| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2932  Responded to: 20 December 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to ask Police Scotland for the following data relating to football related violence and disorder:

## 1.) How many incidents of football related violence and disorder did Police Scotland attend in 2021, 2022, 2023 and so far in 2024. Can the data be provided for: a.) Across the whole of Scotland b.) In each division

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process this part of 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 is no specific marker or way to isolate incidents related to Football disorder within our incident recording system, STORM. Therefore, researching your request would require the individual assessment of all potentially relevant incident reports to establish whether the incident related to Football disorder.

However, in relation to crimes as opposed to incidents, I can advise our National crime recording system, Unifi, has been used by all Divisions of Police Scotland since 2024. Within Unifi there is a Crime Aggravator for ‘Football’ which is defined as - "Where the circumstances of the crime/offence relate to an incident related to a football match/regulated football match."

To be of assistance I have provided details of recorded crimes whereby the Reporting Officer has used this aggravator. The data supplied is for 2024 only and for Police Scotland as a whole and also broken down by Division.

Recorded Crimes/Offences - with a Football Aggravator, Police Scotland.

Period: 1st January 2024 to 30th November 2024, Inclusive

| Crime Bulletin Description | 2024 |
| --- | --- |
| Serious Assault (incl. FGM, culpable & reckless conduct - causing injury) | 9 |
| Common Assault | 55 |
| Common Assault (of an emergency worker) | 12 |
| Robbery (including assault with intent to rob) | 4 |
| Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children | 0 |
| Group 2 Crime | 2 |
| Common theft | 1 |
| Theft by shoplifting | 0 |
| Fraud | 1 |
| Vandalism (incl. reckless damage, etc.) | 13 |
| Culpable & reckless conduct (not firearms) | 66 |
| Other crimes against society | 3 |
| Other crimes against public justice | 37 |
| Bail offences (other than absconding) | 0 |
| Other possession of offensive weapon/knife (not used in crime) | 5 |
| Other possession of offensive weapon/knife NEC (used in criminal activity) | 9 |
| Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent) | 0 |
| Possession of drugs | 34 |
| Other misc. offences | 58 |
| Licensing offences | 16 |
| Breach of the Peace | 24 |
| Urinating | 2 |
| Hate aggravated conduct (inl. stirring up hatred) | 7 |
| Other alcohol related offences | 7 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour | 79 |
| Community and public order offences | 1 |
| Environmental offences | 0 |
| Consume alcohol in designated place (local bye-laws) | 3 |
| Other Group 8 Offences | 1 |
| Unlawful use of motor vehicle | 1 |

Recorded Crimes/Offences - with a Football Aggravator, Police Scotland, broken down by Division.

Period: 1st January 2024 to 30th November 2024, Inclusive

| **Division** | **2024** |
| --- | --- |
| North East | 15 |
| Tayside | 25 |
| Highlands and Islands | 20 |
| Forth Valley | 23 |
| Edinburgh City | 60 |
| The Lothians and Scottish Borders | 6 |
| Fife | 10 |
| Greater Glasgow | 200 |
| Ayrshire | 22 |
| Lanarkshire | 42 |
| Argyll and West Dunbartonshire | 2 |
| Renfrewshire and Inverclyde | 8 |
| Dumfries and Galloway | 17 |

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 11/12/2024

The Recorded Crimes are extracted using the Date Raised.

Crimes with an aggravator of 'Football' or 'Football Banning Order' were selected.

Crime may have one or both Aggravators.

Aggravators are not always selected.

**2.) How many arrests were made following reports of football related violence and disorder in 2021, 2022, 2023 and so far in 2024.  
Can the data be provided for:  
a.) Across the whole of Scotland  
b.) In each division**

The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 removed the separate concepts of arrest and detention and replaced them with a power of arrest without warrant - where there are reasonable grounds for suspecting a person has committed, or is committing, an offence. When a person is arrested, a statement of arrest should be read over as soon as reasonably practicable, and details recorded in the arresting officer’s notebook. A person is ‘Not Officially Accused’ (a suspect) when arrested and not cautioned and charged. They are ‘Officially Accused’ once arrested and cautioned and charged. If conveyed to a police station, the arrested person will have their details recorded in our National Custody System. There are situations however whereby a person must be released from police custody prior to their arrival at a police station - effectively they are ‘de-arrested’ - where the reasonable grounds for suspicion no longer exist. In those circumstances, the details of an arrested person are not held electronically.

As a result, we are unfortunately unable to collate comprehensive arrest data, as case by case assessment of all officer notebooks would be required - in addition to the partial arrest data held in the National Custody System. Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request and I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) - 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.