



# BALKAN CRIMINOLOGY

## IMPRISONMENT AND SENTENCING IN CROATIA

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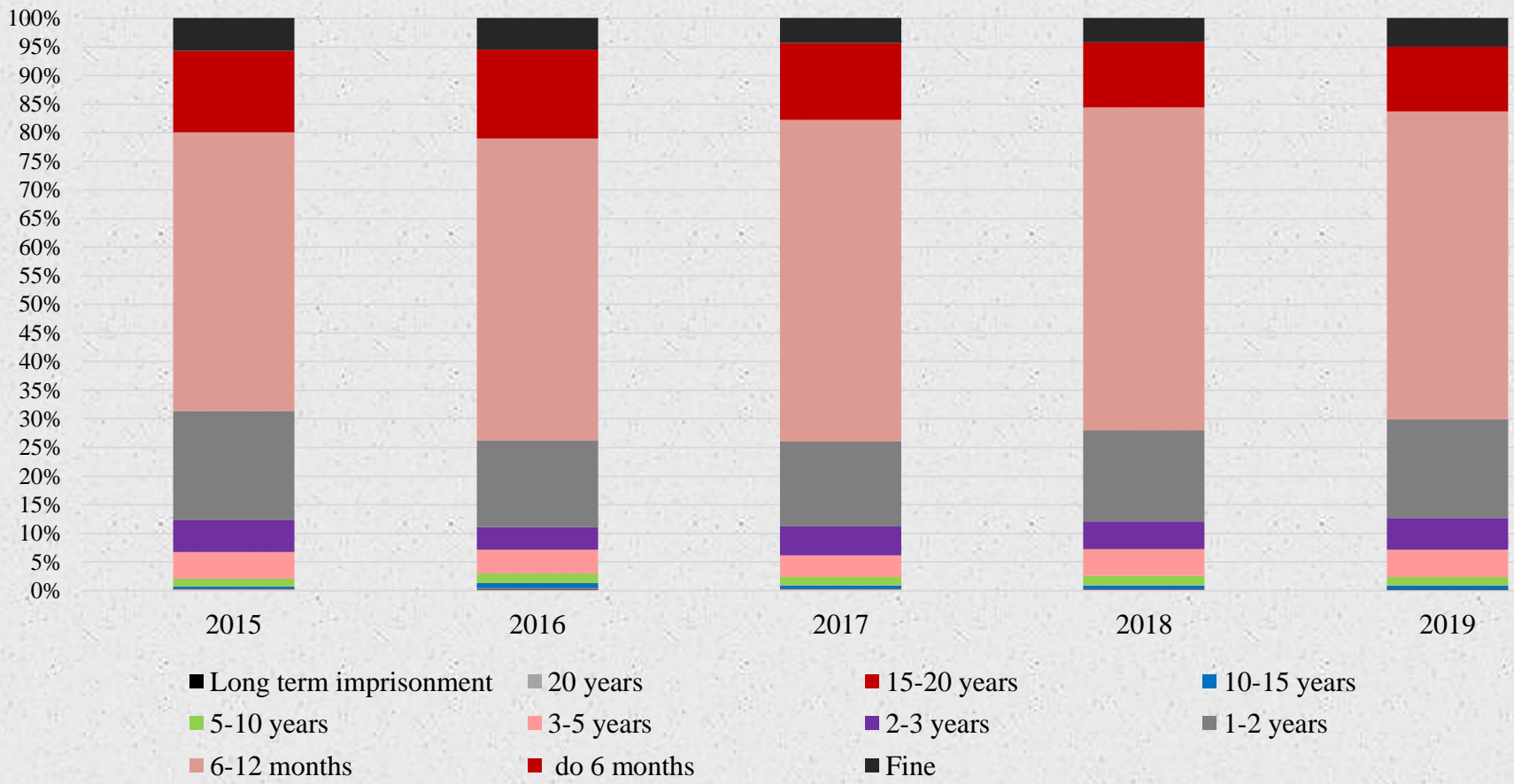


## Introduction

- Lack of scientific or professional discussion about a strategically designed and empirically-based management of the Croatian prison system
- 'purposefulness of the prison system'?
- Socioeconomic background:
  - ❖ small country (4,076 mil. people)
  - ❖ one of the lowest employment rate amongst EU countries (67%)
  - ❖ one of the lowest GDP amongst EU countries (65)
  - ❖ corruption, outdated education system, bureaucratization and high tax burdens
  - ❖ emigration (2019. 40 148 people left the country)
  - ❖ continuous population aging (21% of population older than 65)
  - ❖ low crime index (24,69)
- Methodological challenges: total costs vs. Direct costs / flow data vs. stock data

