

Crime and Criminal Justice

Recent work at European level to improve the comparability of the data makes it possible to make some analysis of trends in crime and criminal justice.

National sources of information about crime show considerable differences in approach and coverage, which makes it necessary to exercise caution in making direct comparisons between countries.

Main findings

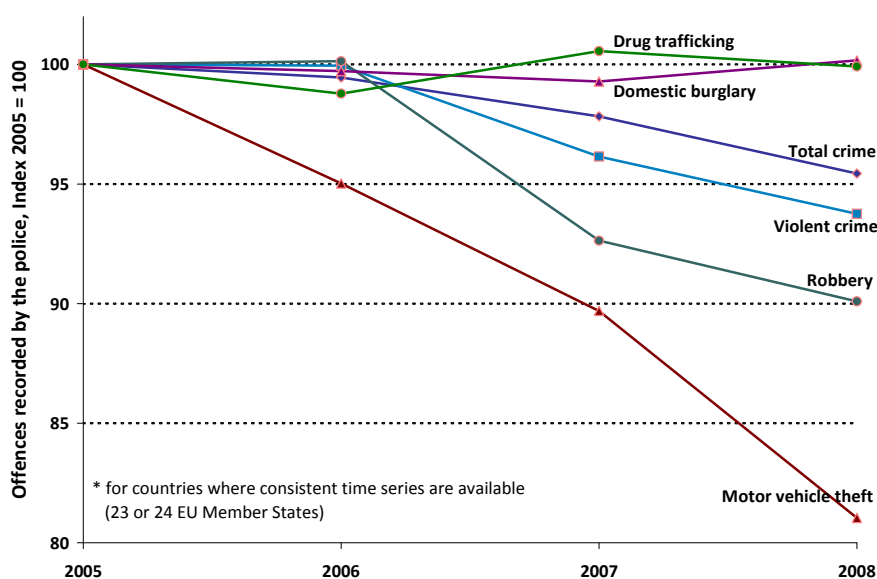
The total number of crimes recorded by the police in the European Union is decreasing. Until 2002, the trend was upwards. The countries where the decreases are most noticeable include the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and France. In some of the new Member States, crime rates peaked slightly later, but here also they are now falling.

In a few southern countries such as Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Italy and Cyprus, crime rates have risen. There is also some indication among the Nordic Member States that, after a period of decreasing crime, the trend is now upwards.

Underlying the total crime trends, there are different tendencies for specific types of offence. For the EU as a whole, police recorded instances of domestic burglary and drug trafficking have remained virtually unchanged since 2005, while violent crime (including robbery) and thefts of motor vehicles have fallen.

The prison population rate (per head of population) remains generally much higher in most countries in the eastern part of the European Union than in the west, but it is gradually falling, while the prison populations have grown in some western Member States such as Spain and the United Kingdom.

**Figure 1: Crime trends in the European Union
 2005 – 2008***



Source: Eurostat ([crim_gen](#))

Crimes recorded by the police

Total crime

The number of crimes recorded by the police in the European Union rose to a peak in 2002 and has since fallen steadily. For most countries where a clear picture can be obtained from 2002 and 2008 (that is, without the complication of breaks caused by methodological changes at some point) the general national trend is downward. This tendency is particularly evident in some countries, such as the United Kingdom, France and the Netherlands.

The main exceptions to this trend may be found in the southern part of the EU. Allowing for some breaks in the series, there seems to have been an increase in crime between 2002 and 2008 in Portugal, Slovenia, Italy, Spain and Cyprus. In the Nordic countries, where crime tended to decline in the first half of this period, there are some indications that it has more recently been increasing. In Romania also, there was a steep decline in crime figures from 2002 followed by a sharp rise (though not quite reaching the 2002 level).

The index value for 2008, using as a base the 2005 figure, is 139 in the case of Romania, which represents by far the greatest increase in the

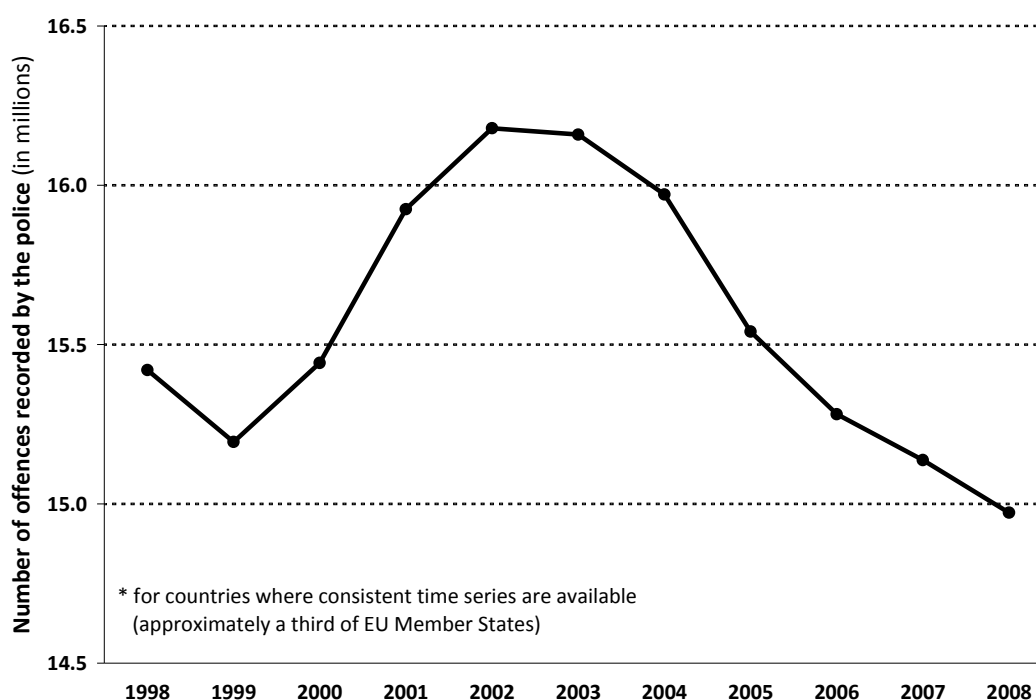
European Union over these three years. The next highest index values are around 110 (signifying a 10% increase in crime) in Portugal, Denmark, Sweden, and Luxembourg. In most of these, total crime figures have now again surpassed 2002 levels.

