

TEMPLATE POLICY PAGE

Category:	Public Perceptions of Safety
Country:	The Netherlands
Year:	/

Main policy page:	<p>The Veiligheidsmonitor (government security monitor) is a tool in order to gauge the sense of safety in the public on a national, regional and local level. Until the year of 2017 the monitor was carried out yearly. Mid 2017 the frequency of the Veiligheidsmonitor has been reduced to once every year. It seeks to reflect the perception of safety, victimization and livability. The Veiligheidsmonitor takes in regard interventions of prevention, the functioning of the police, and local safety policies. It contains significant comparative data of over 15 years. These results are an important resource in the process of optimizing safety policies in the Netherlands at all levels: local, regional and national. Approximately 135.000 surveys containing several questions with different topics, such as perceived feelings of safety or behavior and perceptions, are conducted among participants. It measures subjective safety by asking questions about the extent to which citizens have fallen victim to various types of crime and measures objective safety by analyzing police records. Respondents are asked questions as to whether they have ever felt unsafe and if so, whether this was often, sometimes or (very) rarely the case. Furthermore, the questions focus on behavior of the respondents when they feel unsafe, this includes avoiding certain areas in their places of residence, taking detours when walking or driving, prohibiting children from going somewhere and avoiding the use of public transport.</p> <p>The Veiligheidsmonitor is a product of a collaboration between the Ministry of Justice and Statistics Netherlands (CBS). Municipalities and police units are able to volunteer as participants to the screening. Statistics Netherlands forms a national report based on the integral report of results. Biannually every 1st of March after the year the research has taken place, the report is published.</p>
Policy page:	<p>The aim of 'promoting a safer society' has consistently been one of the central objectives of Dutch administrations since 2002. As part of this aim, the subsequent administrations have stated concrete reduction goals on crime, nuisance and feelings of safety levels. Also the Netherlands Ministry of Safety and Justice has a conceptual model developed which can be used to understand, analyze and address problems concerning public perceptions of safety. The CCV (Dutch Centre for Crime Prevention and Safety, subsidized by the Ministry) makes use of this model and supports local authorities in dealing with perception problems.</p> <p>For more information: http://www.scp.nl/english/Publications/Summaries_by_year/</p>

	Summaries 2006/Citizens in fear http://www.hetccv.nl/veiligheidsbeleving (only in Dutch)
Relevant legislation:	In the Budget proposal 2014 the Netherlands Minister of Safety and Justice stated the goal of a 10 percent reduction of feelings of unsafety (both in general and in the own neighborhood).
Trends:	<p>In March 2020 the most recent results of the Veiligheidsmonitor were published. These results show a significant drop in almost all areas of safety with reference to the results published in 2017. For example, the sense of feeling unsafe (sometimes) in general has fallen from 34,1% to 31,8%. The results of victimization have fallen significantly as well, from 15,2% in 2017 to 13,7% in 2019. The sense of satisfactory of the functioning of the police has also improved in relation to 2017. On the other hand, the results show a growth in the number of reported cybercrime victims (11% in 2017, 13% in 2019).</p> <p>Also in the medium term (2012-2019), strong improvements can be seen in the victimization numbers, with exception of cybercrime. Experienced victimization of crime in general has fallen with 31%. The sense of feeling unsafe has decreased with 13%.</p> <p>The sense of satisfactory of the functioning of the police has risen in relation to 2012. 65,6% of the participants has responded to be (very) satisfied with the functioning of the police, compared to 58,5% in 2012.</p> <p>The sense of safety seems to be related to whether people have been fallen victim to (violent) crimes. The sense of safety clearly drops when people have been victimized. The results show that when someone has been a victim to violence in the last 12 months, 42,8% responded that they would feel unsafe in their neighborhood. While only 14,4% of the respondents indicated to feel unsafe in their neighborhood.</p>

Contacts:	<p>National organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ministry of Safety and Justice [Ministerie van Veiligheid en Justitie]</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>[Ministerie van Volkshuisvesting, Ruimtelijke</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ordering en Milieubeheer]</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Association of Netherlands Municipalities [Vereniging</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Nederlandse Gemeenten]</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Netherlands Police Institute [Nederlands Politie Instituut]</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Police forces</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Statistics Netherlands [Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek]</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Association for Statistics and Research [Vereniging voor</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Statistiek en Onderzoek]</i>
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