



Working together for a safer London

CENTRAL OPERATIONS

STUDY OF OFFENDING HISTORY RELATING TO DRIVERS OF VEHICLES SEIZED UNDER S.165A ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1988 (UNINSURED / UNLICENSED DRIVERS)

1. Background

On 6 July 2005, Section 152 Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 came into force. This section made an amendment to the Road Traffic Act 1998 and empowered Police Constables to seize vehicles in circumstances where the Constable has reasonable ground to believe that the driver is either uninsured or does not hold a licence to drive that class of vehicle.

Since the introduction of this legislation, the MPS has seized over 1000 vehicles under this legislation.

2. Scope

This report relates to the criminal offending history of drivers who have had their vehicles seized under this legislation. The report is based on factual analysis and does not seek to draw or present any subjective conclusions from the data presented.

The report is written within the following parameters: -

- The details of drivers used have been taken from 100 seizure forms (approx 10% of the total number). The selection of the forms used in the study was “blind”; they were picked entirely at random by an individual who was not informed of the purpose for this request.
- The forms relate to seizures that have taken place between 6 July 2005 and 1 March 2006.
- Enquiries have been conducted on the driver of each vehicle. The offending history is extrapolated from the Arrest / Summons data held on the Police National Computer. In some instances, other intelligence systems have been used to verify the identity of the subjects concerned.
- To simplify the report the offending history has been broken down into the following areas – “Theft/Burglary”, “offences of violence”, “robbery”, “theft of motor vehicle/TDA”, “theft from motor vehicle”, “disqualified driving”, “firearms offences”, “drugs offences”, “offensive weapons” and “other”.
- Where the drivers’ details are not legible or cannot be confirmed, they have been recorded as having no offending history.
- Self-defined ethnicity (SDE) codes have been used to identify the ethnicity of the subjects. Due to the relatively small data set (100 subjects) these have been rationalised into the following headline groupings – White, Black/Black British, Asian/British Asian, Chinese or other ethnic group, Mixed
- This report contains no data that can be used to identify any of the

individuals concerned.

3. Summary of findings

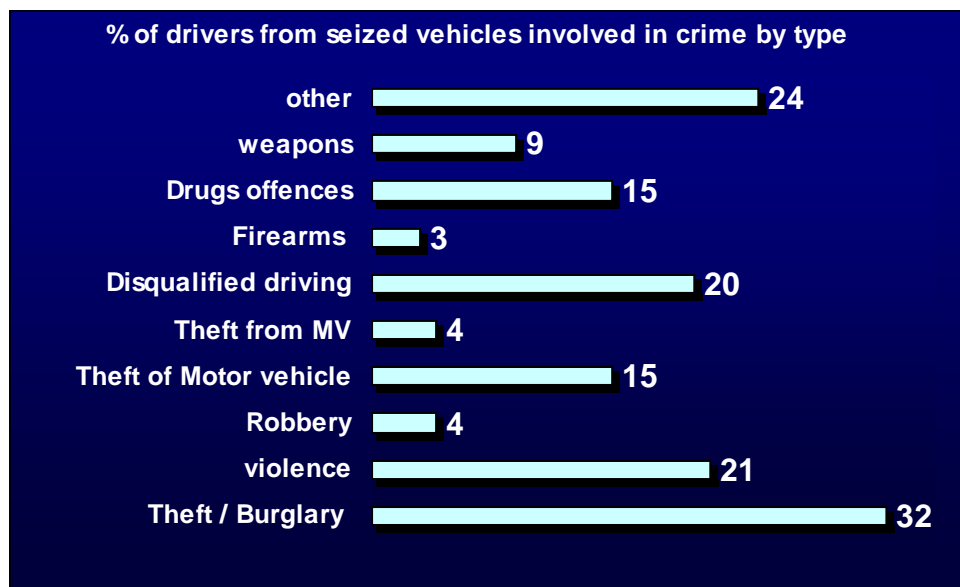
Below is a summary of the main findings of the report.

