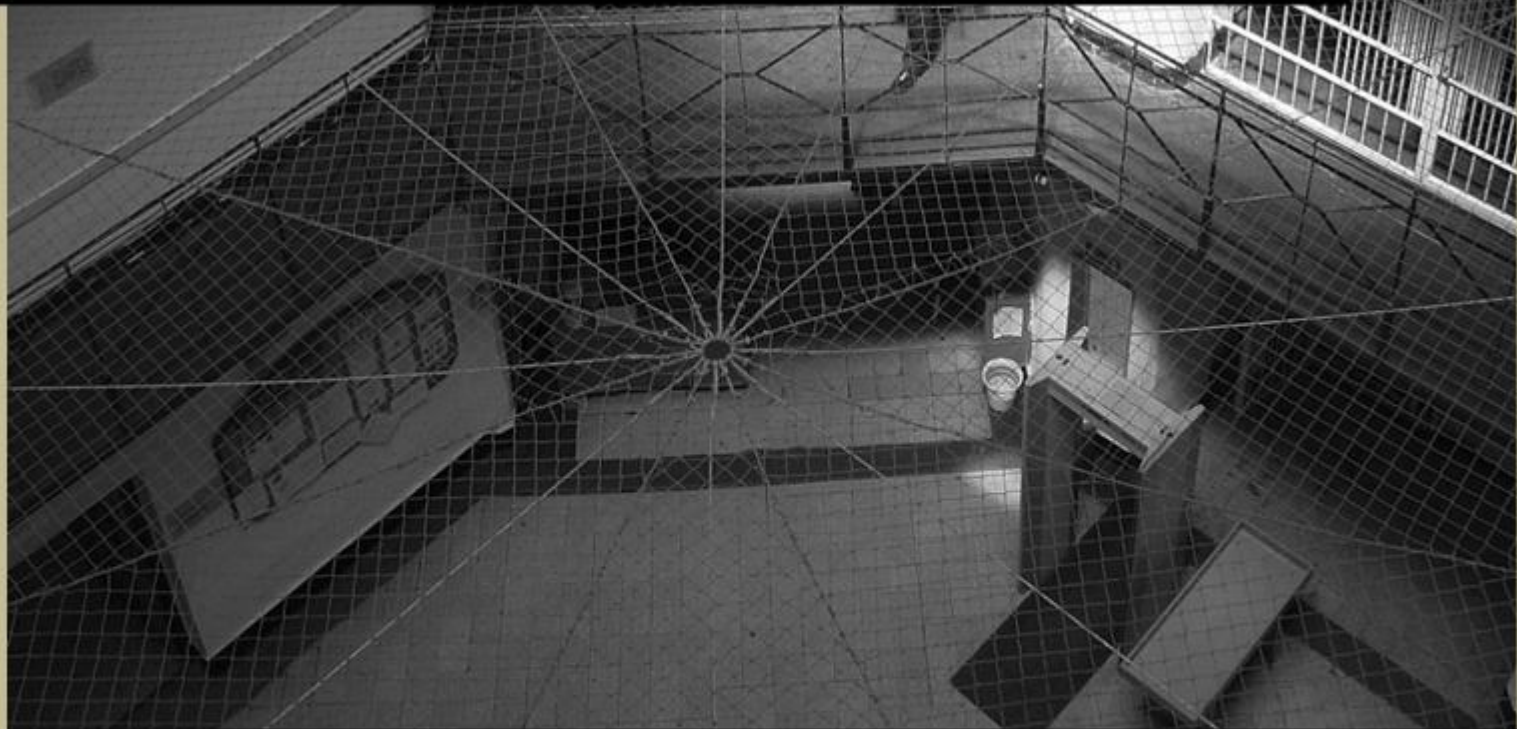




2015/2 | REVIEW OF HUNGARIAN PRISON STATISTICS



HUNGARIAN PRISON SERVICE

REVIEW OF HUNGARIAN PRISON STATISTICS

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I. INTRODUCTION

The aim of this publication is to present periodical statistics on prisoners detained by the Hungarian Prison Service and to introduce the activities of the Prison Service. Along with fulfilling our legal obligation of providing data of public interest, we would also like to provide a wide range of up-to-date information for research and analysis purposes.

The data on prisoners is based on statistics excerpted from the software used by the Hungarian Prison Service and on data collected by various departments of the Prison Service Headquarters.

When interpreting the statistics on inmates, it has to be taken into consideration that the number of inmates may change dynamically, even during the course of one day. Therefore most of the numbers may only be interpreted together with the date of their origin. In order to make comparisons and analyses easier, percentage indicators are used wherever possible.

In the issues of Prison Statistics Review, beyond presenting general data, we always aim to describe a special segment of prison population and present a specific area of the Prison Service. In the current issue we put emphasis on incarceration data regarding drug-related crimes.

II. STATISTICS OF PRISONERS

Number and Demographic Data of Prisoners

The number of inmates was 17 711 at the end of the first half year of 2015, showing a slight decrease from the previous year's similar data.

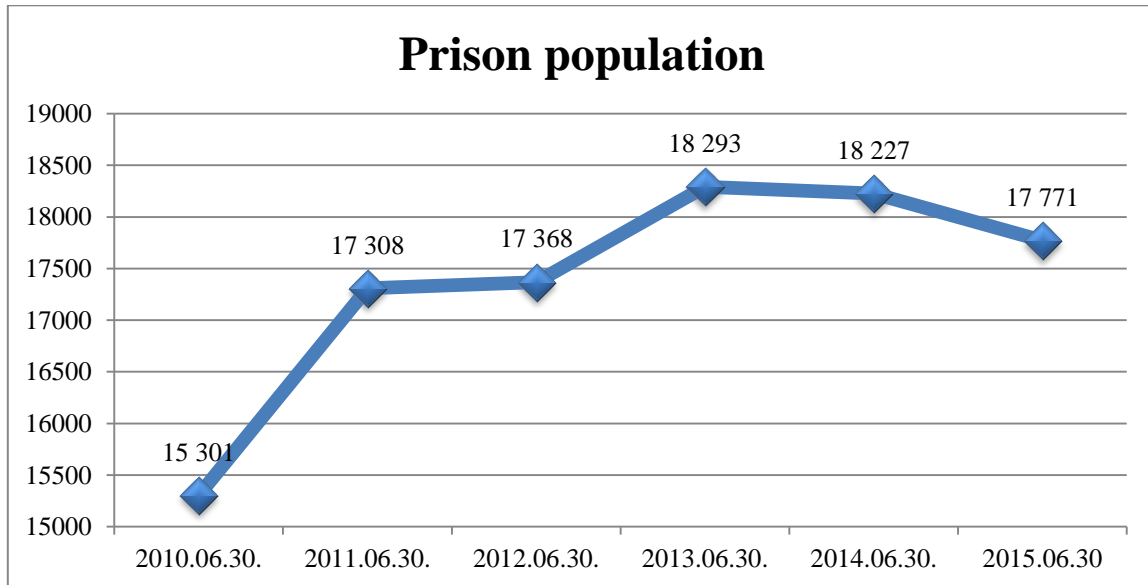


Figure 1

The demographic data of inmates does not show a significant difference in comparison to those of the previous years.

<i>Number of inmates by gender</i>				
	<i>Total prisoner population</i>		<i>Of which in Juvenile Regimes</i>	
	<i>Capita</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Male</i>	16 436	92.49%	278	96.53%
<i>Female</i>	1 335	7.51%	10	3.47%
<i>Total:</i>	<i>17 771</i>	<i>100.00%</i>	288	100%
			<i>Total: 1.62%</i>	

Table 1

Based on the gender data of inmates we can state, that the ratio of the female inmates is 7.51%, and only one and a half percent of the inmates are juveniles. An interesting data is that only 3.47% of the juvenile inmates are female.

