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Department of Justice



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PROBATION AND PAROLE POPULATION REACHES ALMOST 3.8 MILLION

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- There were almost 3.8 million adult men and women on probation or parole at the end of 1995, an increase of about 119,000 during the year, the Department of Justice announced today. The 3.2 percent increase was slightly lower than the 3.4 percent average annual growth rate since 1990.

There were more than 3,090,000 adults under federal, state, or local jurisdiction on probation on December 31, 1995, and more than 700,000 on parole.

The number of adults in the United States under some form of correctional supervision--including those held in local jails and state and federal prisons--totaled more than 5.3 million, which was 2.8 percent of all adults in 1995. The number on probation rose by 4 percent during the year, the number on parole by 1 percent and the number in jail or prison by 6 percent. Since

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1980 the total number under correctional supervision has almost tripled, growing at an average annual rate of 7.4 percent.

Probationers include adult offenders whom courts place in community supervision instead of incarceration. Parolees include those adults conditionally released to community supervision after serving a prison term. They are subject to being returned to jail or prison for rule violations or other offenses.

Half of all offenders on probation in 1995 were on probation for a felony. A quarter were on probation for a misdemeanor. One in every six probationers had been convicted of driving while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol. Nearly all of the offenders on parole (94 percent) had served a felony sentence.

Three-quarters of probationers and parolees were required to maintain regular contact with a supervisory agency. The other offenders were not required to have regular contact (9 percent) or had failed to report and could not be located (9 percent).

Texas had the largest number of residents on probation and parole, with more than 518,000 under community supervision,

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followed by California with nearly 379,000. At the end of 1995, almost 3.9 percent of all adults in Texas (3,892 offenders per 100,000 resident adults) were on probation or parole.

Thirteen states reported that fewer than 1 percent of their adult populations were on probation or parole. North Dakota and West Virginia had the lowest probation and parole supervision rate (511 offenders per 100,000 adults), followed by Kentucky (546) and Mississippi (574).

During 1995 five states reported increases of at least 10 percent in their probation populations and 10 reported similar increases in their parole populations. Arkansas, with a 14.2 percent rise in its probation population, and Colorado, with a 22.8 percent rise in its parole population, led the nation.

Seven states and the District of Columbia reported a decrease in the number of adults on probation, led by Alaska (down 11.6 percent), the District of Columbia (down 9.2 percent) and Maryland (down 7.7 percent).

Women made up about 21 percent of the nation's probationers and 10 percent of the parolees.

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Approximately 64 percent of the adults on probation were white, and 34 percent were black. Fifty percent of parolees were white, 49 percent black. Hispanics, who may be of any race, represented 14 percent of probationers and 21 percent of parolees.

The data were collected and analyzed by Allen J. Beck, Jodi M. Brown and Darrell K. Gilliard, Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) statisticians. Additional criminal justice statistical information may be obtained from the BJS Clearinghouse, Box 179, Annapolis Junction, Maryland 20701-0179. The telephone number is 1-800/732-3277. Fax orders to 410/792-4358.

BJS's home page address on the Internet is:

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>

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After hours contact: Allen Beck on 888/582-5828

