



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2020-01714

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: Drink/Drug Arrests

Request and Answer:

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act we can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does hold information to which your request relates and the decision has been taken to disclose the following.

Clarification sought:

Although the data requested is held electronically by PSNI Statistics Branch it is held collectively for both 'drink and drug driving'. Due to the PSNI recording system to extract the data specifically for 'drink driving' would require a manual trawl of all these records and this process is estimated to exceed the FOI legislative cost of 18 hours. However to assist in the processing of your request PSNI may be able to provide the data collectively for 'drink and drug driving'.

Clarification provided:

If it will take too long to separate out arrests for drink and drug driving it is fine to give them to me collectively as 'arrests for drink or drug driving.'

Request 1

How many drink driving arrests were made by your police force between 1st March 2019 & 31st August 2019, broken down by:

- a) month.
- b) how many of those arrested were aged 17-30 years old and how many were aged 31 years or older.

Request 2

How many drug driving arrests were made by your police force between 1st March 2019 & 31st August 2019, broken down by:

- a) month.
- b) how many of those arrested were aged 17-30 years old and how many were aged 31 years or older .

Request 3

3) How many drink driving arrests were made by your police force between 1st March 2020 & 31st August 2020, broken down by:

a) month.

b) how many of those arrested were aged 17-30 years old and how many were aged 31 years or older.

Request 4

How many drug driving arrests were made by your police force between 1st March 2020 & 31st August 2020, broken down by:

a) month.

b) how many of those arrested were aged 17-30 years old and how many were aged 31 years or older.

Answer

Please see the table provided below, detailing the number of persons arrested for drink drug driving related offences by month and year.

	2019	2020
March	278	213
April	261	250
May	294	294
June	253	247
July	253	310
August	303	275
Total	1,642	1,589

Please see the table below detailing the number of persons arrested for drink drug driving related offences by age.

Age	March - August 2019	March - August 2020
17 - 30	640	604
31+	993	980
Unknown	0	1
Total	1,633	1,585

Please note:

1. Figures are provisional and subject to change
2. Figures are based on data extracted on 2nd September 2020

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 Corporate Information Branch, 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 Corporate Information Branch, 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.