

QUALITY REPORT FOR STATISTICAL SURVEY

Statistical Report on Legal Entity and Person in Charge against Whom Misdemeanour Proceedings Have Been Validly Concluded (SPK-3 form) for 2024

Organisational unit: Crime Administration System and Social Protection Statistics Department

Prepared by: Maja Martinac Turčinović

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0. Basic information

- Purpose and subject of the survey

The survey is aimed at observing accused legal entities and persons in charge, persons in charge found guilty and persons in charge found responsible in order to examine the volume and spread of misdemeanours for the whole territory of the Republic of Croatia, by which useful and necessary information are provided on misdemeanour perpetrators, kind of misdemeanour, type of decision and sanctions that can be taken as guidelines to develop practical policies for detection and penalisation of misdemeanour perpetrators. It includes data on sex of the person in charge and data legal entities, kind of misdemeanour, merger, type of decision, type of sanctions and duration of proceedings. Final results provide information on a total number of accused legal entities – perpetrators of misdemeanours and legal entities that were found responsible as well as on accused persons in charge in a legal entity and persons in charge found guilty. In addition, they provide information on dividing perpetrators by sex and earlier sanctions pronounced (for persons in charge), type of misdemeanour, court's decision, sanctions and other useful information.

- Reference period

Calendar year

- Legal acts and other agreements

Misdemeanour Act (NN, Nos 107/07, 39/13, 157/13, 110/15, 70/17, 118/18 and 114/22), Areas and Seats of Courts Act (NN, Nos 67/18 and 21/22), Decision on Harmonisation of Misdemeanour Legislation of the Republic of Croatia with Criminal Law (NN, No. 79/12)

- Classification system

Classification of Misdemeanours (document of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics)

- Concepts and definitions

The main statistical variables in the survey are the following:

- 1) Perpetrator – data on the legal entities and persons in charge – perpetrators of a misdemeanour are collected (sex, earlier misdemeanour sanctions for persons in charge). Person in charge – perpetrator of a misdemeanour is a person (director, accounting manager, cashier etc.) in a legal entity (trade company, state body etc.) against whom misdemeanour proceedings have been validly concluded by either a decision on the termination of the proceedings, a judgement on the rejection of charges, a judgement of acquittal, or a decision by which the person has been found guilty. Legal entities – perpetrators of a misdemeanour are domestic legal entities (for example, trade companies, state bodies, unions and alike) as well as foreign entities considered as legal entities under Croatian law, against which misdemeanour proceedings have been validly concluded by either a decision on the termination of the proceedings, a judgement on the rejection of charges, a judgement of acquittal, or a decision by which the legal entity has been found responsible.

- 2) Committed misdemeanour – data on types of misdemeanours are collected according to the Classification of Misdemeanours. It is created by methodologists pursuant to the Misdemeanour Act and in line with special acts for collecting data on committed misdemeanours. The type of misdemeanour is defined in the Classification of Misdemeanours on the basis of facts brought out in the misdemeanour proceedings. Misdemeanours are conducts that violate or threaten public order, social discipline or other social values that are not protected by the Criminal Law or any other laws regulating criminal offences. In terms of statistical surveys, misdemeanours cover an occurrence that starts with reporting a committed misdemeanour and ends with a valid conclusion of proceedings done by a competent misdemeanour body. Principle of legality laid down in Article 2 of the Misdemeanour Act: “No one shall be punished nor shall any other misdemeanour sanction be imposed upon them for an act that prior to its commission was not defined by statute or international law or a decision of a unit of local or regional self-government as a misdemeanour and for which the type and measure of misdemeanour sanction that may be imposed upon or applied to the perpetrator was not prescribed by statute or decision of a unit of local or regional self-government.”
 - 3) Type of decision – a decision passed by the first-degree municipal court or municipal misdemeanour court as well as competent state administration bodies against a legal entity – perpetrator of misdemeanour and against an accused person in charge – perpetrator of misdemeanour in a legal entity. The municipal court, or municipal misdemeanour court, or a competent state administration body validly conclude proceedings by either a judgement on rejection of charges, a judgement of acquittal, or a decision by which the person in charge has been found guilty or a legal entity responsible.
 - 4) Misdemeanour penalties – a fine to legal entity and person in charge, and an imprisonment penalty may be pronounced for a misdemeanour. In cases prescribed by the Misdemeanour Act, an admonition may be pronounced to the perpetrator of misdemeanour instead of a fine or imprisonment, or the person in charge – perpetrator may be found guilty but given no penal sentence, or legal entity – perpetrator is found responsible but no penal sentence. In addition to the fine, a security measure may be applied to both legal entity and person in charge.
 - 5) Date of filing a charge proposal and date of legal validity – the date of legal validity is a date when a judge or authorised person in charge for keeping misdemeanour proceedings in a case file determined the validity of the decision passed.
- Statistical unit
Statistical units are accused legal entities and persons in charge, persons in charge found guilty and legal entities found responsible for committing a misdemeanour.
 - Statistical population
The coverage is full (all natural persons and legal entities accused of committing a misdemeanour, persons in charge found guilty and all legal entities found responsible for committing a misdemeanour).

