| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-0521Responded to: 27 February 2025 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I wish to make a Freedom of Information Request for the number of data breaches Police Scotland have committed in the last 5 years, which a breakdown of each year.**

Police Scotland do not record ‘data breaches’ in those terms. The figures below represent reported *security incidents* that were subsequently investigated:

2025 - 108 (year to date)
2024 - 974
2023 - 811
2022 - 686
2021 - 606
2020 - 484

It is important to note that not all recorded security incidents will result in a confirmed security incident or data breach. It may be that, on further investigation, there are no concerns with an incident (although we have removed any incidents marked as ‘near miss’ or ‘for our information’ which are typically those where there is confidence that Police Scotland have not committed an actual data breach).

To be of assistance, the figures below represent security incidents where an actual ‘data loss’ has been confirmed. The figures below are effectively a sub-set of the figures above:

2025 - 50 (year to date)
2024 - 489
2023 - 417
2022 - 429
2021 - 390
2020 - 346

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 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 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.