| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0552  Responded to: 14th March 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to know the data of the offence- grooming of children for the purposes for sexual offences from 2000-2024.

For the years 2000-2005, The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

By way of explanation please note that the classification of ‘Grooming of Children for the purposes of sexual offences’ was not a crime classification in its own right until 2005. This classification came into effect as a result of the 2005 Childrens Act.

Please see below for data relating to the time period 2005-2024

Table 1 shows the total amount of recorded cases of ‘Grooming of children for the purposes of sexual offences, for the period 2005-2014. The totals have been broken down by years and divisions.

Table 1

| **Division** | **2005** | **2006** | **2007** | **2008** | **2009** | **2010** | **2011** | **2012** | **2013** | **2014** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| North East | 0 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Tayside | 1 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| Highland and Islands | 0 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Forth Valley | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Edinburgh | 0 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Lothian & Borders | 0 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Fife | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| Greater Glasgow | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Ayrshire | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Lanarkshire | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Argyll and West Dunbartonshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Renfrewshire and Inverclyde | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Dumfries and Galloway | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 1 | 14 | 18 | 26 | 28 | 34 | 22 | 17 | 27 | 21 |

Table 2 shows the total amount of recorded cases of ‘Grooming of children for the purposes of sexual offences, for the period 2015-24. The totals have been broken down by years and divisions.

Table 2

| **Division** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| North East | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 0 |
| Tayside | 3 | 7 | 11 | 11 | 15 | 10 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 0 |
| Highlands and Islands | 2 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 22 | 7 | 0 | 1 |
| Forth Valley | 0 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 12 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| Edinburgh | 1 | 6 | 10 | 18 | 11 | 10 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 3 |
| Lothian and Borders | 7 | 11 | 4 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Fife | 5 | 3 | 6 | 12 | 15 | 9 | 11 | 14 | 13 | 2 |
| Greater Glasgow | 10 | 4 | 9 | 14 | 16 | 8 | 19 | 14 | 19 | 1 |
| Ayrshire | 2 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Lanarkshire | 0 | 9 | 4 | 16 | 20 | 19 | 6 | 18 | 12 | 3 |
| Argyll and West Dunbartonshire | 3 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Renfrewshire and Inverclyde | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Dumfries and Galloway | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 41 | 61 | 65 | 113 | 110 | 72 | 92 | 74 | 74 | 11 |

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 11/03/2024.

1. The data was extracted using the crime's raised date and by using SGJD code '201814'- Grooming of children for the purposes of sexual offences.

Please note - the above offence relates to Section 1 of the Protection of Children & Prevention of Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2005.

If you require any further assistance, please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.