

27 October 2008

## Conviction Statistics / Statistics from the Courts for Minors. Year 2007

### Main results

#### Conviction Statistics

- 91.7% of the 135,224 convicted persons recorded in the Central Register of Convicted Persons and Rebels are men and 8.3% are women. The average age of the convicted persons is 34.5 years old for men and 33.6 years old for women.
- Eight in 10 convicted persons have committed a single crime. 19.2% have committed more than one crime.
- 25.1% of the sentences imposed by judges have been prison terms and 23.2% have been fines.
- The Autonomous Communities with the most convicted persons recorded are Andalucía (with 19.8% of the total) and Cataluña (16.2%).

#### Statistics from the Courts for Minors (14-17 years old)

- 85.0% of the 13,631 convicted minors recorded in the Register of Criminal Responsibility of Minors are male and 15.0% are female.
- One in three minors who have committed a criminal offence is 16 years old.
- 68.6% of the criminal offences committed by minors corresponds to crimes. The most frequent are thefts (27.8% of the total crimes).
- The Autonomous Communities with the most convicted minors recorded are Andalucía (with 26.5% of the total) and Cataluña (10.9%).

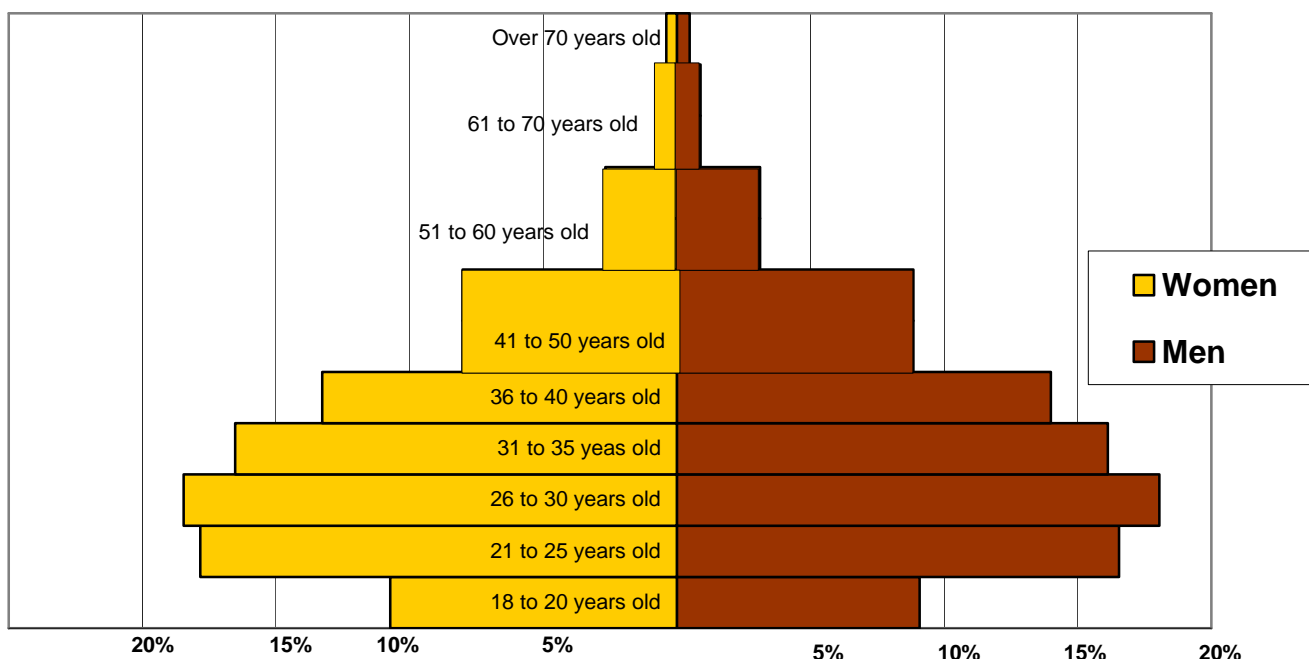
#### Conviction Statistics

135,224 convicted persons were recorded according to the sentences imposed in 2007 and communicated to the Central Register of Convicted Persons and Rebels. 91.7% of them were men, and 8.3% were women.

