USE OF FORCE ADR 148

July - September 2026 (QUARTER 2)

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

AI Statement
Please note: some content in this document has been prepared using Microsoft Copilot.

Cheshire Constabulary

HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

The information contained within this report has been provided for a specific policing purpose; please consider this when making decisions about further dissemination.

CAVEATS

The data within this report was extracted on 05/10/2026 for Quarter 2 (July to September 2026) and will therefore be subject to change in line with updates made to source systems.

Comparison data includes data extracted:

- **03/07/2026** for **Quarter 1** (April to June 2026)
- **20/04/2026** for **Quarter 4** (January to March 2026)
- **06/01/2026** for **Quarter 3** (October to December 2025)
- **28/10/2025** for **Quarter 2** (July to September 2025)
- **25/07/2025** for **Quarter 1** (April to June 2025)

The datasets are based on the date that the 'Use of Force' took place.

Due to the quantity of data reviewed here it is not possible to quality check all entries; data may be missing, incomplete or contain errors. It is not possible to quality check all entries; therefore, it is unknown how many records this may affect.

The 2021 Census has been used for Cheshire's overall 'Population' volumes as well as volumes specific to 'Age', 'Gender' and 'Ethnicity' from Apr-21 to present.

The data within this report only includes Niche records that have 'Cheshire Constabulary' recorded as the owning agency.

The data has been run with an ACL (Access Control Level) of zero; therefore, any Niche records with a higher ACL applied to them will not appear within the data.

There are a number of caveats attached to the data, extraction and reporting methodologies specific to the sections evaluated in this document, these caveats can be found in appendix C.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Between July and September 2026, 7,206 Use of Force forms were submitted across 4,071 occurrences, representing the highest reporting levels recorded to date. Compared with the previous quarter, forms increased by 29.4% and occurrences by 20.4%. Improved compliance with UoF recording requirements has been the driver of this growth, supported by an increase in multi-form occurrences.

Tactical deployment patterns had some notable shifts; **use of Unarmed Skills increased whilst both Ground Restraint and Compliant Handcuffing continued a longer-term decline**. C.E.D. deployment remained proportionally stable overall, although there was increased use of drawn and aimed presentations and reduced use of the red-dot sight.

Incident trends varied; some remained unchanged compared to the previous quarter, however there were changes other areas. There was an **increase in Custody Block incidents**, i**ncidents involving individuals previously known to police and unarmed skills as a Use of Force tactic.** Conversely, occurrences in a dwelling and incidents involving ground restraints and compliant handcuffing decreased. **The highest level of C.E.D. deployment has shifted from 'Red-dot' to 'Drawn'.**

Demographic trends remained consistent with previous reporting periods. Individuals aged 18-34 years continued to account for the largest proportion of UoF incidents, while males remained more likely than females to be subject to force. The most notable disproportionality continued to relate to ethnicity. **Individuals perceived as Black were estimated to be eight times more likely than White individuals** to be subject to force, representing the highest disproportionality rate recorded.

Officer assault incidents increased in volume; however, the proportion of UoF incidents involving an assault reduced. Assaults were associated with alcohol, prior knowledge and unarmed skills deployments. Importantly, **despite record reporting levels, both officer and subject injury rates remained stable**, indicating that increased reporting has *not* been accompanied by increased levels of harm.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ACL	Access Control Level
ADR	Annual Data Requirement (Home Office)
C.E.D.	Conducted Energy Device (e.g., TASER®)
Niche	Crime Recording System
OEL	Occurrence Enquiry Log (Niche)
PIPS	Productive Intelligent Policing Solution (in-house app)
pp	Percentage Points
UoF	Use of Force

CONTENTS

HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS **2**
CAVEATS 2
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY **3**
GLOSSARY OF TERMS **4**
CONTENTS **5**
LIST OF TABLES **7**
LIST OF FIGURES **8**
INTRODUCTION **9**
DATA CAPTURE **9**
RESULTS **10**
OVERALL COUNTS **10**
COUNTS: LONG-TERM TREND 11
INCIDENT LOCATION 12
IMPACT FACTORS 13
REASON FOR FORCE 14
TACTICS 15
C.E.D. CARTRIDGE USE 16
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED AGE 17
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED AGE: LONG-TERM TREND & PROPORTIONALITY 18
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED GENDER 19
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED GENDER: LONG-TERM TREND & PROPORTIONALITY 20
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED AGE & PERCEIVED GENDER 21
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY 22
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY: LONG-TERM TREND & PROPORTIONALITY 23
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY & INCIDENT LOCATION 25
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY & IMPACT FACTORS 27
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY & REASONS FOR FORCE 29
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY & TACTICS 31
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED TO BE PHYSICALLY DISABLED 33
NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED TO HAVE A MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION 33
OFFICER INJURIES AND ASSAULTS 34
OFFICER ASSAULTS & INCIDENT LOCATION 35
OFFICER ASSAULTS & IMPACT FACTORS 36
OFFICER ASSAULTS & REASON FOR FORCE 37

OFFICER ASSAULTS & TACTICS 38
OFFICER ASSAULTS & OUTCOMES 39
NOMINAL PHYSICALLY INJURED AS A RESULT OF FORCE USED 40
OUTCOMES 41
CONCLUSIONS 42
NOTABLE INCREASES 42
NOTABLE DECREASES 42
LONG-TERM STABILITY 42
FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS 43
APPENDICES 44
- APPENDIX A 44
- APPENDIX B 44

APPENDIX C: SECTION CAVEATS 44
Count Caveats 44
Multiple Selections 44
Multiple Officers 44
Tactics 45
Long-term Trend & Proportionality Caveats (Age, Gender & Ethnicity) 45
Officer Injuries and Assaults 45
Nominal Physically Injured as a Result of Force Used 45
Outcomes 45

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: No. of UoF forms and occurrences – Quarterly comparison 10
Table 2: No. of UoF forms submitted per occurrence – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 10
Table 3: Per 1000 population rates by 'Perceived Age' – Q2 (July-Sept 26) 18
Table 4: Per 1000 population rates by 'Perceived Gender' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 20
Table 5: Proportions of 'Perceived Age' and 'Perceived Gender' combined – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 21
Table 6: No. of UoF forms / Niche occurrences by 'Black (or Black British)' ethnicity – Quarterly comparison 22
Table 7: Volume of UoF by 'Perceived Ethnicity' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 23
Table 8: Per 1000 population rate by 'Perceived Ethnicity' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 24
Table 9: Nominal perceived to be 'Physically Disabled' – Quarterly comparison 33
Table 10: Nominal perceived to have a 'Mental Health Condition' – Quarterly comparison 33
Table 11: Officer 'Assaults' - Quarterly Comparison 34
Table 12: 'Nominal Injured' – Quarterly comparison 40

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Trend overview – Arrests / UoF forms / Incidents (Sept 24 – Sept 26) 11
Figure 2: No. of UoF forms per 1000 population – Yearly comparison (2024/25 –2026/27) 11
Figure 3: Proportion of UoF forms by 'Incident Location' – Quarterly comparison 12
Figure 4: Proportion of UoF forms by 'Impact Factor' – Quarterly comparison 13
Figure 5: Proportion of UoF forms by 'Reason for Force' – Quarterly comparison 14
Figure 6: Proportion of UoF forms by 'Tactics' – Quarterly comparison 15
Figure 7: Proportion of UoF forms by 'Tactics use' – Quarterly comparison 16
Figure 8: Nominal's 'Perceived Age' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 17
Figure 9: Per 1000 population rates by 'Perceived Age' – Long-term trend (Oct 24 – Sept 26) 18
Figure 10: Nominal's 'Perceived Gender' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 19
Figure 11: Per 1000 population rates by 'Perceived Gender' – Long-term trend (Jul 24 – Mar 26) 20
Figure 12: Proportions by 'Perceived Gender' and 'Perceived Age' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 21
Figure 13: No. of UoF forms / Niche occurrences by 'Perceived Ethnicity' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 22
Figure 14: Per 1000 population rates by 'Perceived Ethnicity' – Long-term trend (Oct 24 – Sept 26) 23
Figure 15: Proportion of 'Incident Location' by 'Perceived Ethnicity'– Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 25
Figure 16: Proportion of 'Black (or Black British) vs 'White' by 'Incident Location' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 26
Figure 17: Proportion of 'Perceived Ethnicity' by 'Impact Factors' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 27
Figure 18: Proportion of 'Black (or Black British)' vs 'White' by 'Impact Factors' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 28
Figure 19: Proportion of 'Perceived Ethnicity' by 'Reasons for Force' – Q2 (Jul –Sept 26) 29
Figure 20: Proportions of 'Black (or Black British)' vs 'White' by 'Reason for Force' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 30
Figure 21: Proportion of 'Perceived Ethnicity' by 'Tactics' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 31
Figure 22: Proportions of 'Black (or Black British)' vs 'White' by 'Tactics' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 32
Figure 23: Officer 'Assaults' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26) 34
Figure 24: Proportion of UoF forms with an Officer 'Assault' by 'Incident Location' – Quarterly comparison 35
Figure 25: Proportion of UoF forms with an Officer 'Assault' by 'Impact Factor' – Quarterly comparison 36
Figure 26: Proportion of UoF forms with an Officer 'Assault' by 'Reason for Force' – Quarterly comparison 37
Figure 27: Proportion of UoF forms with an Officer 'Assault' by 'Tactics' – Quarterly comparison 38
Figure 28: Proportion of UoF forms with an Officer 'Assault' by 'Outcomes' – Quarterly comparison 39

INTRODUCTION

Use of Force refers to physical action taken by police offers to enforce the law, or to protect the public and themselves. The force used should be reasonable, necessary and proportionate, tactics can vary from compliant handcuffing to firearms deployment.

Since April 2017, the Home Office has required that all police forces within the UK record data when an Officer uses force on any person. The Home Office mandates the submission of a subset of this data, in the Annual Data Requirement (ADR) 148.[1] The same data is analysed on a quarterly and monthly basis to enable scrutiny at various meetings both in Force and with partners.

This quarterly report focuses on the date period, 1st July 2026 to 30th September 2026.

The data collected includes the tactics used, the reason for force, incident location type, impact factors, nominal information (age, gender, ethnicity, and disability, as perceived by the officer unless known), any injuries (to the Officers and/or the nominal) and the outcomes.

This report includes evaluation of this data to ensure that Cheshire Constabulary can be held to account and that any trends are identified and that any training, equipment, or Officer and/or nominal safety issues can be understood.

DATA CAPTURE

When an Officer implements 'Use of Force' they are required to submit a 'Use of Force' form, providing details of the characteristics of the person to which force is being applied, the surrounding circumstances of the incident and subsequent outcomes.

This is done using an in-house application which transfers the data to an Occurrence Enquiry Log (OEL) on the related occurrence in the crime recording system (Niche). **Each Officer is required to submit one form per nominal as and when any force is used against them.**

This data is retrieved from the Occurrence Enquiry Log (OEL) on the crime recording system as well as other sources and the IT Team extracts the data required. This data is processed using Microsoft Excel and examined for trends, exceptions, and any other issues of note.

[1]. See Appendices A and B for the ADR 148 template and guidance 2025/26.

RESULTS

OVERALL COUNTS

During Quarter 2 (Jul-Sept 2026) there has been:

7206 'Use of Force' forms submitted.

4071 Niche occurrences with at least 1 'Use of Force' entry.

Compared to the previous quarter (Q1. Apr-Jun 2026), the **number of 'Use of Force' forms submitted has increased by 29.4% (+1636 forms),** and the number of Niche occurrences has increased by 20.4% (+691 occurrences). This large increase is due to an organisational impetus placed on UoF form completion in recent months.

Table 1: No. of UoF forms and occurrences – Quarterly comparison

	Prev. Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
TOTAL No. of UoF Forms	3973	4024	3763	5570	7206
TOTAL No. of Occurrences	2781	2678	2554	3380	4071

During the last 12 months, the quarterly volume of 'Use of Force' forms ranged between 3973 and 7206 (table 1), with this current quarter reporting the highest volume to date. **Compared to the same period the previous year (Q2. Jul-Sept 25); the volume of forms has increased by 81.4% (+3233 UoF forms) and the volume of Niche occurrences has increased by 46.4% (+1290 occurrences).**

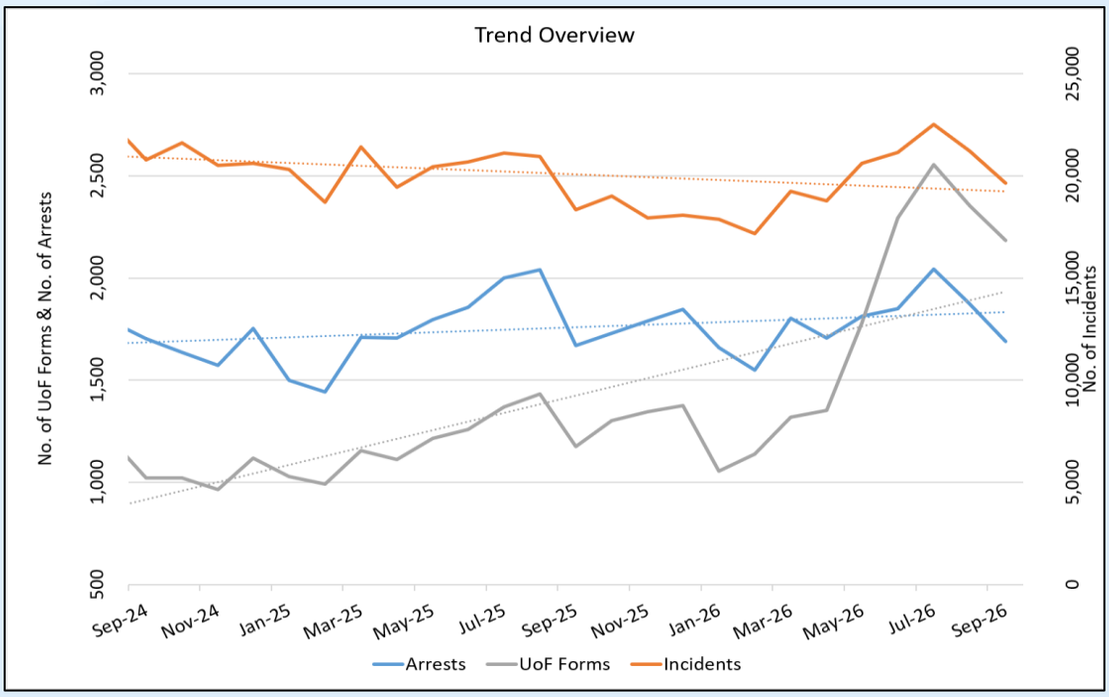
Table 2: No. of UoF forms submitted per occurrence – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)

	Q2	
No. of Occurrences with:	Count	%
1 UoF Form	2505	61.5%
2 UoF Forms	872	21.4%
3 UoF Forms	330	8.1%
4 UoF Forms	163	4.0%
5 UoF Forms	76	1.9%
6 UoF Forms	43	1.1%
7 UoF Forms	34	0.8%
8 UoF Forms	22	0.5%
9 UoF Forms	15	0.4%
10 UoF Forms	3	0.1%
>10 UoF Forms	8	0.2%
TOTAL No. of Occurrences	**4071**	**100%**

The majority of occurrences (2505, 61.5%) had 1 'Use of Force' form submitted, 1566 occurrences (38.5%) had multiple forms submitted (table 2). **Quarter 2 has seen a 5.2pp reduction in the proportion of occurrences whereby 1 'Use of Force' form was submitted (66.7% to 61.5%) compared to Q1**.

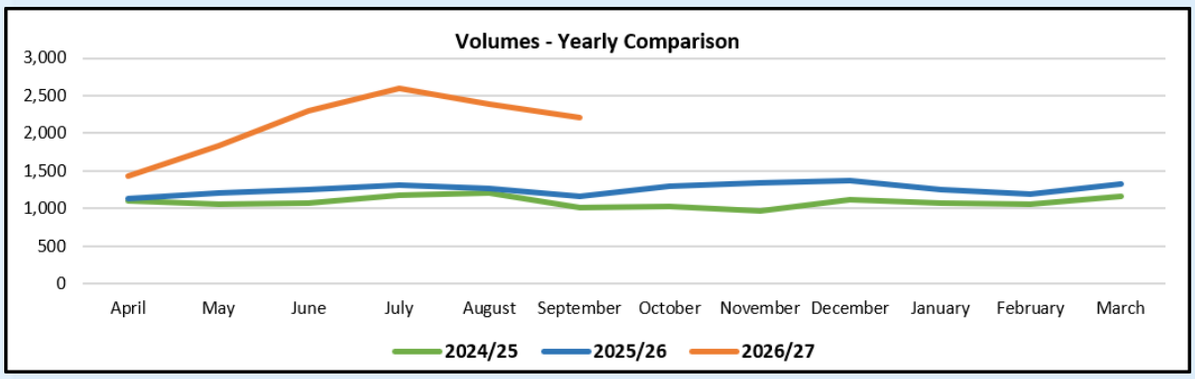
COUNTS: LONG-TERM TREND

Figure 1: Trend overview – Arrests / UoF forms / Incidents (Sept 24 – Sept 26)



There has been an overall increase in form volume this quarter, which peaked in July, with August and September seeing month-on-month decreases in form submission (figure 1). However, submission volume is still greater than the previous year (figure 2).

