



# Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin

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# Federal Law Enforcement Officers, 1996

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As of June 1996 Federal agencies employed about 74,500 full-time personnel authorized to make arrests and carry firearms, according to agency responses to a Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) survey. In a comparison of 1996 data with those reported by the same agencies for December 1993, employment of such personnel was up about 6%.

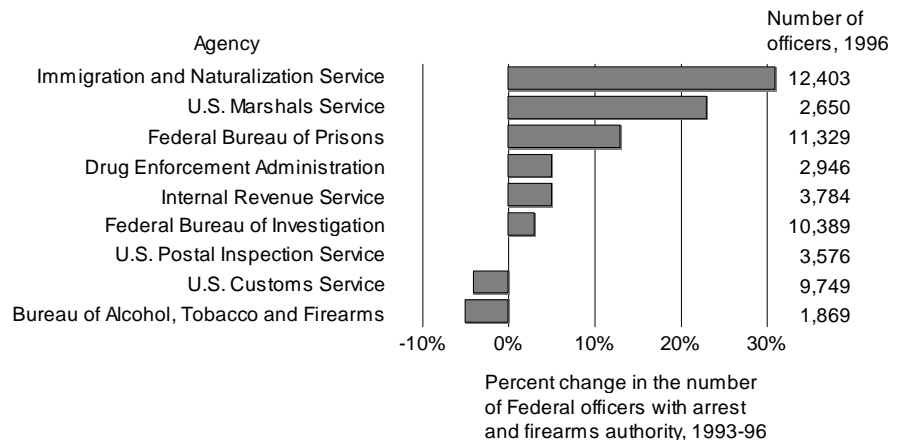
As in 1993 the BJS officer count in 1996 includes all personnel with Federal arrest authority who were also authorized (but not necessarily required) to carry firearms in the performance of their official duties. Supervisory personnel are included.

The totals exclude Federal officers serving in foreign countries or U.S. territories as well as those employed by the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Armed Forces. They do include Federal correctional officers.

Both the 1993 and 1996 surveys collected data on the primary job function of officers and their primary State of employment. The 1996 survey also collected data on the race and sex of Federal officers.

## Highlights

**The Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Marshals Service, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons had the largest increases in number of Federal officers, 1993-96**



- Areas of duty for Federal officers included criminal investigation and enforcement (43%), corrections (21%), police response and patrol (16%), noncriminal investigation and enforcement (13%), court operations (4%), and security and protection (3%).
- Three-fifths of Federal officers were employed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (12,403), the Bureau of Prisons (11,329), the FBI (10,389), and the Customs Service (9,749). Twelve other agencies employed at least 500 officers.

- Nationwide there were 28 Federal officers per 100,000 residents. Outside the District of Columbia, which had 1,198 per 100,000, States ranged from more than 50 per 100,000 in Arizona and Alaska, to under 10 per 100,000 in Rhode Island, Wisconsin, Ohio, New Hampshire, and Iowa.
- Women accounted for 14% of Federal officers. By race and Hispanic origin, 72% of the officers were white non-Hispanic; 13% were Hispanics of any race; 12%, black non-Hispanic; 2%, Asian/Pacific Islander; and 1%, American Indian.

## Job function of Federal officers

In response to the BJS survey, Federal agencies categorized their personnel with arrest and firearms authority into one of six categories according to their primary area of duty. The largest number, about 32,000, were placed under criminal investigation and enforcement (43%) (figure 1).

The next largest category was corrections (21%) with about 16,000, followed by police response and patrol with 12,000 (16%) and noncriminal investigation and enforcement with just under 10,000 (13%). Smaller numbers performed duties related to court operations (4%), or security and protection (3%). (See page 10 for definitions of job function categories.)

## Major employers of Federal officers

### Department of Justice agencies

The three largest employers of Federal officers were all in the Justice Department: the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) (table 1).

Nearly half (44%) of the 12,403 INS officers with the authority to make arrest and carry firearms were Border Patrol agents. Border Patrol agents

**Primary function of Federal officers with arrest and firearms authority, June 1996**

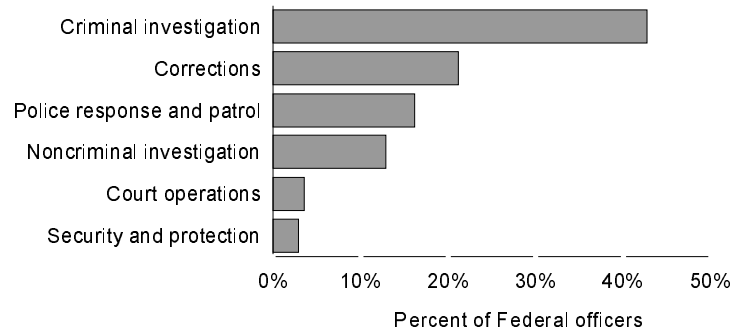


Figure 1

interdict undocumented aliens and contraband, including narcotics. These 5,441 agents were all categorized under the police response and patrol category, and account for nearly half of the Federal officers in that category.

