



# Department of Justice

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## Four Percent More Prisoners in First Half of 1992

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The nation's state and federal prison population grew by 31,449 inmates--just under 4 percent--during the first half of the year to reach a record 855,958 men and women as of June 30, the Bureau of Justice Statistics announced today. The Bureau, a component of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, said the six-month increase was well below the record 47,000 increase in prisoners recorded during the first half of 1989.

"This year's increase was the equivalent of about 1,209 more inmates every week, compared to 1,160 per week during the first half of 1991 and more than 1,800 additional prisoners per week during the first half of 1989," said Bureau Director Steven D. Dillingham.

"The 12-month growth from June 1991 to June 1992 was 6.4 percent--an increase of more than 51,000 inmates," he said. "Although this is the lowest rate of growth since 1984, the total increase in prisoners represents the third largest annual increase on record."

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During the first half of the year, the federal prison population grew by 8.1 percent, compared to an increase of 3.4 percent among the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Prisoners in the Western states increased by 3.2 percent during the first half of the year, compared to a 3.6 percent increase in the Northeast. Southern and Midwestern prisoner counts grew by 3.4 and 3.6 percent, respectively.

One state recorded double-digit half-year increases--West Virginia by 14.3 percent. Twelve states had prisoner growth of at least 10 percent for the 12 months ending June 30. Three states recorded declines during this one-year period.

During the first half of this year the number of female inmates in state and federal prisons grew 3.8 percent, the same increase among men. As of June 30, women prisoners accounted for 5.8 percent of all prisoners nationwide.

The number of prisoners per capita on June 30, 1991, also reached a record 319 sentenced offenders (inmates sentenced to a year or more in prison) held in state and federal prisons per 100,000 residents. There were 35 sentenced female offenders in prison for every 100,000 females in the population--for males the

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incarceration rate was almost 18 times higher, 618 sentenced male prisoners for every 100,000 males.

Information about other Bureau of Justice Statistics publications may be obtained from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, Box 6000, Rockville, Maryland 20850. The telephone number is 1-301-251-5500. The toll-free number from places other than Maryland and metropolitan Washington, D.C., is 1-800-732-3277.

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After hours contact: Stu Smith 301-983-9354

Alaska. Prisons and jails form an integrated system. NPS data include both jail and prison populations.

Arizona. Population counts are based on custody data and exclude 86 male inmates housed in local jails due to crowding.

California. Population counts are based on custody data and include civil narcotic addict commitments, county diagnostic cases, Federal and other States' inmates, and salakeepers.

Colorado. Population counts for "inmates with over 1 year maximum sentence" include a small number of inmates with a maximum sentence of 1 year. Beginning June 30, 1991, Colorado is reporting jurisdiction population counts which are not strictly comparable to prisoner counts for prior reference dates.

Connecticut. Prisons and jails form an integrated system. NPS data include both jail and prison populations.

Delaware. In Delaware, populations of inmates given partially suspended sentences (part served in prison, part under probation) are included with the "inmates with over 1 year maximum sentence" only if the prison portion of the sentence exceeds 1 year. Prisons and jails form an integrated system. NPS data include both jail and prison populations.

District of Columbia. In the District of Columbia, populations of inmates given partially suspended sentences (part served in prison, part under probation) are included with the "inmates with over 1 year maximum sentence" only if the prison portion of the sentence exceeds 1 year. Prisons and jails form an integrated system. NPS data include both jail and prison populations.

Federal. Population counts for "inmates with a sentence of 1 year or less," include 1,615 males and 164 females whose sentence length is unknown. Population counts for "unsentenced inmates," include 1,681 males and 14 females who are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Florida. Population counts are based on custody data.

Georgia. Population counts are based on custody data and exclude an undetermined number of inmates housed in local jails solely to ease crowding or awaiting pickup by State authorities.

Hawaii. Prisons and jails form an integrated system. NPS data include both jail and prison populations.

Illinois. Population counts are based on custody data. Counts of "inmates with over 1 year maximum sentence" include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year.

Indiana. Population counts are based on custody data and exclude 658 male and 70 female inmates held in local jails solely to ease crowding or awaiting pickup by State authorities.

Iowa. Population counts are based on custody data.

Maryland. While population totals are actual manual counts, the breakdowns for sentence length are estimates.