The Member States which saw the most substantial decreases in recorded crime between 2005 and 2008 were Poland (with an index value of 78 in 2008), Slovakia (85) and Lithuania (88). These are all countries where, unlike most others, the trend had remained generally upwards until 2004.

The United Kingdom¹ also recorded a substantial drop in crime between 2005 and 2008 and saw the most substantial fall in recorded crime figures of all Member States between 2002 and 2008. The largest Member State, Germany, had the most constant crime rates for police-recorded crime, with index values (base 2005) remaining within the range 96-104 throughout the period 2002-2008.

¹ A single crime figure for the United Kingdom cannot be given due to the existence of three separate legal jurisdictions for England & Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland but the index values were 85, 90 and 89 respectively.

**Figure 2: Trend for total crime
1998 – 2008***



Source: Eurostat ([crim_gen](#))

Homicide

Homicide is defined as the intentional killing of a person, including murder, manslaughter, euthanasia and infanticide. It excludes death by dangerous driving, abortion and help with suicide. Homicide is fairly universally reported because of its seriousness, and definitions vary less between countries than for some other types of crime, so that the figures may be regarded as more comparable between countries than for other types of crime. Unlike other offences, the counting unit for homicide is normally the victim (rather than the case).

The figures suggest that Lithuania and Estonia have by far the highest incidence of homicides, with over six cases annually per hundred thousand population on average during the period 2005-2008.

The only other countries reporting more than two cases a year per hundred thousand population were Finland, Bulgaria, Scotland, Romania, the Czech Republic and Ireland, while the lowest rates (less than one per hundred thousand) were observed in Austria, Slovenia and Germany. The fact that homicide figures are often low can sometimes distort the trends; for this reason indices have not been calculated. As a general rule, national homicide rates fell or remained stable.

Homicide rates are available for EU capitals and these are typically rather higher than for the country as a whole. They follow generally the national trends, with the highest figures being reported in Vilnius (about 8 cases per hundred thousand population) and Tallinn (about 6 cases).

Violent crime

Violent crime includes violence against the person (such as physical assault), robbery (stealing by force or threat of force) and sexual offences (including rape and sexual assault). The general trend since 2002 has been for such offences to rise, and in the period 2005-8 this remained noticeable in most countries in western Europe. This is particularly the case for the Nordic countries as the highest index values for 2008 (using 2005 as base) included Denmark (130), Sweden (115) and Finland (113).

However this was outweighed by a decline in the number of violent crimes in the eastern part of the European Union, notably in Lithuania (with a 2008 index value of 67 based on the 2005 figure), Slovakia (70), Poland (76), Bulgaria (80) and the Czech Republic (82). The total number of cases in the European Union consequently fell by about six percent over the three-year period.

Robbery

Robbery is a sub-set of violent crime, and is defined as stealing by force or threat of force, including such offences as mugging and bag-snatching. In Denmark such crimes (as recorded by the police) doubled between 2005 and 2008, accounting almost entirely for the rise in violent crime in that country, but elsewhere only Greece recorded a substantial increase. In most other countries, cases of robbery dropped, even in countries where violent crime generally was increasing (such as Luxembourg, Sweden, Finland, France and Italy). Even larger falls were recorded in those countries (mostly new Member States) with generally declining violent crime rates, such as Poland, Lithuania, Slovakia, Romania and Bulgaria. The total number of offences in the European Union dropped by about ten percent between 2005 and 2008.

Domestic burglary

Burglary, defined as gaining access to a dwelling by force in order to steal goods, has been generally on the decrease since 2002. This tendency, which may be associated with improved security measures such as locks and alarm systems, has been especially noticeable recently in eastern European countries. In Poland and Estonia, for example, there were less than half as many burglaries in 2008 than in 2002, and France and the United Kingdom also experienced falls of at least a quarter.

Over the most recent three years for which figures are available, cases of domestic burglary continued to fall in a number of countries, with the lowest index values for 2008 (based on the 2005 figure) being observed in the new Member States Poland (53), Estonia (70) and Slovakia (75). However in other (mostly western) Member States there are some indications that burglary is one of the crimes which are again on the rise. In Denmark and Greece it rose by almost a half between 2005 and 2008 (giving index values of 149 and 146 respectively), with noticeable increases also in Portugal (136), Italy (125), Luxembourg (116), Romania (113) and Belgium (110). The overall result is therefore that the total number of offences shows little change between 2005 and 2008.

Theft of a motor vehicle

As with alarm systems for buildings, there have been numerous technical improvements in recent years in car security. This may explain the general trend for a decline in thefts of vehicles (the figures include not only cars but also motorcycles, buses, lorries, construction and agricultural vehicles).

Between 2005 and 2008 vehicle thefts continued to decrease sharply in the great majority of countries, and in some eastern Member States the drops were dramatic, over 60% in Poland and slightly less than a half in Estonia, Bulgaria and Lithuania. In most western European countries the decrease tended to be nearer 20%. The outstanding exception to the general trend is Romania, where vehicle thefts more than doubled between 2005 and 2008.

Neighbouring Hungary also recorded a rise of over a half in this period, with other noticeable increases being observed in Greece and Cyprus, but for the European Union as a whole there was a decrease of about one-fifth.

Drug trafficking

Drug trafficking (that is, illegal possession, cultivation, production, supplying, transportation, importing, exporting and financing of drugs operations) has generally been increasing steadily since 2002. This trend slowed over the period 2005 to 2008, with the total number of offences remaining fairly stable, but there were considerable variations between countries. Increases of about a half were observed in Sweden, Romania and Slovenia. Less marked, but still substantial, rises took place in Cyprus, Spain, Denmark, Greece and the United Kingdom (particularly in Northern Ireland).

The countries which reported a drop in drug-trafficking offences between 2005 and 2008 were mostly eastern Member States which had experienced sharp increases in the immediately preceding period (notably Slovakia, Hungary, Lithuania and Poland). However Germany has witnessed a steady gradual fall in crimes of this type (over a third since 2002), and a similar if less consistent trend is visible in neighbouring Austria.

