



Ministry
of Justice

Costs per place and costs per prisoner by individual prison

HM Prison & Probation Service
Annual Report and Accounts 2021-22
Management Information Addendum

Ministry of Justice
Information Release

Published 9 March 2023

Definitions of Prison Functions and Key Terms used in the Tables

Functions	Definitions
Male category B Trainer Male category C Trainer and Resettlement 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 reception	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 18-20)	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 HM Prison & Probation Service (HMPPS)
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 2021-22 with 2020-21

	Certified Normal Accommodation	Average Population	Direct Resource Expenditure	Cost per Place	Cost per Prisoner	Overall Resource Expenditure	Cost per Place	Cost per Prisoner
2021-22 Totals	80,362	79,113	£2,490,214,500	£30,987	£31,476	£3,752,632,094	£46,696	£47,434
Comparison with 2020-21¹								
2020-21 Totals (Published January 2022)	79,364	78,959	£2,583,235,766	£32,549	£32,716	£3,822,319,463	£48,162	£48,409
Change (in nominal terms)	998	154	-£93,021,266	-£1,562	-£1,240	-£69,687,369	-£1,466	-£975
			-4.8%	-3.8%			-3.0%	-2.0%
Restated 2020-21 expenditure² (adjusted by GDP deflator ² to give real terms change)								
			£2,564,644,657	£32,315	£32,481	£3,794,810,879	£47,815	£48,061
Change (in real terms) ²	998	154	-£74,430,157	-£1,328	-£1,005	-£42,178,785	-£1,119	-£627
Real terms percentage increase in 2021-22	1.3%	0.2%	-2.9%	-4.1%	-3.1%	-1.1%	-2.3%	-1.3%

Source: Ministry of Justice

The purpose of this table is to show the real movement in unit costs between 2020-21 and 2021-22 after allowing for the effects of changes in accounting treatment and inflation.

Notes to Table 2a:

1. The table provides a comparison between the 2021-22 and 2020-21 figures in nominal terms.
2. It then gives an adjustment by the GDP deflator, using figures published by the Office for National Statistics on 22 December 2022 (by a factor of -0.72%), 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 2021-22 with 2020-21 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								
2021-22 Totals	66,757	64,467	£1,972,178,712	£29,542	£30,592	£3,144,285,158	£47,100	£48,774
2020-21 Totals	66,697	64,549	£2,066,328,116	£30,981	£32,012	£3,220,216,099	£48,281	£49,888
Change (in nominal terms)	60	-82	-£94,149,404	-£1,439	-£1,420	-£75,930,941	-£1,181	-£1,114
	0.1%	-0.1%	-4.6%	-4.6%	-4.4%	-2.4%	-2.4%	-2.2%
Restated 2020-21 expenditure¹								
			£2,051,457,103	£30,758	£31,781	£3,197,040,751	£47,934	£49,529
Change (in real terms)	0.1%	-0.1%	-£79,278,391	-£1,216	-£1,189	-£52,755,593	-£834	-£755
			-3.9%	-4.0%	-3.7%	-1.7%	-1.7%	-1.5%

Contracted Prisons (PFI)					
2021-22 Totals	8,939	9,950	£426,876,809	£47,755	£42,900
2020-21 Totals	8,962	10,062	£432,987,887	£48,316	£43,030
<i>Change (in nominal terms)</i>	-23	-112	-£6,111,078	-£561	-£130
	-0.3%	-1.1%	-1.4%	-1.2%	-0.3%
Restated 2020-21 expenditure¹			£429,871,747	£47,966	£42,722
<i>Change (in real terms)</i>	-0.3%	-1.1%	-£2,994,938	-£211	£178
			-0.7%	-0.4%	0.4%

£483,899,585	£54,135	£48,631
£487,977,808	£54,452	£48,495
-£4,078,223	-£317	£136
-0.8%	-0.6%	0.3%
£484,465,915	£54,058	£48,148
-£566,330	£77	£483
-0.1%	0.1%	1.0%

Contracted Prisons (Operate & Maintain)					
2021-22 Totals	4,666	4,696	£91,158,979	£19,537	£19,412
2020-21 Totals	3,706	4,348	£83,919,764	£22,644	£19,300
<i>Change (in nominal terms)</i>	960	348	£7,239,215	-£3,107	£112
	25.9%	8.0%	8.6%	-13.7%	0.6%
Restated 2020-21 expenditure¹			£83,315,808	£22,481	£19,162
<i>Change (in real terms)</i>	25.9%	8.0%	£7,843,171	-£2,944	£250
			9.4%	-13.1%	1.3%

£124,447,352	£26,671	£26,501
£114,125,557	£30,795	£26,247
£10,321,795	-£4,124	£254
9.0%	-13.4%	1.0%
£113,304,215	£30,573	£26,059
£11,143,137	-£3,902	£442
9.8%	-12.8%	1.7%

Total (as per Table 2a)					
2021-22 Totals	80,362	79,113	£2,490,214,500	£30,987	£31,476
2020-21 Totals	79,364	78,959	£2,583,235,766	£32,549	£32,716
<i>Change (in nominal terms)</i>	998	154	-£93,021,266	-£1,562	-£1,240
	1.3%	0.2%	-3.6%	-4.8%	-3.8%
Restated 2020-21 expenditure¹			£2,564,644,657	£32,315	£32,481
<i>Change (in real terms)</i>	1.3%	0.2%	-£74,430,157	-£1,328	-£1,005
			-2.9%	-4.1%	-3.1%

£3,752,632,094	£46,696	£47,434
£3,822,319,463	£48,162	£48,409
-£69,687,369	-£1,466	-£975
-1.8%	-3.0%	-2.0%
£3,794,810,879	£47,815	£48,061
-£42,178,785	-£1,119	-£627
-1.1%	-2.3%	-1.3%

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 22 December 2022
- 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

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>