The next largest group of INS personnel with arrest and firearms authority were the 3,401 immigration inspectors working at ports of entry. These officers were all categorized under the noncriminal investigation and enforcement category.

The INS also employed 1,859 criminal investigators and immigration agents responsible for investigating crimes

within its jurisdiction, and 1,702 detention and deportation officers. BOP correctional officers formed a large majority of the Federal officers categorized under the corrections category. As of June 1996, 11,329 such officers maintained the security of BOP institutions and the 94,000 inmates in custody. Daily correctional officer duties include providing custody and supervision of inmates, conducting searches for contraband, and responding to emergencies and disturbances.<sup>1</sup>

The FBI employed 10,389 full-time personnel with arrest and firearms authority. Nearly all were agents, responsible for criminal investigation and enforcement. FBI agents have broad investigative responsibilities covering more than 250 Federal crimes including bank fraud, embezzlement, kidnaping, and civil rights violations. The FBI has concurrent jurisdiction with another DOJ agency, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), over drug offenses under the Controlled Substances Act.

The DEA employed 2,946 officers with the authority to make arrests and carry firearms. These DEA agents primarily investigate major narcotics violators, enforce regulations governing the manufacture and dispensing of

<sup>1</sup>In addition to correctional officers, BOP provides another 13,000 employees with arrest and firearms authority, so that they can perform these duties as necessary. The BJS survey limited its count to the full-time correctional officers in BOP facilities who performed these duties as their primary function.

**Table 1. Federal agencies employing 500 or more full-time officers with authority to carry firearms and make arrests, June 1996**

Agency	Number of full-time Federal officers authorized to carry firearms and make arrests, June 1996
Immigration and Naturalization Service	12,403
Federal Bureau of Prisons	11,329
Federal Bureau of Investigation	10,389
U.S. Customs Service	9,749
Internal Revenue Service	3,784
U.S. Postal Inspection Service	3,576
U.S. Secret Service	3,185
Drug Enforcement Administration	2,946
Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts	2,777
U.S. Marshals Service	2,650
National Park Service	2,148
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms	1,869
U.S. Capitol Police	1,031
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	869
GSA-Federal Protective Service	643
U.S. Forest Service	619

controlled substances, and perform a variety of other functions in support of drug trafficking prevention and control. Also within the Justice Department is the U.S. Marshals Service which employed 2,650 officers with arrest and firearms authority as of June 1996. All of these officers were categorized under the court operations category; however, the agency has a wide range of responsibilities.

The Marshals Service receives all persons arrested by Federal agencies and is responsible for their custody and transportation until they are sentenced. It also transfers sentenced Federal inmates between facilities with the help of the BOP. Additionally, the Marshals Service has jurisdiction over Federal fugitive matters: escaped prisoners; violators of probation, parole, and releases on bond; and persons under DEA warrants.

Among the other responsibilities of the U.S. Marshals Service are management of the Federal Asset Seizure and Forfeiture and Federal Witness Security Programs, providing security for Federal judicial facilities and personnel, controlling riots on Federal property, and escorting missile convoys.

#### *Treasury Department agencies*

Treasury Department agencies employed about a fourth of all Federal officers with arrest and firearms authority. The U.S. Customs Service, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the U.S. Secret Service, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) were the major employers.

The U.S. Customs Service employed 9,749 officers with arrest and firearms authority. This total included 3,540 criminal investigators and 6,197 inspectors performing noncriminal investigation and enforcement functions.

Customs Service officers interdict and seize contraband entering the United States, process persons and items entering through U.S. ports of entry, and administer certain navigational laws. The Customs Service has investigative

responsibilities covering more than 400 laws related to customs, drugs, export control, and revenue fraud.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the second largest Treasury Department employer of officers with arrest and firearms authority, had 3,784 such personnel as of June 1996. Eighty-nine percent worked in the Criminal Investigation Division, and 11% were employed by Internal Security. IRS agents primarily investigate tax fraud.

Next largest was the U.S. Secret Service which employed 3,185 full-time personnel with the authority to make arrests and carry firearms. The total included 2,034 agents with criminal investigation and enforcement duties primarily related to counterfeiting, financial crimes, computer fraud, and threats against dignitaries.

The remainder of Secret Service officers belonged to the Uniformed Division. These officers, all categorized under the police response and patrol category, provide protection for the White House Complex and other Presidential Offices, the Main Treasury Building and Annex, the President and Vice President and members of their immediate family, and foreign diplomatic missions.

ATF employed 1,869 officers with arrest and firearms authority as of June 1996. ATF is primarily responsible for investigating the criminal use of firearms and explosives and for enforcing Federal laws that tax or regulate alcohol and tobacco.

#### *Other agencies*

Outside of the Departments of Justice and Treasury, the largest employers of Federal officers with arrest and firearms authority were the U.S. Postal Service, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, and the National Park Service.

