

## Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report

# HIV in U.S. Prisons and Jails

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In 1991, 2.2% of Federal and State prison inmates — 17,479 of 792,176 inmates held in U.S. prisons — were infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that causes AIDS. Of the total prison population 0.6% exhibited symptoms of HIV infection, including 0.2% with confirmed AIDS.

This report uses data from three Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) data series. Some information on prisoners with HIV comes from the annual reports made by State and Federal correctional authorities (National Prisoner Statistics or NPS). Other data on prisoner characteristics and drug use resulted from interviews with inmates (1991 Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities). Jail data were provided by the Nation's 503 largest jail jurisdictions (1992 Annual Survey of Jails).

Additional findings about HIV in U.S. prisons and jails include the following:

- State prisons reported 2.3% of inmates were HIV positive, and Federal prisons reported 1.0%.
- Of HIV-positive inmates in State or Federal prisons, 9.6% had confirmed AIDS. In State prisons in the West, 21.1% of HIV-positive inmates had AIDS.

- All prison jurisdictions tested at least some inmates for HIV; 17 tested all prisoners.

- In 1991, 28% of all deaths in State prisons were attributable to AIDS. Between July 1, 1991, and June 30, 1992, 24% of deaths in jails were AIDS related.

- In 1991, about 51% of State prison inmates reported having been tested for HIV and knowing the results.

- In 1991, among those prison inmates tested, an estimated 3.3% of women, 3.7% of Hispanics, and 3.7% of those between age 35 and 44 tested positive to HIV.

- In 1991, an estimated 0.8% of tested prison inmates who said they never used drugs were HIV positive, as were 2.5% who ever used drugs, 4.9% who used needles to inject drugs, and 7.1% who shared needles.

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Because of their comparatively high rates of drug abuse, jail and prison inmates are at greater risk of contracting AIDS. In 1991 an estimated 1 in 4 State prisoners had been using cocaine or crack in the month before their imprisonment offense, and about 1 in 10 reported use of heroin or other opiates. During their lives, nearly 1 in 4 State prisoners had used a needle to inject illegal drugs.

This report provides the most recent information from BJS statistical programs covering State prisons and the largest jails nationwide on AIDS testing and the prevalence of AIDS and HIV seropositivity. It also provides information from State prisoners reporting on their personal characteristics and how these relate to HIV test results.

Nationwide, prison authorities in 1991 reported that 2.2% of those confined in State and Federal facilities had tested positive for HIV. That same year, in a nationally representative sample survey of State prisoners, 2.2% were estimated to be HIV positive, based upon interviews with prisoners. These comparable rates suggest that important and useful information about HIV exposure can be reliably obtained from prisoners.

On behalf of the Bureau, I express appreciation to authorities at the Centers for Disease Control for guidance in developing questions in our collection instruments and to State and local correctional authorities who supplied data. I also thank the nearly 14,000 inmates participating in our survey in 1991.

Lawrence A. Greenfeld  
Acting Director

## Data sources

The NPS-1 program includes midyear and yearend numbers and movements of prison inmates, provided to BJS by the departments of corrections in the 50

States and the District of Columbia and by the U.S. Bureau of Prisons. In 1991 questions were added to the yearend report to determine the numbers of HIV-positive prisoners and the department policies on testing for the virus.

The 1991 Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities questioned a nationally representative sample of almost 14,000 State prisoners about current offenses, prior drug use and treatment, personal characteristics, and other aspects of their life. Questions on whether prisoners had ever been tested for HIV and the results of the test were included in the interviews.

**Table 1. Inmates in custody of State or Federal correctional authorities known to be positive for the human immunodeficiency virus, yearend 1991**

