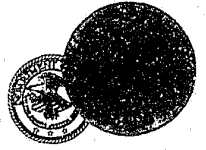


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U.S. Department of Justice
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Jail Inmates, 1985

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- Time served in prison, NCJ-93924, 6/84

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**U.S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Justice Statistics**

Steven R. Schlesinger
Director

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The Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, coordinates the criminal and juvenile justice activities of the following program Offices and Bureaus: the Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Institute of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office of Victims of Crime.

Preface

The 1985 Annual Survey of Jails was the third such survey in a series sponsored by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and conducted by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The first was conducted in 1982. Complete enumerations of the Nation's jails are conducted every 5 years. Annual surveys, which collect data on all jails in jurisdictions with 100 or more jail inmates and on a sample of all other jails, are done in each of the 4 years between full censuses. The reference date for the 1985 survey was June 30, 1985. Full censuses were done on February 15, 1978, and June 30, 1983.

Major survey findings

- On June 30, 1985, an estimated 256,615 inmates were held in local jails throughout the United States (table 1). This population represented an estimated increase of 9% over the 234,500 inmates held on the same date in 1984, and a 15% increase since 1983.
- Of the total population, an estimated 99% were adults and 1% (1,629) were juveniles.
- The average daily population for the year ending June 30, 1985, was 265,010, up an estimated 15% from 230,641 the preceding year. The average daily population for juveniles was 1,467, down an estimated 14% from a year earlier.
- As in 1984, about half of the adult inmates were estimated to be unconvicted, that is, on trial or awaiting arraignment or trial (table 2). The convicted population increased 15% since 1983, while the unconvicted population grew 11% since 1983.
- In midyear 1985, males constituted an estimated 92% of the population (table 3).
- In 1985, whites accounted for an estimated 59%; blacks, 40%; and other races (native Americans, Aleuts, Asians, and Pacific Islanders), approximately 1% of the jail population. Hispanics, regardless of race, were 14%.
- During the year ending June 30, 1985, there were an estimated 16.6 million admissions to and releases from local jails, about equally divided between the two categories (table 4).
- The estimated volume of both admissions and releases increased by about 7% since 1984.

- Adults comprised 99% of all admissions and releases in each year since 1983. Adult males made up 89% of admissions and releases in the year ending June 30, 1985.

- The overall rated capacity of local jails in 1985 was estimated to be 272,830, roughly a 4% increase over 1984 (table 5). The percent of rated capacity occupied in 1985 was 94%.

Characteristics of jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations

- Nearly three-fourths of the Nation's jail population in 1985 were housed in the jails of 362 jurisdictions, each with an average daily population of at least 100 inmates (table 6). Together they accounted for 614 jails, 7 less than in 1984. They held 190,221 inmates on June 30, 1985, a 10% increase over the 173,155 inmates held a year earlier.

- About 22% of these jails held inmates for State, Federal, or other local authorities because of crowding elsewhere, compared to 24% in 1984 and 21% in 1983.

- Of those jails in 1985 that were holding inmates because of crowding elsewhere, 22% were holding inmates for Federal authorities, 42% for local authorities, and 73% for State authorities.

- The number of inmates held because of crowding elsewhere dropped about 1% between 1984 and 1985.

- Between 1984 and 1985 the rated capacity of jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations increased by 6% to 179,729 (table 7).

o Occupancy exceeded rated capacity in jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations by 2% in 1984 and by 6% in 1985. In both years, 22% of the jails in these jurisdictions were under court order to reduce the number of inmates they housed.

o In jurisdictions with large jail populations in 1985, 25% of the jails reported that they were under court order to improve one or more conditions of confinement (table 8).

o Among those jails under court order to improve one or more conditions, 86% were cited for crowded living units, 58% for recreation facilities, and 54% for medical facilities/services.

o About 1 in 5 jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations reported that they were under court order both to reduce population and to improve one or more conditions of confinement. Among these jails, 95% were cited for crowded living conditions.

o About 27% of the jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations reported inmate deaths in 1985, up from 24% in 1984, but about the same proportion as in 1983 (table 9).

o The most common cause of death in jails in the year preceding June 30, 1985 was natural causes. Of the 303 inmate deaths in 1985, 50% were by natural causes, another 39% were suicides, and 7% were by accidents or undetermined causes, and 4% were from injuries caused by another person.

o Among the 25 largest jails in 1985, 9 were in California, and 5 were in New York (table 10).

