



# Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin

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# Prison and Jail Inmates, 1995

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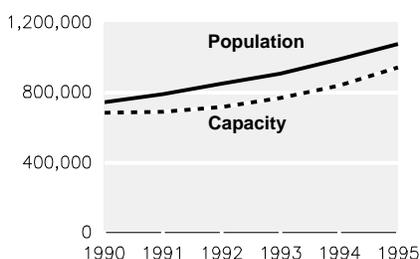
An estimated 1,585,400 persons were incarcerated in the United States in 1995. Correctional authorities held in the Nation's prisons and jails 600 persons per 100,000 U.S. residents. Prisoners in the custody of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Government accounted for two-thirds of the incarcerated population (1,078,357 inmates). The other third was held in local jails (507,044 inmates).

On December 31, 1995, 1,127,132 prisoners were under Federal or State jurisdiction, a measure that, unlike custody, includes persons under the legal authority of a prison system held elsewhere or outside its facilities. The total increased 6.8% from yearend 1994. The States and the District of Columbia added 66,843 prisoners; the Federal system, 5,216.

On June 30, 1995, local jail authorities held or supervised an estimated 541,913 offenders. Six percent of these offenders (34,869) were supervised outside of a jail facility in an alternative program such as electronic monitoring, house detention (without electronic monitoring), or day reporting. In 1995 local jail authorities held an estimated 507,044 offenders in their facilities, an increase of 4.2% during the 12 previous months.

## Highlights

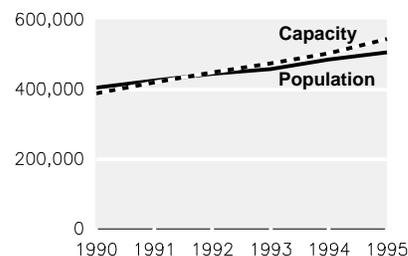
**In 1995 the Nation's prisons and jails held nearly 1.6 million inmates, or 600 inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents**



**Federal and State prisons**  
(holding persons with longer sentences)

On December 31, 1995 —

- 1,127,132 prisoners were under the jurisdiction of correctional authorities of the 50 States and the District of Columbia (together holding 1,026,882) and of the Federal Government (100,250).
- Over the 12 preceding months, the Nation's prison population grew 72,059 prisoners — an increase of 6.8% since yearend 1994.
- State prison systems were operating between 14% and 25% over their reported capacity; the Federal system, 26% over the reported capacity.
- Nearly 30% of all prisoners in the U.S. were incarcerated in California (135,646), Texas (127,766), and New York (68,484).



**Local jails**  
(holding unconvicted persons and those with shorter sentences)

On June 30, 1995 —

- The Nation's local jails held or supervised an estimated 541,913 persons. Of that total, 34,869 were in community supervision programs such as electronic monitoring, house detention, and day reporting.
- From midyear 1994, the number of persons held in local jails grew 4.2% — from 486,474 to 507,044.
- An estimated 7,888 juveniles (under age 18) were held in local jails, an increase of 17% from 12 months before. Over three-quarters were tried or awaiting trial as adults.
- Over the 12 preceding months, local jails added space for 41,439 inmates, an annual increase of 8%. This added space allowed local jails to operate at 7% below their rated capacity.

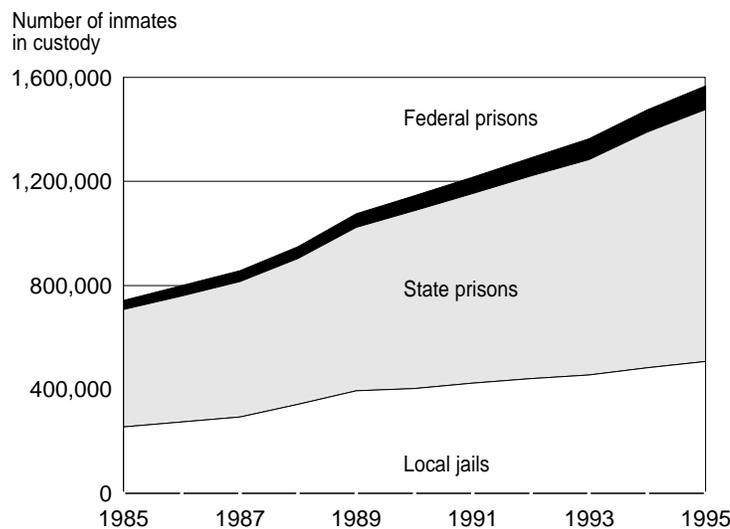
**Table 1. Number of inmates held in State or Federal prisons or in local jails, 1985, 1990-95**

Year	Total inmates in custody	Number of State and Federal prisoners on December 31		Number of inmates held in local jails on June 30 <sup>b</sup>	Incarceration rate, 1995 <sup>c</sup>
		Jurisdiction <sup>a</sup>	Custody		
1985	744,208	502,507	487,593	256,615	313
1990	1,148,702	773,919	743,382	405,320	461
1991	1,219,014	825,559	792,535	426,479	483
1992	1,295,150	882,500	850,566	444,584	508
1993	1,369,185	969,301	909,381	459,804	528
1994	1,478,086	1,055,073	991,612	486,474	562
1995	1,585,401	1,127,132	1,078,357	507,044	600
Percent change, 1994-95	7.3%	6.8%	8.7%	4.2%	
Percent change, 1985-95	113.0%	124.3%	121.2%	97.6%	
Annual average increase, 1985-95	7.9%	8.4%	8.3%	7.0%	

<sup>a</sup>Includes prisoners in custody, prisoners in local jails because of prison crowding, and prisoners supervised elsewhere, such as in treatment centers.

<sup>b</sup>Counts for 1994 and 1995 exclude persons who were supervised outside of a jail. See *Methodology*.

<sup>c</sup>Total of persons in custody of State, Federal, or local jurisdictions per 100,000 U.S. residents.



- Since 1985 the total number of inmates in the custody of State and Federal prisons and local jails has more than doubled to nearly 1.6 million — an increase of 113%.
- On average, the incarcerated population has grown 7.9% annually since 1985. The State and Federal prison population has grown 8.3% annually, while the local jail population has grown 7.0%.
- Over the 10-year period correctional authorities have found beds for

nearly 841,200 additional inmates or the equivalent of almost 1,618 inmates per week.

- At yearend 1985, 1 in every 320 United States residents were incarcerated. By yearend 1995 that ratio had increased to 1 in every 167.
- Since 1985 the Nation's prison and jail population has nearly doubled on a per capita basis. In 1995 the number of inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents was 600 — up from 313 in 1985.

## Nearly 1.6 million inmates were held in the Nation's prisons and local jails

On December 31, 1995, an estimated 1,078,357 inmates were in the custody of State and Federal prison authorities (table 1). On June 30, 1995, an estimated 507,044 inmates were in the custody of local jail authorities. These data were collected in the 1995 National Prisoner Statistics (NPS) program and the 1995 Annual Survey of Jails.

The total incarcerated population increased 7.3% from 12 months prior. During 1995 the number of inmates in State and Federal prisons increased 8.7%, and the number held in local jails increased 4.2%. In the last 5 years, the incarcerated population has grown on average 6.7% annually. The State and Federal prison population has grown 7.7% annually while the local jail population has grown 4.6%.

During 1995 the number of inmates in the Nation's prisons and jails rose an estimated 107,300 inmates or 2,064 inmates per week. In the last 5 years, the total custody population has risen more than 436,700 inmates, the equivalent of 1,680 inmates per week.

Relative to the number of U.S. residents, the rate of incarceration in 1995 was 600 inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents — up from 461 per 100,000 in 1990. On December 31, 1995, 1 in every 167 U.S. residents were incarcerated.

### The population of State and Federal prisons rose 6.8% during 1995

The 1995 growth rate of 6.8% was smaller than the percentage increase recorded during 1994 (8.8%) and below the average annual growth rate for the past 10 years (8.4%). In absolute numbers, the total increase of 72,059 prison inmates during 1995 was the third largest yearly increase on record. The increase in 1995 was surpassed only in 1989 (an increase of 84,764 prisoners) and 1994 (an increase of 84,629).

Prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year (referred to as "sentenced prisoners") accounted for 96% of the total prison population at the end of 1995, growing 6.3% during the year (table 2). The remaining prisoners had sentences of a year or less or were unsentenced (for example, those awaiting trial in States with combined prison-jail systems).

The sentenced Federal prison population experienced slower growth than the State prison population during 1995 (4.8% versus 6.4%). Compared to previous years, the rate of growth of sentenced Federal prisoners declined during 1995, down from 7.3% in 1994 and below the 10.7% annual average growth rate between 1990 and 1995. In absolute numbers, sentenced Federal prisoners increased by 3,868 during 1995, compared to an increase of 5,394 during 1994.

