



National coalition of Howard leagues for penal reform

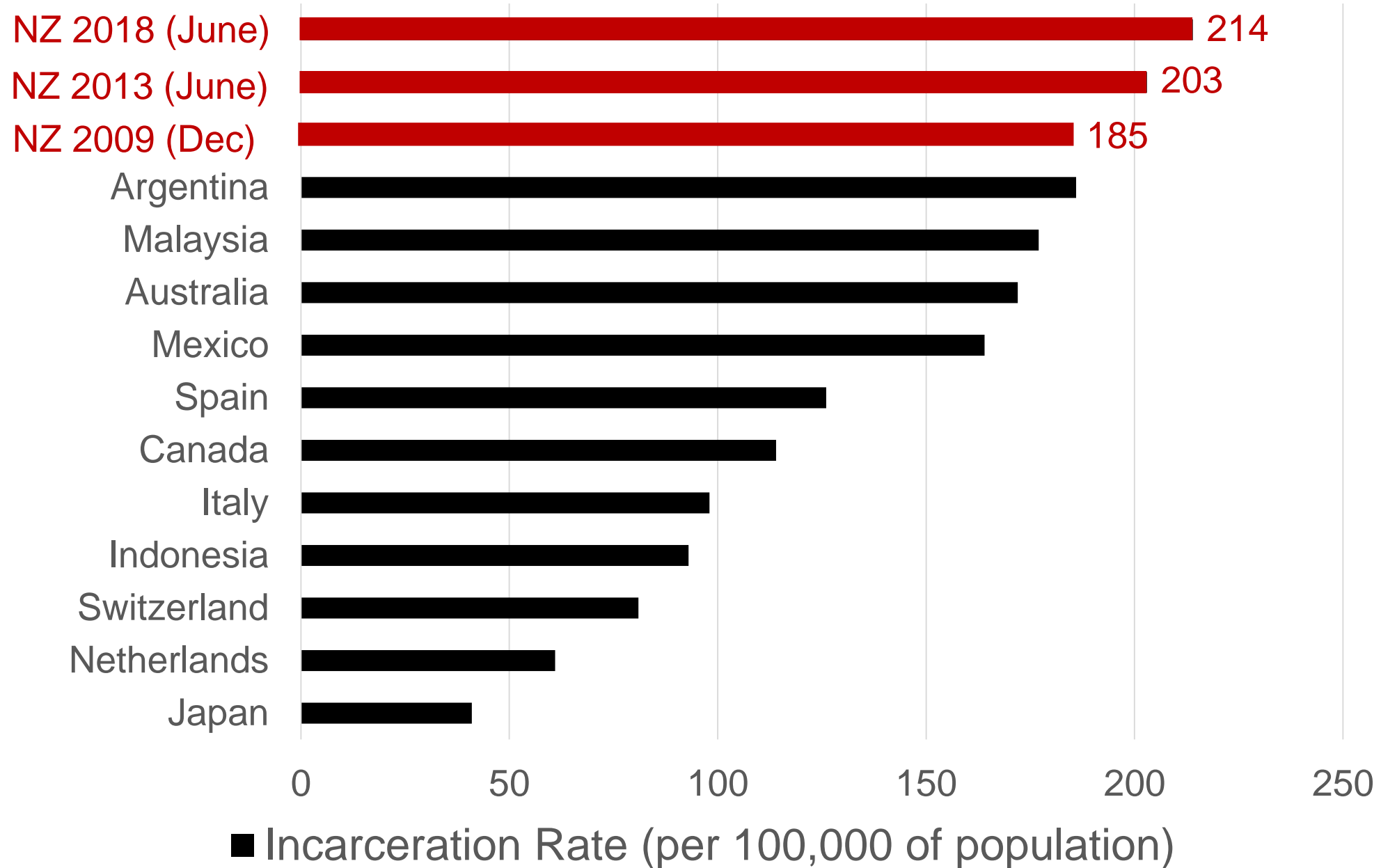
Canterbury | Otago | Wellington

- * We are named after English penal reformist John Howard (1726-1790)
- * National Coalition of Howard Leagues in New Zealand dates from 1924
- * We are a penal reform and prisoner advocacy group
- * We are funded by membership and donations
- * We are independent and receive no government funding.