Methodology

The 1985 survey included 1,142 jails in 874 jurisdictions. A jurisdiction is a county, municipality, or township that administers one or more local jails. The jails in 362 jurisdictions were automatically included in the survey because the average daily population in these jurisdictions was 100 or more in the 1983 jail census. The jurisdictions with large jail populations, referred to as certainty jurisdictions, accounted for 614 jails and 190,221 inmates, or 74% of the total estimated inmate population on June 30, 1985. The other jurisdictions surveyed constituted a stratified random sample of those jurisdictions whose average daily population was less than 100 in the 1983 jail census.

Data were obtained by mailed questionnaires. Two follow-up mailings and phone calls were used to encourage reporting. The response rate was 100% for the jails not included in the certainty jurisdictions. Jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations responded at a rate of 95%.

National estimates for the inmate population on June 30, 1985, were produced by sex, race, legal status, and conviction status; for the average daily population during the year ending June 30, 1985, by sex and legal status; and for admissions and releases during the year ending June 30, 1985, by sex and legal status. National estimates were also produced for jail design capacity and rated capacity. Administrators of jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations, who completed a longer questionnaire, provided counts of inmates held because of crowding elsewhere, inmate deaths, and jails under court order.

Except for racial and ethnic characteristics, data from the 1984 annual survey of jails were used to estimate individual items of data not available from 16 respondents in 1985. Data from the 1983 jail census were used to estimate individual items of data not available from 17 respondents in 1985.

Definitions

A local jail is a facility that holds inmates beyond arraignment, usually for more than 48 hours, and is administered by local officials. Specifically excluded from the count were temporary lock-ups that house persons for less than 48 hours, Federal- or State-administered facilities, privately operated facilities, and the combined jail-prison systems of Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

State statutes and judicial practices allow juveniles to be incarcerated in adult jails and prisons under a variety of circumstances. Juveniles are persons of an age (usually under 18) specified by statute in each State, who were initially subject to juvenile court authority even if tried as adults in criminal court. The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 recommends that those juveniles held in adult jails who were not tried as adults in criminal court be separated from the adult inmate population by both sight and sound. The proportion of the juveniles in adult jails who were housed in accordance with these guidelines is not available.

Further reading

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BJS Bulletins:

Profile of Jail Inmates: Sociodemographic Findings from the 1978 Survey of Inmates of Local Jails, NCJ-65412, October 1980.

Jail Inmates 1982, NCJ-87161, February 1983.

The 1983 Jail Census, NCJ-95536, November 1984.

Jail Inmates 1983, NCJ-99175, November 1985.

Jail Inmates 1984, NCJ-101094, May 1986.

Table 1. Jail population: One-day counts and average daily population, by legal status and sex, 1983-85

	Number of jail inmates				
	National jail census 1983	Annual survey of jails		Percent change from:	
		1984	1985	1983-85	1984-85
One-day counts					
All inmates	223,551	234,500	256,615	15%	9%
Adults	221,815	233,018	254,986	15	9
Male	206,163	216,275	235,909	14	9
Female	15,652	16,743	19,077	22	14
Juveniles*	1,736	1,482	1,629	-6	10
Average daily population					
All inmates	227,541	230,641	265,010	16%	15%
Adults	225,781	228,944	263,543	17	15
Male	210,451	212,749	244,711	16	15
Female	15,330	16,195	18,832	23	16
Juveniles*	1,760	1,697	1,467	-17	-14
<p>Note: Data for 1-day counts are for June 30 of each year.</p> <p>*Juveniles are persons of an age specified by State statute (usually under 18) initially subject to juvenile court authority even if tried as adults in criminal court. Because fewer than 1% of the jail population were juveniles, caution must be used in interpreting any changes over time.</p>					