<i>Number of inmates by gender</i>												
	2010.06.30.		2011.06.30.		2012.06.30.		2013.06.30.		2014.06.30.		2015.06.30	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<i>Detention without final sentence</i>	4 155	299	4 158	344	4 093	364	4 464	382	4 096	415	3 628	314
<i>Convicted prisoners</i>	9 874	665	11 634	810	11 744	824	12 064	909	12 354	880	12 373	948
<i>Compulsory therapy</i>	158	29	155	31	152	30	139	28	133	25	136	26
<i>Detention Sentence</i>	98	23	143	33	135	26	235	72	252	72	299	47
<i>Total</i>	<i>14 285</i>	<i>1 016</i>	<i>16 090</i>	<i>1 218</i>	<i>16 124</i>	<i>1 244</i>	<i>16 902</i>	<i>1 391</i>	<i>16 835</i>	<i>1 392</i>	<i>16 436</i>	<i>1 335</i>
<i>Ratio</i>	<i>93.4%</i>	<i>6.6%</i>	<i>93.0%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>92.8%</i>	<i>7.2%</i>	<i>92.4%</i>	<i>7.6%</i>	<i>92.4%</i>	<i>7.6%</i>	<i>92.5%</i>	<i>7.5%</i>

Table 2

The proportion of the female inmates has not shown a fundamental change in recent years according to the data above, and has stayed roughly constant around 7.5% since 2010.

<i>Number of inmates serving final sentence by age groups</i>						
	2010.06.30.	2011.06.30.	2012.06.30.	2013.06.30.	2014.06.30.	2015.06.30
<i>14-17 years of age</i>	50	48	41	33	48	20
<i>18-24 years of age</i>	1 701	1 992	1 980	1 934	1 940	1 998
<i>25-29 years of age</i>	1 694	2 050	1 937	1 992	2 063	2 114
<i>30-39 years of age</i>	3 704	4 311	4 431	4 412	4 350	4 143
<i>40-49 years of age</i>	2 285	2 735	2 861	3 233	3 267	3 347
<i>50-59 years of age</i>	945	1 100	1 083	1 114	1 240	1 331
<i>more than 60 years of age</i>	160	208	235	255	326	368
<i>Total:</i>	<i>10 539</i>	<i>12 444</i>	<i>12 568</i>	<i>12 973</i>	<i>13 234</i>	<i>13 321</i>

Table 3

According to the age distribution among the convicted inmates for many years the group of 30-39 years of age has represented the biggest numbers. At the same time the number of elderly inmates is increasing year-by-year.

In the first issue of the Review of Hungarian Prison Statistics we published specific data and incarceration features of the elderly inmates. It is downloadable from the homepage of the Hungarian Prison Service¹.

¹ See at <http://bv.gov.hu/review-of-hungarian-prison-statistics> .

Data Related to Incarceration and Detention

<i>Prison population</i>						
	2010.06.30.	2011.06.30.	2012.06.30.	2013.06.30.	2014.06.30.	2015.06.30
<i>Detention without final sentence</i>	4 454	4 502	4 457	4 846	4 511	3 942
<i>Convicted prisoner</i>	10 539	12 444	12 568	12 973	13 234	13 321
<i>Compulsory therapy</i>	187	186	182	167	158	162
<i>Detention sentenced</i>	121	176	161	307	324	346
<i>Total</i>	<i>15 301</i>	<i>17 308</i>	<i>17 368</i>	<i>18 293</i>	<i>18 227</i>	<i>17 771</i>

Table 4

When observing the table above on the prison population in various sentence severities we may see a decrease in the prison population of pre-charge detention, while the number of those sentenced to detention is showing a slowly increasing tendency.

<i>Inmates serving final sentence by sentence severity</i>						
	2010.06.30.	2011.06.30.	2012.06.30.	2013.06.30.	2014.06.30.	2015.06.30
<i>Strict regime</i>	2 692	3 023	3 420	3 617	3 785	4 008
<i>Medium regime</i>	6 272	7 351	7 399	7 591	7 782	7 684
<i>Light regime</i>	761	1 021	890	896	958	938
<i>Fine penalty and community service converted to imprisonment</i>	457	665	531	563	374	403
<i>Juvenile medium regime</i>	196	200	191	161	177	159
<i>Juvenile light regime</i>	161	184	137	145	158	129
<i>Total</i>	<i>10 539</i>	<i>12 444</i>	<i>12 568</i>	<i>12 973</i>	<i>13 234</i>	<i>13 321</i>

Table 5

75% of inmates are sentenced with final sentence, amongst them medium regime is the dominant. At the same time the number of inmates serving their sentence in the most severe regime indicates a slight increase.

For juvenile inmates only light and medium regime sentence may be imposed, the ratio of the two has stayed almost the same during the recent years.

The table below shows the previously discussed distribution of the inmates, yet this time for the sentenced prisoners.

<i>Number of sentenced inmates by gender</i>										
	2011.06.30.		2012.06.30.		2013.06.30.		2014.06.30.		2015.06.30.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<i>Strict regime</i>	2 909	114	3 281	139	3 460	157	3 612	173	3 794	214
<i>Medium regime</i>	6 823	528	6 828	571	6 983	608	7 206	576	7 078	606
<i>Light regime</i>	954	67	815	75	813	83	878	80	845	93
<i>Fine penalty and community service converted to imprisonment</i>	573	92	500	31	510	53	334	40	378	25
<i>Juvenile medium regime</i>	195	5	187	4	156	5	169	8	151	8
<i>Juvenile light regime</i>	180	4	133	4	142	3	155	3	127	2
<i>Total</i>	11 634	810	11 744	824	12 064	909	12 354	880	12 373	948
<i>Ratio</i>	93.5%	6.5%	93.4%	6.6%	93.0%	7.0%	93.4%	6.6%	93.5%	7.1%

Table 6

<i>Suicidal acts</i>								
		2012. I.	2012. II.	2013. I.	2013. II.	2014. I.	2014. II.	2015. I.
<i>Number of prisoners</i>		17 368	17 517	18 293	18 146	18 227	18 204	17 771
<i>Suicide</i>	Capita	3	5	3	4	3	3	2
	Halfyear rate ²	1.73	2.85	1.64	2.20	1.65	1.65	1.13
<i>Suicide attempt</i>	Capita	19	15	25	17	22	27	17
	Halfyear rate	10.94	8.56	13.67	9.37	12.07	14.83	9.57

Table 7

The number of suicides and attempted suicides mentioned above mark only cases with real³ suicidal crises behind the incidents.

Inside the prisons and penitentiary institutes self-harm is not necessarily connected to a real death wish, it can also be caused by tension release (intentional self-injury) or by issues connected to imprisonment. (E.g.: “manipulative” self-inflicted wounds to achieve potential

² Halfyear rate: ratio of the cases compared to 10 000 prisoners. The data related to one half year.

³ When referring to „real suicide crises” we mean cases, where exploration, tests and other methods used in psychology indicate a direct suicide risk situation.

benefits). These cases are not indicated in the table. When comparing the data for the first and the second half years, it is notable that the number of suicides is generally higher for the second half year. When examining the data for the first half year of 2015 we may conclude, that it is the lowest when compared to the similar figures of the past 3 years.

The table below shows the number of inmates grouped by recidivism. The number of the first time offenders increases year by year, similarly to the increasing number of the inmates.

