| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0178  Responded to: 26th April 2023 |
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Your request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding.

## How many of your police officers/ staff have been reported for more than 1 count of a sexual offence (i.e. rape, sexual assault, etc) from 2017 to the end of 2022?

## How many of your police officers/ staff have been reported for more than 5 counts of sexual offences from 2017 to the end of 2022?

## How many of your police officers/ staff have been reported for more than 10 counts of sexual offences from 2017 to the end of 2022?

## How many of your police officers/ staff have been reported for more than 15 counts of sexual offences from 2017 to the end of 2022?

## How many of your police officers/ staff have been reported for more than 20 counts of sexual offences from 2017 to the end of 2022?

Your request has been interpreted as the number of officers or staff reported to a prosecution service, namely, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS), for criminal allegations of sexual offences.

You should note that, in accordance with the Police Scotland [Complaints About the Police (CAP) Standard Operating Procedure](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/fifhh5vo/complaints-about-the-police-sop.pdf) (SOP), all allegations of on duty criminality against police officers are reported to COPFS for consideration, in order to ensure independence in the assessment and consideration of criminal proceedings takes place.

Off duty matters will be formally recorded and investigated in accordance with the nature of the criminality involved, under normal Crime Recording Standards.

You should note that a report to COPFS does not necessarily mean that any charges were libelled or criminal proceedings instigated and the figures provided below include reports where no proceedings were taken due to, for example, insufficient or exculpatory evidence.

In providing a response to your request we have examined the Professional Standards database for complaints and conduct files relating to sexual offences reported to COPFS.

For the purposes of this request, “sexual offences” has been interpreted to mean any criminal allegation recorded on the Professional Standards database as a ‘Crime of Indecency’.

Please note that crime classifications on the Professional Standards database are in the process of being updated to align with the categories detailed in the Scottish Crime Recording Standard (SCRS).

Due to this, some sexual offence categories currently listed within the SCRS are not available on the database and are therefore not included in response to this question.

Data includes all such allegations attached to complaint and conduct cases received 01/01/2017 - 31/12/2022 inclusive.

Where the overall count of allegations included complaint and conduct matters separately, files were manually reviewed to ensure any overlap in the circumstances involved were account for to enable an accurate total to be calculated.

I can advise you that between 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2022, **26** individuals have been reported to COPFS for more than 1 sexual offence.

**24** of those were reported for between 2 and 5 sexual offences and **2** for between 6 and 10sexual offences.

It should be noted that the above figures represent individual charges reported to COPFS, as per the terms of your request, and more than one charge may be attributed to a single investigation or incident.

Further review of the cases outlined above reveals that, of the 26 individuals reported to COPFS for multiple offences over the period, this does not necessarily relate to investigations into separate incidents, as there are instances where one incident may involve a number of offences.

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.