

# CRIME AND IMMIGRATION. A REAL CORRELATION? THE CASE OF BARCELONA

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# 1. CRIME STATISTICS

Spain is one of the countries with the lowest crime in the European Community

## INTENTIONAL HOMICIDES

- 2017
- Spain 0,66 X 100,000 hab
- Italy 0,61 X 100,000 hab
- Germany 0,89 X 100,000 hab
- Slovakia 1,47 X 100,000 hab
- Belgium 1,70 X 100,000 hab

Por 100,000 habitantes			
GEO/TIME	2015	2016	2017
Belgium	2,05	1,54	1,70
Germany	0,81	0,91	0,89
Ireland	0,66	0,78	0,86
Greece	0,79	0,75	0,72
Spain	0,65	0,63	0,66
France	1,74	1,55	1,41
Italy	0,77	0,67	0,61
Latvia	4,08	5,64	5,59
Lithuania	5,75	4,92	3,97
Luxembourg	0,89	0,87	0,34
Netherlands	18,82	17,99	17,09
Austria	0,51	0,60	:
Portugal	0,96	0,64	0,74
Slovakia	0,89	1,11	1,47
Finland	1,50	1,35	1,25
Sweden	1,15	1,08	1,13
England and Wales	0,99	1,21	1,24
Iceland	0,91	0,30	0,89
Liechtenstein	0,00	0,00	:
Switzerland	0,69	0,54	0,53
Montenegro	2,73	3,86	1,77

## ASSAULTS

- **2017**
- Spain 38,88 X 100,000 hab.
- Italy 108,56 X 100,000 hab.
- Germany 166,09 X 100,000 hab
- Slovakia 30,21 X 100,000 hab
- Belgium 611,03 X 100,000 hab

Por 100,000 hab.			
GEO/TIME	2015	2016	2017
Belgium	614,32	616,76	611,03
Germany	156,90	170,41	166,09
Ireland	75,04	76,04	84,59
Greece	14,96	14,05	14,02
Spain	62,55	37,32	38,88
France	364,25	363,86	:
Italy	106,84	105,52	108,56
Latvia	26,89	33,37	33,69
Lithuania	7,33	7,48	6,25
Luxembourg	108,00	98,74	99,04
Netherlands	30,18	29,57	28,04
Austria	35,82	37,88	:
Portugal	4,52	5,04	5,66
Slovakia	35,73	30,68	30,21
Finland	28,56	29,01	28,73
Sweden	47,66	50,34	46,87
England and Wales	746,83	802,22	875,35
Iceland	25,83	22,25	30,44
Liechtenstein	329,18	188,72	:
Switzerland	7,48	6,88	6,96
Montenegro	22,50	20,57	23,62

# THEFT

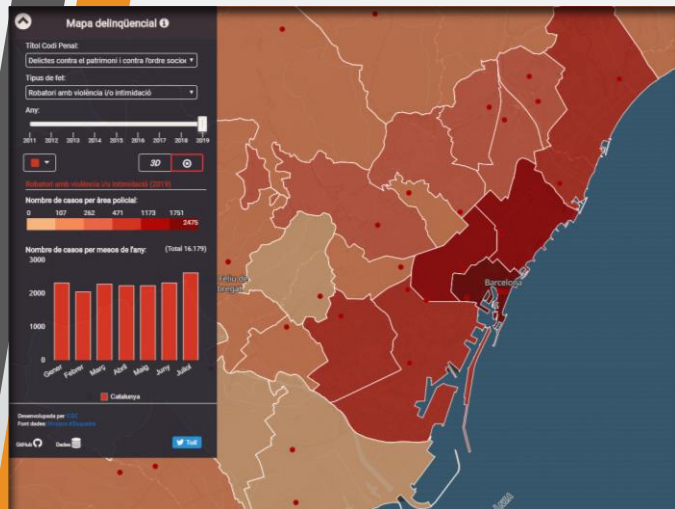
- **2017**
- Spain 349,09 X 100,000 hab.
- Italy 1765,74 X 100,000 hab.
- Germany 1401,36 X 100,000 hab
- Slovakia 287,21 X 100,000 hab
- Belgium no data X 100,000 hab

Theft			
Por 100,000 habitantes			
GEO/TIME	2015	2016	2017
Belgium	1.660,42	:	:
Germany	1.661,33	1.570,39	1.401,36
Ireland	1.618,98	1.370,72	1.454,59
Greece	928,39	943,80	1.019,05
Spain	442,96	351,16	349,09
France	2.101,67	2.069,24	:
Italy	2.021,20	1.866,92	1.765,74
Latvia	976,14	739,99	745,29
Lithuania	779,90	691,11	598,33
Luxembourg	1.650,74	1.742,82	:
Netherlands	1.982,87	1.791,01	1.517,78
Austria	1.635,37	1.651,67	:
Portugal	832,95	752,07	759,36
Slovakia	444,37	292,47	287,21
Finland	2.233,76	2.086,45	2.003,22
Sweden	4.006,17	3.738,17	3.524,83
England and Wales	2.354,78	2.523,33	2.685,07
Iceland	1.225,16	1.044,12	1.129,60
Liechtenstein	516,51	520,97	:
Switzerland	1.881,63	1.725,34	1.647,57
Montenegro	132,94	81,32	80,82



