
Performance Information Unit



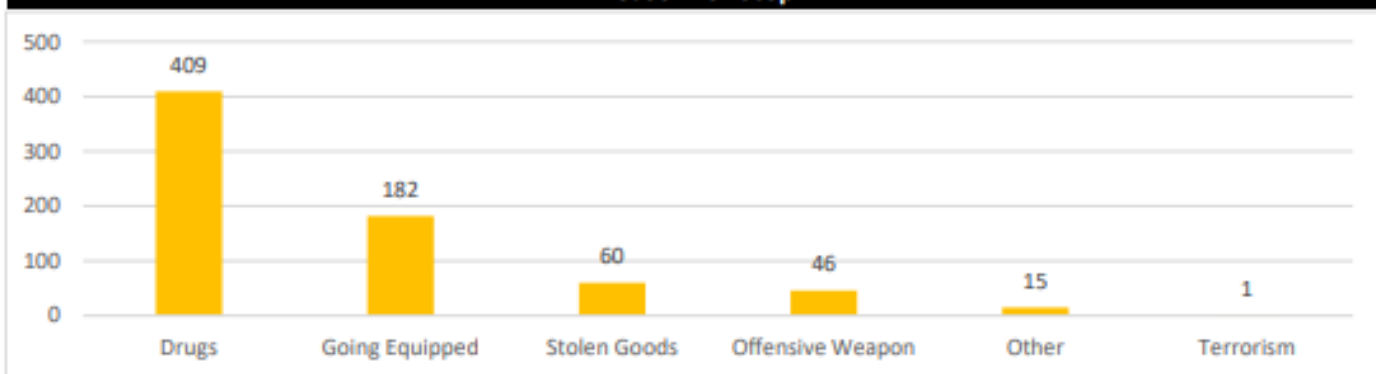
Stop and Search
Quarter 2 2021/22
1st July – 30th September 2021

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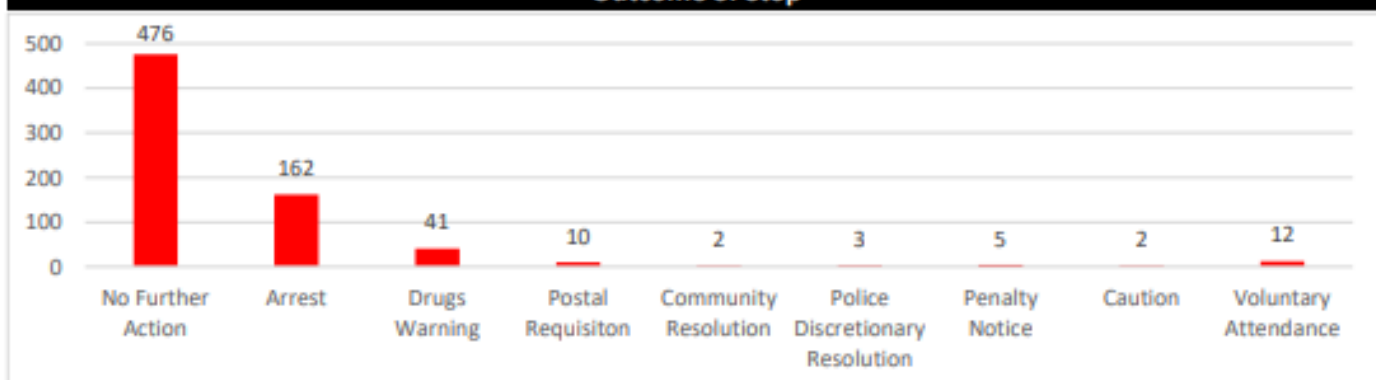
Stop and Search Summary Q2 2021/22 (1st July 2021 - 30th September 2021)



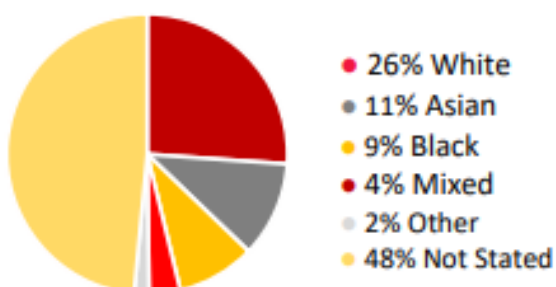
Reason for Stop



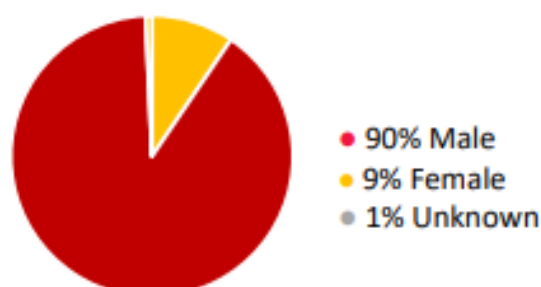
Outcome of Stop



Subject Self Defined Ethnicity



Subject Gender

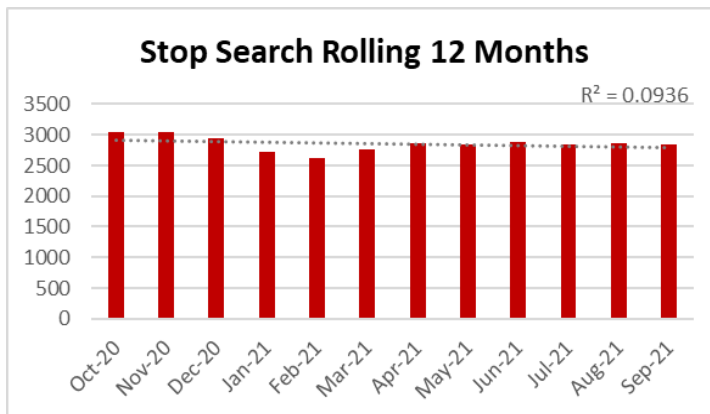
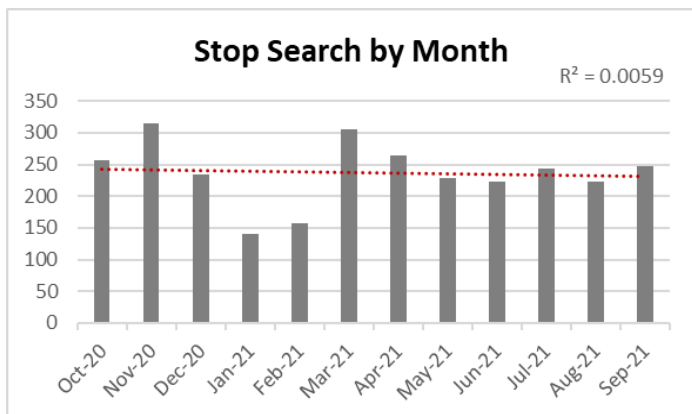


