



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-02940

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: SECURITY / COMPLAINT STATISTICS

Request and Answer:

Question 1

Please find attached the statistics (below) which we need verified. Could you please confirm the source of these statistics?

Answer

As far as can be ascertained the statistics on complaints were compiled by the Complaints and Discipline Branch of the Royal Ulster Constabulary for inclusion in the annual Chief Constable's Reports.

In relation to security statistics please find attached record below.

Question 2

Could we have statistics from 1994 – 1998 for those tables attached in attachment one?

Answer

Please find attached record below.

Question 3

The number of complaints made against police officers in 1997 and 1998?

Answer

Please refer to record below which was published in the 1998/1999 Chief Constable's Report. It should be noted that pre 1997 the Chief Constable's Reports were prepared in calendar years and from 1997 in financial years.

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.psnipolice.uk/>

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

FOI-2009-02940 Please find attached the statistics which we need verified.

1. Could you please confirm the source of these statistics?
2. Could we have statistics from 1994 to 1998 for those tables attached in attachment one?
3. The number of complaints made against police officers in 1997 and 1998?

Question 1 – The PSNI’s Central Statistics Unit is most likely to be the source of these statistics but we have no record of having provided this actual response. Also, please note that we cannot replicate the Prosecution and Outcomes of Scheduled Defendants statistics as we no longer collate these figures within our branch. Furthermore, there are some slight discrepancies between the figures contained in the document supplied by the requestor and those in our current statistics for the same period. The updated figures are provided in the bullet points below along with the corresponding figures from the requestors document which are presented in brackets:

- There were 122 Loyalist shooting incidents in 1990 (118 in the requestor’s document) and 256 Republican (255 in the requestor’s document) shooting incidents in 1991.
- There were 10 Loyalist murders in 1983 (11 in the requestor’s document) which also reduces by 1 the number of persons murdered between 1983 and 30th June 1996 (1 fewer Roman Catholic civilian).
- There were 217 Loyalist (216 in the requestor’s document) and 254 Republicans (252 in the requestor’s document) persons charged with terrorist/serious public disorder in 1987.
- Finally there were 680 Loyalists (681 in the requestor’s document) arrested in 1992 and 1,110 Republicans (1,109 in the requestor’s document) arrested in 1992 under section 14 of the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Question 2

Page 1: Persons Murdered By Terrorist Groups in Northern Ireland by attribution

Security Situation 1994 – 1998

Persons Murdered	Loyalist		Republican		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Security Forces	2	14.3	12	85.7	14	8.9
Civilians	74	51.4	70	48.6	144	91.1
Total	76	48.1	82	51.9	158	

Civilians Murdered*	Loyalist		Republican		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Protestants Murdered	20	39.2	31	60.8	51	35.4
Roman Catholics Murdered	54	58.1	39	41.9	93	64.6
Total	74	51.4	70	48.6	144	

* Does not include Security Force personnel.

Includes all murders which were considered at the time of the incident, to be directly attributed to terrorism or where the cause has a direct or proximate link to subversive/sectarian strife.

Page 2: Terrorist Murders in Northern Ireland by Attribution

1994 – 1998

Year	Loyalist		Republican		Total
	Number	%	Number	%	
1994	37	60.7	24	39.3	61
1995	2	22.2	7	77.8	9
1996	5	35.7	9	64.3	14
1997	15	75.0	5	25.0	20
1998	17	31.5	37	68.5	54
Total	76	48.1	82	51.9	158

Includes all murders which were considered at the time of the incident, to be directly attributed to terrorism or where the cause has a direct or proximate link to subversive/sectarian strife.

Page 3: Shooting incidents in Northern Ireland by attribution

1994 – 1998

Year	Loyalist		Republican		Total
	Number	%	Number	%	
1994	191	65.0	103	35.0	294
1995	10	40.0	15	60.0	25
1996	50	59.5	34	40.5	84
1997	90	53.3	79	46.7	169
1998	103	62.4	62	37.6	165
Total	444	60.2	293	39.8	737

The following types of incidents are included:

- Shots fired by terrorists
- Paramilitary-style attacks involving shootings
- Shots heard (and later confirmed)
- Other violent incidents where shots are fired (e.g. armed robbery)

Page 4: Bombing incidents in Northern Ireland by attribution

1994 – 1998

Year	Loyalist		Republican		Total
	Number	%	Number	%	
1994	65	31.7	140	68.3	205
1995	-	0.0	2	100.0	2
1996	3	21.4	11	78.6	14
1997	18	23.4	59	76.6	77
1998	88	72.7	33	27.3	121
Total	174	41.5	245	58.5	419

An individual bombing incident may involve one or more explosive devices. Incidents recorded include explosions and defusings. Incidents involving hoax devices, petrol bombings or incendiaries are excluded.

Page 5: Persons charged with terrorist/serious public order type offences

1994 – 1998

Year	Loyalist		Republican		Total
	Number	%	Number	%	
1994	219	62.9	129	37.1	348
1995	205	46.7	234	53.3	439
1996	333	56.0	262	44.0	595
1997	192	47.4	213	52.6	405
1998	346	75.9	110	24.1	456
Total	1295	57.7	948	42.3	2243

Statistics refer to those brought against a person after the original period of detention (including extensions). Any subsequent changes, additions, deletions to the original charges are not included.

Page 6: Arrests under Section 14 PTA

1994 – 1998

Year	Loyalist	Republican	Security Forces	Total
1994	736	767	-	1503
1995	226	216	1	443
1996	333	234	-	567
1997	260	244	-	504
1998	414	135	4	553
Total	1969	1596	5	3570

Page 7: Prosecution & Outcomes 1994 (not available – see explanation above)

Page 8: Prosecution & Outcomes 1995 (not available – see explanation above)

Page 9: Terrorist Murders : this appears to be a replication of page 2 (updated figures already provided above)

Source: Police Service of Northern Ireland Central Statistics Unit, Lisnasharragh

4. Complaint Statistics

Table 1: Complaints against the Police Initially Recorded 1997/98 and 1998/99

Type of Complaint	1997/98	1998/99
Assault	2,119	1,778
Incivility	1,044	646
Neglect of duty	418	508
Oppressive conduct/harassment	719	498
Irregularity in procedure	417	239
Unlawful arrest/detention	504	224
Irregularity in search of premises	108	85
Mishandling of property	31	30
Irregularity re evidence/perjury	22	30
Traffic offence	27	26
Corrupt practice	4	6
Discriminatory behaviour	10	6
Other	122	146
Totals	5,545	4,222