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Juvenile perpetrators of criminal offences, 2023

In this statistical release, the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia publishes the basic data on criminal offences of juvenile perpetrators in 2023: reported, charged and convicted minors by sorts of criminal offences, sex, age and criminal sanctions. Data are collected in regular statistical surveys based on individual questionnaires completed by the competent Senior Public Prosecutor's Offices and Courts. Aiming at complete coverage of the phenomena, presented are the main indicators for the period 2019-2023.

The total number of crime reports against juvenile perpetrators of criminal offences in 2023 was 2 598, i.e. increase by 8% relative to 2022. 1 867 motions for pronouncing sanctions were submitted, i.e. increase by 15%, while number of sentenced juveniles was 1 454, being also the increase of 20% relative to 2022.

In 2023, against juvenile perpetrators of criminal offences, the following educational measures were pronounced: public prosecutor for juveniles pronounced educational measures in 192 cases and in 83 cases it was the juvenile court judge (article 7 of the Law on juvenile perpetrators of criminal offences and criminal-legal protection of minors).

1. Juvenile perpetrators of criminal offences, 2019–2023

Republic of Serbia

	Total number					Indices				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	$\frac{2020}{2019}$	$\frac{2021}{2020}$	$\frac{2022}{2021}$	$\frac{2023}{2022}$	$\frac{2023}{2019}$
Crime reports										
Total	2903	2524	2513	2410	2598	87	100	96	108	89
Accused										
Total	2002	1750	1749	1618	1867	87	100	93	115	93
Convictions										
Total	1676	1239	1383	1213	1454	74	112	88	120	87

2. Minors – crime reports by criminal offences, 2019–2023

Republic of Serbia

Criminal offences	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	2903	100	2524	100	2513	100	2410	100	2598	100
Criminal offences against life and limb	440	15.2	349	13.8	349	13.9	360	14.9	403	15.5
Criminal offences against civil freedoms and rights	171	5.9	123	4.9	161	6.4	155	6.4	234	9.0
Criminal offences against sexual freedom	54	1.9	61	2.4	36	1.4	41	1.7	61	2.3
Criminal offences against human health	260	9.0	248	9.8	182	7.2	178	7.4	243	9.4
Criminal offences against economy	10	0.3	9	0.4	5	0.2	7	0.3	5	0.2
Criminal offences against property	1321	45.5	1230	48.7	1263	50.3	1188	49.3	1010	38.9
Criminal offences against safety of public traffic	43	1.5	43	1.7	50	2.0	57	2.4	64	2.5
Criminal offences against public peace and order	345	11.9	238	9.4	264	10.5	250	10.4	358	13.8
Other criminal offences	259	8.9	223	8.8	203	8.1	174	7.2	220	8.5

3. Minors – submitted motions for pronouncing sanctions, by criminal offences, 2019–2023

Republic of Serbia

Criminal offences	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	2002	100	1750	100	1749	100	1618	100	1867	100
Criminal offences against life and limb	213	10.6	194	11.1	226	12.9	212	13.1	249	13.3
Criminal offences against civil freedoms and rights	54	2.7	72	4.1	55	3.1	76	4.7	95	5.1
Criminal offences against sexual freedom	40	2.0	27	1.5	36	2.1	30	1.9	56	3.0
Criminal offences against human health	357	17.8	355	20.3	265	15.2	248	15.3	306	16.4
Criminal offences against economy	9	0.4	9	0.5	3	0.2	4	0.2	14	0.7
Criminal offences against property	897	44.8	784	44.8	803	45.9	683	42.2	785	42.0
Criminal offences against safety of public traffic	30	1.5	25	1.4	41	2.3	37	2.3	35	1.9
Criminal offences against public peace and order	244	12.2	175	10.0	200	11.4	224	13.8	215	11.5
Other criminal offences	158	7.9	109	6.2	120	6.9	104	6.4	112	6.0