Table 2. Detention status of adult jail inmates, by sex, 1983-85

	Number of jail inmates		
	National jail census 1983	Annual survey of jails	
		1984	1985
Total number of adults with known conviction status	221,644	229,822	250,468
Convicted	107,660	113,491	123,409
Male	100,557	105,529	114,131
Female	7,103	7,962	9,278
Unconvicted	113,984	116,331	127,059
Male	105,459	107,901	117,560
Female	8,525	8,430	9,499
<p>Note: Data are for June 30 of each year.</p>			

Characteristic	Percent of jail inmates	
	1984	1985
Sex		
Male	93%	92%
Female	7	8
Race		
White	59%	59%
Male	55	55
Female	4	4
Black	40%	40%
Male	37	37
Female	3	3
Other*	1%	1%
Male	1	1
Female	—	—
Ethnicity		
Hispanic	13%	14%
Male	12	13
Female	1	1
Non-Hispanic	87%	86%
Male	81	80
Female	6	7

Note: Data are for June 30 of each year. Sex was reported for all inmates in both years. Race and ethnicity were reported for 88% of the inmates in 1984 and for 80% in 1985. Percentages may not add to total because of rounding.
 —Less than 0.5%.
 *Native Americans, Aleuts, Asians, and Pacific Islanders.

	Number of admissions/releases		
	National jail census	Annual survey of jails	
	1983	1984	1985
Admissions, total	8,084,344	7,838,521	8,364,533
Adults	7,978,978	7,742,941	8,252,427
Male	7,270,663	7,007,292	7,430,148
Female	708,315	735,649	822,279
Juveniles*	105,366	95,580	112,106
Male	86,850	79,617	94,579
Female	18,516	15,963	17,527
Releases, total	7,941,236	7,716,067	8,279,054
Adults	7,837,156	7,622,366	8,169,461
Male	7,145,818	6,904,343	7,359,076
Female	691,338	718,023	810,385
Juveniles*	104,080	93,701	109,593
Male	85,564	77,564	92,235
Female	18,516	16,137	17,358

Note: Data are for the year ending June 30.
 *Juveniles are persons of an age specified by State statute (usually under 18) initially subject to juvenile court authority even if tried as adults in criminal court.

Table 5. Jail capacity and occupancy, 1983-85			
	National jail census	Annual survey of jails	
	1983	1984	1985
Number of inmates	223,551	234,500	256,615
Rated capacity of jails	261,556	261,432	272,830
Percent of rated capacity occupied	85%	90%	94%
Note: Data are for June 30 of each year.			

Table 6. Jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations: Inmates held for other authorities, 1983-85			
	Number of jails/inmates		
	1983	1984	1985
All jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations	618	621	614
Jails holding inmates for other authorities:*	130	150	137
Federal	31	35	30
State	84	112	100
Local	44	52	57
All inmates in jurisdictions with large jail populations	168,250	173,155	190,221
Inmates being held for other authorities:	4,400	6,199	6,107
Federal	306	460	534
State	3,606	4,733	4,462
Local	488	1,006	1,111
Note: Data are for June 30 of each year and cover all jails in jurisdictions with an average daily inmate population of 100 or more in the 1983 jail census.		*Detail adds to more than total because some jails hold inmates for more than one authority.	

