



COSTA RICA

Historical and Political Context

In 1948, at the initiative of then President Jose Figueres, it was established by law that Costa Rica would have no Army; in 1949 this was encoded into the Constitution. It also provided for the creation of the Civil Guard as a police force dedicated to security and order. Until then, there were armed gangs linked to political organizations which were called armies, but in practice there was never a professional body. The Guard initially lacked professionalism and consisted predominantly of members of political parties. Since then the country has followed a very different path from the rest of its Central American neighbors in regard to military responses to public security issues.

Political control of the Guards was in the hands of a dual structure (The Ministry of Interior and Police controlled rural areas while a Ministry of Security had control in urban areas) until the

1980s, when it passed to the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Interior. In 1995 the merger was consolidated through the creation of the Ministry of Interior, Police and Public Security.

Approval of the General Police Law in 1994 was another step towards an apolitical Guard, eliminating the removal of personnel with each change of government and thus ensuring personnel stability to the country's police forces.

In 2000, the National Coast Guard Service was created, laying the foundation for the professionalization of what was previously the Maritime Surveillance Service. In March 2001, the Civilian Police Law was passed which, among other advances, created the Police Legal Support Directorate, a unit made up of police lawyers responsible for advising police personnel in their duties. Rankings were also changed from military to civilian character.

Country Information

Political System:	Presidential Republic / Unitary
Administrative Organization:	7 provinces, 81 cantons and 470 districts.
Population:	4,713,168*
Territorial Extension:	51,100 km ²
GDP (US\$ / current prices):	45,134,000,000 (2012)
Minimum monthly salary (US\$):	506 (July 2013)
Illiteracy:	3.8%**

Basic Security Indicators (2012)

Public Force:	14,201 personnel (within the bodies attached to the Ministry of Public Security).
Homicides:	407 homicides reported at a rate of 8.8 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants.
Drug Trafficking:	10,445 kilograms of cocaine decommissioned by public security forces.
Traffic Accidents:	675 deaths resulting from traffic accidents.
Border Flows:	Total annual border movements of 6,542,384 people.
Private Security:	1,048 private security firms registered.
Penal Centers:	There are 17 correctional facilities housing 13,378 inmates.
Femicide:	26 cases.
The Perception of Security:	59% of the population has little or no trust in the police.

*2013 projection.

**in those above 15 years old, 2005-2010

Post-1948 conflict	Professionalization	Regional role	Institutionalization	Current stage
Prohibition of the Army as a permanent institution and creation of a Civil Guard.	Steps taken towards a professional police career with the creation of a dedicated police academy. Other bodies begin to form, such as the Rural Assistance Guard.	Costa Rica plays the role of "facilitator" in the resolution of regional conflicts that gripped Central America in the 70s and 80s.	Police Law that governs the existence of the various State security forces and incorporates the police career. Unification of ministries in the area into the Ministry of Interior, Police and Public Security within which the majority of security forces are placed.	Development of community police models and emphasis on decentralization. Growing perception of insecurity amongst the population that contrasts with security indicators.

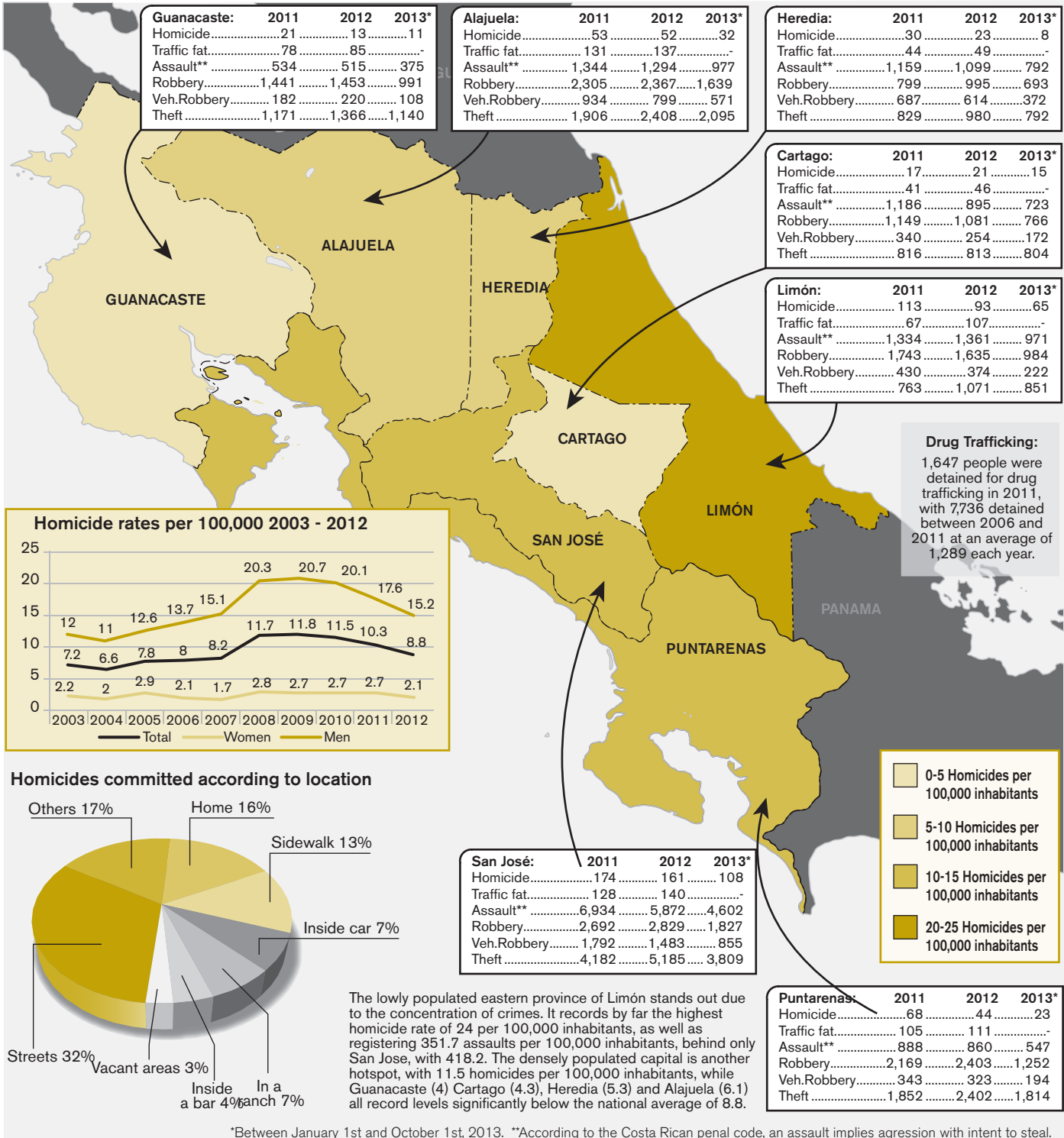
1948 Abolition of the military	1964 National Police School founded	1994 General Police Law and the Police Career	1995 Creation of Ministry of Interior, Police and Public Security	2004 Organization Law of the Ministry of Interior, Police and Public Security	2008 Police restructuring; new community policing programs	2011 National Violence Prevention Plan
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Sources: Information produced using: Population: National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC), *Población total por sexo, según años calendario 2011-2050*. Territory: Ministry of Foreign Relations. GDP: IMF, World Economic Outlook Database. Salary: Ministry of Labor and Social Security, *Salario mínimos para el sector privado, segundo semestre 2013*. Illiteracy: UNDP, Human Development Report 2013. Public Force: Ministry of Security. Homicides and Femicides: Judiciary, Planning Department, *Homicidios dolosos ocurridos en Costa Rica durante el 2012*. Drug trafficking: Ministry of Security, *Memoria Institucional 2011-2012*. Traffic accidents: Judiciary, Planning Department, *Personas fallecidas por accidentes de tránsito durante 2012*. Border movements: General Directorate of Migration and Foreign Persons. Public Security: Ministry of Security. Penal Centres: Human Rights Ombudsman, *Informe anual de labores, 2012-2013*. Security Perception: CID-Gallup Latin America, *Encuesta de Opinión Pública Centro América y República Dominicana, Febrero 2013*, available at cidgallup.com/documentos.

Security Challenges: An Overview

Costa Rica has one of the highest levels of economic and human development in Central America (ranking n° 62 in the Human Development Index according to UNDP), and its levels of crime and violence are much lower than other countries in the region. Despite this, a rising trend in homicide rates (6.6 per 100,000 inhabitants in 2004, to 11.8 in 2009 and 8.8 in 2012) has accompanied

a rapid growth in drug related crimes and robberies, contributing to an increased sense of insecurity amongst the population. Despite recent gains, with the sustained increase in the homicide rate reversing after 2009, this has not translated into an improved perception amongst the population and security concerns continue to represent an important challenge to the country.



Femicides

Femicides in Costa Rica are subject to 2 definitions and legal bases:

The **Law Criminalizing Violence against Women (LPVCM)** (DL 8589 – 04/12/2007), defines the crime of femicide according to a male killing a female with whom he is currently in a marriage or relationship. It imposes a sentence of between 20 and 35 years. Under this law, in 2012 there were 5 cases of femicide.

The **International Convention Belém Do Pará** adopts a broader definition of femicide. It covers situations where women are killed for reasons linked to their gender, but may not be in a current relationship with the aggressor. It applies, for example, to family members, ex partners and sexual clients. In 2012 there were 21 of such cases.

Traffic Accidents

In 2012, **14.7 per 100,000 inhabitants** were killed in Costa Rica, with a rate of **23.8** for males, making it the most frequent cause of violent death in Costa Rica.

Year	Fatalities	Rate per 100,000	
		Male	Female
2008	751	31.3	5.2
2009	721	29.4	5.3
2010	592	24.5	3.7
2011	594	22.6	5.4
2012	675	23.8	5.4



Drugs

The Psychotropic Drugs Law (DL 8204 - 12/26/2001) regulates the administration, use, trafficking and commercialization of illegal and pharmaceutical drugs susceptible to causing physical or mental dependency. Reports of these crimes had been relatively low in the 1990s, but since then figures have shown an exponential increase, with an overall rise of 2720% in just a 13 year period. Such crimes now constitute **27% of total crimes recorded**.



= 50 infractions per 100,000 inhabitants

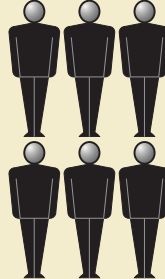
Infraction of the Psychotropic Drugs Law*

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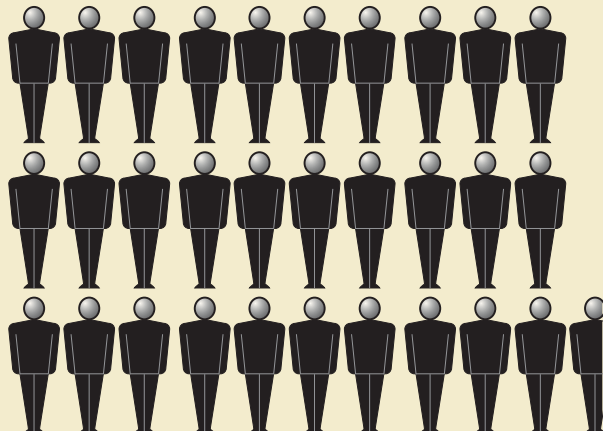
1997

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2005

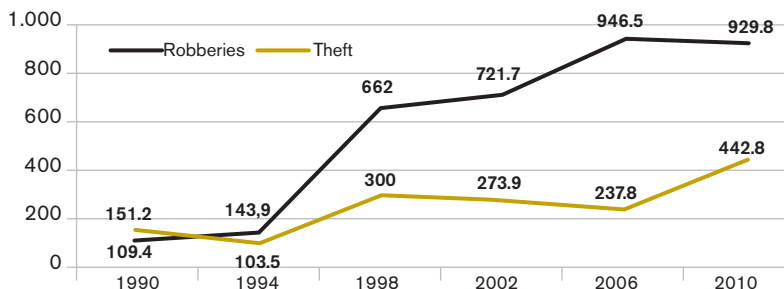
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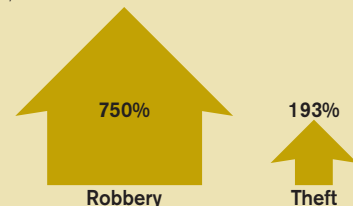
2010

*Prior to the sanctioning of the law in 2004, the crime was classified within other legal norms.

Evolution of Thefts and Robberies per 100,000 inhabitants



In the last 20 years there has been a remarkable trend in cases of robbery (using violent force) and theft (without force). While both have shown sharp rises, cases involving violent force have increased far more rapidly, rising from 109.4 cases per 100,000 inhabitants in 1990 to over 900 in 2010.



Sources: Judicial Investigation Organism, *Mujeres Fallecidas por Femicidio en Costa Rica, bajo el Ámbito de la Ley de Penalización de la Violencia contra las Mujeres y la Aplicación de la Convención Internacional Belém Do Pará*; *Homicidios Dolosos Ocurredos en Costa Rica durante el 2012*; Violence Observatory, Informe estadístico 8; National Institute of Statistics and Censur. UNDP, Human Development Report 2013. Crime 2013: Judicial Investigation Organism database as of October 2013.

Institutions linked to Security

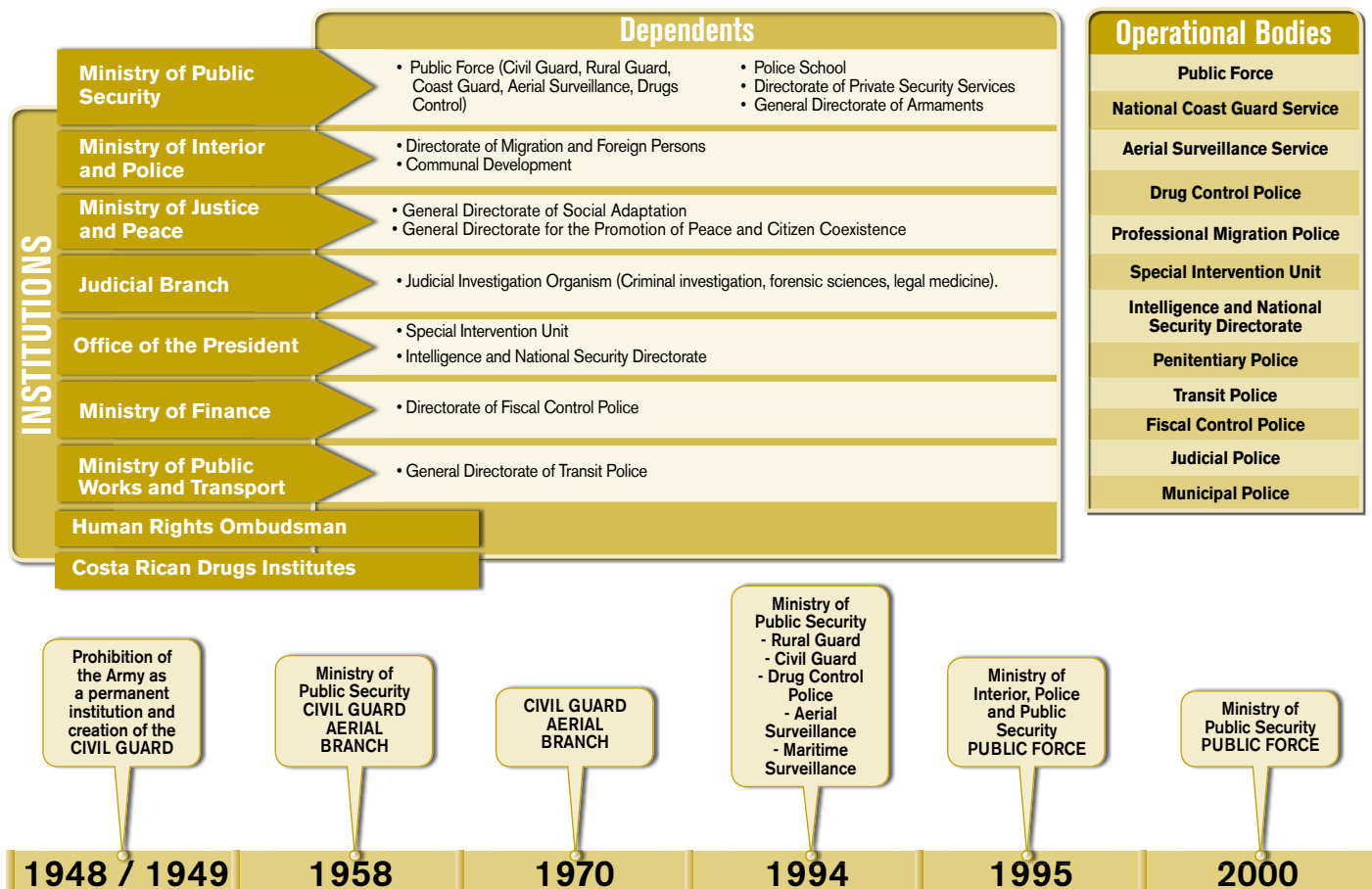
Following the removal of the so-called “Army”, between 1948 and 1949 public security was the main responsibility of the Civil Guard and other decentralized bodies, some acting at the level of provincial governments. In 1994, with the issuance of the law that regulates all national police forces, progress was made in the professionalization and standardization of security criteria, although while continuing to implement a decentralized management model.

- **Public Force and other security forces:** the main security body is the Public Force, including an Air Surveillance Service and the National Coast Guard Service. Other police forces also provide security: Penitentiary, Border, Fiscal Control, Transit, and Migration, in addition to the Intelligence and National Security Directorate and Special Intervention Unit.
- **Ministry of Interior, Police and Public Security:** these are two ministries headed by a single minister since 1995, which are responsible for the Public Force, the Drug Control Police, the Coast Guard, Air Surveillance and the Professional Migration Police.
- **Judicial Investigation Organism:** also considered a security body, it is the organism that assists in judicial matters and since 1973 it carries out the functions of criminal investigation, besides having

charge of the department of forensic science and legal medicine.

- **Ministry of Justice and Peace:** responsible for the administration of penitentiary centers and programs for the comprehensive prevention of violence and crime, conflict resolution and control of public spectacles. It also chairs the National Commission for the Prevention of Violence and Promotion of Social Peace, which was created in 2006.
- **National Public Security Council:** body that defines the general policies of the various security forces.
- **Office of the Public Prosecutor:** carries out criminal prosecution tasks and preliminary investigations in the crimes of a public nature.
- **Human Rights Ombudsman:** subsidiary body of the Assembly since 1993 in charge of protecting the population against the actions and omissions of the Public Sector.
- **Costa Rican Drugs Institute:** part of the Office of the President, it was created in 2002 as the entity responsible for carrying out prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration policies, as well as policies against drug trafficking and assets linked to drug trafficking and related activities.

Principal Actors



Sources: Decreto que Crea la Comisión Nacional para la Prevención de la Violencia y la Promoción de la Paz Social, Decreto Ejecutivo N° 33149-06/07/2006. Decreto Ejecutivo que Crea el Ministerio de Seguridad Pública, N° 5482 12/24/1953. Acuerdo que Adscribe Dependencias de Guardia Civil a Seguridad Pública, N° 57- 06/09/1954. Ley General de Policía, N° 7410 - 05/26/1994. Decreto que Determina los Ministerios a que pertenecen diversas fuerzas de policía, N° 23427-07/15/1994. Reforma integral Ley sobre estupefacientes, sustancias psicotrópicas, drogas de uso no autorizado, actividades conexas, legitimación de capitales y financiamiento al terrorismo, N° 8204-01/11/2002. Ley de Reforma LOPJ para Crear el Organismo de Investigación Judicial, N° 5.229 - 07/09/1973. Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico 2013. Websites of the institutions mentioned.

Security Institutions and Guidelines

The Chinchilla administration (2010-2014) adopted as one of its major challenges “defeating crime, violence and impunity”. To this end, a **National Development Plan** was developed that placed public security as one of its four pillars and stated the presence of organized crime and its effects on democratic governance as one of the main causes of insecurity. The POLSEPAZ policy and the **Comprehensive Prevention Plan** act as guidelines for interpreting the various institutional and legal

and policy changes that seek to promote a concept linked to human security.

In this sense, the political definitions in Costa Rica allude to the rejection of the “iron fist” (mano dura) policies and their replacement by a proposed approach that combines repressive and preventive policies (expressed as a comprehensive response). This concept has been rooted in past administrations that have led the country, but a clear emphasis is notable in the current period.

National Development Plan 2011-2014 “Maria Teresa Obregón Zamora”

Second pillar of action: Citizen Security and Social Peace

Challenges: Reduction of the growth in crime rates; improvement of the security perception and the image of the Public Force.

Commitment for a permanent and growing financing of the security sector.

Comprehensive and Sustainable Citizen Security Policy and the Promotion of Social Peace - POLSEPAZ

Increased community participation; victim attention; increasing State capacities.

National Plan for the Prevention of Violence and the Promotion of Social Peace 2011-2014

Special protection to children, youth, adolescents and families. Increased local government capabilities. Communication. Firearms problem.

Costa Rica has intensively developed the production of reports and information as well as the computerization of registration procedures and systems in different institutions that host plans and programs related to security. This has increased the transparency and reliability of information.

PREVENTION

Ministry of Justice and Peace

- General Directorate for the Promotion of Peace and Citizen Coexistence (DIGEPAZ)
- National Directorate for Alternate Conflict Resolution (DINARAC)
- Public Space Control Commission
- National Commission for the Prevention of Violence and the Promotion of Social Peace (CONAPAZ)

PUBLIC ORDER AND INTELLIGENCE

Ministry of Security

- Public Force
- Coast Guard
- Aerial Surveillance
- Drug Control Police

Presidency

- National Security and Intelligence Directorate
- Special Intervention Unit

Ministry of Interior and Police

- Professional Migration Police

Ministry of Justice and Peace

- Penitentiary Police

INVESTIGATION

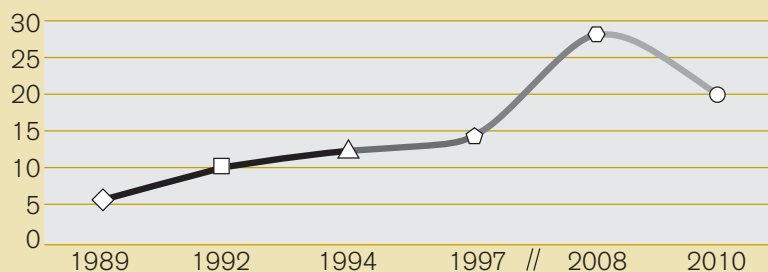
Judicial Branch

- Judicial Investigation Organism
- Office of the Public

The Perception of Insecurity

Many governments in Latin America resist recognizing the effects of the perception of insecurity on the everyday actions and decisions of the population. The Costa Rican government departed from this in its initial diagnosis through recognition that the perception of insecurity is an element that shapes the political reality, and established an improved perception of the security situation as one of the central elements of its plans (along with the effective reduction of crime rates and improving the work of the police).

Homes that have suffered some form of victimization (1989 - 2010)*



* Types of victimization: robbery and different types of assault, aggression and similar acts.

The Municipal Level

There are 81 municipalities (cantons) in Costa Rica.

The Ministry of Justice and Peace carries out the Networks Together for Coexistence program, within which the Local Citizen Security and Coexistence Plans are generated with the participation of the local population. In 2013 plans were generated in 9 cantons. This program was supported by international cooperation funds tied to the Millennium Development Goals.

A law has been proposed that would strengthen the municipal police. It is estimated that there are about 1,000 municipal police in different municipalities which are financed by the municipal budget (which must be approved by the General Accountant of the Republic). By mid-2013, no agreements had been reached for it to be passed. Resistance to a law that would regulate each municipality having its own police force range from questions about what kind of education and training they should have to the forms of control that would exist.

Sources: Government of Costa Rica, Plan Nacional de Desarrollo 2011-2014 and *Informe de Labores de Gobierno, Alocución a la Asamblea Legislativa*, May 1st, 2013. National Institute of Statistics and Census and UNDP, *La victimización en Costa Rica según los resultados de la Encuesta Nacional de Hogares* (1989, 1992, 1994, 1997, 2008 and 2010).

The legal framework

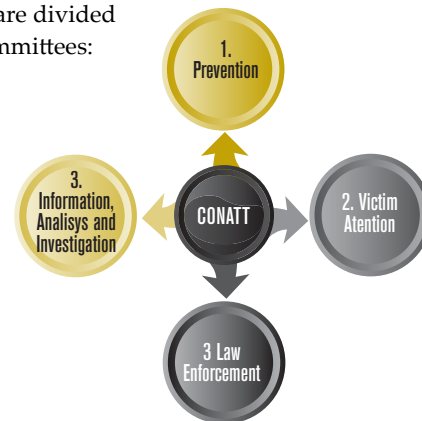
- *Partido Liberación Nacional (PLN)*
- *Partido Unidad Social Cristiana (PUSC)*
- *Partido Acción Ciudadana (PAC)*
- *Partido Movimiento Libertario (PML)*
- *Partido Frente Democrático (PFD)*
- Others

Composition of the Assembly	Laws	Presidency, period and government party
	May 1994 – May 1998: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Police Law (N° 7410 – 05/30/1994) - Organic Law of the Public Prosecutor's Office (N° 7442 – 11/25/1994) - Arms and Explosives Law (N° 7530- 08/23/1995) - Youth Criminal Justice Law (N° 7576 - 04/30/1996) - Law against Domestic Violence (N° 7586 - 05/02/1996) - Criminal Justice Code (N° 7594 – 06/04/1996) - Law on Alternate Conflict Resolution and Promotion of Social Peace (N° 7727 – 01/14/1998) 	José María Figueres Olsen (May 1994 – May 1998) PLN
	May 1998 – May 2002: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law on the Agreement with the United States to Reduce the Illegal Trafficking of Narcotics (N° 7929 – 10/06/1999) - Law Creating the National Coast Guard Service (N° 8000 – 05/24/2000) - Law Strengthening the Civil Police (N° 8096 – 03/15/2001) - Law Creating the National Program of Education against Drugs (N° 8093 - 03/23/2001) - Law Declaring December 1st as Abolition of the Army Day (N° 8115 – 08/28/2001) - Law on Narcotics and Related Activities (N° 8204 - 01/11/2002) 	Miguel Ángel Rodríguez Echeverría (May 1998 – May 2002) PUSC
	May 2002 – May 2006: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law Prohibiting Anti-personnel Mines (N° 8231 – 04/02/2002) - Law Regulating Private Security Services (N° 8395 – 12/01/2003) - Migration and Foreign Persons Law (N 8487 – 11/22/2005) - Law Creating the School and Youth Police (N° 8449 – 06/14/2005) 	Abel Pacheco de la Espriella (May 2002 – May 2006) PUSC
	May 2006 – May 2010: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law Criminalizing Violence against Women (N° 8589 – 05/30/2007) - Witness Protection Law (N° 8720 - 03/04/2009) - Law against Organized Crime (N° 8754 – 07/24/2009) 	Oscar Arias Sánchez (May 2006 – May 2010) PLN
	May 2010 – May 2014: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal Persons Tax Law (N° 9024 - 12/23/2011) - Casino Tax Law (N° 9050 – 07/09/2012) - Law against Human Trafficking (N° 9095 – 02/08/2013) 	Laura Chinchilla Miranda (May 2010 – May 2014) PLN
Others to highlight prior to 1994 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law creating the General Directorate of Social Adaptation (N° 4762 – 08/05/1971) - Organic Law of the Ministry of Public Security (N° 5482 – 24/12/1973) - Organic Law of the Judicial Investigation Organism (N° 5524 – 07/05/1974) - Organic Law of the Ministry of Justice and Peace (N° 6739 – 28/04/1982) - Law of the Human Rights Ombudsman (N° 7319 – 17/11/1992) 		

National Coalition against Illegal Trafficking of Migrants and Human Trafficking (CONATT)

The Coalition was created in law in 2005 as a tool to “provide, define, coordinate and implement a plan of action to prevent, combat, punish and eradicate these actions that violate human rights, to protect victims and effectively prosecute those responsible”. In 2012 it acquired greater legal status through the Law against Human Trafficking (which is valid since its publication in February 2013). It provides a space for the different institutions and organizations that form it to work in the fight against

human trafficking and provide comprehensive care to victims. It was initially coordinated by the Ministry of Interior, Police and Public Security. In 2010 the Technical Secretariat was formed in the Ministry of Migration and Foreign Persons, a ministry which subsequently created the Management Unit on Human Trafficking and the Illicit Trafficking of Migrants. Work areas are divided into four committees:



Immediate Response Team (ERI) It's a specialised inter-institutional body for the activation of primary attention measures for victims and their dependents. The Technical Secretariat is responsible for coordinating the ERI.

CONATT consists of various State institutions, gathered at a plenary, which contribute to work on each area according to their respective functions:

- Costa Rican Social Security Fund	- Ministry of Interior, Police and Public Security
- National Rehabilitation and Special Education Fund	- Ministry of Justice and Peace
- General Directorate of Migration and Foreign Persons	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- General Transit Directorate	- Ministry of Health; Ministry of Labor and Social Security
- Intelligence and National Security Directorate	- Office of Attention and Protection to Victims of Crime
- General Prosecutor of the Republic	- Judicial Investigation Organism
- Alcoholism and Pharmaceutical Drug Dependency Institute	- National Child Welfare Agency
- Costa Rican Tourism Institute	- Technical Secretariat of the National Commission against Commercial Sexual Exploitation
- Mixed Social Assistance Institute	
- National Learning Institute	May attend, as observers, the meetings international and social organizations related to the subject.
- National Institute of Women	
- Ministry of Public Education	

Sources: General Directorate of Migration and Foreign Persons, *Memoria institucional 2011-2012. Decreto Ejecutivo que crea la Coalición Nacional contra el Tráfico Ilícito de Migrantes y la Trata de Personas*, N° 32824 – 11/08/2005. *Ley contra la trata de personas y creación de la Coalición Nacional contra el Tráfico Ilícito de Migrantes y la Trata de Personas –CONATT- N° 9095 – 02/08/2013.*

The Criminal Justice System

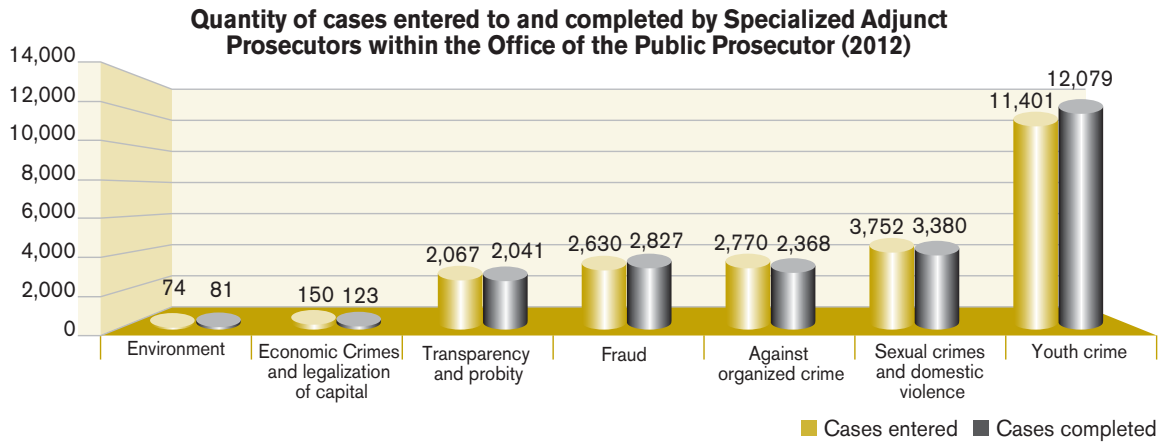
In the 1970s, a unified criminal justice system was structured. A Penal Code and a Code of Criminal Procedure (DL No. 5377) were enacted; the **Office of the Public Prosecutor** (formerly a dependent of the executive branch through the Attorney General) was incorporated, and the **Judicial Investigation Organism** was created as a dependent of the Supreme Court (DL No. 5.524). Its function is to investigate crimes, making use of forensic and legal medical knowledge. The Human Rights Ombudsman was also created within the Judicial Branch to provide a fair defense to those defendants requiring free legal aid. Auxiliary justice bodies also form part of the Judiciary: the Judicial School and the Electronic Center of Jurisprudential Information. The Judicial Branch assumed the functions of investigation, prosecution and defense of the accused.