1. Relevance

1.1. Data users

National users: faculties of law, state bodies, the media

International users: United Nations (UNODC), etc.

1.1.1. User needs

Regular data users of justice administration statistics are persons who are already familiar with this domain to a relevant degree (professors, judges, state attorneys, students). For this reason, their needs cannot be fully satisfied by providing basic statistical aggregates since they mostly use these data either to present and analyse a certain phenomenon or as a basis of certain legal or organisational adjustments.

1.1.2. User satisfaction

Justice administration statistics are often quoted in eminent legal journals in the Republic of Croatia (e.g., in the "Croatian Annual of Criminal Sciences and Practice").

The first survey on satisfaction of users of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics was carried out in 2013, then in 2015, and the most recent one at the end of 2022. The results can be checked out on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics <https://dzs.gov.hr/highlighted-themes/quality/user-satisfaction-surveys/686>.

1.2. Completeness

The data collection in the criminal statistics domain is not mandatory, but it is foreseen in the Resolution 1984/48 of UN Economic and Social Council of 25 May 1984. Eurostat got a mandate within The Hague Programme from 2004: strengthening freedom, security and justice in the European Union for development of comparable statistics on crime and administration of justice. The system is being improved and enlarged as a part of the implementation of the Stockholm Programme from 2009: An Open and Secure Europe Serving and Protecting the Citizens. In 2012, the Commission set down the main strategies to be adopted in order to improve the data collection in the crime statistics domain in the form of an action plan for statistics for the period from 2011 to 2015. The following mandatory data sets is conducted by Eurostat on behalf of the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs: data sets on Human trafficking: Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA; data sets on Migrant smuggling in line with Directive 2002/90/EC of 28 November 2002 defining the facilitation of unauthorised entry, transit and residence, as well as the EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling (2021 – 2025); data sets on cybercrime in line with the Directive 2013/40/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 August 2013 on attacks against information systems and replacing Council Framework Decision 2005/222/JHA.

1.2.1. Data completeness rate

The indicator is not applicable.

2. Accuracy and reliability

2.1. Sampling error

Not applicable, because the survey is not based on the sample.

2.1.1. Sampling error indicators

The indicator is not applicable.

2.2. Non-sampling error

No errors were detected in relation to overcoverage and undercoverage. The survey coverage is full, since it is regulated by national legal acts and no non-response errors by units occurred. Nonresponse related errors for key variables are resolved by contacting reporting units. Imputations are not implemented.

2.2.1. Coverage error

The coverage is full. Namely, this survey is not based on the sample, while coverage is regulated by legal acts (primarily by the Act on Areas and Seats of Courts Act).

2.2.2. Overcoverage rate

Overcoverage rate is 0%.

