

BALKAN



CRIMINOLOGY

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Trafficking Statistics & their Alternatives

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PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- on crime statistics & crime trends
- THB statistics in Europe - TRAFSTAT
- alternatives to THB statistics
- final remarks





ON CRIME STATISTICS & CRIME TRENDS

Numerology of Criminology: „A salient feature of almost all modern forms of discourse about crime is the emphasis placed upon terms associated with its quantification and measurement: ‘volume’, ‘extent’, ‘growth’, ‘prevalence’, ‘trends’, and so on. [...] Criminologists, too, are well aware of the power of the ‘language of figures’, and even those primarily oriented towards qualitative research methods routinely produce quantitative data to reinforce and ‘legitimate’ their findings.“

(Maguire, M./Morgan, R./Reiner, R. (Eds.),
Oxford Handbook of Criminology (1994), p. 141)





ON CRIME STATISTICS & CRIME TRENDS

- what do official crime statistics show?
- why do we track crime?
 - measure efficiency of criminal justice agencies
 - crime related security assessment and prognosis
- what can crime trends reveal?
- why cross-country comparisons?





ON CRIME STATISTICS & CRIME TRENDS

- data sources & methodology:
 - Eurostat crime statistics
 - European Sourcebook
 - statistical reports of national bureaus of statistics
- different counting units used by diff. sources:
 - person vs. case/offence (or even victim) as counting unit
 - moment of counting? prosecution data or final convictions
 - which offence is being counted? only THB or also related offences?





ON CRIME STATISTICS & CRIME TRENDS

- comparing the mass of crime between different countries (who has more or less crime? who is better?) should be avoided
- far too many factors influence levels of crime rates (reporting and dark number, criminal code/policy, counting methodology etc.)
- crime trends are much better indicators and more useful for cross country comparisons





