

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, regarding arrests for drug offences.

Please share the following information for the financial years between 2015/16 up to and including 2022/23:

Q1) The number of under 18s arrested for drug offences, broken down into financial years (e.g. 2015/16, 2016/17 etc) and a grand total. (All nationalities, including UK)

Year	Number
2015-16	279
2016-17	352
2017-18	281
2018-19	410
2019-20	491
2020-21	388
2021-22	312
2022-23	387
Total	2,900

Q2) The number of under 18s who are non-UK nationals arrested for drug offences, broken down into financial years (e.g. 2015/16, 2016/17 etc) and a grand total.

Year	Number
2018-19	359
2019-20	445
2020-21	337
2021-22	204
2022-23	297
Total	1,642

NB Using a marker for 'Foreign National' from 2018 onwards

Q3) The number of under 16s arrested for drug offences, broken down into financial years (e.g. 2015/16, 2016/17 etc) and a grand total. (All nationalities, including UK).

Year	Number
2015-16	58
2016-17	82
2017-18	52
2018-19	98
2019-20	126
2020-21	90

2021-22	85
2022-23	83
Total	674

Q4) The number of under 16s who are non-UK nationals arrested for drug offences, broken down into financial years (e.g. 2015/16, 2016/17 etc) and a grand total.

Year	Number
2018-19	88
2019-20	119
2020-21	82
2021-22	55
2022-23	63
Total	407

NB Using a marker for 'Foreign National' from 2018 onwards

Q5) The number of under 18s arrested for drug offences, broken down by nationality.

Nationality	Number
AFGHANISTAN	17
Albanian	9
ALGERIA	1
American	4
Argentinean	1
Bangladeshi	1
BELGIUM	3
British	476
Bulgarian	1
BURUNDI	1
Cameroonian	4
Congolese	4
CZECH REPUBLIC	5
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	3
Danish	1
Dutch	6
DUTCH EAST INDIES	2
DUTCH GUIANA	1
Egyptian	1
English	84
ERITREA	1
French	2
Gambian	1

German	3
HUNGARY	2
Indian	1
IRAN	2
Iranian	2
Iraqi	6
Irish	2
IRISH REPUBLIC	3
Italian	4
JAMAICA	3
Kosovar/Kosovon	1
Latvian	6
Lithuanian	7
Macedonian	1
MONTSERRAT	1
MOROCCO	2
NETHERLANDS	13
Nigerian	3
Pakistani	7
Polish	14
Portuguese	2
Romanian	12
Rwandan	3
Senegalese	2
Slovakian	5
SOLOMON ISLANDS	1
SOMALIA	14
South African	1
Spanish	8
Sudanese	3
Swedish	13
Syrian	1
UNITED KINGDOM	1,859
UNKNOWN	28
Vietnamese	81
Yemeni	1
Zimbabwean	8
Not Recorded	146
Total	2,900

NB The nationality titles within this table have been presented exactly as recorded. However, due to changes in recording systems, the titles differ across the requested time period but they should be taken as referring to the same nationality (e.g. Iran and Iranian) and their figures combined.

Q6) The number of under 18's who are non-UK nationals arrested for drug offences, broken down by offence type.

Reason for Arrest	Total
Driving - Excess Drugs	8
Drugs - Cult. Cannabis	11
Drugs - Possess Class A	133
Drugs - Possess Class B or C	854
Drugs - Possession With Intent to supply - Class A	472
Drugs - Possession With Intent to supply - other than Class A	108
Drugs - Producing controlled drug	2
Drugs - Supply of Specified Class A Drug	8
Drugs - Supplying controlled drug	45
Obstructing powers of search for drugs	1
Total	1,642

NB Using a marker for 'Foreign National' from 2018 onwards

Q7) The youngest under 18 non-UK national to be arrested for drug possession, and the youngest under 18 to be arrested for supplying. Please include the year of arrests (in financial years).

Possession

Reason for Arrest	2019-20
Drugs - Possess Class B or C	2
Total	2

Age at arrest = 11 years of age

Supply

Reason for Arrest	2019-20	2021-22	Total
Drugs - Supply of Specified Class A Drug	0	1	1
Drugs - Supplying controlled drug	1	0	1
Total	1	1	2

Age at arrest = 14 years of age