

# UK National Problem Profile

## Commercial Cultivation of Cannabis 2012



## Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the 2012 UK National Problem Profile for the Commercial Cultivation of Cannabis. This is the third UK-wide assessment of the scale and nature of, and the response of law enforcement to, this problem since 2008.

My special thanks go to South East Regional Organised Crime Unit and the Metropolitan Police Service for their hard work and commitment in producing this profile.

The analysis shows that commercial cultivation of cannabis continues to pose a significant risk to the UK. Increasing numbers of organised crime groups are diverting into this area of criminality; their perception is that it is a low-risk highly profitable criminal business.

Increasing numbers of farms are being detected; 7,865 in 2011/12 compared to the 2007/8 baseline of 3,032.

The Association of Chief Police Officers in England and Wales (ACPO), Scotland (ACPOS) and the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) acknowledges the continued threat from OCGs involved in the commercial cultivation of cannabis and related criminality such as burglary, human trafficking, kidnap, violence and the use of firearms. This position is reflected across Europe with the Dutch government at forefront of seeking legislative and operational opportunities to tackle this problem.

This profile provides a detailed analysis of the current threat from commercial cultivation of cannabis and the work undertaken by law enforcement agencies to combat the threat. It provides a framework to facilitate future planning and decision making for legislative, preventive and enforcement activity.

**Allan Gibson**  
**Commander, Metropolitan Police Service**

# Executive Summary

## Key Inference

The threat from the domestic commercial cultivation of cannabis in the UK is increasing. There has been an increase in robberies, burglaries and violence (including the use of firearms) linked to cannabis farms.

There is an increase in small-scale grow sites; domestic or residential premises are the favoured location with diversion into multi-occupancy premises to reduce risk. There is a proliferation of users claiming cultivation for personal use but the numbers of plants seized is often above the ACPO threshold of 25 plants which is the minimum for commercial cultivation. There is evidence of “taxing” (stealing) of crops and debt bondage being used to control local individuals.

## Key Findings

- The total of 14,982 cannabis production offences were recorded in 2010/11 (April 2010 to March 2011). During the 9 month period of April 2011 to December 2011, a total of 12,348 offences were recorded (an average of 1372 a month). It is estimated that for the period April 2011 to March 2012 this will rise to a total of 16,464.
- The number of commercial cultivation of cannabis farms continues to rise although this increase has stabilised. A total of 7,865 were identified in 2011/12 compared to 6,866 in 2009/10, an increase of 15 per cent. A total of 7,660 cannabis farms were identified in 2010/11, 4,951 in 2008/09 whilst 3,032 were recorded in 2007/08.
- Over the two year period forces seized a total of 1,096,797 plants. Based on the average street price of £134 per ounce this provides an estimated value of £207,368,447.
- The size and scale of commercial cultivation sites are reducing. There is an emergence of the “multiple site” model whereby a large number of gardeners are employed to manage small scale factories across multiple residential areas. This spreads the risk and minimises the potential for detection and financial loss.
- In the 2010 profile a shift towards the use of commercial and industrial property was identified and a decline in the use of dwellings. However in this current reporting period there has been a move back to the use of residential property.
- With the economic downturn and the reductions in deal weights, there is an increase in the number of personal use cultivation offences. Intelligence suggests the purchase of seeds and equipment from local hydroponics and head shops is on the increase. This may result in an increase in small-scale cultivations feeding social supply.



- Tackling offenders for commercial cannabis cultivation is not considered a priority by most UK Police Forces, due to competing demands with more importance given to the supply of Class A drugs.
- The dismantling of cannabis factories is still primarily seen as a short term solution, with missed opportunities for further investigation into potentially linked factories.



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 - Aims & Objectives

This problem profile was commissioned to provide an updated intelligence picture regarding the commercial cultivation of cannabis in the United Kingdom following on from the 2010 National Problem Profile published in July 2010. It will seek to identify emerging trends and threats within this area of criminality and provide an overview of crime data as provided by UK police forces (England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland) and other enforcement agencies including the Regional Organised Crime Units, SOCA and UKBA. It will seek to identify intelligence gaps and make recommendations to attempt to mitigate these identifiable risks and share best practices from other forces and agencies.

