



COVID-19 Feedback Collection 12 August 2020



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What is the number of COVID-19 infected inmates in your countries?

Lithuania	At the moment there are no COVID-19 cases in prisons.
Belgium	In Belgium we have still 4 inmates and 6 staff members who are infected by COVID-19. Since the beginning of the pandemic 35 inmates tested positive and 82 staff members.
Finland	In Finland there were no COVID-19 infected inmates during the whole epidemic.
Northern Ireland	No prisoners have tested positive for COVID-19 in Northern Ireland Prison Service establishments.
Georgia	At the moment there are no COVID-19 cases in prisons.
Cyprus	At the moment in the Cyprus Prisons there are no COVID incidents - neither for inmates nor for staff.
Hungary	Hungarian prisons continue to remain infection-free.
Slovakia	Slovak prisons remain infection-free.
Latvia	At the moment there are no COVID-19 cases in prisons - neither for inmates nor for staff.
Slovenia	At the moment there are no COVID-19 cases in prisons - neither for inmates nor for staff.
Poland	At the moment there are no COVID-19 cases in prisons.
Norway	In the Norwegian correctional service, one staff member of one prison was reported infected on 07 August. No inmates are infected as of today.
Czech Republic	In the Czech Republic – no positive cases among inmates. There were two positive cases but they have recovered already.
Estonia	In Estonian prisons there are no C19 infected inmates at the moment.
Sweden	In the Swedish Prison and Probation Service we had in total of 130 cases of infected inmates, all of them are recovered now. No inmates are infected as of 12 August 2020.

Cumulative number

16 total confirmed C-19 infections within the prison administration;
6 total confirmed C-19 infections within forensic care;
3 total confirmed C19 infections within correctional institutions for juvenile offenders.

Current number

Netherlands	1 confirmed C-19 infection within a correctional institution for juvenile offenders.
Spain	In Spanish General Administration, we have currently 11 inmates with positive.

What is your testing policy and why? (who, when, where and why?)