Figure 2: No. of UoF forms per 1000 population – Yearly comparison (2024/25 –2026/27)



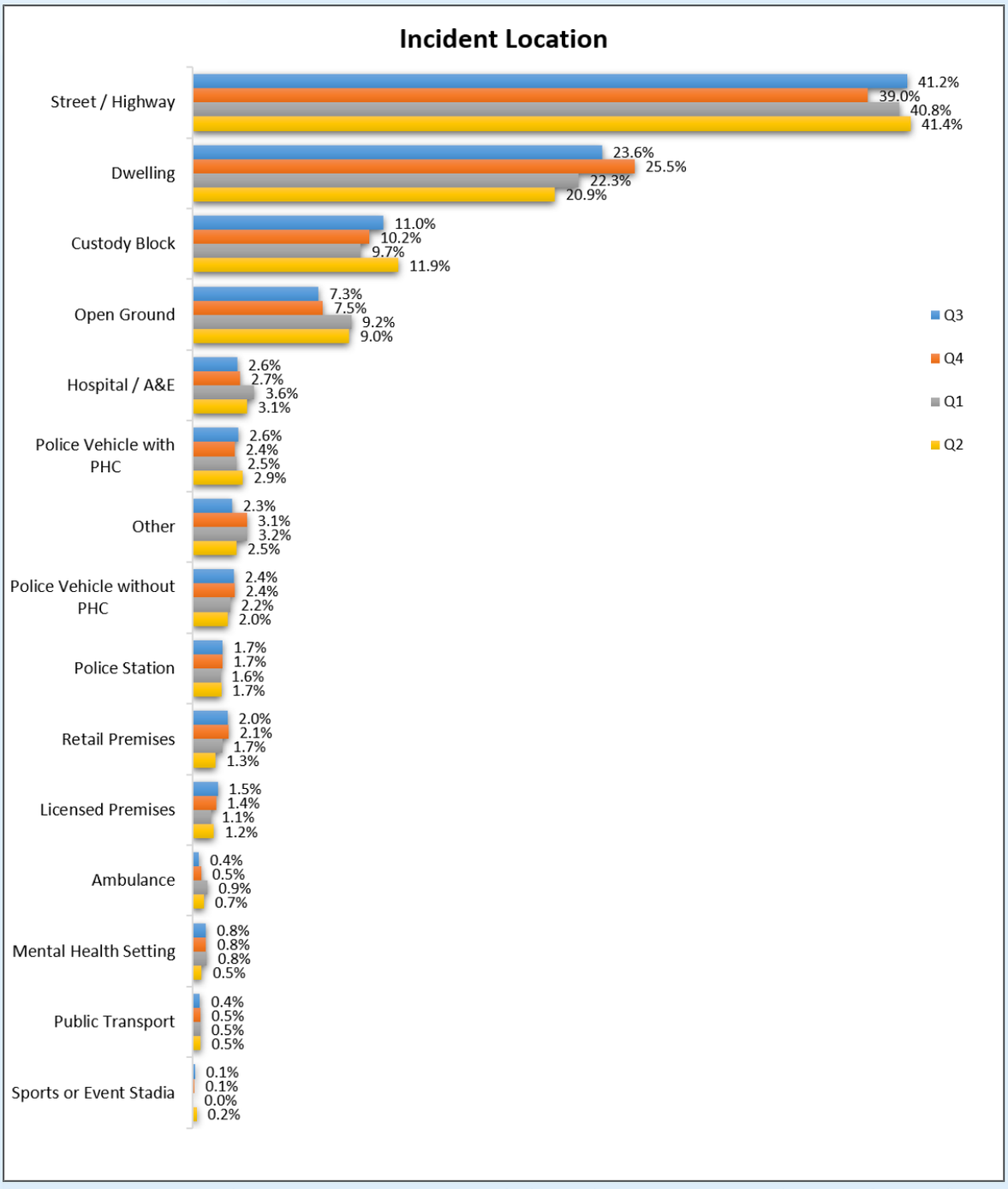
The latest Q2 (2026/27) recorded higher volumes of 'Use of Force' forms (7,206) when compared to the same period during 2025/26 and 2024/25 (table 3), with Q2 2026/27 reporting double as many forms as the previous two years.

Table 3: No. of UoF forms – Yearly comparison

		2021 Census		
		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Q2	Volume of UoF Forms	3,407	3,741	**7,206**
	Difference to Current Year	3,799	3,465	
	% Change to Current Year	111.5%	92.6%	

INCIDENT LOCATION

Figure 3: Proportion of UoF forms by 'Incident Location' – Quarterly comparison



This quarter 8908 Incident Locations were recorded in relation to UoF incidents**, volume of recorded Incident Locations has increased 30.2% (+2067) compared to the previous quarter (figure 3).**

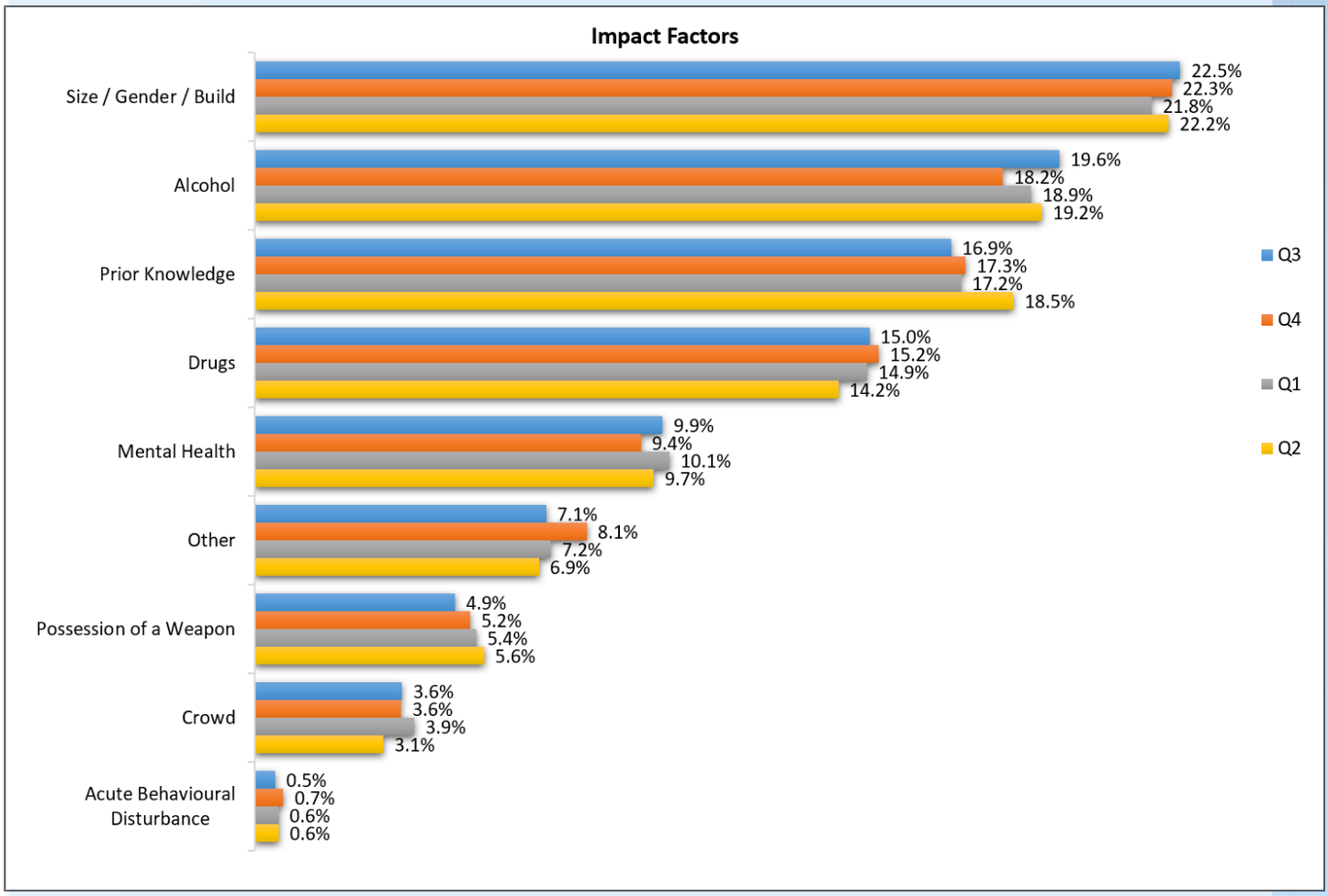
During Q2 the top 4 locations where UoF incidents have occurred remained consistent with previous periods, with little change from the previous quarter. **The largest changes in this quarter were observed in 'Custody Block' which increased by 2.2pp** after a decline in Q1. 'Dwelling' decreased by 1.4pp, following a similar trend to the previous quarter.

1.7% of all 'Incident Location' types selected and 1.7% of all 'Use of Force' recorded location as '**Other' only** (121 forms) submitted during Q1.[2]

[2]. Further details would require a manual read through of the incident/crime/use of force form.

IMPACT FACTORS

Figure 4: Proportion of UoF forms by 'Impact Factor' – Quarterly comparison



This quarter 16,292 Impact Factors were recorded in relation to UoF, the **volume of 'Impact Factors' recorded during Q2 has increased by 25.5% (+3313 forms) when compared to the previous quarter (figure 4).**

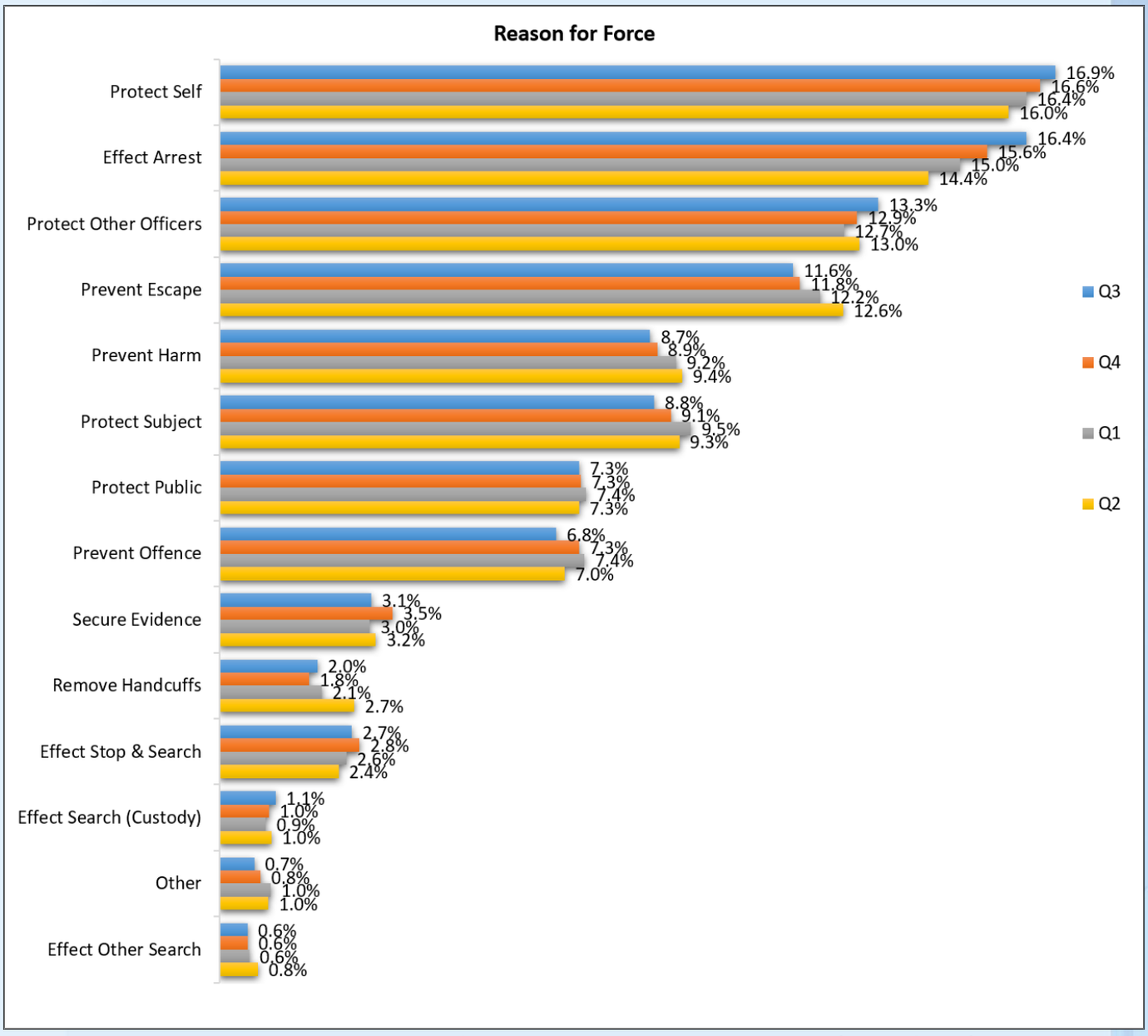
The most frequently recorded 'Impact Factors' during Q2 were proportionally consistent the previous quarter, **the largest change observed in 'Prior Knowledge' which increased by 1.3pp compared to Q1**.

2.2% of 'Impact Factors' selected and 4.9% of all 'Use of Force' forms recorded 'Other' as the **only** 'Impact Factor' during Quarter 2.[3]

[3]. Further details would require a manual read through of the incident/crime/use of force form.

REASON FOR FORCE

Figure 5: Proportion of UoF forms by 'Reason for Force' – Quarterly comparison



This quarter there were 29,657 Reasons for Force submitted, **a 28.0% increase (+6480 forms) in recorded Reasons for Force from the previous quarter.**

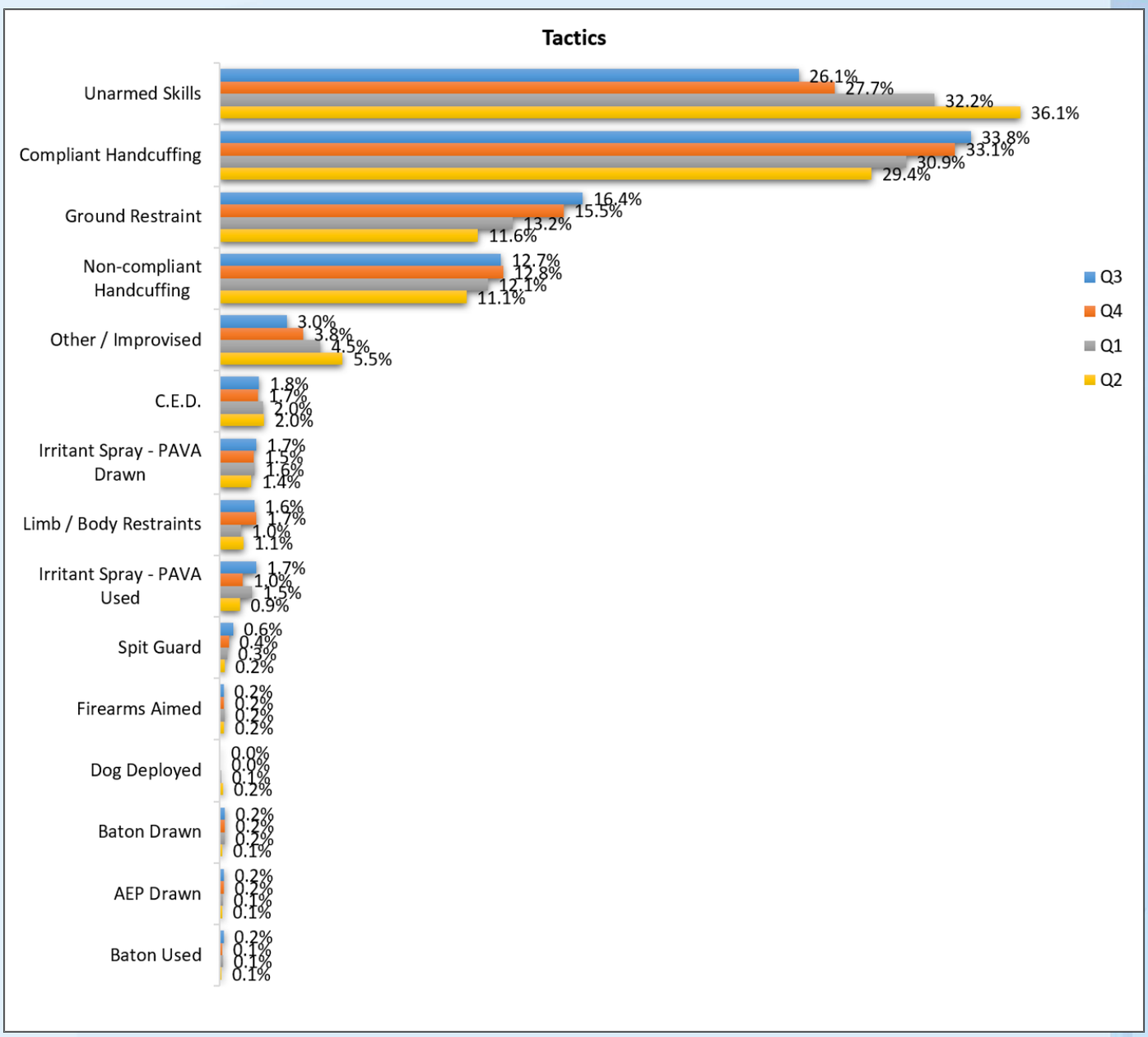
The most frequently recorded 'Reasons for Force' during Q2 were consistent the previous quarters (figure 5). The greatest change this quarter was observed in 'Prevent Escape' which increased by 0.4pp.

