| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2174  Responded to: 10 October 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Please provide the data for the following financial years:

## 2018/19

## 2019/20

## 2020/21

## 2021/22

## 2022/23

## How many race hate crimes were reported to your force?

The information below has been extracted from Police Scotland’s interim Vulnerable Person Database. The system’s main function is to record the data of vulnerable people. As such, it was not designed to be a statistical tool. The database does not permit the data to be extracted in a manner that will provide a straightforward response to your request. However, this database is a national system that allows for the extraction of data with a consistent methodology.

The interim Vulnerable Persons Database (iVPD) is the formal means by which Police Scotland record police contact with adults, children and young people who are, or are perceived to be, experiencing some form of adversity and/or situational vulnerability, which may impact on their current or future wellbeing, or where force policy dictates. For example, Domestic abuse, hate crime, youth offending or to record details of victim’s rights under Section 8 and 9 of the [Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2014](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2014/1/contents/enacted).

In response to this question please see the table below which provides the number of recorded racial hate crimes for the time period specified broken by financial year.

Please note the caveats at the bottom of the table.

Recorded Racial Hate Crime, Police Scotland

1st April 2018 - 31st March 2023 (Financial Year)

| **Racial Hate Crimes** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Recorded Racial Hate Crime | 4274 | 4177 | 4317 | 4268 | 3766 |

1. The data was extracted using the incident's raised date and extracted from iVPD by selecting recorded and detected hate crimes with at least 1 x 'racial' aggravator. Please note, hate crimes can have multiple aggravators recorded against the crime/offence.

## How many charges were made by your force?

In response to this question please see the table below which provides the number of detected racial hate crimes for the time period specified broken by financial year. Please be advised that once a crime has been detected charges will be brought against a perpetrator.

Please note the caveats at the bottom of the table.

Detected Racial Hate Crime, Police Scotland

1st April 2018 - 31st March 2023 (Financial Year)

| Racial Hate Crimes | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Detected Racial Hate Crime | 2777 | 2724 | 2863 | 2687 | 2314 |

1. The data was extracted using the incident's raised date and extracted from iVPD by selecting recorded and detected hate crimes with at least 1 x 'racial' aggravator. Please note, hate crimes can have multiple aggravators recorded against the crime/offence.

## Breakdown of ethnic backgrounds of victims

In response to this question please see the table below which provides the ethnicity of incident nominal victims who are linked racial hate crimes, for the time period specified broken by financial year.

Please note the caveats at the bottom of the table.

Racial Hate Concern Incident Nominal Victims Linked to Racial Hate Crimes, broken by Ethnicity.

1st April 2018 - 31st March 2023 (Financial Year)

| Ethnicity | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| African | 126 | 124 | 249 | 329 | 333 |
| Any Mixed Ethnic group | 77 | 71 | 128 | 156 | 154 |
| Arab | 23 | 19 | 52 | 84 | 70 |
| Bangladeshi | 14 | 20 | 29 | 30 | 27 |
| Black Scottish or Other Black | 78 | 76 | 149 | 167 | 158 |
| Caribbean | 9 | 9 | 10 | 20 | 13 |
| Chinese | 14 | 17 | 52 | 64 | 103 |
| Indian | 75 | 78 | 147 | 221 | 205 |
| Other African, Caribbean or Black | 35 | 49 | 70 | 84 | 91 |
| Other Asian | 102 | 157 | 241 | 345 | 259 |
| Other Ethnic Group | 63 | 73 | 119 | 183 | 154 |
| Other White | 80 | 91 | 196 | 275 | 236 |
| Pakistani | 255 | 255 | 489 | 552 | 465 |
| Unknown | 121 | 115 | 262 | 379 | 313 |
| White British | 94 | 108 | 201 | 265 | 280 |
| White English | 60 | 49 | 104 | 144 | 95 |
| White Gypsy/Traveller | 7 | 6 | 10 | 9 | 13 |
| White Irish | 16 | 13 | 35 | 33 | 30 |
| White Northern Ireland | 11 | 12 | 23 | 25 | 18 |
| White Polish | 120 | 130 | 236 | 311 | 210 |
| White Scottish | 171 | 208 | 413 | 544 | 520 |
| White Welsh | 4 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 3 |
| Total | 1555 | 1681 | 3217 | 4226 | 3750 |

1. The data was extracted using the incident's raised date and extracted from iVPD by selecting racial hate concern incident nominals which were classed as 'victims'.

