| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1982  Responded to: 02 July 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**A) The number of firearm and/or shotgun certificates held by people under the age of 18, with a total number for each age. (eg. 17-year-olds = 100 certificates, etc.)**

The table below contains figures taken from a search of the Firearms Licensing recording system for under 18s with the presence of a Firearms Marker on the Criminal History System (CHS). If the CHS marker has not been added, then it will not have been captured. The figures do not include under 18s shooting at target clubs using the club exemption, meaning they do not need a certificate to shoot at the club and therefore are not certificate holders in their own right.

*Table: Number of Firearm/ Shotgun certificates held by under 18’s, by age*

| **Age** | **Firearm** | **Shotgun** | **Firearm and Shotgun** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 13 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 14 | 0 | 7 | 1 |
| 15 | 0 | 15 | 3 |
| 16 | 3 | 20 | 14 |
| 17 | 1 | 34 | 23 |

**B) If possible, a list of reasons for firearm ownership among non-adults, with a total number of certificates issued for each. (eg. Sporting = 20 certificates, Collection = 10 certificates, etc.)**

All certificates are held either for club target shooting, clay pigeon shooting or general quarry/vermin control. Some certificate holders have multiple good reasons meaning that we cannot give a wholly accurate break down of each certificate. None are for collection purposes.

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.