



Disclaimer

Due to the high volume of FOI requests made to Sussex Police relating to "Dog Attacks" a single response has been compiled covering the many points detailed in the different requests.

To ensure we comply with data protection legislation Sussex Police will only provide aggregated values in separate tables to protect the identity of the victims of these offences.

We are unable to provide offence details around the injury level/hospitalisation of the victim, or of the breed of the dog involved, as each offence would need to be manually reviewed.

In line with national police data returns, the report is based on crime input date. This means that an offence that has occurred some months or years previously but reported recently, will be counted against the year/month in which it was reported.

The search looks at all recorded crimes within a live police records management system. Volumes may be different compared against previous or subsequent requests as offences can be reclassified and other information used to identify reports can be modified. The report only includes recorded notifiable crimes, excluding crime related incidents and crimes that have been reviewed and changed to no crime.



Recorded Crimes relating to the Home Office Classification Code of 8/21 - Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England or Wales injuring any person or assistance dog
Report Period by Calendar Years - from 1st January 2017 to 30th November 2023

Please Note - Information for 2023 covers the period from 1st January to 30th November only

Recorded Crime - HO Code 8/21, shown by Month & Year

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2017	46	45	54	56	61	85	87	85	68	67	56	44	754
2018	56	41	53	55	99	57	75	61	70	57	50	60	734
2019	59	55	53	59	62	65	98	89	65	47	54	46	752
2020	46	46	41	44	74	75	73	84	82	69	51	65	750
2021	58	52	62	71	73	61	59	93	66	65	63	63	786
2022	55	47	71	69	112	97	92	118	83	62	67	62	935
2023	55	71	68	90	100	96	125	106	102	91	74	0	978
Total	375	357	402	444	581	536	609	636	536	458	415	340	5689

Recorded Crime - HO Code 8/21, shown by Offender/Victim Relationship, Local Authority & Location Type

Offender/Victim Relationship	Count of Crimes
Acquaintance	764
Child	117
Common law partner	9
Ex-partner	8
Family	299
Friend	82
Grandchild	27
In-law relation	2
Intimate	7
Parent/guardian	4
Regular visitor to the house	31
Spouse	8
Stranger	3490
Unknown	839
Workmate	2
Total	5689

Local Authority	Count of Crimes
Adur	170
Arun	529
Brighton and Hove	785
Chichester	438
Crawley	377
Eastbourne	369
Hastings	354
Horsham	523
Lewes	398
Mid-Sussex	491
Rother	376
Unknown	24
Wealden	585
Worthing	270
Total	5689

Location Type	Count of Crimes
Beach hut;	5
Commercial;	79
Dwelling;	1836
Education;	8
Financial;	1
Hospitality;	104
Leisure;	46
Medical;	2
Moving vehicle;	9
Not Stated	657
Public building;	4
Public/open place;	2872
Shop;	65
Travel;	1
Total	5689



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Recorded Crime - HO Code 8/21, shown by HO Outcome, where an outcome is not applicable it likely indicates that an offence is still under investigation.

HO Outcome	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Caution - adults	1	2	1	4	2	5	5	20
Charged/Summoned	9	12	12	8	18	8	4	71
Community Resolution	107	99	110	110	160	224	220	1030
Diversionsary, educational or intervention activity, not in public interest to take further action	0	0	0	1	1	2	5	9
Evidential difficulties - named suspect identified	62	39	40	25	47	44	28	285
Further investigation not in the public interest - police decision.	55	64	71	88	47	36	13	374
Investigation complete no suspect identified	290	298	296	282	319	384	332	2201
Named suspect identified - prosecution time limit expired	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Named suspect identified - victim does not support	149	157	173	187	159	179	169	1173
Named suspect identified, victim/key witness dead or too ill to give evidence	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Named suspect too ill to prosecute	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Not Applicable	0	0	1	0	0	7	172	180
Not in the public interest (Police)	37	31	26	17	6	5	7	129
Offender has died	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Undertaken by another body or agency	5	2	2	3	5	7	0	24
Victim does not support - no suspect identified	38	30	19	25	22	32	22	188
Total	754	734	752	750	786	935	978	5689



Number of Aggrieved relating to the Home Office Classification Code of 8/21 - Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England or Wales injuring any person or assistance dog
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Number of Aggrieved - HO Code 8/21, shown by Age Group, & Gender

Aggrieved Age	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Under 10 yrs	112	150	157	140	131	141	169	1,000
10-18 yrs	71	56	68	84	88	117	122	606
19-25 yrs	38	37	40	45	38	51	56	305
26-45 yrs	206	174	173	179	201	219	227	1,379
46-65 yrs	217	208	188	219	221	252	255	1,560
66+ yrs	71	79	84	75	76	97	101	583
Unknown	29	30	43	16	23	45	42	228
Total	744	734	753	758	778	922	972	5,661

Aggrieved Gender	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Female	347	362	369	383	389	464	457	2,771
Male	392	367	378	367	377	430	494	2,805
Restricted/Unknown	5	5	6	8	12	28	21	85
Total	744	734	753	758	778	922	972	5,661



Further FOI requests commonly received:

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	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of dogs detained under the Dangerous Dogs Act (including banned breeds and dogs dangerously out of control) over the past five years.	51	39	20	22	47
Number of dogs destroyed under the Dangerous Dogs Act over the past five years.	6	4	6	8	10
Number of deaths caused by dog bites/attacks over the past five years.	Sussex Police do not hold the full data set as incidents where owners killed by their own animals or animals they are responsible for, would not be recorded as crimes. Offences where animals attack and cause death to third parties are notifiable offences but can be recorded under numerous offences such as Murder, Homicide or the main offence of Owner of a Dog Dangerously out of control causing injury to any other person, or an assistance dog.				
Breed of dog detained the most under the Dangerous Dogs Act over the past five years.	Each dog has not officially been typed so we are unable to provide an accurate response				
Number of dog attacks on another dog, and the breed of the attacking dog.	No info held - Dog on Dog attacks are normally civil complaints under sec 2 of the Dogs Act 1871				