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Seizures of Drugs in England and Wales, 2009/10

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Further data

This publication and the detailed tables used to produce it are available on the Home Office RDS website at <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/drug-seizures.html>

Forthcoming publications

The release date for next year's bulletin, containing 2010/11 data, has not yet been pre-announced.

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Summary

- There were 224,080 drug seizures by the police and the UK Border Agency (including Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs¹) in England and Wales in 2009/10, a decrease of seven per cent on 2008/09, when a record 241,473 seizures were made.
- The number of drug seizures made has nearly doubled since 2004. Much of this increase is thought to be associated with the introduction of cannabis warnings².
- Class A seizures decreased by 14 per cent between 2008/09 and 2009/10 to 41,204. Class B seizures fell by five per cent to 182,522 with class C seizures also falling by 14 per cent to 6,488.
- Cocaine was again the most commonly seized class A drug in 2009/10, with 21,337 seizures, a 13 per cent decrease on 2008/09. The number of seizures of cocaine has more than tripled since 2002. The second highest seized class A drug was heroin at 12,812, a four per cent decrease from 2008/09.
- Seizures of cannabis have fallen by five per cent from a record 186,147 in 2008/09 to 176,578 in 2009/10.
- There were 2.6 tonnes of cocaine seized in England and Wales in 2009/10, down from 2.9 tonnes in 2008/09. The quantity of cocaine seized has gradually fallen from a peak of 6.9 tonnes seized in 2003.
- Additionally there were 1.5 tonnes of heroin seized in England and Wales in 2009/10 (down 2% on 2008/09), as well as 1.3 tonnes of amphetamines (down 55%), 30.5 tonnes of herbal cannabis and cannabis resin (down 53%), and 758,700 cannabis plants (up 18%).
- The number of drug seizures should not be used as a measure of drug prevalence in England and Wales. A separate publication, 'Drug Misuse Declared: Findings from the British Crime Survey', examines this topic.³

¹ See Box 2

² See Box 5

³ See Drug Misuse Declared: Findings from the British Crime Survey: <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/drug-use-prevalence.html>

1 Introduction

This publication presents figures for drug seizures made by law enforcement agencies in England and Wales during 2009/10. The statistics in this publication relate to all drugs controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (MDA), which divides drugs into three categories (classes A, B and C) according to their harmfulness, with class A drugs considered to be the most harmful. The drugs in the table below, with their classifications, are those that are covered in detail within this bulletin.⁴

Table A: Drugs and their classifications under the Misuse of Drugs Act

Class A	Class B	Class C
Cocaine	Amphetamines ⁵	Anabolic Steroids
Crack	Barbiturates ⁵	Benzodiazepines
Ecstasy-type	Cannabis ⁶	GHB
Heroin		Ketamine ⁷
LSD		Temazepam
Methadone		
Morphine		

These statistics cover seizures made during the year by police in England and Wales (including the British Transport Police), together with information from the UK Border Agency (including seizures made by HM Revenue and Customs, see Box 2). Drug seizure data from the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) are not included within this publication (see Box 4).

Merseyside data for years prior to 2008/09

At the beginning of 2008/09, Merseyside Police introduced a new computer system for recording drug seizures, after they became aware that seizures were being under-recorded. Due to this, drug seizures for previous years have been estimated to take account of this under-recording. As a result, all percentage comparisons with previous years in this bulletin use these estimates. For further details, see Box 3.

⁴ The number of drugs covered by the Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) is far greater than those listed in Table A. It is not feasible to publish seizure statistics in detail for every drug. Where a seizure is made of a drug that is not listed in Table A, it is aggregated into an 'other' class category. Further information on drugs covered under the MDA, including a link to the full list of drugs covered, is available at: <http://drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/drugs-laws/misuse-of-drugs-act/>

⁵ Amphetamines and barbiturates are class A drugs if prepared for injection.

⁶ Cannabis was reclassified from a class B to a class C drug in January 2004, and then classified back as a class B drug on 26 January 2009.

⁷ Ketamine became a controlled drug in 2006.

Box 1: Counting rules

Single or multiple seizures

A single seizure involves a seizure of one drug quantity within one drug type (for example: 10g of cocaine). Where a seizure involves multiple drug types and/or preparation types, counting rules are applied to this multiple seizure (for example: 10g of cocaine and 5g of crack).

Three counts of seizures: total, by drug type and by class

Multiple seizures involving more than one drug are counted as a single seizure in the total number of seizures, but are counted separately against each individual drug type or drug class involved.

Example: A seizure is made of: 1kg cocaine; 100g cannabis resin; and 350g herbal cannabis. This seizure would be counted as:

- Total:
One seizure in the overall total for the number of seizures by that agency [quantity not applicable];
- Drug type:
One seizure of cocaine [1kg]; one seizure of cannabis resin [100g]; and one seizure of herbal cannabis [350g];
- Class:
One seizure of class A and one seizure of class C [quantity not applicable].

Avoiding double counting

Seizures from joint operations involving the UK Border Agency and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

Seizures in England and Wales

Although the UK Border Agency and some police forces may be involved in seizures outside England and Wales, those seizures are not included in this publication.

Box 2: The UK Border Agency and HM Revenue and Customs

In July 2007 it was announced that a new agency was to be formed to manage UK border controls. The UK Border Agency was launched in April 2008, creating a new front-line operation formed from the Borders and Immigration Agency (BIA), UK Visas as well as staff of HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) employed at the frontier. In 2008-09 the UK Border Agency operated as a shadow agency, with staff from the different agencies working together at the frontline until Royal Assent was granted in August 2009 to formally transfer customs powers to the new agency.

HM Revenue and Customs retain responsibility for the inland control of illicit goods such as cigarettes, tobacco and alcohol. HMRC officers retain the legal power to seize drugs if they are discovered while they are conducting their inland duties. Consequently, a small number of drug seizures can be attributed to HMRC. For the purposes of this report these seizures are included in the UKBA totals.

Box 3: Merseyside data for years prior to 2008/09

At the start of 2008/09, Merseyside Police brought in a new recording system for drug seizures which indicated under-reporting of drugs seized in previous years. The new system is now in place and has been used to supply data on drug seizures to the Home Office from 2008/09 onwards.

For 2007/08 and other previous years, previously supplied figures for Merseyside in this bulletin have been estimated. These estimates have been used to create totals for England, and England and Wales for the years 1999 to 2006/07. These estimates are based on extrapolating back the contribution to national figures from Merseyside seizures in 2008/09, this being based on national trends excluding Merseyside. They have been made by the statisticians responsible for the series to provide the best estimates of national trends over time given the lack of valid Merseyside figures prior to 2008/09.

Box 4: The Serious Organised Crime Agency

Seizures by the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) have not been separately identified because the majority of their domestic seizures are made in conjunction with local police forces, with the seizure attributed to the police. SOCA publish their own data within their annual report, which includes seizures made outside UK borders and also those made with international partners. The most recent [report](#), for 2009-10, was published in July 2010.

2 Number of seizures

- Police and the UK Border Agency made 224,080 seizures in England and Wales in 2009/10. This represents a decrease of seven per cent on 2008/09.
- The number of seizures made in 2008/09 was the highest since the Home Office began collecting data in 1973 and was the fourth consecutive yearly rise. Drug seizures have nearly doubled since 2004, when 112,923 seizures were made.
- The numbers of seizures made are affected by police activity and changes in recording practices, such as the introduction of cannabis warnings (see Box 5). Therefore, the number of drug seizures each year should not be taken as a measure of drug prevalence in society. Drug prevalence in England and Wales is addressed in the Drug Misuse Declared publications, based on results from the British Crime Survey.⁸

Class A drugs

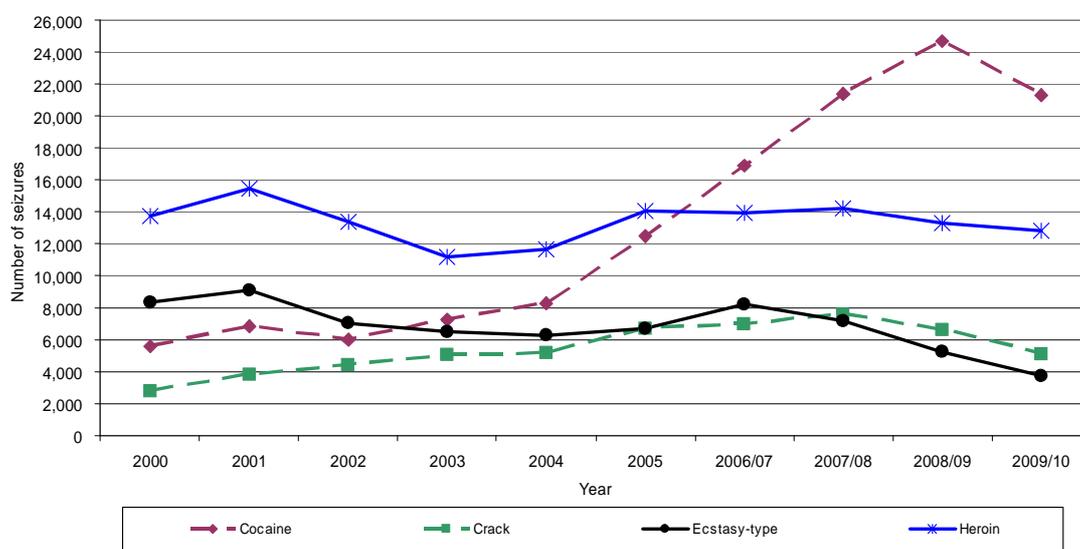
- In England and Wales seizures involving class A drugs decreased by 14 per cent to 41,204 in 2009/10. This is the second consecutive annual fall in seizures of class A drugs, following three consecutive annual increases.
- Cocaine, for the fourth year in succession, was the most commonly seized class A drug, with 21,337 seizures, down 14 per cent on 2008/09. Cocaine seizures have risen sharply over recent years and have more than doubled since 2004.
- Seizures of heroin fell by four per cent between 2008/09 and 2009/10 to 12,812, its second consecutive annual fall.

Other notable class A drug seizures include the following.

- Crack seizures decreased by 23 per cent to 5,075 in 2009/10. This is the second consecutive annual fall in crack seizures, following eight consecutive annual rises.
- Ecstasy seizures fell to 3,720 in 2009/10, a 29 per cent decrease. Seizures are now less than half of 2006/07 levels, following four consecutive annual falls.
- There were also 1,033 seizures of methadone, a decrease of three per cent and 101 seizures of LSD, a 23 per cent fall on 2008/09.

⁸ See Drug Misuse Declared: Findings from the British Crime Survey: <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/drug-use-prevalence.html>

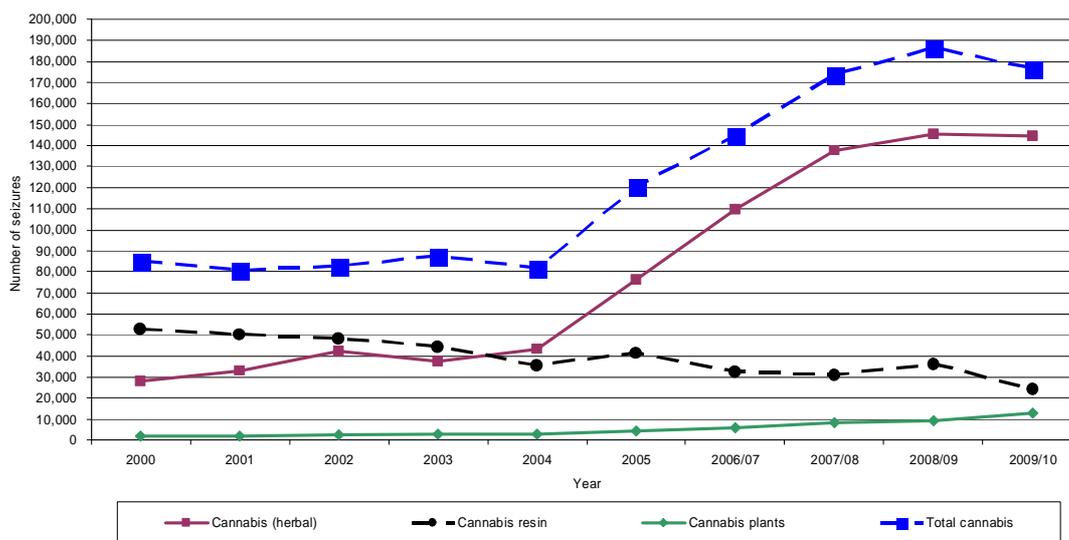
Figure 1: The number of seizures for the main class A drug types, England and Wales, 2000 to 2009/10



Class B drugs

- In 2009/10, there was a five per cent decrease in seizures of class B drugs to 182,522. The majority of class B seizures were for cannabis, with 176,578 seizures in 2009/10, down from 186,147 in 2008/09. The second highest number of seizures for a class B drug was for amphetamines with 7,290 in 2009/10, down from 7,760 in 2008/09.

