



Protecting Our Communities

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

Dates Covered:

01/04/2025

30/06/2025



## 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

8589

Forms

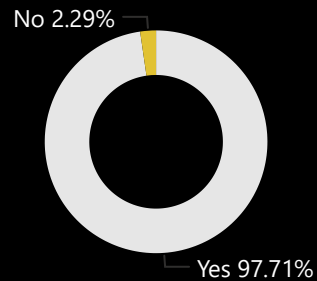
3.41

Per 1000

1.53

Total Dispro

BWV Used?



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 8589 use of force forms submitted in this period, with an overall disproportionality ratio of 1.53. There were 3.41 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 9.12% 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.

33.25%

Compliant Handcuffing Only (%)

4650

Individuals - Distinct

395

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
Slough	958	158475	6.05
Reading	880	174266	5.05
Windsor & Maidenhead	655	153524	4.27
Milton Keynes	1178	287040	4.10
Buckinghamshire	1700	553035	3.07
Oxfordshire	1990	725280	2.74
West Berkshire	412	161487	2.55
Bracknell & Wokingham	747	302164	2.47
Out of Force	69		
<b>Total</b>	<b>8589</b>	<b>2515271</b>	<b>3.41</b>

Figure 2: Use of Force by Ethnicity

Ethnicity (Combined)	Forms	%
Asian	916	10.66%
Black	1096	12.76%
Mixed	357	4.16%
Other	145	1.69%
Unknown	112	1.30%
White	5963	69.43%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8589</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Figure 3: Use of Force by Gender

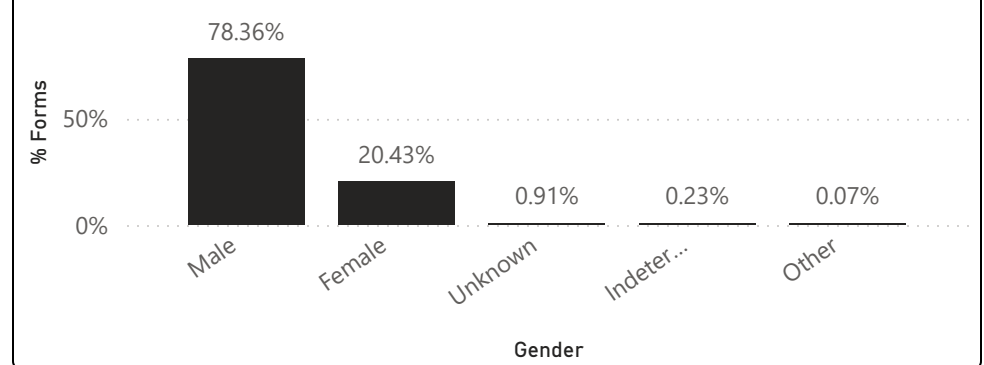
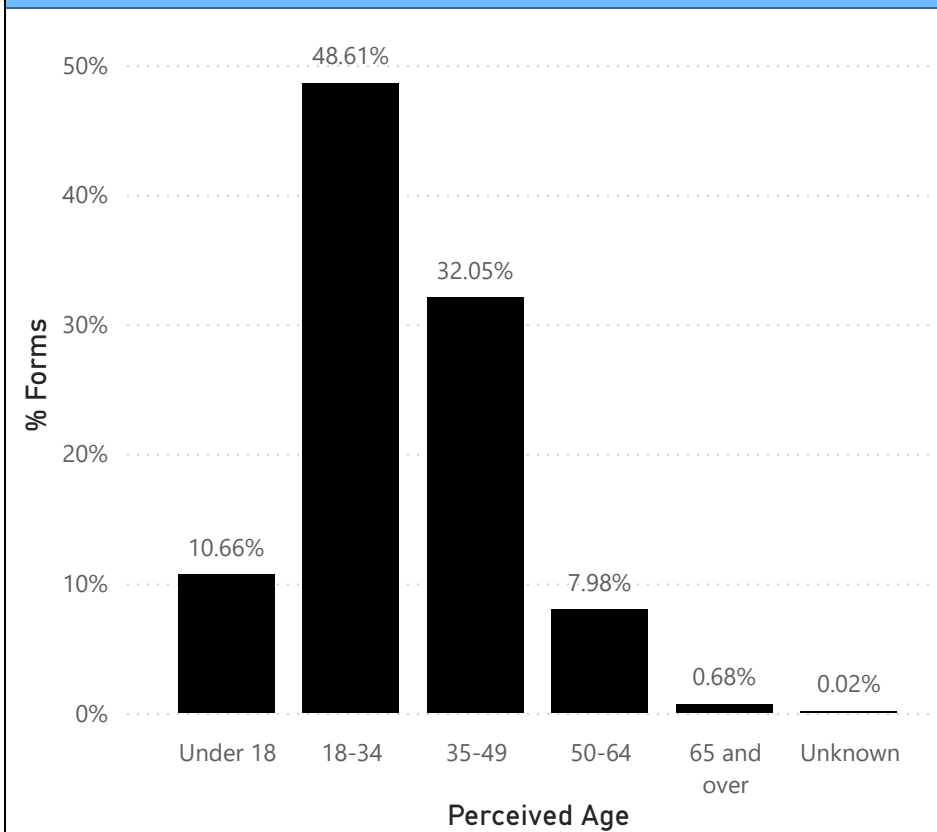


Figure 4: Use of Force by Age Group (Officer Perceived)



294

Self-Defined Physical Health Condition

1995

Self-Defined Mental Health Condition

375

Self-Defined Mental & Physical Cond...