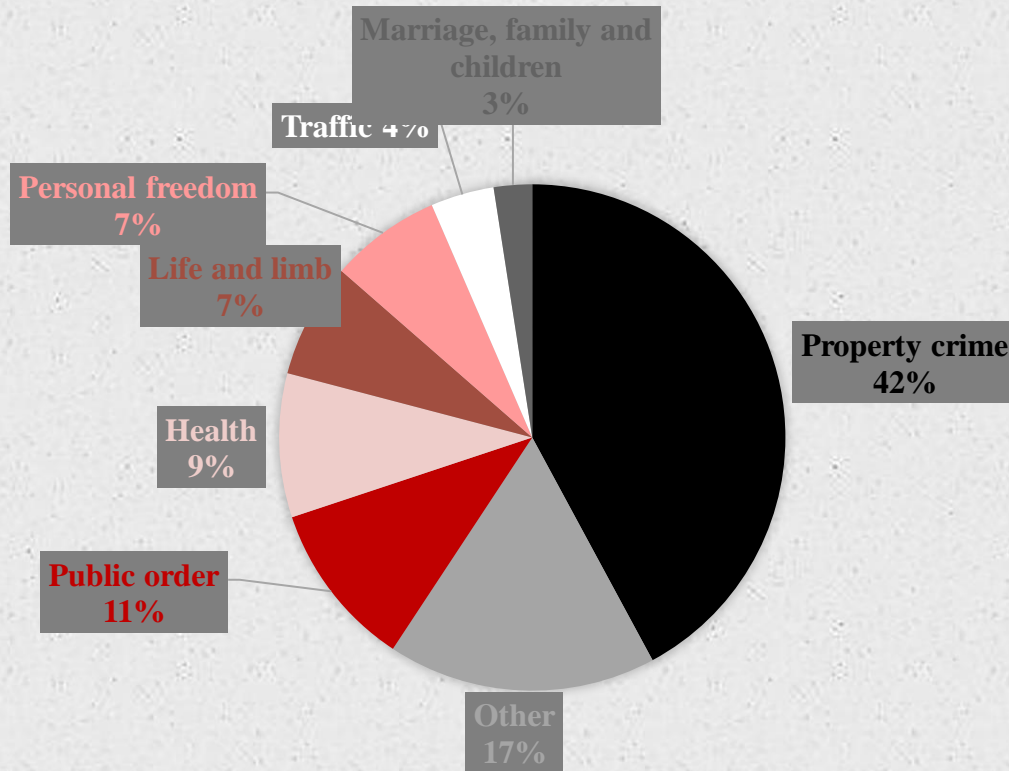


# Sentencing policy

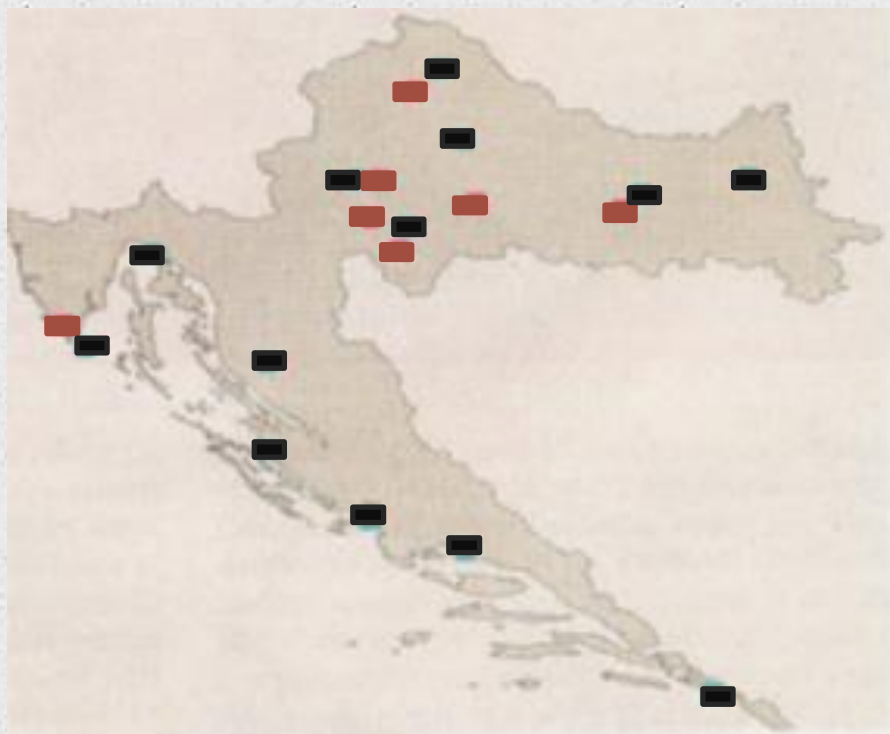


# Sentencing policy

## INMATES ACCORDING THE STRUCTURE