2. Recorded hate crimes with at least 1 x 'racial' aggravator were then identified.

3. Racial hate concern incident nominal victims, linked to an incident involving at least 1 x racial hate crime were then selected. The table displays a count of these incident nominals.

4. Please note, each record will need to be read to confirm the circumstances and if the incident nominal was a victim of a racial hate crime.

## How many race hate crimes against children (u18s) were reported to your force?

In response to this question please see the table below which provides the number of recorded racial hate crimes which involved a child aged 0-17, for the time period specified.

Please note the caveats at the bottom of the table.

Recorded Racial Hate Crime, Police Scotland

1st April 2018 - 31st March 2023 (Financial Year)

| **Racial Hate Crimes** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Recorded Racial Hate Crime - Concern Incident Nominal Victim Aged 0 -17 | 269 | 247 | 316 | 475 | 407 |

1. The data was extracted using the incident's raised date and extracted from iVPD by selecting recorded and detected hate crimes with at least 1 x 'racial' aggravator. Please note, hate crimes can have multiple aggravators recorded against the crime/offence.

2. The data was extracted from iVPD by selecting racial hate concern incident nominals which were classed as 'victims'.

3. Racial hate crimes involving at least 1 x Racial hate concern incident nominal victim (aged 0 - 17) were then identified. Table 1 is count of recorded/detected racial hate crimes; and a count of recorded/detected racial hate crimes involving at least 1 x racial hate concern incident nominal victim aged 0 - 17.

4. Please note, nominal's age is calculated using the date of birth and the incident date. Incident nominals aged between 0 and 17 (inclusive) on the date of the incident have been selected. Where the date of birth is not formatted correctly, or unknown, the incident nominals have been excluded.

5. Please note, each record will need to be read to confirm the circumstances.

6. Please note, the same nominal may be recorded as a victim or perpetrator more than once during the date period stated. Similarly, the same nominal may appear in more than one age classification during the date period stated.

## Breakdown of the type of offence - e.g. physical, verbal, online etc

In response to this question, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, there is no straightforward method to determine the how the offence was committed, for example, physical, verbal, online. To determine this each record would need to be manually assessed.

As can be calculated from the table above, there are 1,714 recorded racial hate crimes where the concern incident nominal victim is aged 0-17, with a conservative estimate of 5 minutes per record, this equates to an excess of 142 hours of work.

Police Scotland have assessed that the £600 cost limit within the Act equates to 40 hours of work and so this part of your request would breach the cost threshold.

Should you wish to significantly reduce the time period of your request it may be that some information could be provided to you, however it is worthy of note that the time period may have to be significantly narrow that this would mitigate any meaningful comparative data.

## Breakdown of the ages of the victims

In response to this question please see the table below which provides the ages of children aged 0-17, who are linked to racial hate crimes.

Please note the caveats at the bottom of the table.

