

# Statistics on offences and coercive methods

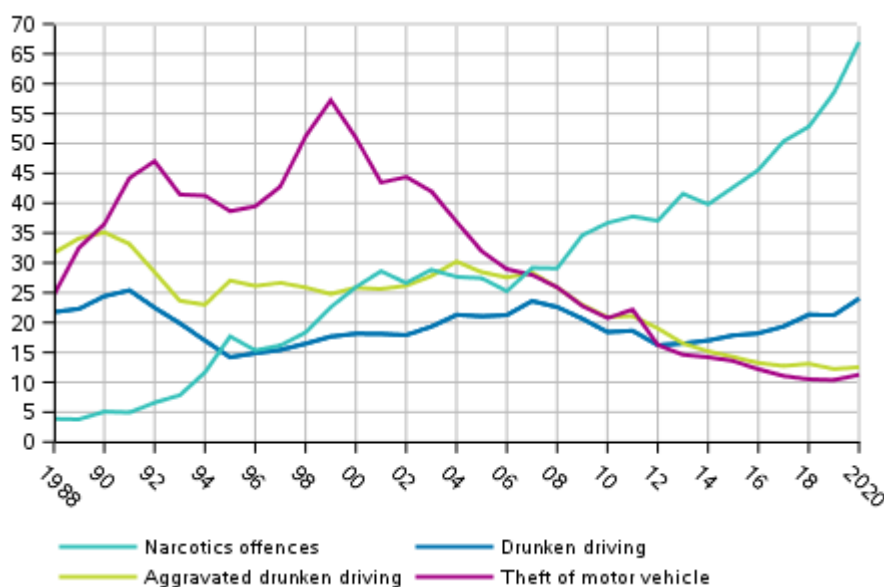
## Offences known to the authorities 2020

### Number of motor vehicle thefts has fallen, number of narcotics offences is growing

**Corrected 12 May 2021.** Figure 5 in review 1 has been corrected.

According to Statistics Finland's data, 543,400 offences against the Criminal Code were recorded by the police, customs and border guard during 2020. The number of suspects of the 313,400 solved offences against the Criminal Code was 339,700. Altogether 351,900 persons and 116,900 enterprises or legal persons were registered as injured parties. Not all offences necessarily have an injured party. The number of victims of offences was 67,900.

#### Certain offences per 10,000 population



The number of narcotics offences recorded per 10,000 population has risen considerably since the beginning of the 2000s. In 2000, altogether 26 narcotics offences per 10,000 population were recorded. In 2020, this

number was already 67. On the other hand, for example, unauthorised uses and thefts of motor vehicles have decreased considerably. In 2020, their recorded number was 11.3 per 10,000 population, while at the turn of the millennium it was 50.9 per 10,000 population.

At the beginning of the 1990s, nearly 400 theft offences per 10,000 population were recorded, while in 2020 the figure was only around 250 per 10,000 population.

In recent years, the highest number of assaults relative to the population has been recorded in the region of Kainuu. In 2020, a total of 75.9 assaults per 10,000 population were recorded there, while the average for the whole country was 60.1. Statistics Finland's StatFin database contains further information on the offences recorded relative to the population at the level of municipalities and regions.

Detailed information on reported offences and persons suspected of offences, as well as victims of offences and injured parties, can be found in the reviews of this publication and in the Statfin database.

# Contents

1. Review on offences recorded by the police, customs and border guard.....	5
1.1. Summary.....	5
1.2 Offences against property.....	6
1.3 Violence and sexual offences.....	8
1.4 Traffic offences and infractions.....	10
1.5 Narcotics and alcohol offences.....	11
1.6 Other offences and infractions.....	12
1.7 Solving of offences.....	12
2. Victims of offences and persons suspected of solved offences.....	15
2.1. Injured parties and victims of offences.....	15
2.2 Persons suspected of solved offences.....	18
2.3 Nationality and origin.....	20
2.4 Backgrounds of suspects.....	22

## Tables

Table 1. Thefts of use of a motor vehicle 2011-2020.....	7
Table 2. Selected offences against property by region per 100,000 population in 2020.....	8
Table 3. Selected violent offences by region per 100,000 population in 2020.....	9
Table 4. Sexual offences by region per 100,000 population in 2020.....	10
Table 5. Clearance rate of certain types of offences in 1986-2020.....	13
Table 6. Complainants of offences against the criminal code by sex and region in 2011 and 2020 count and percent.....	16
Table 7. Victims of certain solved offences by origin and person suspected by origin 2020.....	18
Table 8. Suspects of solved offences against the Criminal Code by age and sex, principal offence rule in 2011-2020, share per 1,000 population.....	19
Table 9. Suspects of solved offences against the Criminal Code by age and sex in 2011-2020, share per 1,000 population.....	20
Table 10. Persons suspected of offences against criminal code with foreign background by background country 2009-2020.....	22

## Figures

Figure 1 Offences against the Criminal Code 1980 to 2020.....	5
Figure 2. Thefts 2000 to 2020.....	6
Figure 3. Burglaries 2009 to 2020.....	7
Figure 4. Drunken driving offences in 1980–2020.....	11
Figure 5. Drunken driving offences after intoxicant in 2003–2020 (The figure was corrected on 12 May 2021)....	11
Figure 6. Alcohol and narcotics offences in 2000 to 2020.....	12
Figure 7. Clearance rate of offences against the Criminal Code after authorities 2018 to 2020.....	14
Figure 8. Complainants of offences against the criminal code by age in 2006 to 2020.....	15
Figure 9. Victims of certain offences by age and sex in 2020.....	17
Figure 10. Persons suspected of offences against the Criminal Code by number of offences in 2020, %.....	19

Figure 11. Foreign citizens suspected of offences against the Criminal Code, their share of all persons suspected and share with permanent residence in Finland in 2009 to 2020.....21

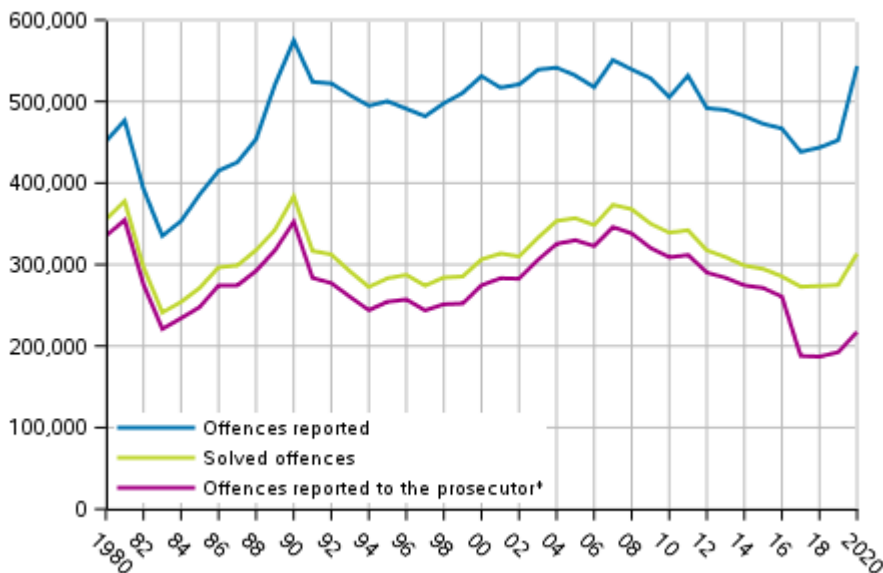
# 1. Review on offences recorded by the police, customs and border guard

## Thefts, frauds and extortions on the rise in 2020

### 1.1. Summary

A total of 686,000 offences and infractions were recorded in 2020 by the police, customs and border guard, which was 16.2 per cent fewer than one year before. Of these offences and infractions, 543,400 were offences against the Criminal Code. Their number increased by 20 per cent from the previous year. Most offences outside the Criminal Code consists of traffic infractions, violations of social welfare legislation on road traffic and motor vehicle infractions. The Road Traffic Act was revised on 1 June 2020, and as a result of the reform an administrative sanction will be imposed for certain traffic infractions instead of a fine. For this reason, the number of traffic infractions in the statistics on offences has fallen considerably.

