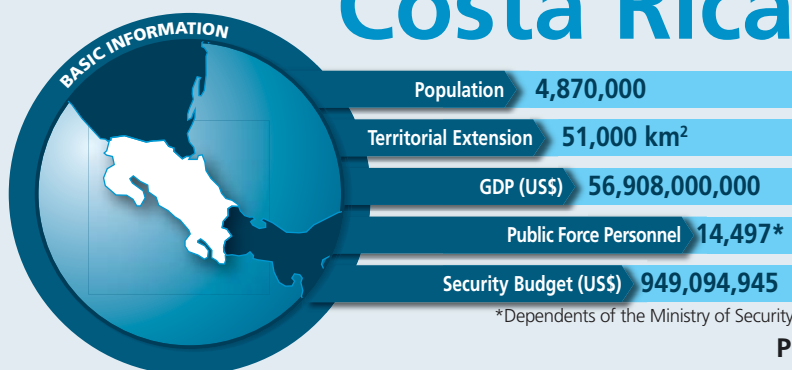
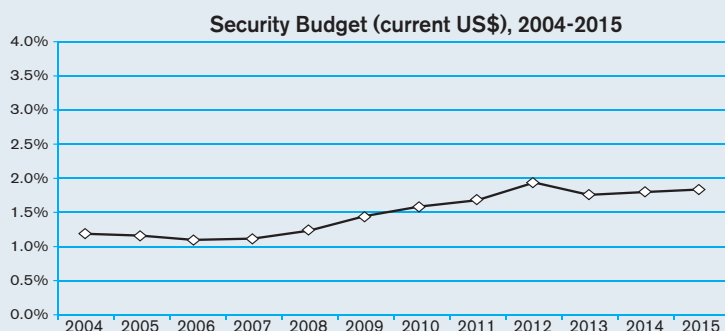
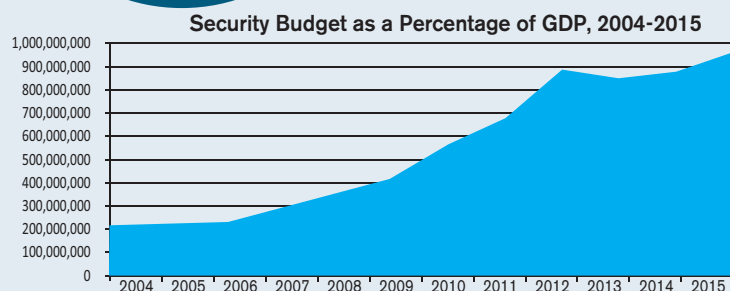
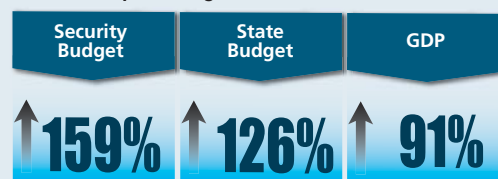


The cases of Costa Rica, Haiti and Panama

Costa Rica



Comparative increase
(percentage variation 2008-2015)



The Legal Framework

National Legislation

- Organic Law of the Ministry of Public Security (N° 5482 – 1973/12/24).
- General Police Law (N° 7410 – 1994/05/30).
- Organic Law of the Public Prosecutor's Office (N° 7442 – 1994/11/25).
- Arms and Explosives Law (N° 7530- 1995/08/23).
- Youth Criminal Justice Law (N° 7576 - 1996/04/04).
- Law against Domestic Violence (N° 7586 - 1996/05/02).
- Criminal Justice Code (N° 7594 – 1996/06/04).
- Law on Alternate Conflict Resolution and Promotion of Social Peace (N° 7727 – 1998/01/14).
- Law on the Agreement with the United States to Reduce the Illegal Trafficking of Narcotics (N° 7929 – 1999/10/06).
- Law Creating the National Coast Guard Service (N° 8000 – 2000/05/24).
- Law Strengthening the Civil Police (N° 8096 – 2001/03/15).
- Law Creating the National Program of Education against Drugs (N° 8093 - 2001/03/23).
- Law Declaring December 1st as Abolition of the Army Day (N° 8115 – 2001/08/28).
- Law on Narcotics and Related Activities (N° 8204 - 2002/01/11).
- Law Criminalizing Violence against Women (N° 8589 – 2007/05/30).
- Witness Protection Law (N° 8720 - 2009/03/04).
- Law against Organized Crime (N° 8754 – 2009/07/24).
- Legal Persons Tax Law (N° 9024 - 2011/12/23).
- Casino Tax Law (N° 9050 – 2012/07/09).
- Law against Human Trafficking (N° 9095 – 2013/02/08).

Source: Anuario Estadístico de América Latina y el Caribe, 2015, CEPAL (territory and population: projection 2016); IMF, World Economic Outlook Database (GDP projection 2016); Ley de presupuesto ordinario y extraordinario de la República para el ejercicio económico 2016; Decreto que Crea la Comisión Nacional para la Prevención de la Violencia y la Promoción de la Paz Social (N° 33.149 - 2006/06/07); Decreto que Determina los Ministerios a que pertenecen diversas fuerzas de policía (N° 23.427 - 1994/07/15); and the websites of the aforementioned institutions.

Principal Actors

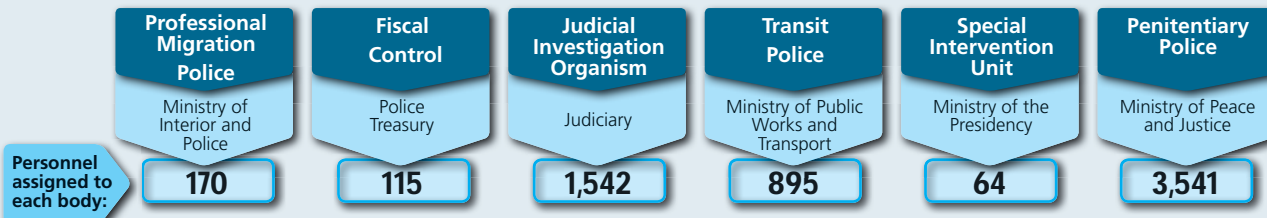
Institutions	Dependents
Ministry of Public Security	- Public Force (Civil Guard, Rural Guard, Coast Guard, Aerial Surveillance, Drugs Control). - Police School. - Directorate of Private Security Services. - General Directorate of Armaments.
Ministry of Interior and Police	- Directorate of Migration and Foreign Persons. - Communal Development.
Ministry of Justice and Peace	- General Directorate of Social Adaptation. - General Directorate for the Promotion of Peace and Citizen Coexistence. - National Youth Network for the prevention of violence. - Violence Observatory. - National Directorate of Alternative Conflict Resolution. - Commission for Regulating and Rating Public Events. - Technical Secretariat of the National Commission for the Prevention of Violence and Promotion of Social Peace.
Judicial Branch	- Judicial Investigation Organism (Criminal investigation, forensic sciences, legal medicine). - Office of the Public Prosecutor
Office of the President	- Special Invention Unit. - Intelligence and National Security Directorate.
Ministry of Public Works and Transport	- Directorate of Fiscal Control Police.
Ministry of Finance	- General Directorate of Transit Police.
Human Rights Ombudsman	
Costa Rican Drugs Institutes	

Security Forces

The following bodies operate below the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Public Security:

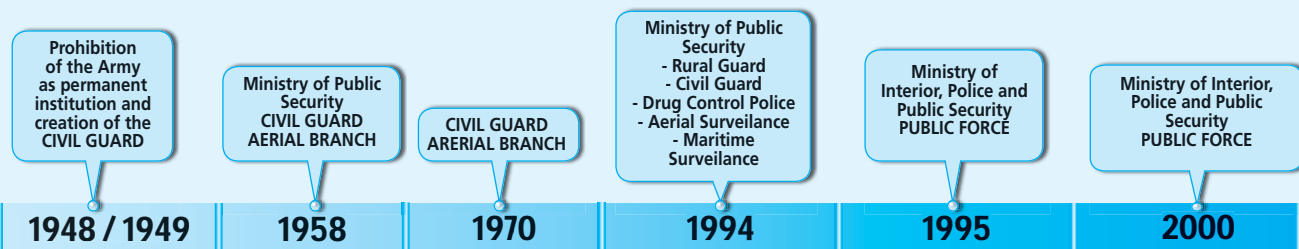


Police bodies operating under the jurisdiction of other Ministries:



The Ministry of Public Security

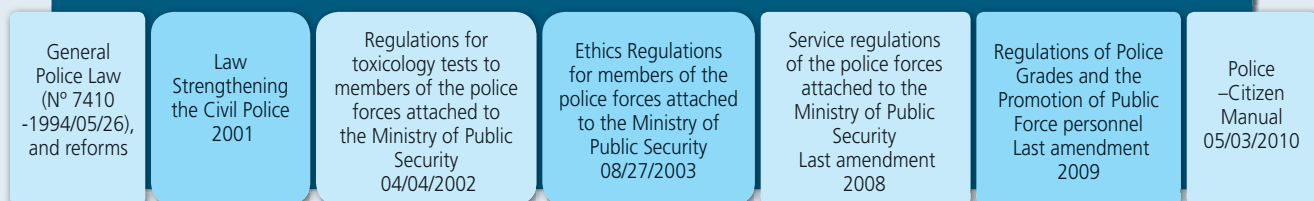
The Ministry of Public Security is the State institution whose function is to preserve and maintain national sovereignty, assist in strengthening the principle of law, and ensure security, peace and public order in the country. Historically two ministries have developed competences that include police forces: the Ministry of Interior and Police, and the Ministry of Public Security.



