

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 6.28.2008

Number and rate (per 100,000 resident population in each group) of sentenced prisoners under jurisdiction of State and Federal correctional authorities on December 31

By sex, United States, 1925-2008

(Rate per 100,000 resident population in each group)

	Total	Rate	Male		Female			Total	Rate	Male		Female	
			Number	Rate	Number	Rate				Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1925	91,669	79	88,231	149	3,438	6	1970	196,429	96	190,794	191	5,635	5
1926	97,991	83	94,287	157	3,704	6	1971	198,061	95	191,732	189	6,329	6
1927	109,983	91	104,983	173	4,363	7	1972	196,092	93	189,823	185	6,269	6
1928	116,390	96	111,836	182	4,554	8	1973	204,211	96	197,523	191	6,004	6
1929	120,496	98	115,876	187	4,620	8	1974	218,466	102	211,077	202	7,389	7
							1975	240,593	111	231,918	220	8,675	8
1930	129,453	104	124,785	200	4,668	8	1976	262,833	120	252,794	238	10,039	9
1931	137,082	110	132,638	211	4,444	7	1977 ^a	278,141	126	267,097	249	11,044	10
1932	137,997	110	133,573	211	4,424	7	1977 ^b	285,456	129	274,244	255	11,212	10
1933	136,810	109	132,520	209	4,290	7	1978	294,396	132	282,813	261	11,583	10
1934	138,316	109	133,769	209	4,547	7	1979	301,470	133	289,465	264	12,005	10
1935	144,180	113	139,278	217	4,902	8							
1936	145,038	113	139,990	217	5,048	8	1980	315,974	139	303,643	275	12,331	11
1937	152,741	118	147,375	227	5,366	8	1981	353,673	154	339,375	304	14,298	12
1938	160,285	123	154,826	236	5,459	8	1982	395,516	171	379,075	337	16,441	14
1939	179,818	137	173,143	263	6,675	10	1983	419,346	179	401,870	354	17,476	15
							1984	443,398	188	424,193	370	19,205	16
1940	173,706	131	167,345	252	6,361	10	1985	480,568	202	459,223	397	21,345	17
1941	165,439	124	159,228	239	6,211	9	1986	522,084	217	497,540	426	24,544	20
1942	150,384	112	144,167	217	6,217	9	1987	560,812	231	533,990	453	26,822	22
1943	137,220	103	131,054	202	6,166	9	1988	603,732	247	573,587	482	30,145	24
1944	132,456	100	126,350	200	6,106	9	1989	680,907	276	643,643	535	37,264	29
1945	133,649	98	127,609	193	6,040	9							
1946	140,079	99	134,075	191	6,004	8	1990	739,980	297	699,416	575	40,564	32
1947	151,304	105	144,961	202	6,343	9	1991	789,610	313	745,808	606	43,802	34
1948	155,977	106	149,739	205	6,238	8	1992	846,277	332	799,776	642	46,501	36
1949	163,749	109	157,663	211	6,086	8	1993	932,074	359	878,037	698	54,037	41
							1994	1,016,691	389	956,566	753	60,125	45
1950	166,123	109	160,309	211	5,814	8	1995	1,085,022	411	1,021,059	789	63,963	47
1951	165,680	107	159,610	208	6,070	8	1996	1,137,722	427	1,068,123	819	69,599	51
1952	168,233	107	161,994	208	6,239	8	1997	1,194,581	444	1,120,787	853	73,794	54
1953	173,579	108	166,909	211	6,670	8	1998	1,245,402	461	1,167,802	885	77,600	57
1954	182,901	112	175,907	218	6,994	8	1999	1,304,074	463 ^c	1,221,611	913	82,463	59
1955	185,780	112	178,655	217	7,125	8							
1956	189,565	112	182,190	218	7,375	9	2000	1,331,278	478 ^c	1,244,454	915	84,913	59
1957	195,414	113	188,113	221	7,301	8	2001	1,345,217	470	1,260,033	896	85,184	58
1958	205,643	117	198,208	229	7,435	8	2002	1,380,516	476	1,291,450	906	89,066	60
1959	208,105	117	200,469	228	7,636	8	2003	1,408,361	482	1,315,790	915	92,751	62
							2004	1,433,728	486	1,337,730	920	95,998	64
1960	212,953	117	205,265	230	7,688	8	2005	1,462,866	491	1,364,178	929	98,688	65
1961	220,149	119	212,268	234	7,881	8	2006	1,504,700	501	1,401,400	943	103,300	68
1962	218,830	117	210,823	229	8,007	8	2007	1,532,800	506	1,427,300	955	105,500	69
1963	217,283	114	209,538	225	7,745	8	2008	1,540,036	504	1,434,784	952	105,252	62
1964	214,336	111	206,632	219	7,704	8							
1965	210,895	108	203,327	213	7,568	8							
1966	199,654	102	192,703	201	6,951	7							
1967	194,896	98	188,661	195	6,235	6							
1968	187,914	94	182,102	187	5,812	6							
1969	196,007	97	189,413	192	6,594	6							

