



Societal and economic impact of customs crime prevention at a high level, annexes

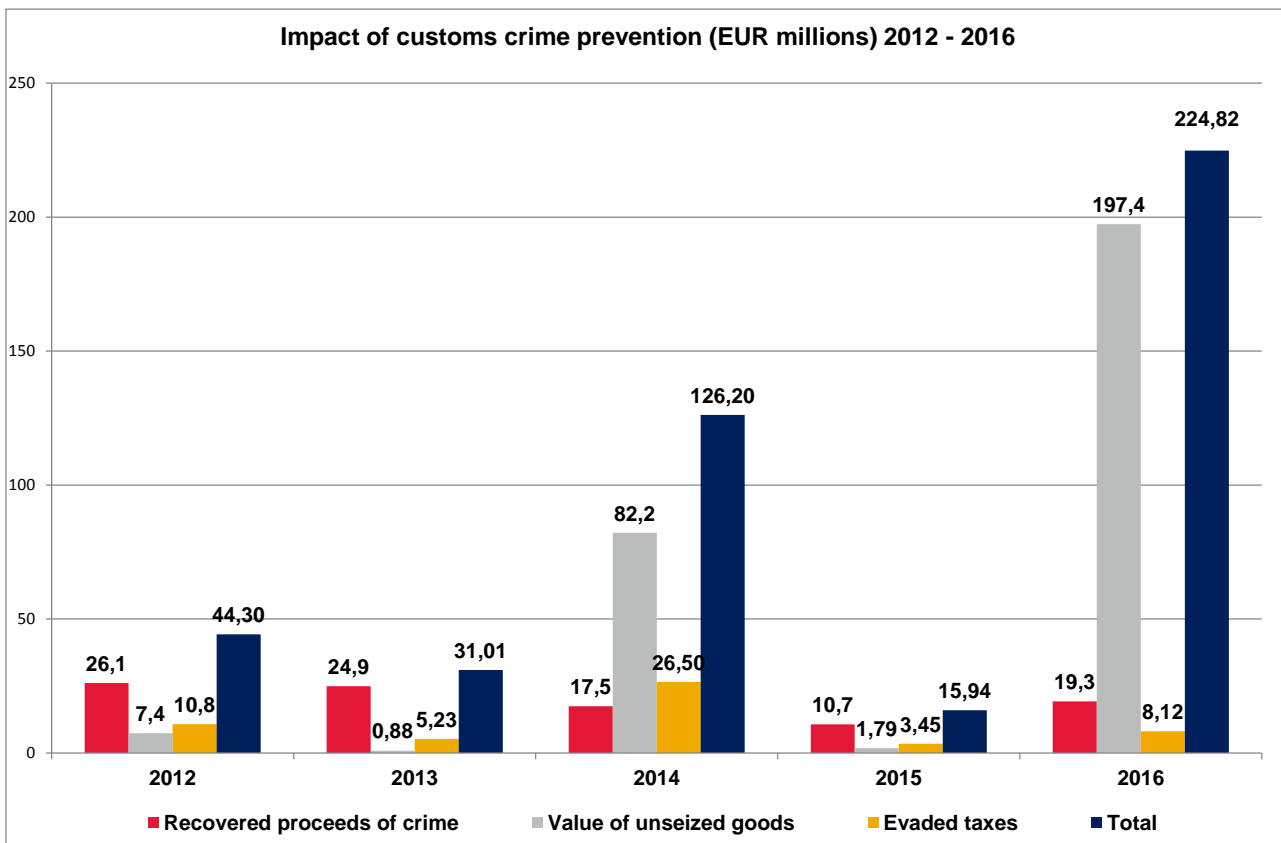


Figure 1. Impact of customs crime prevention 2012–2016

Record-high impact of customs crime prevention on society – almost 225 million euros

In 2016, the impact of customs crime prevention on society amounted to 225 million euros. The impact of customs crime prevention in 2015 amounted to 15.94 million euros.

The increase in the impact is mostly due to the increase in the value of unseized goods.

