

Prisons in Europe 2005-2015

Turkey

Country Profile

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This country profile on Turkey 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	TURKEY		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	220.4	High	NAP	152.5	↑↑↑↑↑
Rate of entries into penal institutions in 2014 (inmates per 100,000 inhabitants)	241.2	High	NAP	206.0	↑↑↑↑
Rate of releases from penal institutions in 2014 (inmates per 100,000 inhabitants) – Available since 2009	219.9	High	NAP	204.5*	↑↑↑↑↑
Average length of imprisonment in 2014 based on the total number of days spent in penal institutions (in months)	29.9	High	NAP	17.1	↑↑↑↑↑
Average length of imprisonment in 2014 based on stock and flow (in months)	9.8	Medium	NAP	8.8	↑↑↑↑↑
Prison density on 01.09.2015 (inmates per 100 places)	101.3	High	NAP	96.6	↑↑↑↑
Median age of the prison population on 01.09.2015 (in years)	33.0	Low	NAP	33.3	↓
Percentage of female inmates (01.09.2015)	3.6	Low	NAP	3.6	↑
Percentage of foreign inmates (01.09.2015)	2.1	Low	NAP	1.7	↓
of which: in pre-trial detention	47.3	High	NAP	83.7	↓↓↓↓
Percentage of non-sentenced inmates (01.09.2015)	21.7	Medium	NAP	44.4	↓↓↓↓↓
Rate of deaths per 10,000 inmates in 2014	25.1	Medium	NAP	21.0	↑↑↑↑↑
Rate of suicides per 10,000 inmates in 2014 (n=53)	3.5	Medium	NAP	4.0	↓↓↓↓
of which: % in pre-trial detention (n=20) – Available since 2013	37.7	Medium	NAP	47.8	↓↓↓↓↓
Ratio of inmates per staff (number of inmates per 1 staff person)	3.7	High	NAP	3.4	↑↑↑↑↑
Percentage of custodial staff in the total staff	82.5	High	NAP	82.3	↔
Total budget spent by the prison administration (in Euro) – Available since 2011	1 169 879 370	NAP	NAP	882 781 939**	↑↑↑↑↑
Average amount spent per day for the detention of one inmate (in Euro) – Available since 2008	21.7	Low	NAP	17.0***	↑↑↑↑↑

* Average calculated from 2009 to 2014

** Average calculated from 2011 to 2014

*** Average calculated from 2008 to 2014

Turkey in brief

- Comparing 2014/15 to 2005, the following indicators show a *decrease*: median age of the population (-6%), percentage of foreign inmates (-5%), percentage of pre-trial detainees among foreign inmates (-38%), percentage of non-sentenced inmates (-61%), percentage of suicides (-37%), and percentage of suicides in pre-trial detention (-55%).
- Comparing 2014/15 to 2005, the following indicators show an *increase*: prison population rate (+191%), rate of entries into penal institutions (+45%), rate of releases from penal institutions (+60%), average length of detention based on the total number of days spent in penal institution (+343%), average length of detention based on stock and flow (+80%), prison density (+31%), percentage of female inmates (+9%), rate of deaths per 10,000 inmates (+162%), ratio of inmates per staff (+66%), total budget spent by the prison administration (+74%), and average amount spent per day for the detention of one inmate (+153%).
- Comparing 2014/15 to 2005, the following indicators remain *stable*: percentage of custodial staff (-1%).

Turkey in comparative perspective

- Compared to other European countries, in 2014/15 Turkey presents:
 - **Low:** Median age of the prison population, percentage of female inmates, percentage of foreign inmates, average amount spent per day for the detention of one inmate.
 - **Medium:** Average length of detention based on stock and flow, percentage of non-sentenced inmates, rate of deaths per 10,000 inmates, rate of suicides per 10,000 inmates, percentage of suicides in pre-trial detention.
 - **High:** Prison population rate, rate of entries into penal institutions, rate of releases from penal institutions, average length of detention based on the total number of days spent in penal institution, prison density, percentage of pre-trial detainees among foreign inmates, ratio of inmates per staff, percentage of custodial staff in the total staff.