4. Minors – pronounced sanctions, by criminal offences, 2019–2023

Republic of Serbia

Criminal offences	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	1676	100	1239	100	1383	100	1213	100	1454	100
Criminal offences against life and limb	172	10.3	151	12.2	181	13.1	178	14.7	210	14.4
Criminal offences against civil freedoms and rights	51	3.0	52	4.2	45	3.3	53	4.4	74	5.1
Criminal offences against sexual freedom	37	2.2	17	1.4	25	1.8	18	1.5	41	2.8
Criminal offences against human health	298	17.8	259	20.9	229	16.6	211	17.4	259	17.8
Criminal offences against economy	9	0.5	6	0.5	2	0.1	3	0.2	12	0.8
Criminal offences against property	763	45.5	543	43.8	635	45.9	506	41.7	583	40.1
Criminal offences against safety of public traffic	24	1.4	15	1.2	32	2.3	31	2.6	25	1.7
Criminal offences against public peace and order	190	11.3	121	9.8	133	9.6	145	12.0	153	10.5
Other criminal offences	132	7.9	75	6.1	101	7.3	68	5.6	97	6.7

5. Minors – pronounced sanctions, by age and sex, 2019–2023

Republic of Serbia

	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	1676	100	1239	100	1383	100	1213	100	1454	100
Females	158	100	106	100	121	100	119	100	141	100
14 years	299	17.8	188	15.2	224	16.2	188	15.5	242	16.6
Females	36	22.8	24	22.6	29	24.0	22	18.5	34	24.1
15 years	374	22.3	286	23.1	303	21.9	285	23.5	347	23.9
Females	38	24.1	25	23.6	29	24.0	32	26.9	31	22.0
16 years	487	29.1	392	31.6	408	29.5	349	28.8	431	29.6
Females	48	30.4	26	24.5	36	29.8	37	31.1	34	24.1
17 years	516	30.8	373	30.1	448	32.4	391	32.2	434	29.8
Females	36	22.8	31	29.2	27	22.3	28	23.5	42	29.8

6. Minors, by pronounced criminal sanctions, 2019–2023

Republic of Serbia

	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	1676	100	1239	100	1383	100	1213	100	1454	100
Junior minors	673	40.2	474	38.3	527	38.1	473	39.0	589	40.5
Educational measures	673	40.2	474	38.3	527	38.1	473	39.0	589	40.5
Warning and directing measures	325	19.4	282	22.8	226	16.3	228	18.8	285	19.6
Intensified supervision measures	296	17.7	171	13.8	259	18.7	202	16.7	267	18.4
Institutional measures	52	3.1	21	1.7	42	3.0	43	3.5	37	2.5
Senior minors	1003	59.8	765	61.7	856	61.9	740	61.0	865	59.5
Juvenile prison	4	0.2	3	0.2	3	0.2	4	0.3	4	0.3
Over 5-10 years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Over 2-5 years	1	0.1	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1	3	0.2
Over 6 months to 2 years	3	0.2	2	0.2	3	0.2	3	0.2	1	0.1
Educational measures	999	59.6	762	61.5	853	61.7	736	60.7	861	59.2
Warning and directing measures	460	27.4	487	39.3	331	23.9	342	28.2	418	28.7
Intensified supervision measures	491	29.3	256	20.7	470	34.0	357	29.4	421	29.0
Institutional measures	48	2.9	19	1.5	52	3.8	37	3.1	22	1.5

7. Minors - crime reports by criminal offences, 2023

Criminal offences	Republic of Serbia					
	Total	Srbija – sever		Srbija – jug		
		Beogradski region	Region Vojvodine	Region Šumadije i Zapadne Srbije	Region Južne i Istočne Srbije	Region Kosovo i Metohija
TOTAL	2598	130	727	810	931	...
Criminal offences against life and limb	403	10	108	137	148	...
Murder	2	-	-	-	2	...
Aggravated murder	4	1	1	1	1	...
Negligent homicide	1	1	-	-	-	...
Serious bodily harm	72	3	29	32	8	...
Light bodily harm	293	5	66	86	136	...
Brawling	26	-	8	18	-	...
Imperilling with serious weapons in brawls or quarrels	5	-	4	-	1	...
Criminal offences against civil freedoms and rights	234	9	69	47	109	...
Criminal offences against honour and reputation	49	-	2	5	42	...
Criminal offences against sexual freedom	61	7	16	19	19	...
Rape	13	-	6	6	1	...
Sexual intercourse with a helpless person	1	1	-	-	-	...
Sexual intercourse with a child	9	1	2	3	3	...
Prohibited sexual acts	8	3	1	2	2	...
Sexual harassment	5	1	1	-	3	...