Of the 3,576 officers employed by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, 61% were classified under the criminal investigation and enforcement category.

The remaining 1,388 officers provided security for Postal Service facilities, employees, and assets.

As of June 1996 the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Federal Corrections and Supervision Division employed 3,473 probation officers, and 2,777 of them had arrest and firearms authority.<sup>2</sup> These officers are responsible for supervising Federal offenders on probation or supervised release, and arresting violators.

The National Park Service employed 2,148 full-time personnel with arrest and firearms authority at the time of the BJS survey. This included 1,543 park rangers (about a third of all rangers) who were commissioned as law enforcement officers. Additional rangers serving seasonally were also commissioned officers, but the survey considered them to be part-time.

The Park Service total also includes 605 U.S. Park Police officers. Although most Park Police officers are in the Washington, D.C., area, they are authorized to provide police services for the entire National Park System.

Other Federal agencies that employed 500 or more full-time personnel authorized to make arrests and carry firearms as of June 1996, included the following:

The U.S. Capitol Police employed 1,031 officers to provide police response and patrol (79%) and other law enforcement services for the U.S. Capitol grounds and buildings.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Law Enforcement employed 869 officers to enforce Federal wildlife and environmental laws in the National Wildlife Refuge System. A majority were refuge officers, with most having collateral law enforcement duties re-

<sup>2</sup>All Federal probation officers have arrest powers over probationers and supervised releasees. However, the chief judge in each of the 93 Federal judicial districts with a probation office decides whether the probation officers in that district are permitted to carry firearms in the performance of their duties. As of June 1996, 86 districts permitted their probation officers to carry a firearm.

lated to police response and patrol.

The remainder were special agents responsible for criminal investigations.

The General Services Administration (GSA) employed 643 officers in its Federal Protective Service. These officers performed police response and patrol (90%) and criminal investigation (9%) duties related to Federal buildings and property and the employees and visitors using them.

The U.S. Forest Service employed 619 officers responsible for criminal investigation and enforcement services related to National Forest System lands, facilities, and users.

### Agencies employing fewer than 500 Federal officers

Overall, the 16 Federal agencies employing 500 or more officers accounted for about 70,000, or 94%, of the Federal officers covered by the BJS survey. Excluding offices of inspector general, there were 11 Federal agencies that employed at least 100 but fewer than 500 full-time personnel with the authority to make arrests and carry firearms (table 2).

The largest of these was the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Diplomatic Security with 367 officers. Nearly all of these officers were categorized under security and protection because their primary function is to protect visiting dignitaries. The agency's investigative functions cover

**Table 2. Agencies employing at least 100 but fewer than 500 full-time personnel authorized to make arrests and carry firearms, June 1996**

Agency	Number
Bureau of Diplomatic Security	367
Amtrak	342
Bureau of Indian Affairs	339
U.S. Mint	224
Bureau of Land Management	208
Tennessee Valley Authority	194
Bureau of Engraving and Printing	165
Environmental Protection Agency	151
Food and Drug Administration	128
National Marine Fisheries Service*	117
Library of Congress	108

passport and visa fraud, and threats made against foreign missions in the United States, foreign dignitaries, or Federal employees.

The next largest employers were Amtrak, with 342 full-time officers within its Police Division, and the Interior Department's Bureau of Indian Affairs which employed 339 within its Office of Law Enforcement. Other agencies employing at least 100 officers included the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Food and Drug Administration — Office of Criminal Investigations, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration — National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Library of Congress.

Agencies with fewer than 100 full-time personnel authorized to make arrests and carry firearms included the U.S. Supreme Court, the Bureau of Export Administration — Office of Export Enforcement, the Government Printing

Office, the National Institutes of Health, the Federal Air Marshals, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Smithsonian National Zoological Park, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Veterans Health Administration.

In addition to these agencies, 20 offices of inspector general employed more than 1,800 investigators with arrest and firearms authority during 1996 (table 3). At the time of the 1993 BJS survey, most of these offices had their investigators deputized by the Justice Department on a case-by-case basis; however, these agencies are now granted a blanket, yearly deputization. Offices of inspector general are responsible for investigating criminal violations and for preventing and detecting fraud, waste, and abuse related to Federal programs, operations, and employees.

According to General Accounting Office data for fiscal 1996, the Departments of Defense (363) and Agriculture (248) employed the largest

**Table 3. Employment by offices of inspector general of full-time personnel authorized to make arrests and carry firearms, fiscal 1996**

Office of inspector general	Number of full-time Federal officers authorized to carry firearms and make arrests
Total	1,834
Department of Defense	363
Department of Agriculture	248
Department of Health and Human Services	165
Department of Labor	145
Social Security Administration	135
Department of Justice	111
Department of Housing and Urban Development	109
Department of Education	75
Department of Transportation	71
Department of Veterans Affairs	67
General Services Administration	58
Department of Energy	44
Small Business Administration	40
Department of the Treasury	36
Department of the Interior	36
Department of State	33
Environmental Protection Agency	30
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation	28
U.S. Railroad Retirement Board	22
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	18

Source: *Federal Law Enforcement: Investigative Authority and Personnel at 32 Organizations*, General Accounting Office, July 1997.

number of deputized investigators. Others with 100 or more included Health and Human Services (165), Labor (145), Social Security Administration (135), Justice (111), and Housing and Urban Development (109).

