| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2329  Responded to: 13 September 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**• In the financial years, 2021/22, 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25 (Up to 10.09.24), how many instances of knife possession offences by women has been recorded by your force recorded? Please provide a breakdown by financial year.**

**• For the same financial years, how many of these women found to have committed a knife possession offence were under the age of 18? Please provide a breakdown by financial year.**

**• Please detail the youngest to have committed a knife possession offence in each financial year.**

By way of explanation, the crime recording systems used by Police Scotland have no facility which allows for us to conduct a search based on the gender or age of the accused at the time of the offence.

In order to accurately answer your question, each offensive weapon crime record would have to be manually reviewed. As such, this is an exercise which would exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

To be of assistance, you may find the following link of interest: [Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

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.