

# The prisons crisis

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# Violence, self harm and deaths

## UK Justice Policy Review

Volume 6

From the General Election  
to Brexit

7 May 2015 to 23 June 2016

by Richard Garside, Matt Ford,  
Helen Mills and Rebecca Roberts

### Suicide, self-harm and assaults in prison between 2010 and 2016

#### England and Wales



SELF-INFLICTED  
**DEATHS**  
↑78%



SELF-HARM  
**INCIDENTS**  
↑39%



**ASSAULTS**  
↑49%

#### Scotland



**DEATHS  
OVERALL**  
↑75%



**ASSAULTS**  
↓11%

#### Northern Ireland



**DEATHS  
OVERALL**  
↓33%

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# Imprisonment in the UK

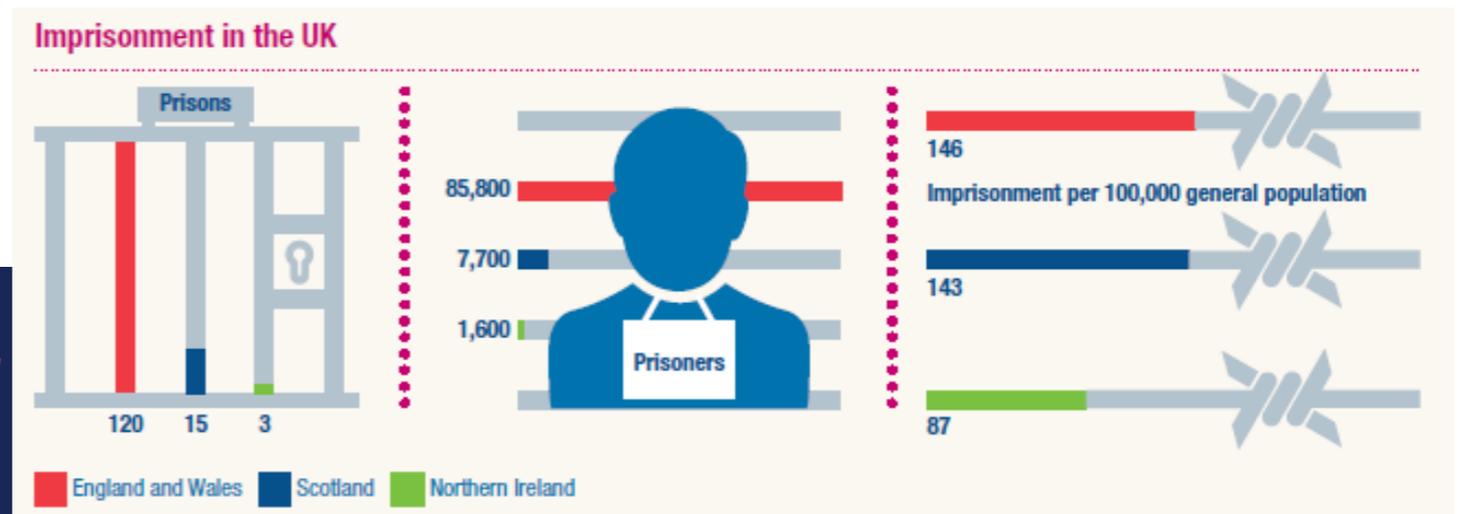
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# Imprisonment, England and Wales



