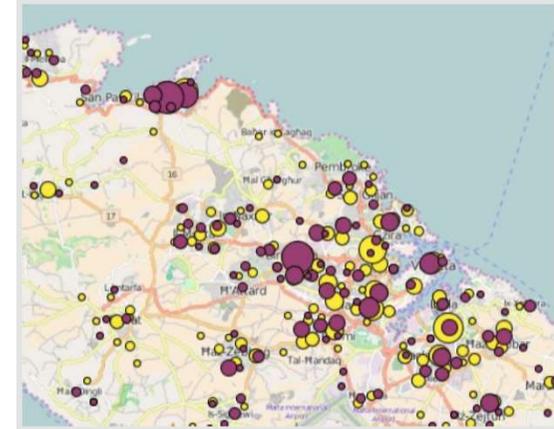


# Reported Crime Annual Report Year 2021

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# Trends What did & What should have occurred

- All figures for 2021 must be **read in comparison to 2019**, the last full-year as against the **CONTEXT** of the 2020 pandemic
- Long-term analysis exhibits a continued generic **trend line decrease** in reported crime
- 2020 experienced a **stabilisation** of the 2019 figures where crime reports show a reversal of the 2010-2016 phenomenon
- **15,785** reported offences
- The Maltese **covid19 scenario** is mitigated through the return of tourism and commerce
- Malta's crime rate from **42 crimes per 1000 persons in 2015** to one where the rate has reached **30.6 crimes per 1000 persons in 2021**

# Trends

- The Maltese offence profile has changed from a **public-oriented** to a **personal-target** dimension with an increasing focus on **financial-related** offences and **domestic violence**
- Police enhancement resulted in a mitigation shift in **awareness**, **personal safety** and **preparedness** in technological advances.
- Crime is evolving from a **Social-Space** structure to the invasion of **Personal-Space** and into **Virtual-Space**
- The implementation of the 2017 **Crime Prevention Strategy** is a veritable vehicle for such a process
- The implementation of the 2019 **Community Policing** established another first
- The implementation of the 2020 **Malta Police Transformation Strategy 2020-2025**
- The implementation of the 2019 **Community Policing** set the scene for a radical overhaul of the service

# Trends Significant Firsts

- A slight **increase** of 1% (196) in reported crimes over 2019, whilst the main drop in Covid-19 induced decrease has been rectified to expected levels.
- **San Giljan**'s rate of crime dropped from a height of 19.5 in 2012 to 9.1% in 2018 and a further drop of 5.7% in 2021, one of the **lowest in the last decades**.
- In terms of societal reaction, **moral panic** still plays a part in rendering a perception that crime is increasing, when the facts depict a stabilised scenario. This was often pushed by erroneous political rhetoric,
- In 2021 the previous years' main crime component was further mitigated, as **pick-pocketing** was sheared 242 cases from 819 in 2019, a tenfold year-on-year drop from 2016
- **Theft** category, which phenomenon had grown by 5 times between 2009 and 2016 but Malta had experienced a 49% drop as from 2016 and a significant drop of 2153 or **32%** drop from 2019.
- **Mondays** and the **08:00-01:00** period comprise the main functional temporal aspects of Maltese crime reporting.

# Figures

## Main Shifts

- 2021: **15,785** reported offences.
- Crimes that **Increased** (in descending percentage change order): immigration, perjury and false swearing, money laundering, abuse of public authority, drugs, prostitution, fraud, pornography, forgery, computer misuse, pretended rights, threats and private violence, domestic violence, and sexual offences.
- Crimes that **Decreased** (in descending percentage change order): arson, homicide, theft, attempted offences, bodily harm, and damage.