Jurisdiction	Type of HIV infection/AIDS cases				HIV/AIDS cases as a percent of total custody population
	Total	Asymptomatic	Symptomatic	Confirmed AIDS	
<b>U.S. total</b>	17,479	12,765	3,032	1,682	2.2%
Federal	630	422	91	117	1.0
State	16,849	12,343	2,941	1,565	2.3
<b>Northeast</b>	10,247	7,420	1,922	905	8.1%
Connecticut	574	229	264	81	5.4
Maine	1	1	0	0	.1
Massachusetts	484	100	362	22	5.3
New Hampshire	18	8	6	4	1.2
New Jersey	756	0	694	62	4.0
New York	8,000	6,833	474	693	13.8
Pennsylvania	313	247	34	32	1.3
Rhode Island	98	0	88	10	3.5
Vermont	3	2	0	1	.3
<b>Midwest</b>	1,128	733	268	127	.7%
Illinois	299	216	66	17	1.0
Indiana	62	60	0	2	.5
Iowa	19	17	0	2	.5
Kansas	13	1	6	6	.2
Michigan	390	124	194	72	1.1
Minnesota	14	13	1	0	.4
Missouri	127	125	0	2	.8
Nebraska	11	10	1	0	.4
North Dakota	1	1	0	0	.2
Ohio	152	129	0	23	.4
South Dakota	--	--	--	--	--
Wisconsin	40	37	0	3	.5
<b>South</b>	4,314	3,513	513	288	1.5%
Alabama	178	178	0	0	1.1
Arkansas	68	59	5	4	.9
Delaware	85	78	0	7	2.6
District of Columbia	--	--	--	--	--
Florida	1,105	1,015	0	90	2.4
Georgia	807	774	10	23	3.4
Kentucky	27	25	0	2	.3
Louisiana	100	100	0	0	.7
Maryland	478	324	135	19	2.5
Mississippi	106	106	0	0	1.3
North Carolina	170	116	35	19	.9
Oklahoma	74	64	0	10	.7
South Carolina	316	298	0	18	2.0
Tennessee	28	0	20	8	.3
Texas	615	251	307	57	1.2
Virginia	152	121	0	31	.9
West Virginia	5	4	1	0	.3
<b>West</b>	1,160	677	238	245	.7%
Alaska	9	7	0	2	.4
Arizona	84	74	0	10	.5
California	714	407	136	171	.7
Colorado	82	37	41	4	1.0
Hawaii	19	17	1	1	.8
Idaho	10	3	3	4	.5
Montana	7	7	0	0	.5
Nevada	117	72	39	6	2.0
New Mexico	10	10	0	0	.3
Oregon	24	11	12	1	.4
Utah	35	0	5	30	1.3
Washington	42	32	0	10	.5
Wyoming	7	0	1	6	.6

The Annual Survey of Jails obtains data on populations and movements of jail inmates. The sample includes all jail jurisdictions with 100 or more inmates and a sample of smaller jurisdictions. The 503 large jail jurisdictions provide figures on deaths in jails. In 1992, the jurisdictions that were the largest in 1991 were asked to indicate their policies for testing for HIV and numbers of HIV prisoners they were holding on June 30, 1992. (For further description of data sources, see *Methodology*.)

## Prevalence of HIV infection in U.S. prisons

In 1991, 2.2% of Federal and State prison inmates were reported to have the human immunodeficiency virus that causes AIDS (table 1). In State prisons, 2.3% of inmates were reported testing HIV-positive; in Federal prisons, 1.0%. Of the total prison population, 0.6% showed symptoms of HIV infection, including 0.2% with confirmed AIDS.

States reporting the highest percentage of prisoners infected with HIV were New York (13.8%), Connecticut (5.4%), Massachusetts (5.3%), New Jersey (4.0%), Rhode Island (3.5%), and Georgia (3.4%). Twenty-nine States reported less than 1.0%. The percentage of inmates in prison on December 31, 1991, and known to be HIV positive is related in part to the testing policies of the individual prisons or departments of corrections.

States in the Northeast led the country in the percentage of inmates known to be infected with HIV (8.1%). Five of the six States with the highest rates of HIV-positive prisoners were in the Northeast. By contrast, States in the Midwest and West had less than 1% of prisoners with HIV.

--Not reported.

Source: 1991 National Prisoner Statistics-1.

**Table 2. Testing policies for the antibody to the human immunodeficiency virus that causes AIDS, by jurisdiction, 1991**