Considering the distribution by sex and age, it can be observed that, for both men and women, the group aged 26 to 30 years old was of note, with 18.1% of the cases in convicted men, and 18.5% in convicted women.

The average age of convicted persons was 34.5 years old, 34.5 years old for men and 33.6 years old for women.

**Convicted persons by age group and sex. 2007**



**70.8% of convicted persons are Spaniards**

Most convicted persons were Spaniards (70.8% of the total). Foreign nationals accounted for 29.1%, while nationality was not recorded for 0.1%. Among the foreign nationals, Americans represented the majority (36.9% of the total foreign nationals).

Out of the total convicted persons, 80.8% committed a single crime and 19.2% committed more than one.

Among the convicted persons who committed a single crime, and considering the type of crime committed, the most frequent is the crime *against traffic safety* (36.5% of the total), followed by the crime of *injuries* (16.7%) and the crime of *theft* (10.2%).

Most of the convicted persons (81.8% of the total) had received more than one sentence for the crimes committed, with those convicted with two sentences being the majority (44.0% of the total).

**Andalucía is the Autonomous Community with the most convicted persons recorded**

According to place of sentencing, Andalucía was the Autonomous Community with the most convicted persons registered, with 19.8% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (16.2% of the total), Comunitat Valenciana (12.4%) and Comunidad de Madrid (9.9%).

Cataluña was the Autonomous Community with the most convicted foreign nationals registered (19.8%), followed by Andalucía (15.8% of the total convicted foreign nationals).

**The total number of crimes is 172,518**

A total of 172,518 crimes committed were recorded. By type, those with the highest incidence were crimes against traffic safety (30.9% of the total), injuries (17.6%), theft (11.7%) and attacks against public authority (6.1%).

The number of crimes per person was 1.3. Men had a higher ratio than women (1.3 as compared with 1.2). Of the total crimes committed, 92.4% were carried out and 7.6% were attempted.

### The most frequent sentences imposed were prison terms and fines.

Of the total sentences imposed by the judges (361,667), considering without distinction the main and accessory punishments, those punishments restricting other rights (49% of the total) were worth noting, followed by punishments restricting freedom (27.4% of the total). In particular, sentencing to prison terms was the most frequent (25.1% of the total), followed by sentence to fines (23.2%), to special inhabilitation for employment or public office (15.3%) or to a driving ban (14.4%).

Considering the sex of the offender, punishments restricting freedom represent 27.0% of the total punishments imposed in the case of men and 32.4% for women.

Punishments restricting other rights account for 49.5% of the total punishments imposed in the case of men, and represent 43.8% for women.

### Convicted persons and crimes, by Autonomous Community

Year 2007

|                                    | Convicted persons | Crimes         | Convicted persons / 1,000 inhab. | Crimes / 1,000 inhab. |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>SPAIN</b>                       | <b>135,224</b>    | <b>172,518</b> | <b>2.99</b>                      | <b>3.82</b>           |
| Andalucía                          | 26,768            | 34,382         | 3.32                             | 4.27                  |
| Aragón                             | 3,606             | 4,539          | 2.78                             | 3.50                  |
| Asturias (Principado de)           | 3,874             | 4,921          | 3.60                             | 4.58                  |
| Balears (Illes)                    | 4,298             | 5,789          | 4.17                             | 5.62                  |
| Canarias                           | 6,132             | 7,781          | 3.03                             | 3.84                  |
| Cantabria                          | 2,170             | 2,751          | 3.79                             | 4.80                  |
| Castilla y León                    | 4,938             | 6,271          | 1.95                             | 2.48                  |
| Castilla-La Mancha                 | 3,898             | 4,737          | 1.97                             | 2.40                  |
| Cataluña                           | 21,857            | 28,244         | 3.03                             | 3.92                  |
| Comunitat Valenciana               | 16,729            | 20,953         | 3.42                             | 4.29                  |
| Extremadura                        | 2,666             | 3,440          | 2.45                             | 3.16                  |
| Galicia                            | 6,870             | 8,843          | 2.48                             | 3.19                  |
| Comunidad de Madrid <sup>(1)</sup> | 13,330            | 16,480         | 2.19                             | 2.71                  |
| Murcia                             | 5,447             | 6,969          | 3.91                             | 5.01                  |
| Navarra (Comunidad Foral de)       | 1,716             | 2,266          | 2.83                             | 3.74                  |
| País Vasco                         | 5,332             | 6,917          | 2.49                             | 3.23                  |
| Rioja (La)                         | 1,097             | 1,363          | 3.55                             | 4.41                  |
| Ceuta                              | 1,229             | 1,448          | 16.04                            | 18.90                 |
| Melilla                            | 512               | 630            | 7.37                             | 9.07                  |
| Foreign Courts and Tribunals.      | 2,755             | 3,794          | -                                | -                     |