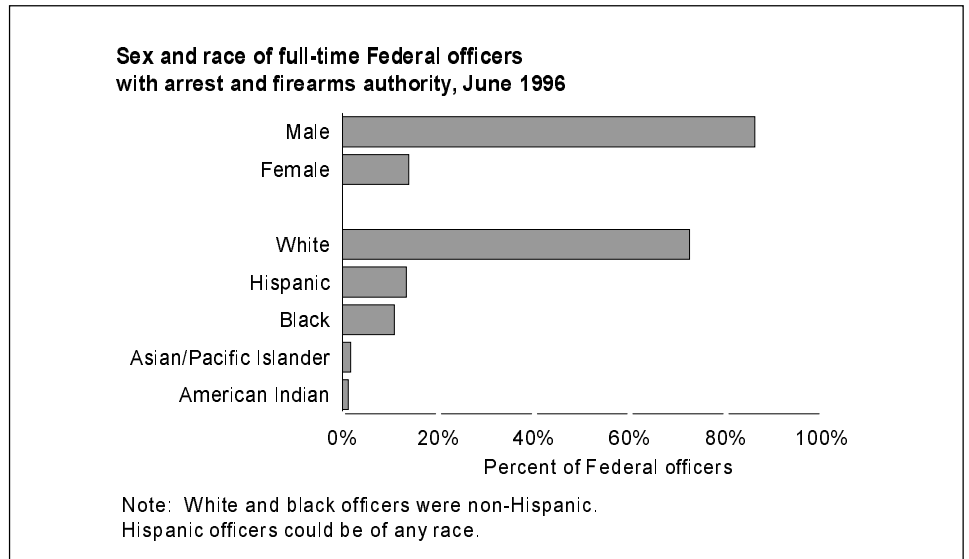


Figure 2

**Table 4. Sex and race of Federal officers with arrest and firearms authority, agencies employing 500 or more officers, June 1996**

Agency	Percent of officers with arrest and firearms authority									
	Sex			Race						
	Total	Male	Female	Total	White, non-Hispanic	Total minority	Black, non-Hispanic	Hispanic, any race	Asian/Pacific Islander	American Indian
Immigration and Naturalization Service	100%	87.3%	12.7%	100%	58.7%	41.3%	5.4%	32.8%	2.6%	0.5%
Federal Bureau of Prisons	100	87.7	12.3	100	64.4	35.6	23.1	10.3	.9	1.3
Federal Bureau of Investigation	100	85.5	14.5	100	85.8	14.2	6.1	5.7	2.0	.5
U.S. Customs Service	100	82.7	17.3	100	71.1	28.9	6.8	17.9	2.3	.6
Internal Revenue Service	100	76.6	23.4	100	81.8	18.2	8.7	5.9	2.6	1.0
U.S. Postal Inspection Service	100%	85.9%	14.1%	100%	66.6%	33.4%	23.6%	6.6%	2.8%	.4%
U.S. Secret Service	100	91.2	8.8	100	79.8	20.2	12.9	5.4	1.2	.7
U.S. Marshals Service	100	88.3	11.7	100	82.4	17.6	9.2	6.6	1.2	.4
National Park Service	100	86.2	13.8	100	88.0	12.0	6.4	2.8	1.6	1.2
Ranger Division	100	84.2	15.8	100	91.2	8.8	3.2	2.3	1.7	1.6
U.S. Park Police	100	91.2	8.8	100	80.0	20.0	14.5	4.0	1.3	.2
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms	100%	88.3%	11.7%	100%	81.0%	19.0%	9.9%	7.1%	1.4%	.6%
U.S. Capitol Police	100	83.2	16.8	100	69.1	30.9	28.9	1.2	.7	.2
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	100	91.8	8.2	100	94.0	6.0	1.0	2.8	.8	1.4
GSA-Federal Protective Service	100	90.4	9.6	100	55.1	44.9	33.4	9.3	2.0	.2
U.S. Forest Service	100	84.5	15.5	100	82.1	17.1	3.1	5.7	1.1	7.3

Note: Data were not provided by the Drug Enforcement Administration or the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. See table 1 for total number of officers employed by each agency. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Minority detail for the U.S. Customs Service and U.S. Marshals Service does not add to minority total because some employees were classified as "other" minorities.

## Sex and race of Federal officers

Data on the race and sex of Federal officers were provided by nearly all of the agencies responding to the BJS survey. Reported data covered about 67,000, or 90%, of the Federal officers with arrest and firearms authority employed as of June 1996.