Racial Hate Concern Incident Nominal Victims Linked to Racial Hate Crimes, (Broken by Age)

1st April 2018 - 31st March 2023 (Financial Year)

| **Age (at date of incident)** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 4 |
| 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 0 |
| 3 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 2 |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 0 |
| 5 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 5 |
| 7 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 6 | 4 |
| 8 | 9 | 6 | 14 | 15 | 7 |
| 9 | 17 | 12 | 14 | 13 | 12 |
| 10 | 8 | 21 | 19 | 21 | 20 |
| 11 | 21 | 32 | 28 | 40 | 27 |
| 12 | 28 | 34 | 41 | 71 | 77 |
| 13 | 41 | 36 | 57 | 61 | 77 |
| 14 | 28 | 31 | 29 | 69 | 50 |
| 15 | 21 | 33 | 29 | 42 | 59 |
| 16 | 17 | 13 | 32 | 43 | 41 |
| 17 | 24 | 15 | 20 | 45 | 36 |

1. The data was extracted using the incident's raised date and extracted from iVPD by selecting racial hate concern incident nominals which were classed as 'victims'.

2. Recorded hate crimes with at least 1 x 'racial' aggravator were then identified.

3. Racial hate concern incident nominal victims, linked to an incident involving at least 1 x racial hate crime were then selected. The table displays a count of these incident nominals.

4. Please note, each record will need to be read to confirm the circumstances and if the incident nominal was a victim of a racial hate crime.

5. Please note, where the nominal's date of birth is not formatted correctly, the nominal has been included under an 'Unknown' age.

6. Please note, the same nominal may be recorded as a victim or perpetrator more than once during the date period stated. Similarly, the same nominal may appear in more than one age classification during the date period stated.

## Breakdown of ethnic backgrounds of victims

In response to this question please see the table below which provides the ethnicity of children aged 0-17, who are linked to racial hate crimes.

Please note the caveats at the bottom of the table.

Racial Hate Concern Incident Nominal Victims (Aged 0 - 17) Linked to Racial Hate Crimes, (Broken by Ethnicity)

1st April 2018 - 31st March 2023 (Financial Year)

| **Ethnicity** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| African | 12 | 15 | 23 | 34 | 41 |
| Any Mixed Ethnic group | 18 | 27 | 42 | 44 | 49 |
| Arab | 9 | 4 | 7 | 21 | 21 |
| Bangladeshi | 2 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 2 |
| Black Scottish or Other Black | 24 | 25 | 31 | 41 | 43 |
| Caribbean | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Chinese | 4 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Indian | 4 | 4 | 5 | 19 | 9 |
| Other African, Caribbean or Black | 5 | 10 | 8 | 17 | 15 |
| Other Asian | 11 | 18 | 16 | 37 | 21 |
| Other Ethnic Group | 11 | 18 | 14 | 21 | 25 |
| Other White | 12 | 8 | 10 | 20 | 27 |
| Pakistani | 32 | 16 | 20 | 34 | 28 |
| Unknown | 29 | 25 | 45 | 48 | 36 |
| White British | 11 | 14 | 10 | 25 | 25 |
| White English | 7 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| White Gypsy/Traveller | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| White Irish | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| White Northern Ireland | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| White Polish | 19 | 22 | 20 | 22 | 16 |
| White Scottish | 28 | 24 | 52 | 64 | 57 |
| White Welsh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| **Total** | **240** | **241** | **316** | **467** | **427** |

1. The data was extracted using the incident's raised date and extracted from iVPD by selecting racial hate concern incident nominals which were classed as 'victims'.

2. Recorded hate crimes with at least 1 x 'racial' aggravator were then identified.

3. Racial hate concern incident nominal victims (aged 0 - 17 at the date of the incident), linked to an incident involving at least 1 x racial hate crime were then selected. The table displays a count of these incident nominals.

4. Please note, nominal's age is calculated using the date of birth and the incident date. Incident nominals aged between 0 and 17 (inclusive) on the date of the incident have been selected. Where the date of birth is not formatted correctly, or unknown, the incident nominals have been excluded.

5. Please note, each record will need to be read to confirm the circumstances and if the incident nominal was a victim of a racial hate crime.

6. Please note, the ethnicities within the table are in relation to the nominal, and not the reason for the racial hate concern.

7. Please note, the same nominal may be recorded as a victim or perpetrator more than once during the date period stated.

