

Prisons in Europe 2005-2015

Lithuania Country Profile

Marcelo F. Aebi
Léa Berger-Kolopp
Christine Burkhardt
Mélania M. Tiago

This country profile on Lithuania is taken from the report *Prisons in Europe 2005-2015* ([link](#)), which contains 51 profiles on the prison populations in the Prison Administrations of the 47 member States of the Council of Europe.

Prisons in Europe 2005- 2015 presents data on prison populations across Europe from 2005 to 2015. It is divided in two volumes: Volume 1 presents country profiles based on several indicators concerning prison populations, and Volume 2 includes all the data used for the report. The report has been prepared by the University of Lausanne and co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe.

Each country profile includes a Table with Key Facts about the country, which are presented in the form of several indicators referring to the latest available year and to the evolution during the latest ten years, as well as the relative position of the country (low, medium or high) for each indicator compared to the 28 member States of the European Union (“EU 28”) and the 47 member States of the Council of Europe (“CoE 47”). The classification in “low”, “medium” and “high” is based on the comparative indicators presented in Part 2 of the study. The country profile is divided in four sections and includes 8 Figures. The four sections are the following:

- Key facts
- The country in brief: This section summarizes the trends shown in the key facts from 2005 to 2014/15. It illustrates which indicators have increased, which have decreased and which have remained stable. The indicator is considered as showing a stable trend if the variation is lower than 5%.
- The country in comparative perspective: This section compares each country to the rest of the countries included in the study.

General comments:

This section includes eight Figures, comments to these Figures and some possible explanations of the observed trends. The eight Figures are numbered from 1 to 8 within each country profile and also include, between brackets, their absolute number from 1 to 408.

The Key facts include indicators of stock and flow. The stock indicators refer to the situation on 1st September 2015. The flow indicators refer to the situation during the year 2014. On the basis of the data included in this study, we have calculated for each indicator the average for the 10 to 11 years under study. This average is presented in the fifth column of the country profiles.

Finally, the last column of the country profiles provides a graphic indicator of the trend observed when one compares the last year of the series (2014 and 2015 respectively) to the first one (2005). The arrows included in this column reflect the evolution of the indicator according to the following table:

↔	+/- 4.9%	stable
↑	+5 to +9%	slight increase
↑↑	+10 to +19%	moderate increase
↑↑↑	+20 to +49%	substantial increase
↑↑↑↑	+50% and more	huge increase
↓	-5 to -9%	slight decrease
↓↓	-10 to -19%	moderate decrease
↓↓↓	-20 to -49%	substantial decrease
↓↓↓↓	-50% and more	huge decrease

COUNTRY PROFILE

LITHUANIA

TRENDS 2005-2015

Key Facts

	2014/15	Comparative		Evolution 2005-2014/15	
		CoE 47	EU 28	Average	% Change
Prison population rate (inmates per 100,000 inhabitants) on 01.09.2015	277.7	High	High	270.3	↑↑
Rate of entries into penal institutions in 2014 (inmates per 100,000 inhabitants)	287.6	High	High	301.6	↓↓
Rate of releases from penal institutions in 2014 (inmates per 100,000 inhabitants)	---	---	---	---	---
Average length of imprisonment in 2014 based on the total number of days spent in penal institutions (in months)	12.7	High	High	10.7	↑↑↑↑↑
Average length of imprisonment in 2014 based on stock and flow (in months)	12.7	High	High	10.8	↑↑↑↑↑
Prison density on 01.09.2015 (inmates per 100 places)	85.3	Medium	Low	92.5	↔
Median age of the prison population on 01.09.2015 (in years)	32.0	Low	Low	30.8	↔
Percentage of female inmates (01.09.2015)	4.0	Low	Low	4.2	↑↑↑↑
Percentage of foreign inmates (01.09.2015)	1.6	Low	Low	1.3	↑↑↑↑↑
<i>of which: % in pre-trial detention</i>	27.0	Low	Medium	37.0	↑↑↑↑
Percentage of non-sentenced inmates (01.09.2015)	12.4	Low	Low	16.3	↓↓↓
Rate of deaths per 10,000 inmates in 2014	47.9	High	High	36.8	↑↑↑↑↑
Rate of suicides per 10,000 inmates in 2014 (n=11)	12.3	High	High	11.4	↓↓
<i>of which: % in pre-trial detention (n=1) – Available since 2013</i>	9.1	Medium	Medium	31.1	↑↑↑↑↑
Ratio of inmates per staff (number of inmates per 1 staff person)	2.3	High	High	2.5	↔
Percentage of custodial staff in the total staff	57.2	Medium	Medium	56.4	↓↓
Total budget spent by the prison administration (in Euro) – Available since 2011	587 280 000	NAP	NAP	563 168 738*	↔
Average amount spent per day for the detention of one inmate (in Euro) – Available since 2008	16.1	Low	Low	15.0**	↓↓