0.2% of all 'Reasons for Force' selected and 0.1% of all 'Use of Force' forms recorded as 'Other' only during the Quarter 2.[4]

[4]. Further details would require a manual read through of the incident/crime/use of force form.

TACTICS

Figure 6: Proportion of UoF forms by 'Tactics' – Quarterly comparison



This quarter there were 12,350 Tactics submitted, **a 29.2% (+2793 forms) increase in Tactics recorded compared to the previous quarter (figure 6).**

The largest changes observed were in 'Unarmed Skills', which increased by 3.9pp, 'Ground Restraint', which decreased by 1.6pp and 'Compliant Handcuffing' which decreased by 1.5pp. Both 'Ground Restraint' and 'Compliant Handcuffing' have decreased quarter on quarter over the last 12 months, while 'Unarmed Skills' has followed an increasing trend over the same period.

2.3% of all 'Tactics' recorded, 3.9% of all 'Use of Force' forms (283 forms) submitted during the Quarter listed 'Other/improvised' as the **only** 'Tactic'. During Q2 33.6% (1831) of forms submitted had selected 'Compliant Handcuffing' as the **only** 'Tactic'.

Over this quarter there have been 0 forms for 'Firearms Fired' and 24 recordings of 'Firearms Aimed'.

C.E.D. CARTRIDGE USE

During Q2 (Jul-Sept 2026) there has been:

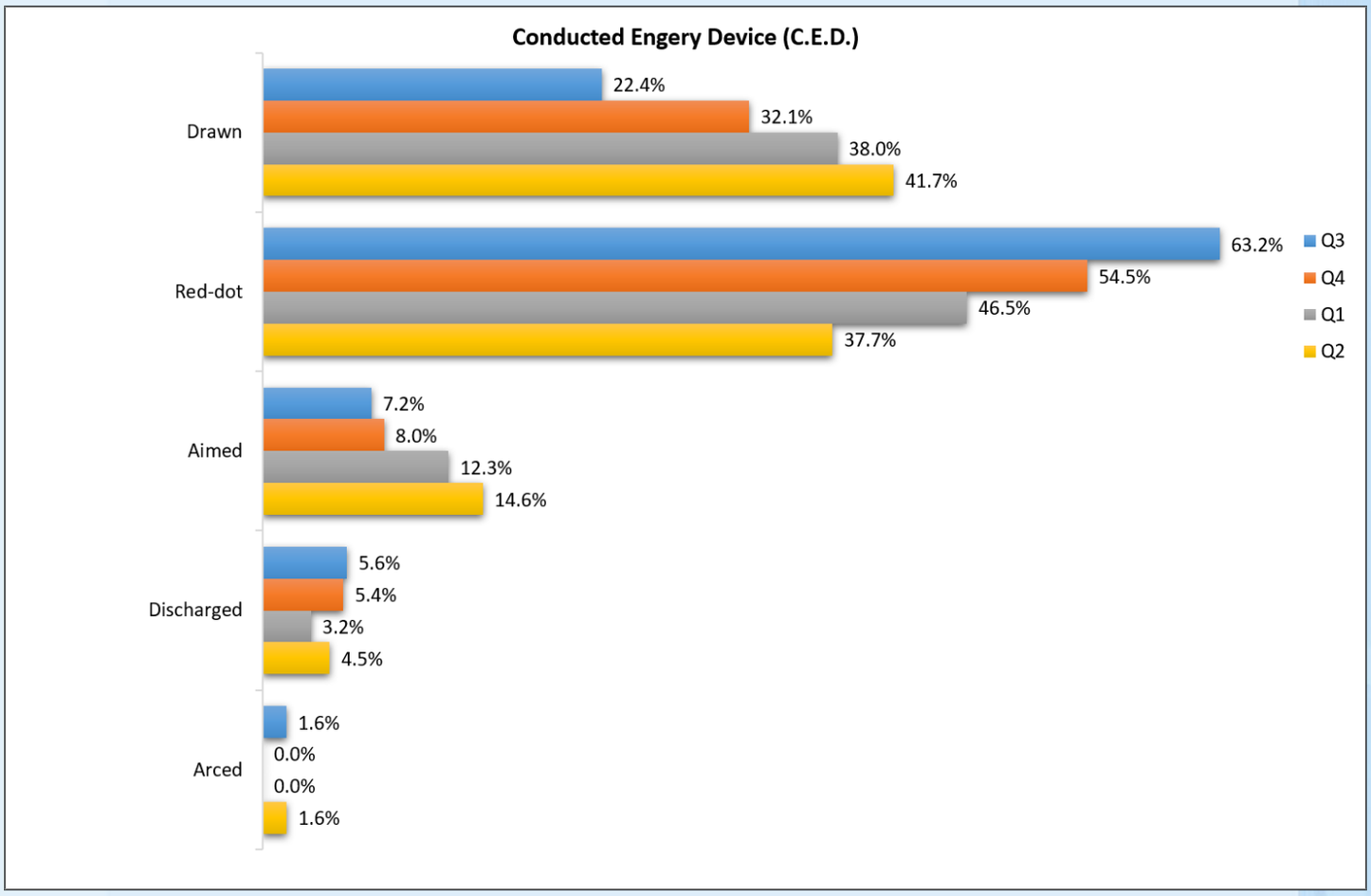
247 'Use of Force' forms submitted whereby C.E.D. has been used as a 'Tactic'.

183 Niche occurrences with at least one C.E.D. 'Use of Force' entry.

C.E.D. was selected as a 'Tactic' in 3.4% of the Q1 'Use of Force' forms submitted (247 of 7,206) and 4.5% of the related Niche occurrences. Proportionally, C.E.D. use has remained stable compared to last quarter with form submission and occurrences up by only 0.1pp. C.E.D. form volume used has also been proportionally consistent over the 12-month period, rising by only 0.4pp.

There were 23 (28.0%) C.E.D. occurrences whereby 2 or more forms were submitted.

Figure 7: Proportion of UoF forms by 'Tactics use' – Quarterly comparison

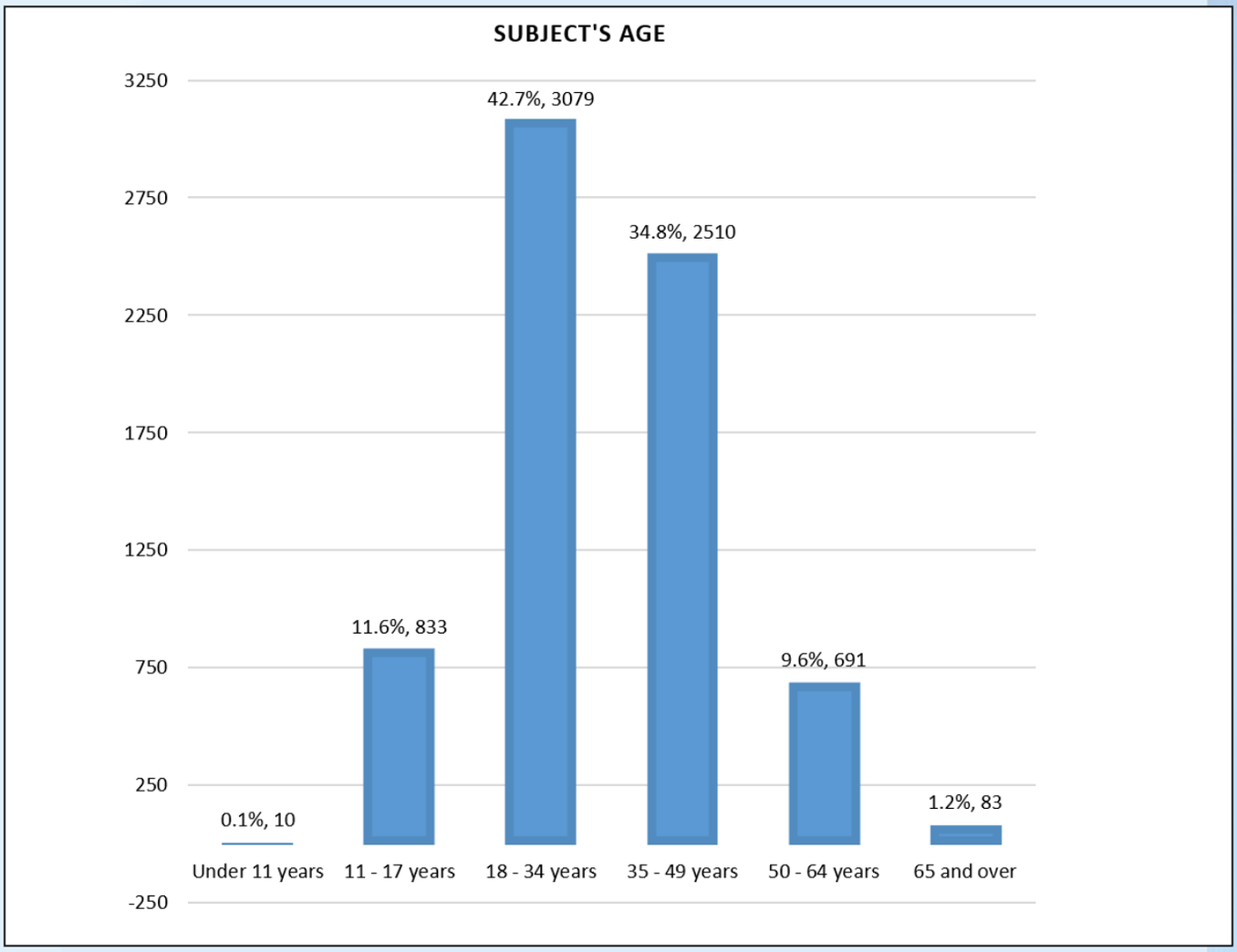


During Q2 'Drawn' was the most commonly reported highest level of C.E.D. use, an increase of 3.7pp from the previous quarter, an increase was also observed for 'Aimed' (+2.3pp) (figure 7). **'Red-dot' as highest level of C.E.D. use decreased by 8.9pp**.

For **95.5% (236) of C.E.D. forms submitted during Q2 C.E.D. use was of a non-discharge level**. 4.5% (11) of the forms submitted the C.E.D. was reported as being discharged.

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED AGE

Figure 8: Nominal's 'Perceived Age' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)



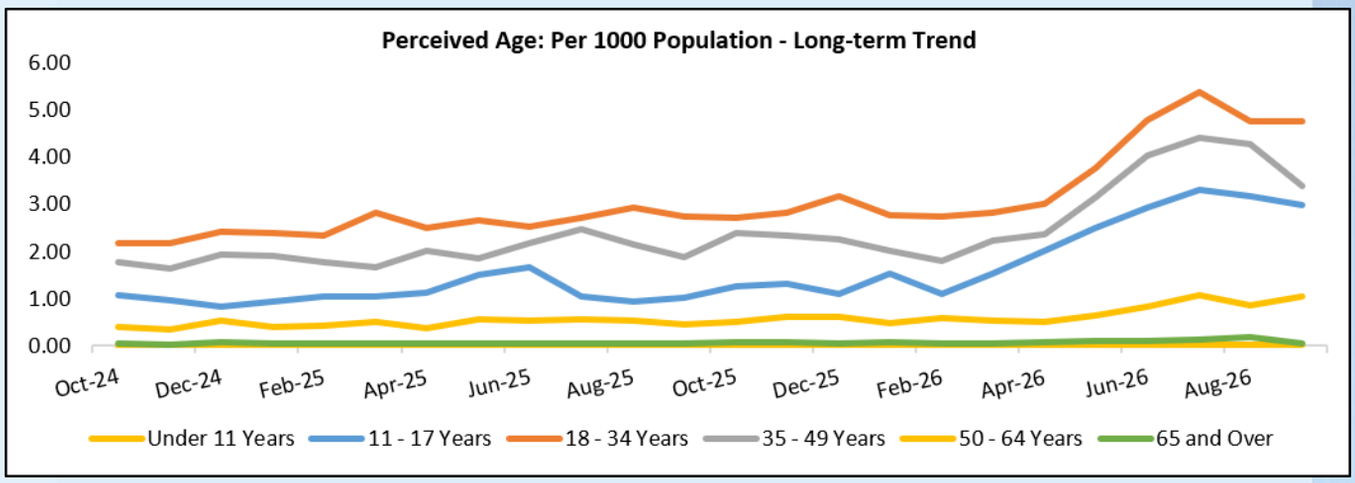
The age group with the largest proportion of UoF against them was the '18–34-years-old' group, making up 42.7% of UoF instances in Q2 (figure 8). '18–34-years-old' is the third most populous age group in Cheshire, making up 19.3% of the population.

During Q2 there were 10 (0.1%) UoF forms submitted where the individual's age was recorded as the 'Under 11 Years' age category, relating to 7 occurrences.

There were 83 (1.2%) UoF forms submitted whereby the nominal was recorded to be within the '65 and Over' age bracket, these related to 57 occurrences.

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED AGE: LONG-TERM TREND & PROPORTIONALITY

Figure 9: Per 1000 population rates by 'Perceived Age' – Long-term trend (Oct 24 – Sept 26)



During Q2 there was an increase in form submission across all age groups, **July had the highest ever record of UoF against '18-34 years' age group (5.4) (table 4), though the rate has dropped and stabilised late in subsequent months.** There has been an increase in form submission for force involving '11-17 years' age group over July and August, though this has decreased in September. A similar pattern was observed in the '35-49 years' age group.

The lowest rates were observed for those perceived to be within the 'Under 11 Years' and '65 and Over' age groups (figure 9). The increase in volumes across age groups observed this quarter is likely due, in part, to the UoF directive to ensure correct form submission.

