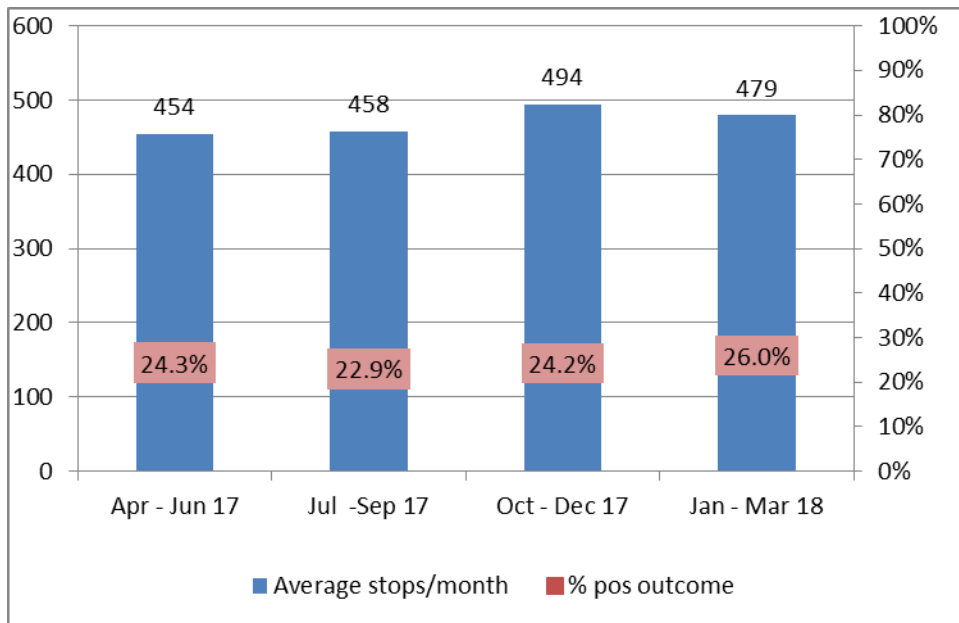# Quarterly Stop and Search Bulletin
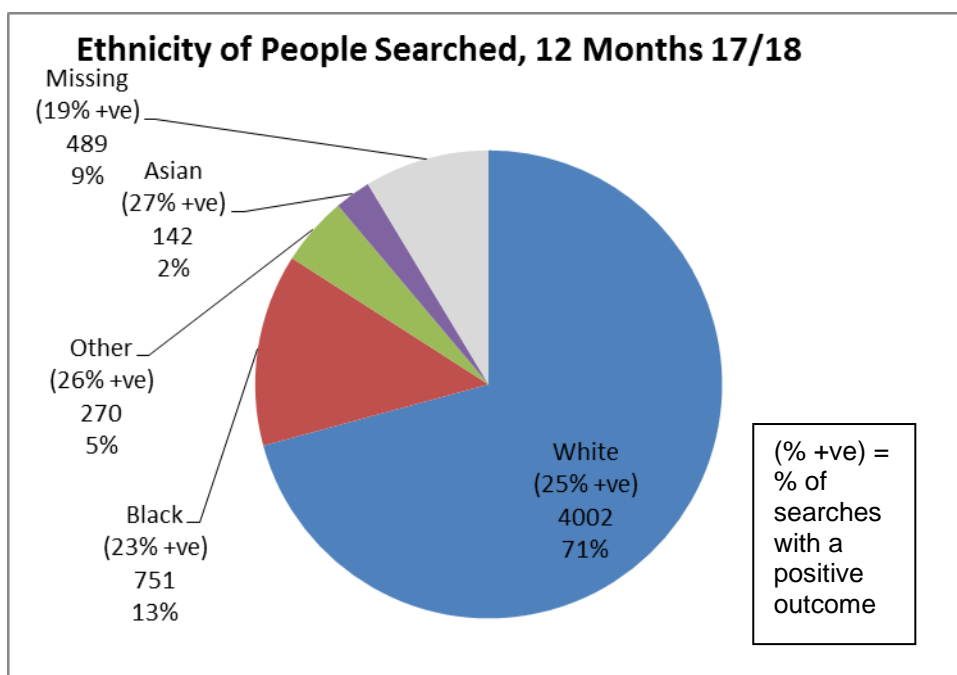
January – March 2018

