

Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics - Summary quality report on the 2015 data collection (to be read in conjunction with the Eurostat metadata files published in Eurobase)

May 2016

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1. Introduction

1.1. Background and data description

With The Hague programme adopted in 2004, the European Council stressed the lack of comparable data at EU level on crime. It explicitly gave a mandate to Eurostat to “establish European instruments for collecting, analysing and comparing information on crime and victimisation and their respective trends in Member States”. The Commission established the Action Plan 2006-2010 to develop a comprehensive and coherent EU strategy to measure crime and criminal justice. The first data collection with the reference year 2005 was organised in 2007 and figures on crime were then published by Eurostat.

The 2009 Stockholm Programme reiterated the need for “adequate, reliable and comparable statistics” on crime and criminal activities. In 2012, a new Action Plan covering the 2011-2015 period underlined the strategies to be adopted in order to improve the collection of crime statistics.

In 2014, Eurostat and the UNODC launched a joint annual data collection on crime and criminal justice statistics, using the UN crime questionnaire and a complementary Eurostat questionnaire for specific areas of interest to the European Commission. The data and metadata are collected from national statistical institutes or other relevant authorities (mainly police and justice departments) in each EU Member State, Candidate Country, potential Candidate Country and EFTA country. In total, the Eurostat data collection covers 41 jurisdictions.

This joint data collection allows the gathering of information on:

- offences, victims, suspects, persons prosecuted and persons convicted;
- the number of police, judges and other staff employed by criminal justice institutions; and
- the number of people detained in prison and prison capacity.

Where available, data are broken down by sex, age groups (adults/juveniles), and country of citizenship (foreigners or nationals).

On the Eurostat website, data are available for all 41 jurisdictions (EU-28, Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo¹, Turkey, Albania, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland.) National data are available and for some countries, city level data (largest cities) are available for intentional homicide offences.

The present quality report relates to the second joint Eurostat-UNODC statistical data collection on crime and criminal justice, for the reference year 2014. All the jurisdictions (except Iceland) provided data for this collection. More details on the missing data can be found in section 2 of this report.

¹ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

1.2. Statistical concepts and definitions

Countries were asked to adhere to standard definitions when compiling the figures and to provide details of any divergences.

The standard Eurostat-UNODC definitions used in the data collection are listed below. The historical data on crime and criminal justice published by Eurostat prior to 2008 are based on different definitions and cannot be directly compared with the data published at a national level from 2008.

OFFENCES RECORDED BY THE POLICE	
Intentional Homicide	Unlawful death purposefully inflicted on a person by another person. Data on intentional homicide should also include serious assault leading to death and death as a result of a terrorist attack. It should exclude attempted homicide, manslaughter, death due to legal intervention, justifiable homicide in self-defence and death due to armed conflict.
Assault	Physical attack against the body of another person resulting in serious bodily injury, excluding indecent/sexual assault, threats and slapping/punching. 'Assault' leading to death should also be excluded.
Rape	Definition: Sexual intercourse without valid consent. In the current definition used by the UNODC, offences of statutory rape where the victim is below the age of consent are classified separately as sexual offences against children.
Sexual Assault	Sexual violence not amounting to rape. It includes an unwanted sexual act, an attempt to obtain a sexual act, or contact or communication with unwanted sexual attention not amounting to rape. It also includes sexual assault with or without physical contact including drug-facilitated sexual assault, sexual assault committed against a marital partner against her/his will, sexual assault against a helpless person, unwanted groping or fondling, harassment and threat of a sexual nature
Robbery	Theft of property from a person, overcoming resistance by force or threat of force. Where possible, the category "robbery" should include muggings (bag-snatching) and theft with violence, but should exclude pick-pocketing and extortion.
Kidnapping	Unlawfully detaining a person or persons against their will (including through the use of force, threat, fraud or enticement) for the purpose of demanding for their liberation an illicit gain or any other economic gain or other material benefit, or in order to oblige someone to do or not to do something. "Kidnapping" excludes disputes over child custody.
Theft	Depriving a person or organisation of property without force with the intent to keep it. "Theft" excludes burglary, housebreaking, robbery, and theft of a motorized land vehicle, which are recorded separately.
Theft of a Motorised Land Vehicle	Removal of a motor vehicle without the consent of the owner of the vehicle. "Motor vehicle" includes all land vehicles with an engine that run on the road, including cars, motorcycles, buses, lorries, construction and agricultural vehicles.
Burglary	Gaining unauthorised access to a part of building/dwelling or other premises, including by use of force, with the intent to steal goods (breaking and entering). "Burglary" should include, where possible, theft from a house, apartment or other dwelling place, factory, shop or office, from a military establishment, or by using false keys. It should exclude theft from a car, from a container, from a vending machine, from a parking meter and from a fenced meadow/compound.
Burglary of Private Residential Premises (Domestic Burglary)	Gaining access to a dwelling by the use of force to steal goods. Burglary of a house, apartment or other dwelling place.
Unlawful Acts Involving Controlled Drugs or Precursors	Illegal possession, cultivation, production, supplying, transportation, importing, exporting, financing etc. of drug operations which are not solely in connection with personal use.

