



Israel Prison Service

The Israel Prison Service (IPS) represents the operational arm of the law enforcement system, caring for security and criminal prisoners and persons remanded in custody. The IPS, as the main prison authority for the State of Israel, is responsible for ensuring the incarceration of prisoners and those remanded in custody in a secure and suitable environment, while respecting their dignity, accommodating their needs and assisting them in acquiring appropriate rehabilitative skills

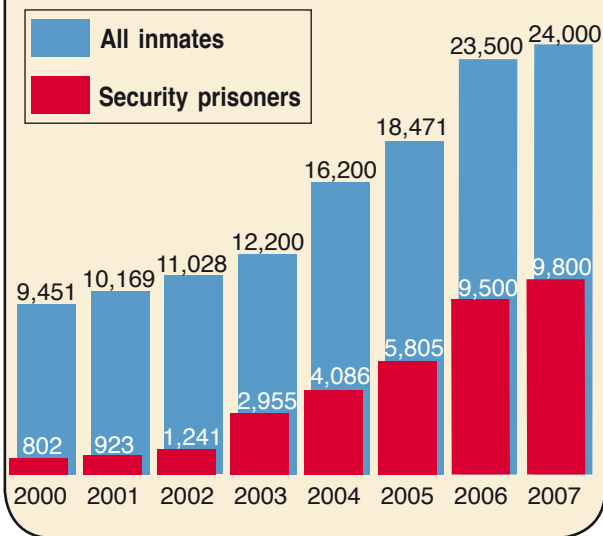


IPS ID Card

Prison facilities:	32
Prisoners:	25,000
Staff:	8,000



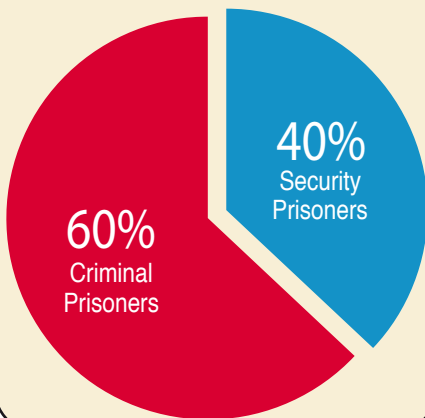
Growth in the number of inmates, including security prisoners



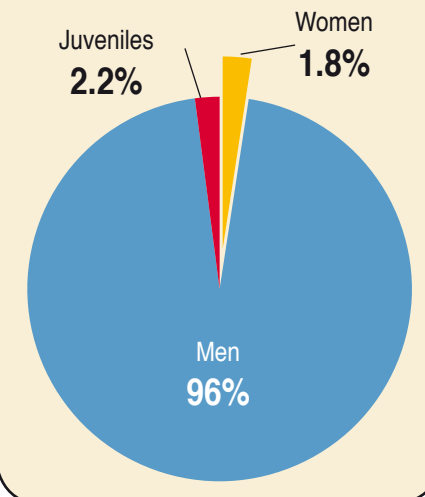
Prisoners – General Data

Number of Prisoners – 25,000

As of 2008



Prisoners Women / Men / Juveniles



The IPS has 32 prison facilities throughout the country, with a diverse population of 25,000 prisoners - men, women and juveniles – who have been removed from society by order of the courts. There are also thousands of security prisoners: terrorists with “blood on their hands”, many of them serving multiple life sentences; and criminal offenders serving time for a wide variety of crimes that carry sentences from short periods to life imprisonment.

There are over 8,000 IPS staff caring for these prisoners held in custody by order of the courts: warders, officers, members of special operational units, therapists and soldiers serving in the IPS.



Expansion of the Organization

The number of prisoners and persons remanded in custody in prisons has doubled over the last three years. In 2003, there were 12,000 prisoners in the IPS. Today, this number is in excess of 25,000. The number of employees and soldiers has also grown, from 3,800 in 2003 to about 8,000 in 2008. The tasks that face the organization have grown exponentially. For the first time this year, soldiers in their compulsory service were recruited into the IPS.

As part of its transformation into a central prisons authority, the IPS assumed responsibility in 2005 for prison facilities that were previously in the hands of the Israel Defense Forces and the Israel Police. The concept is that the IPS is the professional body responsible for incarceration, carrying out its designated mission. During 2005, responsibility for the Megiddo prison facility was handed over to the IPS, and in 2006 also the Ketziot Prison and Ofer Prison. This transfer of responsibility, was led by the Deputy Chief of Staff. To date the IPS is responsible for all security prisoners in Israel.

In the beginning of 2005, the Kishon prison was the first facility to be transferred from the Israeli Police to the IPS and discussions are currently taking place regarding the transfer of responsibility of other prisons to the IPS. This is taking place alongside the Nahshon Unit of the IPS assuming responsibility for transferring all police prisoners.

The Care of Criminal Prisoners

The strategic mission statement of the Israel Prison Service incorporates all the components inherent in the work of the IPS:

“The Israel Prison Service is a security organization with a social mission within the law enforcement system. Its mission is to enhance offenders potential for successful integration within the community by ensuring their incarceration in a safe, secure and reasonable environment, by respecting their dignity, by accommodating their basic needs and by assisting them in acquiring appropriate rehabilitative skills in collaboration with government agencies and community organizations.”

The Education Wing of the IPS is responsible for organizing an educational framework for prisoners in all of the criminal prison facilities in Israel. Its mission: to create changes in thinking processes and behavioral patterns, to help the inmates acquire life skills and qualifications that will help them transform their period of incarceration into a “school for life”, thereby increasing their chances of rehabilitation into society.

