



Bundeskriminalamt

# THE BUNDESKRIMINALAMT FACTS AND FIGURES



Published by the  
BUNDESKRIMINALAMT  
Public Relations  
65173 Wiesbaden



Conception and Layout:  
KARIUS & PARTNER GMBH  
Gerlinger Straße 77, 71229 Leonberg  
Text: Bundeskriminalamt  
Printed by:  
DPS GmbH, Bad Homburg

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Bundeskriminalamt

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**BKA**

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Updated to: 01/2009

## Introductory Remarks

In the past years, the world has witnessed fundamental social and political changes. Wide-ranging political changes in Europe, the establishment of global markets and the manifold use of new technologies in the economy and society, with further developments not yet foreseeable, also widen the possibilities and spheres of activity of perpetrators and criminal organisations. This results in new forms of crime as well as the emergence of new offender and crime structures.

The law enforcement agencies also have to adapt to these crime-related developments in a continuous process.

The mobility of perpetrators across state and national borders requires a national central agency for the Federal Republic of Germany to fight crime effectively. The Bundeskriminalamt (BKA) is this central agency.



The Bundeskriminalamt receives national and international messages and information that are important for efficient accomplishment of the

BKA's own police work and its service tasks, for example in the field of forensic science, identification of persons and criminal research for the federal states.

To optimise crime suppression not

only at national but also at international level, the Bundeskriminalamt is the German law enforcement agency responsible for international police contacts.

The specific tasks and powers of the Bundeskriminalamt are governed by the Law on the Bundeskriminalamt. Besides its national and international function as a central agency, the Bundeskriminalamt also has to carry out law enforcement tasks in certain cases. Most of the time, these are complex proceedings which require investigations abroad, e.g. in the fields of organised crime and offences against state security.

Moreover, the Bundeskriminalamt has to perform protective tasks, e.g. it provides for the protection of members of the constitutional bodies at federal level.

Changes and/or amendments to the BKA Law have been in force since 01.01.2009, pursuant to which, in specific cases, the BKA now has the power to perform tasks aimed at protecting against dangers arising from international terrorism.

For more than 50 years, the Bundeskriminalamt has been able to make an essential contribution to combating crime, i.e. maintaining internal security and preserving peace in a free, democratic Europe.

In this context, it has reacted flexibly to the national and international



crime situation through changes in its organisation, personnel, equipment and budget. This development is reflected in the "Facts and Figures".

# Staffing and Budgeting

Radical social and political changes in recent years have resulted in new developments in various areas of crime and the emergence of new crime structures. In the past, the Bundeskriminalamt has always reacted flexibly to the changing crime situation.

New forms of crime often entail additional tasks for the Bundeskriminalamt, and such new tasks require more personnel. This is particularly reflected by the staffing and budgeting developments at the BKA.

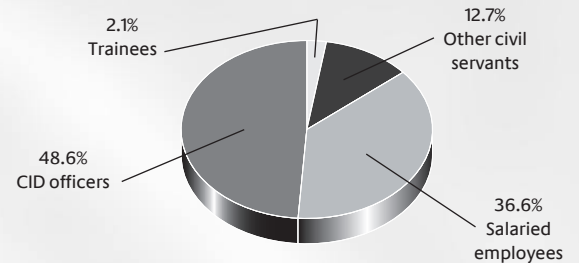
In early 2009, there were a total of **5,103.5 positions** (5,513 members of staff) at the Bundeskriminalamt. About half of the staff is comprised of specially trained CID officers. Employees make up 36.6% of the staff. 12.7 % are administrative as well as „other“ CID officers. Women make up 37.2% of the staff at the BKA.

The **budget volume** of the Bundeskriminalamt for 2009 is approximately **386m €**.

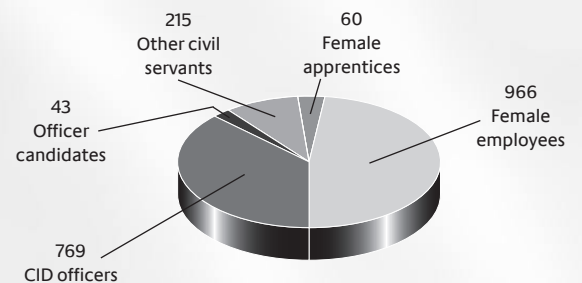
With the allocations for jobs and equipment provided by the Anti-Terror Package I and the Counter-Terrorism Act in the budgetary years 2002 and 2003, the personnel and financial resources of the Bundeskriminalamt have been further improved and, in particular, the instruments aimed at the suppression of international terrorism have been strengthened.