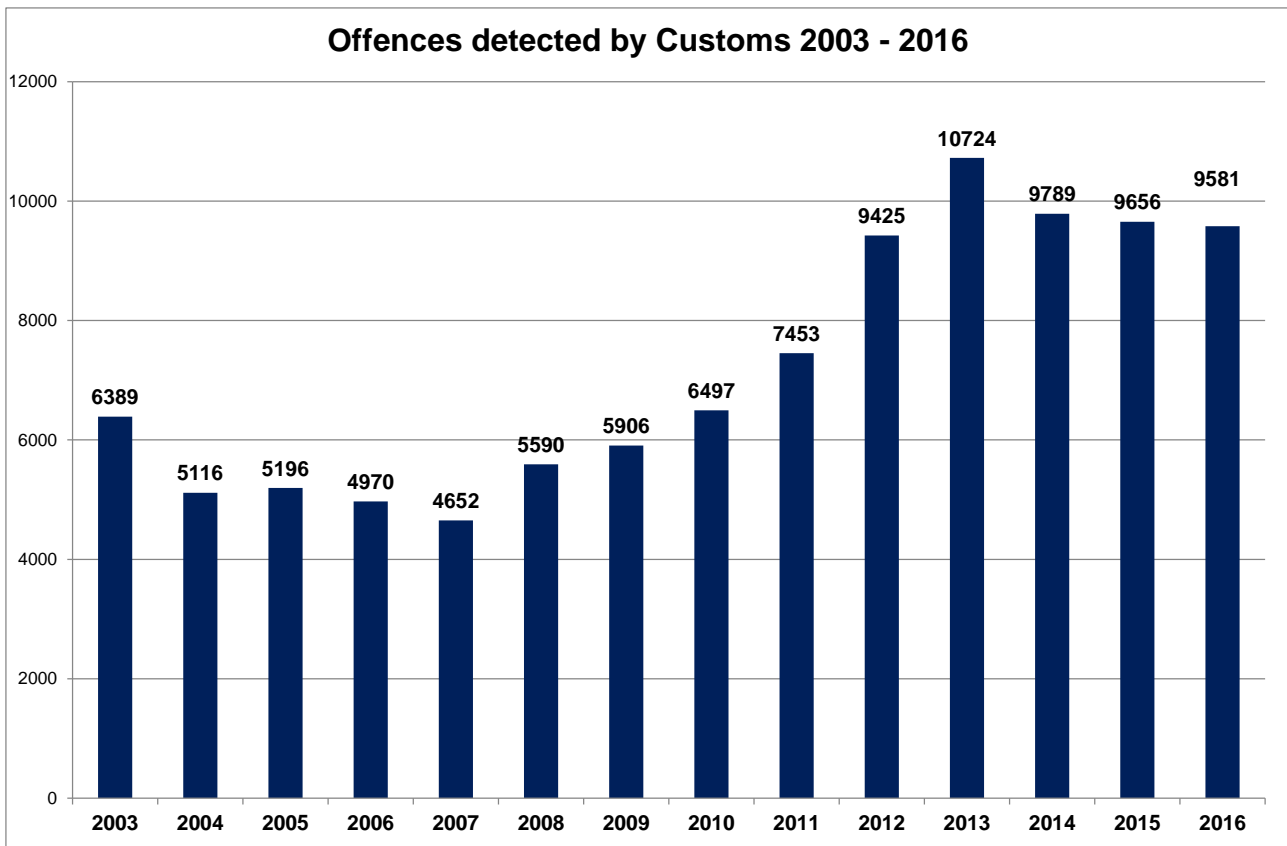


Figure 2. Offences detected by Customs 2003–2016

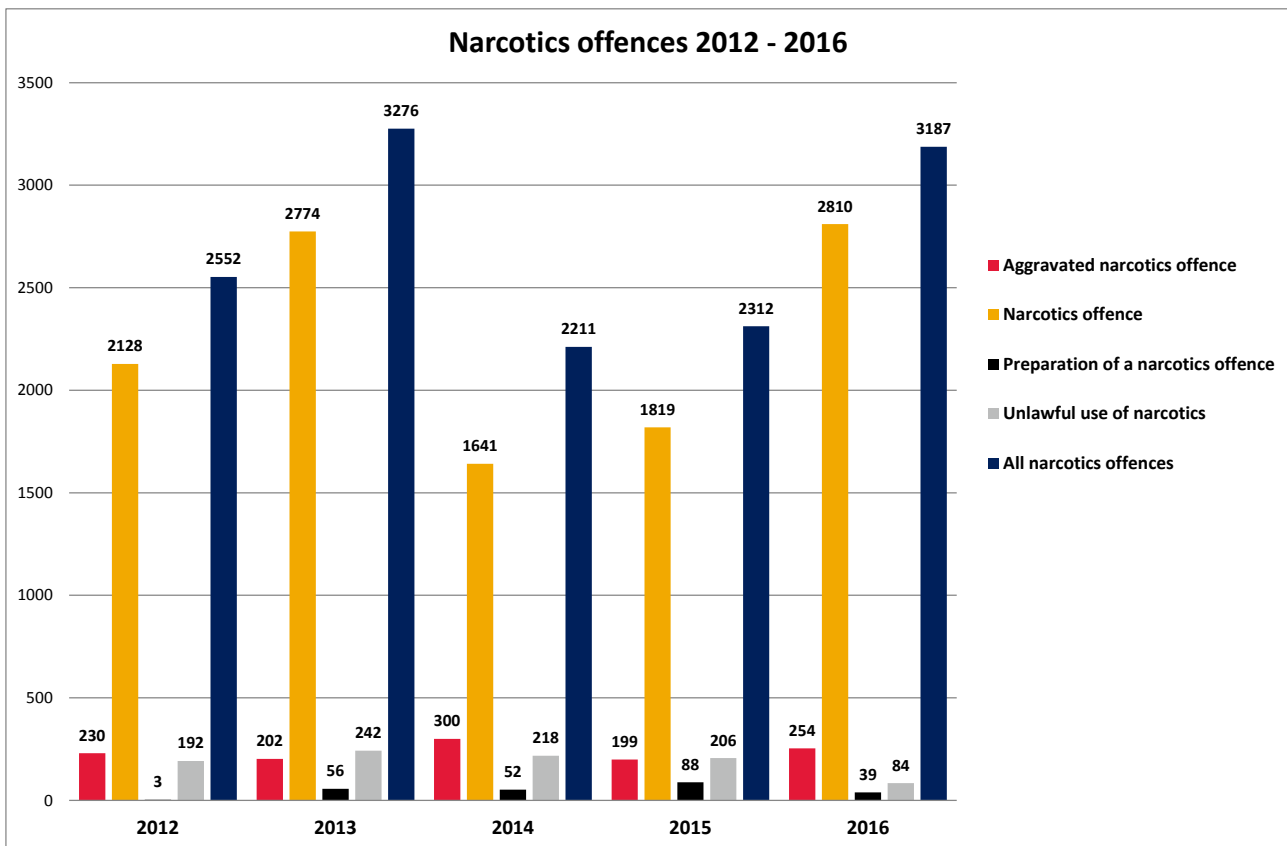


Figure 3. Narcotics offences 2012–2016

High number of criminal offences – Internet has key role

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In 2016, Finnish Customs registered altogether 9 581 offences (9 656 offences in 2015).

In 2016, Finnish Customs uncovered altogether 3 187 narcotics offences (2 312 offences in 2015). There was also an increase in the number of aggravated narcotics offences. Customs investigated 254 such offences in 2016 (199 offences in 2015).

Altogether 325 persons were suspected of aggravated narcotics offences. About 40 % of the suspects in aggravated cases were foreign citizens.

Standard narcotics offences have mainly been uncovered through customs controls of postal traffic, which means that narcotics are ordered on the Internet to an increasing extent.

Narcotics are imported to Finland mainly from the Baltic countries and Western Europe. Finland is a transit country for narcotics that are smuggled to Russia and Western Europe. Of the other Nordic countries, narcotics are smuggled especially to Norway through Finland.