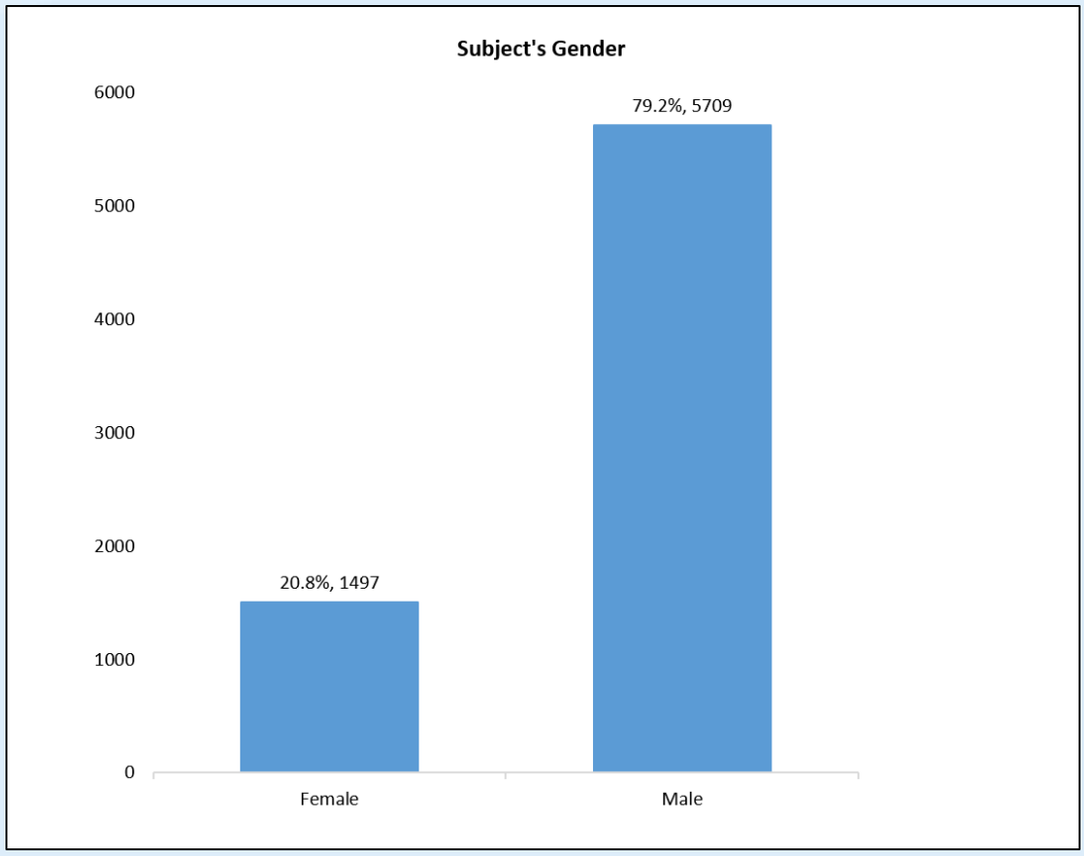
Table 3: Per 1000 population rates by 'Perceived Age' – Q2 (July-Sept 26)

	Month / Year	Under 11 Years	11 - 17 Years	18 - 34 Years	35 - 49 Years	50 - 64 Years	65 and Over
Q2	Jul-26	0.02	3.3	5.4	4.4	1.1	0.1
	Aug-26	0.02	3.2	4.8	4.3	0.9	0.2
	Sep-26	0.03	3.0	4.8	3.4	1.0	0.1
	Totals	0.1	9.5	14.9	12.1	3.0	0.4

Those perceived to be within the '18 – 34 Years' age group are 4.1 times more likely than those perceived to be within the '50-64 Years' age group and 1.2 times more likely than '35-49 Years' age group to have force used against them (the other most populous age groups within the Cheshire population).

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED GENDER

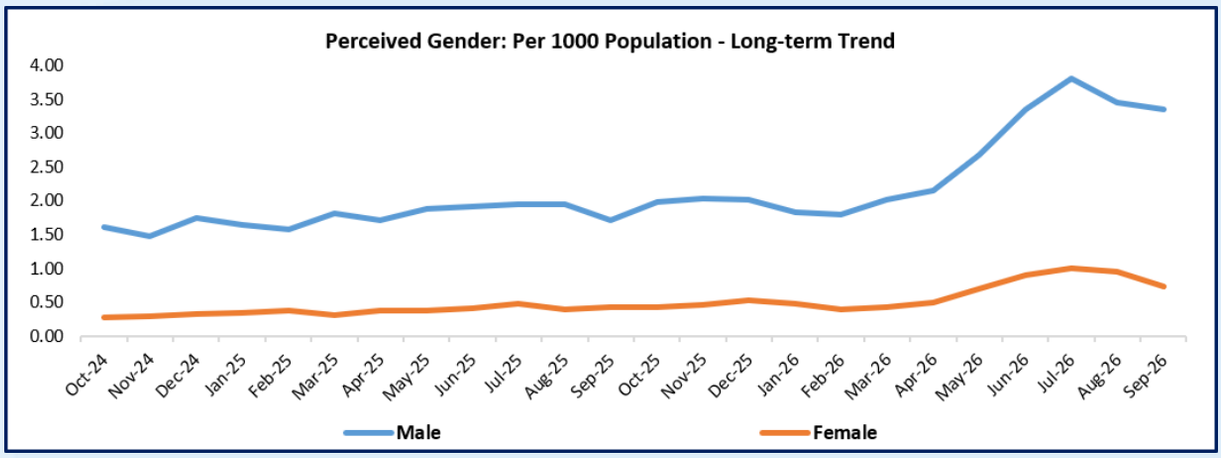
Figure 10: Nominal's 'Perceived Gender' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)



The majority of 'Use of Force' instances related to individuals perceived to be 'Male' (5,709; 79.2%, figure 10), this trend was observed during previous quarters and the previous Q1. This also reflects the greater number of 'Males' being arrested.

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED GENDER: LONG-TERM TREND & PROPORTIONALITY

Figure 11: Per 1000 population rates by 'Perceived Gender' – Long-term trend (Jul 24 – Mar 26)



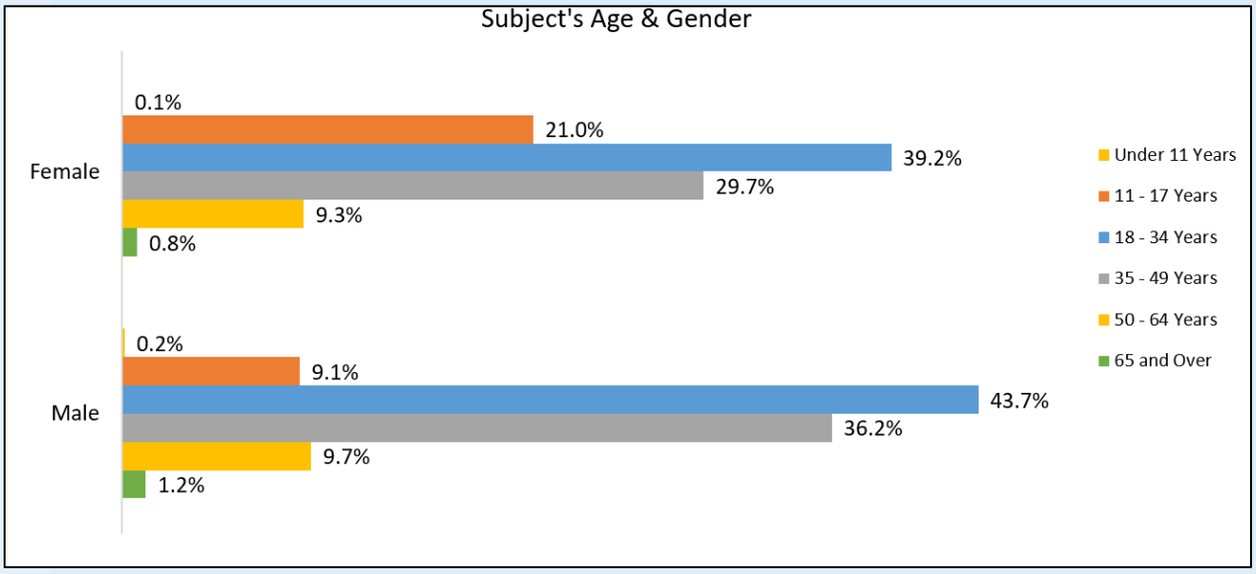
The **UoF form volume and population rates related to 'Perceived Gender' show an increasing trend over Q1 (figure 11).** Rate of UoF is consistently higher for Males, who are **4 times more likely to be involved in a UoF incident that females this quarter** (table 4). In July both Male and Female instances of UoF were the highest ever recorded (Male = 3.8; Female = 1.0), there have been decreases for both genders in August and September, though the rates remain high.

Table 4: Per 1000 population rates by 'Perceived Gender' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)

	Month / Year	Male	Female
Q2	Jul-26	3.8	1.0
	Aug-26	3.5	1.0
	Sep-26	3.4	0.7
	Totals	**10.6**	**2.7**

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED AGE & PERCEIVED GENDER

Figure 12: Proportions by 'Perceived Gender' and 'Perceived Age' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)



When comparing **UoF proportions by 'Perceived Gender' the majority of 'Males' (43.7%) who has force used against them were within the '18 - 34 Years' age group (figure 12).** The **largest proportion of UoF for 'Females' was also the '18 – 34 Years' age group (39.2%**).

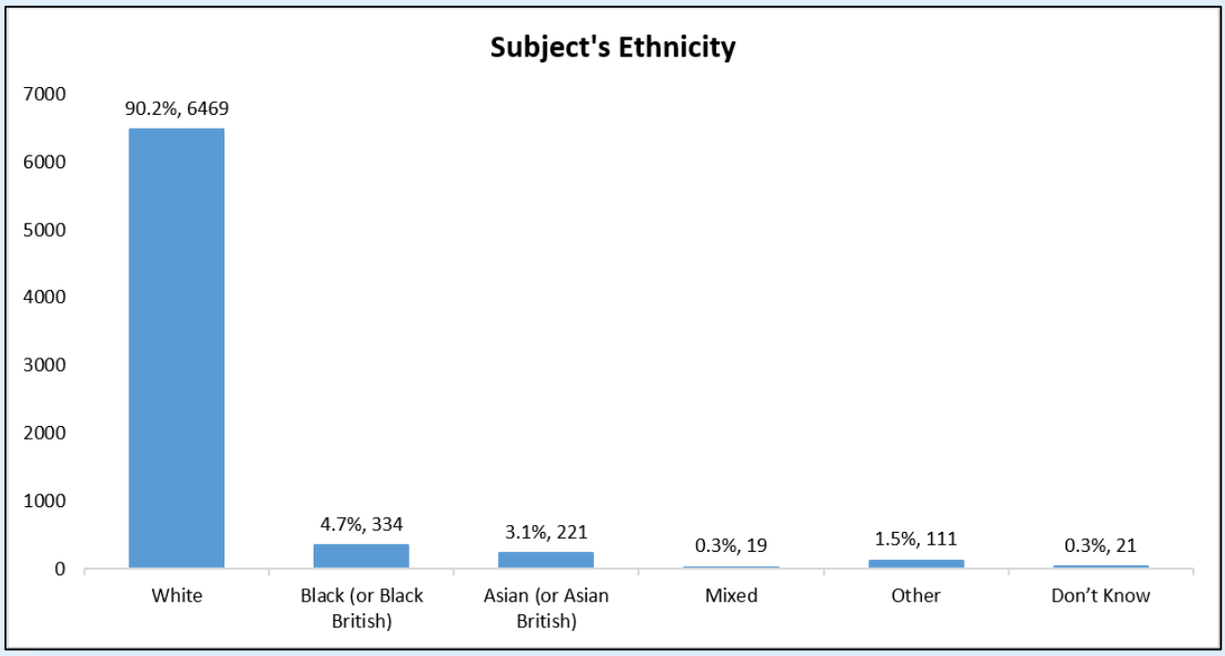
Table 5: Proportions of 'Perceived Age' and 'Perceived Gender' combined – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)

% of Grand Total			
Age	**Female**	**Male**	**Grand Total**
Under 11 Years	0.0%	0.1%	**0.1%**
11 - 17 Years	4.4%	7.2%	**11.6%**
18 - 34 Years	8.1%	34.6%	**42.7%**
35 - 49 Years	6.2%	28.7%	**34.8%**
50 - 64 Years	1.9%	7.7%	**9.6%**
65 and Over	0.2%	1.0%	**1.2%**
Grand Total	**20.8%**	**79.2%**	**100.0%**

When 'Perceived Age' & 'Perceived Gender' are evaluated together 'Male' persons within the '18 - 34 Years' age bracket make up the largest proportion of people who have force used on them; 34.6% of all incidents (table 5). This is in line with arrest frequency of the measures when evaluated independently.

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY

Figure 13: No. of UoF forms / Niche occurrences by 'Perceived Ethnicity' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)



Consistent with the ethnic composition of Cheshire, White' had the highest volumes of 'Use of Force' incidents during Q1 (90.2%%; 6469, figure 13).

Table 6: No. of UoF forms / Niche occurrences by 'Black (or Black British)' ethnicity – Quarterly comparison

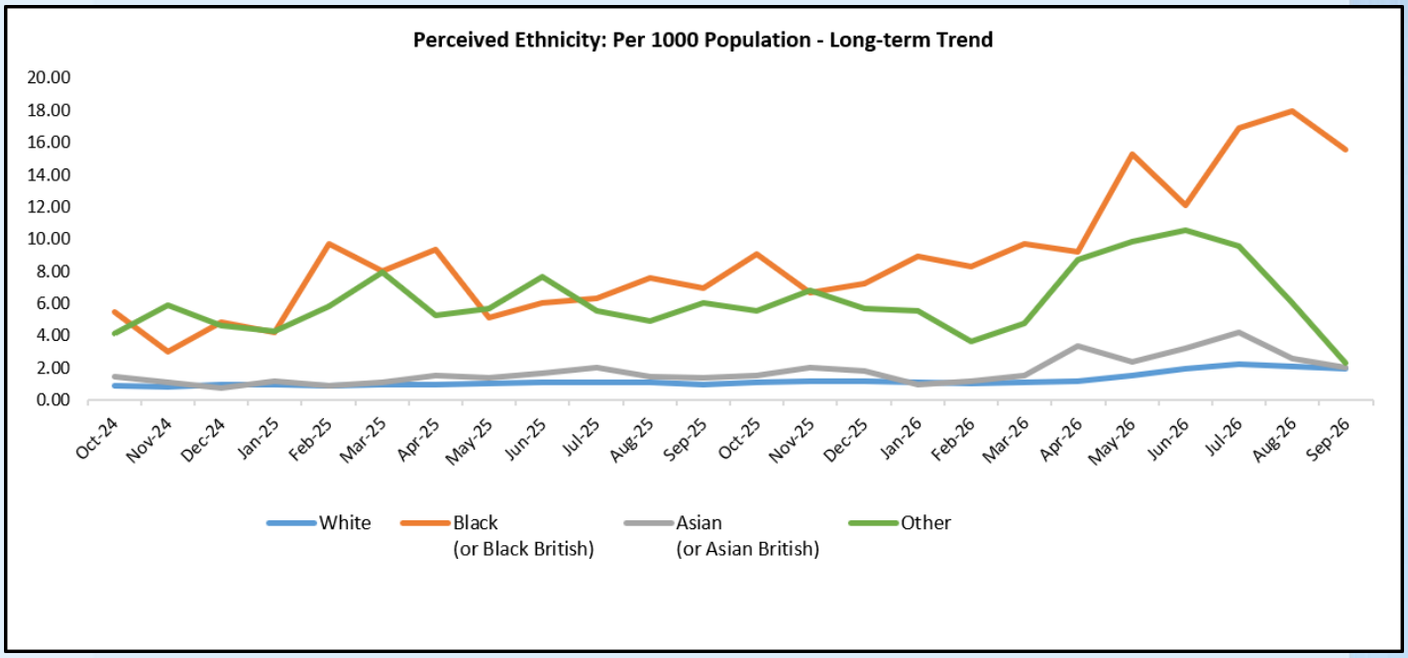
Black (or Black British)	UoF Forms	%	Niche Occurrences
Q2	334	4.7%	187
Q1	242	4.3%	242
Q4	178	4.7%	121
Q3	152	3.8%	103
Prev. Q2	144	3.6%	110

The proportion of **UoF forms submitted whereby the nominal was either known or perceived to be of 'Black (or Black British)' ethnicity has increased by 0.3pp when compared to the previous quarter** and increased when compared to the same period last year (+1.1pp, table 6).

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY: LONG-TERM TREND & PROPORTIONALITY

As per 2021 census, the majority of the population of Cheshire is White (94.8%), as such the highest UoF volumes are recorded against 'White' individuals (figure 14)[5].

Figure 14: Per 1000 population rates by 'Perceived Ethnicity' – Long-term trend (Oct 24 – Sept 26)



The rate of UoF per 1000 population for those perceived or known to be 'Black' has been consistently higher than that of other ethnicities and over this quarter there has been a large increase in rates for this group (table 7).

Over the quarter there has been a substantial increase in *all* UoF form submission, resulting in an increase in UoF volumes across *all* Ethnicities.

Table 7: Volume of UoF by 'Perceived Ethnicity' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)

	UoF Volume	Ethnicity				
	Month / Year	White	Black (or Black British)	Asian (or Asian British)	Other	Don't Know
Q2	Jul-26	2294	112	105	76	0
	Aug-26	2149	119	65	48	7
	Sept-26	2026	103	51	18	14
	Total	6469	334	221	142	21

In Q2 the UoF per 1000 population rate for 'Black' was 50.5, with Aug-26 having the highest ever recorded rate (18.0). In this period individuals perceived or known to be 'Black' were 8 times more likely than perceived or known to be 'White' had force used against them. The UoF per 1000 population rate Individuals whose ethnicity was recorded as 'Other' was 17.9, and they were 3 times more likely than those perceived or known to be 'White' to have force used against them (table 8).