Prison population

The prison population figures include all types of prison, including adult and juvenile facilities and pre-trial detainees, but exclude non-criminal prisoners held for administrative purposes such as pending investigation into their immigration status.

For the period 2006 – 2008, there were, on average, about 123 prisoners per 100 000 general population in the EU Member States. The highest rates (more than 150 per 100 000 population) are found in the newer Member States of eastern Europe (Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Czech Republic and Slovakia). The lowest rates are in the Nordic Member States (Sweden, Finland and Denmark), Ireland and Slovenia, which all have fewer than 80 prisoners per 100 000 population. This compares with an incarceration rate of 775 in the USA.

The main countries where the prison population is increasing are Spain and the United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland). These countries now have rates comparable with those in the eastern European Member States. In most other countries prison populations are falling, a trend observable in countries as diverse as the Nordic Member States, where rates are anyway low, and in eastern European countries with high figures, such as Latvia and Estonia.

A number of EU candidate or potential candidate countries have recently recorded considerable increases in their prison populations, particularly Turkey, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia.

Police officers

It is difficult to compare the numbers of police officers in different countries, as definitions vary. The figures available for most countries include criminal police, traffic police, border police, gendarmerie, uniformed police, city guard and municipal police, while excluding civilian staff, customs officers, tax police, military police, secret service police, special duty police reserves, cadets and court police.

Countries where police numbers are increasing include Hungary, Ireland, Luxembourg, Spain and Portugal. There are fewer police forces which have declined in numbers since 2005, but these include Estonia and Czech Republic and, most substantially, Latvia and Northern Ireland.

Tables

Table 1 Crimes recorded by the police: Total crime

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

Country	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Index (base year 2005 = 100)		
								2006	2007	2008
Belgium	1 008 401	1 001 343	1 005 812	991 093	1 012 459	1 016 606	993 495	102	103	100
Bulgaria	146 929	143 921	142 093	137 800	136 410	134 685	126 673	99	98	92
Czech Republic	372 341	357 740	351 629	344 060	336 446	357 391	343 799	98	104	100
Denmark	491 511	486 174	474 419	432 704	425 093	445 271	476 953	98	103	110
Germany	6 507 394	6 572 135	6 633 156	6 391 715	6 304 223	6 284 661	6 114 128	99	98	96
Estonia	53 293	53 595	53 048	52 916	51 834	50 375	50 977	:	:	:
Ireland	106 415	103 462	99 244	102 206	103 178	:	:	101	:	:
Greece	441 138	441 839	405 627	455 952	463 750	423 422	417 391	102	93	92
Spain	2 183 457	2 144 155	2 141 295	2 230 906	2 267 114	2 309 859	2 331 076	102	104	104
France	4 113 882	3 974 694	3 825 442	3 775 838	3 725 588	3 589 293	3 558 329	99	95	94
Italy	2 231 550	2 456 887	2 417 716	2 579 124	2 771 490	2 933 146	2 709 888	107	114	105
Cyprus	4 758	7 256	7 615	7 212	7 917	7 556	7 314	110	105	101
Latvia	49 329	51 773	62 173	51 435	62 328	55 620	57 475	:	:	:
Lithuania	72 646	79 072	84 136	82 074	75 474	67 990	71 972	92	83	88
Luxembourg	26 046	26 163	26 907	25 321	25 913	28 252	28 210	102	112	111
Hungary	420 782	413 343	418 833	436 522	425 941	426 914	408 407	98	98	94
Malta	17 023	17 739	18 384	18 580	16 527	15 005	13 803	89	81	74
Netherlands	1 401 871	1 369 271	1 319 482	1 255 079	1 218 447	1 214 503	:	97	97	:
Austria	591 584	643 286	643 648	605 272	589 495	594 240	572 695	97	98	95
Poland	1 404 229	1 466 643	1 461 217	1 379 962	1 287 918	1 152 993	1 082 057	93	84	78
Portugal	391 599	417 383	416 420	392 174	398 959	400 222	430 534	102	102	110
Romania	312 204	276 841	231 637	208 239	232 658	281 457	289 331	112	135	139
Slovenia	77 218	76 643	86 568	84 379	90 354	88 197	81 917	107	105	97
Slovakia	107 373	111 893	131 244	123 563	115 152	110 802	104 758	93	90	85
Finland	364 717	367 343	354 453	339 715	324 575	343 820	355 028	96	101	105
Sweden	1 234 784	1 255 371	1 248 743	1 241 843	1 224 958	1 306 324	1 377 854	99	105	111
UK: England & Wales	5 974 960	6 013 759	5 637 511	5 555 172	5 427 558	4 951 173	4 702 468	98	89	85
UK: Scotland	427 034	406 979	438 121	417 785	419 257	385 509	377 433	100	92	90
UK: Northern Ireland	142 496	127 953	118 124	123 194	121 144	108 468	110 094	98	88	89
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	77 905	80 377	85 416	79 946	81 049	75 857	74 571	101	95	93
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	18 308	22 547	22 663	22 634	22 024	26 224	28 327	97	116	125
Turkey	455 921	495 886	528 576	668 559	978 383	946 207	986 319	:	:	:
EU Potential Candidate countries										
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	58 063	:	:	:
Montenegro	8 934	8 613	8 227	9 579	9 564	9 258	8 277	100	97	86
Serbia	95 638	90 419	99 866	102 093	99 244	104 862	106 031	97	103	104
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	19 938	17 515	16 565	12 028	13 483	13 038	14 578	112	108	121
Liechtenstein	1 002	1 138	1 043	1 059	1 189	1 075	1 112	112	102	105
Norway	319 523	303 824	287 821	275 684	277 016	271 712	264 199	100	99	96
Switzerland	356 841	379 343	389 415	352 723	335 157	326 232	323 235	95	92	92

: Data not available.

| Break in the series.