* Average calculated from 2011 to 2014

** Average calculated from 2008 to 2014

Lithuania in brief

- Comparing 2014/15 to 2005, the following indicators show a *decrease*: rate of entries into penal institutions (-14%), percentage of non-sentenced inmates (-35%), percentage of suicides (-11%), percentage of suicides in pre-trial detention (-83%), and average amount spent per day for the detention of one inmate (-13%).
- Comparing 2014/15 to 2005, the following indicators show an *increase*: prison population rate (+19%), average length of detention based on the total number of days spent in penal institution (+51%), average length of detention based on stock and flow (+52%), percentage of female inmates (+21%), percentage of foreign inmates (+87%), percentage of pre-trial detainees among foreign inmates (+29%), rate of deaths per 10,000 inmates (+53%), and percentage of custodial staff in the total staff (+7%).
- Comparing 2014/15 to 2005, the following indicators remain *stable*: prison density (+1%), median age of the population (-2%), ratio of inmates per staff (+1%), and total budget spent by the prison administration (+4%).

Lithuania in comparative perspective

- Compared to other European countries, in 2014/15 Lithuania presents:
 - **Low**: Median age of the prison population, percentage of female inmates, percentage of foreign inmates, percentage of non-sentenced inmates, average amount spent per day for the detention of one inmate.
 - **Medium**: Percentage of suicides in pre-trial detention, percentage of custodial staff in the total staff.
 - **High**: Prison population rate, rate of entries into penal institutions, average length of detention based on stock and flow, average length of detention based on the total number of days spent in penal institution, rate of deaths per 10,000 inmates, rate of suicides per 10,000 inmates, ratio of inmates per staff.
- When the prison density is calculated, the Lithuanian rate is medium compared to the member States of the Council of Europe, but low compared to the member States of the European Union.
- When the percentage of pre-trial detainees among foreign inmates is calculated, the Lithuanian percentage is low compared to the member States of the Council of Europe, but medium compared to the member States of the European Union.

General comments

Figure 1 (193)

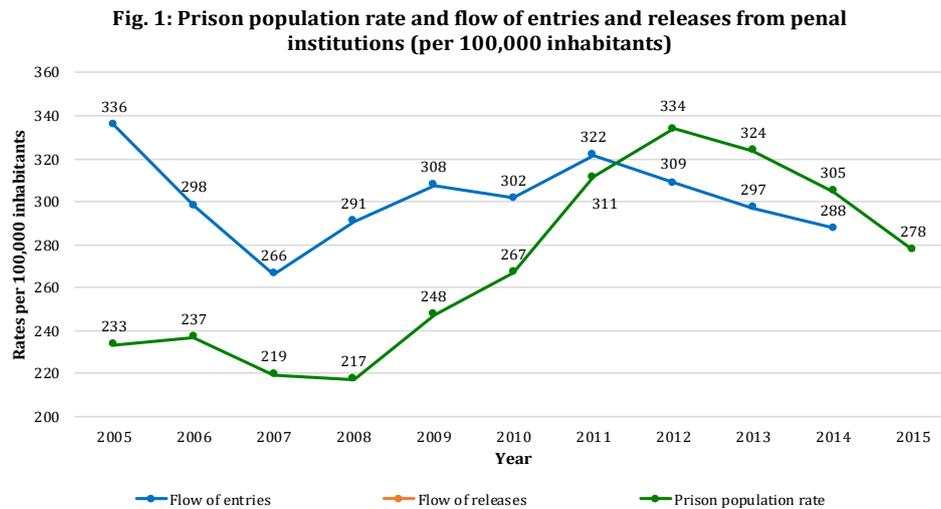


Figure 1 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the prison population rate of Lithuania (stock) increased by 19%. In 2005, the country had 233 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2015 it had 278.

From 2005 to 2014, the rate of entries (flow of entries) decreased by 14%. In 2005, there were 336 entries into penal institutions per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2014 there were 288.