SUSPECTS AND OFFENDERS WITHIN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM	
Persons Brought into Formal Contact with the Police and/or Criminal Justice System	Includes persons suspected, or arrested or cautioned for a criminal offence, at the national level.
Persons Prosecuted	Alleged offenders against whom prosecution commenced in the reporting year. Persons may be prosecuted by the public prosecutor or the law enforcement agency responsible for prosecution, at the national level, irrespective of the case-ending decision.
Persons Convicted	Persons found guilty by any legal body authorized to pronounce a conviction under national criminal law, whether or not the conviction was later upheld. The total number of persons convicted should also include persons convicted of serious special law offences but exclude persons convicted of minor road traffic offences, misdemeanours and other petty offences
Persons Acquitted	Persons found not guilty of a criminal offence by any legal body authorized under national criminal law, whether or not the acquittal was later upheld, at the national level. The total number of persons acquitted should also include persons acquitted of serious special law offences but exclude persons acquitted of minor road traffic offences and other petty offences.
Persons Held	Number of Persons held in prisons, penal Institutions or correctional institutions on a specified day and should excluding exclude non-criminal prisoners held for administrative purposes - for example, persons held pending investigation into their immigration status or foreign citizens without a legal right to stay. The number of persons held in relation to the offences of intentional homicide, rape and sexual assault concern sentenced prisoners only.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERSONNEL	
Police Officers	Personnel in public agencies as at 31 December whose principal functions are the prevention, detection and investigation of crime and the apprehension of alleged offenders. Data concerning support staff (secretaries, clerks, etc.) are excluded.
Professional Judges	Both full time and part time official legal professionals as at 31 December authorized to hear civil, criminal and other cases, including in appeal courts, and to make dispositions in a court of law, who have been recruited and are paid to practice as a judge. This category excludes non-professional judges such as lay judges and lay magistrates.
Prison Personnel	All individuals employed in penal or correctional institutions as at 31 December, including management, treatment, custodial and other (maintenance, food service etc.) personnel.

CASES PROCESSED BY THE COURTS	
Criminal Cases	Any cases processed under national criminal law
Civil/Commercial Cases	Any cases processed under national civil/commercial law.
Administrative Cases	Any cases processed under national administrative law.
Other Cases	Any other cases processed under national law.
Cases Brought to Court	Number of proceedings initiated in court during the reporting period that were not already under consideration by the court in the previous reporting period.
Cases Resolved	Number of proceedings finalized/disposed of by a court decision during the reporting period, whether through a decision on the merit, a withdrawal of the claim, a settlement or a rejection on formal grounds, and whether this decision is later upheld or not.
Cases Pending	Number of proceedings that are not finalized/disposed of as at 31 December.

PRISON CAPACITY	
Official Prison Capacity	The intended number of places available as at 31 December without overcrowding, excluding places/capacity used for detention of persons on the basis of immigration status.

1.3. Statistical Unit

Crime statistics involve several kinds of statistical units.

The basic statistical units in crime statistics are the criminal offences recorded by the police but there are other statistical units such as:

- cases processed by the courts
- persons brought into formal contact with the police and/or criminal justice system
- victims of specific crimes
- persons prosecuted, convicted, acquitted, or held in prison
- persons working in specific roles within the criminal justice system
- places in prisons

2. Relevance and completeness

The need to provide information on the development of crime in the European Union was recognized in the Hague Programme adopted by the European Council in 2004. A more comparable system of crime and criminal justice statistics is being developed over time, as outlined in the Commission Communication of 18 January 2012, "Measuring crime in the EU: Statistics Action Plan 2011-2015"².

