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Medling i brott- och tvistemål 2009

Mediation in Criminal and Civil Cases 2009

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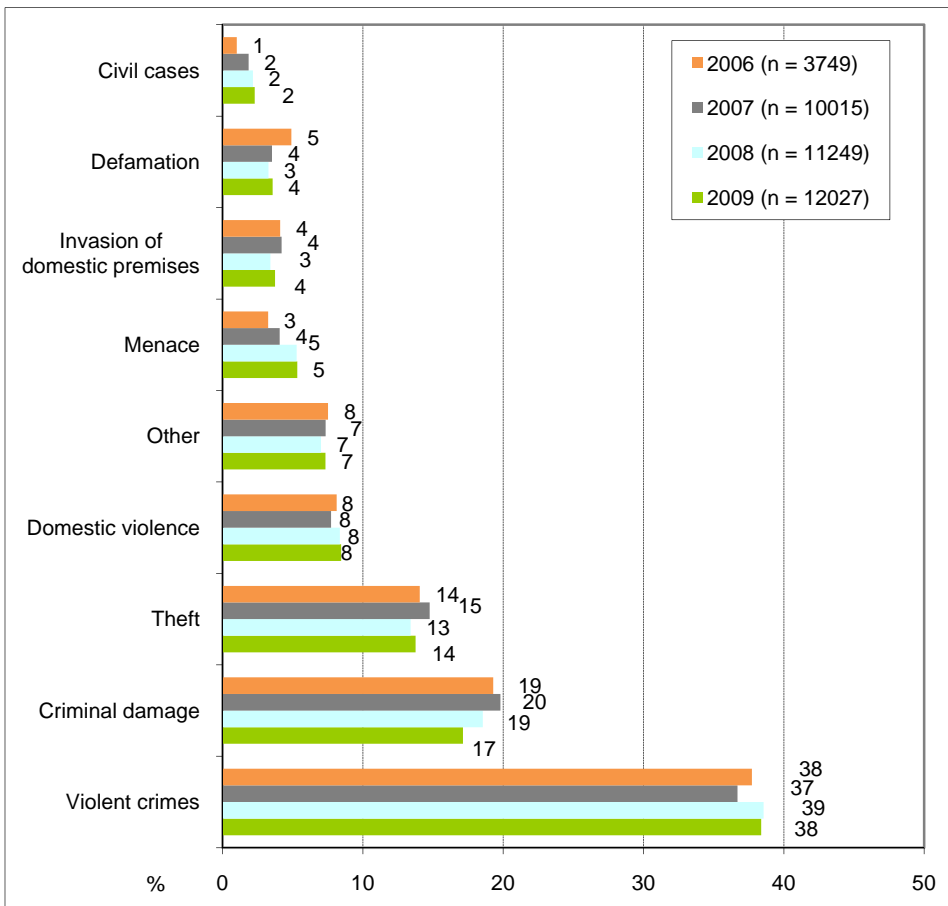
Mediation in Criminal and Civil Cases 2009

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A total of 11 880 criminal and civil cases were referred to mediation in Finland in 2009. This represented a 7 per cent increase on the previous year. The number of cases mediated tallies well with the target set in connection with the entry into force of the new Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases, which was about 12 000 cases of mediation a year. Based on data collected from mediation offices by the National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), the total number of mediated cases included 11 604 criminal cases and 276 civil cases. Violent crimes accounted for roughly 48 per cent of all criminal cases referred to mediation.

Young offenders, in particular, have been brought into the sphere of mediation. Just under half of all suspected offenders in mediation (47%) were under the age of 21, while some 15 per cent were under 15. The data clearly indicates that mediated offences are directed at the adult population.

**Figure 1. Criminal and civil cases referred to mediation, 1 Jun–31 Dec 2006, 2007–2009, %
*)**)**



*) The national statistics on mediation in criminal and civil cases begin from 1 June 2006, when the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases entered into force.

**) The figures for reported crimes and the offences involved are not completely accurate.

The total number of criminal cases referred to mediation in 2009 increased some 7 per cent on the previous year. The number of cases in mediation appears to have increased chiefly in the areas where mediation in criminal and civil cases became possible with the entry into force of the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases. The growth in volume of criminal cases slowed down. In 2008, the growth rate was 14 per cent. At the time of the drafting of the Act, it was estimated that some 12 000 crimes would be referred to mediation each year, given an efficient organization of the services and a close co-operation between mediation offices and authorities. This aim has almost been attained, with 11 604 criminal cases and 276 civil cases brought to mediation in 2009 (Table 1).

The data for 2009 show that violent crimes (incl. domestic violence) accounted for 48 per cent of all criminal cases referred to mediation. Aggravated assault (i.e. grievous bodily harm) accounted for 0.6 per cent of all violent crimes referred to mediation. Criminal damage was the second most frequent type of criminal case referred to mediation, and accounted for about 18 per cent. Domestic violence cases accounted for some 9 per cent of all cases referred to mediation (Figure 2). Other unspecified cases accounted for about 8 per cent. This category comprises any criminal cases not listed specifically on the form. The most frequent examples in the 'other cases' category include negligent bodily injury, failure to guard a animal, stealing of a motor vehicle for temporary use, traffic offences or resistance to a person maintaining public order. The 2009 figures on criminal cases referred to mediation are approximately the same as in the previous year. The above percentages do not include civil cases.

Before mediation offices undertake mediation, they have to determine whether a criminal case is suitable for mediation. In 2009, mediation was undertaken in 69 per cent of all criminal cases referred to mediation (incl. domestic violence). The mediation process was interrupted in 11 per cent of criminal cases.

Mediation in criminal and civil cases is handled by a total of 1234 mediators, who have received training in mediation. In addition, there were 365 mediators in a reserve¹. The number of mediators of criminal and civil cases remained largely unchanged compared with the previous year.

