

Statistics in focus

POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

19/2008

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Crime and Criminal Justice

National sources of information about crime show such considerable differences in approach and coverage that the measurement of crime trends at European Union level is still at an early stage.

Following a first attempt to provide an overall picture (see [Statistics in Focus Issue N° 15/2007](#)), the figures in this publication are again based largely on numbers of crimes reported by the police. These have been updated to 2006 and revised in some cases. Progress is being made on the development of a more comparable system of crime and criminal justice statistics in the future.

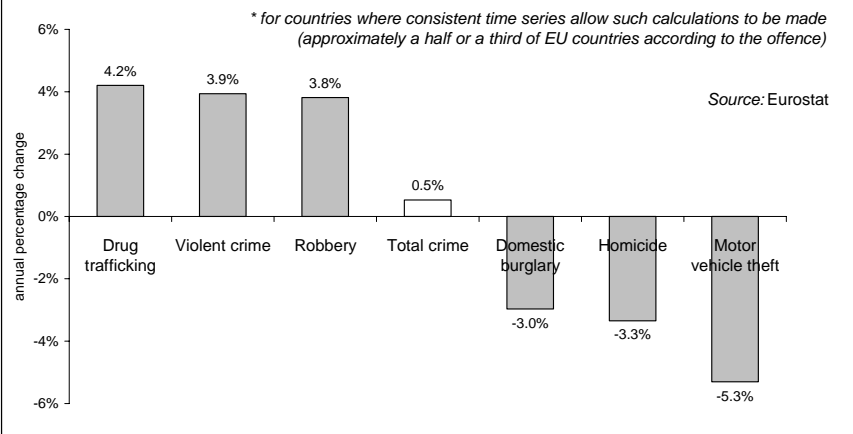
Main findings

- It is possible to compare trends in total crime over the period 1995-2006 for only about half of the EU Member States. In these 14 countries, the general trend visible in police records for this period suggested an increase of about half a percent per year.
- The types of crime which have featured increasingly in the police records include robbery, violent crime and drug trafficking. The incidence of each of these types of crime rose by about 4% per year in the period 1995-2006.
- Types of crime which have become less prevalent include property offences such as domestic burglary and theft of motor vehicles. Police records suggest an annual decrease of about 3% for domestic burglary and 5% for motor vehicle thefts over the period 1995-2006.
- The annual rate for homicides as recorded by the police in the period 2004 to 2006 was about 1.5 per 100 000 population, but rather higher in capital cities (average 2.0).
- The prison population has been rising by about 2% annually over the period 1995-2006 to reach an average rate in EU Member States of 124 prisoners per 100 000 population for the years 2004-2006.
- There was no discernible trend visible for the number of police officers in Member States over the period 1995-2006.

General trends in recorded crime in EU countries

annual percentage change 1995-2006*

* for countries where consistent time series allow such calculations to be made (approximately a half or a third of EU countries according to the offence)



Crimes recorded by the police

Table 1 Crimes recorded by the police: Total crime

These figures include offences against the penal (or criminal) code. Less serious crimes (misdemeanours) are generally excluded. For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.

Country	1995	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	General trend		
								available years	annual change	tendency
Belgium	:	988 851	1 046 883	1 028 293	1 021 009	1 004 923	1 012 004	7	:	^
Bulgaria	196 346	147 022	146 929	143 921	142 093	137 800	136 410	7	-2%	↓
Czech Republic	375 630	358 577	372 341	357 740	351 629	344 060	336 446	12	-2%	↓
Denmark	538 963	473 290	491 511	486 174	474 419	432 704	425 093	12	-2%	↓
Germany	6 668 717	6 363 865	6 507 394	6 572 135	6 633 156	6 391 715	6 304 223	12	:	^
Estonia	39 570	58 497	53 293	53 595	53 048	52 916	51 834	1	:	:
Ireland	102 484	86 633	106 415	103 462	99 244	102 206	103 178	7	:	^
Greece	329 110	439 629	441 138	441 839	405 627	455 952	463 750	12	3%	↑
Spain	1 659 026	2 052 492	2 183 457	2 144 155	2 141 295	2 230 906	2 267 114	2	:	:
France	3 665 320	4 061 792	4 113 882	3 974 694	3 825 442	3 775 838	3 725 588	12	:	^
Italy	2 267 488	2 163 826	2 231 550	2 456 887	2 417 716	2 579 124	2 771 490	3	:	:
Cyprus	4 033	4 506	4 758	7 256	7 615	7 212	7 923	4	:	:
Latvia	39 141	51 082	49 329	51 773	62 173	51 435	62 328	1	:	:
Lithuania	60 819	79 265	72 646	79 072	84 136	82 074	75 474	4	:	:
Luxembourg	28 380	22 646	26 046	26 163	26 907	25 321	25 913	5	:	^
Hungary	502 036	465 694	420 782	413 343	418 833	436 522	425 941	12	-2%	↓
Malta	:	15 929	17 023	17 739	18 384	18 580	16 527	9	2%	↑
Netherlands	1 226 700	1 379 454	1 401 871	1 369 271	1 319 482	1 255 079	1 218 447	12	:	^
Austria	486 433	522 710	591 584	643 286	643 648	605 272	589 495	5	:	^
Poland	974 941	1 390 089	1 404 229	1 466 643	1 461 217	1 379 962	1 287 918	12	4%	↑
Portugal	326 829	372 170	391 599	417 383	416 420	392 174	398 959	12	2%	↑
Romania	297 046	340 414	312 204	276 841	231 637	208 239	232 658	12	-4%	↓
Slovenia	38 178	74 794	77 218	76 643	86 568	84 379	90 354	12	9%	↑
Slovakia	114 579	93 053	107 373	111 893	131 244	123 563	115 152	12	:	^
Finland	381 652	361 105	364 717	367 343	354 453	339 715	324 575	12	-1%	↓
Sweden	1 145 945	1 189 393	1 234 784	1 255 371	1 248 743	1 241 843	1 224 958	12	1%	↔
UK: England & Wales	5 100 241	5 525 024	5 974 960	6 013 759	5 637 511	5 555 174	5 428 273	5	-3%	↓
UK: Scotland	475 697	421 093	427 034	406 979	438 121	417 785	419 257	3	:	:
UK: Northern Ireland	68 808	139 786	142 496	127 953	118 124	123 194	121 144	5	:	^
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	63 015	78 351	77 905	80 377	85 416	79 946	81 049	12	4%	↑
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	:	17 139	18 308	22 547	22 663	22 634	22 024	7	:	^
Turkey	279 001	414 385	458 558	499 130	533 018	673 763	987 464	1	:	:
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	:	18 547	19 938	17 515	16 565	12 028	13 483	2	:	:
Liechtenstein	:	1 086	1 002	1 138	1 043	1 059	1 189	11	3%	↑
Norway	267 925	299 714	319 523	303 824	287 821	275 684	277 016	12	:	^
Switzerland	346 634	321 713	356 841	379 343	389 415	352 723	335 157	12	:	^

