





Protecting Our Communities

**Use of Force Performance Pack  
Produced by Strategic Governance**

Dates Covered:

01/04/2024  31/03/2025 



## Caveats

**Please note, data in this report is based on each individual form submitted by an officer, not individuals force is used on or the distinct incidents unless stated otherwise.**

Use of force data is beset by data quality issues across many of the fields that are recorded. All analysis needs to be viewed with this in mind as a result.

### Forms

Counts are based on a distinct count of a unique ID field for each form.

This will have an effect on the counting of number of tactics used. The counts are not the number of times each tactic was used, but how many times that tactic appeared at least once on the form. So, for example, if an officer has recorded that they have used unarmed skills on 6 occasions within one use of force form, the count will treat that as 1 rather than 6. So the counts show the number of times that tactic appeared at least once on the use of force form.

### Ethnicity

Ethnicity is based on a combination of self defined and officer defined ethnicity.

Self defined takes priority, but where the self-defined ethnicity is not recorded the officer defined is used as a substitute.

It is possible that the person is recorded as having different ethnicities across forms even within the same incident.

Please note, that self defined and officer defined are not recorded in the same way. It is not possible for an officer to record someone as Mixed ethnicity.

### Summing of Percentages

Please note, percentages will often add up to more than 100%. This is because an officer can record more than one impact factor or reason, for example, on the form.

### Subject Behaviour

Several categories are contained in this column. Only one of these options can be selected.

Compliant behaviour is based on the number of times someone is being recorded as 'Compliant'.

Resistance focuses on where the subject is recorded as resisting, from passive resistance to serious or aggravated resistance.

Verbal/gestures has not been included in either count.

### Duplicates

Due to the complexity of identifying duplicates in this data they have not been removed.

With multiple forms for particular incidents able to be recorded, it's not clear how these could be identified and removed accurately.

## High Level Overview

# 33857

Forms

# 13.46

Per 1000

# 1.42

Total Dispro

This pack details information on Use of Force within Thames Valley Police for the following time period: 01/04/2024-31/03/2025.

There were 33857 use of force forms submitted in this period, with an overall disproportionality ratio of 1.42. There were 13.46 forms completed per 1000 of the population.

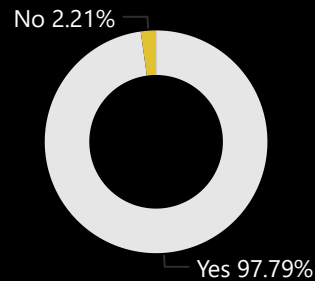
The figure on the bottom left shows the number of times body worn video was used where it was available. BWV was not available to be used 10.51% of the time.

Disproportionality was highest for those of black ethnic origin, with a ratio of 3.48. This means a black person was around 3 and a half times as likely to have force used on them as a white person. Please note this is based on a count of each individual form, so it does not refer to an individual subject.

At present 6 columns in the data return as blank and so are not reported until this is fixed. This includes two reasons for using force (protect self, protect other officers, protect public, and protect subject) and two columns related to the effectiveness of the force used (compliant handcuffing and non-compliant handcuffing). At present these pages are removed from the pack or the data excluded until reliability is established. This is why there is a small jump in figure numbers in the pack.

Additionally, data for gender was not returning for a large part of 24-25 and so numbers of unknown will be high. When a solution is applied a replacement pack will be developed.

BWV Used?



# 35.80%

Compliant Handcuffing Only (%)

# 15939

Individuals - Distinct

# 1616

Taser

### Subject profile

This page outlines the subject profile of those who have had force used on them in the specified time period (see front of pack). The top of the page shows ethnicity and gender breakdowns, whereas the bottom shows age grouping and whether the subject was perceived to have physical or mental health impairments by the officer.

Below is a breakdown of the number of form submitted for each LPA and the per 1000 information for each area.

Figure 1: Force by LPA

LPA	Forms	Population	Per 1000
Reading	3754	174266	21.54
Slough	3145	158475	19.85
Milton Keynes	4678	287040	16.30
Windsor & Maidenhead	2202	153524	14.34
Oxfordshire	9288	725280	12.81
West Berkshire	1986	161487	12.30
Buckinghamshire	5605	553035	10.13
Bracknell & Wokingham	2982	302164	9.87
Out of Force	217		
<b>Total</b>	<b>33857</b>	<b>2515271</b>	<b>13.46</b>

Figure 2: Use of Force by Ethnicity

Ethnicity (Combined)	Forms	%
Asian	3268	9.65%
Black	4136	12.22%
Mixed	1344	3.97%
Other	695	2.05%
Unknown	325	0.96%
White	24089	71.15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33857</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Figure 3: Use of Force by Gender

