



department for
**culture, media
and sport**

Treasure and Portable Antiquities

Treasure (2010 & 2011) and Portable Antiquities (2011)

Statistical Release

October 2012

*Treasure and Portable Antiques is an Official
Statistic and has been produced to the standards set
out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics*

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Chapter 1: Introduction

Purpose of release

This statistical release presents the number of finds of reported Treasure (in England, Wales and Northern Ireland) in 2010 and objects recorded through the Portable Antiquities Scheme (in England and Wales) in 2011.

The Treasure Act 1996

The Treasure Act 1996 replaced the common law of Treasure Trove in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. This has been further supplemented by the 2002 Treasure (Designation) Order. The Treasure Act sets out the definition of Treasure, which includes the metallic composition required for a find to qualify as Treasure and it extends the definition of Treasure to include other objects found in archaeological association with finds of Treasure. The Act confirms that Treasure vests in the Crown, or the franchisee if there is one, subject to prior interests and rights. It simplifies the task of coroners in determining whether or not a find is Treasure and it includes an offence of non-declaration of Treasure. Lastly, it states that occupiers and landowners will have the right to be informed of finds of Treasure from their land and that they will be eligible for rewards.

The Portable Antiquities Scheme

The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) was established by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) in 1997 to record archaeological finds found by the public. It also has an important educational role, enabling children and adults alike to learn about archaeology, get involved and bring the past to life. The work of the Scheme is managed by the British Museum and guided by the Portable Antiquities Advisory Group which advises on issues relating to portable antiquities.

The PAS has been a key factor in the success of the Treasure Act and the large increase in reported Treasure finds. Through working with metal detecting groups and others, the Scheme's Finds Liaison Officers (FLOs) are able to explain the system of Treasure reporting and encourage detectorists and others to report their finds.

Chapter 2: Key findings

- In 2011 970¹ finds of Treasure were reported. The equivalent number for 2010 was 860.
- In 2011 97,509 finds were recorded with the Portable Antiquities Scheme (<http://finds.org.uk>). The equivalent number for 2010 was 90,099.
- In 2010 86 parties waived their right to a reward in 70 cases of Treasure, allowing them to be acquired by museums at no (or reduced) public cost.

Guide to the data included in this release

This statistical release presents the number of Treasure finds recorded by county in 2010 and the number of portable antiquities recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme in 2011. The release contains 9 tables.

A glossary of terminology used in the release can be found on the Portable Antiquities Scheme website <http://finds.org.uk/database/terminology>.

¹ The overall figure for the number of Treasure finds is available for 2011, but a number of cases have not been resolved and so it is not possible to provide a breakdown of factors including geographical location, period and disposition in this release. This breakdown will be provided in the Treasure Statistical Release in 2013 which will cover treasures finds reported in 2011.

Chapter 3: Tables

Treasure finds in 2010

Table A: Number of Treasure cases in 2010 by county (geographic distribution)

England

County	No. of treasure cases
Bath & North East Somerset	1
Bedfordshire	8
Berkshire	3
Buckinghamshire (inc Milton Keynes)	12
Cambridgeshire (inc Peterborough)	21
Cheshire	11
Cornwall	3
Coventry	1
Cumbria	13
Derbyshire	7
Devon	13
Dorset	16
Durham	5
Essex	57
Gloucestershire	5
Gloucestershire, South	4
Hampshire	18
Herefordshire	7
Hertfordshire	14
Isle of Wight	30
Kent	52
Lancashire	10
Leicestershire & Rutland	16
Lincolnshire	67
Lincolnshire, North	11
London, Greater	11
Norfolk	65
Northamptonshire	21
Northumberland	12
Nottinghamshire	20
Oxfordshire	12
Shropshire	9
Somerset	16
Somerset, North	7
Staffordshire	18
Suffolk	59
Surrey	7

Sussex, East	6
Sussex, West	12
Teeside, Redcar and Cleveland	1
Warwickshire	8
West Midlands	1
Wiltshire (inc Swindon)	36
Worcestershire	8
York, City of	0
Yorkshire, East	19
Yorkshire, North	67
Yorkshire, South	8
Yorkshire, West	5
Unknown	2
Total	835

Wales

County	No. of treasure cases
Bridgend	0
Caerphilly	1
Carmarthenshire	1
Ceredigion	0
Flintshire	1
Gwynedd	0
Isle of Anglesey	1
Monmouthshire	3
Newport	1
Pembrokeshire	5
Powys	4
Rhondda Cynon Taf	0
Swansea	1
Vale of Glamorgan	5
Wrexham	2
Total	25

Northern Ireland

County	No. of treasure cases
Total	0

Table B: Analysis of Treasure cases in 2010 by period and disposition - England & Wales

Object Cases

	Disclaimed/ RTF	Acquired²	Donated	Not Treasure	To Be Determined	Total
Bronze Age	7	13	5	1	5	31
Iron Age	0	3	0	1	0	4
Roman	36	15	15	3	3	72
Early Medieval	25	43	6	2	5	81
Medieval	133	51	15	2	4	205
Post-Medieval	168	56	13	37	6	280
Modern	0	0	0	21	0	21
Undiagnostic ³	4	0	0	34	1	39
Totals	373	181	54	101	24	733