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 practical Ministerial division placed on one side the police body, which is known in the country as the Public Force (which in other countries would be called the national police) and on the other side specialist units (which, given the nature of their functions, have different regulations, situations and challenges).

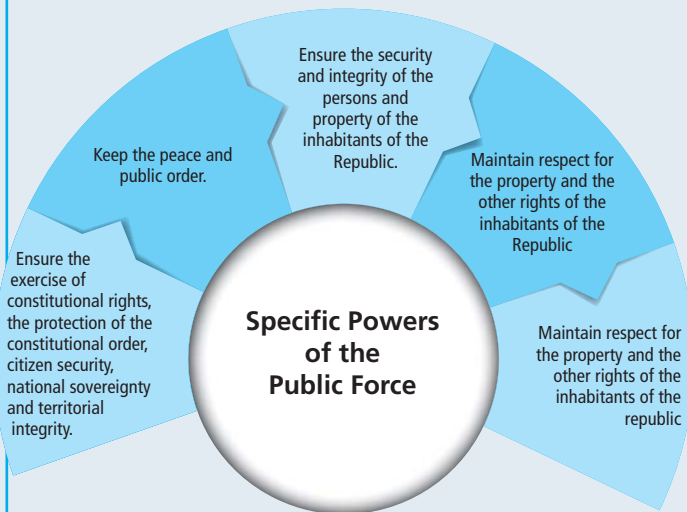
The main provisions that govern the Public Force are:



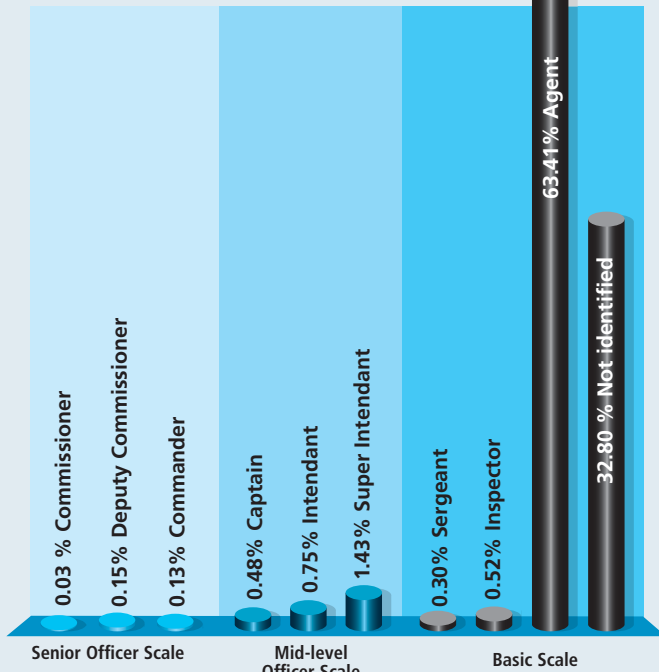
Public Force Reserves

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.

Source: Compilation on the basis of the *Ley orgánica del Ministerio de Seguridad Pública* (N° 5.482 – 1973/12/24), *Acuerdo que Adscribe Dependencias de Guardia Civil a Seguridad Pública* (N° 57– 1954/06/09), *Ley General de Policía* (N° 7.410 – 1994/05/26), and website of the Ministry of Public Security..



Distribution of Public Force Personnel*



* Coastguard and Aerial Surveillance units are not included.

There are **2.7** Public Force agents for every **1,000** inhabitants.



Judicial Investigation Organism

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. 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).

Police investigators amount to 1,542 people. Technical, expert, forensic and administrative staff total 600 people. Dependent of the Judiciary.

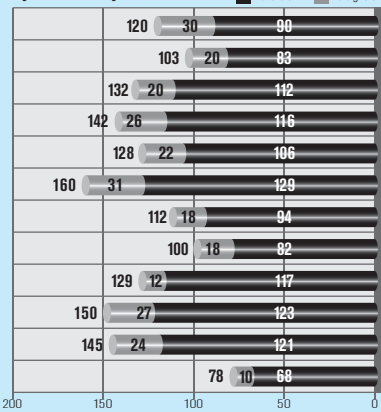
While the Public Force constitutes the principal security body, the Ministry of Public Security has other police bodies under its jurisdiction, which are tasked with specific functions:

Drug Control Police

It dates back to 1970, when within the Civil Guard a "Directorate of Narcotics" began to function. In 1992, following the fusion of the anti-drug police bodies that existed at this time in different ministries, the National Directorate of Drug Control was born, which since the 1994 Police Act became known as the Drug Control Police.

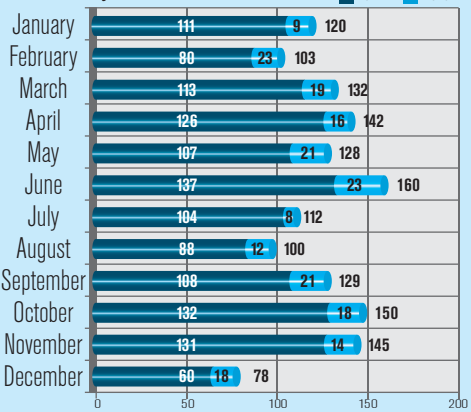
It is responsible for the control of unauthorized drugs and connected activities and for cooperating in the repression of crimes in the area. It investigates related illegal acts and elaborated reports, as well as carrying out confiscations and police actions.

Detainees charged with drug-trafficking crimes by nationality

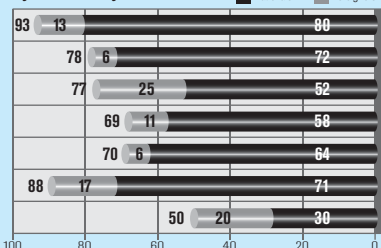


2015

Detainees charged with drug-trafficking crimes by sex

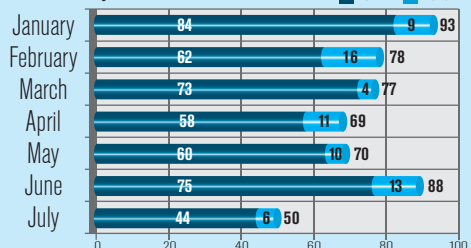


Detainees charged with drug-trafficking crimes by nationality



2016

Detainees charged with drug-trafficking crimes by sex



Source: Ley general de policía (N° 7.410 – 1994/05/30, Costa Rican Institute on Drugs, Boletín Estadístico, IV Trimester 2015 and July 2016, website of the Ministry of Public Security and of the Public Force.

While the Public Force constitutes the principal security body, the Ministry of Public Security has other police bodies under its jurisdiction, which are tasked with specific functions:

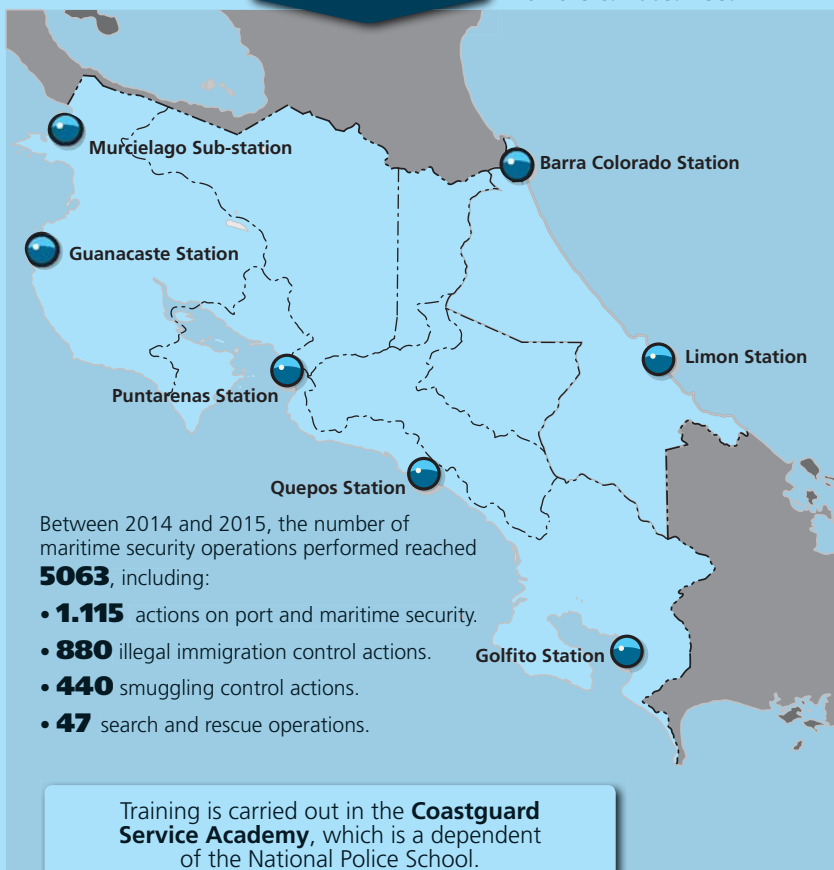
National Coastguard Service

In 1976 the Maritime Surveillance Service was created to protect Costa Rican marine resources in both the oceans surrounding its territory. Over time, other functions were added, including search and rescue, anti-smuggling, and drug traffic control were added. In 2000, Act No. 8000 transformed it into the National Coastguard Service, aiming to create a professional police unit.

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

- Monitors and protects the country's maritime borders and territorial waters.
- Ensures the security of port and maritime traffic.
- Develops the necessary operations to rescue people or to locate lost ships.
- Collaborates in the protection of natural resources and the fight against illicit drug trafficking, illegal migration, arms trafficking and other illicit activities.

Operational bases: 5 on the Pacific Ocean
2 on the Caribbean Sea



Aerial Surveillance Service

Its mission is to monitor the Costa Rican skies, perform rescue missions and air ambulance operations as well as anti-drug operations on land and sea.

- Provides transportation within and outside of the country in cases qualified as exceptions.
- Coordinates and cooperates with the institutions involved in response to national emergencies.

The Directorate of the Air Surveillance Service is located at Juan Santamaria International Airport, located in the capital, San Jose of Costa Rica.

Dependencies

- 1 Department of Aeronautical Operations
- 2 Department of Aeronautical Maintenance
- 3 Airport Security Units

Border Police

The corps was reactivated in 2011, following the conflict with Nicaragua, for the dredging in Portillas Island. It reports to the vice-minister of Regular Units of the Public Force and, since 2013, it has trained its personnel on specialized courses offered by the National Police School. Since 2015, it has had a separate budget from the rest of the police corps. It is staffed by 300 troops.

Source: Compilation on the basis of the *Ley general de policia* (N° 7.410 – 30/05/1994), *Ley de creación del Servicio Nacional de Guardacostas* (N° 8.000 - 24/05/2.000), and website of the Ministry of Public Security.



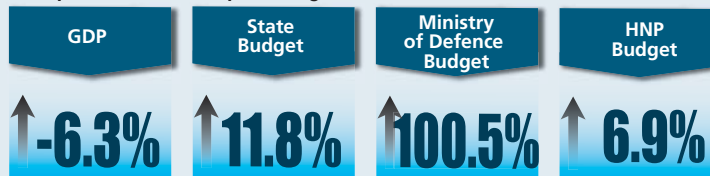
Haiti

Population	10,890,000
Territorial Extension	27,750 km ²
GDP (US\$)	8,160,000,000
Public Force Personnel	14,385
Ministry of Defence Budget (US\$)	7,953,535
Security and Defence Budget (US\$)*	179,469,370

The State budget for fiscal year 2015-2016 is **US\$ 2,321,266,362**

*Includes: Ministry of Defence, PNH, PNH Board, Demobilized military personnel bureau and National Palace Security Service.

Comparative increase (percentage variation 2014-2016)

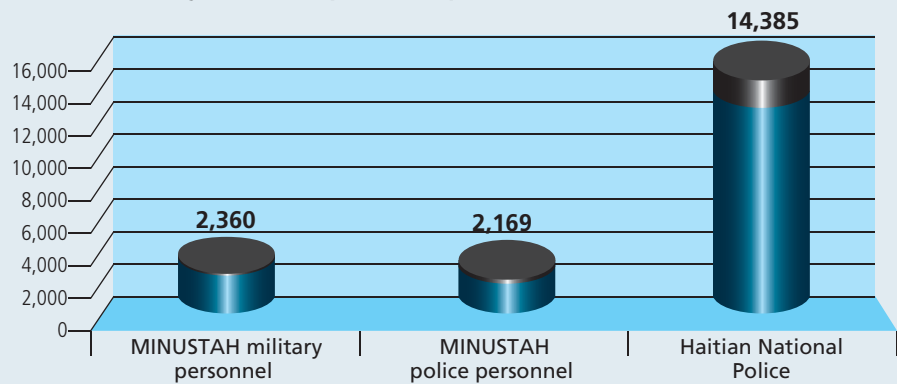


The Legal Framework

National Legislation

- Decree creating the Ministry of Defence (1990/05/30).
- Act creating the Haitian National Police (1994/11/29).
- Act creating a National Anti-Drug Commission (2002/05/31).

Military and Police personnel present in Haiti, 2016



Every US\$ 100



US\$ 0.34 are allocated to the Ministry of Defense

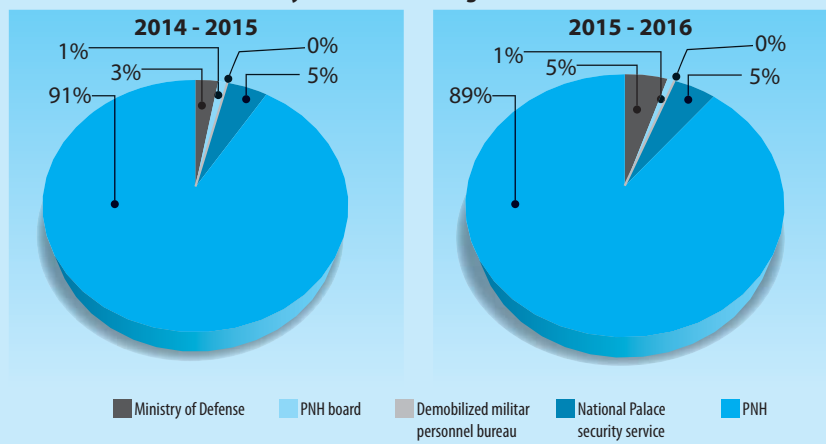
US\$ 6.91 are allocated to the PNH



Public Force

According to the Constitution, the security forces are composed of two distinct bodies, the Haitian Armed Forces and the Police Force. The Armed Forces were officially disbanded in 1994. The Haitian National Police (HNP) was created to transfer the maintenance of public security to civilian control in 1995. The United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) provides security alongside the National Police, as was established by Resolution 1743 of the United Nations Security Council. The Police Force is an armed body operating under the Ministry of Justice (Sec. 269). The Commander in Chief is appointed, according to the Constitution, for a period of three years, with the possibility of this term being renewed. The Police are established to ensure law and order and to protect the life and property of citizens (Sec. 269-1 and 270).

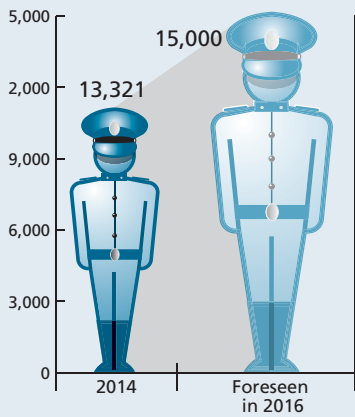
Security and defence budget breakdown



Source: Banque de la République d'Haïti, exchange rate. Décret établissant le budget général de la République 2015-2016. Development Plan Haitian National Police 2012-2016 and website United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, statistics are taken from June 2016; Anuario Estadístico de América Latina y el Caribe, 2015, CEPAL (territory and population: projection 2016), FMI, World Economic Outlook Database, (GDP projection 2015).

