

# “This House believes that putting criminals in prison for longer is the best way to reduce crime”

Enlarge to A3 for use

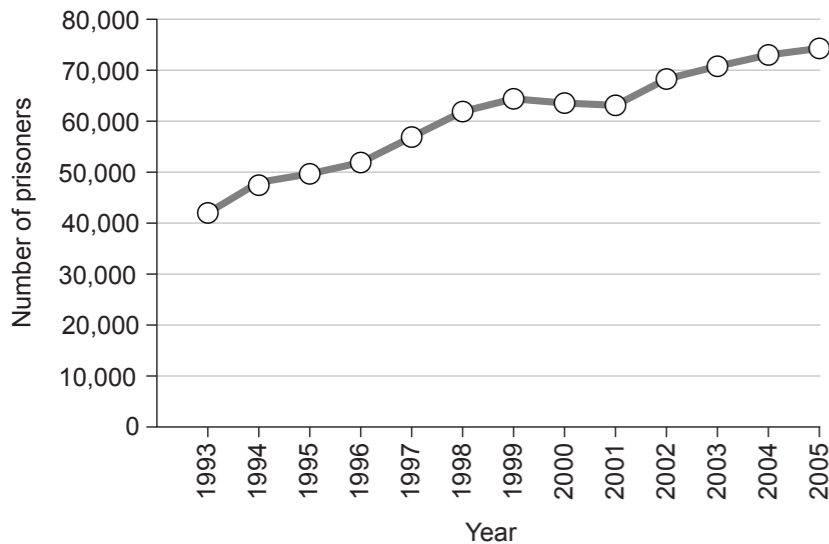
It costs an average of £27,320 to keep someone in prison for a year.

61% of all prisoners released during 2001 were reconvicted within 2 years.

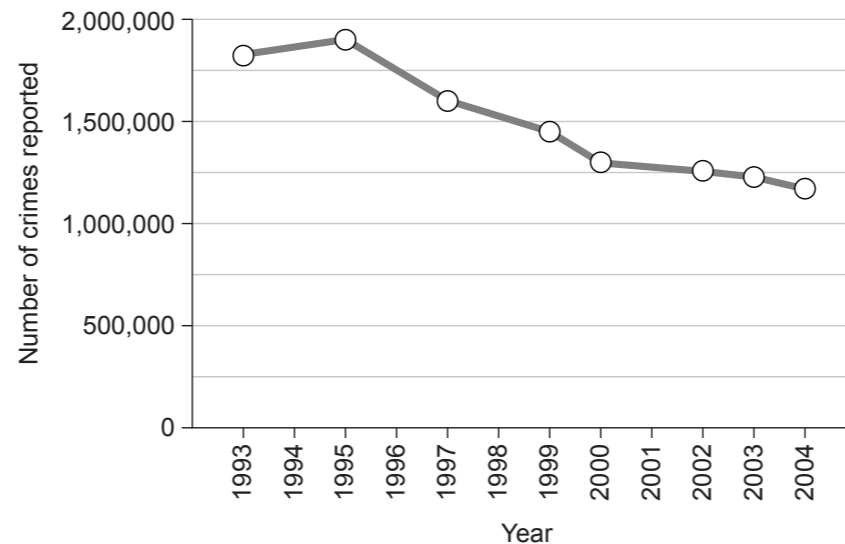
Some people say being in prison is like staying in a hotel. What do you think?

What might you do with criminals if you didn't put them in prison?

The rising prison population in the UK



Crime statistics from the British Crime survey



## Different types of crime

Should we treat all crimes the same?

Below is a list of different crimes. Put them in order of how serious you think they are in the box on the right (1 is the most important, 6 is the least important).

- Dropping litter
- Robbing a bank
- Selling drugs
- Murder
- Drink driving
- Stealing someone's bag

CRIMES IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

## Why do we put people in prison?

Not everyone agrees on *why* we should put people in prison.

Below is a list of different reasons why we might lock criminals up. Put them in order of importance in the box on the right (1 is the most important, 6 is the least important).

- To punish them ('retribution')
- Make others afraid of committing crime ('deterrent')
- Give them the chance to learn new skills so they don't need to commit crime ('rehabilitation')
- Keep them away from the public ('protection')
- Help the public feel safer
- Give them the chance to get counselling so they don't want to commit crimes any more ('rehabilitation')

WHY PUT PEOPLE IN PRISON?

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

## What do people do while they are in prison?

Below are some of the things people do while they are in prison. You might want to base some of your arguments on them.

- Get bullied by other prisoners
- Watch TV
- Meet other criminals
- Work in a prison factory
- Sleep
- Learn new skills in the prison school
- Read books