In the 1990s, a new accusatory Criminal Procedure Code (1996) and a Judicial Reorganization Law (1997) were enacted. This new

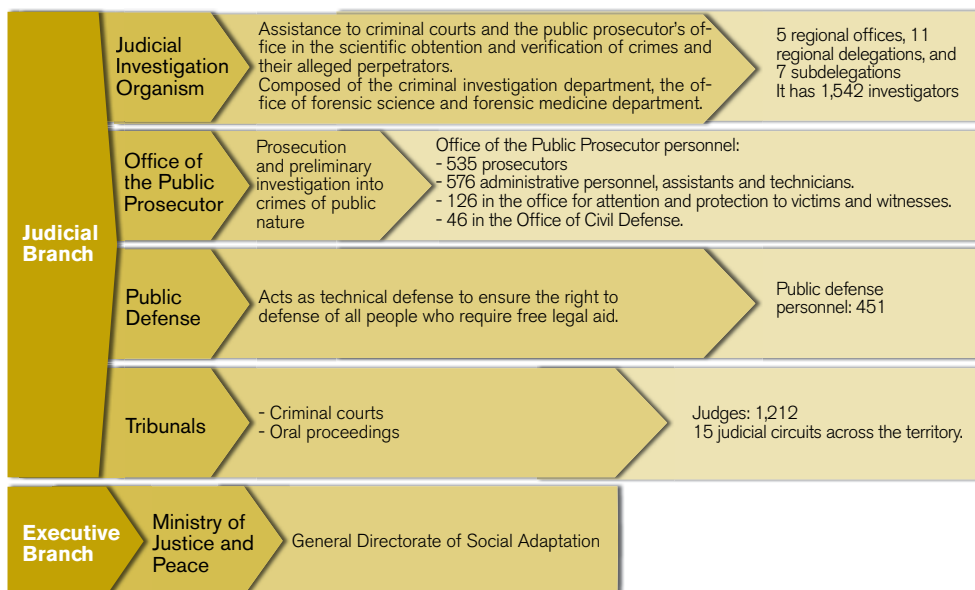
regulatory framework allowed for the adaptation of the Office of the Public Prosecutor to the adversarial system, established the distribution of existing courts in a new judicial circuit, and created the Superior Judicial Council as a subordinate body to the Supreme Court of Justice. During this decade, two other laws were passed that required the opening of specialized courts and special sections within the Judicial Investigation Organism: the Law of Transit on Public Roads and the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

There is a standing committee chaired by the General Prosecutor and composed of the Director of the Judicial Investigation Organism and two other officials from each of these entities, with the aim of coordinating functions and evaluating the work done.

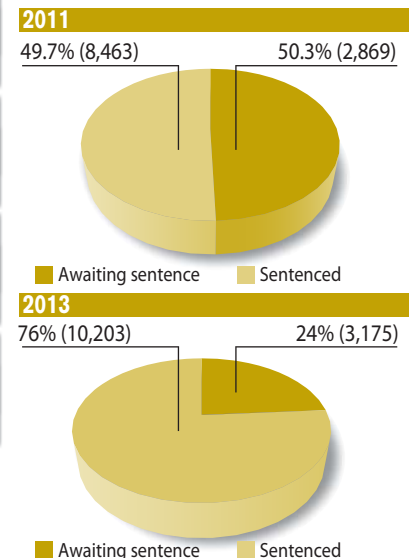
The Office of the Public Prosecutor includes adjunct, territorial and specialized prosecutors. It also has a civil victim defense office and an office for attention and protection to victims and witnesses. The average duration of the investigation phase is approximately 11 months.



The Administration of Justice and Criminal Cases



Procedural Situation of the Prison Population



Sources: Cases entered: Office of the Public Prosecutor, *Memoria Anual Fiscalía General, 2012*. Websites of the Judicial Branch, Judicial Investigation Organism and Office of the Public Prosecutor. Procedural situation: Human Rights Ombudsman, *Informe Anual de Labores 2012 – 2013* and General Directorate of Social Adaptation, *Informe de Población de II trimestre de 2011*. Personnel: information provided by the Directorate of Personnel of the Judicial Branch.

The Security Budget

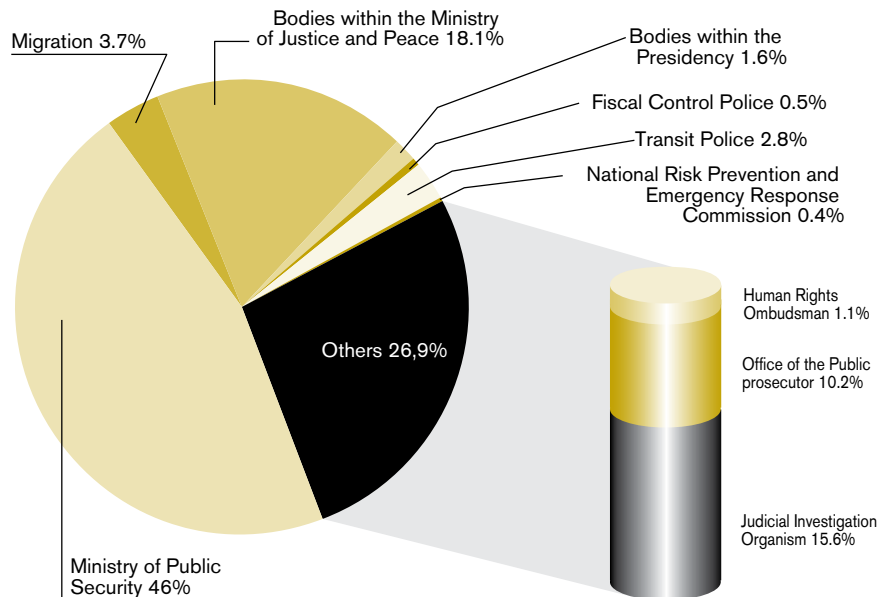
The total security budget in 2013 reached almost eight hundred and fifty seven million dollars, representing 1.8% of gross domestic product.

The Costa Rican budget presents in its functional classification the objective of "Public Order and Security", incorporating the administration of justice in general in addition to specific security resources.

The largest portion of the budget falls institutionally in the Ministry of Public Security, yet this still only represents 46% of the resources allocated to the area as other ministries are responsible for other police forces. The amount dedicated to the Judicial Investigation Organism and the Office of the Public Prosecutor is significant, reaching 25.8% between them.

Ministry of Public Security		
Public Force	310,266,628	36.2
Drug Control Police	10,314,614	1.2
National Coast Guard Service	16,530,872	1.9
National Aerial Surveillance Service	16,447,484	1.9
National Police School	11,634,935	1.4
Administrative management	29,440,353	3.4
Ministry of Interior and Police		
Migration and Foreign Persons control	31,622,558	3.7
Ministry of Justice and Peace		
Promotion of peace and citizen coexistence	1,161,553	0.1
Penitentiary management	147,556,983	17.2
Administrative management	6,308,644	0.8
Office of the President		
Special Intervention Unit	2,491,396	0.3
Intelligence and National Security Directorate	6,066,494	0.7
Costa Rican Drug Institute (ICD)	4,890,357	0.6
Finance Ministry		
Fiscal Control Police	4,600,075	0.5
Ministry of Public Works and Transport		
Transit Police	23,741,117	2.8
Judicial Power		
Judicial Investigation Organism	133,455,773	15.6
Office of the Public Prosecutor	87,327,079	10.2
Human Rights Ombudsman		
	9,589,553	1.1
Office of the President		
Nat. Com. for Risk Prevention and Emergency Response (CNE)	3,405,117	0.4
Total Security Budget (2013)*		
	US\$ 856,851,583	

SECURITY BUDGET, 2013 (US\$)



Special Taxes for Security

In November 2012 the Casinos Tax Law came into force. Revenue from the taxes outlined in the law is intended to fund public security programs and is exclusively for investment into the infrastructure of penitentiary centres and maintenance of police equipment within the Ministry of Public Security. The estimated budget for 2013 is US\$2 million dollars.

The legal persons tax law (effective from April 2012) establishes that 95% of the proceeds are allocated to the Ministry of Public Security for citizen security and programs to combat crime, 5% to the Ministry of Justice and Peace for tax management through the National Register and to support the General Directorate of Social Adaptation. In 2012, total revenue was US\$44,589,894.

With the increase of crime in banana producing areas, it was determined that 0.03% of every dollar established in the tax on banana exports will be destined to citizen security in the areas surrounding banana plantations. Through the proceeds in 2012, this figure represented just over US\$2,000.

The 2013 security budget is equivalent to 1.8% of GDP or 6.8% of the overall State budget.

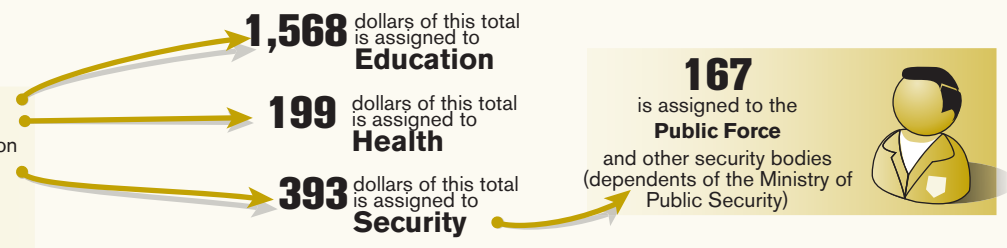
The Ministry of Public Security received a loan of **US\$ 4,835,762** from the European Union for its 2013 budget.

* In current US\$ at the exchange rate of 508.47 Colones per dollar according to the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, 2013.

Distribution of Tax Revenue

Tax revenue for 2012 was **US\$ 5,981,034,807**

On average, each economically active member of the population (EAP) contributes **2,741** dollars each year.



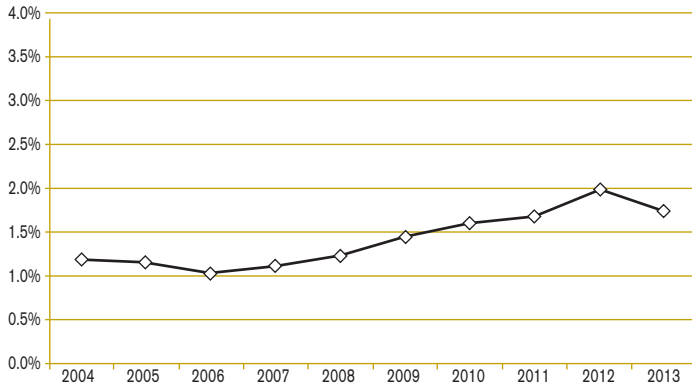
Sources: Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico 2013. Special Taxes and Tax Revenue: Finance Ministry, Estados Financieros, Liquidación 2012; General Accounting Office of the Republic, Ingresos corrientes del presupuesto ordinario del Gobierno de la República para el 2013; Ley de Impuesto a Casinos y Empresas de enlace de llamadas a apuestas electrónicas, N° 9050 - 07/09/2012; Ley de Impuesto a las Personas Jurídicas, N° 9024 - 12/23/2011; Decreto Ejecutivo N° 34028 - 09/29/2007. EAP: National Institute of Statistics and Census, Encuesta Nacional de Hogares, 2012. GDP and Exchange Rate: World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, for each considered. All data is expressed in current US dollars.

Evolution of the Security Budget

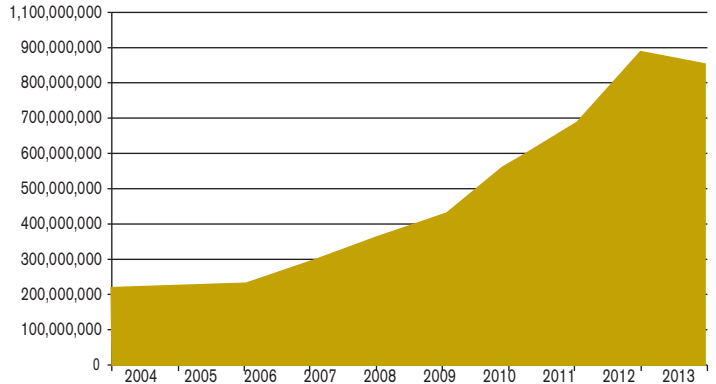
In recent years there has been an increase in the budget assigned to security. This growth is also reflected when analyzing the security budget in relation to GDP. Growth was much higher than the increase in overall State resources: while the latter grew by 158%

between 2004 and 2013, the security budget increased by 286%, with even greater growth rates seen for some institutions in the area, such as the Office of the Public Prosecutor, which recorded budget growth of 380%.

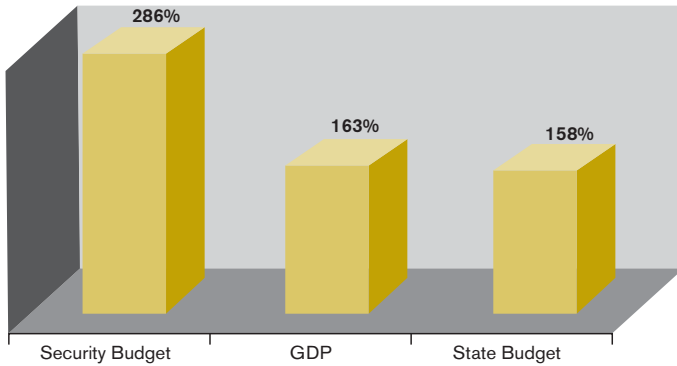
Variation in Budget Assignments, 2004-2013 (%)



Security Budget (current US\$), 2004 - 2013



Comparative Growth (2004 - 2013, in current US\$)



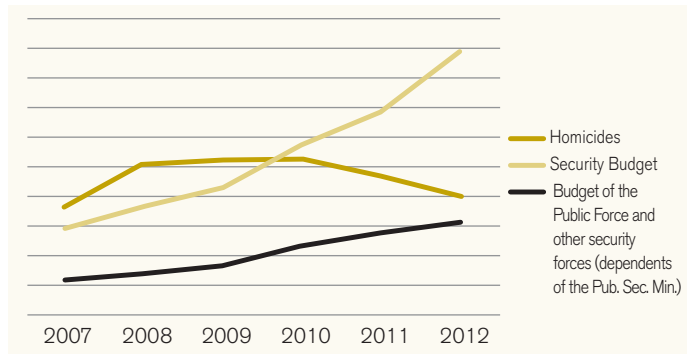
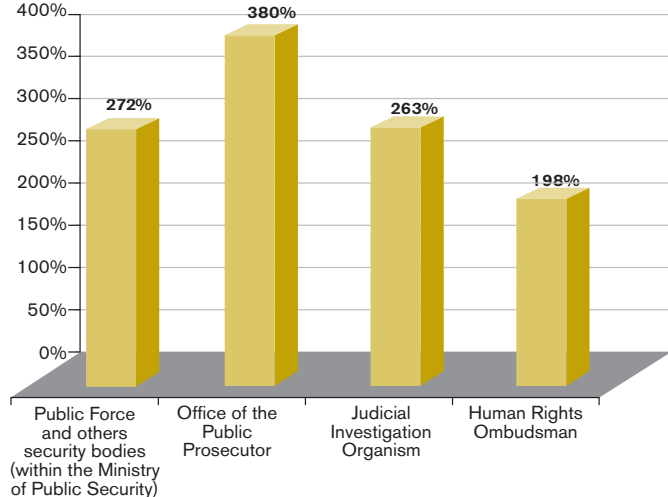
Year	Homicides	Security Budget	Budget of the Public Force*
2007	369	293,750,991	123,005,042
2008	512	366,426,037	144,984,583
2009	525	425,017,891	166,756,314
2010	527	571,435,408	234,113,016
2011	474	682,733,435	279,538,965
2012	407	890,418,490	315,305,503

*And other security forces (dependents of the Pub. Sec. Min.)



20,704
Public Force and other security forces personnel

Variation in Budget Assignments, 2004-2013 (%)



Sources: Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico from 2004 to 2013. GDP and Exchange Rate: World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, for each year considered. All figures are expressed in current US dollars. Homicides: *Homicidios dolosos ocurridos en Costa Rica durante el 2012*, Judicial Investigation Organism.

Budget and Institutions

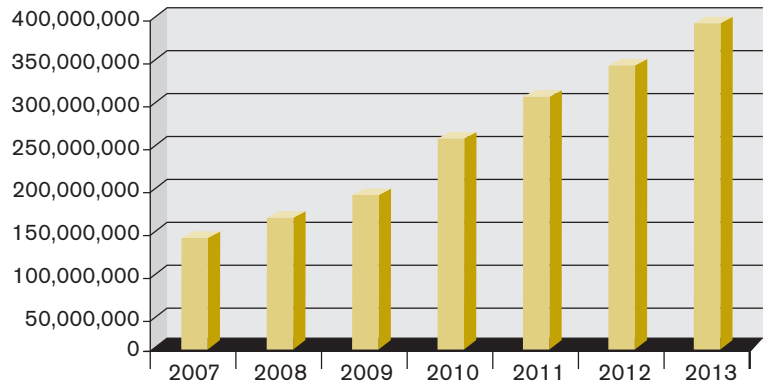
The budget in current dollars allocated to the Ministry of Public Security has increased steadily in recent years. This is also due to the resources that are allocated to it through new taxes imposed by law.

