

**Documentation of statistics for
Juvenile criminal offences 2025**

1 Introduction

The purpose of this statistic is to analyze the number of criminal offences committed by persons below the age of criminal responsibility. The statistics include individuals who have committed an offence in violation of the Criminal Code, the Danish Road Traffic Act, or special laws/legislation, and who would have been charged for the offence if they had been above the age of criminal responsibility. The statistics are comparable from 2005 onwards.

2 Statistical presentation

The statistics are a yearly measurement of the number of registered criminal offences committed by persons aged 10-14 years by the criminal code, the Danish Road Traffic Act or the special laws/legislation. The number of registered offences are grouped by type of offence and age.

2.1 Data description

The statistics on number of registered criminal offences committed by minors are part of the Danish System of Criminal Statistics. The System of Criminal Statistics includes data on criminal cases from the reported offences and charges to the convictions plus arrests and imprisonments.

Reported offences committed by young people below the age of criminal responsibility include cases where a young person has committed an offence that has come to the attention of the police. According to section 15 of the Penal Code, children under the age of 15 (and under 14 during the period from 1 July 2010 to 1 March 2012) cannot be punished, and no charges are brought against them. In cases where the police investigation shows that a reported offence has been committed by a person under the age of 15, the young person is nevertheless registered in the police systems with information on the type of offence, etc.

The statistics on number of registered criminal offences committed by minors is a case statistics and shows the number of offences of criminal code, the Danish Road Traffic Act and special laws/legislation, for those who would have been charged for the offence if they had been above the age of criminal responsibility. The [reported offence] is identified by a journal number and a personal identification number. Other key variables are the code number of the reported criminal offence, age, gender, municipality, the date and time of the criminal offence.

2.2 Classification system

Grouping of the codes of the criminal offences, violations of the Danish Road Traffic Act and special laws/legislation. The criminal code is divided into four subgroups: Sexual offences, crimes of violence, offences against property and other offences. The statistics are published for aggregated offence categories as well as selected individual offences for crimes of violence and offences against property. The most special laws/legislation are referred to as single acts, while the rest are categorized as 'Any other special acts'. The grouping can be seen here: [Violations of the penalcode](#).

2.3 Sector coverage

Not relevant to these statistics.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Reported criminal offence: A report is made when a criminal offence (crime) is reported to the police or has come to the knowledge of the police in some other way.

2.5 Statistical unit

The unit in the statistics is the criminal case - here as a reported criminal offence.

2.6 Statistical population

Recorded violations of the Penal Code, the Road Traffic Act and special legislation in Denmark (excluding Greenland and the Faroe Islands) committed by persons aged 10-14 years, which have been reported to the police or detected by the police themselves.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark, except the Faroe Islands and Greenland.

2.8 Time coverage

The statistics cover the period from 2005 onwards.

2.9 Base period

Not relevant to these statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

Number.

2.11 Reference period

01-01-2025 - 31-12-2025

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

The statistics are published annually.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

The Act on Statistics Denmark § 6. There is no EU Regulation related to the statistics for these statistics.

2.14 Cost and burden

There is no response burden as the data are collected via registers.

2.15 Comment

Further information can be obtained by contacting Statistics Denmark directly.

3 Statistical processing

The source of the statistics is the Administrative System of the National Police. Data are delivered annually via email with a zip file containing 52 Excel files. The data go through a probability check in form of a comparison with data from the previous year, key variables are checked for valid values and irrelevant registration cases are deleted.

3.1 Source data

Administrative System of the National Police.

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Annual.

3.3 Data collection

The source of the statistics is the Administrative System of the National Police. Data are delivered annually via email with a zip file containing 52 Excel files.

3.4 Data validation

The data go through a probability check in form of a comparison with data from the previous year. Explanations of possible big deflections in the distribution of key variables are looked for, possible by contacting the National Police

3.5 Data compilation

Key variables are checked for valid values. Irrelevant registrations are deleted, e.g. offences committed at Greenland or the Faroe Islands. The code numbers of the reported criminal offences are converted to a Statistics Denmark-code, which is hierarchically constructed

3.6 Adjustment

No further corrections of data than mentioned in "Data validation" and "Data compilation" are done.

4 Relevance

The statistics are used broadly by the authorities, organizations, researchers, the press etc. The tables in StatBank Denmark are used frequently. Views and suggestions from key users are taken into consideration in the preparation of the statistics.