## 1.2 - Timescales

This report will encompass information and intelligence captured between April 2010 and December 2011. To enable comparison with the previous reporting period (April 2007 to March 2010) crime data for the financial year 2011-2012 has been collected for a nine month period (April 2011 to December 2011) and figures have been adjusted to present predictive crime data for the months of January to March 2012. The shorter time frame was adopted due to resourcing commitments with the London Olympics 2012 this summer.

## 1.3 - Geographical Area

The geographical area covered is the United Kingdom, comprising all geographical forces in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

## 1.4 - Report Sensitivity

This version of the report is classified as UNRESTRICTED and can be disseminated universally.

## 1.5 - Methodology

This report was produced using intelligence returns and crime data collated by UK police forces, regional intelligence units and other enforcement agencies involved in tackling the supply and/or production of cannabis on a commercial scale. This data was collected through an intelligence questionnaire and a crime data spreadsheet which were completed for two time periods: April 2010 to March 2011 and April 2011 to December 2011. These were disseminated in January 2012 with supporting guidance to ensure uniform data returns from all recipients.

## 1.6 - Limitations and Risks

This profile is designed to look solely at the commercial cultivation of cannabis and as such forces were requested to use the 2008 ACPO definition when collating their crime data. This definition takes into account equipment and the layout as opposed to simply the size of the factory or the number of plants recovered.

Although cannabis being grown on a commercial scale is a major and increasing problem, under national crime reporting standards there is no separate and distinct category for 'commercial cannabis

cultivation`. Instead only a single production offence exists which captures everything from a person growing a small number of plants for their personal use to an industrial scale operation consisting of several thousand plants. Consequently, in 2010 agreement was reached with the Home Office to implement a standardised flag across Forces which would be applied to production offences of a commercial scale. It has not been possible to assess the use of this flag by forces.

The following definition of commercial cannabis cultivation has therefore been adopted:-

*"Cultivation of cannabis should be regarded as 'commercial' if:*

*Twenty- five or more cannabis plants, at any stage of growth (germination), are being or have been grown OR*

*there is evidence of a 'cannabis farm' as defined below.*

*The definition of a cannabis farm is:*

*Any premises, whether commercial or residential, shall be deemed a cannabis farm if it has the following:*

*The premises, or part therein, has been adapted to such an extent that normal usage would be inhibited and usually present within the premises, or part therein, are items solely concerned for the production of cannabis, i.e.:*

*Hydroponics system*

*High intensity lighting*

*Ventilation / Extraction fans*

*Any other associated equipment, and / or*

*Electricity meter bypassed (abstraction of electricity)*

*The overall appearance of the venue, in combination with any available intelligence will provide an indication as to whether the site is, was, or is intended to be a cannabis farm. It is irrelevant how many plants are present on the site. For example, there may be no plants if the site has been made ready to commence cultivation. Alternatively the crop may have already been harvested and only the remnants of the harvested crop will be apparent.*

It is acknowledged that a single comprehensive definition for commercial cannabis cultivation incorporating a minimum threshold for the number of plants may exclude some offences from being recorded.

The threshold level for the quantity of plants designated as 'commercial cultivation' coupled with some forces not adopting the use of the flag may cause a variance in the data collected for this National Problem Profile (NPP). However, this is an inevitable refinement of the NPP process in response to feedback since the baseline assessment. Furthermore, it is likely to provide a more accurate picture if completed and could inform the future policing responses both locally and nationally.

Whilst it is recognised that a crop can be harvested every 11 - 13 weeks, allowing up to 4 crops per annum, it cannot always be proven that the intention was for production to be an ongoing cycle, unless there is clear evidence to the contrary. Therefore it would seem sensible that the total number of plants or seedlings should be considered in isolation. Should evidence exist of a continued ongoing production operation from cuttings to harvest, drying, stripping, weighing and bagging then this will add credibility to the involvement of others including OCGs.

Based on current knowledge in relation to user habits it is suggested that anyone who grows more than 10 plants is likely to have a surplus and therefore be supplying others. However it is important to differentiate between cultivating for personal use, supplying for personal gain on a smaller scale and supplying on a commercial scale. Therefore the higher figure of 25 plants has been adopted for use in this problem profile. This is in line with sentencing guidelines<sup>1</sup> which recommend that 28 plants is evidence of category 3 in relation to role held and harm when determining sentencing, suggesting an indicative minimum sentence of 2 - 5 years.

