



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2009-02884

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** SEXUAL ACTIVITY INVOLVING CHILDREN 2008/9

### Request and Answer:

#### Question

For the financial year 2008/09, please could you state for each of the following crimes how many people were a) charged by your force and b) issued with a caution, reprimand or final warning (can you please give separate figures for each of these) for each offence.

For the sexual crimes involving children (which I have given in a separate block), if possible could you also tell me how many of the offenders were aged over 21?

The offences I would like information on relate to:

- Sexual activity involving a child under 13
- Sexual assault on a female child under 13
- Sexual assault on a male child under 13
- Sexual activity involving a child under 16
- Rape of a female child under 13
- Rape of a male child under 13
- Rape of a female child under 16
- Rape of a male child under 16
  
- Rape of a female aged 16 and over
- Rape of a female aged 16 and over
- Soliciting of women by men
- Burglary in a dwelling
- Violent disorder
- Obscene publications/protected sexual material
- Assault on a police officer
- Common assault
- Racially or religiously aggravated common assault
- Robbery of personal property
- Wounding or carrying out an act endangering life
- Other wounding
- Racially or religiously aggravated other wounding
- Wounding or inflicting GBH without intent
- Actual bodily harm
- Racially or religiously aggravated actual bodily harm

**Answer**

As I previously advised, the Police Service of Northern Ireland's Central Statistic Unit collate information in relation to the offences you are interested in as opposed to information concerning offenders. As agreed, they have therefore provided the number of offences that have been cleared by means of a charge or caution rather than the number of people charged/cautioned.

You were also advised that there are some differences in crime recording between Northern Ireland and England and Wales; racially or religiously aggravated assault offence types do not apply to Northern Ireland, however, figures could be provided for Riot/Riotous behaviour as opposed to "violent disorder". You agreed to receive the information that could be provided by the Central Statistics Unit.

Please see the attached table containing the information we are able to provide. Please also note that due to some differences in crime recording in Northern Ireland compared to England and Wales, some categories do not exactly match those originally requested. Figures from similar categories have been given as a close alternative.

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](mailto: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 @ [www.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

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

## Selected Recorded and cleared offences by clearance method

### Northern Ireland

2008/09

		Recorded	Cleared	Cleared by means of Charge/ Summons <sup>1</sup>	Cleared by means of Caution <sup>1,2</sup>
Sexual Assault/Sexual Activity	Female victim Under 13 years	273	71	69	2
	Female victim 13-15 years	267	40	32	8
	Male victim Under 13 years	103	12	10	2
	Male victim 13-15 years	29	4	4	0
Rape (Incl. Attempts)	Female victim Under 13 years	75	20	20	0
	Female victim 13-15 years	74	22	20	2
	Male victim Under 13 years	11	3	3	0
	Male victim 13-15 years	5	0	0	0
Rape (Incl. Attempts) Female victim aged 16+ years		222	37	36	0
Rape (Incl. Attempts) Male victim aged 16+ years		15	3	2	0
Rape (Incl. Attempts) Age/Gender Unknown		2	0	0	0
Domestic Burglary		7351	729	607	32
Riot/Riotous Behaviour		127	98	71	27
Indecent Photographs etc.		48	19	15	4
Assault on police		2856	2652	2483	169
Common assault/aggravated assault		7689	1598	1311	286
Robbery - Personal		727	87	83	3
Wounding with intent/GBH with intent		791	314	308	4
Wounding/GBH		935	236	225	11
AOABH		12696	3258	2731	527

**Source: Central Statistics Unit, PSNI**

<sup>1</sup> The number of offences cleared by means of charge/summons and caution are included in the total offences cleared.

<sup>2</sup> Cautions include adult cautions, adult informed warnings, juvenile restorative cautions, juvenile informed warnings and juvenile prosecutorial diversions.

**Please Note:**

Due to some differences in crime recording in Northern Ireland compared to England and Wales some categories do not exactly match those originally requested. Figures from similar categories have been given as an close alternative.