



Wiltshire Police

Stop and Search Overview

Fiscal Quarter 3 2021-2021

Stop and Search

Stop and search is an important tactic in preventing and detecting crime and, when it is used appropriately, lawfully and proportionately, it can have a positive impact on keeping our communities safe and building confidence in local policing.

However, there are understandable concerns, both locally and nationally, about exactly how it is used and whether it disproportionately impacts people from ethnic minority backgrounds. This is something we take incredibly seriously in Wiltshire and we are committed to the Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme and regularly review its objectives to ensure continued compliance.

Anyone who is stopped and searched is invited to provide feedback, which is presented to our Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel, considered in future training practices and processes and fed back directly to officers. The panel, which is currently meeting virtually due to Covid, is made up of a diverse representation of our local communities and they review searches conducted by our officers to ensure good practice.

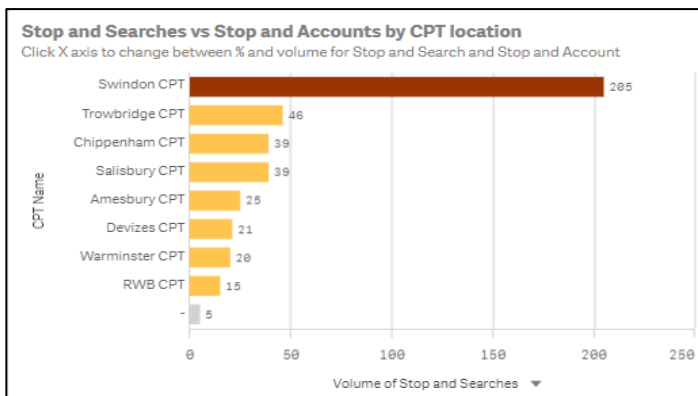
We continue to promote transparency which includes the wearing of body worn cameras, sharing information on where our powers are used and the introduction of independent scrutiny arrangements.

Key Findings

For the Third fiscal quarter of 2021-2022 (Oct-Dec 2021):

- Wiltshire Police have recorded 415 Stop and Searches;
- The highest proportion of Stop and Searches were conducted within the Swindon Community Policing Team (CPT) area, contributing to 49.4% of the total. This is followed by Trowbridge CPT which contributed 11.1% to the total;
- Of the total volume of Stop and Searches, 61.2% involved the search for a controlled drug. Of the same total, 3.1% had multiple search reasons attached to the record;
- The proportion of Stop and Searches resulting in police action was 19.3%, with 7.7% of the total resulting in an arrest. Those that resulted in no further action equated to 80.7%.
- Of the total volume of Stop and Searches, 74.0% of cases resulted in no object being found and with 26% resulted in an object being found. Of the searches resulting in an object found, 22.9% were objects related to the reason for the Stop and Search;
- - Asian Ethnicity Group - 3.2 in every 1,000;
 - Black Ethnicity Group – 17.7 in every 1,000;
 - Chinese or 'other' Ethnicity Group – 1.5 in every 1,000;
 - Mixed Ethnicity Group – 3.8 in every 1,000;
 - White Ethnicity Group - 2.1 in every 1,000.
- Data to the 12 months ending Dec-21 demonstrates that those belonging to an ethnic minority group are 2.7 times more likely to be stopped (per 1,000 population) than those identifying as White ethnicity. This is a year on year reduction from 2.9.
- Wiltshire Police are heavily involved in proactive operations to tackle youth violence and County Lines and as a result 60.7% of those people stopped were under the age of 25. The youngest person Stop and Searched during this period was 12 years old and the oldest was 60 years old;
- Of the 415 Stop and Searches recorded, 11.1% (46) were conducted between the hours of 11pm and midnight.

