



Jails Report Series

2024 Preliminary Data Release

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The Bureau of Justice Statistics provides key jail statistics prior to release of the annual jails report. The statistics below include the number of persons held in local jails by inmate demographics and conviction status, the number of admissions to jail, and jail incarceration rates, from 2014 to 2024.

Statistics from 2024, the latest data year, are preliminary and may be updated once BJS publishes the final data in *Jail Inmates in 2024 – Statistical Tables*, forthcoming.

Key findings [↗](#)

- At midyear 2024, local jails held 657,500 persons in custody, similar to the year before (664,200).
- Jails reported 7.9 million admissions from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. While this represents a 4% increase over the 7.6 million admissions the year before, annual admissions were 31% lower than 10 years ago (11.5 million).
- At midyear 2024, 45% of individuals incarcerated in local jails were white, 38% were black, and 15% were Hispanic. Other racial and ethnic groups, including American Indian or Alaska Native individuals, Asian individuals, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander individuals, and those identifying with two or more races, collectively comprised 2% of the total jail population.
- At midyear 2024, 69% of the jail population (450,600) was unconvicted and awaiting court action on a current charge or being held in jail for other reasons. The remaining 31% (206,900) were convicted and either serving a sentence or awaiting sentencing on a conviction.

Table 1. Persons held in jail at midyear, average daily population, annual admissions, and incarceration rates, 2014–2024

	Confined population	Average daily population	Annual admissions	Jail incarceration rate per 100,000 U.S. residents
2014	744,600 †	739,000 †	11,545,000 †	234 †
2015	727,400 †	719,500 †	10,684,000 †	227 †
2016	740,700 †	731,300 †	10,630,000 †	229 †
2017	745,200 †	745,600 †	10,570,000 †	229 †
2018	738,400 †	737,900 †	10,675,000 †	226 †
2019	734,500	741,900	10,323,000	224
2020	549,100 †	658,200	8,653,000 †	166 †
2021	636,300 †	618,600 †	6,875,000 †	191
2022	663,100	652,500	7,331,000 †	198 †
2023	664,200	664,800	7,627,000 †	197
2024*	657,500	662,100	7,937,000	194

Percent change

2023–2024	-1.0%	-0.4%	4.1%	-1.8%
2014–2024	-11.7%	-10.4%	-31.2%	-17.2%

Note: Average daily population (ADP) was reported for the 12-month period ending on June 30, except for 2015 and 2016 when ADP was reported for the calendar year. Annual admissions for 2014 were estimated based on admissions during a 1-week period in June. The 2015 and 2016 admissions were reported for the calendar year. Admissions from 2017 to 2024 were reported for the 12-month period ending on June 30. Confined population and ADP are rounded to the nearest 100, while admissions are rounded to the nearest 1,000.

*Comparison year.

†Difference from comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2014–2018 and 2020–2023; Census of Jails, 2019 and 2024; and U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: January 1, 2014 to January 1, 2025.

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Table 2. Persons held in jail at midyear, by sex and race/ethnicity, 2014–2024

	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian / Other Pacific Islander	Two or more races
2014	637,400 †	107,200 †	352,500 †	266,900 †	108,200 †	10,100	5,200 †	600	1,000
2015	623,600 †	103,800 †	351,600 †	255,200 †	103,900 †	9,000	5,200 †	900	1,700 †
2016	633,100 †	107,600 †	356,100 †	254,600 †	112,700 †	9,000	5,200 †	700 †	2,300 †
2017	631,500 †	113,700 †	370,100 †	250,100	108,400 †	8,800	4,800 †	1,000	2,000 †
2018	623,400 †	115,100 †	368,500 †	242,300	109,300 †	9,700	4,800 †	1,000 †	2,800 †
2019	623,700	110,700	362,900	247,100	106,900	10,200	4,700	800	1,900
2020	479,400 †	69,800 †	262,100 †	192,700 †	81,900 †	6,700 †	3,700 †	600 †	1,500
2021	551,200	85,100 †	310,100 †	221,200 †	90,800 †	7,700	3,800 †	700	1,900 †
2022	570,200	92,900	317,100 †	234,900 †	93,700	9,500	4,800	1,100 †	2,000 †
2023	569,100	95,100	310,700 †	239,400 †	95,700	10,600	4,700	1,100 †	1,900 †
2024*	562,300	95,200	297,300	246,900	97,400	9,300	4,400	800	1,200

Percent change

2023–2024	-1.2%	0.1%	-4.3%	3.1%	1.8%	-12.2%	-5.2%	-30.2%	-36.6%
2014–2024	-11.8%	-11.2%	-15.7%	-7.5%	-10.0%	-7.5%	-15.4%	22.8%	25.4%

Note: Data are based on the last weekday in June. Inmate counts are rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to total due to rounding.

