



MAG NATIONAL POLICE FORCE BIKE THEFT RANKINGS 2019

JULY 2020

Motorcycle Action Group
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Motorcycle Action Group National Police Force Bike Theft Rankings

In 2019 The Motorcycle Action Group published its first National Police Force Bike Theft Rankings based on 2018 data. The second publication now highlights data from 2019.

The data has once again been obtained via Freedom of Information requests lodged with all 45 territorial police forces in the UK. In 2018 we were unable to secure responses from 5 forces. This year, there are six forces that failed to supply data.

Overall the total number of motorcycle thefts nationally has shown a small decrease, with the average theft rate down from 22 per 1000 registered motorcycles to 19 per 1000. The national average is calculated on Police National Computer data, not reported thefts totaled from the FOI responses.

Whilst the national average has decreased, the worst affected force area (London) has shown an increase on 2018 figures, rising from 9483 to 9850 thefts in 2019. As can be seen clearly from the heat map, this is leaving London as a clear hotspot with a theft rate almost double the rate in the next worst force area for which we received data (West Yorkshire).

Unfortunately Greater Manchester Police was one of the six forces that failed to provide data, and is likely to be between West Yorkshire and London based on 2018 figures.

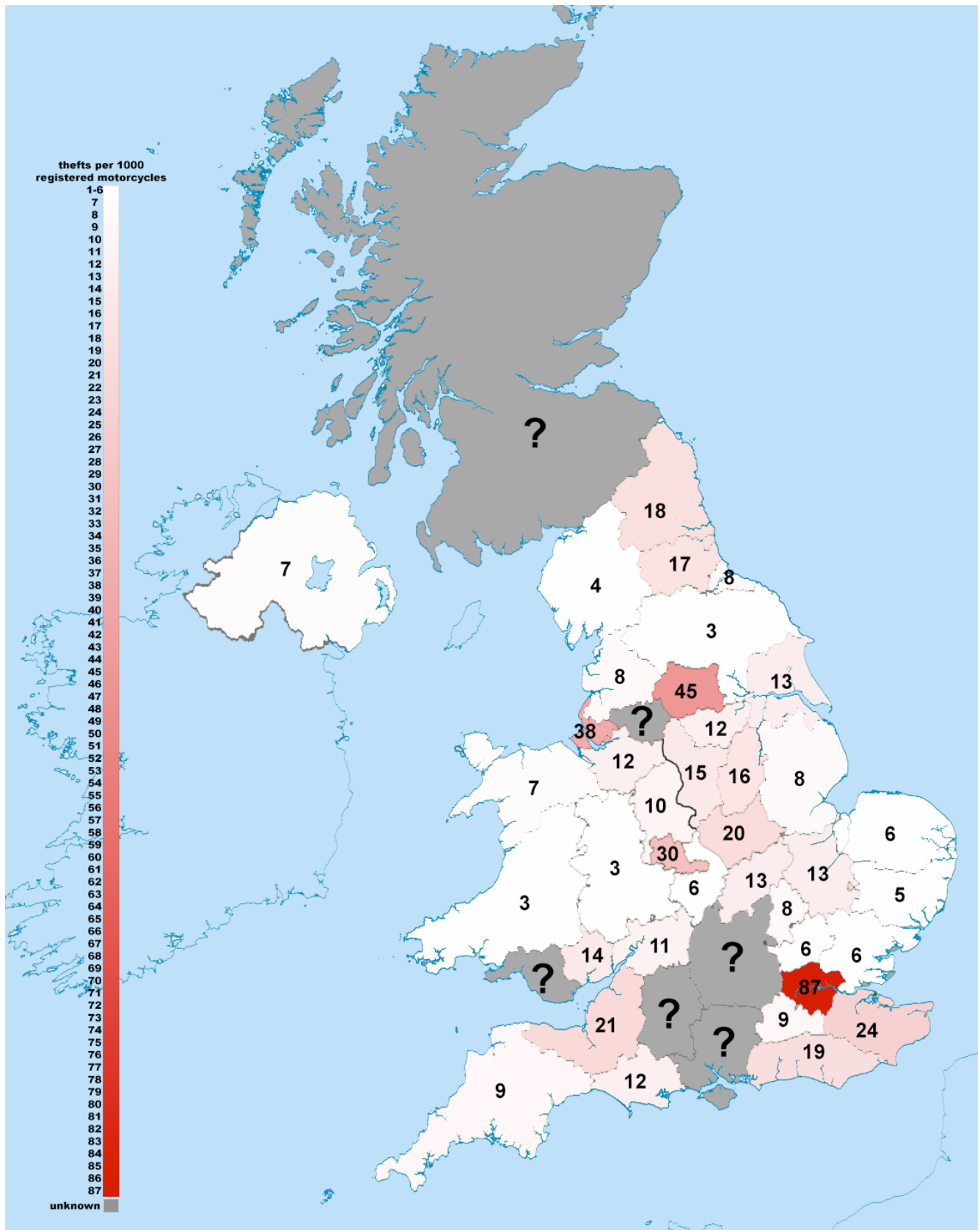
UK RANKING BY POLICE FORCE

City of London and Metropolitan Police are combined due to the small geographical area covered by City of London.

Ranking is by number of motorcycles reported stolen divided by number of motorcycles registered in the force area. This is to provide a fair ranking system for forces with varying geographical and population jurisdictional size.

Rank		Force	Motorcycles Stolen per 1000 registered
1	↑12	North Yorkshire	3
2	↑3	Dyfed-Powys	3
3	→0	West Mercia	3
4	→0	Cumbria	4
5	↓4	Suffolk	5
6	↑1	Warwickshire	6
7	→0	Essex	6
8	↑18	Hertfordshire	6
9	↓7	Norfolk	6
10	↑1	North Wales	7
11	↓3	Northern Ireland	7
12	↑11	Bedfordshire	8
13	↑16	Lancashire	8
14	↑19	Cleveland	8
15	↓6	Lincolnshire	8
16	↓6	Devon & Cornwall	9
17	↑1	Surrey	9
18	↑6	Staffordshire	10
19	↑3	Gloucestershire	11
20	↓4	Dorset	12
21	↓2	South Yorkshire	12
22	↓2	Cheshire	12
23	↓2	Cambridgeshire	13
24	↓7	Northamptonshire	13
25	↓19	Humberside	13
26	↓12	Gwent	14
27	↓2	Derbyshire	15
28	↑6	Nottinghamshire	16
29	↓17	Durham	17
30	↓15	Northumbria	18
31	↓3	Hampshire	18
32	↓2	Sussex	19
33	↓1	Leicestershire	20
34	↓7	Avon & Somerset	21
35	↓4	Kent	24
36	↓1	West Midlands	30
37	↑1	Merseyside	38
38	→0	West Yorkshire	45
39	↓2	Greater Manchester	56
40	↓1	Metropolitan/City of London	87

N.B. Hampshire and Greater Manchester figures are 2018 data. We have not received 2019 data from these two forces, but felt it appropriate to rank these forces on the 2018 data.



MOST IMPROVED 2017 -2018

Reduction of thefts as a percentage of registered motorcycles.

Rank	Force	Improvement 2018 - 2019
1	Cleveland	2.86%
2	Nottinghamshire	2.23%
3	West Midlands	1.54%
4	Lancashire	1.11%
5	Merseyside	1.10%
6	West Yorkshire	1.09%
7	Hertfordshire	1.05%
8	North Yorkshire	0.65%
9	Bedfordshire	0.64%
10	Staffordshire	0.57%
11	North Wales	0.26%
12	Surrey	0.25%
13	Gloucestershire	0.23%
14	Derbyshire	0.13%
15	Dyfed-Powys	0.10%
16	Sussex	0.09%
17	South Yorkshire	0.08%
18	Leicestershire	0.08%
19	Northern Ireland	0.06%
20	Cheshire	0.06%
21	Cambridgeshire	0.03%
22	Devon and Cornwall	0.03%
23	West Mercia	0.01%
24	Warwickshire	-0.04%
25	Cumbria	-0.05%
26	Lincolnshire	-0.05%
27	Dorset	-0.05%
28	Northamptonshire	-0.12%
29	Suffolk	-0.23%
30	Metropolitan/City of London	-0.32%
31	Avon and Somerset	-0.35%
32	Norfolk	-0.38%
33	Kent	-0.40%
34	Gwent	-0.46%
35	Northumbria	-0.70%
36	Durham	-0.74%
37	Humberside	-0.91%

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**AVON & SOMERSET
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 34/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

45,285

STOLEN:

968

1 in 47

STOLEN

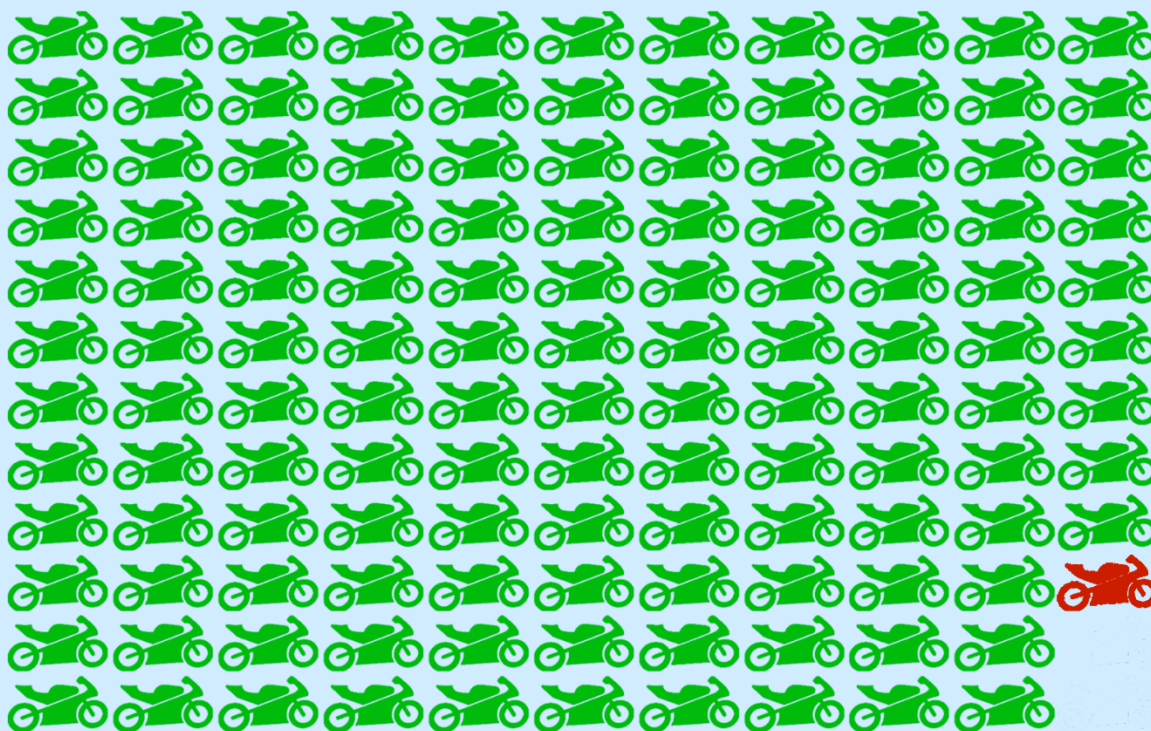
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**BEDFORDSHIRE
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 12/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

11,960

1 in 130

STOLEN:

92

STOLEN

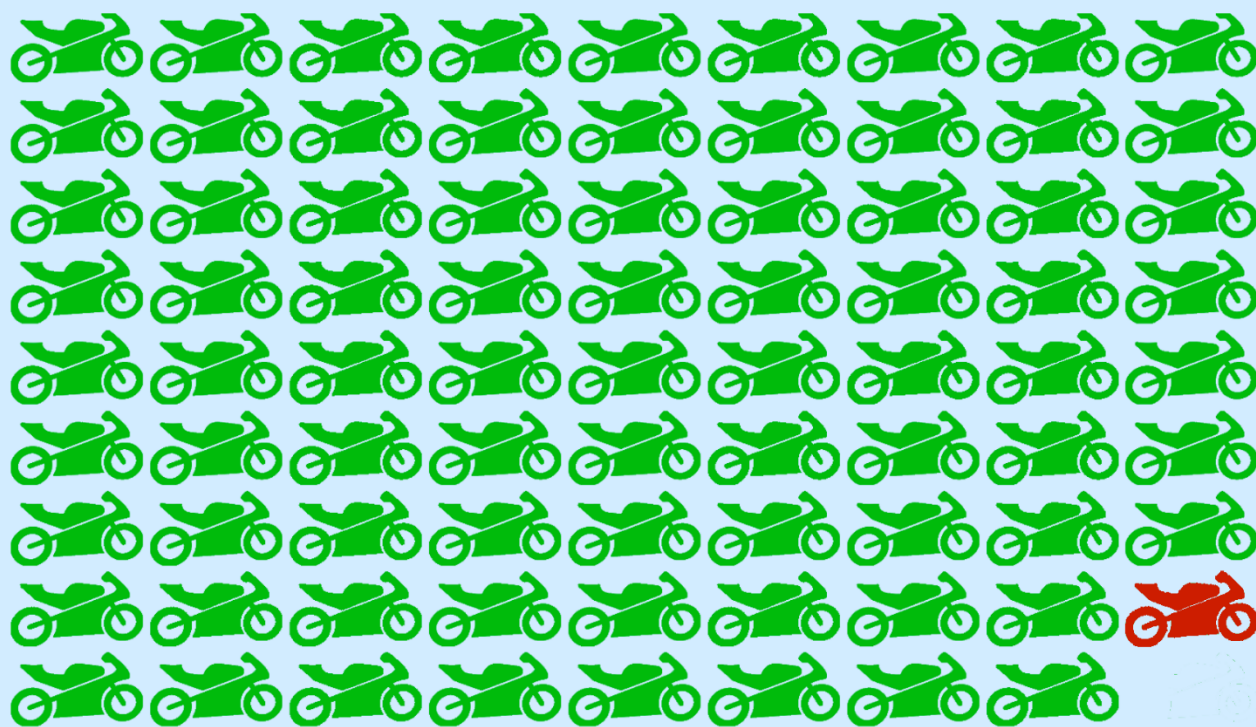
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 23/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