In addition to the area of personnel costs, expenditure for construction projects and IT measures are a cost-intensive focal point.

**BKA Staff Structure**

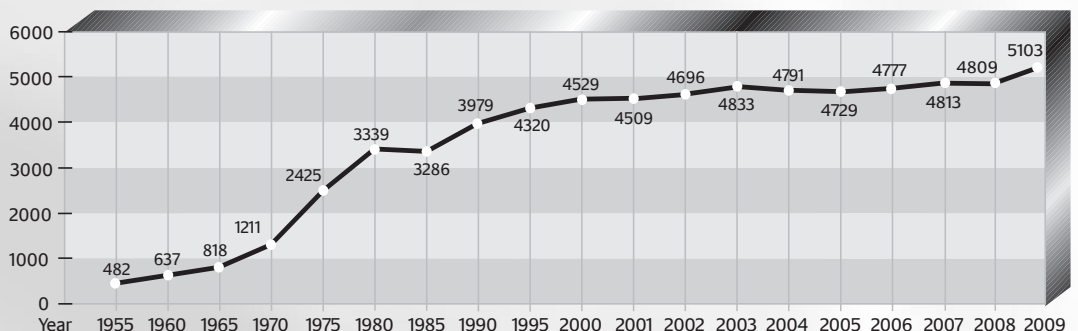


**Women at the BKA**

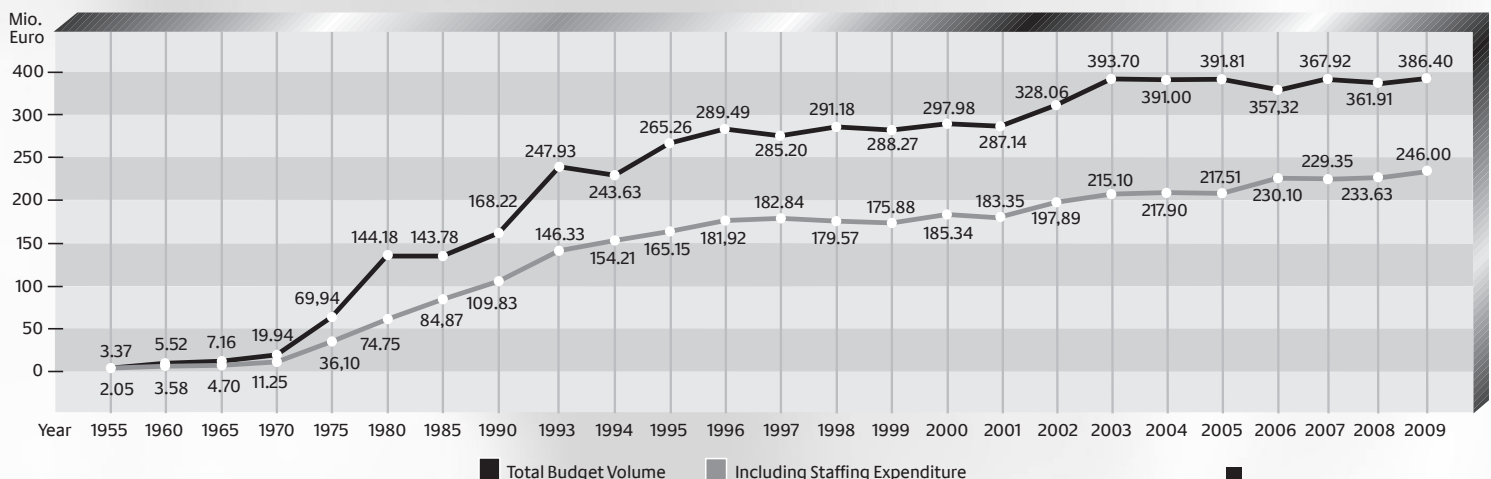


As of 01.01.2009  
all employees

**BKA Staff Development**



**Budget Development since Inception of BKA**



## Basic and Advanced Police Training

The **Bundeskriminalamt** trains its own **CID officers**. Officer candidates receive their training during a three-year course of study at the Federal College of Public Administration as preparation for service.

The **training** is divided up into 21 months of theoretical instruction and 15 months of practical training. On completion of their studies at the above college, the CID officers are assigned to pay grade A 9 of the higher police career level.