Overall, women accounted for 14% of Federal officers with arrest and firearms authority (figure 2). Nearly a fourth of those employed by the Internal Revenue Service (23.4%) were women, the largest proportion of any agency with 500 or more officers (table 4). About a sixth of the officers employed by the U.S. Customs Service (17.3%) were women. Among major Justice Department agencies, about 1 in 7 FBI personnel with arrest and firearms authority were women, compared to about 1 in 8 in the INS and BOP.

More than a fourth of Federal law enforcement officers were members of a racial or ethnic minority (28.0%). Hispanics accounted for 13.1%, while 11.5% were non-Hispanic blacks, 1.9% Asian/Pacific Islanders, and 1.3% American Indians (figure 2).

The largest minority representation among personnel with arrest and firearms authority was reported by the Federal Protective Service (44.9%), and the INS (41.3%). Other agencies where more than a fourth of the officers were members of a minority included the BOP (35.6%), the U.S. Postal Inspection Service (33.4%), the U.S. Capitol Police (30.9%), and the U.S. Customs Service (28.9%).

**Table 5. Total number of full-time Federal officers with arrest and firearms authority, and number per 100,000 residents, by primary State of employment, June 1996**

	Number of officers			Officers per 100,000 residents		
	Total	Police/ criminal investi- gation	Other	Total	Police/ criminal investi- gation	Other
U.S. total	74,493	43,908	30,585	28	17	12
Alabama	696	343	353	16	8	8
Alaska	325	210	115	54	35	19
Arizona	2,608	1,688	920	59	38	21
Arkansas	351	272	79	14	11	3
California	10,469	6,766	3,703	33	21	12
Colorado	1,442	577	865	38	15	23
Connecticut	412	244	168	13	7	5
Delaware	149	118	31	21	16	4
District of Columbia	6,508	5,231	1,277	1,198*	963*	235*
Florida	4,980	2,567	2,413	35	18	17
Georgia	1,869	955	914	25	13	12
Hawaii	511	224	287	43	19	24
Idaho	178	127	51	15	11	4
Illinois	2,652	1,471	1,181	22	12	10
Indiana	629	288	341	11	5	6
Iowa	133	84	49	5	3	2
Kansas	390	82	308	15	3	12
Kentucky	851	285	566	22	7	15
Louisiana	1,178	589	589	27	14	14
Maine	284	87	197	23	7	16
Maryland	1,142	776	366	23	15	7
Massachusetts	1,053	798	255	17	13	4
Michigan	1,541	843	698	16	9	7
Minnesota	804	355	449	17	8	10
Mississippi	305	208	97	11	8	4
Missouri	1,100	684	416	21	13	8
Montana	330	215	115	38	24	13
Nebraska	206	167	39	12	10	2
Nevada	459	351	108	29	22	7
New Hampshire	58	35	23	5	3	2
New Jersey	1,997	977	1,020	25	12	13
New Mexico	775	706	69	45	41	4
New York	6,556	3,561	2,995	36	20	16
North Carolina	972	441	531	13	6	7
North Dakota	226	124	102	35	19	16
Ohio	883	709	174	8	6	2
Oklahoma	757	313	444	23	9	13
Oregon	649	346	303	20	11	9
Pennsylvania	2,853	1,283	1,570	24	11	13
Rhode Island	94	59	35	9	6	4
South Carolina	486	230	256	13	6	7
South Dakota	155	79	76	21	11	10
Tennessee	935	572	363	18	11	7
Texas	8,836	5,120	3,716	46	27	19
Utah	376	324	52	19	16	3
Vermont	162	72	90	28	12	15
Virginia	1,891	1,211	680	28	18	10
Washington	1,246	705	541	23	13	10
West Virginia	486	91	395	27	5	22
Wisconsin	421	236	185	8	5	4
Wyoming	133	109	24	28	23	5

Note: Table excludes employees of the U.S. Armed Forces. Data on primary State of employment were available for 94% of Federal officers. Table is weighted to represent 100% coverage. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

\*District of Columbia rates include a large number of headquarters employees whose duties may be national in scope.

The Federal Protective Service (33.4%), U.S. Capitol Police (28.9%), U.S. Postal Inspection Service (23.6%) and BOP (23.1%) employed the highest percentage of blacks. For Hispanics, the highest percentages were found at the INS (32.8%) and the U.S. Customs Service (17.9%). The U.S. Forest Service (7.3%) employed the highest percentage of American Indians, while the U.S. Postal Inspection Service had the most Asian/Pacific Islanders (2.8%).