19,876

STOLEN:

250

1 in 80

STOLEN

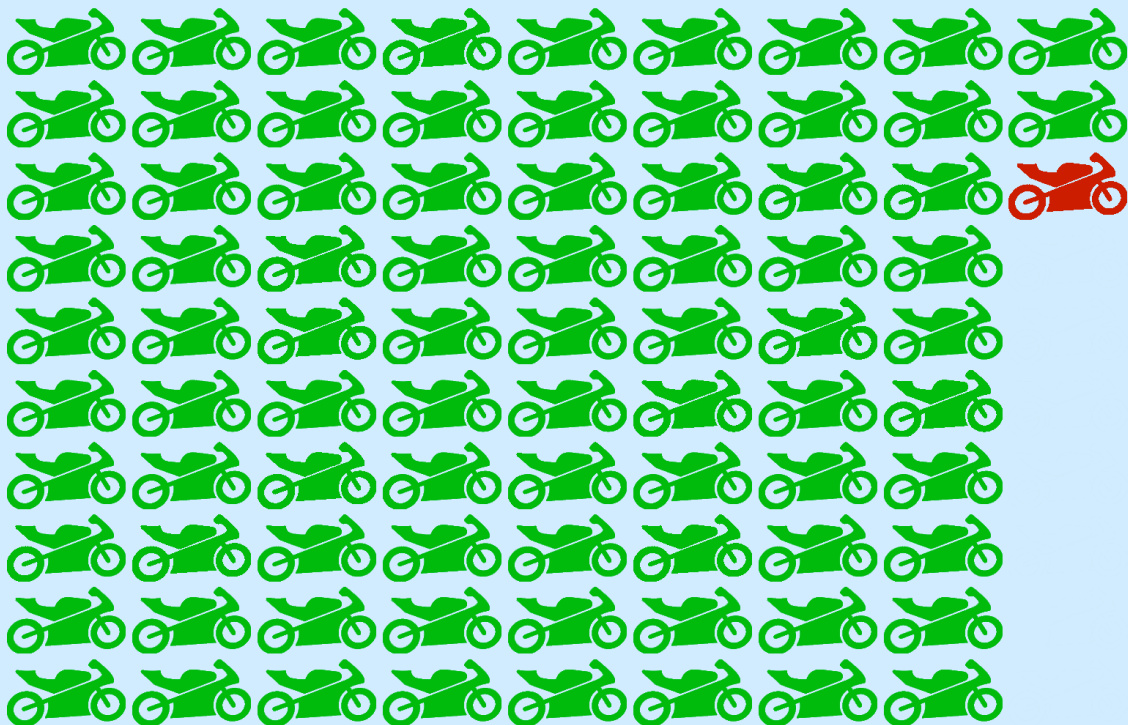
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**CHESHIRE
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 22/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

23,443

1 in 83

STOLEN:

283

STOLEN

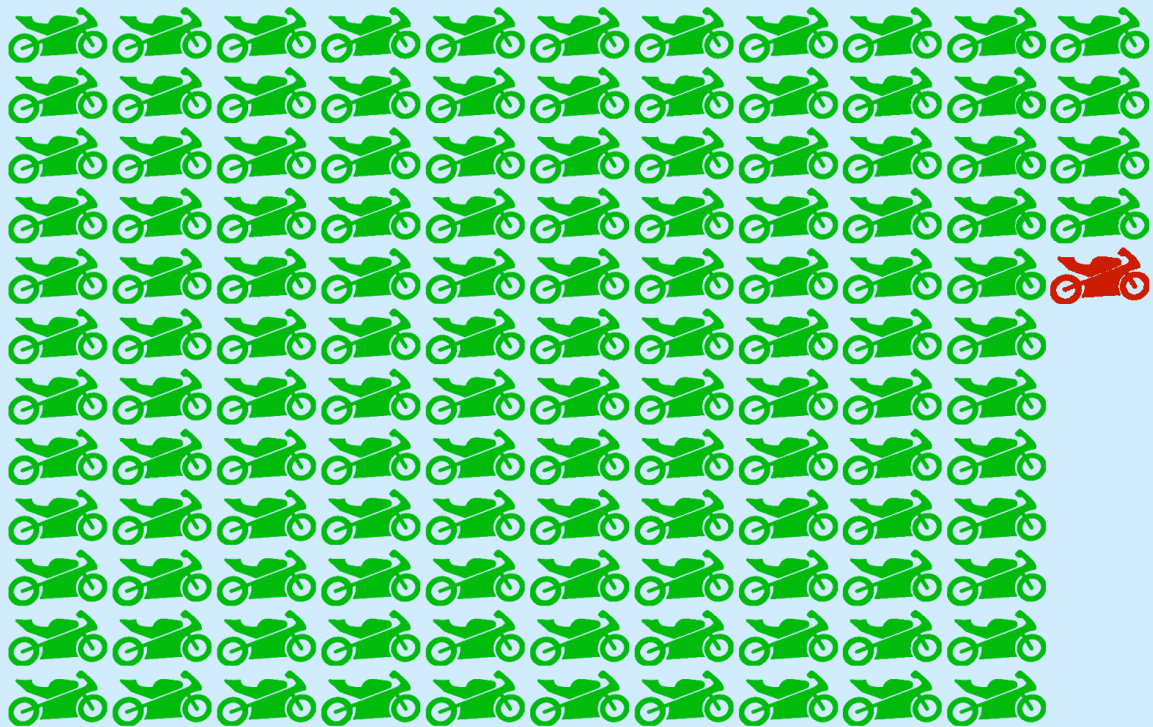
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

CLEVELAND POLICE

2019

RANK: **14/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

8382

1 in 125

STOLEN:

67

STOLEN

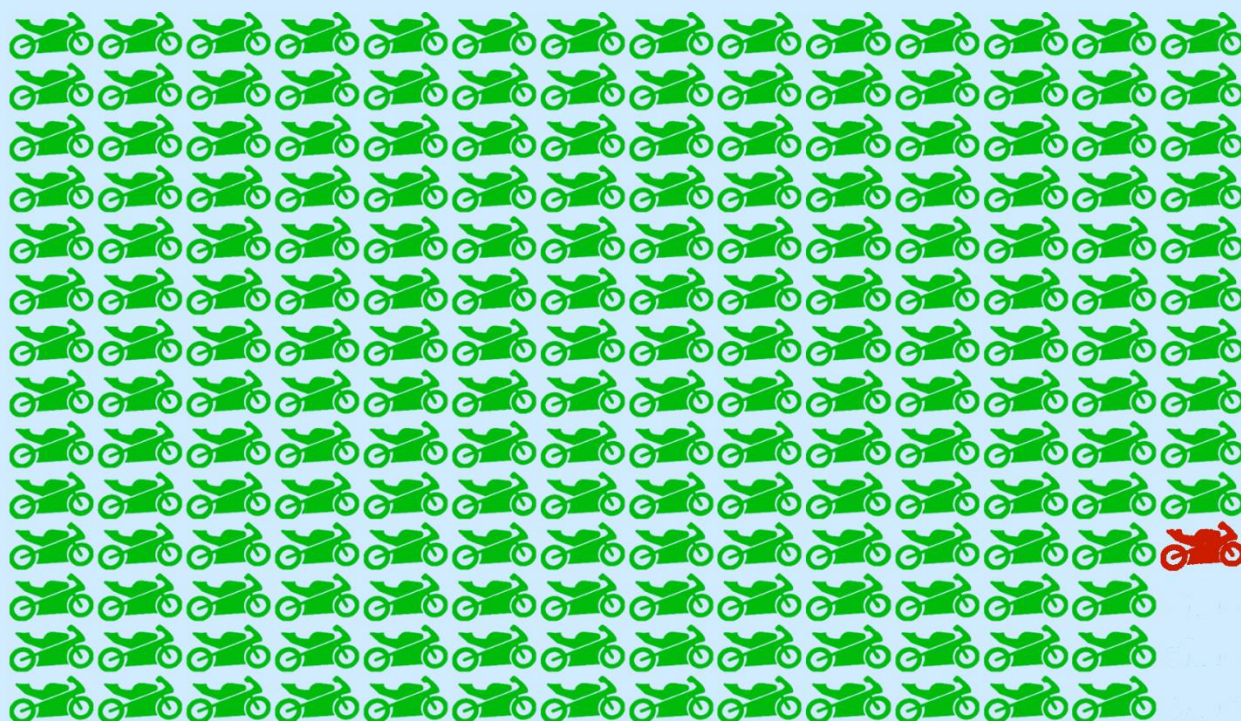
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**CUMBRIA
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 4/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

12,652

1 in 253

STOLEN:

50

STOLEN

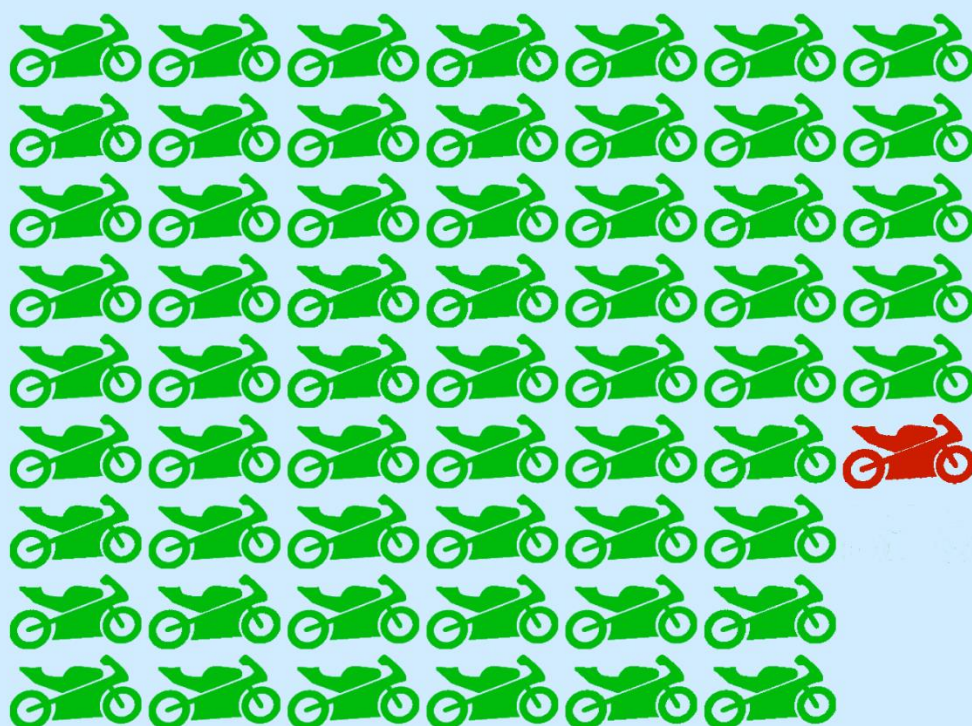
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**DERBYSHIRE
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 27/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

25,968

STOLEN:

380

1 in 68

STOLEN

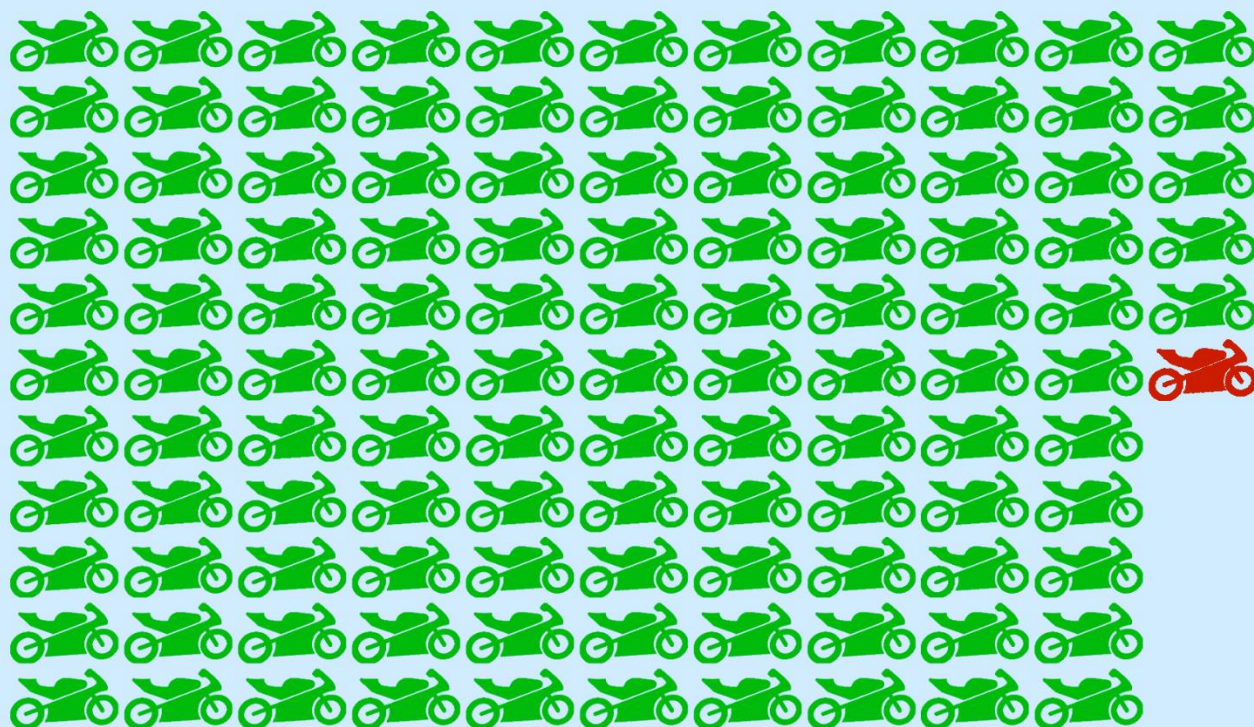
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

DEVON & CORNWALL POLICE

2019

RANK: **16/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

52,434

1 in 116

STOLEN:

