

Corruption

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Source: Kuritegevus Eestis 2018 (Crime in Estonia 2018)

In 2018, 378 corruption offences were registered in 73 criminal cases. The number of corruption offences¹ has increased by 23% compared to 2017, but the number of related criminal cases has not changed significantly. In particular, the medical sector has seen an increase in corruption offences, having registered 97 more cases in 2018 than a year before.

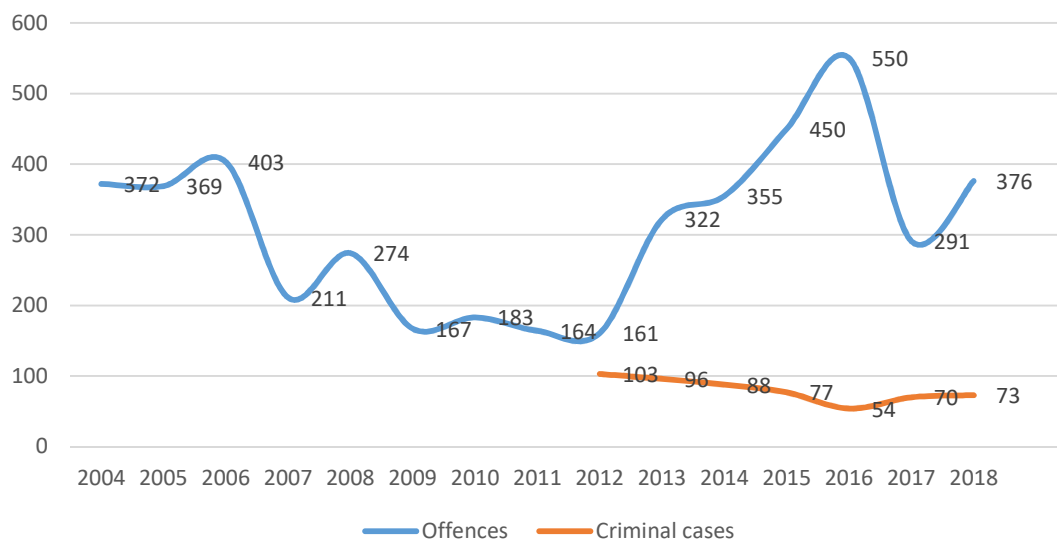


Figure 1. Number of registered criminal offences and criminal cases

Similarly to 2017, in 2018, many corruption offences related to the area of medicine were registered (174), which are being investigated in four large-scale criminal cases. Of those, 38 fraud cases were related to a doctor giving false information to a Social Insurance Board about patients health, as well as taking bribes for jumping a queue.

In 2018 as well, the highest number of corruption offenses was recorded at national level (59%). In 2018, 67 cases were registered where an employee of a company organising traffic training for lorry drivers took a bribe for issuing a document proving that the training had been passed, and provided false information about passed trainings to the Road Administration. In 2018, one case was registered where bribe was offered to a foreign official. The area of sports and culture also emerged, where 7 cases of corruption were recorded.

¹ In addition to professional offences, embezzlement and fraud by officials, private sector bribery offences and prohibited donations are taken into account.

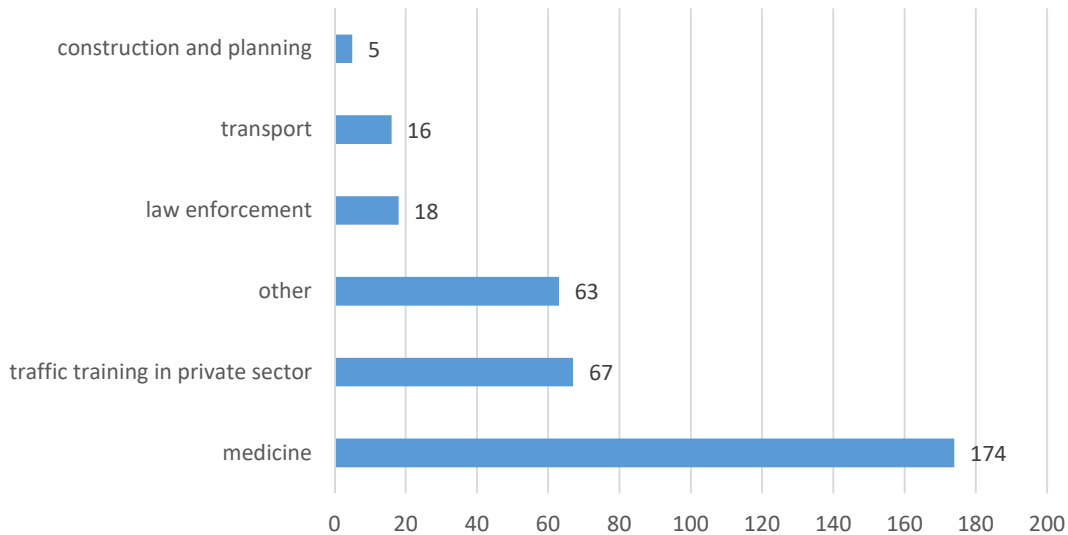


Figure 2. Areas where corruption occurred in 2018

60% of the perpetrators of corruption offences at the local government level had an elected/political position (local government mayor, assistant of local government mayor, deputy mayor, council member). Their criminal offences had different nature and most of them involved embezzlement by an official, bribery or violation of a procedural restriction. Corruption offences related to persons elected at national level were not registered. However, it has to be taken into account that at the national level, there were large-scale criminal cases where infringement upon the sense of justice is more extensive.

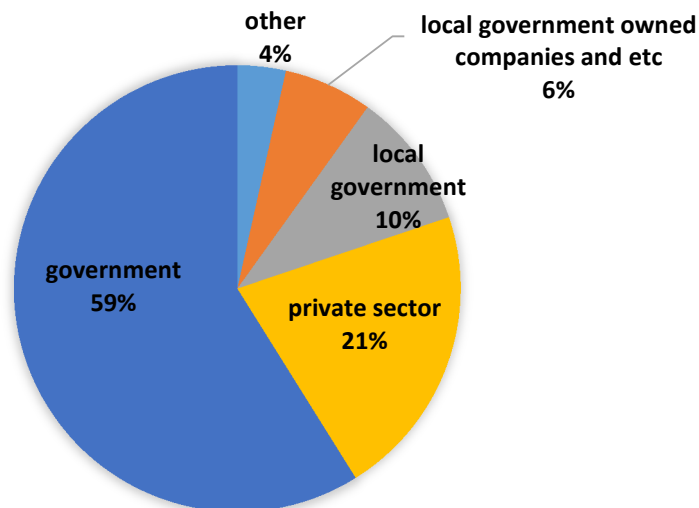


Figure 3. The occurrence of corruption offenses by sector