



Department of Statistics and Publications
of the Human Rights Activists in Iran

2016

ANNUAL REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAN





Introduction:

This leaflet contains the 2016's analytical and statistical annual report on the human rights in Iran, prepared by the Department of Statistics and Publications of Human Rights Activists in Iran (HRAI). This statistic analysis report presented by HRAI, is the result of the daily efforts of this organization and its dedicated members as part of a daily statistic and census project that started in 2009 by this organization.

This annual report on human rights violations in Iran (2016) is the collection, analysis, and documentation of 3439 reports concerning human rights, gathered from various news sources during 2016. Human Right Activists News Agency (HRANA) has gathered and reported 28%, official or close to the Iranian government sources 63% and other human rights news agencies 9% of all the reports analysed in this Annual Report.

The following 31-pages includes statistical overviews and related charts on various sections regarding women's rights, children's rights, prisoners' rights and etc. based on this report, despite the 4% increase in human rights violations reports in provinces other than Tehran, compared to the last year's annual report, there is still a major concern on lack of proper reporting and monitoring of the human rights situation by the civil society in the smaller cities.

This report is the result of endeavours made by courageous human rights activists in Iran who pay a very high cost for the realization of their humanitarian believes. However for obvious reasons (i.e. existing governmental limitations and ban on the free exchange of information and government preventing the existence of human right organizations in the country), this report by no means is free of errors and cannot alone be a reflection on the actual status of human right in Iran. However, it should be emphasized that this report is considered as one of the most accurate, comprehensive and authentic reports on the human rights conditions in Iran and it can serve as a very informative source of information for human rights activists and organizations working on Iran, to better understand the challenges and opportunities that they may face.

Human Rights Activists in Iran (HRAI)

Department of Statistics and Publications

January, 2017

Bank_Statistics@hra-iran.org



As indicated in the distribution map, there exists a major difference between Tehran, the capital, and other parts of the country in terms of the number of published reports. This is while the population of Tehran has been reported on the census of 2011 as 12,425,000 people, compared to the population of other parts of the country being 62,724,669 people.

Figure 2. A comparison between the population of Tehran and other regions in Iran

According to the statistics from 2016, the focus and capability of human rights reporters has been 37% in Tehran compared to 64% in the rest of the country.

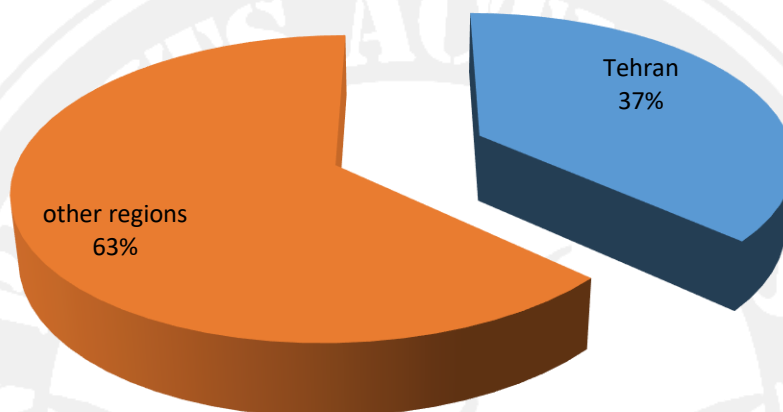


Figure 3. A comparison between the reporting capacities in Tehran compared with the rest of the country

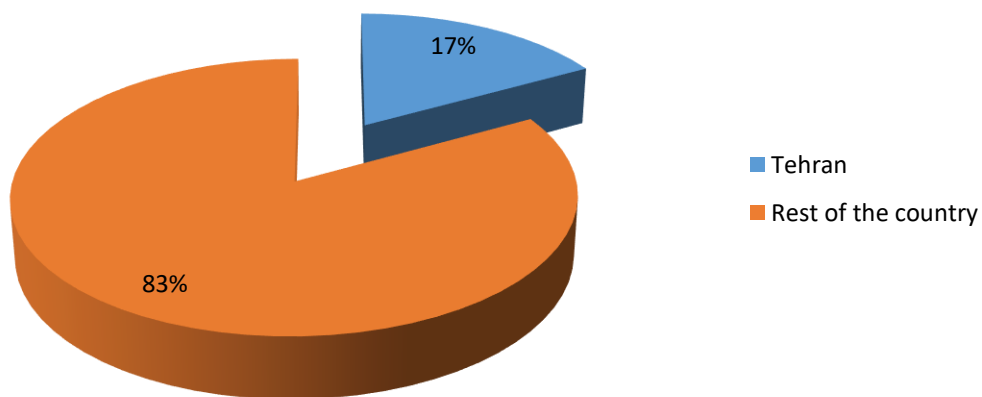




Table 1. The following table represents the provinces included in the annual report of the human rights in Iran and the respective number of reports. Absence of a province on the list does not indicate the absence of human rights violations on the corresponding province.

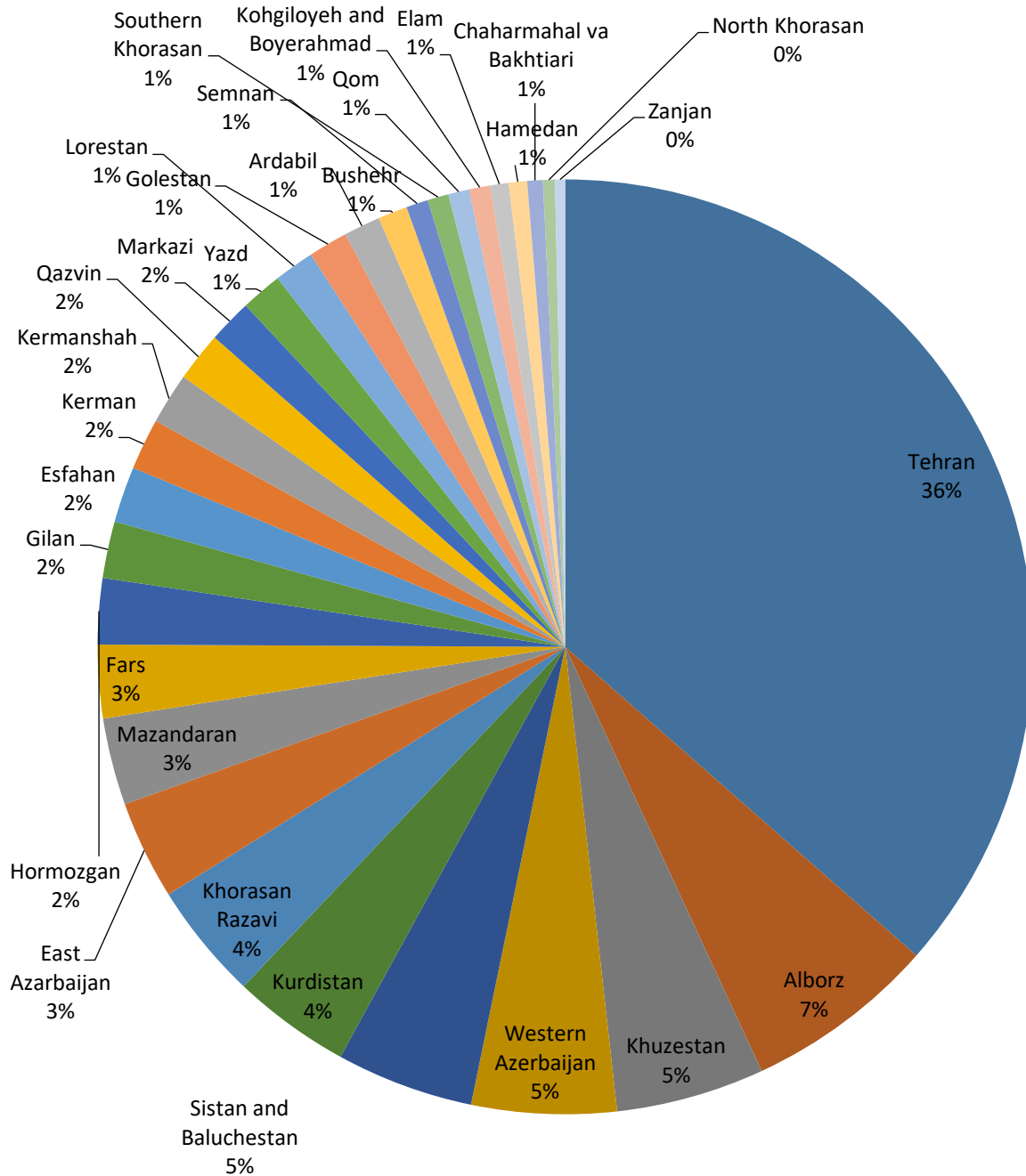
Provinces Name	Reports	changes from the previous year	Provinces Name	Reports	changes from the previous year
East Azarbaijan	108	+36	Chaharmahal va Bakhtiari	17	+11
Western Azerbaijan	158	+47	Qom	23	+7
Ardabil	40	+20	Kurdistan	129	+72
Esfahan	61	+7	Kerman	56	+12
Alborz	211	+66	Kermanshah	56	+28
Elam	20	+16	Golestan	43	+24
Bushehr	32	+24	Gilan	62	+31
Tehran	1152	+231	Lorestan	44	+29
Khorasan Razavi	128	+60	Mazandaran	96	+61
Khuzestan	162	+81	Markazi	48	+32
North Khorasan	13	+3	Hormozgan	73	+29
Qazvin	56	+33	Hamedan	20	+6
southern Khorasan	23	+5	Yazd	45	+19
Zanjan	11	0	Sistan and Baluchestan	150	+17
Semnan	24	+6	Kohgiluyeh and Boyerahmad	23	+6
Fars	80	+8	Overall	275	-25

* Overall: reflects reports that do not concern a particular province but apply to the whole country.



The following pie chart illustrates the percentile of submitted report based on the province.

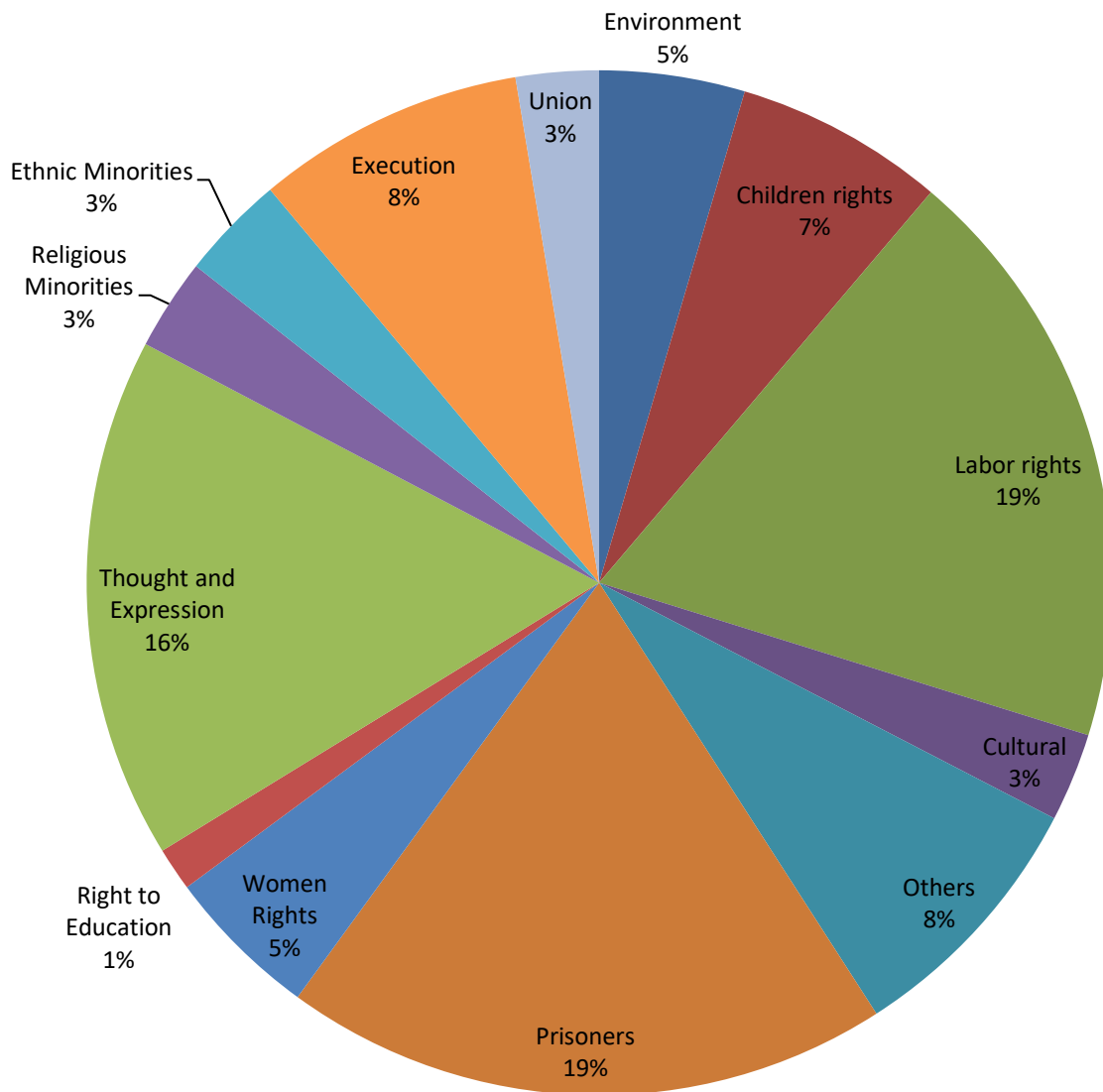
Figure 4. A pie chart comparing the Iranian provinces based on the percentile of total submitted reports.