[5] Note: changes in the officer perceived reporting on the UoF app that now permits the office to record 'Don't Know' – this was introduced in June-26. This cannot be included in the per 1000 population analysis as this is not available in census data.

Table 8: Per 1000 population rate by 'Perceived Ethnicity' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)

	UoF per 1000 Pop.	Ethnicity			
	Month / Year	White	Black (or Black British)	Asian (or Asian British)	Other
Q2	Jul-26	2.2	16.9	4.2	9.6
	Aug-26	2.1	18.0	2.6	6.0
	Sept-26	2.0	15.6	2.0	2.3
	Totals	6.2	50.5	8.8	17.9

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY & INCIDENT LOCATION

When the nominal's 'Perceived Ethnicity' and the 'Incident Location' type combined; the highest volumes across all 'Incident Location' types, related to those perceived or known to be 'White,' accounting for 91.2% of all instances by location.

Figure 15: Proportion of 'Incident Location' by 'Perceived Ethnicity'– Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)

Incident Location - Subject's Ethnicity

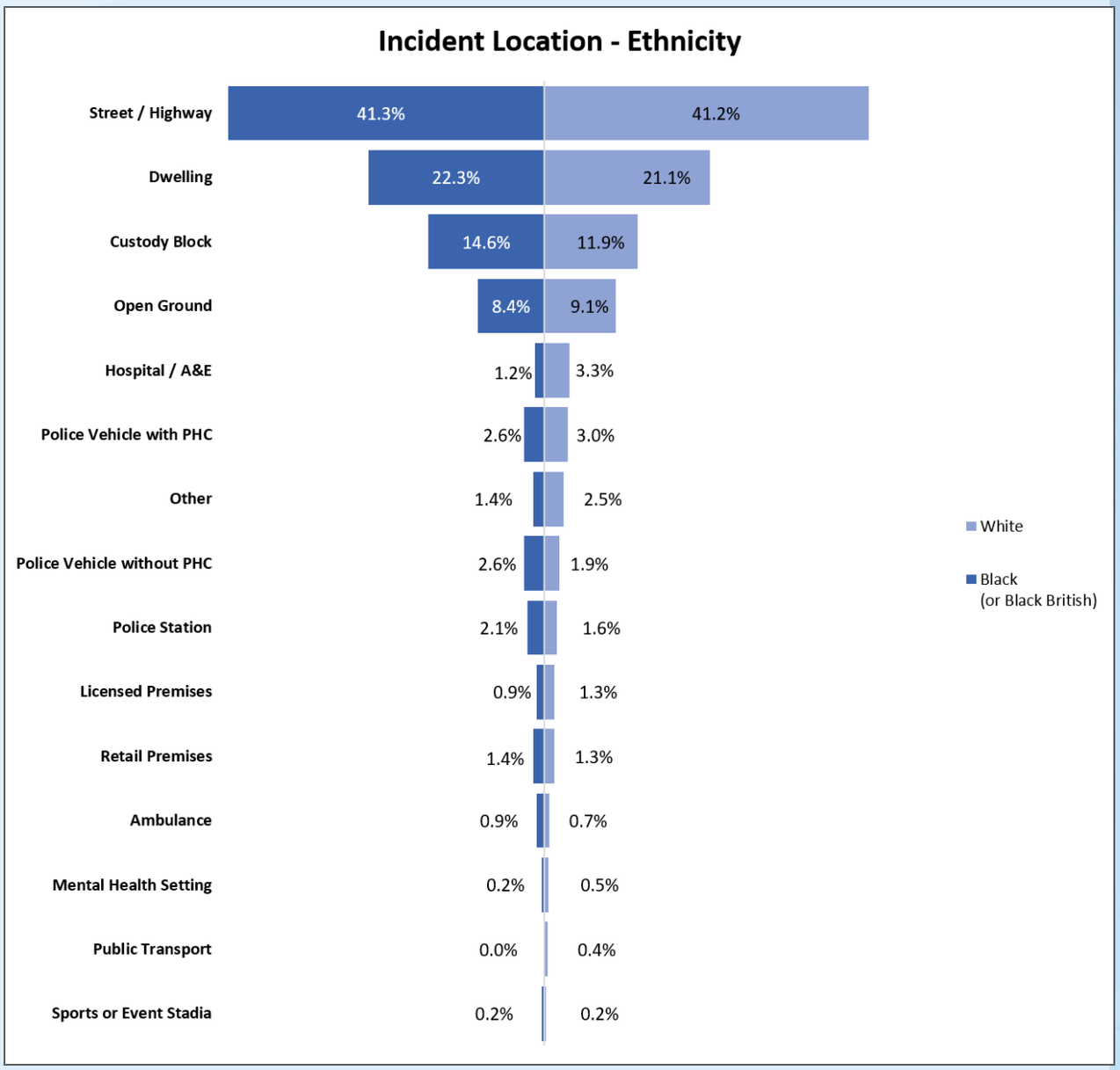
	White	Black (or Black British)	Asian (or Asian British)	Mixed	Other
Street / Highway	41.2%	41.3%	49.4%	40.0%	44.2%
Dwelling	21.1%	22.3%	16.1%	12.0%	18.6%
Custody Block	11.9%	14.6%	7.1%	4.0%	14.7%
Open Ground	9.1%	8.4%	8.2%	20.0%	5.4%
Hospital / A&E	3.3%	1.2%	2.7%	4.0%	3.1%
Police Vehicle with PHC	3.0%	2.6%	1.2%	4.0%	0.8%
Other	2.5%	1.4%	4.3%	4.0%	2.3%
Police Vehicle without PHC	1.9%	2.6%	3.5%	4.0%	2.3%
Police Station	1.6%	2.1%	1.6%	0.0%	3.1%
Licensed Premises	1.3%	0.9%	0.8%	0.0%	1.6%
Retail Premises	1.3%	1.4%	2.4%	4.0%	1.6%
Ambulance	0.7%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%
Mental Health Setting	0.5%	0.2%	0.4%	4.0%	1.6%
Public Transport	0.4%	0.0%	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Sports or Event Stadia	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%

Proportionally, those with their ethnicity recorded as **'Asian' had the highest rate of UoF incidents in 'Street/Highway' locations (49.4%), 8.0pp higher than the overall rate for UoF in this location (41.4%)(figure 15).** 'Street / Highway' had the highest proportion of UoF across all ethnicities. With the exception of 'Mixed' (12.0%) the second most frequent location across all ethnicities was 'Dwelling', the highest rate being for those recorded as 'Black (or Black British)' (22.3%), 1.4pp above the overall rate (20.9%).

Those with perceived or known 'Mixed' ethnicity had the highest rates of UoF on 'Open Ground' (20.0%), 11pp higher than overall rates (9.0%), other ethnicities had rates in line with the overall of UoF in this location (9.0%).

Those with 'Other' as recorded ethnicity had the highest rates of UoF in a 'Custody Block' location (14.7%), 2.8pp higher compared to the overall rate for this location (11.9%), as did those recorded as 'Black (or Black British)' (14.6%) whose rate was 2.7pp above the overall rate.

Figure 16: Proportion of 'Black (or Black British) vs 'White' by 'Incident Location' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)



Highest proportion of UoF locations for both 'Black (or Black British) and 'White' are consistent with the overall most frequency recorded incident locations (figure 16). Those of 'Black' perceived ethnicity had a higher proportion of UoF incidents in 'Custody Block' (14.6%) compared to those perceived as 'White' (11.9%).

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY & IMPACT FACTORS

When the nominal's 'Perceived Ethnicity' and the 'Impact Factors' combined; the highest volumes across all 'Impact Factors' related to those perceived or known to be 'White', accounting for 88.2% of incidents.

Figure 17: Proportion of 'Perceived Ethnicity' by 'Impact Factors' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)

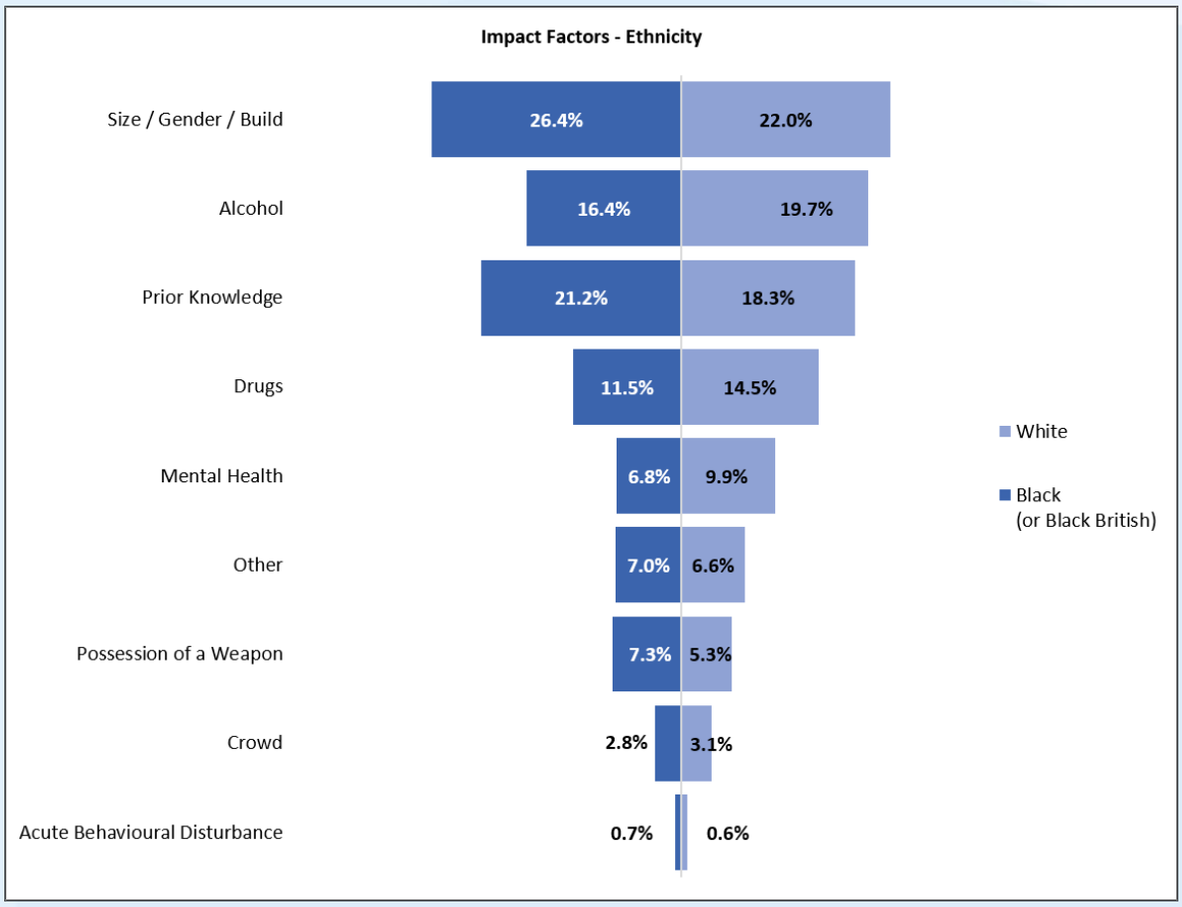
Impact Factors - Subject's Ethnicity

	White	Black (or Black British)	Asian (or Asian British)	Mixed	Other
Size / Gender / Build	22.0%	26.4%	22.3%	31.4%	23.1%
Alcohol	19.7%	16.4%	10.1%	2.9%	16.5%
Prior Knowledge	18.3%	21.2%	20.0%	22.9%	18.4%
Drugs	14.5%	11.5%	11.6%	5.7%	15.7%
Mental Health	9.9%	6.8%	7.4%	2.9%	12.2%
Other	6.6%	7.0%	13.4%	11.4%	7.8%
Possession of a Weapon	5.3%	7.3%	11.6%	11.4%	3.1%
Crowd	3.1%	2.8%	3.5%	11.4%	2.0%
Acute Behavioural Disturbance	0.6%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%

Rates of UoF with Impact Factor recorded as '**Size/Gender/Build' are proportionally highest for 'Mixed' (31.4%) and 'Black' (26.4%), when compared to the overall proportion (22.2%) of this factor 'Mixed' was 9.2pp higher and 'Black' was 4.2pp higher (figure 17).**

Conversely, rates of UoF with Impact Factor 'Alcohol' were very low for those of perceived 'Mixed' ethnicity (2.9%), 16.3pp lower than the overall rate for 'Alcohol'.

Figure 18: Proportion of 'Black (or Black British)' vs 'White' by 'Impact Factors' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)



Overall, the most common Impacts Factors for both 'Black (or Black British)' vs 'White' ethnicities are consistent with the overall pattern of Impact Factors influencing UoF (figure 18).

The proportion of incidents where 'Alcohol' is an Impact Factor for UoF is lower for those perceived as 'Black (or Black British)' (16.4%) than the proportion for those with 'White' ethnicity (19.7%).

Conversely, 'Prior Knowledge' had a higher proportion of incidents involving those perceived as 'Black' (21.2%) than 'White' (19.7%), both of which were higher than the general proportion (18.5%).

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY & REASONS FOR FORCE

When the nominal's 'Perceived Ethnicity' and 'Reasons for Force' combined; the highest volumes across all 'Reasons for Force' related to those perceived or known to be 'White', accounting for 89.9%.

Figure 19: Proportion of 'Perceived Ethnicity' by 'Reasons for Force' – Q2 (Jul –Sept 26)

Reason for Force - Subject's Ethnicity

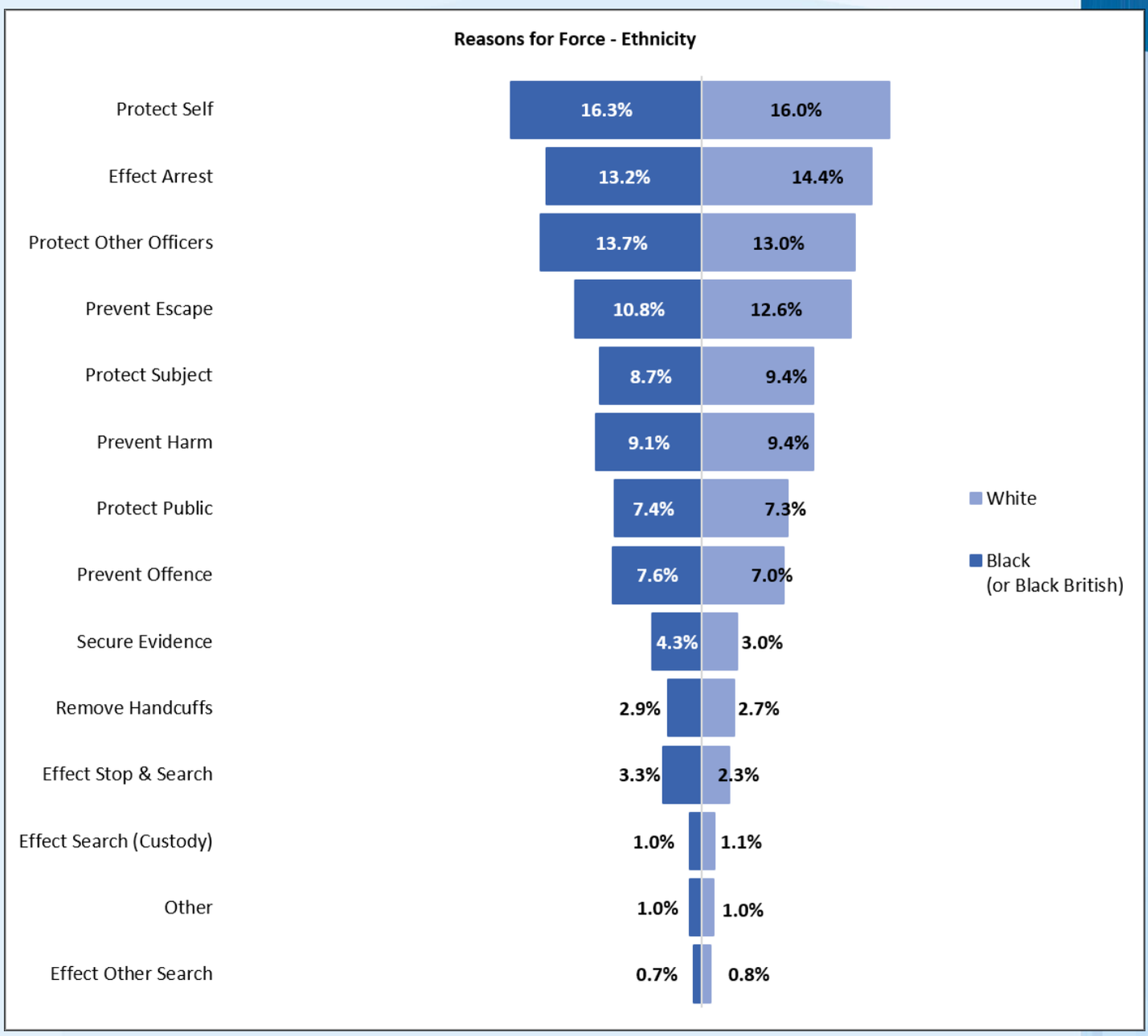
	White	Black (or Black British)	Asian (or Asian British)	Mixed	Other
Protect Self	16.0%	16.3%	15.0%	14.3%	15.4%
Effect Arrest	14.4%	13.2%	14.1%	11.9%	13.7%
Protect Other Officers	13.0%	13.7%	10.6%	7.1%	11.5%
Prevent Escape	12.6%	10.8%	13.3%	15.5%	13.7%
Protect Subject	9.4%	8.7%	7.1%	7.1%	8.8%
Prevent Harm	9.4%	9.1%	7.2%	11.9%	9.9%
Protect Public	7.3%	7.4%	6.6%	7.1%	7.0%
Prevent Offence	7.0%	7.6%	5.7%	8.3%	7.9%
Secure Evidence	3.0%	4.3%	2.2%	3.6%	4.0%
Remove Handcuffs	2.7%	2.9%	13.3%	4.8%	2.0%
Effect Stop & Search	2.3%	3.3%	2.7%	6.0%	3.1%
Effect Search (Custody)	1.1%	1.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.9%
Other	1.0%	1.0%	0.6%	2.4%	1.3%
Effect Other Search	0.8%	0.7%	1.2%	0.0%	0.9%

UoF incidents where the Reason for Force was 'Protect Self' were proportionally highest for all ethnicities, with proportions that reflected the general percentage of 'Protect Self' as a Reason for Force (16.4%) (figure 19).

