



Bureau of Justice Statistics

March 2009, NCJ 225709

Jail Inmates at Midyear 2008 - Statistical Tables

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Annual Survey of Jails

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Table 1. Inmates confined in local jails at midyear, average daily jail population, and incarceration rate, 2000-2008

Year	Inmates confined at midyear		Average daily population ^a		Incarceration rate ^b
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
2000	621,149	2.5%	618,319	1.7%	226
2001	631,240	1.6	625,966	1.2	222
2002	665,475	5.4	652,082	4.2	231
2003	691,301	3.9	680,760	4.4	238
2004	713,990	3.3	706,242	3.7	243
2005	747,529	4.7	733,442	3.9	252
2006 ^c	765,819	2.4	755,320	3.0	256
2007 ^d	780,174	1.9	773,138	2.4	259
2008	785,556	0.7	776,573	0.4	258
Average annual increase					
2000-2007		3.3%		3.2%	
2007-2008		0.7		0.4	

^aAverage daily population is the sum of the number of inmates in jail each day for a year, divided by the number of days in the year.

^bNumber of inmates confined at midyear per 100,000 U.S. residents.

^cBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for the number of inmates confined at midyear 2006. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

^dBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for the number of inmates confined at midyear 2007 and the average daily population in 2007. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

Inmates confined in local jails at midyear and annual percent change in the jail population, 2000-2008

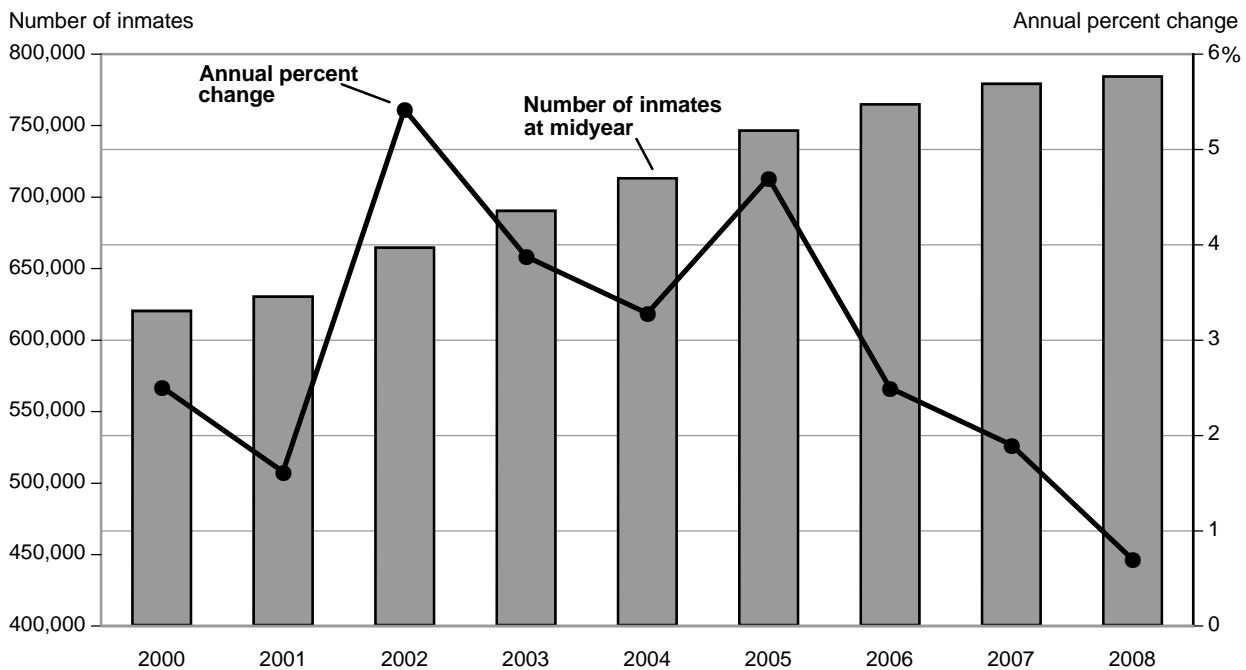


Figure 1

Table 2. Rated capacity of local jails at midyear, annual increase in capacity, and percent of capacity occupied, 2000-2008