**Figure 1 Offences against the Criminal Code 1980 to 2020**



\*After 2016 not all of the Traffic offences are reported to prosecutor

Most of the offences and infractions are recorded by the police. The police recorded 676,600 offences and infractions in 2020, which was 16 per cent fewer than one year before. Offences against the Criminal Code increased by 20.9 per cent. A total of 536,600 of them were recorded.

The customs recorded 6,500 offences and infractions of which 5,100 were offences against the Criminal Code. The border guard recorded 3,000 offences and infractions of which 1,700 were offences against the Criminal Code. Offences and infractions recorded by the customs decreased by 17.5 per cent and those recorded by the border guard decreased by 45 per cent.

During 2020, the police, customs and border guard solved a total of 507,800 offences and infractions, which is 22 per cent lower than in 2018. The number of offences against the Criminal Code was 313,400, which is up by 14 per cent on the year before.

### 1.2 Offences against property

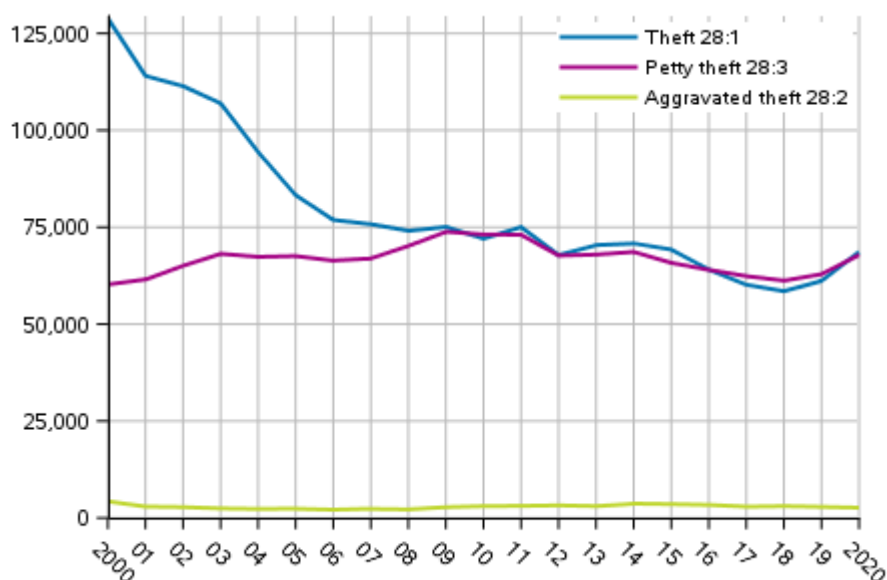
## Number of offences against property increased by 18.7 per cent

A total of 256,500 offences against property were recorded in 2020, which is 18.7 per cent more than in the previous year. More offences against property were last recorded in 2011, when their number was 259,800.

The recorded number of theft offences (Criminal Code, Chapter 28, Sections 1 to 3) was 139,100, which is close on 10 per cent (12,200 cases) more than in 2019. The number of aggravated thefts (Criminal Code, Chapter 28, Section 2) was 2,600, which is nearly seven per cent lower than in 2019. The number of petty thefts (Criminal Code, Chapter 28, Section 3) grew by nearly eight per cent (4,900 cases) and theft offences (Criminal Code, Chapter 28, Section 1) increased by good 12 per cent (7,500 cases) compared with the previous year. In all, 67,800 petty thefts and 68,600 thefts were reported. Compared to the beginning of the 2000s, the number of theft offences has fallen by around 30 per cent.

Of all theft offences, thefts and petty thefts from shops amounted to 52,500, which is 9.9 per cent more than in the year before.

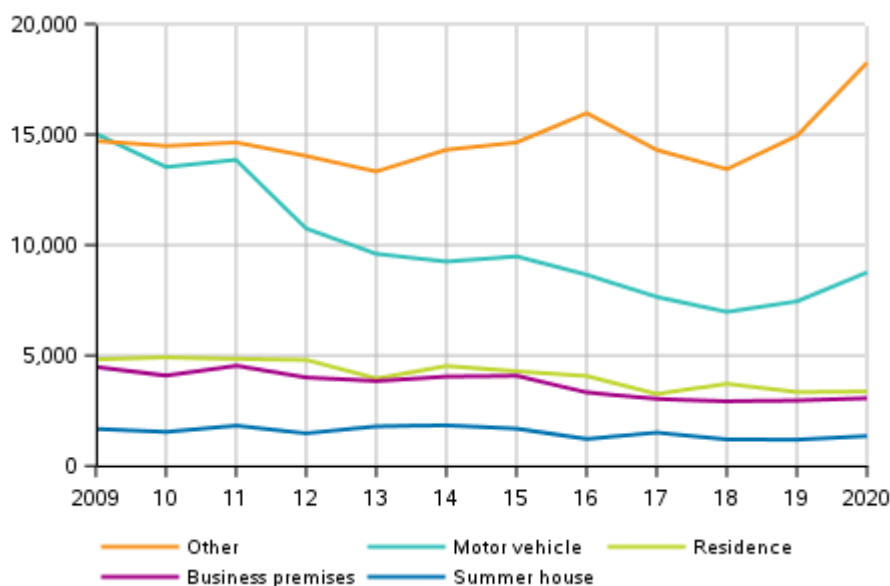
**Figure 2. Thefts 2000 to 2020**



In 2020, the number of reported burglaries (thefts, aggravated thefts or petty thefts through unlawful breaking in) was 34,800, which is 4,900 cases (16.4 per cent) more than in the year before. The number of burglary offences has been falling throughout the 2010s apart for a couple of exceptional years. Break-ins into cars have decreased especially much as their number has almost halved. In 2020, a total of 8,800 break-ins into cars were recorded, which is 1,300 more than in the previous year.

The number of break-ins into houses reported was just under 3,400, which is unchanged from the year before. The number of break-ins into free-time residences recorded was 1,400, which is close on 14 per cent more than in 2019. The numbers of these offences vary much yearly but the general trend in the 2010s has been decreasing.

**Figure 3. Burglaries 2009 to 2020**



In total, 6,200 cases of thefts of a motor vehicle for temporary use (Criminal Code, Chapter 28, Section 9), unauthorised uses and thefts of a motor vehicle were recorded, which is nearly nine per cent more than in the year before.

**Table 1. Thefts of use of a motor vehicle 2011-2020**

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	9,464	6,821	6,126	5,953	5,878	5,253	4,868	4,540	4,333	4,741
Car	5,996	4,335	3,645	3,511	3,712	3,253	2,937	2,893	2,758	2,906
Moped	2,116	1,631	1,560	1,524	1,240	1,088	929	795	776	795
Motorcycle	1,021	629	656	681	722	694	770	623	562	713
Boat/vessel	32	31	34	19	19	21	34	22	20	34
Other motor vehicle	299	195	231	218	185	197	198	207	217	293

Altogether, 2,000 robberies (Criminal Code, Chapter 31, Sections 1 to 2, 2a) were recorded, which is slightly over 10 per cent more than in the year before. Of the robberies, 448 were aggravated, which is 101 cases more than in 2019. Nearly two-thirds of robberies occurred in public places.

The number of damages to property reported was 33,400, which is almost 10 per cent more than in 2019. Reports of damages to property in public places decreased most. They went down by close on six per cent. In turn, damages to property committed in a private place increased by 18 per cent.