: Data not available or not comparable; no visible trend.

| Break in the series.

General trend (1995-2006 where possible; otherwise, at least 5 years to 2006)

Annual change: constant annual rate of change (in %); see Methodological Notes for further information.

Tendency:

↑ increase of more than 1% per year

↔ stable (increase or decrease of less than 1% per year)

↓ decrease of more than 1% per year

^ not discernible

Source: Eurostat

Table 2 Crimes recorded by the police: Homicide

This is defined as intentional killing of a person, including murder, manslaughter, euthanasia and infanticide. Attempted (uncompleted) homicide is excluded. Causing death by dangerous driving, abortion and help with suicide are also excluded. Unlike other offences, the counting unit for homicide is normally the victim. *For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.*

Country	1995	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	General trend			Rate per 100 000 population average per year from 2004 to 2006		
								available years	annual change	tendency	Country	City	
Belgium	:	243	234	190	216	176	174	7	:	^^	1.81	Brussels	2.94
Bulgaria	461	308	255	247	240	196	183	7	-9%	↓	2.66	Sofia	2.77
Czech Republic	176	148	139	159	137	104	136	12	-4%	↓	:	Prague	:
Denmark	70	62	58	82	60	70	45	12	:	^^	1.08	Copenhagen	2.07
Germany	1 373	868	914	820	809	804	727	8	-4%	↓	0.95	Berlin	1.74
Estonia	246	137	142	147	91	113	91	12	-8%	↓	7.30	Tallinn	9.75
Ireland	53	58	59	52	46	65	68	8	:	^^	1.45	Dublin	2.40
Greece	151	139	108	122	109	127	109	12	-5%	↓	1.04	Athens	1.04
Spain	411	577	564	587	520	518	475	2	:	:	1.14	Madrid	1.44
France	1 336	1 046	1 119	987	990	976	879	12	:	^^	1.56	Paris	1.30
Italy	1 042	765	691	765	767	648	663	3	:	:	1.19	Rome	1.28
Cyprus	10	7	3	15	15	15	14	4	:	:	1.96	Lefkosia	1.54
Latvia	281	214	207	220	199	127	148	1	:	:	:	Riga	:
Lithuania	485	377	316	385	356	404	302	4	:	:	10.33	Vilnius	7.95
Luxembourg	2	6	4	3	2	4	9	5	:	:	1.09	Luxembourg	2.61
Hungary	296	254	203	228	209	164	175	12	-5%	↓	1.81	Budapest	1.84
Malta	:	5	5	0	7	4	0	9	:	:	0.91	Valletta	0.00
Netherlands	299	264	224	247	223	197	159	12	:	^^	1.18	Amsterdam	3.42
Austria	78	70	65	50	59	54	60	5	:	^^	0.70	Vienna	1.12
Poland	854	776	716	663	633	555	490	12	-4%	↓	1.47	Warsaw	2.14
Portugal	109	105	119	149	144	133	148	9	:	^^	1.35	Lisbon	0.68
Romania	758	597	563	551	516	453	438	12	-4%	↓	2.17	Bucharest	1.31
Slovenia	45	15	29	21	29	20	12	12	:	:	1.02	Ljubljana	1.50
Slovakia	128	129	128	146	122	106	89	12	:	^^	1.96	Bratislava	3.45
Finland	146	155	131	103	144	114	111	12	:	^^	2.35	Helsinki	2.44
Sweden	83	84	93	81	105	83	91	12	:	^^	1.03	Stockholm	:
UK: England & Wales	753	891	1 047	904	868	766	755	5	-8%	↓	1.49	London	2.42
UK: Scotland	132	106	126	109	134	101	122	12	:	^^	2.34	Edinburgh	2.40
UK: Northern Ireland	24	52	45	33	41	29	24	5	-13%	↓	1.82	Belfast	3.98
EU Candidate countries													
Croatia	188	86	88	76	89	76	75	12	-7%	↓	1.80	Zagreb	1.66
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	:	55	60	70	49	49	45	7	:	^^	2.34	Skopje	3.75
Turkey	5 684	5 839	5 683	5 308	4 986	4 069	3 852	12	:	^^	6.02	Ankara	4.52
EFTA/EEA countries													
Iceland	0	1	4	0	3	3	0	12	:	:	0.68	Reykjavik	0.80
Liechtenstein	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	12	:	:	0.97	Vaduz	0.00
Norway	42	37	46	51	36	33	33	12	:	^^	0.74	Oslo	1.63
Switzerland	82	86	86	73	79	75	60	12	:	^^	0.96	Berne	1.91

: Data not available or not comparable; no visible trend.

— Trend not analysed for countries recording fewer than 20 homicides in any year.

| Break in the series.

