



HEADQUARTERS
One Lochside
1 Lochside Avenue
Edinburgh
EH12 9DJ

Our Ref: HQ26185

17 September 2026

Dear

Thank you for your request dated 20 August 2026 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).

For reference, you requested:

RFI 1: "The total number of foreign national prisoners currently held in Scottish prisons (or as at the most recent available date)"

RFI 2: "Of those foreign national prisoners, the number whose primary offence (or any recorded offence) falls under any of the following categories:

- Rape
- Sexual assault
- Other sexual offences under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009
- Common law sexual offences"

RFI 3: "A breakdown of the figures in point 2 by:

- Nationality (where numbers are 5 or above)
- Whether the individual is convicted or on remand"

RFI 4: "Specifically, the number of foreign national prisoners currently held for offences involving:

- Sexual activity with a child
- Soliciting or communicating indecently with a child / grooming
- Human trafficking or exploitation of children

(Please provide the same nationality and convicted/remand breakdown if available.)"

RFI 5: "The equivalent figures for British nationals held for the same categories of offence (for comparison), if held."

We have now completed our search for the information you requested. The data is a snapshot of the custodial population as at 10 September 2026.

RFI 1 Response: On 10 September 2026, there were 731 foreign nationals in custody, within a total custodial population of 8,461 individuals.

RFI 2 Response:

Categories	British	Non-British
Rape	1335	159
Sexual Assault	281	28
Other sexual offences under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009	103	9

RFI 3 Response:

Where the number involved is small, disclosure of a specific figure could lead to the identification of individuals. In these circumstances, the information has been withheld under section 38(1)(b) of FOISA (personal information) and is presented as less than five (<5).

Prisoner Nationality	Categories	Convicted	Remand
British	Rape	1152	183
British	Sexual Assault	239	42
British	Other sexual offences under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009	81	22
Polish	Rape	17	<5
Romanian	Rape	15	<5
Nigerian	Rape	9	<5
Syrian	Rape	8	0
Indian	Rape	7	<5
Pakistani	Rape	6	<5
Afghan	Rape	5	<5
Iranian	Rape	<5	<5
Italian	Rape	<5	<5
Sudanese	Rape	<5	<5
Irish	Rape	<5	0
Polish	Sexual Assault	<5	<5
Turkish	Rape	<5	0
Albanian	Rape	<5	0
Algerian	Rape	<5	<5
American	Rape	<5	0
Bangladeshi	Rape	<5	<5
Chinese	Rape	<5	0
Ghanaian	Rape	<5	0
Iraqi	Rape	<5	0
Italian	Sexual Assault	<5	0
Jamaican	Rape	<5	0
Lithuanian	Rape	<5	0
Romanian	Other sexual offences under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009	<5	0
Slovakian	Rape	<5	0
Slovakian	Sexual Assault	<5	0
Somalian	Rape	<5	0

Sri Lankan	Rape	0	<5
Tunisian	Rape	<5	0
Zimbabwean	Rape	<5	0
Afghan	Sexual Assault	<5	0
Algerian	Other sexual offences under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009	<5	0
American	Sexual Assault	<5	0
Australian	Other sexual offences under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009	0	<5
Bulgarian	Rape	0	<5
Chadian	Rape	0	<5
Czech	Rape	<5	0
Danish	Sexual Assault	<5	0
Dutch	Rape	<5	0
Ecuadorian	Rape	<5	0
Egyptian	Rape	<5	<5
Eritrean	Rape	<5	<5
Eritrean	Sexual Assault	<5	0
French	Rape	<5	0
French	Sexual Assault	0	<5
Gambian	Rape	<5	<5
Ghanaian	Sexual Assault	<5	0
Greek	Rape	0	<5
Hungarian	Rape	<5	0
Indonesian	Rape	0	<5
Irish	Sexual Assault	0	<5
Latvian	Sexual Assault	0	<5
Mexican	Rape	<5	0
Nigerian	Sexual Assault	0	<5
Other Asian	Other sexual offences under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009	<5	<5
Pakistani	Sexual Assault	<5	<5
Palestinian	Rape	0	<5
Palestinian	Sexual Assault	0	<5
Polish	Other sexual offences under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009	<5	0
Portuguese	Rape	<5	0
Portuguese	Sexual Assault	<5	0
Saint Lucian	Rape	<5	0
Salvadoran	Sexual Assault	<5	0
Senegalese	Rape	0	<5
Spanish	Rape	<5	0
Sri Lankan	Sexual Assault	<5	0
Sudanese	Sexual Assault	<5	0
Syrian	Sexual Assault	<5	0
Syrian	Other sexual offences under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009	0	<5
Turkish	Sexual Assault	<5	0

Turkish	Other sexual offences under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009	0	<5
Ukrainian	Rape	<5	0

RFI 4 Response:

Nationality	Number
British	1230
Non-British	94

Where the number involved is small, disclosure of a specific figure could lead to the identification of individuals. In these circumstances, the information has been withheld under section 38(1)(b) of FOISA (personal information) and is presented as less than five (<5).

Prisoner Nationality	Convicted	Remand
British	1064	166
Polish	12	5
Romanian	8	<5
Italian	5	<5
Nigerian	<5	<5
Slovakian	<5	0
Afghan	<5	0
American	<5	0
Indian	<5	0
Pakistani	<5	<5
Ghanaian	<5	0
Portuguese	<5	0
Sri Lankan	0	<5
Sudanese	<5	0
Syrian	<5	<5
Algerian	<5	0
Bulgarian	0	<5
Danish	<5	0
Egyptian	0	<5
Eritrean	<5	<5
Fijian	<5	0
French	0	<5
Greek	0	<5
Iraqi	<5	0
Irish	<5	<5
Latvian	0	<5
Lithuanian	<5	0
Namibian	<5	0
Other Asian	0	<5
Palestinian	0	<5
Saint Lucian	<5	0
Salvadoran	<5	0

Somalian	<5	0
Spanish	<5	0
Turkish	<5	<5
Undetermined	0	<5
Zimbabwean	<5	0

RFI 5 Response:

Data in relation to equivalent figures for British nationals has been provided within the tables above.

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 Adviser