General Offending History

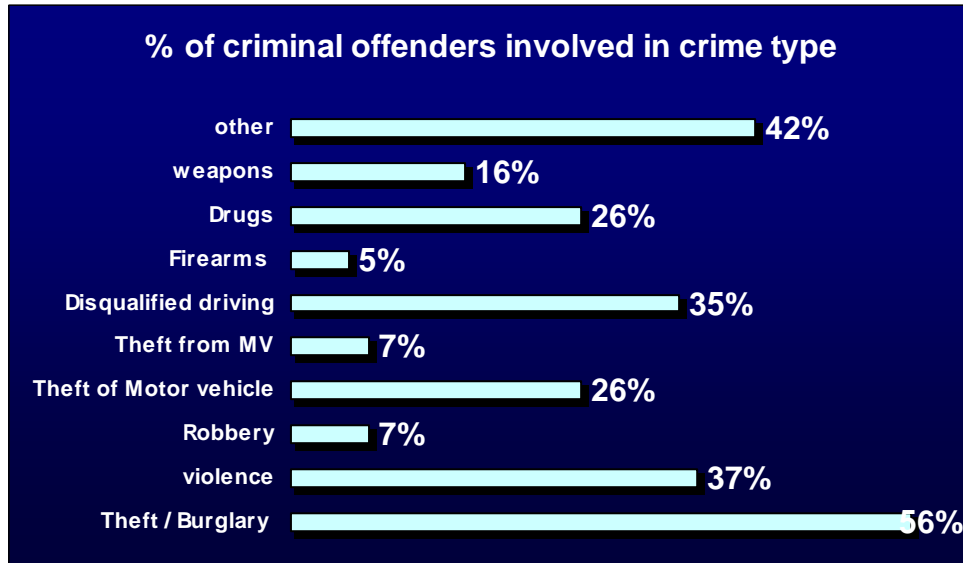
- 57% of all subjects concerned have a history of criminal offending. 70% of these subjects have a history of offending in two or more categories of offence.

The graph below represents the percentage of drivers, from all the vehicles seized, who are involved in crime broken down into offence type.

Theft / Burglary	Violence	Robbery	Theft of Motor vehicle	Theft from MV	Disqualified driving	Firearms	Drugs offences	Weapons	Other
32%	21%	4%	15%	4%	20%	3%	15%	9%	24%



The graph below relates only to those subjects *identified as having a criminal offending history*. It shows the percentage of these offenders that have a history of each crime type.

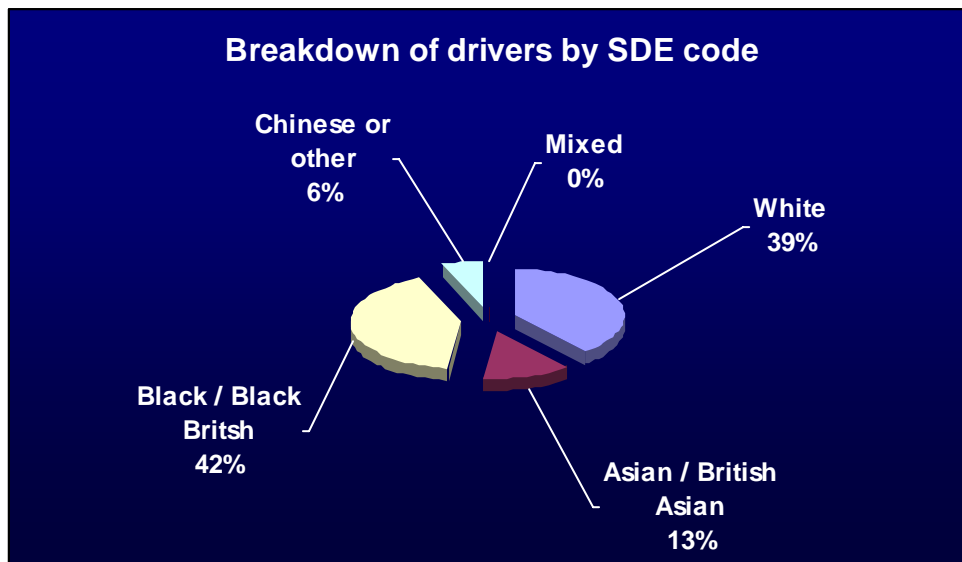


Ethnicity

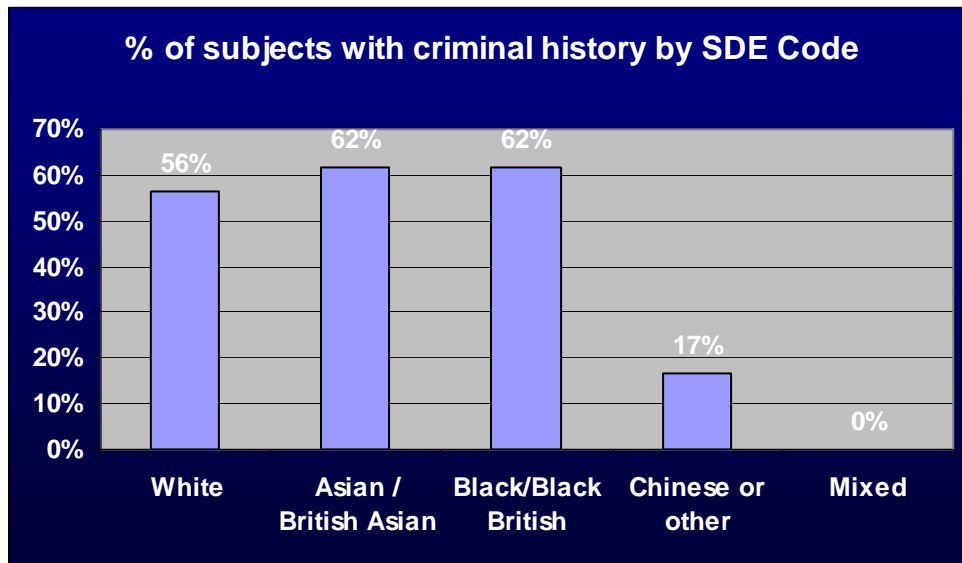
Total seizures by SDE code of driver are as follows: -

