Prisons and Prisoners in Europe 2020: Key Findings of the SPACE I report

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1. Introduction

This document summarises the main findings of the *2020 Council of Europe Annual Penal Statistics on Prison Populations*, better known under the acronym SPACE I. The rates and percentages presented here correspond to the *European median values* and are presented in the text in round numbers unless they are lower than 10; in particular, the rates are calculated on the basis of data weighted by the population of each country (see *Methodology* for further details). The detailed state-level data are presented in Tables 3 and 4 at the end of the document.

Forty-eight (48) of the 52 prison administrations in the 47 Council of Europe member states answered the SPACE I 2020 questionnaire, which corresponds to a participation rate of 92%. The following prison administrations did not send their answers: Bosnia & Herzegovina (State level, Federal level, and Republika Srpska), and Ukraine. However, data concerning the total number of inmates in Republika Srpska (Bosnia & Herzegovina), the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Ukraine, as well as the total capacity of prison institutions in these same prison administrations were retrieved from other sources (see comments to Tables 3 and 16 of the SPACE I 2020 report for further details) and are therefore included in the computation of the relevant European median and average values. On the contrary, these computations do not include the few inconsistent figures detected during the validation procedure (see Table B of the SPACE I 2020 report for details).

## 2. Stock indicators: Prisons and Prisoners on 31st January 2020

On 31st January 2020, there were 1,528,343 inmates in the penal institutions of the Council of Europe member states for which data are available. This corresponds to a European prison population rate of 103.2 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants.

Map 1. Prison population rates (number of inmates per 100,000 inhabitants) on 31st January 2020 (N=51)

8 April 2021
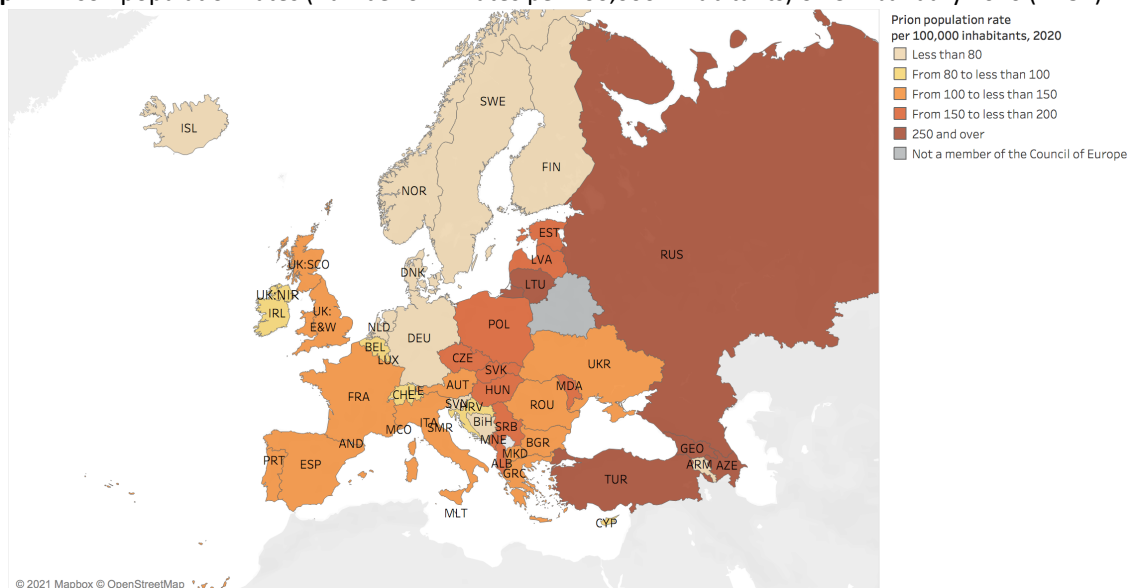
Map 1 presents prison population rates in six categories (from less than 80 inmates to 250 or more inmates per 100,000 inhabitants) across Europe, while Figure 1 shows the detailed distribution of these rates by country. The highest prison population rates (*i.e.* more than 250 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants) are found in the Russian Federation, Turkey, Georgia, Lithuania and Azerbaijan; while the lowest prison populations (*i.e.* less than 80 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants) are distributed across the Scandinavian countries, a few countries of the Balkan region, Germany, the Netherlands and Iceland.

Figure 1. Prison population rates (inmates per 100,000 inhabitants) on 31st January 2020 (N=51)
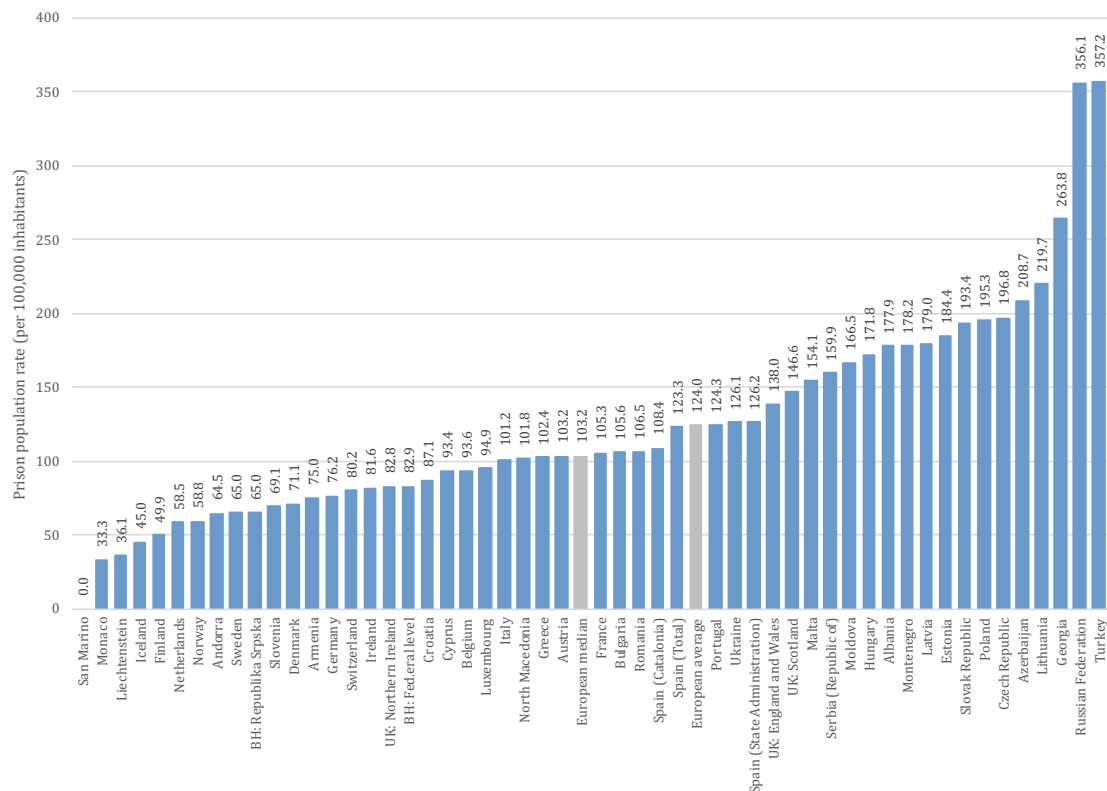
Characteristics of the inmates held in European penal institutions

Age of the prison population

The median age of the inmates held in European penal institutions is 36 years. In countries with at least one million inhabitants, this age varies from 33 to 44 years (see SPACE I, Table 6).

Fifteen percent of the inmates are aged 50 or over, and 2.5% are aged 65 or over (see SPACE I, Table 6). The second category (65 years or more) is included in the first one (50 years of more), but the number of prison administrations that provided data for both categories differ. Forty-one prison administrations were able to provide data on inmates aged 50 or over (Figure 2.1) and 38 on inmates aged 65 or over (Figure 2.2). SPACE started collecting data on these sociodemographic indicators last year with the aim of testing the hypothesis that prison populations are ageing across Europe, but that test can only be conducted once a few years of data are available. What can be said right now is that the presence of a relatively high percentage of inmates aged fifty or over and aged sixty-five or over is not directly associated with the ranking of the country in other indicators presented in this study, such as the average length of imprisonment (Figure 12), the prison population rate (Figure 1), or the percentage of inmates sentenced for drug offences (Figure 8). When one compares this indicator with the ones presented in Table 1 below, it can be seen, for example, that the prison population rate and the average length of imprisonment are very low in Norway, which at the same time is among the 9 countries with the highest percentage of inmates aged 50 or over. Conversely, Portugal is also amid these 9 countries, but has a high prison population rate and a long length of imprisonment. On the other extreme of the distribution, Lithuania has a very low percentage of inmates aged 50 or over, but one of the highest prison population rates, and the situation is relatively similar in Moldova and Montenegro (see Figures 1 and 2).

Figure 2.1 Percentage of inmates aged 50 or over in the prison population on 31st January 2020 (N=41)
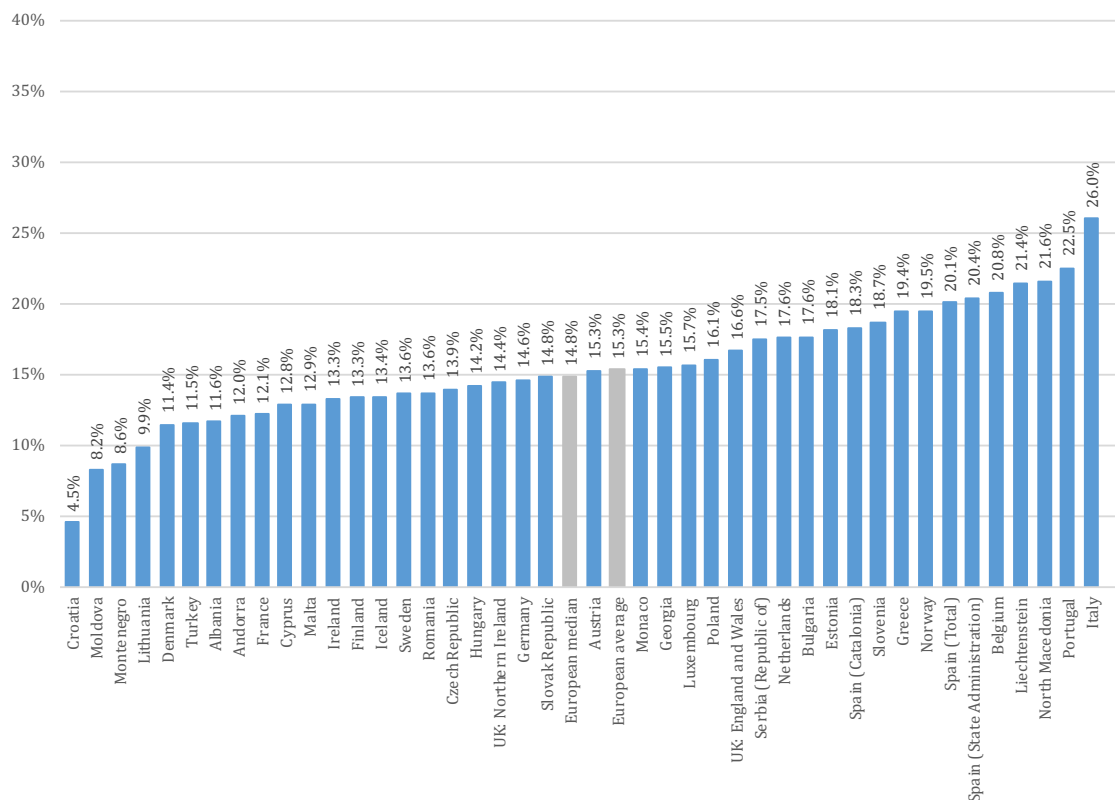
Figure 2.2: Percentage of inmates aged 65 or over in the prison population on 31st January 2020 (N=38)
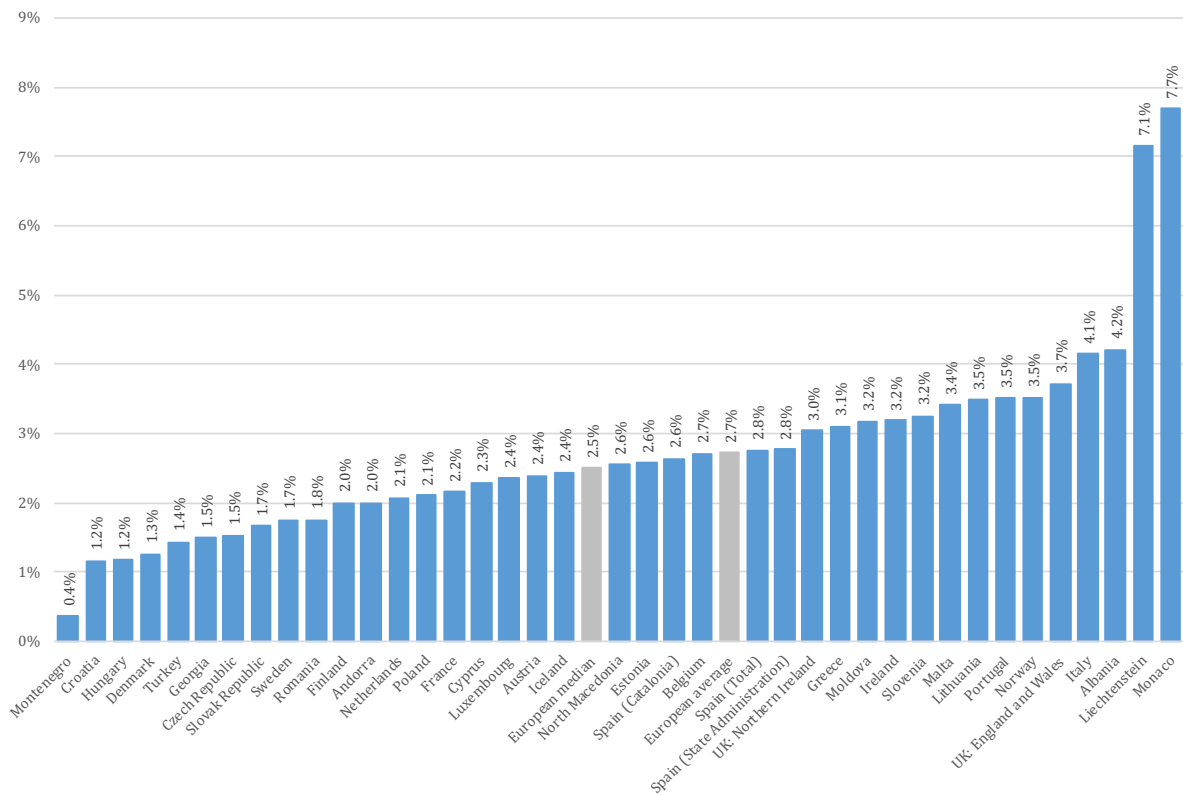
Gender

Ninety-five percent (95%) of the inmates held in Europe are men, and only 5% are women (see SPACE I, Table 7). Although there are differences across countries, the underrepresentation of women in penal institutions is a constant across Europe, as can be observed in Figure 3. In countries with at least one million inhabitants, the highest percentage is 8.6% (Latvia) and the lowest is 1.8% (Albania).