Figure 2: The number of seizures of cannabis, England and Wales, 2000 to 2009/10

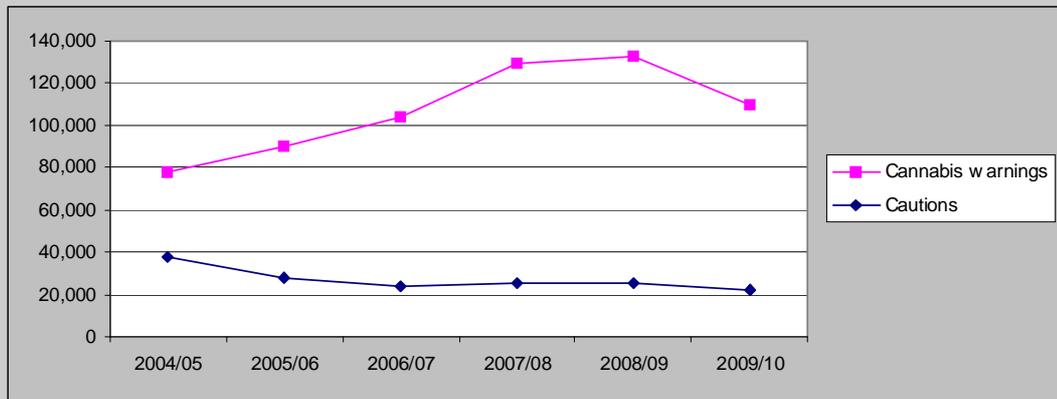


- In the four years prior to the introduction of cannabis warnings in 2004, cannabis seizures averaged 84,000 a year. In the five years since then, cannabis seizures have averaged 160,000.

Box 5: Warnings for cannabis possession⁹

With effect from 1 April 2004 the Home Office issued guidance to all police forces in relation to the recording of formal warnings for cannabis possession which was in line with Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) guidance. This gave an additional disposal option of a formal warning for cannabis possession (from 16 January 2007 renamed cannabis warnings). Whereas a simple caution involves processing an individual at a police station, a cannabis warning can be completed on the street. The widespread and growing use of this new disposal is thought to have been a large contributory factor in the increase in the number of police seizures for cannabis since April 2004.

Additionally, on 26 January 2009 issuing penalty notices for disorder for cannabis possession was introduced as an option for the police.



Since 2004/05, the number of cautions issued for cannabis possession has fallen by 41 per cent, while cannabis warnings have increased by 117 per cent. The latest year, however, sees a fall in both cautions and cannabis warnings by 12 per cent and 19 per cent respectively.

⁹ See <http://drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/publication-search/cannabis/potency?view=Binary>

Class C drugs

- In 2009/10 there were 6,488 seizures involving class C drugs, a 14 per cent fall on 2008/09. The most seized class C drug in 2009/10 was benzodiazepines with 2,947 seizures, a decrease of 27 per cent on 2008/09. Seizures of these drugs, however, had been increasing sharply over the previous four years.

Notable seizures of other class C drugs in 2009/10 included the following:

- There were 284 seizures of temazepam in 2009/10. This fell from 609 in 2008/09, which was the highest number seized since records began in 1995.
- Seizures of anabolic steroids increased by eight per cent to 867, which is the highest total since records began for this drug type in 1996.
- In 2009/10 there were 988 seizures of other class C drugs in comparison to 1,088 in 2008/09. Ketamine became a controlled drug in 2006 and is categorised under “Other class C” for police forces until last year and for UKBA until this year. There was a 19 per cent increase in ketamine seizures by police forces from 2008/09 to 2009/10 to 1,510.

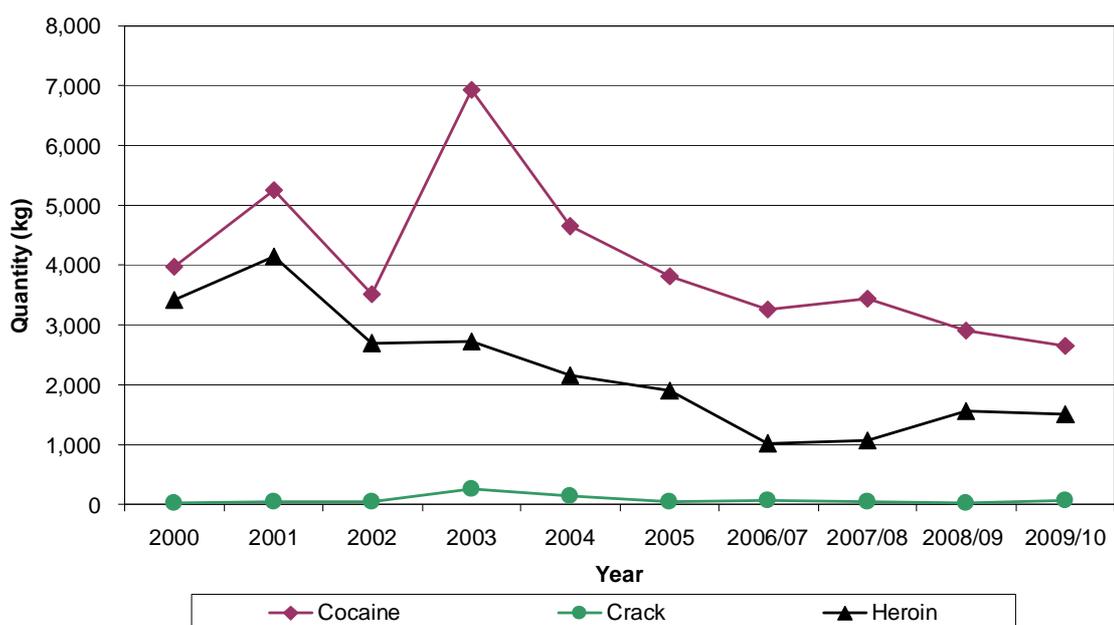
3 Quantities of drugs seized

Summary Table 2 shows the trends in quantities of drugs seized over the last ten years and Summary Table 3 shows the amount of weighed and unweighed seizures. The quantities data fluctuate from year to year and do not necessarily move in line with the number of seizures made. Whilst most drug seizures consist of relatively small quantities, annual totals of drugs seized can be greatly influenced by a small number of large seizures, generally made by the UK Border Agency. These large seizures, when made, should not be taken as an indication of drug prevalence or availability.

Class A drugs

- In 2009/10, there were 2.6 tonnes of cocaine seized (a 9% decrease on 2008/09), 1.5 tonnes of heroin (a 2% fall on 2008/09) and 59kg of crack seized (a 79% increase on 2008/09). There were also 171,000 doses of ecstasy (a 69% fall on 2008/09) and nearly 150,000 doses of methadone seized in 2009/10 (a 27% fall on 2008/09).
- For cocaine, 57 per cent of the 21,337 seizures were of quantities of less than one gram with a further 39 per cent between one and 500 grams.
- There were 12,812 seizures of heroin made of which 8,741 (68%) were under one gram. In 2008/09, 61 per cent of seizures were under one gram.
- There were 5,075 seizures of crack made of which 3,234 (64%) seizures were under one gram.

Figure 3: Quantity of weighed class A drug types seized, England and Wales, 2000 to 2009/10



- The majority of unweighed class A drug seizures in 2009/10 were for ecstasy-type with 3,720 seizures; 93 per cent of these seizures were between 1–50 doses.

- The proportion of seizure quantities for the other main categories of class A drug was also similarly high for smaller seizures. For morphine, 82 per cent of seizures were between 1–50 doses, with LSD standing at 85 per cent and methadone at 65 per cent for 1–50 doses.

Class B drugs

- There were 30.5 tonnes of cannabis seized (herbal and resin) in 2009/10, as well as 758,700 cannabis plants. This compares with 65.2 tonnes of cannabis and 643,510 cannabis plants seized in 2008/09.
- Of the 144,228 seizures of herbal cannabis, the most commonly seized class B drug, 33,937 (24%) weighed under one gram and 109,137 (76%) weighed between one and 500 grams.
- There were 24,319 seizures of cannabis resin made of which 24,011 (99%) weighed less than one gram.
- 30.5 tonnes of cannabis (herbal and resin) were seized in 2009/10. The police seized 6.1 tonnes (20%) of this and the UKBA seized 24.4 tonnes (80%).
- Eighty-three per cent of cannabis plant seizures were for 50 plants or fewer. All seizures of cannabis plants were made by the police.
- There were 1.3 tonnes of amphetamines seized in 2009/10, a fall of 55 per cent. 2008/09 saw 2.9 tonnes seized, the highest since records began in 1973.

Class C drugs

- There were over six point eight million doses of benzodiazepines seized in 2009/10, the most commonly seized class C drug. This was more than twice the amount seized in 2008/09.
- Anabolic steroids were the next highest unweighed class C drug with three point four million doses seized.

Box 6: Calculating quantities of drugs

The quantities of drugs seized are summarised in terms of kilograms, doses or plants (for cannabis plants only). Most drugs can plausibly be seized in a preparation form other than kilograms or doses. Therefore, in order to present all seized quantities within a given drug type in terms of one comparable unit (either kilograms or doses), conversion factors are applied to estimate the overall quantity of drugs seized.

The conversion factors were revised from the 2005 publication to reflect trends in average drug preparations. These conversion factors have also been used for the 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 publications, and will be reviewed periodically in the future. All revisions to quantities conversion factors and units for presentation have been made on the advice of the Forensic Science Service. Some drugs that were previously presented in kilograms are presented in doses from 2005. As the basis for these calculations has changed, figures for seizure quantities for prior to 2005 are not directly comparable with the published data for the last three years.

4 Purity of drugs

Data on the average purities of different types of drugs have been obtained from the Forensic Science Service (FSS) and are based on the average of all analysed drug samples submitted to the FSS. In general, the purity from the UK Border Agency (UKBA) seizures is higher than that from the police force seizures. This reflects the fact that their seizures will tend to be made higher in the supply chain and before 'cutting' (the addition of active agents to increase profit margins) occurs.

- Seizures of cocaine show a slight increase in the purity of those seizures made by the UKBA, but a fall in those seizures made by the police compared with 2008/09.
- The purity of crack seized by the police and the UKBA has fallen sharply from 2008/09 figures. The purity of crack seized by the UKBA is likely to vary considerably from year to year due to the small number of crack seizures taking place (four in 2009/10 and eight in 2008/09).
- The purity of heroin seized has increased for both the police and the UKBA since 2008/09.
- The purity of amphetamines seized by the police shows a slight increase, whereas that seized by the UKBA shows a substantial fall.

Table B: Average purity¹⁰ of drug seizures analysed by the Forensic Science Service by drug type and authority for 2008/09 and 2009/10

		Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	Ampheta- mines
Police	2009/10	21	29	44	8
	2008/09	27	40	39	7
UKBA (including HMRC)	2009/10	63	37	53	26
	2008/09	62	64	50	44

¹⁰ Purities are expressed in percentages. Data derived from average purities by taking figures from each quarter from Summary Table 4.

5 Seizures by authority

Number of seizures

- In 2009/10, 220,132 or 98 per cent of seizures were made by police forces with the remaining 3,948 or two per cent made by the UK Border Agency (UKBA). The number of seizures has fallen for both the police and the UKBA from 2008/09 to 2009/10. Seizures made by police forces fell by six per cent, and those by the UKBA fell by 49 per cent.
- For police forces, class A seizures fell by 14 per cent, class B seizures fell by four per cent and class C rose by 13 per cent. For the UKBA, class A seizures fell by six per cent, class B fell by 58 per cent and class C seizures fell by 57 per cent.
- Police forces accounted for 97 per cent of all seizures of class A drugs and 99 per cent of all seizures of class B drugs. For class C drugs, police forces were responsible for 80 per cent of seizures.
- Within the class A drugs seized, the police were responsible for over 99 per cent of crack, ecstasy, heroin, LSD and methadone seizures and 95 per cent of cocaine seizures.
- Over 99 per cent of seizures of cannabis and amphetamines were conducted by the police.
- All seizures of GHB in 2009/10 were conducted by the police. The UKBA were responsible for 28 per cent of seizures of benzodiazepines (55% in 2008/09), 19 per cent of temazepam (52% in 2008/09) and 39 per cent of anabolic steroids (32% in 2008/09).

Table C: Number and percentage of drug seizures by class, drug type and authority, England and Wales, 2009/10

		Police forces		UK Border Agency (including HM Revenue and Customs) ¹¹		Totals
		Number	%	Number	%	
Class A drugs	Cocaine	20,311	95%	1,026	5%	21,337
	Crack	5,071	100%	4	0%	5,075
	Ecstasy-type	3,708	100%	12	0%	3,720
	Heroin	12,704	99%	108	1%	12,812
	LSD	100	99%	1	1%	101
	Methadone	1,025	99%	8	1%	1,033
	Morphine	109	98%	2	2%	111
	Other class A	598	88%	85	12%	683
	All class A¹²	39,969	97%	1,235	3%	41,204
Class B drugs	Cannabis	175,198	99%	1,380	1%	176,578
	Amphetamines	7,251	99%	39	1%	7,290
	Barbiturates	21	75%	7	25%	28
	Other class B	311	85%	56	15%	367
	All class B¹²	181,052	99%	1,470	1%	182,522
Class C drugs	Anabolic steroids	526	61%	341	39%	867
	Benzodiazepines	2,131	72%	816	28%	2,947
	GHB	59	100%	-	0%	59
	Ketamine	1,510	94%	99	6%	1,609
	Temazepam	230	81%	54	19%	284
	Other class C	966	98%	22	2%	988
	All class C¹²	5,181	80%	1,307	20%	6,488
Unknown	3,061	100%	-	0%	3,061	
All seizures¹²	220,132	98%	3,948	2%	224,080	

Quantity of seizures

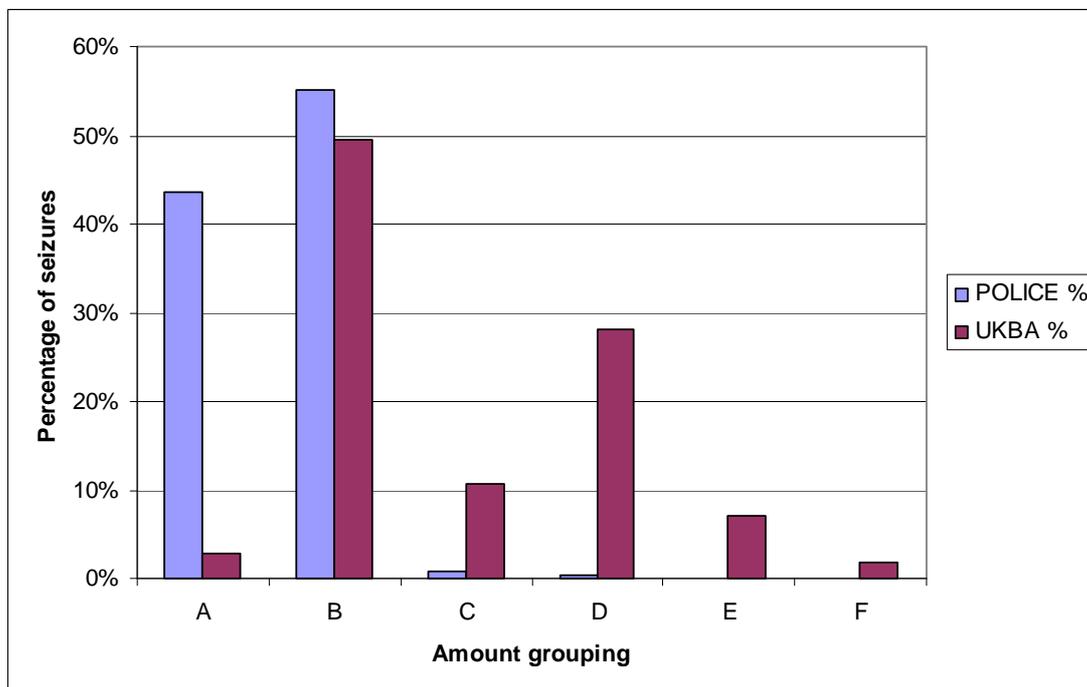
Although the UKBA only accounted for two per cent of seizures in 2009/10, the percentage seized in terms of quantity was much higher. This is due to the fact that the agency is often involved in high profile operations where large quantities of drugs are seized at ports etc.

