



**Scottish
Ambulance
Service**

University National NHS Board



Freedom of Information Request

4th November 2024

Question

Under FOI can I please request the following information: The number of violent incidents or physical assaults on NHS Scotland ambulance staff in 2023 and 2024 so far (as of 4 November 2024). Can you please provide this information in a monthly breakdown.

Answer

Please see the table below detailing the number of physical assaults on Scottish Ambulance Service Staff.

	Assault Physical
Jan 2023	15
Feb 2023	9
Mar 2023	18
Apr 2023	11
May 2023	9
Jun 2023	24
Jul 2023	22
Aug 2023	29
Sep 2023	14
Oct 2023	14
Nov 2023	16
Dec 2023	7
Jan 2024	15
Feb 2024	17
Mar 2024	22
Apr 2024	14
May 2024	22
Jun 2024	18
Jul 2024	20
Aug 2024	15
Sep 2024	13
Oct 2024	19
Nov 2024	<5
Total	366



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For the given data, you will see that some of the figures are shown as, five or less than five, please note that this figure has been suppressed because the statistical value is less than five. The Scottish Ambulance service has a duty, under the Data Protection Act to avoid directly or indirectly revealing any personal details. It is therefore widely understood that provision of statistics on small numbers, five or less are statistically suppressed upon disclosure.

Please note caution when interpreting this data

The Service has a range of measures in place to help protect staff and known or reported areas where staff have previously faced violence or threatening behaviour are taken into consideration and communicated to attending crews. Scottish Ambulance staff are trained in managing aggression and assessing risk, enabling them to better judge when they need to wait for support from the Police, or request additional service support.

A breakdown of assaults is available in our response to FOI 24-244 available on the Scottish Ambulance Service website [Staff Assaults 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024](#) *(data given until June 2024)