All the data are disseminated on Eurostat's website provided they have been approved by the national statistical authorities. For 2014, Iceland did not provide any data.

In the Eurobase tables published on the Eurostat website, some data are missing for certain countries. The missing data items are shown in red for each of the following Eurobase tables:

Table 1. Recorded offences by offence category (source: police data) (crim_off_cat)

Table 2. Intentional homicide and sexual offences by legal status and sex of the person involved - number and rate for the relevant sex group (crim_hom_soff)

Table 3. Intentional homicide victims by victim-offender relationship and sex - number and rate for the relevant sex group (crim_hom_vrel)

Table 4. Intentional homicide victims by age and sex - number and rate for the relevant sex and age groups (crim_hom_vage)

Table 5. Intentional homicide victims in largest cities by sex (crim_hom_vcit)

Table 6. Intentional homicide offences in largest cities (crim_hom_ocit)

Table 7. Suspects and offenders by sex - number and rate for the relevant sex group (crim_just_sex)

Table 8. Suspects and offenders by age - number and rate for the relevant age group (crim_just_age)

Table 9. Suspects and offenders by citizenship (crim_just_ctz)

Table 10. Personnel in the criminal justice system by sex - number and rate for the relevant sex group (crim_just_job)

Table 11. Legal cases processed in first instance courts by legal status of the court process (crim_crt_case)

Table 12. Persons brought before criminal courts by legal status of the court process (crim_crt_per)

Table 13. Prisoners by offence category and sex - number and rate for the relevant sex group (crim_pris_off)

Table 14. Prison capacity and number of persons held (crim_pris_cap)

Table 15. Prisoners by age and sex - number and rate for the relevant sex and age groups (crim_pris_age)

Table 16. Prisoners by citizenship (crim_pris_ctz)

Table 17. Prisoners by legal status of the trial process (crim_pris_tri)

All tables refer to the reference year 2014.

² COM/2011/713 final at:
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2011:0713:FIN:EN:PDF>

Table 1. Recorded offences by offence category

	Intentional homicide	Attempted intentional homicide	Assault	Kidnapping	Sexual violence	Rape	Sexual assault	Robbery	Burglary	Burglary of private residential premises	Theft	Theft of a motorized land vehicle	Unlawful acts involving controlled drugs or precursors
Belgium													
Bulgaria													
Czech Republic													
Denmark													
Germany													
Estonia													
Ireland													
Greece													
Spain													
France													
Croatia													
Italy													
Cyprus													
Latvia													
Lithuania													
Luxembourg													
Hungary													
Malta													
Netherlands													
Austria													
Poland													
Portugal													
Romania													
Slovenia													
Slovakia													
Finland													
Sweden													
UK- England and Wales													
UK- Scotland													
UK- Northern Ireland													
Iceland													
Liechtenstein													
Norway													
Switzerland													
Montenegro													
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia													
Albania													
Turkey													
Serbia													
Bosnia and Herzegovina													
Kosovo													

Table 3 Intentional homicide victims by victim-offender relationship and sex

	Family and relatives			Intimate partner		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Belgium	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Bulgaria	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Czech Republic	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Denmark	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Germany	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Estonia	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Ireland	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Greece	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Spain	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
France	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Croatia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Italy	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Cyprus	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Latvia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Lithuania	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Luxembourg	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Hungary	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Malta	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Netherlands	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Austria	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Poland	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Portugal	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Romania	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Slovenia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Slovakia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Finland	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Sweden	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
UK- England and Wales	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
UK- Scotland	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
UK- Northern Ireland	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Iceland	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Liechtenstein	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Norway	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Switzerland	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Montenegro	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Albania	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red
Turkey	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Serbia	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Kosovo	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red

Table 4 Intentional homicide victims by age and sex

	TOTAL			Less than 15 years			From 15- 29 years			From 30-44 years			From 45 to 59 years			60 years and over		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Belgium																		
Bulgaria																		
Czech Republic																		
Denmark																		
Germany																		
Estonia																		
Ireland																		
Greece																		
Spain																		
France																		
Croatia																		
Italy																		
Cyprus																		
Latvia																		
Lithuania																		
Luxembourg																		
Hungary																		
Malta																		
Netherlands																		
Austria																		
Poland																		
Portugal																		
Romania																		
Slovenia																		
Slovakia (*)																		
Finland																		
Sweden																		
UK- England and Wales																		
UK- Scotland																		
UK- Northern Ireland																		
Iceland																		
Liechtenstein																		
Norway																		
Switzerland																		
Montenegro																		
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia																		
Albania																		
Turkey																		
Serbia																		
Bosnia and Herzegovina																		
Kosovo																		