This is highlighted in Figure 4 which shows police seizures concentrated towards the lower amount groupings and UK Border agency seizures skewed towards the higher amount groupings. Breakdown by drug type can be found in summary table 3.

¹¹ Figures may differ slightly from the UK Border Agency and HM Revenue and Customs publications due to differences in counting rules. Seizures from joint operations involving the UK Border Agency and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

¹² As a seizure can involve more than one drug, figures for individual drugs and drug classes cannot be added together to produce totals.

Figure 4: Percentage distribution of police and UKBA main class A and B¹³ drug seizures 2009/10



Where A = "Under 1kg" or "1-50 doses/plants" D = "1kg to 10kg" or "501-1,000 doses/plants"
 B = "1g to 500g" or "51-100" doses/plants" E = "10kg to 100kg" or "1,001-10,000 doses/plants"
 C = "500g to 1kg" or "101-500 doses/plants" F = "100kg and over" or "over 10,000 doses / plants"

- In 2009/10, the UKBA seized 76 per cent of cocaine by quantity (86% in 2008/09), 55 per cent of heroin (67% in 2008/09) and 32 per cent of ecstasy (45% in 2008/09). For class B drugs, the agency seized 40 per cent of amphetamines (74% in 2008/09). It also seized large proportions of cannabis; 74 per cent of herbal cannabis (72% in 2008/09) and 89 per cent of cannabis resin (81% in 2008/09). These large seizures of herbal cannabis show that despite the growth in domestic production there are still sizeable imports being attempted.
- Within class C drugs the UKBA seized 98 per cent of anabolic steroids (97% in 2008/09), 90 per cent of benzodiazepines (94% in 2008/09), and 89 per cent of temazepam (56% in 2008/09).
- All cannabis plant seizures were made by local police forces.

¹³ Figure calculated using data in Summary Table 3.

Table D: Quantities and percentage of drugs seized by class, drug type and authority, England and Wales, 2009/10

		Police forces		UK Border Agency (including HM Revenue and Customs) ¹⁴		Totals
Drug type	Units ¹⁵	Quantity	%	Quantity	%	Quantity
Class A						
Cocaine	Kg	646	24%	1,997	76%	2,642
Crack	Kg	59	100%	0	0%	59
Ecstasy-type	1000s doses	115	68%	55	32%	171
Heroin	Kg	687	45%	830	55%	1,516
LSD	1000s doses	2	57%	1	43%	3
Methadone	1000s doses	148	100%	0	0%	149
Morphine	1000s doses	6	100%	0	0%	6
Class B						
Cannabis (herbal)	Kg	4,692	26%	13,254	74%	17,946
Cannabis resin	Kg	1,410	11%	11,153	89%	12,563
Cannabis plants	Plants	758,700	100%	-	0%	758,700
Amphetamines	Kg	794	60%	532	40%	1,326
Barbiturates	1000s doses	1	100%	0	0%	1
Class C						
Anabolic steroids	1000s doses	84	2%	3,345	98%	3,429
Benzodiazepines	1000s doses	687	10%	6,118	90%	6,804
GHB	Kg	4	100%	-	0%	4
Ketamine	Kg	211	72%	82	28%	293
Temazepam	1000s doses	16	11%	125	89%	141

¹⁴ Figures may differ slightly from the UK Border Agency and HM Revenue and Customs publications due to differences in counting rules. Seizures from joint operations involving the UK Border Agency and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

¹⁵ Drugs can be seized in a variety of forms or preparation types. In this table, quantities of drugs have been converted to weights (kg), doses (1000s) or plants. To present all seized quantities within a given drug type in terms of one comparable unit, conversion factors are applied to estimate the overall quantity for that drug. New conversion factors were introduced in 2005, in consultation with the Forensic Science Service. Quantities data previous to 2005 are not comparable with later data.

Number of seizures by region

Table E: The number of seizures of controlled drugs expressed as a percentage by government region or authority and year¹⁶

Police force region or authority	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
North East Region	6	6	5	6	5	5	5	4	4	4
North West Region ¹⁷	14	13	13	14	13	12	13	14	14	14
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	9	8	7	7	10	7	7	5	6	7
East Midlands Region ¹⁸	5	5	4	4	6	5	6	5	5	4
West Midlands Region	6	10	10	11	9	9	9	8	8	8
Eastern Region ¹⁹	6	5	4	6	7	6	5	5	6	6
London Region	23	21	23	18	18	24	28	32	32	30
South East Region	10	10	11	11	11	11	10	10	10	11
South West Region	9	9	9	10	8	9	7	6	6	6
Wales	7	7	7	8	8	6	5	6	6	6
National Crime Squad	0	0	0	0	0	0	..	..	..	..
British Transport Police	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	3
Total police	96	95	95	95	96	96	96	97	97	98
UK Border Agency	4	5	5	4	4	4	4	3	3	2
All authorities	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

- Proportions of the number of drug seizures on a regional level varied little from 2008/09 to 2009/10.
- The largest proportion of drug seizures, 30%, took place in the London region, the most heavily populated region in England and Wales
- Outside of London, the largest proportion of seizures took place in the North West (14%) and the smallest proportion in the North East and the East Midlands, both at four per cent.
- Seizures made by the UK Border Agency and the British Transport Police cannot be broken down by region.

¹⁶ Reporting of drug seizures has been moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07 to be comparable with other crime publications.

¹⁷ Merseyside Police data from 1999 to 2007/08 are estimated.

¹⁸ Nottinghamshire did not submit data for 2003. 2003 figures do not include data from Nottinghamshire police force area.

¹⁹ Figures from Norfolk cover the period from 1 April 2008 to 31 January 2009 only.

SUMMARY TABLE 1: NUMBER OF DRUG SEIZURES BY DRUG CATEGORY, CLASS AND YEAR¹, ENGLAND AND WALES

1a: Seizures made by police forces^{2,3}

		<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u> ⁴	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006/07</u>	<u>2007/08</u>	<u>2008/09</u> ⁵	<u>2009/10</u>	% change 08/09 to 09/10
Class A	Cocaine	4,441	5,077	4,776	6,094	7,154	11,310	15,776	20,092	23,635	20,311	-14%
	Crack	2,732	3,735	4,362	5,013	5,151	6,694	6,943	7,567	6,615	5,071	-23%
	Ecstasy-type	8,196	8,975	6,960	6,401	6,190	6,634	8,141	7,148	5,197	3,708	-29%
	Heroin	13,543	15,335	13,268	11,086	11,574	13,984	13,878	14,118	13,131	12,704	-3%
	LSD	235	152	50	127	139	203	165	144	128	100	-22%
	Methadone	1,047	945	764	562	630	938	933	1,008	1,065	1,025	-4%
	Morphine ⁶	..	..	..	..	..	90	79	100	109	109	0%
	Other class A	638	518	744	625	545	617	642	616	538	598	11%
	All class A⁷	28,500	31,843	28,506	30,226	29,551	39,243	43,179	46,546	46,408	39,969	-14%
Class B	Cannabis (herbal)	25,514	30,139	39,045	34,823	40,682	73,671	106,208	134,636	142,840	143,167	0%
	Cannabis resin	51,633	49,252	47,244	43,426	34,497	40,731	31,781	30,182	35,159	24,002	-32%
	Cannabis plants	1,976	1,807	2,326	2,840	2,930	4,327	5,805	8,539	9,380	12,901	38%
	Total cannabis⁸	81,802	77,344	78,542	84,360	78,648	117,437	140,667	170,002	182,930	175,198	-4%
	Amphetamines	6,298	6,258	6,119	6,136	6,438	7,772	8,418	8,820	7,698	7,251	-6%
	Barbiturates ⁹	..	..	..	..	..	18	26	13	21	21	0%
	Other class B	319	324	264	201	182	208	245	171	217	311	43%
	All class B^{7,8}	80,020	81,805	89,359	85,293	6,621	7,992	8,635	8,970	189,125	181,052	-4%
Class C	Anabolic steroids	55	88	73	117	155	257	457	391	546	526	-4%
	Benzodiazepines	947	1,025	995	763	684	905	1,366	1,457	1,816	2,131	17%
	GHB ¹⁰	..	..	..	21	21	29	61	63	47	59	26%
	Ketamine ¹¹	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,269	1,510	19%
	Temazepam	247	292	198	201	202	208	243	278	292	230	-21%
	Other class C	49	58	40	74	187	379	1,165	1,689	779	966	24%
	All class C^{7,8}	1,261	1,395	1,262	1,219	76,873	119,183	143,366	173,019	4,573	5,181	13%
Unknown	416	415	444	477	42	886	2,444	2,234	2,645	3,061	16%	
All drugs⁷	107,110	112,330	115,100	110,760	108,458	163,933	189,583	221,543	233,793	220,132	-6%	

1b: Seizures made by the UK Border Agency (including HM Revenue and Customs)^{12,13}

		<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006/07</u>	<u>2007/08</u>	<u>2008/09</u>	<u>2009/10</u>	% change 08/09 to 09/10
Class A	Cocaine	1,141	1,720	1,239	1,157	1,125	1,202	1,141	1,254	1,024	1,026	0%
	Crack	25	45	25	25	13	11	12	11	8	4	-50%
	Ecstasy-type	141	105	84	74	66	54	43	25	21	12	-43%
	Heroin	170	112	89	109	94	88	64	68	171	108	-37%
	LSD	15	4	1	4	5	1	4	1	4	1	-75%
	Methadone	6	7	2	3	5	6	3	4	4	8	100%
	Morphine ⁶	2	2	1	3	3	0	3	1	8	2	-75%
	Other class A	130	166	181	109	74	107	202	154	100	85	-15%
	All class A⁷	1,584	2,119	1,574	1,456	1,352	1,442	1,456	1,508	1,319	1,235	-6%
Class B	Cannabis (herbal)	2,426	2,667	3,321	2,650	2,390	2,486	3,441	2,890	2,513	1,061	-58%
	Cannabis resin	1,148	954	1,019	795	722	723	809	688	636	317	-50%
	Cannabis plants	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	Total cannabis⁸	3,285	3,310	3,977	3,152	2,869	2,990	3,932	3,587	3,217	1,380	-57%
	Amphetamines	92	90	62	72	66	65	59	43	62	39	-37%
	Barbiturates ⁹	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	4	7	75%
	Other class B	3	6	11	6	9	38	70	114	383	56	-85%
	All class B^{7,8}	3,355	3,375	4,029	3,202	75	103	128	160	3,536	1,470	-58%
Class C	Anabolic steroids	27	50	47	66	114	151	89	126	259	341	32%
	Benzodiazepines	5	3	43	141	146	842	895	1,358	2,222	816	-63%
	GHB ¹⁰	..	..	..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	Ketamine ¹¹	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99	-
	Temazepam	5	8	4	1	11	4	55	126	317	54	-83%
	Other class C	1	12	11	12	17	468	124	143	309	22	-93%
	All class C^{7,8}	38	73	104	231	3,154	4,431	5,058	5,036	3,011	1,307	-57%
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	-	
All drugs⁷	UK Border Agency	4,806	5,406	5,543	4,756	4,465	5,869	6,516	6,588	7,680	3,948	-49%

