| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2510  Responded to: 17 November 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Can you share with me data on how many people reported hate crimes to Police Scotland in the years: 2024 (to the fullest extent possible), 2023, 2022, 2021**

## I would first of all advise you that the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 came into force on 1 April 2024, adding additional protected characteristics of Age and Variations in Sex Characteristics and a new crime of stirring up hatred against a protected group.

As well as the change in legislation, Police Scotland also introduced a new method of recording hate crime on 1 April 2024.

In terms of your request, data for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 March 2024 has been extracted from the Interim Vulnerable Person’s Database (iVPD) and is based on the presence of at least one of the hate aggravators.

Data for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 October 2024 has been extracted from the UNIFI Crime database and is based on crimes/ offences which include at least one of the hate aggravators and/ or are one of the following offences:

* Racially aggravated harassment
* Racially aggravated conduct
* Stirring up hatred: Racial
* Stirring up hatred: Other Group
* Race Relations Legislation (Public Order Act)

Please note, due to the different sources of data being used, and the different methodology/ counting rules, comparison of recorded hates crimes from 1 April 2024 with recorded hate crimes prior to 1 April 2024 would not be advised. Any comparison of the two datasets should be carried out with caution.

You may be interested in our [Responding to Hate SOP](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/rfwdhysd/responding-to-hate-psos-sop-publication-scheme.docx).

## Please further breakdown the information where available by:

## 1.each year be broken up into the number of reports per month

The table below details recorded hate crimes by month, for the years requested.

| **Month** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| January | 371 | 470 | 470 | 441 |
| February | 427 | 479 | 410 | 494 |
| March | 562 | 548 | 490 | 475 |
| April | 558 | 581 | 484 | 862 |
| May | 635 | 644 | 628 | 949 |
| June | 643 | 622 | 601 | 892 |
| July | 687 | 531 | 520 | 823 |
| August | 661 | 529 | 562 | 977 |
| September | 644 | 512 | 529 | 864 |
| October | 597 | 491 | 487 | 781 |
| November | 522 | 506 | 510 | N/A |
| December | 480 | 487 | 649 | N/A |

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.   
Data was extracted from Police Scotland systems and are correct as of 07/11/2024.

## 2.What the hate crime was in reference to ie religion, sexuality, race, gender etc

The tables below detail the aggravator figures per month, per year.

2024 data in the first table is for the period 1 January to 31 March 2024 only.

Data for the remainder of 2024 to date is displayed separately in the second table.

| **Month** | **Aggravator** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| January | Disability | 19 | 37 | 53 | 47 |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 99 | 130 | 125 | 98 |
|  | Racial | 245 | 292 | 266 | 280 |
|  | Religion | 32 | 35 | 45 | 37 |
|  | Transgender | 3 | 9 | 16 | 11 |
| February | Disability | 35 | 51 | 40 | 49 |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 109 | 132 | 94 | 131 |
|  | Racial | 267 | 272 | 261 | 299 |
|  | Religion | 41 | 39 | 33 | 52 |
|  | Transgender | 6 | 13 | 13 | 7 |
| March | Disability | 46 | 46 | 49 | 41 |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 133 | 155 | 124 | 98 |
|  | Racial | 335 | 331 | 296 | 319 |
|  | Religion | 75 | 26 | 33 | 49 |
|  | Transgender | 12 | 20 | 20 | 12 |
| April | Disability | 48 | 51 | 49 |  |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 133 | 162 | 107 |  |
|  | Racial | 346 | 323 | 308 |  |
|  | Religion | 52 | 61 | 27 |  |
|  | Transgender | 8 | 12 | 15 |  |
| May | Disability | 54 | 48 | 63 |  |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 177 | 162 | 142 |  |
|  | Racial | 377 | 405 | 391 |  |
|  | Religion | 61 | 59 | 44 |  |
|  | Transgender | 16 | 14 | 19 |  |
| June | Disability | 41 | 67 | 63 |  |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 154 | 183 | 146 |  |
|  | Racial | 430 | 367 | 373 |  |
|  | Religion | 40 | 45 | 32 |  |
|  | Transgender | 10 | 11 | 16 |  |
| July | Disability | 52 | 57 | 52 |  |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 176 | 154 | 145 |  |
|  | Racial | 432 | 318 | 304 |  |
|  | Religion | 42 | 29 | 30 |  |
|  | Transgender | 22 | 8 | 18 |  |
| August | Disability | 47 | 44 | 69 |  |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 192 | 145 | 135 |  |
|  | Racial | 404 | 314 | 367 |  |
|  | Religion | 52 | 39 | 25 |  |
|  | Transgender | 12 | 11 | 15 |  |
| September | Disability | 47 | 51 | 43 |  |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 165 | 115 | 151 |  |
|  | Racial | 395 | 316 | 316 |  |
|  | Religion | 44 | 44 | 34 |  |
|  | Transgender | 25 | 12 | 10 |  |
| October | Disability | 36 | 44 | 56 |  |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 178 | 126 | 117 |  |
|  | Racial | 363 | 304 | 296 |  |
|  | Religion | 33 | 36 | 38 |  |
|  | Transgender | 18 | 17 | 14 |  |
| November | Disability | 49 | 56 | 58 |  |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 128 | 127 | 114 |  |
|  | Racial | 324 | 292 | 329 |  |
|  | Religion | 24 | 42 | 29 |  |
|  | Transgender | 24 | 26 | 14 |  |
| December | Disability | 42 | 47 | 47 |  |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 133 | 127 | 108 |  |
|  | Racial | 298 | 304 | 432 |  |
|  | Religion | 29 | 35 | 108 |  |
|  | Transgender | 10 | 11 | 10 |  |

