

CRIMES, ACCUSED PERSONS AND PERSONS CONVICTED IN 2021

The trials of 30 740 committed **crimes** were concluded in 2021. Proceedings of 10 747 crimes were ended with effective sentences, 15 241 crimes - with conditional sentences, 641 crimes - with acquittal sentences, 268 crimes - with suspension, and 3 843 crimes - with release of penalty.

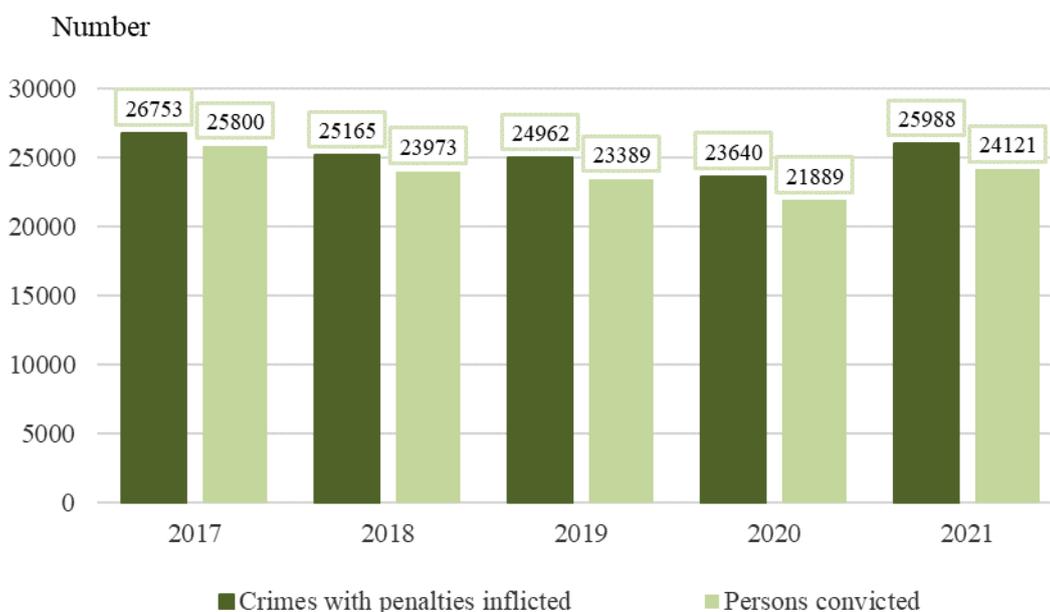
Proceedings of 25 988 committed crimes were ended with effective and conditional penalties. That was 9.9% more in comparison with 2020.

The number of **accused persons** in 2021 was 28 945, of which:

- Persons with effective sentence of conviction amounted to 9 837, or 34.0% of the total number of accused persons;
- Conditionally sentenced were 14 284 persons (49.4%);
- 3 949 persons were released from penalty (13.6%);
- 616 accused persons were acquitted (2.1%);
- The trials of 259 persons were suspended (0.9%).

The number of **persons convicted** with enforced penalties was 24 121 in 2021. Compared to 2020 the number of persons convicted increased by 10.2%. The juvenile persons (14 - 17 years of age) were 963, or 4.0% of the total number of convicted persons.

Figure 1. Crimes with penalty inflicted and persons convicted during the period 2017 - 2021



In 2021, **the rate of criminal activity**¹ was 406 per 100 000 persons from the criminally responsible² population - an increase of 11.2% compared to 2020.

1. Rate of criminal activity per 100 000 persons by sex of the persons convicted

Years	Total	Males	Females
2017	421	802	68
2018	395	751	64
2019	388	742	61
2020	365	691	64
2021	406	775	66

Highest was the rate of criminal activity of the age group 18 to 24 - 1 228 convicted persons per 100 000 persons of the population of the same age group. With increasing age, that coefficient becomes smaller and the lowest rate of criminal activity was of persons aged over 50 - 116 persons per 100 000.

The rate of criminal activity of juvenile persons was 370 per 100 000 persons of the respective population as the highest was the rate of criminal activity of the persons aged 17 - 665 persons per 100 000 persons of the total population of that age.

