



COUNTERFEIT PREVENTION AND CURRENCY
ANALYSIS DIVISION



STATISTICS ON REGISTERED COUNTERFEIT KUNA AND FOREIGN CURRENCY BANKNOTES

1 January – 30 June 2020



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Counterfeit kuna banknotes

A total of 97 counterfeit kuna banknotes were withdrawn from circulation from January to June 2020, which is a decrease of 65,1% relative to the number of counterfeit kuna banknotes registered in the same period of 2019, when 278 counterfeit kuna banknotes were withdrawn from circulation.

Given the average of 269.5 million kuna banknotes in circulation in the first half of 2020, 0.4 counterfeit kuna banknotes were detected, on average, per one million genuine banknotes in circulation in the said period.

Table 1 shows semi-annual trends in the number of counterfeit kuna banknotes withdrawn from circulation from 2015 to 2020.

TABLE 1

Semi-annual statistics on counterfeit kuna banknotes from 2015 to 2020

Period	2nd half of 2015	1st half of 2016	2nd half of 2016	1st half of 2017	2nd half of 2017	1st half of 2018	2nd half of 2018	1st half of 2019	2nd half of 2019	1st half of 2020
Number of counterfeit kuna banknotes	304	353	82	90	163	263	236	278	228	97

The most frequently counterfeited domestic currency denomination was a 200-kuna banknote, with 38 counterfeits or 39.2%, and 1000 and 500-kuna banknotes, which jointly accounted for 46.4% of total registered kuna banknote counterfeits (Table 2).

TABLE 2

Shares of individual denominations in the total number of registered counterfeit kuna banknotes

Denomination	HRK 5	HRK 10	HRK 20	HRK 50	HRK 100	HRK 200	HRK 500	HRK 1000
Share in total	0.0%	3.1%	4.1%	3.1%	4.1%	39.2%	33.0%	13.4%

A total of 249 counterfeit banknotes of all currencies were registered from January to June 2020, which a decrease of 55% from the total number of counterfeit banknotes of all currencies registered in the same period of 2019. Counterfeit kuna, with a total of 97 counterfeits registered, accounted for 39% (Table 3) of the registered counterfeit banknotes of all currencies.

TABLE 3

Shares of individual currencies in the total number of registered counterfeit banknotes

Denomination	HRK	EUR	USD	GBP
Share in total	39.0%	51.8%	8.8%	0.4%

Counterfeit foreign currency banknotes

A total of 129 counterfeit euro banknotes were registered from January to June 2020, which is a decrease of 42.4% relative to the number of counterfeit euro banknotes registered in the same period of 2019, when 224 counterfeit euro banknotes were withdrawn from circulation. Table 4 shows semi-annual trends in the number of counterfeit euro banknotes withdrawn from circulation in the territory of the Republic of Croatia from 2015 to 2019.

TABLE 4

Semi-annual statistics on counterfeit euro banknotes from 2015 to 2019

Period	2nd half of 2015	1st half of 2016	2nd half of 2016	1st half of 2017	2nd half of 2017	1st half of 2018	2nd half of 2018	1st half of 2019	2nd half of 2019	1st half of 2020
Number of counterfeit euro banknotes	527	206	691	211	574	1,203	285	224	4,056	129

Counterfeit 50 euro banknotes withdrawn from circulation accounted for 54.3% or the biggest share of the total number of registered counterfeit euro banknotes, followed by 20 and 100 euro banknotes, which jointly accounted for 32.6% of the total number of registered counterfeit euro banknotes (Table 5).

TABLE 5

Shares of individual denominations in the total number of registered counterfeit euro banknotes

Denomination	€5	€10	€20	€50	€100	€200	€500
Share in total	0.0%	4.6%	17.1%	54.3%	15.5%	5.4%	3.1%

The counterfeits registered in the first half of 2020 were not of significant nominal value and, as regards their quantity and production quality, they did not cause any disturbances in cash operations, neither in specialised institutions nor among the general public.

Cash operations always carry a risk of the occurrence and acceptance of counterfeit currency so that there is always a possibility of fraud. The authentication of detected counterfeit banknotes has shown that counterfeiters often imitate some security features, such as the security thread, watermark, hologram and optical variable ink element. Therefore, the Croatian National Bank calls upon the public to be on heightened alert and upon institutions and companies dealing with cash to comply with central bank decisions on banknote processing and recycling.

Banknote counterfeits are easy to identify by checking some of their security features using a "FEEL – LOOK – TILT – CHECK" method, described at the CNB website. In order to increase public awareness of banknote authentication the CNB has released a series of educational videos on the security features of kuna banknotes. The authentication process for each kuna banknote denomination is explained in detail in a video animation. Educational video animations may be found at the CNB website or CNB YouTube channel.

Since May 2009, the Croatian National Bank has been implementing a National Training Programme on Banknote and Coin Authentication for Bank and Financial Institution Employees. The details about the Programme and the application procedure are available at the CNB website.

The Croatian National Bank has published and delivered free of charge educational brochures on the security features of kuna banknotes and banknote authentication. The brochures can be ordered by filling in the form posted on the CNB website. Educational leaflets and posters in Croatian on the security features of euro banknotes have been published by the European Central Bank in cooperation with the Croatian National Bank. The leaflets and posters on the security features of euro banknotes can be downloaded from the European Central Bank website.



HRVATSKA NARODNA BANKA

Currency Department

National Counterfeit, National Analysis
and Coin National Analysis Centres

Trg hrvatskih velikana 3
HR-10002 Zagreb

Phone: 014564612

Fax: 4610549.

E-mail: ncc.hr@hnb.hr

<http://www.hnb.hr>



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