

## **Census of Restricted Regime Prisoners July 2014**

The Irish Prison Service Statistics Unit commenced the collation of a quarterly Census of Restricted Regime Prisoners with surveys conducted in 2013 in July and October. Three census surveys have now been carried out in 2014 with the most recent on 1 July 2014.

The result of the July 2014 Census shows that the number of prisoners on restricted regimes the figures has reduced slightly in the overall figure compared to April. Figures show that there has been a decrease from **295** (April) to **269** (July), a decrease of **26** or **9%**. This represents a decrease of **70 (21%)** on the figures for July 2013 (**339**)

The figure for those on a restricted regime for protection reasons (**Rule 63**) was **238**, (of which **228** were there at their own request).

The number of prisoners on **22 and 23 hour lock up** was **42 (23hr – 32, 22hr 10)**.

**Since the commencement of the Census in July 2013, the number of prisoners on 22/23 hour lock up has decreased by 169 or 80% from 211 to 42.**

### **Key Statistics**

- 269 prisoners in total were subject to a restricted regime
- 238 (5.9% of prison population 4,003) prisoners on protection (Rule 63), of which 228 were there of their own request.
- 24 prisoners restricted on grounds of order (Rule 62)
- 5 prisoners restricted due to discipline (Rule 67, Part 3 Prisons Act 2007).

The restriction of a prisoner's regime can occur due to a number of factors including, the protection of vulnerable prisoners. This is provided for under Rule 63 of the Prison Rules 2007. A prisoner may, either at his/her own request or when the Governor considers it necessary, in so far as is practicable and subject to the maintenance and good order and safe and secure custody, be kept separate from other prisoners who are reasonably likely to cause significant harm to him/her.

The fact that prisoners seeking protection are immediately separated from the general population or from specific prisoners identified as presenting a threat, clearly demonstrates the commitment of the Irish Prison Service to ensure their safety and security. The status of each prisoner on restricted regime within the prison system is regularly reviewed. If possible, prisoners can be transferred to other institutions where a restricted regime would not be necessary.

In addition, the Governor may decide, for the maintenance of good order in the prison, to remove a prisoner from general association or structured activity to reduce the negative effect that a prisoner or prisoners may have on the general population. This is provided for under Rule 62 of the Prison Rules 2007. There may also be a smaller number of prisoners who would be restricted for medical (Rule 64) or discipline reasons (Rule 67).

In July last year, the Director General of the Irish Prison Service established a high level group to look at measures which can be introduced to reduce the number of prisoners currently held on restricted regimes with a view to ensuring that all receive, as a minimum standard, out of cell time of 3 hours per day, to engage in exercise or activity.

**Table 1. Out of Cell time**

Prison	Total	No. On 23Hr	No. On 22hr	No. On 21hr	No. On 20hr	No. On 19hr
Arbour Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0
Castlerea	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cloverhill	1	1	0	0	0	0
Cork	22	2	4	0	0	16
Dochas	0	0	0	0	0	0
Limerick	67	1	1	62	0	3
Loughan House	0	0	0	0	0	0
Midlands	17	17	0	0	0	0
Mountjoy (M)	77	1	4	0	0	72
Portlaoise	22	0	0	0	6	0
Shelton Abbey	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Pats	3	0	0	3	0	0
Training Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wheatfield	60	10	1	49	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>91</b>

**Table 2. Reason for Restricted Regime**

Prison	Total	Rule 62	Rule 63 V	Rule 63 IV	Rule 64	Rule 67	Other
Arbour Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Castlerea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cloverhill	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cork	22	0	20	1	0	0	1
Dochas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Limerick	67	0	67	0	0	0	0
Loughan House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Midlands	17	0	17	0	0	0	0
Mountjoy (M)	77	4	73	0	0	0	0
Portlaoise	22	11	2	4	0	5	0
Shelton Abbey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Pats	3	1	2	0	0	0	0
Training Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wheatfield	60	8	47	5	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>

**Note: Definition of Rules**

- Rule 62** Removal on grounds of order  
**Rule 63** Protection of vulnerable prisoners – Voluntary  
**Rule 63** Protection of Vulnerable prisoners – Involuntary  
**Rule 64** Special observations  
**Rule 67** Discipline (Part 3 of Prisons Act, Section 13)

**Table 3. 22/23 hour lock up**

Prison	July 2014	April 2014	January 2014	October 2013	July 2013	Difference Jul13 – Jul14
Arbour Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0
Castlerea	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cloverhill	1	2	0	22	19	-18
Cork	6	2	7	5	10	-4
Dochas	0	1	0	0	0	0
Limerick	2	0	5	3	6	-4
Loughan House	0	0	0	0	0	0
Midlands	17	18	11	6	10	7
Mountjoy (M)	5	0	5	43	46	-41
Portlaoise	0	0	6	19	24	-24
Shelton Abbey	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Pats	0	0	0	16	17	-17
Training Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wheatfield	11	20	16	21	79	-68
<b>Totals</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>-169</b>

**Table 4. July 2013 – July 2014 Comparison**

	<b>July 13</b>	<b>Oct 13</b>	<b>Jan 14</b>	<b>Apr 14</b>	<b>Jul 14</b>	<b>% diff since Jul13</b>
<b>Total Protection</b>	N/R*	981	956	1,020	975	-
<b>Restricted Regime</b>	339	263	228	261	250	26%
<b>Rule 63 (Vol &amp; Invol)</b>	288	229	201	228	232	19%
<b>22/23 Hour lock up</b>	211	135	50	43	42	80%