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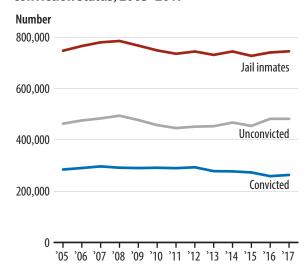
Jail Inmates in 2017

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ounty and city jails in the United States reported a total confined population of 745,200 inmates at midyear 2017 (figure 1). About 65% (482,000) of the confined inmates were awaiting court action on a current charge. The remaining 35% (263,200) were sentenced or convicted offenders awaiting sentencing. The jail incarceration rate at midyear 2017 was 229 inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents, down from 259 per 100,000 at midyear 2007 and 237 per 100,000 at midyear 2012 (table 1).

Findings in this report are based on the Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ), a nationally representative survey of county or city jail jurisdictions and regional jails in the country. Since 1982, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) has conducted the ASJ to track changes in the number and characteristics of local jail inmates nationwide, jail inmate turnover, jail capacity, and space usage by other authorities.

FIGURE 1 Inmates confined in local jails at midyear, by conviction status, 2005–2017



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 from jails. In 2015 and 2016, the Annual Survey of Jails collected counts of convicted and unconvicted inmates at year-end. Jails typically hold fewer inmates at year-end than at midyear. The 2015 and 2016 inmate populations were adjusted for seasonal variation and represent estimated midyear counts. See *Methodology*.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2006–2017, and Census of Jail Inmates, 2005.

HIGHLIGHTS

- County and city jails held 745,200 inmates at midyear 2017, down from 780,200 at midyear 2007.
- The jail incarceration rate declined from 259 inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents at midyear 2007 to 229 per 100,000 at midyear 2017, a 12% decrease.
- In 2017, males were incarcerated in jail at a rate (394 per 100,000 male U.S. residents)
 5.7 times that of females (69 per 100,000 female U.S. residents).
- In 2017, jails reported 10.6 million admissions, a 19% decline from 2007.
- The estimated average time in jail in 2017 was 26 days.

- The total rated capacity of county and city jails was 915,100 beds at midyear 2017.
- An estimated 81% of jail beds were occupied in 2017, down from 95% in 2005.
- From 2005 to 2017, the jail incarceration rate for whites increased 12%, while the rate for blacks decreased 23%.
- The male incarceration rate dropped from 448 per 100,000 male residents in 2005 to 394 per 100,000 in 2017, a 12% drop.
- Jails employed 225,700 full-time staff at midyear 2017, and the inmate-to-correctional-officer ratio was 4.2 to 1.



 TABLE 1

 Inmates confined at midyear, average daily population, annual admissions, and incarceration rates, 2005–2017

Year	Confined inmatesa	ADPb	Annual admissions ^c	Jail incarceration rated
2005	747,500	733,400	12,100,000 †	253 †
2006	765,800 †	755,300	12,200,000 †	256 †
2007	780,200 †	773,100 †	13,100,000 †	259 †
2008	785,500 †	776,600 †	13,600,000 †	258 †
2009	767,400 †	768,100 †	12,800,000 †	250 †
2010	748,700	748,600	12,900,000 †	242 †
2011	735,600	735,600	11,800,000 †	236 †
2012	744,500	737,400	11,600,000 †	237 †
2013	731,200	731,400	11,700,000	231
2014	744,600	739,000	11,400,000 †	234
2015	727,400	719,500 †	10,700,000	227
2016	740,700	731,300	10,600,000	229
2017*	745,200	745,600	10,600,000	229
Percent change				
2007–2017	-4.5%	-3.6%	-19.1%	-11.6%
2016-2017	0.6	1.9	0.0	-0.1

Note: Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for confined inmates and for average daily population (ADP) and to the nearest 100,000 for admissions. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jails. See appendix table 1 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2006–2017; Census of Jail Inmates, 2005; Mortality in Correctional Institutions (formerly Deaths in Custody Reporting Program), 2006 (admissions only); and U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: January 1, 2005, to January 1, 2018.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aNumber of inmates held on the last weekday in June.

^bThe ADP is the sum of all inmates in jail each day for one year, divided by the number of days in the year. The ADP for 2015 and 2016 was calculated for the calendar year ending on December 31. The ADP for all other years was calculated for the 12-month period ending on June 30.

^cAnnual admissions in 2005 and 2007–2014 were estimated based on admissions during a one-week period in June. The 2006, 2015, and 2016 annual admissions were for the calendar year ending on December 31. The 2017 annual admissions were for the 12-month period ending on June 30, 2017.

^dNumber of confined inmates in local jails per 100,000 U.S. residents at midyear.

Terms and definitions

Admissions—All persons booked into and housed in jail facilities by formal legal document and the authority of the courts or some other official agency, including repeat offenders booked on new charges and persons sentenced to weekend programs and entering the facility for the first time. They exclude inmates reentering the facility after an escape, work release, medical appointment or treatment facility appointment, and bail and court appearances.

Average daily population (ADP)—The sum of inmates in jail each day for a year, divided by the number of days in the year.

Estimated average time in jail—The ADP divided by the number of annual admissions, then multiplied by the number of days in a year.

Jail—Confinement facilities operated under the authority of a sheriff, police chief, or city or county administrator. Facilities include jails, detention centers, city or county correctional centers, special jail facilities (such as medical or treatment centers and pre-release centers), and temporary holding or lockup facilities that are part of the jail's combined function. Jails are intended for adults but may hold juveniles before or after their cases are adjudicated. Inmates sentenced to jail facilities usually have a sentence of one year or less. Jails—

- receive individuals pending arraignment and hold them awaiting trial, conviction, or sentencing
- re-admit probation, parole, and bail bond violators and absconders
- temporarily detain juveniles pending their transfer to juvenile authorities
- hold mentally ill persons pending their movement to appropriate mental health facilities
- hold individuals for the military, protective custody, contempt, and the courts as witnesses
- release convicted inmates to the community on completion of sentence
- transfer inmates to federal, state, or other authorities
- house inmates for federal, state, or other authorities due to crowding of their facilities
- operate community-based programs as alternatives to incarceration.

