

Prison Statistics India–2021

Executive Summary

Prisons – Types & Occupancy

Year	No. of Prisons	Actual Capacity of Prisons	No. of Prisoners at the end of the year	Occupancy Rate at the end of the year
2019	1,351	4,00,934	4,81,387	120.1%
2020	1,306	4,14,033	4,88,511	118.0%
2021	1,319	4,25,609	5,54,034	130.2%

- As per data provided by States/UTs.
- In 2020, Karnataka reported that 41 sub jails under the control of Revenue Department are not included due to lack of information from them. Further, 6 sub jails under Prison Department have been permanently closed.

Note: Figures as on 31st December of the respective year

1. The total number of prisons at national level has increased from 1,306 in 2020 to 1,319 in 2021, having increased by 1.0%.
2. The 1,319 prisons in the country consist of 564 Sub Jails, 424 District Jails, 148 Central Jails, 88 Open Jails, 41 Special Jails, 32 Women Jails, 19 Borstal Schools and 3 Other than the above Jails.
3. The highest number of jails was reported in Rajasthan (144) followed by Tamil Nadu (142), Madhya Pradesh (131), Andhra Pradesh (106), Odisha (92) and Uttar Pradesh (75). These Six (6) States together cover 52.3% of total jails in the country as on 31st December, 2021.
4. Delhi has reported the highest number of Central jails (14) in the country. States/UTs like Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, A & N Islands, DNH & Daman Diu, Ladakh and Lakshadweep have no central jail as on 31st December, 2021.
5. Uttar Pradesh has reported the highest number of District jails (62). States/UTs like Goa, Chandigarh, DNH & Daman Diu, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry have no District Jail as on 31st December, 2021.
6. Tamil Nadu has reported highest number of Sub-jails (96). States/UTs like Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Haryana, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Chandigarh, Delhi and Ladakh have no sub-jail in their States/UTs, as on 31st December, 2021.
7. Only 15 States/UTs were having Women Jails (32 Women Jails) with a total capacity of 6,767 in India. These States/UTs (Number of Jails) (Capacity) are

- Rajasthan (7) (998), Tamil Nadu (5) (2018), Kerala (3) (232), Andhra Pradesh (2) (280), Bihar (2) (202), Gujarat (2) (410), Uttar Pradesh (2) (540), Delhi (2) (680), Karnataka (1) (100), Maharashtra (1) (262), Mizoram (1) (96), Odisha (1) (55), Punjab (1) (320), Telangana (1) (260) and West Bengal (1) (314) and the rest of 21 States/UTs have no separate Women Jail as on 31st December, 2021.
8. The actual capacity of prisons has increased from 4,14,033 in 2020 to 4,25,609 in 2021 (as on 31st December of each year), having increased by 2.8%. Number of prisoners lodged in various jails has increased from 4,88,511 in 2020 to 5,54,034 in 2021 (as on 31st December of each year), having increased by 13.4% during the period.
 9. Out of the total capacity 4,25,609 in 1,319 prisons in 2021, the Central Jails of the country were having the highest capacity (1,93,536) followed by the District Jails (1,63,606) and the Sub Jails (45,436). Among the other types of jails, Special Jails, Women Jails and Open Jails were having a capacity of 7,473, 6,767 and 5,953 inmates respectively as on 31st December, 2021. The highest number of inmates were lodged in District Jails (2,54,214) followed by Central Jails (2,39,311) and Sub Jails (46,736) as on 31st December, 2021. The number of inmates in Women Jails was 3,808.
 10. Uttar Pradesh has reported the highest capacity in their jails (capacity of 63,751 inmates in 75 jails contributing 15.0% of total capacity) followed by Bihar (capacity of 47,750 inmates in 59 jails contributing 11.2% of total capacity) and Madhya Pradesh (capacity of 29,571 inmates in 131 jails contributing 6.9% of total capacity).
 11. Out of the 5,54,034 prisoners, 5,31,025 were male prisoners, 22,918 were female prisoners and 91 were transgender.
 12. The occupancy rate has increased from 118.0% in 2020 to 130.2% in 2021 (as on 31st December of each year).
 13. The highest occupancy rate was in District Jails (155.4%) followed by Central Jails (123.7%) and Sub Jails (102.9%). The occupancy rate in Women Jails was 56.3% as on 31st December, 2021.
 14. Uttar Pradesh has reported the highest number of prisoners (1,17,789) in its jails contributing 21.3% followed by Bihar (66,879), Madhya Pradesh (48,513), Maharashtra (36,853), Punjab (26,146) and West Bengal (25,769) as on 31st

December, 2021. These States together are contributing around 58.1% of total prisoners in the country.

