

Strip searches undertaken in custody by
the Metropolitan Police
Trends, patterns and disparities
2017/18 to 2021/22

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Contents

- Introduction
- **Key findings**
- **Questions arising from the analysis**
- Why strip searches are done in police custody
- Strip searches and the law
- Summary of the dataset
- Strip search rates by gender, age, offence type and year
- Ethnic disparities in strip search rates
- Strip search rates by custody suite
- Notes: FOI data
- Notes: ethnicity data grouping, recoding and gaps
- Additional data tables
- Appendices
- Contact details

Introduction

- The use of strip search by police forces, and especially the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), has attracted considerable interest in recent times as a result of high profile incidents.
- **Strip searches conducted in police custody following arrests and authorisation by a Custody Sergeant are the focus here, involving “the removal of more than outer clothing”.**
 - *In addition, ‘more thorough searches’ and ‘more thorough searches exposing intimate body parts’ (the latter referred to variously as ‘MTIP’ or ‘EIP’ searches) may be conducted using stop and search powers (as in the case of Child Q). Such searches are not considered here. There were around 5,000 MTIP searches in 2020 and 4,300 in 2021.*
- Data on strip searches in custody have not been routinely published.
- Some data have been published in response to FOI requests, but as far as it has been possible to ascertain none have made it possible to examine strip search rates – that is, strip searches as a proportion of all detentions – by detainee characteristics such as age, gender and ethnicity.
- In order to address this gap, a Freedom of Information Request was submitted to the MPS in June 2022 with the response received in October 2022 (see ‘Notes: FOI data’ below).
- The resulting 5-year dataset presents data from the MPS’s **NSPIS custody database**.
- It covers 723,168 detentions and 144,835 accompanying strip searches, with data on detainee age (youth 10-17yrs/adult 18+yrs), gender, ethnicity (self-defined and appearance), offence type (drugs/weapons/other only), custody suite name and whether a strip search was conducted.
- Variables requested but not provided included PNC warning markers and detainee demeanour.

Key findings

- 1) **Overall strip search rates in custody increased from 16.5% to 23.2% of detainees (up 1.4x) between 2017/18 and 2020/21**, before falling slightly to 19.9% in 2021/22. The varying proportion of arrests linked to drugs and/or weapons seems largely to explain these headline changes.
- 2) **Strip search rates are higher for arrests relating to weapons and especially drugs than other arrest reasons, higher for adults than youths, higher for males than females, and have increased more rapidly for youths than adults.** The large gap in strip search rates between male and female youths seems notable, even when controlling for offence type.
- 3) **Differences are observed in strip search rates by ethnicity** when controlling for age (10-17/18+), gender and offence type. Overall, Black males are strip searched at 1.5x (adults) and 1.8x (youths) the rate of their White counterparts – and at a higher rate for all offence groups; by contrast Black females are strip searched less often overall (0.9x and 0.8x the White rate respectively), for all offence groups in the case of adults.
- 4) **Rates of ethnic disparity have changed over time**, including having notably fallen for male youths arrested only for drugs offences. This is partly a function of related strip search rates having increased rapidly for all male youths, while the percentage point gap in strip search rates between White and Black and Asian has persisted.
- 5) **The profile of arrest offences varies between custody suites, but that doesn't appear to be sufficient to explain differences in strip search rates between custody suites.** E.g. large differences are seen between strip search rates for arrests related only to drugs offences.
- 6) **The data are quite limited.** The full range of factors considered by Custody Sergeants when deciding whether to authorise strip searches are not captured in the NSPIS Custody Database data analysed here, and perhaps even in the raw NSPIS data available to MPS analysts. This notably includes PNC warning markers (such as 'conceals').

Seven questions arising from the analysis

- 1) **Where should the line should be drawn regarding the necessity and proportionality of strip searches (and how can one know if it has been crossed)?**
- 2) **What explains the increase in strip search rates of youths over time (e.g. for drugs only arrests)?**
 - Has the MPS become more risk averse (if so, why?) or have the risks presented by detainees changed?*
- 3) **How far could observed age, gender and ethnic disparities be explained by more detailed data?**
 - The full range of factors taken into account by Custody Sergeants when considering whether to authorise a strip search aren't captured in the data here – notably including PNC warning markers.
 - Regression analysis would help identify the contribution of individual factors.
- 4) **Are the gender and age differences in strip search decisions defensible?**
 - To what extent do they reflect factors such as objective differences in risk factors, the availability of female officers search female detainees, different assumptions/beliefs about the gendered and age-related nature of vulnerability/dignity/risks, and differences in information about detainees?
- 5) **Are some custody suites more risk averse than others, and if so why?**
- 6) **Are sufficient data recorded in the NSPIS Custody database to allow equality of treatment to be adequately examined?**
- 7) ***How does the use of strip search by the MPS compare to other police forces?***

*Note that the number of MTIP searches recorded by the MPS under stop and search powers also rose from 1,952 in 2017 to 5,021 in 2020 (up 2.6x), before a slight fall to 4,325 in 2021 https://www.met.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/foi-media/metropolitan-police/disclosure_2022/july_2022/strip-searches-mps-2017-2021.xlsx Ref 01/FOI/22/023976.

Why strip searches are done in custody

Text included with the MPS FOI response

“The primary reason for a Strip Search being authorised/conducted in a Custody Suite is to ensure the safety of the Detainee and the people around them. Factors effecting this consideration may be in relation to (but not limited to):

- The nature of the offence(s) arrested for (hidden weapons or drugs)
- Warning Markers on the PNC (Police National Computer)
- Concerns raised by responses to Risk Assessment questions

Strip Search can be undertaken for any Offence, but when looking at specific Offences, is more likely to be authorised/conducted for Offences relating to Drugs or Weapons.”

Strip searches and the law

- Strip searches* are regulated by Annexe A to PACE Code C.

“A strip search is a search involving the removal of more than outer clothing. In this Code, outer clothing includes shoes and socks... A strip search may take place only if it is considered necessary to remove an article which a detainee would not be allowed to keep and the officer reasonably considers the detainee might have concealed such an article. Strip searches shall not be routinely carried out if there is no reason to consider that articles are concealed” (paragraphs 9 and 10).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pace-code-c-2019/pace-code-c-2019-accessible#bookmark60>

- See also the College of Policing *Authorised Professional Practice* on restraint and searches in detention and custody.

<https://www.college.police.uk/app/detention-and-custody/control-restraint-and-searches>

**Note that the analysis presented here concerns strip searches and not ‘intimate searches’, which are more intrusive, involving the ‘physical examination of a person’s body orifices other than the mouth’, in most cases ‘by a registered medical practitioner or registered nurse’.*

Summary of the dataset: 723,168 custody detentions over 5 years

90.5% adults, 86.6% male, 44.6% White, annual total highest in 2017/18

| | | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | Total |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Female | Adult | 19073 | 16924 | 17809 | 17720 | 16820 | 88346 |
| | Youth | 2227 | 1613 | 1794 | 1363 | 1346 | 8343 |
| | Not Recorded | 22 | 21 | 31 | 25 | 22 | 121 |
| | Total | 21322 | 18558 | 19634 | 19108 | 18188 | 96810 |
| Male | Adult | 120642 | 111360 | 111484 | 115243 | 107047 | 565776 |
| | Youth | 14705 | 12151 | 13153 | 10923 | 9088 | 60020 |
| | Not Recorded | 114 | 108 | 126 | 131 | 74 | 553 |
| | Total | 135461 | 123619 | 124763 | 126297 | 116209 | 626349 |
| Not recorded | Adult | | | 1 | 1 | | 2 |
| | Youth | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| | Not Recorded | 1 | 3 | 2 | | | 6 |
| | Total | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | | 9 |
| Total | 156784 | 142181 | 144400 | 145406 | 134397 | 723168 | |

| Self-defined ethnicity | Number of detainees | % of total |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Asian - Any Other Asian Background | 36180 | 5.0% |
| Asian - Bangladeshi | 22929 | 3.2% |
| Asian - Indian | 21627 | 3.0% |
| Asian - Pakistani | 16198 | 2.2% |
| Black - African | 77014 | 10.6% |
| Black - Any Other Black Background | 62669 | 8.7% |
| Black - Caribbean | 56897 | 7.9% |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller | 906 | 0.1% |
| Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background | 15188 | 2.1% |
| Mixed - White And Asian | 2766 | 0.4% |
| Mixed - White And Black African | 6050 | 0.8% |
| Mixed - White And Black Caribbean | 19056 | 2.6% |
| Not Stated | 31796 | 4.4% |
| Other - Any Other Ethnic Group | 28258 | 3.9% |
| Other - Chinese | 3241 | 0.4% |
| White - Any Other White Background | 108472 | 15.0% |
| White - British | 201457 | 27.9% |
| White - Irish | 12458 | 1.7% |
| (blank) | 6 | 0.0% |
| Total | 723168 | 100.0% |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| <i>Asian, Asian/White, Chinese</i> | <i>102941</i> | <i>14.2%</i> |
| <i>Black, Black/White</i> | <i>221686</i> | <i>30.7%</i> |
| <i>White</i> | <i>322387</i> | <i>44.6%</i> |

| Number of detainees | Adult | Youth | Not Recorded | Total |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Female | 88346 | 8343 | 121 | 96810 |
| Male | 565776 | 60020 | 553 | 626349 |
| Not Recorded | 2 | 1 | 6 | 9 |
| Total | 654124 | 68364 | 680 | 723168 |

| Percentages of total | Adult | Youth | Not Recorded | Total |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| Female | 12.2% | 1.2% | 0.0% | 13.4% |
| Male | 78.2% | 8.3% | 0.1% | 86.6% |
| Not Recorded | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Total | 90.5% | 9.5% | 0.1% | 100.0% |

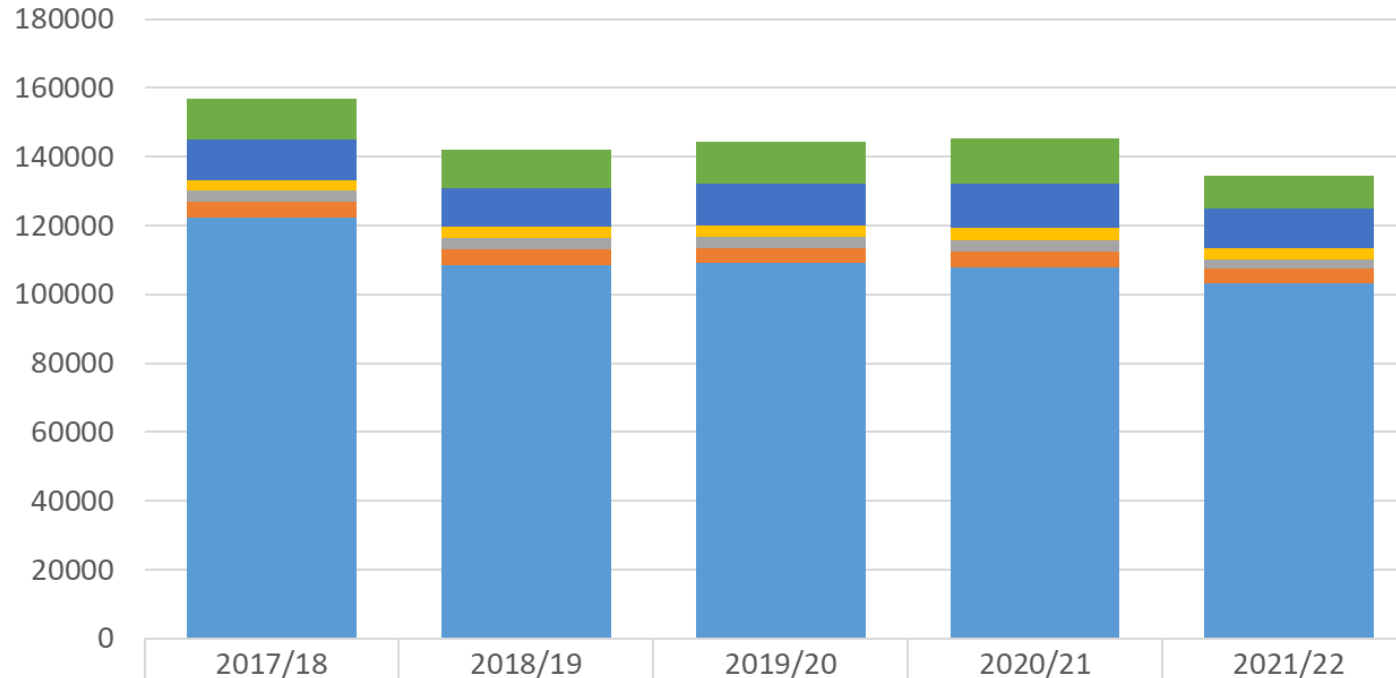
Strip search rates by gender, age,
offence type and year

The offence mix varies somewhat from year-to-year

Overall detentions 76.2% for 'other' (no drugs or weapons), 8.1% drugs only

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MPS custody detentions by offence category
2017/18 to 2021/22



Number of annual detentions highest in 2017/18 with 156k; fell to 134k in 2021/22.

The offence mix varies from year-to-year, e.g. the percentage of arrests for 'drugs only' rose from 7.5% in 2017/18 to 9.1% in 2020/21, before falling to 7.1% in 2021/22. (See Appendix 1 for a chart with totals indexed to 2017/18.)

A lack of granularity in the FOI offence data provided by the MPS is a limitation throughout the analysis.

Strip search rates vary by age/gender, rose 1.4x 2017/18 to 2020/21

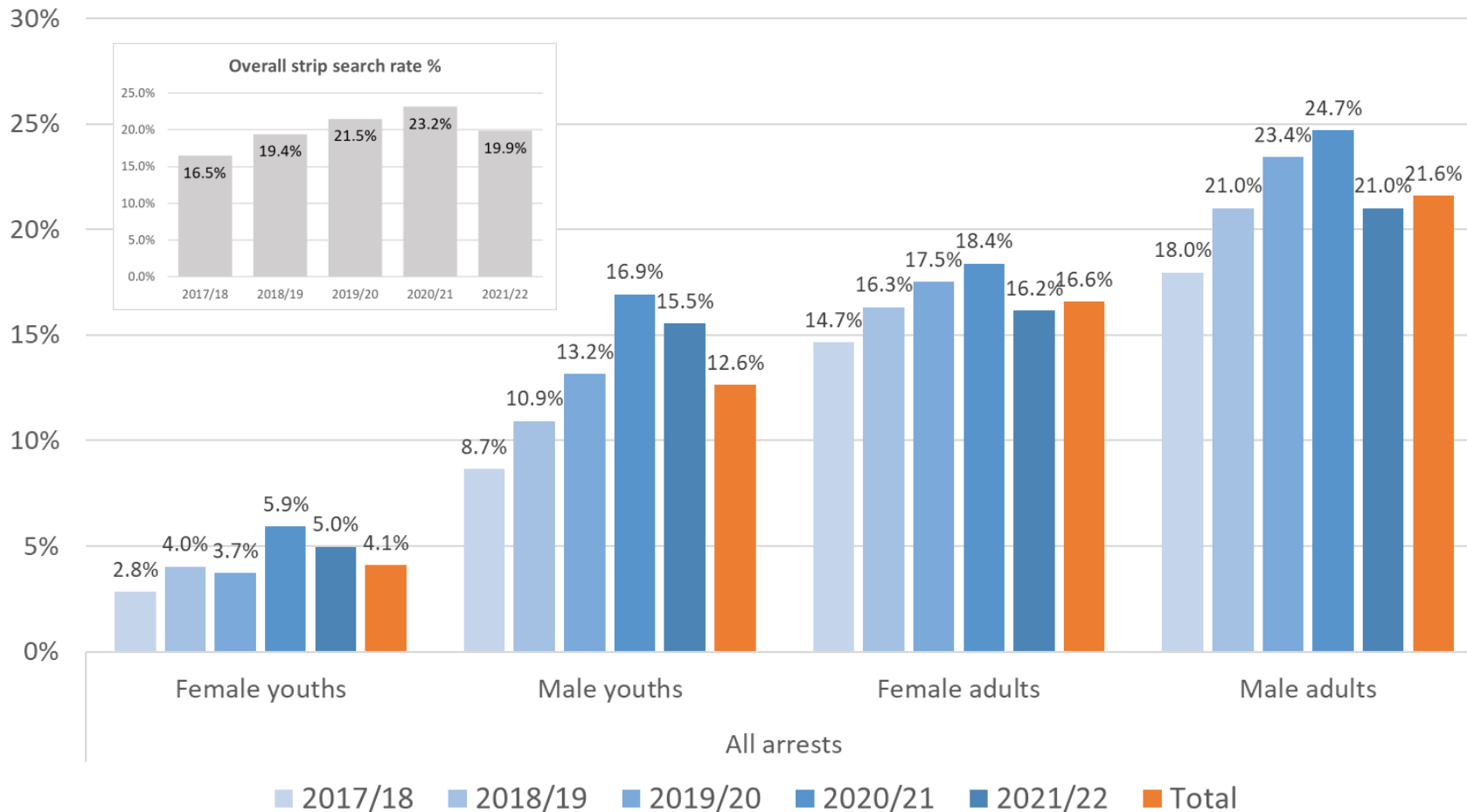
Strip search rates highest for men, much lower for female youths

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MPS custody strip search rates by gender, age and year

2017/18 to 2021/22

Base n = 722,485



Strip search rates for all peaked in 2020/21 (when drug offences peaked as a % of all detainees).