League presidents:

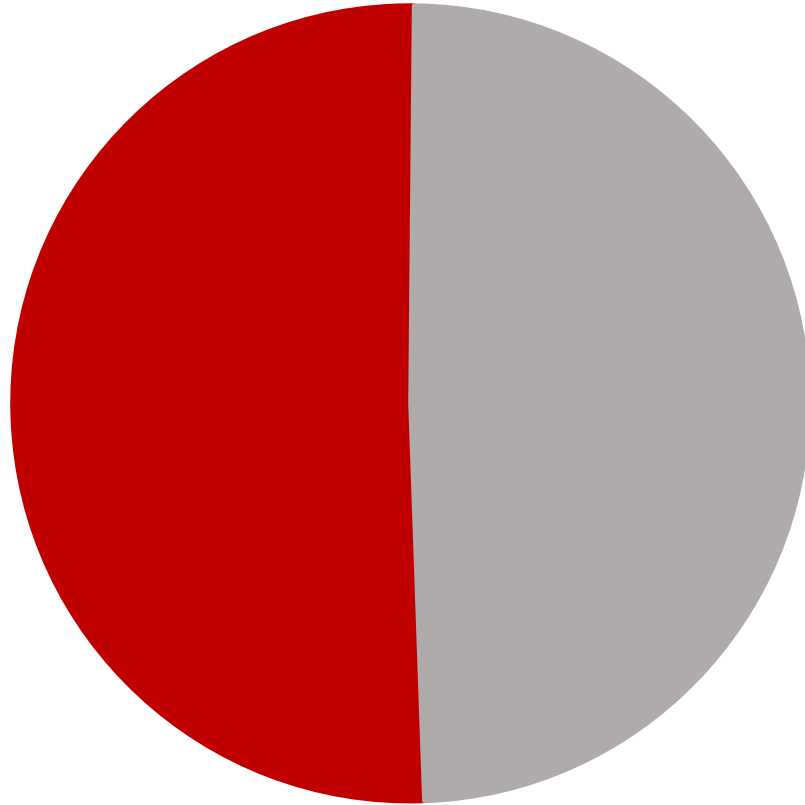
- * Cos Jeffrey (Canterbury)
- * Alan Bell (Otago)
- * **Christine McCarthy (Wellington)**

wellington@howardleague.org.nz



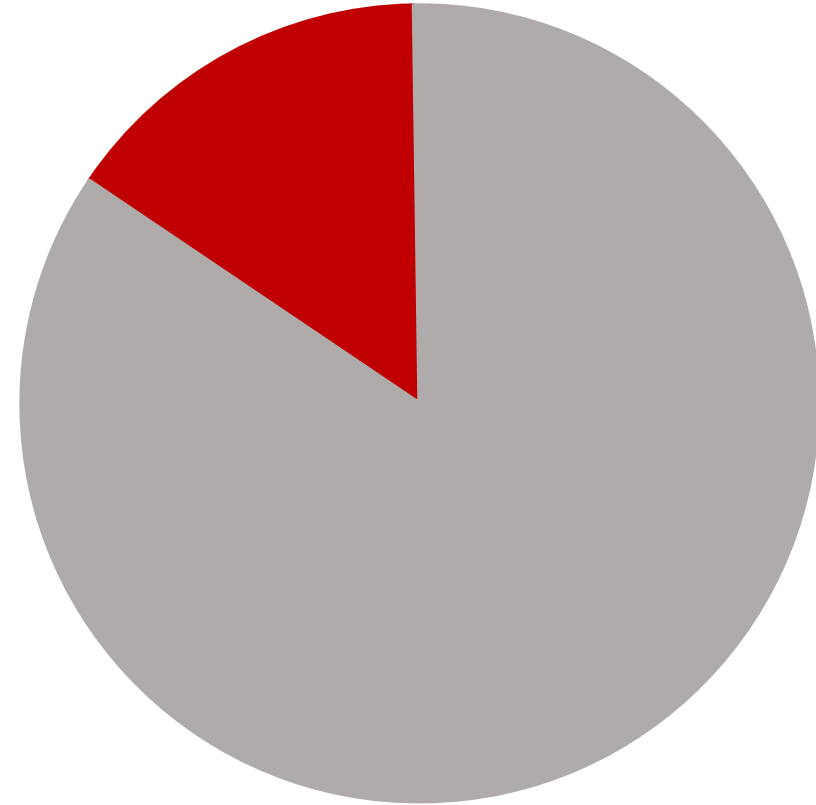
SOURCES: NZ CORRECTIONS QUARTERLY STATISTICS, STATISTICS NZ; "WORLD PRISON BRIEF" www.prisonstudies.org