	Asian / British Asian	Black / Black British	Chinese or other	Mixed
White	39	42	6	0

A) The chart below shows the breakdown of all subjects by ethnicity. This includes both those with and without a history of offending.



B) The chart below contains data relating solely to those **with a history of offending** – it breaks down the % of subjects of each SDE code group with a criminal history i.e. 56% of all the white subjects had a criminal history.



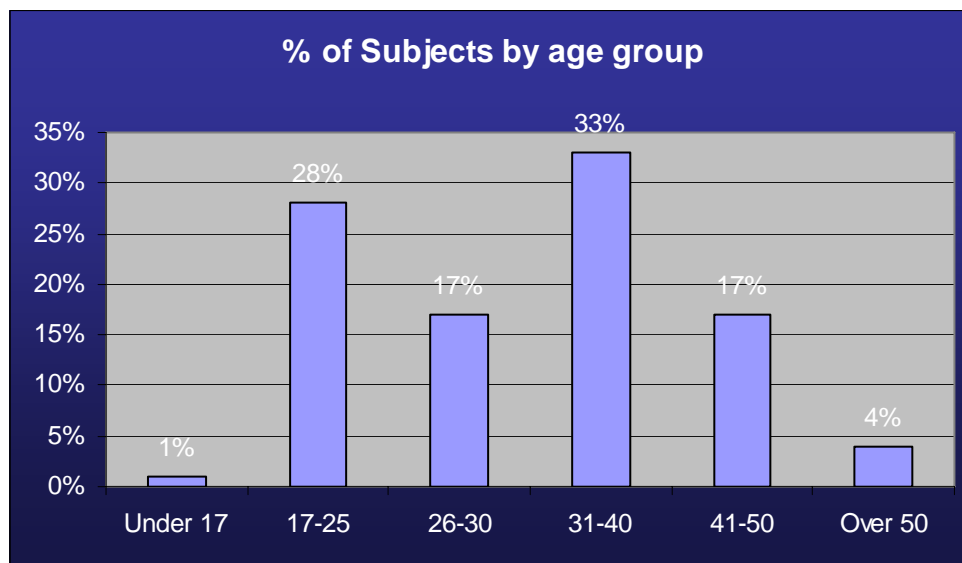
Gender

The following facts were extrapolated from the data studied: -

- 84% of all subjects stopped were male; 16% female.
- 88% of all those subjects with a criminal offending history were male, 12% female.
- 60% of all **male** subjects have a criminal offending history
- 44% of all **female** subjects have a criminal offending history

Age Group

The age of each driver was placed into an age banding – the graph below reflects the percentage of subjects whose vehicles were seized into age bandings.



Appendix 6

2001 Census Ethnic Breakdown

Borough Name	Total Population	Asian or Asian British	%	Black or Black British	%	Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	%	Mixed	%	White: British	%
Bromley	295520	7555	2.56%	8607	2.91%	3182	1.08%	5510	1.86%	270666	91.59%
Hackney	202820	17415	8.59%	50009	24.66%	6430	3.17%	8497	4.19%	120469	59.40%
Havering	224262	4087	1.82%	3144	1.40%	1306	0.58%	2304	1.03%	213421	95.17%
Kingston upon Thames	147266	11467	7.79%	2312	1.57%	5750	3.90%	3344	2.27%	124393	84.47%
Lambeth	266187	12177	4.57%	68555	25.75%	6543	2.46%	12854	4.83%	166058	62.38%
Newham	243896	79304	32.52%	52652	21.59%	7561	3.10%	8249	3.38%	96130	39.41%
Southwark	244869	9959	4.07%	63418	25.90%	8039	3.28%	9137	3.73%	154316	63.02%
Sutton	179781	8506	4.73%	4601	2.56%	2594	1.44%	3729	2.07%	160351	89.19%
Total	1804601	150470		253298		41405		53624		1305804	