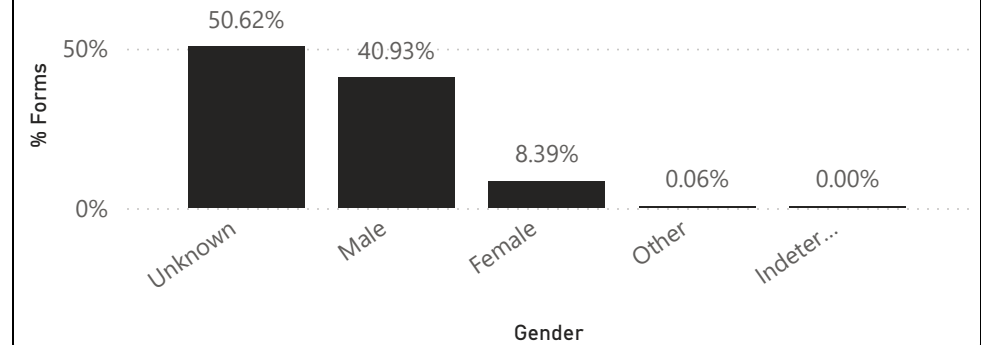
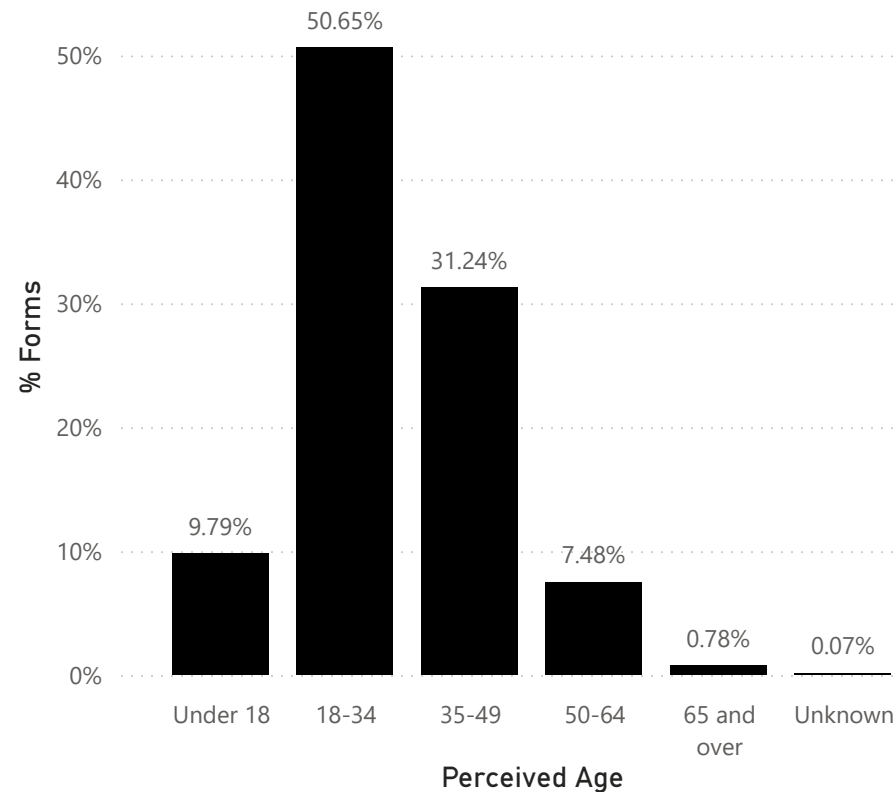


Figure 4: Use of Force by Age Group (Officer Perceived)



1207

Self-Defined Physical Health Condition

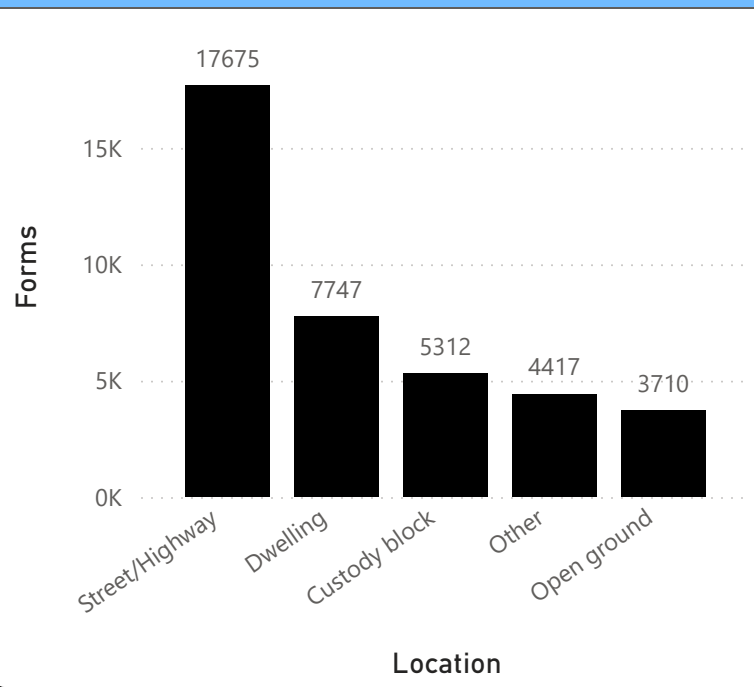
7446

Self-Defined Mental Health Condition

1281

Self-Defined Mental & Physical Cond...

**Figure 5: Use of Force by Location**



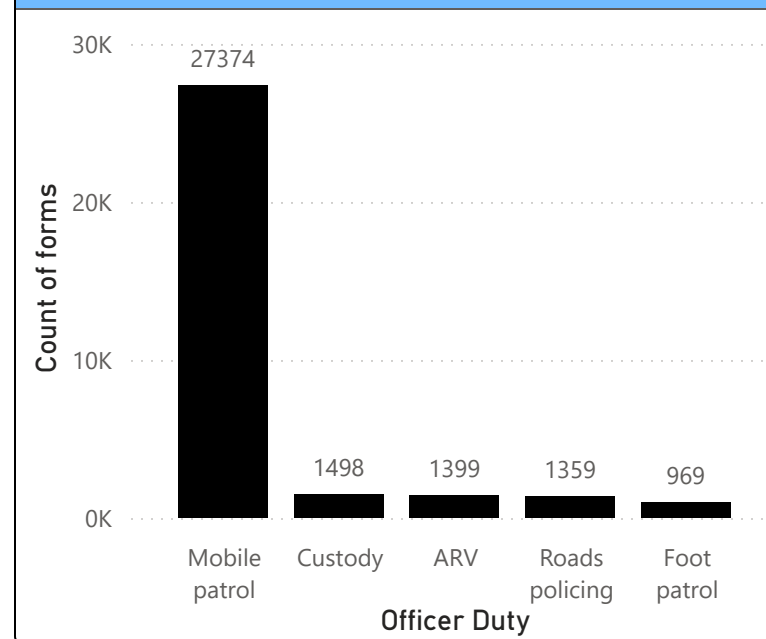
**Figure 6: Reasons for using force: prevalence on forms by ethnicity**