Note: Prison population data are compiled by a yearend census of prisoners in State and Federal institutions. Data for 1925 through 1939 include sentenced prisoners in State and Federal prisons and reformatories whether committed for felonies or misdemeanors. Data for 1940 through 1970 include all adult felons serving sentences in State and Federal institutions. Since 1971, the census has included all adults or youthful offenders sentenced to a State or Federal correctional institution with maximum sentences of over 1 year.

Beginning on Dec. 31, 1978, a distinction was made between prisoners "in custody" and prisoners "under jurisdiction." As defined in a 1978 report (U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Prisoners in State and Federal Institutions on December 31, 1978*, NPS Bulletin SD-NPS-PSF-6 (Washington, DC: USGPO, 1980)), "in custody" refers to the direct physical control and responsibility for the body of a confined person. "Under jurisdiction" is defined as follows: A State or Federal prison system has jurisdiction over a person if it retains the legal power to incarcerate the person in one of its own prisons. Jurisdiction is not determined by the prisoner's physical location; jurisdiction is determined by the legal authority to hold the prisoner. Examples of prisoners under the jurisdiction of a given system, but not in its custody, are those housed in local jails, in other States, or in hospitals (including mental health facilities) outside the correctional system; prisoners on work release, furlough, or bail; and State prisoners held in Federal prisons or vice versa. Both custody and jurisdiction figures are shown for 1977 to facilitate year-to-year comparison. The rates for the period before 1980 are based on

the civilian population. The civilian population represents the resident population less the armed forces stationed in the United States. Since 1980, the rates are based on the total resident population provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. Some data have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For information on methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 15.

^aCustody counts.

^bJurisdiction counts.

^cRates have been revised and are now based on population estimates from the 2000 decennial census.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Prisoners 1925-81*, Bulletin NCJ-85861, p. 2; *Prisoners in 1998*, Bulletin NCJ 175687, p. 3, Table 3 and p. 5, Table 6; *2000*, Bulletin NCJ 188207, p. 5, Table 6; *2001*, Bulletin NCJ 195189, p. 5 and p. 6, Table 7; *2002*, Bulletin NCJ 200248, p. 4 and p. 5, Table 5; *2003*, Bulletin NCJ 205335, p. 4; *2004*, Bulletin NCJ 210677, p. 4; *2005*, Bulletin NCJ 215092, p. 4; *2007*, Bulletin NCJ 224280, p. 3, Table 5 and p. 4, Table 6; *2008*, Bulletin NCJ 228417, p. 2, Table 1 and Table 2, p. 16 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice); and U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Correctional Populations in the United States, 1994*, NCJ-160091, Tables 1.8 and 1.9; *1997*, NCJ 177613, Tables 1.8 and 1.9 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.