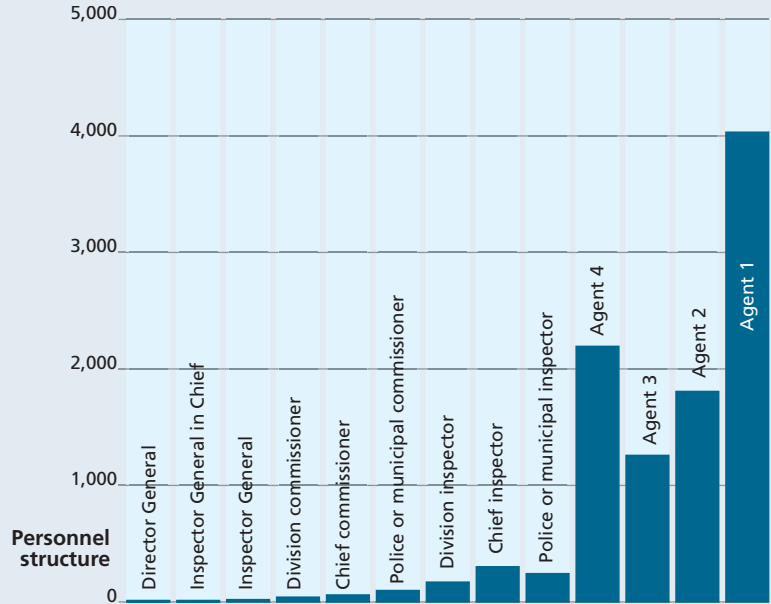
Haiti National Police (PNH)

The Haitian National Police was created in response to the demobilization of the Armed Forces in order to place public security under civilian control.



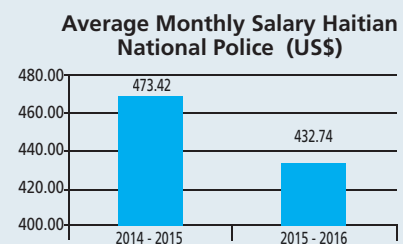
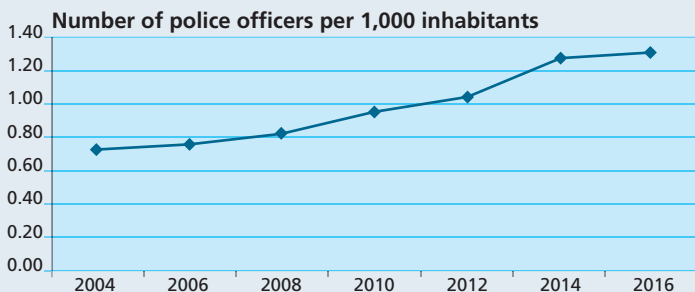
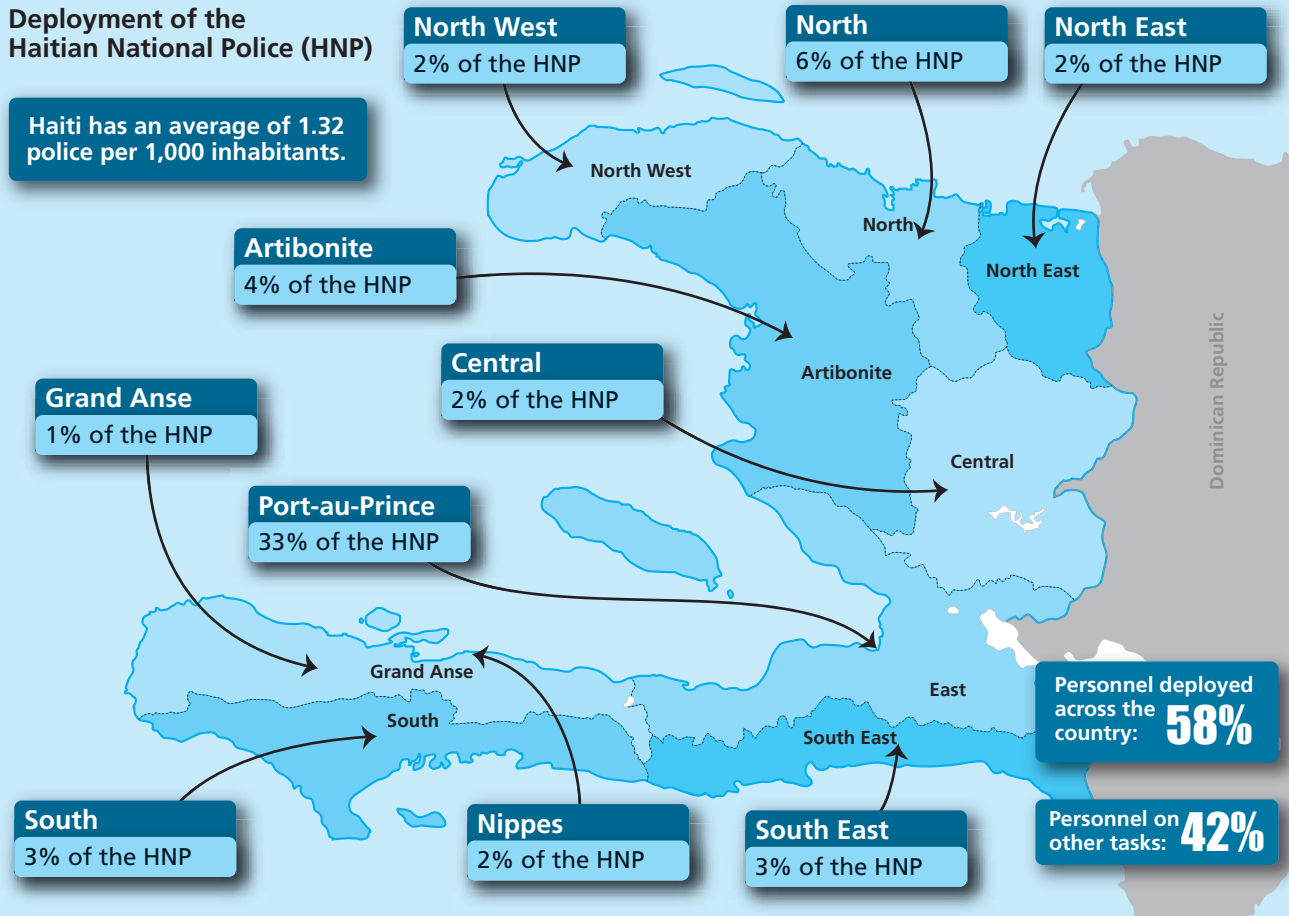
Plans foreseen for the transfer of security and the withdrawal of MINUSTAH speak of the need to have a local force of approximately 15,000 police personnel.

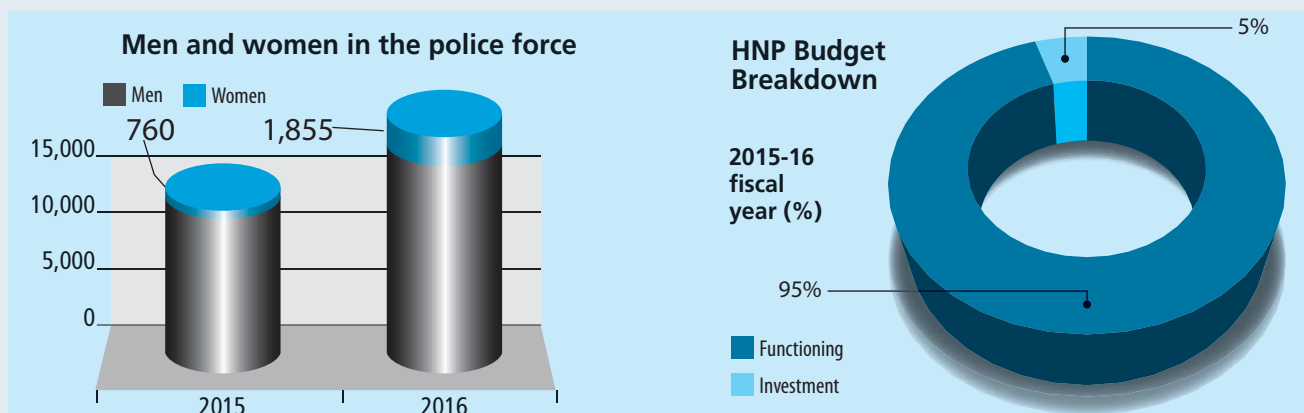
Average age: **41** years old



Deployment of the Haitian National Police (HNP)

Haiti has an average of 1.32 police per 1,000 inhabitants.



