

**News Release**

**ENHANCING INMATES' EMPLOYABILITY TO PREVENT RE-OFFENDING**

The Singapore Prison Service (SPS) today released key statistical data that reaffirms its commitment to rehabilitate inmates through enhancing their employability and reduce their risk of re-offending.

**Recidivism Rates Remain Low and Stable**

2. The overall recidivism rate<sup>1</sup> for the 2014 release cohort remained low and stable (Table 1). This could be attributed to inmates securing gainful and stable employment, family and community support as well as inmates' personal resolve not to re-offend.

Table 1: Overall Recidivism Rate

2012 Release Cohort	2013 Release Cohort	2014 Release Cohort
27.6%	25.9%	26.5%

3. SPS works closely with partners such as the Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises (SCORE) to rehabilitate and prepare inmates for release, by providing skills training opportunities. Superintendent of Prisons Loo Sook Nee (Senior Assistant Director, Programme Management, Rehabilitation and Reintegration Division) said, "SPS prepares inmates for a life without re-offending through providing effective rehabilitation and reintegration programmes. Apart from this, we work closely with partners such as SCORE to provide inmates with skills training to improve their chances of securing jobs. This enables inmates to support themselves and their families after their release."

**High Percentage of Inmates Secure Jobs Before Release**

4. Apart from providing skills training opportunities, SCORE also works closely with employers to arrange job interviews for inmates to help them secure jobs prior to their release. In 2016, 96% of inmates who were referred to SCORE secured a job before their release (Table 2). This percentage has remained consistently high over the past three years.

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<sup>1</sup> Recidivism rate is defined as the percentage of local inmates detained, convicted and imprisoned again for a new offence within two years from their release.

Table 2: Percentage of inmates referred to SCORE and secured a job prior to release

2014	2015	2016
96%	95%	96%

### **Improving Employment Opportunities through Skills Training**

5. To ensure that inmates have the required skills to re-enter the workforce, SCORE offers skills training that is aligned to the national Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) framework for suitable inmates. Examples of such training include the WSQ Certificate in Generic Manufacturing and WSQ Certificate in Food & Beverage Operations.

### **Strong Employer Support in Hiring Ex-offenders**

6. Strong support from the community, including employers, is crucial in the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders. SCORE actively engages potential employers to support the hiring of ex-offenders. Apart from helping inmates to secure jobs, SCORE also provides job retention support for up to 12 months to ex-offenders.

7. In 2016, the number of employers registered with SCORE increased by 7.3% from 4,745 to 5,093 (Table 3). This reflected the community's increased acceptance of inmates and ex-offenders as well as commitment to giving them second chances.

Table 3: Number of Employers Registered with SCORE

2014	2015	2016
4,433	4,745	5,093

8. "The training opportunities in the prison and the strong support shown by our employers who hire ex-offenders have helped many ex-offenders re-enter the workforce. Being gainfully employed is an important factor in their successful reintegration. It is a key step for them to contribute to their families and society," said Mr Arputhasamy Nathan, Senior Assistant Director, Retention Support, SCORE.

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### **About the Singapore Prison Service**

SPS is an agency under the Ministry of Home Affairs. As a key member of the Home Team, SPS operates a secure and exemplary prison system. SPS protects society through the safe custody and rehabilitation of inmates, cooperating with its partners in aftercare and prevention. The SPS is committed to realising its Captains of Lives vision. Its team of uniformed officers and civilian staff work together to realise its vision of steering offenders towards becoming responsible citizens with the help of their family and the community.

### **About Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises (SCORE)**

Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises (SCORE) was established as a statutory board under the Ministry of Home Affairs in 1976. SCORE plays an important role in the Singapore correctional system through the provision of rehabilitation and aftercare services to inmates and ex-offenders, hence contributing to a safer Singapore. SCORE adopts a multi-faceted approach to rehabilitation and reintegration focusing on training, employment assistance, development of aftercare sector, and community engagement.

