

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 decisionmaking and
- carry out socio-criminological research and criminal police measures.

2. Contents

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 PCS do not cover state security offences, traffic offences (except offences against 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 offences against the criminal laws of the individual German states (*Länder*) with the exception of the relevant provisions in the data protection legislation of the *Länder*. 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 2014

1. In general

The total number of recorded criminal offences increased by 2.0% compared to the previous year (2014: 6,082m incidents, 2013: 5,962m incidents). Thus, for the first time since 2009, over 6 million offences were recorded.

2. Clear-up rate

The total clear-up rate is 54.9 % (2013: 54.5 %, 2012: 54.4 %, 2011: 54.7 %). The clear-up rate for murder and manslaughter is particularly high at 96.5 %, as is the case with regard to crimes related to services, especially transport fraud 99.4 % and welfare fraud 99.2 %.

The clear-up rate for theft offences with aggravated circumstances (e.g. bicycle theft, theft by burglary of a dwelling, theft of non-cash means of payment) is particularly low, at 14.7 %.

3. Offence rate

The offence rate (criminal offences committed per 100,000 inhabitants) is an indicator of the threat posed by crime.

The offence rate increased from 7,404 (2013) to 7,530 (2014) cases per 100,000 inhabitants. This is equivalent to an increase of 1.7 %.

4. Suspects

In 2014 the number of suspects rose to 2,149,504 (+2.6% 2013: 2,094,160), 552,263 of whom were female suspects (25.7%). While the percentage of child suspects continued to fall, -1.4 %, the percentage of juvenile suspects (14 to under 18-year-olds), +0.1 %, and young adults (18 to under 21-year-olds), +1.9 %, increased.

The fall in violent crimes by juvenile suspects recorded in the previous year continued in 2014 with a total of 21,646 (2013: 23,868). This applies in particular to dangerous and serious bodily injury, where 16,485 suspects were recorded (2013: 18,179).

5. Trends in some fields of crime

Crime fields where a fall in numbers was registered, amongst others:

- violent crime by 2.1 % to 180,955 incidents (2013: 184,847); there was a decrease with regard to dangerous and serious bodily injury (-1,7 % to 125,752 incidents) in this area;
- theft of motor vehicles by 2.8 % to 36,388 incidents (2013: 37,427);

- damage to property by 3.3 % to 601,112 incidents (2013: 621,699);
- non-payment of a fuel bill by 5.7 % to 86,358 incidents (2013: 91,578);
- economic crime by 11.8 % to 63,194 incidents (2013: 71,663);
- fraudulent failure to provide service as agreed by 18.0 % to 22,180 incidents (2013: 27,817).

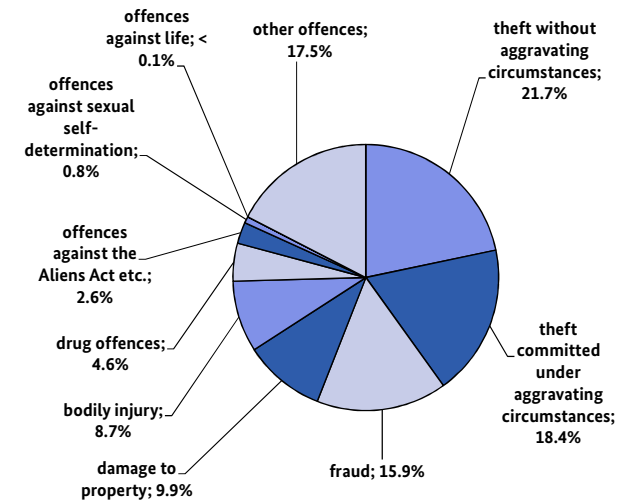
There was an increase in the following crime fields:

- street crime by 2.5 % to 1,342,905 incidents (2013: 1,309,807);
- pickpocketing by 15.8 % to 157,069 incidents (2013: 135,617);
- theft by burglary of a dwelling by 1.8 % to 152,123 incidents (2013: 149,500);
- drug offences - Narcotics Act by 9,2 % to 276,734 incidents (2013: 253,525);
- fraudulent obtaining of services by 15.0 % to 274,322 incidents (2013: 238,547).

III. Brief information "PCS 2014"

1. Total recorded crime 2014

Break-down of offences in total offences = 6,082,064 incidents:



2. Brief overview of crime trends and suspects

Offence	Number 2014	Number 2013	Change in %
Offences - total	6,082,064	5,961,662	2.0
cases cleared up	3,336,398	3,249,366	2.7
violent crime - total	180,955	184,847	-2.1
<i>including:</i>			
murder and manslaughter	2,179	2,122	2.7
rape and aggravated sexual coercion (sects. 177 (2, 3 and 4), 178 PC)	7,345	7,408	-0.9
robberies	45,475	47,234	-3.7
dangerous and serious bodily injury, female genital mutilation	125,752	127,869	-1.7
(intentional simple) bodily injury	374,576	378,747	-1.1
street crime	1,342,905	1,309,807	2.5
theft offences - total	2,440,060	2,382,743	2.4
<i>including:</i>			
motor vehicle theft	36,388	37,427	-2.8
theft of bicycles	339,760	316,857	7.2
theft of non-cash means of payment	144,358	136,034	6.1
from the interior / exterior of motor vehicles	332,773	332,605	0.1
shoplifting	365,373	356,152	2.6
theft in/from office, workshops, storage premises etc.	136,120	140,186	-2.9
theft in/from dwellings	207,561	208,292	-0.4
<i>including:</i>			
theft by burglary of a dwelling	152,123	149,500	1.8
fraud offences - total	968,866	937,891	3.3
<i>including:</i>			
merchandise fraud and merchandise credit fraud	292,031	290,684	0.5
fraud using unlawfully obtained debit cards without PIN	16,069	16,434	-2.2
fraud using unlawfully obtained credit cards	8,840	8,021	10.2
fraud using unlawfully obtained payment card data	17,348	20,700	-16.2
fraudulent obtaining of services	274,322	238,547	15.0
account opening and transfer fraud	25,400	18,971	33.9

Offence	Number 2014	Number 2013	Change in %
computer crime	73,907	(88,722)	x
<i>including:</i>			
high-tec / computer crime in the narrower sense	49,925	(64,426)	x
<i>thereof:</i>			
computer fraud	22,308	23,242	-4.0
fraud involving authorization to access communication services	2,054	2,730	-24.8
falsification of legally relevant data. deception in legal transactions in connection with data processing	8,009	(9,779)	x
alteration of data, computer sabotage	5,667	(12,766)	x
data espionage	11,887	(15,909)	x
damage to property	601,112	621,699	-3.3
offences against the Residence Act and the Asylum Procedures Act and the Freedom of Movement Act/E.U	156,396	110,555	41.5
<i>including:</i>			
illegal entry (border crossing) under the Aliens Act	49,714	33,796	47.1
offences against the Weapons Act	30,785	31,440	-2.1
drug offences - total	276,734	253,525	9.2
suspects - total	2,149,504	2,094,160	2.6
male	1,597,241	1,555,099	2.7
female	552,263	539,061	2.4
German suspects - total	1,532,112	1,555,711	-1.5
non-German suspects - total	617,392	538,449	14.7
Total suspects by age			
children (<14)	68,295	69,275	-1.4
juveniles (14<18)	190,352	190,205	0.1
young adults (18<21)	192,289	188,670	1.9
adults	1,698,568	1,646,010	3.2

X = No data provided due to change in recording guidelines.

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