Figure 3. Percentage of female inmates in the prison population on 31st January 2020 (N=48)
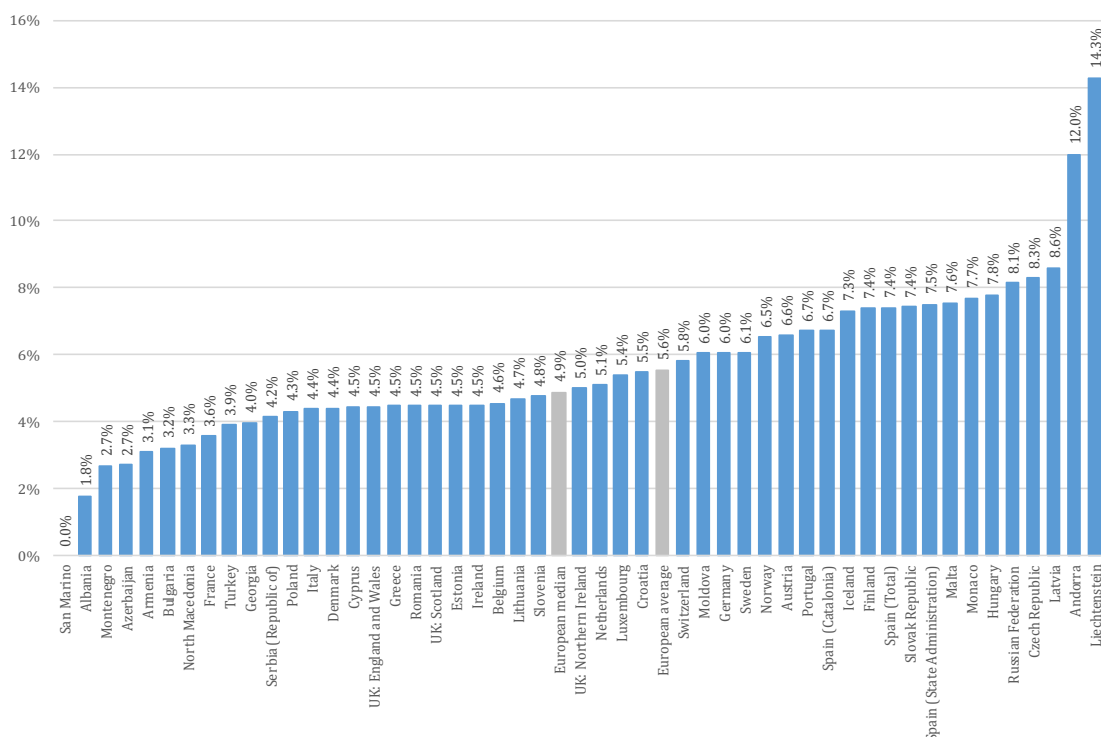
Nationality

Fifteen percent (15%) of the inmates held in Europe are foreigners, but this percentage differs substantially across nations. In Eastern European countries, it is usually lower than 5%, while in Central and Western Europe it varies from 2% to 70% in countries with at least one million inhabitants, and from none to all of them in smaller countries. These percentages are presented in Figure 4.

Only a few prison administrations collect data on the resident status of the foreigners held in their prisons. Among them, the percentage of those who have a legal resident status also fluctuates considerably, ranging from none to all (see SPACE I, Table 13).

More than one third of the foreign inmates held in Europe come from the EU member states (see SPACE I, Table 13).

Figure 4. Percentage of foreign inmates in the prison population on 31st January 2020 (N=43)
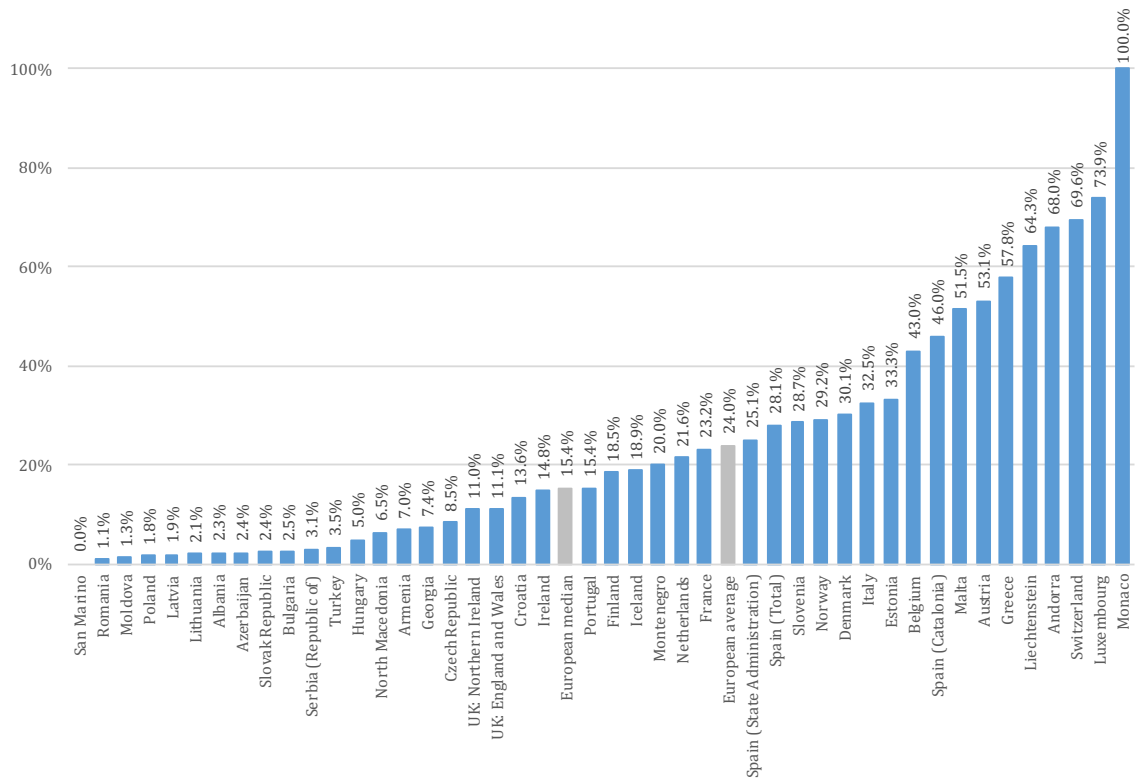
Legal status

Twenty-two percent (22%) of the inmates held in European penal institutions are not serving a final sentence (see SPACE I, Table 8). Following the terminology of the Council of Europe, this means that 22% of the inmates are *detainees* placed in *remand on custody* (see Recommendation Rec (2006) 13). In practice, however, they are often referred to as *detainees placed in pre-trial detention*, or simply as *pre-trial detainees*.

The percentage of detainees not serving a final sentence varies broadly across countries, ranging from 8.5% to roughly 45% in countries with at least one million inhabitants, and reaching 79% in smaller countries. These percentages are presented in Figure 5.

Disclaimer: Instead of waiting until the end of the appeal process, some countries consider inmates as *sentenced prisoners* once they receive their first sentence. As a consequence, those who have appealed or are within the statutory limits to do so are not included in the total number of detainees not serving a final sentence. This means that the interpretation of the differences observed in Figure 5 is not straightforward and must consider the comments provided by each country (see SPACE I, Table 8 and its notes).

Figure 5. Percentage of detainees not serving a final sentence in the prison population on 31st January 2020 (N=48)
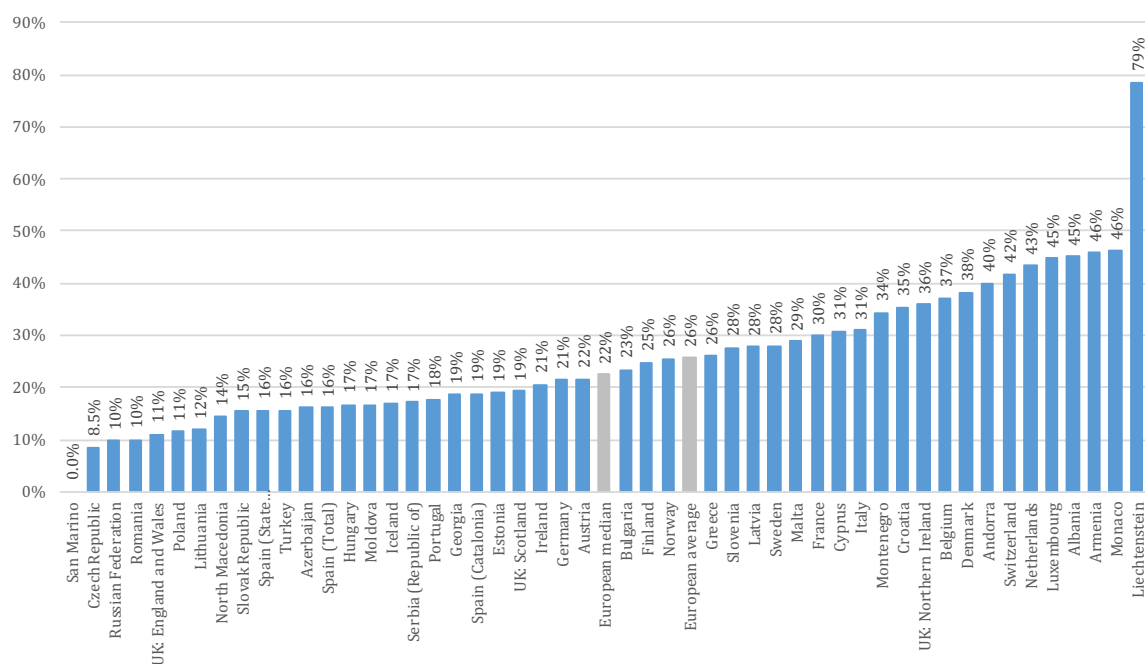
Length of sentence imposed

For those inmates who have been sentenced, Figure 6 presents the distribution of the length of the sentences imposed. It can be seen that they are mainly serving sentences from 1 to less than 3 years (22%), from 5 to less than 10 years (20%), and from 3 to less than 5 years (19%). Only 1.3% are serving sentences of 20 years and over, 1.8% are serving life imprisonment, and less than 1% are under security measures (for further details, see SPACE I, Table 11).

Figure 6. Distribution of sentenced prisoners according to the length of the sentence they are serving, in percentages, on 31st January 2020 (N=43)
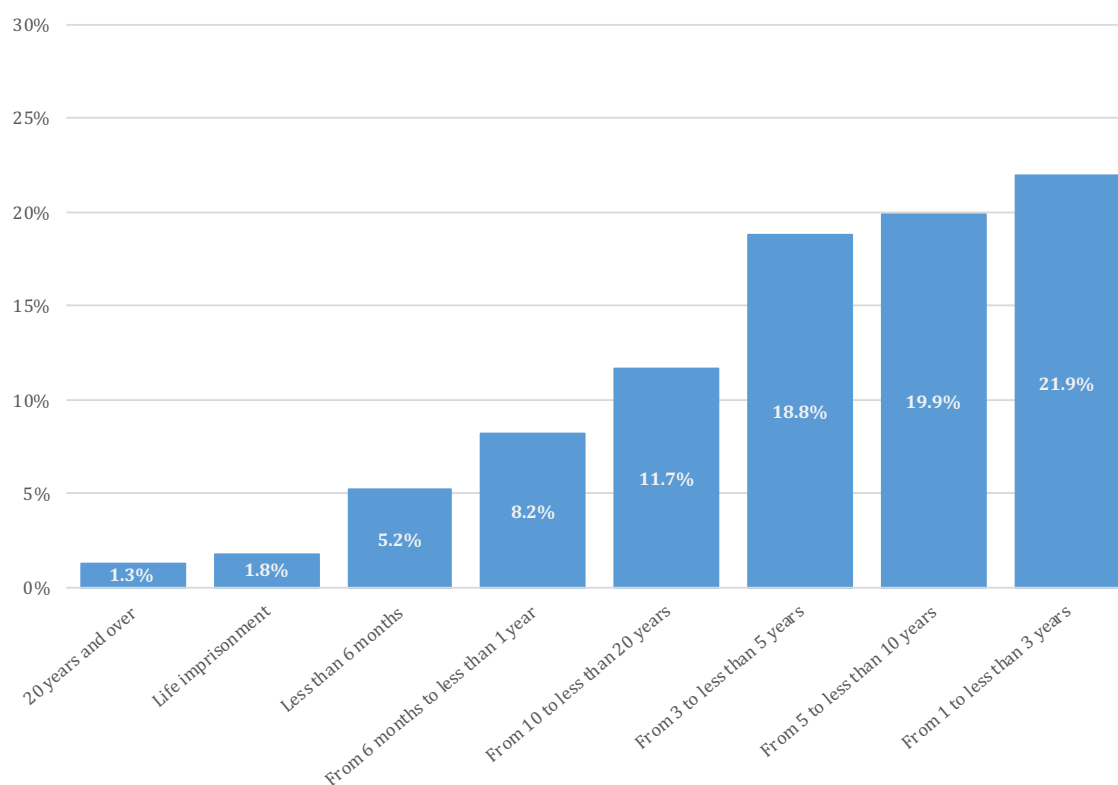
Type of offence

Figure 7 illustrates the distribution of sentenced prisoners according to the offence for which they were convicted (for further details, see SPACE I, Table 9). It can be seen that 18% of the sentenced prisoners held in European penal institutions have been convicted for drug offences. Prisoners convicted for theft (13%) represent the second largest category, followed by those sentenced for homicide (12%).