Year	Rated capacity ^b	Annual increase in capacity ^a		Percent of capacity occupied ^c
		Number	Percent	
2000	677,787	25,466	3.9%	92.0%
2001	699,309	21,522	3.2	90.0
2002	713,899	14,590	2.1	93.0
2003	736,471	22,572	3.2	94.0
2004	755,603	19,132	2.6	94.0
2005 ^d	786,954	33,398	4.1	95.0
2006 ^d	794,984	8,638	1.0	96.3
2007 ^d	810,543	15,863	2.0	96.3
2008	828,413	14,911	2.2	94.8
Average annual increase				
2000-2007	2.6%	22,012		
2007-2008	2.2	14,911		

Note: Capacity data for 1995-1998, 2000-2004, and 2006-2008 were survey estimates subject to sampling error.

^aNumber of beds added during the 12 months ending midyear of each year.

^bRated capacity is the number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to facilities within each jurisdiction.

^cNumber of confined inmates divided by the rated capacity and multiplied by 100.

^dBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for 2005-2007. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

Annual change in the number of inmates confined in local jails and rated capacity at midyear, 2000-2008

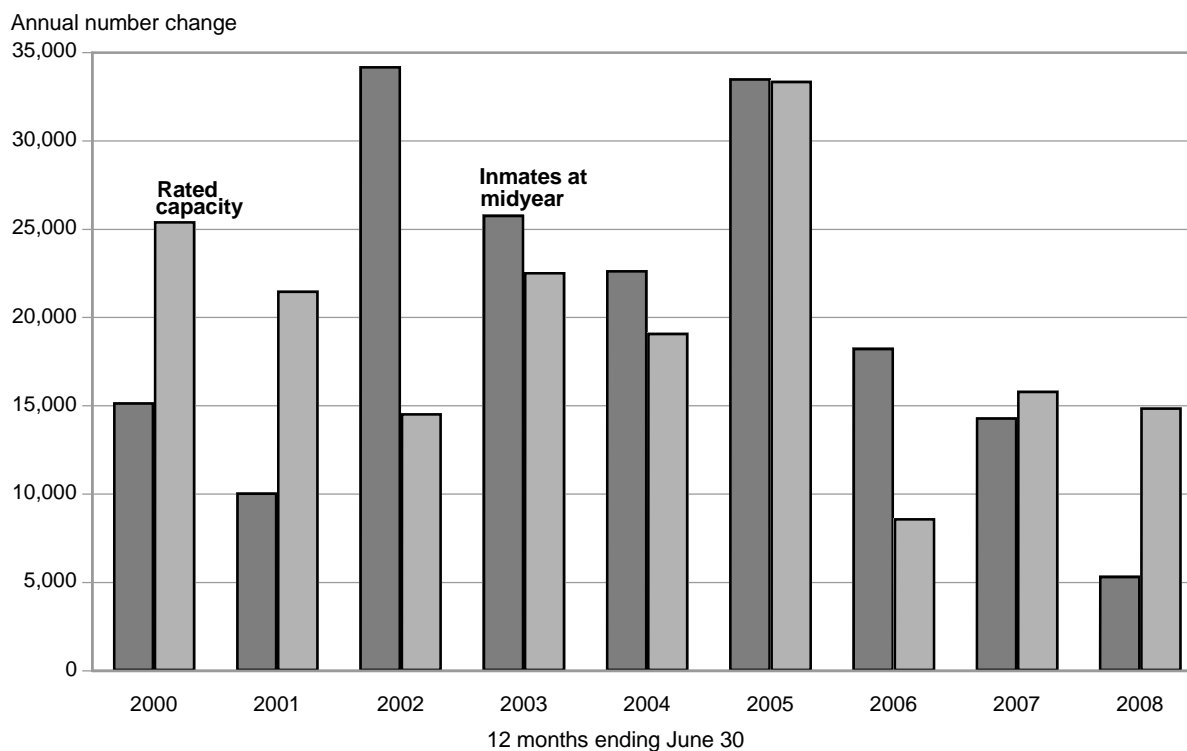


Figure 2

Table 3. Inmates confined in local jails at midyear, by size of jurisdiction, 2000 and 2008

Jurisdiction size*	Number of inmates				Percent of all inmates	
	2000	2008	Difference	Percent change	2000	2008
Total	621,148	785,556	164,408	26.5%	100%	100%
Fewer than 50 inmates	29,281	23,484	-5,797	-19.8%	4.7%	3.0%
50 to 99	34,571	41,445	6,874	19.9	5.6	5.3
100 to 249	80,177	90,466	10,289	12.8	12.9	11.5
250 to 499	79,688	105,620	25,932	32.5	12.8	13.4
500 to 999	94,060	116,057	21,997	23.4	15.1	14.8
1,000 or more	303,371	408,483	105,112	34.6	48.8	52.0

Note: Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

*Based on the average daily population.