15. Uttarakhand has reported the highest occupancy rate (185.0%) followed by Uttar Pradesh (184.8%), Delhi (182.5%), Sikkim (166.9%) and Madhya Pradesh (164.1%) as on 31st December, 2021.
16. The capacity in 32 Women Jails was 6,767 with the actual number of prisoners in these Women Jails was 3,808 (Occupancy Rate: 56.3%) which includes Five (5) Transgender inmates also as on 31st December, 2021. The capacity of Women Inmates in other types of Jail (i.e. except Women Jails) was 22,659 with the actual number of women inmates in these jails was 19,115 (Occupancy Rate: 84.4%) as on 31st December, 2021.
17. Uttarakhand has reported the highest female occupancy rate (178.8%) followed by Bihar (152.3%) and Chhattisgarh (147.6%). However, the highest number of female inmates were confined in the jails of Uttar Pradesh (4,995) followed by Bihar (3,067) and Madhya Pradesh (1,892).

Prisoners – Types & Demography

Year	No. of Convicts	No. of Undertrial Prisoners	No of Detenues	No. of Other Inmates	Total No. of Prisoners
2019	1,44,567	3,32,916	3,223	681	4,81,387
2020	1,12,589	3,71,848	3,590	484	4,88,511
2021	1,22,852	4,27,165	3,470	547	5,54,034

- As per data provided by States/UTs.
- Figures are as on 31st December of each year

1. During the year 2021, a total of 18,06,823 inmates were admitted in various jails of the country and the admission of inmates has increased by 10.8% over 2020 (16,31,110 inmates).
2. A total of (5,54,034) prisoners were confined as on 31st December, 2021 in various jails across the country. The number of Convicts, Undertrial inmates and Detenues were reported as 1,22,852, 4,27,165 and 3,470 respectively accounting for 22.2%, 77.1% and 0.6% respectively at the end of 2021. Other prisoners accounted for 0.1% (547 prisoners) of total prisoners.

3. Convicted Prisoners

- a. The number of convicted prisoners has increased from 1,12,589 in 2020 to 1,22,852 in 2021 (as on 31st December of each year), having increased by 9.1% during the period.
- b. Out of total 1,22,852 convicts, the highest number of convicted prisoners were lodged in Central Jails (66.4%, 81,551 convicts) followed by District Jails (27.8%, 34,214 convicts) and Sub Jails (2.0%, 2,461 convicts) as on 31st December, 2021.
- c. Uttar Pradesh has reported the maximum number of convicts (21.9%, 26,956 convicts) in the country followed by Madhya Pradesh (15.7%, 19,266 convicts) and Chhattisgarh (6.3%, 7,762 convicts) at the end of 2021.
- d. Among the 1,22,852 convicts, 81 were civil convicts.

4. Undertrial Prisoners

- a. The number of undertrial prisoners has increased from 3,71,848 in 2020 to 4,27,165 in 2021 (as on 31st December of each year), having increased by 14.9% during this period.
- b. Among the 4,27,165 undertrial prisoners, the highest number of undertrial prisoners was lodged in District Jails (51.4%, 2,19,529 undertrials) followed by Central Jails (36.2%, 1,54,447 undertrials) and Sub Jails (10.4%, 44,228 undertrials) as on 31st December, 2021.
- c. Uttar Pradesh has reported the maximum number of undertrials (21.2%, 90,606 undertrials) in the country followed by Bihar (13.9%, 59,577 undertrials) and Maharashtra (7.4%, 31,752 undertrials) at the end of 2021.
- d. Among the 4,27,165 undertrial prisoners, only 53 were civil inmates.

