



Swedish Crime Survey 2023

**The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (Brå) -
centre for knowledge about crime and crime prevention
measures**

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Swedish Crime Survey 2023

English summary of Brå report 2023:9

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Summary

This summary presents the overall results of the Swedish Crime Survey (SCS) 2023. The results of the report are summarised and broken down into the following areas of inquiry: *exposure to crime, fear of crime, confidence in the criminal justice system, and crime victims' contact with the criminal justice system.*

Of the 200,000 people included in the sample for the 2023 SCS, approximately 64,000 people participated. The method for the SCS was revised in 2017, whereby the collection procedure was changed from mainly telephone interviews to internet questionnaires and postal questionnaires. The selection was also expanded and some of the questions were reformulated and new questions were added. Since one main purpose of the SCS is to be able to make comparisons over time, a method has been developed to enable the results for the period 2007–2016 to be compared with 2017–2023. Every effort has been made to ensure that all the descriptions of development over time for the results described in the report are unaffected by the change in method. It is important to emphasise this as the purpose of the survey is to study development over time and compare different groups in the population, rather than to estimate exact levels. Further information is provided in the Technical report for SCS 2018 (Brå 2019).

Introduction

Citizens' exposure to crime, fear of crime, confidence in the criminal justice system and crime victims' contact with the criminal justice system have long been a focus of Swedish crime policy. Therefore, detailed knowledge of which groups are exposed to crime more than others, which groups are adversely affected by fear of crime, and public confidence in the criminal justice system are of value to crime policy makers. The Swedish Crime Survey is an important source of information for this purpose.

Method

Sample and data collection

The SCS has been conducted since 2006¹ and is based on a nationally representative stratified simple random sample of people aged between 16 and 84.² Since 2017 the survey has included a sample of 200,000 people while in the SCS for 2007–2016 had a sample size of 20,000. In SCS 2023, 64,000 people from the sample participated. The sample was drawn from the population register administered by Statistics Sweden. Young people have been oversampled, and are thus overrepresented in the survey sample. When analysing the material, cases are weighted both to account for this over-representation and also to adjust for differences in levels of non-response among different groups within the sample.

Data collection was carried out by Statistics Sweden between January and April 2023. A cover letter was sent to those included in the sample. The cover letter described the survey and explained that participation was voluntary but important. In addition to the questionnaire data, certain data was also collected from existing registers including the respondents' age, place of residence and level of education.

Change of method 2017

The method used for the SCS was revised in 2017. At this point, the collection procedure changed from mainly telephone interviews to internet

¹ For methodological reasons concerning the change of method in 2017, the SCS for 2006 has been excluded from the presentation.

² SCS 2007–2016 include people aged between 16 and 79.

questionnaires or postal questionnaires.³ The selection was also expanded and some of the questions were reformulated and new questions were added. Since one main purpose of the SCS is to be able to make comparisons over time, a method has been developed to enable the results for the period 2007–2016 to be compared with 2017–2023. Every effort has been made to ensure that all the descriptions of development over time for the results described in the report are unaffected by the change in method. It is important to emphasise this, as the purpose of the study is to study development over time and compare different groups in the population rather than to estimate exact levels.

The questions about pickpocketing, sales fraud, card/credit fraud and online harassment were introduced in the 2017 SCS, which means that results regarding exposure to these types of offences are only available for the period 2016–2022.

Non-response

Questionnaire surveys always involve a certain level of non-response because not everyone who is included in the sample wants, or is able, to participate (unit non-response), or because some people who do participate do not answer all of the questions (item non-response).

The total weighted non-response rate for the 2023 wave of the survey amounted to 64.0 percent of the sample, giving a response rate of 36.0 percent.⁴ To reduce the skewing effect of the non-responses, and to reduce sampling and coverage errors, weights were calibrated for use when analysing the material. Briefly, this technique employs a number of auxiliary variables (based on register data) to increase the weight assigned to the answers provided by groups that are under-represented in the sample. The weighting procedure ensures that the survey results are as representative as possible of the survey population as a whole.

In the 2022 SCS, there was an increase in the non-response rate. Previous years (2018–2021) the non-response rate had remained at a stable level, just below 60 percent. Other surveys, e.g. The National Public Health survey (carried out by Statistics Sweden on behalf of the Public Health Agency of Sweden), experienced a similar increase. Due to the increase in

³ See appendix 1 for the SCS 2023 postal questionnaire.

⁴ The total unweighted non-response for the 2023 SCS was 68.1 percent of the sample, giving a response rate of 31.9 percent.

the non-response rate, Statistics Sweden conducted a non-response analysis. The results showed an increase in all studied groups in the sample but a somewhat larger increase for groups that generally had a greater response rate. Statistics Sweden have also studied the representativity of the response set by calculating a representativity indicator (R-indicator) for the years 2019–2023, that indicates that the representativity has not been affected by the increased non-response when weights are used.

The item non-response in the survey includes the response alternatives Don't know/Don't want to answer. Those who state that they have no opinion in relation to the questions on confidence in the criminal justice system are included in the presentations. The reason for this is that the fact that some respondents have no particular view on a given issue is in itself an important factor to consider when assessing levels of public confidence. The item non-response includes cases where answers have been left blank.

Reliability and comparability

A number of general limitations associated with the survey should be mentioned. The sample is not representative of all age groups in the population, as it does not include young people aged under 16 or the oldest members of the population aged over 84. Nor does it include people resident in institutions (e.g. in the healthcare sector or the prison system). It is also unlikely that the most marginalised groups within the population, such as the homeless and drug abusers, are sufficiently well-represented.

Measurement errors constitute the principal source of error in survey studies. The extent to which the results of the survey reflect the real picture is primarily dependent on the extent of these measurement errors. In the context of the SCS, the main problem is deemed to be the respondents' willingness and ability to provide correct answers. It may be difficult to remember exactly when an incident occurred, and thus crimes that should not be included in the survey may nonetheless be reported. Another factor may be that respondents may choose to adjust their responses, either in order to give a socially desirable answer, e.g. that a crime has been reported to the police even though this is not in fact the case. Errors may also occur as a result of ignorance. The respondent may have been exposed to incidents that are not defined as crimes in the Penal Code but which are perceived as crimes by the respondent, which may be the case, for example, in certain instances perceived as threats or harassment. Respondents may

also have been exposed to criminal acts without themselves defining these incidents as crimes.

Covid-19 pandemic

When comparing over time, it should be pointed out that the covid-19 pandemic began in March 2020, which led to restrictions of varying extent and under different periods of time. Therefore, it cannot be ruled out that the results for the question areas included in the SCS have been affected by the changed lifestyle patterns that the pandemic has brought about for large parts of the population. For example, many have spent more time at home, which may have had an impact on exposure to crime but also affected the circumstances surrounding responding to the survey, such as the possibility of answering the survey in private. In order to increase knowledge about how the pandemic may have affected the respondents' life patterns, which in turn may affect the exposure to the crimes measured in SCS, a random extra sample of 10,000 people was drawn in the 2021 SCS, where the regular questions were supplemented with questions about different conditions during the pandemic (reference period 2020). The results from these questions have been published in a separate report.

Presentation of results

The presentation of the main results is broken down into sections relating to exposure to crime, fear of crime, public confidence in the criminal justice system and crime victims' experiences of contact with the criminal justice system.

In this summary, findings are presented on the basis of sex and age. The findings in the main report are for the most part presented on the basis of the following background information and sub-groups of the population:

- sex⁵
- age
- Swedish/foreign background (born in Sweden with one/both parents born in Sweden, born in Sweden with both parents born outside Sweden or foreign-born)
- level of education, the highest level attained (pre-further education, further education or post-further education)
- marital status (living with partner or single, with or without children)

⁵ Recorded in the population register.

- type of housing (house or apartment building)
- degree of urbanisation, based on sectioning by The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR)
- type of socioeconomic area, based on Segregationsbarometern 2021 sectioning (administrated by The Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning).

Most of the information about the respondents' background has been collected from existing registers. The only background information collected in the Swedish Crime Survey itself relates to marital status, type of housing and, in some cases, level of education.

The areas covered by the questions in the survey focus on varying periods of time. A summary description is provided below.

- *Exposure to crime*
 - The reference period employed in relation to exposure to crime is the preceding calendar year (when the source cited is the Swedish Crime Survey 2023, this relates to events in 2022).
- *Fear of crime*
 - Questions about concerns over being exposed to different types of crimes relate to the past twelve months (counted from the date when the respondent answered the questionnaire).
 - The more general questions relate to the respondent's perceptions at the time the respondent answered the questionnaire.
- *Confidence in the criminal justice system*
 - In the section on public confidence in the justice system, the questions relate to the respondent's perceptions at the time the respondent answered the questionnaire.
- *Crime victims' contacts with the criminal justice system*
 - In the section on crime victims' contacts with the justice system, the presentation relates to experiences during the past three years (counted from the date the respondent answered the questionnaire).

Results

Exposure to crime

Exposure to crime was investigated for the calendar year preceding the year on which the question was asked. This means that incidents where the respondent was exposed to crime reported in the 2023 SCS, reflect offences that took place in 2022. Exposure to crime in terms of *offences against the person* is reported as the percentage of persons exposed to crime, unlike *property offences against households*, which is reported as the percentage of households exposed to crime.

The questions about pickpocketing, sales fraud, card/credit fraud and online harassment were introduced in connection with the 2017 SCS, which means that there are only results from the 2017–2023 SCS for those types of offences.

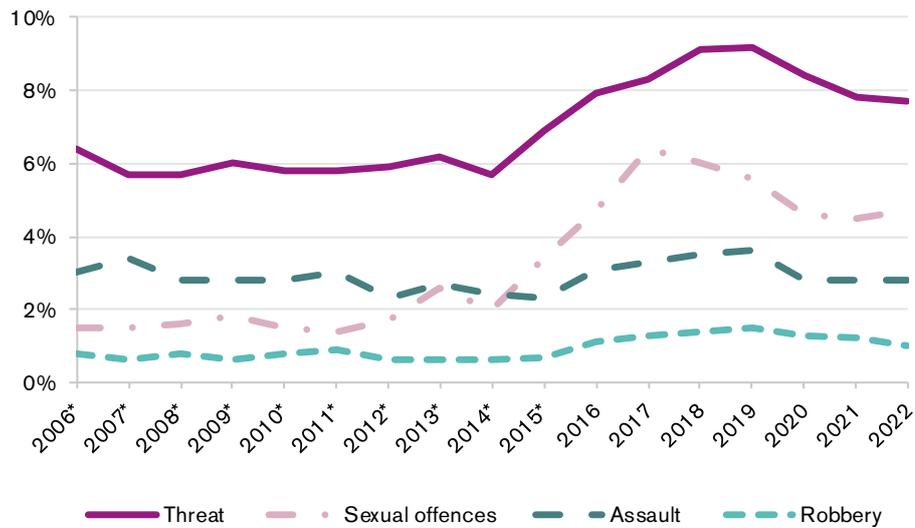
Offences against the person

- In the 2023 SCS, 20.1 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state that they were exposed to one or more of the types of offences referred to in the report as offences against the person: assault, threats, sexual offences, robbery, pickpocketing, sales fraud, card/credit fraud and online harassment⁶ in 2022. This is an increase compared with the preceding year (in 2021 the proportion was 19.5%). There was an increase in exposure to offences against the person between 2016 and 2018, followed by a decrease up to and including 2021.
- The type of offence that had the highest prevalence rate according to the 2023 SCS was threats (7.7%) while robbery had the lowest prevalence rate (1.0%).
- Compared to 2021, self-reported exposure to sales fraud has increased in 2022. Furthermore, exposure to sexual offences and card/credit fraud has increased slightly, while exposure to robbery has decreased slightly. As far as assaults, threats, pickpocketing and online harassment are concerned, the prevalence rate is more or less the same as 2021.
- Among those who stated that they were exposed to offences against

⁶ Exposure to harassment were included in the category “offences against the person” until SCS 2020. Since then, harassment has been presented as a separate category.

the person in 2022, 43.3 percent were exposed to crime once, 29.3 percent were exposed to offences two to three times and 27.4 percent were exposed to offences four times or more. Individuals in this group make up roughly three-quarters (76.2%) of all incidents of offences against the person.

Figure 1. Self-reported exposure to various types of offences against the person. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84), 2006–2022.



* The results regarding exposure to crime in 2006–2015 have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brá 2019). For the corresponding results before the recalculation, see previous SCS publications.

