



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000729-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 20 February 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“How many people have been stopped under suspicion of drug driving,*
2. *How many people have been cautioned for drug driving*
3. *How many people have been arrested for drug driving*
4. *How many people have been convicted for drug driving*

Please can these figures be broken down by gender and by age please.

Clarification:

If it is possible to have it for each month for each of the last five years please, that would be super helpful.

Also, if there are any reasons why there has been an increase (if that is the case) such as a change in the test used in order to see if there are reasons for a spikes or drops.”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 1 March 2019

Suffolk Constabulary has considered your request for information and the response is below.

The Constabulary does not hold central records of the number of persons stopped under suspicion of drug driving, where the stop was a negative result. This would potentially be noted within officer pocket notebooks, however to review all relevant police officer notebooks for the years requested would take a huge amount of time, well exceeding the time constraints of the Act.

In relation to your request for information and in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), this response serves as a formal notification of refusal for your request. Suffolk Constabulary does not hold, for the purposes of FOIA, the information you require in a retrievable format.

It is estimated that to attempt to retrieve all of the information you require would take a considerable amount of retrieval time, which would exceed 18 hours. This would exceed the



appropriate limit for dealing with Freedom of Information requests, in terms of costs and therefore Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states that a Public Authority is not obliged to: "...comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit." The Freedom of Information (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations, defines the 'appropriate limit' for the Suffolk Constabulary as £450 and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work at a standard rate of £25 per hour.

In accordance with Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter serves as a refusal notice for this part of your request.

By requesting *all* information your request is too broad to be complied with within the £450 limit imposed on Freedom of Information requests.

Although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

With regards to arrest data, this is only available from 19 October 2015 when the Constabulary's current crime and custody system was introduced. The arresting offence however, does not always differentiate between drink and drug offences and consequently, we cannot categorically confirm numbers of arrests for drug specific offences without manually reviewing each offence that relates to both drink and drugs.

The data in the table below confirms, by gender and then by age, the number of persons arrested for drug driving or drug/drink driving offences.

| Gender / Offence | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|--|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Female | 10 | 52 | 68 | 75 | 18 |
| Driving - Causing Death By Careless Driving When Under The Influence Of Drink Or Drugs | | | 1 | | |
| Driving - Excess Drugs | 7 | 40 | 54 | 66 | 15 |
| Driving - In Charge - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Driving - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 2 | 8 | 12 | 6 | 2 |
| Male | 87 | 509 | 646 | 738 | 140 |
| Driving - Excess Drugs | 61 | 449 | 584 | 662 | 131 |
| Driving - In Charge - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 6 | 21 | 11 | 15 | |
| Driving - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 20 | 39 | 51 | 61 | 9 |
| Not Recorded | | 1 | 1 | 1 | |



SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

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|---|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Driving - Excess Drugs | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Driving - In Charge - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | | 1 | | | |
| Grand Total | 97 | 562 | 715 | 814 | 158 |

| Offence / Age | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Driving - Causing Death By Careless Driving When Under The Influence Of Drink Or Drugs | | | 1 | | |
| 38 | | | 1 | | |
| Driving - Excess Drugs | 68 | 489 | 639 | 729 | 146 |
| 13 | | | 1 | | |
| 15 | | | 1 | | |
| 16 | | 2 | 4 | 2 | |
| 17 | 2 | 8 | 15 | 13 | 1 |
| 18 | 2 | 9 | 28 | 31 | 5 |
| 19 | 3 | 20 | 23 | 25 | 5 |
| 20 | 1 | 19 | 31 | 30 | 6 |
| 21 | 4 | 29 | 26 | 26 | 6 |
| 22 | 6 | 32 | 27 | 27 | 3 |
| 23 | 2 | 30 | 26 | 29 | 8 |
| 24 | 4 | 27 | 17 | 24 | 12 |
| 25 | 4 | 21 | 30 | 39 | 4 |
| 26 | 4 | 23 | 34 | 33 | 4 |
| 27 | | 25 | 28 | 45 | 6 |
| 28 | 5 | 24 | 40 | 33 | 4 |
| 29 | 5 | 15 | 19 | 30 | 3 |
| 30 | | 15 | 31 | 34 | 6 |
| 31 | 1 | 21 | 28 | 29 | 10 |
| 32 | 1 | 15 | 19 | 13 | 6 |
| 33 | 2 | 20 | 15 | 28 | 4 |
| 34 | 1 | 5 | 17 | 22 | 6 |
| 35 | 3 | 18 | 7 | 13 | 1 |
| 36 | 1 | 11 | 22 | 16 | 7 |
| 37 | 2 | 9 | 16 | 18 | 4 |
| 38 | 3 | 11 | 17 | 19 | 2 |
| 39 | | 5 | 9 | 18 | 4 |
| 40 | 1 | 10 | 9 | 12 | 2 |