Table 7. Jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations: Rated capacity and percent of capacity occupied, 1984 and 1985								
Jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations	Number of jails		Rated capacity		Number of jail inmates		Percent of capacity occupied	
	1984	1985	1984	1985	1984	1985	1984	1985
Total	621	614	169,967	179,729	173,155	190,221	102%	106%
Jails not under court order to reduce population	487	477	121,098	126,965	124,567	134,967	103	106
Jails under court order to reduce population*	134	137	48,369	52,764	48,588	55,254	99	105
Note: Data are for June 30 of each year and cover all jails in jurisdictions with an average daily inmate population of 100 or more in the 1983 jail census.			*The court-ordered capacity for these jails in 1984 was 49,572 (703 inmates higher than the rated capacity). In 1985			it was 54,375 (1,611 higher than the rated capacity).		

	Number of jails in jurisdictions with large jail populations		
	Total	Ordered to limit population	Not ordered to limit population
Total	614	137	477
Jails under court orders citing specific conditions of confinement	153	120	33
Subject of court order:			
Crowded living units	132	114	18
Recreational facilities	88	68	20
Medical facilities or services	83	65	18
Visitation practices or policies	51	51	0
Disciplinary procedures or policies	62	48	14
Food service (quantity or quality)	49	36	11
Administrative segregation procedures or policies	57	45	12
Staffing patterns	59	45	14
Grievance procedures or policies	60	46	14
Education or training programs	48	33	15
Fire hazards	51	41	10
Counseling programs	38	29	9
Other	29	18	11
<p>Note: Data are for June 30, 1985, and cover all jails in jurisdictions with an average daily inmate population of 100 or more in the 1983 jail census. Some jails were under court order for more than one reason.</p>			

	Jails reporting deaths ^a			Inmate deaths		
	1983	1984	1985	1983	1984	1985
Total	169	150	163	276	278	303
Cause of death:						
Natural causes	87	83	84	129	136	151
Suicide	99	96	89	130	126	119
Injury by another person	5	5	9	5	6	11
Other ^b	11	10	16	12	10	22
<p>Note: Data are for the year ending June 30 and cover all jails in jurisdictions with an average daily inmate population of 100 or more in the 1983 jail census.</p>				<p>^aDetail adds to more than total because some jails reported more than one type of death. ^bIncludes accidents and cases with undetermined cause of death.</p>		

Table 10. Twenty-five largest jails: Average daily population and 1-day count, June 30, 1985

City and Jail	Average daily population, 1985*	One-day count, June 30, 1985
Los Angeles, Calif. - Men's Central Jail	7,066	7,455
Chicago, Ill. - Department of Corrections County Jail	4,652	4,643
Houston, Tex. - County Downtown Central Jail	3,312	3,447
Washington, D.C. - D.C. Detention Facility	2,365	2,635
Queens, N.Y. - NYC Correctional Institute for Men	2,112	2,017
Queens, N.Y. - Anna M. Kross Center	2,100	2,100
Santa Ana, Calif. - Orange County Jail	2,080	1,900
Pleasanton, Calif. - County Jail Santa Rita	1,935	1,963
Baltimore, Md. - Baltimore City Jail	1,696	1,771
Los Angeles, Calif. - Sybil Brand Institute	1,646	1,728
Saugus, Calif. - Pitchess Honor Rancho - maximum security	1,589	1,688
Los Angeles, Calif. - Hall of Justice Jail	1,581	1,700
Saugus, Calif. - Pitchess Honor Rancho - minimum security	1,568	1,465
Miami, Fla. - Dade County Pre-Trial Detention Center	1,500	1,532
Queens, N.Y. - NYC Adolescent Detention Center	1,280	1,280
Philadelphia, Penna. - Holmesburg Prison	1,278	1,233
Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. - County Jail	1,250	1,248
Los Angeles, Calif. - Biscailuz Center	1,190	1,224
Seattle, Wash. - King County Jail Facilities	1,144	1,225
Philadelphia, Penna. - House of Correction	1,129	1,127
East Elmhurst, N.Y. - NYC House of Detention for Men	1,127	1,125
East Elmhurst, N.Y. - NYC Correctional Institute for Women	1,103	1,115
San Bernardino, Calif. - County Jail	1,020	960
Memphis, Tenn. - County Justice Center	1,008	996
Fort Worth, Tex. - Tarrant County Jail	995	1,280

*For the year ending June 30, 1985.

