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# Violent incidents spike in NYC prisons: report

By Daniel Prendergast

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Attacks on civilian staff at city jails like Rikers Island have tripled in the past year.

Photo: Reuters

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Violent incidents between inmates and guards are on the rise at unruly city jails like Rikers Island and the Tombs — even though the prisoner population has dropped.

A new report released this week by Mayor de Blasio's office paints a bleak and chaotic picture of city correctional facilities around the five boroughs, with stabbings and slashings surging an alarming 29 percent.

Inmate-on-inmate fights rose 16 percent, with 8,827 in fiscal year 2014, ending June 30, compared with 7,622 in the previous year.

More inmates were also arrested in that same time period, jumping 25 percent from 798 to 995 this fiscal year, which ended June 30 — a spike of 25 percent.

Attacks on guards also increased this past year, with 752 suffering serious injuries as opposed to 648 the year prior. Attacks on civilian staff tripled, with 54 this year compared with on 17 in 2013.

The lawlessness comes as prison populations decreased 5.6 percent, with a total of 77,141 inmates entering the system this past fiscal year compared with 81,758 a year earlier.

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