7. Minors - crime reports by criminal offences, 2023 (continued)

Criminal offences	Republic of Serbia					...
	Total	Srbija – sever		Srbija – jug		
		Beogradski region	Region Vojvodine	Region Šumadije i Zapadne Srbije	Region Južne i Istočne Srbije		Region Kosovo i Metohija
Showing, procuring and possessing pornographic materials and exploitation of a minor for pornography	25	1	6	8	10	...
Criminal offences against family and marriage	76	8	23	21	24	...
Abduction of minor	2	-	-	2	-	...
Domestic violence	74	8	23	19	24	...
Criminal offences against property	1010	31	328	239	412	...
Theft	385	17	125	91	152	...
Aggravated theft	249	3	94	57	95	...
Robbery	31	6	16	4	5	...
Embezzlement	23	-	4	6	13	...
Fraud	16	-	7	7	2	...
Petty theft, embezzlement and fraud	48	-	5	11	32	...
Appropriation of someone else's property	13	-	7	1	5	...
Destroying and damaging someone else's property	134	1	29	34	70	...
Unauthorised use of someone else's vehicle	89	4	30	24	31	...
Extortion	19	-	11	4	4	...
Blackmail	3	-	-	-	3	...
Criminal offences against economy	5	-	2	2	1	...
Criminal offences against human health	243	41	85	76	41	...
Unlawful production and circulation of narcotics	84	25	11	30	18	...
Unlawful possession of narcotics	153	16	73	42	22	...
Facilitating the taking of narcotics	3	-	1	1	1	...
Production and putting in circulation of harmful products	3	-	-	3	-	...
Criminal offences against environment	18	-	8	3	7	...
Criminal offences against public safety of persons and property	14	2	4	3	5	...
Criminal offences against safety of public traffic	64	6	19	24	15	...
Endangering road traffic	61	6	19	23	13	...
Endangering traffic by dangerous acts or means	3	-	-	1	2	...
Criminal offences against constitutional order and security of the Republic of Serbia	5	-	2	-	3	...
Instigating national, racial and religious hatred and intolerance	5	-	2	-	3	...
Criminal offence against government authorities	12	-	2	7	3	...
Criminal offences against jurisdiction	8	-	-	1	7	...
Criminal offences against public peace and order	358	14	48	204	92	...
Causing panic and disorder	16	4	2	5	5	...
Violent behaviour	317	6	45	188	78	...
Violent behaviour at sports events	18	4	1	4	9	...
Illegal production, possession, carrying and circulation of weapons and explosives	6	-	-	6	-	...
Illegal crossing of state border and human trafficking	1	-	-	1	-	...
Criminal offences against legal transactions	26	2	5	17	2	...
Other criminal offences (particular laws)	12	-	6	5	1	...