Latvia	In Latvian prisons, if a prisoner is suspected of having a Covid-19 infection, material is taken from the nostrils and throat for analysis on the Covid-19. The material is sent to the National Reference Laboratory. Testing is performed at the expense of the state budget. The answer is provided within 24 -36 hours to both the prison and the Center for Disease Prevention and Control of the Ministry of Health.
Estonia	In Estonian prisons in case of fever, cough or other cold-like symptoms, the person (staff or prisoner) is always tested. Also, in all prisons once a week, a random sample testing of staff takes place, in order to detect possible asymptomatic carriers and prevent the emergence of a C-19 outbreak. In both cases prison medical department performs the tests and sends the samples to the National Laboratory for analysis. Staff members with symptoms are most often referred for testing by his/her general practitioner (GP).
Spain	In Spanish Prison Service, we are testing new inmates when there are reasons to consider they can have covid 19. The policy is to test these inmates and the ones which were in contact with them. Usually, the test are made by prison sanitary services. Also, officers were declared priority group to be tested.
Austria	In Austria, inmates are tested before transfer from the access departments. Furthermore, in case of suspicion of an infection (staff/inmate), testing is always carried out in coordination with the responsible health authority. However, collective tests are also carried out by the Austrian prison medical service. Some prisons also have sufficient capacity of their own to carry out tests independently.
France	National orientations have been given by the Health Department; - New inmates : tests are systematically organized on the 7th day. If negative, the quarantine can be lifted. If positive, isolation is organized in a dedicated part of the prison. FYI, we (i.e. the penitentiary administration) would prefer new detainees to be tested on the very first days upon arrival: some medical staffs plan it this way (on their own decision). But the national orientations by the Health dept are the 7th day (as mentioned above). I can also mention that the CPT has visited France to assess the procedures followed during the COVID: the CPT also recommends tests to be achieved on the 1st day upon arrival. - Otherwise, for the other detainees, tests are also decided by the medical staff in case of doubts, or if the detainees present some symptoms. Other precisions: - if a detainee is positive (clinically assessed or assessment with a test), all the penitentiary staff members have to be tested; detainees in contact with the detainees have to be tested. - If a penitentiary staff member is tested positive: all the penitentiary staff members of the prison have to be tested.
Slovenia	Health Service in Slovenian prisons is provided by the Public Health Network; access to testing and treatment for COVID-19 is equivalent to that of general population. All inmates with particular symptoms are tested when the doctor who operates in the prison decides so. Decision about implementation of quarantine is also handed over to the doctor. If test is negative, the quarantine is lifted.
Finland	Prisoners, who have symptoms associated with coronavirus, or who have reasons to suspect a coronavirus infection, are being tested. Since prisons in Finland do not have any coronavirus cases at the moment, prisoners without symptoms are not being tested. The situation is evaluated as necessary if the epidemic occurs in any of the prisons. Prisoners are tested in an outside healthcare facility in accordance with the recommendations of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. The Health Care Services for Prisoners is preparing to conduct the tests in prisons at the end of August the earliest. However, the Health Care Services for Prisoners will only take the samples, and the analysis will continue to be conducted in the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare.
Catalonia	In the Catalan prison system RT-PCR tests are performed in the following situations: All newly arrived inmates; Inmates with symptoms compatible with covid-19 as assessed by health staff; Inmates that have been in close contact with other inmates that have tested positive as assessed by health staff. While waiting for the results, the inmates that have been tested are being placed in quarantine in different dedicated units in the prison to prevent potential spread. The testing is conducted by the health staff regularly working the prison and sent to the appointed labs as it is done with the testing carried out with people in the community. Prison staff are being tested according to the health authorities criteria applicable in the community which are quite similar.
Northern Ireland	Staff: We have a testing procedure in place (from 09/04/2020) where all staff and their household members who become COVID-19 symptomatic can be tested through 2 dedicated test sites (one in Belfast and one in Ballymena). Testing is managed by the NIPS Fusion Cell in HQ, with a single point of contact within each prison/PECCS and NIPS HQ. Testing is completed through the Belfast and Northern Health and Social Care Trusts. NIPS staff are encouraged not to use the online testing service due to security issues and uncertainty around the reliability of self-tests. Prisoners: All symptomatic prisoners and new committals are tested for COVID-19. We have had no confirmed COVID-19 cases within our prison population since testing began
Sweden	Staff – We do not conduct any testing of staff through the SPPS. Our staff members can get tested through ordinary health care facilities around the country. Inmates – We conduct tests on all clients that are showing symptoms. This is done through PCR-testing and has been successful in most parts of the country. However, the laboratory capacity in some regions has been limited and therefore delayed the testing. PCR-testing is also conducted on inmates admitted to one of our prisons directly from the outside. Inmates that arrive straight from another prison or from a remand-prison are not tested unless they are showing symptoms. New admissions, without symptoms, to the remand-prisons are not tested. The reason for this is that they are in seclusion to the extent that we can monitor them during their quarantine time. We are also trying out testing for antibodies within the prisons in the Stockholm region. The reason for that region is that we have had the infection in many of these facilities. An assessment of the antibody testing will be conducted, considering the results from the testing in Stockholm. After the assessment has been conducted, a policy decision will be made on whether or not the antibody testing will be rolled out to the all prisons around the country. The reason for testing is that we are following the advice from the Public Health Agency of Sweden. According to the Public Health Agency of Sweden anyone who have been verified to have antibodies or who have been cured after testing positive on a PCR-test should be immune from the infection for at least six month. Therefore we will be able to ease the restrictions for inmates with antibodies or who has been cured after a verified infection.
Czechia	The testing policy for prisoners does not differ from the policy applied to general society/population. The rules (criteria for testing) are set by the Ministry of Health (MoH). 1) Prisoners: the Prison Service itself can perform testing (only in particular prisons, see below) or a mobile public-health-and-hygiene-authority team is called; 2) Personnel: mostly their GPs (general practitioners) or regional public-health-and-hygiene authorities ensure testing; not the Prison Service. * Who is tested? - Everyone showing indication criteria (see below); - Epidemiologically significant contacts; - Individuals with Covid-19; - Individuals in quarantine; - Inmates to be extradited from the Czech Republic (quick serological testing); * When to be tested? - Suspected cases among inmates: immediately after suspicion = meeting indication criteria (see below) - after consulting regional hygienic authorities, these ensure performing the tests with mobile test centres; - prisoners can be escorted to testing sites/centres; -

