

County and city jails held 740,700 inmates at midyear 2016. The midyear jail population (i.e., the number of inmates held in custody on the last weekday in June) remained stable from 2011 to 2016 after declining from a peak of 785,500 at midyear 2008. In 2016, there were 229 inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents, dropping from a peak of 259 per 100,000 at midyear 2007.

Similarly, the number of jail admissions declined in recent years, down from a peak of 13.6 million in 2008 to 10.6 million in 2016. The number of admissions was 14.5 times the size of the average daily population (ADP) in 2016, which was 731,300 inmates. In 2016, a total of 65% of inmates were awaiting court action on a current charge, and 35% were sentenced offenders or convicted offenders awaiting sentencing.

Incarceration rates and inmate characteristics

The overall adult jail incarceration rate was 280 per 100,000 U.S. residents age 18 or older at year-end 2016, but incarceration rates varied by demographic characteristics. Males (377 per 100,000 male residents) were incarcerated at a rate six times that of females (62 per 100,000 female residents). Additionally, non-Hispanic blacks (599 per 100,000 black residents) were incarcerated at a rate 3.5 times that of non-Hispanic whites (171 per 100,000 white residents).

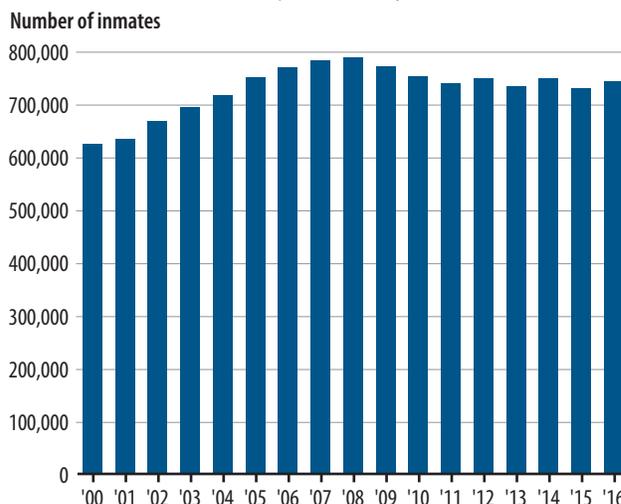
The majority of jail inmates at year-end 2016 were male (85%) and age 18 or older (99%). The percentage of female inmates increased from 2000 (11%) to 2016 (15%). About half (48%) of the jail population was white, up from 42% in 2000. In comparison, the percentage of black inmates declined from 41% in 2000 to 34% in 2016.

Facility trends

Of the 2,850 jail jurisdictions operating in 2016, a total of 30 had an ADP of more than 2,500 inmates and held 20% of the total inmate population. In comparison, 1,550 jail jurisdictions had an ADP of fewer than 100 but held less than 10% of the total inmate population.

At year-end 2016, the rated capacity in jails reached 915,400 beds. The percentage of occupied capacity (ADP divided by rated capacity) declined to 80% from a

Inmates confined in local jails at midyear, 2000–2016



Note: Based on the number of inmates held on the last weekday in June. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates received from jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2000–2004 and 2006–2016; and Census of Jail Inmates, midyear 2005.

peak of 95% in 2007. This was due to an increase in the number of beds but a decline in the number of inmates. Jails with an ADP of 100 to 249 inmates were more crowded than both smaller and larger jails. More than a quarter (26%) of jails in this group were operating at or above 100% of their rated capacity in 2016.

Jail turnover and staffing

Overall, the weekly inmate turnover rate (the sum of weekly admissions and releases divided by the ADP) for all jails in 2016 was 55%, and the expected length of stay in a facility was 25 days. Smaller jails had a higher weekly inmate turnover rate and shorter expected length of stay than larger jails.

The number of full-time staff employed by county and city jails increased from year-end 2015 (213,000) to year-end 2016 (226,300). The inmate-to-correctional officer ratio decreased from 4.1:1 to 3.9:1 during this period.

The full report (*Jail Inmates in 2016*, NCJ 251210), related documents, and additional information about the Bureau of Justice Statistics can be found at www.bjs.gov.