

# Prisons in Europe 2005-2015

## Slovak Republic

### Country Profile

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

This country profile on Slovak Republic 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

## SLOVAK REPUBLIC

## 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	185.9	High	High	177.9	↑
Rate of entries into penal institutions in 2014 (inmates per 100,000 inhabitants)	166.1	Medium	Medium	134.3	↑↑↑↑
Rate of releases from penal institutions in 2014 (inmates per 100,000 inhabitants) – Available since 2009	126.9	Medium	Medium	127.2*	↑↑
Average length of imprisonment in 2014 based on the total number of days spent in penal institutions (in months)	---	---	---	---	---
Average length of imprisonment in 2014 based on stock and flow (in months)	13.6	High	High	16.1	↓↓
Prison density on 01.09.2015 (inmates per 100 places)	90.2	Medium	Medium	89.4	↔
Median age of the prison population on 01.09.2015 (in years) – Available since 2010	36.1**	High	High	---	---
Percentage of female inmates (01.09.2015)	6.4	High	High	5.5	↑↑↑↑↑
Percentage of foreign inmates (01.09.2015)	1.8	Low	Low	1.9	↓↓↓
of which: in pre-trial detention	39.1	Medium	Medium	49.6	↓↓↓
Percentage of non-sentenced inmates (01.09.2015)	13.4	Low	Low	18.5	↓↓↓↓
Rate of deaths per 10,000 inmates in 2014	17.7	Low	Low	15.0	↑↑↑
Rate of suicides per 10,000 inmates in 2014 (n=6)	5.9	Medium	Medium	6.4	↑↑↑
of which: % in pre-trial detention (n=1) – Available since 2013	16.7	Medium	Medium	---	---
Ratio of inmates per staff (number of inmates per 1 staff person)	1.9	Medium	Medium	1.9	↔
Percentage of custodial staff in the total staff	15.4	Low	Low	52.7	↓↓↓↓
Total budget spent by the prison administration (in Euro) – Available since 2011	150 579 357	NAP	NAP	146 235 824***	↑
Average amount spent per day for the detention of one inmate (in Euro) – Available since 2013	39.4	Medium	Low	---	---

\* Average calculated from 2009 to 2014

\*\* Data refers to 2014

\*\*\* Average calculated from 2011 to 2014

### Slovak Republic in brief

- Comparing 2014/15 to 2005, the following indicators show a *decrease*: average length of detention based on stock and flow (-14%), percentage of foreign inmates (-23%), percentage of pre-trial detainees among foreign inmates (-41%), percentage of non-sentenced inmates (-58%), percentage of suicides (-7%), and percentage of custodial staff (-78%).
- Comparing 2014/15 to 2005, the following indicators show an *increase*: prison population rate (+8%), rate of entries into penal institutions (+26%), rate of releases from penal institutions (+11%), percentage of female inmates (+50%), and total budget spent by the prison administration (+9%).
- Comparing 2014/15 to 2005, the following indicators remain *stable*: prison density (+2%), rate of deaths per 10,000 inmates (-1%), and ratio of inmates per staff (+4%).

### Slovak Republic in comparative perspective

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

## General comments

Figure 1 (305)

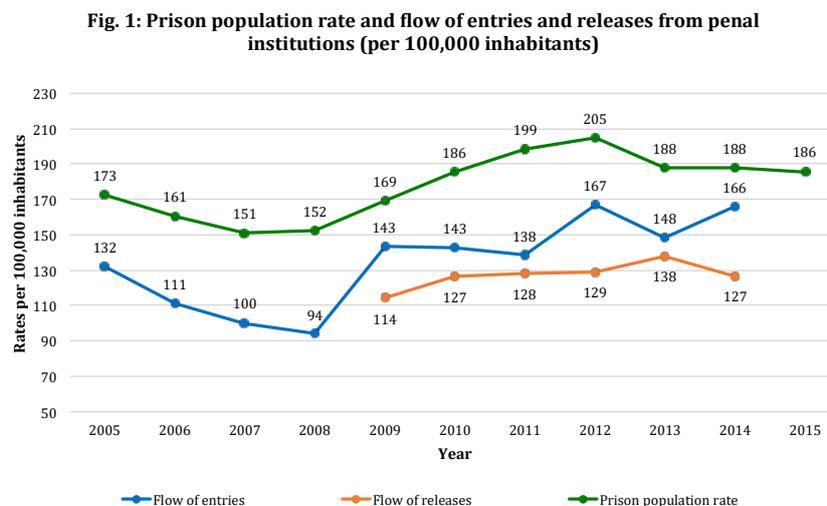


Figure 1 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the prison population rate of Slovak Republic (stock) increased by 8%. In 2005, the country had 173 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2015 it had 186.

From 2005 to 2014, the rate of entries (flow of entries) increased by 26%. In 2005, there were 132 entries into penal institutions per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2014 there were 166.

