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# HIV in Prisons and Jails, 1995

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At yearend 1995, 2.3% of all State and Federal prison inmates were reported by prison authorities to be infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). In State prisons 23,404 inmates were HIV positive (2.4% of the total), and in Federal prisons, 822 (0.9%). Of all inmates in U.S. prisons, 5,099 prisoners (0.5%) had confirmed AIDS, and 18,165 prisoners were HIV positive without having confirmed AIDS.

In 1995, 1,010 State inmates died of AIDS-related causes, up from 955 in 1994. For every 100,000 State inmates in 1995, 100 died of AIDS-related causes. Between 1991 and 1995 about 1 in 3 inmate deaths were attributable to AIDS-related causes.

Based on personal interviews conducted from October 1995 through March 1996 in the Survey of Inmates in Local Jails, almost 6 in 10 jail inmates reported ever being tested for HIV. Of those tested, 2.2% reported being HIV positive. Among female inmates, 2.4% said they were HIV positive; among male inmates, 2.1%. An estimated 1.6% of tested jail inmates who said they never used drugs were HIV positive, as were 2.3% who ever used drugs, 3.0% who used drugs in the month before arrest, 4.0% who used needles to inject drugs, and 6.3% who shared needles.

## Highlights

Year	HIV-positive State and Federal prison inmates	
	Number	Percent of custody population
1991	17,551	2.2%
1992	20,651	2.5
1993	21,475	2.4
1994	22,717	2.4
1995	24,226	2.3

- Between 1991 and 1995 the number of HIV-positive prisoners grew at about the same rate (38%) as the overall prison population (36%).

- At yearend 1995, 4.0% of all female State prison inmates were HIV positive, compared to 2.3% of male State prisoners.

Jurisdiction	HIV-positive prison inmates	
	Number	Percent of custody population
New York	9,500	13.9%
Florida	2,193	3.4
Texas	1,890	1.5
California	1,042	.8
New Jersey	847	3.7
Georgia	828	2.4
Federal system	822	.9
Connecticut	755	5.1
Maryland	724	3.4

Based on jurisdictions with more than 700 HIV-positive inmates.

- New York held more than a third of all inmates (9,500 inmates) known to be HIV positive at yearend 1995.

- Of all HIV-positive prison inmates, 21% were confirmed AIDS cases. In State prisons, 21% of HIV-positive inmates had AIDS; in Federal prisons, 16%.

- The overall rate of confirmed AIDS among the Nation's prison population (0.51%) was more than 6 times the rate in the U.S. population (0.08%).

- Inmates in local jails, who have been tested for HIV, report similar HIV-infection rates:

	Tested jail inmates who reported results	
	Number	Percent HIV positive
All inmates	289,991	2.2%
Male	258,019	2.1
Female	31,972	2.4
White	110,023	1.4%
Black	125,259	2.6
Hispanic	45,759	3.2
Age 24 or younger	81,228	.7%
25-34	116,532	2.1
35-44	70,776	3.8
45 or older	21,455	3.0

From the 1995-96 Survey of Inmates in Local Jails.

- Jail officials in the last national Census of Jails (conducted in 1993) reported that 6,711 inmates were known to be HIV positive and 1,888 had confirmed AIDS. The infection rate was highest in the largest jail jurisdictions.

## Data sources

Data on HIV/AIDS for prison inmates were provided by the departments of corrections in 50 States and the District of Columbia and by the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Since 1991 respondents have reported their HIV-testing policies and the number of HIV-infected inmates in their custody at yearend. Those inmates are reported to be asymptomatic, symptomatic, or with confirmed AIDS. (See the questionnaire items in figure 1, page 4.) Respondents have also reported for each year the number of inmate deaths from HIV-related infections as well as other causes.

Data on HIV/AIDS and demographics for jail inmates were calculated from the 1993 Census of Jails and the 1995-96 Survey of Inmates in Local Jails. Through personal interviews conducted from October 1995 through March 1996, inmates held in locally operated jails were questioned about current offenses, prior drug use and treatment, personal characteristics, and other aspects of their life. Questions on whether inmates had ever been tested for HIV and the results of the test were included in the interviews.

The 1993 Census of Jails provides the latest complete count of HIV-positive jail inmates and AIDS-related deaths as well as an overview of HIV testing policies in jail facilities. When combined with estimates from the 1995-96 survey of inmates, the jail census provides the most up-to date information available on HIV/AIDS in local jails.

## Trends in HIV infection in U.S. prisons

At yearend 1995, 24,226 inmates in State and Federal prisons were known to be infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) (table 1). In 1993, 20,516 State prisoners were HIV positive; in 1995, 23,404 were HIV positive, a 14% increase. The Federal Bureau of Prisons held 959 HIV-positive inmates in 1993 and 822 in 1995, a 14% decrease.

**Table 1. Inmates in custody of State or Federal prison authorities and known to be positive for the human immunodeficiency virus, 1993-95**

