| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1863  Responded to: 07 September 2023 |
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Please, first of all, accept my sincere apologies for the delay in providing a response to your request.

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

## There has been a huge drop in seat belt offences, from 37,880 in 2014 to just 1,930 last year.

## However, there is little evidence the public are more compliant.

## Deaths involving no seat belt in the UK actually increased over the period recorded offences fell.

## [https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/seatbelt-and-mobile-phone-use-surveys-2021/seatbelt-wearing-rates-great-britain-2021#:~:text=The%20latest%20road%20casualty%20statistics,be%20killed%20in%20road%20collisions](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fstatistics%2Fseatbelt-and-mobile-phone-use-surveys-2021%2Fseatbelt-wearing-rates-great-britain-2021%23%3A~%3Atext%3DThe%2520latest%2520road%2520casualty%2520statistics%2Cbe%2520killed%2520in%2520road%2520collisions&data=05%7C01%7Cfoi%40scotland.police.uk%7Cc9c6b4fc1c804fd9d1f008db8916e2df%7C6795c5d3c94b497a865c4c343e4cf141%7C0%7C0%7C638254503607262645%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=bwDR%2FSUPmPhHTijzqAomPUMrXHIWyLONz9JCw%2Bi6WwM%3D&reserved=0).

## The report states: "The results of this observational survey show that, during weekdays in Great Britain, levels of seatbelt wearing remain high overall and are broadly unchanged over recent surveys."

## Has there been a change in policy or vigilance involving seat belts at Police Scotland?

## Also, there have been similar five digit declines in other offences such as signalling and direction offences [e.g going up a one way street], mobile phone use and speeding.

## Has there been a change in policy or vigilance in these too?

There has been no change in policy or vigilance in how Police Scotland deal with road traffic offences. Protecting road users remains a priority for Police Scotland

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.