| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2888  Responded to: xx November 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## The request relates to the time period June 2021 until June 2024.

## How many people in this time period were arrested and received an outcome for having possession of a controlled drug (without intent to supply), including only:

## Class A - Powder Cocaine;

## Class B - Cannabis and cannabis resin / Cannabinol / Cannabinol derivatives; Amphetamine

## Please break down the data by outcome type (e.g. Charge, summons, caution, conditional caution, FPN, etc etc), and by police-defined ethnic appearance.

## Please provide this breakdown within the same table of data, so that I can see how many people from each ethnicity received each different type of punishment (e.g. How many white people were charged, how many Black people were charged, how many Asian people were charged, how many white people received cautions, etc).

## There are several complexities with your request.

## Firstly, the outcome categories you mention are Home Office classifications that do not apply in Scotland.

## In Scotland, crimes are recorded as either recorded or detected, and summons/ cautions are not features of the Scottish Criminal Justice system.

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, for the period covered by your request we have no means of searching drug crime reports based on the class or substance, nor can we search based on the ethnicity of the accused.

Researching your request would therefore require the individual assessment of all drug related crime reports.

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.