

I. General information on police crime statistics (PCS)

1. Importance

Police crime statistics serve to

- monitor crime and individual types of offences, the size and composition of the circle of suspects and fluctuations in crime rates,
- gather information for law enforcement purposes, for organisational planning and decision-making and to
- carry out socio-criminological research, criminal police and preventive measures.

2. Content

The police crime statistics are so-called outgoing statistics. This means that the statistics contain only those offences which have come to police attention, been processed by the police and, before compilation begins, passed to the public prosecutor's office. These statistics also include punishable attempts to commit an offence and drug offences processed by the customs authorities. The time needed to conduct investigations means that about 22.5 % of the offences included in the PCS for 2022 were committed in 2021 or earlier.

The PCS do not cover state security offences, traffic offences (except violations of Sections 315 and 315b of the Penal Code and Section 22a of the Road Traffic Act), criminal offences committed outside the Federal Republic of Germany and violations of the criminal laws of the individual German states (*Länder*) with the exception of the relevant provisions in the data protection legislation of the states. The PCS also do not include offences which do not fall within the competence of the police (e.g. financial and tax offences) or which are reported directly to the public prosecutor's office and are investigated exclusively by the public prosecutor's office (e.g. perjury).

The PCS contain, in particular, information on:

- the type and number of recorded criminal offences,
- the date and place of the offence,
- the victims and criminal damage,
- the clear up rate,
- the suspects' age, gender, nationality and other characteristics.

3. Validity

The PCS only cover those criminal offences which have been recorded by the police and therefore by definition do not contain undetected criminal offences. The number of recorded cases differs from offence to offence and is also dependent on the extent to which offences are reported to the police.

II. Crime trends in 2022

1. In general

The total number of recorded criminal offences decreased by 11.5 % compared to the previous year (2022: 5,628,584 cases, 2021: 5,047,860 cases).

2. Clear-up rate (CR)

The total clear-up rate is 58.3 % (2021: 58.7 %). The CR for murder and manslaughter is particularly high at 93.8 %, as is the case with regard to crimes related to services, especially fare evasion 98.7 % and social benefits fraud 98.6 %.

The CR (29.8 %) for theft offences is particularly low.

3. Offence rate (OR)

The offence rate (criminal offences committed per 100,000 inhabitants) is an indicator of the threat posed by crime. The OR changed from 6,3070 (2021) to 6,762 (2022). This corresponds to an increase of 11.4%.

4. Suspects

In 2022 the number of suspects changed to 2,093,782 (+ 10.7 %, 2021: 1,892,003). Of the total, 528,542 were female suspects (25.2 %). The number of child suspects (6 to under 14-year-olds) changed by + 35.5 %, the number of juvenile suspects (14 to under 18 year olds), by + 22.1 % and young adults (18 to under 21 year-olds) by + 6.7 %. Violent crimes by juvenile suspects increased in 2022 to a total of 26,441 (2021: 20,526).

5. Significant changes compared to the previous year

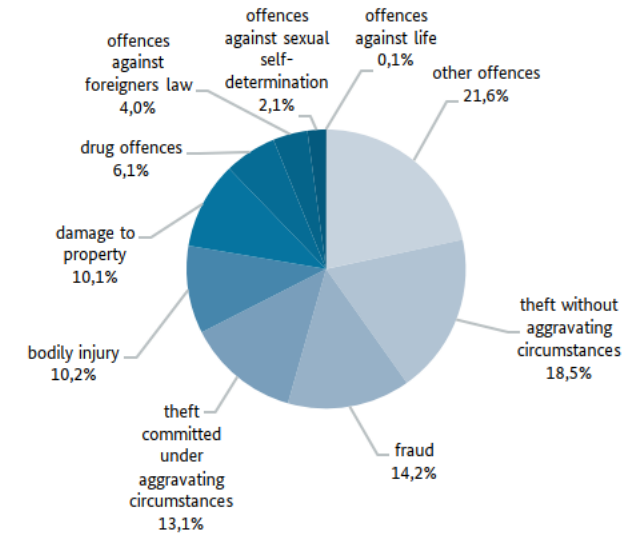
The number of the following offences increased:

