

Census of Prisoners on Restricted Regime – July 2013

The Irish Prison Service Statistical Unit recently completed a census of all prisoners on a restricted or altered regime. The Statistical Unit intends to carry out a census of this cohort of prisoners each quarter and publish the findings.

The first census, on 2 July 2013, showed that of the 608 prisoners on protection throughout the prison system, 284* had their regime restricted or altered for their safety or for the safety of other prisoners. Of this, only 114 exist on the most restricted regime, where their out of cell time is limited to one hour per day.

On 2nd July 2013 there were

- 608 prisoners on protection
- 324 protection prisoners accommodated in areas where they can associate with other protection prisoners and have normal out of cell time during the day
- 284 prisoners subject to a restricted or altered regime, and
- 114 of that 284 were on the most restricted regime where their out of cell time is limited to one hour per day

The fact that prisoners seeking protection are immediately separated from the general prison population or from specific prisoners identified as presenting a threat, clearly demonstrates the commitment of the IPS to ensuring their safety and security. The status of each prisoner subject to a restricted regime within the prison system is regularly reviewed.

It is at the committal stage that the majority of prisoners seek protection. External influences imported to the prison on committal can include gang rivalry, drug debts and perceived cooperation with the Gardaí, etc. On committal, all prisoners are interviewed by the Governor and based on the information available, a decision is made, as to where a particular prisoner should be accommodated.

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Prisoners on Restricted Regime	Reason for decision	Number
	Medical	16
	Rule 62 discipline	39
	Rule 63 voluntary	274
	Rule 63 involuntary	10
Total		339

* There were a further 55 prisoners on restricted regimes for medical reasons or as punishment for breaches of discipline.

Overview of time in cell by prison						
Prison	total	No. On 23Hr	No. On 22hr	No. On 21hr	No. On 20hr	No. On 19hr
Ahill	4	0	0	4	0	0
Castlerea	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cloverhill	19	19	0	0	0	0
Cork	16	9	1	6	0	0
Dóchas	0	0	0	0	0	0
Limerick	46	6	0	0	0	40
Loughan	0	0	0	0	0	0
Midlands	10	10	0	0	0	0
Mountjoy (M)	113	46	0	49	0	18
Portlaoise	26	20	4	2	0	0
St Pats	19	17	0	2	0	0
Shelton	0	0	0	0	0	0
Training Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wheatfield	86	23	56	2	0	5
Totals	339	150	61	65	0	63

Of the 150 on 23 hour lock up,

- 110 were in single cells
- 34 were double cell
- 6 were in triple cells

Prisoners on 23 hours lock up	Reason for decision	Number
	Medical	4
	Rule 62	12
	Rule 63	134
Total		150

* There were a further 55 prisoners on restricted regimes for medical reasons or as punishment for breaches of discipline.