Reason	Forms	White	Eth Min	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other
Prevent Escape	56.45%	55.52%	59.14%	59.20%	59.40%	61.79%	51.96%
Effect Arrest	54.54%	55.15%	53.20%	52.79%	53.60%	54.17%	50.86%
Prevent Harm	44.64%	45.49%	42.50%	40.93%	43.50%	43.08%	42.86%
Prevent Offence	37.30%	37.58%	36.30%	34.41%	37.99%	35.22%	37.21%
Secure Evidence	17.56%	15.83%	21.97%	22.06%	22.79%	20.75%	19.00%
Effect stop and search	15.94%	13.30%	22.87%	23.53%	23.63%	21.07%	18.68%
Remove Handcuffs	10.82%	10.70%	11.13%	11.96%	11.02%	8.73%	12.56%
Effect search in Custody	7.66%	7.98%	6.75%	4.69%	8.20%	7.15%	6.91%
Other Details	6.93%	7.40%	5.61%	4.86%	5.67%	6.13%	7.85%
Effect other search	3.70%	3.55%	4.07%	4.33%	3.90%	3.85%	4.24%
Other	1.82%	1.97%	1.40%	1.40%	1.49%	1.42%	0.78%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Figure 7: Impact Factors by Ethnicity: prevalence on forms by ethnicity**

Impact Factors	Forms	White	EthMin	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other
Alcohol	38.07%	42.57%	26.40%	26.41%	26.16%	26.04%	28.49%
Drugs	31.82%	32.05%	31.27%	29.65%	33.22%	33.18%	23.60%
Mental Health	29.39%	32.75%	20.80%	19.00%	20.74%	23.88%	23.60%
Prior Knowledge	29.22%	29.59%	28.58%	26.13%	30.08%	31.92%	24.75%
Size/Gender/Build	23.37%	22.63%	25.28%	19.61%	30.63%	24.70%	21.15%
Possession of a Weapon	16.51%	15.36%	19.58%	18.57%	20.74%	19.35%	17.84%
Other	13.76%	12.75%	16.31%	18.24%	15.40%	14.21%	16.69%
Crowd	8.52%	7.82%	9.99%	9.67%	10.32%	9.82%	9.78%
Acute Behavioural Disorder	1.23%	1.27%	1.10%	1.16%	1.14%	0.74%	1.29%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Figure 8: Top 5 forms by Officer Duty**



**Reasons, Impact Factors, Locations, and Officer Duty**

This page shows the reasons, impact factors, locations, and officer duties when using force.

Please note, percentages will add up to more than 100% as officers can record more than one impact factor and reason per form.

Figures 6 and 7 each shows the prevalence of each impact factor and reason on each form, and then break this down by prevalence on the form for each ethnic group.

This allows for a comparison to see which impact factors and reasons may be driving use of force against each ethnic group more or less than others.

For example, alcohol is an impact factor recorded far more consistently where the subject is recorded as white, and recorded far less where they are ethnic minority.



This page shows details on threats towards officers within an incident.

Figures 14 and 16 show threats made by subject ethnicity and gender. They provide a comparison of the proportion on the form against the proportion of threats made by each grouping.

Please note that the percentages will count that a threat has been made, not each individual threat offered. So it shows that a subject threatened the officer in some way, it doesn't count that they were threatened with a knife and a firearm, for example.

Figure 15 shows threats by the recorded behaviour shown by the subject, and figure 17 shows the top 10 tactics used by officers when the subject had threatened them.

Finally, there are various cards showing whether the officer had intelligence of weapons, reported violence by a third party, and shows how many times an officer had recorded the subject as spitting at them.

**Figure 14: Forms and Threats by Ethnicity**

Ethnicity	Forms	Threats
Asian	9.75%	8.99%
Black	12.33%	13.38%
Mixed	4.01%	3.07%
Other	2.07%	1.97%
White	71.84%	72.59%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Figure 15: Threat by Subject Behaviour**

Subject Behaviour	Threats
Active resistance	134
Aggressive resistance	124
Serious or aggravated resistance	70
Compliant	46
Verbal / Gestures	44
Passive resistance	42

**Figure 16: Forms and Threats by Gender**

Gender	Forms	Threats
Female	16.87%	21.86%
Male	82.97%	77.05%
Other	0.15%	1.09%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

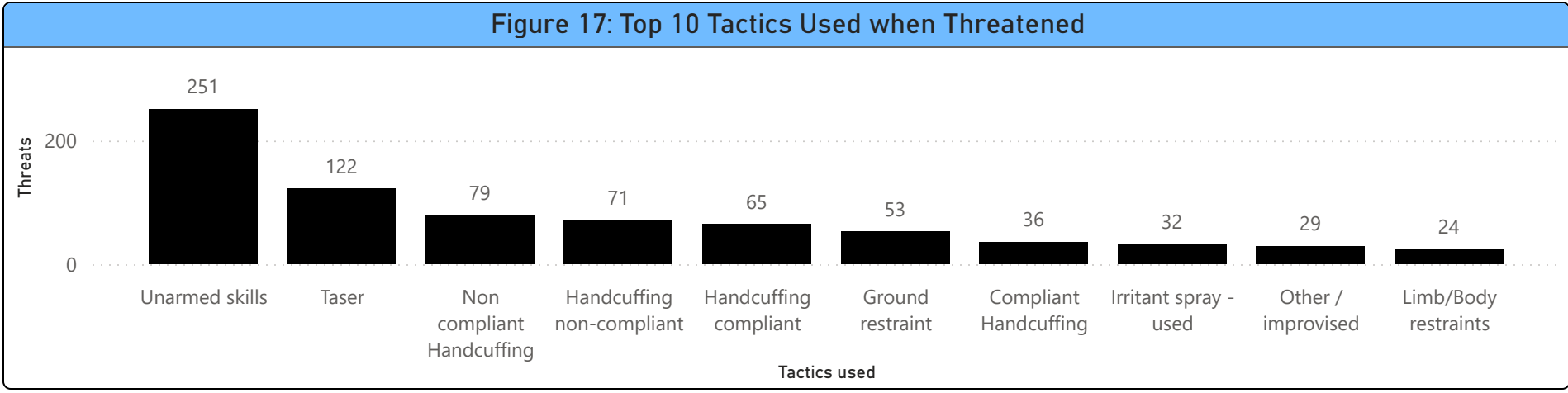
**6526**  
Intelligence - Weapons

**Threats**

**460**  
Threats

**2832**  
Violence - Reported

**606**  
Officer spat at



## Assaults & Injuries

# 335

### Injured from assault

This page shows information where an officer has recorded an injury to themselves.

This splits out where they were injured through being assaulted, where they were injured but not from an assault, and where they were assaulted but not injured.