<i>Recidivism for inmates serving final sentence</i>												
	2010.06.30.		2011.06.30.		2012.06.30.		2013.06.30.		2014.06.30.		2015.06.30.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<i>First time offender</i>	4 083	461	4 839	562	4 867	560	4 892	574	5 268	575	5 580	610
<i>Recidivist, particular recidivist</i>	2 988	145	3 542	180	3 722	192	3 891	223	3 986	219	3 841	232
<i>Multiply recidivist</i>	2 454	51	2 878	59	2 835	64	2 983	104	2 776	75	2 674	96
<i>Total</i>	9 525	657	11 259	801	11 424	816	11 766	901	12 030	869	12 095	938

Table 8

The similar data for the juvenile inmates can be seen below. For juveniles the first time offenders are overwhelmingly dominant in ratio, yet their number is significantly decreasing in line with the decline of the total number of juveniles.

<i>Recidivism for juvenile inmates serving final sentence</i>						
	2010.06.30.	2011.06.30.	2012.06.30.	2013.06.30.	2014.06.30.	2015.06.30.
<i>First time offender</i>	307	334	289	280	307	257
<i>Recidivist, particular recidivist</i>	47	47	36	25	28	26
<i>Multiply recidivist</i>	3	3	3	1	0	5
<i>Total</i>	357	384	328	306	335	288

Table 9

For the length of sentences imposed for inmates the 1-2 years of imprisonment may be considered the most typical. The average length of sentences imposed is 5-6 years. It is characteristically specific for the prison population, that shorter sentences (couple of months to one year) are decreasing, and longer sentences are growing. Also it is worth to highlight the number of life sentences that showed a 35% increase in the last 5 years.

Number of sentenced inmates by the length of the imposed incarceration												
	2010.06.30.		2011.06.30.		2012.06.30.		2013.06.30.		2014.06.30.		2015.06.30.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<i>less than 1 month</i>	32	2	45	4	41	0	56	5	69	8	71	3
<i>1 month- 6 months</i>	566	42	791	59	682	52	760	76	566	41	498	39
<i>6 months 1 year</i>	1590	112	1860	143	1663	119	1531	113	1438	93	1378	96
<i>1 year -2 years</i>	1932	141	2352	152	2471	175	2424	207	2604	172	2616	194
<i>2-3 years</i>	1278	100	1495	136	1582	142	1631	145	1737	159	1648	153
<i>3-5 years</i>	1650	126	1930	163	1926	163	2005	169	2041	194	2061	198
<i>5-10 years</i>	1669	84	1891	94	2168	111	2393	129	2535	139	2721	173
<i>above 10 years</i>	590	41	666	41	657	45	711	46	768	56	808	69
<i>Life sentence</i>	218	9	229	9	234	9	255	11	272	7	294	13
<i>Total</i>	9525	657	11259	801	11424	816	11766	901	12030	869	12095	938

Table 10

When examining the sentences imposed to juvenile inmates we may observe a more uniformed picture: throughout the recent years 1-2 years of imprisonment has been dominant. It may be interesting to note in the table below, that even though imposing longer sentences for the juveniles may be an option for the Courts, the Judges seem to use it less, since 5-10 years of sentences are less in proportion (approx. 2-3%) than the similar data for the adult sentenced prisoners. Several reasons may be behind this data, on the one hand juveniles may commit minor crimes, and on the other hand we may count on a lenient court of law affecting minors.

Number of sentenced juvenile inmates by the length of the imposed incarceration						
	2010.06.30.	2011.06.30.	2012.06.30.	2013.06.30.	2014.06.30.	2015.06.30.
<i>less than 1 month</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>1 month- 6 months</i>	29	34	21	30	27	26
<i>6 months 1 year</i>	54	60	50	50	53	51
<i>1 year -2 years</i>	109	119	96	86	99	79
<i>2-3 years</i>	91	84	70	63	71	65
<i>3-5 years</i>	56	63	71	52	54	39
<i>5-10 years</i>	11	14	16	21	25	24
<i>above 10 years</i>	7	10	4	4	6	4
<i>Total</i>	357	384	328	306	335	288

Table 11

Below we present the number of foreign citizens detained by the severity of their enforcement. The number of foreign inmates slowly increases in line with the overall number of the prison population, the ratio of the foreign nationals to the total prison population did not change greatly, it stayed around 3-4% in the previous years.

Foreign national prisoners						
	2010.06.30.	2011.06.30.	2012.06.30.	2013.06.30.	2014.06.30.	2015.06.30
<i>Strict regime</i>	49	73	78	73	109	118
<i>Medium regime</i>	87	131	128	110	129	153
<i>Juvenile medium regime</i>	0	0	1	4	2	1
<i>Light regime</i>	27	19	29	20	14	18
<i>Juvenile light regime</i>	0	0	0	0	1	1
<i>Fine penalty and community service converted to imprisonment</i>	1	7	1	5	5	3
<i>Compulsory therapy</i>	1	3	3	3	5	5
<i>Pre-charge detention</i>	374	359	356	400	399	420
<i>Juvenile pre-charge detention</i>	2	3	3	1	0	2
<i>Detention sentence</i>	2	0	2	2	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>543</i>	<i>595</i>	<i>601</i>	<i>618</i>	<i>664</i>	<i>721</i>

Table 12

III. DATA ON PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Data on Safety Related Activities

<i>Data on activities relating to safety</i>								
		2012. I.	2012. II.	2013. I.	2013. II.	2014. I.	2014. II.	2015. I.
<i>Number of inmates</i>		17 368	17 517	18 293	18 146	18 227	18 204	17 771
<i>Escape (felony)</i>	Capita	1	2	0	0	1	1	1
	Halfyear rate	0.58	1.14	0.00	0.00	0.55	0.55	0.56

Table 13

One very important indicator of the prison service professional work, that is even highlighted in the penitentiary policy is the number of escapes.

It is necessary to distinguish between the different forms of escape (misdemeanor or felony). Misdemeanor happens when the detainee does not return to the prison within a specified period of time from any type of authorized leave or short term absence. Felony happens when the prisoner removes himself from the custody of the prison (from a closed and/or guarded territory of the penal institution or its transport vehicle). The table above shows the latter cases. It may be seen that the number of escapes are relatively low even on yearly basis, this extraordinary event occurs mainly 0 or 1 time per half year.

<i>Collections – transports</i>						
	2010. I.	2011. I.	2012. I.	2013. I.	2014. I.	2015. I.
<i>Collections (capita)</i>	12 485	13 084	13 356	13 870	17 832	16 368
<i>Collections (case)</i>	26 872	28 203	28 098	29 748	37 678	35 029
<i>Transports (capita)</i>	34 220	34 045	34 616	35 071	37 251	36 279

Table 14

Collection means the transportation of prisoners to the courts, prosecution services, health care services, etc. In case of the individual prisons, the number of collections depends on the number of prisoners and the professional profile of the given prison. By transport we refer to the transportation of prisoners to other prisons, medical penitentiary institutes, or for the purpose of later collection.

The figures for transport and collection may be considered in general as a kind of workload indicator that describes the activity of the Prison Service. Both the numbers for collections and transports increased till 2014, and a slow decrease started, that is mainly due to the extensive rationalizing efforts for the numbers and organizing of the collections and transports.

Prisoner Employment Statistics

Average number of employed prisoners				
(capita)	2012	2013	2014	2015.I.
<i>Employment by the prison ltd. companies</i>	3 570	3 753	4 137	4 384
of which employed in industrial prison ltd. companies:	1 653	1 846	2 082	2 360
of which employed in agricultural prison ltd. companies:	1 917	1 907	2 055	2 024
<i>Penitentiary employment</i>	2 430	2 765	2 741	2 927
<i>PPP employment</i>	781	723	684	677
<i>Total:</i>	6 781	7 241	7 562	7 988

Table 15

Employment is the key element and main instrument of the reintegration of prisoners into society. In the table above employment is categorized by the nature of work carried out by the prisoners.

