



Ministry
of Justice

Costs per place and costs per prisoner by individual prison

HM Prison & Probation Service
Annual Report and Accounts 2019-20
Management Information Addendum

Ministry of Justice
Information Release

Published 29 October 2020

Definitions of Prison Functions and Key Terms used in the Tables

| Functions | Definitions |
|---|--|
| Male category B Trainer Male category C Trainer Female closed | Closed training prisons provide a range of facilities for Category B and Category C adult male prisoners and closed condition adult females who are serving medium to long-term sentences. Prisoners tend to be employed in a variety of activities such as prison workshops, gardens and education and in offending behaviour programmes. |
| Male dispersal | These prisons hold the most difficult and dangerous prisoners in England and Wales including those assessed as Category A. They serve to spread the Category A population, ensuring that the most dangerous prisoners are not concentrated in a single establishment, thereby reducing the risks involved in holding them. |
| Female local Male local | Local prisons serve the courts and receive remand and post conviction prisoners, prior to their allocation to other establishments. |
| Female open Male open | Open prisons house Category D adult male prisoners and Open condition adult females whose risk of absconding is considered to be low, or who are of little risk to the public because of the nature of their offence. Open prisons also house long-term prisoners who are coming towards the end of their sentence and who have gradually worked their way down the categories. Open prisons are part of the resettlement programme to reintegrate prisoners back into society. Whilst Open prisons may have some workshop facilities, some of the prisoners will work in the community, returning to the prison in the evening. |
| Male closed YOI (ages 18-21) | Young Offender Institutions (YOIs) holding Young Adults (18 to 21 years old). May also include some young people (aged 15 to 17) who are held separately from adults within the establishment. |
| Male YOI young people (ages 15-17) | Young Offender Institutions (YOIs) holding Young People (15 to 17 years old). |

| Terms | Definitions |
|---|---|
| Cost per Place | Cost per place is the average cost of providing a prison place for the year. It is the Direct resource expenditure or Overall resource expenditure divided by Baseline Certified Normal Accommodation. |
| Cost per Prisoner | Cost per prisoner is the average cost of holding one prisoner for the year. It is the Direct resource expenditure or Overall resource expenditure divided by the average prison population. |
| Certified Normal Accommodation | Certified Normal Accommodation (CNA), or uncrowded capacity, is the Prison Service's own measure of accommodation. CNA represents the good, decent standard of accommodation that the Service aspires to provide all prisoners. |
| Baseline Certified Normal Accommodation | Baseline CNA is the sum total of all certified accommodation in an establishment except, normally, cells in punishment or segregation units; healthcare cells or rooms in training prisons and YOIs that are not routinely used to accommodate long stay patients. It is not reduced for places not available for immediate use, for example damaged cells or cells affected by building works. |
| Average Population | The prison population average is the (mean) average of the 12-month end prison populations for the year. |
| Direct Resource Expenditure | Direct Resource Expenditure is net expenditure managed and recorded at each prison. |
| Overall Resource Expenditure | Overall Resource Expenditure also includes net expenditure met at regional or national level and recorded in the Annual accounts of the National Offender Management Service (NOMS). |
| Private Finance Initiative (PFI) | Prisons that are designed, constructed, managed and financed by the private sector. |
| Operate & Maintain Prisons | Prisons that are leased to a private sector operator who contracts directly to run the prison and maintain the buildings. |
| Contracted (Private Sector) Prisons | Prisons that are operated by a private sector contractor. |
| Public Sector Prisons | Prisons that are operated by the public sector (HMPS). |