Figure 2. Self-reported exposure to various types of offences against the person. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.^a

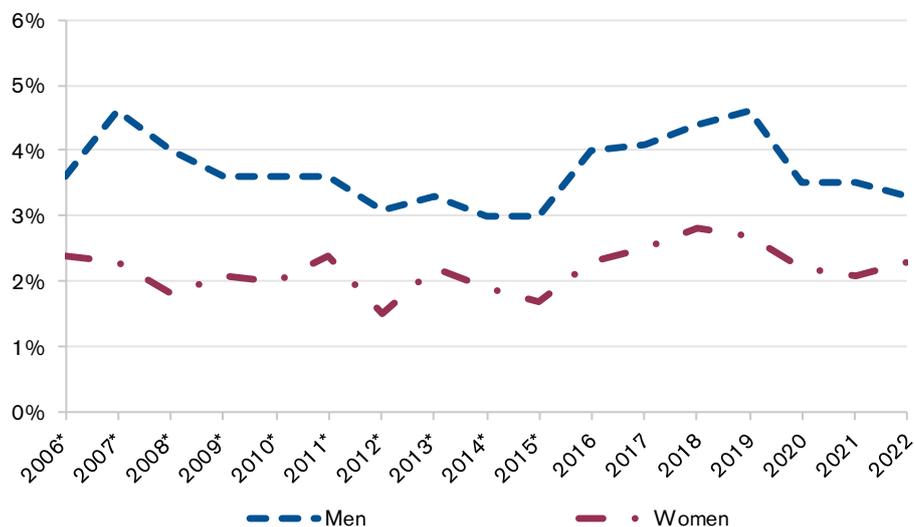


^a The questions on pickpocketing, sales fraud and card/credit fraud were introduced in the 2017 SCS.

Assault

- The percentage of individuals who state that they were exposed to assault in 2022 is 2.8 percent of the population (aged 16–84), which is at the same level as 2021. The trend for the period 2007–2015 was one of a weak decline, but the following period show an increasing trend until a decrease in 2020. Since then self-reported exposure to assault has remained at a stable level.
- Men (3.3%) state more often that they were exposed to assault than women (2.3%) in 2022.
- In terms of age, self-reported exposure to assault was most common in the 16–19 age bracket (men 9.7% and women 6.2%).

Figure 3. Self-reported exposure to assault. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2006–2022.

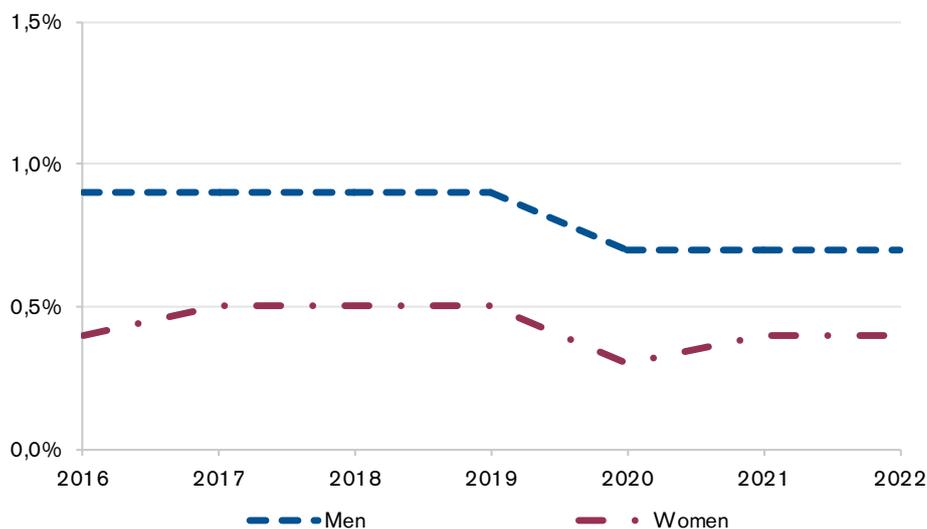


* The results regarding exposure to crime in 2006–2015 have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Serious assault

- A proportion of 0.5 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state that they were exposed to serious assault, which in the SCS refers to assaults leading to injuries requiring medical treatment by a doctor, nurse or dentist. This is the same level as 2021. The prevalence rate remained at a stable level between 2016 and 2019, but decreased in 2020. Since then, the proportion has remained at that slightly lower level.
- Men (0.7%) state more often that they were victims than women (0.4%) in 2022.
- Self-reported exposure to serious assault was most common among men in the 20–24 age bracket (1.1%) and among women, in the 20–24 and 25–34 age brackets (0.6%).

Figure 4. Self-reported exposure to serious assault. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.

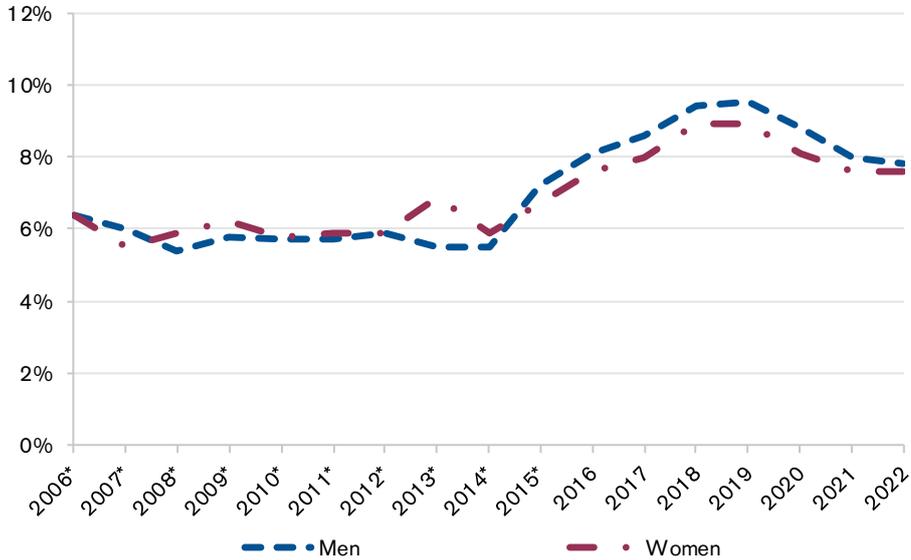


* The results regarding exposure to crime in 2006–2015 have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Threats

- In 2022 7.7 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state that they were exposed to threats, which is approximately the same level as 2021 (7.8%). Self-reported exposure to threats remained at a relatively stable level during the period 2007–2014. Thereafter, the level increased up to and including 2019. The proportion has since decreased.
- The prevalence rate in 2022 is slightly higher among men (7.8%) than women (7.6%).
- Self-reported exposure to threats was most common among men in the 20–24 age bracket (11.9%), and among women in the 16–19 age bracket (10.9%).

Figure 5. Self-reported exposure to threats. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2006–2022.



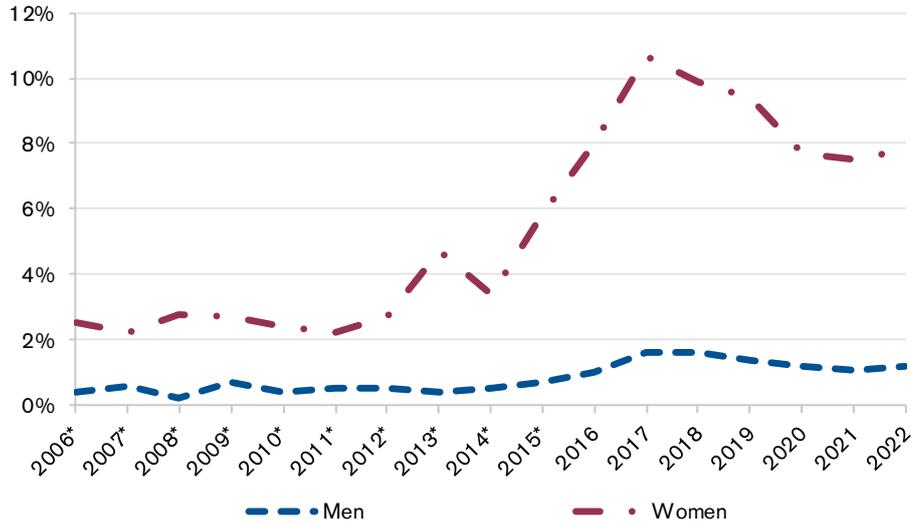
* The results regarding exposure to crime in 2006–2015 have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Sexual offences⁷

- In 2022, 4.7 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state that they have been exposed to a sexual offence, which is a small increase since 2021 (4.5%). The prevalence rate remained relatively unchanged during the period 2006–2011 but then increased almost every year until 2017. A declining trend was then noted from 2018 up to and including 2021.
- Women (7.8%) state significantly more often that they were exposed to a sexual offence than men (1.2%) in 2022.
- There are large differences between age groups. The prevalence rate for both men and women is greatest in the age group 20–24, where 29.2 percent of women state they were exposed to a sexual offence, and 4.4 percent of men.

⁷ Include, for example, offensive, sexual comments in speech or writing, forced sexual acts or rape. Incidents could have happened at home, at school, at work, on the internet or in another location.

Figure 6. Self-reported exposure to a sexual offence. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2006–2022.



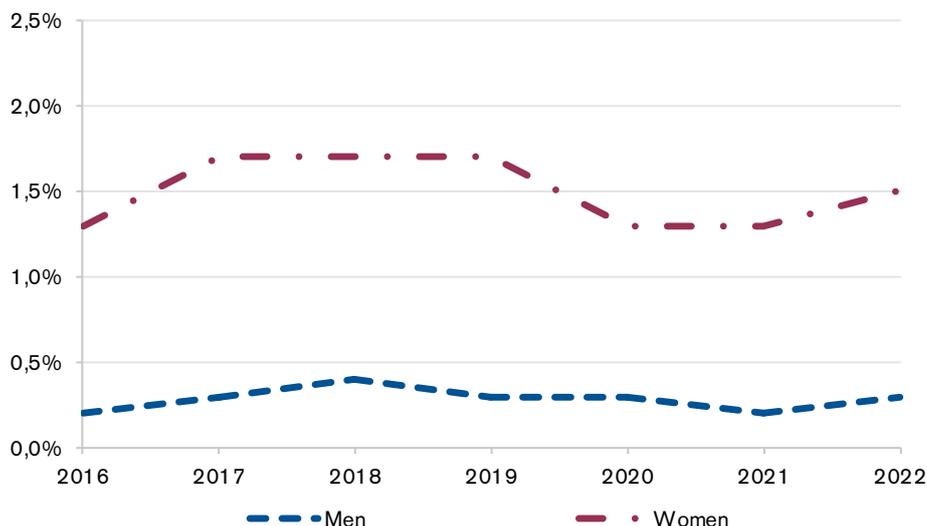
* The results regarding exposure to crime in 2006–2015 have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Serious sexual offences involving the use of force⁸

- Of the population (aged 16–84), 0.9 percent state that they were exposed to a sexual offence involving the use of force in 2022, which is approximately the same level as 2021 (0.8%). Looking at the development over time, the prevalence rate remained virtually unchanged during the period 2017–2019, and is thereafter at a slightly lower level.
- The prevalence rate is significantly higher among women (1.5%) than men (0.3%) in 2022.
- There are large differences between age groups. The proportion for men is largest among people in the 25–44 age bracket, where the prevalence is 0.6 percent. For women the prevalence rate is significantly higher among young people in the 16–24 age bracket, where the proportion is 5.3 percent.

⁸ Refers to incidents which include someone forcing, or trying to force, the person into a sexual act by threatening, holding onto or hurting the person in some way.

Figure 7. Self-reported exposure to a sexual offence involving the use of force. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.

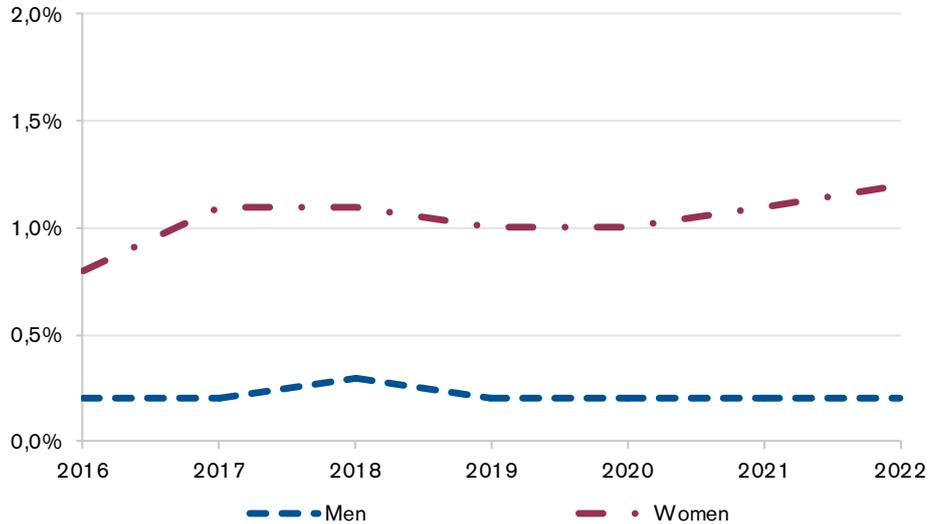


Serious sexual offences involving the exploitation of a defenceless condition⁹

- Of the population (aged 16–84), 0.7 percent state that they were exposed to a sexual offence involving the exploitation of a defenceless condition in 2022, which is the same level as 2021 (0.7%). The prevalence rate has been relatively unchanged since 2017 (it was slightly lower in 2016).
- The prevalence rate is significantly higher among women (1.2%) than men (0.2%).
- There are large differences between age groups. The proportion for both men and women is largest among young people in the 16–24 age bracket, 5.8 percent among women and 0.8 percent among men.