2. Rate of criminal activity per 100 000 by age of the persons convicted

Age	2020	2021
Total³	365	406
14 - 17	342	370
18 - 24	1003	1228
25 - 29	834	996
30 - 39	611	712
40 - 49	368	408
50 and more	107	116

¹ Persons convicted per 100 000 persons of the average annual population aged 14 and over.

² According to Art. 31, para. 1 and 2 of the Penal Code. See methodological notes.

³ The total rate for 2020 is calculated incl. persons not distributed by age.

Crimes with inflicted penalty and convicted persons by chapters of the Penal Code and some kinds of crimes

Generally dangerous crimes¹

The **generally dangerous crimes** are with the largest number in 2021 - 13 654, or 52.5% of the total number of crimes ended with penalties. The number of persons convicted for commitment of that type of crimes was 12 163, or 50.4% of the total number of convicted persons. In comparison with 2020, an increase was observed - by 9.7% of crimes and by 10.3% of the number of persons convicted for that type of crimes.

Among the generally dangerous crimes the highest number was of punished *crimes against the transport and communications* - 9 197. That represents 67.4% of the total number of generally dangerous crimes. The number of persons convicted for that kind of crimes was 8 323, or 68.4% of the convicted for generally dangerous crimes.

In 2021, the number of punished drug-related crimes was 3 298 as persons convicted for that type of crimes was 2 753.

Crimes against the property²

The **crimes against the property** hold second place in the structure of punished criminality. The number of punished crimes against the property in 2021 was 4 744 (18.3% of the total number of crimes with penalty inflicted) - 0.9% more than 2020. Persons convicted for that type of crimes were 5 147, or 21.3% of the total number of convicted persons in 2021.

Thefts of property were the most common crimes among the punished crimes against the property. Their relative share was 68.7% of the crimes against property and 12.5% from the total number of crimes with penalties inflicted. 3 261 crimes of that kind were concluded with penalty, and 3 704 persons were convicted.

According to their legal and criminal characteristics, *robberies* are among the most severe crimes. 511 persons were convicted for the commitment of 444 robberies in 2021.

For 358 committed *frauds* 381 persons were convicted, or 7.4% of the total number of persons convicted for crimes against the property.

Crimes against the activity of state bodies, public organizations and persons performing public duties³

2 153 **crimes against the activity of state bodies, public organizations and persons performing public duties** have concluded with penalties in 2021. That represents 8.3% of the total number of punished crimes. 1 968 persons were convicted for that type of crimes, or 8.2% of the total number of convicted persons.

¹ Incl. crimes committed in generally dangerous manner or by generally dangerous means, transport and communications crimes, crimes against the people's health and the environment, crimes related to the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

² Incl. theft and robbery, misappropriation, fraud, extortion, constructive theft, destruction and damaging, breach of trust.

³ Incl. crimes against the governmental order, malfeasances, crimes against justice and bribery.



Illegal crossing of the boundary is the most widely distributed kind among these crimes. For 1 351 committed crimes 1 303 persons were convicted, which represents 62.7% and 66.2% of the total number of crimes and persons convicted for crimes against the activity of state bodies, public organizations and persons performing public duties, respectively.

For 68 committed crimes of *bringing of persons across the boundary* 102 persons, or 5.2% of convicted for crimes against the activity of state bodies, public organizations and persons performing public duties, were convicted.

Crimes against the economy¹

Punished **crimes against the economy** in 2021 were 1 245, or 4.8% of the total number of punished crimes. For commitment of that kind of crimes 1 248 persons were convicted, which represents 5.2% of the total number of persons convicted.

Crimes against the person²

In 2021, 1 763 (6.8% of the total number of punished crimes) **crimes against the person** have concluded with penalty. 1 517 persons were convicted for this type of crimes. That represents 6.3% of the total number of convicted persons in 2021.

Among the crimes against the person, highest was the number and relative share of *bodily harms*. The number of crimes concluded with penalties inflicted for commitment of that type of crimes was 767 and 722 persons were convicted for that type of crimes (47.6% of the total number of convicted persons for crimes against the person).