# Figures

## Main Shifts

- **Thefts** a drastic decrease, with a drop of 32% or 2153 incidents reported between 2019 and 2021. Theft comprises 28% of all offences, a decrease of 32% (2,153 cases) from 2019 to 2020. Mugging and pick-pocketing were contained as a result of expedient investigations, 27 reports of armed robberies in 2021 as compared to 40 in 2020. Down from 2005 and 2006 when the Maltese Islands experienced 61 armed robberies.
- **Domestic Violence** increased from 1,326 in 2019 to 1,645 and 1741 cases in 2021 (11% in 2021 down from 12.6% of all 2020 cases), An increase of 486 cases was related to Psychological Harm.
- **Damages** decreased by 11% decrease between 2019 and 2021 to 22% of all offences in 2021, down from 25% in 2019 and 24% in 2020. These figures depict the lowest incidence since 2013.
- **Bodily Harm** dropped to 4.7% of all offences in 2021, has reached the lowest number since at least 2004 down by 183 offences (20%) to a figure of 742 cases in 2021. The main decrease was related to all sub-categories except for Slight Bodily Harm with arms proper.
- **Fraud** has experienced a steep increase of 1555 cases or 189%. The cases reached 2376 cases in 2021 (15% of all crimes reported in 2021), up from 821 cases in 2019 and 811 cases in 2020. Fraud still maintains a hold as one of the top 5 crimes in the Maltese Islands League of Tables, taking the 3rd place above Domestic Violence .
- These 5 categories of crimes **comprise 81.4% of all crime reports**

# Figures

## Main Shifts

- **Arson** represented a particular crime that spreads the fear of crime to high levels. Hovering around a 100 cases annually as recorded over the decades, 2021 registered 36 cases, the lowest ever reported figure since the introduction of PIRS in 1998.
- **Computer** related crime experienced an 80% increase over 2019, mainly through Unauthorised Access, registering increases across the sub-categories except for unauthorised deletion of data and unauthorised deletion of info. This offence has reached 337 reported offences, also up from 270 in 2020.
- **Drugs** reporting increased by 279% (an increase of 444 cases up from 168 in 2019), increasing through all of the sub-categories. This reflects Malta Police intervention, as well as customs and other agencies' effectiveness. The 603 cases registered in 2021 is the highest figure by far ever recorded in the past 24 years.
- **Immigration** experienced an increase of 444% in reporting (up from 6 in 2019 to 27 in 2020 to 147 in 2021).
- **Threats and Public Violence** increased by 32% in 2021, (94 cases) mainly through blackmail, harassment and threats by means of writing.
- **Sexual Offences** decreased by 14% (20 cases) in 2019-2021, reversing a year-on-year increase initiated since 2015, reflective of the pandemic situation and sustained in 2021.

# Figures

## Main Shifts Newest on the block

- **Violence against Public Officers** decreased by 11% to 164 cases down from 185 in 2019, a steady year-on-year decrease since 2017. Whilst several factors could be at play, the introduction of body-worn cameras in the first half of 2021 playing a critical role.
- **Theft from Occupied Residences** decreased by 257 cases or 40% reflective of a sustaining of the results seen during the pandemic situation. Theft from exterior increased by 24% whilst theft from vacant residences decreased by 9%..
- **Pretended Rights** which had been recorded as a separate category in 2017 registered a 53% increase in reports amounting to 280 cases up from 183 cases in 2019.
- **Money Laundering** as recorded for the first time as a distinct category in 2017, registered a 400% increase in 2021, reaching 180 cases in 2021, up from 105 cases in 2020, steeply increasing from 36 cases in 2019 and 33 cases in 2018. .
- A new category, **Gender-Based Violence** was introduced in 2020, when 2 cases were registered. No cases were registered during 2021.

# Morphing of the Maltese Crime Scenario

- From a **Social-Space** scenario to a **Private-Space** scenario to a **Technological-Space**.
- Crime Prevention Strategy – a success story in the making.
- The CPS and the Community Policing Initiative pushed the envelope to move away from the perception that the mitigation is **simply a role that the Police force** should fulfil.
- Need for more **Local Councils** and Regions to take up mitigation measures, whilst the **business community** is also encouraged to put in its fair share to reduce offences within their businesses and also to directly **cooperate in structural-financial-operational** activities with the Malta Police Force to help increase safety and security in their areas.
- Move towards **collective Social Responsibility** where **Social Capital** and **Social Cohesion** become norms for change.