Table 1. Prisoners under jurisdiction of State and Federal correctional authorities June 30, 1992, December 31, 1991, and June 30, 1991, by region and State

	Total prison population <sup>a</sup>			Percent change from		Number of sentenced prisoners per 100,000 population on 6/30/92 <sup>b</sup>
	6/30/92	12/31/91	6/30/91	6/30/91 to 6/30/92	12/31/91 to 6/30/92	
<b>U.S. total</b>	<b>855,958</b>	<b>824,509</b>	<b>804,702</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>319</b>
Federal institutions	77,389	71,608	69,504	11.3	8.1	24
State institutions	778,569	752,901	735,198	5.9	3.4	295
<b>Male</b>	<b>806,528</b>	<b>776,913</b>	<b>758,495</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>618</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>49,430</b>	<b>47,596</b>	<b>46,207</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Northeast</b>	<b>136,580</b>	<b>131,866</b>	<b>128,588</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>257</b>
Connecticut	11,419	10,977	11,231	1.7	4.0	268
Maine	1,586	1,579	1,614	(1.7)	.4	122
Massachusetts	9,458	9,155	8,817	7.3	3.3	157
New Hampshire	1,842	1,533	1,498	8.6	7.1	140
New Jersey	23,733	23,483	22,346	8.2	1.1	304
New York	60,254	57,862	56,530	6.6	4.1	332
Pennsylvania	24,344	23,388	22,710	7.2	4.1	200
Rhode Island	2,922	2,771	2,734	6.9	5.4	172
Vermont	1,222	1,118	1,108	10.3	9.3	146
<b>Midwest</b>	<b>161,476</b>	<b>155,917</b>	<b>150,854</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>264</b>
Illinois	30,432	29,115	28,941	5.2	4.5	257
Indiana	13,246	13,008	12,806	3.4	1.8	230
Iowa	4,485	4,145	4,077	10.0	8.2	156
Kansas	6,185	5,903	5,607	10.3	4.8	241
Michigan	37,228	38,423	35,324	5.4	2.2	396
Minnesota	3,647	3,472	3,136	16.3	5.0	81
Missouri	15,997	15,897	15,252	4.9	.6	306
Nebraska	2,566	2,485	2,436	6.6	4.0	152
North Dakota	478	482	497	(3.8)	(2.8)	67
Ohio	37,452	35,744	33,715	11.1	4.8	339
South Dakota	1,464	1,374	1,354	8.1	6.6	203
Wisconsin	8,266	7,849	7,709	7.2	5.3	165
<b>South</b>	<b>312,096</b>	<b>301,866</b>	<b>294,040</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>342</b>
Alabama	17,268	16,760	16,302	5.9	3.0	401
Arkansas	8,168	7,766	7,341	11.5	5.4	325
Delaware	3,889	3,717	3,458	12.5	4.6	368
Dist. of Columbia	10,781	10,455	10,095	6.8	3.1	1,256
Florida	47,012	46,533	46,233	1.7	1.0	343
Georgia	24,332	23,644	23,300	4.4	2.9	351
Kentucky	10,188	9,789	9,425	8.2	4.1	273
Louisiana	20,426	20,003	19,065	7.0	2.1	484
Maryland	19,997	19,291	18,308	8.2	3.7	379
Mississippi	9,517	8,904	8,715	9.2	6.9	353
North Carolina	19,669	18,903	18,708	5.1	4.1	281
Oklahoma	14,125	13,340	12,831	10.1	5.9	441
South Carolina	18,843	18,269	18,346	2.7	3.1	484
Tennessee	11,804	11,474	11,280	2.9	1.1	228
Texas	53,420	51,877	50,811	5.6	3.4	305
Virginia	21,112	19,829	18,416	14.6	6.5	329
West Virginia	1,717	1,502	1,576	8.9	14.3	85
<b>West</b>	<b>168,417</b>	<b>163,252</b>	<b>161,716</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>293</b>
Alaska	2,715	2,706	2,670	1.7	.3	348
Arizona	16,065	15,415	14,900	8.0	4.4	408
California	104,352	101,908	101,995	2.3	2.5	320
Colorado	8,698	8,362	7,893	10.2	3.6	258
Hawaii	2,947	2,700	2,616	12.7	9.1	181
Idaho	2,352	2,143	2,230	5.5	9.8	224
Montana	1,549	1,478	1,487	4.2	4.8	191
Nevada	6,056	5,879	5,888	2.9	3.0	472
New Mexico	3,298	3,119	3,156	4.5	5.7	201
Oregon	6,714	6,732	6,573	2.1	(.3)	225
Utah	2,692	2,625	2,466	9.2	2.6	152
Washington	9,892	9,156	8,751	13.0	8.0	194
Wyoming	1,057	1,099	1,091	(3.1)	(3.8)	229

( ) Indicates a decreased percent change.

