



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

**Quarter 4 2020/21  
April 2020 to March 2021**

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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
<b>Total</b>	<b>301,732</b>	<b>331,136</b>	<b>390,980</b>	<b>412,905</b>	<b>692,712</b>	<b>744,041</b>
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	<b>21,136</b>
Bmth East	50,195	6,867	1,420	700	2,447	464	<b>62,093</b>
Bmth North	91,997	5,223	2,152	773	3,362	906	<b>104,413</b>
Bridport	33,071	781	245	47	146	40	<b>34,330</b>
Christchurch	45,414	1,177	505	83	495	78	<b>47,752</b>
Dorchester	56,597	1,393	490	120	753	66	<b>59,419</b>
East Dorset	83,876	1,769	594	106	737	84	<b>87,166</b>
North Dorset	64,936	2,041	552	197	796	61	<b>68,583</b>
Poole North	71,751	2,670	972	262	1,527	180	<b>77,362</b>
Poole South	60,002	3,072	891	241	1,704	222	<b>66,132</b>
Purbeck	43,253	1,087	326	48	231	28	<b>44,973</b>
Weymth & Portland	67,203	1,719	688	323	675	74	<b>70,682</b>
<b>Force</b>	<b>683,800</b>	<b>30,837</b>	<b>9,507</b>	<b>3,208</b>	<b>14,175</b>	<b>2,514</b>	<b>744,041</b>

## **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		20/21		20/21		20/21		20/21	
	Qtr 4		Qtr 1		Qtr 2		Qtr 3		Qtr 4	
	Searches	Disproportionality Ratio	Searches	Disproportionality Ratio	Searches	Disproportionality Ratio	Searches	Disproportionality Ratio	Searches	Disproportionality Ratio
White	330		538		439		510		546	
Mixed	20	4.56	34	4.75	16	2.74	21	3.1	25	3.44
Black	30	20.25	45	18.63	32	16.24	34	14.85	55	22.44
Asian	7	1.07	24	2.25	16	1.84	9	0.89	11	1.02
Other	2	1.72	13	6.87	2	1.3	10	5.57	7	3.64
Not stated	92		94		63		60		87	
<b>Total Searches</b>	<b>481</b>		<b>748</b>		<b>568</b>		<b>644</b>		<b>731</b>	

In the final quarter of 20/21, Dorset Police have conducted 731 stop searches. 74.7% of these have been conducted on White individuals and 7.5% of them on Black individuals, this has resulted in a disproportionality rate of 22.44:1 (Black:White searches). This has slightly increased from 20.25:1 in Quarter 4 of 2019/20 and significantly increased compared to the previous Quarter of the current year which recorded 14.85:1. The table shows that since Q4 19/20 the disproportionality ratio had been steadily declining up until the last quarter. During the months of Quarter 4, searches on Black race individuals were statistically high with January and February at the top of the exception rate and more than double the previous months, however in March searches reduced by half (from 22 to 11) which is consistent to the monthly average number of black searches throughout the financial year. 2691 searches have been conducted YTD averaging a disproportionality rate of 18.04:1 (Black:White searches).

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	19/20			20/21			20/21			20/21			20/21		
	Qtr 4			Qtr 1			Qtr 2			Qtr 3			Qtr 4		
	Searches	Arrests	Positive Searches	Searches	Arrests	Positive Searches	Searches	Arrests	Positive Searches	Searches	Arrests	Positive Searches	Searches	Arrests	Positive Searches
White	330	15.5%	33.9%	538	11.0%	30.3%	439	10.5%	30.8%	510	11.2%	31.4%	546	11.4%	28.8%
Mixed	20	25.0%	30.0%	34	8.8%	26.5%	16	25.0%	43.8%	21	-	9.5%	25	12.0%	36.0%
Black	30	36.7%	40.0%	45	20.0%	33.3%	32	9.4%	15.6%	34	11.8%	20.6%	55	21.8%	36.4%
Asian	7	-	-	24	33.3%	41.7%	16	6.3%	31.3%	9	22.2%	22.2%	11	18.2%	36.4%
Other	2	-	50.0%	13	7.7%	23.1%	2	50.0%	50.0%	10	-	40.0%	7	14.3%	28.6%
Not stated	92	9.8%	19.6%	94	1.1%	13.8%	63	3.2%	20.6%	60	8.3%	18.3%	87	3.4%	16.1%
<b>Total Searches</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>31.0%</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>10.8%</b>	<b>28.4%</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	<b>29.3%</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>28.9%</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>28.2%</b>

The arrest rates and positive search rates for Quarter 4 have largely shown a decrease across most of the ethnicities compared to the same quarter last year with the exception of Asian race individuals which show the highest positive search rate after not recording any arrests or positive searches in the equivalent timeframe last year. Black race individuals have the highest arrest rate with 21.8% of the 55 searches in the latest quarter resulting in an arrest however out of 546 White searches only 11.4% resulted in an arrest. Positive search rates are relatively consistent across most of the ethnicities, the average arrest rate year to date is 10.7%, whilst the average positive search rate is 28.7%.

