

Stop & Search

Analysis 2025/26

12 Months to June 2026

Stop & Search

Stop & search is a power used by the police where an officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that someone is carrying one or more prohibited items, or items that could be used to commit a crime. It is primarily used to **prevent** crime or violence.

Data limitations to note: This summary provides an insight into the number and content of the stop & search reports submitted by officers. **It should be noted that this does not provide an overview of the incidents themselves.**

Values have been rounded to the nearest whole number and so some total may not sum to 100% on the face of the report.

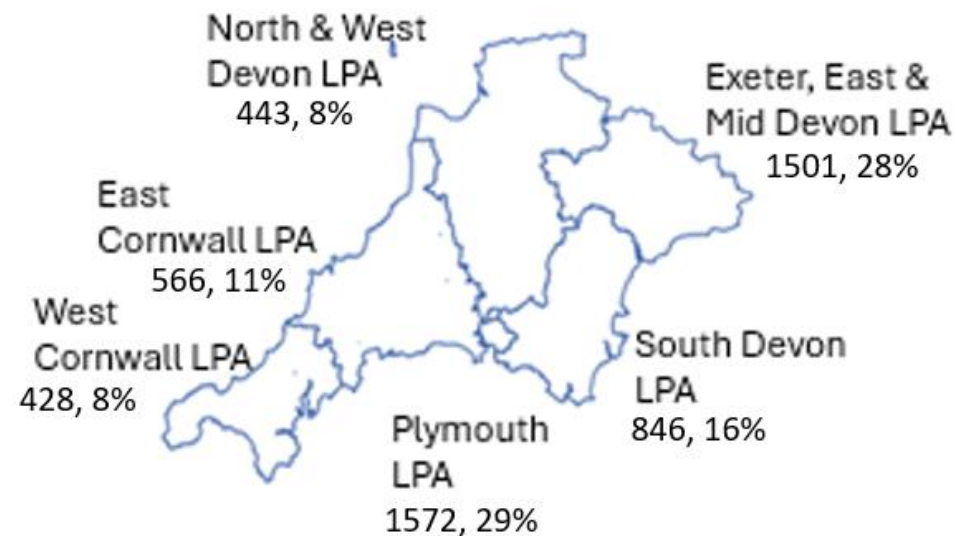
Data Quality: A minority of records are missing data, this continues to be investigated, and controls introduced to improve data quality.

Stop & Search - Locations

For the year to **June 2026** there were **5390** Stop & Search Reports across Devon & Cornwall.

In **39%** of stops a **positive** outcome was recorded (see Outcome chart).

In **30%** of searches the officer found the object they expected to find (this rate is based on the Primary Object of the Search ONLY).

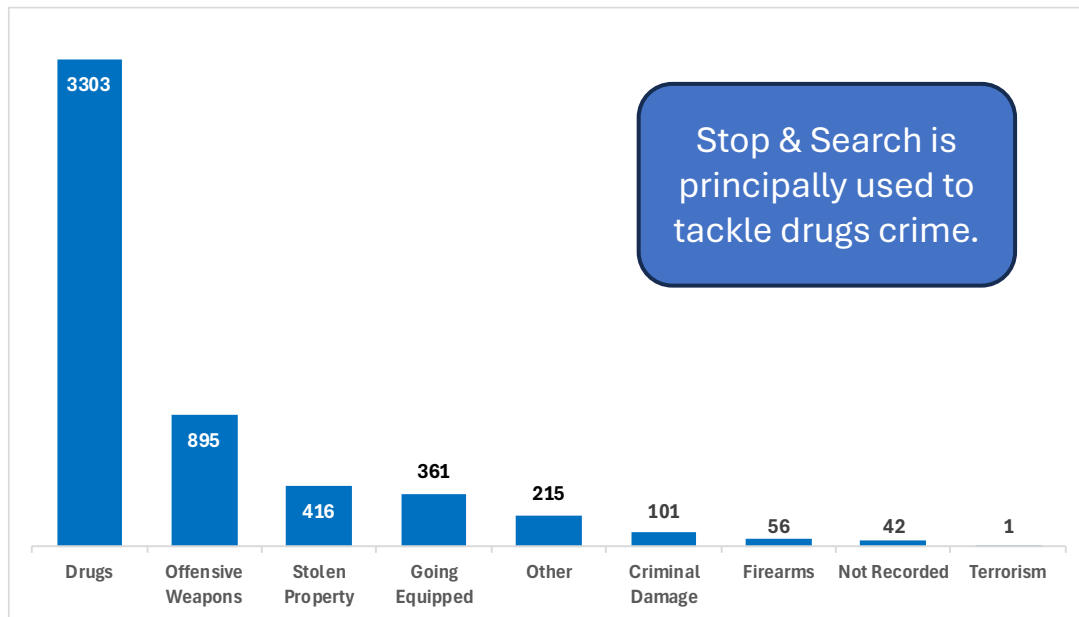


Reports by Officer's LPA

Officer Station LPA	Volume	Percentage
East Cornwall LPA	566	11%
Exeter, East & Mid Devon LPA	1501	28%
North & West Devon LPA	443	8%
Plymouth LPA	1572	29%
South Devon LPA	846	16%
West Cornwall LPA	428	8%
Not Recorded	34	1%

Stop & Search – Object & Outcome of Search

Object of Stop & Search



61% of searches were for Drugs.

