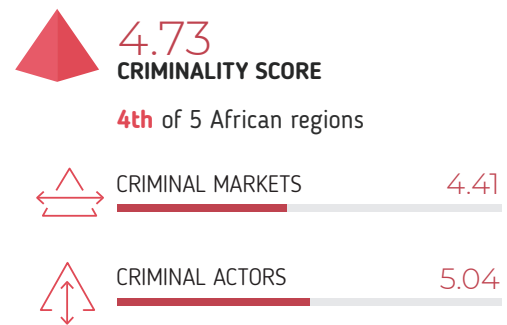
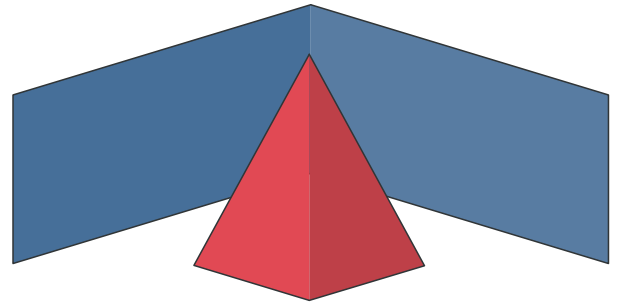


NORTH AFRICA

North Africa, comprising six countries, has the second-lowest **criminality** score of the five regions in Africa, with an average score of 4.73.

In line with the rest of the continent, **criminal actors** in this region drive the **criminality** score up, with a score of 5.04, which is higher than the region's score for **criminal markets** (4.41). When looking at each of the criminality components individually, both criminal markets and criminal actors are below the continental averages (4.68 and 5.25, respectively), suggesting perhaps a more limited distribution of the criminality typologies than found in other regions.