1c: UKBA and police forces total

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% change 08/09 to 09/10
Class A	Cocaine	5,582	6,797	6,015	7,251	8,279	12,512	16,917	21,346	24,659	21,337	-13%
	Crack	2,757	3,780	4,387	5,038	5,164	6,705	6,955	7,578	6,623	5,075	-23%
	Ecstasy-type	8,337	9,080	7,044	6,475	6,256	6,688	8,184	7,173	5,218	3,720	-29%
	Heroin	13,713	15,447	13,357	11,195	11,668	14,072	13,942	14,186	13,302	12,812	-4%
	LSD	250	156	51	131	144	204	169	145	132	101	-23%
	Methadone	1,053	952	766	565	635	944	936	1,012	1,069	1,033	-3%
	Morphine ⁶	2	2	1	3	3	90	82	101	117	111	-5%
	Other class A	768	684	925	734	619	724	844	770	638	683	7%
All class A⁷	30,084	33,962	30,080	31,682	30,903	40,685	44,635	48,054	47,727	41,204	-14%	
Class B	Cannabis (herbal)	27,940	32,806	42,366	37,473	43,072	76,157	109,649	137,526	145,353	144,228	-1%
	Cannabis resin	52,781	50,206	48,263	44,221	35,219	41,454	32,590	30,870	35,795	24,319	-32%
	Cannabis plants	1,977	1,808	2,328	2,840	2,930	4,327	5,805	8,539	9,380	12,901	38%
	Total cannabis ⁸	85,087	80,654	82,519	87,512	81,517	120,427	144,599	173,589	186,147	176,578	-5%
	Amphetamines	6,390	6,348	6,181	6,208	6,504	7,837	8,477	8,863	7,760	7,290	-6%
	Barbiturates ⁹	..	..	..	..	..	18	30	17	25	28	12%
	Other class B	322	330	275	207	191	246	315	285	600	367	-39%
All class B^{7,8}	83,375	85,180	93,388	88,495	6,696	8,095	8,763	9,130	192,661	182,522	-5%	
Class C	Anabolic steroids	82	138	120	183	269	408	546	517	805	867	8%
	Benzodiazepines	952	1,028	1,038	904	830	1,747	2,261	2,815	4,038	2,947	-27%
	GHB ¹⁰	..	..	..	21	21	29	61	63	47	59	26%
	Ketamine ¹¹	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,609	..
	Temazepam	252	300	202	202	213	212	298	404	609	284	-53%
	Other class C	50	70	51	86	204	847	1,289	1,832	1,088	988	-9%
All class C^{7,8}	1,299	1,468	1,366	1,450	80,027	123,614	148,424	178,055	7,584	6,488	-14%	
Unknown	416	415	444	477	42	887	2,444	2,234	2,645	3,061	16%	
All drugs⁷	111,916	117,736	120,643	115,516	112,923	169,802	196,099	228,131	241,473	224,080	-7%	

1. Reporting of drug seizures has been moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07 to be comparable with other crime publications.

2. Includes seizures made by British Transport Police.

3. All figures from 1999 to 2007/08 include estimates for Merseyside Police.

4. 2003 figures do not include data from Nottinghamshire police force area.

5. 2008/09 figures from Norfolk cover the period from 1 April 2008 to 31 January 2009 only.

6. Morphine is grouped under "Other class A" by police forces until 2005 and is not separately identifiable.

7. As a seizure can involve more than one drug, figures for individual drugs and drug classes cannot be added together to produce totals.

8. Cannabis was reclassified from a class B to a class C drug in January 2004, and then classified back as a class B drug on 26 January 2009. For clarity, cannabis is listed under class B for the entire time series shown. It has not, however, been considered as class B drug throughout the time series when calculating the class totals. The totals for "All class B" drugs are therefore much lower on account of this between 2004 and 2007/08 than the years before and after this period, with the "All class C" being much higher.

9. Barbiturates are grouped under "Other class B" until 2005 and are not separately identifiable.

10. GHB became a controlled drug in 2003.

11. Ketamine became a controlled drug in 2006. It is grouped in "Other class C" and not separately identified until 2008/09 for forces and 2009/10 for UKBA.

12. Figures may differ slightly from the UK Border Agency and HM Revenue and Customs publications due to differences in counting rules. Seizures from joint operations involving the UK Border Agency and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

13. UK Border Agency (formerly HM Revenue and Customs) data prior to 2004 have been amended in line with police data counting rules.

..Data not available

SUMMARY TABLE 2: QUANTITY OF DRUG SEIZURES^{1,2,3} BY DRUG CATEGORY, CLASS AND YEAR⁴, ENGLAND AND WALES

2a: Seizures made by police forces^{5,6}

		<u>Units</u> ^{7,8}	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u> ⁹	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006/07</u>	<u>2007/08</u>	<u>2008/09</u> ¹⁰	<u>2009/10</u>	<u>% change 08/09 to 09/10</u>
Class A	Cocaine	Kg	1,617	1,054	171	2,026	1,334	1,062	1,005	401	408	646	58%
	Crack	Kg	15	34	42	253	136	49	47	36	29	59	105%
	Ecstasy-type	1000s doses	1,925	2,208	647	2,998	1,767	1,384	1,890	342	299	115	-61%
	Heroin	Kg	2,032	2,833	1,687	1,100	1,192	813	500	364	517	687	33%
	LSD	1000s doses	8	7	5	2	7	1,137	6	3	19	2	-90%
	Methadone	Kg / 1000s doses	96	102	51	34	62	65	102	106	205	148	-28%
	Morphine ¹¹	Kg / 1000s doses	..	..	..	..	..	6	4	5	3	6	76%
Class B ¹³	Cannabis (herbal) ¹²	Kg	9,663	7,587	4,044	14,741	2,940	3,067	2,884	3,238	4,454	4,692	5%
	Cannabis resin ¹²	Kg	28,711	21,138	9,157	29,527	22,848	26,446	2,434	2,774	6,083	1,410	-77%
	Cannabis plants ¹²	Plants	47,465	71,491	55,131	85,312	93,469	220,019	363,679	535,888	643,510	758,700	18%
	Amphetamines	Kg	948	1,017	722	886	981	1,017	571	905	754	794	5%
	Barbiturates ¹³	Kg / 1000s doses	8	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	23	1	-97%
Class C	Anabolic steroids	Kg / 1000s doses	1	1	15	0	2	56	90	82	128	84	-34%
	Benzodiazepines	Kg / 1000s doses	1	6	1	3	1	968	199	116	176	687	291%
	GHB ¹⁴	Kg	..	..	..	6	1	1	9	7	2	4	113%
	Ketamine ¹⁵	Kg	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27	211	682%
	Temazepam	Kg / 1000s doses	1	0	0	0	0	7	9	14	91	16	-82%

2b: Seizures made by the UK Border Agency (including HM Revenue and Customs)¹⁶

		<u>Units</u> ^{7,8}	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u> ⁹	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006/07</u>	<u>2007/08</u>	<u>2008/09</u> ¹⁰	<u>2009/10</u>	% change 08/09 to 09/10	
Class A	Cocaine	Kg	2,348	4,214	3,336	4,902	3,306	2,759	2,240	3,052	2,508	1,997	-20%	
	Crack	Kg	11	22	14	12	4	2	13	1	4	0	-95%	
	Ecstasy-type	1000s doses	3,860	4,193	3,485	3,901	2,973	1,635	4,795	623	247	55	-78%	
	Heroin	Kg	1,383	1,314	1,020	1,619	978	1,094	530	695	1,035	830	-20%	
	LSD	1000s doses	13	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	1	1	76%
	Methadone	Kg / 1000s doses	284	4	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	Morphine ¹¹	Kg / 1000s doses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Class B ¹³	Cannabis (herbal) ¹²	Kg	17,887	23,222	31,050	15,608	18,595	17,515	22,948	16,855	28,908	13,254	-54%	
	Cannabis resin ¹²	Kg	17,415	39,515	32,757	41,168	40,387	24,145	17,416	13,936	25,716	11,153	-57%	
	Cannabis plants ¹²	Plants	0	16	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	Amphetamines	Kg	717	627	488	693	276	1,074	818	906	2,185	532	-76%	
	Barbiturates ¹³	Kg / 1000s doses	0	0	0	0	0	0	310	0	0	0	0	-
Class C	Anabolic steroids	Kg / 1000s doses	15	80	382	157	555	2,481	4,969	6,907	3,816	3,345	-12%	
	Benzodiazepines	Kg / 1000s doses	0	1	2	3	0	1,756	3,086	668	2,981	6,118	105%	
	GHB ¹⁴	Kg	..	..	..	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	Ketamine ¹⁵	Kg	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82	-
	Temazepam	Kg / 1000s doses	..	..	0	0	0	15	500	94	118	125	6%

2c: UKBA and police forces total

		<u>Units</u> ^{7,8}	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u> ⁹	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006/07</u>	<u>2007/08</u>	<u>2008/09</u> ¹⁰	<u>2009/10</u>	% change 08/09 to 09/10
Class A	Cocaine	Kg	3,965	5,267	3,506	6,928	4,640	3,821	3,244	3,453	2,916	2,642	-9%
	Crack	Kg	26	56	56	266	140	51	60	37	33	59	79%
	Ecstasy-type	1000s doses	5,786	6,401	4,132	6,899	4,740	3,019	6,685	965	547	171	-69%
	Heroin	Kg	3,415	4,147	2,707	2,719	2,170	1,907	1,030	1,059	1,552	1,516	-2%
	LSD	1000s doses	21	7	5	2	37	1,137	6	3	20	3	-83%
	Methadone	Kg / 1000s doses	380	106	51	60	62	65	102	106	205	149	-28%
	Morphine ¹¹	Kg / 1000s doses	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	5	4	6	69%
Class B ¹³	Cannabis (herbal) ¹²	Kg	27,550	30,809	35,094	30,349	21,535	20,583	25,832	20,093	33,363	17,946	-46%
	Cannabis resin ¹²	Kg	46,126	60,653	41,915	70,695	63,234	50,591	19,851	16,710	31,799	12,563	-60%
	Cannabis plants ¹²	Plants	47,465	71,507	55,152	85,312	93,469	220,019	363,679	535,888	643,510	758,700	18%
	Amphetamines	Kg	1,665	1,645	1,210	1,580	1,257	2,091	1,390	1,811	2,939	1,326	-55%
	Barbiturates ¹³	Kg / 1000s doses	8	0	0	0	0	1	311	2	23	1	-97%
Class C	Anabolic steroids	Kg / 1000s doses	16	81	398	157	557	2,538	5,059	6,988	3,944	3,430	-13%
	Benzodiazepines	Kg / 1000s doses	1	6	3	5	1	2,723	3,285	784	3,157	6,804	116%
	GHB ¹⁴	Kg	..	..	..	40	1	1	9	7	2	4	113%
	Ketamine ¹⁵	Kg	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	293	-
	Temazepam	Kg / 1000s doses	1	0	0	0	0	22	508	108	209	141	-32%

1. Where the quantity of a seizure is recorded as 'trace' it is not included in these figures.

2. Quantities data for all drugs are not applicable as conversion factors are not applied to all drugs.

3. Drugs can be seized in a variety of forms or preparation types. In this table, quantities of drugs have been converted to weights (kg), doses (1000s) or plants. To present all seized quantities within a given drug type in terms of one comparable unit, conversion factors are applied to estimate the overall quantity for that drug. New conversion factors were introduced in 2005, in consultation with the Forensic Science Service. Quantities data previous to 2005 are not comparable with later data.

4. Reporting of drug seizures has been moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07 to be comparable with other crime publications.

5. Includes seizures made by British Transport Police.

6. All figures from 1999 to 2007/08 include estimates for Merseyside Police.

7. From 2005, quantities for methadone, morphine, barbiturates, anabolic steroids, benzodiazepines and temazepam are presented in doses rather than kgs.

8. Doses include dots, tablets and squares.

9. 2003 figures do not include data from Nottinghamshire police force area.

10. 2008/09 figures from Norfolk cover the period from 1 April 2008 to 31 January 2009 only.

11. Morphine is grouped under "Other class A" by police forces until 2005 and is not separately identifiable.

12. Cannabis was reclassified from a class B to a class C drug in January 2004, and then classified back as a class B drug on 26 January 2009.

13. Barbiturates are grouped under "Other class B" until 2005 and are not separately identifiable.

14. GHB became a controlled drug in 2003.

15. Ketamine became a controlled drug in 2006. It is grouped in "Other class C" and not separately identified until 2008/09 for forces and 2009/10 for UKBA.