General trend (1995-2006 where possible; otherwise, at least 5 years to 2006)

Annual change: constant annual rate of change (in %); see Methodological Notes for further information.

Tendency:

↑ increase of more than 1% per year

↔ stable (increase or decrease of less than 1% per year)

↓ decrease of more than 1% per year

^^ not discernible

Rate per 100 000 population (calculated using figures for completed homicides only)

average per year from 2004 to 2006 except:

2003-2005: Tallinn, Lefkosia.

2005-2006: Madrid & Spain

Source: Eurostat

Table 3 Crimes recorded by the police: Violent crime

These figures include violence against the person (such as physical assault), robbery (stealing by force or by threat of force), and sexual offences (including rape and sexual assault). *For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.*

Country	1995	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	General trend		
								available years	annual change	tendency
Belgium	:	95 109	101 249	100 995	99 204	101 082	102 692	7	1%	↑
Bulgaria	:	10 950	12 176	12 796	11 284	10 623	8 766	7	:	^^
Czech Republic	14 856	13 506	14 957	14 494	15 781	14 565	13 049	12	:	^^
Denmark	14 919	18 081	18 832	19 283	19 443	19 135	19 670	12	3%	↑
Germany	170 170	188 413	197 492	204 124	211 172	212 832	215 471	12	2%	↑
Estonia	813	643	:	2 411	3 287	4 755	5 154	1	:	:
Ireland	5 764	8 548	11 976	9 955	9 362	8 906	8 980	7	:	^^
Greece	8 693	9 501	7 507	10 140	10 145	10 271	10 427	12	:	^^
Spain	103 039	121 094	120 581	109 798	108 820	112 426	114 205	2	:	:
France	165 381	279 324	288 927	292 658	292 088	307 501	326 065	12	7%	↑
Italy	98 837	107 032	106 624	111 165	126 375	130 791	139 385	3	:	:
Cyprus	198	200	203	294	383	325	:	0	:	:
Latvia	:	3 761	3 407	3 200	3 366	2 879	2 750	1	:	:
Lithuania	3 838	5 144	5 492	6 042	6 566	6 561	5 498	4	:	:
Luxembourg	:	1 689	2 069	2 124	2 433	2 367	2 471	5	5%	↑
Hungary	25 773	30 820	31 221	31 484	33 364	32 760	29 728	12	2%	↑
Malta	:	:	:	:	406	403	390	3	:	:
Netherlands	65 284	101 320	104 336	106 410	109 887	110 509	109 154	12	5%	↑
Austria	:	103 743	121 320	148 758	172 115	148 748	135 121	5	:	^^
Poland	53 197	76 235	74 875	77 152	74 614	68 141	61 399	12	:	^^
Portugal	17 028	21 554	22 945	23 414	24 266	23 241	24 155	12	5%	↑
Romania	9 212	7 943	7 130	6 281	6 388	6 469	7 240	12	-3%	↓
Slovenia	1 906	2 807	3 070	2 893	2 928	2 856	3 069	7	:	^^
Slovakia	10 990	14 450	15 020	13 724	13 755	12 906	10 896	12	:	^^
Finland	28 218	33 355	34 186	35 293	36 450	37 105	38 037	12	2%	↑
Sweden	70 655	80 084	83 630	87 671	89 768	97 485	101 459	12	3%	↑
UK: England & Wales	310 936	813 121	1 014 239	1 133 506	1 201 967	1 219 863	1 205 349	5	4%	↑
UK: Scotland	24 360	27 605	30 819	28 690	29 341	28 407	29 378	3	:	:
UK: Northern Ireland	8 368	29 757	32 421	32 735	32 512	34 408	35 223	5	2%	↑
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	:	7 584	8 802	10 032	11 292	12 405	13 235	9	15%	↑
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	:	493	702	860	1 094	1 133	993	7	15%	↑
Turkey	55 001	98 388	106 518	107 767	118 813	124 647	163 933	1	:	:
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0	:	:
Liechtenstein	:	85	82	109	96	107	88	11	:	^^
Norway	15 335	19 217	20 414	20 039	21 360	21 381	22 591	1	:	:
Switzerland	6 042	8 653	9 265	10 151	11 917	11 544	12 784	12	6%	↑

: Data not available or not comparable; no visible trend.

| Break in the series.

General trend (1995-2006 where possible; otherwise, at least 5 years to 2006)

Annual change: constant annual rate of change (in %); see Methodological Notes for further information.

Tendency:

↑ increase of more than 1% per year

↔ stable (increase or decrease of less than 1% per year)

↓ decrease of more than 1% per year

^^ not discernible

Source: Eurostat

Table 4 Crimes recorded by the police: Robbery

Robbery is a sub-set of "violent crime" (see Table 3). It is defined as stealing from a person with force or threat of force, including muggings (bag-snatching) and theft with violence. Pick-pocketing, extortion and blackmailing are generally not included. *For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.*

