MEASURING SDG 16.3.2 - UNSENTENCED DETAINES

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UNODC
Indicator 16.3.2

Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of the overall prison population
The value of data on pre-trial detention

- Captures the **efficiency of the criminal justice system**

- Signifies overall respect for the rule of law, **the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty**

- Extensive pre-trial detention **diverts criminal justice system resources**
A global snapshot

**Number of detainees (millions)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Americas</th>
<th>Asia</th>
<th>Africa</th>
<th>Europe</th>
<th>Oceania</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Unsentenced share (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Americas</th>
<th>Asia</th>
<th>Africa</th>
<th>Europe</th>
<th>Oceania</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>30.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>30.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: Estimates based on UN-CTS data
Unsentenced detainees

Persons held in prisons, penal institutions or correctional institutions who are **untried, pre-trial or awaiting a first instance decision** on their case from a competent authority regarding their conviction or acquittal.

Data source and methods

- **Data source**: National prison authority, through UN-Crime Trends Survey
- **Computation method**:
  \[
  \text{Unsentenced detainees} = \left( \frac{\text{Total number of persons held in pre-trial detention}}{\text{Total number of persons held in detention}} \right) \times 100
  \]
- **Reference period**: Calendar year / 12 months
- **Recommended disaggregations**: Sex and age status, Length of unsentenced detention
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data collection mechanism: UN Crime Trends Survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Persons held by sex, age status and citizenship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons held by sentencing status and sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons held unsentenced by length of detention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons held for intentional homicide, rape, bribery, drug possession and drug trafficking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortality in prisons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons entering prisons by sentencing status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convicted persons held under other types of supervision by sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prison personnel by sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prison personnel by function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official prison capacity by sex and age status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of prison facilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

= Core annual variables
= New additions
Data coverage

% of countries reporting (2017-19 average)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total persons held</th>
<th>Unsentenced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>America</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Africa and Western Asia</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UN-CTS
Length of unsentenced detention – a snapshot

Australia

Peru

Note: Australia has a population of 25.6m and Peru 32.9m (2020)
Death toll in Ecuador prison riot exceeds 100 with some inmates beheaded

Clash is the most deadly act of violence ever reported in the country’s prison system

\[ \text{Number of cases} \]

Colombia

\[ \text{Homicide} \quad \text{Suicide} \quad \text{Accident} \quad \text{Natural} \]

Source: Guardian.com and UN-CTS
Way forward

Use the ICCS as a blueprint to collect prison statistics

Use the UN-CTS as guidance to produce data on the most relevant disaggregating variables
Thank you for your attention.
For any further questions: camelia.abdelgelil@un.org
UNODC Data: https://dataunodc.un.org/