



Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin

November 2004, NCJ 205335

Prisoners in 2003

By Paige M. Harrison
and Allen J. Beck, Ph.D.
BJS Statisticians

The total number of prisoners under the jurisdiction of Federal or State adult correctional authorities was 1,470,045 at yearend 2003. During the year the States added 20,370 prisoners and the Federal prison system added 9,531 prisoners. Overall, the Nation's prison population grew 2.1%, which was less than the average annual growth of 3.4% since yearend 1995.

The rate of incarceration in prison at yearend 2003 was 482 sentenced inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents — up from 411 in 1995. About 1 in every 109 men and 1 in every 1,613 women were sentenced prisoners under the jurisdiction of State or Federal authorities.

Overall, the United States incarcerated 2,212,475 persons at yearend 2003. This total represents persons held in —

- Federal and State prisons (1,387,848, which excludes State and Federal prisoners in local jails)
- territorial prisons (16,494)
- local jails (691,301)
- facilities operated by or exclusively for the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, formerly the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (10,323)
- military facilities (2,165)
- jails in Indian country (2,006 as of midyear 2002)
- juvenile facilities (102,338 as of October 2002).

Highlights

Smaller States had high rates of prison population growth during 2003

Prison population	Number of inmates	Incarceration rate, 12/31/03	Inmates per 100,000 residents*	Growth, 12/31/02 to 12/31/03	Percent change
5 highest					
Federal	173,059	Louisiana	801	North Dakota	11.4%
Texas	166,911	Mississippi	768	Minnesota	10.3
California	164,487	Texas	702	Montana	8.9
Florida	79,594	Oklahoma	636	Wyoming	7.8
New York	65,198	Alabama	635	Hawaii	7.5
5 lowest					
North Dakota	1,239	Maine	149	Connecticut	-4.2%
Wyoming	1,872	Minnesota	155	New York	-2.8
Vermont	1,944	North Dakota	181	Michigan	-2.4
Maine	2,013	Rhode Island	184	New Jersey	-2.3
New Hampshire	2,434	New Hampshire	188	Ohio	-1.9

*Prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year per 100,000 in the resident population.

- During 2003, 11 States had increases of at least 5%, led by North Dakota (up 11.4%), Minnesota (up 10.3%), and Montana (up 8.9%).
- During 2003, 11 States experienced prison population decreases, led by Connecticut (down 4.2%), New York (down 2.8%), Michigan (down 2.4%), and New Jersey (down 2.3%).
- In 2003 the number of inmates under State jurisdiction increased by 20,370 inmates (1.6%), less than the growth in 2002 (2.4%).
- The Federal Bureau of Prisons increased by over 9,500 inmates (5.8%). The Federal system is the largest prison system.
- At yearend 2003 privately operated facilities housed 95,522 inmates (5.7% of State and 12.6% of Federal inmates); local jails housed 73,343 State and Federal inmates (5.0% of all prisoners).
- On December 31, 2003, State prisons were estimated to be at capacity to 16% above capacity; Federal prisons were operating at 39% above capacity.
- At yearend 2003, 101,179 women were in State or Federal prisons — 6.9% of all prison inmates.
- Among the more than 1.4 million sentenced inmates at yearend 2003, an estimated 403,165 were black males between the ages of 20 and 39. At yearend 2003, 9.3% of black males age 25 to 29 were in prison, compared to 2.6% of Hispanic males and 1.1% of white males in the same age group.
- In 2003 an estimated 388,700 sentenced State and Federal inmates were between ages 40 and 54, up from 236,000 in 1995. These inmates accounted for about 46% of the total growth (324,258) in the sentenced prison population since 1995.

1 in every 140 U.S. residents in prison or jail at yearend 2003

On December 31, 2003, 1,387,848 inmates were in the custody of State and Federal prison authorities, and 691,301 were in the custody of local jail authorities (table 1). (*Custody* is defined on page 10.) Since yearend 2002 the total incarcerated population has increased by 52,600, or 2.6% — less than the average annual increase since 1995 (3.5%). Including inmates in public and privately operated facilities, the number of inmates in State prisons increased 1.4% during 2003; the number in Federal prisons, 6.6%; and in local jails, 3.9%.

The rate of incarceration in prison and jail was 714 inmates per 100,000 residents in 2003, up from 601 in 1995. At yearend 2003, 1 in every 140 U.S. residents were incarcerated in State or Federal prison or a local jail.

U.S. prison population rose 2.1% during 2003

In 2003 the growth in the number of inmates under State or Federal jurisdiction (2.1%) was less than the percentage increase recorded for 2002 (2.6%) (table 2). (*Jurisdiction* is defined on page 10.) The population under the jurisdiction of State and Federal authorities increased by 29,901

inmates during 2003, smaller than the increase in 2002 (up 36,112). Since December 31, 1995, the U.S. prison population has grown an average of 43,266 inmates per year (3.4%).

The Federal prison population totaled 173,059 at yearend 2003, up from 163,528 at yearend 2002. Most of the Federal prison growth occurred in the first half of the year (up 4.2% between January 1 and June 30). The population rose 1.5% in the second half of 2003 — a rate more than twice that of State prisoners (up 0.7%).

Table 1. Number of persons held in State or Federal prisons or in local jails, 1995, and 2000-2003

	Total inmates in custody ^a	Prisoners in custody on December 31		Inmates in jail on June 30	Incarceration rate ^b
		Federal	State		
1995	1,585,586	89,538	989,004	507,044	601
2000	1,937,482	133,921	1,176,269	621,149	684
2001	1,961,247	143,337	1,180,155	631,240	685
2002	2,033,022	151,618	1,209,331	665,475	701
2003	2,085,620	161,673	1,226,175	691,301	714
Percent change, 2002-2003	2.6%	6.6%	1.4%	3.9%	
Average annual increase, 1995-2003	3.5%	7.7%	2.7%	4.0%	

Note: Counts include all inmates held in public and private adult correctional facilities.

^aTotal counts include Federal inmates in non-secure privately operated facilities (6,471 in 2003, 6,598 in 2002, 6,515 in 2001 and 6,143 in 2000).

^bNumber of prison and jail inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents at yearend.

Table 2. Change in the State and Federal prison populations, 1995-2003

	Annual increase in the number of prisoners		Percent change*
	Custody	Jurisdiction	
1995	88,395	71,172	6.7%
1996	49,222	57,494	5.1
1997	48,800	58,785	5.0
1998	47,905	58,420	4.7
1999	36,957	43,796	3.4
2000	25,182	18,191	1.3
2001	14,647	15,521	1.1
2002	37,457	36,112	2.6
2003	26,899	29,901	2.1

Average annual increase, 1995-2003 41,718 43,266 3.4%

Note: Counts based on comparable methods were used to calculate the annual increase and percent change. See *Methodology* for changes by State.

*Change in the number of prisoners under State and Federal jurisdiction.

At yearend 2003 16,494 inmates held in U.S. Territories

The U.S. Territories and Commonwealths — American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands — reported 16,494 inmates in the custody of their prison systems at yearend 2003, an increase of 1.8% since 2002.

Prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year totaled 12,532 (more than three-quarters of the total territorial prison population).

Relative to the resident populations in the Territories, the rate of incarceration was 292 prisoners per 100,000 residents.

Of the 5 Territories, the U.S. Virgin Islands had the highest prison incarceration rate (338 inmates per 100,000 residents), followed by

Prisoners in custody of correctional authorities in the U.S. Territories and Commonwealths, yearend 2002 and 2003

Jurisdiction	Total			Sentenced to more than 1 year			
	2003	2002	Percent change 2002-03	2003	2002	Percent change 2002-03	Incarceration rate, 2003*
Total	16,494	16,200	1.8%	12,532	12,211	2.6%	292
American Samoa	174	169	3.0	143	143	0.0	247
Guam	579	546	6.0	277	219	26.5	169
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	136	123	10.6	77	76	1.3	101
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico	15,046	14,705	2.3	11,667	11,351	2.8	301
U.S. Virgin Islands	559	657	-14.9	368	422	-12.8	338

*The number of prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year per 100,000 persons in the resident population.

Puerto Rico (with 301). Puerto Rico, the largest of the Territories, also held the largest number of sentenced prisoners, 11,667 at yearend 2003.

11 States reported increases of at least 5% during 2003; 11 States had decreases

Between January 1 and December 31, 2003, North Dakota experienced the largest increase in prison populations (up 11.4%), followed by Minnesota (10.3%), Montana (up 8.9%), and Wyoming (up 7.8%) (table 3). Eleven States experienced a decline. Connecticut had the largest decline (down 4.2%), followed by New York (down 2.8%), Michigan (down 2.4%), and New Jersey (down 2.3%). In absolute numbers of inmates, 4 jurisdictions grew by at least 2,000 inmates during 2003. The Federal system (up 9,531), experienced the largest growth, followed by Texas (up 4,908), Florida (up 4,384), and California (up 3,126). New York and Michigan had a drop of at least 1,000 inmates (down 1,867 and 1,233, respectively).

Overall, the number of inmates under jurisdiction in the West grew 2.9%, followed by those in the South (2.2%) and the Midwest (0.8%). The number of inmates declined in the Northeast (down 1.5%). In the same period the Federal system grew 5.8%.

The prison incarceration rate reached 482 per 100,000 residents in 2003, up from 411 in 1995

Eleven States exceeded the national prison incarceration rate of 482 per 100,000 residents, led by Louisiana (801), Mississippi (768), Texas (702), and Oklahoma (636) (table 4). Nine States, including Maine (149), Minnesota (155), and North Dakota (181), had rates that were less than half the national rate.

Since 1995 the sentenced inmate population in State prisons has averaged a growth of 3.3% per year. During this period 15 States had an average annual growth of at least 5%, led by North Dakota (up 9.8%), Oregon (up 8.7%), and West Virginia (up 8.3%). Between 1995 and 2003 the Federal system grew an average of 7.7% per year, an average annual increase of 8,532 inmates.

Table 3. Prisoners under the jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities, by region and jurisdiction, yearend 2002 to 2003

Region and jurisdiction	Total			Percent change	
	12/31/03	06/30/03	12/31/02	12/31/02-12/31/03	6/30/03-12/31/03
U.S. total	1,470,045	1,457,884	1,440,144	2.1%	0.8%
Federal	173,059	170,461	163,528	5.8	1.5
State	1,296,986	1,287,423	1,276,616	1.6	0.7
Northeast	173,330	175,753	175,907	-1.5%	-1.4%
Connecticut ^a	19,846	20,525	20,720	-4.2	-3.3
Maine	2,013	2,009	1,900	5.9	0.2
Massachusetts	10,232	10,511	10,329	-0.9	-2.7
New Hampshire	2,434	2,483	2,451	-0.7	-2.0
New Jersey	27,246	28,213	27,891	-2.3	-3.4
New York	65,198	65,914	67,065	-2.8	-1.1
Pennsylvania	40,890	40,545	40,168	1.8	0.9
Rhode Island ^a	3,527	3,569	3,520	0.2	-1.2
Vermont ^a	1,944	1,984	1,863	4.3	-2.0
Midwest	247,388	247,478	245,303	0.8%	0.0%
Illinois	43,418	43,186	42,693	1.7	0.5
Indiana	23,069	22,576	21,611	6.7	2.2
Iowa ^b	8,546	8,395	8,398	1.8	1.8
Kansas	9,132	9,009	8,935	2.2	1.4
Michigan	49,358	49,524	50,591	-2.4	-0.3
Minnesota	7,865	7,612	7,129	10.3	3.3
Missouri	30,303	30,649	30,099	0.7	-1.1
Nebraska	4,040	4,103	4,058	-0.4	-1.5
North Dakota	1,239	1,168	1,112	11.4	6.1
Ohio	44,778	45,831	45,646	-1.9	-2.3
South Dakota	3,026	3,059	2,918	3.7	-1.1
Wisconsin	22,614	22,366	22,113	2.3	1.1
South	587,814	578,865	575,048	2.2%	1.5%
Alabama	29,253	28,440	27,947	4.7	2.9
Arkansas	13,084	12,378	13,091	-0.1	5.7
Delaware ^a	6,794	6,879	6,778	0.2	-1.2
Florida ^{b,c}	79,594	77,316	75,210	5.8	2.9
Georgia ^b	47,208	47,004	47,445	-0.5	0.4
Kentucky	16,622	16,377	15,820	5.1	1.5
Louisiana	36,047	36,091	36,032	0.0	-0.1
Maryland	23,791	24,186	24,162	-1.5	-1.6
Mississippi	23,182	20,542	22,705	2.1	12.9
North Carolina	33,560	33,334	32,832	2.2	0.7
Oklahoma	22,821	23,004	22,802	0.1	-0.8
South Carolina	23,719	24,247	23,715	0.0	-2.2
Tennessee	25,403	25,409	24,989	1.7	0.0
Texas	166,911	164,222	162,003	3.0	1.6
Virginia	35,067	34,733	34,973	0.3	1.0
West Virginia	4,758	4,703	4,544	4.7	1.2
West	288,454	285,327	280,358	2.9%	1.1%
Alaska ^a	4,527	4,431	4,398	2.9	2.2
Arizona ^b	31,170	30,741	29,359	6.2	1.4
California	164,487	163,361	161,361	1.9	0.7
Colorado	19,671	19,085	18,833	4.4	3.1
Hawaii ^a	5,828	5,635	5,423	7.5	3.4
Idaho	5,887	5,825	5,746	2.5	1.1
Montana	3,620	3,440	3,323	8.9	5.2
Nevada	10,543	10,527	10,478	0.6	0.2
New Mexico	6,223	6,173	5,991	3.9	0.8
Oregon	12,715	12,422	12,085	5.2	2.4
Utah	5,763	5,594	5,562	3.6	3.0
Washington	16,148	16,284	16,062	0.5	-0.8
Wyoming	1,872	1,809	1,737	7.8	3.5

Note: As of yearend 2001, the transfer of responsibility for sentenced felons from the District of Columbia to the Federal Bureau of Prisons was completed. The District of Columbia is no longer eligible to participate in NPS.

^aPrisons and jails form one integrated system.

^bPopulation figures are based on custody counts. (See *Jurisdiction notes*.)

^cJurisdiction counts reported by Florida totaled 82,012 on 12/31/03 and 80,352 on 6/30/03.

Table 4. Sentenced prisoners under the jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities, yearend 1995, 2002, and 2003

Region and jurisdiction	Sentenced prisoners			Percent change 2002-03	Average change 1995-03 ^a	Incarceration rate 2003 ^b
	2003	2002	1995			
U.S. total	1,409,280	1,380,516	1,085,022	2.1%	3.3%	482
Federal	151,919	143,040	83,663	6.2	7.7	52
State	1,257,361	1,237,476	1,001,359	1.6	2.9	430
Northeast	163,494	165,783	155,030	-1.4%	0.7%	300
Connecticut	13,587	14,082	10,419	-3.5	3.4	389
Maine	1,951	1,817	1,326	7.4	4.9	149
Massachusetts ^c	8,814	8,947	10,427	-1.5	-2.1	233
New Hampshire	2,434	2,451	2,015	-0.7	2.4	188
New Jersey ^d	27,246	27,891	27,066	-2.3	0.1	314
New York	65,198	67,065	68,486	-2.8	-0.6	339
Pennsylvania	40,880	40,164	32,410	1.8	2.9	330
Rhode Island	1,983	2,045	1,833	-3.0	1.0	184
Vermont	1,401	1,321	1,048	6.1	3.7	226
Midwest	246,053	244,566	192,177	0.6%	3.1%	375
Illinois ^d	43,418	42,693	37,658	1.7	1.8	342
Indiana	23,007	21,542	16,046	6.8	4.6	370
Iowa ^d	8,546	8,398	5,906	1.8	4.7	290
Kansas ^d	9,132	8,935	7,054	2.2	3.3	334
Michigan	49,358	50,591	41,112	-2.4	2.3	489
Minnesota	7,865	7,129	4,846	10.3	6.2	155
Missouri	30,275	30,080	19,134	0.6	5.9	529
Nebraska	3,976	3,972	3,006	0.1	3.6	228
North Dakota	1,147	1,025	544	11.9	9.8	181
Ohio ^d	44,778	45,646	44,663	-1.9	0.0	391
South Dakota	3,016	2,911	1,871	3.6	6.1	393
Wisconsin	21,535	21,644	10,337	-0.5	--	392
South	566,679	553,493	446,491	2.6%	3.0%	542
Alabama	28,612	27,532	20,130	3.9	4.5	635
Arkansas	13,013	12,999	8,520	0.1	5.4	476
Delaware	4,122	3,659	3,014	12.7	4.0	501
Florida	79,594	75,204	63,866	5.8	2.8	463
Georgia	47,200	47,424	34,168	-0.5	4.1	539
Kentucky	16,190	15,572	12,060	4.0	3.7	392
Louisiana	36,047	36,032	25,195	0.0	4.6	801
Maryland	23,230	23,274	20,450	-0.2	1.6	420
Mississippi	22,168	21,397	12,251	3.6	7.7	768
North Carolina	29,394	28,613	27,914	2.7	0.6	348
Oklahoma ^d	22,448	22,702	18,151	-1.1	2.7	636
South Carolina	22,942	22,837	19,015	0.5	2.4	551
Tennessee ^d	25,403	24,989	15,206	1.7	6.6	433
Texas ^d	156,534	151,782	127,766	3.1	2.6	702
Virginia	35,067	34,973	27,260	0.3	3.2	472
West Virginia	4,715	4,504	2,483	4.7	8.3	260
West	281,135	273,634	207,661	2.7%	3.9%	419
Alaska	2,629	2,577	2,042	2.0	3.2	401
Arizona	29,722	28,008	20,291	6.1	4.9	525
California	162,678	159,984	131,745	1.7	2.7	455
Colorado	19,671	18,833	11,063	4.4	7.5	430
Hawaii	4,167	3,840	2,590	8.5	6.1	325
Idaho	5,887	5,746	3,328	2.5	7.4	427
Montana	3,620	3,323	1,999	8.9	7.7	393
Nevada	10,543	10,478	7,713	0.6	4.0	462
New Mexico	5,934	5,631	3,925	5.4	5.3	314
Oregon	12,695	12,080	6,515	5.1	8.7	354
Utah	5,681	5,475	3,447	3.8	6.4	240
Washington	16,036	15,922	11,608	0.7	4.1	260
Wyoming	1,872	1,737	1,395	7.8	3.7	372

--Not calculated.

^aThe average annual percentage increase from 1995 to 2003.

^bPrisoners with sentences of more than 1 year per 100,000 residents.

^cThe incarceration rate includes an estimated 6,200 inmates sentenced to more than 1 year but held in local jails or houses of corrections.

^dIncludes some inmates sentenced to 1 year or less.

The number of female prisoners increased 3.6% — higher than that of men, 2.0% — during 2003

During 2003 the number of women under the jurisdiction of State or Federal prison authorities increased by 3.6% (table 5). The number of men in prison rose 2.0%. At yearend 2003, 101,179 women and 1,368,866 men were in prison. Since 1995 the annual rate of growth of the female inmate population averaged 5.0%, higher than the 3.3% increase in male inmate population. By yearend 2003 women accounted for 6.9% of all prisoners, up from 6.1% in 1995 and 5.7% in 1990.

Relative to their number in the U.S. resident population, men were almost 15 times more likely than women to be incarcerated in a State or Federal prison. At yearend 2003 there were 62 sentenced female inmates per 100,000 women in the United States, compared to 915 sentenced male inmates per 100,000 men.

Since 1995 the total number of male prisoners has grown 29%; the number of female prisoners, 48%. At yearend 2003, 1 in every 1,613 women and 1 in every 109 men were incarcerated in a State or Federal prison.

Table 5. Prisoners under the jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities, by gender, yearend 1995, 2002, and 2003

	Men	Women
All inmates		
2003	1,368,866	101,179
2002	1,342,513	97,631
1995	1,057,406	68,468
Percent change, 2002-2003	2.0%	3.6%
Average annual 1995-2003	3.3%	5.0%
Sentenced to more than 1 year		
2003	1,316,495	92,785
2002	1,291,450	89,066
Percent change, 2002-2003	1.9%	4.2%
Incarceration rate*		
2003	915	62
1995	789	47

*The number of prisoners with sentences of more than 1 year per 100,000 residents on December 31.

Over a third of female prisoners held in the 3 largest jurisdictions

Texas (13,487), the Federal system (11,635), and California (10,656) held more than a third of all female inmates (table 6). Mississippi (134 sentenced female inmates per 100,000 female residents), Oklahoma (127), and Louisiana (104) had the highest female incarceration rates. States with the lowest female incarceration rates were concentrated in the Northeast — Rhode Island (10 sentenced female prisoners per 100,000 female residents), Massachusetts (12), and Maine and New Hampshire (both with 18).

Twelve States had an average annual increase of more than 10% between 1995 and 2003, led by North Dakota (18.5%), Montana (17.9%), and Maine (16.7%). During this period the State female prison population increased an average of 4.9% per year; the Federal female prison population increased 5.8% per year.

