



Jail Inmates in 2021 – Statistical Tables

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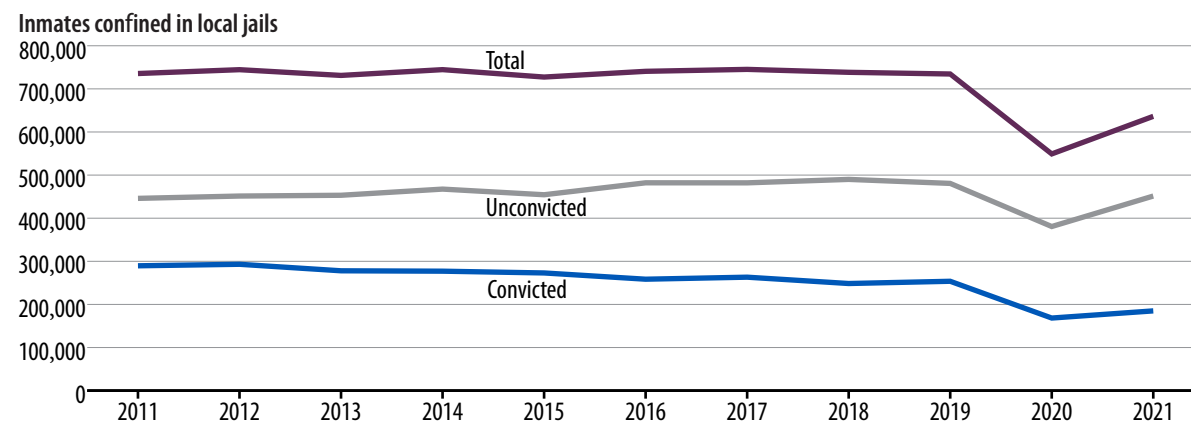
Local jails held 87,200 more persons at midyear 2021 (636,300) than at midyear 2020 (549,100), after an unprecedented decrease of 185,300 the year before due to the COVID-19 pandemic (**figure 1; table 1**). As a result of these changes, the jail population at midyear 2021 was 13% smaller than before the pandemic’s onset.

At midyear 2021, 29% of jail inmates (185,000) were convicted, either serving a sentence or awaiting sentencing on a conviction, while 71% of inmates (451,400) were unconvicted, awaiting court action on a current charge or held in jail for other reasons (**table 5**). The percentage of the jail population that was unconvicted increased from 61% to 71% over the last 10 years. This was due to a decrease of 104,600 convicted inmates

during this period. The number of unconvicted persons increased by 34,700 from 2011 to 2019, which was offset by a decrease of 29,300 from 2019 to 2021.

Findings in this report are based on the 2011 to 2018, 2020, and 2021 Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) and the 2019 Census of Jails (COJ). The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) periodically conducts the COJ, a complete enumeration of local jail facilities. In the years between the COJ, BJS conducts the ASJ, a national survey administered to a sample of approximately 900 jail jurisdictions, to provide national statistics on the number and characteristics of local jails. See *Methodology* for the ASJ sample design.

FIGURE 1
Number of inmates confined in local jails at midyear, by conviction status, 2011–2021



Note: Convicted inmates include those sentenced or awaiting sentencing on a conviction. Unconvicted inmates include those awaiting court action on a current charge or held in jail for other reasons. See table 5 for 2011 and 2016–2021 data; see table 3 in *Jail Inmates in 2017* (NCJ 251774, BJS, April 2019) for 2012–2015 data.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

Key findings

Demographic characteristics of persons in local jails

- After a 37% decrease from midyear 2019 to midyear 2020, the number of females confined in local jails increased 22% from 2020 to 2021 (**table 2**). The number of males increased 15% from 2020 to 2021.
- The number of adults age 65 or older held in local jails increased 27%, from 7,400 at midyear 2020 to 9,400 at midyear 2021 (**table 2**).
- From 2020 to 2021, the number of white inmates increased 18%, while the number of black inmates increased 15% and Hispanic inmates increased 11% (**table 2**).
- The racial and ethnic composition of local jail inmates remained stable from 2020 to 2021. At midyear 2021, about 49% of local jail inmates were white, 35% were black, and 14% were Hispanic (**table 3**). American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons of two or more races together accounted for 2% of the total jail population.
- At midyear 2021, about half (52%) of local jail inmates were ages 18 to 34 (**table 3**). Inmates age 55 or older accounted for 8% of the jail population.

Jail incarceration rate

- After a 26% decline from midyear 2019 (224 per 100,000 U.S. residents) to midyear 2020 (166 per 100,000), the jail incarceration rate increased 15% from 2020 to 2021 (192 per 100,000) (**table 4**).
- The jail incarceration rate for males (335 per 100,000 male U.S. residents) was almost seven times the rate for females (51 per 100,000 female U.S. residents) at midyear 2021 (**table 4**).
- In 2021, U.S. residents ages 25 to 34 had the highest jail incarceration rate (491 per 100,000), almost 30 times the rate for U.S. residents age 65 or older (17 per 100,000) (**table 4**).
- The jail incarceration rate for black U.S. residents (528 per 100,000) was 3.4 times the rate for white U.S. residents (157 per 100,000) at midyear 2021 (**table 4**). By comparison, the incarceration rate for black U.S. residents in 2011 (721 per 100,000) was 4.3 times that of white U.S. residents (167 per 100,000).

Conviction status and offense severity of local jail inmates

- Unconvicted persons in jail accounted for 81% of the increase in the jail population from midyear 2020 to midyear 2021 (**table 5**).
- From midyear 2019 to midyear 2021, the number of persons held in jail for a felony offense decreased 5%, while the number of inmates held for a misdemeanor decreased 33% (**table 5**).¹
- About 76% of local jail inmates were held for a felony offense at midyear 2021, up from 68% to 70% from 2016 to 2019 (**table 6**).
- The number of persons in jail for a parole violation increased 33% from midyear 2020 to midyear 2021 (**table 7**). By midyear 2021, the number of persons held in jails for a parole violation (34,400) had surpassed the number held before the COVID-19 pandemic (28,900 at midyear 2019).

Persons held in jails for federal, state, or tribal authorities

- At midyear 2021, local jails held 100,400 persons (16% of all jail inmates) for federal, state, or tribal government authorities (**table 8**).
- The number of persons held in jail for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement declined by 9,900 (down 57%) from 2019 to 2021 (**table 8**).
- From 2019 to 2021, the number of local jail inmates held for state prison authorities decreased by 8,200 (down 13%) (**table 8**).

Jail size distribution

- A total of 1,014 jail jurisdictions had an average daily population (ADP) of fewer than 50 inmates from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 (**table 9**). These smallest jurisdictions accounted for 36% of all jail jurisdictions nationwide and held 3% of the total ADP.
- Jail jurisdictions holding 1,000 or more inmates accounted for 4% of all jail jurisdictions and held 37% of the total ADP from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 (**table 9**).

¹For persons held in jail for multiple offenses, classification was based on the most serious offense, i.e., the offense that carries the longest sentence, regardless of conviction status.

- During the 12 months ending June 30, 2021, local jails had a median ADP of 80 persons and mean ADP of 219 (**table 9**).

Capacity and occupancy rate of local jails

- The rated capacity in local jails remained stable from midyear 2020 (913,700 beds) to midyear 2021 (916,000) (**table 10**).
- At midyear 2021, about 70% of jail beds were occupied, higher than the occupancy rate of 60% at midyear 2020 but lower than the rates from 2011 to 2019, which ranged from 81% to 85% (**table 10**).
- About 13% of all jail jurisdictions were operating above their rated capacity at midyear 2021, an increase from 7% at midyear 2020 (**table 10**).
- Four in 10 beds in jail jurisdictions with an ADP of fewer than 50 persons were occupied at midyear 2021, compared to about 7 in 10 beds in jail jurisdictions with an ADP of 50 or more persons (**table 11**).
- About 4% of jail jurisdictions holding 2,500 or more persons were over capacity at midyear 2021, compared to about 20% of jails holding 100 to 999 persons (**table 11**).

Turnover rate and average time in jail

- From July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, local jails admitted 6.9 million persons, compared to 8.7 million the year before and 10.3 million 2 years before (**table 12**).
- The average daily population (ADP) in local jails from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 was 618,600, 16% lower than 10 years before (735,600) (**table 12**).
- The weekly inmate turnover rate in jails nationwide was 42% from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, down from 61% 10 years before (**table 12**).
- The average length of time an inmate spent in jail was 33 days in 2021, 5 days longer than in 2020 (28 days) and 10 days longer than in 2011 (23 days) (**table 12**).
- In 2021, jail jurisdictions with an ADP of fewer than 50 inmates experienced the highest weekly inmate turnover rate (99%), more than three times the rate for jail jurisdictions holding 2,500 or more inmates (**table 13**).

- On average, persons held by larger jail jurisdictions (2,500 or more inmates) were held longer than those in smaller jail jurisdictions (2,499 or fewer) (**table 13**).

Unconfined persons under jail supervision and those serving weekend sentences

- At midyear 2021, local jails supervised 50,800 persons in various programs such as electronic monitoring, home detention, day reporting, community service, alcohol or drug treatment programs, and other pretrial supervision and work programs outside of a jail facility (**table 14**).
- While the confinement population declined by 98,100 (13%) from midyear 2019 to midyear 2021, the number of persons under jail supervision in programs outside of a jail facility increased by 12,100 (31%) (**table 14**).
- About 2,100 persons served weekend-only sentences on the weekend before the last weekday in June 2021, similar to the year prior (2,200) (**table 15**).

Correctional staff employed in local jails

- Local jails employed 220,900 staff (including 174,800 correctional officers) at midyear 2021, about 5% fewer than at midyear 2020 (**table 16**), and the lowest since yearend 2015 (213,300, not shown in tables).
- At midyear 2021, there were 3.6 inmates for every correctional officer in local jails, up from 3.0 at midyear 2020 (**table 16**).
- In 2021, males accounted for about 7 in 10 of the 174,800 correctional officers employed by local jails and for 4 in 10 of the 46,100 other jail staff, including administrators, clerical and maintenance staff, educational staff, and professional and technical staff (**table 16**).
- Each year from 2016 to 2021, about 8 in 10 staff employed in local jails were correctional officers (**table 17**).

Terms and definitions

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

Average annual percent change—The natural log of the ratio of current year population to base year population, divided by elapsed time in years, and multiplied by 100.

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

Estimated average time in jail—Calculated by dividing the ADP by the number of annual admissions, then multiplying the product by the number of days in a year.

In custody—In the physical custody of local jails, regardless of conviction status or which authority has jurisdiction over the inmate.

Jail—A confinement facility generally operated under the authority of a sheriff, police chief, or county or city administrator. A small number of jails are privately operated. Regional jails include two or more jail jurisdictions with a formal agreement to operate a jail facility. Facilities include jails, detention centers, county or city correctional centers, special jail facilities (such as medical or treatment centers and prerelease centers), and temporary holding or lockup facilities that are part of the jail's combined function. Jails are intended for adults but can hold juveniles before or after their cases are adjudicated.

Jails—

- hold inmates who are sentenced to jail facilities and usually have a sentence of 1 year or less
- receive individuals pending arraignment and hold them as they await trial, conviction, or sentencing
- readmit probation, parole, and bail bond violators and absconders
- detain juveniles pending their transfer to juvenile authorities
- hold mentally ill persons pending their movement to appropriate mental health facilities
- hold individuals for the military, for protective custody, as witnesses for courts, and for contempt of court
- release convicted inmates to the community on completion of sentence
- transfer inmates to federal, state, or other authorities

- house inmates for federal, state, or other authorities due to crowding of their facilities
- operate community-based programs as alternatives to incarceration.

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

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

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

Occupancy rate—The rated capacity divided by the number of jail inmates in custody.

Percent of capacity occupied at midyear—Calculated by dividing the jail population at midyear by the rated capacity.

Persons under jail supervision but not confined—All persons in community-based programs operated by jail facilities, including electronic monitoring, house arrest, community service, day reporting, and work programs. This group excludes persons on pretrial release who are not in community-based programs run by jails; persons under supervision of probation, parole, or other agencies; persons on weekend programs; and persons who participate in work release programs and return to jail at night.

Rated capacity—Set by a rating official, rated capacity is the maximum number of beds or inmates that a facility can hold, excluding separate temporary holding areas.

Releases—Persons released after a period of confinement (e.g., sentence completions, bail or bond releases, other pretrial releases, transfers to other jurisdictions, and deaths). Releases include persons who have completed their weekend program and who are leaving the facility for the last time. They exclude temporary discharges, such as work releases, medical appointments, stays in treatment centers, court appearances, furloughs, day reporting, and transfers to other facilities within the jail jurisdiction.

Weekly inmate turnover rate—The sum of weekly admissions and releases, divided by the ADP. The turnover rate takes into account admissions into and releases from jails and gives an indication of the fluctuation of the jail population. Higher turnover rates mean larger numbers of admissions and releases relative to the ADP.

Yearend population—The number of inmates held in custody on December 31. The yearend population is typically smaller than the midyear population.

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TABLE 1**Inmates confined at midyear, average daily population, annual admissions, and incarceration rates, 2011–2021**

Year	Confined inmates ^a	Average daily population ^b	Annual admissions ^c	Jail incarceration rate per 100,000 U.S. residents ^d
2011	735,600 †	735,600 †	11,800,000 †	236 †
2012	744,500 †	737,400 †	11,600,000 †	237 †
2013	731,200 †	731,400 †	11,700,000 †	231 †
2014	744,600 †	739,000 †	11,400,000 †	234 †
2015	727,400 †	719,500 †	10,700,000 †	227 †
2016	740,700 †	731,300 †	10,600,000 †	229 †
2017	745,200 †	745,600 †	10,600,000 †	229 †
2018	738,400 †	737,900 †	10,700,000 †	226 †
2019	734,500 †	741,900 †	10,300,000 †	224 †
2020	549,100 †	658,200 †	8,700,000 †	166 †
2021*	636,300	618,600	6,900,000	192
Average annual percent change				
2011–2021	-1.4%	-1.7%	-5.4%	-2.1%
Percent change				
2020–2021	15.9%	-6.0%	-20.5%	15.3%

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

*Comparison year.

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

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

^bThe ADP is the sum of all inmates in jail each day for 1 year, divided by the number of days in the year. The ADP for 2015 and 2016 was calculated for the calendar year ending on December 31. The ADP for all other years was calculated for the 12-month period ending on June 30.

^cAnnual admissions from 2011 to 2014 were estimated based on admissions during a 1-week period in June. The 2015 and 2016 annual admissions were for the calendar year ending on December 31. The 2017 to 2021 annual admissions were for the 12-month period ending on June 30.

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011–2018, 2020, and 2021, and Census of Jails, 2019; and U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: January 1, 2011 to January 1, 2022.

TABLE 2**Number of confined inmates in local jails, by demographic characteristics, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Characteristic	2011	2016 ^a	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	Average annual percent change 2011–2021	Percent change 2020–2021
Total	735,600 †	740,700 †	745,200 †	738,400 †	734,500 †	549,100 †	636,300	-1.4%	15.9%
Sex									
Male	642,300 †	633,100 †	631,500 †	623,400 †	623,700 †	479,400 †	551,200	-1.5%	15.0%
Female	93,300 †	107,600 †	113,700 †	115,100 †	110,700 †	69,800 †	85,100	-0.9	22.0
Age group									
Juveniles ^b	5,900 †	3,900 †	3,600 †	3,400 †	2,900 †	2,300 †	2,000	-11.1%	-14.0%
Held as adult ^c	4,600 †	3,200 †	3,200 †	2,700 †	2,200 †	2,000 †	1,700	-9.6	-12.1
Held as juvenile	1,400 †	700 †	300 †	700 †	700 †	300	200	-18.3	-26.9
Adults	729,700 †	736,800 †	741,600 †	735,000 †	731,600 †	546,900 †	634,400	-1.4	16.0
18–24	...	...	...	...	...	98,800 †	105,300	...	6.6
25–34	...	...	...	...	...	193,900 †	223,500	...	15.2
35–44	...	...	...	...	...	142,200 †	171,500	...	20.6
45–54	...	...	...	...	...	71,400 †	84,100	...	17.7
55–64	...	...	...	...	...	33,100 †	40,700	...	22.8
65 or older	...	...	...	...	...	7,400 †	9,400	...	27.0
Race/Hispanic origin									
White ^d	329,400 †	356,100 †	370,100 †	368,500 †	362,900 †	262,100 †	310,100	-0.6%	18.3%
Black ^d	276,400 †	254,600 †	250,100 †	242,300 †	247,100 †	192,700 †	221,200	-2.2	14.8
Hispanic	113,900 †	112,700 †	108,400 †	109,300 †	106,900 †	81,900 †	90,800	-2.3	10.9
American Indian/ Alaska Native ^d	9,400	9,000	8,800	9,700	10,200 †	6,700	7,700	-1.9	16.3
Asian ^d	4,800 †	5,200 †	4,800 †	4,800 †	4,700 †	3,700	3,800	-2.4	1.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander ^d	500 †	700	1,000	1,000 †	800	600	700	4.3	7.7
Two or more races ^d	1,200 †	2,300	2,000	2,800	1,900	1,500 †	1,900	5.0	32.2

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Data are adjusted for nonresponse and rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See table 3 in *Jail Inmates in 2017* (NCJ 251774, BJS, April 2019) for data from 2011 to 2015. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

...Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) began collecting inmate counts by adult age category in 2020.

^aIn 2016, the ASJ collected jail population data at midyear and yearend but only collected demographic data on the yearend population. Because jails typically hold fewer inmates at yearend than at midyear, the 2016 demographic data reported here were adjusted for seasonal variation and represent estimated midyear counts. See *Methodology*.

^bPersons younger than age 18.

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

^dExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 3**Percent of confined inmates in local jails, by demographic characteristics, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Characteristic	2011	2016 ^a	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*
Sex							
Male	87.3% †	85.5% †	84.7% †	84.4% †	84.9% †	87.3% †	86.6%
Female	12.7 †	14.5 †	15.3 †	15.6 †	15.1 †	12.7 †	13.4
Age group							
Juveniles ^b	0.8% †	0.5% †	0.5% †	0.5% †	0.4% †	0.4% †	0.3%
Held as adult ^c	0.6 †	0.4 †	0.4 †	0.4 †	0.3 †	0.4 †	0.3
Held as juvenile	0.2 †	0.1 †	<0.05	0.1 †	0.1 †	0.1 †	<0.05
Adults	99.2 †	99.5 †	99.5 †	99.5 †	99.6 †	99.6 †	99.7
18–24	...	...	...	...	...	18.0 †	16.6
25–34	...	...	...	...	...	35.3	35.1
35–44	...	...	...	...	...	25.9 †	26.9
45–54	...	...	...	...	...	13.0	13.2
55–64	...	...	...	...	...	6.0 †	6.4
65 or older	...	...	...	...	...	1.3 †	1.5
Race/Hispanic origin							
White ^d	44.8% †	48.1%	49.7%	49.9%	49.4%	47.7%	48.7%
Black ^d	37.6 †	34.4	33.6 †	32.8 †	33.6 †	35.1	34.8
Hispanic	15.5 †	15.2 †	14.5	14.8	14.6	14.9	14.3
American Indian/ Alaska Native ^d	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.2
Asian ^d	0.7	0.7 †	0.6	0.7 †	0.6 †	0.7 †	0.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander ^d	0.1 †	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Two or more races ^d	0.2 †	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See table 3 in *Jail Inmates in 2017* (NCJ 251774, BJS, April 2019) for data from 2011 to 2015. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 3 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

...Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) began collecting inmate counts by adult age category in 2020.

^aIn 2016, the ASJ collected jail population data at midyear and yearend but only collected demographic data on the yearend population. Because jails typically hold fewer inmates at yearend than at midyear, the 2016 demographic data reported here were adjusted for seasonal variation and represent estimated midyear counts. See *Methodology*.

^bPersons younger than age 18.

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

^dExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 4**Jail incarceration rates, by demographic characteristics, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Characteristic	2011	2016 ^a	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	Average annual percent change 2011–2021	Percent change 2020–2021
Total	236 †	229 †	229 †	226 †	224 †	166 †	192	-2.1%	15.3%
Sex									
Male	419 †	398 †	394 †	387 †	386 †	294 †	335	-2.2%	14.1%
Female	59 †	66 †	69 †	69 †	66 †	42 †	51	-1.5	21.7
Adults^b	307 †	295 †	295 †	290 †	287 †	213 †	245	-2.2	15.3
18–24	...	...	...	...	...	328 †	350	...	6.6
25–34	...	...	...	...	...	423 †	491	...	16.1
35–44	...	...	...	...	...	334 †	395	...	18.2
45–54	...	...	...	...	...	175 †	207	...	17.7
55–64	...	...	...	...	...	78 †	95	...	22.6
65 or older	...	...	...	...	...	13 †	17	...	24.9
Race/Hispanic origin									
White ^c	167 †	180 †	187 †	186 †	184 †	133 †	157	-0.6%	18.5%
Black ^c	721 †	633 †	616 †	592 †	600 †	463 †	528	-3.1	14.0
Hispanic	219 †	197 †	186 †	184 †	177 †	133 †	145	-4.1	9.0
American Indian/ Alaska Native ^c	410	380	367	403	422 †	273	316	-2.6	15.6
Asian ^c	32 †	29 †	26 †	26 †	25 †	19	19	-5.1	0.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander ^c	89	116	164 †	174 †	127	104	110	2.2	5.9
Two or more races ^c	20	33	28	40	25	19	25	2.1	28.7

Note: Rates are based on the number of confined inmates at midyear in local jails per 100,000 U.S. residents (for total) or per 100,000 U.S. residents of a given demographic group. Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June and include both adults and juveniles, unless specified. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

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^bExcludes persons younger than age 18.

^cExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 5**Number of confined inmates in local jails, by conviction status and offense severity, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Conviction status and offense severity	2011	2016 ^a	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	Average annual percent change 2011–2021	Percent change 2020–2021
Total	735,600 †	740,700 †	745,200 †	738,400 †	734,500 †	549,100 †	636,300	-1.4%	15.9%
Conviction status									
Convicted ^b	289,600 †	258,500 †	263,200 †	248,500 †	253,700 †	168,400 †	185,000	-4.5%	9.8%
Unconvicted ^c	446,000	482,100 †	482,000 †	490,000 †	480,700 †	380,700 †	451,400	0.1	18.6
Most serious type of offense									
Felony	...	516,400 †	516,800 †	504,900 †	513,900 †	421,200 †	485,700	...	15.3%
Misdemeanor	...	188,000 †	194,700 †	192,000 †	170,300 †	94,000 †	114,000	...	21.2
Other ^d	...	36,300	33,600	41,600 †	50,300 †	33,800	36,600	...	8.2

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Data are adjusted for nonresponse and rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See table 3 in *Jail Inmates in 2017* (NCJ 251774, BJS, April 2019) for conviction status data from 2011 to 2015. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

...Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) began collecting inmate counts by offense severity in 2015.

^aData are based on the yearend population. In 2016, the ASJ collected conviction and offense data on the inmate population at yearend instead of midyear. The 2016 data reported here were adjusted for seasonal variation and represent estimated midyear counts. See *Methodology*.

^bSentenced or awaiting sentencing on a conviction.

^cAwaiting court action on a current charge or held in jail for other reasons.

^dIncludes civil infractions and unknown offenses.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 6**Percent of confined inmates in local jails, by conviction status and offense severity, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Conviction status and offense severity	2011	2016 ^a	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*
Conviction status							
Convicted ^b	39.4% †	34.9% †	35.3% †	33.6% †	34.5% †	30.7% †	29.1%
Unconvicted ^c	60.6 †	65.1 †	64.7 †	66.4 †	65.5 †	69.3 †	70.9
Most serious type of offense							
Felony	...	69.7% †	69.4% †	68.4% †	70.0% †	76.7%	76.3%
Misdemeanor	...	25.4 †	26.1 †	26.0 †	23.2 †	17.1	17.9
Other ^d	...	4.9 †	4.5 †	5.6	6.8 †	6.2	5.8

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See table 3 in *Jail Inmates in 2017* (NCJ 251774, BJS, April 2019) for conviction status from 2011 to 2015. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

...Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) began collecting inmate counts by offense severity in 2015.

^aData are based on the yearend population. In 2016, the ASJ collected conviction and offense data on the inmate population at yearend instead of midyear.

^bSentenced or awaiting sentencing on a conviction.

^cAwaiting court action on a current charge or held in jail for other reasons.

^dIncludes civil infractions and unknown offenses.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 7**Confined inmates in local jails, by probation or parole violation status, midyears 2019–2021**

Violation status	Number of inmates			Average annual percent change 2019–2021	Percent change 2020–2021
	2019	2020	2021*		
Total inmate population	734,500 †	549,100 †	636,300	-7.2%	15.9%
Inmates who violated probation	97,500 †	72,900 †	87,300	-5.5	19.8
Inmates who violated parole	28,900 †	25,900 †	34,400	8.6	32.6

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June. Probation and parole violators are not mutually exclusive and may include dual statuses. See appendix table 7 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2020 and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 8**Confined inmates held in local jails for federal correctional authorities, state prison authorities, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Authority for which inmates were held	2011	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	Average annual percent change 2011–2021	Percent change 2020–2021
All federal/state/tribal authorities	126,500 †	121,800 †	122,500 †	122,400 †	117,100 †	107,100	100,400	-2.3%	-6.2%
Federal authorities ^a	55,500 †	44,900	38,700 †	44,400	53,500 †	44,000	44,900	-2.1	2.2
U.S. Marshals Service	29,100	25,100 †	23,600 †	25,900 †	32,900	31,500	33,900	1.5	7.8
Federal Bureau of Prisons	2,600	1,400	1,500	1,400	1,800	2,600	2,400	-0.9	-5.8
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement	22,100 †	17,400 †	13,300 †	14,900 †	17,300 †	9,300 †	7,400	-10.9	-20.0
Bureau of Indian Affairs	210 †	190	110	240 †	230 †	150	80	-9.6	-45.8
State prison authorities	71,000 †	76,700 †	83,500 †	77,600 †	63,300 †	63,000 †	55,100	-2.5	-12.5
American Indian/Alaska Native tribal governments	...	310	270	330	270	190	430	...	124.8
Total inmates in custody	735,600 †	740,700 †	745,200 †	738,400 †	734,500 †	549,100 †	636,300	-1.4%	15.9%

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June. Data are rounded to the nearest 100, except for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments, which are rounded to the nearest 10. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 8 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

...Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting the number of inmates held for American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments in 2015.

^aIncludes a small number inmates held for unspecified federal authorities and other federal authorities in addition to the listed categories.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 9**Average daily jail population, by size of jurisdiction, 2021**

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Jail jurisdictions		Total ADP		Mean ADP	Median ADP
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Total	2,826	100%	618,600	100%	219	80
Fewer than 50 inmates	1,014	35.9	18,500	3.0	18	17
50–99	587	20.8	41,200	6.7	70	67
100–249	637	22.6	101,900	16.5	160	152
250–499	294	10.4	104,600	16.9	356	345
500–999	185	6.5	125,600	20.3	681	667
1,000–2,499	85	3.0	120,100	19.4	1,413	1,278
2,500 or more	24	0.8	106,700	17.3	4,475	3,527

Note: The average daily population (ADP) is the sum of all inmates in jail each day for the 12-month period from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, divided by the number of days in the period. ADP data are rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 9 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2021.

TABLE 10**Midyear population, jail capacity, and percent of capacity occupied in local jails, 2011–2021**

Year	Midyear population ^a	Rated capacity ^b	Percent of capacity occupied ^c	Percent of jail jurisdictions operating at more than 100% of rated capacity
2011	735,600 †	879,700 †	83.6% †	17.2% †
2012	744,500 †	877,400 †	84.9 †	18.5 †
2013	731,200 †	872,900 †	83.8 †	15.4
2014	744,600 †	890,500	83.6 †	15.5
2015	727,400 †	901,400	80.7 †	14.5
2016	740,700 †	915,400	80.9 †	16.5
2017	745,200 †	915,100	81.4 †	20.0 †
2018	738,400 †	907,000	81.4 †	20.1 †
2019	734,500 †	907,700	80.9 †	15.0
2020	549,100 †	913,700	60.1 †	7.0 †
2021*	636,300	916,000	69.5	12.5
Average annual percent change				
2011–2021	-1.4%	0.4%	:	:
Percent change				
2020–2021	15.9%	0.2%	:	:

Note: Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for midyear population and rated capacity. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 10 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

:Not calculated.

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

^bThe maximum number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to a facility, excluding separate temporary holding areas. Data as based on the rated capacity on December 31 for 2015 and 2016 and the last weekday in June for all other years.

^cThe midyear population divided by the rated capacity.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 11**Percent of jail capacity occupied at midyear, by size of jail jurisdiction, 2021**

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Midyear population ^a	Rated capacity ^b	Percent of capacity occupied ^c	Percent of jail jurisdictions operating at more than 100% of rated capacity
Total	636,300	916,000	69.5%	12.5%
Fewer than 50 inmates	17,100 †	40,700 †	42.0 †	3.3
50–99	42,100 †	63,900 †	66.0 †	14.2 †
100–249	107,000	152,400	70.2	20.7 †
250–499	107,300	147,900	72.5	19.8 †
500–999	128,400 †	186,500 †	68.8 †	19.8 †
1,000–2,499	122,700 †	171,400 †	71.6 †	12.2 †
2,500 or more*	111,700	153,200	72.9	4.3

Note: Jail jurisdiction size is based on the average daily population (ADP) for the 12-month period from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for midyear population and rated capacity. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 11 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

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

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

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

^cThe midyear population divided by the rated capacity.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2021.

TABLE 12
Inmate turnover rate and estimated average time in jail, 2011–2021

Year	Total ADP ^a	Annual admissions ^b	Weekly inmate turnover rate ^c	Estimated average time in jail ^d
2011	735,600 †	11,800,000 †	61.4% †	22.7 days †
2012	737,400 †	11,600,000 †	60.1 †	23.2 †
2013	731,400 †	11,700,000 †	60.2 †	22.8 †
2014	739,000 †	11,400,000 †	58.1 †	23.6 †
2015	719,500 †	10,700,000 †	56.3 †	24.6 †
2016	731,300 †	10,600,000 †	54.9 †	25.2 †
2017	745,600 †	10,600,000 †	54.0 †	25.7 †
2018	737,900 †	10,700,000 †	54.9 †	25.2 †
2019	741,900 †	10,300,000 †	53.1 †	26.2 †
2020	658,200 †	8,700,000 †	50.3 †	27.8 †
2021*	618,600	6,900,000	42.2	32.8
Average annual percent change				
2011–2021	-1.7%	-5.4%	:	:
Percent change				
2020–2021	-6.0%	-20.5%	:	:

Note: Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for the average daily population (ADP) and to the nearest 100,000 for annual admissions. See appendix table 12 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

:Not calculated.

^aThe sum of all inmates in jail each day for 1 year, divided by the number of days in the year. The ADP for 2015 and 2016 was calculated for the calendar year ending on December 31. The ADP for all other years was calculated for the 12-month period ending on June 30.

^bAnnual admissions from 2011 to 2014 were estimated based on admissions during a 1-week period in June. The 2015 and 2016 annual admissions were for the calendar year ending on December 31. The 2017 to 2020 annual admissions were for the 12-month period ending on June 30.

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

^dThe ADP multiplied by the number of days in the 12-month period, divided by the number of admissions during the period.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019

TABLE 13
Inmate turnover rate and estimated average time in jail, by size of jurisdiction, 2021

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Total ADP ^a	Annual admissions	Weekly inmate turnover rate ^b	Estimated average time in jail ^c
Total	618,600	6,875,300	42.2%	32.8 days
Fewer than 50 inmates	18,500 †	482,200 †	99.0 †	14.0 †
50–99	41,200 †	725,300	66.1 †	20.8 †
100–249	101,900	1,351,000 †	49.9 †	27.5 †
250–499	104,600	1,140,800 †	41.3 †	33.5 †
500–999	125,600 †	1,195,800 †	36.3 †	38.3 †
1,000–2,499	120,100 †	1,108,900 †	35.1 †	39.5 †
2,500 or more*	106,700	871,400	31.4	44.7

Note: Jail jurisdiction size is based on the average daily population (ADP) from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for the ADP and admissions. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 13 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

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

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

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

^cThe ADP multiplied by the number of days in the 12-month period, divided by the number of admissions during the period.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2021.

TABLE 14**Persons under jail supervision, by confinement status, midyears 2011–2021**

Year	Total ^c	Held in jail ^a		Supervised outside of a jail facility ^b	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2011	787,000 †	735,600 †	93.5% †	51,400	6.5% †
2012	798,300 †	744,500 †	93.3	53,700	6.7
2013	779,700 †	731,200 †	93.8 †	48,500	6.2 †
2014	798,400 †	744,600 †	93.3	53,800	6.7
2015	774,500 †	727,400 †	93.9 †	47,100	6.1 †
2016	789,300 †	740,700 †	93.8 †	48,700	6.2 †
2017	794,200 †	745,200 †	93.8 †	49,100	6.2 †
2018	790,400 †	738,400 †	93.4	52,000	6.6
2019	773,100 †	734,500 †	95.0 †	38,700 †	5.0 †
2020	599,200 †	549,100 †	91.6 †	50,100	8.4 †
2021*	687,100	636,300	92.6	50,800	7.4
Average annual percent change					
2011–2021	-1.4%	-1.4%	:	-0.1%	:
Percent change					
2020–2021	14.7%	15.9%	:	1.4%	:

Note: Data are based on the number of inmates supervised on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Data are rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 14 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

:Not calculated.

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

^bIncludes unconfined persons under jail supervision in various programs such as electronic monitoring, home detention, day reporting, community service, alcohol or drug treatment programs, and other pretrial supervision and work programs. Excludes persons supervised by a probation or parole agency and persons in weekend programs. In 2015 and 2016, data on the population supervised outside of jail were collected for December 31. For all other years, data were collected for the last weekday in June.

^cThe total population under jail supervision differs from past reports because persons serving weekend-only sentences are listed separately in this report instead of being added to the population supervised outside of jail. See table 15 for the number of persons serving weekend-only sentences on the weekend before midyear.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 15
Number of persons serving weekend-only sentences, 2011–2021

Year	Number
2011	11,400 †
2012	10,400 †
2013	11,000 †
2014	9,700 †
2015	7,800 †
2016	5,500 †
2017	6,800 †
2018	5,900 †
2019	6,500 †
2020	2,200
2021*	2,100
Average annual percent change	
2011–2021	-17.1%
Percent change	
2020–2021	-6.6%

Note: Includes persons who served their sentences of confinement on weekends only (i.e., Friday to Sunday) on the weekend before the last weekday in June. In 2015 and 2016, the number of weekenders was collected for the weekend before December 31. Data are rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 15 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 16
Number of staff employed in local jails, by job function and sex, 2016–2021

Job function and sex	2016 ^a	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	Average annual	Percent change
							percent change	Percent change
							2016–2021	2020–2021
Total	226,300	225,700	221,600	237,500 †	233,200 †	220,900	-0.5%	-5.3%
Correctional officers^b	178,800	179,500	174,500	184,100 †	184,900 †	174,800	-0.5%	-5.5%
Male	124,300 †	123,200 †	119,900	127,300 †	125,800 †	117,600	-1.1	-6.5
Female	54,500	56,300	54,600	56,800	59,100	57,200	1.0	-3.2
Inmate-to-correctional-officer ratio ^c	3.9 †	4.2 †	4.2 †	4.0 †	3.0 †	3.6		
All other staff^d	47,500	46,200	47,100	53,400 †	48,400	46,100	-0.6	-4.7%
Male	21,000	20,300	20,600	25,400 †	20,100	20,100	-0.9	0.1
Female	26,500	25,900	26,500	28,000 †	28,300 †	26,000	-0.4	-8.1

Note: Data are based on staff employed in local jails on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for the number of staff. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See table 16 in *Jail Inmates in 2020 – Statistical Tables* (NCJ 303308, BJS, December 2021) for counts of staff employed in 2013 and 2015. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 16 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

^aData are based on staff employed at yearend.

^bIncludes deputies, monitors, and other custody staff who spend more than 50% of their time with the incarcerated population.

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

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 17**Percent of staff employed in local jails, by job function and sex, 2016–2021**

Job function and sex	2016 ^a	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Correctional officers ^b	79.0%	79.5%	78.7%	77.5% †	79.3%	79.1%
Male	54.9 †	54.6 †	54.1 †	53.6	53.9	53.2
Female	24.1 †	25.0 †	24.6 †	23.9 †	25.3	25.9
All other staff ^c	21.0%	20.5%	21.3%	22.5% †	20.7%	20.9%
Male	9.3	9.0	9.3	10.7 †	8.6	9.1
Female	11.7	11.5	12.0	11.8	12.1	11.8

Note: Data are based on staff employed in local jails on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 17 for standard errors.

*Comparison year.

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

^aData are based on staff employed at yearend.

^bIncludes deputies, monitors, and other custody staff who spend more than 50% of their time with the incarcerated population.

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

Methodology

Findings in this report are based on the 2011 to 2018, 2020, and 2021 Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) and the 2019 Census of Jails (COJ). The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) periodically conducts the COJ, a complete enumeration of local jail facilities and Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) detention facilities, to collect data on inmate population and jail programs. The 2019 COJ was the eleventh collection in the series since 1970. In the years between complete enumerations of jails, BJS conducts the ASJ, a survey administered to a sample of approximately a third of the nation's jails, to provide national estimates on the number and characteristics of the jail inmate population. The COJ and ASJ collections are currently conducted through web-based surveys.

The universe of the Census of Jails and the Annual Survey of Jails

The COJ and ASJ gather data from jails that hold inmates beyond arraignment usually for a period exceeding 72 hours. Jail facilities are intended to hold

adults, but some also hold juveniles (persons age 17 or younger). The universe of the COJ consists of all local jail jurisdictions (including county, city, regional, and privately operated jail facilities) and BOP detention facilities that function as jails.²

The universe of the ASJ includes all local jail jurisdictions but excludes BOP detention facilities. In this report, BOP facilities are excluded. The universe of the COJ and ASJ excludes separate temporary holding facilities (such as drunk tanks and police lockups) that do not hold persons after they have been formally charged in court, unless the temporary holding facilities are operated as part of a local jail. Combined jail and prison systems in Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Vermont are also excluded. These combined systems are operated by state departments of corrections and are included in BJS's National Prisoner Statistics program. However, 15 independently operated jails in Alaska are included in the universe of the COJ and ASJ.

²Regional jail jurisdictions are created by two or more local governing bodies through cooperative agreements.

Sample design and nonresponse adjustment for 2021 Annual Survey of Jails

Stratum	Weighting class by confined population ^a	Number of jail jurisdictions in census	Active sampled jurisdictions	Active sampled reporting units	Design weight	Nonresponse adjustment factor	Final weight
1 Large jails ^b (certainty stratum)	1,000 or more	142	141	165	1.000	1.037	1.037
	500-999	116	116	124	1.000	1.084	1.084
Jails holding at least one juvenile on June 28, 2019 and a confined population of—							
2	264-499	73	29	29	2.517	1.074	2.704
3	141-263	69	17	17	4.059	1.133	4.600
4	69-140	60	10	10	6.000	1.000	6.000
5	0-68	48	4	4	12.000	1.000	12.000
Jails holding adults only on June 28, 2019 and a confined population of—							
6	227-749	359	275	287	1.306	1.062	1.386
7	103-226	452	100	100	4.520	1.190	5.381
8	40-102	579	63	63	9.047	1.125	10.178
9	0-39	882	72	72	12.082	1.059	12.793
10 Regional jails ^c (certainty stratum)	1,000 or more	5	5	5	1.000	1.000	1.000
	500-999	14	14	14	1.000	1.000	1.000
	250-499	25	25	25	1.000	1.136	1.136
	100-249	16	16	16	1.000	1.067	1.067
	50-99	6	6	7	1.000	1.000	1.000
	0-49	2	2	2	1.000	2.000	2.000
Total		2,848	895	940	~	~	~

~Not applicable.

^aWithin certainty strata, weighing classes are created based on jurisdiction size (i.e., confined population as of June 28, 2019).

^bLarge jails are those that held at least one juvenile inmate and 500 or more inmates, or 750 or more adult inmates, on June 28, 2019.

^cRegional jail jurisdictions are created by two or more local governing bodies through cooperative agreements.

Jail jurisdictions and reporting units

A jail jurisdiction is a legal entity that has responsibility for managing jail facilities. Jail jurisdictions typically operate at the county level, with a sheriff's office or jail administrator managing the local facilities. Most jail jurisdictions consist of a single facility, but some have multiple facilities, or multiple facility operators, called reporting units. For example, three reporting units in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, represent a single jail jurisdiction.

Sampling design of the Annual Survey of Jails

The ASJ uses a stratified probability sampling design based on jail population data collected through the most recent COJ. Jails in the ASJ sample are surveyed annually until the next sample is drawn. The ASJ sample is drawn at the jail jurisdiction level. When a jail jurisdiction with multiple jail operators or facilities is sampled, data are collected from all reporting units within that jail jurisdiction.

The most recent sample refresh occurred in 2020, when a sample of 899 jail jurisdictions was selected to represent the approximately 2,850 jail jurisdictions nationwide. In selecting jails, all jurisdictions were grouped into 10 strata based on their inmate population and the presence of juveniles at midyear 2019. In 8 of the 10 strata, a random sample of jail jurisdictions was selected. The remaining two strata were designated as certainty strata in which all jail jurisdictions were selected. One certainty stratum consisted of all jails that were operated jointly by two or more jurisdictions. The other certainty stratum consisted of large jail jurisdictions that on June 28, 2019 held either—

- at least one juvenile inmate and a total of 500 or more inmates
- 750 or more adult inmates.

Response rate and nonresponse adjustment

The 2021 ASJ sample consisted of 895 active jail jurisdictions, represented by 940 reporting units. The survey achieved a response rate of 92%. Nonresponse weighting was implemented to account for unit nonresponse. Jurisdictions were grouped into weighting classes based on sampling stratum and inmate population at midyear 2019. The nonresponse

weighting adjustment factor was calculated for jails in each weighting class h as—

$$W_h = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_h} P_{hi} \times A_{hi}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n_h} P_{hi} \times R_{hi}}$$

where—

n_h = number of jurisdictions sampled in weighting class h ,

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

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

R_{hi} = response indicator of jurisdiction i in weighting class h (1 = respondent, 0 = nonrespondent).

In this report, standard errors for estimates from the ASJ were estimated using the Taylor-linearized variance method. Estimates from the COJ were population values based on a complete enumeration of all jails.

Item nonresponse imputation

Item response rates ranged from 95% to 100% for most items in the 2021 ASJ. For responding jail jurisdictions that were unable to provide some requested items, missing data were imputed. This was done in two steps: first, a last observation carried forward (LOCF) procedure was used to replace the missing values with recent data from the same jails; next, for cases with no available recent data from the same jails, a weighted sequential hot-deck (WSHD) procedure was implemented to impute the remaining missing data by borrowing values reported by similar jails in the current year.

In the LOCF procedure, donor data were taken from the same jails in the 2020 ASJ or 2019 COJ, adjusted for year-to-year changes as appropriate. Using the LOCF as the first step of imputation increases imputation accuracy because jail population counts and characteristics typically remain relatively stable from year to year. This is especially helpful when imputing missing data for the largest jails that have no comparable-size donor jails. Specifically, missing values for rated capacity and inmate populations supervised

outside of jail were replaced with 2020 values without any adjustment, while missing values in inmate population counts, admissions, and average daily population (ADP) were replaced with 2020 values after adjusting for average year-to-year change. The average year-to-year adjustment factor was calculated, for each sampling stratum, as the ratio of the weighted sum of data reported in 2021 to that in 2020. Only data from jails that provided data in both years were included in the calculation. By applying the average year-to-year adjustment factor, it was assumed that jails with missing items experienced the average year-to-year percentage change as other jails in the same sampling stratum. Lastly, missing data for inmate subpopulations (e.g., female adults) were imputed based on the 2020 population distribution and the 2021 reported or imputed inmate population for the same jails.

In the second step, the donor for each missing item in the WSHD procedure was randomly selected from a set of similar jails, sorted by related auxiliary population values. Donor pools, also referred to as imputation classes, were formed by state, ADP category, and regional jail indicator. Within each imputation class, jails were sorted by confined jail population at midyear 2021.

Adjusting for seasonal variation in the jail population

Prior to 2015, the ASJ asked jails to report total and detailed inmate counts on the last weekday in June (the midyear reference date). In 2015 and 2016, the ASJ collected the total confined population at midyear, but detailed inmate counts by demographic and criminal justice characteristic (i.e., sex, race or Hispanic origin, age category, conviction status, and most serious type of offense) on December 31 (the yearend reference date). Starting with the 2017 collection, the ASJ reverted back to the midyear reference. Comparisons of yearend data with midyear data need to consider seasonal variations, as jails typically hold fewer inmates at yearend than at midyear. In 2015 and 2016, for example, the yearend population was 5% less than the midyear population. To adjust for seasonal variation, yearend inmate counts by demographic and criminal justice characteristics in 2015 and 2016 were multiplied by the ratio of the midyear total population to the yearend total population of the corresponding year. The standard errors for the 2015 and 2016 counts were similarly adjusted. Seasonal adjustment was also applied in the calculation of the 2015 and 2016 jail incarceration rates by demographic characteristics and the standard errors.

APPENDIX TABLE 1**Standard errors for table 1: Inmates confined at midyear, average daily population, annual admissions, and incarceration rates, 2011–2021**

Year	Confined inmates	Average daily population	Annual admissions	Jail incarceration rate
2011	6,009	5,879	207,708	1.9
2012	7,684	7,769	189,063	2.4
2013	8,042	7,943	688,183	2.5
2014	8,382	8,430	205,287	2.6
2015	7,188	7,112	141,792	2.2
2016	5,943	5,788	138,605	1.8
2017	6,614	7,431	152,636	2.0
2018	7,122	6,967	155,281	2.2
2019	~	~	~	~
2020	5,116	5,945	105,523	1.5
2021	5,433	5,162	88,577	1.6

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011–2018, 2020, and 2021, and Census of Jails, 2019; and U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: January 1, 2011 to January 1, 2022.

APPENDIX TABLE 2**Standard errors for table 2: Number of confined inmates in local jails, by demographic characteristics, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Characteristic	2011	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	6,009	5,943	6,614	7,122	~	5,116	5,433
Sex							
Male	5,355	5,237	5,680	6,078	~	4,545	4,861
Female	1,196	1,247	1,351	1,457	~	999	1,173
Age group							
Juveniles	175	158	128	218	~	93	69
Held as adult	153	118	127	108	~	86	64
Held as juvenile	78	98	36	182	~	41	27
Adults	6,091	5,971	6,569	7,073	~	5,099	5,424
18–24	...	...	...	...	...	1,249	1,272
25–34	...	...	...	...	...	2,074	2,158
35–44	...	...	...	...	...	1,493	1,709
45–54	...	...	...	...	...	795	933
55–64	...	...	...	...	...	506	611
65 or older	...	...	...	...	...	188	250
Race/Hispanic origin							
White	4,152	4,361	4,629	5,064	~	3,004	3,349
Black	3,770	3,680	3,987	4,197	~	2,895	3,149
Hispanic	2,887	1,981	2,165	2,307	~	2,362	2,435
American Indian/Alaska Native	1,029	853	798	917	~	701	916
Asian	204	137	155	138	~	116	114
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	28	41	99	81	~	52	104
Two or more races	165	342	235	772	~	141	185

...Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting inmate counts by adult age category in 2020.

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 3**Standard errors for table 3: Percent of confined inmates in local jails, by demographic characteristics, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Characteristic	2011	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sex							
Male	0.12%	0.12%	0.12%	0.13%	~	0.14%	0.15%
Female	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.13	~	0.14	0.15
Age group							
Juveniles	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.03%	~	0.02%	0.01%
Held as adult	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	~	0.02	0.01
Held as juvenile	0.01	0.01	<0.005	0.02	~	0.01	<0.005
Adults	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	~	0.02	0.01
18–24	...	...	...	...	...	0.15	0.14
25–34	...	...	...	...	...	0.15	0.15
35–44	...	...	...	...	...	0.14	0.14
45–54	...	...	...	...	...	0.09	0.10
55–64	...	...	...	...	...	0.07	0.08
65 or older	...	...	...	...	...	0.03	0.04
Race/Hispanic origin							
White	0.43%	0.42%	0.45%	0.48%	~	0.45%	0.44%
Black	0.39	0.38	0.41	0.44	~	0.39	0.38
Hispanic	0.34	0.25	0.27	0.28	~	0.36	0.33
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.14	0.11	0.11	0.12	~	0.13	0.14
Asian	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	~	0.02	0.02
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	<0.005	0.01	0.01	0.01	~	0.01	0.02
Two or more races	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.10	~	0.02	0.03

...Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting inmate counts by adult age category in 2020.

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 4**Standard errors for table 4: Jail incarceration rates, by demographic characteristics, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Characteristic	2011	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	1.9	1.8	2.0	2.2	~	1.5	1.6
Sex							
Male	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.8	~	2.8	3.0
Female	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	~	0.6	0.7
Adults							
18–24	...	...	...	...	...	4.1	4.2
25–34	...	...	...	...	...	4.5	4.7
35–44	...	...	...	...	...	3.5	3.9
45–54	...	...	...	...	...	2.0	2.3
55–64	...	...	...	...	...	1.2	1.4
65 or older	...	...	...	...	...	0.3	0.4
Race/Hispanic origin							
White	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.6	~	1.5	1.7
Black	9.8	9.1	9.8	10.3	~	7.0	7.5
Hispanic	5.5	3.5	3.7	3.9	~	3.8	3.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	44.9	35.8	33.3	38.0	~	28.7	37.4
Asian	1.4	0.8	0.8	0.7	~	0.6	0.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	5.5	7.2	17.1	13.7	~	8.4	16.6
Two or more races	2.8	5.0	3.4	10.7	~	1.9	2.4

...Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting inmate counts by adult age category in 2020.

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 5**Standard errors for table 5: Number of confined inmates in local jails, by conviction status and offense severity, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Conviction status and offense severity	2011	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	6,009	5,943	6,614	7,122	~	5,116	5,433
Conviction status							
Convicted	4,072	3,458	3,568	3,888	~	2,798	3,268
Unconvicted	5,573	5,690	5,792	6,160	~	4,394	4,837
Most serious type of offense							
Felony	...	5,482	5,810	6,443	~	5,019	5,232
Misdemeanor	...	2,899	3,388	3,461	~	1,751	2,174
Other	...	1,361	1,774	1,963	~	1,613	1,425

...Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting inmate counts by offense severity in 2015.

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 6**Standard errors for table 6: Percent of confined inmates in local jails, by conviction status and offense severity, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Conviction status and offense severity	2011	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Conviction status							
Convicted	0.42%	0.45%	0.43%	0.46%	~	0.44%	0.45%
Unconvicted	0.42	0.45	0.43	0.46	~	0.44	0.45
Most serious type of offense							
Felony	...	0.39%	0.44%	0.47%	~	0.41%	0.39%
Misdemeanor	...	0.36	0.41	0.44	~	0.32	0.33
Other	...	0.18	0.23	0.26	~	0.29	0.22

...Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting inmate counts by offense severity in 2015.

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 7**Standard errors for table 7: Confined inmates in local jails, by probation or parole violation status, midyears 2019–2021**

Violation status	Number of inmates		
	2019	2020	2021
Total inmate population	~	5,116	5,433
Inmates who violated probation	~	1,660	2,090
Inmates who violated parole	~	791	945

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2020 and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 8**Standard errors for table 8: Confined inmates held in local jails for federal correctional authorities, state prison authorities, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments, 2011 and 2016–2021**

Authority for which inmates were held	2011	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
All federal/state/tribal authorities	3,945	3,459	3,640	3,894	~	2,661	2,625
Federal authorities	3,215	1,847	1,583	1,824	~	1,566	1,785
U.S. Marshals Service	2,149	1,445	1,321	1,490	~	1,420	1,534
Federal Bureau of Prisons	638	134	139	117	~	313	538
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement	1,533	957	842	1,012	~	515	659
Bureau of Indian Affairs	51	50	40	53	~	50	31
State prison authorities	2,369	2,969	3,300	3,293	~	2,132	1,905
American Indian/Alaska Native tribal governments	...	104	98	92	~	45	129
Total inmates in custody	6,009	6,013	6,614	7,122	~	5,116	5,433

...Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting the number of inmates held for American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments in 2015.

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 9**Standard errors for table 9: Average daily jail population, by size of jurisdiction, 2021**

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Jail jurisdictions		Total ADP		Mean ADP	Median ADP
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Total	~	:	5,162	:	1.8	:
Fewer than 50 inmates	36	1.27%	1,697	0.28%	1.3	:
50–99	42	1.50	3,122	0.51	1.6	:
100–249	28	1.00	4,197	0.66	2.5	:
250–499	10	0.35	3,430	0.54	3.2	:
500–999	4	0.15	2,652	0.44	3.2	:
1,000–2,499	1	0.04	1,832	0.35	7.4	:
2,500 or more	1	0.03	4,516	0.64	100.2	:

:Not calculated.

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2021.

APPENDIX TABLE 10**Standard errors for table 10: Midyear population, jail capacity, and percent of capacity occupied in local jails, 2011–2021**

Year	Midyear population	Rated capacity	Percent of capacity occupied	Percent of jail jurisdictions operating at more than 100% of rated capacity
2011	6,009	11,776	0.88%	1.54%
2012	7,684	10,217	0.48	1.64
2013	8,042	10,723	0.49	1.43
2014	8,382	11,082	0.43	1.50
2015	7,188	9,204	0.40	1.58
2016	5,943	8,467	0.46	1.58
2017	6,614	9,217	0.48	2.04
2018	7,122	9,622	0.50	1.88
2019	~	~	~	~
2020	5,116	9,207	0.43	1.11
2021	5,433	8,586	0.49	1.34

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 11**Standard errors for table 11: Percent of jail capacity occupied at midyear, by size of jail jurisdiction, 2021**

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Midyear population	Rated capacity	Percent of capacity occupied	Percent of jail jurisdictions operating at more than 100% of rated capacity
Total	5,433	8,586	0.49%	1.34%
Fewer than 50 inmates	1,659	3,733	2.65	1.78
50–99	3,231	5,394	2.73	4.43
100–249	4,397	6,966	1.93	3.03
250–499	3,479	4,967	1.17	2.28
500–999	2,764	3,933	0.58	1.16
1,000–2,499	1,888	2,806	0.44	0.68
2,500 or more	4,699	6,482	0.41	0.80

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2021.

APPENDIX TABLE 12**Standard errors for table 12: Inmate turnover rate and estimated average time in jail, 2011–2021**

Year	Total ADP	Annual admissions	Weekly inmate turnover rate	Estimated average time in jail
2011	5,879	207,708	0.97%	0.36 days
2012	7,769	189,063	0.87	0.35
2013	7,943	688,183	3.59	1.34
2014	8,430	205,287	0.93	0.40
2015	7,112	141,792	0.69	0.30
2016	5,788	138,605	0.60	0.28
2017	7,431	152,636	0.73	0.35
2018	6,967	155,281	0.67	0.31
2019	~	~	~	~
2020	5,945	105,523	0.58	0.33
2021	5,162	88,577	0.51	0.40

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 13**Standard errors for table 13: Inmate turnover rate and estimated average time in jail, by size of jurisdiction, 2021**

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Total ADP	Annual admissions	Weekly inmate turnover rate	Estimated average time in jail
Total	5,162	88,577	0.51%	0.40 days
Fewer than 50 inmates	1,697	49,511	8.59	1.20
50–99	3,122	67,808	3.81	1.23
100–249	4,197	70,418	1.63	0.90
250–499	3,430	44,080	0.97	0.78
500–999	2,652	27,874	0.44	0.47
1,000–2,499	1,832	19,813	0.30	0.34
2,500 or more	4,516	34,746	0.69	0.97

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2021.

APPENDIX TABLE 14**Standard errors for table 14: Persons under jail supervision, by confinement status, midyears 2011–2021**

Year	Total	Held in jail		Supervised outside of a jail facility	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2011	6,378	6,009	0.21%	1,767	0.21%
2012	8,360	7,684	0.28	2,405	0.28
2013	8,628	8,042	0.28	2,296	0.28
2014	9,163	8,382	0.31	2,675	0.31
2015	7,455	7,188	0.18	1,487	0.18
2016	6,510	5,943	0.22	1,849	0.22
2017	7,195	6,614	0.25	2,165	0.25
2018	8,023	7,122	0.33	2,835	0.33
2019	~	~	~	~	~
2020	5,823	5,116	0.35	2,263	0.35
2021	6,105	5,433	0.29	2,167	0.29

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 15**Standard errors for table 15: Number of persons serving weekend-only sentences, 2011–2021**

Year	Number
2011	514
2012	369
2013	508
2014	399
2015	417
2016	272
2017	328
2018	318
2019	~
2020	481
2021	151

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2011–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 16**Standard errors for table 16: Number of staff employed in local jails, by job function and sex, 2016–2021**

Job function and sex	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	3,368	3,903	4,172	~	3,679	3,135
Correctional officers	2,881	3,408	3,629	~	3,084	2,559
Male	1,817	2,142	2,225	~	2,121	1,849
Female	1,238	1,445	1,558	~	1,238	1,033
Inmate-to-correctional-officer ratio	0.05	0.06	0.07	~	0.04	0.05
All other staff	1,065	915	883	~	981	1,119
Male	627	534	506	~	552	665
Female	535	498	504	~	547	598

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 17**Standard errors for table 17: Percent of staff employed in local jails, by job function and sex, 2016–2021**

Job function and sex	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	:	:	:	:	:	:
Correctional officers	0.38%	0.33%	0.32%	~	0.31%	0.39%
Male	0.32	0.29	0.28	~	0.31	0.35
Female	0.30	0.32	0.33	~	0.31	0.33
All other staff	0.38%	0.33%	0.32%	~	0.31%	0.39%
Male	0.23	0.19	0.17	~	0.19	0.25
Female	0.21	0.21	0.22	~	0.19	0.22

:Not calculated for percentage totals.

~Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2016–2018, 2020, and 2021; and Census of Jails, 2019.



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

This report was written by Zhen Zeng. Emily Buehler, E. Ann Carson, and Todd Minton verified the report.

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