## 2. THE CASE OF BARCELONA

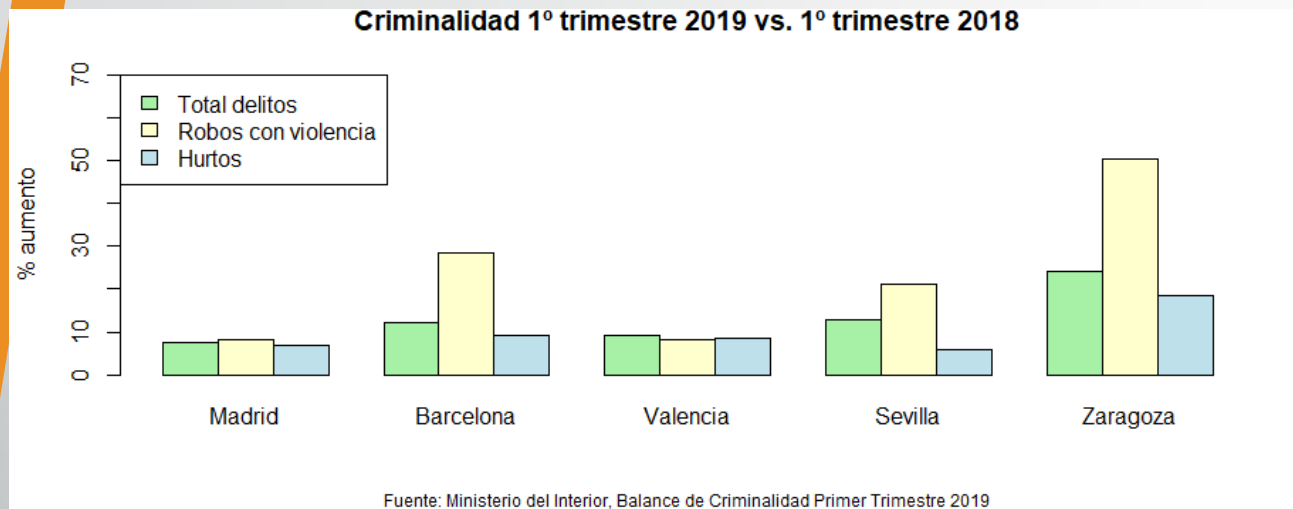
Analysis of the increase in crime in Barcelona



- ▶ Spain one of the lowest crime rate in Europe, and with a low level of violence.
- ▶ If we refer to Catalonia, or Barcelona, the situation is similar, but last months there has been an increase of crime rates in the city of Barcelona

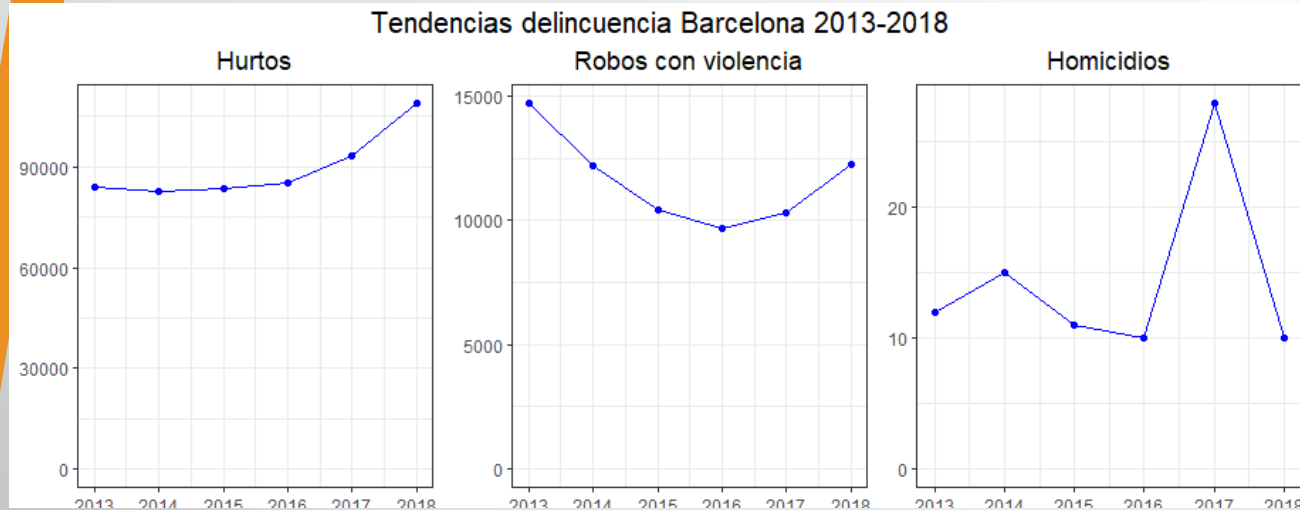
SPAIN vs BARCELONA

# BARCELONA crime statistics



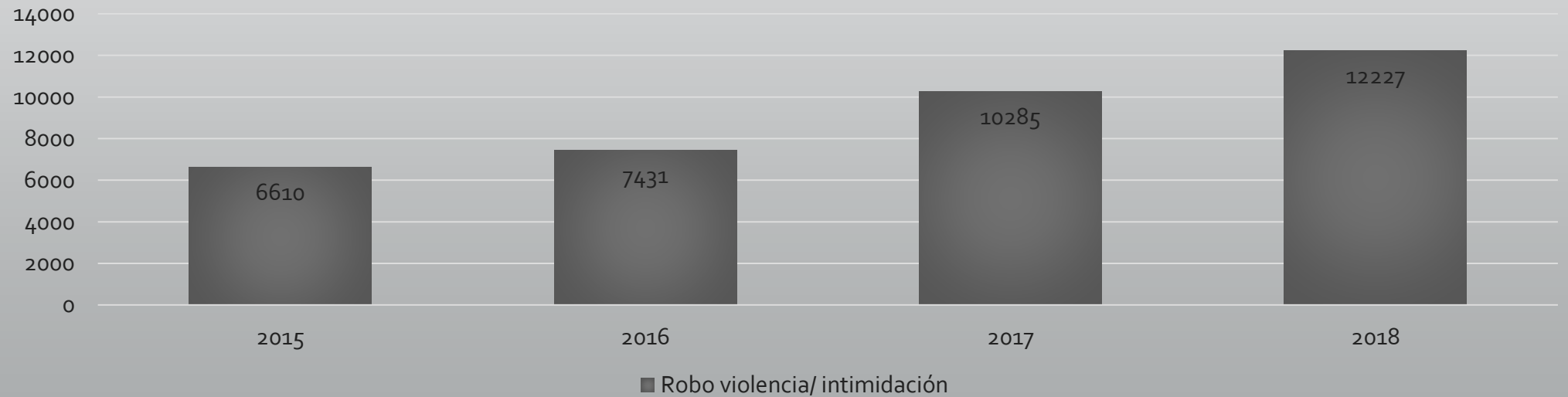


# BARCELONA crime statistics



# BARCELONA crime statistics

## Violent robbery



# BARCELONA crime statistics

## PORTAL ESTADÍSTICO DE CRIMINALIDAD Ministerio Interior 2019

Balances trimestrales de criminalidad - 2019. 2º Trimestre \*\* Increase of August not included