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<sup>1</sup> Sentencing Council Drug Offences Definitive Guidelines 2011

## 2. Cannabis Seizures and Use within the UK

### 2.1 Types of Cannabis

Cannabis continues to be the most commonly used illegal drug UK. The majority of cannabis is now home grown rather than imported. Historically, resin and herbal cannabis (imported from the Caribbean, West Africa and Asia) were the most popular forms of cannabis. This trend has changed significantly in recent years and SOCA estimates that between 1994 and 2004 the market share of *skunk cannabis* (intensively cultivated, domestic cannabis or *sensimilla*), rose from 11% to 65%<sup>2</sup>. A study by the Home Office<sup>3</sup> involving 23 UK forces showed that 80.8 % of the samples submitted for analysis were intensively cultivated domestic herbal cannabis. It is important to note the difference between cannabis resin, herbal cannabis (hemp) and skunk. There are two main forms of cannabis resin. Moroccan (North African origin) is often referred to as soap. It has a tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) content typically between 4% and 7%. This type of resin appears in the UK as compressed bars, normally 250g / 9oz. The second most common form of resin is of Asian origin, being darker in colour and of soft, pliable consistency. Mostly from Pakistan or Afghanistan, it often appears in 1kg blocks wrapped in red cellophane. THC content is typically 4% to 10%.

Herbal cannabis (hemp) is a mixture of compressed brown vegetable matter, containing seeds and stalks. This is usually imported and has THC content between 1% and 4%.

Skunk is also a type of herbal cannabis. It consists seedless flowering tops of female plants. This type of cannabis is intensively cultivated from selected seed varieties or female plant cuttings. Research has also shown that skunk generally has less Cannabidiol (CBD), which is believed to have anti-psychotic properties. Latest research from the Home Office reported THC levels of on average 16.2%, (the range was from 4.1% to 46% in potency).

### 2.2 Cannabis Seizures in the UK

During 2010/11 a total of 212,784 drug seizures were recorded by police forces and the UK Border Agency (UKBA) in England and Wales. This was a five per cent decrease on 2009/10. There were a total of 167,381 seizures of cannabis<sup>4</sup> in 2010/11, down from 176,830 in 2009/10.

A seizure may contain more than one drug so separate drug types and classes cannot be added to calculate the total. However when compared to cocaine (17,689 seizures) and Heroin (10,812 seizures) it is evident that cannabis is the most prevalent drug seized by law enforcement agencies.

The total number of actual plants seized reduced by 4 per cent from 758,943 from 2009/10 to 729,502 for 2010/11; although the number of seizures involving plants increased by 12% from 12,920 to 14,411. In addition 20,693 kg of herbal cannabis and 27,866 kg of resin were also seized by UK Forces and the UKBA.

<sup>2</sup> Commercial Cannabis Cultivation in the UK by Ethnic Vietnamese Organised crime groups - [Presentation], SOCA, Joanna Morley Clarke, Vietnamese Criminality Conference, 2007

<sup>3</sup> Home Office Cannabis Potency Study 2008

<sup>4</sup> Home Office Drug Seizures 201/11. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/police-research/hosb1711/hosb1711?view=Binary>



The number of seizures should be considered in conjunction with reported use data which is detailed in section 2.3 below to get a true picture of drug prevalence. This is because seizure data is affected by changes in police activity and recording practices.

### **2.3 Self Reported Use**

According to the 2010/11 British Crime Survey<sup>5</sup>, an estimated 6.8 per cent of 16 to 59 year olds (2.2 million people) had used cannabis in the last year. (6.6 per cent in 2009/10).

Just under 1.3 million 16 to 59 year olds had used cannabis in the last month.

Recorded use for the last year amongst 16 to 24 year olds was 17.1 percent or 1.1 million users (compared to 16.1 per cent for 2009/10). Use by 16 to 24 year olds for the last month was estimated at 9 per cent or 597,000 (9.2 per cent in 2009/10).

It is also the most popular drug used by young people as 8.2 per cent of 11-15 year olds reported use in the last year.<sup>6</sup> This is compared to 3.8 per cent who had used volatile substances (sniffed glue, aerosols etc). Drugs use amongst this group is in decline (in 2001 20 per cent reported use of any drug compared to 12% in 2010). However cannabis is still the most abused drug amongst young people.

The size of the demand by the UK market as depicted by the number of seizures and estimates of self reported use makes it unlikely that the UK is exporting cannabis on a significant basis. Intelligence indicates that UK OCGs may supply drugs to the continent to fill a gap in the market but there is no evidence of widespread export.