If one combines all the prisoners serving sentences for offences involving violence (homicide, assault and battery, rape, other sexual offences, and robbery) in a single category, they represent 39% of the prison population.

These percentages must be interpreted cautiously because some countries apply the principal offence rule — and therefore only take into account the most serious offence included in the sentence— and others do not apply it.

Figure 7. Distribution of sentenced prisoners according to the offence for which they were sentenced, in percentages, on 31st January 2020 (N=42)[1]

Homicide (including attempts); 12.1%
Assault and battery; 6.3%
Rape; 5.0%
Other types of sexual offences; 2.8%
Robbery; 10.6%
Theft; 13.1%
Economic/ financial offences; 3.9%
Drug offences; 17.7%
Road traffic offences; 3.1%
Other offences; 21.6%
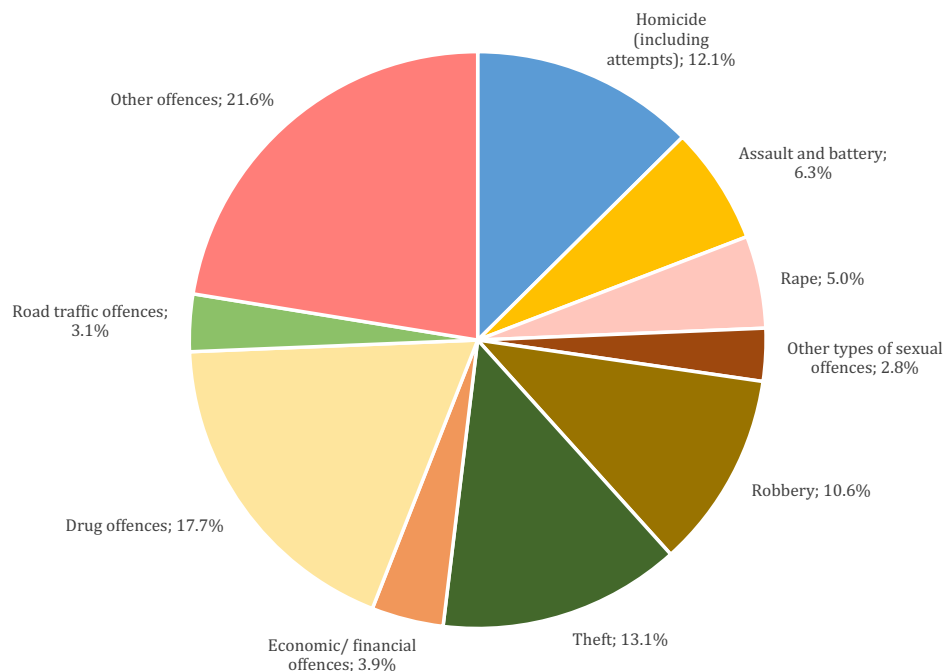
Focus on drug offences

Figure 8 presents the upper half of the distribution of countries according to the percentage of prisoners serving sentences for drug offences. It can be seen that, in nine countries, prisoners sentenced for that kind of offences represent one fourth or more of their prison population.

Figure 8. Percentage of sentenced prisoners serving sentences for drug offences on 31st January 2020 (upper half of the distribution only) (N=18)

European median 18%
Switzerland 19%
Finland 20%
Sweden 22%
Norway 24%
Serbia (Republic of) 24%
Denmark 25%
Malta 25%
Turkey 26%
Estonia 26%
Georgia 26%
Cyprus 27%
Albania 28%
Azerbaijan 29%
Greece 29%

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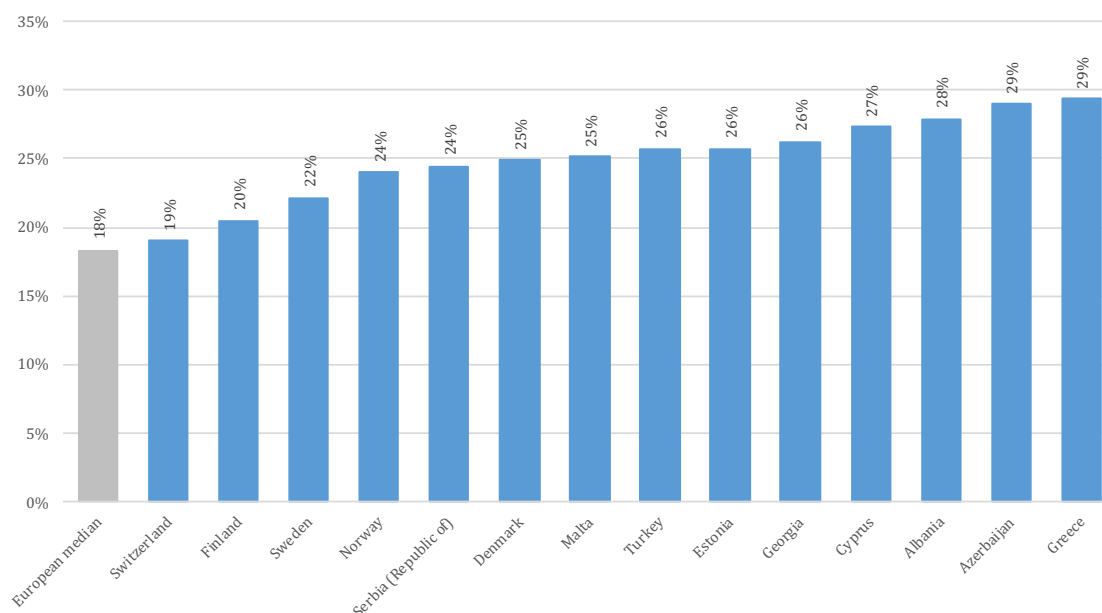
[1] Terrorism is included on the category *other offences* as the average percentage of inmates serving sentenced for this offense is less than 1% of the total.

Prison density and overcrowding

According to the information provided by the prison administrations, only 14 of them had a prison density of more than 100 inmates per 100 places. Among these 14 prison administrations, four had a density that was higher than 100 but inferior to 105; while the other ten were experiencing serious overcrowding, with rates of more than 105 inmates per 100 places. These 14 prison administrations are presented in different colours (yellow and red) in Figure 9 according to their prison density.

It must also be mentioned that the estimated level of occupation of the cells differs considerably among the countries that provided the relevant data, ranging roughly from 1 to 10 inmates per cell. At the European level, there are roughly 1.6 inmates per cell (See SPACE I, Table 16). This suggests that some penal institutions who are theoretically not experiencing overcrowding may have in practice overcrowded cells.

Disclaimer: Data on prison capacity is provided by the countries and therefore corresponds to their own estimation of it. By definition, there is overcrowding when there are more inmates than the number of places available in penal institutions. In order to define the number of places available (i.e. the capacity of the penal institutions), countries are asked to use the concept of *design capacity*, which refers to the number of inmates that a penal institution was intended to house when it was constructed or renewed. However, many countries use the concept of operational capacity, which refers to the number of inmates that a penal institution can actually house while remaining functional. As a consequence, the rates concerning prison capacity and overcrowding do not allow reliable cross-national comparisons.

Figure 9. Prison density (number of inmates per 100 detention places) on 31st January 2020 (N=51)
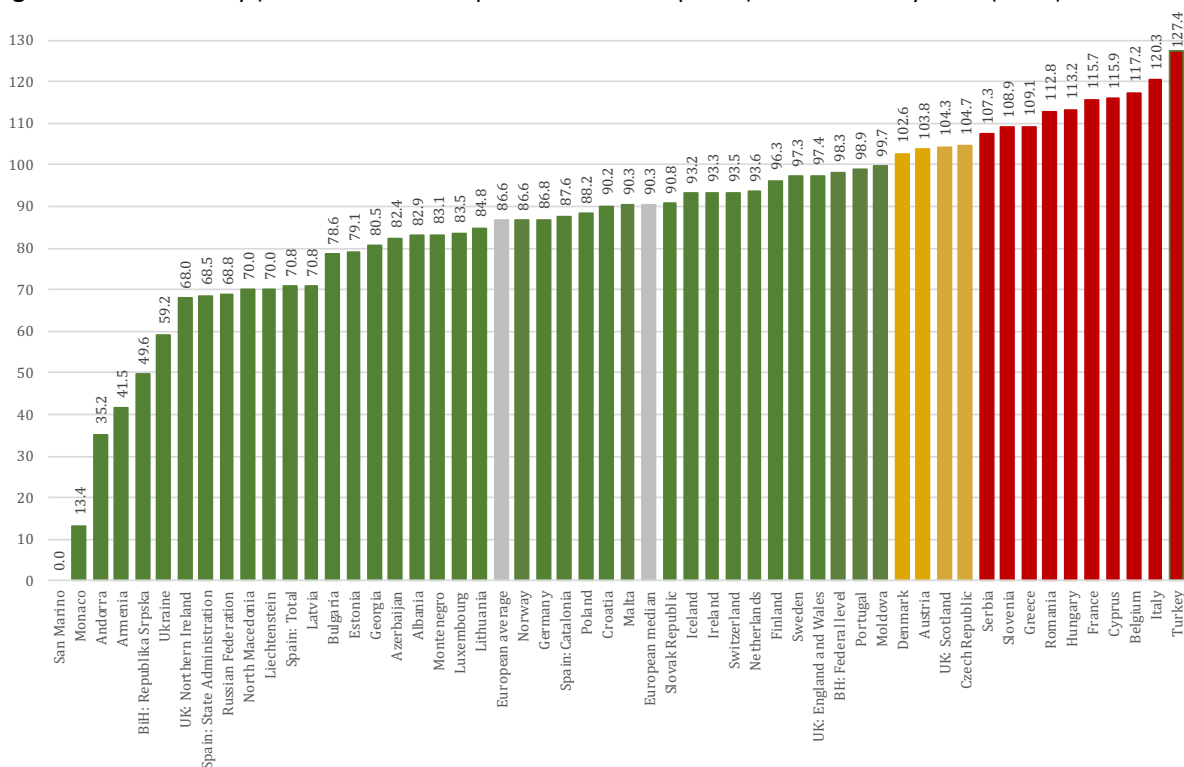
Prison staff

At the European level, there were 1.6 inmates per 1 member of prison staff. This ratio varies across prison administrations, ranging from a maximum of 4.8 to a minimum of 0.8 in countries with at least one million inhabitants, as can be seen in Figure 10.

When the ratio is based on the custodial staff only, the European median increases to 2.6 inmates per custodian. Finally, if the calculation is restricted to those among them who are dedicated solely to ensure safety and security in penal institutions, it increases to 2.7 inmates per *custodian solely dedicated to custody* (according to the terminology of the SPACE I questionnaire; see SPACE I, Table 21).