The number of reported frauds (Criminal Code, Chapter 36, Sections 1-3) has been growing for a few years. The number of reported frauds was 34,000, which is 5,400 cases (18.4 per cent) more than in the previous year. In all, 7,400 means of payment frauds (Criminal Code, Chapter 37, Sections 8 to 11) were reported, which is nearly 1,100 cases (16.9 per cent) more than in the previous year.

Examined by region, most offences against property were reported in Uusimaa, both measured by the number of cases and relative to the size of the population. The offences are recorded based on the municipality where the offence occurs, not the municipality of residence of the suspect, so offences committed by tourists and other visitors are visible in the figures for that region.

**Table 2. Selected offences against property by region per 100,000 population in 2020**

	Offences against property	Theft 28:1	Aggravated theft 28:2	Petty theft 28:3	Breaking into a residence	Breaking into a summer residence	Robberies total	Damages to property total
Whole country	4,688	1,242	48	1,227	61	25	36	604
Uusimaa	5,959	1,746	66	1,576	71	10	58	730
Southwest Finland	4,445	1,363	46	1,091	58	25	30	538
Satakunta	3,954	1,103	52	1,021	71	27	20	630
Kanta-Häme	3,758	1,064	57	918	65	28	26	594
Pirkanmaa	4,634	1,256	50	1,255	64	27	30	563
Päijät-Häme	5,161	1,607	43	1,132	51	40	28	599
Kymenlaakso	4,212	1,157	72	1,069	89	46	27	594
South Karelia	4,086	1,027	35	956	39	28	17	589
South Savo	3,197	772	33	804	60	60	16	510
North Savo	3,556	874	24	1,112	42	39	22	624
North Karelia	3,247	791	21	1,012	41	30	21	448
Central Finland	4,148	1,208	48	1,075	66	71	38	550
South Ostrobothnia	2,243	367	32	669	46	15	21	399
Ostrobothnia	2,810	825	31	820	47	17	18	461
Central Ostrobothnia	2,696	412	12	1,127	29	3	24	441
North Ostrobothnia	3,557	719	21	1,287	49	19	37	524
Kainuu	3,179	527	22	1,250	43	18	13	614
Lapland	3,424	700	38	1,030	52	24	20	569
Åland	2,028	388	40	491	66	17	10	621

### 1.3 Violence and sexual offences

#### Number of reported rape offences on the decline in 2020

In all, 86 suspected offences against life were reported. This is 14 cases more than in 2019, which was the lowest figure in the 2000s. The number of offences against life has primarily been on the decline. Between 2011 and 2020, an average of 89 cases per year have been recorded while between 2001 and 2010 the average was 124. Almost 90 per cent of all offences against life were committed in private dwellings or some other private location. The number of offences against life in 2015 included 12 murders made with terrorist intent abroad, which the Finnish police were investigating. Of the offences against life recorded in 2017, two were murders made with terrorist intent. Altogether, 383 attempted homicides were recorded, which is 54 cases fewer than in the year before.

In 2020, a total of 33,300 assaults were reported, which is almost 600 cases fewer than in the previous year. In the 2010s, an average of 35,000 assaults have been recorded per year. The number of basic assaults went down by 1.9 per cent. In all, 23,200 such assaults were reported. The number of aggravated assaults went up by 10.7 per cent. Nearly 1,800 of them were recorded. The number of petty assaults recorded was 8,300, which is 3.3 per cent fewer than in the previous year. The legislative amendment, which entered into force at the beginning of 2011, considerably increased the number of assault offences recorded in 2011. After the legislative amendment, petty assaults on minors or close relatives became officially prosecutable. In 2011, the number of assault offences recorded was 40,200.

A total of 1,450 rapes (rape, aggravated rape, Paragraph 3) were recorded, which is 1.8 per cent fewer than in the previous year. Of all rape offences, nearly 90 per cent were committed in private dwellings or some other private location. The recorded number of sexual abuses of a child was 1,770, which is 3.6 per cent more than in 2019. The act on aggravated rape of a child entered into force on 15 April 2019. During 2020, a total of 68 cases of aggravated rape of a child were reported. In the statistics, aggravated rape of



a child is included in the figures on cases of sexual abuse of a child. In addition, 1,172 other sexual offences were reported. Of them, 555 were cases of sexual harassment, which is 37 cases fewer than in 2019. Sexual harassment was added to the Criminal Code on 1 September 2014. The numbers of rapes and sexual abuses of a child vary much yearly. Individual reports may include a series of incidents comprising several criminal acts.

**Table 3. Selected violent offences by region per 100,000 population in 2020**

	Offences against life and health	Offences against life and attempted	Assault 21:5	Aggravated assault 21:6	Petty assault 21:7
Whole country	650	8	421	32	150
Uusimaa	742	10	511	34	146
Southwest Finland	606	8	372	23	161
Satakunta	639	5	413	30	140
Kanta-Häme	548	7	305	30	167
Pirkanmaa	591	7	359	29	159
Päijät-Häme	542	10	333	33	131
Kymenlaakso	583	8	356	40	137
South Karelia	574	7	334	28	180
South Savo	600	6	326	34	198
North Savo	672	13	351	31	224
North Karelia	471	8	304	20	107
Central Finland	738	8	516	36	141
South Ostrobothnia	587	7	397	39	111
Ostrobothnia	535	7	354	32	114
Central Ostrobothnia	628	15	372	49	169
North Ostrobothnia	582	6	398	28	124
Kainuu	826	8	544	45	170
Lapland	629	7	374	25	173
Åland	727	3	478	33	163

Relative to the population in the region, most sexual offences were reported in Central Finland, 100 cases per 100,000 inhabitants. Most cases of sexual abuse of a child relative to the population were reported in Satakunta. There a total of 120 sexual abuses of children were reported, that is, 56 cases per hundred thousand inhabitants.

**Table 4. Sexual offences by region per 100,000 population in 2020**

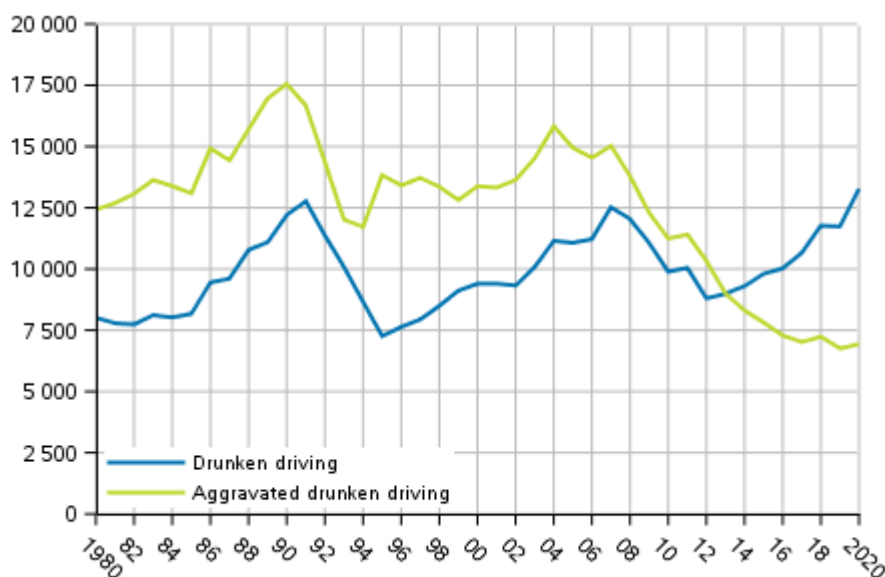
	Sexual offences	Sexual abuse of a child	Rape	Other sexual offences
Whole country	80	32	26	21
Uusimaa	87	34	27	25
Southwest Finland	55	21	21	14
Satakunta	97	56	17	24
Kanta-Häme	68	18	28	22
Pirkanmaa	74	27	31	17
Päijät-Häme	57	20	27	11
Kymenlaakso	76	27	18	31
South Karelia	71	37	24	10
South Savo	55	20	26	9
North Savo	66	18	26	22
North Karelia	54	20	21	13
Central Finland	100	45	26	29
South Ostrobothnia	94	35	28	30
Ostrobothnia	92	53	19	19
Central Ostrobothnia	32	7	15	10
North Ostrobothnia	81	34	30	18
Kainuu	61	20	22	20
Lapland	67	21	28	18
Åland	83	37	33	13

## 1.4 Traffic offences and infractions

In 2020, a total of 132,400 different traffic offences were recorded, which is 19.7 per cent more than in the year before. In addition, 129,500 traffic infractions, violations of social welfare legislation on road traffic, and motor vehicle infractions were recorded. Of all traffic offences and infractions, 157,400 were cases of exceeding speed limits. Their number fell by 53 per cent from the previous year. The Road Traffic Act was revised on 1 June 2020, and as a result of the reform an administrative sanction will be imposed for certain traffic infractions instead of a fine. For this reason, the number of traffic infractions in the statistics on offences decreased considerably.