4.1 User Needs

Users: Ministries (especially the Ministry of Justice), the local police authorities, courts, municipalities and counties, different organizations, educational institutions, research or scientific institutions, the media, private firms and private individuals. Applications: Public and private planning, education, research/science and public debate

4.2 User Satisfaction

The statistics on convictions are often used by the press along with researchers. The tables in StatBank Denmark are used frequently.

4.3 Data completeness rate

Not relevant to these statistics.

5 Accuracy and reliability

The statistics are based on police records of reported crime committed by persons aged 10–14. The figures do not include offences that do not come to the attention of the police. In addition, discrepancies may occur between the time of the offence and the time of registration. Only final figures are published, and these are not subsequently revised.

5.1 Overall accuracy

The data come from a single administrative register system storing information on all reported crimes. The statistics are based on police records of reported crime in the Police Case Analysis System (POLSAS) committed by persons aged 10–14. The statistics are therefore considered a good measure of recorded offences committed by minors. However, a small degree of uncertainty may arise due to registration errors or discrepancies between the time of the offence and the time of registration.

5.2 Sampling error

There is no sampling errors as the statistics are compiled on the basis of registers.

5.3 Non-sampling error

In addition to the aforementioned uncertainty resulting from discrepancies between the time of the offense and the time of registration, changes in legislation or registration practices may affect the statistics.

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

5.6 Quality assessment

The statistics are based on an administrative register containing nationwide records of reported crime that have come to the attention of the police. The statistics are therefore considered to provide a good description of recorded offences committed by persons aged 10–14. A small degree of uncertainty may arise due to registration errors and discrepancies between the time of the offence and the time of registration. When interpreting the results, it should be noted that the statistics describe recorded offences and not the total extent of crime committed by minors.

5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

5.8 Data revision practice

Only final figures are published and are not later revised.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

The publishing time for the statistics is about 6 months. The statistics are usually published without delay in relation to the scheduled date.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

Only final figures are published and are no later revised. The publishing time for the statistics is about 6 months.

6.2 Punctuality

The statistics are usually published without delay in relation to the scheduled date.

7 Comparability

The statistics have been prepared on the same basis since 2005.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

No international comparable statistics on offences committed by minors below the age of criminal responsibility are available.

7.2 Comparability over time

The statistics have been prepared on the same basis since 2005. In general the statistics is therefore comparable since that.

On January 1, 2018, the special burglary-section 276a was introduced into the Criminal Code. The new section meant that the removal of things from a foreign house was now also termed burglary, only the presence in the house had been unjustified. It was therefore no longer a condition for the presence to be obtained by force for example by breaking up windows or doors. In practice, it meant that a large number of reported crimes that were previously theft were now categorized as burglaries.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

Since 2019, the Youth Crime Board has published annual reports on youth crime. Read more here (only available in Danish): [Youth crime Board](#).

7.4 Coherence - internal

Data are internally consistent.

8 Accessibility and clarity

The statistics are published annually in the StatBank under the subject [Reported criminal offences](#).

8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

8.4 News release

There is no news release linked to this statistics.

8.5 Publications

The statistics were included up to and including the reference year 2023 in the annual publication [Kriminalitet \(Criminality\)](#).

8.6 On-line database

The statistics are published in the StatBank under the subject [Reported criminal offences](#) in the following tables:

[STRAF3](#): Number of registered criminal offences committed by persons aged 10-14 years by type of offence.

[STRAF31](#): Number of registered criminal offences committed by persons aged 10-14 years by age.

8.7 Micro-data access

Researchers and other analysts from authorized research institutions can be granted access to the underlying microdata by contacting [Denmarks Data Portal](#).

8.8 Other

These statistics microdata are available for service tasks against payment. Read more about [Customized solutions](#) or get more information by contacting Consulting.

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

[Data Confidentiality Policy](#) for Statistics Denmark is applied.

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

The published statistics are distributed by age. In order to secure confidentiality and to improve clarity, the statistics are published for aggregated offence categories as well as selected individual offences.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

A description of the statistical method may be found in the annual publication Kriminalitet (Criminality)(<https://www.dst.dk/publ/Kriminalitet>)[Concepts and sources of the statistics (Danish only)].

8.12 Quality documentation

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

9 Contact

The administrative placement of these statistics is in the division of Personal Finances and Welfare, Social Statistics. The contact person is , tel.: and e-mail: .