
















7. Safety¹




In 2018 the homicide rate continues to decline. In the same period, indicators measuring predatory crimes (burglary, pickpocketing and robbery) slightly improved².

The comparison with 2010 shows an overall positive picture, with improvements in seven out of eleven indicators. The perception of social and environmental degradation in the area where people live is decreasing and the share of people who feel safe walking in the dark alone in the area in which they live increases, albeit slightly. Positive signs also emerge with respect to gender-based violence: the share of women who have suffered physical or sexual violence decreases, and the share of people who are worried, for themselves or for someone in their family, to suffer sexual violence also decreases.

Compared to 2010, homicide rate decreased, but the indicators on predatory crimes show a worsening which is accompanied by the albeit slight increase in the share of the population declaring to have had concrete fear of suffering a crime (Table 1).

Table 1. Safety indicators: value for the latest available year. Percentage variations compared to the previous year and compared to 2010

INDICATOR	Latest available year value	% variation (compared with the previous year)	% variation (compared with 2010)
1. Homicide rate (per 100,000, 2018)	0.57		
2. Burglary rate (per 1,000 household, 2018)	11.9		
3. Pick-pocketing rate (per 1,000, 2018)	5.7		
4. Robbery rate (per 1,000, 2018)	1.2		
5. Physical violence against women (% , 2014) (a)	7.0	—	
6. Sexual violence against women (% , 2014) (a)	6.4	—	
7. Intimate partnership violence against women (% , 2014) (a)	4.9	—	
8. Worries of being victim of a sexual violence (% , 2016) (b)	28.7	—	
9. Feelings of safety when walking alone at night (% , 2016) (b)	60.6	—	
10. Concrete fear of crime (% , 2016) (b)	6.4	—	
11. Social decay (or incivilities) (% , 2016) (b)	12.1	—	

— Comparison not available  Improvement  Stability  Deterioration

(a) 2010 data not available, variation based on 2006 data;
(b) 2010 data not available, variation based on 2009 data.

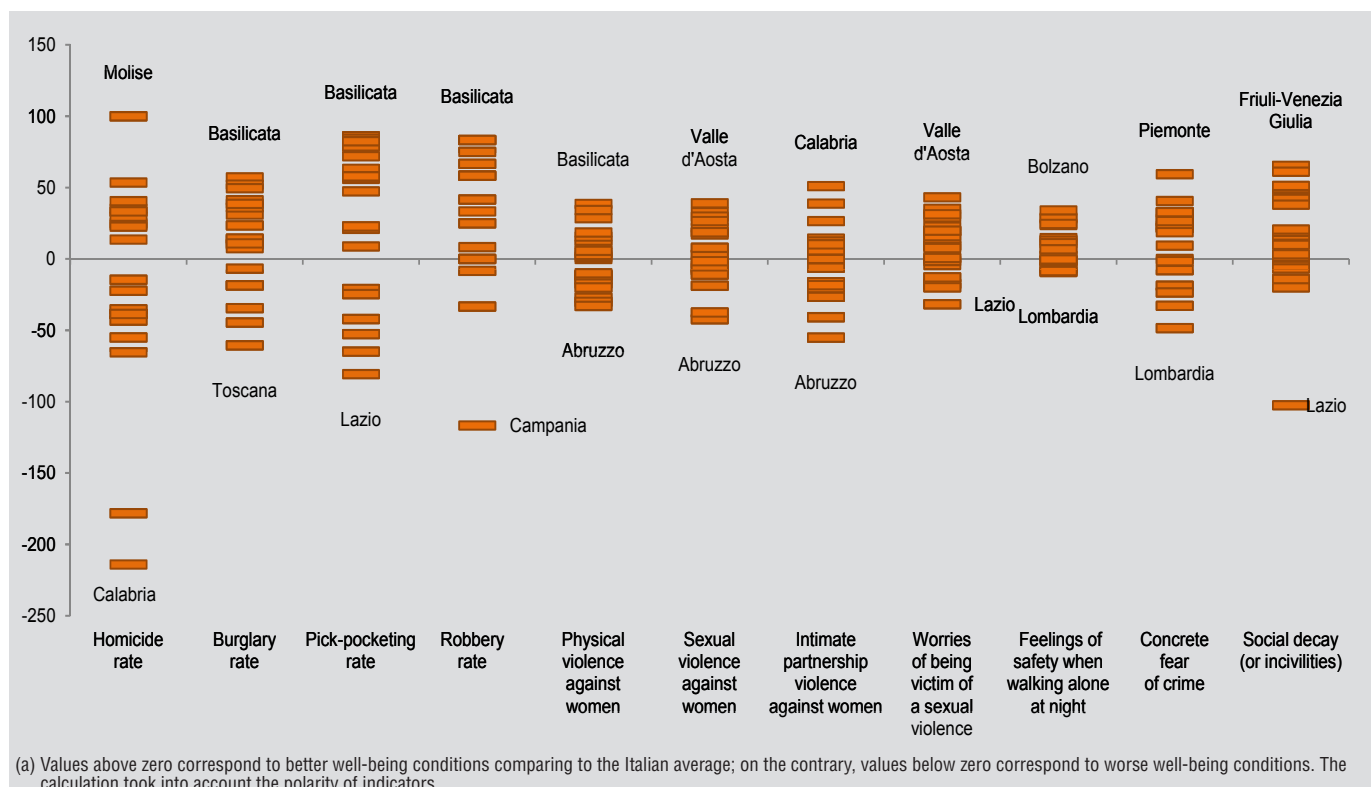
Note: Variations between two points in time above 1% are considered positive (in green), below -1% are considered negative (in red). In the range -1% and + 1% the variation is considered stable (in grey).

