| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0002  Responded to: 29 January 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information on vehicle seizures in 2024.

## Please may you provide me with:

## The number of vehicles seized by the police in 2024

## The number of seized vehicles that were returned to owners

## The number of vehicles sold at auction or destroyed

## The reasoning behind each of these seizures

I have included a table at the bottom of this letter which provides the information requested above. Please note the data refers to all recoveries and not just seizures under S165a of the Road Traffic Act 1988 for no licence or insurance and anti-social behaviour.

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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.

| **Volumes by removal reason (no of vehicles recovered) removal reason** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Apr** | **May** | **Jun** | **Jul** | **Aug** | **Sep** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Abandoned on road | 71 | 67 | 59 | 69 | 63 | 49 | 50 | 46 | 86 | 53 | 66 | 53 | 666 |
| Antisocial use | 7 | 13 | 5 | 7 | 16 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 84 |
| Cop 26 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Customs seizure | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Obstruction/danger | 203 | 170 | 149 | 189 | 181 | 172 | 215 | 200 | 206 | 177 | 231 | 177 | 2039 |
| Op Trivium | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Out of force recovery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Police vehicle rec | 17 | 19 | 12 | 15 | 15 | 19 | 17 | 13 | 10 | 17 | 15 | 17 | 171 |
| Police vehicle transfer | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 13 |
| Prisoners vehicle | 17 | 15 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 10 | 11 | 17 | 15 | 18 | 17 | 18 | 156 |
| Property | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 3 | 12 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 26 |
| RTC (life altering) | 22 | 28 | 47 | 21 | 55 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 55 | 39 | 43 | 39 | 438 |
| RTC (obstruction/danger) | 702 | 680 | 658 | 621 | 684 | 617 | 697 | 771 | 697 | 644 | 743 | 644 | 7415 |
| Sensitive recovery | 5 | 12 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 3 | 10 | 70 |
| Serious crime (Scotland) | 64 | 73 | 70 | 80 | 87 | 73 | 71 | 61 | 62 | 67 | 78 | 67 | 775 |
| Stolen/abandoned (off road) Scotland | 7 | 12 | 13 | 15 | 12 | 17 | 22 | 23 | 10 | 15 | 24 | 15 | 161 |
| Stolen/abandoned (on road) Scotland | 177 | 157 | 161 | 187 | 192 | 176 | 197 | 185 | 143 | 148 | 160 | 148 | 1781 |
| Street to street | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Uninsured & unlicensed | 130 | 171 | 148 | 153 | 180 | 145 | 168 | 204 | 169 | 210 | 230 | 210 | 1888 |
| Uninsured | 545 | 517 | 489 | 471 | 443 | 433 | 449 | 484 | 475 | 552 | 467 | 552 | 5410 |
| Unlicensed | 58 | 54 | 46 | 46 | 45 | 53 | 40 | 54 | 42 | 52 | 56 | 52 | 542 |
| Warrant/forfeiture | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 29 |
| Total | 2030 | 1992 | 1877 | 1900 | 1997 | 1835 | 1991 | 2122 | 1986 | 2015 | 2140 | 2015 | 23900 |

| **Month** | **No. vehicles scrapped** | **No. vehicles auctioned** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| January | 279 | 38 |
| February | 338 | 57 |
| March | 373 | 61 |
| April | 181 | 43 |
| May | 383 | 64 |
| June | 341 | 95 |
| July | 391 | 69 |
| August | 358 | 78 |
| September | 132 | 59 |
| October | 233 | 101 |
| November | 392 | 128 |
| December | 243 | 9 |
| Total | 3644 | 802 |

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| --- | --- |
| Returned to owners | 19454 |

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