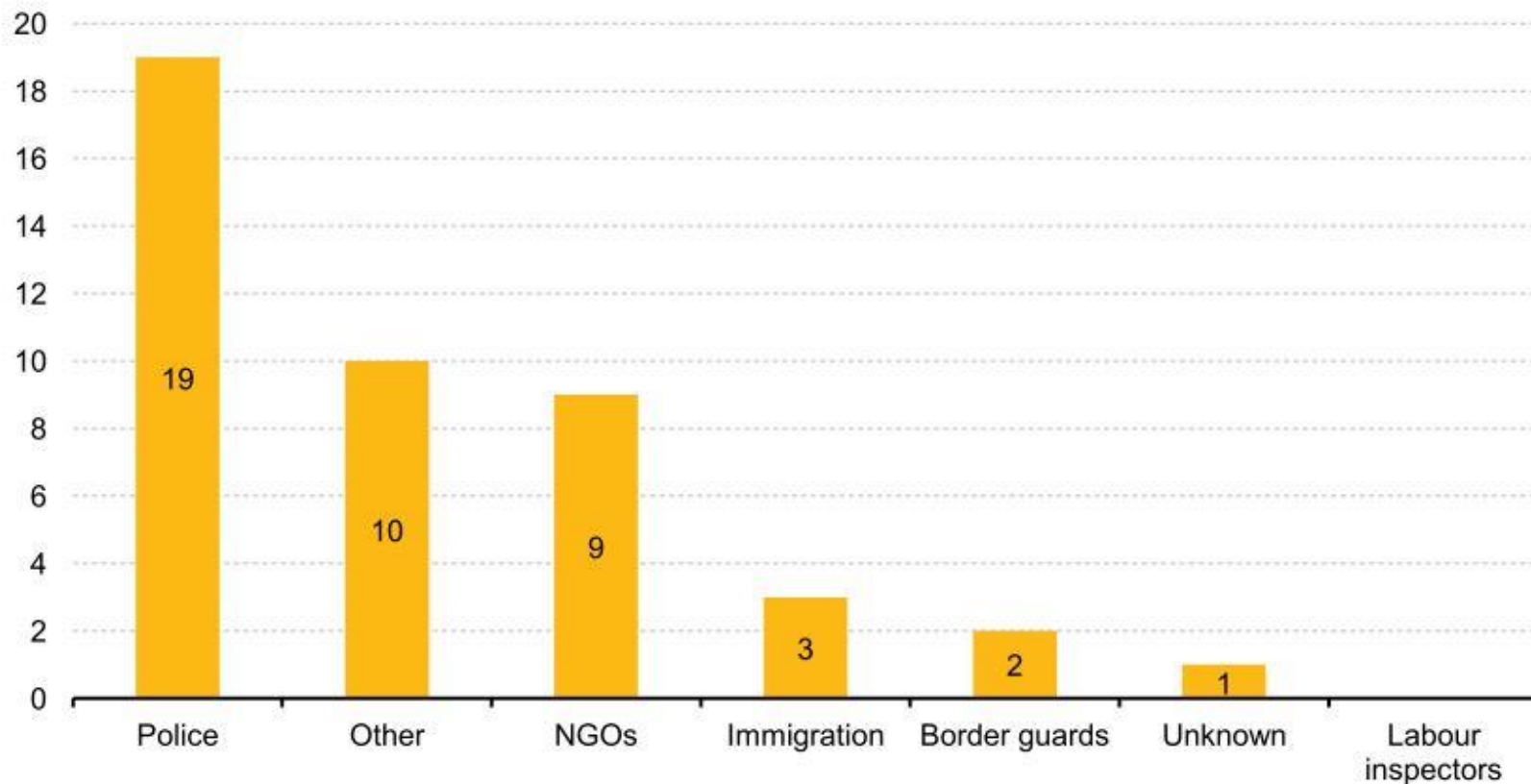
ON CRIME STATISTICS & CRIME TRENDS

- rethinking THB statistics:
 - why do we want to measure THB?
 - purpose of data collection?
 - phenomenology?
 - prevention?
 - repression (prosecution and conviction)?
 - policy analysis and country evaluation?
 - cross-country comparison?
- Eurostat THB Report 2013 - selected data



THB STATISTICS IN EUROPE

Figure 1: Member State sources of data victims
(number of countries)





THB STATISTICS IN EUROPE

	2008	2009	2010	Percentage change 2008-2010
Numbers of victims	6 309	6 955	7 418	+18 %

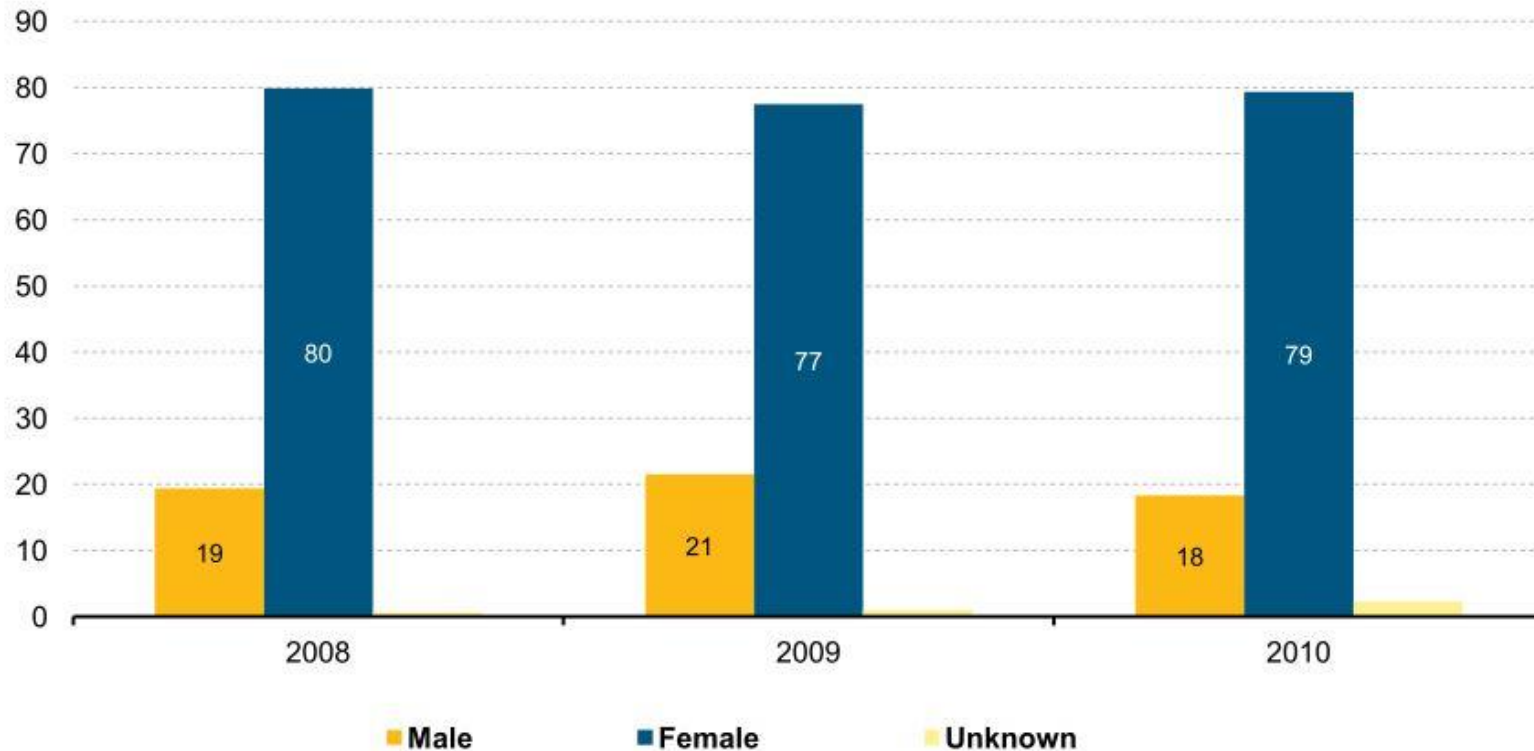
The total number of identified victims in the EU in the year 2010 is 5 535 based on the information from 24 Member States.

