

30 September 2010

Conviction Statistics / Statistics from the Courts for Minors

Provisional results. Year 2009

Main results

Conviction Statistics

- Nine out of ten convictions by final judgment recorded in the Central Register of Convicted Persons and Rebels in the year 2009 are of men. The average age of the convicted persons is 34.5 years old for men and 33.4 years old for women.
- 71.6% of convicted persons are Spanish.
- Eight out of ten convictions are for a single crime.
- Crimes against road safety account for almost half of the total crimes registered.
- The most frequent sentences are those of fines and prison.

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

- 84.1% of minors convicted by final judgment recorded in the Register of Criminal Responsibility of Minors are male and 15.9% are female.
- Three out of four convicted minors in 2009 is of Spanish nationality.
- Two thirds of the punishable offences committed by minors are crimes. The most frequent are thefts.
- Probation and community service are the most frequent measures adopted by judges.

Conviction Statistics*

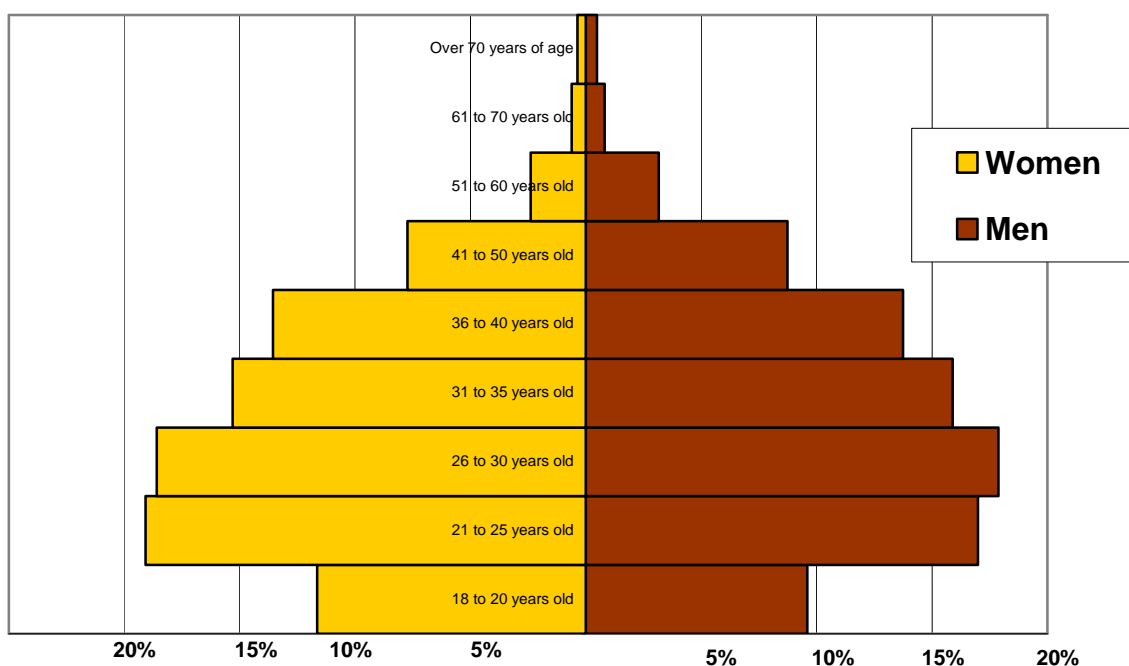
In the year 2009, a total of **220,739 convicted persons** were recorded in the Central Register of Convicted Persons and Rebels, according to the condemnatory judgments dictated that year and of which the register was notified, indicating a **6.9% increase** over the final results from the previous year.

90.6% of the convicted persons were men and 9.4% were women. The conviction rate per 1,000 inhabitants stood at 4.72, as compared with the 4.47 registered in 2008.

By age, the most frequent groups were that aged 26-30 years old for men (17.4% of the total) and the group aged 21-25 years old for women (18.7%).

The average age of the convicted persons was 34.4 years old (34.5 years old for men and 33.4 years old for women).

Convicted persons by sex and age group. Year 2009



Convicted persons according to nationality and type of crime

Most of the persons convicted in 2009 were of Spanish nationality (71.6% as compared with the 70.6% recorded the previous year). Among the foreign nationals, Americans represented the majority (39.9% of the total).

Of the total convicted persons, 82.4% were convicted for a single crime (79.2% the previous year) and 17.6% for more than one (20.8% in 2008).

*The results of the statistics for the year 2008 have been reviewed, and have been made final. Said results may be viewed at http://www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm

Among the persons convicted for a single crime, and considering the type of crime, the most numerous group was that of persons convicted for crimes *against road safety* (48.3% of the total). They were followed by the persons convicted for *injuries* (11.7%) and for *theft* (8.1%).

Convicted persons by place of sentencing

Andalucía was the Autonomous Community with the most convicted persons registered in the year 2009, with 20.9% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (15.2%) and Comunitat Valenciana (11.4%).

Cataluña was the Autonomous Community with the most foreign convicted persons (19.1% of the total), followed by Comunidad de Madrid (15.7%) and Andalucía (14.7%).

The autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla recorded the highest rates of convicted persons registered per 1,000 inhabitants (21.13 and 10.32, respectively). Conversely, Castilla y León (3.25), Comunidad de Madrid (3.61) and Extremadura (3.86) presented the lowest rates.

Crimes registered and their typology

In 2009, a total of **275,458 crimes committed were registered, 3.2% more than the previous year**. The ratio of crimes per 1,000 inhabitants was 5.89, as compared with the 5.78 recorded in 2008.

Considering typology, the most numerous type was that of *crimes against road safety* (44.6% of the total), crimes of *injuries* (12.2%) and *thefts* (9.5%).

The number of crimes per convicted person was 1.25, as compared with the 1.29 registered in 2008. By sex, this relationship was greater in men (1.26) than in women (1.15), in a way similar to the previous year (1.30 in men and 1.19 in women).

Of the total crimes committed, 95.3% were consummated and 4.7% were tentative.

Punishments imposed

In the year 2009, a total of **624,553 punishments** were imposed in condemnatory judgments dictated and recorded in the Register, indicating a **1.0% decrease** with regard to those registered the previous year.

51.2% of the punishments imposed (both main and accessory punishments) were *punishments restricting other rights*, 25.1% were *fines*, 23.4% were *punishments restricting freedom* and 0.3% were *deportations*.

Among the punishments restricting other rights, the most frequent was community service (17.5% of the total). Among the punishments restricting freedom, the most frequent was *prison* (21.9% of the total).

By sex of the offender, 23.1% of the total punishments imposed on men were *punishments restricting freedom*, and in particular, 21.6% were *prison* terms. Among women, 26.5% of the total were *punishments restricting freedom*, and 24.8% were *prison*.

Punishments restricting other rights represented 51.6% of the total punishments imposed on men and 46.6% of those applied to women.

Taking into account the age of the offender, except for those persons over 70 years of age, with the onset of age, *punishments restricting freedom* were less frequent, and *punishments restricting other rights* were more common.

Considering the nationality of the offender, *punishments restricting freedom* were somewhat more frequent among foreign convicted persons (25.5% of the total) than among Spaniards (22.5%). In particular, *prison terms* accounted for 23.8% of the total punishments among foreign nationals, as compared with 21.2% among Spaniards.

Convicted persons and crimes by Autonomous Community

Year 2009

	Convicted persons	Crimes	Convicted persons / 1,000 inhabitants	Crimes / 1,000 inhabitants
Spain	220,739	275,458	4.72	5.89
Andalucía	46,054	57,960	5.55	6.98
Aragón	5,831	7,102	4.33	5.28
Asturias (Principado de)	4,874	6,169	4.49	5.68
Baleares (Illes)	6,799	8,645	6.21	7.89
Canarias	13,530	16,740	6.43	7.96
Cantabria	2,930	3,979	4.97	6.75
Castilla y León	8,332	10,425	3.25	4.07
Castilla-La Mancha	8,644	10,613	4.15	5.10
Cataluña	33,593	41,428	4.49	5.54
Comunitat Valenciana	25,265	31,365	4.96	6.16
Extremadura	4,254	5,399	3.86	4.90
Galicia	12,000	15,209	4.29	5.44
Comunidad de Madrid	23,045	28,218	3.61	4.42
Región de Murcia	9,504	11,830	6.57	8.18
Navarra (Comunidad Foral de)	2,850	3,566	4.52	5.66
País Vasco	9,272	12,165	4.27	5.60
Rioja (La)	1,542	1,845	4.79	5.74
Ceuta	1,662	1,903	21.13	24.19
Melilla	758	897	10.32	12.21

Statistics from the Courts for Minors

In 2009, a total of **17,572 convicted minors** were recorded by condemnatory judgment dictated and notified to the Register of Criminal Responsibility of Minors, for an **increase of 10.3%** as compared with the previous year.

The rate for convicted minors aged 14 to 17 years old per 1,000 inhabitants in the same age bracket was 9.73, as compared with the 8.75 recorded the previous year.

Convicted minors according to sex, age and nationality

84.1% of the convicted minors were male and 15.9% were female. By age, the group aged 17 years old was the most numerous (31.9% of the total), followed by the group aged 16 years old (29.8%).

Most of the convicted minors were Spaniards (77.6%). Nevertheless, the proportion of foreign nationals increased to 22.4%, as compared with 21.5% the previous year.

In analysing the number of offences committed, 68.2% of the minors were convicted for a single punishable offence, and 31.8% for more than one.

Convicted minors by Autonomous Community

Andalucía was the Autonomous Community with the most convicted minors recorded in the Register in 2009, with 22.7% of the total. It was followed by Comunitat Valenciana (13.8%) and Cataluña (12.6%).

This order was the same in the case of convicted minors of Spanish nationality. However, Cataluña was the Autonomous Community with the highest number of foreign convicted minors, followed by Comunitat Valenciana and Comunidad de Madrid.