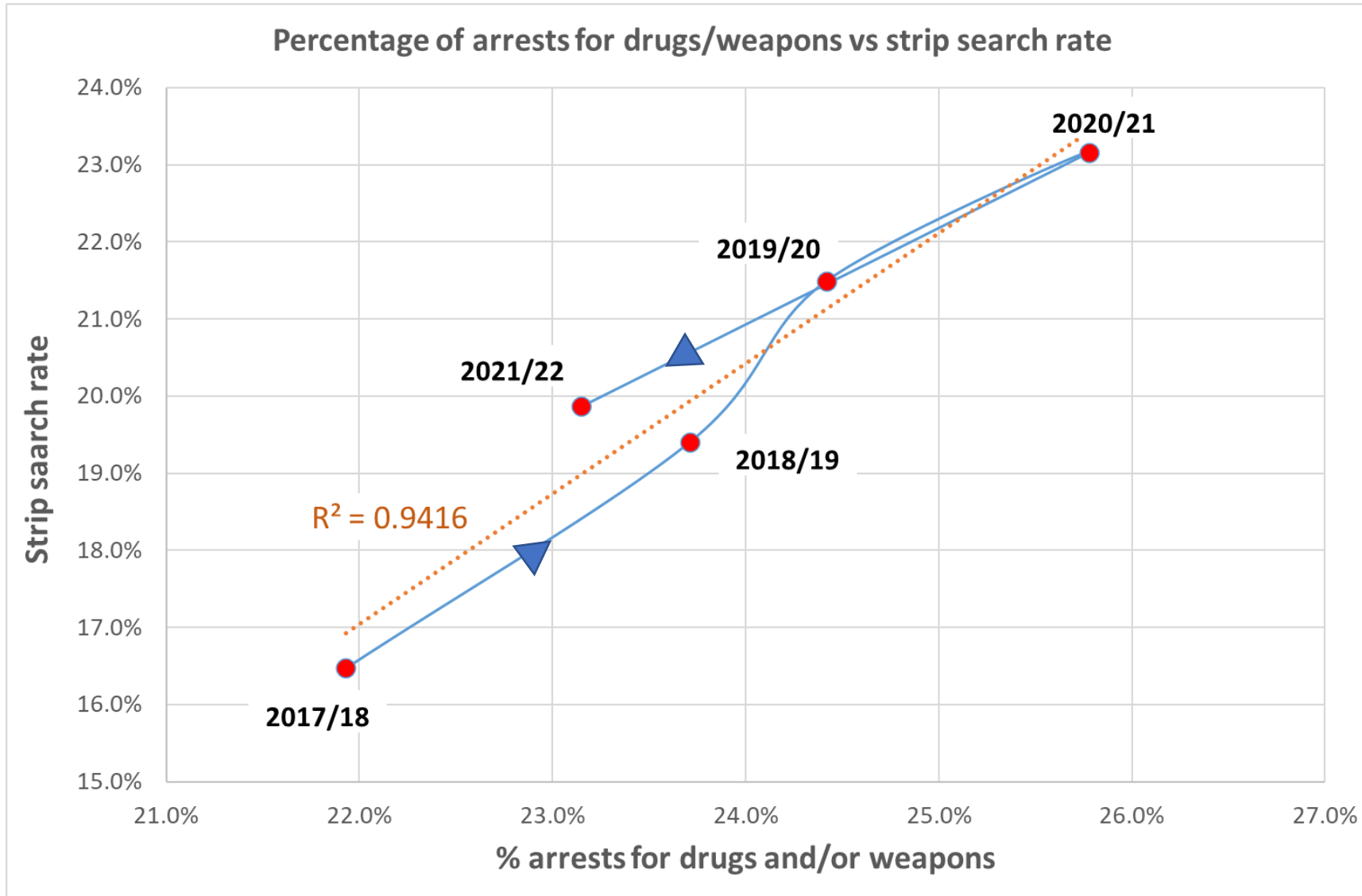
Strip search rates are highest for adult men. Large increases in the strip search rate for male youths (up 1.9x to 2020/21) mean they are now strip searched almost as often as adult women (15.5% vs 16.2% in 2021/22).

Much lower strip search rates for female youths (1/3 rate of male youths in 2021/22).

Q: Do male youth detainees present with objectively greater risk factors than female youths? Are they not considered as vulnerable?

Overall strip search rates appear driven by drugs/weapons arrests

Almost perfect relationship bet'n % of arrests for drugs/weapons and SS rates



The chart shows the relationship between the proportion of arrests/ detentions that related to drugs and/or weapons, and overall strip search rates. The fact that there is an almost perfect relationship suggests that most of the differences in annual strip search rates are accounted for by the changing offence mix.

There are nevertheless signs of a possible step up in strip search rates between 2018/19 and 2019/20 that may go beyond the change in offences.

Strip search rates vary by offence type

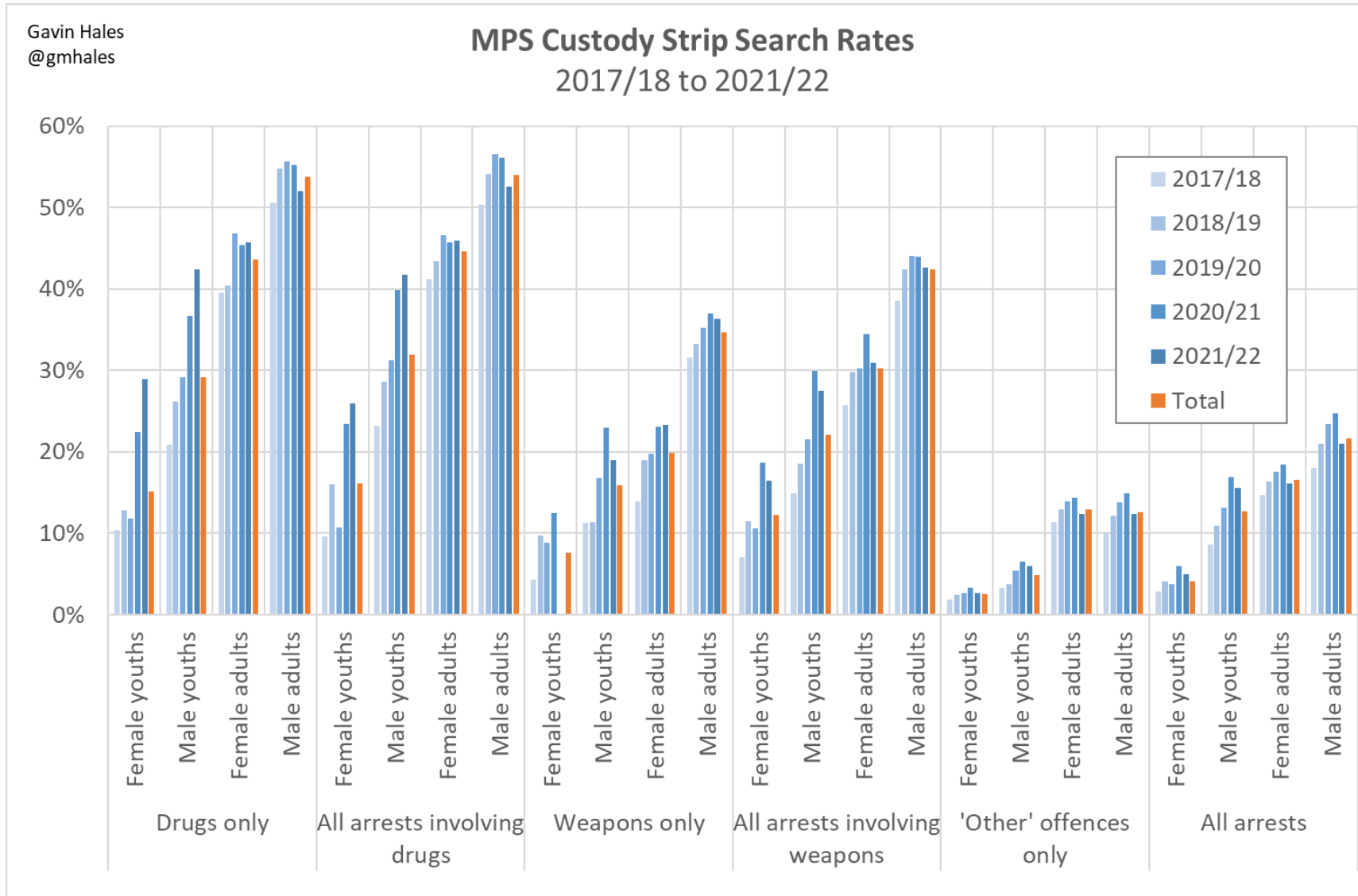
Highest for drugs offences; youth strip search rates have risen most sharply

Strip search rate

| | | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | Total |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| Drugs only | Female youths | 10.4% | 12.8% | 11.8% | 22.4% | 28.9% | 15.2% |
| | Male youths | 20.9% | 26.1% | 29.2% | 36.6% | 42.4% | 29.2% |
| | Female adults | 39.5% | 40.5% | 46.8% | 45.4% | 45.7% | 43.6% |
| | Male adults | 50.6% | 54.7% | 55.6% | 55.1% | 52.0% | 53.7% |
| All arrests involving drugs | Female youths | 9.6% | 16.0% | 10.7% | 23.4% | 26.0% | 16.1% |
| | Male youths | 23.2% | 28.6% | 31.3% | 39.8% | 41.7% | 31.9% |
| | Female adults | 41.2% | 43.3% | 46.6% | 45.7% | 45.9% | 44.6% |
| | Male adults | 50.3% | 54.0% | 56.6% | 56.1% | 52.6% | 54.0% |
| Weapons only | Female youths | 4.3% | 9.7% | 8.8% | 12.5% | 0.0% | 7.7% |
| | Male youths | 11.2% | 11.4% | 16.7% | 22.9% | 19.0% | 15.9% |
| | Female adults | 13.9% | 19.0% | 19.8% | 23.0% | 23.3% | 19.9% |
| | Male adults | 31.5% | 33.3% | 35.3% | 37.0% | 36.3% | 34.6% |
| All arrests involving weapons | Female youths | 7.0% | 11.5% | 10.6% | 18.6% | 16.4% | 12.2% |
| | Male youths | 14.9% | 18.5% | 21.6% | 29.9% | 27.5% | 22.1% |
| | Female adults | 25.7% | 29.8% | 30.2% | 34.4% | 30.9% | 30.2% |
| | Male adults | 38.5% | 42.4% | 44.0% | 44.0% | 42.6% | 42.3% |
| 'Other' offences only | Female youths | 1.9% | 2.4% | 2.6% | 3.3% | 2.7% | 2.5% |
| | Male youths | 3.3% | 3.8% | 5.5% | 6.5% | 5.9% | 4.8% |
| | Female adults | 11.4% | 12.9% | 13.9% | 14.3% | 12.4% | 12.9% |
| | Male adults | 10.1% | 12.1% | 13.8% | 14.9% | 12.4% | 12.6% |
| All arrests | Female youths | 2.8% | 4.0% | 3.7% | 5.9% | 5.0% | 4.1% |
| | Male youths | 8.7% | 10.9% | 13.2% | 16.9% | 15.5% | 12.6% |
| | Female adults | 14.7% | 16.3% | 17.5% | 18.4% | 16.2% | 16.6% |
| | Male adults | 18.0% | 21.0% | 23.4% | 24.7% | 21.0% | 21.6% |

Strip search rates vary by offence type - charted

Graphical representation of the tabulated data on previous slide



Highest strip search rates associated with drugs offences: drugs > weapons > other.

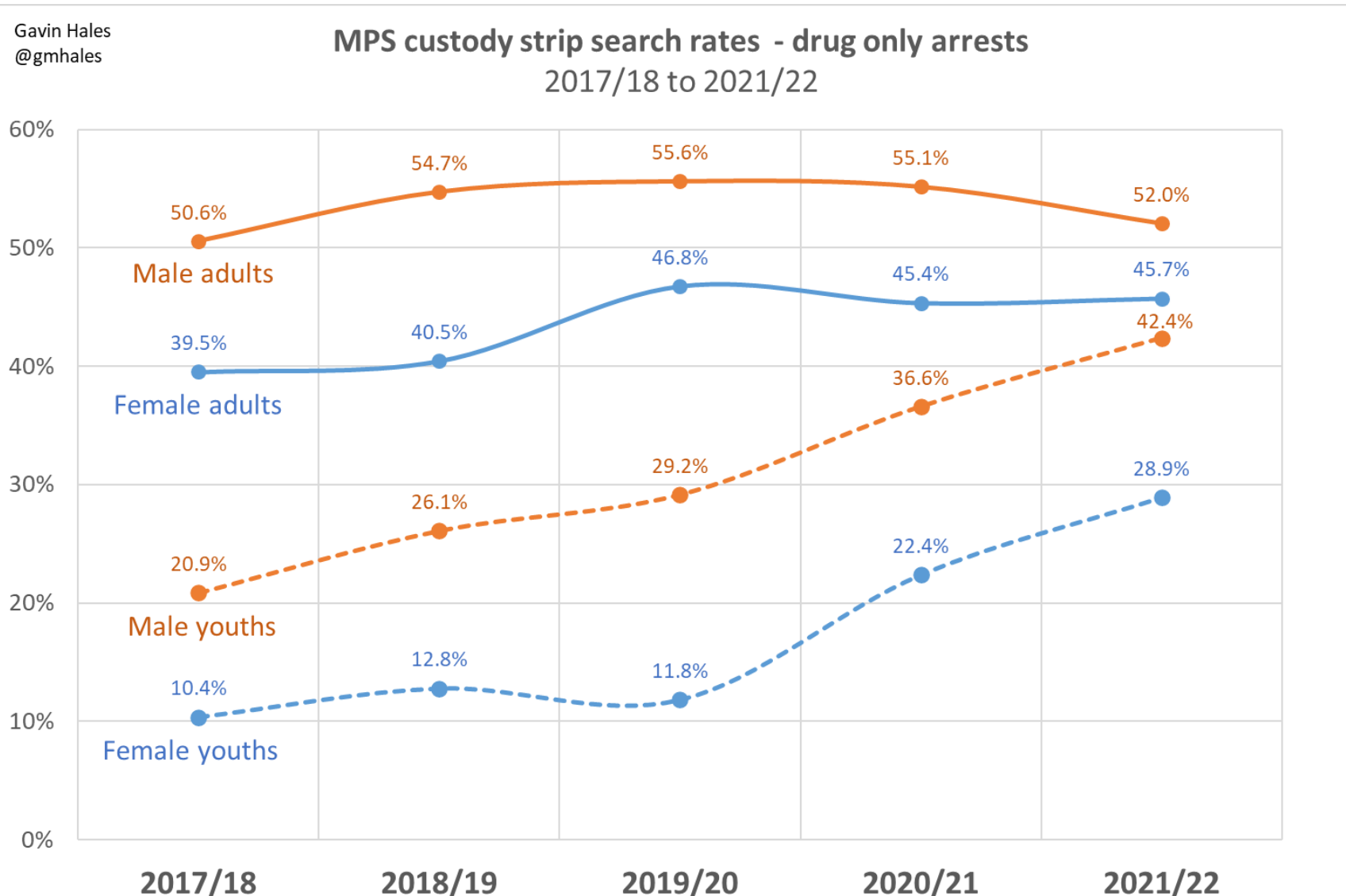
Strip search rates for male and female adults notably similar for 'other' offences (i.e. no drugs or weapons offences).

Otherwise:

Male adults > Female adults > Male youths > Female youths

Large increase in youth strip search rates, here drugs only arrests

Youth strip search rates more than doubled 2017/18 to 2021/22



A degree of **convergence in strip search rates** is evident, especially between male and female adults and male youths.

Large increases in strip search rates of male (2.0x) and female (2.8x) youths; the gap has widened slightly (from 10.5 % points to 13.5).

Q re the gender gap: do male detainees present with objectively greater risk factors than female?

Limitation: no differentiation in the FOI data by drug type or possession vs. supply

Ethnic disparities in strip search rates

Overall strip search rates across the 5 yrs vary by detailed ethnicity

Highest for 'Other Black' male (30.3%) and female (20.4%) adult detainees*

Strip search rates

| Strip search rate - all offences 2017/18 - 2021/22 | Male | | Female | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | Adult | Youth | Adult | Youth |
| Asian - Any Other Asian Background | 18.2% | 11.8% | 9.4% | 4.7% |
| Asian - Bangladeshi | 25.5% | 15.0% | 8.6% | 4.7% |
| Asian - Indian | 12.9% | 12.9% | 8.5% | 4.2% |
| Asian - Pakistani | 17.3% | 14.9% | 8.1% | 2.6% |
| Black - African | 25.2% | 15.0% | 10.1% | 4.3% |
| Black - Any Other Black Background | 30.3% | 15.8% | 20.4% | 3.1% |
| Black - Caribbean | 28.5% | 15.4% | 16.0% | 2.6% |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller | 15.6% | 6.2% | 11.8% | 0.0% |
| Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background | 23.4% | 11.8% | 19.8% | 3.7% |
| Mixed - White And Asian | 20.5% | 13.6% | 10.7% | 6.5% |
| Mixed - White And Black African | 26.0% | 14.3% | 15.9% | 3.2% |
| Mixed - White And Black Caribbean | 27.5% | 13.5% | 19.5% | 4.6% |
| Not Stated | 26.2% | 16.0% | 21.2% | 5.4% |
| Other - Any Other Ethnic Group | 19.1% | 11.7% | 12.0% | 4.9% |
| Other - Chinese | 10.0% | 9.0% | 4.8% | 5.9% |
| White - Any Other White Background | 15.3% | 9.2% | 12.3% | 6.6% |
| White - British | 20.2% | 8.2% | 20.0% | 3.9% |
| White - Irish | 17.4% | 6.6% | 20.6% | 3.0% |
| Total | 21.6% | 12.6% | 16.6% | 4.1% |

Multiples of White British rate (by column)

| Strip search rate - all offences 2017/18 - 2021/22 | Male | | Female | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Adult | Youth | Adult | Youth |
| Asian - Any Other Asian Background | 0.90 | 1.43 | 0.47 | 1.19 |
| Asian - Bangladeshi | 1.26 | 1.83 | 0.43 | 1.20 |
| Asian - Indian | 0.63 | 1.57 | 0.42 | 1.07 |
| Asian - Pakistani | 0.86 | 1.80 | 0.40 | 0.67 |
| Black - African | 1.25 | 1.82 | 0.51 | 1.09 |
| Black - Any Other Black Background | 1.50 | 1.92 | 1.02 | 0.79 |
| Black - Caribbean | 1.41 | 1.88 | 0.80 | 0.68 |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller | 0.77 | 0.75 | 0.59 | 0.00 |
| Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background | 1.16 | 1.43 | 0.99 | 0.94 |
| Mixed - White And Asian | 1.01 | 1.64 | 0.54 | 1.65 |
| Mixed - White And Black African | 1.28 | 1.73 | 0.79 | 0.81 |
| Mixed - White And Black Caribbean | 1.36 | 1.64 | 0.97 | 1.18 |
| Not Stated | 1.30 | 1.95 | 1.06 | 1.39 |
| Other - Any Other Ethnic Group | 0.94 | 1.42 | 0.60 | 1.27 |
| Other - Chinese | 0.49 | 1.09 | 0.24 | 1.51 |
| White - Any Other White Background | 0.76 | 1.12 | 0.62 | 1.68 |
| White - British | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| White - Irish | 0.86 | 0.80 | 1.03 | 0.77 |
| Total | 1.07 | 1.54 | 0.83 | 1.05 |

A multiple of 1.00 means the strip search rate is the same as for White British.