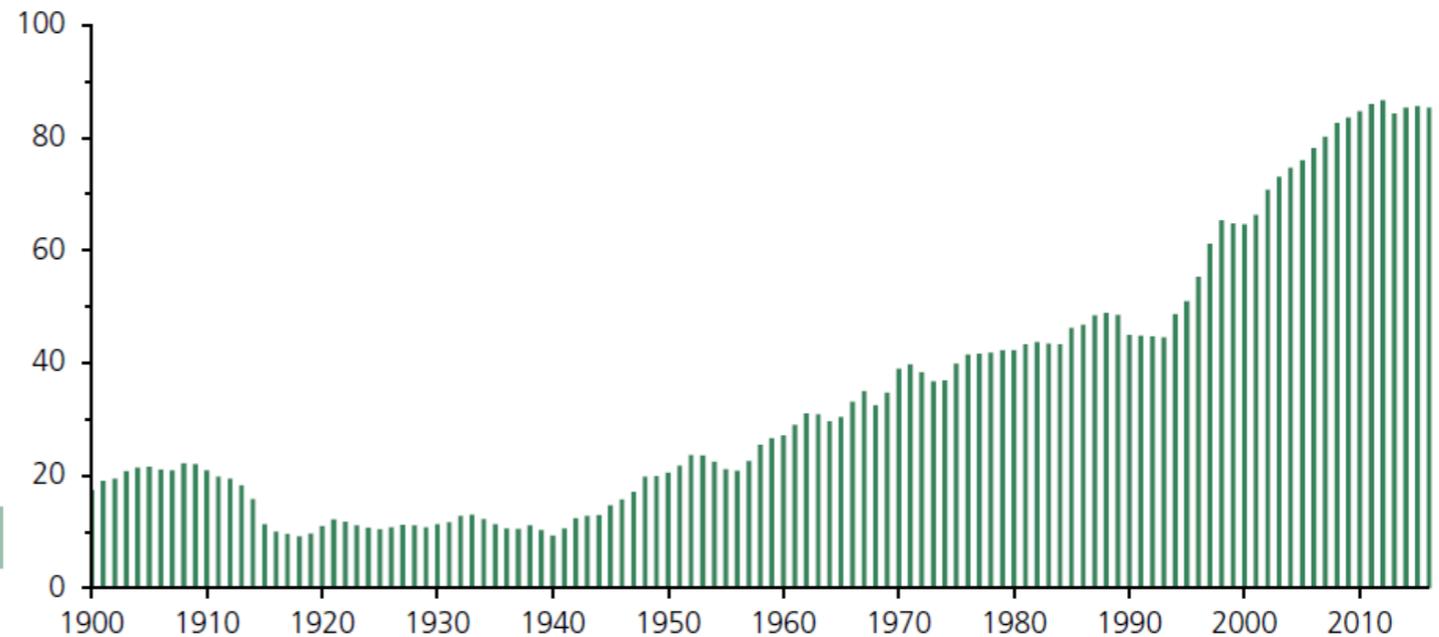
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**BRIEFING PAPER**

Number SN/SG/04334, 20 April 2017

UK Prison Population  
Statistics

Prison population in England & Wales, 1900-2016 (000s)



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# Imprisonment, Scotland



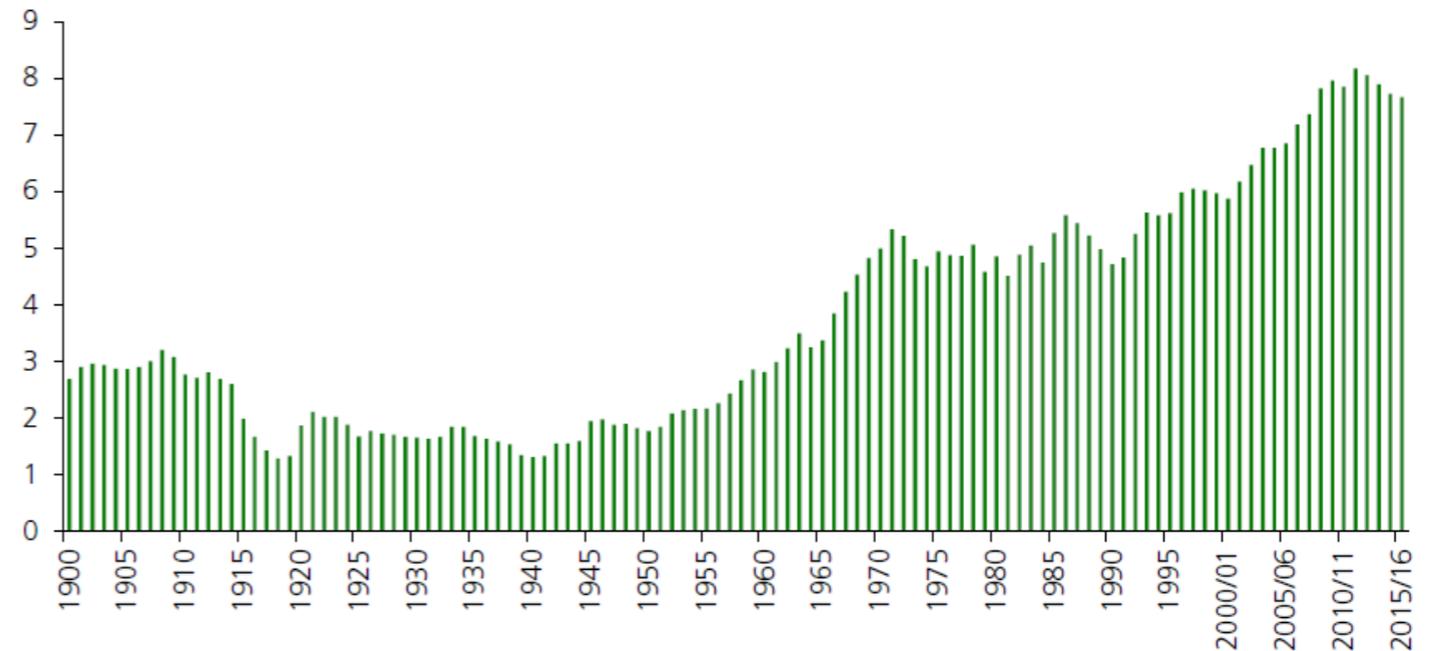
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## BRIEFING PAPER