⁹ Refers to incidents which include sexual abuse while the person was asleep or when the person was in a defenceless state due to intoxication.

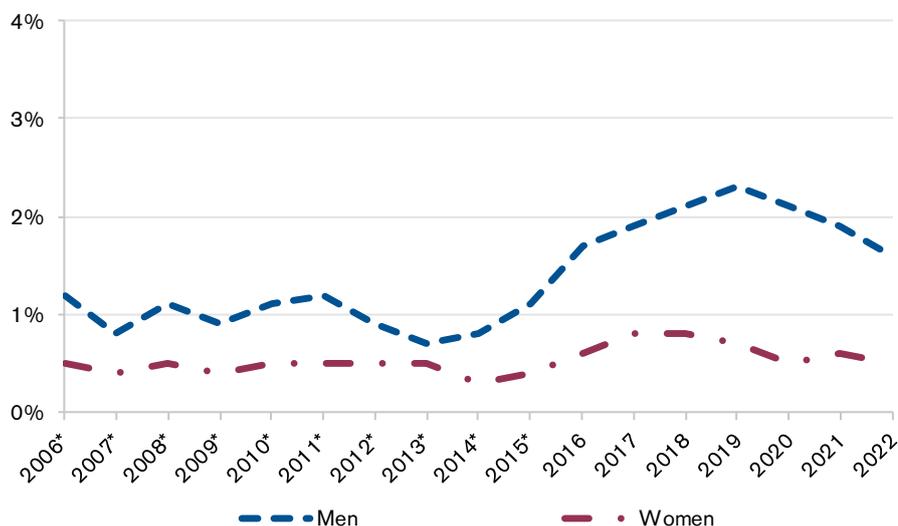
Figure 8. Self-reported exposure to a sexual offence by sexual exploitation of a defenceless condition. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.



Robbery

- In 2022, 1.0 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state they were exposed to robbery or an attempted robbery, which is a small decrease since 2021 (1.2%). The prevalence rate was relatively unchanged between 2006 and 2015. Thereafter, an increase was seen up to and including 2019, followed by a slightly decreasing trend.
- It is more common that men (1.6%) state that they were exposed to robbery or attempted robbery during 2022 than women (0.5%).
- In terms of age, self-reported exposure to robbery was most common among men in the 20–24 age bracket (3.7%) and among women in the 25–34 age bracket (0.9%).

Figure 9. Self-reported exposure to robbery. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2006–2022.

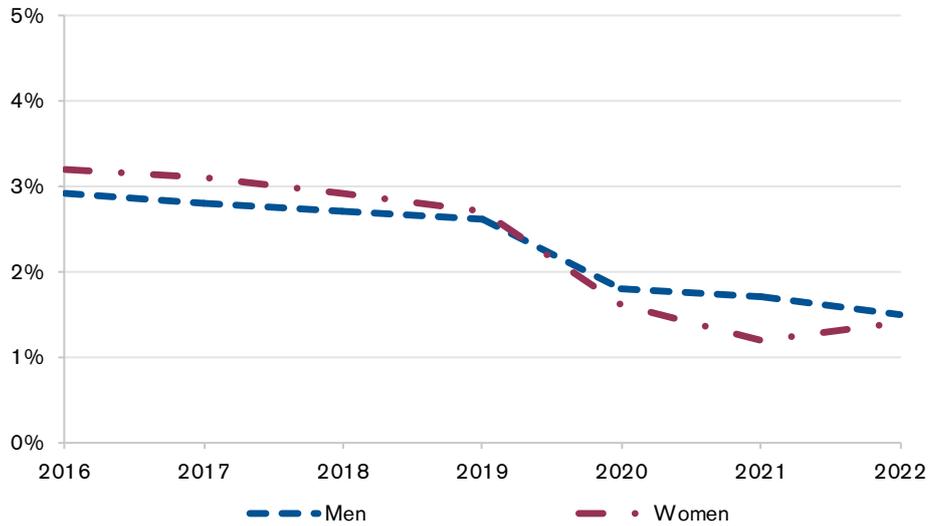


* The results regarding exposure to crime in 2006–2015 have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Pickpocketing

- In 2022, 1.5 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state that they were exposed to pickpocketing. This is approximately at the same level as 2021 (1.4%). The development over time shows a decreasing trend between 2016 and 2021. The decrease was particularly noticeable in 2020.
- The percentage of men and women who state that they were exposed to pickpocketing in 2022 is almost the same (1.5% among men and 1.4% among women).
- Self-reported exposure to pickpocketing among men was most common in the 20–24 age bracket (2.7%), and among women in the 16–19 age bracket (2.8%).

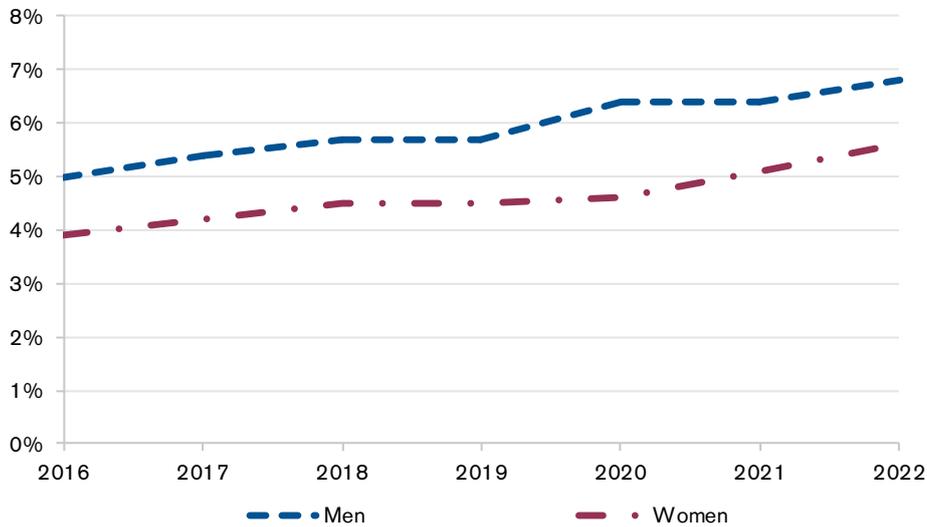
Figure 10. Self-reported exposure to pickpocketing. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.



Sales fraud

- Of the population (aged 16–84), 6.1 percent state that they were exposed to sales fraud in 2022. The prevalence rate is higher compared to 2021 (5.7%), and an increasing trend can be seen during the whole measurement period (2016–2022).
- Men (6.8%) state more often that they were exposed to sales fraud in 2022 than women (5.6%).
- The greatest percentage of self-reported exposure to sales fraud in 2022 was found in the 35–44 age bracket, among both men (9.6%) and women (9.0%).

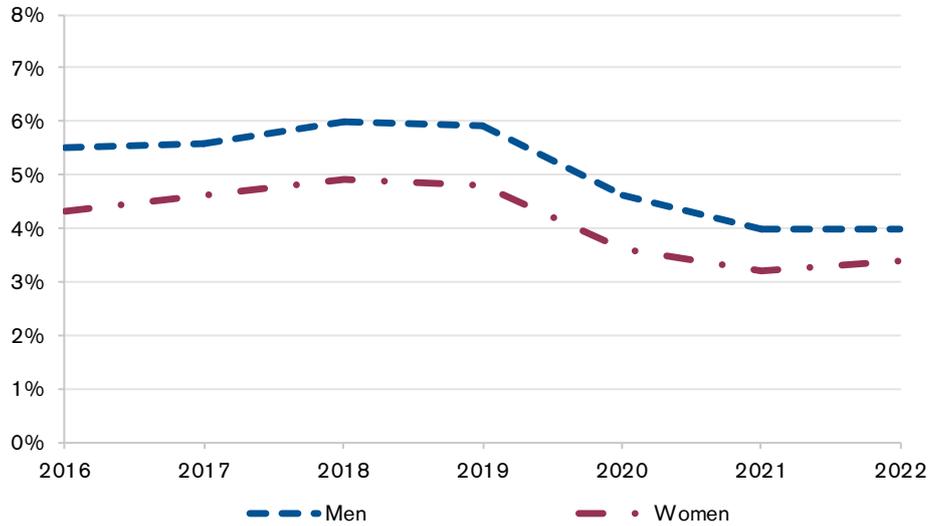
Figure 11. Self-reported exposure to sales fraud. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.



Card/credit fraud

- Self-reported exposure to card/credit fraud amounted to 3.7 percent of the population (aged 16–84) in 2022. This is a slightly higher level compared to 2021 (3.5%). Initially, an increase was seen between 2016 and 2018, followed by a decreasing trend until a small increase in 2022.
- The prevalence rate is higher among men (4.0%) than women (3.4%) in 2022.
- In terms of age, exposure to card/credit fraud is most common among men in the 35–44 age bracket (4.8%) and among women in the 45–54 age bracket (4.7%).

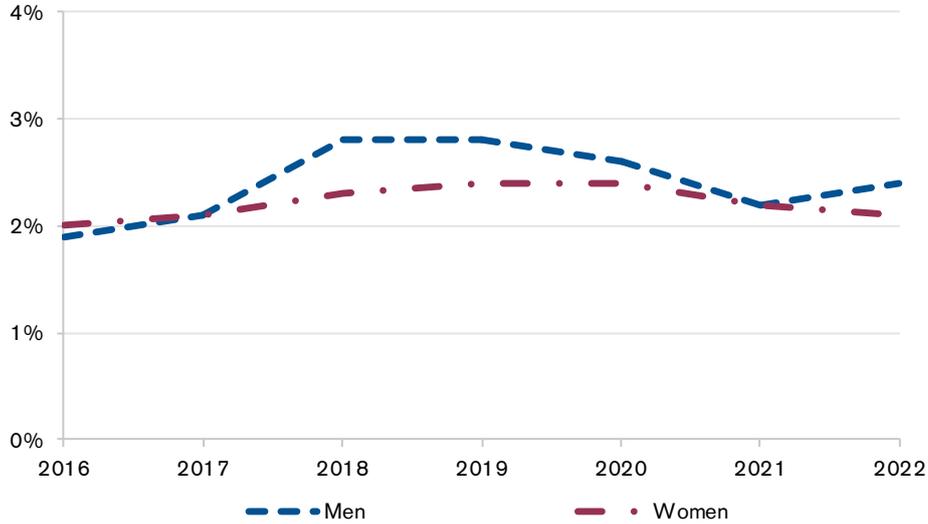
Figure 12. Self-reported exposure to card/credit fraud. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.



Online harassment

- Self-reported exposure to online harassment amounted to 2.3 percent of the population (aged 16–84) in 2022, which is almost the same level as 2021 (2.2%). The prevalence rate increased between 2016 and 2019, and then decreased in 2021.
- Women (2.1%) state less often that they were exposed to online harassment than men (2.4%) in 2022.
- The prevalence rate is highest in the 16–19 age bracket, and is higher among young women (7.2%) than young men (4.3%).

Figure 13. Self-reported exposure to online harassment. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.

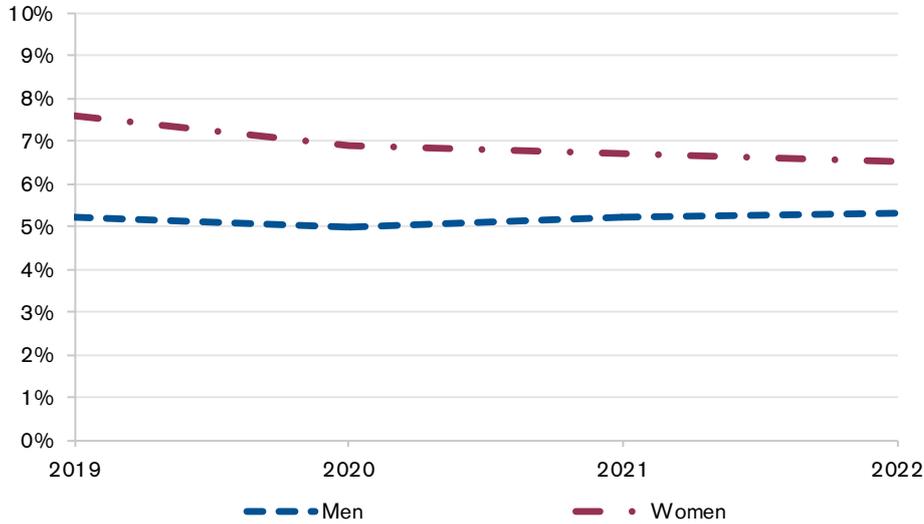


Harassment

In connection with the follow-up interviews, it emerged that some people had misunderstood the screening question about harassment. They may have understood it as including telephone sales, for example. The wording of the question and how the results are reported were reviewed before the 2020 SCS and therefore only the results for 2019–2022 are presented.