More reported cases do not necessarily mean an increase in the actual number of victims. This may indicate an improvement in the reporting rate of the phenomenon or a change in the recording system (although the latter should be indicated in the metadata). Similarly, a decrease, especially in the last reference year, may be due to a delay in the recording. In this case the figures may be revised during the next collection.



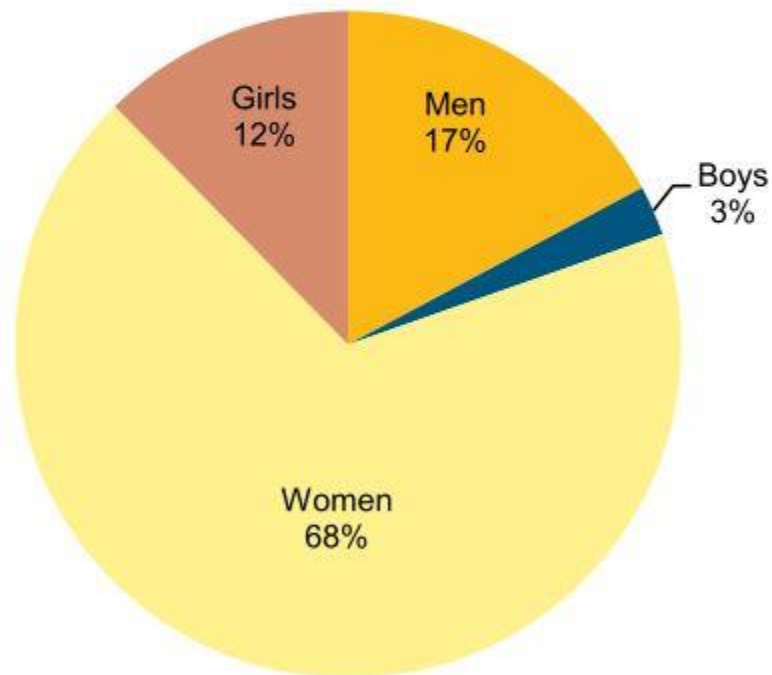
THB STATISTICS IN EUROPE

Figure 3: Identified and presumed victims by gender
(% of total number of victims)