Employment of the prisoners		
Average yearly number (capita)	2014	2015. I.
<i>Convicted prisoners obliged to work</i>	11 746	12 064
<i>Employed in working</i>	7 562	7 988
<i>of which:</i> by prison ltd. companies	4 137	4 384
by prisons	2 741	2 927
in the framework of PPP	684	677
<i>Other employment</i>	1 819	1 677
<i>of which:</i> therapeutic employment	186	189
exclusively education and training	1 633	1 488
<i>Total employed</i>	9 381	9 665

Table 16

The employment of prisoners takes place in the framework of budgetary employment, employment by the prison limited companies and in other forms. The annual average number of prisoners taking part in the various forms of employment is shown in the table above. The pie chart below shows the proportion of actually employed prisoners compared to the number of those obliged to work.

When comparing the data for 2014 (80%) to the data for the end of the first half of 2015 (80%) the ratio for employment did not increase even along with rising employment. One factor of this trend may be the decrease – due to the school break – of the inmates taking part exclusively in education and training.

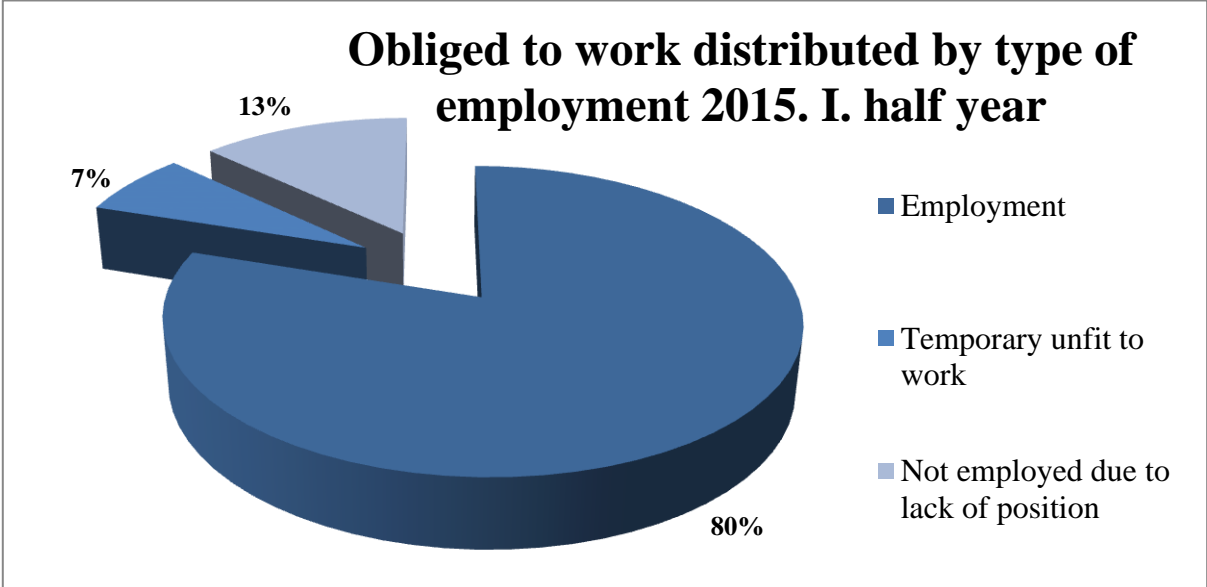


Figure 2

Data for the Prison Probation Service

Act CCXL of 2013 on punishments, measures, forced measures and detention for misdemeanors entered into force on the 1 January 2015. One novelty of the law is the fact, that the Prison Probation Service carries out the aftercare for those prisoners released conditionally from the prison. The aim of this activity is the reintegration to society and the prevention of re-offending. The support and control functions are united and both present during the activities carried out by the Prison Probation Services.

In addition to the tasks above the Prison Probation Service prepares the inmates for their release, provides for their reintegration care, prepares the social enquiry reports before the clemency process of those inmates serving actual life sentence, prepares the social enquiry report before placement into reintegration custody, prepares the social enquiry report before the interruption of the punishment, and prepares the social enquiry report before the placement into juvenile admission unit, furthermore carries out the completion of the report ordered in relation and as a condition of the conditional release, and provides the opportunity of aftercare for those released from the prison.

The tables below show the data for the different activities of the Prison Probation Service. The figures represent the cases during the given period (1 January 2015 – 30 June 2015) regardless of whether the cases are finished or not, and the numbers of clients under correctional probation, convicted prisoners, aftercare participants and their cases grouped by case type, client type or gender.

<i>Implementation of probation service supervision during the conditional release and ordered as a premise of the conditional release</i>		
<i>Number of cases for adults</i>		4427
Under correctional probation	male	4038
	female	263
<i>Number of cases for juveniles</i>		49
Under correctional probation	male	48
	female	1

Table 17

<i>Probation Opinions</i>		
<i>Adult convicts</i>		19
of which	male	17
	female	2
<i>Juvenile convicts</i>		0

Table 18

<i>Study of the convicts environment</i>		
<i>Adult convicts</i>		532
of which	male	484
	female	48
<i>Juvenile convict</i>		87
of which	male	87
	female	0

Table 19

<i>Reintegration activity implemented within the frames of care</i>		
<i>Adult convicts</i>		1144
of which	male	1007
	female	137
<i>Juvenile convicts</i>		39
of which	male	36
	female	3

Table 20

<i>Reintegration activity implemented within the frames of aftercare</i>		
<i>Adults under aftercare</i>		79
of which	male	78
	female	1
<i>Juvenile under aftercare</i>		2
of which	male	2
	female	0

Table 21

IV. INMATES INCARCERATED FOR DRUG RELATED CRIMES

Major Mihály Somogyvári, Major Bernadett Drexler, Major Livia Sánta, Kata Rutkai

Act C of 2012 on the Hungarian Criminal Code defines the drug offences among the crimes offences against health in Chapter XVII. Drug offences include drug trafficking, possession of narcotic drugs, inciting substance abuse, aiding in the manufacture or production of narcotic drugs, criminal offenses with drug precursors, and illegal possession of new psychoactive substances.

According to the software used by the Hungarian Prison Service, there are 1374 prisoners, ***whose data record includes crimes related to drug***. This fact does neither mean that they only committed crimes relating to drug, nor that their current incarceration is related to drug. This simply means that in their cases the data recorded in the software during their current time of imprisonment or any of the previous times of deprivation of liberty included a drug related crime.

In the first section of this chapter of our Review Of Hungarian Prison Statistics we show some basic information about these larger scope of inmates, than we narrow our sample to those prisoners, who are deprived of their liberty because of a ***typically drug related crime*** (in those cases, when the main crime causing their current detention may be linked to drug offences).

Major indicators for inmates whose incarceration record includes drug-related crimes

<i>Gender</i>	<i>capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Male</i>	1288	93.7
<i>Female</i>	86	6.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>1374</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 22

<i>Age</i>	<i>capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>18-25 years of age</i>	207	15
<i>25-35 years of age</i>	554	40
<i>35-45 years of age</i>	443	32
<i>45-55 years of age</i>	132	10
<i>above 55 years of age</i>	38	3
<i>Total</i>	<i>1374</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 23

<i>Length of imposed imprisonment</i>	<i>capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Less than 2 years</i>	156	11
<i>2-5 years</i>	480	35
<i>5-10 years</i>	326	24
<i>Above 10 years</i>	44	3
<i>No data available (N.a.)</i>	368	27
<i>Total</i>	<i>1374</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 24

The tables above show that inmates who committed drug-related crimes are mostly men, between 25 and 45 years of age in average, and the length of their imprisonment is dominantly short.