For female detainees, White detainees are strip searched more often than all other ethnic groups apart from 'Other Black' (and 'not stated').

**From other data, it may be that the 'Other Black' category (perhaps mainly) includes individuals who consider themselves to be Black British (e.g. MPS workforce data as at March 2022: include a Black British Category containing – for police officers – 7x the no. of 'Black Other' officers). © Gavin Hales, 2022*

Strip search rates vary by grouped ethnicity – here, all arrests

Highest for Black male detainees: 1.47x the White rate overall

Strip search rate as % of all arrests - all offence types

For details of how ethnicity has been grouped, see the relevant notes slide below. Note that Black includes Black/White mixed heritage; likewise Asian includes Asian/White.

| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | <i>n arrests</i> |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|
| Female | Adult | 8.7% | 16.6% | 11.8% | 19.8% | 11.7% | 18.4% | 18.1% | 16.6% | 88346 |
| | Youth | 5.2% | 3.6% | 0.0% | 3.7% | 4.7% | 7.1% | 4.5% | 4.1% | 8343 |
| | Total | 8.5% | 15.0% | 10.5% | 17.3% | 11.1% | 17.6% | 17.1% | 15.5% | 96689 |
| Male | Adult | 18.5% | 28.0% | 15.6% | 23.4% | 19.4% | 23.1% | 18.5% | 21.6% | 565776 |
| | Youth | 13.6% | 15.3% | 6.2% | 11.8% | 11.8% | 15.3% | 8.5% | 12.6% | 60020 |
| | Total | 18.2% | 26.2% | 13.9% | 21.7% | 18.8% | 22.5% | 17.8% | 20.7% | 625796 |
| Total | | 17.4% | 24.8% | 13.2% | 20.9% | 17.9% | 21.6% | 17.7% | 20.0% | 722485 |
| <i>n arrests</i> | | 106389 | 232264 | 904 | 15184 | 30682 | 1141 | 335921 | 722485 | |
| <i>% arrests</i> | | 14.7% | 32.1% | 0.1% | 2.1% | 4.2% | 0.2% | 46.5% | 100.0% | |

For female adult detainees, White are strip searched more often than Black and especially Asian.

Black female youths are strip searched at 0.8x the rate of White.

Strip search rate as % of all arrests - multiple of White rate - all offence types

A multiple of 1.00 means the strip search rate is the same as for White

| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | <i>n strip searches</i> |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Female | Adult | 0.48 | 0.92 | 0.65 | 1.10 | 0.65 | 1.02 | 1.00 | 0.92 | 14656 |
| | Youth | 1.16 | 0.80 | 0.00 | 0.82 | 1.04 | 1.60 | 1.00 | 0.92 | 343 |
| | Total | 0.50 | 0.87 | 0.61 | 1.01 | 0.65 | 1.03 | 1.00 | 0.91 | 14999 |
| Male | Adult | 1.00 | 1.51 | 0.84 | 1.26 | 1.05 | 1.25 | 1.00 | 1.17 | 122148 |
| | Youth | 1.60 | 1.80 | 0.73 | 1.39 | 1.39 | 1.81 | 1.00 | 1.50 | 7592 |
| | Total | 1.02 | 1.47 | 0.78 | 1.22 | 1.05 | 1.26 | 1.00 | 1.16 | 129740 |
| Total | | 0.98 | 1.40 | 0.74 | 1.18 | 1.01 | 1.22 | 1.00 | 1.13 | 144739 |
| <i>n strip searches</i> | | 18474 | 57686 | 119 | 3177 | 5503 | 247 | 59533 | 144739 | |
| <i>% strip searches</i> | | 12.8% | 39.9% | 0.1% | 2.2% | 3.8% | 0.2% | 41.1% | 100.0% | |

For males, Black (1.8x) and Asian (1.6x) youths, and Black adults (1.5x), are strip searched at a much higher rate than their White counterparts.

Strip search rates also vary by ethnicity, controlling for offence type

Only Asian, Black and White shown for clarity - account for 93.8% of arrests

Strip search rate as % of all detainees - multiple of White rate

| | | Drugs | | | | | | Weapons | | | | | | Other | | | All arrests | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | Drugs only | | | All arrests involving drugs | | | Weapons only | | | All arrests involving weapons | | | Other' offences | | | All arrests | | |
| | | Asian | Black | White | Asian | Black | White | Asian | Black | White | Asian | Black | White | Asian | Black | White | Asian | Black | White |
| Female | Adult | 0.95 | 0.96 | 1.00 | 0.86 | 0.94 | 1.00 | 1.07 | 0.74 | 1.00 | 0.96 | 0.89 | 1.00 | 0.39 | 0.90 | 1.00 | 0.48 | 0.92 | 1.00 |
| | Youth | 1.50 | 1.34 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1.24 | 1.00 | 1.53 | 0.84 | 1.00 | 1.61 | 0.85 | 1.00 | 0.89 | 0.68 | 1.00 | 1.16 | 0.80 | 1.00 |
| | Total | 0.96 | 0.95 | 1.00 | 0.87 | 0.93 | 1.00 | 1.07 | 0.73 | 1.00 | 0.98 | 0.86 | 1.00 | 0.40 | 0.85 | 1.00 | 0.50 | 0.87 | 1.00 |
| Male | Adult | 1.10 | 1.14 | 1.00 | 1.10 | 1.17 | 1.00 | 1.30 | 1.59 | 1.00 | 1.20 | 1.42 | 1.00 | 0.76 | 1.33 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.51 | 1.00 |
| | Youth | 1.44 | 1.60 | 1.00 | 1.39 | 1.61 | 1.00 | 1.34 | 1.53 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1.59 | 1.00 | 1.26 | 1.85 | 1.00 | 1.60 | 1.80 | 1.00 |
| | Total | 1.12 | 1.14 | 1.00 | 1.11 | 1.17 | 1.00 | 1.26 | 1.44 | 1.00 | 1.18 | 1.35 | 1.00 | 0.77 | 1.28 | 1.00 | 1.02 | 1.47 | 1.00 |
| Total | | 1.12 | 1.14 | 1.00 | 1.11 | 1.16 | 1.00 | 1.27 | 1.42 | 1.00 | 1.18 | 1.33 | 1.00 | 0.72 | 1.20 | 1.00 | 0.98 | 1.40 | 1.00 |
| <i>n strip searches</i> | | 5179 | 11789 | 10162 | 10281 | 29471 | 23869 | 563 | 2313 | 1272 | 2301 | 10460 | 6255 | 7045 | 22922 | 32065 | 18474 | 57686 | 59533 |
| <i>% strip searches</i> | | 17.9% | 40.7% | 35.0% | 15.1% | 43.3% | 35.1% | 12.6% | 51.9% | 28.6% | 11.3% | 51.4% | 30.7% | 10.7% | 34.7% | 48.6% | 12.8% | 39.9% | 41.1% |

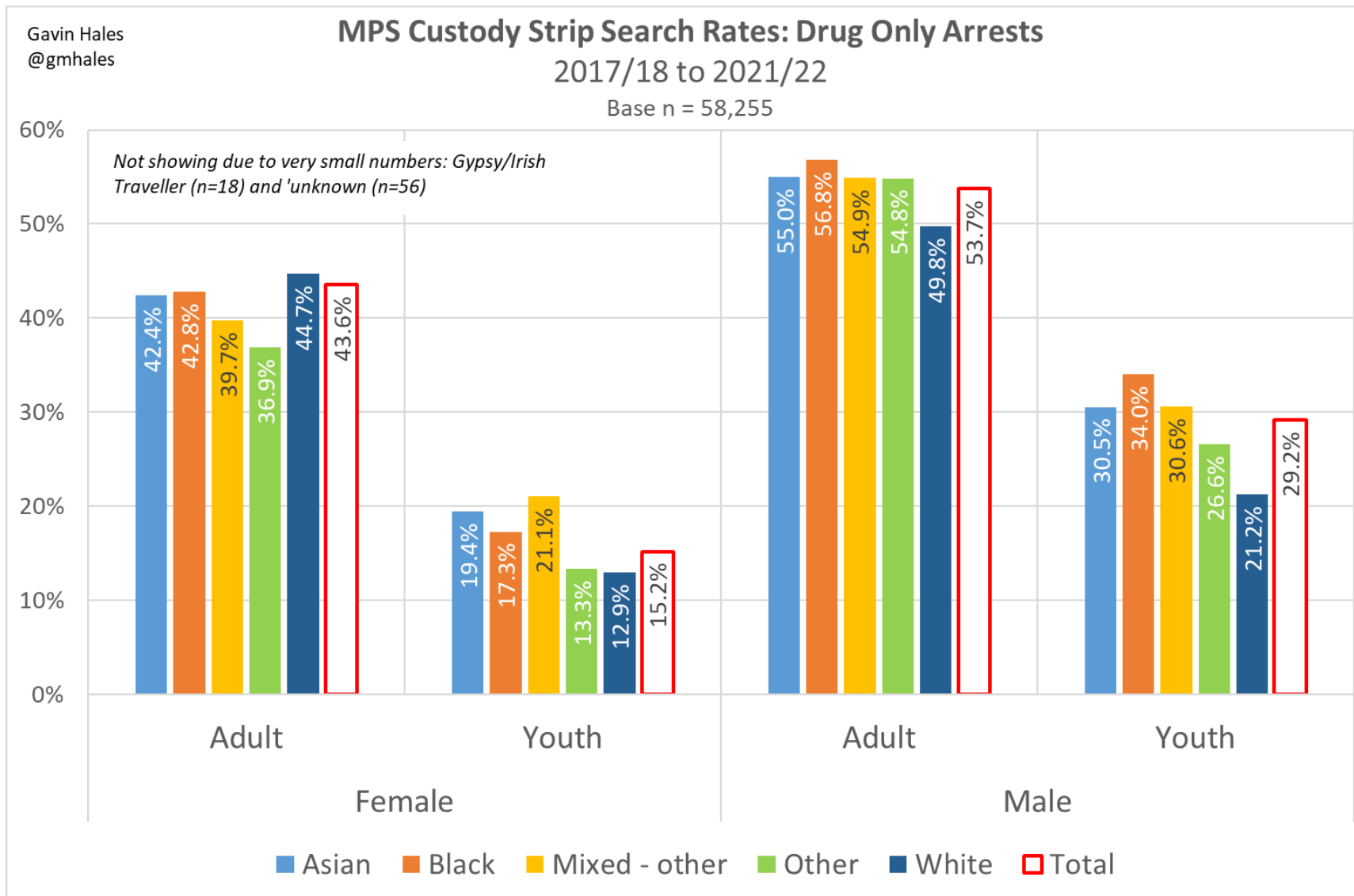
For *adult male* detainees, the Black/White disparity in strip search rates is higher for weapons offences (1.4-1.6x) than 'other' offences (1.3x) and drugs offences (1.1-1.2x).

For *adult females*, White detainees are strip searched at a higher rate than Black and Asian for all offence groupings apart from weapons only arrests, where Asian detainees are strip search at 1.1x the White rate.

For *male youths*, Asian and Black detainees are strip searched at a higher rate than White for all offence groupings (1.3-1.9x), while for *female youths* the picture is more mixed (affected by much smaller numbers). Overall, Black female youths are strip searched at a lower rate than White female youths (0.8x).

For drug only arrests, direction of disparity varies by age/gender

For adult males, the largest group, White strip search rates are clearly lower



Looking at drugs only arrests allows a degree of comparability.

For adult females, White strip search rates are highest.

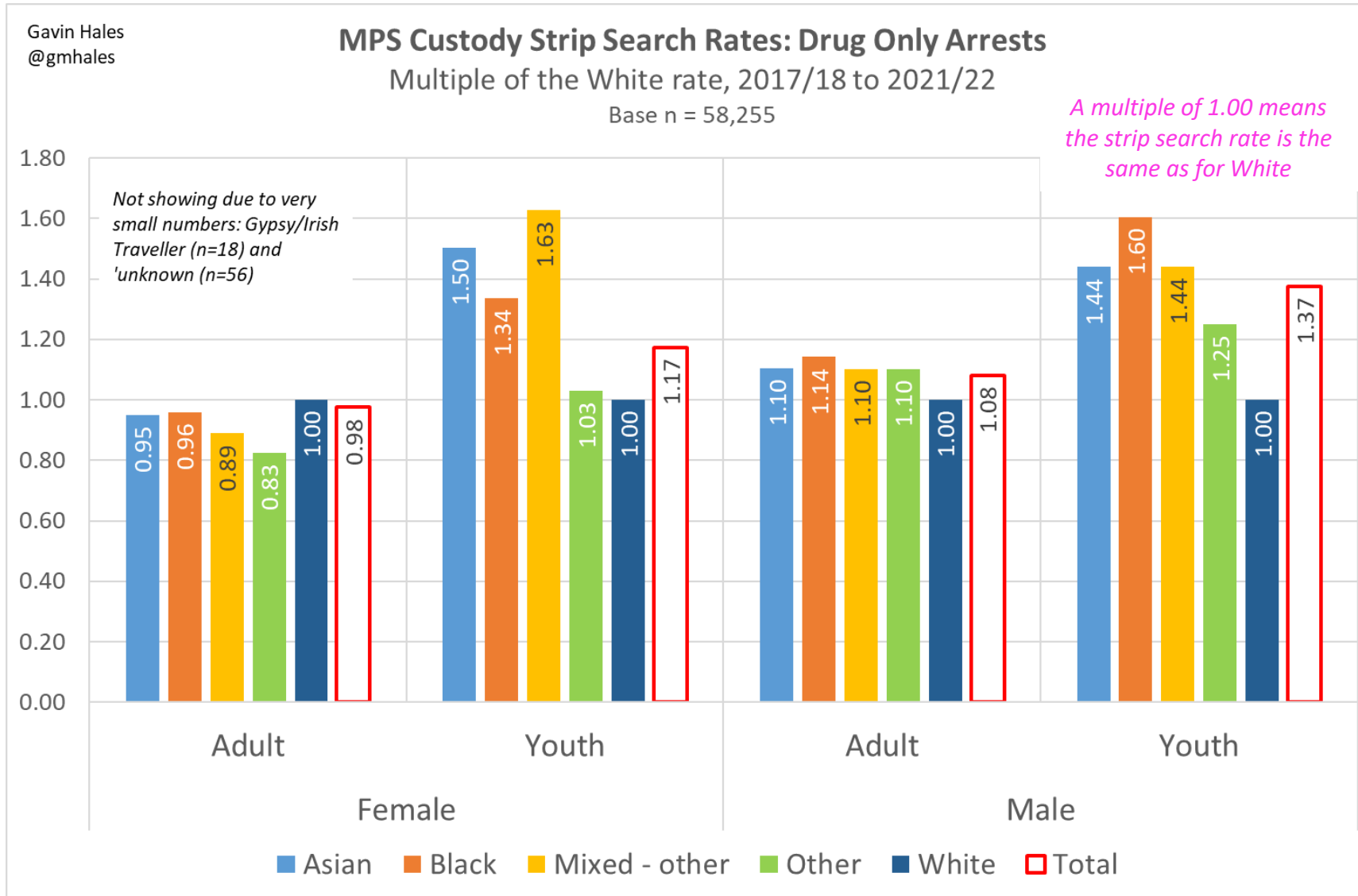
The **gender gap** also varies by age and ethnicity, being 1.2x for adults and 1.9x for youths.

For youths, males are strip searched at the following multiple of the equivalent female rate:

- Asian 1.6x
- Black 2.0x
- Mixed – other 1.5x
- Other 2.0x
- White 1.6x

Disparity in strip search rates is lower for adults than youths

Same underlying data as previous slide – drug only arrests for comparability



The relatively low – and consistent – disparities seen for adult males seems quite striking, particularly when viewed against larger disparities in other police data (e.g. relating to police contact).