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<sup>5</sup> HOME OFFICE: Drugs Misuse Declared: Findings from the British Crime Survey 2010/11  
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/hosb1211/hosb1211?view=Binary>

<sup>6</sup> NHS INFORMATION CENTRE: Drug use, smoking and drinking among young people in England in 2010  
<http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/sdd10fullreport>

## 3. Data Analysis

### 3.1 - Crime Data Analysis

The original baseline assessment completed in 2007/08 identified 3,032 cannabis farms and, as predicted at the time, this figure rose significantly over the following two year period. The 2010 Commercial Cultivation of Cannabis National Problem Profile reported 6,866 farms in 2009/10, a 128% increase in offences. The profile attributed this dramatic increase to an enhanced investigative focus by UK law enforcement and proactive targeting of those responsible for the commercial production of cannabis.<sup>7</sup> Since the last profile was completed the number of cannabis farms identified has continued to increase although at a more steady increase of 15% across the two year period. The following chart shows the data available from the last five year period including the number of reporting forces and number of farms recovered per 100,000 population, which is later expanded to police force areas. No temporal data was requested therefore this profile cannot comment on any trends across the year; peaks in offences commented on within intelligence returns would appear to be linked to operational activity such as a particular month of action organised by Forces.

#### [A Comparative Table of Crime Data for Cannabis Production and Farms in the UK since 2007.](#)

	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010	2010/ 2011	Apr - Dec 2011	2011/ 2012 Projected Figures <sup>8</sup>
Total Number of Cannabis Production Offences	No data	No data	No data	14,982	12,348	16,464
Total Number of Commercial Cannabis Farms <sup>9</sup>	3,032	4,951	6,866	7,660	5,899	7,865
Number of Forces Reporting Overall	50	53	53	48 <sup>10</sup>	49	49 <sup>11</sup>
Average Number of Farms Per Month	252	413	572	638	492	656
Number of Farms per 100,000 population	5	8	11	13	9	12
Number of Plants Recovered	501,905	576,790	749,927	551,930	408,650	544,867

Figure 1: Comparative Table of Crime data for Cannabis Production from all Forces.

<sup>7</sup> UK National Problem Profile Commercial Cultivation of Cannabis "Three years on..." July 2010

<sup>8</sup> Figures for 2011-2012 were produced based on nine months of data provided by the respective forces. This was divided by nine and then multiplied by twelve to provide a full 12 months worth of data for comparison.

<sup>9</sup> There are discrepancies within this data as some forces did not differentiate between the total number of cannabis production offences and the number of factories.

<sup>10</sup> 48 forces reported on the total number of cannabis production offences however, one was unable to provide statistics of the number of commercial cannabis farms and 43 were able to supply data regarding the number of plants seized. Many made reference to the under-reporting of these figures

<sup>11</sup> As above 49 forces reported on the total number of cannabis production offences, 48 on the number of commercial factories identified and 44 on the number of plants seized.

The following graph shows the total number of factories identified across the UK for the past five years, highlighting the percentage growth in offences between each year. As this shows, figures increased dramatically by 64% compared with the national baseline assessment figures and 37% the following year. Across the two year period examined within this profile, this increase has diminished to 12% between 2009/10 and 2010/11 to just 3% between 2010/11 and 2011/12. The increase in offences was previously attributed to an enhanced investigative focus by law enforcement agencies, which will inevitably lead to an increase in offences, and also an increased awareness in the community through numerous media strategies encouraging members of the public to report on suspicious circumstances. Numerous forces noted that the commercial cultivation of cannabis no longer featured on their control strategies which may have led to the stabilising level of offences. It is likely that future control strategies will deal with the commercial cultivation of cannabis via targeting organised crime groups. There is a general consensus that groups involved in this type of criminality may not score as highly as class A drug suppliers.