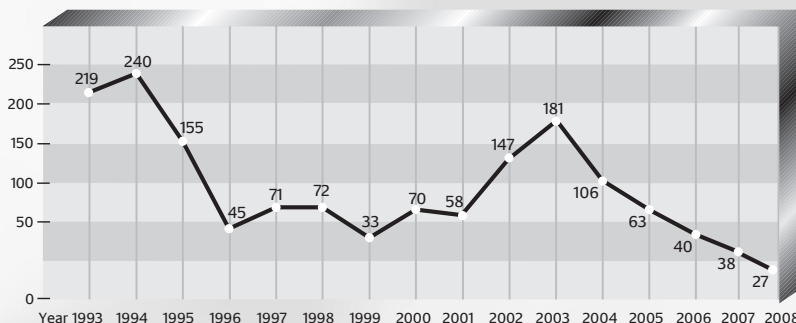
Besides this, the BKA also provides training for civil servants at state and federal level to qualify them as **experts in the fields of forensic science and fingerprinting**. Numerous **special police training courses**, advanced training in scientific and technical fields, foreign language courses and task-oriented operational training complete the educational programme.

Furthermore, the BKA provides basic and advanced training for police officers from other countries.

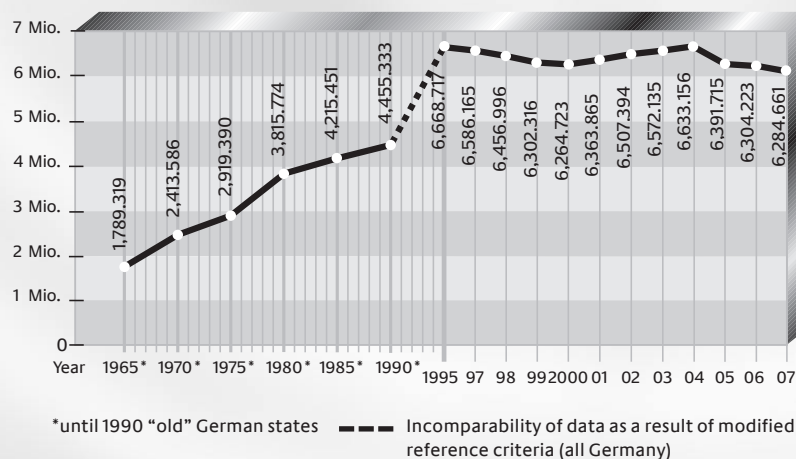
## Police Crime Statistics

The **Police Crime Statistics** for the Federal Republic of Germany are prepared by the BKA. They are published annually – about the middle of the year – in a data file on the Internet and in book form during the second half of the year. Most copies are made available to police and judicial authorities, but also – for example – to universities. The Police Crime Statistics Yearbooks since 1997 and the corresponding tables of time-series data (“Zeitreihen”) starting in 1987 can be viewed on the BKA homepage ([www.bka.de](http://www.bka.de)).

### New staff comprising CID officers of the federal higher police career level, Federal College of Public Administration



### Crimes (cases) recorded



Unlawful (criminal) acts known to the police, including attempts subject to punishment, the number of suspects identified and a wide range of further data on cases, victims or suspects are included in the Police crime statistics. Breaches of regulations, crimes against state security and road traffic offences are not included in this publication. In the police crime statistics for the Federal Republic of Germany, the data provided by the 16 State Criminal Police Offices is presented in the form of tables and graphics along with commentaries.

In 2007, **6,284,661** cases were recorded in Germany. Compared to 2006, this represents a decrease of **19,562** cases or 0.3%. Although the number of theft cases has decreased continuously in recent years, at approx. 41% theft still dominates the overall crime statistics. About half of all crimes are solved, but the clear-up rates vary greatly between individual areas of crime: pick-pocketing lies at 5.7%, murder and manslaughter, however, at 96.8%.

## International Co-operation

In principle, the BKA is responsible for **official communications** with foreign police forces and judicial authorities in order to perform its tasks as a central agency, i.e. the collection and analysis of information.

The Bundeskriminalamt houses the National Central Bureau of the Federal Republic of Germany for the **International Criminal Police Organisation (ICPO)**. This organisation is known throughout the world as "Interpol". At the present time, **187 countries** are ICPO members. Each country has designated a National Central Bureau as a point of contact through which members can liaise with each other and also with the ICPO General Secretariat in Lyons. It is the objective of ICPO to provide the most comprehensive mutual support possible for all police agencies. The limits to such co-operation are set by national legislation, agreements under international law, the UN human rights charter, and the Interpol Constitution.