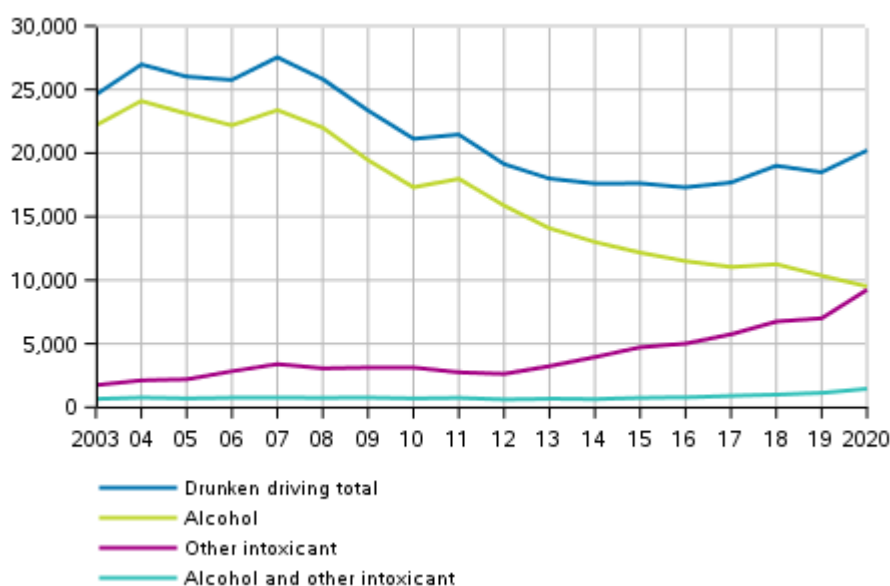
In 2020, a total of 20,200 cases of driving while intoxicated were recorded, which is 1,700 cases (9.3 per cent) more than in the previous year. Altogether, 13,300 basic cases of driving while intoxicated (Criminal Code, Chapter 23, Section 3) were recorded, which is good 13 per cent more than in the year before. Altogether, 6,900 cases of driving while seriously intoxicated (Criminal Code, Chapter 23, Section 4) were recorded, which is close on three per cent more than in the year before.

**Figure 4. Drunken driving offences in 1980–2020**



In cases of driving while seriously intoxicated, alcohol is still the intoxicant in around 90 per cent of cases, but three-quarters of the basic cases of driving while intoxicated are caused by other narcotic substances.

**Figure 5. Drunken driving offences after intoxicant in 2003–2020 (The figure was corrected on 12 May 2021)**



Good 200 waterway, air or rail traffic intoxication cases were recorded, which is approximately 15 per cent fewer than in the year before. Thirty-nine cases of non-motor powered traffic intoxication were recorded.

## 1.5 Narcotics and alcohol offences

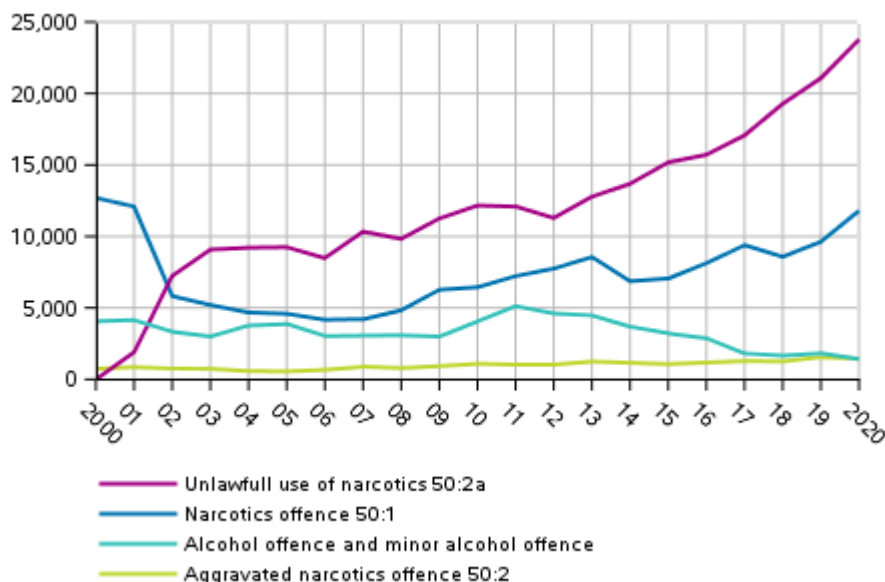
### Recorded narcotics offences still growing

Altogether, 37,100 narcotics offences were recorded, which is 14.8 per cent more than in the year before. A total of 1,450 aggravated narcotics offences were recorded, which is 100 cases less than in the previous

year. In total, 23,800 unlawful uses of narcotics were recorded, which is 2,700 cases (12.9 per cent) more than in the previous year.

In all, 1,400 alcohol offences (Criminal Code, Chapter 50a) and infractions were recorded. This is nearly 22.3 per cent fewer than in the year before.

**Figure 6. Alcohol and narcotics offences in 2000 to 2020**



When compiling statistics on offences involving intoxicating substances, offences comprising several criminal acts are entered as one. Offences involving intoxicating substances are such that they are generally found out only because of the activity of the police, customs or border guard officials and most of the offences remain undisclosed.

### 1.6 Other offences and infractions

Altogether 5,100 reports of invasion of domestic premises and harassing communications (Criminal Code, Chapter 24, Sections 1-2) were recorded, which is 400 more cases than one year earlier. In all, 110 cases of invasion or aggravated invasion of public premises (Criminal Code, Chapter 24, Sections 3-4) were recorded. Illicit observation was reported 390 times, which is 20 cases fewer than in the previous year.

In all, 9,800 menaces, 5,000 defamations, and good 700 stalking cases were recorded. The number of menaces grew by five per cent and that of defamations by nine per cent.

In all, 4,300 identity thefts were recorded, which is nine per cent more than in the previous year. Altogether 21,100 disseminations of information violating personal privacy were reported. This is 20,700 more than one year earlier. The increased number is due to information disseminated as a result of computer break-ins.

Good 300 employment offences (Criminal Code, Chapter 37) were reported, which is around 20 cases fewer than in the year before. Good 500 environmental offences (Criminal Code, Chapter 48) were recorded, which is approximately 60 cases more than in the previous year.

### 1.7 Solving of offences

During 2020, the police, customs and border guard solved a total of 507,800 offences and infractions, which is 22 per cent fewer than in the previous year. The fall was mainly caused by a fall in the number of traffic offences and infractions. The Road Traffic Act was revised on 1 June 2020, and as a result of the reform an administrative sanction will be imposed for certain traffic infractions instead of a fine. For this reason, the number of traffic infractions in the statistics on offences has fallen considerably. Altogether

313,400 offences against the Criminal Code were solved, which is good 38,400 cases more than in the previous year. The clearance rate of all offences and infractions was 74 per cent and the clearance rate of offences against the Criminal Code was 57.7 per cent. The corresponding rates were 79.2 and 60.7 per cent in the year before. The clearance rate is calculated as the share of solved offences in the statistical year compared to the number of reported offences in the statistical year. For this reason, the clearance rate may be over 100 per cent for some year.

