

## REQUEST

**I am working on a story about the stabbing cases in Birmingham. I would like to ask you several data to support and verified the data that I collected from the news artifacts.**

**1. How many stabbing cases each year had happened in Birmingham since 2013-2017? Can you please break down how many cases which did not solve yet?**

The data provided is the closest data we hold in relation to your request. The criteria used for our searches was to search our recorded crimes database for all offences involving a knife where injury was caused. The following weapon categories were included in our searches:

- 09 - KNIFE – DAGGER
- 10 - KNIFE - FLICK
- 11 - KNIFE - KITCHEN
- 12 - KNIFE - MACHETTE
- 13 - KNIFE - PEN
- 14 - KNIFE - CRAFT
- 83 - SWORD
- 84 – AXE
- 70 - DAGGER
- 71 - FLICK KNIFE
- 72 - KITCHEN KNIFE
- 73 - MACHETE
- 74 - PEN KNIFE
- 75 - CRAFT KNIFE
- 76 - LOCK KNIFE
- 77 - KNIFE - UNKNOWN
- 33 - KNIFE (N/K)

## 87 - MEAT CLEAVER

In April 2014, West Midlands Police changed the way that outcomes were recorded hence differences may exist between the data before and after that date. In particular, prior to April 2014, it was not always mandatory to attach an outcome to a record. Some records might also be open (still investigating) hence an outcome has yet to be determined.

Outcome of Offences involving a knife where injury was caused, for the years 2013/2014/2015/2016/2017 for the Birmingham Neighbourhood Policing Units.

Offence	Year					Grand Total
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
Caution - Adult	1					1
Charge	121	19				140
Community Resolution	2					2
NC1: Non Crime Closure		4	4	3	3	14
OC12: Prosecution prevented – Named suspect identified, too ill (physical or mental health) to prosecute			1	1		2
OC13: Prosecution prevented – Named suspect identified, victim or key witness is dead or too ill to give evidence			1			1
OC14: Evidential Difficulties Victim Based – No Named suspect: Crime confirmed but victim declined / unable to support further investigation to identify offender.		20	14	49	14	97
OC15: Named Suspect identified: victim support but evidential difficulties prevent further action	1	27	41	46	34	149
OC16: Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim does not support (or has withdrawn support from) police action	1	33	44	64	40	182

OC18: Investigation Complete: No suspect identified. Investigated as far as possible – Case closed pending further investigative opportunities	5	71	138	166	132	512
OC1a: Charge/summons	5	60	111	81	45	302
OC1b: Postal Charge		6	5	7	5	23
OC1d: Charge/summons with Alternative Offence			3	16	10	29
OC1e: Postal Charge with Alternative Offence			1	1	3	5
OC2: Caution – YOUTH (inc Conditional Caution)				1		1
OC20: Further action resulting from crime report will be undertaken by another body or agency			1	2		3
OC3: Caution – ADULT (inc Conditional Caution)			1			1
OC8: Community Resolution			2	1		3
Turning Point	1					1
No Outcome Recorded	165	35	6	10	230	446
Grand Total	302	275	373	448	516	1914

## 2. For stabbing cases in 2017, would you like to give me the case briefing? Such as the date, time and location?

Data broken down by Month and Neighbourhood Policing Unit.

Month - for the year 2017	Neighbourhood Policing Unit								Grand Total
	Birmingham East	Birmingham West	Coventry	Dudley	Solihull	Sandwell	Walsall	W'hampton	
01/01/2017	14	29	8	5	2	9	6	5	78
01/02/2017	13	25	9	4	1	7	6	10	75
01/03/2017	14	22	9	9	2	11	9	10	86

01/04/2017	15	25	5	3	2	8	5	3	66
01/05/2017	15	22	10	6	8	13	12	9	95
01/06/2017	17	30	8	8	2	7	6	15	93
01/07/2017	18	37	6	8	3	9	2	10	93
01/08/2017	21	22	12	11	6	9	3	11	95
01/09/2017	13	19	7	7	4	9	5	7	71
01/10/2017	19	25	8	4	1	4	9	8	78
01/11/2017	20	37	4	7	3	11		7	89
01/12/2017	19	25	7	4		14	4	10	83
Grand Total	198	318	93	76	34	111	67	105	1002

To provide data at any a lower level than in this response is likely to attract exemptions.

### 3. What do you think the reason why there were so many stabbing cases in 2017 in Birmingham?

We are unable to provide opinion under the FOI Act unless those opinions are recorded. To assist you, please see a communication from our Force lead for knife crime.

*Knife crime across the West Midlands area has increased in recent years - having hit record lows around 2012 - but is still well down on levels seen a decade ago.*

*Superintendent Ian Parnell , West Midlands Police's lead on knife crime, said: "There has been an increase in knife crime, ranging from possession offences at one end to murder at the other.*

*"In the vast majority of knife crimes, no one is injured and it's a case where a knife has been seen or threatened rather than used.*

*"We acknowledge that knives are the weapon of choice, but we are working really hard with retailers, schools and partners to remove knives from the streets of the West Midlands.*

*"We're promoting the use of knife bins and in September had a week of activity in relation to knives. We conduct sweeps of parks and public spaces to remove them and are working with retailers and Trading Standards around sales to young people.*

*"We're also delivering the Precious Lives project in schools, which is a hard-hitting presentation on the dangers of carrying a knife, and ensuring those who do carry a knife are robustly dealt with through the criminal justice system.*

*Superintendent Parnell said there was now better reporting of knife crime from schools, and more efforts from police to understand why young people feel the need to carry bladed weapons.*

*He added: "If you carry a knife, there's a real danger that you will be caught and arrested and a real danger that it can be taken off you and used against you."*

**4. Is there a special action that the police did or doing to prevent this cases?**

Please see the link below.

<https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/news/3919/police-across-west-midlands-are-going-all-out-knife-crime-week-targeted-activity>