| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1002  Responded to: 16 July 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

1. **The number of race hate crimes recorded by the force in 2022, 2023, 2024 and the first two months of 2025. Can the information be categorised by month and the ethnic group of the victims please.**
2. **The number of religious hate crimes recorded by the force in 2022, 2023, 2024 and the first two months of 2025. Can the information be categorised by month and the religion of the victims please.**
3. **From the figures provided in 1. and 2. how many were recorded as racially or religiously aggravated assault (including injury and without injury). Can the information be categorised by month please.**
4. **The three most common racially or religiously aggravated offences recorded by the force in 2022, 2023, 2024 and the first two months of 2025.**

The Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 commenced on 1 April 2024 and related crimes are now recorded on the National Crime Unifi Database. Prior to that date, hate crimes were recorded on the Interim Vulnerable Persons Database (iVPD).

Due to the different sources of data being used, any comparison across the two time periods should be carried out with caution.

It should also be noted that victim ethnicity/ religion are not mandatory fields within either database, and experience has shown that such details are not comprehensively recorded within those searchable fields.

Given the nature of these crimes however, it is likely that such data would be recorded instead in the free text of the crime report, however, to determine this would require a manual review of each crime report.

Unfortunately, therefore, 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) - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

Please note the caveats below the tables.

*Table 1: Recorded Hate crimes with a Racial/ Religious Aggravator – January 2022 – February 2025*

| **Aggravator** | **Race** | | | | **Religion** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** |
| Jan | 292 | 266 | 280 | 351 | 35 | 45 | 37 | 35 |
| Feb | 272 | 261 | 299 | 387 | 39 | 33 | 52 | 40 |
| Mar | 331 | 296 | 318 |  | 26 | 33 | 48 |  |
| Apr | 323 | 307 | 462 |  | 61 | 27 | 70 |  |
| May | 405 | 391 | 518 |  | 59 | 44 | 74 |  |
| Jun | 367 | 373 | 451 |  | 45 | 31 | 47 |  |
| Jul | 318 | 304 | 403 |  | 29 | 30 | 37 |  |
| Aug | 314 | 366 | 553 |  | 39 | 25 | 47 |  |
| Sep | 316 | 316 | 478 |  | 44 | 34 | 43 |  |
| Oct | 304 | 295 | 438 |  | 36 | 38 | 29 |  |
| Nov | 292 | 329 | 382 |  | 42 | 29 | 36 |  |
| Dec | 304 | 433 | 371 |  | 35 | 108 | 52 |  |

*Table 2: Crimes that included Racial or Religion aggravator on IVPD – 1 January 2022 – 31 March 2024*

| **Crime bulletin classification** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Attempted murder | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Robbery (including assault with intent to rob) | 14 | 17 | 3 |
| Stalking | 4 | 5 | 0 |
| Communicating indecently | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Causing to view sexual activity or images | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Other Group 2 crimes | 31 | 174 | 5 |
| Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Common theft | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Theft by shoplifting | 4 | 6 | 1 |
| Fraud | 3 | 4 | 0 |
| Vandalism (incl. reckless damage, etc.) | 137 | 109 | 26 |
| Other drugs offences (incl. importation) | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Possession of drugs | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Bail offences (other than absconding) | 8 | 12 | 0 |
| Other crimes against public justice | 2 | 12 | 1 |
| Other crimes against society | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Breach of the Peace | 21 | 27 | 4 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour | 1,945 | 1,974 | 454 |
| Hate aggravated conduct (incl. stirring up hatred) | 1,187 | 955 | 182 |
| Other alcohol related offences | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Community and public order offences | 241 | 320 | 179 |
| Licensing offences | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Other misc. offences | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Dangerous driving offences | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Driving Carelessly | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Group 8 Offences | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Unknown | 639 | 672 | 128 |
| **Total** | **4,250** | **4,294** | **987** |

*Table 3: Crimes that included Racial or Religion aggravator on UNIFI – 1 April 2024 – 28 February 2025*

| **Crime bulletin classification** | **2024** | **2025** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Serious Assault (incl. FGM, culpable & reckless conduct - causing injury) | 17 | 1 |
| Common Assault (of an emergency worker) | 59 | 15 |
| Common Assault | 623 | 97 |
| Robbery (including assault with intent to rob) | 18 | 1 |
| Domestic Abuse (of male) | 1 | 1 |
| Domestic Abuse (of female) | 11 | 3 |
| Stalking | 7 | 0 |
| Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children | 1 | 0 |
| Threats and extortion | 1 | 0 |
| Other group 1 crimes | 2 | 0 |
| Group 2 crimes | 8 | 0 |
| Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises | 1 | 0 |
| Theft from a Motor Vehicle, Insecure etc | 1 | 0 |
| Common theft | 7 | 0 |
| Theft by shoplifting | 10 | 3 |
| Fraud | 5 | 1 |
| Other Group 3 crimes | 2 | 0 |
| Fireraising | 1 | 1 |
| Vandalism (incl. reckless damage, etc.) | 229 | 33 |
| Culpable & reckless conduct (not firearms) | 5 | 1 |
| Possession offensive weapon/knife in a private place (not used in crime) | 0 | 1 |
| Other possession of offensive weapon/knife (not used in crime) | 5 | 1 |
| Possession firearm/offensive weapon/knife in prison (used in criminal activity) | 0 | 1 |
| Possession offensive weapon/knife in school (used in criminal activity) | 1 | 0 |
| Other possession of offensive weapon/knife NEC (used in criminal activity) | 51 | 4 |
| Bail offences (other than absconding) | 4 | 0 |
| Other crimes against public justice | 11 | 0 |
| Other crimes against society | 1 | 0 |
| Breach of the Peace | 18 | 2 |
| Threatening or abusive behaviour | 1,510 | 313 |
| Hate aggravated conduct (inl. stirring up hatred) | 1,345 | 232 |
| Other alcohol related offences | 2 | 1 |
| Offences involved animals (not wildlife) | 1 | 0 |
| Community and public order offences | 424 | 79 |
| Dangerous driving offences | 2 | 0 |
| Driving Carelessly | 2 | 1 |
| Driving under the influence | 1 | 0 |
| Other Group 8 Offences | 1 | 0 |
| **Total** | **4,388** | **792** |

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.   
Data was extracted from Police Scotland systems and are correct as of 14 May 2025.  
For 1 January 2022 to 31 March 2024, recorded crimes were extracted from iVPD using the incident's raised date and selecting hate crime aggravators.   
For 1 April 2024 to 28 February 2025, recorded crimes were extracted from National Unifi Crime Database using the raised date and selecting hate crime aggravators.   
It must be noted that more than one hate aggravator can be attributed to a crime, therefore cannot be added up to the actual number of crimes.   
Please note, due to the different sources of data being used, and the different methodology/counting rules, comparison of recorded hate crimes from 1 April 2024 with recorded hate crimes prior to 1 April 2024 would not be advised.   
Any comparison of the two datasets should be carried out with caution.

Police Scotland does not retain any information for statistical purposes once a record has been weeded from iVPD.  The Police Scotland iVPD system has an automated weeding and retention policy built in. When a record is weeded, it is removed from the system - 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.