<sup>(1)</sup> Including sentences imposed by central bodies.

The proportion of convicted persons per 1,000 inhabitants was 2.99 on a national level. By Autonomous Community, it ranges between 16.04 in the autonomous city of Ceuta and 1.95 in Castilla y León.

The number of crimes per 1,000 inhabitants was 3.82 on a national level. The highest percentage was 18.90 in the Autonomous city of Ceuta, while the lowest was 2.40 in Castilla-La Mancha.

## **Statistics from the Courts for Minors**

13,631 convicted minors were registered according to the sentences imposed in 2007 and communicated to the Register of Criminal Responsibility of Minors. 85.0% were male and 15.0% were female.

According to distribution by age, 33.2% of the minors who had committed a criminal offence were 16 years old, and 28.2% were 15 years old.

### **83.1% of the convicted minors are Spaniards**

Most of the convicted minors were Spaniards (83.1%). Foreign nationals accounted for 13.3%, while nationality was not recorded for 3.6%. Africans constituted the majority among foreign nationals.

Analysing the number of criminal offences committed, 68.6% of the total minors committed a single criminal offence, and 32% committed more than one criminal offence.

By the type of the criminal offence committed, the crime of *theft* (28.9% of the total) was the most frequent among minors who had committed a single crime, followed by the crime of *injuries* (10.0%) and the crime of *petty theft* (5.9%).

78.2% of the convicted minors had received a single measure for the criminal offences committed.

### **Andalucía is the Autonomous Community with the most convicted minors registered**

Andalucía was the Autonomous Community in which the most convicted minors had been recorded, with 26.5% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (10.9% of the total), Comunitat Valenciana (10.7% of the total) and Comunidad de Madrid (9.7% of the total).

In the case of convicted minors of Spanish nationality, Comunitat Valenciana took second place and Cataluña took third. In turn, Cataluña was the region in which the highest number of foreign convicted minors was registered.

### **68.6% of the criminal offences committed by minors is a crime**

A total of 22,366 criminal offences committed by minors were registered. Of these, 68.6% corresponded to crimes, 30.0% to minor offences and 1.4% to unspecified criminal offences.

By type of crime, the most frequent were theft (27.8%), injuries (7.4%), theft and petty theft of the use of a vehicle (5.9%) and petty theft (5.6%).

Among the minor offences, the most frequent were those carried out against persons (63.5%) and against property (32.6%).

**The most frequently adopted measures are probation and community service**

Of the 18,948 measures adopted by judges in the year 2007, the most frequent were *community service* (30.0% of the total) and *probation* (with 29.6%).

By sex of the offender, the measure most adopted by judges in the case of males was *probation* (30.0%), while in the case of women, the most imposed was *community service* (with 34.0% of the total).

The number of criminal offences per convicted minor was 1.6 on a national level. By Autonomous Community, this figure ranged from 2.4 in Principado de Asturias to 1.3 in La Rioja. The proportion of convicted minors per 1,000 inhabitants aged 14 to 17 years old on a national level was 7.51. The highest proportion corresponded to the Autonomous city of Ceuta (27.39), and the lowest to Galicia (5.30).

The number of criminal offences per 1,000 inhabitants was 12.33 on a national level, varying between 43.22 in the autonomous city of Ceuta and 7.59 in Castilla-La Mancha.

