



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Com Sec:10\3343

27th May 2010

Dear Lord Morrow,

To ask the Minister of Justice how many police officers were assaulted whilst on duty in each constituency, in each of the last three years; and how many of these assaults were regarded as serious. ~~6617/10~~

6617/10

The above mentioned question was placed before the Minister of Justice, who has deemed that this is an operational matter for the Police Service of Northern Ireland. Therefore the Chief Constable has been asked to respond directly.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland records statistics by Area Command, areas that are co-terminous with council boundaries.

We regard all assaults upon our officers whilst on duty as a serious matter. The information you require is contained in the appended table. The footnote of the attached table contains a breakdown of what the Home Office Counting Rules classify as serious assaults.

Please be advised that a copy of this letter will be placed in the Library of the Northern Ireland Assembly. If you have any queries regarding this response, please address your correspondence to Command Secretariat, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT5 6LE.

I trust this is of assistance.

*Yours sincerely,
John McCaughan*

JOHN MCCAUGHAN
Superintendent
for Chief Constable

Lord Morrow MLA
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST BT4 3XX

Command Secretariat, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT5 6LE
Telephone: 028 90700006, Fax: 028 90700124



Calls within Police Service of Northern Ireland telephone system may be monitored or recorded

Recorded assault¹ offences where a police officer² is the victim

Northern Ireland

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Antrim	51	51	76
Ards	62	64	82
Armagh	97	85	67
Ballymena	59	58	67
Ballymoney	24	11	27
Banbridge	56	53	96
Carrickfergus	42	51	56
Castlereagh	36	33	30
Coleraine	189	142	169
Cookstown	98	91	80
Craigavon	118	175	176
Down	128	76	85
Dungannon & South Tyrone	68	53	61
East Belfast	165	133	150
Fermanagh	66	82	128
Foyle	252	301	283
Larne	46	20	34
Limavady	60	68	54
Lisburn	160	139	166
Magherafelt	25	25	50
Moyle	9	15	28
Newry & Mourne	125	143	143
Newtownabbey	44	76	55
North Belfast	292	290	373
North Down	94	74	119
Omagh	84	93	72
South Belfast	251	319	311
Strabane	71	45	57
West Belfast	140	174	194
Northern Ireland	2912	2940	3289
<i>Of which were assault offences³ with minor, threat or no injury</i>	2903	2928	3270
<i>Of which were assault offences⁴ with serious injury</i>	9	12	19

Source: Central Statistics Unit, PSNI

¹ Assault offences include wounding with intent, GBH with intent, wounding, GBH, AOABH, assault on police, aggravated assault and common assault.

² Relates to offences where the victim has been identified as an officer on duty.

³ Includes AOABH, assault on police, aggravated assault and common assault.

⁴ Includes wounding with intent, GBH with intent, wounding and GBH

Please Note:

These figures are based on information taken from a live crime recording system and may be subject to change.

Command Secretariat, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT5 6LE
Telephone: 028 90700006, Fax: 028 90700124