Jail incarceration rate—The number of inmates held in the custody of local jails, per 100,000 total U.S. residents.

Jail jurisdiction—County (parish in Louisiana) or municipal government that administers one or more local jails and represents the entity responsible for managing jail facilities under its authority. Most jail jurisdictions consist of a single facility, but some have multiple facilities or multiple facility operators.

Midyear population—The number of inmates held in custody on the last weekday in June.

Percent of capacity occupied at midyear—The jail population at midyear, divided by the rated capacity.

Rated capacity—The number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to a facility, excluding separate temporary holding areas.

Releases—Persons released after a period of confinement (e.g., sentence completion, bail or bond releases, other pre-trial releases, transfers to other jurisdictions, and deaths). Releases include persons who have completed their weekend program and who are leaving the facility for the last time. They exclude temporary discharges, such as work release, medical appointment or treatment center, court appearance, furlough, day reporting, and transfers to other facilities within the jail jurisdiction.

Under jail supervision but not confined—All persons in community-based programs operated by a jail facility, which include electronic monitoring, house arrest, community service, day reporting, and work programs. They exclude persons on pre-trial release who are not in a community-based program run by the jail and persons under supervision of probation, parole, or other agencies; inmates on weekend programs; and inmates who participate in work release programs and return to the jail at night.

Weekly inmate turnover rate—The sum of weekly admissions and releases, divided by the ADP.

Year-end population—The number of inmates held in custody on December 31. The year-end population is typically smaller than the midyear population.

Male incarceration rate dropped 12% from 2005 to 2017

In 2017, males were incarcerated in jail at a rate (394 per 100,000 male U.S. residents) nearly six times that of females (69 per 100,000 female U.S. residents) (table 2). From 2005 to 2017, the male incarceration rate decreased by 12%, from 448 to 394 per 100,000 male residents, while the female incarceration rate grew by 10%, from 63 to 69 per 100,000 female residents.

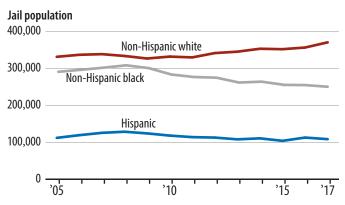
In 2017, whites were incarcerated in jail at a rate of 187 per 100,000 white U.S. residents, up 12% from 167 in 2005. From 2005 to 2017, the incarceration rate of blacks declined 23%, from 803 to 616 per 100,000 black U.S. residents. As a result of those changes, the black-to-white incarceration ratio decreased from 4.8:1 to 3.3:1 from 2005 to 2017. The Hispanic incarceration rate in 2017 was almost identical to that of whites. The Asian incarceration rate was 11% as high as the overall incarceration rate.

Half of jail inmates were white and a third were black

While the jail incarceration rate has dropped in recent years, the inmate population has remained relatively stable. The composition of the jail population, however, has changed with respect to sex, race, and Hispanic origin.

In 2005, the population of whites in local jails (331,000) exceeded that of blacks (290,500) by 14% (figure 2, table 3). By 2017, whites (370,100) outnumbered blacks (250,100) by almost 50%. From 2005 to 2017, the percentage of the jail population that was white increased from 44% to 50%, while the percentage that was black decreased from 39% to 34% (table 4). Hispanics accounted for 15% of all jail inmates in 2017, the same as in 2005.





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 from jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2006–2017, and Census of Jail Inmates, 2005.

 TABLE 2

 Jail incarceration rates, by sex and race/Hispanic origin, 2005 and 2010–2017

Demographic characteristic	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015a	2016a	2017*
Total ^b	253 †	242 †	236 †	237 †	231	233	226	229	229
Adults ^c	334†	315 †	307 †	308 †	299	302	292	295	295
Sex ^b									
Male	448 †	431 †	419†	418†	404	405	394	398	394
Female	63 †	59†	59†	62†	64†	67	64†	66†	69
Race/Hispanic origin									
White ^d	167 †	167 †	167 †	173 †	174 †	178 †	178 †	180 †	187
Black ^d	803 †	745 †	721 †	709 †	668 †	667 †	640	633	616
Hispanic	263 †	235 †	219†	212 †	199†	200 †	184	196†	185
American Indian/Alaska Natived	339	426	410	401	437	443	378	379	366
Asian ^d	40 †	31 †	32 †	30 †	28	32†	30 †	30 †	26
Other ^{d,e}	34	26 †	26†	34	33	24†	36	40	39

Note: Number of confined inmates in local jails per 100,000 U.S. residents (for total) or per 100,000 U.S. residents of a given demographic group, at midyear. Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jails. See appendix table 2 for standard errors. See appendix table 3 for denominators (U.S. resident population by sex and race/Hispanic origin) used for calculating incarceration rates.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aIn 2015 and 2016, the Annual Survey of Jails collected demographic data on inmate population at year-end instead of midyear. Jails typically hold fewer inmates at year-end than at midyear. In calculating midyear jail incarceration rates, the 2015 and 2016 inmate populations were adjusted for seasonal variation. See Adjusting for seasonal variation in *Methodology*.

bIncludes both adults and juveniles.

^cExcludes persons age 17 or younger.

dExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin (e.g., white refers to non-Hispanic whites and black refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

^eIncludes Native Hawaiians, Other Pacific Islanders, and persons of two or more races.