452

STOLEN

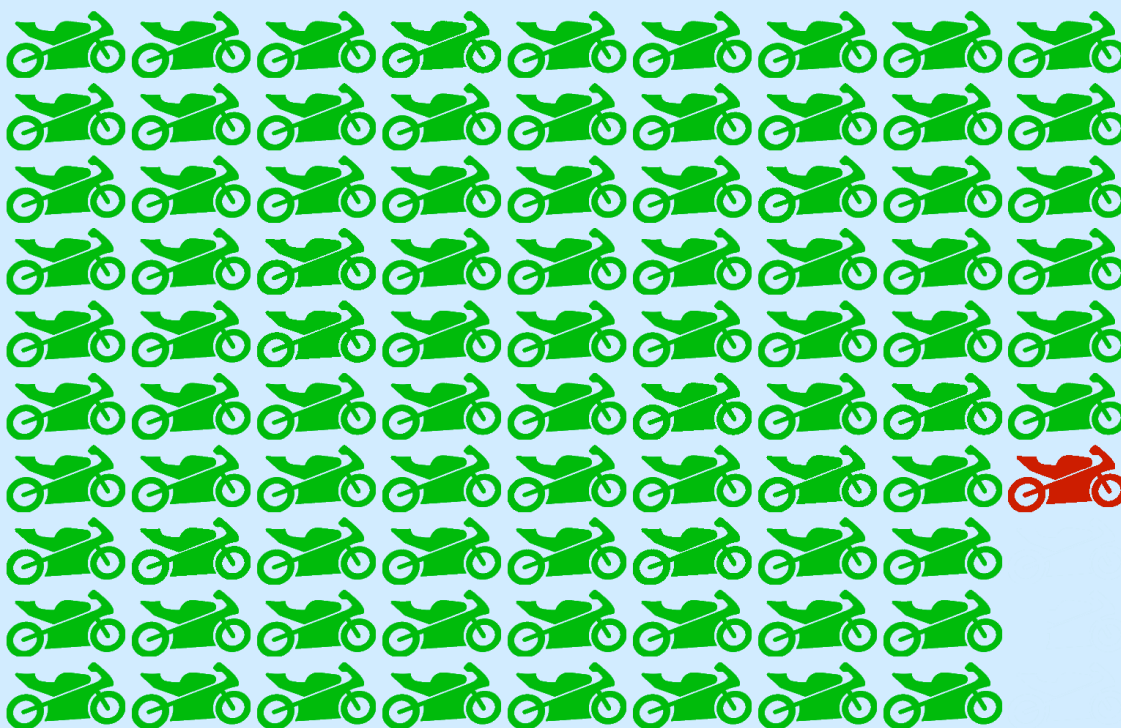
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**DORSET
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 20/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

22,024

STOLEN:

254

1 in 87

STOLEN

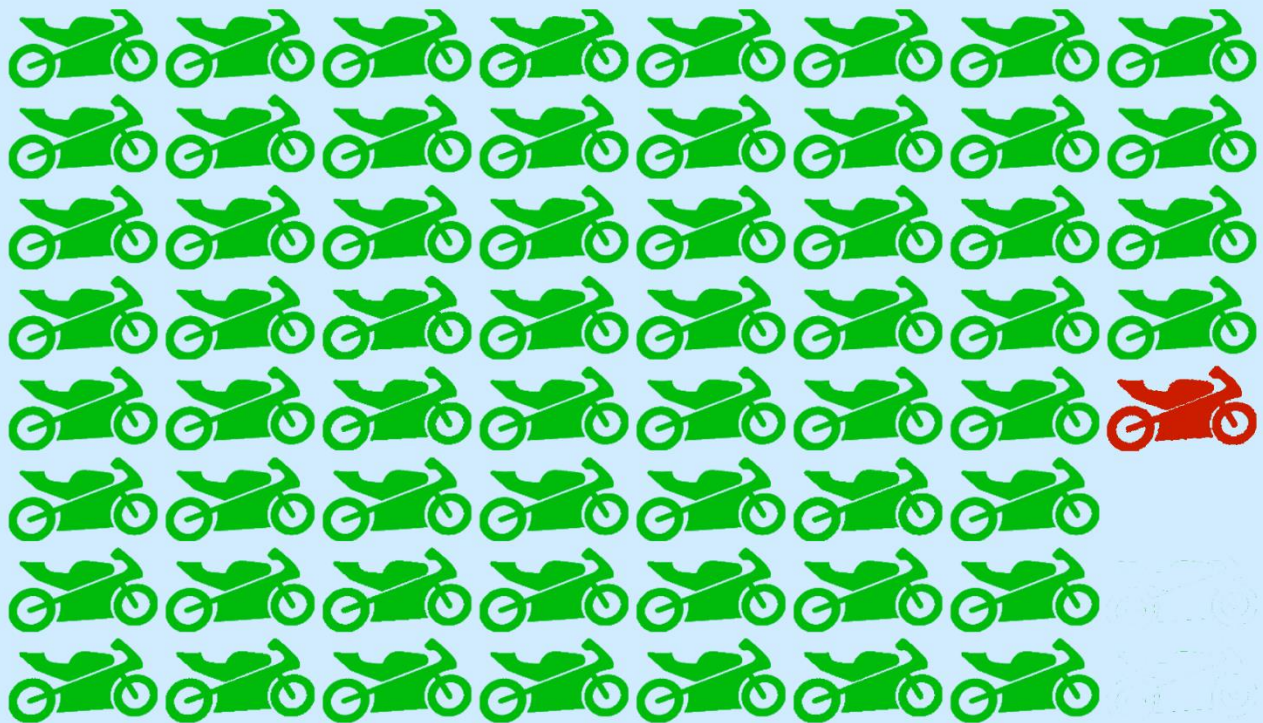
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**DURHAM
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 29/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

11,234

STOLEN:

188

1 in 60

STOLEN

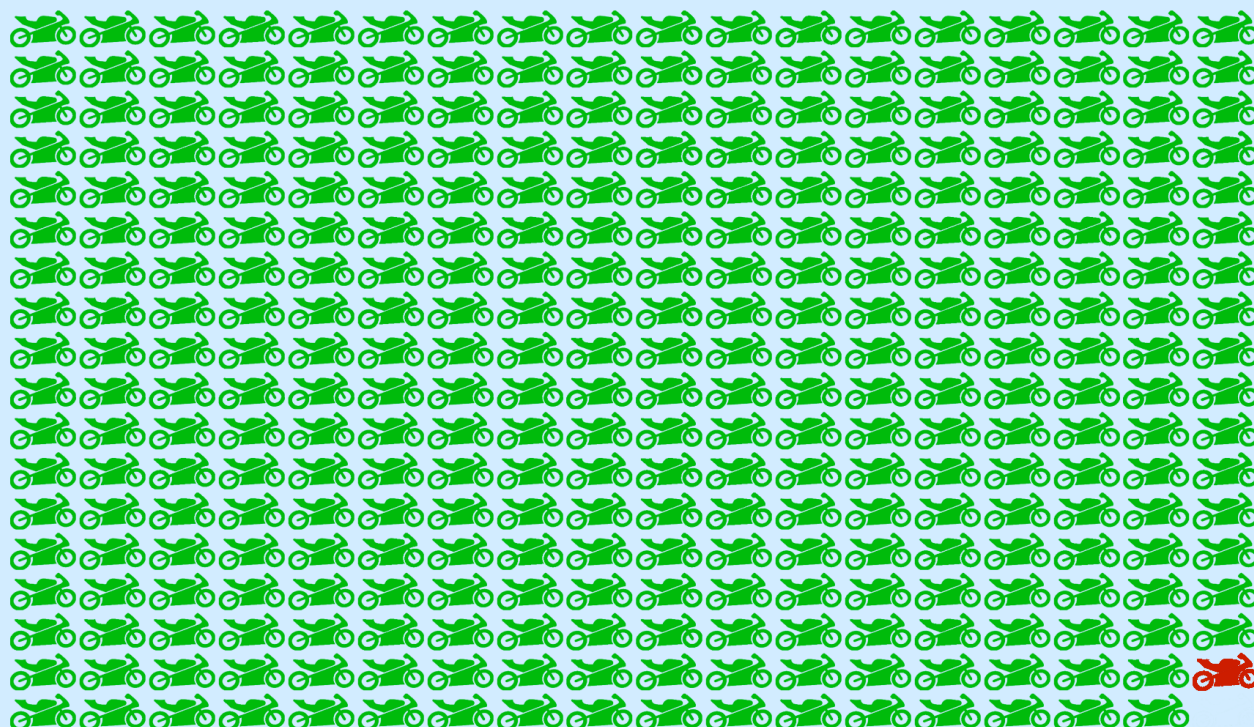
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**DYFED-POWYS
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 2/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

12,583

1 in 323

STOLEN:

39

STOLEN

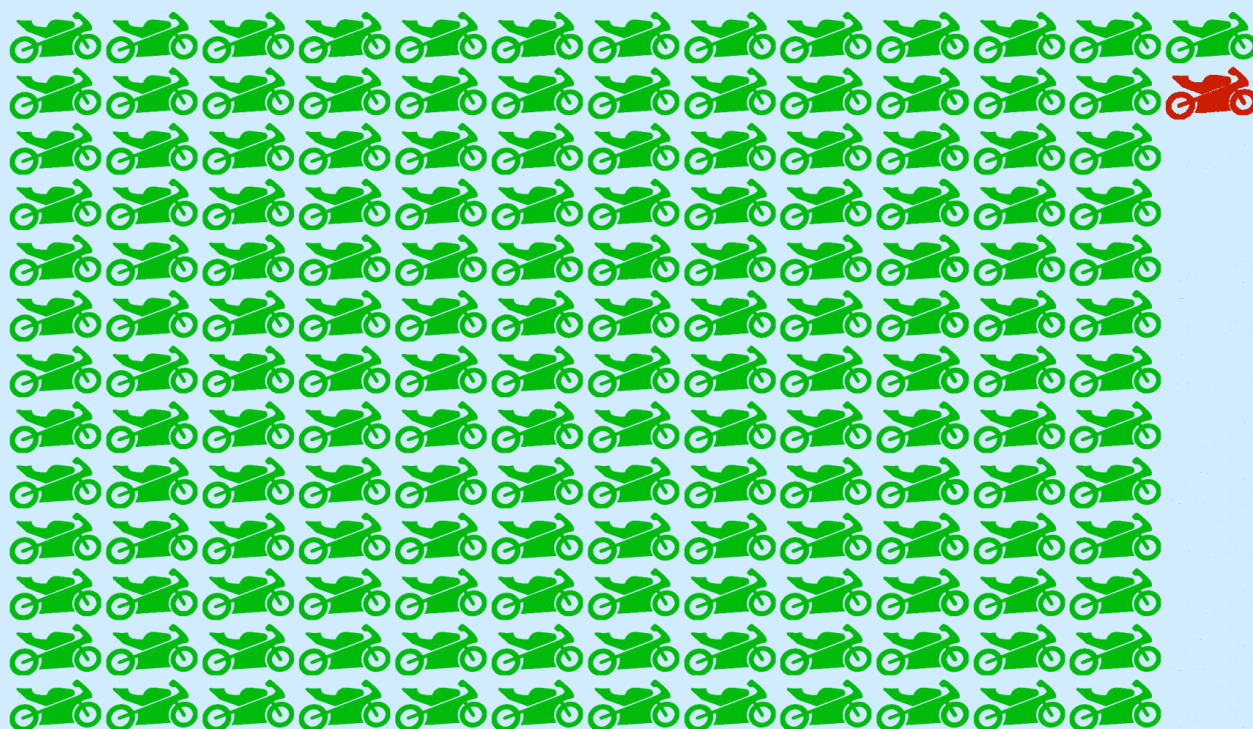
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**ESSEX
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 7/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

40,036

1 in 158

STOLEN:

253

STOLEN

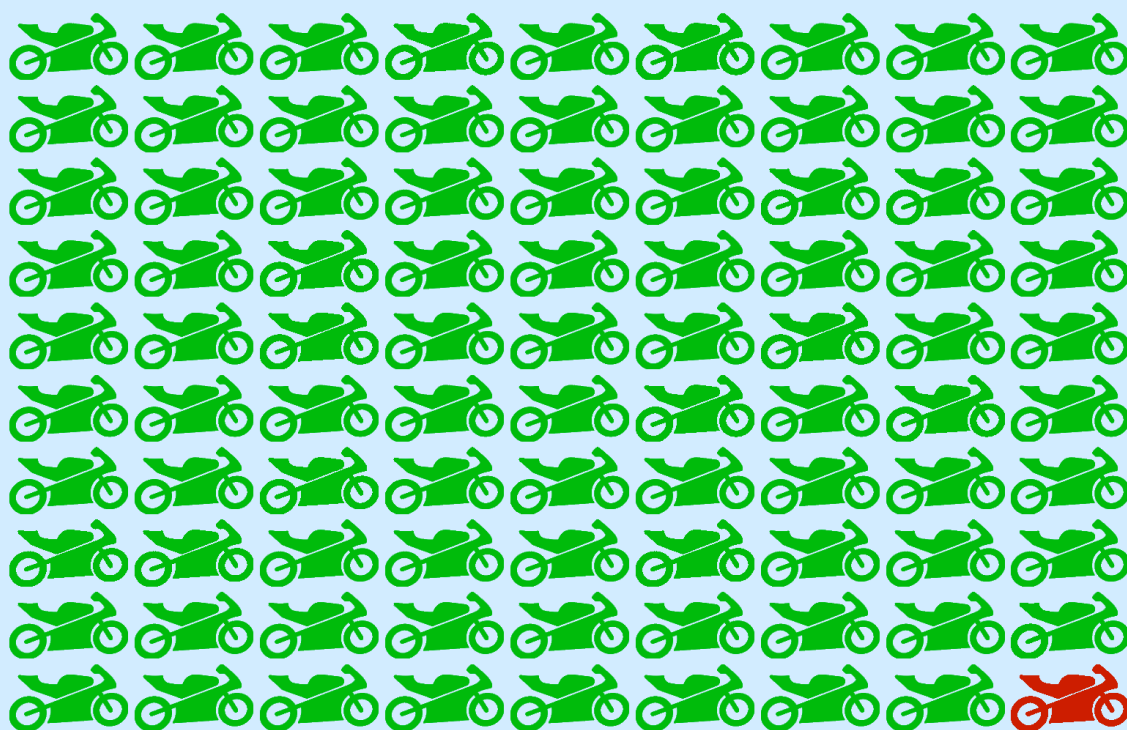
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

