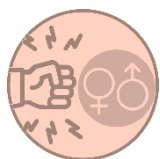


Data UNODC - Metadata Information



Violent and Sexual Crime

The tables on violent and sexual crime include national figures on offences for and victims of selected crimes recorded by the police or other law enforcement agencies.

These data are submitted by Member States through the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS) or other means.

Dataset characteristics

Access link: <https://dataunodc.un.org/dp-crime-violent-offences>

Last update: 16/05/2024

Base period: Calendar Year

Data source(s): National data on offences and victims collected through the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Criminal Justice Systems, Population data from UN DESA, Population Division.

Please see below for National data collection sources.

Contact

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Statistical concepts and definitions

The [International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes \(ICCS\)](#) is the source of the definitions for the variables disseminated in these tables. The classification includes more information on what is included and excluded for each of the acts defined below:

Acts intended to induce fear of emotional distress (ICCS 0208): Fear or emotional distress caused by a person's behaviour or act. Emotional distress, at minimum, is mental or psychological pain.

Acts intended to induce fear of emotional distress - Cyber-related (ICCS 0208): If the use of computer data or computer systems was an integral part of the modus operandi of the crime.

Kidnapping (ICCS 020221): Unlawful detainment and taking away of a person or persons against their will (including through the use of force, threat, fraud or enticement) for the purpose of demanding an illicit gain, any other economic gain or other material benefit for their liberation, or in order to oblige someone to do or not to do something.

Robbery (ICCS 0401): Unlawfully taking or obtaining property with the use of force or threat of force against a person with intent to permanently or temporarily withhold it from a person or organization.

Serious assault (ICCS 020111): Intentional or reckless application of serious physical force inflicted upon the body of a person resulting in serious bodily injury.

Sexual exploitation (ICCS 0302): Acts of abuse of a position of vulnerability, power or trust, or use of force or threat of force, for profiting financially, physically, socially or politically from the prostitution or sexual acts of a person.

Sexual violence (ICCS 0301): Unwanted sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, or contact or communication with unwanted sexual attention without valid consent or with consent as a result of intimidation, force, fraud, coercion, threat, deception, use of drugs or alcohol, or abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability.

Sexual violence – Rape (ICCS 03011): Sexual penetration without valid consent or with consent as a result of intimidation, force, fraud, coercion, threat, deception, use of drugs or alcohol, abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability, or the giving or receiving of benefits.

Sexual violence – Sexual assault (ICCS 03012): Unwanted sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, or contact or communication with unwanted sexual attention not amounting to rape as defined in ICCS 03011.

Sexual violence – Other acts of sexual violence (ICCS 03019): Sexual violence as defined in ICCS 0301 not described or classified in ICCS categories 03011 - 03012.

Indicator definitions, statistical and measurement units

Violent offences: The counting unit is the individual offence. Each incident with a specific location at a specific point in time is counted separately. Other counting units may be used in certain countries (for example, a series or a number of offences may form a case, or a series of cases may form an investigation).

Victims of serious assault and victims of sexual violence: The counting unit is the individual victim. Each victim is counted once, irrespective of the number of victimizations. If a person has been victimized in a series of these offences over time, one victim is counted. If a person has been victimized by more than one of these offences in the same event one victim, one victim is counted. Certain countries may use other counted units.

Male and female rates are calculated based on the male or female populations while the total rate is based on the total population (both sexes).

$$Rate_{total} = 100,000 * \frac{Victims_{total}}{Population_{total}}$$

Use and interpretation of data

Multiple factors such as the functioning of the criminal justice system, the state in the investigation during which the data are recorded (e.g., when it is reported or after investigation) and the adoption of international statistical definition at the national level can impact the comparability of these data between countries. Furthermore, the lack of reporting of the crime by some of the victims also prevent the use of these data for assessing the prevalence of the crime. Nonetheless, these data remain useful to analyze trends.

Data sources and method of collection

The data come from administrative registers usually managed by the police or other law enforcement agencies. Depending on the country, data are collected for inclusion in offence statistics at the time the offence is first reported to the police, or after the offence is first reported but before a full investigation, or after the offence has been investigated. In several countries, there are multiple entities responsible for law enforcement offering complimentary or similar coverage. The data from these different agencies should therefore be integrated before being published. These data are collected from national authorities with the annual [United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems \(UN-CTS\)](#). National focal points working in national agencies responsible for statistics on crime and the criminal justice system and nominated by the Permanent Mission to UNODC are responsible for compiling the data from the other relevant agencies before transmitting the UN-CTS to UNODC. Following the submission, UNODC checks for consistency and coherence with other data sources. Member States which are also part of the



European Union or the European Free Trade Association, or candidate or potential candidate to the European Union are sending their response to the UN-CTS to Eurostat for validation.

Data submitted by Member States through other means or taken from other sources are added to the dataset after review by Member States.

The population data is sourced from the World Population Prospect, Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Suggested citation

Please cite the data as follows: UNODC (2024), UNODC Research - Data Portal - Violent and Sexual Crime. <https://dataunodc.un.org/dp-crime-violent-offences> (Accessed on [DD MMM YYYY]).