Instances where the officer was not assaulted have been excluded.

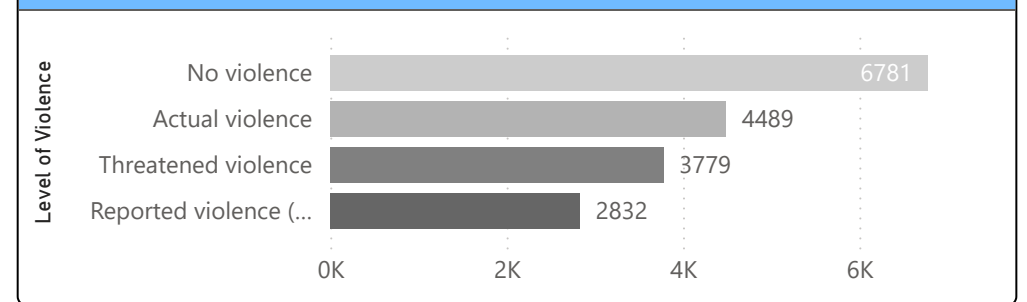
The page also shows the level of violence experienced. This ranges from no violence, actual violence, threatened violence, to violence as reported by a third party (this was only consistently recorded from July 24).

Assaults are also split out by the various impact factors recorded on the forms.

### Figure 18: Officer Injured or Assaulted

Officer Injured	Forms	%
I was not injured but was assaulted	1267	61.12%
I was injured but not as a result of an assault	471	22.72%
I was injured as a result of an assault	335	16.16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2073</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

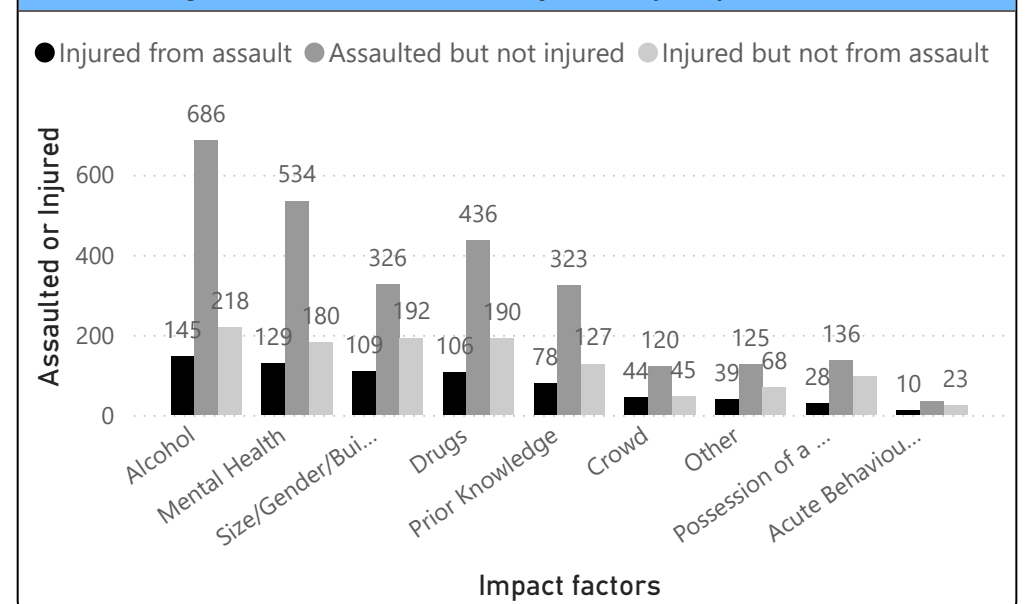
### Figure 19: Level of Violence



### Figure 20: Injuries and assaults by LPA

LPA	Injured from assault	Assaulted but not injured	Injured but not from assault
Bracknell & Wokingham	33	100	51
Buckinghamshire	51	205	76
Milton Keynes	47	193	67
Not Recorded	0	0	0
Out of Force	1	7	3
Oxfordshire	97	381	126
Reading	40	114	61
Slough	18	105	39
West Berkshire	18	55	20
Windsor & Maidenhead	30	107	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>1267</b>	<b>471</b>

### Figure 21: Assaults and injuries by Impact Factor



## Disproportionality by LPA

### Figure 22: Asian

Incident LPA	Forms	Population	per 1000	Dispro
Buckinghamshire	707	68294	10.35	1.17
Oxfordshire	610	46379	13.15	1.16
Windsor & Maidenhead	262	20085	13.04	1.05
West Berkshire	54	5992	9.01	0.76
Bracknell & Wokingham	178	31764	5.60	0.60
Reading	316	30845	10.24	0.51
Milton Keynes	266	35636	7.46	0.45
Slough	838	74091	11.31	0.42
Out of Force	37			
<b>Total</b>	<b>3268</b>	<b>313086</b>	<b>10.44</b>	<b>0.85</b>

### Figure 23: Black

Incident LPA	Forms	Population	per 1000	Dispro
Windsor & Maidenhead	239	2365	101.06	8.11
Oxfordshire	900	14850	60.61	5.34
Buckinghamshire	614	14233	43.14	4.90
Bracknell & Wokingham	300	7312	41.03	4.38
West Berkshire	102	2036	50.10	4.25
Reading	727	12538	57.98	2.87
Slough	513	12003	42.74	1.58
Milton Keynes	715	27882	25.64	1.56
Out of Force	26			
<b>Total</b>	<b>4136</b>	<b>93219</b>	<b>44.37</b>	<b>3.63</b>

### Figure 24: White

Incident LPA	Forms	Population	per 1000
Slough	1546	57117	27.07
Reading	2360	116888	20.19
Milton Keynes	3386	206081	16.43
Windsor & Maidenhead	1528	122551	12.47
West Berkshire	1750	148392	11.79
Oxfordshire	7153	630090	11.35
Bracknell & Wokingham	2336	249119	9.38
Buckinghamshire	3897	442234	8.81
Out of Force	133		
<b>Total</b>	<b>24089</b>	<b>1972472</b>	<b>12.21</b>

