

Information on young people in London from the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic group

Summary of findings from *Youth Justice Statistics 2014/15*
and *Race and the Criminal Justice System 2014*



Introduction



- Youth Justice Statistics (YJS) are published annually and *Race and the Criminal Justice Statistics (Race and the CJS)* are published biennially
- Data are drawn from a wide variety of sources:
 - MoJ –first time entrants and reoffending
 - YJB – custody population
 - Home Office – police activity data (stop and search and arrests)
 - ONS – population data

Where available we have presented 5 year trends, comparing 2014/15 data with 2009/10

Links for publications:

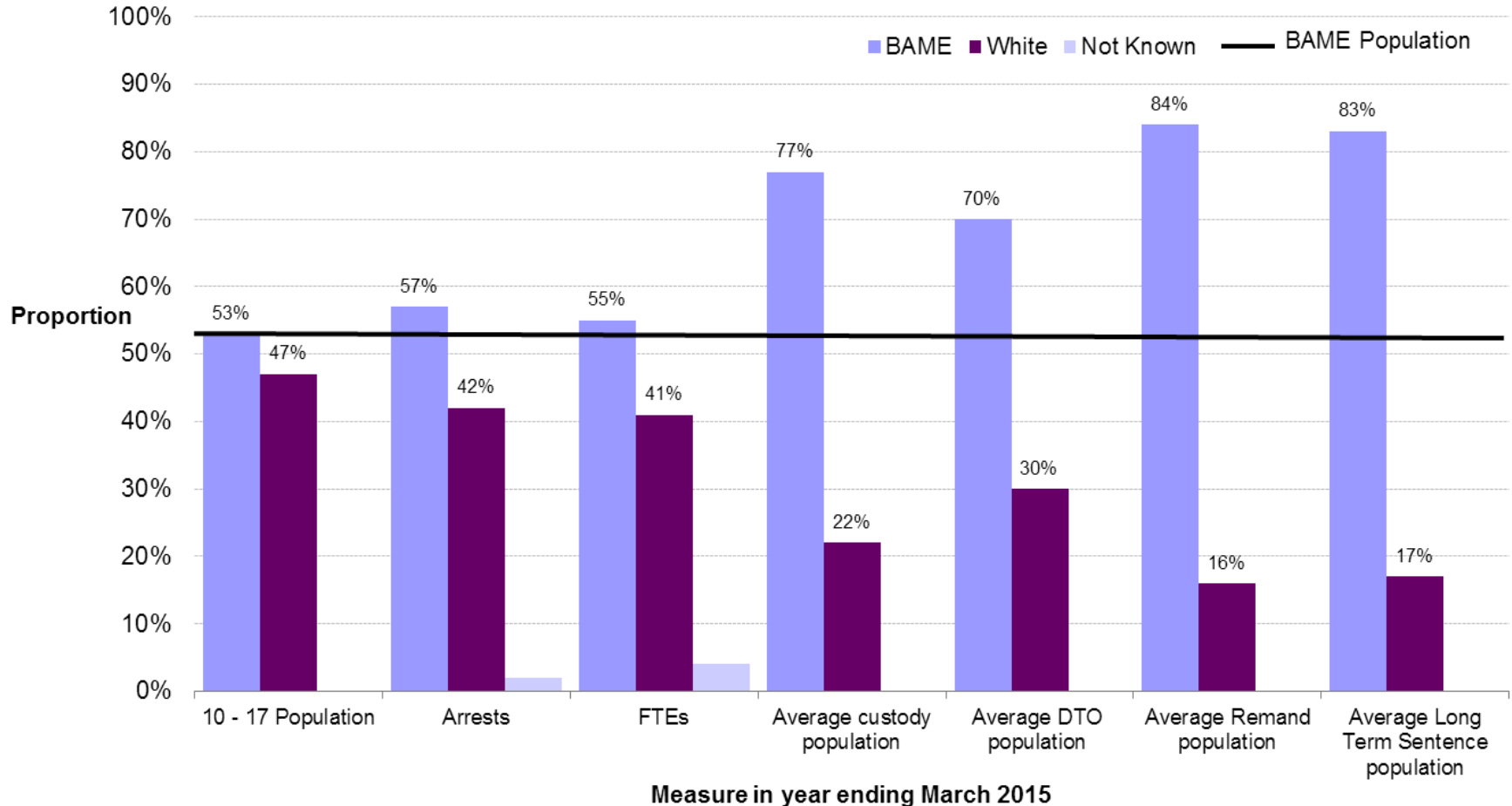
YJS 2014/15 available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-justice-annual-statistics-2014-to-2015>

