

### About this bulletin

This bulletin presents information about complaints defined under the Police Reform Act 2002 (PRA 2002), as amended by the Police and Crime Act 2017. The legislation came into effect on 1 February 2020 (4 January 2021 for the British Transport Police).

It sets out performance against a number of measures and compares force results to their most similar force (MSF) group (where applicable)

**Please note: Unless stated otherwise, tables within the bulletin consist of 'year-to-date' figures covering all matters being started or completed between the two dates.**

**Q1: 1 April to 30 June, Q2: 1 April to 30 September, Q3: 1 April to 31 December, Q4: 1 April to 31 March**

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### Acronyms used in this bulletin

**YTD** – Year to date figures, **SPLY** - Same period last year, **MSF** - Most similar force, **LPB** - Local policing body, **PRA** - Police Reform Act 2002

**Nat.** – National, **RPRP** – Reflective Practice Review Process, **UPP** – Unsatisfactory Performance Procedure

# Complaints and allegations logged

A **complaint case** is formed of one or more **allegations**.

This bulletin contains data on complaints, allegations, referrals and reviews broken down in the following ways:

**.Force** - The police force and date range covered by the bulletin title

**.SPLY** - Data as above in the same period of the previous financial year

**.MSF Average** - Most Similar Force group\* average for the period

**.National** - Total or average of all forces in this period

\*Most Similar Force groups are specified by the Home Office and enable comparison between forces of similar size and demographics

Measure	Complaints logged	Per 1,000 employees	Allegations logged	Per 1,000 employees	Average working days to contact complainants	Average working days to log complaints
Force	678	250	1,346	497	14	10
SPLY	878	313	1,402	499	5	5
MSF Average	1,585	347	2,643	569	14	13
National	81,889	325	141,831	563	8	7

**Numbers per 1,000 employees** are used to demonstrate how the number of complaints/allegations against a force compare to their most similar force group and national figures. As the chart for allegations would look similar to the chart for complaints, for clarity only complaints are shown

Note: Number of employees is a fixed number through the period, therefore complaints and allegations per 1,000 employees is higher for the full period (as in the table) than when broken down in to quarters (as per the charts)

## Complaints logged per 1,000 employees



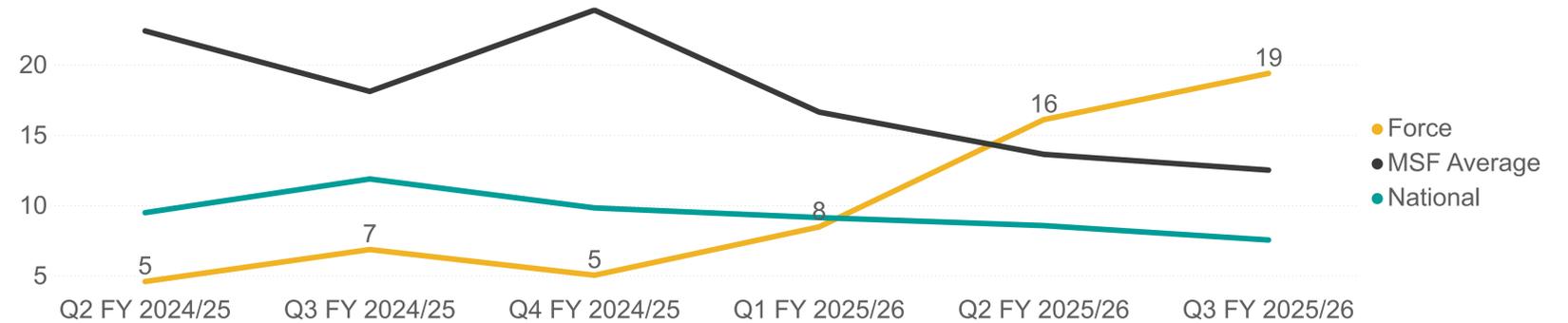
The force should **contact** the complainant and **log (record)** the complaint as soon as possible after the complaint has been raised. Average to log/contact is from the customer perspective.

Data labels in the above charts are those of the force

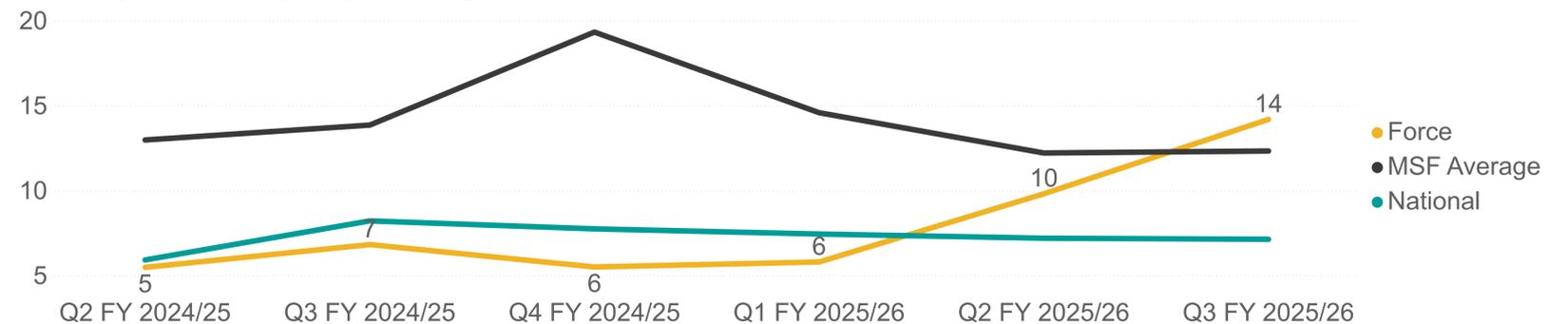
For information on what has been complained about, see pages 2 to 5

For information on allegations and complaints timeliness, see pages 6 and 7

## Average working days to contact complainants



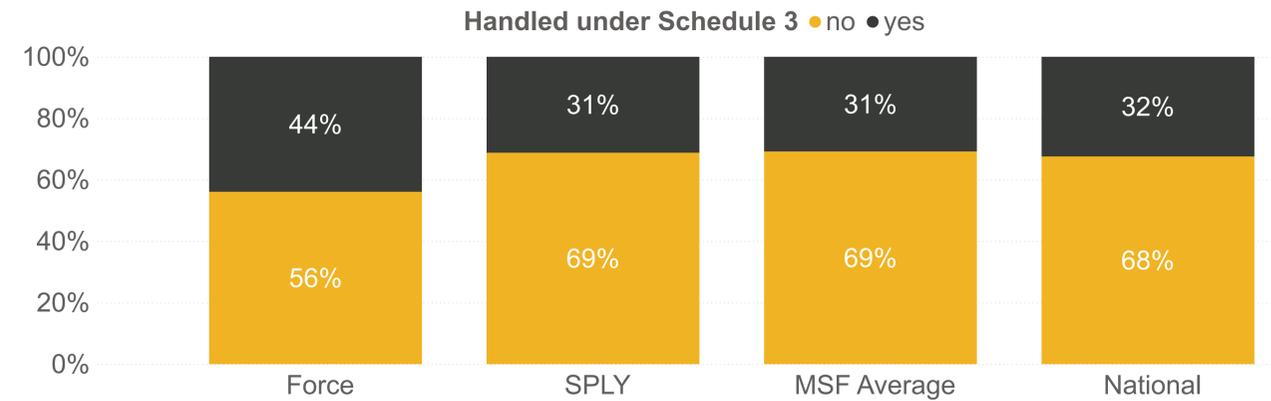
## Average working days to log complaints



# How complaints are being handled and what has been complained about

When a complaint is received by the force, the force can attempt to handle the complaint informally (outside of Schedule 3 of the Police Reform Act) or handle it formally (under Schedule 3). When deciding handle to complaint formally, the force should record the reason why

Reason complaint recorded under Schedule 3	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
AA/body responsible for initial handling decides	32	49	203	9,733
Complainant wishes the complaint be recorded	102	33	62	4,534
Dissatisfaction after initial handling	57	100	77	4,525
Nature of the allegation(s) in the complaint	106	91	146	7,664
<b>Total</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>26,456</b>

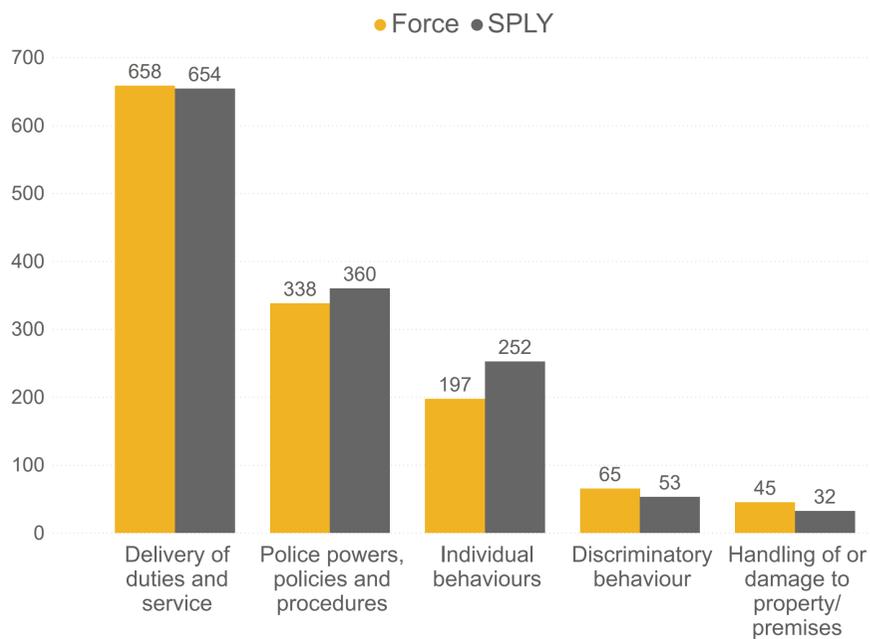


Allegations should have an allegation category applied to them which will identify the root of what the allegation is about. Most of these categories are broken down into subcategories which are detailed in the following pages. An allegation will have a single subcategory applied, a complaint can consist of numerous allegations, each with their own category

