

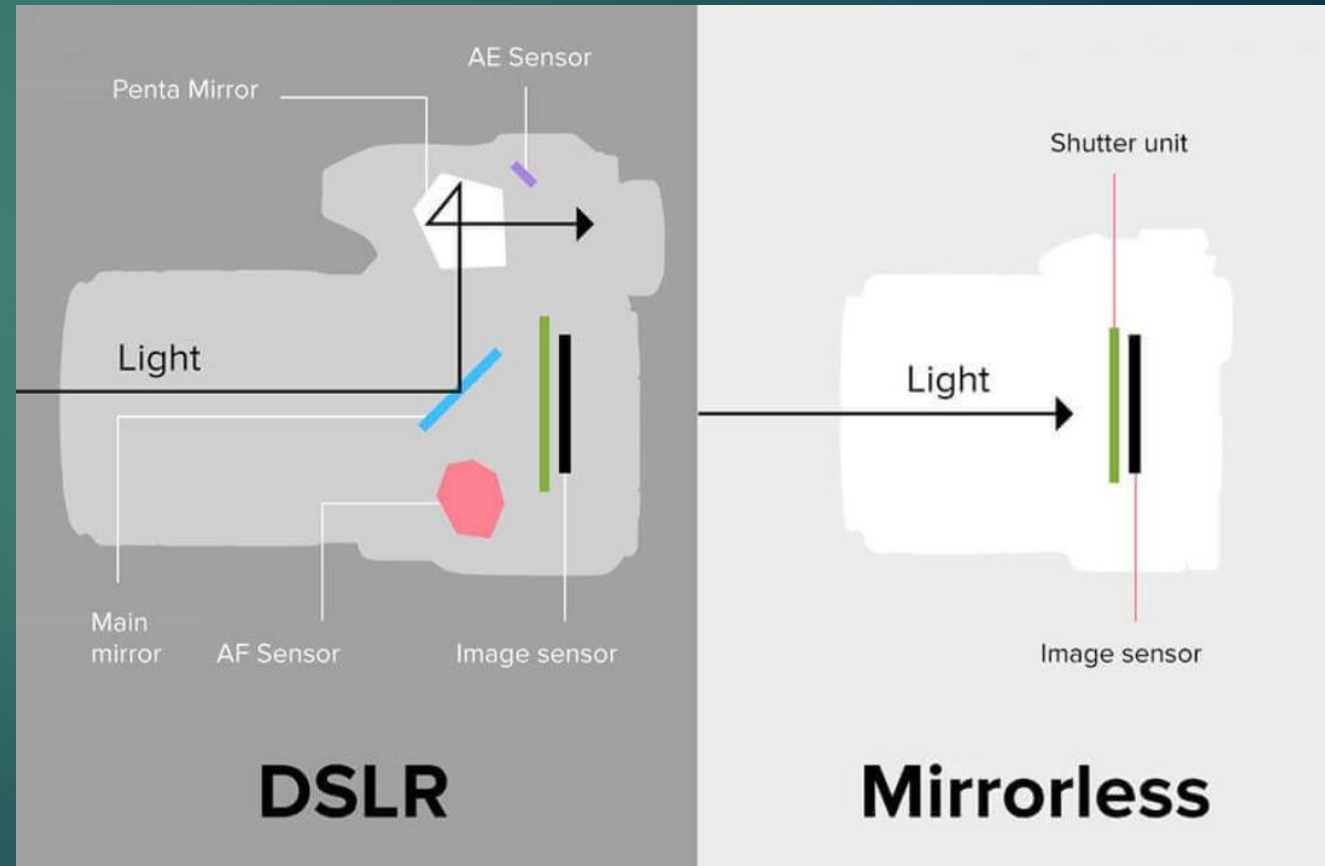
Should you switch to Mirrorless?

Is the DSLR dead?