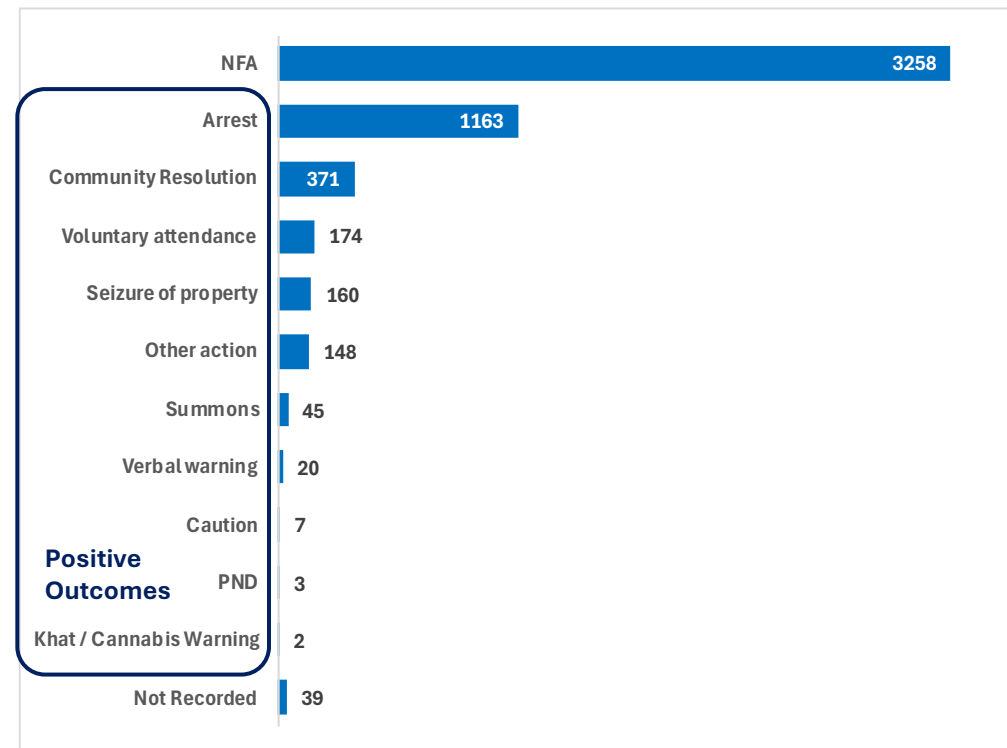
17% were for Offensive Weapons.

8% were for Stolen Property.

There were 42 records where the object of the search was Not Recorded.

Officers record a **primary** and possibly also a secondary and tertiary object of search: the rate and charts are based only on the **primary** object data

Outcome of Stop & Search



60% of searches resulted in **NFA**

22% in **arrest**

7% in **community resolutions**

There were 39 records where no outcome was recorded

Stop & Search – Subject Characteristics

This slide shows characteristics of the subjects of a stop and search.
This data excludes vehicle only searches, which is why the volume is lower.

Table showing the Age of the Subject of a Stop & Search

Subject Age	Records	Percentage
0 to 10	1	0%
11 to 17	861	17%
18 to 25	1417	27%
26 to 34	1012	20%
35 to 44	1088	21%
45 to 54	553	11%
55 to 64	167	3%
65 and over	33	1%
Unknown	53	1%
Grand Total	5185	100%

In **17% (862)** of the stops were children (under 18).

In **1%** of stops the age was 'Unknown'.

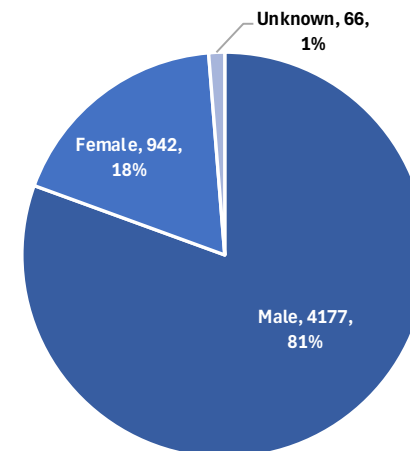
Table showing the Race of the Subject of a Stop & Search

Subject Race	Self-defined	Percentage	Officer Perceived	Percentage
White	4555	88%	4785	92%
Black	135	3%	185	4%
Asian	88	2%	126	2%
Mixed	114	2%		
Other ethnic group	79	2%	58	1%
Not Stated/Unknown	214	4%	31	1%
Grand Total	5185	100%	5185	100%

In **4% (214)** of the stops the self-defined race was not obtained / provided by the subject.

For the Table showing the Race of the Subject, 'Other ethnic group' (officer perceived) includes Arabic and North African. Mixed is not an available option for officers to select.

Pie Chart showing the Sex of the Subject of a Stop & Search



The majority of subjects of Stop & Search are males, **81%**.
In **1%** of stops the sex is 'Unknown'.

End