Table 2a: Summary Comparison of 2019-20 with 2018-19

| | Certified Normal Accommodation | Average Population | Direct Resource Expenditure | Cost per Place | Cost per Prisoner | Overall Resource Expenditure | Cost per Place | Cost per Prisoner |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 2019-20 Totals | 79,232 | 82,890 | 2,401,640,556 | 30,312 | 28,974 | 3,536,900,071 | 44,640 | 42,670 |
| Comparison with 2018-19¹ | | | | | | | | |
| 2018-19 Totals (Published October 2019) | 78,774 | 82,751 | 2,162,543,754 | 27,453 | 26,133 | 3,404,055,441 | 43,213 | 41,136 |
| - Transfer of education and training provision to establishments | | | 129,111,488 | | | | | |
| 2018-19 Restated Totals¹ | | | 2,291,655,242 | 29,092 | 27,694 | 3,404,055,441 | 43,213 | 41,136 |
| Change (in nominal terms) | 458 | 139 | 109,985,314 | 1,220 | 1,280 | 132,844,630 | 1,427 | 1,534 |
| | | | | 4.2% | 4.6% | | 3.3% | 3.7% |
| Restated 2018-19 expenditure² (adjusted by GDP deflator ² to give real terms change) | | | 2,347,643,607 | 29,802 | 28,370 | 3,487,221,310 | 44,269 | 42,141 |
| Change (in real terms) ² | 458 | 139 | 53,996,949 | 510 | 604 | 49,678,761 | 371 | 529 |
| Real terms percentage increase in 2018-19 | 0.6% | 0.2% | 2.3% | 1.7% | 2.1% | 1.4% | 0.8% | 1.3% |

Source: Ministry of Justice

The purpose of this table is to show the real movement in unit costs between 2019-20 and 2018-19 after allowing for the effects of changes in accounting treatment and inflation.

Notes to Table 2a:

- The table provides a comparison between 2019-20 and the restated 2018-19 figures. 2018-19 has been restated to enable a more fair comparison between the two years. It includes the following change:
 - Responsibility for accounting for education & training provision for those subject to detention in England transferred directly to prisons' accounts, whereas previously those costs were held Centrally.
- It then gives an adjustment by the GDP deflator, using figures published by the Office for National Statistics on 30 September 2020 (by a factor of 2.4%), to give changes in real terms between the two years

Averages and Expenditure figures have been rounded to the nearest integer. Totals were formed from unrounded figures and therefore may not equal the sum of the rounded parts.

Table 2b: Comparison of 2019-20 with 2018-19 between Public Sector and Contracted Prisons

| | Certified Normal Accommodation | Average Population | Direct Resource Expenditure | Cost per Place | Cost per Prisoner | Overall Resource Expenditure | Cost per Place | Cost per Prisoner |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Public Sector Prisons | | | | | | | | |
| 2019-20 Totals | £66,273 | £67,953 | £1,916,027,450 | £28,911 | £28,196 | £2,973,030,937 | £44,860 | £43,751 |
| 2018-19 Totals | £65,003 | £66,974 | £1,684,759,082 | £25,918 | £25,155 | £2,852,467,768 | £43,882 | £42,591 |
| Adjustments | | | £118,006,171 | | | | | |
| 2018-19 Restated Totals¹ | | | £1,802,765,253 | £27,734 | £26,917 | £2,852,467,768 | £43,882 | £42,591 |
| Change (in nominal terms) | £1,270 | £979 | £113,262,197 | £1,177 | £1,279 | £120,563,169 | £978 | £1,160 |
| | 2.0% | 1.5% | 6.7% | 4.5% | 5.1% | 4.2% | 2.2% | 2.7% |
| Restated 2018-19 expenditure¹ | | | £1,846,809,347 | £28,411 | £27,575 | £2,922,157,573 | £44,954 | £43,631 |
| Change (in real terms) | 2.0% | 1.5% | £69,218,103 | £500 | £621 | £50,873,364 | -£94 | £120 |
| | | | 3.7% | 1.8% | 2.3% | 1.7% | -0.2% | 0.3% |

| Contracted Prisons (PFI) | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2019-20 Totals | £8,976 | £10,192 | £397,389,982 | £44,275 | £38,991 | £444,692,159 | £49,545 | £43,633 |
| 2018-19 Totals | £8,979 | £10,207 | £388,045,488 | £43,219 | £38,018 | £429,959,265 | £47,887 | £42,124 |
| Adjustments | | | £1,865,739 | | | | | |
| 2018-19 Restated Totals¹ | | | £389,911,227 | £43,425 | £38,200 | £429,959,265 | £47,885 | £42,124 |
| <i>Change (in nominal terms)</i> | -£3 0.0% | -£15 -0.1% | £7,478,755 1.9% | £850 2.0% | £791 2.1% | £14,732,894 3.4% | £1,660 3.5% | £1,509 3.6% |
| Restated 2018-19 expenditure¹ | | | £399,437,307 | £44,486 | £39,134 | £440,463,775 | £49,055 | £43,153 |
| <i>Change (in real terms)</i> | 0.0% | -0.1% | -£2,047,325 -0.5% | -£211 -0.5% | -£143 -0.4% | £4,228,384 1.0% | £490 1.0% | £480 1.1% |