Jurisdiction	Total known to be HIV positive			HIV/AIDS cases as a percent of total custody population <sup>a</sup>		
	1993	1994	1995	1993	1994	1995
<b>U.S. total<sup>b</sup></b>	21,475	22,717	24,226	2.4	2.4	2.3
Federal	959	964	822	1.2	1.1	.9
State	20,516	21,753	23,404	2.6	2.5	2.4
<b>Northeast</b>	10,690	11,001	12,262	7.5	7.4	7.8
Connecticut	886	940	755	6.6	6.6	5.1
Maine	8	8	4	.6	.5	.3
Massachusetts	394	388	409	3.9	3.4	3.9
New Hampshire	17	26	31	.9	1.3	1.5
New Jersey	881	770	847	4.4	3.6	3.7
New York	8,000	8,295	9,500	12.4	12.4	13.9
Pennsylvania	409	461	590	1.6	1.6	1.8
Rhode Island	89	113	126	3.4	3.8	4.4
Vermont	6	0	0	.5	0	0
<b>Midwest</b>	1,671	1,750	1,667	1.1	1.1	.9
Illinois	591	600	583	1.7	1.6	1.5
Indiana	--	--	--	--	--	--
Iowa	11	25	20	.2	.5	.3
Kansas	39	20	24	.7	.3	.3
Michigan	434	384	379	1.1	.9	.9
Minnesota	30	35	46	.7	.8	1.0
Missouri	136	146	173	.8	.8	.9
Nebraska	17	16	19	.7	.6	.6
North Dakota	2	3	2	.3	.5	.3
Ohio	355	454	346	.9	1.1	.8
South Dakota	--	2	3	--	.1	.2
Wisconsin	56	65	72	.6	.6	.6
<b>South</b>	6,657	7,410	7,840	2.1	2.0	1.9
Alabama	194	210	222	1.1	1.1	1.1
Arkansas	80	81	83	1.0	1.0	1.0
Delaware	113	34	122	2.7	.8	2.5
District of Columbia	--	--	--	--	--	--
Florida	1,780	1,986	2,193	3.4	3.5	3.4
Georgia	745	854	828	2.7	2.6	2.4
Kentucky	42	44	41	.5	.5	.4
Louisiana	262	285	314	1.6	1.8	1.8
Maryland	769	774	724	3.8	3.7	3.4
Mississippi	118	119	138	1.4	1.2	1.4
North Carolina	485	521	526	2.2	2.2	1.9
Oklahoma	102	102	115	.8	.8	.8
South Carolina	452	434	380	2.7	2.5	2.0
Tennessee	88	89	120	.8	.7	.9
Texas	1,212	1,584	1,890	1.7	1.6	1.5
Virginia	207	285	134	1.1	1.4	.6
West Virginia	8	8	10	.4	.4	.4
<b>West</b>	1,498	1,592	1,635	.8	.8	.8
Alaska	--	--	5	--	--	.2
Arizona	89	143	140	.5	.7	.7
California	1,048	1,055	1,042	.9	.8	.8
Colorado	74	79	93	.8	.9	1.0
Hawaii	21	14	12	.7	.5	.4
Idaho	26	20	11	1.0	.8	.4
Montana	5	7	4	.3	.4	.2
Nevada	100	122	147	1.6	1.8	1.9
New Mexico	11	19	24	.3	.5	.6
Oregon	29	24	29	.4	.3	.4
Utah	26	48	31	.9	1.5	.8
Washington	63	55	92	.6	.5	.8
Wyoming	6	6	5	.5	.6	.4

--Not reported.

<sup>a</sup>The custody population includes only those inmates housed in a jurisdiction's facilities.

<sup>b</sup>Totals exclude those inmates in jurisdictions that did not report data on HIV/AIDS.

Between 1991 and 1995 the number of HIV-positive inmates grew at about the same rate as the overall prison population (38% compared to 36%). HIV-positive inmates comprised 2.3% of the State prison population in 1991 and 2.4% in 1995. In Federal prisons, HIV-positive inmates were 1.0% of all prisoners in 1991 and 0.9% in 1995.

Year	Percent of custody population known to be HIV-positive	
	State	Federal
1991	2.3%	1.0%
1992	2.6	1.2
1993	2.6	1.2
1994	2.5	1.1
1995	2.4	.9

HIV-infected inmates are concentrated in a small number of States. New York and Florida house the largest number of HIV-positive inmates. In 1995 these two States held a little less than half of all HIV-positive inmates in the Nation. New York had the highest percentage of inmates known to be HIV positive (13.9%), followed by Connecticut (5.1%), Rhode Island (4.4%), Massachusetts (3.9%), and New Jersey (3.7%).

Eight States reported having 10 or fewer cases of HIV-positive inmates in their prisons. Vermont reported no HIV-positive inmates. Twenty-seven States reported that fewer than 1.0% of their inmate population were HIV positive.

New York reported the largest growth in the number of HIV-positive inmates, from 8,000 in 1993 to 9,500 in 1995. Substantial increases were also reported in Texas (an increase of 678 inmates) and Florida (413).

**Table 2. Inmates in custody of State and Federal prison authorities, by type of HIV infection or confirmed AIDS, yearend 1995**

Jurisdiction	Cases of HIV or confirmed AIDS				Confirmed AIDS cases as a percent of —	
	Total <sup>a</sup>	Asymptomatic <sup>b</sup>	Symptomatic <sup>c</sup>	Confirmed AIDS	Total HIV cases	Custody population
<b>U.S. total</b>	24,226	15,107	3,058	5,099	21.0%	.5%
Federal	822	118	570	134	16.3	.1
State	23,404	14,989	2,488	4,965	21.2	.5
<b>Northeast</b>	12,262	9,227	917	2,118	17.3%	1.4%
Connecticut	755	254	314	187	24.8	1.3
Maine	4	0	0	4	**	.3
Massachusetts	409	94	155	160	39.1	1.5
New Hampshire	31	10	7	14	45.2	.7
New Jersey	847	504	--	343	40.5	1.5
New York	9,500	8,019	299	1,182	12.4	1.7
Pennsylvania	590	337	67	186	31.5	.6
Rhode Island	126	9	75	42	33.3	1.5
Vermont	0	0	0	0	**	0
<b>Midwest</b>	1,667	1,020	233	414	24.8%	.2%
Illinois	583	351	55	177	30.4	.5
Indiana	--	--	--	--	--	--
Iowa	20	15	--	5	25.0	.1
Kansas	24	18	0	6	25.0	.1
Michigan	379	272	--	107	28.2	.3
Minnesota	46	34	6	6	13.0	.1
Missouri	173	--	158	15	8.7	.1
Nebraska	19	12	--	7	36.8	.2
North Dakota	2	1	0	1	**	.1
Ohio	346	270	--	76	22.0	.2
South Dakota	3	0	0	3	**	.2
Wisconsin	72	47	14	11	15.3	.1
<b>South</b>	7,840	3,810	1,138	1,930	24.6%	.5%
Alabama	222	180	--	42	18.9	.2
Arkansas	83	40	20	23	27.7	.3
Delaware	122	80	--	42	34.4	.9
District of Columbia	--	--	--	--	--	--
Florida	2,193	1,501	--	692	31.6	1.1
Georgia <sup>a</sup>	828	--	--	--	--	--
Kentucky	41	29	0	12	29.3	.1
Louisiana	314	--	228	86	27.4	.5
Maryland	724	362	104	258	35.6	1.2
Mississippi	138	110	--	28	20.3	.3
North Carolina	526	--	397	129	24.5	.5
Oklahoma	115	107	--	8	7.0	.1
South Carolina	380	299	--	81	21.3	.4
Tennessee	120	--	86	34	28.3	.3
Texas	1,890	1,092	303	495	26.2	.4
Virginia <sup>a</sup>	134	--	--	--	--	--
West Virginia	10	10	0	0	**	0
<b>West</b>	1,635	932	200	503	30.8%	.2%
Alaska	5	0	0	5	**	.2
Arizona	140	125	--	15	10.7	.1
California	1,042	577	80	385	36.9	.3
Colorado	93	28	46	19	20.4	.2
Hawaii	12	11	0	1	8.3	‡
Idaho	11	6	0	5	45.5	.2
Montana	4	4	0	0	**	0
Nevada	147	90	27	30	20.4	.4
New Mexico	24	22	0	2	8.3	‡
Oregon	29	11	11	7	24.1	.1
Utah	31	21	4	6	19.4	.2
Washington	92	36	28	28	30.4	.2
Wyoming	5	1	4	0	**	0