**Table 6. Major States of employment for Federal agencies employing 500 or more full-time officers with authority to carry firearms and make arrests, June 1996**

Agency	Total	Major States of employment*
Immigration and Naturalization Service	12,403	California (3,587), Texas (3,164), Arizona (1,015), New York (949), Florida (637)
Federal Bureau of Prisons	11,329	Texas (1,155), Pennsylvania (1,085), Florida (959), California (866), Colorado (752), Illinois (589), New York (588), Georgia (529)
Federal Bureau of Investigation	10,389	California (1,283), District of Columbia (1,225), New York (1,208), Texas (746), Virginia (665), Florida (577), Illinois (459), Pennsylvania (426)
U.S. Customs Service	9,749	Texas (1,737), California (1,720), Florida (1,214), New York (1,132), Arizona (469), New Jersey (426)
Internal Revenue Service	3,784	California (445), New York (351), Texas (312), Florida (231), Illinois (204), Pennsylvania (174)
U.S. Postal Inspection Service	3,576	New York (592), California (448), District of Columbia (306), Illinois (259), Pennsylvania (250), New Jersey (191), Texas (169), Florida (153)
Drug Enforcement Administration	2,946	California (463), New York (365), Texas (346), Florida (336), Illinois (153)
Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts	2,777	Texas (297), New York (272), North Carolina (163), Florida (147), California (120), Pennsylvania (117), Illinois (112)
U.S. Marshals Service	2,650	Virginia (323), New York (189), California (186), District of Columbia (176), Texas (174), Florida (159)
National Park Service	2,148	District of Columbia (376), California (257), Arizona (112), Virginia (104), Maryland (100), Pennsylvania (99), New York (98)
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms	1,869	District of Columbia (188), California (164), Texas (142), Florida (121), Illinois (114), New York (102), Michigan (88), Georgia (84)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	869	California (55), Florida (51), Texas (47), Alaska (46), Virginia (42), Louisiana (41), North Dakota (36), Minnesota (35)
GSA--Federal Protective Service	643	District of Columbia (137), New York (100), California (68), Colorado (41), Missouri (41), Massachusetts (33), Washington (32), Texas (29)
U.S. Forest Service	619	California (133), Oregon (69), Arizona (31), Idaho (31), Washington (30), Colorado (26), Montana (25)

Note: The U.S. Secret Service did not provide data on State of employment.  
\*States accounting for 4% or more of total.

## States where Federal officers worked

About half of all Federal officers with arrest and firearms authority were employed in California (10,469), Texas (8,836), New York (6,556), the District of Columbia (6,508), and Florida (4,980) (table 5). These States accounted for more than half the nearly 44,000 full-time Federal officers performing police response and patrol functions or criminal investigation and enforcement functions as of June 1996.

Other States with more than 2,500 Federal officers included Pennsylvania (2,853), Illinois (2,652), and Arizona (2,608). Ten additional States had at least 1,000 full-time Federal officers: New Jersey (1,997), Georgia (1,869), Michigan (1,541), Virginia (1,891), Louisiana (1,178), Colorado (1,442), Washington (1,246), Maryland (1,142), Missouri (1,100), and Massachusetts (1,053).

New Hampshire, with 58, had the smallest number of full-time Federal officers with arrest and firearms authority, followed by Rhode Island with 94. Eight other States had fewer than 250 including North Dakota (226), Nebraska (206), Idaho (178), Vermont (162), South Dakota (155), Delaware (149), Iowa (133), and Wyoming (133).

Overall, there were 28 Federal officers with arrest and firearms authority per 100,000 U.S. residents. The District of Columbia, with 1,198 per 100,000, had by far the highest ratio. Arizona and Alaska were next with 59 and 54 officers per 100,000 residents, respectively. Other States with an officer-to-resident ratio that was at least 10% higher than the national average included Texas (46 per 100,000), New Mexico (45), Hawaii (43), Colorado (38), Montana (38), New York (36), Florida (35), North Dakota (35), and California (33).

There were fewer than 10 Federal officers per 100,000 residents in Rhode Island, Ohio, Wisconsin, New Hampshire, and Iowa.

## Major employers of Federal officers, June 1996 and December 1993

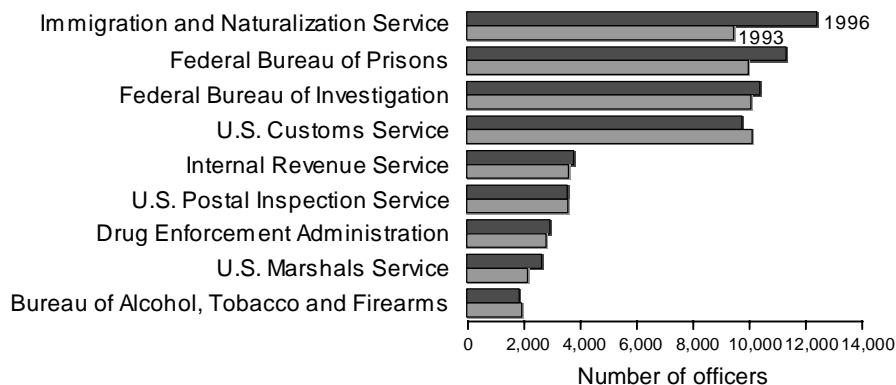


Figure 3

The INS employed more than half its officers in California (29%) and Texas (26%). Another sixth were employed in Arizona (8%) and New York (8%). About three-fourths of Border Patrol agents were based in California (37%) and Texas (36%). Another fifth were based in the other Mexican-border States of Arizona (13%) and New Mexico (6%). Five percent were employed in the 11 States that border Canada.

