STATISTICS DENMARK

Documentation of statistics for
Victims of Reported Criminal Offences 2016

1 Introduction

The purpose of "Victims of reported criminal offences" is to analyze the number of victims of police reported offences assaulting or causing harm to people.

The statistics on victims of reported criminal offences date back to 2001.

2 Statistical presentation

The statistics on victims of reported criminal offences form part of the Danish System of Criminal Statistics which includes data on criminal cases from the reported offences and victims and charges to the convictions plus arrests and imprisonments. The statistics of victims of reported criminal offences are case statistics, which show the number of victims of some particular police recorded offences, i.d. sexual offences, violence and some property offences as robbery and bag snatching.

2.1 Data description

The statistics on victims of reported criminal offences form part of the Danish System of Criminal Statistics which includes data on criminal cases from the reported offences and victims and charges to the convictions plus arrests and imprisonments.

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The victim is identified by a journal number and a personal identification number which can be used by linking to other areas of the crime statistics. Other key variables are the code number of the reported criminal offence and the date and place of the criminal offence.

2.2 Classification system

Grouping of the codes of the criminal offences. Main groups are sexual offences, crimes of violence, offences against property and other offences.

2.3 Sector coverage

Not relevant.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Reported criminal offence: A reported criminal offence is a violation of the law which has been reported or by other ways has come to the knowledge of the police.

Type of offence: Type of offence describes the kind of law violation which the victim has been exposed to. The criminal offences are divided into the penal code, the road traffic act and special law/legislation. Violations of the penal code are grouped in sexual offences, crimes of violence, offences against property and other offences. The most special laws/legislation are referred to as single acts, while the rest are categorized as 'Other special laws/legislations'.

Victim: A victim is a person who has been exposed to a crime causing personally harm.

2.5 Statistical unit

The unit in the statistics of victims of reported criminal offences is the victim case. If a person has been exposed to several cases during a year each case will count in the statistics.

2.6 Statistical population

Victims of reported criminal offences include victims of some particular police recorded offences, i.d. sexual offences, violent crimes and some property offences as robbery, trick thefts, theft from pocket and bag snatching and also violations of the law on restraining order, ban on stay and expulsion.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark, except the Faroe Islands and Greenland.

2.8 Time coverage

The statistics has been produced since 2001.

2.9 Base period

Not relevant

2.10 Unit of measure

Number

2.11 Reference period

01-01-2016 - 31-12-2016

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Annual

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

The Act on Statistics Denmark § 6. There is no EU Regulation related to the statistics on victims of reported criminal offences.

2.14 Cost and burden

There is no response burden as the data are collected via registers.

2.15 Comment

Victims of reported criminal offences have a [Subject page](#)

3 Statistical processing

The source of the statistics is The Administrative System of the National Police. Data are delivered yearly via System-to-system transmission. The data go through a probability check in form of a comparison with data from the previous year, key variables are checked for valid values and irrelevant victim cases are deleted.

3.1 Source data

Administrative System of the National Police

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Annual

3.3 Data collection

System-to-system transmission

3.4 Data validation

The data go through a probability check in form of a comparison with data from the previous year. Explanations of possible big deflections in the distribution of key variables are looked for, possible by contacting the National Police.

3.5 Data compilation

Key variables are checked for valid values. Unwanted victim cases are deleted, e.g. cases with unwanted person category or victims of offences committed at Greenland or the Faroe Islands. The code numbers of the reported victim cases are converted to a Statistics Denmark-code, which is hierarchically constructed.

3.6 Adjustment

No further corrections of data than mentioned in "Data validation" and "Data compilation" are done.

4 Relevance

The statistics are used broadly by the authorities, organizations, researchers, the press etc. The tables in the statbank.dk are used frequently. Views and suggestions from key users are taken into consideration in the preparation of the statistics.

4.1 User Needs

Users: Ministries (especially the Ministry of Justice), the local police authorities, courts, municipalities and counties, different organizations, educational institutions, research or scientific institutions, the media, private firms and private individuals. Applications: Public and private planning, education, research/science and public debate.

4.2 User Satisfaction

The statistics on convictions are often used by the press and the tables on statbank.dk are used frequently. In connection with the preparation of the annual publication Kriminalitet (Criminality) a consulting meeting with key users of the statistics is hold. Forwarded views and suggestions are taking into consideration in the planning of the statistics.

4.3 Data completeness rate

Not relevant.

5 Accuracy and reliability

The accuracy of the statistics on victims of reported criminal offences is considered to be good. The data come from a single administrative register system, and Statistics Denmark receives one total register extract containing all the victims of criminal offences reported to the police in Denmark.