GLOUCESTERSHIRE POLICE

2019

RANK: **19/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

17,076

STOLEN:

189

1 in 90

STOLEN

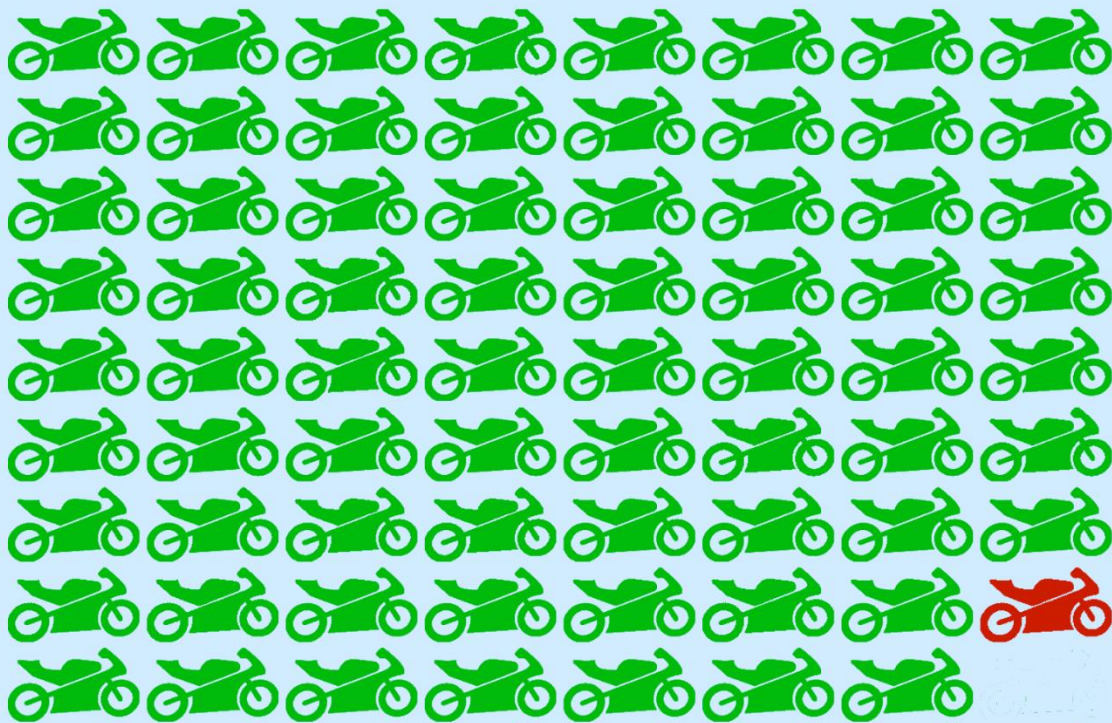
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**GWENT
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 26/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

11,196

STOLEN:

158

1 in 71

STOLEN

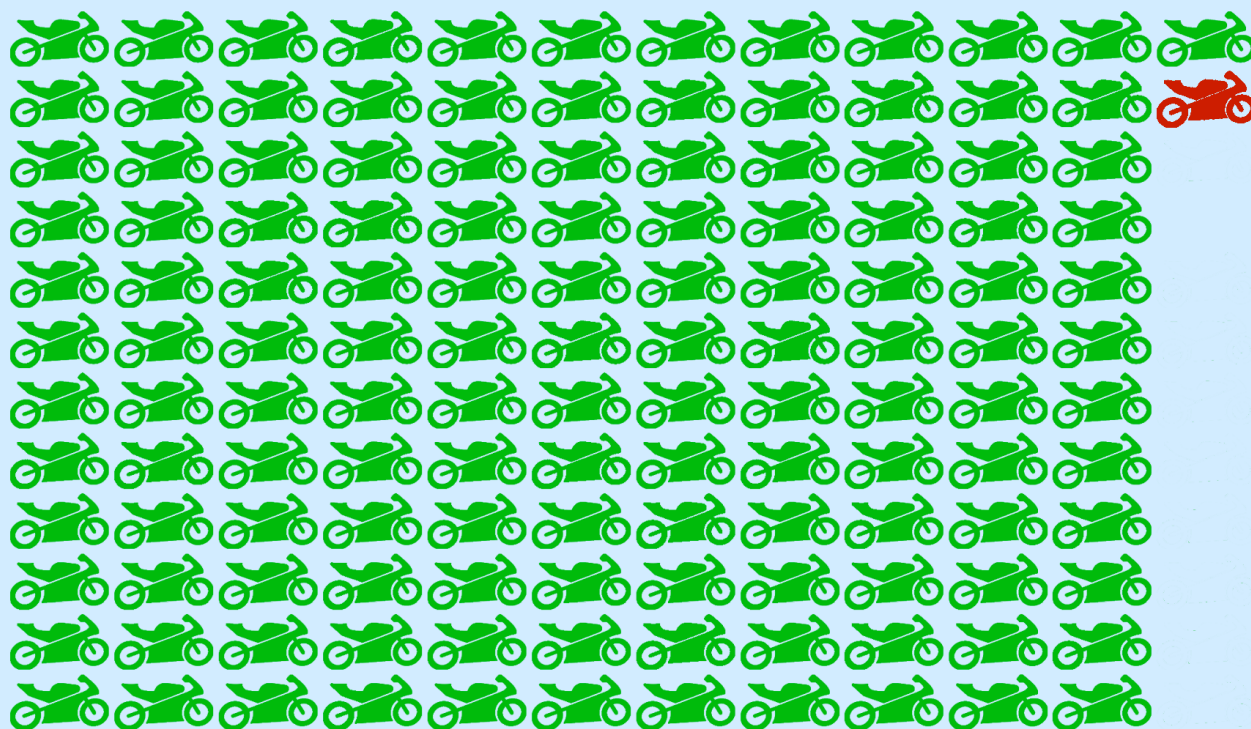
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE

2019

RANK: **8/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

21,141

1 in 134

STOLEN:

134

STOLEN

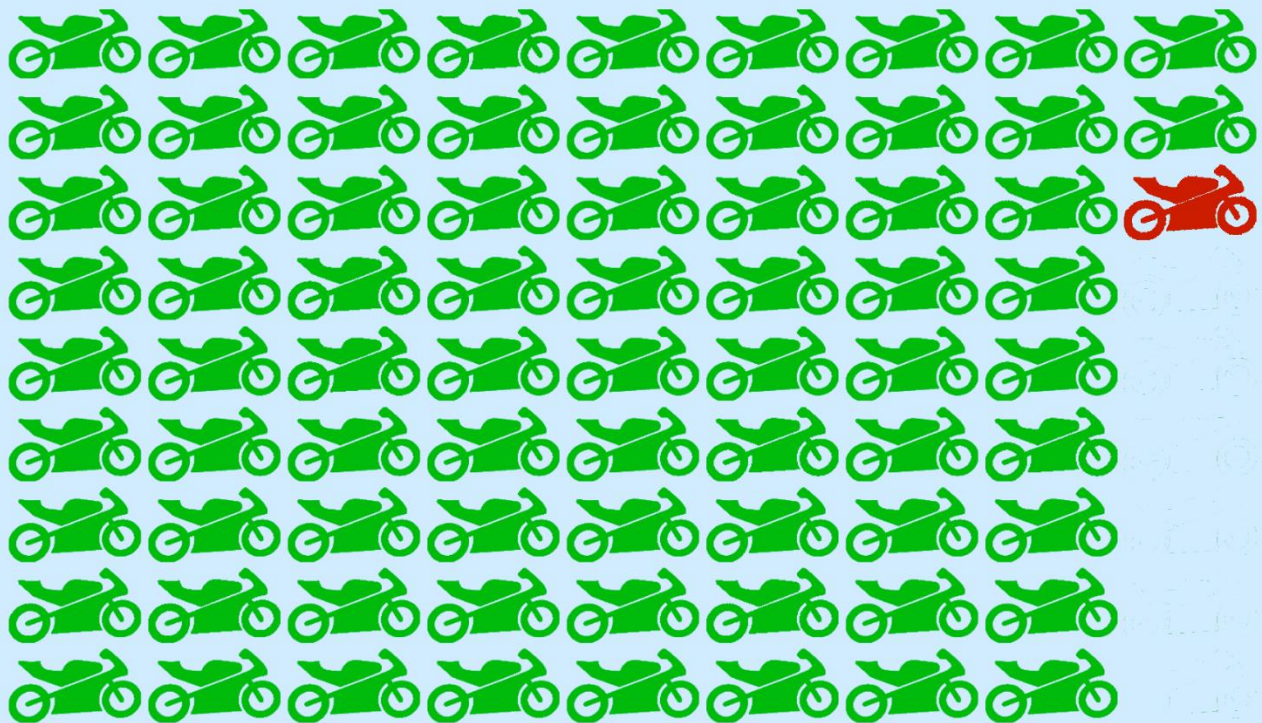
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**HUMBERSIDE
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 25/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

22,982

STOLEN:

308

1 in 75

STOLEN

(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**KENT
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 35/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

43,228

STOLEN:

1050

1 in 41

STOLEN

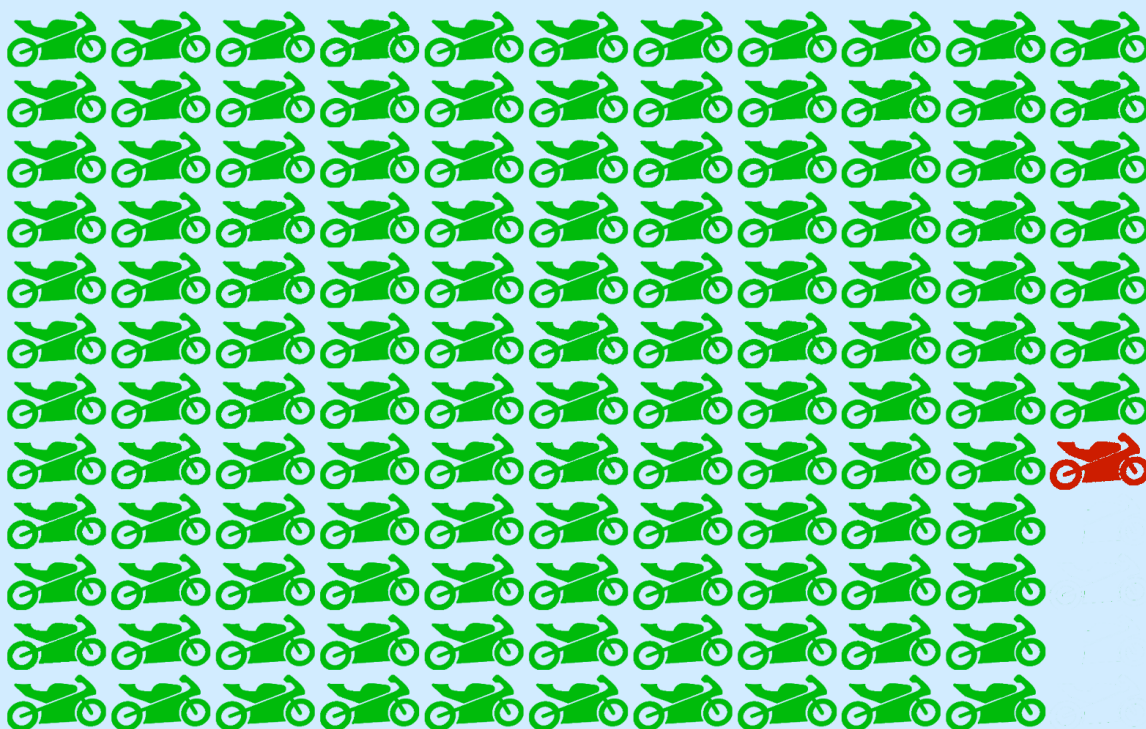
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**LANCASHIRE
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 13/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

30,142

1 in 128

STOLEN:

235

STOLEN

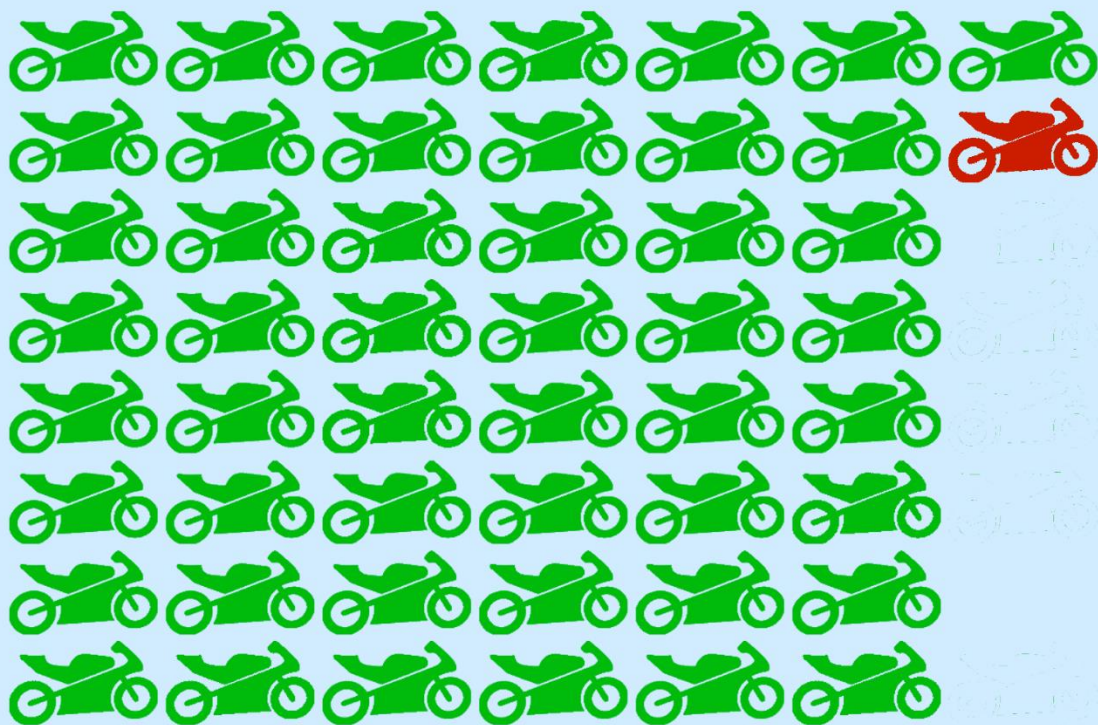
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**LEICESTERSHIRE
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 33/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