	January-june 2018	January-june 2019	Variation % 2019/2018
<u>Barcelona</u>			
1.-Homicidios dolosos y asesinatos consumados	3	3	0,0
5.-Delitos contra la libertad e indemnidad sexual	365	405	11,0
6.-Robos con violencia e intimidación	5.427	7.082	30,5
7.- Robos con fuerza en domicilios, establecimientos y otras instalaciones	4.253	4.506	5,9
8.-Hurto	52.141	56.015	7,4

# Why Barcelona?

- Tourism as a claim.
- Failure of the social welfare system.
- Lack of investment in social policies.
- Saturation of police services.
- Old Police Models.
- Gentrification
- Very positive previous situation.
- Lack of investment in educational policies.
- Lack of investment in health policies.
- Lack of prevention by public administrations

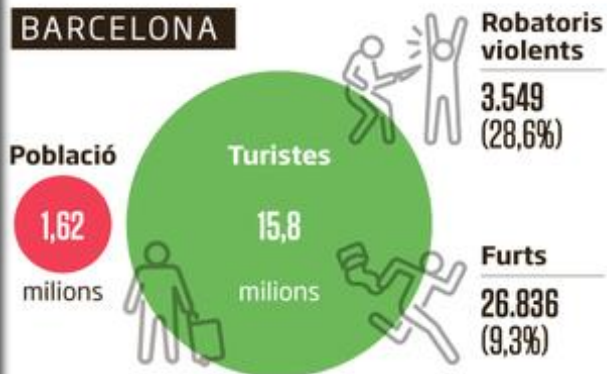
## TOURISM AND CRIME

- Barcelona is the city with more tourism in Spain (4<sup>th</sup> Europe)
- 5 million tourists more than Madrid.
- It is clear that the increase of tourists affects crime.
- Tourism acts as an attractor of crime and organized crime. Tourist as a victim.

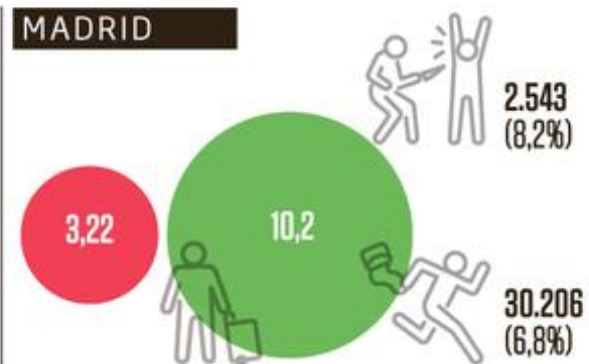
### DELICTES PER CIUTATS

Dades del primer trimestre del 2019 i variació respecte al primer trimestre del 2018 en percentatge

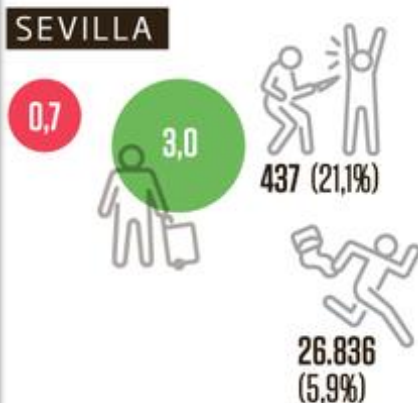
#### BARCELONA



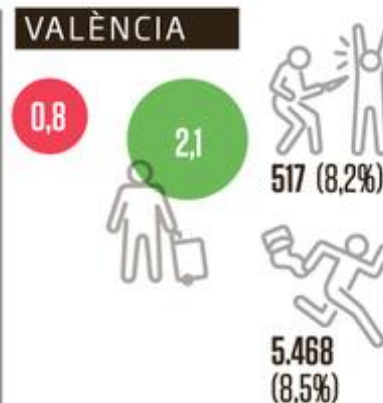
#### MADRID



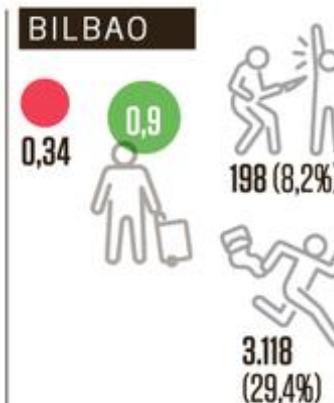
#### SEVILLA



#### VALÈNCIA



#### BILBAO



FONT: IDESCAT, MOSSOS D'ESQUADRA, MINISTERI D'INTERIOR I ELABORACIÓ PRÒPIA GRÀFIC: ESTHER UTRILLA



Katalanische Metropole  
**Barcelonas Kampf gegen die Kriminalität**  
 Stand: 02.09.2019 02:42 Uhr

KORRESP



# VÍDEOS DE PELEAS CALLEJERAS



Touristen aufgepasst  
**Barcelona wird zur Stadt des Verbrechens**  
 SPIEGEL Exklusiv für Abonnenten  
 Taschendiebe, Raubüberfälle, Bürgerwehren: Die Touristenmetropole Barcelona hat ein Sicherheitsproblem. Einwohner greifen zur Selbstjustiz.  
 Von Helene Zuber

f t e

20. August 2019





# 3. IMMIGRATION AND CRIME

Correlation between immigration and crime (Barcelona, 2019)