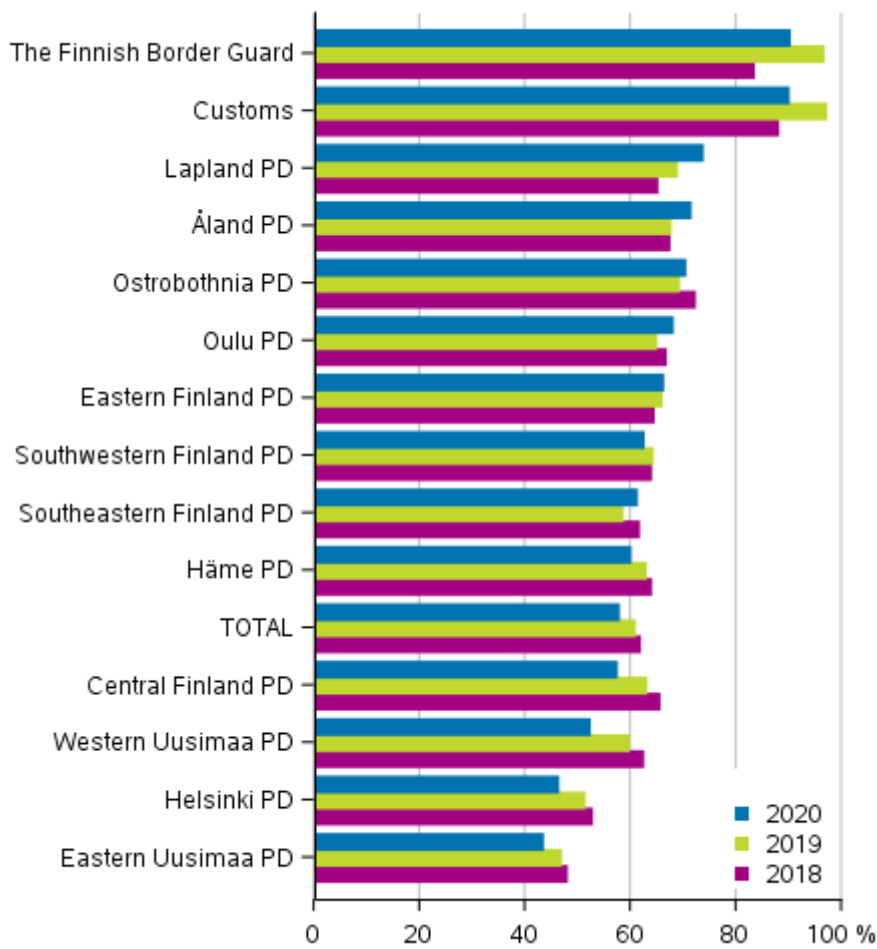
The clearance rate varies by type of offence quite strongly. Only approximately 15 per cent of thefts (Criminal Code, Chapter 28, Section 1) are solved while one-half of petty theft (Criminal Code, Chapter 28, Section 3) cases are solved. The clearance rate of assault offences has decreased slightly in recent years. In 2020, the clearance rate of assault offences was 67 per cent, having been 80 per cent in the beginning of the 2000s. Due to the manner of disclosure, cases of driving while intoxicated, traffic offences and offences involving intoxicating substances almost all become solved.

**Table 5. Clearance rate of certain types of offences in 1986-2020**

	1986 - 1990	1991 - 1995	1996 - 2000	2001 - 2005	2006 - 2010	2011 - 2015	2016 - 2019	2020
Offences against the Criminal Code	69	58	57	63	67	63	61	58
Theft 28:1	25	17	14	15	18	15	15	15
Aggravated theft 28:2	39	29	40	41	38	34	33	38
Petty theft 28:3	78	70	67	58	57	56	52	54
Robberies total	53	43	42	45	49	53	54	55
Damages to property total	29	27	27	26	25	22	23	24
Attempted manslaughter, murder or killing	95	91	92	94	97	92	90	95
Assault 21:5	79	74	76	80	81	76	65	69
Aggravated assault 21:6	85	84	83	87	88	84	79	82
Petty assault 21:7	95	86	79	75	73	72	61	59
Sexual abuse of a child	91	84	88	82	86	75	60	55
Rape	63	56	57	63	66	70	65	83

The lowest clearance rates for offences against the Criminal Code were found in the Eastern Uusimaa and Helsinki police departments. On the other hand, most offences were reported to the Helsinki police department, 92,900 cases. This is some 17,000 more than to the Central Finland police department, which recorded second most offences.

**Figure 7. Clearance rate of offences against the Criminal Code after authorities 2018 to 2020**



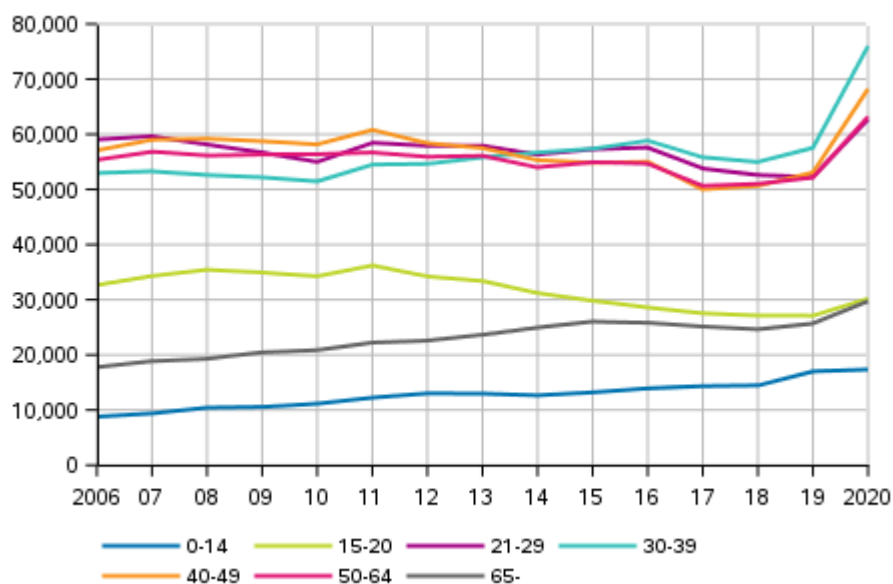
## 2. Victims of offences and persons suspected of solved offences

### 2.1. Injured parties and victims of offences

In the statistics, the victim of an offence and the injured party are not necessarily the same person. For example, in assaults directed at minors the actual victim of the offence is a child, but his or her guardian is usually recorded as the injured party.

In 2020, a total of 543,400 offences against the Criminal Code were reported. For them, 351,900 persons and 116,900 enterprises or legal persons were recorded as injured parties. Not all offences necessarily have an injured party.

**Figure 8. Complainants of offences against the criminal code by age in 2006 to 2020**



In the 2010s, the number of persons as injured parties of offences against the Criminal Code has varied between 312,100 (in 2011) and 280,200 (in 2018). In recent years, the number of injured parties aged under 15 has grown most. Compared with 2010, the number of injured parties in the age group has grown by 5,100 cases (42 per cent). The growth is mainly caused by offences against life and health. The change may be caused by the amendment to the Child Welfare Act that entered into force in 2015. The same legislative amendment may also explain the increase in the number of injured parties aged 30 to 39.

Compared to 2019, the growth was especially high among injured parties aged 21 to 64. This growth is partly due to the growing number of extortions and disseminations of information violating personal privacy.