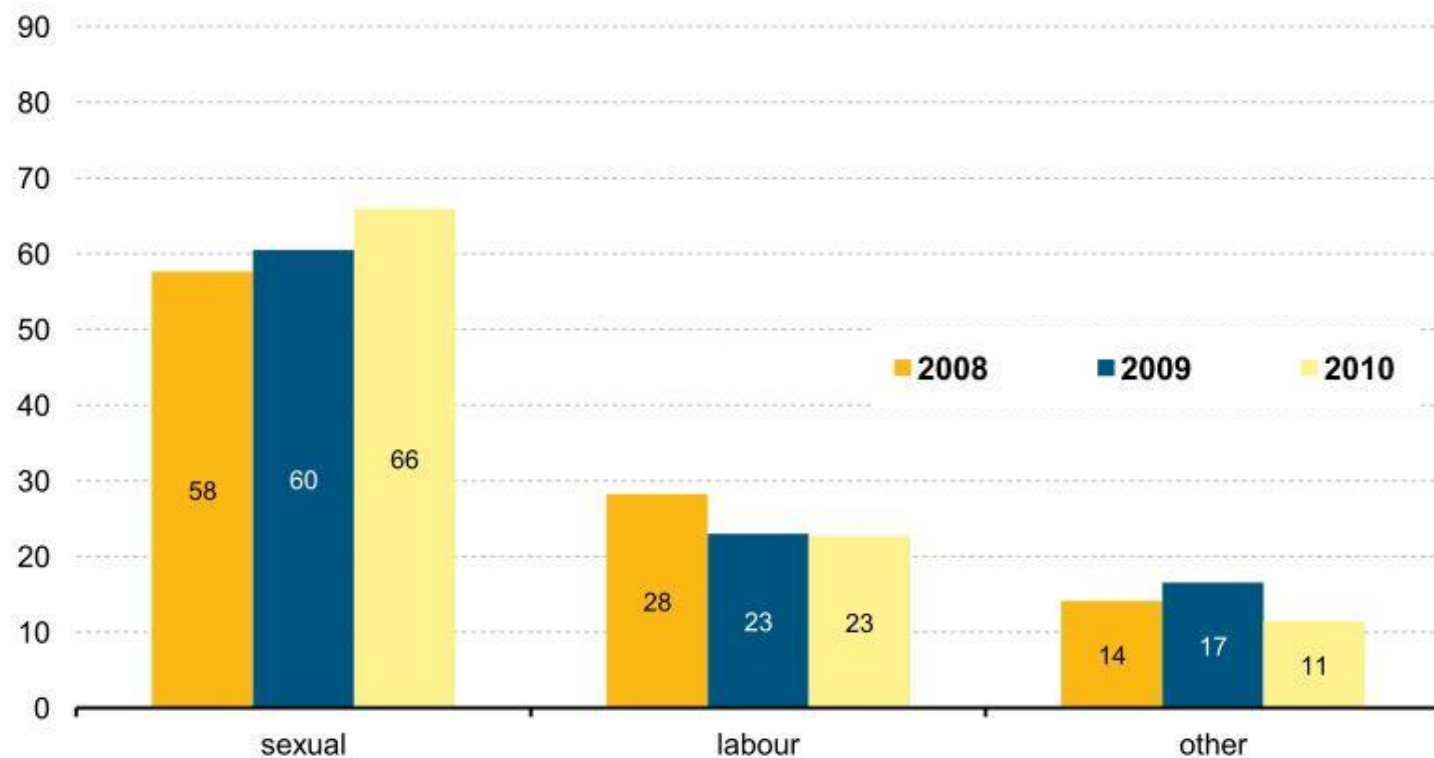
THB STATISTICS IN EUROPE

Figure 5: Identified and presumed victims (2008–2010)
(%)



THB STATISTICS IN EUROPE

Figure 6: Victims by type of exploitation
(% of total number of victims)