Among the crimes against the person with extremely high public danger are *homicides*. The cases for 71 homicides (completed and attempted) have concluded with convictions, and 75 people were convicted for their commission.

260 criminal proceedings were concluded with penalty for *debauchery* and 217 persons were convicted.

The number of persons convicted for *rape* (committed and attempted) amounted to 44 persons for 47 committed and attempted rapes.

43 trials for *trafficking of people* have concluded with penalty and 21 persons were convicted for that kind of crimes.

Persons convicted for other types of crimes

In 2021, were convicted for commitment of:

- Documentary crimes - 798 persons (3.3% of the total number of convicted);
- Crimes against the marriage, family and youth - 580 persons (2.4%);
- Crimes against the order and public peace - 411 persons (1.7%);
- Crimes against the rights of citizens - 194 persons (0.8%);
- Crimes against the financial, tax and insurance systems - 92 persons (0.4%).

¹ Incl. general economic crimes, crimes against creditors, crimes in separate branches of the economy, crimes against the customs regime, crimes against the monetary and credit system.

² Incl. homicides, bodily harms, kidnapping and illegal constraint, compulsion, insult and libel, depravity and trafficking of people.

Convicted persons by sex and age

The distribution of convicted persons by sex and age in 2021 was:

- The number of convicted males was 22 107, or 91.7% of the total number of convicted persons. The highest relative share was of males aged 30 - 39 - 27.8% of the total number of convicted males.
- The number of convicted females was 2 014 (8.3%).

The coefficient of criminal activity of convicted males was 775 per 100 000 persons of the respective male population and for females it was 66 per 100 000 persons.

3. Convicted persons by sex and age

Age	2020			2021		
	Number					
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Total¹	21889	19884	2005	24121	22107	2014
14 - 17	874	830	44	963	923	40
18 - 24	4296	3960	336	5262	4878	384
25 - 29	3150	2857	293	3516	3176	340
30 - 39	5834	5270	564	6739	6136	603
40 - 49	3879	3491	388	4270	3896	374
50 and more	3136	2828	308	3371	3098	273
Not distributed	720	648	72	-	-	-
	Structure - %					
Age	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
14 - 17	4.0	4.2	2.2	4.0	4.2	2.0
18 - 24	19.6	19.9	16.8	21.8	22.1	19.1
25 - 29	14.4	14.4	14.6	14.6	14.3	16.9
30 - 39	26.7	26.5	28.1	27.9	27.8	29.9
40 - 49	17.7	17.5	19.3	17.7	17.6	18.6
50 and more	14.3	14.2	15.4	14.0	14.0	13.5
Not distributed	3.3	3.3	3.6	-	-	-

Convicted persons by penalty type

In the structure of convicted persons by penalty type highest was the number of persons convicted to *imprisonment*. They were 19 395, or 80.4% of the total number of convicted persons in 2021. Most of them were convicted to imprisonment up to 6 months (53.5% of the total number of convicted persons to imprisonment) and from 6 months to 1 year (30.0% of the total number of convicted to imprisonment).