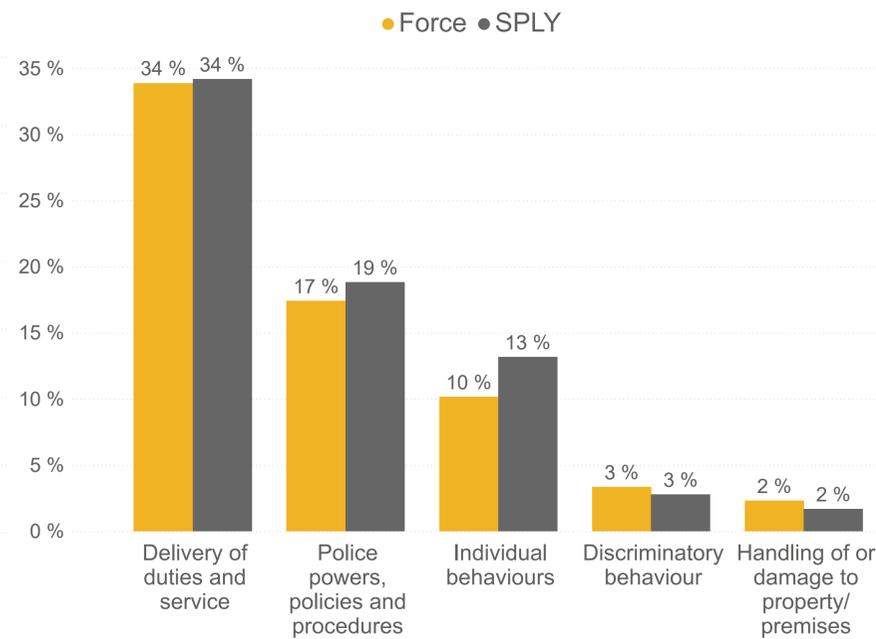
Allegation category	Delivery of duties and service	Police powers, policies and procedures	Handling of or damage to property/premises	Access and/or disclosure of information	Use of police vehicles	Discriminatory behaviour	Abuse of position/corruption	Individual behaviours	Sexual conduct	Discreditable conduct	Other	Total
Force	658	338	45	26	11	65	3	197	1		2	1,346
SPLY	654	360	32	25	15	53	4	252	4	3		1,402
MSF Average	1,487	552	83	53	31	69	27	302	5	15	20	2,643
National	77,009	31,296	4,913	3,035	1,556	3,915	1,107	16,488	251	873	1,387	141,830

## Top five most applied allegation categories

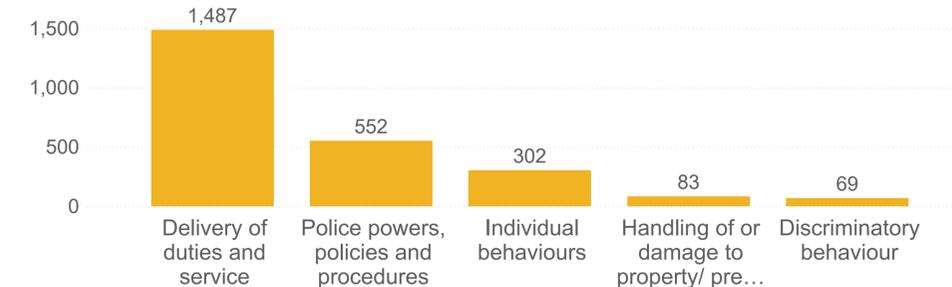
### Force (year-to-date and same period last year)



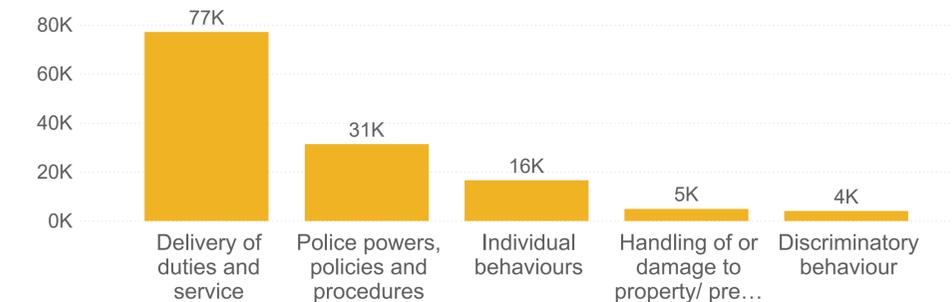
### Force (% of allegations logged)



### MSF group average



### National



For more information on Schedule 3 of the Police Reform Act see the IOPC website and links provided on page 14

This section presents data on some of the most commonly recorded categories on allegations logged. For more information on allegation categories, see the IOPC website and links provided on page 14.

This category is about the service received from the police. Complaints in this category can be organisational or can be about individual behaviour

Delivery of duties and service Sub-category	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%
Police action following contact	321	49%	288	44%	554	37%	32,818	43%
Decisions	165	25%	204	31%	212	14%	12,459	16%
Information	102	16%	94	14%	166	11%	8,754	11%
General level of service	70	11%	68	10%	554	37%	22,975	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,487</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>77,006</b>	<b>100%</b>

This concerns individual behaviours (language, actions and behaviour) that are not an abuse of position or discriminatory in nature

Individual behaviours Sub-category	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%
Unprofessional attitude and disrespect	74	38%	89	35%	93	31%	4,635	28%
Lack of fairness and impartiality	35	18%	32	13%	56	19%	2,408	15%
Impolite and intolerant actions	34	17%	47	19%	35	12%	2,485	15%
Impolite language / tone	28	14%	58	23%	62	20%	4,354	26%
Overbearing or harassing behaviours	26	13%	26	10%	56	19%	2,606	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,488</b>	<b>100%</b>

This category is about the use of police powers, including where an available power has not been used, and police policies and procedures. Complaints in this category can be organisational or about individual behaviour

Police powers, policies and procedures Sub-category	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%
Use of force	94	28%	99	28%	125	23%	7,232	23%
Other policies and procedures	58	17%	73	20%	106	19%	3,750	12%
Searches of premises and seizure of property	52	15%	38	11%	62	11%	4,081	13%
Power to arrest and detain	47	14%	52	14%	87	16%	5,452	17%
Detention in police custody	38	11%	40	11%	67	12%	4,049	13%
Bail, identification and interview procedures	21	6%	20	6%	29	5%	1,897	6%
Evidential procedures	19	6%	27	8%	41	7%	2,841	9%
Stops, and stop and search	6	2%	9	3%	20	4%	1,490	5%
Out of court disposals	3	1%	2	1%	14	3%	504	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>31,296</b>	<b>100%</b>

This includes any issue where an element of discrimination was involved or was perceived to be involved.

It also includes any instances where the possible discriminatory behaviour is identified by the person receiving, recording, or investigating a complaint. Complaints in this category can be organisational or can be about individual behaviour.

