

Criminal Justice Quiz Answers

What is the population of Pontefract?

28,250

What is the current prison population?

On 10 October 2014, the prison population in England and Wales was **84,485.1**. In 1994, the average prison population was **48,621**.

In the 12 months to March 2014, 49,304 people were remanded into custody to await trial. In the same year 33,585 people were remanded into prison convicted but awaiting sentence. This represents an increase of 1.5% and a decrease of 5.3% respectively from the same time last year.

How much does it cost to keep a man in prison for one year?

The average annual overall cost of a prison place for the 2012–13 financial year was **£36,808**. This includes prison related costs met by the National Offender Management Service, but excludes expenditure met by other government departments such as health and education.

According to national figures what percentage of men are likely to reoffend and return to prison?

Prison has a poor record for reducing reoffending—**45.2%** of adults are reconvicted within one year of being released, a reduction of 1.7 percentage points on the year before. For those serving sentences of less than 12 months this increases to 57.5%—an increase of 3.2 percentage points from 2000. For those who have served 11 or more previous custodial sentences the rate of reoffending rises to 68.7%.

In 2013–14, just **25%** of prisoners entered employment on release from prison, a fall of two percentage points since 2011–12.

16% of surveyed prisoners were homeless or living in temporary accommodation shortly after release. They had a higher chance of re-offending with 66% going on to re-offend, compared with 51% of those who were not.

Social characteristics of adult prisoners

	Characteristic Prison population	General population
Taken into care as a child	24%	2%
Experienced abuse as a child	29%	20%
Observed violence in the home as a child	41%	14%
Regularly truant from school	59%	5.2%
Expelled or permanently excluded from school	42%	In 2005 >1% of school pupils were permanently excluded (England)
No qualifications	47%	15% of working age population
Unemployed in the four weeks before custody	68%	7.7% of the economically active population are unemployed
Never had a job	13%	3.9%
Identified as suffering from both anxiety and depression	25%	15%
Have ever used Class A drugs	64%	13%
Drank alcohol every day in the four weeks before custody	22%	16% of men and 10% of women reported drinking on a daily basis

HOWEVER

Crime rates have fallen by 14% in the year ending March 2014. Crime is at the lowest level since the survey began in 1981 and is now 62% lower than its peak level in 1995.

The likelihood of becoming a victim of crime is lower than people believe. 13% of respondents thought that they were very likely or fairly likely to be a victim of violent crime, compared with 3% who reported having been a victim of such a crime in the year before interview.

<http://www.prisonreformtrust.org.uk/Portals/0/Documents/Bromley%20Briefings/Factfile%20Autumn%202014.pdf>