During 1995 the total prison population increased at least 10% in 14 States. North Carolina reported the largest increase (24.2%), followed by Mississippi (19.0%), Idaho (18.4%), Wyoming (15.4%), and Nebraska (14.8%). Three States and the District of Columbia experienced a decline in their prison population. The District of Columbia had the largest decline, -10.5%; followed by Maine, -1.8%; Rhode Island, -0.6%; and New Hampshire, -0.3%.

Forty-three percent of the increase during 1995 was accounted for by Texas (9,571), Florida (6,711), North Carolina (5,726), the Federal system (5,216), and Pennsylvania (4,108). These jurisdictions incarcerated nearly a third of the Nation's prison population.

**Table 2. Prisoners under the jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities, by region and jurisdiction, yearend 1994 and 1995**

Region and jurisdiction	Total			Sentenced to more than 1 year			
	Advance 1995	Final 1994	Percent change, 1994-95	Advance 1995	Final 1994	Percent change, 1994-95	Incarceration rate, 1995 <sup>a</sup>
<b>U.S. total</b>	1,127,132	1,055,073	6.8%	1,080,728	1,017,059	6.3%	409
Federal	100,250	95,034	5.5%	83,663	79,795	4.8%	32
State	1,026,882	960,039	7.0	997,065	937,264	6.4	378
<b>Northeast</b>	161,815	153,072	5.7%	155,071	146,834	5.6%	301
Connecticut <sup>b</sup>	14,801	14,380	2.9	10,418	10,500	-0.8	318
Maine	1,447	1,474	-1.8	1,377	1,401	-1.7	111
Massachusetts <sup>c</sup>	11,619	11,293	2.9	10,633	10,401	2.2	175
New Hampshire	2,014	2,021	-0.3	2,014	2,021	-0.3	174
New Jersey	27,066	24,632	9.9	27,066	24,632	9.9	340
New York	68,484	66,750	2.6	68,484	66,750	2.6	378
Pennsylvania	32,410	28,302	14.5	32,404	28,294	14.5	268
Rhode Island <sup>b</sup>	2,902	2,919	-0.6	1,833	1,854	-1.1	186
Vermont <sup>b,d</sup>	1,072	1,301	--	842	981	--	143
<b>Midwest</b>	193,325	184,508	4.8%	192,252	183,830	4.6%	310
Illinois <sup>e</sup>	37,658	36,531	3.1	37,658	36,531	3.1	317
Indiana	16,125	15,014	7.4	16,046	14,916	7.6	275
Iowa <sup>e</sup>	5,906	5,437	8.6	5,906	5,437	8.6	207
Kansas	7,054	6,371	10.7	7,054	6,371	10.7	274
Michigan <sup>e</sup>	41,112	40,631	1.2	41,112	40,631	1.2	429
Minnesota	4,863	4,575	6.3	4,863	4,575	6.3	105
Missouri	19,139	17,898	6.9	19,139	17,898	6.9	358
Nebraska	3,113	2,711	14.8	3,045	2,667	14.2	185
North Dakota	608	536	13.4	544	501	8.6	85
Ohio	44,677	43,074	3.7	44,677	43,074	3.7	400
South Dakota	1,871	1,708	9.5	1,871	1,708	9.5	256
Wisconsin	11,199	10,022	11.7	10,337	9,521	8.6	201
<b>South</b>	455,143	422,455	7.7%	442,471	415,354	6.5%	478
Alabama	20,718	19,573	5.8	20,130	19,074	5.5	471
Arkansas	9,401	8,643	8.8	9,011	8,517	5.8	360
Delaware <sup>b</sup>	4,802	4,466	7.5	2,980	2,844	4.8	413
Dist. of Col. <sup>b</sup>	9,800	10,949	-10.5	9,042	10,085	-10.3	1,650
Florida <sup>e</sup>	63,879	57,168	11.7	63,866	57,157	11.7	447
Georgia <sup>e</sup>	34,266	33,425	2.5	34,160	32,523	5.0	470
Kentucky	12,060	11,066	9.0	12,060	11,066	9.0	311
Louisiana	25,427	24,063	5.7	24,755	24,063	2.9	568
Maryland	21,453	20,998	2.2	20,450	19,854	3.0	404
Mississippi <sup>c</sup>	13,008	10,930	19.0	12,575	10,606	18.6	464
North Carolina	29,374	23,648	24.2	27,716	23,046	20.3	382
Oklahoma	18,151	16,631	9.1	18,151	16,631	9.1	552
South Carolina	19,611	18,999	3.2	19,015	18,168	4.7	515
Tennessee <sup>c</sup>	15,206	14,401	5.6	15,206	14,401	5.6	287
Texas	127,766	118,195	8.1	123,349	118,195	4.4	653
Virginia	27,710	26,968	2.8	27,523	26,792	2.7	414
West Virginia	2,511	2,332	7.7	2,482	2,332	6.4	136
<b>West</b>	216,599	200,004	8.3%	207,271	191,246	8.4%	357
Alaska <sup>b</sup>	3,505	3,292	6.5	2,045	1,934	5.7	339
Arizona <sup>e</sup>	21,341	19,746	8.1	20,291	19,005	6.8	473
California	135,646	125,605	--	131,745	121,084	--	416
Colorado	11,063	10,717	3.2	11,063	10,717	3.2	292
Hawaii <sup>b</sup>	3,560	3,333	6.8	2,590	2,392	8.3	217
Idaho	3,328	2,811	18.4	3,328	2,811	18.4	283
Montana	1,788	1,764	1.4	1,788	1,764	1.4	204
Nevada	7,826	6,993	11.9	7,545	6,993	7.9	482
New Mexico	4,195	3,712	13.0	3,925	3,533	11.1	231
Oregon	7,886	6,936	13.7	6,515	5,935	9.8	206
Utah	3,448	3,045	13.2	3,423	3,028	13.0	173
Washington	11,608	10,833	7.2	11,608	10,833	7.2	212
Wyoming	1,405	1,217	15.4	1,405	1,217	15.4	291

Note: The advance count of prisoners is conducted in January and may be revised. Prisoner counts for 1994 may differ from those reported in previous publications. --Not calculated because of a change in reporting methods. See *NPS jurisdiction notes* on page 15. <sup>a</sup>The number of prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year per 100,000 in the resident population.

<sup>b</sup>Prison and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations. <sup>c</sup>Reference date is not December 31. See *NPS jurisdiction notes*. <sup>d</sup>Since December 31, 1995, only custody counts were reported. <sup>e</sup>Population figures are based on custody counts.

## Rates of prison incarceration rise

On December 31, 1995, the number of sentenced prisoners per 100,000

U.S. residents was 409. Of the 14 States with rates greater than the rate for the Nation, 10 were in the South, 3 were in the West, and 1 was in the

Midwest. Four States — North Dakota (85), Minnesota (105), Maine (111), and West Virginia (136) — had rates that were less than a third of the national rate. The District of Columbia, a wholly urban jurisdiction, held 1,650 sentenced prisoners per 100,000 residents at yearend 1995.

Since 1985 the number of sentenced inmates per 100,000 residents has risen from 200 to 409. During this 10-year period prison incarceration rates rose the most in the South (from 236 to 478) and West (from 176 to 357). The rate in the Northeast rose from 145 to 301, and the rate in the Midwest from 161 to 310. The number of sentenced Federal prisoners per 100,000 U.S. residents increased from 14 to 32 over the same period.

## Prison populations in Western States grew the fastest

During 1995 the average growth in the number of sentenced State and Federal prisoners was equal to a demand for 1,224 additional beds per week, about 410 fewer than the average weekly growth in 1994.

In 1995 the percentage increase in the number of sentenced prisoners was highest in the Western States, a gain of 8.4%. The number of sentenced prisoners grew by 6.5% in the South, 5.6% in the Northeast, and 4.6% in the Midwest.

Eighteen States recorded higher growth rates in 1995 than in 1994. Among these jurisdictions, 9 had increases of at least 10%; they were led by North Carolina (20.3%), Mississippi (18.6%), and Idaho (18.4%).