By Area



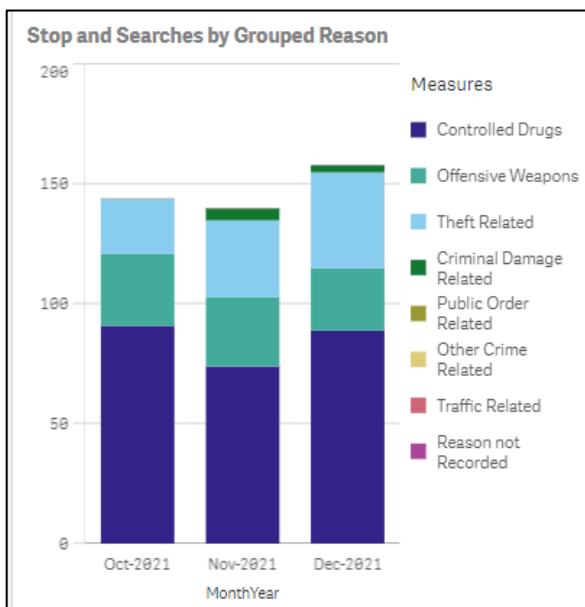
The above bar chart gives a visual representation of the volume of Stop and Searches recorded across Wiltshire's police force area. The bar chart shows that Swindon CPT have recorded the largest proportion of Stop and Searches, followed by Trowbridge CPT, Chippenham CPT and Salisbury CPT.

Swindon continues to be the most impacted by County Lines due to its location on the M4 corridor and its transport connections to London. Of the Stop and Searches in the Swindon CPT area, 58.6% were related to controlled drugs. In 29.1% of these cases, the object searched for was found and 7.7% of these resulted in an arrest.

In the Trowbridge area, 61.2% of Stop Searches were related to controlled drugs. In 13.7% of cases, the object searched for was found and 81.1% of these resulted in police action.

Salisbury has seen an increase in County Lines activity and Stop and Searches continue to increase, most significantly in the city centre.

By Reason for the Search



For each recorded Stop and Search, there is the option to have multiple reasons for why the Stop Search was conducted. This results in a larger volume of recorded search reasons compared to the total volume of Stop and Searches.

For the most recent quarter, this has resulted in 3.1% of Stop and Searches being connected to more than one search reason.

61.2% of Stop and Searches involved the search for a controlled drug.

By Object Found

No Object Found

74.0%

Object Found

26.0%

Intended Search Object Found

22.9%

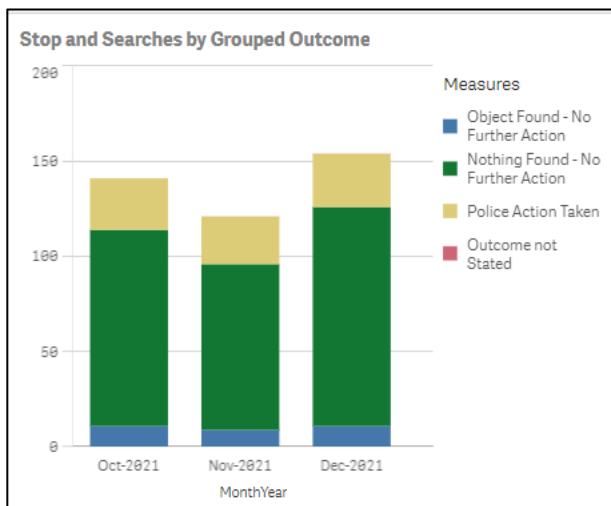
As part of a Stop and Search, we must define whether any object was found as part of that search.

Of the 415 Stop and Searches recorded, 74% resulted in no object being found and 26% resulted in an object found.

22.9% related to the intended object that was being searched for, meaning that 3.1% of searches found an object not of the original search.

At present we are developing the ability to report on the results of those objects found through data extraction software and hope to report on this soon.

By Police Action Taken



It should be noted that one Stop and Search can have multiple outcomes.

Of the 415 Stop and Searches recorded, 80.7% ended with no further action to be taken. 19.3% resulted in police action, 28.9% of which resulted in arrest.