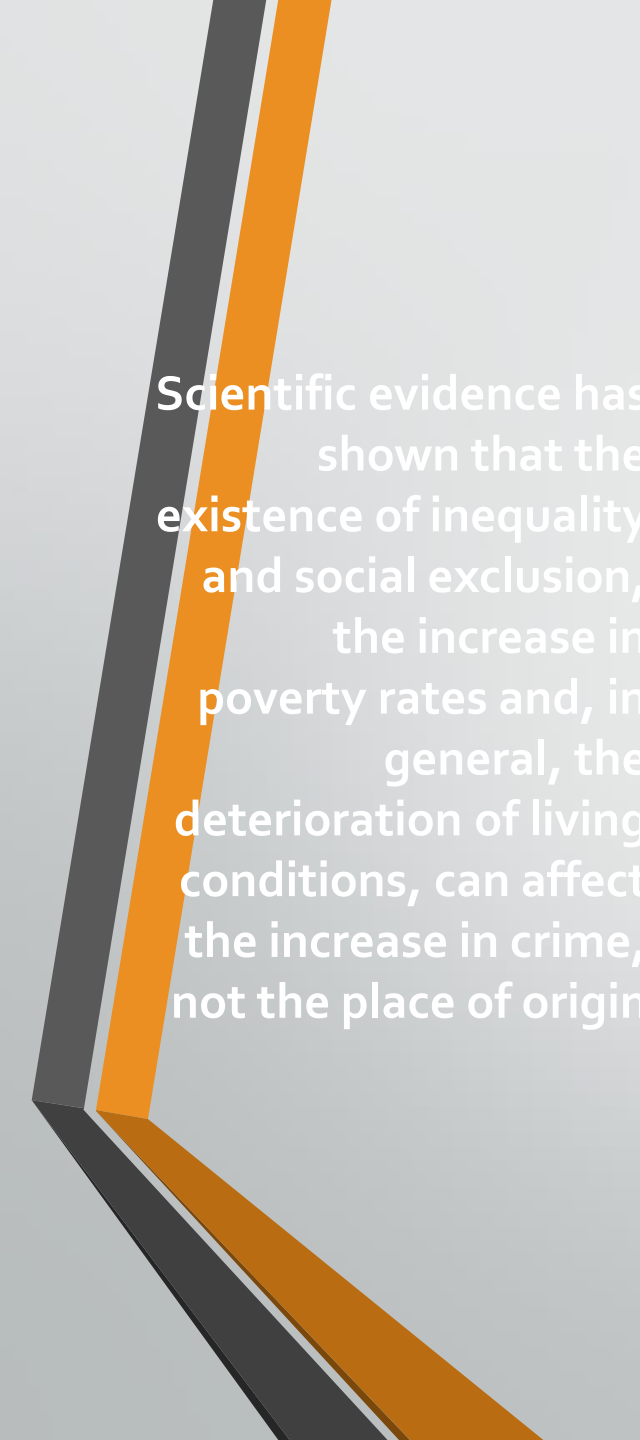
# IMMIGRATION AND CRIME

- For a long time different groups try to relate immigration to crime.
- Currently, several studies indicate that this link between crime and immigration does not correlate in a strong way.
- In Spain it is common for different sectors of the population to think that immigrants come to commit crimes



# IMMIGRATION AND CRIME

- According to the Sociological Research Center (CIS), in 2015, 17.7% of citizens believed that immigration increased crime.
- However, the representation of immigrants in prison population statistics is very low.
- **The criminology has always talked about the multifactoriality of crime, and that factors such as inequality, lack of opportunity and rejection can cause individuals to commit crimes (among many others).**



Scientific evidence has shown that the existence of inequality and social exclusion, the increase in poverty rates and, in general, the deterioration of living conditions, can affect the increase in crime, not the place of origin

**IMMIGRANT =  
CRIMINAL ?**

Resultados nacionales			
Crimes according to nationality			
	2018	2017	2016
<b>Homicide</b>			
Spain	837	925	1.028
UE	87	98	80
Another Europe	15	10	9
Africa	61	37	52
América	79	71	69
Asia	8	17	12
Oceanía	0	0	2
<b>Injuries</b>			
Spain	51.384	50.527	42.228
UE	4.884	4.541	4.050
Another Europe	534	534	433
Africa	4.842	4.514	3.800
América	5.207	4.819	4.247
Asia	612	579	504
Oceanía	9	5	10
<b>Sexual</b>			
Spain	2.184	2.103	2.107
UE	203	208	197
Another Europe	18	33	12
Africa	177	143	155
América	271	214	206
Asia	64	61	43
Oceanía	0	2	1
<b>Theft</b>			
Spain	46.224	43.424	38.361
UE	10.567	8.540	7.536
Another Europe	2.301	1.679	1.455
Africa	5.263	5.078	4.135
América	5.131	4.400	3.315
Asia	612	591	475
Oceanía	4	9	5
<b>Robbery/ assault</b>			
Spain	19.462	21.212	22.084
UE	2.034	2.187	2.561
Another Europe	430	438	393
Africa	2.743	2.675	2.427
América	1.011	1.104	1.177
Asia	73	95	114
Oceanía	3	2	2

