



2025 FIRST QUARTER PRISON ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES STATISTICS REPORT

Outline of Presentation

- a) Prison Population Size
- b) New Admissions
- c) Discharges
- d) Profile of New Prisoners
- e) Committed Crimes

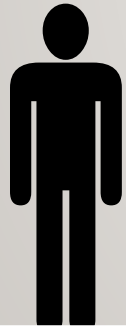
Introduction

- Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT) collects administrative data on prisoners from Zimbabwe Prisons and Correctional Services (ZPCS) for use in the production of Quarterly Prison Admissions and Discharges Statistics reports.
- The 2025 1st Quarter Prison Admissions and Discharges Statistics report sheds light on the prison population, the number and profile of prisoners who get admitted into, and those who get discharged from the country's prison facilities.

Results

Prison Population

At the end of the first quarter of 2025 there were 23,654 prisoners in prison facilities throughout the country.



22,889
(96.8%)



765
(3.2%)



Imprisonment Rates

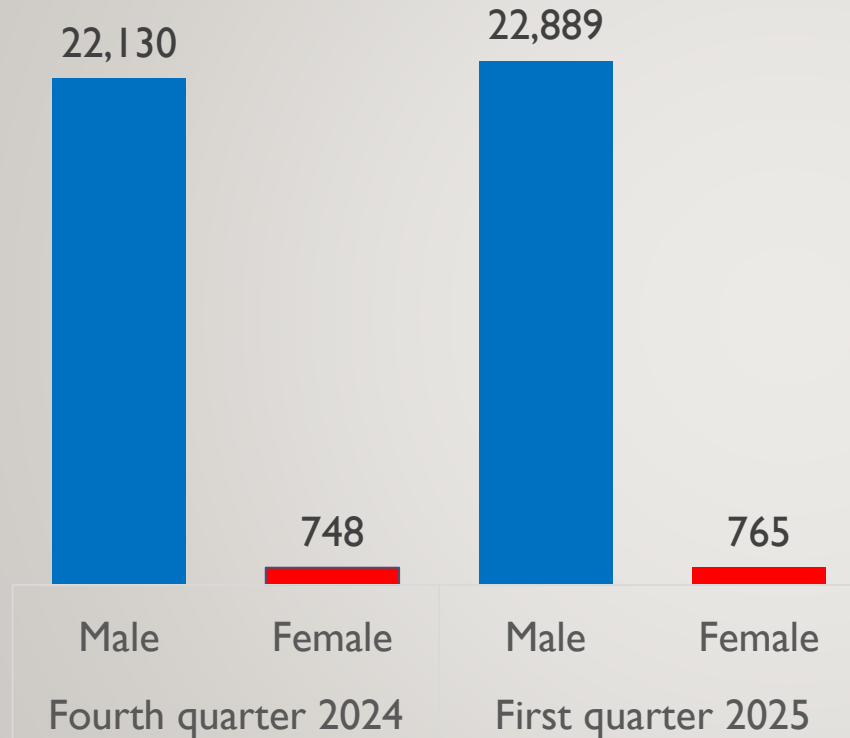


The National Imprisonment rate was 149 per 100,000 people

The Imprisonment rate among males was 299 per 100,000 people

The Imprisonment rate among females was 9 per 100,000 people

Comparison of Prison Population Between 4th Quarter 2024 and 1st Quarter 2025



- ❖ The prison population increased from 22,878 in Q4 of 2024 to 23,654 in Q1 of 2025.
- ❖ During the same period, the population of male prisoners increased from 22,130 to 22,130.
- ❖ Female prisoners decreased from 748 in Q4 of 2024 to 748 in Q1 of 2025.