## How many charges were made by your force?

In response to this question please see the table below which provides the number of detected racial hate crimes which involved a child aged 0-17, for the time period specified broken by financial year.

Please be advised that once a crime has been detected charges will be brought against a perpetrator.

Please note the caveats at the bottom of the table.

Detected Racial Hate Crime, Police Scotland

1st April 2018 - 31st March 2023 (Financial Year)

| **Racial Hate Crimes** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Detected Racial Hate Crime –  Concern Incident Nominal Victim  Aged 0 -17 | 182 | 194 | 226 | 334 | 275 |

1. The data was extracted using the incident's raised date and extracted from iVPD by selecting recorded and detected hate crimes with at least 1 x 'racial' aggravator. Please note, hate crimes can have multiple aggravators recorded against the crime/offence.

2. The data was extracted from iVPD by selecting racial hate concern incident nominals which were classed as 'victims'.

3. Racial hate crimes involving at least 1 x Racial hate concern incident nominal victim (aged 0 - 17) were then identified. The table is a count of recorded/detected racial hate crimes; and a count of recorded/detected racial hate crimes involving at least 1 x racial hate concern incident nominal victim aged 0 - 17.

4. Please note, nominal's age is calculated using the date of birth and the incident date. Incident nominals aged between 0 and 17 (inclusive) on the date of the incident have been selected. Where the date of birth is not formatted correctly, or unknown, the incident nominals have been excluded.

5. Please note, each record will need to be read to confirm the circumstances.

6. Please note, the same nominal may be recorded as a victim or perpetrator more than once during the date period stated. Similarly, the same nominal may appear in more than one age classification during the date period stated.

## Breakdown of the ages of the people charged.

In response to this question please see the table below which provides the ages of perpetrator broken by age, for the time period specified broken by financial year.

Please note the caveats at the bottom of the table.

It is important to note that on occasion errors can occur, particularly typographical errors when inputting information to the database particularly dates of birth. To advise I have removed information relating to ages in excess of 100 years.

The Age of Criminal Responsibility Act (Scotland) 2019 was passed in 2019 with it being fully commenced in December 2021. The age of criminal responsibility was raised from 8 years to 12 years. As such any ages below 8 from 2018/19 to 2021/22 have been removed and any ages below 12 from 2022/23.

Perpetrator Incident Nominals Linked to Racial Hate Crimes, (Broken by Age)

Period: 1st April 2018 - 31st March 2023 (Financial Year)