Privately operated prisons held 6.5% of State and Federal inmates in 2003

At yearend 2003, 30 States and the Federal system reported a total of 95,522 prisoners held in privately operated facilities (table 7). Private facilities held 5.7% of all State prisoners and 12.6% of Federal prisoners. Among States, Texas (with 16,570 State inmates housed in private facilities) and Oklahoma (with 6,022) reported the largest number in 2003.

Six States had at least 25% of their prison population housed in private prisons, led by New Mexico (44%), Alaska (31%), Montana (29%), and Oklahoma and Wyoming (both 26%). Except for Wisconsin (with over 8% of its State inmates in private facilities) and New Jersey (nearly 10%), the use of private facilities was concentrated among Southern and Western States. At yearend 2003, 8.2% of State inmates in the South and 6.0% in the West were in privately operated facilities, compared to 1.8% in the Northeast and 2.0% in the Midwest.

Table 6. Women under the jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities, yearend 1995, 2002, and 2003

Region and jurisdiction	Number of female inmates			Percent change		Incarceration rate, 2003 ^b
	2003	2002	1995	2002 to 2003	Average, 1995 to 2003 ^a	
U.S. total	101,179	97,631	68,468	3.6%	5.0%	62
Federal	11,635	11,234	7,398	3.6	5.8	6
State	89,544	86,397	61,070	3.6	4.9	56
Northeast	9,108	9,381	8,401	-2.9%	1.0%	28
Connecticut	1,548	1,694	975	-8.6	5.9	46
Maine	124	90	36	37.8	16.7	18
Massachusetts ^c	708	704	656	0.6	1.0	12
New Hampshire	117	144	109	-18.8	0.9	18
New Jersey	1,517	1,586	1,307	-4.4	1.9	34
New York	2,914	2,996	3,615	-2.7	-2.7	29
Pennsylvania	1,823	1,821	1,502	0.1	2.5	29
Rhode Island	222	214	157	3.7	4.4	10
Vermont	135	132	44	2.3	15.0	27
Midwest	15,682	15,306	10,864	2.5%	4.7%	47
Illinois	2,700	2,520	2,196	7.1	2.6	42
Indiana ^c	1,758	1,583	892	11.1	8.9	56
Iowa	716	703	425	1.8	6.7	48
Kansas	629	537	449	17.1	4.3	46
Michigan ^c	2,198	2,267	1,842	-3.0	2.2	43
Minnesota	435	455	217	-4.4	9.1	17
Missouri	2,239	2,274	1,174	-1.5	8.4	76
Nebraska	323	352	211	-8.2	5.5	35
North Dakota	113	103	29	9.7	18.5	34
Ohio	2,897	2,929	2,793	-1.1	0.5	49
South Dakota	269	227	134	18.5	9.1	69
Wisconsin	1,405	1,356	502	3.6	13.7	47
South	43,389	41,801	27,366	3.8%	5.9%	74
Alabama	2,003	1,697	1,295	18.0	5.6	82
Arkansas	887	854	523	3.9	6.8	63
Delaware	508	542	358	-6.3	4.5	53
Florida	5,068	4,595	3,660	10.3	4.2	58
Georgia	3,145	3,129	2,036	0.5	5.6	71
Kentucky	1,411	1,269	734	11.2	8.5	63
Louisiana	2,405	2,398	1,424	0.3	6.8	104
Maryland	1,248	1,264	1,079	-1.3	1.8	42
Mississippi	2,163	2,082	791	3.9	13.4	134
North Carolina ^c	2,256	2,173	1,752	3.8	3.2	37
Oklahoma	2,320	2,338	1,815	-0.8	3.1	127
South Carolina	1,576	1,671	1,045	-5.7	5.3	68
Tennessee ^c	1,826	1,735	637	5.2	14.1	61
Texas	13,487	13,051	7,935	3.3	6.9	98
Virginia	2,681	2,641	1,659	1.5	6.2	71
West Virginia	405	362	129	11.9	15.4	42
West	21,365	19,909	14,439	7.3%	5.0%	61
Alaska	392	349	243	12.3	6.2	55
Arizona	2,656	2,428	1,432	9.4	8.0	85
California ^c	10,656	9,987	9,082	6.7	2.0	57
Colorado	1,736	1,566	713	10.9	11.8	77
Hawaii	685	669	312	2.4	10.3	68
Idaho	592	592	212	0.0	13.7	86
Montana	419	345	112	21.4	17.9	91
Nevada	880	851	530	3.4	6.5	79
New Mexico	576	518	278	11.2	9.5	56
Oregon	883	812	465	8.7	8.3	49
Utah	427	371	161	15.1	13.0	35
Washington	1,288	1,254	793	2.7	6.3	41
Wyoming ^c	175	167	106	4.8	6.5	70

^aThe average annual percentage increase from 1995 to 2003.

^bThe number of female prisoners with sentences of more than 1 year per 100,000 female U.S. residents.

^cGrowth from 1995 to 2003 may be slightly overestimated due to a change in reporting from custody to jurisdiction counts.

Since yearend 2000 the number of Federal inmates held in private facilities has increased over 40%, while the number held in State facilities has decreased 1.8%. As a percentage of all inmates under State and Federal jurisdiction, the number held in private facilities has remained stable (6.5%).

Number of inmates in privately operated facilities, 2000 to 2003

	Total	State	Federal	Percent of inmates
2003	95,522	73,657	21,865	6.5%
2002	93,912	73,638	20,274	6.5
2001	91,953	72,702	19,251	6.5
2000	90,542	75,018	15,524	6.5

In 2003 local jails held 5% of State and Federal prisoners

At the end of 2003, 32 States and the Federal system reported a total of 73,343 State and Federal prisoners held in local jails or other facilities operated by county or local authorities. These inmates held in local jails represented 5% of all prisoners in 2003.

Louisiana had the largest percentage of its State inmate population housed in local jails (46%). Four other States — led by Tennessee (25%) and Kentucky (24%) — had at least a fifth of their population housed in local jail facilities.

Over four-fifths of prisoners held in local jails were in the South (60,810). Overall, the South held 10.3% of prisoners in local jails, followed by the West (1.7%), the Northeast (1.1%), and the Midwest (1.0%).

From yearend 2000 to 2003 the number of Federal inmates held in local jails rose 34.5%, while the number of State inmates in local jails rose 15.4%. Combined, the number of State and Federal inmates held in local jails grew by 10,203 (up 16.2%).