Those with 'Asian' perceived ethnicity a much higher rate than other ethnicities for 'Remove Handcuffs' (13.3%), 10.6 pp higher than the overall proportion for this UoF reason (2.7%).

Similarly, 'Mixed' had a much higher proportion of incidents where the Reason for Force was 'Prevent Escape' (15.5%), 2.9pp higher than the general proportion (12.6%).

Figure 20: Proportions of 'Black (or Black British)' vs 'White' by 'Reason for Force' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)



Overall, the most common Reasons for Force for both 'Black (or Black British)' vs 'White' ethnicities are consistent with the general pattern of Reasons for Force (figure 20). There is minimal proportional difference in Reasons for Force between the two groups.

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED ETHNICITY & TACTICS

When the nominal's 'Perceived Ethnicity' and the 'Tactics' used combined; the highest volumes across all 'Tactics' related to those perceived or known to be 'White', accounting for 87.6%.

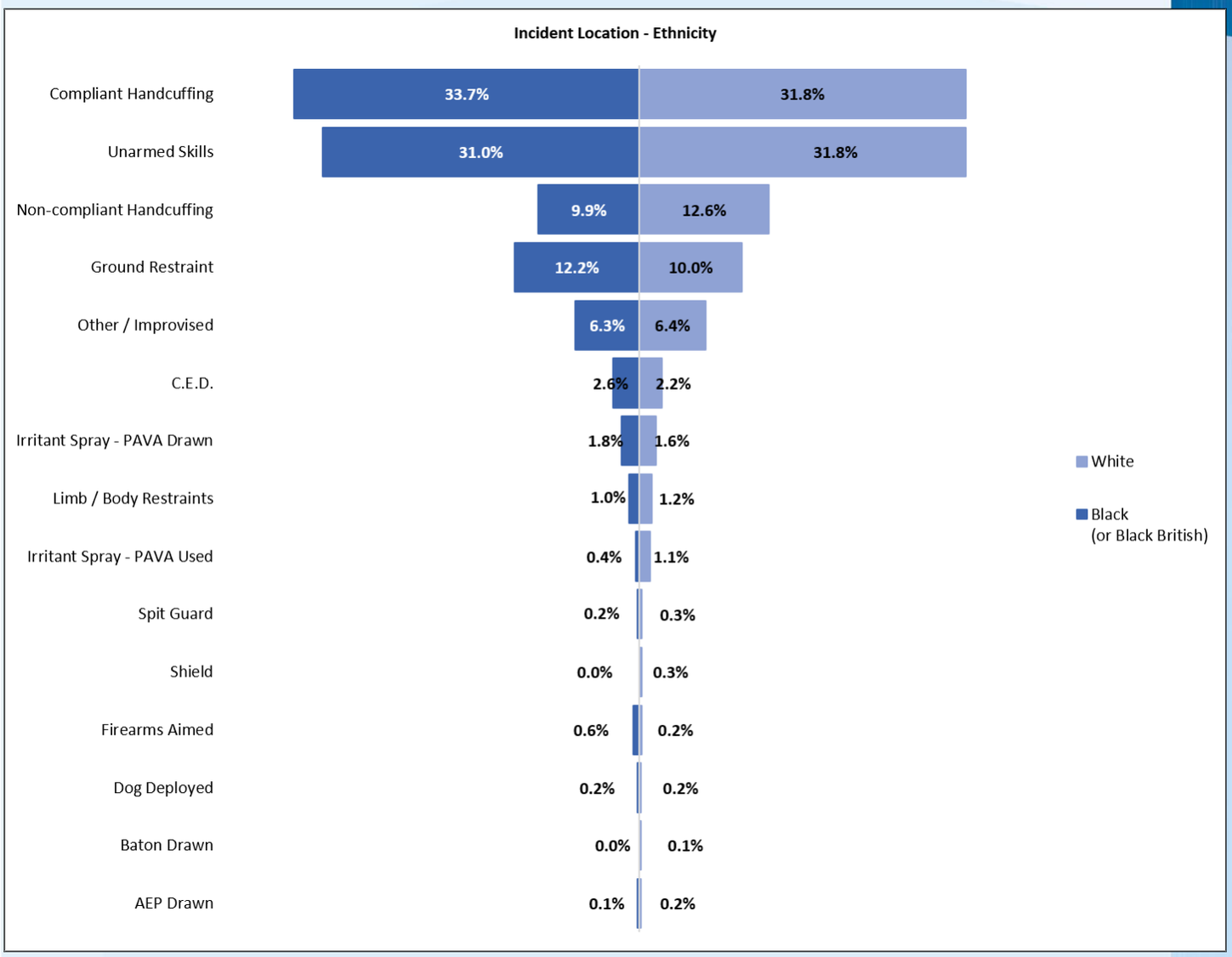
Figure 21: Proportion of 'Perceived Ethnicity' by 'Tactics' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)

Tactics - Subject's Ethnicity

	White	Black (or Black British)	Asian (or Asian British)	Mixed	Other
Compliant Handcuffing	31.8%	33.7%	50.2%	52.2%	37.9%
Unarmed Skills	31.8%	31.0%	25.1%	26.1%	28.1%
Non-compliant Handcuffing	12.6%	9.9%	7.5%	4.3%	12.4%
Ground Restraint	10.0%	12.2%	5.1%	0.0%	7.2%
Other / Improvised	6.4%	6.3%	5.4%	8.7%	6.5%
C.E.D.	2.2%	2.6%	4.4%	0.0%	2.6%
Irritant Spray - PAVA Drawn	1.6%	1.8%	0.7%	4.3%	1.3%
Limb / Body Restraints	1.2%	1.0%	0.7%	0.0%	3.3%
Irritant Spray - PAVA Used	1.1%	0.4%	0.7%	0.0%	0.7%
Spit Guard	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Shield	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Firearms Aimed	0.2%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Dog Deployed	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	4.3%	0.0%
Baton Drawn	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
AEP Drawn	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Baton Used	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Those with perceived ethnicity recorded as '**Mixed' (52.2%) and 'Asian' (50.2%) have the highest proportion of 'Compliant Handcuffing', 22.8pp 20.8pp and higher than the overall proportion (30.9%) respectively (figure 21)**.

Figure 22: Proportions of 'Black (or Black British)' vs 'White' by 'Tactics' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)



Overall, the pattern Tactics for both 'Black (or Black British)' vs 'White' ethnicities are consistent with the general pattern of UoF Tactics used (figure 22).

Those with 'Black (or Black British)' had a lower proportion of UoF incidents involving 'Non-compliance Handcuffing' (9.9%), but a greater proportion of incidents involving 'Ground Restraint' (12.2%) than those perceived to be 'White' (12.6%; 10.0%).

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED TO BE PHYSICALLY DISABLED

369 (5.1%) 'Use of Force' forms submitted whereby the Officer either knew or perceived the nominal to be 'Physically Disabled'.

313 Niche occurrences, 44 of which had more than one 'Use of Force' form submitted.

Table 9: Nominal perceived to be 'Physically Disabled' – Quarterly comparison

Physically Disabled	UoF Forms	%
Q2	369	5.1%
Q1	298	5.4%
Q4	178	4.7%
Q3	174	4.3%
Prev. Q2	176	4.4%

The volume of 'Use of Force' forms submitted whereby the individuals were either perceived or known to be 'Physically Disabled' has increased compared to Q1 (+71 forms) and the previous Q2 (+193 forms), however **proportionally UoF against 'Physically Disabled' individuals has remained relatively stable over time with a 0.2pp decrease compared to Q1 and 0.7pp increase compared to the previous Q2 (table 9).**

NOMINAL'S PERCEIVED TO HAVE A MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION

1593 (22.1%) Use of Force' forms submitted whereby the Officer either perceived or knew the nominal to have a 'Mental Health Condition'.

1025 Niche occurrences, 328 of which had more than one 'Use of Force' form submitted.

Table 10: Nominal perceived to have a 'Mental Health Condition' – Quarterly comparison

Mental Health Condition	UoF Forms	%
Q2	1593	22.1%
Q1	1209	21.7%
Q4	802	21.3%
Q3	876	21.8%
Prev. Q2	865	21.8%

The volume of 'Use of Force' forms submitted relating to individuals either known or perceived to have a 'Mental Health Condition' has increased from Q1 (+384 forms), and an increase compared to the previous Q2 (+728 forms) 9table 10). However, **the proportion of incidents has remained relatively stable over time**; a 0.4pp increase from Q2 and a 0.3pp increase from the previous Q1.

Additionally, the impact of mental health conditions during Q2 has been recorded by the 'Use of Force' forms submitted:

- 0.5% (48) recorded the 'Incident Location' as a 'Mental Health Setting'.
- 9.7% (1582) recorded 'Mental Health' to be an 'Impact Factor'.
- 2.0% (152) recorded the 'Outcome' as 'Detained (Mental Health Act)'.
- 0.6% (96) recorded 'Acute Behavioural Disturbance' to be an 'Impact Factor'.

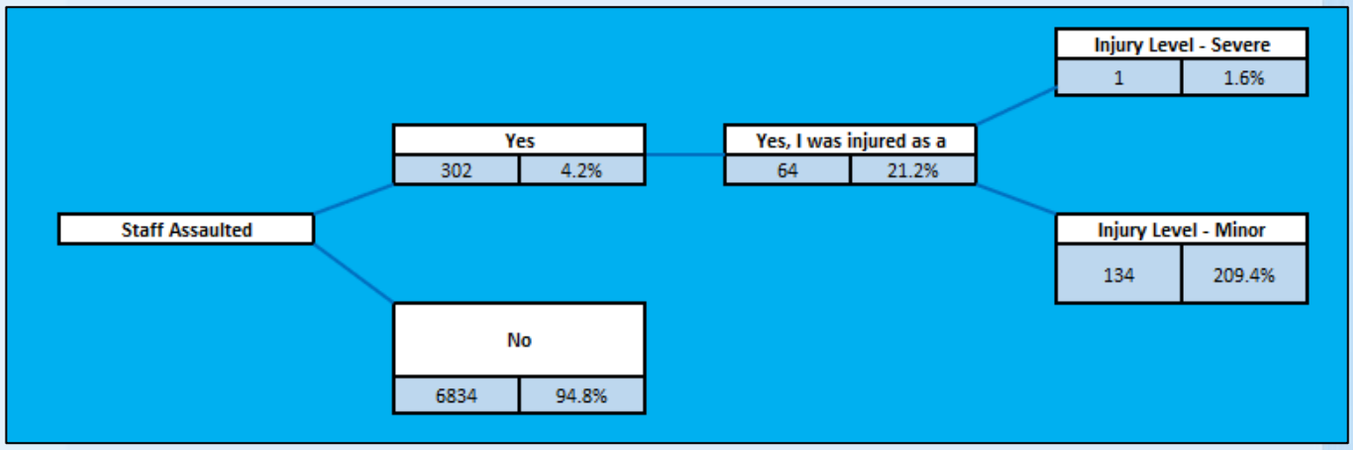
OFFICER INJURIES AND ASSAULTS

Table 11: Officer 'Assaults' - Quarterly Comparison

Assaulted	UoF Forms	%
Q2	302	4.2%
Q1	254	4.6%
Q4	184	5.0%
Q3	209	5.3%
Prev. Q2	215	5.4%

Despite an increase in 'Officer Assaults' (+48 forms) the **proportion of 'Officer Assaults' is stable when compared to Q1 (-0.4pp) and has decreased from the previous Q2 (-1.2pp)** (table 11).

Figure 23: Officer 'Assaults' – Q2 (Jul-Sept 26)



During Q2 302 (4.2%) UoF forms reported an officer assault, 64 (21.2%) assaults resulted in an 'Injury' to the Officers involved. 1 (1.3%) form submitted recorded a 'Severe' injury (figure 23).

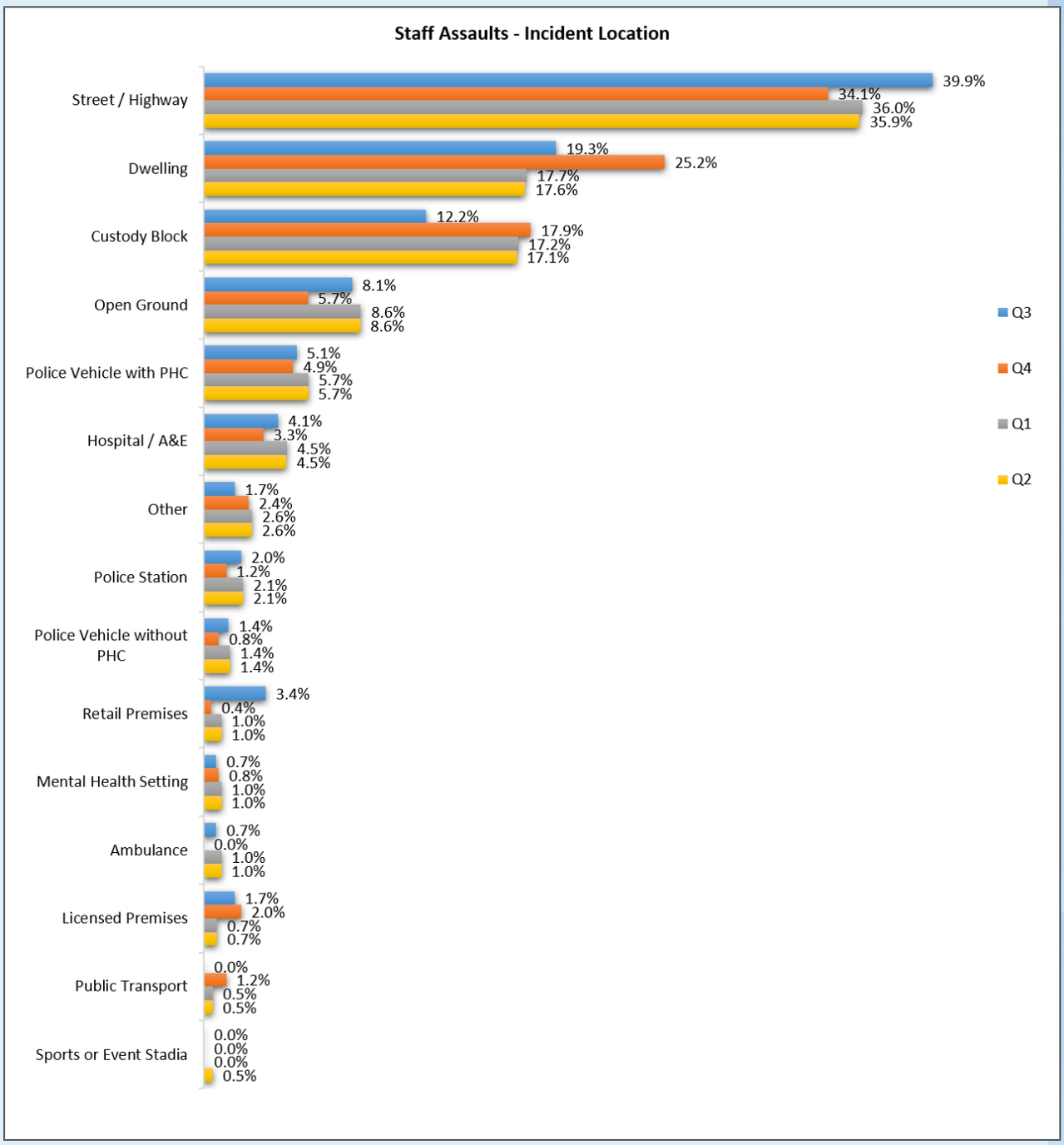
When reviewing the nominal details relating to the 254 'Assaults' forms:

- 91.1% (275) were perceived or known to be of 'White' ethnicity.
- 61.3% (185) were perceived on known to be 'Male'.
- 39.1% (118) were perceived or known to be within the '18-34 years' age group.
- 27.2% (82) were perceived or known to have a 'Mental Health condition'.