To begin the study of the categories of human rights violations in Iran, it is important to initially compare the categories based on the number of reports made in each category in the past year.

Figure 5. Percentile of the number of reports made in 2016 based on the Legal Category.

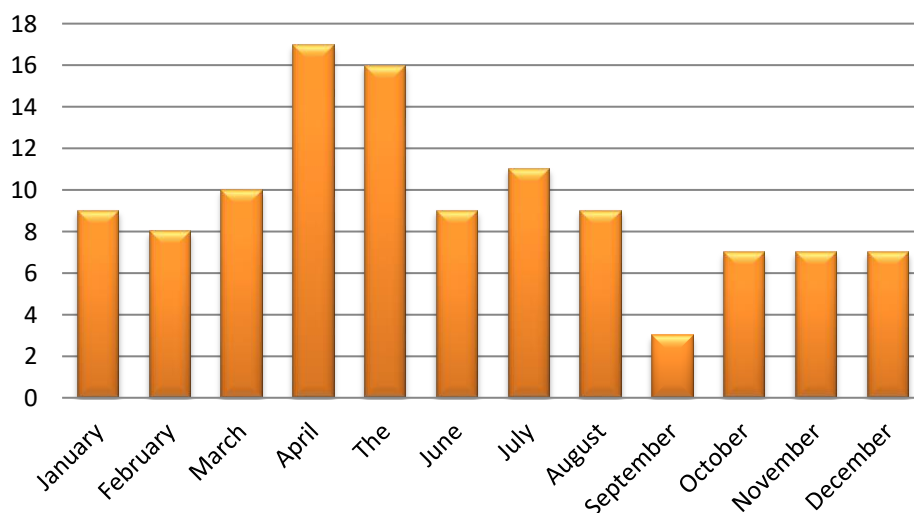




Ethnic Minorities

In the field of national and ethnic minorities' rights, a total of 113 reports have been registered by the department of the statistics, and publication of human rights activists in Iran (HRAI) in 2016. According to these reports, 366 people were arrested. And for 70 people, 996 months of imprisonments, 276 months of suspended sentences and 4105 lashes have been issued. Overall, out of the total of 113 reports received 99 types of human right violations have been reported for 554 people.

Figure 6. Histogram of the violations of human rights of national and ethnic minorities per month based on the number of cases

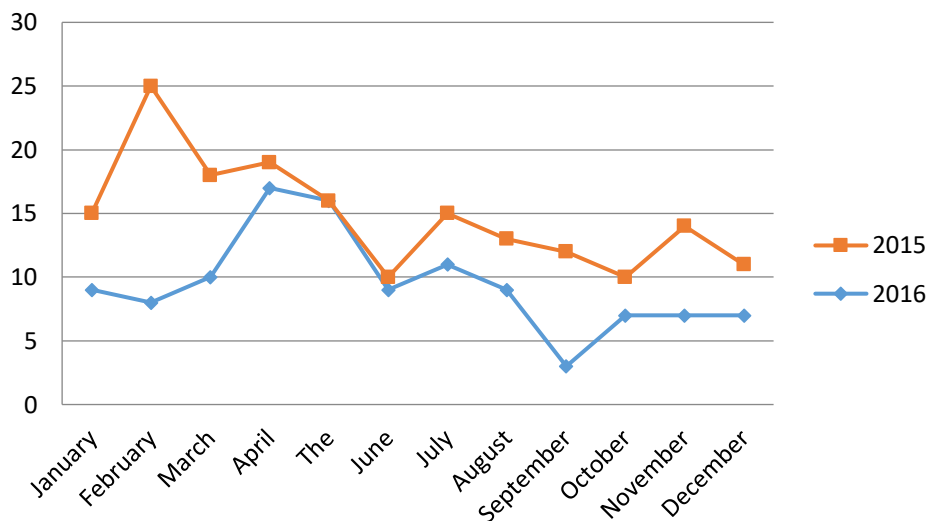


In the category of national minorities, the number of arrested individuals has increased by 8% in 2016 in comparison with 2015. Moreover, imprisonment sentences issued by the judicial authorities have had an increase of by 95%. Monthly comparison of the national rights violations based on the number of violation per month have had an increase of 40% compared to the last year. Highest number of violations occurred in the month of April, In contrast, to the highest decline observed in the month of September.



The following diagram illustrates the number of violations of human rights in the category of national minorities in comparison with 2015.

Figure 7. Number of violations of ethnic minorities' rights per month in 2016 compared to 2015





Religious Minorities

In this category, 97 reports have been registered by the Department of Statistics in 2016, According to these reports, 90 civilians were arrested, 9 were beaten, and 3 religious sanctuaries were shut down, 195 cases of prevention from economical activities, 49 cases of summoning to the judicial and security institutions, and 49 cases of depriving and preventing from education.

52 individuals of the religious minorities were arrested and sentenced by the judicial institutions to a total of 4968 months of imprisonment.

Amongst the 95 reports gathered, 97 types of violation of the rights of the religious minorities were recorded, that in total at least has effected 795 people.

Figure 8. Comparative histogram on violation of religious minorities' rights base on the number of cases reported per month

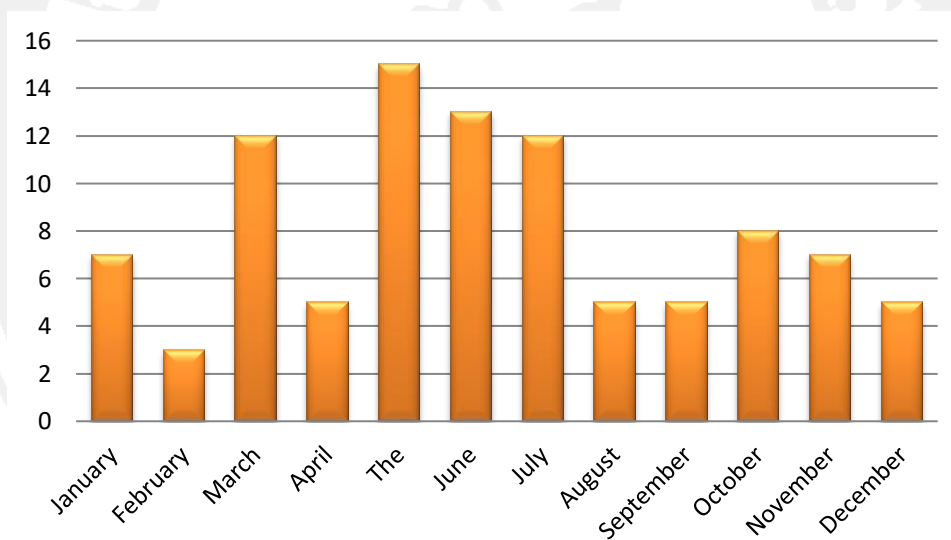




Figure 9. Comparative histogram on violation of religious minorities' rights based on the number of arrestees reported per month

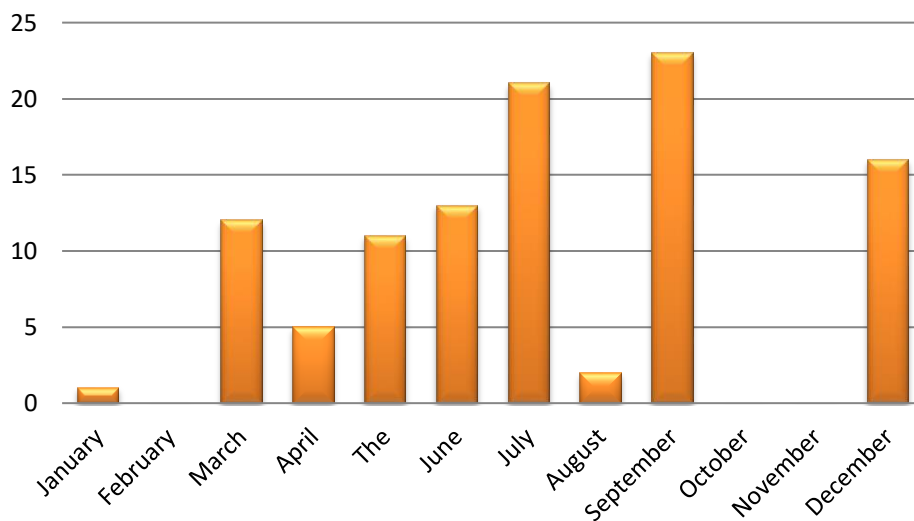
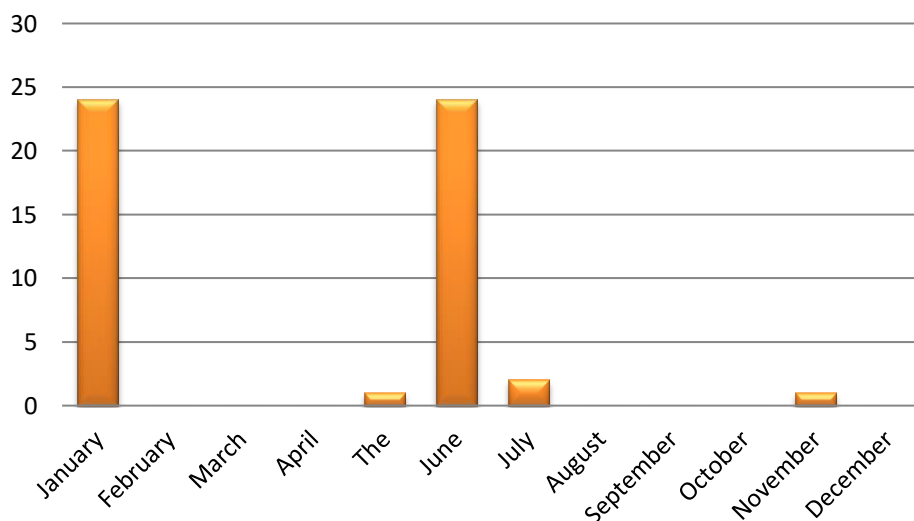


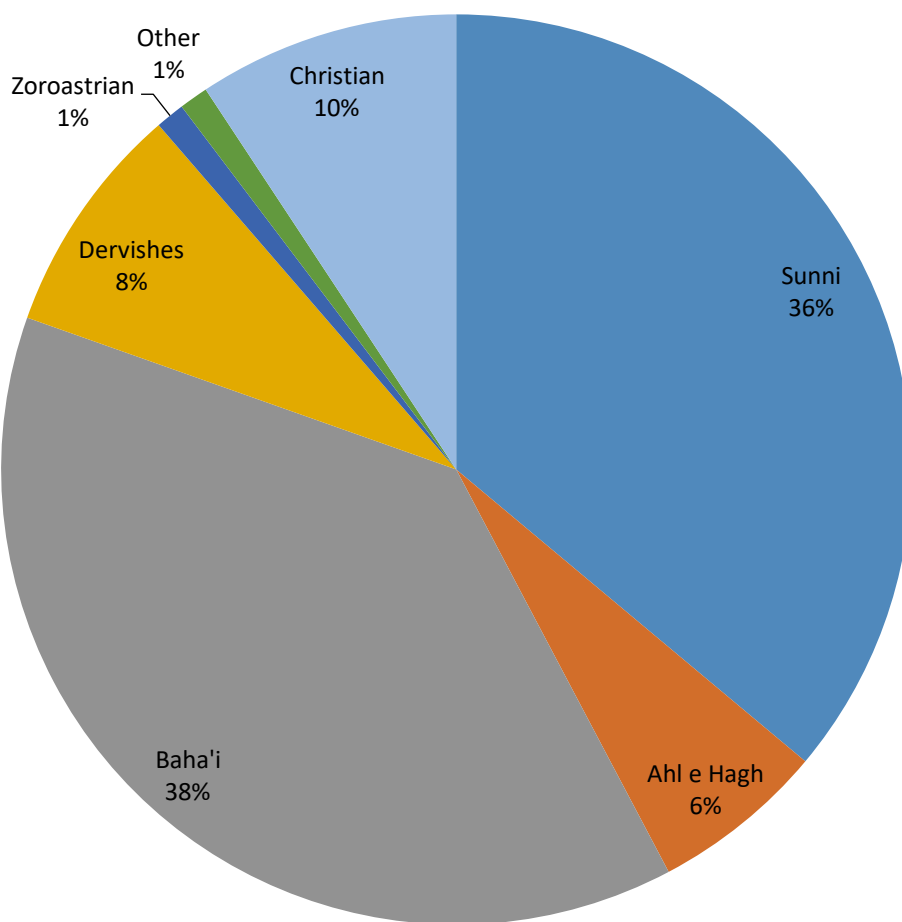
Figure 10. Comparative histogram on violation of religious minorities' rights base on number of convicted individuals per month





In the field of religious minorities, the Baha'is constitute the highest of the Human Rights Watch reports on religious minority violations with 38% and respectively Sunnis 36%, Dervishes 8%, Christians 10%, and Ahl-e Haqq 6% of the total reports. Note that the reports labeled as “Others” are those that did not belong to specific group of religious minorities.