<i>Subregime categories</i>	<i>capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Milder</i>	97	7.8
<i>General</i>	1123	90.3
<i>Tighter</i>	24	1.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>1244⁴</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 25

⁴ Inmates not yet categorized into subregime are not included in the table.

Work in prison	capita	%
<i>Working</i>	601	43.7
<i>Not working</i>	773	56.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>1374</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 26

Smoking	capita	%
<i>Smoker</i>	738	53.7
<i>Non-smoker</i>	636	46.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>1374</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 27

In relation to the subregime categories we may see, that significant majority (90%) of the featured inmates are in general subregime, more than half of them do not work (56%), and furthermore a little over half of them smokes.

Qualification indicators		
	<i>Inmates committing drug-related crime</i>	<i>Inmates total</i>
	%	%
<i>Illiterate</i>	0.1	0.7
<i>Less than 8 grade</i>	5.3	12.4
<i>Elementary</i>	43.4	48.5
<i>Unfinished secondary</i>	7.9	7.0
<i>Vocational</i>	21.1	17.5
<i>GSCE</i>	19.4	10.6
<i>University, High-school</i>	2.8	2.7
<i>N.a.</i>	0	0.8
<i>Total:</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 28

When comparing the prisoners incarcerated for drug-related crimes to the total prison population, we may see, that they have fundamentally higher education. The proportion of illiterates, inmates holding less than 8 grade and proportion of inmates with elementary school is smaller, at the same time proportion of inmates holding vocational, GSCE or high-school qualification is higher than the similar numbers of those for the total prison population.

Recidivism				
	Inmates committing drug-related crime		Inmates total	
<i>Grade of recidivism</i> ⁵	<i>Capita</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>First time offender</i>	756	61.22	6 447	48.39
<i>Recidivist</i>	330	26.72	4 099	30.78
<i>Multiply recidivist</i>	149	12.06	2 775	20.83
<i>Total:</i>	<i>1235</i> ⁶	<i>100</i>	<i>13 321</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 29

It becomes clear from the above recidivism numbers, that among the inmates who committed drug-related crimes first time offenders are present at a higher proportion, and therefore correspondingly the recidivists show a lower proportion.

When compared the multiply recidivist proportion to the similar proportion of the total prison population it is half of that.

Sentence severity				
	<i>Inmates committing drug-related crime</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Strict regime</i>	304	22.1	4008	22.6
<i>Medium regime</i>	533	38.8	7843	44.1
<i>Light regime</i>	76	5.5	1067	6.0
<i>Pre-charge detention</i>	433	31.5	3942	22.2
<i>Detention sentence</i>	3	0.2	346	1.9
<i>Compulsory therapy</i>	1	0.1	162	0.9
<i>Fine penalty and community service converted to imprisonment</i>	23	1.7	403	2.3
<i>Other</i> ⁷	1	0.1	0	0.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1374</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>17771</i>	<i>100%</i>

Table 30

With respect to the severity of the sentences imposed for the examined group of inmates no significant differences could be observed from the general population of prisoners. Among

⁵ Categories for grades of recidivism has been merged, therefore the “First time offender” group consists the “repeat offenders not classified as recidivist”. The category „Recidivist” includes above the recidivists the „particular recidivist” and the category „Multiply recidivist” includes „violent multiply recidivist” as well.

⁶ In the cases of 139 inmates the Court did not determine the grade of recidivism, or it was not included in the Court’s verdict, hence the total number of the examined sample is 139 fewer.

⁷ E.g. arrested handed over from/ to be handed to foreign jurisdiction, correctional detention sentence.

inmates held for drug-related crimes the ratio of pre-charge detention is slightly higher, while detention sentence is less typical.

<i>Age</i>	<i>Characteristic crime types</i>				
	<i>Violent crimes</i>	<i>Against property</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>N. a.</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>18-25 years of age</i>	69	34	103	1	207
	33.3%	16.4%	49.8%	0.5%	100%
<i>25-35 years of age</i>	137	107	307	3	554
	24.7%	19.3%	55.4%	0.5%	100%
<i>35-45 years of age</i>	58	46	336	3	443
	13.1%	10.4%	75.8%	0.7%	100%
<i>45-55 years of age</i>	13	10,0	109	0	132
	9.8%	7.6%	82.6%	0.0%	100%
<i>Above 55 years of age</i>	2	3	33	0	38
	5.3%	7.9%	86.8%	0.0%	100%
<i>Total (capita)</i>	279	200	888	7	1374

Table 31

When comparing the characteristic crime and the age of the prisoners the following trend may be seen. The ratio of violent crimes committed declines by the age, and the other type of crimes committed increases. We categorized into the “other” in the table above misleading of authorities, drink-driving, causing of traffic accident, trading in influence and furthermore all types of crimes relating to drugs, which we examine in more detail later.

<i>Type of violent crime</i>						
<i>Age</i>	<i>Violence against a person</i>	<i>Sexual assault</i>	<i>Other violent crimes</i>	<i>Total violent</i>	<i>Non-violent</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>18-25 years of age</i>	17	2	50	69	138	207
	24.6%	2.9%	72.5%	100%		
<i>25-35 years of age</i>	41	3	93	137	417	554
	29.9%	2.2%	67.9%	100%		
<i>35-45 years of age</i>	27	2	29	58	385	443
	46.6%	3.4%	50.0%	100%		
<i>45-55 years of age</i>	6	1	6	13	119	132
	46.2%	7.7%	46.2%	100%		
<i>Above 55 years of age</i>	1	1	0	2	36	38
	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	100%		
<i>Total</i>	92	9	178	279	1095	1374

Table 32

In case of violent crimes committed we found the extent of violence, and to whom or what it is against interesting to examine. We defined three categories: violence against a person, sexual violence, and other type of violence. In order to help to demonstrate we indicated the number of non-violent crimes as well. From the table above it is clear, that the violent crimes represent only a small percentage (20%) of the total crimes committed (in this group of inmates).

The perpetrators of sexual assault are present in this group in overall small number, yet 50% of them are under 35 years of age. Those who committed violent crimes against a person are similarly aged, moreover mainly between 25 and 35 years of age.

Inmates who committed drug related crimes and are under 55 years of age are mainly categorized into the „other violent” crimes, while this turns around for those above 55 years of age. Altogether 2 people are in that category, yet one of them committed serious violence against a person, and the other committed sexual assault.

<i>Subregimes</i>	<i>Employment in prison</i>		
	<i>Works</i>	<i>Does not work</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Lighter</i>	80	17	97
<i>General</i>	468	655	1123
<i>Stricter</i>	1	23	24
<i>Total</i>	<i>549</i>	<i>695</i>	<i>1244</i>

Table 33

The table above shows that more than 80% of the inmates in lighter subregime works within the frameworks of prison employment, while in general subregime 41.6% of inmates work, and at the same time in the stricter subregime it is an exceptional case if someone works. If we take a look at this topic from the prison employment point of view and examine the working inmates, we may see that 85% of them fall under the general subregime.

Major Indicators for Inmates Whose Current Record Features Drug-Related Crime as Part of the Characteristics of Incarceration

In this chapter we focus on inmates whose characteristic crime may be linked to drugs. Below the tables are partly statistics and partly cross charts that may present two variables in relation with one another.