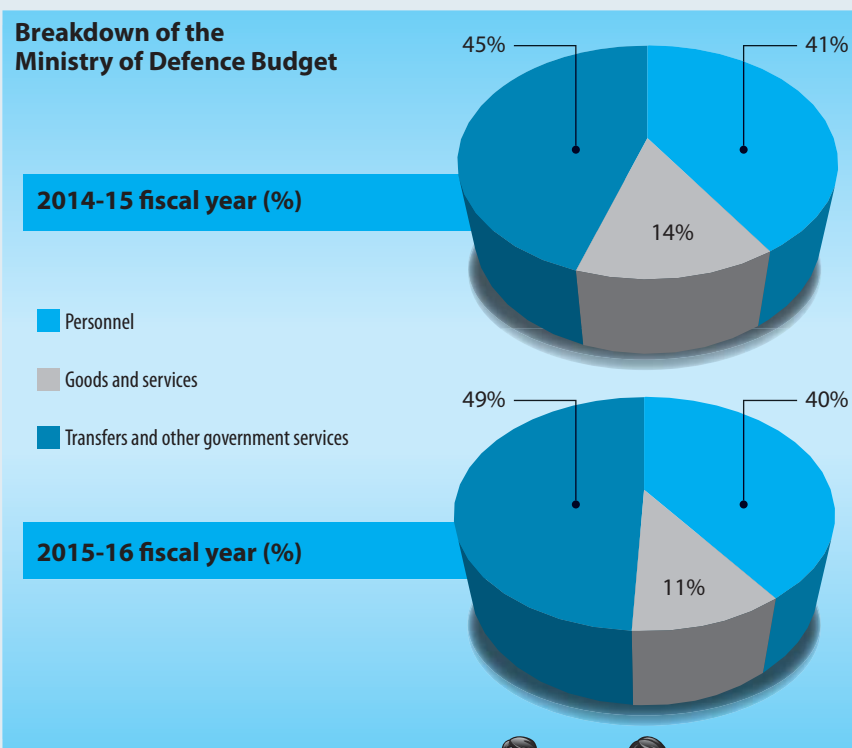


The Ministry of Defence

It was created in 1990, upon separating itself from the Ministry of Interior, and deactivated in 1995 after the dissolution of the Armed Forces. In 2012, the Ministry was reactivated by the government of Michel Martelly. That was accompanied progressively by organizational and personnel development and greater budget allocation.

Principal Powers

- Ensure the defence and security of the State.
- Participate in the maintenance of peace across the entire national territory.
- In conjunction with other responsible agencies, ensure compliance with the law and the measures laid down by the Executive Power aimed at ensuring the internal and external security of the State.
- Ensure physical protection against all forms of internal and external aggression.
- Conduct education and training, as well as the operations of the Armed Forces within the country.
- Participate in the development and coordination of measures in case of war, civil disorder or in case of natural disasters.
- Ensure the development, modernization and maintenance of military and strategic infrastructure.
- Ensure security and the physical integrity of the country's territory, as well as the physical protection of the population, in all places, all circumstance and against all forms of aggression.



The Ministry has **120 officials**

85 Men **35 Women**

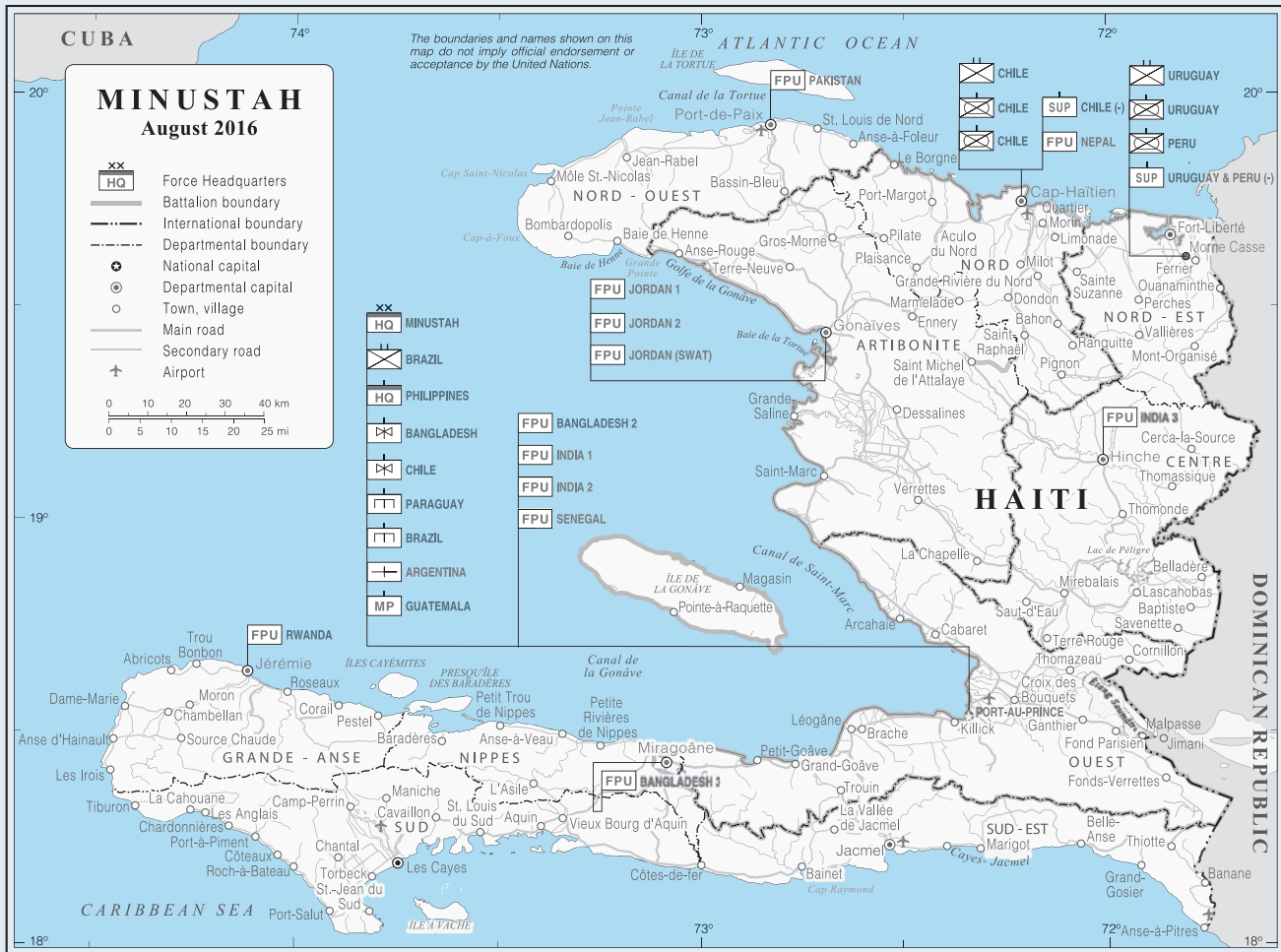
- Military Engineers**
- Environmental Guards**
- Border Guards**
- Medical-Health Unit**

In addition to organizing compulsory mixed civic service for all young people who turn 18 years old in all of the country's departments, in order to train them on disaster response tasks, with training and activities lasting for a period of no more than 3 years.

In the framework of bilateral cooperation and the transfer of skills from MINUSTAH contributing countries, Ecuador and Brazil have collaborated in training future military engineers.

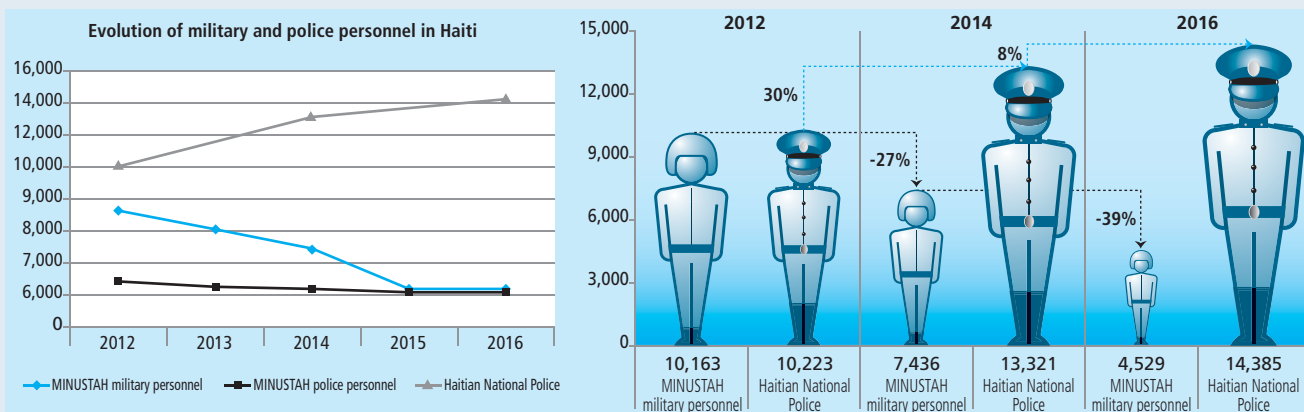
Source: Compilation on the basis of the *Décret établissant le budget général de la République* 2015-2016, Development Plan Haitian National Police 2012-2016, *Plan de Acción* 2013-2016 of the Ministry of National Defence, information provided by MINUSTAH and Reports by the Secretary General on MINUSTAH (2014).

The presence of Formed Police Units, of United Nations police bodies, and of military forces.