# Malta Police Force Impact

- The Social Areas, previously dominated by crime committed in the public zone, have in turn become safer. This is where the entity responsible for safety and security: the **Malta Police Force, emerged resurgent and came through for society**, both in its strategic preparedness and its implementation of societal-safety measures.
- This impact was not incidental: the launching of a **Transformation Strategy** six years in the making, legislative changes, a radical shakeup in senior management and the effort to bring on board all officers.
- On an international scale, the Police affected changes that rendered deliverables to such initiatives as **GRECO, Venice Commission and MONEYVAL**. The changes affected rendered returns in crime reporting and activities in such offences as Money Laundering and Fraud.
- **Policing and Community** intervention was efficiently rendered safer by the Malta Police through its **Community Policing initiative**, localities' intervention and a **Crime Prevention Strategy**.
- The setting up of specialised services such as the MPF establishment of a **Gender-Based & Domestic Violence Unit** in 2020. The **Victim Support Agency** is rendering a service on the realities of spiraling domestic violence.

# Prisons in Malta

## New Numbers New Challenges

- Prison numbers registered the **highest ever figures in recorded history**, reaching **908** residents on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020.
- On the last Friday 31 December 2021, **614** residents were registered.
- - The CCF Population as at **31st December 2021** (last Friday): 614 (560 males and 54 females)
- Link to CCF page: <http://www.crimemalta.com/ccf.html>

# RISC Model: League Tables for 2021

calculated as the observed  
offences as against those  
expected

## Grand Total Offences

- In terms of Grand Total Offences, the highest category, that ranking at 5 times or higher than the national rate, experienced no localities membership. At a rate between 2 and 5 times the national rate, **Marsa** took pole position above **Floriana, Gudja and Valletta**.

## Theft from Residences

- Whilst this category of offences registered no councils having over 5 times the national rate of offences, in 2021, the relative RISC still appears for **Marsa, Valletta, Bormla and Isla**, the latter registered within the 2x-5x RISC.

# RISC Model: League Tables for 2021

calculated as the observed  
offences as against those  
expected

## Theft of and from Vehicles

- During 2021, **Marsa** took top spot, followed by **Ta' Xbiex, Floriana, Hamrun, Bormla, Qormi, Pieta and Paola** as the highest RISC areas where one's car could be vandalised, broken into and/or stolen, which towns host between 2 and 5 times the national rate.

## Domestic Violence

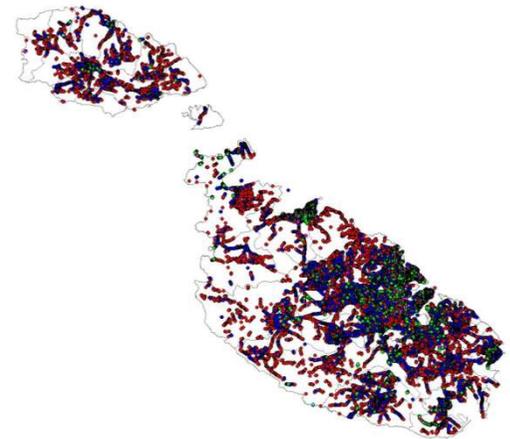
- Domestic violence reports pertain to stalking, slight bodily harm, grievous bodily harm and psychological harm. **Bormla, Munxar and Valletta** host between 2 and 5 the national rate.

# RISC Model: League Tables for 2021

calculated as the observed  
offences as against those  
expected

## Commercial Activity-related

- There were no localities hosting more than 5 times the national rate. Towns that host between 2 and 5 times the national rate of offences comprise **San Giljan, Gudja and Sliema**.