All incoming inmates	All inmates currently in custody	All inmates at time of release	High-risk groups	Upon inmate request	Upon clinical indication of need	Upon involvement in incident	Random sample	Other
Alabama	Rhode Island	Alabama	Arkansas	Alaska	Alaska	California	Arkansas	Hawaii <sup>c</sup>
Colorado	Utah	Federal	Connecticut	Arizona	Arizona	Florida	Dist. of Col.	Illinois
Georgia	Wyoming	Missouri	Dist. of Col.	Arkansas	California	Hawaii <sup>b</sup>	Federal	Mississippi
Idaho		Nevada	Illinois	California	Colorado	Kentucky	Maryland	New Jersey
Iowa		Wyoming	Indiana	Colorado	Connecticut	Louisiana	Massachusetts	New Mexico <sup>c</sup>
Michigan			Kentucky	Connecticut	Delaware	Maryland	New York	North Carolina
Mississippi			Minnesota	Delaware	Dist. of Col.	Massachusetts	Wyoming	Oregon
Missouri			New York	Dist. of Col.	Federal	Michigan		South Carolina
Nebraska			North Carolina	Federal	Florida	Minnesota		Tennessee <sup>a</sup>
Nevada			Ohio	Florida	Georgia	Missouri		Washington
New Hampshire			South Carolina	Georgia	Hawaii <sup>b</sup>	New Hampshire		Wisconsin <sup>c</sup>
North Dakota			South Dakota	Hawaii	Illinois	New Jersey		
Oklahoma			Tennessee <sup>a</sup>	Indiana	Indiana	New Mexico		
Rhode Island			Texas	Kansas	Kansas	New York		
Utah			West Virginia	Kentucky	Kentucky	Ohio		
Wyoming				Louisiana	Louisiana	South Carolina		
				Maine	Maryland	Tennessee <sup>a</sup>		
				Maryland	Massachusetts	Texas		
				Massachusetts	Michigan	Virginia		
				Michigan	Minnesota	Wyoming		
				Minnesota	Mississippi			
				Missouri	Missouri			
				New Hampshire	Montana			
				New York	New Hampshire			
				North Carolina	New Jersey			
				Ohio	New Mexico			
				Oregon	New York			
				Pennsylvania	North Carolina			
				Rhode Island	Ohio			
				South Carolina	Oregon			
				South Dakota	Pennsylvania			
				Tennessee <sup>a</sup>	Rhode Island			
				Texas	South Carolina			
				Vermont	Tennessee <sup>a</sup>			
				Virginia	Texas			
				Washington	Virginia			
				West Virginia	Washington			
				Wisconsin	West Virginia			
				Wyoming	Wisconsin			
					Wyoming			

Note: States could report more than one policy.  
<sup>a</sup>Following CDC guidelines, counseling, and inmate consent.  
<sup>b</sup>Upon inmate consent.

<sup>c</sup>Incoming inmates upon consent.  
 Source: 1991 National Prisoner Statistics-1.

Of the inmates who tested HIV-positive, 73.0% of them were asymptomatic and 17.3% had symptoms but had not developed AIDS. The remaining 9.7% had AIDS. The West had the highest percentage of HIV-positive inmates with confirmed AIDS (21.1%), compared to the Northeast (8.8%), Midwest (11.3%), and South (6.7%).

**Prison policies for testing for HIV**

All the States, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Bureau of Prisons tested inmates for HIV on some basis (table 2). Seventeen jurisdictions tested all prisoners, either at admission, release, or during custody. The remaining 35 jurisdictions tested at least some inmates.

Thirty-nine of the 52 jurisdictions tested if asked by an inmate and 40 if an inmate exhibited symptoms suggestive of HIV infection.

Testing policy	Number of jurisdictions
All incoming inmates	16
All inmates currently in custody	3
All inmates at time of release	5
High risk groups	15
Upon inmate request	39
Upon clinical indication of need	40
Upon involvement in incident	20
Random sample	7
Other	11

Note: Detail adds to more than 52 because a jurisdiction may have more than one policy.

**Deaths in prison**

During 1991, for every 1,000 inmates, 2.5 deaths occurred in State correctional facilities (table 3). Among the 10 States with the largest prison populations, New York had the highest rate of death, about 5.6 deaths per 1,000 inmates.

**Table 3. Number of prison deaths per 1,000 inmates for all States and the 10 States with the largest prison populations, 1991**

Jurisdiction	Total prison population 6/30/91	Total deaths, 1991	Rate of deaths per 1,000 inmates in 1991 midyear population*
All States	735,198	1,863	2.5
California	101,995	135	1.3
New York	56,530	318	5.6
Texas	50,811	111	2.2
Florida	48,233	133	2.9
Michigan	35,324	56	1.6
Ohio	33,715	41	1.2
Illinois	28,941	55	1.9
Georgia	23,300	62	2.7
Pennsylvania	22,710	83	3.7
New Jersey	22,348	96	4.3

\*To calculate a rate of inmate deaths per 1,000 inmates, the midyear population is used as an approximation to the average population 'exposed to risk' of death during the year.  
 Source: National Prisoner Statistics-1.

## AIDS-related deaths

Of the 1,863 deaths of prison inmates in 1991, 528 — or 28% — died of AIDS (table 4). In New York and New Jersey two-thirds of the reported deaths were caused by AIDS. These 2 States also had the largest number of AIDS-related deaths, 210 in New York and 66 in New Jersey. Twenty-one States had no AIDS-related deaths.

Of inmates who died of AIDS in prison, 3% were women. Eleven of the 15 women who died of AIDS were imprisoned in the Northeast.

### Extent of HIV testing of State prison inmates

Based on interviews with State prison inmates for the 1991 Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, about half of State prison inmates knew they had been tested for the HIV and reported the result of the test.