The **European Police Office (EUROPOL)** in The Hague is an important BKA partner for police co-operation. EUROPOL's objective is to improve co-operation between the EU member states with regard to the prevention and suppression of the fields of crime laid down in the EUROPOL Convention. In this respect, Europol primarily conducts crime analyses. However, Europol does not have any powers of investigation. All **27 Member States** have set up a single contact unit at national level which, amongst other things, ensures the flow of information between Europol and the competent national law enforcement agencies and represents the national interests in advisory and decision-making bodies of Europol. The Bundeskriminalamt fulfils this central function for Germany. In addition, liaison offices have been set up at Europol which above all ensure the exchange of information between the individual Member States.

In 2008, the **translating and inter-**

**preting service** at the BKA contributed to the international exchange of police information by translating almost **50,000 pages of text (messages exchanged with other police agencies, reports, records of interrogation, etc.)** from and into German, English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian, Polish, Italian, Portuguese and Dutch. BKA translators and interpreters are also available for less widespread languages and dialects.

For the purpose of intensifying international co-operation, the BKA currently has **65 liaison officers in 50 countries at 52 locations**, who contribute to establishing an international communication network for the suppression of crime. In addition to the work of liaison officers, efforts aimed at controlling organised crime (OC), in particular drug offences in countries of production and transit, make it necessary in many cases to assist local police agencies by providing training and equipment aid, which is also handled by the BKA.



### BKA Liaison Officers throughout the world



## Analysis and Dissemination of Information

Efficient police co-operation requires central collection and analysis of the information obtained by police offices at state and federal level.

The aim is to identify links between perpetrators and offences and to discover criminal structures and potentials, especially with regard to supra-regional **organised crime** and other dangerous forms of crime. On this basis, investigative leads and concepts of crime suppression are developed and provided to the competent law enforcement agencies.

In this context, **electronic data processing** is an indispensable instrument of crime control. Only by this means is it possible to store numerous items of personal and property data and to analyse and compare them with each other.

With the aid of electronic data processing, it can be determined within seconds at the Bundeskriminalamt whether records, fingerprints or other types of material are on file about a particular individual. The **criminal records** form the basis for the collection of information.

They continue to be an indispensable tool for the police. Such records make it possible to trace the career of a criminal offender. They can serve as an important source of information for the police in cases where the offender again comes to notice as a suspect, or in cases involving offences committed by perpetrators yet unidentified where participation by certain known individuals is suspected.

The BKA criminal records include approximately **3,700,000 items of personal data** on persons who have committed serious offences or crimes of supraregional significance. Approximately 330,000 of the criminal records are available in digitised form. In 2008, approximately **330,000 new criminal records** were created.

An automatic monitoring system ensures that data are deleted by the prescribed deadlines. This makes it possible to keep files up to date while complying fully with the provisions of data protection law.

## Identification Service

The Bundeskriminalamt maintains centralised identification facilities and collections. These are used, among other things, for

- identification of person
- identification of corpses
- determination of possible links between crimes
- conducting identification proceedings and
- preparing expert opinions for police and judicial authorities.

Some possibilities for identifying persons include comparison of fingerprints, photographs, voice or DNA analyses.

As an unchangeable and uniquely individual characteristic, the **fingerprint** is of special interest to the police as a means of identification. The BKA receives a copy of every fingerprint sheet made during identification measures in Germany. Scanners are used to read the

fingerprints into the **Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS)** where they are compared with other fingerprints, for example those left behind at crime scenes by unidentified persons.

By this means, suspects can be identified quickly, innocent persons cleared of suspicion, and links between crimes discovered. At the present time, **fingerprint sheets of more than 3,200,000 persons** are on file at the Bundeskriminalamt.



Based on these files, in 2008 the BKA was able to link fingerprints to specific persons in approximately 42 per cent of the cases handled by the identification service.

On average, about **35,000 fingerprint sheets** are sent to the Bundeskriminalamt each month for comparison. At the same time, the material in the files is cleared on a regular basis in accordance with the provisions of data protection law. After a predetermined period of time, the respective fingerprint sheets are removed from the files. In 2008 this was done with approximately **350,000 fingerprint sheets**.