## 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		20/21		20/21		20/21		20/21	
	Qtr 4		Qtr 1		Qtr 2		Qtr 3		Qtr 4	
	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found
Article for use in criminal damage	4	25.0%	9	44.4%	6	16.7%	5	20.0%	10	60.0%
Article for use in theft	41	14.6%	35	11.4%	28	7.1%	39	10.3%	45	17.8%
Drugs	318	28.3%	590	30.8%	366	32.2%	445	36.4%	514	33.1%
Firearms	11	18.2%	7	28.6%	7	-	5	40.0%	6	33.3%
Offensive weapons	53	11.3%	44	20.5%	88	14.8%	88	13.6%	88	14.8%
Stolen goods	38	42.1%	41	24.4%	60	21.7%	46	26.1%	52	19.2%
Other	15	13.3%	18	61.1%	12	-	17	41.2%	16	12.5%
Not Recorded	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Searches</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>25.6%</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>29.7%</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>25.9%</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>31.1%</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>28.9%</b>

In the latest quarter (4), Drug searches account for the most common reason at 70.3% of all searches. In 33.1% 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 increased to 514 searches in Quarter 4 which is a 15.5% increase to the previous quarter. At the beginning of Quarter 4 searches for stolen goods exceeded the exception rate recording 21 searches in January, likewise Offensive Weapons exceeded the exception rate with 37 searches in March. Offensive weapon searches have remained high in Quarter 4 recording 88 searches for the third quarter in a row yet the percentage of searches where an item is found continues to be low at 14.8%.

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20/21	White		Mixed		Black		Asian		Other		Not stated	
	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found	Searches	Item Found
Article for use in criminal damage	25	36.0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	33.3%	2	100.0%
Article for use in theft	122	13.1%	3	33.3%	3	-	3	33.3%	-	-	17	-
Drugs	1,430	34.5%	76	26.3%	129	32.6%	49	38.8%	18	27.8%	214	24.3%
Firearms	18	27.8%	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	50.0%
Offensive weapons	216	18.1%	14	7.1%	25	8.0%	5	-	7	14.3%	41	9.8%
Stolen goods	170	20.6%	3	-	4	75.0%	2	100.0%	2	50.0%	18	22.2%
Other	50	32.0%	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	50.0%	10	30.0%
Not Recorded	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Searches</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>30.2%</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>22.9%</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>28.3%</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>36.7%</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28.1%</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>21.7%</b>

70.3% of all searches so far this financial year on White individuals have been for drugs. 34.5% of these searches resulted in the object being found. The overall find rate for all White searches is 30.2%. 77.7% of all searches on Black and Black British individuals have been for drugs. 32.6% of these resulted in the object being found. The overall find rate for all Black and Black British searches is 28.3%.



### 3. Location

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

	19/20	20/21	20/21	20/21	20/21
	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
<b>Bournemouth Central</b>	43	87	95	82	74
<b>Bournemouth East</b>	71	110	62	80	138
<b>Bournemouth North</b>	52	107	75	73	85
<b>Poole North</b>	18	34	34	46	34
<b>Poole South</b>	54	71	86	61	92
<b>Bridport</b>	3	11	5	9	16
<b>Christchurch</b>	31	33	15	20	29
<b>Dorchester</b>	27	59	34	43	64
<b>East Dorset</b>	35	39	45	61	32
<b>North Dorset</b>	15	45	19	27	25
<b>Purbeck</b>	10	7	9	11	16
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland</b>	116	143	85	117	107
<b>Unknown</b>	5	1	3	13	18
<b>X</b>	-	-	-	1	1
<b>Total Searches</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>731</b>

39.7% of searches this financial year have taken place in Bournemouth. 17% of searches this year have taken place in Poole and 16.8% of searches have occurred in Weymouth & Portland. Bournemouth East and Poole South show the biggest increase in searches between Q3 and Q4, both recording over a 50% increase.

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<b>20/21 - Total Searches by location</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Mixed</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Not stated</b>	<b>Total</b>
Bournemouth Central	221	15	42	13	9	38	<b>338</b>
Bournemouth East	255	26	45	7	6	51	<b>390</b>
Bournemouth North	259	12	28	10	5	26	<b>340</b>
Poole North	107	2	11	6	-	22	<b>148</b>
Poole South	251	11	11	5	3	30	<b>311</b>
Bridport	35	-	-	3	1	2	<b>41</b>
Christchurch	80	6	2	1	-	8	<b>97</b>
Dorchester	169	5	4	-	-	23	<b>201</b>
East Dorset	128	6	5	4	1	33	<b>177</b>
North Dorset	90	8	2	1	1	14	<b>116</b>
Purbeck	32	-	2	4	-	5	<b>43</b>
Weymouth & Portland	378	5	13	6	6	44	<b>452</b>
Unknown	27	-	1	-	-	7	<b>35</b>
X	1	-	-	-	-	1	<b>2</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>2691</b>

Most searches on Black and Black British Individuals take place in the Bournemouth area, the individual section that recorded the most White searches is Weymouth & Portland with 378. The individual section that recorded the most Black searches is Bournemouth East with 45.