Figure 5: Use of Force by Location

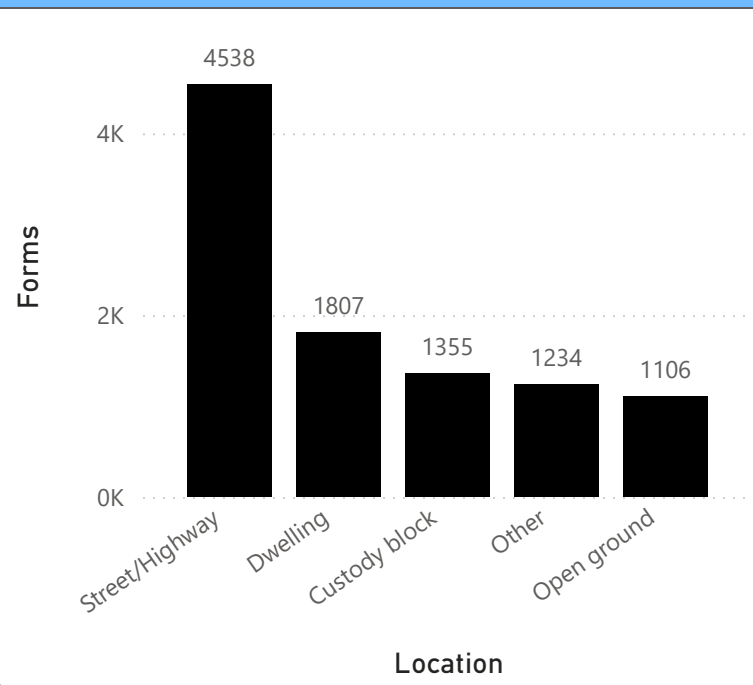


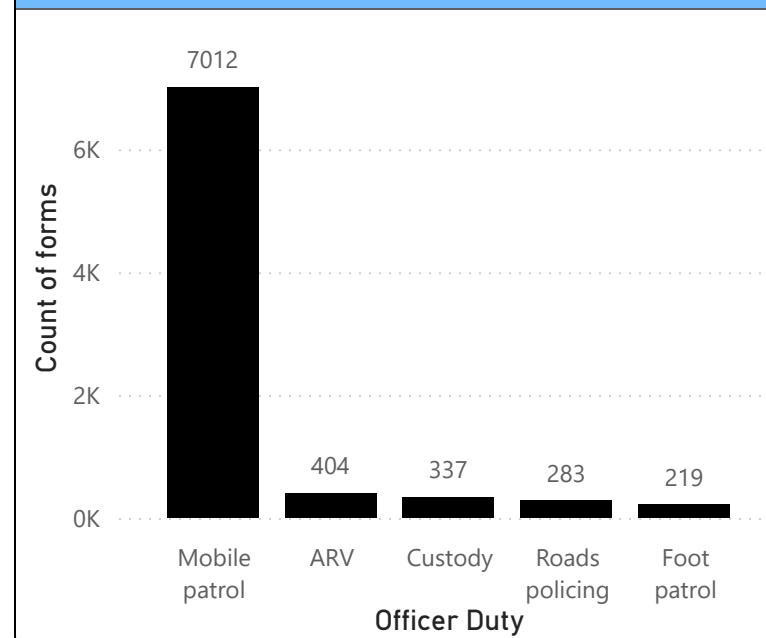
Figure 6: Reasons for using force: prevalence on forms by ethnicity