Stop and Search – Quarter 2 21/22

1.1 Key Findings

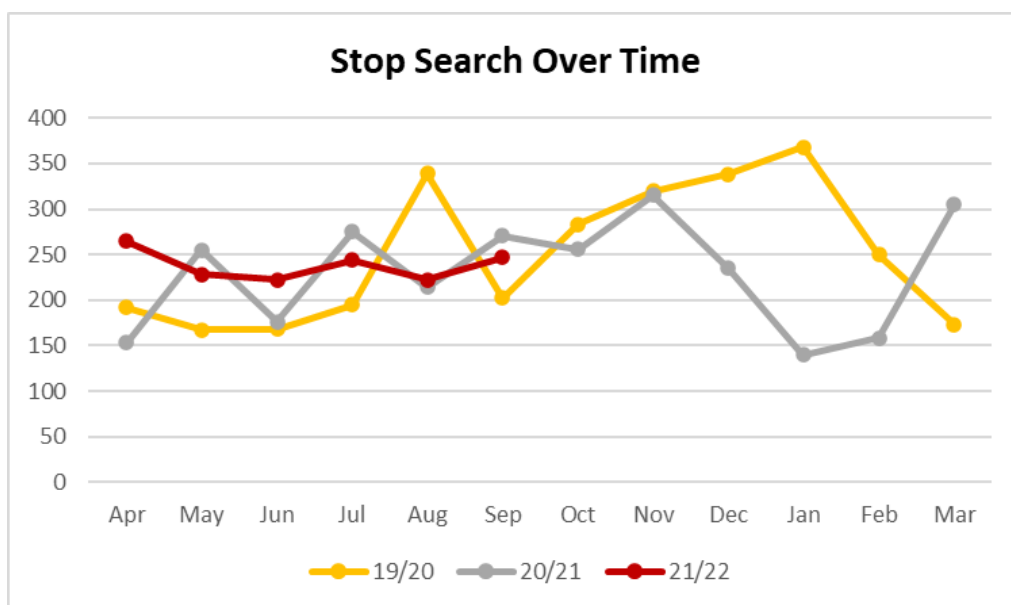
- The number of stops has remained stable compared to last quarter, only decreasing by 2.
- On average 238 stops were carried out each month this quarter, just above the average for the last 12 months of 237 stops a month.
- Numbers this quarter are slightly lower than in the same time periods in 2020 (n=760) and 2019 (n=736).
- Searching for drugs continues to be the main reason stops are made. Most searches relate to cannabis and there were no stops for Khat this quarter.
- There has been an increase in stops relating to Going Equipped this quarter compared to last and also this time period in previous years.
- Most stops took place on Thursdays and Fridays, the peak times this quarter was Wednesday between 14:00-16:00.
- For the current period a 14% of stops took place on Metropolitan Police ground (n=103) which is lower than last quarter.
- The most common repeat locations for stops were Bishopsgate, London Wall and Cheapside.
- The group most commonly stopped and searched in terms of perceived and self-defined ethnicity is white individuals. Although 48 % of those stopped did not state a self-defined ethnicity (n=338).
- We have seen an increase in levels of disproportionality for black individuals this quarter rising from 1.9 to 2.2 whilst that for Asian and other ethnicities has remained the same (1.6 and 0.6 respectively).
- There were 48 stops of under 18s this quarter with most stops related to drugs.
- There were 22 full strip searches this quarter, objects were found on 8 occasions and 7 arrests made.
- The find rate this quarter is 31% and the arrest rate is 23%.
- The overall positive outcome rate this quarter is 33%.

1.2 Monthly Breakdown



Levels of stop search this quarter are very similar to last with a total of 713 stops, a difference of only 2 from 715 last quarter and also just a slight decrease from Q2 in 19/20 (n=736, -3%). Both the monthly and rolling graphs are showing fairly stable trends with monthly slightly decreasing and rolling 12 months slightly increasing, if trends from previous years are followed there should be an increase in Q3.

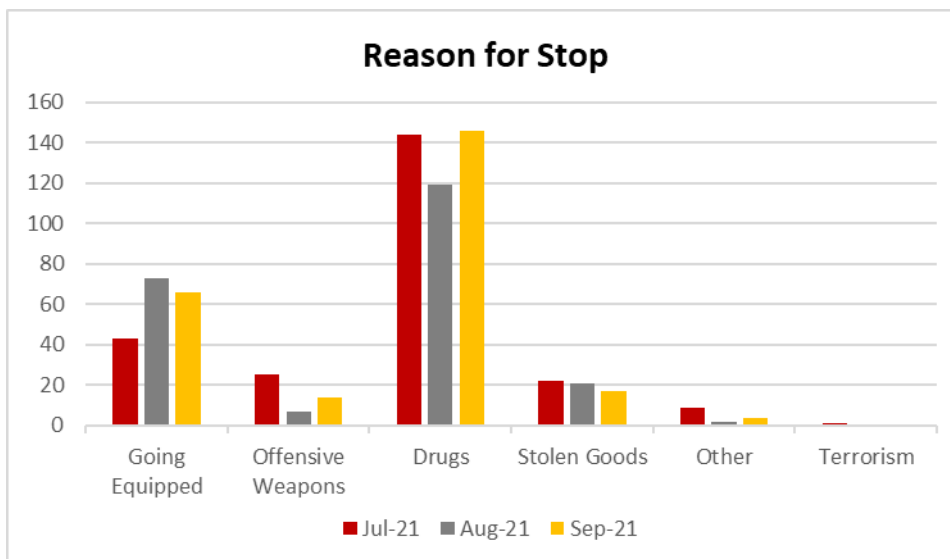
On average over the last 12 months there have been 236 stops a month with this quarter averaging 237 a month, reports were slightly lower in August but generally quite consistent across all 3 months – we did not see the usual August spike in activity due to lack of Notting Hill Carnival. Levels were slightly lower than 20/21 for all 3 months but higher than 19/20 for all months except August.



2.1 Reason for Stop

The most common legal basis for searches this quarter was Misuse of Drugs Act (58%, n=412) followed by PACE (41%, n=290). There were no Section 60 stops carried out in this period.

The reasons for the stops this quarter are shown in the below graph.



The percentage of stops relating to each reason has changed slightly this quarter with the proportion of drugs stops falling from 70% to 57% and Going Equipped searches increasing from 12% to 26%. The main reason given for stops is drugs (57% of all stops). Most stops related to cannabis and a smaller number for other controlled drugs (n=284 to n=125 respectively). There were no stops relating to Khat possession this quarter.

Under the offensive weapons category there were 27 searches for a bladed article and 10 for a general offensive weapon along with 9 firearms searches. Most stops ended with no objects being found and no further action taken but one individual was arrested after threatening to use a knife in a store robbery. There were nine arrests made for other reasons such as drugs possession.

There was one terrorism related stops this quarter, a male behaving erratically on London Bridge who was searched, nothing was found but he was arrested for public order offences.

2.2 Reason for Stop – Drugs Searches

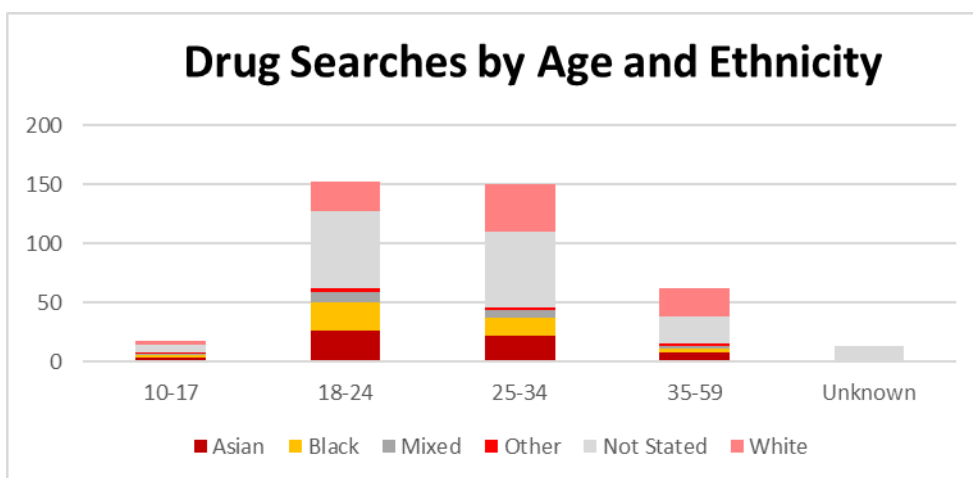
Drugs searches most commonly took place on Thursdays and Fridays this quarter, with activity peaking between 19:00-20:00 and 15:00-17:00. Over a quarter of drug stops took place on Metropolitan Police ground (16%, n=66).

Breaking the categories of stops down 284 related to Cannabis (69%) and 125 (31%) to other drugs, 100 searches (24%) involved both persons and vehicles.

