

Youth in the juvenile justice institutions

Year 2013

Istat and the Department for juvenile justice of the Ministry of justice release the 2013 data on minors in charge to the youth social services, the juvenile classification homes, the residential communities, the juvenile detention centers.

In 2013, minors handled by offices of youth social service were 20,213. In the same year there were 2,020 admissions in the juvenile classification homes, 1,894 in the residential communities, 1,201 in the juvenile detention centers.

Minors in charge to the offices of youth social services increased from 2010 and 2011 (+9.8%). In 2013, the growth was 10.1% compared to 2010 and +13.4% compared to 2008. The increase is also due to the longer length of the care.

In 2013, 3,456 juveniles were placed by the judge under supervision status according to a programme laid out by the Juvenile justice services. An increase by 85% was registered with reference to 2003.

The admissions in the juvenile classification homes were decreasing from 2005 (-8% compared to 2012, and -42.6% compared to 2013).

The number of inmates in residential communities (906) was three times higher since 2000, even if in 2013 a slight decrease was registered compared to 2012 (-3%).

Minors in juvenile detention centers decreased both in 2012 (-8%) and in 2013 (-12%). They were 494 in 2011, 456 in 2012 and 401 in 2013.

89% of juveniles looked after by offices of youth social services were male and the largest part of them (80%) were Italians. As far as the juvenile residential services are concerned, Italians were 66% of inmates in the communities, 56% of inmates in juvenile detention centers and 50% of those admitted in juvenile classification homes.

Foreign minors were above all from East-Europe (Romania, Former Yugoslavia Countries, Albania) and North Africa (Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt). Girls were from Romania, Croatia, Bosnia Herzegovina and Serbia.

The most common crimes reported were those against property, such as theft and robbery: 45.9% for minors in charge to social services, 62% for those admitted in juvenile classification homes and 54% for inmates in residential communities and juvenile detention centers. Breach of anti-drug legislation was also very frequent, above all among Italians. Assaults were also highly widespread between youths.

TABLE 1. MINORS AND YOUTH IN CHARGE TO THE YOUTH SOCIAL SERVICES, BY TYPE OF SERVICE. Years 2008-2013, Absolute values

Years	Offices of youth social services		Juvenile classification homes		Residential communities		Juvenile detention centers	
	In charge during the year	under probation (a)	Admitted in the year	Inmates at the end of the year	Admitted in the year	Inmates at the end of the year	Admitted in the year	Inmates at the end of the year
2008	17,814	2,348	2,908	19	1,965	668	1,347	470
2009	18,885	2,479	2,422	12	1,825	729	1,222	466
2010	18,363	2,852	2,253	7	1,821	846	1,172	448
2011	20,157	2,948	2,343	19	1,926	915	1,246	494
2012	20,407	3,051	2,193	10	2,038	935	1,252	456
2013	20,213	3,103	2,020	5	1,894	906	1,201	401

(a) Data refer to minors under suspended proceeding and supervision status ordered in the year.

For more details please refer to the Italian version

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