### Figure 25: Mixed

Incident LPA	Forms	Population	per 1000	Dispro
Oxfordshire	348	22634	15.38	1.35
Buckinghamshire	228	19556	11.66	1.32
Windsor & Maidenhead	79	5232	15.10	1.21
West Berkshire	54	3868	13.96	1.18
Reading	207	8978	23.06	1.14
Milton Keynes	207	11723	17.66	1.07
Bracknell & Wokingham	86	9422	9.13	0.97
Slough	127	6313	20.12	0.74
Out of Force	8			
<b>Total</b>	<b>1344</b>	<b>87726</b>	<b>15.32</b>	<b>1.25</b>

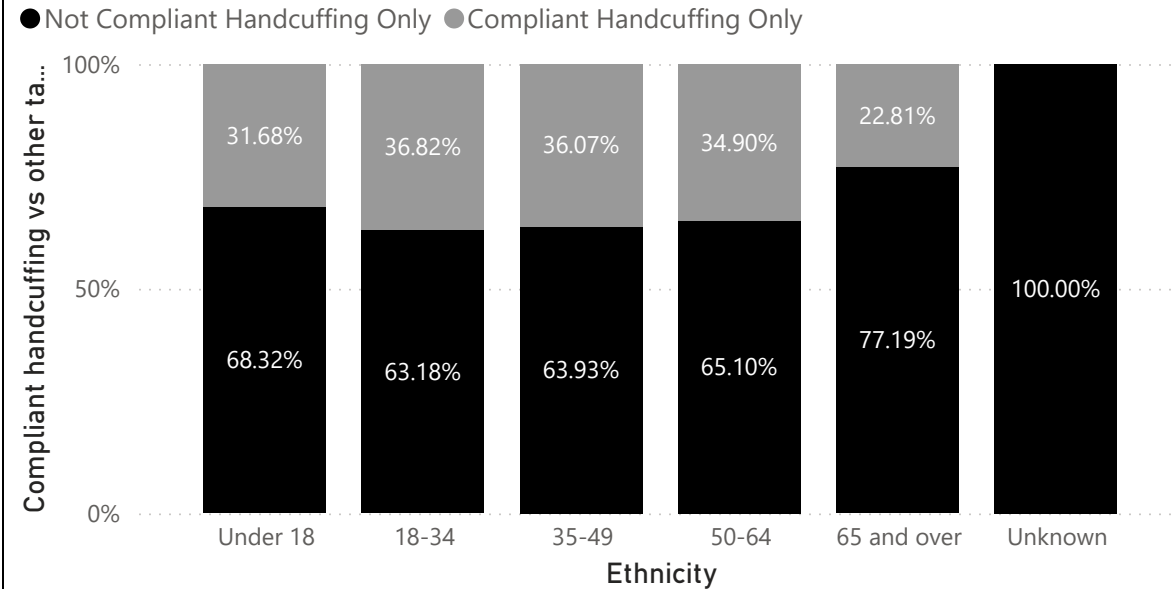
### Figure 26: Other

Incident LPA	Forms	Population	Per 1000	Dispro
Oxfordshire	205	11327	18.10	1.59
Buckinghamshire	109	8718	12.50	1.42
Windsor & Maidenhead	57	3291	17.32	1.39
West Berkshire	18	1199	15.01	1.27
Bracknell & Wokingham	47	4547	10.34	1.10
Reading	89	5017	17.74	0.88
Milton Keynes	69	5718	12.07	0.73
Slough	89	8951	9.94	0.37
Out of Force	12			
<b>Total</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>48768</b>	<b>14.25</b>	<b>1.17</b>

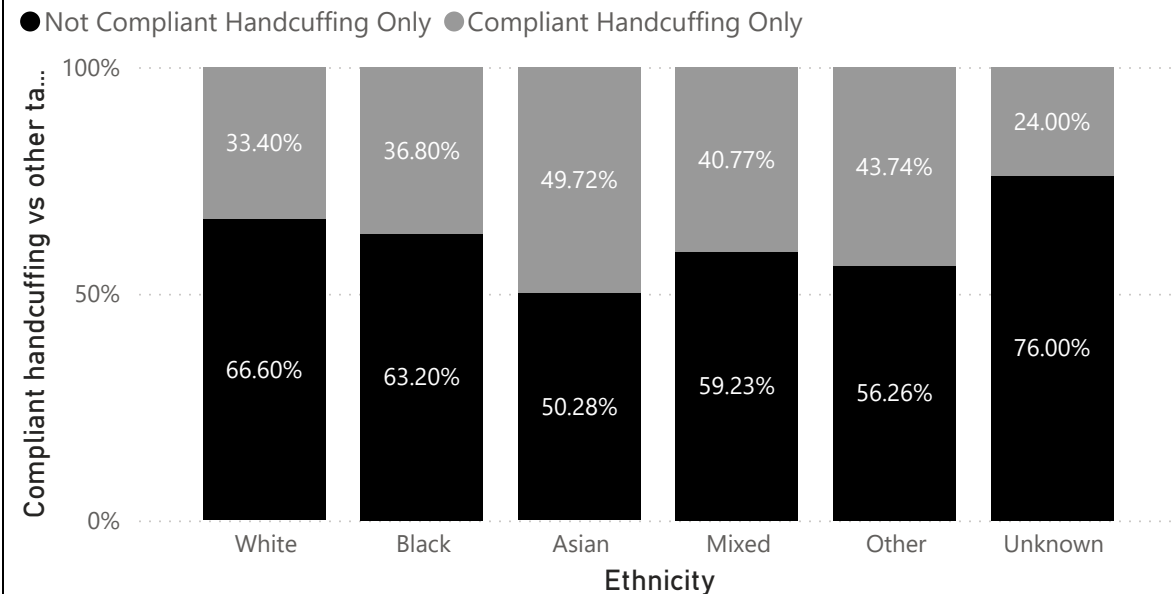
**Figure 27: Tactics used (Distinct)**

Tactics	Forms	% Forms
Unarmed skills	16295	48.13%
Handcuffing compliant	8682	25.64%
Compliant Handcuffing	6973	20.60%
Handcuffing non-compliant	3500	10.34%
Non compliant Handcuffing	3423	10.11%
Ground restraint	3049	9.01%
Other / improvised	1708	5.04%
Limb/Body restraints	1700	5.02%
Taser	1587	4.69%
Irritant spray - used	556	1.64%
Irritant spray - drawn	517	1.53%
Spit guard	459	1.36%
Baton used	117	0.35%
Firearms	109	0.32%
Baton drawn	105	0.31%
Dog deployed	81	0.24%
Dog biting	36	0.11%
Shield	35	0.10%
AEP drawn	22	0.06%
AEP used	4	0.01%
Handcuffing (compliant and non-compliant)	2	0.01%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33857</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Figure 28: Compliant handcuffing only vs not compliant handcuffing by age (%)**



**Figure 29: Compliant handcuffing only vs not compliant handcuffing by ethnicity (%)**



**Tactics**

This page breaks down tactics used.