Data on the flow of releases were not available.

Figure 2 (194)



Figure 2 shows that, from 2005 to 2014, the average length of imprisonment based on the number of days spent in penal institutions increased by 51%. In 2005, the average length of imprisonment was 8.4 months, while in 2014 it was 12.7 months.

During the same period, the average length of imprisonment computed on the basis of the ratio between the stock and the flow increased by 52%. In 2005, the average length of imprisonment was 8.4 months, while in 2014 it was 12.7 months.

Figure 3 (195)

Fig. 3: Prison density per 100 places (Overcrowding)

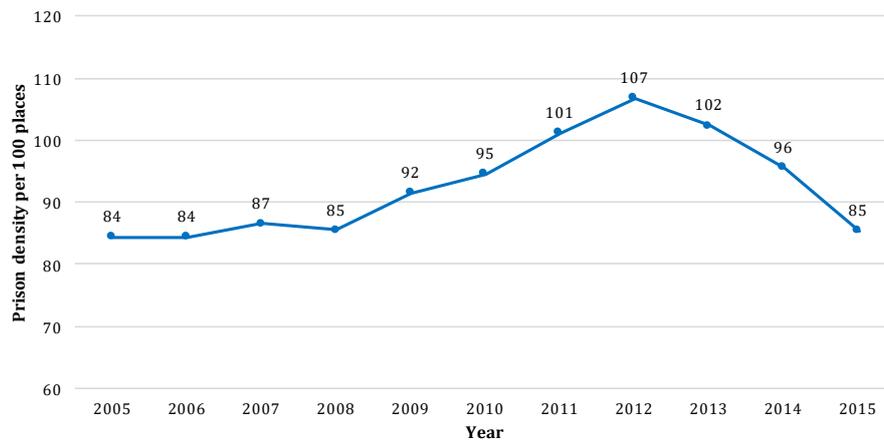


Figure 3 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the prison density of Lithuania remained relatively stable. In 2005, the country had 84 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2015 it had 85.

Figure 4 (196)

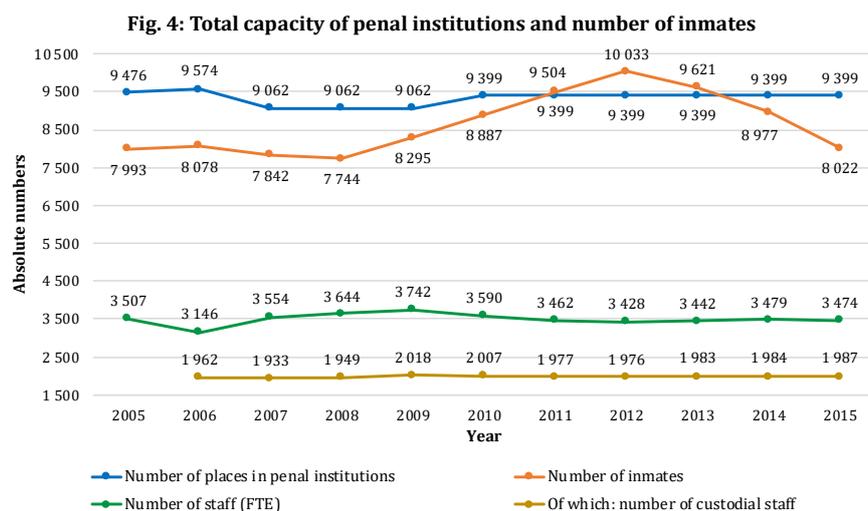


Figure 4 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the total number of places in penal institutions in Lithuania remained relatively stable. In 2005, the country had 9,476 places, while in 2015 it had 9,399. According to the information collected during this research, the slight fluctuations observed are due to renovation works of existing facilities.

During the same period, the total number of inmates remained relatively stable until 2008, it increased since then and until 2012, but decreased again after that. Thus, overall, the total number of inmates in 2005 (7,993 inmates) is similar to the one observed in 2015 (8,022).

From 2005 to 2015, the total number of staff remained relatively stable. In 2005, Lithuania had in total a staff of 3,507 persons, while in 2015 it had 3,474.

From 2006 to 2015, the total number of custodial staff increased by 4%. In 2006, the total custodial staff was 1,962 persons, while in 2015 it was 1,987.

According to the information collected during this research, the slight fluctuations in the number of staff observed during the period under study are due to the reorganisation of the Prison Administration.