The autonomous city of Ceuta (38.86 per thousand) and the Autonomous Communities of La Rioja (18.17) and Castilla y León (16.09) registered the highest rates of minors aged 14-17 years old convicted per 1,000 inhabitants in the same age bracket. Comunidad de Madrid (6.33), Canarias (6.38) and Castilla-La Mancha (7.16) presented the lowest values.

Punishable offences and their typology

In 2009, a total of **29,673 punishable offences** committed by minors were registered, **13.3% more** than the previous year. Of these, 66.5% were crimes and 33.5% were misdemeanours.

Considering the type of crime, the most frequent were *thefts* (38.6% of the total), *crimes against road safety* (12.1%) and *injuries* (11.4%).

Among the misdemeanours, the most frequent were those carried out *against persons* (60.8%) and *against property* (33.6%).

By sex, male minors committed 85.5% of the offences and females committed 14.5%. Male minors committed 89.0% of the crimes, but only 78.6% of the misdemeanours.

By age, it can be observed that the number of offences committed increased with age. Thus, those committed at the age of 17 years old (9,793) were more than twice the number committed at the age of 14 years old (4,227).

76.3% of the offences were committed by Spanish minors (77.4% the previous year) and 23.7% by foreign minors (22.6% in 2008).

The number of punishable offences of minors per 1,000 inhabitants aged 14-17 years old was 16.42, as compared with the 14.36 registered the previous year. By Autonomous Community, the highest values were registered in the autonomous city of Ceuta (76.27), and in La Rioja (27.03) and Castilla y León (25.32). The lowest values were recorded in Comunidad de Madrid (8.60), Castilla-La Mancha (10.23) and Canarias (10.88).

Measures adopted

Of the 24,356 measures adopted by judges in the year 2009, the most frequent were *probation* (35.0% of the total), *community service* (20.1%) and the *performance of socio-educational tasks* (12.7%).

As the age of the offender increased, the judges more frequently sentenced the *performance of socio-educational tasks* (9.8% for 14 year olds and 14.4% for 17 year olds), and less frequently sentenced *probation* (39.9% for 14 year olds and 31.6% for 17 year olds).

Convictions and punishable offences of minors (aged 14-17 years old) by Autonomous Community Year 2009

	Convicted minors	Punishable offences	Convicted minors / 1,000 underage inhabitants	Punishable offences / 1,000 underage inhabitants
Spain	17,572	29,673	9.73	16.42
Andalucía	3,994	6,582	10.45	17.22
Aragón	404	683	8.56	14.47
Asturias (Principado de)	293	686	9.31	21.79
Balears (Illes)	610	1009	14.54	24.04
Canarias	564	962	6.38	10.88
Cantabria	226	325	11.57	16.63
Castilla y León	1415	2,226	16.09	25.32
Castilla-La Mancha	648	926	7.16	10.23
Cataluña	2,211	4,284	8.25	15.98
Comunitat Valenciana	2,429	4,344	12.31	22.01
Extremadura	492	788	9.72	15.56
Galicia	743	1211	7.92	12.91
Comunidad de Madrid	1,477	2,007	6.33	8.60
Región de Murcia	705	1142	11.04	17.88
Navarra (Comunidad Foral de)	190	302	8.28	13.16
País Vasco	751	1,479	11.10	21.86
Rioja (La)	207	308	18.17	27.03
Ceuta	161	316	38.86	76.27
Melilla	52	93	12.55	22.45

For further information see **INEbase-www.ine.es** All press releases at: **www.ine.es/prensa/prensa_en.htm**

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Methodological note

The **Conviction Statistics** and the **Statistics from the Courts for Minors** are compiled using information from the *Central Register of Convicted Persons and Rebels* and the *Register of Criminal Responsibility of Minors*, respectively, both belonging to the Ministry of Justice. The data treatment of both registers has been performed 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 condemnatory judgments dictated by the courts and tribunals^(*) of the criminal jurisdiction order.

The Register of Criminal Responsibility of Minors, likewise, has information on convicted minors, punishable offences, measures imposed, sex, age and nationality of the offender, date of committing the punishable offence and place of sentencing, regarding the condemnatory judgments imposed on the minors by the Courts for Minors.

The data treatment 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 competency or for Minors for each sentence dictated (whether condemnatory or not). This allows for an improvement in quality, opportunity and comprehensiveness for both statistics. The new way of compiling the statistics implies a break with those which the INE had been compiling until 2006, since in both registers, only condemnatory sentences were registered.

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 punishable offences committed and the measures imposed, also on both the national and Autonomous Community levels.

The INE will provisionally publish the results corresponding to year t as "provisional results" in year $t+1$, and as "final results" in year $t+2$.

^(*) The Register records the condemnatory judgments dictated by the Spanish courts and tribunals of the criminal jurisdiction. Moreover, condemnatory judgments dictated by foreign courts and tribunals are recorded when this is determined by international treaties on sentences signed by Spain; those dictated by European courts and tribunals, pursuant to international treaties on legal assistance in criminal matters and to the provisions dictated by the European Union; and those dictated by foreign courts and tribunals when these are served in Spain.