| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2585  Responded to: 07 November 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I would like to request the following information, recorded by your police force, for the calendar years 2021, 2022, and 2023:**

**1. The number of motorcycle accidents resulting in:**

**a) Death**

**b) Serious injury**

The table below details recorded Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) involving a motorcycle, broken down by severity, from 1st January 2021 to 31st October 2024:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Collision Severity** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024\*** |
| Fatal | 29 | 25 | 26 | 28 |
| Serious | 274 | 269 | 286 | 248 |
| Slight | 144 | 155 | 153 | 123 |
| Total | 447 | 449 | 465 | 399 |

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.   
Data was extracted from Police Scotland systems and are correct as at 6 November 2024.  
Data excludes non-injury collisions as per standard operating procedure.   
Data includes Collisions involving at least one vehicle identified on the CRaSH report as a "Motorcycle"   
On 12 June 2019, CRaSH was implemented within D Division. On the 3 July 2019, it was implemented across the remaining Police Scotland Divisions, replacing the existing procedures for recording Road Traffic Collisions.   
Data is subject to change and will be updated on the next extract of data from CRaSH on 3 December 2024

**For each accident, please include the following details (if available):**

* **Likely cause or contributing factors (e.g., speeding, road conditions, etc.).**

Police Scotland does not record the *cause* of RTCs and section 17 of the Act therefore applies as the information sought is not held.

A series of up to six contributory factors can be recorded for each RTC - some however have none. The table below details the *first* contributory factor recorded for each RTC.

It is important to stress that the factor recorded may not relate to the motorcycle rider specifically - for example, in a two-vehicle collision between a car and a motorcycle it may be the car driver who ‘failed to look properly’ etc.

| **Contributory Factor 1** | **RTCs** |
| --- | --- |
| Failed to look properly | 260 |
| Loss of control | 166 |
| Careless/reckless/in a hurry | 159 |
| Poor turn/manoeuvre | 134 |
| Failed to judge others path/speed | 93 |
| Slippery road | 62 |
| Deposit on road | 56 |
| Exceeding speed limit | 39 |
| Defective road | 31 |
| Following too close | 30 |
| Inexperienced/learner driver | 30 |
| Disobeyed give way/stop | 28 |
| Travelling too fast for conditions | 28 |
| Aggressive driving | 27 |
| Animal/object | 25 |
| Sudden breaking | 25 |
| Road layout | 24 |
| Other | 22 |
| Dazzling sun | 20 |
| P-Failed to look properly | 14 |
| Impaired by alcohol | 11 |
| Stationary/parked vehicle(s) | 10 |
| Failed/misleading signalling | 10 |
| Illness/disability | 10 |
| Junction restart | 10 |
| Inexperience driving on left | 7 |
| Defective breaks | 7 |
| Illegal turn/travel direction | 7 |
| Disobeyed automatic traffic signals | 6 |
| Swerved | 6 |
| Rain/sleet/snow/fog | 6 |
| P-Careless/reckless/in a hurry | 6 |
| Disobeyed double white line | 5 |
| Nervous/uncertain/panic | 5 |
| Passing too close to cyclist/rider/pedestrian | 5 |
| Distraction outside vehicle | 5 |
| Impaired by drugs | 4 |
| Maked sign/marking | 4 |
| Junction overshoot | 4 |
| Vehicle blind spot | 4 |
| Stolen vehicle | 4 |
| Defective lights | 3 |
| Illegal tyres | 3 |
| Not displaying lights at night/poor visibility | 3 |
| Temp road layout | 2 |
| Defective steering/suspension | 2 |
| Travelling along pavement | 2 |
| P-Failed to judge others path/speed | 2 |
| Inexperience with vehicle type | 2 |
| P-Impaired by alcohol | 2 |
| Traffic calming | 2 |
| Defective traffic signals | 2 |
| Vegetation | 2 |
| Road layout (bends, winding) | 2 |
| Fatigue | 2 |
| Disobeyed pedestrian crossing | 1 |
| Vehicle in course of crime | 1 |
| Cyclist with dark clothing | 1 |
| Dirty windscreen/visor | 1 |
| P-Dangerous action | 1 |
| P-Wrong use of pedestrian crossing | 1 |
| Uncorrected/defective eyesight | 1 |
| Door opened/closed negligently | 1 |
| P-Crossed masked road | 1 |
| Emergency vehicle on call | 1 |
| Driving too slow/slow vehicle | 1 |
| Slippery inspection cover or road marking | 1 |
| Grand Total | 1452 |

* **The time of day the incident occurred, using the following time brackets:**

**00:00-06:00 (Early Morning)  
06:01-12:00 (Morning)  
12:01-18:00 (Afternoon)  
18:01-00:00 (Evening/Night).**

The times of the RTCs are recorded as follows - based on the first two digits:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Hour** | **RTCs** | **Hour** | **RTCs** |
| 00 | 8 | 12 | 143 |
| 01 | 7 | 13 | 162 |
| 02 | 6 | 14 | 149 |
| 03 | 6 | 15 | 158 |
| 04 | 1 | 16 | 196 |
| 05 | 10 | 17 | 152 |
| 06 | 10 | 18 | 123 |
| 07 | 57 | 19 | 88 |
| 08 | 61 | 20 | 58 |
| 09 | 58 | 21 | 58 |
| 10 | 86 | 22 | 30 |
| 11 | 109 | 23 | 24 |

* **Was the motorcyclist wearing a helmet? (Yes/No/Unknown/Not Recorded).**
* **Gender of the motorcyclist involved (if recorded).**

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

To explain, there are over 1700 records relating to motorcycle collisions and to provide you with this information would require a manual search through these records to determine the information you are requesting.

## 2. The number of driving offences committed by motorcyclists, (e.g., speeding, not holding a valid licence, not wearing a helmet). For each offence, please include:

## The gender of the rider (if recorded).

## 3. The number of motorbike thefts recorded.

We are unable to search road traffic or theft offences by nature of the vehicle involved and therefore to obtain this information would require a manual search through all relevant crime reports for relevance to your request.

Unfortunately, therefore, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

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.