Table 4. Average daily jail population, admissions, and turnover rate, by size of jurisdiction, week ending June 29, 2007, and June 30, 2008

Jurisdiction size ^b	Average daily population		Estimated number of admissions during the last week in June		Weekly turnover rate ^a	
	2007 ^c	2008	2007	2008	2007 ^c	2008
Total	773,138	776,573	250,950	260,075	63.6%	66.5%
Fewer than 50 inmates	22,065	21,860	13,291	12,729	110.5%	112.7%
50 to 99	42,001	40,414	19,400	21,564	90.7	100.6
100 to 249	91,537	88,378	37,421	37,791	79.5	84.1
250 to 499	97,172	104,290	35,888	42,627	71.7	80.8
500 to 999	120,715	115,212	35,873	34,010	59.2	57.6
1,000 or more	399,648	406,419	109,077	111,354	53.9	55.7

Note: See *Methodology* for details on estimation procedures.

^aTurnover rate was calculated by adding weekly admissions and releases, dividing by the average daily population and multiplying by 100.

^bBased on the average daily population.

^cBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for 2007. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

Table 5. Percent of jail capacity occupied at midyear, by size of jurisdiction, 2000, 2007, and 2008

Jurisdiction size ^b	Percent of capacity occupied ^a		
	2000	2007 ^c	2008
Total	91.6%	96.0%	94.8%
Fewer than 50 inmates	66.4%	64.5%	67.3%
50 to 99	80.4	84.6	83.6
100 to 249	94.1	92.4	91.0
250 to 499	95.7	97.8	96.0
500 to 999	94.3	99.3	100.2
1,000 or more	94.1	100.1	97.6

^aNumber of inmates at midyear divided by the rated capacity multiplied by 100.

^bBased on the average daily population.

^cBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for 2007. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

Table 6. Characteristics of inmates in local jails, midyear 2000 and 2005-2008

Characteristic	Number of inmates				
	2000	2005	2006 ^a	2007 ^b	2008
Total	621,149	747,529	765,819	780,174	785,556
Gender					
Male	550,162	652,958	666,819	679,654	685,882
Female	70,987	94,571	99,000	100,520	99,673
Adults	613,534	740,770	759,717	773,341	777,852
Male	543,120	646,807	661,164	673,346	678,677
Female	70,414	93,963	98,552	99,995	99,175
Juveniles^c	7,615	6,759	6,102	6,833	7,703
Held as adults ^d	6,126	5,750	4,835	5,649	6,410
Held as juveniles	1,489	1,009	1,268	1,184	1,294
Race/Hispanic origin^e					
White ^f	260,500	331,000	336,500	338,200	333,300
Black/African American ^f	256,300	290,500	295,900	301,700	308,000
Hispanic/Latino	94,100	111,900	119,200	125,500	128,500
Other ^{f,g}	10,200	13,000	13,500	13,900	14,000
Two or more races ^f	...	1,000	700	800	1,300

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding.
...Not collected.

^aBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for 2006. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

^bBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for 2007. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

^cJuveniles are persons under the age of 18 at midyear.

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

^eEstimates based on reported data adjusted for nonresponse.

^fExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^gIncludes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders.

Table 7. Characteristics of inmates in local jails at midyear, 2000 and 2005-2008

Characteristic	Percent of inmates				
	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008
Gender					
Male	88.6%	87.3%	87.1%	87.1%	87.3%
Female	11.4	12.7	12.9	12.9	12.7
Adults	98.8%	99.1%	99.2%	99.1%	99.0%
Male	87.4	86.5	86.3	86.3	86.4
Female	11.3	12.6	12.9	12.8	12.6
Juveniles^a	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.0
Held as adults ^b	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.8
Held as juveniles	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Race/Hispanic origin^c					
White ^d	41.9%	44.3%	43.9%	43.3%	42.5%
Black/African American ^d	41.3	38.9	38.6	38.7	39.2
Hispanic/Latino	15.2	15.0	15.6	16.1	16.4
Other ^{d,e}	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8
Two or more races ^d	...	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Conviction status^b					
Convicted	44.0%	38.0%	37.9%	38.0%	37.1%
Male	39.0	33.2	32.8	32.9	32.3
Female	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.2	4.8
Unconvicted	56.0	62.0	62.1	62.0	62.9
Male	50.0	54.2	54.3	54.3	55.2
Female	6.0	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding.
...Not collected.