TABLE 3Number of confined inmates in local jails, by characteristics, 2005 and 2010–2017

Characteristic	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 ^a	2016 ^a	2017*
Total	747,500	748,700	735,600	744,500	731,200	744,600	727,400	740,700	745,200
Sex									
Male	653,000 †	656,400 †	642,300	645,900	628,900	635,500	623,600	633,100	631,500
Female	94,600 †	92,400 †	93,300 †	98,600 †	102,400 †	109,100 †	103,800 †	107,600 †	113,700
Adults	740,800	741,200	729,700	739,100	726,600	740,400	723,800	736,800	741,600
Male	646,800 †	649,300 †	636,900	640,900	624,700	631,600	620,300	629,700	628,200
Female	94,000 †	91,900 †	92,800 †	98,100 †	101,900 †	108,800 †	103,500 †	107,100 †	113,400
Juveniles ^b	6,800 †	7,600 †	5,900 †	5,400 †	4,600 †	4,200 †	3,600	3,900	3,600
Held as adult ^c	5,800 †	5,600 †	4,600 †	4,600 †	3,500	3,700 †	3,200	3,200	3,200
Held as juvenile	1,000 †	1,900 †	1,400 †	900 †	1,100 †	500 †	400	700 †	300
Race/Hispanic origin									
White ^d	331,000 †	331,600 †	329,400 †	341,100 †	344,900 †	352,800 †	351,600 †	356,100 †	370,100
Black ^d	290,500 †	283,200 †	276,400 †	274,600 †	261,500	263,800 †	255,200	254,600	250,100
Hispanic	111,900	118,100 †	113,900	112,700	107,900	110,600	103,900	112,700	108,400
American Indian/ Alaska Native ^d	7,600	9,900	9,400	9,300	10,200	10,400	9,000	9,000	8,800
Asian ^d	4,900	4,400	4,800	4,700	4,500	5,400 †	5,200	5,200 †	4,800
Other ^{d,e}	1,500 †	1,500 †	1,600 †	2,200 †	2,200 †	1,700 †	2,500	2,900	2,900
Conviction status									
Convicted	284,400 †	291,300 †	289,600 †	293,100 †	278,000 †	277,100 †	273,000	258,500	263,200
Unconvicted	463,200 †	457,400 †	446,000 †	451,400 †	453,200 †	467,500	454,400 †	482,100	482,000
Most serious type of offense									
Felony							494,100 †	516,400	516,800
Misdemeanor							193,100	188,000	194,700
Other ^f			•••	•••			40,200 †	36,300	33,600

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Data are adjusted for non-response and rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See table 6 in *Jail Inmates at Midyear 2009 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 230122, BJS web, June 2010) for data from 2006 to 2009. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jails. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^{...}Not collected.

^aIn 2015 and 2016, the Annual Survey of Jails collected demographic data on the inmate population at year-end instead of midyear. Jails typically hold fewer inmates at year-end than at midyear. The 2015 and 2016 inmate populations were adjusted for seasonal variation and represent estimated midyear counts. See *Methodology* for details on estimation procedures.

bPersons age 17 or younger.

^cIncludes juveniles who were tried or awaiting trial as adults.

dExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin (e.g., white refers to non-Hispanic whites and black refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

eIncludes Native Hawaiians, Other Pacific Islanders, and persons of two or more races.

fincludes civil infractions and unknown offenses.

From 2005 to 2017, the female jail population grew by 20%, while the male population experienced a small decline (3%). As a result, the percentage of the jail population that was female increased from 12.6% to 15.2%.

In 2017, an estimated 65% of all jail inmates were awaiting court action on a current charge, up from 62% in 2005. Seven in 10 inmates were held in jail for felony charges.

TABLE 4	
Characteristics of confined inmates in local	jails, 2005 and 2010–2017

		•	,						
Characteristic	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015a	2016a	2017*
Sex									
Male	87.3% †	87.7% †	87.3% †	86.8% †	86.0% †	85.3% †	85.7% †	85.5% †	84.7%
Female	12.7 †	12.3 †	12.7 †	13.2 †	14.0 †	14.7 †	14.3 †	14.5 †	15.3
Adults	99.1% †	99.0% †	99.2% †	99.3% †	99.4% †	99.4% †	99.5%	99.5%	99.5%
Male	86.5 †	86.7 †	86.6 †	86.1 †	85.4 †	84.8 †	85.3 †	85.0 †	84.3
Female	12.6 †	12.3 †	12.6 †	13.2 †	13.9 †	14.6 †	14.2 †	14.5 †	15.2
Juveniles ^b	0.9% †	1.0% †	0.8% †	0.7% †	0.6% †	0.6% †	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Held as adult ^c	0.8 †	0.8 †	0.6 †	0.6 †	0.5	0.5 †	0.4	0.4	0.4
Held as juvenile	0.1 †	0.3 †	0.2 †	0.1 †	0.1 †	0.1 †	0.1	0.1 †	
Race/Hispanic origin									
White ^d	44.3% †	44.3% †	44.8% †	45.8% †	47.2% †	47.4% †	48.3% †	48.1% †	49.7%
Black ^d	38.9 †	37.8 †	37.6 †	36.9 †	35.8 †	35.4 †	35.1 †	34.4	33.6
Hispanic	15.0	15.8 †	15.5 †	15.1	14.8	14.9	14.3	15.2	14.5
American Indian/ Alaska Native ^d	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2
Asian ^d	0.7 †	0.6 †	0.7	0.6	0.6 †	0.7	0.7 †	0.7 †	0.6
Other ^{d,e}									
	0.2 †	0.2 †	0.2 †	0.3	0.3 †	0.2	0.3	0.4 †	0.4
Conviction status	20.00/ 1	20.00/ 1	20.40/ 1	20.40/ 1	20.00/ 1	27.20/ 1	27.50/ 1	24.00/	25.20/
Convicted	38.0% †	38.9% †	39.4% †	39.4% †	38.0% †	37.2% †	37.5% †	34.9%	35.3%
Unconvicted	62.0 †	61.1 †	60.6†	60.6†	62.0 †	62.8 †	62.5 †	65.1	64.7
Most serious type of offense	:								
Felony						•••	67.8% †	69.7%	69.4%
Misdemeanor			•••	•••	•••	•••	26.5	25.4	26.1
Other ^f			•••		•••	•••	5.5 †	4.9	4.5

