

An Garda Síochána

Oifig Saorála Fáisnéise,
An Garda Síochána, Teach áth Luimnigh,
Lárionad Gnó Udáras Forbartha Tionscail,
Baile Sheáin , An Uaimh,
Contae na Mí.
C15 DR90



Freedom of Information Office,
An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House,
IDA Business Park,
Johnstown, Navan,
Co Meath.
C15 DR90

Teileafón/Tel: (046) 9036350

Láithreán Gréasain/Website:

www.garda.ie

Bí linn/Join us  

Ríomh-phoist:/Email: foi@garda.ie

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI-000013-2020 Request Part-Grant

Dear

I refer to your request, dated 1st January, 2020 and received on 2nd January, 2020 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (FOI Act) for records held by An Garda Síochána.

Part 1(n) of Schedule 1 of the FOI Act states that An Garda Síochána is listed as a partially included agency "*insofar as it relates to administrative records relating to human resources, or finance or procurement matters*". Therefore, only administrative records that relate to human resources, finance or procurement shall be considered.

Your request sought:

- *Under the FOI Act 2014, I am seeking the following:*
 - How many people have completed the Fitness Test to become a Gardai in the An Garda Síochána over the previous 5 years - between 1.1.2014 and 31.12.2019? Please provide this information as an overall total, then by total males and total females, then by age bracket Under 20, Under 25, Under 30, Under 35, 36 and over.*
 - How many people passed the Fitness Test to become a Gardai in the An Garda Síochána over the previous 5 years - between 1.1.2014 and 31.12.2019? Please provide this information as an overall total, then by total males and total females, then by age bracket Under 20, Under 25, Under 30, Under 35, 36 and over .*
 - How many people failed the Fitness Test to become a Gardai in the An Garda Síochána over the previous 5 years - between 1.1.2014 and 31.12.2019? Please provide this information as an overall total, then by total males and total females, then by age bracket Under 20, Under 25, Under 30, Under 35, 36 and over .*
 - How many people have completed the Physical Competence Test to become a*

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Gardai in the An Garda Síochána over the previous 5 years - between 1.1.2014 and 31.12.2019? Please provide this information as an overall total, then by total males and total females, then by age bracket Under 20, Under 25, Under 30, Under 35, 36 and over .

How many people passed the Physical Competence Test to become a Gardai in the An Garda Síochána over the previous 5 years - between 1.1.2014 and 31.12.2019? Please provide this information as an overall total, then by total males and total females, then by age bracket Under 20, Under 25, Under 30, Under 35, 36 and over.

How many people failed the Physical Competence Test to become a Gardai in the An Garda Síochána over the previous 5 years - between 1.1.2014 and 31.12.2019? Please provide this information as an overall total, then by total males and total females, then by age bracket Under 20, Under 25, Under 30, Under 35, 36 and over .

I wish to inform you that I have decided to part-grant your request on the 28th January, 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to explain my decision.

1. Findings, particulars and reasons for decision.

Details of your request were provided to the Garda College, Templemore to identify records containing the information you have requested. Records have been located in respect of your request.

The Sections of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 which deny access to information are known as exemptions. In this regard, I wish to advise you that I am refusing to release the records for the years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 in accordance with Section 15(1)(d) which states:

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

15(1) A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where (d) the information is already in the public domain.

The information sought by you in this request was the subject of a previous request in 2019 and a copy of this decision is published on the Freedom of Information Decision Log on the Garda website. Access to this decision may be obtained by following the link below:

<https://www.garda.ie/en/information-centre/freedom-of-information/decision-log/decision-letter-foi-000225-2019.pdf>

This office has been advised by the Garda College that records from 01.01.2014 to 31.12.2018 do not exist in the format requested by you wherein you are seeking a breakdown on the age of the candidates. Only records from 1st January 2019 onwards record the age of the applicants on the day of the PCT/Fitness test. In this regard, I am refusing to provide such information from 2014 to 2018 in accordance with Section 15(1)(a) of the FOI Act which states:

Refusal on administrative grounds to grant FOI requests

15(1)A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where

- (a) The record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken,*

The records you seek for 2019, broken down in age categories, are set out in the attached Appendix. Please be advised that the information provided relates to the pre entry test of which there are two component elements: Fitness Test and Physical Competency Test. It should be noted that both elements must be passed in order to qualify for entry into An Garda Síochána. An 'Other' result indicates that the candidates were not participating in the test due to being non-effective on the day of the test, or that they had passed that element of the test previously.

Therefore, due to the processes in place in relation to repeats/appeals/etc. the number who pass or fail does not reflect the records maintained in respect of the pre-entry tests carried out. I wish to advise that the figures provided in the Appendix attached equate to the number of pre-entry tests carried out as opposed to the number of people.