It shows splits of compliant handcuffing only against cases where something other than compliant handcuffing was also used and breaks this down as proportions again age and ethnic groups. Below you can see the proportion of forms using certain numbers of tactics. All forms must have at least one tactic. Where a form does not, it is removed from the data.

Please note, the 'Tactics used (Distinct)' table used a distinct count of tactics. In other words if, for example, someone has recorded unarmed skills 6 times on one form, this will only be counted once.

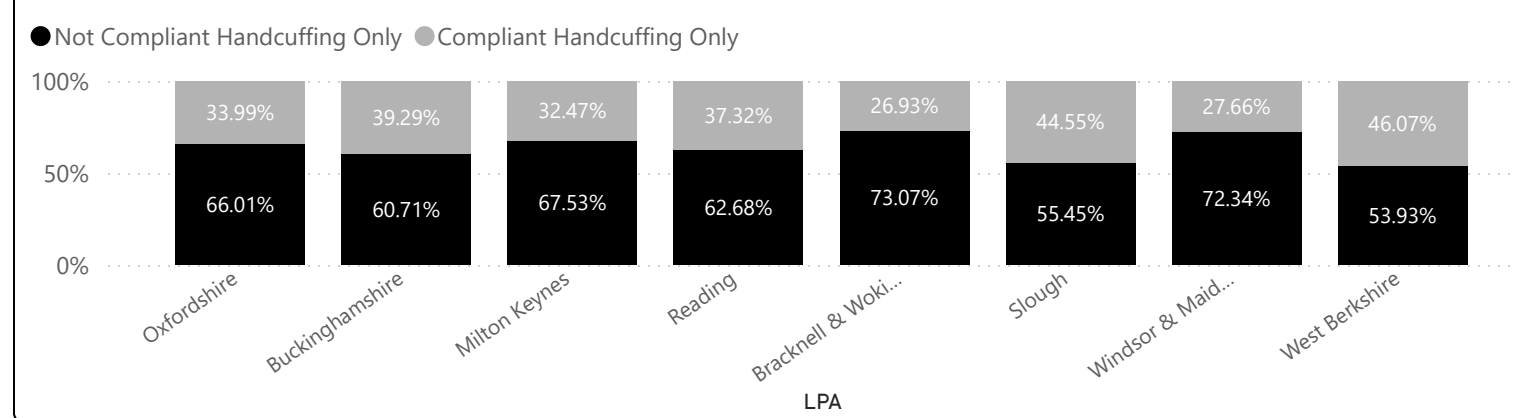
**Figure 30: Tactics by Tactic Number**

Tactic No.	% Forms
First Tactic Used	100.00%
Second Tactic Used	34.52%
Third Tactic Used	12.00%
Fourth Tactic Used	4.54%
Fifth Tactic Used	1.75%
Sixth Tactic Used	0.76%
Seventh Tactic Used	0.33%
Eighth Tactic Used	0.15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

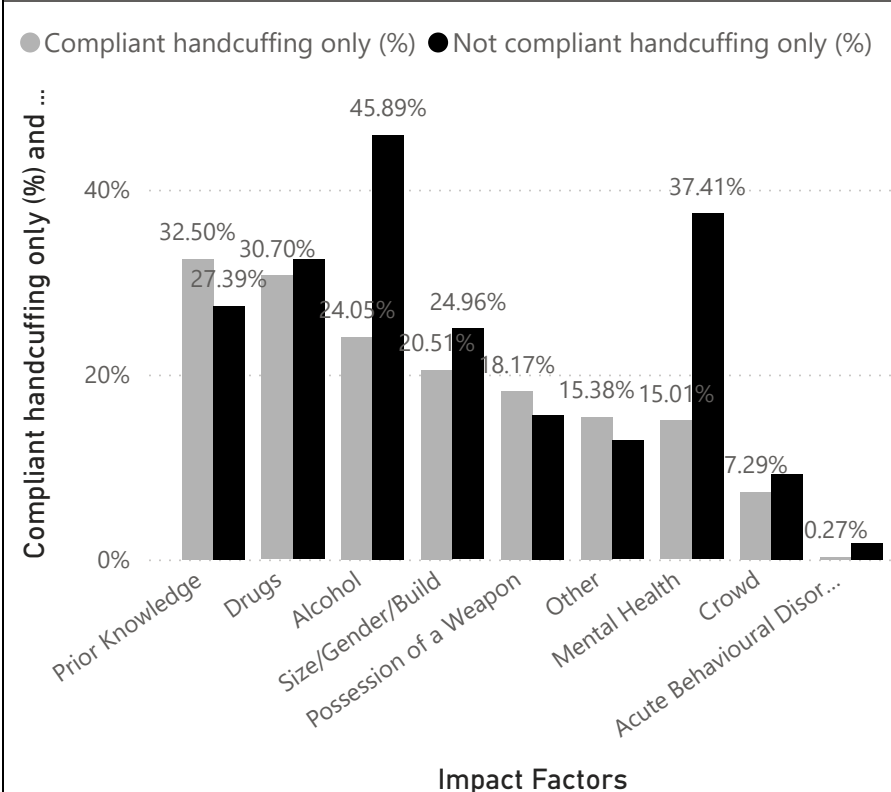
**Figure 35: Compliant Handcuffing Only by Ethnicity (Combined)**