Prison Population (Sentenced and Unsented Prisoners)

Among the 23,654 prisoners held in Zimbabwe's prisons, 18,857 (79.7%) were sentenced and 4,797 (20.3%) were unsentenced.

a) Of 22,889 male prisoners, 18,348 (80.2%) were sentenced and 4,541 (19.8%) were unsentenced

a) Among the 765 female prisoners, 509 (66.5%) were sentenced and 256 (33.5%) were unsentenced



▪ Sentenced	18,348 (80.2%)
▪ Unsented	4,686 (21.9%)



▪ Sentenced	509 (66.5%)
▪ Unsented	256 (33.5%)

Sentence Status of Prisoner Population: 4th Quarter 2024 and 1st Quarter 2025

- a) Sentenced prisoners increased from 17,610 in Q4 of 2024 to 18,857 in Q1 of 2025.
- a) During the same period unsentenced prisoners decreased slightly from 5,268 to 4,797.
- b) Sentenced male prisoners increased from 17,127 to 18,348.
- c) Unsentenced male prisoners decreased slightly from 5,003 to 4,541.
- d) Sentenced female prisoners also increased from 483 to 509.
- (f) Unsentenced female prisoners decreased from 265 in Q4 of 2024 to 256 in Q1 of 2025.

4 th quarter 2024		
	Sentenced	Unsentenced
Male	17,127	5,003
Female	483	265
Total	17,610	5,268

1 st quarter 2025		
	Sentenced	Unsentenced
Male	18,348	4,541
Female	509	256
Total	18,857	4,797

Prison Admissions: 1st Quarter 2025



A total of 16,762 new prisoners were admitted during the 1st Quarter of 2025

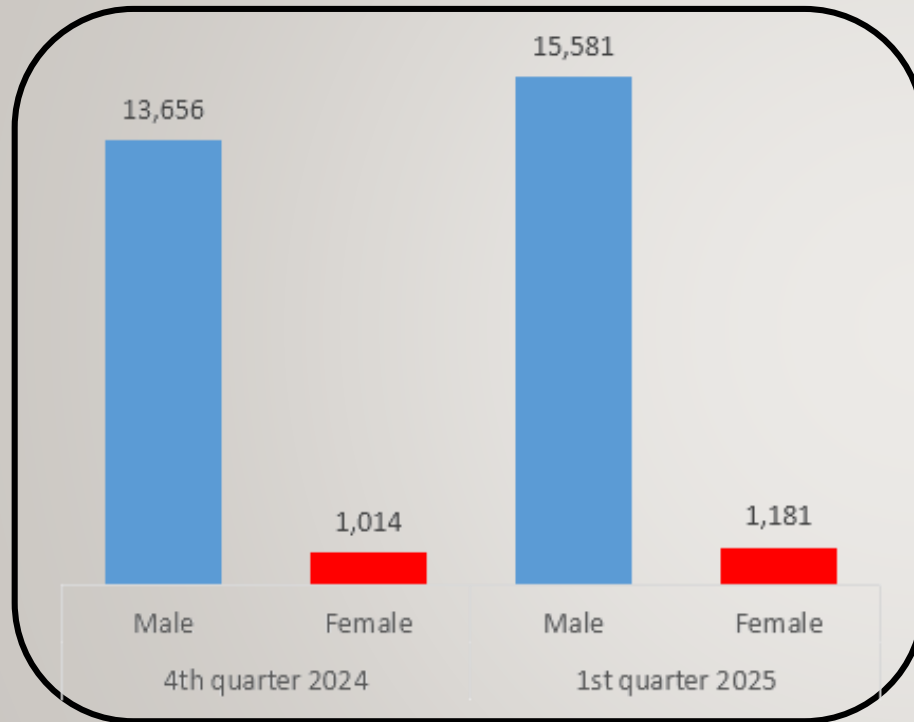


Male prisoners were 15,581 (93.0%)



Female prisoners were 1,181 (7.0%)

New Prison Admissions: 2nd Quarter 2024 and 1st Quarter 2025



- a) New prison admissions increased from 14,670 in Q4 of 2024 to 16,762 in Q1 of 2025.
- b) The new male prisoner population increased from 13,656 to 15,581 and the population of new female prisoners decreased slightly from 1,014 to 1,181.

Prison Admissions (Continued)

Among the 16,762 new prisoners admitted, 14,028 (83.7%) were admitted as unsentenced prisoners and 2,734 (16.3%) had a sentence.



13,097 (84.1%) were unsentenced
2,484 (15.9%) were sentenced.



931 (78.8%) were unsentenced
250 (21.2%) were sentenced.