5. Detenues

- a. The number of detenues has decreased from 3,590 in 2020 to 3,470 in 2021 (as on 31st December of each year), having decreased by 3.3% during this period.
- b. Among the 3,470 detenues, the highest number of detenues were lodged in Central Jails (83.7%, 2,904 detenues) followed by District Jails (10.8%, 376 detenues) and Special Jails (2.9%, 102 detenues) as on 31st December, 2021.

- c. Tamil Nadu has reported the maximum number of detenues (51.2%, 1,775) in the country followed by Telangana (11.4%, 396) and Gujarat (10.7%, 372) at the end of 2021.

6. Women Prisoners with Children

- a. There were 1,650 women prisoners with 1,867 children as on 31st December, 2021.
- b. Among these women prisoners, 1,418 women prisoners were undertrial prisoners who were accompanied by 1,601 children and 216 convicted prisoners who were accompanied by 246 children.

7. Age-group of the Prisoners

- a. As on 31st December, 2021 the maximum number of inmates (2,41,320 inmates, 43.6%) were belonging to the age group 18-30 years followed by the age group 30-50 years (2,39,814 inmates, 43.3%).
- b. 72,893 inmates (13.2%) were belonging to the age group above 50 years.
- c. Only 7 inmates belonged to the age group of 16-18 years.

8. Education

- a. Among the 5,54,034 prisoners, literacy profile of 2,22,513 (40.2%) prisoners was Below Class X, 1,33,131 (24.0%) prisoners were Class X & above but below Graduation, 41,565 (7.5%) prisoners were having a Degree, 10,082 (1.8%) prisoners were Post Graduates and 7,052 (1.3%) prisoners were Technical Degree/Diploma holders.
- b. A total of 1,39,691 (25.2%) prisoners were Illiterate.

9. Domicile of Origin of Prisoners

- a. Among the 5,54,034 prisoners as on 31st December, 2021, around 90.9% (5,03,805 inmates) of prisoners belonged to the State followed by prisoners belonging to the Other States (8.1%, 44,664 inmates) and prisoners belonging to the Other Country (1.0%, 5,565 inmates).
- b. Among the 1,22,852 convicts, 93.4% convicts (1,14,696 inmates) belonged to the State while 5.8% (7,076 inmates) and 0.9% (1,080 inmates) belonged to the Other States and Other Country respectively.
- c. Haryana has reported the most number of other State domicile convicts (16.5%, 1170 convicts) followed by Madhya Pradesh (10.2%, 719

convicts) and Chhattisgarh (7.4%, 522 convicts) as on 31st December, 2021.

- d. Among the 4,27,165 undertrial prisoners, 90.3% (3,85,638 inmates) belonged to the State while 8.8% (37,377 inmates) and 1.0% (4,150 inmates) belonged to the Other States and Other Country respectively.
- e. Maharashtra has reported the highest number of undertrial prisoners of other states (13.8%, 5,166 inmates) followed by Uttar Pradesh (11.9%, 4,465 inmates) and Delhi (10.4%, 3,878 inmates) at the end of 2021.

Foreign Prisoners

Year	No. of Prisoners at the end of the year	No. of Foreign Prisoners	Share of Foreign Prisoners
2019	4,81,387	5,203	1.1%
2020	4,88,511	4,926	1.0%
2021	5,54,034	5,565	1.0%

- As per data provided by States/UTs.

Note: Figures as on 31st December of the respective year

1. The number of prisoners of foreign nationality (as on 31st December of each year) has increased from 4,926 in 2020 to 5,565 in 2021, having increased by 13.0% during this period.
2. The percentage share of foreign prisoners out of total prisoners has remained at 1.0% in 2020 as well as in 2021 (as on 31st December of each year).
3. Among 5,565 prisoners of foreign nationality at the end of 2021, 4,646 were Males, 906 were Females and 13 were Transgenders.
4. Among these foreign national prisoners, 19.4% (1,080 inmates) were Convicts, 74.6% (4,150 inmates) were Undertrials and 0.7% (38 inmates) were Detenues.
5. Among the foreign convicts, the highest number of foreign convicts were from Bangladesh (46.8%, 505 convicts) followed by Nepal (26.0%, 281 convicts), Nigeria (6.8%, 73 convicts) and Pakistanis (5.8%, 63 convicts) at the end of 2021.
6. West Bengal has reported the highest number of foreign convicts lodged in their jails (30.5%, 329) followed by Uttar Pradesh (23.8%, 257) and Delhi (5.6%, 61) at the end of 2021.