Referring cases to mediation

A vast majority (78%) of criminal cases referred to mediation are submitted by the police. The percentage of criminal cases referred to mediation by the police grew by nearly 4 per cent on the previous year. Public prosecutors submit 18 per cent of the criminal cases to be mediated. The proportion of cases submitted for mediation by public prosecutors fell by about 4 per cent on 2008. Parents submitted only 0.2 per cent of the criminal cases to be mediated. The percentage of cases submitted by parents is surprisingly low in view of the percentage of under-15-year-olds among the suspected offenders (cf. the section 'Different age groups in mediation' on page 25).

Out of all criminal cases referred to mediation in 2009, 54 per cent were offences under public prosecution and 46 per cent were complainant offences. The percentage of complainant offences grew by 2 per cent on the previous year. The number of civil cases submitted to mediation was 276, which represents some 2 per cent of all mediated cases. The cases referred to mediation during the year involved a total of 22 264 people: 13 030 suspected offenders and 9 234 complainants. Men accounted for 80 per cent and women for 20 per cent of the suspected offenders. As for the complainants, 62 per cent were men and 38 per cent women. The mediation cases involved a total of 100 legal persons as complainants².

¹ The reserve refers to mediators on maternity or parental leave, study leave, job alternation leave or long-term sick leave.

² Typically the legal person in a mediation case is a housing company, insurance company or similar.

Table 1. Number of cases mediated, separate offences, domestic violence and civil cases, by regional state administrative agency in 2007–2009 *)

Regional State Administrative Agency	No. of cases mediated			Case type												
	2009		2008	2007	Separate offences 1)			Domestic violence 2)			Civil cases					
	N	%	N	N	2009	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007			
Southern Finland	3 504	41	3 402	2 886	4 182	40	4 021	3 326	493	48	498	419	92	33	81	93
South-western Finland	860	10	848	621	1 131	11	1 035	985	59	6	86	94	33	12	28	13
Eastern Finland	1 311	16	1 248	1 081	1 545	15	1 492	1 380	112	11	101	50	67	24	51	29
Western and Central Finland	1 571	19	1 734	1 306	2 268	21	1 978	1 827	233	23	145	111	42	15	40	23
Northern Finland	749	9	732	533	913	9	902	667	74	7	69	51	22	8	28	15
Lapland	407	5	362	360	464	4	451	583	57	6	42	48	14	5	13	13
State Department of Åland	56	1	59	38	68	1	47	40	5	0	9	2	6	2	3	0
Whole country	8 458	100	8 385	6 825	10 571	100	9 926	8 808	1 033	100	950	775	276	100	244	186

*) Read more about mediated cases and the offences involved under Concepts and definitions.

1) In the 2007 guidelines, the offences to be mediated were reported by category. In 2008, the guidelines were specified so that offences to be mediated were to be reported based on the number of offence category case numbers recorded in the preliminary investigation material of the police.

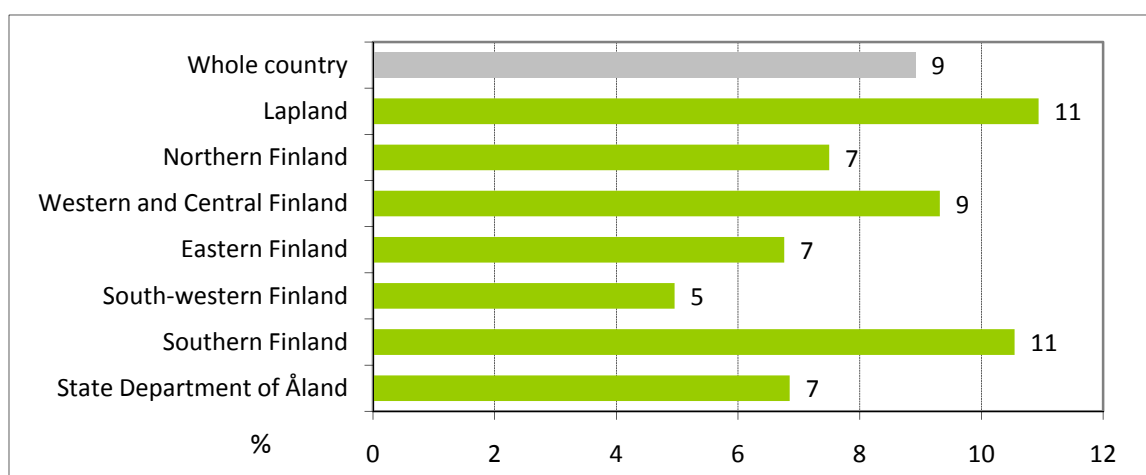
2) The 2008 guidelines specified that domestic violence should not include other offences than those relating to homicide and bodily injury (offences against life and health).

Mediation in cases of domestic violence

The vast majority, or 85 per cent, of cases of domestic violence referred to mediation are assault cases. In total, offences under public prosecution accounted for 84 per cent of domestic violence cases and complainant offences for 16 per cent.