The regional profile presents a territorial diversification of the objective indicators (homicide and predatory crimes) which is wider than that observed for the measures on violence against women and the subjective perception of safety.

- 1 This chapter was edited by Miria Savioli with contributions from: Isabella Corazziari, Manuela Michelini, Maria Giuseppina Muratore and Franco Turetta.
- 2 The positive changes in predatory crimes compared to the previous year are within the confidence interval identifying the area of stationarity.

This is particularly evident for the homicide rate, which in Calabria is 1.8 per 100,000 inhabitants, three times higher than the Italian average (0.6 per 100,000) (Figure 1). For predatory crimes, the situation is critical in Lazio for pick-pocketing (with 10.3 victims per 1,000 inhabitants, 80% more than the Italian average) and in Campania for robberies (2.6 victims per 1,000, 117% in more than the Italian average). Basilicata is the region with the lowest rate of pick-pocketing (0.8 per 1,000) and robberies (0.2 per 1,000).

Figure 1. Percentage variation for Safety indicators comparing to the value for Italy by region. Latest available year (a)



The analysis of the dispersion of indicators on gender-based violence shows the disadvantage of Abruzzo for all types of violence considered. The best values are recorded in Basilicata for physical violence, in Valle d'Aosta for sexual violence and in Calabria for intimate partnership violence.³

The subjective indicators show smaller territorial variations. The variation to the Italian average for population feeling safe walking alone in the dark is minimal in Lombardy (9% less than the average in Italy) and maximum in the province of Bolzano (34% more than the average). In Lombardy the percentage of people who are afraid of becoming concretely a victim of crime is also higher (+48% compared to the Italian average). Among those who are resident in Lazio, both the share of the population worried about suffering sexual violence (+32% compared to the average) and the perception of the degradation of the area in which they live (+102%) are higher. For the same indicators, Valle d'Aosta and Friuli-Venezia Giulia present the most favourable situation.

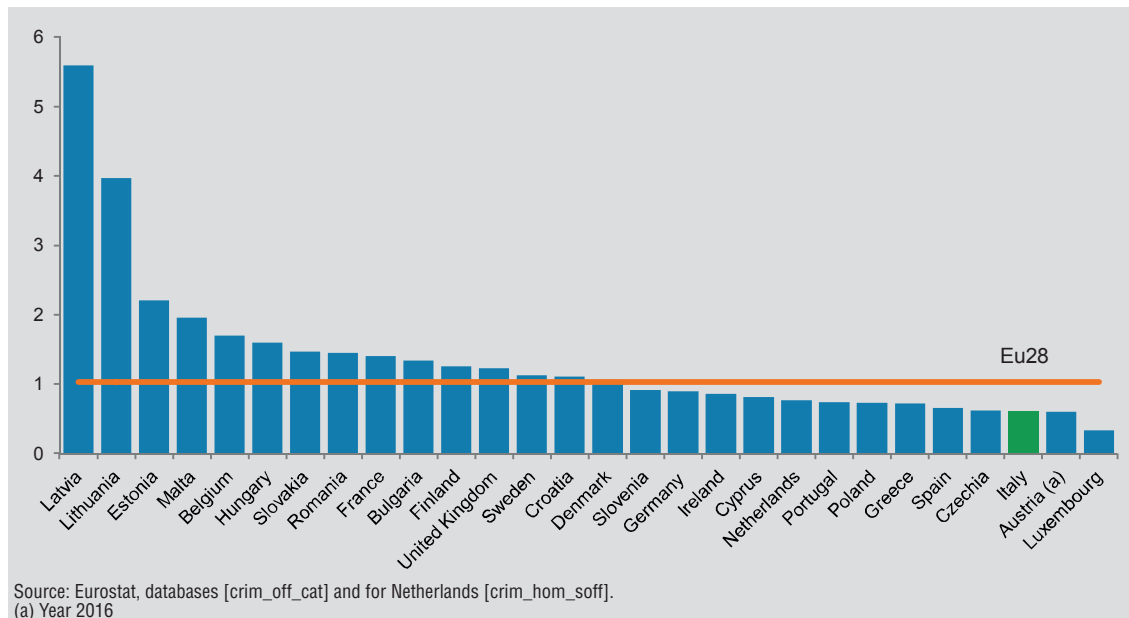
3 It should be considered, however, that these differences may be due to different degrees of willingness to declare the violence of which people suffered.

International comparison

In Europe, in 2017 the homicide rate per 100 thousand inhabitants was 1.34⁴, with higher levels in the Baltic countries, in particular in Latvia and Lithuania (5.6 and 4.0 homicides per 100 thousand inhabitants), while Estonia, with a value of 2.2, the rate is closer to that registered for Malta (2.0), Belgium (1.7) and Hungary (1.6).