Source: Department of Field Support, Geospatial Information Section

Downloaded from RESDAL <http://www.resdal.org>



Period I: 2004-2006	Period II: 2007-2009	Period III: 2010-2011	Period IV: Current
<p>Mandate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create and maintain a secure and stable environment. Assist the political process. Ensure human rights are respected. <p>Landmarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violence reduction Presidential elections 	<p>Mandate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue providing security and stability to Haiti. <p>Landmarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stability 	<p>Mandate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist immediate recuperation, reconstruction and stability. <p>Landmarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earthquake and cholera Presidential elections 	<p>Mandate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the Haitian government to provide a secure and stable environment. <p>Landmarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidation plan Military reduction Legislative elections

Source: Compilation on the basis Statistics on the contribution of military and police personnel to United Nations operations, United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, statistics are taken from June (2012, 2014 and 2016), website of MINUSTAH, and the Décret établissant le budget général de la République 2015-2016.

Panamá

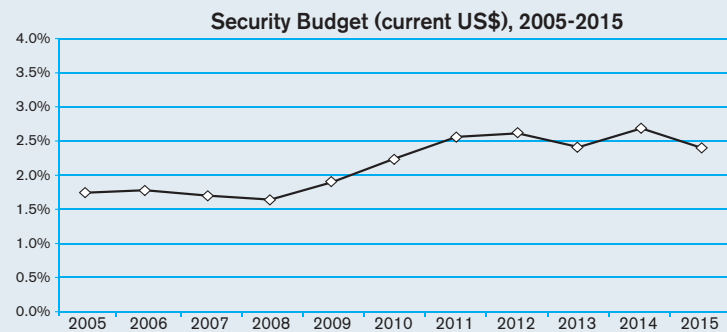
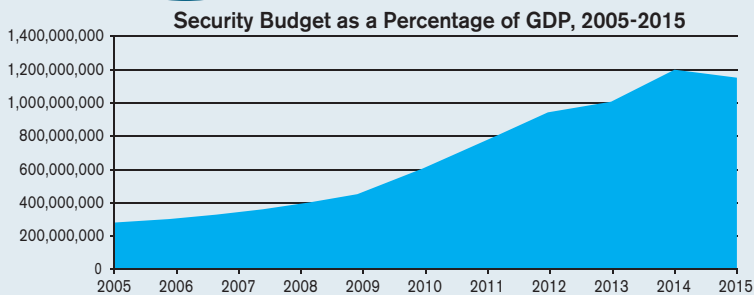


Population	3,991,000
Territorial Extension	75,420 km ²
GDP (US\$)	55,755,000,000
Public Force Personnel	23,105 *
Security Budget (US\$)	1,279,093,620

*Dependents of the Ministry of Security

Comparative increase
(percentage variation 2008-2016)

Security Budget	State Budget	GDP
↑ 236%	↑ 142%	↑ 142%



The Legal Framework

National Legislation

- Law N° 23, 1986 that covers drug-related issues (Executive Resolution N° 101 - 1994/09/22).
- Law creating the Human Rights Ombudsman (N° 7 - 1997/06/02).
- Organic law of the National Police (N° 18 - 06/04/1997).
- Protection of victims of crime law (N° 31 - 1998/05/28).
- Equal opportunities for women law (N° 4 - 1999/02/06).
- Special criminal liability for adolescents law (N° 40 - 1999/08/28).
- Organic law of the Institutional Protection Service (N° 2 - 1999/07/10).
- Law that adopts measures to prevent money laundering offenses (N° 42 - 2000/10/03).
- Law that adopts the judicial code (N° 1 - 2001/09/10).
- Law reorganizing the penitentiary system (N° 55 - 2003/08/01).
- Law covering crimes against sexual liberty and integrity (N° 16 - 2004/04/05).
- Law that defines the crime of "pandillerismo" (gangs) and the possession and trade of prohibited weapons, and that adopts measures for protecting the identity of witnesses (N° 48 - 2004/08/31).
- Law that reorganizes the National Civil Protection System (N° 5 - 2005/02/14).
- Law adopting the Penal Code (N° 14 - 2007/05/22).
- Law creating the Directorate of Judicial Investigation within the National Police and that ascribes Forensic Services to the Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences (N° 69 - 2007/12/28).
- Law creating the National Migration Service (N° 3 - 2008/02/26).
- Law creating the National Border Service (N° 8 - 2008/08/22).
- Law adopting the Criminal Procedure Code (N° 63 - 2008/08/29).
- Law repealing the law that reorganized the National Defense and Public Security Council and creating the National Intelligence and Security Service (N° 11 - 2010/03/18).
- Law creating the Ministry of Public Security (N° 15 - 2010/04/14).
- Law reorganizing the Ministry of Interior (N° 19 - 2010/05/03).
- Law on human trafficking and related activities (N° 79 - 2011/11/15).
- Law regulating private security services (N° 56 - 2011/05/30).
- General law on firearms, ammunition and related materials (N° 57 - 2011/05/30).
- Law that reorganizes the National Aero-Naval Service (N° 93 - 2013/07/11).

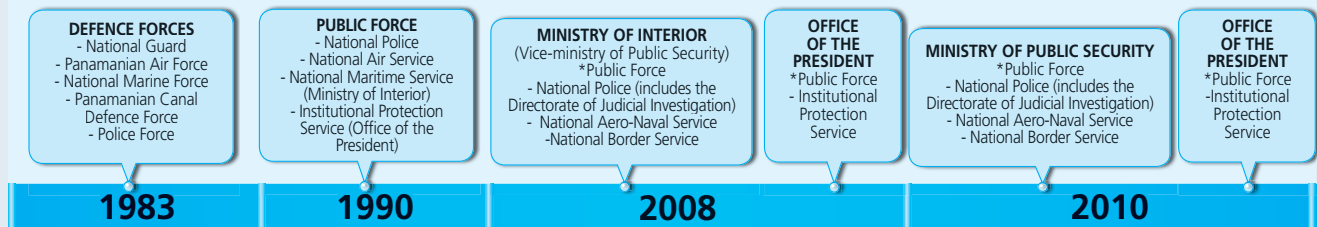
Principal Actors

Institutions	Dependents
Ministry of Public Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Police (includes the Directorate of Judicial Investigation), National Aero-Naval Service, National Border Service and National Migration Service - Weapons and Explosives Register. - Private Security. - Comprehensive Security Program (PROSI). - Violence and Crime Observatory. - Integrated National System of Crime Statistics. - Inter-institutional Intervention Network. - Prevention Security Cabinet.
Ministry of Interior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Directorate of the Penitentiary System. - Institute of Interdisciplinary System. - Fire Service. - National System of Civil Protection.
Office of the President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institutional Protection Service. - National Program for the Prevention of Violence and Juvenile Delinquency. - Darién Development Program (PRODAR).
National Security Council (Office of the President)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical Secretariat. - Intelligence Service. - National Crisis Coordination Center. - National Passenger Investigation Center.
Office of the Public Prosecutor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prosecutors. - Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences. - National Commission for the Study and Prevention of Drug-Related Crimes (CONAPRED). - National Commission for the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation Crimes (CONAPREDES). - Center of Victim Attention.
Human Rights Ombudsman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gender Violence Observatory.

Source: Anuario Estadístico de América Latina y el Caribe, 2015, CEPAL (territory and population: projection 2016), IMF, World Economic Outlook Database, (GDP projection 2016), Ley que dicta el presupuesto general del Estado para la vigencia fiscal de 2015 and information provided by Ministerio de Seguridad Pública (personnel). Decreto de Gabinete que organiza la Fuerza Pública (N° 38 - 1990/02/20), Decreto de Gabinete que crea el Servicio de Protección Institucional (N° 42 - 1990/03/01), Ley orgánica de la Policía Nacional (N° 18 - 1997/06/04), Decreto Ley orgánica del Servicio de Protección Institucional (N° 2 - 1999/07/10), Decreto Ley que crea el Servicio Nacional de Fronteras (N° 8 - 2008/08/22), Ley que deroga el decreto ley que crea el Servicio Nacional de Inteligencia y Seguridad (N° 11 - 2010/03/18), Decreto Ejecutivo que crea el Consejo de Seguridad Nacional (N° 263 - 2010/03/19), Decreto Ejecutivo que crea el Gabinete de Seguridad Preventiva (N° 18 - 2012/01/27), Ley que reorganiza el Servicio Nacional Aeronaval (N° 93 - 2013/11/07). Constitución de la República de Panamá. Websites of the aforementioned institutions.

The Ministry of Public Security

It was created in 2010 as part of the restructuring of the security area. Its function is to maintain and defend national sovereignty, ensure security, peace and order and to protect the lives, honor and property of nationals and foreigners under the jurisdiction of the State. It coordinates its work with the National Security Council.