Number of State and Federal inmates held in local jails, 2000 to 2003

	Total	State	Federal	Percent of inmates
2003	73,343	70,065	3,278	5.0%
2002	72,550	69,173	3,377	5.0
2001	70,681	67,760	2,921	5.0
2000	63,140	60,702	2,438	4.5

Table 7. State and Federal prisoners held in private facilities and local jails, by jurisdiction, yearend 2002 and 2003

Region and jurisdiction	Private facilities			Local jails		
	2003	2002	Percent of all inmates, 2003 ^a	2003	2002	Percent of all inmates, 2003 ^a
U.S. total	95,522	93,912	6.5%	73,343	72,550	5.0%
Federal ^b	21,865	20,274	12.6	3,278	3,377	1.9
State	73,657	73,638	5.7	70,065	69,173	5.4
Northeast	3,201	3,146	1.8%	1,911	2,234	1.1%
Connecticut	0	0	0.0	--	--	--
Maine	30	8	1.5	0	0	0.0
Massachusetts	0	0	0.0	361	375	3.5
New Hampshire	0	0	0.0	7	11	0.3
New Jersey ^c	2,636	2,601	9.7	1,542	1,528	5.7
New York	0	0	0.0	1	320	0.0
Pennsylvania	535	537	1.3	0	0	0.0
Rhode Island ^c	0	0	0.0	--	--	--
Vermont ^c	0	0	0.0	--	--	--
Midwest	4,957	6,748	2.0%	2,386	1,801	1.0%
Illinois	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Indiana	652	843	2.8	1,724	1,262	7.5
Iowa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Kansas	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Michigan	480	460	1.0	42	30	0.1
Minnesota	0	0	0.0	283	221	3.6
Missouri	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Nebraska	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
North Dakota	0	23	0.0	44	9	3.6
Ohio	1,901	1,927	4.2	0	0	0.0
South Dakota	25	32	0.8	29	12	1.0
Wisconsin	1,899	3,463	8.4	264	267	1.2
South	48,222	46,091	8.2%	60,810	60,036	10.3%
Alabama	1,698	0	5.8	1,340	2,449	4.6
Arkansas	0	0	0.0	1,016	1,172	7.8
Delaware	0	0	0.0	--	--	--
Florida	4,330	4,173	5.4	48	47	0.1
Georgia	4,589	4,573	9.7	4,949	4,975	10.5
Kentucky	1,640	1,635	9.9	3,969	3,657	23.9
Louisiana	2,918	2,929	8.1	16,549	16,022	45.9
Maryland	122	127	0.5	234	168	1.0
Mississippi	3,463	3,435	14.9	4,724	4,550	20.4
North Carolina	215	186	0.6	0	0	0.0
Oklahoma	6,022	6,470	26.4	1,869	1,497	8.2
South Carolina	44	21	0.2	424	415	1.8
Tennessee	5,049	4,200	19.9	6,283	6,717	24.7
Texas	16,570	16,773	9.9	13,331	12,375	8.0
Virginia	1,562	1,569	4.5	5,106	5,024	14.6
West Virginia	0	0	0.0	968	968	20.3
West	17,277	17,653	6.0%	4,958	5,102	1.7%
Alaska	1,386	1,360	30.6	--	--	--
Arizona	2,323	1,965	7.5	174	232	0.6
California	3,507	4,649	2.1	2,415	2,591	1.5
Colorado	3,013	2,452	15.3	221	160	1.1
Hawaii	1,478	1,347	25.4	--	--	--
Idaho	1,267	1,266	21.5	239	295	4.1
Montana	1,059	963	29.3	567	419	15.7
Nevada	0	434	0.0	190	177	1.8
New Mexico	2,751	2,690	44.2	0	0	0.0
Oregon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Utah	0	0	0.0	1,065	1,170	18.5
Washington ^c	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Wyoming	493	527	26.3	87	58	4.6

--Not applicable. Prison and jails form an integrated system.

^aBased on the total number of inmates under State or Federal jurisdiction.

^bIncludes Federal inmates in non-secure privately operated facilities (6,471 in 2003, and 6,598 in 2002).

^cInmates held in other State facilities include interstate compact cases.

23 States and Federal system operate at or above highest capacity

supply three measures for capacity at yearend 2003: rated, operational, and design capacities. These measures were defined as follows:

To estimate the capacity of their prisons, jurisdictions were asked to

Rated capacity is the number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to institutions within the jurisdiction.

Operational capacity is the number of inmates that can be accommodated, based on a facility's staff, existing programs, and services.

Design capacity is the number of inmates that planners or architects intended for the facility.

Twenty-three jurisdictions gave only 1 measure or the same figure for each measure (table 8). For the 28 jurisdictions with more than 1 reported type of capacity, estimates of population as a percent of capacity are based on the highest and lowest figures provided.

At yearend 2003, 27 States reported that they were operating below 100% of their highest capacity, and 22 States and the Federal prison system reported operating at 100% or more of their highest capacity. Mississippi, operating at 73% of its highest capacity, reported the lowest percent of capacity occupied. Alabama, 109% over lowest reported capacity, had the highest percent of capacity occupied.

At yearend 2003 the Federal prison system was operating at 39% over capacity. Overall, State prisons were operating between 100% of their highest capacity and 16% above their lowest capacity (table 9).

Table 8. Reported Federal and State prison capacities, yearend 2003

Region and jurisdiction	Type of capacity measure			Custody population as a percent of —	
	Rated	Operational	Design	Highest capacity ^a	Lowest capacity ^a
Federal	106,046	...	...	139%	139%
Northeast					
Connecticut	...	...	...	...	...
Maine	1,779	1,779	1,779	109%	109%
Massachusetts	...	...	7,721	127	127
New Hampshire	2,419	2,238	2,213	100	110
New Jersey	...	26,536	...	87	87
New York	60,392	62,568	53,601	105	122
Pennsylvania	34,240	34,240	26,493	118	152
Rhode Island	3,922	3,922	4,085	88	91
Vermont	1,636	1,636	1,474	91	101
Midwest					
Illinois	31,434	31,434	27,339	138%	159%
Indiana	16,755	22,871	...	90	124
Iowa	6,772	6,772	6,772	126	126
Kansas	9,244	...	...	99	99
Michigan	...	50,103	...	98	98
Minnesota	...	7,595	...	99	99
Missouri	...	31,500	...	95	95
Nebraska	...	3,799	3,039	107	134
North Dakota	1,005	952	1,005	109	116
Ohio	36,526	...	...	116	116
South Dakota	3,209	...	...	93	93
Wisconsin	...	15,951	...	127	127
South					
Alabama	...	24,998	12,388	104%	209%
Arkansas ^b	12,866	12,649	11,976	94	101
Delaware	...	5,359	4,223	124	157
Florida	...	80,942	60,000	98	133
Georgia	...	47,252	...	100	100
Kentucky	...	12,275	...	82	82
Louisiana	19,498	20,030	...	97	100
Maryland	...	23,745	...	100	100
Mississippi ^b	...	21,737	...	73	73
North Carolina	30,261	...	...	112	112
Oklahoma ^b	23,856	...	...	95	95
South Carolina	...	23,946	...	96	96
Tennessee ^b	20,122	19,670	...	95	97
Texas ^b	159,087	155,351	159,087	86	88
Virginia	31,074	...	...	94	94
West Virginia	3,398	3,880	3,398	98	112
West					
Alaska	...	3,098	3,098	100%	100%
Arizona	26,940	30,626	25,346	94	113
California	...	157,070	80,487	103	201
Colorado	...	14,069	12,611	116	130
Hawaii	...	3,487	2,451	115	164
Idaho	5,871	5,544	4,564	75	96
Montana	...	2,590	...	77	77
Nevada ^b	11,122	10,639	8,320	95	127
New Mexico ^b	6,391	6,385	5,985	97	104
Oregon	...	12,246	12,246	100	100
Utah	...	4,536	4,752	97	102
Washington	12,507	14,824	14,824	109	130
Wyoming	1,190	1,146	1,161	96	99

...Data not available.