The other countries of the European Union have lower rates, ranging from 1.5 in Slovakia to 0.3 in Luxembourg. Italy, with a rate of 0.6 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants, is far below the Eu28 average (1.03). More favourable situations compared to Italy are encountered only in Austria and Luxembourg (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Voluntary homicide rate in Eu28 countries. Year 2017. Per 100,000 inhabitants



Also with regard to the homicide rate of women, Italy is at the bottom of the ranking, with a much lower rate than the European average (0.4 compared to 0.8 per 100 thousand women). Of the 22 Eu countries for which data on the murders of women are available, the highest levels are in the Baltic countries, particularly Latvia and Lithuania (3.7 and 3.6 murders per 100,000 women). In the other countries, the values vary from 1.7 in France to 0.4 in Greece. In 2017, no women were killed in Cyprus.

For predatory crimes reported to the police, Italy's position compared to other European countries is completely different.⁵

In 2017, with 323 home burglaries per 100,000 inhabitants, Italy ranks sixth in the Eu, after Denmark (703), Belgium (591), Sweden, Luxembourg and France (all with a value of about 370). The lowest levels are recorded in Slovakia (30.3 per 100,000 inhabitants), Poland (56) and Bulgaria (62).

4 It is complicated to compare internationally the types of crimes. For this reason, in this paragraph, only police statistics on homicides, burglaries and robberies have been considered.

5 Data for each country could also reflect differences in citizens' willingness to report to the police, regulatory peculiarities and the procedural and organisational rules of individual Countries.

Figure 3. Voluntary homicide rate of women in some Eu28 countries. Year 2017. Per 100,000 women

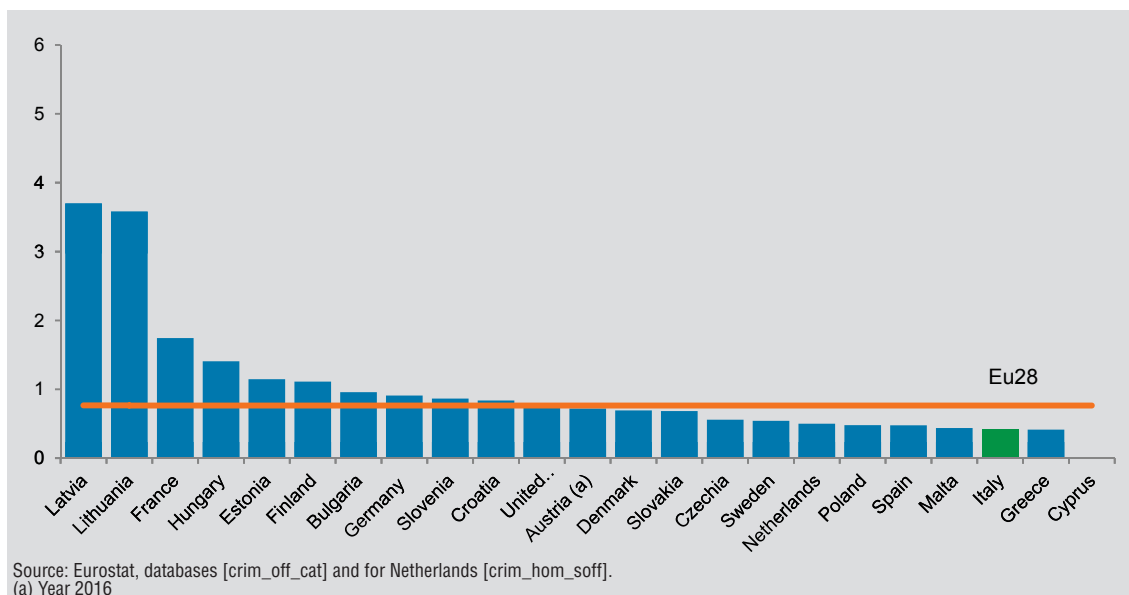
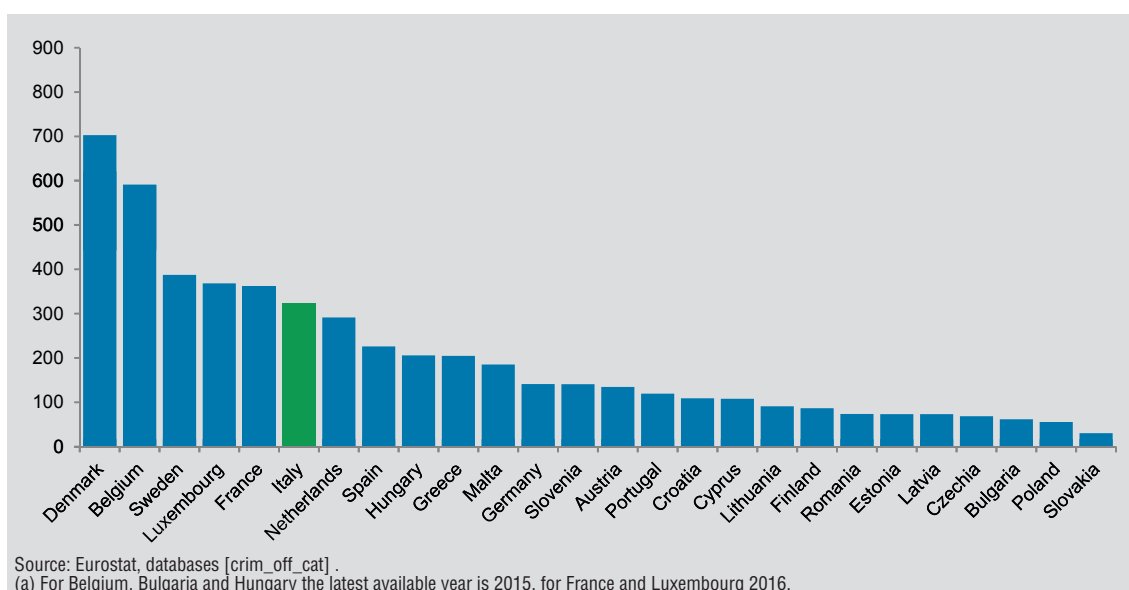