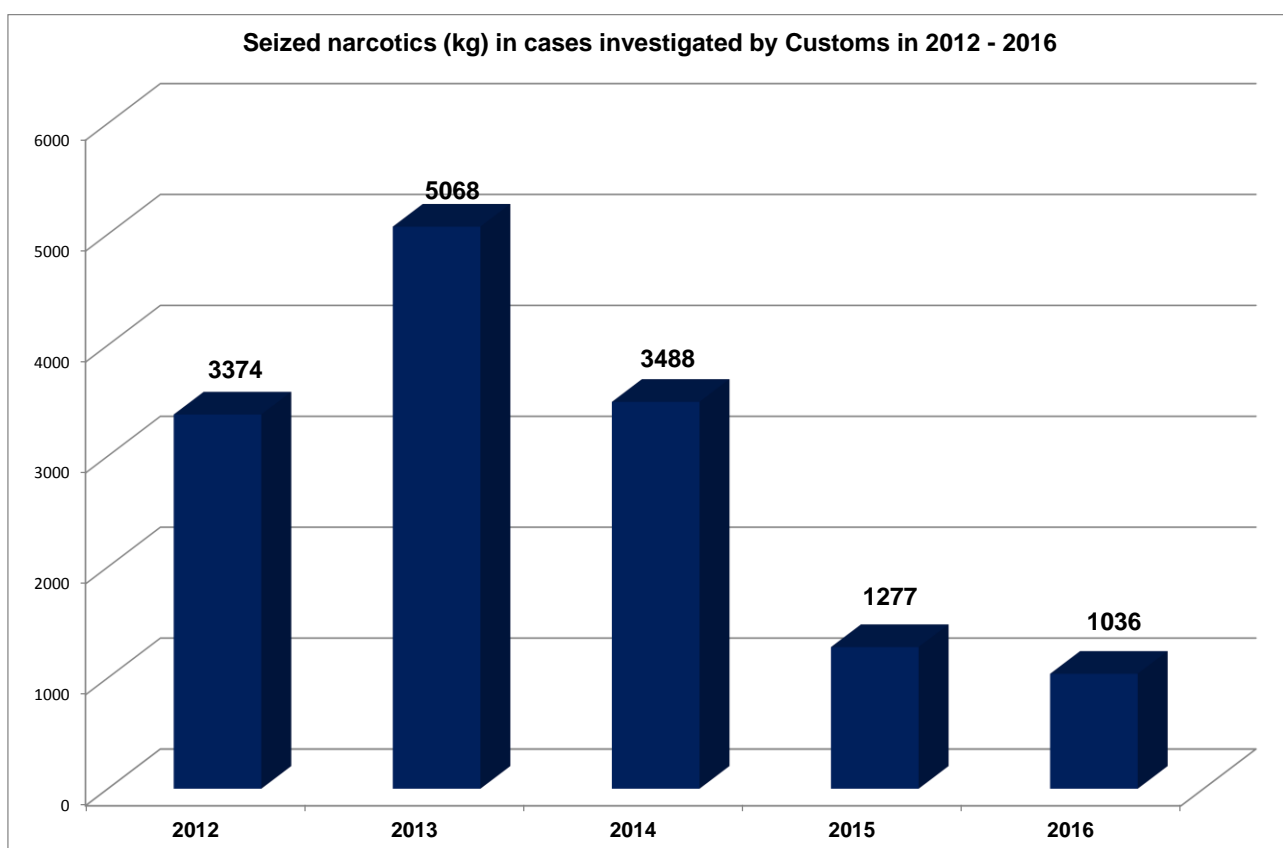


Figure 4. Seized narcotics in cases investigated by Customs 2012–2016

Decrease in seized narcotics due to increased use of dried khat

In 2016, customs authorities seized 1 036 kg of narcotics, a clearly smaller quantity than in 2015 when the seized quantity was 1 277 kg. The drop in numbers is mainly due to the fact that Customs seized 800 kg of khat in 2016. In 2015, the quantity was 1 000 kg. The khat imported to Finland is mainly dried, which presumably does not mean that less khat is used, however. It is estimated that 100 grams of dried khat contains as much cathinone as 200 grams of fresh khat.

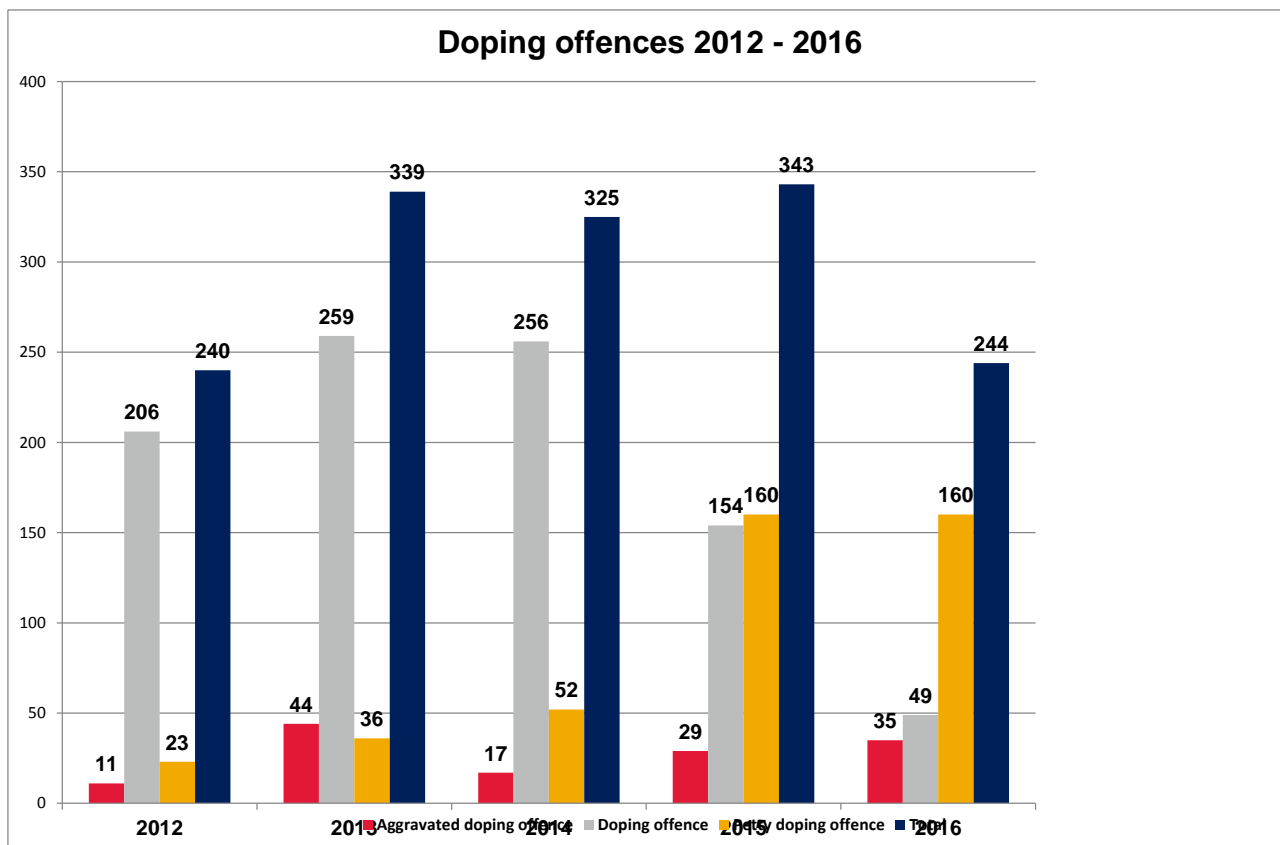


Figure 5. Doping offences 2012–2016.