HIV testing	Percent of State prison inmates
Reported HIV-test results	51.2%
Had never been tested	32.2
Did not know if they had been tested	9.0
Had been tested but did not know the results	7.5
Refused to report whether they had been tested or refused to report the test results	.1
Total number of inmates	711,643

Source: Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 1991

Table 4. AIDS-related deaths reported for State prisons, 1991

Jurisdiction	Total deaths	AIDS-related deaths			AIDS-related deaths as a percent of all deaths
		Total	Male	Female	
U.S. total*	1,863	528	513	15	28.3 %
<b>Northeast</b>	612	315	304	11	51.5 %
Connecticut	75	11	11	0	14.7
Maine	4	0	0	0	0
Massachusetts	27	8	8	0	29.6
New Hampshire	6	0	0	0	0
New Jersey	96	66	66	0	68.8
New York	318	210	199	11	66.0
Pennsylvania	83	19	19	0	22.9
Rhode Island	3	1	1	0	**
Vermont	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Midwest</b>	236	20	20	0	8.5 %
Illinois	55	10	10	0	18.2
Indiana	27	5	5	0	18.5
Iowa	3	0	0	0	0
Kansas	10	2	2	0	20.0
Michigan*	56	—	—	—	0
Minnesota	10	0	0	0	0
Missouri	20	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	2	0	0	0	0
North Dakota	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	41	2	2	0	4.9
South Dakota	7	0	0	0	0
Wisconsin	5	1	1	0	**
<b>South</b>	775	148	145	3	19.1 %
Alabama	52	0	0	0	0
Arkansas	22	1	1	0	4.5
Delaware	6	2	2	0	**
District of Columbia*	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	133	59	57	2	44.4
Georgia	62	13	13	0	21.0
Kentucky	22	2	2	0	9.1
Louisiana	35	0	0	0	0
Maryland	42	14	13	1	33.3
Mississippi	16	1	1	0	6.3
North Carolina	46	14	14	0	30.4
Oklahoma	32	3	3	0	9.4
South Carolina	49	12	12	0	24.5
Tennessee	37	1	1	0	2.7
Texas	111	18	18	0	16.2
Virginia	106	8	8	0	7.5
West Virginia	4	0	0	0	0
<b>West</b>	240	45	44	1	18.8 %
Alaska	1	0	0	0	0
Arizona	34	4	4	0	11.8
California	135	38	37	1	28.1
Colorado	10	1	1	0	10.0
Hawaii	2	1	1	0	**
Idaho	7	1	1	0	**
Montana	8	0	0	0	0
Nevada	9	0	0	0	0
New Mexico	5	0	0	0	0
Oregon	15	0	0	0	0
Utah	4	0	0	0	0
Washington	9	0	0	0	0
Wyoming	1	0	0	0	0

\*\*Not calculated on fewer than 10 deaths.

—Not reported.

\*The Federal Bureau of Prisons and the departments of corrections for the District of Columbia and Michigan did not report whether inmates died from AIDS-related causes.

Source: 1991 National Prisoner Statistics-1.

**Table 5. State prison inmates ever tested for the human immunodeficiency virus and results, by selected characteristics, 1991**

Characteristic	Percent of all inmates who were ever tested	Tested inmates who reported results	
		Number	Percent who were HIV positive
All inmates	51.2%	364,515	2.2%
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	50.3%	338,608	2.1%
Female	66.8	25,907	3.3
<b>Race/Hispanic origin</b>			
White non-Hispanic	52.6%	132,594	1.1%
Black non-Hispanic	52.1	168,873	2.6
Hispanic	46.0	54,563	3.7
Other	50.5	8,485	.9
<b>Sex and race/Hispanic origin</b>			
<b>Male</b>			
White non-Hispanic	51.7%	123,020	1.0%
Black non-Hispanic	51.2	156,866	2.5
Hispanic	45.2	51,103	3.5
<b>Female</b>			
White non-Hispanic	68.3%	9,574	1.9%
Black non-Hispanic	67.3	12,007	3.5
Hispanic	62.7	3,460	6.8
<b>Age</b>			
24 or younger	50.2%	78,242	.8%
25-34	53.1	172,772	2.1
35-44	51.1	82,614	3.7
45-54	47.0	21,832	1.9
55 or older	41.0	9,105	.7
<b>Offense</b>			
Violent	47.9%	157,224	1.4%
Property	56.8	99,103	2.7
Drug	52.4	78,729	3.2
Public-order	52.1	25,266	2.1
<b>Criminal history</b>			
No previous sentence	47.6%	63,879	1.3%
Violent recidivists	50.3	171,302	2.0
Nonviolent recidivists	55.6	124,044	2.8

Source: Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 1991.