<sup>a</sup>The total prisoner population includes those sentenced to more than 1 year (referred to as "sentenced prisoners") and those with sentences of 1 year or less or no sentence. Prisoner counts may differ from those reported in previous publications and are subject to change as updated figures become available.

<sup>b</sup>The rate per 100,000 residents is based upon the number of prisoners with sentences greater than 1 year.

**Massachusetts.** Population counts are based on custody data and exclude 867 males housed in local jails due to crowding. Population counts could not be provided by sentence length. Counts of sentenced prisoners for earlier reporting periods may not be strictly comparable. Population totals are actual counts; however, the male/female breakdown is an estimate believed to be within 0.1% of the actual disaggregation. By law, offenders in Massachusetts may be sentenced to terms of up to 2 1/2 years in locally operated jails and correctional institutions. Such populations are excluded from the State count but are included in published population counts and rates for local jails and correctional institutions.

**Michigan.** Population counts are based on custody data and include inmates in the Community Residential Program.

**North Carolina.** In North Carolina, populations of inmates given partially suspended sentences (part served in prison, part under probation) are included with the "inmates with over 1 year maximum sentence" only if the prison portion of the sentence exceeds 1 year.

While population totals are actual counts, the breakdowns for sentence length are estimates believed to be accurate within 1% of the actual numbers.

**Ohio.** Population counts for inmates with maximum sentences greater than 1 year include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year or less.

**Oklahoma.** Population counts for inmates with maximum sentences greater than 1 year may include a small undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year.

Population counts exclude 369 male and 43 female inmates held in local jails solely to ease crowding.

**Oregon.** Population counts for inmates with maximum sentences greater than 1 year include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year or less.

**Rhode Island.** In Rhode Island, populations of inmates given partially suspended sentences (part served in prison, part under probation) are included with inmates with maximum sentences greater than 1 year only if the prison portion of the sentence exceeds 1 year.

Prisons and jails form an integrated system. NPS data include both jail and prison populations.

**Tennessee.** Population counts are as of June 26, 1992 and include 1,883 males and 74 females housed in local jails solely to ease crowding. Breakdowns of the inmate population by sex were estimated and the count of inmates with maximum sentences greater than 1 year includes a small number with sentences of 1 year.

**Texas.** Population counts are based on custody data.

**Vermont.** Population counts are as of June 5, 1992.

Prisons and jails form an integrated system. NPS data include both jail and prison populations.

**West Virginia.** Population counts exclude 325 male and 20 female inmates housed in local jails solely to ease crowding or awaiting pickup by State authorities.

**Wyoming.** Beginning June 30, 1992, Wyoming will be reporting jurisdiction population counts which may not be strictly comparable to prisoner counts for prior reference dates.

**Table 2. The prison situation among the States, June 30, 1992**

10 States with the largest total prison populations	Number of inmates	10 States with highest incarceration rates*	Sentenced prisoners per 100,000 residents	10 States with highest annual growth G/30/91 to 6/30/92	Percent change	10 States with the largest number of female prisoners	Number of female prisoners
California	104,352	South Carolina	484	Minnesota	16.3%	California	6,344
New York	60,254	Nevada	472	Virginia	14.6	New York	3,465
Texas	53,420	Louisiana	464	Washington	13.0	Texas	2,540
Florida	47,012	Oklahoma	441	Hawaii	12.7	Florida	2,504
Ohio	37,452	Arizona	406	Delaware	12.5	Ohio	2,401
Michigan	37,228	Alabama	401	Arkansas	11.5	Michigan	1,825
Illinois	30,432	Michigan	396	Ohio	11.1	Georgia	1,372
Pennsylvania	24,344	Maryland	379	Kansas	10.3	Illinois	1,343
Georgia	24,332	Delaware	368	Vermont	10.3	Louisiana	1,333
New Jersey	23,733	Mississippi	353	Colorado	10.2	Virginia	1,182

Note: The District of Columbia as a wholly urban jurisdiction is excluded.

\*The number of prisoners with sentences greater than 1 year per 100,000 residents.

**Table 3. Average weekly growth in the number of prisoners during the first half of the year, 1989-92**

	Average weekly growth in the number of prisoners			
	January to June 1992	January to June, 1991	January to June, 1990	January to June, 1989
U.S. total	1,209	1,160	1,642	1,839
Federal	222	80	182	186
State	987	1,080	1,460	1,653
Male	1,139	1,083	1,529	1,858
Female	70	77	113	182
Regions				
Northeast	181	200	304	347
Midwest	214	195	314	363
South	363	385	542	560
West	189	300	300	383

Note: Comparisons are for December 31 and June 30.