The find rate for drugs searches for this quarter is 32% with 131 out of 409 searches finding something, in 121 cases this was the object searched for and in 10 a different object. This is a slight decrease from last quarter when the find rate was 35%. There were 76 arrests made

because of drugs stops (19%), 39 drugs warnings were issued, 2 cautions, 10 postal requisitions and 5 penalty notices. The overall positive outcome rate for drug searches is 34% (n=139).

Common repeat locations for drugs related stops this quarter were London Wall, Gravel Lane and Middlesex Street.



The graph above shows the demographic breakdown of individuals stopped with regards to drugs.

They were mainly male (91%, n=362), did not state their ethnicity (43%, n=173) and between 18 and 24 years old (38%, n=153). For those who did not state their ethnicity they were most often perceived to be white (29%, n=51). When perceived ethnicities for those who did not state are added to the self-defined ethnicities the most common ethnic group stopped for drugs is white individuals (36%, n=145).

Aside from these searches there were 11 further vehicle only searches.

2.3 Reason for Stop – Going Equipped and Stolen Goods

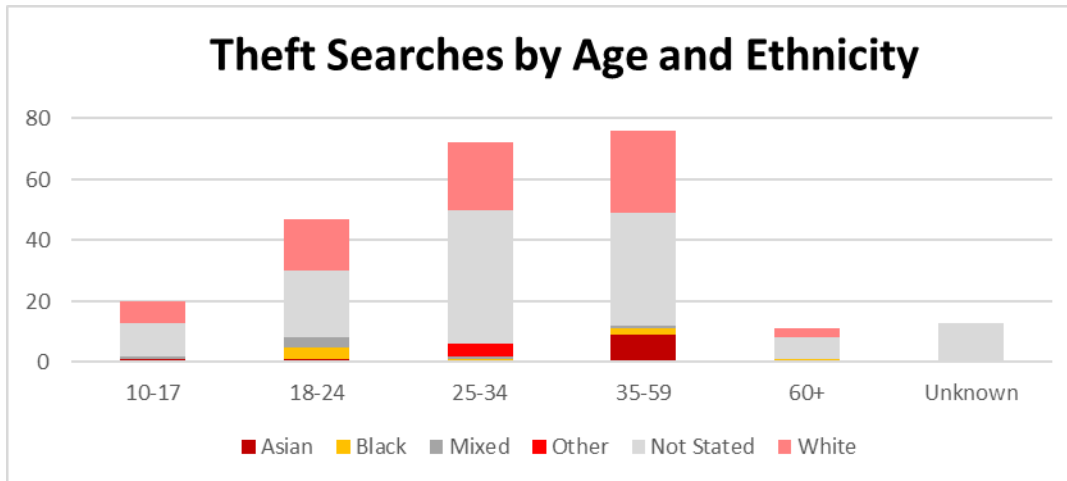
Stops relating to going equipped or stolen goods most commonly took place on Fridays and Wednesdays, peaking in the afternoons between 13:00-16:00.

The find rate for theft related searches this quarter is 34% with 63 searches finding the object(s) they were searching for and a further 19 finding other objects. This has increased from 29% last quarter.

There were 70 arrests resulting from these stops (29%), when other outcomes are included the positive outcome rate is 33% this includes 2 community resolutions, 1 drugs warning 2 police discretionary resolutions and 6 voluntary attendances.

The most common locations for these searches this quarter were Minories, London Wall, Fenchurch Street and Tesco Metro on Eastcheap.

The graph below shows the demographic breakdown of individuals stopped with regards to going equipped or stolen property.



They were mainly male (87%, n=208), did not state their ethnicity (56%, n=134) and between 35 and 59 years old (32%, n=76). For those who did not state their ethnicity they were most often perceived to be white (48%, n=65). Looking at self-defined and perceived ethnicities together shows that white people were most commonly stopped in relation to theft (59%, n=141).

There were also 3 vehicle only searches for theft this quarter.

2.4 Reason for Stop – Offensive Weapons

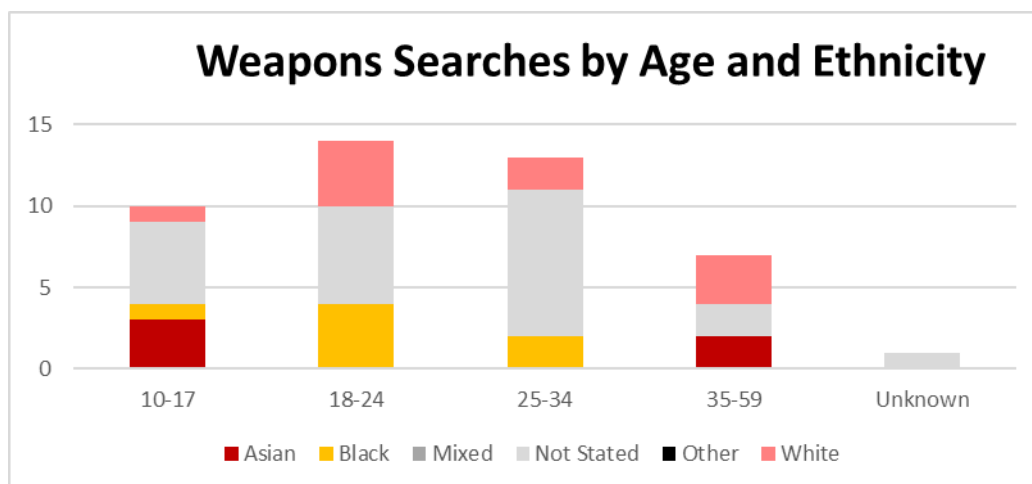
Stops relating to weapons (bladed, offensive or firearms) most commonly took place on Wednesdays and Saturdays this quarter and between 21:00-22:00.

The find rate for weapons related searches this quarter is 11% with 1 search finding the object(s) they were searching for and a further 4 finding other objects.

There were 10 arrests resulting from weapons stops this quarter (22%) mostly in relation to other matters such as finding drugs or the individual being wanted, there was also one drugs warning issued and all other stops were no further action

The most common street location for these searches this quarter was Bishopsgate.

The below graph shows the demographic breakdown of individuals stopped with regards to weapons.

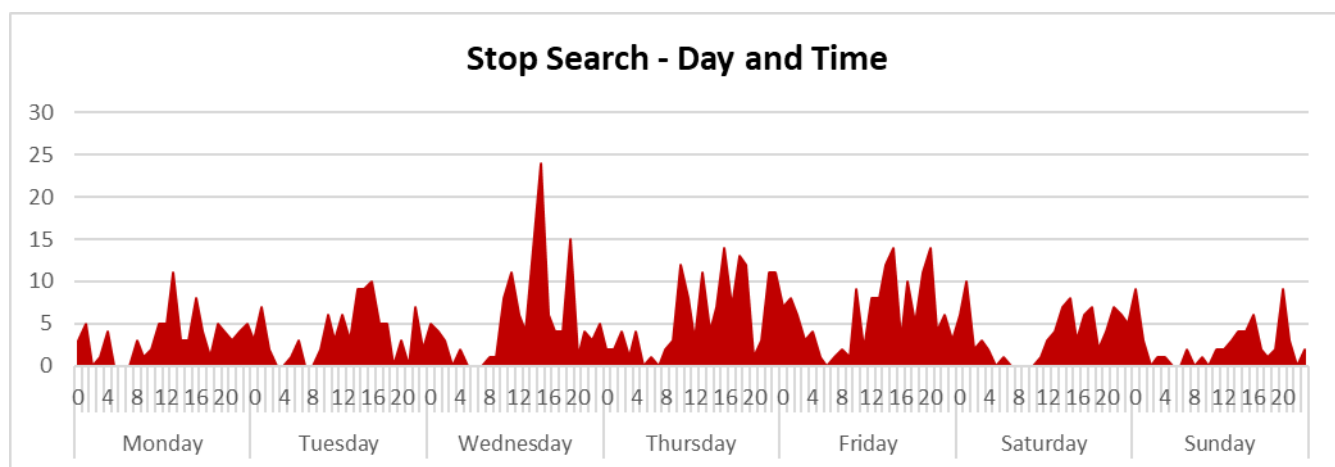


They were nearly all males (96%, n=43) who mainly did not state their ethnicity (51%, n=23) and were between 18 and 24 years old (31%, n=14). For those who did not state their ethnicity they were most often perceived to be black or Asian (39%, n=9 each), when this is added to self-defined ethnicities people of black ethnicities were most stopped (36%, n=16).