General comments

Figure 1 (369)

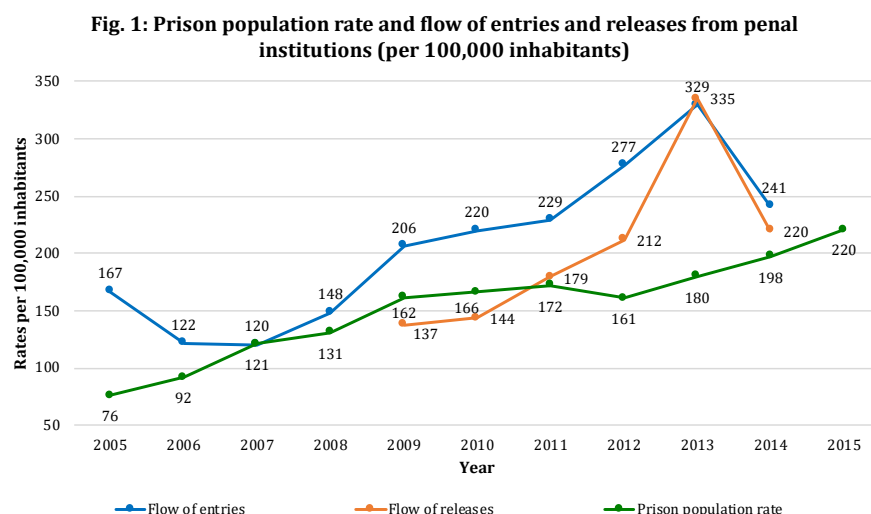


Figure 1 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the prison population rate of Turkey (stock) increased by 191%. In 2005, the country had 76 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2015 it had 220. According to the information collected during this research, the main reason for the increase of the prison population seems to be the legal changes introduced in the Criminal Code, which led to an aggravation of the conditions required to be eligible for conditional release.

From 2005 to 2014, the rate of entries (flow of entries) increased by 45%. In 2005, there were 167 entries into penal institutions per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2014 there were 241.

From 2009 to 2014, the rate of releases (flow of releases) increased by 60%. In 2009, there were 137 releases from penal institutions per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2014 there were 220.

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

Figure 2 (370)

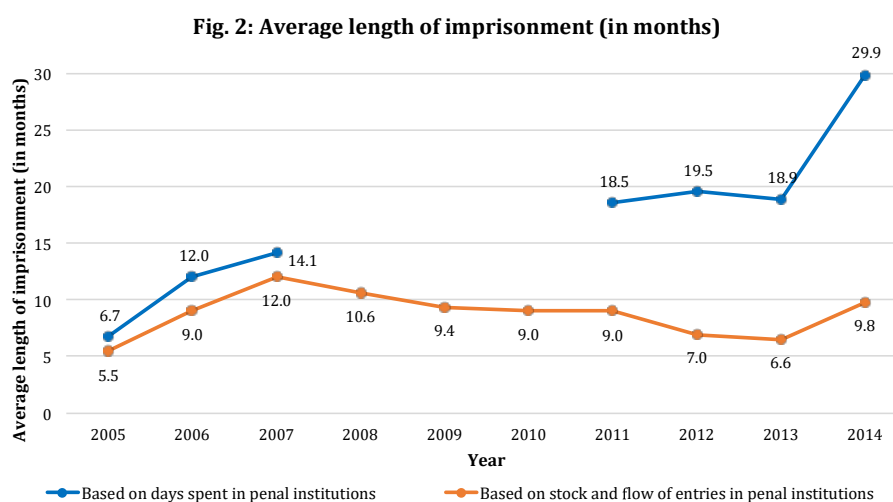


Figure 2 shows that, from 2005 to 2014, the average length of imprisonment based on the number of days spent in penal institutions increased by 343%. In 2005, the average length of imprisonment was 6.7 months, while in 2014 it was 29.9 months.