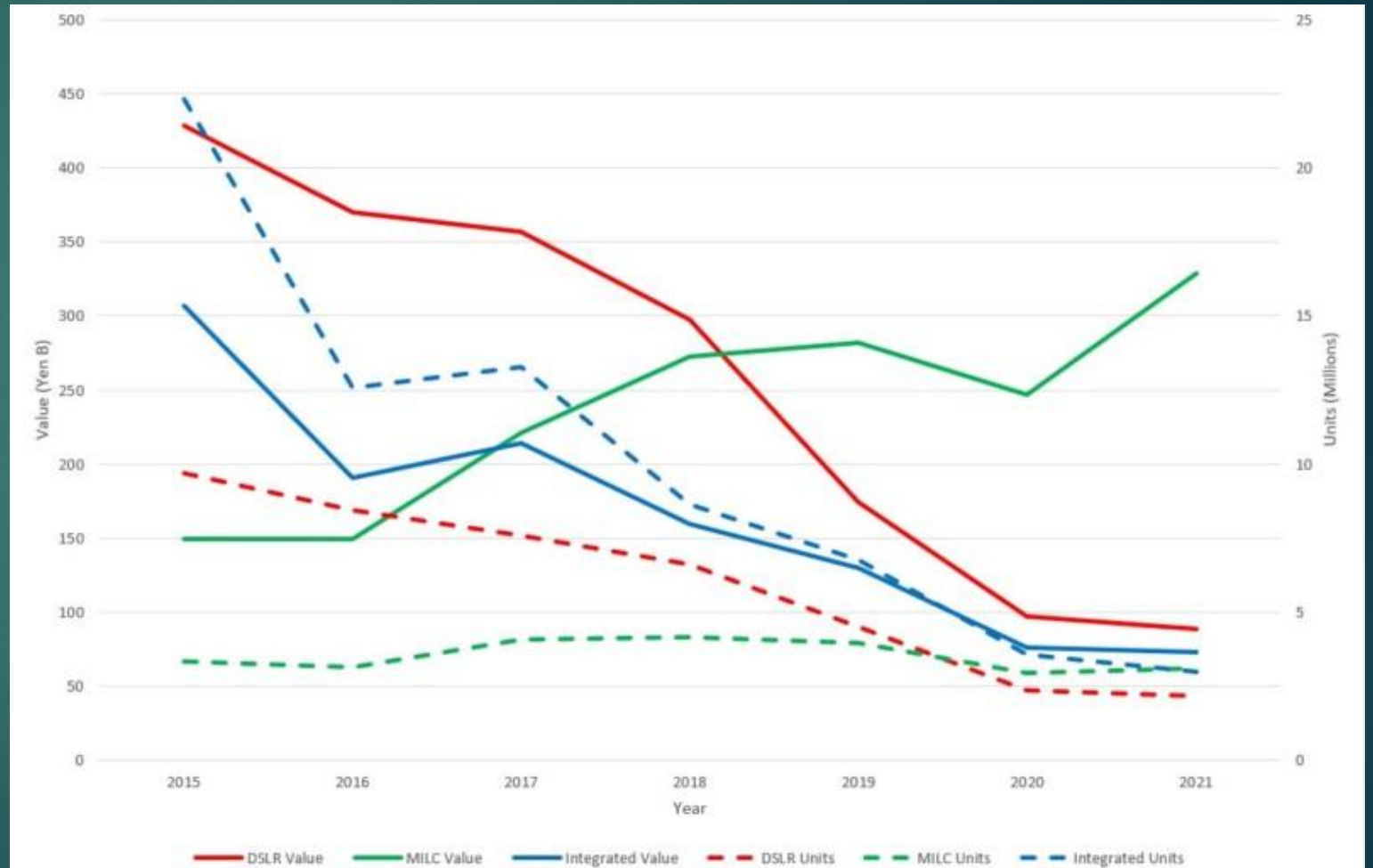
Differences

- ▶ A Single Lens Reflex (SLR) camera has a mirror inside
 - ▶ Requires room for mirror
 - ▶ Flips out of the way for photo
 - ▶ Can be loud
- ▶ Mirrorless
 - ▶ No mirror
 - ▶ Allows for smaller, lighter body



