

1) From 2013 to 2018, a year by year breakdown of the number of missing persons and the number of reported absent persons (separated figures e.g. 2000 missing persons and 500 absent persons). If possible, please state the number who were 18 or over and the number under 18 for both the missing and absent categories.

Please see table below

Classification	Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Missing	U 18	3202	3032	4692	5424	5248	4613
	18+	2419	2220	2500	2681	2815	3098

We do not record 'Absent' on our missing persons database, therefore we would need to conduct a manual search of our Command and Control logs which would exceed the FOI time limit, as a result we are unable to fully answer question 1.

2) Your force policy/guidance on whether a person is reported as missing or absent.

Please see:

<http://foi.west-midlands.police.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Missing-Persons.pdf>

3) While I appreciate it is unlikely you have the data, if you do please provide any data you have relating to the policing costs for missing people and absent people.

To locate and retrieve this information would also exceed the FOI time limit.

If no data is held for question 3 then I understand that and please just provide details for numbers 1 and 2. If data doesn't go as far back as 2013 then please just provide data as far back as possible.