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# PRESS RELEASE

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## FIRST RESULTS OF THE 2008 VICTIM SURVEY

### Theft characterizes crime in Bonaire, Curacao and Sint Maarten

From the end of May to the end of June 2008 inclusive the Central Bureau for Statistics (CBS) conducted a victim survey on Bonaire, Curacao and Sint Maarten.

The most important results are stated below:

#### BONAIRE

- 72 percent of the respondents age 16 and older have **ever** been victims of a crime. In the 12 months preceding the victims survey 27 percent became victims. In 1995 58 percent have ever been victims and 30 percent became victims in the 12 months preceding the survey.
- The most common forms of crime are burglary, theft from gardens, premises and porch, theft from cars.
- In 39 percent of the cases the victims reported the crime to the police authorities. In 1995 50 percent did so.
- The most important reasons given for not reporting the crime to the police are as follows: the police will not do anything about it anyway, the police could not have done anything/lack of proof, the case is not so serious enough/ no loss/kid's stuff, the victim solved the case his/herself/ he/she knows the offender.
- 33 percent of the victims, who reported the crime to the police, were satisfied with the police efforts. In relation to 1995 (43 %) this percentage has dropped 10 percentage points.

- 35 percent of the respondents show strong to very strong feelings of fear and anxiety. This percentage is considerably lower than in 1995 (which were 62%).

## **CURACAO**

- 80 percent of the respondents age 16 and older have **ever** been victims of a crime. In the year preceding the victim survey 26 percent became victims. 1995 portrayed respectively 71 en 32 percent.
- The most common crimes are theft from cars, burglary, theft from gardens, premises, porches.
- In 46 percent of the cases the victims reported the crime to the police authorities. In 1995 45 percent did so.
- The most important reasons given for not reporting the crime to the police are as follows: the police will not do anything about it anyway, the police could not have done anything/lack of proof, the case is not serious enough/ no loss/kid's stuff, the victim solved the case his/herself/ he/she knows the offender.
- 41 percent of the victims, who reported the crime to the police, were satisfied with the police efforts; this percentage shows an increase as compared to 1995 (which was 35 %).
- 47 percent of the respondents show strong to very strong feelings of fear and anxiety. On the other hand, in 1995 78 percent of the respondents had strong feelings of fear and anxiety. This is a considerable drop.

## **SINT MAARTEN**

- 72 percent of the respondents age 16 and older have **ever** been victims of a crime. In the year preceding the victim survey 28 percent became victims. The last victim survey held in Sint Maarten was in 1992. The percentages were then respectively 47 percent and 24 percent.
- The most common crimes were theft from cars, burglary, and robbery/theft of personal properties.
- In 31 percent of the cases the victims reported the crime to the police authorities. In 1992 41 percent did so.
- The most important reasons given for not reporting the crime to the police are as follows: the case is not serious enough/ no loss/kid's stuff, the police will not do anything about it, the police could not have done anything/lack of proof, the victim solved the case his/herself/ he/she knows the offender.
- 38 percent of the victims, who reported the crime to the police, were satisfied with the police efforts; this percentage shows an increase as compared to 1992 (which was 29 %).

- 58 percent of the respondents show strong to very strong feelings of fear and anxiety; this percentage shows an increase as compared to 1992 (which was 51%).

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