testing can be performed within certain Prison Service's health centres in prisons (health personnel are Prison Service's staff). - Suspected cases among personnel - immediately after suspicion = meeting indication criteria (see below) - tested after recommendation of their GPs (testing mostly done by external bodies - not the Prison Service); - after consultation with the public-health-and-hygiene authorities; - usually in established testing centres (see below). - (Re-)testing is done in given time intervals (by the MoH) for individuals isolated because of their Covid-19 positivity; - in given time intervals for individuals in quarantine; - before extradition from the CZE.

* Where? - Specialized testing centres established by the MoH - public health authorities (hospitals); - private laboratories. - Within Prison Service's facilities - mobile testing units (of public health authorities); - by Prison Service health personnel - only in particular prisons.

* Why (reasons to be tested)? - suspected cases meeting indication criteria set by the Ministry of Health (see below); - epidemiologically significant contacts - based on public-health-and-hygiene authorities' tracing and assessment; - ill individuals isolated because of Covid-19; - individuals at the end of the quarantine period; - before extradition (quick antibodies test);

* The clinical criteria (reason to be tested for SARS-CoV-2 using RT-PCR tests), as of today, are: - body temperature > 37.3 °C; - dry cough; - shortness of breath; - indigestion; - loss of smell and taste; - if these symptoms cannot be clearly clarified.

Slovakia Prison officers and inmates are currently being tested as follows:

1. On the basis of a regulation of the Public Health Authority (nose and throat swab; PCR-RNA tests; covered from the public health insurance); tested persons are mainly proven direct contacts of the confirmed COVID-19 cases or persons who arrived from risk countries (no later than the 5th day after their arrival to Slovakia). 2. On the basis of a recommendation of the Public Health Authority (finger-prick tests; determination of IgM and IgG antibodies; covered by the prison service); tested persons are mainly probable contacts of the confirmed COVID-19 cases. 3. On the basis on the decision of the prison general practitioner (finger-prick tests; determination of IgM and IgG antibodies; covered by the prison service); tested persons are those with symptoms of respiratory disease, who may have been in contact with confirmed COVID-19 cases (arrival from the risk country, if the PCR-RNA test has not been already ordered by the Public Health Authority; or alternatively these persons live in the region with the increased occurrence of the positive COVID-19 cases) or other significantly increased risk of obtaining this infection was stated by their case anamnesis. At present, there is carried out no spread screening on COVID-19 of prison officer, inmates or all inmates on admission to prisons. Inmates on admission to prisons (to serve pre-trial detention/prison sentence) are separated from other inmates for the first 14 days after their admission (modified performance of quarantine), if the capacity of the particular prison allows that.

Netherlands The guidelines provided by National Institute for Public Health and the Environment are followed. This means that when a detainee shows mild symptoms of a C-19 infection he/she is being tested in prison.

Israel Israel Prison Service has been recognized by the health authorities as an organization with top priority to conduct tests. Our policy to conduct tests is as follows: *Every new prisoner coming from the outside is being held in quarantine and tested; *Prisoners who has been exposed to an infected prisoner or staff member is tested; *Every staff member who has been exposed to an infected person is tested; *Every day we perform random tests for inmates and staff member. We perform a few thousand tests per week.

Norway In the Norwegian prisons, inmates that show symptoms of Covid-19 are tested, like any other member of society. Testing is normally done by the prisons' health department. Since the national outbreak in March, the threshold for testing has gone down.

