

## ANTI-SOCIAL ACTS AND CRIMES OF MINORS AND JUVENILES IN 2023

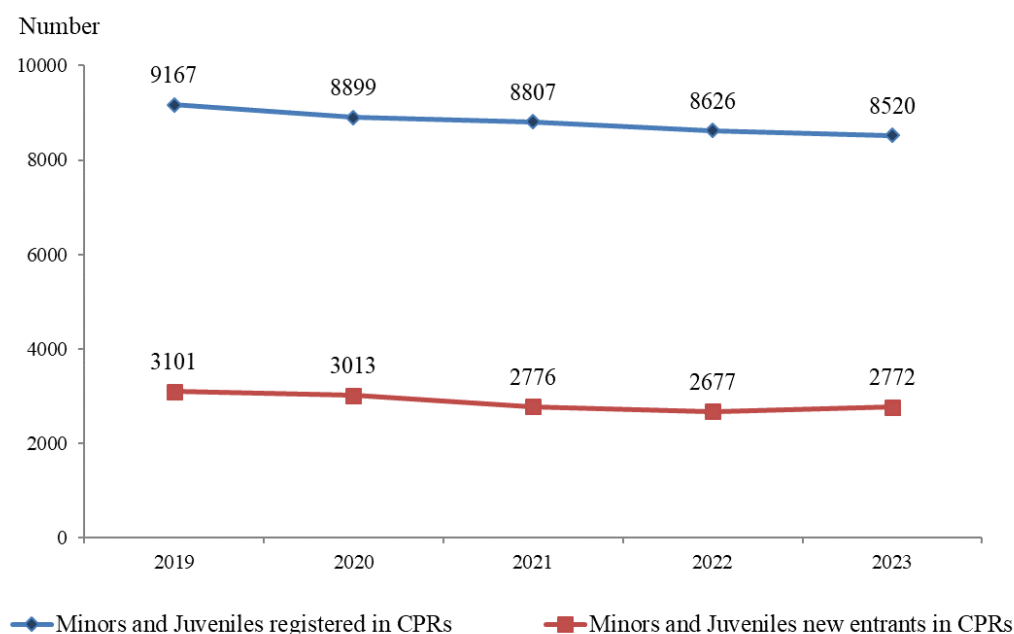
### Minors and juveniles registered, new entrants and removed from the Child pedagogical rooms (CPRs) for anti-social acts and crimes committed

The number of minors and juveniles **registered<sup>1</sup> in the Child pedagogical rooms** for anti-social acts and crimes committed in 2023 was 8 520. In comparison with 2022, their number decreased by 106 persons, or by 1.2%.

The main socio-demographic characteristics of these persons were:

- 79.0% of the minors and juveniles registered in the Child pedagogical rooms were from the 14 - 17 age group, while those from the 8 - 13 age group were 21.0% of the total number of registered persons in the Child pedagogical rooms;
- The number of boys was 6 786 (89.6%);
- The number of girls was 1 734 (20.4%);
- 6 665 or 78.2% of minors and juveniles were in education;
- 4 293 (50.4%) minors and juveniles were living in criminal surroundings.

**Figure 1. Minors and juveniles, registered and new entrants during the year in the Child pedagogical rooms between 2019 and 2023**



<sup>1</sup> According to Art. 26, para. 1, of the Rules for CPRs, minors and juveniles are registered for a 2-year period. After that period they are removed if they did not commit anti-social acts or crimes again.

The coefficient of persons registered in the Child pedagogical rooms in 2023 was 1 345 per 100 000 persons of the average annual population aged 8 - 17 years<sup>1</sup>.

The number of **new entrants<sup>2</sup> in the Child pedagogical rooms** in 2023 was 2 772, or 32.5% of the total number of persons registered in the CPRs. 77.5% of them were juveniles.

In 2023, 2 362, or 27.7% of minors and juveniles, were removed from the Child pedagogical rooms:

- 1 266 of them (53.6%) - due to improved behaviour;
- 1 010 (42.8%) - by reason of reaching the age of 18;
- 86 persons (3.6%) - due to other reasons.

### 1. Minors and juveniles removed from Child pedagogical rooms' registration

(Number)

	2022		2023	
	Total	Of which: due to improved behaviour	Total	Of which: due to improved behaviour
<b>Total for country</b>	<b>2513</b>	<b>1346</b>	<b>2362</b>	<b>1266</b>
Boys	2123	1107	1865	963
Girls	390	239	497	303
<b>Minors (8 - 13)</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>190</b>
Boys	147	136	143	138
Girls	40	38	54	52
<b>Juveniles (14 - 17)</b>	<b>2326</b>	<b>1172</b>	<b>2165</b>	<b>1076</b>
Boys	1976	971	1722	825
Girls	350	201	443	251

### Anti-social acts

The number of children who **passed through the Child pedagogical rooms for committed anti-social acts** in 2023 was 6 635. Boys were 4 639, or 69.9%, and girls were 1 996, or 30.1%.

