| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-2535Responded to: xx October 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would be grateful if you could provide the following information: for each year since 1990,

## a) The total number of police officers in Scotland,

## b) The number of such officers, broken down by rank.

The requested information for the periods indicated are provided below:

| **Police Rank** | **30/06/2023** | **31/03/2023** | **31/03/2022** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Chief Constable | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Deputy Chief Constable | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Assistant Chief Constable | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Chief Superintendent | 38 | 37 | 38 |
| Superintendent | 117 | 121 | 129 |
| Chief Inspector | 223.9 | 222.8 | 246 |
| Inspector | 853.427 | 849.332 | 877.931 |
| Sergeant | 2,508.934 | 2,436.692 | 2,504.729 |
| Police Constable | 12,844.256 | 12,933.887 | 12,994.996 |
| **Total** | **16,599.52** | **16,614.71** | **16,804.656** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Police Rank** | **31/03/2021** | **31/03/2020** | **31/03/2019** |
| Chief Constable | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Deputy Chief Constable | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| Assistant Chief Constable | 10 | 9 | 10 |
| Chief Superintendent | 41 | 38 | 38 |
| Superintendent | 139 | 128 | 132 |
| Chief Inspector | 264.856 | 227.85 | 235.825 |
| Inspector | 889.326 | 841.98 | 880.284 |
| Sergeant | 2,513.327 | 2,454.525 | 2,421.934 |
| Police Constable | 13,421.828 | 13,549.628 | 13,708.871 |
| **Total** | **17,283.337** | **17,251.983** | **17,430.914** |

For the period requested prior to 31/03/2019, I must advise you that Police Scotland does not hold the requested information. In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

To be of assistance, some information for the period 2008 - 2019 is available online via the link below:

[[ARCHIVED CONTENT] Crime and Justice - Publications - Police Strength Statistics for Scotland (nrscotland.gov.uk)](https://webarchive.nrscotland.gov.uk/20200114065713/https%3A/www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/PublicationPoliceStrength)

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 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 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.