**Convicted minors and criminal offences by minors, by Autonomous Community. Year 2007**

|                              | Convicted minors | Criminal offences | Convicted minors / 1,000 inhabitants aged 14 to 17 years old | Criminal offences / 1,000 inhabitants aged 14 to 17 years old |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--|---|
| <b>Spain</b>                 | <b>13,631</b>    | <b>22,366</b>     | <b>7.51</b>  | <b>12.33</b>  |
| Andalucía                    | 3,608            | 5,815             | 9.21   | 14.85   |
| Aragón                       | 341              | 543               | 7.39   | 11.77   |
| Asturias                     | 205              | 494               | 6.25   | 15.06   |
| Baleares (Illes)             | 398              | 764               | 9.55   | 18.33   |
| Canarias                     | 695              | 1,030             | 7.69   | 11.39   |
| Cantabria                    | 176              | 244               | 8.82   | 12.22   |
| Castilla y León              | 954              | 1,398             | 10.50  | 15.38   |
| Castilla-La Mancha           | 532              | 686               | 5.89   | 7.59  |
| Cataluña                     | 1,489            | 2,676             | 5.70   | 10.25   |
| Comunitat Valenciana         | 1,458            | 2,684             | 7.43   | 13.67   |
| Extremadura                  | 355              | 564               | 6.70   | 10.64   |
| Galicia                      | 523              | 910               | 5.30   | 9.22  |
| Madrid                       | 1,319            | 1,811             | 5.77   | 7.92  |
| Murcia                       | 566              | 1,045             | 8.84   | 16.32   |
| Navarra (Comunidad Foral de) | 143              | 252               | 6.52   | 11.48   |
| País Vasco                   | 540              | 987               | 7.95   | 14.53   |
| Rioja (La)                   | 135              | 171               | 11.96  | 15.15   |
| Ceuta                        | 109              | 172               | 27.39  | 43.22   |
| Melilla                      | 85               | 120               | 22.09  | 31.19   |

For further information see [INEbase-\[www.ine.es/en/welcome\\\_en.htm\]\(http://www.ine.es/en/welcome\_en.htm\)](http://www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm) All press releases at: [www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa\\_en.htm](http://www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm)

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## Methodological note

The **Conviction Statistics** and the **Statistics from the Courts for Minors** are being compiled this year for the first time from the information provided by the *Central Register of Convicted Persons and Rebels* and the *Register of Criminal Responsibility of Minors*, respectively, both within the Ministry of Justice. The data has been processed by the National Statistics Institute (INE), by virtue of the Partnership Agreement subscribed between the two institutions on 3 July 2007.

The Central Register of Convicted Persons and Rebels has information on convicted persons, crimes, punishments imposed, sex, age and nationality of the offender, degree of committing, date of committing of the crime and place of sentencing, regarding the sentences of condemnation without recourse to appeal imposed by the courts and tribunals <sup>(\*)</sup> with criminal jurisdiction.

The Register of Criminal Responsibility of Minors, likewise, has information on convicted minors, criminal offences, measures imposed, sex, age and nationality of the offender, date of committing the criminal offence and place of sentencing, regarding the sentences of condemnation without recourse to appeal imposed on the minors by the Courts for Minors.

The data processing of both registers serves as a substitute for the previous system, based on the mailing of questionnaires to be filled out by the Courts with criminal jurisdiction or for Minors for each sentence imposed (whether condemnatory or not). This allows for an improvement in quality, opportunity and exhaustiveness for both sets of statistics. The new way of compiling the statistics indicates a break with that which the INE had been compiling until 2006, since in both registers, only sentences without recourse to appeal were registered.

Both statistics study the sentences imposed during the reference year and communicated to their respective registers.

The Conviction Statistics present detailed results of the convicted persons, the crimes committed and the punishments imposed on the national and Autonomous Community levels.

The Statistics from the Courts for Minors present detailed results of the convicted minors, the criminal offences committed and the measures imposed, both on the national and Autonomous Community levels.

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<sup>(\*)</sup> Recorded in the Register are the sentences of condemnation without recourse to appeal imposed by Spanish courts and tribunals that affect Spanish and foreign citizens, as well as the sentences imposed by foreign courts and tribunals of States with reciprocity agreements with Spain, which affect, Spanish citizens.