NZ Prison Pop. (June 2018)



■ Māori (50.7%)
■ non-Māori (49.3%)

NZ Population (June 2017)

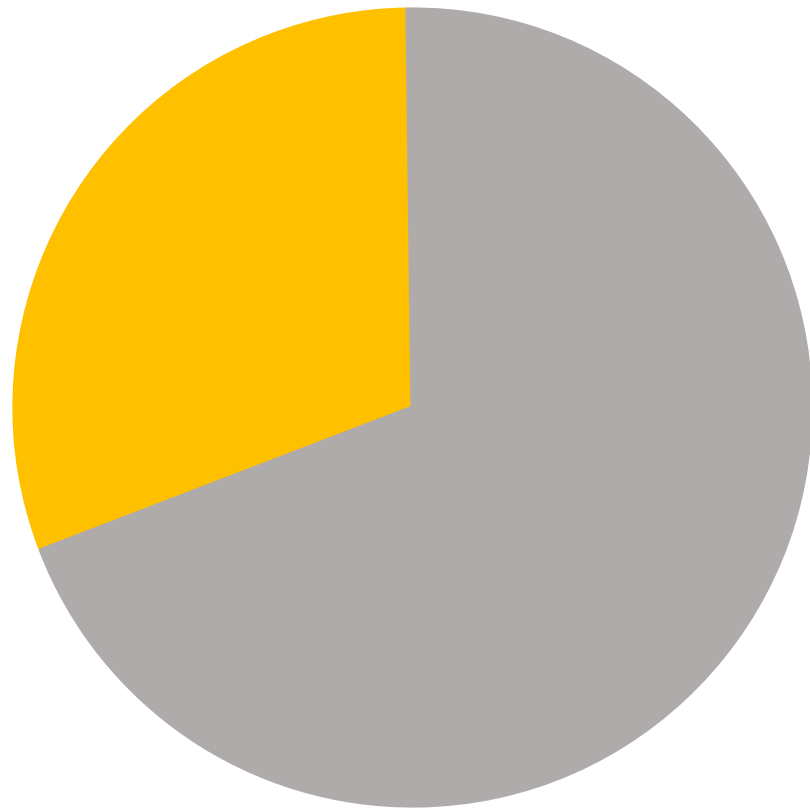


■ Māori (15.33%)
■ non-Māori (84.67%)



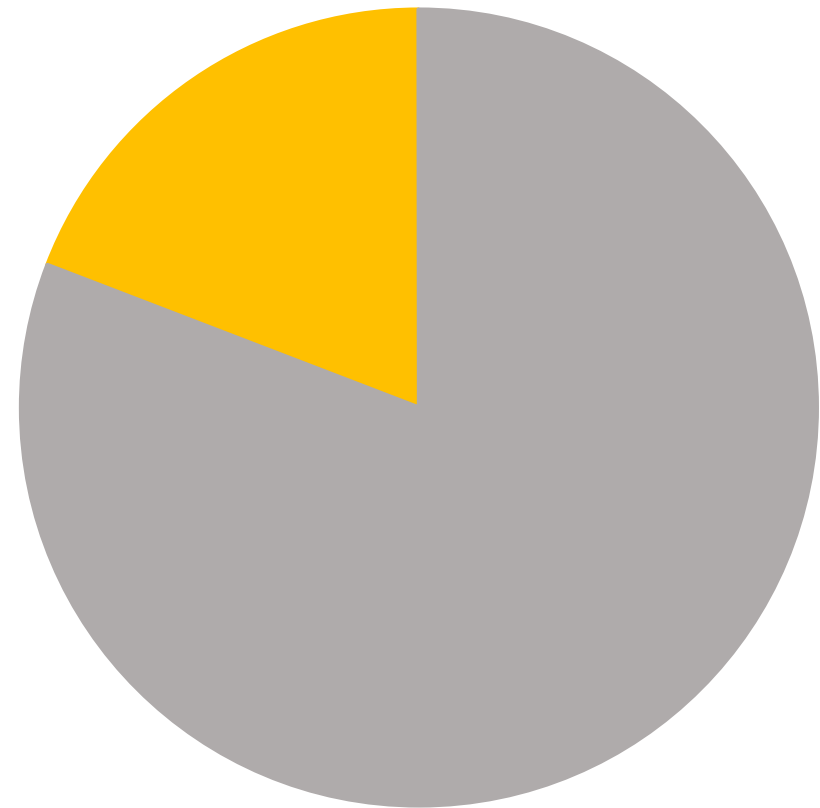
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NZ Incarceration (June 2018)



