

## FOI DOF/2026-0146

**Request**

I am requesting the following Fol;

Can I get the following Fol with figures to the present day;

FOI DoF/2022-0420 - 'The number of prison officers that have retired for the last 10 years by various ranges'

**DoF response**

I can confirm the department holds the information requested and is presented in Tables 1 and 2 below.

Data provided for 2022/23 and 2023/24 is based on Official Statistics which are produced in compliance with the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#). 2024/25 data is based on Management Information as NICS Workforce Official Statistics for 2024/25 have not yet been published. This differs from the response provided to FOI DoF 2022-0420, which was all based on Official Statistics.

Please note some personal information has been withheld because it is exempt under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 40(2) exempts personal information disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of that information would contravene one of the data protection principles in schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act.

Having considered all the information contained within the Legitimate Interest Test, also known as Lawful, Fairness and Transparency Test, (attached at **Annex C**), the Department has established that, on balance, there is no lawful basis for the disclosure of third-party personal data falling within the scope of the request of which the requestor is nor the data subject. Making an unrestricted disclosure of personal data for private interests could constitute a disproportionate and unwarranted level of interference with the individuals' rights and freedoms – particularly their right to privacy and family life under the Human Rights Act 1998.

**Table 1: The number of prison officers that have retired from 2022/23 to 2024/25, broken down by retirement reason**

	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>
Age Retirement	17	9	10
Premature Retirement	0	0	0
Medical Retirement	15	15	33
<b>Total number of Prison Officers who retired</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>43</b>
Average Retirement Age	56	56	57

**Table 2: The number of prison officers that have retired from 2022/23 to 2024/25, broken down by retirement reason and age bands**

	2022/23		2023/24		2024/25	
Age	Age Retirement	Medical Retirement	Age Retirement	Medical Retirement	Age Retirement	Medical Retirement
16-30	0	0	0	0	0	0
31-40	0	*	0	0	0	0
41-50	0	#	0	5	0	*
51-60	12	8	*	#	*	25
61+	5	0	#	*	#	*

Notes:

Analysis is based on NICS leaver data held on HR Connect and additional DoJ databases  
Excludes staff who were on a career break and those on secondment to another organisation at the time of leaving

Data Provided for 2024/25 is based on Management Information as NICS Workforce Official Statistics for 2024/25 have not yet been published. This differs from the response provided to FOI DoF 2022-0420, which was all based on Official Statistics.

\* Number of cases is too small to publish due to the risk of identifying individuals (e.g. few than five members of staff)

# Number of cases has been counter suppressed to avoid disclosing another number that is too small to publish

## ANNEX B - INTERNAL REVIEWS

An Internal Review request examines the response based on applied exemptions, search adequacy, or response timeliness.

### **It is not the following, which will be treated as specified:**

- Questions asking for clarification on information provided: Will be treated as part of the original FOI request.
- Additional questions about the information in the response: Will be treated as a new FOI request.
- Questions about the subject not related to the original request: Will be treated as new FOI request.
- Questions regarding how a service operates or why a decision was made: Will be treated as normal business and responded to accordingly.
- Complaints or concerns raised in response to information provided: Will be treated in line with relevant complaints procedure.

### **To make an Internal Review request:**

- **Clearly state:** That you want an internal review of a previous FOI response and provide the necessary details.
- **Follow the timeline:** Be sure to submit your request within 40 working days of receiving the original response. If the Department has not responded at all, you have 40 working days after the original 20-day response period has passed.
- **Wait for a response:** The review is typically completed within 20 working days but can take up to 40 working days in exceptional circumstances. The Department should inform you of any delays.

### **What the review includes**

- A fresh decision based on a reconsideration of all relevant factors.
- An assessment of whether the request was handled correctly and if exemptions were applied appropriately.
- The review will be conducted by someone who was not involved in the original decision.

**If you wish to request an internal review, please email [foi@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:foi@finance-ni.gov.uk) or write to FOI/EIR Team, Department of Finance, 2nd Floor, Craigantlet Buildings, Stoney Road, Belfast, BT4 3SX.**