Figure 11. Percentile pie chart based on the number of reports per religious/ belief minorities



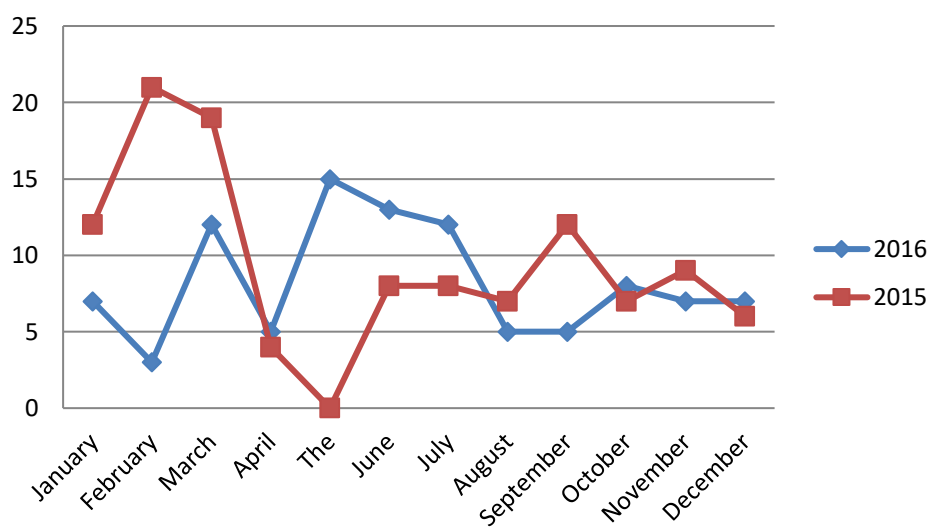


The number of citizens arrested in the category of religious minorities has declined by 28% in 2016 compared to 2015; however, imprisonment sentences issued by the judiciary has increased by 24%.

The violations of freedom of religion based on the number of human right violations per month has decreased by 12% in 2016 compared to 2015, the highest increase has been reported in May and the lowest decline in February.

The following graph illustrates the number of violations of human rights in the category of religious minorities in 2016 in comparison with 2015.

Figure 12. Number of violations of religious minorities' rights per month in 2016 compared to 2015





Freedom of Expression

In the category of freedom of thought and expression, in 2016, 561 reports have been registered by the Department of Statistics that included 155 cases of Internet website filtering, 25 reports of publication banning; 3 cases of deliberate interference with the internet network; 242 arrested individuals; 215 cases of physical assaults; 36 cases of intimidation and threats; 335 summons to the judiciary and security authorities.

In 2016, 217 arrestees were sentenced to a total of 6380 months of imprisonment, 432 months of suspended sentences, 150 billion and 857 million and 600 thousand Rials in financial fines, 12922 lashes, and 35 cases of deprivation from civil rights have been reported in this category.

Moreover, 2705 satellite dishes were collected and reported by the state media reporters. A total of 561 cases of human rights violations in this category reported; 574 of these reports indicated violations of human rights of 9767 individuals.

Below are the charts highlighting the violations of the human right to the freedom of expression.

Figure 13. A comparative analysis of the reports on the violation of human rights in the category of Freedom of Expression based on the number of cases per month.

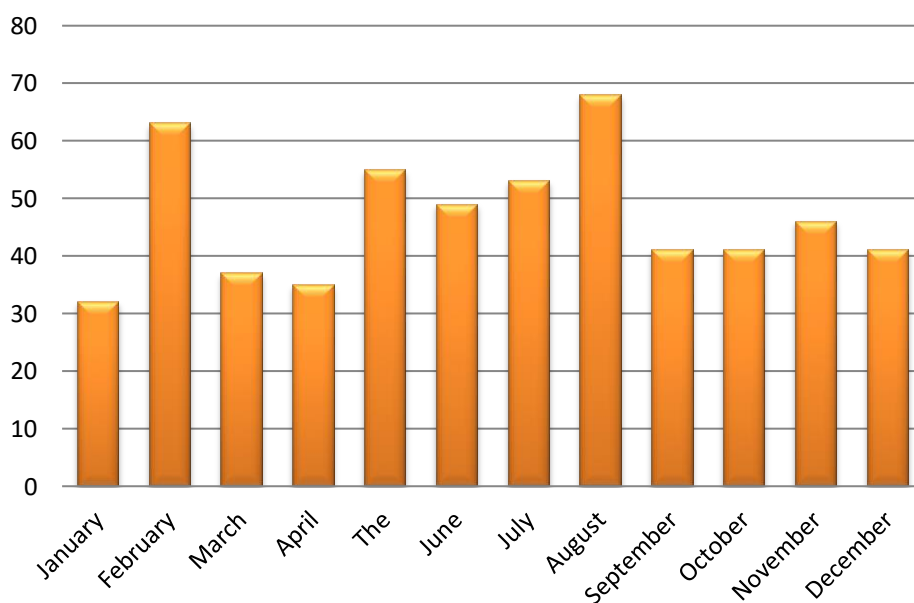




Figure 14. A comparative analysis of the reports on the violation of human rights in the category of Freedom of Expression based on the number of arrests per month

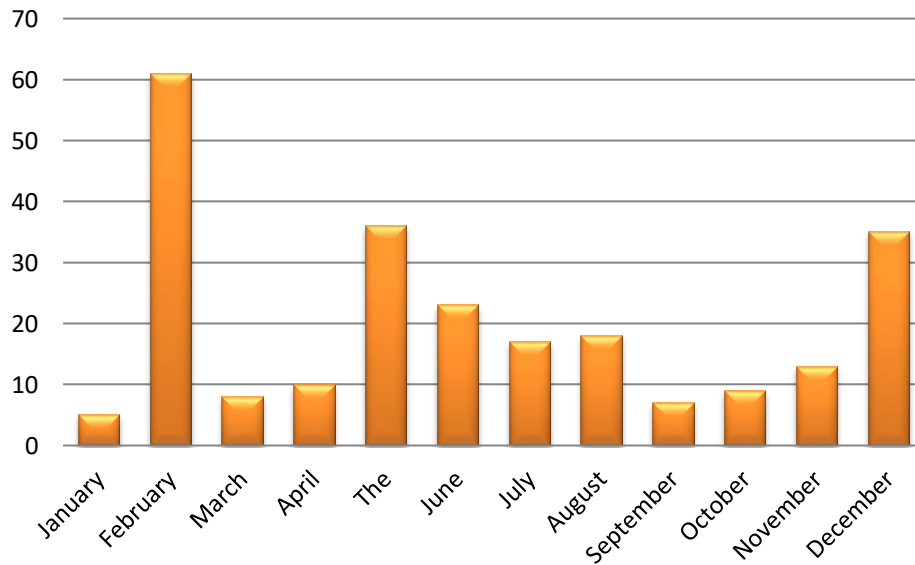
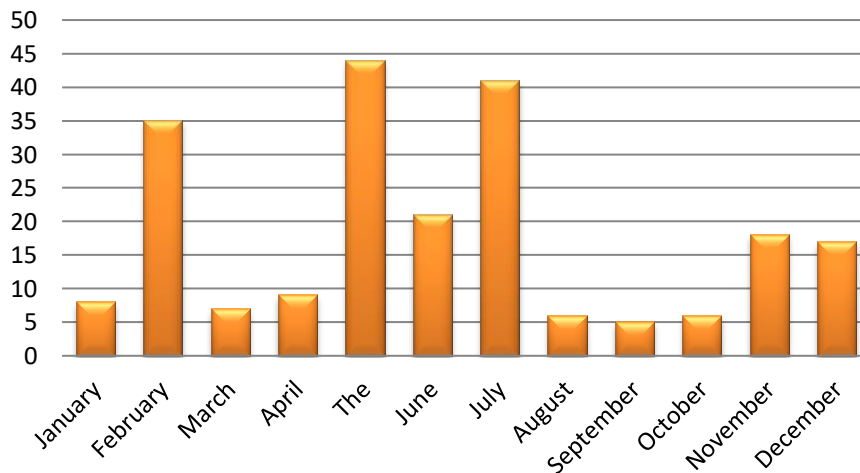


Figure 15. A comparative analysis of the reports on violation of the human rights in the category of Freedom of Expression based on the number of individuals convicted per month



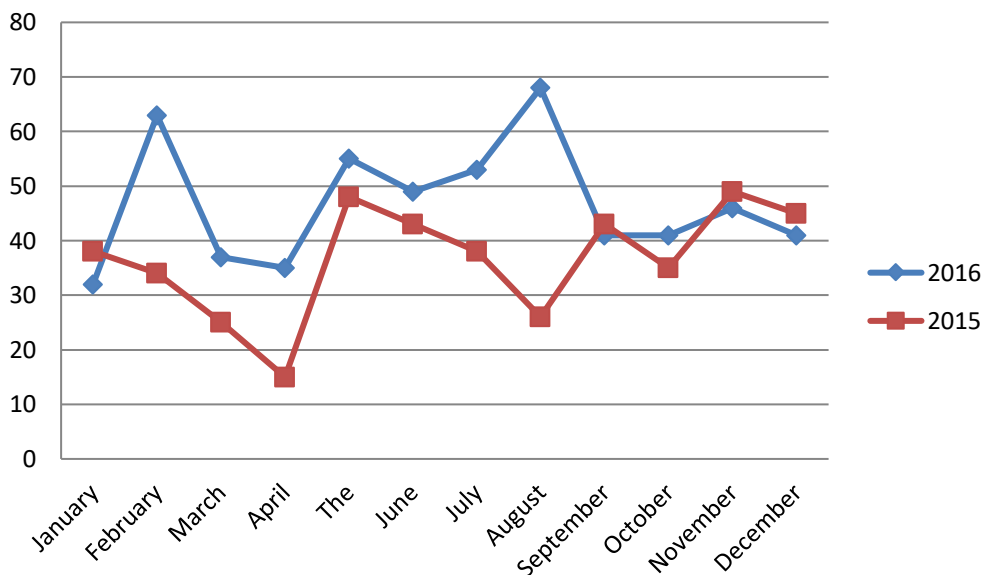
In the category of Freedom of Expression, there has been a 22% decrease in the arrests of citizens compared to the previous year, and there has been an 18% decrease in the sentences issued by the judiciary based on the number of people charged.

Comparing 2016 and 2015 in the number of cases of violation of freedom of expression per month there has been an 18% increase and the highest growth has been in August and the highest decline in January.



The following graph illustrates the number of cases of violations of human rights in the category of Freedom of Expression in comparison with 2015.

Figure 16. Monthly comparison of violations of Freedom of Expression compared with the previous year

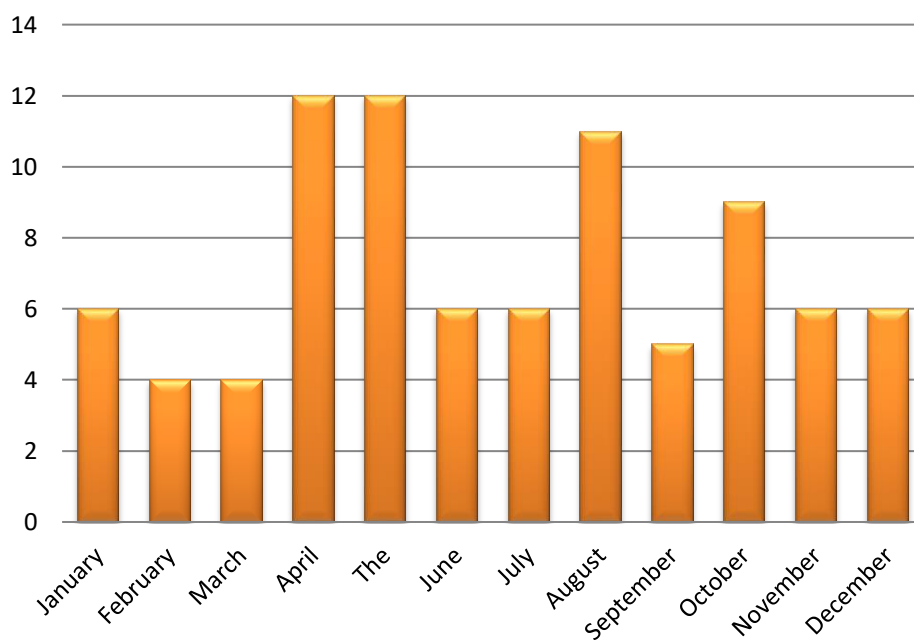




Trade Unions and Associations

In the category of the rights of associations and trade unions in 2016, 87 reports have been registered by the Department of Statistics and Publications. This includes 45 reports on arrested members of trade union, 1 trials for the individuals active in this category, 5837 cases of closing the facilities and 4 cases of prohibiting the activities of organizations. Also in this category, 5 individuals have been sentenced to a total of 195 months in prison. A total of 87 reports have been registered in this category that include 97 cases of violations of human rights for 11610 individuals.