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|--|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 41 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 9 | 1 |
| 42 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 4 |
| 43 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 10 | 1 |
| 44 | 1 | 7 | 14 | 6 | 1 |
| 45 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 15 | 3 |
| 46 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 8 | 1 |
| 47 | | 5 | 11 | 13 | 3 |
| 48 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 2 |
| 49 | | 6 | 3 | 9 | 3 |
| 50 | | 4 | 2 | | |
| 51 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 |
| 52 | | 1 | 7 | 5 | 1 |
| 53 | | 2 | 3 | 1 | |
| 54 | | 2 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 55 | | | | 7 | |
| 56 | | | | 1 | |
| 57 | | | | 2 | 1 |
| 58 | | | 2 | 1 | |
| 60 | | 3 | | | |
| 61 | | | 3 | 3 | |
| 62 | | | | | 1 |
| 65 | | | 2 | | |
| 66 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 |
| 67 | | | | 4 | |
| 69 | | | | | 2 |
| 71 | | | | 1 | |
| 72 | | | 1 | | |
| 74 | | | | 1 | |
| Driving - In Charge - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 7 | 26 | 12 | 18 | 1 |
| 17 | | 1 | | | |
| 18 | | 2 | 1 | | |
| 19 | | | 2 | | |
| 21 | | 1 | | | |
| 22 | | 2 | | | 1 |
| 23 | | | 1 | 2 | |



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|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 24 | | 1 | | | |
| 25 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 27 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 28 | | 2 | | | |
| 29 | 1 | | | | |
| 30 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 31 | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 32 | | 1 | | | |
| 33 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 34 | | | | 1 | |
| 35 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 36 | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 37 | | 1 | | | |
| 38 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 39 | | | | 1 | |
| 40 | 1 | | | | |
| 41 | | | | 2 | |
| 42 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 43 | | 1 | | | |
| 45 | | | 1 | | |
| 47 | | 1 | | | |
| 48 | | | 1 | | |
| 49 | | 1 | | | |
| 50 | | 1 | | | |
| 52 | 1 | | | | |
| 53 | | | | 1 | |
| 54 | | | | 2 | |
| 57 | | | 1 | | |
| 58 | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 63 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 68 | | 1 | | | |
| 70 | | 1 | | | |
| Driving - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 22 | 47 | 63 | 67 | 11 |
| 17 | 1 | 4 | 3 | | |
| 18 | | 2 | 1 | 4 | |



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| | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|
| 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | |
| 20 | | 1 | 2 | 4 | |
| 21 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 22 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 3 | |
| 23 | | 2 | | 1 | |
| 24 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | |
| 25 | | 4 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| 26 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | |
| 27 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 | |
| 28 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 29 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 30 | | 1 | 2 | 4 | |
| 31 | 4 | 1 | | 2 | |
| 32 | 2 | 3 | | | 1 |
| 33 | | 1 | 3 | 2 | |
| 34 | | 1 | 2 | | |
| 35 | | | | 2 | |
| 36 | | 1 | 4 | 1 | |
| 37 | | 1 | | 2 | |
| 38 | | | 2 | 4 | |
| 39 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 40 | 1 | | 2 | 1 | |
| 41 | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 42 | 1 | | 3 | | |
| 43 | | 1 | | | |
| 44 | | 2 | 3 | | 1 |
| 45 | 1 | | | | |
| 46 | | | 1 | 3 | |
| 47 | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 48 | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 49 | | 1 | | | |
| 50 | | | | 4 | |
| 51 | | | 1 | | 1 |
| 52 | | | 3 | | 1 |
| 53 | | | | 1 | |



| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 54 | | 1 | | | |
| 56 | | | | 1 | |
| 59 | | | | 1 | |
| 63 | | | | 1 | |
| 65 | | | 2 | | |
| 66 | 1 | | | | |
| 67 | | | 1 | | |
| Grand Total | 97 | 562 | 715 | 814 | 158 |

The information provided below relates to all persons charged as a result of the arrest, noting that arrest outcomes will not account for those occasions where the offence is under investigation.

| Gender / Offence | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Female | 8 | 28 | 52 | 35 | 3 |
| Driving - Causing Death By Careless Driving When Under The Influence Of Drink Or Drugs | | | 1 | | |
| Driving - Excess Drugs | 5 | 21 | 39 | 31 | 3 |
| Driving - In Charge - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | |
| Driving - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 2 | 3 | 11 | 3 | |
| Male | 64 | 309 | 437 | 375 | 9 |
| Driving - Excess Drugs | 46 | 269 | 395 | 322 | 6 |
| Driving - In Charge - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 5 | 14 | 7 | 11 | |
| Driving - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 13 | 26 | 35 | 42 | 3 |
| Grand Total | 72 | 337 | 489 | 410 | 12 |

| Offence / Age | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Driving - Causing Death By Careless Driving When Under The Influence Of Drink Or Drugs | | | 1 | | |
| 38 | | | 1 | | |
| Driving - Excess Drugs | 51 | 290 | 434 | 353 | 9 |
| 16 | | | 2 | 1 | |
| 17 | | 6 | 2 | 7 | |
| 18 | 2 | 7 | 19 | 14 | |
| 19 | 2 | 11 | 15 | 12 | |
| 20 | 1 | 13 | 21 | 10 | |
| 21 | 3 | 14 | 17 | 13 | |
| 22 | 5 | 19 | 19 | 16 | |
| 23 | 1 | 16 | 20 | 15 | 1 |



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|----|---|----|----|----|---|
| 24 | 4 | 21 | 14 | 11 | 2 |
| 25 | 3 | 14 | 21 | 15 | |
| 26 | 3 | 15 | 24 | 15 | |
| 27 | | 14 | 16 | 24 | |
| 28 | 4 | 15 | 27 | 18 | |
| 29 | 5 | 9 | 17 | 18 | |
| 30 | | 8 | 24 | 21 | |
| 31 | | 14 | 22 | 12 | 1 |
| 32 | 1 | 8 | 16 | 7 | |
| 33 | 2 | 11 | 13 | 16 | |
| 34 | 1 | 3 | 15 | 9 | |
| 35 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 4 | |
| 36 | 1 | 8 | 16 | 9 | |
| 37 | 2 | 4 | 11 | 10 | |
| 38 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 11 | |
| 39 | | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 40 | | 6 | 3 | 7 | |
| 41 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | |
| 42 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 4 | |
| 43 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 6 | |
| 44 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 3 | |
| 45 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 46 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 2 | |
| 47 | | 3 | 5 | 7 | |
| 48 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | |
| 49 | | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 50 | | 2 | 1 | | |
| 51 | | 4 | 3 | 4 | |
| 52 | | 1 | 7 | 3 | |
| 53 | | 2 | | 1 | |
| 54 | | 2 | 3 | 2 | |
| 55 | | | | 4 | |
| 57 | | | | 2 | |
| 58 | | | 2 | | |
| 60 | | 3 | | | |