Source: Eurostat ([crim_gen](#))

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. The counting unit for homicide is normally the victim (rather than the case). *For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.*

Country	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Rate per 100 000 population, average per year, 2006-2008		
								Country	City	Rate
Belgium	323	230	267	222	224	207	194	1.97	Brussels	3.20
Bulgaria	255	247	240	196	183	169	172	2.27	Sofia	2.09
Czech Republic	234	232	227	186	231	196	202	2.03	Prague	3.06
Denmark	58	82	60	70	45	76	79	1.22	Copenhagen	1.58
Germany	914	820	809	804	727	692	656	0.84	Berlin	1.31
Estonia	142	147	91	113	91	93	84	6.60	Tallinn	6.04
Ireland	59	52	46	65	68	85	89	2.00	Dublin	2.26
Greece	108	122	109	127	109	115	118	1.04	Athens	1.11
Spain	564	587	520	518	476	482	408	1.02	Madrid	1.30
France	1 119	987	990	976	879	826	839	1.37	Paris	1.49
Italy	691	765	767	648	663	685	654	1.13	Rome	1.20
Cyprus	3	15	15	15	12	11	9	1.37	Lefkosia	1.75
Latvia	207	220	199	127	148	117	119	:	Riga	:
Lithuania	316	385	356	404	302	284	304	8.76	Vilnius	8.28
Luxembourg	4	3	2	4	9	7	7	1.61	Luxembourg	3.98
Hungary	203	228	209	164	175	137	147	1.52	Budapest	1.45
Malta	5	0	7	4	0	4	6	0.81	Valletta	0.00
Netherlands	224	247	223	197	159	164	176	1.02	Amsterdam	3.14
Austria	65	50	59	54	60	45	46	0.61	Vienna	1.06
Poland	716	663	633	555	490	525	460	1.29	Warsaw	1.92
Portugal	119	149	144	135	155	185	124	1.46	Lisbon	0.64
Romania	563	551	516	453	438	416	493	2.08	Bucharest	1.10
Slovenia	29	21	29	20	12	24	11	0.78	Ljubljana	0.50
Slovakia	128	146	122	106	89	89	94	1.68	Bratislava	3.12
Finland	131	103	144	114	111	127	132	2.34	Helsinki	2.01
Sweden	99	83	109	81	93	114	82	1.06	Stockholm	:
UK: England & Wales	1 047	904	868	764	758	774	662	1.35	London	2.17
UK: Scotland	128	109	138	101	122	111	97	2.14	Edinburgh	1.86
UK: Northern Ireland	45	33	41	29	24	30	26	1.52	Belfast	2.12
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	88	76	89	76	75	66	74	1.61	Zagreb	1.36
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	60	70	49	49	45	42	36	2.01	Skopje	3.30
Turkey	5 683	5 308	4 986	4 973	4 763	3 080	2 751	4.96	Ankara	4.21
EU Potential Candidate countries										
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	139	4.38	Tirana	:
Montenegro	27	20	14	22	25	10	23	3.09	Podgorica	:
Serbia	200	176	164	157	160	182	145	2.19	Belgrade	2.92
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	4	0	3	3	0	2	0	0.22	Reykjavik	0.51
Liechtenstein	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0.94	Vaduz	0.00
Norway	46	51	36	33	33	30	34	0.69	Oslo	1.76
Switzerland	86	73	79	75	60	51	54	0.73	Berne	1.34

: Data not available.

| Break in the series.

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

Rate for Latvia not calculated as figures include attempted homicide.

Source: Eurostat ([crim_gen](#), [crim_hom_city](#))

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								Index (base year 2005 = 100)		
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
Belgium	99 648	100 496	101 111	103 653	106 790	107 826	108 481	103	104	105
Bulgaria	12 176	12 796	11 284	10 623	8 766	8 696	8 538	83	82	80
Czech Republic	23 956	22 763	24 025	22 079	19 454	19 976	18 187	88	90	82
Denmark	18 832	19 283	19 443	19 135	19 670	20 673	24 928	103	108	130
Germany	197 492	204 124	211 172	212 832	215 471	217 923	210 885	101	102	99
Estonia	:	2 411	3 287	4 755	5 154	5 834	9 082	:	:	:
Ireland	11 976	9 955	9 362	8 906	8 980	17 586	19 152	101	:	:
Greece	7 507	10 140	10 145	10 271	10 427	10 851	11 220	102	106	109
Spain	120 581	109 798	108 820	112 426	114 205	113 473	116 567	102	101	104
France	288 927	292 658	292 088	307 501	326 065	324 765	331 778	106	106	108
Italy	106 624	111 165	131 764	136 322	145 209	153 997	146 598	107	113	108
Cyprus	203	294	383	325	319	301	319	98	93	98
Latvia	3 407	3 200	3 366	2 879	2 750	1 919	1 928	:	:	:
Lithuania	5 492	6 042	6 566	6 561	5 498	4 754	4 372	84	72	67
Luxembourg	2 069	2 124	2 433	2 367	2 471	3 233	3 197	104	137	135
Hungary	31 221	31 484	33 364	32 760	29 728	29 645	33 035	91	90	101
Malta	:	:	406	403	390	422	382	97	105	95
Netherlands	104 336	106 410	109 887	110 509	109 154	111 888	:	99	101	:
Austria	121 320	148 758	172 115	148 748	135 121	133 546	129 613	91	90	87
Poland	74 875	77 152	74 614	68 141	61 399	54 629	52 122	90	80	76
Portugal	22 945	23 414	24 266	23 241	24 155	21 793	24 516	104	94	105
Romania	7 130	6 281	6 388	6 469	7 240	7 044	6 842	112	109	106
Slovenia	3 070	2 893	2 928	2 856	3 069	3 087	2 638	107	108	92
Slovakia	15 020	13 724	13 755	12 906	10 896	9 620	9 030	84	75	70
Finland	34 186	35 293	36 450	37 105	38 037	41 664	42 035	103	112	113
Sweden	79 455	83 782	86 107	94 205	98 154	104 627	108 448	104	111	115
UK: England & Wales	1 014 239	1 133 506	1 201 967	1 219 861	1 205 065	1 099 321	1 034 972	99	90	85
UK: Scotland	30 819	28 690	29 341	28 407	29 378	26 978	26 400	103	95	93
UK: Northern Ireland	32 421	32 735	32 512	34 408	35 223	32 545	32 694	102	95	95
EU Candidate countries								:	:	:
Croatia	8 802	10 032	11 292	12 405	13 235	12 966	12 985	107	105	105
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	702	860	1 094	1 133	993	1 037	905	88	92	80
Turkey	102 428	103 685	114 594	125 377	164 972	140 416	167 323	:	:	:
EU Potential Candidate countries										
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	241	:	:	:
Montenegro	4 209	3 940	4 281	3 787	3 537	3 070	2 577	93	81	68
Serbia	31 400	25 513	27 950	29 068	28 864	29 316	29 582	99	101	102
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Liechtenstein	82	109	96	107	88	86	93	82	80	87
Norway	20 414	20 039	21 360	21 381	22 591	23 205	23 848	:	:	:
Switzerland	9 265	10 151	11 917	11 544	12 784	13 537	12 560	111	117	109

: Data not available.

| Break in the series.