Figure 17. A comparative analysis of the violation of human rights of Trade Unions and Associations based on the number of cases per month.



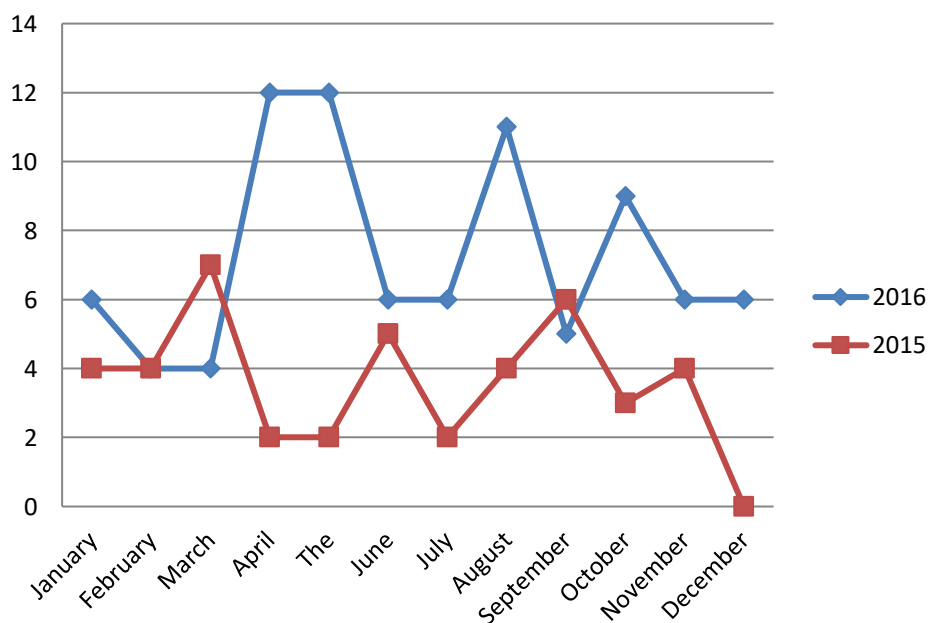
In the category of Trade Unions and Associations, there has been 58% increase in the number of arrests and there has been 66% increase in the imprisonment sentences issued by the judiciary.

Based on a comparative analysis of the violations of the rights of Trade Unions and Associations, the human rights violations increased by 46% in 2016 compared to the numbers reported in 2015. The highest increase in the violations observed in April and the highest decrease in the violations observed in March.

The following graph illustrates the number of violations of human rights in the category of Trade Unions and Associations in comparison with 2015.



Figure 18. A comparison of the number of violations of Trade Unions and Associations rights per month compared with the previous year.

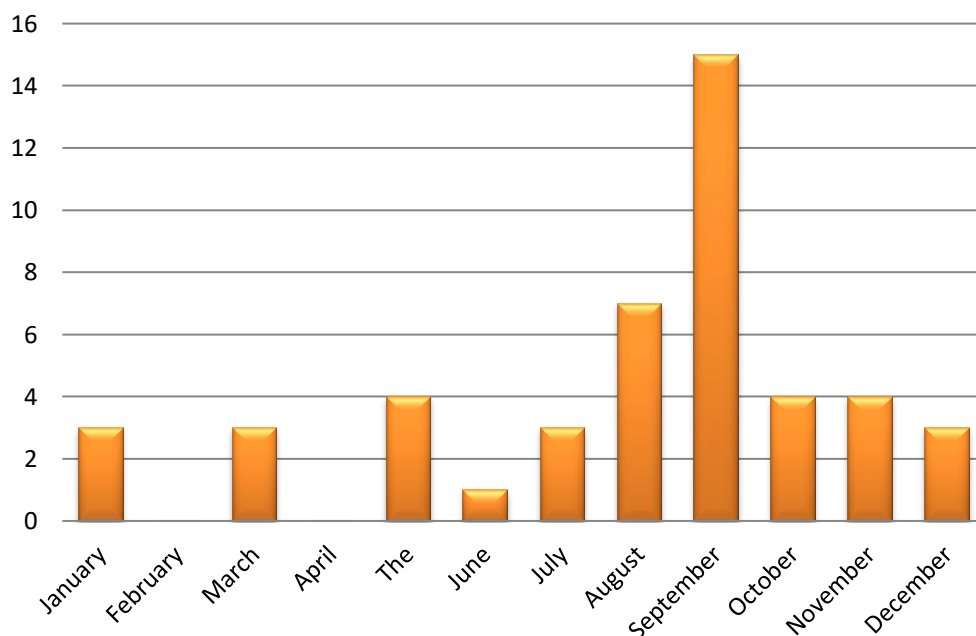




Academia/ Right to education

In the category of violations of academic rights in 2016, 47 reports have been registered by the Department of Statistics and Publication of Human Rights Activists Association in Iran. This includes 39 students arrested, 169 summoned to the disciplinary committee, 7 dismissed or suspended from universities. In this category, the judiciary authorities sentenced at least one student to 24 months in prison in 2016. Amongst the 45 registered reports, 17 cases of violations of right to education and academic were reported for 1619 individuals.

Figure 19. A comparative analysis of the violation of academic rights based on the number of cases per Month.



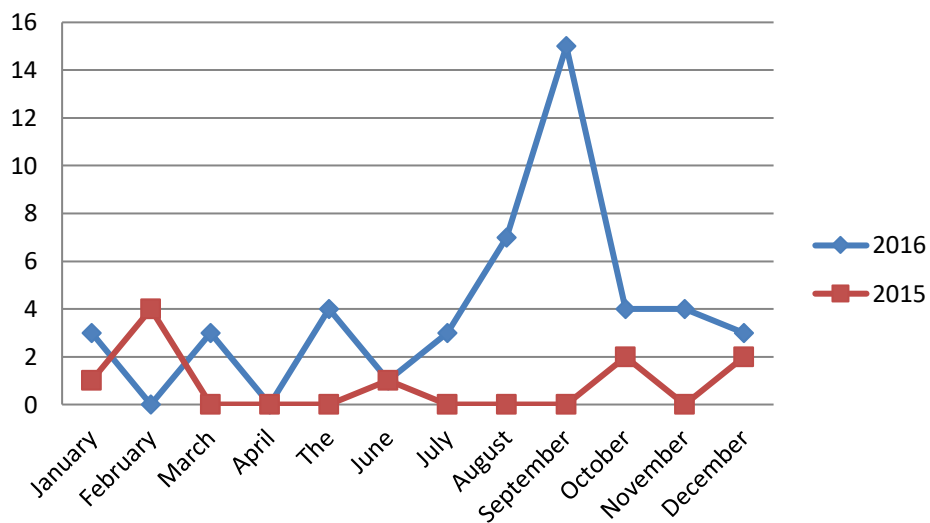
In the category of violations of academic rights, there was 90% increase in the number of arrested students, and there was 100% increase in the imprisonment sentences issued.

Based on a comparative analysis of the violations of the academic rights, these violations increased by 36% in 2016 when compared to the numbers in 2015. The highest increase in the violations observed in September and the highest decrease in the violations observed in February.



The following graph illustrates the number of violations of human rights in the category of violations of academic rights in comparison with 2016.

Figure 20. A comparison of the number of violations of academic rights per month compared with the previous year





Right to Live (Death Penalty)

In the category of death sentence in 2016, 300 reports have been registered by the Department of Statistics and Publication of Human Rights Activists Association in Iran. This included 457 death sentences, execution of 508 death sentences (including 32 executions in public). Based on the announced identifications of some of these individuals executed, 500 were male or other sexual orientations and 8 were female.

According to these reports, 59% of the executions were based on drug related charges. Also, 27%, 6%, 4%, of the individuals executed were convicted of murder, rape, and security and political charges respectively. Amongst the 300 registered reports, 301 cases of violations of rights that affected 971 individuals were reported.

Figure 21. A comparative analysis of the death sentences based on the number of cases per month.

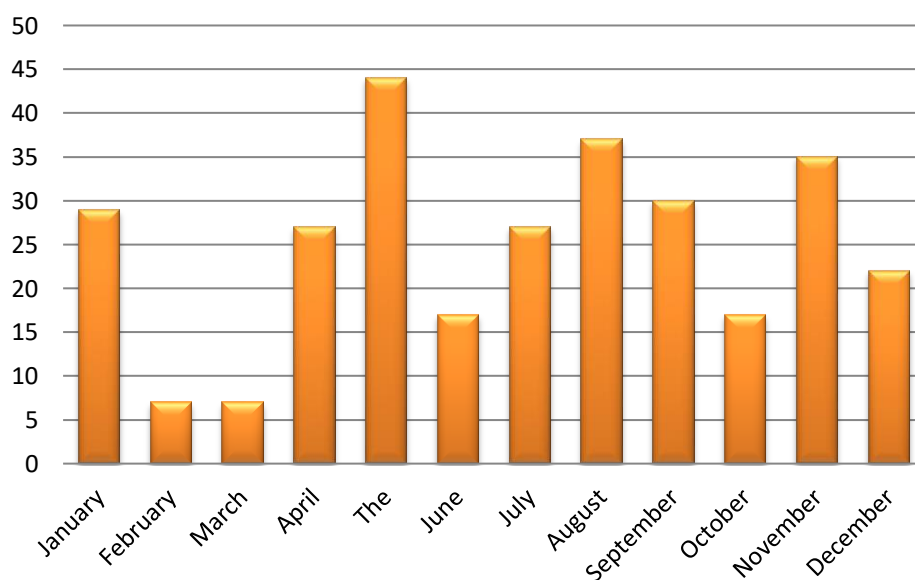
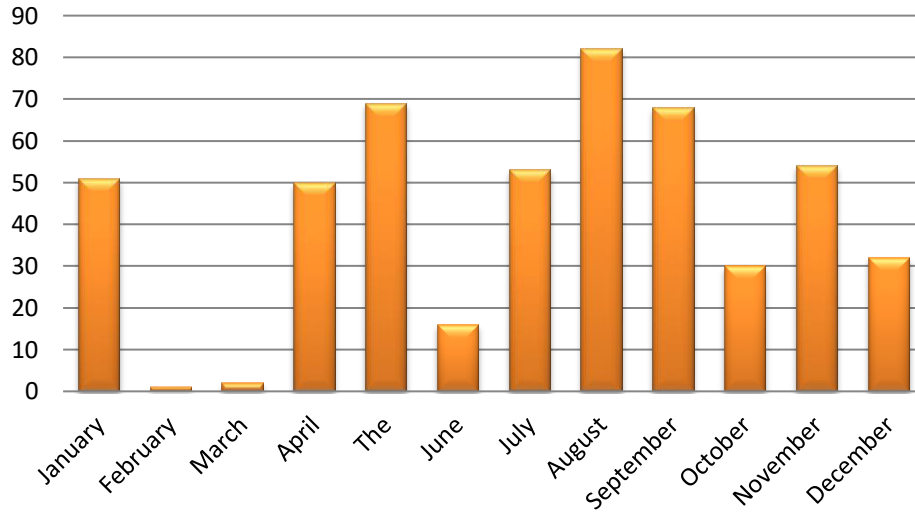


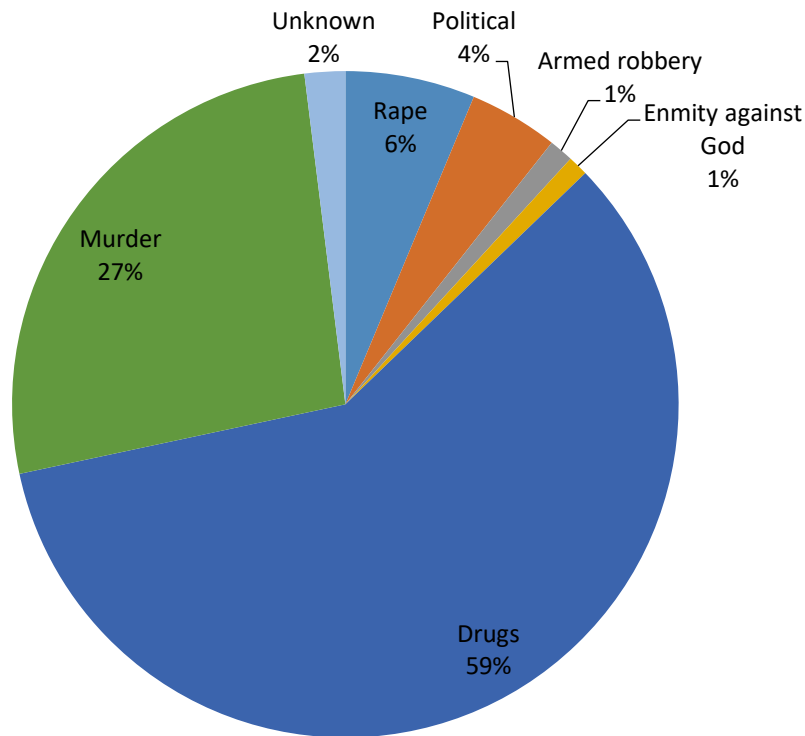


Figure 22. A comparative analysis of the death sentences based on the number of individuals per month.