OF OFFENSES IN 2019



## Geographical distribution

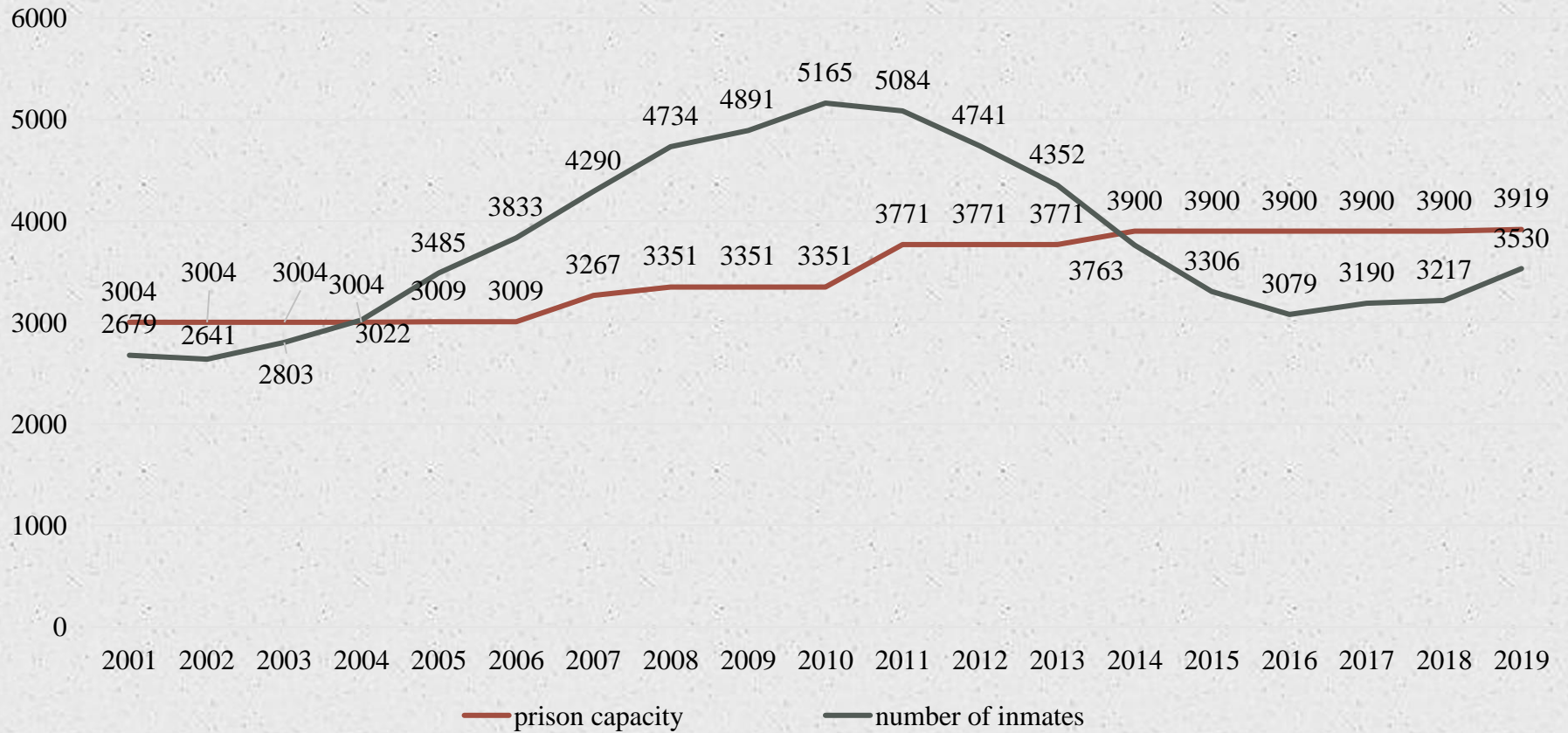


-  Jails
-  Prisons

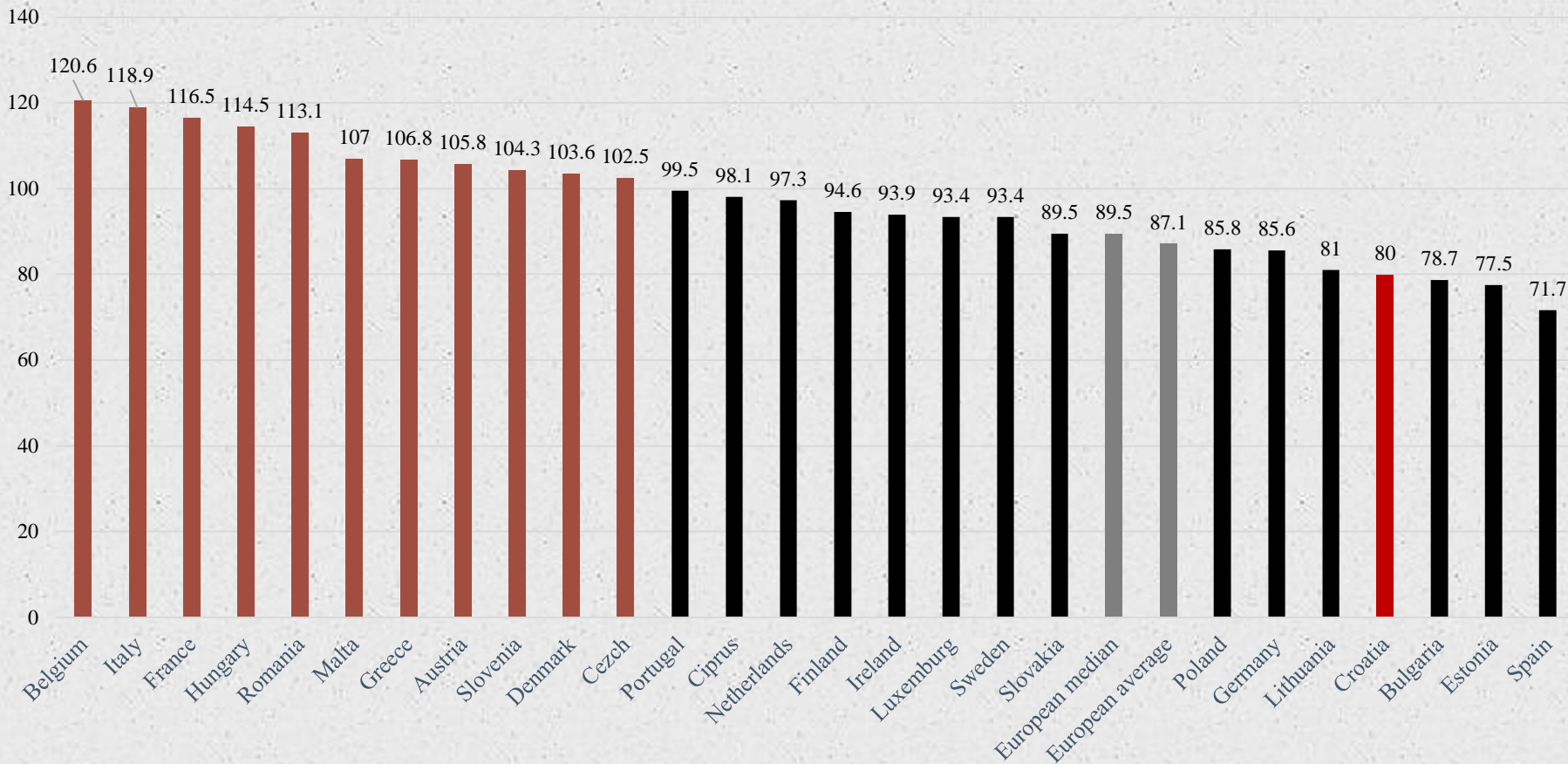
- 6 jails, 1 prison hospital, 14 prisons , 2 correctional facilities (for juveniles)
- Uneven geographical distribution of jails (Adriatic coast – no jail)