Number SN/SG/04334, 20 April 2017

UK Prison Population  
Statistics

Average daily prison population Scotland, 1900-2015/16 (000s)<sup>34</sup>



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# Imprisonment, Northern Ireland



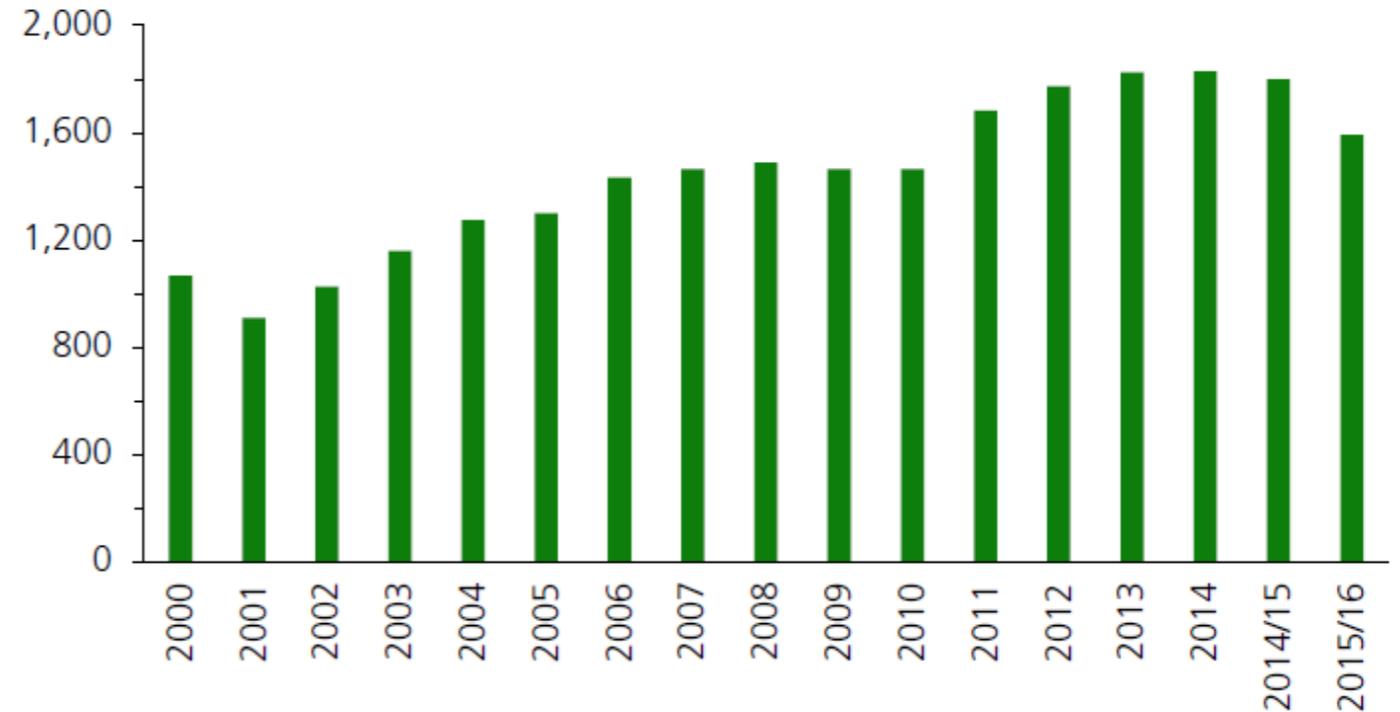
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## BRIEFING PAPER

