



● ● ● **Stop and Search Scrutiny
Panel Report**

**Quarter 3 2020/21
April 2020 to December 2020**

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Introduction

This report is intended to provide some detailed analysis into Stop Searches conducted by Dorset Police.

The report is designed to provide sufficient information to highlight areas of potential concern or interest. It has been developed to support Dorset Police in the delivery of the Equality Standard for the Police Service which provides a system for monitoring performance and assessing progress on how the priorities of the Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Strategy for the Police Service are being delivered.

Rates per 1,000 population and disproportionality ratios for Stop Search are based on 2011 Census data by ethnicity. The population profile of Dorset used in these calculations is shown below. Unless otherwise stated, ethnicity data stated in this document is based on the self-defined ethnicity of the individual.

Where thresholds are stated, these are calculated at two standard deviations away from the two year average.

Population Profile

	Bournemouth and Poole Division		Dorset County Division		Force	
	2001 Census	2011 Census	2001 Census	2011 Census	2001 Census	2011 Census
White	283,896	289,450	378,380	394,350	662,276	683,800
White Non British	9,915	20,870	7,683	9,967	17,598	30,837
Mixed	2,871	6,107	1,940	3,400	4,811	9,507
Black & Black British	943	2,284	579	924	1,522	3,208
Asian & Asian British	2,932	10,342	1,754	3,833	4,686	14,175
Other Ethnic Group	1,175	2,083	644	431	1,819	2,514
Total	301,732	331,136	390,980	412,905	692,712	744,041
White	283,896	289,450	378,380	394,350	662,276	683,800
BME	17,836	41,686	12,600	18,555	30,436	60,241

	White - British	White - Non British	Mixed	Black & Black British	Asian & Asian British	Other Ethnic Group	Total
Bmth Central	15,505	3,038	672	308	1,302	311	21,136
Bmth East	50,195	6,867	1,420	700	2,447	464	62,093
Bmth North	91,997	5,223	2,152	773	3,362	906	104,413
Bridport	33,071	781	245	47	146	40	34,330
Christchurch	45,414	1,177	505	83	495	78	47,752
Dorchester	56,597	1,393	490	120	753	66	59,419
East Dorset	83,876	1,769	594	106	737	84	87,166
North Dorset	64,936	2,041	552	197	796	61	68,583
Poole North	71,751	2,670	972	262	1,527	180	77,362
Poole South	60,002	3,072	891	241	1,704	222	66,132
Purbeck	43,253	1,087	326	48	231	28	44,973
Weymth & Portland	67,203	1,719	688	323	675	74	70,682
Force	683,800	30,837	9,507	3,208	14,175	2,514	744,041

Delivering the Police and Crime Plan Priorities

The Police and Crime Commissioner and Dorset Police agree a number of Policing Priorities each year. These are laid out in our Police and Crime Plan, which also sets out how Dorset Police organizes itself and its activity in order to achieve these priorities. The 2017-2021 Police and Crime Plan is a public document and is available from the following link:

<https://dorsetpccpolice.s3.amazonaws.com/PCP%202017-2021.pdf>

Our Policing Priorities

- Protecting people at risk of harm
- Working with our communities
- Supporting victims, witnesses and reducing reoffending
- Transforming for the future

1. Ethnicity and Disproportionality

This segment looks at stop and search data based on the self defined ethnicity of the person searched. The term “disproportionality” refers to the ratio between the percentage of persons in a particular racial or ethnic group at a particular decision point or experiencing an event, in this instance Stop and Search compared to the percentage of the same racial or ethnic group in the overall population. Disproportionality should be read as the chances of being searched compared to a white individual are X times greater based on current population data. The data is based on total population statistics, and does not take into account the breakdown of specific policing locales; the disparity between ethnicity changes according to geographical location; or that people are stopped away from their home locality.