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|--|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|--|
| 61 | | | 1 | 2 | |
| 65 | | | 1 | | |
| 66 | | | | 1 | |
| 67 | | | | 1 | |
| 71 | | | | 1 | |
| Driving - In Charge - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 6 | 18 | 8 | 12 | |
| 17 | | 1 | | | |
| 18 | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 19 | | | 1 | | |
| 21 | | 1 | | | |
| 22 | | 2 | | | |
| 23 | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 24 | | 1 | | | |
| 25 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 27 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | |
| 28 | | 1 | | | |
| 29 | 1 | | | | |
| 30 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 31 | | | 1 | | |
| 32 | | 1 | | | |
| 33 | | 1 | | | |
| 34 | | | | 1 | |
| 35 | | | | 1 | |
| 36 | | | 1 | | |
| 38 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | |
| 40 | 1 | | | | |
| 41 | | | | 2 | |
| 42 | | | | 1 | |
| 43 | | 1 | | | |
| 45 | | | 1 | | |
| 47 | | 1 | | | |
| 50 | | 1 | | | |
| 52 | 1 | | | | |
| 53 | | | | 1 | |
| 54 | | | | 1 | |



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| | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 57 | | | 1 | | |
| 58 | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 63 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| Driving - Unfit Through Drink/Drugs | 15 | 29 | 46 | 45 | 3 |
| 17 | | 4 | 1 | | |
| 18 | | | 1 | 3 | |
| 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | |
| 20 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 21 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | |
| 22 | | 1 | 3 | 2 | |
| 23 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 24 | 1 | | 3 | 2 | |
| 25 | | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 26 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | |
| 27 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | |
| 28 | | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| 29 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | |
| 30 | | | 1 | 3 | |
| 31 | 3 | 1 | | 1 | |
| 32 | 1 | 3 | | | 1 |
| 33 | | | 2 | 2 | |
| 34 | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 35 | | | | 2 | |
| 36 | | | 4 | 1 | |
| 37 | | | | 2 | |
| 38 | | | 2 | 1 | |
| 39 | 1 | | 1 | | |
| 40 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | |
| 41 | 1 | | | | |
| 42 | 1 | | 3 | | |
| 43 | | 1 | | | |
| 44 | | 2 | 3 | | |
| 45 | 1 | | | | |
| 46 | | | | 3 | |
| 47 | | | 1 | 1 | |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| 50 | | | | 2 | |
| 52 | | | 2 | | 1 |
| 53 | | | | 1 | |
| 54 | | 1 | | | |
| 56 | | | | 1 | |
| 63 | | | | 1 | |
| 65 | | | 1 | | |
| 67 | | | 1 | | |
| Grand Total | | 72 | 337 | 489 | 410 |
| | | | | 12 | |

Although arrest and conviction data is collated by the Roads and Armed Policing Team, the data is only available from April 2017 – November 2018 and excludes those persons that were subsequently NFA, those released under investigation awaiting lab results and those awaiting a court date. Therefore this information has not been provided as it will not provide a complete set of data.

Should you have any further queries concerning this request, please contact Clair Pack, FOI Decision Maker, quoting the reference number shown above.

A full copy of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) can be viewed on the 'Office of Public Sector Information' web-site;
<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/>

Suffolk Constabulary is not responsible for the content, or the reliability, of the website referenced. The Constabulary cannot guarantee that this link will work all of the time, and we have no control over the availability of the linked pages.



Your Right to Request a Review of Decisions Made Under the Terms of the
Freedom of Information Act (2000).

If you are unhappy with how your request has been handled, or if you think the decision is incorrect, you have the right to ask Suffolk Constabulary to review their decision.

Ask Suffolk Constabulary to look at the decision again.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by Suffolk Constabulary under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), regarding access to information, you must notify Suffolk Constabulary that you are requesting a review within 40 working days of the date of its response to your Freedom of Information request. Requests for a review should be made in writing and addressed to:

*Freedom of Information Decision Maker
Information Management Department
Suffolk Constabulary
Police Headquarters
Martlesham Heath
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP5 3QS
OR
Email: information@suffolk.pnn.police.uk*

In all possible circumstances Suffolk Constabulary will aim to respond to your request for us to look at our decision again within 20 working days of receipt of your request for an internal review.

The Information Commissioner.

After lodging a request for a review with Suffolk Constabulary, if you are still dissatisfied with the decision, you can apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at www.ico.org.uk or contact them at the address shown below:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545 700