Figure 10. Ratio of inmates per one prison staff member on 31st January 2020 (N=46)
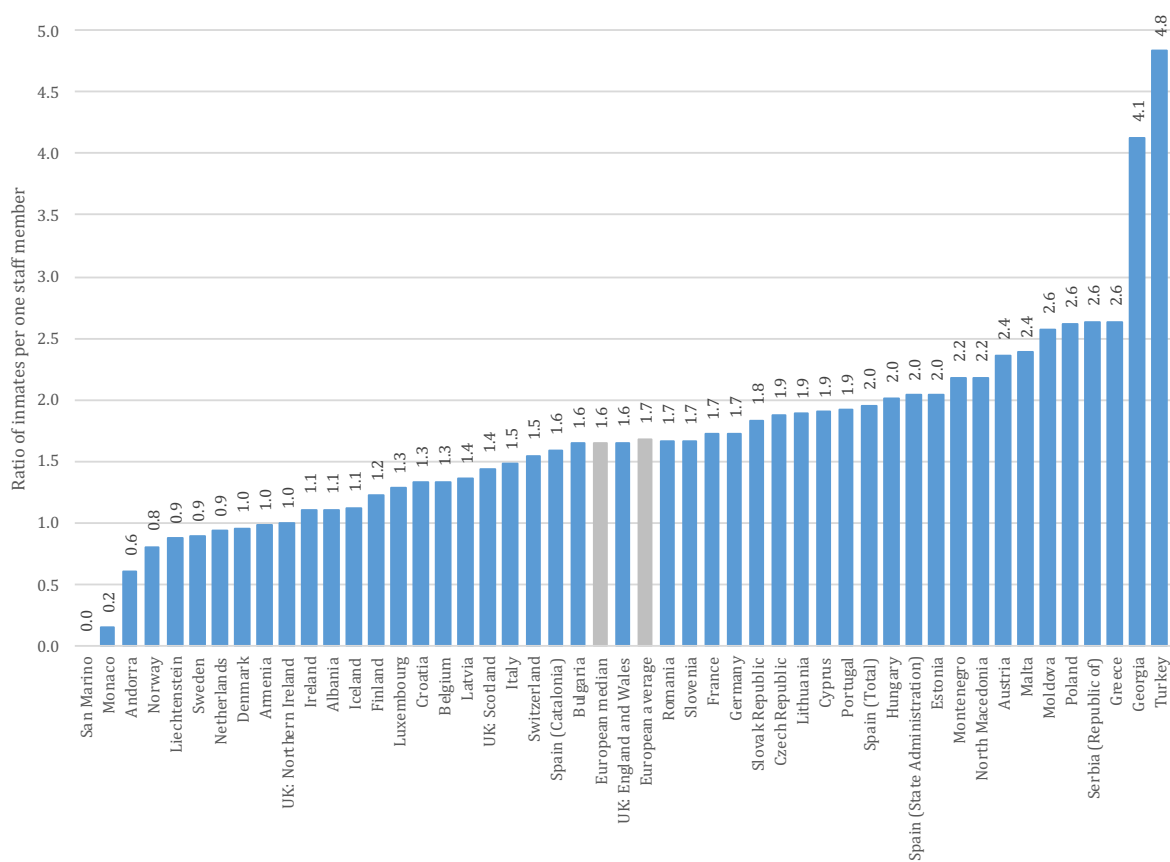
3. Flow indicators: Admissions, IALI, exits, turnover ratio, and cost of imprisonment during the year 2019

Admissions into penal institutions

During the year 2019, there were 1,010,556 admissions into penal institutions in the 44 prison administrations that provided data for this indicator, representing a European median rate of 150 admissions per 100,000 inhabitants (see SPACE I, Table 23). Figure 11 shows the rate of admissions by country. The Netherlands, Sweden, and Switzerland use a definition of admissions than does not comply with that of SPACE; therefore, their rates are not comparable to those of the rest of the prison administrations and are presented in striped bars.

Figure 11. Rate of admissions per 100,000 inhabitants during 2019 (N=44)
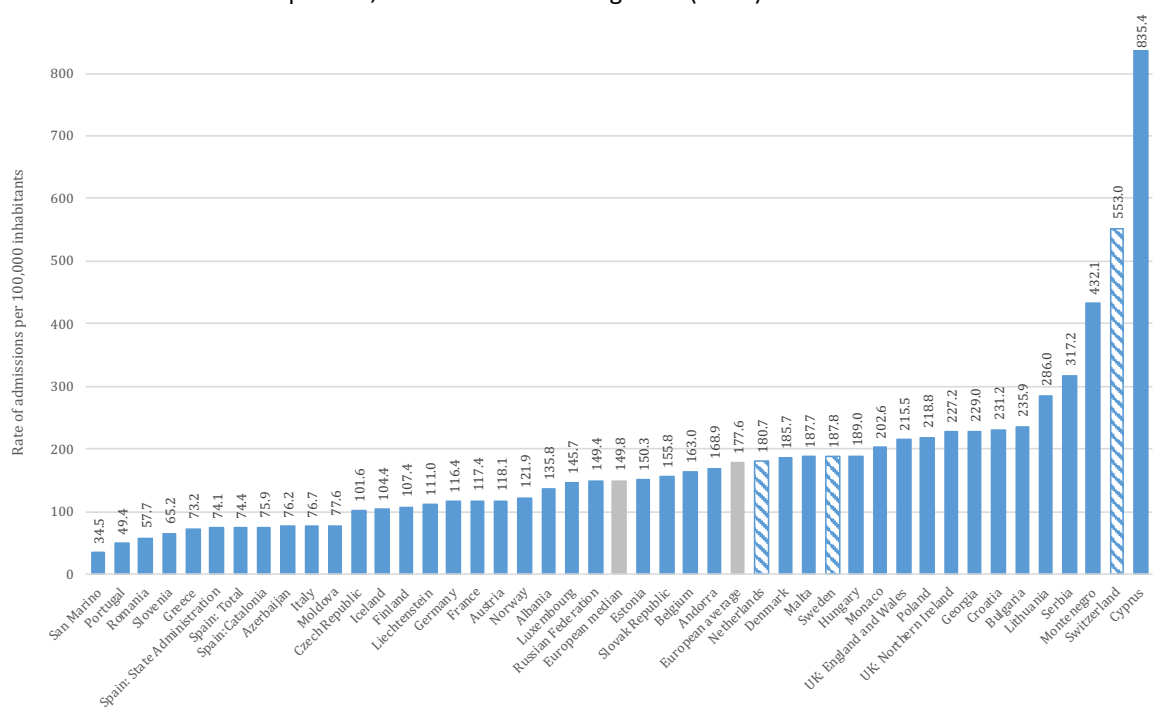
A comparison of the distribution of the prison administrations in Figure 11 with that in Figure 1 reveals that the relationship between the rates of admissions and the prison population rates is not straightforward. Portugal and Spain, for example, have very low rates of admissions, but high prison population rates; on the contrary, the Netherlands and Denmark have very low prison population rates and high rates of admissions (see Table 1). The key factor in that context is the length of imprisonment, which is presented in the next section.

Indicator of the average length of imprisonment (IALI)

Research suggests that lengthy detentions are usually correlated with the punitivity of a criminal justice system or with its slowness. Swift criminal justice systems are characterized by short criminal procedures, while the less punitive criminal justice systems tend to impose short sentences and facilitate the liberation of inmates.

Based on the stock and flow of inmates, in 2019 the estimated length of imprisonment in Europe was 8.5 months. The distribution by countries is presented in Figure 12. Going back to the previous comparison, it can be seen that in Denmark and the Netherlands inmates tend to remain in penal institutions for short periods of time, while in Portugal and Spain the average length of imprisonment is very high.

The length of imprisonment varies also according to the legal status of the inmate. For inmates not serving a final sentence, the average length of imprisonment was 4 months; while for sentenced prisoners it was 16 months (see SPACE I, Table 31).

Figure 12. Average length of imprisonment in 2019 (based on the stock and flow of inmates) (N=44)
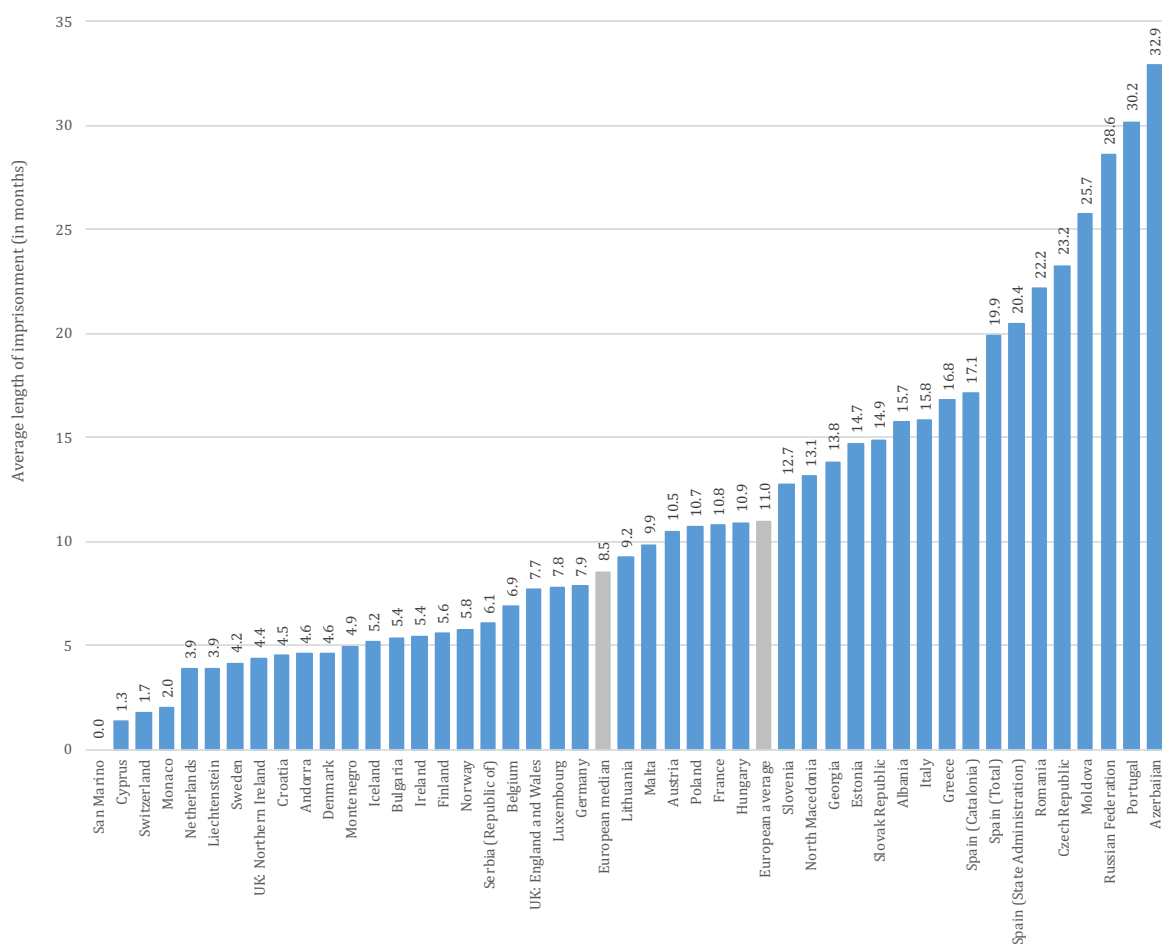
The length of imprisonment in Europe can also be estimated on the basis of the total number of days spent in penal institutions during the year (for details, see SPACE I, Part E). This way of estimating the IALI provides a slightly lower length of imprisonment in 2019: 7.2 months.

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Exits (releases, deaths and escapes) from penal institutions

During 2019, there were 1,196,530 exits in the 45 prison administrations that provided data for this indicator, which corresponds to a European median rate of 120 exits per 100,000 inhabitants (see SPACE I, Table 25).

The vast majority (more than 99%) of the exits in 2019 were due to releases. Escapes represented only 0.1% of the exits, while deaths in penal institutions accounted for 0.3% of them (See SPACE I, Table 25).

Releases: The European median rate was 112 releases per 100,000 inhabitants.

Deaths in prison:
The European *prison mortality rate* in 2019 was 27 inmates per 10,000 inmates.
The European *prison suicide rate* in 2019 was 5.2 inmates per 10,000 inmates.

Escapes: The European median rate was 8.2 escapes per 10,000 inmates.

Turnover ratio

The turnover ratio is an estimation of the release rate per 100 potential releases (i.e., the percentage of effective releases from the total number of potential releases). The calculations are based on raw data: the prison population (stock), the number of admissions (flow of admissions) and the number of releases (flow of releases). In particular, the sum of the stock on 31st January 2019 (taken from SPACE I 2019) and the flow of admissions during the year provides an estimate of the total number of inmates likely to be released in 2019 (i.e., the potential releases). This number is then put in relation with the effective number of releases during 2019. A low turnover ratio (less than 50%) implies relatively long periods of custody and could thus be seen as an early warning sign of a risk of prison overcrowding (See SPACE I, Table 27).

The turnover ratio of the European prison population in 2019 was 47%. This indicator concerns the 43 prison administrations that provided data for all the indicators required for the estimation of it, and is presented in Figure 13. A comparison with Figure 1 shows that, among countries with at least one million inhabitants, those with the lowest turnover ratios usually have high or very high prison population rates.

Figure 13. Turnover ratio in 2019 (N=43)
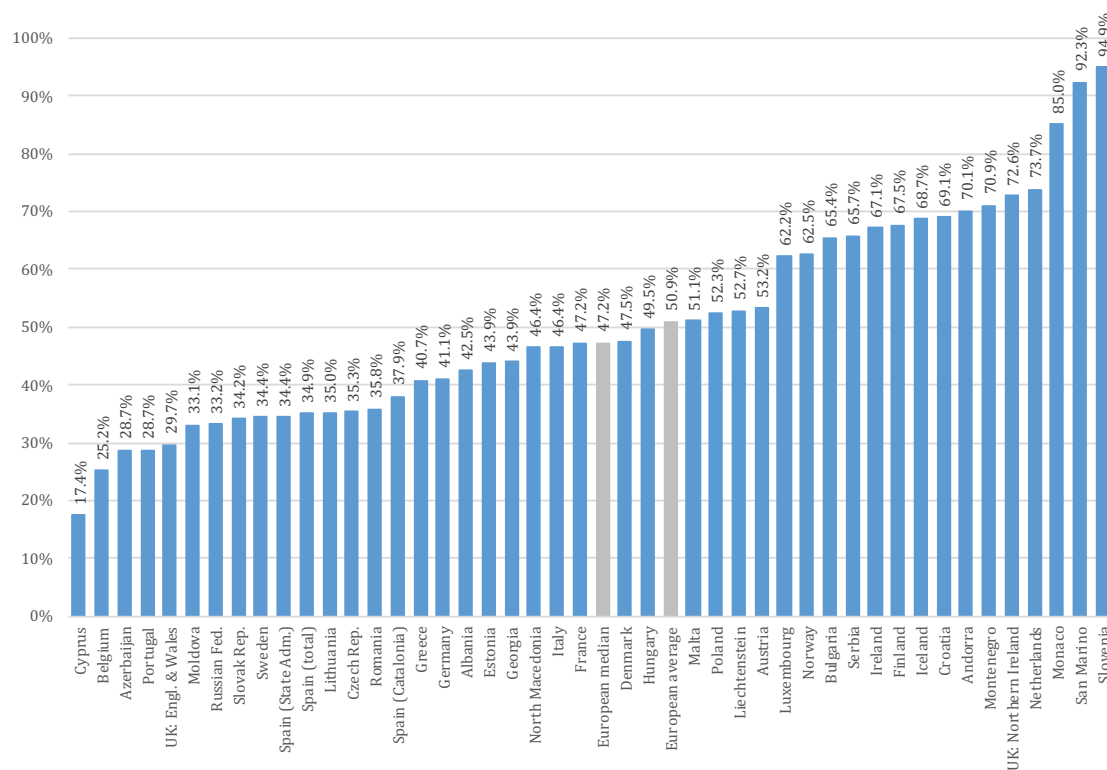
Cost of imprisonment

At the European level, imprisonment costed more than 27 billion Euro in 2019. More precisely, the 46 prison administrations that provided data indicated that the budget spent by their prison administrations in 2019 was 27,648,474,894 Euro.