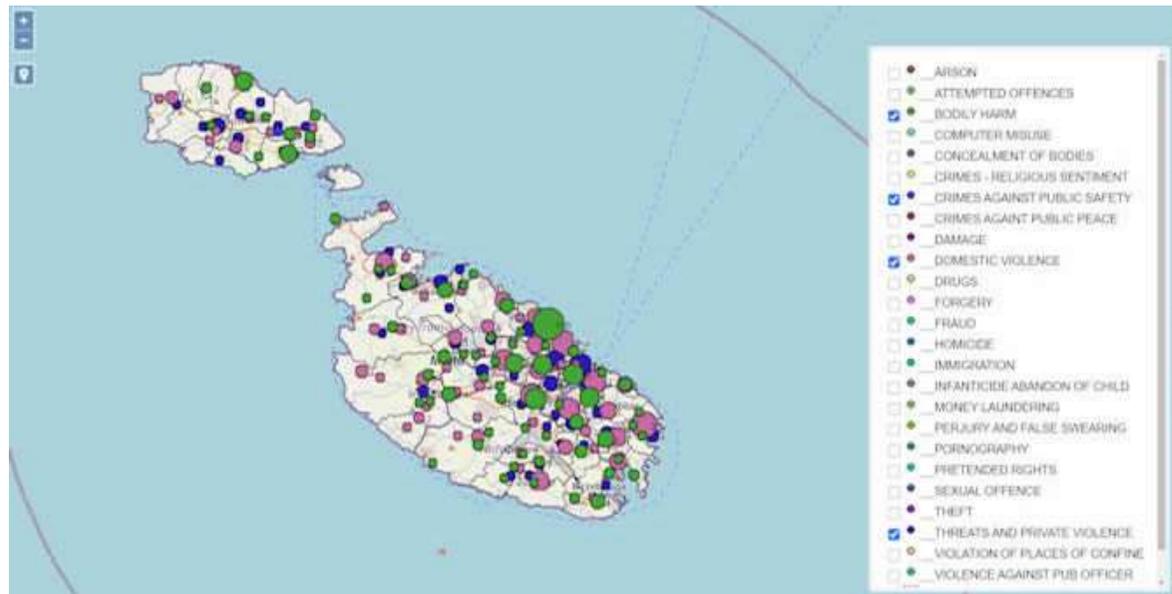
# RISC Model: League Tables for 2021

calculated as the observed  
offences as against those  
expected

Grand Total	Residential	Vehicle	Domestic	Commercial
<b>Council</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>Council</b>
MARSA	MARSA	MARSA	BORMLA	SAN GILJAN
FLORIANA	VALLETTA	TA' XBIEX	MUNXAR	GUDJA
GUDJA	BORMLA	FLORIANA	VALLETTA	SLIEMA
VALLETTA	ISLA	HAMRUN	FLORIANA	GHAXAQ
SAN GILJAN	FLORIANA	BORMLA	ISLA	SAN PAWL IL-BAHAR
TA' XBIEX	PEMBROKE	QORMI	KIRKOP	GHARGHUR
HAMRUN	MUNXAR	PIETA	TA' XBIEX	SAFI
BORMLA	SAN PAWL IL-BAHAR	PAOLA	BIRZEBBUGIA	BORMLA
PAOLA	MARSASCALA	LUQA	MARSA	SWIEQI
ZEBBUG (Ghawdex)	PIETA	GHAXAQ	ZABBAR	HAMRUN
SAN PAWL IL-BAHAR	BIRZEBBUGIA	SANTA VENERA	LUQA	GZIRA
MDINA	BIRGU	BIRZEBBUGIA	ZEJTUN	ZEBBUG (Ghawdex)
LUQA	SAN GWANN	ZABBAR	SANTA VENERA	MARSA
GHAJNSIELEM	SWIEQI	GUDJA	SIGGIEWI	TA' XBIEX
SANTA VENERA	QORMI	BIRGU	FGURA	BALZAN
QORMI	NAXXAR	SAN PAWL IL-BAHAR	MARSASCALA	BIRKIRKARA
PIETA	HAMRUN	MUNXAR	MTARFA	PAOLA
MSIDA	SAN GILJAN	MGARR	ZEBBUG (Ghawdex)	LUQA
BIRGU	GZIRA	KIRKOP	BIRGU	BIRZEBBUGIA
MUNXAR	ZEBBUG (Ghawdex)	VALLETTA	ZEBBUG (Malta)	MARSASCALA
MARSAXLOKK	TA' XBIEX	MSIDA	QORMI	XGHAJRA
MGARR	XEWKJJA	RABAT (Malta)	ZURRIEQ	QORMI
BIRZEBBUGIA	SIGGIEWI	MOSTA	MQABBA	VALLETTA
MELLIEHA	ATTARD	GZIRA	HAMRUN	SAN GWANN
