

LEGAL

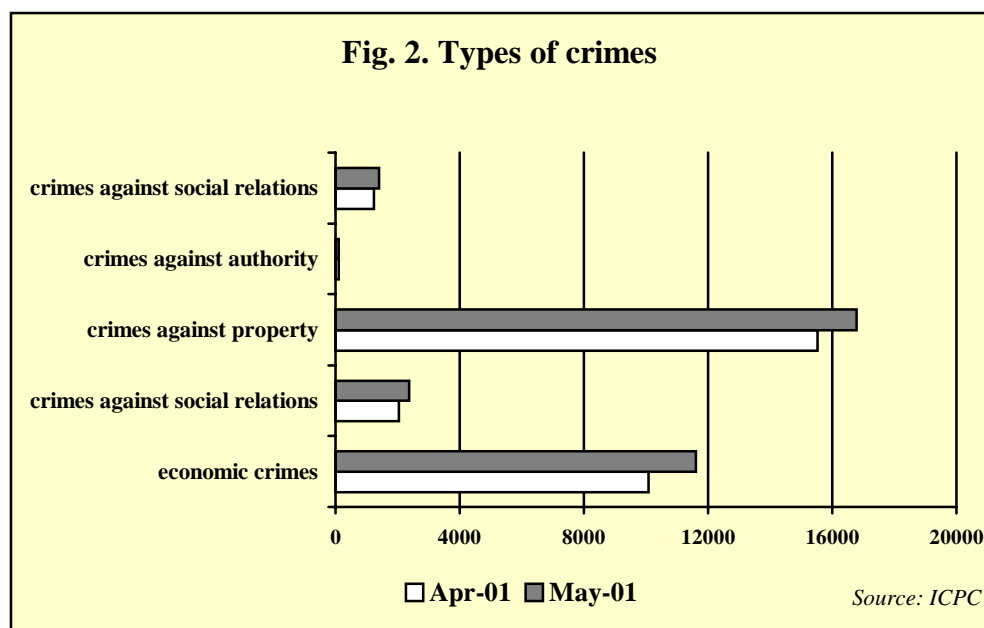
Trend Analysis: Criminality

Most crime indicators show a slight increase in April and May compared to the first three months of the year. Only crimes against authority show a slight decrease, while crimes against property increased considerably. Attacks against public or private property are symptoms of increased poverty. This is shown by the high percentage of unemployed among the perpetrators (40%, see Fig. 1).

Fig. 1. Cases investigated by the police (April-May 2001)

	April 2001	May 2001
Number of files	19,691	23,046
Unemployed %	40%	41%

The number of economic and financial crimes has also risen. This can simply mean that these crimes have to a larger extent been discovered and registered in statistics.



Focus: Prostitution and Proxenetism

After 1989 several crimes, including prostitution and proxenetism, have become visible and their number has constantly increased (Fig. 3).

Fig. 3. Cases of prostitution and proxenetism filed by the police, 1990 to 2000

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
	Prostitution and proxenetism							Prostitution			
Number cases filed by the police	15	112	216	381	305	698	730	607	390	390	733
								Proxenetism			
								429	260	325	465

Fig. 4. Number persons prosecuted for prostitution and proxenetism, 1997 to 2000

	1997	1998	1999	2000
Prostitution	251	169	117	160
Proxenetism	293	150	153	213

Poverty is a major factor influencing this phenomenon. Thus, 91% of those accused of prostitution in 2000 were unemployed. This represents a much higher percentage than the same percentage for all categories of crimes. (Fig. 5).

Fig. 5. Share of unemployed in total persons prosecuted for prostitution, 1997-2000