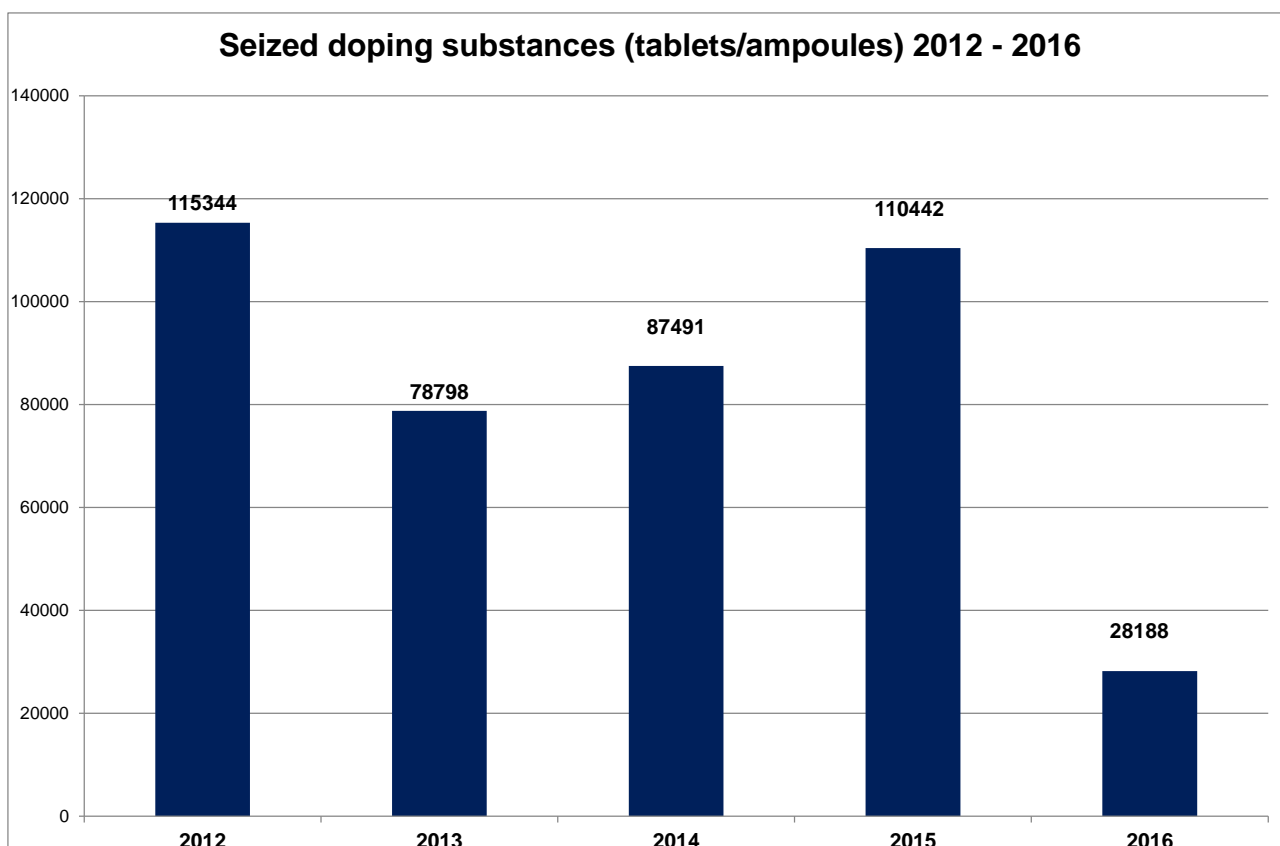


Figure 6. Seized doping substances 2012–2016.

Doping powders a new trend

Customs registered 244 doping offences in 2016, which is 99 cases less than in 2015. Aggravated doping offences increased by only a few cases, and the share of petty doping offences was exactly the same as in 2015. An essential change occurred in standard doping offences which decreased by almost 70 %.

The quantity of seized doping substances also dropped significantly compared to 2015, that is, by 82 254 tablets/ampoules, or 74 %. Doping powders which have arrived in Finland in several consignments pose a new emerging trend.

Customs seized about six litres (6 035 ml) of liquids containing doping substances. The quantity of powders with doping ingredients was 2 135 grams. The quantity of dry powders in ampoules was 6 727 mg. This included growth hormone. In connection with a few cases, Customs seized 1 702.5 grams of powder testosterone. In one case, the quantity exceeded 400 grams. Single doses are extracted from powder testosterone mainly for injection. Sometimes the powder is used for manufacturing tablets with a tablet machine.

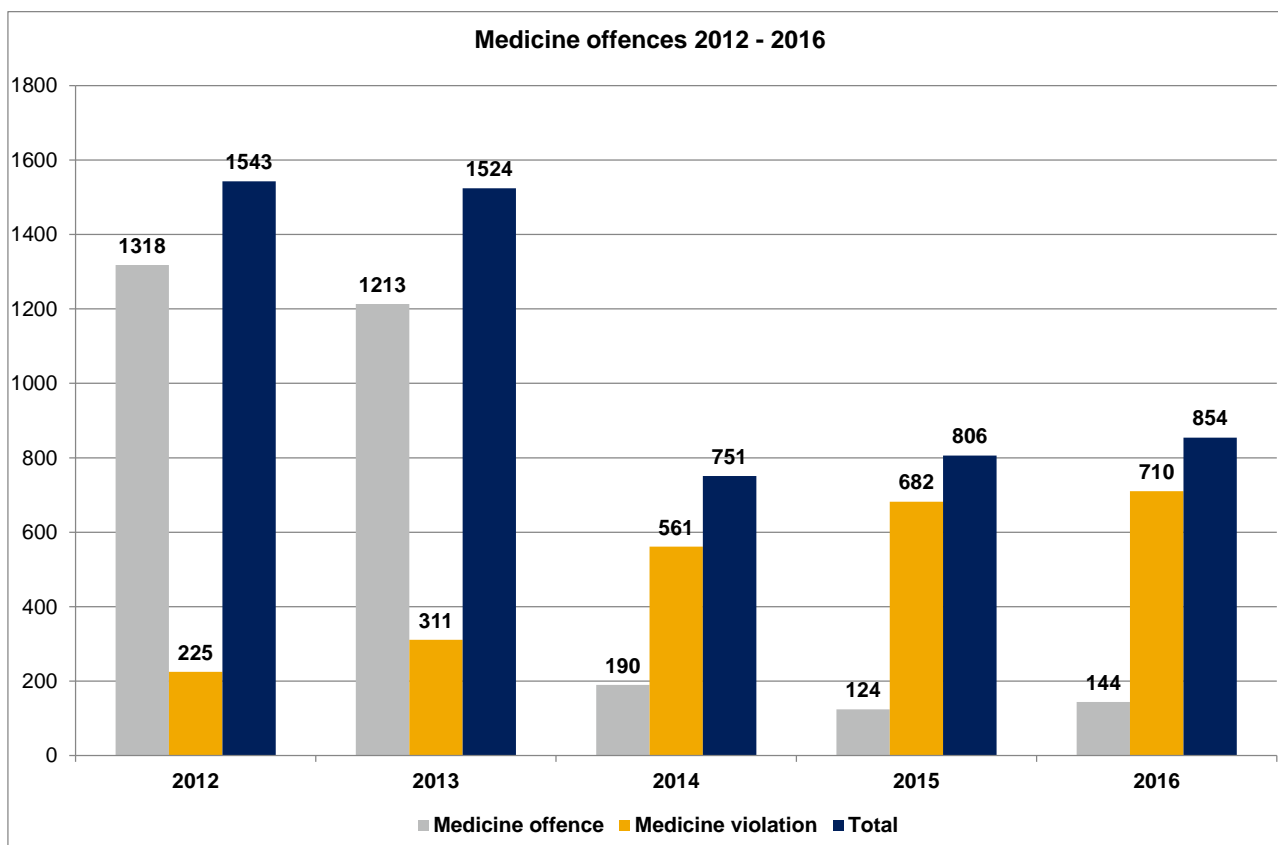


Figure 7. Medicine offences 2012–2016.