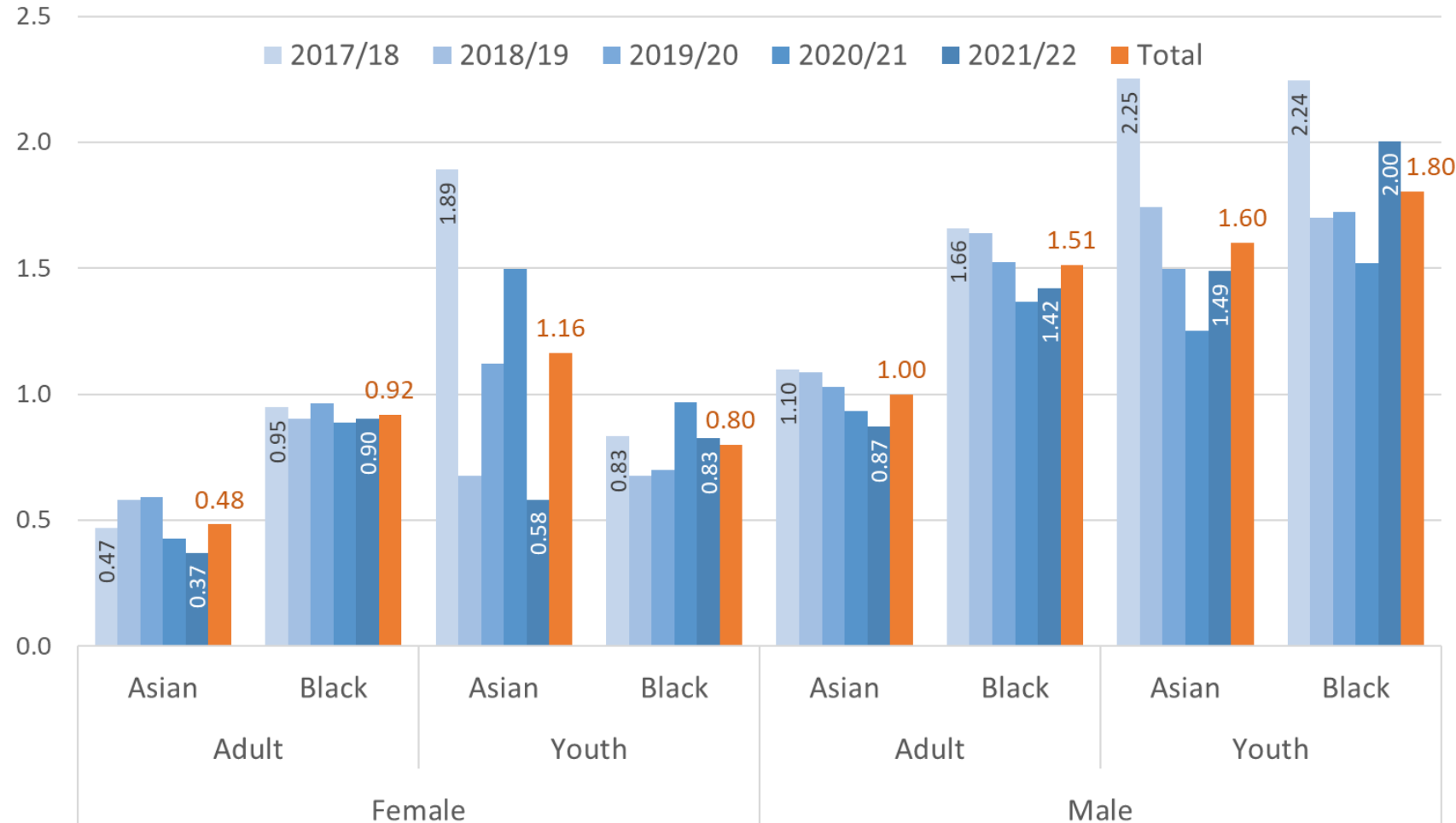
The small numbers of female youths arrested (435) and strip searched (66) for drugs only offences across the 5 years makes the rates and disparities more susceptible to random effects.

We can also examine how disparity has changed over time

For adult males, disparity has generally fallen – here for all offences

Gavin Hales
@gmhales

Strip search rates for Black and Asian detainees as a multiple of White
By gender, age and year - all offences, 2017/18-2021/22



The disparity calculations are relative to the equivalent White rate.

For adult females, disparity rates have remained quite stable over the 5-year period, especially when comparing strip search rates for Black vs White.

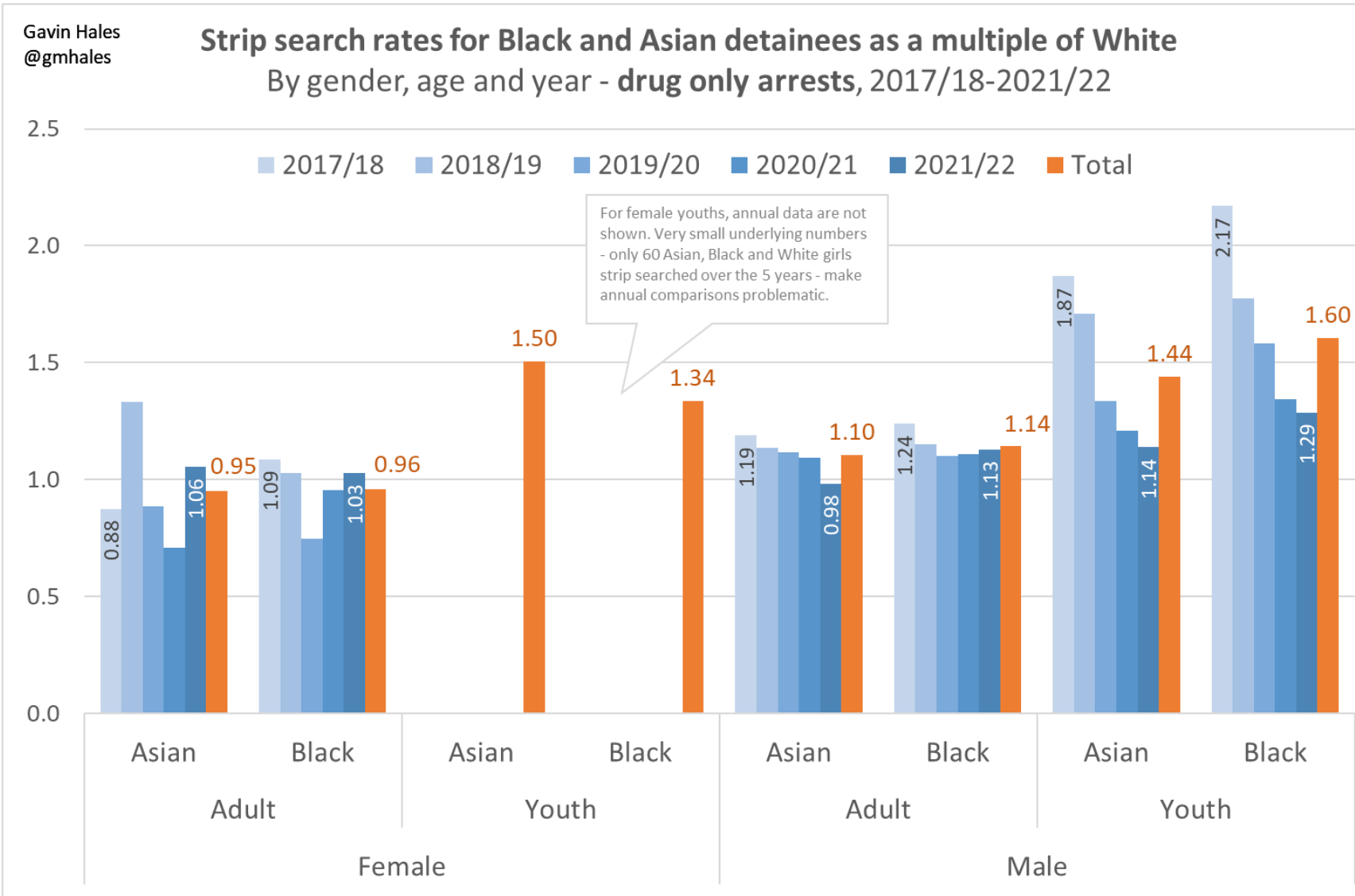
For female youths, the small underlying numbers (especially of Asian detainees) make the data rather volatile.

For adult males, disparities have fallen over time, most consistently when comparing Asian with White rates.

For male youths, where disparity rates are highest, falls were somewhat reversed in 2021/22.

A similar picture is seen for disparities in drug only arrests

For male youths, disparities have consistently fallen



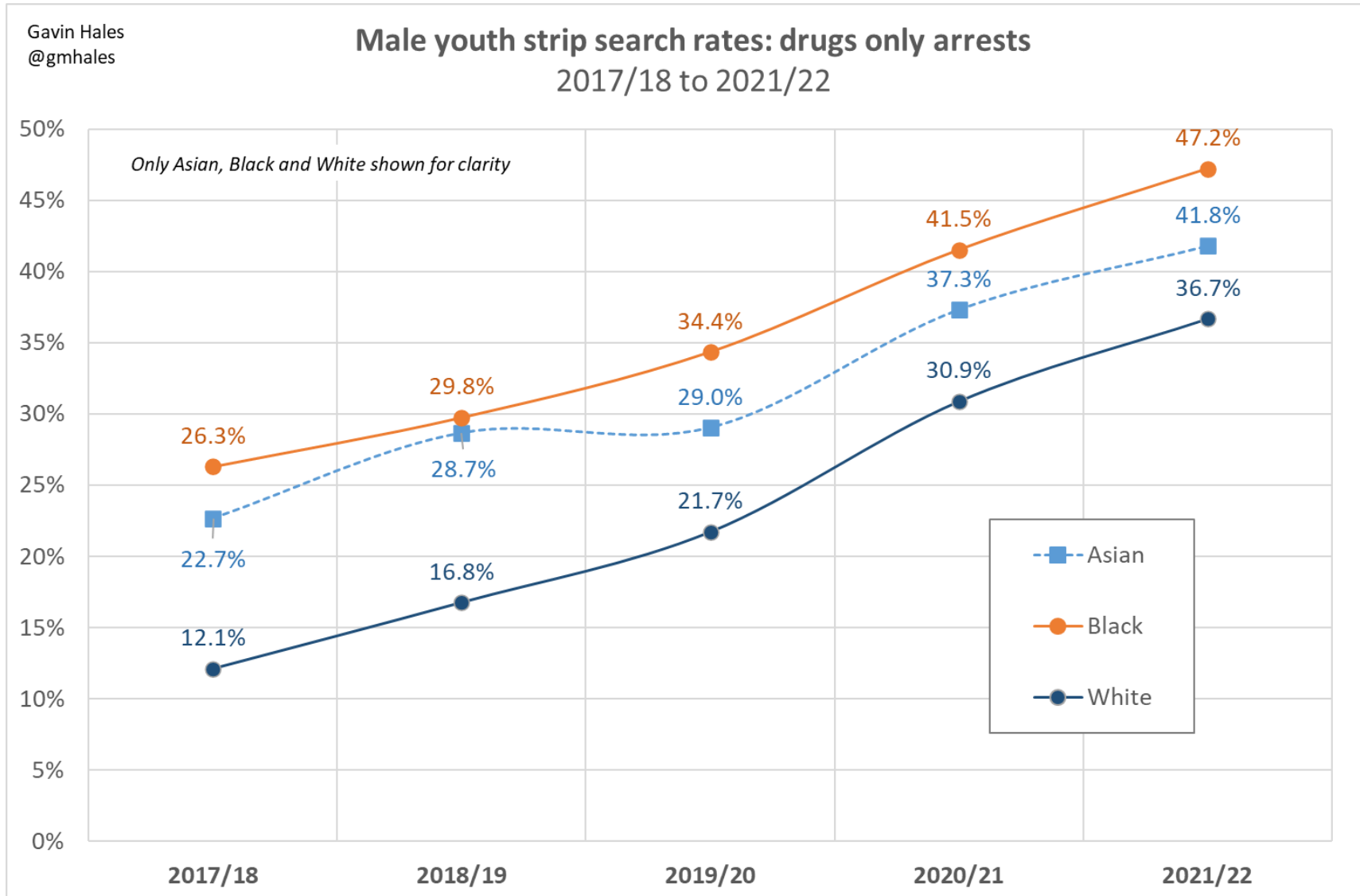
For drug only arrests, smaller underlying numbers are a complication, especially for female youths where they are very small.

Where the number are largest, for adult males, Asian/White disparity has fallen and is now negative, while the Black/White disparity has remained relatively consistent.

Among male youths, rates of disparity have fallen markedly for both Asian and Black detainees – as a reminder, this is during a period when strip search rates for youths have increased considerably.

Increases in youth strip search rates seen across ethnicities

Here male youths arrested for drug only offences, for comparability



Examining male youths arrested for drugs only offences, percentage point increases have been fairly consistent, especially over the 3 years from 2019/20 to 2021/22 (up 12.8 percentage points for Black and Asian and 15 percentage points for White). **This suggests progressively more risk averse decision making.**

The overall increases, plus slight closing of the gap between White and Black and Asian, explains the falling disproportionality – though a **clear gap remains in percentage point terms.**

Strip search rates by custody suite

Strip search rates vary widely by custody suite

From 12.3% to 32.1%

This could partly be explained by differences in mix of offences for which detainees were arrested. There is some evidence of this on the next slide, albeit limited by the crude offence groupings in the FOI data.

Table data ranked by overall/total strip search rates across the 5 years.

Note that several custody suites have relatively small numbers of detentions recorded in the data, notably Shoreditch, Peckham and Edmonton.

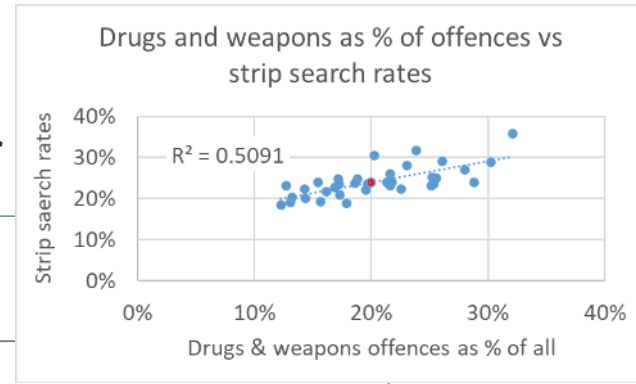
Strip search rate by year and custody suite - all arrests

| | FY 2017 / 2018 | FY 2018 / 2019 | FY 2019 / 2020 | FY 2020 / 2021 | FY 2021 / 2022 | Total | n detentions |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Shoreditch | 32.1% | | | | | 32.1% | 698 |
| Stoke Newington | 29.7% | 32.8% | 30.3% | 28.1% | 28.2% | 30.2% | 17892 |
| Bexleyheath | 20.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 32.0% | 26.7% | 28.8% | 9397 |
| Brixton | 24.8% | 28.0% | 26.9% | 31.3% | 29.0% | 28.0% | 40583 |
| Peckham | 15.6% | 23.1% | 27.9% | 45.2% | | 26.1% | 885 |
| Bethnal Green | 24.3% | 25.5% | 25.1% | 28.5% | 24.5% | 25.6% | 28578 |
| Forest Gate | 23.7% | 26.0% | 29.0% | 25.1% | 23.6% | 25.4% | 23275 |
| Southall | 22.9% | 28.6% | | | | 25.2% | 4531 |
| Plumstead | 19.2% | 24.6% | 27.4% | 39.9% | 20.4% | 25.1% | 19679 |
| Walworth | 14.8% | 19.9% | 28.0% | 30.2% | 27.1% | 23.8% | 28761 |
| Lewisham | 17.2% | 19.6% | 21.8% | 26.9% | 28.6% | 23.1% | 33722 |
| Charing Cross | 19.9% | 19.4% | 25.3% | 25.5% | 22.9% | 22.5% | 37720 |
| Leyton | 18.3% | 20.6% | 24.6% | 24.2% | 19.9% | 21.7% | 35932 |
| Belgravia | 21.6% | 28.9% | 14.7% | 24.1% | | 21.6% | 2791 |
| West End Central | 20.0% | 21.5% | 21.7% | | | 21.6% | 4940 |
| Wandsworth Borough | 16.0% | 19.2% | 24.1% | 27.2% | 19.5% | 21.4% | 36154 |
| Edmonton | 50.0% | 25.0% | 18.8% | 12.0% | 22.2% | 20.2% | 677 |
| Barking and Dagenham | 16.5% | 17.3% | 21.3% | 24.5% | 17.4% | 19.7% | 33905 |
| Holborn | 17.3% | 19.2% | 21.9% | 20.5% | 18.7% | 19.6% | 22051 |
| Islington | 20.3% | 20.1% | 20.2% | 17.4% | 15.2% | 18.8% | 22327 |
| Croydon Borough | 13.1% | 17.5% | 22.3% | 20.3% | 19.0% | 18.6% | 39584 |
| Romford | 15.3% | 15.3% | 21.2% | 20.0% | 17.2% | 17.9% | 18220 |
| Acton | 14.3% | 18.5% | 18.6% | 17.9% | 16.6% | 17.3% | 26010 |
| Kentish Town | | | | 17.2% | 17.7% | 17.2% | 1831 |
| Wood Green | 14.8% | 18.4% | 18.1% | 19.8% | 14.9% | 17.2% | 45048 |
| Bromley | 9.7% | 15.3% | 17.1% | 22.0% | 20.8% | 16.9% | 26658 |
| Hammersmith | | | | 23.3% | 14.5% | 16.2% | 8926 |
| Ilford | 10.2% | 14.6% | 27.6% | 24.0% | 25.1% | 15.6% | 7733 |
| Wembley | 14.7% | 15.3% | 15.3% | 16.0% | 15.6% | 15.4% | 32572 |
| Harrow | 12.5% | 16.2% | 19.8% | 13.9% | 13.4% | 14.3% | 6348 |
| Hounslow | 12.2% | 15.1% | 15.2% | 19.8% | 34.4% | 14.3% | 13042 |
| Kingston | 11.0% | 11.0% | 13.4% | 16.7% | 13.6% | 13.2% | 22788 |
| Sutton | 10.9% | 13.7% | 18.9% | 16.8% | 16.7% | 13.0% | 11066 |
| Colindale | 10.2% | 13.9% | 12.9% | 14.0% | 12.3% | 12.7% | 25553 |
| Heathrow | 6.8% | 9.5% | 14.1% | 17.3% | 13.1% | 12.3% | 33290 |
| MPS Total | 16.5% | 19.4% | 21.5% | 23.2% | 19.9% | 20.0% | 723168 |