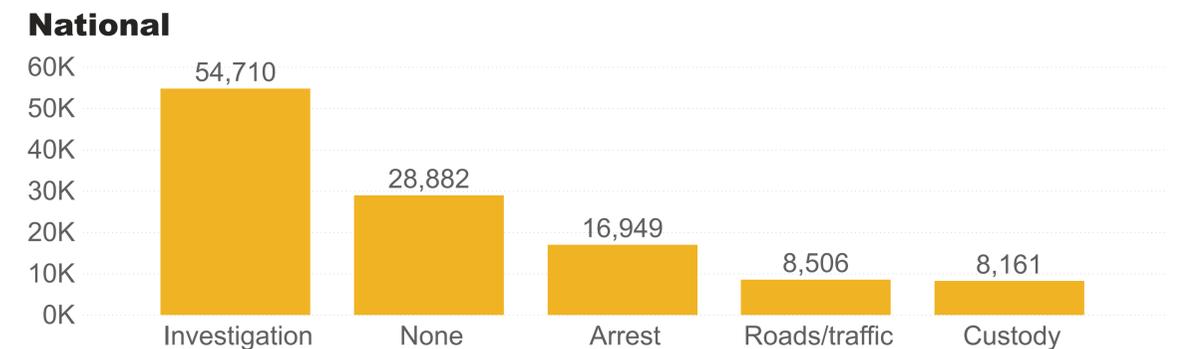
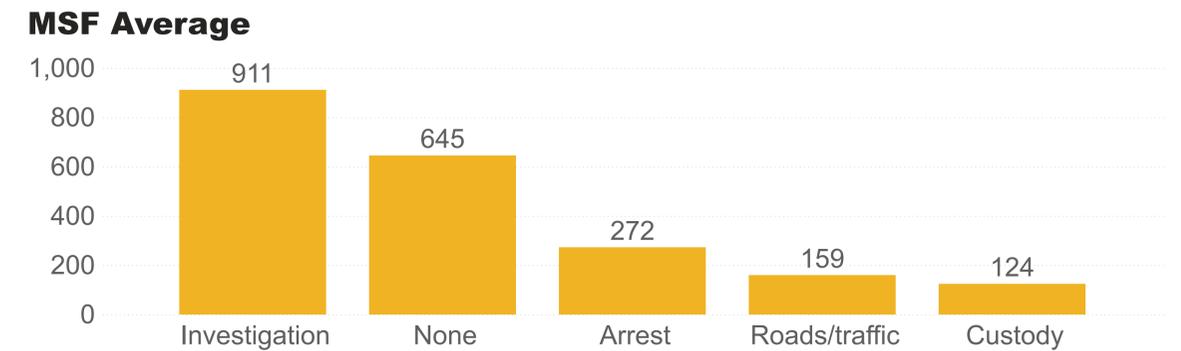
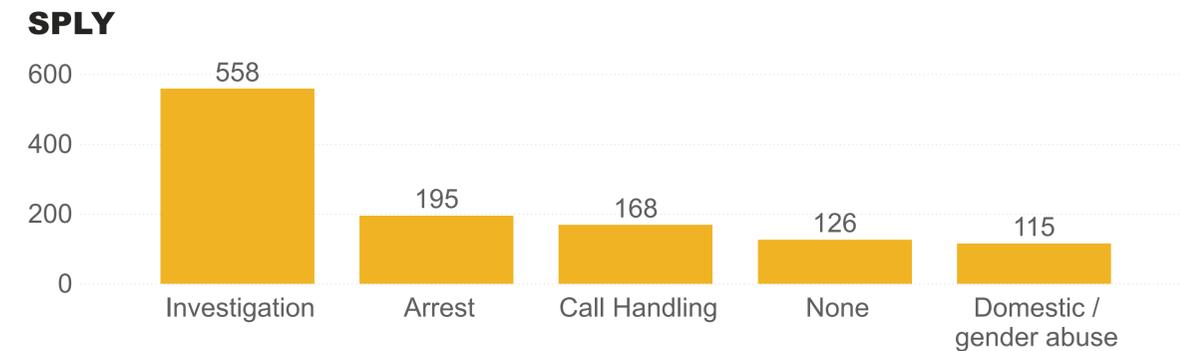
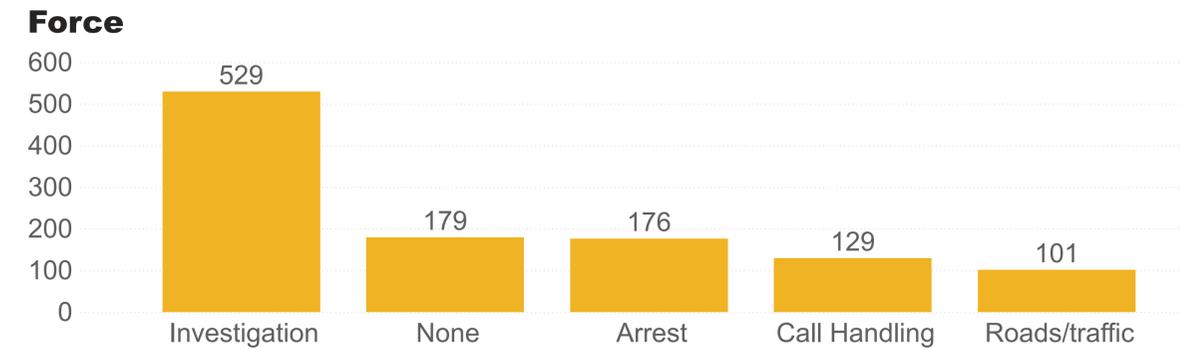
Discriminatory behaviour Sub-category	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%
Race	34	52%	33	62%	33	48%	1,857	47%
Sex	16	25%	5	9%	10	14%	568	15%
Disability	10	15%	13	25%	16	23%	843	22%
Other	3	5%			7	10%	328	8%
Pregnancy and maternity	1	2%			0	0%	2	0%
Religion or belief	1	2%	1	2%	1	2%	117	3%
None					0	0%		
Age					1	1%	45	1%
Gender reassignment					1	1%	46	1%
Marriage and civil partnership					0	0%	1	0%
Sexual orientation			1	2%	1	1%	108	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,915</b>	<b>100%</b>

Factors applied to allegations logged

This section presents information that shows the situational context of the dissatisfaction expressed in a complaint.

Each allegation should have a single category selected. However, multiple factors can be selected on a single allegation. Therefore, the sum of factors will not equal the total allegations logged in each category and the percentages here will add up to over 100%. Please refer to our guidance on capturing data about police complaints for definitions of categories and factors.

Force MSF National YTD SPLY Factor	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%
Investigation	529	39%	558	40%	911	34%	54,710	39%
None	179	13%	126	9%	645	24%	28,882	20%
Arrest	176	13%	195	14%	272	10%	16,949	12%
Call Handling	129	10%	168	12%	118	4%	6,093	4%
Roads/traffic	101	8%	108	8%	159	6%	8,506	6%
Custody	82	6%	82	6%	124	5%	8,161	6%
Domestic / gender abuse	51	4%	115	8%	100	4%	7,796	5%
VAWG - dissatisfaction handling	51	4%	92	7%	87	3%	6,090	4%
Firearms	46	3%	30	2%	15	1%	634	0%
Premises search	42	3%	29	2%	44	2%	3,663	3%
Restraint equipment	34	3%	35	2%	14	1%	1,324	1%
Mental health	33	2%	65	5%	45	2%	3,894	3%
Neighbourhood policing	33	2%	41	3%	107	4%	6,425	5%
Child protection / CSA / CSE	25	2%	53	4%	32	1%	2,638	2%
Stop and/or search	22	2%	22	2%	31	1%	2,997	2%
Missing persons	14	1%	24	2%	19	1%	915	1%
Drugs / alcohol	11	1%	15	1%	18	1%	1,490	1%
Social media	11	1%	2	0%	9	0%	689	0%
Public order incident	9	1%	28	2%	18	1%	1,017	1%
Death	6	0%	5	0%	20	1%	1,200	1%
Serious injury	6	0%	2	0%	3	0%	291	0%
Fraud	5	0%	8	1%	11	0%	994	1%
Hate Crime	2	0%	10	1%	6	0%	621	0%
	1	0%	2	0%	41	2%	1,579	1%
Covert policing	1	0%			1	0%	64	0%
Taser	1	0%	1	0%	1	0%	150	0%
Police dogs or horses			1	0%	1	0%	80	0%
PPDA					3	0%	116	0%
PPDA - Police victim					0	0%	5	0%
Prejudicial and improper behaviour					0	0%	31	0%
VAWG - police perpetrated			6	0%	10	0%	622	0%
VAWG - police victim					0	0%	103	0%



## Factors on frequently applied allegation categories (force figures only)

This section presents information that shows what people are complaining about using a combination of allegation categories and factors against the police force.

Categories capture the root of the dissatisfaction expressed in a complaint. Factors capture the situational context of the dissatisfaction expressed in a complaint.

The combination of categories and factors provides a richer picture of what people are complaining about compared to the categories alone.

Each allegation should have a single category selected. However, multiple factors can be selected on a single allegation. Therefore, the sum of factors will not equal the total allegations logged in each category. Please refer to our guidance on capturing data about police complaints for definitions of categories and factors.

Category Factors	Delivery of duties and service		Discriminatory behaviour		Individual behaviours		Police powers, policies and procedures	
	Allegations Logged	Percent	Allegations Logged	Percent	Allegations Logged	Percent	Allegations Logged	Percent
Investigation	341	52%	25	38%	60	30%	77	23%
Arrest	27	4%	11	17%	14	7%	117	35%
None	74	11%	20	31%	33	17%	26	8%
Call Handling	78	12%	3	5%	46	23%	1	0%
Roads/traffic	46	7%	3	5%	19	10%	24	7%
Custody	15	2%	1	2%	5	3%	56	17%
VAWG - dissatisfaction handling	36	5%			11	6%	4	1%
Domestic / gender abuse	31	5%			8	4%	10	3%
Firearms	40	6%			1	1%	3	1%
Restraint equipment					2	1%	32	9%
Mental health	16	2%	2	3%	7	4%	8	2%
Neighbourhood policing	18	3%	3	5%	9	5%	3	1%
Premises search	3	0%			2	1%	28	8%
Child protection / CSA / CSE	18	3%			3	2%	3	1%
Stop and/or search	1	0%	2	3%	6	3%	11	3%
Missing persons	10	2%	1	2%	2	1%	1	0%
Drugs / alcohol	5	1%			2	1%	4	1%
Social media	7	1%			2	1%		
Public order incident	4	1%			1	1%	3	1%
Death	6	1%						
Serious injury	2	0%					4	1%
Fraud	5	1%						
Hate Crime	2	0%						
							1	0%
Covert policing							1	0%
Taser							1	0%

# How allegations have been handled and allegation timeliness

This section presents the time it takes the force to finalise allegations by how they were handled.

.An allegation can be handled informally (outside of Schedule 3 of the 2017 Policing and Crime Act) or formally handled under Schedule 3

.Schedule 3 allegations can handled without investigation or by investigation.

.Where handled by investigation this may be subject to 'special procedures' (meaning that a finding of a case to answer for misconduct may be found)

.If not subject to special procedures, a finding of the service provided being acceptable or unacceptable may be found.

For more information on allegation findings and actions, please see pages 8 - 10

Timeliness is calculated from the date the allegation was received by the force to the day the complainant is informed of the allegation decision.

Allegations with 'invalid dates' have been removed from the data shown. Please refer to the performance framework counting rules and calculations on the IOPC website for an explanation of invalid dates.