<i>Gender</i>	<i>Capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Male</i>	751	91.9
<i>Female</i>	66	8.1
<i>Total</i>	817	100

Table 34

<i>Age</i>	<i>Capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>18-25 years of age</i>	93	11
<i>25-35 years of age</i>	284	35
<i>35-45 years of age</i>	306	37
<i>45-55 years of age</i>	102	12
<i>above 55 years of age</i>	32	4
<i>Total</i>	817	100

Table 35

<i>Qualification indicators</i>	<i>Capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Illiterate</i>	1	0.1
<i>Less than 8 grade</i>	19	2.3
<i>Elementary</i>	317	38.8
<i>Unfinished secondary</i>	50	6.1
<i>Vocational</i>	178	21.8
<i>GSCE</i>	216	26.4
<i>High school or University</i>	36	4.4
<i>Total</i>	817	100

Table 36

Basically, with respect to demographics, the general prison population and the examined group of inmates feature similar data and proportions. When comparing information for the inmates present at the time of data collecting with the data of prisoners incarceration for drug-related crime as a characteristic crime for imprisonment we find that gender, age and schooling qualifications held are very similar. 90% of the examined group is male, 72% is between 25 and 45 years of age, and more than half of them have a vocational training, GSCE or a high-school diploma.

<i>Length of sentence</i>	<i>capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Less than 2 years</i>	45	6
<i>2-5 year</i>	225	28
<i>6-10 years</i>	197	24
<i>above 11 years</i>	15	2
<i>N.a.</i>	335	41
<i>Total</i>	<i>817</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 37

<i>Sentence severity</i>	<i>capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Convicted prisoners in light regime</i>	41	5.0
<i>Convicted prisoners in medium regime</i>	215	26.3
<i>Convicted prisoner in strict regime</i>	146	17.9
<i>Pre-charge detention</i>	399	48.8
<i>Other</i>	16	2.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>817</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 38

Their sentence is in general 6 years, more than half of them have a 2-10 year sentence imposed and almost 50% of them are currently in detention without a final sentence. Those of them who do have final sentence are held in the highest proportion in medium regime severity.

<i>Recidivism</i>	<i>capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>First time offender</i>	529	73.9
<i>Repeat offender not classified as recidivist</i>	14	2.0
<i>Total recidivist</i>	173	24.2
<i>Recidivist</i>	104	12.7
<i>Multiply</i>	31	
<i>Particular</i>	36	
<i>Violent multiply</i>	2	
<i>Total (excluding uncategorized offenders)</i>	716	100
<i>Uncategorized</i>	101	
<i>Total</i>	<i>817</i>	

Table 39

The vast majority of those inmates whose characteristic crime is related to drugs are first time offenders, if we add repeat offenders not classified as recidivists to the first time offenders, than we can say that they come to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the sample. Recidivism rate is only 24%, which significantly is below the similar rate for the total prisoner population (52.51% for the first half year of 2015).

<i>Typical crime</i>	<i>capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Inciting substance abuse</i>	2	0.2
<i>Abuse⁸</i>	412	50.4
<i>Possession of narcotic drug</i>	166	20.3
<i>Drug trafficking</i>	237	29.0
<i>Total</i>	817	100

Table 40

The table above shows the crimes of the featured group of inmates. We can spot that 50% of the drug-related crimes mean some sort of misuse, the second biggest category is drug trafficking, and that is closely followed by the category of drug possession.

⁸ Grouped: Misuse of narcotic drugs, drug precursors, new psychoactive substances.

<i>Qualification indicators</i>	<i>Recidivism</i>				<i>Total</i>
	<i>First time offender</i>	<i>Repeat offender not categorized as recidivist</i>	<i>Recidivist⁹</i>	<i>Uncategorized</i>	
<i>Illiterate</i>	1	0	0	0	1
	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
	0.19%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.12%
<i>Less than 8 grade</i>	14	0	5	0	19
	73.68%	0.00%	26.32%	0.00%	100.00%
	2.65%	0.00%	2.89%	0.00%	2.33%
<i>Elementary</i>	215	8	72	22	317
	67.82%	2.52%	22.71%	6.94%	100.00%
	40.64%	57.14%	41.62%	21.78%	38.80%
<i>Unfinished secondary</i>	40	0	6	4	50
	80.00%	0.00%	12.00%	8.00%	100.00%
	7.56%	0.00%	3.47%	3.96%	6.12%
<i>Vocational</i>	93	3	50	32	178
	52.25%	1.69%	28.09%	17.98%	100.00%
	17.58%	21.43%	28.90%	31.68%	21.79%
<i>GSCE</i>	142	2	38	34	216
	65.74%	0.93%	17.59%	15.74%	100.00%
	26.84%	14.29%	21.97%	33.66%	26.44%
<i>High-school or University</i>	24	1	2	9	36
	66.67%	2.78%	5.56%	25.00%	100.00%
	4.54%	7.14%	1.16%	8.91%	4.41%
<i>Total</i>	529	14	173	101	817
	64.75%	1.71%	21.18%	12.36%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Table 41

In the table above we cross-examine the schooling qualification and the recidivism. Basically everywhere the rate of the first time offenders is the highest, as it was shown in the tables previously

Recidivists are present at the highest number among inmates holding 8 grades of general education. At the same time when moving from the vocational training to the higher education the rate of recidivists declines and the rate of first time offenders increases.

⁹ Includes all type of recidivism.

<i>Age</i>	<i>Recidivism</i>				<i>Total</i>
	<i>First time offender</i>	<i>Repeat offender not categorized as recidivist</i>	<i>Recidivist</i>	<i>Uncategorized</i>	
<i>18-25 years of age</i>	69	0	10	14	93
	74.19%	0.00%	10.75%	15.05%	100.00%
	13.04%	0.00%	5.78%	13.86%	11.38%
<i>25-35 years of age</i>	190	6	44	44	284
	66.90%	2.11%	15.49%	15.49%	100.00%
	35.92%	42.86%	25.43%	43.56%	34.76%
<i>35-45 years of age</i>	182	6	83	35	306
	59.48%	1.96%	27.12%	11.44%	100.00%
	34.40%	42.86%	47.98%	34.65%	37.45%
<i>45-55 years of age</i>	66	2	28	6	102
	64.71%	1.96%	27.45%	5.88%	100.00%
	12.48%	14.29%	16.18%	5.94%	12.48%
<i>Above 55 years of age</i>	22	0	8	2	32
	68.75%	0.00%	25.00%	6.25%	100.00%
	4.16%	0.00%	4.62%	1.98%	3.92%
<i>Total</i>	529	14	173	101	817
	64.75%	1.71%	21.18%	12.36%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Table 42

When cross-examining the age of the featured group of inmates and their recidivism, as we move toward the older age groups the rate of first time offenders decreases for the benefit of recidivists, yet this tendency turns around for the inmates aged 45 years and older (but basically the first time offenders are at all time the majority).

The biggest part of recidivists is from the group of 35-45 year old inmates.

Recidivism					
Typical crime	First time offender	Repeat offender not categorized as recidivist	Recidivist	Uncategorized	Total
<i>Inciting substance abuse</i>	1	0	0	1	2
	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	100.00%
	0.19%	0.00%	0.00%	0.99%	0.24%
<i>Abuse</i>	236	12	120	44	412
	57.28%	2.91%	29.13%	10.68%	100.00%
	44.61%	85.71%	69.36%	43.56%	50.43%
<i>Possession of narcotic drug</i>	121	2	13	30	166
	72.89%	1.20%	7.83%	18.07%	100.00%
	22.87%	14.29%	7.51%	29.70%	20.32%
<i>Drug trafficking</i>	171	0	40	26	237
	72.15%	0.00%	16.88%	10.97%	100.00%
	32.33%	0.00%	23.12%	25.74%	29.01%
<i>Total</i>	529	14	173	101	817
	64.75%	1.71%	21.18%	12.36%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Table 43

The table above shows the characteristic crime of inmates in comparison with their recidivism rate. The data shows that most recidivists are (29.13%) from the different type of crime types the members of the subgroup incarcerated for misuse. First time offenders are present at the highest proportion among the inmates incarcerated for possession of narcotic drugs (72.89%) and drug-trafficking (72.15%).