### **For media queries, please contact:**

#### **Dawn Tan (Ms.)**

Singapore Prison Service

Telephone: 6546 9384

Mobile: 9002 7996

[Dawn\\_tan@pris.gov.sg](mailto:Dawn_tan@pris.gov.sg)

#### **Tannie Loi (Ms)**

Singapore Prison Service

Telephone: 6546 9219

Mobile: 9878 8380

[Tannie\\_loi@pris.gov.sg](mailto:Tannie_loi@pris.gov.sg)

**Singapore Prison Service Annual Statistics 2016**

**Convicted Penal Inmate Population as at 31 December of each year<sup>2</sup>**

Category		2014	2015	2016
<b>Total Convicted Penal Population</b>		<b>9,754</b>	<b>9,602</b>	<b>9,502</b>
<b>Gender</b>	Male	8,886	8,783	8,623
	Female	868	819	879
<b>Age Group</b>				
<b>Age Group</b>	Below 21	261	247	278
	21 – 30	1,511	1,459	1,532
	31 – 40	2,156	2,071	1,971
	41 – 50	3,121	2,995	2,875
	51 – 60	2,287	2,320	2,265
	Above 60	418	510	581
<b>Education Level<sup>3</sup></b>				
<b>Education Level<sup>3</sup></b>	No Education	155	157	161
	Primary	3,811	3,652	3,496
	Secondary	4,686	4,665	4,591
	Pre – U	146	158	193
	Vocational	644	657	695
	Tertiary & Above	312	313	366
<b>Main Offence Group<sup>4</sup></b>				
<b>Main Offence Group<sup>4</sup></b>	Crimes Against Person	575	560	607
	Property Crimes	1,238	1,136	1,005
	Commercial Crimes	537	488	508
	Drug Offences	6,527	6,675	6,666
	Immigration Offences	184	134	123
	Crime Against Public Order	174	129	147
	Customs Offences	171	88	215
	Traffic Offences	69	73	72
	Other Offences <sup>5</sup>	279	319	159

<sup>2</sup> Convicted penal inmate population refers to the number of inmates who have already been charged and are within the inmate population as at the end of the respective year.

<sup>3</sup> As declared by inmates upon admission.

<sup>4</sup> Inmates are tracked based on index (i.e. most serious) offence.

<sup>5</sup> Examples of "Other Offences" include National Registration Offences, National Service Related Offences and Telecommunication & Computer Related Offences.

**Convicted Penal Admissions as at 31 December of each year<sup>6</sup>**

Category		2014	2015	2016
<b>Total Convicted Penal Admissions</b>		<b>11,595</b>	<b>10,635</b>	<b>10,211</b>
<b>Gender</b>	Male	9,631	9,084	8,880
	Female	1,964	1,551	1,331
<b>Admission<sup>7</sup> Age Group</b>				
<b>Admission<sup>7</sup> Age Group</b>	Below 21	446	478	429
	21 - 30	3,553	3,324	3,052
	31 - 40	3,035	2,782	2,612
	41 - 50	2,685	2,345	2,326
	51 - 60	1,532	1,328	1,431
	Above 60	344	378	361
<b>Education Level<sup>8</sup></b>				
<b>Education Level<sup>8</sup></b>	No Education	239	171	144
	Primary	4,152	3,347	3,036
	Secondary	5,388	5,233	5,103
	Pre - U	233	237	358
	Vocational	771	852	815
	Tertiary & Above	812	795	755
<b>Main Offence Group<sup>9</sup></b>				
<b>Main Offence Group<sup>9</sup></b>	Crimes Against Person	1,004	1,043	1,060
	Property Crimes	2,044	1,773	1,628
	Commercial Crimes	1,306	923	883
	Drug Offences	1,899	2,097	2,126
	Immigration Offences	2,023	1,408	1,020
	Crime Against Public Order	635	608	770
	Customs Offences	612	305	347
	Traffic Offences	905	921	964
	Other Offences <sup>10</sup>	1,167	1,557	1,413

<sup>6</sup> Convicted Penal Admission figures refers to the number of inmate admissions for the calendar year.

<sup>7</sup> Age as at admission.

<sup>8</sup> As declared by inmates upon admission.

<sup>9</sup> Inmates are tracked based on index (i.e. most serious) offence.

<sup>10</sup> Examples of "Other Offences" include National Registration Offences, National Service Related Offences, and Telecommunication & Computer Related Offences.