- Of the population (aged 16–84), 5.9 percent state that they were exposed to harassment in 2022, which is almost the same level as 2021 (6.0%). Throughout the measurement period the prevalence rate has been virtually unchanged, with the exception of 2019, when it was at a higher level.
- The prevalence rate is higher among women (6.5%) than men (5.3%).
- In terms of age, self-reported exposure to harassment was most common in the 25–34 age bracket among men (6.8%), and in the 20–24 age bracket among women (11.5%).

Figure 14. Self-reported exposure to harassment. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2019-2022.^a

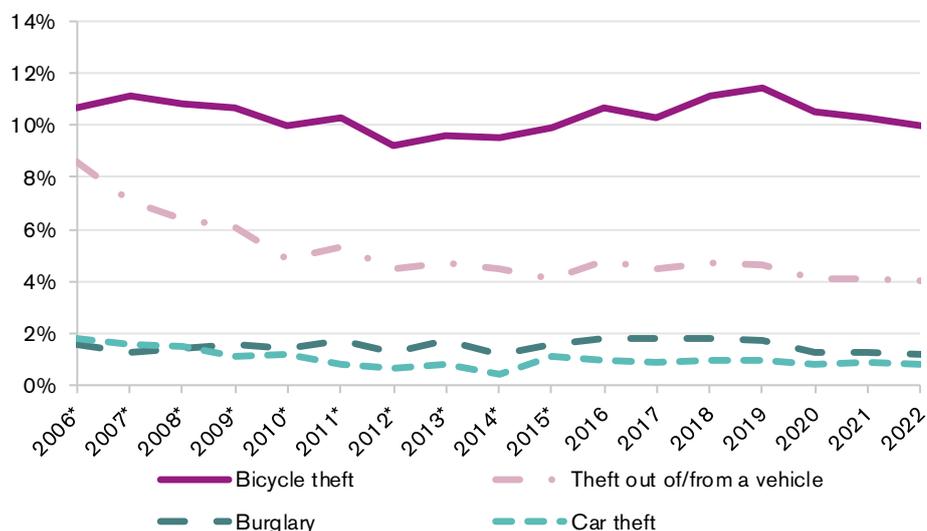


^a The results regarding harassment are only presented for 2019-2022. This is because the question in the survey was rephrased in conjunction with the data collection in 2020.

Property offences against households

- The proportion of households exposed to car theft, theft out of or from a vehicle, bicycle theft, or burglary (all referred to as property offences against households) is 12.7 percent in 2022. This is a decrease since 2021, when the prevalence rate was 13.1 percent. The prevalence rate decreased between 2006 and 2014, followed by an increase. Since 2020, the proportion has decreased again. The main reason for the decrease since 2006 is that less people report exposure to theft out of or from vehicles.
- The most common property offence reported for 2022 is bicycle theft (10.0%), while car theft is the least common (0.8%).
- A majority (66.1%) of those who were exposed to property offences against households state that they were exposed once in 2022, while 26.7 percent were exposed two or three times. A smaller proportion of the households state that they were victims four times or more (7.2%). This group suffered 32.3 percent of all property offences reported in the 2023 SCS.

Figure 15. Self-reported exposure to various types of property offences. Percentage of households nationwide, 2006–2022.^{ab}



^a The results show car theft among households that had a car in the relevant year as this is the most commonly agreed form of accounting.

^b The results show bicycle theft among households that owned a bicycle in the relevant year as this is in line with the accounting of car theft.

* The results regarding exposure to crime in 2006–2015 have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Burglary

- According to the SCS 2023, 1.2 percent of households were exposed to burglary during 2022, which is approximately the same level as 2021 (1.3%). At the beginning of the measurement period (2006–2015) the prevalence rate varied from year to year. From 2016 it remained virtually unchanged until 2020 when a decrease was seen, and since then the proportion has remained at almost the same level.

Car theft

- In 2022, 0.8 percent of households¹⁰ report that they were exposed to car theft, which means that the proportion is approximately the same as in 2021 (0.9%). The proportion declined significantly during the period 2006–2014, but then increased in 2015 and has since been virtually unchanged. Despite the increase, the prevalence rate in

¹⁰ Refers to households which had a car.

recent years is considerably lower than in the beginning of the measurement period.

Theft out of or from a vehicle

- The proportion of households that were exposed to theft out of or from a vehicle was 4.0 percent in 2022, which is almost the same level as 2021 (4.1%). During the period 2006–2012, the prevalence rate decreased dramatically, and since then a lesser decrease has been noted.

Bicycle theft

- The proportion of households that were exposed to bicycle theft was 10.0 percent in 2022. This is a decrease since 2021, when the proportion was 10.3 percent. The prevalence rate decreased during the period 2008–2012. After, an increase was noted up to and including 2019, followed by a decrease.

Fear of crime

Measuring fear of crime is complicated, but the SCS can contribute by providing a number of key indicators on the subject. The reference periods reflected in the section on fear of crime vary depending on the type of question. Questions about concern regarding various types of offences refer to the most recent twelve months (prior to the time of interview). The more comprehensive questions refer to the perception respondents had at the time the question was asked (2023). Regarding concerns about being exposed to crime, the questions about burglary and theft or vandalism of vehicles are the only ones that have been included in their present form every year since the survey was initiated, while the questions on concern about the remaining offences were added in conjunction with the revision of the survey in 2017.

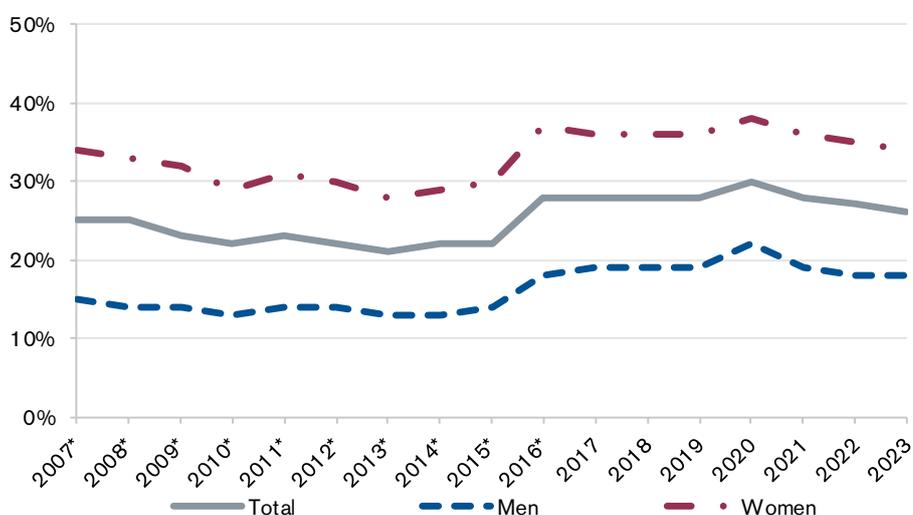
Feeling unsafe outdoors late at night

- The results in the 2023 SCS show that a total of 26 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state that they feel very unsafe or quite unsafe when outdoors alone at night or that they avoid going out alone at night due to feeling unsafe (of these, 5 percent state that they do not go out due to feeling unsafe). This is almost the same level as 2022, when the proportion was 27 percent. The proportion remained

relatively unchanged between 2007 and 2015, but increased considerably the following year. Since then it has remained at a relatively stable level, except for a temporary small increase in 2020.

- It is significantly more common for women (34%) to state that they feel unsafe than for men (18%).
- The proportion is largest among men in the 25–34 and 75–84 age brackets (20%) and in the 16–19 age bracket among women (44%).

Figure 16. Feeling unsafe (very unsafe/quite unsafe) in own neighbourhood when going out late at night, as well as those who do not go out due to feeling unsafe. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.



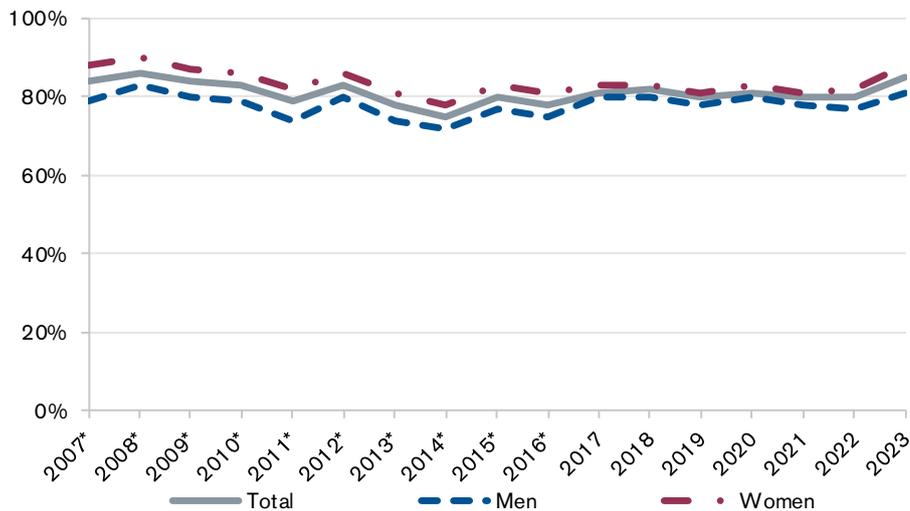
* The results for the 2007–2016 SCS have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Perception of crime development

- A total of 85 percent of the population (aged 16–84) believes that the number of crimes in Sweden has increased over the past three years. This is an increase since 2022 when the proportion was 80 percent. A decrease could be seen between 2007 and 2014, but with some yearly variations. After an increase in 2015, the level remained relatively stable until another increase in 2023.
- A greater proportion of women (88%) than men (81%) state that they believe that the number of crimes in Sweden has increased over the past three years.
- The proportion is greatest in the youngest age bracket (aged 16–19)

among men (91%), and in the oldest age bracket (aged 75–84) among women (93%).

Figure 17. Perception that the number of crimes in Sweden has increased (considerably/slightly) over the past three years. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.

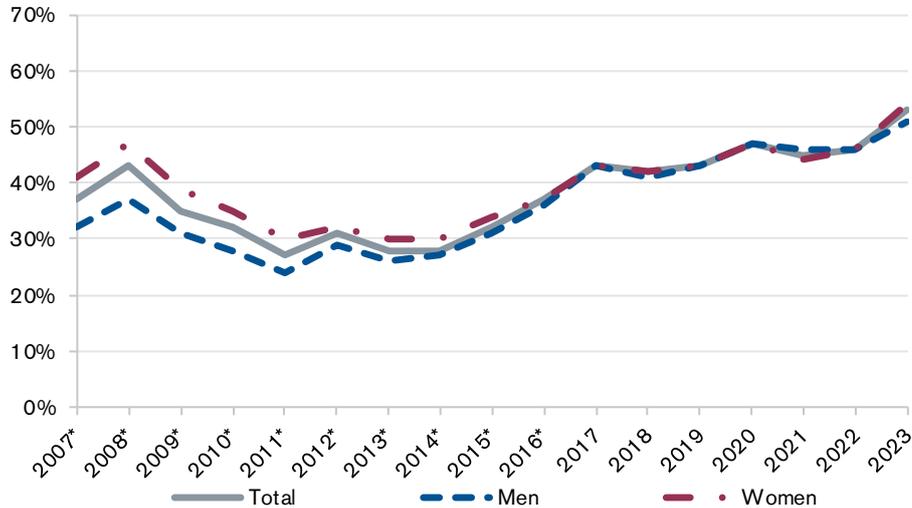


* The results for the 2007–2016 SCS have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Concern about crime in society

- In the 2023 SCS 53 percent of the population (aged 16–84) have great concern about crime in society, which is at a significantly higher level than 2022 (46%). Between 2007 and 2011, the percentage who experienced great concern decreased, and since then an increasing trend has been noted.
- The proportion of people who have great concern about crime is larger among women (54%) than among men (51%).
- The percentage is greatest among people aged 55–64 and 65–74 for both men (58%) and women (63%).

Figure 18. Concern about crime in society (in large extent). Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.