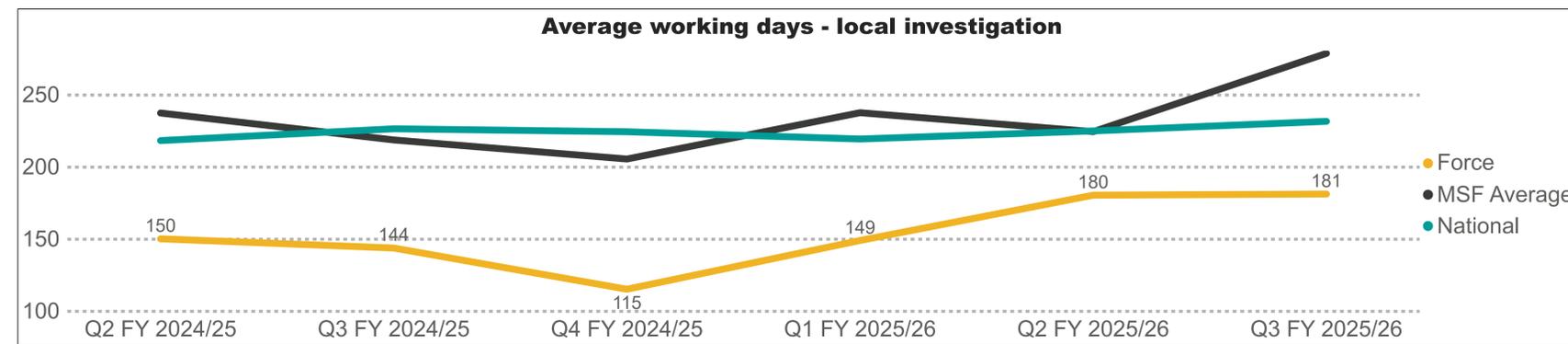
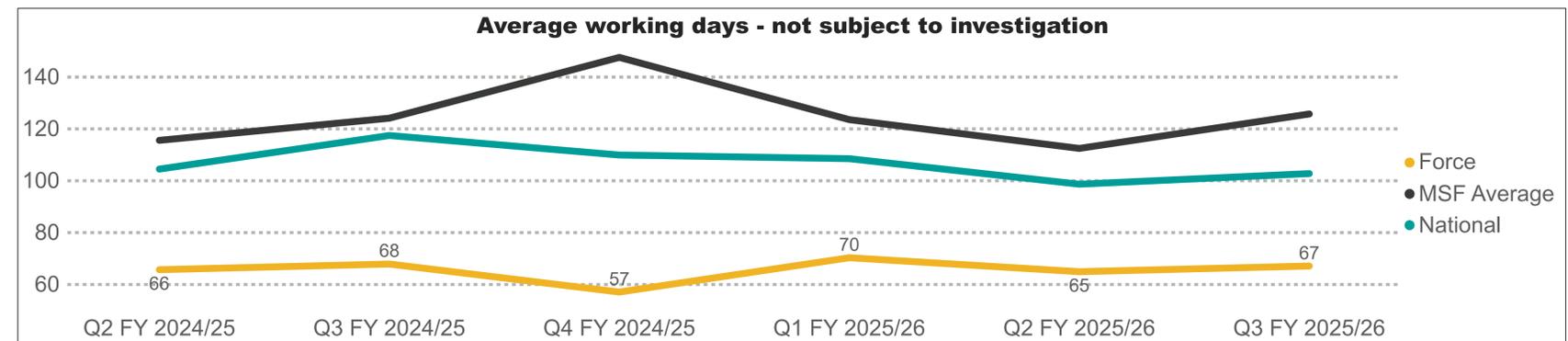
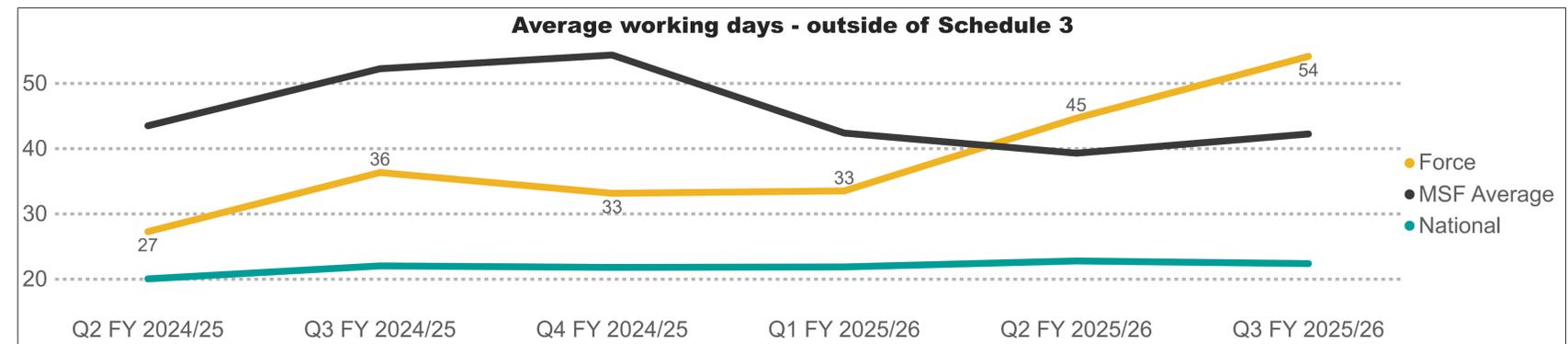
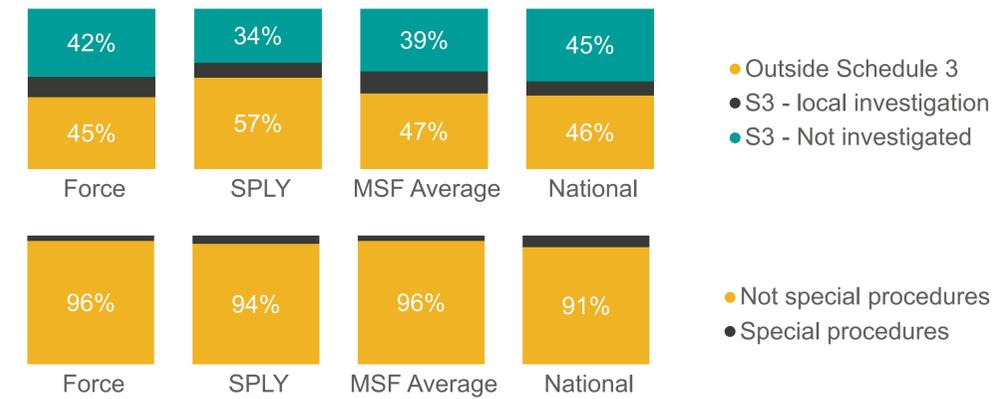
Number finalised	Outside of Schedule 3	Under Schedule 3 - not subject to investigation	Under Schedule 3 - by local investigation	Total
Force	606	570	171	1,347
SPLY	769	452	124	1,345
MSF Average	1,217	1,005	349	2,571
National	62,197	61,043	12,147	135,387

Local investigation	Not special procedures	Special procedures	Total
Force	164	7	171
SPLY	116	8	124
MSF Average	335	14	349
National	11,073	1,074	12,147

Average days to finalise	Outside of Schedule 3
Force	44
SPLY	29
MSF Average	40
National	22

Average days to finalise	Under Schedule 3 - not subject to investigation
Force	67
SPLY	72
MSF Average	123
National	103

Average days to finalise	Under Schedule 3 - by local investigation
Force	176
SPLY	168
MSF Average	254
National	225