**Remand population as at 31 December of each year<sup>11</sup>**

Category		2014	2015	2016
<b>Total Remand Population</b>		<b>1,306</b>	<b>1,255</b>	<b>1,144</b>
<b>Gender</b>	Male	1,183	1,133	1,007
	Female	123	122	137
<b>Age Group</b>				
<b>Age Group</b>	Below 21	62	65	49
	21 - 30	355	371	349
	31 - 40	333	320	318
	41 - 50	360	307	250
	51 - 60	157	157	140
	Above 60	39	35	38
<b>Education Level<sup>12</sup></b>				
<b>Education Level<sup>12</sup></b>	No Education	33	21	19
	Primary	422	401	328
	Secondary	661	627	606
	Pre - U	19	32	28
	Vocational	98	99	87
	Tertiary & Above	73	75	76
<b>Main Offence Group<sup>13</sup></b>				
<b>Main Offence Group<sup>13</sup></b>	Crimes Against Person	124	94	157
	Property Crimes	207	204	206
	Commercial Crimes	81	67	74
	Drug Offences	707	683	580
	Immigration Offences	36	39	36
	Crime Against Public Order	48	64	36
	Customs Offences	12	9	22
	Traffic Offences	7	7	11
	Other Offences <sup>14</sup>	84	88	22

<sup>11</sup> Remand population figures refer to the number of remand inmates who are within the prison population as at the end of the respective year.

<sup>12</sup> As declared by inmates upon admission.

<sup>13</sup> Inmates are tracked based on index (most serious) offence only.

<sup>14</sup> Examples of "Other Offences" include National Registration Offences, National Service Related Offences, and Telecommunication & Computer Related Offences.

**DRC inmate population as at 31 December of each year<sup>15</sup>**

Category		2014	2015	2016
<b>Total DRC Population</b>		<b>1,400</b>	<b>1,419</b>	<b>1,464</b>
<b>Gender</b>	Male	1,146	1,121	1,199
	Female	254	298	265
<b>Age Group</b>	Below 21	79	76	88
	21 – 30	577	633	640
	31 – 40	370	344	407
	41 – 50	195	206	202
	51 – 60	160	132	96
	Above 60	19	28	31
<b>Education Level<sup>16</sup></b>	No Education	11	6	11
	Primary	324	308	269
	Secondary	787	821	805
	Pre – U	24	22	46
	Vocational	179	178	221
	Tertiary & Above	75	84	112

<sup>15</sup> The DRC Regime is meant for local inmates only. The figures refer to the number of DRC inmates who are among the inmate population as at the end of the respective year.

<sup>16</sup> As declared by inmates upon admission.

**DRC Inmate Admissions as at 31 December of each year<sup>17</sup>**

Category		2014	2015	2016
<b>Total DRC Admissions</b>		<b>1,139</b>	<b>1,213</b>	<b>1,263</b>
<b>Gender</b>	Male	919	942	1,017
	Female	220	271	246
<b>Admission Age Group<sup>18</sup></b>				
<b>Admission Age Group<sup>18</sup></b>	Below 21	88	87	99
	21 - 30	505	569	593
	31 - 40	288	288	329
	41 - 50	150	162	157
	51 - 60	94	90	67
	Above 60	14	17	18
<b>Education Level<sup>19</sup></b>				
<b>Education Level<sup>19</sup></b>	No Education	11	4	11
	Primary	253	247	220
	Secondary	639	712	683
	Pre - U	19	23	43
	Vocational	151	148	200
	Tertiary & Above	66	79	106

<sup>17</sup> The figures refer to the number of DRC inmates admissions for the calendar year.

<sup>18</sup> Age as at admission.

<sup>19</sup> As declared by inmates upon admission.



**Criminal Law Detainee (CLD) Population as at 31 December of each year<sup>20</sup>**

Category		2014	2015	2016
<b>Total CLD Population</b>		<b>136</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>109</b>
<b>Gender</b>	Male	134	117	109
	Female	2	1	0
<b>Age Group</b>				
<b>Age Group</b>	Below 21	7	5	2
	21 - 30	57	55	55
	31 - 40	43	38	35
	41 - 50	22	15	12
	51 - 60	6	4	4
	Above 60	1	1	1
<b>Education Level<sup>21</sup></b>				
<b>Education Level<sup>21</sup></b>	No Education	5	4	2
	Primary	27	22	17
	Secondary	93	82	77
	Pre - U	1	2	2
	Vocational	9	7	10
	Tertiary & Above	1	1	1
<b>Type of Criminal Activity</b>				
<b>Type of Criminal Activity</b>	Secret Societies	99	89	91
	Unlicensed Money-lending	22	16	12
	Drug Trafficking	10	8	5
	Others	5	5	1

**Releases – Convicted Penal Releases**

Category		2014	2015	2016
<b>Total Convicted Penal</b>		<b>11,955</b>	<b>10,807</b>	<b>10,371</b>
<b>Gender</b>	Male	9,981	9,206	9,089
	Female	1,974	1,601	1,282

**Releases – DRC Releases**

Category		2014	2015	2016
<b>Total DRC Releases</b>		<b>1,350</b>	<b>1,172</b>	<b>1,220</b>
<b>Gender</b>	Male	1,098	942	949
	Female	252	230	271

<sup>20</sup> The CLD population refers to the number of persons detained under the Criminal Law (Temporary Provision) Act and are among the population as at the end of the respective year.

