

Vienna, 19 February 2021

Crime, safety and victims' rights

FRA's Fundamental Rights survey

Questions & Answers on the survey methodology

The '[Crime, safety and victims' rights](#)' report draws on the results of FRA's [Fundamental Rights Survey](#). This is a brief overview of how FRA carried out the survey. More details will be available in the upcoming Technical Report.

The Fundamental Rights Survey is the first comprehensive, EU-wide survey of people's experiences and views on fundamental rights, including their experiences of crime victimisation.

See our main findings Q&A for more information on the survey results.

1. Who took part in the survey?

The survey was open to individuals aged 16 years and older who have lived in the survey country at least 1 year before the survey. In each country, a randomly selected sample of the population was contacted and invited to participate in the survey, to make sure that the results are representative of what people in the country experience and think.

2. What questions did the survey ask?

The survey asked respondents about a wide range of issues. These include: personal security and safety; tolerance and equality; rights awareness and responsibilities; personal discrimination; everyday life experiences and technology. It also collected information on socio-demographic characteristics.

The results published today examine people's experiences as victims of crime. The report focuses on physical violence, harassment, and property crime such as burglary, misuse of someone's online bank account or payment cards, or consumer fraud. It examines how often people report crimes to the police, and their willingness to intervene, report to the police or give evidence in court if they witness a crime happening to someone else. It also looks at the impact of crime on people's behaviour, their feeling of safety and concern about crime.

3. When and where was the survey carried out?

The survey was carried out across the 27 EU Member States, the United Kingdom and North Macedonia from January to October 2019.

4. How was the survey carried out?

The survey provides reliable and comparable data on the views and experiences of people across the EU. It involves a combination of face-to-face and online data collection, as appropriate in each country, to reach a representative sample of the total population.

In 19 countries, trained interviewers contacted the respondents in person. They interviewed the respondents as well as asked them to complete selected parts of the survey directly, using a tablet computer or laptop.

In 10 countries, respondents were asked to complete the questionnaire online. They received letters by mail inviting them to participate in the survey.

In France and Germany, already existing online panels were used to invite people to take part in the survey. In these two countries, quotas ensured that the sample corresponded

with the structure of the total population in terms of age, gender, employment status, education and region.

Ipsos MORI collected the data on behalf of FRA, in cooperation with Statistics Netherlands (CBS) in the Netherlands, the Centre des Technologies de l'Information de l'Etat (CTIE) in Luxembourg and Statistics Austria in Austria.

5. Why did FRA use different survey methods?

The final survey methodology used in each country depended on the method best suited for each country. This choice was based on an expert consultation, a feasibility study, pre-testing and an earlier pilot study. The use of tailored data collection methods ensures comparability of the results across countries and different survey modes.

6. How many respondents completed the survey?

In total 34,948 people completed the survey. Some 1,000 people completed the questionnaire in each country, except Germany and France, where almost 3,000 participants completed the survey as online panels were used.

7. Who are the survey respondents? Where are they from?

The survey respondents are people who were randomly selected to achieve representative results that can be generalised to describe the situation in each country and in the EU as a whole. Within each country, people from rural as well as urban areas were asked to complete the survey, according to the available official statistics.

8. Are the results representative?

The results are representative at the EU and national level for people who are 16 years or older.

9. How was the privacy, anonymity and confidentiality of respondents assured?

Professional interviewers, trained to ensure confidentiality, carried out the face-to-face interviews. Online data collection, on the other hand, allowed respondents to complete the survey when and where they wanted. The survey data was stored securely and later anonymised. FRA deleted personal data used during the data collection. The final dataset does not contain any personal information that would allow respondents to be identified. The survey results are presented in tables and graphs which aggregate the results for a large number of respondents. This ensures that individuals cannot be recognised.

10. Will the survey data be publicly available?

FRA will release the results in dedicated survey reports, as well as integrated into various other FRA reports. The survey results are also available through an [online data explorer](#).

It also aims to make the microdata and full dataset available in 2021-2022.

11. How much did the survey cost?

The external contracts for the survey, including the pilot phase, cost €4,000,986. Lowering costs while being inclusive and obtaining representative results for all countries was a consideration in choosing the national survey methods.

This report is one in a [series](#) drawing on the survey results.

12. Can you put a ranking of countries based on the results? Which country is doing best/worse?

FRA does not rank EU Member States in its reports. However, FRA's reports present key results by country, and people can use the survey's data explorer to see more individual country results relative to other countries with respect to specific survey questions.