

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 1.27.2004

State and local law enforcement agencies and employees

By type of agency, United States, 2004

Type of agency	Number of agencies	Number of employees					
		Full-time			Part-time		
		Total	Sworn	Nonsworn	Total	Sworn	Nonsworn
Total	17,876	1,076,897	731,903	344,994	105,252	45,982	59,270
Local police	12,766	573,152	446,974	126,178	62,693	28,712	33,981
Sheriff	3,067	326,531	175,018	151,513	27,004	11,784	15,220
Primary State	49	89,265	58,190	31,075	708	31	677
Special jurisdiction	1,481	85,126	49,398	35,728	14,342	5,063	9,279
Constable, marshal	513	2,823	2,323	500	505	392	113

Note: These data are from the 2004 Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies. The data were collected for the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics by the U.S. Census Bureau. The 2004 Census included all State and local agencies employing at least one full-time sworn officer (or the equivalent in part-time officers) with general arrest powers. The reference date for all data was Sept. 30, 2004. The final database includes responses from 12,766 general purpose local police departments, 3,067 sheriffs' offices, 49 primary State police departments, 1,481 special jurisdiction police agencies, and 513 other agencies, primarily county constable offices in Texas. Hawaii does not have a State police agency; the Hawaii Department of Public Safety primarily provides court support services.

A local police department was defined as a general purpose police department operated by a municipal, county, tribal, or regional (multijurisdiction) government. A State police department was defined as the general purpose police agency operated by the State. Included among special police agencies are both State and local agencies policing special geographic jurisdictions such as airports, parks, transit systems, public schools, colleges and universities, and public housing. Also included are agencies with special enforcement responsibilities such as those pertaining to natural resource conservation or alcoholic beverage control and special investigative units such as those operated by prosecutors' offices. Texas constables are elected officials who are responsible for providing services for the justice, county, and district courts.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies, 2004*, Bulletin NCJ 212749 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, June 2007), p. 2, Table 1. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.