# IMMIGRANT = CRIMINAL ?

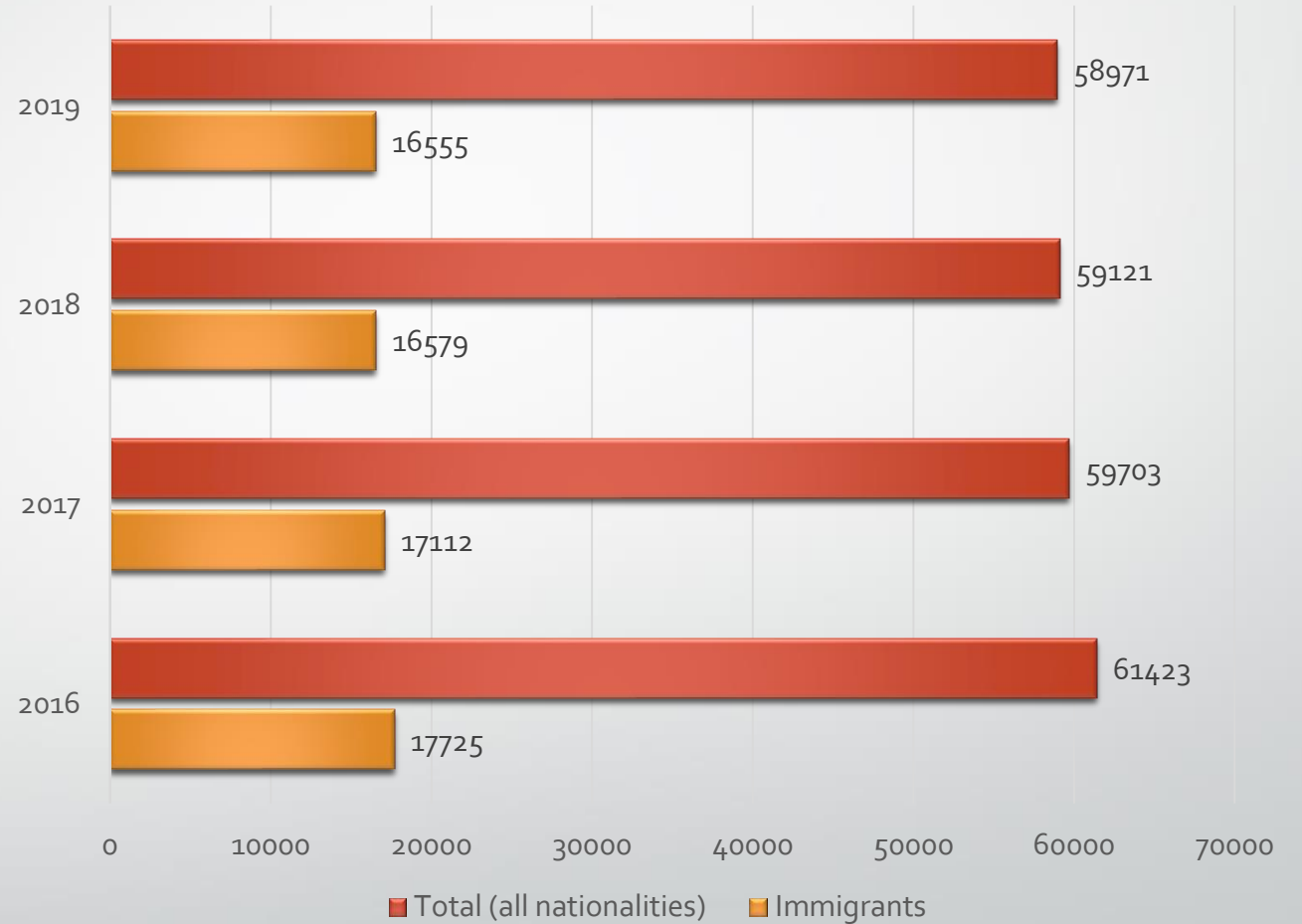
Crimes according to nationality

## Spaniards vs Immigrants

January 2016-2019

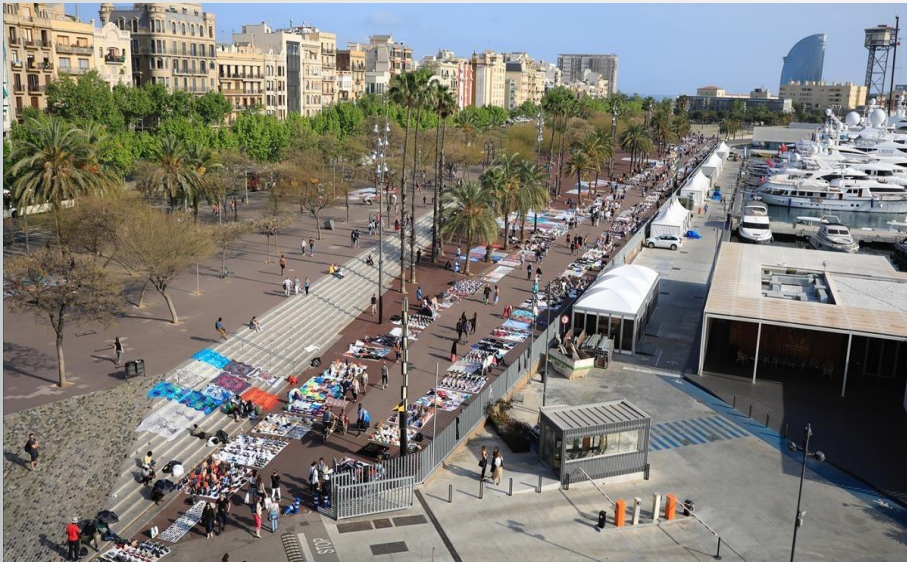
Statistics indicates that in 2017, 1/3 of foreign people arrested, were not residents (tourists or in transit).

## Prison population



# IMMIGRATION AND SOCIAL INEQUALITY

counterfeit items sale



unaccompanied minors



# Features

## counterfeit items sale

- sub-Saharan citizens
- sale of counterfeit items
- space occupation
- space disorder
- nonviolence
- no other criminal types
- mainly men

## unaccompanied minors

- Algerians or Moroccans
- under 18
- mainly men
- of more than 5000, only 18% commit crimes\*\*\*
- perception of insecurity
- in some cases drug use
- Homeless / out of protection system

## unaccompanied minors

- As known as MENAS
  - Only 3- 5% girls
  - More than 13.000 all Spain
  - Without social support
  - Out of the system (unknown by the administrations..)