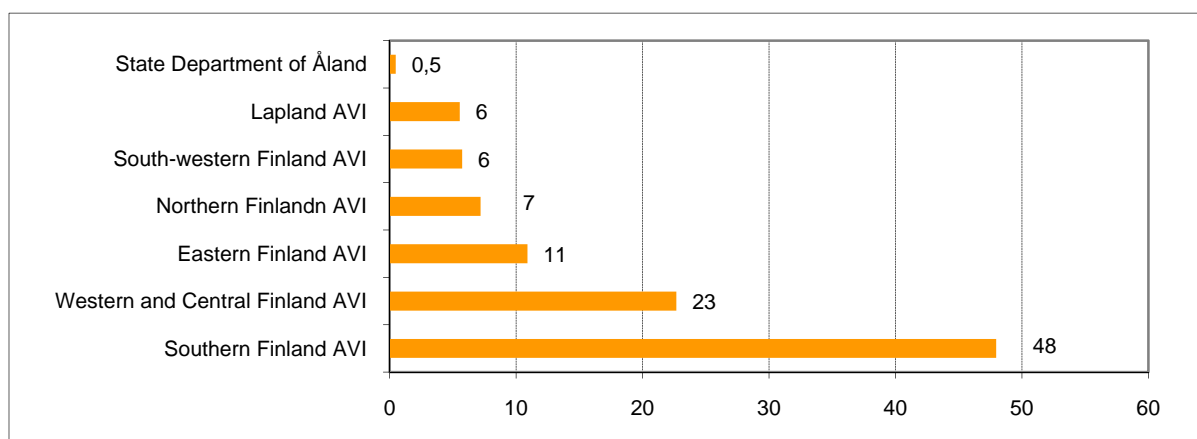
A majority of the cases of domestic violence, 80 per cent, were referred to mediation by the police while 20 per cent were referred by public prosecutors. Mediation in cases of domestic violence still seem to create a division between practices, which is evident, for instance, from the differences in referral to mediation across regional state administrative agencies (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Domestic violence cases as a percentage of criminal cases referred to mediation in 2009, by regional state administrative agency, % *)



*) Civil cases have not been included in the figures.

Figure 3. Domestic violence cases referred to mediation as a percentage of all domestic violence cases in Finland in 2009, by regional state administrative agency, % (N=1033)



More than half of all cases of domestic violence referred to mediation in Finland are submitted in the district of the Regional State Administrative Agency for Southern Finland. Percentages for the other regional state administrative agencies vary from 0.5 per cent to 23 per cent (Figure 3). As a proportion of all offences reported in the area, the percentage of domestic violence cases recorded by the regional state administrative agencies is more even, ranging between 5 and 11 per cent (Figure 2).

In 2009, most mediation cases regarding domestic violence were still initiated by the police. All motions for mediation in the Åland Islands came from the police, compared with 92 per cent in Eastern Finland. Western Finland accounted for the smallest percentage of cases initiated by the police, but even there, that was still 70 per cent of domestic violence cases referred for mediation (Table 1).

The fact that most cases of domestic violence are referred to mediation by the police is actually based on practical reality. In most cases, the police and public prosecutors have agreed to a distribution of work at the local level. Through interrogation, the police also get first-hand information on the nature of the violence, the severity and repetition of the acts. Based on this information, the police can assess the suitability for mediation also in assault cases (an offence under public prosecution). In turn, public prosecutors may refer to mediation cases that the police have decided not to, for example due to the nature of the offence. According to an evaluation report on the implementation of the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases by Juhani Iivari, this distribution of work between the police and prosecutors works at a satisfactory level.³

Mediation in cases of domestic violence is a clearly defined process. Under section 13, subsection 2 of the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases (1015/2005), only the police and the public prosecutor have the authority to refer such a case for mediation in Finland. When a case of domestic violence is referred for mediation, the head of the mediation office makes a separate assessment of whether the case in question is suitable for mediation. If, at this stage, it becomes apparent that one of the parties involved has pressured the other, or dismissed the offence or denied it altogether, the case is not considered suitable for mediation. In mediation involving cases of domestic violence, separate meetings are always arranged for the victim and the suspected offender. If, at this stage, any observation is made of one party pressuring the other, dismissing the offence, refusing to take responsibility or outright denial of the offence, mediation is discontinued. The actual mediation session usually begins with a preliminary agreement that both parties will seek help through official channels. When the parties have followed the agreed plan for a period of, for instance, six months, a second mediation session is arranged to monitor completion of the final

³ Iivari Juhani: Oikeutta oikeuden varjossa. Rikossovittelulain täytäntöönpanon arviointitutkimus (an evaluation study of the implementation of the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases). Raportti 5/2010. Terveystieteiden tutkimuskeskus, Helsinki.

agreement made. This method is designed to empower the victim of domestic violence and hold the offender responsible for their actions.

The study referred to above (Iivari 2010) showed that a majority of those who participated in mediation of domestic violence felt that mediation was useful. The positive experiences of those who participated in mediation of domestic violence cases included the voluntary, unbiased and confidential nature of mediation and the opportunity to influence the outcome. Victims, in particular, were likely to feel this way. By contrast, domestic violence mediation had a higher rate than other crimes (such as theft or assault) of those for whom mediation had not helped ease their mind or helped them see the other party's point of view. Even in these respects, however, a majority of respondents considered mediation to be positive. These results support the view that mediation is appropriate even for some domestic violence cases, on condition that the mediation process is implemented with attention and professionalism.

There was an extensive and in-depth course of further and advanced training in mediation of domestic violence cases in Finland in 2008–2010. It attracted 260 participants who were either voluntary mediators or directors of mediation. Out of the participants, 199 voluntary mediators and one director set out to complete the diploma work, which almost all of them have now completed, receiving a diploma. The training course was originally initiated on the request of the Prosecutor General, and the course further improves the potential for implementing safe mediation of domestic violence cases in Finland in a manner that takes the needs of both parties into account.

Different age groups in mediation

Suspected offenders under the age of 15 accounted for some 15 per cent of the total in 2009. In turn, suspected offenders under the age of 21 accounted for a total of 47 per cent. The percentage of under-21-year-olds has risen slightly on 2008, but otherwise the age distribution of the suspected offenders is largely the same as in previous years (Figure 4). Of the complainants, 29 per cent were under the age of 21. The data clearly indicates that mediated offences are directed at the adult population (Figure 5).

According to an observation in the evaluation study of the implementation of the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases⁴, almost all the young suspected offenders referred for mediation are suspected of a crime under the Criminal Code. There is a higher percentage of suspected offenders under the age of 21 in mediation than in the total number of persons suspected of crimes under the Criminal Code. There are five times as many under-15-year-olds in mediation as in the national crime statistics of the police. Where young people aged 15–20 are concerned, there are almost twice as many in mediation as in the total number of crimes under the Criminal Code reported to the police. In fact, mediation reaches a bigger number of young suspected offenders than the national total of young offenders suspected of crimes under the Criminal Code reported to the police (Figure 6).