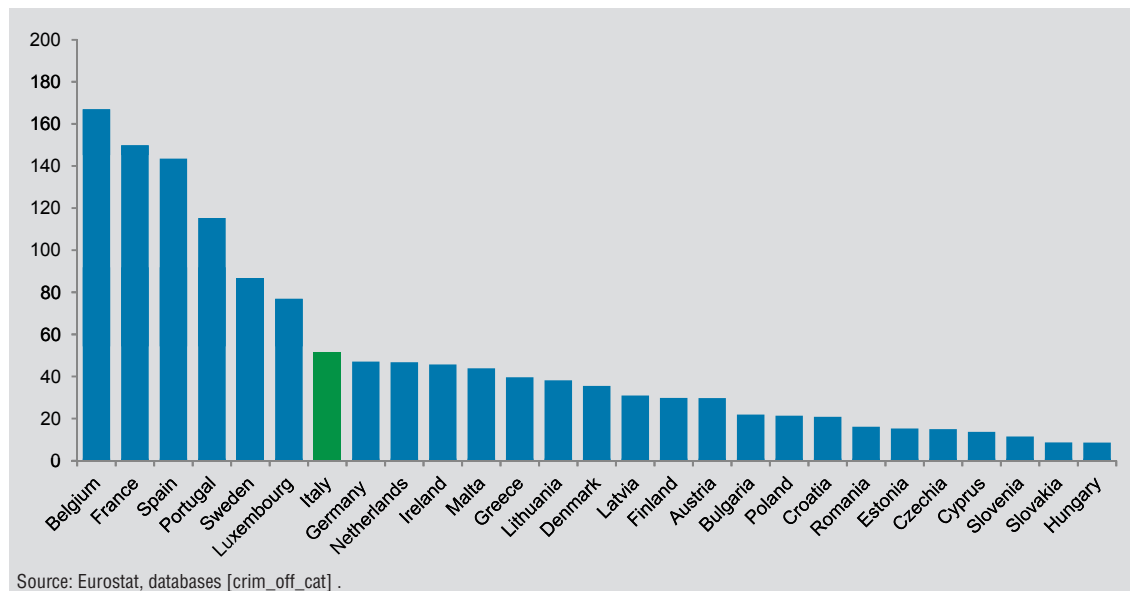
Figure 4. Burglary of private residential premises rate in some Eu28 countries. Year 2017 (a). Per 100,000 inhabitants



Italy ranks seventh in the 2017 ranking for number of robberies⁶ (51 per 100 thousand inhabitants), with levels significantly lower than those found in Belgium, France, Spain and Portugal. Slovakia and Hungary are the safest countries in terms of robberies (9 robberies per 100 thousand inhabitants).

