

Annual Report 2022–23



We inspected lots of prisons, immigration detention places, and court cells between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023. We wrote a report after each inspection saying what needed to change.



We also wrote reports about other things prisoners told us they were worried about, like how black prisoners are treated, and what things are like for prisoners at weekends.



We found out things about the different places by:

- looking around them
- asking prisoners, detainees and staff to fill in questionnaires
- speaking to prisoners and detainees
- speaking to staff and helpers
- reading documents.

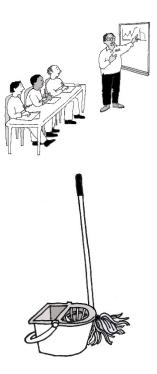
What did we find in men's prisons?



Things were mostly the same or worse than in our 2021–22 annual report.



Prisoners did not have enough time out of their cells.

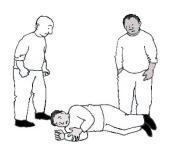


Too few prisoners could go to education, training and work. Teaching was not good enough.

Many prisons were overcrowded. Some prisons needed to be repaired and cleaned.



Some officers were very helpful, but lots of prisoners did not get enough help.



Some prisons were safer, but there was too much violence in many prisons.



Most prisons were using less force on prisoners.



About half of prisons did not do enough to stop prisoners hurting themselves. It took too long for prisoners to get help with mental health problems.



It was too easy for prisoners to get things they were not allowed, like drugs.



Doctors and nurses often did a good job, but it sometimes took too long to see them.



Prisoners did not get enough help with reading. They could not often go to the library.

Quite a lot of prisoners could go to the gym, but sometimes sessions were cancelled.



People from different groups were not always treated fairly.



Some prisoners could not go to religious services.



It was sometimes hard for prisoners to get visits from family and friends, but some prisons ran good family days.



Prisoners did not get enough help to stop offending.



Many prisoners did not get help before leaving prison, with things like finding somewhere to live.

What did we find in women's prisons?



Women did not have enough time out of their cells.



Many women did not get the help they needed to stay safe. Too many women were hurting themselves.



Most of the education, skills and work for women was not good enough.



Health care for women was mostly good, but it sometimes took too long to see a doctor or nurse.



Women did not get enough help before leaving prison, with things like finding somewhere to live.

What did we find in children's prisons?



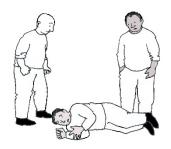
There were fewer children in prison than ever before.



Most children did not have enough time out of cell or in education.

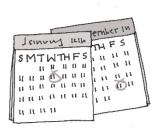


In some places staff were very helpful, but many children did not get enough help and care from staff.

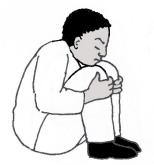


Children were often kept apart from each other, but there was too much fighting.

What did we find in immigration detention?



Most immigration removal centres were safe, but some people were kept there for too long.



People arriving by small boats did not always get good care.



Most people being removed from the UK were looked after quite well on their journey.

What did we find in court cells?



Some people were held in court cells for too long. There was not enough for them to do.



There was not enough help for people who did not speak English. Care for people with disabilities was not good enough.

Do you want to find out more?



You can read reports about each prison, immigration place, and court cell on our website:

www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/himprisons



You can follow us on Twitter at:

www.twitter.com/HMIPrisonsnews

Do you have questions?



You can write to us at:

HM Inspectorate of Prisons 3rd floor 10 South Colonnade Canary Wharf London E14 4PU

You can email us at:

hmiprisons.enquiries@hmiprisons.gov.uk