Country	1995	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	General trend		
								available years	annual change	tendency
Belgium	:	26 608	28 264	25 689	21 935	21 354	19 903	7	-5%	↓
Bulgaria	5 737	4 069	4 665	4 933	4 131	3 754	2 875	7	:	^^
Czech Republic	3 978	4 372	5 468	5 508	6 107	5 550	4 783	12	3%	↑
Denmark	4 112	5 872	6 033	5 884	5 733	5 199	5 048	12	:	^^
Germany	:	57 108	58 867	59 782	59 732	54 841	53 696	11	-2%	↓
Estonia	:	4 475	:	1 885	1 632	1 298	1 005	4	:	:
Ireland	:	1 744	1 688	1 719	1 478	1 138	1 250	7	:	^^
Greece	1 600	1 939	2 131	2 320	2 400	2 383	2 598	12	4%	↑
Spain	87 255	106 491	104 380	92 980	88 413	90 104	90 591	2	:	:
France	:	134 281	133 137	125 286	119 641	124 600	127 190	10	5%	↑
Italy	69 535	66 671	68 248	70 625	66 643	65 724	71 762	3	:	:
Cyprus	22	39	36	66	100	73	80	4	:	:
Latvia	:	3 059	2 664	2 503	2 467	2 163	2 248	1	:	:
Lithuania	2 837	4 185	4 535	4 919	5 323	5 206	4 343	4	:	:
Luxembourg	252	257	367	374	339	351	263	5	-7%	↓
Hungary	2 657	3 319	3 389	3 289	3 227	2 982	2 709	12	:	^^
Malta	:	160	156	195	265	256	222	9	:	^^
Netherlands	15 747	21 174	20 647	20 018	17 683	15 463	13 716	12	:	^^
Austria	:	2 824	3 638	4 434	4 798	4 770	5 095	5	8%	↑
Poland	20 252	41 208	40 345	44 086	41 287	36 347	29 472	12	6%	↑
Portugal	14 396	18 585	19 764	19 767	21 051	20 183	20 870	12	4%	↑
Romania	4 154	3 467	3 025	2 782	3 087	3 326	4 078	12	:	^^
Slovenia	292	503	449	349	398	429	521	12	:	^^
Slovakia	:	1 366	1 578	1 918	2 156	1 919	1 594	10	6%	↑
Finland	:	2 157	2 120	2 045	2 017	1 814	1 700	10	:	^^
Sweden	5 747	8 538	8 974	8 575	8 590	9 398	8 584	12	4%	↑
UK: England & Wales	68 074	121 359	110 271	103 736	91 010	98 198	101 370	5	:	^^
UK: Scotland	5 330	4 228	4 938	4 159	3 736	3 553	3 578	3	:	:
UK: Northern Ireland	1 539	2 222	2 497	1 973	1 487	1 744	1 574	5	:	^^
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	464	801	1 204	1 236	1 622	1 560	1 445	12	13%	↑
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	:	266	463	573	783	709	503	7	:	^^
Turkey	1 809	3 073	3 864	4 776	10 825	14 353	20 516	1	:	:
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	:	39	32	39	35	49	50	2	:	:
Liechtenstein	:	1	1	3	2	1	4	11	:	^^
Norway	891	1 392	1 548	1 437	1 596	1 448	1 388	12	5%	↑
Switzerland	3 315	3 822	3 968	4 344	4 749	3 977	4 088	12	:	^^

: Data not available or not comparable; no visible trend.

| Break in the series.

General trend (1995-2006 where possible; otherwise, at least 5 years to 2006)

Annual change: constant annual rate of change (in %); see Methodological Notes for further information.

Tendency:

↑ increase of more than 1% per year

↔ stable (increase or decrease of less than 1% per year)

↓ decrease of more than 1% per year

^^ not discernible

Source: Eurostat

Table 5 Crimes recorded by the police: Domestic burglary

Domestic burglary is defined as gaining access to a dwelling by the use of force to steal goods. For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.

Country	1995	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	General trend		
								available years	annual change	tendency
Belgium	:	81 433	88 564	70 913	60 845	61 310	67 550	7	-6%	↓
Bulgaria	80 671	36 269	31 639	28 210	25 565	22 379	23 460	7	-9%	↓
Czech Republic	32 476	21 100	23 359	22 292	20 122	16 872	14 964	12	-6%	↓
Denmark	32 363	32 274	35 557	33 879	32 956	29 439	31 204	12	:	↔
Germany	211 221	133 722	130 055	123 280	124 155	109 736	106 107	12	-6%	↓
Estonia	8 175	7 652	7 356	6 495	5 752	4 766	:	0	:	:
Ireland	18 506	14 877	15 474	16 436	16 148	17 012	15 513	7	:	↔
Greece	42 377	31 903	31 805	31 181	26 489	30 207	32 407	12	-4%	↓
Spain	76 610	99 066	93 751	88 128	81 552	81 495	80 981	2	:	:
France	237 624	210 850	224 223	216 797	202 880	181 503	177 840	12	:	↔
Italy	212 477	183 496	169 430	173 097	112 112	122 250	143 726	3	:	:
Cyprus	1 002	792	1 228	3 159	3 311	2 812	3 068	4	:	:
Latvia	:	5 439	5 177	5 327	6 031	4 310	4 624	1	:	:
Lithuania	7 462	8 647	6 989	8 573	9 174	7 065	6 637	4	:	:
Luxembourg	3 249	1 947	1 992	2 206	2 100	1 486	1 838	5	:	↔
Hungary	22 372	26 194	22 907	19 366	18 671	17 786	16 856	12	-5%	↓
Malta	:	618	679	682	782	1 113	856	8	:	↔
Netherlands	118 115	90 284	101 920	103 577	95 952	92 890	91 235	12	:	↔
Austria	13 721	13 008	12 674	13 429	20 276	21 227	18 945	5	:	↔
Poland	62 011	72 167	67 290	65 172	66 795	59 325	46 610	12	:	↔
Portugal	21 981	20 806	19 989	21 963	22 587	21 840	23 314	12	:	↔
Romania	31 163	17 551	12 001	10 063	10 002	9 135	9 165	12	-13%	↓
Slovenia	1 361	2 522	3 051	2 368	2 750	2 286	2 220	7	:	↔
Slovakia	4 480	3 144	2 785	2 642	3 023	2 809	2 602	12	-4%	↓
Finland	11 512	7 957	7 406	7 373	7 901	7 281	5 923	12	-5%	↓
Sweden	16 701	15 169	16 562	17 344	17 573	16 654	15 005	12	:	↔
UK: England & Wales	643 645	430 347	437 583	402 345	321 507	300 517	292 285	5	-10%	↓
UK: Scotland	44 725	30 181	29 623	24 828	23 613	21 232	20 429	3	:	:
UK: Northern Ireland	9 774	9 064	10 125	8 944	7 302	7 259	6 831	5	-9%	↓
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	:	4 037	4 174	4 125	3 734	3 396	2 981	7	:	↔
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	:	1 036	792	1 088	1 275	1 146	1 367	7	:	↔
Turkey	:	28 812	29 042	31 971	36 639	57 389	89 334	1	:	:
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	:	2 857	3 208	2 889	2 769	2 244	2 365	2	:	:
Liechtenstein	142	72	87	123	121	97	120	12	:	↔
Norway	18 382	9 641	10 482	10 475	8 613	8 136	7 268	12	-8%	↓
Switzerland	67 044	57 375	60 822	68 551	70 370	61 194	56 706	12	:	↔

: Data not available or not comparable; no visible trend.

| Break in the series.