(*) Less than 15 years = [0,18] / From 15-29 years = [19-30] / From 30-44 years = [31-59] / From 45 to 59 years = (included in from 30-44 years) / 60 years and over = [60+]

Tables 5 and 6 Intentional homicide victims in largest cities by sex and Intentional homicide offences in largest cities

	Intentional homicide victims	Intentional homicide violence
Belgium	Red	Green
Bulgaria	Green	Green
Czech Republic	Green	Green
Denmark	Green	Red
Germany	Green	Green
Estonia	Red	Green
Ireland	Red	Red
Greece	Red	Green
Spain	Green	Green
France	Red	Green
Croatia	Green	Green
Italy	Green	Green
Cyprus	Green	Green
Latvia	Green	Green
Lithuania	Red	Green
Luxembourg	Red	Green
Hungary	Green	Green
Malta	Green	Green
Netherlands	Green	Red
Austria	Green	Green
Poland	Red	Green
Portugal	Red	Green
Romania	Red	Green
Slovenia	Green	Green
Slovakia	Green	Green
Finland	Green	Green
Sweden	Red	Red
UK- England and Wales	Red	Red
UK- Scotland	Green	Green
UK- Northern Ireland	Green	Green
Iceland	Red	Red
Liechtenstein	Red	Green
Norway	Green	Green
Switzerland	Green	Green
Montenegro	Green	Green
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Green	Green
Albania	Green	Green
Turkey	Green	Green
Serbia	Red	Red
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Green	Green
Kosovo	Red	Green

Note: the breakdown of intentional homicide victims in largest cities by sex was not collected in 2014 (only from 2008 to 2013)

Tables 7 Suspects and offenders by sex

	Suspected person			Prosecuted person			Convicted person		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Belgium									
Bulgaria									
Czech Republic									
Denmark									
Germany									
Estonia									
Ireland									
Greece									
Spain									
France									
Croatia									
Italy									
Cyprus									
Latvia									
Lithuania									
Luxembourg									
Hungary									
Malta									
Netherlands									
Austria									
Poland									
Portugal									
Romania									
Slovenia									
Slovakia									
Finland									
Sweden									
UK- England and Wales									
UK- Scotland									
UK- Northern Ireland									
Iceland									
Liechtenstein									
Norway									
Switzerland									
Montenegro									
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia									
Albania									
Turkey									
Serbia									
Bosnia and Herzegovina									
Kosovo									

Tables 8 Suspects and offenders by age

	Suspected person			Prosecuted person			Convicted person		
	Total	Adult	Juvenile	Total	Adult	Juvenile	Total	Adult	Juvenile
Belgium									
Bulgaria									
Czech Republic									
Denmark									
Germany									
Estonia									
Ireland									
Greece									
Spain									
France									
Croatia									
Italy									
Cyprus									
Latvia									
Lithuania									
Luxembourg									
Hungary									
Malta									
Netherlands									
Austria									
Poland (*)									
Portugal									
Romania									
Slovenia									
Slovakia									
Finland									
Sweden									
UK- England and Wales									
UK- Scotland									
UK- Northern Ireland									
Iceland									
Liechtenstein (**)									
Norway									
Switzerland									
Montenegro									
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia									
Albania									
Turkey									
Serbia									
Bosnia and Herzegovina									
Kosovo									

(*) *Poland*: Due to change in recording system the data "Prosecuted person – Juvenile" is no more available

(**) *Liechtenstein*: Total of prosecuted person = Adult Prosecuted persons

Tables 9 Suspects and offenders by citizenship

	Suspected person			Prosecuted person			Convicted person		
	Total	Reporting country	Foreign country	Total	Reporting country	Foreign country	Total	Reporting country	Foreign country
Belgium	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Bulgaria	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Czech Republic	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Denmark	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Germany	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Estonia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Ireland	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Greece	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Spain	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
France	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Croatia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Italy	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Cyprus	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Latvia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Lithuania	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Luxembourg	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Hungary	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Malta	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Netherlands	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Austria	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Poland	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Portugal	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Romania	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Slovenia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Slovakia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Finland	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Sweden	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
UK- England and Wales	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
UK- Scotland	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
UK- Northern Ireland	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Iceland	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Liechtenstein	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Norway	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Switzerland	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Montenegro	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Albania	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Turkey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Serbia	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Kosovo	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green

