

TEMPLATE POLICY PAGE

Category:	Public Perceptions of Safety
Country:	Lithuania
Year:	/

Main policy page:	<p>Safety from crime is an important part of the overall safe society definition. In Lithuania the term "feeling of safety" is more common than the term "fear of crime". It combines public perception of the situation of crime, the possibility to become a victim of crime and assessment of effectiveness of law enforcement. However perception of safety may be influenced by other social or economic factors.</p> <p>According to yearly population survey research, environment in society became safer in Lithuania. From 2005 to 2013, number of resident thinking that they won't become a victim of crime in their residence place increased from 40 to 57%. Also the number of residents which well rate criminogenic situation in residential areas increased from 29 to 55%. There is notable increase in residents trusting in law enforcement authority. In 2005 48% of residents trusted the police, in 2013 there was 69%.</p> <p>The Public security development program 2015-2025 was adopted in 2015. This program provides tools which ensure better safety sense. Also this program obligates officers to respond operatively to citizens calls and provide suitable conditions for victims to use their own rights, to inform them about crime investigation processes and preformed actions.</p> <p>Every year the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Lithuania is ordering public opinion surveys to be conducted. The purpose of the studies is to identify the most important problems of Lithuanian residents, evaluation of criminogenic situation and perception of safety. One of the aims of the survey was compare how evaluation was changed over the past decade.</p> <p>http://www.vrm.lt/lit/Sociologiniai-tyrimai/248 (Lithuanian).</p> <p>Every year since 2005 Public opinion surveys about police are conducted too. Those surveys are ordered by Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior. The purpose of the studies is to estimate the residents attitude towards police and its activity at the level of the country. At the same period surveys ordered by county police headquarters at regional level were conducted.</p> <p>http://www.policija.lt/lt/apklauso</p>
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	<p>In 2011 - 2012 sociological survey "Lithuanian residents trust in the law enforcement authorities and the factors affecting it" by Vilnius university researchers was conducted. The purpose of the study was the comprehensive analysis of how co-exist and are mutually determined several social phenomenons: people's attitude towards the law enforcement authorities and (no)confidence in law enforcement agencies, their sense of safety, fear of crime and attitudes to criminal penalties. The results of the study are published in: Dobryninas A., Drakšienė A. Gaidys V., Vileikienė E., Žilinskienė L. "The profiles of trust in Lithuanian enforcement authorities". Vilnius, Vilnius University Press, 2012.</p>
<p>Relevant legislation:</p>	<p>National Program of Crime Prevention and Control, 2003. (LT)</p> <p>National Safety Fundamentals Law: (LT)</p> <p>Dobryninas A., Gaidys V. Is the Lithuanian Society Safe? (Lithuanian population's victimization experience and attitudes towards criminal justice and public safety) - Vilnius: Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, United Nations Development Programme, 2004. http://www3.lrs.lt/owa-bin/owarepl/inter/owa/U0122987.pdf</p>
<p>Trends:</p>	<p>Sociological survey "Lithuanian residents trust in the law enforcement authorities and the factors affecting it" conducted in 2011 - 2012. Published in Dobryninas A., Drakšienė A. Gaidys V., Vileikienė E., Žilinskienė L. "The profiles of trust in Lithuanian enforcement authorities". Vilnius, Vilnius University Press, 2012.</p> <p>Sociological surveys conducted in 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2013 by the Ministry of the Interior „Estimation of public safety and activities of law enforcement“, in Lithuanian (Vidaus reikalų ministerijos sociologiniai tyrimai „Viešojo saugumo) istaigu ir saugumo jausmo vertinimas“ atlikti 2006 m. ir 2007 m.) http://old.vrm.lt/lit/Sociologiniai-tyrimai/248 (LT)</p> <p>Sociological survey conducted by the Ministry of the Interior „Public attitudes towards law enforcement, public safety and the problem of trafficking in persons“, 2005, in Lithuanian (Vidaus reikalų ministerijos tyrimas „Lietuvos gyventojų požiūris) viešojo saugumo institucijas, visuomenės saugumu ir prekybos žmonėmis problemų“ 2005 m.) http://www.vrm.lt/lit/Sociologiniai-tyrimai/248</p> <p>Dobryninas A., Gaidys V. Is the Lithuanian Society Safe? (Lithuanian population's victimization experience and attitudes towards criminal justice and public safety) - Vilnius: Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, United Nations Development Programme, 2004 http://www.ebiblioteka.lt/resursai/NPLC/leidiniai/knygos/lit36kn-liet.pdf</p>

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