Detainees are being tested (PCR-test, nasopharyngeal swab) upon their arrival. After 5 days a second test is being performed. Testing takes place in their cells. Overall, new arrivals stay in quarantine for 7 days. They are being transferred to regular sections once both tests are confirmed to be negative. Detainees staying at regular sections are only being tested when they show symptoms (fever, cough and/or respiratory difficulties as defined by the Ministry of Health) or before they start attending one of the workshops as a preventive measure. Those tests are being performed at the infirmary. All tests are being performed by the staff members of the Hospital Center of Luxembourg that works within the prison facilities. So far staff members aren't being tested. The Luxembourgish Government has implemented a large-scale testing policy. Every staff member receives every two weeks an invitation to be tested on a voluntary basis. The reasons why we test are in line with the commonly known reasons. To prevent the virus from entering prisons, to protect the prison population and to be able to act fast and efficiently should a positive case be confirmed.

Lithuania New inmates spend 14 days in quarantine where they have tests done. Prisoners, who have fever, cough or other related symptoms are being tested, also prisoners returning after leaves. There are no COVID-19 cases in the Lithuanian prisons, therefore prisoners without symptoms as well as st:

What is your long-term (up to 24 hrs) family visit policy?

Lithuania The Lithuanian Prison Department has reopened short term contactless visits, but the restrictions re. long-term family visits (up to 24 hrs with physical contact) are still in place to prevent C-19. The authorities are considering to no longer grant long-term family visits after C-19 emergency, but exchange them with home leaves instead.

Estonia In Estonian prisons all visits have resumed to where they were pre-COVID, while following all hygiene and disinfection requirements. Also, everyone entering a prison is checked with a no-touch thermometer and in case of cold-like symptoms is denied entry. Please find detailed information on the long-term (up to 24 hrs) family visit policy from our homepage <https://www.vangla.ee/en/communication-prisoners/long-term-visit>

Sweden the Swedish Prison and Probation Service (SPPS) has decided to open for visits outdoors at minimum security prisons from 1 September. Regarding family visits long-term no policy is taken. An assessment for further prison visits will be conducted and the SPPS is especially assessing the rights of the children based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Slovakia Regardless of the measures related to the COVID-19, the current valid legislation of the Slovak Republic regulating the prison sentence execution does not allow 24-hour visits of inmates (so, long-term family visits) in the premises of the prison facility (i.e. with joint accommodation of inmates and civilians). It should be stated that CPT has not objected to such national legislation during its regular visits. At the same time, in addition to a significant security risk, their possible implementation is also hindered by material-technical conditions related to the long-term filled accommodation capacities of convicts. Other problems can be related to ensuring e.g. hygiene or possibly other organizational-technical, moral and ethical issues.

Netherlands Long-term family visits are not allowed.

Israel We allow only short visit, up to an hour, as of now for 2 family members.

Belgium We allow only short visit, up to an hour, as of now for 2 family members.

Norway As of 22 June, inmates will again be allowed to receive visits. Before a visit can take place, the visitor shall be interviewed according to the questionnaire/survey form to prevent the spread of Corona. Inmates and visitors must comply with the current distance- and hygiene rules. As of yet, overnight stay at visitors' lodges where these are present, is not allowed.

Poland We allow only short visit (1 h), 1 family member or any other close person (without children). People are separated by plexiglass.

Ireland The Irish Prison Service currently allow one physical 15 minute visit (for one person) and one video visit per fortnight per prisoner.

Luxembourg Regardless of Covid-19, there are no long-term family visits. This is due to the limiting facilities at Schragg Prison (the so far only closed facility in Luxembourg). There are individual visiting rooms that can be made available for non-surveillance visits for 30 minutes. If this works well over time (no incidents), there is a possibility to extend the visit to 1 hour.

Latvia **Currently, restrictions in relation to COVID-19 have been cancelled, and long-term visits are taking place according with the standard procedure.**

Are there any special restriction for detainees in Detention Centres during the pandemic?