Reason	Forms	White	Eth Min	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other
Prevent Escape	57.65%	56.40%	61.06%	63.13%	59.55%	60.73%	60.00%
Effect Arrest	52.95%	53.55%	51.75%	53.69%	49.37%	51.36%	58.52%
Prevent Harm	46.69%	47.65%	44.48%	44.93%	43.65%	44.71%	47.41%
Prevent Offence	34.25%	34.02%	34.59%	33.99%	34.82%	33.53%	39.26%
Secure Evidence	17.13%	14.50%	23.55%	22.35%	24.54%	24.17%	22.22%
Effect stop and search	16.35%	13.60%	23.13%	22.12%	26.87%	16.62%	17.04%
Remove Handcuffs	12.10%	12.07%	12.47%	13.13%	11.64%	12.39%	14.81%
Effect search in Custody	7.58%	7.43%	7.86%	5.30%	10.67%	7.55%	3.70%
Effect other search	3.27%	3.36%	3.13%	3.11%	3.49%	2.42%	2.22%
Other	2.01%	2.18%	1.52%	1.15%	1.26%	2.42%	3.70%
<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	38.49%	43.12%	27.53%	25.76%	27.65%	30.53%	30.34%
Mental Health	31.34%	34.80%	23.47%	23.36%	21.44%	30.25%	22.76%
Drugs	31.17%	31.07%	31.50%	30.24%	33.58%	29.13%	29.66%
Prior Knowledge	29.51%	29.83%	29.24%	27.29%	28.83%	35.57%	28.97%
Size/Gender/Build	21.11%	20.14%	23.43%	19.21%	25.27%	28.85%	22.76%
Possession of a Weapon	16.46%	15.48%	18.85%	18.67%	19.71%	16.25%	20.00%
Other	12.81%	11.92%	14.84%	16.81%	13.96%	12.61%	14.48%
Crowd	8.67%	8.37%	9.07%	8.73%	9.76%	7.84%	8.97%
Acute Behavioural Disorder	1.26%	1.26%	1.23%	1.97%	0.64%	1.40%	0.69%
<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	10.81%	6.40%
Black	12.93%	15.20%
Mixed	4.21%	2.40%
Other	1.71%	1.60%
White	70.34%	74.40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Figure 15: Threat by Subject Behaviour**

Subject Behaviour	Threats
Aggressive resistance	41
Active resistance	38
Passive resistance	14
Verbal / Gestures	12
Serious or aggravated resistance	11
Compliant	9

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

Gender	Forms	Threats
Female	11.72%	
Male	84.14%	100.00%
Other	4.14%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

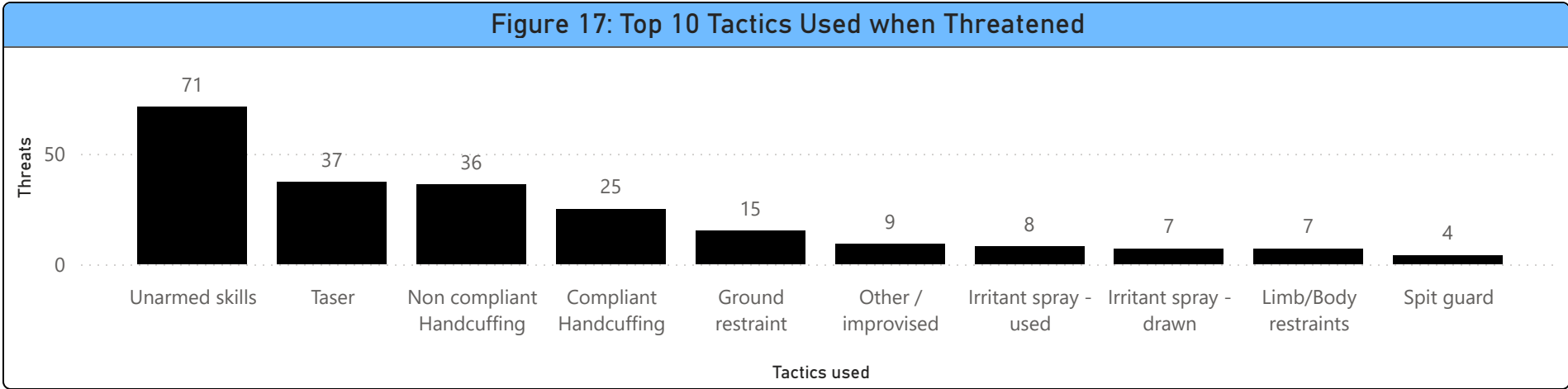
**1673**  
Intelligence - Weapons

**Threats**

**125**  
Threats

**1144**  
Violence - Reported

**168**  
Officer spat at



**Assaults & Injuries**

# 72

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.

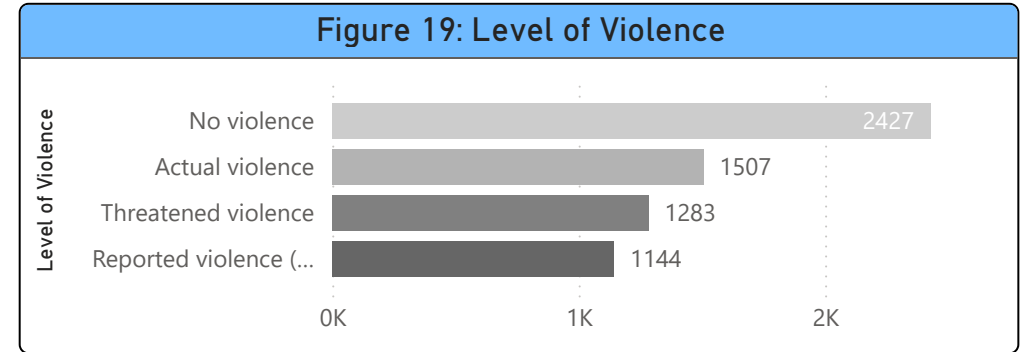
Instances where the officer was not assaulted have been excluded.