The profile of offences varies by custody suite

E.g. drugs only arrests vary from 5.6% to 13.0% of detainees

Data sorted low-high by 'other' (not drugs/weapons)



All arrests 2017/18 to 2021/22: offence profile by custody suite

| | Drugs | Drugs + Other | Drugs + Weapons + Other | Other | Weapons | Weapons + Other | Total | All drugs | All weapons | Strip search rate |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Shoreditch | 11.9% | 10.9% | 4.4% | 64.2% | 4.3% | 4.3% | 100.0% | 27.2% | 13.0% | 32.1% |
| Walworth | 10.7% | 9.6% | 3.4% | 68.2% | 3.6% | 4.4% | 100.0% | 23.7% | 11.4% | 23.8% |
| Edmonton | 13.0% | 9.5% | 2.1% | 69.4% | 3.5% | 2.5% | 100.0% | 24.5% | 8.1% | 20.2% |
| Peckham | 10.6% | 9.9% | 2.8% | 70.8% | 2.3% | 3.5% | 100.0% | 23.4% | 8.6% | 26.1% |
| Stoke Newington | 9.1% | 9.9% | 3.0% | 71.2% | 3.0% | 3.8% | 100.0% | 22.0% | 9.7% | 30.2% |
| Lewisham | 9.4% | 9.2% | 3.0% | 72.0% | 2.7% | 3.7% | 100.0% | 21.5% | 9.4% | 23.1% |
| Brixton | 8.6% | 9.7% | 2.6% | 73.0% | 2.5% | 3.6% | 100.0% | 20.9% | 8.7% | 28.0% |
| Belgravia | 12.0% | 7.6% | 2.3% | 74.0% | 1.7% | 2.4% | 100.0% | 21.9% | 6.4% | 21.6% |
| Southall | 9.3% | 7.9% | 2.1% | 74.8% | 2.7% | 3.2% | 100.0% | 19.4% | 8.0% | 25.2% |
| Bethnal Green | 10.0% | 8.2% | 2.0% | 74.9% | 2.5% | 2.4% | 100.0% | 20.1% | 6.9% | 25.6% |
| Wood Green | 7.3% | 8.6% | 2.8% | 75.2% | 2.4% | 3.6% | 100.0% | 18.8% | 8.8% | 17.2% |
| Islington | 8.0% | 8.9% | 2.3% | 75.3% | 2.1% | 3.3% | 100.0% | 19.2% | 7.8% | 18.8% |
| Wembley | 8.1% | 8.4% | 2.3% | 76.0% | 2.0% | 3.2% | 100.0% | 18.9% | 7.5% | 15.4% |
| Bexleyheath | 8.0% | 8.2% | 2.5% | 76.0% | 1.9% | 3.3% | 100.0% | 18.7% | 7.8% | 28.8% |
| Wandsworth Borough | 7.9% | 8.7% | 2.4% | 76.1% | 2.0% | 3.0% | 100.0% | 18.9% | 7.4% | 21.4% |
| Leyton | 8.2% | 7.6% | 2.5% | 76.1% | 2.6% | 3.0% | 100.0% | 18.2% | 8.1% | 21.7% |
| Croydon Borough | 7.9% | 8.0% | 2.3% | 76.3% | 2.1% | 3.4% | 100.0% | 18.2% | 7.8% | 18.6% |
| Kentish Town | 8.0% | 9.2% | 1.9% | 76.4% | 2.1% | 2.4% | 100.0% | 19.1% | 6.4% | 17.2% |
| Forest Gate | 8.8% | 7.5% | 2.2% | 76.4% | 2.3% | 2.8% | 100.0% | 18.5% | 7.3% | 25.4% |
| Barking and Dagenham | 8.1% | 7.9% | 2.3% | 76.4% | 2.2% | 3.1% | 100.0% | 18.3% | 7.6% | 19.7% |
| Plumstead | 8.0% | 7.7% | 2.1% | 76.8% | 2.2% | 3.2% | 100.0% | 17.8% | 7.5% | 25.1% |
| West End Central | 9.0% | 7.9% | 1.8% | 76.9% | 2.0% | 2.5% | 100.0% | 18.7% | 6.2% | 21.6% |
| Colindale | 6.9% | 8.9% | 2.3% | 76.9% | 1.8% | 3.3% | 100.0% | 18.0% | 7.4% | 12.7% |
| Bromley | 8.6% | 7.2% | 1.9% | 77.3% | 1.9% | 3.1% | 100.0% | 17.7% | 6.9% | 16.9% |
| Hounslow | 8.2% | 8.1% | 1.6% | 77.7% | 2.0% | 2.4% | 100.0% | 17.9% | 6.1% | 14.3% |
| Charing Cross | 7.7% | 8.4% | 1.7% | 77.7% | 1.8% | 2.7% | 100.0% | 17.8% | 6.2% | 22.5% |
| Holborn | 7.9% | 8.1% | 1.7% | 77.9% | 1.7% | 2.7% | 100.0% | 17.7% | 6.1% | 19.6% |
| Hammersmith | 6.7% | 8.7% | 2.1% | 78.2% | 1.6% | 2.7% | 100.0% | 17.5% | 6.4% | 16.2% |
| Acton | 6.8% | 7.6% | 2.1% | 79.2% | 1.5% | 2.9% | 100.0% | 16.5% | 6.4% | 17.3% |
| Kingston | 7.5% | 7.4% | 1.5% | 79.7% | 1.4% | 2.5% | 100.0% | 16.4% | 5.4% | 13.2% |
| Harrow | 6.1% | 7.4% | 2.2% | 79.9% | 1.6% | 2.8% | 100.0% | 15.7% | 6.6% | 14.3% |
| Ilford | 6.5% | 6.9% | 1.5% | 80.8% | 1.7% | 2.5% | 100.0% | 15.0% | 5.8% | 15.6% |
| Sutton | 6.5% | 6.7% | 1.5% | 80.9% | 1.5% | 2.9% | 100.0% | 14.8% | 5.9% | 13.0% |
| Romford | 5.6% | 6.8% | 2.1% | 81.1% | 1.7% | 2.7% | 100.0% | 14.4% | 6.5% | 17.9% |
| Heathrow | 6.8% | 6.2% | 1.4% | 81.6% | 1.7% | 2.3% | 100.0% | 14.4% | 5.4% | 12.3% |
| MPS Total | 8.1% | 8.2% | 2.3% | 76.2% | 2.2% | 3.1% | 100.0% | 18.5% | 7.5% | 20.0% |

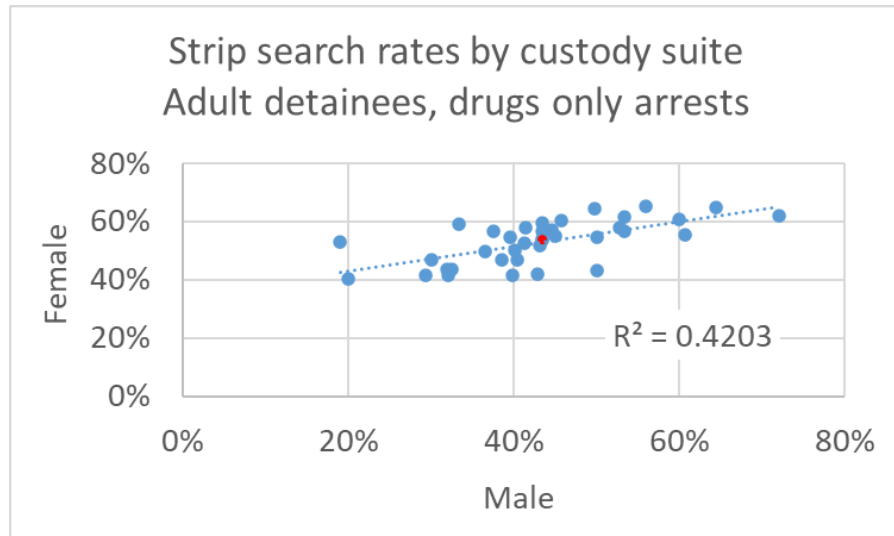
Higher strip search rates do appear associated overall with a higher % of drugs/weapons offences

Examining drugs only arrests, strip search rates still vary widely

From 37.3% to 60.9%

Controlling for offence type (as far as the data permit) by looking at drugs only arrests, strip search rates still vary widely by custody suite and it is unclear why.

The correlation between adult male and female strip search rates (below) suggests there may be custody-suite level effects involved in risk perceptions/decision making (though no correlation is seen when examining male adult vs male youth rates – *not shown*).



| Drugs only - strip search rates <i>Sorted by total</i> | Female | | Male | | Total |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Adult | Youth | Adult | Youth | |
| Stoke Newington | 55.9% | 30.0% | 65.4% | 36.0% | 60.9% |
| Brixton | 49.8% | 16.7% | 64.3% | 30.3% | 59.3% |
| Forest Gate | 64.4% | 11.1% | 64.7% | 25.5% | 59.2% |
| Bethnal Green | 53.4% | 0.0% | 61.4% | 29.4% | 56.5% |
| Plumstead | 43.4% | 28.6% | 59.3% | 46.6% | 56.4% |
| Bexleyheath | 60.6% | 50.0% | 55.3% | 52.2% | 55.5% |
| Peckham | 60.0% | 0.0% | 60.6% | 25.0% | 55.3% |
| Romford | 45.7% | 0.0% | 60.3% | 27.5% | 54.5% |
| Southall | 72.0% | 0.0% | 61.8% | 15.2% | 54.4% |
| Leyton | 52.8% | 10.5% | 58.1% | 36.7% | 54.1% |
| Charing Cross | 53.3% | 27.8% | 56.5% | 27.2% | 53.4% |
| Acton | 44.5% | 50.0% | 57.1% | 34.0% | 53.4% |
| Shoreditch | 33.3% | 0.0% | 59.1% | 28.6% | 53.0% |
| Wandsworth Borough | 41.4% | 16.2% | 57.9% | 30.0% | 52.6% |
| West End Central | 37.5% | 50.0% | 56.9% | 35.8% | 52.3% |
| Walworth | 43.5% | 11.1% | 56.8% | 25.0% | 51.6% |
| Ilford | 50.0% | 0.0% | 54.5% | 25.0% | 50.5% |
| Holborn | 45.0% | 11.8% | 55.1% | 28.7% | 50.4% |
| Croydon Borough | 39.5% | 18.4% | 54.8% | 33.3% | 49.9% |
| Barking and Dagenham | 41.3% | 19.0% | 52.6% | 31.5% | 49.2% |
| Hammersmith | 36.5% | 0.0% | 49.7% | 41.5% | 47.7% |
| Harrow | 19.0% | 0.0% | 52.9% | 29.2% | 47.5% |
| Islington | 43.2% | 11.1% | 51.9% | 21.1% | 47.4% |
| Wood Green | 40.2% | 5.0% | 50.1% | 23.3% | 45.8% |
| Lewisham | 40.4% | 21.7% | 46.7% | 33.7% | 44.9% |
| Wembley | 38.6% | 5.3% | 46.7% | 24.2% | 43.3% |
| Heathrow | 31.9% | 20.0% | 43.7% | 27.2% | 41.0% |
| Sutton | 30.0% | 14.3% | 46.9% | 14.0% | 40.1% |
| Kingston | 39.8% | 20.0% | 41.5% | 34.0% | 39.8% |
| Edmonton | 50.0% | | 43.3% | 15.4% | 39.8% |
| Hounslow | 32.5% | 11.1% | 43.7% | 19.4% | 39.5% |
| Colindale | 29.4% | 7.7% | 41.7% | 29.0% | 39.2% |
| Kentish Town | 20.0% | 0.0% | 40.2% | 33.3% | 38.1% |
| Bromley | 32.1% | 0.0% | 41.4% | 18.1% | 37.4% |
| Belgravia | 42.9% | 0.0% | 42.1% | 15.8% | 37.3% |
| Total | 43.6% | 15.2% | 53.7% | 29.2% | 49.7% |

Notes

Notes: FOI data

Source: MPS NSPIS Custody Database, MPS FOI ref. 01/FOI/22/025479

- FOI request submitted to the MPS in June 2022, reply received in October 2022
- Request for 5 years of custody data: 2017/18 to 2021/22 inclusive
- Source: NSPIS Custody Database
- Variables provided for all detainees over the 5-year period, by financial year:
 - Grouped age: provided with youth (10-17), adult (18+) and *not recorded*
 - Sex/gender: provided with male, female and *not recorded*
 - Self-defined ethnicity and ethnic appearance
 - Offence type: provided categories are drugs offences; drugs and other offences; drugs, weapons and other offences; weapons; weapons and other; other
 - Strip search: undertaken and not carried out
 - Custody suite name
 - Custody record count
- ***Requested but not provided:*** *one-detainee-per row; 4-year age groups; more detailed offence types; detainee's demeanour on arrival ('can't be extracted due to systems currently in use'); PNC warning markers ('not recorded on the MPS Custody system in a way that allows data analysis').*
- *Not requested but likely to be a factor:* *personal identifiers that would allow repeat detentions to be identified and examined.*
- ***Data available at:*** https://www.met.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/foi-media/metropolitan-police/disclosure_2022/october_2022/data-for-custody-detentions-and-related-strip-searches-from-april-2017-to-march-2022

Notes: FOI data

Full FOI request details

Custody detentions and related strip searches: data request

I wish to examine post-arrest strip search rates by person and offence characteristics and custody suite.

I am requesting data:

For the five (5) financial years: 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22
From the MPS custody database (NSPIS)

I would like an Excel format dataset with one-row-per-detained person-occurrence so that I can use pivot tables to generate my own data tables and use other analytical tools to examine the relationship between variables and strip search decisions. This would be analogous to the MPS use-of-force dataset published via the London Datastore but with less specific date and time data to mitigate any data protection/de-anonymisation concerns.

For each occurrence of a person detained in custody, the variables I am requesting are:

- 1 (Financial) year of detention.
- 2 Sex/gender (as appropriate).
- 3 Grouped age at time of detention (i.e. 10-13, 14-17, 18-21, 22-25, 26-35, 36-45, 46 and over).
- 4 Self-defined ethnicity.
- 5 Ethnic appearance (IC).
- 6 Offence type (from previous FOI publications I believe this will be the 'first arrest offence', but please advise).
- 7 Demeanour.
- 8 Whether strip searched (yes/no).
- 9 Any PNC warning markers (I understand these will be 'as of today').
- 10 Name or anonymised identifier of the custody suite.

Notes:

- (a) If for any reason 5 years of data are not available, please provide as many complete and recent financial years as possible.
- (b) Limiting the data to include broad categories such as the year of detention and grouped ages will prevent the data being personally identifiable and prevent de-anonymisation.
- (c) The grouped ages should be as small as possible, and in any case must allow children to be identified, so as a minimum one group should be 10-17 years old (though ideally it would be split into 10-13 and 14-17).
- (d) I am requesting both self-defined ethnicity and ethnic appearance data to support their use in combination to address any data gaps (and to examine consistencies). If only one can be provided for any reason (please explain), I would like self-defined ethnicity.
- (e) On the offence type, broad categories would be acceptable if required to avoid small numbers, eg violence against the person, sexual offences, theft, robbery, public order, possession of weapons, drugs offences, fraud, criminal damage and arson, misc crimes against society – these are the categories reported to the Home Office and published as part of their Police Powers and Procedures collection.
- (f) Where relevant and possible, please distinguish between e.g. 'refused', 'not known' and 'not recorded' (e.g. for gender, age and ethnicity).
- (g) If obtaining the PNC warning markers data would cause my request to exceed the FOIA cost threshold, then they should be excluded.
- (h) If the name of the custody suite is not possible, e.g. for data protection reasons (though please explain if that is the case), then please replace the name with an anonymised identifier consistent across all data. E.g. Custody suite 1, custody suite 2. The name is less important to me than my ability to examine differences by custody suite.
- (i) If it would be helpful for the analyst extracting this data to discuss any aspect of my request, they should please feel free to contact me by email at (app email given)
- (j) If anyone involved in processing this request thinks additional variables would assist in my analysis, and they can be added within the FOIA time/cost allowance, please do add them to the dataset.

Notes: FOI data

Notes from the FOI response from the MPS

Data taken from NSPIS Custody system

Dates Fiscal Years 2017/2018 to 2021/2022
1 April 2017 to 31 March 2022
Arrest Date

Per your request to provide: **one-row-per-detained person-occurrence** - this cannot be provided as each row will identify an individual

Per your details set out above we have tried to comply with request, but as detailed below, some wider aggregation has been required. Some of the groupings include **Not Recorded** - this can be for various reasons, and without reading each Custody Record said reasons can not be detailed
(to read each record would result in a cost refusal)

When viewing the demographic data in this report it should first be remembered that this relates to the Metropolitan Custody Detainee population and not to any wider group.

Some of the data sets requested (see notes below) can not be provided as requested
Data values is provided in-line with agreement between the Metropolitan Police Service and MOPAC
and relates to data (in most cases) that is soon to be published and made available to members of the public within a Dashboard

(2) Sex / Gender

Details grouped as follows
Female
Male
Not Recorded

(3) Detainee Age

Age is recorded as **Detainee Age at Time of Arrest**
Due to small numbers within some groupings requested it is only possible to provide details split by:
Youth (10-17)
Adult
Not Recorded

(4) Self Defined Ethnicity

Detainee Self Ethnicity Description
Asian - Any Other Asian Background
Asian - Bangladeshi
Asian - Indian
Asian - Pakistani
Black - African
Black - Any Other Black Background
Black - Caribbean
Gypsy or Irish Traveller
Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background
Mixed - White And Asian
Mixed - White And Black African
Mixed - White And Black Caribbean
Not Stated
Other - Any Other Ethnic Group
Other - Chinese
White - Any Other White Background
White - British
White - Irish

Gypsy or Irish Traveller is a new classification introduced in 2018/2019 by the Home Office

(5) Ethnic Appearance

Detainee Ethnic Appearance
Asian
Black
Chinese, Japanese or SE Asian
Middle Eastern
North European - White
South European - White
Unknown

(6) Offence Type

You have stated: **I believe this will be the First Arrest Offence**

The Offences you listed as detailed by the Home Office do not match to Arrest Offence or Offence Title entries on NSPIS. For example, Violence Against the Person can relate to may different Offences, some of which also map to other listings shown by the Home Office - this would result in double counting in various cases.