# Prison capacity

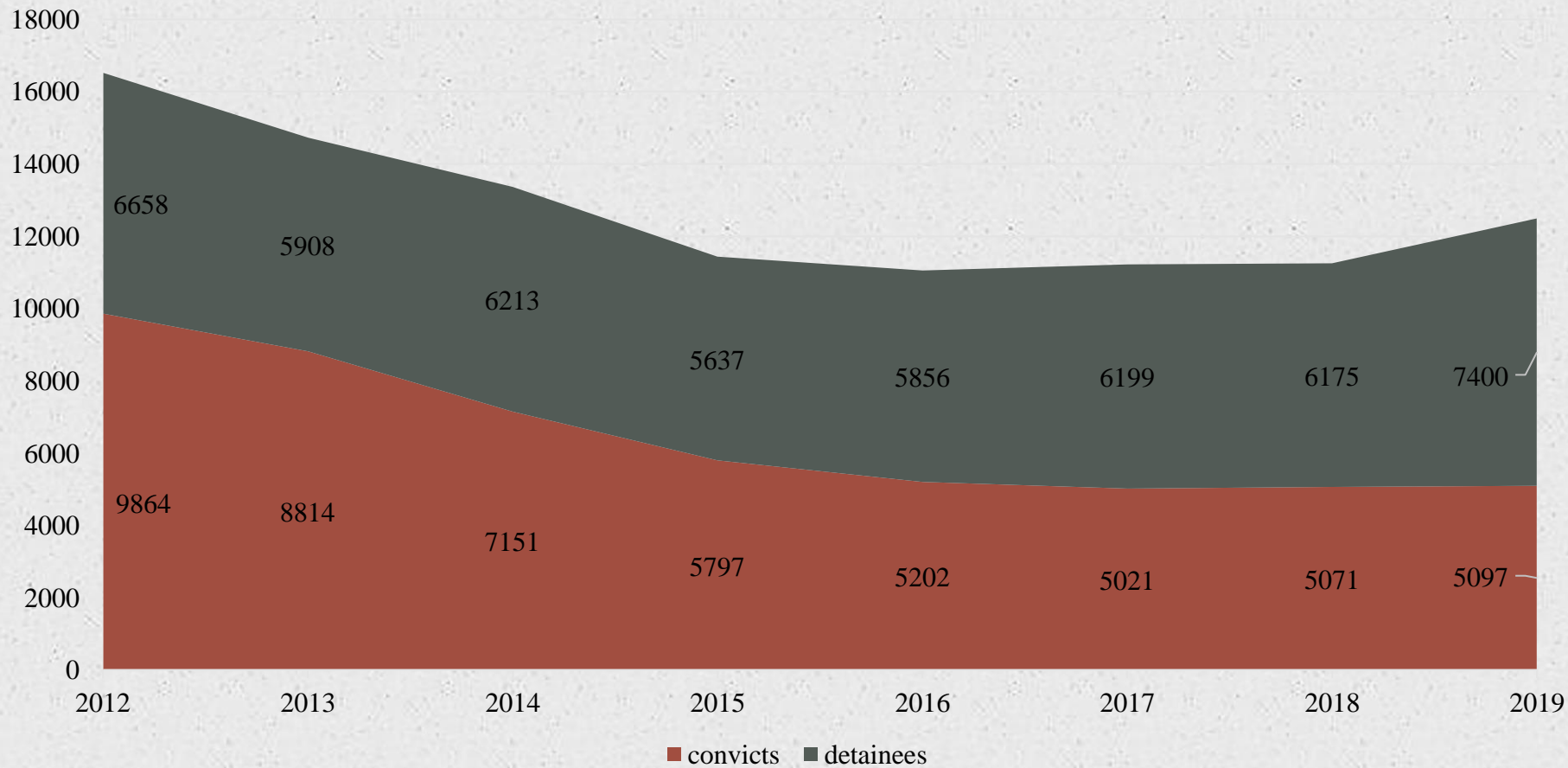


# Number of prisoners per 100 prison places