	19/20		19/20		20/21		20/21		20/21	
	Qtr 3		Qtr 4		Qtr 1		Qtr 2		Qtr 3	
	Searches	Disproportionality Ratio	Searches	Disproportionality Ratio	Searches	Disproportionality Ratio	Searches	Disproportionality Ratio	Searches	Disproportionality Ratio
White British	363		316		495		399		466	
White Non-British	20	1.22	16	1.12	34	1.52	35	1.95	35	1.67
Mixed	8	1.59	23	5.24	34	4.94	16	2.88	19	2.93
Black	39	22.9	31	20.91	41	17.66	34	18.16	38	17.38
Asian	3	0.4	9	1.37	28	2.73	15	1.81	11	1.14
Other	5	3.75	4	3.44	10	5.49	2	1.36	9	5.25
Not stated	57		82		106		67		66	
Total Searches	495		481		748		568		644	

In the latest quarter, Dorset Police have conducted 644 stop searches. 72.4% of these have been conducted on White British individuals. This has resulted in a disproportionality rate of 17.38:1 (Black:White searches). This has significantly decreased from 22.9:1 in Quarter 3 of 2019/20 and has also decreased compared to the previous Quarter of the current year. The table shows that since Q3 19/20 the disproportionality ratio has been steadily declining minus the anomaly of Q2 this year where the ratio slightly increased. During the months of Quarter 3, searches on White race individuals were statistically consistent to the previous quarter with the exception of November which highlighted a much higher search rate than the months either side. 1960 searches have been conducted YTD averaging a disproportionality rate of 17.73:1 (Black:White searches).

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	19/20			19/20			20/21			20/21			20/21		
	Qtr 3			Qtr 4			Qtr 1			Qtr 2			Qtr 3		
	Searches	Arrests	Positive Searches	Searches	Arrests	Positive Searches	Searches	Arrests	Positive Searches	Searches	Arrests	Positive Searches	Searches	Arrests	Positive Searches
White British	363	8.3%	24.8%	316	15.5%	33.5%	495	9.9%	29.9%	399	10.5%	31.3%	466	10.1%	30.9%
White Non-British	20	10.0%	10.0%	16	25.0%	43.8%	34	26.5%	47.1%	35	11.4%	28.6%	35	22.9%	40.0%
Mixed	8	37.5%	62.5%	23	21.7%	26.1%	34	8.8%	26.5%	16	25.0%	50.0%	19	5.3%	15.8%
Black	39	28.2%	41.0%	31	35.5%	38.7%	41	22.0%	31.7%	34	8.8%	17.6%	38	10.5%	21.1%
Asian	3	-	-	9	-	-	28	39.3%	46.4%	15	6.7%	33.3%	11	18.2%	27.3%
Other	5	40.0%	40.0%	4	-	25.0%	10	-	20.0%	2	50.0%	50.0%	9	-	55.6%
Not stated	57	7.0%	28.1%	82	8.5%	20.7%	106	-	11.3%	67	3.0%	16.4%	66	10.6%	15.2%
Total Searches	495	10.5%	26.5%	481	15.8%	31.0%	748	10.8%	28.4%	568	10.1%	29.3%	644	10.6%	28.9%

The average arrest rates and positive search rates for Quarter 3 are relatively comparable to the same quarter last year with the exception of black race individuals which show despite the number of searches being nearly identical, rates have significantly decreased for both arrests and positive searches. White Non-british individuals have the highest arrest rate in Quarter 3 at 22.9% out of 35 searched, which is exactly double the number arrested in Quarter 2 even though the number searched was also 35. Positive search rates are relatively consistent across most of the ethnicities, with the exception of Mixed race individuals which is marginally lower. The average arrest rate year to date is 10.5%, whilst the average positive search rate is 28.9%.

2. Object of Search

This segment looks at the primary item the officer was searching for. Item found rates are where the original object that was searched for was found.

	19/20		19/20		20/21		20/21		20/21	
	Qtr 3		Qtr 4		Qtr 1		Qtr 2		Qtr 3	
	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found
Article for use in criminal damage	7	42.9%	4	25.0%	9	44.4%	6	16.7%	5	20.0%
Article for use in theft	47	17.0%	41	14.6%	35	11.4%	28	7.1%	39	10.3%
Drugs	347	26.2%	318	28.3%	590	30.8%	366	32.2%	445	36.4%
Firearms	3	-	11	18.2%	7	28.6%	7	-	5	40.0%
Offensive weapons	56	17.9%	53	11.3%	44	20.5%	88	14.8%	87	13.8%
Stolen goods	31	6.5%	38	42.1%	41	24.4%	60	21.7%	46	26.1%
Other	3	-	15	13.3%	18	61.1%	12	-	17	41.2%
Not Recorded	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Total Searches	495	23.0%	480	25.6%	747	29.7%	567	25.9%	644	31.1%