From 2009 to 2014, the rate of releases (flow of releases) increased by 11%. In 2009, there were 114 releases from penal institutions per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2014 there were 127.

The flow of entries and the flow of releases show dissimilar rates and relatively similar trends.

Figure 2 (306)



When the average length of imprisonment is computed on the basis of the ratio between the stock and the flow, it shows a decrease of 14%. According to this indicator, in 2005, the average length of imprisonment was 16 months, while in 2014 it was 14 months.

Data were not available for the estimation of the average length of imprisonment based on the number of days spent in penal institutions.

**Figure 3 (307)****Fig. 3: Prison density per 100 places (Overcrowding)**

Figure 3 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the prison density of Slovak Republic remained relatively stable. In 2005, the country had 89 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2015 it had 90.

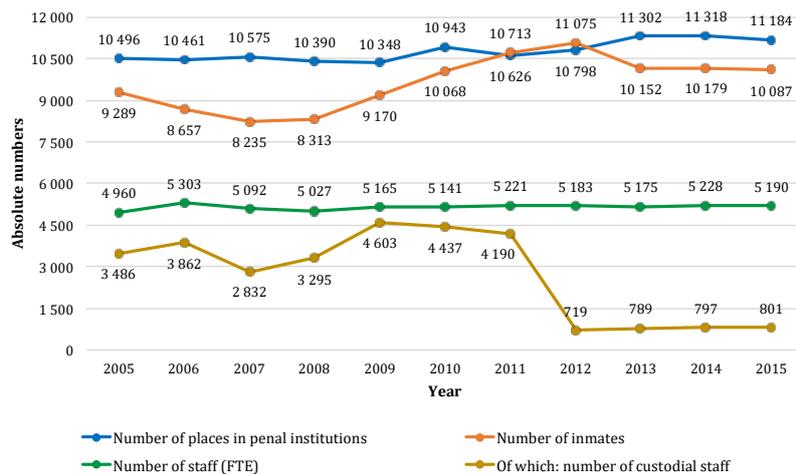
**Figure 4 (308)****Fig. 4: Total capacity of penal institutions and number of inmates**

Figure 4 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the total number of places in penal institutions in Slovak Republic increased by 7%. In 2005, the country had 10,496 places, while in 2015 it had 11,184.

During the same period, the total number of inmates increased by 9%. In 2005, the country had 9,289 inmates, while in 2015 it had 10,087.

From 2005 to 2015, the total number of staff increased by 5%. In 2005, Slovak Republic had in total a staff of 4,960 persons, while in 2015 it had 5,190.

During the same period, the total number of custodial staff decreased by 77%. In 2005, the total custodial staff was 3,486 persons, while in 2015 it was 801.

Figure 5 (309)

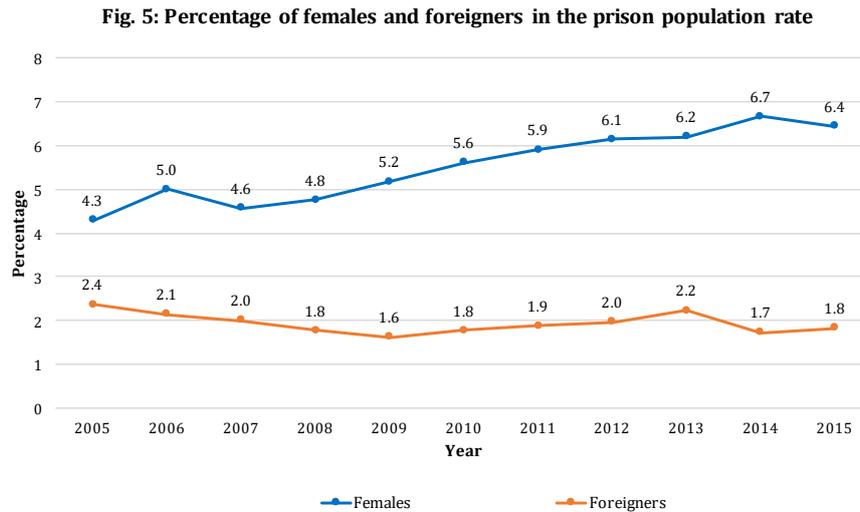


Figure 5 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the percentage of female inmates increased by 50%. In 2005, 4.3% of the inmates were females, while in 2015 they represented 6.4% of the total prison population. According to the information collected during this research, the upward trend is mainly due to the incarceration of women convicted for drug offences.

During the same period, the percentage of foreign inmates decreased by 23%. In 2005, 2.4% of the inmates were foreigners, while in 2015 they represented 1.8% of the total prison population.