Tables 10 Personnel in the criminal justice system by sex

	Professional judges			Police officers			Personnel in adult prison			Personnel in juvenile prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Belgium												
Bulgaria												
Czech Republic												
Denmark												
Germany												
Estonia												
Ireland												
Greece												
Spain												
France												
Croatia												
Italy												
Cyprus												
Latvia												
Lithuania												
Luxembourg												
Hungary												
Malta												
Netherlands												
Austria												
Poland												
Portugal												
Romania												
Slovenia												
Slovakia												
Finland												
Sweden												
UK- England and Wales												
UK- Scotland												
UK- Northern Ireland												
Iceland												
Liechtenstein												
Norway												
Switzerland												
Montenegro												
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia												
Albania												
Turkey												
Serbia												
Bosnia and Herzegovina												
Kosovo												

Tables 11 Legal cases processed in first instance courts by legal status of the court process

	Criminal cases			Civil and/or commercial cases			Administrative cases			Other cases		
	Brought to court	Resolved	Pending	Brought to court	Resolved	Pending	Brought to court	Resolved	Pending	Brought to court	Resolved	Pending
Belgium												
Bulgaria												
Czech Republic												
Denmark												
Germany												
Estonia												
Ireland												
Greece												
Spain												
France												
Croatia												
Italy												
Cyprus												
Latvia												
Lithuania												
Luxembourg												
Hungary												
Malta												
Netherlands												
Austria												
Poland												
Portugal												
Romania												
Slovenia												
Slovakia												
Finland												
Sweden												
UK- England and Wales												
UK- Scotland												
UK- Northern Ireland												
Iceland												
Liechtenstein												
Norway												
Switzerland												
Montenegro												
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia												
Albania												
Turkey												
Serbia												
Bosnia and Herzegovina												
Kosovo												

Tables 12 Persons brought before criminal courts by legal status of the court process

	Convicted person	Acquitted person
Belgium	Red	Red
Bulgaria	Green	Green
Czech Republic	Green	Green
Denmark	Green	Green
Germany	Green	Green
Estonia	Green	Green
Ireland	Red	Green
Greece	Red	Red
Spain	Green	Green
France	Green	Green
Croatia	Green	Green
Italy	Green	Red
Cyprus	Green	Green
Latvia	Green	Green
Lithuania	Green	Green
Luxembourg	Red	Red
Hungary	Green	Green
Malta	Red	Red
Netherlands	Green	Green
Austria	Green	Green
Poland	Green	Red
Portugal	Red	Red
Romania	Green	Red
Slovenia	Green	Green
Slovakia	Green	Green
Finland	Green	Green
Sweden	Green	Red
UK- England and Wales	Green	Red
UK- Scotland	Red	Red
UK- Northern Ireland	Green	Green
Iceland	Red	Red
Liechtenstein	Red	Red
Norway	Red	Red
Switzerland	Red	Red
Montenegro	Green	Green
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Green	Red
Albania	Green	Green
Turkey	Green	Green
Serbia	Green	Green
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Green	Green
Kosovo	Green	Green

Tables 13 Prisoners by offence category and sex

	Intentional homicide			Rape			Sexual assault		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Belgium									
Bulgaria									
Czech Republic									
Denmark									
Germany									
Estonia									
Ireland									
Greece									
Spain									
France									
Croatia									
Italy									
Cyprus									
Latvia									
Lithuania									
Luxembourg									
Hungary									
Malta									
Netherlands									
Austria									
Poland									
Portugal									
Romania									
Slovenia									
Slovakia									
Finland									
Sweden									
UK- England and Wales									
UK- Scotland									
UK- Northern Ireland									
Iceland									
Liechtenstein									
Norway									
Switzerland									
Montenegro									
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia									
Albania									
Turkey									
Serbia									
Bosnia and Herzegovina									
Kosovo									