Since the beginning of 2006, it has been possible to identify persons by fingerprints not only at the telephoto or live scan station but also in the patrol car with the Fast-ID system. Fast-ID is a mobile single-finger scanner, with which two or more fingerprints can be recorded and checked against the entire AFIS data collection. In the case of a hit, the response time is between approximately 3 and 5 minutes, in the case of no hit 1 to 3 minutes. Since its introduction, the fast ID fingerprint identification system is now used by 10 federal states. The implementation of the system in further states is already in the planning phase.

Within the framework of international legal assistance, in 2008 the BKA also received about **5,100 fingerprint sheets from other countries** for analysis.

It is not only the lifting of fingerprints that belongs to this **identification procedure** but also the taking of photographs and personal descriptions. The photographs are now only taken electronically throughout Germany and are stored centrally at the Bundeskriminalamt. Currently, there are approximately **2.8m photographs** of **2.1m** different persons and about **2m** personal descriptions stored in the German police information system (INPOL).

INPOL allows all local police services to have immediate and up-to-date access to the photographs as well as the personal descriptions for the fulfilment of their various tasks. The BKA exchanges over **40,000** photographs/personal descriptions annually with INTERPOL and SIRENE offices for searches, clearing up and/or preventing offences as well as the identification of persons (unidentified bodies, helpless persons).

Since 1998, there has been a central **DNA analysis database** at the BKA intended to assist in the quick and accurate identification of repeat offenders who have committed serious crimes. If physical evidence from unidentified offenders is recovered, their body cells can be analysed and, with the assistance of the DNA database, links to the crime can be established. Only data collected from accused and convicted persons and crime scene prints are stored in the database in accordance with strict legal provisions. Only the uncoded part of the DNA sufficient for identification is analysed. Subsequently, the samples

taken from persons are destroyed. At the end of 2008, more than **757,000 data records** were stored in the DNA analysis database, approximately 19% of which were crime scene prints of offenders as yet unidentified. At the end of 2008, the clear-up rate was 31.2%, i.e. about every 3rd stored DNA sample led to a perpetrator.

When „**identification proceedings**“ are conducted, identification aids such as fingerprinting and photography are used to ascertain the „legitimate“ personal particulars of a person. This is important because, for example, the previous convictions of offenders are on file at the Federal Registry of Judicial Antecedents under their respective personal details. There are also ever more frequent cases in which criminals use the particulars of other persons, thus casting suspicion on innocent and law-abiding citizens.

In 2008, together with local and foreign police services, the Bundeskriminalamt identified the legitimate personal particulars of over **1,400 persons** on the basis of birth certificates and identifying witnesses.



## Electronic Search and Information Systems

The **electronic police information system** at the BKA (known as INPOL) is indispensable for searches and investigative work. After entry into the system, data about persons wanted by the German police or judicial authorities are available within seconds to all agencies connected to the system. In addition to the BKA, state police offices, the Federal Police and the customs authorities have access to the system.

The databases on persons and property play a central role.

The wanted notices are automatically checked to ensure that data are deleted at the required time in compliance with the provisions of data protection law.

The INPOL wanted persons database currently contains about

<b>167,955</b>	<b>wanted notices with a view to establishing whereabouts</b>
<b>505,526</b>	<b>requests for arrest of which</b>
<b>335,344</b>	<b>expulsion orders/deportations of foreigners.</b>

The INPOL property database includes approximately **10.9m items** that are the subject of searches because of possible links to crimes.

This total number includes, among others, the following items:

<b>147,180</b>	<b>passenger cars</b>
<b>34,909</b>	<b>trucks, including trailers</b>
<b>106,943</b>	<b>mopeds, motorised bicycles and motorcycles</b>
<b>768,919</b>	<b>bicycles</b>
<b>5,267,306</b>	<b>identity documents, driving licences, etc.</b>
<b>251,408</b>	<b>firearms</b>

An additional computer-assisted information system designed to store and retrieve data on persons and property is the **Schengen Information System (SIS)**, which can be used for searches in the countries that are parties to the Convention Applying the **Schengen Agreement (CAS)**. Establishment of the SIS is a significant compensatory measure following elimination of border controls at the international borders of the CAS countries. **SIRENE** (Supplementary Information REquest at the National Entry) at the BKA is the national central office for information exchange relating to SIS searches.

The search data can basically be accessed within seconds by any police officer in any member country.

At the present time, Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Austria, Greece, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, the Czech Republic, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Slovenia, the Slovak Republic, Hungary and the associated countries of Norway, Switzerland and Iceland participate in the SIS.