**Table 6. State prison inmates testing positive for the human immunodeficiency virus, by drug and needle use, sex, race/Hispanic origin, age, and offense**

Characteristic	Percent of State prison inmates who tested positive for HIV and who				
	Never used drugs	Ever used drugs	Used drugs in the month before offense	Used a needle to inject drugs	Shared a needle to inject drugs
All inmates	.8%	2.5%	2.8%	4.9%	7.1%
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	.7%	2.4%	2.7%	4.7%	6.7%
Female	.9	3.8	4.6	6.7	10.0
<b>Race/Hispanic origin</b>					
White non-Hispanic	.3%	1.2%	1.5%	2.4%	3.7%
Black non-Hispanic	1.1	2.9	3.2	7.2	11.1
Hispanic	.6	4.3	5.2	8.2	11.3
<b>Age</b>					
24 or younger	0	1.0%	.8%	.8%	2.0%
25-34	1.3	2.3	2.7	4.6	5.8
35-44	.9	4.3	5.2	7.0	10.3
45-54	.8	2.5	2.7	4.4	5.4
55 or older	.2	2.1	0	0	0
<b>Offense</b>					
Violent	.9%	1.5%	1.4%	2.7%	3.8%
Property	.9	3.0	3.4	5.2	5.7
Drug	.2	3.6	4.5	8.5	15.4
Public-order	1.0	2.3	2.9	4.5	9.0

Note: See appendix table 1, page 8, for sample sizes upon which percentages are based.  
Source: Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 1991.

Women were more likely than men to know if they had been tested and whether the results were positive or negative — as were non-Hispanics compared to Hispanics, those under age 45 compared to older prisoners, offenders imprisoned for property, drug, or public-order offenses compared to those in prison for violent offenses, and recidivists compared to first timers (table 5).

#### HIV test results, by inmate characteristics

For inmates reporting test results, a higher percentage of women than men tested HIV positive (3.3% to 2.1%). Hispanics were more likely than blacks and blacks were more likely than whites to have antibodies to HIV (3.7%, 2.6%, and 1.1%).

An estimated 6.8% of Hispanic women were HIV positive, as were 3.5% of black women and 3.5% of Hispanic men. Among white inmates, 1.9% of the women and 1% of the men were positive.

Inmates 35 to 44 years of age were more likely than those in other age groups to be HIV positive; 3.7% were positive.

Inmates in prison for drug, property, and public-order offenses were more likely than violent offenders to be HIV positive.

Recidivists were more likely to be HIV positive than inmates who had not previously served a sentence to either probation or a term in a correctional facility.

#### HIV results, by drug and needle use

About a fourth of all State prison inmates had used a needle to inject illegal drugs.\* About 4 in 10 inmates who had used drugs in the month before the offense for which they were sentenced had injected drugs at some time; about 2 in 10 had ever shared a needle.

For inmates reporting test results, drug users had higher positive HIV rates than inmates who never used drugs (2.5% versus 0.8%) (table 6). Needle use further increased the likelihood of being HIV positive; 4.9% of inmates who had used needles to inject drugs and 7.1% who had shared needles were HIV positive.

\*See Survey of State Prison Inmates, 1991, BJS report, NCJ-136949, March 1993, p. 25.

Although women and men who never used drugs had the same HIV rates (less than 1%), those women who used drugs and who used needles had higher infection rates than men with the same drug practices. Ten percent of women and

6.7% of men who had ever shared needles when using drugs were HIV positive.

Of those who reported sharing needles to inject illegal drugs, 1 in 10 black inmates, Hispanic inmates, and inmates between ages 35 and 44 were HIV positive. Over 15% of those sentenced for drug offenses and who had shared needles were HIV positive.

#### HIV test results, by type of prison

Maximum, medium, and minimum security level prisons had essentially the same rates of HIV infection (table 7). Inmates held in prisons with unclassified security levels, such as facilities for classification or reception, reported a positive rate of 11.6%.

Percentages of HIV-positive prisoners increased with the size of the prison. The HIV-positive rate in facilities holding fewer than 500 was 1.1%, compared to 2.8% in prisons with 2,500 or more.

#### HIV testing policies in the largest jail jurisdictions

The jail jurisdictions that were among the 25 largest in 1991 were asked what testing policies they were following. Sixteen jurisdictions tested when ordered by a court, and 12 checked high risk groups. Two jurisdictions tested all inmates at admission in at least one facility: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Fulton County (Atlanta), Georgia.