The primary reason for a Strip Search being authorised/conducted in a Custody Suite is to ensure the safety of the Detainee and the people around them. Factors effecting this consideration may be in relation to (but not limited to)

The nature of the offence(s) arrested for (hidden weapons or drugs)
Warning Markers on the PNC (Police National Computer)
Concerns raised by responses to Risk Assessment questions

Strip Search can be undertaken for any Offence, but when looking at specific Offences, is more likely to be authorised/conducted for Offences relating to Drugs or Weapons.

Detainees can be arrested for more than one Offence.

For this reason **Offence Title** has been used instead of the First Arrest Offence
As noted, a Detainee can be arrested for more than one Offence and to list all Offences (over 3,000) will identify individual Offences have been grouped together, where a detainee has been arrested for at least one of the Offence types:

Drugs Offences
Drugs and Other Offences
Drugs, Weapons and Other Offences
Other Offences
Weapons and Other Offences

(7) Demeanour

Demeanour is recorded on the Front Sheet of the Custody record
Due to systems currently used to search NSPIS we are unable to extract details relating to the detainee's **Demeanour on Arrival**

(8) Strip Search

Relates to if a Strip Search was undertaken while detainee was in Custody
Not Carried Out
Undertaken

(9) PNC Warning Markers

The Warning Markers on PNC may refer to the individual secreting items on previous occasions or has indications of self-harm/attempted suicide. It goes without saying that such warning markers have significant impact on decision making with regard to Authorising a Strip Search.

Any relevant Warning Markers on PNC are not recorded on the MPS Custody system in a way that allows data analysis. Therefore, one of the main factors effecting the reasons for a Strip Search is not available and any conclusion drawn from the information displayed **MUST** take this into account.

(10) Custody Suite

Based on initial Custody Suite detainee was taken to

Notes: ethnicity data grouping, recoding and gaps

Ethnicity data completion rates are very good, but can be improved

- For the purposes of summarising the data and analysis, the detailed *self-defined ethnicity (SDE)* categories were grouped (1).
- Where the data showed the *SDE* as a blank or 'not stated' (n=31,802, 4.4%), the *ethnic appearance (EA)* variable was used to fill those gaps where available (2), with the *EA* categories grouped as at (3).
- The resulting grouped ethnicity data has only 1,167 (0.2%) missing values.

(1)

| Self-defined ethnicity (SDE) | Grouped ethnicity |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Asian - Any Other Asian Background | Asian |
| Asian - Bangladeshi | Asian |
| Asian - Indian | Asian |
| Asian - Pakistani | Asian |
| Black - African | Black |
| Black - Any Other Black Background | Black |
| Black - Caribbean | Black |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller | Gypsy/Irish Traveller |
| Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background | Mixed other |
| Mixed - White And Asian | Asian |
| Mixed - White And Black African | Black |
| Mixed - White And Black Caribbean | Black |
| Not Stated | Not stated |
| Other - Any Other Ethnic Group | Other |
| Other - Chinese | Asian |
| White - Any Other White Background | White |
| White - British | White |
| White - Irish | White |
| (blank) | (blank) |

(2)

| Ethnic Appearance | Self-defined ethnicity gaps | | Total | % of total |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|-------|------------|
| | Not Stated | (blank) | | |
| Asian | 3172 | | 3172 | 10% |
| Black | 10777 | | 10777 | 34% |
| Chinese, Japanese or SE Asian | 367 | | 367 | 1% |
| Middle Eastern | 2465 | | 2465 | 8% |
| North European - White | 9928 | | 9928 | 31% |
| South European - White | 3926 | | 3926 | 12% |
| Unknown | 1161 | | 1161 | 4% |
| (blank) | | 6 | 6 | 0% |
| Total | 31796 | 6 | 31802 | 100% |

(3)

| EA code | Grouped ethnicity |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Asian | Asian |
| Black | Black |
| Chinese, Japanese or SE Asian | Asian |
| Middle Eastern | Other |
| North European - White | White |
| South European - White | White |
| Unknown | Unknown |
| (blank) | Unknown |

Additional Data Tables

Data tables: strip search rates by detailed self-defined ethnicity

Data for all offence types

| All offence types - adult male detainees 2017/18 to 2021/22 | | | | |
|--|--------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| | Not strip searched | Strip searched | Total | % strip searched |
| Asian - Any Other Asian Background | 25228 | 5615 | 30843 | 18.2% |
| Asian - Bangladeshi | 14591 | 5007 | 19598 | 25.5% |
| Asian - Indian | 16896 | 2492 | 19388 | 12.9% |
| Asian - Pakistani | 11500 | 2412 | 13912 | 17.3% |
| Black - African | 45316 | 15289 | 60605 | 25.2% |
| Black - Any Other Black Background | 33141 | 14436 | 47577 | 30.3% |
| Black - Caribbean | 30024 | 11979 | 42003 | 28.5% |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller | 492 | 91 | 583 | 15.6% |
| Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background | 8194 | 2503 | 10697 | 23.4% |
| Mixed - White And Asian | 1566 | 405 | 1971 | 20.5% |
| Mixed - White And Black African | 2952 | 1035 | 3987 | 26.0% |
| Mixed - White And Black Caribbean | 9102 | 3459 | 12561 | 27.5% |
| Not Stated | 18450 | 6563 | 25013 | 26.2% |
| Other - Any Other Ethnic Group | 18508 | 4360 | 22868 | 19.1% |
| Other - Chinese | 2106 | 233 | 2339 | 10.0% |
| White - Any Other White Background | 76385 | 13818 | 90203 | 15.3% |
| White - British | 121044 | 30732 | 151776 | 20.2% |
| White - Irish | 8133 | 1719 | 9852 | 17.4% |
| Total | 443628 | 122148 | 565776 | 21.6% |

| All offence types - adult female detainees 2017/18 to 2021/22 | | | | |
|--|--------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| | Not strip searched | Strip searched | Total | % strip searched |
| Asian - Any Other Asian Background | 2537 | 264 | 2801 | 9.4% |
| Asian - Bangladeshi | 1058 | 99 | 1157 | 8.6% |
| Asian - Indian | 1582 | 147 | 1729 | 8.5% |
| Asian - Pakistani | 1021 | 90 | 1111 | 8.1% |
| Black - African | 6230 | 703 | 6933 | 10.1% |
| Black - Any Other Black Background | 5088 | 1306 | 6394 | 20.4% |
| Black - Caribbean | 4633 | 881 | 5514 | 16.0% |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller | 150 | 20 | 170 | 11.8% |
| Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background | 1791 | 442 | 2233 | 19.8% |
| Mixed - White And Asian | 324 | 39 | 363 | 10.7% |
| Mixed - White And Black African | 630 | 119 | 749 | 15.9% |
| Mixed - White And Black Caribbean | 2141 | 517 | 2658 | 19.5% |
| Not Stated | 3668 | 986 | 4654 | 21.2% |
| Other - Any Other Ethnic Group | 2583 | 351 | 2934 | 12.0% |
| Other - Chinese | 754 | 38 | 792 | 4.8% |
| White - Any Other White Background | 11450 | 1613 | 13063 | 12.3% |
| White - British | 26632 | 6672 | 33304 | 20.0% |
| White - Irish | 1418 | 369 | 1787 | 20.6% |
| Total | 73690 | 14656 | 88346 | 16.6% |

| All offence types - male youth detainees 2017/18 to 2021/22 | | | | |
|--|--------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| | Not strip searched | Strip searched | Total | % strip searched |
| Asian - Any Other Asian Background | 2049 | 273 | 2322 | 11.8% |
| Asian - Bangladeshi | 1750 | 310 | 2060 | 15.0% |
| Asian - Indian | 391 | 58 | 449 | 12.9% |
| Asian - Pakistani | 928 | 162 | 1090 | 14.9% |
| Black - African | 7404 | 1302 | 8706 | 15.0% |
| Black - Any Other Black Background | 6589 | 1235 | 7824 | 15.8% |
| Black - Caribbean | 7144 | 1305 | 8449 | 15.4% |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller | 122 | 8 | 130 | 6.2% |
| Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background | 1629 | 217 | 1846 | 11.8% |
| Mixed - White And Asian | 319 | 50 | 369 | 13.6% |
| Mixed - White And Black African | 985 | 164 | 1149 | 14.3% |
| Mixed - White And Black Caribbean | 2748 | 430 | 3178 | 13.5% |
| Not Stated | 1315 | 251 | 1566 | 16.0% |
| Other - Any Other Ethnic Group | 1916 | 253 | 2169 | 11.7% |
| Other - Chinese | 81 | 8 | 89 | 9.0% |
| White - Any Other White Background | 3940 | 401 | 4341 | 9.2% |
| White - British | 12454 | 1118 | 13572 | 8.2% |
| White - Irish | 664 | 47 | 711 | 6.6% |
| Total | 52428 | 7592 | 60020 | 12.6% |

| All offence types - female youth detainees 2017/18 to 2021/22 | | | | |
|--|--------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|
| | Not strip searched | Strip searched | Total | % strip searched |
| Asian - Any Other Asian Background | 164 | 8 | 172 | 4.7% |
| Asian - Bangladeshi | 102 | 5 | 107 | 4.7% |
| Asian - Indian | 46 | 2 | 48 | 4.2% |
| Asian - Pakistani | 75 | 2 | 77 | 2.6% |
| Black - African | 697 | 31 | 728 | 4.3% |
| Black - Any Other Black Background | 791 | 25 | 816 | 3.1% |
| Black - Caribbean | 883 | 24 | 907 | 2.6% |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller | 21 | | 21 | 0.0% |
| Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background | 393 | 15 | 408 | 3.7% |
| Mixed - White And Asian | 58 | 4 | 62 | 6.5% |
| Mixed - White And Black African | 153 | 5 | 158 | 3.2% |
| Mixed - White And Black Caribbean | 622 | 30 | 652 | 4.6% |
| Not Stated | 332 | 19 | 351 | 5.4% |
| Other - Any Other Ethnic Group | 250 | 13 | 263 | 4.9% |
| Other - Chinese | 16 | 1 | 17 | 5.9% |
| White - Any Other White Background | 739 | 52 | 791 | 6.6% |
| White - British | 2561 | 104 | 2665 | 3.9% |
| White - Irish | 97 | 3 | 100 | 3.0% |
| Total | 8000 | 343 | 8343 | 4.1% |

Data tables: all offence types and 'other' offences

Where 'other' is arrests that didn't involve drugs or weapons

All offence types

| Number of detainees - all offence types | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
| Female Adult | 8346 | 23928 | 170 | 2233 | 3069 | 179 | 50421 | 88346 | 12.2% |
| Female Youth | 500 | 3434 | 21 | 408 | 279 | 14 | 3687 | 8343 | 1.2% |
| Female Total | 8846 | 27362 | 191 | 2641 | 3348 | 193 | 54108 | 96689 | 13.4% |
| Male Adult | 91013 | 174880 | 583 | 10697 | 24968 | 876 | 262759 | 565776 | 78.3% |
| Male Youth | 6530 | 30022 | 130 | 1846 | 2366 | 72 | 19054 | 60020 | 8.3% |
| Male Total | 97543 | 204902 | 713 | 12543 | 27334 | 948 | 281813 | 625796 | 86.6% |
| Total | 106389 | 232264 | 904 | 15184 | 30682 | 1141 | 335921 | 722485 | 100.0% |
| % | 14.7% | 32.1% | 0.1% | 2.1% | 4.2% | 0.2% | 46.5% | 100.0% | |

| Number of strip searches - all offence types | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
| Female Adult | 727 | 3970 | 20 | 442 | 360 | 33 | 9104 | 14656 | 10.1% |
| Female Youth | 26 | 123 | | 15 | 13 | 1 | 165 | 343 | 0.2% |
| Female Total | 753 | 4093 | 20 | 457 | 373 | 34 | 9269 | 14999 | 10.4% |
| Male Adult | 16836 | 49013 | 91 | 2503 | 4851 | 202 | 48652 | 122148 | 84.4% |
| Male Youth | 885 | 4580 | 8 | 217 | 279 | 11 | 1612 | 7592 | 5.2% |
| Male Total | 17721 | 53593 | 99 | 2720 | 5130 | 213 | 50264 | 129740 | 89.6% |
| Total | 18474 | 57686 | 119 | 3177 | 5503 | 247 | 59533 | 144739 | 100.0% |
| % | 12.8% | 39.9% | 0.1% | 2.2% | 3.8% | 0.2% | 41.1% | 100.0% | |

| Strip search rate as % of all arrests - all offence types | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n arrests |
| Female Adult | 8.7% | 16.6% | 11.8% | 19.8% | 11.7% | 18.4% | 18.1% | 16.6% | 88346 |
| Female Youth | 5.2% | 3.6% | 0.0% | 3.7% | 4.7% | 7.1% | 4.5% | 4.1% | 8343 |
| Female Total | 8.5% | 15.0% | 10.5% | 17.3% | 11.1% | 17.6% | 17.1% | 15.5% | 96689 |
| Male Adult | 18.5% | 28.0% | 15.6% | 23.4% | 19.4% | 23.1% | 18.5% | 21.6% | 565776 |
| Male Youth | 13.6% | 15.3% | 6.2% | 11.8% | 11.8% | 15.3% | 8.5% | 12.6% | 60020 |
| Male Total | 18.2% | 26.2% | 13.9% | 21.7% | 18.8% | 22.5% | 17.8% | 20.7% | 625796 |
| Total | 17.4% | 24.8% | 13.2% | 20.9% | 17.9% | 21.6% | 17.7% | 20.0% | 722485 |
| n arrests | 106389 | 232264 | 904 | 15184 | 30682 | 1141 | 335921 | 722485 | |
| % arrests | 14.7% | 32.1% | 0.1% | 2.1% | 4.2% | 0.2% | 46.5% | 100.0% | |

| Strip search rate as % of all arrests - multiple of White rate - all offence types | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n strip searches |
| Female Adult | 0.48 | 0.92 | 0.65 | 1.10 | 0.65 | 1.02 | 1.00 | 0.92 | 14656 |
| Female Youth | 1.16 | 0.80 | 0.00 | 0.82 | 1.04 | 1.60 | 1.00 | 0.92 | 343 |
| Female Total | 0.50 | 0.87 | 0.61 | 1.01 | 0.65 | 1.03 | 1.00 | 0.91 | 14999 |
| Male Adult | 1.00 | 1.51 | 0.84 | 1.26 | 1.05 | 1.25 | 1.00 | 1.17 | 122148 |
| Male Youth | 1.60 | 1.80 | 0.73 | 1.39 | 1.39 | 1.81 | 1.00 | 1.50 | 7592 |
| Male Total | 1.02 | 1.47 | 0.78 | 1.22 | 1.05 | 1.26 | 1.00 | 1.16 | 129740 |
| Total | 0.98 | 1.40 | 0.74 | 1.18 | 1.01 | 1.22 | 1.00 | 1.13 | 144739 |
| n strip searches | 18474 | 57686 | 119 | 3177 | 5503 | 247 | 59533 | 144739 | |
| % strip searches | 12.8% | 39.9% | 0.1% | 2.2% | 3.8% | 0.2% | 41.1% | 100.0% | |