The following pie chart illustrates the number of death sentences issued and executed across the country in 2016. The highest number of convictions are on drug related charges by 59% and secondly Murder by 27%.

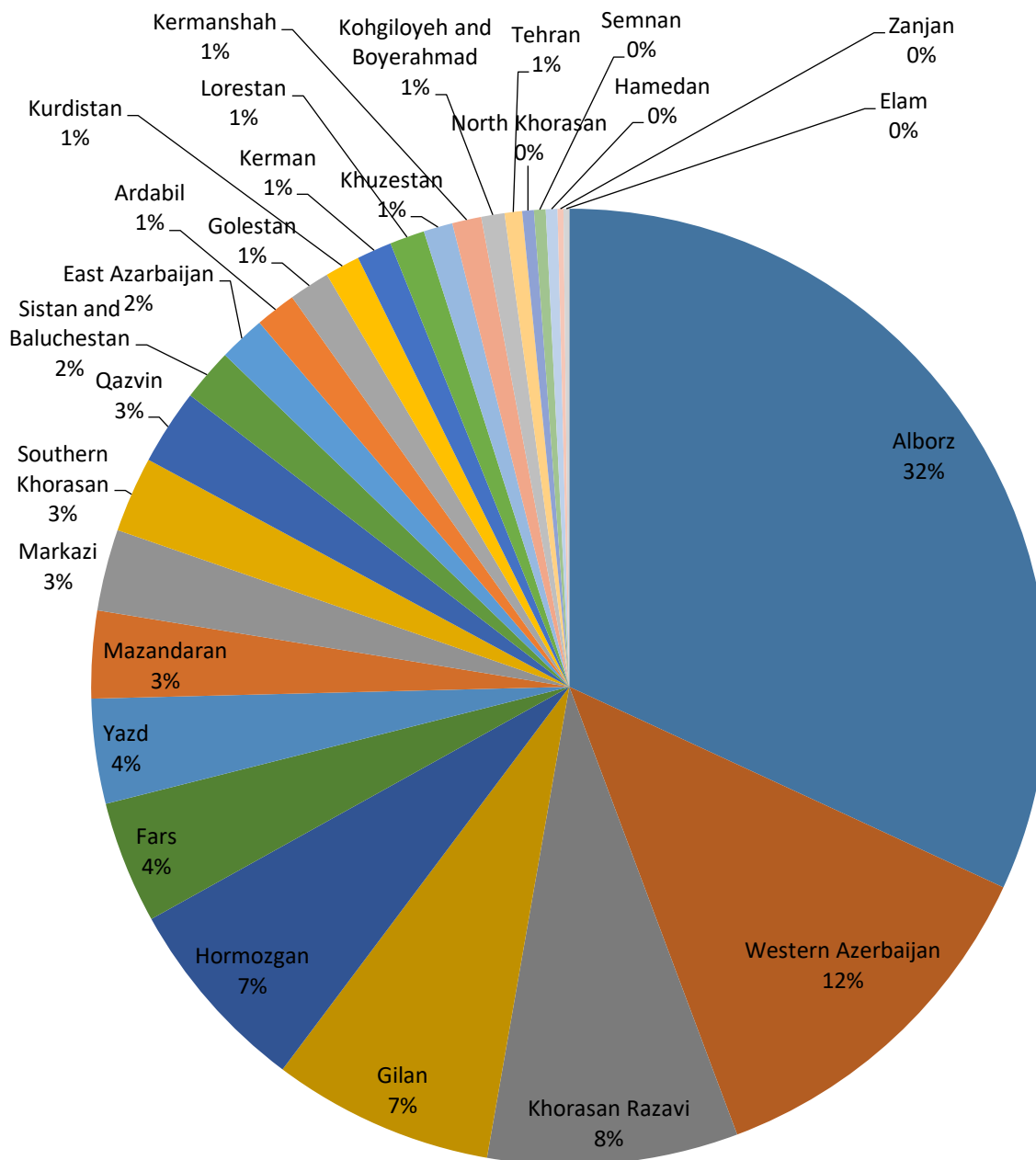
Figure 23. Capital punishment sentences issued in 2016 based on the type of convictions





The following pie chart illustrates the death sentences in different provinces in Iran with the province of Alborz ranks first with 32% due to its two populated and important prisons, provinces of Western Azerbaijan ranks second with 12%, and Khorasan Razavi takes the third place with 8%.

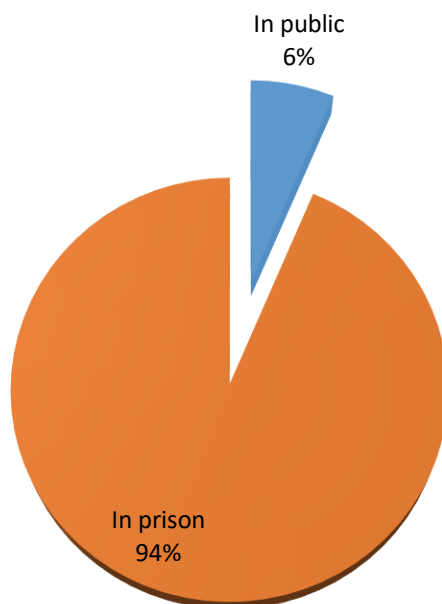
Figure 24. A comparative analysis of the percentile of executions per each province in 2016





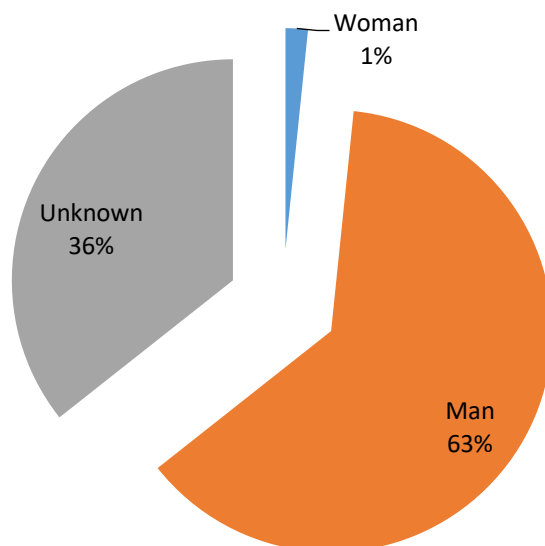
According to the statistics, about 6% of the executions were carried out in the public.

Figure 26. The place of execution in 2016



2% of the executed individuals were female, 62% men, and 36% unknown gender. The execution of women has increased by 50% compared to 2015.

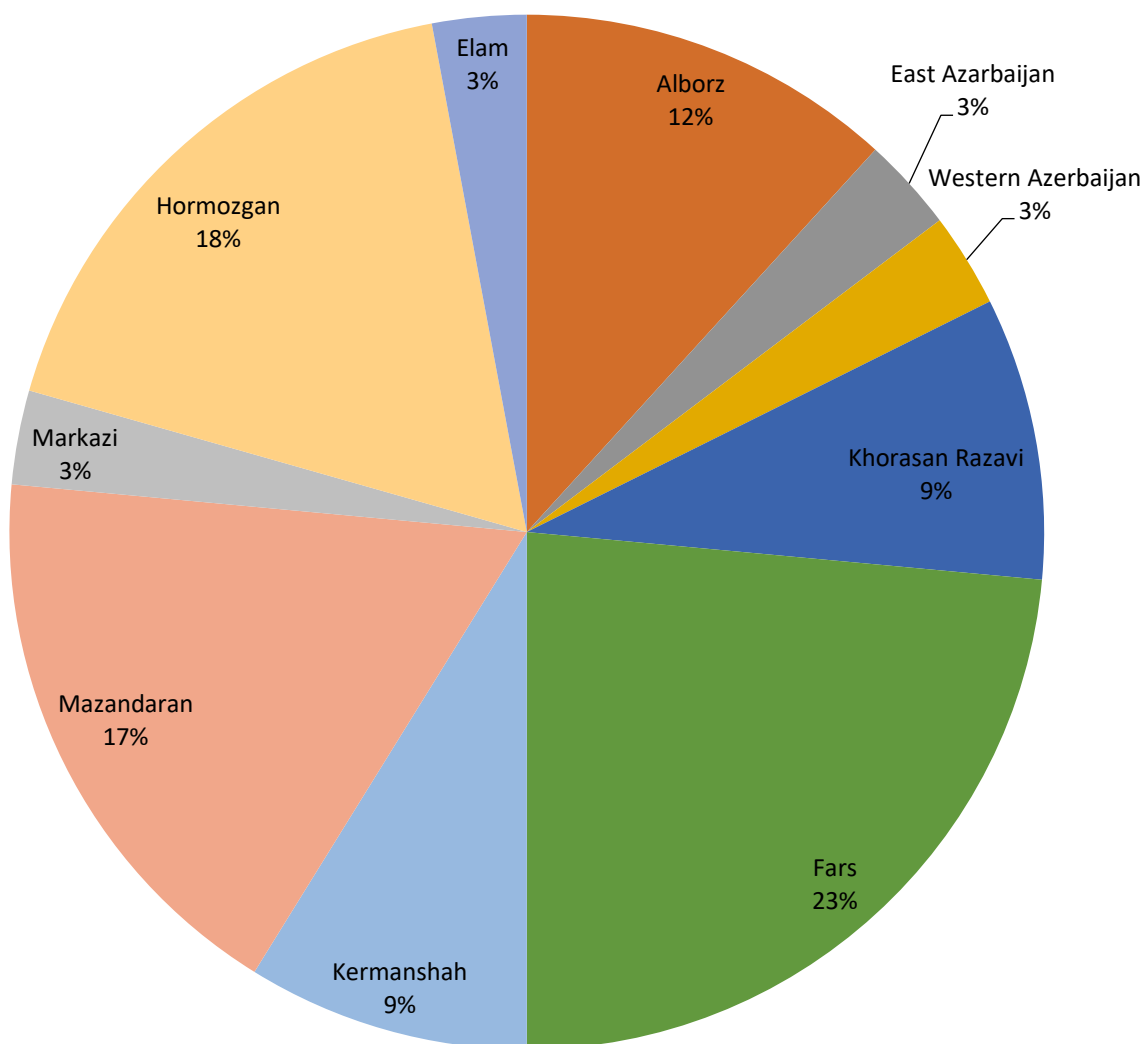
Figure 27. Percentile of executed individuals based on gender





The following pie chart illustrates the frequency of executions in public in different provinces of Iran. The province of Fars has the highest number of executions in public compared to other provinces for the third year in a row.

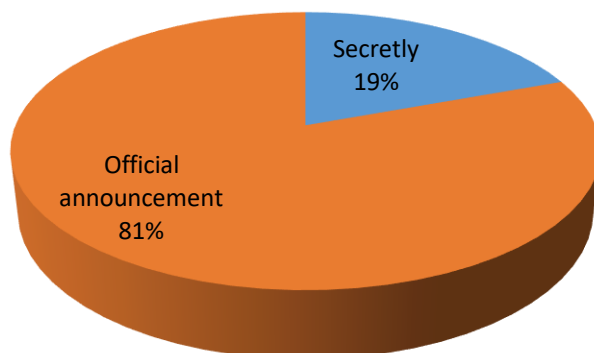
Figure 28. A comparative analysis of the frequency of executions in public in different provinces of Iran in 2016





The following diagram is directly related to the secret executions of prisoners. These executions reported by independent sources and human rights association, indicating that 81% of executions are carried out in secret or without any public notice.