Tables 14 Prison capacity and number of persons held

	Official prison capacity - persons	Actual number of persons held in prison
Belgium	Red	Red
Bulgaria	Green	Green
Czech Republic	Green	Green
Denmark	Red	Green
Germany	Red	Green
Estonia	Red	Green
Ireland	Green	Green
Greece	Green	Green
Spain	Red	Green
France	Green	Green
Croatia	Green	Green
Italy	Green	Green
Cyprus	Red	Red
Latvia	Green	Green
Lithuania	Green	Green
Luxembourg	Red	Red
Hungary	Green	Green
Malta	Green	Green
Netherlands	Green	Green
Austria	Green	Green
Poland	Green	Green
Portugal	Green	Green
Romania	Green	Green
Slovenia	Green	Green
Slovakia	Green	Green
Finland	Red	Green
Sweden	Green	Green
UK- England and Wales	Red	Green
UK- Scotland	Red	Green
UK- Northern Ireland	Green	Green
Iceland	Red	Red
Liechtenstein	Green	Green
Norway	Red	Red
Switzerland	Red	Green
Montenegro	Red	Green
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Red	Red
Albania	Green	Green
Turkey	Green	Green
Serbia	Green	Green
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Green	Green
Kosovo	Green	Green

Tables 15 Prisoners by age and sex

	Total			Male			Female		
	Total	Adult	Juvenile	Total	Adult	Juvenile	Total	Adult	Juvenile
Belgium									
Bulgaria									
Czech Republic									
Denmark									
Germany (*)									
Estonia									
Ireland									
Greece									
Spain									
France									
Croatia									
Italy									
Cyprus									
Latvia									
Lithuania									
Luxembourg									
Hungary									
Malta									
Netherlands									
Austria									
Poland									
Portugal (*)									
Romania									
Slovenia									
Slovakia									
Finland									
Sweden									
UK- England and Wales									
UK- Scotland									
UK- Northern Ireland									
Iceland									
Liechtenstein									
Norway									
Switzerland									
Montenegro									
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia									
Albania									
Turkey									
Serbia									
Bosnia and Herzegovina (*)									
Kosovo									

(*) Total of prisoners = Total of adult prisoners if juvenile prisoners missing

Tables 16 Prisoners by citizenship

	Total	Reporting country	Foreign country
Belgium			
Bulgaria			
Czech Republic			
Denmark			
Germany			
Estonia			
Ireland			
Greece			
Spain			
France			
Croatia			
Italy			
Cyprus			
Latvia			
Lithuania			
Luxembourg			
Hungary			
Malta			
Netherlands			
Austria			
Poland			
Portugal			
Romania			
Slovenia			
Slovakia			
Finland			
Sweden			
UK- England and Wales			
UK- Scotland			
UK- Northern Ireland			
Iceland			
Liechtenstein			
Norway			
Switzerland			
Montenegro			
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia			
Albania			
Turkey			
Serbia			
Bosnia and Herzegovina			
Kosovo			

Tables 17 Prisoners by legal status of the trial process

	Pre-trial	Sentence passed
Belgium	Red	Red
Bulgaria	Green	Green
Czech Republic	Green	Green
Denmark	Green	Green
Germany	Green	Green
Estonia	Green	Green
Ireland	Green	Green
Greece	Green	Green
Spain	Green	Green
France	Green	Green
Croatia	Green	Green
Italy	Green	Green
Cyprus	Red	Red
Latvia	Green	Green
Lithuania	Green	Green
Luxembourg	Red	Red
Hungary	Green	Green
Malta	Green	Green
Netherlands	Green	Green
Austria	Green	Green
Poland	Green	Green
Portugal	Green	Green
Romania	Green	Green
Slovenia	Green	Green
Slovakia	Green	Green
Finland	Green	Green
Sweden	Green	Green
UK- England and Wales	Green	Green
UK- Scotland	Green	Green
UK- Northern Ireland	Green	Green
Iceland	Red	Red
Liechtenstein	Green	Green
Norway	Red	Red
Switzerland	Green	Green
Montenegro	Green	Green
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Red	Red
Albania	Green	Green
Turkey	Green	Green
Serbia	Green	Green
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Green	Green
Kosovo	Green	Green

3. Accuracy and reliability

National practices and methodologies concerning the recording of crime statistics are not harmonized across European countries.