^aPersons under age 18 at midyear.

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

^cEstimates based on reported data and adjusted for nonresponses.

^dExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^eIncludes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders.

Table 8. Inmate population in jail jurisdictions reporting on the number of confined non-U.S. citizens, midyear 2000-2008

Year	Number of reporting jurisdictions	Total number of inmates	Non-U.S. citizens	
			Number	Percent
2000	2,775	455,590	27,680	6.1%
2001	2,693	444,430	27,147	6.1
2002	2,747	453,641	32,067	7.1
2003	2,718	511,957	33,392	6.5
2004	2,737	536,862	35,984	6.7
2005	2,513	516,199	30,082	5.8
2006 ^a	2,393	477,323	33,428	7.0
2007 ^b	2,416	504,370	38,842	7.7
2008	2,363	533,249	47,934	9.0

^aBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for 2006. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

^bBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for 2007. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

Table 9. Inmate population in jail jurisdictions reporting on confined persons being held for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, midyear 2002-2008

Year	Number of reporting jurisdictions	Total number of inmates	Confined persons held for ICE	
			Number	Percent
2002	2,961	626,870	12,501	2.0%
2003	2,940	637,631	13,337	2.1
2004 ^a	2,962	673,807	14,120	2.1
2005	2,824	703,084	11,919	1.7
2006 ^b	2,784	698,108	13,598	1.9
2007 ^c	2,713	683,640	15,063	2.2
2008	2,699	704,278	20,785	3.0

^aBased on revised data for 2004.

^bBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for 2006. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

^cBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for 2007. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

Table 10. The 50 largest local jail jurisdictions: Number of inmates held, average daily population, and rated capacity, midyear 2006-2008