People searched by quarter since April 2017

The above chart shows the number of searches has remained stable, with an average of just under 500 searches per month. This Quarter has seen a small rise in the percentage of positive outcomes which is pleasing to note. For the last two years positive outcomes average out at around 25%.
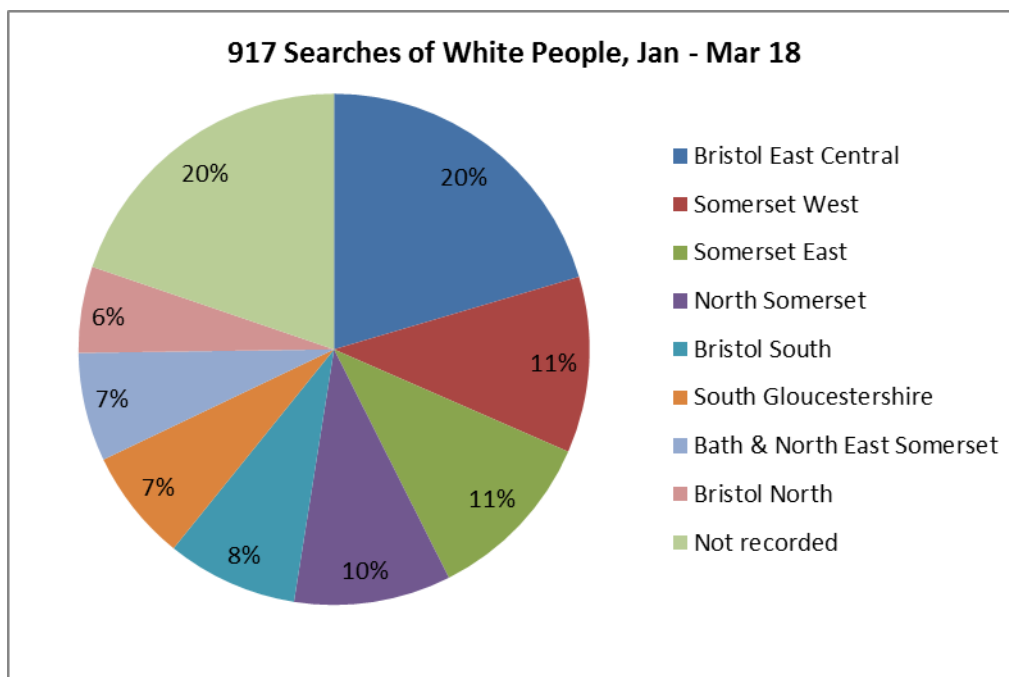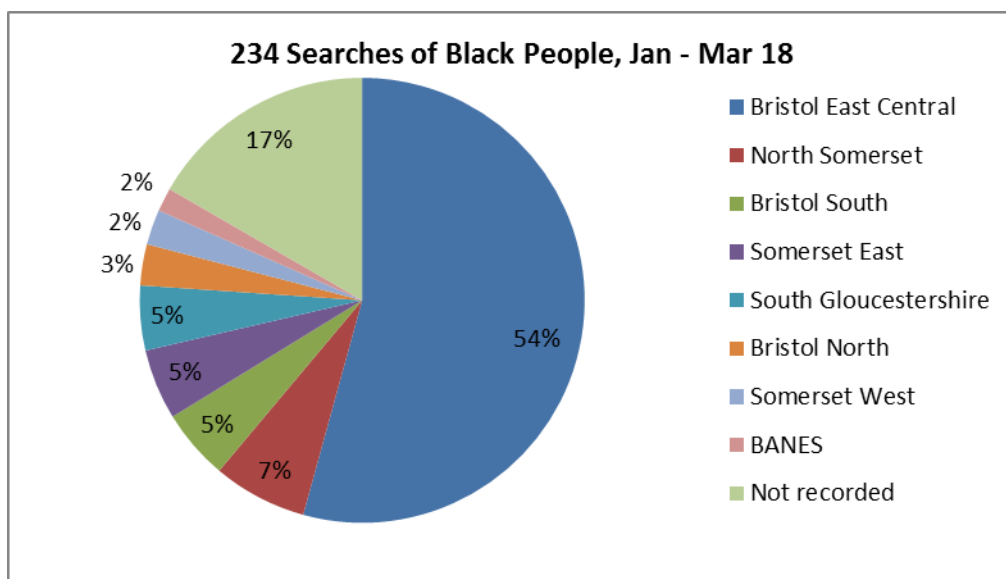
People searched by ethnicity

