

REQUEST**Description of information sought:**

1.As per the categories of data collected and published by the UK Missing Persons Unit and as per the template spreadsheet attached to this request titled "Missing people FOI template", can I ask your force for the numbers of missing individuals over the past 5 financial years from 2017 to date, broken down into adult/child and also broken down by gender, financial year, ethnicity, whether that individual was the subject of a missing person report published externally by the force eg press release/social media/shared with Missing People charity/not published, the missing individuals' risk level, vulnerability (eg CSE/mental health), the duration those individuals were missing, the nature of harm they suffered while missing, the numbers of fatal outcomes, who found them, the reason those individuals were missing.

Adult / Child

From 01 st April until 31 st March	Total of persons reported missing	Of which, children:	Of which, adults:
		(0-17 year-olds)	(18 year-olds and over)
2017-2018	4413	2062	2358
2018-2019	4686	2040	2653
2019-2020	5731	2668	3009
2020-2021	6197	3009	3204
01/04/2021-to date (08/07/2021)	2383	1308	1077

Gender

From 01 st April until 31 st March	Total of persons reported missing	By Gender	Total
2017-2018	4413	Male	2524
		Female	1875
		Transgender	10
		Unknown	4
		Not Specified	0
2018-2019	4686	Male	2754
		Female	1910
		Transgender	18
		Unknown	4
		Not Specified	0
2019-2020	5731	Male	3352
		Female	2361
		Transgender	14
		Unknown	4

		Not Specified	0
2020-2021	6197	Male	3713
		Female	2457
		Transgender	21
		Unknown	6
		Not Specified	0
01/04/2021-to date (08/07/2021)	2383	Male	1348
		Female	1025
		Transgender	7
		Unknown	4
		Not Specified	0

Ethnicity

From 01st April until 31st March	Total of persons reported missing	Ethnicity	Total
2017-2018	4413	Any Other Asian Background	147
		Any Other Black Background	85
		Any Other Ethnic Group	43
		Any Other Mixed Background	81
		Any Other White Background	188
		Bangladeshi	23
		Black African	231
		Black Caribbean	223
		Chinese	11
		Indian	120
		Not Stated	137
		Pakistani	245
		White & Asian	81
		White & Black African	42
		White and Black Caribbean	173
White British	2669		
White Irish	31		

From 01st April until 31st March	Total of persons reported missing	Ethnicity	Total
2018-2019	4686	Any Other Asian Background	149
		Any Other Black Background	80
		Any Other Ethnic Group	59
		Any Other Mixed Background	80
		Any Other White Background	192
		Bangladeshi	25
		Black African	234
		Black Caribbean	253
		Chinese	10
		Indian	134
		Not Stated	181
		Pakistani	269
		White & Asian	62
		White & Black African	39
White and Black Caribbean	189		
White British	2823		
White Irish	39		
From 01st April until 31st March	Total of persons reported missing	Ethnicity	Total
2019-2020	5731	Any Other Asian Background	224
		Any Other Black Background	91
		Any Other Ethnic Group	60
		Any Other Mixed Background	113
		Any Other White Background	240
		Bangladeshi	39
		Black African	301
		Black Caribbean	291

		Chinese	13
		Indian	152
		Not Stated	468
		Pakistani	316
		White & Asian	60
		White & Black African	53
		White and Black Caribbean	235
		White British	3218
		White Irish	44
From 01st April until 31st March	Total of persons reported missing	Ethnicity	Total
2020-2021	6197	Any Other Asian Background	243
		Any Other Black Background	132
		Any Other Ethnic Group	66
		Any Other Mixed Background	143
		Any Other White Background	286
		Bangladeshi	32
		Black African	286
		Black Caribbean	284
		Chinese	17
		Indian	149
		Not Stated	582
		Pakistani	319
		White & Asian	77
		White & Black African	50
		White and Black Caribbean	223
		White British	3492
White Irish	40		
From 01st April to Date	Total of persons reported missing	Ethnicity	Total
01/04/2021-to date (08/07/2021)	2383	Any Other Asian Background	77

	Any Other Black Background	51
	Any Other Ethnic Group	18
	Any Other Mixed Background	73
	Any Other White Background	93
	Bangladeshi	9
	Black African	126
	Black Caribbean	137
	Chinese	10
	Indian	54
	Not Stated	247
	Pakistani	130
	White & Asian	49
	White & Black African	22
	White and Black Caribbean	85
	White British	1295
	White Irish	13

Harm

Harm relates to a combination of:

- Physical Injury
- Self Harmed
- Accidental Harm
- Sexual Offence Victim
- Emotional Harm
- Found Dead

From 01 st April until 31 st March	Individuals who suffered harm whilst missing
2017-2018	889
2018-2019	948
2019-2020	986
2020-2021	922
01/04/2021-to date (08/07/2021)	356

However we have been able to retrieve the totals indicating the individuals that suffered harm, to provide low level data in relation to what Harm they suffered, would need us to locate and retrieve each log and read the summary of the report which would exceed the cost limit under FOI.

Fatal Outcomes

From 01 st April until 31 st March	Number of individuals found deceased
2017-2018	98
2018-2019	38
2019-2020	61
2020-2021	64
01/04/2021-to date (08/07/2021)	8

In relation to Publicity, Vulnerability, who found the individual and motive.

We would need us to locate and retrieve each log and read the summary of the report which would exceed the cost limit under FOI. Therefore the cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

**It is important to note these data relate to the count of missing individuals not the times an individual went missing. As an individual can be reported missing several times within a given period.*

2. Please also include the Command & Control system used by the force e.g. STORM, Control Works and please state the Missing Person system used by the force e.g. NICHE, COMPACT.

West Midlands Police uses Control Works and Compact for command/control and missing persons systems.

3. Can your force also please share with me a copy of its policy on when to publish and not to publish missing persons reports eg press release/social media/sharing an appeal with the Missing People charity?

There are no formal guidelines to trigger a public appeal however, the majority of public appeals relate to high risk missing episodes. The duty inspector will determine on a case by case basis if this is of benefit to the missing person.

To assist our missing person's policy is already published via the following link

<https://foi.west-midlands.police.uk/publication-scheme/policies-and-procedures/>

