| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-3126  Responded to: 18 December 2024 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Could you please provide a list of all the unresolved homicides Police Scotland currently has open from 1960 onwards?**

**In each case can you state the name of the victim, date of the murder and the original investigating force please?**

**In addition could a list containing the same details of all undetected murders for the same time period also be included please.**

It is important to note that prior to the creation of Police Scotland on 01/04/2013 a murder that was committed with multiple victims was recorded as one homicide with however many victims attached to this case.

Since 01/04/2013 in line with Scottish Government counting methods homicides are recorded as one homicide per victim, even if the homicide occurred during the same event.

Considering the above information there are currently 1,295 unresolved homicides with 1,310 victims and 65 undetected homicides with 66 victims.

Undetected homicides are unresolved and as such the undetected numbers are also included in the unresolved total.

For clarification purposes please read the following information relating to unresolved and undetected homicides:

**Unresolved Homicides:**

Unresolved homicides are considered those where:

(a) No suspect has been identified

(b) A suspect has been identified but not charged (no proceedings)

(c) A suspect has been identified and charged but not placed on petition (no proceedings)

(d) A suspect has appeared on petition but no indictment served due to there being considered an insufficiency of evidence at that time (no proceedings)

(e) A suspect has been indicted and a trial concluded which has resulted in an acquittal (Not Guilty/Not Proven)

(f) A suspect has been convicted but acquitted on appeal and no fresh prosecution has been authorised by the Appeal Court (Not Guilty)

(g) A suspect has committed suicide prior to trial and no other person is being sought in connection with the case.

(h) A suspect has been charged then reported and is currently awaiting trial.

**Undetected Homicides:**

Undetected Homicides are those cases where no person has been formally identified as an accused or charged with the offence.

FOI 24-3126 Data 01 attached separately provides the required information for all unresolved homicides recorded by Police Scotland during the time periods mentioned above.

FOI 24-3126 Data 02 attached separately provides the required information for all undetected homicides for the same time period.

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.