Note: Totals and percentages exclude inmates in jurisdictions that did not report data on type of HIV/AIDS infection. The custody population includes only inmates housed at the end of 1995.

--Not reported.

\*\*Not calculated for fewer than 10 cases.

‡Less than 0.05%.

<sup>a</sup>Georgia and Virginia reported the total of HIV-positive cases but not the stage of HIV infection.

<sup>b</sup>Includes inmates who tested positive for the HIV antibody but had no HIV-related symptoms.

<sup>c</sup>Includes inmates with symptoms of HIV infection but without a confirmed AIDS diagnosis.

**Table 3. Number of inmate deaths in State prisons, by cause, 1993-95**

Cause of death	1993		1994		1995	
	Number	Rate of death per 100,000 inmates	Number	Rate of death per 100,000 inmates	Number	Rate of death per 100,000 inmates
Total	2,477	290	2,878	314	3,133	311
Illness/natural causes	1,188	139	1,393	152	1,569	156
AIDS	761	89	955	104	1,010	100
Suicide	145	17	155	17	160	16
Accident	38	4	33	4	48	5
Execution	37	4	30	3	56	5
By another person	84	10	68	7	86	9
Other/unspecified	224	26	244	27	204	20

Note: In each year some States did not report complete data on cause of death. To calculate the rate of death, the number of inmates under State jurisdiction on June 30 of each year was used as an approximation of the average population exposed to the risk of death during the year. Inmates in States that did not report data on inmate deaths were excluded in 1993 and 1994. All States reported data on inmate deaths in 1995.

As a percentage of the total prison population in each State, the highest number of confirmed AIDS cases was in New York (1.7% of inmates in the State), followed by Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Rhode Island (each 1.5%). In 16 States, confirmed AIDS cases comprised 0.1% or less of State inmates.

**Comparison to the U.S. resident population**

At the end of 1995, the rate of confirmed AIDS in State and Federal prisons was more than 6 times higher than in the total U.S. population. Approximately 0.51% of all prisoners had confirmed AIDS, compared to 0.08% of the U.S. population.

Year	Percent of population with confirmed AIDS	
	U.S. general population	Inmates in State and Federal prisons
1991	0.03%	0.21%
1992	0.03	0.33
1993	0.06	0.50
1994	0.07	0.52
1995	0.08	0.51

Note: The percent of the general population with confirmed AIDS in each year may be overestimated due to delays in death reports. Care should be exercised when comparing percentages over time, because of changes in the case definition for AIDS. See *Methodology*.

**Confirmed AIDS cases in U.S. prisons**

At the end of 1995, 5,099 confirmed AIDS cases were in U.S. prisons — 4,965 State inmates and 134 Federal inmates (table 2). Of the remaining HIV-positive inmates, 3,058 showed symptoms of HIV infection and 15,107 were asymptomatic.

The number of prison inmates with confirmed AIDS more than tripled after 1991. The number of inmates with lesser or no symptoms of HIV infection grew by 15%.

Year	Confirmed AIDS cases	Other than confirmed AIDS cases
1991	1,682	15,797
1992	2,644	18,087
1993	3,765	17,773
1994	4,849	17,864
1995	5,099	18,165

Note: Care should be exercised when comparing the number of reported cases over time. In January 1993 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention revised the HIV classification system and expanded the surveillance case definition for AIDS to include specific CD4+ T-lymphocyte criteria and three additional clinical conditions — pulmonary tuberculosis, recurrent pneumonia, and invasive cervical cancer. This expansion resulted in a substantial increase in the number of reported AIDS cases during 1993. See *Methodology*.

The States with the largest number of confirmed AIDS cases were New York (1,182), Florida (692), and Texas (495), which accounted for 48% of all confirmed AIDS cases in State prisons. Eighteen States reported having fewer than 10 inmates with confirmed AIDS in their prison systems.

Confirmed AIDS cases comprised a half of one percent of all inmates in State and Federal prisons. Of those HIV-positive inmates in prison, about a fifth were confirmed AIDS cases.

