Trends in crime and criminal justice, 2010

## Decreases in recorded crime except for domestic burglary

The latest collection of data indicates a general tendency towards a decrease in the levels of recorded crime across European Union Member States between 2007 and 2010. The number of most types of crimes recorded by the police in the European Union has fallen (see Figure 1).

While crimes linked to drug trafficking, robbery and violent crimes decreased between 3 and 6% between 2007 and 2010, the number of motor vehicle thefts has fallen substantially faster over the same period (-23%).

In contrast, domestic burglary is a category with a rising trend in the European Union. Compared to 2007, 7% more cases of domestic burglary were reported in 2010.

The following publication gives an insight into the trends in the various categories of recorded crime and furthermore looks at police officer numbers and imprisonment rates.

Figure 1: Recorded crime trends across EU Member States*, 2007 – 2010 (2007=100)
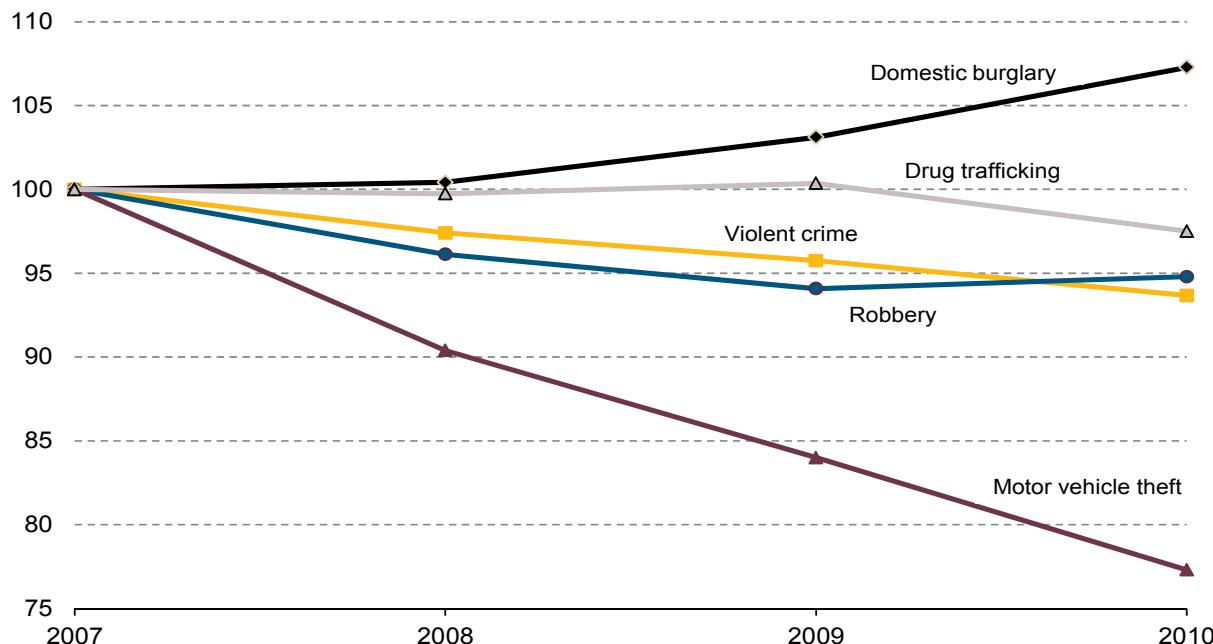
(*)   Due to inconsistencies in time series and unavailability of data, the EU figures do not include all 27 Member States:
  - Violent crime: Estonia, Spain, Cyprus and Finland excluded
  - Robbery: Ireland, Spain and Finland excluded
  - Domestic burglary: Spain and Finland excluded
  - Motor vehicle theft: Spain and Finland excluded
  - Drug trafficking: Spain, Hungary and Finland excluded

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_gen)

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Crimes recorded by the police

The crime statistics presented here cover offences recorded by police in the Member States of the EU and some other European countries. These figures do not purport to describe all crime in Europe: some crime goes unreported; and changes in rates of particular offences may result from changes in the focus of police activity.

There is usually no straight match to be made in types and levels of crime between countries, because legal and criminal justice systems differ in such areas as: definitions of crimes[1]; methods of reporting, recording and counting crimes; and rates of reported to unreported crime[2].

Although national figures have been aggregated to provide EU level estimates, this is only for the purpose of identifying overall trends. Any inferences at the EU or Member State level should be based on trends over time.

Total recorded crime

The figures for total recorded crime[3] show only offences against the penal or criminal code; less serious crimes (misdemeanours) are excluded. The number of crimes recorded in the EU has been steadily decreasing since 2005 (see Figure 2), with 10% fewer crimes recorded in the EU in 2010 than 5 years earlier.

Figure 2: Trend in recorded crime, 2005-2010*
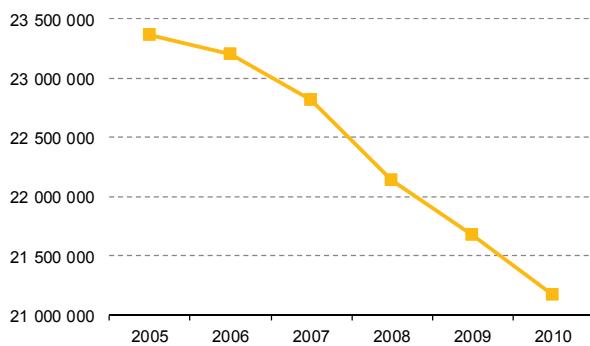
(*) Due to inconsistencies in time series and unavailability of data, these EU figures do not include Estonia, Ireland, Spain, France, Latvia and Finland.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_gen)

When looking at the detailed national figures, the situation is nevertheless more balanced: twelve EU Member States saw their number of crimes increase within this five-year period (see Table 1).

In contrast, this number decreased in 13 EU countries, the most noticeable changes being recorded in Malta (-28%), Greece (-27%) and England & Wales (-25%).

The latter has largely influenced the EU downward trend with the largest decrease of crimes in terms of registered cases (-1.5 million) among EU Member States over this period.

Beyond the EU borders, the total number of crimes recorded by the police in Turkey increased by 57% between 2007 and 2010 (following a break in the series in 2006).

Violent crime

The figures for violent crime comprise those for violence against the person (such as physical assault), robbery (stealing by force or threat of force) and sexual offences (including rape and sexual assault). Close analysis of this class of crime is difficult because not all Member States use the standard definition. However, the general trend at the level of the EU is a decline of about 6% in the number of these offences recorded between 2007 and 2010.

This overall decline is strongly influenced by the figures from England & Wales, where there was a fall of over 146 thousand violent crimes recorded between 2007 and 2010 (Table 2).

Looking at other Member States, the picture appears heterogeneous, with significant rises between 2007 and 2010 in Hungary (+30%), Denmark (+28%) and Ireland (+19%) and large decreases in Latvia (-26%), Lithuania (-22%) and Slovakia (-21%).

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 assisted suicide.

Homicides are reported fairly consistently and definitions vary less between countries than for other types of crime. They are normally counted by numbers of victims (rather than numbers of cases as for other types of crime). The results presented are for completed homicides, except for Latvia where the figures include attempted homicide.

