

Table 6.14

Number of jail inmates, average daily population, and rated capacity

By legal status and sex, United States, 1983-2003

	1-day counts ^a					Average daily population ^c	Rated capacity of jails ^d	Percent of rated capacity occupied ^e
	All inmates	Adults			Juvenile ^b			
		Total	Male	Female				
1983	223,551	221,815	206,163	15,652	1,736	227,541	261,556	85%
1984	234,500	233,018	216,275	16,743	1,482	230,641	261,432	90
1985	256,615	254,986	235,909	19,077	1,629	265,010	272,830	94
1986	274,444	272,736	251,235	21,501	1,708	265,517	285,726	96
1987	295,873	294,092	270,172	23,920	1,781	290,300	301,198	98
1988	343,569	341,893	311,594	30,299	1,676	336,017	339,633	101
1989	395,553	393,303	356,050	37,253	2,250	386,845	367,769	108
1990	405,320	403,019	365,821	37,198	2,301	408,075	389,171	104
1991	426,479	424,129	384,628	39,501	2,350	422,609	421,237	101
1992	444,584	441,780	401,106	40,674	2,804	441,889	449,197	99
1993 ^f	459,804	455,500	411,500	44,100	4,300	466,155	475,224	97
1994 ^f	486,474	479,800	431,300	48,500	6,700	479,757	504,324	96
1995 ^f	507,044	499,300	448,000	51,300	7,800	509,828	545,763	93
1996 ^f	518,492	510,400	454,700	55,700	8,100	515,432	562,971	92
1997	567,079	557,974	498,678	59,296	9,105	556,586	586,564	97
1998	592,462	584,372	520,581	63,791	8,090	593,808	612,780	97
1999	605,943	596,485	528,998	67,487	9,458	607,978	652,321	93
2000	621,149	613,534	543,120	70,414	7,615	618,319	677,787	92
2001	631,240	623,628	551,007	72,621	7,613	625,966	699,309	90
2002	665,475	658,228	581,411	76,817	7,248	652,082	713,899	93
2003	691,301	684,431	602,781	81,650	6,869	680,760	735,518	94

Note: Data for 1983, 1988, 1993, and 1999 are from the National Jail Census. Data for 1984-87, 1989-92, 1994-98, and 2000-2003 are from the Annual Survey of Jails taken during noncensus years. Both the censuses and the surveys are conducted for the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics by the U.S. Census Bureau. The data from the annual surveys are estimates and therefore are subject to sampling variation. A jail is defined as a locally administered confinement facility that holds inmates beyond arraignment, usually for more than 48 hours, and is administered and staffed by municipal or county employees. Excluded from the censuses and surveys were temporary holding facilities, such as physically separate drunk tanks and police lockups, and other holding facilities that did not hold persons after they were formally charged in court. Also excluded for all years were Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Vermont because these States have integrated jail-prison systems. Alaska also was excluded as an integrated system; however, beginning in 1988, locally operated jails in Alaska are included. For methodology and survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

^aData for years prior to 1994 include an unknown number of persons who were under jail supervision but not confined. Beginning in 1994, data are based on the number of inmates held in jail facilities.

^bJuveniles 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.

^cThe average daily population is the sum of the number of inmates in a jail each day for a year, divided by the number of days in the year.

^dRated capacity is the number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to facilities within each jurisdiction.

^eThe number of inmates divided by rated capacity times 100. Prior to 1994, this ratio may include some inmates not in physical custody, but under the jurisdiction of a local jail, such as inmates on electronic monitoring, under house arrest, or in day reporting or other community supervision programs. Beginning in 1994, the ratio includes only those held in jail.

^fDetailed data for 1-day counts are estimated and rounded to the nearest 100.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Jail Inmates, 1985*, NCJ-105586 (Washington, DC: USGPO, 1987), p. 5, Table 1 and p. 7, Table 5; U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Jail Inmates 1987*, Bulletin NCJ-114319, p. 2, Table 1 and p. 3, Table 5; *1990*, Bulletin NCJ-129756, p. 1, Table 1 and p. 2, Table 5; *1991*, Bulletin NCJ-134726, p. 2, Table 1 and p. 3, Table 5; *1992*, Bulletin NCJ-143284, p. 2, Table 1 and p. 3, Table 6; *Jails and Jail Inmates 1993-94*, Bulletin NCJ-151651, p. 3 and p. 6, Table 7; *Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 1997*, Bulletin NCJ-167247, p. 6, Table 6 and p. 7, Table 8; *1998*, Bulletin NCJ 173414, p. 6, Table 6 and p. 7, Table 8; *1999*, Bulletin NCJ 181643, p. 6, Table 6 and p. 7, Table 9; *2002*, Bulletin NCJ 198877, p. 8, Table 9 and p. 9; *2003*, Bulletin NCJ 203947, p. 8, Table 9 and p. 9 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.