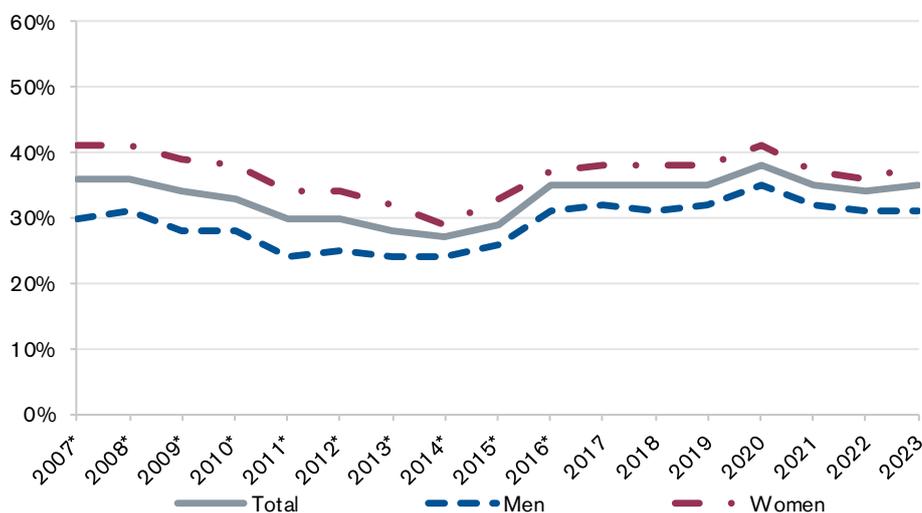


* The results for the 2007–2016 SCS have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Concern about close friends and family

- In the 2023 SCS 35 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state that they, very often or quite often feel concerned that someone close to them will be subjected to crime. This is approximately the same level compared to the preceding year 2022 (34%). The proportion decreased between 2007 and 2014, followed by an increase up to and including 2016. Since then it has remained at the same level with the exception for 2020 when it was at a higher level.
- It is more common for women (38%) to be concerned that friends or family will be subjected to crime than for men (31%).
- Concern that friends or family will be subjected to crime is most common in the 45–54 age bracket among both men (38%) and women (47%).

Figure 19. Concern (very often/quite often) that someone close to them will be subjected to crime. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.

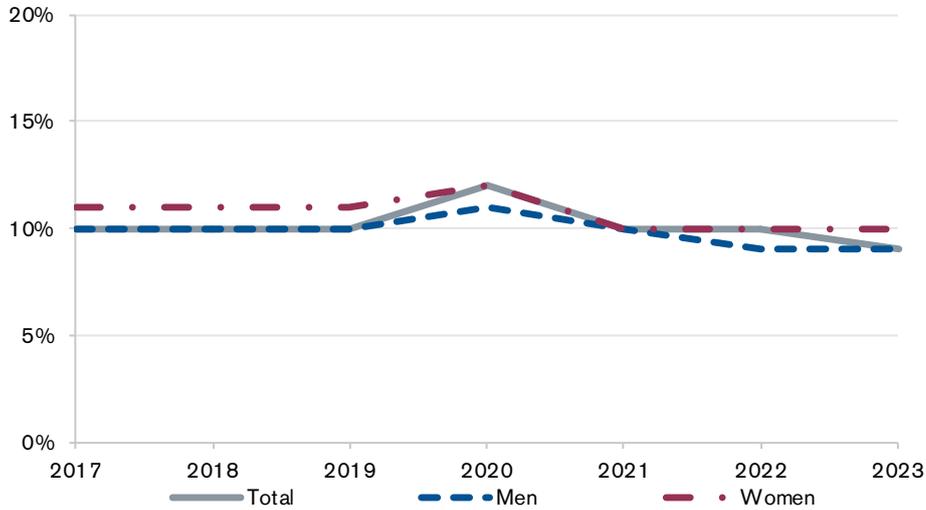


* The results for the 2007–2016 SCS have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Concern about assault

- The percentage of people who, 2023, state that they are concerned very often or quite often about being a victim of assault is 9 percent, which is almost the same level as 2022 (10%). The proportion has remained the same (2017–2023) with the exception for the temporary increase in 2020.
- The percentage of people who are concerned about being a victim of assault is almost the same for men (9%) and women (10%).
- The highest percentage is found among men aged 25–34 (13%), and among women aged 16–19 (16%).

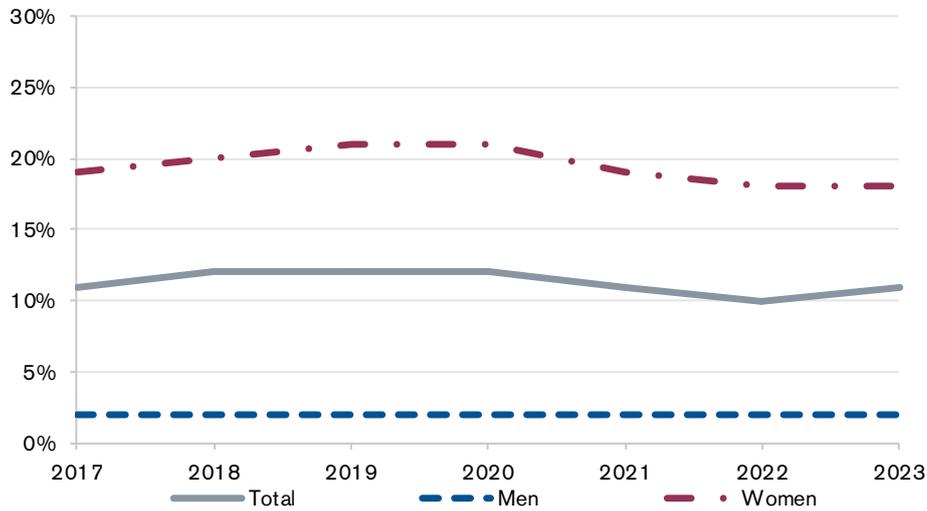
Figure 20. Concern (very often/quite often) about being exposed to assault.
Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2017–2023.



Concern about rape/sexual assault

- The percentage of people who, 2023, are often concerned about being a victim of rape or another type of sexual assault is 11 percent of the population (aged 16–84), which is approximately at the same level as in 2022 (10%). The proportion has remained at a relatively stable level since 2017.
- It is significantly more common for women (18%) to be concerned about being a victim of rape or another type of sexual assault than men (2%).
- The proportion is highest in the 20–24 age bracket, among both men and women. However, the proportion is significantly higher among women (43%) in this age group, than among men (3%).

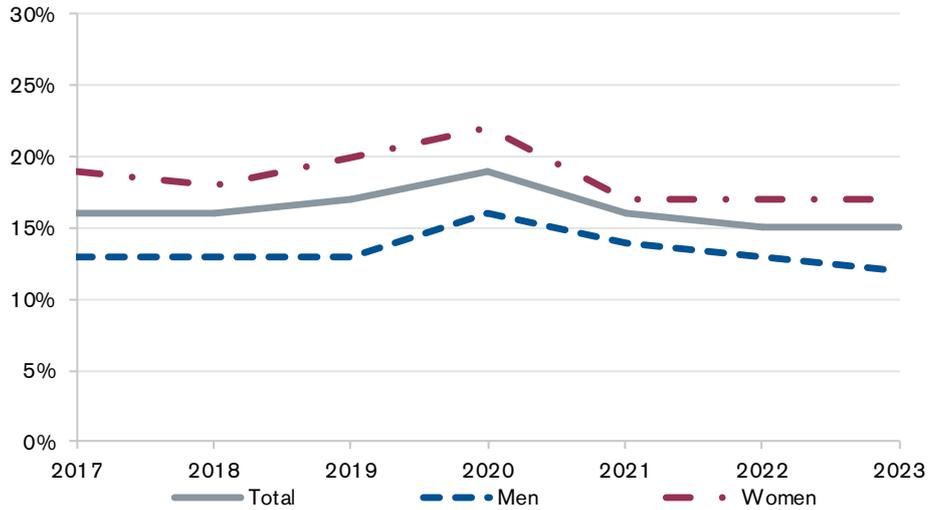
Figure 21. Concern (very often/quite often) about being exposed to rape/sexual assault. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2017–2023.



Concerns about robbery

- In the population (aged 16–84), 15 percent state, 2023, that they are concerned about being a victim of robbery, which is the same level compared to 2022. The proportion has basically remained unchanged since 2017, with the exception of 2020, when it was at a slightly higher level.
- It is more common for women (17%) to be concerned about robbery than men (12%).
- Among both men and women, the proportion is highest in the 20–24 and 25–34 age brackets where the proportion among men is 17 percent and among women the proportion is 20 percent.

Figure 22. Concern (very often/quite often) about being exposed to robbery. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2017–2023.

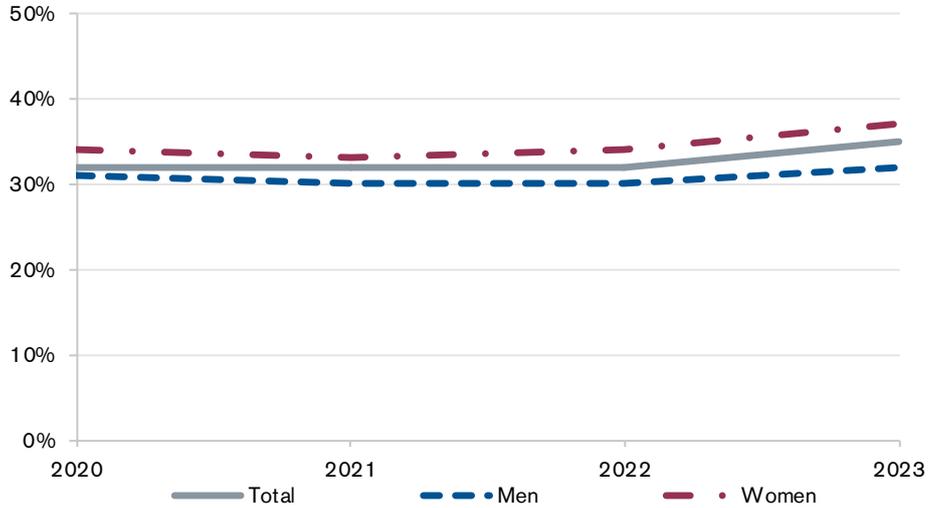


Concern about fraud on the Internet¹¹

- In 2023, 35 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state that they are concerned about being a victim of fraud on the internet, which is an increase since 2022 (32%). The proportion had previously remained unchanged since the question was reformulated in 2020.
- The proportion of people who are concerned about being a victim of fraud on the internet is larger for women (37%) than men (32%).
- The percentage concerned about being a victim of fraud on the internet is greatest in the 55–64 age bracket among men (38%) and in the 75–84 age bracket among women (45%).

¹¹ The question about concern over being a victim of fraud on the internet was rephrased in conjunction with the SCS 2020. Therefore, results are only presented for 2020–2022.

Figure 23. Concern (very often/quite often) for being exposed to fraud on the Internet. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2020–2023.^a

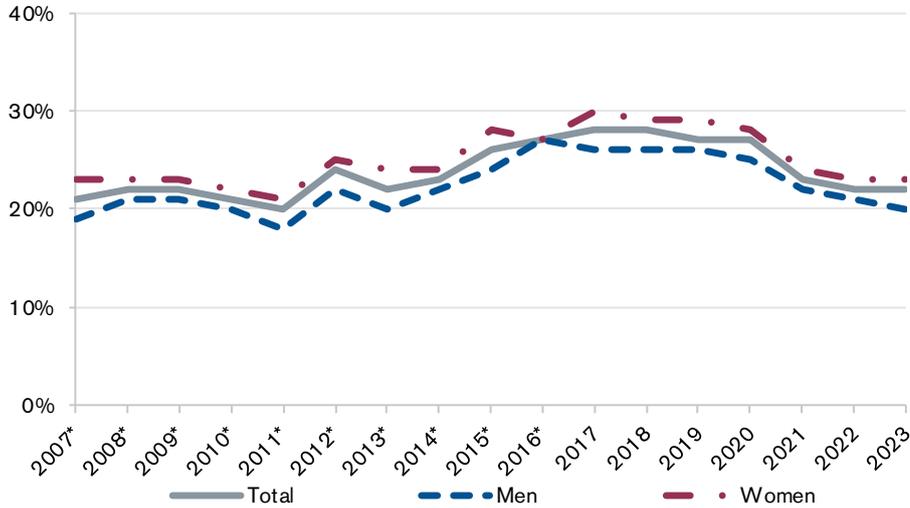


^a For methodological reasons only results for 2020–2023 are presented. Read more about this in the 2020 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2020).

Concern about burglary

- In 2023, 22 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state that they are concerned about burglary, which is at the same level as 2022. The proportion remained relatively unchanged during the first years (2007–2011), followed by an increase up to and including 2017. After that the proportion was once again relatively unchanged until a decrease in 2021. Since then, it has remained at approximately the same level.
- It is more common for women (23%) to state that they are concerned about burglary than men (20%).
- The percentage concerned about burglary is greatest in the 55–64 age bracket among men (24%) and in the 45–54 and 55–64 age brackets among women (26%).

Figure 24. Concern (very often/quite often) for being exposed to burglary. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.