6 The figure refers to the sum of robberies and pick-pocketing.

Figure 5. Robbery rate in Eu28 countries. Year 2017. Per 100,000 inhabitants



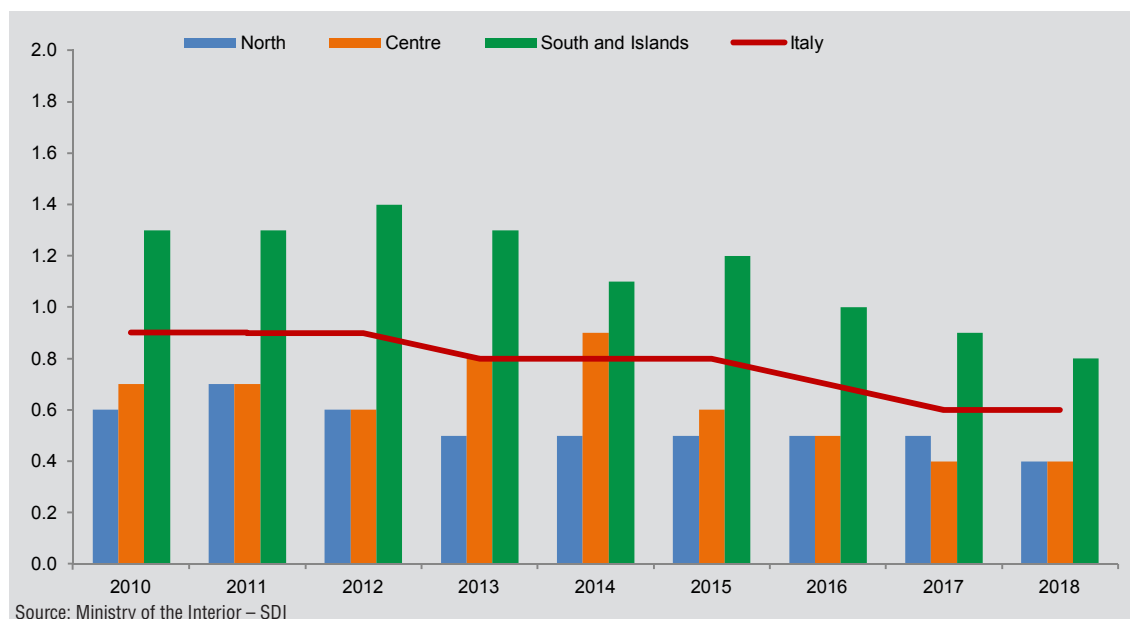
Analysis of national data

Homicides are still decreasing

In 2018, 345 homicides were committed in Italy (0.57 per 100 thousand inhabitants). The homicide rate decreased further compared to 2017 when it was 0.59 per 100 thousand inhabitants (Figure 6). This decrease concerns the areas of the North and the South and Islands, while in the Centre the rate is stable.

The highest homicide rate is recorded in the South and Islands (0.8 per 100 thousand inhabitants), twice as high as in the Centre and in the North (0.4 per 100 thousand inhabitants).

Figure 6. Homicide rate by geographic area. Years 2010-2018 Per 100,000 inhabitants

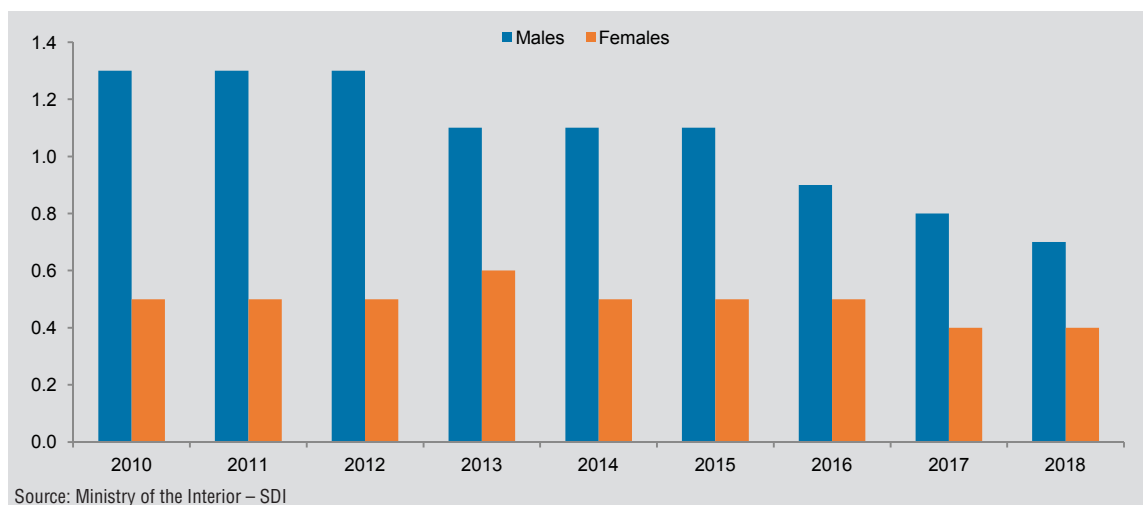


The homicide rate of women did not decrease

In 2018, 212 men and 133 women were killed (0.7 and 0.4 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants respectively), with a confirmed decreasing trend for men (it was 0.8 in 2017), while the homicide rate of women remains stable (0.4 in 2017).

Even when considering the evolution over the past decade, the overall decrease in homicides has mainly affect male victims, while the number of women killed has remained substantially stable (Figure 7).