2.2.3. Measurement error

Errors during entering of numerical values are detected in data verification and resolved by contacting the reporting units.

2.2.4. Nonresponse error

The survey coverage is full and no nonresponse errors by units occurred. Nonresponse related errors for key variables are resolved by contacting reporting units.

2.2.5. Unit nonresponse rate

Unweighted nonresponse rate is 0%.

Weighted nonresponse rate is -.

2.2.6. Item nonresponse rate

The indicator is not computed.

2.2.7. Processing error

Imputations are not implemented, whereas the missing or misclassified data are resolved by contacting the reporting units.

2.2.8. Imputation rate

The indicator is not applicable.

2.2.9. Model assumption error

Not applicable, because the survey is not based on the sample.

2.3. Data revision

2.3.1. Data revision – policy

The users of statistical data are informed about revisions on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, on the link [General Revision Policy of the CBS](#).

2.3.2. Data revision – practice

If necessary, a correction of released statistical data can be issued (First Releases or PC-Axis databases).

2.3.3. Data revision – average size

The indicator is not applicable.

2.4. Seasonal adjustment

Annual survey – seasonal adjustment of data is not carried out.

3. Timeliness and punctuality

3.1. Timeliness

Basic results: T + 4 months

Detailed results: T + 5 months

3.1.1. Time lag – first results

The indicator is not applicable.

3.1.2. Timeliness – final results

Timeliness of final results is T + 4 months.

3.2. Punctuality

There are no deviations between planned and realised issues.

3.2.1. Punctuality – delivery and publication

Delivery and publication is 1.

The First Release is released in line with deadlines.

4. Accessibility and clarity

The First Releases (basic data) and PC-Axis databases are issued at the annual level and they are available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

4.1. News release

Regular dissemination – First Release [Perpetrators of Misdemeanours, by Type of Misdemeanour, 2024](#)

4.2. Online database

PC-Axis database [Perpetrators of Misdemeanours](#) – legal entities and persons in charge.

4.3. Microdata access

Conditions under which certain users can have access to microdata are regulated by the [Ordinance on the Conditions and Terms of Access and Use of Confidential Statistical Data of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics for Scientific Purposes](#) (NN, No. 5/23).

4.4. Documentation on methodology

Basic notes on methodology are given in the First Release [Perpetrators of Misdemeanours, by Type of Misdemeanour, 2024](#) (in the part Notes on Methodology) and in the PC-Axis databases [Perpetrators of Misdemeanours – Legal entities and persons in charge](#) (in the part Notes on Methodology), which are available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

5. Coherence and comparability

5.1. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics

Not applicable.

5.2. Comparability over time

Comparability depends on possible changes in legislation. For example, if the definition of a certain criminal offence is significantly changed, or if a criminal offence becomes a misdemeanour (or vice versa), a suitable explanation may be added at disseminating data, or it may lead to break in data series.

5.2.1. Length of comparable time series

Length of comparable time series is 31 years.

5.2.2. Reasons for break in time series

The break in time series may occur either if the definition of a certain misdemeanour is significantly changed, or if an act of misdemeanour is declared as a criminal offence, or due to legal changes of reporting units' competences.

5.3. Coherence – short-term and structural data

The indicator is not applicable.

5.4. Coherence – national accounts

The indicator is not applicable.

5.5. Coherence – administrative sources

The indicator is not applicable.

6. Cost and burden

6.1. Cost

Costs of printing the forms and postal costs paid at sending them to reporting units. In addition, costs refer to working hours per person engaged in the survey in the Crime Administration System and Social Protection Statistics Department. In addition, a certain contingent of man/hour for persons engaged in this survey in the IT Directorate, Publishing Department, etc., should also be taken into account.

6.2. Burden

Burden on reporting units depends on the number of charged legal entities and persons in charge who are perpetrators of misdemeanours in a calendar year. A statistical form consists of 20 questions, which is filled in by marking one of the offered answers. The submission periodicity is the whole year, so the burden is evenly arranged and reporting fatigue avoided.