22,274

STOLEN:

446

1 in 50

STOLEN

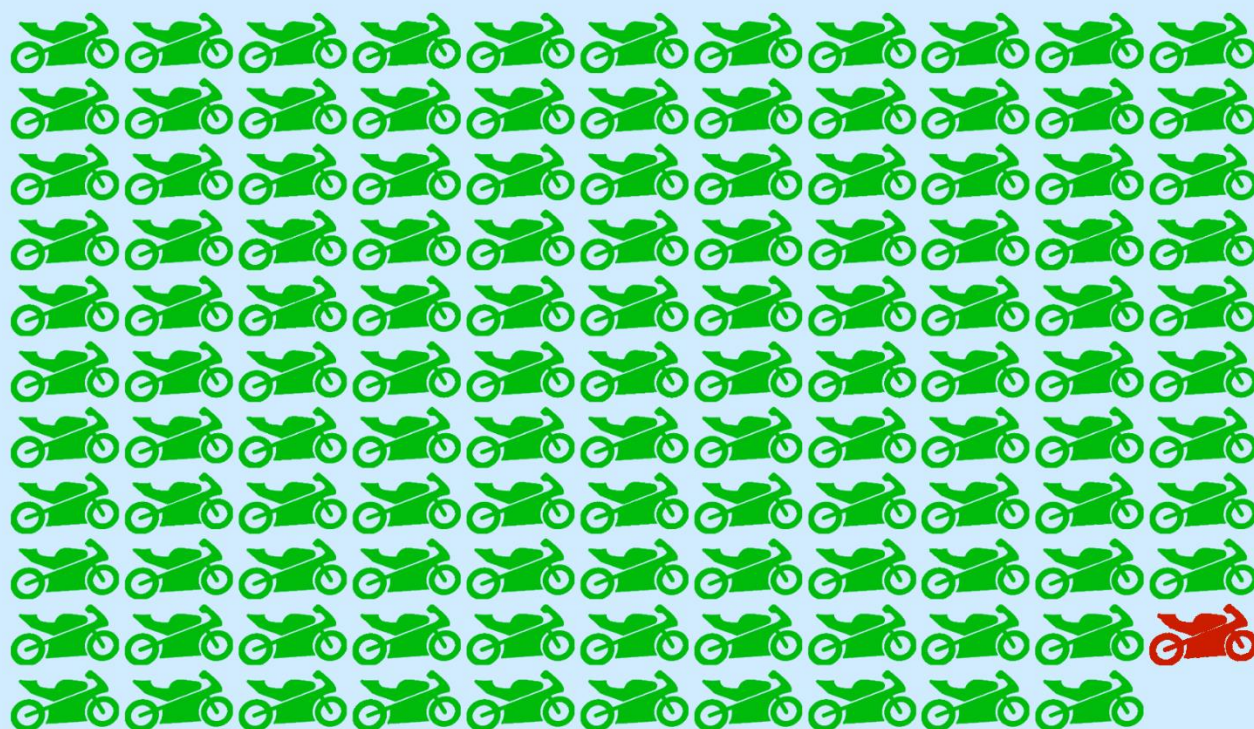
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**LINCOLNSHIRE
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 15/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

21,043

1 in 120

STOLEN:

175

STOLEN

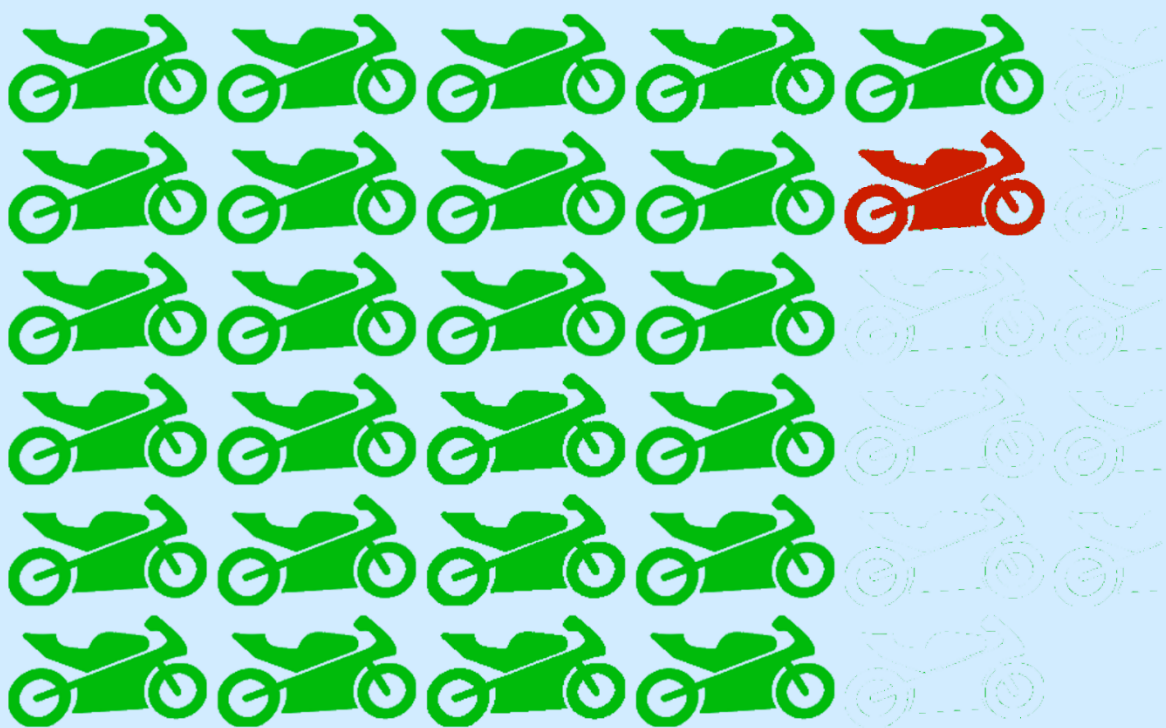
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**MERSEYSIDE
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 37/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

17,472

STOLEN:

670

1 in 26

STOLEN

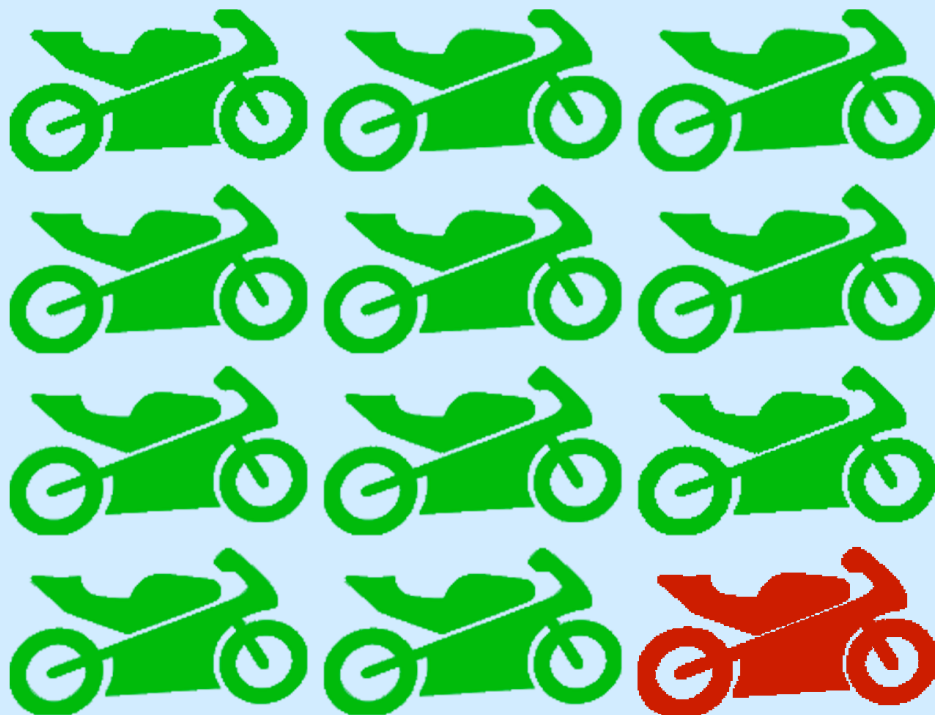
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

METROPOLITAN AND CITY OF LONDON POLICE

2019

RANK: **40/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

113,700

STOLEN:

9,850

1 in 12

STOLEN

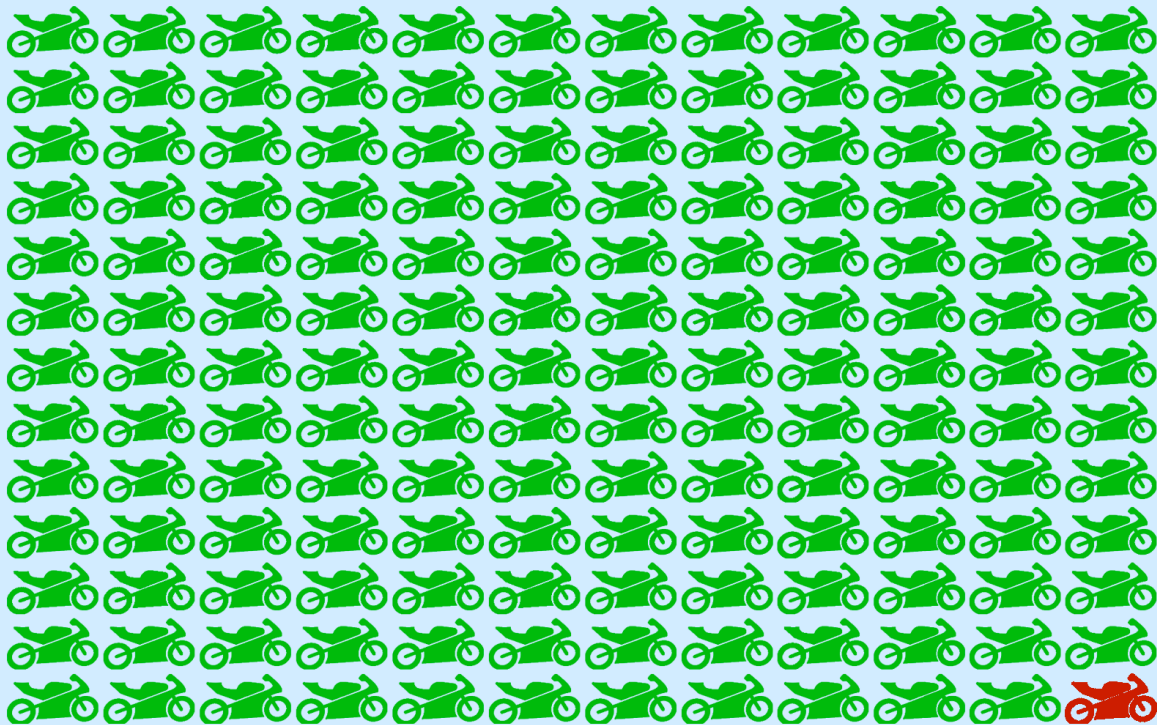
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**NORFOLK
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 9/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

26,913

1 in 156

STOLEN:

172

STOLEN

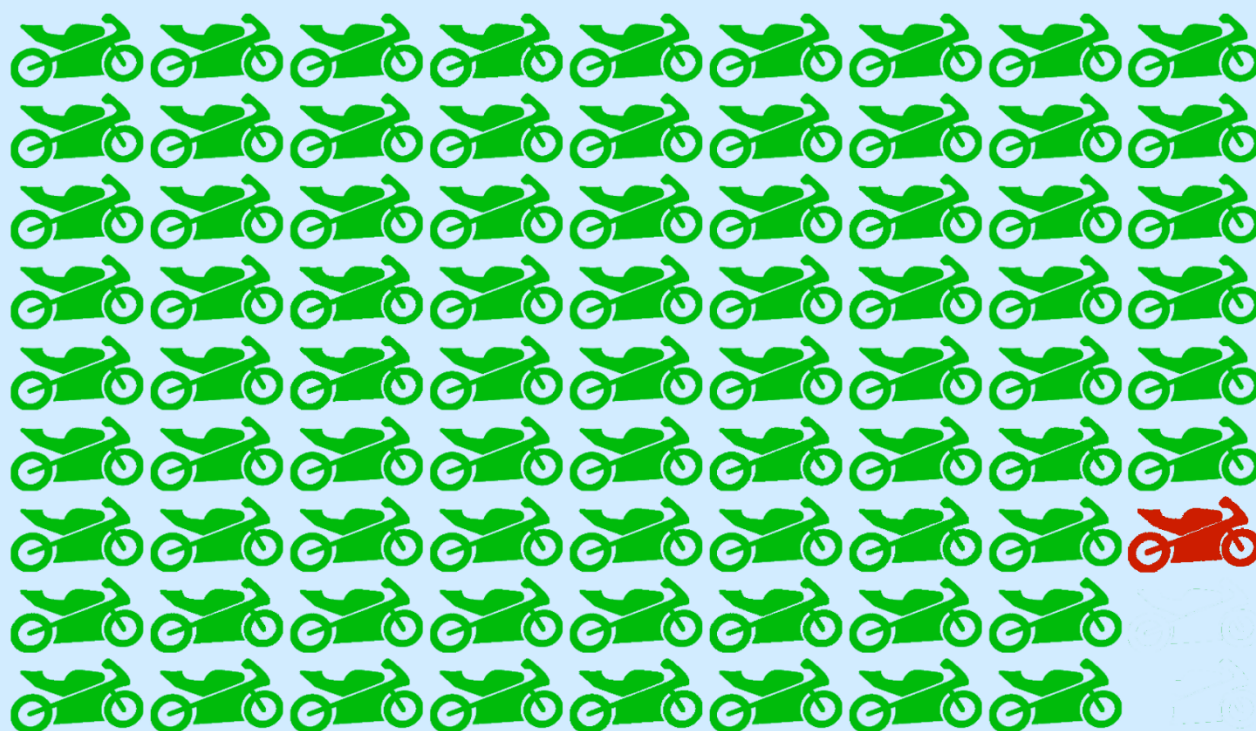
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE POLICE