Figure 5 (197)

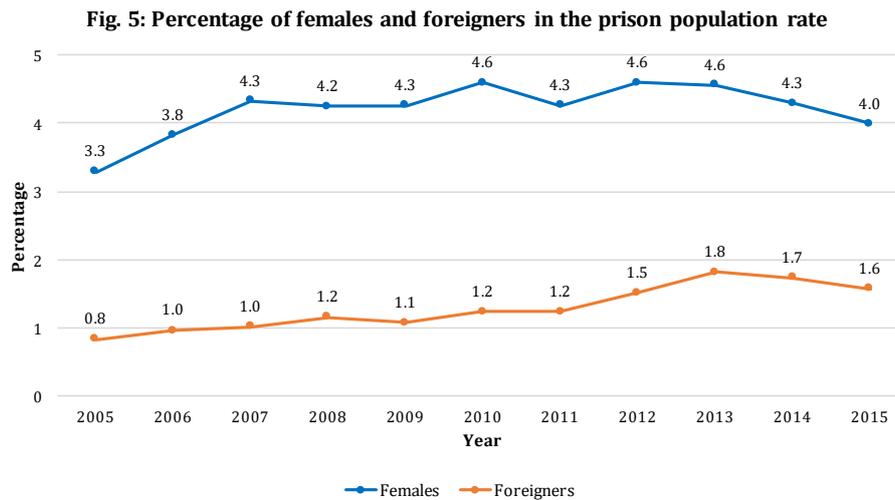


Figure 5 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the percentage of female inmates increased by 21%. In 2005, 3.3% of the inmates were females, while in 2015 they represented 4.0% of the total prison population.

During the same period, the percentage of foreign inmates increased by 87%. In 2005, 0.8% of the inmates were foreigners, while in 2015 they represented 1.6% of the total prison population. According to the information collected during this research, the explanations of the increase in the percentage of foreign inmates usually given in Lithuania put that increase in relation to the integration of the country in the Schengen Area since 21 December 2007.

Figure 6 (198)

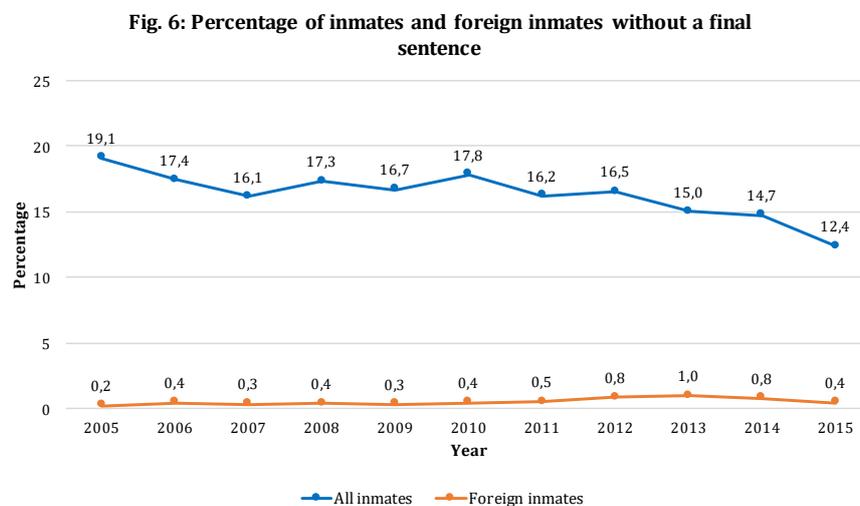


Figure 6 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the percentage of inmates without a final sentence decreased by 35%. In 2005, 19% of the inmates did not have a final sentence while, in 2015, inmates without a final sentence represented 12% of all inmates. According to the information collected during this research, this decrease is mainly due to the reinforcement of the conditions required to use arrest as a preventive measure, to the introduction of electronic monitoring, and to the fact that court trials became faster.

From 2005 to 2015, the percentage of foreigners held in pre-trial detention increased by 142%. In 2005, they represented 0.2% of the total number of inmates, while in 2015 they represented 0.4% of them.