General trend (1995-2006 where possible; otherwise, at least 5 years to 2006)

Annual change: constant annual rate of change (in %); see Methodological Notes for further information.

Tendency:

↑ increase of more than 1% per year

↔ stable (increase or decrease of less than 1% per year)

↓ decrease of more than 1% per year

↔ not discernible

Source: Eurostat

Table 6 Crimes recorded by the police: Theft of a motor vehicle

Motor vehicles include all land vehicles with an engine that run on the road which are used to carry people (including cars, motorcycles, buses, lorries, construction and agricultural vehicles, etc.). For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.

Country	1995	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	General trend		
								available years	annual change	tendency
Belgium	:	45 056	40 216	32 968	27 374	24 591	24 167	7	-13%	↓
Bulgaria	2 451	2 076	2 196	1 488	1 268	785	640	7	-21%	↓
Czech Republic	27 327	23 539	26 143	25 331	24 230	23 040	20 996	12	-3%	↓
Denmark	46 174	37 444	37 390	34 037	31 525	25 887	25 183	12	-6%	↓
Germany	262 620	121 533	116 230	109 846	107 920	96 451	90 224	12	-9%	↓
Estonia	1 955	2 818	2 628	2 099	1 840	1 929	:	0	:	:
Ireland	11 754	14 710	14 111	12 463	13 527	13 271	12 642	7	-3%	↓
Greece	:	5 459	5 385	5 865	5 568	5 860	6 799	11	:	^
Spain	98 848	158 898	156 232	138 829	126 902	120 946	117 663	2	:	:
France	453 525	418 983	382 148	328 678	285 680	260 538	243 153	12	-5%	↓
Italy	305 438	235 946	232 564	221 543	270 129	265 975	280 167	2	:	:
Cyprus	543	1 441	1 206	1 569	1 475	1 610	1 780	4	:	:
Latvia	2 774	2 769	2 845	3 369	2 960	2 023	2 168	1	:	:
Lithuania	5 206	6 626	6 484	7 022	6 330	4 541	3 460	4	:	:
Luxembourg	1 196	496	519	453	526	464	523	5	:	^
Hungary	18 391	12 585	11 569	12 240	10 969	10 770	10 058	12	-8%	↓
Malta	:	848	707	887	798	672	584	9	-8%	↓
Netherlands	46 909	43 068	42 428	34 271	30 652	25 928	22 667	12	-6%	↓
Austria	6 095	5 740	5 489	7 720	8 156	11 089	8 959	5	:	^
Poland	50 684	59 458	53 674	54 291	51 150	45 292	30 529	12	:	^
Portugal	17 360	26 162	30 250	29 934	29 237	25 716	24 495	12	:	^
Romania	2 687	1 952	1 297	1 127	1 120	1 082	1 266	12	-8%	↓
Slovenia	1 425	1 222	1 180	945	1 035	1 150	1 091	12	-5%	↓
Slovakia	7 696	5 344	5 099	5 295	6 000	5 591	5 525	12	-3%	↓
Finland	19 772	22 583	23 115	21 922	19 326	16 791	15 276	12	:	^
Sweden	70 299	73 309	75 593	67 199	60 980	56 719	51 639	12	-3%	↓
UK: England & Wales	508 450	328 115	318 507	291 858	242 732	214 182	193 410	5	-12%	↓
UK: Scotland	37 514	23 208	22 495	17 843	15 633	14 041	15 000	3	:	:
UK: Northern Ireland	7 794	11 635	8 410	5 369	4 456	3 721	3 418	5	-19%	↓
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	:	2 222	2 404	2 338	2 462	2 274	2 033	7	:	^
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	:	511	576	560	827	567	365	7	:	^
Turkey	15 192	20 535	20 740	25 443	25 667	33 344	33 091	1	:	:
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0	:	:
Liechtenstein	:	8	7	14	16	10	7	10	:	^
Norway	20 817	18 833	22 595	20 130	17 867	15 350	14 619	12	:	^
Switzerland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0	:	:

: Data not available or not comparable; no visible trend.

| Break in the series.

General trend (1995-2006 where possible; otherwise, at least 5 years to 2006)

Annual change: constant annual rate of change (in %); see Methodological Notes for further information.

Tendency:

↑ increase of more than 1% per year

↔ stable (increase or decrease of less than 1% per year)

↓ decrease of more than 1% per year

^ not discernible

Source: Eurostat

Table 7 Crimes recorded by the police: Drug trafficking

Drug trafficking includes illegal possession, cultivation, production, supplying, transportation, importing, exporting, financing etc. of drug operations which are not solely in connection with personal use. *For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.*