One key issue affecting the reliability of the crime statistics is the fact that not all crimes are reported to the police. Moreover, police-recorded data depend on law enforcement policies and police-recording practices. For example, special law enforcement initiatives aimed at particular offences can lead to a sudden increase in the number of these crimes being recorded, even when the actual prevalence of such crimes remains unchanged. Furthermore, the way incidents are recorded can vary within and across jurisdictions:

- Some incidents reported may not be treated as criminal offences
- Similar incidents may be recorded under different criminal offences
- The initial offence recorded may change in the light of evidence gathered during the investigation stage

The counting rules used to record crimes can also affect the number and type of crimes recorded (see Section 5).

After an investigation is completed a decision is taken on whether or not to pass the case on for prosecution.

Court statistics reflect the number of cases processed by the courts and First Instance decisions. However, conviction decisions may be changed at a later stage following a successful appeal. Also some offences are treated as criminal offences in one jurisdiction and as lower level misdemeanour offences in another jurisdiction.

Prison statistics provide information on the number of prisoners and prison capacity. However the prison numbers relate to a single day in the year which may not be representative of the average across the year.

4. Timeliness and punctuality

Data collected from the criminal justice system sum up offences, cases or persons recorded over the course of a year, usually from the 1st of January to the 31st of December of the reference year (some jurisdictions however use different reference dates). The data for the reference year Y are requested for the 15th of September of year Y+1.

After the validation checks have been applied to the data, the countries are consulted again to revise any inconsistencies or to provide additional reference metadata. In 2014 the date set for countries to return the revised questionnaire was 7 December 2015. Following data validation the data are published on the Eurostat website, normally within at 18 months of the reference year.

The timeliness of national data deliveries is as follows:

	Collection stage	Validation stage
Belgium	Red	Light Green
Bulgaria	Dark Green	Dark Green
Czech Republic	Dark Green	Dark Green
Denmark	Light Green	Dark Green
Germany	Yellow	Dark Green
Estonia	Light Green	Orange
Ireland	Light Green	Yellow
Greece	Yellow	Light Green
Spain	Yellow	Dark Green
France	Red	Red
Croatia	Light Green	Dark Green
Italy	Red	Light Green
Cyprus	Light Green	Yellow
Latvia	Dark Green	Dark Green
Lithuania	Dark Green	Dark Green
Luxembourg	Light Green	Red
Hungary	Dark Green	Light Green
Malta	Dark Green	Dark Green
Netherlands	Light Green	Dark Green
Austria	Yellow	Dark Green
Poland	Light Green	Dark Green
Portugal	Dark Green	Dark Green
Romania	Dark Green	Light Green
Slovenia	Dark Green	Light Green
Slovakia	Dark Green	Dark Green
Finland	Dark Green	Dark Green
Sweden	Dark Green	Dark Green
UK- England and Wales	Dark Green	Orange
UK- Scotland	Dark Green	Red
UK- Northern Ireland	Dark Green	Orange
Iceland	Purple	Purple
Liechtenstein	Dark Green	Dark Green
Norway	Red	Dark Green
Switzerland	Light Green	Light Green
Montenegro	Dark Green	Dark Green
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Yellow	Purple
Albania	Dark Green	Light Green
Turkey	Red	Orange
Serbia	Dark Green	Dark Green
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Yellow	Light Green
Kosovo	Light Green	Dark Green

Legend

Dark Green	≤ deadline
Light Green	≤ deadline + 2 weeks
Yellow	≤ deadline + 5 weeks
Orange	≤ deadline + 9 weeks
Red	> deadline + 12 weeks
Purple	not collected

5. Coherence and comparability

The internal coherence of the data is checked with basic validation rules (see Section 8.4).

The comparability of the crime recorded across different countries is affected by the different policing, legal and criminal justice systems. Each system is organized around its own rules, definitions and methodologies³.

Police and prosecution authorities in jurisdictions may use different units for recording offences. For instance police often count the “offence” but in some jurisdictions the “case” or “investigation” is also used.

In the majority of jurisdictions⁴, the police use the offence as the counting unit. The counting unit used by the prosecution is in most cases the person-charge unit. Also, the point in time when the offence is recorded in the statistics differs among countries.

Offences recorded by the Police can be registered:

- at the time the offence is first reported to the police (referred to as 'INPUT' statistics)
- after the offence is first reported, but before a full investigation (referred to as 'PROCESS' statistics)
- after the offence has been investigated (referred to as 'OUTPUT' statistics).