| **Age (at date of incident)** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8 | 12 | 11 | 7 | 6 | N/A |
| 9 | 20 | 20 | 14 | 6 | N/A |
| 10 | 41 | 20 | 23 | 25 | N/A |
| 11 | 49 | 46 | 43 | 37 | N/A |
| 12 | 77 | 105 | 87 | 130 | 121 |
| 13 | 102 | 92 | 105 | 164 | 159 |
| 14 | 150 | 167 | 107 | 179 | 122 |
| 15 | 144 | 165 | 131 | 132 | 100 |
| 16 | 79 | 74 | 94 | 85 | 67 |
| 17 | 61 | 51 | 79 | 49 | 43 |
| 18 | 74 | 49 | 52 | 44 | 40 |
| 19 | 53 | 51 | 51 | 41 | 43 |
| 20 | 52 | 35 | 40 | 40 | 47 |
| 21 | 58 | 42 | 43 | 46 | 41 |
| 22 | 77 | 41 | 54 | 48 | 27 |
| 23 | 64 | 45 | 62 | 49 | 35 |
| 24 | 59 | 51 | 68 | 55 | 53 |
| 25 | 56 | 51 | 58 | 60 | 40 |
| 26 | 50 | 55 | 66 | 56 | 38 |
| 27 | 79 | 80 | 65 | 68 | 50 |
| 28 | 62 | 93 | 75 | 69 | 46 |
| 29 | 68 | 66 | 69 | 72 | 51 |
| 30 | 65 | 71 | 70 | 62 | 55 |
| 31 | 78 | 76 | 66 | 57 | 60 |
| 32 | 48 | 78 | 62 | 75 | 52 |
| 33 | 57 | 68 | 96 | 71 | 53 |
| 34 | 51 | 65 | 75 | 63 | 54 |
| 35 | 71 | 63 | 68 | 70 | 50 |
| 36 | 53 | 65 | 51 | 57 | 77 |
| 37 | 67 | 43 | 57 | 49 | 62 |
| 38 | 54 | 58 | 86 | 54 | 54 |
| 39 | 47 | 59 | 71 | 53 | 46 |
| 40 | 56 | 56 | 52 | 67 | 48 |
| 41 | 44 | 53 | 66 | 47 | 45 |
| 42 | 38 | 46 | 63 | 51 | 41 |
| 43 | 39 | 51 | 30 | 49 | 50 |
| 44 | 62 | 41 | 43 | 43 | 34 |
| 45 | 36 | 33 | 39 | 43 | 31 |
| 46 | 50 | 29 | 52 | 44 | 35 |
| 47 | 31 | 41 | 44 | 45 | 43 |
| 48 | 53 | 35 | 49 | 46 | 36 |
| 49 | 45 | 27 | 39 | 32 | 37 |
| 50 | 46 | 31 | 55 | 46 | 40 |
| 51 | 33 | 42 | 28 | 40 | 20 |
| 52 | 36 | 29 | 37 | 39 | 29 |
| 53 | 29 | 36 | 40 | 37 | 35 |
| 54 | 38 | 41 | 49 | 28 | 38 |
| 55 | 29 | 29 | 47 | 35 | 30 |
| 56 | 28 | 31 | 41 | 30 | 25 |
| 57 | 23 | 20 | 25 | 41 | 20 |
| 58 | 20 | 12 | 24 | 21 | 29 |
| 59 | 19 | 15 | 28 | 28 | 22 |
| 60 | 13 | 14 | 18 | 17 | 14 |
| 61 | 16 | 14 | 17 | 21 | 13 |
| 62 | 17 | 13 | 26 | 15 | 24 |
| 63 | 13 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 11 |
| 64 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 15 | 11 |
| 65 | 7 | 8 | 13 | 11 | 13 |
| 66 | 3 | 7 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| 67 | 11 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 11 |
| 68 | 6 | 8 | 11 | 10 | 9 |
| 69 | 6 | 9 | 16 | 5 | 13 |
| 70 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 7 |
| 71 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| 72 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 6 |
| 73 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 3 |
| 74 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 |
| 75 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 7 |
| 76 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| 77 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| 78 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 |
| 79 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| 80 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 81 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 4 |
| 82 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 83 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| 84 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 85 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 86 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 87 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 88 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 91 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Unknown | 1167 | 1225 | 1109 | 1269 | 1198 |
| **Total** | **4148** | **4114** | **4250** | **4328** | **3753** |

1. The data was extracted using the incident's raised date and extracted from iVPD by selecting perpetrator incident nominals.

2. Recorded hate crimes with at least 1 x 'racial' aggravator were then identified.

3. Perpetrator incident nominals, linked to an incident involving at least 1 x racial hate crime were then selected. Table 4 displays a count of these incident nominals.

4. Please note, each record will need to be read to confirm the circumstances and if the incident nominal was a perpetrator of a racial hate crime.

5. Please note, where the nominal's date of birth is not formatted correctly, the nominal has been included under an 'Unknown' age.

6. Please note, the same nominal may be recorded as a victim or perpetrator more than once during the date period stated. Similarly, the same nominal may appear in more than one age classification during the date period stated.

In relation to all the statistics and tables provided, please note that all statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.

All data has been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at

14th September 2023.

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.

Please note that the data is 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.

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.