Race and the CJS 2014 available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/race-and-the-criminal-justice-system-2014>

Summary

- In general, in London young people from the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) group appear to be over-represented at most stages of the Youth Justice System (YJS).
- In most cases, this is driven by the over-representation of Black young people, whilst Asian young people are generally under-represented.
- In general, the over-representation of the BAME group increases as young people progress through the YJS, and is particularly marked for those in custody: 77% of those in custody with a YOT based in London are from the BAME group as compared with 53% of the London population (51% of those in custody are Black as compared with 20% of the London population).
- The number of young people in all parts of the YJS has been decreasing across all ethnic groups. The ethnic make up of first time entrants and those in custody is changing and now comprises of proportionately more BAME young people than before. This is because the rate of decrease of young people from the BAME group is slower than that for White young people.

Comparison of BAME and White people in the YJS, 2014/15



According to the 2011 Census, young people from BAME ethnic groups make up 53% of the population aged 10-17 in London.

Overview

Proportion of individuals in the YJS by ethnic group compared to 10-17 year old population, London

Measure	Type of Ethnicity ⁽¹⁾	Time Period ⁽²⁾	White	Black	Asian	Mixed	Chinese or Other	Unknown	Total
Population aged 10-17	Self-identified	2011	47%	20%	19%	9%	5%	-	737,000
Arrests	Self-identified	2014/15	42%	33%	9%	11%	3%	2%	21,500
FTEs	Officer identified	2014/15	41%	41%	11%	N/A	3%	4%	2,900
Average custody population	Self-identified	2014/15	22%	51%	8%	16%	3%	0%	300

(1) Self-identified ethnicity is based on the 2011 Census self-identified ethnicity classification (16+1) which has been grouped to be consistent with the 5+1 grouping used in most of the YJS measures. Officer identified ethnicity is based on ethnic appearance and therefore do not include the Mixed category.

(2) Latest data available.

Police Activity – Arrests (1)

The number of arrests of young people in London has been decreasing, but arrests of White and Black young people have decreased at a higher rate than those for Mixed or Chinese/Other White and Black young people

Information on arrests has been obtained from Race and the CJS and YJS 2014/15. Information in YJS 2014/15 is more up to date than that published in Race and the CJS which is only up to 2013/14. However Race and the CJS includes a longer time series of ethnicity information

Between 2009/10 and 2014/15, arrests of young people aged 10 -17 in London decreased across all ethnic groups. However, the number of arrests of White and Black young people has decreased at a higher rate than those of Mixed or Chinese/Other ethnic groups.

Arrests in London decreased by 51% for White young people compared with 49% for young people from the BAME group, comprising of decreases of:

- 51% for Black young people
- 48% for Asian young people
- 45% for Mixed young people and
- 45% for Chinese or other ethnic groups

Over the last 5 years there has been little variation in the ethnic profile of people being arrested in London.

Police Activity – Arrests (2)



The rate of arrest of Black young people in London was **twice** that of White young people

The arrest rate by ethnic group is the ratio of the number of arrests and the number of persons of an ethnic group in an area. It helps to control for the different proportions of BAME residents in an area.

Compared with the arrest rate for White young people in London (which is 25.5 per 1,000 young people), the arrest rate for:

- Black young people in London was **2 times higher** (49.7 per 1,000 young people)
- Mixed young people in London was **1.4 times higher** (36.9 per 1,000 young people)