There was one vehicle only stop in relation to weapons this quarter.

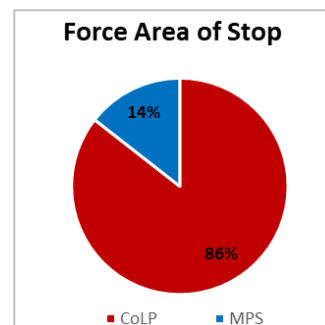
2.5 Time and Location of Stop

Most stops took place on Thursdays and Fridays, the peak times this quarter was Wednesday between 14:00-16:00. Levels are noticeably lower between 03:00-10:00 most days and Sunday and Monday were the quietest days overall.



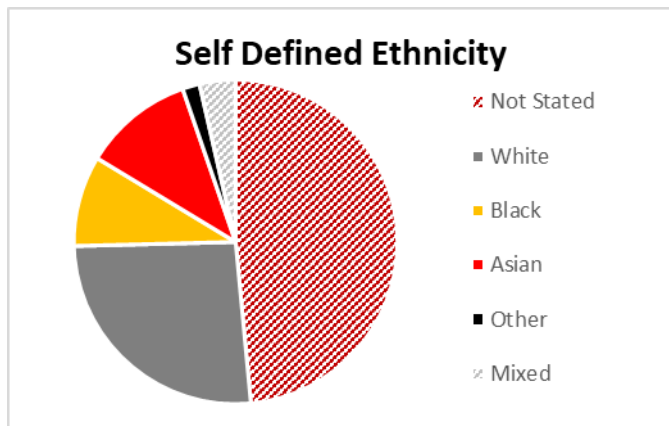
For the current period a 14% of stops took place on Metropolitan Police ground (n=103) which is a drop from 26% last quarter.

The most common locations for stops were Bishopsgate, Cheapside and London Wall. All the top 10 locations this quarter are street records.



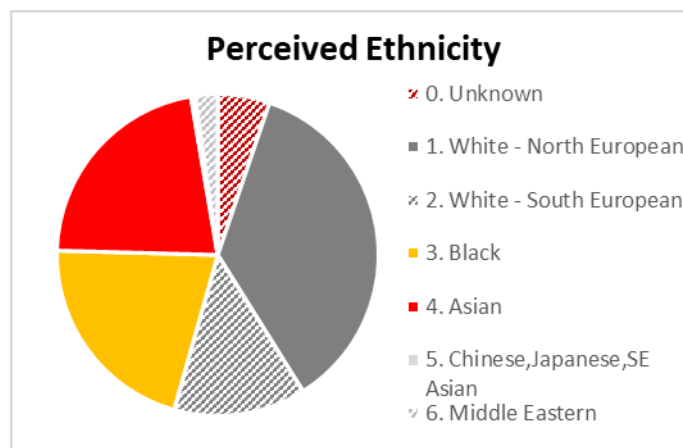
3.1 Ethnicity

The group most commonly stopped and searched in terms of perceived ethnicity is White – North European individuals (33%, n=227), for self-defined ethnicity the most common group is those who do not state their ethnicity (48%, n=338) then white individuals accounting for 26% of searches (n=182).



In terms of self-defined ethnicity the largest group is those who did not wish to state their ethnicity (48%, n=338). When compared to their perceived ethnicity most of these individuals were perceived to be white (36%, n=121) or black (21%, n=72). Most people who chose not to state their ethnicity are between 25 and 34 years of age (36%, n=120).

The biggest discrepancy between self-defined and perceived ethnicity is seen with white individuals with 43% of people stopped perceived to be white but only 26% defining themselves as such. The gap for black individuals is 12%, 21% were perceived to be black but only 9% defined themselves as such, this is similar for Asian individuals with 11% self-defining but 20% perceived. These gaps are mainly due to these individuals choosing not to state their own ethnicity on the stop and search form.



Comparisons across the two recorded ethnicities are however somewhat difficult as categories do not match exactly. For example a number of individuals perceived as black (n=12) or white (n=6) self-defined as mixed ethnicity but this is not an option the officer can select for perceived ethnicity.

3.2 Disproportionality

3.2.1 What is disproportionality?

When the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) published their Stop and Think report in 2010 looking in to the use of stop search by UK police forces they used two measures to assess fairness in terms of ethnicity; a disproportionality ratio and a count of excess stops.

Since then disproportionality has become a key measure for forces when examining the use of stop and search. The ratio looks at how much more likely black and Asian people are to be searched than white people based on their prevalence in the local population. Calculating the figure in this way allows for comparisons between forces of different sizes and ethnic diversity.

3.2.2 Disproportionality and the City

Due to the relatively small resident population compared to the large transient one in the City it is not easy to address questions of disproportionality. Traditionally this is calculated using the resident population of an area and the officer perceived ethnicity. In the current period however, there were only ten people stopped who gave their address as being within City grounds and a number of these were people in temporary accommodation in youth hostels or similar.

Another option available is to use the workday population which includes all people who gave a fixed workplace in the City and those residents who are at home during the day however given that 55% (n=396) of stops occur outside of a typical working day (Monday-Friday 08:00-18:00) this is also unlikely to give an accurate representation of the available street population. Particularly during the current climate of coronavirus with many people working from home or splitting time between home and office this is likely not to be relevant.

When we look at the residential addresses of people stopped this quarter 58% live in the greater London area, 7% are of no fixed abode, 18% are from other areas and 16% did not give their address.

Based on this disproportionality has been calculated using the residential population figures for the whole London region.

In terms of population data the most recent finalised census data is from 2011 so that has been used here. The most recent midyear estimates were also checked but did not offer much difference in terms of results.

We have seen an increase in levels of disproportionality for black individuals rising from 1.9 to 2.2 whilst that for Asian and other ethnicities has remained the same.

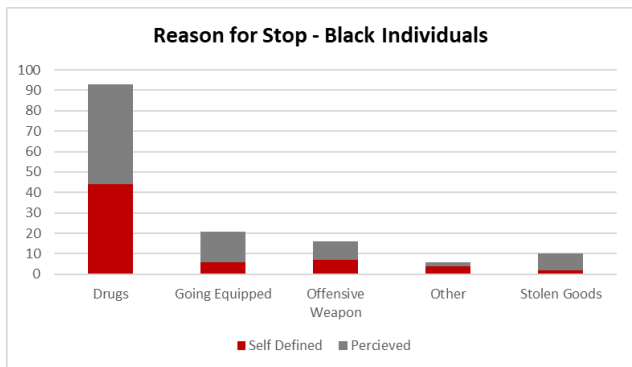
For the last year the average figures are 2.0 for black individuals, 1.5 for Asian individuals and 0.6 for individuals from other ethnic groups.



Across the last quarter the figures for the Metropolitan Police are 4.3 for Black individuals and 1.4 for Asian individuals.

3.3 Breakdown by Ethnicity – Black (Self Defined and Perceived)

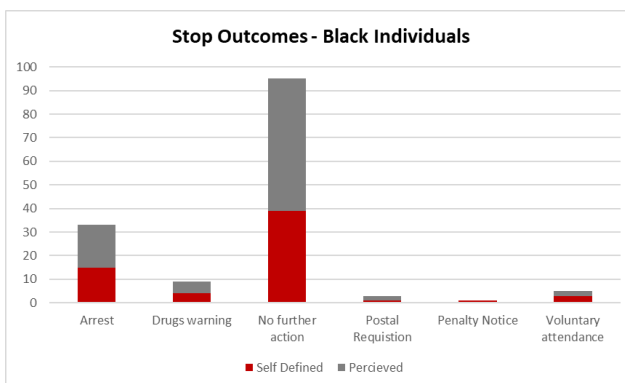
There were 63 individuals stopped this quarter who self-defined their ethnicity as black, nearly all of whom were perceived to be black by officers. A further 86 people were perceived as black and either did not state their ethnicity (72) or self-defined as coming from mixed (12) or other ethnic group (2).