On average, 92% of the Ministry's budget corresponds to the Public Force and other security forces under its leadership.

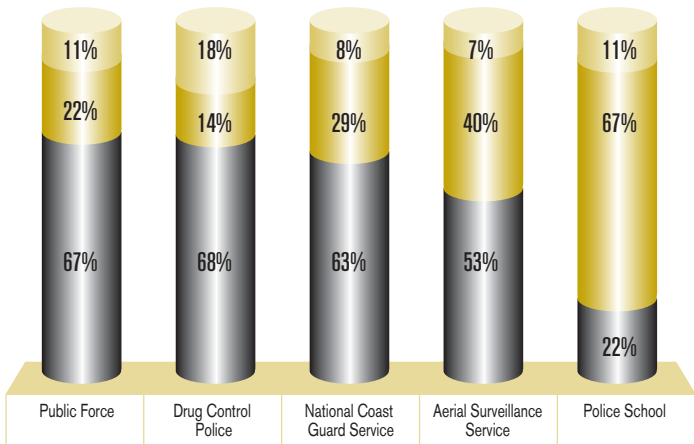
The resources assigned to the Ministry of Public Security through the taxes imposed on legal persons was US\$42,360,400 in 2012.

While a large part of the growth in recent budgets assigned to security institutions is related to current expenditure (including operations), the 11% available for investment in the Public Force in 2013 stands out.

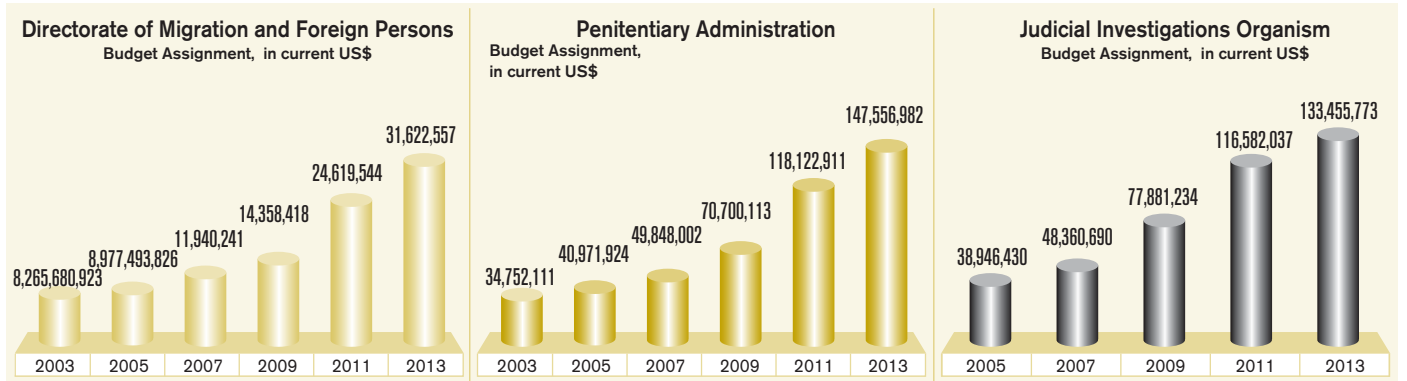
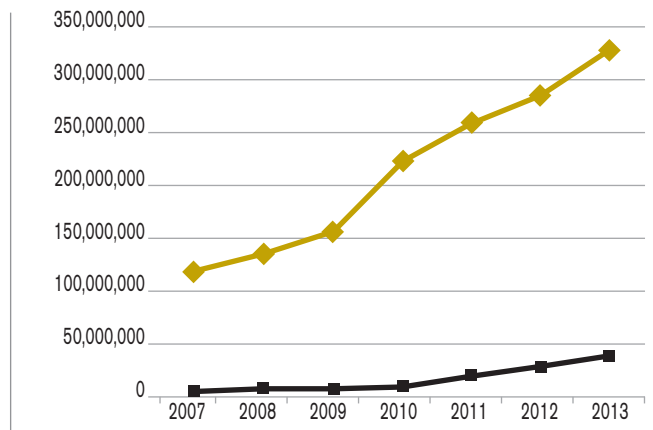
Evolution of the Budget Assigned to the Ministry of Public Security (in current US\$)



Distribution of the Budgets Assigned to the Public Force and other Law Enforcement Bodies within the Min. of Public Security, 2013



Current and Capital Expenditure within the Budgets Assigned to the Public Force and other Law Enforcement Bodies within the Min. of Public Security (current US\$)



Sources: Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico 2003 to 2013. Ministry of Finance, Estados Financieros, Liquidación 2012. General Accountant of the Republic, Ingresos corrientes del presupuesto ordinario del Gobierno de la República para el 2013. The value taken for the dollar corresponds to the exchange rate according to the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, for each year considered. All figures are expressed in current US dollars.

Prevention Programs

According to the Organic Law of the Ministry of Justice and Peace (that until 2009 was the Ministry of Justice), it should function as a liaison between the Executive and the Judiciary. It is the governing body of criminological policy, as well as coordinating the plans and programs related to the prevention of crime.

Its dependents are:

- General Directorate of Social Adaptation
- General Directorate of the National Registry
- General Attorney of the Republic
- The Viceminister of Peace: with the General Directorate for the Promotion of Peace and Citizen Coexistence; the National Directorate for Alternate Conflict Resolution; the Directorate of Public Spectacles and the National Commission for Violence Prevention and the Promotion of Social Peace.

The Viceministry of Peace is in charge of developing the National Plan for the Prevention of Violence and Promotion of Social Peace 2011 – 2014.

It has 7 pillars of action

Pillar 1: Special protection of children and youth, and the promotion of strong, healthy families

Protection of children and youth: activities are developed such as the live together plan with the Ministry of Education, and a strategy for those who are outside the education system, involving them in cultural activities, art, recreation, and sports. Campaigns aimed at the family as the principal unit.

Pillar 3: Communication for Peace

Communication for peace is another one of the items. It is developed through education and awareness campaigns, workshops for key stakeholders and shapers of public opinion.

Pillar 6: Violence Observatory

Elaborated by SISVI – Violence and Crime Information Center, through the judiciary, complaint offices and the police. Since 2008 it has published 10 reports on various topics, such as crime statistics or firearms. Develops a General Crime Index.

Pillar 2: Strengthening of Local Governments

Within the Networks for Coexistence project the Communities Without Fear program is developed with the support of the Spanish development fund in accordance with the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals. Local prevention committees integrated by a large number of institutional actors and led by local governments with the coordination of the mayor have been created. Thus, together with the various institutions and local management office, 10 local prevention plans were developed between 2011 and 2013. These prevention programs are linked to the security issue, and police chiefs and commissions are incorporated. Those with local plans are: San José, Limón, Santa Cruz, Moravia, Montes de Oca, Los Chiles, Heredia, La Peregrina-León, Desamparados and Palmares.

Pillar 4: Unarming the violence

Weapons represent another problematic, and within this pillar activities aimed at raising awareness amongst children in schools through the weapon-free schools program are developed.

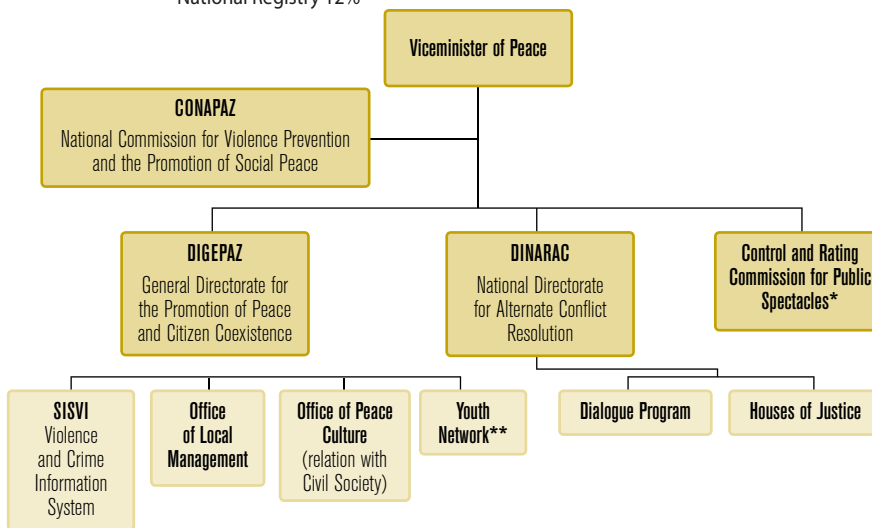
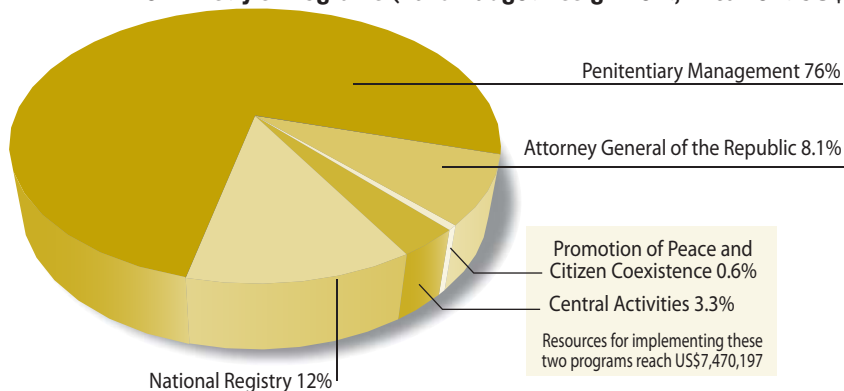
Pillar 5: Peaceful Conflict Resolution

The peaceful resolution of conflicts is another one to highlight. The “Houses of Justice” program consists of 16 community mediation centers where neighborhood conflicts are resolved. 40,000 people visit annually.

Pillar 7: Peace Network

Participation of Civil Society in cultural programs and activities.

The Ministry's Programs (2013 Budget Assignment, in current US\$)



*Regulates the access of minors to public spectacles, video games, cinema, and printed material of a pornographic nature. Its executive bodies are the National Council of Public Spectacles and the Control and Rating Commission (integrated by other institutions such as the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Culture and Youth, the National Board of Children and the National Women's Institute).

**A space for the participation of youths representing different secondary schools across the country. It seeks to foster opportunities for reflection and participation, promote projects on violence prevention in schools and maintain continuous liaison between the school and community for the dissemination of information and the implementation of projects

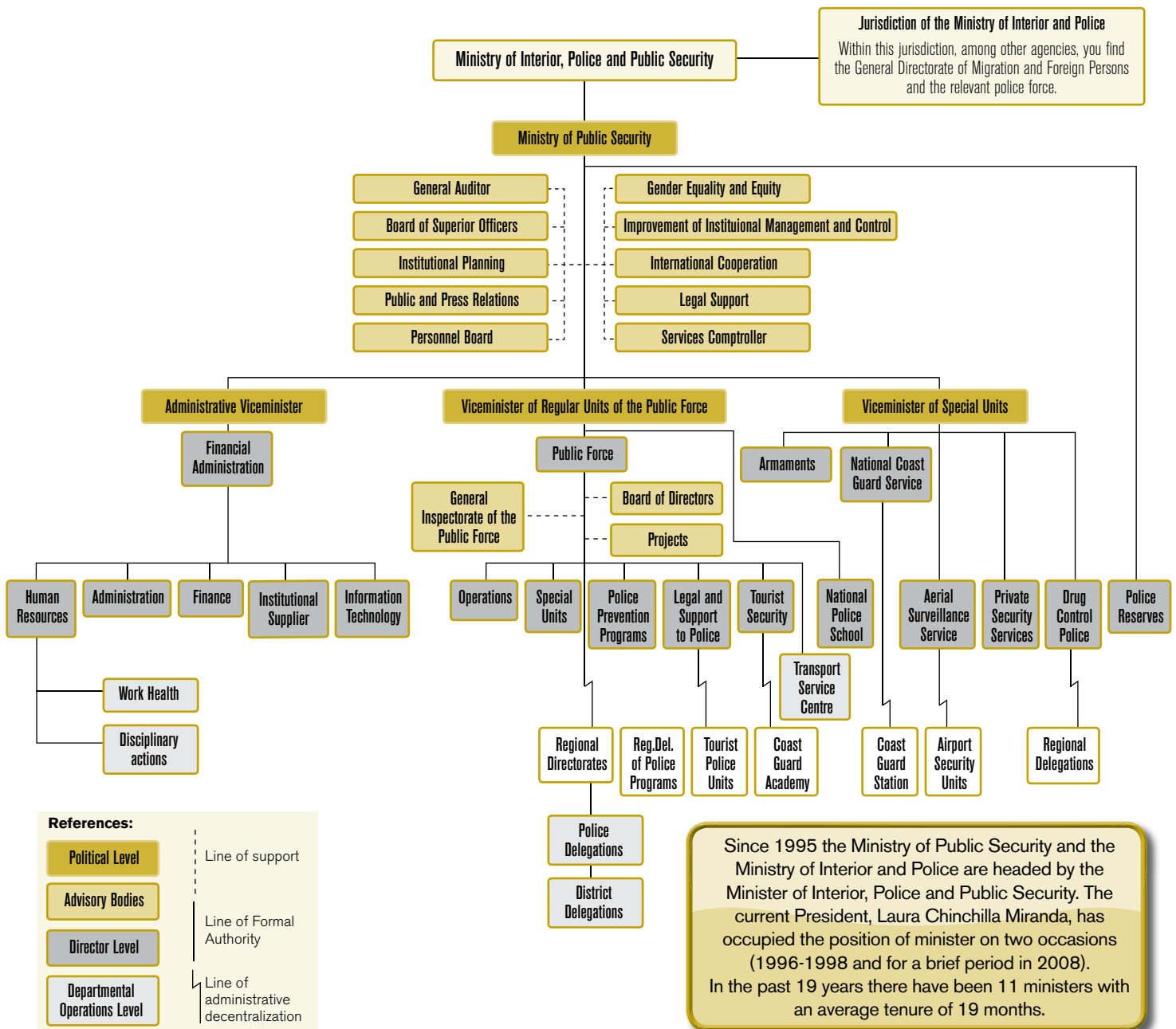
Sources: Ley Orgánica del Ministerio de Justicia. Information provided by the Viceministry of Peace. Website of the Violence and Crime Information System. Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico 2013. The value of the dollar taken corresponds to the exchange rate according to the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, 2013.

The Ministry of Public Security

The Ministry of Public Security is the State institution whose function is to preserve and maintain national sovereignty, assist in strengthening the principle of law, and ensure security, peace and public order in the country.

Historically two ministries have developed competences that include police forces: the Ministry of Interior and Police, and the Ministry of Public Security. Since 1995, both portfolios have the same Minister in charge, working in practice in a unified manner but with each maintaining its own regulations, structure and budget.

The internal structure of the Ministry of Public Security reflects the extension of the bodies under its control: one vice-minister for the Public Force dominates much of the structure, while another viceminister is in charge of the so-called Special Units (forces dedicated to surveillance and control of the national territory and specific challenges, such as the National Coast Guard Service, the Aerial Surveillance Service and the Drug Control Police). Another viceminister is in charge of administrative issues.



Sources: Ley Orgánica del Ministerio de Seguridad Pública, N° 5482 – 12/24/1973. Decreto Ejecutivo que Crea el Ministerio de Seguridad Pública, N° 5482, 12/24/1953. Acuerdo que Adscribe Dependencias de Guardia Civil a Seguridad Pública, N° 57– 06/09/1954. Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico 2013. Ley General de la Administración Pública, N° 6227 and reforms. Website of the Ministry of Public Security and Memoria Institucional 2011-2012.