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Data for 2005, 2010–2014, and 2017 are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June. See table 7 in *Jail Inmates at Midyear 2009 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 230122, BJS web, June 2010) for data from 2006 to 2009. Results may be different from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jails. See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

⁻⁻Less than 0.05%.

^{...}Not collected.

^aBased on the inmate population confined on December 31. In 2015 and 2016, the Annual Survey of Jails collected demographic data on inmate population at year-end instead of midyear.

bPersons age 17 or younger.

^CJuveniles who were tried or awaiting trial as adults.

dExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin (e.g., white refers to non-Hispanic whites and black refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

eIncludes Native Hawaiians, Other Pacific Islanders, and persons of two or more races.

fincludes civil infractions and unknown offenses.

The total rated capacity of jails was 915,100 beds

There were more than 2,800 local jail jurisdictions in the United States in 2017 (table 5). Among these jurisdictions, roughly a third (34%) held fewer than 50 inmates on an average day. These smallest jails had a mean average daily

TABLE 5Average daily jail population, by size of jurisdiction, 2017

Jail jurisdiction	Jail jurisdictions		Total	_		
Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)*	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	Mean ADP
Total	2,828	100%		745,600	100%	264
49 or fewer	972	34.4		21,600	2.9	22
50-99	516	18.3		35,500	4.8	69
100-249	677	24.0		111,300	14.9	164
250-499	305	10.8		109,200	14.6	358
500-999	205	7.2		144,500	19.4	705
1,000-2,499	121	4.3		173,700	23.3	1,431
2,500 or more	30	1.1		149,900	20.1	4,925

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2017.

TABLE 6Jail capacity, midyear population, and percent of capacity occupied in local jails, 2005–2017

Year	Jail capacity ^a	Midyear population ^b	Percent of capacity occupied ^c
2005	787,000 †	747,500	95.0% †
2006	795,000 †	765,800 †	96.3 †
2007	810,500 †	780,200 †	96.3 †
2008	828,700 †	785,500 †	94.8 †
2009	849,900 †	767,400 †	90.3 †
2010	857,900 †	748,700	87.3 †
2011	870,400 †	735,600	84.5 †
2012	877,400 †	744,500	84.9 †
2013	872,900 †	731,200	83.8 †
2014	890,500	744,600	83.6 †
2015	901,400	727,400	80.7
2016	915,400	740,700	80.9
2017*	915,100	745,200	81.4

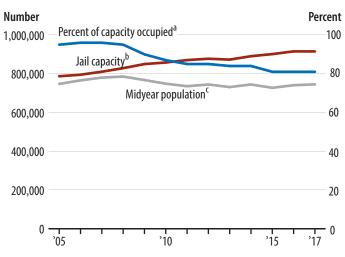
Note: Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jails. See appendix table 7 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2006–2017, and Census of Jail Inmates, 2005.

population (ADP) of 22 inmates. An estimated 151 jail jurisdictions had an ADP of 1,000 or more inmates. These large jails, representing just 5.3% of jail jurisdictions, held 43% of all jail inmates in 2017.

The total rated capacity of local jails was 915,100 beds in 2017, up from 787,000 in 2005 (figure 3; table 6). About 4 in 5 (81%) jail beds were occupied at midyear 2017, down from 95% in 2005. An estimated 20% of jail

FIGURE 3 Jail capacity, midyear population, and percent of capacity occupied in local jails, 2005–2017



Note: Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jails. See table 6 for estimates.

^{*}The average daily population (ADP) is the sum of all inmates in jail each day for the 12-month period ending on June 30, divided by the number of days in the 12-month period.

^{*}Comparison year.

 $[\]mbox{\dag}\mbox{Difference}$ with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aMaximum number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to a facility, excluding separate temporary holding areas.

^bThe number of inmates held on the last weekday in June.

^CThe midyear inmate population divided by the rated capacity.

^aThe midyear inmate population divided by the rated capacity.

^bMaximum number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to a facility, excluding separate temporary holding areas.

^cThe number of inmates held on the last weekday in June.

jurisdictions were operating at or above 100% of their rated capacity at midyear 2017 (table 7), down from 26% in 2005 (not shown). Among jail jurisdictions with an ADP between 250 and 499, the percentage of jail jurisdictions operating at or above rated capacity was 30%, in comparison to 19% of jail jurisdictions with an ADP of 1,000 to 2,499.

The estimated average time in jail was 26 days in 2017

In 2017, the overall weekly inmate turnover rate was 54%, and the estimated average time in jail was 26 days (table 8). Smaller jails had higher weekly inmate turnover rates and shorter lengths of stay than larger jails. On average, jails with an ADP of 2,500 or more held inmates about twice as long (34 days) as smaller jails with an ADP of less than 100 (15 days).