**Table 3. Changes in the number of sentenced prisoners under the jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities, 5-year and 10-year population differences**

Region and jurisdiction	Prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year			
	1990-95		1985-95	
	Population difference	Percent change	Population difference	Percent change
<b>U.S. total</b>	334,732	44.9%	600,160	124.9%
Federal	33,260	66.0%	50,968	155.9%
State	301,472	43.3	549,192	122.6
<b>Northeast</b>				
Connecticut	2,647	34.1%	6,375	157.7%
Maine	(103)	-7.0	150	12.2
Massachusetts	--	--	--	--
New Hampshire	672	50.1	1,331	194.9
New Jersey	5,938	28.1	--	--
New York	13,589	24.8	33,977	98.5
Pennsylvania	10,123	45.4	18,285	129.5
Rhode Island	247	15.6	870	90.3
Vermont	--	--	--	--
<b>Midwest</b>				
Illinois	10,142	36.9%	19,024	102.1%
Indiana	3,431	27.2	6,279	64.3
Iowa	1,939	48.9	3,219	119.8
Kansas	1,279	22.1	2,322	49.1
Michigan	6,845	20.0	23,357	131.6
Minnesota	1,687	53.1	2,520	107.6
Missouri	4,196	28.1	9,343	95.4
Nebraska	759	33.2	1,312	75.7
North Dakota	109	25.1	169	45.1
Ohio	12,855	40.4	23,813	114.1
South Dakota	530	39.5	834	80.4
Wisconsin	2,899	39.0	4,942	91.6
<b>South</b>				
Alabama	4,765	31.0%	9,381	87.3%
Arkansas	1,737	23.9	4,400	95.4
Delaware	739	33.0	1,221	69.4
District of Columbia	2,244	33.0	4,438	96.4
Florida	19,486	43.9	35,384	124.2
Georgia	12,489	57.6	18,797	122.4
Kentucky	3,037	33.7	7,079	142.1
Louisiana	6,156	33.1	10,865	78.2
Maryland	3,716	22.2	8,147	66.2
Mississippi	4,491	55.6	6,367	102.6
North Carolina	9,952	56.0	11,709	73.1
Oklahoma	5,866	47.7	9,821	117.9
South Carolina	2,807	17.3	9,107	91.9
Tennessee	4,818	46.4	8,079	113.4
Texas	67,291	120.0	85,817	228.7
Virginia	10,105	58.0	15,806	134.9
West Virginia	--	--	--	--
<b>West</b>				
Alaska	--	--	--	--
Arizona	6,510	47.2%	12,018	145.3%
California	--	--	--	--
Colorado	3,392	44.2	7,677	226.7
Hawaii	882	51.6	1,162	81.4
Idaho	--	--	--	--
Montana	363	25.5	659	58.4
Nevada	2,223	41.8	3,774	100.1
New Mexico	858	28.0	1,813	85.8
Oregon	--	--	--	--
Utah	949	38.4	1,800	110.9
Washington	3,613	45.2	4,689	67.8
Wyoming	295	26.6	643	84.4

Note: Totals include data for States otherwise excluded because of reporting changes. ( ) Indicates a decline in the number of sentenced prisoners. --Not available because of reporting changes. See *NPS jurisdiction notes*.

**Table 4. The prison situation on December 31, 1995**

10 largest and smallest prison populations	Number of inmates	10 highest and lowest rates of prison incarceration	Prisoners per 100,000 residents*	10 largest and smallest percentage changes in the prison population			
				1-year growth, 1994-95	Percent change	5-year growth, 1990-95	Percent change
<b>10 Highest:</b>							
California	135,646	Texas	653	North Carolina	24.2%	Texas	127.9%
Texas	127,766	Louisiana	568	Mississippi	19.0	North Carolina	59.5
Federal system	100,250	Oklahoma	552	Idaho	18.4	Virginia	57.5
New York	68,484	South Carolina	515	Wyoming	15.4	Mississippi	55.3
Florida	63,879	Nevada	482	Nebraska	14.8	Minnesota	53.1
Ohio	44,677	Arizona	473	Pennsylvania	14.5	Federal system	53.0
Michigan	41,112	Alabama	471	Oregon	13.7	Georgia	52.9
Illinois	37,658	Georgia	470	North Dakota	13.4	New Hampshire	50.1
Georgia	34,266	Mississippi	464	Utah	13.2	Wisconsin	50.0
Pennsylvania	32,410	Florida	447	New Mexico	13.0	Arizona	49.6
<b>10 Lowest:</b>							
North Dakota	608	North Dakota	85	District of Col.	-10.5%	Maine	-5.0%
Vermont	1,072	Minnesota	105	Maine	-1.8	District of Col.	-1.5
Wyoming	1,405	Maine	111	Rhode Island	-6	South Carolina	13.2
Maine	1,447	West Virginia	136	New Hampshire	-3	Michigan	20.0
Montana	1,788	Vermont	143	Michigan	1.2	Maryland	20.2
South Dakota	1,871	Utah	173	Montana	1.4	Rhode Island	21.3
New Hampshire	2,014	New Hampshire	174	Maryland	2.2	Kansas	22.1
West Virginia	2,511	Massachusetts	175	Georgia	2.5	New York	24.8
Rhode Island	2,902	Nebraska	185	New York	2.6	Montana	25.5
Nebraska	3,113	Rhode Island	186	Virginia	2.8	North Dakota	25.9

\*Prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year. The Federal Bureau of Prisons and the District of Columbia are excluded.

During 1995 Michigan and Montana reported an increase of less than 2% in the number of sentenced prisoners. Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island reported slight declines. The District of Columbia reported a decrease of more than 1,000 sentenced inmates (down 10.3%).

Since 1990 the average net gain in the number of sentenced prisoners has been about 1,287 prisoners per week — a gain of about 1,160 State prisoners and 128 Federal prisoners per week over the period (table 3). Texas (up 120%) and the Federal system (up 66%) have the largest percentage increases in sentenced prisoners since 1990.

In 1995 the 10 States with the largest prison populations held 61% of the total prison population nationwide, with California, Texas, and the Federal system accounting for nearly 32% (table 4). Texas had the highest prison incarceration rate — 653 sentenced inmates per 100,000 residents, followed by Louisiana (568) and Oklahoma (552). At yearend 1995 North

Dakota had the lowest rate of incarceration (85 sentenced prisoners per 100,000 residents), followed by Minnesota (105), Maine (111) and West Virginia (136).

Seventeen States, each reporting fewer than 5,000 inmates, together held 4% of all prisoners in 1995.

Maine and the District of Columbia were the only jurisdictions that had a decline in the number of inmates from 1990 to 1995 (-5.0% and -1.5%, respectively). Among States with increasing prison populations, South Carolina was the only State with a 5-year increase of less than 20%. The largest 5-year increases occurred in Texas (127.9%), North Carolina (59.5%), Virginia (57.5%), Mississippi (55.3%), and Minnesota (53.1%).

**Growth rates nearly equal for male and female prison populations**

During 1995 the number of women under the jurisdiction of State or Federal prison authorities increased from

64,340 to 68,544, an increase of 6.5% (table 5). The number of women held in the custody of State or Federal prisons in 1995 was 63,998, up from 56,895 in 1994. The number of men under the jurisdiction of State or Federal prison authorities rose 6.8%, from 990,733 to 1,058,588. The number of men held in custody increased from 934,718 to 1,014,359.

**Table 5. Prisoners under the jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities, by sex of inmate, yearend 1994 and 1995**

	Men	Women
<b>Total</b>		
Advance 1995	1,058,588	68,544
Final 1994	990,733	64,340
Percent change, 1994-95	6.8%	6.5%
<b>Sentenced to more than 1 year</b>		
Advance 1995	1,017,466	63,262
Final 1994	956,990	60,069
Percent change, 1994-95	6.3%	5.3%
Incarceration rate, 1995*	789	47

Note: In 1995, 1,014,359 men and 63,998 women were in prison custody; in 1994, 934,718 men and 56,895 women. The number under jurisdiction includes prisoners in custody, prisoners in local jails because of prison crowding, and prisoners supervised elsewhere, as in a treatment center.  
\*The number of prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year per 100,000 residents on December 31, 1995.

**Table 6. Women under the jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities, yearend 1995**

Region and jurisdiction	Number of female inmates	Percent of all inmates	Percent change in female inmate population, 1994-95	Prison incarceration rate, 1995 <sup>a</sup>
<b>U.S. total</b>	68,544	6.1%	6.5%	47
Federal	7,398	7.4%	3.6%	4
State	61,146	6.0	6.9	43
<b>Northeast</b>	8,397	5.2%	3.3%	29
Connecticut	975	6.6	-2.4	34
Maine	46	3.2	-4.2	6
Massachusetts	657	5.7	-6.9	13
New Hampshire	107	5.3	-2.7	18
New Jersey	1,307	4.8	11.9	32
New York	3,615	5.3	1.1	39
Pennsylvania	1,501	4.6	13.5	24
Rhode Island	157	5.4	4.7	10
Vermont <sup>b</sup>	32	--	--	6
<b>Midwest</b>	10,852	5.6%	9.7%	34
Illinois	2,196	5.8	21.1	36
Indiana	892	5.5	8.0	30
Iowa	425	7.2	21.1	29
Kansas	449	6.4	30.5	34
Michigan	1,842	4.5	-8.9	37
Minnesota	223	4.6	-5.9	9
Missouri	1,174	6.1	12.7	43
Nebraska	194	6.2	10.2	21
North Dakota	29	4.8	81.3	8
Ohio	2,793	6.3	9.3	49
South Dakota	133	7.1	29.1	35
Wisconsin	502	4.5	21.8	18
<b>South</b>	27,471	6.0%	4.2%	55
Alabama	1,295	6.3	6.7	56
Arkansas	544	5.8	-6.2	42
Delaware	357	7.4	26.6	44
Dist. of Col.	487	5.0	-29.1	133
Florida	3,660	5.7	19.3	49
Georgia	2,036	5.9	1.2	54
Kentucky	734	6.1	15.2	37
Louisiana	1,464	5.8	13.1	62
Maryland	1,079	5.0	3.9	38
Mississippi	827	6.4	27.6	55
North Carolina	1,709	5.8	44.5	41
Oklahoma	1,815	10.0	12.9	108
South Carolina	1,045	5.3	2.3	51
Tennessee	637	4.2	8.5	23
Texas	7,935	6.2	-10.2	77
Virginia	1,718	6.2	9.8	50
West Virginia	129	5.1	41.8	13
<b>West</b>	14,426	6.7%	12.5%	45
Alaska	232	6.6	6.4	40
Arizona	1,432	6.7	12.5	60
California <sup>c</sup>	9,082	6.7	--	52
Colorado	713	6.4	6.4	37
Hawaii	312	8.8	21.4	39
Idaho	212	6.4	23.3	35
Montana	65	3.6	-30.1	15
Nevada	565	7.2	28.1	70
New Mexico	297	7.1	55.5	27
Oregon	465	5.9	22.7	18
Utah	161	4.7	22.9	16
Washington	793	6.8	13.6	29
Wyoming	97	6.9	18.3	40