A Bar Chart illustrating the number of Cannabis Farms discovered yearly and the percentage increases each year. <sup>12</sup>

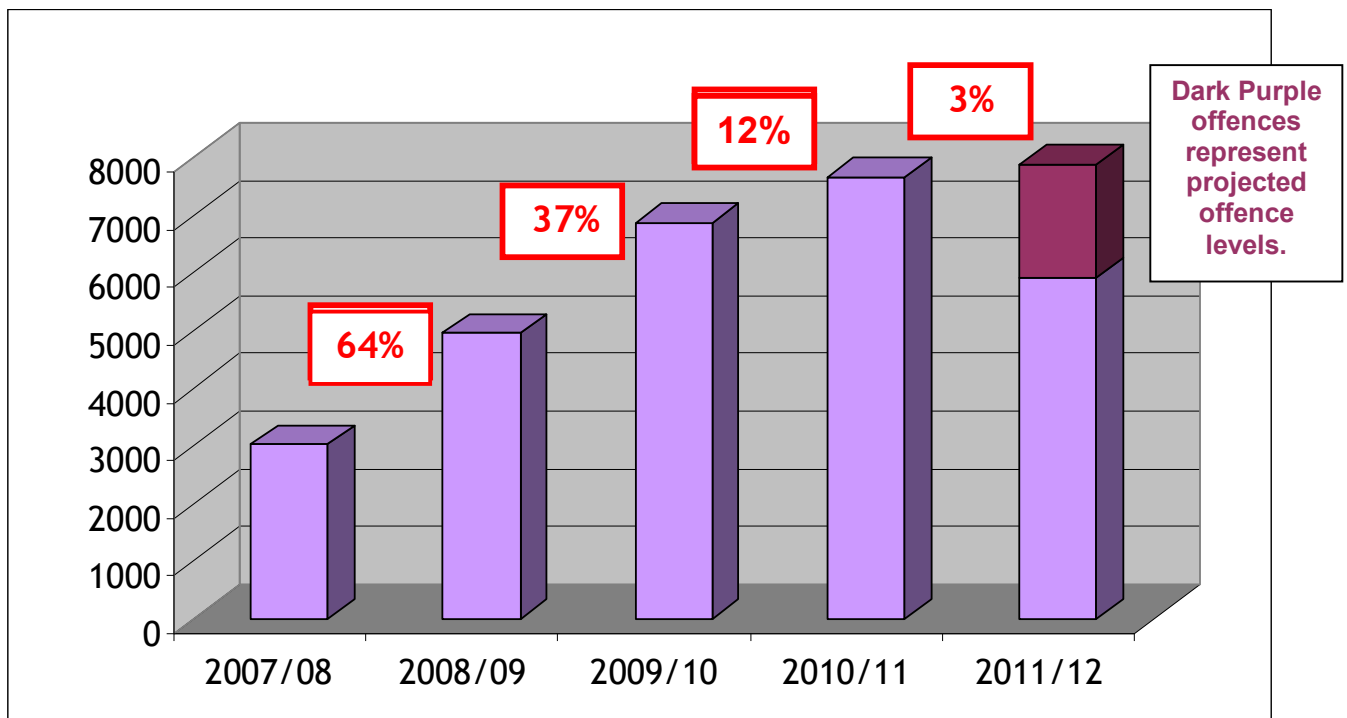


Figure 2: Yearly Statistics of the number of Factories Discovered with the yearly percentage increases.

The following five forces recorded the highest number of commercial factories, accounting for just under half of all factories and all reporting over 1,000 factories across the two year period.

1. West Yorkshire Police
2. South Yorkshire Police
3. West Midlands Police
4. Metropolitan Police
5. Avon and Somerset Constabulary

<sup>12</sup> 2011/12 figures are based on the projected number of cannabis farms.

These are amongst the largest police forces in the UK, and are heavily populated force areas. West Yorkshire, Metropolitan Police and West Midlands Police were also amongst the highest police forces identified in the previous profile.

**Case Study: Operation Welara:**

Durham Constabulary ran an intelligence led operation with Operation Welara in 2010. Community intelligence was received regarding smells emanating from an address. Intelligence was developed and council tax enquiries highlighted that the owner of the address in question lived in Leeds and rented the property out. When a warrant was executed a professionally installed growing system was found spread from the kitchen up to the bedrooms. A number of air filtration systems had been placed throughout the walls and ceilings into the loft. The electricity was bypassed around the main supply meter. Timers, feeding systems and florescent lighting were utilised. In excess of 300 plants were recovered at various stages of growth. The subject was arrested and sentenced to two years imprisonment. Durham worked in partnership with the council who assisted with the scrapping of equipment and with EDF Energy who assisted with estimations of electricity usage.