TABLE 7Percent of jail capacity occupied, by size of jurisdiction, 2017

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Midyear population ^a	Rated capacity ^b	Percent of capacity occupied at midyear ^c	Percent of jail jurisdictions operating at more than 100% of rated capacity at midyear
Total	745,200	915,100	81.4%	20.0%
49 or fewer	21,300	36,300	58.7 †	11.0
50-99	36,400	49,900	72.8	26.6
100-249	109,000	128,100	85.1 †	22.6
250-499	111,400	127,600	87.3 †	30.4 †
500-999	144,100	178,100	80.9 †	22.7 †
1,000-2,499	174,400	203,500	85.7 †	19.0
2,500 or more*	148,800	191,600	77.6	17.1

Note: Jail jurisdiction size is based on the average daily population (ADP). Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 8 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2017.

TABLE 8Inmate turnover rate and estimated average time in jail, by size of jurisdiction, 2017

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Average daily population ^a	Annual admissions	Weekly inmate turnover rate ^b	Estimated average time in jail ^c
Total	745,600	10,570,300	54.0%	25.7 days
49 or fewer	21,600	684,300	120.9 †	11.5 †
50-99	35,500	726,200	77.2 †	17.8 †
100-249	111,300	1,899,400	65.0 †	21.4 †
250-499	109,200	1,543,000	53.7 †	25.8 †
500-999	144,500	2,022,100	53.1 †	26.1 †
1,000-2,499	173,700	2,086,200	46.0 †	30.4 †
2,500 or more*	149,900	1,609,000	40.7	34.0

Note: Jail jurisdiction size is based on the average daily population (ADP). Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 9 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2017.

^{*}Comparison group.

[†]Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aThe number of inmates held on the last weekday in June.

^bMaximum number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to a facility, excluding separate temporary holding areas.

^cThe midyear population divided by the rated capacity.

^{*}Comparison group.

[†]Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aThe sum of all inmates in jail each day for the 12-month period ending on June 30, divided by the number of days in the 12-month period.

^bThe sum of weekly admissions and releases, divided by the ADP. Weekly admissions and releases are calculated as the annual admissions and releases, divided by the number of weeks in the 12-month period.

^cThe ADP divided by the number of annual admissions, then multiplied by the number of days in a year.

55,900 persons were supervised outside jail

In addition to the confined jail population of 745,200 persons at midyear 2017, jail authorities supervised 55,900 persons in programs outside the jail, including weekend programs, electronic monitoring, home detention, day reporting, community service, alcohol or drug treatment programs, and other pre-trial and work programs (table 9). From 2008 to 2017, the number of persons supervised outside jail decreased 23%, from 72,900 to 55,900.

TABLE 9Persons under jail supervision, by confinement status, 2006–2017

Year	Total	Held in jail	Supervised outside of a jail facility ^a
2006	826,000 †	765,800 †	60,200
2007	848,400 †	780,200 †	68,200 †
2008	858,400 †	785,500 †	72,900 †
2009	837,600 †	767,400 †	70,200 †
2010	809,400	748,700	60,600
2011	798,400	735,600	62,800 †
2012	808,600	744,500	64,100 †
2013	790,600	731,200	59,400
2014	808,100	744,600	63,500 †
2015 ^b	782,300	727,400	54,900
2016 ^b	794,900	740,700	54,200
2017*	801,100	745,200	55,900

Note: Based on the number of inmates supervised on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Data are rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 10 for standard errors. *Comparison year.

†Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level. a Excludes persons supervised by a probation or parole agency. Includes offenders who serve their sentences of confinement on weekends only (i.e., Friday to Sunday); persons under electronic monitoring; persons in work release programs, work gangs, and other alternative work programs; and persons in drug, alcohol, mental health, and other medical treatment. bIn 2015 and 2016, the Annual Survey of Jails collected the number of persons supervised outside of a jail facility on December 31.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2006–2017.

Local jail jurisdictions employed 225,700 full-time staff at midyear 2017 (table 10). Similar to in 2016, an estimated 4 in 5 (80%) jail employees in 2017 were correctional officers, including deputies, monitors, and other custody staff who spend more than half of their time with the incarcerated population. In 2017, an estimated 69% of correctional officers and 44% of other staff were male. The inmate-to-correctional-officer ratio was 4.2:1 at midyear 2017.

TABLE 10
Staff employed in local jails, by sex, year-end 2016 and midyear 2017

	Nu	<u>mber</u>	Per	cent
Job function	2016	2017*	2016	2017*
Total	226,300	225,700	100%	100%
Correctional officersa	178,800	179,500	79.0%	79.5%
Male	124,300	123,200	54.9	54.6
Female	54,500	56,300	24.1	25.0
All other staff ^b	47,500	46,200	21.0%	20.5%
Male	21,000	20,300	9.3	9.0
Female	26,500	25,900	11.7	11.5

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jails. See appendix table 11 for standard errors.

†Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level. alncludes deputies, monitors, and other custody staff who spend more than 50% of their time with the incarcerated population.

^bIncludes administrators, clerical and maintenance staff, educational staff, professional and technical staff, and other unspecified staff who spend more than 50% of their time in the facility.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2016 and 2017.

^{*}Comparison year.

Methodology

In years between the complete censuses of jails, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) conducts the Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) to estimate the number and characteristics of the jail population in the United States. The ASJ is a nationally representative survey of all county or city jail jurisdictions and all regional jails in the country. The combined jail and prison systems in Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Vermont are not covered. These are included in BJS's prison collection. However, Alaska's 15 locally operated jails are covered.

A jail jurisdiction is a county (parish in Louisiana) or municipal government that administers one or more local jails and represents the entity responsible for managing jail facilities under its authority. Most jail jurisdictions consist of a single facility, but some have multiple facilities, or multiple facility operators, called reporting units. For example, four reporting units in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, represent a single jail jurisdiction. The ASJ sample is drawn at the jurisdiction level. When a jail jurisdiction with multiple reporting units is sampled, data are collected from all reporting units within that jail jurisdiction.