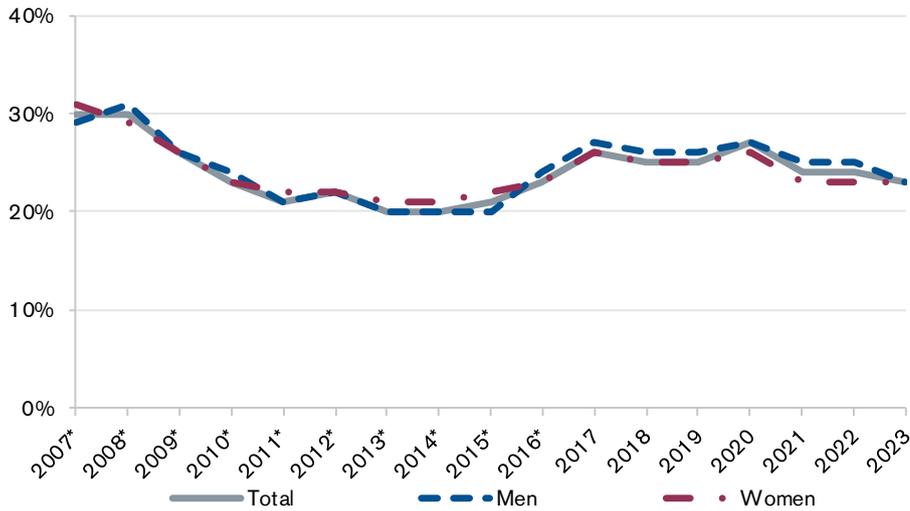


* The results regarding the 2007–2016 SCS have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Concern about theft/vandalism of vehicle

- Among the respondents in the 2023 SCS who stated that someone in the household owns a car, 23 percent are concerned that the household's car will be stolen or vandalised, which is approximately at the same level as 2022 (24%). The proportion decreased during the first part of the measurement period (2007–2013). After 2015 there was an increase leading up to and including 2017. The proportion was then virtually unchanged until a decrease in 2021, and has since remained at that lower level.
- The percentage of people who are concerned about theft or vandalism of vehicle is the same for men and women (23%).
- In terms of age, the proportion is largest in the 25–34 age bracket among both men (30%) and women (28%).

Figure 25. Concern (very often/quite often) for being exposed to theft/vandalism of vehicle. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.

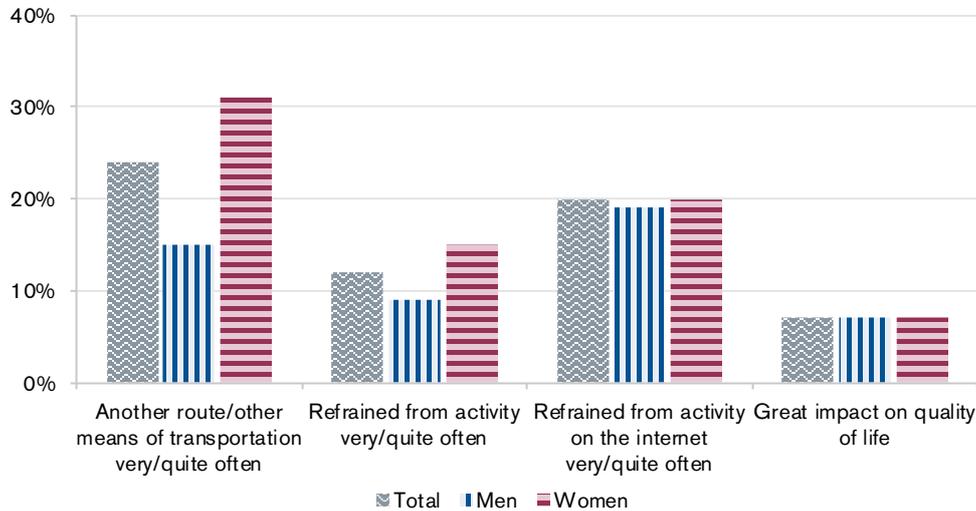


* The results regarding the 2007–2016 SCS have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Consequences of feeling unsafe

- In 2023, 24 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state that they often have chosen another route or another mode of transport as a result of concern about being a victim of crime, while 12 percent have often refrained from an activity as a result of this concern. Furthermore, 20 percent state that they have often refrained from an activity on the internet as a result of concern about being a victim of threats or harassment, and of these respondents, 3 percent never engage in activities on the internet due to this concern. Lastly, 7 percent state that their quality of life is affected as a result of being concerned about being a victim of crime.
- A significantly larger proportion of women than men state that they often have chosen another route or another mode of transport (women, 31% and men, 15%), and refrained from an activity due to concern about being a victim of crime (women, 15% and men, 9%). For the other questions, the proportion is basically the same.

Figure 26. Consequences of feeling unsafe and concern of being exposed to crime. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2023.



Confidence in the criminal justice system

The criminal justice system comprises several different public agencies and the SCS asks questions about the criminal justice system as a whole, as well as more specific questions regarding four of its agencies – the police, the public prosecutors, the courts, and the prison and probation service. The section on confidence in the criminal justice system reflects the respondents’ perception at the time the questionnaire was answered (2023).

The results shown on confidence in the criminal justice system are mainly for the percentage stating that they have high (very high or quite high) confidence. The other response alternatives are low (very, or quite low) confidence or no opinion. This means that respondents that do not have high confidence do not by definition need to have low confidence. They could have stated that they have no opinion. However, the fact that some respondents have no particular view on a given issue, or are unwilling to commit themselves, is in itself an important factor to consider when assessing levels of public confidence. For this reason, those who state that they have no opinion in relation to the questions on confidence in the justice system are included in the result.

Confidence in the criminal justice system as a whole

- In the 2023 SCS, almost half (49%) of the population (aged 16–84) state that they have a high (very high or quite high) degree of confidence in the criminal justice system as a whole. This is at a lower level than 2022, when the proportion was 53 percent. After a small increase at the beginning of the measurement period (2007–2010), the proportion was relatively stable until a temporary decline in 2017. The proportion then increased again until this decrease in 2023.
- It is more common for women (52%) to state that they have a high degree of confidence in the criminal justice system as a whole than for men (47%).
- In terms of age, the proportion is greatest among both men and women in the 45–54 age brackets (50% among men and 58% among women).

Confidence in the police

- The proportion of the population (aged 16–84) who state that they have a high degree of confidence in the way the police perform their work is 54 percent in 2023. This is a decrease since 2022, when the proportion was 59 percent. The level was relatively stable between 2007 and 2016, followed by a decrease in 2017. From 2018 the proportion increased until this decrease in 2023.
- It is more common for women (58%) to have a high degree of confidence in the police than for men (49%).
- In terms of age, the proportion is largest among men in the 16-19 age bracket (53%) and among women in the age group 45–54 (61%).

Confidence in the public prosecutors

- In the 2023 SCS, 42 percent of the population (aged 16–84) state that they have a high degree of confidence in the way the public prosecutors perform their work. This is almost the same level as 2022 (43%). The proportion increased between 2007 and 2009 and then remained at a stable level, followed by a decrease in 2017. Thereafter, the result shows that the proportion increased again, up to and including 2021, and has since been virtually unchanged.
- It is more common for women (44%) to have a high degree of confidence in the public prosecutors than for men (41%).
- The proportion with a high degree of confidence in the public prosecutors is greatest among men in the 35–44, 45–54 and 75–84

age groups, where the proportion is 42 percent. Among women the proportion is greatest in the 45–54 age group, where 49 percent report a high degree of confidence.

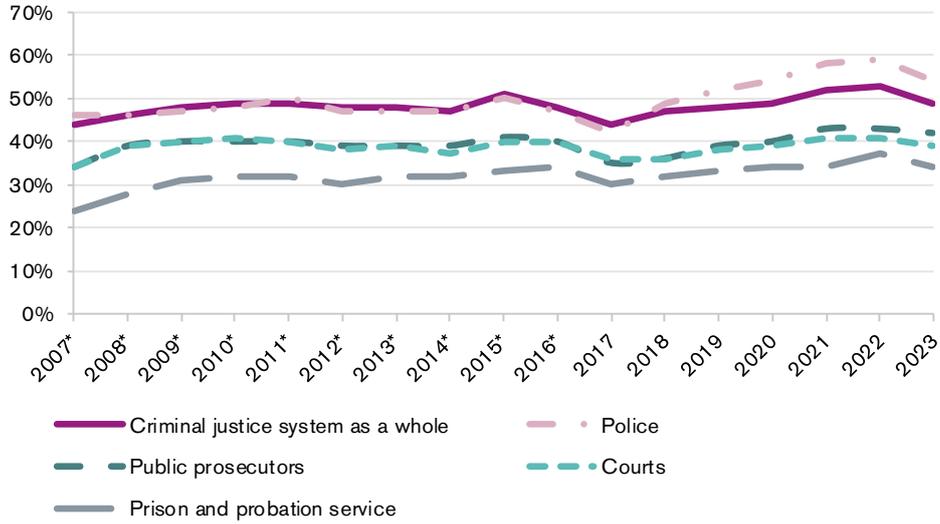
Confidence in the courts

- Almost two-fifths (39%) of the population (aged 16–84) state that they have a high degree of confidence in the way the courts perform their work, which is at a slightly lower level than 2022 (41%). The proportion has remained relatively stable for most of the measurement period (2007–2023), with the exception of 2017 and 2018 when it was at a slightly lower level.
- It is equally common for men and women to have a high degree of confidence in the courts (39%).
- In terms of age, the proportion is greatest in the age group 45–54 among both men and women (men, 42% and women, 45%).

Confidence in the prison and probation service

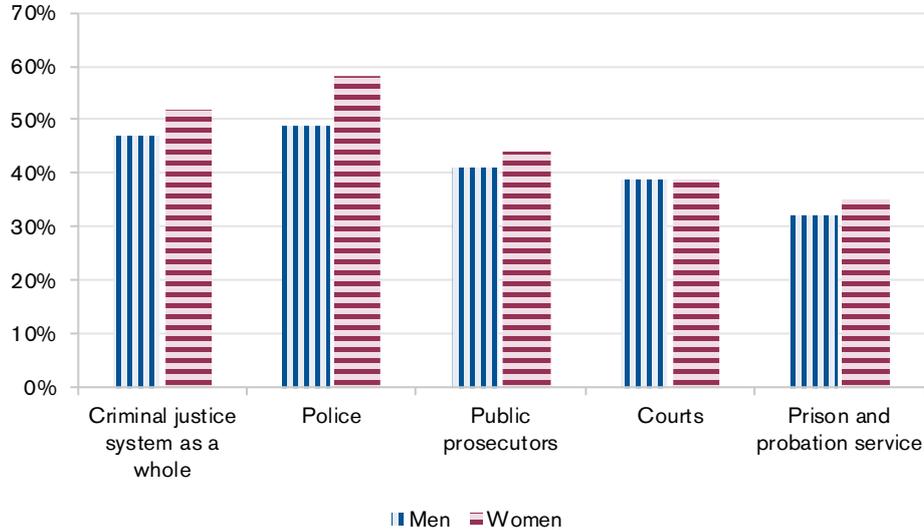
- In the SCS 2023, 34 percent of the population (aged 16–84) have a high degree of confidence in the way in which the prison and probation service operates, which is a decrease since 2022 (37%). Looking at the development over time, the proportion with a high degree of confidence in the prison and probation service has overall increased since 2007, but with some annual variations.
- It is more common for women (35%) to have a high degree of confidence in the prison and probation service than for men (32%).
- Among men, the proportion is greatest in the 16–19 age bracket (40%) and among women, the proportion is greatest in the 20–24 age bracket (43%).

Figure 27. Very/quite high degree of confidence in the criminal justice system. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84), 2007–2023.



* The results regarding the 2007–2016 SCS have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Figure 28. Very/quite high degree of confidence in the criminal justice system. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84) 2023.



Confidence that the criminal justice system as a whole treats suspects fairly

- The results for 2023 show that 44 percent of the population (aged 16–

84) have a high degree of confidence that the criminal justice system as a whole treats those suspected of crimes fairly, which is at about the same level as 2022 when the proportion was 45 percent. The proportion remained at a relatively stable level 2007–2016. In 2017, however, the proportion decreased, followed by a slightly increasing trend up to and including 2022.

- It is as common among both men and women to have a high degree of confidence that the criminal justice system as a whole treats those suspected of crimes fairly (44%).
- In terms of age, the proportion among both men and women is greatest in the 45–54 age bracket (50%).

Confidence that the police treat suspects fairly

- In 2023, 51 percent of the population (aged 16–84) have a high degree of confidence that the police treat those suspected of crimes fairly, which is a decrease since 2022 (54 %). The proportion was at a relatively stable level between 2008 and 2017, but in 2018 the proportion increased until this decrease in the 2023 SCS.
- It is basically just as common for men (51%) and women (50%) to have a high degree of confidence that the police treat those suspected of crimes fairly.
- In terms of age, the proportion is greatest in the 45–54 age bracket among both men and women (57%).