10. HIV testing, Jan. 1- Dec. 31, 1995	a. During 1995 were any inmates tested for the antibody to the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) that causes AIDS?	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No - Skip to item 11		
	b. Which inmates were tested during 1995? Mark (X) all that apply.	1 <input type="checkbox"/> All incoming inmates 2 <input type="checkbox"/> All inmates currently in custody 3 <input type="checkbox"/> All inmates at time of release 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Certain inmates (Complete item 10c)		
	c. Who were the certain inmates tested? Mark (X) all that apply.	1 <input type="checkbox"/> High-risk groups - Specify _____ 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Upon inmate request 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Upon clinical indication of need 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Upon involvement in incident 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Random sample 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____		
11. HIV infection/AIDS cases in custody on Dec. 31, 1995	a. Inmates who were asymptomatic HIV positive	Total	Male	Female
	b. Inmates with lesser forms of symptomatic HIV disease			
	c. Inmates with confirmed AIDS			
	d. Total number of inmates who were HIV positive or confirmed AIDS cases (Sum of items 11a, b, and c)			

Fig. 1

**Table 4. AIDS-related deaths of sentenced prisoners under State jurisdiction, 1995**

Jurisdiction	Deaths from all causes in State prisons		AIDS-related deaths		
	Total	Rate per 100,000 inmates <sup>a</sup>	Total	Rate per 100,000 inmates <sup>a</sup>	As a percent of all deaths <sup>b</sup>
<b>Total</b>	3,133	311	1,010	109	34.2%
<b>Northeast</b>	740	468	402	254	54.3
Connecticut	42	280	24	160	57.1
Maine	0	0	0	0	**
Massachusetts	34	296	14	122	41.2
New Hampshire	2	97	2	97	**
New Jersey	137	535	66	258	48.2
New York	396	578	258	376	65.2
Pennsylvania	122	409	38	127	31.1
Rhode Island	7	223	0	0	**
Vermont	0	0	0	0	**
<b>Midwest</b>	481	252	63	42	16.7%
Illinois	103	273	31	82	30.1
Indiana	44	280	1	6	2.3
Iowa	9	158	0	0	**
Kansas	13	188	0	0	**
Michigan	104	251	--	--	--
Minnesota	9	189	1	21	**
Missouri	53	280	4	21	7.5
Nebraska	13	464	0	0	0
North Dakota	1	164	0	0	**
Ohio	114	262	23	53	20.2
South Dakota	5	275	0	0	**
Wisconsin	13	122	3	28	23.1
<b>South</b>	1,455	325	432	105	31.3%
Alabama	88	438	20	100	22.7
Arkansas	26	286	1	11	3.8
Delaware	9	194	0	0	**
District of Columbia	7	67	--	--	--
Florida	254	410	150	242	59.1
Georgia	127	372	50	147	39.4
Kentucky	29	243	2	17	6.9
Louisiana	68	270	--	--	--
Maryland	54	252	25	117	46.3
Mississippi	42	337	5	40	11.9
North Carolina	69	257	28	104	40.6
Oklahoma	66	375	4	23	6.1
South Carolina	63	323	34	175	54.0
Tennessee	64	429	12	80	18.8
Texas	399	314	74	58	18.5
Virginia	83	304	27	99	32.5
West Virginia	7	287	0	0	**
<b>West</b>	457	217	113	54	24.7%
Alaska	5	154	0	0	**
Arizona	58	277	0	0	0
California	262	199	91	69	34.7
Colorado	25	232	6	56	24.0
Hawaii	11	307	1	28	9.1
Idaho	1	31	0	0	**
Montana	11	581	0	0	0
Nevada	25	334	6	80	24.0
New Mexico	8	194	0	0	**
Oregon	21	280	5	67	23.8
Utah	6	183	0	0	**
Washington	23	202	4	35	17.4
Wyoming	1	76	0	0	**

--Not reported.

\*\*Not calculated for fewer than 10 deaths.

<sup>a</sup>Based on the number of inmates under State jurisdiction on June 30, 1995.

<sup>b</sup>National and regional totals exclude inmates in jurisdictions that did not report data on cause of death.

In every year after 1991 the rate of confirmed AIDS was significantly higher among prison inmates than in the general population. In 1992 the rate of AIDS was nearly 10 times higher for prisoners than the general population. In 1993, following a revision of the HIV classification system and an expansion of the case definition for AIDS, the rate of confirmed AIDS increased 1½ times among prisoners and doubled in the general population. After the adoption of these new measures, the incidence of AIDS grew somewhat faster in the general population (from 0.06% in 1993 to 0.08% in 1995) than in prison (from 0.50% to 0.51%). At yearend 1995, the rate of confirmed AIDS was over 6 times higher in prisons than in the general population.

#### AIDS-related deaths in State prisons

In 1995, 1,010 State inmates died of *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia, Kaposi's sarcoma, or other AIDS-related diseases (table 3). These AIDS-related deaths comprised about a third of all deaths of State prisoners.

Year	AIDS-related deaths as a percent of all deaths	
	U.S. general population, age 15-54*	State prison inmates
1991	10.4%	28.0%
1992	11.7	35.2
1993	11.9	33.2
1994	12.7	35.1
1995	--	34.2

--Not available.

\*See *Methodology* for source of data.

The rate of death because of AIDS is about 3 times higher in the prison population than in the total U.S. population age 15 to 54. Between 1991 and 1995 about 1 in every 3 prisoner deaths were attributable to AIDS-related causes, compared to about 1 in 10 deaths in the general population.

From 1991 to 1995 "AIDS-related causes" was the second leading cause of death for State prisoners behind "illness and natural causes." For every 100,000 State inmates in 1995, 109 died of AIDS-related causes (table 4). The number of AIDS-related deaths in prison increased 94% from 1991 to 1995.

In 1995 AIDS-related causes accounted for over half of all inmate deaths in New York (65%), Florida (59%), Connecticut (57%), and South

Carolina (54%). Seventeen States reported having no AIDS-related deaths, and 4 States reported only 1 AIDS-related death.

### HIV infection of male and female State inmates

At the end of 1995, there were 20,690 male and 2,182 female State inmates infected with HIV — 2.3% of all male and 4.0% of all female State inmates (table 5). The rate of HIV infection was higher for women than men in every region and in most States.

From 1991 to 1995 the number of male State inmates infected with HIV increased 28%, while the number of female inmates infected increased at a much faster rate — 88%.