Sampling design

The ASJ uses a stratified probability sampling design based on jail population data collected through the most recent Census of Jails (2013). Jails in the ASJ sample are surveyed annually until the next sample refresh. The most recent sample refresh occurred in 2015. A sample of 876 jail jurisdictions was selected to represent the approximately 2,851 jail jurisdictions nationwide. In selecting the jails, all jurisdictions were grouped into 10 strata based on their average daily population (ADP) and presence of juveniles measured in the most recent Census of Jails. In 8 of the 10 strata, a random sample of jail jurisdictions was selected. The remaining two strata were certainty strata, where all jurisdictions were selected with a probability of one. One certainty stratum consisted of all jails that were operated jointly by two or more jurisdictions (referred to as multi-jurisdictional jails). The other certainty stratum consisted of all jail jurisdictions that—

- held juvenile inmates at the time of the 2013 Census of Jails and had an ADP of 500 or more inmates during the 12 months ending on December 31, 2013
- held only adult inmates and had an ADP of 750 or more

- were known to be operating in 2015 and not included in the 2013 Census of Jails
- were located in California.

The ASJ sample includes all California jail jurisdictions. This sampling feature was introduced in 2013 in response to the enactment of California Assembly Bill (AB) 109 and AB 117, aimed to reduce the number of inmates housed in state prisons starting on October 1, 2011. After the enactment of these two laws, the jail population in California experienced an unusual increase that the rest of the United States did not experience. For this reason, the ASJ sampling design was modified to include all California jail jurisdictions in a certainty (selfrepresenting) stratum. (See Methodology in Jail Inmates at Midyear 2014, NCJ 248629, BJS web, June 2015.) The inclusion of all California jail jurisdictions resulted in an additional 21 jurisdictions (California has 65 jurisdictions in total). The sample also includes in the certainty stratum six new jail jurisdictions that were known to be operating in 2015 and were not represented in the sampling frame (2013 Census of Jails).

Response rate and non-response adjustment

ASJ data for 2017 were collected through a web-based survey. The sample consisted of 871 active jail jurisdictions. Sixty jurisdictions did not respond to the survey. The response rate was 93%.

Non-response weighting adjustment

Non-response weighting was implemented to account for unit non-response. Jurisdictions were grouped into weighting classes based on sampling stratum and the 2013 inmate population. Using a simple weighting class method, a non-response weighting adjustment factor was calculated within each weighting class *h* as—

$$F_h = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_h} W_{hi} \times JURISA_{hi}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n_h} W_{hi} \times JURISR_{hi}}$$

where—

 n_h = number of jurisdictions sampled in weighting class h.

 W_{hi} = sampling weight for jurisdiction i in weighting class h,

 $JURISA_{hi}$ = active status indicator for jurisdiction i in weighting class h (1 = active, 0 = out of scope), and

JURISR $_{hi}$ = response indicator of jurisdiction i in weighting class h (1 = respondent, 0 = non-respondent).

Final weight

The final weight FW_{hi} for each jail jurisdiction is calculated as the product of the sampling weight, the weighting class adjustment within each weighting class, and the jurisdiction's response factor.

$$FW_{hi} = W_{hi} \times F_h \times JURISR_{hi}$$

Item non-response imputation

Item response rates ranged from 94% to 100%. For responding jail jurisdictions that were unable to provide some requested items, a weighted sequential hot- or cold-deck imputation procedure was used to impute values. This procedure, implemented using the SUDAAN software package, substitutes current-year respondent and prior-year (2015 and 2016 ASJ, cold-deck) data for missing values. The donor for each missing item was randomly selected from within a set of similar jails, sorted by related previous-year population values. The resulting imputed values are generally similar to the reported values of the previous year.

Adjusting for seasonal variation in jail population

Prior to 2015, the ASJ asked jails to report the total and detailed inmate counts on the last weekday in June (the midyear reference date). In 2015 and 2016, the

ASJ collected the total confined population at midyear but detailed inmate counts by characteristics (i.e., sex, race, Hispanic origin, age category, conviction status, and most serious type of offense) on December 31 (the year-end reference date). The 2017 ASJ reverted back to the midyear reference. Comparisons of year-end data with midyear data need to consider seasonal variations, as jails typically hold fewer inmates at year-end than at midyear.

To adjust for the seasonal variation, the numbers of jail inmates by characteristic from 2015 and 2016 year-end collections in table 3 were multiplied by the ratio of midyear confined population to year-end confined population of the corresponding year. The standard errors for the 2015 and 2016 counts in appendix table 3 were similarly adjusted. The seasonally adjusted jail populations were also used in the calculation of 2015 and 2016 jail incarceration rates in table 2.

Calculating weekly inmate turnover rates

The weekly jail inmate turnover rate is the sum of the average weekly admissions and releases, divided by the ADP. The inmate turnover rate is an indicator of the fluctuation of the jail population.

APPENDIX TABLE 1Standard errors for table 1: Inmates confined at midyear, average daily population, annual admissions, and incarceration rates, 2005–2017

Year	Confined inmates	Average daily population	Annual admissions	Jail incarceration rate
2005	~	~	~	~
2006	3,552	3,230	~	1.2
2007	3,720	3,549	169,151	1.2
2008	4,016	3,883	272,916	1.3
2009	4,231	4,109	178,537	1.4
2010	5,430	5,359	233,704	1.8
2011	6,009	5,879	211,335	1.9
2012	7,684	7,769	188,549	2.4
2013	8,042	7,943	688,181	2.5
2014	8,382	8,430	205,287	2.6
2015	7,188	7,112	141,792	2.2
2016	5,943	5,788	138,605	1.8
2017	6,614	7,431	152,636	2.0

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2005 Census of Jail Inmates.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2006–2017; Census of Jail Inmates, 2005; Mortality in Correctional Institutions (formerly Deaths in Custody Reporting Program), 2006 (for admissions only); and U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: January 1, 2005, to January 1, 2018.