	Number of inmates ^a			Average daily population ^b			Rated capacity ^c			Percent of capacity occupied ^d		
	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
Total	224,706	227,121	229,680	224,355	226,208	227,667	235,424	238,766	242,524	95%	95%	95%
Los Angeles County, CA	19,062	19,175	19,533	19,287	19,266	19,836	22,411	21,364	22,349	85	90	87
New York City, NY	13,641	14,120	13,804	13,494	14,004	13,849	19,674	19,686	19,554	69	72	71
Harris County, TX	9,464	9,900	10,063	9,091	9,430	10,000	9,241	9,391	9,391	102	105	107
Cook County, IL	9,505	9,410	9,984	9,345	9,496	9,900	10,114	10,158	10,158	94	93	98
Maricopa County, AZ	9,243	9,466	9,536	9,733	8,941	9,265	7,270	7,270	9,395	127	130	102
Philadelphia City, PA	8,725	8,607	8,824	8,772	8,448	8,811	7,269	8,685	8,685	120	99	102
Miami-Dade County, FL ^e	6,502	6,835	7,082	6,765	6,844	7,050	6,005	6,005	5,845	108	114	121
Dallas County, TX	7,354	6,261	6,252	7,140	6,389	6,385	7,145	7,145	7,665	103	88	82
Orange County, CA	6,455	6,841	6,216	6,513	6,571	6,000	7,019	7,019	7,019	92	97	89
Shelby County, TN	5,413	5,741	5,925	5,300	5,570	5,765	6,839	6,811	6,675	79	84	89
San Bernardino County, CA ^e	5,603	5,639	5,596	5,628	5,596	5,593	5,914	5,914	5,970	95	95	94
Broward County, FL	6,121	5,782	5,509	5,949	6,051	5,500	6,254	6,452	5,722	98	90	96
San Diego County, CA	5,117	5,133	5,435	5,333	5,172	5,363	4,768	4,778	4,972	107	107	109
Santa Clara County, CA	4,421	4,748	4,664	4,750	4,852	4,660	4,169	4,169	3,825	106	114	122
Sacramento County, CA	4,197	4,361	4,592	4,049	4,592	4,563	4,991	4,775	5,075	84	91	90
Alameda County, CA	3,993	3,978	4,345	3,982	4,282	4,371	4,469	4,505	4,243	89	88	102
Orange County, FL	4,051	4,180	4,665	3,835	4,146	4,294	4,352	4,721	4,721	93	89	99
Bexar County, TX	4,084	4,088	4,279	4,015	4,067	4,062	4,294	4,294	4,598	95	95	93
Baltimore City, MD ^e	4,038	4,182	4,265	4,156	4,126	4,010	3,683	3,683	3,683	110	114	116
Hillsborough County, FL ^e	3,929	3,913	3,857	4,384	3,949	3,985	4,190	4,190	4,190	94	93	92
Jacksonville City, FL	3,613	3,581	3,799	3,493	3,725	3,606	3,137	3,137	3,137	115	114	121
Pinellas County, FL	3,695	3,510	3,463	3,502	3,644	3,559	3,363	3,353	4,155	110	105	83
Riverside County, CA	3,264	3,492	3,597	3,258	3,433	3,530	2,884	3,129	3,132	113	112	115
Davidson County, TN	3,450	3,641	3,934	3,202	3,445	3,528	3,679	3,679	3,679	94	99	107
Tarrant County, TX	3,475	3,341	3,574	3,500	3,500	3,500	4,564	4,564	4,379	76	73	82
Gwinnett County, GA	2,998	3,142	3,415	2,716	3,033	3,311	2,076	3,538	3,419	144	89	100
Allegheny County, PA	3,026	3,113	3,219	3,370	3,076	3,246	3,342	3,341	3,371	91	93	95
Clark County, NV ^{e,f}	3,354	3,237	3,121	3,136	3,274	3,115	2,859	2,859	2,957	117	113	106
Fresno County, CA	3,467	3,294	3,047	3,538	3,094	3,049	3,778	3,778	3,778	92	87	81
Milwaukee County, WI	2,917	3,139	3,025	2,892	2,905	3,037	3,000	3,000	3,000	97	105	101
District of Columbia ^{e,g}	3,214	3,103	3,046	3,584	3,325	3,012	3,825	3,522	3,522	84	88	86
DeKalb County, GA	2,779	2,772	3,365	3,117	2,619	2,906	3,636	3,636	3,636	76	76	93
Palm Beach County, FL	2,766	2,854	2,987	2,630	2,882	2,900	3,365	3,345	3,359	82	85	89
Fulton County, GA	2,816	2,899	2,821	2,970	2,936	2,789	3,115	3,115	3,115	90	93	91
Travis County, TX	2,548	2,954	2,533	2,595	2,813	2,662	3,056	3,176	3,137	83	93	81
King County, WA	2,499	2,638	2,517	2,560	2,715	2,657	3,154	3,154	3,154	79	84	80
Orleans Parish, LA	1,898	2,526	2,370	1,569	2,722	2,613	1,845	2,721	2,633	103	93	90
Mecklenburg County, NC	2,466	2,778	2,647	2,335	2,647	2,610	2,668	2,668	2,668	92	104	99
Bernalillo County, NM	2,410	2,635	2,589	2,292	2,497	2,607	2,048	2,236	2,236	118	118	116
Cobb County, GA	2,540	2,591	2,467	2,510	2,561	2,579	2,559	2,559	2,559	99	101	96
Franklin County, OH	2,553	2,408	2,544	2,561	2,592	2,457	2,531	2,541	2,541	101	95	100
Polk County, FL	2,565	2,454	2,369	2,605	2,464	2,456	1,808	1,808	1,808	142	136	131
Suffolk County, MA	2,531	2,407	2,494	2,387	2,426	2,445	2,932	2,858	2,990	86	84	83
Denver County, CO	2,429	2,371	2,299	2,469	2,417	2,380	1,710	1,710	1,792	142	139	128
Kern County, CA	2,279	2,279	2,368	2,279	2,338	2,372	2,698	2,698	2,698	84	84	88
Marion County, IN	3,114	2,501	2,336	3,064	2,425	2,344	2,463	2,412	2,656	126	104	88
Wayne County, MI ^e	2,641	2,400	2,363	2,646	2,538	2,336	2,725	2,721	2,721	97	88	87
Lee County, FL ^e	2,024	2,321	2,205	1,861	2,039	2,313	1,683	1,683	1,683	120	138	131
Essex County, NJ	2,154	2,056	2,389	2,051	2,056	2,260	2,410	2,370	2,434	89	87	98
El Paso County, TX	2,303	2,324	2,351	2,142	2,275	2,226	2,440	2,440	2,440	94	95	96

Note: Jurisdictions are ordered by their average daily population in 2008.

