

**Table V Deaths in police custody or otherwise with the police
- verdicts in cases *Awaited* for period 1 April 1996-31 March 1997**

Date of Death	Force	Place of Death	Age	Sex	Ethnic Origin	1 Cause of Death 2 Verdict	Circumstances
16 4 96	South Yorkshire	Rotherham District General Hospital	15	F	White	1a Ruptured liver Massive internal injuries Suspected broken neck 2 Coroner decided that no inquest should be held owing to criminal proceedings	1b 1c The deceased was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting. She was being driven home in an unmarked police car following her release from custody when the car was involved in a road traffic accident. Five people were injured. Her injuries were serious and she later died in hospital.
21 4 96	Metropolitan Police	Barnet General Hospital	47	M	White	1 Asphyxia 2 Accidental death	The police were called to a male seen throwing bottles at cars. A struggle took place as the police attempted to arrest the deceased for criminal damage. He went limp and collapsed. Resuscitation was attempted and an ambulance was called. He was taken to hospital where he was pronounced dead.
10 7 96	West Midlands	North Stafford Royal Infirmary	31	M	White	1a Brain injury Intra-cranial haemorrhage 2 Accidental death	1b The deceased was arrested after being found in possession of an offensive weapon and the officers were dissatisfied with his identity. The deceased, who was not handcuffed, was placed in the rear of a police vehicle. He subsequently exited the vehicle whilst it was moving very slowly. He received serious head injuries.
24 7 96	Cleveland	Middlesbrough Police Station	25	M	White	1 Self-induced hanging 2 Awaiting	The deceased was arrested on suspicion of burglary. The deceased tied a bootlace to the open cell hatch and placed it around his neck.
6 8 96	Staffordshire	Good Hope Hospital, Sutton Coldfield	32	M	White	1 Fractured skull 2 Awaiting	The deceased was arrested in connexion with shoplifting and other offences and was detained overnight. Whilst exercising in the yard the next day, the custody sergeant noticed he was in a trance-like state. He was conveyed to hospital where he lapsed into a deep coma and never recovered.
13 8 96	Metropolitan Police	Leyton Police Station	33	M	White	1 Coronary occlusion due to coronary thrombosis 2 Awaiting	The deceased was arrested on 12 August for aggravated burglary, during which he became violent. He was taken to police station and seen by the force medical examiner. He was deemed fit to be detained and was checked regularly. At 0320 hrs he was found naked and apparently dead in the cell. The FME pronounced him dead at 0355 hrs.
21 8 96	Humberside	Grimsby District Hospital	22	F	White	1 Hypoxic brain damage consistent with a Heroin overdose 2 Coroner decided not to hold inquest owing to criminal proceedings	The deceased was arrested on 14 August following a report that she had been injecting drugs. She was taken by van to the police station. On being escorted from the van, the deceased became ill and collapsed. The escorting officers attempted resuscitation and an ambulance was called. She was taken to hospital where she remained in intensive care until her death.

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3 9 96	Avon & Somerset	A432 (Road)	54	M	White	1 Head and chest injuries sustained in traffic accident 2 Coroner decided not to hold inquest owing to criminal proceedings	A vehicle was followed by a marked police vehicle in connexion with an earlier reported sighting at the scene of a crime. Attempts were made to stop it from behind using lights and horn, without success. The vehicle accelerated and was followed for about two miles before it lost control on a bend and collided with the parapet of a bridge. The police vehicle was out of sight at the time of the accident. The deceased sustained fatal injuries. The driver of the vehicle is to be prosecuted for causing death by dangerous driving.
12 9 96	South Wales	Penarth Road Cardiff	36	M	White	1 Severe head injury 2 Accidental death	The deceased was driving a stolen car at high speed. He was followed by a traffic patrol car for a short distance. The car went through red lights, left the road and collided with a lamp standard. He received fatal injuries.
23 9 96	Metropolitan Police	Charing Cross Hospital	27	M	White	1 Multiple gunshot wounds 2 Awaiting	Officers attended an address to execute search warrants relating to terrorist activity. Whilst gaining entry to the address, shots were fired resulting in injuries to the deceased. He was taken to hospital where he later died.
1 10 96	Leicestershire	Leicester Royal Infirmary	77	M	White	1 Cross bow injury to the head 2 Suicide	At 0845 hrs, two police officers went to the deceased's address to arrest him on suspicion of indecency offences. He refused to allow them in and the warden of the block was called to open the front door. He was discovered with a cross - bar bolt embedded through his eye socket but still conscious. He was taken to hospital where he died at 1515 hrs.
11 11 96	Metropolitan Police	Kings College Hospital	53	M	Black	1a Acute pneumonia and renal failure 1b Hypertensive intercerebral haemorrhage 1c Diabetes Mellitus 2 Natural causes	On 14 June, the deceased was arrested and taken to the police station in connexion with drink/driving offences and actual bodily harm. He was taken to hospital after being examined by a doctor. The deceased remained in hospital until he died.
18 11 96	Durham	Bishop Auckland General Hospital	26	M	White	1 Hanging 2 Open verdict	The deceased was arrested on 17 November for wounding and detained. At 1400 hrs the following day, the custody officer spoke by telephone to a psychiatric nurse about his fitness to be interviewed. On return to the cell, the deceased was found collapsed after apparently hanging himself.
20 11 96	West Midlands	Washwood Heath Road	40	M	White	1 Gunshot wounds to the chest/abdomen 2 Lawful killing	The deceased held the manager of a store and threatened him at knife point. As a result of his actions, two armed police officers shot him, inflicting injuries which resulted in his death.