Year	Number HIV positive	Percent of custody population in reporting States
<b>Males</b>		
1991	16,150	2.2%
1992	18,266	2.6
1993	18,218	2.5
1994	19,762	2.4
1995	20,690	2.3
Percent change, 1991-95*	28.1%	
<b>Females</b>		
1991	1,159	3.0%
1992	1,598	4.0
1993	1,796	4.2
1994	1,953	3.9
1995	2,182	4.0
Percent change, 1991-95*	88.3%	

Note: Includes State inmates only.  
\*In 1991 North Carolina, South Dakota, and the District of Columbia did not report data by sex. In 1995 Delaware, Indiana, South Carolina, and the District of Columbia did not report data by sex.

In five States, all in the Northeast, more than 10% of female inmates were known to be HIV positive — New York (22.7%), Rhode Island (14.5%), Connecticut (13.4%), New Hampshire (11.4%), and Massachusetts (10.5%). New York (13.4%) was the only State in which more than 10% of the male inmates were known to be infected with HIV.

**Table 5. State prison inmates known to be positive for the human immunodeficiency virus, by sex, yearend 1995**

Jurisdiction	Male HIV cases		Female HIV cases	
	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population
<b>Total</b>	20,690	2.3%	2,182	4.0%
<b>Northeast</b>	11,080	7.5%	1,182	14.7%
Connecticut	627	4.6	128	13.4
Maine	4	.3	0	0
Massachusetts	340	3.5	69	10.5
New Hampshire	17	.9	14	11.4
New Jersey	748	3.4	99	9.8
New York	8,678	13.4	822	22.7
Pennsylvania	561	1.8	29	2.0
Rhode Island	105	3.9	21	14.5
Vermont	0	0	0	0
<b>Midwest</b>	1,553	.9%	114	1.2%
Illinois	528	1.5	55	2.5
Indiana	--	--	--	--
Iowa	18	.3	2	.5
Kansas	24	.4	0	0
Michigan	364	.9	15	.8
Minnesota	41	.9	5	2.5
Missouri	164	.9	9	.8
Nebraska	19	.7	0	0
North Dakota	1	.2	1	2.7
Ohio	324	.8	22	.8
South Dakota	3	.2	0	0
Wisconsin	67	.6	5	1.0
<b>South</b>	6,598	1.8%	740	3.2%
Alabama	209	1.1	13	1.0
Arkansas	79	1.0	4	.7
Delaware	--	--	--	--
District of Columbia	--	--	--	--
Florida	1,971	3.3	222	6.1
Georgia	747	2.3	81	4.0
Kentucky	40	.4	1	.2
Louisiana	299	1.8	15	2.4
Maryland	665	3.3	59	5.5
Mississippi	136	1.4	2	.3
North Carolina	437	1.7	89	5.3
Oklahoma	105	.8	10	.8
South Carolina	--	--	--	--
Tennessee	118	.9	2	.5
Texas	1,648	1.4	242	3.0
Virginia	134	.6	0	0
West Virginia	10	.4	0	0
<b>West</b>	1,459	.7%	146	1.0%
Alaska	5	.2	0	0
Arizona	128	.6	12	.8
California	957	.8	85	.9
Colorado	87	1.0	6	.8
Hawaii	12	.5	0	0
Idaho	11	.4	0	0
Montana	4	.3	0	0
Nevada	93	1.3	24	4.6
New Mexico	23	.6	1	.3
Oregon	25	.3	4	.9
Utah	29	.8	2	.9
Washington	81	.7	11	1.4
Wyoming	4	.3	1	1.1

Note: The sex of inmates was not reported for 502 HIV cases. Totals exclude inmates in jurisdictions that did not report data on HIV/AIDS or sex of inmates.  
--Not reported.

## HIV-testing policies

Each State, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons test their inmates for HIV based on certain criteria (table 6). Most jurisdictions (45 out of 52) test inmates if they have HIV-related symptoms or if the inmates request a test. Twenty-four States test inmates after they are involved in an incident, and 15 States test inmates who belong to specific "high-risk groups."

Sixteen States test all inmates who enter their facilities. Three of these States (Alabama, Missouri, and Nevada) and the Federal Bureau of Prisons test inmates upon their release.

Rhode Island, Utah, and Wyoming test all inmates currently in custody. Massachusetts, New York, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons test inmates selected at random.

Testing policy	Number of jurisdictions
Upon inmate request	40
Upon clinical indication of need	39
Upon involvement in an incident	24
All incoming inmates	16
High-risk groups	15
All inmates at time of release	4
Random sample	3
All inmates currently in custody	3

Note: Detail adds to more than 52 because a jurisdiction may have more than one policy.

**Table 6. Prison system testing policies for the antibody to the human immunodeficiency virus, by jurisdiction, 1995**

Jurisdiction	All inmates		High-risk group	Inmate request	Clinical indication	Involvement in incident	Random sample	Other
	In custody	Upon release						
Federal		■		■	■		■	
<b>Northeast</b>								
Connecticut			■	■	■			
Maine				■				
Massachusetts				■			■	
New Hampshire	■				■	■		
New Jersey				■	■			
New York			■	■	■	■	■	■
Pennsylvania				■	■	■		
Rhode Island	■	■		■	■	■		
Vermont					■			
<b>Midwest</b>								
Illinois			■	■	■	■		
Indiana			■	■	■			
Iowa	■							
Kansas				■	■	■		
Michigan	■			■	■	■		
Minnesota			■	■	■	■		
Missouri	■	■	■	■	■	■		
Nebraska	■			■	■	■		
North Dakota	■							
Ohio			■	■	■	■		■
South Dakota					■			
Wisconsin				■				■
<b>South</b>								
Alabama	■	■	■		■			
Arkansas			■	■	■	■		
Delaware				■	■	■		
District of Columbia				■	■	■		
Florida			■	■	■	■		
Georgia	■			■	■	■		
Kentucky			■	■	■	■		
Louisiana				■	■	■		
Maryland				■	■	■		
Mississippi	■							
North Carolina			■	■	■	■		■
Oklahoma	■				■	■		
South Carolina				■	■	■		■
Tennessee			■		■	■		
Texas			■					
Virginia				■	■			
West Virginia				■	■			
<b>West</b>								
Alaska				■	■	■		
Arizona				■	■	■		■
California				■	■	■		
Colorado	■			■	■	■		■
Hawaii				■	■			
Idaho	■			■	■			
Montana			■	■	■			
Nevada	■	■						
New Mexico				■				■
Oregon				■	■	■		
Utah	■	■						
Washington				■	■			■
Wyoming	■	■						

## HIV infection of local jail inmates

At midyear 1993, when the last national census of local jails was conducted, 1.8% of the inmates were known to be HIV positive. Among jails reporting data, a total of 6,711 inmates were HIV positive and 1,888 had confirmed AIDS.