OFFICER ASSAULTS & INCIDENT LOCATION

Incidents may take place in more than one location; all locations that apply should be selected.

Figure 24: Proportion of UoF forms with an Officer 'Assault' by 'Incident Location' – Quarterly comparison



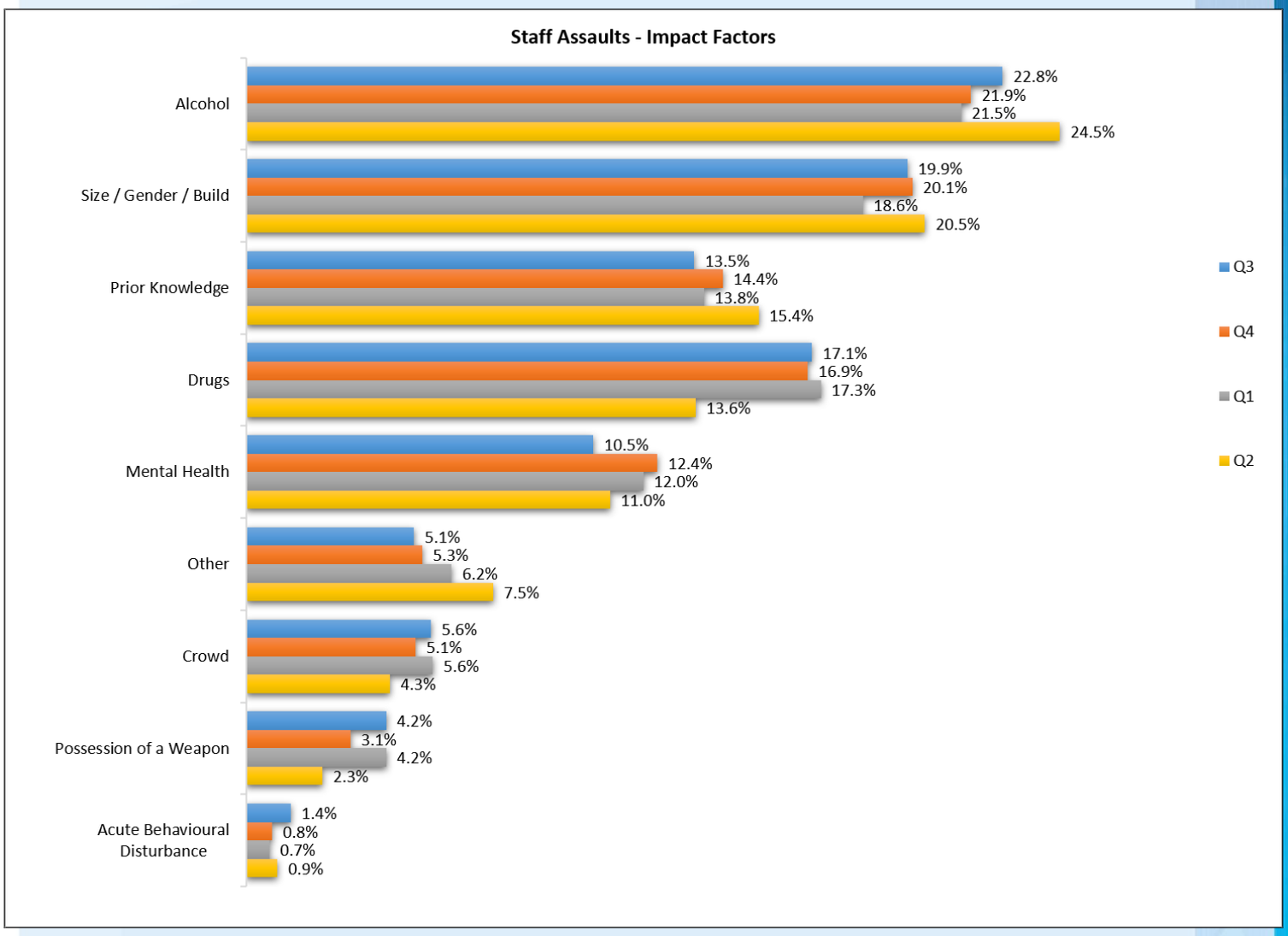
The most frequently reported locations for assaults on officers are consistent with pervious the overall locations for UoF (figure 24).

There has been little variation in Q2 compared to Q1 for Staff Assaults across all Location types. The biggest change was recorded for 'Street / Highway', which decreased slightly this quarter (-0.2pp).

There have been 2 forms submitted whereby the Officer was 'Assaulted' and the **only** 'Incident Location' type selected was 'Other'.

OFFICER ASSAULTS & IMPACT FACTORS

Figure 25: Proportion of UoF forms with an Officer 'Assault' by 'Impact Factor' – Quarterly comparison



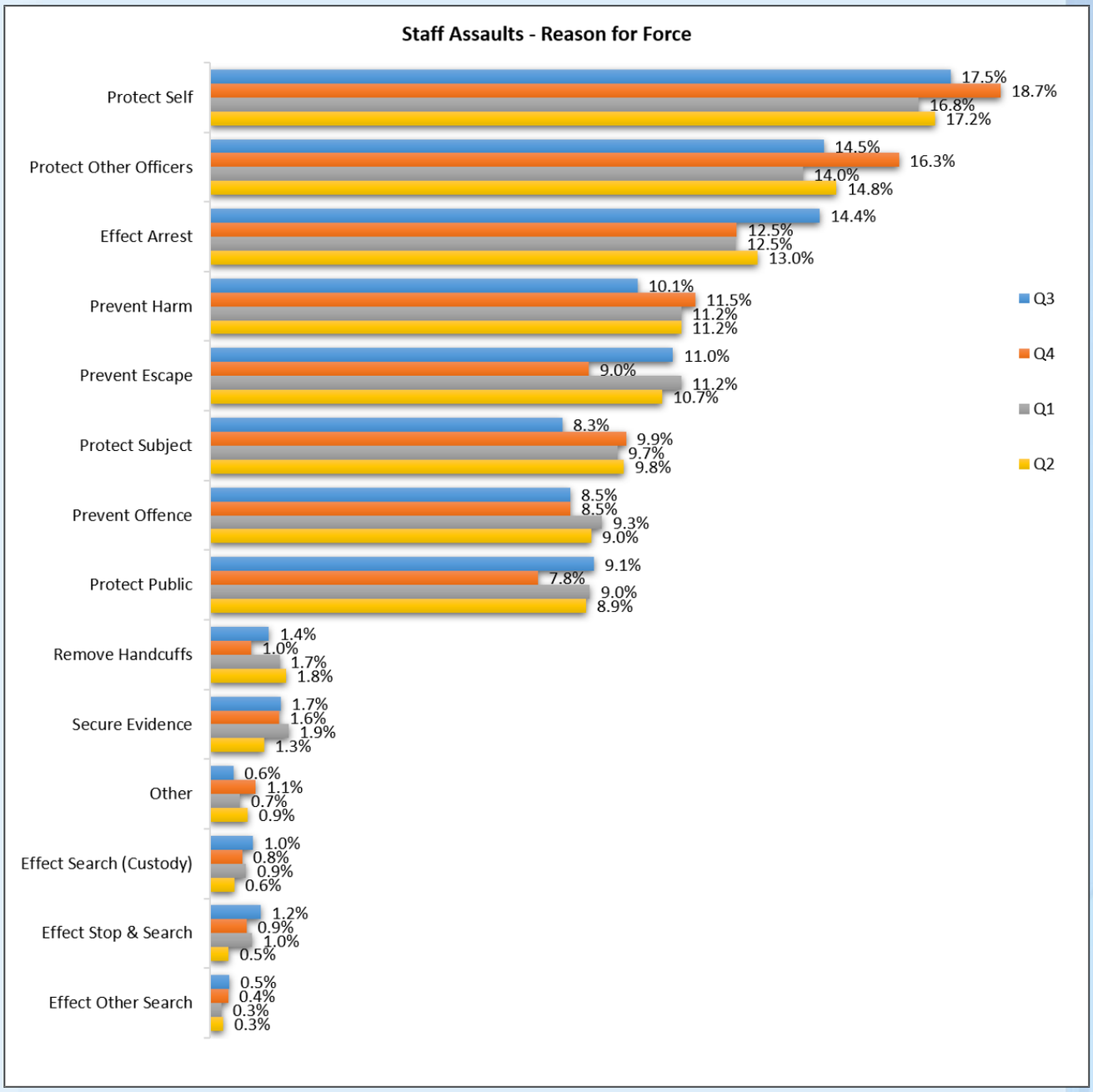
The 'Impact Factors' most commonly reported in officer assault hare consistent with previous quarters and are in line with the overall 'Use of Force' findings (figure 25).

In Q2 there has been an increase in the proportion of officer assaults where the 'Impact Factor' is recorded as 'Alcohol' (+3.0pp), 'Size / Gender / Build' (+1.9pp) and 'Prior Knowledge' (+1.6pp). **There was a decrease in officer assaults where 'Drugs' are reported as an 'Impact Factor' (-3.8pp)**

There were 13 forms submitted whereby the Officer was 'Assaulted' and the **only** 'Impact Factor' selected was 'Other'.

OFFICER ASSAULTS & REASON FOR FORCE

Figure 26: Proportion of UoF forms with an Officer 'Assault' by 'Reason for Force' – Quarterly comparison

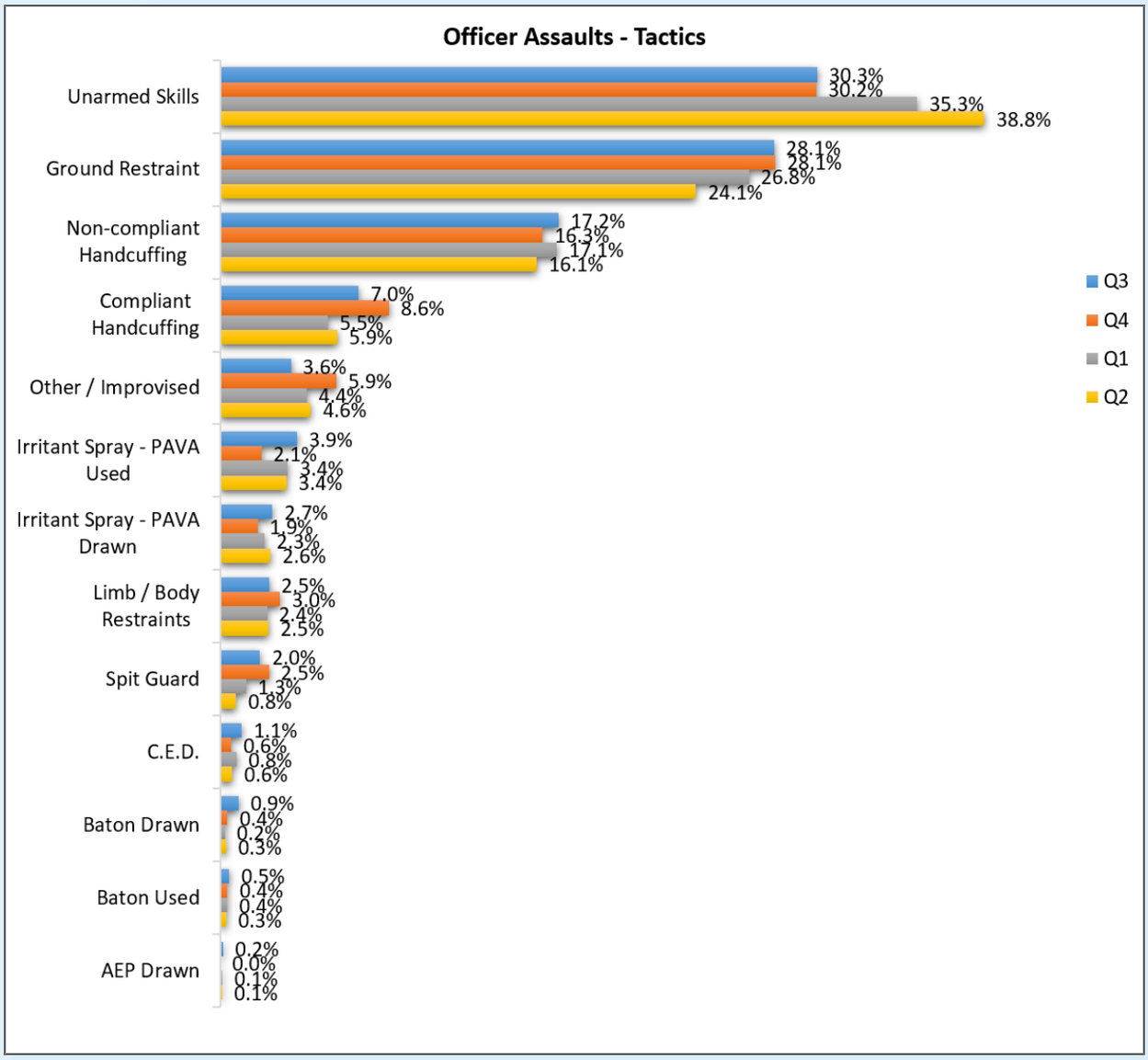


In **Q2 the 'Reasons for Force' associated with Staff Assaults where consistent with Q1,** with minimal changes in proportion of 'Reason' in this quarter compared to the previous (figure 26). The greatest change reported was a 0.8pp increase in 'Protect Other Officers'.

There were no forms were submitted whereby the Officer was assaulted and the **only** Reason for Force selected was 'Other'.