The number of black individuals stopped in relation to almost all reasons at least double when perceived ethnicity is included alongside self-defined. The largest percentage increase is seen with going equipped which rises from 6 stops with self-defined ethnicity to 21 when perceived ethnicity is included.

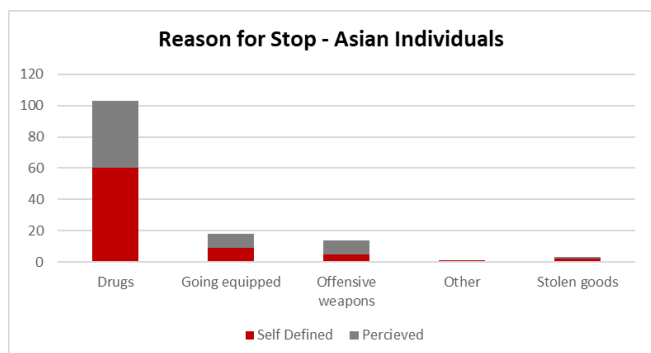
Compared the whole stop cohort for the quarter black individuals (self-defined and perceived) are slightly less likely to be stopped in relation to going equipped (14% compared to 26%) and slightly more likely to be stopped in relation to offensive weapons (11% compared to 6%) or drugs (64% compared to 57%).

Stop outcomes for both perceived and self-defined black ethnicity show that 65% of individuals were no further actioned (n=95) and 23% were arrested (n=33). This is broadly in line with the rates for all stops with the overall rates being 67% for NFA and 23% for arrest.



3.4 Breakdown by Ethnicity – Asian (Self Defined and Perceived)

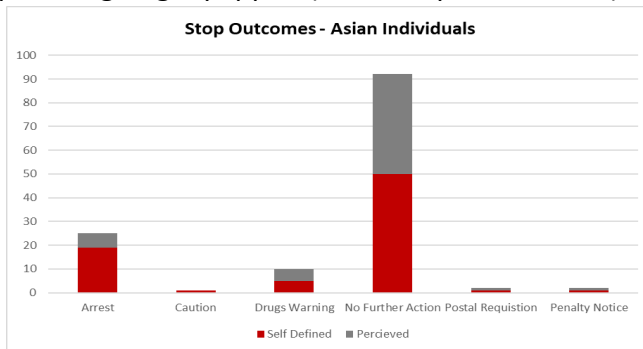
There were 77 individuals stopped this quarter who self-defined their ethnicity as Asian, most of whom were also perceived as Asian by officers. A further 67 people were perceived as Asian but 58 did not state their ethnicity or self-defined as coming from mixed (6) or other ethnic groups (3).



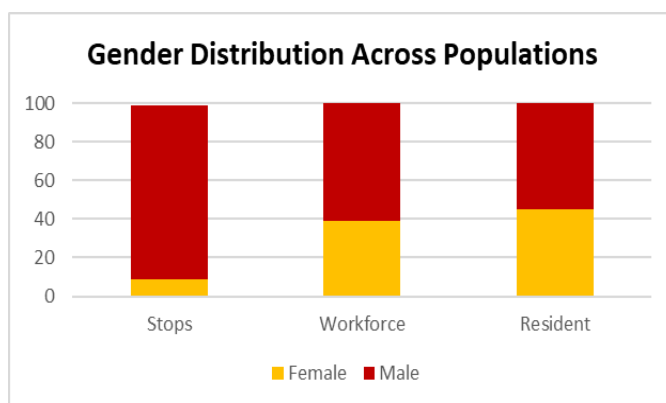
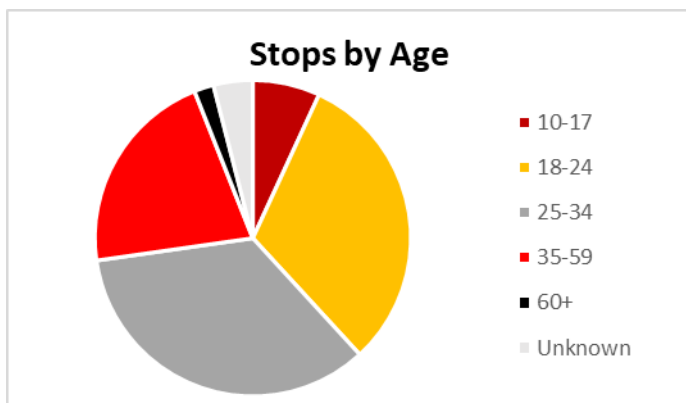
The majority of stops involving Asian individuals relate to drugs (74%, n=103) with numbers of stops in other categories being very low. The inclusion of perceived ethnicity significantly increases the number of stops for drugs, weapons and going equipped.

Asian individuals are more likely to be stopped in relation to drugs (74% compared to 57%) than the overall cohort but less likely to be stopped for going equipped (13% compared to 26%) or stolen goods (2% compared to 8%).

Most stops of Asian individuals resulted in no further action (70%, n=92) this is slightly higher the overall rate of 67%. The percentage arrested (19%, n=25) is conversely lower the overall arrest rate of 23%.



3.5 Age and Gender



Most people stopped are between the ages of 25 and 34 years old (35%, n=241), then 18-24 years old (31%, n=218) with few being under 18 (7%, n=48) or over 60 (n=14).

There were 48 stops of under 18s this quarter, 46 males and 2 females. The majority of under 18s stopped were between 16 and 17 (77%, n=37). The youngest person stopped was a 13 year-old male stopped in relation to stolen goods, he was arrested after items were found.

Most juvenile stops related to drugs (38%, n=18), there were four arrests made from these stops and five further juvenile arrests from other stops giving an arrest rate of 19% for juveniles this quarter. The no further action (NFA) rate for children was 71% (n=34) which is higher than that for all stops (67%).

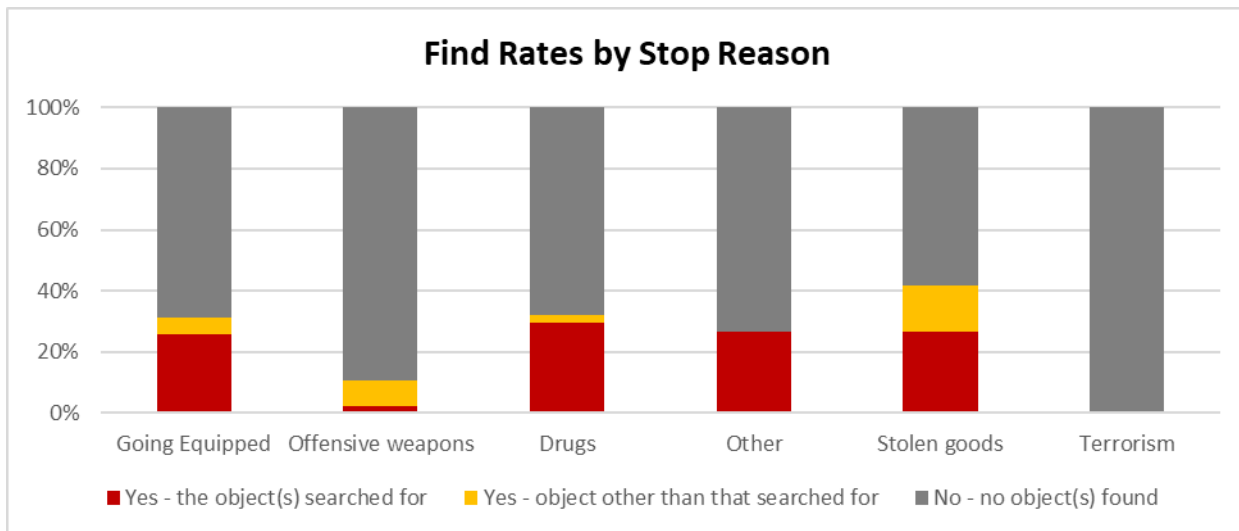
This quarter all age groups were mostly stopped in relation to drugs similar to last quarter, the only exception being over 60s most likely to be stopped for going equipped.