#### Deaths in 503 large jail jurisdictions

AIDS-related deaths in local jails, 1991-92

Cause of death	Number
Total	445
AIDS	107
Other	338

Of the 445 deaths during the year ending June 30, 1992, in jail jurisdictions with average daily inmate populations of 100 or more, 24% were reported to be AIDS related.

**Table 7. State prison inmates testing positive for human immunodeficiency virus, by security level and size of facility, 1991**

State prison characteristic	Number of inmates reporting test results positive	Percent positive
<b>Security level</b>		
Maximum*	89,440	2.0%
Medium	183,172	2.0%
Minimum	85,804	2.1%
Unclassified*	6,099	11.6%
<b>Prison size</b>		
Fewer than 500	72,097	1.1%
500-999	121,166	2.2%
1,000-2,499	117,094	2.5%
2,500 or more	54,159	2.8%

\*Pre-release, work release, or medical facilities. Source: Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 1991.

**Table 8. Policies determining testing for the antibody to the human immunodeficiency virus in the 25 largest jail jurisdictions, 1992**

All inmates at admission	One or more facilities in the 25 largest jail jurisdictions testing				
	Random samples of inmates while in custody	High risk groups	Upon inmate request	Upon court order	Upon involvement in incident
Fulton Co., GA Philadelphia, PA	Riverside Co., CA Sacramento Co., CA San Diego Co., CA Broward Co., FL Fulton Co., GA New York City, NY	Alameda Co., CA Riverside Co., CA Sacramento Co., CA San Bernardino Co., CA Santa Clara Co., CA Dade Co., FL Fulton Co., GA Orleans Parish, LA* New York, NY Shelby Co., TN Bexar Co., TX* Dallas Co., TX*	Maricopa Co., AZ Alameda Co., CA Kern Co., CA Los Angeles Co., CA* Orange Co., CA Riverside Co., CA Sacramento Co., CA San Bernardino Co., CA San Diego Co., CA Santa Clara Co., CA Washington, DC* Broward Co., FL* Dade Co., FL Orange Co., FL* Fulton Co., GA Orleans Parish, LA* Baltimore City, MD New York City, NY Philadelphia, PA Shelby Co., TN Bexar Co., TX* Dallas Co., TX* Harris Co., TX* Tarrant Co., TX	Alameda Co., CA Kern Co., CA Los Angeles Co., CA* Orange Co., CA Riverside Co., CA Sacramento Co., CA San Bernardino Co., CA San Diego Co., CA Santa Clara Co., CA Washington, DC* Broward Co., FL* Dade Co., FL Orange Co., FL* New York, NY Bexar Co., TX* Harris Co., TX*	Alameda Co., CA Los Angeles Co., CA* Orange Co., CA Riverside Co., CA Sacramento Co., CA San Bernardino Co., CA San Diego Co., CA Broward Co., FL* Dade Co., FL Orleans Parish, LA*

\*Jurisdictions in which all facilities reported following the same policy to test for the HIV or in which authorities reported jurisdiction-wide policies. All other jurisdictions had one or more facilities with different testing policies. In some jurisdictions, facilities that differed were following "other" policies not presented in the table. Cook County, Illinois, provided no information. Source: 1992 Annual Survey of Jails.

## Methodology

### Data sources

The data collection series National Prisoner Statistics has counted prisoners since 1926. The series provides annual summary measures of the movement of persons into and out of prison systems. At midyear and yearend, departments of corrections in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Federal prison system are asked to provide basic numbers describing their prison population.

The Annual Survey of Jails was begun in 1982. For this survey complete enumerations of the Nation's jails are conducted every 5 years. The most recent census was in 1988. The sample for the 1992 survey was based on that census.

A local jail is a facility that holds inmates beyond arraignment, usually for more than 48 hours, and is administered by local officials. Specifically excluded from the counts of the Annual Survey of Jails are temporary lockups that house persons for less than 48 hours, physically separate drunk tanks, and other holding facilities that did not hold persons after they had been formally charged. Excluded from the Annual Survey of Jails and instead included in the National Prisoner Statistics series are Federal- or State-administered facilities, and the combined jail-prison systems of Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Included in the Annual Survey of Jails are five locally operated jails in Alaska and eight jails that were privately operated under contract for local governments.

The 1992 Annual Survey of Jails included 1,113 jails in 795 jurisdictions. A jurisdiction is a county, municipality, township, or regional authority that administers one or more local jails. The jails in 503 large jurisdictions were automatically included in the survey because the average daily inmate population in these jurisdictions was 100 or more in the 1988 census. The jurisdictions with large jail populations accounted for 814 jails and 362,217 inmates, or 81% of the estimated inmate population on June 30, 1992.