Number SN/SG/04334, 20 April 2017

UK Prison Population  
Statistics

Average daily prison population, Northern Ireland, 2000-2015/16



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# Imprisonment rates, international



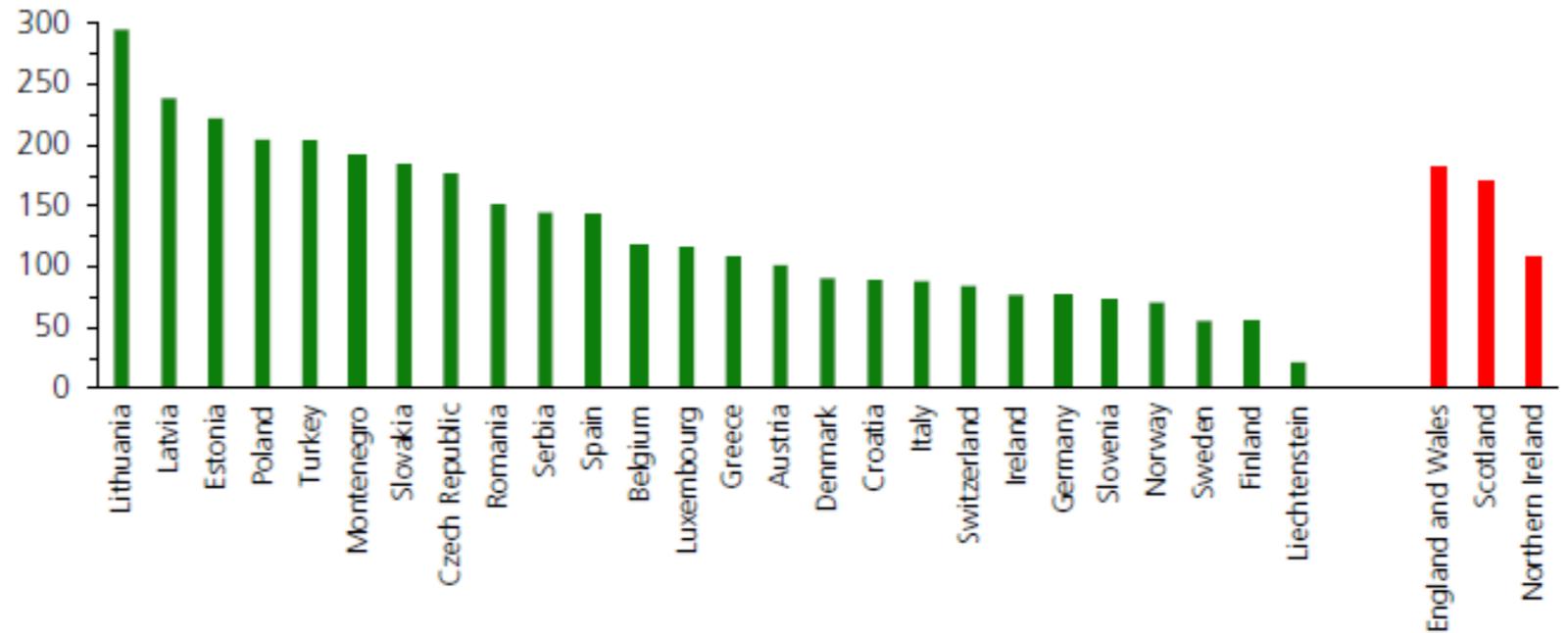
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## BRIEFING PAPER