Source: Eurostat ([crim_gen](#))

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 excluded. *For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.*

Country								Index (base year 2005 = 100)		
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
Belgium	30 229	27 952	24 150	23 912	22 771	20 947	21 893	95	88	92
Bulgaria	4 665	4 933	4 131	3 754	2 875	2 996	2 868	77	80	76
Czech Republic	5 468	5 508	6 107	5 550	4 783	4 856	4 641	86	87	84
Denmark	6 033	5 884	5 733	5 199	5 048	5 784	10 747	97	111	207
Germany	58 867	59 782	59 732	54 841	53 696	52 949	49 913	98	97	91
Estonia	:	1 885	1 632	1 298	1 005	887	909	:	:	:
Ireland	1 688	1 719	1 478	1 138	1 250	2 173	2 299	110	:	:
Greece	2 131	2 320	2 400	2 383	2 598	2 845	3 097	109	119	130
Spain	104 380	92 980	88 413	90 104	90 591	89 884	93 186	101	100	103
France	133 137	125 286	119 641	124 600	127 190	112 885	106 633	102	91	86
Italy	68 248	70 625	66 643	65 724	71 762	74 130	64 535	109	113	98
Cyprus	36	66	100	73	66	69	62	90	95	85
Latvia	2 664	2 503	2 467	2 163	2 248	1 468	1 441	:	:	:
Lithuania	4 535	4 919	5 323	5 206	4 343	3 802	3 452	83	73	66
Luxembourg	367	374	339	351	263	331	260	75	94	74
Hungary	3 389	3 289	3 227	2 982	2 709	3 119	3 128	91	105	105
Malta	156	195	265	256	222	200	147	87	78	57
Netherlands	20 647	20 018	17 683	15 463	13 716	13 082	:	89	85	:
Austria	3 638	4 434	4 798	4 770	5 095	5 036	4 786	107	106	100
Poland	40 345	44 086	41 287	36 347	29 472	22 766	21 085	81	63	58
Portugal	19 764	19 767	21 051	20 183	20 870	18 483	20 856	103	92	103
Romania	3 025	2 782	3 087	3 326	4 078	2 496	2 464	123	75	74
Slovenia	449	349	398	429	525	450	386	122	105	90
Slovakia	1 578	1 918	2 156	1 919	1 594	1 429	1 371	83	74	71
Finland	2 120	2 045	2 017	1 814	1 700	1 784	1 696	94	98	93
Sweden	8 974	8 575	8 590	9 398	8 584	8 673	8 909	91	92	95
UK: England & Wales	110 271	103 736	91 010	98 198	101 376	84 748	80 116	103	86	82
UK: Scotland	4 938	4 159	3 736	3 553	3 578	3 064	2 963	101	86	83
UK: Northern Ireland	2 497	1 973	1 487	1 744	1 574	1 143	1 283	90	66	74
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	1 204	1 236	1 622	1 560	1 445	1 272	1 259	93	82	81
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	463	573	783	709	503	521	458	71	73	65
Turkey	3 864	4 776	10 825	15 083	21 555	12 634	8 853	:	:	:
EU Potential Candidate countries										
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	50	:	:	:
Montenegro	4 173	3 908	4 239	3 752	3 494	3 040	2 542	93	81	68
Serbia	27 333	21 126	22 893	23 854	23 785	24 272	24 717	100	102	104
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	32	39	35	49	50	42	43	102	86	88
Liechtenstein	1	3	2	1	4	5	1	400	500	100
Norway	1 548	1 437	1 596	1 448	1 388	1 464	1 598	96	101	110
Switzerland	3 968	4 344	4 749	3 977	4 088	4 481	4 220	103	113	106

: Data not available.

| Break in the series.

Source: Eurostat ([crim_gen](#))