Adults on probation, 1995

Region and jurisdiction	Beginning probation population, 1/1/95	During 1995		Ending probation population, 12/31/95	Percent change in probation population during 1995	Number on probation on 12/31/95 per 100,000 adult residents
		Entries	Exits			
U.S. total	2,981,400	1,501,589	1,381,636	3,090,626	3.7%	1,593
Federal ^{a,b}	42,309	18,601	22,404	38,506	--	20
State	2,939,091	1,482,988	1,359,232	3,052,120	3.8	1,573
Northeast	526,375	232,686	214,444	544,620	3.5%	1,402
Connecticut	53,453	37,135	36,081	54,507	2.0	2,201
Maine ^c	8,638			8,641	↑	923
Massachusetts	46,670	34,611	37,601	43,680	-6.4	941
New Hampshire	4,323	3,432	3,408	4,347	.6	509
New Jersey	125,299	59,376	57,552	127,123	1.5	2,125
New York	163,613	45,061	35,175	173,499	6.0	1,276
Pennsylvania	99,524	39,764	32,465	106,823	7.3	1,166
Rhode Island	18,179	9,813	9,314	18,678	2.7	2,483
Vermont	6,676	3,494	2,848	7,322	9.7	1,672
Midwest	642,924	341,567	316,851	671,094	4.4%	1,472
Illinois ^c	104,664	63,862	61,723	109,489	4.6	1,258
Indiana ^d	83,555			83,555	--	1,936
Iowa	15,902	10,456	9,779	16,579	4.3	783
Kansas ^c	17,256	11,831	7,726	16,547	-4.1	884
Michigan ^c	142,640	68,000	62,338	148,377	4.0	2,110
Minnesota ^c	81,972	55,911	57,131	83,778	2.0	2,490
Missouri ^c	36,295	21,887	18,453	40,595	11.8	1,030
Nebraska	18,639	15,485	14,697	19,427	4.2	1,627
North Dakota	2,036	1,474	1,219	2,291	12.5	486
Ohio ^c	90,190	68,077	59,558	99,603	10.4	1,201
South Dakota	3,874	4,393	4,643	3,624	-6.5	693
Wisconsin ^c	45,901	20,191	19,584	47,269	3.0	1,254
South	1,214,375	618,343	573,402	1,254,817	3.3%	1,846
Alabama ^c	31,284	4,696	4,498	31,416	.4	990
Arkansas	19,606	8,431	5,656	22,381	14.2	1,220
Delaware	15,507	7,395	6,555	16,347	5.4	3,036
District of Columbia	11,306	4,733	5,777	10,262	-9.2	2,334
Florida ^c	247,014	146,989	133,585	255,550	3.5	2,367
Georgia ^c	140,694	69,102	67,228	142,453	1.3	2,699
Kentucky	11,417	5,582	5,500	11,499	.7	398
Louisiana	33,604	11,431	11,282	33,753	.4	1,088
Maryland	76,940	35,530	41,441	71,029	-7.7	1,884
Mississippi	9,042	3,511	2,958	9,595	6.1	496
North Carolina	90,418	49,804	42,301	97,921	8.3	1,815
Oklahoma ^c	26,285	14,195	13,029	27,866	6.0	1,161
South Carolina	40,005	16,643	14,482	42,166	5.4	1,545
Tennessee	34,896	20,431	18,594	36,733	5.3	931
Texas	396,276	200,365	181,144	415,497	4.9	3,119
Virginia	24,089	19,394	19,219	24,264	.7	485
West Virginia ^c	5,992	111	153	6,085	1.6	433
West	555,417	290,392	254,535	581,589	4.7%	1,397
Alaska	2,899	960	1,296	2,563	-11.6	619
Arizona ^c	34,365	15,514	10,728	32,532	-5.3	1,076
California	277,655	142,560	133,229	286,986	3.4	1,259
Colorado ^c	39,065	25,042	21,840	42,010	7.5	1,519
Hawaii	13,088	6,620	6,385	13,323	1.8	1,518
Idaho	5,770	6,110	5,711	6,169	6.9	757
Montana	5,656	2,022	1,833	5,845	3.3	922
Nevada	9,410	6,043	5,377	10,076	7.1	890
New Mexico	8,063	7,727	7,514	8,276	2.6	698
Oregon	38,086	13,397	11,758	39,725	4.3	1,695
Utah	7,714	4,136	3,372	8,478	9.9	664
Washington ^c	110,279	58,476	43,640	122,306	10.9	3,048
Wyoming	3,367	1,785	1,852	3,300	-2.0	960

Note: Counts are subject to revision. Final counts will be published in *Correctional Populations in the United States, 1995*.

:Not available.

†Less than 0.05%.

--Not calculated.

^aDefined as persons received for probation directly from court.

^bThe decrease resulted from a review of the statistical database by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, which identified and closed cases that had been coded incorrectly.

^cBecause of nonresponse or incomplete data, the population on December 31, 1995, does not equal the population on January 1, 1995, plus entries, minus exits.

^dData are for 12/31/94. See explanatory notes.