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[1] For example, Greece, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Iceland and Liechtenstein do not distinguish "domestic burglary", and count all burglary (in shops, garages etc.). Their figures cannot therefore be compared directly with other countries which only include burglary in a dwelling.

[2] For further details of the factors which influence the crime figures, please consult the Methodological Notes on page 15.

[3] The figures for violent crime, property crime and drugs offences do not add up to all crime; they are presented as a closer look at selected offences.

Furthermore, in some countries, the police register homicide as any death that cannot immediately be attributed to other causes. It may, therefore, be over-represented in the statistics.

The number of homicides recorded in the individual countries is shown in Table 3.

The rate of homicides per 100 thousand inhabitants (Figure 3) reveals a downward trend: comparing the average ratios for 2005-2007 with those of 2008-2010, a decrease can be noted for all countries

except Denmark, Greece and Malta. The ratio remained unchanged for the Netherlands.

Despite decreases in the homicide rates for the three Baltic Member States, the number of homicides per 100 thousand inhabitants remained higher in these countries than in all other Member States.

Outside the EU, in Turkey, the average annual homicide rate almost halved between 2005-2007 and 2008-2010 (Table 3).

Figure 3: Homicide rate per 100 000 population, average per year, 2005-2007 and 2008-2010
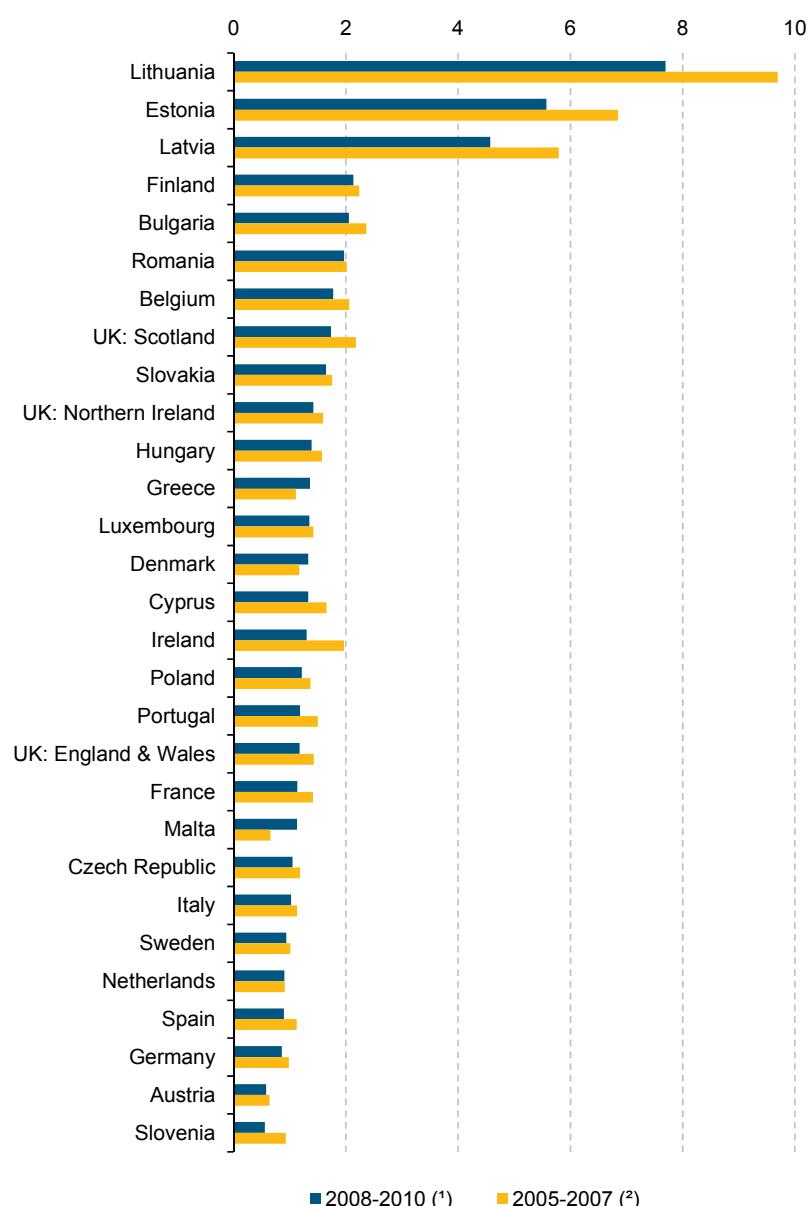
(1)   Netherlands, 2009-2010.
(2)   Estonia and Latvia, 2006-2007; Ireland, 2007 only.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_gen)

Robbery

Robbery is a particular type of violent crime, defined as stealing by force or by threat of force. It includes mugging (bag-snatching) and theft with violence.

At the level of the EU, the number of robberies has dropped by 5% since 2007, mainly due to significant decreases reported by Italy, Poland, England & Wales and especially the Baltic States, where the number of recorded cases has fallen by 29% (Table 4). In complete contrast are the few countries which recorded large increases: the number of robberies more than doubled in Denmark, Greece and Cyprus between 2007 and 2010.

Property crime

Property crime covers the stealing or destruction of property. Data for domestic burglary and theft of a motor vehicle are presented below and show different trends (see Tables 5 and 6).

Domestic burglary is defined as gaining access to a dwelling by force in order to steal goods. At the level of the EU this type of crime increased by over 7% between 2007 and 2010. Among the Member States with a continuous data series over this period, the highest increases in the number of recorded cases occurred in Greece (+62%) and Romania (+31%). Conversely, large decreases (between 20% and 30%) were reported by Luxembourg, Austria and Slovakia over the three years.

Theft of a motor vehicle covers thefts of cars, motorcycles, buses and lorries, as well as construction and agricultural vehicles.

Motor vehicle thefts have steadily fallen in recent years, partly as a result of technical improvements in vehicle theft deterrents. At the EU level, the number of offences recorded under this category of crime decreased by 23% between 2007 and 2010, with a sizable fall in England & Wales. Spain has also seen large falls since the introduction of a new data series in 2008.

Only four countries saw the number of motor vehicle thefts increase between 2007 and 2010. In Bulgaria there was an increase of 8%; increases of around 20% were reported by Cyprus and Greece, while in Romania, the number of thefts over the same period increased by 39%.

Drug offences

Drug trafficking is a sub-set of the broader class of drugs offences. It includes the illegal possession, cultivation, production, supplying, transportation, importing, exporting and financing of drug operations.

Compared to the trends registered for the other types of crime, the number of drug trafficking offences has remained relatively stable across EU Member States since 2005 (see Table 7). A steady decrease in drug trafficking was recorded in Germany, the country with the highest number of such criminal offences (accounting for more than 20% of the total EU drug trafficking offences in 2010). A counter-balancing effect was created by most other EU countries (19 out of 27) which recorded increases in the number of drug trafficking offences between 2005 and 2010. Various breaks in series should however be observed, the most noticeable being that for Hungary between 2008 and 2009, which resulted in a large decrease in the number of registered offences.

Beyond the EU borders, the number of crimes linked to drug trafficking in Turkey more than tripled between 2007 and 2010 (following a break in the series in 2007).

The number of police officers remains stable

Police officers 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. Variations in this definition do exist between jurisdictions however.