The high proportion of young suspected offenders in mediation is no coincidence. When mediation was first introduced, it was emphasised that the choice of mediation should be offered particularly to young offenders as an alternative to the criminal justice system; the dearth of alternatives offered by the criminal justice system for young offenders is part of the motivation for offering mediation to this group. According to the view of the authorities, mediation can also be a means to influence young offenders, by bringing impressionable young people face to face with their victims. Furthermore, young people under the age of 15 are specifically selected for mediation as a means of early intervention.

⁴ Iivari 2010.

Figure 4. Age distribution of suspected offenders in mediated criminal and civil cases, 1 Jun–31 Dec 2006, 2007–2009, %

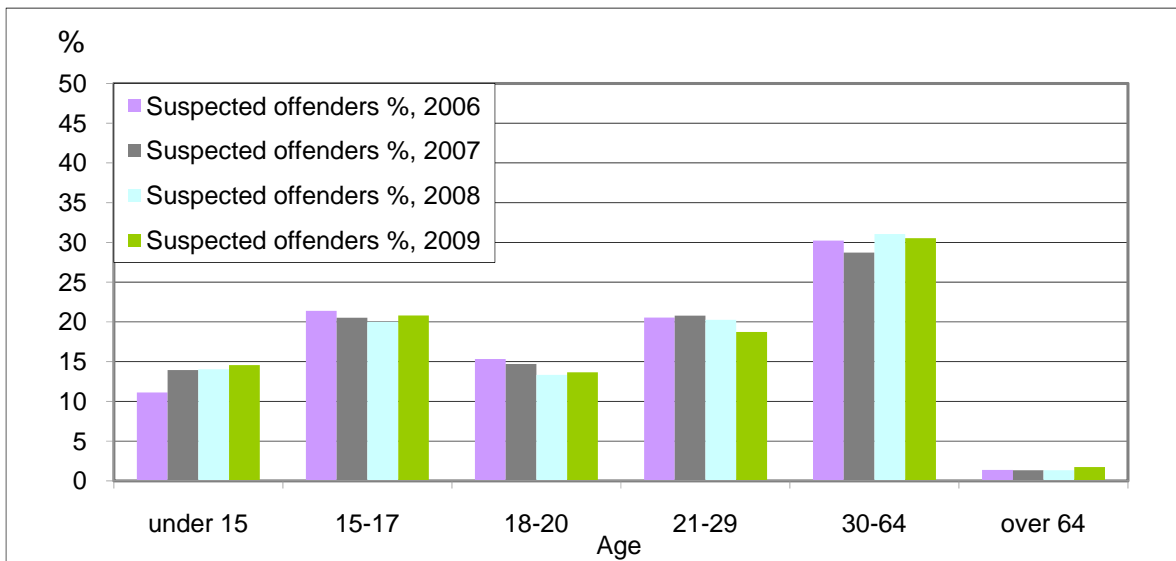


Figure 5. Age distribution of complainants in mediated criminal and civil cases, 1 Jun–31 Dec 2006, 2007–2009, %

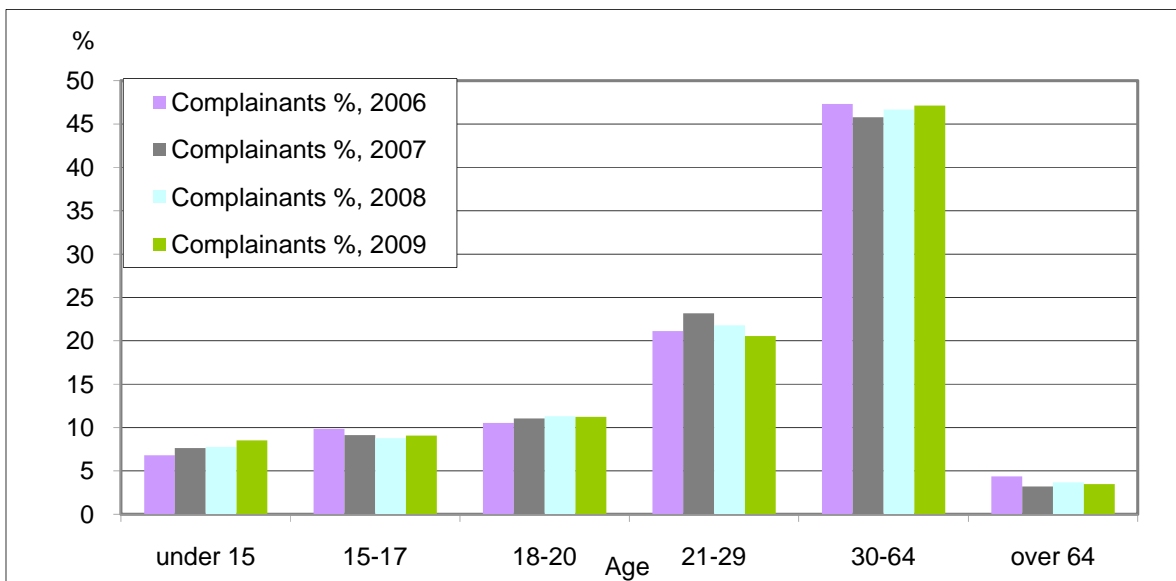
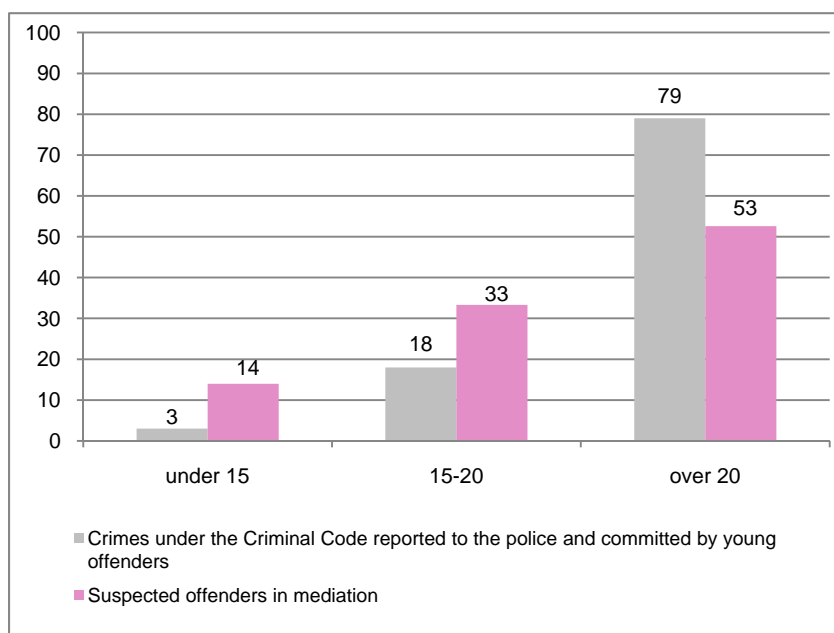