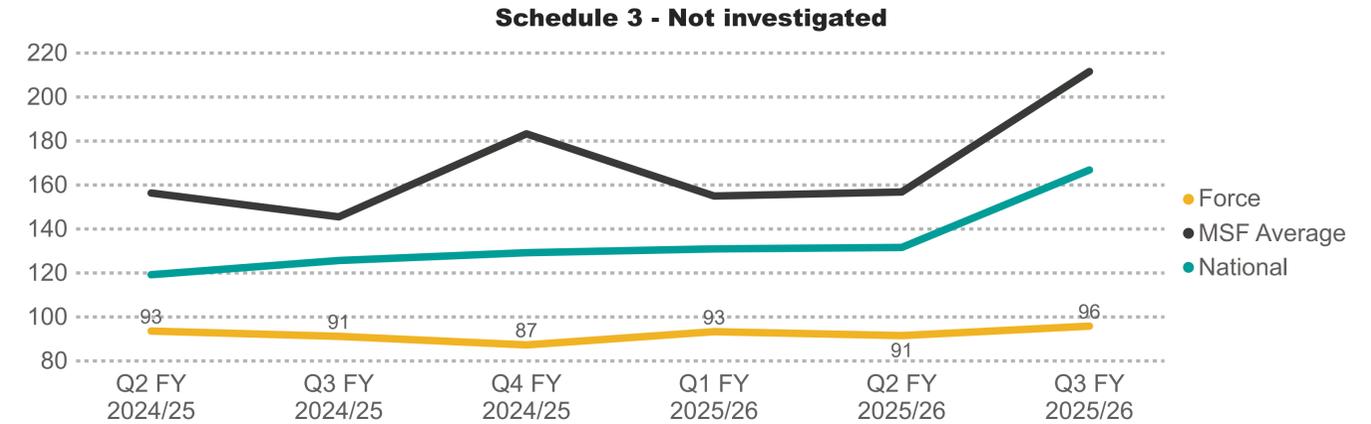


Complaint timeliness

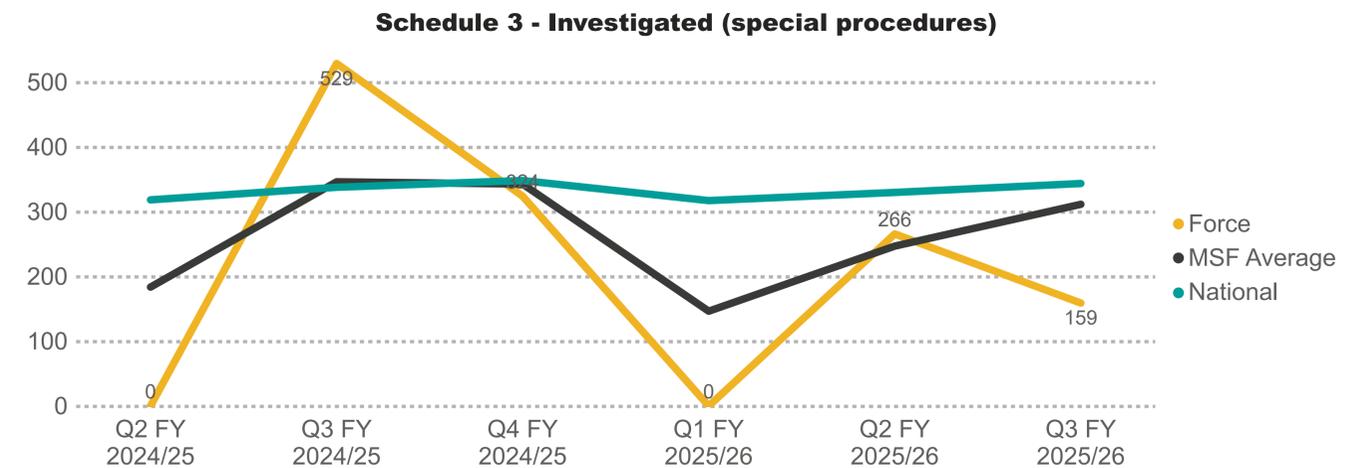
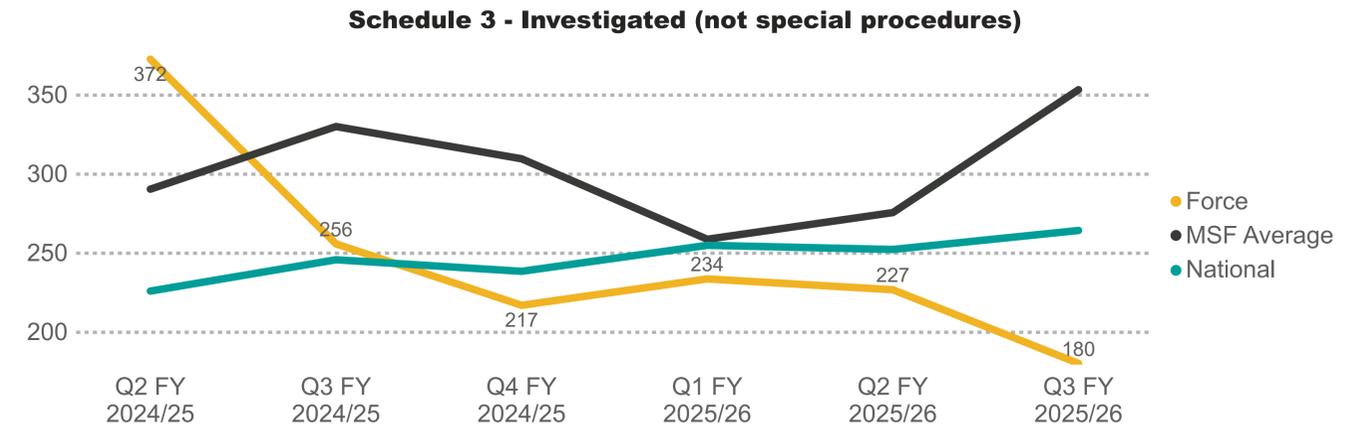
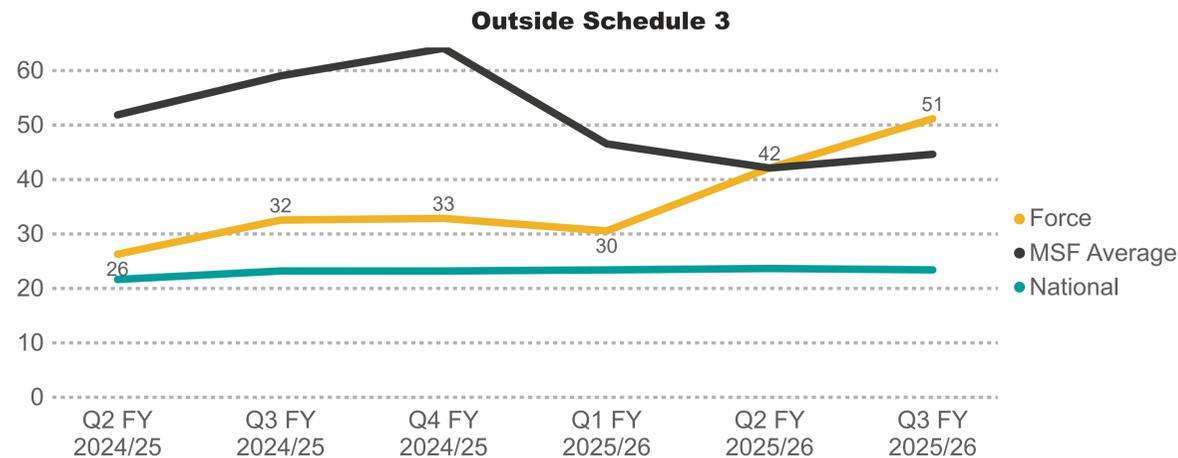
This section shows the time it takes the force to finalise complaint cases from the customer's perspective. It gives a breakdown of the time taken to finalise complaint cases handled formally under Schedule 3. Timeliness is calculated from the date the complaint was made. On cases under Schedule 3, the below figures include the time a case may spend suspended due to criminal matters.

Complaint cases with 'invalid dates' have been removed from the data shown. Please refer to the IOPC website performance framework counting rules and calculations on the for an explanation of invalid dates.

Under Schedule 3 Force MSF National YTD SPLY	Under Schedule 3 - not investigated		Under Schedule 3 investigated (not subject to special procedures)		Under Schedule 3 investigated (subject to special procedures)	
	Complaints Finalised	Average days to finalise	Complaints Finalised	Average days to finalise	Complaints Finalised	Average days to finalise
Force	241	93	49	205	5	244
SPLY	183	96	38	291	7	481
MSF Average	467	180	148	293	8	321
National	23,280	144	3,732	257	452	329



Outside of Schedule 3	Complaints finalised	Average days to finalise
Force	440	41
SPLY	599	27
MSF Average	1,008	43
National	52,639	23



## Findings and actions on Outside Schedule 3 allegations

This section presents information about what happened as a result of the allegation (action). Actions are captured at allegation level and multiple actions can be selected, where appropriate, on single allegation. The figures shown in this section are based on allegations that resulted in the corresponding action. As more than one action can be selected for a single allegation, the sum of all percentages will not equal 100%.

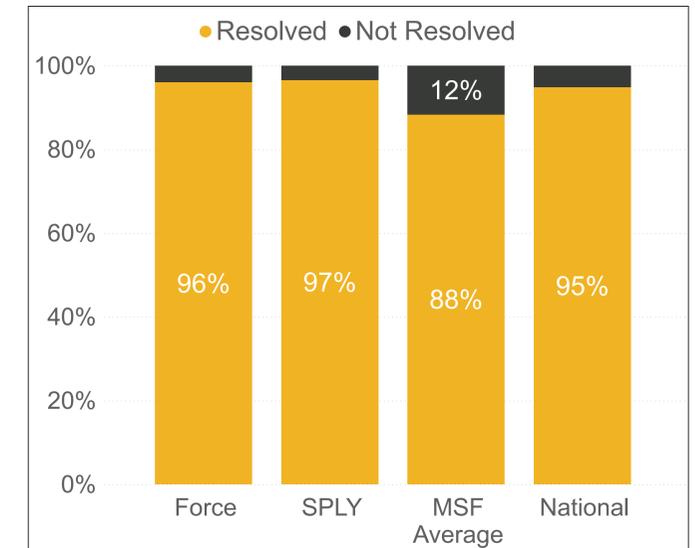
The actions available once an allegation is finalised depend on how the complaint case has been handled. Please refer to our guidance on capturing data about police complaints for details of actions available (link available on page 14)

When an allegation is handled outside of Schedule 3 it will result in a finding of Resolved or Not Resolved - (an allegation not resolved may be moved to Schedule 3 or finalised without additional action)

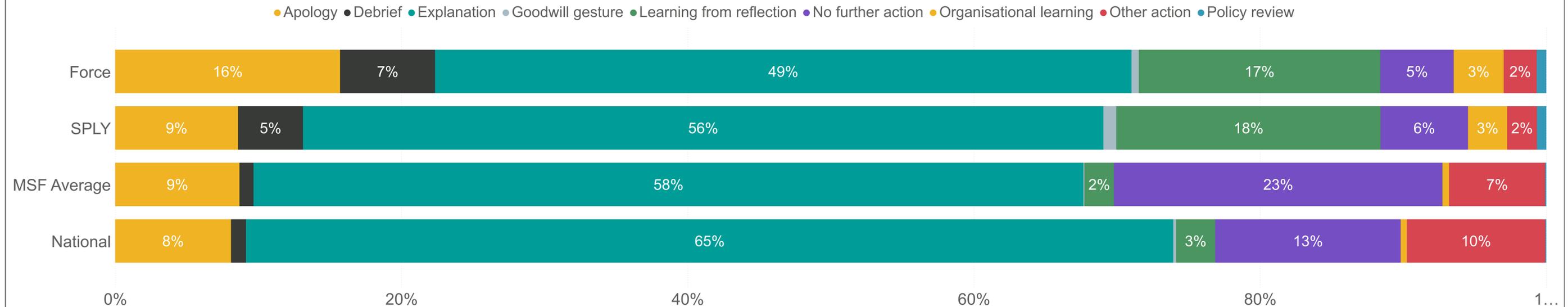
Outside Schedule 3 result	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Resolved	582	743	1,076	58,993
Not Resolved	24	26	141	3,204
<b>Total</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>62,197</b>

Figures may differ in the two tables where actions have not yet been decided or not yet recorded

Measure Actions on allegations outside of Schedule 3	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent
Explanation	294	49%	430	56%	702	58%	40,094	65%
Learning from reflection	102	17%	142	18%	25	2%	1,691	3%
Apology	95	16%	66	9%	105	9%	5,009	8%
Debrief	40	7%	35	5%	12	1%	656	1%
No further action	31	5%	47	6%	278	23%	8,024	13%
Organisational learning	21	3%	21	3%	6	0%	260	0%
Other action	14	2%	16	2%	81	7%	5,993	10%
Policy review	4	1%	5	1%	1	0%	39	0%
Goodwill gesture	3	0%	7	1%	1	0%	124	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,210</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>61,890</b>	<b>100%</b>



### Outside Schedule 3 allegation actions



## Findings on Schedule 3 allegations

This section presents information about what happened as a result of the allegation (action). Actions are captured at allegation level and multiple actions can be selected, where appropriate, on single allegation. The figures shown in this section are based on allegations that resulted in the corresponding action. As more than one action can be selected for a single allegation, the sum of all percentages will not equal 100%.

The actions available once an allegation is finalised depend on how the complaint case has been handled. Please refer to our guidance on capturing data about police complaints for details of actions available.