During the same period, the average length of imprisonment computed on the basis of the ratio between the stock and the flow increased by 80%. In 2005, the average length of imprisonment was 5.5 months, while in 2014 it was 9.8 months.

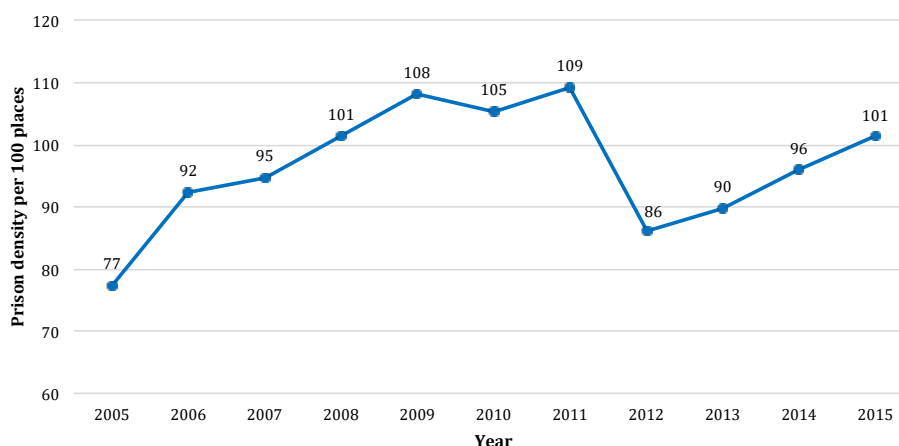
Figure 3 (371)**Fig. 3: Prison density per 100 places (Overcrowding)**

Figure 3 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the prison density of Turkey increased by 31%. In 2005, the country had 77 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants, while in 2015 it had 101.

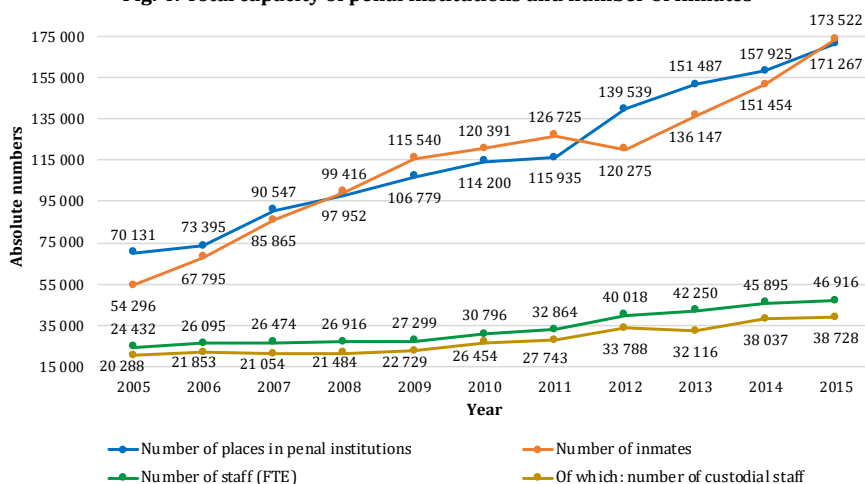
Figure 4 (372)**Fig. 4: Total capacity of penal institutions and number of inmates**

Figure 4 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the total number of places in penal institutions in Turkey increased by 144%. In 2005, the country had 70,131 places, while in 2015 it had 171,267. According to the information collected during this research, the increase is due to the construction of new penal institutions across the country.

During the same period, the total number of inmates increased by 220%. In 2005, the country had 54,296 inmates, while in 2015 it had 173,522.