In the latest quarter (3), Drug searches account for the most common reason at 69% of all searches. In 36.4% of the time, drugs are found on the individual that was searched, this is above the overall find rate for all stop searches. Searches for Drugs has increased to 445 searches in Quarter 3 which is a 21.6% increase to the previous quarter. At the beginning of Quarter 3 searches for stolen goods exceeded the exception rate recording 24 searches in October, however by the end of the Quarter this had reduced by two thirds with December only recording 8 searches. Offensive weapon searches had exactly doubled in Quarter 2 compared to Quarter 1 of the current year and this higher search rate continued into Quarter 3 with 87 searches being made, despite this only 13.8% of searches resulted in an offensive weapon found.

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20/21	White British		White Non-British		Mixed		Black		Asian		Other		Not stated	
	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found
Article for use in criminal damage	16	25.0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	33.3%	1	100.0%
Article for use in theft	75	10.7%	7	14.3%	1	-	1	-	1	100.0%	-	-	18	-
Drugs	984	35.3%	59	35.6%	52	28.8%	86	26.7%	41	36.6%	11	36.4%	170	22.4%
Firearms	12	25.0%	1	100.0%	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Offensive weapons	133	16.5%	20	35.0%	13	7.7%	20	10.0%	8	-	4	25.0%	21	4.8%
Stolen goods	105	21.9%	13	23.1%	3	-	1	-	3	66.7%	1	100.0%	21	28.6%
Other	33	39.4%	4	25.0%	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	50.0%	7	42.9%
Not Recorded	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Searches	1361	30.9%	104	32.7%	69	23.2%	113	22.1%	54	33.3%	21	38.1%	239	20.5%

72.3% of all searches so far this financial year on White British individuals have been for drugs. 35.3% of these searches resulted in the object being found. The overall find rate for all White British searches is 30.9%. 76.1% of all searches on Black and Black British individuals have been for drugs. 26.7% of these resulted in the object being found. The overall find rate for all Black and Black British searches is 22.1%.

3. Location

This segment looks at the geographical location that a search has taken place in.

	19/20	19/20	20/21	20/21	20/21
	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3
Bournemouth Central	64	43	87	95	82
Bournemouth East	57	71	110	62	80
Bournemouth North	32	52	107	75	73
Poole North	16	18	34	34	48
Poole South	63	54	71	86	57
Bridport	8	3	11	5	9
Christchurch	23	31	33	15	20
Dorchester	45	27	59	34	43
East Dorset	26	35	39	46	61
North Dorset	37	15	45	19	27
Purbeck	14	10	7	8	11
Weymouth & Portland	107	116	143	85	117
Unknown	3	5	1	3	14
X	-	-	-	-	1
Total Searches	495	480	747	567	643

39.4% of searches this financial year have taken place in Bournemouth. 16.9% of searches this year have taken place in Poole and 17.6% of searches have occurred in Weymouth & Portland.

20/21 - Total Searches by location	White British	White Non-British	Mixed	Black	Asian	Other	Not stated	Total
Bournemouth Central	148	25	12	37	16	5	21	264
Bournemouth East	161	12	10	25	6	4	34	252
Bournemouth North	173	15	11	19	8	4	25	255
Poole North	74	9	3	9	5	-	16	116
Poole South	151	16	8	5	3	2	30	215
Bridport	19	-	-	-	2	-	4	25
Christchurch	46	4	5	2	4	-	7	68
Dorchester	107	8	4	1	-	-	18	138
East Dorset	101	4	5	3	4	2	27	146
North Dorset	73	-	8	-	1	-	9	91
Purbeck	21	-	-	1	1	-	3	26
Weymouth & Portland	272	10	3	10	4	4	42	345
Unknown	14	1	-	1	-	-	2	18
X	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Total	1360	104	69	113	54	21	239	1960

Most searches on Black and Black British Individuals take place in Bournemouth.

4. Outcomes

This segment looks at the primary outcome that is recorded against the stop and search.