Figure 7. Homicide rate by sex. Years 2010-2018 Per 100,000 inhabitants

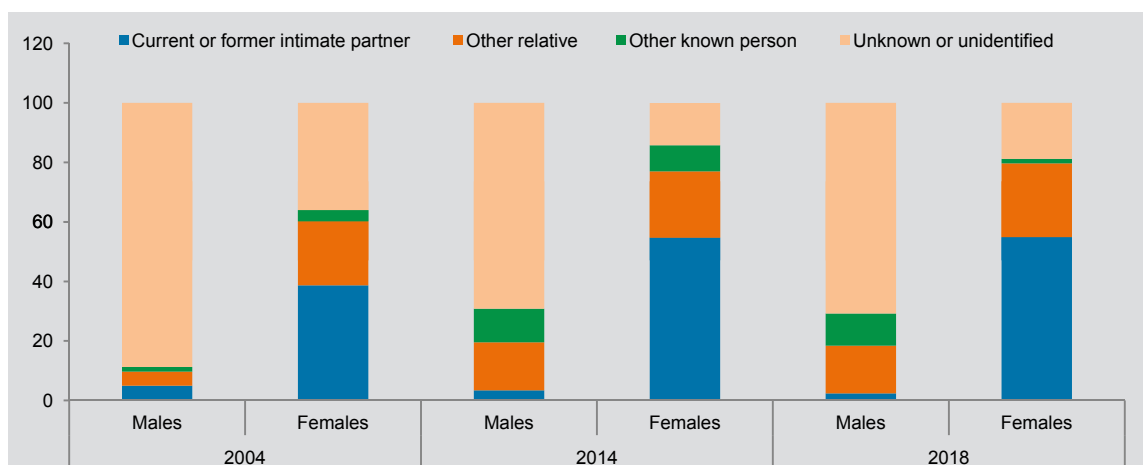


The share of women killed by someone they know increases

If we examine the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim of the homicide, there are still strong gender differences.

In 2018, 81.2% of women were killed by someone they know. The share is increasing compared to 2004 when it was 64%. In particular, in 2018 in 54.9% of cases women were

Figure 8. Victims of homicide by relationship with the murderer and sex. Years 2004, 2014 and 2018 (a). Per 100 inhabitants



Source: Ministry of the Interior (DCPC), homicide database

(a) Figures related to the homicide victim and perpetrator relationship are extracted from the homicide database of the Ministry of the Interior (DCPC). Since this data is used for operational purposes, it is subject to changes that may emerge in subsequent extractions.

killed by their current or former intimate partner (47.4% by current partner and 7.5% by their former partner); in the 24.8% of cases by a family member (including children and parents) and in the 1.5% of cases by another person they know (friends, colleagues, etc.). The situation is different for men: only 29.2% were killed by a known person (of which only 2.4% by a partner or former partner), while 70.8% were killed by someone unknown or by an author not identified by law enforcement.

In 2017, there are 253 anti-violence centres in Italy

There are 253 anti-violence centres in Italy (0.04 per 10,000 inhabitants)⁷.

43,467 women have turned to the anti-violence centres and 67.2% of them have started a path out of violence. Of the women who have taken this path, 63.7% have children, in 72.8% of these cases they are minors.

In addition to the anti-violence centres, in Italy there are 211 refuge houses (0.03 for every 10,000 inhabitants) where 1,786 women have found hospitality.

Women can get in touch with anti-violence centres in several ways: 97.6% of centres guarantee 24-hour telephone availability and 95.3% of centres provide a telephone number for help and support. Women can physically go to centres, which on average are open 5 days a week, for about 7 hours a day.

The services offered are: reception (99.6%), legal support (96.8%), psychological support (94.9%), accompaniment on the path to work autonomy (79.1%) and housing (58.1%).

The centres also carry out formative activities: in 2017, 91.7% carried out these activities at schools and 81% organized training for social and health workers, law enforcement and lawyers.

Continuous decrease of predatory crimes

In 2018, the burglary rate decreased (11.9 per 1,000 households), confirming the positive trend that started after 2014, when the peak was recorded (16.3 per 1,000 households) (Figure 9).

The decrease continues also for individual predatory crimes: in 2018, in fact, pickpocketing, which affected 6.9 people per 1,000 inhabitants in 2014, fell to 5.7. Robberies, which in 2013 affected 1.8 people per 1,000 inhabitants, decreased to 1.2 victims in 2018.

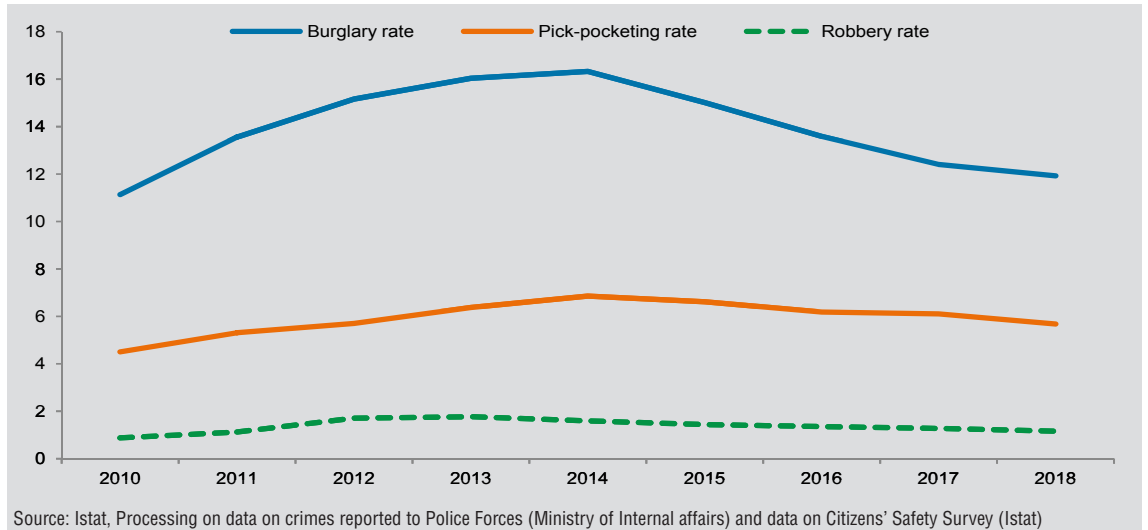
The population with higher levels of education feels less safe

The analysis of safety perception indicators shows a relationship with the educational attainment: almost all the indicators show, in fact, a perception of greater vulnerability among the most educated population.

