

**Annual Figures for Fatal Incidents Investigations**  
**Jan – Dec 2010**

From 1 January to 31 December 2010, the PPO received 211 notifications of deaths in prisons, approved premises and immigration centres. This represents a 13% increase in investigations on the previous calendar year.

This figure includes a small number of investigations conducted under our discretionary powers, to investigate if the deceased has recently left custody.

The number of deaths by natural causes has increased, and the number of unclassified deaths has significantly increased. Deaths we categorise as unclassified are where the cause of death is not immediately apparent and we need to wait for further post mortem results or toxicology results to provide more insight.

The table below shows the categorisation of the deaths.

<b>Type of death</b>	<b>Number of deaths</b>
Natural causes	116
Self inflicted	62
Homicide	1
Unclassified	32
<b>total</b>	<b>211</b>

Each case is investigated in line with our terms of reference, to involve the family of the deceased, assist with the coroner's inquest, and identify any lessons for the service to learn.