The majority of individuals stopped are male (90%, n=626) with 9% being female (n=66). This distribution is not similar to either the work force profile (61% male and 39% female) or the resident one (55% male and 45% female) with females far less likely to be stopped.

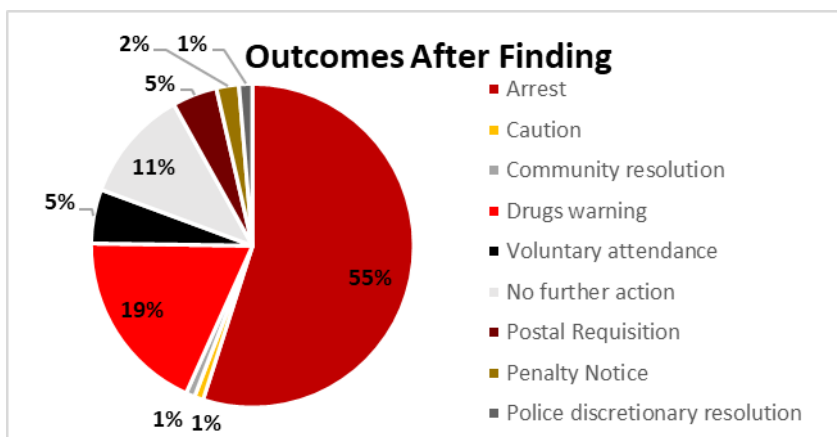
Most females (33 out of 66, 50%) were stopped in relation to drugs and the most common outcome was no further action (77%, n=51), higher than that for all stops and with a lower arrest rate at 12% (n=8). The age profile for females was like that for males.

4.1 Outcomes – Find Rates

There were 222 searches this quarter which resulted in an object being found, 189 where the object of the search was found and 33 where something different was discovered giving a find rate of 31%. Find rates in general were highest for stolen goods searches (42%, 25 out of 60 stops) however the item searched for was most commonly found in drugs stops (30%, 121 out of 409 stops). No items were found as a result of terrorism stops and after this find rates were lowest for offensive weapons stops with only 11% resulting in an item being found (n=5).



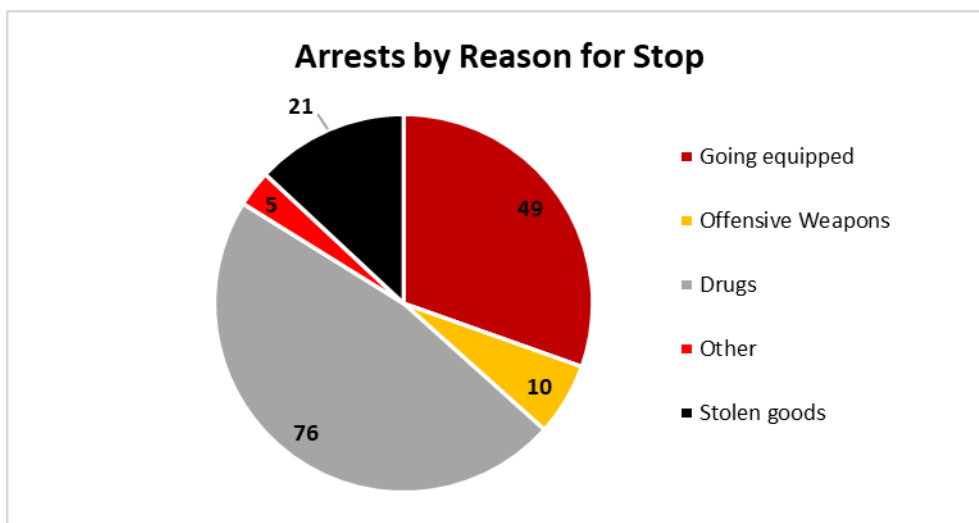
The most common outcome after finding an object was to arrest the subject of the stop (55%, n=122) then to issue a drugs warning (18%, n=41), the no further action rate after finding was 11% (n=25). All outcomes were used at least once after finding an object.



Subjects were asked to remove their outer clothing for 95 stops this quarter, mainly for drugs searches (58 stops) or going equipped searches (19 stops). There were 20 drugs searches, 1 stolen goods and 1 going equipped search that required full strip searches. All subjects were male. Eight of the full strip searches resulted in objects being found (36%) and there were 7 arrests made and a postal requisition issued. There was also a partial strip search in relation to drugs where the item searched for was found and a drugs warning issued. The youngest person strip searched was 17 and the oldest 36.

4.2 Outcomes – Arrests

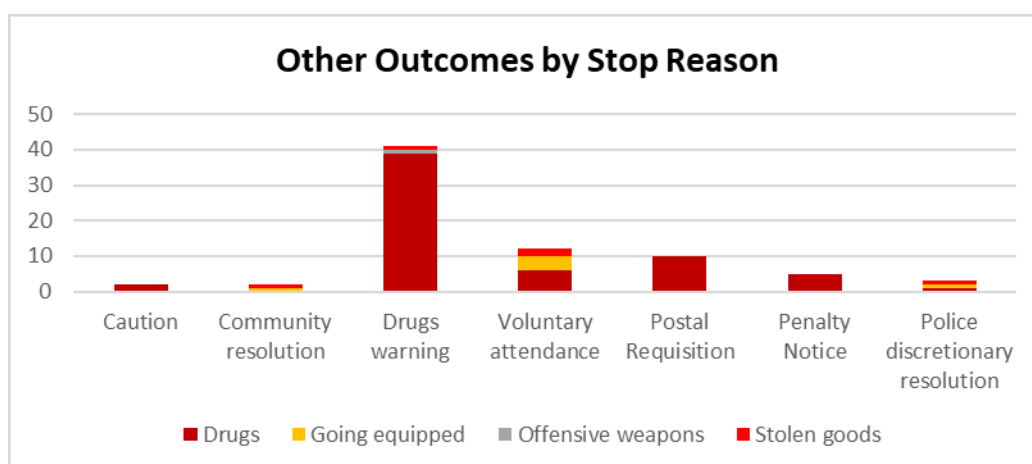
There were 162 arrests resulting from stop search this quarter, 23% of all stops. This is a slight decrease from 25% last quarter and remains lower than the average 30% level across the last year with rates continuing to be significantly lower than previous years where the arrest rate has been 36% or 37%.



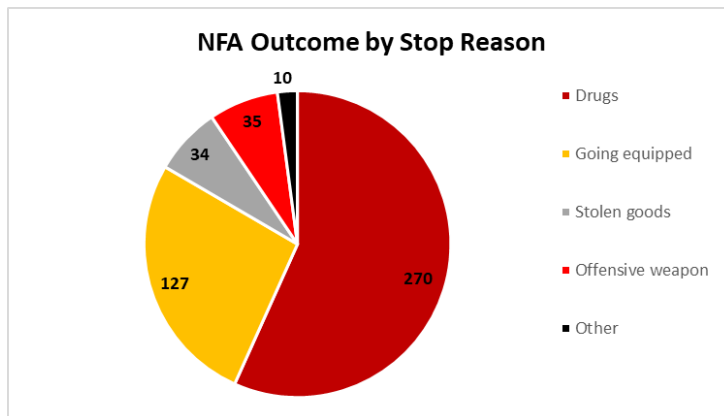
Most arrests in the current quarter resulted from drug stops (47%, n=76). When we look at arrest rates instead of volume the arrest rate was highest for terrorism (100%, n=1) and then stolen goods stops (35%).