### MENAS 2016/ 2019

5622

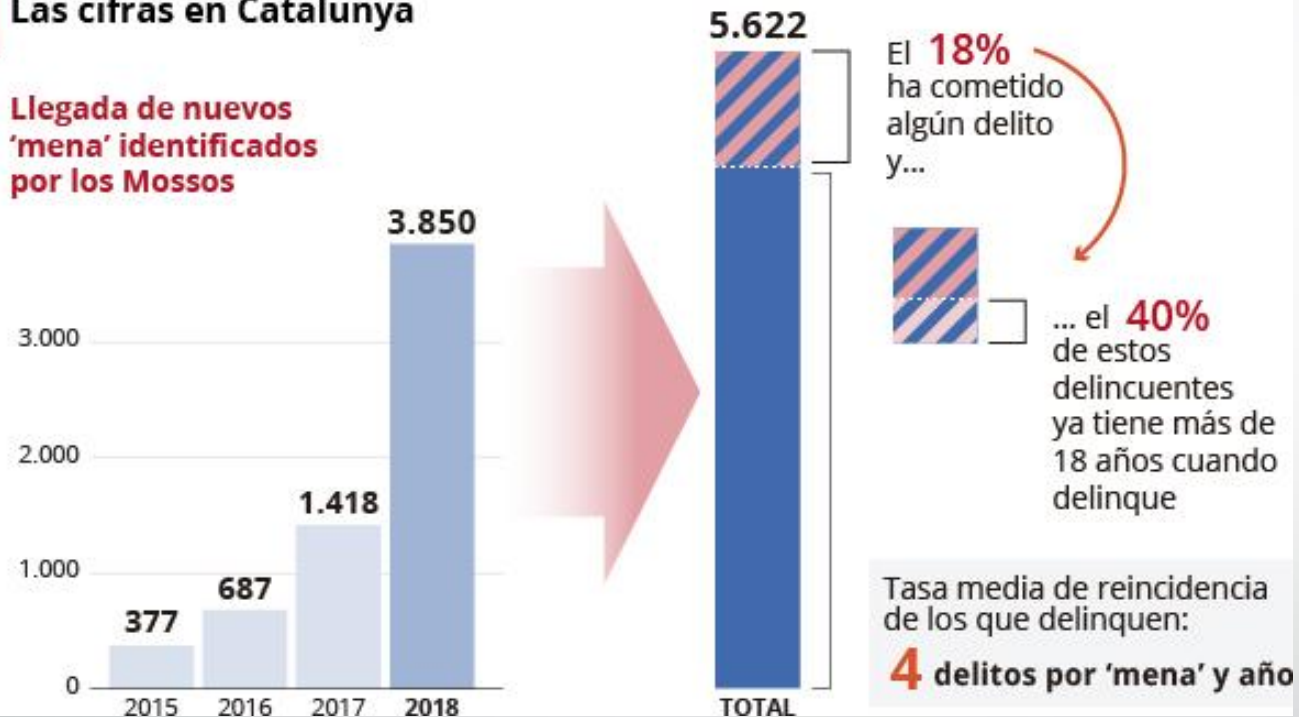


686



## Las cifras en Catalunya

Llegada de nuevos  
'mena' identificados  
por los Mossos



unaccompanied  
minors



# MIGRATORY ROUTES

Route made by minors, in many cases boys and girls to arrive in Spain and Europe. Source *Publico*, 2019

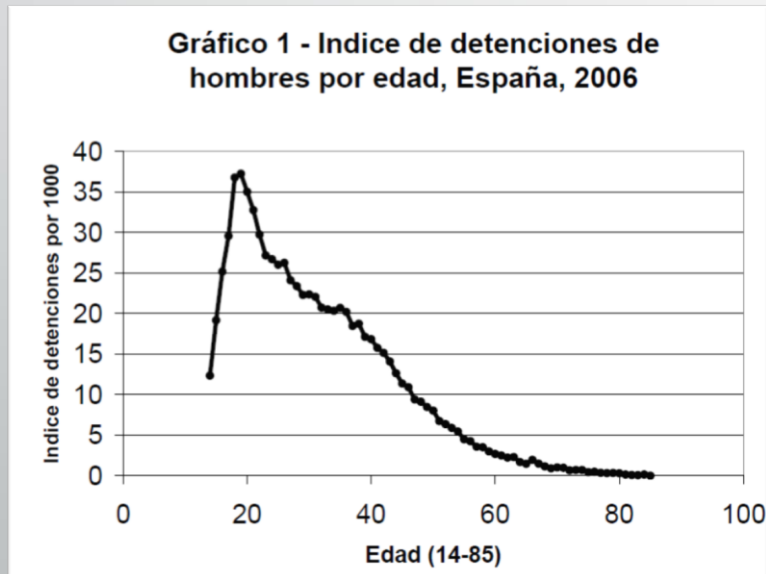


# Features

- Some sectors and political parties have tried to link the increase in crime and violence in Barcelona with immigration and unaccompanied minors.
- As we can see, the data indicates that this is not the case, only a small part of migrated participates in crime.
- Another problem detected is the organized crime groups that visit Barcelona during the summer months to commit crimes such as theft or high-level robbery.
- If we analyze the data, in most of the European countries we could find the same results.

# ASSAULT AND VIOLENT ROBBERY

The increase in violence in robberies is related more to other factors than to the origin of individuals.



- Male
- Age 15-18
- Lack of opportunities
- Lack of social and community support
- Alcohol and drugs
- Generally 3 groups: Personal factors, social support factors and environmental factors (Redondo, 2008)

# ~~IMMIGRANT = CRIMINAL~~



Lack of support for "correlation" in studies and data.



We could determine that any individual, under the same factors, could commit crimes, regardless of their origin.



The action of some political groups and "mass media" distort reality and generates the rejection of migrated people.



It is important that administrations and communities work directly to reduce rejection and attack false rumors about immigrants.



Marginality is one of the strongest predictors

# ~~IMMIGRANT = CRIMINAL~~



Many studies in the US and USA support that being immigrants is not a risk factor for crime, but other factors are.



1999-2012 legal and illegal immigration increased in the USA, but the national crime rate decreased, and more strongly in cities and regions with large numbers of immigrants.