^aPopulation counts are based on the number of inmates held in facilities operated by the jurisdiction. Excludes inmates held in local jails, in other States, or in private facilities.

^bIncludes capacity of private and contract facilities and inmates housed in them.

Table 9. State prison population as a percent of capacity, 1995-2003

State prisons	
Highest capacity	1,169,213
Lowest capacity	1,008,961
Population as a percent of capacity*	
Highest	
1995	114
2000	100
2001	101
2002	101
2003	100
Lowest	
1995	125
2000	115
2001	116
2002	117
2003	116

*Excludes prisoners held in local jails and in privately operated facilities (unless included in the reported capacity).

U.S. prison population is aging

The Nation's prison population is becoming more middle-aged. In 2003 an estimated 388,700 sentenced inmates were between the ages of 40 and 54, compared to 236,000 in 1995 (table 10). By yearend 2003, 28% of all inmates were in this age group, up from 22% in 1995. The rise in the number of inmates has been the largest among inmates age 45 to 54 (up 82,700) since 1995, followed by inmates age 40 to 44 (up 70,000). Combined, inmates between the ages of 40 and 54 accounted for more than 46% of the total growth in the U.S. prison population since 1995.

Expressed in terms of percent change, the oldest age group, inmates age 55 or older, recorded the largest change — an increase of 85% since 1995.

Despite this rapid growth, the number of inmates age 55 or older relative to inmates in other age groups remains small, accounting for 4.3% of all inmates in 2003, up from 3.0% in 1995.

An estimated 2,800 sentenced inmates were under age 18 on December 31, 2003, down from 4,800 at yearend 1995. Overall, fewer than 0.2% of all sentenced prisoners were under age 18 at yearend 2003. (For total counts, see *Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2003*, NCJ 203947.)

Underlying the increasing age of inmates has been a gradual rise in the age of State inmates at time of admission compounded by a sharp increase in time served in prison. In 2002 (the latest available data), the mean age of sentenced State inmates at time of admission was 33, compared with 31 in 1995, and the average time served among released inmates was 30 months, compared with 23 months in 1995.

Trends in age at admission and time served among sentenced State prisoners, 1995-2002

	Mean age at admission	Mean time served
1995	31	23 mos.
1996	31	25
1997	32	27
1998	32	28
1999	33	29
2000	33	29
2001	33	31
2002	33	30

Table 10. Number of sentenced prisoners under State or Federal jurisdiction, by age, 1995 and 2003

	Number of sentenced inmates			Percent change, 1995-2003	Percent of total growth
	1995	2003	Growth, 1995-2003		
Total	1,085,022	1,409,280	324,258	29.9%	100%
17 or younger	4,800	2,800	-2,000	-41.5	--
18-19	30,000	26,400	-3,600	-12.2	--
20-24	177,400	219,400	42,000	23.7	12.7
25-29	203,700	245,300	41,600	20.4	12.6
30-34	210,200	238,200	28,000	13.3	8.5
35-39	190,200	228,100	37,900	20.0	11.5
40-44	127,900	197,900	70,000	54.7	21.2
45-54	108,100	190,800	82,700	76.5	25.1
55 or older	32,600	60,300	27,700	85.0	8.4

Note: State inmate estimates by age for 1995 were based on the Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 1997, and for 2003 on the National Corrections Reporting Program, 2002. These estimates were then adjusted to the sentenced inmate count in each year in NPS-1. Federal inmate counts by age were based on the BJS Federal justice statistics database and then adjusted to NPS-1 counts in each year. All estimates were rounded to the nearest 100. --Not calculated.

Note: Data based on the National Corrections Reporting Program, 1995-2002. Mean age at admission represents the average age of inmates admitted in each year with a sentence of greater than 1 year. Mean time served represents the average time served in prison by sentenced inmates released for the first time on the current offense.

Prisoners held by military authorities dropped 8.9%

There were 2,165 prisoners under military jurisdiction at yearend 2003. Fifty-eight percent of the prisoners held by the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard had sentences of 1 year or more. At yearend 2003 the Army's Disciplinary Barracks, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and five other local or regional Army facilities held the largest share of inmates under military jurisdiction (45%). The 11 Navy facilities held nearly 30% of all inmates; the 6 Marine Corps facilities held 20% of all inmates; and the 34 Air Force facilities held 5% of all inmates.

The operational capacity of the 57 military confinement facilities totaled 3,348 (not shown in a table). At yearend 2003 these facilities were operating at 65% of their operational capacity. About 87% of prisoners held by the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps were convicted inmates; 13% were unconvicted persons.

Prisoners under military jurisdiction, by branch of service, yearend 2002 and 2003

Branch of service	Total		Percent change, 2002-03	Sentenced to more than 1 year		Percent change, 2002-03
	2003	2002		2003	2002	
To which prisoners belonged						
Total	2,165	2,377	-8.9%	1,258	1,361	-7.6%
Air Force	391	450	-13.1	251	264	-4.9
Army	840	860	-2.3	572	610	-6.2
Marine Corps	539	565	-4.6	229	265	-13.6
Navy	377	489	-22.9	199	219	-9.1
Coast Guard	18	13	38.5	7	3	--
Holding prisoners						
Total	2,165	2,377	-8.9%	1,258	1,361	-7.6%
Air Force	105	128	-18.0	17	14	21.4
Army	967	966	0.1	763	767	-0.5
Marine Corps	441	478	-7.7	134	171	-21.6
Navy	652	805	-19.0	344	409	-15.9

--Not calculated.

Table 11. Number of sentenced prisoners under State or Federal jurisdiction, by gender, race, Hispanic origin, and age, 2003

	Number of sentenced prisoners							
	Males				Females			
	Total ^a	White ^b	Black ^b	Hispanic	Total ^a	White ^b	Black ^b	Hispanic
Total	1,316,495	454,300	586,300	251,900	92,785	39,100	35,000	16,200
18-19	25,200	7,100	12,600	4,900	1,100	400	500	200
20-24	208,300	59,400	99,900	46,200	11,100	4,400	4,200	2,300
25-29	231,400	63,100	111,400	54,700	13,900	5,600	5,300	2,600
30-34	221,000	70,300	100,000	47,900	17,200	7,200	6,500	3,100
35-39	209,400	75,400	91,900	37,800	18,800	7,800	7,300	3,200
40-44	182,300	71,700	78,100	27,900	15,600	6,800	5,800	2,500
45-54	178,400	74,800	73,900	24,800	12,400	5,400	4,700	1,800
55 or older	57,700	31,900	17,200	7,200	2,600	1,400	700	300

Note: Based on custody counts by race and Hispanic origin from National Prisoner Statistics (NPS-1A) and updated from jurisdiction counts by gender at yearend. Estimates by age were derived from the National Corrections Reporting Program, 2002. Estimates were rounded to the nearest 100. ^aIncludes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders. ^bExcludes Hispanics.

More black males than white males among State and Federal inmates at yearend 2003

At yearend 2003 black inmates represented an estimated 44% of all inmates with sentences of more than 1 year, while white inmates accounted for 35% and Hispanic inmates, 19%.

	Percent of prisoners under State or Federal jurisdiction*	
	1995	2003
Total	100.0%	100.0%
White	33.5	35.0
Black	45.7	44.1
Hispanic	17.6	19.0
Other	3.2	1.9

*Based on inmates with sentences of more than 1 year.

Table 12. Number of sentenced prisoners under State or Federal jurisdiction per 100,000 residents, by gender, race, Hispanic origin, and age, 2003

Age	Number of sentenced prisoners per 100,000 residents of each group							
	Males				Females			
	Total ^a	White ^b	Black ^b	Hispanic	Total ^a	White ^b	Black ^b	Hispanic
Total	915	465	3,405	1,231	62	38	185	84
18-19	597	266	2,068	692	28	15	80	39
20-24	1,996	932	7,017	2,267	112	71	286	138
25-29	2,380	1,090	9,262	2,592	147	99	406	152
30-34	2,074	1,042	7,847	2,440	164	109	456	181
35-39	1,895	1,017	6,952	2,226	170	106	491	209
40-44	1,584	873	5,854	1,995	133	82	386	192
45-54	899	501	3,500	1,329	60	36	190	97
55 or older	208	141	747	397	8	5	22	16

Note: Based on estimates of the U.S. resident population on July 1, 2003, using intercensal estimates for July 1, 2002 (by gender, race, and Hispanic origin) and adjusted to the July 1, 2003, estimates by gender. ^aIncludes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders. ^bExcludes Hispanics.

Although the total number of sentenced inmates rose sharply (up 30% between 1995 and 2003), there were small changes in the racial and Hispanic composition of the inmate population.

At yearend 2003 black males (586,300) outnumbered white males (454,300) and Hispanic males (251,900) among inmates with sentences of more than 1 year (table 11). More than 44% of all sentenced male inmates were black.

White females (39,107) outnumbered black females (35,050) and Hispanic females (16,172). About 42% of all sentenced female inmates were white.

The number of Immigration and Customs detainees rose nearly 12% during 2003

The U.S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), formerly the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), reported 23,514 detainees on December 31, 2003, up from 21,065 at yearend 2002. Nearly two-thirds of these detainees (15,044) were held in Federal and State prisons and local jails, and about a third were held in ICE-operated facilities (5,109) and private facilities under exclusive contract to the ICE (1,935).

The number of detainees under ICE jurisdiction nearly tripled between 1995 and 2003. This increase most affected State prisons, local jails, and other facilities maintaining intergovernmental agreements with ICE; they held 15,044 detainees in 2003, up from 2,286 in 1995.

Among the 23,514 ICE detainees for immigration violations at yearend 2003, 12,603 had been convicted of criminal

offenses, and 1,961 had pending criminal cases (not shown in table). Detainees convicted of violent offenses (31.7%) and drug offenses (29.5%) constituted the largest groups under ICE jurisdiction, followed by property offenses (14.8%) and public-order offenses (14.7%).

Detainees under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), by type of facility, yearend 1995, 2002, and 2003

Facility type	Number of detainees			Percent change, 2002-03
	2003	2002	1995	
Total	23,514	21,065	8,177	11.6%
ICE-operated facilities	5,109	5,087	3,776	0.4
Private facilities under exclusive contract to ICE	1,935	1,936	652	-0.1
Federal Bureau of Prisons	1,338	1,100	1,282	21.6
Other Federal facilities	88	130	181	-32.3
Intergovernmental agreements	15,044	12,812	2,286	17.4
State prisons	477	453	8	5.3
Local jails	11,376	9,764	1,984	16.5
Other facilities	3,191	1,595	294	23.0

An estimated 9% of black males, age 25-29, in prison in 2003

When incarceration rates are estimated separately by age group, black males in their twenties and thirties have high rates relative to other groups (table 12). Among black males age 25 to 29, 9.3% were in prison at yearend, compared to 2.6% of Hispanic males and about 1.1% of white males of the same age group. Although incarceration rates drop with age, the percentage of black males age 45 to 54 in prison in 2003 was nearly 3.5% — higher than the highest rate (2.6%) for Hispanic males (age 25 to 29) and more than twice the highest rate (1.1%) for white males (age 25 to 29). (See *Methodology* for description of new estimation procedures.)

Female incarceration rates, substantially lower than male incarceration rates at every age, reveal similar racial and ethnic disparities. Black females (with an incarceration rate of 185 per 100,000) were more than twice as likely as Hispanic females (84 per 100,000) and nearly 5 times more likely than white females (38 per 100,000) to be in prison on December 31, 2003. These differences among white, black, and Hispanic females were consistent across all age groups.

Methodology

National Prisoner Statistics

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), with the U.S. Census Bureau as its collection agent, obtains yearend and midyear counts of prisoners from departments of correction in each of the 50 States and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

The National Prisoner Statistics (NPS) distinguishes prisoners in custody from those under jurisdiction. To have custody of a prisoner, a State must hold that person in one of its facilities. To have jurisdiction means that a State has legal authority over the prisoner. Prisoners under a State's jurisdiction may be in the custody of a local jail, another State's prison, or other correctional facility. Some States are unable

to provide both custody and jurisdiction counts.

Excluded from NPS counts are persons confined in locally administered confinement facilities who are under the jurisdiction of local authorities. NPS counts include all inmates in State-operated facilities in Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Vermont, which have combined jail-prison systems. NPS excludes inmates held by the District of Columbia (DC), which as of yearend 2001 operated only a jail system. Counts of inmates held in DC jails are included in the *Annual Survey of Jails*.

Military Corrections Statistics

BJS obtains yearend counts of prisoners in the custody of U.S. military authorities from the Department of Defense Corrections Council. In 1994 the council, comprised of representatives from each branch of military service, adopted a standardized report (DD Form 2720) with a common set of items and definitions. This report gives data on persons held in U.S. military confinement facilities inside and outside the continental United States, by branch of service, sex, race, Hispanic origin, conviction status, sentence length, and offense. It also has data on the number of facilities, and their design and rated capacities.

Other inmate counts

In 1995 BJS began collecting yearend counts of prisoners from the departments of correction in the U.S. Territories (American Samoa, Guam, and U.S. Virgin Islands) and U.S. Commonwealths (Northern Mariana Islands and Puerto Rico). These counts include all sentenced and unsentenced inmates for whom the Territory or Commonwealth government had legal authority (inmates under jurisdiction) and all inmates physically located in prison or jail facilities (inmates in custody). These counts are collected by gender, race, Hispanic origin, and sentence length. In addition, BJS obtains reports of the total design, rated, and operational capacity of correctional facilities.

Estimating age-specific incarceration rates

The number of sentenced prisoners within each group was estimated for men, women, whites, blacks, and Hispanics. In 2003 for the first time, estimates were produced separately for inmates under State jurisdiction by combining data from NPS and the 2002 National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP). The 2002 NCRP provided updated estimates by age that were previously obtained from the 1997 survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities. The following procedures were used:

1. The NCRP provided counts of State sentenced inmates by age, gender, race, and Hispanic origin. These counts were based on reports on characteristics of inmates held at yearend 2002 in 25 participating States, representing 81% of all inmates.
2. The Federal Justice Statistics Program (FJSP) provided counts of sentenced Federal inmates by age for each demographic group at the end of fiscal year 2002.
3. The NPS provided counts of sentenced State inmates by gender by race and Hispanic origin at midyear 2003. These counts were then converted to percentages and multiplied by the number of sentenced inmates by gender to obtain estimates of the number of sentenced State inmates on December 31. The FJSP counts were converted to percentages and multiplied by the NPS totals at yearend 2003.
4. Estimates of the U.S. resident population for July 1, 2002, by age, gender, race/Hispanic origin were obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau. These data were then updated, by adjusting to national estimates by gender for July 1, 2003.
5. Age-specific rates of incarceration for each demographic group were calculated by dividing the estimated number of sentenced prisoners in each age group by the number of U.S. residents in each age group and then multiplying by 100,000.

NPS jurisdiction notes

Alaska — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations. Counts exclude individuals in electronic and special monitoring programs.

Arizona — Population counts are based on custody data. Counts exclude 174 sentenced inmates housed in contracted local jail facilities, some awaiting transfer to the DOC.

The definition of operational capacity has changed to include temporary beds and double bunks used in situations of crowding.

California — Population counts include felons and civil addicts who are temporarily absent, such as in court, jail or hospital.

Colorado — Population counts include 247 male and 8 female inmates in the Youthful Offender System.

Capacity figures exclude 4 privately run facilities under contract with the Department of Corrections.

Connecticut — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations.

Legislation in 1995 abolished the capacity law so that prisons no longer have a rated or operational capacity. Design capacity is recorded separately in each facility.

Delaware — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations. Jurisdiction counts exclude inmates housed in other State's facilities.

Capacity counts include Department of Correction halfway houses.

Federal — Custody counts include inmates housed in privately operated secure facilities under contract with BOP or with State or local government that has an intergovernmental agreement. Custody counts exclude offenders housed under home confinement.

Rated capacity excludes contract beds.

Florida — Population counts from December 31, 2002 based on custody data, including inmates in privately operated facilities, and are not comparable to 2003 numbers.

Georgia — Population counts are based on custody data, including inmates in privately operated facilities.

Facilities in Georgia are not given rated or design capacities.

Hawaii — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations.

Idaho — Rated capacity is defined as 100% of the maximum capacity; operational capacity as 95% of the maximum (except in one facility which is 100%).

Illinois — Population counts are based on jurisdiction data. Counts of inmates with a sentence of more than 1 year include an undetermined number with a sentence of 1 year.

Iowa — Population counts are based on custody data. Counts of inmates with a sentence of more than 1 year include an undetermined number with a sentence of 1 year or less.

Kansas — Population counts of inmates with a sentence of more than 1 year include an undetermined number with a sentence of 1 year or less.

Louisiana — Counts are as of December 29, 2003. Population counts include 15,173 males and 1,376 females housed in local jails as a result of a partnership with the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association and local authorities.

Maryland — Design capacity is no longer reported because of renovations and other changes. Operational capacity was estimated by applying a percentage to the population count on December 31, 2003.

Massachusetts — By law, offenders may be sentenced to terms of up to 2½ years in locally operated jails. Such offenders are included in counts and rates for local jails. About 6,200 inmates with sentences of more than 1 year were held in local jails in 2003.

Michigan — Jurisdiction counts exclude 42 inmates held in local jails.

Operational capacity includes institution and camp net capacities and populations in community programs.

Mississippi — Operation and design capacities include private prison capacities.

Missouri — Design capacities are not available for older prisons. Operational capacity is defined as the number of available beds including those temporarily off-line.

Montana — Counts include 263 inmates under intensive supervision in the community. Capacity figures include 2 county operated regional prisons (an estimated 300 beds), 1

private prison (500 beds), and a State operated boot camp (60 beds).

Nebraska — Operational capacity is defined as stress capacity (or 125% of design capacity), which is ordered by the governor and set by the Department of Corrections.

Nevada — Population counts are as of January 1, 2004. Rated capacity is defined as emergency capacity. Design capacity is defined as one bed per cell. Capacity figures include 643 beds now owned by the DOC exclusively for female inmates.

New Jersey — Population counts of inmates with a sentence of more than 1 year include an undetermined number with a sentence of 1 year.

Rated and operational capacity figures are not maintained.

New Mexico — Operational capacity includes the maximum number of contracted beds in private facilities.

North Carolina — Capacity figures refer to standard operating capacity, based on single occupancy per cell and 50 square feet per inmate in multiple occupancy units.

North Dakota — Capacity figures account for double bunking in the State Penitentiary.

Ohio — Population counts of inmates with a sentence of more than 1 year include an undetermined number with a sentence of 1 year or less.

Oklahoma — Population counts of inmates with a sentence of more than 1 year include an undetermined number with a sentence of 1 year. Female count dropped significantly because DOC bought a private prison.

Capacity figures include private prisons and contract jails.

Oregon — Inmates with under a 1 year maximum sentence remain under the control of local counties.

Rated capacity is not recognized.

Rhode Island — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations.

South Carolina — Population counts include 66 inmates either "unsentenced," or under safekeeping or ICC status.

South Dakota — Operational capacity is planned capacity. Rated and design capacities are not recognized.

Tennessee — Population counts of inmates with a sentence of more than

1 year include an undetermined number with a sentence of 1 year.

Texas — Jurisdiction counts include inmates serving time in a pre-parole transfer (PPT) or intermediary sanctions facility (ISF), substance abuse felony punishment facility (SAFPF), temporary releases to counties, and paper-ready inmates in local jails.

Capacity figures include public, privately operated, and county contracted facilities that are State funded. Non-contracted county jail beds are excluded.

Vermont — Prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include jail and prison populations.

Virginia — Rated capacity is the DOC count of beds, which takes into account the number of inmates that can be accommodated based on staff, programming, services, and design.

Washington — A recently revised law allows increasing numbers of inmates with sentences of less than 1 year to be housed in prison.

Wisconsin — Operational capacity excludes contracted local jails, Federal, other State, and private facilities.

This report in portable document format and in ASCII, its tables, and related statistical data are available at the BJS World Wide Web Internet site: <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>>

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Lawrence A. Greenfeld is the director.

BJS Bulletins present the first release of findings from permanent data collection programs such as the National Prisoner Statistics.

Paige M. Harrison and Allen J. Beck wrote this report. Timothy A. Hughes provided statistical assistance and verification. Tom Hester and Carolyn C. Williams edited the report. Jayne Robinson administered final production.

Data collection and processing for the NPS program were carried out by Pamela Butler under the supervision of Charlene Sebold, Governments Division, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Lauren E. Glaze collected and processed data on prisoners in the U.S. Territories, in U.S. military facilities, and in facilities operated by or for the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

November 2004, NCJ 205335

E