In order to provide a more accurate assessment of which forces are affected by the commercial cultivation of cannabis, offence figures have been compared to the population of each force area. Utilising the same colour code as used in the previous profile offence figures are cross-referenced per 100,000 of population. Data for 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 farms per 100,000 of population have been extracted from the 2010 Problem Profile on the Commercial Cultivation of Cannabis and is therefore based on population data provided by the Office for National Statistics. The last census at this time for England and Wales had been conducted on 29 April 2001 and as such the profile utilised 2008 mid-year estimates to provide comparisons across the three years. A new census was conducted in 2011 but as of yet the results of this have not been published therefore population figures for comparison in 2010/11 and 2011/12 have been taken from the mid-2010 estimates.<sup>13</sup>

The following tables and subsequent maps illustrate this representation. In the initial 2007/08 assessment only one force (West Yorkshire Police) featured in the top category, increasing to seven forces in 2009/10. In more recent years this has increased to 14 forces in 2010/11 and 13 forces in 2011/12 recording more than 16 farms per 100,000 population. Previously West Yorkshire Police recorded the highest number of factories per 100,000 with 41 in 2009/10. South Yorkshire recorded the highest in the current financial year 2011/12 with 64. Evidently, there is a North/South geographical divide, with the concentration of forces recording 16+ per 100,000 being in the North West and North East whilst offending rates in the South East are predominantly recorded as between 4 and 7 per 100,000.

The distribution of forces across these categories is shown below:

<sup>13</sup> Population data extracted from <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcn%3A77-231847>

A Table of showing the relative distribution of farms per population of Police forces

Key to Geographical Maps highlighting distribution of Police Forces Across Each Category.					
Key	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>14</sup>
16+	1	5	7	14	13
12 - 15	2	1	5	2	2
8 - 11	8	8	11	5	7
4 - 7	16	14	14	17	14
Less than 4	22	23	14	9	11
No data provided <sup>15</sup>	3	1	1	7	7