Size of jurisdiction <sup>a</sup>	1993 Census of Jails	
	Number HIV positive <sup>b</sup>	HIV/AIDS as a percent of jail inmates
Total	6,711	1.8%
50 largest	3,926	2.9
500 or more	1,374	1.6
250-499	490	1.2
100-249	470	1.0
Fewer than 100	451	.8

<sup>a</sup>Based on the average daily population between July 1, 1992, and June 30, 1993.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes inmates in facilities that did not report data.

Source: *HIV in Prisons and Jails, 1993*.

The infection rate was highest in the largest jail jurisdictions. Almost 3% of the inmates in the Nation's largest jurisdictions were reported to be HIV positive. Among the remaining jurisdictions, the larger the size, the greater the percentage of inmates with HIV/AIDS. In jurisdictions with 500 or more inmates, 1.6% were infected; in jurisdictions with 250 to 499 inmates, 1.2% of the inmates; and in jurisdictions holding fewer than 250 inmates, 1% or less of the inmates.

## HIV test results for local jail inmates, by inmate characteristic

More detailed data, based on interviews of a national sample of inmates in local jails, are available from the 1995-96 Survey of Inmates in Local Jails. Conducted between October 1995 and March 1996, the survey provides national estimates of the numbers of jail inmates tested for HIV/AIDS and the percent HIV positive.

An estimated 62% of all respondents in the survey said they had ever been tested for HIV (table 7). Of those who had been tested and reported HIV test results (289,991), 2.2% said they were HIV positive. Among men, 2.1%

said they were HIV positive; among women, 2.4%. An estimated 2.6% of black non-Hispanic inmates, compared to 1.4% of white non-Hispanic inmates, said they tested HIV positive.

Among male inmates, black non-Hispanics (66%) were more likely to have been tested for HIV than white non-Hispanics (62%) and Hispanics (54%). Among those tested, black male inmates (2.5%) were nearly twice as likely as white male inmates (1.3%) to report being HIV positive.

Among female inmates, black non-Hispanics (75%) were also more likely to have ever been tested for HIV than white non-Hispanics (66%). Although the percent who said they were HIV positive was higher among black females than white or Hispanic female

inmates, the differences were not statistically significant. (See *Methodology* for sample design and accuracy of the survey methods.)

Inmates in the age groups 25 to 34 and 35 to 44 were more likely to report having been tested for HIV than inmates in other age groups. Inmates age 24 or younger had the lowest rates of HIV positive (0.7%), while those 35 to 44 had the highest rates (3.8%).

Inmates with a GED (69%) and those who completed high school (67%) were more likely to have ever been tested for HIV than inmates who had not completed high school (58%). Inmates who had completed high school were as likely as those who had not completed high school to say they tested HIV positive (2.3%).

**Table 7. Local jail inmates ever tested for the human immunodeficiency virus and results, by selected characteristics, 1995-96**

Characteristics	1995-96 Survey of Local Jail Inmates		
	Percent of all inmates who were ever tested	Number	Percent who reported results Tested inmates who reported results Percent who were HIV positive
<b>All inmates</b>	61.5%	289,991	2.2%
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	62.1%	258,019	2.1%
Female	68.6	31,972	2.4
<b>Race/Hispanic origin</b>			
White non-Hispanic	62.4%	110,023	1.4%
Male	62.0	98,745	1.3
Female	65.7	11,278	2.1
Black non-Hispanic	67.2	125,259	2.6
Male	66.3	110,453	2.5
Female	74.5	14,806	3.2
Hispanic	55.1	45,759	3.2
Male	53.9	40,985	3.5
Female	67.6	4,774	1.3
Other	55.3	8,950	0
<b>Age</b>			
24 or younger	57.6%	81,228	.7%
25-34	66.9	116,532	2.1
35-44	64.4	70,776	3.8
45 or older	57.8	21,455	3.0
<b>Marital status</b>			
Married	62.3%	45,890	1.4%
Widowed/divorced	61.4	48,695	3.0
Separated	64.7	25,929	2.1
Never married	62.9	169,270	2.1
<b>Education</b>			
Less than high school	57.8%	121,589	2.3%
GED	68.8	45,431	1.3
High school graduate or more	66.5	122,597	2.3



## Percent HIV positive among jail inmates, by offense and prior drug use

Among jail inmates who said they had been tested for HIV/AIDS, those held for drug offenses were the most likely to be HIV positive (3.3%). Drug offenders were twice as likely as violent offenders (1.5%) to report that they tested positive for HIV. Property and public-order offenders reported somewhat lower rates — 2.2% and 1.7%, respectively.

The percentage of jail inmates reporting that they were HIV positive varied by level of prior drug use. An estimated 2.3% of inmates who had ever used drugs, 3.0% of convicted inmates who used drugs in the month before their current offense, 4.0% of inmates who said they had used needles to inject drugs, and 6.3% of those who had shared a needle with someone else were HIV positive.

## Methodology

### *National Prisoner Statistics*

The National Prisoner Statistics series (NPS-1) includes an annual yearend count of prisoners by jurisdiction, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and admissions and releases during the year. The series consists of yearly reports to BJS from the departments of corrections of the 50 States and the District of Columbia and from the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Since 1991 respondents have been asked to indicate their policies for testing for HIV and to provide the number of HIV-infected inmates in their custody on the last day of the calendar year. (See figure 1 on page 4.)