By Disproportionality

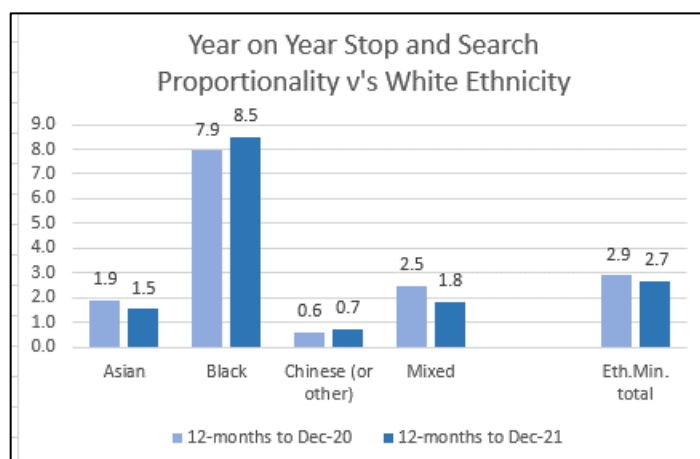
Disproportionality refers to a situation in which racial or ethnic groups are represented at a higher proportion than other racial or ethnic groups. It looks at the relative ratios of those people Stop and Searched as a proportion of the resident population in the specified area.

Wiltshire population data is based on the 2011 Census, as such analysis should be considered cautiously considering the length of time since the last Census.

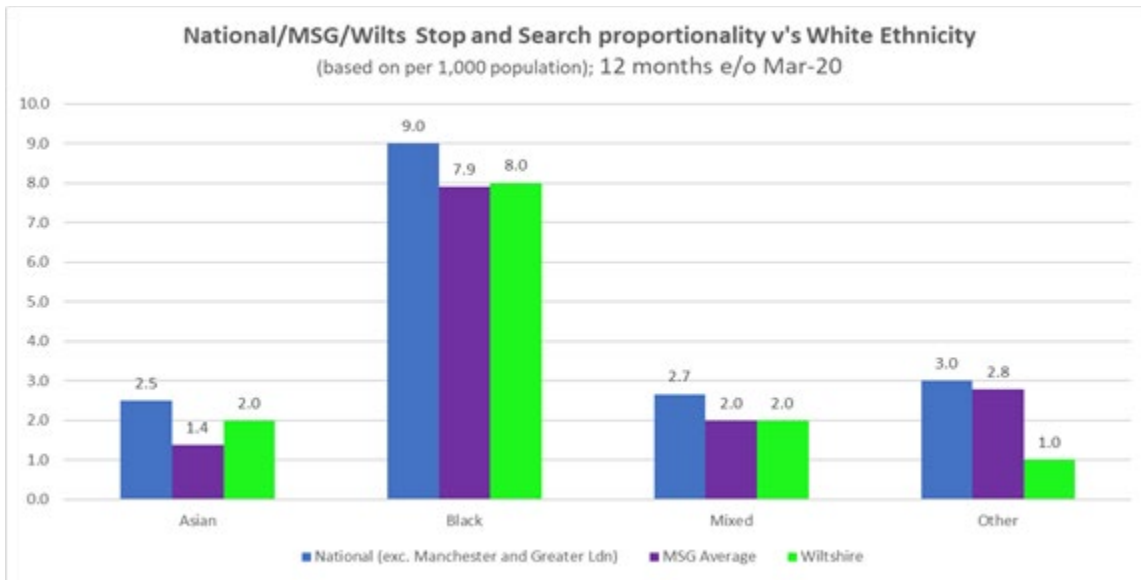
During this fiscal quarter, on average 5.6 in every 1,000 of Wiltshire's population who identify as belonging to an ethnic minority group were Stop and Searched. This further breaks down into the following ethnicity categories:

- Asian Ethnicity Group - 3.2 in every 1,000;
- Black Ethnicity Group – 17.7 in every 1,000;
- Chinese or other Ethnicity Group – 1.5 in every 1,000;
- Mixed Ethnicity Group – 3.8 in every 1,000;
- White Ethnicity Group – 2.1 in every 1,000.

Year on year comparison demonstrates that disproportionality has slightly decreased when looking at likelihood of individuals belonging to an ethnic minority group being stopped per 1,000 population, against those of White ethnicity.