Northern Ireland We have moved to a landing based regime in all of our prisons and this has been in place since late March 2020. This restricts prisoner movement within the prison to the landing, but allows activity, association with social distancing applied, to go ahead and outside exercise for small groups with social distancing. Prisoners who start to show symptoms that may be COVID-19 are moved to the isolation area for a period of 10 days and tested for COVID-19. If a negative test is received, the prisoner remains in the isolation area for the full period.

Austria Austrian Prison Service operates only regional court prisons and penitentiaries. Detention centers - in particular for illegal immigrants and refugees - are operated under the authority of the Ministry of Interior.

Luxembourg As of today, the remaining restrictions concern visits, contact sports and rules in workshops. Visitors under the age of 10 are for example not admissible for visits. In workshops detainees have to respect the distancing rules.

Lithuania Conjugal visits and visits with physical contact are not allowed. Family visits are allowed without physical contact. The events inside the facilities are restricted.

Latvia **At the moment, no special restrictions are determined for detainees.**

Is the detention center open for new detainees to arrive? Upon arrival do you perform tests?

* Every new prisoner coming from the outside is being held in quarantine for 14 days and tested.

* The doctor of the prison decide if the prisoner who has symptoms has to be tested.

Belgium * Prisoners who has been exposed to a an infected prisoner or staff member have to stay in quarantine and can be tested.

Northern Ireland We continue to take new committals into our prisons. All prisoners who are newly committed to prison during the pandemic must complete 14 days isolation in a specific isolation area within each prison. They are tested for COVID-19 within 48 hours of arrival, but must complete the full isolation period

Luxembourg C-19 has no influence on the arrival of new detainees. New arrivals are however being isolated from the other detainees. They undergo a first test upon their arrival and a second test after 5 days. Overall, they spend 7 days in quarantine before being transferred to regular sections.

Lithuania New inmates spend 14 days in quarantine where they have tests done.

Latvia **We register new detainees according with the standard procedure. No tests are performed upon their arrival, only if detainees have specific symptoms or they are conveyed from the COVID-19 listed countries.**

Is the detention center open for volunteers? Lawyers? Parole officers? Citizens?

Northern Ireland	No. We took the decision to restrict people entering the prison to our staff and Prison Healthcare Staff in March 2020. We also removed physical visits to prisoners at that time and in early April introduced virtual visits using Zoom technology. Prisoners can contact family and legal representatives through telephone or Zoom. We started to reintroduce limited face to face visits from the 27 July 2020, but uptake has been low.
Luxembourg	Lawyers, parole officers and visitors can access the prison with some limitations and they have to respect the social distancing rules.
Lithuania	All the above-mentioned persons are allowed to prisons, only they have to wear face masks and respect social distance.
Latvia	All the mentioned persons may visit Latvian prisons as from 1 August.

Are there Conjugal visits in these days?

Northern Ireland	NIPS does not facilitate conjugal visits.
Luxembourg	Regardless of Covid-19, there are no conjugal visits in Luxembourg. (cf. question from Lithuania)
Lithuania	No
Latvia	Yes, conjugal visits have been resumed

How does the staff work?

Northern Ireland	We have put robust cleaning regimes in place, with temporary handwashing stations in each establishment. Good hand and respiratory hygiene is promoted, hand sanitizer is widely available and social distancing is applied where we can. Personal Protective Equipment is available for use when appropriate, for example, in the isolation areas. We continue to facilitate our staff to self-isolate if they become symptomatic, or if a member of their household becomes symptomatic, or if they are identified as a close contact of someone who is COVID-19 positive. Staff are offered testing and we also facilitate testing for their family/household. Even with a negative result, staff are required to complete the requisite isolation period. This has been very important in keeping COVID-19 out of our prisons.
Luxembourg	Our staff works on their regular schedule.
Lithuania	Our staff works on their regular schedule.
Latvia	The daily work is ensured observing the instructions of the Latvian Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.