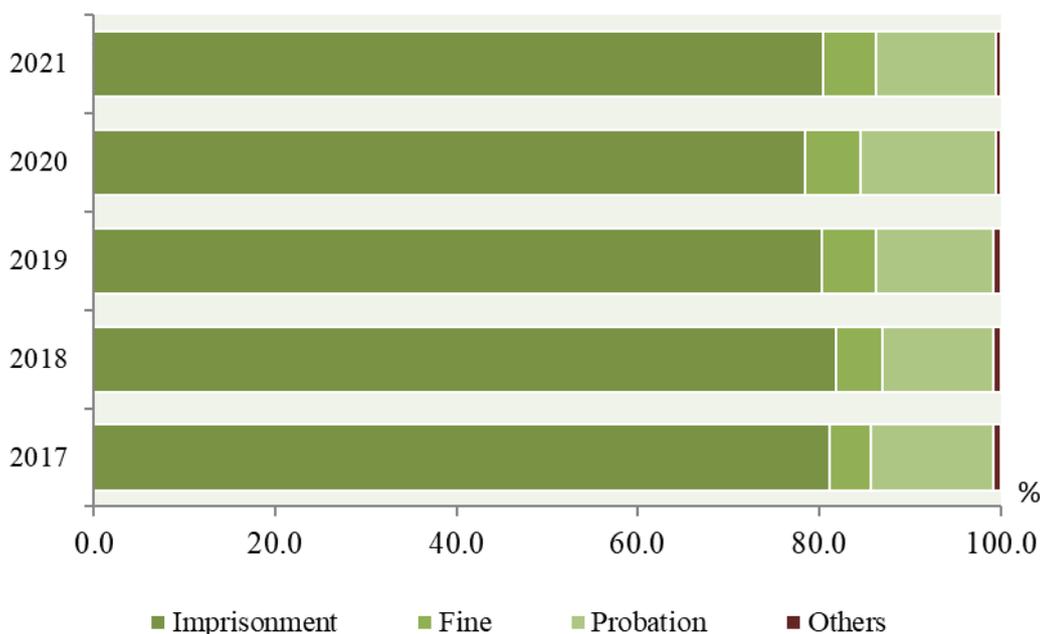
¹ Incl. persons convicted for crimes, committed abroad.

4. Persons convicted to imprisonment in 2021

Persons convicted to 'Imprisonment'	Number	Structure - %
Total	19395	100.0
Up to 6 months	10372	53.5
From 6 months to 1 year	5825	30.0
From 1 to 3 years	2791	14.4
From 3 to 5 years	235	1.2
From 5 to 10 years	121	0.6
From 10 to 15 years	28	0.2
From 15 to 20 years	20	0.1
From 20 to 30 years	3	0.0

Penalty of *probation* was imposed on 3 189 persons (13.2% of the total number of convicted persons). Penalty of *fine* was imposed on 1 400 persons (5.8%) whereas *public censure* on 135 persons. Penalty of *life imprisonment* was imposed on 2 persons.

Figure 2. Structure of convicted persons by penalty type during the period 2017 - 2021





Methodological notes

The statistical survey on crimes, accused and persons convicted with inflicted penalties ensures information on the basis of annual data, received from the regional, district and military courts and from the Special Criminal Court.

The object of the survey is the activity of the regional, district and military courts and the Specialized criminal court on penal trials of general, private and administrative nature.

Units of survey are crimes, accused and persons convicted with sentence that has come into force during the reference year.

The number of **crimes with penalties inflicted** include proceedings that finished with conditional or effective sentence irrespective of the number of perpetrators.

The number of **accused persons** include effective and conditionally sentenced persons, as well as acquitted persons, persons released from penalty, and persons against whom the proceedings have been suspended.

The number of **persons convicted** are those with effective or conditional sentence that has come into force.

The age of persons convicted is indicated in years of age at the time of the crime.

Juveniles are persons aged 14 - 17 years.

Adults are persons aged 18 and over.

Convicted juvenile persons are included in the total number of persons convicted.

According to Chapter Three, Art. 31, para. 1 and 2 of the Penal Code **criminally responsible** is the person of age - who has reached 18 years of age, who in a state of sanity commits a crime. **A juvenile** who has reached 14 years of age, but who has not reached 18 years of age, shall be **criminally responsible** if they were able to realize the quality and the importance of the act and direct their actions.

The criminal activity rate is calculated as correlation between the number of persons convicted and average annual number of the criminally responsible population (aged 14 and over) per 100 000 persons.

The data on Crimes, Accused and Persons Convicted are obtained from exhaustive survey through filling in the statistical questionnaire 'Card for accused person', by the pre-trial and trial proceedings and data from administrative source - the Unified Information System for Counteraction to Criminality (UISCC).

The applied methodology and data from the survey on 'Crimes, accused and persons convicted' are published on the NSI's website (www.nsi.bg) as well as in Informational System INFOSTAT (https://infostat.nsi.bg/infostat/pages/module.jsf?x_2=56).