From 2005 to 2015, the total number of staff increased by 92%. In 2005, Turkey had in total a staff of 24,432 persons, while in 2015 it had 46,916.

During the same period, the total number of custodial staff increased by 91%. In 2005, the total custodial staff was 20,288 persons, while in 2015 it was 38,728.

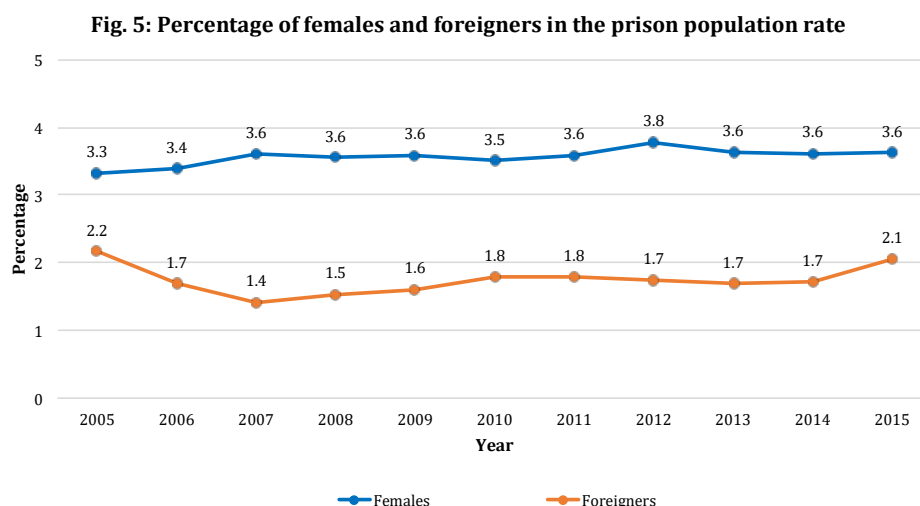
Figure 5 (373)

Figure 5 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the percentage of female inmates increased by 9%. In 2005, 3.3% of the inmates were females, while in 2015 they represented 3.6 % of the total prison population.

During the same period, the percentage of foreign inmates decreased by 5%. In 2005, 2.2% of the inmates were foreigners, while in 2015 they represented 2.1% of the total prison population.

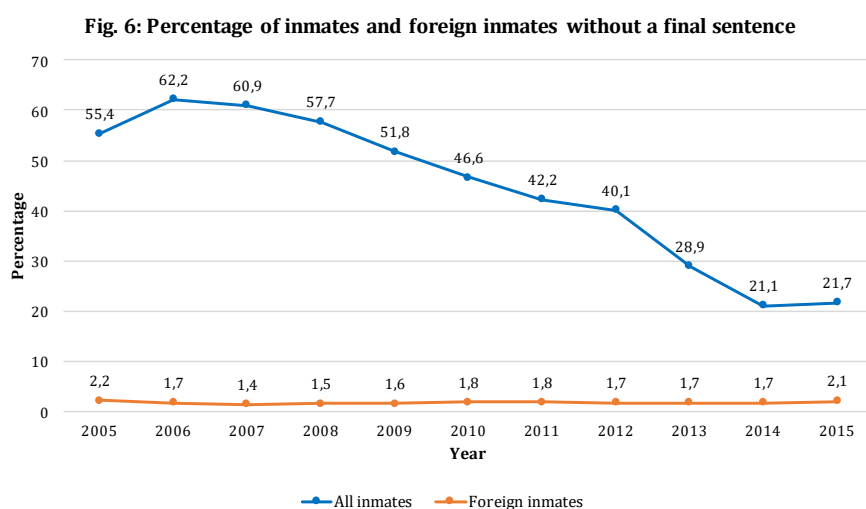
Figure 6 (374)

Figure 6 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the percentage of inmates without a final sentence decreased by 61%. In 2005, 55% of the inmates did not have a final sentence while, in 2015, inmates without a final sentence represented 22% of all inmates.