| Contracted Prisons (Operate & Manage) | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 2019-20 Totals | £3,983 | £4,745 | £88,223,124 | £22,149 | £18,591 | £119,176,975 | £29,920 | £25,114 |
| 2018-19 Totals | £4,792 | £5,569 | £89,739,184 | £18,726 | £16,113 | £121,628,408 | £25,380 | £21,839 |
| Adjustments | | | £9,239,578 | | | | | |
| 2018-19 Restated Totals¹ | | | £98,978,762 | £20,655 | £17,773 | £121,628,408 | £25,382 | £21,840 |
| <i>Change (in nominal terms)</i> | -£809 -16.9% | -£824 -14.8% | -£10,755,638 -12.0% | £1,494 8.0% | £818 5.1% | -£2,451,433 -2.0% | £4,538 17.9% | £3,274 15.0% |
| Restated 2018-19 expenditure¹ | | | £101,396,953 | £21,160 | £18,207 | £124,599,961 | £26,002 | £22,374 |
| <i>Change (in real terms)</i> | -16.9% | -14.8% | -£13,173,829 -13.0% | £989 4.7% | £384 2.1% | -£5,422,986 -4.4% | £3,918 15.1% | £2,740 12.2% |

| Total (as per Table 2a) | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2019-20 Totals | £79,232 | £82,890 | £2,401,640,556 | £30,312 | £28,974 | £3,536,900,071 | £44,640 | £42,670 |
| 2018-19 Totals | £78,774 | £82,750 | £2,162,543,754 | £18,726 | £16,113 | £3,404,055,441 | £25,380 | £21,839 |
| Adjustments | | | £129,111,488 | | | | | |
| 2018-19 Restated Totals¹ | | | £2,291,655,242 | £29,092 | £27,694 | £3,404,055,441 | £43,213 | £41,137 |
| <i>Change (in nominal terms)</i> | £458 0.6% | £140 0.2% | £109,985,314 5.1% | £1,220 6.5% | £1,280 7.9% | £132,844,630 3.9% | £1,427 5.6% | £1,533 7.0% |
| Restated 2018-19 expenditure¹ | | | £2,347,643,607 | £29,802 | £28,370 | £3,487,221,310 | £44,269 | £42,142 |
| <i>Change (in real terms)</i> | 0.6% | 0.2% | £53,996,949 2.3% | £510 1.7% | £604 2.1% | £49,678,761 1.4% | £371 0.8% | £529 1.3% |

Source: Ministry of Justice

Notes to Table 2b:

- The table provides a breakdown of the changes in nominal terms over the two years between Public Sector and Contracted Prisons, including accounting adjustments in Public Sector and Contracted Prisons. It also gives an adjustment by the GDP deflator to give changes in real terms between the two years, using figures published by the Office for National Statistics on 30 September 2020.
- The unit costs of public and private prisons are not directly comparable because of different methods of accounting and of scope (e.g. PFI prisons include interest charges).

Averages and Expenditure figures have been rounded to the nearest integer. Totals were formed from unrounded figures and therefore may not equal the sum of the rounded parts.

Explanatory notes

Data in this report are drawn from administrative IT systems. Although care is taken when processing and analysing the data, the level of detail collected is subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale recording system.

Contact points for further information

Press enquiries should be directed to the Ministry of Justice press office:

Tel: 0203 334 3555

Email: PressOfficePrisonsDesk@justice.gov.uk

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to:

Financial Management & Control
HM Prison & Probation
Ministry of Justice
3rd Floor, 10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London, E14 4PU

General information about the official statistics system of the UK is available from <http://statisticsauthority.gov.uk/about-the-authority/uk-statistical-system>