Figure 28. A comparative analysis of the secret executions and official executions in 2016

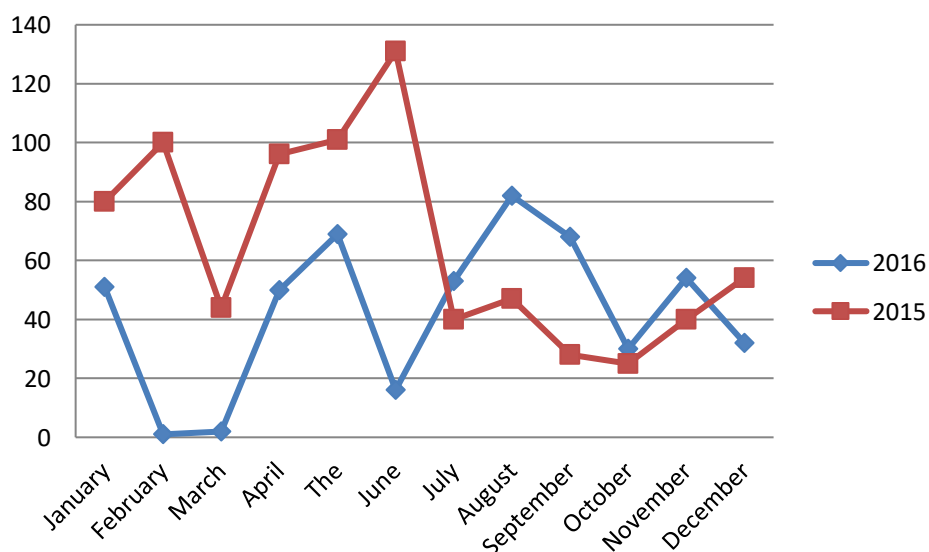


In the category of death sentences, the execution carried out in compare to 2015 has decreased by 22%. The number of execution sentences issued also has decreased by 14% and public executions has decreased by 4%.

Based on a comparative analysis of the number of executions per month, executions has decreased by 4% in 2016 compared to the cases in 2015. The highest increase in the executions observed in August and the highest decrease observed in March.

The following graph illustrates the violations of human rights in the category of executions in comparison with 2015.

Figure 29. Death sentences per month in 2016 compared to its corresponding months | 2015

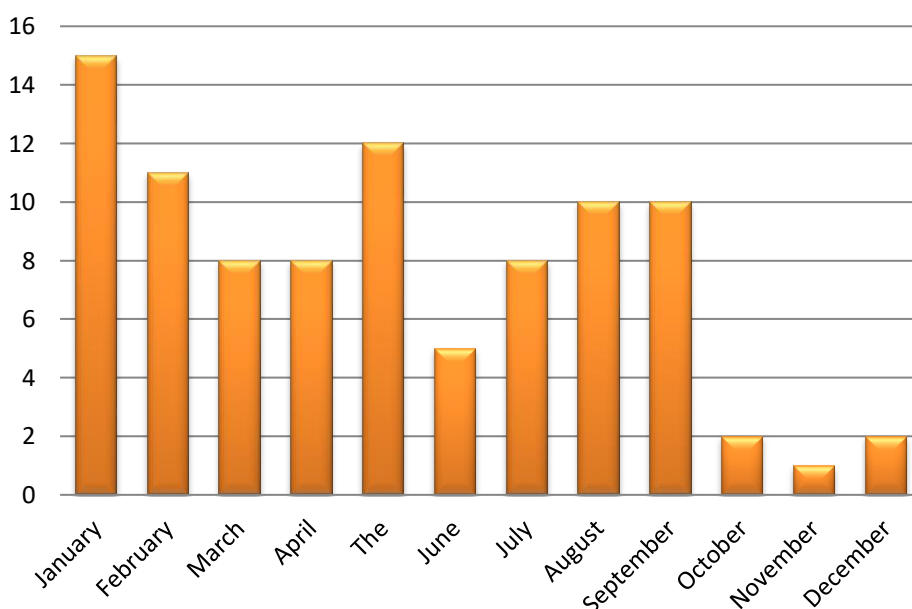




Cultural Rights

In the category of violations of cultural rights in 2016, 96 reports have been registered by the Department of Statistics and Publication of Human Rights Activists Association in Iran. This included 1 arrest and 2 individuals sentenced to 108 month in prison, 12 months suspended sentence and 400 million Rial financial fines, and 834 cultural materials publication were declined. Moreover, 30 people were banned from public speech or performing, 4 historical places were damaged, and 2 places were not carefully taken care of and are in the verge of destruction. Amongst the 96 registered reports, 86 cases of violations of cultural rights were reported, affecting at least 918 individuals.

Figure 30. A comparative analysis of the violation of cultural rights based on the number of cases per month.

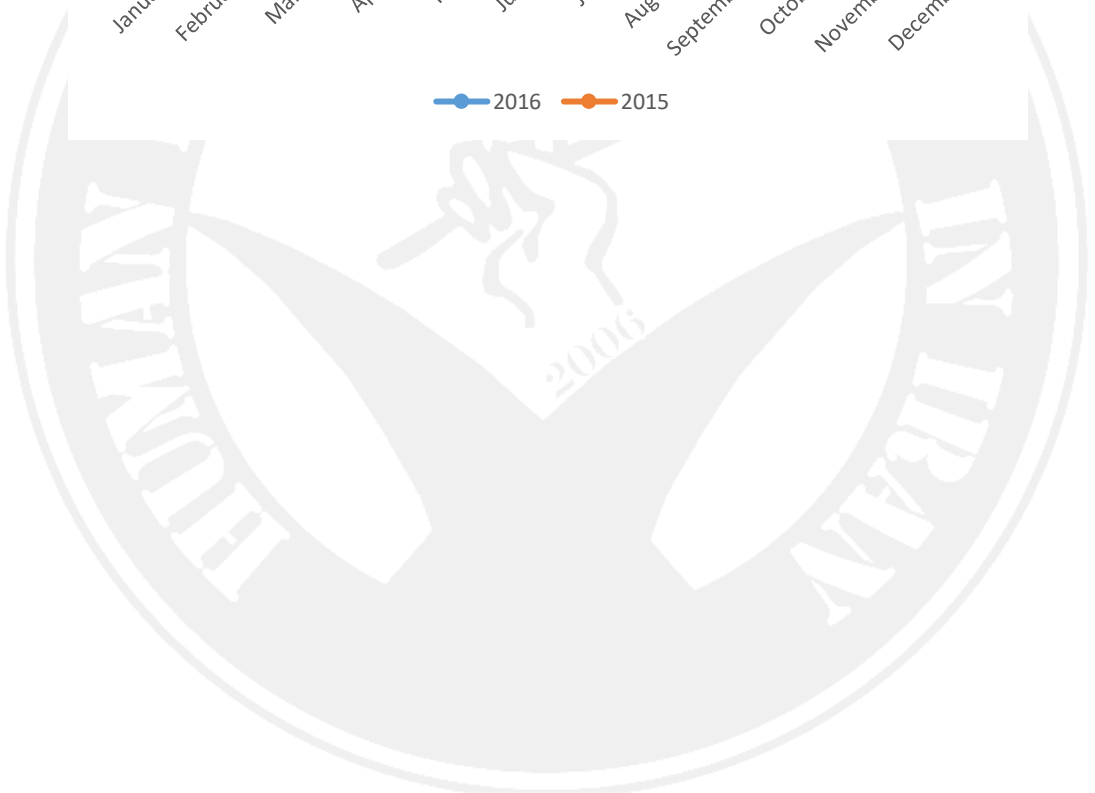
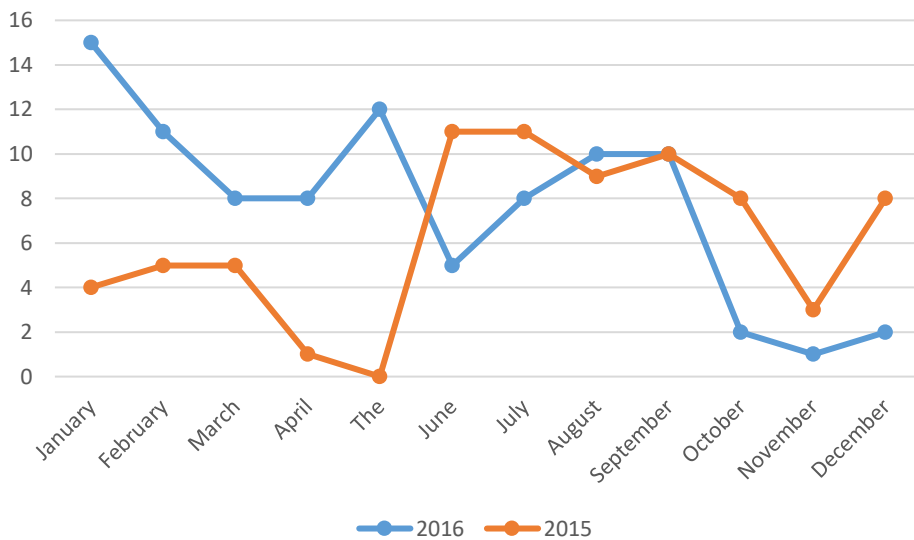


Based on a comparative analysis of the violations of the cultural rights, these violations increased by 100% in 2016 compared to the previous year, and the sentences issued in this category shows a 100% increase as well. The comparative analysis of the monthly violations also showed a 14% increase in the number of violations. The highest increase in the violations observed in January and the highest decrease in the violations observed in November.



The following graph illustrates the number of violations of human rights in the category of violations of cultural rights in comparison with 2015.

Figure 31. Violations of cultural rights per month in 2016 compared with the previous year



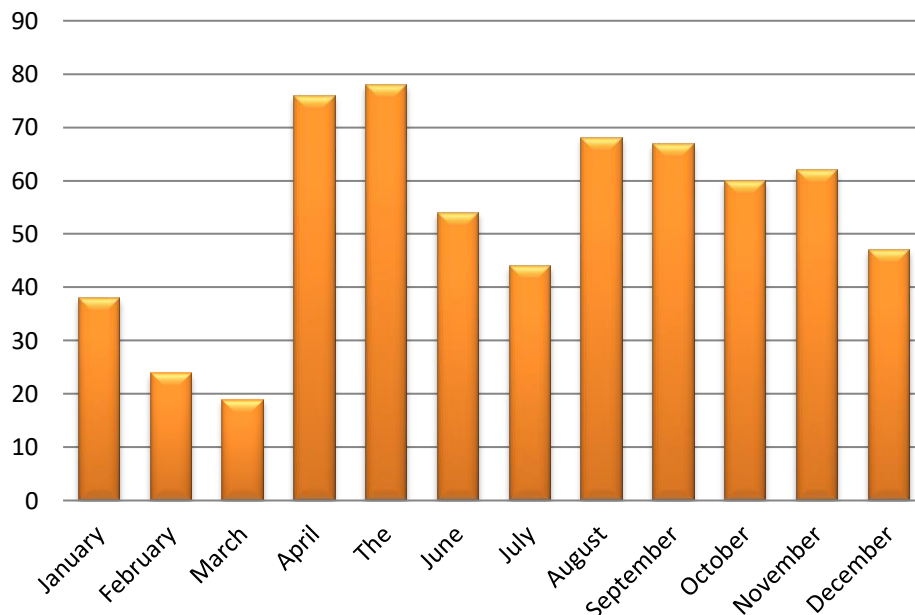


Workers' Rights

In the category of violations of workers' rights in 2016, 637 reports have been registered by the Department of Statistics and Publication of Human Rights Activists Association in Iran. This included 118 arrests, 14813 workers laid off, and more than 810 months of overdue payment of salaries to the workers. Moreover, 1117870 people lost their jobs, 7802 people lost their life while at work, and 989 people were injured at work. 117386 individuals were without proper workers' insurance, 4324 cases were awaiting work-related decisions, 53 workers summoned to the security and judicial authorities. Overall, 60 workers' rights activists were sentenced to 962 months in prison and 62 months suspended sentences and 2700 lashes.

In the category of workers' rights, a total of 60 reports registered that reflected 9052 cases of violations of workers' rights affecting at least 167983 individuals.

Figure 32. A monthly comparative analysis of the violation of workers' rights based on the number of cases per month.