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.

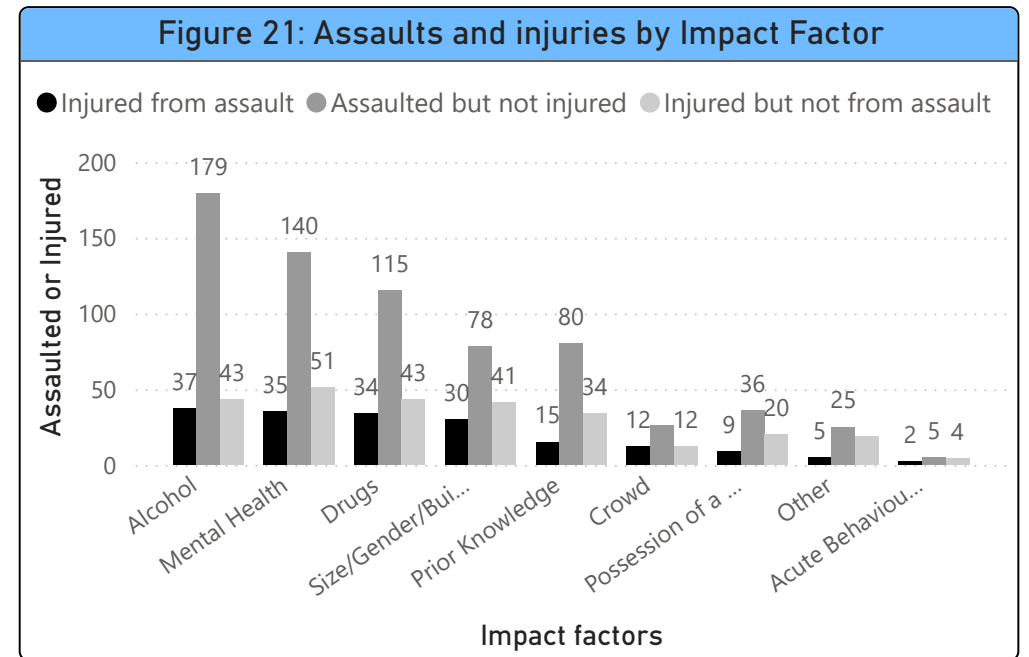
**Figure 18: Officer Injured or Assaulted**

Officer Injured	Forms	%
I was not injured but was assaulted	335	63.57%
I was injured but not as a result of an assault	120	22.77%
I was injured as a result of an assault	72	13.66%
<b>Total</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



**Figure 20: Injuries and assaults by LPA**

LPA	Injured from assault	Assaulted but not injured	Injured but not from assault
Bracknell & Wokingham	4	30	14
Buckinghamshire	11	59	18
Milton Keynes	11	44	16
Not Recorded	0	0	0
Out of Force	0	2	0
Oxfordshire	18	82	25
Reading	8	43	16
Slough	5	38	18
West Berkshire	5	11	3
Windsor & Maidenhead	10	26	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>120</b>



## Disproportionality by LPA

### Figure 22: Asian

Incident LPA	Forms	Population	per 1000	Dispro
Buckinghamshire	245	68294	3.59	1.43
Oxfordshire	142	46379	3.06	1.25
Windsor & Maidenhead	75	20085	3.73	1.04
West Berkshire	10	5992	1.67	0.69
Bracknell & Wokingham	46	31764	1.45	0.62
Reading	80	30845	2.59	0.53
Slough	254	74091	3.43	0.42
Milton Keynes	53	35636	1.49	0.36
Out of Force	11			
<b>Total</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>313086</b>	<b>2.93</b>	<b>0.97</b>

### Figure 23: Black

Incident LPA	Forms	Population	per 1000	Dispro
Windsor & Maidenhead	93	2365	39.32	10.98
Buckinghamshire	224	14233	15.74	6.25
West Berkshire	29	2036	14.24	5.89
Oxfordshire	176	14850	11.85	4.84
Bracknell & Wokingham	79	7312	10.80	4.62
Reading	155	12538	12.36	2.54
Milton Keynes	191	27882	6.85	1.66
Slough	137	12003	11.41	1.39
Out of Force	12			
<b>Total</b>	<b>1096</b>	<b>93219</b>	<b>11.76</b>	<b>3.89</b>

### Figure 24: White

Incident LPA	Forms	Population	per 1000
Slough	468	57117	8.19
Reading	568	116888	4.86
Milton Keynes	850	206081	4.12
Windsor & Maidenhead	439	122551	3.58
Buckinghamshire	1113	442234	2.52
Oxfordshire	1544	630090	2.45
West Berkshire	359	148392	2.42
Bracknell & Wokingham	583	249119	2.34
Out of Force	39		
<b>Total</b>	<b>5963</b>	<b>1972472</b>	<b>3.02</b>