8. Minors, by criminal offences, sex, attempt and pronounced criminal sanctions, 2023

Republic of Serbia

Criminal offences	Total			Juvenile prison	Educational measures				Security measures	Previously convicted
	All	Females	Attempt		all	Warning and directing measures	Intensified supervision measures	Institutional measures		
TOTAL	1454	141	350	4	1450	703	688	59	236	178
Criminal offences against life and limb	210	17	5	1	209	97	105	7	5	18
Murder	12	2	5	1	11	-	6	5	2	1
Aggravated murder	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Negligent homicide	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Serious bodily harm	64	1	-	-	64	34	30	-	1	8
Light bodily harm	116	14	-	-	116	56	58	2	2	8
Brawling	16	-	-	-	16	7	9	-	-	1
Criminal offences against civil freedoms and rights	74	9	2	-	74	39	32	3	5	11
Criminal offences against honour and reputation	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Criminal offences against sexual freedom	41	3	-	2	39	15	24	-	5	2
Rape	8	-	-	2	6	1	5	-	2	1
Sexual intercourse with a helpless person	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Sexual intercourse with a child	4	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	-	-
Prohibited sexual acts	5	-	-	-	5	2	3	-	-	-
Sexual harassment	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Showing, procuring and possessing pornographic materials and exploitation of a minor for pornography	22	3	-	-	22	12	10	-	3	1
Criminal offences against family and marriage	42	8	-	-	42	19	21	2	4	4
Domestic violence	42	8	-	-	42	19	21	2	4	4
Criminal offences against property	583	74	336	-	583	253	293	37	18	72
Theft	185	35	121	-	185	96	81	8	4	22
Aggravated theft	219	16	165	-	219	69	128	22	8	32
Robbery	56	10	30	-	56	21	31	4	3	8
Embezzlement	4	1	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-
Fraud	8	2	-	-	8	2	6	-	1	-
Petty theft, embezzlement and fraud	17	6	-	-	17	9	8	-	-	1
Destroying and damaging someone else's property	35	2	-	-	35	19	15	1	-	3
Unauthorized use of someone else's vehicle	45	1	15	-	45	25	18	2	1	4
Extortion	12	1	5	-	12	6	6	-	1	2
Blackmail	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Reset	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Criminal offences against economy	12	2	7	-	12	8	4	-	2	2
Criminal offences against human health	259	12	-	-	259	155	100	4	180	39
Unlawful production and circulation of narcotics	47	3	-	-	47	20	26	1	26	7
Unlawful possession of narcotics	211	9	-	-	211	135	73	3	154	32
Facilitating the taking of narcotics	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Criminal offences against environment	9	1	-	-	9	4	5	-	-	2
Criminal offences against public safety of persons and property	7	-	-	-	7	3	3	1	1	1

8. Minors, by criminal offences, sex, attempt and pronounced criminal sanctions, 2023 (continued)

Republic of Serbia

Criminal offences	Total			Juvenile prison	Educational measures				Security measures	Previously convicted
	All	Females	Attempt		all	Warning and directing measures	Intensified supervision measures	Institutional measures		
Criminal offences against safety of public traffic	25	2	-	1	24	14	10	-	3	3
Endangering road traffic	24	1	-	1	23	13	10	-	3	3
Endangering traffic by dangerous acts or means	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Criminal offences against government authorities	11	-	-	-	11	6	5	-	3	1
Criminal offences against jurisdiction	2	1	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	1
Criminal offences against public peace and order	153	7	-	-	153	75	73	5	8	19
Causing panic and disorder	5	-	-	-	5	1	4	-	1	-
Violent behaviour	141	7	-	-	141	73	63	5	3	19
Illegal production, possession, carrying and circulation of weapons and explosives	7	-	-	-	7	1	6	-	4	-
Criminal offences against legal transactions	12	3	-	-	12	8	4	-	2	-
Other criminal offences (particular laws)	13	1	-	-	13	5	8	-	-	3
SRBIJA – SEVER	688	74	84	3	685	451	207	27	187	107
Beogradski region	270	33	67	-	270	172	85	13	134	42
Region Vojvodine	418	41	17	3	415	279	122	14	53	65
SRBIJA – JUG	766	67	266	1	765	252	481	32	49	71
Region Šumadije i Zapadne Srbije	427	40	133	1	426	134	280	12	30	40
Region Južne i Istočne Srbije	339	27	133	-	339	118	201	20	19	31
Region Kosovo i Metohija	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Methodological explanations

Observation unit is the juvenile perpetrator of criminal offence (minor), who committed the criminal offence as: perpetrator, co-perpetrator, agitator or assistant.

Juvenile perpetrators of criminal offences are the persons who at the moment of criminal offence committal were 14 and not yet 18 years old.

A **“reported juvenile person”** is taken to be a juvenile against whom criminal proceedings on the grounds of a crime report have not been initiated (crime report rejected), against whom preparatory proceedings are suspended or the charge motion has been submitted to a juvenile court for pronouncing sentence or measure.

An **“accused juvenile person”** is considered to be a juvenile against whom a charge motion has been submitted to a juvenile court for pronouncing sentence, i.e. educational measure, so the proceedings were terminated by a finally binding judgment by which: proceeding was suspended, security measures without imposing criminal law sanctions were pronounced or juvenile imprisonment or educational measure were pronounced.

A **“convicted juvenile person”** is a juvenile perpetrator of criminal offence against whom a criminal law sanction – juvenile imprisonment or educational measure has been passed.

Starting from 1999 the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia has not at disposal and may not provide available certain data relative to AP Kosovo and Metohija and therefore these data are not included in the coverage for the Republic of Serbia (total).

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