Ethnicity	Forms (%)	Compliant Handcuffing Only (%)	More than Compliant Handcuffing Only (%)
Asian	9.75%	13.49%	7.65%
Black	12.33%	12.64%	12.16%
Mixed	4.01%	4.55%	3.70%
Other	2.07%	2.52%	1.82%
White	71.84%	66.80%	74.66%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Figure 36: Not Compliant Handcuffing Only vs Compliant Handcuffing Only by Incident LPA**



**Figure 37: Compliant Handcuffing Only vs Not Compliant Handcuffing Only by Impact Factor (%)**



**147**  
Injured - compliant handcuffing only

**2144**  
Injured - not compliant handcuffing only

**Figure 38: Compliant handcuffing only and not compliant handcuffing only by reason**

Reason	Compliant Handcuffing	%	Not Compliant Handcuffing Only	(%)
Protect Self	7382	61.02%	15415	71.59%
Prevent Escape	6983	57.72%	10903	50.63%
Effect Arrest	6572	54.32%	10710	49.74%
Protect Other Officers	4837	39.98%	13165	61.14%
Prevent Harm	3920	32.40%	10225	47.49%
Prevent Offence	3347	27.67%	8472	39.34%
Effect stop and search	3072	25.39%	1980	9.20%
Secure Evidence	2822	23.33%	2741	12.73%
Remove Handcuffs	1479	12.23%	1949	9.05%
Effect other search	436	3.60%	735	3.41%
Effect search in Custody	256	2.12%	2170	10.08%
Other	58	0.48%	520	2.41%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12098</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>21533</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Compliant Handcuffing Only vs Not Compliant Handcuffing only**

**35.80%**

Compliant Handcuffing Only (%)

This page breaks out use of force into a comparison of instances where only compliant handcuffing is recorded against where the officer has said other tactics separate from compliant handcuffing were used.

This is visualised by ethnic group against total number of forms, by Incident LPA, by impact factors and reasons, and then shows the number of times someone has been recorded as injured in some way when the tactics were only compliant handcuffing and not just compliant handcuffing.

Please note, it is possible that the injuries were not caused by the use of force itself. Additionally, it is not possible to tell from the data which type of force caused an injury.

Injuries

# 1425

Individual Subjects Injured

This page breaks down the number of times the subject has been recorded as injured on the use of force form.

Unless otherwise stated, this is not injuries caused to distinct individuals but where an injury has been recorded on the form.

The above visual 'Individual Subjects Injured' and figure 41 both show the number of times an individual subject was injured.

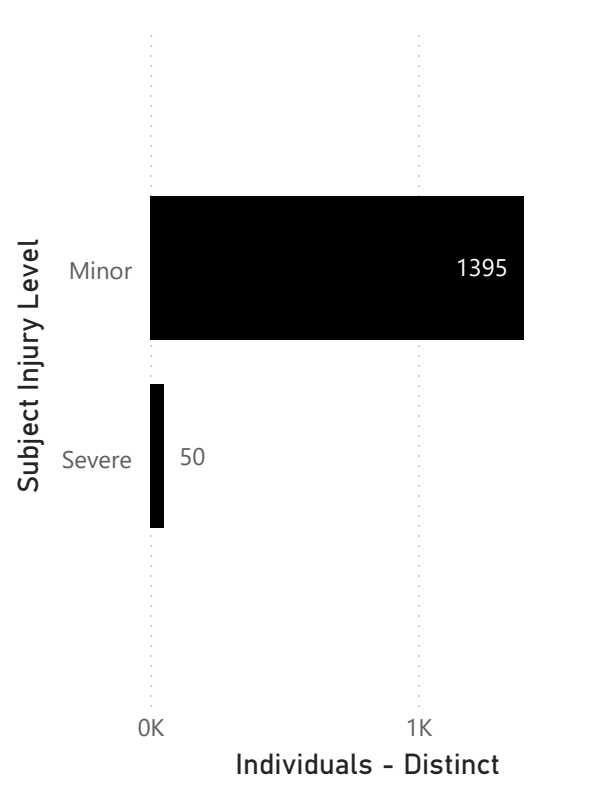
All other visuals base the counts on injuries recorded on each form. This means there may be some double counting.

Injury per 1000 is based on a comparison to the population that force has been used on, not comparison to census population.

**Figure 39: Injuries by Gender - Prevalence on form against prevalence of injury by gender**

Gender	Forms	Injury
Female	8.39%	5.41%
Indeterminate	0.00%	
Male	40.93%	39.42%
Other	0.06%	0.04%
Unknown	50.62%	55.13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Figure 41: Individuals - Distinct by Subject Injury Level**



**Figure 40: Injury by Ethnicity**

Ethnicity	Forms	Injury Combined	Injury - per 1000
Asian	9.75%	6.78%	47.12
Black	12.33%	10.83%	59.48
Mixed	4.01%	3.35%	56.55
Other	2.07%	1.72%	56.12
White	71.84%	77.33%	72.94
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>67.76</b>