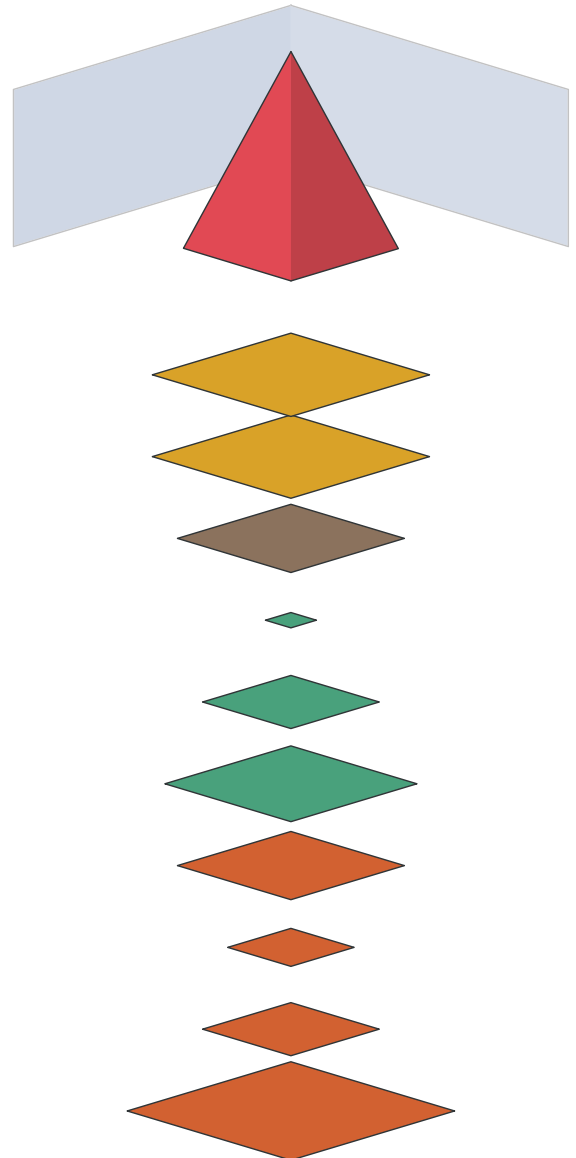
CRIMINALITY SCORE



CRIMINAL ACTORS	5.04
MAFIA-STYLE GROUPS	3.33
CRIMINAL NETWORKS	5.33
STATE-EMBEDDED ACTORS	6.83
FOREIGN ACTORS	4.67



CRIMINAL MARKETS	4.41
HUMAN TRAFFICKING	5.75
HUMAN SMUGGLING	5.75
ARMS TRAFFICKING	4.67
FLORA CRIMES	1.25
FAUNA CRIMES	3.67
NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES CRIMES	5.17
HEROIN TRADE	4.75
COCAINE TRADE	2.75
CANNABIS TRADE	3.58
SYNTHETIC DRUGS TRADE	6.75



Criminal Markets

Given North Africa's geopolitical context, drugs and exploitative markets were found to be far more prevalent than illicit environmental markets. The **cannabis** market was singled out as the most prominent of the regional illicit economies, with a regional average of 6.75. This was assessed to be the result of major producer countries in the region (i.e. Morocco, designated as one of the largest cannabis-producing countries in the world¹), as well as

widespread consumption in the region, particularly among youth populations. Both **human trafficking** and **human smuggling** average at 5.75 – explained by the fact the region serves as a well-known transit hotspot for European destination markets across the Mediterranean Sea.

The **synthetic-drugs** market was noted as growing, with a regional average of 5.17, particularly for drugs such as

¹ See UNODC World Drug Report 2019, https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2019/June/world-drug-report-2019_-35-million-people-world-wide-suffer-from-drug-use-disorders-while-only-1-in-7-people-receive-treatment.html.



tramadol. The illicit trade in **non-renewable resources** – particularly oil in states such as Libya and Algeria – drives up the regional average of the market to 4.75, although this market scores significantly less than the continental average of 5.28, where other regions are recognised as having more diverse and higher-impact natural-resource markets (such as minerals and gold, where illegally controlled mining operations often involve more exploitative practices and result in greater environmental damage).

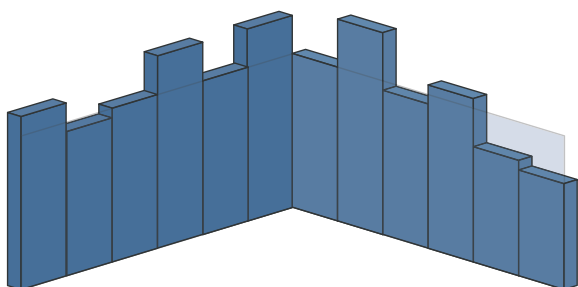
Criminal Actors

Criminal actors operating in the region entail primarily **state-embedded actors** (6.83) and **criminal networks** (5.33), while the presence of **mafia-style groups** is minimal (3.33), which is consistent with continental trends. Strong state structures were consistently highlighted in expert assessments and, in some cases (i.e. Libya), militias engaging in illicit activities were identified

Fauna and flora, as well as high-value drugs, including **cocaine** and **heroin**, were identified as the least prevalent (and therefore lowest-scoring) markets in the region. The harsh climate of the Sahara offers little in the way of biodiversity (for both wildlife and plant species), while high-value drug markets were identified as too expensive for widespread distribution and consumption; their market is also suppressed because of strict cultural taboos.

as stepping into de facto government roles. **Foreign criminal actors** are found to play a significant role in exploitative criminal markets (e.g. **human trafficking** and **smuggling**), explained by the fact that sub-Saharan actors are responsible for moving people into the region who are en route for Europe.

RESILIENCE SCORE



When it comes to **resilience** measures against organised crime, the region is characterised as placing an emphasis on criminal-justice measures at the expense of social-response frameworks. **National policies and laws** (5.08), **law enforcement** (5.17) and **territorial integrity** (5.25) were identified as the top three strongest resilience areas, in line with the highly militarised state role

consistently noted in the region. By contrast, **government transparency and accountability** (3.75), **victim and witness support** (3.00) and organised crime **prevention** measures (2.92) are among the least developed and therefore least effective resilience areas, reinforcing assessments on the heavy regional emphasis on security at the expense of ‘softer’ resilience measures.