--Not calculated.

<sup>a</sup>The number of female prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year per 100,000 female residents on December 31, 1995.

<sup>b</sup>Custody only counts were reported for the first time in 1995.

<sup>c</sup>Jurisdiction counts were reported for the first time in 1995.

At the end of 1995, women accounted for 6.1% of all prisoners nationwide (table 6). Relative to the number of women in the resident population in the United States in 1995, Oklahoma (with 108 female prisoners per 100,000 female residents) led the Nation, followed by Texas (with 77) and Nevada (with 70). Vermont and Maine (with 6 female inmates per 100,000 female residents each) and North Dakota (with 8) had the lowest female incarceration rates in prison.

In 1995, 19 States and the Federal system had more than 1,000 female inmates. Among these jurisdictions 9 had increases of at least 10%, led by North Carolina with an increase of 44.5% (from 1,183 female inmates in 1994 to 1,709 in 1995).

Five States held fewer than 100 female inmates at yearend 1995. Women represented fewer than 4% of all prisoners in Maine and Montana. In 1995, 7.4% of inmates in the Federal system were female — higher than all State systems except for Oklahoma (10.0%), Hawaii (8.8%), and Delaware (7.4%).

**Table 7. State prisoners held in local jails because of prison crowding, by State, yearend 1994 and 1995**

States housing prisoners in local jails	State prisoners held in local jails			
	Number		As a percent of all State inmates	
	1995	1994	1995	1994
U.S. total	32,739	45,618	2.9%	4.3%
Louisiana	8,671	8,081	34.1%	33.6%
New Jersey	4,258	3,413	15.7	13.9
Virginia	3,588	2,063	12.9	7.6
Mississippi	2,357	1,569	18.1	14.4
Tennessee <sup>a</sup>	2,057	1,829	13.5	12.7
North Carolina	1,949	248	6.6	1.0
Colorado	1,563	1,135	14.1	10.6
Massachusetts <sup>a</sup>	1,189	966	10.2	8.6
Indiana	1,139	903	7.1	6.0
Arkansas	971	301	10.3%	3.5%
Alabama	800	1,547	3.9	7.9
Kentucky	559	632	4.6	5.7
New Mexico	416	0	9.9	--
South Carolina	399	359	2.0	1.9
Michigan <sup>b</sup>	393	--	1.0	--
Wisconsin	354	377	3.2	3.8
Arizona <sup>b</sup>	322	118	1.5	.6
Hawaii	300	0	8.4	--
Idaho	297	330	8.9%	11.7%
Oklahoma <sup>b</sup>	291	375	1.6	2.2
Utah	270	169	7.8	5.6
Oregon	249	0	3.2	--
Montana <sup>b</sup>	135	0	7.0	--
West Virginia	134	398	5.3	17.1
Minnesota	63	85	1.3	1.9
Nevada	15	0	.2	--
Texas	0	20,720	--	17.5

--Not calculable.

<sup>a</sup>Reference date is not December 31. See *NPS jurisdiction notes*.

<sup>b</sup>For States not including jail backups in their jurisdiction counts, the percent of jurisdiction population was calculated using the total number of State inmates in jail or prison.

## Local jails held over 32,000 prisoners because of State prison crowding

At the end of 1995, 26 jurisdictions reported a total of 32,739 State prisoners held in local jails or other facilities because of crowding in State facilities (table 7). Louisiana accounted for 27% of the prisoners sentenced to

prison but incarcerated locally. Eight States — Louisiana, New Jersey, Virginia, Mississippi, Tennessee, Colorado, Massachusetts, and Arkansas — held more than 10% of their prison population in local jails. Overall, because of prison crowding, 2.9% of the State prisoners were confined in local jails, down from 4.3% in 1994.

## Prison capacity estimates are difficult to compare

The extent of crowding in the Nation's prisons is difficult to determine because of the absence of uniform measures for defining capacity. The 52 reporting jurisdictions apply a wide variety of capacity measures to reflect both the available space to house inmates and the ability to staff and operate an institution. To estimate the capacity of the Nation's prisons, jurisdictions were asked to supply three measures for yearend 1995: rated, operational, and design capacities. These measures were defined as follows:

*Rated capacity* is the number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to institutions within the jurisdiction.

*Operational capacity* is the number of inmates that can be accommodated based on a facility's staff, existing programs, and services.

*Design capacity* is the number of inmates that planners or architects intended for the facility.

Of the 52 reporting jurisdictions, 34 supplied a rated capacity, 43 provided an operational capacity, and 37 submitted a design capacity (table 8). As a result, estimates of total capacity and measures of the relationship to population are based on the highest and lowest capacity figures provided. Twenty-four jurisdictions reported one capacity measure or gave the same figure for each capacity measure they reported.

## Most jurisdictions were operating above capacity

Prisons generally require reserve capacity to operate efficiently. Dormitories and cells need to be maintained and repaired periodically, special housing is needed for protective custody and disciplinary cases, and space may be needed to cope with emergencies.

**Table 8. Reported Federal and State prison capacities, yearend 1995**

Region and jurisdiction	Rated capacity	Operational capacity	Design capacity	Population housed as a percent of capacity <sup>a</sup>	
				Highest capacity	Lowest capacity
Federal	72,145	...	...	126%	126%
<b>Northeast</b>					
Connecticut	...	...	...	--	--
Maine	1,353	1,353	1,353	107	107
Massachusetts <sup>b</sup>	...	...	7,603	137	137
New Hampshire	1,358	1,913	1,716	105	148
New Jersey <sup>b</sup>	...	...	13,869	164	164
New York	67,712	64,585	52,475	101	131
Pennsylvania <sup>c</sup>	...	20,970	...	154	154
Rhode Island	3,349	3,349	3,349	87	87
Vermont	1,052	1,052	991	102	108
<b>Midwest</b>					
Illinois	27,376	27,376	23,714	138%	159%
Indiana <sup>b</sup>	12,539	15,490	...	97	120
Iowa	3,603	3,603	3,603	164	164
Kansas	7,452	...	...	95	95
Michigan	...	41,371	...	99	99
Minnesota <sup>b</sup>	4,554	4,554	4,554	105	105
Missouri	...	19,132	...	100	100
Nebraska	...	2,517	2,013	124	155
North Dakota	600	600	600	101	101
Ohio	26,058	...	26,058	171	171
South Dakota	...	1,565	...	120	120
Wisconsin <sup>b</sup>	7,499	7,499	7,499	145	145
<b>South</b>					
Alabama <sup>b,c</sup>	19,262	19,262	19,262	103%	103%
Arkansas <sup>b</sup>	8,060	8,060	8,060	105	105
Delaware	...	4,206	3,192	114	150
District of Columbia	7,251	11,099	9,419	88	135
Florida	68,996	...	50,801	93	126
Georgia	35,659	35,659	35,659	96	96
Kentucky <sup>b</sup>	10,411	10,164	...	110	113
Louisiana <sup>a</sup>	17,231	17,804	...	94	97
Maryland	...	21,589	13,384	99	160
Mississippi <sup>b</sup>	10,535	10,535	10,535	101	101
North Carolina <sup>b</sup>	27,305	27,500	27,305	100	100
Oklahoma	11,369	14,151	...	128	160
South Carolina <sup>b</sup>	17,586	18,864	15,333	102	125
Tennessee <sup>b</sup>	13,605	13,328	...	97	99
Texas	132,707	132,707	136,891	93	96
Virginia <sup>b</sup>	16,166	16,166	16,166	149	149
West Virginia <sup>b</sup>	2,438	2,377	2,485	100	96
<b>West</b>					
Alaska	2,603	...	...	106%	106%
Arizona	...	18,486	...	115	115
California	...	...	71,641	189	189
Colorado <sup>b</sup>	...	8,543	7,050	110	134
Hawaii <sup>b</sup>	...	2,646	1,750	123	186
Idaho <sup>b</sup>	...	2,908	2,203	104	138
Montana	900	1,414	900	126	199
Nevada <sup>b</sup>	...	7,342	5,842	106	134
New Mexico <sup>b</sup>	4,636	4,636	4,645	81	82
Oregon <sup>b</sup>	...	7,202	...	106	106
Utah <sup>b</sup>	...	3,509	3,893	82	91
Washington <sup>b,c</sup>	7,231	9,916	9,916	108	148
Wyoming	981	1,244	1,035	113	143

Note: States were asked to report their rated, operational, and design capacities. Tabulations reflect the highest and lowest of the reported capacities.  
... Data not available.