Do not follow public policies, actions and opinions that criminalize, since they get important support in certain sectors.  
"Crimmigration" (Stumpf, 2006)



good work police Spain **62%**  
police treat poor people badly **47%**  
police treat minorities worse **42%**



# 4. POLICING IMMIGRATION

How should the police work?

# POLICE- MIGRANT RELATIONSHIP



- The police-migrant relationship has been for many years one of the main problems of the communities.
  - Unknowledge
  - Language problems
  - Culture issues
  - Distrust
  - Fear

## What can we do?

Strategies to improve relations with immigrants (and other groups ...)



- **COMMUNITY POLICE:**
  - Community police models help improve the participation of the police in the community and the community in the police.
  - Knowing each other improves relationships and builds more trust.
  - Community models must work on police legitimacy, procedural justice, trust & confidence.
  - Participation



# What can we do?

- Proximity police need the following requirements (EFUS, 2016):
  - Territory as a meeting point
  - Partnership
  - Versatility (combination of prevention, response, deterrence ...)
  - Accountability of police work
  - Priority in the community model



## What can we do?

Strategies to improve relations with immigrants (and other groups ...)



- **PROBLEM ORIENTED POLICING:**
  - Work in partnership with community.
  - Diagnose problems and work it with the community.
  - Improve the legitimacy, trust and confidence.

## What can we do?

Barcelona example. A community model allows to work on prevention, proactivity and improve relations and legitimacy



- In the case of Barcelona, the lack of police resources has meant that prevention has not been carried out for a long time.
- Saturation due to lack of police officers has caused a good part of the work to be reactive
- Is not only the number of police, it is the work they do.
  - Evidence Based Policing
  - Intelligence Led Policing
  - Proactive police

# Evidence based policing

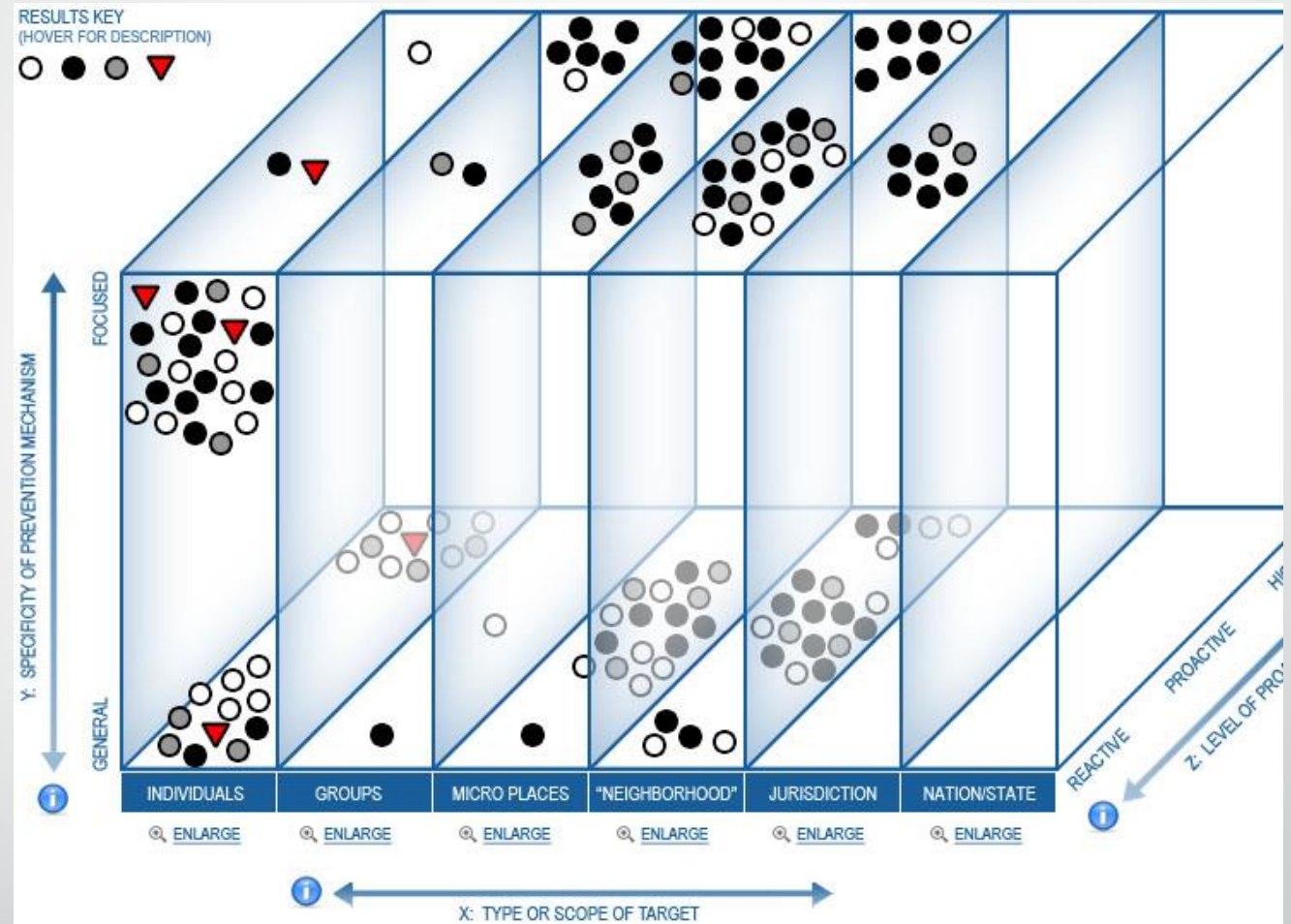
- Evidence-based policing (EBP) is an approach in which science is constituted as the main element when making decisions.
- Sherman (1998) explained to us that police practices should be based on evidence of what works best. For him, police organizations should work on two issues:
  1. Use the results of rigorous evaluations of police tactics and strategies to guide decision making.
  2. Generate and apply analytical knowledge of the data derived from the police institution itself in terms of crime and other issues.