GZIRA	SANTA VENERA	ISLA	GHAXAQ	KIRKOP
RABAT (Victoria)	BIRKIRKARA	SAN LAWRENZ	TARXIEN	QRENDI
ZABBAR	ZEBBUG (Malta)	SAN GILJAN	PIETA	IKLIN
MARSASCALA	MGARR	MARSASCALA	ATTARD	ZEJTUN
BIRKIRKARA	QRENDI	TARXIEN	BALZAN	FGURA
XGHAJRA	MELLIEHA	FGURA	XGHAJRA	MSIDA
KALKARA	PAOLA	BALZAN	PAOLA	MOSTA
ISLA	MSIDA	ZEBBUG (Malta)	DINGLI	FLORIANA
SLIEMA	GUDJA	KALKARA	MSIDA	ZABBAR
ZEJTUN	GHAJNSIELEM	IKLIN	MARSAXLOKK	SANNAT
RABAT (Malta)	ZEJTUN	MARSAXLOKK	NADUR	RABAT (Victoria)
GHAXAQ	LUQA	ZEJTUN	SANTA LUCIJA	MELLIEHA
KIRKOP	ZURRIEQ	SANTA LUCIJA	SAN PAWL IL-BAHAR	PIETA
MOSTA	XAGHRA	ATTARD	KALKARA	SANTA VENERA
FGURA	FGURA	BIRKIRKARA	XEWKJJA	ATTARD
GHASRI	BALZAN	XGHAJRA	BIRKIRKARA	LIJA
XEWKJJA	ZABBAR	LIJA	IKLIN	XEWKJJA
GHARGHUR	MOSTA	GHAJNSIELEM	MELLIEHA	NAXXAR
TARXIEN	GHARB	ZEBBUG (Ghawdex)	MGARR	ZURRIEQ
SAFI	TARXIEN	SAN GWANN	GHARGHUR	KALKARA
NAXXAR	SANTA LUCIJA	MQABBA	PEMBROKE	TARXIEN
PEMBROKE	KALKARA	DINGLI	NAXXAR	MGARR
ATTARD	GHAXAQ	GHARB	SAN GWANN	ISLA
DINGLI	MQABBA	NAXXAR	GUDJA	MQABBA
ZEBBUG (Malta)	LIJA	MELLIEHA	GHAJNSIELEM	BIRGU
BALZAN	SLIEMA	SIGGIEWI	SAFI	RABAT (Malta)
SAN GWANN	SANNAT	SLIEMA	QRENDI	MARSAXLOKK
GHARB	XGHAJRA	PEMBROKE	RABAT (Malta)	GHAJNSIELEM
XAGHRA	SAFI	SWIEQI	MOSTA	ZEBBUG (Malta)
ZURRIEQ	RABAT (Malta)	XAGHRA	RABAT (Victoria)	SAN LAWRENZ