	19/20	19/20	20/21	20/21	20/21
	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3
Suspect arrested	52	76	81	57	68
Suspect summonsed to court	3	9	9	10	5
Penalty Notice for disorder	-	-	1	-	-
Offender given drugs possession warning	3	3	8	-	5
Local resolution	19	12	41	33	49
Voluntary Attendance	54	48	70	64	56
Alcohol Seized	-	-	1	2	1
Tobacco Seized	-	1	-	-	1
No further action	359	303	476	339	385
Not Recorded	5	28	60	62	73
Total Searches	495	480	747	567	643

206 searches this year (2020/21) have resulted in the suspect being arrested. The majority of stop search encounters still result in the individual receiving no further action. There are some occasions where the outcome has not been recorded, this has more than doubled in the quarters this year compared to the end of last year.

Searches that resulted in the suspect being interviewed voluntarily were statistically high during December, exceeding the exception rate with over 22 searches resulting in a VA.

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20/21 - Total Searches	White British	White Non-British	Mixed	Black	Asian	Other	Not stated	Total
Suspect arrested	138	21	8	16	14	1	9	207
Suspect summonsed to court	13	2	3	1	3	1	1	24
Penalty Notice for disorder	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Offender given drugs possession warning	11	2	-	-	-	-	-	13
Local resolution	101	7	2	2	1	3	7	123
Voluntary Attendance	149	7	7	8	2	3	15	191
Alcohol Seized	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	4
Tobacco Seized	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
No further action	823	58	43	73	29	13	162	1201
Not Recorded	122	6	6	13	4	-	44	195
Total	1360	104	69	113	54	21	239	1960

So far in 2020/21, 10.1% of White British searches have resulted in the suspect being arrested compared to 14.2% of Black and Black British encounters (however it needs to be noted these are for much smaller numbers).

7% of searches resulted in an out of court disposal (caution, penalty notice, drugs possession warning or local resolution) being given. 9.7% of searches resulted in the individual being interviewed voluntarily.

No further action rates are relatively consistent across all ethnicities.

5. National Data

Force	Disproportionality Rate (Black:White)	Change	
		in Rate	in Position
Dorset	24.8	8.3	0
Sussex	14.1	-0.4	1
West Mercia	14.1	-1.1	-1
Gloucestershire	12.3	-1.3	0
Kent	11.5	-0.9	3
Hampshire	11.4	-1.2	1
Norfolk	10.4	-2.7	-2
Warwickshire	9.6	-2.3	1
London, City of	9.6	-0.9	2
Gwent	9.0	6.2	29
Staffordshire	8.7	-3.0	-1
Derbyshire	8.7	2.0	10
Northamptonshire	8.7	0.1	3
Suffolk	8.5	-4.2	-8
Devon and Cornwall	8.4	-1.1	-3
Surrey	8.4	0.5	1
Cheshire	8.4	1.2	3
Dyfed-Powys	7.9	6.1	24
Cumbria	7.9	0.2	-1
Humberside	7.8	3.4	11
Wiltshire	7.8	-1.6	-8
Lincolnshire	7.6	1.5	2
Nottinghamshire	7.1	-1.6	-8
Greater Manchester	6.8	2.1	5
Cambridgeshire	6.6	0.0	-2
Avon and Somerset	6.5	-0.9	-7
South Wales	6.2	-0.8	-6
Essex	6.0	-2.8	-14
Cleveland	5.6	1.7	7
Leicestershire	5.1	0.7	4
North Yorkshire	5.1	-0.3	-5
Thames Valley	5.0	-0.5	-7
Hertfordshire	4.8	-0.3	-6
Northumbria	4.5	0.0	-4
West Midlands	4.4	0.0	-3
Metropolitan Police	4.3	0.1	-1
Lancashire	4.2	-0.1	-4
North Wales	3.7	0.4	0
Bedfordshire	3.6	-0.1	-2
South Yorkshire	3.6	-1.5	-12
Merseyside	3.4	0.7	-1
West Yorkshire	2.9	0.4	-1
Durham	2.8	1.2	0

The table shown to the left displays the black to white disproportionality rate for each Force in the UK based on 2018/19 data. The red line denotes the national average (9.2:1). The national rate has remained level from 9.5:1 in 2017/18.

It can clearly be seen that Dorset is a national outlier with regards to it's disproportionality rate. There are many reasons why this is the case.

A recent in depth review has been commissioned by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to investigate why Dorset is such an outlier.

(Note I am awaiting the updated data for us to table a change this; expected date March 2021.)