However, it is evident from victimization surveys that the statistics on reported criminal offences underestimate the actual number of crimes, as it is far from all crimes which are reported to the police (hidden criminality). See also: Coverage error

5.1 Overall accuracy

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5.2 Sampling error

There is no sampling errors as the statistics are compiled on the basis of registers.

5.3 Non-sampling error

A general problem in respect of the statistics on victims of reported criminal offences is hidden criminality, which concerns crimes which do not come to the knowledge of the police. It is difficult to give an exact figure for the level of hidden criminality, because it depends among other things on the nature of the crime and the inclination to report crimes. The Ministry of Justice and others regularly conduct victimization surveys, where the respondents are asked whether an experienced criminal offence was reported to the police or not. From these surveys it appears that e.g. 62 percentage of violence incidents in 2015 were not reported to the police. The latest victimization survey can be found here:

Victimization survey

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

5.6 Quality assessment

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5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

5.8 Data revision practice

Only final figures are published and are not later revised.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

The publishing time for the statistics is about 2 months. The statistics are usually published without delay in relation to the scheduled date.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

Only final figures are published and are no later revised. The publishing time for the statistics is about 2 months. Time of publication the last 5 years has been between 2 months and 3 days and 3 months and 11 days:

2016: 2 months 7 days 2015: 2 months 7 days 2014: 2 months 3 days 2013: 3 months 11 days 2012: 3 months 11 days

6.2 Punctuality

The statistics are usually published without delay in relation to the scheduled date.

7 Comparability

The statistics are comparable over time. However, the number of victims of homicide is underestimated for the years 2001-2009.

UN collects annual data from the member states on victims of homicide and publishes statistics based on this. However, the definition of homicide can differs between countries and comparisons based upon absolute figures can therefore be misleading.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

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7.2 Comparability over time

The statistics has been prepared on the same date source since it's start in 2001 and is therefore in general comparable during time. However, the number of victims of homicide is underestimated for the years 2001-2009 due to errors in the extract from POLSAS to Statistics Denmark.

Section 265 regarding restraining order in the Penal Code is replaced by the law on expulsion, restraining order and ban on stay in 2012.

In 2013, the chapter on sexual offences in the Penal Code was amended. This caused changes in the statistics in the grouping of this kind of offences.

From 2014 onwards Trick theft, on the streets, are defined as separate crime. Furthermore, Human Trafficking is included in the statistics from 2014 onwards.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

The Ministry of Justice and others regularly conduct victimization surveys. The latest victimization survey can be found here: Victimization survey

7.4 Coherence - internal

Data are internally consistent.

8 Accessibility and clarity

The statistics are published in: News from Statistics Denmark, Statistical Yearbook, the publication Kriminalitet (Criminality) and in StatBank. Furthermore the statistics have a Subject page

Taylor made statistics can be prepared on bases of the ready-made files. Through Statistics Denmark's Division of Research Service it is possible for researchers to be granted access to anonymized data, i.e., data for which all identification details such as ID numbers have been removed.

Tables with information on victims of homicide are annually delivered to UN.

8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calender can be accessed on our English website: Release Calender.

8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

8.4 News release

The statistics are published in: [News from Statistics Denmark](#)

8.5 Publications

The statistics are published annually in [Statistical Yearbook](#) and the publication [Kriminalitet (Criminality)](#).

8.6 On-line database

The statistics are published in [StatBank](#)

8.7 Micro-data access

Data on victims of reported criminal offences are kept as ready-made files containing basic information at individual level. Taylor made statistics can be prepared on bases of the ready-made files. Through Statistics Denmark's Division of Research Service it is possible for researchers to be granted access to anonymized data, i.e., data for which all identification details such as ID numbers have been removed.

8.8 Other

Tables with information on victims of homicide are annually delivered to UN. Final data are available to Customer Centre, The Division of Research Services and other users in Statistics Denmark in the form of module data.

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

In the preparing of Victims of reported criminal offences the guidelines in Statistics Denmark's [Data Confidentiality Policy](#) are followed.

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

The published statistics are distributed by detailed codes of offence, gender and age. Therefore, in order to secure confidentiality the statistics are only published at national level and not at the municipality level.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

A description of the statistical method may be found in the annual publication Kriminalitet (Criminality): [Concepts and sources of the statistisc (danish only)](#).

8.12 Quality documentation

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

9 Contact

Organizational the statistics are placed in the Population and Education unit. The person responsible for the statistics is Lisbeth Lavrsen, tel. 3917 3103, e-mail:lil@dst.dk

9.1 Contact organisation

Statistics Denmark

9.2 Contact organisation unit

Population and education, Social Statistics

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