



## PRESS RELEASE

### *Methodology of the EU ICS*

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### Background

The European Crime and Safety Survey (EU ICS) is carrying on the traditions of the International Crime Victim Survey (ICVS) which was initiated in 1987 to produce comparative estimates of crime victimisation between countries across the world.

### Purpose of the EU ICS

The EU ICS looks at householders' experiences with crime, their views about policing, crime prevention, hate crimes and feelings of safety in a number of EU Member States.

### Target population and fieldwork

The subjects of the EU ICS are residents of 16 years of age or older in the EU-15, Estonia, Hungary and Poland. Fieldwork in the EU-15 and Hungary was conducted by Gallup Europe in 2005. Data collection in Estonia and Poland was organised independently by third parties in 2004/2005.

### Sampling and sample size

The samples of the study were uniformly selected, along the same principles in each participating country. The targeted number of actual interviews in most countries was 2000. The samples were divided into a larger national part (with a targeted sample size of 1200) and a relatively smaller capital city part (with a targeted sample size of 800).

### Mode of data collection

Most EU ICS interviews have been carried out with CATI telephone methodology. Interviews were carried out via fixed (landline) telephones, with the exception of Finland where a sub-sample was interviewed via mobile phones. In Finland, the emerging trend among specific population groups to exclusively use mobile phones – notably young people – necessitated an additional sample of persons exclusively owning mobile phones. Interviews conducted in Poland and Estonia were carried out face-to-face.

## Response rates

Several actions were taken to increase cooperation throughout the survey. Besides using a highly experienced field force that was specifically trained to tackle respondent reluctance, a 7+7 call design over an extended period of time was applied. Achieved response rates ranged from 36.9% in Luxembourg to 56.9% in Finland (landlines only), averaging 46.9% overall in the 17 countries where sampling and interviewing was carried out over the telephone.

## Weighting

Results are based on data which have been weighted to make the samples as representative as possible of national populations aged 16 or more in terms of gender, age, household composition and regional population distribution (NUTS Level 2 regional distribution and capital city ratio).

From the report: - "The Burden of Crime in the EU, A Comparative Analysis of the European Survey of Crime and Safety (EU ICS) 2005". Robert Manchin, Gallup Europe, coordinated the Consortium and the project was co-financed by the European Commission under FP6.

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