Figure 6. Percentage of young offenders in crimes under the Criminal Code reported to the police, and percentage of young offenders in mediation in 2008, %



Mediation agreements

Agreement was reached in 72 per cent of all mediated criminal cases. Cases involving domestic violence accounted for just under 7 per cent of cases. Accurate percentages for specific calendar years are not available, since the mediation process was still ongoing in some cases at year end. The mediation process may be initiated in one year and concluded the next.

The mediation cases undertaken during the year resulted in a total of 10 749 separate compensation settlements (Table 1). Monetary compensations accounted for 41 per cent and work compensations for 5 per cent of the different types of compensation. The combined value of the monetary and work compensations was EUR 1 878 595. The combined value of the compensations fell by nearly 3 per cent on 2008. Their proportion in relative terms also fell by about 3 per cent.

Altogether 54 per cent of the mediation agreements were so-called intangible settlements: apologies (35 %), waivers of claims (13 %), acceptable behaviour contracts (6 %) and return of property (0.6 %). The types of agreements in 2009 largely follow the same distribution as in 2008. In real terms, this means an increase of 3 percentage points on the previous year in intangible settlements.

Table 2. Monetary value of compensations in mediated criminal and civil cases, by regional state administrative agency in 2007–2009, €

Regional State Administrative Agency	Combined value of monetary compensations			Monetary value of work compensations, €			Total, €		
	2009	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007
Southern Finland	660 845	690 461	631 355	51 494	31 647	22 691	712 339	722 108	654 046
South-western Finland	240 829	213 984	134 662	5 374	8 603	7 434	246 203	222 587	142 096
Eastern Finland	273 277	286 687	293 986	15 680	7 748	23 135	288 957	294 435	317 121
Western and Central Finland	271 097	310 971	269 299	12 615	27 782	26 344	283 712	338 754	295 643
Northern Finland	174 327	194 438	122 962	21 132	10 559	16 742	195 459	204 997	139 704
Lapland	128 949	120 765	116 112	10 833	8 855	6 046	139 782	129 619	122 158
State Department of Åland	12 143	14 691	4 723	0	3 000	440	12 143	17 691	5 164
Whole country	1 761 467	1 831 998	1 573 099	117 128	98 194	102 832	1 878 595	1 930 192	1 675 932

Differences between regional state administrative agencies

A regional analysis shows that more than 40 per cent of all mediated criminal cases were processed in Southern Finland (Table 1). In 2006, almost half of all criminal cases in Finland were still processed in Southern Finland. The present situation indicates that mediation has become established even in districts where it had not been initiated until the new legislation entered into force. For example, in 2009, the percentages between the districts of the different regional state administrative agencies remained at the same level as in previous years, 2007 and 2008. In 2007, they still increased in all provinces except for Southern Finland.

However, an analysis of the percentage of violent crimes out of mediated cases shows clear differences between regional state administrative agencies. In Southern Finland and Western and Central Finland, violent crimes and domestic violence accounted for a total of about 50 per cent of mediated cases, while the corresponding figure for the other districts was over 40 per cent, with the exception of Åland, where it was 37 per cent.

Background

Mediation in Finland is regulated by the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases (1015/2005), which entered into force on 1 June 2006. According to the Act, the general supervision, management and monitoring of mediation services falls within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health⁵. Each regional state administrative agency (formerly the state provincial offices) is obliged to arrange mediation services and ensure that they are available in appropriately implemented form in all parts of its administrative district.

There are 25 operating areas for mediation in criminal and certain civil cases, and, with the new Act entering into force, additional resources were allocated to the so-called old operating areas and operations got underway quite quickly, beginning in 2006. A majority of the areas were new operating areas, where the setting up of mediation offices and the recruiting and training of personnel was not completed until late 2006 and early 2007.

Mediation offices receive cases and cooperate with various authorities throughout the mediation process. Mediation may deal with crimes that are assessed as eligible for mediation. Before undertaking mediation, the mediation office must make a separate decision on starting mediation. Criminal cases not dealt with through mediation include serious offences, complex or hard-to-solve gang-related cases, drug offences and professional crime.

⁵ At the beginning of 2008, the main responsibility for the nationwide development of mediation services was transferred to STAKES, while the general supervision, management and monitoring of mediation services would still fall within the sphere of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

The number of cases dealt with through mediation is also affected by the use of the so-called written procedure (the provisions on written procedure in criminal cases were laid down in connection with the enacting of the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases). Prosecutors can submit simple criminal cases to be decided at the district court solely on the basis of written procedure without a main hearing. They do so in 30–50 per cent of their cases.

