



**HEADQUARTERS**  
One Lochside  
1 Lochside Avenue  
Edinburgh  
EH12 9DJ

**Our Ref:** HQ24085

8 August 2024

Dear

Thank you for your request dated 11 July 2024 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

For reference, you requested:

**RFI 1:** “How many prisoners are currently held on remand in Scotland’s prison service?”

**RFI 2:** “Of those prisoners currently held on remand how many are untried and how many are awaiting sentencing?”

**RFI 3:** “Of the current remand population, what is the average period a prisoner is held for and are they awaiting trial or sentencing?”

**RFI 4:** “Of the current remand population, what is the longest period a prisoner has been held for and are they awaiting trial or sentencing?”

**RFI 5:** “If possible, could you share the data for answers 1 to 4 for the years 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24?”

We have now completed our search for the information you requested.

**RFI 1 Response:** The remand population changes daily. On 6 August 2024 there were 2228 prisoners being held on remand.

**RFI 2 Response:** Of those 2228, 1850 were being held on remand and 378 were awaiting sentencing.

**RFI 3 Response:** Due to the way the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) Prisoner Records system records data, under section 17 of FOI(S)A I can advise that we do not hold this information.

**RFI 4 Response:** Due to the way the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) Prisoner Records system records data, under section 17 of FOI(S)A I can advise that we do not hold this information.

To be helpful I have provided a link to the Scottish Governments Justice Analytical Services Statistics Report which may provide you with the information you are looking for:

[Summary statistics on prisons - Justice Analytical Services \(JAS\) Safer Communities and Justice Statistics Monthly Data Report February 2024 edition - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

**RFI 5 Response:** As stated above, we do not hold information in relation to average or longest periods spent on remand. The table below provides detail of the average number of prisoners held on remand or awaiting sentence for the periods requested:

Year	Average Untried Prisoners	Average Awaiting Sentence Prisoners
2018-19	1251	274
2019-20	1383	286
2020-21	1597	189
2021-22	1870	233
2022-23	1904	230
2023-24	1904	261

This concludes our response to your request.

If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may ask us to conduct an internal review, by writing to The Chief Executive, One Lochside, 1 Lochside Avenue, Edinburgh, EH12 9DJ. Your request should explain why you wish a review to be conducted and should be made within forty working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within twenty working days of receipt. If you are not satisfied with the result of the review, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Manager