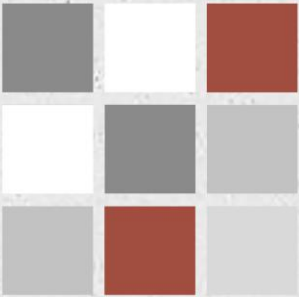




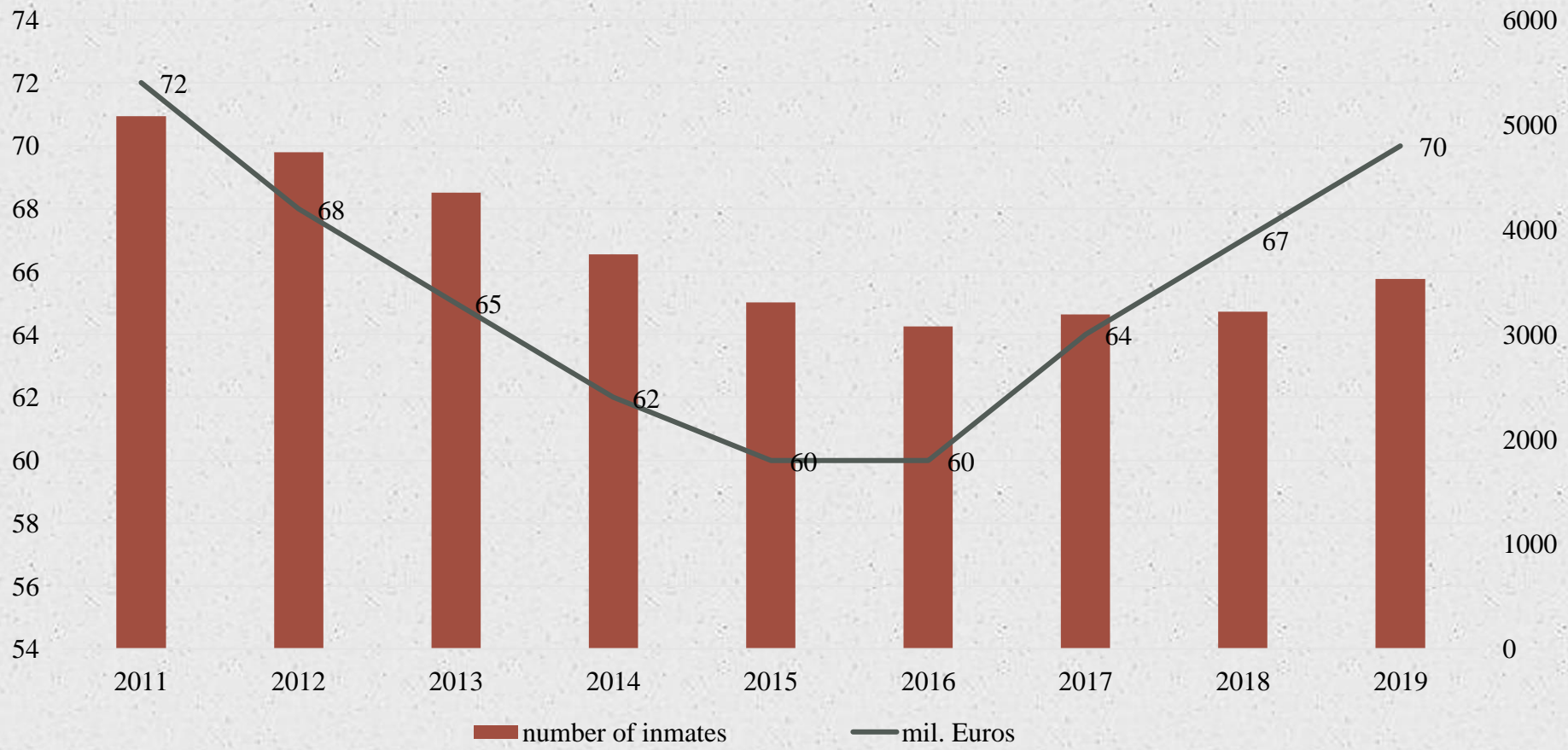
# Prison population structure (flow data)