When an allegation is handled under Schedule 3 (not investigated or investigated not subject to special procedures), it will typically result in a finding of:

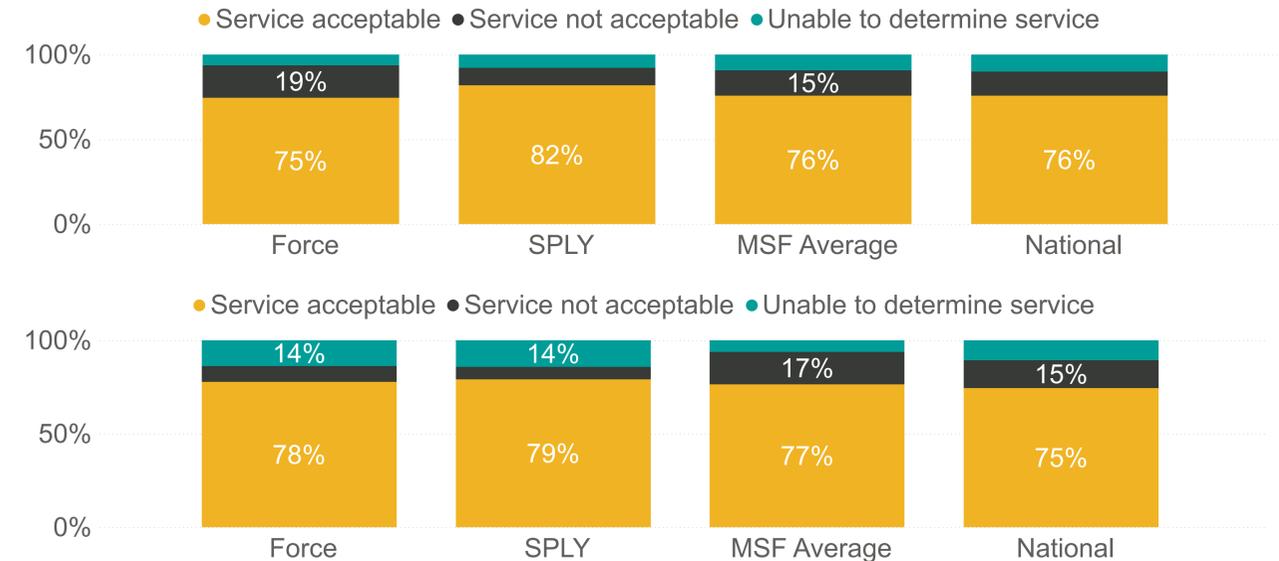
Not investigated	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Service acceptable	409	350	676	41,834
Service not acceptable	105	45	133	7,727
Unable to determine service	34	33	82	5,525

The service provided was acceptable

The service provided was not acceptable

Unable to determine whether service provided was acceptable

Investigated (not subject to special procedures)	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Service acceptable	119	95	237	7,659
Service not acceptable	13	8	53	1,531
Unable to determine service	21	17	19	1,083



An allegation investigated (subject to special procedures) should not result in a service finding but some have been recorded with that outcome

Such allegations should result in a Case to Answer or No Case to Answer for misconduct

Investigated - subject to special procedures	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Case to Answer		8	4	229
No case to answer	7	3	7	601
Not able to determine if the service provided was acceptable			0	23
The service provided was acceptable		1	1	196
The service provided was not acceptable			1	53

In addition, an allegation can be withdrawn, finalised following criminal proceedings or subject to no further action. No further action here means that the allegation could not be progressed, for example due to being unable to engage with the complainant. This is different from the force deciding to take no further action after looking into an allegation

All Schedule 3	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Withdrawal	13	8	38	1,947
Regulation 41 applies			16	347
No further action	20	19	88	4,615

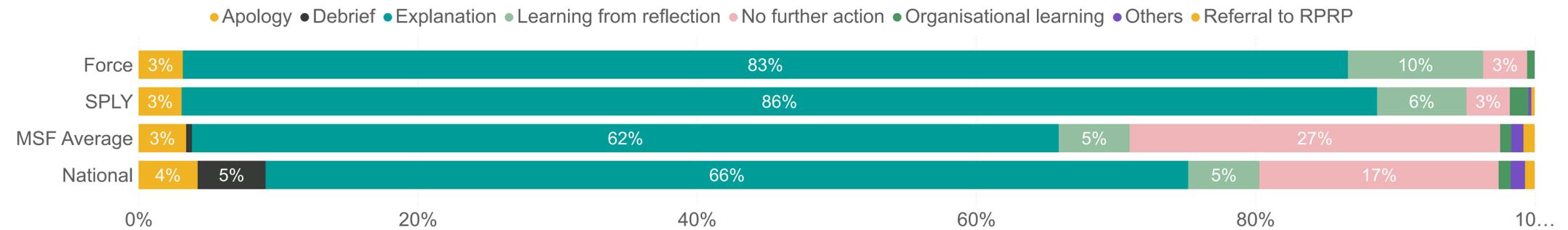
This section presents information about what happened as a result of the allegation (action). Actions are captured at allegation level and multiple actions can be selected, where appropriate, on single allegation. The figures shown in this section are based on allegations that resulted in the corresponding action.

The actions available once an allegation is finalised depend on how the complaint case has been handled. Please refer to our guidance on capturing data about police complaints for details of actions available.

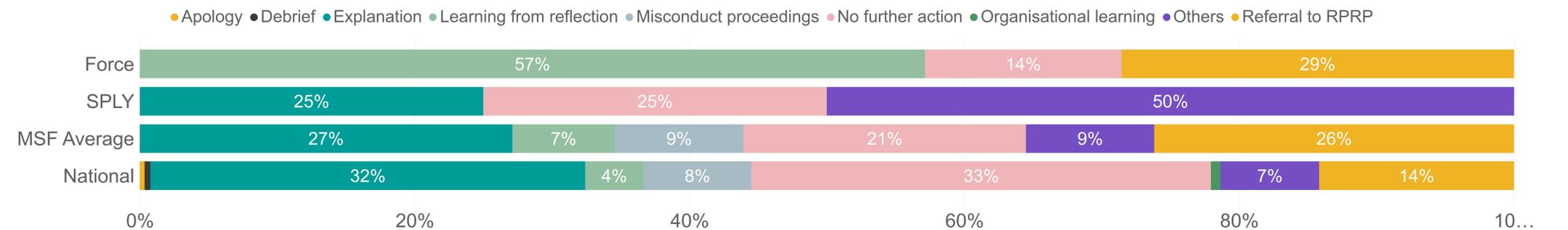
Measure Actions on Schedule 3 allegations	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent
Explanation	574	79%	445	76%	805	60%	47,661	65%
Learning from reflection	75	10%	42	7%	73	5%	3,925	5%
No further action	57	8%	70	12%	365	27%	13,233	18%
Apology	18	2%	14	2%	44	3%	2,837	4%
Organisational learning	3	0%	7	1%	13	1%	646	1%
Referral to RPRP	3	0%	2	0%	30	2%	927	1%
Debrief					5	0%	3,037	4%
Misconduct proceedings					1	0%	91	0%
Others			7	1%	15	1%	865	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>73,222</b>	<b>100%</b>

Please note: A finding for misconduct can only be made where the allegation is investigated subject to special procedures

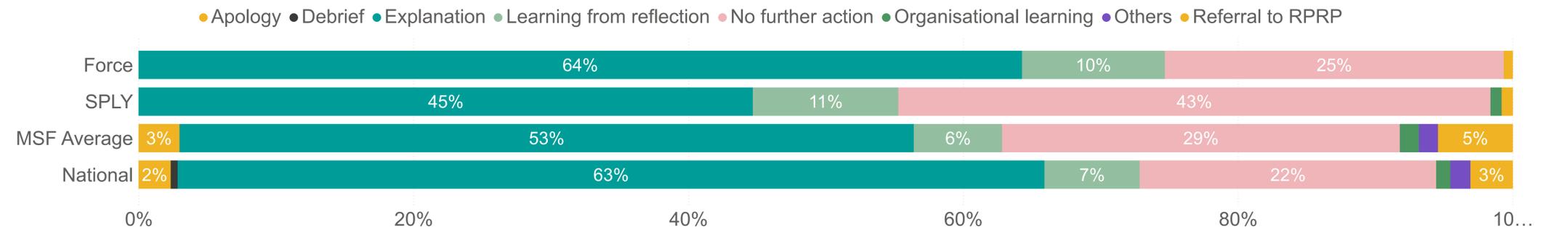
**Not investigated**



**Investigated (subject to special procedures)**



**Investigated (not subject to special procedures)**

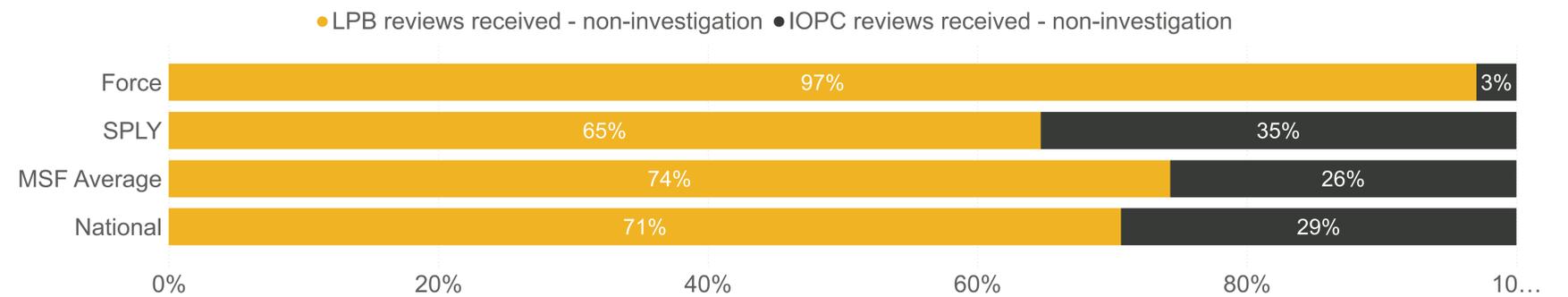
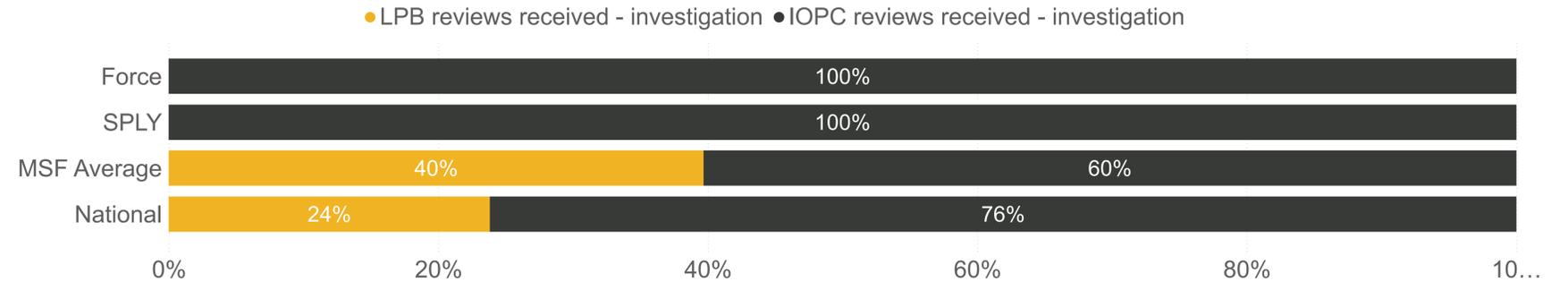