16. Figures may differ slightly from the UK Border Agency and HM Revenue and Customs publications due to differences in counting rules. Seizures from joint operations involving the UK Border Agency and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

..Data not available

SUMMARY TABLE 3: SEIZURES OF CONTROLLED DRUGS BY DRUG CATEGORY, CLASS AND AMOUNT SEIZED^{1,2}, 2009/10, ENGLAND AND WALES

3a: Seizures made by police forces³

Unit ⁴	Class	Total number of seizures	Weighed amount seized							Total (kgs)	Average (grams)
			Under 1g	1g to 500g	500g to 1kg	1kg to 10kg	10kg to 100kg	100kg and over			
Cocaine	Kg A	20,311	12,211	7,883	86	121	10	0	646	32	
Crack	Kg A	5,071	3,234	1,817	13	6	1	0	59	12	
Heroin	Kg A	12,704	8,740	3,877	27	51	8	1	687	54	
Cannabis (herbal)	Kg B	143,167	33,912	108,577	264	361	47	6	4,692	33	
Cannabis resin	Kg B	24,002	23,999	1	2	0	0	0	1,410	59	
Amphetamines	Kg B	7,251	3,264	3,843	62	72	9	1	794	109	
			Unweighed amount seized							Total (1000's of doses/ 1000's of plants)	Average (doses/plants)
			1-50 doses / plants	51-100 doses / plants	101-500 doses / plants	501-1,000 doses / plants	1,001-10,000 doses / plants	Over 10,000 doses / plants			
Ecstasy-type	doses A	3,708	3,437	150	96	13	8	4	115	31	
LSD	doses A	100	86	3	7	1	2	1	2	19	
Methadone	doses A	1,025	663	124	189	31	18	0	148	145	
Morphine	doses A	109	91	8	7	2	1	0	6	56	
Cannabis plants	plants B	12,901	10,770	661	1,184	199	87	0	759	59	

3b: Seizures made by the UK Border Agency (including HM Revenue and Customs)⁵

Unit ⁴	Class	Total number of seizures	Weighed amount seized							Total (kgs)	Average (grams)
			Under 1g	1g to 500g	500g to 1kg	1kg to 10kg	10kg to 100kg	100kg and over			
Cocaine	Kg A	1,026	14	473	193	313	32	1	1,997	1,946	
Crack	Kg A	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	57	
Heroin	Kg A	108	1	30	23	42	9	3	830	7,681	
Cannabis (herbal)	Kg B	1,061	25	560	36	297	120	23	13,254	12,492	
Cannabis resin	Kg B	317	12	186	19	67	17	16	11,153	35,182	
Amphetamines	Kg B	39	4	21	4	3	5	2	532	13,641	
			Unweighed amount seized							Total (1000's of doses/ 1000's of plants)	Average (doses/plants)
			1-50 doses / plants	51-100 doses / plants	101-500 doses / plants	501-1,000 doses / plants	1,001-10,000 doses / plants	Over 10,000 doses / plants			
Ecstasy-type	doses A	12	8	2	1	0	0	1	55,288	4,607,340	
LSD	doses A	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1,400	1,400,000	
Methadone	doses A	8	7	0	1	0	0	0	403	50,381	
Morphine	doses A	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	78	
Cannabis plants	plants B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

3c: UKBA and police forces total

Unit ⁴	Class	Total number of seizures	Weighed amount seized							Total (kgs)	Average (kgs)
			Under 1g	1g to 500g	500g to 1kg	1kg to 10kg	10kg to 100kg	100kg and over			
Cocaine	Kg A	21,337	12,225	8,356	279	434	42	1	2,642	124	
Crack	Kg A	5,075	3,234	1,821	13	6	1	0	59	12	
Heroin	Kg A	12,812	8,741	3,907	50	93	17	4	1,516	118	
Cannabis (herbal)	Kg B	144,228	33,937	109,137	300	658	167	29	17,946	124	
Cannabis resin	Kg B	24,319	24,011	187	21	67	17	16	12,563	517	
Amphetamines	Kg B	7,290	3,268	3,864	66	75	14	3	1,326	182	
			Unweighed amount seized							Total (1000's of doses/ 1000's of plants)	Average (doses/plants)
			1-50 doses / plants	51-100 doses / plants	101-500 doses / plants	501-1,000 doses / plants	1,001-10,000 doses / plants	Over 10,000 doses / plants			
Ecstasy-type	doses A	3,720	3,445	152	97	13	8	5	171	14,893	
LSD	doses A	101	86	3	7	1	3	1	3	13,880	
Methadone	doses A	1,033	670	124	190	31	18	0	149	534	
Morphine	doses A	111	91	10	7	2	1	0	6	56	
Cannabis plants	plants B	12,901	10,770	661	1,184	199	87	0	759	59	

1. Drugs can be seized in a variety of forms or preparation types. In this table, quantities of drugs have been converted to weights (kg), doses (1000s) or plants. To present all seized quantities within a given drug type in terms of one comparable unit, conversion factors are applied to estimate the overall quantity for that drug. New conversion factors were introduced in 2005, in consultation with the Forensic Science Service. Quantities data previous to 2005 are not comparable with later data.

2. Quantities data for all drugs are not applicable as conversion factors are not applied to all drugs.

3. Includes seizures made by British Transport Police.

4. Doses include dots, tablets and squares.

5. Figures may differ slightly from the UK Border Agency and HM Revenue and Customs publications due to differences in counting rules. Seizures from joint operations involving the UK Border Agency and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

SUMMARY TABLE 4: AVERAGE PURITIES OF DRUG SEIZURES ANALYSED BY THE FORENSIC SCIENCE SERVICE BY DRUG TYPE AND YEAR¹

Year ²	Quarter	For police forces				For the UK Border Agency (including HM Revenue and Customs)			
		Cocaine	"Crack"	Heroin	Amphetamines	Cocaine	"Crack"	Heroin	Amphetamines
2003	Q1 (Jan-Mar)	45	66	42	12	68	80	51	43
	Q2 (Apr-Jun)	53	70	28	12	72	71	37	65
	Q3 (Jul-Sep)	53	70	29	11	70	64	36	34
	Q4 (Oct-Dec)	51	72	32	9	69	87	22	18
2004	Q1 (Jan-Mar)	46	72	34	9	71	79	42	42
	Q2 (Apr-Jun)	40	63	41	9	69	81	46	27
	Q3 (Jul-Sep)	41	55	41	10	64	80	43	34
	Q4 (Oct-Dec)	44	64	43	9	69	81	50	17
2005	Q1 (Jan-Mar)	43	65	48	12	71	77	50	54
	Q2 (Apr-Jun)	40	65	47	9	67	77	44	47
	Q3 (Jul-Sep)	43	65	47	10	65	63	46	56
	Q4 (Oct-Dec)	44	64	45	11	68	74	55	42
2006/07	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	36	51	41	10	66	..	54	12
	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	30	47	42	10	65	..	49	53
	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	29	44	43	10	63	74	58	72
	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	32	52	45	9	68	..	47	20
2007/08	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	34	52	50	10	67	..	52	20
	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	35	51	50	11	70	..	59	34
	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	30	49	51	11	65	..	61	51
	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	32	48	52	14	64	..	45	22
2008/09	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	30	47	49	9	64	81	60	28
	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	28	42	34	8	64	55	45	43
	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	26	42	36	6	62	..	46	33
	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	22	31	38	7	57	57	47	73
2009/10	Q1 (Apr-Jun)	16	23	42	5	62	..	54	26
	Q2 (Jul-Sep)	21	27	46	10	63	49	58	17
	Q3 (Oct-Dec)	22	33	46	9	61	..	51	34
	Q4 (Jan-Mar)	23	34	42	9	65	24	46	7

1. Data sourced from the Forensic Science Service.

2. Reporting of drug seizures has been moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07 to be comparable with other crime publications.

..Data not available

AREA TABLE 1A: THE NUMBER OF SEIZURES OF CONTROLLED DRUGS BY AREA/AUTHORITY AND YEAR^{1,2}, ENGLAND AND WALES

Police force region or authority	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% change 2008-09 to 2009/10
Cleveland	960	970	1,010	800	765	2,657	3,143	2,494	2,382	2,462	3%
Durham	1,400	1,490	1,100	1,060	1,601	1,660	2,018	2,056	1,524	1,497	-2%
Northumbria	4,210	4,490	3,990	4,680	3,526	4,720	4,062	3,648	5,384	5,011	-7%
North East Region	6,570	6,950	6,100	6,540	5,892	9,037	9,223	8,198	9,290	8,970	-3%
Cheshire	1,420	990	1,200	780	633	293	736	1,258	2,024	2,085	3%
Cumbria	1,010	930	770	1,100	1,307	1,247	1,313	1,301	1,201	1,489	24%
Greater Manchester	4,020	3,940	2,960	4,240	3,064	6,797	10,089	12,581	11,952	10,801	-10%
Lancashire	2,820	2,960	3,440	3,480	3,311	2,809	2,866	3,505	3,816	4,176	9%
Merseyside ³	6,330	6,640	6,800	6,540	6,405	9,681	11,196	13,083	13,784	12,946	-6%
North West Region	15,600	15,460	15,170	16,140	14,720	20,827	26,200	31,728	32,777	31,497	-4%
Humberside	1,490	1,620	2,380	1,840	2,359	2,791	2,666	2,458	2,887	2,817	-2%
North Yorkshire	730	650	720	690	1,096	1,481	1,385	1,614	1,602	1,566	-2%
South Yorkshire	3,310	2,880	1,400	990	3,410	2,388	4,225	4,843	5,514	6,555	19%
West Yorkshire	4,430	4,080	4,440	4,130	4,354	5,551	4,600	2,754	3,410	3,666	8%
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	9,960	9,230	8,940	7,650	11,219	12,211	12,876	11,669	13,413	14,604	9%
Derbyshire	1,140	1,350	1,390	1,870	1,745	2,010	3,155	2,134	2,417	2,722	13%
Leicestershire	1,210	1,450	1,450	1,370	1,517	2,303	1,821	2,338	2,655	2,821	6%
Lincolnshire	850	1,020	750	1,050	631	560	646	913	745	507	-32%
Northamptonshire	580	420	550	520	612	1,837	1,893	1,267	1,354	1,501	11%
Nottinghamshire ⁴	1,310	1,580	1,170	..	2,073	1,129	3,946	4,864	4,116	2,273	-45%
East Midlands Region	5,090	5,820	5,310	4,810	6,578	7,839	11,461	11,516	11,287	9,824	-13%
Staffordshire	1,310	1,540	1,470	1,150	1,070	1,799	2,473	3,949	3,325	3,297	-1%
Warwickshire	630	510	390	660	543	1,090	1,360	1,293	1,289	1,551	20%
West Mercia	2,040	2,290	1,980	1,750	595	2,904	3,314	3,303	3,007	3,113	4%
West Midlands	2,880	7,290	8,270	9,710	7,932	10,262	10,732	10,389	10,608	9,596	-10%
West Midlands Region	6,860	11,630	12,110	13,270	10,140	16,055	17,879	18,934	18,229	17,557	-4%
Bedfordshire	970	880	580	690	785	1,036	802	960	1,348	1,101	-18%
Cambridgeshire	930	1,050	1,110	1,320	1,608	1,624	2,249	2,840	2,628	2,270	-14%
Essex	1,920	1,890	1,480	1,590	1,634	2,348	1,949	2,747	3,988	3,321	-17%
Hertfordshire	1,030	1,140	370	890	1,453	1,339	2,802	2,954	3,640	4,933	36%
Norfolk ⁵	1,270	870	830	1,410	1,256	1,634	1,089	1,086	569	598	5%
Suffolk	590	580	940	800	1,360	1,526	1,365	1,248	1,170	1,014	-13%
Eastern Region	6,710	6,410	5,310	6,700	8,096	9,507	10,256	11,835	13,343	13,237	-1%
London, City of	320	470	640	390	594	1,336	899	883	690	771	12%
Metropolitan Police	25,880	23,980	27,380	20,360	19,255	40,158	54,458	71,404	76,390	66,511	-13%
London Region	26,200	24,450	28,020	20,750	19,849	41,494	55,357	72,287	77,080	67,282	-13%
Hampshire	2,480	2,520	2,690	2,760	2,002	3,180	1,898	3,781	4,433	5,258	19%
Kent	2,200	1,760	1,760	1,770	1,385	2,970	2,357	2,527	2,404	2,767	15%
Surrey	1,550	1,620	1,590	590	397	656	1,479	1,811	1,836	1,693	-8%
Sussex	1,540	2,020	2,460	2,550	3,989	7,176	6,087	7,529	6,141	6,373	4%
Thames Valley	3,110	3,880	4,480	4,860	4,941	3,884	7,550	8,167	8,425	7,666	-9%
South East Region	10,880	11,800	12,980	12,530	12,714	17,866	19,371	23,815	23,239	23,757	2%
Avon and Somerset	2,800	3,030	3,190	2,560	1,849	6,034	5,241	5,907	6,437	6,062	-6%
Devon and Cornwall	3,380	3,520	4,210	5,650	3,191	5,963	4,747	4,621	4,057	2,823	-30%
Dorset	1,440	1,480	1,230	1,330	1,266	1,527	1,540	1,720	1,873	1,903	2%
Gloucestershire	1,260	1,190	1,510	1,530	1,496	1,579	1,343	1,811	2,308	2,322	1%
Wiltshire	1,000	1,450	860	750	709	760	706	569	972	1,138	17%
South West Region	9,880	10,670	11,000	11,820	8,511	15,863	13,577	14,628	15,647	14,248	-9%
England Police Total	97,750	102,420	104,940	100,210	97,719	150,699	176,200	204,610	214,305	200,976	-6%
Dyfed-Powys	1,490	1,980	2,420	2,150	1,382	2,830	2,359	2,181	2,237	2,630	18%
Gwent	1,840	1,320	1,370	1,230	1,144	1,210	1,815	2,020	2,302	2,107	-8%
North Wales	1,120	970	1,270	1,220	1,717	1,607	1,920	2,373	2,531	2,441	-4%
South Wales	3,230	3,980	3,920	4,540	4,640	4,661	4,601	6,554	6,720	6,245	-7%
Wales Police Total	7,680	8,250	8,980	9,140	8,883	10,308	10,695	13,128	13,790	13,423	-3%
National Crime Squad⁶	160	140	30	120	137	104	..	..	..	..	..
British Transport Police	1,520	1,520	1,150	1,290	1,719	2,822	2,688	3,805	5,698	5,733	1%
England and Wales	107,110	112,330	115,100	110,760	108,458	163,933	189,583	221,543	233,793	220,132	-6%
UK Border Agency^{7,8} (including HM Revenue and Customs)	4,806	5,406	5,543	4,756	4,465	5,869	6,516	6,588	7,680	3,948	-49%
Grand Total	111,916	117,736	120,643	115,516	112,923	169,802	196,099	228,131	241,473	224,080	-7%

1. Reporting of drug seizures has been moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07 to be comparable with other crime publications.

2. Figures for the police from 2004 are unrounded; previous years data are rounded to the nearest ten. Regional totals may not always sum to the overall total due to rounding.

3. Merseyside Police data from 1999 to 2007/08 are estimated.

4. Nottinghamshire did not submit data for 2003. 2003 figures do not include data from Nottinghamshire police force area.