'Other' offences (no drugs/weapons)

| Number of detainees - 'other' offence types | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
| Female Adult | 7545 | 20450 | 155 | 1850 | 2725 | 157 | 43920 | 76802 | 13.9% |
| Female Youth | 412 | 2967 | 17 | 346 | 237 | 14 | 3123 | 7116 | 1.3% |
| Female Total | 7957 | 23417 | 172 | 2196 | 2962 | 171 | 47043 | 83918 | 15.2% |
| Male Adult | 70603 | 119710 | 516 | 7610 | 19321 | 694 | 210999 | 428853 | 77.9% |
| Male Youth | 3844 | 18306 | 113 | 1124 | 1513 | 52 | 12871 | 37823 | 6.9% |
| Male Total | 74447 | 138016 | 629 | 8734 | 20834 | 746 | 223270 | 466676 | 84.8% |
| Total | 82404 | 161433 | 801 | 10930 | 23796 | 917 | 270313 | 550594 | 100.0% |
| % | 15.0% | 29.3% | 0.1% | 2.0% | 4.3% | 0.2% | 49.1% | 100.0% | |

| Number of strip searches - 'other' offence types | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
| Female Adult | 428 | 2640 | 15 | 280 | 232 | 22 | 6315 | 9932 | 15.1% |
| Female Youth | 11 | 61 | | 4 | 6 | 1 | 94 | 177 | 0.3% |
| Female Total | 439 | 2701 | 15 | 284 | 238 | 23 | 6409 | 10109 | 15.3% |
| Male Adult | 6446 | 19108 | 71 | 956 | 2102 | 121 | 25232 | 54036 | 81.9% |
| Male Youth | 160 | 1113 | 5 | 42 | 74 | 4 | 424 | 1822 | 2.8% |
| Male Total | 6606 | 20221 | 76 | 998 | 2176 | 125 | 25656 | 55858 | 84.7% |
| Total | 7045 | 22922 | 91 | 1282 | 2414 | 148 | 32065 | 65967 | 100.0% |
| % | 10.7% | 34.7% | 0.1% | 1.9% | 3.7% | 0.2% | 48.6% | 100.0% | |

| Strip search rate as % of all detainees - 'other' offence types | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n arrests |
| Female Adult | 5.7% | 12.9% | 9.7% | 15.1% | 8.5% | 14.0% | 14.4% | 12.9% | 76802 |
| Female Youth | 2.7% | 2.1% | 0.0% | 1.2% | 2.5% | 7.1% | 3.0% | 2.5% | 7116 |
| Female Total | 5.5% | 11.5% | 8.7% | 12.9% | 8.0% | 13.5% | 13.6% | 12.0% | 83918 |
| Male Adult | 9.1% | 16.0% | 13.8% | 12.6% | 10.9% | 17.4% | 12.0% | 12.6% | 428853 |
| Male Youth | 4.2% | 6.1% | 4.4% | 3.7% | 4.9% | 7.7% | 3.3% | 4.8% | 37823 |
| Male Total | 8.9% | 14.7% | 12.1% | 11.4% | 10.4% | 16.8% | 11.5% | 12.0% | 466676 |
| Total | 8.5% | 14.2% | 11.4% | 11.7% | 10.1% | 16.1% | 11.9% | 12.0% | 550594 |
| n detainees | 82404 | 161433 | 801 | 10930 | 23796 | 917 | 270313 | 550594 | |
| % detainees | 15.0% | 29.3% | 0.1% | 2.0% | 4.3% | 0.2% | 49.1% | 100.0% | |

| Strip search rate as % of all detainees - multiple of White rate - 'other' offence types | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n strip searches |
| Female Adult | 0.39 | 0.90 | 0.67 | 1.05 | 0.59 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 0.90 | 9932 |
| Female Youth | 0.89 | 0.68 | 0.00 | 0.38 | 0.84 | 2.37 | 1.00 | 0.83 | 177 |
| Female Total | 0.40 | 0.85 | 0.64 | 0.95 | 0.59 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 0.88 | 10109 |
| Male Adult | 0.76 | 1.33 | 1.15 | 1.05 | 0.91 | 1.45 | 1.00 | 1.05 | 54036 |
| Male Youth | 1.26 | 1.85 | 1.34 | 1.13 | 1.48 | 2.34 | 1.00 | 1.46 | 1822 |
| Male Total | 0.77 | 1.28 | 1.05 | 0.99 | 0.91 | 1.46 | 1.00 | 1.04 | 55858 |
| Total | 0.72 | 1.20 | 0.96 | 0.99 | 0.86 | 1.36 | 1.00 | 1.01 | 65967 |
| n strip searches | 7045 | 22922 | 91 | 1282 | 2414 | 148 | 32065 | 65967 | |
| % strip searches | 10.7% | 34.7% | 0.1% | 1.9% | 3.7% | 0.2% | 48.6% | 100.0% | |

Data tables: drug offences

All drug offences = all arrests that involved drugs, alone or with other offences

Drug offences only

Number of detainees - drugs offences only

| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Female | Adult | 337 | 1103 | 5 | 141 | 122 | 4 | 2514 | 4226 | 7.2% |
| | Youth | 36 | 133 | | 19 | 15 | | 232 | 435 | 0.7% |
| | Total | 373 | 1236 | 5 | 160 | 137 | 4 | 2746 | 4661 | 8.0% |
| Male | Adult | 8525 | 17909 | 11 | 1026 | 1860 | 47 | 17186 | 46564 | 79.8% |
| | Youth | 1123 | 3288 | 2 | 242 | 290 | 5 | 2154 | 7104 | 12.2% |
| | Total | 9648 | 21197 | 13 | 1268 | 2150 | 52 | 19340 | 53668 | 92.0% |
| Total | 10021 | 22433 | 18 | 1428 | 2287 | 56 | 22086 | 58329 | 100.0% | |
| % | | 17.2% | 38.5% | 0.0% | 2.4% | 3.9% | 0.1% | 37.9% | 100.0% | |

Number of strip searches - drugs offences only

| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Female | Adult | 143 | 472 | 2 | 56 | 45 | | 1123 | 1841 | 6.3% |
| | Youth | 7 | 23 | | 4 | 2 | | 30 | 66 | 0.2% |
| | Total | 150 | 495 | 2 | 60 | 47 | | 1153 | 1907 | 6.6% |
| Male | Adult | 4686 | 10175 | 5 | 563 | 1020 | 21 | 8552 | 25022 | 86.3% |
| | Youth | 343 | 1119 | 1 | 74 | 77 | 1 | 457 | 2072 | 7.1% |
| | Total | 5029 | 11294 | 6 | 637 | 1097 | 22 | 9009 | 27094 | 93.4% |
| Total | 5179 | 11789 | 8 | 697 | 1144 | 22 | 10162 | 29001 | 100.0% | |
| % | | 17.9% | 40.7% | 0.0% | 2.4% | 3.9% | 0.1% | 35.0% | 100.0% | |

Strip search rate as % of all detainees - drugs offences only

| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n arrests |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Female | Adult | 42.4% | 42.8% | 40.0% | 39.7% | 36.9% | 0.0% | 44.7% | 43.6% | 4226 |
| | Youth | 19.4% | 17.3% | | 21.1% | 13.3% | | 12.9% | 15.2% | 435 |
| | Total | 40.2% | 40.0% | 40.0% | 37.5% | 34.3% | 0.0% | 42.0% | 40.9% | 4661 |
| Male | Adult | 55.0% | 56.8% | 45.5% | 54.9% | 54.8% | 44.7% | 49.8% | 53.7% | 46564 |
| | Youth | 30.5% | 34.0% | 50.0% | 30.6% | 26.6% | 20.0% | 21.2% | 29.2% | 7104 |
| | Total | 52.1% | 53.3% | 46.2% | 50.2% | 51.0% | 42.3% | 46.6% | 50.5% | 53668 |
| Total | 51.7% | 52.6% | 44.4% | 48.8% | 50.0% | 39.3% | 46.0% | 49.7% | 58329 | |
| n detainees | | 10021 | 22433 | 18 | 1428 | 2287 | 56 | 22086 | 58329 | |
| % detainees | | 17.2% | 38.5% | 0.0% | 2.4% | 3.9% | 0.1% | 37.9% | 100.0% | |

Strip search rate as % of all detainees - multiple of White rate - drugs offences only

| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n strip searches |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Female | Adult | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.90 | 0.89 | 0.83 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.98 | 1841 |
| | Youth | 1.50 | 1.34 | 0.00 | 1.63 | 1.03 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 1.17 | 66 |
| | Total | 0.96 | 0.95 | 0.95 | 0.89 | 0.82 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 1907 |
| Male | Adult | 1.10 | 1.14 | 0.91 | 1.10 | 1.10 | 0.90 | 1.00 | 1.08 | 25022 |
| | Youth | 1.44 | 1.60 | 2.36 | 1.44 | 1.25 | 0.94 | 1.00 | 1.37 | 2072 |
| | Total | 1.12 | 1.14 | 0.99 | 1.08 | 1.10 | 0.91 | 1.00 | 1.08 | 27094 |
| Total | 1.12 | 1.14 | 0.97 | 1.06 | 1.09 | 0.85 | 1.00 | 1.08 | 29001 | |
| n strip searches | | 5179 | 11789 | 8 | 697 | 1144 | 22 | 10162 | 29001 | |
| % strip searches | | 17.9% | 40.7% | 0.0% | 2.4% | 3.9% | 0.1% | 35.0% | 100.0% | |

All drug offences

Number of detainees - all drug offences: drugs, drugs + other, drugs + other + weapons

| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Female | Adult | 672 | 2673 | 10 | 313 | 294 | 20 | 5407 | 9389 | 7.0% |
| | Youth | 61 | 277 | | 43 | 28 | | 393 | 802 | 0.6% |
| | Total | 733 | 2950 | 10 | 356 | 322 | 20 | 5800 | 10191 | 7.6% |
| Male | Adult | 17144 | 44166 | 43 | 2472 | 4515 | 144 | 40957 | 109441 | 81.8% |
| | Youth | 1887 | 7124 | 6 | 460 | 576 | 11 | 4168 | 14232 | 10.6% |
| | Total | 19031 | 51290 | 49 | 2932 | 5091 | 155 | 45125 | 123673 | 92.4% |
| Total | 19764 | 54240 | 59 | 3288 | 5413 | 175 | 50925 | 133864 | 100.0% | |
| % | | 14.8% | 40.5% | 0.0% | 2.5% | 4.0% | 0.1% | 38.0% | 100.0% | |

Number of strip searches - all drug offences

| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Female | Adult | 267 | 1155 | 4 | 136 | 118 | 11 | 2492 | 4183 | 6.2% |
| | Youth | 12 | 49 | | 8 | 4 | | 56 | 129 | 0.2% |
| | Total | 279 | 1204 | 4 | 144 | 122 | 11 | 2548 | 4312 | 6.3% |
| Male | Adult | 9393 | 25608 | 15 | 1311 | 2382 | 69 | 20354 | 59132 | 87.0% |
| | Youth | 609 | 2659 | 2 | 138 | 168 | 2 | 967 | 4545 | 6.7% |
| | Total | 10002 | 28267 | 17 | 1449 | 2550 | 71 | 21321 | 63677 | 93.7% |
| Total | 10281 | 29471 | 21 | 1593 | 2672 | 82 | 23869 | 67989 | 100.0% | |
| % | | 15.1% | 43.3% | 0.0% | 2.3% | 3.9% | 0.1% | 35.1% | 100.0% | |

Strip search rate as % of all detainees - all drug offences

| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n arrests |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Female | Adult | 39.7% | 43.2% | 40.0% | 43.5% | 40.1% | 55.0% | 46.1% | 44.6% | 9389 |
| | Youth | 19.7% | 17.7% | | 18.6% | 14.3% | | 14.2% | 16.1% | 802 |
| | Total | 38.1% | 40.0% | 40.0% | 40.4% | 37.9% | 55.0% | 43.9% | 42.3% | 10191 |
| Male | Adult | 54.8% | 58.0% | 34.9% | 53.0% | 52.8% | 47.9% | 49.7% | 54.0% | 109441 |
| | Youth | 32.3% | 37.3% | 33.3% | 30.0% | 29.2% | 18.2% | 23.2% | 31.9% | 14232 |
| | Total | 52.6% | 55.1% | 34.7% | 49.4% | 50.1% | 45.8% | 47.2% | 51.5% | 123673 |
| Total | 52.0% | 54.3% | 35.6% | 48.4% | 49.4% | 46.9% | 46.9% | 50.8% | 133864 | |
| n detainees | | 19764 | 54240 | 59 | 3288 | 5413 | 175 | 50925 | 133864 | |
| % detainees | | 14.8% | 40.5% | 0.0% | 2.5% | 4.0% | 0.1% | 38.0% | 100.0% | |

Strip search rate as % of all detainees - multiple of White rate - all drug offences

| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n strip searches |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Female | Adult | 0.86 | 0.94 | 0.87 | 0.94 | 0.87 | 1.19 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 4183 |
| | Youth | 1.38 | 1.24 | 0.00 | 1.31 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 1.13 | 129 |
| | Total | 0.87 | 0.93 | 0.91 | 0.92 | 0.86 | 1.25 | 1.00 | 0.96 | 4312 |
| Male | Adult | 1.10 | 1.17 | 0.70 | 1.07 | 1.06 | 0.96 | 1.00 | 1.09 | 59132 |
| | Youth | 1.39 | 1.61 | 1.44 | 1.29 | 1.26 | 0.78 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 4545 |
| | Total | 1.11 | 1.17 | 0.73 | 1.05 | 1.06 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 1.09 | 63677 |
| Total | 1.11 | 1.16 | 0.76 | 1.03 | 1.05 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.08 | 67989 | |
| n strip searches | | 10281 | 29471 | 21 | 1593 | 2672 | 82 | 23869 | 67989 | |
| % strip searches | | 15.1% | 43.3% | 0.0% | 2.3% | 3.9% | 0.1% | 35.1% | 100.0% | |

Data tables: weapons offences

All weapons offences = all arrests involving weapons, alone or +other offences

Weapons offences only

| Number of detainees - weapon offences only | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
| Female | Adult | 56 | 293 | 2 | 34 | 14 | 2 | 414 | 815 | 5.2% |
| | Youth | 17 | 77 | | 6 | 5 | | 91 | 196 | 1.3% |
| | Total | 73 | 370 | 2 | 40 | 19 | 2 | 505 | 1011 | 6.5% |
| Male | Adult | 1379 | 4404 | 10 | 235 | 439 | 12 | 3989 | 10468 | 67.2% |
| | Youth | 471 | 2297 | 3 | 137 | 155 | 4 | 1020 | 4087 | 26.3% |
| | Total | 1850 | 6701 | 13 | 372 | 594 | 16 | 5009 | 14555 | 93.5% |
| Total | | 1923 | 7071 | 15 | 412 | 613 | 18 | 5514 | 15566 | 100.0% |
| % | | 12.4% | 45.4% | 0.1% | 2.6% | 3.9% | 0.1% | 35.4% | 100.0% | |

| Number of strip searches - weapon offences only | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------|----------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
| Female | Adult | 13 | 47 | | 10 | 2 | | 90 | 162 | 3.6% |
| | Youth | 2 | 5 | | | 1 | | 7 | 15 | 0.3% |
| | Total | 15 | 52 | | 10 | 3 | | 97 | 177 | 4.0% |
| Male | Adult | 474 | 1847 | 3 | 101 | 142 | 4 | 1055 | 3626 | 81.4% |
| | Youth | 74 | 414 | | 17 | 24 | 2 | 120 | 651 | 14.6% |
| | Total | 548 | 2261 | 3 | 118 | 166 | 6 | 1175 | 4277 | 96.0% |
| Total | | 563 | 2313 | 3 | 128 | 169 | 6 | 1272 | 4454 | 100.0% |
| % | | 12.6% | 51.9% | 0.1% | 2.9% | 3.8% | 0.1% | 28.6% | 100.0% | |

| Strip search rate as % of all detainees - weapon offences only | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n arrests |
| Female | Adult | 23.2% | 16.0% | 0.0% | 29.4% | 14.3% | 0.0% | 21.7% | 19.9% | 815 |
| | Youth | 11.8% | 6.5% | | 0.0% | 20.0% | | 7.7% | 7.7% | 196 |
| | Total | 20.5% | 14.1% | 0.0% | 25.0% | 15.8% | 0.0% | 19.2% | 17.5% | 1011 |
| Male | Adult | 34.4% | 41.9% | 30.0% | 43.0% | 32.3% | 33.3% | 26.4% | 34.6% | 10468 |
| | Youth | 15.7% | 18.0% | 0.0% | 12.4% | 15.5% | 50.0% | 11.8% | 15.9% | 4087 |
| | Total | 29.6% | 33.7% | 23.1% | 31.7% | 27.9% | 37.5% | 23.5% | 29.4% | 14555 |
| Total | | 29.3% | 32.7% | 20.0% | 31.1% | 27.6% | 33.3% | 23.1% | 28.6% | 15566 |
| n detainees | | 1923 | 7071 | 15 | 412 | 613 | 18 | 5514 | 15566 | |
| % detainees | | 12.4% | 45.4% | 0.1% | 2.6% | 3.9% | 0.1% | 35.4% | 100.0% | |

| Strip search rate as % of all detainees - multiple of White rate - weapon offences only | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n strip searches |
| Female | Adult | 1.07 | 0.74 | 0.00 | 1.35 | 0.66 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.91 | 162 |
| | Youth | 1.53 | 0.84 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2.60 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 15 |
| | Total | 1.07 | 0.73 | 0.00 | 1.30 | 0.82 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.91 | 177 |
| Male | Adult | 1.30 | 1.59 | 1.13 | 1.63 | 1.22 | 1.26 | 1.00 | 1.31 | 3626 |
| | Youth | 1.34 | 1.53 | 0.00 | 1.05 | 1.32 | 4.25 | 1.00 | 1.35 | 651 |
| | Total | 1.26 | 1.44 | 0.98 | 1.35 | 1.19 | 1.60 | 1.00 | 1.25 | 4277 |
| Total | | 1.27 | 1.42 | 0.87 | 1.35 | 1.20 | 1.44 | 1.00 | 1.24 | 4454 |
| n strip searches | | 563 | 2313 | 3 | 128 | 169 | 6 | 1272 | 4454 | |
| % strip searches | | 12.6% | 51.9% | 0.1% | 2.9% | 3.8% | 0.1% | 28.6% | 100.0% | |