Reviews received

This section presents data on the number of reviews received about this force by the IOPC and by the local policing body. The charts enable you to see the proportion of each review type being received by the two bodies. The IOPC handle the majority of reviews where the complaint was handled by investigation. For information on when the IOPC should be the review body, please see our Statutory Guidance

LPB reviews	Investigation	Non-investigation
Force	0	33
SPLY	0	22
MSF Average	10	62
National	220	3,562

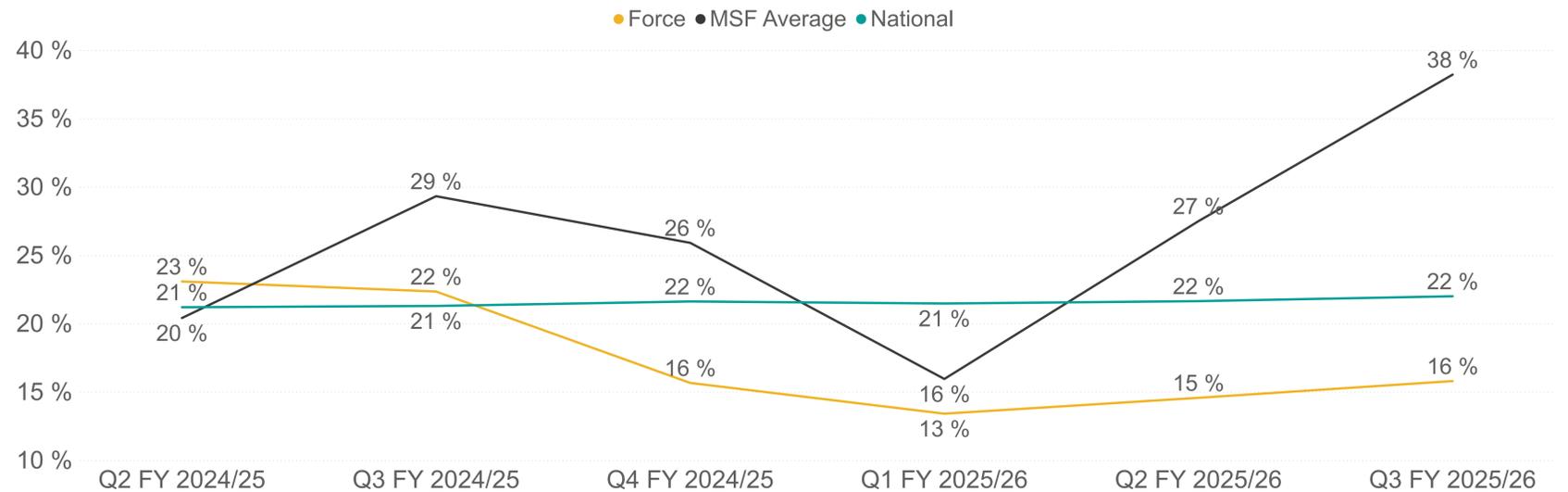
IOPC Reviews	Investigation	Non-investigation
Force	9	1
SPLY	13	12
MSF Average	15	21
National	703	1478



Complaints are not finalised until after any reviews are completed. However, this measure helps to provide an indication of how often reviews are made in comparison to the number of complaints completed.

Measure	Reviews Received	Complaint cases finalised under Schedule 3
Force	43	295
SPLY	47	228
MSF Average	108	623
National	5,963	27,462

Reviews received as a proportion of Schedule 3 cases



Reviews outcomes and timeliness

LPB Reviews

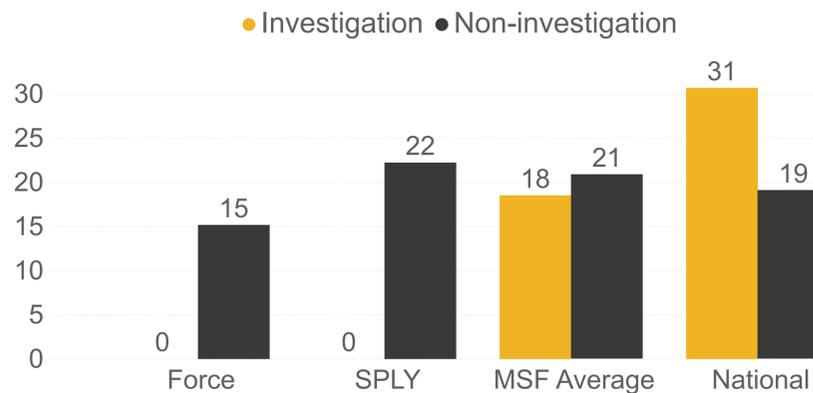
This section presents information about the decisions made on reviews and how long reviews are taking to finalise.

When a review finds that the outcome of the complaint was not reasonable and proportionate, that review is considered to be 'upheld'

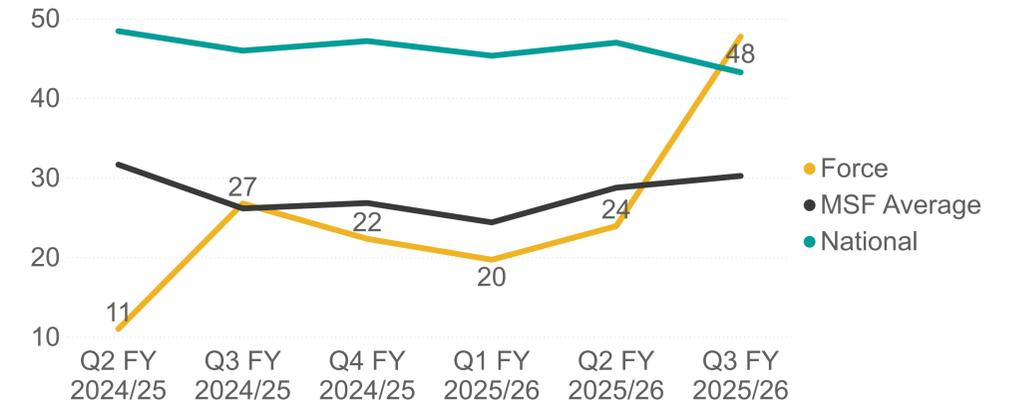
Review type	Complete with outcome	Upheld
<b>Investigation</b>		
Force	0	0
SPLY	0	0
MSF Average	11	5
National	225	69
<b>Non-investigation</b>		
Force	33	5
SPLY	18	4
MSF Average	56	11
National	3149	601

Review type	Average duration
<b>Investigation</b>	
Force	0
SPLY	0
MSF Average	28
National	57
<b>Non-investigation</b>	
Force	30
SPLY	31
MSF Average	27
National	44

% LPB reviews upheld



Average durations



IOPC Reviews

The IOPC will be the review body on complaints that meet certain criteria, including mandatory referral criteria (see page 16)

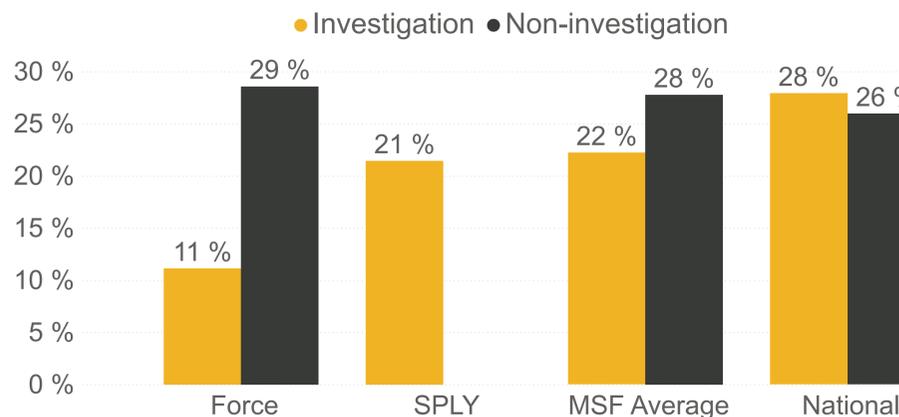
When a complaint is referred to the IOPC, the IOPC automatically becomes the review body.