The above chart shows some minor differences to last Quarters results. There is an increase of white searches to 71% (was 65%) and a decrease with black searches reducing to 13% (was 16%). Asian searches have reduced by 2% and 'others' and 'missing' remain similar. The 9% of records which are missing enthnicity data, which are corrected in time via the new officer Qlik app, shows the vast majority of 'missing data' will be of white ethnicity, taking the overall percentage of white searches to nearer the 80% figure. The Pie chart also has the percentages of positive outcomes per ethnicity grouping which shows that the two main groups of white and black searches have similar positive outcome rates of 25% and 23% respectively, with Asian searches at 27%

Location of Searches by Ethnicity (Jan – March 18)

The pattern of white persons searched is spread more proportionately across the policing areas, with the largest activity in Bristol East, reflecting drug offences. With black person searches the data clearly shows the vast majority taking place in Bristol East, with a relatively much smaller percentage across Somerset.

917 Searches of White People, Jan - Mar 18

- Bristol East Central
- Somerset West
- Somerset East
- North Somerset
- Bristol South
- South Gloucestershire
- Bath & North East Somerset
- Bristol North
- Not recorded

234 Searches of Black People, Jan - Mar 18

- Bristol East Central
- North Somerset
- Bristol South
- Somerset East
- South Gloucestershire
- Bristol North
- Somerset West
- BANES
- Not recorded

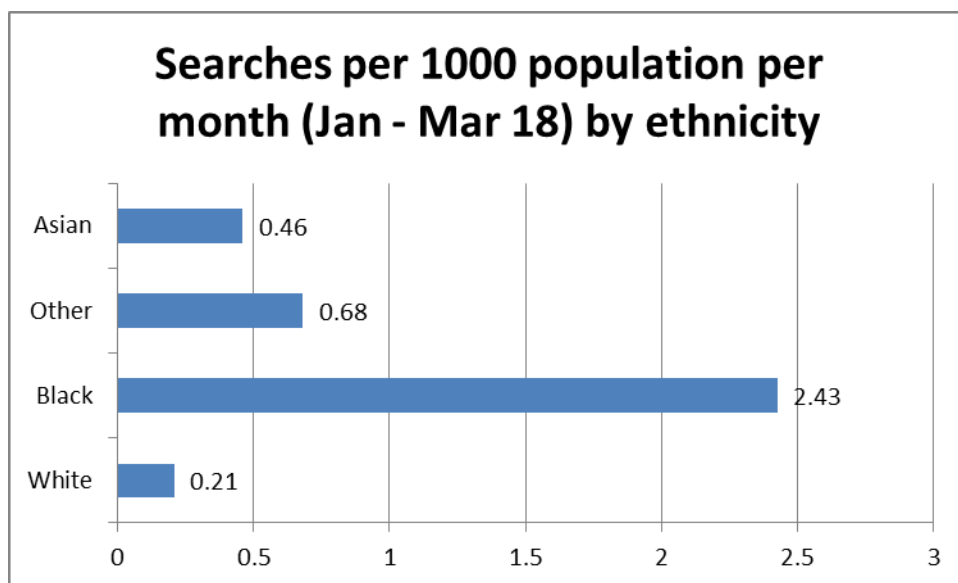# Most searched individuals and Intelligence context