At the same time when we take a look at the data from the recidivism point of view we can see that both for the first time offenders and for the recidivist categories the highest rate is for prisoners whose crime is characterized as misuse of narcotic drugs.

Other Indicators Related to the Use of Drugs

As part of an inner research for the Strategic Analysis and Planning Department of the Hungarian Prison Service 550 inmates were surveyed and questionnaires were recorded¹⁰. One variable of the research measured the drug-consumer habits, namely if the inmate used any drugs before entering the prison.

Below we introduce some relevant connections linked to the drug abuse of the 550 inmates sampled. It is important to stress, that the variable measures the drug abuse prior to the prison.

<i>Drug intake before Prison</i>	<i>capita</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>No consumption</i>	362	65.82
<i>Cannabis intake</i>	40	7.27
<i>Other drugs consumed</i>	148	26.91
<i>Total</i>	550	100

Table 44

65.82% of the inmates involved in the survey said that they did not use any type of drugs, 34% used drugs. 7.27% of them used cannabis¹¹ and 26.91% used other drugs (e.g. hallucinogenic, opiates, designer drugs, etc.). Furthermore those who marked more choices available were also placed into this latter category.

From this point on, we created three groups from the inmates (did not use any drugs, used Cannabis, used another type of drug). Yet we only examine inmates who did not use any drugs before their incarceration with those who used other drugs, as the cannabis users are represented in such a little number, that their involvement in the analysis is irrelevant, and furthermore this group does not carry the specific features of drug users that are present for the cases of “harder” drugs.

¹⁰ The survey examined the social and criminal background of the inmates in 5 prisons (Balassagyarmat Strict and Medium Regime Prison, Budapest Strict and Medium Regime Prison, Juvenile Prison - Tököl, Szombathely National Prison, Tiszalök National Prison), therefore the survey may not be considered representative.

¹¹ We classified Cannabis as a separate category, since both from the point of danger and from the point of reoffending this group has different features than those who turn to „harder” drugs.

<i>Drug intake before Prison</i>	<i>Psychiatry history¹²</i>		Total
	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>	
<i>No consumption</i>	286	75	361
	79.22%	20.78%	100.00%
	68.75%	56.39%	65.76%
<i>Cannabis intake</i>	29	11	40
	72.50%	27.50%	100.00%
	6.97%	8.27%	7.29%
<i>Other drugs consumed</i>	101	47	148
	68.24%	31.76%	100.00%
	24.28%	35.34%	26.96%
<i>Total</i>	416	133	549
	75.77%	24.23%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Table 45

When examining the possible relations of psychiatric or residential mental care it may be seen, that from those who were not under this type of care before their incarceration 68.75% are non-users, 24.28% used other drugs. 56.39% of those who were under care did not use any drugs, yet 35.34% used other drugs.

Altogether those prisoners who were under psychiatric or residential care at any time before incarceration used drugs more typically than those inmates who were never under this type of care.

¹² In the survey the question for psychiatric prelude was the following: „ Have you ever been under psychiatric or residential care?”

<i>Corrective institution for young offenders</i>	<i>Drug intake</i>			<i>Total</i>
	<i>No drug intake</i>	<i>Cannabis</i>	<i>Other drugs</i>	
<i>Was not in corrective institution</i>	324	32	121	477
	67.92%	6.71%	25.37%	100.00%
	90.25%	80.00%	82.88%	87.52%
<i>Was under the provision of a corrective institute</i>	35	8	25	68
	51.47%	11.76%	36.76%	100.00%
	9.75%	20.00%	17.12%	12.48%
<i>Total</i>	359	40	146	545
	65.87%	7.34%	26.79%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Table 46

We considered it important to examine the past involvement in closed correctional schooling juvenile institutions among the featured inmate population, since it is common belief that unsettled family background, lesser crimes or misdemeanors – and therefore closed correctional care – are connected, and it is often consorted by alcohol overuse and different drugs.

Amongst those inmates who were never placed into closed correctional institute as children 67.92% did not use any drugs and 25.37% used other drugs. The same distribution takes a worse shape for those who were in closed correctional institute. Those who were in juvenile correctional institute before prison used drugs more typically than those who were not.

<i>Drug intake</i>	<i>Source of income</i>					<i>Total</i>
	<i>Employment</i>	<i>Public employment program or seasonal work</i>	<i>Benefits or pension</i>	<i>Unreported black work</i>	<i>Offences</i>	
<i>No consumption</i>	144	36	19	46	11	256
	56.25%	14.06%	7.42%	17.97%	4.30%	100.00%
	72.36%	56.25%	90.48%	61.33%	37.93%	65.98%
<i>Cannabis intake</i>	17	6	0	4	2	29
	58.62%	20.69%	0.00%	13.79%	6.90%	100.00%
	8.54%	9.38%	0.00%	5.33%	6.90%	7.47%
<i>Other drug</i>	38	22	2	25	16	103
	36.89%	21.36%	1.94%	24.27%	15.53%	100.00%
	19.10%	34.38%	9.52%	33.33%	55.17%	26.55%
<i>Total</i>	199	64	21	75	29	388
	51.29%	16.49%	5.41%	19.33%	7.47%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Table 47

72.36% of the inmates who had a registered work did not use drugs and 19.10% used other drugs. On the contrary 37.93% of those inmates who stated that their income came from crimes used no drugs and 55.17% used other drugs. Amongst those whose income resulted from crimes the other drugs or “harder” drugs were much more likely.

<i>Drug consumption</i>	<i>Vocational qualification</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	
<i>No drug intake</i>	216	145	361
	59.83%	40.17%	100.00%
	69.68%	60.67%	65.76%
<i>Cannabis intake</i>	23	17	40
	57.50%	42.50%	100.00%
	7.42%	7.11%	7.29%
<i>Other drug intake</i>	71	77	148
	47.97%	52.03%	100.00%
	22.90%	32.22%	26.96%
<i>Total</i>	310	239	549
	56.47%	43.53%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Table 48

When cross-examining the drug use and the vocational qualification it becomes clear that 69.68% of the inmates holding a vocational qualification did not use any drugs, while 22.9% used other drugs.

However amongst those who have no vocational qualification 60.67% are the no drug users, and 32.22% are those using other drugs before prison incarceration.

Therefore in the sampled inmate group for the inmates with no vocational qualification it is more likely that they used other drugs outside the walls of the prison than it is for those inmates who have vocational qualification.

<i>Drug consumption</i>	<i>Any family member in detention during the past 5 years</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Nobody</i>	<i>One or more members of the family</i>	
<i>No drug intake</i>	257 71.19% 69.84%	104 28.81% 57.46%	361 100.00% 65.76%
<i>Cannabis intake</i>	23 57.50% 6.25%	17 42.50% 9.39%	40 100.00% 7.29%
<i>Other drug intake</i>	88 59.46% 23.91%	60 40.54% 33.15%	148 100.00% 26.96%
<i>Total</i>	368 67.03% 100.00%	181 32.97% 100.00%	549 100.00% 100.00%

Table 49

One of the questions in the survey concerns how many of the direct family members of the inmates were in prison during the past 5 years. We wished to map how typical it is to commit a crime in the family of the prisoner.