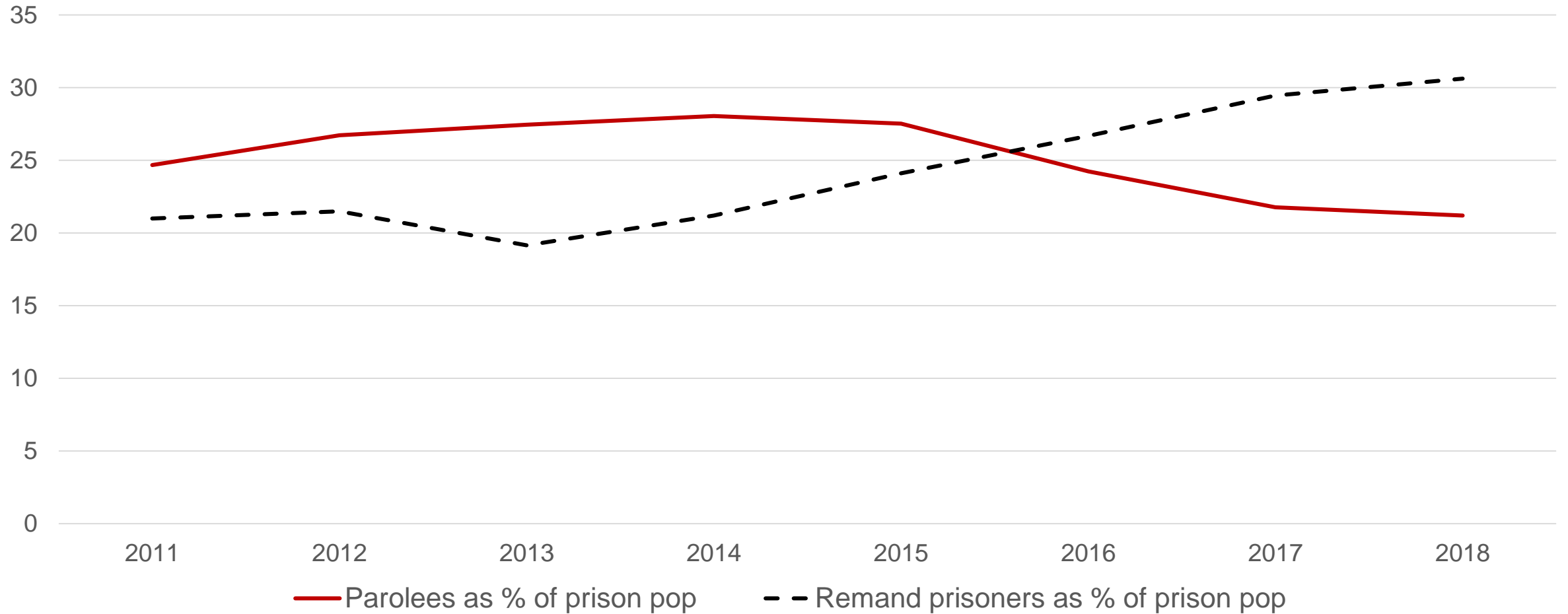
■ Remand (30.63%)
■ other (69.37%)

NZ Incarceration (June 2013)



■ Remand (19.15%)
■ other (80.85%)

Parolees and people on remand as a % of Prison pop.

