



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-02597

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: Road Rage Incidents

Request and Answer:

Question 1

How many crimes were recorded by your constabulary that were related to traffic crimes identified as "road rage" incidents in the years 2015-2005 inclusive (please split by year).

By road rage, I refer to either a crime that was described at the time of the police report as "road rage", or any assault or damage to property that followed a road traffic accident.

These could also be incidents where the offence was identified in the police report as "driving aggressively" or "driving in a panic".

Answer

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested and the response is as follows.

Please see the table below detailing the incidents where 'Road Rage' was mentioned in the initial call for service for 1 April 2007 to 21 August 2015. The data has been extracted from NICHE by a keyword search for 'Road Rage' from the initial call for service. **Please note:** we are unable to provide figures prior to April 2007 as NICHE was not in existence for crime recording before this date.

	1 Apr-31 Dec 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	1 Jan - 21 Aug 2015
Incidents	207	207	218	210	220	206	209	171	128

Source: PSNI Statistics branch

This information is based on data extracted from a live system and may be subject to change. It is dependent on the information having been input into the system in such a way as to identify those records that are relevant. Figures within the current financial year (i.e. from 1st April 2014) are provisional and will be subject to change.

Question 2

For each year, could you then provide a list of crimes which satisfy any of the above conditions, broken down so it is clear how many of the different types of crime have occurred – e.g., Affray, 2, Malicious Wounding, 5, Other Criminal Damage, 4.

Answer

Please see the table below detailing the recorded offences which resulted from incidents where 'Road Rage' was mentioned in the initial call for service for 1 April 2007 to 21 August 2015. **Please note:** we are unable to provide figures prior to April 2007 as NICHE was not in existence for crime recording before this date.

The data has been extracted from NICHE by a keyword search for 'Road Rage' from the initial call for service. These incidents were linked with the recorded crime data series, providing the number of offences that were recorded as a result of these incidents by the main crime classification.

	1 Apr-31 Dec 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	1 Jan - 21 Aug 2015
Violence against the person	20	27	23	16	33	27	31	28	16
Theft offences			1		2	1			
Criminal damage	7	9	7	4	4	4	8	3	
Drug offences						1			
Possession of weapons offences					1	1	2	1	
Miscellaneous crimes against society	1	1	2		1				1
Public order offences						1			

Source: PSNI Statistics branch

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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 letter.

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 @ www.psni.police.uk

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