69.84% of the inmates with no family members held in prison before used no drugs prior, while 23.91% used other drugs. Amongst questioned inmates who have family members serving in prison during the previous 5 years 57.46% used no drugs, 33.15% used other drugs. Therefore those inmates who have additional prison involvement in the family background more typically turned to other type of drugs before their own incarceration in prison than those who had no other family members in prison.

International Perspective

In this chapter we present the international data of the rate of crimes related to drugs based on the SPACE I. data available at the time. SPACE I. questionnaire is carried out in the Council of Europe¹³ member states regarding the data for prisoners on 1 September each year¹⁴. The SPACE working group collected and verified data on the various crimes committed by the inmates with final sentence.

The below table shows the data for the 1 September 2013.

<i>Inmates held for drug related crimes</i>			
	<i>Capita</i>	<i>Prisoners total</i>	<i>%</i>
Hungary	361	12 525	2.88
Poland	2 210	72 405	3.05
Romania	1 173	29 512	3.97
Moldavia	302	5 487	5.50
Bulgaria	504	8 060	6.25
Slovakia	1 002	8 864	11.30
Lithuania	949	8 180	11.60
Turkey	11 791	96 748	12.19
Germany	7 555	56 071	13.47
France	8 703	61 568	14.14
Slovenia	155	1 061	14.61
Netherlands	805	5 490	14.66
Austria	948	5 999	18.80
Croatia	560	3 196	17.52
Sweden	857	4 377	19.58
Albania	593	3 023	19.62
Serbia	1 578	7 330	21.53
Greece	3 641	10 134	35.93
Italy	14 994	39 571	37.89
<i>Median of the member states</i>			17.8

Table 50

¹³ Council of Europe works in an intergovernmental cooperation and currently has 47 member states. Council of Europe collects penal data yearly by SPACE I. questionnaire.

¹⁴ Collection, checking and verifying and processing the data provided by the member states takes a significant time, therefore SPACE reports are published in – even multiannual – delay.

From the table above it comes to light, that the data for inmates held for drug related crimes show a very wide range in the different member states of the Council of Europe. These discrepancies may be a result of the differences in the legislation or the dissimilar systems for the treatment and handling of the drug user behaviors.

The median of the ratio for the inmates incarcerated for drug related crimes in the Council of Europe member states had shown a continuous increase in the past years (2012: 16.7%). 2013 was the first year when considering the ratios' median from all type of crimes named as a reason for incarceration the drug related crimes were the highest in the member states of the Council of Europe (2013: 17.8%).

This growing tendency may only be observed in Hungary to an excessively small proportion, since from the data for 2013 (2.88%) to the data for 2015 first half year (3%) the tendency shows only a very slight increase.

V. GLOSSARY

The terms listed below are not precise legal definitions; the explanations only serve the better understanding of the statistics. Their purpose is to interpret and help the understanding of the terms used in penal statistics for readers without legal qualifications.

THE PRISON SERVICE ORGANIZATION

Prison Service

The Prison Service carries out custodial detention and sanctions defined by law¹⁵. The organization is also responsible for the aftercare following the release from prison and the tasks related to the correctional probation services. The Prison Service is under the control of the Ministry of Interior and is an independent and armed law enforcement agency.

Prison Service Headquarters (PSHQ)

The commanding and middle governing body of the Prison Service, its director is the National Commander of the Prison Service. The Hungarian PSHQ monitors, controls and manages the prisons, the penal institutions and other institutes.

Prison limited companies

100% state owned companies, serving outstanding social and public safety interests. The goal of the companies is to use the resources efficiently and even strive towards profit oriented operation in a holding structure.

Penitentiary institute

A penitentiary institute or a prison is a place where liberty depriving punishments are enforced. The institutes may be grouped according to various viewpoints. There are remand houses and punishment serving houses. Remand or County Prisons firstly are responsible for pre-trial detention, while national or serving houses are responsible for the execution of the imprisonment or judgment. Above that there are special professional institutions of the Prison Service, where females, juveniles or detainees under medical treatment are placed.

Strict, medium and light regime

The execution of a punishment or measure involving deprivation of liberty shall be served in a court ordered sentence severity: strict, medium and light regime.

The strictness of the regime manifests itself in the institutional control exercised over the inmates and the incentives potentially available to the individuals.

The punishment is carried out in an institute designated by the Prison Service, but as close as possible to the domicile of the prisoners.

¹⁵ Penalties, measures, criminal procedure measures and misdemeanour detention sentences.

Corrections Probation Services

The purpose of the Corrections Probation Services is to help preventing released prisoners from committing crime again, and to help the released to reintegrate into society. Its aim is to prepare the inmates for the release, and before the conditional release to complete a report on the prisoner's social environment, and to provide the possibility of the aftercare following the release from the prison.

PRISONERS

Prisoner

In penal terminology prisoner is a general term used for everyone in penitentiary institutes who is deprived of liberty for any given reason. The term includes all the categories below, therefore a prisoner may be convicted, pre-trial detainee or can be sentenced to compulsory treatment (see below).

Correctional detention sentence

Criminal sanction imposed for minor offences in the length of 5-90 days (for juveniles 3-30 days).

Pre-charge detention until the sentence at first instance

Defendant under court-ordered supervision (pre-charge detention) until the court announces the verdict at first instance.

Pre-charge detention, serving a non-final prison sentence imposed

Defendant under court-ordered supervision (pre-charge detention) until the court's judgment becomes final.

Detention Sentence

Post-charge detention is a sanction between the custodial and the non-custodial sanction. It may be only defined by law, by court in a trial and may only be implemented in a penitentiary institute that is assigned for the implementation of such sentences.

Provisional compulsory therapy

Its aim is to prevent reoffending and to start the defendant's medical therapy. It is a liberty depriving involuntary commitment and can be only applied following serious consideration.

Compulsory therapy

Criminal law defined medical measure when the person who committed a violent crime or punishable act against public danger is not punishable due to the abnormal state of mental functioning. Its primary purpose is to heal the individual.

Community service converted to imprisonment (light regime)

Not fulfilled community service imposed in infringement proceeding is converted into imprisonment. (Six hours of not fulfilled community service converts to one day of imprisonment.)

Fine penalty converted to imprisonment (light regime)

Unpaid fine penalty imposed in infringement proceeding is converted into imprisonment. (HUF 5000 unpaid penalty converts to one day of imprisonment).

Arrested to be handed over to foreign jurisdiction

On the basis of European Arrest Warrant or criminal justice assistance, temporary or permanently transferred detainee from Hungary to a foreign justice system.

Arrested handed over from foreign jurisdiction

On the basis of European Arrest Warrant or criminal justice assistance, temporary or permanently transferred detainee from a foreign justice system to the Hungarian justice system.

Repeat offender not classified as recidivist

If the prisoner was formerly convicted for an intentional crime and received executable custodial prison sentence, yet from the time of release more than 3 years have passed. Also prisoners who have committed unintentional crime.

Particular recidivist

If the convicted commits the same or similar type of crime two times, and not more than 3 years have passed until committing the second crime.

Recidivist

If the convicted prisoner was committed to executable custodial prison sentence for intentional (not necessarily the same or similar type of) crime, and not more than 3 years have passed until committing the second crime.

Multiply recidivist

If the convicted prisoner was sentenced to executable custodial prison sentence as a recidivist before, and from the last time of release not more than 3 years have passed until committing the second crime.

Violent multiply recidivist

When the convicted is a multiply recidivist with violent crimes against a person.