Reported offences

In 2020 approximately 1,570,000 offences were reported to the police, the customs authority or the prosecution service. This represents an increase of 18,500 reported offences by comparison with the figure for 2019.

In particular, an increase was noted in the offence *categories* criminal damage and drug offences. The *types* of crimes in drug offences for which the number of reported offences increased the most between 2019 and 2020 were possession and personal misuse.

During the same period, the number of reported offences decreased in the category fraud. *The types* of offences in the category that decreased most were payment card fraud. Since 2011, the number of reported offences has increased by approximately 151,000 (+11 %). Since 1975, the trend in the total number of reported offences has been characterised by a continuous increase. However, the rate of increase, i.e. the percentage change over time, was strongest to the end of the 1990s, the rate of increase after that was lower, until another increase started in the mid-2000s.

The increase has occurred across the majority of offence categories during the period between 1975 and 2014. Reported car crimes including vehicle theft and theft out of and from a motor vehicle, however, have fallen since 1975, and are thus exceptions to this general trend. The number of reported assaults, including aggravated assaults, has increased four-fold since 1975 and the number of reported sexual offences has undergone a seven-fold increase.

Reported crimes against the person are numerically dominated by assaults, unlawful threats and non-sexual molestation. Over the course of 2020, a total of approximately 83,200 assault offences were reported, which constitutes a decrease of 2 per cent by comparison with the figure for 2019. Assaults on women aged 18 years or over increased by 3 per cent to approximately 29,200 reported offences. In addition, there were a total of 1,530 reported cases of gross violation of a woman's integrity. The number of reported assaults against men aged 18 years or over amounted to approximately 29,400 offences which was a decrease of 4 per cent since the previous year.

About 25,000 sexual offences were reported in 2020, which represents an increase of 8 per cent since 2019. There was an 9 per cent increase in the number of reported rape offences, with 9,360 reported rapes being registered in 2020. The number of reported crimes of sexual molestation decreased by 3 per cent by comparison with the figure for 2019, to approximately 10,100 cases.

Slightly over 421,000 theft offences were reported in 2020, which represents a decrease of 14,500 reported offences in relation to the figure for the previous year. This category of crimes accounts for 27 per cent of the total number of reported offences. Subsequent to this point, the number of theft offences has declined. Approximately 10,100 car thefts were reported in 2020, along with 49,500 thefts out of motor vehicles. The number of car thefts declined by 2 per cent, and the number of thefts out of motor vehicles increased with 11 per cent compared with the figures for 2019.

In 2020, the number of reported robberies decreased with 2 per cent compared with the number reported in 2019, with 8,810 reported offences being registered. Muggings, which

comprise approximately 85 per cent of reported robbery offences, decreased by 5 per cent to 6,900 in 2020. A total of 554 robberies of shops and stores were reported in 2020, which constitutes an increase of 12 per cent by comparison with 2019. A total of 5 bank robberies were reported in 2020. A total of approximately 3,410 incidents of violence against public servants (police, security officers etc.) were reported in 2020, this was a decrease of 14 per cent compared with the number reported in 2019. A total of about 14,700 residential burglaries were reported in 2020, which is unchanged by comparison with the figure for 2019. The number of reported fraud offences decreased by 11 per cent since last year, with 218,000 offences being reported.

Reported criminal damage offences decreased by a total of 14 per cent, to 234,000 crimes.

In addition, reported drug offences increased by 10 per cent by comparison with the figures for 2019, to approximately 124,000 reported offences. During the year a total of approximately 84,400 road traffic offences were reported, which is an increase by 1 per cent compared to 2019.

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