Adults on parole, 1995

Region and jurisdiction	Beginning parole population, 1/1/95	During 1995		Ending parole population, 12/31/95	Percent change in parole population during 1995	Number on parole on 12/31/95 per 100,000 adult residents
		Entries	Exits			
U.S. total	690,371	411,369	391,298	700,174	1.4%	361
Federal ^{a,b,c}	61,430	29,491	22,552	59,136	--	30
State	628,941	381,878	368,746	641,038	1.9	330
Northeast	173,882	77,451	67,082	184,122	5.9%	474
Connecticut	1,146	1,934	1,847	1,233	7.6	50
Maine ^c	40	1	2	41	2.5	4
Massachusetts ^c	4,755	3,727	3,702	4,639	-2.4	100
New Hampshire ^c	835	702	762	785	-6.0	92
New Jersey	41,802	17,198	11,589	47,411	13.4	793
New York	53,832	27,158	25,422	55,568	3.2	409
Pennsylvania	70,355	25,814	22,935	73,234	4.1	799
Rhode Island	525	597	529	593	13.0	79
Vermont	592	320	294	618	4.4	141
Midwest	82,478	62,155	56,698	87,364	5.9%	192
Illinois	26,695	22,706	19,860	29,541	10.7	339
Indiana	3,409	5,310	5,120	3,599	5.6	83
Iowa	3,696	1,665	1,826	3,535	-4.4	167
Kansas	6,291	3,741	3,938	6,094	-3.1	325
Michigan	12,846	9,078	8,062	13,862	7.9	197
Minnesota	1,904	2,581	2,368	2,117	11.2	63
Missouri ^f	12,592	5,352	5,278	13,023	3.4	330
Nebraska	771	718	828	661	-14.3	55
North Dakota	94	209	189	114	21.3	24
Ohio	6,453	5,332	5,203	6,582	2.0	79
South Dakota	662	590	564	688	3.9	132
Wisconsin ^c	7,065	4,873	3,462	7,548	6.8	200
South	253,731	101,722	111,741	243,309	-4.1%	358
Alabama	7,235	1,525	1,525	7,235	0	228
Arkansas	5,224	4,108	4,477	4,855	-7.1	265
Delaware	1,029	40	259	810	-21.3	150
District of Columbia	6,574	2,702	2,580	6,696	1.9	1,523
Florida ^c	20,573	3,769	9,649	13,746	-33.2	127
Georgia ^c	17,505	10,862	9,479	19,434	11.0	368
Kentucky	4,380	3,256	3,379	4,257	-2.8	147
Louisiana	17,112	9,793	7,877	19,028	11.2	613
Maryland	14,795	11,921	10,968	15,748	6.4	418
Mississippi ^c	1,519	840	847	1,510	- .6	78
North Carolina	20,159	11,530	13,188	18,501	-8.2	343
Oklahoma	2,604	661	909	2,356	-9.5	98
South Carolina	6,077	1,522	1,702	5,897	-3.0	216
Tennessee	9,353	3,357	3,859	8,851	-5.4	224
Texas	108,563	24,425	29,899	103,089	-5.0	774
Virginia	9,649	10,766	10,227	10,188	5.6	204
West Virginia	1,380	645	917	1,108	-19.7	79
West	118,850	140,550	133,225	126,243	6.2%	303
Alaska	412	439	392	459	11.4	111
Arizona	4,351	5,693	5,935	4,109	-5.6	136
California	85,082	118,948	112,223	91,807	7.9	403
Colorado	2,463	3,021	2,460	3,024	22.8	109
Hawaii	1,650	668	629	1,689	2.4	192
Idaho ^c	931	539	676	862	-7.4	106
Montana	710	431	386	755	6.3	119
Nevada	3,529	1,787	1,856	3,460	-2.0	306
New Mexico	1,078	815	775	1,118	3.7	94
Oregon	14,264	6,160	5,405	15,019	5.3	641
Utah	2,417	1,818	1,504	2,731	13.0	214
Washington	1,650	75	850	875	-47.0	22
Wyoming	313	156	134	335	7.0	97

Note: Counts are subject to revision. Final counts will be published in *Correctional Populations in the United States, 1995*.

--Not calculated.

^aDefined as persons received for probation supervision upon release from prison.

Includes supervised release, parole, military parole, special parole, and mandatory release.

^bThe decrease resulted from a review of the statistical database by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, which identified and closed cases that had been coded incorrectly.

^cBecause of nonresponse or incomplete data, the population on December 31, 1995, does not equal the population on January 1, 1995, plus entries, minus exits.

Number of adults under community supervision or incarcerated, 1980-95

Year	Total estimated correctional population	Community supervision		Incarcerated*	Percent of U.S. adults under supervision
		Probation	Parole		
1980	1,840,400	1,118,097	220,438	501,886	1.1%
1985	3,011,500	1,968,712	300,203	742,579	1.7%
1990	4,348,000	2,670,234	531,407	1,146,401	2.3%
1991	4,535,600	2,728,472	590,442	1,216,664	2.4
1992	4,762,600	2,811,611	658,601	1,292,347	2.5
1993	4,944,000	2,903,061	676,100	1,364,881	2.6
1994	5,147,100	2,981,400	690,371	1,475,329	2.7
1995 ^b	5,357,800	3,090,626	700,174	1,567,000	2.8
Percent change,					
1994-95	4%	4%	1%	6%	
1980-95	191	176	218	212	
Annual average change,					
1990-95	4%	3%	6%	6%	
1980-95	7	7	8	8	

Note: Counts for probation, prison, and parole are for December 31 of each year. Jail counts are for June 30. Because some persons may have multiple statuses, the sum of the number of persons incarcerated or under community supervision overestimates the total correctional population. Percent of adults under supervision was computed using the U.S. adult resident population on July 1 of each year.