The total number of police officers across the EU has not changed significantly over the last few years (see Table 8). Italy, Germany and Spain have the largest number of police officers at a national level, and together account for 47% of the total number of police officers registered in the EU. This proportion has increased from 44% in 2006.

A steadily increasing prison population

The prison population figures comprise adult and juvenile convicted prisoners and pre-trial detainees in all types of prison establishments. Non-criminal prisoners held for administrative reasons (such as investigation of immigration status) are excluded.

In 2010, there were about 638 000 prisoners in the EU compared with just over 617 000 prisoners in 2005. Table 9 shows the national prison populations and rates per 100 000 inhabitants. When the average prison population rates for the two periods 2005-2007 and 2008-2010 are ranked (Figure 4) the three Baltic countries have the highest rates in both periods, although the prison

population rate for Estonia has fallen to 264 prisoners per 100 000 in 2008-2010. The EU average for 2008-2010 is 126 prisoners per 100 000 inhabitants.

The lowest rates are found in the Nordic countries and Slovenia (between 62 and 74 prisoners per 100 000 inhabitants).

Outside the EU, Turkey's prison population more than doubled between 2005 and 2010. The prison population also increased noticeably in Montenegro, Croatia and Serbia.

Figure 4: Prison population rate per 100 000 population, average per year, 2005-2007 and 2008-2010
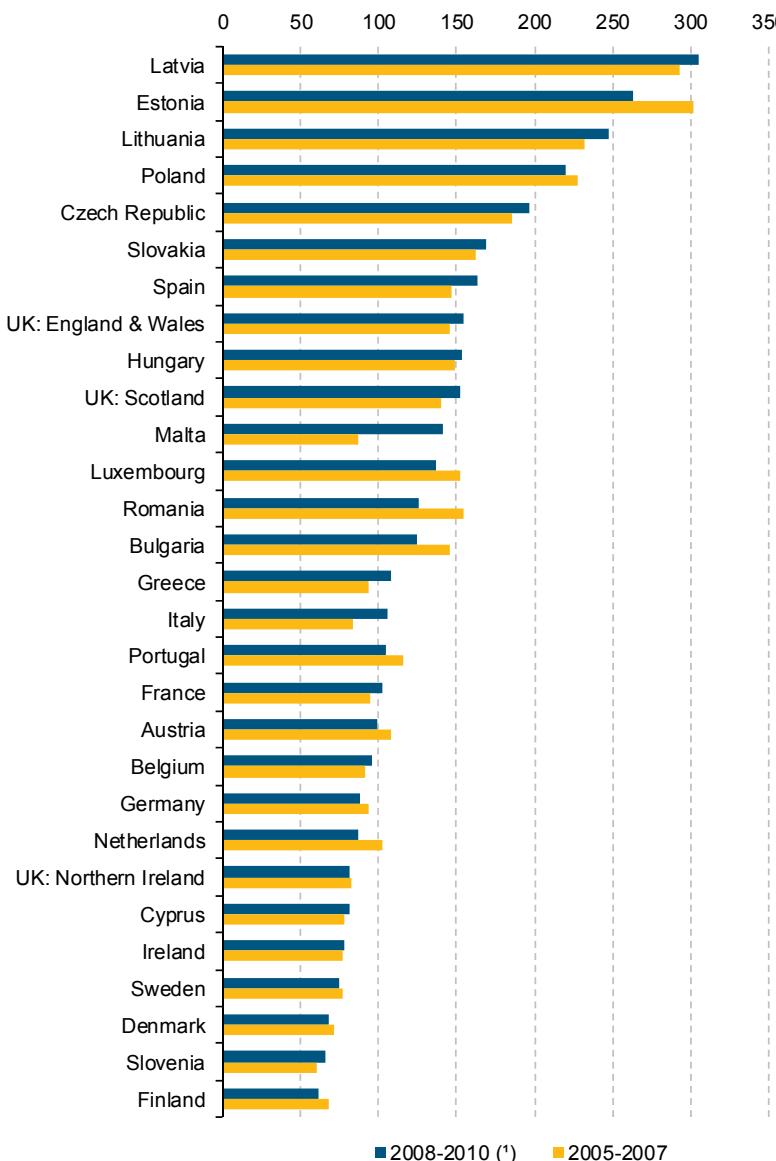
(1)   UK:England and Wales and UK:Northern Ireland, 2010 only.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_pris)

Detailed tables

Table 1: Crimes recorded by the police: Total crime, 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Index (base year 2007=100)		
								2008	2009	2010
Belgium	993 265	982 215	1 004 097	1 016 441	1 022 682	1 046 442	1 050 235	101	103	103
Bulgaria	142 093	137 800	136 410	134 685	126 673	138 105	147 025	94	103	109
Czech Republic	351 629	344 060	336 446	357 391	343 799	332 829	313 387	96	93	88
Denmark	474 419	432 704	425 093	445 271	476 953	491 792	471 088	107	110	106
Germany	6 633 156	6 391 715	6 304 223	6 284 661	6 114 128	6 054 330	5 933 278	97	96	94
Estonia (1)	53 048	52 916	51 834	50 375	50 977	48 359	48 340	101	96	96
Ireland	99 244	102 206	103 178	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Greece	405 627	455 952	463 750	423 422	417 391	386 893	333 988	99	91	79
Spain (2)	2 141 295	2 230 906	2 267 114	2 309 859	2 396 890	2 339 203	2 297 484	:	:	:
France	3 825 442	3 775 838	3 725 588	3 589 293	3 558 329	3 521 256	:	99	98	:
Italy (3)	2 417 716	2 579 124	2 771 490	2 933 146	2 709 888	2 629 831	2 621 019	92	90	89
Cyprus	7 615	7 212	7 917	7 556	7 341	7 104	8 387	97	94	111
Latvia (4)	62 173	51 435	62 328	55 620	57 475	56 748	51 108	103	102	92
Lithuania	84 136	82 074	75 474	67 990	71 972	76 291	70 618	106	112	104
Luxembourg	26 907	25 321	25 913	28 252	28 210	32 378	30 532	100	115	108
Hungary	418 833	436 522	425 941	426 914	408 407	394 034	447 186	96	92	105
Malta	18 384	18 580	16 527	15 005	13 803	11 953	13 296	92	80	89
Netherlands (5)	1 319 482	1 341 950	1 304 325	1 292 820	1 266 165	1 243 285	1 192 640	98	96	92
Austria	643 648	605 272	589 495	594 240	572 695	591 597	535 745	96	100	90
Poland	1 461 217	1 379 962	1 287 918	1 152 993	1 082 057	1 129 577	1 151 157	94	98	100
Portugal	416 420	392 714	399 563	398 575	430 486	426 040	422 587	108	107	106
Romania	231 637	208 239	232 659	281 457	289 331	299 889	292 682	103	107	104
Slovenia	86 568	84 379	90 354	88 197	81 917	87 465	89 489	93	99	101
Slovakia	131 244	123 563	115 152	110 802	104 758	104 905	95 252	95	95	86
Finland (6)	445 465	432 302	416 131	435 824	440 711	441 416	431 623	101	:	:
Sweden	1 248 743	1 241 843	1 224 958	1 306 324	1 377 854	1 405 626	1 370 399	105	108	105
UK: England & Wales	5 637 511	5 555 172	5 427 558	4 952 276	4 702 698	4 338 372	4 150 097	95	88	84
UK: Scotland (3)	438 121	417 785	419 257	385 509	377 433	338 028	323 060	98	88	84
UK: Northern Ireland	118 124	123 194	121 144	108 468	110 094	109 139	105 040	101	101	97
Iceland (7)	16 565	12 028	13 483	13 038	14 578	15 966	14 911	112	122	:
Liechtenstein	1 043	1 059	1 189	1 075	1 112	1 216	1 046	103	113	97
Norway	287 821	275 684	277 016	271 712	264 199	277 121	270 656	97	102	100
Switzerland (6)	389 415	352 723	335 157	326 232	323 235	676 309	656 858	99	:	:
Montenegro	8 227	9 579	9 564	9 258	8 277	8 101	6 994	89	88	76
Croatia	85 416	79 946	81 049	75 857	74 571	73 497	73 328	98	97	97
FYR of Macedonia	22 663	22 634	22 024	26 224	28 327	:	:	108	:	:
Serbia	99 866	102 093	99 244	104 862	106 031	102 369	101 132	101	98	96
Turkey (8)	507 539	667 820	975 118	970 554	1 012 291	1 288 085	1 521 723	104	133	157
Albania	:	:	:	:	58 063	:	:	:	:	:
Bosnia & Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Kosovo	:	:	:	:	36 196	33 131	36 822	:	:	:

(1)   2006, break in series.
(2)   2005 and 2008, break in series.
(3)   2004, break in series.
(4)   2004, 2005 and 2006, break in series.
(5)   2005, break in series.
(6)   2009, break in series.
(7)   2005 and 2010, break in series.
(8)   2005 and 2006, break in series.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_gen)

Table 2: Crimes recorded by the police: Violent crime, 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Index (base year 2007=100)		
								2008	2009	2010
Belgium	109 007	111 277	113 674	115 336	119 355	121 902	122 520	103	106	106
Bulgaria	11 284	10 623	8 766	8 696	8 538	9 229	9 051	98	106	104
Czech Republic	24 025	22 079	19 454	19 976	18 187	17 367	18 659	91	87	93
Denmark	19 443	19 135	19 670	20 673	24 928	26 320	26 434	121	127	128
Germany	211 172	212 832	215 471	217 923	210 885	208 446	201 243	97	96	92
Estonia (¹)	3 287	4 755	5 154	5 834	9 082	7 406	5 347	:	:	:
Ireland (²)	9 615	9 414	9 920	10 188	10 806	10 792	12 139	106	106	119
Greece	10 145	10 271	10 427	10 851	11 220	12 242	12 287	103	113	113
Spain (³)	108 820	112 426	114 205	113 473	116 324	113 060	106 509	:	:	:
France	292 088	307 501	326 065	324 765	331 778	341 942	351 071	102	105	108
Italy (⁴)	131 764	136 322	145 209	153 997	146 598	131 610	127 736	95	85	83
Cyprus	383	325	319	301	319	452	:	106	150	:
Latvia (⁵)	3 366	2 879	2 750	1 919	1 928	1 866	1 414	100	97	74
Lithuania (⁴)	6 566	6 561	5 498	4 754	4 372	4 204	3 703	92	88	78
Luxembourg	2 433	2 367	2 471	3 233	3 197	3 264	3 319	99	101	103
Hungary	33 364	32 760	29 728	29 645	33 035	32 046	38 445	111	108	130
Malta	406	403	390	422	382	376	372	91	89	88
Netherlands (⁶)	109 887	122 690	123 680	125 055	120 035	117 730	112 695	96	94	90
Austria	41 044	42 928	43 316	46 217	47 034	47 602	44 618	102	103	97
Poland	74 614	68 141	61 399	54 629	52 122	51 128	49 194	95	94	90
Portugal	24 266	23 232	24 157	21 734	24 455	24 421	24 251	113	112	112
Romania	6 388	6 469	7 240	5 580	5 493	5 539	5 488	98	99	98
Slovenia	2 928	2 856	3 069	3 087	2 638	2 804	2 776	85	91	90
Slovakia (⁶)	13 755	13 575	11 584	10 274	9 669	8 963	8 094	94	87	79
Finland (⁷)	36 450	37 105	38 037	41 664	42 215	39 598	39 640	101	:	:
Sweden	86 107	94 205	98 154	104 627	108 448	111 703	113 262	104	107	108
UK: England & Wales	1 201 967	1 219 861	1 205 065	1 099 771	1 035 035	1 000 845	953 047	94	91	87
UK: Scotland (⁴)	27 400	26 558	27 618	25 182	24 777	21 632	21 499	98	86	85
UK: Northern Ireland	32 814	34 717	35 623	32 986	33 039	33 380	33 033	100	101	100
Iceland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Liechtenstein	96	107	88	86	93	95	86	108	110	100
Norway (⁸)	21 360	21 381	22 591	23 205	23 848	24 261	24 222	103	105	104
Switzerland (⁷)	11 917	11 544	12 784	13 537	12 560	15 360	14 105	:	:	:
Montenegro (⁶)	4 281	249	280	271	300	362	352	111	134	130
Croatia	11 292	12 405	13 235	12 966	12 985	12 220	11 038	100	94	85
FYR of Macedonia	1 094	1 133	993	1 037	905	:	:	87	:	:
Serbia	27 950	29 068	28 864	29 316	29 582	32 061	32 167	101	109	110
Turkey (⁹)	108 371	125 467	165 119	138 576	167 122	206 724	234 707	121	149	169
Albania	:	:	:	:	241	:	:	:	:	:
Bosnia & Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	1 510	1 841	:	:	:	:
Kosovo	:	:	:	:	17 186	16 199	18 161	:	:	:

(1)   2006, 2008 and 2009, break in series.
(2)   2007, break in series.
(3)   2005 and 2008, break in series.
(4)   2004, break in series.
(5)   2004, 2005 and 2006, break in series.
(6)   2005, break in series.
(7)   2009, break in series.
(8)   2006, break in series.
(9)   2005 and 2006, break in series.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_gen)

