| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-3268  Responded to: 11 March 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Tackling domestic abuse is a priority for Police Scotland and we are committed to working with our partners to reduce the harm it causes and ultimately eradicate it.

Domestic abuse is a despicable and debilitating crime which affects all of our communities and has no respect for ability, age, ethnicity, gender, race, religion or sexual orientation.

Police Scotland will not tolerate it.

Police Scotland will proactively target perpetrators and support victims to prevent domestic abuse from damaging the lives of victims and their families.

Police Scotland defines domestic abuse as:

“Any form of physical, verbal, sexual, psychological or financial abuse which might amount to criminal conduct and which takes place within the context of a relationship. The relationship will be between partners (married, cohabiting, civil partnership or otherwise) or ex-partners. The abuse may be committed in the home or elsewhere including online”

Please note that the definition of Domestic abuse in Scotland differs from the definition of Domestic Violence in England and Wales which includes wider familial abuse.

## How many female domestic abuse victims has your force classed as high risk via the assessments your force uses for example Dara/Dash in 2024 to date with data broken down annually

## How many male domestic abuse victims has your force classed as high risk via the assessments your force uses for example  Dara/Dash in 2024 with data broken down annually.

Please find attached a table below and associated notes which provides the number of High Risk domestic incidents split into male and female as requested above. This information has been collated using DAQ (Domestic Abuse Questions) which is Police Scotland’s Risk Assessment equivalent of DARA/DASH.

## High Risk Domestic Incident Nominal Victims by risk category

## Period: Calendar year

| **Gender** | **2024** |
| --- | --- |
| Female | 4435 |
| Male | 276 |
| Indeterminate | 3 |
| Unknown | 2 |
| Total | 4716 |

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 2025-02-21

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

2. Domestic Incident Nominal Victims were selected. Please note, incident nominals recorded as 'Victim', 'Subject of concern' or 'Non-Vulnerable Victim' are classed as victims.

3. Domestic Incident Nominals Victims with a risk grading of 'High' were selected.

4. 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

5. Please note that these data are 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.

## How many women were killed by a partner/ex partner or relative in 2024?

Police Scotland can confirm there were 9 females who were killed by a partner/ex-partner in 2024.

However, as above, Police Scotland’s definition of Domestic Abuse does not include familial. Therefore, with regards to how many females were killed by a relative, I regret to inform you in accordance with Sections 12(1) (Excessive cost of compliance) and 16(4) (Refusal of request) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act), this letter represents a Refusal Notice.

By way of explanation, Police Scotland would require to individually review each homicide and determine if the victim was related to the perpetrator. This would take a considerable amount of time and would exceed the £600 and 40 hour cost limit prescribed by the Scottish Ministers under the Act.

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.