5. 2008/09 figures from Norfolk cover the period from 1 April 2008 to 31 January 2009 only.

6. National Crime Squad were merged into the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) on 1 April 2006. SOCA data are not included in this table.

7. Figures may differ slightly from the UK Border Agency and HM Revenue and Customs publications due to differences in counting rules. Seizures from joint operations involving the UK Border Agency and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

8. UK Border Agency (formerly HM Revenue and Customs) data prior to 2004 have been amended in line with police data counting rules.

..Data not available

AREA TABLE 1B: DRUG SEIZURES PER MILLION POPULATION¹ BY YEAR², AREA AND POLICE FORCE, ENGLAND AND WALES

Police force region	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	% change 2008-09 to 2009/10
Cleveland	1,727	1,742	1,866	1,444	1,379	4,788	5,653	4,482	4,277	4,408	3%
Durham	2,307	2,456	1,859	1,793	2,708	2,804	3,397	3,444	2,534	2,474	-2%
Northumbria	2,968	3,175	2,884	3,354	2,528	3,386	2,906	2,607	3,840	3,561	-7%
North East Region	2,545	2,697	2,424	2,574	2,319	3,557	3,620	3,211	3,628	3,489	-4%
Cheshire	1,445	1,006	1,220	792	640	295	739	1,260	2,022	2,079	3%
Cumbria	2,054	1,894	1,579	2,250	2,660	2,520	2,644	2,619	2,418	3,003	24%
Greater Manchester	1,560	1,524	1,192	1,684	1,212	2,681	3,966	4,926	4,659	4,186	-10%
Lancashire	1,978	2,071	2,430	2,449	2,316	1,954	1,984	2,422	2,636	2,890	10%
Merseyside ³	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,189	9,588	-6%
North West Region	2,267	2,243	2,254	2,382	2,165	3,054	3,831	4,630	4,775	4,582	-4%
Humberstone	1,690	1,839	2,738	2,089	2,656	3,115	2,955	2,711	3,172	3,079	-3%
North Yorkshire	976	862	958	912	1,440	1,930	1,795	2,080	2,049	1,986	-3%
South Yorkshire	2,541	2,213	1,105	779	2,677	1,866	3,280	3,745	4,240	5,015	18%
West Yorkshire	2,094	1,923	2,134	1,971	2,068	2,614	2,141	1,269	1,557	1,661	7%
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	1,973	1,825	1,800	1,529	2,231	2,410	2,519	2,267	2,589	2,799	8%
Derbyshire	1,170	1,381	1,453	1,927	1,790	2,051	3,203	2,154	2,426	2,719	12%
Leicestershire	1,295	1,545	1,568	1,469	1,616	2,431	1,905	2,420	2,723	2,869	5%
Lincolnshire	1,352	1,608	1,158	1,600	950	831	950	1,332	1,077	729	-32%
Northamptonshire	934	671	872	816	951	2,836	2,888	1,909	2,013	2,210	10%
Nottinghamshire ⁴	1,269	1,532	1,152	..	2,007	1,083	3,755	4,604	3,877	2,125	-45%
East Midlands Region	1,214	1,383	1,272	1,139	1,546	1,827	2,649	2,640	2,567	2,218	-14%
Staffordshire	1,235	1,453	1,403	1,096	1,017	1,704	2,336	3,724	3,130	3,092	-1%
Warwickshire	1,240	1,000	770	1,294	1,056	2,108	2,608	2,464	2,436	2,909	19%
West Mercia	1,789	1,997	1,708	1,505	510	2,482	2,824	2,806	2,545	2,623	3%
West Midlands	1,097	2,783	3,238	3,775	3,079	3,976	4,138	3,996	4,072	3,659	-10%
West Midlands Region	1,286	2,180	2,299	2,507	1,910	3,016	3,344	3,531	3,389	3,246	-4%
Bedfordshire	1,725	1,555	1,024	1,206	1,363	1,792	1,377	1,637	2,277	1,837	-19%
Cambridgeshire	1,283	1,438	1,563	1,843	2,213	2,215	3,023	3,774	3,454	2,946	-15%
Essex	1,187	1,160	916	979	1,001	1,431	1,178	1,649	2,370	1,947	-18%
Hertfordshire	988	1,085	358	856	1,393	1,282	2,665	2,788	3,402	4,551	34%
Norfolk ⁵	1,595	1,082	1,040	1,752	1,547	1,999	1,321	1,308	679	706	4%
Suffolk	875	853	1,404	1,188	2,003	2,224	1,965	1,787	1,660	1,427	-14%
Eastern Region	1,238	1,174	984	1,234	1,481	1,728	1,848	2,116	2,362	2,315	-2%
London, City of ⁶	53,271	73,772	88,889	50,974	75,333	161,431	103,931	93,836	65,752	68,049	3%
Metropolitan Police	3,555	3,254	3,813	2,766	2,612	5,423	7,284	9,474	10,062	8,686	-14%
London Region	3,596	3,315	3,898	2,816	2,690	5,597	7,396	9,579	10,139	8,774	-13%
Hampshire	1,392	1,411	1,513	1,543	1,114	1,763	1,044	2,070	2,408	2,831	18%
Kent	1,386	1,101	1,113	1,114	867	1,846	1,455	1,550	1,464	1,672	14%
Surrey	1,438	1,499	1,501	557	373	616	1,381	1,678	1,683	1,538	-9%
Sussex	1,017	1,327	1,645	1,698	2,646	4,736	3,995	4,915	3,981	4,102	3%
Thames Valley	1,470	1,823	2,141	2,310	2,338	1,830	3,527	3,787	3,867	3,482	-10%
South East Region	1,347	1,454	1,621	1,558	1,574	2,202	2,370	2,896	2,801	2,839	1%
Avon and Somerset	1,865	2,004	2,150	1,704	1,221	3,946	3,384	3,779	4,071	3,800	-7%
Devon and Cornwall	2,153	2,219	2,667	3,554	1,993	3,693	2,913	2,811	2,443	1,693	-31%
Dorset	2,079	2,119	1,774	1,910	1,817	2,194	2,204	2,450	2,641	2,676	1%
Gloucestershire	2,242	2,107	2,673	2,704	2,632	2,759	2,330	3,126	3,948	3,961	0%
Wiltshire	1,638	2,364	1,401	1,214	1,138	1,212	1,118	896	1,512	1,750	16%
South West Region	2,002	2,145	2,229	2,377	1,701	3,148	2,670	2,855	3,022	2,735	-10%
England	1,996	2,083	2,175	2,064	2,003	3,032	3,504	4,052	4,214	3,930	-7%
Dyfed-Powys	3,100	4,101	4,956	4,379	2,797	5,693	4,734	4,358	4,439	5,190	17%
Gwent	3,306	2,368	2,480	2,220	2,062	2,178	3,265	3,628	4,127	3,767	-9%
North Wales	1,703	1,469	1,914	1,830	2,567	2,394	2,858	3,525	3,744	3,600	-4%
South Wales	2,601	3,195	3,270	3,763	3,831	3,822	3,758	5,322	5,426	5,012	-8%
Wales	2,615	2,800	3,093	3,132	3,033	3,502	3,625	4,432	4,634	4,489	-3%
England and Wales average	1,932	2,018	2,112	2,049	1,948	2,927	3,375	3,908	4,323	3,937	-9%

1. Rates per million population statistics are created using mid-year population estimates calculated by the Office for National Statistics. UK Border Agency and BTP data cannot be broken down to a regional level and are therefore excluded from both the constituent parts and the totals in this table.

2. Reporting of drug seizures has been moved to a financial-year basis from 2006/07 to be comparable with other crime publications.

3. Merseyside Police have advised that figures for years previous to 2008/09 are unreliable due to under-reporting of figures; as a result, figures for Merseyside have been omitted from the table.

4. 2003 figures do not include data from Nottinghamshire police force area.

5. 2008/09 figures from Norfolk cover the period from 1 April 2008 to 31 January 2009 only.

6. Small resident population should be noted when considering City of London rates.

..Data not available

AREA TABLE 2A: THE NUMBER OF SEIZURES OF CONTROLLED DRUGS BY DRUG CATEGORY, CLASS AND AREA/AUTHORITY, 2009/10, ENGLAND AND WALES

Police force or other authority England and Wales	All drugs ¹	Class A drugs								Total ¹	Class B drugs					Total ¹	Class C drugs						Total ¹	Unknown
		Cocaine	Crack	Ecstasy-type	Heroin	LSD	Methadone	Morphine	Other		All Cannabis	Amphetamines	Barbiturates	Other	Anabolic steroids		Benzo-diazepines	GHB	Ketamine	Temazepam	Other			
Police forces																								
Cleveland	2,462	514	57	61	260	0	36	0	0	859	1,483	159	0	4	1,624	0	143	0	0	10	9	159	0	
Durham	1,497	152	9	33	103	5	10	3	14	319	940	128	0	1	1,040	21	43	0	4	12	10	86	172	
Northumbria	5,011	711	11	118	282	3	19	9	9	1,138	2,900	529	0	17	3,373	40	212	1	29	27	65	356	372	
North East Region	8,970	1,377	77	212	645	8	65	12	23	2,316	5,323	816	0	22	6,037	61	398	1	33	49	84	601	544	
Cheshire	2,085	357	24	45	91	1	7	0	1	518	1,510	54	0	0	1,557	3	0	0	5	0	1	9	17	
Cumbria	1,489	151	10	47	211	1	8	3	2	424	908	121	0	4	1,015	0	28	0	5	21	7	61	66	
Greater Manchester	10,801	912	294	56	796	1	11	5	23	1,753	8,749	417	0	9	9,077	32	59	1	41	3	81	200	161	
Lancashire	4,176	441	77	65	489	0	3	0	14	1,061	2,875	236	0	3	3,075	3	51	2	8	9	5	77	56	
Merseyside	12,946	1,445	46	134	320	0	14	1	1	1,909	11,010	285	0	0	11,264	4	3	0	10	1	0	18	0	
North West Region	31,497	3,306	451	347	1,907	3	43	9	41	5,665	25,052	1,113	0	16	25,988	42	141	3	69	34	94	365	300	
Humberside	2,817	164	45	95	253	0	25	0	19	533	1,993	289	0	6	2,231	11	231	0	11	10	41	288	0	
North Yorkshire	1,566	173	19	30	77	0	3	0	5	303	1,084	73	0	12	1,161	4	40	0	20	0	6	70	49	
South Yorkshire	6,555	465	155	204	346	1	47	5	61	1,186	4,871	402	6	10	5,199	30	9	3	129	19	55	236	333	
West Yorkshire	3,666	338	138	74	207	1	6	0	5	707	2,841	112	0	1	2,925	16	5	2	3	2	3	31	190	
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	14,604	1,140	357	403	883	2	81	5	90	2,729	10,789	876	6	29	11,516	61	285	5	163	31	105	625	572	
Derbyshire	2,722	267	60	50	216	0	42	5	28	600	2,020	229	0	14	2,191	41	43	6	17	8	38	141	0	
Leicestershire	2,821	161	37	15	133	2	33	0	8	366	2,420	46	0	51	2,489	17	23	0	8	2	32	75	0	
Lincolnshire	507	53	10	7	67	1	3	2	16	146	213	83	0	1	291	0	11	1	34	1	29	73	20	
Northamptonshire	1,501	116	12	9	84	0	19	1	1	226	1,251	41	0	1	1,285	10	23	0	1	6	13	46	0	
Nottinghamshire	2,273	337	92	80	260	0	7	2	3	659	1,587	263	1	2	1,789	16	33	0	2	0	27	73	2	
East Midlands Region	9,824	934	211	161	760	3	104	10	56	1,997	7,491	662	1	69	8,045	84	133	7	62	17	139	408	22	
Staffordshire	3,297	407	71	116	341	0	13	1	2	918	2,340	154	0	3	2,461	8	26	2	10	3	15	62	1	
Warwickshire	1,551	173	20	168	57	2	7	0	4	389	1,215	75	0	0	1,263	1	3	0	28	0	1	32	0	
West Mercia	3,113	379	20	28	135	2	33	4	13	578	2,263	34	0	1	2,290	7	24	6	12	2	12	61	379	
West Midlands	9,596	664	235	138	595	7	52	6	13	1,561	8,157	120	4	1	8,244	11	30	0	16	9	46	110	0	
West Midlands Region	17,557	1,623	346	450	1,128	11	105	11	32	3,446	13,975	383	4	5	14,258	27	83	8	66	14	74	265	380	
Bedfordshire	1,101	95	56	12	93	0	4	1	4	232	853	20	1	8	879	4	0	0	7	1	2	14	0	
Cambridgeshire	2,270	187	31	21	152	1	28	2	9	393	1,822	52	0	7	1,869	9	16	1	39	3	22	87	17	
Essex	3,321	297	19	16	103	0	1	0	1	409	2,885	95	0	2	2,955	4	13	0	4	14	4	46	0	
Hertfordshire	4,933	657	101	70	169	1	10	2	14	966	3,973	56	0	1	4,015	0	12	0	0	0	1	13	80	
Norfolk	598	32	0	19	39	0	7	2	1	97	461	31	0	0	488	1	2	0	18	0	1	22	0	
Suffolk	1,014	87	14	22	79	2	2	2	1	201	776	30	3	3	803	1	6	0	34	0	4	44	0	
Eastern Region	13,237	1,355	221	160	635	4	52	9	30	2,298	10,770	284	4	21	11,009	19	49	1	112	8	44	226	97	
London, City of	771	70	0	21	3	0	4	0	1	99	674	8	0	1	681	0	1	0	11	1	4	16	5	
Metropolitan Police	66,511	4,598	2,265	602	2,641	32	190	6	43	9,306	57,612	606	1	4	58,071	22	68	8	151	5	63	314	731	
London Region	67,282	4,668	2,265	623	2,644	32	194	6	44	9,405	58,286	614	1	5	58,752	22	69	8	162	6	67	330	736	
Hampshire	5,258	606	132	257	365	9	57	4	11	1,299	3,923	189	0	3	4,062	6	34	1	47	7	11	104	37	
Kent	2,767	342	35	49	84	0	5	1	7	509	2,181	164	0	0	2,314	1	8	0	4	0	0	13	9	
Surrey	1,693	229	25	7	99	1	6	1	5	342	1,302	40	0	12	1,339	12	13	3	3	20	110	6	6	
Sussex	6,373	1,085	277	229	512	4	55	14	102	2,034	4,377	208	3	64	4,665	44	121	12	108	12	34	320	0	
Thames Valley	7,666	842	145	100	379	4	27	4	9	1,397	6,010	113	0	4	6,094	10	15	0	194	4	40	260	258	
South East Region	23,757	3,104	614	642	1,439	18	150	24	134	5,581	17,793	714	3	83	18,374	73	191	16	414	26	105	807	310	
Avon and Somerset	6,062	617	207	57	613	5	40	5	34	1,331	4,661	210	0	17	4,813	28	120	0	116	15	84	317	1	
Devon and Cornwall	2,823	259	6	99	183	0	66	3	5	583	2,139	189	0	3	2,289	8	112	0	8	8	27	158	0	
Dorset	1,903	219	44	16	249	4	25	3	6	514	1,301	82	0	8	1,370	16	40	0	62	2	26	135	22	
Gloucestershire	2,322	262	77	80	193	3	23	2	14	608	1,690	72	1	7	1,748	17	36	0	54	3	31	132	0	
Wiltshire	1,138	120	43	38	84	1	3	1	19	286	821	61	1	4	871	5	3	0	7	2	7	24	28	
South West Region	14,248	1,477	377	290	1,322	13	157	14	78	3,322	10,612	614	2	39	11,091	74	311	0	247	30	175	766	51	
England	200,976	18,984	4,919	3,288	11,363	94	951	100	528	36,759	160,091	6,076	21	289	165,070	463	1,660	49	1,328	215	887	4,393	3,012	
Dyfed-Powys	2,630	126	16	53	202	3	9	4	16	398	2,154	221	0	8	2,288	11	88	0	35	2	32	155	0	
Gwent	2,107	96	25	18	107	0	10	0	8	249	1,709	214	0	3	1,866	14	59	0	38	2	3	113	1	
North Wales	2,441	303	33	121	158	1	14	1	4	583	1,762	176	0	2	1,901	20	7	0	22	2	17	66	17	
South Wales	6,245	479	65	122	732	0	31	3	23	1,392	4,425	475	0	9	4,793	17	297	6	14	6	22	352	7	
Wales	13,423	1,004	139	314	1,199	4	64	8	51	2,622	10,050	1,086	0	22	10,848	62	451	6	109	12	74	686	25	
British Transport Police	5,733	323	13	106	142	2	10	1	19	588	5,057	89	0	0	5,134	1	20	4	73	3	5	102	24	
England and Wales	220,132	20,311	5,071	3,708																				