<sup>a</sup>Excludes inmates sentenced to State prison but in local jails because of crowded State facilities.  
<sup>b</sup>Excludes prisoners housed in contract facilities or local jails.  
<sup>c</sup>Excludes capacity of community programs.

At the end of 1995, 12 States and the District of Columbia reported that they were operating at or below 99% of their highest capacity. Thirty-nine States, the District of Columbia, and the Federal prison system reported operating at 100% or more of their lowest

capacity. By yearend the Federal system was estimated to be operating at 26% over capacity. State prisons were

estimated to be operating at 114% of their highest capacity and 125% of their lowest capacity (table 9).

**Table 9. State prison population as a percent of reported capacity, 1995**

	State prisons <sup>a</sup>
Highest capacity	854,804
Lowest capacity	780,226
<b>Net change in capacity, 1994-95</b>	
Highest	82,053
Lowest	76,222
<b>Population housed as a percent of capacity<sup>b</sup></b>	
Highest	
1990	115%
1991	116
1992	118
1993	118
1994	117
1995	114
Lowest	
1990	127%
1991	131
1992	131
1993	129
1994	129
1995	125

Note: States were asked to report their rated, operational, and design capacities. Tabulations reflect the highest and lowest of the 3 capacities reported from 1990 to 1995.  
<sup>a</sup>Data include estimated capacity figures for Connecticut at yearend 1995.  
<sup>b</sup>Excludes inmates sentenced to State prison but held in local jails because of crowding.

**Prisoners in custody of correctional authorities in the U.S. territories, yearend 1995**

Territory/commonwealth	Prisoners in custody			Prison incarceration rate, 1995 <sup>b</sup>
	Total	Sentenced to more than 1 year	Resident population, 1995 <sup>a</sup>	
Total	12,807	9,288	4,172,000	223
American Samoa	79	43	57,366	75
Guam	379	286	153,307	187
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	70	65	51,033	127
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico	11,810	8,660	3,813,000	227
U.S. Virgin Islands	469	234	97,229	241

<sup>a</sup>Midyear population estimates were provided by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, International Data Base.  
<sup>b</sup>The number of prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year per 100,000 persons in the resident population.

**Prisoners held in U.S. territories counted for the first time**

The U.S. territories and commonwealths — American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands — reported 12,807 inmates in custody of their prison systems at yearend 1995. Prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year totaled 9,288 (or nearly three-quarters of the total territorial prison population). Relative to the resident populations in the territories, the rate of incarceration was 223 prisoners per 100,000 residents — about half the combined rate of the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

Of the five territories, American Samoa had the lowest prison incarceration rate — 75 inmates per 100,000 residents, followed by the Northern Mariana Islands with 127. The U.S. Virgin Islands had the highest rate, 241 prisoners per

100,000 residents, followed by Puerto Rico with 227.

Puerto Rico, the largest of the territories, had the most sentenced prisoners (8,660). At yearend 1995, 21 States had fewer sentenced inmates than Puerto Rico; 16 States had lower incarceration rates.

For the first time, at yearend 1995, BJS collected counts of inmates held in territorial prisons. The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (P.L. 103-322) established the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Formula Grant Program. This program, administered by the Corrections Program Office in the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, requires from each territory and commonwealth a count of its prison population. Beginning in fiscal year 1996, grant funds will be allocated to each territory based on these counts.

## At midyear the Nation's jails supervised 541,913 offenders

On June 30, 1995, an estimated 541,913 offenders were held in or supervised by the Nation's local jails (table 10). Six percent of these offenders (34,869) were supervised by jail authorities in alternative programs outside of the jail facilities. An estimated 507,044 offenders were housed in local jails.

**Table 10. Persons under jail supervision, by confinement status and type of program, midyear 1995**

	Number of persons under jail supervision
<b>Total</b>	<b>541,913</b>
Held in jail	507,044
Supervised outside of a jail facility <sup>a</sup>	34,869
Electronic monitoring	6,788
Home detention <sup>b</sup>	1,376
Day reporting	1,283
Community service	10,253
Weekender program	1,909
Other alternative work programs <sup>c</sup>	9,144
Other pretrial supervision	3,229
Other	887

<sup>a</sup>Excludes persons supervised by a probation or parole agency.

<sup>b</sup>Includes only those without electronic monitoring.

<sup>c</sup>Includes persons in work release programs, work gangs/crews, and other work alternative programs administered by the jail jurisdiction.

As defined in this report, jails are locally-operated correctional facilities that confine persons before or after adjudication. Inmates sentenced to jail usually have a sentence of a year or less, but jails also incarcerate persons in a wide variety of other categories. (See box below.)

For the first time in 1995 the Annual Survey of Jails obtained counts of the number of offenders under community supervision. Respondents were asked if their jail jurisdiction operated any community-based programs and how many persons participated in them. Offenders under the supervision of a probation, parole, or other correctional agency were excluded from these counts. (See *Methodology*, page 14.)

### Jails —

- receive individuals pending arraignment and hold them awaiting trial, conviction, or sentencing
- readmit probation, parole, and bail-bond violators and absconders
- temporarily detain juveniles pending transfer to juvenile authorities
- hold mentally ill persons pending their movement to appropriate health facilities
- hold individuals for the military, for protective custody, for contempt, and for the courts as witnesses
- release convicted inmates to the community upon completion of sentence
- transfer inmates to Federal, State, or other authorities
- house inmates for Federal, State, or other authorities because of crowding of their facilities
- relinquish custody of temporary detainees to juvenile and medical authorities
- sometimes operate community-based programs as alternatives to incarceration.

Among persons under community supervision by jail staff, more than a third were required to perform community service (10,253) or participate in an alternative work program (9,144). Almost a quarter were under home detention with electronic monitoring (6,788) or without electronic monitoring (1,376). An estimated 1,909 offenders under jail supervision were in a weekend reporting program. Another 1,283 were in day reporting programs.

### Jail population grew by 4.2% during 12-month period

Between July 1, 1994, and June 30, 1995, the number of persons held in local jail facilities grew 4.2% — from 486,474 to 507,044. Although the 12-month increase was much lower than the 6.7% increase in the previous 12-month period, it nearly equaled the average annual increase since 1990.

12-month period	Percent increase
1994-95	4.2%
1993-94	6.7
1992-93	3.4
1991-92	4.2
1990-91	5.2
1989-90	2.4%
1988-89	15.1
1987-88	16.1
1986-87	7.8
1985-86	6.9
Annual average, 1990-95	4.6%
1985-95	7.0

\*Percent increases before 1995 are based on inmate counts that include a small but unknown number of offenders under community supervision.

**Table 11. Average daily population and number of men, women, and juveniles in local jails, midyear 1985, 1990-95**

	1985	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
<b>Average daily population<sup>a</sup></b>	265,010	408,075	422,609	441,889	466,155	479,757	509,828
<b>Number of inmates, June 30<sup>b</sup></b>							
Adults	256,615	405,320	426,479	444,584	459,804	490,442	515,122
Male	254,986	403,019	424,129	441,780	455,500	483,717	507,234
Female	235,909	365,821	384,628	401,106	411,500	434,838	455,098
Juveniles <sup>c</sup>	19,077	37,198	39,501	40,674	44,100	48,879	52,136
Held as adults <sup>d</sup>	1,629	2,301	2,350	2,804	4,300	6,725	7,888
Held as juveniles	--	--	--	--	3,300	5,139	6,018
	1,629	2,301	2,350	2,804	1,000	1,586	1,870

Notes: Detailed data for 1993 were estimated and rounded to the nearest 100.  
 --Not available.

<sup>a</sup>The average daily population is the sum of the number of inmates in a jail each day for a year, divided by 365.

<sup>b</sup>Inmate counts for 1985 and 1990-94 include an unknown number of persons who were under jail supervision but not confined. The 1995 count includes 8,078 persons under community supervision. See *Methodology*.

<sup>c</sup>Juveniles are persons defined by State statute as being under a certain age, usually 18, and subject initially to juvenile court authority even if tried as adults in criminal court. In 1994 the definition was changed to include all persons under age 18.