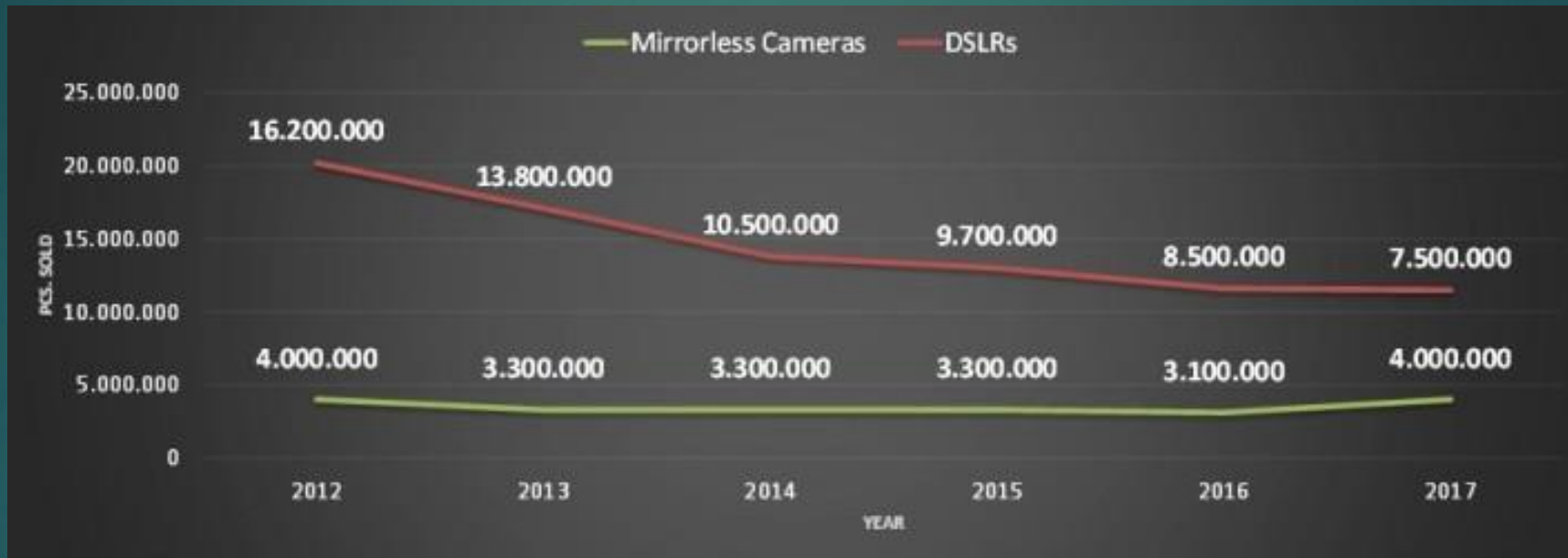
Current camera landscape

- ▶ Mirrorless is the future
- ▶ The latest innovations are being put into mirrorless systems
- ▶ 2020 was the first year that more mirrorless cameras than SLR cameras were shipped



Current camera landscape

- ▶ Neither Canon nor Nikon have released a new DSLR for two years
- ▶ Nikon just discontinued all DSLR development



- ▶ **Note:** This year, DSLR sales have gone up while mirrorless sales have declined but this is mainly due to mirrorless parts/chips being hard to get while DSLR parts are readily available

Pros and Cons of a DSLR

▶ Pros

- ▶ They perform well in low light environments
- ▶ It's easy to find lenses and other accessories for DSLR as they've been popular for so long. This, however, may not remain the case forever
- ▶ Long battery life. A quality DSLR can take over 1,000 shots per charge, some as many as 2,000
- ▶ The prices may come down or you can buy them used at good prices since manufacturers don't seem to be introducing new models