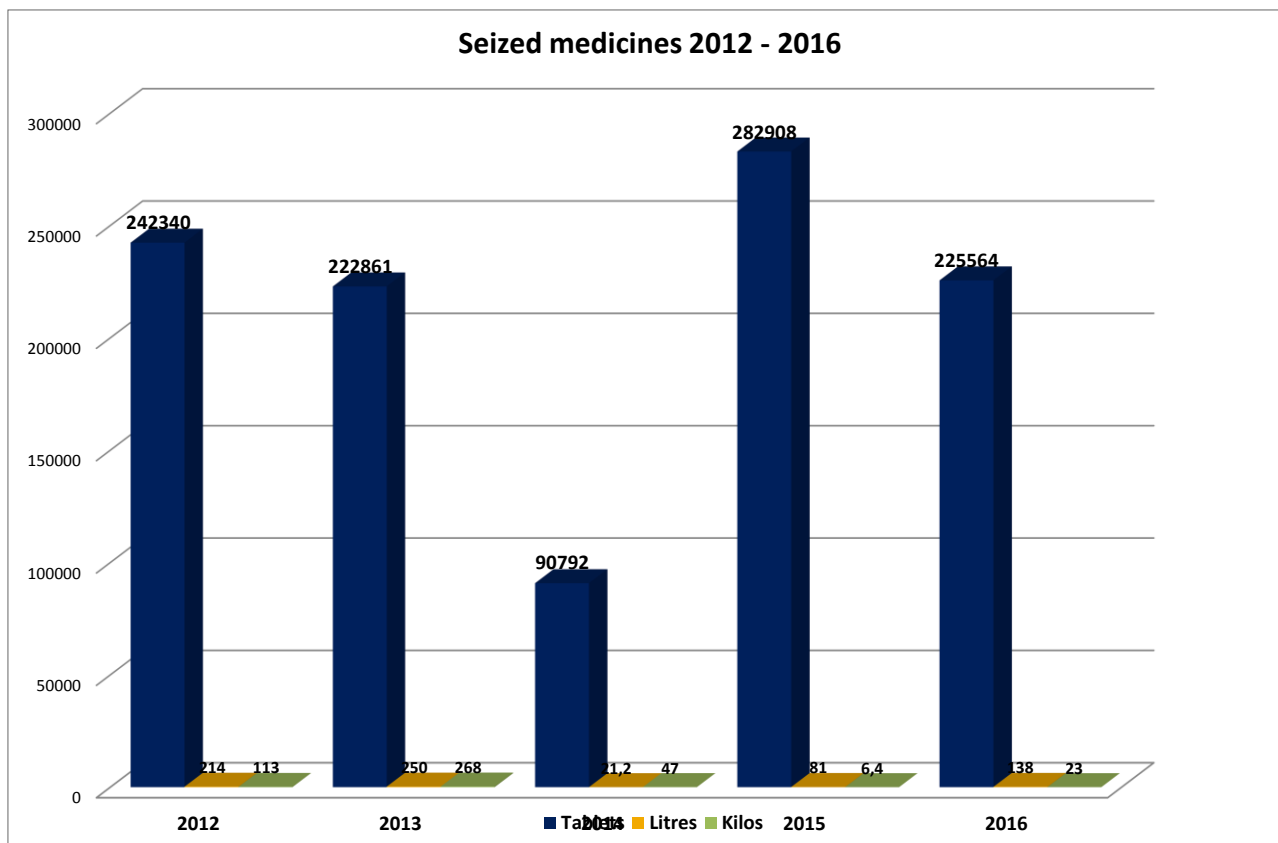


Figure 8. Seized medicines 2012–2016.

Less medicines seized than in 2015

Customs seized about 225 500 tablets and about 60 litres/kilograms of medicines.

However, there were more detected medicine offences than in 2015.

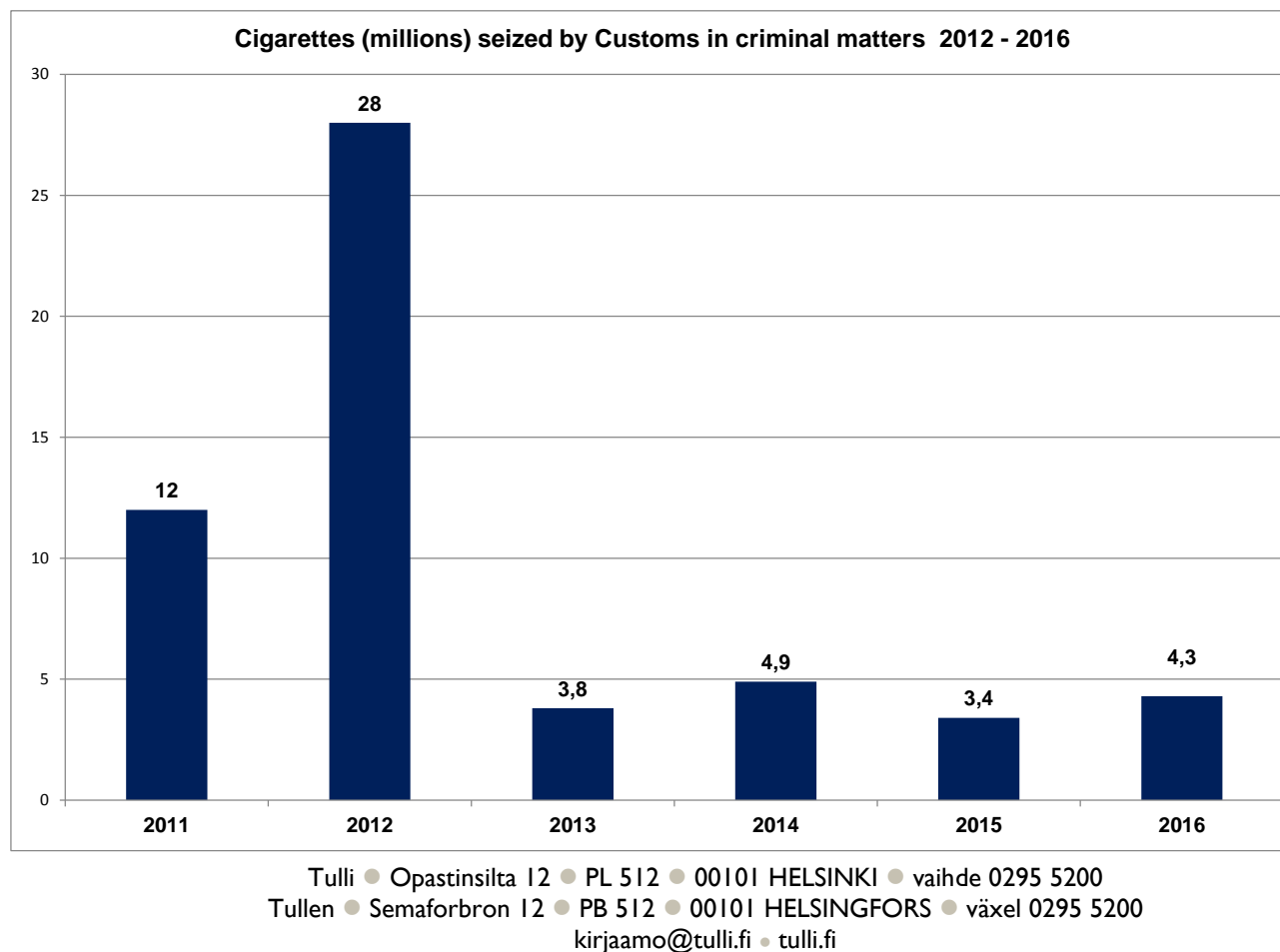


Figure 9. Cigarettes seized by Customs in criminal matters 2012–2016.