<sup>d</sup>Includes juveniles who were tried or awaiting trial as adults.

Since 1985 the Nation's jail population has nearly doubled on a per capita basis. During this period the number of jail inmates per 100,000 residents rose from 108 to 193. Including offenders under community supervision by jail authorities, the rate totaled 206 offenders per 100,000 U.S. residents at midyear 1995.

An estimated 7,888 persons under age 18 were housed in adult jails on June 30, 1995 (table 11). Over three-quarters of these young inmates had been convicted or were being held for trial as adults in criminal court. (See *Methodology*, page 14, for changes in the definition of *juvenile*.)

The average daily population for the year ending June 30, 1995, was 509,828, an increase of 6.3% from 1994.

### Demographic characteristics of jail inmates were unchanged

Male inmates made up almost 90% of the local jail inmate population at midyear 1995, about the same percentage as in 1990 (table 12). An estimated 1 in every 205 adult men and 1 in every

1,936 adult women were held in a local jail on June 30, 1995.

At midyear 1995 a majority of local jail inmates were black or Hispanic. White non-Hispanics made up 40.1% of the jail population; black non-Hispanics, 43.5%; Hispanics, 14.7%; and other races, 1.7%.

**Table 12. Sex, race, and Hispanic origin of local jail inmates, midyear 1985, 1990-95**

Characteristic	Percent of jail inmates						
	1985	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Sex</b>							
Male	92.0%	90.8%	90.7%	90.8%	90.4%	90.0%	89.8%
Female	8.0	9.2	9.3	9.2	9.6	10.0	10.2
<b>Race/Hispanic origin<sup>a</sup></b>							
White, non-Hispanic	--	41.8%	41.1%	40.1%	39.3%	39.1%	40.1%
Black, non-Hispanic	--	42.5	43.4	44.1	44.2	43.9	43.5
Hispanic	--	14.3	14.2	14.5	15.1	15.4	14.7
Other <sup>b</sup>	--	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.7

Note: Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

--Not available.

<sup>a</sup>Data on race/Hispanic origin were reported for 89.7% of all inmates in 1990, 91.1% in 1991, 97.6% in 1992, 85.1% in 1993, 95.8% in 1994, and 97.1% in 1995.

<sup>b</sup>Includes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, and Pacific Islanders.

### Fewer than half of jail inmates were convicted

On June 30, 1995, an estimated 44% of the Nation's adult jail inmates had been convicted on their current charge. An estimated 223,200 adult jail inmates were serving a sentence, awaiting sentencing, or serving time in jail for a probation or parole violation (table 13). Between 1985 and 1995 the number of convicted inmates rose by nearly 100,000 — up from 123,409. During the same period, the number of unconvicted jail inmates, including those on trial or awaiting arraignment or trial, doubled (from 127,059 to an estimated 284,100).

In 1995 male inmates were somewhat more likely than female inmates to have been convicted. Among adult male inmates, 44.2% had been convicted on their current charge, compared to 41.8% of the female inmates.

### Jail capacity rose at record pace — up 41,400 beds in 12 months

At midyear 1995 the rated capacity of the Nation's local jails totaled an estimated 545,763, an increase of 41,439 in 12 months (table 14). Rated capacity is the maximum number of beds or inmates allocated by State or local rating officials to each jail facility. The growth in jail capacity during the 12-month period ending on June 30, 1995, was greater than in any previous 12-month period on record. More than a quarter million beds have been added since 1985.

### At midyear 1995, 93% of jail capacity was occupied

As of June 30, 1995, 93% of the local jail capacity was occupied. As a ratio of all inmates housed in jail facilities to total capacity, the percentage occupied increased considerably after 1983, reaching a record 108% in 1989

and then falling to 93% in 1995. Since 1989, rated capacity has risen nearly 178,000 beds, while the number of inmates has increased almost 112,000.

Jail jurisdictions with the largest average daily populations reported the highest occupancy rates. At midyear 1995 occupancy was 97% of rated capacity in jail jurisdictions with an average daily population of 1,000 or more inmates, compared to 77% in those with fewer than 50 inmates.

Size of jurisdiction*	Percent of capacity occupied
Total	93%
Fewer than 50 inmates	77
50-99	87
100-249	88
250-499	92
500-999	97
1,000 or more	97

\*Based on the average daily population in the year ending June 30, 1995.

**Table 13. Conviction status of adult jail inmates, by sex, midyear 1985, 1990-95**

	Percent of jail inmates					
	1985	1990	1991	1992	1993*	1995*
Total	250,468	403,019	424,129	441,780	455,500	507,200
Convicted	123,409	195,661	206,458	217,940	226,600	223,200
Male	114,131	177,619	185,947	196,656	203,900	201,600
Female	9,278	18,042	20,511	21,284	22,700	21,600
Unconvicted	127,059	207,358	217,671	223,840	228,900	284,100
Male	117,560	188,202	198,681	204,450	207,600	254,000
Female	9,499	19,156	18,990	19,390	21,300	30,100

Note: The number of convicted inmates may be undercounted because some jail records do not distinguish between inmates who are unconvicted and those who are convicted but waiting to be sentenced. Data for 1994 are not available.  
\*Data on conviction status by sex were reported for 88.9% of all adult inmates in 1993 and 96.3% in 1995. Totals were estimated using known data and rounded to the nearest 100.

**Table 14. Rated capacity of local jails and percent of capacity occupied, 1983-95**

Year	Rated capacity <sup>a</sup>	Amount of capacity added <sup>b</sup>	Percent of capacity occupied <sup>c</sup>
1995	545,763	41,439	93%
1994	504,324	29,100	96
1993	475,224	26,027	97
1992	449,197	27,960	99
1991	421,237	32,066	101
1990	389,171	21,402	104
1989	367,769	28,136	108
1988	339,633	38,435	101
1987	301,198	15,472	98
1986	285,726	12,986	96
1985	272,830	11,398	94
1984	261,432	(124)	90
1983	261,556	--	85

Note: Capacity data for 1984-87, 1989-92, and 1994-95 are survey estimates subject to sampling error. Negative numbers are in parentheses. See appendix table 2 for sampling errors.  
--Not available.

<sup>a</sup>Rated capacity is the number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to facilities within each jurisdiction.

<sup>b</sup>The number of beds added during the 12 months before June 30 of each year.

<sup>c</sup>The number of inmates divided by the rated capacity times 100. For 1983-93 the ratio may include some inmates under supervision who were not confined in a jail facility. For 1994 and 1995 the ratio includes only those held in jail.

**The 25 largest jail jurisdictions housed more than a quarter of all jail inmates**

In 1995 the Nation's 25 largest jail jurisdictions accounted for 28% of all jail inmates. The jurisdictions were in 12 States: 7 in California; 5 in Florida; 4 in Texas; and 1 each in New York, Illinois, Louisiana, Arizona, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Michigan, and Wisconsin (table 15).

The 2 jurisdictions with the most inmates, Los Angeles County and New York City, together held more than 36,300 inmates, or 7% of the national total.

Overall, the 25 largest jurisdictions on June 30, 1995, held a total population of 144,230 inmates — 2.5% fewer than the 148,001 a year earlier. A total of 18 jurisdictions reported increases in their populations.

Four jurisdictions in Texas reported sharp declines in the 12 months ending June 30, 1995. These jails recorded a 28% decline in the inmate count from midyear 1994. These declines resulted from the opening of State jails, which are classified as prisons in the National Prisoner Statistics program. Among all jail jurisdictions

in Texas, the backlog of 20,720 State inmates, with a delayed transfer to State facilities because of prison crowding at yearend 1994, was eliminated by yearend 1995.

As a ratio of all inmates housed in jail facilities to total capacity, jails in Orange County, California, and Philadelphia City, Pennsylvania, had the highest percents occupied (135%), followed by jails in Baltimore City, Maryland (129%). Jail facilities in Dallas County, Texas, had the lowest percent occupied (66%) on June 30, 1995.

