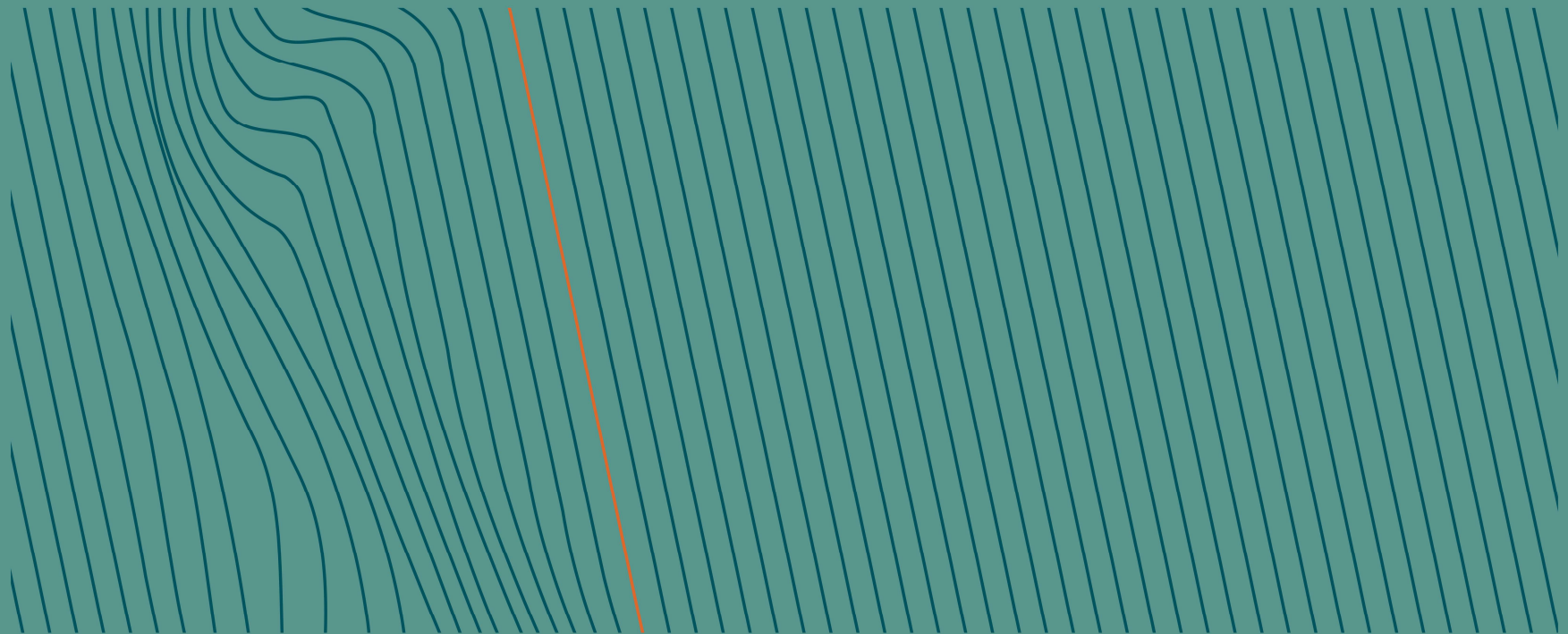


Annual Crime Review

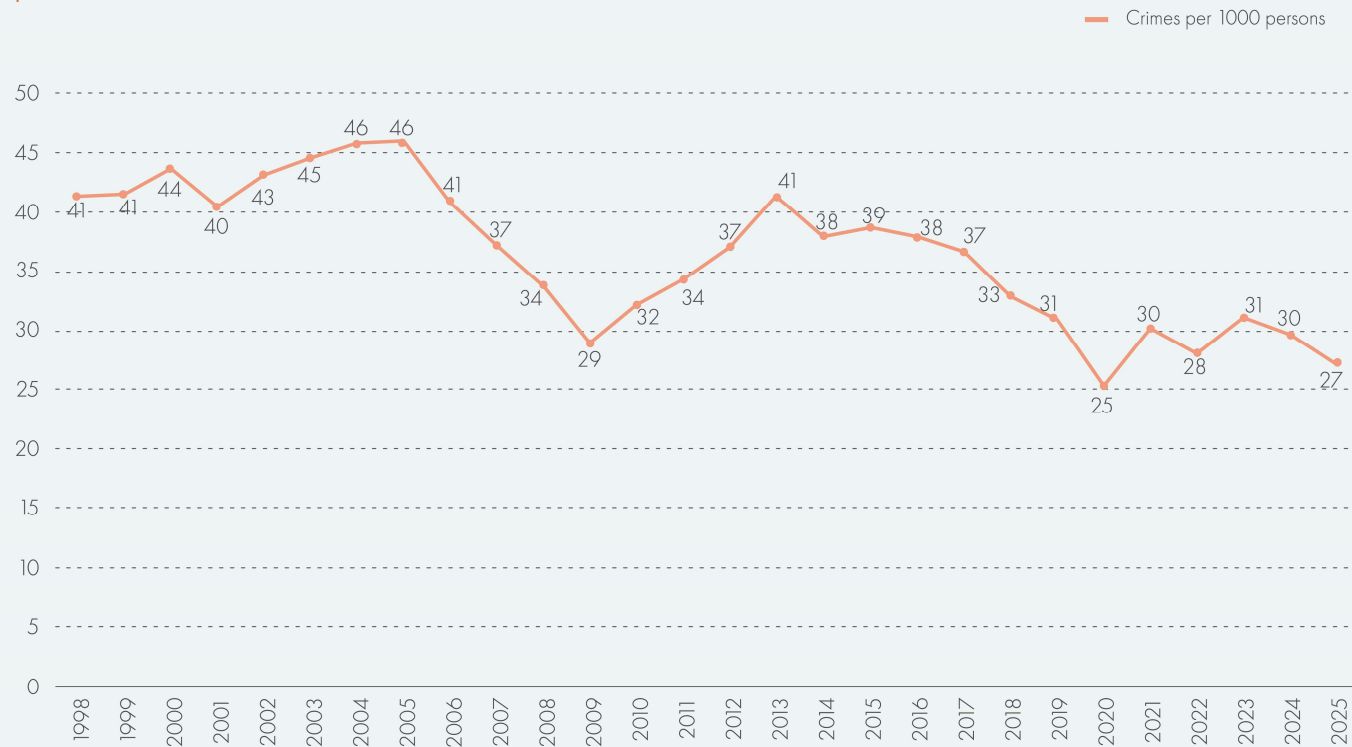
2025



Crimemalta Observatory

2025 continued the decrease in reported crime increase experienced in 2024 with the top categories comprising Theft, Damage, Domestic Violence, Fraud and Bodily Harm. The results emanating from the 2025 report a veritable decrease in reporting which points to the success in Awareness and physical police outdoor presence.

Malta Reported Crimes per 1000 PERSONS



DECREASE IN CRIME, INCREASE IN POPULATION



2025 EXPECTED CRIME FIGURES BASED ON DATA

BASED ON 2025 DATA

26,419
CRIMES

BASED ON 2015 DATA

22,113
CRIMES

EU AVERAGE

28,300
CRIMES

2025

ACTUAL REPORTED CRIMES

15,594
CRIMES

**Malta's reported crime figure far lower
than expected and the EU average**

LOWER FIGURES AND ACTION

- The expected crimes as based on changing population figures show that the observed (reported) crimes are being mitigated as crimes **decreased** in various categories which in cases registered the **lowest ever reported** counts.
 - Theft categories registered the lowest in 20 years.
- The drop in report is due to factors such as the successful expansion of the **Community Policing Teams**, better summer beach surveillance and awareness campaign. **Pickpocketing** also dropped by 39% or 256 reported cases. Public-facing awareness campaigns and ongoing operational activities enable the reduction of crime.

THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Interestingly, for the first time since 2007, when the **Domestic Violence** category was separated from the Bodily Harm category following legislative changes, there was a **drop of 2%** (51 cases). The drop is significant since this offence category has been on a trend line increase ever since 2017.
- **Psychological harm** is still significant, the latter reaching **76%** of all Domestic Violence cases in 2025, down from 78% in 2024.

MOVING INDOORS

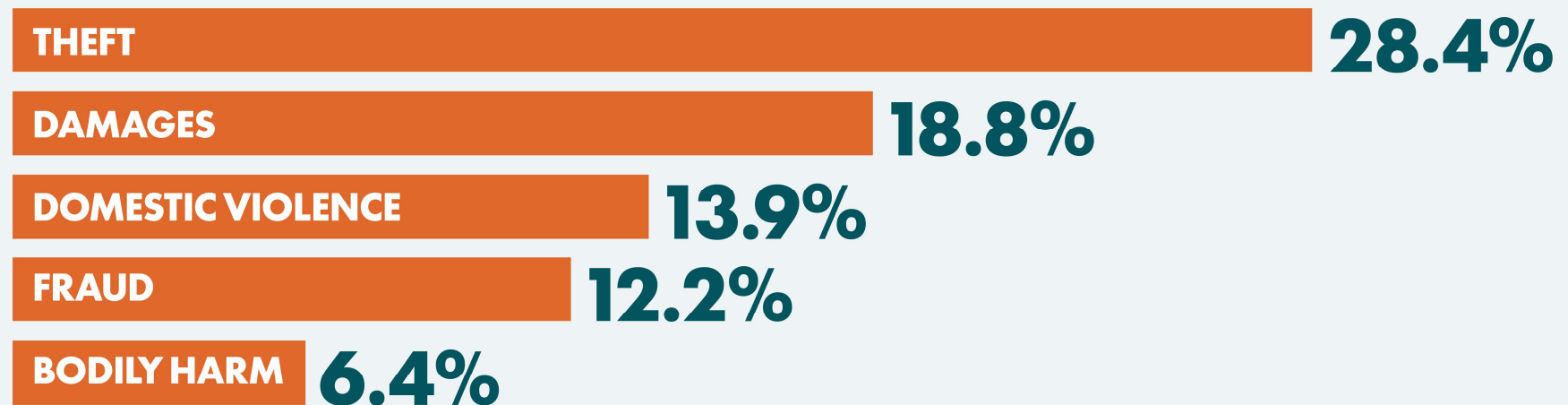
- It is vital to note that the shift in locational structure that became starkly evident in 2025 where **crime has moved indoors**, which has maintained a 34% component of all crimes.
- **Policing and its effectiveness used to cater for 97% of all crimes within an outdoor setting as at 2005.**
- Policing's proactivity is effective but the indoors scenario poses entirely different challenges: it is the individual's foresight of potential victimisation and their eventual action that takes the fore. The need for **awareness of potential victimisation within one's abode has reached a state that requires extensive campaigns and awareness-raising activities remains critical.**

PROACTIVE ACTION

- In turn, this year's analysis shows that crimes **increased** in categories that comprise **abandonment of child, abuse of public authority, breach of bail conditions, cruelty to animals, drugs, environmental crime, forgery, immigration and perjury and false swearing.**