- drug offences (5.6 %, 20,371 offences)
- coercion (6.1%, 4,035 offences)
- cybercrime (- 6.5 %, - 4,035 offences), including
 - computer fraud (- 5.2 %, - 5,837 offences)
 - data espionage, interception of data and handling stolen data (11.5 %, 1,712 offences)
 - alteration of data, computer sabotage (31.7 %, 1,602 offences)
- fraudulent obtaining of services (- 19.8 %, - 33,082 offences)

The number of the following offences decreased:

- theft offences (+ 20.0 %, + 297,217 offences), including
 - theft by burglary of a dwelling (+ 21.5 %, + 11,672 offences)
 - theft of non-cash means of payment (+ 29.0 %, +22,009 offences)
 - shoplifting (+ 34.3 %, + 87,975 offences)
 - pickpocketing (+ 35.1 %, + 25,609 offences)
- rape, sexual coercion and sexual assault in especially serious cases including resulting in death (+ 20.1 %, + 1,993 offences)
- fraud or computer fraud using unlawfully obtained payment card data (+ 22.5 %, + 14,529 offences)
- robberies (+ 26.8 %, + 8,070 offences)
- threat (+ 28.1 %, + 36,383 offences)
- economic crime (+ 42.6 %, + 21,854 offences)
- offences against foreigners law (+ 53.8 %, + 78,976 offences)

6. Offences by type as % of total offences (5,628,584 cases)



7. Brief overview of suspects and crime trends

Suspects	Number 2020	Number 2019	Change in %
suspects – total (total offences)	2.093.782	1.892.003	10.7
male	1,565,240	1,419,594	10.3
female	528,542	472,409	11.9
German suspects	1,309,906	1,252,876	4.6
non-German suspects	783,876	639,127	22.6

Offence	Number 2022	Number 2021	Change in %
total offences	5,628,584	5,047,860	11.5
total offences excluding offences against foreigners law	5,402,755	4,901,007	10.2
violent crime - total	197,202	164,646	19.8
<i>including:</i>			
murder, manslaughter and killing a person at his own request	2,236	2,111	5.9
rape, sexual coercion and sexual assault in especially serious cases including resulting in death	11,896	9,903	20.1
robberies	38,195	30,125	26.8
dangerous and serious bodily injury	144,663	122,341	18.2
intentional simple bodily injury	399,699	335,900	19.0
sexual abuse of children	15,520	15,507	0.1
street crime	1,084,688	949,131	14.3
dissemination of writings depicting pornography	54,188	50,206	7.9
theft offences - total	1,780,783	1,483,566	20.0
<i>including:</i>			
motor vehicle theft	25,511	21,584	18.2
theft of bicycles	265,562	233,584	13.7
theft of non-cash means of payment	97,789	75,780	29.0
theft from the interior / exterior of motor vehicles	235,732	208,977	12.8
shoplifting	344,669	256,694	34.3
theft by burglary of a dwelling	65,908	54,236	21.5
pickpocketing	98,512	72,903	35.1
fraud offences – total	801,412	793,622	1.0
<i>including:</i>			
merchandise fraud and merchandise credit fraud	283,320	291,129	-2.7
non-payment of a fuel bill	85,260	58,108	46.7
fraudulent obtaining of services	133,915	166,997	-19.8
economic crime	73,114	51,260	42.6
damage to property	568,887	550,613	3.3

Offence	Number 2022	Number 2021	Change in %
offences against the Weapons Act	33,685	31,672	6.4
drug offences	340,677	361,048	-5.6
Cybercrime*)	136,865	146,363	-6.5
<i>including:</i>			
falsification of legally relevant data, deception in legal transactions in connection with data processing	13,043	13,390	-2.6
alteration of data, computer sabotage	3,451	5,053	-31.7
data espionage, interception of data and handling stolen data	13,206	14,918	-11.5
computer fraud (sect 263a PC)	107,165	113,002	-5.2
<i>including:</i>			
computer fraud using unlawfully obtained payment card data (sect. 263a PC)	13,487	11,797	14.3
fraud by obtaining service on credit (sec. 263a PC)	4,918	6,943	-29.2
offences against foreigners law	225,829	146,853	53.8
<i>including:</i>			
unauthorised entry (border crossing) under the Residence Act	66,336	41,290	60.7
unauthorised stay under the Residence Act	145,495	92,456	57.4

Note:

For a more detailed presentation of the police crime statistics for 2022, especially regarding specific crimes/categories of crimes, with individual PCS tables, please visit the BKA website at www.bka.de.

*) = Content-related change, a comparison with the previous year may be possible in a limited way

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