**Table 15. The 25 largest local jail jurisdictions: Number of inmates, average daily population, and rated capacity, midyear 1993-95**

Jurisdiction	Number of inmates			Average daily population <sup>a</sup>			Rated capacity <sup>b</sup>			Percent of capacity occupied on June 30 <sup>c</sup>		
	1993	1994	1995	1993	1994	1995	1993	1994	1995	1993	1994	1995
Los Angeles County, CA	20,065	20,113	18,236	23,232	19,725	19,896	14,372	13,340	20,049	140%	151%	91%
New York City, NY	17,307	18,171	18,143	17,488	18,091	18,200	20,556	18,696	19,033	84	97	95
Cook County, IL	9,054	9,092	10,398	8,851	8,950	10,837	7,831	8,032	9,317	116	113	112
Harris County, TX	9,472	10,716	8,825	11,637	10,282	8,962	9,800	8,698	8,698	97	123	101
Dallas County, TX	7,592	9,715	5,721	6,747	9,321	7,151	4,808	6,676	8,629	158	146	66
Dade County, FL	5,553	6,338	6,653	5,489	6,656	6,728	4,874	6,752	6,604	114%	94%	101%
San Diego County, CA	5,374	5,487	6,197	5,350	5,651	5,820	3,675	8,672	5,670	146	63	109
Orleans Parish, LA	--	5,351	5,558	--	5,231	5,549	--	7,174	7,174	--	75	77
Maricopa County, AZ	4,478	5,170	5,717	4,641	4,862	5,503	4,232	4,910	4,910	106	105	116
Shelby County, TN	6,451	5,124	5,247	6,426	4,891	5,091	6,411	6,344	5,512	101	81	95
Orange County, CA	4,659	4,987	5,157	4,672	4,836	5,074	3,954	3,821	3,821	118%	131%	135%
Philadelphia City, PA	4,836	4,696	5,076	4,912	4,799	4,968	3,750	5,349	3,750	129	88	135
Tarrant County, TX	4,408	5,317	3,865	4,508	5,167	4,468	3,952	4,996	4,369	112	106	88
Santa Clara County, CA	4,237	4,303	4,174	4,451	4,103	4,161	4,132	4,088	3,774	103	105	111
San Bernardino County, CA	2,999	3,136	4,025	3,146	3,188	4,100	2,709	3,744	4,930	111	84	82
Alameda County, CA	3,281	3,330	3,881	3,604	3,098	3,903	3,434	3,552	4,063	96%	94%	96%
Bexar County, TX	3,740	4,301	3,099	3,400	3,882	3,569	2,397	3,640	3,640	156	118	85
Broward County, FL	2,921	3,367	3,573	2,892	3,165	3,546	3,656	3,654	3,656	80	92	98
Orange County, FL	3,096	3,470	3,530	3,386	3,162	3,441	3,229	3,329	3,329	96	104	106
Baltimore City, MD	3,112	3,350	3,777	3,011	3,160	3,380	2,833	2,833	2,933	110	118	129
Sacramento County, CA	2,741	2,954	3,125	2,976	2,852	3,094	2,769	2,749	2,749	99%	107%	114%
Duval County, FL	2,423	2,775	2,628	2,366	2,383	2,688	3,300	3,300	3,300	73	84	80
Wayne County, MI	2,280	2,499	2,598	2,160	2,400	2,600	2,585	2,545	2,628	88	98	99
Milwaukee County, WI	2,292	2,247	2,491	1,977	2,165	2,501	1,904	1,854	2,274	120	121	110
Hillsborough County, FL	2,126	1,992	2,536	2,240	2,108	2,384	2,276	2,445	2,649	93	81	96

Notes: Jurisdictions are ordered by their average daily population in 1995.

--Not available.

<sup>a</sup>Based on the average daily population for the year ending June 30. The average daily population is the sum of the number of inmates in jail each day for a year, divided by 365.

<sup>b</sup>Rated capacity is the number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to facilities within each jurisdiction.

<sup>c</sup>The number of inmates divided by the rated capacity multiplied by 100. For 1993 the ratio may include some inmates under supervision who were not confined in a jail facility. For 1994 and 1995 the ratio includes only those held in jail.

## Methodology

### *National Prisoner Statistics (NPS)*

Since 1926 the Federal Government has conducted an annual collection of prisoner statistics. Currently the Bureau of Justice Statistics, with the U.S. Bureau of the Census as its collection agent, obtains a yearend and midyear count of prisoners from departments of correction in each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. This report is based on the advanced yearend count (NPS-1B) and are subject to revision when the final counts become available (NPS-1).

In an effort to collect comparable data from all jurisdictions, NPS distinguishes between prisoners in *custody* from those under *jurisdiction*. To have custody of a prisoner, a State must hold that person in one of its facilities. A State may have custody of a prisoner over whom another State maintains jurisdiction. To have jurisdiction, a State has legal authority over the prisoner. Prisoners under a State's jurisdiction may be in the custody of a local jail, another State's prison, or other correctional facility. Some States are unable to provide both custody and jurisdiction counts. (See *NPS jurisdiction notes*.)

The NPS counts include persons in the custody or jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities. Excluded from NPS counts are persons confined in locally administered confinement facilities who are under the jurisdiction of local authorities. NPS counts include all inmates in State-operated facilities in Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Vermont, which have combined jail-prison systems.

### *Annual Survey of Jails*

In each of the 4 years between the full censuses, a survey of jails is conducted to estimate baseline characteristics of the Nation's jails and the

inmates housed in these jails. The 1995 Annual Survey of Jails is the 11th such survey in a series begun in 1982. The reference date for the 1995 survey was June 30.

Using information from the 1993 Census of Jails, a sample of jail jurisdictions was selected for the 1994 and 1995 surveys. A *jurisdiction* is a county (parish in Louisiana) or municipal government that administers one or more local jails. The sample included all jails in 796 selected jail jurisdictions and 23 multi-jurisdiction jails. A *multi-jurisdiction jail* is one in which two or more jurisdictions have a formal agreement to operate the facility.

In drawing the sample for 1994 and 1995, jail jurisdictions were first stratified into two groups: single-jurisdiction jails and multi-jurisdiction jails. All of the multi-jurisdiction jails were included in the survey. The remaining jurisdictions were then further

stratified into two groups: jurisdictions with jails authorized to hold juveniles and jurisdictions with jails holding adults only. Jurisdictions were then selected based on the average daily population in the 1993 census.

All jails in 203 jurisdictions were automatically included if the jurisdiction held juveniles and had an average daily population of 250 or more inmates in 1993 or if it held only adults and had an average population of 500 or more. The other jurisdictions (593) were then selected based on stratified probability sampling.

Data were obtained by mailed questionnaires. After followup phone calls to nonrespondents, the response rate for the survey was 100%.

National estimates for the inmate population on June 30, 1995, were produced by sex, race/Hispanic origin, and age group and for the average

**Appendix table 1. Standard error estimates for the Annual Survey of Jails, 1995**

Characteristic	Estimate	Standard error	Relative standard error (percent)
<b>Total number under supervision</b>	541,913	3,299	0.61%
<b>Number held in jail</b>	507,044	2,931	0.58%
<b>One-day count<sup>a</sup></b>			
All inmates	515,122	2,985	0.58%
Adults	507,234	2,945	0.58
Male	455,098	2,657	0.58
Female	52,136	474	0.91
Juveniles	7,888	283	3.59
Held as adults	6,018	242	4.02
Held as juveniles	1,870	148	7.91
<b>Average daily population</b>	509,828	2,725	0.53%
<b>Rated capacity</b>	545,763	3,788	0.69%
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	462,670	2,694	0.58%
Female	52,452	480	0.92
<b>Race/Hispanic origin</b>			
White non-Hispanic	200,460	2,181	1.09%
Black non-Hispanic	217,573	2,148	0.99
Hispanic	73,372	969	1.32
Other <sup>b</sup>	35,441	416	1.17
<b>Total conviction status</b>			
Convicted	214,981	1,991	0.93%
Male	194,181	1,841	0.95
Female	20,797	302	1.45
Unconvicted	273,689	1,983	0.72
Male	244,683	1,812	0.74
Female	29,006	281	0.97

<sup>a</sup>Includes 8,078 persons supervised outside jail facilities.

<sup>b</sup>Includes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, and Pacific Islanders.

daily population during the year ending June 30, 1995. National estimates were also produced for rated capacity.

### Sampling error

Survey estimates have an associated sampling error because jurisdictions with smaller average daily populations were sampled for the survey. Estimates based on the sample survey may differ somewhat from the results of conducting a complete census.

Different samples could yield somewhat different results. *Standard error* is a measure of the variation among the estimates from all possible samples, stating the precision with which an estimate from a particular sample approximates the average of all possible samples. The estimated relative sampling error for the total inmate population of 507,044 on June 30, 1995, was 0.58%. (See appendix tables 1 and 2.)

Results presented in this Bulletin were tested to determine whether differences between estimates in different years were statistically significant. All differences mentioned in the report meet or exceed the 95-percent confidence level.

**Appendix table 2. Standard error estimates for the number of inmates and rated capacity for the Annual Survey of Jails, midyear 1985-95**

Year	Number of inmates			Rated capacity		
	Number	Estimated standard error	Relative standard error (percent)	Number	Estimated standard error	Relative standard error (percent)
1995 <sup>a</sup>	541,913	3,299	.61%	545,763	3,788	.69%
1995 <sup>b</sup>	515,122	2,985	.58%	--	--	--
1994	490,442	2,471	.50%	504,324	3,221	.64%
1992	444,584	2,076	.47	449,197	2,693	.60
1991	426,479	2,151	.50	421,237	2,522	.60
1990	405,320	1,778	.44	389,171	2,249	.58
1989	395,553	1,583	.40	367,769	2,042	.56
1987	295,873	1,687	.57	301,198	2,192	.73
1986	274,444	1,465	.53	285,726	2,093	.73
1985	256,615	1,459	.57	272,830	2,062	.76

<sup>a</sup>Includes 34,869 offenders supervised outside of jail facilities.