Coin Cases

	Disclaimed/ RTF	Acquired	Donated	Not Treasure	To Be Determined	Total
Iron Age	6	4	0	0	0	10
Roman	17	20	10	2	7	56
Early Medieval	1	7	1	0	0	9
Medieval	14	11	2	0	0	27
Post-Medieval	11	6	3	0	1	21
Modern	1	0	0	0	2	3
Undiagnostic	0	0	0	0	1	1
Totals	50	48	16	5	8	127

Overall (all cases)	423	229	70	106	32	860
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Table C: Method of discovery of Treasure cases in 2010 - England and Wales

	Number of finds	%
Metal detecting	797	92.7
Archaeological	29	3.4
To be confirmed	16	1.9
Chance	15	1.7
Reported by buyer	3	0.3
Total	860	100.0

² This covers finds that have been acquired as well as finds where museums have made an expression of interest, but have not yet acquired.

³ Includes objects 'of age' but not attributable to a particular historic period.

Portable Antiquities Scheme finds in 2011

Note: The following tables are based on data taken from the PAS database (<http://finds.org.uk>) on 21 May 2012. This data is updated constantly and is therefore subject to change.

Table D: Portable Antique Scheme (PAS) finds in 2011 recorded by county (geographical distribution)

County	PAS records 2011	PAS finds recorded 2011
Avon	1,358	1,500
Bedfordshire	645	655
Berkshire	934	1,170
Buckinghamshire	2,090	3,178
Cambridgeshire	1,631	2,002
Cheshire	441	479
Cleveland	28	28
Cornwall	3,798	3,861
Cumbria	527	721
Derbyshire	153	211
Devon	417	646
Dorset	582	4,675
Durham	257	296
Essex	1,214	2,580
Gloucestershire	993	1,158
Greater London	649	755
Greater Manchester	23	23
Hampshire	2,007	2,182
Herefordshire	617	658
Hertfordshire	1,067	1,193
Isle of Wight	1,743	2,472
Isles of Scilly	1	1
Kent	2,135	7,551
Lancashire	344	623
Leicestershire	1,344	1,382
Lincolnshire	5,183	5,828
Lincolnshire, NE	102	105
Lincolnshire, N	1,195	1,356
Merseyside	82	82
Norfolk	14,071	14,176
Northamptonshire	1,128	1,253
Northumberland	212	323
Nottinghamshire	1,182	1,270
Oxfordshire	1,558	1,763
Rutland	58	68
Shropshire	410	508
Somerset	1,303	2,840
Staffordshire	529	630
Suffolk	3,358	5,144
Surrey	1,369	1,634
Sussex, E	674	681
Sussex, W	486	565
Tyne & Wear	2	2
Warwickshire	603	1,308

West Midlands	12	12
Wiltshire	2,522	3,143
Worcestershire	381	4,288
Yorkshire, E	2,403	2,670
Yorkshire, N	2,235	3,032
Yorkshire, S	520	1,017
Yorkshire, W	402	1,152
Other	1,409	1,758
Wales	884	901
Total	69,271	97,509

Table E: PAS finds in 2011 recorded by class (where known)

	Metal objects	Coins	Worked stone	Pottery	Other
Number	27,197	39,831	7,323	5,481	4,635
%	32.2	47.16	8.67	6.49	5.49

Table F: PAS finds in 2011 recorded by period (where known)

	Stone Age	Bronze Age	Iron Age	Roman	Early Medieval	Medieval	Post-Medieval
Number	6,673	1,530	1,343	42,683	2,425	13,311	14,549
%	8.09	1.85	1.63	51.73	2.94	16.13	17.63

Table G: PAS findspot precision in 2011 (where recorded)

	No NGR	4 Fig	6 Fig	8 Fig	10 Fig	12 Fig
Number	6,567	1,428	32,468	18,019	21,866	3,905
%	7.79	1.70	38.54	21.39	25.95	4.63

Table H: Method of discovery of PAS finds in 2011 (where known)

	Metal - detecting	Chance find while metal-detecting	Field-walking	Other chance find / gardening	Controlled archaeological investigation	Building / agricultural work
Number	70,083	2,075	6,549	2,681	1,848	1,017
%	83.19	2.46	7.77	3.18	2.19	1.21

Table I: Land use of findspot for PAS finds in 2011 (where known)

	Number	%
Cultivated land	47,831	82.51
Grassland/heathland	5,073	8.75
Woodland	157	0.27
Coastland	838	1.45
Open fresh water	638	1.10
Wetland	10	0.02
Other	3,417	5.90

Table J: Use of PAS website in 2011

	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Page requests	Average page views per visit
Number	463,160	677,965	4,485,956	6.62

Chapter 4: Background information

Formats of statistical release

This release is available in word/excel and pdf format.

Previous reports

Statistics covering previous years can be found at
<http://www.culture.gov.uk/publications/8459.aspx>

Next release of data

The next release of data will take place in the third quarter of 2013 and will include data for 2011 (Treasure) and 2012 (PAS).

Methodology

The data presented here is collected by the Department of Portable Antiquities & Treasure, British Museum and recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme (<http://finds.org.uk>).

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