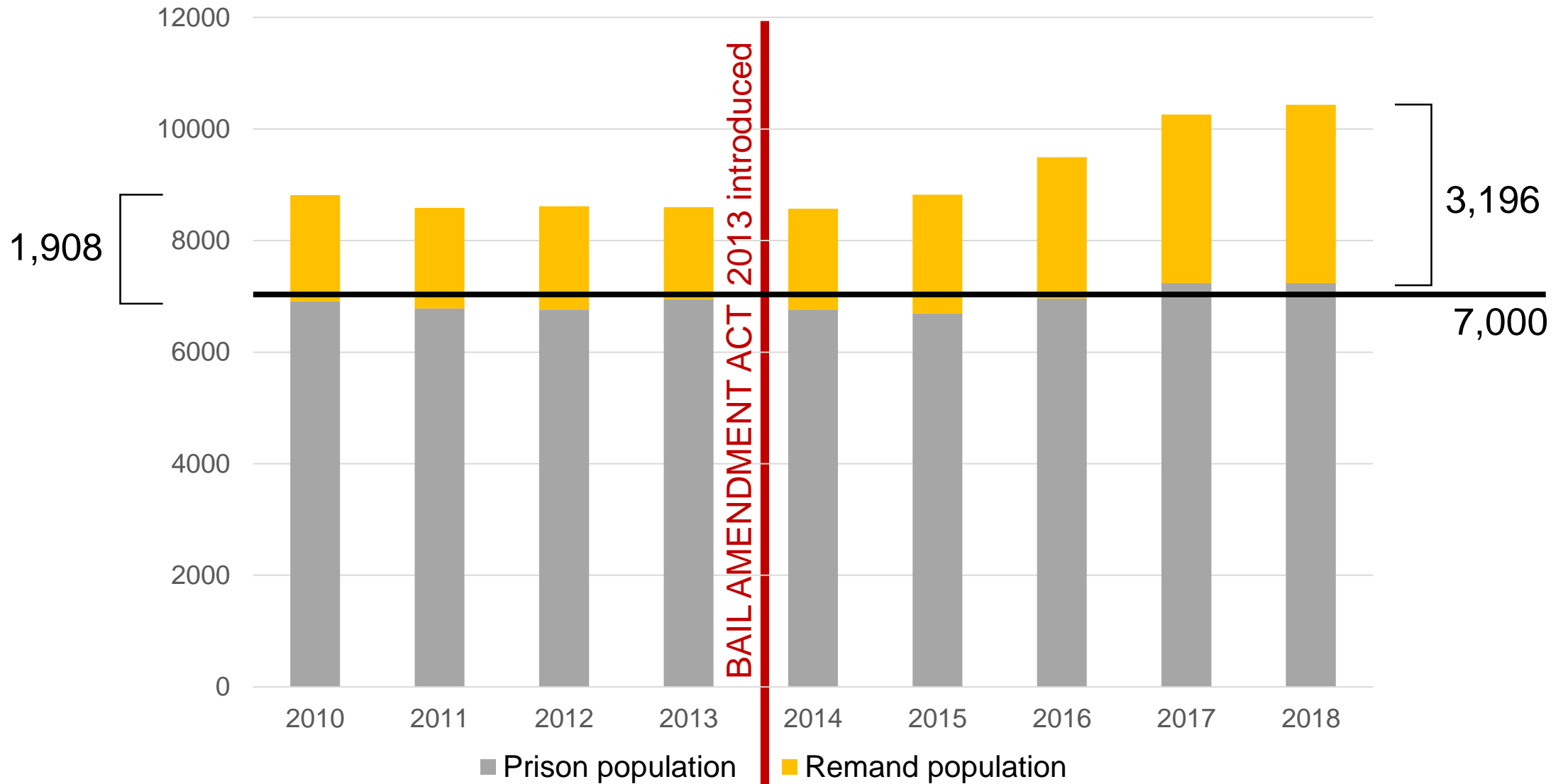


SOURCE: NZ CORRECTIONS QUARTERLY PRISON STATISTICS

GETTING BAIL IS MORE DIFFICULT: use of remand for less serious crime; issues re: unsuitable housing.

GETTING PAROLE IS MORE DIFFICULT: like bail, fewer prisoners granted parole (so spend a longer time in prison), prisoners have difficulty accessing rehabilitation programmes identified by the Parole Board in time for their parole hearings.

Remand component of Total Prison population



SOURCES: NZ CORRECTIONS QUARTERLY STATISTICS

CONSEQUENCES

The consequences of over-incarceration include reduced conditions:

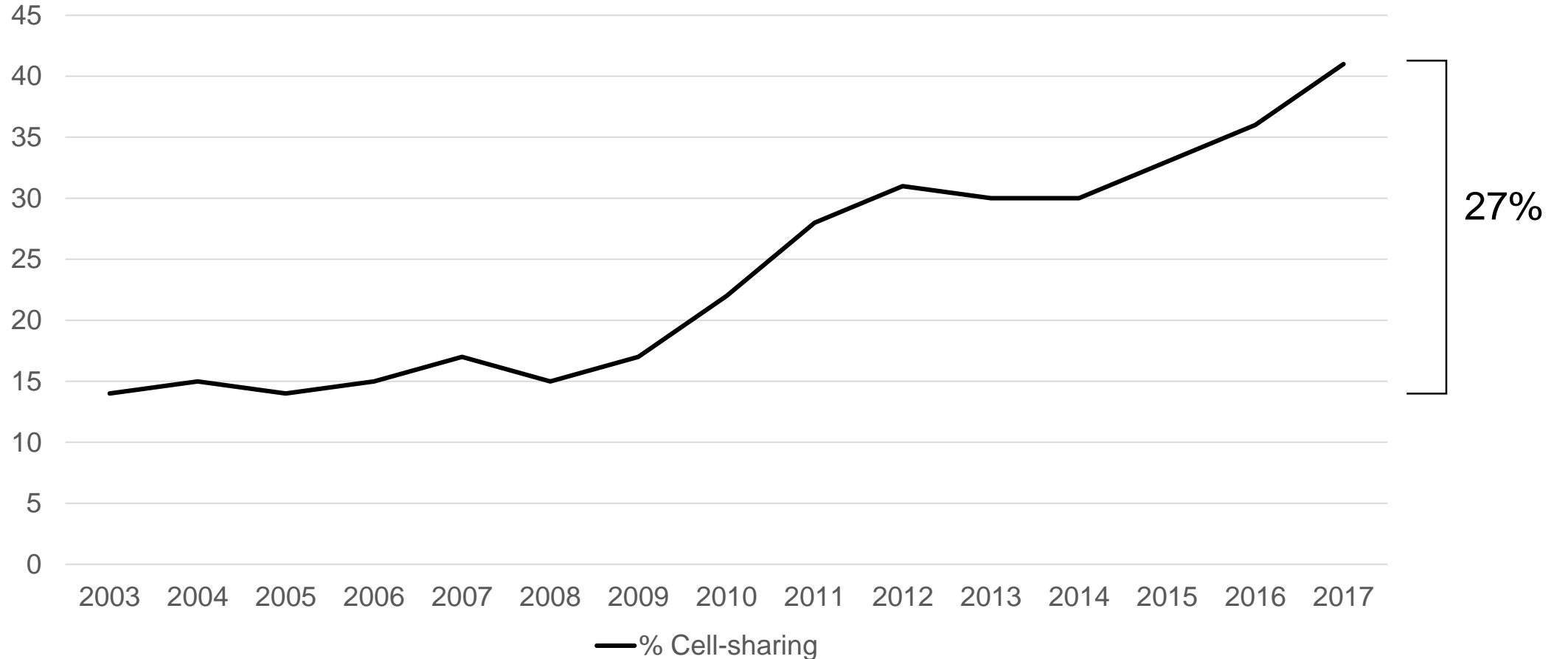
- * overcrowding, leading to double-bunking
- * difficulty accessing rehabilitation programmes
- * inadequate access to healthcare
- * inadequate access to mental healthcare

(91% of prisoners have a lifetime diagnosable mental illness or substance-use disorder; 62% prisoners have been diagnosed in the past 12 months **Chief Science Advisor**)

Over-incarceration & systemic discrimination

are issues that **Cabo Verde, Canada, Iran, Ireland, Sweden, Switzerland** and **Thailand** have raised in their previous UPR recommendations to New Zealand

Increase in % Cell-sharing (2003-2017)



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS "CORRECTIONS VOLUMES 2016/17" P. 2.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Provide more rehabilitative support for Māori prisoners** by increasing the number of Māori Focus Units (Te Tirohanga Units) from five to eight by 2021, with funding allocated for Māori Focus Units in all 18 prisons within 5 years.
- 2. Ensure greater use of alternatives to prosecution** by providing new funding to extend the capacity of Te Pae Oranga (Iwi Justice Panels).
- 3. Increase the use of non-prison sentences** by allowing community-based sentences and home detention to up to 24 months, with access to appropriate rehabilitation support services, in order to reduce the number of people serving time in prison.
- 4. Repeal the Bail Amendment Act 2013.**
- 5. Reduce the negative impact of housing poverty on incarceration**, by allocating 15% of the new social housing placements announced in the Public Housing Plan (August 2018) to those people who would otherwise be refused bail or parole due to insufficient housing for the next four years (i.e. 960 additional placements over 4 years).
- 6. Establish more places on rehabilitation programmes** by providing new funding for Medium Intensity Rehabilitation Programmes (MIRP) and Drug Treatment Unit (DTU) Programmes to ensure all prisoners requiring these programmes complete these prior to their first Parole Board hearing.
- 7. Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility** from 10 to 12 years, in line with international standards.