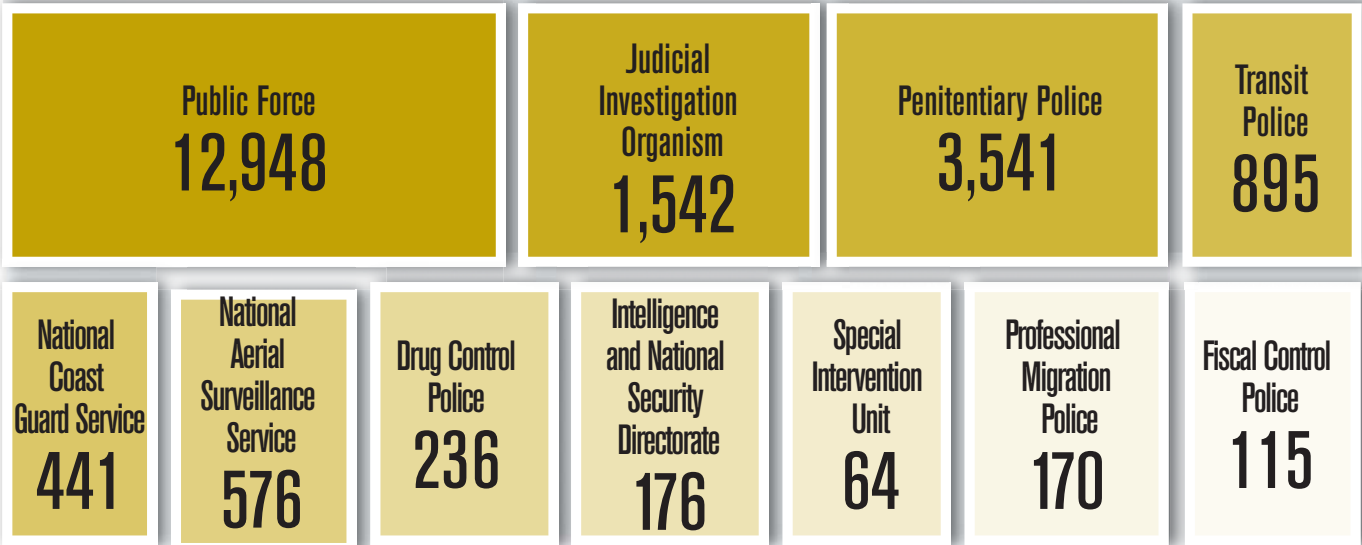
The Police Bodies

Costa Rica stands out from other countries in the region due to the multitude of different specialized police bodies pertaining to different ministries that exist in a fundamentally decentralized system. Following the abolition of the Army and its codification into the 1949 Constitution, the Civil Guard was created as a dedicated police body whose principal functions were public order and security. In the following decades it can be seen that a policy of generating bodies for different areas and in different jurisdictions was followed, with the objective of preventing that

all enforcement power was concentrated in a single institution.

The General Police Law, passed May 26th 1994, gave the country its first single legal body regulating all of the country's police forces, in addition to professionalizing the service through the development of a police career. Of these, the Public Force stands out as the largest police body, and that designated to the maintenance of public security, whilst a large dedicated body of judicial investigators located within the Judicial Investigation Organism also stands out.

TOTAL PERSONNEL



There are

2.7 Public Force police officers for every **1,000** inhabitants

1 Public Force police officers for every **3.9** km²

382 Graduates of the National Police Academy in 2012

Personnel Pyramid of the Public Force, according to rank*

Senior Officer Scale	0.03 %	Commissioner	
	0.15%	Deputy Commissioner	
	0.13%	Commander	
	Mid Level Officer Scale	0.48%	Captain
		0.75%	Chief Superintendent
		1.43%	Superintendent
	Basic Scale	0.30%	Sergeant
		0.52%	Inspector
		63.42%	Agent
		32.80%	Not identified

*Coastguard and Aerial Surveillance Services are not included.

Average Salary: Some Examples

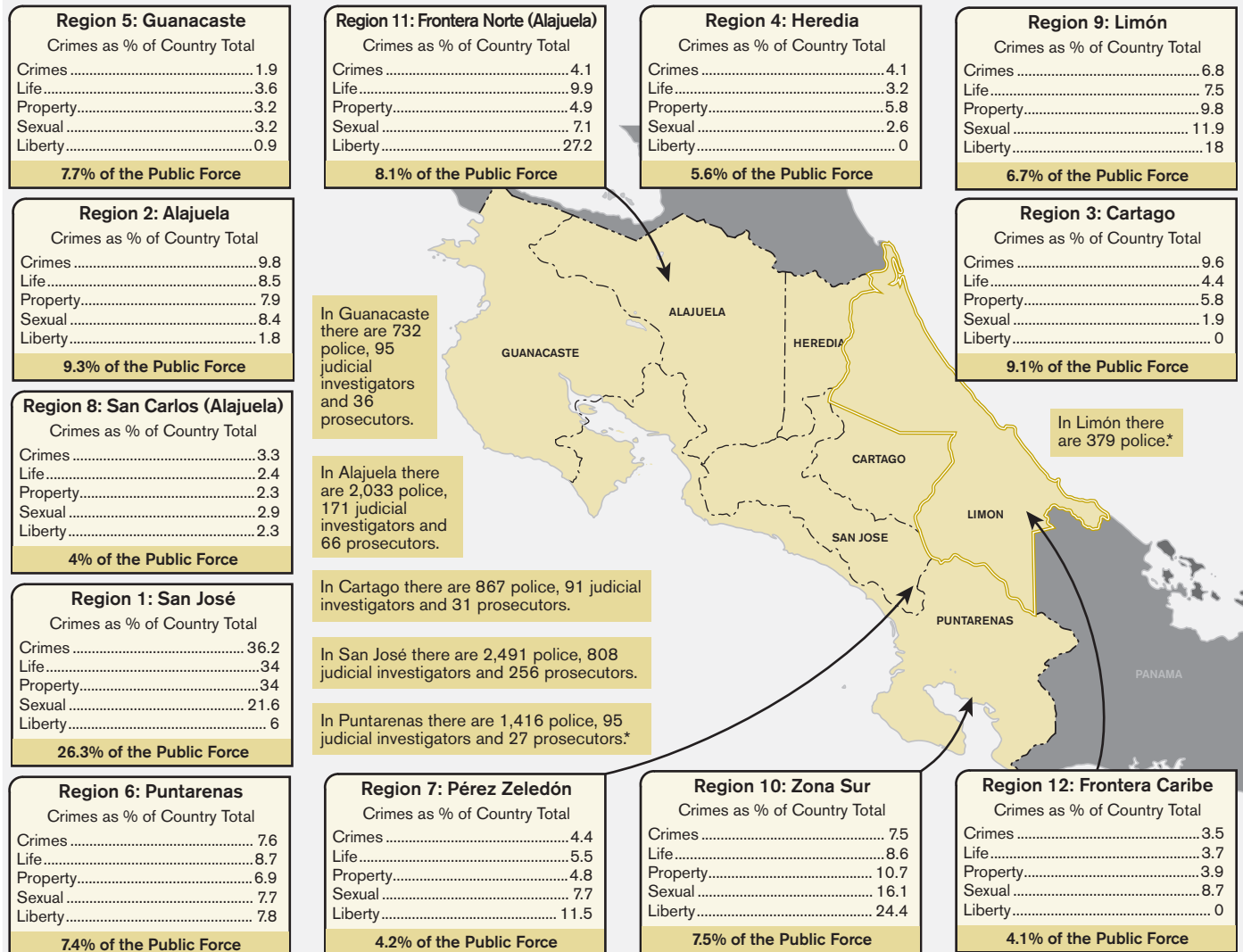
Public Force Basic Agent	US\$ 481
Penitentiary Police Basic Agent	US\$ 495
Migration Police Basic Agent	US\$ 511
Judicial Investigator	US\$ 850
Transit Police Basic Agent	US\$ 560

*Initial ranks in each force are referred to. Actual salary can vary according to time spent in the force and bonuses.

1 in every **7** members of the Public Force
4.2 members of the Coast Guard
5.3 members of Aerial Surveillance
is female

Sources: Ministry of Public Security, Interior and Police: Public Force personnel and *Memoria Institucional 2011-2012*. Information provided by the Judicial Investigation Organism. *Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico 2013*. Exchange rate: World Economic Outlook Database, IMF.

The Density of the State: Public Security Across the Territory



*There are 70 judicial investigators and 36 prosecutors in the Southern Zone, which covers part of Puntarenas, San José and Limón.

Note: the number of police correspond only to those deployed in regional directorates. Judicial investigators and prosecutors are organized into 15 judicial circuits. Some of those have been included here for an improved graphical understanding.

For every 1 Prosecutor, there are 3 Judicial Investigators and 18 Police officers from regional directorates.

Region	Police %	Crimes%	Life%	Property%	Sexual %	Liberty%
1 San Jose	26.3	36.2	34	34	21.6	6
2 Alajuela	9.3	9.8	8.5	7.9	8.4	1.8
3 Cartago	9.1	9.6	4.4	5.8	1.9	0
4 Heredia	5.6	4.1	3.2	5.8	2.6	0
5 Guanacaste	7.7	1.9	3.6	3.2	3.2	0.9
6 Puntarenas	7.4	7.6	8.7	6.9	7.7	7.8
7 Perez Zeledon	4.2	4.4	5.5	4.8	7.7	11.5
8 San Carlos	4	3.3	2.4	2.3	2.9	2.3
9 Limon	6.7	6.8	7.5	9.8	11.9	18
10 Zona Sur	7.5	7.5	8.6	10.7	16.1	24.4
11 Frontera Norte	8.1	4.1	9.9	4.9	7.1	27.2
12 Frontera Sur	4.1	3.5	3.7	3.9	8.7	0

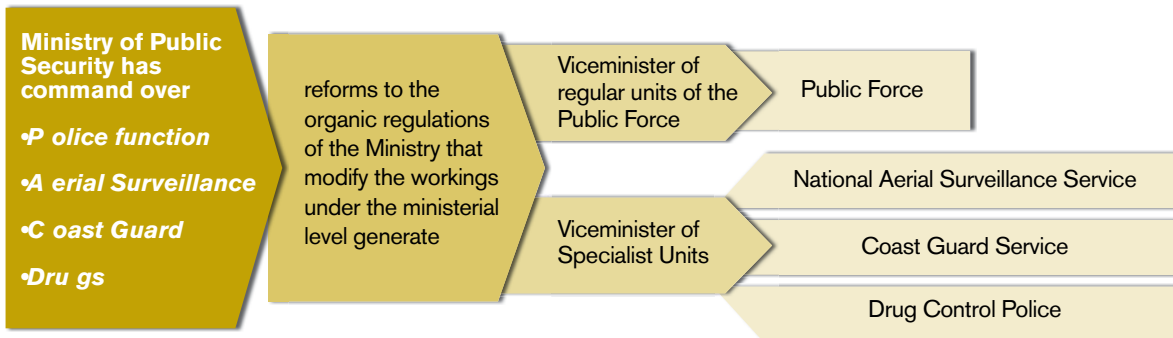
Sources: Personal Directorate of the Judiciary (investigators and prosecutors), Ministry of Public Security (Public Force in Regional Directorates). Judicial Investigation Organism, website, database and *Homicidios Dolosos Ocurridos en Costa Rica durante el 2012*.

The Public Force

The so-called Public Force is the main police force in the country and it has its background in the Civil Guard, which was created following the abolition of the army as a permanent institution in 1948. The General Police Law places it definitively within the Ministry of Public Security. The reform of this law (strengthening of the civilian police) abandoned the military designation of scales and grades and created spaces of internal control.

the main police force, the National Coast Guard, Air Surveillance Service and the Drug Control Police all within the Ministry of Public Security. In reality, and following successive reforms to the Ministry's organizational regulations, it ended up constituting a practical division that placed the police force, which is known within the country as the *Public Force* (in other countries it would be called the National Police) on one side, and on the other side the specialist units (which, given the nature of their functions, have different regulations, situations and challenges).

The Public Force – just as its laws and regulations – covers

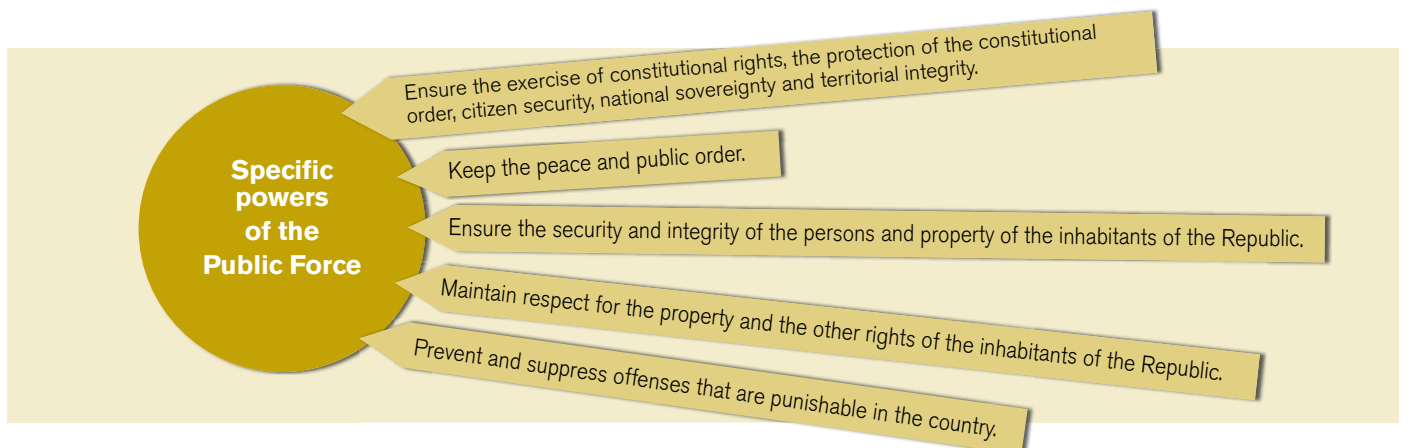


Ministry of Interior and Police
 •Professional Migration Police
 One Minister for both ministries.

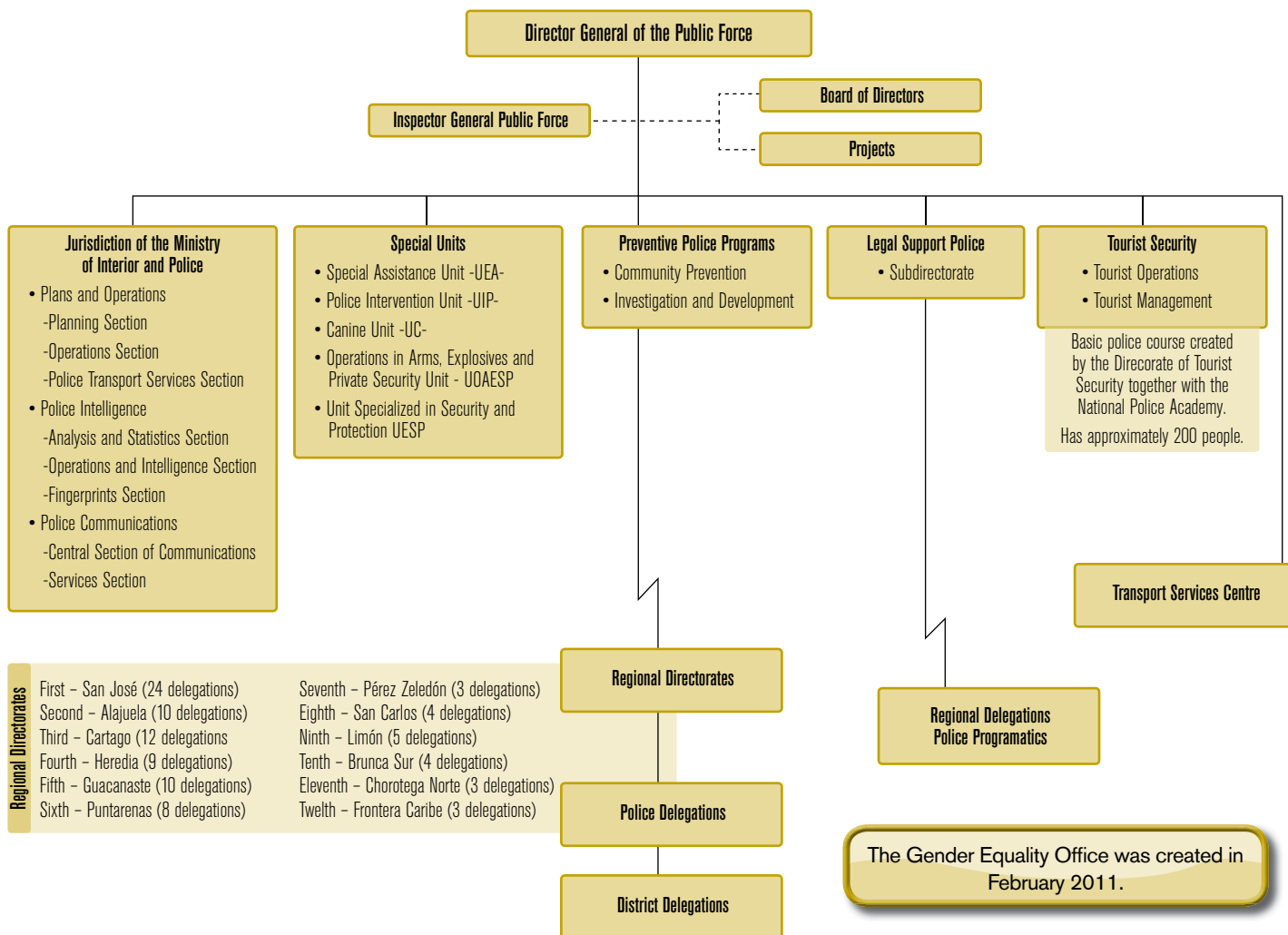
The General Police Law establishes that “the forces responsible for public security will have an eminently police character and be subordinate to the civil power. The armament and organization of these forces will be their own and appropriate for the proper performance of police duties. Members must refrain from discussing or making remarks outside the civil authority to which they depend”.
 Jurisdictional disputes between police bodies that depend on the same ministry shall be resolved by its head. Those conflicts that arise between police that have separate ministries will be solved by the President of the Republic.

