

About this force

Area	632 square miles
Recording stop and account?	No
Force website	Visit website

About the PCC in this area

Police & Crime Commissioner	David Lloyd (Conservative)
Email address	commissioner@herts.pnn.police.uk
PCC website	Visit website

How many searches do police do?

April 2018 – March 2019

The police conducted **7,098 stop and searches under PACE Section 1** across the area covered by Hertfordshire Constabulary.

This was an increase of 4% from the previous year.

There were **33 stop and searches under Section 60 Criminal Justice & Public Order Act**, a power which doesn't require individual reasonable suspicion.

April 2017 – March 2018

The police conducted **6,813 stop and searches under PACE Section 1** across the area covered by Hertfordshire Constabulary.

This was a reduction of 9% from the previous year.

There were **24 stop and searches under Section 60 Criminal Justice & Public Order Act**, a power which doesn't require individual reasonable suspicion.

April 2016 – March 2017

The police conducted **7,450 stop and searches under PACE Section 1** across the area covered by Hertfordshire Constabulary.

This was a reduction of 9% from the previous year.

There were **0 stop and searches under Section 60 Criminal Justice & Public Order Act**, a power which doesn't require individual reasonable suspicion.

Stop and account

Hertfordshire Constabulary do not record stop and accounts.

The Hertfordshire Constabulary no longer record stop and account. The last available data showed that black people were stopped at a rate of 2.5 of white people across Hertfordshire (2008-09).

What are searches targeted at?

Target	Proportion of searches
Drugs	60%
Going equipped	17%
Offensive weapons	12%
Stolen property	9%
Other	1%
Criminal damage	1%
Firearms	<1%

How effective are police stop and searches?

The majority of searches (60%) carried out by Hertfordshire's officers in 2018/19 were for drugs rather than serious or violent crime. These searches also tend to target low-level cannabis possession rather than drugs suppliers.

April 2018 – March 2019

21% of stop and searches conducted under PACE Section 1 lead to an arrest.

3% of stop and searches conducted under Section 60 Criminal Justice & Public Order Act lead to an arrest.

April 2017 – March 2018

19% of stop and searches conducted under PACE Section 1 lead to an arrest.

8% of stop and searches conducted under Section 60 Criminal Justice & Public Order Act lead to an arrest.

April 2016 – March 2017

16% of stop and searches conducted under PACE Section 1 lead to an arrest.

Who is getting searched?

In 2018/19, black people were searched at just under five times the rate of whites across Hertfordshire. People from mixed backgrounds were searched at almost six times the rate of whites and Asians were searched at 1.3 times the rate of whites. People from Chinese and 'other' ethnic backgrounds were searched at approximately the same rate as whites.

There were 33 searches were conducted under section 60 in 2018/19, a power that does not require officers to have any suspicion that a person is carrying weapons in order to search them for those items. Only one resulted in arrest.

PACE disproportionality ratios

Ethnic groups	Ratio
White : Black	1 : 4.8
White : Asian	1 : 1.3
White : Mixed	1 : 5.6
White : Other	1 : 0.9

Data from:

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