The distribution of those who passed through the CPRs by some types of anti-social acts is as follows:

- Running away from home, a special institution or a residential type of social service - 981, or 14.8%;
- Behaviour of violence and aggression - 870 (13.1%);
- Psychoactive substance addiction - 544, or 8.2%;
- Damage to public and/or private property - 514 (7.7%);
- Harassment - 448 (6.8%);
- Indecently and/or hooligan behaviour in a public place - 421 (6.3%);
- Wandering and begging - 376, or 5.7%.

<sup>1</sup> The coefficient is calculated with preliminary data on the average annual population.

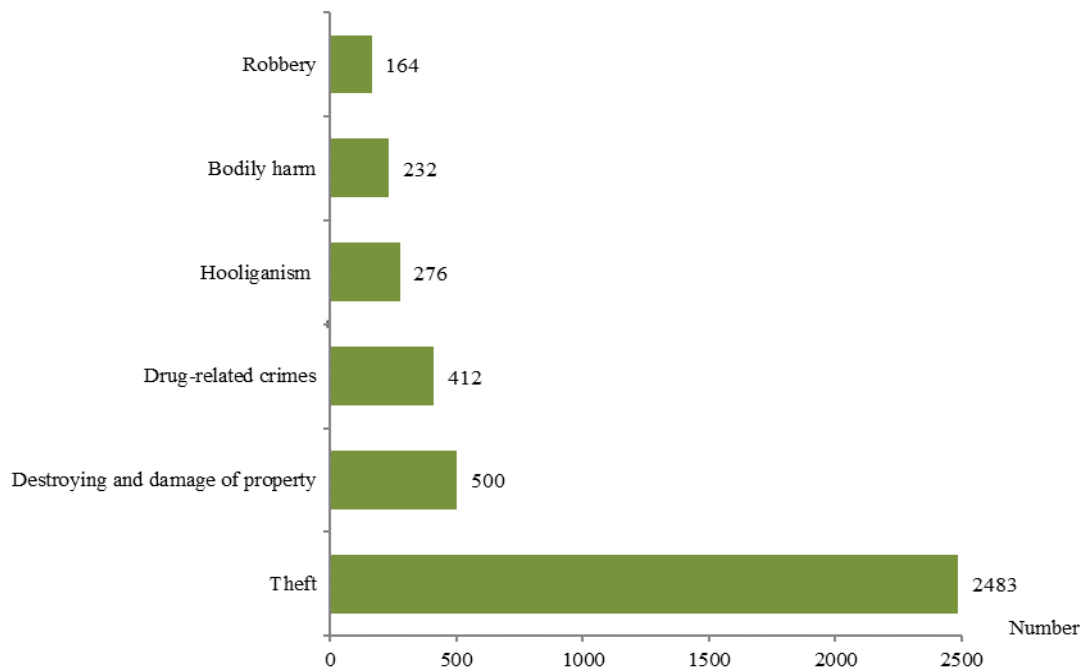
<sup>2</sup> Incl. all minors and juveniles who were newly registered in the CPRs during the reporting year.

### Minors and juveniles perpetrators of crimes

In 2023, the number of minors and juveniles passed through the Child pedagogical rooms for crimes committed was 4 642.

Theft of property was the most common type of crime committed by minors and juveniles. Children perpetrators of thefts were 2 483, or 53.5% of the total number of persons passed through the Child pedagogical rooms for crimes committed. The greatest was the share of minors and juveniles perpetrators of thefts from shops or other trade establishments - 46.3% (1 149 persons), followed by home thefts - 18.1% (450 persons), and burglaries - 6.4% (158 persons).

**Figure 2. Minors and juveniles perpetrators of some types of crimes in 2023**



### Minors and juveniles - victims of crimes

Registered in the CPRs minors and juveniles, victims of crimes in 2023 were 1 300, as 788 (60.6%) were boys and 512 (39.4%) of them were girls. The relative share of minors as victims of crimes was 37.5%, and that of juveniles - 62.5%.

Among the victims of crimes, the most were minors and juveniles, victims of thefts of property - 468 persons (36.0%), followed by bodily harms - 246 persons (18.9%), debauchery - 73 persons (5.6%), and robberies - 63 persons (4.8%). The number of rape cases (committed and attempted) in 2023 was 9 (0.7%).



## Activities of the Local Commissions for Combating Anti-social Acts of Minors and Juveniles

In 2023, 4 692 legal correctional educational proceedings were **initiated** by the Local Commissions for Combating Anti-social Acts of Minors and Juveniles, of which 3 862 (82.3%) were initiated by the prosecutors proposals. The number of **concluded proceedings** amounted to 4 365, while 1 991, or 45.6%, were finalized in a month. 314 proceedings (6.7% of proceedings initiated) were **ceased**. At the end of 2023, 235 proceedings were **not finalized**.