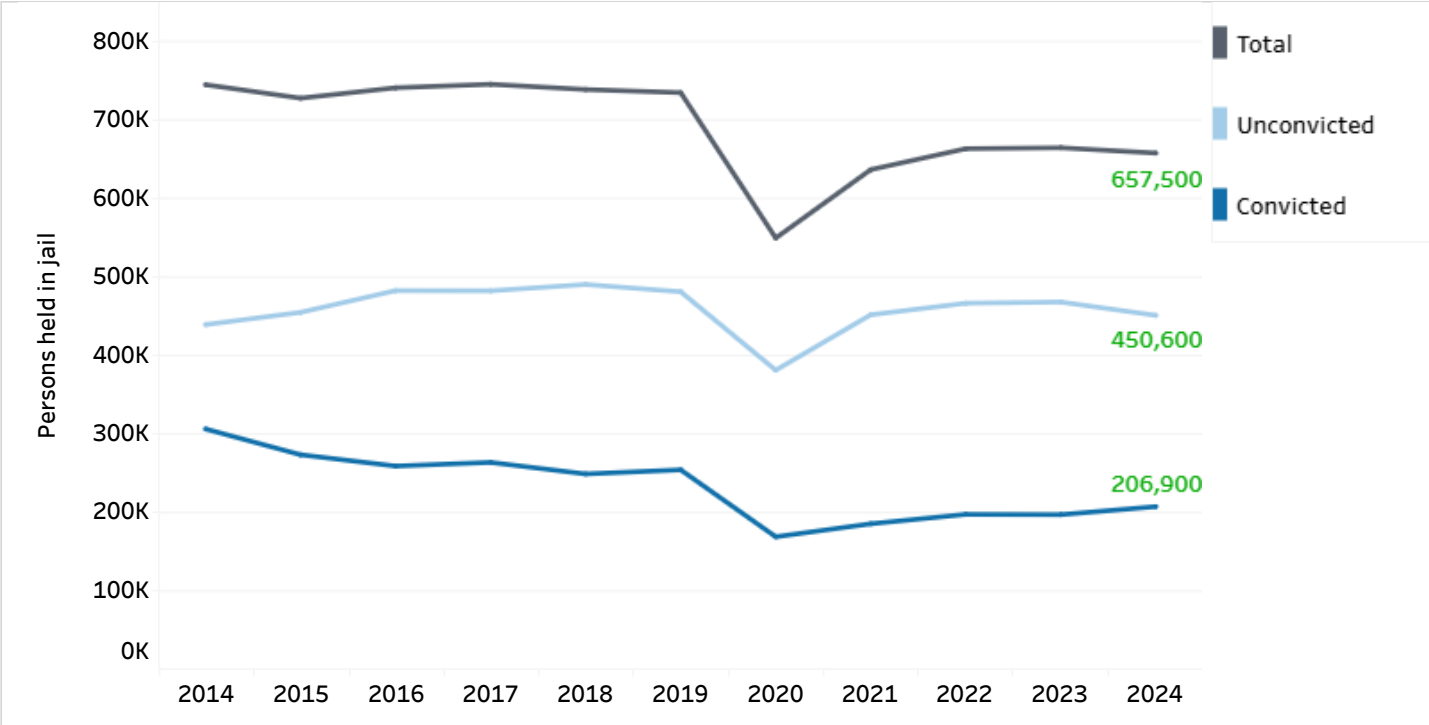
*Comparison year.

†Difference from comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2014–2018 and 2020–2023; and Census of Jails, 2019 and 2024.

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Figure 1. Persons held in jail at midyear, by conviction status, 2014–2024



Note: Data are based on the last weekday in June. Inmate counts are rounded to the nearest 100.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2014–2018 and 2020–2023; and Census of Jails, 2019 and 2024.

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This report was written by Zhen Zeng, PhD, and Danielle Kaeble verified the report.

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