In 1992, the 25 jail jurisdictions that were the largest in 1991 were asked if any inmates were tested for HIV, and, if so, on what basis were inmates tested. They

Appendix table 1. Denominators for percents presented in table 6

	State prison inmates				
	Never used drugs	Ever used drugs	Used drugs in the month before offense	Used a needle to inject drugs	Shared a needle to inject drugs
All inmates	66,048	298,373	191,422	105,082	50,509
Sex					
Male	61,668	276,884	176,639	95,219	45,254
Female	4,380	21,489	14,784	9,863	5,255
Race/Hispanic origin					
White non-Hispanic	22,492	110,102	70,639	50,737	24,996
Black non-Hispanic	33,244	135,535	84,228	31,400	13,374
Hispanic	8,849	45,714	32,026	19,928	10,331
Age					
24 or younger	13,651	64,592	42,818	12,729	4,499
25-34	23,494	149,190	96,677	49,532	23,143
35-44	14,027	68,531	43,409	36,255	18,807
45-54	8,323	13,509	7,671	5,941	3,583
55 or older	6,554	2,551	847	625	476
Offense					
Violent	35,846	121,379	76,276	38,498	19,293
Property	13,762	85,261	55,908	37,120	17,912
Drug	9,723	69,006	47,846	21,841	10,136
Public-order	5,095	20,157	9,811	6,874	2,854

were also asked the number of males and females who were asymptomatic, symptomatic, and full-blown AIDS victims.

The 1991 Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities uses personal interviews of a representative sample of prison inmates to gather detailed information on prison inmates. Data are collected on personal and criminal justice characteristics of prison inmates.

The sample for the Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities was a two-stage selection. In the first stage 277 prisons were selected from a universe of 1,239 State prisons. In the second stage interviewers visited each selected facility and systematically selected a sample of male and female inmates using predetermined procedures. As a result, approximately 1 in every 52 male inmates and 1 in every 11 female inmates were selected. A total of 13,986 interviews were completed, yielding an overall response rate of 93.7%.

The data reported from the BJS surveys supplement those collected in a survey series sponsored by the National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A forthcoming report, *1992 Update: HIV/AIDS in Correctional Facilities*, will present findings from the seventh in the series, which did not cover 1991. The 1992 update contains reporting about prevalence, testing, treatment, and education for HIV and AIDS in Federal, State, and 31 large city/county

correctional systems. A subsequent report will summarize collected information on testing, treatment, and education for tuberculosis in correctional settings.

### Accuracy of the estimates

All data collection series are subject to nonsampling error. Nonsampling error can be attributed to many sources, such as nonresponse, differences in the interpretation of questions, recall difficulties, and processing errors. The full extent of nonsampling error is never known. Surveys, such as the Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, are also subject to sampling error. Sampling error is the variation that may occur by chance because a sample rather than a complete enumeration of the population was conducted.

The sampling error, as measured by an estimated standard error, varies by the size of the estimate and the size of the base population. Estimates of the standard errors have been calculated for the 1991 survey of inmates (see appendix table and *Survey of State Prison Inmates, 1991*). These estimates may be used to construct confidence intervals around percentages in this report. For example, the 95-percent confidence interval around the percentage of inmates who tested positive for HIV is approximately 2.2% plus or minus 1.96 times 0.05% (or 1.7% to 2.7%).

These standard errors may also be used to test the significance of the difference between two sample statistics by pooling the standard errors of the two sample estimates. For example, the standard error of the difference between black and white inmates in the percent testing positive for HIV would be .547% (or the square root of the sum of the squared standard errors for each group). The 95-percent confidence interval around the difference would be 1.96 times .547% (or 1.1%). Since the difference of 1.5% (2.6% minus 1.1%) is greater than 1.1%, the difference would be considered statistically significant.

All comparisons using data from the Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities were statistically significant at the 95-percent confidence level. To test the significance of comparisons not mentioned in the report, use percentages in text or tables. The standard errors reported below should be used only for tests on all inmates. Comparisons of male and female inmates require different standard errors.