OFFICER ASSAULTS & TACTICS

Figure 27: Proportion of UoF forms with an Officer 'Assault' by 'Tactics' – Quarterly comparison



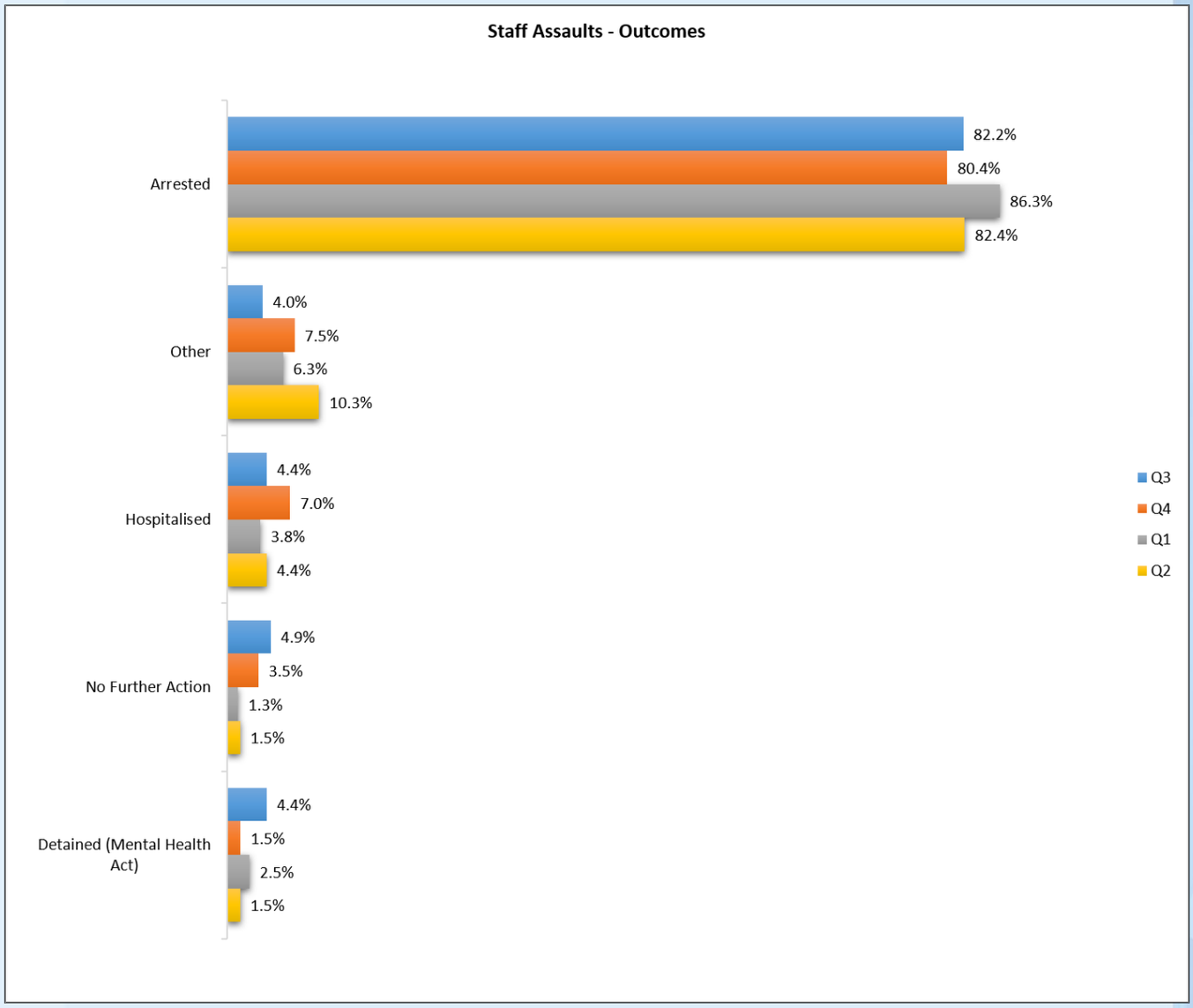
The 'Tactics' associated with officer assaults vary slightly from the overall tactics associated with UoF, likely as such tactics require the Officer to be physical and/or within close contact with the nominal. The lower volumes are observed for the 'Tactics' whereby the Officer can maintain a safer distance and use additional items to diffuse a situation such as a dog or AEP.

In **Q2 there was an increase in officer assaults where 'Unarmed Skills' tactics were used (+3.4pp)** compared to the previous quarter (figure 27). **Officer assaults associated with 'Ground Restraint' fell by 2.7pp.**

OFFICER ASSAULTS & OUTCOMES

'Outcomes' refer to the outcomes for the nominals who have had force used against them.

Figure 28: Proportion of UoF forms with an Officer 'Assault' by 'Outcomes' – Quarterly comparison



There was **a decrease in Officer 'Assaults' associated with 'Arrested' outcomes during Q2 (-3.9pp) (figure 28). During the same period there was an increase in Officer Assaults associated with an outcome of 'Other' (+4.0pp).**

During Q1 there have been 14 forms submitted whereby an Officer 'Assault' occurred and the **only** 'Outcome' selected was 'No Further Action'. There were 23 forms submitted whereby the 'Outcome' selected was 'Other' **only**.

NOMINAL PHYSICALLY INJURED AS A RESULT OF FORCE USED

4903 (88.0%) of forms the nominal was **NOT** injured because of the force used and in **7.3% (525) of occurrences injury level was 'Unknown'**.

275 (3.8%) forms recorded the nominal to have been 'Physically Injured' due to the UoF encounter (table 12), relating to **179** Niche occurrences.

Table 12: 'Nominal Injured' – Quarterly comparison

	Nominal Injured = Yes		Nominal Injured = Unknown	
	UoF Forms	%	UoF Forms	%
Q2	275	3.8%	525	7.3%
Q1	226	4.1%	525	7.3%
Q4	136	3.6%	246	6.5%
Q3	158	3.9%	276	6.9%
Prev. Q2	184	4.6%	262	6.6%

The volume of Nominal Injuries during UoF occurrences has increased slightly this quarter compared to Q1 (+49) but was overall proportionally consistent with previous periods (-0.2pp, table 12).

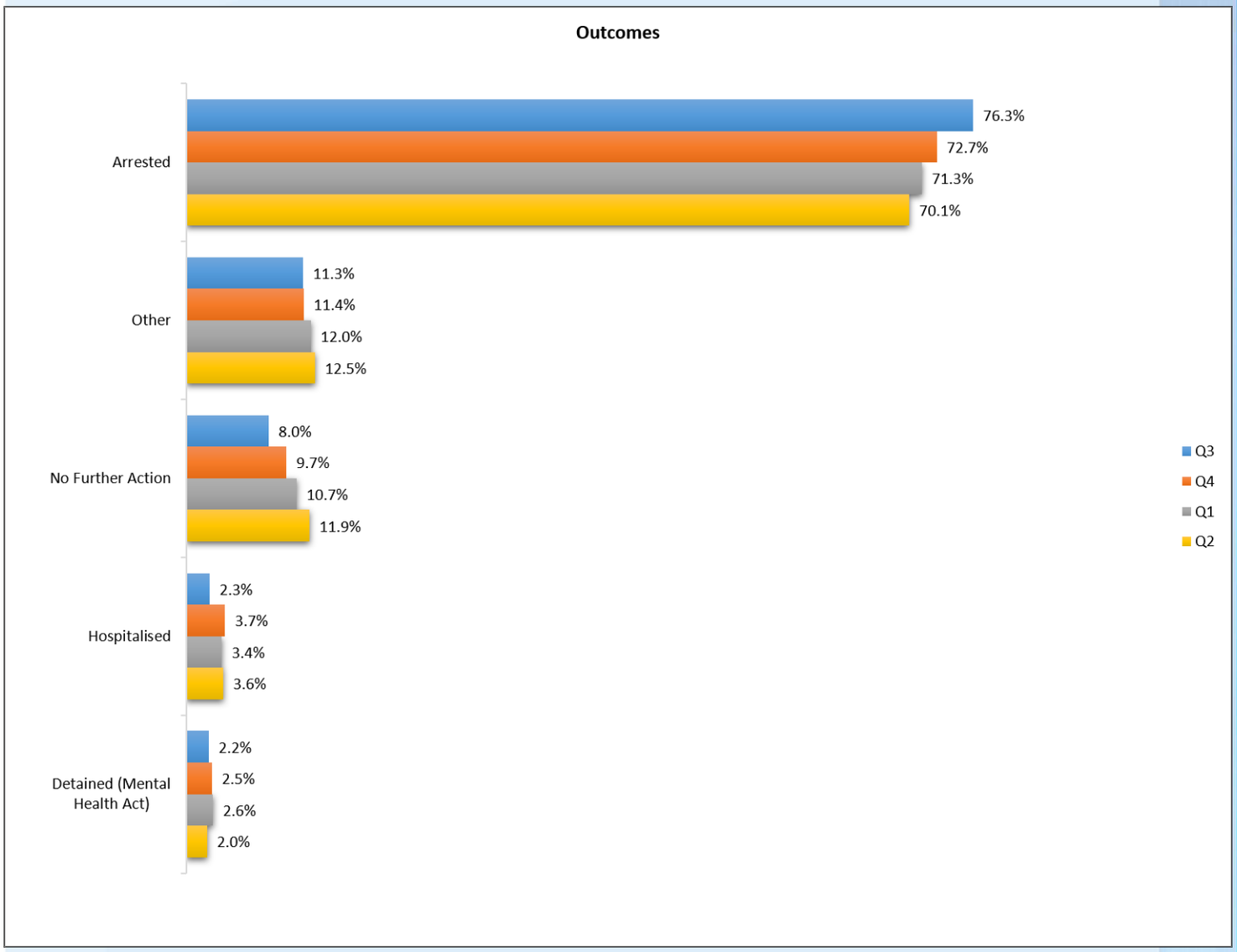
Of the 275 forms whereby the nominal was injured, 255 were 'Minor' level of injury. 14 forms recorded a 'Severe' injury to the nominal.

When reviewing the characteristics of the nominals injured during Quarter 1:

- 90.2% (248) were perceived or known to be of 'White' ethnicity.
- 86.5% (238) were perceived or known to be 'Male'.
- 40.7% (112) were perceived or known to be within the '18 - 34 years' age group.
- 34.9% (96) were perceived or known to have a 'Mental Health Condition'.

OUTCOMES

Figure 30: Proportion of UoF forms by 'Outcome' – Quarterly comparison



The Outcomes reported in Q2 have been consistent with those reported in previous 12-month period. **There has been an increase in 'No Further Action' (+1.4pp) and a decrease in 'Arrested' (-1.2pp) outcomes compared to Q1 (figure 30)**.

During Q2 there have been 681 forms submitted whereby the 'Outcome' selected was 'Other' **only,** accounting for 8.9% of the total 'Outcomes' selected.

Additionally, there have been 745 forms submitted whereby the 'Outcome' selected was 'No Further Action' **only,** accounting for 9.7% of the total 'Outcomes'.

CONCLUSIONS

NOTABLE INCREASES

- Quarter-on-quarter increase observed in Use of Force reporting (+29.4% from Q1).
- Quarter-on-quarter increase in multi-form recording (+5.2pp from Q1).
- Over Q2 there was an increased use of Unarmed Skills compared to previous quarters (+3.9pp form Q1).
- Over Q2 there was an increased Drawn (+3.7pp) and Aimed (+2.3pp) C.E.D. deployments.

NOTABLE DECREASES

- Q2 recorded decrease in Ground Restraint (-1.6pp) and Compliant Handcuffing (-1.5pp).
- Over Q2 there was a decrease in 'Red-Dot' as the highest C.E.D. deployment (-8.9pp).
- Quarter-on-quarter decrease observed officer assault rate (as a proportion of all UoF incidents).

LONG-TERM STABILITY

- Overall C.E.D. usage has remained consistent with previous quarters, regardless of form volume increase.
- UoF involving a subject believed to have a mental health-related condition has remained relatively stable from the previous quarter.
- The age and gender profiles of those subject to UoF have remained consistent with those observed in previous quarters.
- The rates of Staff and Nominal Injury remain stable compared to the previous quarter.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

1. Sustain and Validate Recording Compliance

UoF forms increased by 29.4% and 81.4% compared to the same quarter in the previous year, alongside a 5.2 percentage point increase in multi-form occurrences. This is attributed to increased organisational emphasis recording compliance.

Recommendation: Continue oversight and periodic audits to ensure reporting improvements are sustained and to distinguish genuine operational change from increased compliance.

2. Examine the Shift Towards Unarmed Skills and Reduced Restraint Tactics

Unarmed Skills increased by 3.9 percentage points, while Ground Restraint and Compliant Handcuffing both continued their downward trend.

Recommendation: Review whether the shift in tactical approaches reflects changes in training, operational practice, incident types, or recording behaviour. Monitoring should continue to assess whether reduced reliance on restraint techniques corresponds with positive safety and outcome measures.

3. Conduct a Thematic Review of Custody-Based Use of Force

Custody Block incidents increased by 2.2 percentage points, representing the largest location-based increase during the quarter.

Recommendation: Monitor custody-related UoF incidents to assess whether the increase is associated with rising detainee volumes, behavioural factors, procedural changes, or recording improvements.

4. Continue Analysis of Officer Assault Risk Factors

Officer assaults were increasingly associated with alcohol-related incidents, prior knowledge factors, and unarmed skills deployments.

Recommendation: Use assault data to identify emerging risk factors and inform officer safety learning. Particular attention should be given to incidents involving alcohol, high-risk subjects, and close-contact tactics where assault risk appears greatest.

5. Improve Understanding of Repeat Subjects and High-Demand Individuals

Mental health, alcohol intoxication and prior knowledge have been identified as significant contributing factors for UoF, alongside an increase in multi-form submission.

Recommendation: Monitoring of repeat subjects involved in Use of Force incidents to identify recurring vulnerability, behavioural, or demand factors.

APPENDICES

- **APPENDIX A**
- Use of Force – ADR 148 2025-26 Template
- **APPENDIX B**
- 2025-26 ADR 148 – Guidance Notes

APPENDIX C: SECTION CAVEATS

Count Caveats

Each Officer should report their own personal 'Use of Force'. In cases where more than one Officer used force on the same individual, there should be one line of data per Officer for the incident. The 2021 Census has been used to review the per 1000 population rate in relation to the total 'Use of Force' monthly volumes, to identify and monitor for disproportionality. An Officer may have used force against multiple nominals; multiple Officers may have used force during the same occurrence or multiple Officers may have used force against multiple nominals during the same occurrence.

Multiple Selections

There are a number of sections where an officer can make multiple selections per UoF form, resulting in a higher total volume in that section then total form submitted. Below are the sections where this is true, along with total section volumes.

- Location (8,908)
- Impact Factors (16,292)
- Reasons for Force (29,657)
- Tactics (12,350)

Multiple Officers

Multiple officers may submit a form for a single instance of UoF, these forms may contain variations on the selections made in the following sections:

- Location
- Impact Factors
- Reasons for Force
- Tactics
- C.E.D. Use
- Perceived Age
- Perceived Gender
- Perceived Ethnicity
- Nominal's Perceived Ethnicity & Incident Location
- Nominal's Perceived Ethnicity & Impact Factors
- Nominal's Perceived Ethnicity & Reasons for Force
- Nominal's Perceived Ethnicity & Tactics
- Nominal's Perceived to Be Physically Disabled
- Nominal's Perceived to Have a Mental Health Condition
- Officer Injuries and Assaults
- Officer Assaults & Incident Location
- Officer Assaults & Impact Factors
- Officer Assaults & Reason for Force
- Officer Assaults & Tactics
- Officer Assaults & Outcomes
- Nominal Physically Injured as A Result of Force Used

At this time, it is not practicable to identify the form on which this has occurred.

Tactics

Home Office: All incidents should have a 'Tactic' stated. If further 'Tactics' were used during the incident, Officers should indicate the 'Tactic(s)' used, in the order in which they were used. Up to 20 'Tactics' can be recorded per 'Use of Force' form.

It should be noted that the same 'Tactic' could be used against multiple nominals at the same time but would be counted as separate 'Uses of Force.' e.g., a dog could be deployed against 2 nominals at the same time. Additionally, Tactics' can be used more than once during the same incident, including the same Officer against the same nominal.

There are a number of tactics where no data is available, as the tactic has not been used, which have been removed from the analysis. The tactics are as follows: AEP Used, Dog Bite, Irritant Spray - CS Drawn, Irritant Spray - CS Used, Shield & Firearms Fired. Additionally, for Officer Assaults & Tactics, Dog Deployed & Firearms Aimed were excluded.

Long-term Trend & Proportionality Caveats (Age, Gender & Ethnicity)

The 2021 Census has been used to review the per 1000 population rates for 'Use of Force' in relation to the 'Perceived Age', 'Perceived Gender' and 'Perceived Ethnicity' of nominals to identify and monitor for disproportionality. The 2021 Census only recorded the gender options of 'Male' or 'Female' and did not include 'Other' as a gender option, therefore where we have entries recorded as a 'Perceived Gender – Other' these have been removed from this dataset. Within the 'Use of Force' data extracts, when the 'Perceived Ethnicity' had been left 'blank' these entries are formatted to amend to 'Don't Know' in line with the ADR 148 guidance. The 2021 Census did not include 'Don't Know' as an ethnicity option therefore where we have entries recorded as a 'Perceived Ethnicity – Don't Know' these have been removed from this dataset.

Officer Injuries and Assaults

Home Office: Officers are required to record if they were 'Physically Injured' during the 'Use of Force' incident. If the Officer was injured, then they are required to record whether they believed that the injury they received was as a direct result of the nominal assaulting them, as well as the 'Injury Level'.

Nominal Physically Injured as a Result of Force Used

Home Office: Officers are required to record whether a nominal received an injury because of the 'Use of Force' and if so, the 'Level of Injury'.

Outcomes

Home Office: Some incidents may have resulted in more than one 'Outcome'; Officers are required to record all 'Outcomes' that apply. Where officers can select all 'Outcomes' that apply, there may be numerous 'Outcomes' recorded for the same 'Use of Force' incident, where more than one Officer or more than one nominal is involved. Officers may record a different 'Outcome' to one another in these instance.