The guiding principle behind the educational framework at the IPS is the belief that every person is capable of change. Educational capabilities must be encouraged and potential should be realized by nurturing positive habits and cognitive, behavioral and social skills through education and creativity.



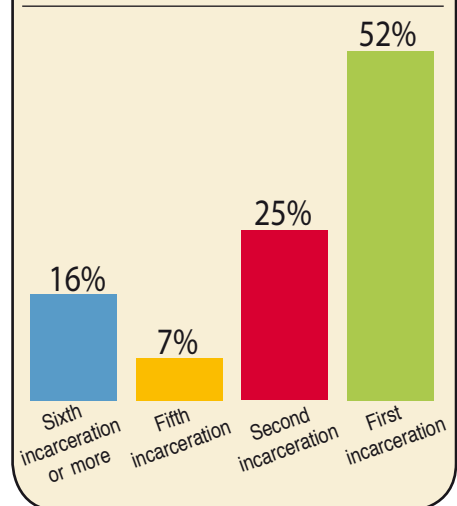
In addition, there are many different programs for reading and writing and for completing basic education from 8th to 12th grade.

Putting a man behind bars to serve a prison sentence represents a drastic change in his lifestyle. The combination of the separation from his natural environment, the deprivation of freedom, the difficult living conditions and the strange social environment all contribute to making this period of incarceration very difficult.

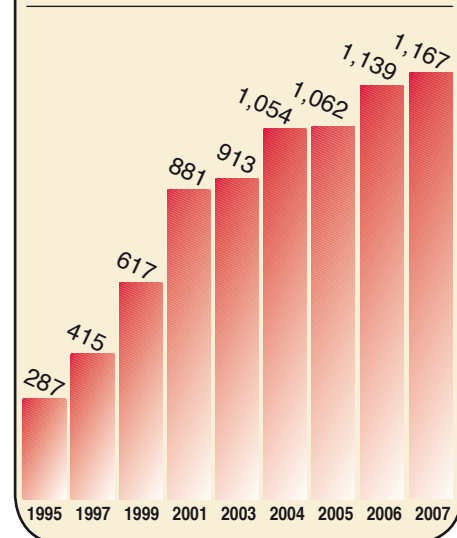
The therapeutic frameworks in the prisons are designed to assist the prisoner during this period of his life: to alleviate the difficulties, to encourage him to change his criminal lifestyle and to begin considering other possibilities. There are many different therapies available in the IPS that answer the varied needs of the prison population in areas such as drugs, criminality, sex and violence.

Assisting the prisoner acquire work skills and professional training is one of the most important components in the prisoner’s rehabilitation. This helps him integrate into the wider society after his release from prison – important not only for his mental and physical health but also in increasing his levels of self-esteem.

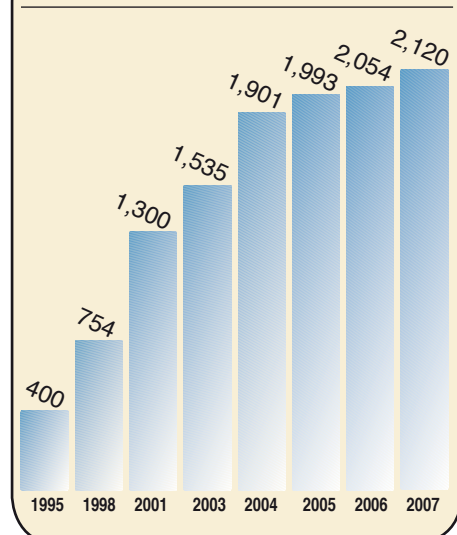
First / Second Incarceration: Recidivism in Prison



Prisoners – Sex Offenders



Prisoners – Domestic Violence



Security Prisoners

There are close to 10,000 security prisoners and terrorists incarcerated in the Israel Prison Service, of whom 70% have been found guilty or arrested for crimes with "blood on their hands". These prisoners include men, women and juveniles; terrorists who were en route to a suicide bombing mission but changed their minds just moments before killing and wounding scores of civilians; suicide dispatchers; the masterminds behind the attacks; those responsible for preparing the explosives; senior members of terrorist Palestinian organizations and more. The IPS, as the main law enforcement agency, is responsible for ensuring the incarceration of these prisoners in a secure and suitable environment, while accommodating their basic needs, in accordance with the law. The organization bears a heavy task and responsibility: caring for dangerous security prisoners while respecting their rights and ensuring their health, while protecting the safety of the prison staff and preventing any terrorist activity within the prison walls. The IPS meets these complex objectives and teaches its fighters to operate in the most professional manner while dealing with this dangerous prison population during routine and times of emergency.



Special Units

The IPS must deal with formidable threats, such as a break-out from its prison facilities; physical assaults on its staff; prisoners kidnapped and taken hostage; riots; assaults on accompanying vehicles; smuggling weapons and communications equipment; drugs and alcohol smuggling and the plotting of criminal activities – security and criminal – outside the prison gates.

In order to deal appropriately with such scenarios, the organization must be committed to professionalism, continuous study and skills of the highest levels. It is for this reason and to ensure success with its routine and emergency activities that the organization has established three special operational units.

The Dror Unit – a counter intelligence drug unit that works to locate drugs in prison facilities and to expose drug smuggling.

The Massada Unit - an IPS intervention unit designated to deal with irregular events at the various prisons.

The Nahshon Unit – the main IPS unit for transferring prisoners between prison facilities and the courts which is also responsible for security and intervention with uprisings.

There is also a special **Canine unit** that helps secure prison facilities and transfers. All units are trained to deal with the daily situations, threats and the dangers posed both inside and outside the prison walls, each one according to its area of expertise.

Security Prisoners by Terrorist Organization