<sup>b</sup>Includes 8,078 offenders supervised outside of jail facilities.

--Not applicable.

### Measures of population

Two measures of inmate population are used: the average daily population for the year ending June 30 and the inmate count on June 30 of each year. The average daily population balances out any extraordinary events that may render atypical the inmate count on June 30. The June 30 count provides data on characteristics of inmates, such as race, Hispanic origin, and age, that may not be available on an annual basis.

For the first time in 1995 the Annual Survey of Jails obtained separate counts of the total number of offenders under jail jurisdiction, those held in jail facilities, and those supervised outside of jail facilities. Previous surveys and censuses included a small but unknown number of offenders under community supervision. To estimate the percent change from 1994 to 1995 in the jail population, the 1995 survey included a count of inmates held at midyear 1994. Based on the 1995 survey results, the 1994 survey total (490,442) included an estimated 3,968 persons under community supervision.

Survey estimates in 1995 by sex, adults and juveniles, and conviction status include 8,078 offenders under community supervision by jail authorities. These offenders could not be excluded from the detailed estimates.

### Juveniles

State statutes and judicial practices allow juveniles to be incarcerated in adult jails under a variety of circumstances. Because of the differing statutes and practices, however, accurate and comparable data on juveniles are difficult to collect. Beginning in 1994 the Annual Jail Survey provided estimates of the total number of jail inmates under age 18, the number held as adults, and the number held as juveniles. New sampling procedures were also introduced in 1994 to minimize the standard errors of these estimates. By stratifying jurisdictions based on the authority to house juveniles, the precision of the juvenile counts was improved.

## NPS jurisdiction notes

**Federal** —The rated capacity of Federal facilities on December 31, 1995, was 72,145 inmates. This does not include contract bed spaces.

**Alabama** —The capacity of the community programs is not included in the capacity data.

Population counts include 800 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

**Alaska** — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations housed in-State and out-of-State.

Population counts were based on jurisdiction data starting in 1994.

**Arizona** — Population counts are based on custody data.

Population counts exclude 322 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

**Arkansas** — Population counts include 971 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

The Department of Correction has one type of capacity which is determined by the Board of Corrections and Community Punishment. This figure is reported for operational, rated, and design capacity.

**California** — Population counts were based on jurisdiction data starting in 1995.

**Colorado** — Population counts for inmates "Sentenced to more than 1 year" include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year or less.

Population counts include 1,563 inmates housed in local jails and in facilities out-of-State (Minnesota and Texas) due to crowding in State prison facilities.

Population counts include 174 inmates in the Youthful Offender System, which is a program primarily established for violent juvenile offenders. Of these 174 inmates, 78 inmates are located in contract facilities.

Population counts include 976 inmates in community-based programs.

Design and operational capacities do not include the Bent County Correctional Facility (Las Animas, CO), Minnesota Prairie Correctional Facility (Appleton, MN), and Bowie County Jail (Texarkana, TX), which are contracted and do not include community-based programs.

**Connecticut** — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations.

Legislation in July 1995 abolished the capacity law so that Connecticut's prisons no longer have rated or operational capacities. Design capacity is recorded separately for each facility.

**Delaware** — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations.

Capacity counts include the halfway houses under the Department of Corrections.

**District of Columbia** — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations.

**Florida** — Population counts are based on custody data.

Florida now reports rated capacity and defines it as the maximum safe capacity as decided by the Department of Corrections.

**Georgia** — Population counts are based on custody data.

Population counts exclude an undetermined number of inmates housed in local jails awaiting transfer to prison. Inmates housed in local jails are not considered part of the prison population until they are admitted.

**Hawaii** — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations.

Population counts include 300 inmates who were housed in out-of-State facilities (Newton Co., TX, and Dickens Co., TX) due to crowding in State prison facilities.

**Idaho** — Population counts include 297 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

Population counts were based on jurisdiction data starting in 1993.

Idaho no longer has a rated capacity. The reported operational capacity is actually their maximum capacity; that is, double celling every housing unit where it is legally or operationally possible.

**Illinois** — Population counts are based on custody data.

Population counts for inmates "Sentenced to more than 1 year" include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year.

Capacity figures include 887 inmates on electronic detention.

**Indiana** — Population counts include 1,139 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

**Iowa** — Population counts are based on custody data.

**Kentucky** — Population counts include 559 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

**Louisiana** — Population counts include 8,671 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

The rated and operational capacities now include 478 beds in contractual work-release facilities.

**Maine** — Population counts do not include inmates serving concurrent sentences.

**Massachusetts** — Populations counts were based on jurisdiction data starting in 1994.

Population counts are as of January 1, 1996 and capacity counts are as of January 2, 1996.

Population counts include 1,189 inmates housed in local jails and in out-of-State contracted facilities due to crowding.

Population counts were based on jurisdiction data starting in 1994.

**Michigan** — Population counts are based on custody data.

Population counts include adult prisoners in all institutions, camps, and community corrections centers or under electronic monitoring.

Population counts exclude 393 prisoners housed in county jails and awaiting return to prison.

"Operational capacity" includes institutions, camps, and community programs.

**Minnesota** — Population counts include 63 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

**Mississippi** — Population counts are as of December 29, 1995.

**Missouri** — Missouri defines operational capacity as the number of beds.

**Montana** — Population counts for inmates "Sentenced to more than 1 year" include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year or less. Population counts exclude 135 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

**Nebraska** — Operational capacity is defined as the stress capacity, which is 125% of design capacity. This is a newly reported capacity ordered set by the Department of Corrections.

**Nevada** — Population counts include 15 inmates housed in out-of-State facilities due to crowding.

**New Jersey** — Population counts for inmates "Sentenced to more than 1 year" include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year.

Population counts include 4,258 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

**New Mexico** — Population counts include 416 inmates housed in local jails and in out-of-State contracted facilities (49 in Dallas Co., TX) due to crowding.

**North Carolina** — Population counts include 1,949 inmates housed in local jails and in out-of-State contracted facilities due to crowding.

**Ohio** — Population counts for inmates "Sentenced to more than 1 year" include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year or less.

**Oklahoma** — Population counts for inmates "Sentenced to more than 1 year" include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year.

Population counts exclude 291 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

**Oregon** — Population counts include 249 inmates housed in local jails or in out-of-State contracted facilities due to crowding.

**Rhode Island** — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations

Population counts for inmates "Sentenced to more than 1 year" include inmates with partially suspended sentences only if the prison portion of the sentence exceeds one year. As a result, the number of inmates "Sentenced to more than 1 year" is understated.

**South Carolina** — Population counts include 399 inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

**South Dakota** — Population counts for inmates "Sentenced to more than 1 year" include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year or less.

**Tennessee** — Population counts are for December 28, 1995.

Population counts for inmates "Sentenced to more than 1 year" include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year.

Population counts include 2,055 inmates housed in local jails as of December 15, 1995, due to crowding and exclude an undetermined number of felons sentenced to serve their time in local jails.

**Utah** — Population counts include 270 inmates housed in local jails and in contracted out-of-State facilities (100 inmates in Texas) due to crowding.

Design capacity is defined as the maximum number of beds facilities can hold.

**Vermont** — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations.

Populations counts were based on custody data (housed inmates) starting in 1995.

Population counts exclude 511 inmates on furlough or intermediate sanctions.

**Virginia** — Population counts include 3,588 inmates housed in local jails and in contracted out-of-State facilities (628 inmates in Texas) due to crowding as of January 2, 1996.

**Washington** — Reported capacities exclude State work release and pre-release facilities which housed 907 inmates. The facilities' capacity of 1,070 is not specifically reserved for State inmates; capacity within these facilities for inmates, parolees, probationers, and offenders serving partial confinement sentences is indistinguishable.

**West Virginia** — Population counts include 134 inmates housed in local jail facilities due to crowding.

Population counts were based on jurisdiction data starting in 1994.

**Wisconsin** — Population counts include 354 inmates housed in local jail facilities due to crowding.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Jan M. Chaiken, Ph.D., is director.

BJS Bulletins present the first release of findings from permanent data collection programs such as the National Prisoner Statistics Program and the Annual Survey of Jails. State, local, and Federal corrections officials have cooperated in reporting the data presented.

Allen J. Beck, Ph.D., and Darrell K. Gilliard wrote this report. Doris James Wilson and Caroline Wolf Harlow provided statistical review. Yvonne Boston and Priscilla Middleton edited the report. Marilyn Marbrook, assisted by Yvonne Boston, administered final production.

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Data from the Annual Survey of Jails may be obtained from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data at the University of Michigan, 1-800-999-0960. The report and NPS data are available on the Internet:

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>