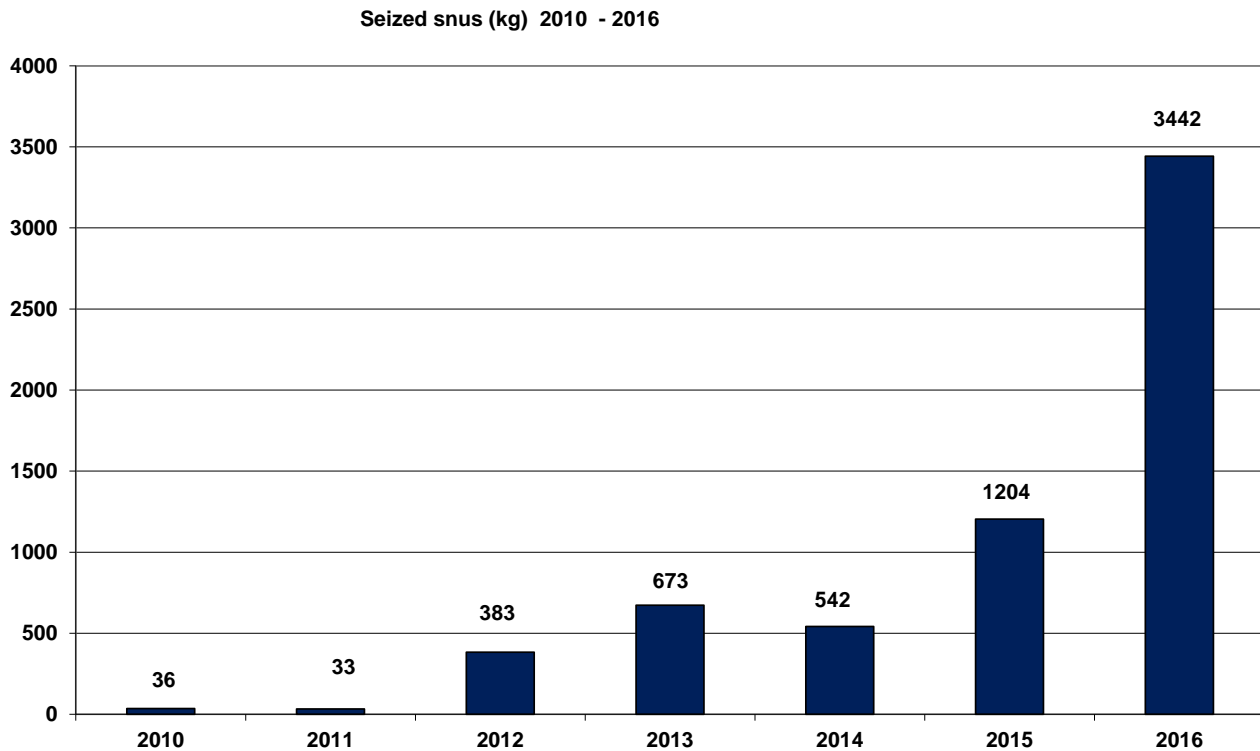


Figure 10. Seized snus 2010–2016.

Record quantity of seized snus

Customs seized 4 288 555 cigarettes in 2016. This was about 900 000 cigarettes more than in 2015. In one case that involved cigarette smuggling, customs officers found 800 000 cigarettes in a container that arrived in Vuosaari, Helsinki from Vietnam. In another case, an X-ray scan revealed 498 540 cigarettes concealed in the roof structures of an empty refrigerated transport container that arrived in Nuijamaa from Russia.

The quantity of snus seized by Customs, 3 442 kg, was almost threefold compared to the 2015 quantity.

Customs uncovered a record-high number of cases involving the smuggling and re-sale of snus in 2016. Snus is sold in Finland through online stores, cash on delivery, and in connection with business activity.

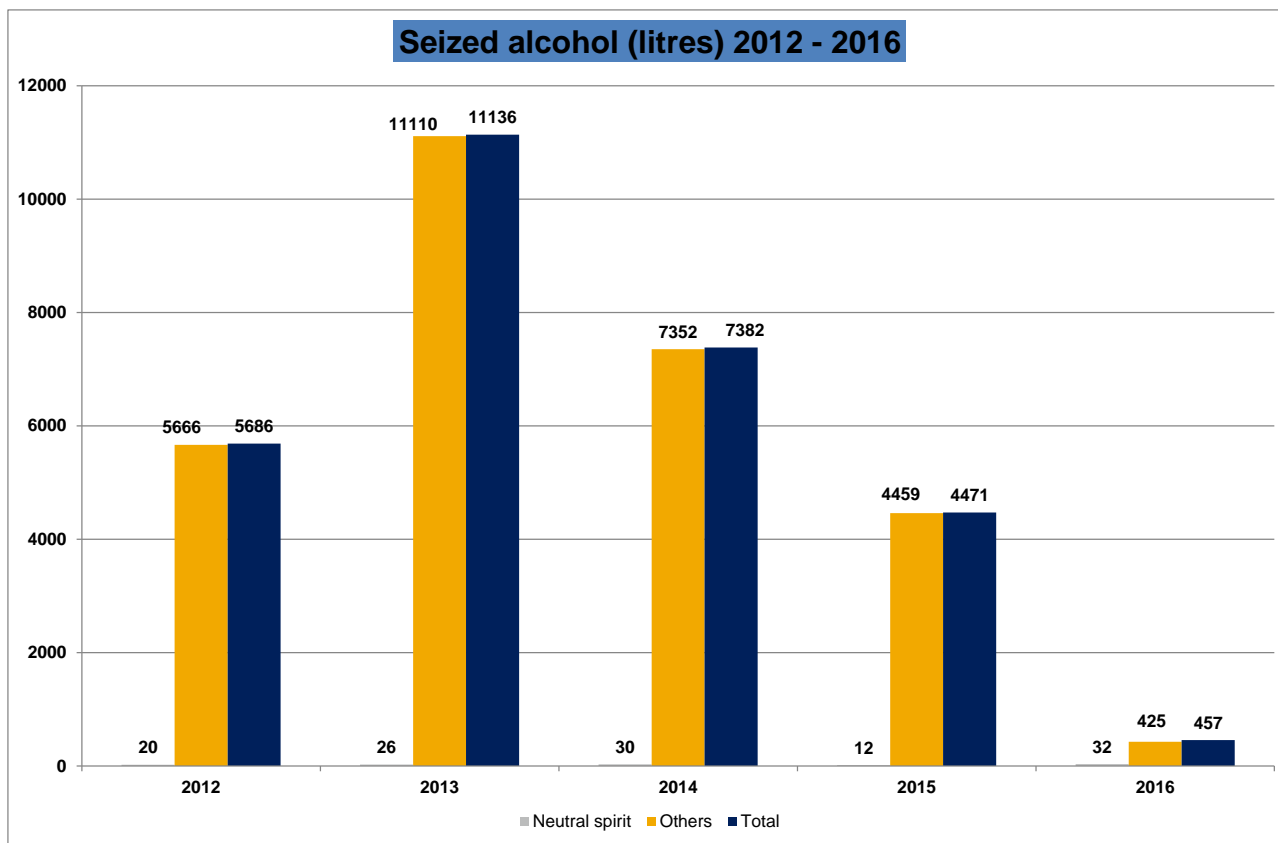


Figure 11. Seized alcohol 2012–2016.

Low quantity of seized alcohol

In 2016, Customs seized only 457 litres of alcohol mainly in passenger traffic controls on the eastern border.

However, Customs took possession of 8 988 litres of alcohol in passenger traffic controls. Taxes were considered in cases that involved a total of 92 000 litres of alcohol.