Table 3: Crimes recorded by the police: Homicide, 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Rate per 100 000 inhabitants average per year	
								2005-2007 ([1])	2008-2010 ([2])
Belgium	266	219	220	211	202	186	184	2.06	1.77
Bulgaria	240	196	183	169	172	150	147	2.37	2.06
Czech Republic	134	108	130	126	114	112	103	1.18	1.05
Denmark	60	70	45	76	79	79	62	1.17	1.33
Germany	868	869	808	757	722	706	690	0.98	0.86
Estonia ([3])	91	113	91	93	84	70	70	6.85	5.57
Ireland ([4])	45	65	70	85	55	60	58	1.97	1.30
Greece	111	132	110	128	139	144	176	1.11	1.36
Spain ([5])	520	518	476	482	414	412	401	1.12	0.89
France	990	976	879	826	839	682	675	1.41	1.14
Italy ([6])	767	648	663	685	654	626	567	1.13	1.03
Cyprus	15	15	12	11	9	16	7	1.66	1.33
Latvia ([7])	199	127	148	117	119	109	82	:	:
Lithuania	356	404	302	284	304	252	217	9.69	7.70
Luxembourg	2	4	9	7	7	5	8	1.42	1.35
Hungary	209	164	175	137	147	139	132	1.57	1.39
Malta	7	4	0	4	6	4	4	0.66	1.13
Netherlands ([5])	191	174	128	143	150	154	144	0.91	0.91
Austria	59	54	60	45	46	43	56	0.64	0.58
Poland	633	555	490	525	460	493	436	1.37	1.21
Portugal	144	135	155	185	124	130	124	1.50	1.19
Romania	516	453	438	416	470	397	404	2.02	1.97
Slovenia	29	20	12	24	11	13	10	0.93	0.56
Slovakia	122	106	89	89	94	84	89	1.76	1.64
Finland ([8])	144	113	112	128	132	116	112	2.24	2.14
Sweden	107	79	88	107	77	93	91	1.01	0.94
UK: England & Wales	868	764	758	773	663	618	642	1.43	1.17
UK: Scotland	139	101	122	111	97	85	88	2.18	1.74
UK: Northern Ireland	41	29	24	30	26	22	28	1.60	1.42
Iceland	3	3	0	2	0	1	2	0.55	0.31
Liechtenstein	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0.00	2.81
Norway	36	33	33	30	34	29	29	0.69	0.64
Switzerland ([8])	79	75	60	51	54	51	53	0.83	0.67
Montenegro	14	22	25	10	23	24	15	3.05	2.43
Croatia	89	76	75	66	74	56	73	1.63	1.53
FYR of Macedonia	49	49	45	42	36	:		2.22	1.76
Serbia	164	157	160	182	145	161	123	2.24	1.95
Turkey ([5])	4 829	4 879	4 663	3 090	2 773	2 690	2 343	6.69	3.64
Albania	:	:	:	:	139	:	:	:	4.38
Bosnia & Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	68	67	:	:	1.76
Kosovo	:	:	:	:	77	56	64	:	3.01

(1)   Estonia and Latvia, 2006-2007; Ireland and Serbia, 2007.
(2)   Finland and Switzerland, 2009-2010; Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2008-2009; Montenegro, 2010; the FYR of Macedonia and Albania, 2008.
(3)   2006 and 2008, break in series.
(4)   2007, break in series.
(5)   2005, break in series.
(6)   2004, break in series.
(7)   2004, 2005 and 2006, break in series.
(8)   2009, break in series.

The rate per 100 000 population calculated using figures for completed homicide only.
The rate for Latvia was not calculated as figures include attempted homicide.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_gen and demo_r_d2jan)

Table 4: Crimes recorded by the police: Robbery, 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Index (base year 2007=100)		
								2008	2009	2010
Belgium	24 211	23 974	22 794	21 156	22 854	23 560	23 803	108	111	113
Bulgaria	4 131	3 754	2 875	2 996	2 868	3 596	3 737	96	120	125
Czech Republic	5 931	5 368	4 613	4 668	4 515	4 515	3 874	97	97	83
Denmark	5 733	5 199	5 048	5 784	10 747	12 738	12 802	186	220	221
Germany	59 732	54 841	53 696	52 949	49 913	49 317	48 166	94	93	91
Estonia [1]	1 632	1 298	1 005	887	909	726	599	102	82	68
Ireland [2]	2 406	2 475	2 151	2 277	2 468	3 173	:	108	139	:
Greece	2 339	2 084	2 463	2 823	3 293	4 715	6 079	117	167	215
Spain [3]	88 413	90 104	90 591	89 884	92 832	90 407	84 411	:	:	:
France	119 641	124 600	127 190	112 885	106 633	112 765	121 038	94	100	107
Italy [4]	66 643	65 724	71 762	74 130	64 535	50 732	47 996	87	68	65
Cyprus	100	73	66	69	62	111	156	90	161	226
Latvia [5]	2 467	2 163	2 248	1 468	1 441	1 516	1 072	98	103	73
Lithuania	5 323	5 206	4 343	3 802	3 452	3 363	2 727	91	88	72
Luxembourg	339	351	263	331	260	365	316	79	110	95
Hungary	3 227	2 982	2 709	3 119	3 128	3 158	3 396	100	101	109
Malta	265	256	222	200	147	202	196	74	101	98
Netherlands [6]	17 683	14 615	12 915	12 180	11 400	11 370	10 925	94	93	90
Austria	4 798	4 770	5 095	5 036	4 786	4 577	4 310	95	91	86
Poland	41 287	36 347	29 472	22 766	21 085	20 583	19 359	93	90	85
Portugal	21 051	20 183	20 870	18 427	20 807	20 460	20 423	113	111	111
Romania	3 087	3 326	4 078	2 496	2 464	2 541	2 484	99	102	100
Slovenia	398	429	525	450	386	481	463	86	107	103
Slovakia	2 156	1 919	1 594	1 429	1 371	1 358	1 188	96	95	83
Finland [7]	2 017	1 814	1 700	1 784	1 696	1 640	1 508	95	:	:
Sweden	8 590	9 398	8 584	8 673	8 909	9 570	9 219	103	110	106
UK: England & Wales	91 010	98 198	101 376	84 773	80 130	75 105	76 189	95	89	90
UK: Scotland [4]	3 736	3 553	3 578	3 064	2 963	2 496	2 557	97	81	83
UK: Northern Ireland	1 487	1 744	1 574	1 143	1 283	1 276	1 306	112	112	114
Iceland	35	49 [6]	50	42	43	60	42	102	143	100
Liechtenstein	2	1	4	5	1	2	2	20	40	40
Norway	1 596	1 448	1 388	1 464	1 598	1 776	1 687	109	121	115
Switzerland [7]	4 749	3 977	4 088	4 481	4 220	3 530	2 853	94	:	:
Montenegro [6]	4 239	86	80	67	84	142	137	125	212	204
Croatia	1 622	1 560	1 445	1 272	1 259	1 411	1 245	99	111	98
FYR of Macedonia	783	709	503	521	458	:	:	88	:	:
Serbia	22 893	23 854	23 785	24 272	24 717	27 285	27 660	102	112	114
Turkey [5]	10 864	15 147	21 609	12 657	8 876	8 693	8 575	70	69	68
Albania	:	:	:	:	50	:	:	:	:	:
Bosnia & Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	1 363	1 727	:	:	:	:
Kosovo	:	:	:	:	452	174	544	:	:	:

(1)   2006, break in series.
(2)   2007, break in series.
(3)   2005 and 2008, break in series.
(4)   2004, break in series.
(5)   2004, 2005 and 2006, break in series.
(6)   2005, break in series.
(7)   2009, break in series.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_gen)