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25 12 96	South Wales	Cockett Police Station	22	M	White	1 Multiple drug toxicity including Codeine Phosphate and Dihydrocodeine 2 Drug abuse contributed to by neglect	The deceased was arrested on 24 December for being drunk and incapable. He was examined by a police surgeon at 0007 hrs on 25 December who confirmed he was fit to be detained. At 0815 hrs he was found to have vomited and had stopped breathing. Efforts to revive him failed and he was pronounced dead at 0905 hrs.
31 12 96	South Wales	East Glamorgan Hospital	32	M	White	1 Inconclusive 2 Awaiting	The deceased was arrested on 30 December for burglary with intent to commit rape and threats to kill. He was detained and regular checks were carried out on him whilst in custody. He was subsequently discovered collapsed with no signs of life at 0447 hrs. He was revived by paramedics and removed to hospital and placed on a life support machine. He died at 1530 hrs.
4 1 97	Leicestershire	Leicester Royal Infirmary	26	F	Asian	1 Awaiting 2 Suicide	On 10 December, at 0206 hrs she informed the ambulance service by telephone that she had taken the lives of her two children. Emergency Services discovered that she and her two sons had sustained severe burns from a bedroom fire caused by petrol accelerant. All three were taken to hospital. Both children died within days and on 11 December the deceased was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder. She remained in hospital and later died of her injuries.
9 1 97	West Mercia	Hereford Police Station	31	M	White	1a Cardio-respiratory arrest 1b Ingestion of an overdose of Methadone and alcohol 2 Awaiting	The deceased was arrested at 0033 hrs for drunk and disorderly behaviour and placed in a police cell. He was checked every half hour until 0509 hrs when he was found dead.
19 1 97	Metropolitan Police	River Thames	22	M	White	1 Immersion 2 Accidental death	The police were patrolling an area where a number of offences were known to have occurred and came upon the deceased. He ran off and was pursued by the police who lost sight of him. A dog unit was called and found the deceased who again ran off and jumped into the river. He disappeared and was found several hours later by police divers.
21 1 97	Metropolitan Police	Home Address	33	M	White	1 Heart disease, enlarged heart, reduced arteries 2 Natural causes	The police were called to a domestic incident between his parents. Whilst at the address the deceased became violent and assaulted the officers. He was restrained and handcuffs applied. He died at his parents' home. His death was certified by his general practitioner.
24 1 97	Wiltshire	Swindon Police Station	36	M	White	1a Encephalopathy 1b Chronic alcoholism 2 Natural causes	The deceased was arrested on warrant and detained overnight for court appearance. The police surgeon visited the deceased on four occasions and was in attendance when the person died.

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15 2 97	Northumbria	Sunderland District General Hospital	14	M	White	1 Drowning 2 Accidental death	The deceased was driving a stolen vehicle and was being pursued by a police vehicle. He swerved to avoid an obstruction in the road and plunged into the River Wear. One occupant of the car swam to safety. The deceased and another youth were recovered from the vehicle by police and emergency services. The other youth was taken to hospital.
2 3 97	West Yorkshire	Little Horton Lane, Bradford	36	M	White	1 Not known 2 Accidental death	At 0012 hrs the police responded to a call and attended premises where they could hear a man shouting for help. He admitted being a burglar who had got trapped in a jammed door whilst trying to flee. He was found to have a compressed stomach and a hole in the bottom of his back (where a door handle had been pressing). He was removed from the scene by ambulance at 0125 hrs and taken to hospital where life was pronounced extinct.
6 3 97	Metropolitan Police	Uxbridge Police Station	26	M	White	1 Methadone and Diazepam poisoning 2 Non-dependent abuse of drugs	The deceased was arrested on 5 March for breach of bail and taken to a police station where he was seen by the force medical officer. He was placed in a cell and during one of the custody officer's checks, he was found lifeless. An ambulance and the force medical officer were called. The force medical examiner pronounced him dead.
19 3 97	Northumbria	Pilgrim Street Police Station	22	M	White	1 Toxicity of Methadone with Diazepam 2 Awaiting	The deceased was arrested on suspicion of theft on 18 March at 1415 hrs and taken to the police station. He was under the influence of drink/drugs. The police surgeon declared him fit to be detained. He was checked regularly throughout the night and provided with breakfast at 0800 hrs. He was subsequently found dead at 0958 hrs.
23 3 97	Metropolitan Police	Central Middlesex Hospital	20	M	Black	1 Suspension 2 Open verdict	The deceased was arrested and charged on 21 March for alleged rape and was due to appear in court on 24 March. He was placed in a cell and was found hanging by a bootlace during a routine check. He was taken to hospital by ambulance where he was pronounced dead.
25 3 97	Thames Valley	Stoke Mandeville Hospital	47	M	White	1 Ruptured stomach ulcer due to health neglect 2 Natural causes	The deceased was arrested at 0001 hrs for being drunk and incapable and arrived at the police station at 0035 hrs. The custody officer called for an ambulance and he was taken to hospital where he died at 0143 hrs.
27 3 97	Greater Manchester	Manchester Royal Infirmary	23	M	White	1 Not yet known 2 Awaiting	The deceased was detained by members of the public for criminal damage to a vehicle and house windows. He appeared berserk and incoherent at the scene and was arrested. At the police station he was placed in a cell. After ten minutes, the custody officer directed that he should be taken to hospital. He collapsed and died there.