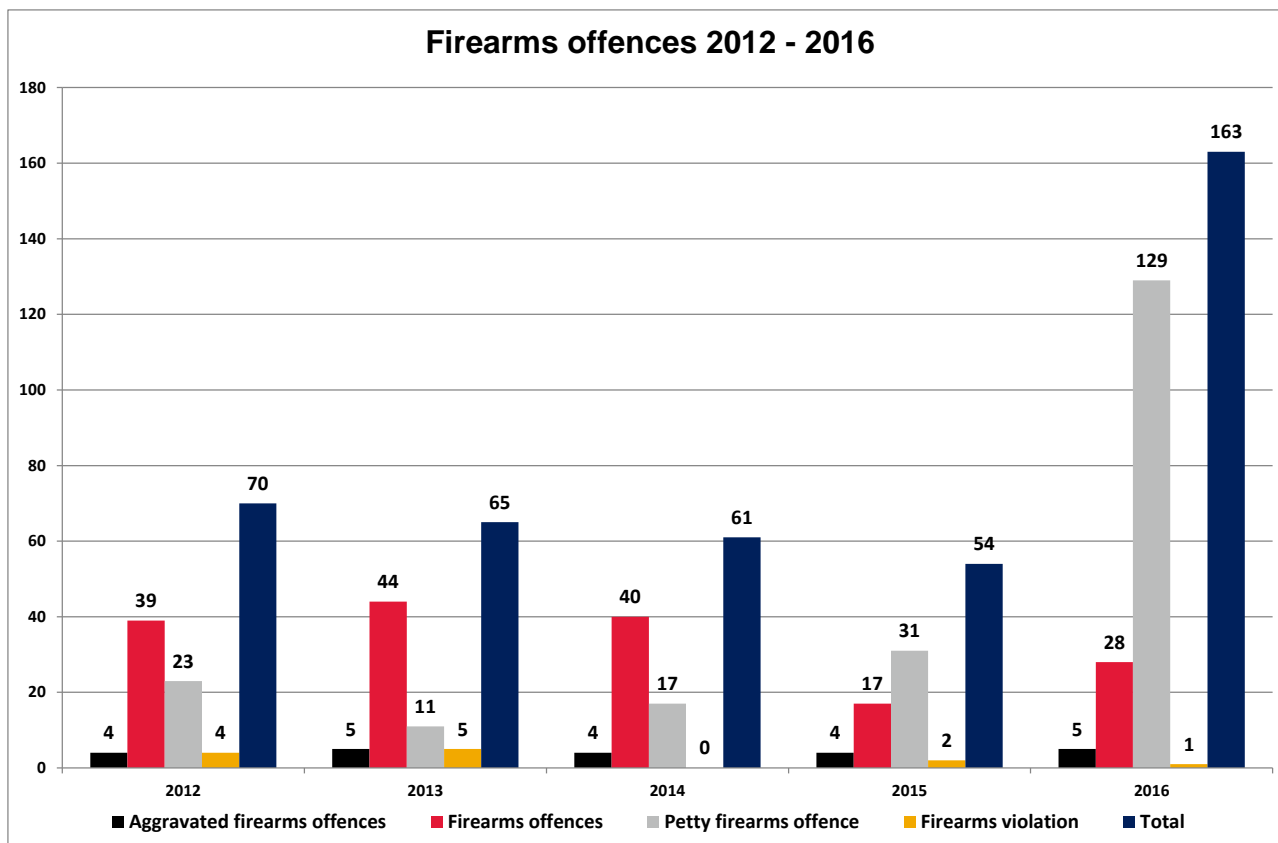


Figure 12. Firearms offences 2012–2016.

Threefold number of firearms offences

In 2016, there were 163 firearms offences, 129 of which were petty cases. One case involved a firearms violation. There were 28 cases of standard firearms offences and five cases of aggravated firearms offences. The number of petty firearms offences has risen compared to previous years.

The Internet has a significant role in firearms offences. Firearm components and deactivated firearms are ordered from abroad to Finland for example by gun collectors. In many cases, firearms are not deactivated to a sufficient extent.

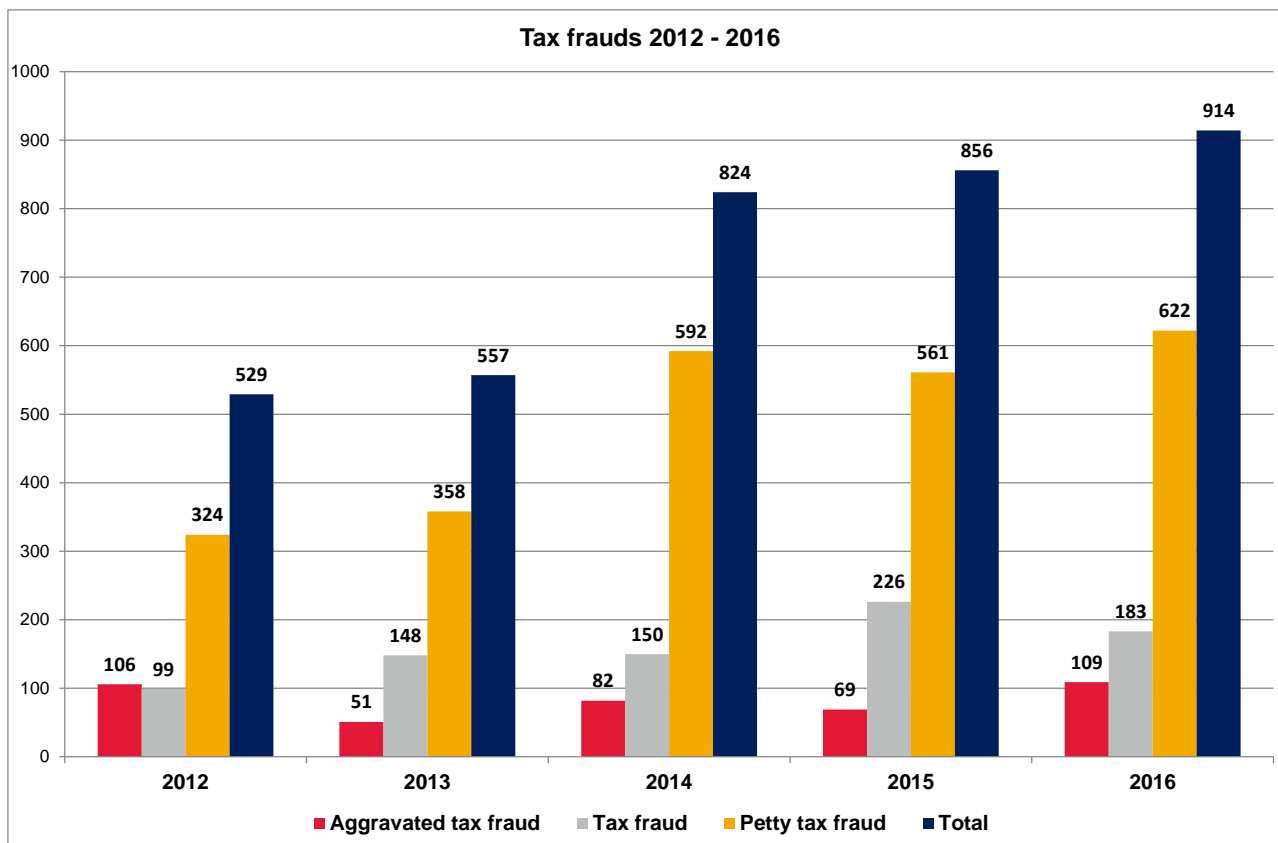


Figure 13. Tax frauds 2012–2016.