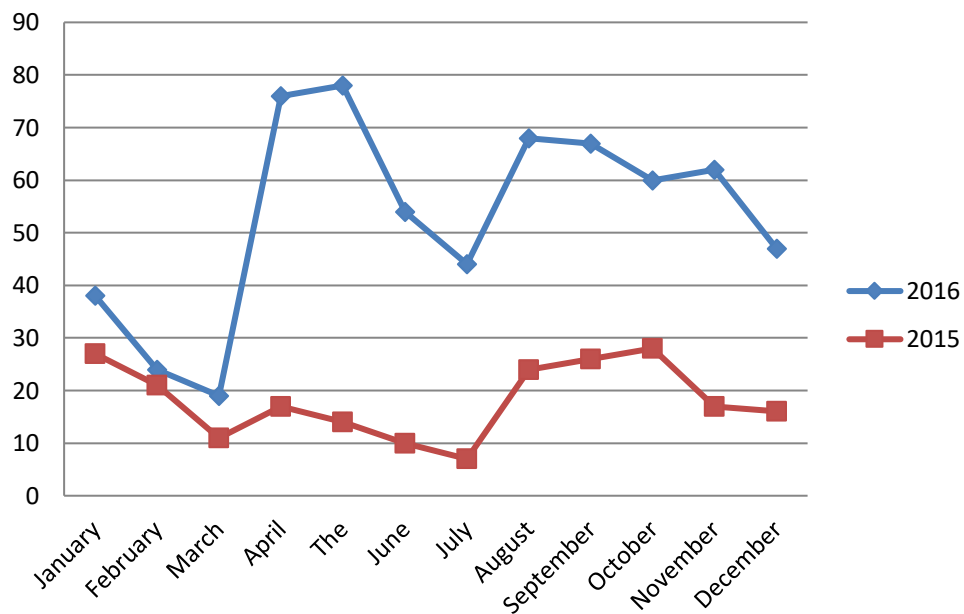


In the category of violations of workers' rights, the violations increased by 88% in 2016 compared to the numbers in 2015, and the number sentences issued by the judiciary authorities increased by 52%. The comparative analysis of the monthly violations also shows a 60% increase in the number of violations. The highest increase in the violations observed in May and the highest decrease in the violations observed in March.



The following graph illustrates the number of violations of human rights in the category of workers' rights in comparison with 2015.

Figure 33. Violations of workers' rights on monthly bases in 2016 compared with the previous year

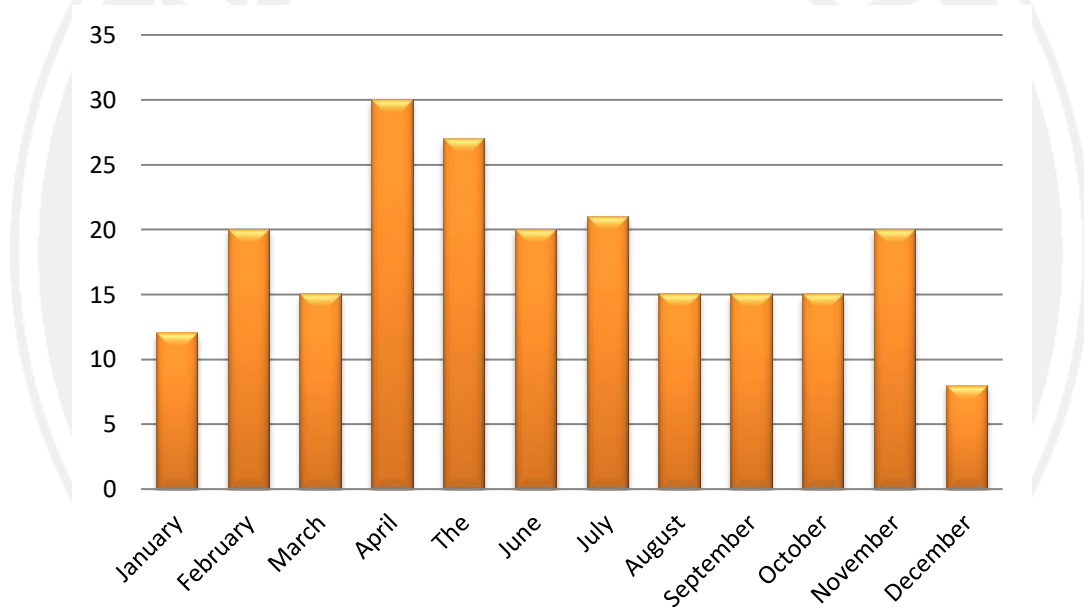




Children's Rights

In the category of violations of children's rights in 2016, a total of 228 reports have been registered by the Department of Statistics. These reports included 13621 cases of child abuse, 32 case of children trafficking, 15 case of rape and sexual abuse of children, 155902 cases of malnutrition children, 9823 child labour, 395436 children deprived of education. In this category, a total of 228 reports registered that reflected 173 cases of violations of children's rights that affected at least children.

Figure 34. A monthly comparative analysis of the violation of children's rights based on the number of cases per month.

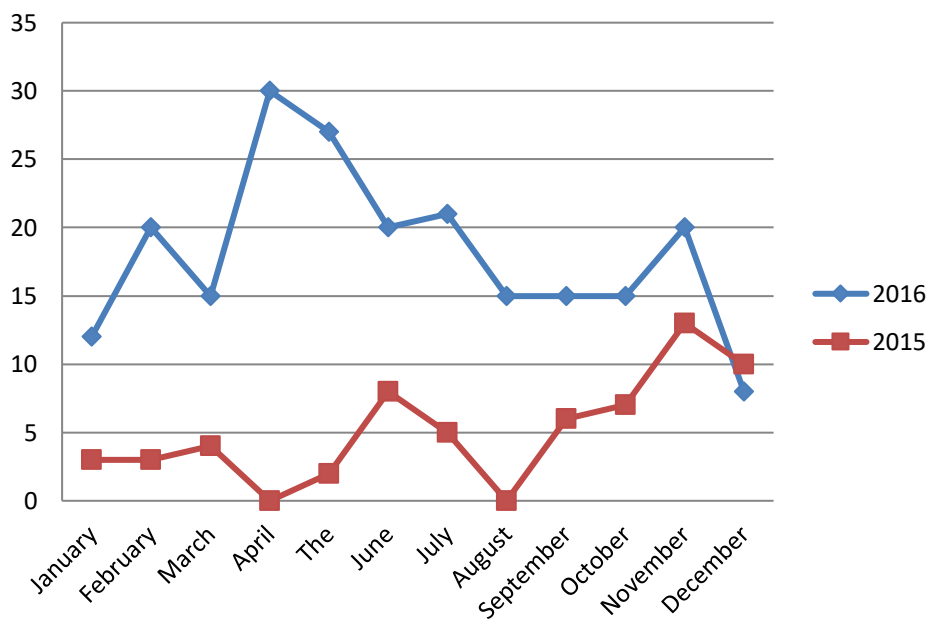


In the category of violations of children's rights, the number of violations and sentences issued remains the same in 2016. The comparative analysis of the monthly violations shows a 54% decrease in the number of violations. The highest increase in the violations observed in April and the highest decrease in the violations observed in December.



The following graph illustrates the number of violations of human rights in the category of children’s rights in comparison with 2015.

Figure 35. Violations of children’s rights per month compared with the previous year

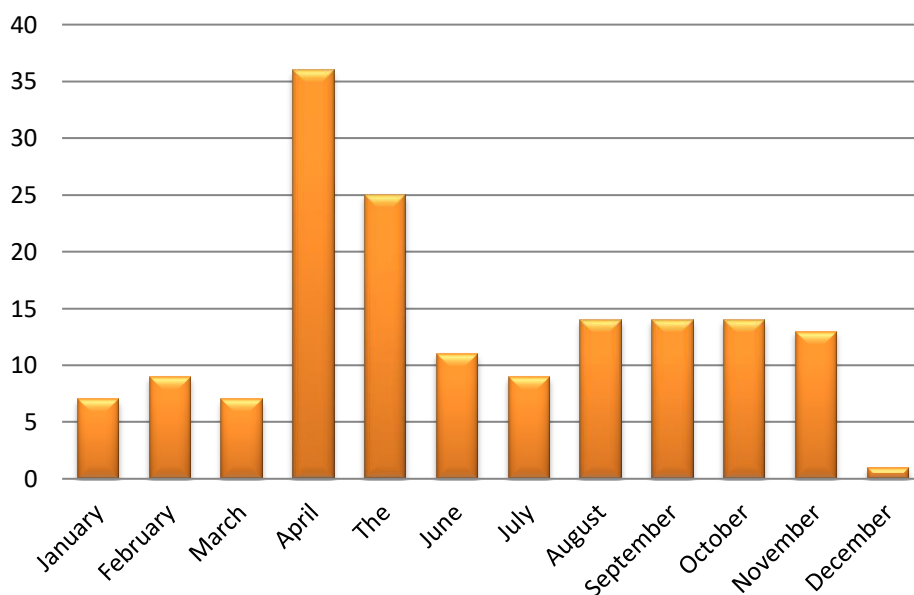




Women’s Rights

In the category of violations of women’s rights in 2016, a total of 163 reports have been registered by the Department of Statistics. These reports reflected 1 arrest of women’s right activists and 3651 were arrested or warned for the way they had dressed. At least 65964 women were physically abused including 18 cases of acid-attacks, 41 cases of honor-killings, and 1 case of summoned women’s rights activists by judiciary. In this category, a total of 163 reports were registered that reflected 128 cases of violation of women’s rights affecting at least 39297 women.

Figure 36. A monthly comparative analysis of the violation of women’s rights based on the number of cases per month.



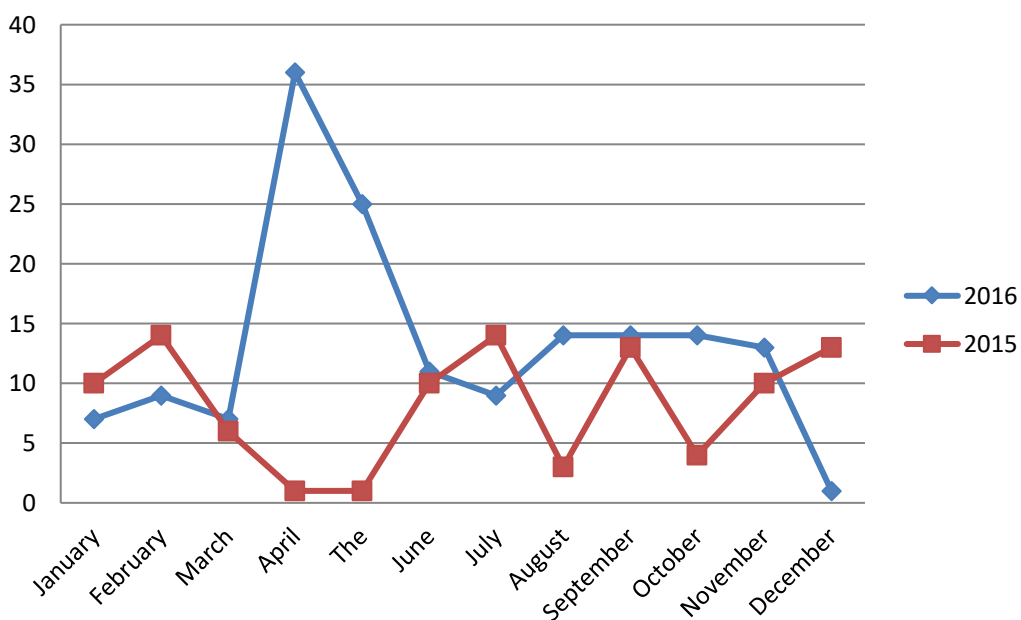
In the category of violations of women’s rights, the number of arrested female women’s right activists by the judiciary in 2016 has decreased by 86% and no similar to 2015 there has been no imprisonment sentence issued for any women right activist.

The comparative analysis of the monthly violation of women’s rights shows a 64% increase in the number of violations. The highest increase in the violations observed in June and April and the highest decrease in the violations observed in December.



The following graph illustrates the number of violations of human rights in the category of women’s rights in comparison with 2015.

Figure 37. Violations of women’s rights per month compared to the previous year





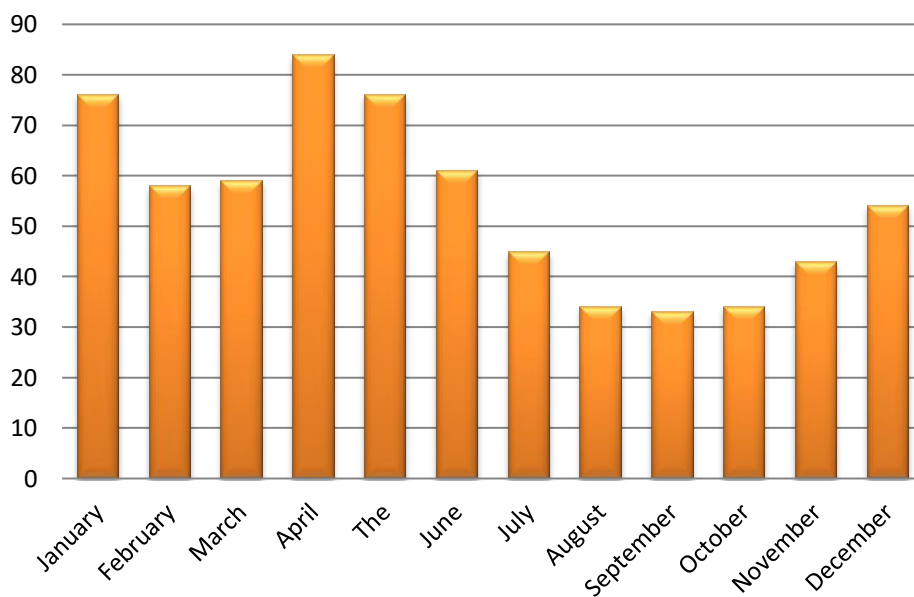
Prisoners' Rights

In the category of violations of prisoners' rights in 2016, a total of 657 reports have been registered, 55 reports on physical assault of prisoners, 208 reports of deprivation / neglected of medical care, 314 reports of illegal transfer to solitary confinement, 155 hunger strikes, 131 cases of forced transportation or exile, 467 cases of putting pressure on the prisoners or threats, 13 deaths due to diseases, 6 cases of lack of access to lawyers, 6333 reports of prisoners being held in unsuitable circumstances.