Confidence that the criminal justice system as a whole treats crime victims well

- In the 2023 SCS, 29 percent of the population (aged 16–84) have a high degree of confidence that the criminal justice system as a whole treats crime victims well, which is approximately the same level as 2022 (30%). The proportion with a high degree of confidence increased at the beginning of the measurement period (2008–2011). After that, it remained at a relatively stable level until another increase between 2018 and 2021. The proportion has since remained relatively unchanged.
- It is slightly more common for women (30%) to have a high degree of confidence that the criminal justice system as a whole treats crime victims well than for men (28%).
- Among men, the proportion is greatest in the 16–19 age bracket (39%) and among women, the proportion is greatest in the 35–44 and 45–

54 age brackets (33%).

Confidence that the police treat crime victims well

- The results for 2023 show that 45 percent of the population (aged 16–84) have a high degree of confidence that the police treat crime victims well, which is at a lower level compared to 2022 when the proportion was 49 percent. The proportion remained at a relatively stable level between 2008 and 2017, but the following period show an increasing trend until this decrease in 2023.
- It is more common for women (47%) to have a high degree of confidence that the police treat crime victims well than for men (44%).
- In terms of age, the proportion is greatest in the 16–19 age bracket among men (53%) and in the 35–44 and 45–54 age brackets among women (51%).

Crime victims' contact with the criminal justice system

When a person has been subjected to an offence that is reported to the police, the person gains experience of one or more of the agencies within the criminal justice system. The experience is customarily limited to the person's contact with the police in connection with the police report, but may also comprise contact with public prosecutors, counsel for injured parties and, in the event the offence comes to trial, courts. The section on crime victims' contact with the criminal justice system reports experiences in the most recent three years at the date the question was answered (2023).

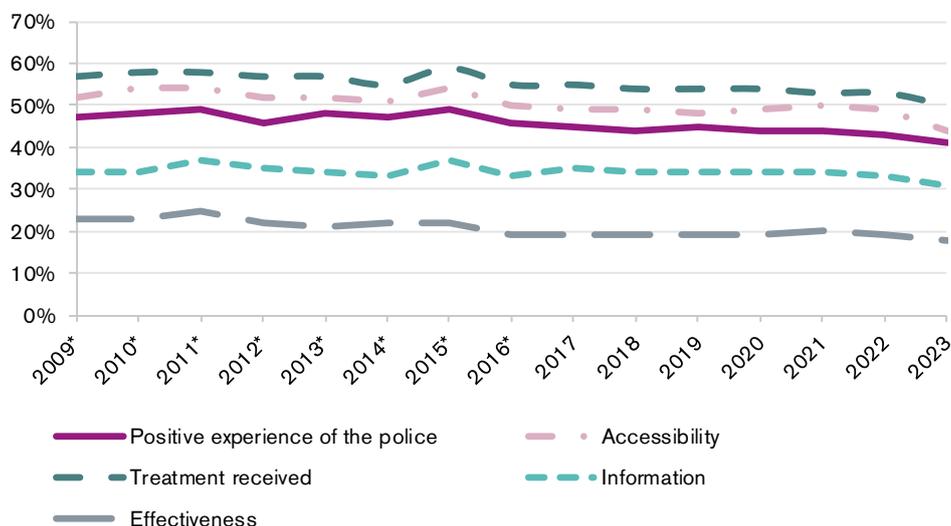
Experience of the police in connection with reporting a crime to the police

- The 2023 SCS shows that 21 percent of the population (aged 16–84) have been subjected to a crime that was reported to the police in the last three years.
Of these, 41 percent stated that they had a positive experience of the police overall, which is at a slightly lower level than 2022 (43%). The proportion remained at a relatively stable level between 2007 and 2015, but with some annual variations. Since 2016, however, a slightly decreasing trend has been noted. The proportion of positive experiences is greater among those who were victims of crimes that contained some form of threat or violence (43%) than among those

where the incident did not contain it (40%).

- With regard to various parts of the police's work, the victims are most satisfied with the way the police treated them (50%) and with police accessibility (44%), but less satisfied with the information they received regarding how the police were working with their case (31%) and with police effectiveness in investigating the crime (18%). When comparing crimes with and without elements of threats or violence, the proportion of satisfaction is greater when the incident has entailed threats or violence, seen in terms of police's effectiveness and the way the police treated respondents. Looking at the question of the information respondents received on how the police were working with their case, the proportion is higher when the incident did not entail threats or violence. Regarding police's accessibility, the proportion is almost equal.
- Women state that they have a positive experience of the police more often than men, in terms of both overall experience of the police and the various parts of the police's work. The differences between men and women are largest in terms of satisfaction with the way the police treated them (53% among women and 46% among men) and the information they received (35% among women and 28% among men).
- The proportion with positive experiences of the police is greatest in the oldest age bracket, aged 75–84, for both men (50%) and women (60%). In terms of satisfaction with the various parts of the police's work, the proportion is generally greater in the oldest age bracket.

Figure 29. Experiences of the police among those who have been subjected to any crime reported to the police during the last three years, according to the 2009–2023 SCS. Percentage of persons who have very/quite positive experience of the police, and who are very/quite satisfied with different parts of the police's work.^a



^a Questions about experiences of different parts of the police's work were added to the questionnaire in 2009.

* The results regarding the 2009–2016 SCS have been recalculated as the SCS was carried out using a different method in this period. Read more about this in the 2018 SCS, Technical report (Brå 2019).

Experience with public prosecutors and courts

- Approximately 2.0 percent of the population state that they have been in contact with public prosecutors as a result of having been a victim of crime at some time in the past three years, even if the investigation did not subsequently lead to a trial. Of these people, 41 percent state that their contact with public prosecutors was positive, which is approximately the same level as 2022 (40%).
- Of the population (aged 16–84), 1.1 percent state that they have participated in a trial as an injured party in the most recent three years. Of these, 53 percent state that they are satisfied with the way they were treated in court, which is almost the same level as 2022 (52%). Furthermore, 65 percent state that they thought it was easy to understand the trial, which is the same level as 2022. Lastly, 52 percent feel that they were given enough information before the trial, which is almost the same level as 2022 (53%). Of those who participated in a trial as an injured party, 60 percent had what is termed a counsel for an injured party. Of these, 64 percent describe

their experience of the counsel for an injured party as positive, which is a slightly lower level compared to 2022 (66%).

- Women have positive experiences to a greater extent than men for almost all of these questions, with the exception of experience of prosecutors where the percentage is the same. The differences between men and women are larger in terms of experience with counsel for an injured party (as 69% of women have positive experiences compared to 59% of men), and satisfaction with the way they were treated in court (58% among women and 49% among men).

Figures

Exposure to crime

Figure 1. Self-reported exposure to various types of offences against the person. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84), 2006–2022.

Figure 2. Self-reported exposure to various types of offences against the person. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.

Figure 3. Self-reported exposure to assault. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2006–2022.

Figure 4. Self-reported exposure to serious assault. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.

Figure 5. Self-reported exposure to threats. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2006–2022.

Figure 6. Self-reported exposure to a sexual offence. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2006–2022.

Figure 7. Self-reported exposure to a sexual offence involving the use of force. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.

Figure 8. Self-reported exposure to a sexual offence involving the exploitation of a defenceless condition. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.

Figure 9. Self-reported exposure to robbery. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2006–2022.

Figure 10. Self-reported exposure to pickpocketing. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.

Figure 11. Self-reported exposure to sales fraud. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.

Figure 12. Self-reported exposure to card/credit fraud. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.

Figure 13. Self-reported exposure to online harassment. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2016–2022.

Figure 14. Self-reported exposure to harassment. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84), 2019–2022.

Figure 15. Self-reported exposure to various types of property offences. Percentage of victimised households nationwide, 2006–2022.

Fear of crime

Figure 16. Feeling unsafe (very unsafe/quite unsafe) in own neighbourhood when going out late at night, as well as those who do not go out due to feeling unsafe. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.

Figure 17. Perception that the number of crimes in Sweden has increased (considerably/slightly) over the past three years. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.

Figure 18. Concern about crime in society (in large extent). Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.

Figure 19. Concern (very often/quite often) that someone close to them will be a victim of crime. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.

Figure 20. Concern (very often/quite often) over being a victim of assault. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2017–2023.

Figure 21. Concern (very often/quite often) over being a victim of rape/sexual assault. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2017–2023.

Figure 22. Concern (very often/quite often) over being a victim of robbery. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2017–2023.

Figure 23. Concern (very often/quite often) for being a victim of fraud on the internet. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2020–2023.

Figure 24. Concern (very often/quite often) over being a victim of burglary. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.

Figure 25. Concern (very often/quite often) over being a victim of theft/vandalism of a vehicle. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2007–2023.

Figure 26. Consequences of feeling unsafe and concern over being a victim of crime. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84) and for men and women, 2023.

Confidence in the criminal justice system

Figure 27. Very/quite high degree of confidence in the criminal justice system. Percentage of the population (aged 16–84), 2007–2023.

Figure 28. Very/quite high degree of confidence in the criminal justice system. Percentage for men and women (aged 16–84) 2023.

Crime victims' contact with the criminal justice system

Figure 29. Experiences of the police among those who have been subjected to any crime reported to the police during the last three years, according to the 2007–2023 SCS. Percentage of people who have very/quite positive experience of the police, and who are very/quite satisfied with different parts of the police's work.

References

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Appendix

Appendix 1 Questionnaire

Background questions

1. What year were you born?

Enter the year with four digits, e.g. 1986 or 2001.

- Year of birth _____

2. a) Which people do you live with?

*You can select more than one alternative. Include children who live at least half the time in your household. Include foster children and your partner's children as well. Do **not** include any lodgers.*

- None
- Husband/wife/cohabitee/partner
- Parent/s
- Sibling/s
- Other adults
- Children or adolescents under the age of 20 (not your siblings)

b) Including yourself, how many people from 15 to 84 years of age (born 1939-2007) are there in your household?

*Include adults and children who live at least half the time in your household, i.e. foster children and your partner's children as well. Do **not** include any lodgers.*

Number _____ people

3. a) What type of accommodation do you have?

Select only one alternative. If several alternatives are relevant, select the alternative where you live the most.

- Villa (detached single-family home for one or two families)
- Townhouse, terraced house or semi-detached
- Apartment in multi-unit dwelling
- Other accommodation

b) Do you own or rent your home or are you a member of a tenant-owners' housing association?

Select only one alternative. If several alternatives are

relevant, select the alternative where you live the most.

- Own (right of possession, partnership share)
- Rent (right of tenancy, first, second, or third-hand contract, cooperative)
- Tenant-owners' housing association
- Other

4. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Select only one alternative. Do you have a foreign education? Try to translate this into the equivalent Swedish educational level.

- Have not completed any level of education/lack an education
- Elementary school, lower secondary school or similar
- Secondary education, college or similar
- Post-secondary education that lasted at least 1 year (e.g. vocational training courses)
- University or other form of higher education shorter than 3 years
- University or other form of higher education 3 years or longer

5. What is your main occupation at the moment?

Select only one alternative. If several alternatives are relevant, select the one most relevant to you.

- Employee
- Self-employed
- Student
- Job seeker or in a labour market policy measure
- Parental leave or leave of absence
- Long-term sick leave (more than 3 months)
- Sickness or activity compensation (previously known as early retirement pension, invalidity pension or temporary disability allowance)
- Pensioner (old-age pensioner, retired)
- Housewife/house husband (not retired)

Attitudes to the Swedish criminal justice system

The section below contain questions regarding your attitude to criminal justice system. The justice system relates to the authorities responsible for the rule of law and legal rights. The justice system maintains Swedish law for example through crime prevention, the investigation of crimes, enforcing sanctions and providing support for victims. The justice system

includes, among others, the police, prosecutors, courts and the prison and probation service.

The police are tasked to prevent, combat and investigate crimes. **The prosecutor** investigates and prosecutes those suspected of committing a crime. **The courts** determine whether a suspect is guilty and what the punishment will be. **The prison and probation service** is responsible for remand centres, prisons and the probation system.

6. Consider the criminal justice system as a whole, how much confidence do you have in the criminal justice system?

- A great deal
- Quite a lot
- Neither a lot nor little
- Not very much
- Very little
- No opinion/Don't know

7. How much confidence do you have in the way the police conduct their work?

- A great deal
- Quite a lot
- Neither a lot nor little
- Not very much
- Very little
- No opinion/Don't know

8. How much confidence do you have in the way the prosecutors conduct their work?

- A great deal
- Quite a lot
- Neither a lot nor little
- Not very much
- Very little
- No opinion/Don't know

9. How much confidence do you have in the way the courts conduct their work?

- A great deal
- Quite a lot
- Neither a lot nor little

- Not very much
- Very little
- No opinion/Don't know
- Attitudes to the Swedish criminal justice system

10. How much confidence do you have in the way the prison and probation service conducts its work?

- A great deal
- Quite a lot
- Neither a lot nor little
- Not very much
- Very little
- No opinion/Don't know

11. a) How much confidence do you have that the criminal justice system as a whole treats those who are *suspected of crime fair*?