Prison Discharges

A total of 16,648 prisoners were discharged from prison during the 1st Quarter of 2025



15,356 (92.2%) were male



1,292 (7.8%) were female

Prison Discharges (Continued)

Of the 16,648 prisoners who were discharged from prison, 9,104 (54.7%) were sentenced and 7,544 (45.3%) were unsentenced



Sentenced 8,428 (54.9%)

Unsentenced 6,928 (45.3%)



Sentenced 676 (52.3%)

Unsentenced 616 (47.7%)

Reason(s) for Discharge from Prison



Sentenced prisoners

Reason for discharge	Male %	Female %	Total %
Sentence expired	36.1	20.4	34.9
Community service	31.6	30.5	31.5
Time to pay	13.7	14.3	13.7
Fine paid	6	17.2	6.8
Community service with time to pay	6	7.2	6.1
Suspended sentence	4.4	5.8	4.5
Other	2.3	4.6	2.5
Amnesty parole	0	0	0



? Unsentenced prisoners

Reason for discharge	Male %	Female %	Total %
Bail paid or free bail	40.5	46.6	41.0
Found not guilty by courts	16.3	9.3	15.8
Remanded out of custody	14	8.9	13.6
Case Withdrawn	12.3	9.7	12.1
Further remand refused	9.4	5	9.1
Other	4.1	13.3	4.9
Released to immigration	3.3	7.1	3.6

Profiling of New Prisoners

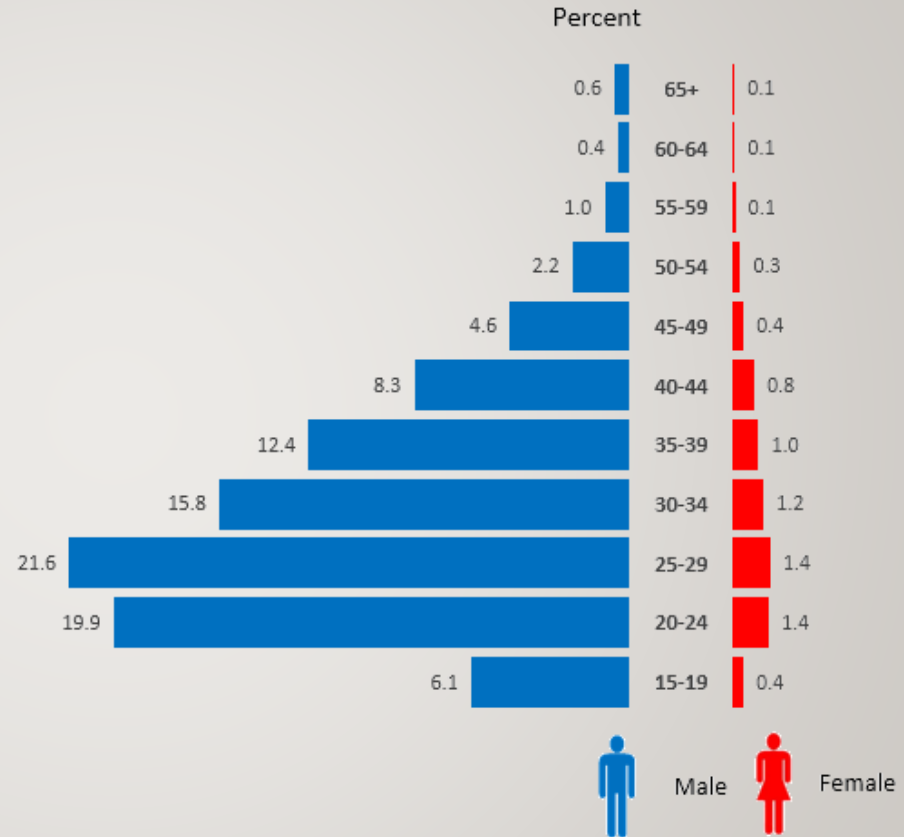


by

- ✓ Age group.
- ✓ Province of usual residence
- ✓ Nationality
- ✓ Employment Status

New Prisoners By Age Group And Sex

The highest proportion of both new male and female prisoners were in the 25-29 and 20-24 age groups. It can be observed that after the age group 25 to 29, the number of new prisoners decreases with increasing age.