6 520 **correctional measures** were inflicted by the Local Commissions for Combating Anti-social Acts of Minors and Juveniles in 2023, according to Art. 13, para. 1 of the Control of Juvenile Anti-social Behaviour Act, on 4 765 persons aged 8 - 17 years for committing 5 113 publicly dangerous acts<sup>1</sup>.

The most commonly imposed correctional measures in 2023 were:

- Warning - 2 768 measures (42.5%);
- Placement under the correctional control of a public tutor - 1 512 correctional measures (23.2%);
- Placement under correctional supervision of the parents or the persons substituting for them, under the obligation to take special care - 973 measures (14.9%);
- Obligation to participate in consultations, training and programmes - 510 measures (7.8%);
- Obligation to perform a definite job in favour of the public was imposed on 197 persons (3.0%).

In 2023, the main characteristics of minors and juveniles with imposed correctional measures were as follows:

- Minors were 1 587, or 33.3%, and juveniles - 3 178 (66.7%);
- Boys were 3 729, or 78.3%, and girls - 1 036 (21.7%).

In the structure of the public dangerous acts for which educational measures were imposed during the reporting year, the largest is the relative share of the committed crimes - 3 172, or 62.0% of the public dangerous acts. Followed by anti-social acts - 1 619 (31.7%), and administrative violations - 322 (6.3%).

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<sup>1</sup> Incl. anti-social acts, crimes and administrative violations.



## Methodological notes

The statistical survey on anti-social acts of minors and juveniles ensures information on the basis of annual data on the number of registered, new entrants, removed and persons passed through Child pedagogical rooms, the number of minor and juvenile persons with inflicted educational measures for committing public dangerous acts, as well as the number of minor and juvenile persons, victims of crimes. The source of information are the Local commissions for prevention of juvenile delinquency.

**Objects of the survey** are the Local commissions for prevention of minors and juvenile anti-social acts.

**Units of the survey** are the minor and juvenile perpetrators of anti-social acts and crimes.

**The Local commissions for prevention of juvenile delinquency** are the competent authorities that consider educational cases, enforce measures imposed under the Control of Juvenile Anti-social Behaviour Act and monitor their implementation.

**Minors** are the persons who have completed 8 - 13 years of age.

**Juveniles** are the persons who have completed 14 - 17 years of age.

**Anti-social act** is an act which is publicly dangerous and against the law, or contradicts the morality, and the good manners.

**Child pedagogical rooms** are special institutions for the prevention of crimes and anti-social acts, committed by minor and juvenile persons.

**In the number of minors and juveniles registered in the Child pedagogical rooms** are included minors and juveniles perpetrators of crimes and/or anti-social acts; convicted for general crimes; released from the correctional facilities, Correctional boarding schools and the Social-pedagogic boarding schools. Minors and juveniles are registered for 2-year period and after that period they are removed if they did not commit anti-social acts or crimes again. The number registered in CPRs **does not include** the number of minors and juveniles **who had passed** to Child pedagogical rooms.

**In the number of minors and juveniles registered as new entrants in the Child pedagogical rooms** during the year are included minor and juvenile perpetrators of crimes and/or anti-social acts during the reported year.

**The number of removed from Child pedagogical rooms' registration** includes minor and juvenile persons who have been removed from register and the reason for removing.

**In the number of minors and juveniles passed on to Child pedagogical rooms** are included minor and juvenile persons who have committed acts of little importance, for which single police intervention was sufficient and no reason for their registration in the CPRs.

**The educational measure** is an alternative to the punishment measure for educational impact on minor and juvenile, who have committed an anti-social act, and juvenile, released from criminal liability under art. 61 of the Criminal Code, and is necessary in order to overcome deviations in behaviour, prevent future violations and integration into society.

**The number of minor and juvenile persons with inflicted educational measures** includes all minor and juvenile perpetrators of anti-social acts, crimes or administrative violations whom educational measures have been inflicted according to the the Control of Juvenile Anti-social Behaviour Act. Depending on the



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offence nature, **more than one** educational measure may be inflicted, except educational measures getting into Social-pedagogic boarding schools and getting into Correctional boarding schools.

**The number of minor and juvenile persons, victims of crimes** includes persons who have suffered from different types of crimes according to the place of commission of the act and not at the place of residence of the persons.

The applied methodology and data from the survey on activities of the Local Commissions for Combating Anti-social Acts of minors and juveniles are published on the NSI's website - [www.nsi.bg](http://www.nsi.bg), as well as in Informational System INFOSTAT ([https://infostat.nsi.bg/infostat/pages/module.jsf?x\\_2=63](https://infostat.nsi.bg/infostat/pages/module.jsf?x_2=63)).