

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 6.14.2012

Number and rate (per 100,000 U.S. residents) of jail inmates, average daily population, rated capacity, and percent of capacity occupied

By legal status and sex, United States, 1983-2012

	1-day counts ^a						Incarceration rate ^c	Average daily population ^d	Rated capacity of jails ^e	Percent of rated capacity occupied ^f
	All inmates	Adults		Juvenile ^b	Incarceration					
		Total	Male		Female	rate ^c				
1983	223,551	221,815	206,163	15,652	1,736	NA	227,541	261,556	85%	
1984	234,500	233,018	216,275	16,743	1,482	NA	230,641	261,432	90	
1985	256,615	254,986	235,909	19,077	1,629	108	265,010	272,830	94	
1986	274,444	272,736	251,235	21,501	1,708	114	265,517	285,726	96	
1987	295,873	294,092	270,172	23,920	1,781	122	290,300	301,198	98	
1988	343,569	341,893	311,594	30,299	1,676	141	336,017	339,633	101	
1989	395,553	393,303	356,050	37,253	2,250	160	386,845	367,769	108	
1990	405,320	403,019	365,821	37,198	2,301	163	408,075	389,171	104	
1991	426,479	424,129	384,628	39,501	2,350	169	422,609	421,237	101	
1992	444,584	441,780	401,106	40,674	2,804	174	441,889	449,197	99	
1993 ^g	459,804	455,500	411,500	44,100	4,300	178	466,155	475,224	97	
1994 ^g	486,474	479,800	431,300	48,500	6,700	188	479,757	504,324	96	
1995 ^g	507,044	499,300	448,000	51,300	7,800	193	509,828	545,763	93	
1996 ^g	518,492	510,400	454,700	55,700	8,100	196	515,432	562,971	92	
1997	567,079	557,974	498,678	59,296	9,105	212	556,586	586,564	97	
1998	592,462	584,372	520,581	63,791	8,090	219	593,808	612,780	97	
1999	605,943	596,485	528,998	67,487	9,458	215	607,978	652,321	93	
2000	621,149	613,534	543,120	70,414	7,615	220	618,319	677,787	92	
2001	631,240	623,628	551,007	72,621	7,613	222	625,966	699,309	90	
2002	665,475	658,228	581,411	76,817	7,248	231	652,082	713,899	93	
2003	691,301	684,431	602,781	81,650	6,869	238	680,760	736,471	94	
2004	713,990	706,907	619,908	86,999	7,083	243	706,242	755,603	94	
2005	747,529	740,770	646,807	93,963	6,759	252	733,442	786,954	95	
2006	765,819	759,717	661,164	98,552	6,102	256	755,320	794,984	96	
2007	780,174	773,341	673,346	99,995	6,833	259	773,138	810,543	96	
2008	785,533	777,829	678,657	99,172	7,703	258	776,573	828,714	95	
2009	767,434	760,216	667,039	93,176	7,218	250	768,135	849,895	90	
2010	748,728	741,168	649,284	91,884	7,560	242	748,553	866,782	86	
2011	735,601	729,700	636,900	92,800	5,900	236	735,565	879,722	83	
2012	744,524	739,100	640,900	98,100	5,400	237	735,983	886,947	84	

Note: Data for 1983, 1988, 1993, 1999, and 2005 are from the National Jail Census. Data for 1984-87, 1989-92, 1994-98, 2000-2004, and 2006-2012 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. These data reflect inmates held in jail facilities on a single day at midyear, usually June 30 or the last business day in June. 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.

Some data have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. 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 on the reference date.

^cNumber of jail inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents on July 1 of each year.

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

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

^fThe number of inmates divided by rated capacity multiplied by 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.

^gDetailed 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; *Jail Inmates at Midyear 2012-Statistical Tables*, NCJ 241264, pp. 5, 7 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.