### Figure 25: Mixed

Incident LPA	Forms	Population	per 1000	Dispro
Oxfordshire	83	22634	3.67	1.50
Buckinghamshire	69	19556	3.53	1.40
Reading	50	8978	5.57	1.15
Windsor & Maidenhead	21	5232	4.01	1.12
Bracknell & Wokingham	24	9422	2.55	1.09
Slough	54	6313	8.55	1.04
Milton Keynes	49	11723	4.18	1.01
West Berkshire	4	3868	1.03	0.43
Out of Force	3			
<b>Total</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>87726</b>	<b>4.07</b>	<b>1.35</b>

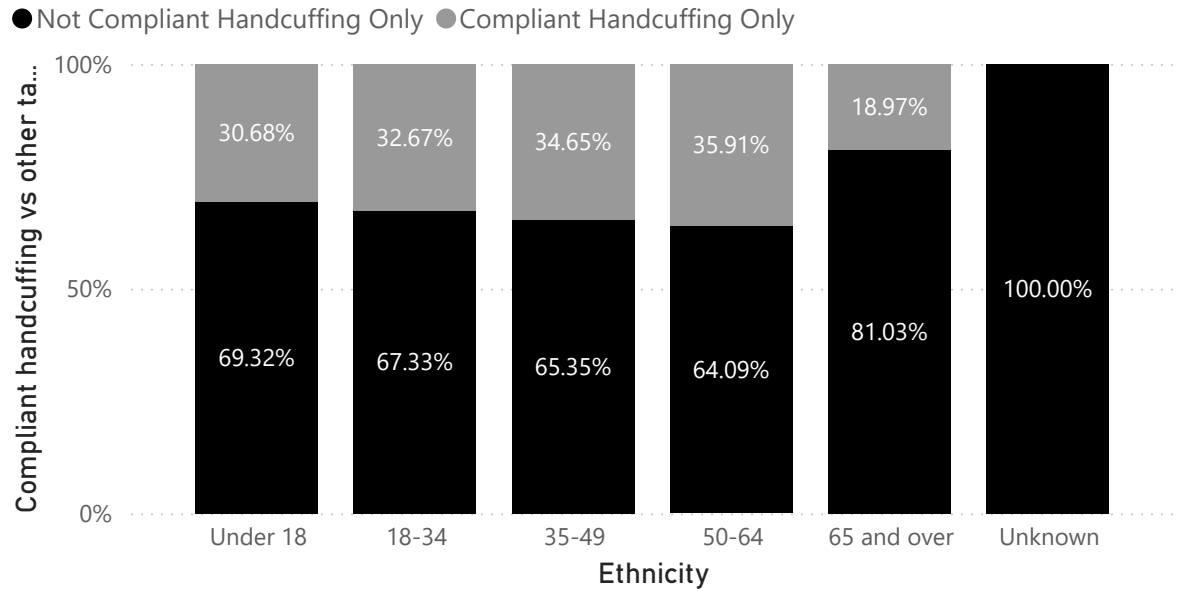
### Figure 26: Other

Incident LPA	Forms	Population	Per 1000	Dispro
West Berkshire	5	1199	4.17	1.72
Buckinghamshire	36	8718	4.13	1.64
Oxfordshire	33	11327	2.91	1.19
Milton Keynes	23	5718	4.02	0.98
Bracknell & Wokingham	9	4547	1.98	0.85
Windsor & Maidenhead	7	3291	2.13	0.59
Reading	11	5017	2.19	0.45
Slough	18	8951	2.01	0.25
Out of Force	3			
<b>Total</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>48768</b>	<b>2.97</b>	<b>0.98</b>