Reductions are seen across the Asian & Mixed ethnic groups although it should be noted that volumes are particularly low in some ethnicities, which may result in sensitive variances. The 12 months to Dec-21 reports that those belonging to an ethnic minority group are 2.7 times more likely to be stopped than those of white ethnicity. It is recognised that individuals of Black ethnicity have a higher chance of being stopped, which is reflected across the Nation. (see below chart where data is available up to end of March 2020)

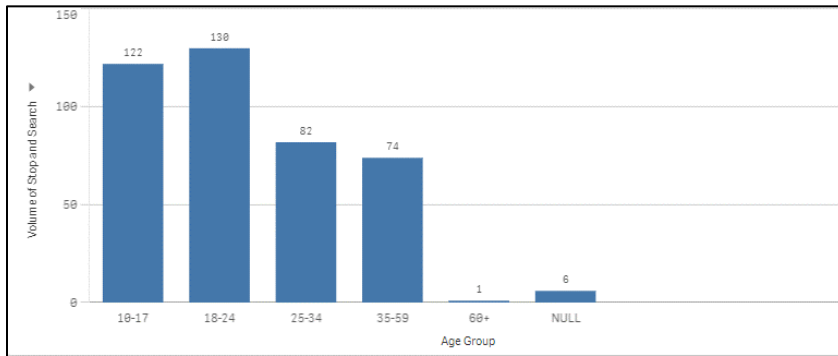


Quarterly Ethnicity breakdown available below

Self Defined Ethnicity	Resident Population	Stop Search Vol.	Per 1,000 population (stop search)	Object Found	Positive Outcome	Outcome - Arrest	Find Rate
	676,131	415	0.61	108	59	32	26.02%
Asian or Asian British	17,379	16	0.9	3	3	2	18.75%
A1. Asian - Indian	8,448	7	0.83	0	0	0	0.00%
A2. Asian - Pakistani	1,507	3	1.99	2	2	2	66.67%
A3. Asian - Bangladeshi	1,531	1	0.65	0	0	0	0.00%
A9. Any other Asian background	5,893	5	0.85	1	1	0	20.00%
Black or Black British	6,089	26	4.27	3	1	0	11.54%
B1. Black Caribbean	1,958	14	7.15	0	0	0	0.00%
B2. Black African	3,136	4	1.28	2	1	0	50.00%
B9. Any other Black background	995	8	8.04	1	0	0	12.50%
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
01. Chinese	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
09. Any other ethnic group	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mixed	9,794	8	0.82	2	0	0	25.00%
M1. White & Black Caribbean	3,474	3	0.86	1	0	0	33.33%
M2. White & Black African	1,224	1	0.82	1	0	0	100.00%
M3. White & Asian	2,830	3	1.06	0	0	0	0.00%
M9. Any other mixed background	2,266	1	0.44	0	0	0	0.00%
Not Stated or Null	-	34	0	6	2	0	0.261
Not Stated	-	23	0	6	1	0	26.10%
Null	-	11	0	0	1	0	0.00%
White	642,869	331	0.51	94	53	30	28.40%
W1. White British	616,753	318	0.52	88	48	25	27.67%
W2. White Irish	4,233	2	0.47	0	0	0	0.00%
W9. Any other white background	21,883	11	0.50	6	5	5	54.55%

Population data from the 2011 Census, based on whole population. Data available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/>

By Age Range



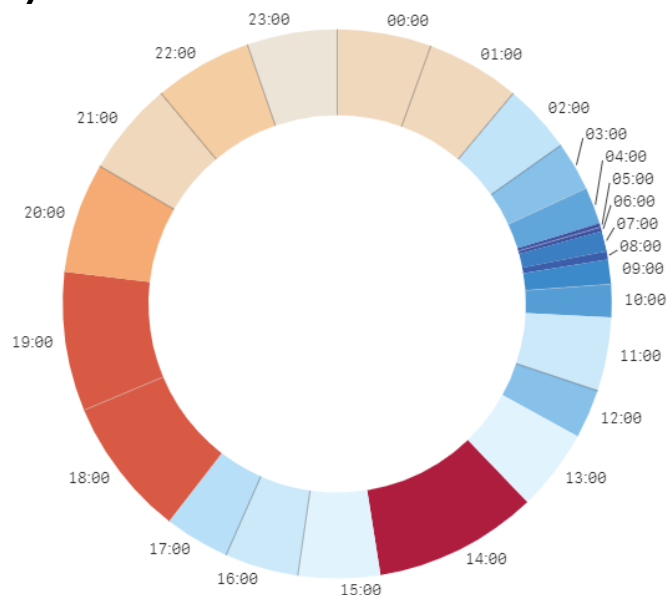
Of the 415 Stop and Searches recorded, 60.7% (252) were to stop a person under the age of 25.