**Appendix table 2. Standard errors of the estimated percentages, State prison inmates, 1991**

Base of the estimate	Estimated percentages					
	98 or 2	95 or 5	90 or 10	80 or 20	70 or 30	50
1,000	4.9	7.7	10.6	14.1	16.2	17.7
5,000	2.2	3.4	4.7	6.3	7.2	7.9
10,000	1.6	2.4	3.4	4.5	5.1	5.6
25,000	1.0	1.5	2.1	2.8	3.2	3.5
50,000	0.7	1.1	1.5	2.0	2.3	2.5
100,000	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.8
200,000	0.4	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2
400,000	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9
600,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7
711,643	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7

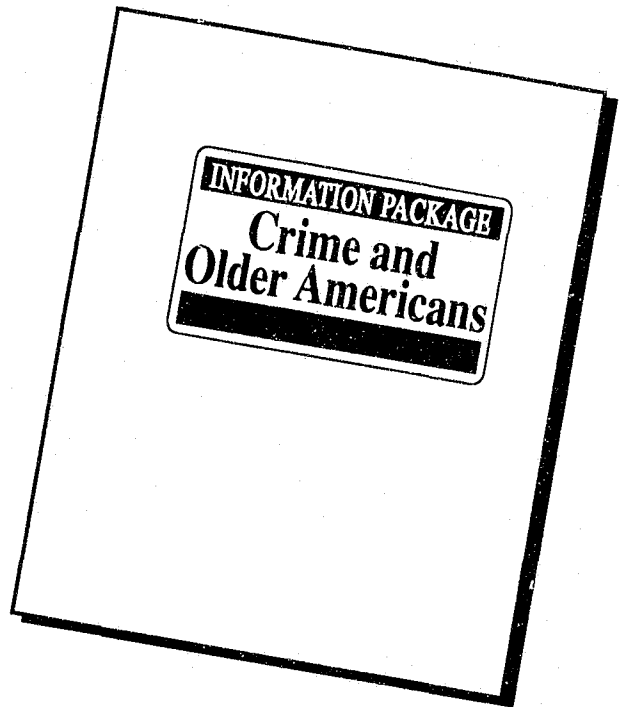
Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Reports are written principally by BJS staff. Caroline Wolf Harlow wrote this report, under the supervision of Allen Beck. Virginia Baldau and Cheryl Crawford of the National Institute of Justice, Theodore Hammett of Abt Associates Inc. and William Darrow, Steven Jones, and Sandra Kerr of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention gave expert advice on measurement and presentation of the HIV-related data collected. Louis Jankowski provided statistical assistance. Corrections reports are produced under the general guidance of Lawrence A. Greenfeld. Tom Hester edited the report. Marilyn Marbrook, assisted by Betty Sherman and Jayne Pugh, produced the report.

September 1993, NCJ-143292



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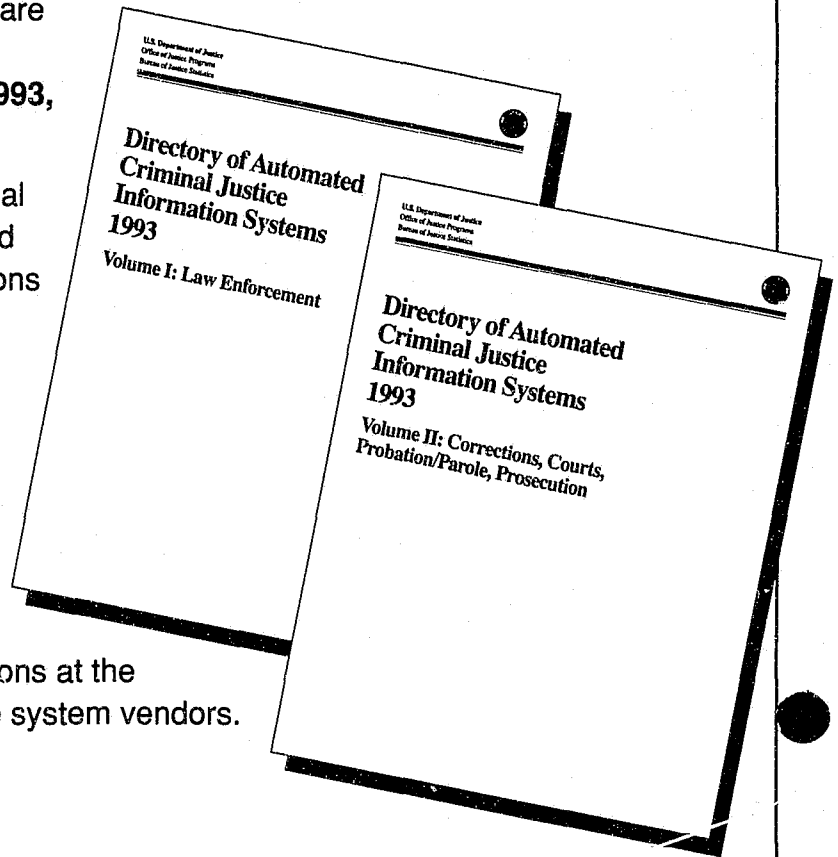
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