Some 2 per cent of crimes under the Criminal Code were referred to mediation in 2009. The relatively low percentage is due in part to a lack of cooperation between relevant authorities and to the fact that cases referred for mediation are limited to less severe types of crime. The present limited resources of mediation offices are another contributing factor to the relatively low percentage of crimes in mediation.

The national statistics on mediation in criminal and civil cases begin from 1 June 2006, when the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases took effect. Before this date, statistics on mediation were collected through separate surveys.

The statistics on mediation in criminal and civil cases provide aggregate data, which means that cross-classification is not possible. The statistics cannot cover the mediation process for a single offence. For the same reason, the results do not allow for any far-reaching conclusions to be drawn. It should also be noted that there is some uncertainty in the data. For example, the data were to some extent incomplete as regards the offence categories, the person/organisation submitting the case to mediation, and the information on the ages of parties concerned.

In this report, frequent reference is made to an evaluation study of the implementation of the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases by Juhani Iivari. The evaluation study in question sought answers to various questions, including the impact of the Act which entered into force on 1 June 2006 on official practices, on how the new Act was received at mediation offices and, in particular, how clients experienced mediation. The results of the evaluation study have provided background data for the interpretation of the figures in the mediation statistics.

Concepts and definitions

Mediation in criminal and civil cases

Mediation in criminal cases is a non-chargeable service that allows the victim of a crime and the offender to meet through an impartial mediator. Mediation provides the opportunity to discuss the mental and material harm caused to the victim by the crime and to agree on measures to redress the harm. Participation in mediation is always voluntary.

The purpose of mediation is to reduce or repair the mental and material harm caused to the victim or the parties involved. As a method of conflict and dispute resolution, the aim of mediation is to prevent and reduce crime and promote an overall conciliatory spirit.

Before making a decision on mediation, mediation offices must first ensure that the conditions for mediation are fulfilled and assess the eligibility of the case for mediation.

Crimes dealt with through mediation

As stated in the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases, mediation may deal with crimes that are assessed as eligible for mediation, taking into account the nature and method of the offence, the relationship between the suspect and the victim and other issues related to the crime as a whole.

Civil cases dealt with through mediation

Certain interpersonal civil cases may be referred to mediation if dealing with them through mediation can be considered expedient. The most common types of cases include disagreements concerning waste sorting for recycling in housing companies or smoking on balconies.

Operating area

At the regional level, mediation services are arranged by the regional state administrative agencies, of which there are six, and the State Department of Åland. The regional state administrative agencies (until 2009, the provinces) have organised their mediation activities by setting up operating areas for mediation. There are 25 operating areas for mediation and some of these areas also have regional or branch offices. In the collection of statistical data on mediation, the data are requested by operating area. The operating areas also serve as the basis for calculating the amount of central government transfers to municipalities granted for mediation expenses. The regional state administrative agencies distribute the central government transfers based on the number of inhabitants, size (distances) and crime rate of the operating areas.

Case/offence

In the statistics on mediation in criminal and civil cases, 'cases' and 'offences' are recorded separately. A 'case' forms the basis of the compilation of statistical data. Cases are usually submitted to mediation offices by the police. A case may include several offence categories, such as criminal damage, theft and assault, and one or more offender simultaneously, but in different formations. Therefore, because of the mediation process and potential agreements, cases must be divided into separate offences. In 2008, the guidelines were specified so that offences were to be reported based on the offence category case numbers recorded in the preliminary investigation material of the police.

Domestic violence

The Criminal Code of Finland does not recognise the concept of domestic violence. However, domestic violence is a term used widely within social welfare and health care, and an offence that has the characteristics of an act of domestic violence is of particular interest in terms of the Act on Conciliation in Criminal and Certain Civil Cases. In connection with mediation in criminal cases, acts of domestic violence refer to violent crimes between individuals living in close relationships (i.e. family and intimate partner violence). Acts of domestic violence may involve spouses, co-habiting partners, family members, engaged couples, divorced couples or couples about to divorce as well as ex-partners.

Typical acts of domestic violence include the assault crimes referred to in Chapter 21 of the Criminal Code.

Mediation agreements

A single offence is resolved through a single agreement. Mediation cases are resolved through agreements or partial agreements, or left unresolved. A partial agreement means that the parties or some of the parties have reached a partial agreement on damages or other compensation.

Types of compensation

A mediation case concerning a single offence can include several types of compensation; the statistics on mediation in criminal and civil cases take into account all types of compensation. For example, in mediation agreements, return of property and acceptable behaviour contracts may be mutually required. If the case involves two offenders, one may be obliged to pay monetary compensation and the other one may have to compensate in the form of work.

Source: Juhani Iivari (ed.). Rikos- ja riita-asioiden sovittelijan opas ("A handbook on mediation in criminal and civil cases"). Stakes Oppaita 66. Helsinki 2007.

Appendix table 1. Mediation in criminal and civil cases in the whole country and by regional state administrative agency 2009*