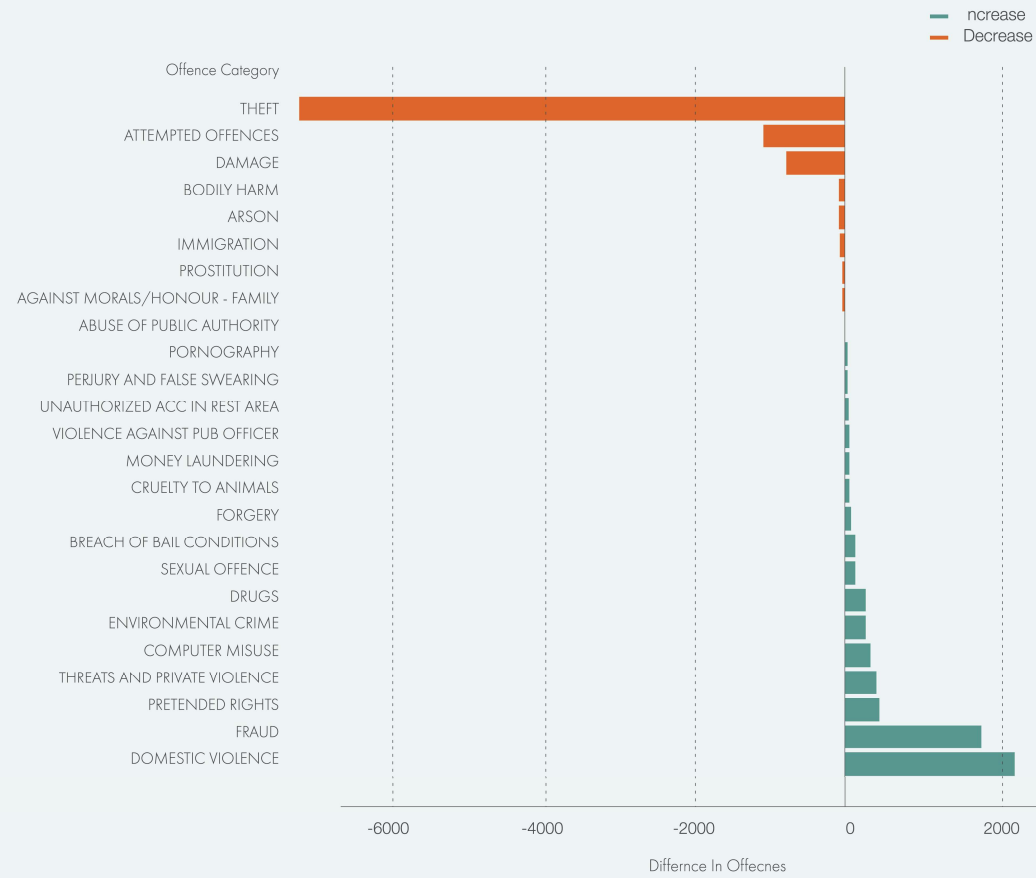
TOP REPORTED OFFENCES - MALTA 2025

These 5 categories account for 86.6% of all crimes reported to the Police

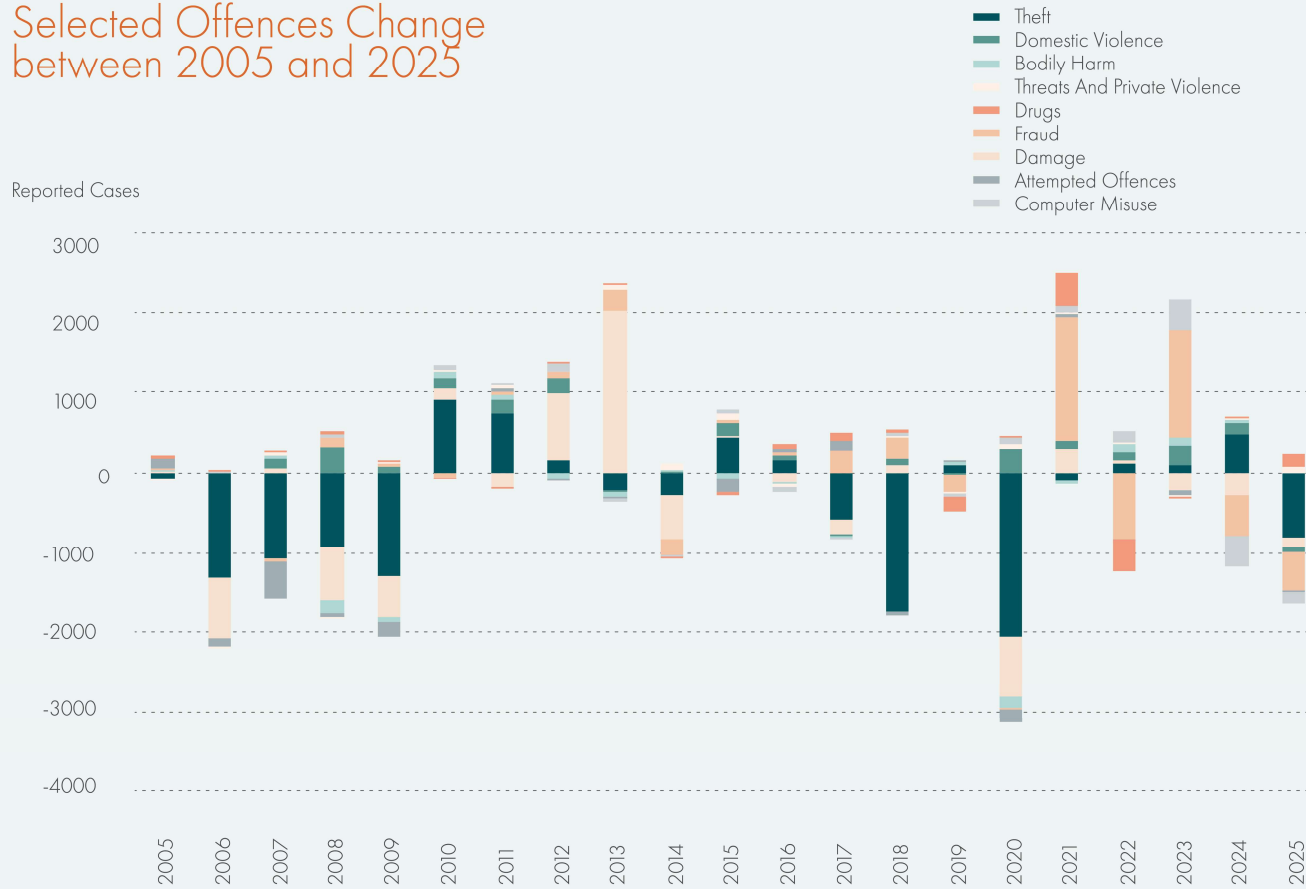


OTHER CRIMES 13.4%

Total Change in reported Main Offences 2005 - 2025



Selected Offences Change between 2005 and 2025



Offences in the Maltese Islands have morphed from a multi-thematic to a spatial structure

Crime perception and its presence has taken precedence and will be analysed through a Crime Victimization Survey is being administered in Q1 2026. This will enable the CrimeMalta Observatory to understand what the Dark Figure of Crime and unreported crime figures constitute, why victims opt not to report and which crime categories go unreported. The 100 question survey is targeted for publishing in Q3 2026.

MAIN PIVOTS

- 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.

THE DRIVERS – A SUCCESS STORY

- **Transformation Strategy 2020-2025**
- **Malta Police Corporate Strategy 2025-2030: Safer Communities, Smarter Policing**
- **Community Policing** – entire islands preventing innovations
- The **Crime Prevention Strategy**
- Specialised services: **Gender-Based and Domestic Violence Unit**
- **Victim Support Agency**
- **Education:** Advisory Board on Behaviour Implementation
- **Electronic Monitoring**
- **“The Dark” - Crime Victimization Survey**
- The primary drivers of sustainable crime reduction lie in strengthening social cohesion, achieved through awareness-raising, the redefinition of values, self-respect, and an increased willingness to report and intervene against offending behaviour.
- **Trust Achievement - European Trust Barometer**

A FEW FINAL WORDS

- The primary drivers of sustainable crime reduction lie in strengthening social cohesion, achieved through awareness-raising, the redefinition of values, self-respect, and an increased willingness to report and intervene against offending behaviour.
- **Trust Achievement - European Trust Barometer**