# Interactive Map

## Main Crime Categories

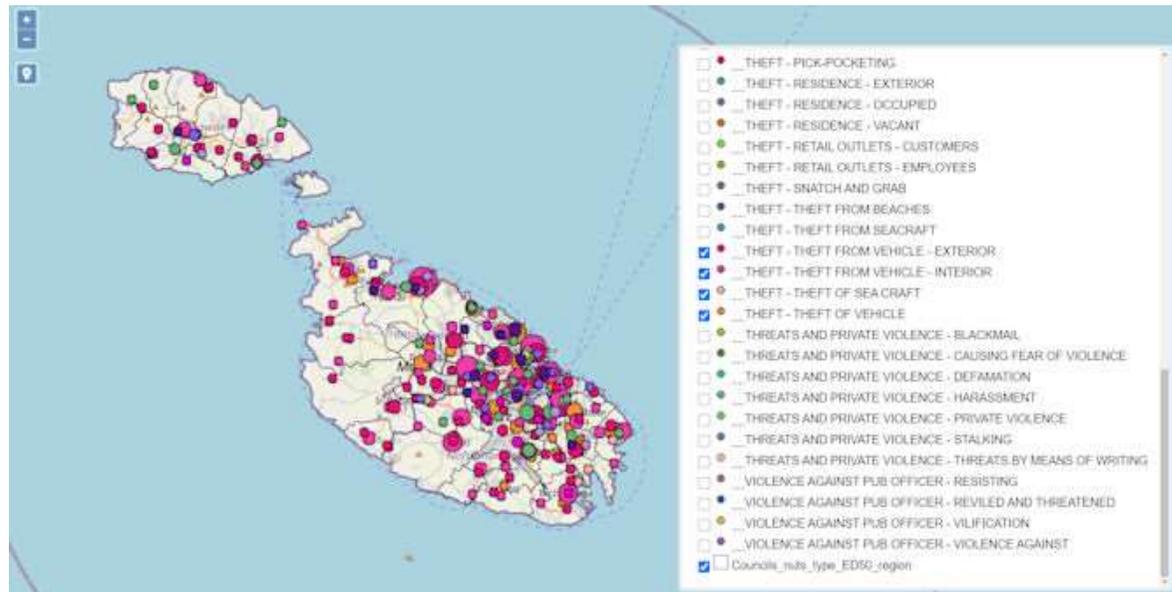


Refer to the CrimeMalta website for interactive data:

[www.crimemalta.com](http://www.crimemalta.com)

# Interactive Map

## Sub Crime Categories

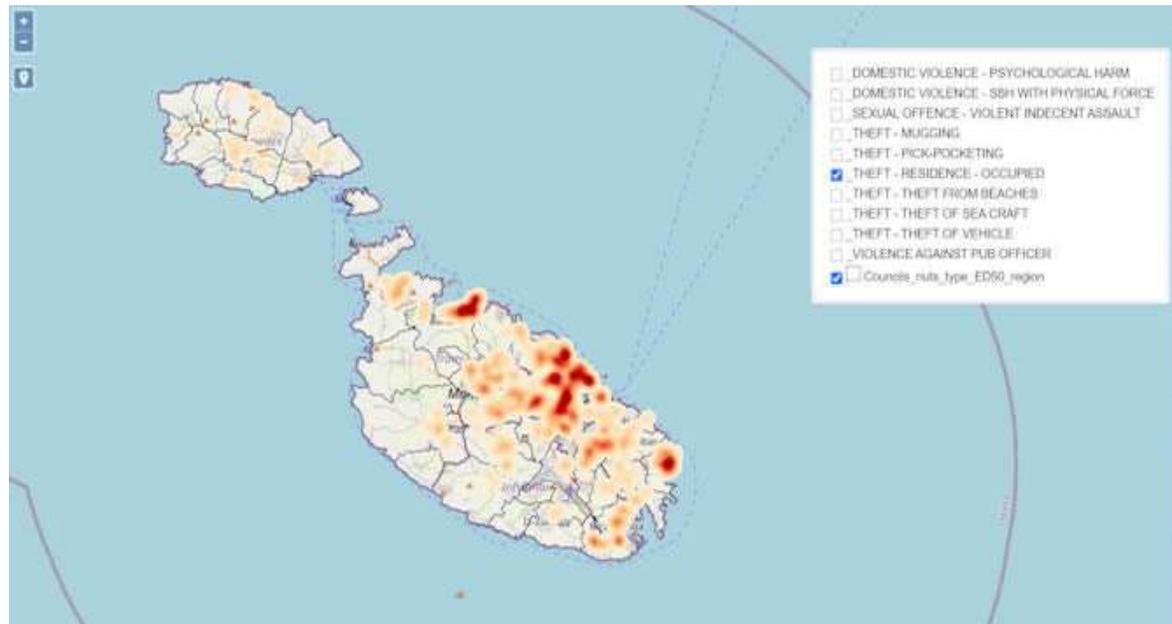


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# Thematic Map

Heat maps



Refer to the CrimeMalta website for interactive data:

[www.crimemalta.com](http://www.crimemalta.com)

Website

13 Years  
2008-2021

[www.crimemalta.com](http://www.crimemalta.com)



Refer to the CrimeMalta :

[www.crimemalta.com](http://www.crimemalta.com)

# Reported Crime Annual Report Year 2021

Thank You