The age distribution of both male and female injured parties has developed in a fairly similar fashion. On the other hand, compared with 2011, the number of male injured parties has grown by 1,500 (0.8 per cent), but the number of female injured parties has grown by 38,300 (29.6 per cent).

Compared with 2011, the share of male injured parties of all injured parties has fallen in all regions. In relative terms, the share of men has fallen most in the regions of Southwest Finland, Pirkanmaa and Uusimaa.

**Table 6. Complainants of offences against the criminal code by sex and region in 2011 and 2020 count and percent**

	count				%			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	2011	2020	2011	2020	2011	2020	2011	2020
Uusimaa	59,093	64,382	43,946	61,643	57.4	51.1	42.6	48.9
Southwest Finland	16,269	14,559	11,210	14,576	59.2	50.0	40.8	50.0
Satakunta	8,290	9,397	5,689	8,290	59.3	53.1	40.7	46.9
Kanta-Häme	4,466	4,636	3,361	4,006	57.1	53.6	42.9	46.4
Pirkanmaa	13,303	16,514	9,669	16,086	57.9	50.7	42.1	49.3
Päijät-Häme	6,843	6,990	4,845	6,281	58.5	52.7	41.5	47.3
Kymenlaakso	6,317	5,535	4,510	4,875	58.3	53.2	41.7	46.8
South Karelia	4,073	4,009	2,868	3,544	58.7	53.1	41.3	46.9
South Savo	5,486	3,946	3,592	3,262	60.4	54.7	39.6	45.3
North Savo	8,039	6,875	5,269	5,697	60.4	54.7	39.6	45.3
North Karelia	4,915	4,096	3,213	3,459	60.5	54.2	39.5	45.8
Central Finland	8,583	9,047	5,985	7,554	58.9	54.5	41.1	45.5
South Ostrobothnia	4,931	4,159	3,512	3,595	58.4	53.6	41.6	46.4
Ostrobothnia	4,705	4,858	3,120	3,674	60.1	56.9	39.9	43.1
Central Ostrobothnia	2,160	1,607	1,550	1,430	58.2	52.9	41.8	47.1
North Ostrobothnia	13,160	12,299	8,936	10,051	59.6	55.0	40.4	45.0
Kainuu	2,824	2,476	1,806	1,757	61.0	58.5	39.0	41.5
Lapland	6,135	5,132	4,123	4,041	59.8	55.9	40.2	44.1
Åland	977	736	703	545	58.2	57.5	41.8	42.5
Whole country	182,679	184,159	129,439	167,709	58.5	52.3	41.5	47.7

### Enterprises

Slightly under one-half of the enterprises registered as injured parties operate in the main industry of wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (TOL2008 G). Other industries with a higher share are financial and insurance activities, public administration and real estate activities. The Business ID has been in use in the data received by Statistics Finland only for a few years, but its use is becoming more common. This may explain the large annual variations.

Enterprises are injured parties mainly in offences against property, but different types of offences against property are directed at different main industries. The share of wholesale and retail trade is manifestly high (67 per cent) in theft offences, especially in thefts and petty thefts from shops. In damages to property, the injured party is most commonly a real estate enterprise (30 per cent).

### Victims

In 2020, there were 67,900 victims of recorded offences, which is 30.8 per cent more than in the year before. The growth is due to the large number of reported extortions. Of the victims, 32,200 were men and 35,700 women. The number of male victims grew by 17.1 per cent and that of female victims by 46.1 per cent.

Information on victims is obtained reliably only on certain violent and sexual offences. For example, in offences against property, the police do usually not identify the victim of the offence and the injured party. Especially in offences against minors, the guardian of the actual victim is recorded as an injured party.

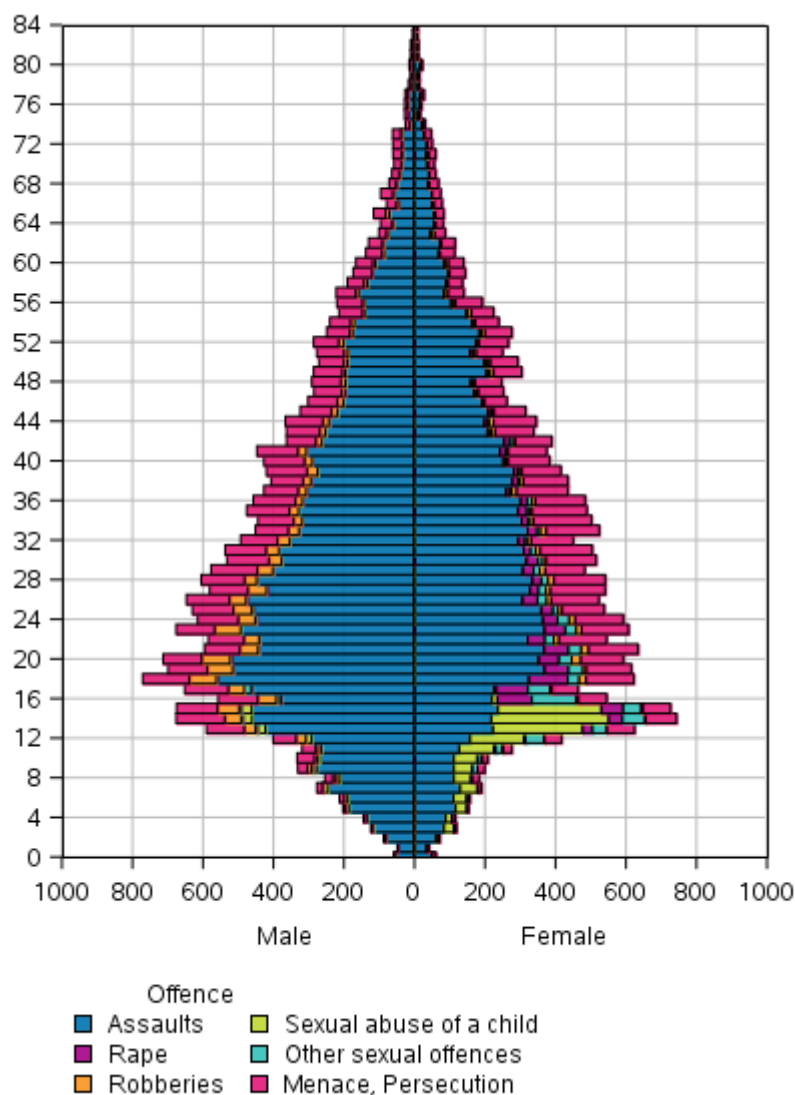
Around 55 per cent of victims belong to the age group 15 to 39. Of the victims, 17 per cent were minors, which is five percentage points fewer than in the year before. For men, the share of minors decreased slightly less than for women. In 2009, sixteen per cent of male victims were minors, while over the past few years the share has been around 20 per cent. For women, the share of minors has risen from around 18 to 20 per cent, but in 2020 the share fell to 15 per cent.



Of the victims of assault offences 8.1 per cent (2,700) were aged 18 to 20. Male victims are slightly younger than female victims as over 60 per cent of the victims aged under 25 were men while the share drops closer to 50 per cent for older victims. Apart from the oldest age groups, over one-half of assault victims are men. Of the male victims, 43 per cent were aged under 25, while 35 per cent of female victims were aged under 25.

Approximately 80 per cent of attempted homicide victims are men. Around 90 per cent of the victims of sexual abuse of a child are girls and approximately 95 per cent of rape victims are female.

**Figure 9. Victims of certain offences by age and sex in 2020**



In solved offences, where, in addition to the victim, the suspect is also known, the victim was of Finnish background in 92 per cent of cases (Table 7). This is 0.8 percentage points lower than one year earlier. In 93.8 per cent of sexual offences, the victim was of Finnish background. This is 0.9 percentage points lower than in the year before.