As discussed in the last Quarters report Intelligence and the Grounds for Search are key in understanding overall numbers, locations and also ethnicity. We are satisfied that are grounds for searching are appropriately recorded, with HMIC being satisfied that over 98% of all grounds were reasonable, but statistically we see disproportionality in ethnicity. This disproportionality appears stark at a force wide level (see bar graph below), but decreases when statistically the same overall figures are narrowed in on specific geographical areas or at the beat level. Most importantly it is the breakdown of intelligence and a greater understanding of that picture that helps us to understand that context more.

An example of such context is provided in the below table that shows the people who have been stopped and searched most in the force area over the last 12 months. The table shows that 16 persons have been stopped more than 6 times in a year. The table shows the ethnicity, geographical location, outcomes and numbers of stops in that period. Crucially it also contains the number of arrests, Intelligence submissions and total number of crime or intelligence related occurrences for the person in the same period. Clearly the persons within this list have a number of existing criminal offences and are well known to officers through intelligence.

It is this sort of context which should drive analysis of stop and search. This sort of data check can be run for all areas and be broken down into different ways according to the request made.

Name Anonymised	Gender	Ethnicity	Stop and Searches	Positive Outcome	Area	Custody Records (last 12 months)	Intel (last 12m)	Total Occurrences	Total Crimes as an Offender
A	Male	Black	10	1	Bristol	6	9	57	18
B	Male	Black	8	0	Bristol	15	70	276	54
C	Male	White	7	0	6 Bristol, 1 NE	14	7	198	54
D	Female	White	7	1	Somerset	10	7	333	56
E	Male	White	7	0	6 Bristol, 1 NE	2	5	58	5
F	Male	White	7	1	Somerset	4	42	116	5
G	Male	White	7	1	Somerset	6	3	129	48
H	Male	Black	7	1	Bristol	1	3	21	3
I	Male	White	7	2	Bristol	11	5	109	35
J	Male	Black	6	1	Bristol	5	1	30	4
K	Male	White	6	1	Somerset	12	2	227	53
L	Male	White	6	0	4 Bristol, 2 NE	7	8	92	18
M	Male	White	6	0	Bristol	22	16	273	82
N	Male	Black	6	4	Bristol	7	5	41	21
O	Male	Black	6	0	Bristol	8	4	80	30
P	Male	Black	6	0	Bristol	4	5	45	6

Purely statistically, the below force wide bar chart shows that an average of 2.4 black people are stopped per every 1000 in the black population of Avon and Somerset, compared to 0.2 white people per 1000 in the white population. As stated above, when looking at the figures alone without the above described context, the figures look stark.

Wider Issues to Report this Quarter

How many stops are for weapons?

Weapon based searches are a smaller but significant percentage of the overall stop and search numbers. On average, 57 searches per month are for weapons – this constitutes 12% of all searches. The table below shows how this has varied over the last year. Over the 12 months 2017-2018, searches for weapons have a 22% positive outcome rate overall.

Month	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Total
Number of searches for Firearms/ Offensive Weapons	58	56	63	60	63	37	55	74	43	58	48	65	680
These as % of all searches	13.8	12.3	13.0	13.3	13.5	8.1	11.7	15.4	8.2	11.0	9.2	16.8	12.0

Training – The New Stop & Search training discussed in last Quarter's report has commenced in Bristol. All staff at Trinity Road Police Station received the training in April 2018 and will be rolled out across the force through the summer. The training which refreshes Officers with the legislation and use of Body Worn Video cameras also covers the 'perceptions' of Stop and Search within communities and the impact on individuals stopped.