Just over a third of all arrests (34%, n=55) were the secondary outcome of the stop and as such were not related to the object of the search, this most commonly happens in the case of drug stops (n=23) and the rate of secondary arrests was highest for offensive weapons as 9 out of 10 arrests related to other matters such as the subject being wanted on warrant or found in possession of stolen goods or drugs.

4.3 Outcomes – Other



The positive outcome rate this quarter is 33% (n=237) down 4 percentage points from last quarter. Outside of arrests the most common resolution was to issue a drugs warning (n=41) at the point of the stop. The widest range of outcomes can be seen for drugs stops.



The overall No Further Action (NFA) rate for stops this quarter is 67% (n=476), the highest NFA rate this quarter is for offensive weapons (76%, 35 out of 46 stops). The NFA rate is lowest for stolen goods stops (57%, 34 out of 60 stops) aside from terrorism stops where the one stop had a positive outcome.

4.4 Outcomes – Age, Gender and Ethnicity Summary

4.4.1 Perceived Ethnicity

The arrest rate is highest amongst white individuals (27%, 82 out of 302 stops) after this the arrest rate is highest amongst black individuals (23%, 33 out of 146 stops).

Drugs warnings were the most common outside of arrest or NFA for white, black and Asian individuals.

No further action rates were highest for Asian individuals (71%, 99 out of 139 stops) but levels were roughly consistent with all groups falling between 62-71%.

Find rates were highest amongst white and black individuals (39%, 117 out of 302 stops).

4.4.2 Age

Arrest rate was highest amongst 35-59 year olds this quarter at 32% (47 out of 148 stops).

No further action rates were highest for those over 60 (86%, 12 out of 14 stops).

Drugs warnings were most commonly issued to those over 18 whilst those under 18 were more likely to be offered a voluntary attendance.

Find rates were highest for 35-59 year olds (45%, 66 of 148 stops). The find rates for 10-17 year olds is 31% (15 out of 48 stops).

There were 28 stops this quarter where the age of the subject is unknown.

4.4.3 Gender

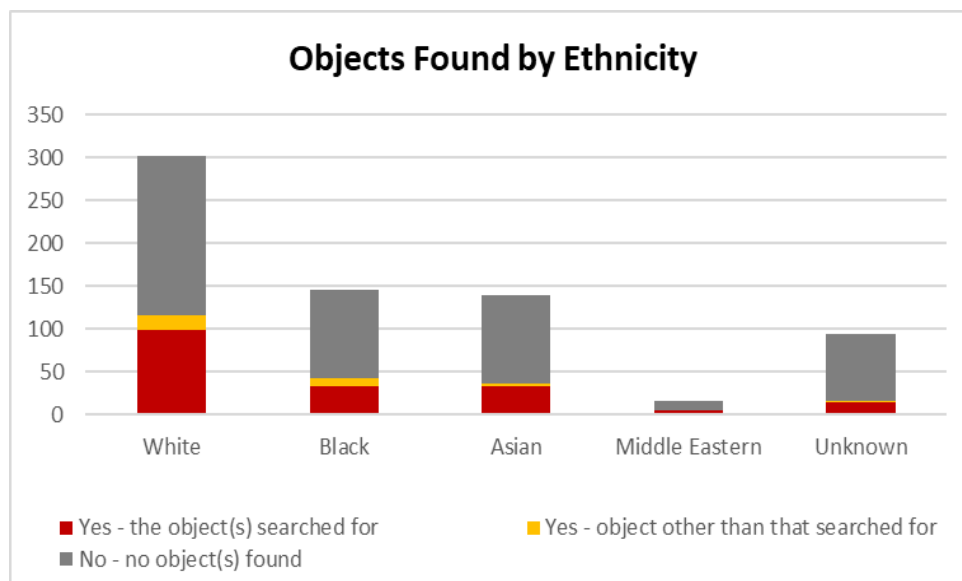
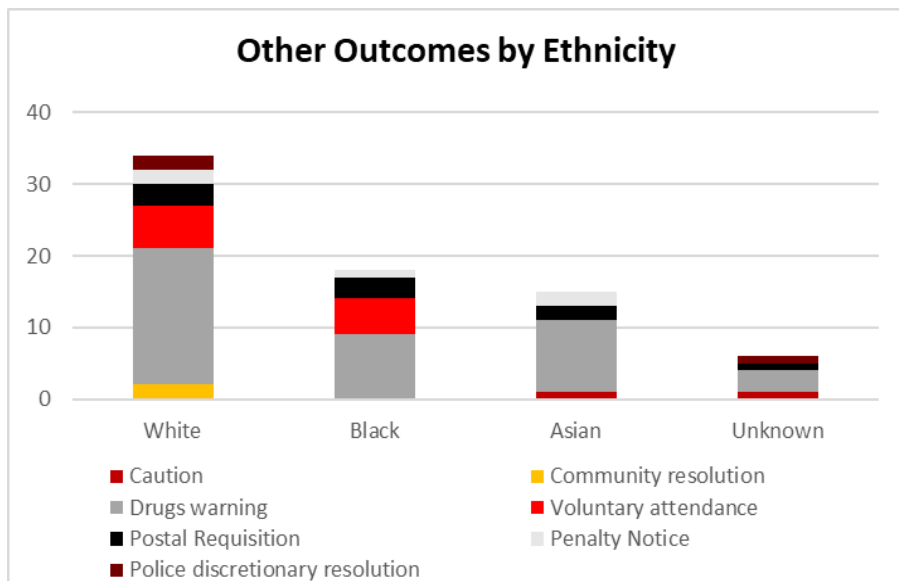
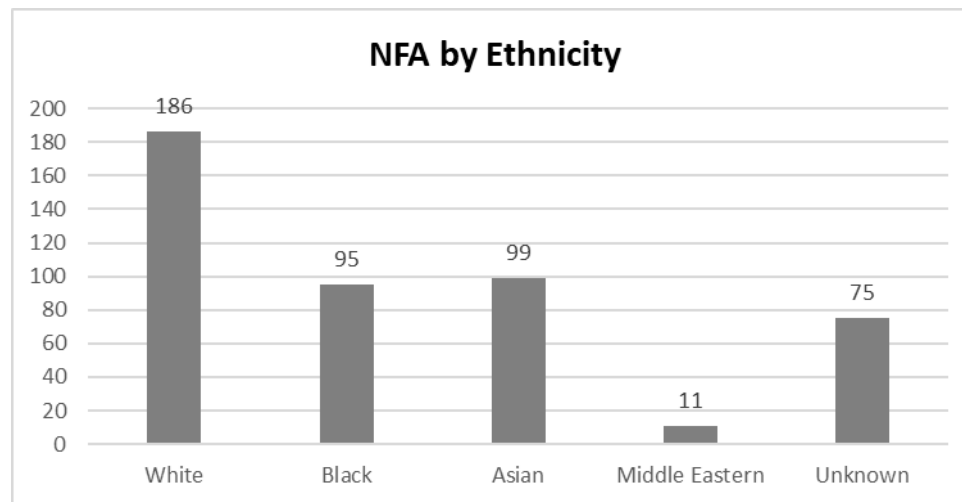
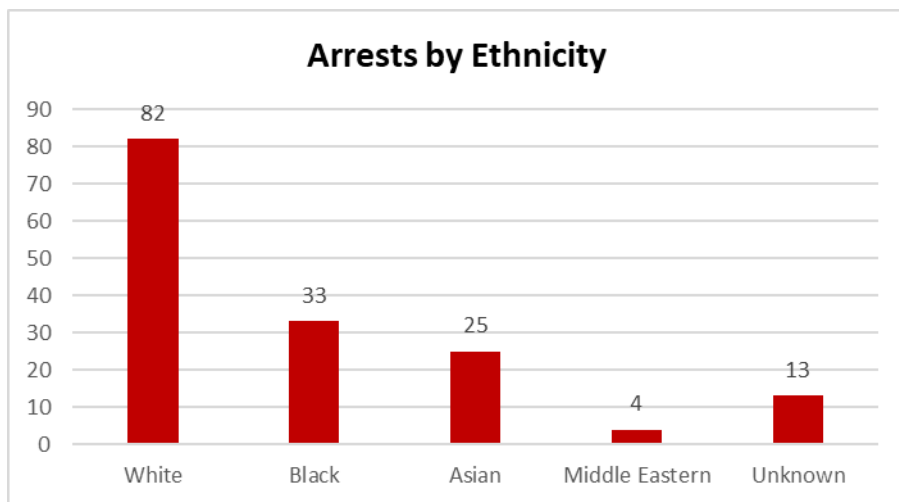
The arrest rate for females is 12% and for males 24%, the NFA rate for females is 77% and for males 66%.