- A great deal
- Quite a lot
- Neither a lot nor little
- Not very much
- Very little
- No opinion/Don't know

b) How much confidence do you have that the criminal justice system as a whole treats *victims of crime in a good way*?

- A great deal
- Quite a lot
- Neither a lot nor little
- Not very much
- Very little
- No opinion/Don't know

c) How much confidence do you have that the police treats those who are *suspected of crime fair*?

- A great deal
- Quite a lot
- Neither a lot nor little
- Not very much
- Very little
- No opinion/Don't know

d) How much confidence do you have that the police treats *victims* of crime in a *good way*?

- A great deal
- Quite a lot
- Neither a lot nor little
- Not very much
- Very little
- No opinion/Don't know

Perceived safety/worry about crime over the past year

A number of questions will now follow about how safe you feel and whether you are worried about crime.

12. To what extent are you worried about crime in society?

"Society" means Sweden as a whole – and not just the area where you live.

- To a great extent
- To some extent
- Not at all
- Don't know

13. a) If you go out alone late in the evening in the area where you live, how safe/unsafe do you feel?

- Very safe
- Quite safe
- Quite unsafe
- Very unsafe
- I never go out alone late at night

Those who answered "I never go out alone late at night" are asked to answer a follow up question:

b) What is your main reason for never going out alone late in the evening?

- Because I have no reason or opportunity to go out alone late in the evening
- I feel unsafe
- Other reason

14. Over the past year have you chosen to take a different route or a different mode of transport because you were

worried about being exposed to crime?

A different mode of transport might for example be going by car or taxi instead of public transport.

- Very often
- Quite often
- Quite rarely
- Very rarely
- Never

15. Over the past year have you refrained from some form of activity, e.g. going for a walk, visiting a restaurant or meeting someone because you were worried about being exposed to crime?

- Very often
- Quite often
- Quite rarely
- Very rarely
- Never

16. a) Over the past year have you refrained from writing something or posting pictures or videos on the internet because you were worried about being exposed to harassment or threat?

This may include social media, such as Facebook, Instagram and YouTube, or in any other respect on the internet.

- Very often
- Quite often
- Quite rarely
- Very rarely
- Never
- I never write or post anything on the Internet

Those who answered "I never write or post anything on the Internet" are asked to answer a follow up question:

b) What is your main reason for never write or post anything on the internet?

- Do not have access to the internet
- Because of concerns of being exposed to harassments or threats
- Other reason

17. Over the past year were you worried about your home

being broken into?

- Very often
- Quite often
- Quite rarely
- Very rarely
- Never

18. Over the past year have you worried about your car being stolen or vandalised?

- Very often
- Quite often
- Quite rarely
- Very rarely
- Never
- No one in the household had a car over the past year

19. a) Over the past year have you worried about being a victim of fraud when purchasing goods or services on the internet?

- Very often
- Quite often
- Quite rarely
- Very rarely
- Never
- I never buy goods or services on the internet

Those who answered "I never buy goods or services on the internet" are asked to answer a follow up question:

b) What is your main reason for never buy goods or services on the internet?

- Do not have access to the internet
- Because of concerns of being
- Exposed to fraud
- Other

20. Over the past year have you worried about being assaulted?

- Very often
- Quite often
- Quite rarely
- Very rarely

- Never

21. Over the past year have you worried about being robbed?

- Very often
- Quite often
- Quite rarely
- Very rarely
- Never

22. Over the past year have you worried about being raped or otherwise sexually assaulted?

- Very often
- Quite often
- Quite rarely
- Very rarely
- Never

23. During the past year have you worried about someone close to you becoming a victim of crime?

- Very often
- Quite often
- Quite rarely
- Very rarely
- Never

24. To what extent do your worries about being exposed to crime affect your quality of life?

- To a great extent
- To some extent
- Not at all
- Don't know

25. To what extent do you think that the following is a problem in the area where you live?

a) Littering

- To great extent
- To some extent
- To a minor extent
- Not at all

b) Vandalism

- To great extent

- To some extent
- To a minor extent
- Not at all

c) Graffiti

- To great extent
- To some extent
- To a minor extent
- Not at all

d) Speeding

- To great extent
- To some extent
- To a minor extent
- Not at all

e) Other reckless driving (moped, car or other motorvehicle)

- To great extent
- To some extent
- To a minor extent
- Not at all

f) People under the influence of alcohol or drugs outdoors

- To great extent
- To some extent
- To a minor extent
- Not at all

g) Gangs loitering in the area

- To great extent
- To some extent
- To a minor extent
- Not at all

h) Individuals or gangs who cause trouble or disturbances

- To great extent
- To some extent
- To a minor extent
- Not at all

i) Open drug trafficking

- To great extent

- To some extent
- To a minor extent
- Not at all

26. To what extent do you think that the police care about the problems in the area where you live?

- To a great extent
- To some extent
- To a minor extent
- Not at all
- There are no problems in the area where I live
- Don't know/No opinion

27. On the whole, do you think that the number of crimes in Sweden has increased, decreased or remained unchanged over the past three years?

- Increased significantly
- Increased somewhat
- Remained unchanged
- Decreased somewhat
- Decreased significantly
- Don't know/No opinion

Exposure to crime 2022

A number of questions will now follow about exposure to crime last year (1 January-31 December 2022). They concern incidents that may have affected you personally or someone in your household.

It is **very important** that crimes that occurred before or after this period are not included here, no matter how serious they are.

28. Did you or someone in your household have a bike stolen during the course of last year (2022)?

- Yes, number of times _____
- No
- No one in the household owned a bike last year

29. Did you or someone in your household have a car stolen during the course of last year (2022)?

Include company/leased cars.

- Yes, number of times _____
- No

- No one in the household owned a car last year

30. Did you or someone in your household have something taken/stolen out of/from a car, motorcycle, moped, caravan or similar during the course of last year (2022)?

*For example, wheels, stereo or a bag. Do **not** include theft from a bicycle.*

- Yes, number of times _____
- No

31. Did anyone break into your home in order to steal something during the course of last year (2022)?

*Do not include break-ins in garages, storerooms or basements that are separated from your home/dwelling. Do **not** include incidents when someone entered an unlocked house.*

- Yes, number of times _____
- No

A number of questions will now follow about incidents that may have happened to you personally during the course of last year (1 January-31 December 2022). If you do not wish to answer a particular question, you may skip it and move on to the next. **But** your answers are of great value and contribute to important knowledge.

32. Has anyone tried unlawfully to make use of your account number, credit card/credit card information or your personal data in order to get money or other valuables during the course of last year (2022)?

This may include for example so-called skimming or identity theft.

- Yes, number of times _____
- No

33. Has anyone unlawfully tricked you out of money when you, as a private individual, bought or sold something during the course of last year (2022)?

For example, an item that you paid for but did not receive, or something you sold but did not receive payment for.

- Yes, number of times _____
- No

34. Did someone take your money or other valuables that

you were carrying with you in your pocket or bag (so-called pickpocketing) during the course of last year (2022)?

Do not include incidents in which threats or violence occurred, they are dealt with in question 35.

- Yes, number of times _____
- No

35. Did anyone rob or try to rob you by using threats or violence during the course of last year (2022)?

- Yes, number of times _____
- No

36. a) During the course of last year (2022) did anyone sexually molest, sexually assault or sexually coerce you?

*This may include **for example** offensive, sexual comments in speech or writing, or that someone groped you, forced you into a sexual act or raped you. It may have happened at home, at school, at work, on the internet or in another location.*

- Yes, number of times _____
- No -----→ Go to question 37

Those who answered "Yes" are asked to answer two follow up questions.

b) Did the incident or any of the incidents include someone forcing you or trying to force you into a sexual act by threatening, holding on to you or hurting you in some way?

- Yes
- No

c) Did the incident or any of the incidents include someone abusing you sexually while you were asleep or when you were so intoxicated that you couldn't defend yourself?

- Yes
- No

37. a) Did anybody hit, kick or intentionally subject you to some other form of physical violence, in a way that caused you pain or injury during the course of last year (2022)?

Do not include incidents referred to previously.

- Yes, number of times _____
- No -----→ *Go to question 38*

b) Did the incident or any of the incidents lead to you sustaining injuries so that you had to visit a doctor, nurse or dentist?

- Yes
- No

38. Did anyone threaten you, in such a way that you were frightened, during the course of last year (2022)?

Do not include incidents referred to previously.

- Yes, number of times _____
- No

39. During the course of last year (2022) did you, by one and the same person on a repeated number of occasions, receive unwanted visits, phone calls or messages by mail, sms or via the internet?

This does not include telephone sales or similar.

- Yes
- No

40. Did anyone spread sensitive information, pictures, videos and/or comments about you on the internet with the intention to offend or hurt you during the course of last year (2022)?

This may have been via social media, such as Facebook, Instagram and YouTube, or in any other respect.

- Yes, number of times _____
- No

41. During the course of last year (2022) were you subjected to any crimes other than those already asked about in the questionnaire?

- Yes, number of times _____
- No

42. During the course of last year (2022) was anyone close to you exposed to a serious crime?

- Yes
- No

- Don't know

Contacts with agencies of the Swedish justice system over the past three years

A number of questions will now follow about any possible contact you have had with the Swedish criminal justice system, i.e. the police, prosecutors, courts and the probation service. This section relates to incidents that have occurred over the past **three years**.

43. Over the past three years have you been exposed to a crime that was then reported to the police by you or someone else?

- Yes
- No -----→ *Go to question 47*

If you have reported several incidents, we would like to ask you in the following questions to describe only **the most recent incident** that was reported to the police.

44. a) Did you yourself report the incident to the police or did someone else?

- I did
- I did, together with another person
- Another person

b) Was the report made by telephone, via the internet or through direct contact with the police?

*By direct contact we mean that you met a representative of the police in connection with the reporting of the crime. Answer by selecting **only one** alternative.*

- Telephone
- Internet
- Direct contact
- Don't know

45. Did the incident that was reported to the police involve any form of threat or violence?

- Yes
- No

46. a) Overall, how would you describe your experiences of the police in connection with this crime?

- Very positive
- Quite positive
- Neither positive nor negative
- Quite negative
- Very negative
- Don't know/No opinion

b) Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with regard to how easy it was to get in touch with someone at the police who was able to help you?

- Very satisfied
- Quite satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Quite dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know/No opinion

c) Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the treatment you received from the police?

- Very satisfied
- Quite satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Quite dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know/No opinion

d) Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the information you received about how the police were working with your case?

- Very satisfied
- Quite satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Quite dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know/No opinion

e) How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the police's efforts to investigate and solve the crime?

- Very satisfied
- Quite satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Quite dissatisfied

- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know/No opinion

47. a) During the past three years, have you been in contact with a prosecutor as a result of having been exposed to a crime?

- Yes
- No -----→ *Go to question 51*

b) How would you describe your overall experience of the prosecutor?

- Very positive
- Quite positive
- Neither positive nor negative
- Quite negative
- Very negative

48. During the past three years, have you participated in a court trial as a result of having been exposed to a crime?

- Yes
- No -----→ *Go to question 51*

Below are a number of questions about the trial. If you have participated in more than one trial, the questions should be answered on the basis of **the most recent one**.

49. a) Did you have an injured party counsel in connection with the trial? *An injured party counsel is a lawyer whose task is to help the victim of crime during the preliminary investigation and trial.*

- Yes -----→ *Please, answer question 49b*
- No -----→ *Please, answer question 49c*

b) If Yes: Overall, how would you describe your experiences of the injured party counsel?

- Very positive
- Quite positive
- Neither positive nor negative
- Quite negative
- Very negative

c) If No: Would you have liked to have an injured party counsel?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

50. a) In your opinion, was the information you were given before the trial sufficient or insufficient?

- Sufficient
- Insufficient
- Don't know/No opinion

b) How easy or difficult was it to understand what happened during the trial?

- Very easy
- Quite easy
- Neither easy nor difficult
- Quite difficult
- Very difficult

c) How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the treatment you received in court?

- Very satisfied
- Quite satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Quite dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

To learn more about exposure to crime, we would like to interview some of those who answered the survey. These interviews are very important to achieve a more in-depth understanding of the situation in Sweden in terms of crime and feelings of safety. We would therefore be grateful if you could provide a telephone number and information regarding which times you prefer we call. You choose whether or not to participate and you can decline at any time.

51. What is the best phone number to use to contact you if you are selected for a follow-up interview?

Primary_____

Secondary_____

52. What is your preferred time for us to call you for the interview? Please feel free to choose as many options as you like!

- Weekday – daytime (9am – 5pm)

- Weekday – evening (5pm – 9pm)
- Weekend – daytime (10am – 5pm)
- Weekend – evening (5pm – 9pm)

Thank you for your participation! For more information about the survey, please visit www.bra.se/ntu.

Please send the completed questionnaire to Statistics Sweden in the postage-paid envelope provided.



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