



Faculty of
Criminal Justice and Security



arrs
SLOVENIAN RESEARCH AGENCY



UNIVERZITET CRNE GORE
PRAVNI FAKULTET



JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN RURAL SETTINGS IN SLOVENIA

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Rural

URBAN

Security and Safety in Local Communities – Comparison Between Rural and Urban Settings (2019-2024)



RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Distinguishing characteristics of crime in rural and urban settings

PS VLS

GOALS

Analysing crime, delinquency and victimization of juveniles



INTERNATIONAL STUDY

Delinquency and victimization study (2020-2022)

ISR4

AIMS

Test criminological theories, develop recommendations



JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Focus of attention in many modern societies

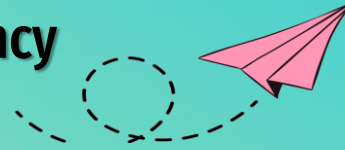
PhD THESIS

RURAL SETTINGS

Relatively unexplored territory



Juvenile delinquency



Crimes

Property crimes, violent crimes, etc.

Misdemeanours

Vandalism, disturbing public peace and order, etc.

Maladaptive behaviour and status offenses

Licit and illicit drugs, peer violence (bullying), truancy, smoking tobacco, excessive drinking, driving cars, etc.



Includes

Forms of deviant behaviour of children and adolescents who violate certain social rules and are considered harmful or punishable by law.





RURAL

Characteristics

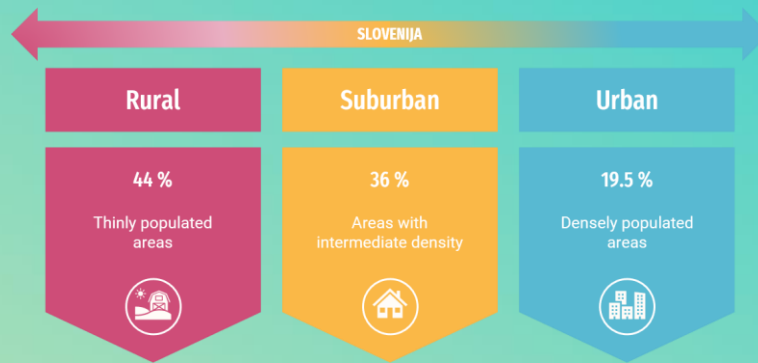
- ❖ Higher degree of social cohesion and informal control,
 - ❖ interconnected residents,
 - ❖ less physical disorder,
 - ❖ poor social conditions,
 - ❖ unemployment,
 - ❖ poverty,
 - ❖ immigration of foreigners.



URBAN

Characteristics

- ❖ Aging population,
- ❖ the biggest pollution,
- ❖ inequality among population,
- ❖ unemployment,
- ❖ housing problems,
- ❖ migrations,
- ❖ weakened social control,
- ❖ violence and fear of crime.



Rural

- ❖ Crimes related to agriculture, livestock farming and the environment (*ecological crime, crimes against farmers and farms*);
- ❖ Interpersonal violence;
- ❖ Domestic violence;
- ❖ Abuse of alcohol;
- ❖ Cultivation and production of illicit drugs.

CRIME

Overall crime and victimization rates are **higher in urban areas** than in rural areas although the difference is not as large as is widely assumed.



Urban

- ❖ Property crime (*burglary, theft, vehicle theft, etc.*);
- ❖ Economic crime (*forgery, fraud, money laundering, bribery, tax evasion, etc.*).

Table 1: Crime comparison between rural and urban municipalities in Slovenia (201 rural and 11 urban)

Crimes	Municipality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Violent	<i>Rural</i>	998	942	985	888	967
	<i>Urban</i>	881	731	608	620	669
Sex	<i>Rural</i>	176	141	227	262	212
	<i>Urban</i>	129	131	125	166	141
Domestic	<i>Rural</i>	4,006	3,051	1,694	1,538	1,958
	<i>Urban</i>	2,027	2,127	771	777	824
Property	<i>Rural</i>	22,274	16,740	18,573	16,928	15,601
	<i>Urban</i>	35,242	27,491	23,176	21,903	22,529
Economic	<i>Rural</i>	3,169	2,225	1,893	2,744	2,183
	<i>Urban</i>	3,619	2,924	2,493	2,578	2,011
Public disturbance	<i>Rural</i>	603	522	518	500	588
	<i>Urban</i>	616	478	590	427	520
Environment	<i>Rural</i>	120	157	114	124	131
	<i>Urban</i>	35	36	30	27	31

Source: Hacin (2019).





RURAL



URBAN

RESEARCH

Only a handful of studies

Majority of studies

RESEARCH

NOVELTY

Development of a new branch – rural criminology

Most criminological theories tested and verified

THEORIES

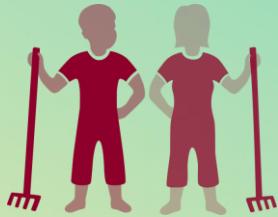
DELINQUENCY

Could be a growing concern

Presumably more problematic

DELINQUENCY

SIMILARITIES OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY



RURAL

URBAN



JUVENILE CRIME

Trends in crime and the relationship of crime to demographic factors

RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS

Family, peer, community, personal and individual

COMMON CAUSES

Home environment, financial difficulties, weak parental control/guidance, limited job outlets, peer pressures, changing social values, etc.

