



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-01462

Keyword: Crime

Subject: DRUG RELATED CRIME

Request and Answer:

Question 1

The number of crime reports where 'drugs' represent a contributing or motivating factor behind the incident. (I understand there is a tick box option for forces to use for offences where 'drugs' have been a contributing factor). Please include data for 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008

Answer

Please see details below.

It should be noted that drug related offences have been identified through the completion of motivation fields recording perceptions as to whether or not the offence was drug related or if the person committing the offence was affected by/under the influence of drugs. Please note that the application of these drug-related motivations are not quality assured by Central Statistics Unit.

Question 2

Please can you state how many records relate to a) those aged 16 and under, b) those aged 18 and under and c) anyone else.

Answer

Please see details below.

For 2007 (01/04/2007 - 31/12/2007)

- 145 offences relate to offenders aged 16 and below
- 395 offences relate to offenders aged 18 and below
- 1533 offences relate to offenders aged 19 and above

For 2008 (01/01/2008 - 31/12/2008)

- 169 offences relate to offenders aged 16 and below
- 509 offences relate to offenders aged 18 and below
- 1996 offences relate to offenders aged 19 and above

Please note that the information supplied is in two different formats. On 1/4/2007 the PSNI rolled out a new system for recording crime. The statistics for 2007 are split between the document numbered 2282.pdf and the figures above. The information has been supplied in the format in which it was held at the time of your request.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this email.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <http://www.psni.police.uk/>

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Recorded and cleared drug related offences^{1,2} by calendar year

Northern Ireland

	Total recorded crime	Drug trafficking/non-trafficking	Other offences having drugs motivation	Total drugs related offences	Of those drug related offences recorded, the total number cleared
2004	120,695	2,659	1,318	3,977	2,025
2005	122,334	2,868	1,069	3,937	2,170
2006	123,702	2,605	867	3,472	2,128
2007	108,299	2,631	535	3,166	2,365
2008	109,491	2,905	438	3,343	2,481

Source: Central Statistics Unit, PSNI

¹ Drug related offences have been identified through the completion of motivation fields recording perceptions as to whether or not the offence was drug related or if the person committing the offence was affected by/under the influence of drugs. Please note that the application of these drug-related motivations are not quality assured by Central Statistics Unit.

² Also includes drug trafficking/non-trafficking offences.

This information is based on operational data taken from a live crime recording system and may be subject to change

Year	All	under 19	under 17	over 19
2004	2257	738	358	1161
2005	2340	763	350	1227
2006	2312	576	247	1489
2007	460	83	38	339
	7369	2160	993	