Forty-four prison administrations provided also the daily amount spent for the detention in custody of one inmate. At the European level, each inmate costed 64 Euro per day.

Disclaimer: The cost of imprisonment does not consider differences in the cost of living and other economic indicators across countries (e.g. GDP, purchase power, poverty rate, Euro-national currency exchange rate).

4. Overview of the main indicators by country

Table 1 shows the relative position of each European prison administration according to their score in a series of selected indicators. The prison administrations are divided in five clusters according to their score on each of these indicators:

1. **Very high:** This cluster includes the prison administrations whose score is more than 25% higher than the European median value.
2. **High**: This cluster includes the prison administrations whose score is between 5.1% and 25% higher than the European median value.
3. **Close**: This cluster includes the prison administrations whose score is similar (i.e. between -5% and +5%) to the European median value.
4. **Low**: This cluster includes the prison administrations whose score is between 5.1% and 25% lower than the European median value.
5. **Very Low**: This cluster includes the prison administrations whose score is more than 25% lower than the European median value.

For each indicator, the Table specifies the number of prison administrations (PA) for which data are available (e.g. the prison population rate is available for 51 PA, but the percentage of female inmates is available only for 48 of them). This is due to the fact that there are countries that did not provide data for every indicator. Three countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Spain and the United Kingdom) have more than one prison administration. Consequently, each prison administration is mentioned separately in Table 1, except when all of them are in the same cluster. In this case, only the name of the country is mentioned (e.g. the percentage of female inmates is not available for the three PA of Bosnia and Herzegovina).

Table 1. Ranking of countries according to the main prison indicators, 2020 and 2019[2]

	Very high (the score is more than 25% higher than the European median value)	High (the score is between 5.1% and 25% higher than the European median value)	Medium (the score is close to the European median value: i.e., between-5% and +5%)	Low (the score is between 5.1% and 25% lower than the European median value)	Very low (the score is more than 25% lower than the European median value)	No data available
STOCK indicators on 31st January 2020						
Prison population rate per 100,000 inhabitants (N=51)	Turkey, Russian Federation, Georgia, Lithuania, Azerbaijan, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovak Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Montenegro, Albania, Hungary, Moldova, Serbia, Malta, UK: Scotland, UK: England and Wales.	Spain, Ukraine, Portugal.	Romania, Bulgaria, France, Austria, Greece, North Macedonia, Italy.	Luxembourg, Belgium, Cyprus, Croatia, BH: Federal level, UK: Northern Ireland, Ireland, Switzerland.	Germany, Armenia, Denmark, Slovenia, BiH: Republika Srpska, Sweden, Andorra, Norway, Netherlands, Finland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino.	Bosnia & Herzegovina (State level).
n	18	4	7	8	14	1
% of female inmates in the prison population (N=48)	Liechtenstein, Andorra, Latvia, Czech Republic, Russian Federation, Hungary, Monaco, Malta, Spain, Slovak Republic, Finland, Iceland, Portugal, Austria, Norway.	Sweden, Germany, Moldova, Switzerland, Croatia, Luxembourg.	Netherlands, UK: Northern Ireland, Slovenia, Lithuania.	Belgium, Ireland, Estonia, UK: Scotland, Romania, Greece, UK: England and Wales, Cyprus, Denmark, Italy, Poland, Serbia, Georgia, Turkey.	France, North Macedonia, Bulgaria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Montenegro, Albania, San Marino.	Bosnia & Herzegovina and Ukraine.
n	16	6	4	14	8	4
% of foreign inmates in the prison population (N=43)	Monaco, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Andorra, Liechtenstein, Greece, Austria, Malta, Spain, Belgium, Estonia, Italy, Denmark, Norway, Slovenia, France, Netherlands, Montenegro, Iceland.	Iceland, Finland.	Portugal Ireland.	Croatia.	UK: England and Wales, UK: Northern Ireland, Czech Republic, Georgia, Armenia, North Macedonia, Hungary, Turkey, Serbia, Bulgaria, Slovak Republic, Azerbaijan, Albania, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Moldova, Romania, Cyprus	Bosnia & Herzegovina, Germany, Russian Federation, San Marino, Sweden, Ukraine, and UK: Scotland.
n	19	2	2	1	19	9
% of inmates aged 50 or over in the prison population (N=41)	Italy, Portugal, North Macedonia, Liechtenstein, Belgium, Spain (State Administration), Norway, Greece, Slovenia.	Spain (Catalonia), Estonia, Bulgaria, Netherlands, Serbia, UK: England and Wales, Poland, Luxembourg.	Georgia, Monaco, Austria, Slovak Republic, Germany, UK: Northern Ireland, Hungary.	Czech Republic, Romania, Sweden, Iceland, Finland, Ireland, Malta, Cyprus, France, Andorra, Albania, Turkey, Denmark.	Lithuania, Montenegro, Moldova, Croatia.	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Latvia, Russian Federation, San Marino, Switzerland Ukraine, and UK: Scotland
n	9	8	7	13	4	11

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[2] Inside each cell of Table B, countries are ranked in <u>descending</u> order according to their rate or percentage in the corresponding variable. For example, in the first cell, Turkey is presented first because it has the highest prison population rate (357.2 per 100,000 inhabitants), followed by the Russian Federation (356.1 per 100,000 inhabitants), Georgia (263.8 per 100,000 inhabitants), and so on.

	Very high (the score is more than 25% higher than the European median value)	High (the score is between 5.1% and 25% higher than the European median value)	Medium (the score is close to the European median value: i.e., between-5% and +5%)	Low (the score is between 5.1% and 25% lower than the European median value)	Very low (the score is more than 25% lower than the European median value)	No data available
% of inmates not serving a final sentence in the prison population (N=48)	Liechtenstein, Monaco, Armenia, Albania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland, Andorra, Denmark, Belgium, UK: Northern Ireland, Croatia, Montenegro, Italy, Cyprus, France, Malta.	Sweden, Latvia, Slovenia, Greece, Norway, Finland.	Bulgaria, Austria, Germany.	Ireland, UK: Scotland, Estonia, Spain (Catalonia), Georgia, Portugal, Serbia, Iceland.	Moldova, Hungary, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Spain (State Administration), Slovak Republic, North Macedonia, Lithuania, Poland, UK: England and Wales, Romania, Russian Federation, Czech Republic, San Marino.	Bosnia and Herzegovina and Ukraine.
n	17	6	3	8	14	4
Prison density per 100 places (N=50)	Turkey, Italy, Belgium, Cyprus, France, Hungary.	Romania, Greece, Slovenia, Serbia, Czech Republic, UK: Scotland, Austria, Denmark, Moldova, Portugal, UK: England and Wales, Sweden, Finland.	Netherlands, Switzerland, Ireland, Iceland, Slovak Republic, Malta, Croatia, Poland, Spain (Catalonia), Germany, Norway.	Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Albania, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Estonia, Bulgaria, Latvia, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Russian Federation, Spain (State Administration), UK: Northern Ireland.	Ukraine, BiH: Republika Srpska, Armenia, Andorra, Monaco, San Marino.	Bosnia & Herzegovina (Federal Level) and Bosnia & Herzegovina (State Level).
n	6	13	11	14	6	2
Ratio of inmates per one staff member (N=46)	Turkey, Georgia, Greece, Serbia, Poland, Moldova, Malta, Austria, North Macedonia, Montenegro.	Estonia, Spain (State Administration), Hungary, Portugal, Cyprus, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic.	Germany, France, Slovenia, Romania, UK: England and Wales, Bulgaria, Spain (Catalonia).	Switzerland, Italy, UK: Scotland, Latvia, Belgium, Croatia, Luxembourg.	Finland, Iceland, Albania, Ireland, UK: Northern Ireland, Armenia, Denmark, Netherlands, Sweden, Liechtenstein, Norway, Andorra, Monaco, San Marino.	Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Russian Federation, and Ukraine.
n	10	8	7	7	14	6

*When the table only indicates « Spain » it means that the classification is the same for Spain (State Administration), Spain (Catalonia) and Spain (total)

	Very high (the score is more than 25% higher than the European median value)	High (the score is between 5.1% and 25% higher than the European median value)	Medium (the score is close to the European median value, i.e. between-5% and +5%)	Low (the score is between 5.1% and 25% lower than the European median value)	Very low (the score is more than 25% lower than the European median value)	No data available
FLOW indicators for the year 2019						
Rate of admissions per 100,000 habitants in 2019 (N=44)	Cyprus, Switzerland, Montenegro, Serbia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, UK: Northern, Ireland, Poland, UK: England and Wales, Monaco, Hungary, Sweden, Malta.	Denmark, Netherlands, Ireland, Andorra, Belgium.	Slovak Republic, Estonia, Russian Federation, Luxembourg.	Albania, Norway, Austria, France, Germany.	Liechtenstein, Finland, Iceland, Czech Republic, North Macedonia, Moldova, Italy, Azerbaijan, Spain, Greece, Slovenia, Romania, Portugal, San Marino.	Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Latvia, Turkey, Ukraine and UK: Scotland.
n	15	5	4	5	15	8
Rate of releases per 100,000 habitants in 2019 (N=44)	Montenegro, Turkey, Serbia, Bulgaria, Georgia, Monaco, Croatia, Lithuania, Russian Federation, Ireland, Hungary, Netherlands, Malta, Andorra, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Estonia.	Albania, Slovenia, Denmark, Austria, Slovak Republic.	Norway, Czech Republic, Finland.	France, Iceland, UK: England and Wales, Moldova, North Macedonia, Sweden, Azerbaijan.	Italy, Germany, Liechtenstein, Spain, Belgium, Romania, Portugal, Armenia, San Marino, UK: Northern Ireland.	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Latvia, Poland[3], Switzerland, Ukraine, and UK: Scotland.
n	17	5	3	7	12	7
Suicide rate per 10,000 inmates in 2019 (N=45)	Monaco, Iceland, Malta, Armenia, Denmark, Norway, France, Estonia, Moldova, Switzerland, Lithuania, Belgium, Austria, UK: England and Wales, Netherlands, Germany, Latvia, Italy, Portugal, Spain.	-	Russian Federation, Czech Republic.	Serbia, Bulgaria, Albania	Greece, Finland, Hungary, Slovak Republic, Croatia, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Andorra, Cyprus, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Montenegro, North Macedonia, San Marino, Slovenia.	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ireland, Ukraine, UK: Northern Ireland, and UK: Scotland.
n	21	-	2	3	19	7
Rate of escapes per 10,000 inmates in 2019 (N=44)	North Macedonia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland, Andorra, Austria, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Croatia, Iceland, Norway, Germany, Italy, Serbia, Belgium, Greece, UK: England and Wales, Ireland, Moldova.	Lithuania, Spain (Catalonia).	Bulgaria.	-	Estonia, Spain (State Administration), Romania, Slovak Republic, Portugal, France, Hungary, Poland, Turkey, Albania, Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Georgia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Slovenia, UK: Northern Ireland.	Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Russian Federation, San Marino, Ukraine, and UK: Scotland.
n	20	2	1	-	21	8
Average length of imprisonment, in months [based on the stock and flow] (N=44)	Azerbaijan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Moldova, Czech Republic, Romania, Spain, Greece, Italy, Albania, Slovak Republic, Estonia, Georgia, North Macedonia, Slovenia, Hungary, France, Poland.	Austria, Malta, Lithuania.		Germany, Luxembourg, UK: England and Wales, Belgium.	Serbia, Norway, Finland, Ireland, Bulgaria, Iceland, Montenegro, Denmark, Andorra, Croatia, UK: Northern Ireland, Sweden, Liechtenstein, Netherlands, Monaco, Switzerland, Cyprus, San Marino.	Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Latvia, Turkey, Ukraine, and UK: Scotland.
n	19	3	-	4	17	8

*When the table only indicates « Spain » it means that the classification is the same for Spain (State Administration), Spain (Catalonia) and Spain (total).

[3] Rate of releases per 100,000 inhabitants: The validation procedure for this indicator could not be fully achieved in Poland (see comments to Tables 25 and 26). As a consequence, Poland is not included in the calculation of the corresponding European median presented in Table A, nor in the ranking of countries according to that indicator presented in Table B.