In particular, among those with a high level of education the share of those who were afraid of suffering a crime is higher (9.7% against 4.7%), and the same happens for those who declared themselves worried, for themselves or for someone in their family, to suffer sexual violence (31.9% against 23.7%) and for those who have often noticed elements of social and environmental decay in the area where they live (16.8% against 9.5%).

⁷ The ratification law of the Istanbul Convention of 2013 (Law 27 June 2013, n.77) identifies the objective of having an anti-violence center for every 10,000 inhabitants.

Figure 9. Burglary rate (households), pick-pocketing and robbery rate (persons). Years 2010-2018. Per 1,000 households or per 1,000 inhabitants.

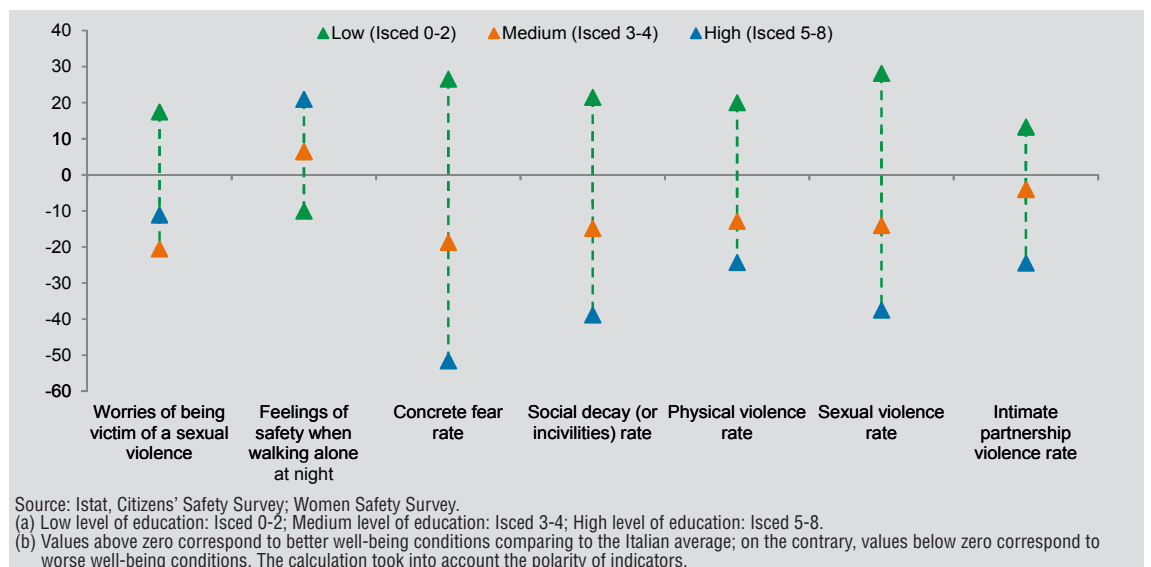


The greater sense of insecurity of the more educated population is also accompanied by a more frequent victimization of women with a high level of education.

The most educated women declare, in fact, to have suffered physical violence (8.7%) or sexual violence (8.8%) in the 5 years prior to the interview in greater proportion than women with a low educational qualification (respectively 5.6% and 4.6%), while the proportion of women who declare to have suffered intimate partnership violence shows no variation with educational qualification.

The population with higher qualifications, on the other hand, express less discomfort than the average when they are asked about their perception of safety in the area where they live: 73.3% of them, in fact, feel very or quite safe to walk in the dark in the area where they live (+21% compared to the average population), while among the less educated people the share drops to 54.5%.

Figure 10. Percentage variation for some Safety indicators comparing to the value for Italy by level of education. Latest available year (a) (b)



Indicators

- 1. Homicide rate:** Number of homicide on total population per 100,000.
Source: Ministry of the Interior - SDI
- 2. Burglary rate:** Victims of burglaries per 1,000 households, adjusted for non-reporting by means of geographical area specific correction factors.
Source: Istat, Processing on data on crimes reported to Police Forces (Ministry of Interiors) and data on Citizens' Safety Survey.
- 3. Pick-pocketing rate:** Number of pick-pocketing on total population per 1,000, adjusted for non-reporting by means of geographical area and age specific correction factors.
Source: Istat, Processing on data on crimes reported to Police Forces (Ministry of Interiors) and data on Citizens' Safety Survey.
- 4. Robbery rate:** Number of robberies on total population per 1,000, adjusted for non-reporting by means of geographical area and age specific correction factors.
Source: Istat, Processing on data on crimes reported to Police Forces (Ministry of Interiors) and data on Citizens' Safety Survey.
- 5. Physical violence rate:** Percentage of women aged 16-70 victim of physical violence in the last 5 years before the interview on total women aged 16-70.
Source: Istat, Women Safety Survey.
- 6. Sexual violence rate:** Percentage of women aged 16-70 victim of sexual violence, including physical sexual harassment, in the last 5 years before the interview on total women aged 16-70.
Source: Istat, Women Safety Survey.
- 7. Intimate partnership violence rate:** Percentage of women aged 16-70 victim of physical or sexual violence by the partner or ex-partner in the last 5 years before the interview on total women aged 16-70 who have or had a partner.
Source: Istat, Women Safety Survey.
- 8. Worries of being victim of a sexual violence:** Percentage of people aged 14 years and over who are very or quite worried of being victim of a sexual violence.
Source: Istat, Citizens' Safety Survey.
- 9. Feelings of safety when walking alone at night:** Percentage of people aged 14 and over feeling unsafe walking alone when it is dark in the area where they live.
Source: Istat, Citizens' Safety Survey.
- 10. Concrete fear rate:** Percentage of people aged 14 and over who are afraid of becoming concretely a victim of crime in the last 3 months.
Source: Istat, Citizens' Safety Survey.
- 11. Social decay (or incivilities) rate:** Percentage of people aged 14 and over who often see elements of social and environmental decay in the area where they live.
Source: Istat, Citizens' Safety Survey.