## 4. Outcomes

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

	19/20	20/21	20/21	20/21	20/21
	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
<b>Suspect arrested</b>	76	81	57	68	83
<b>Suspect summonsed to court</b>	9	9	10	5	11
<b>Penalty Notice for disorder</b>	-	1	-	-	-
<b>Offender given drugs possession warning</b>	3	8	-	5	1
<b>Local resolution</b>	12	41	33	49	44
<b>Voluntary Attendance</b>	48	70	64	56	64
<b>Alcohol Seized</b>	-	1	2	1	1
<b>Tobacco Seized</b>	1	-	-	1	1
<b>No further action</b>	303	476	339	386	454
<b>Not Recorded</b>	28	60	62	73	72
<b>Total Searches</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>731</b>

289 searches in the 20/21 financial year 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 January with 26 searches resulting in a VA which is at the maximum exception rate.

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20/21 - Total Searches	White	Mixed	Black	Asian	Other	Not stated	Total
Suspect arrested	224	10	28	13	3	11	<b>289</b>
Suspect summonsed to court	21	4	1	5	1	3	<b>35</b>
Penalty Notice for disorder	-	-	-	1	-	-	<b>1</b>
Offender given drugs possession warning	13	-	-	-	-	1	<b>14</b>
Local resolution	144	5	3	-	4	11	<b>167</b>
Voluntary Attendance	205	8	15	2	2	23	<b>255</b>
Alcohol Seized	4	-	-	-	-	1	<b>5</b>
Tobacco Seized	1	-	-	-	-	1	<b>2</b>
No further action	1,230	60	103	35	21	207	<b>1656</b>
Not Recorded	191	9	16	4	1	46	<b>267</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>2691</b>

So far in 2020/21, 11% of White searches have resulted in the suspect being arrested compared to 16.9% of Black and Black British encounters (however it needs to be noted these are for much smaller numbers).

6.8% of searches resulted in an out of court disposal (caution, penalty notice, drugs possession warning or local resolution) being given. 9.5% 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	22.5	-2.3	0
West Mercia	13.8	-0.3	1
Warwickshire	13.0	3.4	5
Sussex	12.4	-1.7	-2
Devon and Cornwall	12.2	3.8	10
Hampshire	10.8	-0.6	0
London, City of	10.6	1.0	2
Norfolk	10.3	-0.1	-1
Gwent	10.3	1.3	1
Wiltshire	9.6	1.8	11
Lincolnshire	9.4	1.8	11
Surrey	8.7	0.3	4
Staffordshire	8.4	-0.3	-2
Kent	8.1	-3.4	-9
Cambridgeshire	8.0	1.4	10
Suffolk	7.4	-1.1	-2
Cheshire	7.4	-1.0	0
Northamptonshire	7.0	-1.7	-5
South Wales	6.8	0.6	8
Avon and Somerset	6.7	0.2	6
Gloucestershire	6.5	-5.8	-17
Nottinghamshire	5.8	-1.3	1
Humberside	5.7	-2.1	-3
Essex	5.3	-0.7	4
Derbyshire	5.2	-3.5	-13
North Yorkshire	5.2	0.1	5
Hertfordshire	5.1	0.3	6
Leicestershire	4.7	-0.4	2
Thames Valley	4.7	-0.3	3
Cumbria	4.6	-3.3	-11
Cleveland	4.4	-1.2	-2
West Midlands	4.4	0.0	3
Northumbria	4.0	-0.5	1
Lancashire	4.0	-0.2	3
Dyfed-Powys	3.9	-4.0	-17
Metropolitan Police	3.9	-0.4	0
Durham	3.7	0.9	6
West Yorkshire	3.5	0.6	4
Merseyside	3.2	-0.2	2
Bedfordshire	3.1	-0.5	-1
South Yorkshire	2.5	-1.1	-1
North Wales	1.7	-2.0	-4
Greater Manchester	-	-	-

The table shown to the left displays the black to white disproportionality rate for each Force in the UK based on 2019/20 data. The red line denotes the national average rate (7.1:1). This has dropped slightly from (7.6:1) in 2018/19.

It can clearly be seen that Dorset is a national outlier with regards to its 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.

We did not receive any data for Greater Manchester for the previous financial year.