



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2022-02892

Keyword: Crime/Incident Statistics Arrests/Detainees/Outcomes

Subject: Shoplifting Statistics

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. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

Request 1

I would like to know the number of reports of shoplifting on your patch each month between 01/01/2022 up until the most recent date for which records exist.

Answer

Shoplifting offences are published on the PSNI website in the Police Recorded Crime monthly update (currently available to 30th September 2022). The monthly update to 31st October 2022 will be published on 24th November 2022 (<https://www.psnireland.police.uk/about-us/our-publications-and-reports/official-statistics/police-recorded-crime-statistics>). Figures for shoplifting are available in the accompanying spreadsheet – see Table 1, summary-rolling 12 mth/summary-financial year to date and Pivot Table-Crime. Pivot Table-Crime provides the greatest level of detail with shoplifting available by both month and policing district.

Request 2

Additionally, I would like to know how many arrests were made each month.

Answer

Between 1st January and 31st October 2022 there have been 253 occasions where a person was arrested and processed through custody for at least one offence of shoplifting. Please note that a person may have been arrested for shoplifting on more than one occasion during this time period. Please see below table where total number is split between months.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Number of Arrests</i>
January	14
February	16
March	14
April	26
May	27
June	15

July	35
August	33
September	38
October	35

Request 3

In the most recent 10 cases, I would like to know the name of the shop where the report was made.

Answer

The names of the shops making the most recent 10 reports of shoplifting (to 31st October) are: Tesco, B&M Bargains, Boots, Tesco, Sainsbury, Marks and Spencer, Centra, Tesco, Co-op, Zara.

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 Corporate Information Manager, Corporate Information Branch, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.police.uk.

If, following an Internal Review carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain unhappy about how your request has been handled you have the right to apply in writing to the Information Commissioner, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, at 'Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. There are a number of other platforms you can use to contact the ICO and these can be found on the ICO's website at the following link: [Make a complaint | ICO \(https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/\)](https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/).

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 their 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.