



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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No rise in common crime

In 2000 almost 4.7 million criminal offences were committed against citizens. The slight increase in common crime that had been the trend in recent years did not continue this year. Slightly over 1.6 million offences were reported to the police. The police made up a report about 1.3 million crimes and solved 188 thousand crimes in 2000, according to the latest figures by Statistics Netherlands.

No increase in common crime

In 2000 almost 4.7 million offences were committed against citizens, slightly less than in 1999. In the years before there had been a slight increase. Between 1993 and 1999 the number of offences increased by an average of almost 60 thousand a year.

One third of the criminal offences reported to the police

Crime victims report a third of all criminal offences to the police, a share that has hardly changed over the years. Not all reported crimes are registered by the police in a police report. In 2000 the police recorded a total of 1.3 million crimes. The number of crimes recorded by the police has remained constant in recent years.

Fewer crimes solved

In 2000 the police solved 188 thousand crimes in total. This means that 1 crime in 7 was solved in 2000, against 1 in 5 in 1993.

Number of thefts not falling

In 2000 some 1,8 million thefts were committed, which means that the decrease that had occurred since the mid-nineties did not continue. Half of all thefts were reported to the police, which in turn registered 859 thousand thefts. This is slightly more than in recent years. The police solved 7% of the registered crimes.

Vandalism not increasing

The population also had to deal with almost 1.8 million cases of vandalism to cars etc, slightly less than the record high in 1999. About a

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quarter of the vandalism is reported to the police by the victim or by someone who represents the victim. The police made up 170 thousand reports, the same number as the year before and solved about 9% of the registered cases of vandalism

No increase in violent crimes

Citizens also had to deal with almost 900 thousand violent crimes in 2000. This number also did not increase, after earlier increases to almost a million in 1999. One violent crime in four is reported to the police. The number of violent crimes recorded by the police has been increasing steadily in recent years. In 2000 some 91 thousand cases were recorded, against 87 thousand in 1999. The police solved about 45% of the violent crimes in recent years.

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Table 1. Common criminality

	1993	1995	1997	1999	2000
	x 1 000				
Offences against citizens committed in the Netherlands					
Total	4439	4506	4544	4781	4674
Of which					
violence	849	842	860	998	896
theft	1819	1980	1853	1703	1791
vandalism	1609	1496	1656	1887	1796
Crimes reported to the police					
Total	1628	1605	1658	1629	1605
Of which					
violence	275	264	223	249	211
Theft	951	967	953	831	884
Vandalism	355	329	405	483	433
Crimes registered by the police					
Total	1272	1223	1219	1284	1306
Of which					

Violence	62	65	74	87	91
Theft	928	879	820	844	859
Vandalism	127	130	161	170	170
Crimes solved by the police					
Total	244	211	201	194	188
Of which					
violence	30	29	33	39	39
theft	115	96	76	71	64
vandalism	15	14	16	15	15

Source: Statistics Netherlands