7. Among the foreign Undertrials, the highest number of foreign undertrials were from Bangladesh (41.8%, 1,735 undertrial) followed by Nigeria (18.7%, 774 undertrial) and Nepal (14.2%, 589 undertrial) at the end of 2021.
8. West Bengal has reported the highest number of foreign undertrial lodged in their jails (28.4%, 1,179) followed by Delhi (14.2%, 589) and Maharashtra (12.1%, 502) at the end of 2021.

Prisoners – Type of Offences

1. Convicts

- a. Among the convicts under IPC crimes (1,10,113) lodged in various jails in the country, around 87.6% of convicts have committed Offences affecting Human Body (96,481 inmates) and around 9.0% of convicts have committed Offences against Property (9,902 inmates) as on 31st December, 2021.
- b. Among the convicts of Offences against Human Body, the highest number of inmates were convicted for Murder (67.3%, 64,913 convicts) followed by convicts of Rape (14.9%, 14,361 convicts) and convicts of Attempt to Murder (6.2%, 6,012 convicts) as on 31st December, 2021.
- c. Among the convicts of Offences against Women, the highest number of inmates were convicted for Rape (70.8%, 14,361 convicts) followed by convicts of Dowry Deaths (22.0%, 4,458 convicts) as on 31st December, 2021.
- d. Among the convicts under SLL crimes (12,658) lodged in various jails in the country, the highest number of inmates were convicted under Liquor & Narcotics Drugs - Related Acts (57.3%, 7,253 convicts) followed by convicts of Arms/Explosive - Related Acts (11.6%, 1,462 convicts) and convicts under Crime against SC/ST - Related Acts (4.2%, 533 convicts) as on 31st December, 2021.
- e. Among 1,04,735 convicts who were admitted during the year 2021, the number of habitual offenders were 3,333 (3.2% of convicts admitted).

2. Undertrials

- a.** Among the undertrial prisoners under IPC crimes (3,24,499) lodged in various jails in the country, around 64.3% (2,08,595 inmates) of undertrial prisoners have committed Offences affecting Human Body followed by prisoners of Offences against Property (29.0%, 94,160 inmates) as on 31st December, 2021.
- b.** Among the undertrial prisoners of Offences against Women, the highest number of inmates were undertrial for Rape (63.2%, 44,134 inmates) followed by undertrials for Dowry Death (20.6%, 14,402 inmates) at the end of 2021.
- c.** Among the undertrial prisoners under SLL crimes (1,02,613) lodged in various jails in the country, the highest number of inmates were undertrial under Liquor & Narcotics Drugs - Related Acts (65.2%, 66,881 inmates) followed by undertrial inmates under Arms/Explosive - Related Acts (14.3%, 14,677 inmates) and undertrial inmates under Crime Against SC/ST – Related Acts (4.7%, 4,846 inmates) at the end of 2021.

Prisoners – Sentences & Incarceration

1. Convicts

- a.** A total of 472 prisoners, who had been sentenced for Capital Punishment, were lodged in various jails of the country as on 31st December, 2021. Out of these 472 prisoners, 148 prisoners were sentenced for capital punishment during the year 2021.
- b.** Among the 1,22,852 convicted prisoners, the number of prisoners who were sentenced to Life Imprisonment were 73,508 accounting for 59.8% of total convicts. This is followed by 15.4% of total convicted prisoners (18,956) who were sentenced for 10 - 13⁺ years of imprisonments and 6.5% of total convicted prisoners (8,010) who were sentenced for 7- 9⁺ years of imprisonments.