Country	1995	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	General trend		
								available years	annual change	tendency
Belgium	:	11 170	11 486	10 872	11 767	12 708	12 956	7	:	^^
Bulgaria	:	1 487	1 648	2 006	2 412	2 720	2 824	7	30%	↑
Czech Republic	:	3 198	3 359	2 818	2 301	2 267	2 248	7	-8%	↓
Denmark	:	889	1 053	1 091	1 066	961	1 111	7	:	^^
Germany	54 889	79 787	76 038	73 375	75 347	72 002	64 865	12	:	^^
Estonia	12	628	632	604	494	686	981	1	:	:
Ireland	:	2 198	2 632	2 430	2 273	2 751	3 160	7	8%	↑
Greece	2 930	9 693	10 001	10 556	7 761	8 393	8 152	12	8%	↑
Spain	15 119	12 160	12 133	11 742	11 947	11 968	12 711	2	:	:
France	5 661	4 047	5 165	6 094	6 296	6 108	5 792	7	7%	↑
Italy	38 269	36 045	37 965	37 288	30 053	32 059	32 306	3	:	:
Cyprus	157	397	433	475	514	611	654	4	:	:
Latvia	271	830	629	997	1 148	1 049	997	1	:	:
Lithuania	60	160	212	370	673	977	681	4	:	:
Luxembourg	764	1 077	1 321	1 133	1 342	1 326	1 201	5	:	^^
Hungary	438	4 332	4 790	3 387	6 678	7 626	6 740	12	29%	↑
Malta	:	:	:	:	78	113	123	3	:	:
Netherlands	4 248	10 380	12 752	15 633	15 662	15 305	16 361	12	13%	↑
Austria	2 058	2 399	2 320	2 506	2 443	2 337	2 377	5	:	^^
Poland	284	2 219	2 371	2 577	3 296	3 608	3 220	12	21%	↑
Portugal	4 512	3 853	4 053	3 739	3 654	3 535	3 610	12	:	^^
Romania	368	658	1 074	1 131	1 775	2 441	3 079	12	18%	↑
Slovenia	310	1 140	1 162	775	997	1 026	1 590	12	11%	↑
Slovakia	606	652	674	734	711	843	411	12	:	^^
Finland	9 052	14 869	6 617	5 974	5 269	5 177	4 837	5	-7%	↓
Sweden	6 924	5 086	5 259	5 129	4 905	4 670	6 449	8	:	^^
UK: England & Wales	21 272	19 686	22 435	24 628	24 190	25 276	26 570	5	4%	↑
UK: Scotland	7 974	10 293	10 327	9 044	9 333	9 613	10 890	3	:	:
UK: Northern Ireland	358	210	291	405	375	349	473	5	:	^^
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	:	8 609	8 717	7 992	7 529	8 186	8 346	7	:	^^
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	:	335	273	397	357	390	315	7	:	^^
Turkey	2 457	4 798	5 662	5 740	7 789	4 088	5 598	1	:	:
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	:	117	121	149	165	95	92	2	:	:
Liechtenstein	:	387	447	364	459	435	285	11	10%	↑
Norway	10 793	19 945	19 294	16 152	16 814	17 118	19 156	12	4%	↑
Switzerland	7 685	7 416	7 877	7 806	7 803	7 076	6 296	8	-2%	↓

: Data not available or not comparable; no visible trend.

| Break in the series.

General trend (1995-2006 where possible; otherwise, at least 5 years to 2006)

Annual change: constant annual rate of change (in %); see Methodological Notes for further information.

Tendency:

↑ increase of more than 1% per year

↔ stable (increase or decrease of less than 1% per year)

↓ decrease of more than 1% per year

^^ not discernible

Source: Eurostat

Prison population

Table 8 Prison population

Total number of adult and juvenile prisoners (including pre-trial detainees) at 1 September. Including offenders held in Prison Administration facilities, other facilities, juvenile offenders institutions, drug addicts institutions and psychiatric or other hospitals. Excluding non-criminal prisoners held for administrative purposes (for example, people held pending investigation into their immigration status). *For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.*

Country	1995	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	General trend			Rate per 100 000 population average per year from 2004 to 2006
								available years	annual change	tendency	
Belgium	7 478	8 544	8 605	9 308	9 249	9 330	9 573	12	2%	↑	90
Bulgaria	9 045	9 283	9 607	10 056	10 935	11 399	11 452	12	:	^^	145
Czech Republic	19 508	20 971	16 597	17 180	18 303	19 003	18 904	9	-3%	↓	183
Denmark	3 421	3 105	3 404	3 522	3 757	4 132	3 957	12	2%	↑	73
Germany	61 108	70 203	75 025	79 183	79 329	79 519	77 166	5	:	^^	95
Estonia	4 401	4 803	4 775	4 352	4 575	4 410	4 310	12	:	^^	329
Ireland	2 032	3 025	3 028	2 986	3 138	3 022	3 053	12	4%	↑	75
Greece	5 831	8 343	8 284	8 555	8 760	9 871	10 280	2	:	:	91
Spain	45 198	46 594	50 537	54 497	58 087	60 707	64 215	12	4%	↑	142
France	53 178	47 005	53 463	55 407	59 246	59 197	59 522	4	:	:	95
Italy	49 102	55 751	55 670	54 237	56 068	59 523	39 005	12	:	^^	88
Cyprus	202	369	351	355	546	536	599	12	10%	↑	75
Latvia	9 457	8 673	8 358	8 222	7 666	6 998	6 636	12	-4%	↓	308
Lithuania	13 228	10 750	11 345	8 957	7 838	7 951	7 982	12	-5%	↓	231
Luxembourg	453	341	391	455	577	735	738	12	:	^^	150
Hungary	12 455	17 275	17 838	16 507	16 543	15 720	14 740	12	:	^^	155
Malta	196	257	283	278	277	294	343	12	4%	↑	76
Netherlands	10 330	12 410	13 060	13 980	16 455	17 600	16 230	12	4%	↑	103
Austria	6 180	6 915	7 511	7 816	9 000	8 955	8 780	8	5%	↑	109
Poland	65 819	80 004	80 990	80 692	79 344	82 656	87 669	12	4%	↑	218
Portugal	11 829	13 210	13 772	13 635	12 956	12 687	12 446	12	:	^^	121
Romania	45 309	49 841	48 081	42 815	39 031	36 700	34 038	12	:	^^	169
Slovenia	648	1 155	1 120	1 099	1 126	1 132	1 127	12	6%	↑	56
Slovakia	7 979	7 509	7 849	8 829	9 504	9 289	8 657	12	:	^^	170
Finland	3 092	3 110	3 469	3 463	3 535	3 883	3 477	12	2%	↑	69
Sweden	6 285	6 089	6 506	6 755	7 332	7 054	7 175	12	3%	↑	80
UK: England & Wales	51 265	67 056	71 324	72 992	75 057	76 896	79 085	12	3%	↑	144
UK: Scotland	5 626	6 186	6 475	6 621	6 779	6 857	7 183	11	2%	↑	136
UK: Northern Ireland	1 740	872	1 029	1 128	1 219	1 325	1 501	12	:	^^	78
EU Candidate countries											
Croatia	:	2 679	2 641	2 803	3 010	3 485	3 833	7	7%	↑	77
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1 132	1 398	1 291	1 545	1 791	2 081	2 090	12	7%	↑	98
Turkey	46 091	55 609	59 187	64 296	57 930	55 870	70 426	12	:	^^	86
EFTA/EEA countries											
Iceland	:	110	107	112	115	119	119	7	5%	↑	40
Liechtenstein	76	86	67	67	59	62	48	12	:	^^	163
Norway	2 610	2 762	2 832	2 944	3 028	3 124	:	0	:	:	66
Switzerland	5 655	5 137	4 937	5 214	5 977	6 137	5 888	6	4%	↑	81

