

# Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Order Statistics

1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020

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- In the 12 months from 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020, there were 3,582 persons and vehicles stopped and searched under the Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Order. Half of those stops were in relation to stolen articles.
- There were 23 road checks authorised in 2019/20, all of which were for the purpose of ascertaining whether a vehicle was carrying a witness to an indictable offence.
- There were 22,607 arrests<sup>1</sup> made under the Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Order during 2019/20, 84% of which were males.
- During 2019/20 there were 50 persons detained in police custody for more than 24 hours and released without charge. During the same period there were 23 applications to Magistrates Courts for warrants of further detention.

<sup>1</sup> Arrest figures are based on a count of detainees' custody numbers



Northern Ireland  
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We welcome user feedback on these statistics. This can be sent to the email address above or by contacting us at the telephone number provided.

# 1. Introduction

Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Order statistics for Northern Ireland are collated and produced by statisticians seconded to the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) from the Northern Ireland and Statistics Research Agency (NISRA).

This bulletin presents Police and Criminal Evidence Order (PACE) statistics for the Police Service of Northern Ireland for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, as required by statute. Reported are statistics on

- i) the number of persons and vehicles stopped and searched under PACE by objective of search and the number of subsequent arrests.
- ii) the number of Article 6 (PACE) road checks authorised and the reason for these.
- iii) persons detained under PACE.

PACE detention statistics are based on a count of detainees' custody numbers in each custody suite and relate to the period of original detention only.

## 2. Article 5 – Persons and Vehicles Stopped and Searched

**Table 1: Number of persons and vehicles stopped and searched under the Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Order between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020**

		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Stolen Property / Articles	Searches	181	149	111	149	122	126	191	206	157	141	151	110	<b>1,794</b>
	Arrests <sup>1</sup>	38	27	43	27	25	32	40	26	33	23	34	15	<b>363</b>
Offensive Weapon / Blade or Point	Searches	78	76	66	65	93	49	71	45	61	63	50	67	<b>784</b>
	Arrests <sup>1</sup>	25	20	22	10	27	10	19	17	14	19	11	22	<b>216</b>
Going Equipped / Prohibited Articles	Searches	76	59	64	58	69	50	70	78	42	60	82	47	<b>755</b>
	Arrests <sup>1</sup>	13	5	15	18	9	12	5	13	7	11	12	5	<b>125</b>
Fireworks	Searches	6	0	0	0	1	35	173	23	6	1	4	0	<b>249</b>
	Arrests <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>Searches</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>3,582</b>
	<b>Arrests<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>76</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>708</b>

<sup>1</sup> Arrests as a result of stop and search. Arrest may not be related to the initial reason for the stop and search.

### 3. Article 6 – Road Checks

There were 23 road checks authorised in 2019/20, all of which were for the purpose of ascertaining whether a vehicle was carrying a witness to an indictable offence.

### 4. PACE Detention Statistics

**Table 2: Arrests under PACE by gender and whether requests for friends / relatives or a solicitor were made, for each quarter during 2019/20**

	Arrests under PACE <sup>1</sup>				Of which there was a request for	
	Total <sup>2</sup>	Gender			Friend / relative etc.	Solicitor
		Male	Female	Unknown / Other		
April 19 – June 19	5,790	4,851	937	2	1,691	3,776
July 19 – September 19	5,850	4,903	942	5	1,700	3,758
October 19 – December 19	5,905	4,922	981	2	1,760	3,774
January 20 – March 20	5,062	4,254	806	2	1,533	3,290
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,607</b>	<b>18,930</b>	<b>3,666</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6,684</b>	<b>14,598</b>

<sup>1</sup> Arrest figures are based on a count of detainees' custody numbers and relate to the period of original detention only.

**Extended Detention:** During 2019/20 there were 50 persons who were detained in police custody for more than 24 hours and released without charge.

**Magistrate's Warrants:** There were 23 applications to Magistrates Courts for warrants of further detention in 2019/20, in relation to 21 individuals. Nine of these applications were for 24 hours or less, one was for between 25 and 35 hours and the other 13 were for a period of 36 hours. Of the 23 applications to Magistrates Courts for warrants of further detention, 2 of these were for a second warrant of further detention. Of the 21 persons subject to a warrant of further detention, 12 spent less than 24 hours under its authority, while 7 spent between 24 hours and 36 hours and the remaining 2 people were detained over 36 hours under the authority of these warrants. A total of 14 persons were subsequently charged.

**Intimate Searches:** There was one intimate search carried out by a suitably qualified person during 2019/20, which was in relation to a drugs offence (negative result).

**X-rays & ultrasound scans:** During 2019/20 5 x-rays were carried out (4 negative results and 1 positive result). No ultrasound scans were recorded.