The U.S. Customs Service employed about three-fifths of its officers in Texas (18%), California (18%), Florida (12%), and New York (12%). In both Texas (55%) and California (51%), more than half of the Federal officers worked for either the Customs Service or the INS.

The Bureau of Prisons had the most correctional officers working in Texas (10%) and Pennsylvania (10%). Florida (8%), California (8%), and Colorado (7%) were next.

The FBI reported that California, the District of Columbia, and New York each accounted for about 12% of its personnel with arrest and firearms authority.

More than a fourth of IRS personnel with arrest and firearms authority were based in California (12%), New York (9%), and Texas (8%).

Nearly a third of Postal Inspection Service officers were employed in New York (17%) and California (13%).

The DEA based about half of its agents in California (16%), New York (12%), Texas (12%), and Florida (11%).

The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts reported that Texas (11%) and New York (10%) were major States of employment for Federal probation officers with arrest and firearms authority.



**Federal law enforcement officers killed and assaulted, 1991-95**

The Uniform Crime Reports Division of the FBI compiles data annually on law enforcement officers killed or assaulted in the United States and its territories. According to these data, Federal law enforcement officers experienced 3,886 assaults during the five-year period 1991-95, an average of nearly 800 per year. A total of 1,165, or 30%, of these assaults resulted in personal injury to the officer, and 21 resulted in an officer's death.

About 37%, or 3 in 8, of all assaults on Federal officers involved the use of personal weapons, and 13%, or 1 in 8, the use of a firearm. Other weapons used included vehicles (8%), blunt objects (5%), knives (2%), and bombs (1%). Twenty percent of assaults involved a threat.

Types of assaults on Federal officers, 1991-95

Personal weapon	38%
Threat	20
Firearm	13
Vehicle	8
Blunt object	5
Knife	2
Bomb	1
Other	12

The largest percentage of assaults on Federal officers occurred while the officer was on patrol or guard duty (34%). Twenty-one percent were assaulted while conducting an investigation or search, and 14% while making an arrest or serving a summons.

Circumstances of assaults on Federal officers, 1991-95

Patrol/guard duty	34%
Investigation/search	21
Arrest/summons	14
Custody of prisoners	5
Office duty	4
Court duty	1
Protection duty	1
Other duties	20

The FBI data do not include assaults on Bureau of Prisons staff; however, BJS collects such data as part of its Census of State and Federal Correctional Facilities. In 1995 alone, there were 1,124 assaults on Federal prison staff resulting in 1 death. Over its 67-year history BOP has experienced an average of one correctional officer death every 3 years.

Based on the FBI data, the annual assault rate per 1,000 officers varies greatly among agencies employing

1,000 or more officers. Using the average number of assaults per year for the period 1991-95, the National Park Service had the highest annual rate, about 52 per 1,000. Next were the ATF (29.6), the DEA (25.5) and the INS (25.0). The lowest assault rates were at the FBI (3.5 per 1,000) and the IRS (2.6).

Although the FBI data do not provide information below the agency level, different divisions within an agency may have dramatically different assault rates. For example, it is known that in 1992 there were 228 assaults on Border Patrol agents. Even using 1993 employment levels, this is an assault rate of 58.1 per 1,000 officers, considerably higher than the overall INS rate of 25 per 1,000.

**Assaults on Federal officers in agencies employing 1,000 or more officers with arrest and firearms authority, 1991-95**

Agency	Annual number of assaults, 1991-95	
	Total	Per 1,000 officers*
National Park Service	112	51.9
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms	58	29.6
Drug Enforcement Administration	72	25.5
Immigration and Naturalization Service	237	25.0
U.S. Secret Service	43	14.5
U.S. Marshals Service	24	11.1
U.S. Capitol Police	9	8.3
U.S. Postal Inspection Service	29	8.1
U.S. Customs Service	81	8.0
Federal Bureau of Investigation	35	3.5
Internal Revenue Service	9	2.6

\*Rate is calculated using number of officers employed in December 1993.

Source: FBI Uniform Crime Reports, *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted*, 1991 through 1995.

The U.S. Marshals Service had 12% of its officers in Virginia, while New York, California, the District of Columbia, and Texas each accounted for about 7%.

The District of Columbia (18%) and California (12%) accounted for nearly a third of National Park Service personnel with arrest and firearms authority.

The ATF based more than a fourth of its agents in the District of Columbia (10%), California (9%), and Texas (8%). Florida, Illinois, New York,

Michigan, and Georgia accounted for another fourth.

The Federal Protective Service had nearly half of its officers in the District of Columbia (21%), New York (16%), and California (11%).

About a third of U.S. Forest Service officers were based in California (21%) and Oregon (11%). Another fourth were employed in Arizona, Idaho, Washington, Colorado, and Montana.