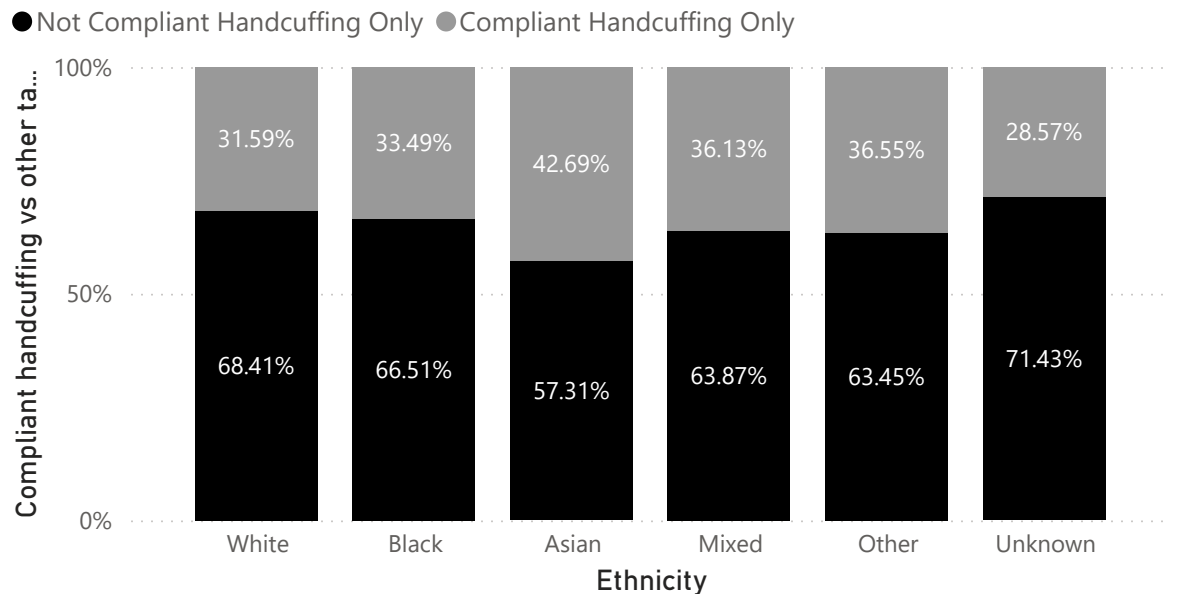
**Figure 27: Tactics used (Distinct)**

Tactics	Forms	% Forms
Unarmed skills	4114	47.90%
Compliant Handcuffing	3761	43.79%
Non compliant Handcuffing	1954	22.75%
Ground restraint	856	9.97%
Limb/Body restraints	479	5.58%
Other / improvised	449	5.23%
Taser	386	4.49%
Spit guard	145	1.69%
Irritant spray - used	121	1.41%
Irritant spray - drawn	109	1.27%
Firearms	50	0.58%
Baton drawn	41	0.48%
Baton used	39	0.45%
Dog deployed	19	0.22%
Dog biting	14	0.16%
AEP drawn	9	0.10%
Shield	6	0.07%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8589</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.

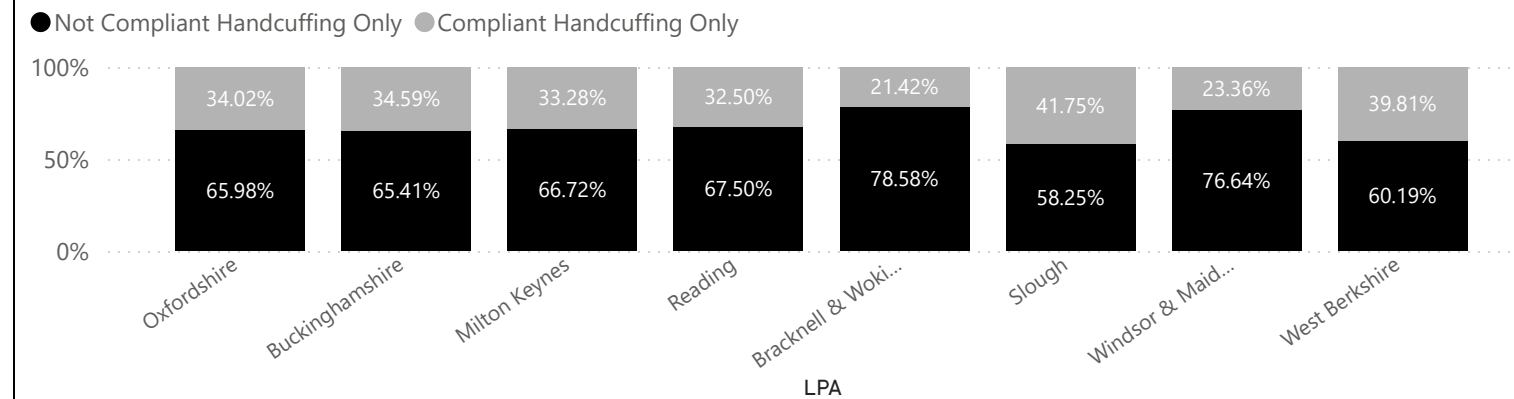
**Figure 30: Tactics by Tactic Number**

Tactic No.	% Forms
First Tactic Used	100.00%
Second Tactic Used	34.97%
Third Tactic Used	12.69%
Fourth Tactic Used	5.02%
Fifth Tactic Used	1.91%
Sixth Tactic Used	0.90%
Seventh Tactic Used	0.45%
Eighth Tactic Used	0.20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