Pros and Cons of a DSLR

▶ Cons

- ▶ They can be heavy and bulky, which is a limitation if you're moving around a lot
- ▶ They can be loud, which can be disruptive in certain settings (weddings, wildlife photography, etc.)
- ▶ They don't produce the best quality video images, so they aren't ideal for video projects or if you're doing both photos and videos

Pros and Cons of Mirrorless

▶ Pros

- ▶ Picture you see in viewfinder or LCD is actually what you get
- ▶ Live histogram in viewfinder or LCD
- ▶ Lightweight. A mirrorless camera is usually smaller and lighter than a DSLR, a major advantage when you're moving around carrying equipment



Pros and Cons of Mirrorless

▶ Pros

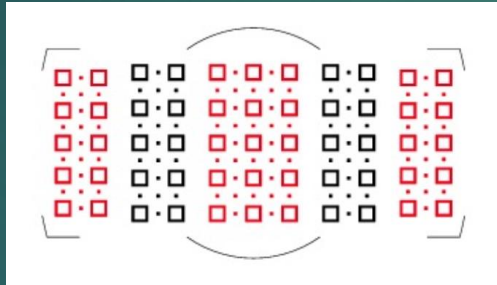
- ▶ Higher frame rates because of electronic shutters – up to 30fps in raw
- ▶ Zero black out in the view finder on some models
- ▶ Quiet. A mirrorless camera has a silent shutter, which helps you keep a low profile and not disturb your subjects or people at an event
- ▶ Take great videos. It's widely believed that the future will be largely dominated by video. With mirrorless, you can get high quality videos even at the lower end of the pricing spectrum
- ▶ Pixel Shift available on Fuji, Panasonic, Sony, Olympus

Pros and Cons of Mirrorless

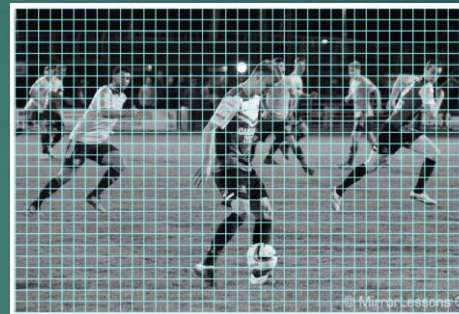
▶ Pros

- ▶ Larger number and spread of AF points in mirrorless

Nikon D850 DSLR – 55 pts



Canon R5 – 5940 pts



- ▶ Tracking. While autofocus in DSLR can be quite good, the tracking ability of mirrorless cameras can be even better for capturing motion. This is especially good for athletic events, wildlife, or other fast-moving subjects
- ▶ Human, animal and bird eye detection is much better with the latest mirrorless cameras

Pros and Cons of Mirrorless

▶ Cons

- ▶ Some take a little longer to start up. While this depends on the model, DSLR cameras usually start up immediately while mirrorless models take a while. This isn't a major issue unless you want to capture something quickly and your camera isn't on at the time
- ▶ It used to be more difficult to find lenses but this is quickly changing. When mirrorless cameras were still fairly new, you couldn't find the variety of lenses that you could for a DSLR
- ▶ Some have shorter battery life. Check the models you are interested in. Of course, it depends on what and how you are shooting. Some only shoot 320 shots/battery others can shoot over 1000

Lenses and viewfinders

▶ Lenses

- ▶ Plenty of lenses available for mirrorless now
- ▶ You can use your old lenses with a small lens adapter, even across brands (i.e using Canon lenses on Sony mirrorless, etc)
- ▶ **Note** - Full frame mirrorless lenses may not be much lighter (or less expensive) than their SLR equivalents

▶ Viewfinders (Electronic View Finder – EVF)

- ▶ Improved a lot very quickly. Some have 9.4mp resolution. (A typical LCD panel has 1.5-3.5mp resolution)
- ▶ Look at specs for EVF pixel count and refresh rate
 - ▶ The more pixels, the better the image will look
 - ▶ The higher the refresh rate, the better the image will look (and the faster it will use up the battery)
 - ▶ Many viewfinders will use the battery more than the LCD. Try to switch to using the LCD more often