The main provisions that govern the Public Force are:

General Police Law, 05/26/1994, and reforms	Law Strengthening the Civil Police 03/06/2001	Regulations for toxicology tests to members of the police forces attached to the Ministry of Public Security, 04/04/2002	Ethics Regulations for members of the police forces attached to the Ministry of Public Security 08/27/2003	Service regulations of the police forces attached to the Ministry of Public Security, last reform 2008	Regulations of Police Grades and the Promotion of Public Force personnel, last reform 2009	Police –Citizen Manual of Costa Rica 05/03/2010
---------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------



The Public Force (equivalent to the national police) fulfills central functions in the maintenance of public order and security.



The Public Force, like other State institutions, is controlled by the Comptroller General of the Republic.

Public Force Reserves It consists of civilians that can be summoned for specific cases. They are given a short induction course for agents, but are called up specifically for their professional skills, such as doctors for example. In such cases, they carry out very specific tasks and will have the same rights, duties and obligations as active members of the Public Force, but ad honorem.

Preventive programs

DARE: its goal is to prevent the use and abuse of legal and illegal drugs and other toxic substances among children and adolescents, train parents on the subject of drug abuse, and work with youth that are not at school in the same areas.

Pinta Seguro: training on prevention to children who attend educational institutions across the country to avoid being victims of theft, abuse, assault, accidents and kidnappings.

Community Security Program: designed to organize and train residents to take preventive measures to avoid becoming victims of crime and to improve the quality of life in their communities.

Commercial Security Program: trains the business sector to take preventive measures against crime and work together with their local police.

Intrafamily Violence Program: trains members of the Public Force to conduct appropriate intervention in cases of domestic violence and also sensitize communities to help prevent and report these situations.

The Inspector General of the Public Force: internal control

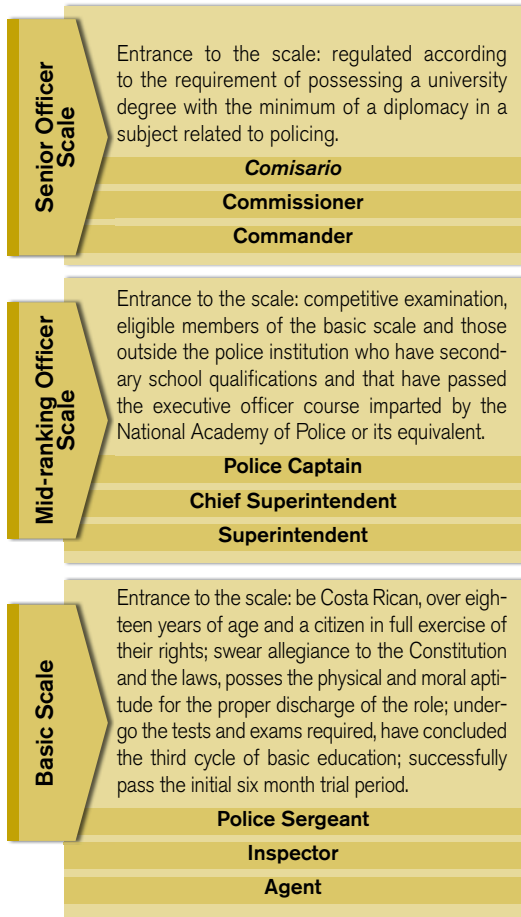
- The Internal Control Law, which applies to all public bodies, makes it mandatory to have a system of internal control.
- In the case of the police force, that function is fulfilled by the Inspector General.
- It is an advisory body attached to the General Directorate.
- Preventive and investigative functions, with the intention to attend to cases of corruption and crimes committed by police personnel.
- Divided into internal affairs and control and supervision.

Sources: Ley General de Policía, N° 7410 – 30/05/1994. Ministry of Public Security, Memoria Institucional 2011-2012. Website of the Public Force and the Ministry of Public Security.

Police Training and the Police Career

In 1964 the professionalization of the police force was begun through the creation of the **National Police Academy**, which was initially under the authority of the Office of the President. Since 1979, the National Police Academy is located within the Ministry of Public Security. It is governed by the General Police

Law No. 7410 of 1994, which was amended in April 2001 through Law No. 8096. It is formed by aspiring members of the police profession, as well as those who are already police officers but are in a process of continued training.



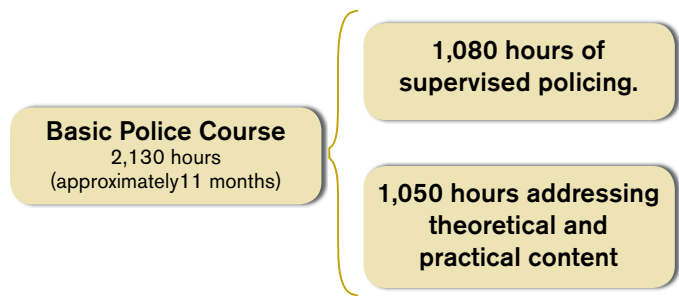
In all cases, internal promotion is governed by the relevant regulations, respecting criteria such as training, length of service and other merits and within the internal procedure for promotion. The promotion from one grade to another is carried out in a phased manner and according to the existence of vacancies at a higher level.

Incorporation

The Basic Course consists of three main areas (humanistic - 100hs. – Legal - 115hs. – and Technical Policing - 815hs. -), a supervised practise and 20hs of complementary activities.

September 2013: 241 police students entered the National School. Of that total, 28 are female and 213 male. The majority of students are from San José (53); followed by Cartago (52), Guanacaste (47), Puntarenas (35), Alajuela (24), Heredia (17) and Limón (13). Entrants of the National Police School were between 19 and 42 years of age.

2012: Incorporation of 1,302 interim police agents, 774 in new positions and 528 in vacant positions.



Public Force personnel are trained in the National Police School, including personnel from the Air Surveillance Service.

Within the School's framework, the National Coast Guard Academy provides specialized technical and police training to Coast Guard personnel. This Academy is a dependent of the Directorate of the National Coast Guard Service, but maintains academic coordination and dependence with the National Police School.

In September 2013, 191 officers, including 5 women, graduated from the Border Security Course (9 week duration- 417hs) which was imparted at the School. The Border Police specialization reopened after 14 years, and is the most popular specialized course given at the School.

Sources: Ley de Fortalecimiento de la Policía Civilista N° 8096, 03/15/2001; Ministry of Public Security, Memoria Institucional 2011-2012; Ministry of Public Security, National Police School. Informe de los resultados de la auditoría de carácter especial sobre el proyecto de construcción, equipamiento y gestión curricular de la sede permanente de la Escuela Nacional de Policía del Ministerio de Seguridad Pública, Comptroller General of the Republic, 2013.

Drug Control Police

Personnel:

236 members

2013 Budget:

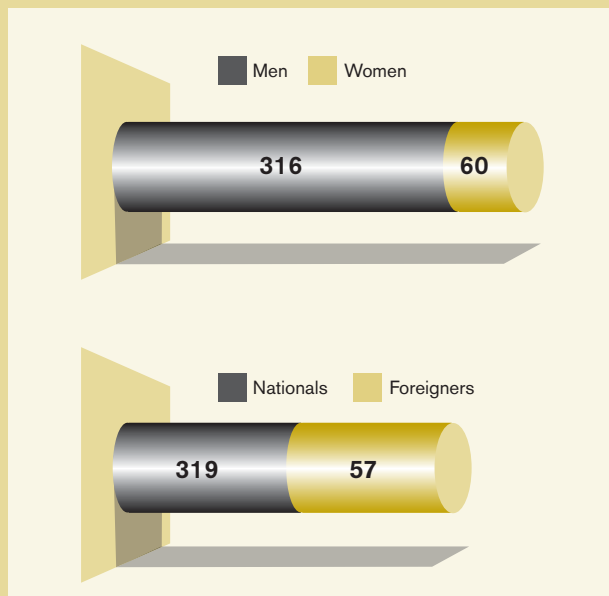
US\$ 10,314,614

Within the Ministry of Public Security

It dates back to 1970, when a 'Directorate of Narcotics' began operating within the Civil Guard. In 1992, following the merger of the anti-drug police bodies that at that time existed in various ministries, the National Drug Control Directorate was formed. Following the 1994 General Police Law it was renamed as the Drug Control Police (PCD).

It is responsible for controlling unauthorized drugs and related activities and cooperating in the prosecution of crimes in this area. Investigates crimes and produces the respective reports as well as performing seizures and police actions related to the area.

Persons Detained for Drug Trafficking, Jan-March 2013



The topics covered in the training courses for agents include: chemical precursors, identification of money traffickers, criminal prosecution policies, clandestine laboratories, and SWAT tactics.

Professional Migration Police

Personnel:

170 members

2013 Budget:

US\$ 31,622,558

Within the Ministry of Public Security

It is a specialized police force attached to the General Directorate of Migration and Foreign Persons, whose jurisdiction covers the entire national territory. It is responsible for migration supervision and control in relation to foreigners and Costa Rican nationals.

- Ensures the implementation and enforcement of the Constitution, international treaties, laws and regulations on migration.
- Performs legal and administrative resolutions in the area
- Exercises the police functions required.
- Develops an integrated border program to facilitate the exercise of immigration control.

National Coast Guard Service

Personnel:

441 members

2013 Budget:

US\$ 16,530,872

Within the Ministry of Public Security

In 1976 the Maritime Surveillance Service was created to protect marine resources in the two oceans that surround its territory. Other functions were added over time, including search and rescue, and combating smuggling and drug trafficking. In 2000, through Law N° 8.000, it was converted into the National Coast Guard Service, thus creating a more professional police unit.

It is responsible for safeguarding State sovereignty over its territorial waters, natural resources and human life, in strict compliance with law.

- Monitors and protects the State's maritime borders and adjacent coastal waters.
- Ensures the safety of shipping and port traffic.
- Develops operational requirements to rescue people or to locate lost ships.
- Assists in the protection of natural resources and the fight against illicit drug trafficking, illegal migration, arms trafficking and other illicit activities.

Training takes place at the Coast Guard Academy, which is a dependent of the National Police Academy.

Between 2011 and 2012, 14,633 security activities were carried out: 8,568 to increase maritime security and 6,065 for the conservation of natural and coastal resources.

Operational Bases:

5 on the Pacific Ocean / 2 on the Caribbean



Aerial Surveillance Service

Personnel:

576 members

2013 Budget:

US\$ 16,447,484

Within the Ministry of Public Security

Its mission is to monitor Costa Rican airspace and carry out rescue missions, such as the air ambulance service, and anti-drug operations on land and sea.

- Provides transportation within and outside the country in exceptional circumstances.
 - Coordinates and cooperates with the institutions involved in national emergency response.
- The Directorate of the Aerial Surveillance Service is located in Juan Santamaría International Airport, located in the capital, San José.

Dependents:

1 Department of Aeronautical Operations

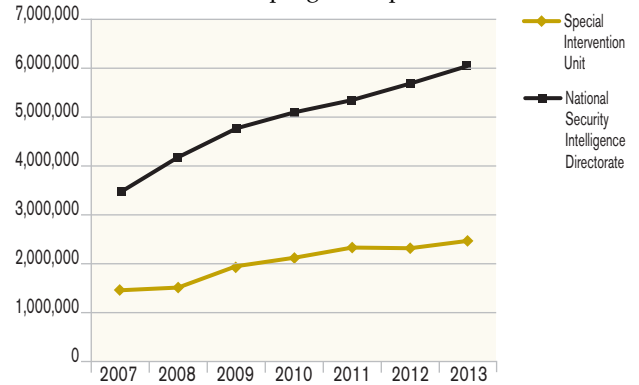
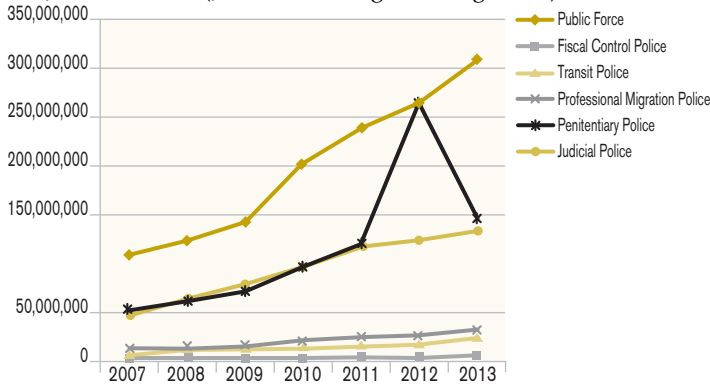
2 Department of Aeronautical Maintenance

3 Airport Security Units

Sources: Ley General de Policía, N° 7410 – 26/05/1994. Ley de Creación del Servicio Nacional de Guardacostas, N° 8.000, 24/05/2000. Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico 2013. Costa Rican Drug Institute, Boletín Estadístico, Primer Trimestre 2013. The value of the dollar taken corresponds to the exchange rate according to the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF. Website of the Ministry of Public Security and its Memoria Institucional 2011-2012.

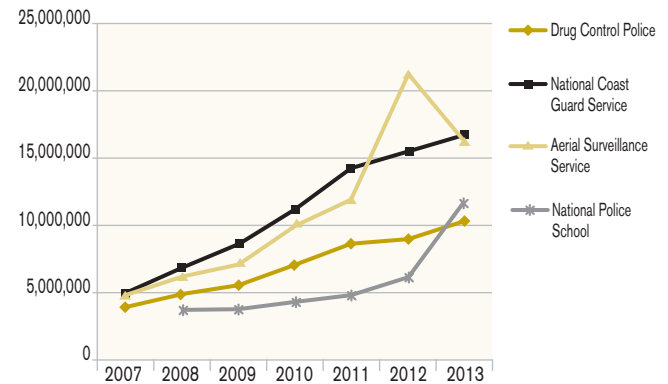
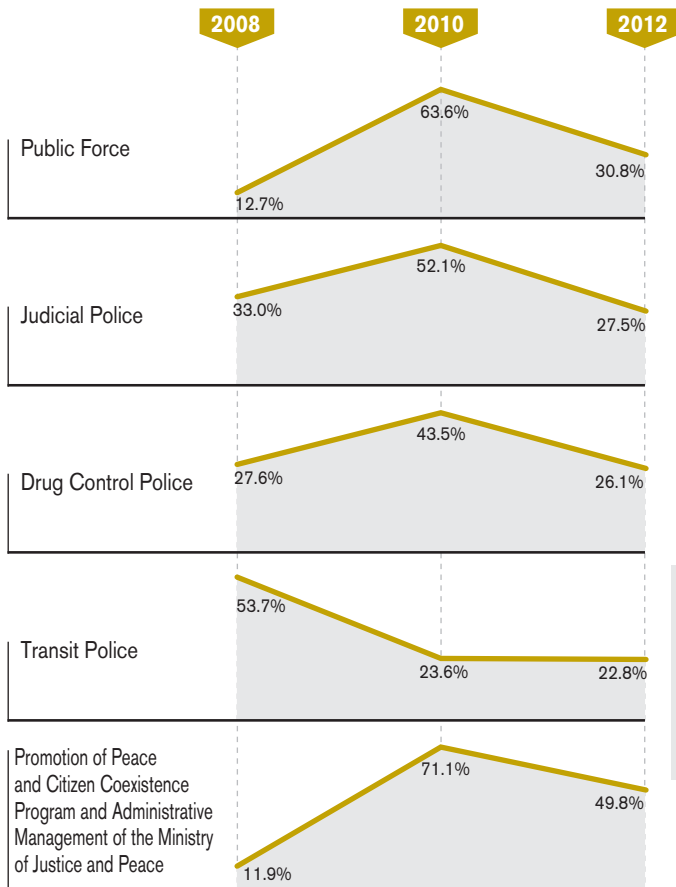
The Budget of Security Forces

Within the budget growth experienced by the security forces, the growth in that of the Public Force, the Penitentiary Police, and the Judicial Police (Judicial Investigation Organism) stand out, in addition to other investment programs specific to certain forces.