	Whole country		Southern Finland		South-western Finland		Eastern Finland		Western and Central Finland		Northern Finland		Lapland		State Department of Åland	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Number of mediators																
Number of active mediators	1 234		515		142		152		207		117		88		13	
Number of mediators on the reserve list	365		143		6		60		23		53		77		3	
Number of cases referred to the office in 2009	8 458		3 504		860		1 311		1 571		749		407		56	
Number of criminal cases referred	10 571		4 182		1 131		1 545		2 268		913		464		68	
Number of referred cases of domestic violence	1 033		493		59		112		233		74		57		5	
Number of civil cases referred	276		92		33		67		42		22		14		6	
Criminal cases referred to mediation, by offence category	10 734	91,3	4 188	89,5	1 133	95,1	1 582	93,6	2 390	91,3	913	92,5	460	90,7	68	91,9
petty assault	776	6,6	347	7,4	94	7,9	110	6,5	137	5,2	45	4,6	40	7,9	3	4,1
assault	3 720	31,7	1 478	31,6	363	30,5	485	28,7	929	35,3	305	30,9	143	28,2	17	23,0
aggravated assault	75	0,6	28	0,6	9	0,8	16	0,9	11	0,4	6	0,6	4	0,8	1	1,4
robbery	46	0,4	24	0,5	1	0,1	6	0,4	7	0,3	7	0,7	1	0,2	0	0,0
theft	974	8,3	339	7,2	113	9,5	152	9,0	235	9,0	91	9,2	33	6,5	11	14,9
fraud/embezzlement	635	5,4	231	4,9	70	5,9	107	6,3	140	5,3	51	5,2	32	6,3	4	5,4
criminal damage	2 060	17,5	828	17,7	236	19,8	318	18,8	417	15,9	161	16,3	89	17,6	11	14,9
unauthorized use	46	0,4	24	0,5	1	0,1	7	0,4	9	0,3	4	0,4	1	0,2	0	0,0
invasion of domestic premises	450	3,8	148	3,2	63	5,3	91	5,4	82	3,1	47	4,8	16	3,2	3	4,1
menace	641	5,5	261	5,6	63	5,3	83	4,9	135	5,2	65	6,6	29	5,7	5	6,8
defamation	429	3,7	158	3,4	43	3,6	88	5,2	77	2,9	39	4,0	19	3,7	5	6,8
other	882	7,5	322	6,9	77	6,5	119	7,0	211	8,1	92	9,3	53	10,5	8	10,8
Cases of domestic violence referred to mediation, by offence category	1 017	8,7	493	10,5	59	4,9	109	6,4	229	8,7	74	7,5	47	9,3	6	8,1
petty assault	134	1,1	71	1,5	6	0,5	16	0,9	26	1,0	11	1,1	3	0,6	1	1,4
assault	859	7,3	411	8,8	53	4,4	90	5,3	199	7,6	61	6,2	40	7,9	5	6,8
aggravated assault	18	0,2	9	0,2	0	0,0	3	0,2	1	0,0	1	0,1	4	0,8	0	0,0
violent sexual crimes	6	0,1	2	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	3	0,1	1	0,1	0	0,0	0	0,0
Criminal cases and cases of domestic violence referred to mediation, by offence category, in total	11 751	100	4 681	100	1 192	100	1 691	100	2 619	100	987	100	507	100	74	100
In a criminal case, the case was submitted to mediation by																
the police	8 179	77,8	3 165	75,6	898	79,4	1 372	87,4	1 538	70,0	782	85,7	381	82,1	43	86,0
a public prosecutor	1 837	17,5	836	20,0	191	16,9	128	8,2	502	22,8	100	11,0	74	15,9	6	12,0
parties involved	138	1,3	36	0,9	12	1,1	45	2,9	25	1,1	17	1,9	3	0,6	0	0,0
parties involved, of which by the victim	79		23		3	0,0	30		9		12		2		0	
parties involved, of which by the offender	62		15		9	0,0	15		17		5		1		0	
social welfare authorities	273	2,6	114	2,7	15	1,3	9	0,6	124	5,6	4	0,4	6	1,3	1	2,0
parents/custodians	20	0,2	11	0,3	3	0,3	0	0,0	2	0,1	4	0,4	0	0,0	0	0,0
trustees	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0
other	61	0,6	22	0,5	12	1,1	15	1,0	6	0,3	6	0,7	0	0,0	0	0,0
Criminal cases submitted to mediation in total	10 508	100	4 184	100	1 131	100	1 569	100	2 197	100	913	100	464	100	50	100
In a case of domestic violence, the case was submitted to mediation by																
the police	824	80,1	402	81,5	49	83,1	103	92,0	160	69,9	62	83,8	43	75,4	5	100
a public prosecutor	205	19,9	91	18,5	10	16,9	9	8,0	69	30,1	12	16,2	14	24,6	0	0
Cases of domestic violence submitted to mediation in total	1 029	100	493	100	59	100	112	100	229	100	74	100	57	100	5	100
In a civil case, the case was submitted to mediation by																
a private person	171	63,3	57	62,0	14	42,4	45	69,2	22	57,9	18	81,8	12	85,7	3	50,0
a legal person	99	36,7	35	38,0	19	57,6	20	30,8	16	42,1	4	18,2	2	14,3	3	50,0
Civil cases submitted to mediation in total	270	100	92	100	33	100	65	100	38	100	22	100	14	100	6	100
Mediation activities at mediation offices during the year																
Criminal cases and cases of domestic violence started, in total (number)	8 034	69,2	3 225	69,0	888	74,6	1 368	82,6	1 524	60,9	689	69,8	307	58,9	33	45,2
Interrupted criminal cases and cases of domestic violence, in total (number)	1 290	11,1	574	12,3	102	8,6	315	19,0	172	6,9	68	6,9	56	10,7	3	4,1

*There is some uncertainty in the data. For example, the data were incomplete in some respects with regard to the offence categories, the person/organisation submitting the case to mediation, and the age of the parties concerned.