Of the suspects, 88.7 per cent were of Finnish background, which is 0.1 percentage points lower than in the previous year. In sexual offences, the share of suspects of Finnish background grew by 5.5 percentage points to 78.3 per cent.

In offences against a victim of Finnish background, the suspect was also of Finnish background in 91.6 per cent of cases. In sexual offences, the share was 81.3 per cent. The share is 6.5 percentage points higher than in 2019.

In 2020, the share of suspects with foreign background of offences against victims of foreign background was 44.9 per cent, while it was 47.9 one year earlier.

**Table 7. Victims of certain solved offences by origin and person suspected by origin 2020**

Victim's origin/offence		Person suspected origin		
		Origins total	Person with Finnish background total	Person with foreign background total
Origins total	Total	16,490	14,626	1,864
	Assault offences	10,816	9,570	1,246
	Sexual offences exc	821	643	178
	Other offences	4,853	4,413	440
Person with Finnish background total	Total	15,168	13,897	1,271
	Assault offences	9,873	9,065	808
	Sexual offences exc	770	626	144
	Other offences	4,525	4,206	319
Person with foreign background total	Total	1,322	729	593
	Assault offences	943	505	438
	Sexual offences exc	51	17	34
	Other offences	328	207	121

## 2.2 Persons suspected of solved offences

### About 30 per cent of suspects are suspected of several offences

Of the 313,400 offences against the Criminal Code solved in 2020, a total of 339,700 persons were suspects, which is around 13 per cent more than in the previous year. The same person can be suspected of more than one offence and one offence can have several suspects. Of the suspects, 273,200 were men, which is 13.5 per cent more than in the year before. The number of female suspects increased by 11.3 per cent. They numbered 66,500. Of those suspect of offences against the Criminal Code, 19.6 per cent were women. The share of women among suspects has varied between 17 and 20 per cent in recent years.

Statistics Finland only publishes data on suspects of solved offences. The preliminary investigation authority records the offence as solved when the preliminary investigation is completed, and the case can be transferred to the prosecutor for consideration of charges. The fact that someone is a suspect does not mean that the prosecutor will charge or convict the person of an offence.

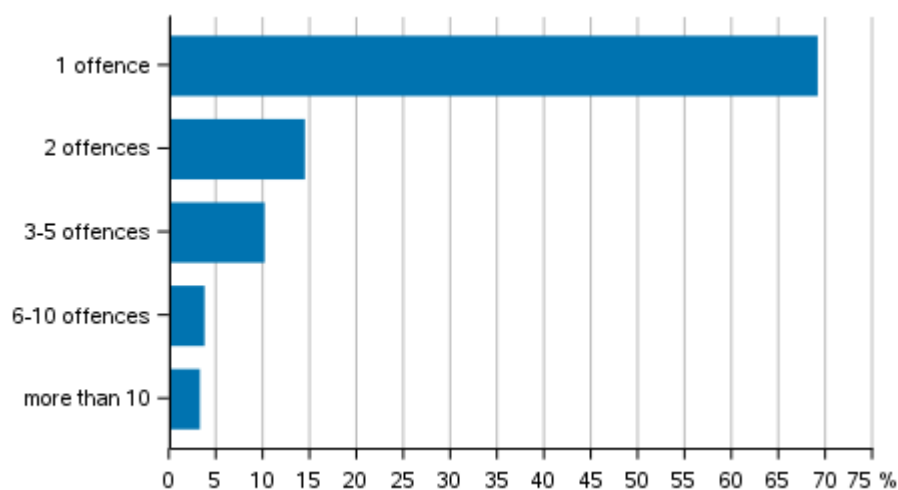
Suspects can also be examined by the gravest offence of the year or the so-called principal offence. Examined this way, there were 139,400 suspects of offences against the Criminal Code. So, one person was a suspect in an average of 2.4 offences. On average, men are suspected of 2.5 offences and women of 2.1 offences. For both men and women, offences seem to concentrate to ever fewer suspects as for both, the number of offences per suspect has grown since 2006.

In addition to the quantitative difference, the criminality of men and women differs in that women's shares of assaults, driving while intoxicated and damages to property are small compared to men. However, the share of women suspected of assaults has risen from under 10 per cent in 1980 to some 20 per cent. Typical crimes for women are shoplifting and petty thefts, frauds, embezzlements and forgeries.

The share of minors and young people aged under 21 among suspects is slightly under one fifth.

The majority of suspects, 69 per cent, were suspects of only one offence against the Criminal Code in 2020. The corresponding figure was 69.4 per cent in the previous year. In all, 14.3 per cent were suspects of two offences. Of the suspects, 16.7 per cent were suspected of more than two offences.

**Figure 10. Persons suspected of offences against the Criminal Code by number of offences in 2020, %**



Tables 8 and 9 show the suspects of offences against the Criminal Code by age group relative to the population. Examined according to the gravest offence a person is only suspected once during the year. Based on the tables, offences concentrate on an ever smaller group of suspects.

**Table 8. Suspects of solved offences against the Criminal Code by age and sex, principal offence rule in 2011-2020, share per 1,000 population**

		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	Total	33	31	30	28	27	25	23	23	23	25
	0 - 14	9	7	6	5	5	6	6	6	6	7
	15 - 17	64	55	52	49	47	43	44	43	43	54
	18 - 20	93	88	86	80	78	76	71	75	74	85
	21 - 24	71	67	66	62	61	57	54	56	54	63
Male	Total	52	48	46	44	43	40	36	37	35	40
	0 - 14	12	10	9	8	8	8	9	8	9	10
	15 - 17	96	84	80	77	72	65	69	67	67	85
	18 - 20	139	131	129	119	118	115	110	115	114	129
	21 - 24	110	104	101	95	94	87	83	87	82	96
Female	Total	15	14	13	13	12	12	10	10	10	11
	0 - 14	5	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	4
	15 - 17	31	25	23	20	20	19	18	17	17	22
	18 - 20	45	44	42	39	37	34	31	34	33	39
	21 - 24	31	29	30	28	27	26	24	24	24	28

**Table 9. Suspects of solved offences against the Criminal Code by age and sex in 2011-2020, share per 1,000 population**

		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	Total	69	64	62	59	58	57	54	54	54	61
	0 - 14	14	11	10	9	8	8	9	9	10	11
	15 - 17	126	109	103	98	91	84	82	80	83	99
	18 - 20	214	201	198	185	185	180	199	178	175	200
	21 - 24	175	167	165	152	156	152	148	156	154	178
Male	Total	115	106	102	97	95	92	89	88	88	100
	0 - 14	20	15	14	13	12	12	14	12	14	16
	15 - 17	202	177	167	161	149	134	134	128	134	162
	18 - 20	340	320	314	290	293	279	332	284	272	312
	21 - 24	279	268	261	241	250	239	234	246	237	275
Female	Total	26	23	24	23	23	22	20	21	21	24
	0 - 14	8	6	5	4	4	4	5	5	5	6
	15 - 17	47	39	37	33	31	31	28	29	30	34
	18 - 20	82	77	77	76	72	76	60	65	71	81
	21 - 24	67	62	64	60	58	60	58	61	66	75

Of all suspects of offences and infractions, seven per cent were under the influence of alcohol. In 2006, the corresponding share was 16 per cent. The state of intoxication is not examined in nearly all cases. For example, in connection with automatic traffic control the state of intoxication is not examined.

Of all suspects of offences against the Criminal Code, 11 per cent were under the influence of alcohol and 12 per cent were under the influence of other intoxicants. The role of alcohol as an intoxicant has decreased and that of other intoxicants has increased. In all, 22 per cent of suspects were under the influence of alcohol and four per cent were under the influence of other intoxicants in 2006. Of the suspects of offences against life and health 32 per cent were under the influence of alcohol, while in 2006 the corresponding share was 60 per cent.