5. Annual variations of the stock indicators (2019-2020) and the flow indicators (2018-2019)

Table 2 shows the variations of stock indicators from 2019 to 2020, as well as flow indicators from 2018 to 2019. **Comparisons are restricted to the prison administrations (PA) for which data are available for both years**. This means that the figures included in the Table may not coincide with those included in the SPACE I report or in other sections of this Key Findings. For example, even if the present SPACE I report includes data on admissions and releases in 44 PA during 2019 (see also page 9 of this Key Findings), only 40 of them had provided the relevant data for 2018 (See SPACE I 2019), and therefore the comparison can only be performed between these 40 PA. The number of PA that provided data for both years is indicated between brackets for each indicator.

Table 2. Annual variations in stock indicators (2017 to 2019) and flow indicators (2019 to 2020)

	2019	2020	% change 2019-2020
Stock indicators			
Prison population rate per 100,000 inhabitants (50 PA)	106.1	104.3	-1.7
% of female inmates in the prison population (44 PA)	5.1	5.0	-2.2
% of foreign inmates in the prison population (40 PA)	14.4	15.1	+4.8
Of which: % of foreign inmates from EU countries (37 PA)	28.0	27.1	-3.3
% of inmates not serving a final sentence in the prison populations (44 PA)	22.2	22.5	+1.5
Prison density per 100 places (49 PA)	89.5	90.3	+0.9
Number of overcrowded prison administrations (more than 100 inmates per 100 places) (49 PA)	15	14	-6.7
Ratio of inmates per one staff member (43 PA)	1.62	1.65	+1.9
Ratio of inmates per custodian solely dedicated to custody (42 PA)	2.79	2.76	-1.1
Sentenced prisoners by offence			
% of prisoners sentenced for drug offences (38 PA)	18.1	17.4	-3.7
% of prisoners sentenced for theft (38 PA)	14.5	13.1	-9.5
% of prisoners sentenced for homicide (38 PA)	13.4	13.0	-3.0
Sentenced prisoners by length of sentence imposed			
% of prisoners sentenced to less than one year (39 PA)	16.3	15.8	-3.0
% of prisoners sentenced from 1 to less than 3 years (39 PA)	25.9	24.1	-6.7
% of prisoners sentenced from 3 to less than 5 years (39 PA)	16.8	17.3	+3.3
% of prisoners sentenced from 5 to less than 10 years (39 PA)	20.3	19.9	-1.8
	2018	**2019**	**% change 2018-2019**
Flow indicators			
Rate of admissions per 100,000 inhabitants (40 PA)	143.8	140.7	-2.1
Rate of releases per 100,000 inhabitants (39 PA)	117.1	115.3	-1.5
Average length of imprisonment in months (based on the stock and flow) (38 PA)	8.1	7.8	-3.4
Cost indicator			
Total budget spent by the prison administrations (42 PA)	25,679,563,671€	27,040,190,999€	+5.3

Notes:

– PA = prison administration

– The number between brackets indicates the number of PA that provided data for both years

Considering that increases up to +5% or decreases up to -5% reflect stability, the annuals variations observed at the *European level* are summarized below.

The following indicators *remained relatively stable*:
- The prison population rate (-1.7%);
- The percentage of female inmates in the prison population (-2.2%);
- The percentage of foreign inmates in the prison population (+4.8);
- The percentage of foreign inmates from EU countries (-3.3%);
- The percentage of inmates not serving a final sentence in the prison population (+1.5%);
- The prison density per 100 places (+0.9%);
- The ratio of inmates per one staff member (+1.9%);
- The ratio of inmates per custodian solely dedicated to custody (-1.1%);
- The percentage of prisoners sentenced for drug offences (-3.7%);
- The percentage of prisoners sentenced for homicide (+3.0%);
- The percentage of prisoners sentenced from 3 years to less than 5 years (+3.3%);
- The percentage of prisoners sentenced from 5 years to less than 10 years (-1.8%).
- The rate of admissions per 100,000 inhabitants (-2.1%);
- The rate of releases per 100,000 inhabitants (-1.5%);
- The average length of imprisonment in months estimated on the basis of the stock and flow of inmates (- 3.4%).

The following indicators registered a *decrease*:
- The number of PA experiencing overcrowding (-6.7%);
- The percentage of prisoners sentenced for theft (-9.5%);
- The percentage of prisoners sentenced from 1 year to less than 3 years (-6.7%);

The only indicators that registered an *increase* was the total budget spent by the prison administrations (+5.3%).

At the *individual level*, Figure 14 shows the annual variation of the prison population rate in the 50 prison administrations (PA) that provided data both for 2019 and 2020. When the two Spanish PA are analysed separately, it can be seen that the prison population rate was stable in 36 PA (presented in yellow in Figure 14), increased in only 7 PA (presented in red in Figure 14), and decreased in 7 PA (presented in green in the Figure 14).

Figure 14: Percentage change in prison population rates (2020 compared to 2019) in 50 prison administrations
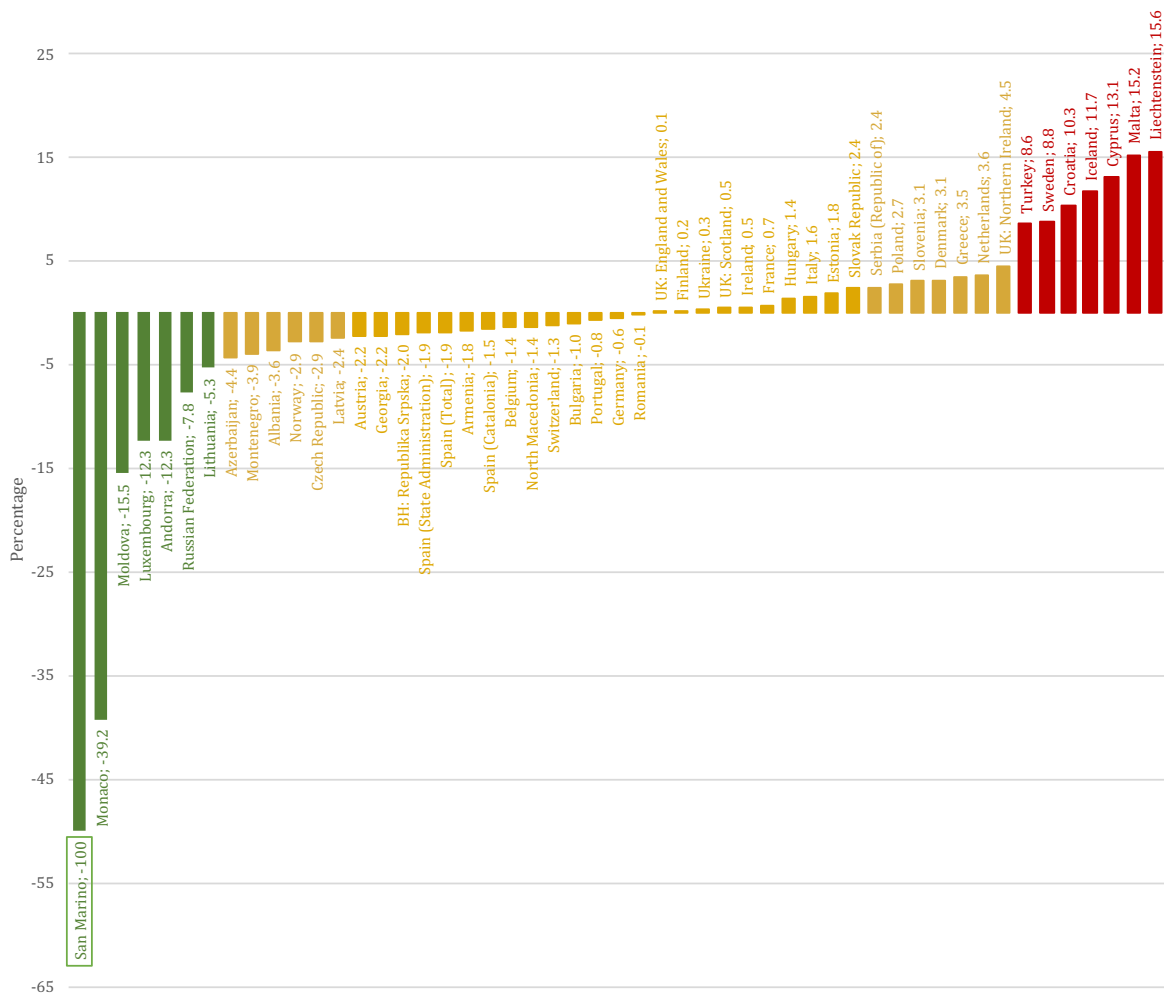
6. Trends from 2009 to 2020

Figure 15 shows the trends observed in the European median and average prison population rates from 2010 to 2020 (see *Methodology* for details on the exclusion of the year 2017). Forty-nine prison administrations (detailed below in Figure 16) provided the necessary data for the computation of these indicators. The values for a few missing years were estimated using linear interpolation, which explains slight differences with rates presented elsewhere. The first part of the series is taken from the study *Prisons in Europe 2005-2015* (Aebi et al., 2020), available on the SPACE website, which updated the whole SPACE series for the years 2005 to 2015[4].

As can be seen in Figure 15, the *median* European prison population rate increased from 2010 to 2013 and decreased after that, in such a way that the rate of 2020 is almost 16% lower than that in 2010. If the comparison is based on the *average* European prison population rate, the only difference is that this rate started decreasing one year before (after 2012 instead of after 2013).

Figure 15. Trends in the prison population rates of 49 prison administrations from 2010 to 2020

European average (49 prison administrations)   European median (49 prison administrations)

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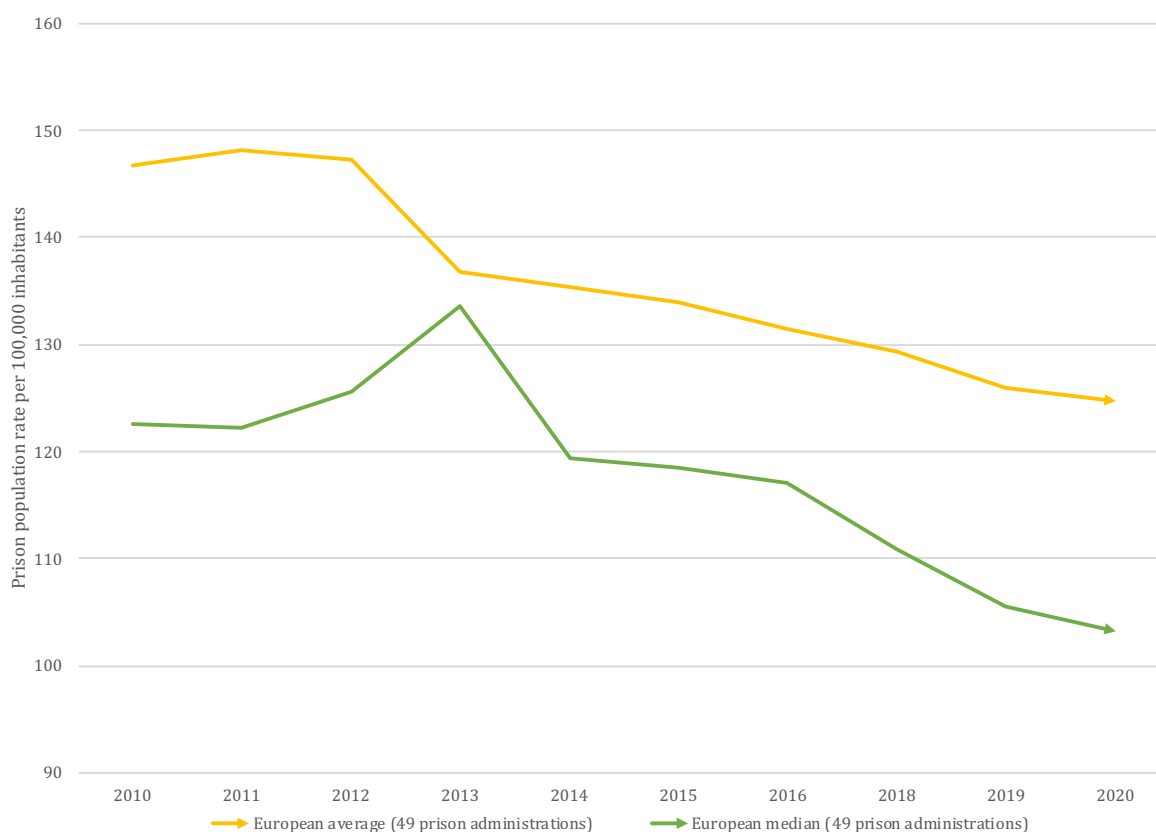
[4] Aebi, M.F., Berger-Kolopp, L., Burkhardt, C. & Tiago, M.M. (2020). Prisons in Europe: 2005-2015 (Volumes 1 and 2). Strasbourg: Council of Europe Publishing.
https://wp.unil.ch/space/files/2020/12/Prisons-in-Europe-2005-2015-Volume-1.pdf

Figure 16 presents the situation at the individual level, indicating the percentage change in the prison population rates of the 49 prison administrations under study. For example, in 2020 the prison population rate of Armenia was 50% lower than that in 2010, while the rate of Portugal in 2020 was 13% higher than that in 2010.

Following once more the logic of considering increases and decreases up to 5% as a synonym of relative stability, the situation can be summarized as follows:
- Five (5) prison administrations show a higher prison population rate in 2020 than in 2010.
- Thirty-one (31) prison administrations show a lower prison population rate in 2020 than in 2010.
- Twelve (12) prison administrations show a stable situation, in the sense that their rates in 2020 are similar to those in 2010.

