



Immigration Detention in the UK: "Residential" Detention Capacity

Last updated 26th November 2015

These tables detail the capacity of the Home Office to hold people for more than 24 hours under immigration powers. It therefore includes **residential spaces** only i.e. immigration removal centres and short term holding facilities where detainees may be held for more than 24 hours. It does not include holding rooms at ports and airports or police custody suites, where detainees may also be held under immigration act powers, but for which figures are not published. Home Office statistics¹ don't include these facilities, and therefore give a false impression of the scale of detention in the UK.

Changes in 2015:

There has been an overall reduction in detention spaces this year. In 2015 a planned expansion at Campsfield House in Oxford was put on hold. It is not clear whether further expansions are planned, or whether the Campsfield expansion will be reconsidered. Haslar IRC closed at the beginning of the year. Dover IRC closed in October 2015.

Detention in Prisons:

The number of immigration detainees held in mainstream prisons declined in 2015 compared to 2014. As at the 30th September 2015 there were 409 detainees in prison. The overall figure is now included in the Home Office statistics, but this doesn't give a breakdown of location. AVID regularly submits FOI requests to find this out where detainees are held in prison, [you can access them on our website here](#).

As at November 2015 the detention capacity in the UK is 3,666. Including the figures for those held in prisons, which is around 400 a month, takes the total to around 4,075.

Residential Detention Spaces:

Facility	Location	Contractor	Type ²	Detainees	Capacity	Total Capacity
Brook House	Gatwick	G4S	IRC	Male	448	448
Campsfield House	Kidlington, Oxfordshire	Mitie PLC	IRC	Male	282	282
Cedars	Near Crawley, Sussex	G4S and Barnardos	PDA/STHF	Families with children	9 apartments	44
Colnbrook	Heathrow	Mitie PLC	IRC	Male	369	396
			STHF	Male		
			STHF	Female	27	
Dungavel	Strathaven,	GEO	IRC	Male and Female	249	249

¹ The Home Office's detention statistics are available at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-april-to-june-2015>

² IRC = Immigration Removal Centre (no time limit) STHF = Short Term Holding Facility (up to 7 days)
PDA = Pre departure accommodation (up to 7 days, operates as a STHF)

	Lanarkshire	Group				
Harmondsworth	Heathrow	Mitie PLC	IRC	Male	661	661
Larne House	Outside Belfast, Northern Ireland	Tascor	STHF	Male and female	19	19
Morton Hall	Lincolnshire	HM Prison Service	IRC	Male	392	392
Pennine House	Manchester Airport	Tascor	STHF	Male and Female	32	32
Tinsley House	Gatwick	G4S	IRC	Male	119	153
			STHF	Families with children	34	
Verne	Isle of Portland, Dorset	HM Prison Service	IRC	Male	580	580
Yarl's Wood	Bedfordshire	Serco	IRC	Female, families with adult children	372 (304 female, 68 family spaces)	410
			STHF	Male	38	
TOTAL DETENTION SPACES						3,666

Total Residential Detention Spaces: **3,666**

Total Residential Detention Spaces including prisons: **around 4,075**