### *AIDS in the U.S. resident population*

The number of persons with confirmed AIDS in the U.S. general population (age 13 and over) was derived from

the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report*, yearend editions 1991-95. For each year the number of active AIDS cases in the United States was calculated by subtracting the number of cumulative AIDS deaths for people age 15 or older at yearend from the cumulative number of total AIDS cases for people age 13 or older at yearend as listed in the *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report*.

The data for the U.S. general population, excluding persons under age 13, for 1991 to 1995 were taken from *U.S. Population Estimates, by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1990 to 1995*. Population Projections Branch, Population Division: U.S. Bureau of the Census, February 14, 1996, PPL-41.

The rate of confirmed AIDS cases in the U.S. resident population was calculated by dividing the annual totals for individuals with AIDS by the population estimates for the U.S. resident population of individuals age 13 or older.

The classification system for HIV infection and the case definition for AIDS were expanded in 1993. This expansion improved estimates of the number and characteristics of persons with HIV disease, but complicated interpretation of AIDS trends. The increase in reported AIDS cases in 1993 was largely the consequence of the added surveillance criteria. (See CDC, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Vol. 43, No. 45, November 18, 1994.)

### *AIDS-related deaths in the United States*

The number of AIDS-related deaths for persons age 15-54 was derived from the CDC, *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report*, yearend editions 1994 and 1995. Deaths in the U.S. population for persons age 15-54 were taken from the CDC, *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 42, No. 2(S); Vol. 43, No. 12; Vol. 43, No. 6(S); and Vol. 45, No. 3(S).

**Table 8. Local jail inmates testing HIV positive, by offense and prior drug use, 1995-96**

Characteristic	1995-96 Survey of Inmates in Local Jails			
	All jail inmates		Tested inmates who reported results	
	Number	Percent ever tested	Number	Percent HIV positive
<b>Current offense<sup>a</sup></b>				
Violent	130,583	61.5%	72,846	1.5%
Property	133,513	66.3	79,936	2.2
Drug	109,180	65.7	65,780	3.3
Public-order	120,882	57.6	64,820	1.7
<b>Prior drug use<sup>b</sup></b>				
Never used	88,553	52.3%	42,242	1.6%
Ever used	413,285	65.0	247,233	2.3
Used month before offense <sup>c</sup>	172,840	67.4	107,900	3.0
Used needle to inject drugs <sup>d</sup>	85,622	77.6	61,862	4.0
Shared a needle <sup>e</sup>	34,850	78.6	25,476	6.3

<sup>a</sup>Excludes jail inmates whose offense was unknown.

<sup>b</sup>Inmates were asked a detailed set of questions about past use of illegal drugs. These drugs included marijuana, barbiturates, methaqualone, tranquilizers (without a doctor's prescription), methamphetamine, other amphetamines, crack, cocaine other than crack, heroin, other opiates, PCP, LSD, inhaled or sniffed substances, and other drugs.

<sup>c</sup>Inmates who were unconvicted (awaiting arraignment, awaiting trial or on trial) were not asked any questions about drug use during the month before the arrest for which they were currently detained.

<sup>d</sup>All inmates who reported prior drug use were asked: "Have you ever used a needle to get any drug injected under your skin, into a muscle or into a vein for non-medical reasons?"

<sup>e</sup>Inmates who reported ever using a needle to inject drugs were asked: "Have you ever used a needle that you knew or suspected had been used by someone else for injecting drugs or shared a needle that you had used with someone else?"

AIDS-related deaths as a percentage of all deaths in the U.S. population were calculated by dividing the national estimate of AIDS deaths of persons age 15-54 by the national mortality estimates of persons age 15-54 in a given year.

#### *Data on jail inmates*

A jail is defined as a confinement facility administered by a local government agency that holds persons detained pending adjudication and persons committed after adjudication, usually for sentences of a year or less. Convicted jail inmates are either awaiting sentencing, serving sentences to jail confinement, awaiting transfer to a prison, or serving a prison sentence in jail by arrangement with prison authorities. Unconvicted inmates are those who have been unable to obtain pre-trial release, those detained pending trial, those on trial at the time the survey was being conducted, and those held for other governmental entities.

#### *Census of Jails*

The 1993 Census of Jails included all locally administered confinement facilities (3,287) that held inmates beyond arraignment and were staffed by municipal or county employees. The census also included 17 jails that were privately operated under contract for local governments.

Excluded from the census were temporary holding facilities, such as drunk tanks and police lockups, that do not hold persons after being formally charged in court (usually within 72 hours of arrest). Also excluded were State-operated facilities in Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Vermont, which have combined jail-prison systems.

#### *Survey of Inmates in Local Jails*

The 1995-96 Survey of Inmates in Local Jails was conducted for BJS by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Through personal interviews conducted from October 1995 through March 1996, data were collected on individual characteristics of jail inmates, current of-

fenses, sentences and time served, criminal histories, jail activities, conditions and programs, prior drug and alcohol use and treatment, and health care services provided while in jail. Similar surveys of jail inmates were conducted in 1972, 1978, 1983, and 1989.

**Appendix table. Standard error estimates for the Survey of Inmates in Local Jails, 1995-96**

Characteristic	Estimated standard error	
	Percent of all inmates who were ever tested	Percent who were HIV positive
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	0.94%	0.33%
Female	1.66	0.44
<b>Race/Hispanic origin</b>		
White non-Hispanic	1.35%	0.38%
Male	1.45	0.41
Female	2.37	0.68
Black non-Hispanic	1.21	0.47
Male	1.30	0.53
Female	2.06	0.74
Hispanic	1.79	0.98
Male	1.93	1.09
Female	3.03	0.76
<b>Age</b>		
24 or younger	1.48%	0.30%
25-34	1.21	0.42
35-44	1.57	0.85
45 or older	2.68	1.13
<b>Marital status</b>		
Married	1.97%	0.58%
Widowed/divorced	1.90	0.90
Separated	2.34	0.97
Never married	1.06	0.38
<b>Education</b>		
Less than high school	1.29%	0.47%
GED	2.02	0.46
High school graduate or more	1.20	0.49
<b>Current offense</b>		
Violent	1.69%	0.49%
Property	1.47	0.52
Drug	1.58	0.79
Public-order	1.75	0.66
<b>Prior drug use</b>		
Never used	1.88%	0.62%
Ever used	0.93	0.33
Used in month before offense	1.28	0.58
Used needle to inject drugs	1.57	0.85
Shared a needle	2.49	1.71