Also, 252 cases of prevention from visits, 244 cases of suspense, 3 cases of torture, 1 case of keeping an accused with the convicts, 5 cases of detention under solitary confinement have been reported in the category of the rights of defendants.

In the category of the violation of the rights of prisoners, a total of 657 reports have been made that included 845 cases of prisoners' rights violations, affecting 8491 prisoners.

Figure 38. A monthly comparative analysis of the violation of prisoners' rights based on the number of cases per month.

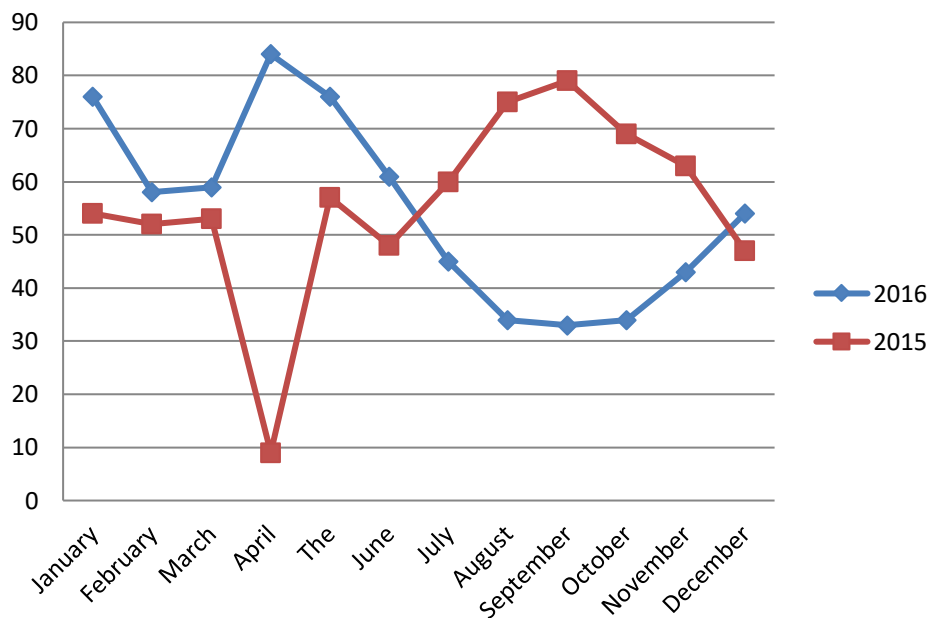


The comparative analysis of the monthly violations shows a 14% increase in the number of violations. The highest increase in the violations is observed in April and the highest decrease in the violations observed in September.



The following graph illustrates the number of violations of prisoners’ rights in comparison with 2013.

Figure 39- violations of prisoners’ rights per month in 2016 compared with the previous year

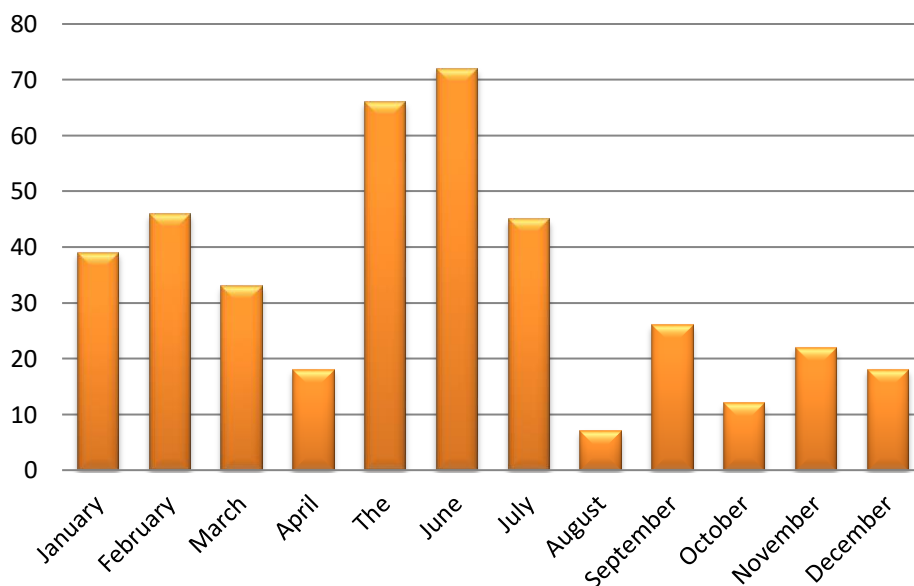




Sentences

In 2016, the judiciary of the Iranian government, including the initial court and appeal, issued 13501 months of imprisonment and 772 months suspended sentence. In particular, these reports included 195 months of imprisonment in the area of trade unions; 996 months of imprisonment for the ethnic minorities, 276 months of imprisonment; 276 months suspended sentence for religious minorities; 4968 months of imprisonment in the category of freedom of expression and 6380 months in prison and 432 months of suspended sentence; 962 months in prison and 62 months suspended sentences in the category of workers' rights. (It should be noted that these statistics only include the court sentences that indicated detailed information or characteristics of the verdicts.)

Figure 40. A monthly comparative analysis of the number of convicted citizens based on the number of cases per month.



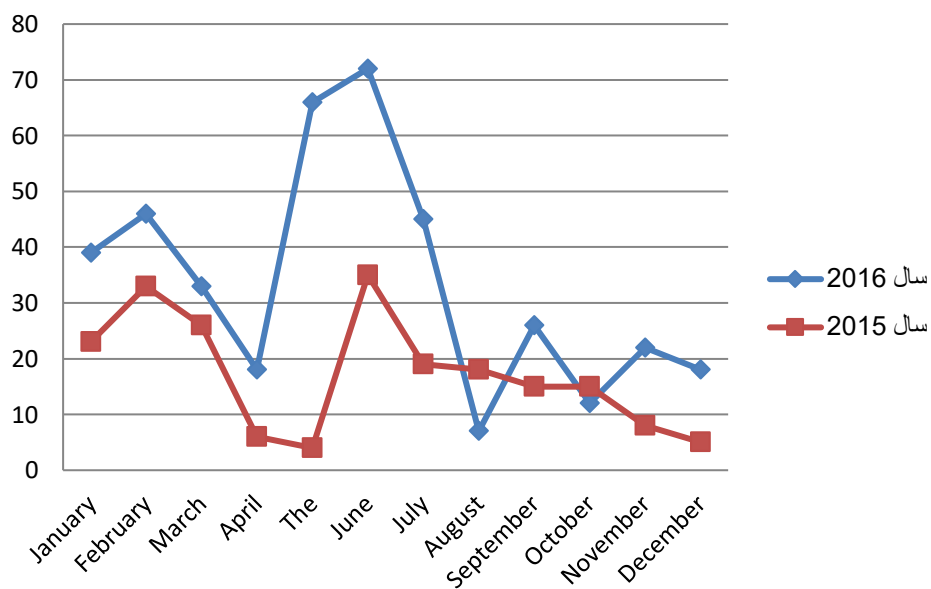
A total of 151 billion and 67 million and 600 thousand Rial financial fines and 19587 lashes has also been issued in 2016.

In 2016, the number of convictions of citizens or activists has increased by 20%. According to these reports, the number of convicted workers' rights activists, religious minorities, ethnic minorities, and trade unions shows an increase of 18%, 64%, 98% and 100% respectively. And in the freedom of expression this percentile has decreased by 8%.



The comparative analysis of the monthly violations of the defendants showed that the highest increase in the violations observed in June and the highest decrease in the violations is observed in August.

Figure 41. A monthly comparative analysis of the number of convicted citizens based on the number of cases per month in 2016 and 2015.

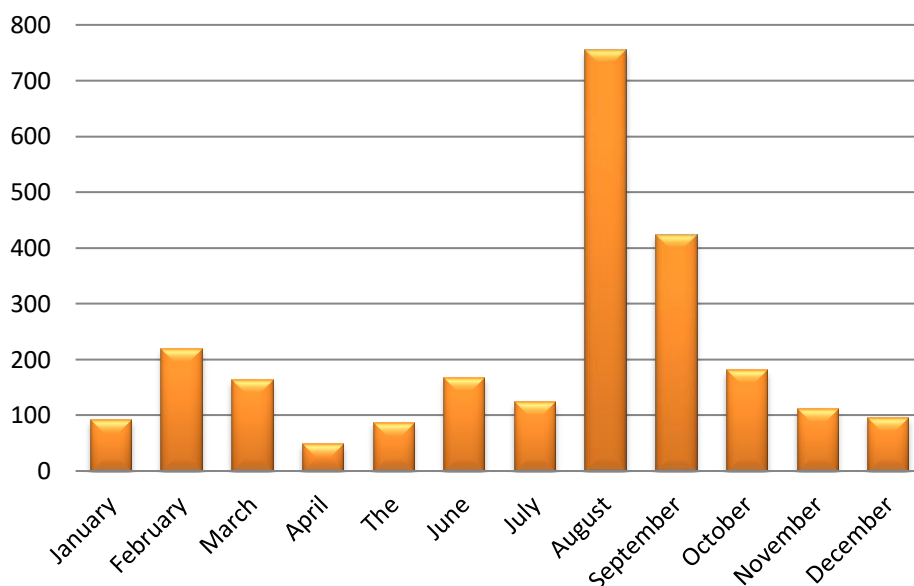




Arrests

In 2016, the security forces arrested 2467 individuals because of political or civil rights related activities. The statistical analysis exhibited 45 case of arrest in the trade union category, 366 arrests in the category of ethnic minorities, 90 arrests in the category of religious minorities, 1807 arrests in the category of freedom of expression, 39 arrests in the category of Academia/right to education, 1 arrests in the field of culture, 1 arrests in the category of women, and 118 arrests in the category of workers' rights.

Figure 42. A monthly comparative analysis of the number of arrests based on the number of cases per month.

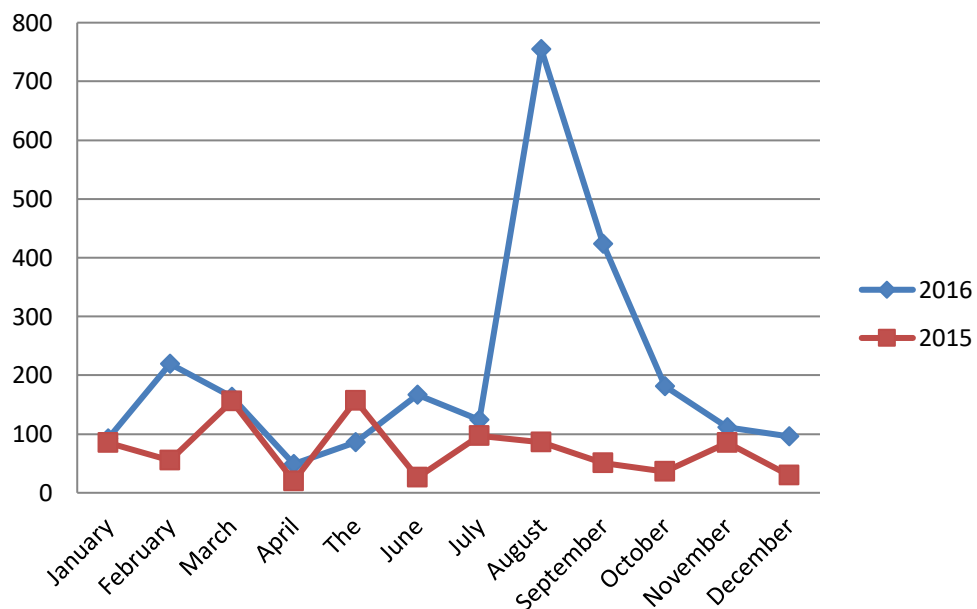


In 2016, the number of arrests increased by 48%. According to these reports, the number of arrests in the following categories has increased by the respective percentage stated: ethnic minorities 8%, culture 100%, unions 58%, students 90%, workers' rights 92%, and freedom of expression 66%. Whereas the number of arrests in the categories of religion minorities has decreased by 8%.



The comparative analysis of the monthly number of arrests shows that the highest increase is observed in August and the highest decrease is observed in December.

Figure 43. The number of arrests per month in 2016 and 2015.





Human Rights Activists in Iran

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