THB STATISTICS IN EUROPE

Figure 7: Identified and presumed victims by gender and sexual exploitation

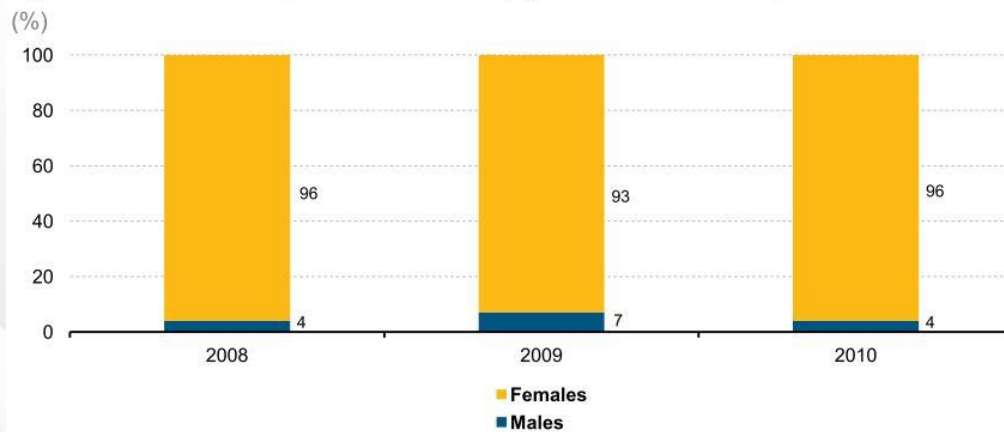
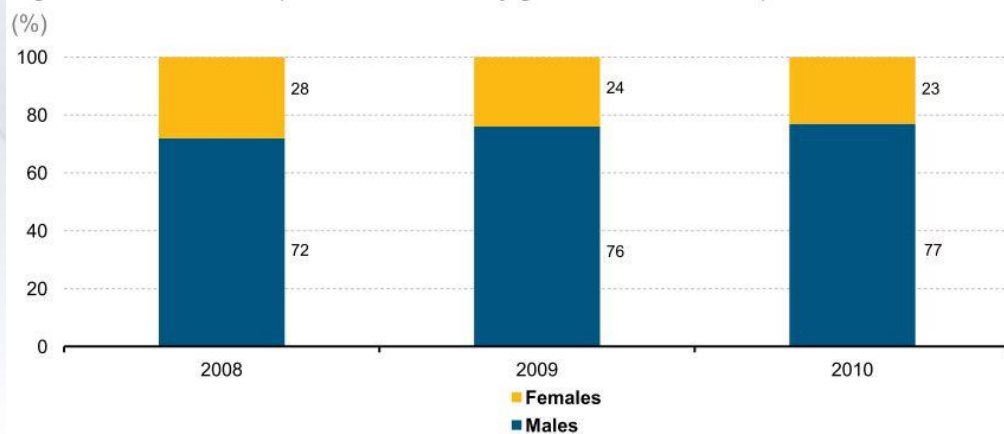


Figure 8: Identified and presumed victims by gender and labour exploitation





THB STATISTICS IN EUROPE

Top 10 Non-EU citizenships of suspected traffickers					
2008		2009		2010	
Nigeria	189	Nigeria	212	Nigeria	107
China	83	China	98	Brazil	94
Turkey	81	Turkey	93	China	92
Albania	50	Albania	53	Turkey	49
Algeria	36	Brazil	41	Algeria	17
Serbia	27	Bosnia & Herzegovina	27	Pakistan	17
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	20	Morocco	25	Albania	16
Former Serbia and Montenegro	16	Algeria	18	Ecuador	14
Brazil	16	Russia	18	Colombia	13
Morocco	14	Former Serbia and Montenegro	16	Serbia	13
Total	532		601		432
Total Non-EU (including unknown)	2315		2262		2171
%	23		27		20





THB STATISTICS IN EUROPE - TRAFSTAT

- TRAFSTAT Project - Tools for the Validation and Utilisation of EU Statistics on Human Trafficking
- main observations:
 - EU wide comparisons not possible
 - statistics alone provide for poor insight into THB phenomenology (perpetrators, victims, markets)
 - THB statistics as ‘early warning’?





ALTERNATIVES TO THB STATISTICS

- Approaches to researching THB:
 - Mainstream etiological approach
 - Innovative phenomenological “thick description”
 - Social structural analysis v. victim/perpetrator oriented approach?
 - Statistical/quantitative v. limited comparative/qualitative approach?
 - Causal v. process analysis?





FINAL REMARKS

- most intriguing are the things we do not see and cannot measure (e.g. offender motivation)
- if we can see and measure something, that does not mean we understand it (crime rates)
- even if we do understand the things we see and measure, that does not mean we can predict them (crime trends)
- nevertheless – we keep on trying to see and measure, to understand and predict



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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