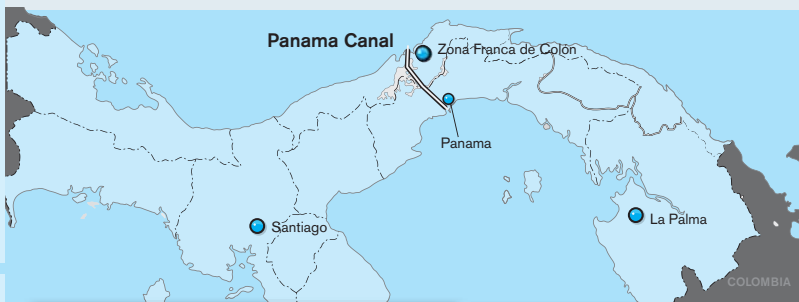
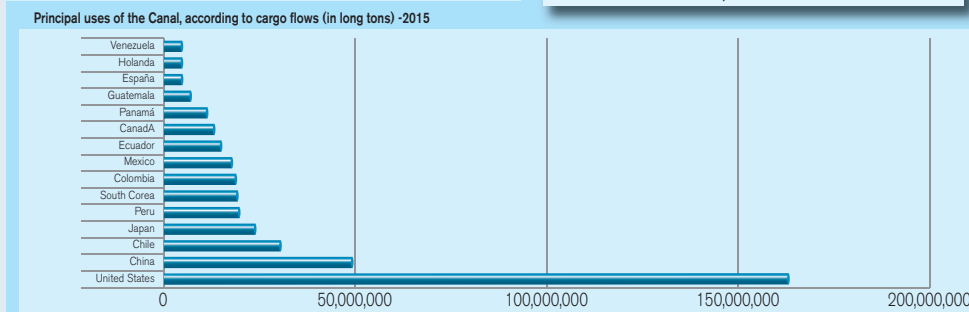
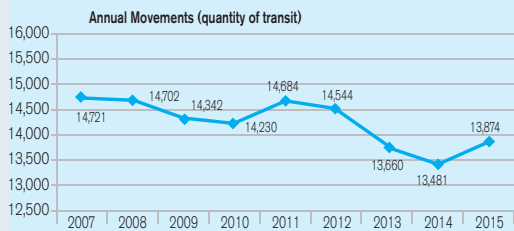
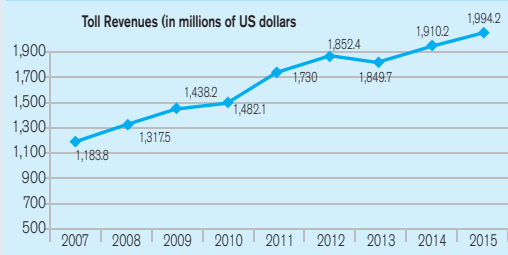
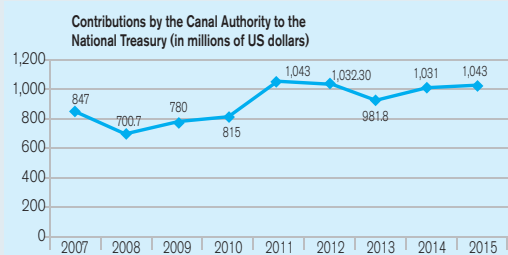
National Security Council

Created in 2010, it is responsible for the security strategy at the national level. It develops the "safe commerce and transport" strategy, with its aim being to convert Panama into the region's safest country, both for its citizens and for investments. It is the only State body that engages in intelligence tasks.

The authority of the Council is its Secretary, which is linked directly with the President of the Republic. Within its structure some 320 officials work, and its dependencies include:

The **National Center of Passenger Research** (located in Tocumen International Airport), has specialized personnel to detect cases that threaten security.

The **National Crisis Coordination Center** establishes alert levels in different areas or the entire country for civil protection during disasters or threats to the population.



The Panama Canal. Inaugurated in 1914, the inter-oceanic canal is administered by the Panama Canal Company, together with the exclusive 8-kilometer zone surrounding it on each side. It was recently in 1962, with the construction of the Bridge of the Americas, that the north and the south of the country were linked by land, with the Centenario bridge added in 2004. In 1977 the Torrijos-Carter treaties were signed, indicating that the Canal would be placed under Panamanian authority in 1999 in its totality. The Canal passed to the administrative authority of the Panama Canal Authority, a company autonomous of the Panama State.

PANAMAX Exercise. It is a police - military exercise in which 19 countries from the Americas participate, and whose objective is training in defence and maintaining the permanent neutrality of the Panama Canal, as well as increasing the security of transport and trade and guaranteeing the interoperability of the region's militaries. It is sponsored by the Southern Command of the United States. The exercise involves an "alpha" hypothesis, activated by the President, in which only the Panamanian security forces participate. Once they are unable to resolve the situation, a "beta" action protocol is activated which summons the help of a multinational force.

PSA - Panama International Terminal

It is a port terminal that was built by a company of the Government of Singapore on the Pacific side, near the former Rodman Naval Base. It is the second port terminal for handling and packing storage containers. It began operations in late 2010. The contract signed in 2007 establishes a renewable 20 year concession, with the commitment of the company to invest at least US\$70 million in the first five years.

The Panama Savings Fund (PAF)

was established through Law No 38 of 2012 (amending the 2008 law on Social Tax Responsibility). It is largely made up by contributions from the Panama Canal Authority to the National Treasury, in addition to other smaller revenues. It establishes a mechanism for long-term State savings and a stabilization mechanism in the case of states of emergency or economic slowdown. Its resources may only be used during a state of emergency declared by the Cabinet's Council.

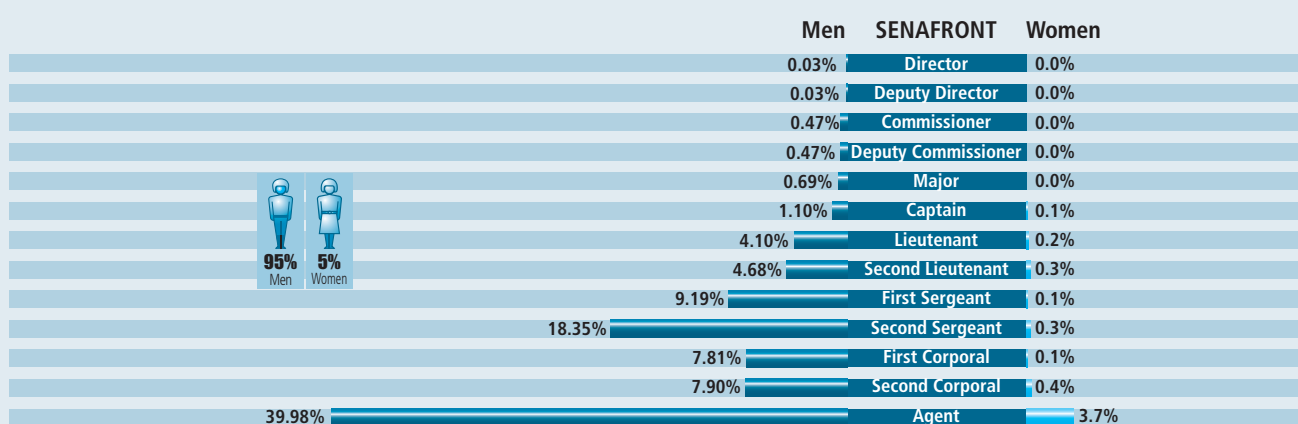
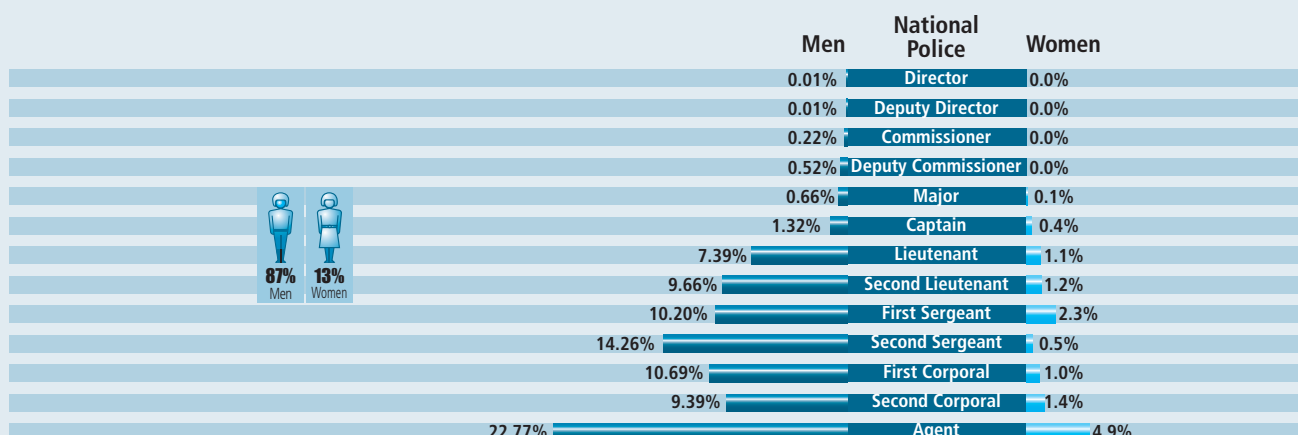
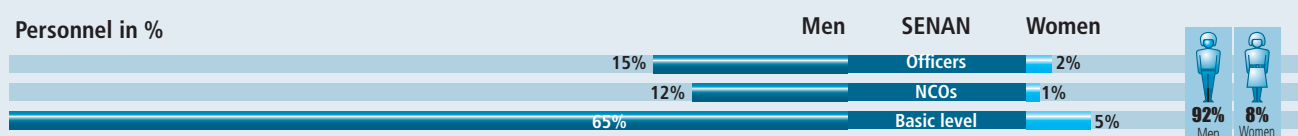
Expansion of the Canal

This extension process started in September 2007 and its inauguration took place in February 2016.