Number SN/SG/04334, 20 April 2017

UK Prison Population  
Statistics

Prison population per 100,000 population, selected European countries

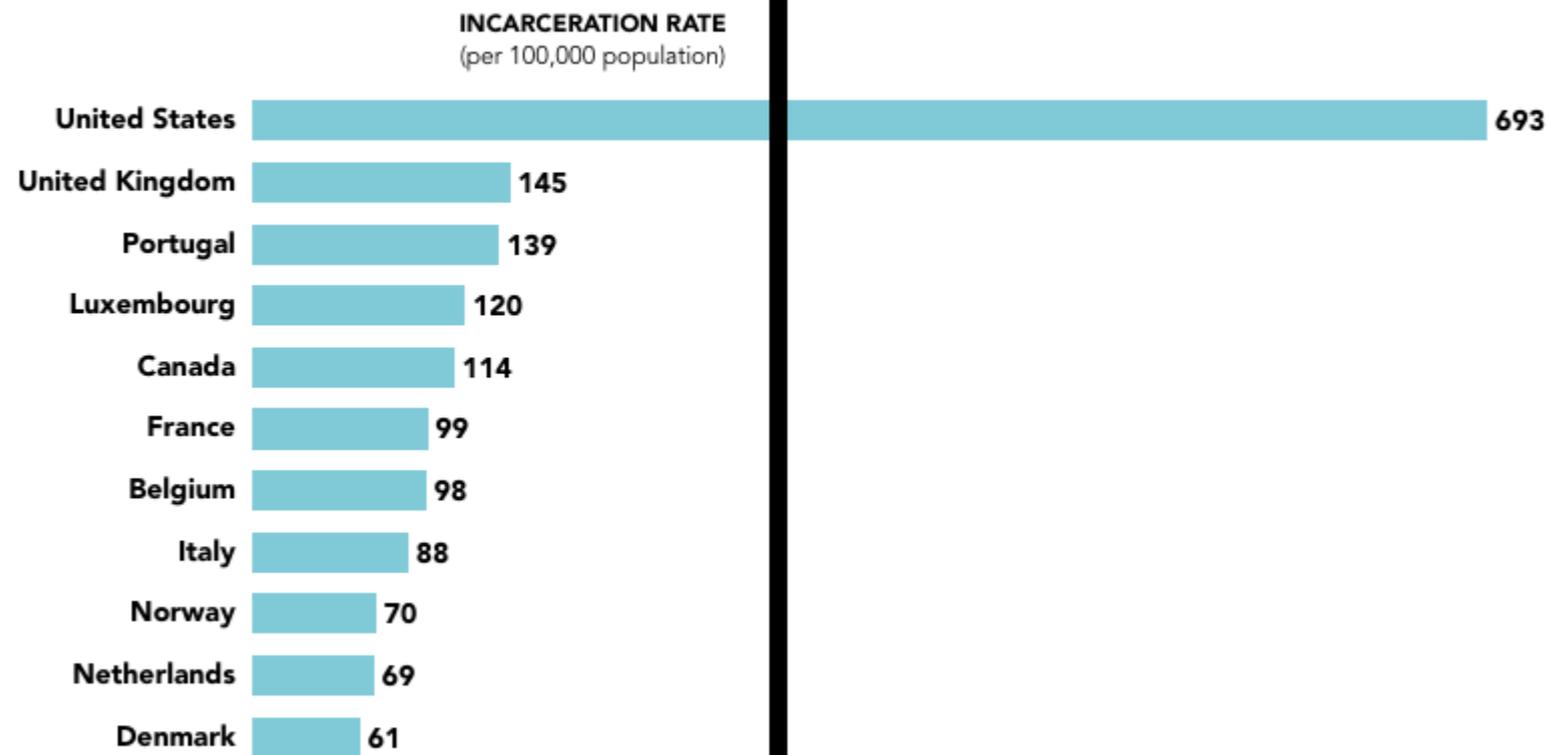


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# US way out in the lead

## INCARCERATION RATES

AMONG FOUNDING NATO MEMBERS



Source: <http://www.prisonpolicy.org/global/2016.html>

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# Characteristics of adult prisoners