Mirrorless Options



- ▶ Nikon
 - ▶ Z6 II - 24MP – Full Frame (FF)
 - ▶ Z5 – 24MP - FF
 - ▶ Z7 II – 46MP - FF
 - ▶ Z9 – 45MP - FF

- ▶ Canon
 - ▶ R6 – 20MP - FF
 - ▶ R5 – 45MP – FF
 - ▶ R3 – 24MP - FF

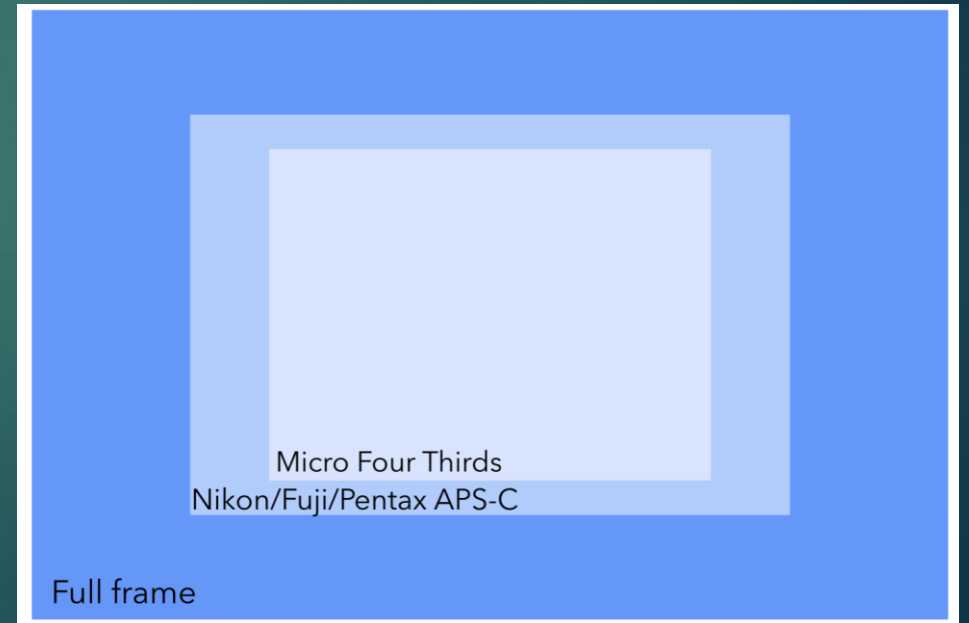
- ▶ Sony
 - ▶ A6600 – 24MP – APS-C
 - ▶ A7IV – 33MP – FF
 - ▶ A7RIV – 61MP - FF
 - ▶ A9II – 24MP - FF
 - ▶ A1 – 50MP - FF



Mirrorless Options



- ▶ Fuji
 - ▶ X-S10 – 26MP – APS-C
 - ▶ X-T200 – 24MP – APS-C
 - ▶ X-T4 – 26MP – APS-C
- ▶ Olympus - Micro 4/3 sensors make for very small, lightweight cameras and therefore, small, lightweight lenses
 - ▶ OM-D E-M10 Mark IV – 20MP



Preferences

- ▶ When comparing DSLR and mirrorless, your own preferences will determine which is better
 - ▶ The lightweight and compact feel of mirrorless is an advantage to some
 - ▶ A lightweight mirrorless model may be more convenient to carry around
 - ▶ Other photographers like the weightier feel of a DSLR



Should you switch?

- ▶ Regardless of your current preferences, the best reason to switch to mirrorless is that it appears to be the future of photography
- ▶ It is only a matter of time before the manufacturers will no longer create new lenses for their SLRs. Some have already stopped
- ▶ If your current system does everything you need, keep it. Eventually though, not switching to mirrorless will be like never switching from film to digital
- ▶ The cheapest way to switch – Buy a mirrorless body and an adapter to use your current lenses
- ▶ Borrow someone's mirrorless, or rent one, and try it out