



# Home Office

9 July 2015

## **Statistical News Release: Police use of firearms statistics, England and Wales, year ending March 2014**

The Home Office published today the latest official statistics on police use of firearms in England and Wales.

The release contains statistics for the year ending March 2014 on the total number of: police firearms' operations, police firearms' operations involving Armed Response Vehicles (ARVs), police firearms' operations where firearms were discharged and police firearms' officers.

These statistics show in the 43 police forces of England and Wales:

- There were 14,864 police firearms' operations in the year ending March 2014. This represents a decrease of 4% (-590) compared with the previous year and a fall of 36% (-8,317) since the year ending March 2009.
- There were 12,061 police firearms' operations involving ARVs in the year ending March 2014. This represents a decrease of 4% (-559) compared with the previous year and a fall of 36% (-6,813) since the year ending March 2009.
- In the year ending March 2014, 81% of police firearms' operations involved ARVs. The proportion has remained fairly stable since the year ending March 2009.
- The police discharged firearms in 2 operations in the year ending March 2014. The figure has been six or less in each of the previous 5 years.
- There were 5,875 police firearms' officers as at 31 March 2014. This represents a decrease of 4% (-217) compared with the previous year and a fall of 15% (-1,031) since 31 March 2009.

### **Notes to editors**

1. 'Police use of firearms statistics, England and Wales, year ending March 2014' is available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/police-use-of-firearms-statistics>.

### **Press enquiries**

For media enquiries, please call the Home Office newsdesk on 020 7035 3535.

This line operates Monday to Friday, 7am to 8pm. Urgent calls outside these hours can be made to a pager service on 07659 174 240.

The Home Office press office only deals with enquiries from the media.

### **Other enquiries**

If you are not a member of the media, please use the Home Office public enquiries line: 020 7035 4848.