AREA TABLE 2B: DRUG SEIZURES PER MILLION POPULATION¹ BY DRUG CATEGORY, CLASS, AREA AND POLICE FORCE, 2009/10, ENGLAND AND WALES

Police force or other authority England and Wales	All drugs ²	Class A drugs								Total ³	Class B drugs					Total ³	Class C drugs						Total ³	Unknown
		Cocaine	Crack	Ecstasy -type	Heroin	LSD	Methadone	Morphine	Other		Cannabis	Amphetamines	Barbiturates	Other	Anabolic steroids		Benzo-diazepines	GHB	Ketamine	Temazepam	Other			
Police forces																								
Cleveland	4,408	920	102	109	466	0	64	0	0	1,538	2,655	285	0	7	2,908	0	256	0	0	18	16	285	0	
Durham	2,474	251	15	55	170	8	17	5	23	527	1,554	212	0	2	1,719	35	71	0	7	20	17	142	284	
Northumbria	3,561	505	8	84	200	2	14	6	6	809	2,061	376	0	12	2,397	28	151	1	21	19	46	253	264	
North East Region	3,489	536	30	82	251	3	25	5	9	901	2,071	317	0	9	2,348	24	155	0	13	19	33	234	212	
Cheshire	2,079	356	24	45	91	1	7	0	1	517	1,506	54	0	0	1,553	3	0	0	5	0	1	9	17	
Cumbria	3,003	305	20	95	425	2	16	6	4	855	1,831	244	0	8	2,047	0	56	0	10	42	14	123	133	
Greater Manchester	4,186	353	114	22	309	0	4	2	9	679	3,391	162	0	3	3,518	12	23	0	16	1	31	78	62	
Lancashire	2,890	305	53	45	338	0	2	0	10	734	1,989	163	0	2	2,128	2	35	1	6	6	3	53	39	
Merseyside	9,588	1,070	34	99	237	0	10	1	1	1,414	8,154	211	0	0	8,342	3	2	0	7	1	0	13	0	
North West Region	4,582	481	66	50	277	0	6	1	6	824	3,644	162	0	2	3,781	6	21	0	10	5	14	53	44	
Humbly Grove	3,079	179	49	104	277	0	27	0	21	583	2,179	316	0	7	2,439	12	253	0	12	11	45	315	0	
North Yorkshire	1,986	219	24	38	98	0	4	0	6	384	1,375	93	0	15	1,473	5	51	0	25	0	8	89	62	
South Yorkshire	5,015	356	119	156	265	1	36	4	47	907	3,726	308	5	8	3,977	23	7	2	99	15	42	181	255	
West Yorkshire	1,661	153	63	34	94	0	3	0	2	320	1,287	51	0	0	1,325	7	2	1	1	1	1	14	86	
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	2,799	218	68	77	169	0	16	1	17	523	2,068	168	1	6	2,207	12	55	1	31	6	20	120	110	
Derbyshire	2,719	267	60	50	216	0	42	5	28	599	2,017	229	0	14	2,188	41	43	6	17	8	38	141	0	
Leicestershire	2,869	164	38	15	135	2	34	0	8	372	2,461	47	0	52	2,531	17	23	0	8	2	33	76	0	
Lincolnshire	729	76	14	10	96	1	4	3	23	210	306	119	0	1	418	0	16	1	49	1	42	105	29	
Northamptonshire	2,210	171	18	13	124	0	28	1	1	333	1,842	60	0	1	1,892	15	34	0	1	9	19	68	0	
Nottinghamshire	2,125	315	86	75	243	0	7	2	3	616	1,483	246	1	2	1,672	15	31	0	2	0	25	68	2	
East Midlands Region	2,218	211	48	36	172	1	23	2	13	451	1,691	149	0	16	1,816	19	30	2	14	4	31	92	5	
Staffordshire	3,092	382	67	109	320	0	12	1	2	861	2,195	144	0	3	2,308	8	24	2	9	3	14	58	1	
Warwickshire	2,909	324	38	315	107	4	13	0	8	730	2,279	141	0	0	2,369	2	6	0	53	0	2	60	0	
West Mercia	2,623	319	17	24	114	2	28	3	11	487	1,907	29	0	1	1,930	6	20	5	10	2	10	51	319	
West Midlands	3,659	253	90	53	227	3	20	2	5	595	3,111	46	2	0	3,144	4	11	0	6	3	18	42	0	
West Midlands Region	3,246	300	64	83	209	2	19	2	6	637	2,584	71	1	1	2,636	5	15	1	12	3	14	49	70	
Bedfordshire	1,837	159	93	20	155	0	7	2	7	387	1,423	33	2	13	1,467	7	0	0	12	2	3	23	0	
Cambridgeshire	2,946	243	40	27	197	1	36	3	12	510	2,365	67	0	9	2,426	12	21	1	51	4	29	113	22	
Essex	1,947	174	11	9	60	0	1	0	1	240	1,691	56	0	1	1,732	2	8	0	8	2	8	27	0	
Hertfordshire	4,551	606	93	65	156	1	9	2	13	891	3,666	52	0	1	3,704	0	11	0	0	0	1	12	74	
Norfolk	706	38	0	22	46	0	8	2	1	114	544	37	0	0	576	1	2	0	21	0	1	26	0	
Suffolk	1,427	122	20	31	111	3	3	3	1	283	1,092	42	4	4	1,130	1	8	0	48	0	6	62	0	
Eastern Region	2,315	237	39	28	111	1	9	2	5	402	1,884	50	1	4	1,926	3	9	0	20	1	8	40	17	
London, City of ³	68,049	6,178	0	1,853	265	0	353	0	88	8,738	59,488	706	0	88	60,106	0	88	0	971	88	353	1,412	441	
Metropolitan Police	8,686	600	296	79	345	4	25	1	6	1,215	7,524	79	0	1	7,584	3	9	1	20	1	8	41	95	
London Region	8,774	609	295	81	345	4	25	1	6	1,226	7,601	80	0	1	7,662	3	9	1	21	1	9	43	96	
Hampshire	2,831	326	71	138	197	5	31	2	6	699	2,112	102	0	2	2,187	3	18	1	25	4	6	56	20	
Kent	1,672	207	21	30	51	0	3	1	4	308	1,318	99	0	0	1,398	1	5	0	2	0	0	8	5	
Surrey	1,538	208	23	6	90	1	5	1	5	311	1,183	36	0	11	1,216	11	12	3	55	3	18	100	5	
Sussex	4,102	698	178	147	330	3	35	9	66	1,309	2,817	134	2	41	2,938	28	78	8	70	8	22	206	0	
Thames Valley	3,482	382	66	45	172	2	12	2	4	634	2,730	51	0	2	2,768	5	7	0	88	2	18	118	117	
South East Region	2,839	371	73	77	172	2	18	3	16	667	2,126	85	0	10	2,196	9	23	2	49	3	13	96	37	
Avon and Somerset	3,800	387	130	36	384	3	25	3	21	834	2,922	132	0	11	3,017	18	75	0	73	9	53	199	1	
Devon and Cornwall	1,693	155	4	59	110	0	40	2	3	350	1,283	113	0	2	1,372	5	67	0	5	5	16	95	0	
Dorset	2,676	308	62	23	360	6	35	4	8	723	1,830	115	0	11	1,927	23	56	0	87	3	37	190	31	
Gloucestershire	3,961	447	131	136	329	5	39	3	24	1,037	2,883	123	2	12	2,982	29	61	0	92	5	53	225	0	
Wiltshire	1,750	185	66	58	129	2	5	2	29	440	1,263	94	2	6	1,340	8	5	0	11	3	11	37	43	
South West Region	2,735	283	72	56	254	2	30	3	15	638	2,037	118	0	7	2,129	14	60	0	47	6	34	147	10	
England	3,905	369	96	64	221	2	18	2	10	714	3,117	118	0	6	3,207	9	32	1	26	4	17	85	59	
Dyfed-Powys	5,190	249	32	105	399	6	18	8	32	785	4,251	436	0	16	4,515	22	174	0	69	4	63	306	0	
Gwent	3,767	172	45	32	191	0	18	0	14	445	3,056	383	0	5	3,337	25	105	0	68	4	5	202	2	
North Wales	3,600	447	49	178	233	1	21	1	6	860	2,599	260	0	3	2,804	29	10	0	32	3	25	97	25	
South Wales	5,012	384	52	98	587	0	25	2	18	1,117	3,551	381	0	7	3,846	14	238	5	11	5	18	282	6	
Wales	4,489	336	46	105	401	1	21	3	17	877	3,361	363	0	7	3,628	21	151	2	36	4	25	229	8	
England and Wales average	3,937	367	93	66	231	2	19	2	11	723	3,124	132	0	6	3,231	10	39	1	26	4	18	93	56	

1. Rates per million population statistics are created using mid-year population estimates calculated by the Office for National Statistics. UK Border Agency and BTP data cannot be broken down to a regional level and are therefore excluded from both the constituent parts and the totals in this table.

2. As a seizure can involve more than one drug, figures for individual drugs and drug classes cannot be added together to produce totals.