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

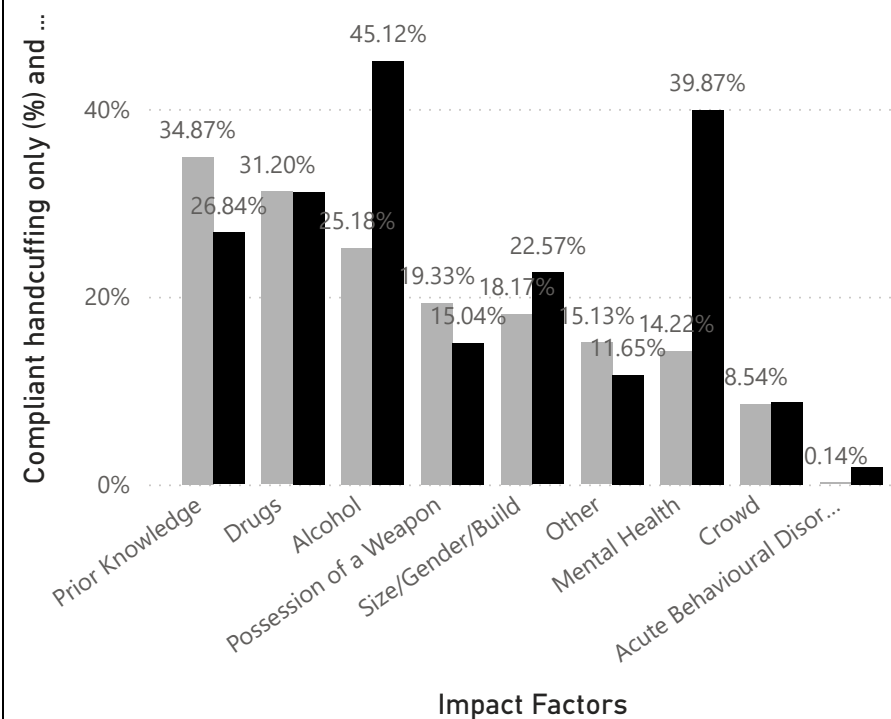
Ethnicity	Forms (%)	Compliant Handcuffing Only (%)	More than Compliant Handcuffing Only (%)
Asian	10.81%	13.85%	9.29%
Black	12.93%	13.00%	12.90%
Mixed	4.21%	4.57%	4.03%
Other	1.71%	1.88%	1.63%
White	70.34%	66.71%	72.16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**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 (%)**

● Compliant handcuffing only (%) ● Not compliant handcuffing only (%)



**56**  
Injured - compliant handcuffing only

**672**  
Injured - not compliant handcuffing only

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

Reason	Compliant Handcuffing	%	Not Compliant Handcuffing Only	(%)
Prevent Escape	1722	63.97%	2903	54.46%
Effect Arrest	1534	56.98%	2714	50.91%
Prevent Harm	982	36.48%	2764	51.85%
Effect stop and search	754	28.01%	558	10.47%
Prevent Offence	742	27.56%	2006	37.63%
Secure Evidence	647	24.03%	727	13.64%
Remove Handcuffs	424	15.75%	547	10.26%
Effect other search	80	2.97%	182	3.41%
Effect search in Custody	58	2.15%	550	10.32%
Other	12	0.45%	149	2.79%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2692</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>5331</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

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

**33.25%**

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

453

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	20.43%	15.80%
Indeterminate	0.23%	1.10%
Male	78.36%	81.73%
Other	0.07%	
Unknown	0.91%	1.37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Figure 41: Individuals - Distinct by Subject Injury Level

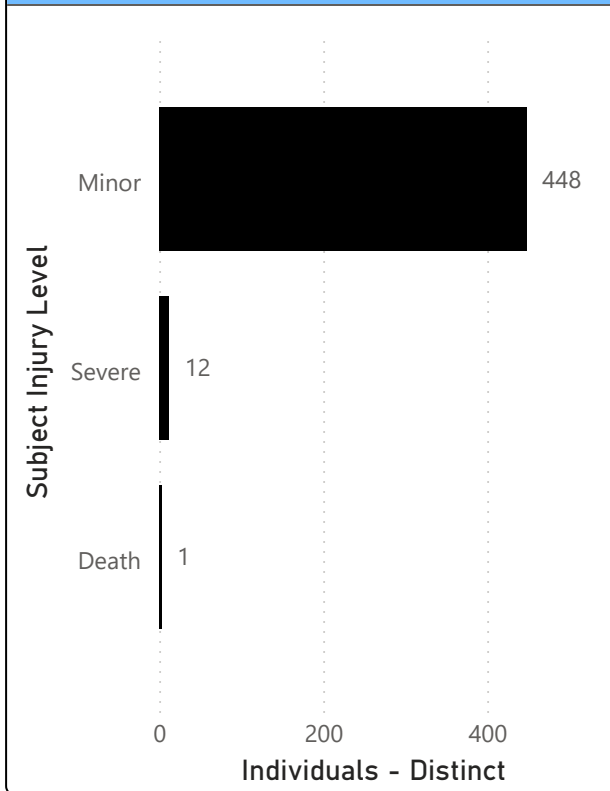


Figure 40: Injury by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Forms	Injury Combined	Injury - per 1000
Asian	10.81%	7.23%	56.77
Black	12.93%	8.34%	54.74
Mixed	4.21%	3.06%	61.62
Other	1.71%	0.97%	48.28
White	70.34%	80.39%	96.93
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>84.82</b>