: Data not available or not comparable; no visible trend.

| Break in the series.

General trend (1995-2006 where possible; otherwise, at least 5 years to 2006)

Annual change: constant annual rate of change (in %); see Methodological Notes for further information.

Tendency:

↑ increase of more than 1% per year

↔ stable (increase or decrease of less than 1% per year)

↓ decrease of more than 1% per year

^^ not discernible

Rate per 100 000 population

average per year from 2004 to 2006 except:

2005-2006: Greece

2003-2005: Norway

Source: Eurostat

Police officers

Table 9 Number of police officers

All ranks of police officers including criminal police, traffic police, border police, gendarmerie, uniformed police, city guard, municipal police. Excluding civilian staff, customs officers, tax police, military police, secret service police, part-time officers, special duty police reserves, cadets, court police. *For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.*

Country	1995	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	General trend		
								available years	annual change	tendency
Belgium	:	37 432	37 242	36 318	37 008	38 911	38 963	2	:	:
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0	:	:
Czech Republic	:	44 940	45 538	46 616	47 232	45 498	46 032	11	1%	↔
Denmark	:	10 228	10 233	10 352	10 483	10 628	10 759	11	1%	↔
Germany	226 392	248 277	247 190	245 415	246 756	248 188	250 284	8	:	^^
Estonia	4 911	3 550	3 503	3 553	3 520	3 412	3 238	12	-3%	↓
Ireland	:	11 815	11 895	12 017	12 209	12 265	12 954	11	2%	↑
Greece	:	51 658	51 634	52 123	50 171	49 696	48 521	10	:	^^
Spain	:	182 748	188 884	188 668	200 886	203 655	210 419	8	3%	↑
France	:	231 795	235 116	233 250	235 792	234 966	241 998	11	1%	↔
Italy	:	270 696	272 282	323 482	325 632	329 012	324 339	4	:	:
Cyprus	3 805	4 467	4 531	4 773	4 903	4 999	5 119	12	3%	↑
Latvia	8 898	10 376	10 265	9 796	9 902	9 920	9 568	12	:	^^
Lithuania	14 526	12 159	11 678	11 910	11 526	11 216	11 301	12	-3%	↓
Luxembourg	1 076	1 205	1 254	1 304	1 352	1 403	1 447	7	3%	↑
Hungary	28 233	28 845	28 996	29 518	29 516	28 627	28 636	12	:	^^
Malta	:	1 768	1 796	1 845	1 775	1 798	1 755	9	:	^^
Netherlands	30 920	36 157	36 766	36 907	35 996	35 284	35 324	12	2%	↑
Austria	25 782	28 440	27 798	26 634	27 111	27 111	26 623	12	:	^^
Poland	99 588	101 246	99 502	99 919	100 770	100 654	99 083	12	:	^^
Portugal	:	48 399	48 060	47 417	47 949	47 174	48 082	11	1%	↔
Romania	49 712	44 390	45 245	45 690	45 770	46 875	45 219	12	-1%	↓
Slovenia	6 756	7 359	7 392	7 526	7 618	7 881	7 857	12	2%	↑
Slovakia	19 883	14 585	13 997	13 667	14 079	14 345	14 361	12	:	^^
Finland	:	8 273	8 323	8 288	8 247	8 237	8 312	10	1%	↔
Sweden	16 752	16 120	16 149	16 292	16 891	17 073	17 423	12	:	^^
UK: England & Wales	127 222	125 682	129 603	133 366	139 200	141 230	141 381	12	1%	↑
UK: Scotland	14 479	15 093	15 287	15 482	16 018	16 221	16 234	3	:	:
UK: Northern Ireland	:	9 492	9 070	8 986	8 936	8 579	8 354	8	-4%	↓
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	:	19 693	19 537	19 622	19 634	19 898	19 790	11	-2%	↓
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	:	6 162	7 683	8 357	9 231	9 815	9 776	7	7%	↑
Turkey	256 315	368 942	370 095	318 189	327 371	330 310	325 738	12	:	^^
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	:	:	678	678	671	679	688	5	:	^^
Liechtenstein	:	75	79	84	87	92	96	8	4%	↑
Norway	:	8 121	8 221	8 062	8 169	8 273	8 292	11	1%	↑
Switzerland	14 194	14 971	15 073	15 155	15 473	16 444	16 649	6	2%	↑

: Data not available or not comparable; no visible trend.

| Break in the series.