Figure 6 (310)

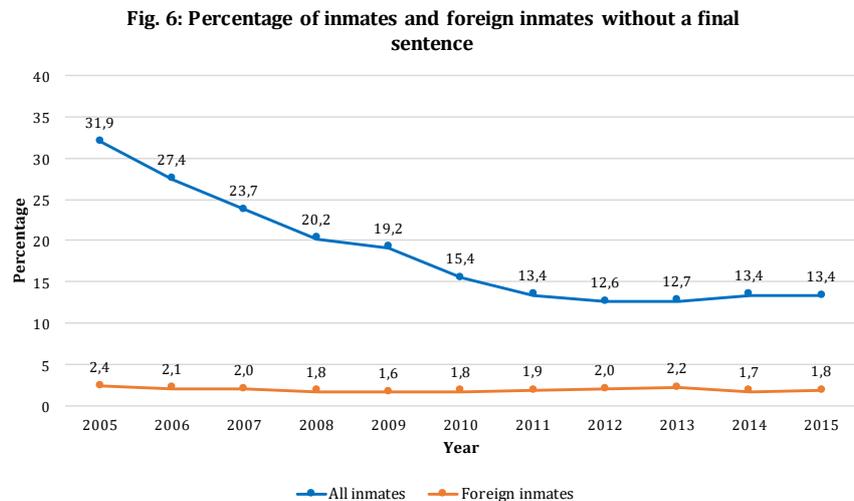
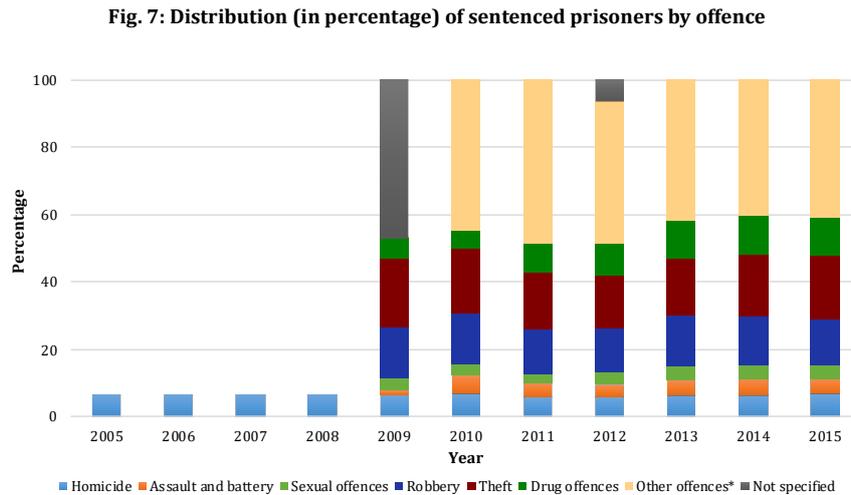


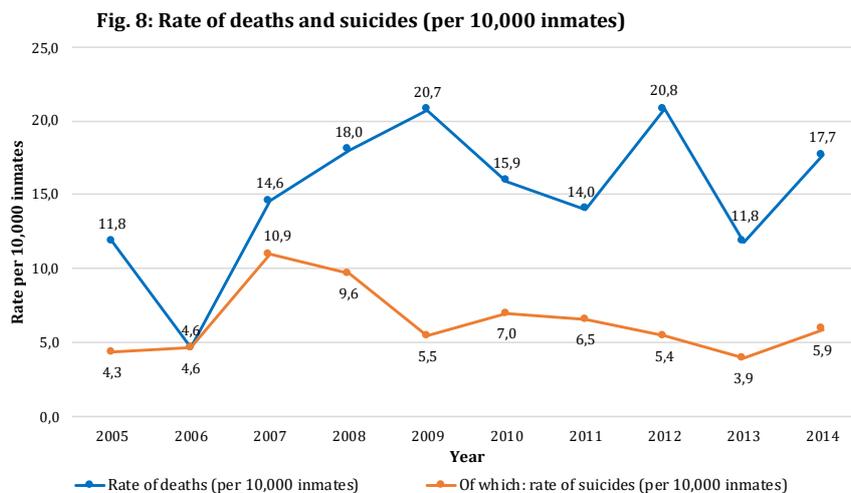
Figure 6 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the percentage of inmates without a final sentence decreased by 58%. In 2005, 32% of the inmates did not have a final sentence while, in 2015, inmates without a final sentence represented 13% of all inmates.

During the same period, the percentage of foreigners held in pre-trial detention decreased by 23%. In 2005, they represented 2.4% of the total number of inmates, while in 2015 they represented 1.8% of them.

Figure 7<sup>123</sup> (311)

Data on the distribution of sentenced prisoners by offence were only available for the years 2009 to 2015. During that period, the percentages of prisoners serving sentences for 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. The percentage of prisoners serving sentences for homicide remained stable.

Figure 8 (312)



The instability of the trends for deaths and suicides per 10,000 inmates shown in Figure 8 illustrates the impossibility of reaching statistically reliable conclusions when the absolute number of cases that generated the rates is low.

<sup>1</sup> The figures provided by the country do not always add to 100%.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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); (5) other cases (included in the SPACE questionnaire since 2005).