Table 5: Crimes recorded by the police: Domestic burglary, 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Index (base year 2007=100)		
								2008	2009	2010
Belgium	57 478	56 969	63 469	62 814	63 788	69 430	68 298	102	111	109
Bulgaria	25 565	22 379	23 460	22 208	19 980	23 682	24 005	90	107	108
Czech Republic	11 670	10 361	9 603	9 163	9 111	9 616	10 091	99	105	110
Denmark	32 956	29 439	31 204	36 342	43 974	48 670	44 788	121	134	123
Germany	124 155	109 736	106 107	109 128	108 284	113 800	121 347	99	104	111
Estonia	5 752	4 766	3 928	3 096	3 321	3 027	3 196	107	98	103
Ireland (¹)	24 913	26 381	24 788	23 603	24 683	26 911	25 420	105	114	108
Greece	26 489	37 595	42 069	49 886	59 027	63 928	80 854	118	128	162
Spain (²)	81 552	81 495	80 981	72 723	93 880	97 834	111 656	:	:	:
France	202 880	181 503	177 840	165 780	166 250	179 408	186 524	100	108	113
Italy	112 112	122 250	143 726	169 367	153 080	152 804	171 269	90	90	101
Cyprus	3 311	2 812	3 084	2 656	2 576	2 443	3 232	97	92	122
Latvia (³)	6 031	4 310	4 624	3 654	3 538	4 133	4 194	97	113	115
Lithuania	9 174	7 065	6 637	5 516	6 076	5 799	4 905	110	105	89
Luxembourg	2 100	1 486	1 838	2 030	1 731	1 843	1 487	85	91	73
Hungary	18 671	17 786	16 856	17 415	16 455	16 200	19 865	94	93	114
Malta	782	1 113	856	735	674	667	703	92	91	96
Netherlands (⁴)	95 952	93 310	93 185	87 355	89 185	93 300	102 795	102	107	118
Austria	20 276	21 227	18 945	20 040	18 648	21 248	15 747	93	106	79
Poland	66 795	59 325	46 610	37 644	31 481	32 977	37 941	84	88	101
Portugal	22 587	21 840	23 314	22 324	29 655	26 027	26 641	133	117	119
Romania	10 002	9 135	9 165	10 829	10 285	11 574	14 197	95	107	131
Slovenia	2 750	2 286	2 220	2 282	2 036	2 231	2 563	89	98	112
Slovakia	3 023	2 809	2 602	2 437	2 118	2 330	1 876	87	96	77
Finland (⁵)	7 901	7 281	5 923	6 532	5 978	6 497	6 453	92	:	:
Sweden	17 573	16 654	15 005	16 936	18 176	20 463	19 774	107	121	117
UK: England & Wales	321 507	300 517	292 260	280 696	284 431	268 606	258 165	101	96	92
UK: Scotland	23 613	21 232	20 429	17 465	17 223	16 727	17 657	99	96	101
UK: Northern Ireland	7 302	7 255	6 831	6 712	7 350	7 269	7 081	110	108	105
Iceland (⁴)	2 769	2 244	2 365	2 277	2 731	3 524	2 866	120	155	126
Liechtenstein	121	97	120	102	93	168	118	91	165	116
Norway	8 613	8 136	7 268	6 777	8 125	9 035	7 284	120	133	107
Switzerland (⁵)	70 370	61 194	56 706	57 493	55 688	25 393	24 119	97	:	:
Montenegro	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Croatia	3 734	3 396	2 981	3 094	2 714	2 777	3 104	88	90	100
FYR of Macedonia	1 275	1 146	1 367	1 590	1 346	:	:	85	:	:
Serbia	7 611	7 738	6 224	6 184	6 353	6 121	6 849	103	99	111
Turkey (⁶)	36 935	58 062	90 150	73 727	69 792	80 973	90 103	95	110	122
Albania	:	:	:	:	30	:	:	:	:	:
Bosnia & Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Kosovo	:	:	:	:	3 959	3 581	4 485	:	:	:

(1)   2007, break in series.
(2)   2005 and 2008, break in series.
(3)   2004, 2005 and 2006, break in series.
(4)   2005, break in series.
(5)   2009, break in series.
(6)   2005 and 2006, break in series.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_gen)

Table 6: Crimes recorded by the police: Theft of a motor vehicle, 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Index (base year 2007=100)		
								2008	2009	2010
Belgium	29 842	26 721	26 695	24 850	23 258	21 879	19 816	94	88	80
Bulgaria	1 268	785	640	448	430	388	486	96	87	108
Czech Republic	24 230	23 040	20 996	20 329	18 793	14 770	13 109	92	73	64
Denmark	31 525	25 887	25 183	25 868	26 804	25 236	20 745	104	98	80
Germany	107 920	96 451	90 224	92 628	89 036	87 693	83 480	96	95	90
Estonia	1 840	1 929	1 239	1 007	1 035	934	870	103	93	86
Ireland (1)	14 369	14 199	13 661	13 531	14 307	13 129	11 410	106	97	84
Greece (2)	5 568	17 552	20 216	22 516	23 550	26 711	27 587	105	119	123
Spain (3)	126 902	120 946	117 663	107 786	96 100	78 224	65 948	:	:	:
France	285 680	260 538	243 153	224 658	211 484	207 947	195 196	94	93	87
Italy (4)	270 129	265 975	280 167	277 549	229 961	213 407	197 583	83	77	71
Cyprus	1 475	1 610	1 780	2 025	1 786	2 170	2 418	88	107	119
Latvia (5)	2 960	2 023	2 168	1 729	1 868	1 825	1 251	108	106	72
Lithuania	6 330	4 541	3 460	2 848	2 553	1 967	2 060	90	69	72
Luxembourg	526	464	523	454	343	365	357	76	80	79
Hungary	10 969	10 770	10 058	15 017	10 109	9 676	8 624	67	64	57
Malta	798	672	584	388	398	401	372	103	103	96
Netherlands (2)	30 652	23 325	20 055	17 705	17 710	17 310	16 650	100	98	94
Austria	8 156	11 089	8 959	7 802	9 049	9 289	5 150	116	119	66
Poland	51 150	45 292	30 529	21 284	17 669	17 271	16 539	83	81	78
Portugal	29 237	25 716	24 495	23 957	25 259	22 523	20 288	105	94	85
Romania	1 120	1 082	1 266	1 817	2 355	2 967	2 531	130	163	139
Slovenia	704	873	852	839	584	586	534	70	70	64
Slovakia	6 000	5 591	5 525	4 719	4 135	3 779	3 354	88	80	71
Finland (6)	19 326	16 791	15 276	14 827	13 804	12 188	11 150	93	:	:
Sweden	60 980	56 719	51 639	49 249	44 717	40 359	35 009	91	82	71
UK: England & Wales	242 732	214 182	193 384	170 038	147 238	117 684	106 162	87	69	62
UK: Scotland (7)	15 633	14 041	15 000	12 105	11 551	9 304	8 716	95	77	72
UK: Northern Ireland	4 456	3 721	3 418	3 336	2 954	2 975	2 719	89	89	82
Iceland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Liechtenstein	16	10	7	7	16	7	8	229	100	114
Norway	17 867	15 350	14 619	12 571	11 901	12 014	10 858	95	96	86
Switzerland	:	:	:	:	:	9 115	7 856	:	:	:
Montenegro	67	121	98	98	85	121	:	87	123	:
Croatia	2 462	2 274	2 033	2 069	1 927	1 828	1 568	93	88	76
FYR of Macedonia	827	567	365	413	581	:	:	141	:	:
Serbia	3 572	3 472	3 533	4 075	3 773	3 618	3 286	93	89	81
Turkey (8)	25 749	33 441	33 201	24 263	18 182	16 556	13 633	75	68	56
Albania	:	:	:	:	28	:	:	:	:	:
Bosnia & Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Kosovo	:	:	:	:	464	393	340	:	:	:

(1)   2007, break in series.
(2)   2005, break in series.
(3)   2005 and 2008, break in series.
(4)   2004 and 2005, break in series.
(5)   2004, 2005 and 2006, break in series.
(6)   2009, break in series.
(7)   2004, break in series.
(8)   2006 and 2007, break in series.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_gen)

Table 7: Crimes recorded by the police: Drug trafficking, 2004-2010

| | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | Index (base year 2007=100) | | |
								2008	2009	2010
Belgium	10 328	11 221	11 675	12 468	12 912	13 389	12 561	104	107	101
Bulgaria	2 412	2 720	2 824	2 844	2 857	3 662	3 765	100	129	132
Czech Republic	2 803	2 706	2 668	2 639	2 812	3 046	3 010	107	115	114
Denmark	3 158	2 738	2 917	3 258	3 237	2 849	3 297	99	87	101
Germany	75 347	72 002	64 865	64 093	55 905	50 965	49 622	87	80	77
Estonia (1)	494	686	981	1 449	1 558	1 042	901	108	72	62
Ireland (2)	2 270	2 745	3 152	3 817	4 587	4 348	4 726	120	114	124
Greece	8 838	10 183	9 600	9 271	11 861	12 335	10 010	128	133	108
Spain (3)	11 947	11 968	12 711	14 098	14 195	14 006	14 010	:	:	:
France	6 296	6 108	5 792	5 797	6 128	6 007	5 869	106	104	101
Italy (4)	30 053	32 059	32 306	34 439	34 082	34 101	32 761	99	99	95
Cyprus	514	611	653	876	780	705	851	89	80	97
Latvia (5)	1 148	1 049	997	1 434	2 512	2 307	2 189	175	161	153
Lithuania	711	999	704	765	793	876	896	104	115	117
Luxembourg	1 342	1 326	1 201	1 448	1 343	2 232	2 574	93	154	178
Hungary (6)	6 678	7 626	6 740	4 676	5 464	715	794	117	:	:
Malta	78	113	123	149	180	187	181	121	126	121
Netherlands (7)	15 662	19 385	20 000	19 465	18 670	18 715	17 275	96	96	89
Austria	2 443	2 337	2 377	2 473	1 980	2 099	2 167	80	85	88
Poland	3 296	3 608	3 220	3 926	3 317	3 975	4 668	84	101	119
Portugal	3 654	3 536	3 610	3 265	3 710	4 260	4 546	114	130	139
Romania	1 775	2 441	3 079	2 796	3 621	3 228	3 852	130	115	138
Slovenia	997	1 026	1 590	1 429	1 434	2 096	1 756	100	147	123
Slovakia (7)	711	847	421	503	538	613	584	107	122	116
Finland (6)	5 269	5 177	4 837	5 115	5 659	7 267	7 566	111	:	:
Sweden	4 905	4 670	6 449	6 918	7 997	8 192	10 321	116	118	149
UK: England & Wales	24 190	25 276	26 550	28 323	29 885	33 223	32 336	106	117	114
UK: Scotland (4)	9 333	9 613	10 890	9 827	10 315	9 901	7 138	105	101	73
UK: Northern Ireland	375	349	473	530	607	668	762	115	126	144
Iceland (7)	165	95	92	104	104	101	95	100	97	91
Liechtenstein	459	435	285	225	210	357	531	93	159	236
Norway	16 814	17 118	19 156	19 086	17 547	18 616	21 954	92	98	115
Switzerland (6)	7 803	7 076	6 296	6 297	7 317	18 346	19 086	116	:	:
Montenegro	355	294	438	549	460	398	307	84	72	56
Croatia	7 529	8 186	8 346	7 952	7 882	7 063	7 784	99	89	98
FYR of Macedonia	357	390	315	451	415	:	:	92	:	:
Serbia	4 116	5 256	5 505	5 414	6 049	5 500	5 573	112	102	103
Turkey (8)	6 720	8 726	14 647	26 539	27 050	53 990	81 060	102	203	305
Albania	:	:	:	:	274	:	:	:	:	:
Bosnia & Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	1 519	1 584	:	:	:	:
Kosovo	:	:	:	:	314	364	482	:	:	:

(1)   2006, break in series.
(2)   2007, break in series.
(3)   2005 and 2008, break in series.
(4)   2004, break in series.
(5)   2004, 2005 and 2006, break in series.
(6)   2009, break in series.
(7)   2005, break in series.
(8)   2006 and 2007, break in series.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_gen)

Table 8: Number of police officers, 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Number of police officers per 100 000 inhabitants, average per year	
								2005-2007	2008-2010 (5)
Belgium (1)	37 008	38 911	38 963	38 718	38 581	39 861	39 746	370	366
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	33 800	30 807	29 439	:	412
Czech Republic	47 232	45 498	46 032	44 101	42 117	43 472	43 100	441	410
Denmark	10 483	10 728	10 819	10 841	10 743	10 850	11 084	199	198
Germany	246 756	248 188	250 284	250 353	247 619	245 752	243 625	303	300
Estonia (2)	3 520	3 412	3 238	3 247	3 218	3 183	4 536	245	272
Ireland	12 209	12 265	12 954	13 755	14 411	14 547	14 377	308	325
Greece	50 171	49 696	48 521	51 152	50 798	:	:	447	:
Spain	198 072	202 535	209 163	214 920	224 099	231 818	241 267	477	508
France	235 792	234 966	241 998	238 478	228 402	243 900	211 262	377	354
Italy	250 237	249 313	246 775	247 510	245 152	293 591	276 256	422	453
Cyprus	4 903	4 999	5 125	5 139	5 280	5 353	5 328	665	664
Latvia	9 902	9 920	9 568	8 222	8 410	7 114	7 624	402	341
Lithuania	11 526	11 216	11 301	11 173	11 018	10 957	10 738	330	326
Luxembourg	1 352	1 403	1 447	1 519	1 555	1 603	1 655	311	325
Hungary (3)	29 516	28 627	28 636	26 334	8 969	9 161	8 724	276	89
Malta	1 775	1 789	1 755	1 933	1 884	1 847	1 918	451	456
Netherlands	35 996	35 284	35 324	35 363	35 463	36 498	37 285	216	221
Austria	27 111	27 111	26 623	26 623	26 623	26 623	27 614	325	323
Poland	100 770	100 654	99 083	98 337	100 648	98 955	97 535	260	260
Portugal	47 647	46 929	47 573	47 276	47 518	49 152	46 632	447	449
Romania	45 770	46 875	50 265	50 453	50 339	51 076	52 146	228	238
Slovenia	7 618	7 881	7 857	7 971	7 779	7 842	7 776	394	384
Slovakia (1)	14 079	22 487	22 653	22 512	22 481	24 312	24 054	418	436
Finland	8 247	8 237	8 312	8 156	8 191	8 308	8 161	157	154
Sweden	16 891	17 073	17 423	17 866	18 321	19 144	20 292	193	208
UK: England & Wales	139 200	141 230	141 381	140 514	140 230	142 151	142 132	263	259
UK: Scotland (4)	16 001	16 221	16 234	16 221	17 048	17 409	17 263	318	333
UK: Northern Ireland	8 936	8 579	8 354	7 431	7 399	7 315	7 237	469	411
Iceland	671	679	688	683	646	667	661	228	207
Liechtenstein	87	92	96	93	83	88	88	268	242
Norway (1)	8 169	7 483	7 508	7 464	7 505	7 647	7 684	161	159
Switzerland	15 473	16 444	16 649	16 199	16 326	17 058	17 208	220	219
Montenegro	:	:	:	:	:	5 454	5 045	:	842
Croatia	19 634	19 898	19 790	20 424	19 823	20 204	20 846	451	458
FYR of Macedonia	9 231	9 815	9 776	9 599	9 905	:	:	477	:
Serbia	:	:	:	:	:	32 562	33 477	:	451
Turkey	327 371	330 310	325 738	329 533	341 770	351 250	362 710	461	492
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Bosnia & Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Kosovo	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