*The incarcerated population count consists of inmates in the custody of jail and prison authorities.

^bIncarcerated total was estimated and rounded to the nearest 1,000.

Community corrections among the States, yearend 1995

10 States with the largest 1995 community correction populations	Number supervised	10 States with the largest percent increase	Percent increase	10 States with the highest rates of supervision, 1995	Persons supervised per 100,000 adult U.S. residents*	10 States with the lowest rates of supervision, 1995	Persons supervised per 100,000 adult U.S. residents*
Probation:							
Texas	415,497	Arkansas	14.2%	Texas	3,119	Kentucky	398
California	286,986	North Dakota	12.5	Washington	3,048	West Virginia	433
Florida	255,550	Missouri	11.8	Delaware	3,036	Virginia	485
New York	173,499	Washington	10.9	Georgia	2,699	North Dakota	486
Michigan	148,337	Ohio	10.4	Minnesota	2,490	Mississippi	496
Georgia	142,453	Utah	9.9	Rhode Island	2,483	New Hampshire	509
New Jersey	127,123	Vermont	9.7	Florida	2,367	Alaska	619
Washington	122,306	North Carolina	8.3	Connecticut	2,201	Utah	664
Illinois	109,489	Colorado	7.5	New Jersey	2,125	South Dakota	693
Pennsylvania	106,823	Pennsylvania	7.3	Michigan	2,110	New Mexico	698
Parole:							
Texas	103,089	Colorado	22.8%	Pennsylvania	799	Maine	4
California	91,807	North Dakota	21.3	New Jersey	793	Washington	22
Pennsylvania	73,234	New Jersey	13.4	Texas	774	North Dakota	24
New York	55,568	Rhode Island	13.0	Oregon	641	Connecticut	50
New Jersey	47,411	Utah	13.0	Louisiana	613	Nebraska	55
Illinois	29,541	Alaska	11.4	Maryland	418	Minnesota	63
Georgia	19,434	Louisiana	11.2	New York	409	Mississippi	78
Louisiana	19,028	Minnesota	11.2	California	403	West Virginia	79
North Carolina	18,501	Georgia	11.0	Georgia	368	Ohio	79
Maryland	15,748	Illinois	10.7	North Carolina	343	Rhode Island	79

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

*Rates are computed using the U.S. adult resident population on July 1, 1995.

Characteristics of persons under community supervision, 1995

	Probation	Parole
Number of persons supervised	3,090,626	700,174
Sex		
Male	79%	90%
Female	21	10
Race		
White	64%	50%
Black	34	49
Other	2	1
Hispanic origin		
Hispanic	14%	21%
Non-Hispanic	86	79
Supervision status		
Active	78%	78%
Inactive	8	11
Absconded	10	6
Out-of-State	2	4
Other	2	1
Type of offense		
Felony	54%	--
Misdemeanor	26	--
Driving while intoxicated	17	--
Other infractions	3	--
Sentenced to incarceration		
More than 1 year	...	94%
1 year or less	...	6

Note: Percentages based on reported data only. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.
 †Less than 0.05%.
 --Not reported.
 ...Not applicable.

Explanatory notes

The 1995 Probation and Parole Data Surveys provide a count of the total number of persons supervised in the community on January 1 and December 31, 1995, and a count of the number entering and leaving supervision during the year. These surveys cover all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Federal system.

The State of Indiana, 7 local agencies in Michigan, 2 in Ohio, and 1 in Washington did not provide data. For Indiana, data from 1994 were used but will be updated when available. For the other nonreporting agencies, the 12/31/94 population count was used as the 1/1/95 count and the 12/31/95 count.

Probation —

The 1995 Probation Data Survey was sent to 273 respondents — 38 central State reporters and 235 separate State, county or court agencies. States with multiple reporters were Alabama (3), Arizona (2), Colorado (9), Florida (15), Georgia (2), Idaho (2), Michigan (114), Missouri (2), New Mexico (2), Ohio (52), Oklahoma (3), Tennessee (3), Washington (24), and West Virginia (2).

Parole —

The 1995 Parole Data Survey was sent to 56 respondents — 52 central reporters, 2 Interstate Compact reporters, the California Youth Authority, and 1 municipal agency. States with multiple reporters were Alabama (2), California (2), West Virginia (2), and Idaho (2).

Number of persons under supervision per 100,000 adult U.S. residents