During the same period, the percentage of foreigners held in pre-trial detention decreased by 5%. In 2005, they represented 2.2% of the total number of inmates, while in 2015 they represented 2.1% of them.

Figure 7¹²³ (375)

Fig. 7: Distribution (in percentage) of sentenced prisoners by offence

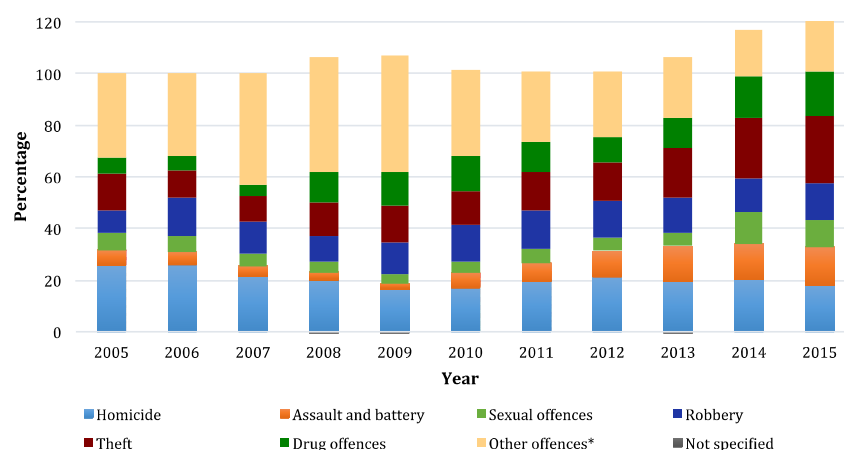


Figure 7 shows that, from 2005 to 2015, the percentages of prisoners serving sentences for assault and battery, sexual offences, robbery, theft, and drug offences have increased; while the percentages of those serving sentences for homicide and other types of offences have decreased.

Figure 8 (376)

Fig. 8: Rate of deaths and suicides (per 10,000 inmates)

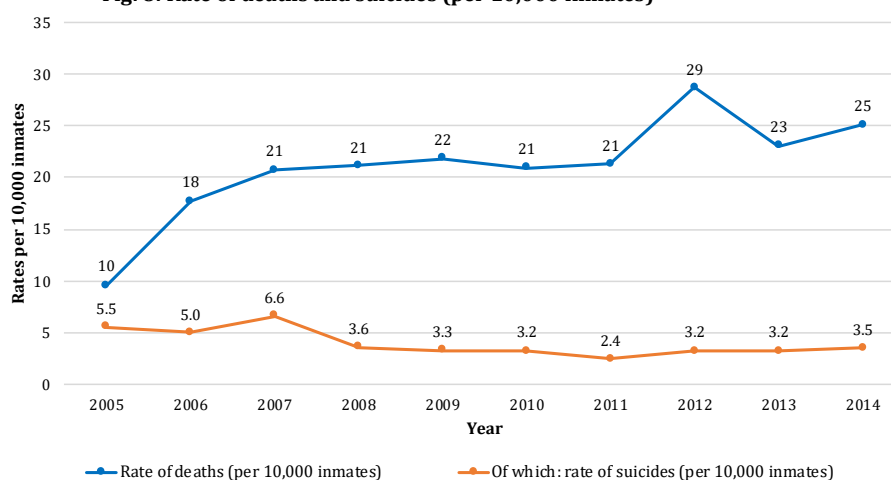


Figure 8 shows that, from 2005 to 2014, the rate of deaths of inmates in penal institutions per 10,000 inmates increased by 162%. In 2005, there were 10 deaths per 10,000 inmates, while in 2014 there were 25.

During the same period, the rate of suicides of inmates in penal institutions per 10,000 inmates decreased by 37%. In 2005, there were 5.5 suicides per 10,000 inmates, while in 2014 there were 3.5.

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).