



Employment on Release statistical release to March 2023

Main Points

Employment at 6 weeks following release has increased



The proportion of persons released from custody who were employed at 6 weeks from their release rose by 4.5 percentage points to 19.4% between April 2022 and March 2023. This is an increase of 30.2%.

Across a two-year period, from April 2021 to March 2023, the proportion of persons released from custody who were employed at 6 weeks from their release rose by 9.6 percentage points. This is an increase of 98.0%.

Employment at 6 months following release has increased



The proportion of persons released from custody who were employed at 6 months from their release rose by 7.2 percentage points to 30.4% between April 2022 and March 2023. This is an increase of 31.0%.

Across a two-year period, from April 2021 to March 2023, the proportion of persons released from custody who were employed at 6 months from their release rose by 16.3 percentage points. This has more than doubled (an increase of 115.6%).

This publication covers performance for the period between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2023 for Employment following Release from Custody. This data is provisional Management Information and is subject to potential revision when subsequently released as Official Statistics.

As well as this bulletin, the following products are published as part of this release:

- A set of supplementary tables, providing data for each measure by month.
- Appendices which provide technical guidance and further information on how the data are collected, processed and measures.

1. Introduction

This ad-hoc statistical release shows the rate of employment of prison leavers at two points: shortly after release (MI016: Employment at 6 weeks following release); and after a longer period of resettlement (MI017a: Employment at 6 months following release).

The data is published at a national level by month. As this is an Ad-hoc Statistical Release, the data has not been scrutinised to the level expected for Official Statistics, and while they have been checked for quality, suitability and accuracy, they are subject to potential revisions in either definition or values in subsequent releases.

Previous publications covering Employment on Release from Custody can be found here:

[Prison and Probation Performance Statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/prison-and-probation-performance-statistics)

Related statistics on Reoffending are published by the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) here:
<http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/reoffending-statistics>

2. Data Reporting

All figures in this publication are supported by sufficient volumes of underlying data (for statistical purposes this will be at least 30 observations). Data is displayed by month, covering England and Wales.

More detailed breakdowns will be made available in subsequent publications.

The next publication on this topic will be 27 July 2023.

3. Employment following Release from Custody

The proportion of individuals released from custody, who have a known employment status and are available for work, who are in employment has increased across the period of measurement; both employment at 6 weeks following release and employment at 6 months following release are higher in March 2023 than in April 2022.

The proportion of persons released from custody who were employed at 6 weeks from their release rose by 4.5 percentage points to 19.4% between April 2022 and March 2023. This is an increase of 30.2%. In April 2022, there were 487 individuals in employment 6 weeks from their release. This increased to 640 individuals in employment by March 2023, an additional 153.

Across a two-year period, from April 2021 to March 2023, the proportion of persons released from custody who were employed at 6 weeks from their release rose by 9.6 percentage points. This is an increase of 98.0%. In April 2021, there were 335 individuals in employment 6 weeks from their release. This increased to 640 individuals in employment by March 2023, an additional 305.

The proportion of persons released from custody who were employed at 6 months from their release rose by 7.2 percentage points to 30.4% between April 2022 and March 2023. This is an increase of 31.0%. In April 2022, there were 573 individuals in employment 6 months from their release. This increased to 715 individuals in employment by March 2023, an additional 142.

Across a two-year period, from April 2021 to March 2023, the proportion of persons released from custody who were employed at 6 months from their release rose by 16.3 percentage points. This has more than doubled (an increase of 115.6%). In April 2021, there were 394 individuals in employment 6 months from their release. This increased to 715 individuals in employment by March 2023, an additional 321.