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								Index (base year 2005 = 100)		
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
Belgium	79 240	64 053	57 527	57 060	63 929	62 832	62 715	112	110	110
Bulgaria	31 639	28 210	25 565	22 379	23 460	22 208	19 980	105	99	89
Czech Republic	11 933	12 164	11 670	10 361	9 603	9 163	9 111	93	88	88
Denmark	35 557	33 879	32 956	29 439	31 204	36 342	43 974	106	123	149
Germany	130 055	123 280	124 155	109 736	106 107	109 128	108 284	97	99	99
Estonia	7 356	6 495	5 752	4 766	3 928	3 096	3 321	82	65	70
Ireland	15 474	16 436	16 148	17 012	15 513	23 566	24 864	91	:	:
Greece	31 805	31 181	26 489	30 207	32 407	37 917	44 150	107	126	146
Spain	93 751	88 128	81 552	81 495	80 981	72 723	82 135	99	89	101
France	224 223	216 797	202 880	181 503	177 840	165 780	166 250	98	91	92
Italy	169 430	173 097	112 112	122 250	143 726	169 367	153 080	118	139	125
Cyprus	1 228	3 159	3 311	2 812	3 084	2 656	2 576	110	94	92
Latvia	5 177	5 327	6 031	4 310	4 624	3 654	3 538	:	:	:
Lithuania	6 989	8 573	9 174	7 065	6 637	5 516	6 076	94	78	86
Luxembourg	1 992	2 206	2 100	1 486	1 838	2 030	1 731	124	137	116
Hungary	22 907	19 366	18 671	17 786	16 856	17 415	19 239	95	98	108
Malta	679	682	782	1 113	856	735	674	77	66	61
Netherlands	101 920	103 577	95 952	92 890	91 235	85 902	:	98	92	:
Austria	12 674	13 429	20 276	21 227	18 945	20 040	18 648	89	94	88
Poland	67 290	65 172	66 795	59 325	46 610	37 644	31 481	79	63	53
Portugal	19 989	21 963	22 587	21 840	23 314	22 343	29 663	107	102	136
Romania	12 001	10 063	10 002	9 135	9 165	10 829	10 285	100	119	113
Slovenia	3 051	2 368	2 750	2 286	2 220	2 282	:	97	100	:
Slovakia	2 785	2 642	3 023	2 809	2 602	2 437	2 118	93	87	75
Finland	7 406	7 373	7 901	7 281	5 923	6 532	5 978	81	90	82
Sweden	16 562	17 344	17 573	16 654	15 005	16 936	18 176	90	102	109
UK: England & Wales	437 583	402 345	321 507	300 517	292 260	280 694	284 427	97	93	95
UK: Scotland	29 623	24 828	23 613	21 232	20 429	17 465	17 223	96	82	81
UK: Northern Ireland	10 125	8 944	7 302	7 259	6 831	6 712	7 351	94	92	101
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	4 174	4 125	3 734	3 396	2 981	3 094	2 714	88	91	80
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	792	1 088	1 275	1 146	1 367	1 590	1 346	119	139	117
Turkey	29 042	31 971	36 639	57 389	89 334	73 475	69 709	:	:	:
EU Potential Candidate countries										
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	30	:	:	:
Montenegro	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Serbia	9 084	6 890	7 611	7 738	6 224	6 184	6 353	80	80	82
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	3 208	2 889	2 769	2 244	2 365	2 277	2 731	105	101	122
Liechtenstein	87	123	121	97	120	102	93	124	105	96
Norway	10 482	10 475	8 613	8 136	7 268	6 777	8 125	89	83	100
Switzerland	60 822	68 551	70 370	61 194	56 706	57 493	55 688	93	94	91

: Data not available.

| Break in the series.

Source: Eurostat ([crim_gen](#))

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, motor cycles, buses, lorries, construction and agricultural vehicles, etc.). For exceptions to the standard definition, see the metadata files on the website.

Country								Index (base year 2005 = 100)		
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
Belgium	42 361	32 878	27 042	24 277	24 424	22 684	21 086	101	93	87
Bulgaria	2 196	1 488	1 268	785	640	448	430	82	57	55
Czech Republic	26 143	25 331	24 230	23 040	20 996	20 329	18 893	91	88	82
Denmark	37 390	34 037	31 525	25 887	25 183	25 868	26 804	97	100	104
Germany	116 230	109 846	107 920	96 451	90 224	92 628	89 036	94	96	92
Estonia	2 628	2 099	1 840	1 929	1 239	1 007	1 035	64	52	54
Ireland	14 111	12 463	13 527	13 271	12 642	13 534	14 307	95	:	:
Greece	5 385	5 865	5 568	5 860	6 799	7 494	7 834	116	128	134
Spain	156 232	138 829	126 902	120 946	117 663	107 786	96 314	97	89	80
France	382 148	328 678	285 680	260 538	243 153	224 658	211 484	93	86	81
Italy	232 564	221 543	270 129	265 975	280 167	277 549	229 961	105	104	86
Cyprus	1 206	1 569	1 475	1 610	1 780	2 025	1 786	111	126	111
Latvia	2 845	3 369	2 960	2 023	2 168	1 729	1 868	:	:	:
Lithuania	6 484	7 022	6 330	4 541	3 460	2 848	2 553	76	63	56
Luxembourg	519	453	526	464	523	454	343	113	98	74
Hungary	11 569	12 240	10 969	10 770	10 058	15 017	16 539	93	139	154
Malta	707	887	798	672	584	388	398	87	58	59
Netherlands	42 428	34 271	30 652	25 928	22 667	20 248	:	87	78	:
Austria	5 489	7 720	8 156	11 089	8 959	7 802	9 049	81	70	82
Poland	53 674	54 291	51 150	45 292	30 529	21 284	17 669	67	47	39
Portugal	30 250	29 934	29 237	25 716	24 495	23 986	25 274	95	93	98
Romania	1 297	1 127	1 120	1 082	1 266	1 817	2 355	117	168	218
Slovenia	815	682	704	873	852	839	582	98	96	67
Slovakia	5 099	5 295	6 000	5 591	5 525	4 719	4 135	99	84	74
Finland	23 115	21 922	19 326	16 791	15 276	14 827	13 804	91	88	82
Sweden	75 593	67 199	60 980	56 719	51 639	49 249	44 717	91	87	79
UK: England & Wales	318 507	291 858	242 732	214 182	193 384	170 008	147 342	90	79	69
UK: Scotland	22 495	17 843	15 633	14 041	15 000	12 105	11 551	107	86	82
UK: Northern Ireland	8 410	5 369	4 456	3 721	3 418	3 336	2 954	92	90	79
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	2 404	2 338	2 462	2 274	2 033	2 069	1 927	89	91	85
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	576	560	827	567	365	413	581	64	73	102
Turkey	20 740	25 443	25 667	33 344	33 091	24 153	17 988	:	:	:
EU Potential Candidate countries										
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	28	:	:	:
Montenegro	166	78	67	121	98	98	85	81	81	70
Serbia	4 600	3 056	3 572	3 472	3 533	4 075	3 773	102	117	109
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Liechtenstein	7	14	16	10	7	7	16	70	70	160
Norway	22 595	20 130	17 867	15 350	14 619	12 571	11 901	95	82	78
Switzerland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

: Data not available.

| Break in the series.

Source: Eurostat ([crim_gen](#))

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	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Index (base year 2005 = 100)		
								2006	2007	2008
Belgium	9 673	9 751	10 580	11 391	11 812	12 606	12 612	104	111	111
Bulgaria	1 648	2 006	2 412	2 720	2 824	2 844	2 857	104	105	105
Czech Republic	4 114	3 497	2 803	2 706	2 668	2 639	2 812	99	98	104
Denmark	2 675	2 667	3 158	2 738	2 917	3 258	3 237	107	119	118
Germany	76 038	73 375	75 347	72 002	64 865	64 093	55 905	90	89	78
Estonia	632	604	494	686	981	1 449	1 558	:	:	:
Ireland	2 632	2 430	2 273	2 751	3 160	3 824	4 028	115	:	:
Greece	10 001	10 556	7 761	8 393	8 152	7 959	9 852	97	95	117
Spain	12 133	11 742	11 947	11 968	12 711	14 098	14 574	106	118	122
France	5 165	6 094	6 296	6 108	5 792	5 797	6 128	95	95	100
Italy	37 965	37 288	30 053	32 059	32 306	34 439	34 082	101	107	106
Cyprus	433	475	514	611	653	876	780	107	143	128
Latvia	629	997	1 148	1 049	997	1 434	2 512	:	:	:
Lithuania	213	509	711	999	704	765	793	70	77	79
Luxembourg	1 321	1 133	1 342	1 326	1 201	1 448	1 343	91	109	101
Hungary	4 790	3 387	6 678	7 626	6 740	4 676	5 464	88	61	72
Malta	:	:	78	113	123	149	180	109	132	159
Netherlands	12 752	15 633	15 662	15 305	16 361	15 657	:	107	102	:
Austria	2 320	2 506	2 443	2 337	2 377	2 473	1 980	102	106	85
Poland	2 371	2 577	3 296	3 608	3 220	3 926	3 317	89	109	92
Portugal	4 053	3 739	3 654	3 535	3 610	3 281	3 730	102	93	106
Romania	1 074	1 131	1 775	2 441	3 079	2 796	3 621	126	115	148
Slovenia	1 162	775	997	1 026	1 590	1 429	1 434	155	139	140
Slovakia	674	734	711	843	411	488	524	49	58	62
Finland	6 617	5 974	5 269	5 177	4 837	5 115	5 659	93	99	109
Sweden	5 259	5 129	4 905	4 670	6 449	7 026	7 797	138	150	167
UK: England & Wales	22 435	24 628	24 190	25 276	26 550	28 330	29 841	105	112	118
UK: Scotland	10 327	9 044	9 333	9 613	10 890	9 827	10 315	113	102	107
UK: Northern Ireland	291	405	375	349	473	529	607	136	152	174
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	8 717	7 992	7 529	8 186	8 346	7 952	7 882	102	97	96
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	273	397	357	390	315	451	415	81	116	106
Turkey	5 148	5 036	6 720	7 550	10 508	13 649	15 366	:	:	:
EU Potential Candidate countries										
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	274	:	:	:
Montenegro	305	299	355	294	438	549	460	149	187	156
Serbia	1 077	2 492	4 116	5 256	5 505	5 414	6 049	105	103	115
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	121	149	165	95	92	104	104	97	109	109
Liechtenstein	447	364	459	435	285	225	210	66	52	48
Norway	19 294	16 152	16 814	17 118	19 156	19 086	17 547	112	111	103
Switzerland	7 877	7 806	7 803	7 076	6 296	6 297	7 317	89	89	103

: Data not available.

| Break in the series.

Source: Eurostat ([crim_gen](#))

Table 8 Prison population

Total number of adult and juvenile prisoners (including pre-trial detainees) at 1 September (or nearest available date). 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	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Index (base year 2005 = 100)			Rate per
								2006	2007	2008	100 000 population average per year, 2006-2008
Belgium	8 605	9 308	9 249	9 330	9 573	9 950	9 858	103	107	106	92
Bulgaria	9 607	10 056	10 935	11 399	11 452	10 792	9 922	100	95	87	140
Czech Republic	16 597	17 180	18 303	19 003	18 904	19 110	20 471	99	101	108	189
Denmark	3 435	3 641	3 767	4 041	3 932	3 646	3 530	97	90	87	68
Germany	75 025	79 183	79 329	79 519	77 166	73 319	73 203	97	92	92	91
Estonia	4 775	4 352	4 575	4 410	4 310	3 466	3 656	98	79	83	284
Ireland	3 028	2 986	3 138	3 022	3 053	2 669	2 872	101	88	95	67
Greece	8 284	8 555	8 760	9 871	10 280	10 864	:	104	110	:	95
Spain	51 882	56 096	59 375	61 054	64 021	67 100	73 558	105	110	120	153
France	53 463	55 407	59 246	59 197	59 522	60 403	64 003	101	102	108	96
Italy	55 670	54 237	56 068	59 523	39 005	48 693	58 127	66	82	98	82
Cyprus	351	355	546	536	599	646	646	112	121	121	81
Latvia	8 358	8 222	7 666	6 998	6 636	6 548	6 873	95	94	98	293
Lithuania	11 345	8 957	7 838	7 951	7 982	7 770	7 736	100	98	97	231
Luxembourg	391	455	577	735	738	666	673	100	91	92	145
Hungary	17 838	16 507	16 543	15 720	14 740	14 743	14 626	94	94	93	146
Malta	283	278	277	294	376	382	444	128	130	151	98
Netherlands	14 132	15 194	17 397	17 891	16 579	15 777	14 734	93	88	82	96
Austria	7 511	7 816	9 000	8 955	8 780	8 887	7 899	98	99	88	103
Poland	80 990	80 692	79 344	82 656	87 669	90 199	84 549	106	109	102	229
Portugal	13 772	13 635	12 956	12 687	12 446	11 587	10 807	98	91	85	110
Romania	48 075	42 815	39 031	36 700	34 038	29 390	26 212	93	80	71	139
Slovenia	1 120	1 099	1 126	1 132	1 127	1 336	1 318	100	118	116	63
Slovakia	7 849	8 829	9 504	9 289	8 657	8 235	8 313	93	89	89	156
Finland	3 469	3 463	3 535	3 883	3 477	3 370	3 457	90	87	89	65
Sweden	6 478	6 726	7 291	7 016	7 151	6 740	6 806	102	96	97	76
UK: England & Wales	71 218	73 657	74 488	76 190	77 982	79 734	83 194	102	105	109	148
UK: Scotland	6 475	6 621	6 779	6 857	7 183	7 376	7 835	105	108	114	145
UK: Northern Ireland	1 029	1 128	1 219	1 325	1 501	1 484	1 490	113	112	112	85
EU Candidate countries											
Croatia	2 641	2 803	3 010	3 485	3 833	4 290	4 734	110	123	136	97
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1 291	1 545	1 791	2 081	2 090	2 050	2 235	100	99	107	104
Turkey	59 512	63 796	58 016	55 966	70 524	90 732	103 435	126	162	185	125
EU Potential Candidate countries											
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Montenegro	715	744	802	816	852	961	1 255	104	118	154	163
Serbia	6 283	7 128	7 653	8 078	7 862	8 970	9 701	97	111	120	120
EFTA/EEA countries											
Iceland	107	112	115	119	119	115	:	100	97	:	39
Liechtenstein	67	67	59	62	48	38	78	77	61	126	155
Norway	2 832	2 944	3 028	3 124	3 250	3 420	:	104	109	:	72
Switzerland	4 937	5 214	5 977	6 137	5 888	5 715	5 780	96	93	94	77

