

Survey of Specialized Housing Practices

Restrictive Housing Oversight Committee April 2025

The purpose of this survey is to gather baseline information from corrections administrators regarding Restrictive Housing and specialized housing practices in the Commonwealth.

* Required

1. What is your job role?

- ☐ Sheriff
- ☐ Superintendent
- ☐ Deputy Superintendent
- ☐ Chief Operating Officer
- ☐ Other

2. Does your Facility utilize Restrictive Housing, as defined by M.G.L. c. 127 § 1? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

3. Please explain why, or why not. *

4. After the Criminal Justice Reform Act (CJRA) became law, did your organization cease utilizing Restrictive Housing? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

5. In the units in your facility with the lowest average out of cell time, how many hours of out of cell time is made available to incarcerated individuals? *

☐ 1 hour

☐ 2 hours

☐ 2.5 hours

☐ 3 hours

☐ 4 hours

☐ 5+ hours

6. If so, why, and if not, why not? *

7. Not including units designated for healthcare, how many specialized housing units does your administration currently operate? *

- ☐ 0
- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ More than 5

8. Before the CJRA became law, how many specialized housing units did your administration operate? *

- ☐ 0
- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ More than 5

9. Does your organization operate specialized housing units for Incarcerated Individuals who are not able to be housed safely in General Population? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

10. On a scale of 1-10, how effective are specialized housing units in managing inmate behavior relative to Restrictive Housing? *

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

11. In your opinion, what are the potential drawbacks or challenges with using specialized housing units? *

12. Have staff members received specific training on the operational use of specialized housing units? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

13. If your administration operates specialized housing units in which some privileges may be limited for some proportion of the population, as compared to General Population, what are the privileges that may be limited for a given individual? Please select all that may apply. *

☐ Outdoor Recreation Time

☐ Indoor Recreation Time

☐ Canteen Menu (what items are available)

☐ Canteen Possession (how many of a certain item or items they may have at a time)

☐ Access to Electronics (TV, Tablet, Radio, etc.)

☐ Access to Personal Items (clothing and shoes)

☐ Other

14. Which best describes the current occupancy rate of specialized housing units at your facility? *

☐ Under 25 % Occupied

☐ 25%-50% Occupied

☐ 50%-75% Occupied

☐ Over 75% Occupied

☐ Not sure

15. Have you noticed a change in staff workload since transitioning to more frequent use of specialized housing units? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

16. Which departments or teams are involved in the decision-making process for placing inmates in specialized housing units? Please select all that apply. *

☐ Administrative leadership

☐ Security Staff

☐ Mental Health Staff

☐ Re-Entry Staff

17. Since the shift towards specialized housing units, how have inmate complaints or grievances changed? *

☐ Significant Increase

☐ Significant Decrease

☐ No Change

☐ Slight Decrease

☐ Significant Decrease

18. How frequently does your facility conduct reviews or evaluations of the specialized housing units' impact on inmate behavior and overall facility safety? *

☐ Monthly

☐ Quarterly

☐ Annually

☐ Bi-Annually

☐ Never

19. In your opinion, what are the most significant barriers to a hypothetical facility moving away from Restrictive Housing towards specialized housing units that feature specific programming? Please rank the options below , with the top option being the most significant and the bottom option being the least significant. *

Security Concerns

Facility Limitations

Cost of Hiring Programming Staff

20. Any other thoughts you wish to share regarding specialized housing units and/or restrictive housing? *

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Microsoft. The data you submit will be sent to the form owner.



Microsoft Forms