STRONGEST PREDICTORS

Minority race, male gender, economic disadvantage, poverty

DELINQUENCY CHARACTERISTICS

COMMON CRIMES

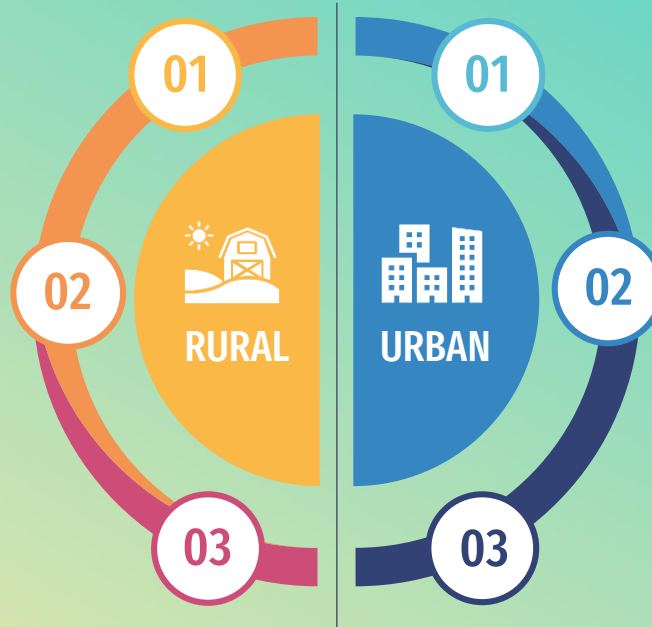
Petty theft, curfew violations, violence, family crimes, excessive drinking

RISK FACTORS

Access to creative and recreational activities, access to vocational training and career possibilities, stronger effects of family and school variables

PROTECTIVE FACTORS

Community cohesiveness, stronger kinship and family ties



COMMON CRIMES

Drug abuse, robbery, pickpocketing, violence, vandalism

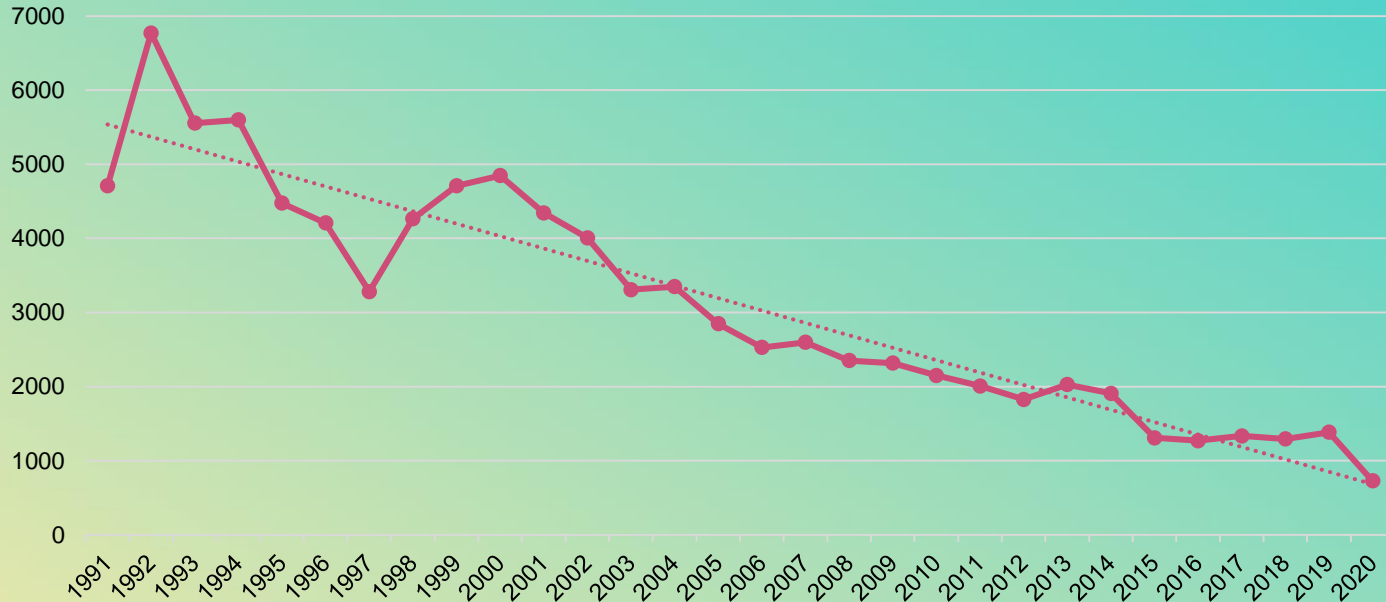
RISK FACTORS

Deviant peers, urban poverty, lack of self-control and parental supervision, easy access to illegal means, excessive use of media

PROTECTIVE FACTORS

Diverse cultural, educational and occupational opportunities (extracurricular youth activities, access to different services)

Graph 1: Juvenile crime in Slovenia through the years 1991 - 2020



Source: www.policija.si; Brinc (2000); Filipčič (2004).



RESEARCH

More studies examining rural delinquency and comparing rural and urban areas



IMPLEMENTATION

Construct and implement preventive and intervention strategies, and rehabilitation measures



ASKING QUESTIONS

How similar are delinquency patterns, what are the causes of delinquency



TESTING

Testing and verifying various delinquency theories

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