2. Right of Appeal

In the event that you are not happy with this decision you may seek an Internal Review of the matter by writing to the address below and quoting reference number **FOI-000013-2020**.

Freedom of Information Office, An Garda Síochána, Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Navan, Co. Meath. C15 DR90

Please note that a fee applies. This fee has been set at €30 (€10 for a Medical Card holder). Payment should be made by way of bank draft, money order, postal order or personal cheque, and made payable to Accountant, Garda Finance Directorate, Garda Headquarters, Phoenix Park, Dublin 8.

Payment can be made by electronic means, using the following details:

Account Name: Garda Síochána Finance Section Public Bank Account

Account Number: 10026896

Sort Code: 900017

IBAN: IE86BOFI90001710026896

BIC: BOFIE2D

You must ensure that your FOI reference number (FOI-000013-2020) is included in the payment details.

You should submit your request for an Internal Review within 4 weeks from the date of this notification. The review will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of An Garda Síochána and the decision will be communicated to you within 3 weeks. The making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances.

Please be advised that An Garda Síochána replies under Freedom of Information may be released in to the public domain via our website at **www.garda.ie**.

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Should you wish to discuss the above, please contact the FOI Office by telephone at (046) 9036350.

Yours sincerely,

Maria Brodigan ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
MARIA BRODIGAN
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER
28th JANUARY, 2020.

Appendix

Fitness Tests During 2019

Females		Number of Females	Number of Tests	Total Number of Females	Total Number of Tests
				389	554
< 20 years old (including 20)	FAIL	26	39		
	PASS	16	17		
	OTHER	6	7		
	TOTAL		63	40	63
< 25 years old (including 25)	FAIL	99	148		
	PASS	128	131		
	OTHER	15	15		
	TOTAL		294	206	294
< 30 years old (including 30)	FAIL	29	39		
	PASS	88	88		
	OTHER	13	13		
	TOTAL		140	110	140
< 35 years old (including 35)	FAIL	15	20		
	PASS	32	33		
	OTHER	3	3		
	TOTAL		56	43	56
Over 35 years old	FAIL	1	1		
	PASS	0	0		
	OTHER	0	0		
	TOTAL		1	1	1

Males		Number of Males	Number of Tests	Total Number of Males	Total Number of Tests
				684	781
< 20 years old (including 20)	FAIL	19	27		
	PASS	58	58		
	OTHER	0	0		
	TOTAL		85	70	85
< 25 years old (including 25)	FAIL	58	73		
	PASS	245	246		
	OTHER	4	4		
	TOTAL		323	281	323

< 30 years old (including 30)	FAIL	43	50		
	PASS	191	191		
	OTHER	2	2		
	TOTAL		243	214	243
< 35 years old (including 35)	FAIL	14	16		
	PASS	110	111		
	OTHER	0	0		
	TOTAL		127	120	127
Over 35 years old	FAIL	1	1		
	PASS	2	2		
	OTHER	0	0		
	TOTAL		3	3	3

Total Number of Fitness Tests Scheduled 1612	
No Shows	277

PCT Tests During 2019

Females		Number of Females	Number of Tests	Total Number of Females	Total Number of Tests
				389	554
< 20 years old (including 20)	FAIL	19	27		
	PASS	29	30		
	OTHER	6	6		
	TOTAL		63	40	63
< 25 years old (including 25)	FAIL	65	78		
	PASS	161	170		
	OTHER	46	46		
	TOTAL		294	206	294
< 30 years old (including 30)	FAIL	29	32		
	PASS	94	96		
	OTHER	12	12		
	TOTAL		140	110	140
< 35 years old (including 35)	FAIL	12	14		
	PASS	39	39		
	OTHER	3	3		
	TOTAL		56	43	56
Over 35 years old	FAIL	1	1		
	PASS	0	0		
	OTHER	0	0		
	TOTAL		1	1	1

Males		Number of Males	Number of Tests	Total Number of Males	Total Number of Tests
				684	781
< 20 years old (including 20)	FAIL	6	6		
	PASS	67	68		
	OTHER	11	11		
	TOTAL		85	70	85
< 25 years old (including 25)	FAIL	10	12		
	PASS	271	275		
	OTHER	36	36		
	TOTAL		323	281	323
< 30 years old (including 30)	FAIL	3	3		
	PASS	210	212		
	OTHER	28	28		
	TOTAL		243	214	243
< 35 years old (including 35)	FAIL	2	2		
	PASS	118	118		
	OTHER	7	7		
	TOTAL		127	120	127
Over 35 years old	FAIL	0	0		
	PASS	2	2		
	OTHER	1	1		
	TOTAL		3	3	3

Total Number of PCT Tests Scheduled	1612
No Shows	277