Annex

Table 1

Crimes with inflicted penalties by chapters of the Penal Code and some kinds of crimes¹

(Number)

Chapters of the penal code and some kinds of crimes	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total²	26753	25165	24962	23640	25988
of which:					
Crimes against the person	1745	1690	1905	1833	1763
of which:					
Intentional homicides (completed and attempted)	90	89	71	59	71
Bodily harm	836	730	777	732	767
Depravity	247	255	245	313	260
Incl. Rape (completed and attempted)	44	63	47	53	47
Crimes against the marriage, family and youth	749	626	653	633	617
Crimes against property	5692	4951	4926	4704	4744
of which:					
Theft	3752	3193	3281	3145	3261
Robbery	605	539	484	500	444
Misappropriation	134	126	120	104	109
Crimes against the economy	2009	1797	1451	1220	1245
Crimes against the financial, tax and insurance system	141	99	99	72	100
Crimes against the activity of state bodies, public organizations and persons, performing public duties	1681	1307	1417	1241	2153
Documentary crimes	1035	934	886	839	1018
Crimes against the order and public peace	597	542	577	469	479
Incl. Hooliganism	421	383	412	343	370
Generally dangerous crimes	12837	13065	12826	12452	13654
of which:					
Crimes against the transport and communications	9731	10108	9393	8312	9197
Theft of motor vehicles	181	164	155	159	192
Drug-related crimes	2402	2360	2834	2778	3298
Military crimes	4	3	2	4	3

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¹ According to sentences came into force.

² Incl. persons crimes, committed abroad.



Table 2

Convicted persons by chapters of the Penal Code and some kinds of crimes¹

(Number)

Chapters of the penal code and some kinds of crimes	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Total²	25800	23973	23389	21889	24121
of which:					
Crimes against the person	1509	1444	1511	1460	1517
of which:					
Intentional homicides (completed and attempted)	102	98	82	64	75
Bodily harm	789	700	706	667	722
Depravity	211	208	205	245	217
Incl. Rape (completed and attempted)	47	65	40	51	44
Crimes against the marriage, family and youth	699	585	642	595	580
Crimes against property	6427	5579	5480	5106	5147
of which:					
Thefts	4443	3802	3831	3571	3704
Robbery	703	641	571	589	511
Misappropriation	138	127	118	98	108
Crimes against the economy	2023	1767	1474	1230	1248
Crimes against the financial, tax and insurance system	136	94	95	57	92
Crimes against the activity of state bodies, public organizations and persons, performing public duties	1732	1280	1239	1097	1968
Documentary crimes	830	785	747	685	798
Crimes against the order and public peace	595	539	643	461	411
Incl. Hooliganism	355	336	399	309	288
Generally dangerous crimes	11582	11736	11344	11025	12163
of which:					
Crimes against the transport and communications	8979	9250	8472	7438	8323
Theft of motor vehicles	190	166	177	168	199
Drug-related crimes	1991	1963	2343	2327	2753
Military crimes	5	3	2	2	3

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¹ According to sentences came into force.

² Incl. persons convicted for crimes, committed abroad.

Table 3

Convicted persons by sex

Sex	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	Number				
Total¹	25800	23973	23389	21889	24121
Males	23662	21951	21496	19884	22107
Females	2138	2022	1893	2005	2014
	Structure - %				
Total¹	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Males	91.7	91.6	91.9	90.8	91.7
Females	8.3	8.4	8.1	9.2	8.3

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¹ Incl. persons convicted for crimes, committed abroad.

Table 4

Convicted persons with sentences that came into force by penalty type

(Number)

Penalties imposed	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total¹	25800	23973	23389	21889	24121
Incl. conditionally	14773	14310	13450	12154	14284
Imprisonment	20918	19615	18787	17162	19395
Life imprisonment	2	2	1	2	2
Life imprisonment without parole	3	-	-	-	-
Fine	1174	1221	1392	1331	1400
Probation	3509	2960	3029	3284	3189
Other	194	175	180	110	135

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¹ Incl. persons convicted for crimes, committed abroad.