Figure 16. Percentage change in prison population rates (2020 compared to 2010) in 49 prison administrations
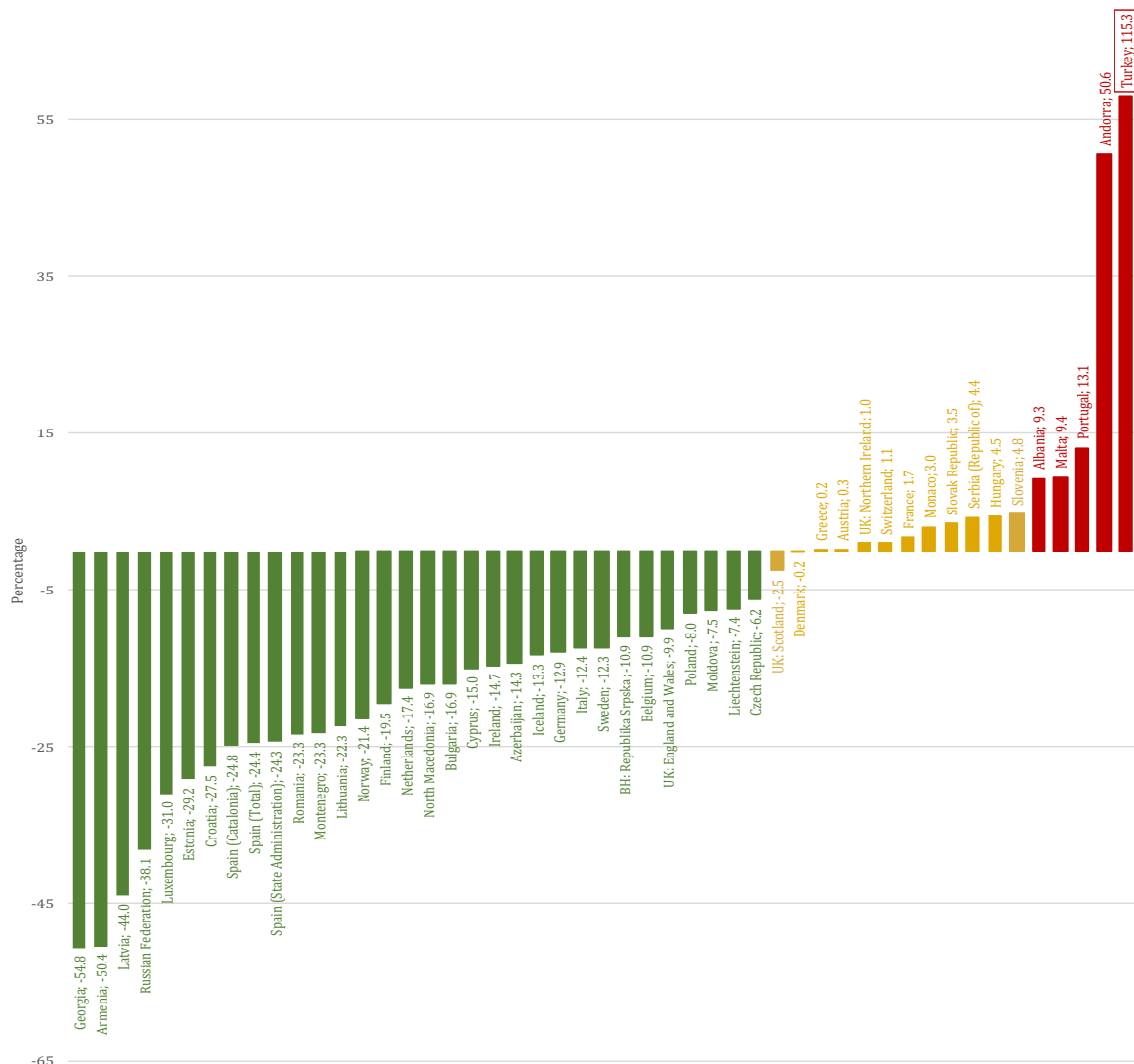
Finally, Figure 17 shows the trends observed in the European median and average rates of admissions and releases from 2010 to 2019 (see *Methodology* for details on the exclusion of the year 2016). Thirty-one prison administrations provided the necessary data for the computation of these indicators. The values for a few missing years were estimated using linear interpolation, which explains slight differences with rates presented elsewhere. As in the case of Figures 15 and 16, the first part of the series is taken from the study *Prisons in Europe 2005-2015* (Aebi et al., 2020), available on the SPACE website, which updated the whole SPACE series for the years 2005 to 2015 (see footnote 1). It can be seen that:

- The *rate of admissions* is lower in 2019 than in 2010, but the decrease took place mainly between 2011/12 and 2017, and the rate remained stable after that.
- The *rate of releases* is lower in 2019 than in 2010, but the decrease took place mainly between 2012/13 and 2017, and the rate remained stable after that.

Figure 17. Trends in the rates of admissions and releases of 31 prison administrations from 2010 to 2019
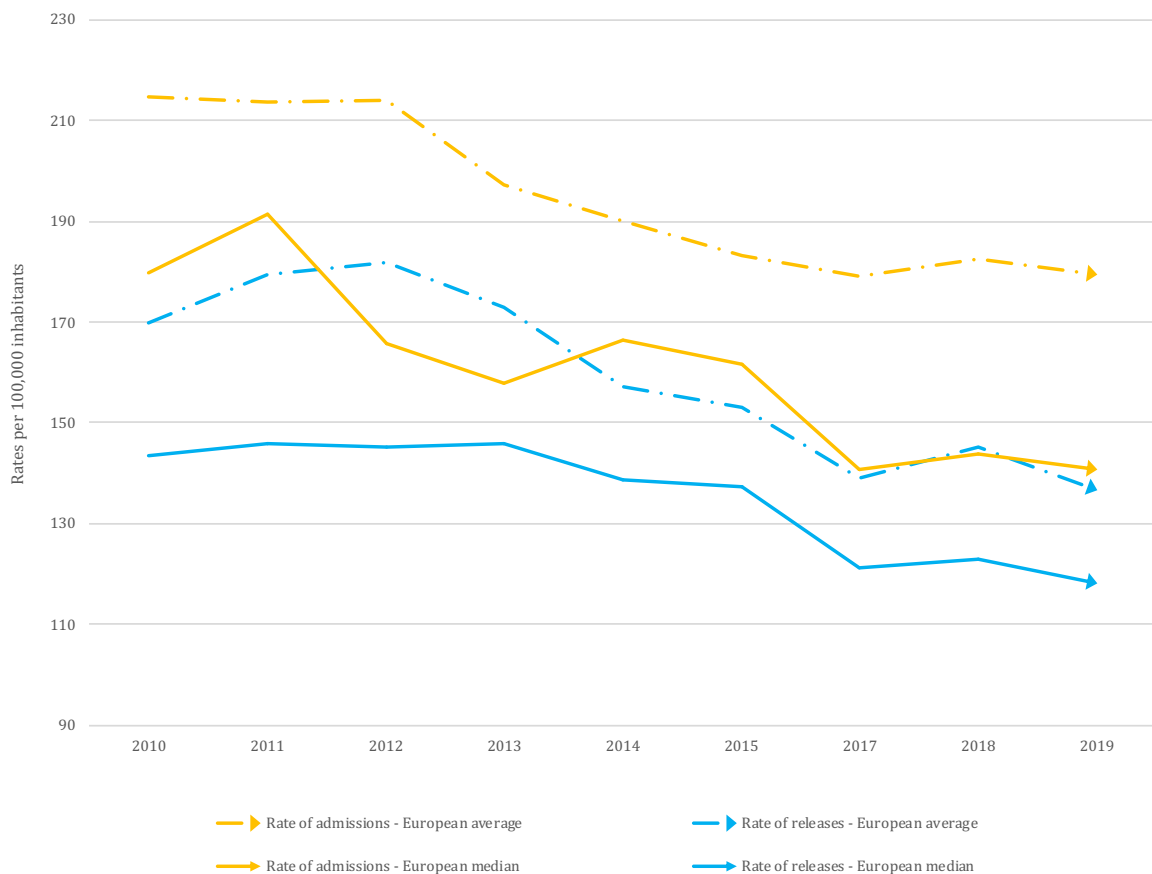
7. Methodology

Unless stated otherwise, this document presents, for each indicator, the *European median value*. The median is the value that divides the data in two equal groups so that 50% of the countries are above the median and 50% are below it. The median is preferred to the *arithmetic mean* (commonly referred to as the *average*) because the latter is extremely sensitive to very high or very low values (technically known as *outliers*), which entail unreliable indicators and instable time series. Outliers are quite common in the sample of countries included in the SPACE report because some member states, like Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco or San Marino, have a very small population and, as a consequence, a change in only one person can have a big impact on its percentages, rates, and trends.

> For example, San Marino only had 1 inmate on 31st January 2019, and that person was a national citizen who had received a final sentence. This corresponds to percentages of 100% for national inmates and 100% for sentenced inmates; but the addition of only one inmate could decrease these percentages by 50% (if the additional inmate was a foreign citizen not serving a final sentence). Conversely, as San Marino has a population of 34,590 inhabitants, its prison population rate corresponds to 2.9 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants (*i.e.* it is higher than the real number of inmates and inhabitants), but the addition of only one inmate would increase it to 5.8 per 100,000 inhabitants. This problem is particularly relevant in a longitudinal perspective (*i.e.* when establishing time series or trends), because if a similar increase (in one inmate) takes place from one year to the other, it would represent a growth of 100% of the prison population. In addition, when calculating indicators for the continent, the inclusion of a percentage of 100% for one country artificially increases the European average for the indicator being measured. Something similar happens with other indicators such as the rate of escapes, which in the case of San Marino reached in 2019 the absurd number of 20,000 escapes per 10,000 inmates because there was one person deprived of freedom on 31st January 2019, but two had escaped during 2018.

The European median values are weighted according to the population and the number of inmates in each country. This means that they are estimated on the basis of the percentages and rates per 100,000 inhabitants of each country and not on the absolute numbers for the whole continent. Using the latter would produce different values, which could hide the diversity observed across countries. For example, on 31st January 2020, there were 1,528,343 inmates in the penal institutions of the 51 PA of the Council of Europe member states whose data on prison population rates are presented in the 2020 SPACE I report. At the same time, the total population of the territories in which these PA are located was 837 million inhabitants, which would lead to a prison population rate of 183 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants. However, when the European median value is estimated on the basis of the population and the number of inmates of each country (*i.e.* on the basis of the prison population rate of each country), it corresponds to 103 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants, as stated at the beginning of this document.

While the Tables and Figures include decimals, in the comments all values equal or superior to 10 are in principle presented in round numbers (i.e. without decimals), while those inferior to 10 are presented with one decimal.

In order to avoid duplication of data, the total for the whole territory of Spain (which corresponds to the addition of the data for the National Administration and the Catalan Administration) is not included in the computation of the average and median European values[5].

For a few figures the data validation procedure revealed inconsistencies that cannot be explained. These figures are presented between brackets in Tables 3 and 4 and were not considered in the calculation of European average and median values.

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[5] Two questionnaires were received from Spain, one for the PA of Catalonia and one for the State PA. In the latter, most items refer to the whole territory of Spain but some do not include Catalonia. As a consequence, and as it has been done since the mid-2000s, we have estimated the indicators for three entities: Catalonia, the whole country, and the latter without the inmates under the authority of the Catalan PA.

Since the 2018 SPACE I report, the date of reference for stock indicators refers to 31st January of the year preceding the publication instead of 1st September of the year before that one, as it was the case from 1983 to 2016. The aim of that change of date is to publish the latest available data. This means that there are no data available for 31st January 2017, although the data on 1st September 2016 could be considered as an acceptable proxy of the situation on 31st January 2017. In the case of flow indicators, the consequence of the change of date is that there are no data available for the year 2016. Researchers interested in establishing time series can interpolate the value for 2016 on the basis of those observed in 2015 and 2017. In Figures 15 and 17 we have preferred, however, not to interpolate these missing years.