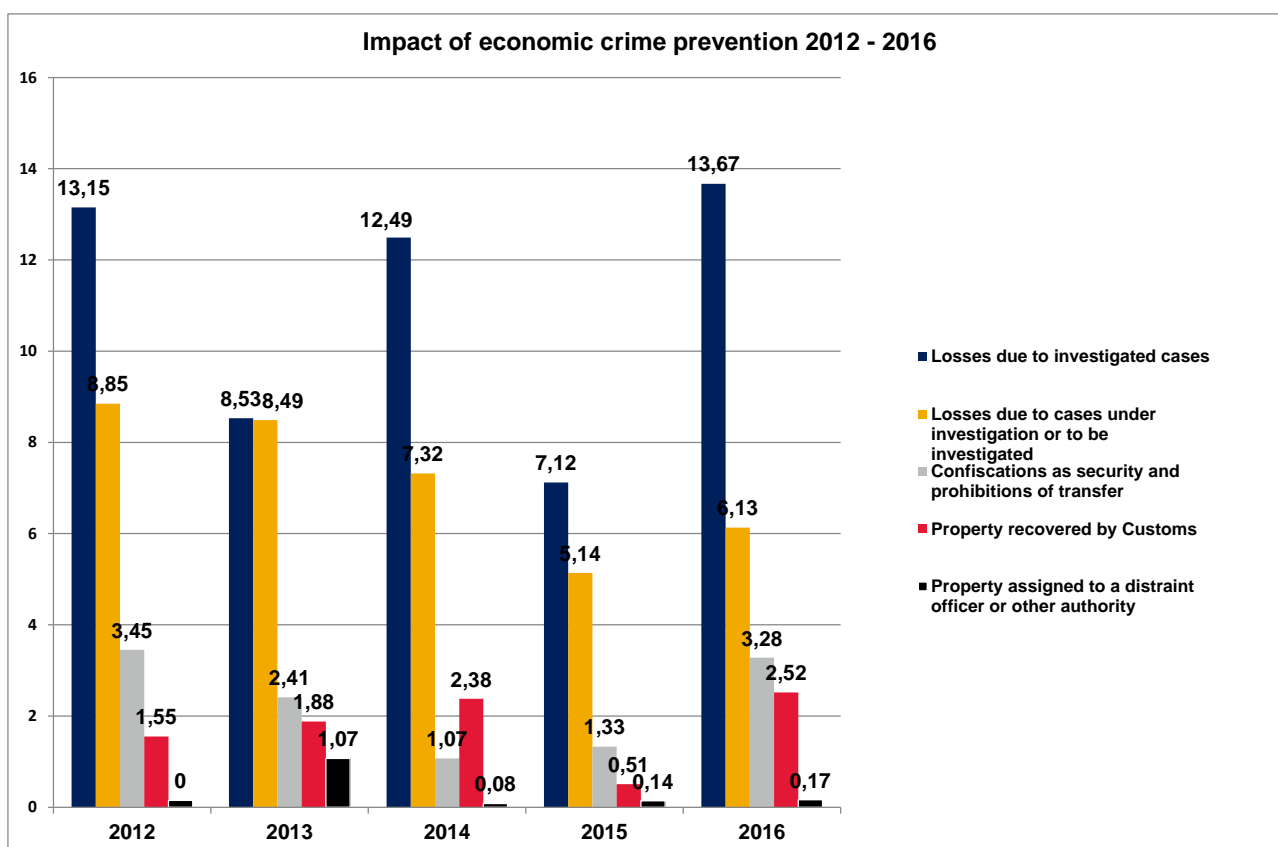


Figure 14. Impact of economic crime prevention 2012–2016.

Tax frauds on the increase – as is the impact of economic crime prevention

In 2016, there were altogether 914 registered tax frauds (856 offences in 2015). There was also an increase in the number of aggravated tax frauds uncovered by Customs. In 2016, Customs registered altogether 109 aggravated tax frauds. There were 69 such offences in the corresponding 2015 observation period. The cases of aggravated tax fraud classified as economic offences and investigated by Customs were mainly cases of illegal import of snus, cigarettes and alcohol. Cases classified as economic offences have involved taxation on cars and waste, as well as excise duties, VAT and customs warehousing. By the end of December 2016, the duration of investigation into aggravated narcotics offences was 403 days (269 days in 2016).

As for the indicators of the impact of economic crime prevention, the amount of losses due to the investigated cases was 13.7 million euros, which was almost 6.5 million euros more than in 2015.

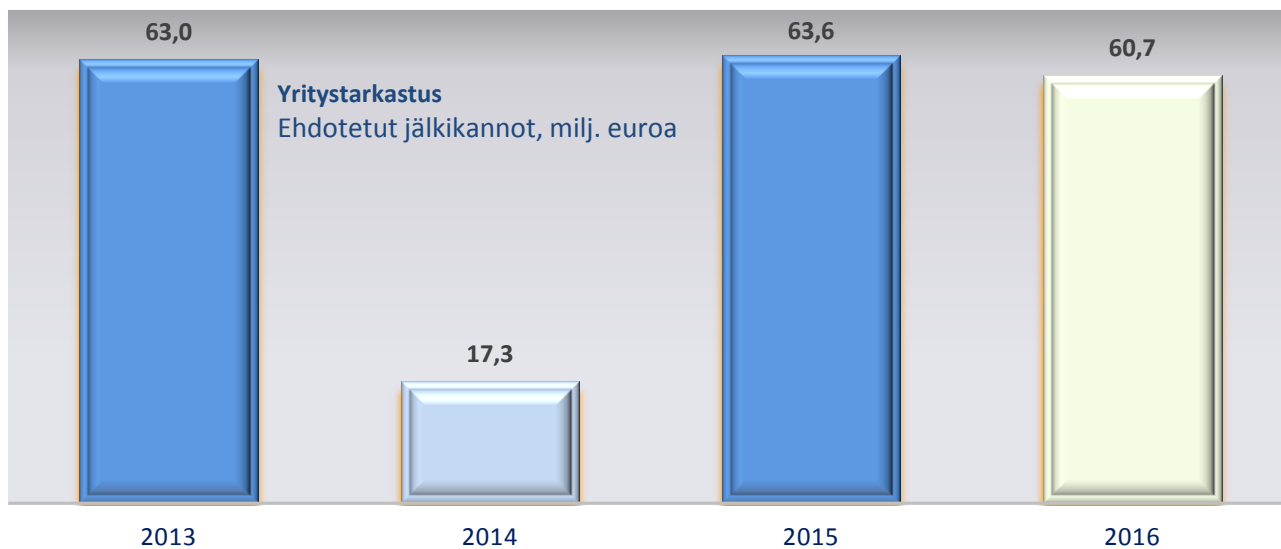
Corporate audits in economic crime prevention

The task of Customs Corporate Audit is to ensure the fiscal correctness and uniformity of customs and tax transactions, to facilitate foreign trade, and protect society for example by undermining the operational environment of the shadow economy. The emphasis of the corporate audit plan was on controls of import, warehousing, excise taxation and car taxation. The planned overall objective for Corporate Audit in 2016 was 415 audits. Altogether 442 audits had been carried out by the end of the year.



Corporate audits and document controls.

As concerns proposed subsequent taxation, the fiscal impact of corporate audits conducted by Customs amounted to more than 60.7 million euros.



Corporate Audit

Proposed subsequent taxation, EUR millions