As a breakdown of the age groups stopped:

- 10 to 17 year olds account for 29.4%;
- 18 to 24 year olds, 31.3%;
- 25 to 34 year olds, 19.8%;
- 35 to 59 year olds, 17.8%;
- Over 60 year olds, 0.2%;
- Not Stated, 1.4%.

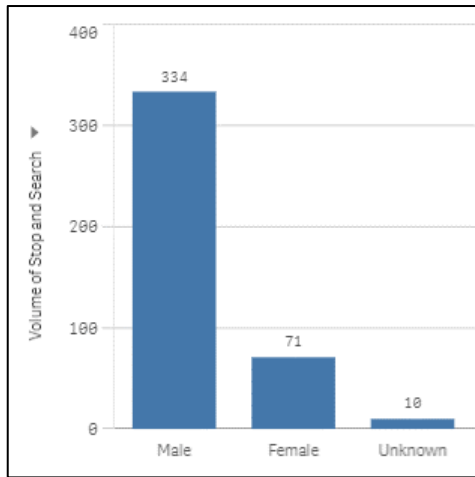
At present, Wiltshire Police are heavily engaged in proactive operations to tackle the increase in youth violence and County Lines. This is represented in the high proportions of those individuals stopped under the age of 25.

By Hour of the Day



The above heat map shows that 11.1% (46) of the 415 Stop and Searches in this period were conducted between the hours of 11pm and midnight.

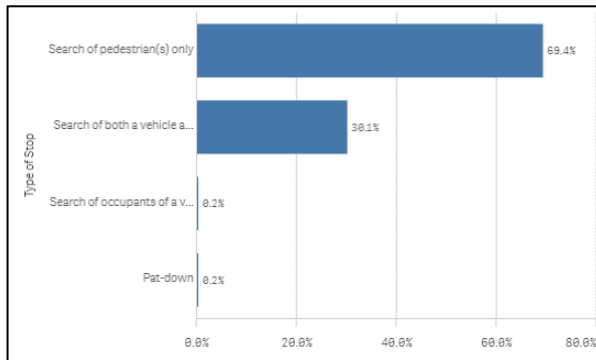
By Gender



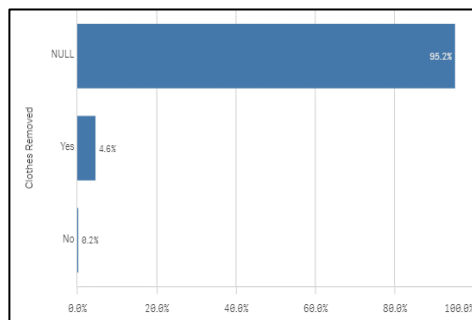
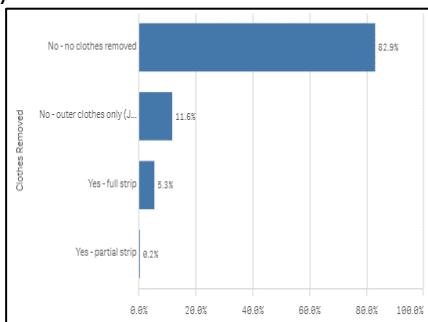
When looking at the breakdown of genders, Males feature as the most predominant gender Stop and Searched at 80.5%.

The proportion of Females stopped was 17.1%, with the remaining 2.4% Unknown or not recorded.

By Type of Search and Clothing Removed



69.4% of 415 Stop and Searches recorded during this fiscal quarter were recorded as a search of pedestrian only. In 82.9% of all cases, no clothes were removed from the person and 11.6% involved the removal of outer clothes only.



The above table identifies that 19 (4.6%) cases were a full strip search, 19 (100%) of which resulted in the exposure of intimate body parts. 18 of these persons were male. The 19 full strip searches which exposed intimate body parts equates to 4.6% of all 415 recorded Stop and Searches. 26.3% of these Stop and Searches resulted in an object of search being found.