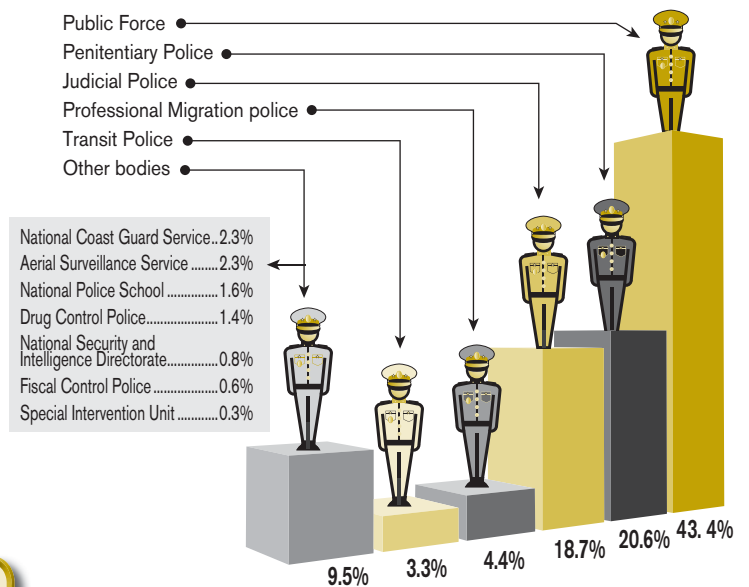
In 2012, the Penitentiary Police received more than one million eight hundred thousand dollars for equipment and infrastructure in the country's penitentiary centres.

Variation in the Resources assigned to Police Forces and Violence Prevention Programs



In 2012, more than 8 million dollars were assigned to the Aerial Surveillance Service for equipment.

Proportion of the Total Budget in 2013 assigned to Security Forces



While the increase in the Public Force's budget has been notable, the increased amount of resources allocated to violence and crime prevention programs implemented by the Ministry of Justice and Peace stands out.

As the country's principal police force, the Public Force received 43% of the resources assigned to security forces in 2013.

Sources: Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico 2013. Exchange Rate: World Economic Outlook Database, IMF. All figures are expressed in current US dollars.

Judicial Investigation Organism (OIJ)

In 1974 the Judicial Investigation Organism was created (through Organic Law N° 5.524) as an institution below the authority of the Supreme Court, and as an auxiliary justice organ that functions as an authentic judicial police. The Supreme Court is its highest administrative authority, and the body that names its senior officials. Internal control is exercised through a supervisory unit, while external control is exercised through evaluations carried out by the Judiciary.

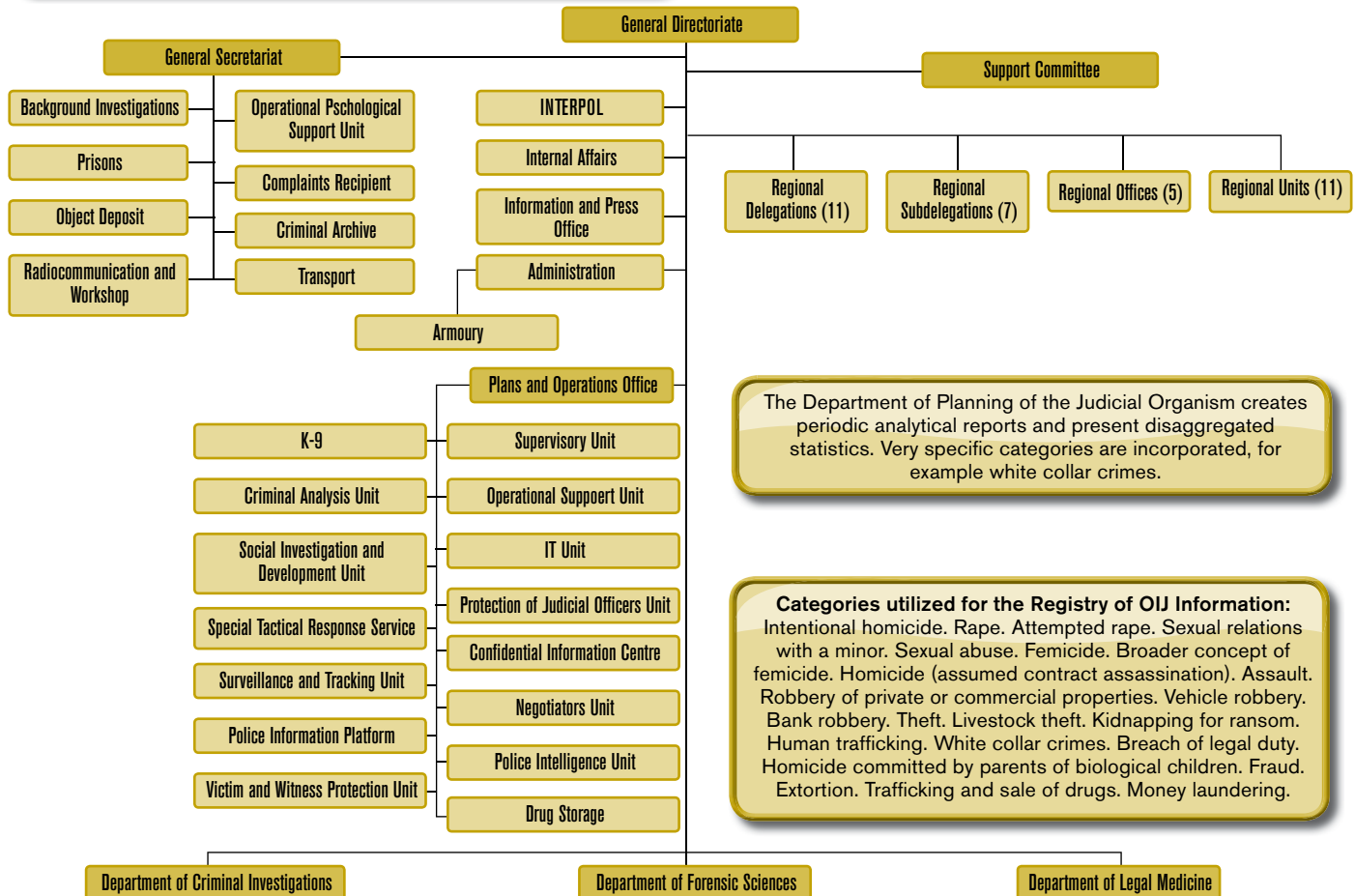
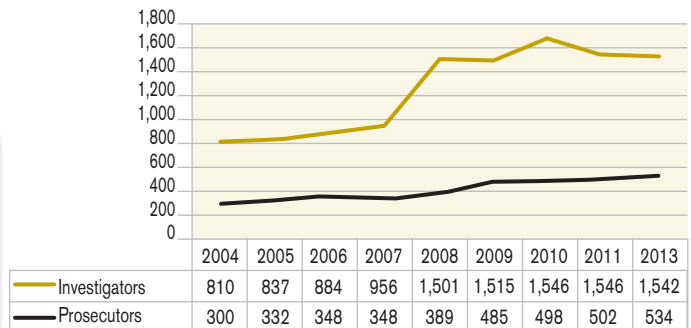
It is formed by the Criminal Investigation Department, the Office of Forensic Sciences and the Department of Legal Medicine, and it has 34 regional offices. In terms of its links with other institutions, it works together with prosecutors during the investigation process. They also have a relationship with the Ministry of Public Security although to a lesser degree. They coordinate with the Public Force in particular operations (such as raids).

The training process for investigators is carried out in the Judicial School. Applicants must have completed high school or up to the third year of university. They undergo physical and psychological tests, background and personal checks of their customs, lifestyle, and even debts. Of 100 applicants, 10 usually enter. The initial course is 6 months. The school provides other advanced courses with the same training scheme as the judicial level. One of its initiatives is to have its own Academy, which is scheduled for 2017.

Police investigators amount to 1,542 people. Technical, expert, forensic and administrative staff total 600 people.
2013 Budget: US\$ 133,455,773
Dependent of the Judiciary.

In Costa Rica criminal investigation is then led by an ad hoc body under the authority of the Judicial Branch. In addition to investigations, it produces statistics on crimes. There are no equivalent bodies in Central America, where it is usually the Office of the Public Prosecutor which carried out these functions.

Personnel of the Judicial Investigation Organism



The Department of Planning of the Judicial Organism creates periodic analytical reports and present disaggregated statistics. Very specific categories are incorporated, for example white collar crimes.

Categories utilized for the Registry of OIJ Information:
Intentional homicide. Rape. Attempted rape. Sexual relations with a minor. Sexual abuse. Femicide. Broader concept of femicide. Homicide (assumed contract assassination). Assault. Robbery of private or commercial properties. Vehicle robbery. Bank robbery. Theft. Livestock theft. Kidnapping for ransom. Human trafficking. White collar crimes. Breach of legal duty. Homicide committed by parents of biological children. Fraud. Extortion. Trafficking and sale of drugs. Money laundering.

Sources: Information provided by the Subdiretorate of the Judicial Investigation Organism and the Judiciary's Directorate of Personnel. *Ley Orgánica del Organismo de Investigación Judicial, N° 5.524. Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico 2013.* The value of the dollar taken corresponds to the exchange rate according to the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, 2013.

Other Police Bodies

Transit Police

Personnel:

895 members

2013 Budget:

US\$ 23,741,117

Within the Ministry of Public Works and Transport

The Directorate of Transit Police was created in 1979 (Road Management Law, N° 6.324) and its main function is supervising the execution of transit regulations, accident prevention and other road control measures. It is also regulated by the General Police Law and the Regulations of the Organization and Transit Authority Service (2001).

It is divided across 6 regional units and dependents:

- General Subdirectorate
- Planning Unit
- Police Legal Support Unit
- Transit Police Training School Unit
- Department of Non-conformant Resource Control and Attention
- Detained Vehicle Deposit Department
- Transit Police Operational Department
- Administrative Department

The training of personnel is carried out at the Transit Police Training School for a duration of 4 months (700 hours). Officers should complete 14 modules with content including transit legislation, police procedures, document preparation, among others.

Penitentiary Police

Personnel:

3,541 members

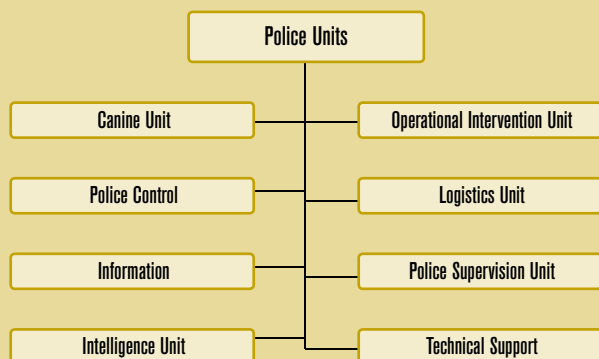
2013 Budget:

US\$ 147,556,983

Within the Ministry of Justice and Peace

The General Directorate of Social Adaptation was created in 1971 by Law No. 4.762. Later, in 1973, the Order and Discipline Regulations of Custodial Staff was emitted. With the 1994 Police Law the **Penitentiary Police** was placed in charge of monitoring and controlling all of the country's prisons and since then has been placed within the General Directorate of Social Adaptation, currently attached to the Ministry of Justice and Peace.

Organization:



Fiscal Control Police

Personnel:

115 members

2013 Budget:

US\$ 4,600,075

Within the Finance Ministry

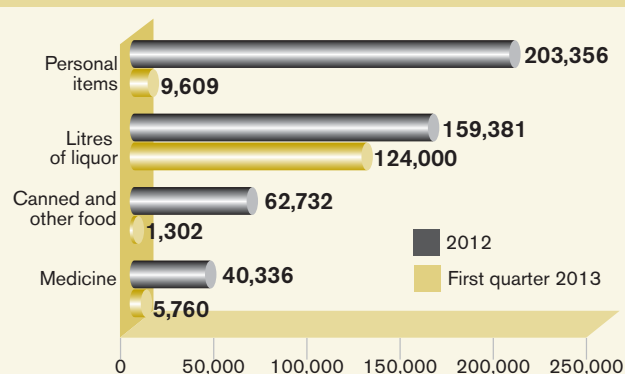
Provides prevention, investigation and inspection services to determine tax crimes and offenses in the areas of taxation, customs and finance. Its purpose is to protect the State's revenue interests.

It belonged to the Ministry of Interior and Police under the name of Fiscal Inspections. In 1994 the General Police Law adscribed it to the Ministry of Finance.

Depends on the Viceministry of Income, and is organized in a Directorate, a Subdirectorate and four Divisions.

- Intelligence: formed by the Departments of Analysis, and of Collection and Treatment.
- Operations: formed by the Departments of Investigations: of Checkpoints and Inspections.
- Legal Technician, formed by the Departments of Legal and Technical Advisory.
- Logistics and Planning

Items Decommissioned by the Fiscal Control Police



Special Intervention Unit (UEI)

Personnel:

176 members

2013 Budget:

US\$ 8,557,889

Within the Office of the President

It is specialized in high-risk counter terrorism and drug trafficking operations. Receives specialized elite training.

- Protects members of the Supreme Powers and dignitaries visiting the country.
- Disables explosives.
- Performs high-risk operations.

National Security and Intelligence Directorate

It is the President of the Republic's information organ in the area of national security.

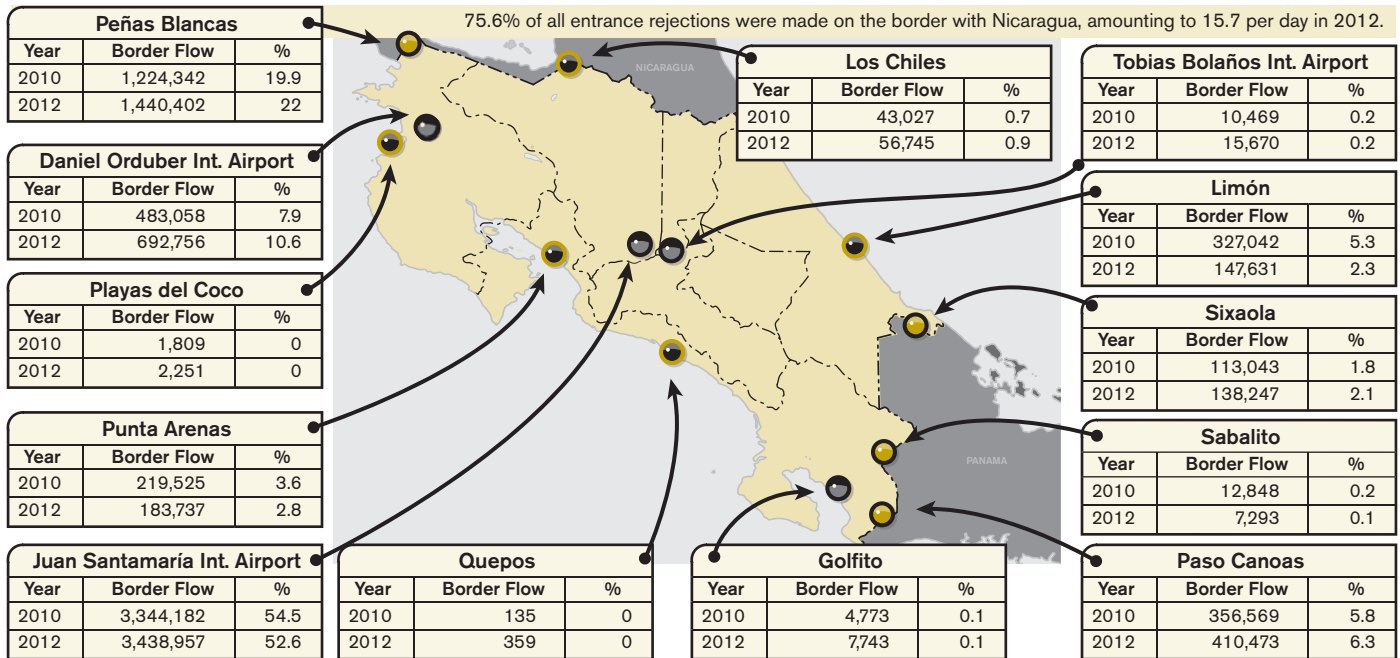
- Detects, investigates, and analyzes the information necessary to prevent incidents which involve risk to the country or its institutions.
- Coordinates with international organizations on external security issues.
- Carries out surveillance activities related to national security.
- Works in coordination with bodies located in the Judiciary to prevent or investigate crimes.