Continued from April 2024 to October 2024:

| **Month** | **Aggravator** | **2024** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| April | Disability | 119 |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 178 |
|  | Religion | 77 |
|  | Racial | 502 |
|  | Transgender | 31 |
|  | Age | 23 |
|  | Variations In Sex Characteristics | 2 |
| May | Disability | 116 |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 182 |
|  | Religion | 84 |
|  | Racial | 541 |
|  | Transgender | 22 |
|  | Age | 47 |
|  | Variations In Sex Characteristics | 2 |
| June | Disability | 104 |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 202 |
|  | Religion | 52 |
|  | Racial | 474 |
|  | Transgender | 21 |
|  | Age | 85 |
|  | Variations In Sex Characteristics | 1 |
| July | Disability | 99 |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 207 |
|  | Religion | 48 |
|  | Racial | 411 |
|  | Transgender | 18 |
|  | Age | 72 |
|  | Variations In Sex Characteristics | 2 |
| August | Disability | 119 |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 200 |
|  | Religion | 47 |
|  | Racial | 570 |
|  | Transgender | 9 |
|  | Age | 67 |
|  | Variations In Sex Characteristics | 1 |
| September | Disability | 92 |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 175 |
|  | Religion | 40 |
|  | Racial | 483 |
|  | Transgender | 16 |
|  | Age | 86 |
|  | Variations In Sex Characteristics | 2 |
| October | Disability | 79 |
|  | Sexual Orientation | 167 |
|  | Religion | 20 |
|  | Racial | 424 |
|  | Transgender | 15 |
|  | Age | 90 |
|  | Variations In Sex Characteristics | 1 |

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.   
Data was extracted from Police Scotland systems and are correct as of 07/11/2024.

## 3. How many, if any, hate crimes were reports of online abuse

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, to provide you with this information would require a manual search through all relevant crime reports to determine if the crime was committed online.

## 4. and how many of these reports led to charges

The table below details detected hate crimes by month, for the years requested.

Detected crimes are those where an accused has been identified and there exists a sufficiency of evidence under Scots Law to justify consideration of criminal proceedings.

| **Month** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| January | 265 | 343 | 315 | 224 |
| February | 280 | 307 | 281 | 249 |
| March | 339 | 351 | 304 | 258 |
| April | 377 | 362 | 291 | 527 |
| May | 427 | 401 | 383 | 623 |
| June | 421 | 383 | 350 | 559 |
| July | 425 | 343 | 364 | 586 |
| August | 462 | 341 | 360 | 606 |
| September | 365 | 329 | 301 | 589 |
| October | 413 | 336 | 308 | 522 |
| November | 341 | 323 | 281 | N/A |
| December | 340 | 320 | 298 | N/A |

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.   
Data was extracted from Police Scotland systems and are correct as of 07/11/2024.

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.