police Powers and Procedures bulletin.

**Future Developments 2014-15**

A feedback form on GOV.UK is being introduced for all the policing statistics releases during 2014/15 (the one for police workforce was launched in January 2014) to improve user engagement following the UK Statistics Authority Assessment.

Another option for improving engagement with users is the use of internet forums (e.g. StatsUserNet).

We plan to present the next Firearm Certificates bulletin and the Drug Seizures bulletin in the new html format from the autumn.

**Crime Statistics**

Responsibility for publishing police recorded crime statistics and the Crime Survey for England and Wales moved from the Home Office to the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on 1 April 2012. However, the Home Office remain responsible for collecting and collating data on crimes recorded by the police. Our statisticians also continue to provide expert advice to the ONS on data interpretation, and provide analyses and briefing for several of the chapters of the detailed “Focus on” publications.

The Home Office has retained responsibility for the publication of crime detection and (from 2014) outcome numbers and rates, misuse of drugs, hate crime and business crime, as well as development of new analytical outputs (some jointly with ONS and Ministry of Justice MoJ).

A summary of the publications is as follows:

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| **Title:** Crime Outcomes in England and Wales  **Frequency:** Annual  **Designation:** National Statistics  **NS_RGBSummary:** Presents police recorded crime statistics and the levels and trends in outcomes, focusing on a range of former detections such as being charged or summonsed, cautioned, receiving a fixed penalty notice or a cannabis warning and the new broader outcome categories. |
| **Title:** Drug Misuse: Findings from the Crime Survey  for England and Wales  **Frequency:** Annual  **NS_RGBDesignation:** National Statistics  **Summary:** Drug use statistics for adults and young people from the Crime Survey for England and Wales. |
| **Title:** Crimes Against Business Premises  **Frequency:** Bi-Annual  **Designation:** Official Statistics  **Summary:** Statistics on the extent of crime against businesses in the wholesale and retail, accommodation and food, arts, entertainment and recreation and agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors taken from the Commercial Victimisation Survey. The first release presents headline findings and is followed by detailed results later in the year. |
| **Title:** Hate crimes and Racist Incidents in England and Wales  **Frequency:** Annual  **Designation:** Official Statistics  **Summary:** Presents hate crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales by police force area. A ‘Hate crime’ is any criminal offence committed against a person or property that is motivated by hostility towards someone based on their disability, race, religion, gender-identity or sexual orientation, whether perceived to be so by the victim or any other person. From 2013, we also included racist incidents recorded by the police in this publication. |

In addition to the above publications, police recorded crime open data tables are published each quarter giving detailed statistics for individual Community Safety Partnership areas. Annual data on police recording of crimes which are subsequently ‘no crimed’ where it is judged by the police that no crime actually took place are also published by our statisticians.

### Home Office Statisticians also offer support to HMIC policing analyses, provide advice to Police and Crime Commissioners and support colleagues in the Home Office working on iQuanta and police.uk. The statistics team is also responsible for developing and maintaining the National Crime Recording Standards and liaises with force crime registrars frequently to assist in their deliberations of classifications of certain crime types.

**Recent developments 2013-14**

* Work is ongoing with key stakeholders to develop a new framework of outcome measures for all crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales. This will enable the public to have a more meaningful picture of how crimes are dealt with by the police. We expect to publish the enhanced framework in July 2014.
* During the past year and over the coming months, we have worked with all police forces to ensure crimes outcomes under this new framework are recorded consistently across forces. This will enable us to broaden the former detections framework to better reflect the full range of work done by the police in solving and resolving crimes. The first statistics based on the new framework will be published in 2015.
* The development of the Home Office Data Hub (HODH) continues, and during the year the number of forces providing crime statistics to the hub rose from 6 to 14. All police forces are expected to be supplying crime data to the hub by April 2015. The HODH allows for a greater range of analyses of recorded crime, whilst reducing burden on forces.
* This year we began to publish occasional supplementary statistical analysis bulletins that summarise existing crime data and enhance it with current research. These short bulletins benefit users, policy colleagues and Government alike. So far, outputs have included analysis of Metal theft and more are planned.
* Open data tables for crime statistics have been developed to make them much more transparent. We are now effectively providing a database for crime statistics which users can query at all levels of aggregation and across different time periods.
* The scope of the Commercial Victimisation Survey was broaden in 2013 to cover other business sectors.