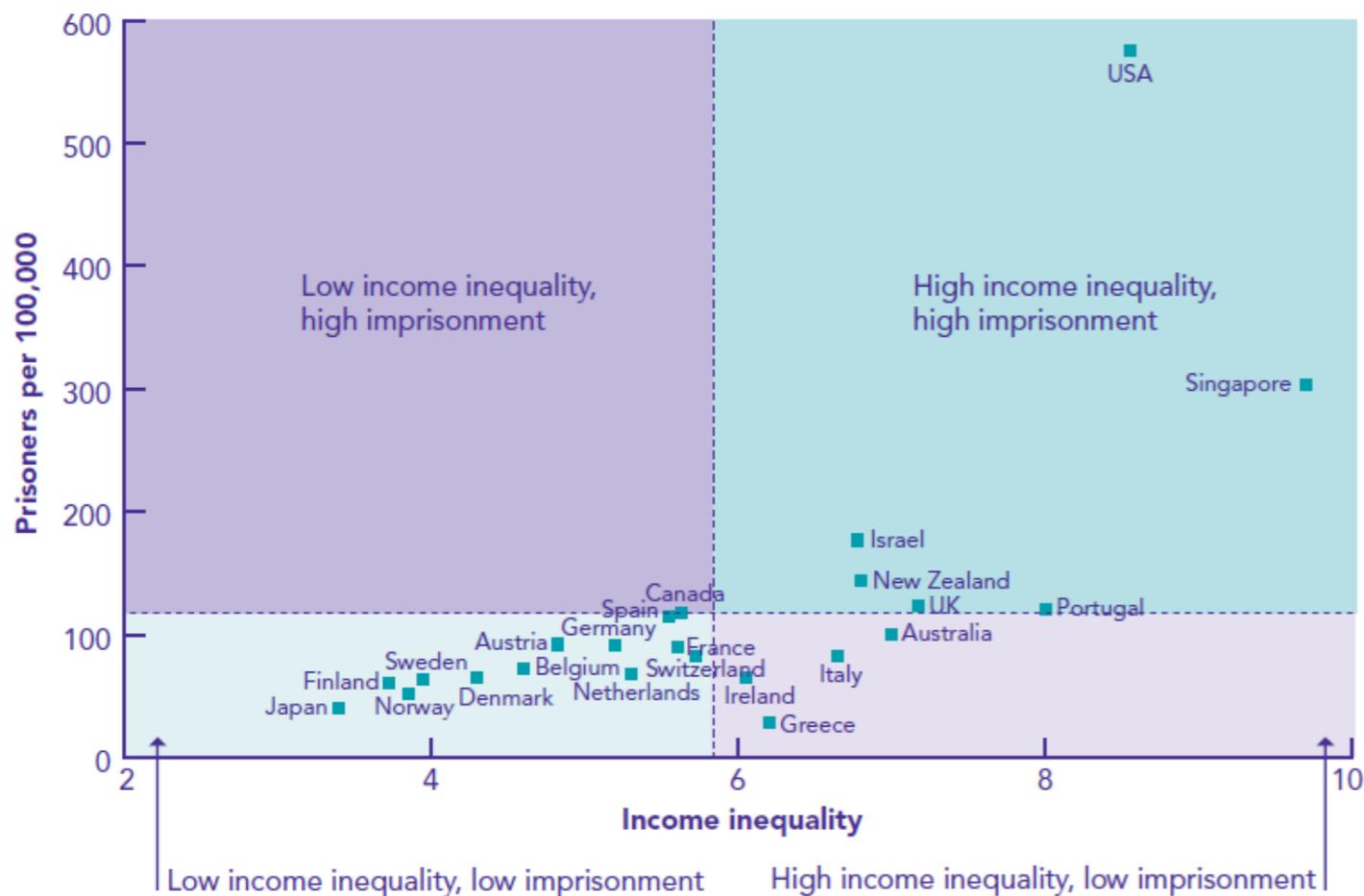
Characteristic	Prison population	General population
Taken into care as a child	24% (31% for women, 24% for men)	2%
Experienced abuse as a child	29% (53% for women, 27% for men)	20%
Observed violence in the home as a child	41% (50% for women, 40% for men)	14%
Regularly truant from school	59%	5.2% (England) and 4.8% (Wales)
Expelled or permanently excluded from school	42% (32% for women, 43% for men)	In 2005 >1% of school pupils were permanently excluded (England)
No qualifications	47%	15% of working age population
Unemployed in the four weeks before custody	68% (81% for women, 67% for men)	7.7% of the economically active population are unemployed
Never had a job	13%	3.9%
Homeless before entering custody	15%	4% have been homeless or in temporary accommodation
Have children under the age of 18	54%	Approximately 27% of the over 18 population*
Are young fathers (aged 18–20)	19%	4%
Have symptoms indicative of psychosis	16% (25% for women, 15% for men)	4%
Identified as suffering from both anxiety and depression	25% (49% for women, 23% for men)	15%
Have attempted suicide at some point	46% for women, 21% for men	6%
Have ever used Class A drugs	64%	13%
Drank alcohol every day in the four weeks before custody	22%	16% of men and 10% of women reported drinking on a daily basis