**Appendix table A. Federal agencies employing full-time personnel with authority to carry firearms and make arrests, June 1996**

**Agency**

**Department of Agriculture**

U.S. Forest Service, Law Enforcement and Investigations

**Department of Commerce**

Bureau of Export Administration, Office of Export Enforcement  
National Institute of Standards and Technology  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration — National Marine Fisheries Service

**Department of Health and Human Services**

Food and Drug Administration, Office of Criminal Investigations  
National Institutes of Health, Police

**Department of the Interior**

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Law Enforcement  
Bureau of Land Management, Law Enforcement  
Bureau of Reclamation  
National Park Service — U.S. Park Police and Ranger Activities Division  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Law Enforcement

**Department of Justice**

Drug Enforcement Administration  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Federal Bureau of Prisons  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
U.S. Marshals Service

**Department of State**

Bureau of Diplomatic Security

**Department of Transportation**

Federal Air Marshals

**Department of the Treasury**

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms  
Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Police  
Internal Revenue Service  
U.S. Customs Service  
U.S. Secret Service

**Department of Veterans Affairs**

Veterans Health Administration

**Other**

Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts — Federal Corrections and Supervision Division  
Amtrak Police  
Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Criminal Enforcement  
General Services Administration — Public Buildings Service, Federal Protective Service  
Government Printing Office, Police  
Library of Congress, Police  
Smithsonian National Zoological Park, Police  
Tennessee Valley Authority — Public Safety Service  
U.S. Capitol Police  
U.S. Postal Inspection Service  
U.S. Supreme Court, Police

Note: See table 3 for offices of inspector general having employees with arrest and firearms authority.

Among agencies employing 1,000 or more officers with arrest and firearms authority, the INS had the largest change, from 9,466 to 12,403 — an increase of 2,937, or 31% (figure 3).

Large increases were reported by two other Justice Department agencies as well. The U.S. Marshals Service had the second largest percentage change, an increase of 23%, from 2,153 to 2,650. The BOP had the second largest increase in terms of numbers from 9,984 to 11,329, an increase of 1,345, or 13%.

The DEA and the IRS both increased their number of officers about 5%, and the FBI, about 3%. The FBI employed about 300 more agents in 1996 than 1993.

Two large employers of Federal officers showed a decrease in employment of officers with arrest and firearms authority. Compared to 1993 the U.S. Customs Service in 1996 had 371, or 4%, fewer officers, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms had 90 fewer, a decrease of 5%. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service showed virtually no change from 1993 to 1996, remaining at just under 3,600 officers.

**Trends in employment of Federal officers, 1993 versus 1996**

Excluding offices of inspector general,

the number of Federal officers with arrest and firearms authority increased about 6% between December 1993 and June 1996.

**Appendix table B. Female and minority representation among officers with arrest and firearms authority, selected components of the U.S. Armed Forces, June 1996**

	Number of officers	Race								
		Sex			Total	White, non-Hispanic	Black, non-Hispanic	Hispanic, any race	Asian/Pacific Islander	American Indian
		Total	Male	Female						
U.S. Army										
Criminal Investigation Command	580	100%	86.7%	13.3%	100%	85.9%	7.2%	4.2%	2.6%	0%
Intelligence and Security Command	710	100	83.1	16.9	100	85.9	10.1	3.0	1.0	0.0
Military Police	1,372	100	83.2	16.8	100	83.2	10.5	3.7	2.0	0.6
U.S. Navy, Naval Investigative Service	897	100%	84.7%	15.3%	100%	87.4%	5.9%	3.6%	2.9%	0.2%
U.S. Marine Corps	3,629	100%	94.1%	5.9%	100%	80.7%	9.1%	8.3%	0.8%	0.4%

Note: Table does not present complete data for the U.S. Armed Forces. It includes only those branches and components of the U.S. Armed Forces that responded to the BJS survey.

**Appendix table C. Major States of employment among officers with arrest and firearms authority, selected components of the U.S. Armed Forces, June 1996**

	Number of officers	States employing 4% or more of total
U.S. Army		
Criminal Investigation Command	580	Virginia (92), Georgia (80), Texas (68), Washington (37), Kentucky (32), North Carolina (32)
Intelligence and Security Command	710	Maryland (535), Georgia (98), Hawaii (56)
Military Police	1,372	Alabama (281), Virginia (200), North Carolina (114), Texas (105), Georgia (94), Kansas (94), New York (65), Washington (58)
U.S. Navy, Naval Investigative Service	897	District of Columbia (200), California (152), Virginia (97), Florida (58)
U.S. Marine Corps	3,629	California (1,193), North Carolina (938), Virginia (536), Alabama (231), South Carolina (205), Hawaii (174)

Note: Table does not present complete data for the U.S. Armed Forces. It includes only those branches and components of the U.S. Armed Forces that responded to the BJS survey. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Race detail for the Marine Corps does not add to 100% because some employees were classified as "other" minorities.

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

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