APPENDIX TABLE 2 Standard errors for table 2: Jail incarceration rates, by sex and race/Hispanic origin, 2005 and 2010–2017

					_	-			
Demographic characteristic	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total	~	1.8	1.9	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.2	1.9	2.0
Adults	~	2.3	2.5	3.2	3.3	3.3	2.9	2.4	2.6
Sex									
Male	~	3.2	3.4	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.0	3.3	3.5
Female	~	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8
Race/Hispanic origin									
White	~	1.8	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.3
Black	~	8.4	8.9	11.9	12.4	11.9	8.9	9.1	9.8
Hispanic	~	4.2	5.0	5.6	4.8	4.9	5.8	3.4	3.7
American Indian/Alaska Native	~	44.3	40.7	37.5	40.0	39.4	38.2	35.7	33.2
Asian	~	0.8	1.2	1.4	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9
Other	~	2.7	2.4	2.9	3.2	3.1	2.3	4.8	3.5

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2005 Census of Jail Inmates.

APPENDIX TABLE 3U.S. resident population, by sex and race/Hispanic origin at midyear, 2005 and 2010–2017

Characteristic	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total	295,843,000	309,466,000	311,656,000	313,930,000	316,418,000	319,023,000	321,177,000	323,141,000	325,218,000
Adults ^a	222,082,000	235,113,000	237,718,000	240,169,000	242,773,000	245,381,000	247,509,000	249,469,000	251,616,000
Sex									
Male	145,599,000	152,455,000	153,324,000	154,514,000	155,749,000	157,024,000	158,102,000	159,101,000	160,158,000
Female	150,245,000	157,010,000	158,332,000	159,416,000	160,669,000	161,998,000	163,075,000	164,040,000	165,059,000
Race/Hispanic origin									
White ^b	198,119,000	198,765,000	197,546,000	197,713,000	197,842,000	197,928,000	197,992,000	197,903,000	197,733,000
Black ^b	36,163,000	38,029,000	38,346,000	38,710,000	39,133,000	39,551,000	39,904,000	40,243,000	40,588,000
Hispanic	42,579,000	50,296,000	52,059,000	53,111,000	54,182,000	55,422,000	56,467,000	57,541,000	58,733,000
American Indian/ Alaska Native ^b	2,242,000	2,328,000	2,292,000	2,311,000	2,330,000	2,351,000	2,370,000	2,387,000	2,403,000
Asian ^b	12,291,000	14,382,000	15,066,000	15,548,000	16,200,000	16,832,000	17,309,000	17,745,000	18,250,000
Other ^{b,c}	4,449,000	5,666,000	6,348,000	6,536,000	6,731,000	6,939,000	7,135,000	7,322,000	7,512,000

Note: The numbers of U.S. residents at midyear were interpolated from the U.S. Census Bureau's population projections for January 1, 2005, to January 1, 2018. Rounded to the nearest thousand.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin for the United States: January 1, 2005, to January 1, 2018.

^aIncludes persons ages 18 and older.

^bExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin (e.g., white refers to non-Hispanic whites and black refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

^CIncludes Native Hawaiians, Other Pacific Islanders, and persons of two or more races.

APPENDIX TABLE 4 Standard errors for table 3: Number of confined inmates in local jails, by characteristics, 2005 and 2010–2017 Characteristic 2005 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 Total 5,430 6,009 7,684 8,042 8,382 7,198 6,013 6,614 Sex 4,832 5,278 6,776 7,088 7,015 6,242 5,237 5,680 Male Female 999 1,179 1,404 1,469 1,532 1,307 1,247 1,351 Adults 5,400 6,004 7,655 8,049 8,004 7,187 5,971 6,569 Male 4,794 5,241 6,685 7,025 6,961 6,230 5,197 5,635 Female 994 1,398 1,531 1,306 1,247 1,349 1,177 1,467 Juveniles 263 172 241 199 164 121 158 128 230 Held as adult 246 151 143 158 117 118 127 Held as juvenile 255 77 84 139 46 45 98 36 Race/Hispanic origin White 3,589 3,764 4,370 4,574 4,605 4,192 4,361 4,629 Black 3,194 4,608 4,860 4,712 3,548 3,987 3,418 3,680 Hispanic 2,131 2,617 2,958 2,580 2,719 3,297 1,981 2,165 American Indian/Alaska Native 798 1,031 933 866 932 926 906 853 Asian 117 185 219 122 157 137 155 156 Other 153 349 259 160 189 213 216 167 Conviction status Convicted 3,292 3,521 3,750 3,619 4,156 4,937 3,458 3,568 Unconvicted 4,515 4,819 5,918 6,740 5,691 4,731 5,690 5,792 Most serious type of offense 5,810 Felony 5,701 5,482 Misdemeanor 3,106 2,899 3,388

1,822

1,361

1,774

Other ...Not collected.

[~]Not applicable. Data present a complete enumeration based on the 2005 Census of Jail Inmates.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2017, and Census of Jail Inmates, 2005.