No women had a stop resulting in a caution, community resolution, police discretionary resolution or postal requisition this quarter.

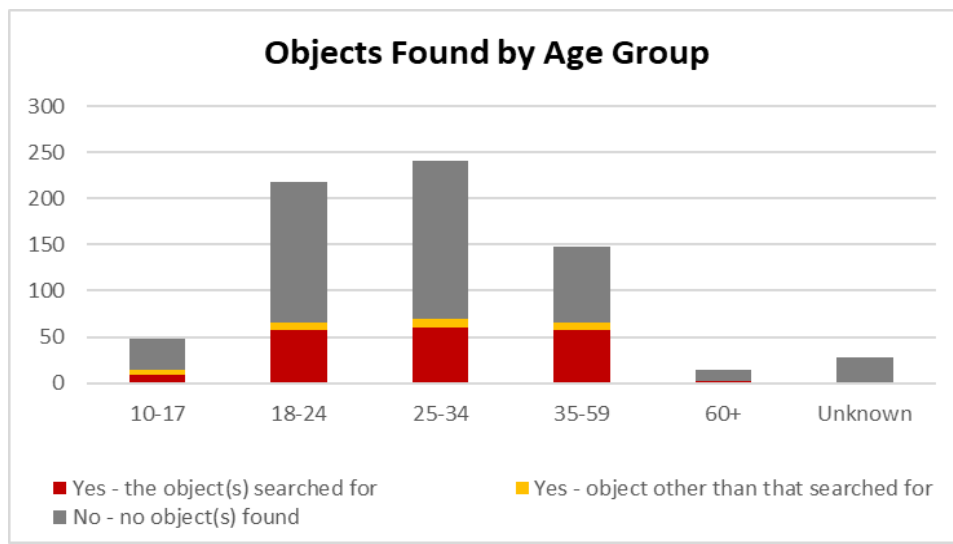
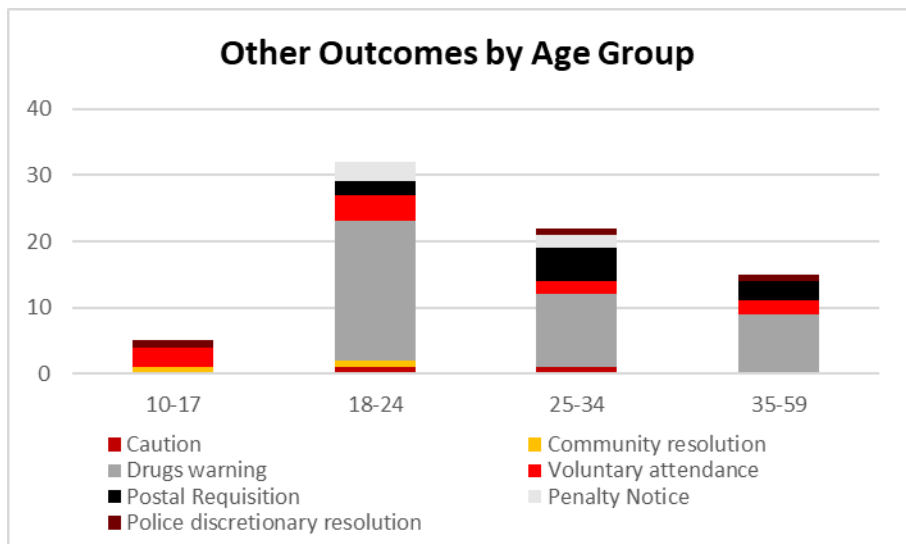
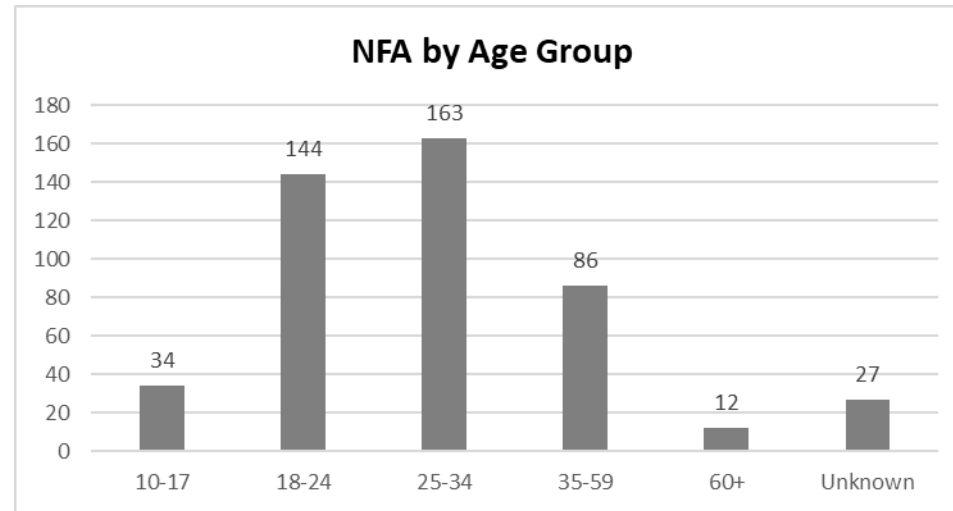
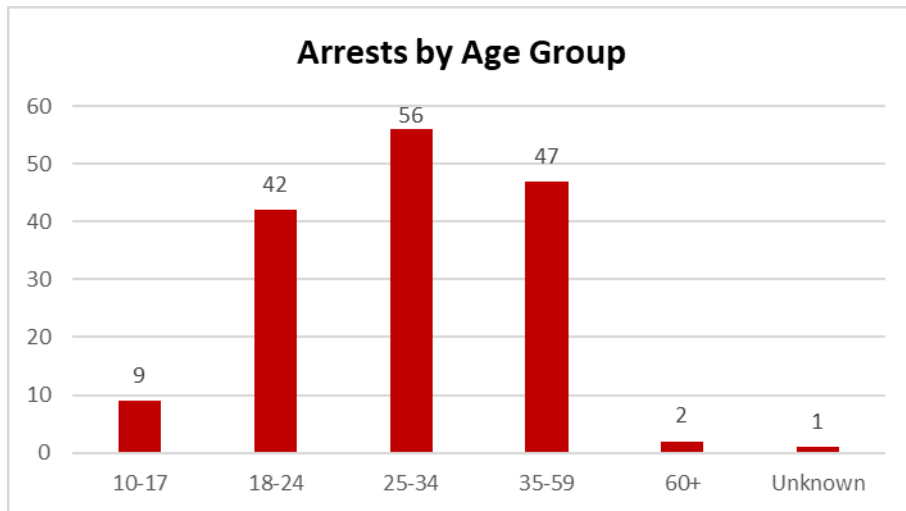
The find rate for females (24%, n= 16) is lower than that for males (32%, n=201).

There were five stops where the person's gender was unknown this quarter; one received a drugs warning and the others all no further actioned.

4.5 Outcomes – Perceived Ethnicity Breakdown



4.6 Outcomes – Age Breakdown



4.7 Outcomes – Gender Breakdown