(1)   2005, break in series.
(2)   2010, break in series.
(3)   2008, break in series.
(4)   2004, break in series.
(5)   Montenegro and Serbia: average based on 2009 and 2010.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: (crim_plce))

Table 9: Prison population, 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Number of prisoners per 100 000 inhabitants, average per year	
								2005-2007	2008-2010 ([6])
EU-27	**607 859**	**617 281**	**598 977**	**605 680**	**619 832**	**631 858**	**637 929**	**123**	**126**
Belgium	9 249	9 330	9 573	9 950	9 804	10 105	10 968	91	96
Bulgaria	10 935	11 399	11 452	10 792	9 922	9 167	9 429	145	125
Czech Republic	18 303	19 003	18 904	19 110	20 471	19 371	21 987	185	197
Denmark	3 767	4 041	3 932	3 646	3 530	3 715	3 965	71	68
Germany	79 329	79 519	77 166	73 319	73 203	72 043	70 103	93	88
Estonia	4 575	4 410	4 310	3 466	3 656	3 555	3 393	302	264
Ireland	3 138	3 151	3 191	3 321	3 544	3 275	3 556	76	78
Greece ([1])	8 760	9 871	10 280	11 255	12 315	11 474	12 590	94	108
Spain	59 375	61 054	64 021	67 100	73 558	76 079	73 929	146	163
France ([2])	59 246	59 197	59 522	60 403	64 003	66 178	66 532	94	102
Italy	56 068	59 523	39 005	48 693	58 127	64 791	67 961	83	106
Cyprus	546	536	599	646	646	670	637	78	81
Latvia	7 666	6 998	6 636	6 548	6 873	7 055	6 780	293	305
Lithuania	7 838	7 951	7 982	7 770	7 736	8 332	8 844	232	248
Luxembourg ([2])	577	735	738	666	674	679	669	152	137
Hungary	16 543	15 720	14 740	14 743	14 626	15 253	16 328	149	154
Malta ([3])	298	294	375	382	662	494	598	86	142
Netherlands	17 376	17 860	16 536	15 532	14 611	14 304	14 289	102	87
Austria	9 000	8 955	8 780	8 887	7 899	8 423	8 597	108	99
Poland	79 344	82 656	87 669	90 199	84 549	85 598	81 094	228	220
Portugal	12 956	12 687	12 446	11 587	10 807	11 099	11 613	116	105
Romania	39 031	36 700	34 038	29 390	26 212	26 716	28 244	154	126
Slovenia	1 126	1 132	1 127	1 336	1 318	1 360	1 351	60	66
Slovakia	9 504	9 289	8 657	8 235	8 313	9 033	10 068	162	169
Finland	3 535	3 883	3 477	3 370	3 457	3 231	3 189	68	62
Sweden	7 291	7 016	7 151	6 740	6 806	6 976	6 891	77	74
UK: England & Wales ([4])	74 488	76 190	77 982	79 734	83 194	83 454	85 002	146	154
UK: Scotland	6 776	6 856	7 187	7 376	7 826	7 963	7 853	140	152
UK: Northern Ireland ([4])	1 219	1 325	1 501	1 484	1 490	1 465	1 469	83	82
Iceland	115	119	119	115	140	148	165	39	48
Liechtenstein	59	62	48	38	78	149	76	141	284
Norway	3 028	3 124	3 250	3 420	3 387	3 403	3 624	70	72
Switzerland	5 977	6 137	5 888	5 715	5 780	6 084	6 181	79	78
Montenegro	802	816	852	961	1 255	1 465	1 457	140	223
Croatia ([5])	3 010	3 485	3 833	4 290	4 734	4 891	5 165	87	111
FYR of Macedonia	1 791	2 081	2 090	2 050	2 235	:	:	102	109
Serbia	7 653	8 078	7 862	8 970	9 701	10 795	11 211	112	144
Turkey	58 016	55 966	70 524	90 732	103 435	116 333	116 924	102	157
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Bosnia & Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Kosovo	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

(1)   2004 and 2005, break in series.
(2)   2008, break in series.
(3)   2004, break in series.
(4)   2010, break in series.
(5)   2005, break in series.
(6)   UK: England & Wales, UK: Northern Ireland: 2010 only; FYR of Macedonia: 2008 only.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: crim_pris)

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Developing EU Statistics on crime and criminal justice

Eurostat received a mandate under the 2004 *Hague Programme([1]): 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 have been defined in the Commission Communication *Measuring Crime in the EU: Statistics Action Plan 2011-2015([2])*.

Data collection

The methodology used in this publication draws upon that developed by the European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics([3]), in particular the definition and measurement of criminal offences, and upon the Surveys on Crime Trends conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime([4]).

Countries were asked to adhere to a standard definition when assembling the figures and to provide details of any divergences.

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

The data are taken from information recorded or reported by the police. Direct comparisons of crime levels based on the absolute figures can be misleading as 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, when reported to the police, on identification of suspects, 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 apply

For these reasons, direct comparisons of crime levels in different countries cannot be made, except misleadingly. So rates per head of population are not presented in this publication, except for homicide and 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.

Care should be taken when considering low numbers: homicide rates may vary considerably between years especially in small countries, where there may be jumps from no homicides one year to one or two the next.

In general comparisons are best made on trends rather than 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 as footnotes in the individual tables. The colon symbol ':' is used to indicate missing information but also to indicate that definitional changes make comparisons impossible. Fuller information on these changes is given in the metadata files on the Eurostat website.

Where national series without definitional changes are available for the years between 2007 and 2010, indices have been calculated using the 2007 figure as a base, in order to make it easier to follow the trends:

Crime index $I_i = (C_i/C_{base}) * 100$

I_i = index number for year i

C_i = number of offences recorded by the police for year i

C_{base} = number of offences recorded by the police for the base year

Eurostat website

The website allows users access to the data and the metadata. 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. 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.** The metadata files contain additional information on the precise definition of the offence used by each country and are available through the following link:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/en/crim_esms.htm

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

([2]) Commission communication COM/2011/713 final http://eur-lex.europa.eu/

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

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

Further information

Journalists can contact the media support service:

European Statistical Data Support:

With the members of the 'European statistical system', Eurostat has set up a network of support centres in nearly every Member State and in some EFTA countries.

Their role is to provide help and guidance to Internet users of European statistics.

Contact details for this support network can be found on the Eurostat website at:
http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/.

All Eurostat publications can be ordered via EU Bookshop:
http://bookshop.europa.eu/