Figure 3: Key to Geographical Maps

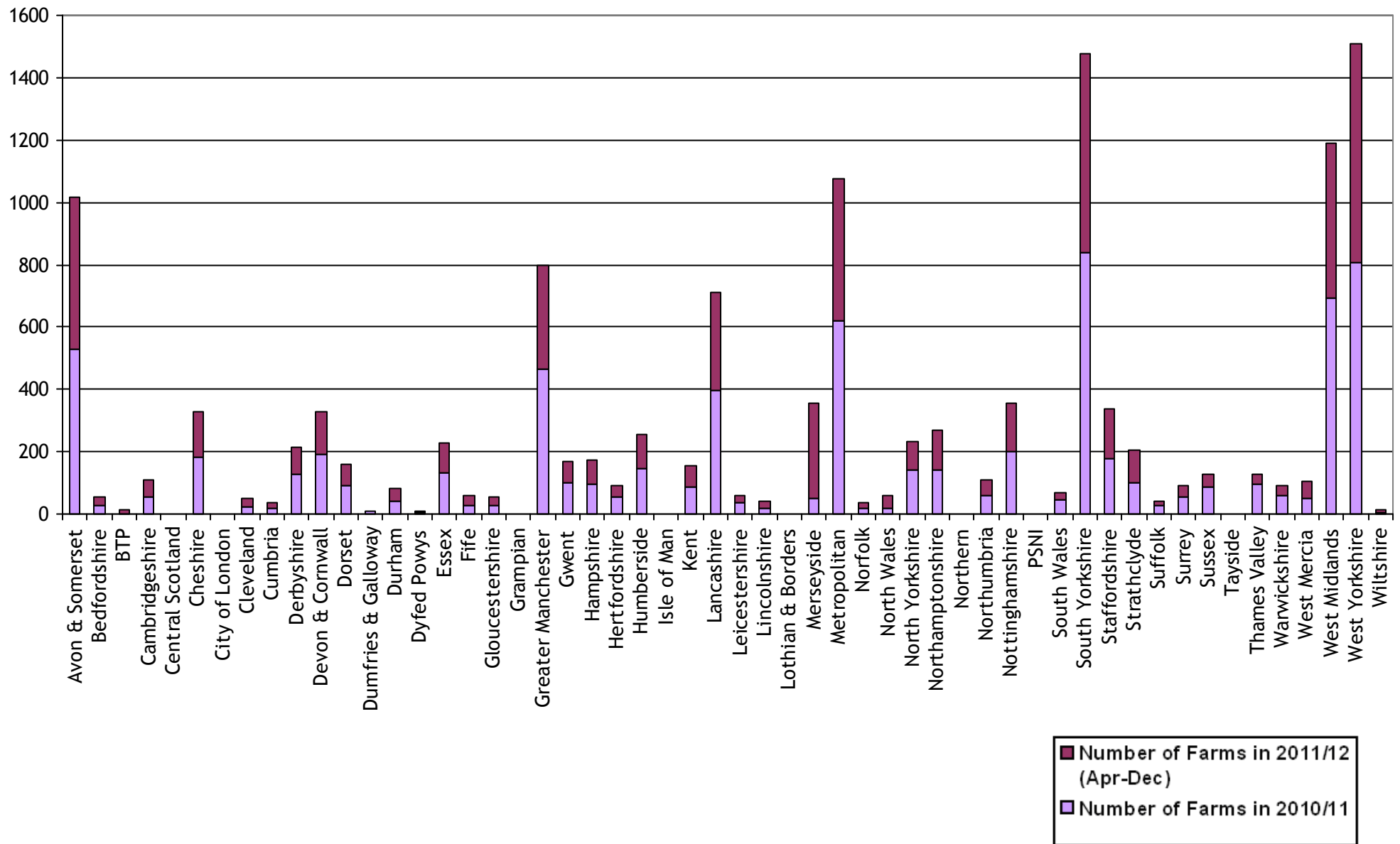


<sup>14</sup> 2011/12 figures based on the projected number of cannabis farms for reasons of comparison.

<sup>15</sup> This also includes BTP as although the Force supplied crime figures for the number of factories there is no population data to cross reference this with.



Bar Chart Illustrating the number of Cannabis Farms Identified Per Force during 2010/11 and April to December 2011



**Data Chart For All Cultivation Of Cannabis Offences Since 2007/08 Cross Referenced Against Population Data.**

Force	Population Data 2008	Total number of farms 2007/08	2007/08 farms per 100k population	Total number of farms 2008/09	2008/09 farms per 100k population	Total number of farms 2009/10	2009/10 farms per 100k population	% change since 2007/08	Population Data 2010	Total number of farms 2010/11	2010/11 farms per 100k population	Projected Total number of farms 2011/12	Projected 2011/12 farms per 100k population	% Change since 2009/10
Avon & Somerset	1,591,900	207	13	350	22	402	25	92	1,623,195	527	32	653	40	61
Bedfordshire	602,500	16	3	34	6	40	7	133	614,768	28	5	37	6	-14
BTP	N/A	8	N/A	10	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	13	N/A	N/A
Cambridgeshire	769,000	112	15	24	3	120	16	7	789,705	56	7	73	9	-42
Central Scotland	290,500	1	<1	1	<1	3	1	N/A	293,760	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
Cheshire	1,006,100	21	2	16	2	65	6	200	1,009,288	184	18	195	19	222
City of London	N/A	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	11,677	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Cleveland	562,100	43	8	5	1	26	5	-38	563,461	23	4	36	6	28
Cumbria	496,600	11	2	19	4	8	2	0	494,350	17	3	28	6	183
Derbyshire	1,001,300	53	5	89	9	132	13	160	1,010,579	126	12	116	11	-12
Devon & Cornwall	1,675,800	19	1	14	1	11	1	0	1,680,370	191	11	183	11	989
Dorset	710,500	28	5	5	1	15	2	-60	715,042	91	13	93	13	550
Dumfries & Galloway	148,600	No data	No data	0	<1	1	<1	N/A	148,190	8	5	3	2	N/A
Durham	609,000	7	1	6	1	22	4	300	611,647	42	7	52	9	113
Dyfed Powys	509,900	41	8	24	5	35	7	-13	506,054	4	<1	5	<1	-86
Essex	1,712,300	68	5	143	8	217	13	160	1,737,994	131	8	128	7	-43
Fife	361,900	1	<1	1	<1	6	2	N/A	365,020	29	8	39	11	434
Gloucestershire	582,600	4	1	45	7	44	8	700	593,527	28	5	37	6	-22
Grampian	539,700	9	2	6	1	2	<1	N/A	550,620	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
Greater Manchester	2,573,500	227	9	567	22	814	32	256	2,629,388	465	18	441	17	-48
Gwent	561,700	42	7	31	6	55	10	43	561,420	102	18	91	16	62
Hampshire	1,860,700	37	2	65	3	122	7	250	1,884,158	96	5	103	5	-22
Hertfordshire	1,078,400	70	7	70	6	96	9	29	1,107,521	55	5	49	4	-51
Humberside	912,200	18	2	30	3	54	6	200	921,239	145	16	148	16	168
Isle of Man	N/A	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	80,058 <sup>16</sup>	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
Kent	1,660,100	73	4	20	1	57	3	-25	1,684,117	87	5	91	5	80
Lancashire	1,451,600	123	8	108	7	173	12	50	1,449,289	397	27	419	29	141
Leicestershire	979,700	75	8	67	7	66	7	-13	993,938	36	4	31	3	-55

