



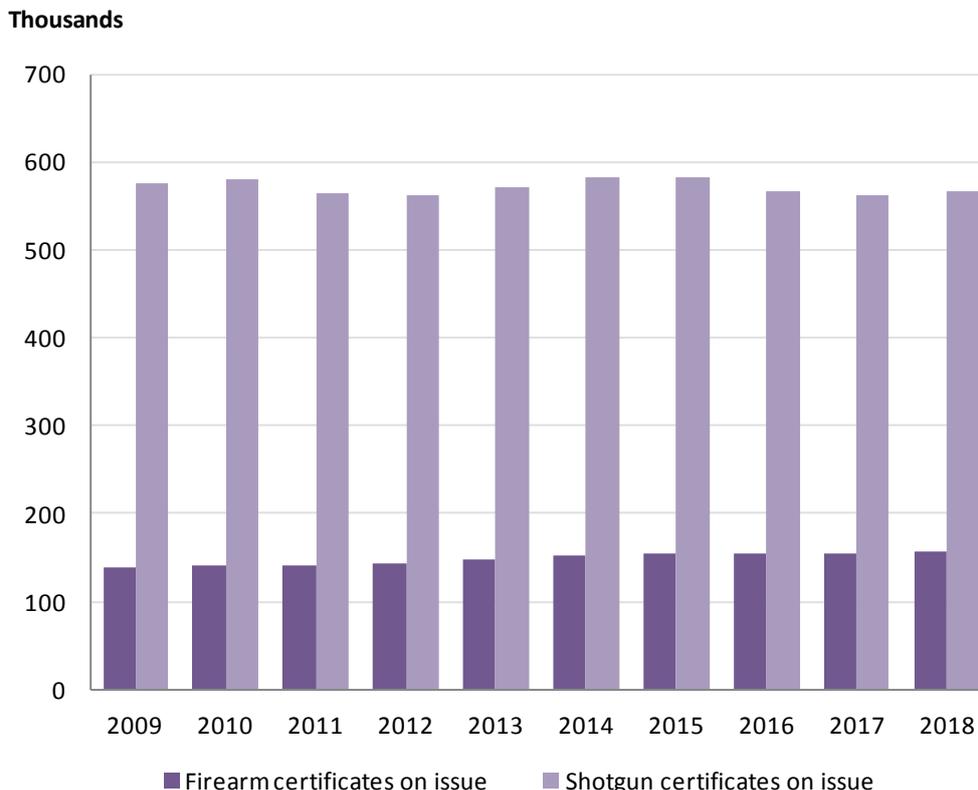
Statistical News Release: Firearm and Shotgun Certificates in England and Wales, financial year ending 31 March 2018

The statistics cover certificates on issue as at 31 March 2018, as well as historical trend data and police force comparisons. The statistical release provides information on the number of certificates granted and refused for new and renewal applications, certificates revoked, registered firearm dealers, visitors' permits, European firearm passes (EFP) and Article 7 Authorities issued. It also includes experimental statistics on the number of people who hold a firearm certificate and/or shotgun certificate, broken down by age and gender, and breakdowns of firearm and shotgun types.

Data extracted from the National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS) show that, as at the 31 March there were:

- 157,581 firearm certificates on issue, an increase of 2% (2,623) compared with the previous year (154,958) and the highest number of firearm certificates on issue since comparable records began following the introduction of the NFLMS (138,728 as at March 2009).
- 567,047 shotgun certificates on issue, an increase of 1% (5,634) compared with the previous year (561,413). This is the first increase in shotgun certificates since the peak of 582,923 (as at 31 March 2014).

Figure 1: Firearm and shotgun certificates on issue as at 31 March 2009 to 2018



Source: [Home Office, Firearm and shotgun certificates in England and Wales, financial year ending 31 March 2018](#), (Table 1 and Table 3).

These figures do not include certificates recorded as coterminous on the NFLMS. Please see the [user guide](#) for more information.

- 586,583 people held a firearm and/or a shotgun certificate; an increase of 1% (5,925). The majority of firearm and/or shotgun certificate holders were aged 50 to 64 (210,601)

In the year ending 31 March 2018, there were:

- 9,696 new applications for firearms, of which 98% were granted and 2% were refused
- 24,584 new applications for shotgun certificates, of which 97% were granted and 3% were refused
- 345 firearms certificates revoked; a decrease of 4% (-13) compared with the previous year
- 1,082 shotgun certificates revoked; a decrease of 11% (-134) compared with the previous year

Notes to editors

1. Firearm and Shotgun Certificates in England and Wales, financial year ending 31 March 2018 is available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/firearm-and-shotgun-certificates-in-england-and-wales-financial-year-ending-31-march-2018>.

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