National coalition of Howard leagues for penal reform
Canterbury | Otago | Wellington

* We are named after English penal reformist John Howard (1726-1790)
* National Coalition of Howard Leagues in New Zealand dates from 1924
* We are a penal reform and prisoner advocacy group
* We are funded by membership and donations
* We are independent and receive no government funding.

League presidents:
* Cos Jeffrey (Canterbury)
* Alan Bell (Otago)
* Christine McCarthy (Wellington)

wellington@howardleague.org.nz
NZ Prison Pop. (June 2018)

- Māori (50.7%)
- non-Māori (49.3%)

NZ Population (June 2017)

- Māori (15.33%)
- non-Māori (84.67%)

**SOURCES:** NZ CORRECTIONS QUARTERLY STATISTICS | STATISTICS NZ (POPULATION ESTIMATE)
Argentina
Malaysia
Australia
Mexico
Spain
(if Māori 15%) New Zealand
Canada
Italy
Indonesia
Switzerland
Netherlands
Japan

Incarceration Rate (per 100,000 of population)

124 (c.f. 214)

SOURCES: NZ CORRECTIONS QUARTERLY STATISTICS, STATISTICS NZ; "WORLD PRISON BRIEF" www.prisonstudies.org
NZ Incarceration (June 2018)

- Remand (30.63%)
- Other (69.37%)

NZ Incarceration (June 2013)

- Remand (19.15%)
- Other (80.85%)

Sources: NZ Corrections Quarterly Statistics
Parolees and people on remand as a % of Prison pop.

Parolees as % of prison pop
Remand prisoners as % of prison pop

SOURCE: NZ CORRECTIONS QUARTERLY PRISON STATISTICS
GETTING BAIL IS MORE DIFFICULT: use of remand for less serious crime; issues re: unsuitable housing.

GETTING PAROLE IS MORE DIFFICULT: like bail, fewer prisoners granted parole (so spend a longer time in prison), prisoners have difficulty accessing rehabilitation programmes identified by the Parole Board in time for their parole hearings.
Remand component of Total Prison population

Prison population
Remand population

BAIL AMENDMENT ACT 2013 introduced

SOURCES: NZ CORRECTIONS QUARTERLY STATISTICS
The consequences of over-incarceration include reduced conditions:
* overcrowding, leading to double-bunking
* difficulty accessing rehabilitation programmes
* inadequate access to healthcare
* inadequate access to mental healthcare

(91% of prisoners have a lifetime diagnosable mental illness or substance-use disorder; 62% prisoners have been diagnosed in the past 12 months Chief Science Advisor)

**Over-incarceration & systemic discrimination**
are issues that *Cabo Verde, Canada, Iran, Ireland, Sweden, Switzerland* and *Thailand* have raised in their previous UPR recommendations to New Zealand

wellington@howardleague.org.nz
Increase in % Cell-sharing (2003-2017)

1. **Provide more rehabilitative support for Māori prisoners** by increasing the number of Māori Focus Units (Te Tirohanga Units) from five to eight by 2021, with funding allocated for Māori Focus Units in all 18 prisons within 5 years.

2. **Ensure greater use of alternatives to prosecution** by providing new funding to extend the capacity of Te Pae Oranga (Iwi Justice Panels).

3. **Increase the use of non-prison sentences** by allowing community-based sentences and home detention to up to 24 months, with access to appropriate rehabilitation support services, in order to reduce the number of people serving time in prison.

4. **Repeal the Bail Amendment Act 2013**.

5. **Reduce the negative impact of housing poverty on incarceration**, by allocating 15% of the new social housing placements announced in the Public Housing Plan (August 2018) to those people who would otherwise be refused bail or parole due to insufficient housing for the next four years (i.e. 960 additional placements over 4 years).

6. **Establish more places on rehabilitation programmes** by providing new funding for Medium Intensity Rehabilitation Programmes (MIRP) and Drug Treatment Unit (DTU) Programmes to ensure all prisoners requiring these programmes complete these prior to their first Parole Board hearing.

7. **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility** from 10 to 12 years, in line with international standards.