<sup>21</sup> As declared by inmates upon admission.

### **Number of Capital Executions as at 31 December of each year**

<b>Executions</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Murder</b>	0	1	2
<b>Firearms</b>	0	0	0
<b>Drug</b>	2	3	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

### **Major Incidents**

<b>Major Incidents<sup>22</sup></b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016 (up till Dec'16)</b>
<b>Escape Rate per 10,000</b>	0	0	0
<b>Assault Rate<sup>23</sup> per 10,000</b>	36.6	30.0	20.9

### **Recidivism Rates<sup>24</sup>**

<b>Recidivism</b>	<b>Release Cohort 2012</b>	<b>Release Cohort 2013</b>	<b>Release Cohort 2014</b>
<b>Overall</b>	27.6%	25.9%	26.5%
<b>Penal</b>	27.5%	24.7%	25.8%
<b>DRC</b>	28.3%	31.9%	30.1%

### **Emplacement and Completion Rates for Community Based Programmes (CBP) as at 31 December of each year**

<b>Emplacement Number</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>CBP for Penal inmates</b>	1,011	886	918
<b>CBP for DRC inmates</b>	885	1,003	999

<b>Completion Rates</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>CBP for Penal inmates</b>	96.7%	96.9%	98.2%
<b>CBP for DRC inmates</b>	88.2%	81.7%	88.2%

<sup>22</sup> Major incidents are measured per fiscal year (FY) as published in the annual Budget Book.

<sup>23</sup> The assault rate refers to assault cases perpetrated by inmates who are charged under aggravated prison offences. Such cases would include any attack by inmates on prisons officers, or assaults by inmates on fellow inmates in which serious injuries are sustained by the victim(s).

<sup>24</sup> Recidivism Rate is defined as the percentage of local inmates detained, convicted and imprisoned again for a new offence within two years from their release.

### Vocational Programmes as at 31 December of each year

<b>Employability Skills Training<sup>25</sup></b>			
<b>Yearly Enrolment</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>No. of training places</b>	21,093	26,660	22,945
<b>No. of inmates</b>	5,482	5,137	5,131

<b>Work Programmes<sup>27</sup></b>			
<b>Engaged in Work</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Average No. of Inmates</b>	4,245	4,065	3,742

### Academic Programmes as at 31 December of each year

<b>Yearly Enrolment</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Other Courses<sup>28</sup></b>	1,126	704	803
<b>N Level</b>	98	101	129
<b>O Level</b>	91	108	97
<b>A Level</b>	23	30	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>1338</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>1,071</b>

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<sup>25</sup> Employability Skills Training Programmes are provided by SCORE to equip inmates with relevant job skills. SCORE's training system is aligned to Workforce Singapore's WSQ framework. Examples of training offered includes Workplace Literacy and Numeracy (WPLN), Employability Skills, Certified Service Professional (CSP) and Certified Operations Specialist (COS). Vocational skills training such as the National ITE Certificate (NITEC) in Electronics, WSQ Operate Forklift and Certificate in Generic Manufacturing (CGM) were also conducted.

<sup>26</sup> Inmates may attend more than one training course.

<sup>27</sup> Work programmes aim to impart vocational and employability skills through on-the-job training. Discipline and positive work ethics and values are inculcated by immersing inmates in real work environment within prisons.

<sup>28</sup> Other courses include short term courses such as English literacy classes and basic education programmes (primary to secondary level).

## **Academic Results**

<b>GCE 'N' Levels Results of Prisons Candidates (At least 1 'N' Pass)</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
100%	100%	100%
<b>GCE 'N' Levels Results of Prisons Candidates (10 points or less in best 3 subjects)</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
78.4%	80.2%	77.3%
<b>GCE 'N' Levels Results of Prisons Candidates (19 points or less in ELMAB3 - English,</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
66.3%	75.6%	69.1%
<b>GCE 'O' Levels Results of Prisons Candidates (At least 1 'O' Level Pass)</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
100%	100%	100%
<b>GCE 'O' Levels Results of Prisons Candidates (At least 3 'O' Level Pass)</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
90.0%	85.5%	77.8%
<b>GCE 'O' Levels Results of Prisons Candidates (5 or more 'O' Level Pass)</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
54.4%	45.3%	43.5%