Searches for persons or property are entered into the system by the respective SIS country and disseminated to all national offices via a central office in Strasbourg.

The system provides information on

- persons wanted in Schengen countries with a view to extradition
- persons who are circulated with a view to refusing entry into, or deportation from, Schengen countries
- persons who are circulated with a view to location, taking them into custody, or placing a lookout for them
- missing property in the following search categories: vehicles over 50cc, caravans and trailers over 750kg, vehicle registration numbers, issued documents, blank documents, firearms, banknotes.

At the beginning of 2009, the SIS constituted a data volume of approximately **27,920,000 search notices**. This is divided into **26,696,000 property searches** and **1,224,000 searches for persons**. Germany represents about one-fifth of the total search database.

# History of the Bundeskriminalamt

## The BKA Presidents

1951	Dr. Max Hagemann	1981	Dr. Heinrich Boge
1952	Dr. Hanns Jess	1990	Prof. Hans-Ludwig Zachert
1955	Reinhard Dullien	1996	Dr. Klaus Ulrich Kersten
1965	Paul Dickopf	2004	Jörg Ziercke
1971	Dr. Horst Herold		

01 January 1946	Establishment of a "Criminal Police Office for the British Zone" (Kriminalpolizeiamt für die Britische Zone) in Hamburg.	April 1983	The first liaison officer is posted at the German diplomatic representation in Bangkok (Thailand).
23 May 1949	Proclamation of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Germany. The fundamentals for the establishment of the Bundeskriminalamt are codified in Articles 73 no. 10 and 87 section 1.	01 January 1986	Establishment of the BKA's own anti-drug division.
15 March 1951	The "Law on the Establishment of a Federal Criminal Police Office" (BKA Law) comes into force.	July 1988	A second BKA location in Wiesbaden-Biebrich is established.
April/May 1951	The Federal Government designates Wiesbaden as the BKA headquarters. Creation of the "Protection Division" in Bonn.	December 1991	Creation of a Berlin branch for the "Protection Division."
31 October 1951	The BKA takes over the "Criminal Police Office for the British Zone" in Hamburg. As the so-called "Hamburg Branch", it forms the basis of the BKA.	09 December 1993	The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is operational throughout Germany.
May 1952	The "Forensic Science Institute" is the first division to move from Hamburg to Wiesbaden.	September 1994	Parts of the BKA move to a former U.S. Military Camp named "Camp Lindsey" as a third location in Wiesbaden.
09 June 1952	The Federal Republic of Germany joins the International Criminal Police Organisation (ICPO-Interpol). The BKA becomes Germany's National Central Bureau.	26 March 1995	The SIS (Schengen Information System) takes effect with the Convention Applying the Schengen Agreement. To handle searches for criminals, a SIRENE bureau (Supplementary Information REquest at the National Entry) is established at the BKA.
01 January 1953	Introduction of uniform Police Crime Statistics based on a decision of the CID Working Group.	01 August 1997	The new BKA Law enters into force.
22 July 1971	Reformation of the career structure in police service at federal level: Only higher and senior career levels are maintained (bipartite career structure).	17 April 1998	Installation of a DNA Analysis Database.
10 January 1972	Foundation of the "Data Processing" Division.	September 1999	The greater part of the "Protection Division" moves to Berlin-Treptow.
13 November 1972	The INPOL search system goes into operation.	08 March 2001	The BKA celebrates its 50th anniversary.
28 June 1973	Amendment to the BKA Law expanding jurisdiction significantly.	16 August 2003	Start-up of the police information and search system INPOL (new).
07 May 1975	Establishment of an "Antiterrorist" division in Bonn-Bad Godesberg.	30 August 2004	Construction begins on a new building for the "Forensic Science Institute" in Wiesbaden.
01 October 1979	Commencement of teaching at the "Federal College of Public Administration".	14 December 2004	Setting up the "Joint Anti-Terrorism Centre" in Berlin.
October 1981	The Bonn Branch moves into the new BKA building in Meckenheim-Merl with the following divisions: the "Protection Division" (SG), "State Security" (ST) and "Technical Services" (TD).	01 January 2005	Setting up the "International Coordination" Division.
		30 March 2007	The anti-terror database goes into operation.
		01 January 2009	Coming into force of the amendments to the BKA Law with expansion of competency in the area of averting dangers arising from international terrorism