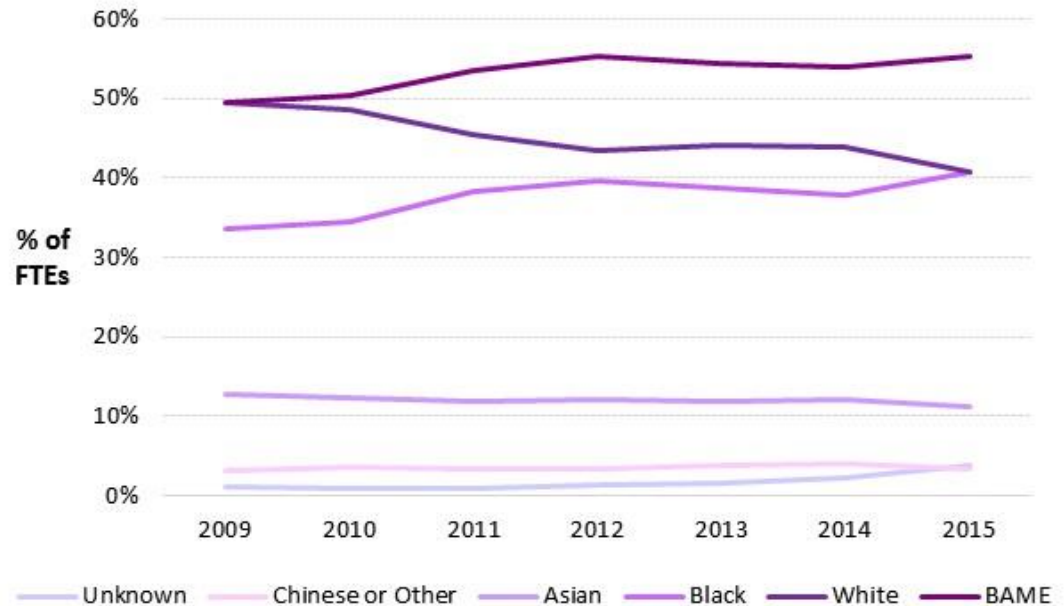
In London Asian young people or young people from the Chinese or Other ethnic group were arrested **at a lower rate** to persons from the White ethnic group (14.5 for Asian, 15.6 for Chinese or Other)

First Time Entrants (FTEs)

Although the number of youth FTEs in London has continued to fall (both overall and for all ethnic groups), young people from the BAME group now make up a greater proportion of London FTEs than they did previously

Information on FTEs has been obtained from YJS 2014/15

In 2014/15 there were around 2,900 FTEs to the YJS in London, 41% of which were from White backgrounds and 55% from BAME (41% Black, 11% Asian, 3% Chinese or Other). 4% of FTEs were of unknown ethnicity



Compared with 2009/10, the number of BAME FTEs in London has fallen at a slower rate than that of White FTEs (68% decrease for BAME, 76% for White). This has resulted in an increased proportion of BAME young people (particularly those who are Black) among London FTEs (49% BAME and 49% White in 2009/10, increasing to 55% BAME and decreasing to 41% White)

Population under 18 in custody (1)



77% of young people in custody with a YOT based in London are BAME, which is **almost 1.5 times** the proportion of BAME young people in London.

Information on the population of young people under 18 in custody has been obtained from YJS 2014/15.

In 2014/15 the average population of young people in custody with a YOT based in London was 298. Of these 22% were from a White ethnic group background and 77% were from the BAME group, with:

- 51% Black
- 16% Mixed
- 8% Asian
- 3% from other ethnic minority groups

When compared with the population aged 10-17 for London, those from Black or Mixed ethnic groups with a YOT based in London are over-represented in the custody population. This needs to be explored in more depth to see whether more serious offences are being committed by these groups.

Whilst the overall number of young people in custody with a YOT based in London has fallen by 45% between 2009/10 and 2014/15, the drop is smaller for Black young people (41%) and is particularly marked for Mixed young people (28%). Over the same time period the number of White young people in custody has decreased by 55%.

Population under 18 in custody (2)



In comparison to the custody population of young people with a YOT based in London, a lower proportion of young people from the BAME group were in custody on a DTO and a higher proportion were in custody on remand or serving a long term sentence.

When the population in custody is examined by the legal basis for detention, in 2014/15:

- Of those in custody with a YOT based in London 22% were White and 77% were BAME, which includes 51% who were Black

Of those in custody with a YOT based in London:

- **on a DTO**, 30% were White and 70% were BAME, which includes 44% who were Black
- **on remand**, 16% were White and 84% were BAME, which includes 56% who were Black
- **on long term sentences**, 17% were White and 83% were BAME, which includes 58% who were Black.