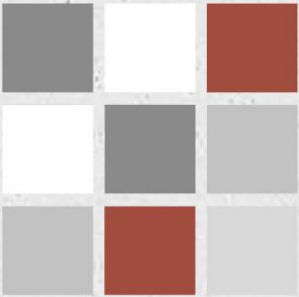




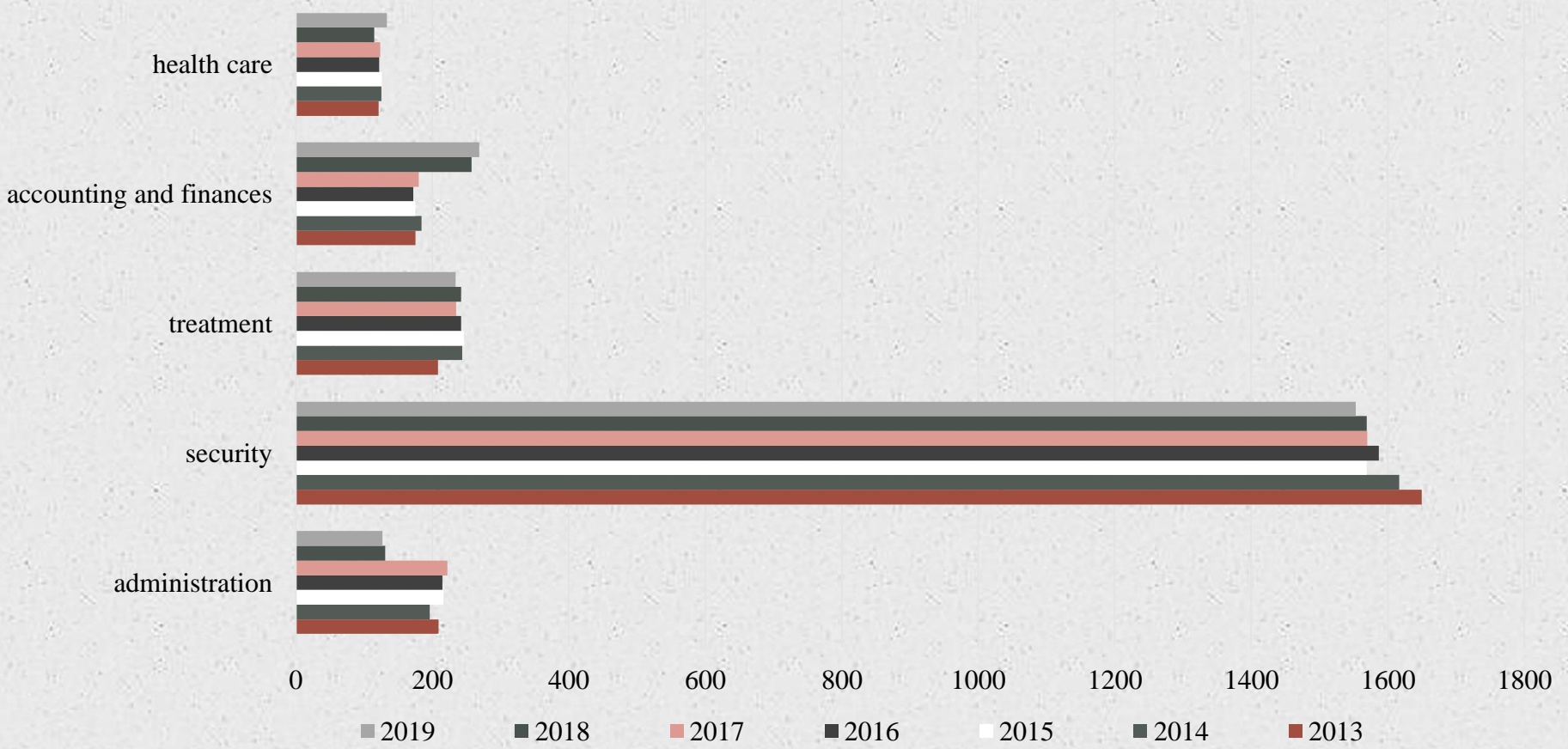



# Total costs vs. inmate number trend



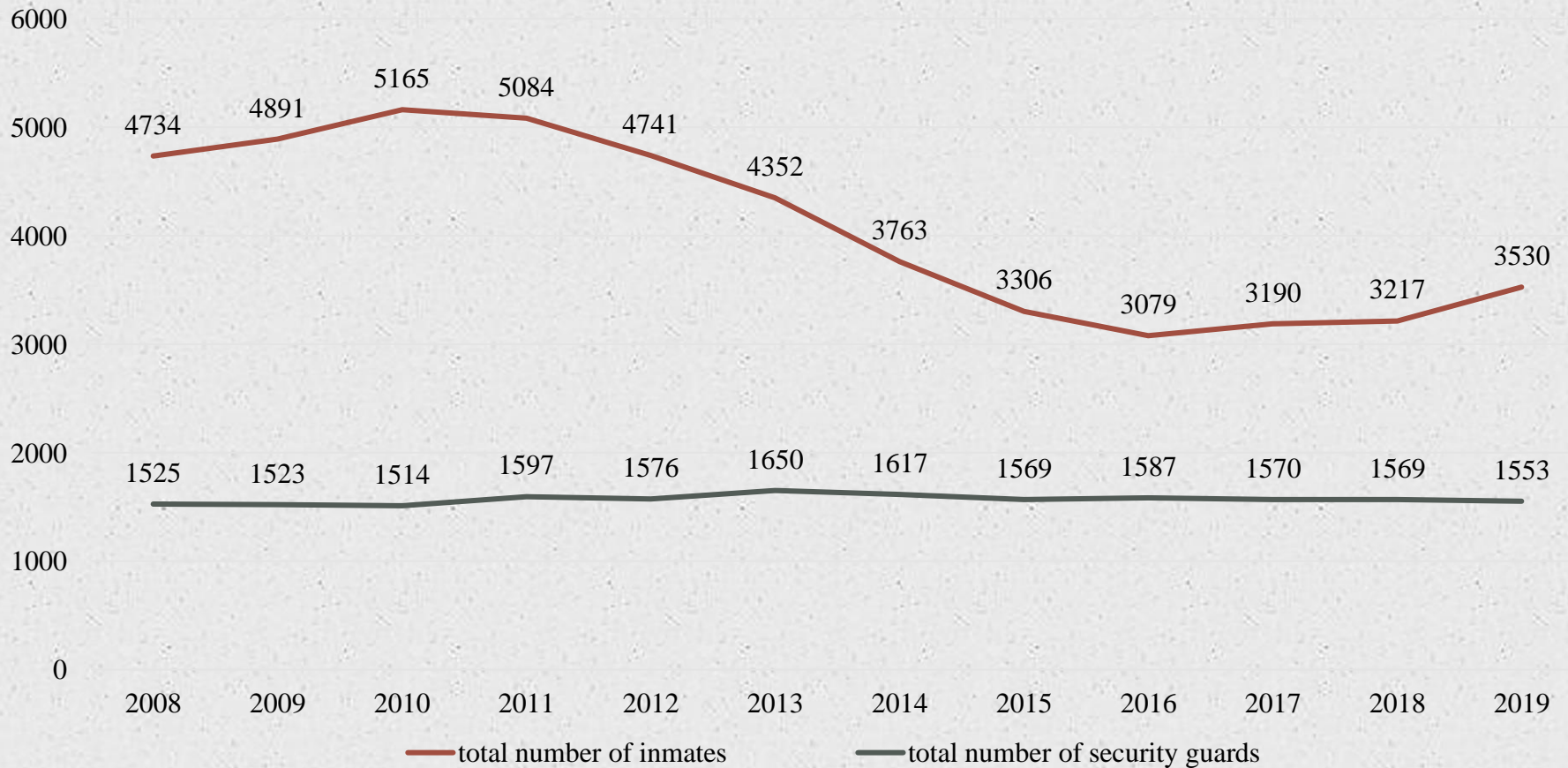


# Number of employees per prison department





## Total number of inmates vs. total number of security guards (2008-2019)





## About Croatian inmates (2019)

- 94,7% men i 5,3% women (2019.)
- 31% of inmates were in 30-40 age range, 21% in 40-50 age range, while 41 inmates were older than 70
- For almost half of inmates the highest educational level was secondary school (49%) , while for 29% the highest educational level was elementary school
- 12,1% of inmates were foreigners
- 10 juvenile inmates (9-male, 1 female): stock data (31.12.2019.)
- Flow data: during 2019. there were 1216 inmates (both adult & juvenile) addicted to drugs, which makes nearly 9,65% of total inmate population
- Flow data: during 2019. there were 950 inmates (both adult & juvenile) addicted to alcohol, which makes nearly 7,54% of total inmate population
- 3 female inmates with children during 2019. (flow data)





## Conclusion

- European Court of Human Rights indicated that Croatia's prison system still suffers from unsatisfactory prison conditions - poor hygiene conditions, poor infrastructure, old buildings, lack of health care for inmates (Ulemek vs. Croatia (21613/16), Longin vs. Croatia (49268/10), Muršić vs. Croatia (7334/13), Cenbauer vs. Croatia (73786/01))
- The main challenge relates to the lack of experts in all prison sectors, especially in the treatment department.
- Unfavorable allocation of money invested in prison system because a huge part of the money is spent on staff
- Disproportionate share of detainees within the prison population.
- Despite the improvement of living conditions in the prison, hygienic conditions, old prison buildings, lack of health care for prisoners, etc. are still a challenging topics to be solved.





Thank you for your attention!

*“It is said that no one truly knows a nation until one has been inside its jails. A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but its lowest ones.”*

*Nelson Mandela*