Table 3. Stock indicators on 31st January 2020

Country	Total number of inmates (including pre-trial detainees)	Prison population rate per 100,000 inhabitants	% of female inmates in the prison population	% of foreign inmates in the prison population	% of inmates aged 50 or over in the prison population	% of inmates aged 65 or over in the prison population	% of inmates without a final sentence in the prison population	% of prisoners sentenced for homicide (including attempts)	% of prisoners sentenced for theft	% of prisoners sentenced for drug offences	% of prisoners whose sentence ranges from 1 to less than 3 years	% of prisoners whose sentence ranges from 3 to less than 5 years	% of prisoners whose sentence ranges from 5 to less than 10 years	Prison density per 100 places	Ratio of inmates per one staff member
Albania	5 063	177.9	1.8	2.3	11.6	4.2	45.2	29.6	10.1	27.9	9.8	20.3	26.2	82.9	1.1
Andorra	50	64.5	12.0	68.0	12.0	2.0	40.0	13.3	3.3	6.7	6.7	26.7	16.7	35.2	0.6
Armenia	2 221	75.0	3.1	7.0	NA	NA	45.8	NA	NA	NA	10.5	19.0	38.0	41.5	1.0
Austria	9 189	103.2	6.6	53.1	15.3	2.4	21.6	NA	NA	NA	31.8	17.3	13.6	103.8	2.4
Azerbaijan	21 012	208.7	2.7	2.4	NA	NA	16.0	14.2	12.6	29.0	10.7	47.3	27.1	82.4	NA
Belgium	10 808	93.6	4.6	43.0	21	2.7	37.1	NA	NA	NA	6.0	25.5	NA	117.2	1.3
BH: BiH (total)															
BH: BiH (st. level)															
BH: Fed. BiH	1 813	82.9												98.3	
BH: Rep. Srpska	743	65.0												49.6	
Bulgaria	7 340	105.6	3.2	2.5	17.6	NA	23.4	15.1	27.0	11.8	29.6	13.0	13.3	78.6	1.6
Croatia	3 533	87.1	5.5	13.6	4.5	1.2	35.4	14.1	20.5	5.5	32.0	16.9	15.9	90.2	1.3
Cyprus	829	93.4	4.5	NA	12.8	2.3	30.8	10.0	17.3	27.3	23.2	13.7	22.0	115.9	1.9
Czech Rep.	21 048	196.8	8.3	8.5	13.9	1.5	8.5	NA	NA	NA	37.8	16.6	15.7	104.7	1.9
Denmark	4 140	71.1	4.4	30.1	11.4	1.3	38.2	7.3	8.6	24.9	31.4	14.7	15.8	102.6	1.0
Estonia	2 450	184.4	4.5	33.3	18.1	2.6	19.0	15.4	8.8	25.8	28.3	20.6	25.4	79.1	2.0
Finland	2 756	49.9	7.4	18.5	13.3	2.0	24.7	20.7	8.4	20.5	27.6	20.4	15.2	96.3	1.2
France	70 651	105.3	3.6	23.2	12.1	2.2	29.8	9.9	4.3	18.2	35.3	13.9	13.1	115.7	1.7
Georgia	9 806	263.8	4.0	7.4	15	1.5	18.6	11.9	19.6	26.2	20.6	26.7	30.0	80.5	4.1
Germany	63 399	76.2	6.0	NA	14.6	NA	21.4	7.3	22.8	13.4	NA	NA	NA	86.8	1.7
Greece	10 972	102.4	4.5	57.8	19.4	3.1	26.0	NA	NA	29.38	3.1	8.4	28.4	109.1	2.6
Hungary	16 783	171.8	7.8	5.0	14.2	1.2	16.6	9.4	20.6	6.7	16.3	20.9	35.1	113.2	2.0
Iceland	164	45.0	7.3	18.9	13.4	2.4	17.1	11.8	8.8	34.6	38.2	7.4	8.1	93.2	1.1
Ireland	4 052	81.6	4.5	14.8	13.3	3.2	20.6	13.0	18.1	11.1	24.1	20.0	21.5	93.3	1.1
Italy	60 971	101.2	4.4	32.5	26.0	4.1	31.1	17.0	5.4	31.5	19.7	22.6	27.1	120.3	1.5
Latvia	3 414	179.0	8.6	1.9	NA	NA	27.8	22.3	44.0	44.2	18.3	19.8	27.7	70.8	1.4
Liechtenstein	14	36.1	14.3	64.3	21.4	7.1	78.6	0.0	66.7	33.3	0.0	33.3	33.3	70.0	0.9
Lithuania	6 138	219.7	4.7	2.1	9.9	3.5	11.8	26.9	13.1	14.8	22.1	16.2	23.0	84.8	1.9
Luxembourg	594	94.9	5.4	73.9	15.7	2.4	44.8	15.3	21.7	17.7	37.0	10.7	15.3	83.5	1.3
Malta	793	154.1	7.6	51.5	13	3.4	28.9	8.7	6.0	25.2	38.8	19.1	13.1	90.3	2.4
Moldova	6 716	166.5	6.0	1.3	8.2	3.2	16.6	19.2	8.6	8.2	9.6	16.8	35.5	99.7	2.6
Monaco	13	33.3	7.7	100.0	15.4	7.7	46.2	11.1	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	44.4	13.4	0.2
Montenegro	1 108	178.2	2.7	20.0	8.6	0.4	34.4	12.1	10.7	17.7	29.4	10.9	12.7	83.1	2.2
Netherlands	10 179	58.5	5.1	21.6	17.6	2.1	43.4	13.7	12.9	17.0	30.2	8.9	10.6	93.6	0.9

Country	Total number of inmates (including pre-trial detainees)	Prison population rate per 100,000 inhabitants	% of female inmates in the prison population	% of foreign inmates in the prison population	% of inmates aged 50 or over in the prison population	% of inmates aged 65 or over in the prison population	% of inmates without a final sentence in the prison population	% of prisoners sentenced for homicide (including attempts)	% of prisoners sentenced for theft	% of prisoners sentenced for drug offences	% of prisoners whose sentence ranges from 1 to less than 3 years	% of prisoners whose sentence ranges from 3 to less than 5 years	% of prisoners whose sentence ranges from 5 to less than 10 years	Prison density per 100 places	Ratio of inmates per one staff member
North Macedonia	2 114	101.8	3.3	6.5	21.6	2.6	14.3	13.5	20.7	16.5	24.1	20.3	19.9	70.0	2.2
Norway	3 158	58.8	6.5	29.2	19.5	3.5	25.5	9.2	5.0	24.0	29.0	18.5	16.1	86.6	0.8
Poland	74 130	195.3	4.3	1.8	16.1	2.1	11.5	7.1	24.5	3.6	31.4	15.5	11.2	88.2	2.6
Portugal	12 793	124.3	6.7	15.4	22.5	3.5	17.8	7.5	13.6	17.7	15.7	19.8	35.5	98.9	1.9
Romania	20 570	106.5	4.5	1.1	13.6	1.8	9.9	23.7	17.7	4.5	21.8	25.0	27.0	112.8	1.7
Russian Fed.	519 618	356.1	8.1	NA	NA	NA	9.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	68.8	NA
San Marino	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	NAP	NAP	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Serbia	11 077	159.9	4.2	3.1	17.5	NA	17.2	10.2	25.4	24.4	26.6	22.9	19.1	107.3	2.6
Slovak Rep.	10 555	193.4	7.4	2.4	14.8	1.7	15.5	6.8	11.4	12.7	28.6	18.2	26.0	90.8	1.8
Slovenia	1 449	69.1	4.8	28.7	18.7	3.2	27.7	9.6	29.2	13.9	35.2	16.6	16.4	108.9	1.7
Spain (total)	58 372	123.3	7.4	28.1	20.1	2.8	16.0	7.7	4.3	17.0	20.3	20.2	25.8	70.8	2.0
Spain (State Administration)	49 998	126.2	7.5	25.1	20.4	2.8	15.6	7.4	2.4	17.4	20.7	20.3	25.4	68.5	2.0
Spain (Catalonia)	8 374	108.4	6.7	46.0	18.3	2.6	18.8	9.3	15.8	14.6	17.8	19.9	28.1	87.6	1.6
Sweden	6 709	65.0	6.1	NA	13.6	1.7	27.9	14.0	6.4	22.2	37.6	19.7	15.1	97.3	0.9
Switzerland	6 906	80.2	5.8	69.6	NA	NA	41.7	14.1	18.8	19.0	17.9	17.4	9.1	93.5	1.5
Turkey	297 019	357.2	3.9	3.5	11.5	1.4	15.6	13.1	28.3	25.8	9.6	11.3	27.8	127.4	4.8
Ukraine	52 609	126.1												59	
UK: Eng. & Wales	82 868	138.0	4.5	11.1	16.6	3.7	11.0	9.8	12.2	15.3	15.9	12.6	20.3	97.4	1.6
UK: N. Ireland	1 578	82.8	5.0	11.0	14.4	3.0	36.0	15.4	12.1	8.6	21.1	14.5	17.5	68.0	1.0
UK: Scotland	8 056	146.6	4.5	NA	NA	NA	19.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	104.3	1.4
Average		124.0	5.6	24.0	15.3	2.7	25.7	12.7	16.5	18.3	21.9	18.1	21.1	86.6	1.7
Median		103.2	4.9	15.4	14.8	2.5	22.5	12.1	13.1	17.7	21.9	18.8	19.9	90.3	1.6
Minimum		0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Maximum		357.2	14.3	100.0	26.0	7.7	78.6	29.6	66.7	44.2	38.8	47.3	44.4	127.4	4.8

Table 4. Flow indicators for the year 2019

Country	Rate of admissions per 100,000 inhabitants	Rate of exits per 100,000 inhabitants	Rate of releases per 100,000 inhabitants	Turnover ratio	Suicide rate per 10,000 inmates	Rate of escapes per 10,000 inmates	Average length of imprisonment (based on the stock and the flow)	Total budget spent by the prison administration
Albania	135.8	136.3	135.3	42.5	4.0	0.0	15.7	45 965 033.00 €
Andorra	168.9	171.5	170.2	70.1	0.0	200.0	4.6	3 878 700.99 €
Armenia	NA	44.6	43.5	NA	22.5	NA	NA	16 160 449.00 €
Austria	118.1	122.1	119.7	53.2	10.9	194.8	10.5	506 954 062.75 €
Azerbaijan	76.2	86.7	85.8	28.7	1.0	0.0	32.9	55 091 752.00 €
Belgium	163.0	66.0	65.6	25.2	11.1	20	6.9	545 055 697.55 €
BH: BiH (total)								
BH: BiH (st. level)								
BH: Fed. BiH								
BH: Rep. Srpska								
Bulgaria	235.9	221.7	221.3	65.4	4.1	8.2	5.4	13 938 764.00 €
Croatia	231.2	213.1	211.9	69.1	2.8	65.1	4.5	71 404 890.86 €
Cyprus	835.4	163.8	163.6	17.4	0.0	0.0	1.3	18 284 917.43 €
Czech Rep.	101.6	108.3	108.0	35.3	5.2	0.0	23.2	460 435 842.19 €
Denmark	185.7	NA	121.7	47.5	21.7	157.0	4.6	453 800 000.00 €
Estonia	150.3	147.4	146.2	43.9	16.3	4.1	14.7	66 259 133.00 €
Finland	107.4	107.2	106.4	67.5	3.6	152.4	5.6	193 747 000.00 €
France	117.4	105.3	105.0	47.2	17.0	1.4	10.8	2 893 795 803.67
Georgia	229.0	225.4	218.6	43.9	1.0	0.0	13.8	45 498 916.64 €
Germany	116.4	143.1	79.7	41.1	9.1	49.8	7.9	3 484 555 312.69
Greece	73.2	70.3	69.9	40.7	3.6	17.3	16.8	117 915 887.34 €
Hungary	189.0	178.0	177.4	49.5	3.6	1.2	10.9	25 312 155.00 €
Iceland	104.4	104.2	103.3	68.7	61.0	61.0	5.2	15 220 000.00 €
Ireland	180.1	179.4	179.4	67.1	NA	14.8	5.4	359 010 000.00 €
Italy	76.7	82.1	81.6	46.4	8.7	22.8	15.8	2 913 437 003.46
Latvia	NA	0.0	0.0	NA	8.8	0.0	NAP	62 256 614.00 €
Liechtenstein	111.0	76.1	76.1	52.7	0.0	0.0	3.9	1 486 017.00 €
Lithuania	286.0	181.6	180.5	35.0	11.4	9.8	9.2	710 195 000.00 €
Luxembourg	145.7	167.4	162.8	62.2	0.0	454.5	7.8	57 340 678.87 €
Malta	187.7	176.0	174.7	51.1	25.2	0.0	9.9	16 243 264.00 €
Moldova	77.6	95.6	94.3	33.1	11.9	13.4	25.7	27 654 200.00 €
Monaco	202.6	221.1	218.5	85.0	769.2	0.0	2.0	3 758 394.49 €
Montenegro	432.1	438.5	437.9	70.9	0.0	0.0	4.9	10 125 654.33 €
Netherlands	180.7	178.8	176.8	73.7	9.8	315.4	3.9	740 858 000.00 €
North Macedonia	93.0	98.6	91.1	46.4	0.0	690.6	13.1	17 487 628.00 €
Norway	121.9	115.8	115.3	62.5	19.0	57.0	5.8	388 852 064.00 €
Poland	218.8	214.0	(213.7)	52.3	2.7	0.8	10.7	732 121 000.00 €
Portugal	49.4	50.8	50.2	28.7	8.6	1.6	30.2	282 322 456.00 €
Romania	57.7	58.5	58.3	35.8	1.9	1.9	22.2	313 915 723.00 €
Russian Fed.	149.4	181.7	180.0	33.2	5.3	NA	29	4 174 643 056.20
San Marino	34.5	34.8	34.8	92.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	538 355.95 €
Serbia	317.2	309.5	308.2	65.7	4.5	21.7	6.1	101 678 264.00 €
Slovak Rep.	155.8	118.3	118.0	34.2	2.8	1.9	14.9	204 082 850.00 €
Slovenia	65.2	126.9	126.8	94.9	0.0	0.0	12.7	47 578 925.38 €
Spain (total)	74.4	70.9	70.6	34.9	8.4	3.4	19.9	1 656 772 111.00
Spain (State Adm.)	74.1	70.8	70.4	34.4	8.6	2.4	20.4	1 189 637 201.00
Spain (Catalonia)	75.9	71.9	71.6	37.9	7.2	9.6	17.1	467 134 910.00 €
Sweden	187.8	86.6	86.6	34.4	1.5	156.5	4.2	705 982 227.00 €
Switzerland	553.0	NA	NA	NA	11.6	283.8	1.7	NA
Turkey	NA	336.2	336.1	NA	1.4	0.1	NA	1 042 731 871.19
Ukraine								
UK: Engl. & Wales	215.5	95.0	94.3	29.7	10.1	17.3	7.7	3 918 408 218.00
UK: North. Ireland	227.2	7.2	7.2	72.6	NA	0.0	4.4	125 721 000.00 €
UK: Scotland	NA	785.8	0.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Average	177.6	151.6	130.1	50.9	25.1	66.9	11.0	
Median	149.8	120.2	111.7	47.2	5.2	8.2	8.5	
Minimum	34.5	0.0	0.0	17.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Maximum	835.4	785.8	437.9	94.9	769.2	690.6	32.9	