**Bromley Briefings Prison Factfile**  
Autumn 2017

# Imprisonment and income inequality

Figure 2: Income inequality and imprisonment

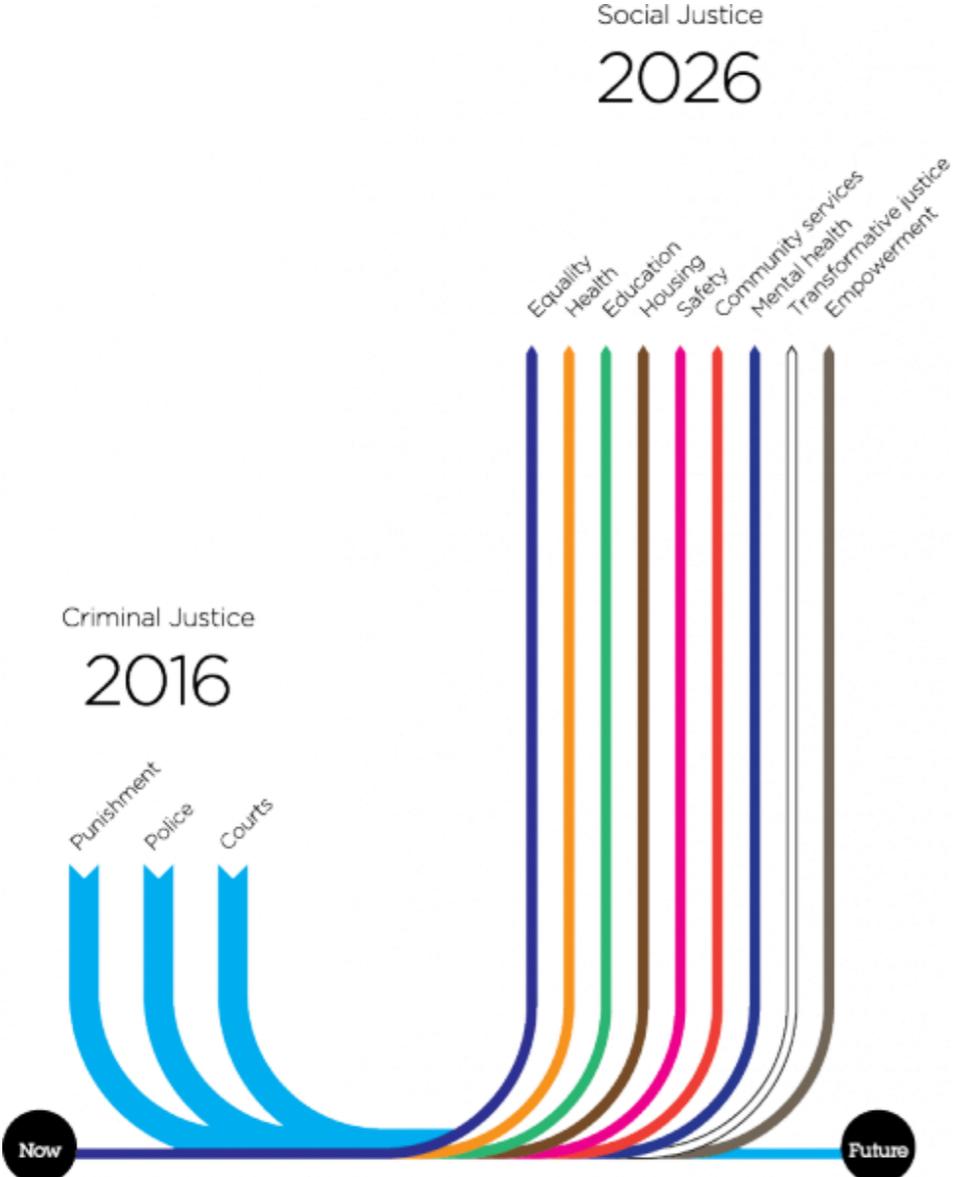


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Reducing the  
numbers in custody:  
beyond criminal

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# Justice Matters



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