Figure 42: Injuries by Age Group

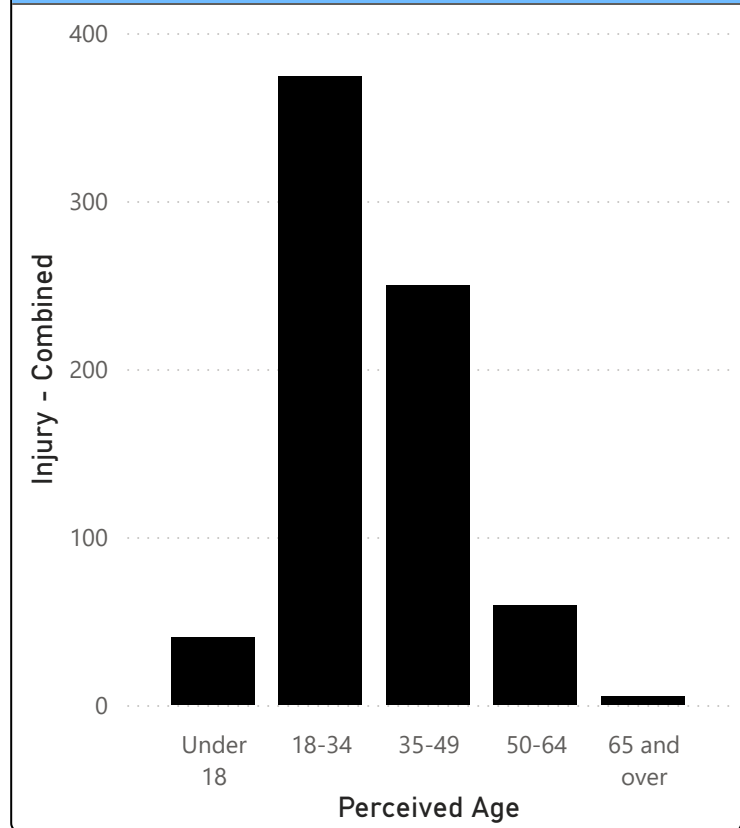
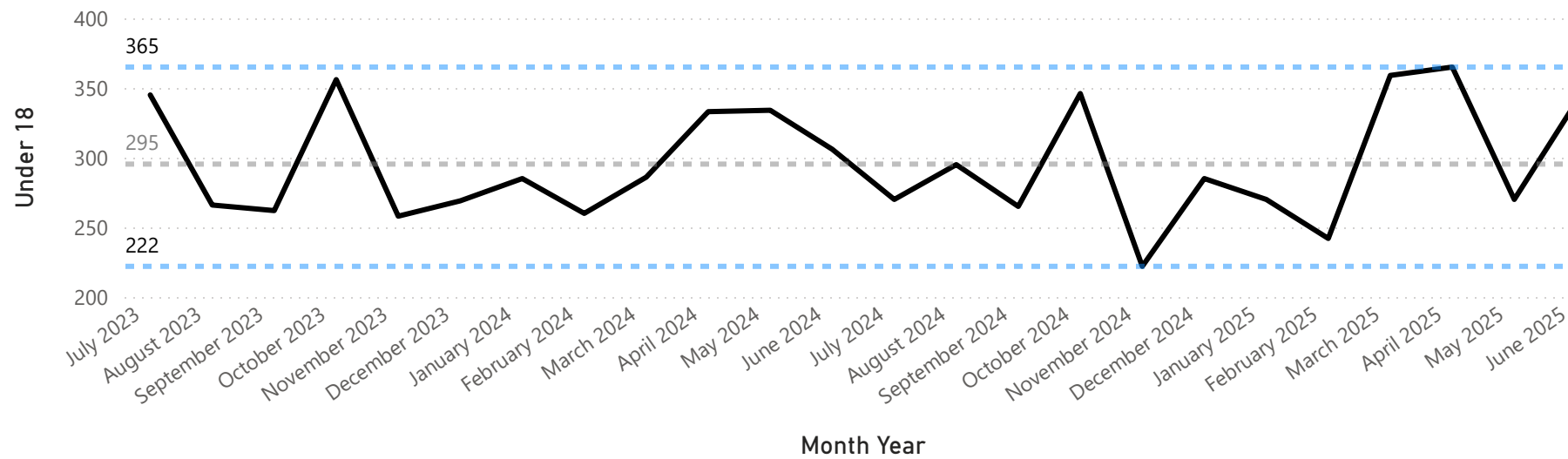


Figure 43: Under 18 by Month Year



**U18s**

**299**

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	212	21.74%
Milton Keynes	177	18.15%
Buckinghamshire	175	17.95%
Slough	144	14.77%
Bracknell & Wokingham	82	8.41%
Reading	80	8.21%
West Berkshire	61	6.26%
Windsor & Maidenhead	38	3.90%
Out of Force	6	0.62%
<b>Total</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**11.35%**  
Proportion U18s

**40**  
Injury - U18

Figure 45: Under 18 by Ethnicity

Ethnicity Combined	Under 18	%
Asian	87	8.92%
Black	149	15.28%
Mixed	55	5.64%
Other	18	1.85%
Unknown	7	0.72%
White	659	67.59%
<b>Total</b>	<b>975</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>