| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2314  Responded to: 03 October 2023 |
| --- | --- |

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

## I am writing to you under the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 to request information regarding disability hate crimes recorded by Police Scotland. Specifically, I am interested in obtaining data related to the number of police recorded disability hate crimes in Scotland from the inception of Police Scotland on 1st April 2013 to the most recent available data for the year 2022/23. In order to facilitate a comprehensive understanding of the trends over time, I kindly request that the information be presented in a clear and easy-to-understand format. Specifically, I would like the data to be organised by the year of recording, along with the corresponding number of recorded disability hate crimes for each respective year. Can you also please supply recorded hate crime with a disability hate aggravator, broken down into the relevant Police Scotland Crime Bulletin Category?

In response, please see the table at the end of this letter in relation to recorded Disability Hate Crime, 1 April 2014 to 31 August 2023.

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.

| **Category** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Murder | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Attempted Murder | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Serious Assault (Incl. Culpable & Reckless Conduct - Causing Injury) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Robbery And Assault With Intent To Rob | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Domestic Abuse (Total) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| Threats And Extortion | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Group 1 Crimes | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Group 2 - Sexual Crimes | 5 | 9 | 6 | 15 | 9 | 16 | 10 | 8 | 12 | 16 |
| Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Theft Of A Motor Vehicle | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Theft From A Motor Vehicle, Insecure Etc | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Opening Lockfast Places - Not Motor Vehicle | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Common Theft | 2 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 3 |
| Fraud | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| Other Group 3 Crimes | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Vandalism (Incl. Reckless Damage, Etc.) | 3 | 8 | 12 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 3 |
| Culpable & Reckless Conduct (Not Firearms) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Offensive Weapon (Used In Other Criminal Activity) \* | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Bladed/Pointed Instrument (Used In Other Criminal Activity) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Bail Offences (Other Than Absconding) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Group 5 Crimes | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Common Assault | 40 | 35 | 38 | 33 | 43 | 29 | 36 | 32 | 53 | 26 |
| Common Assault (Of An Emergency Worker) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| Breach of The Peace | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Threatening And Abusive Behaviour | 40 | 149 | 161 | 167 | 185 | 208 | 281 | 372 | 395 | 295 |
| Stalking | 0 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Racially Aggravated Harassment/Conduct | 0 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 13 | 6 |
| Other Group 6 Offences | 8 | 43 | 23 | 28 | 49 | 42 | 59 | 57 | 76 | 51 |
| Driving Carelessly | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Crime Classification Not Known | 9 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Protection Of Retail Workers | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 5 |
| **Total** | **113** | **280** | **267** | **269** | **323** | **321** | **428** | **516** | **591** | **422** |

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 16th September 2023.

The data was extracted using the incident's raised date and extracted from iVPD by selecting recorded hate crimes with at least 1 x 'disability' aggravator. Please note, hate crimes can have multiple aggravators recorded against the crime/offence. Please be advised that The Interim Vulnerable Persons Database (VPD) was created in 2013 with national implementation being completed on 1 April 2014, following a phased roll-out across Police Scotland. Data prior to that date is not in a retrievable format.

Please note, the data within table has been extracted from the NPM Scomis database to obtain the crimes/offences associated with the recorded disability hate crimes.

Police Scotland does not retain any information for statistical purposes once a record has been weeded from iVPD.  When a record is weeded, it is removed from the system, and there is no retention of data outside the weeding and retention policy.  Please note, the weeding and retention policy states that if a person is recorded as "no concern / not applicable" then this will only be retained for 6 months.

Please note that these data are collated from the Police Scotland iVPD system, which has an automated weeding and retention policy built on to it. A copy of the retention policy is available on the Police Scotland internet site: [Record-Retention-SOP.Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/nhobty5i/record-retention-sop.pdf)