Crime and Older Americans

Information Package

- Are older Americans more likely to be victims of crime than younger age groups?
- Are the elderly being arrested for certain crimes more frequently than in the past?
- Are offenders in crimes against the elderly more likely to be strangers or nonstrangers compared to other age groups?

A new information package available from the Justice Statistics Clearinghouse answers these and other questions about crime and the elderly. Drawing from national sources for crime statistics—including the BJS National Crime Survey, the FBI Uniform Crime Reports, and the BJS National Corrections Reporting Program—the 34-page package discusses the types of crimes in which older Americans are most likely to be victims and offenders, and the types of crime prevention they use.

As the elderly population has grown, so has concern about the effects of crime on this age group.

Population statistics indicate that older Americans are fast becoming a large segment of the total U.S. population. In 1985, Americans 60 years and older totaled 39.5 million—a 21-percent increase over the past 10 years.

This package also includes the names and addresses of associations and organizations that are sources of information about crime and older Americans and a list of further readings.

Crime and Older Americans costs only \$10.00.

Please send me _____ copies of the Information Package on Crime and Older Americans (NCJ 104569) at \$10.00 each.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____

Please detach this form and mail it, with payment, to:
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Box 6000
Rockville, MD 20850

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- Justice expenditure and employment reports**--annual spending and staffing by Federal/State/local governments and by function (police, courts, etc.)
- Computer crime reports**--electronic fund transfer system crimes
- Privacy and security of criminal history information and information policy**--new legislation; maintaining and releasing intelligence and investigative records; data quality issues
- Federal statistics**--data describing Federal case processing, from investigation through prosecution, adjudication, and corrections
- Juvenile corrections reports**--juveniles in custody in public and private detention and correctional facilities
- BJS bulletins and special reports**--timely reports of the most current justice data
- Courts reports**--State court caseload surveys, model annual State reports, State court organization surveys
- Corrections reports**--results of sample surveys and censuses of jails, prisons, parole, probation, and other corrections data
- National Crime Survey reports**--the only regular national survey of crime victims
- Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics (annual)**--broad-based data from 150+ sources (400+ tables, 100+ figures, index)
- Send me a form to sign up for **NIJ Reports** (issued free 6 times a year), which abstracts both private and government criminal justice publications and lists conferences and training sessions in the field.

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(revised July 1987)

Call toll-free 800-732-3277 (local 251-5500) to order BJS reports, to be added to one of the BJS mailing lists, or to speak to a reference specialist in statistics at the Justice Statistics Clearinghouse, National Criminal Justice Reference Service, Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20850. Single copies of reports are free; use NCJ number to order. Postage and handling are charged for bulk orders of single reports. For single copies of multiple titles, up to 10 titles are free; 11-40 titles \$10; more than 40, \$20; libraries call for special rates.

Public-use tapes of BJS data sets and other criminal justice data are available from the Criminal Justice Archive and Information Network, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, MI 48106 (313-763-5010).

National Crime Survey

Criminal victimization in the U.S.:

1985 (final report), NCJ-104273, 5/87
1984 (final report), NCJ-100435, 5/86
1983 (final report), NCJ-96459, 10/85
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1982 (final report), NCJ-92820, 11/84

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Crime prevention measures, NCJ-100438, 3/86
The use of weapons in committing crimes, NCJ-99643, 1/86
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The risk of violent crime, NCJ-97119, 5/85
The economic cost of crime to victims, NCJ-93450, 4/84
Family violence, NCJ-93449, 4/84

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Households touched by crime, 1986 NCJ-105289, 6/87
Criminal victimization, 1984, NCJ-98904, 10/85
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1980 and 1981 extracts, NCJ-96007, 6/85

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