Section 60 stop and search is increasingly used in response to low-level disorder and knife crime.

**How Many Section 60 Stop and Searches Do Police Do?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total S60 Stop and Searches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03/04</td>
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<td>04/05</td>
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<td>06/07</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/12</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/13</td>
<td>5,346</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Carry Out 59%**

Annual Section 60 stop and searches peaked at over 150,000 in 2008/09. An increase of 2000% over the preceding decade.

2012/13 saw the number of Section 60 stop and searches reduced by 89% compared to the previous year.

**How Effective Is Stop and Search?**

Only 5% of Section 60 stop and searches lead to an arrest and just 1% for carrying offensive weapons.

In London, comparisons between boroughs found no direct relationship between numbers of Section 60 stop and searches and reductions in knife crime.

**Who Is Getting Stopped and Searched?**

- **Asian people** are 3 times more likely to be stopped and searched under Section 60 than white people.
- **Mixed people** are 5 times more likely to be stopped and searched under Section 60 than white people.
- **Black people** are 25 times more likely to be stopped and searched under Section 60 than white people.

Disproportionality has remained high despite unprecedented reductions in the use of section 60.

**Who Is Arrested?**

In 2012-13, there were more arrests of whites arising from section 60 compared to non-whites even though it is still disproportionately used against ethnic minorities.

- White 62%
- Black 26%
- Asian 7%
- Chinese, Mixed & other 5%
WHO WE ARE

StopWatch is a coalition, which works to:

- Promote effective, accountable and fair policing
- Inform the public about the use of stop and search
- Develop and share research on stop and search and alternatives
- Organise awareness raising events and forums
- Provide legal support challenging stop and search

WHAT IS SECTION 60 STOP & SEARCH?

Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 is a power designed to provide an exceptional response to anticipated violence.

Section 60 allows for police to be authorised to search any person or vehicle for weapons in an area where serious violence is reasonably anticipated. This authorisation lasts 24 hours and can be extended by another 24 hours.

Although the legislation limits “stop and search” to a specific time and place, it does not require the police to have any basis of individual reasonable suspicion.

This factsheet reflects the law and practice governing section 60 at the time of its production. Section 60 is subject to a number of possible legislative changes as indicated in the Home Secretary’s speech to Parliament on 30th April 2014. Once these proposals are announced and the relevant changes are brought into effect, this factsheet will be revised to reflect the new legislation and codes of practice. More information can be found on our website and by reading the Home Secretary’s speech at: https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/stop-and-search-comprehensive-package-of-reform-for-police-stop-and-search-powers

WHERE DID WE SOURCE OUR INFORMATION?

Race disproportionality in stops and searches under Section 60 of the Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994
http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/ehrc_-_briefing_paper_no.5_-_s60_stop_and_search.pdf

Home Office (2014)
Police Powers and Procedures England & Wales 2012/13

Ministry of Justice (2013)
Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System 2011/12

Office of National Statistics (2012)
Ethnicity and National Identity in England & Wales 2011

CREDITS

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Find out more and get involved at www.stop-watch.org