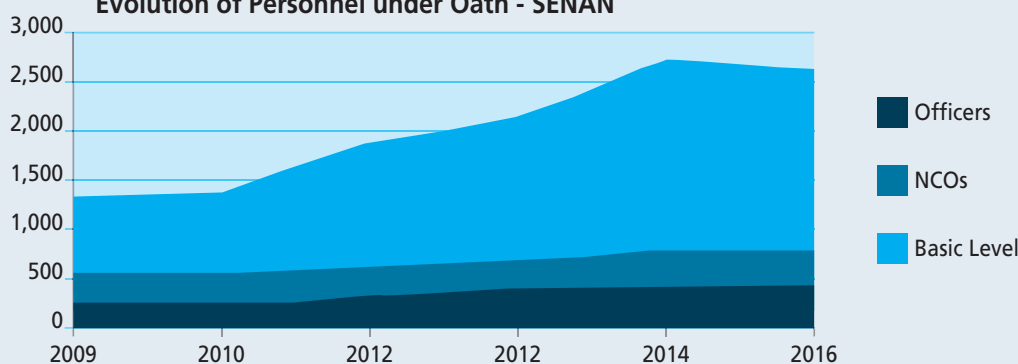
- Following the construction of two sets of locks, the new traffic lane doubles cargo and traffic volume capacity.
- Ships are allowed to cross the canal with a maximum of 13,000/14,000 containers.

Sources: Contraloría General de la República, Informe de la Contraloría General de la República (2012), Decreto que crea el Consejo de Seguridad Nacional (Executive Decree N° 263 - 2010/03/19), Informe Anual 2007 to 2015 of the Panama Canal Authority and information provided by the National Security Council and by the Ministry of Public Security.

Personnel in %



Evolution of Personnel under Oath - SENAN



The National Police

The National Police of Panama is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Public Security and its main function is to “safeguard the life, honor, property and other rights and freedoms of those who are under the jurisdiction of the State: to preserve public order, maintain the peace and security of inhabitants as well as perform all the duties and functions that are assigned to it by the President of the Republic”.

Valid Legal Framework of the National Police

Organic Law N° 18, 06/03/1997 and reforms (Law N° 74 , 11/01/2010)

Executive Decree N° 204 that dictates the Disciplinary Regime, 09/03/1997

Executive Decree N° 172 that further elaborates Caps. VI, VII and VIII of Law N° 18, 07/29/1999

Executive Decree N° 246, Uniform Code of Ethics for Public Servants, 12/15/2004

Law N° 69 that creates the Directorate of Judicial Investigation, 12/27/2007

Sources: Web pages of the Ministry of Public Security, SENAFRONT and information provided by the Ministry of Public Security.

The National Aero-Naval Service (SENAN)

The National Aero-Naval Service – SENAN – carries out maritime, aerial, port and airport police functions. It is therefore a police institution, part of the Public Force, and of permanent civil character. It was created in 2008 with the unification of the National Air and National Maritime Services. It has its own professional career and disciplinary regime.

It has different units:

- The Aerial Group
- The Naval Group
- The Marine Infantry
- The Aero-naval Police (for islands and airports)

The Aero-Naval Service Career

Staff are divided between personnel **under oath** and those **not under oath**. Those under oath perform the National Aero-Naval Service Career, while those not under oath carry out purely administrative and technical functions (non-uniformed, no weapons or institutional badges).

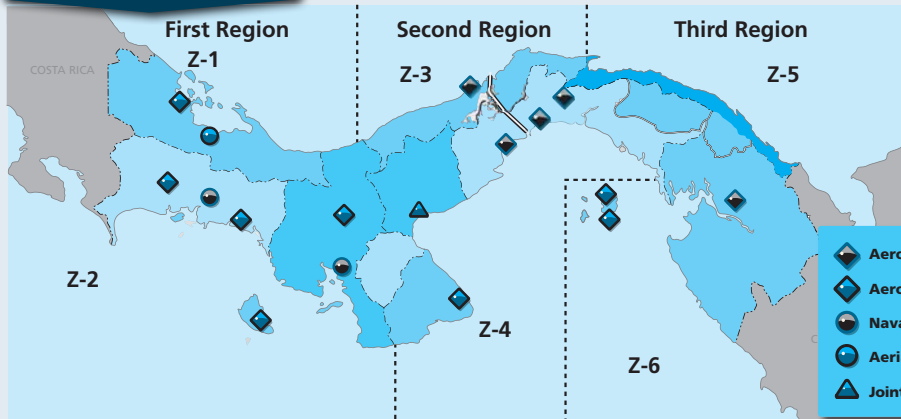
Personnel under oath are divided across scales:

- Basic level: Agent, Second Corporal, First Corporal.
- NCOs level: Second Sergeant, First Sergeant.
- Mid-level officer level: Second Lieutenant, Lieutenant, Captain.
- Senior officer level: Major, Deputy Commissioner, Commissioner.
- Director level: Deputy Director General, Director General.

The training of **officers** and **NCOs** in naval and aviation specialties is carried out within the framework of technical cooperation relations with the Ministries of Defence and the Air Forces of other countries in the region (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and United States). The police specialty is taught in the National Police's Doctor Justo Arosemena Centre for Higher Education (CES).

Basic training is conducted at the Aero-Naval Training Center (CEFORENT). As of 2014, 13 promotional classes of naval agents have graduated. Personnel from SENAN, SENAFRONT and the Institutional Protection System (IPS) are trained in the center. They receive theoretical training for a period of approximately three months.

Zones and Deployment



Coordination with other bodies

It is linked with SENAFRONT to assist in transportation along borders or offshore islands, and they also engage in occasional joint operations.

A tactical anti-drug operations unit from SENAN works with the National Police's anti-drug unit. The investigations area coordinates with the Directorate of Judicial Investigation Police for operations, raids and arrests. Similarly, SENAN members can be transferred to another police service according to service needs or at the request of the interested party.

SENAN has executed different operational plans together with the anti-drugs prosecutor of the Office of the Public Prosecutor in order to secure interdictions and inspections of different vessels in the search for bellicose material and the products of drug trafficking.

National Border Service (SENAFRONT)

The National Border Service is a police force specialized in the border area. It is part of the Public Force, and therefore a dependent of the Ministry of Public Security. It was created in 2008 through Decree Law No. 8 as a permanent institution of civil character, with a professional career and a special disciplinary regime. Until then, this body was part of the National Police as a Special Border Service ascribed to the National Border Directorate. Currently, **SENAFRONT** is under the Ministry of Public Security.



As in the case of the Aero-Naval Service (the decrees creating them were in fact published the same day), SENAFRONT is comprised of personnel that are, and are not, **under oath**. Those under oath are members of the National Border Service Career and those that are not fulfill administrative and technical roles. Training of personnel under oath is carried out in its own Academy, where cadets pass through a 6-month basic course. This is followed by 2 months of specialized classes and from there they are placed on a 2 year trial period.

SENAFRONT performs humanitarian actions together with organizations like the Red Cross and the Ministry of Health, permitting furthermore the presence of the State and other organizations in remote areas of the country. It also conducts activities such as sports, food distribution, and vaccination campaigns, etc. All of these activities are carried out within the budget allocated to the institution.

The principal deployment is on the border with Colombia, where **70 fixed positions** are located. In the last two years, the number of staff operating these positions decreased by 40% in order to form mobile units in the area. Personnel received special training for deployment to these mobile units, with an emphasis on jungle survival. Specialized equipment has also been invested in.

Sources: Presidency of the Republic, *Informe de la Nación* (July 2013), *Ley que reorganiza el Servicio Nacional Aeronaval* (N° 93 – 2013/11/07), *Decreto Ley que crea el Servicio Nacional de Fronteras* (N° 8 - 2008/08/22) and information provided by the Ministry of Public Security

THE COUNTRIES