2019

RANK: **24/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

17,508

1 in 79

STOLEN:

222

STOLEN

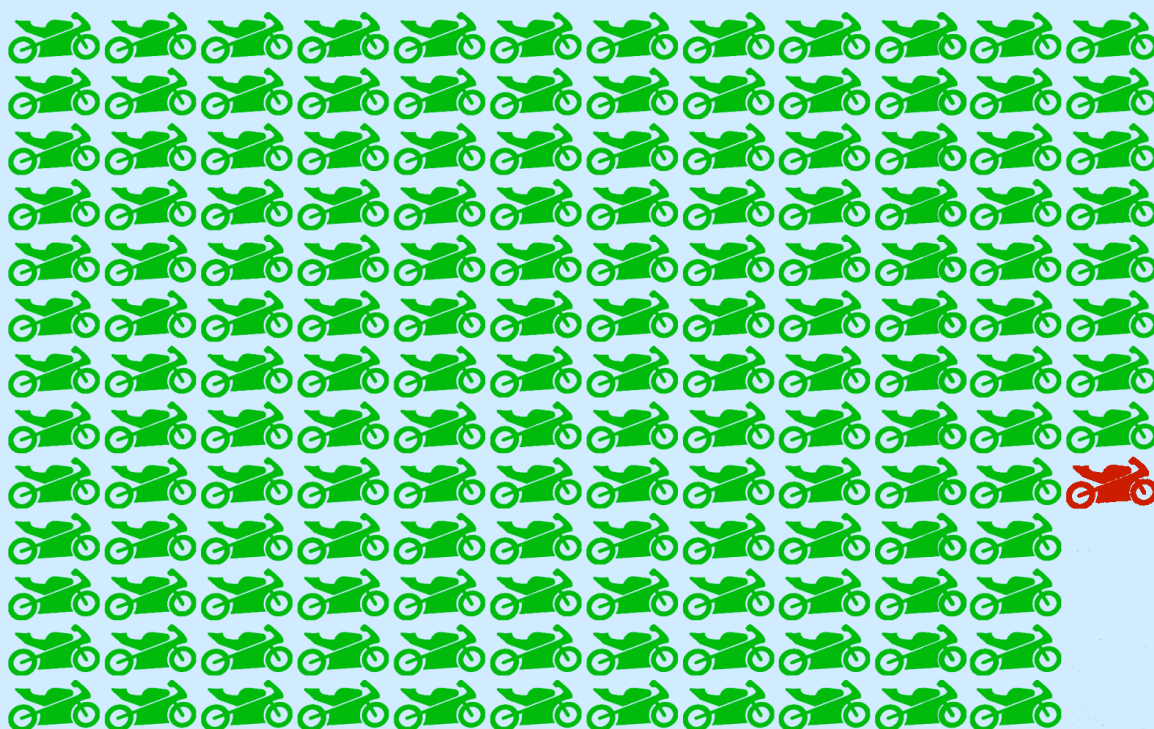
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

POLICE SERVICE NORTHERN IRELAND

2019

RANK: **11/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

23,020

1 in 152

STOLEN:

151

STOLEN

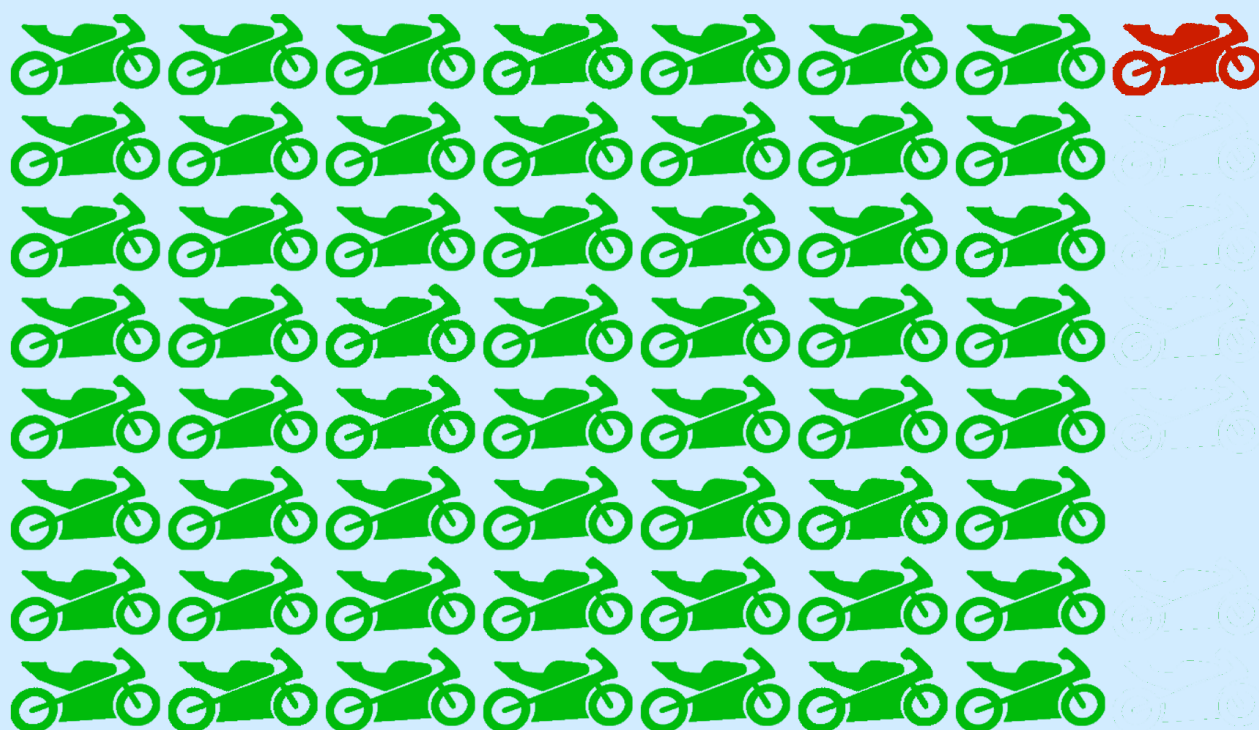
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

2019

RANK: **30/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

19,704

STOLEN:

345

1 in 57

STOLEN

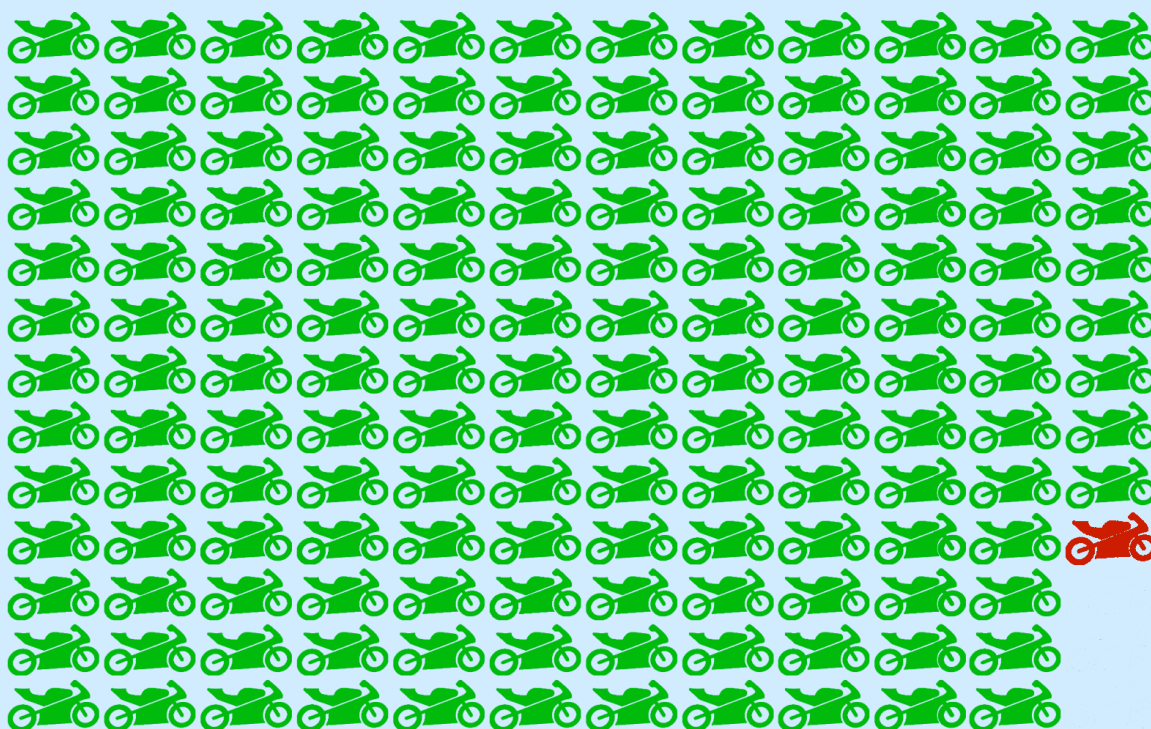
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**NORTH WALES
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 10/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

15,637

1 in 153

STOLEN:

102

STOLEN

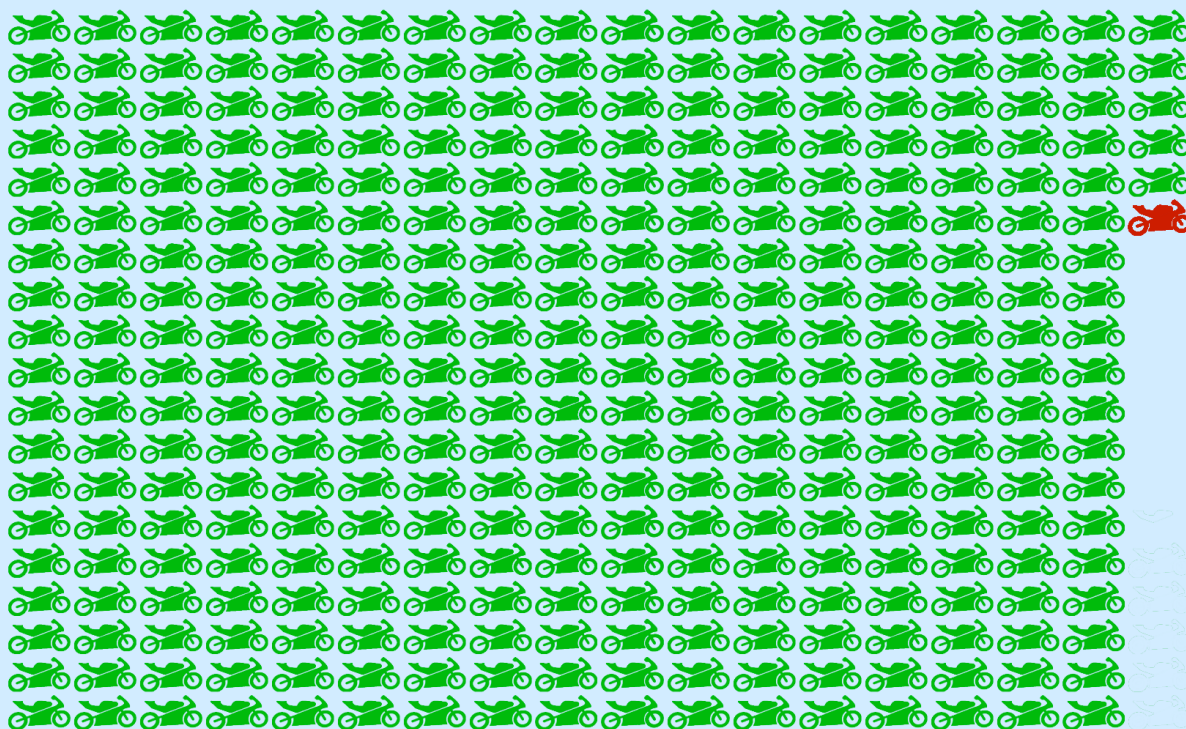
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE

2019

RANK: **1/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

21,367

1 in 329

STOLEN:

65

STOLEN

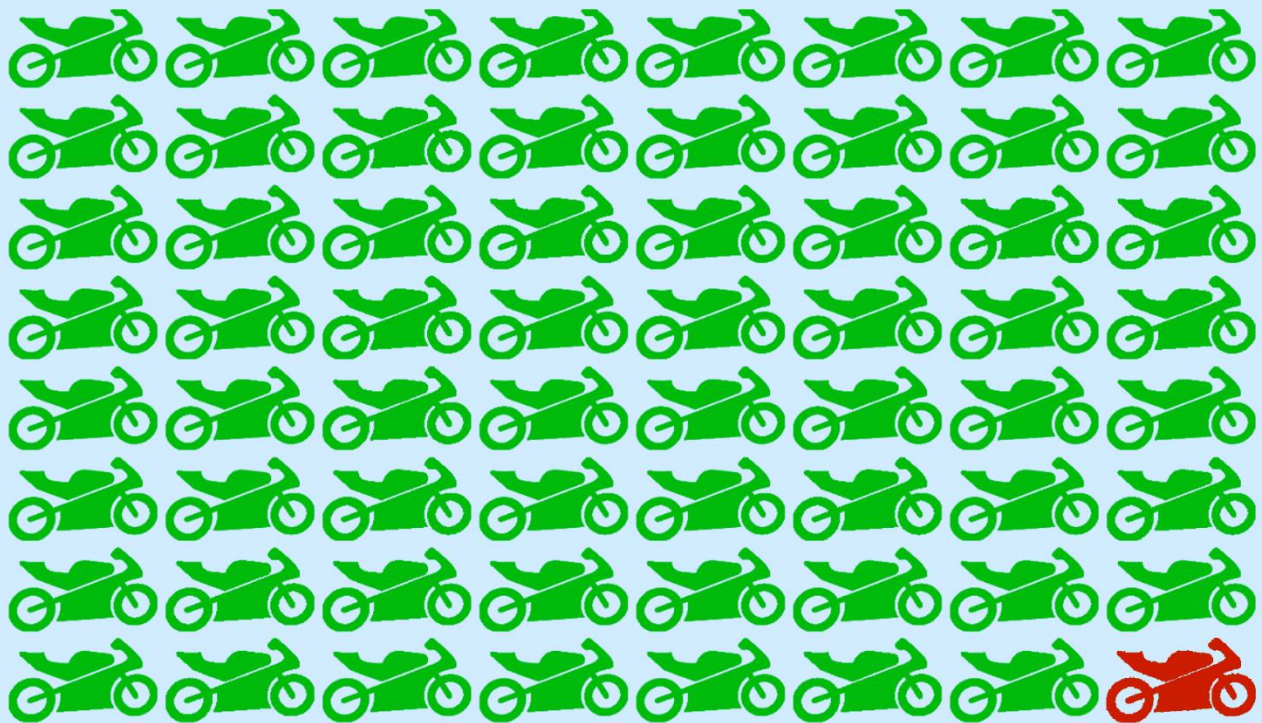
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE

2019

RANK: **28/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

20,861

STOLEN:

326

1 in 64

STOLEN

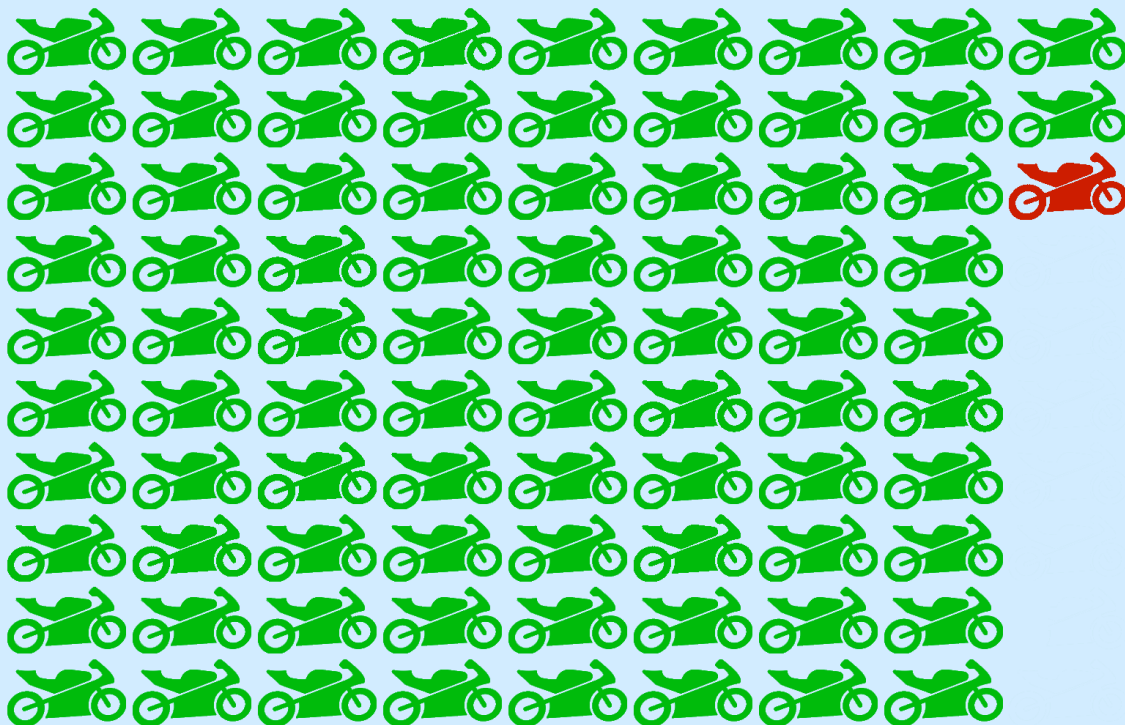
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**SOUTH YORKSHIRE
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 21/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

22,370

1 in 83

STOLEN:

270

STOLEN

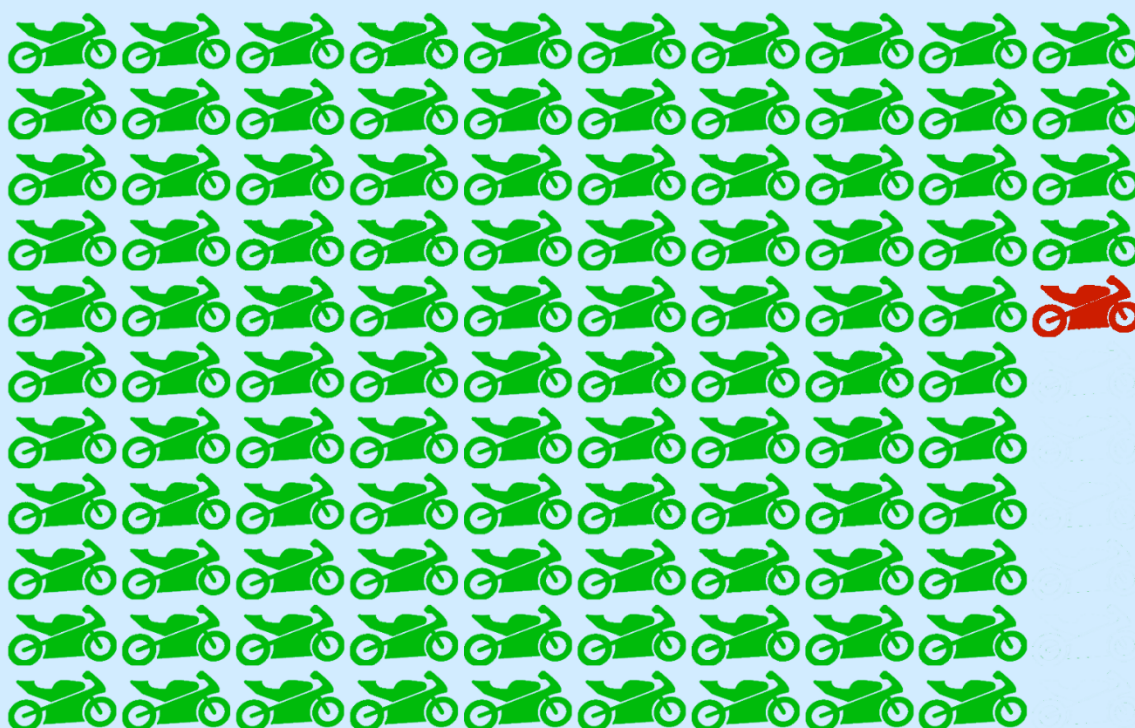
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE

2019

RANK: **18/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

24,958

1 in 104

STOLEN:

241

STOLEN

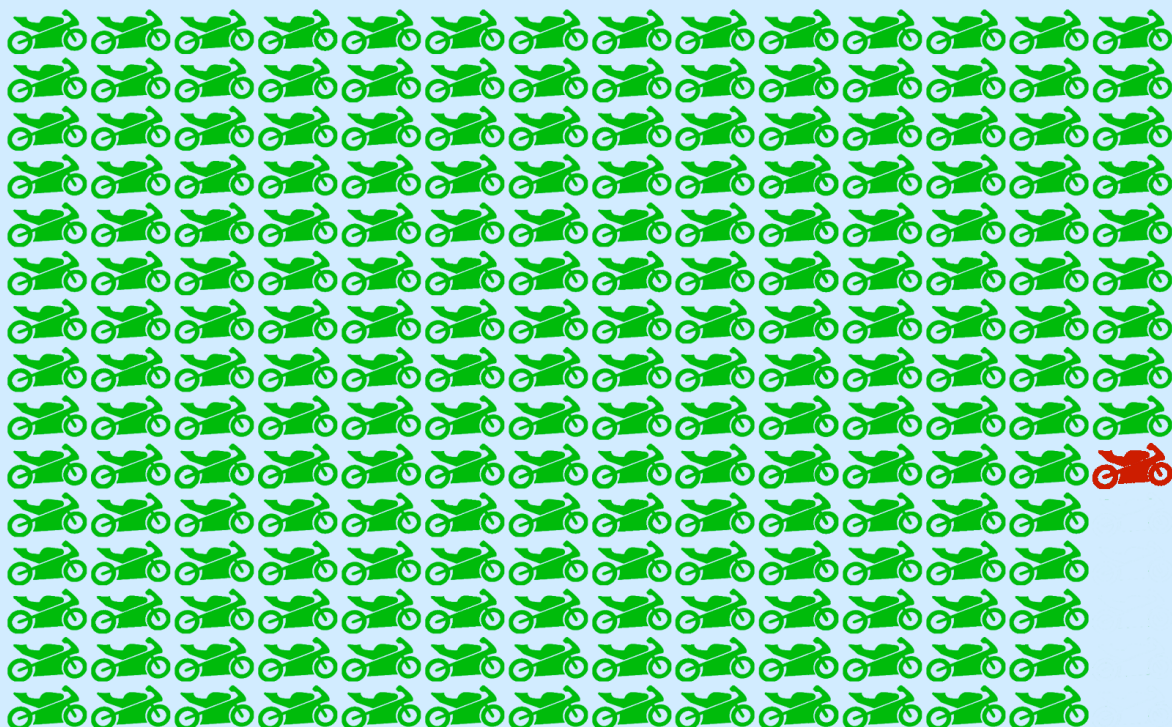
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**SUFFOLK
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 1/39



REGISTERED BIKES:

21,711

1 in 205

STOLEN:

106

STOLEN

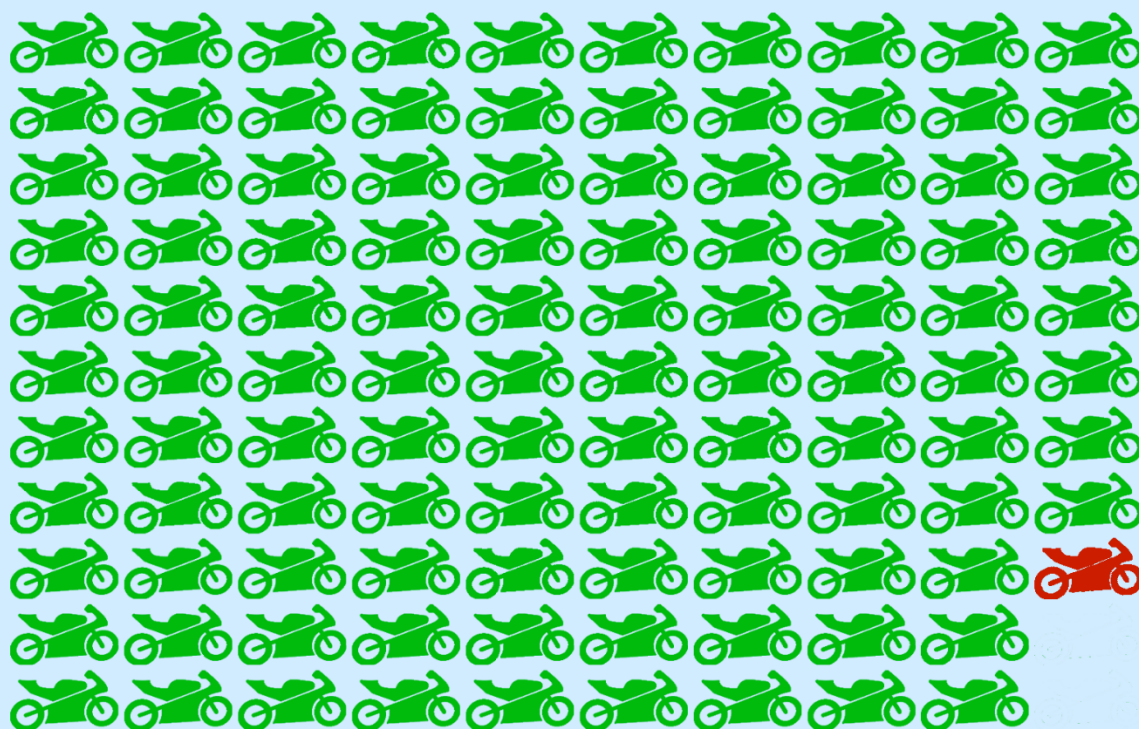
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**SURREY
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 17/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

29,791

1 in 108

STOLEN:

277

STOLEN

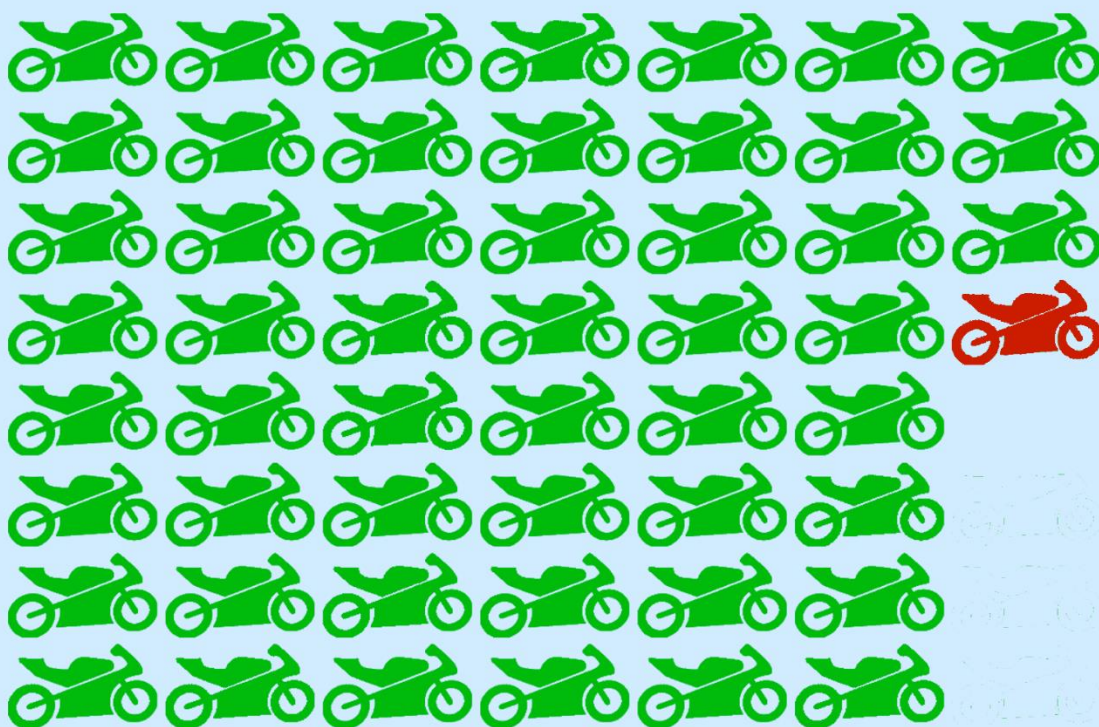
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**SUSSEX
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 32/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