Indicators by region and geographic area

REGIONS AND GEOGRAPHIC AREAS	Homicide rate (a)	Burglary rate (b)	Pick-pocketing rate (c)	Robbery rate (c)	Physical violence rate (d)
	2018	2018	2018	2018	2014
Piemonte	0.4	14.1	6.9	1.3	6.3
Valle d'Aosta/Vallée d'Aoste	1.6	8.2	1.2	0.2	7.0
Liguria	0.8	10.7	8.1	1.1	7.8
Lombardia	0.4	14.1	7.1	1.2	6.1
Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol	0.7	9.0	3.8	0.7	6.8
<i>Bolzano/Bozen</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>4.5</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>6.9</i>
<i>Trento</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>10.3</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>6.7</i>
Veneto	0.3	12.7	5.2	0.7	5.0
Friuli-Venezia Giulia	0.5	10.2	2.5	0.5	5.9
Emilia-Romagna	0.4	17.2	8.7	1.2	8.2
Toscana	0.4	19.1	9.4	1.2	8.9
Umbria	0.3	16.0	4.4	0.7	8.0
Marche	0.7	11.0	2.4	0.5	7.8
Lazio	0.4	10.2	10.3	1.6	9.1
Abruzzo	0.4	9.1	2.1	0.5	9.3
Molise	0.0	7.0	1.6	0.3	7.7
Campania	0.8	7.3	4.4	2.6	8.4
Puglia	0.8	10.6	2.4	0.9	6.8
Basilicata	0.9	5.1	0.8	0.2	4.3
Calabria	1.8	5.7	0.9	0.4	4.6
Sicilia	0.7	9.1	2.4	0.8	5.7
Sardegna	0.8	6.0	1.0	0.4	6.6
North	0.4	13.8	6.7	1.1	6.4
Centre	0.4	13.5	8.6	1.2	8.8
South and Islands	0.8	8.2	2.6	1.2	6.9
Italy	0.6	11.9	5.7	1.2	7.0

(a) Per 100,000 inhabitants;

(b) Per 1,000 households;

(c) Per 1,000 inhabitants;

(d) Per 100 women aged 16-70;

(e) Per 100 women aged 16-70 who have or have had an intimate relationship with a partner;

(f) Per 100 persons aged 14 and over.

7. Safety

Sexual violence rate (d)	Intimate partnership violence rate (e)	Worries of being victim of a sexual violence (f)	Feelings of safety when walking alone at night(f)	Concrete fear rate (f)	Social decay (or incivilities) rate (f)
2014	2014	2016	2016	2016	2016
6.2	4.7	33.7	65.2	2.6	12.0
3.9	3.6	16.3	78.2	4.7	6.6
7.6	6.2	26.1	68.7	5.0	11.7
6.6	4.6	32.4	55.1	9.5	12.6
5.1	4.5	19.5	79.4	4.6	8.8
5.9	4.9	20.3	81.2	5.0	6.8
4.3	4.2	18.6	77.7	4.3	10.7
6.2	4.4	29.9	60.0	7.6	6.9
5.9	3.0	26.0	69.5	4.3	4.2
6.7	5.9	28.5	56.6	8.5	10.9
4.5	4.9	29.1	62.0	6.4	14.5
6.9	5.2	26.5	61.9	5.0	10.1
5.0	4.3	19.7	68.4	6.5	5.9
6.8	5.7	37.8	57.5	7.9	24.5
9.1	7.6	28.5	59.7	4.9	12.7
7.1	6.9	23.1	67.3	4.6	7.0
8.8	5.8	23.1	55.5	5.2	12.9
5.3	4.6	22.2	59.8	5.8	7.5
6.5	4.4	24.6	75.0	6.9	4.7
4.7	2.4	34.4	64.7	4.7	13.8
5.2	4.6	24.1	60.4	4.3	9.8
5.2	4.4	23.0	75.5	3.8	9.6
6.4	4.8	30.3	60.3	7.2	10.6
5.9	5.2	31.9	60.6	7.0	17.9
6.5	4.9	24.6	61.0	4.9	10.6
6.4	4.9	28.7	60.6	6.4	12.1