**Future Developments 2014-15**

* The work we did with the police last year to ensure recorded crime reflects the full range of work the police do, will underpin a new framework of outcome measures for crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales. The framework will provide a richer picture of how the police actually solve and resolve crimes. We plan to publish the enhanced framework in July 2014. The first full set of outcomes data is expected to be published a year later.
* In the meantime, we intend developing the previous ‘detections’ publication in July 2014.
* We are planning a final push on the development of the Home Office Data Hub, which should see all police forces using the hub by April 2015 for their crime returns. This will not only significantly reduce burdens and risks around the process for collecting recorded crime data, but it will also provide a richer set of data for analysis and research.
* Following the publication of statistics of hate crimes and racist incidents in a single ad hoc tri-badged publication with statistics from ONS and Ministry of Justice, we are considering the content of related publications in 2014-15. We will publish hate crime statistics for 2013/14 in the autumn and consider both user feedback and the burdens on suppliers before deciding whether to update statistics on racist incidents.
* We plan to continue with our series of occasional supplementary statistical analysis bulletins on crime.
* We intend to make further improvements and enhancements to the functionality of our open data tables during the coming year to provide users with a richer set of data.
* An action plan to enable the re-accreditation of Crime Statistics to National Statistics status will be implemented. ONS will lead on this with important support from our teams. The focus will be on ensuring the end to end system for producing Crime Statistics is fit for purpose and provides the means to quality assure the data throughout the process, whilst also addressing user needs.
* The National Crime Registrar will coordinate measures to align the training of Force Crime Registrars, and make their role and status consistent across all police forces. This work will culminate in a Crime Registrars conference in the autumn which the NCR will host.

**Other Statistical Publications**

**We collect and publish statistics on scientific research and testing carried out using animals.** The use of animals in scientific procedures is regulated by the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 which requires a three-level licensing system - personal licence, project licence and certificate of designation. Our reports cover topics such as licensing and inspection, compliance and infringement, and initiatives. We also now produce statistics on the alcohol licensing powers under the Licensing Act 2003, which in part replaces the previous bulletin published by Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) Bulletin on Alcohol, Entertainment and Late Night Licensing.

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| **Title: Scientific Procedures on Living Animals, Great Britain**  **Frequency**: Annual  **Designation**: National Statistics  **NS_RGBSummary**: Annual statistics relating to scientific procedures performed on living animals in accordance with the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986. |
| **Title**: Alcohol and late Night Refreshment Licensing  **Frequency**: Annual  **Designation**: National Statistics  **NS_RGBSummary**: Statistics on premises licences, club premises certificates, personal licences, 24-hour alcohol licences and late night refreshment licences. |

**Recent developments 2013-14**

The new European Union Directive on the protection of animals in scientific research came into effect on 1 January 2013. In order to comply with it:

* We undertook a consultation with stakeholders on the proposed changes in early 2013 which fed into our plans for the revision and enhancement of the UK data collection instrument.
* We participated in a European Commission expert working group to agree common standards for data collection, compliant with the directive, across all 27 member states.
* We revised and enhanced the UK data collection instrument so that it complied with the new directive.

We continued to produce hard copies (PDF) of the annual animal science publication in parliament, until revised legislation is introduced.  
  
**Future Developments 2014-15**

We plan to drop the alcohol licensing collection for 2014/15. This is in response to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) request to make savings to all mandatory local government statistics collections. The series is run only in those years where we need to monitor the impact of new and changing legislation. We intend to resume in 2015/16 to monitor the legislative change to fee setting by licensing authorities.

**Consultation and User engagement**

Our users include Ministers, policy officials, Parliament, academics, the media and the wider public. We listen to all our users informally, via consultations, conferences and the JISCMail forums and recognise the important contribution of our data suppliers to ensuring we are able to produce high quality statistics, and work with other government Departments to co-ordinate our outputs.

We held the latest Force Crime registrar conference in autumn 2013 which feedback suggests was very successful and we plan to follow this up with a further conference later this year the purpose of which will be to assist in standardising the role of FCRs across all police forces.

We held a Data Hub conference in January 2014 for police forces. Feedback suggests was very well received by the police forces that attended, and resulted in a large number of invitations for force visits to assist them in transitioning to the Data Hub. Another conference is planned for later this year.

In response to user input we are implementing StatsUserNET forums Crime, Justice and Migration.

Our teams facilitated the meeting which discussed the divergence paper (between the crime survey and police recorded crime) published by the ONS in January 2013. This meeting was hosted by the Royal Statistical Society on behalf of the independent Crime Statistics Advisory Committee.

In June 2013, the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) formally recognised the Migration Statistics User Forum (MSUF), which means that the MSUF is now affiliated to the main RSS Statistics User Forum. We provided support for an annual conference and this year’s conference is on 16 September 2014. Details of the planned agenda and how to register will be made available closer to the date via the JISCMail list (to join visit <https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/wa.exe?SUBED1=MIGRATION-STATS>).

We would welcome your views on our publications and you will find a short questionnaire at Annex A. Please return via e-mail to

[crimestats@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:crimestats@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk).

The above email can be also used for specific enquiries relating to crime statistics. There are also separate emails for migration statistics and policing & other statistics:

[migrationstatsenquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:migrationstatsenquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

policestats@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

You can also provide feedback on our crime and migration statistics releases during the year via questionnaires found on the bulletin web pages.

Annex A- **Views on Home Office Statistics publications**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Publication Title | Which audience group best describes you | Did you find the information you were looking for | Any comments on the gaps in coverage of the publication | Any comments on the presentation, format of outputs | Any other comments |
|  | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |  |  |  |
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