41,714

STOLEN:

804

1 in 52

STOLEN

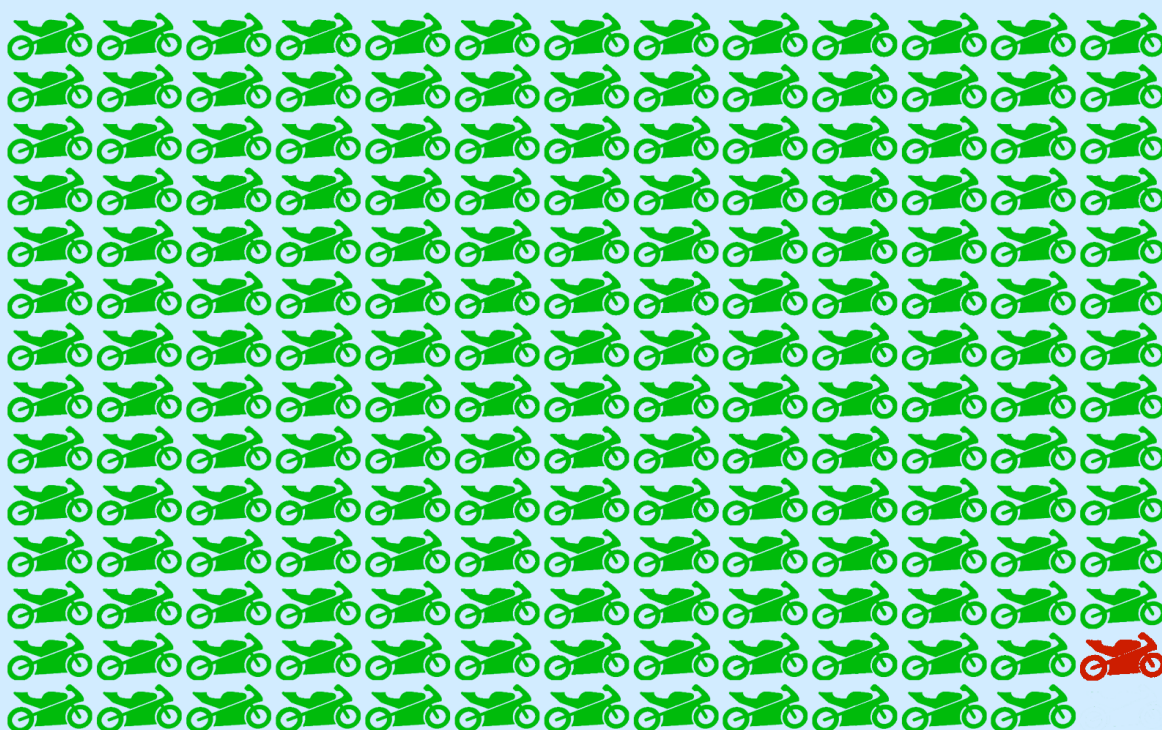
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

WARWICKSHIRE POLICE

2019

RANK: **6/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

13,789

1 in 181

STOLEN:

76

STOLEN

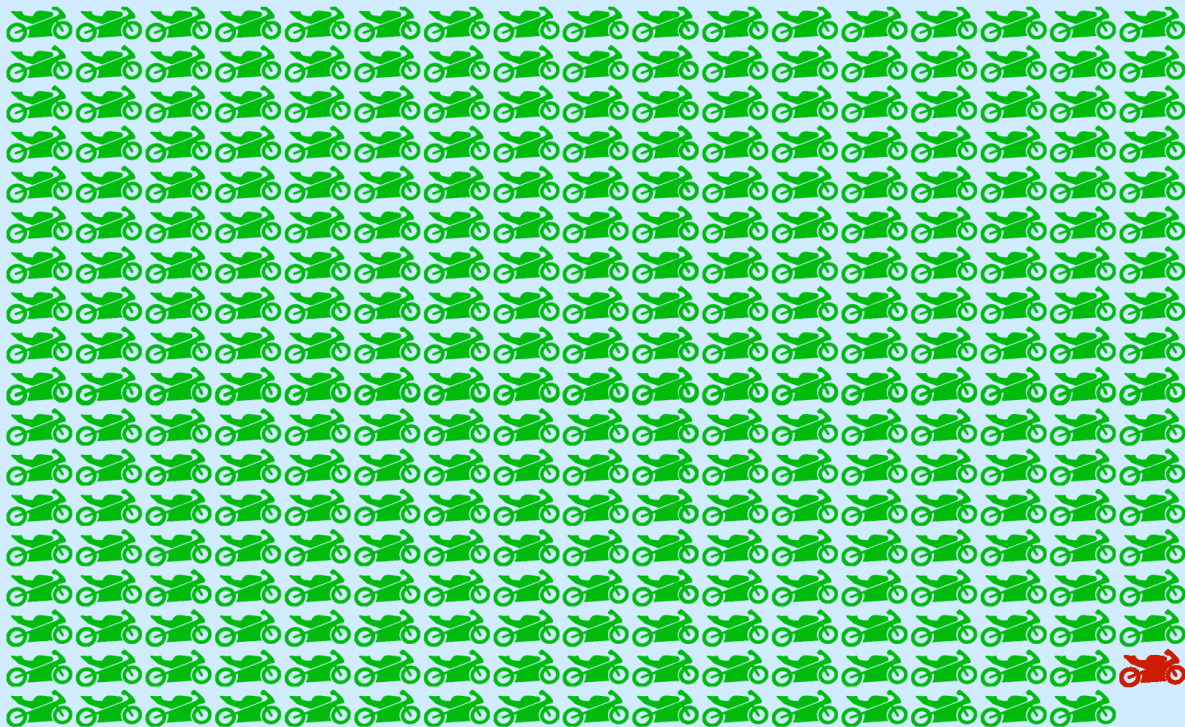
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

WEST MERCIA POLICE

2019

RANK: **3/40**



REGISTERED BIKES:

31,400

1 in 305

STOLEN:

103

STOLEN

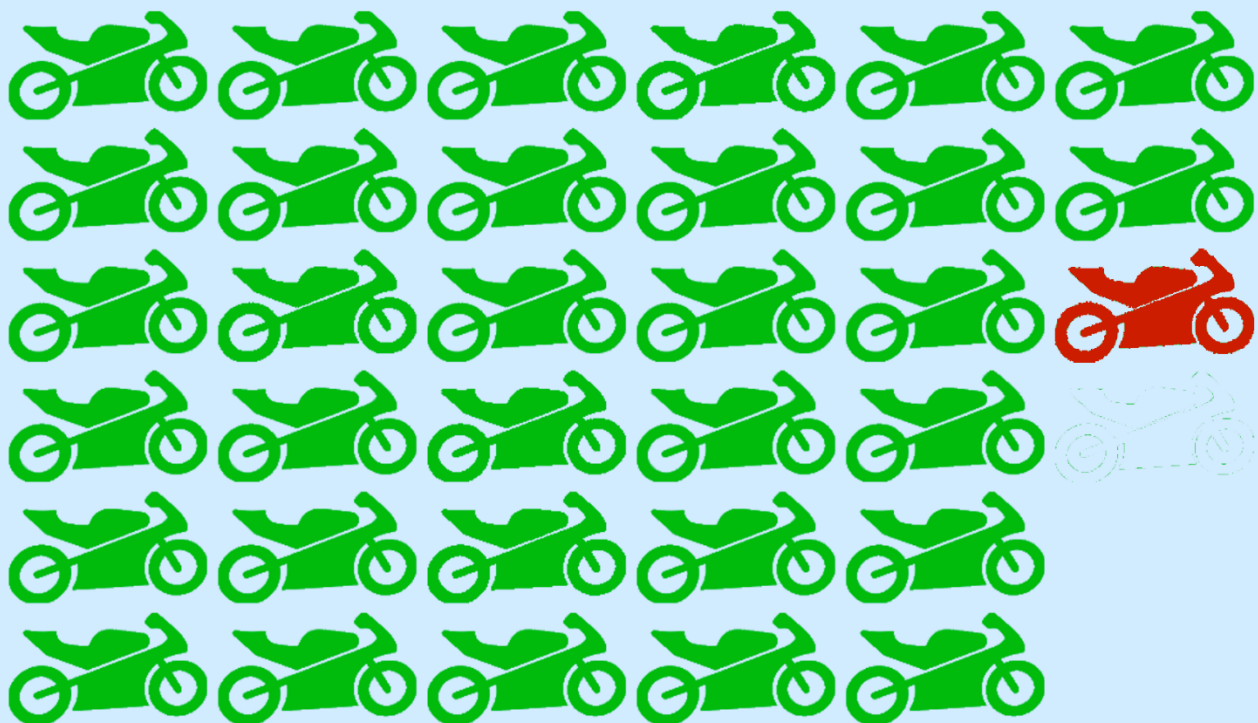
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**WEST MIDLANDS
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 36/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

33,646

1 in 33

STOLEN:

1018

STOLEN

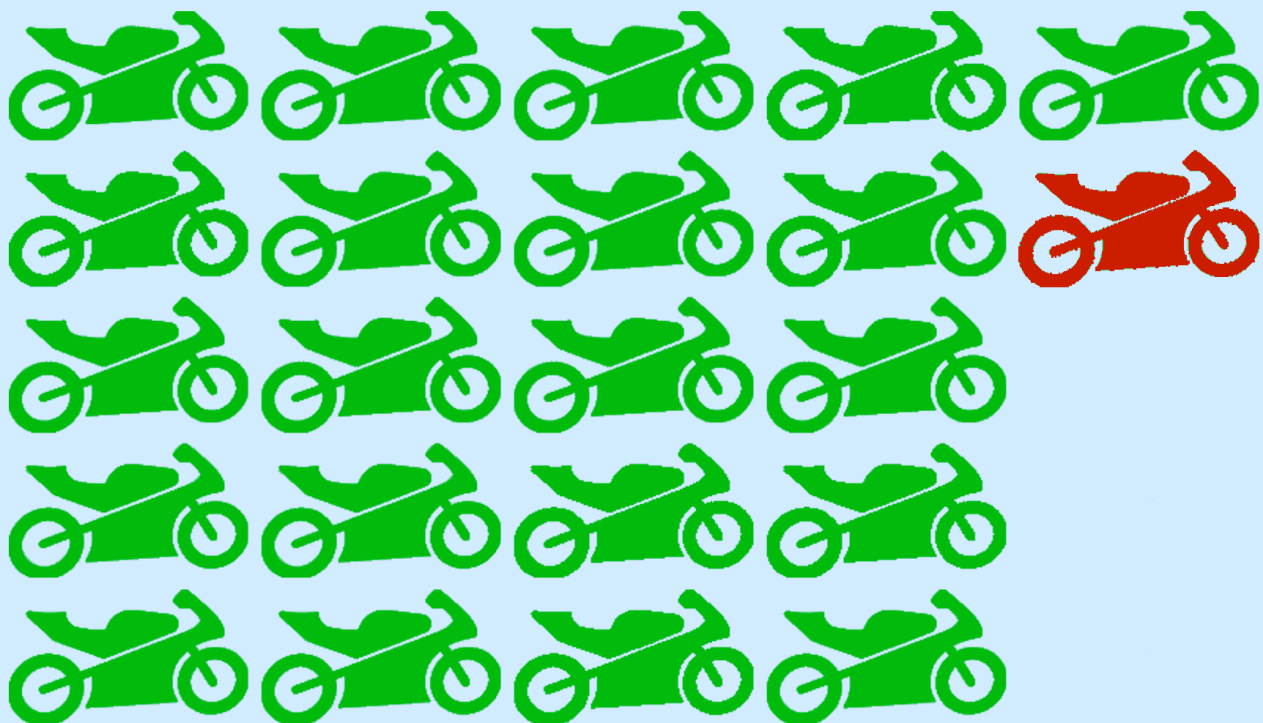
(National Average 1 in 54)

MAG NATIONAL BIKE THEFT RANKING

**WEST YORKSHIRE
POLICE**

2019

RANK: 38/40



REGISTERED BIKES:

33,653

STOLEN:

1,502

1 in 22

STOLEN

(National Average 1 in 54)

UNRANKED

The following forces failed to respond with the required information:

- Greater Manchester Police
- Hampshire Police
- Police Scotland
- South Wales Police
- Thames Valley Police
- Wiltshire Police

ACCURACY OF REPORTING

It becomes increasingly evident that the accuracy of the reporting of motorcycle theft is questionable. Clearly, with six forces failing to give any data at all, there is reason to be concerned about geographical blind spots in our analysis.

Investigation into figures supplied by the Metropolitan Police Force also revealed, on closer analysis, a significant under-reporting of motorcycle thefts. This is due to poor completion of records. Many reported thefts of motorcycles appear to be missed due to poor reporting of make and model. For example, a Yamaha YS125 being listed as a Ford 125 YS and thus missed from the motorcycle count due to the fact that Ford do not manufacture motorcycles.

MAG's analysis of the full 2018 data from the Metropolitan Police Force revealed potential under-reporting of over 15%.

A consistent UK-wide reporting method that limits recording errors by requiring a vehicle class field would be beneficial to both police forces and others analyzing the trends in motorcycle theft.

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