Appendix table 1. Mediation in criminal and civil cases in the whole country and by regional state administrative agency 2009*

	Whole country		Southern Finland		South-western Finland		Eastern Finland		Western and Central Finland		Northern Finland		Lapland		State Department of Åland	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Type of criminal case and/or domestic violence																
Criminal case: complainant offence	4 781	45,8	1 885	45,2	561	49,6	797	51,6	897	40,9	376	42,3	245	52,8	20	38,5
Criminal case: offence under public prosecution	5 666	54,2	2 289	54,8	570	50,4	748	48,4	1 296	59,1	512	57,7	219	47,2	32	61,5
Domestic violence: complainant offence	165	15,6	76	15,4	5	8,5	16	14,3	32	13,7	25	25,3	10	17,5	1	20,0
Domestic violence: offence under public prosecution	893	84,4	417	84,6	54	91,5	96	85,7	201	86,3	74	74,7	47	82,5	4	80,0
Parties involved in criminal cases, cases of domestic violence and civil cases																
Male suspected offenders	10 355	79,5	4 129	78,8	1 008	76,7	1 487	80,1	2 293	81,3	927	80,5	438	78,4	73	84,9
Female suspected offenders	2 675	20,5	1 114	21,2	307	23,3	370	19,9	526	18,7	224	19,5	121	21,6	13	15,1
Suspected offenders in total	13 030	100	5 243	100	1 315	100,0	1 857	100,0	2 819	100,0	1 151	100,0	559	100,0	86	100,0
Injured parties/complainants, men	5 711	61,8	2 307	60,4	623	62,6	832	64,1	1 125	60,4	495	63,5	268	67,8	61	73,5
Injured parties/complainants, women	3 523	38,2	1 513	39,6	373	37,4	465	35,9	738	39,6	285	36,5	127	32,2	22	26,5
Injured parties/complainants in total	9 234	100	3 820	100	996	100	1 297	100	1 863	100	780	100	395	100	83	100,0
Injured parties, legal persons	1 620		641		159		209		344		162		89		16	
Age of suspected offenders at the time of the act in criminal and civil cases of domestic violence																
under 15	1 876	14,6	813	15,7	167	12,7	202	11,0	402	14,3	233	20,8	49	9,0	10	12,3
15–17	2 684	20,8	1 131	21,8	276	21,0	294	16,0	675	24,0	192	17,1	104	19,0	12	14,8
18–20	1 760	13,7	649	12,5	205	15,6	269	14,7	425	15,1	118	10,5	84	15,4	10	12,3
21–29	2 413	18,7	884	17,0	269	20,5	390	21,3	528	18,8	212	18,9	110	20,1	20	24,7
30–64	3 935	30,5	1 635	31,5	368	28,0	629	34,3	748	26,6	339	30,3	187	34,2	29	35,8
65 and over	224	1,7	76	1,5	30	2,3	50	2,7	30	1,1	26	2,3	12	2,2	0	0
Suspected offenders in total, by age at the time of the act	12 892	100	5 188	100	1 315	100	1 834	100	2 808	100	1 120	100	546	100	81	100
Age of complainants/injured parties at the time of the act in criminal and civil cases and cases of domestic violence																
under 15	793	8,5	398	10,4	71	7,1	87	6,5	133	7,1	66	8,4	27	6,8	11	13,9
15–17	844	9,1	319	8,3	106	10,6	89	6,7	225	12,0	74	9,5	27	6,8	4	5,1
18–20	1 047	11,2	411	10,7	113	11,3	174	13,1	205	10,9	84	10,7	51	12,8	9	11,4
21–29	1 913	20,6	781	20,3	218	21,9	257	19,3	401	21,4	161	20,6	85	21,3	10	12,7
30–64	4 385	47,1	1 820	47,4	451	45,3	658	49,4	853	45,5	367	46,9	192	48,0	44	55,7
65 and over	325	3,5	113	2,9	37	3,7	66	5,0	59	3,1	31	4,0	18	4,5	1	1,3
Complainants/injured parties in total, by age at the time of the act	9 307	100	3 842	100	996	100	1 331	100	1 876	100	783	100	400	100	79	100
Mediation agreements																
Agreements reached in criminal cases during the year	6 107	65,5	2 335	61,5	765	77,3	1 040	61,8	1 178	69,5	510	67,4	251	69,1	28	77,8
Partial agreements reached in criminal cases during the year	99	1,1	42	1,1	8	0,8	17	1,0	9	0,5	9	1,2	14	3,9	0	0
Agreements reached in civil cases during the year	109		32		14		28		22		5		3		5	
Criminal and civil cases left unresolved	495		219		64		72		90		29		20		1	
Agreements reached in cases of domestic violence during the year	615	6,6	335	8,8	35	3,5	55	3,3	128	7,5	34	4,5	25	6,9	3	8,3
Cases of domestic violence left unresolved	33		12		2		3		15		0		1		0	
Types of compensation agreed on in criminal and civil cases and cases of domestic violence	10 749	100	4 190	100	1 482	100	1 258	100	2 351	100	1 038	100	399	100	31	100
Monetary compensation (number)	4 435	41,3	1 554	37,1	642	43,3	776	61,7	799	34,0	415	40,0	237	59,4	12	38,7
Work compensation (number)	495	4,6	207	4,9	42	2,8	74	5,9	78	3,3	76	7,3	18	4,5	0	0
Return of property (number)	63	0,6	42	1,0	4	0,3	9	0,7	4	0,2	3	0,3	0	0,0	1	3,2
Acceptable behaviour contracts (number)	654	6,1	265	6,3	56	3,8	71	5,6	130	5,5	99	9,5	25	6,3	8	25,8
Apologies (number)	3 709	34,5	1 641	39,2	530	35,8	168	13,4	895	38,1	392	37,8	83	20,8	0	0
No claims/waivers of claims (number)	1 393	13,0	481	11,5	208	14,0	160	12,7	445	18,9	53	5,1	36	9,0	10	32,3
Total value of monetary compensations, €	1 761 467	93,8	660 845	92,8	240 829	97,8	273 277	94,6	271 097	95,6	174 327	89,2	128 949	92,3	12 143	100
Total value of work compensations, €	117 128	6,2	51 494	7,2	5 374	2,2	15 680	5,4	12 615	4,4	21 132	10,8	10 833	7,7	0	0
Total value of all compensations, €	1 878 595	100	712 339	100	246 203	100	288 957	100	283 712	100	195 459	100	139 782	100	12 143	100

*There is some uncertainty in the data. For example, the data were incomplete in some respects with regard to the offence categories, the person/organisation submitting the case to mediation, and the age of the parties concerned.