| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-3260  Responded to: 15th January 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## The number of reports/allegations from complainants claiming they were drugged and raped from January 2021 to the present day, giving a month-by-month breakdown and in each case specifying the sex and age of the complainant

## The number of reports/allegations from complainants claiming their drinks had been 'spiked' from January 2021 to the present day, giving a month-by-month breakdown and in each case specifying the sex and age of the complainant

## The number of reports/allegations from complainants claiming they had been 'spiked' with a needle, giving a month-by-month breakdown and in each case specifying the sex and age of the complainant

## The number of arrests and charges for all of the above and the age and sex of those charged.

Police Scotland continues to investigate reports of 'spiking'.

Spiking, whether by adding drugs or alcohol to someone’s drink, or by injection, without their consent, is a criminal offence. It can put people at significant risk of harm.

Officers are not always able to determine the reasons why a perpetrator carries out an assault in this way, but every report is taken seriously and investigated robustly.

Police Scotland continues to work with a range of partners, locally and nationally to ensure pubs and clubs are safe spaces for all. We are working in communities, with licensees, pubs and clubs, to provide advice and support and to offer bystander training to help spot the signs of when someone may be at risk.

We have also reached out to student communities to offer advice, support and reassurance.

We would encourage anyone who believes they have had their drink spiked or who has been assaulted in this way to contact Police Scotland on 101 or in an emergency 999.

In relation to crime data, I would advise you that crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department offence classifications.

Whilst there is no classification for ‘spiking’ specifically, I have considered your request in terms of the most *potentially relevant* crime classifications as follows:

**Drugging** - Is a Crime at Common Law when drugs are feloniously administered with intent to produce stupefaction. There need be no further intent, and it is not necessary that injury to the person be caused.

**Administering a substance for sexual purposes** - Section 11 of the [Sexual Offences Scotland Act 2009](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2009/9/section/11) refers.

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) - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

To explain, the level of detail sought would require the individual review of all potentially relevant crime reports to extract and note the detail.

For example, with reference to your first question, any reports of rape would be recorded as a separate crime report involving the same parties, there are no markers etc on the drugging or administration of a substance for sexual purposes crime reports which would indicate that a sexual assault or rape had taken place.

In relation to your remaining questions, similarly, we would have to review individual crime reports to ascertain the age and sex of the parties involved and the MO - whether by injection or placing a substance in a person’s drink.

To be of assistance, and to illustrate the numbers involved, the tables below detail recorded and detected crimes for both classifications for the period covered by your request, broken down by month.

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.

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 of 8 January 2024.

The data was extracted using the Date Raised (recorded) and Date Detected (detected) fields.

The data does not include cases marked ‘no crime’ following investigation.

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.

**Table 1 - Recorded Crimes - 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2023**

| **Year** | **Month** | **Drugging** | **Administering a substance for sexual Purposes** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2021 | Jan | 2 | 3 |
| Feb | 1 | 2 |
| Mar | 2 | 0 |
| Apr | 2 | 0 |
| May | 3 | 2 |
| Jul | 3 | 3 |
| Sep | 8 | 1 |
| Oct | 74 | 2 |
| Nov | 87 | 4 |
| Dec | 38 | 0 |
| 2022 | Jan | 24 | 1 |
| Feb | 24 | 0 |
| Mar | 28 | 6 |
| Apr | 13 | 3 |
| May | 20 | 0 |
| Jun | 9 | 2 |
| Jul | 22 | 1 |
| Aug | 22 | 2 |
| Sep | 17 | 1 |
| Oct | 16 | 0 |
| Nov | 15 | 0 |
| Dec | 16 | 1 |
| 2023 | Jan | 20 | 0 |
| Feb | 14 | 1 |
| Mar | 15 | 1 |
| Apr | 5 | 0 |
| May | 15 | 2 |
| Jun | 20 | 0 |
| Jul | 14 | 1 |
| Aug | 15 | 0 |
| Sep | 17 | 1 |
| Oct | 17 | 1 |
| Nov | 12 | 2 |
| Dec | 18 | 3 |
| Total |  | 628 | 46 |

**Table 2 - Detected Crimes - 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2023**

| **Year** | **Month** | **Drugging** | **Administering a substance for sexual Purposes** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2021 | Jan | 0 | 1 |
| Feb | 1 | 0 |
| Apr | 1 | 1 |
| May | 1 | 0 |
| Jun | 2 | 0 |
| Jul | 0 | 1 |
| Aug | 0 | 2 |
| Sep | 1 | 1 |
| Oct | 1 | 0 |
| Dec | 1 | 0 |
| 2022 | Jan | 6 | 1 |
| Feb | 1 | 0 |
| Mar | 2 | 1 |
| Apr | 2 | 0 |
| May | 1 | 0 |
| Jun | 1 | 0 |
| Jul | 1 | 0 |
| Oct | 1 | 0 |
| Nov | 1 | 0 |
| 2023 | Jan | 3 | 1 |
| Feb | 1 | 0 |
| May | 1 | 0 |
| Jul | 0 | 1 |
| Sep | 0 | 1 |
| Nov | 1 | 0 |
| Total |  | 30 | 11 |