

FOI HQ15077

29 July 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request dated 1 July 2015 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2012 (FOISA). For reference I have copied you request below. You asked for;

- the number/percentage of prisoners lacking functional literacy; and
- the number/percentage of prisoners lacking functional numeracy.

The information you requested is summarised below. This includes an analysis of statistics for 2013/14 together with the most up to date analysis available for 2014/15 (August 2014 to March 2015).

The National Performance Framework indicator for monitoring literacy and numeracy is the percentage of the population aged 16-64 with Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Level 4 or below. Therefore, our analysis is based on the results from our screening, which provides an indicative level of literacy and numeracy ability.

It should be noted that each sentenced prisoner is invited to participate in the Big Plus screening though some refuse.

Percentage of prisoners screened at SCQF Level 4 or below

Category	Aug 2013 to Jul 2014 Number (%)	Aug 2014 to Mar 2015* Number (%)
Literacy	3,831 (70%)	2,416 (70%)
Numeracy	4,543 (85%)	2,861 (85%)

* Partial year return

If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review, by writing to The Chief Executive, Calton House, 5 Redheughs Rigg, Edinburgh, EH12 9HW. Your request should explain why you wish a review to be carried out, and should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this email, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If you are not satisfied with the result of the review, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,

**Policy Manager, Offender Learning
Offender Outcomes & Services**