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

^bBased on the average daily population for the year ending June 30. Average daily population is the sum of the number of inmates in jail each day for a year, divided by the number of days in the year.

^cNumber of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to facilities within each jurisdiction.

^dNumber of inmates at midyear divided by the rated capacity multiplied by 100.

^eBased on revised data. See jurisdiction notes in *Methodology*.

^fConfined population total for Clark County, NV, excludes inmates held in contract facilities.

^gIncludes the Central Detention Facility (D.C. Jail), Correctional Treatment Facility (Contract Adult Detention Center), and contractual bed space at four halfway houses.

Table 11. Persons under jail supervision, by confinement status and type of program, midyear 2000 and 2006-2008

Confinement status and type of program	Number of persons under jail supervision			
	2000	2006 ^a	2007 ^b	2008
Total	687,033	826,041	848,419	858,407
Held in jail	621,149	765,819	780,174	785,556
Supervised outside of a jail facility^c	65,884	60,222	68,245	72,852
Weekender programs	14,523	11,421	10,473	12,325
Electronic monitoring	10,782	10,999	13,121	13,539
Home detention ^d	332	807	512	498
Day reporting	3,969	4,841	6,163	5,758
Community service	13,592	14,667	15,327	18,475
Other pretrial supervision	6,279	6,409	11,148	12,452
Other work programs ^e	8,011	8,319	7,369	5,808
Treatment programs ^f	5,714	1,486	2,276	2,259
Other	2,682	1,273	1,857	1,739

^aBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for the number of inmates held in jail at midyear 2006. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

^bBased on revised data from selected jail jurisdictions for the number of inmates held in jail at midyear 2007. See *Methodology* for a description of revised data.

^cExcludes persons supervised by a probation or parole agency.

^dIncludes only persons without electronic monitoring.

^eIncludes persons in work release programs, work gangs, and other alternative work programs.

^fIncludes persons under drug, alcohol, mental health, and other medical treatment.

Table 12. Estimated standard errors by confinement status, Annual Survey of Jails, 2008

Characteristics	Survey estimates	Standard error	Relative standard error (percent)*
Total	858,407	4,992	0.58%
Held in jail	785,556	4,276	0.54%
Supervised outside a jail facility	72,852	2,329	3.20
Excluding weekenders	60,527	2,227	3.68
Weekender programs	12,325	478	3.88
Average daily population	776,573	4,151	0.53
Admissions	260,075	5,234	2.01
Rated capacity	828,413	5,249	0.63

*Calculated by dividing the standard error by the survey estimates and multiplying by 100.

Table 13. Estimated standard errors by selected characteristics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2008

Characteristics	Total ^a	Survey estimates	Standard error	Relative standard error (percent) ^b
Gender				
Male	685,882	685,875	3,791	0.55%
Female	99,673	99,672	1,147	1.15
Adults				
	777,852	777,845	4,267	0.55%
Juveniles^c				
Held as adults ^d	7,703	7,703	171	2.22%
Held as juveniles	6,410	6,410	150	2.34
	1,294	1,294	88	6.81
Race/Hispanic origin				
White ^e	333,300	320,111	3,218	1.01%
Black/African American ^e	308,000	295,747	2,998	1.01
Hispanic/Latino	128,500	123,376	1,889	1.53
Other ^{e,f}	14,000	13,905	748	5.38
Two or more races ^e	1,300	1,237	41	3.34
Conviction status^d				
Convicted	291,300	272,291	3,012	1.11%
Unconvicted	494,300	462,052	3,687	0.80%

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding.

^aTotal estimates were based on reported data adjusted for nonresponse.

^bCalculated by dividing the standard error by the survey estimates and multiplying by 100.

^cJuveniles are persons under the age of 18 at midyear.

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

^eExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^fIncludes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders.