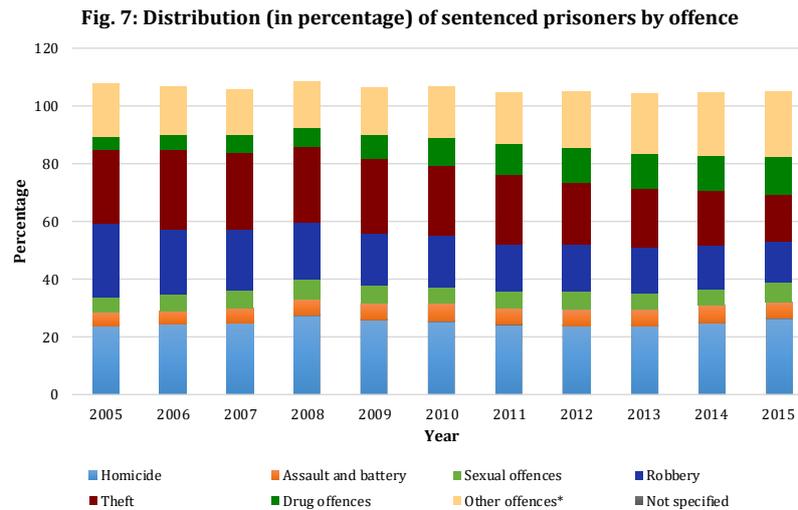
Figure 7¹²³ (199)

Figure 7 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the percentages of prisoners serving sentences for homicide, assault and battery, sexual offences, drug offences, and other types of offences have increased; while the percentages of those serving sentences for robbery and theft have decreased. According to the information collected during this research, the percentages exceed 100% because, in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, sentenced prisoners who have submitted their written consent are able to start the service of their term of imprisonment before the hearing of their case by the court of appeal. Thus, sentenced inmates who have submitted an appeal, as well as inmates whose sentence has come into force before their transfer to a penitentiary institution, are included in the total number of prisoners included in Figure 7, together with those whose sentence has come into force and are already serving it. However, only the latter are included in the total number of sentenced prisoners provided by the country.

Figure 8 (200)

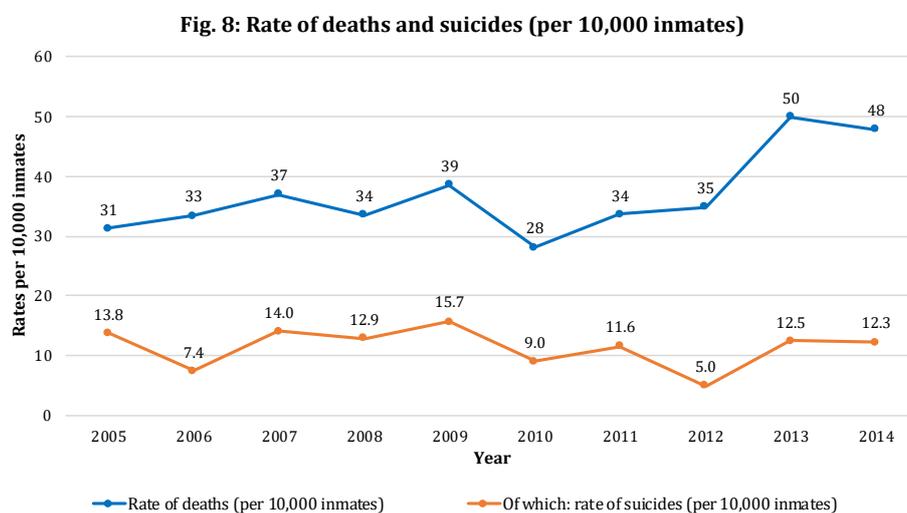


Figure 8 shows that, from 2005 to 2014, the rate of deaths of inmates in penal institutions per 10,000 inmates increased by 53%. In 2005, there were 31 deaths per 10,000 inmates, while in 2014 there were 48.

¹ The figures provided by the country do not always add to 100%.

² Sexual offences include (1) rape (included in the SPACE questionnaire since 2005), and (2) other sexual offences (included in the SPACE questionnaire since 2008).

³ Other offences include (1) economic and financial offences (included in the SPACE questionnaire since 2008); (2) terrorism (included in the SPACE questionnaire since 2007); (3) organised crime (included in the SPACE questionnaire since 2007); (4) cybercrime (included in the SPACE questionnaire since 2014); and (5) other cases (included in the SPACE questionnaire since 2005).

The rate of suicides per 10,000 inmates remained relatively stable, although this trend must be interpreted cautiously because, from a statistical point of view, the absolute numbers are too low (between 4 and 13 suicides per year) to reach reliable conclusions.