3. Small resident population should be considered when considering City of London rates.

..Data not available

AREA TABLE 3: QUANTITIES SEIZED ^{1,2,3} OF CONTROLLED DRUGS BY DRUG CATEGORY, CLASS, AREA/AUTHORITY AND DRUG TYPE, 2009/10, ENGLAND AND WALES

Police force or other authority (unit) ⁴	Class A drugs							Class B drugs				Class C drugs				
	Cocaine (kgs)	"Crack" (kgs)	Ecstasy - type (1000s of doses)	Heroin (kgs)	LSD (1000s of doses)	Methodone (1000s of doses)	Morphine (1000s of doses)	Cannabis (herbal) (kgs)	Cannabis resin (kgs)	Cannabis plants (1000s of plants)	Amphetamines Barbiturates (kgs) (1000s of doses)	Anabolic steroids (1000s of doses)	Benzo- diazepines (1000s doses)	GHB (kgs)	Ketamine (kgs)	Temazepam (1000s of doses)
Police forces																
Cleveland	6.2	0.7	3.4	3.2	0.0	4.2	0.0	13.0	24.4	1.9	30.6	0.0	0.0	12.6	0.0	0.0
Durham	2.4	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.2	1.4	0.1	11.9	6.6	3.7	1.8	0.0	2.3	5.3	0.0	0.2
Northumbria	30.9	0.0	1.3	2.8	0.1	20.2	0.7	95.9	84.7	59.6	39.9	0.0	9.2	221.3	0.0	0.3
North East Region	39.6	0.8	5.2	6.4	0.3	25.8	0.7	120.8	115.7	65.1	72.3	0.0	11.5	239.2	0.0	0.4
Cheshire	1.8	1.0	0.4	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	19.8	1.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cumbria	2.1	0.0	1.2	0.5	0.0	1.0	0.0	5.7	25.4	1.1	21.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0
Greater Manchester	50.5	18.8	1.4	41.2	0.0	1.8	0.0	185.9	78.8	63.2	17.1	0.0	1.7	9.9	0.0	0.7
Lancashire	9.0	0.5	0.9	4.7	0.0	0.3	0.0	113.3	66.1	12.2	43.4	0.0	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.0
Merseyside	2.9	0.1	2.3	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	28.5	20.4	7.9	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
North West Region	66.2	20.5	6.1	49.9	0.0	3.1	0.1	336.6	210.6	86.1	81.9	0.0	1.8	14.7	0.0	0.7
Humbberside	5.5	0.5	0.8	11.2	0.0	0.5	0.0	98.9	13.3	23.1	14.4	0.0	1.3	21.8	0.0	0.1
North Yorkshire	1.2	0.2	0.2	2.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	6.8	1.0	3.2	2.3	0.0	0.1	1.0	0.0	0.2
South Yorkshire	2.6	4.7	3.6	8.5	0.0	3.3	0.0	205.6	117.4	33.1	56.4	0.1	3.7	0.7	0.1	1.0
West Yorkshire	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	23.0	1.4	15.3	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	9.6	5.5	5.2	21.9	0.0	4.0	0.0	334.3	133.2	74.7	73.3	0.1	5.3	23.6	0.1	1.3
Derbyshire	3.6	0.2	6.9	3.7	0.0	8.9	0.4	53.3	3.7	26.0	11.0	0.0	2.0	1.7	3.3	1.7
Leicestershire	4.8	0.1	0.1	1.9	0.0	9.8	0.0	29.6	2.1	23.5	45.2	0.0	2.1	1.8	0.0	0.0
Lincolnshire	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	20.5	4.3	0.5	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.4
Northamptonshire	11.0	0.0	0.4	0.9	0.0	3.1	0.0	139.4	14.2	5.0	3.8	0.0	2.7	1.4	0.0	0.0
Nottinghamshire	5.9	1.0	2.6	6.8	0.0	0.8	0.1	203.0	1.9	19.0	11.7	0.0	2.2	3.0	0.0	0.0
East Midlands Region	26.3	1.5	10.1	14.2	0.1	22.6	0.5	445.9	26.2	74.0	74.8	0.0	9.1	8.3	3.3	2.1
Staffordshire	63.5	0.4	2.5	17.6	0.0	5.0	0.1	51.2	74.7	26.5	29.9	0.0	0.4	2.5	0.0	0.0
Warwickshire	0.4	0.0	1.9	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	11.9	1.5	2.9	1.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
West Mercia	2.6	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.0	11.2	0.7	44.2	1.6	6.7	0.2	0.0	0.4	3.5	0.6	0.1
West Midlands	1.0	0.3	2.0	0.8	0.0	3.0	0.5	113.9	4.7	113.3	0.2	0.1	2.5	9.0	0.0	0.0
West Midlands Region	67.5	0.8	6.6	18.8	0.1	19.7	1.3	221.2	82.6	149.4	31.8	0.1	3.5	15.0	0.6	0.2
Bedfordshire	41.3	0.1	0.1	28.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.8	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cambridgeshire	1.7	0.9	0.6	2.4	0.0	2.3	0.0	26.9	31.1	10.1	1.8	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.0	4.5
Essex	9.8	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	92.4	28.4	16.7	173.6	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
Hertfordshire	7.6	0.1	1.6	5.7	0.0	1.6	0.0	90.4	3.6	11.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0
Norfolk	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.7	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0
Suffolk	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.1	43.4	3.8	5.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Eastern Region	60.6	1.3	2.9	36.7	0.0	5.9	0.1	260.6	67.7	43.7	176.7	0.1	0.8	2.5	0.0	4.6
London, City of	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Metropolitan Police	191.9	20.4	16.1	491.9	0.9	5.2	1.5	1,541.2	432.5	85.7	125.5	0.3	0.9	19.7	0.0	6.7
London Region	192.1	20.4	16.1	491.9	0.9	5.2	1.5	1,543.9	433.1	85.7	125.5	0.3	0.9	19.7	0.0	6.7
Hampshire	30.7	1.3	8.3	3.4	0.1	4.6	0.0	273.3	10.0	16.3	7.1	0.0	0.4	1.1	0.0	0.3
Kent	0.9	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	242.8	115.9	9.2	1.3	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0
Surrey	4.9	0.1	0.0	5.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	61.8	14.7	8.5	2.7	0.0	0.7	0.2	0.2	180.5
Sussex	68.9	1.5	26.7	3.2	0.0	2.7	0.4	110.9	26.4	17.7	4.5	0.0	2.3	5.5	0.0	0.9
Thames Valley	8.5	2.2	1.9	5.4	0.0	5.8	0.3	373.4	23.8	25.0	21.7	0.0	1.8	1.2	0.0	1.7
South East Region	114.0	5.2	37.3	17.8	0.2	13.4	0.7	1,062.2	190.7	76.8	37.4	0.0	5.4	8.0	0.2	183.4
Avon and Somerset	15.4	1.0	1.0	11.5	0.0	9.4	0.1	156.5	5.0	29.4	3.1	0.0	6.2	7.6	0.0	3.9
Devon and Cornwall	20.7	0.0	13.6	1.2	0.0	22.7	0.0	32.0	5.0	6.2	6.3	0.0	1.2	6.6	0.0	1.0
Dorset	3.6	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.1	11.7	0.0	31.0	17.5	3.6	13.0	0.0	11.5	2.7	0.0	3.3
Gloucestershire	7.6	0.5	2.7	2.8	0.0	0.4	0.0	42.1	1.3	7.7	8.8	0.0	2.6	5.1	0.0	1.1
Wiltshire	1.8	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	14.7	1.9	4.8	52.8	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	2.0
South West Region	49.1	1.8	18.2	16.6	0.1	44.4	0.2	276.2	30.7	51.9	84.0	0.0	21.7	22.1	0.0	11.3
England police total	624.9	57.9	107.8	674.2	1.8	144.1	5.3	4,601.7	1,290.4	707.4	757.6	0.6	59.9	353.2	4.3	210.6
Dyfed-Powys	1.6	0.0	0.8	0.5	0.0	1.1	0.1	18.9	48.7	5.4	7.4	0.0	4.8	4.5	0.0	0.1
Gwent	4.3	0.7	1.2	8.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	14.9	14.3	14.9	7.4	0.0	17.2	11.8	0.0	0.2
North Wales	11.1	0.0	1.3	0.7	0.1	0.9	0.0	9.0	36.9	12.7	8.2	0.0	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0
South Wales	2.1	0.1	3.6	3.1	0.0	1.2	0.8	27.3	14.2	18.3	5.1	0.0	1.8	115.2	0.0	0.0
Wales Police Total	19.2	0.8	6.8	12.3	0.1	3.7	0.8	70.1	114.2	51.2	28.2	0.0	24.5	131.6	0.0	0.3
British Transport Police	1.7	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.0	20.4	5.0	0.1	8.2	0.0	0.0	201.9	0.0	0.6
England and Wales police total	645.9	59.1	115.5	686.7	1.9	148.4	6.1	4,692.3	1,409.7	758.7	793.9	0.6	84.4	686.7	4.3	211.5
UK Border Agency⁵ (including HM Revenue and Customs)	1,996.5	0.2	55.4	829.6	1.4	0.5	0.0	13,253.5	11,152.8	0.0	532.0	0.0	3,344.4	6,117.5	0.0	81.7
Grand Total	2,642.4	59.3	170.8	1,516.3	3.3	148.8	6.1	17,945.8	12,562.5	758.7	1,325.9	0.6	3,428.8	6,804.2	4.3	293.1

1. Drugs can be seized in a variety of forms or preparation types. In this table, quantities of drugs have been converted to weights (kg), doses (1000s) or plants. To present all seized quantities within a given drug type in terms of one comparable unit.

2. Quantities data for all drugs are not applicable as conversion factors are not applied to all drugs.

3. Where the quantity of a seizure is recorded as 'trace' it is not included in these figures.

4. Doses include dots, tablets and squares.

5. Figures may differ slightly from the UK Border Agency and HM Revenue and Customs publications due to differences in counting rules. Seizures from joint operations involving the UK Border Agency and the police are recorded against the lead agency that takes possession of the seized drugs.

..Data not available

NOTES

1. The statistics in this bulletin and accompanying tables relate to the misuse of drugs controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, which came into force on 1 July 1973. The Act divides drugs into three categories according to their harmfulness. A full list of drugs in each category is given in Schedule 2 to the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, as amended by Orders in Council.
2. The Home Office first collated drug-seizure statistics in an electronic format in 1974, originally covering the United Kingdom, rather than England and Wales. Since the introduction of the Act, there have been various changes to which drugs are covered as well as to recording practices by police forces and other agencies. Drug-seizure statistics are not directly comparable from year to year and furthermore are not a measure of drug prevalence in society.
3. The statistics of seizures cover those made during the year by police (including the British Transport Police) that have been submitted to the Home Office, together with information from the UK Border Agency. More detailed figures are given in the associated area and supplementary tables. Seizures involving more than one drug are counted as a single seizure in the total number of seizures but are counted separately against each individual drug or drug class involved (see Box 1). Annual movements in quantities are often heavily affected by a small number of very large seizures.
4. The UK Border Agency data in this bulletin have been supplied as finalised figures, data processing and quality assurance having been undertaken internally. This has been completed following Home Office and National Statistics guidance. These data include data from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). Previously, the Home Office has been sent raw data from the UK Border Agency for processing. It is anticipated that the UK Border Agency will continue to supply finalised figures for future bulletins. In practice, this should not have materially affected the data as the processing was completed under the same documentation.
5. Seizures by the UK Border Agency have historically accounted for about four per cent of the total number of seizures but for the majority of the quantities seized. In recent years, the NCS and now SOCA have been making large seizures of a number of drug types. SOCA figures are not directly included in this publication and can be found in their annual reports to Parliament. However, many SOCA seizures are attributed to local police forces when operations have been run together.
6. For consistency, the counting rules used by the police have been applied to the UK Border Agency data. All historical data shown in this publication and the associated tables have also been revised.

7. Some of the totals for quantities of drugs seized by the UK Border Agency included in this bulletin may differ slightly from their own published figures, especially for earlier years. The discrepancies reflect differences in the treatment of information, mainly revisions to weights, which became available after these statistics had been issued by the UK Border Agency.
8. Information on average (arithmetic mean) drug purities for cocaine, crack, heroin and amphetamines has been provided by the Forensic Science Service (FSS), whose laboratories analyse seizures made by most police forces and the UK Border Agency (including HMRC). Such averages do not adequately describe the overall average purity. Not all seizures are sent for analysis although arrangements exist for the police to send for analysis all potential cocaine samples, including crack. FSS data refer to the year that information on the analysis was provided rather than the year of seizure.
9. The conversion factors used to estimate quantities of seizures from the police and the UK Border Agency (including HMRC) have been revised from 2005 data in line with recommendations from the Forensic Science Service. Average seizures of quantities for valid preparation types by drug type are used as conversion factors to present each drug quantity as one unit (kilograms, doses or plants). From 2005, for approximately half the main drug types the quantities of these seizures are presented in doses rather than kilograms. In previous years only LSD and ecstasy were presented in doses.
10. The method of collecting the statistics for England and Wales changed from 1 January 1993; seizures were reported on a simplified form no longer linked to an offender. All seizures of controlled drugs are included, whether or not there is an offender, and whether the case results in court proceedings, in a caution, or no further action. In England and Wales, total seizures were about 22 per cent higher in 1993 using the new method of collection than in 1992 using the old method.
11. A new database of drug seizures made by the police was developed between 1999 and 2000 and implemented in September 2000. There are some differences between the way this database counts seizures compared to the two databases it replaced. It was discovered that figures previously published for the period 1993–1999 were undercounting the number of seizures. The historic tables in this bulletin have been updated to take this into account.
12. There have been a number of changes which have affected the statistics in this bulletin over the period covered in the tables, the more significant of which are as follows:

01/07/2003	GHB became a controlled drug.
29/01/2004	Reclassification of cannabis from a class B to a class C drug under the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
18/07/2005	Raw magic mushrooms classified as a class A drug. Previously only prepared (such as dried or stewed) magic mushrooms were classified as class A drugs.
01/01/2006	Ketamine classified as a class C drug.
18/01/2007	Methamphetamine (commonly known as “Crystal Meth”) reclassified from a class B to a class A drug.
26/01/2009	Reclassification of cannabis from a class C to a class B drug.

13. Not all drugs that come into the possession of the police have been “seized” in the strictest sense of the word. For example, a member of the public may hand in what appear to be drugs that have been found in the street. These items will be recorded at individual police stations and then destroyed.
14. Although care is taken in completing and analysing the returns used to compile the figures in this bulletin, the figures are subject to the inaccuracies of any large-scale recording system of this kind that involves different organisations. So that the reliability of data could be ensured, a reconciliation exercise was conducted, where each police force or other authority was asked to check their own data and supply revised figures where necessary.
15. The figures in the tables in this bulletin are generally shown to the last digit in order to provide a comprehensive record of the information collected. However, the figures are not necessarily accurate to the last digit shown. In some tables components may not add to totals (or the total) because they have been rounded independently.

Symbols and conventions used in tables

*	not applicable
..	not available
-	nil
0	less than a specified amount

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