

9 November 2023

ICO Case Reference IC-264736-G1D0

Request

You asked us:

"Specifically, I would like to request the following:

- *The total number of data breach reports received by the ICO in the year 2022.*
- *A breakdown of these reports by industry sector (e.g., healthcare, finance, education).*
- *The number of investigations initiated by the ICO as a result of these reports.*
- *The average time taken to conclude these investigations.*
- *The number of penalties or fines issued as a result of these investigations and the total amount collected in fines for the year 2022."*

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA).

Our response

We do hold information in scope of this request. We publish certain information about data security breaches reported to us online.

[Data security incident trends | ICO](#)

We would signpost to our Data Security Incident Trends Dashboard for relevant information. There were 8,798 data breach reports received in 2022. This total can be found under the time series tab. On the same tab you can apply filters, which include a 'Sector' filter, to find out how many data breach reports were received from each business sector.

To find out the total number of investigations initiated in 2022, apply the 'Decision Taken' filter on the time series tab. There are 545 data breach report cases where the decision taken was 'investigation pursued'. The

cross-tabs may also be of interest for a breakdown of incident type, by decision taken.

Where the decision recorded on a data breach report case is investigation pursued. Then the incident is passed to our Investigations department because it is serious enough to be considered for full investigation and potential regulatory action. We routinely publish quarterly investigation data sets online.

[Civil investigations | ICO](#)

[Cyber investigations | ICO](#)

The average time taken to conclude such investigations can be worked out using the published data sets. It may be helpful to refer to the start date and date closed columns in the data sets for this purpose.

In relation to civil monetary penalties issued and fines collected in 2022, that information is available online and linked below.

[cmpps-unpaid-paid-230703.xlsx \(live.com\)](#)

That concludes our response to this information request.

Information withheld

FOIA section 21

Please note that although we hold information falling in the scope of this request it is available to you outside of FOIA because it is already published online.

As a result, the information we hold is technically withheld in reliance on section 21 of the FOIA. This exempts information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant through means other than a request under the FOIA.

It is an absolute exemption, which means it is not necessary for us to consider any public interest test.

Next steps

You can ask us to review our response. Please let us know in writing if you want us to carry out a review. Please do so within 40 working days.

You can read a copy of our full review procedure [here](#).

If we perform a review but you are still dissatisfied, you can complain to the ICO as regulator of the FOIA. This complaint will be handled just like a complaint made to the ICO about any other public authority.

You can [raise a complaint through our website](#).

Your information

Our [Privacy notice](#) explains what we do with the personal data you provide to us, and sets out your rights. Our retention schedule can be found [here](#).

Yours sincerely,



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