New prisoners by Province of Usual Residence and sex

- a) Most new prisoners usually lived in Harare (23.2%), followed by Midlands (12.0%) and Mashonaland West (12.0%).
- b) Most new male prisoners usually lived in Harare (22.8%), followed by Manicaland (12.2%) and Midlands (12.1%).
- c) The majority of new female prisoners were from Harare (29.0%), followed by Midlands (10.4%) and Manicaland (9.2%).

Province	Male	Female	Total
Harare	22.8	29.0	23.2
Midlands	12.1	10.4	12.0
Manicaland	12.2	9.2	12.0
Mash West	10.0	7.3	9.8
Masvingo	9.3	8.1	9.2
Mash East	8.8	7.5	8.8
Mash Central	8.6	8.6	8.6
Mat North	6.6	3.3	6.3
Mat South	4.9	3.6	4.8
Bulawayo	3.4	7.2	3.7
Outside Zimbabwe	1.4	5.8	1.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

New prisoners population by Nationality and sex

Zimbabwe 98.1%

Other SADC
Countries 1.4%

Other African
Countries 0.2%

Outside
Africa 0.3%

Nationality	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Zimbabwe	15,342	98.5	1,102	93.3	16,444	98.1
Other SADC Countries	172	1.1	61	5.2	233	1.4
Other African Countries	36	0.2	2	0.2	38	0.2
Outside Africa	31	0.2	16	1.4	47	0.3
Total	15,581	100.0	1,181	100.0	16,762	100.0

Reported Last Employment Status of New Prisoners By Sex

- Just over half of new prisoners (51.5%) reported being employed prior to admission.
- Male prisoners who were unemployed constituted 47.8% of the new male prisoner population.
- The share of female prisoners who reported that they were unemployed before their admission to prison was 58.2%

Employment status	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Employed	8,133	52.2	494	41.8	8,627	51.5
Unemployed	7,448	47.8	687	58.2	8,135	48.5
Total	15,581	100.0	1,181	100.0	16,762	100.0

Crime Count For New Prisoners

The 16,762 prisoners that were admitted during the first quarter of 2025 had committed 19,172 offences. Of these offences, 17,881 were committed by males and 1,291 by females.



Top Five Crimes Committed By New Prisoners

Most of the new prisoners were admitted into prison for committing theft (22.1%) , assault (19.6%), burglary (9.5%), robbery without firearm (6.0%) and other criminal acts not elsewhere classified (4.7%).

The crimes that led to the imprisonment of female prisoners were mostly theft (26.9%), assault (23.2%), unlawful acts involving controlled drugs or precursors (9.2%) and acts related to migration (6.2%).

Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Total	Percent
Theft	21.9	Theft	26.9	Theft	22.1
Assaults	19.8	Assaults	23.2	Assaults	19.6
Burglary	9.8	Unlawful acts involving controlled drugs or precursors	9.2	Burglary	9.5
Robbery (without firearm)	6.3	Acts related to migration	6.3	Robbery (without firearm)	6.0
Domestic Violence	4.7	Burglary	5.9	Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified	4.7

Crime Type And Counts By Age Group Of Prisoners

- Theft, assaults, burglary and robbery (without firearm) were the most frequent crimes for male prisoners in the age groups 15-60.
- Theft and assault were the most committed crimes amongst females in the same age group.
- Males age 65 years and above were mostly imprisoned for rape (24.5 %)
- and theft (11.2%)

Crime Type And Counts By Nationality Of Prisoners

New prisoners of Zimbabwean nationality were mostly imprisoned for theft (22.6%), assault (19.9%), burglary (9.7%) , and robbery without firearm (6.1%) and other criminal acts not elsewhere classified (4.8%).

New Non-Zimbabwean prisoners committed mostly immigration-related offences (70.3%) and trade or possession of protected or prohibited species of fauna and flora (11.6%).

CRIME COUNTS,TYPE AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS

- Employed male prisoners were imprisoned mostly for theft (22.7%), assault (18.2%) and burglary (9.1%).
- Unemployed male prisoners were mostly admitted for committing theft (22.7%), assault (18.2%), burglary (9.1%).

- Employed female prisoners were admitted for committing theft (29.3%), assault (14.2%), and unlawful acts involving controlled drugs or precursors (8.8%).
- Unemployed female prisoners were mostly admitted for committing theft (23.5%), assault (19.3%), and acts related to migration(9.8%).

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