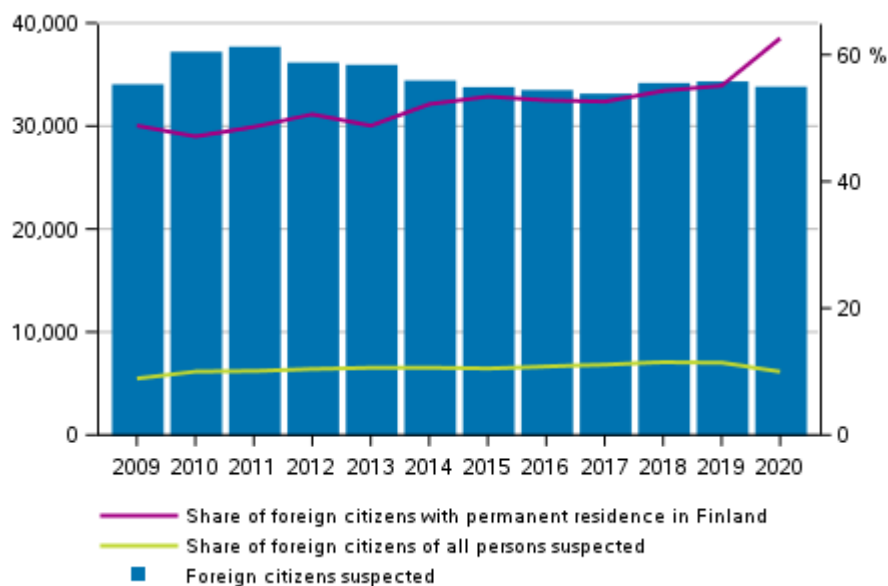
## 2.3 Nationality and origin

In 2020, there were 33,800 foreign citizens suspected of offences against the Criminal Code. This is close on 500 (1.5 per cent) fewer than in 2019. The number of Finnish suspects was 39,900 (15 per cent) higher than in the year before. Of the foreign suspects, 62.6 per cent had a permanent place of residence in Finland. The share is 7.6 percentage points higher than in the year before.

In Mainland Finland, the proportion of foreigners among suspects was highest in the region of Uusimaa. The share of foreigners was 18.1 per cent. The next highest shares of foreigners were found in South Karelia, 12.6 per cent, and Ostrobothnia, 10 per cent.

Persons with dual nationality, whose one nationality is Finnish, are recorded as Finns. The permanent residence of a person is determined based on the person's municipality of residence. Tourists, asylum-seekers and other persons staying temporarily in the country do not have a domicile of Finland. Statistics Finland records suspect data only on solved crimes. A person can appear as a suspect in the statistics several times during the year.

**Figure 11. Foreign citizens suspected of offences against the Criminal Code, their share of all persons suspected and share with permanent residence in Finland in 2009 to 2020**



The biggest group of foreigners suspected of offences against the Criminal Code were Estonian. They numbered 9,500, which is 600 more than in 2019. Other countries, from where over 1,000 citizens were suspects, were Iraq (3,500), Russia (2,800), Sweden (1,800), Romania (1,500) and Somalia (1,200). For example, compared with the year before, the number of Iraqis increased by 11.1 per cent and that of Russians decreased by 38.2 per cent. The number of Swedes went down by one per cent and that of Romanians by 4.1 per cent.

Of Romanians, 31.6 per cent were permanently resident in Finland. Of Russian suspects, 53.3 per cent had a permanent place of residence in Finland. Just over one-half of Estonians resided permanently in Finland. Of Somalis, 93.9 per cent and 74.8 per cent of Iraqis resided permanently in Finland. The share of foreign suspects permanently resident in Finland grew to 62.6 per cent while it was 55.1 per cent in 2019.

In all, 89 per cent of foreign suspects were men. Of Finnish suspects, 79 per cent were men. Foreigners were also slightly older than Finnish suspects. Of foreign suspects, around 11 per cent were aged under 21 and around 40 per cent were aged under 30. Of Finnish suspects, 19 per cent are aged under 21 and 47 per cent under 30.

### Origin

Of the suspects of offences against the Criminal Code, 293,600 (86.4 per cent) were of Finnish background. Compared with the previous year, the share of suspects with Finnish background grew by one percentage point. Some 96 per cent of the suspects with Finnish background were born in Finland.

There were 37,200 suspects with foreign background (10.9 per cent). Eleven per cent of suspects with foreign background were born in Finland. The share of suspects with foreign background who were born in Finland has increased by around seven percentage points in ten years.

The share of suspects with eastern European origin among foreign suspects has decreased in ten years from 26 to 17 per cent. Correspondingly, the share of people with Northern European origin has risen from 19 to 23 per cent. The share of people with Western Asian background has risen from good 11 per cent to slightly under 17 per cent.

**Table 10. Persons suspected of offences against criminal code with foreign background by background country 2009-2020**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	23,560	25,539	27,448	27,968	27,368	28,430	29,073	29,238	28,895	31,098	31,897	37,166
Northern Africa	957	1,197	1,231	1,162	965	1,039	1,052	997	1,104	1,025	1,015	1,198
Sub-Saharan Africa	3,349	3,534	3,782	3,454	3,750	4,367	4,617	4,578	3,998	4,141	4,234	5,280
America	477	505	504	504	456	509	519	556	553	487	438	511
Eastern Asia	302	187	400	328	194	237	212	195	160	187	227	202
Western Asia	2,678	2,758	2,971	3,047	3,218	3,419	3,610	3,734	4,066	4,761	5,263	6,294
South-eastern Asia and Oceania	985	904	935	1,049	1,143	1,035	961	1,128	913	958	931	1,067
Eastern Europe	6,107	5,919	6,304	6,381	5,913	5,932	6,033	5,853	5,945	5,943	5,983	6,467
Northern Europe	4,417	5,924	6,405	6,758	6,538	6,483	6,445	6,570	6,637	7,777	7,758	8,590
Southern Europe	1,665	1,548	1,507	1,543	1,490	1,527	1,536	1,394	1,393	1,394	1,317	1,760
Western Europe	2,234	2,515	2,590	2,771	2,492	2,509	2,496	2,537	2,625	2,786	2,781	3,236
Unknown	389	548	819	971	1,209	1,373	1,592	1,696	1,501	1,639	1,950	2,561

There were 8,900 (2.6 per cent) suspects of unknown origin in total. The share of those with unknown origin has remained more or less the same, but the absolute number has shrunk.

In 2019, a total of 7.7 per cent of the Finnish population was of foreign origin.

A person whose one or both parents were born in Finland is counted as having Finnish background. A person has foreign background if his or her both parents were born abroad. Origin information is not available for tourists or other persons not belonging to the Finnish population.

## 2.4 Backgrounds of suspects

Around 26 per cent of those suspected of offences against the Criminal Code belonged to the lowest income decile when viewed by disposable money income. Over one-half of the suspects belong to the three lowest income deciles. The share of those belonging to these three lowest income deciles has increased from 53 to 59 per cent in ten years.

Female suspects have slightly higher income than male suspects. Of them, 50.5 per cent belonged to the three lowest income deciles in 2020, while the corresponding figure for men was 61.3 per cent.

In relative terms, most suspects belonging to the highest income decile were found among suspects of traffic offences and infractions, employment offences and tax evasion.

Examined by main type of activity, 26 per cent of suspects were unemployed, while the share of unemployed in the entire population was under five per cent. Of the suspects, good 28 per cent were employed while the employed represent close on 48 per cent of the entire population.

More than one-half of suspects have no post-basic level educational qualification. Only good five per cent of suspects had lower or upper level university degrees or doctorate degrees.

## Appendix tables

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[http://www.tilastokeskus.fi/til/rpk/index\\_en.html](http://www.tilastokeskus.fi/til/rpk/index_en.html)

Source: Statistics on offences and coercive measures 2020, Offences reported. Statistics Finland