Table 14. Estimated percentages of local jail inmates by selected characteristics and ratio estimates, 2008

Characteristics	Estimate	Standard error
Gender		
Male	87.3%	0.12%
Female	12.7	0.12
Race/Hispanic origin		
White ^a	42.4%	0.34%
Black/African American ^a	39.2	0.34
Hispanic/Latino	16.4	0.23
Other ^{a,b}	1.8	0.10
Two or more races ^a	0.2	0.01
Conviction status^c		
Convicted	37.1%	0.35%
Male	32.3	0.31
Female	4.8	0.09
Unconvicted	62.9%	0.35%
Male	55.2	0.32
Female	7.8	0.11

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIncludes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders.

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

Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ): definitions and functions

Jails—facilities in the ASJ include confinement facilities usually administered by a local law enforcement agency, intended for adults but may hold juveniles before or after adjudication. Facilities include jails and city/county correctional centers, special jail facilities such as medical or treatment or release centers, halfway houses, work farms, and temporary holding or lockup facilities that are part of the jail's combined function. Inmates sentenced to jail facilities usually have a sentence of 1 year or less.

Jail functions—within the ASJ, jail functions are to:

- receive individuals pending arraignment and hold them awaiting trial, conviction, or sentencing,
- readmit probation, parole, and bail bond violators and absconders,
- temporarily detain juveniles pending transfer to juvenile authorities,
- hold mentally ill persons pending their movement to appropriate mental health facilities,
- hold individuals for the military, for protective custody, for contempt, and for the courts as witnesses,
- release convicted inmates to the community upon completion of sentence,
- transfer inmates to federal, state, or other authorities,
- house inmates for federal, state, or other authorities because of crowding of their facilities,
- sometimes operate community-based programs as alternatives to incarceration.

Admissions—persons officially booked and housed in jails by formal legal document and the authority of the courts or some other official agency. Jail admissions include persons sentenced to weekend programs and who are booked into the facility for the first time. Excluded from jail admissions are inmates reentering the facility after an escape, work release, medical appointment or treatment facility, and bail and court appearances. BJS collects jail admissions for the last 7 days in June.

Average daily population—sum of the numbers of inmates in jail each day for a year, divided by the number of days in the year (i.e., between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008).

Average annual change—mean average change across a 12-month time period.

Calculating annual admissions—BJS collects the number of jail admissions during the last 7 days in June. Annual jail admissions are calculated by multiplying

weekly admissions by the sum of 365 days divided by 7 days.

Calculating weekly jail turnover rates—calculated by adding admissions and releases and dividing by the average daily population. See *Methodology* for additional information.

Inmates confined at midyear—number of inmates held in custody on the last weekday in June.

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

Non-U.S. citizen—any foreign born person who has not been granted U.S. citizenship. Includes but is not limited to those in an alien status; lawful permanent residents (green card holders); refugees, persons applying for political asylum depending upon the date the asylum was pending or approved; asylum grantees; diplomats; and foreign nationals living temporarily in the United States (e.g., tourist, medical treatment, business, temporary work, study, or other similar reasons). Definitions may vary by state.

Percent of capacity occupied—number of inmates at midyear divided by the rated capacity multiplied by 100.

Rated capacity—number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to a facility, excluding separate temporary holding areas.

Releases—persons released after a period of confinement (e.g., sentence completion, bail/bond releases, other pretrial releases, transfers to other jurisdictions, and deaths). Releases include those persons who have completed their weekend program and who are leaving the facility for the last time. Excluded from jail releases are temporary discharges including work release, medical appointment or treatment center, court appearance, furlough, day reporting, and transfers to other facilities within the jail's jurisdiction.

Under jail supervision but not confined—all persons in community-based programs operated by the jail facility. Programs include electronic monitoring, house arrest, community service, day reporting, and work programs. Under jail supervision but not confined excludes persons on pretrial release and who are not in a community-based program run by the jail. Excludes persons under supervision of probation, parole or other agencies, inmates on weekend programs, and inmates who participate in work release programs and return to the jail at night.

Weekend programs—allow offenders to serve their sentences of confinement only on weekends (i.e., Friday–Sunday).

Methodology

Annual Survey of Jails

In each year between the years that BJS conducts a complete census of local jails, BJS conducts the Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ). ASJ is a sample survey of local jails used to estimate the number and characteristics of local inmates nationwide. For the 2008 ASJ, the U.S. Census Bureau, as the collection agent, drew a sample of 875 jurisdictions and 934 jail facilities. Local jail jurisdictions included counties (parishes in Louisiana) or municipal governments that administered one or more local jails. During the collection process, two new regional jails were added to the sample and one jurisdiction was closed and removed from the sample. Data were estimated for one jurisdiction that did not respond to the survey.