All weapons offences

| Number of detainees - all weapons offences: weapons, weapons + other, weapons + other + drugs | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
| Female | Adult | 168 | 1025 | 5 | 100 | 85 | 3 | 1451 | 2837 | 5.2% |
| | Youth | 32 | 212 | 4 | 25 | 19 | | 206 | 498 | 0.9% |
| | Total | 200 | 1237 | 9 | 125 | 104 | 3 | 1657 | 3335 | 6.1% |
| Male | Adult | 4844 | 17410 | 27 | 946 | 1599 | 52 | 15467 | 40345 | 74.3% |
| | Youth | 1086 | 6187 | 12 | 340 | 366 | 9 | 2621 | 10621 | 19.6% |
| | Total | 5930 | 23597 | 39 | 1286 | 1965 | 61 | 18088 | 50966 | 93.9% |
| Total | | 6130 | 24834 | 48 | 1411 | 2069 | 64 | 19745 | 54301 | 100.0% |
| % | | 11.3% | 45.7% | 0.1% | 2.6% | 3.8% | 0.1% | 36.4% | 100.0% | |

| Number of strip searches - all weapons offences | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | % |
| Female | Adult | 50 | 284 | 1 | 44 | 28 | | 451 | 858 | 4.2% |
| | Youth | 6 | 21 | | 5 | 5 | | 24 | 61 | 0.3% |
| | Total | 56 | 305 | 1 | 49 | 33 | | 475 | 919 | 4.5% |
| Male | Adult | 2008 | 8599 | 7 | 434 | 653 | 20 | 5365 | 17086 | 83.9% |
| | Youth | 237 | 1556 | 1 | 66 | 68 | 5 | 415 | 2348 | 11.5% |
| | Total | 2245 | 10155 | 8 | 500 | 721 | 25 | 5780 | 19434 | 95.5% |
| Total | | 2301 | 10460 | 9 | 549 | 754 | 25 | 6255 | 20353 | 100.0% |
| % | | 11.3% | 51.4% | 0.0% | 2.7% | 3.7% | 0.1% | 30.7% | 100.0% | |

| Strip search rate as % of all arrests - all weapons offences | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n arrests |
| Female | Adult | 29.8% | 27.7% | 20.0% | 44.0% | 32.9% | 0.0% | 31.1% | 30.2% | 2837 |
| | Youth | 18.8% | 9.9% | 0.0% | 20.0% | 26.3% | | 11.7% | 12.2% | 498 |
| | Total | 28.0% | 24.7% | 11.1% | 39.2% | 31.7% | 0.0% | 28.7% | 27.6% | 3335 |
| Male | Adult | 41.5% | 49.4% | 25.9% | 45.9% | 40.8% | 38.5% | 34.7% | 42.3% | 40345 |
| | Youth | 21.8% | 25.1% | 8.3% | 19.4% | 18.6% | 55.6% | 15.8% | 22.1% | 10621 |
| | Total | 37.9% | 43.0% | 20.5% | 38.9% | 36.7% | 41.0% | 32.0% | 38.1% | 50966 |
| Total | | 37.5% | 42.1% | 18.8% | 38.9% | 36.4% | 39.1% | 31.7% | 37.5% | 54301 |
| n detainees | | 6130 | 24834 | 48 | 1411 | 2069 | 64 | 19745 | 54301 | |
| % detainees | | 11.3% | 45.7% | 0.1% | 2.6% | 3.8% | 0.1% | 36.4% | 100.0% | |

| Strip search rate as % of all arrests - multiple of White rate - all weapons offences | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| | | Asian | Black | Gypsy/Irish Traveller | Mixed - other | Other | Unknown | White | Total | n strip searches |
| Female | Adult | 0.96 | 0.89 | 0.64 | 1.42 | 1.06 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 858 |
| | Youth | 1.61 | 0.85 | 0.00 | 1.72 | 2.26 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 1.05 | 61 |
| | Total | 0.98 | 0.86 | 0.39 | 1.37 | 1.11 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.96 | 919 |
| Male | Adult | 1.20 | 1.42 | 0.75 | 1.32 | 1.18 | 1.11 | 1.00 | 1.22 | 17086 |
| | Youth | 1.38 | 1.59 | 0.53 | 1.23 | 1.17 | 3.51 | 1.00 | 1.40 | 2348 |
| | Total | 1.18 | 1.35 | 0.64 | 1.22 | 1.15 | 1.28 | 1.00 | 1.19 | 19434 |
| Total | | 1.18 | 1.33 | 0.59 | 1.23 | 1.15 | 1.23 | 1.00 | 1.18 | 20353 |
| n strip searches | | 2301 | 10460 | 9 | 549 | 754 | 25 | 6255 | 20353 | |
| % strip searches | | 11.3% | 51.4% | 0.0% | 2.7% | 3.7% | 0.1% | 30.7% | 100.0% | |

Data tables: male youth offence profile and strip search rate

For illustration; not repeated for other age/gender combinations

Table is sorted (low/top to high/bottom) by the percentage of offences that were ‘other’, so the ethnic groups towards the top were more likely to have been arrested for drugs and/or weapons offences.

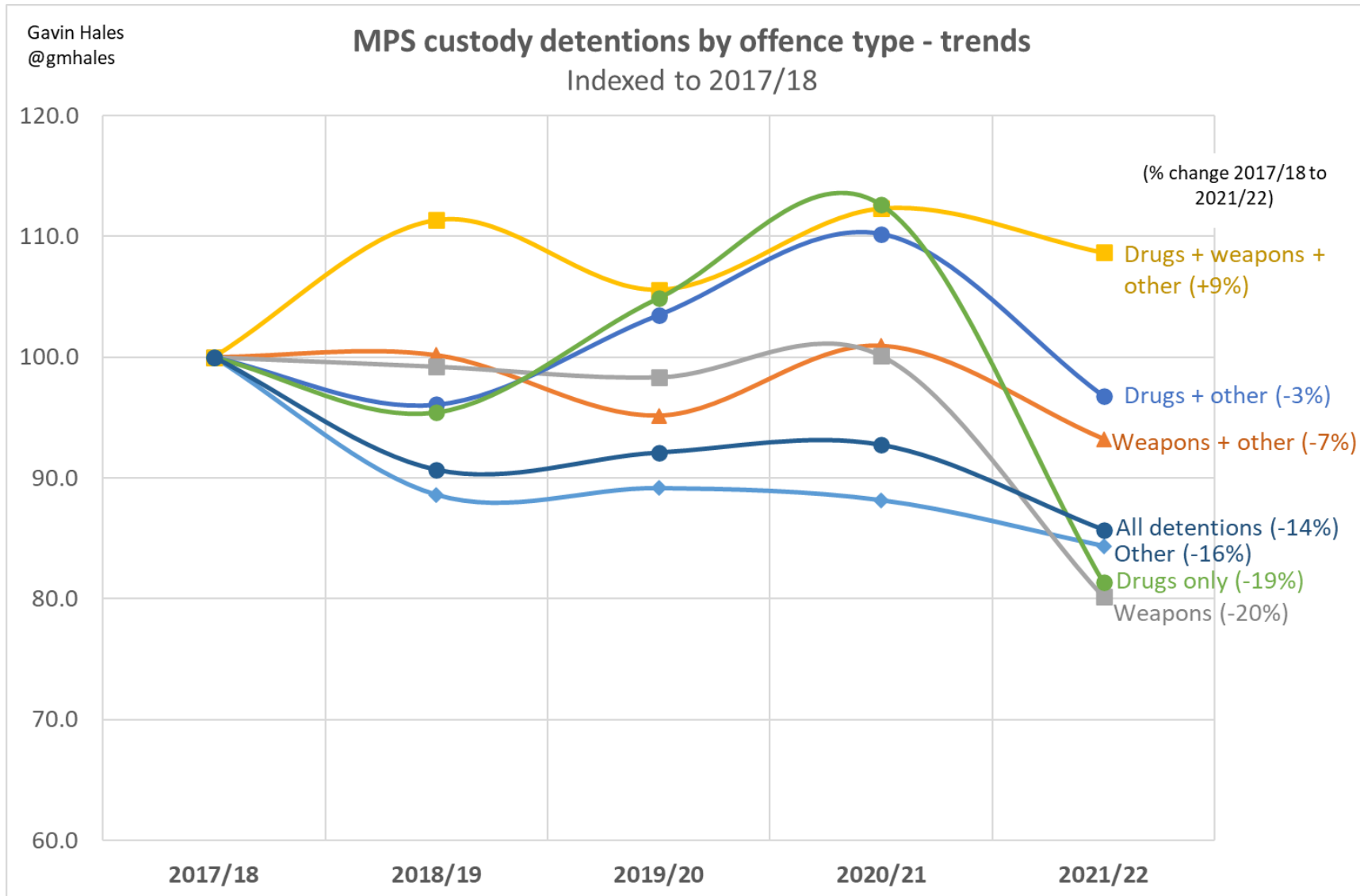
| Male youths | Drugs | Drugs Other | Drugs Weapons Other | Other | Weapons | Weapons Other | Grand Total | Drugs total | Weapons total | % strip searched |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| Asian - Bangladeshi | 21.7% | 6.8% | 4.3% | 55.6% | 8.3% | 3.3% | 100.0% | 32.8% | 15.9% | 15.0% |
| Asian - Pakistani | 17.3% | 5.9% | 4.5% | 56.3% | 8.4% | 7.5% | 100.0% | 27.7% | 20.5% | 14.9% |
| Mixed - White And Asian | 16.0% | 8.7% | 7.0% | 56.9% | 5.7% | 5.7% | 100.0% | 31.7% | 18.4% | 13.6% |
| Black - Caribbean | 11.4% | 7.5% | 6.3% | 59.1% | 7.8% | 7.9% | 100.0% | 25.2% | 22.0% | 15.4% |
| Mixed - White And Black Caribbean | 11.3% | 9.3% | 5.4% | 59.5% | 7.0% | 7.5% | 100.0% | 26.1% | 19.9% | 13.5% |
| Black - Any Other Black Background | 11.0% | 7.8% | 5.2% | 60.1% | 8.4% | 7.6% | 100.0% | 24.0% | 21.1% | 15.8% |
| Asian - Indian | 14.0% | 7.6% | 6.7% | 60.4% | 4.9% | 6.5% | 100.0% | 28.3% | 18.0% | 12.9% |
| Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background | 13.1% | 7.6% | 4.2% | 60.9% | 7.4% | 6.8% | 100.0% | 24.9% | 18.4% | 11.8% |
| Mixed - White And Black African | 11.3% | 6.6% | 5.1% | 61.8% | 8.6% | 6.5% | 100.0% | 23.1% | 20.3% | 14.3% |
| Asian - Any Other Asian Background | 14.6% | 8.1% | 3.5% | 62.1% | 6.7% | 5.0% | 100.0% | 26.2% | 15.2% | 11.8% |
| Other - Any Other Ethnic Group | 12.6% | 8.4% | 4.0% | 62.9% | 6.9% | 5.3% | 100.0% | 24.9% | 16.1% | 11.7% |
| Black - African | 10.7% | 6.5% | 4.5% | 63.5% | 7.2% | 7.7% | 100.0% | 21.7% | 19.4% | 15.0% |
| White - British | 11.7% | 7.7% | 3.4% | 66.9% | 5.2% | 5.1% | 100.0% | 22.8% | 13.7% | 8.2% |
| White - Any Other White Background | 11.6% | 6.6% | 2.9% | 67.1% | 6.2% | 5.6% | 100.0% | 21.1% | 14.7% | 9.2% |
| Other - Chinese | 11.2% | 5.6% | 5.6% | 69.7% | 3.4% | 4.5% | 100.0% | 22.5% | 13.5% | 9.0% |
| Not Stated | 7.0% | 7.5% | 3.4% | 71.6% | 4.3% | 6.2% | 100.0% | 17.9% | 14.0% | 16.0% |
| White - Irish | 5.5% | 6.2% | 2.1% | 77.1% | 4.1% | 5.1% | 100.0% | 13.8% | 11.3% | 6.6% |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller | 1.5% | 2.3% | 0.8% | 86.9% | 2.3% | 6.2% | 100.0% | 4.6% | 9.2% | 6.2% |
| Total | 11.8% | 7.5% | 4.4% | 63.0% | 6.8% | 6.5% | 100.0% | 23.7% | 17.7% | 12.6% |

The final column shows the strip search rate for the ethnic grouping. It can be seen that in general ethnic groups that were more likely to have been arrested for drugs/weapons were more likely to have been strip searched (the red colours). The relatively high rate of strip search of Black African male youths sticks out – may be related to the comparatively high likelihood of being arrested for weapons offences. One thought about the ethnicity ‘not stated’ group is that if that reflects detainees who refused to answer questions on arrival at custody, that could go some way to explain the relatively high rate of strip searches.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Change in detainee offence type since 2017/18

Indexed data show change on the 2017/18 baseline

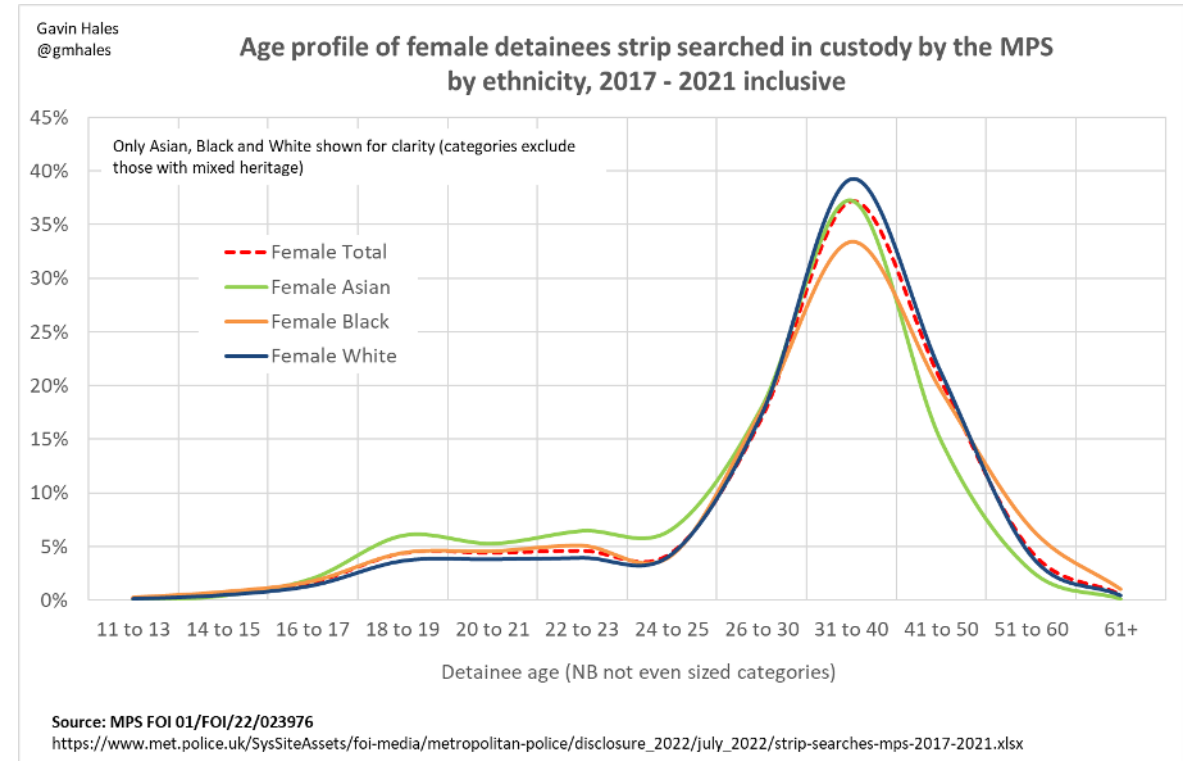
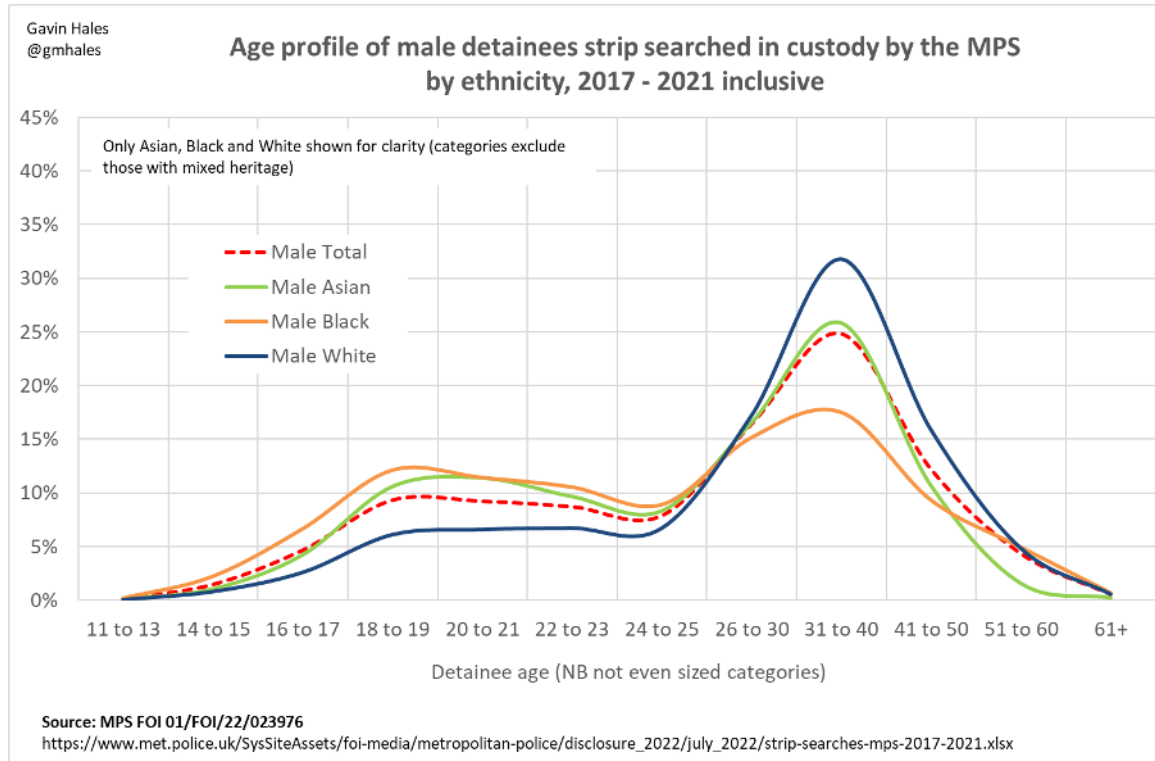


Drug only arrests increased very markedly between 2018/19 and 2020/21, before falling very sharply. By contrast, weapons only arrest volumes were steady from 2017/18 to 2020/21, before falling sharply.

The only offence grouping where volumes have consistently been above 2017/18 is drugs in combination with weapons and 'other' offences.

Appendix 2: Age profiles of strip searched detainees vary by gender

Data from a different published FOI request



Male detainees subject to strip search in custody have a more youthful age profile than their female counterparts. This is especially true for Black males, while the age profile of White detainees is older. NB different ethnic groups in London have different age profiles.

Source: https://www.met.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/foi-media/metropolitan-police/disclosure_2022/july_2022/strip-searches-mps-2017-2021.xlsx

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