2. Undertrials

- a. Among 4,27,165 undertrial prisoners, around 70.9% of prisoners were confined for periods up to 1 year (3,02,917 prisoners), as on 31st December, 2021. Out of this, most number of undertrial prisoners (1,46,074 prisoners) were confined for up to 3 months accounting for 48.2%. This is followed by 86,525 undertrial prisoners who were confined for 3-6 months and 70,318 undertrial prisoners who were confined for 6-12 months.
- b. However, there were also 56,233 undertrial prisoners (13.2% of total Undertrials) confined for 1 to 2 years followed by 32,492 undertrial prisoners (7.6% of total Undertrials) confined for 2 to 3 years and 24,033 undertrial prisoners (5.6% of total Undertrials) confined for 3 to 5 years as on 31st December, 2021.
- c. Also there were 11,490 undertrial prisoners (accounting for 2.7% of total undertrial prisoners) who were confined for more than 5 years.

Prisoners – Releases, Transfers and Movements

The release of convicts has declined by 15.0% (from 1,09,516 in 2020 to 93,077 in 2021) and the release of undertrials has increased by 13.7% (from 12,91,504 in 2020 to 14,68,627 in 2021).

1. Convicts

- a. A total of 93,077 convicts were released (including 1713 convicts getting transferred to other States/UTs) during the year 2021.
- b. Out of 93,077 convicts released, 49.0% of convicts (45,652) were released after completion of conviction period during 2021.
- c. A total of 6,712 convicts were released subsequent to the acquittal on appeal from Higher Courts.
- d. A total of 2,350 convicts were released before completion of sentence awarded.
- e. A total of 198 convicts were pardoned for their offence committed.

2. Undertrials

- a. A total of 14,68,627 undertrial prisoners were released during 2021, out of which 95.0% of undertrial prisoners (13,95,635) were released on bail. Percentage share of Undertrials Released on Bail decreased by 0.4% in 2021 over 2020 (95.4% in 2020).
- b. A total of 24,507 undertrial prisoners were released based on acquittal on first instance and 14,148 undertrial prisoners were released subsequent to the acquittal on appeal.
- c. No undertrial prisoners were extradited to foreign countries during 2021.
- d. A total 591 undertrial prisoners were released under Section 436A of CrPC during 2021.

3. Detenues

- a. A total of 9,409 detenues were released during 2021, out of which, 16.2% detenues (1,520) were released on completion of detention period and 73.5% detenues (6,911) were released before completion of detention period.

4. Movements

To Courts:

- a. A total of 20,86,942 times, inmates were taken to the Courts on legal proceedings. Among all the States/UTs, Bihar has reported the highest number of movements of inmates to courts (4,67,675) followed by Uttar Pradesh (2,79,388) and West Bengal (2,11,253) during 2021.

To Hospitals:

- a. A total of 4,36,732 times, inmates were taken to the Hospitals. Among all the States/UTs, Chhattisgarh has reported the highest number of movements of inmates for medical assistance (63,896) followed by West Bengal (40,657) and Tamil Nadu (36,097) during 2021.
- b. There were 9,180 prisoners, who were suffering from mental illness as on 31st December, 2021.

Deaths and illness in Prisons

Year	Total No. of Deaths in Prisons	No. of Natural Deaths	No. of Un-natural Deaths (incl. Suicide)
2019	1,764 ^{\$}	1,538	160
2020	1,887 ^{\$}	1,642	189
2021	2,116 ^{\$}	1,879	185

- As per data provided by States/UTs.

^{\$} Rajasthan has reported that causes of 66 deaths in 2019, 56 deaths in 2020 and 52 deaths in 2021 were not known.

1. Number of deaths in prisons has increased from 1,887 in 2020 to 2,116 in 2021, having increased by 12.1%.
2. Number of deaths due to natural causes has increased from 1,642 in 2020 to 1,879 in 2021, having increased by 14.4%.
3. Out of 1,879 Natural Deaths furnished by the States, 1,796 inmates have died due to illness and 83 inmates have died due to ageing.
4. Out of 1,796 deaths due to illness, 27.4% (493) inmates have died due to heart-diseases and 16.4% (294) inmates have died due to lung diseases.
5. Number of un-natural deaths in prisons has decreased by 2.1% from 189 in 2020 to 185 in 2021.
6. Among the 185 un-natural deaths of inmates, 150 inmates have committed suicide, 11 inmates were murdered by inmates, 6 inmates died in accidents, 3 inmates died due to assault by outside elements, 1 inmate died due to firing and 1 inmate died due to negligence/excess during 2021. For a total of 52 inmate deaths, cause of the death is yet to be known.