The 2008 ASJ sample included all jails with certainty (65) that were operated jointly by two or more jurisdictions, or multi-jurisdictional jails. Other jail jurisdictions included with certainty (269) were those that—

- held juvenile inmates at the time of the 2005 Census of Jail Inmates and had an average daily population of 500 or more inmates during the 12 months ending June 30, 2005
- held only adult inmates and had an average daily population of 750 or more.

The remaining jurisdictions were stratified into two groups: jurisdictions with jails holding at least one juvenile on June 30, 2005, and jails holding only adults on that date. Using stratified random sampling, 541 jurisdictions were selected from 8 strata based on the two conditions enumerated above and 4 strata based on the average daily jail inmate population during 2005. The average daily jail inmate population was derived from the 2005 Census of Jail Inmates.

Data were obtained from sampled jurisdictions by mail-out and web-based survey questionnaires. After follow-up phone calls to respondents, the response rate for the survey was 100% for critical items, such as the number of inmates confined, average daily population, and rated capacity. (See appendix tables 12, 13 and 14 for standard errors associated with reported estimates from the ASJ 2008 at <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/jim08.pdf>>).

Weekly admission and release estimation procedures

Based on the 2008 ASJ, 834 of the 934 jail facilities (89%) provided valid data on weekly admissions and releases. Because there were nonresponse and incomplete data on admissions and releases, data on offender flows through local jails were estimated for 100 jail facilities to calculate a weekly estimate. Estimates were based on two criteria:

- Data for 99 jail facilities included admission and release data based on data from the 2007 Annual Survey of Jails.

- Data for 1 jail facility was based on the average number of admissions and releases for the average daily population category in which the facility was grouped.

Calculating annual admissions

Based on findings from the 2004 Survey of Large Jails (SLJ), BJS determined that the June admission data were a reliable source to calculate a nationwide annual admission estimate. Although the number of admissions to jails fluctuated throughout the year, the SLJ tracked monthly movements from January 2003 to January 2004 and determined that the June 2003 count (339,500) closely matched the annual average number of admissions (342,956). The number of annual admissions was calculated by multiplying the weekly admissions by the sum of 365 days divided by 7 days.

Calculating weekly turnover rates

Weekly jail turnover rates were modeled after the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey. Additional information on turnover rates is available at <<http://www.bls.gov/jlt/>>. Jail turnover rates were calculated by adding admissions and releases and dividing by the average daily population. The turnover rate takes into account admissions into and releases from jails and gives an indication of the volatility of the jail population. Higher turnover rates mean relatively larger numbers of admissions and releases relative to the size of the average daily population.

Revised inmate population

The number of inmates held at midyear 2006 and 2007 for San Bernardino County, CA, and Wayne County, MI, are based on revised data. The number of inmates held at midyear 2007 for Hillsborough County, FL, are based on revised data.

Revised average daily population

The average daily population in 2006 and 2007 for San Bernardino County, CA, Wayne County, MI, and Clark County, NV, are based on revised data. The average daily population in 2007 for Hillsborough County, FL, and Lee County, FL, are based on revised data.

Revised rated capacity

Capacity data for Miami-Dade County, FL has been revised for 2005 to 2007 to reflect rated capacity. Capacity data for Baltimore City, MD, in 2006 and 2007 was revised to reflect design capacity. BJS was reporting the operating capacity for both jail jurisdictions. The rated capacity in 2007 for Clark County, NV, and the District of Columbia are based on revised data.

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The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Michael D. Sinclair is the acting director.

The data were analyzed and tables were prepared by Todd D. Minton and William J. Sabol, Ph.D. Heather C. West, Ph.D., verified the report.

Lisa A. McNelis carried out the data collection and processing with assistance provided by Joshua Giunta and Alonzo Johnson under the supervision of Pam Butler, Governments Division, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce. Duane H. Cavanaugh and Diron J. Gaskins provided technical assistance.

Tina Dorsey and Georgette Walsh produced and edited the tables. Jayne E. Robinson prepared the report for final printing under the supervision of Doris J. James.

March 2009, NCJ 225709