### Sample design

The sample for the 1995-96 survey was selected from a universe of 3,328 jails that were enumerated in the 1993 Census of Jails. The sample design was a stratified two-stage selection. In the first stage six separate strata were formed based on the size of the male and female populations. In two strata all jails were selected — those jails housing only females, and those with either more than 1,000 males or more than 50 females or both. In the remaining four strata a systematic sample of jails was selected. Each jail within a stratum had an equal probability of selection. Equal probabilities were used instead of probability proportional to size because jail populations were likely to change between 1993 and 1995. Overall, 462 jails were selected. Interviews were conducted in 431 jails; 19 refused, 8 were closed, and 4 were on the universe list in error.

In the second sampling stage, interviewers visited each selected facility and systematically selected a sample of male and female inmates using predetermined procedures. As a result, approximately 1 in every 100 males were selected in 4 strata and 1 in 83 in the other male stratum. Depending on the stratum, 1 in 50, 25, 24, or 21 females were selected. A total of 6,133 inmates were interviewed, and 738 refused to participate, for a second stage nonresponse of 10.8%. The total nonresponse from both stages was 13.7%.

Based on the completed interviews, estimates for the entire population were developed using weighting factors derived from the original probability of selection in the sample. These factors were adjusted for variable rates of nonresponse across strata and inmate characteristics. Further adjustments were made to control the survey estimates to counts of jail inmates obtained from the 1993 Census of Jails and the 1995 Annual Survey of Jails.

### Accuracy of the survey estimates

The accuracy of the estimates from the 1995-96 Survey of Inmates in Local Jails depends on two types of error: sampling and nonsampling. Sampling error is variation that may occur by chance because a sample rather than a complete enumeration of the population was conducted. Nonsampling error can be attributed to many sources, such as nonresponse, differences in the interpretation of questions among inmates, recall difficulties, and processing errors. In any survey the full extent of the nonsampling error is never known.

The sampling error, as measured by an estimated standard error, varies by the size of the estimate and the size of the base population. Estimates for the percentage of inmates ever tested for HIV and the percentage who tested HIV positive have been calculated (see appendix table). These standard errors may be used to construct confidence intervals around percentages. For example, the 95-percent confidence interval around the percentage of males who were HIV positive is approximately 2.1% plus or minus 1.96 times 0.33% (or 1.5% to 2.7%).

These standard errors may also be used to test the statistical significance of the difference between two sample estimates by pooling the standard errors of the estimates (that is, by taking the square root of the sum of the squared standard errors for each sample estimate). All comparisons discussed in this report were statistically significant at the 95-percent confidence level.

### Other reports on HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS-related data are collected through regularly scheduled BJS censuses and surveys of correctional agencies and offenders under correctional supervision. Annual publications provide only the most recently obtained information. See previous BJS reports for HIV/AIDS data in local jails

and HIV test results reported by State prisoners (*HIV in U.S. Prisons and Jails*, NCJ-143292; *HIV in Prisons and Jails, 1993*, NCJ-152765; and *HIV in Prisons 1994*, NCJ-158020).

The data published from the BJS collections complement those collected in surveys sponsored by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The most recent report by Theodore M. Hammett and others, *1994 Update: HIV/AIDS and STDs in Correctional Facilities* (December 1995, NCJ-156832), contains detailed reporting about the prevalence, testing, education, and prevention for HIV and AIDS in Federal, State, and 29 large city/county correctional systems. The 1994 update provides cumulative total inmate deaths by region, total current AIDS cases, and HIV-seroprevalence data by both jurisdiction and type of testing policy.

Currently, the NIJ and CDC are working on the ninth national survey of HIV/AIDS in Correctional Facilities. The survey sample will include the Federal Bureau of Prisons, all 50 State departments of corrections plus Puerto Rico, all 50 State-operated juvenile commitment facilities, 50 of the largest jail systems, 30 of the largest region- or county-based juvenile detention centers, 50 State health departments, and other public health agencies in the United States as identified by CDC. In addition, 50 adult correctional facilities and 50 juvenile facilities within the surveyed Federal, State, and regional/county jail systems will be included in the survey sample to validate system responses related to policy issues.

The NIJ-CDC study will also collect information on the impact of infectious disease on correctional policy-related questions and related legal issues, prevalence of HIV/AIDS and TB, confirmed AIDS case rates, and AIDS-related deaths among correctional populations.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Jan M. Chaiken, Ph.D., is director.

BJS Bulletins present the first release of findings from permanent data collection programs such as the National Prisoner Statistics Program. State and Federal corrections officials have cooperated in reporting the data presented.

Laura Maruschak wrote this report, under the supervision of Allen J. Beck. Darrell Gilliard, Caroline Wolf Harlow, Valerie Tumminia, and Doris James Wilson provided statistical review. Tom Hester edited the report. Marilyn Marbrook, assisted by Yvonne Boston and Jayne Robinson, administered final production.

Data collection and processing for the NPS program were carried out by Elizabeth Griffin and Laarni Verdolin under the supervision of Gertrude Odom and Kathleen Creighton, Demographic Surveys Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

August 1997, NCJ-164260

The report and NPS data are available on the Internet:

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

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*Characteristics of adults on probation, 1995,* NCJ-164267

*Census of State and Federal correctional facilities, 1996,* NCJ 164266

#### **Recent**

*Probation and parole 1996* (press release), NCJ 166364, 8/97, 8pp

*HIV in prisons and jails, 1995,* NCJ-164260, 8/97, 11pp

*Prisoners in 1996,* NCJ-164619, 6/97, 15pp

*Correctional populations in the United States, 1995:*

Full report, NCJ 163916, 6/97, 215pp

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