| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0020  Responded to: 20 March 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Tackling domestic abuse is a priority for Police Scotland and we are committed to working with our partners to reduce the harm it causes and ultimately eradicate it.

Domestic abuse is a despicable and debilitating crime which affects all of our communities and has no respect for ability, age, ethnicity, gender, race, religion or sexual orientation.

Police Scotland will not tolerate it.

Police Scotland will proactively target perpetrators and support victims to prevent domestic abuse from damaging the lives of victims and their families.

Police Scotland defines domestic abuse as:

“Any form of physical, verbal, sexual, psychological or financial abuse which might amount to criminal conduct and which takes place within the context of a relationship. The relationship will be between partners (married, cohabiting, civil partnership or otherwise) or ex-partners. The abuse may be committed in the home or elsewhere including online”

Please note that the definition of Domestic abuse in Scotland differs from the definition of Domestic Violence in England and Wales which includes wider familial abuse e.g. from parents or children etc.

## Can you please provide the details of the number of Domestic Abuse Victims reporting to your Police Authority broken down as follows:

## For the period 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024 inclusive by Age, Ethnic Origin and Gender.

## For ease of reference, please incorporate a summary total by Age, Ethnic Origin and Gender both Force Wide and by Police Division.

In response to your request, the attached table provides data in relation to nominal details of domestic incident victims for the period 1 January to 31 December 2024 inclusive.

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 12 February 2025.

The data was extracted using the incident's raised date and extracted from Interim Vulnerable Persons Database (iVPD).

Domestic Incident Nominal Victims were selected. Please note, incident nominals recorded as 'Victim', 'Subject of concern' or 'Non-Vulnerable Victim' are classed as victims.

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.

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

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.