Sources: Ley General de Policía N° 7.410, Ley de Administración Vial N° 6.324. Website of the Ministry of Public Works and Transit, of the Ministry of Finance and the General Directorate of Social Adaptation. Ministry of Finance, Acciones del Ministerio de Hacienda contra el contrabando, Institutional Communication, April 12th 2013. Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico 2013. The value of the dollar taken corresponds to the exchange rate according to the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, 2013.

Border Crossings and Immigration Control

The General Law of Migration and Foreign Persons (DL 8764) names the *Directorate of Migration and Foreign Persons* (DGME) (dependent on the Interior and Police Ministry) as the executive organ responsible for migration control in Costa Rica. Other institutions, such as the Ministries of Interior and Police, Health, Education and Foreign Relations, integrate the

National Migration Council, which is an advisory body whose functions include making recommendations for migration policy and its execution. In terms of police control, the **Professional Migration Police** is a specialized body responsible for migration control, and has 170 personnel deployed across the entire territory.



Human and Migrant Trafficking: In response to a notable rise in cases of human trafficking (116 between 2009 and 2011, in comparison to 38 in the 3 years prior to 2008) Law against Human Trafficking and Creation of National Coalition against Human Trafficking and the Illegal Trafficking of Migrants (CONATT) (DL 9095 – 02/08/2013) was passed in order to frame government policies and attention to victims.

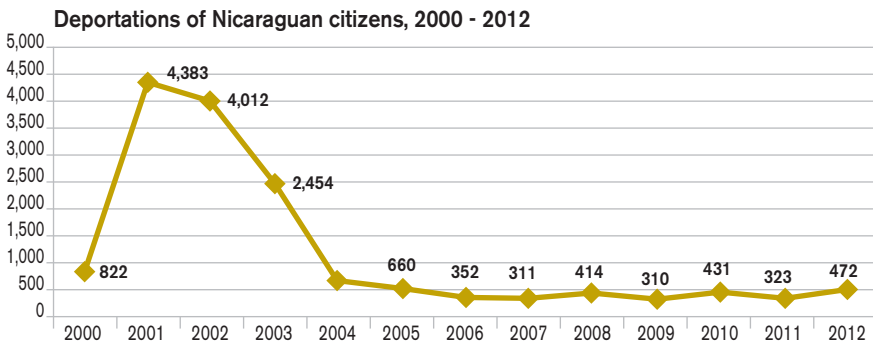
Immediate Response Team
Specialized inter-institutional body responsible for primary attention to victims, including:

- Provision of safe housing
- Health and psychological care
- Legal assistance
- Special assistance to minors.

National Fund against Human Trafficking and the Illicit Trafficking of Migrants (FONATT)
The Law established that a percentage of the exit tax (1 dollar) will be destined to FONATT, to finance and administrative and principally the operational costs involved in combating the crime.

As of 2012, **962 people** had been trained in the area, including public officials, police force members and civil society members.

Reforms to Articles 192, 193 and 376 the penal code:
Prison sentences of 10 and 15 years for taking a minor or disabled person from their parents or legal guardians, or from 20 to 25 when it is those persons who abduct them.



In the context of migration and the cross border flows of Costa Ricans, the situation of Nicaraguan citizens (who represent the majority of those rejected at border posts and those who are deported) stands out. It is also interesting to observe the nationalities of those who remain on the list of major deportations: between 2000 and 2012, the list is headed by Colombia (1,297 persons), followed by Peru (351), Panama (285), Ecuador (269), Dominican Republic (229), United States (220), and Mexico and China (177 each).

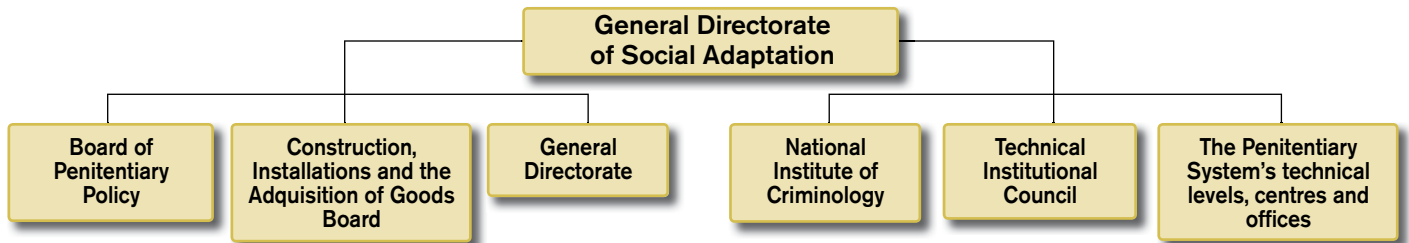
Sources: Directorate of Migration and Foreign Persons; Seguridad Humana, Migración y Desarrollo: Informe de Rendición de cuentas Período 2011 y 201. Ley Contra la Trata de Personas y creación de la Coalición Nacional contra el Tráfico Ilícito de Migrantes y la Trata de Personas (CONATT).

The Penitentiary System

The **General Directorate of Social Adaptation**, within the Ministry of Justice and Peace, is the agency responsible for administering the National Penitentiary System. It was created by DL 4762 of May 8th, 1971, and is governed according to the Organic and Operational Regulations, elaborated in 1993 and last reformed in 2005.

The system has a holding capacity of 8,670 people. In April 2013 the General Directorate had 13,378 prisoners in their custody.

In the Directorate of Social Adaptation there are approximately 400 professionals dedicated to the distinct areas of attention, which include:



The custody and management of prisons is headed by the Penitentiary Police, which has a staff of 3,541 personnel and is attached to the Ministry of Justice and Peace.

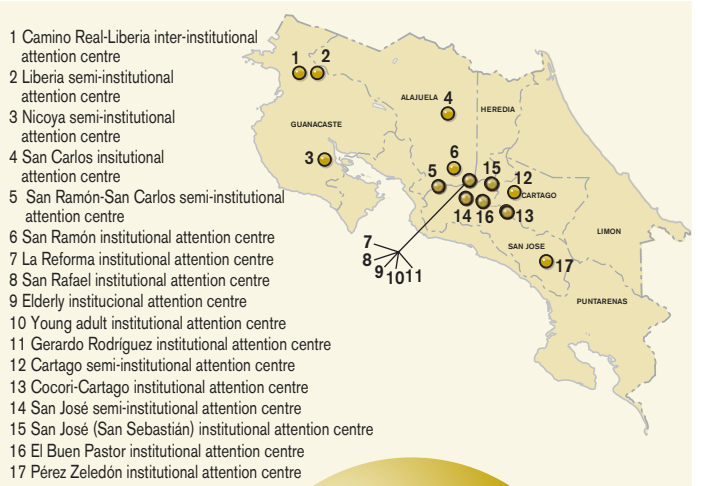
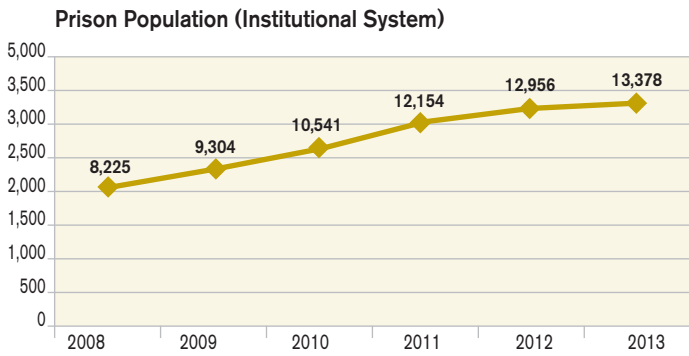
Penitentiary Police Training: The Penitentiary Police Basic Course provides the basic theoretical and practical knowledge for the efficient and competent performance of penitentiary security through a comprehensive training process.

Covers:

- 2 month basic course.
- 1 month of practical tutorials.
- 6 month trial.

- Bodies involved in recruitment:**
- The Directorate of Human Resources and Institutional Management.
 - The National School of Penitentiary Police Training.
 - The Penitentiary Police Directorate, where applicants carry out the practical element during the trial period. The Penitentiary Police Personnel Council approves the lists of eligible staff.

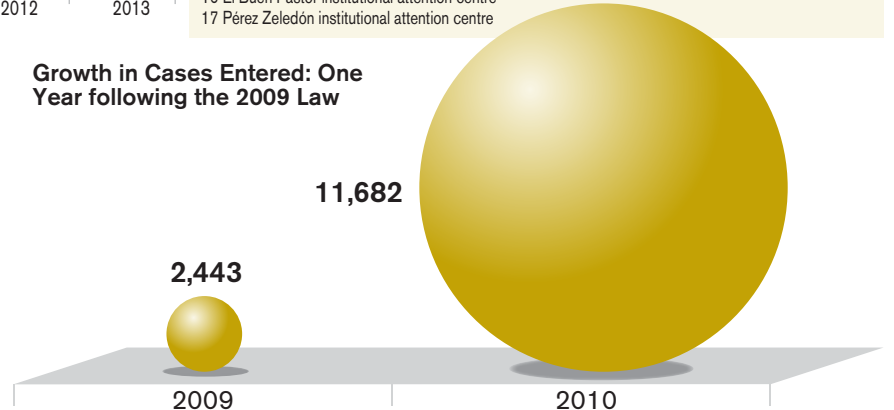
There are 17 penitentiary centers in the country. They are given the name of attention centers and have two distinct types: institutional (closed, permanent reclusion) and semi-institutional (open system).



Attention and Protection to Victims of Crime

Within the area of the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Office of Attention to Victims of Crime has offered this service since 2000, and in particular since 2004 when, due to a growth in the number of threats to judicial officers, witnesses and victims, the Judiciary and the Ministry of Public Security signed a cooperation agreement by which the Public Force provides protection in life-threatening cases. Approval of Law 8.720 – Protection of Victims, Witnesses and other subjects involved in the criminal process – produced a legal framework that currently dictates the Office's work.

Growth in Cases Entered: One Year following the 2009 Law

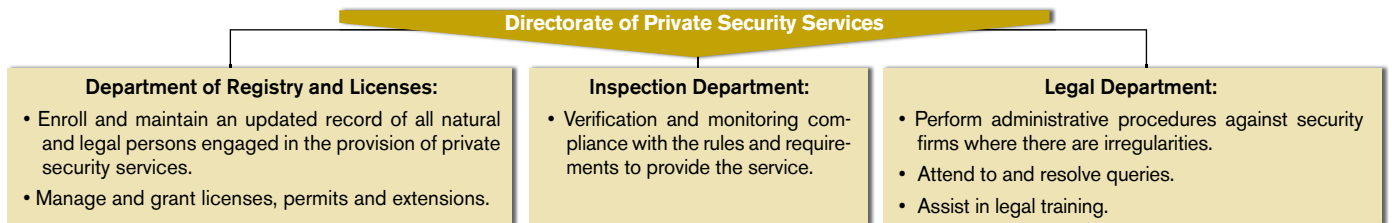
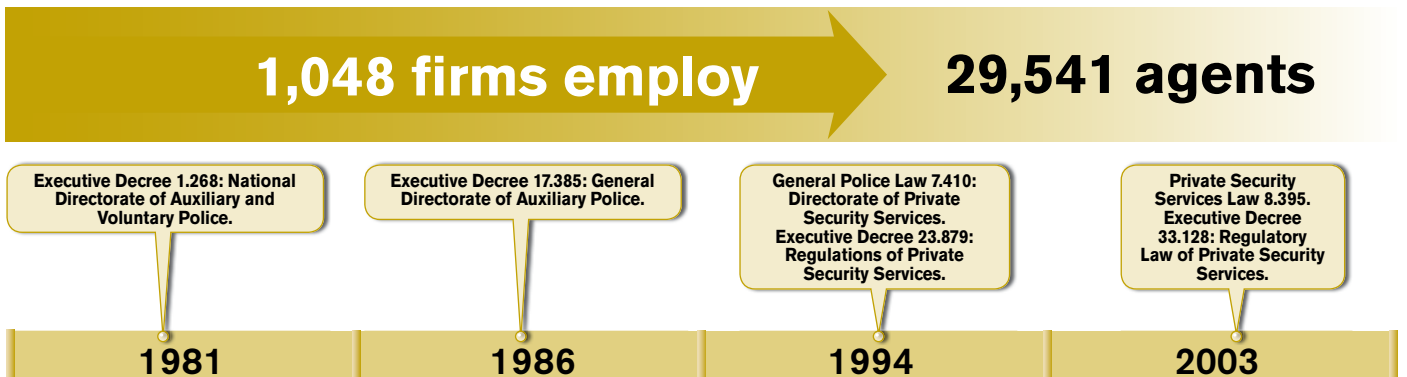


Sources: General Directorate of Social Adaptation; Human Rights Ombudsman, *Informe Anual de Labores 2012-2013*; Human Rights Ombudsman, National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture, *Informe Anual de Labores 2012*; Costa Rican Legal Information System. *Decreto Ejecutivo 3378-G sobre Reglamento de Orden y Disciplina del Personal de Custodia*; *Decreto Ejecutivo 26061-J de Reglamento General de la Policía Penitenciaria (1997)*. Office of the Public Prosecutor, Office of Attention and Protection of Victims, *Evolución, Logros y Desafíos de la Oficina de Atención y protección a la Víctima del Delito, 2011*.

Private Security

The regulatory framework began to be developed in the early 80's, and the **Regulatory Law for Private Security Services**, passed in 2003, is the law that in 2013 regulates these types of

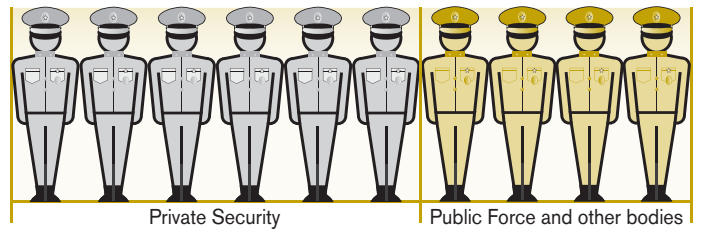
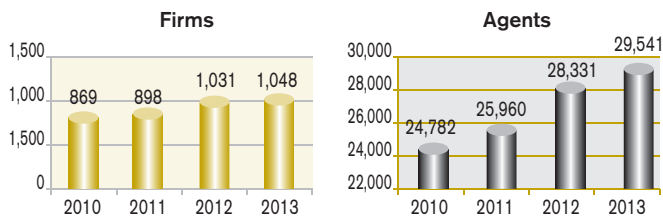
services. The enforcement authority is the **Directorate of Private Security Services**, which is located within the Ministry of Public Security.



A resolution of the Directorate of Private Security Services sets a ceiling of 1,966 firms across the country. Between 2010 and 2013, 180 companies were created. To provide the service a firm must attain a license from the Ministry of Security. This lasts for three years and can be renewed.

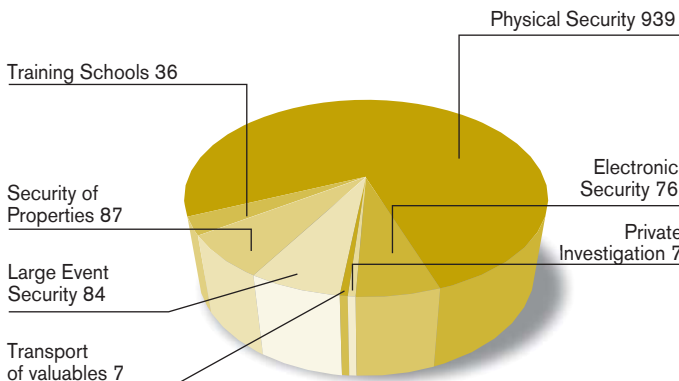
The 1994 Police Law prohibited individual private security firms from maintaining a number of agents that exceeded 1% of the total size of the police force, calculated according to budget estimates for each year. In 2003 the limit was raised to 10%.

If we add together the personnel from the Public Force and other law enforcement bodies with those from private security firms - what we could call the entire personnel devoted to tasks of national or public and citizen security - the resulting figure would be:



*Comparison using 2012 figures. It takes into account the number of private guards registered in the formal system supervised by the State. It does not include informal guards.

Firms According to Type of Service Provided - 2013



- Basis requisites for agents:**
- Above 18 years old.
 - Have completed the third cycle of General Basic Training.
 - Pass the psychological exams given to members of the police force.
 - Approve the basic instruction course offered by the National Police Academy or another authorised body.

From 2013, the Ministry of Public Security has developed an online platform for enrollment procedures, weapons permits and the registration and regulation of agents and private security companies.

Sources: Ministry of Public Security, Memoria Institucional 2011-2012, Directorate of Private Security Services and Resolución DSSP 007-2013. Costa Rican Legal Information System, Ley 8.395 de Servicios de Seguridad Privados y Reglamento a la Ley de Servicios de Seguridad Privados, Decreto N° 33.128.