General trend (1995-2006 where possible; otherwise, at least 5 years to 2006)

Annual change: constant annual rate of change (in %); see Methodological Notes for further information.

Tendency:

↑ increase of more than 1% per year

↔ stable (increase or decrease of less than 1% per year)

↓ decrease of more than 1% per year

^^ not discernible

Source: Eurostat

➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Developing EU Statistics on crime and criminal justice

The need to provide information on the development of crime in the European Union was recognised in the Hague Programme¹ adopted by the European Council in 2004. In the coming years, a more comparable system of crime and criminal justice statistics will be developed, as outlined in the Commission communication² *Developing a comprehensive and coherent EU strategy to measure crime and criminal justice: an EU Action Plan 2006-2010*.

Data collection

The methodology used in this publication draws upon that developed by the European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics³, in particular the definition and measurement of criminal offences, and upon the Surveys on Crime Trends conducted by the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime⁴.

Figures for the United Kingdom are reported separately (as UK: England & Wales, UK: Scotland and UK: Northern Ireland), owing to the existence of three separate jurisdictions.

Comparisons

Most of the data are taken from information recorded or reported by the police. Comparisons of crime levels based on the absolute figures would be misleading, since they are affected by many factors, including:

- different legal and criminal justice systems
- rates at which crimes are reported to the police and recorded by them
- differences in the point at which crime is measured (for example, report to the police, identification of suspect, etc.)
- differences in the rules by which multiple offences are counted
- differences in the list of offences that are included in the overall crime figures

Figures for the prison population may also be affected by many factors, including

- number of cases dealt with by the courts
- the percentage receiving a custodial sentence
- the length of the sentences imposed
- the size of the population on remand
- the date of the survey, especially where amnesties (or other early or executive release arrangements) apply

For these reasons, direct comparisons of crime levels in different countries should be avoided. Rates per head of population (which might imply that such comparisons could be made) are therefore not presented in this publication, except in the case of homicide and the prison population, where the figures may be more readily comparable. In these cases, rates per 100 000 head of population averaged over 3 years have been calculated.

As a general rule, comparisons should be based upon trends rather than upon levels, on the assumption that the characteristics of the recording system within a country remain fairly constant over time. Even here, however, there are many exceptions as methods change, causing breaks in the series, indicated using the symbol '!'. The symbol ':' is used for some countries to indicate that definitional changes make such a comparison impossible. Fuller information on these changes is given on the Eurostat website.

Where national series without definitional changes are available (for the period 1995-2006 where possible; otherwise, at least 5 years to 2006), general trends for specific crime types (and total crime) have been estimated using the following exponential function to fit the observations:

$$\text{Crime type} = a * e^{(b * \text{time})}$$

This results in an estimate of the **annual change rate** as $e^{(b)-1}$, which is constant over time.

The **general trends** thus obtained have been classified into four groups to indicate the **tendency**: increasing, decreasing, stable (less than 1% annual change), not discernible (where the R² value in conjunction with the length of the time series and visual evidence suggested that there was no discernible trend). General trends for the EU were calculated by totalling the figures for countries where there were no definitional changes, and applying the same formula.

Eurostat website - data, metadata and analysis files

Fuller information is supplied on the Eurostat website. The website allows users access to the data, the metadata and the charts on which the analysis has been based.

There are tables on total crime from 1950 onwards and from 1993 for some specific offences, from 1993 for the number of police officers and from 1987 for the prison population.

For each table, notes are provided on the definitions which countries were asked to observe in assembling the figures. The relevant SDDS (Special Data Dissemination Standard format) metadata files provide details of the divergence of national figures from the proposed standard definition. As already noted above, comparability of the figures between countries is difficult to achieve and **users are strongly advised to consult the SDDS metadata files when referring to the figures**.

Data on other countries

In addition to the countries considered in this document (EU Member States, candidate countries and EFTA/EEA countries), information has also been collected (and is available via the Eurostat website) for some other countries: Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Russian Federation, U.S.A., South Africa. For fuller information on these and other non-EU countries, users should consult the UNODC website.

¹ [The Hague Programme](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/) Official Journal C 53 of 3.3.2005, p.11 at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>

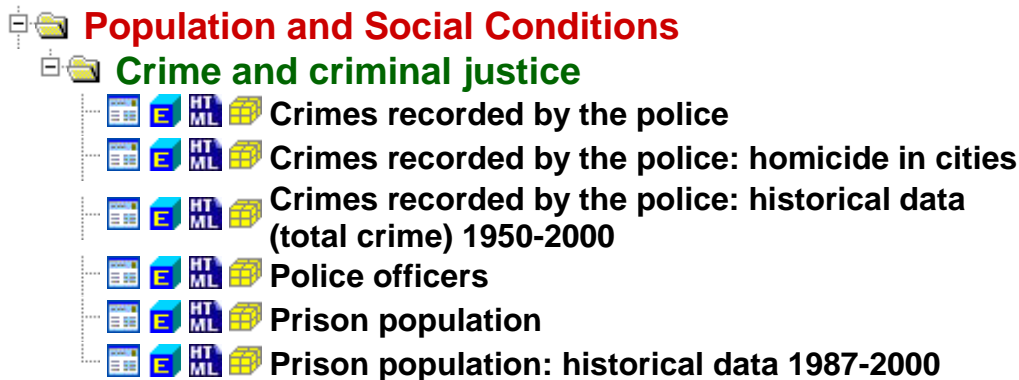
² [Commission communication](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/) COM/2006/437 final at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>

³ [European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics](http://www.europeansourcebook.org/index.html) <http://www.europeansourcebook.org/index.html>

⁴ [United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime_monitoring_surveys.html) http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime_monitoring_surveys.html

Further information:

Data: [EUROSTAT Website/Home page/Population and social conditions/Data](#)



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Acknowledgements

The authors wish to thank Albane GOURDOL and Elisabeth ROHNER-THIELEN for their assistance.