Court statistics can also be counted BEFORE or AFTER a case is appealed.

Jurisdictions have different rules regarding how multiple (serial) offences of the same type are recorded. Multiple offences of the same type can be counted as ‘one offence’ or as ‘two or more offences’. Most countries count the multiple offences as two or more offences⁵.

An offence can also be counted differently when more than one person commits the offence. The offence can be counted as one offence or as two or more offences. In most jurisdictions⁶, the police count these cases as one offence.

The comparability across countries is also affected by other national methodological rules (e.g. the use of the principal offence rule⁷, counting of persons for multiple offences of the same type, counting the same person multiple times in the same year and the thresholds applied for adult and juvenile age).

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

- number of criminal cases dealt with by the courts
- the percentage of offenders receiving a custodial sentence
- the length of the sentences imposed
- the size of the pre-trial population held on remand
- the date of the survey, especially where amnesties apply

³ The details are provided in the metadata tables.

⁴ Some countries did not provide information on their counting rule.

⁵ The details are provided in the metadata tables

⁶ The details are provided in the metadata tables.

⁷ A “Principal Offence Rule” means that where more than one offence is committed simultaneously, only the most serious offence is recorded.

All the points mentioned should be taken into account when comparing data between jurisdictions, as these factors can all lead to misleading comparisons.

Attention should also be paid to any change to the recording system within a country.

The comparability of the data over time is checked before dissemination as part of the data validation process. Countries are asked to indicate any change in the methodology used, definition applied or counting rules used. Significant changes arising from changes in national methodologies or procedures are reported as breaks in series.

6. Accessibility and clarity, dissemination format

Tables are available on-line and are updated annually within 18 months of the reference year.

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/crime/overview>

Eurostat also makes available a series of publications online. The "Statistics Explained" pages on the Eurostat website give information on general trends in crime and criminal justice:

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Crime_and_criminal_justice_statistics

From 2007, Statistics in Focus publications are also available in the Eurostat website. These publications are complemented by a methodological guide that informs users of the limitations of using and comparing national administrative data on crime and criminal justice. The guide include references to the different legal systems which influence the definitions and processing of criminal offences and the different ways offences are counted within the criminal justice system.

7. Cost and burden

The crime statistics collected by Eurostat are based on existing data compiled by national administrative sources.

Also, the introduction of a joint data collection between Eurostat and UNODC avoids duplication of data collections and unnecessary response burden for the data providers.

The two data collection questionnaires (one for UNODC, one for specific EU needs) are structured in the same way to facilitate the completion of the questionnaires. In addition, Eurostat provides guidance notes and a helpdesk facility to support the national contact points when completing the questionnaires.

8. Statistical processing

8.1 Source data

The crime statistics published annually are derived from administrative sources covering the four different stages of the criminal justice system: police, prosecution, courts and prison services.

8.2 Data collection

Since 2014, Eurostat annually collects data on crime and criminal justice jointly with the UNODC. Eurostat is responsible of the collection for 41 jurisdictions.

Two separate questionnaires are sent to the Eurostat contact point in each jurisdiction. The UNODC questionnaire includes 15 sheets to be filled in and is complemented by the Eurostat questionnaire. The Eurostat questionnaire comprises 7 sheets containing questions required by the European Commission for its specific policy areas.

Because of the diversity of the collected data, various actors are usually involved in the collection of data for each jurisdiction. Each national contact point is responsible for distributing the questionnaire to the appropriate data producers in the jurisdiction. The national contact point is then responsible for returning a completed and consolidated response to Eurostat.

8.3 Data validation

As soon as the survey questionnaires are received through the Eurostat electronic Data files Administration and Management Information System (eDAMIS), the data provided are checked through a set of validation rules. The validation rules consist of checks for completeness of data, internal consistency of the data, consistency over time and coherence with other relevant data sources.

As regards to the consistency of the data, Eurostat systematically checks if the following basic rules are respected:

- The sum of the subtotals (men and women, adults and juveniles, nationals and foreigners) should be equal to the total.
- Large revisions of data require confirmation and explanations from countries
- Large variation from one year to the next require confirmation and explanations from countries

The contact points are contacted to resolve or comment on any issues revealed by the data checking and/or to add any missing data or metadata. The data are deemed validated when all the issues addressed by Eurostat have been resolved or explained by the contact points.