There has been a significant backlog in the number of reviews handled by the IOPC which means the average durations are typically longer than those on reviews where the relevant review body is the local policing body

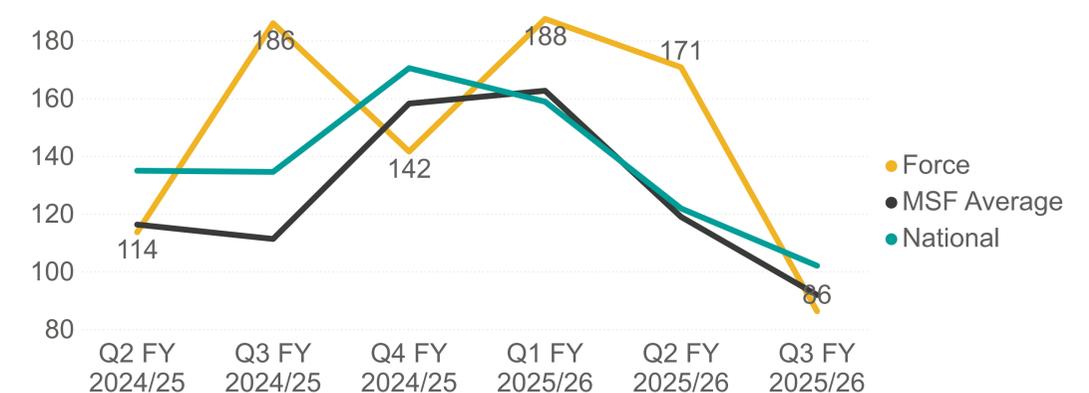
IOPC review	Investigation	Upheld	Non-investigation	Upheld
Force	9	1	7	2
SPLY	14	3	4	
MSF Average	17	4	21	6
National	871	243	1,576	418

Measure	Average duration
Force	158
SPLY	151
MSF Average	129
National	125

% IOPC reviews upheld



Average durations



## Referrals to the IOPC

The force should refer certain matters to the IOPC for the IOPC to decide how they should be handled. The figures presented in this section include all referrals that the force makes to the IOPC (received), not just those arising from complaints.

When the IOPC receives a referral from the force, it reviews the information they have provided. The IOPC decides whether the matter requires an investigation, and the type of investigation.

Referrals may have been completed in a different period to when they were received.

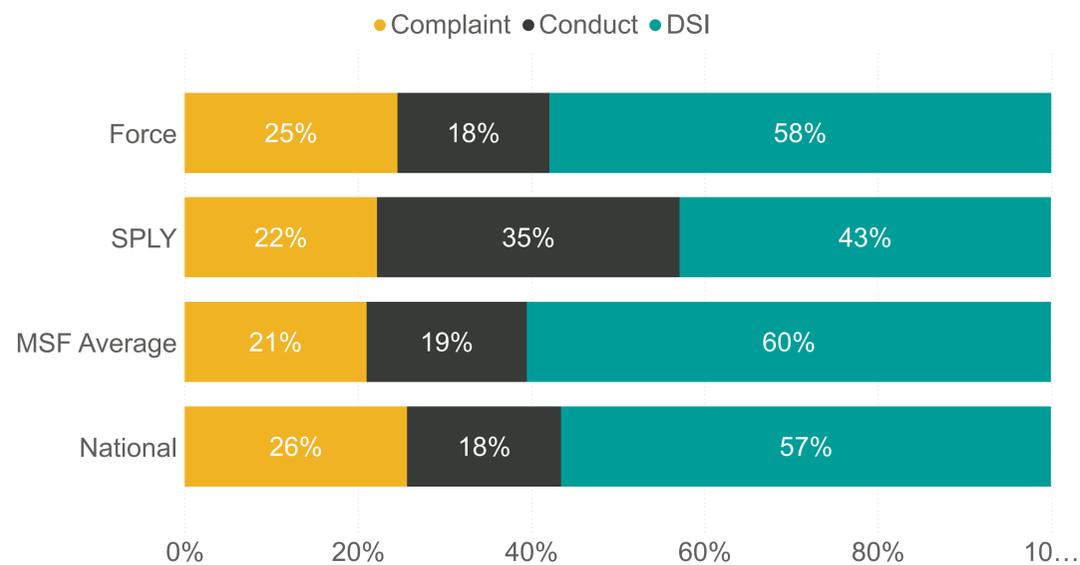
A referral may be made invalid if the matter does not fall within the IOPC's remit

The sum of decisions may not match the number of referrals completed. This is because some matters referred may have come to the attention of the appropriate authority before 1 February 2020 and have investigation type decisions of either managed or supervised.

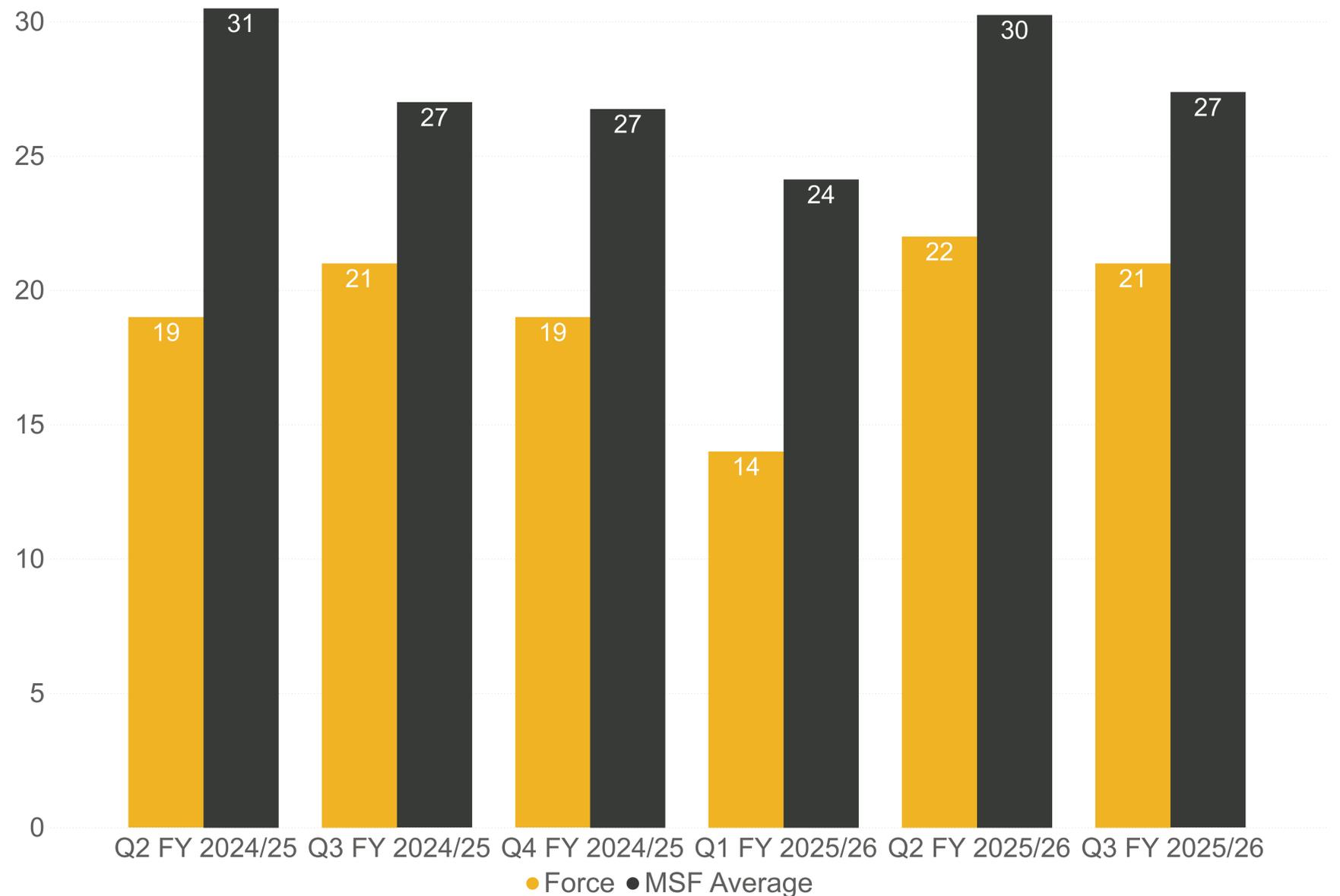
### Year to date

	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Number Referrals Received	57	63	82	5,244
Number referrals completed	58	65	83	5,262
Decision: Directed Investigation	1		1	18
Decision: Independent Investigation	2	1	4	328
Decision: Invalid	2		2	74
Decision: Local Investigation	24	37	43	2,638
Decision: Return to Force	29	27	33	2,202

Referral type	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Complaint	14	14	17	1,347
Conduct	10	22	15	933
DSI	33	27	49	2,964
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>5,244</b>



### Force and MSF Group referrals received



**Notes****Data sources**

- Data in this bulletin is taken from XML data submissions made by forces to the IOPC every quarter except for IOPC performance data which is taken from the IOPC case management system.
- Police force employee numbers are taken from the latest [police workforce England and Wales statistics](#) published by the Home Office.
- The most similar force (MSF) groups used for the calculation of the MSF averages in this bulletin are those determined by HMICFRS. Please note that the British Transport Police, Report Fraud and City of London Police do not have an MSF group. A list of the MSF groups is available on the [IOPC website](#).

**Performance Framework counting rules and calculation**

- The counting rules and calculations used to produce the data shown in this bulletin can be found on the [IOPC website](#).
- Average times are presented in working days and do not include weekends or bank holidays.
- Some percentages may add up to more or less than 100% due to rounding.
- Complaint cases and allegations with invalid start/end dates have been removed from average time calculations. Therefore, the numbers of complaint cases and allegations used in the average time calculations may be lower than the total number of complaint cases and allegations logged or finalised.

**Data constraints**

- The data is sourced from live case management systems and provides a snapshot of information as it was at that time. Therefore, there may be variances between the information in this bulletin and information reported at a later date.

**Further Information**

- A glossary providing a full list of definitions used in this bulletin, can be found on the [IOPC website](#).
- Additional information about the recording of police complaints, including the definitions of the complaint categories, can be found in appendix A of the IOPC's [Guidance on capturing data about police complaints](#).
- Information about how the police complaints system operates, who can complain and how reviews are dealt with can be found in the IOPC's [Statutory Guidance on the police complaints system \(February 2020\)](#).