: Data not available.

| Break in the series.

Source: Eurostat ([crim_pris](#))

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	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Index (base year 2005 = 100)		
								2006	2007	2008
Belgium	37 242	36 318	37 008	38 911	38 963	38 718	38 068	100	100	98
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	:	:	33 800	:	:	:
Czech Republic	45 538	46 616	47 232	45 498	46 032	44 101	42 117	101	97	93
Denmark	10 233	10 352	10 483	10 728	10 819	10 841	10 743	101	101	100
Germany	247 190	245 415	246 756	248 188	250 284	250 353	247 619	101	101	100
Estonia	3 503	3 553	3 520	3 412	3 238	3 247	3 218	95	95	94
Ireland	11 895	12 017	12 209	12 265	12 954	13 755	14 411	106	112	117
Greece	51 634	52 123	50 171	49 696	48 521	51 152	50 798	98	103	102
Spain	190 119	194 973	198 072	202 365	209 163	214 935	224 086	103	106	111
France	235 116	233 250	235 792	234 966	241 998	238 478	228 402	103	101	97
Italy	272 282	323 482	325 632	329 012	324 339	:	:	99	:	:
Cyprus	4 531	4 773	4 903	4 999	5 125	5 139	5 280	103	103	106
Latvia	10 265	9 796	9 902	9 920	9 568	8 222	8 410	96	83	85
Lithuania	11 678	11 910	11 526	11 216	11 301	11 173	11 018	101	100	98
Luxembourg	1 254	1 304	1 352	1 403	1 447	1 519	1 555	103	108	111
Hungary	28 996	29 518	29 516	28 627	28 636	26 334	33 698	100	92	118
Malta	1 796	1 845	1 775	1 798	1 755	1 933	1 884	98	108	105
Netherlands	36 766	36 907	35 996	35 284	35 324	35 363	35 463	100	100	101
Austria	27 798	26 634	27 111	27 111	26 623	26 623	26 623	98	98	98
Poland	99 502	99 919	100 770	100 654	99 083	98 337	100 648	98	98	100
Portugal	48 060	47 417	47 949	47 174	48 082	51 779	51 854	102	110	110
Romania	45 245	45 690	45 770	46 875	45 219	45 391	50 339	96	97	107
Slovenia	7 392	7 526	7 618	7 881	7 857	7 971	7 779	100	101	99
Slovakia	13 997	13 667	14 079	14 345	14 361	14 134	14 059	100	99	98
Finland	8 323	8 288	8 247	8 237	8 312	8 156	8 191	101	99	99
Sweden	16 149	16 292	16 891	17 073	17 423	17 866	18 321	102	105	107
UK: England & Wales	129 603	133 366	139 200	141 230	141 381	140 514	140 230	100	99	99
UK: Scotland	15 287	15 482	16 001	16 221	16 234	16 221	17 048	100	100	105
UK: Northern Ireland	9 070	8 986	8 936	8 579	8 354	6 140	7 302	97	72	85
EU Candidate countries										
Croatia	19 537	19 622	19 634	19 898	19 790	20 424	19 823	99	103	100
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	7 683	8 357	9 231	9 815	9 776	9 599	9 905	100	98	101
Turkey	370 095	318 189	327 371	330 310	325 738	329 533	341 770	99	100	103
EU Potential Candidate countries										
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Montenegro	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Serbia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EFTA/EEA countries										
Iceland	678	678	671	679	688	683	646	101	101	95
Liechtenstein	79	84	87	92	96	93	83	104	101	90
Norway	8 221	8 062	8 169	7 485	7 506	7 453	7 505	100	100	100
Switzerland	15 073	15 155	15 473	16 444	16 649	16 199	16 326	101	99	99

: Data not available.

| Break in the series.

Source: Eurostat ([crim_plce](#))

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Developing EU Statistics on crime and criminal justice

Eurostat received a mandate under the 2004 Hague Programme¹: strengthening freedom, security and justice in the European Union to develop comparable statistics on crime and criminal justice, and a series of measures towards this end were undertaken under the 2006-10 Action Plan on Developing a comprehensive and coherent EU strategy to measure crime and criminal justice².

Following the conclusion of the Action Plan, the system will be enhanced and extended as part of the implementation of the 2009 Stockholm Programme³: An open and secure Europe serving and protecting citizens.

Data collection

The methodology used in this publication draws upon that developed by the European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics⁴, 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 Crime⁵.

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 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 years between 2005 and 2008, indices have been calculated using the 2005 figure as a base, in order to make it easier to follow the trends.

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 SDMX (Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange) 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 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, selected potential 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
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>

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

³ [Stockholm Programme](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/) Official Journal C115 of 4.5.2010, p.1
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>

⁴ [European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics](http://www.europeansourcebook.org/index.html)
<http://www.europeansourcebook.org/index.html>

⁵ [United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/index.html)
<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/index.html>

Further information

Eurostat Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>

Data on "Crime and criminal justice"

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/crime/data/database>

More information about "Crime and criminal justice"

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/crime/introduction>

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