# Evidence based policing

- What do we need for police organizations to participate in evidence based policing? We need 2 equally important components.
  1. Increase in scientific knowledge: analyze the scientific literature that may exist on certain topics and that may be extrapolated to police organizations and subject to intervention. For this, it is ideal for the police to lead and participate in the hand of the academic world in research and studies that address the different issues that may matter to their communities.
  2. Translation of those results obtained in the investigations in an accessible and easy to digest format for the agents, who can carry it out, understanding the meaning of said tactic.

# Evidence Based Policing

- Effective EBP + when focusing on specific objectives.
- Cynthia Lum et al., (2017) developed a matrix on which they work in 3 dimensions and 4 symbols. black circle = effective intervention; white = ineffective; gray = mixed result; Red triangle = harmful.
- Where black circles are most concentrated are in areas where interventions focus on proactive activity in places that are in the neighborhood or smaller or in people. This suggests that the general interventions that are applied are less effective than the targeted ones.



## What can we do?

Trust, confidence & legitimacy



- According to Tyler (1990, 2006) to more police legitimacy, greater citizen cooperation, and greater willingness not only to comply with police orders, but also to comply with the law.
- If we lose this legitimacy diminishes deference to the authorities, voluntary compliance and increases the difficulty of governance and the possibility of resorting to more coercive actions.

## What can we do?

Trust, confidence & legitimacy



- As Hough et al. (2013) indicated, institutional legitimacy exists at the time that people subject to a legal authority feel the duty to obey this authority, understanding that it acts legally and shares its moral values.
- As a result, we can find several authors who indicate the importance of procedural justice in the construction of the concept of legitimacy.





# What can we do?

- According to Bradford et al, (2013) there are two great experiences as potential sources of legitimacy, at least nominally, to the power of the police.
  - The relationship of people with the police as an organization, understanding the behavior of agents and surveillance styles and processes
  - Social context where the police and the citizen operate. The issue here is a broader consideration of knowledge or experiences people rely on to make legitimacy judgments.

# What can we do?

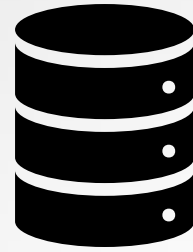
- Jackson et al., (2011) indicated that, in order to have confidence in the police, citizens should consider that they share the same values, motivations, goals and priorities, understanding social legitimacy as a "moral alignment" between individuals and system.
- The confidence in the police is formed by the group of assessments that the citizens make on the technical competence of the police to carry out their tasks; the extent to which the police share and take into consideration the interests and needs of the community; and the degree of justice with which the police treat citizens in their contacts (Jackson et al. 2012).

## TIPS

The police proximity will allow us to work these actions in the communities



- Promote diversity management policies
- Meet the other, actions and formations based on empathy
- Police approach to risk groups
- Improvement of police attention to minorities
- Reduce identification by racial profile
- Encourage the entry of minority communities to the police
- Avoid populist speeches and correct hate attitudes
- **Create police units aimed at working with risk groups or minority groups, creating a link with these**



<https://www.rand.org/pubs/tools/TL261/better-policing-toolkit/strategy-selector.html>

<https://whatworks.college.police.uk/toolkit/Pages/Welcome.aspx>

<https://cebcp.org/>

<https://popcenter.asu.edu/content/learning-center>

<https://crimesolutions.gov/>

[https://www.reducingcrime.com/blog?fbclid=IwARo4pLBWYruVsWyjHokD5InBW8yBpMnmsd\\_bMpmYIT8fJQePN8p9NAExudo](https://www.reducingcrime.com/blog?fbclid=IwARo4pLBWYruVsWyjHokD5InBW8yBpMnmsd_bMpmYIT8fJQePN8p9NAExudo)

<https://www.statista.com/topics/2833/police-in-canada/>



## 5. EXAMPLE: PREMECE

Prevención de la delincuencia de Menores Extranjeros Ceuta  
(Crime Prevention of Foreign Minors Ceuta)

## PREMECE

<https://ocspi.wordpress.com/proyectos-ocspi/premece/que-es-premece/>

García España, E. y Carvalho da Silva, J. (2019). "Assessment of a juvenile delinquency prevention program with foreign unaccompanied minors in street situation" en *Kriminologie*. Special Issue (en prensa).

- Objective: Reduce situations of criminal risk of unaccompanied foreign minors living in the streets of Ceuta. This objective is necessarily achieved through social protection and inclusion strategies.
- Specifics:
  - Diagnosis of the situation of foreigners under 18 who live temporarily in the streets.
  - Intervene with these children through a team of social educators and psychologists for their greater protection and promotion of a prosocial lifestyle.
  - Investigate the criminological dynamics in which these foreign minors develop.
  - **Study the levels of police legitimacy between these minors and the different police administrations**
  - Analyze the victimization suffered by these minors and identify the perpetrators.
  - Evaluate the execution of the program, its impact and its sustainability.

## PREMECE

What do they do with the minors?



- Assist in hygiene, food, health and legal protection.
- Develop strategies to prevent criminal behavior and promote a pro-social lifestyle in them through educational, sports and leisure activities.
- Intervene with these minors, seeking individualized responses to their needs and interests



# 6. CONCLUSIONS



# CONCLUSIONS

- The police are not the only one who must work these problems, we need partenaires, not only from the police. (Academia, associations, communities...)
- However, in most cases it is the first contact or who can have more contact with immigrants
- We need to work about the legitimacy, trust, confidence and procedural justice
- Community policing as a key with:
  - Evidence based police founds
  - Intelligence Led policing
  - Problem oriented policing
- We need to know that Institutional discrimination, labeling, social disorganization and opportunity structure directly affect criminality, but not only immigrants, to any risk group (Garcia- España, 2014).
- We need to avoid de "cimmigration" message.
- Participation of the community with the migrants.....transform to **"Communities that care"**



# THANK YOU

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