<sup>16</sup> Population Data for Isle of Man extracted from [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/country\\_profiles/7515569.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/country_profiles/7515569.stm)

Data Chart For All Cultivation Of Cannabis Offences Since 2007/08 Cross Referenced Against Population Data.														
Force	Population Data 2008	Total number of farms 2007/08	2007/08 farms per 100k population	Total number of farms 2008/09	2008/09 farms per 100k population	Total number of farms 2009/10	2009/10 farms per 100k population	% change since 2007/08	Population Data 2010	Total number of farms 2010/11	2010/11 farms per 100k population	Projected Total number of farms 2011/12	Projected 2011/12 farms per 100k population	% Change since 2009/10
Lincolnshire	698,000	49	7	7	1	49	7	0	703,008	20	3	29	4	-41
Lothian & Borders	930,300	4	<1	1	<1	26	3	N/A	949,710	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
Merseyside	1,347,800	118	9	208	15	248	18	100	1,353,421	520	38	403	30	65
Metropolitan	7,619,800	289	4	633	8	855	11	175	7,813,500	621	8	608	8	-29
Norfolk	850,800	44	5	52	6	35	4	-20	862,346	19	2	25	3	-28
North Wales	680,700	31	5	7	1	24	4	-20	678,461	20	3	52	8	92
North Yorkshire	794,600	11	1	64	8	103	13	1200	802,155	142	18	119	15	14
Northamptonshire	685,000	27	4	41	6	67	10	150	687,319	142	21	168	24	144
Northern	287,500	No data	No data	7	2	0	<1	N/A	290,330	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
Northumbria	1,404,400	26	2	57	4	114	8	300	1,431,517	57	4	71	5	-38
Nottinghamshire	1,068,900	55	5	192	18	178	17	240	1,086,587	200	18	209	19	13
PSNI	1,774,800	4	<1	80	5	8	<1	N/A	1,799,392	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
South Wales	1,241,000	73	6	94	8	115	9	50	1,260,495	44	3	31	2	-73
South Yorkshire	1,305,900	54	5	140	11	119	9	80	1,328,315	837	63	851	64	612
Staffordshire	1,069,000	50	5	55	5	85	8	60	1,071,362	180	17	211	20	146
Strathclyde	2,213,200	30	1	71	3	34	2	100	2,221,830	99	4	140	6	215
Suffolk	715,700	22	3	12	2	19	3	0	719,511	29	4	17	2	-21
Surrey	1,268,800	12	1	36	3	48	4	300	1,127,322	56	5	47	4	4
Sussex	1,548,000	37	2	135	9	156	10	400	1,573,985	88	6	55	3	-65
Tayside	397,000	7	2	3	<1	2	<1	N/A	402,640	2	<1	0	0	N/A
Thames Valley	2,042,500	110	5	95	5	172	8	60	2,253,492	96	4	43	2	-76
Warwickshire	530,700	48	9	61	11	81	15	67	535,982	60	11	39	7	-51
West Mercia	1,191,800	18	2	27	2	46	4	100	1,192,714	49	4	73	6	53
West Midlands	2,619,500	203	8	494	19	775	30	275	2,655,121	694	26	663	25	-17
West Yorkshire	2,200,500	368	17	619	28	896	41	141	2,249,543	809	36	936	42	1
Wiltshire	648,400	14	2	10	2	15	2	0	661,592	6	<1	12	2	-9
UK Total	61,382,800	3,108	5	4,951	8	6,866	11	120	62,261,967	7660	13	7866	13	15

Figure 4: Data Chart for all cultivation of cannabis offences since 2007/08 cross referenced against population data.

### 3.2 - Geographical Analysis of Cannabis Cultivations 2010/11 (Figure 5)