APPENDIX TABLE 5	
Standard errors for table 4: Characteristics of confined inmates in local jails, 2005 and 2010–201	7

Characteristic	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Sex									
Male	~	0.10%	0.12%	0.13%	0.14%	0.15%	0.11%	0.12%	0.12%
Female	~	0.10	0.12	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.11	0.12	0.12
Adults	~	0.04%	0.02%	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%
Male	~	0.10	0.12	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.11	0.12	0.12
Female	~	0.10	0.12	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.11	0.12	0.12
Juveniles	~	0.04%	0.02%	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%
Held as adult	~	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Held as juvenile	~	0.03	0.01	0.01		0.01	0.01	0.01	
Race/Hispanic origin									
White	~	0.41%	0.43%	0.52%	0.55%	0.51%	0.46%	0.42%	0.45%
Black	~	0.40	0.39	0.47	0.51	0.48	0.37	0.38	0.41
Hispanic	~	0.30	0.34	0.38	0.34	0.34	0.36	0.25	0.27
American Indian/Alaska Native	~	0.17	0.14	0.13	0.15	0.14	0.12	0.11	0.11
Asian	~	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Other	~	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.03
Conviction status									
Convicted	~	0.41%	0.42%	0.47%	0.52%	0.48%	0.47%	0.45%	0.43%
Unconvicted	~	0.41	0.42	0.47	0.52	0.48	0.47	0.45	0.43
Most serious type of offense									
Felony							0.40%	0.39%	0.44%
Misdemeanor		•••					0.36	0.36	0.41
Other	•••						0.24	0.18	0.23

⁻⁻Less than 0.005%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2017, and Census of Jail Inmates, 2005.

APPENDIX TABLE 6Standard errors for table 5: Average daily jail population, by size of jurisdiction, 2017

	Jail jurisdictions Total ADP				
Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Mean ADP
Total		~	7,431	~	2.6
49 or fewer	46.3	1.64%	2,099	0.28%	1.7
50-99	50.0	1.77	3,396	0.46	1.5
100-249	40.3	1.42	6,558	0.82	3.9
250-499	13.0	0.46	4,149	0.55	4.4
500-999	5.6	0.20	3,485	0.48	4.9
1,000-2,499	1.7	0.06	2,516	0.44	8.9
2,500 or more	1.1	0.04	5,935	0.69	94.4

⁻⁻Less than 0.05%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2017.

^{...}Not collected.

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2005 Census of Jail Inmates.

[~]Not applicable.

APPENDIX TABLE 7

Standard errors for table 6: Jail capacity, midyear population, and percent of capacity occupied in local jails, 2005–2017

Year	Jail capacity	Midyear population	Percent of capacity occupied
2005	~	~	~
2006	4,741	3,552	0.41%
2007	5,056	3,720	0.45
2008	5,063	4,016	0.42
2009	6,460	4,231	0.45
2010	11,013	5,430	0.88
2011	11,776	6,009	0.88
2012	10,217	7,684	0.48
2013	13,198	8,042	0.49
2014	11,082	8,382	0.43
2015	9,518	7,188	0.41
2016	8,467	5,943	0.43
2017	9,217	6,614	0.48

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2005 Census of Jail Inmates.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2006–2017.

APPENDIX TABLE 8

Standard errors for table 7: Percent of jail capacity occupied, by size of jurisdiction, 2017

Jurisdiction size (ADP)	Midyear population	Rated capacity	Percent of capacity occupied at midyear	Percent of jail jurisdictions operating at more than 100% of rated capacity at midyear
Total	6,614	9,217	0.48%	2.04%
49 or fewer	2,278	3,520	4.23	4.08
50-99	3,607	5,224	3.69	6.05
100-249	5,340	6,566	1.75	3.45
250-499	4,277	5,119	1.25	3.00
500-999	3,559	4,328	0.66	1.55
1,000-2,499	2,535	3,187	0.50	0.82
2,500 or more	5,813	7,984	0.64	1.46

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2017.

APPENDIX TABLE 9

Standard errors for table 8: Inmate turnover rate and estimated average time in jail, by size of jurisdiction, 2017

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Average daily population	Annual admissions	Weekly inmate turnover rate	Estimated average time in jail
Total	7,431	152,636	0.73%	0.35 days
49 or fewer	2,099	80,616	11.09	1.06
50-99	3,396	92,678	5.66	1.33
100-249	6,558	116,296	3.34	1.10
250-499	4,149	71,802	1.53	0.73
500-999	3,485	67,482	0.94	0.46
1,000-2,499	2,516	36,009	0.46	0.30
2,500 or more	5,935	61,973	0.62	0.53

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2017.

APPENDIX TABLE 10

Standard errors for table 9: Persons under jail supervision, by confinement status, 2006–2017

Year	Total	Held in jail	Supervised outside of a jail facility
2006	3,783	3,552	1,151
2007	4,041	3,720	1,267
2008	4,732	4,016	2,327
2009	4,548	4,231	1,535
2010	5,897	5,430	1,960
2011	6,446	6,009	1,832
2012	8,438	7,684	2,418
2013	8,692	8,042	2,351
2014	9,248	8,382	2,707
2015	7,510	7,188	1,548
2016	6,543	5,943	1,868
2017	7,250	6,614	2,194

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2006–2017.

APPENDIX TABLE 11

Standard errors for table 10: Staff employed in local jails, by sex, year-end 2016 and midyear 2017

	Nun	nber	Per	cent
Job function	2016	2017	2016	2017
Total	3,368	3,903	~	~
Correctional officers	2,881	3,408	0.38%	0.33%
Male	1,817	2,142	0.32	0.29
Female	1,238	1,445	0.30	0.32
All other staff	1,065	915	0.38%	0.33%
Male	627	534	0.23	0.19
Female	535	498	0.21	0.21

[~]Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2016 and 2017.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring crime, criminal victimization, criminal offenders, victims of crime, correlates of crime, and the operation of criminal and civil justice systems at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels. BJS collects, analyzes, and disseminates reliable statistics on crime and justice systems in the United States, supports improvements to state and local criminal justice information systems, and participates with national and international organizations to develop and recommend national standards for justice statistics. Jeffrey H. Anderson is the director.

This report was written by Zhen Zeng. Todd Minton and Stephanie Mueller verified the report.

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