

## **Declarations of Contents, Violation of environmental legislation.**

### **0 Administrative Information about the Statistical Product**

#### ***0.1 Name***

Violation of environmental legislation.

#### ***0.2 Heading***

Environment and energy

#### ***0.3 Responsible Authority, Office, Person, etc.***

Head of section

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#### ***0.4 Purpose and History***

The purpose of the statistics is to show the number of violations of environmental legislation, also called environmental crime.

The statistics have been produced since 1994.

#### ***0.5 Users and Application***

*Users:* The Danish Environmental Protection Agency (DEPA), courts, counties, municipalities, organisations, private enterprises and educational establishments.

*Application:* The Danish Parliament and the courts wish in particularly to monitor the level of fines to see if the desired increase is achieved.

#### ***0.6 Sources***

The statistics are exclusively based on the Register of Crime Statistics at Statistics Denmark, which is based on the Central Criminal Register administered by the National Commissioner of the Danish Police.

#### ***0.7 Legal Authority to Collect Data***

The Act on Statistics Denmark (Lov om Danmarks Statistik), Sections 3 and 6.

#### ***0.8 Response burden***

There is only one report, Department D of the National Police. Data are already transferred to Statistics Denmark, for the ordinary Crime Statistics.

## ***0.9 EU Regulation***

None.

# **1 Contents**

## ***1.1 Description of Contents***

The statistics describe the number of violations of environmental legislation. The violations are divided among various laws: the Environmental Protection Act, the Conservation of Nature Act, the Washington Convention/CITES, the Act on the Protection of the Marine Environment, the Forest Act, the Planning Act, the Act on Weekend Cottages and Camping, the Act on Chemical Substances and Products and a group of Other acts relating to the environment, that among others include the Watercourse Act, the Act on Water Supply, etc., the Waste Deposits Act and the Act on Chemical Disposal Sites.

The decisions are divided between: verdict (only fine), verdict of absence, adoption of fine in court, ticket fine, no charge, warning but no charge and acquittal.

Furthermore, the level of the fines is stated in Danish kroner and the occurrence of penalty payments is stated in per cent of all decisions. There is a geographical dimension indicated by county of residence of the offender and a division on trades.

## ***1.2 Statistical Concepts***

The environmental acts are defined from all acts.

The rest of the statistical concepts follow the ones used in the Crime Statistics at Statistics Denmark, and the spread on trades follows the DB93 classification (Danish Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities 1993).

# **2 Time**

## ***2.1 Reference Period***

The decisions are added up per calendar year.

## ***2.2 Date of Publication***

The statistics are published once a year.

The Environment and energy office publishes the statistics about two weeks after receiving the data from the Social conditions, health and justice office.

After receiving data from the National Police, the Social conditions, health and justice office spends about nine months working out the Register of Crime Statistics.

## ***2.3 Punctuality***

The statistics are published within one or two months of the scheduled time.

## **2.4 Frequency**

The statistics are published annually.

## **3 Accuracy**

### **3.1 Overall accuracy**

The statistics are very reliable as the data used come from an administrative register with a high level of certainty.

### **3.2 Sources of inaccuracy**

Unreliability stems primarily from a classification by main charge in case of combined cases. For instance, if a combined verdict about embezzlement and environmental criminality is classified as an embezzlement decision, the environmental crime will not always show.

Decisions with fines below 1,000 Danish kroner are not included in these statistics.

### **3.3 Measures on accuracy**

It is estimated that the number of cases misplaced does not exceed ten cases a year.

## **4 Comparability**

### **4.1 Comparability over Time**

The comparability over time in the statistics is good and new environmental laws are included when they are placed in the Central Criminal Register administered by the National Commissioner of the Danish Police.

There have been no breaks in the data series so far.

### **4.2 Comparability with other Statistics**

The Danish Environmental Protection Agency used to publish an annual publication about violation of environmental legislation, where extracts of the individual cases and grounds for the decisions were shown. The DEPA gathered the decisions by writing to each police district.

The DEPA's total figures for environmental crime were somewhat lower than the figures calculated by Statistics Denmark.

Now Statistics Denmark has taken over the communication of the statistics from the DEPA.

### **4.3 Coherence between provisional and final statistics**

Statistics Denmark does not publish provisional statistics on the violation of environmental legislation.

## **5 Accessibility**

### **5.1 Forms of dissemination**

*News from Statistics Denmark*, Environment and energy (*Statistical News*) and [www.statistikbanken.dk](http://www.statistikbanken.dk)

Annual publications:

Environmental Yearbook and Statistical Yearbook.

**5.2 *Basic material: Storage and usability***

The basic data material is stored by the Register of Crime Statistics at Statistics Denmark.

**5.3 *Documentation***

The documentation follows the ordinary Crime Statistics, as notes have been written about further concepts in these statistics.

**5.4 *Other Information***

The DEPA has ceased to publish their annual publication on the violation of environmental legislation.

There has been cooperation with the DEPA involving the review of the selection of acts and the differences in the number of decisions reported.