Jail Breaks, Escapees & Clashes/Group Clashes in Prisons

1. A total of 312 prisoners escaped during 2021 where 77 escapees (24.7%) had escaped from police custody and 235 escaped from judicial custody.
2. A total of 120 escapees were re-arrested during 2021.
3. There were 17 incidences of jail break occurred during 2021.
4. 63 instances of clashes/group clashes occurred during 2021.

Rehabilitation and Welfare of Prisons

1. A total of 1,918 convicted inmates were rehabilitated during 2021.
2. A total of 1,359 inmates were given financial assistance on their release during 2021.
3. A total of 1,62,654 inmates were provided legal aid during 2021.
4. The number of prisoners benefitted from Elementary Education, Adult Education, Higher Education and Computer Course were 38,784, 32,544, 14,083 and 4,350 respectively during 2021. Also 39,313 inmates were imparted various vocational trainings by the jail-authorities during 2021.
5. A total of 75,318 inmates had been given medical counselling and 35,240 inmates had been given legal counselling by NGOs during 2021.
6. The total value of goods produced by inmates during 2021 was ₹ 238.25 Crore.
7. There were 587 NGOs who were working exclusively for prison reforms and 202 NGOs who were working exclusively for welfare of women during the year 2021. However, some NGOs may be working in many States.
8. A total of 376 complaints were received by National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) during 2021. A total of 376 complaints (including previous year pending complaints) were disposed-off during 2021 with a disposal rate of 100.0%.
9. A total of 470 complaints were received by State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) during 2021. A total of 419 complaints (including previous year pending complaints) were disposed-off during 2021 with a disposal rate of 89.1%.

Prison Staff - Strength & Training

1. The sanctioned strength of jail-staff was 89,479 while the actual strength was 64,449 as on 31st December, 2021 due to vacancies not being filled up. Among the jail-staffs, the sanctioned strength of Officers (DG/Addl. DG/IG, DIG, AIG, Supdt. etc.), Jail-cadre Staff (Head Warder, Head Matron, Warder, etc.) and Correctional Staff (Probation Officer / Welfare Officer, Psychologist / Psychiatrist, etc.) were 7,461, 66,346 and 1,391 respectively, while the actual strengths were 5,382 , 49,573 and 886 respectively.

2. The sanctioned strength of Medical Staff was 3,497 while the actual strength was 2,080 as on 31st December, 2021.
3. The actual strength of woman jail officers/staffs was 8,881 (including 300 medical officers/staff).
4. Out of the 64,449 jail staffs, 20.0% (12,903) staffs were trained under various Refresher/Specialised/Re-orientation courses during 2021.

Prison – Budget & Infrastructure

1. The total budget for the financial year 2021-22 for all prisons in the country was ₹ 7619.2 Crore. The actual expenditure was ₹ 6727.3 Crore which is 88.3% of total annual budget for FY 2021-22.
2. A total of ₹ 2106.86 Crore was spent on inmates during FY 2021-22 which is almost 31.3% of total annual expenditure of all prisons for FY 2021-22.
3. Almost 54.3% (₹ 1143.34 Crore) of total expenses on inmates were spent on Food followed by 5.0% (₹ 106.23 Crore) on Medical matters, 1.3% (₹ 27.78 Crore) on Clothing, 1.0% (₹ 20.50 Crore) on Welfare activities and 0.6% (₹ 13.16 Crore) on Vocational/Educational trainings.
4. Among all the States/UTs, out of total expenditure, Haryana (100.0%, ₹ 350.3 Crore) has spent the highest share of expenditure on inmates followed by Andhra Pradesh (96.8%, ₹ 167.9 Crore) and Uttarakhand (96.5%, ₹ 4.2 Crore) during the Financial Year 2021-22.
5. Among the 1,319 prisons, 278 prisons were renovated/expanded during 2021.
6. Among the 1,319 prisons, 1,102 prisons were having Video Conference facility as on 31st December 2021.
7. A total of 39,159 quarters were available against the actual staff strength of 64,449 as on 31st December, 2021, thus achieving satisfaction rate of 60.8%.