**Figure 42: Injuries by Age Group**

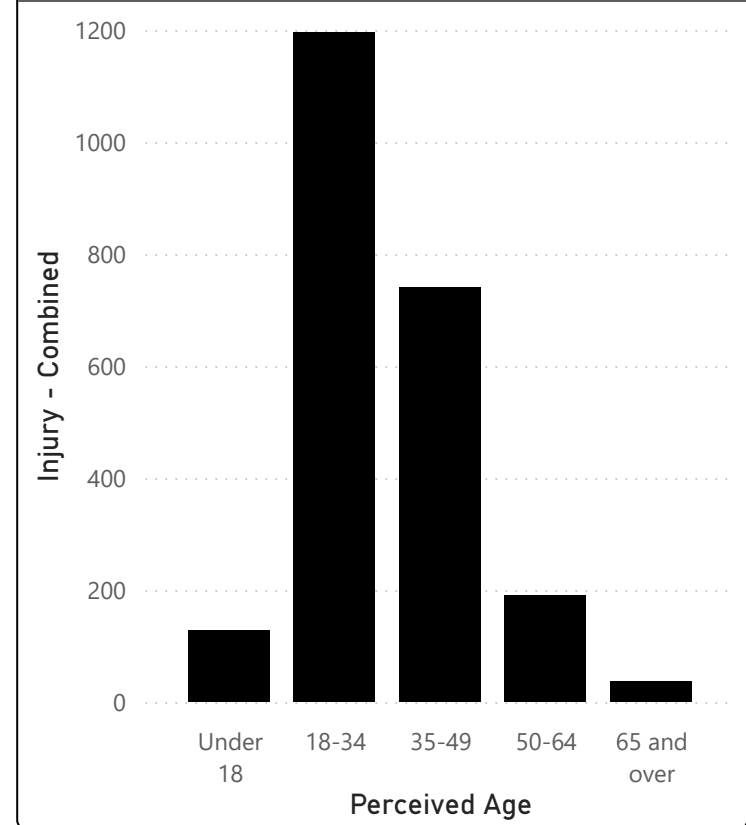
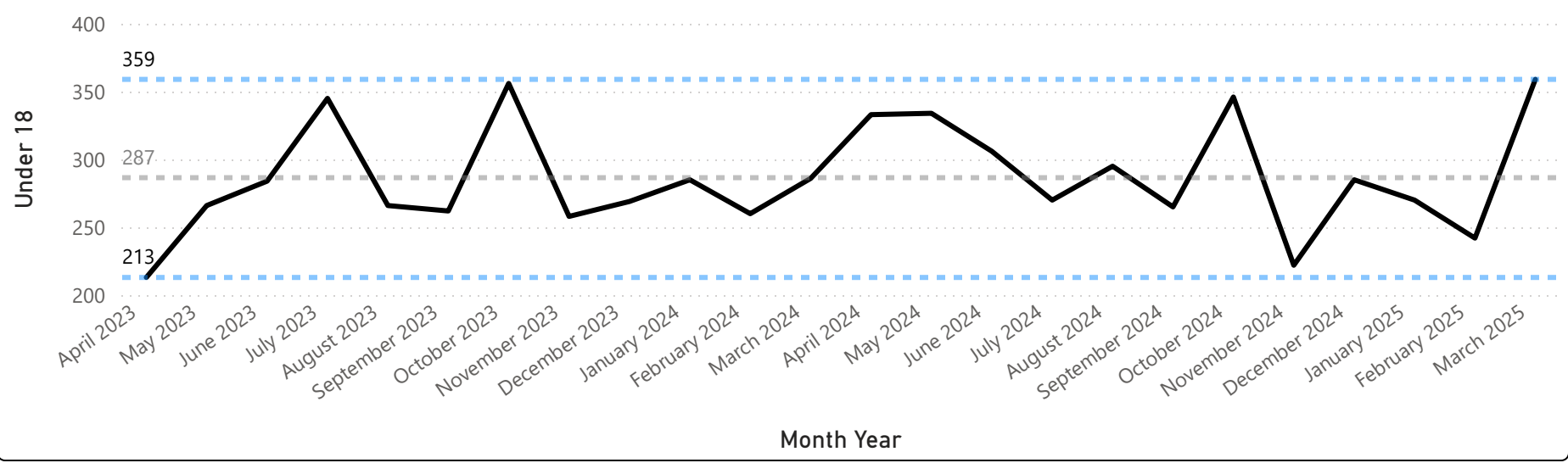


Figure 43: Under 18 by Month Year



**U18s**

**1163**

Compliant Handcuffing Only

This page analyses use of force forms where the subject was recorded as under 18.

Figure 43 shows force used over a 24 month time period, with an average of 231 use of force forms per month.

Figure 44 gives a breakdown of the number of forms completed for under 18s by each LPA, with percentage of the total.

Figure 45 gives the figures for under18s by ethnicity, showing how many forms were filled out for each ethnic group where the subject's age was under 18 in the data.

Finally, the three card show the number of injuries caused when the person was recorded as under 18.

Figure 44: Under 18 by LPA

Incident LPA	Under 18	%
Oxfordshire	1090	30.90%
Buckinghamshire	562	15.93%
Milton Keynes	554	15.71%
Reading	360	10.21%
Slough	322	9.13%
Bracknell & Wokingham	294	8.34%
West Berkshire	183	5.19%
Windsor & Maidenhead	145	4.11%
Out of Force	17	0.48%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3527</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**10.42%**  
Proportion U18s

**127**  
Injury - U18

Figure 45: Under 18 by Ethnicity

Ethnicity Combined	Under 18	%
Asian	248	7.03%
Black	460	13.04%
Mixed	204	5.78%
Other	56	1.59%
Unknown	27	0.77%
White	2532	71.79%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3527</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## Notes

### Self-Defined Ethnicity

#### Asian

A1. Indian; A2. Pakistani; A3. Bangladeshi; A4. Chinese; A9. Any other Asian background

#### Black

B1. Caribbean; B2. African; B9. Any other Black background

#### Mixed / Multiple

M1. White and Black Caribbean; M2. White and Black African; M3. White and Asian; M9. Any other mixed

#### Not stated

NS. Not stated

#### Other

O2. Arab; O9. Any other

#### White

W1. British; W2. Irish; W3. Gypsy or Irish Traveller; W9. Any other white background

#### Officer Perceived

Unknown; White - North European; White - South European; Black; Asian; Chinese,Japanese,SE Asian; Middle Eastern

### Notes

All population statistics are taken from the 2021 Census published 29th November 2022.

#### Why use per 1000 population?

Showing the incidence rate per 1000 of population makes comparisons between different areas easier, especially when the population size in those areas differs.

Populations by LPA						
LPA	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other	White	Total
Bracknell & Wokingham	31764	7312	9422	4547	249119	302164
Buckinghamshire	68294	14233	19556	8718	442234	553035
Milton Keynes	35636	27882	11723	5718	206081	287040
Oxfordshire	46379	14850	22634	11327	630090	725280
Reading	30845	12538	8978	5017	116888	174266
Slough	74091	12003	6313	8951	57117	158475
West Berkshire	5992	2036	3868	1199	148392	161487
Windsor & Maidenhead	20085	2365	5232	3291	122551	153524
<b>Total</b>	<b>313086</b>	<b>93219</b>	<b>87726</b>	<b>48768</b>	<b>1972472</b>	<b>2515271</b>