UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Data UNODC - Metadata Information

Corruption and Economic Crime

The tables on corruption and economic crime include national figures on offences for selected economic and environmental crimes recorded by the police or other law enforcement agencies. These data are submitted by Member States to UNODC 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-corruption-offences
Last update: 06/06/2022
Base period: Calendar Year
Data source(s): National data on offences and victims collected through the UN-CTS, Population data from United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. Please see below for National data collection sources.

Contact

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
Email: unodc-ddds@un.org

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 against property only
Burglary (ICCS 0501): Gaining unauthorized access to a part of a building/dwelling or other premises with or without the use of force against the building/dwelling, with intent to commit theft or when actually committing theft.
Theft (ICCS 0502): Unlawfully taking or obtaining of property with the intent to permanently withhold it from a person or organization without consent and without the use of force, threat of force or violence, coercion or deception.
> Theft - of a motorized vehicle (ICCS 05021): Theft of a motorized vehicle or parts of a motorized of vehicle.

Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption
Fraud (ICCS 0701): Obtaining money or other benefit, or evading a liability through deceit or dishonest conduct.
> Fraud – Cyber-related (ICCS 0701): If the use of computer data or computer systems was an integral part of the modus operandi of the crime.
Corruption (ICCS 0703): Unlawful acts as defined in the United Nations Convention against Corruption and other national and international legal instruments against corruption.

<u>Corruption - Bribery</u> (ICCS 07031): Promising, offering, giving, soliciting, or accepting an undue advantage to or from a public official or a person who directs or works in a private sector entity, directly or indirectly, in order that the person act or refrain from acting in the exercise of his or her official duties.

<u>Corruption – Other acts of corruption</u> (ICCS 07032-07039): Other acts of corruption includes embezzlement, abuse of functions, trading in influence, illicit enrichment and all other acts of corruption not mentioned above.

<u>Money laundering</u> (ICCS 07041): Conversion or transfer of property, knowing that such property is the proceeds of crime, for the purpose of concealing or disguising the illicit origin of such property or of helping any person who is involved in the commission of the predicate offence to evade the legal consequences of his or her actions, as well as the concealment or disguise of the true nature, source, location, disposition, movement or ownership of rights with respect to the property.

Acts against public order, authority and provision of the State

<u>Smuggling of migrants offences</u> (ICCS 08051): Procurement in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit from the illegal entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident.

Acts against public safety and state security

<u>Unlawful access to a computer system</u> (ICCS 09031): Unlawful acts involving entry into parts or the whole of a computer system without authorization or justification.

<u>Unlawful interference with a computer system or computer data</u> (ICCS 09032): Unlawful acts hindering the functioning of a computer system, as well as acts involving damage, deletion, deterioration, alteration or suppression of computer data without authorization or justification.

<u>Unlawful interception or access of computer data</u> (ICCS 09033): Unlawful acts involving gaining access to computer data without authorization or justification, including obtaining data during a transmission process that is not intended to be public, as well as obtaining computer data (such as by copying data) without authorization.

Acts against the natural environment

<u>Acts that cause environmental pollution or degradation</u> (ICCS 1001): Acts that result in the pollution of the natural environment.

<u>Acts involving the movement or dumping of waste</u> (ICCS 1002): Acts involving the illegal movement or dumping of waste.

<u>Trade or possession of protected or prohibited species of fauna and flora</u> (ICCS 1003): Unlawful trade or possession of specimens of protected or prohibited wild fauna or flora species.

<u>Acts that result in the depletion or degradation of natural resources</u> (ICCS 1004): Acts that result in the unlawful exploitation or depletion of natural resources, fauna or flora species, land, water or air.

Indicator definitions, statistical and measurement units

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). Rates are calculated as follows:

$$Rate = 100,000 * \frac{Offences}{Population}$$

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 (2022), UNODC Research - Data Portal – Corruption and Economic Crime. https://dataunodc.un.org/dp-crime-corruption-offences (Accessed on [DD MMM YYYY]).