Table 1: Employment Rates following Release from Custody, by month, April 2021 to March 2023. England and Wales

	MI016 Employment at 6 weeks following release	MI017a Employment at 6 months following release
Apr 2021	9.8%	14.1%
May 2021	11.0%	14.4%
Jun 2021	10.0%	13.0%
Jul 2021	10.4%	12.5%
Aug 2021	13.4%	14.2%
Sep 2021	12.8%	15.5%
Oct 2021	14.3%	17.4%
Nov 2021	14.6%	18.3%
Dec 2021	15.2%	21.4%
Jan 2022	14.7%	21.7%
Feb 2022	14.1%	23.1%
Mar 2022	15.5%	23.4%
Apr 2022	14.9%	23.2%
May 2022	16.9%	23.3%
Jun 2022	16.1%	24.7%
Jul 2022	16.4%	23.9%
Aug 2022	17.1%	24.8%
Sep 2022	17.3%	24.6%
Oct 2022	19.1%	25.5%
Nov 2022	19.7%	26.2%
Dec 2022	16.9%	28.4%
Jan 2023	17.2%	27.2%
Feb 2023	18.1%	29.4%
Mar 2023	19.4%	30.4%

4. Further Information

4.1. Explanatory notes

Data in this report are drawn from administrative IT systems; largely National Delius (nDelius), the current probation case management system.

Although care is taken when processing and analysing the returns, the information collected is subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale recording system. While the figures shown have been checked as far as practicable, they should be regarded as approximate and not necessarily accurate to the last whole number shown in the tables. As this is an ad-hoc release, only business-as-usual data assurance has been undertaken.

Reported percentage point changes and performance figures are calculated on unrounded figures but rounded to the nearest whole percentage for presentation in this document. Performance figures accurate to one decimal place can be found in the accompanying tables, published alongside this document.

4.2. Symbols and conventions

The following symbols have been used throughout the tables in this bulletin:

...	not available
0	nil or less than half the final digit shown
-	not applicable
(p)	Provisional data
(r)	Revised data
#	Suppressed to avoid disclosure

5. Statistical Code of Practice

This publication has followed the principles and practices from the Code of Practice:

5.1. Trustworthiness

The data in this publication have been produced with the most recent data available. Probation Providers and Prison Officials have had the opportunity to scrutinise the data, and a rolling programme of auditing the data source ensures that inaccurate data is identified and removed from publication. In some cases, where the information cannot be assured as accurate, data are presented as no better source of information is available. Such information is always clearly labelled.

5.2. Quality

Appropriate data sources were used for each measure, identified through engagement with probation staff and colleagues in Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) HQ. Technical notes or contractual definitions accompany each performance measure are provided in the Appendices. The performance frameworks are subject to regular review to ensure that they are fit for purpose, metrics are identified with a revision note where changes have been made. This release is published for transparency and represents the Ministry of Justice's view concerning performance in the probation system.

The publication presents a comprehensive view of performance in a system where the Probation Service (and previous offender management organisations, such as Community Rehabilitation Companies) may be required to undertake activity to support the management of an offender or deliver specific services. These figures are representative of performance, and quality assured in line with the corporate requirements of HMPPS. Figures have been drawn from administrative IT systems and, as with any large-scale recording system, are subject to possible errors with data entry and processing. Probation providers are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their own data. These data are Management Information and are not considered to have met the standards for Official Statistics.

5.3. Value

This data in the publication provides an overview of probation performance against the targets HMPPS uses to determine whether service delivery is taking place as intended. Making this information accessible provides ministers and users with an overview of HMPPS performance and allows MOJ/HMPPS to monitor and performance manage probation providers.

Data is published in Open Document format to ensure compatibility across different systems. Information is also available on the Justice Data website that enables users to access all data used to assess probation performance.

6. Contact points for further information

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

Tel: 020 3334 3536

Other enquiries about this publication should be directed to:

Ministry of Justice Data and Analytical Services Department

Email: communityperformanceenquiries@justice.gov.uk

General enquiries about the statistical work of the Ministry of Justice can be e-mailed to: statistics.enquiries@justice.gov.uk

General information about the official statistics system of the UK is available from www.statistics.gov.uk

© Crown copyright

Produced by the Ministry of Justice

Alternative formats are available on request from statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk