



Mortality in State Prisons, 2001-2014 - Statistical Tables

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In 2014, there were 3,927 inmate deaths in state (3,483) and federal (444) prisons, up slightly from 3,879 in 2013. This is the largest number of inmate deaths reported in state and federal prisons since the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program (DCRP) began collecting data in 2001.

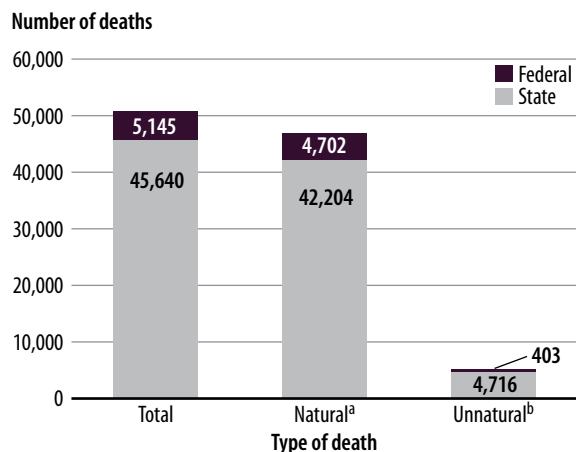
Between 2001 and 2014, there were 50,785 inmate deaths in state and federal prisons in the United States (figure 1). The number of deaths in state prison was stable between 2013 and 2014 but increased by 11% in federal prisons. Deaths in state prisons declined in both California (down 13%) and Texas (down 7%) between 2013 and 2014. Together, these states accounted for a fifth of the state prison population and a fifth of state prisoner deaths in 2014.¹

While males continued to account for the majority (96%) of state prisoner deaths in 2014, the number of female deaths increased 9%. More than half of state prisoners who died in 2014 were non-Hispanic whites (55%), while nearly a third (32%) were non-Hispanic blacks and around a tenth (11%) were Hispanics. More than half (59%) of state prisoners who died were age 55 or older.

Illness remained the most common cause of death in state prisons, accounting for 87% of deaths in 2014. From 2013 to 2014, the number of deaths among state prisoners due to illness declined 2%, from 3,082 to 3,031 deaths. AIDS-related deaths increased 23% during the period and respiratory disease deaths increased 20%. The number of suicides in state prisons increased by 30% from 2013 to 2014. This increase followed a 6% decrease from 2012 to 2013. Suicides represented 7% of all deaths in state prisons in 2014, the largest percentage of deaths due to suicide since 2001.

¹ Carson, E. A. & Mulako-Wangato, J. Count of total custody population (including private prisons). *Corrections Statistical Analysis Tool - Prisoners*. Bureau of Justice Statistics, www.bjs.gov.

FIGURE 1
Number of state and federal prisoner deaths,
2001-2014



^aIncludes deaths due to illnesses, such as heart disease, cancer, liver disease, and AIDS-related deaths.

^bIncludes deaths due to external factors and causes, such as suicide, homicide, and accidental deaths.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001-2014.

Data in this report were developed from the Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) DCRP, an annual data collection of inmate deaths in local jails and state prisons. The DCRP is the only national statistical collection that obtains comprehensive information about deaths in adult correctional facilities. This report covers deaths that occurred in state prisons between 2001 and 2014. It includes information on cause of death, selected decedent characteristics, and prisoner mortality rates by state. Federal data presented in this report are based on aggregate counts from the Bureau of Prisons.

Unless otherwise stated, findings pertain to state prisons only. Data on mortality in local jails are located in a separate report (*Mortality in Local Jails, 2000-2014 - Statistical Tables*, NCJ 250169, BJS web, December 2016).

Highlights

Inmate death in state and federal prisons

- Between 2001 and 2014, there were 50,785 prisoner deaths in state and federal prisons. The majority (45,640) of prisoner deaths occurred in state prisons (**table 1**).
- The state prisoner average annual mortality rate (256 per 100,000 state prisoners) was 14% higher than the federal prisoner mortality rate (225 per 100,000 federal prisoners) between 2001 and 2014.

Cause of death

- The number of suicides in state prisons increased 30% between 2013 and 2014 (from 192 to 249 deaths). Liver disease deaths, the third most common cause of death, declined 12% between 2013 and 2014 (from 354 to 313 deaths) (**table 2**).
- Illness-related deaths accounted for 87% of all deaths in state prisons in 2014, with cancer (30%) and heart disease (26%) accounting for more than half (**table 3**).
- Between 2005 and 2014, the percentage of illness-related state prisoner deaths was stable, ranging between 87% and 90% annually.
- The overall mortality rate for state prisoners was stable from 2013 to 2014, from 273 to 275 per 100,000 in 2014 (**table 4**).

Decedent characteristics

- More female state prisoners died in 2014 (154) than in any year since 2008 (163) (**table 6**).
- The majority of state prisoners who died in 2014 were persons age 55 or older (59%), followed by prisoners ages 45 to 54 (24%) (**table 7**).
- In 2014, males accounted for nearly all (96%) state prisoner deaths and non-Hispanic whites made up more than half (55%) of state prisoners deaths.
- For cancer, heart disease, and liver disease, the mortality rate for male state prisoners was twice the rate for females.

- Female and male state prisoners died from drug-alcohol intoxication at nearly equal rates between 2001 and 2014.

Deaths reported by state

- Texas (409), Florida (346), and California (317) had the highest number of deaths in state prisons in 2014 (**table 11**).
- In 2014, the prisoner death rate by state varied from no deaths per 100,000 to 631 deaths per 100,000 state prisoners. The median state-level mortality rate among prisoners was 267 per 100,000 state prisoners (**table 12**).
- Twenty-seven states accounted for 90% of all deaths in state prison from 2001 through 2014 (45,640). Texas (5,804) and California (5,102) accounted for about a quarter of all deaths in state prison between 2001 and 2014 (**table 13**).
- Overall mortality rates and mortality rates by state and by cause of death may not be directly compared between states due to differences in age, sex, race or Hispanic origin, and other decedent characteristics (**table 14**).
- The number of state prisoners age 55 or older increased 12%, from an estimated 58,900 prisoners in 2005 to 125,000 prisoners in 2014 (**appendix table 1**).

Moving averages and population trends by prisoner mortality

- The mortality rate of state prisoners for illness-related deaths increased to 238 per 100,000 state prisoners in 2014, up from 235 per 100,000 in 2013 (**appendix table 2**).
- The cancer mortality rate increased each year between 2008 (63 per 100,000 state prisoners) and 2014 (82 per 100,000) (**appendix table 3**).
- The heart disease mortality rate among state prisoners increased between 2010 (63 per 100,000 state prisoners) and 2014 (68 per 100,000) (**appendix table 4**).

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TABLE 1
Number of state and federal prison inmate deaths, by cause of death, 2001–2014

Cause of death	State prisoners			Federal prisoners ^a		
	Number	Percent	Mortality rate per 100,000	Number	Percent	Mortality rate per 100,000
All causes	45,640	100%	256	5,145	100%	225
Illness	40,407	89%	227	4,543	88%	199
Cancer	12,269	27	69	...	...	...
Heart disease	11,685	26	66	...	...	...
Liver disease	4,378	10	25	...	...	...
AIDS-related	1,797	4	10	159	3	7
Respiratory disease	2,853	6	16	...	...	...
All other illnesses ^b	7,425	16	42	...	...	...
Suicide	2,826	6%	16	222	4%	10
Drug/alcohol intoxication	595	1%	3	...	...	...
Accident ^c	450	1%	3	51	1%	2
Homicide ^d	845	2%	5	130	3%	6
Other/unknown	303	1%	2	0	0%	0
Missing	214	0.5%	1	37	1%	2

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details on custody counts, cause of death, illnesses, and homicides.

...Not available.

^aCause of death data for federal prisoners were not available for all causes. Excludes deaths in private facilities.

^bIncludes other specified illnesses, such as cerebrovascular disease, influenza, and other nonleading natural causes of death, as well as unspecified illnesses.

^cIntoxication deaths of federal prisoners is included in the accidental death count.

^dIncludes homicides committed by other inmates, incidental to the staff use of force, and resulting from assaults sustained prior to incarceration.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014.

TABLE 2
Number of state and federal prisoner deaths, by cause of death, 2001 and 2005–2014

Cause of death	2001	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	3,170	3,556	3,561	3,757	3,849	3,793	3,621	3,740	3,707	3,879	3,927
Federal ^a	303	388	328	368	399	376	387	387	350	400	444
State	2,869	3,168	3,233	3,389	3,450	3,417	3,234	3,353	3,357	3,479	3,483
Illness	2,567	2,817	2,830	2,980	3,034	3,028	2,870	2,982	2,959	3,082	3,031
Cancer	691	805	806	772	905	974	927	1,028	1,024	1,066	1,046
Heart disease	743	835	854	840	846	844	831	856	804	897	890
Liver disease	307	318	303	316	317	333	288	339	304	354	313
Respiratory disease	147	213	196	207	254	200	211	205	223	198	238
AIDS-related	275	156	132	120	99	98	73	57	74	52	64
All other illnesses ^b	404	490	539	725	613	579	540	497	530	515	480
Suicide	168	213	219	215	197	202	215	185	205	192	249
Drug/alcohol intoxication	35	37	56	41	58	50	40	58	33	56	49
Accident	22	28	32	28	26	32	32	38	50	34	39
Homicide ^c	39	56	55	57	40	54	70	70	85	90	83
Other/unknown	0	17	41	16	95	16	4	11	14	18	10
Missing	38	0	0	52	0	35	3	9	11	7	22

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Excludes executions; for execution data, see *Capital Punishment, 2013 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 248448, BJS web, December 2014). See *Methodology* for details on illnesses and homicides. For findings for data years 2002 through 2004, see the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program page on the BJS website.

^aFederal deaths are submitted as an aggregate count by the Bureau of Prisons. Counts presented are total counts. Excludes deaths in private facilities.

^bIncludes other specified illnesses, such as cerebrovascular disease, influenza, and other nonleading natural causes of death, as well as unspecified illnesses.

^cIncludes homicides committed by other inmates, incidental to the staff use of force, and resulting from assaults sustained prior to incarceration.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001 and 2005–2014; and Federal Bureau of Prisons, 2001 and 2005–2014.

TABLE 3
Percent of state prisoner deaths, by cause of death, 2001 and 2005–2014

Cause of death	2001	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
All causes	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Illness	89.5%	88.9%	87.5%	87.9%	87.9%	88.6%	88.7%	88.9%	88.1%	88.6%	87.0%
Cancer	24.1	25.4	24.9	22.8	26.2	28.5	28.7	30.7	30.5	30.6	30.0
Heart disease	25.9	26.4	26.4	24.8	24.5	24.7	25.7	25.5	23.9	25.8	25.6
Liver disease	10.7	10.0	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.7	8.9	10.1	9.1	10.2	9.0
Respiratory disease	5.1	6.7	6.1	6.1	7.4	5.9	6.5	6.1	6.6	5.7	6.8
AIDS-related	9.6	4.9	4.1	3.5	2.9	2.9	2.3	1.7	2.2	1.5	1.8
All other illnesses ^a	14.1	15.5	16.7	21.4	17.8	16.9	16.7	14.8	15.8	14.8	13.8
Suicide	5.9%	6.7%	6.8%	6.3%	5.7%	5.9%	6.6%	5.5%	6.1%	5.5%	7.1%
Drug/alcohol intoxication	1.2%	1.2%	1.7%	1.2%	1.7%	1.5%	1.2%	1.7%	1.0%	1.6%	1.4%
Accident	0.8%	0.9%	1.0%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	1.0%	1.1%	1.5%	1.0%	1.1%
Homicide^b	1.4%	1.8%	1.7%	1.7%	1.2%	1.6%	2.2%	2.1%	2.5%	2.6%	2.4%
Other/unknown	0.0%	0.5%	1.3%	0.5%	2.8%	0.5%	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%	0.3%
Missing	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	0.0%	1.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.6%

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Excludes executions; for execution data, see *Capital Punishment, 2013 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 248448, BJS web, December 2014). See *Methodology* for details on illnesses and homicides. For findings for data years 2002 through 2004, see the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program page on the BJS website.

^aIncludes other specified illnesses, such as cerebrovascular disease, influenza, and other nonleading natural causes of death, as well as unspecified illnesses.

^bIncludes homicides committed by other inmates, incidental to the staff use of force, and resulting from assaults sustained prior to incarceration.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001 and 2005–2014.

TABLE 4
Mortality rate per 100,000 state prisoners, by cause of death, 2001 and 2005–2014

Cause of death	2001	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
All causes	242	253	249	256	260	258	245	260	265	273	275
Illness	216	225	218	225	229	228	217	231	234	242	240
Cancer	58	64	62	58	68	73	70	80	81	84	83
Heart disease	63	67	66	64	64	64	63	66	63	70	70
Liver disease	26	25	23	24	24	25	22	26	24	28	25
Respiratory disease	12	17	15	16	19	15	16	16	18	16	19
AIDS-related	23	12	10	9	7	7	6	4	6	4	5
All other illnesses ^a	34	39	42	55	46	44	41	39	42	40	38
Suicide	14	17	17	16	15	15	16	14	16	15	20
Drug/alcohol intoxication	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	4	4
Accident	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	4	3	3
Homicide^b	3	4	4	4	3	4	5	5	7	7	7
Other/unknown	0	1	3	1	7	1	--!	1!	1	1	1
Missing	3	0	0	4	0	3	--!	1!	1!	1	2

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Excludes executions; for execution data, see *Capital Punishment, 2013 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 248448, BJS web, December 2014). Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details on custody counts, rates, illnesses, and homicides. For findings for data years 2002 through 2004, see the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program page on the BJS website.

--! Less than 0.5.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aIncludes other specified illnesses, such as cerebrovascular disease, influenza, and other nonleading natural causes of death, as well as unspecified illnesses.

^bIncludes homicides committed by other inmates, incidental to the staff use of force, and resulting from assaults sustained prior to incarceration.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001 and 2005–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001 and 2005–2014.

TABLE 5
Mortality rate per 100,000 federal prisoners, by select cause of death, 2001 and 2005–2014

Cause of death	2001	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	221	244	201	222	241	220	224	220	198	230	262
Illness	180	205	180	189	209	194	199	201	179	211	238
AIDS-related	16	17	7	6	8	4	4	2	3	2	0
Suicide	13	8	7	11	13	12	6 !	10	11	8	14
Accident*	4 !	4 !	1 !	-- !	4 !	3 !	1 !	1 !	2 !	2 !	1 !
Homicide	6 !	9 !	5 !	7 !	8 !	4 !	10 !	5 !	3 !	7 !	8 !
Other/unknown	-- !	-- !	-- !	9 !	1 !	4 !	3 !	1 !	1 !	1 !	-- !

Note: Federal deaths are submitted as aggregate counts by the Bureau of Prisons, with limited details regarding cause of death. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. Excludes deaths in private facilities.

--! Less than 0.5.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

*Includes deaths due to drug and alcohol intoxication.

Source: Federal Bureau of Prisons, 2001 and 2005–2014.

TABLE 6
Number of state prisoner deaths, by selected decedent characteristics, 2001 and 2005–2014

Characteristic	2001	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	2,869	3,168	3,233	3,389	3,450	3,417	3,234	3,353	3,357	3,479	3,483
Sex											
Male	2,769	3,025	3,103	3,252	3,287	3,267	3,117	3,210	3,244	3,338	3,329
Female	100	143	130	137	163	150	117	143	113	141	154
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	1,340	1,623	1,627	1,718	1,821	1,774	1,680	1,912	1,789	1,902	1,920
Black/African American ^a	1,161	1,162	1,148	1,225	1,157	1,199	1,122	1,039	1,113	1,104	1,108
Hispanic/Latino ^b	322	324	404	383	399	372	359	329	379	402	368
Other ^{a,c}	46	54	50	54	73	58	61	61	70	70	87
Age											
17 or younger	2	1	1	1	3	0	3	2	0	0	2
18–24	86	78	60	68	67	69	69	50	69	68	56
25–34	256	243	250	226	222	210	217	201	190	219	220
35–44	656	599	561	513	468	467	382	397	360	334	333
45–54	893	1,009	1,061	1,031	1,063	1,039	957	930	876	857	820
55 or older	971	1,238	1,300	1,550	1,627	1,631	1,606	1,770	1,862	1,966	2,044

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Detail may not sum to total due to missing data. Excludes executions; for execution data, see *Capital Punishment, 2013 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 248448, BJS web, December 2014). For findings for data years 2002 through 2004, see the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program page on the BJS website.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIn 2013, the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made. See *Methodology*.

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001 and 2005–2014.

TABLE 7
Percent of state prisoner deaths, by selected decedent characteristics, 2001 and 2005–2014

Characteristic	2001	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Sex											
Male	96.5%	95.5%	96.0%	96.0%	95.3%	95.6%	96.4%	95.7%	96.6%	95.9%	95.6%
Female	3.5	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.7	4.4	3.6	4.3	3.4	4.1	4.4
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	46.7%	51.3%	50.4%	50.8%	52.8%	52.1%	52.1%	57.2%	53.4%	54.7%	55.1%
Black/African American ^a	40.5	36.7	35.6	36.2	33.5	35.2	34.8	31.1	33.2	31.7	31.8
Hispanic/Latino ^b	11.2	10.2	12.5	11.3	11.6	10.9	11.1	9.8	11.3	11.6	10.6
Other ^{a,c}	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.6	2.1	1.7	1.9	1.8	2.1	2.0	2.5
Age											
17 or younger	0.1%	--	--	--	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
18–24	3.0	2.5%	1.9%	2.0%	1.9	2.0	2.1	1.5	2.1	2.0	1.6
25–34	8.9	7.7	7.7	6.7	6.4	6.1	6.7	6.0	5.7	6.4	6.3
35–44	22.9	18.9	17.4	15.1	13.6	13.7	11.8	11.9	10.7	9.7	9.6
45–54	31.2	31.8	32.8	30.4	30.8	30.4	29.6	27.8	26.1	24.9	23.6
55 or older	33.9	39.1	40.2	45.7	47.2	47.7	49.7	52.8	55.5	57.1	58.8

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Detail may not sum to total due to missing data. Excludes executions; for executions data, see *Capital Punishment, 2013 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 248448, BJS web, December 2014). For findings for data years 2002 through 2004, see the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program page on the BJS website.

--Less than 0.05%.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIn 2013, the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made. See *Methodology*.

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001 and 2005–2014.

TABLE 8
Mortality rate per 100,000 state prisoners, by selected decedent characteristics, 2001 and 2005–2014

Characteristic	2001	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	242	253	249	256	260	258	245	260	265	273	275
Sex											
Male	249	260	257	265	267	265	254	267	275	281	284
Female	129	164	141	145	172	160	127	160	131	159	171
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	315	351	343	358	375	367	350	431	407	424	429
Black/African American ^a	219	225	219	231	216	225	213	211	231	228	234
Hispanic/Latino ^b	201	177	213	195	213	195	184	120	142	153	141
Other ^{a,c}	168	171	148	156	211	161	171	75	89	89	108
Age											
17 or younger	70!	40!	36!	38!	122!	0	127!	87!	0	0	71!
18–24	39	35	26	29	35	36	36	26	37	39	34
25–34	63	58	58	51	51	48	51	47	46	53	54
35–44	181	161	146	131	120	119	112	121	113	104	104
45–54	583	559	572	543	458	448	374	383	364	350	342
55 or older	2,029	2,103	2,154	2,500	2,091	2,097	1,528	1,770	1,711	1,640	1,635

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Detail may not sum to total due to missing data. See *Methodology* for details. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details. Excludes executions; for execution data, see *Capital Punishment, 2013 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 248448, BJS web, December 2014). For findings for data years 2002 through 2004, see the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program page on the BJS website.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIn 2013, the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made.

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001 and 2005–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001 and 2005–2014; and Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 2004.

TABLE 9
Number of state prisoner deaths, by cause and selected decedent characteristics, 2001–2014

Characteristic	All causes	Cancer	Heart disease	Liver disease	Respiratory disease	AIDS-related	All other ^a	Suicide	Drug/alcohol intoxication	Accident	Homicide ^b
Total	45,640	12,269	11,685	4,378	2,853	1,797	7,425	2,826	595	450	845
Sex											
Male	43,562	11,814	11,291	4,230	2,708	1,706	7,010	2,675	564	435	841
Female	1,862	455	394	148	145	91	415	150	31	15	4
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^c	23,556	6,738	6,193	2,407	1,606	393	3,427	1,670	335	252	384
Black/African American ^c	15,955	4,307	4,378	995	943	1,192	2,926	570	105	129	293
Hispanic/Latino ^d	5,006	1,008	930	861	264	194	936	457	128	55	144
Other ^{c,e}	830	193	171	106	36	17	122	119	27	13	22
Age											
17 or younger	20	2	2	1	1	0	1	11	0	1	1
18–24	933	61	116	9	58	18	121	371	38	33	98
25–34	3,212	289	547	77	180	226	445	916	167	80	239
35–44	6,977	1,171	1,643	566	339	721	1,134	797	206	110	225
45–54	13,333	3,631	3,121	2,052	646	616	2,258	518	142	104	165
55 or older	20,900	7,103	6,243	1,665	1,626	216	3,458	210	42	122	116

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Detail may not sum to total due to missing data. See *Methodology* for details on rates, illnesses, Hispanic origin, homicides, and probation or parole violations.

^aIncludes other specified illnesses, such as cerebrovascular disease, influenza, and other nonleading natural causes of death, as well as unspecified illnesses.

^bIncludes homicides committed by other inmates, incidental to the staff use of force, and resulting from assaults sustained prior to incarceration.

^cExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^dIn 2013, the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made.

^eIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014.

TABLE 10**Average annual mortality rate per 100,000 state prisoners, by cause of death and selected decedent characteristics, 2001–2014**

Characteristic	Illness										
	All causes	Cancer	Heart disease	Liver disease	Respiratory disease	AIDS-related	All other ^a	Suicide	Drug/alcohol intoxication	Accident	Homicide ^b
Total	256	69	66	25	16	10	42	16	3	3	5
Sex											
Male	263	71	68	26	16	10	42	16	4	3	5
Female	151	37	32	12	12	7	34	12	3	1	...
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^c	367	105	97	38	25	6	53	26	7	4	6
Black/African American ^c	222	60	61	14	13	17	41	8	2	2	4
Hispanic/Latino ^d	174	35	32	30	9	7	32	16	5	2	5
Other ^{c,e}	129	30	27	16	6	3	19	19	5	2	3
Age											
17 or younger	51	5!	5!	3!	3!	0	3!	28!	0	3!	3!
18–24	33	2	4	--	2	1	4	13	2	1	3
25–34	55	5	9	1	3	4	8	16	4	1	4
35–44	139	23	33	11	7	14	23	16	5	2	4
45–54	457	125	107	70	22	21	77	18	6	4	6
55 or older	1879	639	561	150	146	19	311	19	4	11	10

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Detail may not sum to total due to missing data. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details on custody counts, rates, illnesses, homicides, and Hispanic origin.

...Not available.

--Less than 0.5.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aIncludes other specified illnesses (such as cerebrovascular disease, influenza, and other nonleading natural causes of death) and unspecified illnesses.

^bIncludes homicides committed by other inmates, incidental to the staff use of force, and resulting from assaults sustained prior to incarceration.

^cExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^dIn 2013, the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made.

^eIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014; National Inmate Survey, 2007–2009, and 2011–2012; and National Prisoner Statistics, 2001–2014.

TABLE 11**Number of state and federal prisoner deaths, by jurisdiction, 2001 and 2005–2014**

Jurisdiction	2001	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Federal	303	388	328	368	399	376	387	387	350	400	444
States ^a	2,869	3,168	3,233	3,389	3,450	3,417	3,234	3,353	3,357	3,479	3,483
Alabama	87	66	61	54	75	80	66	104	86	107	102
Alaska ^b	8	4	6	10	14	7	13	12	11	8	12
Arizona	64	78	72	61	77	85	85	86	87	95	99
Arkansas	42	38	37	46	41	50	54	50	43	56	57
California	287	366	424	395	369	395	414	388	368	366	317
Colorado	42	54	31	42	38	49	48	37	48	40	35
Connecticut ^b	30	40	25	27	32	29	21	19	24	20	24
Delaware ^b	16	19	13	15	15	12	23	15	10	14	18
Florida	182	244	261	249	291	278	275	297	324	305	346
Georgia	93	122	103	143	128	125	112	123	103	122	120
Hawaii ^p	7	8	5	13	14	11	12	6	12	14	8
Idaho	17	13	18	14	18	13	13	13	9	10	23
Illinois	86	72	94	104	71	75	94	97	85	78	88
Indiana	46	45	70	54	70	91	69	74	59	66	70
Iowa	9	19	12	17	21	14	13	12	20	16	15
Kansas	21	19	16	20	24	20	22	25	17	28	21
Kentucky	36	43	46	46	68	57	42	60	55	40	44
Louisiana	71	89	72	82	117	108	100	108	116	118	118
Maine	6	0	6	1	2	4	3	5	2	3	7
Maryland	70	57	61	57	69	56	40	41	46	58	43
Massachusetts	29	37	39	39	29	29	39	33	42	39	45
Michigan	114	140	138	117	99	148	93	119	124	124	121
Minnesota	13	13	9	13	17	12	16	19	14	20	14
Mississippi	36	61	58	77	54	52	52	47	41	68	50
Missouri	57	68	66	78	87	81	88	74	71	92	97
Montana	6	12	5	5	9	3	2	6	11	7	19
Nebraska	7	8	8	12	6	11	12	17	11	16	13
Nevada	27	28	23	39	35	35	41	34	37	35	44
New Hampshire	2	8	6	6	5	9	4	10	5	8	5
New Jersey	69	60	70	60	66	58	56	66	48	46	50
New Mexico	11	18	13	22	29	21	16	16	14	17	24
New York	175	170	131	148	133	142	124	117	115	142	123
North Carolina	66	69	90	99	117	86	87	71	79	81	94
North Dakota	3	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	3	1	0
Ohio	115	121	106	123	101	120	116	111	126	124	111
Oklahoma	51	74	80	98	88	79	60	85	79	87	107
Oregon	24	37	40	36	31	34	39	40	26	30	31
Pennsylvania	122	149	124	150	145	165	141	157	157	157	145
Rhode Island ^b	3	2	8	9	6	7	7	10	6	4	7
South Carolina	69	75	65	72	83	49	70	55	58	66	66
South Dakota	4	4	4	8	6	4	8	11	9	6	7
Tennessee	51	76	84	73	74	69	74	59	84	82	83
Texas	408	351	443	435	469	426	375	417	462	438	409
Utah	5	8	7	7	11	17	13	12	15	23	23
Vermont ^b	3	6	7	1	3	3	5	0	2	8	6
Virginia	71	84	78	103	86	87	94	99	86	82	90
Washington	29	45	36	39	35	44	35	21	33	39	38
West Virginia	17	10	13	19	19	18	20	23	24	26	24
Wisconsin	48	29	45	43	44	42	25	48	46	43	58
Wyoming	5	8	3	8	9	7	2	3	4	4	12

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Excludes executions; for execution data, see *Capital Punishment, 2013 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 248448, BJS web, December 2014). For findings for data years 2002 through 2004, see the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program page on the BJS website.

^aIncludes nine prisoner deaths reported by the District of Columbia in 2001. As of December 30, 2001, sentenced felons from the District of Columbia were the responsibility of the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

^bPrisons and jails form one integrated system. Data include total jail and prison population.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001 and 2005–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001 and 2005–2014; and Federal Bureau of Prisons, 2001 and 2005–2014.

TABLE 12**Mortality rate per 100,000 state and federal prisoners, by jurisdiction, 2001 and 2005–2014**

Jurisdiction	2001	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Federal	220	244	201	222	241	220	224	220	198	230	262
States ^a	242	253	249	256	260	258	245	260	265	273	275
Alabama	352	271	253	214	296	294	241	388	321	399	390
Alaska ^b	175!	83!	119!	194!	280	128!	242	193	174!	157!	230
Arizona	231	234	201	162	195	210	212	215	217	232	235
Arkansas	366	305	288	347	312	375	380	355	306	392	374
California	183	218	246	230	216	234	254	263	277	272	236
Colorado	243	256	141	185	164	216	211	169	236	198	171
Connecticut ^b	171	223	132	139	161	153	113	106	140	115	143
Delaware ^b	234	280	185	211	216	182	361	229	149!	206	267
Florida	251	282	289	262	291	274	269	294	325	302	343
Georgia	202	250	195	264	243	233	212	233	187	227	228
Hawaii ^b	137!	139!	91!	238	257	227!	227	110!	227	271	148!
Idaho	323	208	270	198	256	181	180	174	117!	139!	307
Illinois	194	160	208	230	156	166	194	200	172	160	182
Indiana	234	198	281	215	265	340	253	270	210	232	249
Iowa	113!	217	136	196	241	157	137	132	229	184	170
Kansas	245	209	181	229	281	231	243	268	179	291	218
Kentucky	336	289	295	299	446	380	290	429	423	329	363
Louisiana	361	459	346	401	561	543	526	573	624	628	631
Maine	358!	0	288!	47!	98!	193!	154!	253!	101!	145!	318!
Maryland	295	253	269	246	298	254	175	178	211	267	202
Massachusetts	284	358	362	352	260	260	349	288	377	367	431
Michigan	233	283	268	233	203	325	211	277	284	284	279
Minnesota	203	149	102!	141	188	126	170	204	149	213	146
Mississippi	238	379	354	441	302	302	316	305	260	436	383
Missouri	199	224	219	262	289	265	288	239	228	292	304
Montana	215!	425	170!	172!	309!	97!	64!	192!	355!	224!	609
Nebraska	179!	182!	182!	273	134!	245!	260	365	233!	319	249
Nevada	274	240	180	293	272	278	336	280	294	274	347
New Hampshire	83!	330!	224!	217!	175!	309!	153!	413!	195!	281!	184!
New Jersey	265	234	274	237	266	241	229	279	208	207	234
New Mexico	194!	274	196	342	459	319	240	239	211	251	345
New York	259	270	206	236	221	243	220	212	213	266	235
North Carolina	205	188	239	259	293	214	215	179	211	218	252
North Dakota	276!	76!	75!	0	0	0	71!	72!	212!	64!	0
Ohio	256	268	219	247	198	236	224	218	248	240	215
Oklahoma	235	323	350	412	372	328	248	358	324	343	404
Oregon	219	287	303	269	229	248	281	291	184	205	214
Pennsylvania	324	355	282	329	298	327	293	316	313	314	295
Rhode Island ^b	89!	59!	215!	240!	160!	205!	222!	330!	197!	126!	223!
South Carolina	318	334	283	305	350	207	304	246	265	306	315
South Dakota	143!	120!	121!	244!	179!	118!	236!	309!	250!	166!	200!
Tennessee	292	394	435	379	382	346	369	298	424	395	399
Texas	275	223	279	274	295	269	234	261	298	282	265
Utah	121!	158!	139!	136!	214!	324	239	227	283	427	433
Vermont ^b	214!	289!	316!	47!	142!	135!	241!	0	98!	385!	303!
Virginia	226	273	253	312	264	281	295	324	289	273	300
Washington	190	268	214	231	204	255	206	123	195	220	221
West Virginia	500	248!	298	387	388	356	394	447	450	456	409
Wisconsin	231	132	199	188	197	189	113	214	205	192	257
Wyoming	336!	382!	147!	415!	528!	402!	96!	139!	183!	175!	507!

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details. Mortality rates are not directly comparable between states because rates are not adjusted. Excludes executions; for execution data, see *Capital Punishment, 2013 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 248448, BJS web, December 2014). For findings for data years 2002 through 2004, see the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program page on the BJS website.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aIncludes nine prisoner deaths reported by the District of Columbia in 2001. As of December 31, 2001, sentenced felons from the District of Columbia were the responsibility of the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

^bPrisons and jails form one integrated system. Data include total jail and prison population.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001 and 2005–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001 and 2005–2014; and Federal Bureau of Prisons, 2001 and 2005–2014.

TABLE 13

Number of state and federal prisoner deaths, by cause and jurisdiction, 2001–2014

Jurisdiction	All causes	Illness						Suicide	Drug/alcohol intoxication	Accident	Homicide ^b
		Cancer	Heart disease	Liver disease	Respiratory disease	AIDS-related	All other illnesses ^a				
Federal	5,145	...	...	...	...	159	4,543	222	...	51	130
States ^c	45,426	12,269	11,685	4,378	2,853	1,797	7,425	2,826	595	450	845
Alabama	1112	306	269	111	71	36	219	20	3	13	21
Alaska ^d	129	22	27	16	2	1	19	22	8	8	3
Arizona	1109	289	257	148	65	31	149	88	39	6	32
Arkansas	618	169	211	52	33	24	71	32	1	10	11
California	5,102	1,217	864	555	374	115	1,070	448	192	41	191
Colorado	601	122	114	110	43	1	104	53	21	13	20
Connecticut ^d	390	52	92	62	22	11	79	60	2	6	4
Delaware ^d	210	49	49	21	11	19	28	25	4	0	2
Florida	3,667	1118	774	304	240	283	707	101	13	37	76
Georgia	1,611	426	541	99	117	77	197	71	1	13	53
Hawaii ^d	138	38	24	17	6	4	19	22	3	1	4
Idaho	193	50	53	17	10	2	25	26	2	4	2
Illinois	1,191	366	335	62	62	63	162	102	9	12	15
Indiana	873	226	235	77	58	19	133	57	28	13	23
Iowa	207	71	43	11	19	5	27	25	1	1	1
Kansas	317	101	80	36	17	1	51	18	2	7	3
Kentucky	664	204	209	53	34	25	112	17	2	4	2
Louisiana	1,306	431	373	110	55	98	175	26	2	10	5
Maine	52	14	14	5	4	1	6	3	1	0	4
Maryland	813	173	188	66	32	101	92	64	48	6	37
Massachusetts	471	119	123	50	26	10	70	47	10	8	3
Michigan	1,706	571	537	147	85	39	158	108	17	23	16
Minnesota	194	56	37	29	8	1	36	22	3	1	1
Mississippi	726	192	285	39	37	23	93	30	3	9	13
Missouri	1,065	311	295	123	59	22	172	52	6	5	18
Montana	114	31	20	17	7	0	19	14	3	1	2
Nebraska	134	30	33	20	7	3	15	13	4	2	1
Nevada	418	89	106	32	14	9	117	28	3	2	7
New Hampshire	89	35	18	10	3	2	6	11	4	0	0
New Jersey	807	194	238	54	48	83	113	46	9	7	10
New Mexico	243	62	45	48	16	3	31	21	6	1	10
New York	2,052	566	533	179	92	213	200	178	26	24	20
North Carolina	1164	387	298	100	78	62	165	37	4	18	13
North Dakota	14	3	4	2	0	0	3	1	1	0	0
Ohio	1,602	529	451	94	125	31	237	89	10	7	25
Oklahoma	1071	264	275	123	66	27	148	62	21	25	43
Oregon	460	136	98	77	18	5	65	30	11	7	8
Pennsylvania	2,035	563	575	208	121	34	399	103	6	10	14
Rhode Island ^d	90	18	23	1	2	4	8	21	5	3	1
South Carolina	885	191	337	54	46	34	154	40	1	3	24
South Dakota	98	17	29	16	7	1	8	13	1	3	3
Tennessee	1034	262	303	118	56	37	157	42	18	10	25
Texas	5,804	1331	1,494	629	481	154	1,214	357	17	52	56
Utah	171	34	40	14	6	0	32	31	3	3	4
Vermont ^d	52	11	11	9	1	3	7	7	3	0	0
Virginia	1,204	405	329	121	65	52	156	42	3	4	10
Washington	491	142	114	61	34	9	78	31	3	9	7
West Virginia	249	72	94	18	12	6	37	5	1	2	2
Wisconsin	599	192	162	42	51	11	69	60	7	5	0
Wyoming	72	12	24	10	6	1	11	5	2	1	0

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Detail may not sum to total due to missing data. Excludes executions; for execution data, see *Capital Punishment, 2013 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 248448, BJS web, December 2014). See *Methodology* for details on illnesses and homicides.

...Not available.

^aIncludes other specified illnesses, such as cerebrovascular disease, influenza, and other nonleading natural causes and unspecified illness among state prisoners. Includes natural and illness-related deaths that the Bureau of Prisons could not provide details on federal prisoners.

^bIncludes homicides committed by other inmates, incidental to the staff use of force, and resulting from assaults sustained prior to incarceration.

^cIncludes nine prisoner deaths reported by the District of Columbia in 2001. As of December 30, 2001, sentenced felons from the District of Columbia were the responsibility of the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

^dPrisons and jails form one integrated system. Data include total jail and prison population.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001–2006; and Federal Bureau of Prisons, 2007–2014.

TABLE 14
Average annual mortality rate per 100,000 state and federal prisoners, by cause of death and jurisdiction, 2001–2014

Jurisdiction	All causes	Illness						Suicide	Drug/alcohol intoxication	Accident	Homicide ^b
		Cancer	Heart disease	Liver disease	Respiratory disease	AIDS-related	All other illnesses ^a				
Federal	225	...	...	...	...	7	199	10	...	2	6
States ^c	255	69	66	25	16	10	42	16	3	3	5
Alabama	306	84	74	31	20	10	60	6	1!	4	6
Alaska ^d	180	31	38	22	3!	1!	27	31	11!	11!	4!
Arizona	217	57	50	29	13	6	29	17	8	1!	6
Arkansas	334	91	114	28	18	13	38	17	1!	5!	6!
California	231	55	39	25	17	5	48	20	9	2	9
Colorado	206	42	39	38	15	--!	36	18	7	4	7
Connecticut ^d	153	20	36	24	9	4	31	24	1!	2!	2!
Delaware ^d	222	52	52	22	12!	20!	30	26	4!	0	2!
Florida	285	87	60	24	19	22	55	8	1	3	6
Georgia	223	59	75	14	16	11	27	10	--!	2	7
Hawaii ^d	184	51	32	23	8!	5!	25	29	4!	1!	5!
Idaho	207	54	57	18	11!	2!	27	28	2!	4!	2!
Illinois	185	57	52	10	10	10	25	16	1!	2!	2
Indiana	250	65	67	22	17	5	38	16	8	4	7
Iowa	169	58	35	9!	16	4	22	20	1!	1!	1!
Kansas	250	80	63	28	13	1	40	14	2!	6!	2!
Kentucky	351	108	110	28	18	13	59	9	1!	2!	1!
Louisiana	477	157	136	40	20	36	64	9	1!	4!	2!
Maine	186	50	50	18!	14!	4!	21!	11!	4!	0	14!
Maryland	255	54	59	21	10	32	29	20	15	2!	12
Massachusetts	316	80	83	34	17	7	47	32	7!	5!	2!
Michigan	258	86	81	22	13	6	24	16	3	3	2
Minnesota	160	46	31	24	7!	1!	30	18	2!	1!	1!
Mississippi	324	86	127	17	17	10	42	13	1!	4!	6
Missouri	250	73	69	29	14	5	40	12	1!	1!	4
Montana	273	74	48	41	17!	0	46	34	7!	2!	5!
Nebraska	214	48	53	32	11!	5!	24	21	6!	3!	2!
Nevada	250	53	63	19	8	5	70	17	2!	1!	4!
New Hampshire	243	96	49	27!	8!	5!	16!	30!	11!	0	0
New Jersey	235	56	69	16	14	24	33	13	3!	2!	3!
New Mexico	268	68	50	53	18	3	34	23	7!	1!	11!
New York	243	67	63	21	11	25	24	21	3	3	2
North Carolina	224	75	57	19	15	12	32	7	1!	3	3
North Dakota	75	16!	21!	11!	0	0	16!	5!	5!	0	0
Ohio	235	78	66	14	18	5	35	13	1!	1!	4
Oklahoma	324	80	83	37	20	8	45	19	6	8	13
Oregon	249	74	53	42	10	3	35	16	6!	4!	4!
Pennsylvania	320	88	90	33	19	5	63	16	1!	2!	2
Rhode Island ^d	191	38	49	2!	4!	8!	17!	45	11!	6!	2!
South Carolina	280	60	107	17	15	11	49	13	--!	1!	8
South Dakota	212	37	63	35	15!	2!	17!	28	2!	6!	6!
Tennessee	379	96	111	43	21	14	58	15	7	4!	9
Texas	265	61	68	29	22	7	55	16	1	2	3
Utah	244	48	57	20	9!	0	46	44	4!	4!	6!
Vermont ^d	191	40!	40!	33!	4!	11!	26!	26!	11!	0	0
Virginia	277	93	76	28	15	12	36	10	1!	1!	2!
Washington	209	60	48	26	14	4	33	13	1!	4!	3!
West Virginia	382	111	144	28	18	9!	57	8!	2!	3!	3!
Wisconsin	193	62	52	14	16	4	22	19	2!	2!	0
Wyoming	265	44!	88	37!	22!	4!	41!	18!	7!	4!	0

Note: Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details. Mortality rates presented are not adjusted. Detail may not sum to total due to missing data. Excludes executions; for execution data, see *Capital Punishment, 2013 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 248448, BJS web, December 2014). See *Methodology* for details on rates, illnesses, and homicides.

--Less than 0.5.

...Not available.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aIncludes other specified illnesses, such as cerebrovascular disease, influenza, and other nonleading natural causes and unspecified illness among state prisoners. Includes natural and illness related deaths that the Bureau of Prisons could not provide details on federal prisoners.

^bIncludes homicides committed by other inmates, incidental to the staff use of force, and resulting from assaults sustained prior to incarceration.

^cIncludes nine prisoner deaths reported by the District of Columbia in 2001. As of December 30, 2001, sentenced felons from the District of Columbia were the responsibility of the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

^dPrisons and jails form one integrated system. Data include total jail and prison population.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001–2014; and Federal Bureau of Prisons, 2001–2014.

Preliminary count of state prisoner deaths, 2015

As of October 2016, data for collection year 2015 is being processed and finalized. The response rate for collection year 2015 was 97% as of July 2016, with 49 of 50 states submitting 3,290 state prisoner death records (**table 15**). Finalization of the data files, which includes data cleaning and processing cause of death information, will continue into 2017. Full details on mortality of state prisoners in 2015 will be published in 2017.

TABLE 15
Preliminary count of the number of deaths in state prisons, 2015

Cause of death	Number	Percent*
Total	3,260	100%
Illness	2,680	82.2
AIDS-related	36	1.1
Accident	93	2.9
Suicide	172	5.3
Homicide	70	2.1
Other cause	18	0.6
Missing	191	5.9

Note: Represents a 97% response rate. As of July 2016, 49 of the 50 state departments of corrections had reported to the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program.

*Calculated on the total number of records reported.

Source: The Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2015.

Methodology

Data collection coverage

The Deaths in Custody Reporting Program (DCRP) is an annual Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) data collection that obtains national, state, and incident-level data on persons who died while in the physical custody of the 50 state departments of corrections or the approximately 2,800 local adult jail jurisdictions nationwide. This methodology pertains to the prison portion of the DCRP collection only. See *Mortality in Local Jails, 2000–2014 - Statistical Tables* (NCJ 250169, BJS web, December 2016) for data and the methodology on deaths occurring in local jails.

The DCRP began in 2000 in response to the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-297) and is the only national statistical collection that obtains comprehensive information about deaths in adult correctional facilities. Starting in 2001 and annually thereafter, BJS has collected DCRP data directly from state prison systems, maintaining a 100% response rate. BJS uses this data to track national trends in the number and cause (or manner) of death occurring in state prisons.

Mortality data measured by the DCRP include the location and type of facility where the inmate died, decedent characteristics (such as age, sex, race or Hispanic origin), date of admission, conviction status, and admission offense. The DCRP also collects data about circumstances surrounding the death, including the cause, time, and location where the death occurred, and information on whether an autopsy was conducted and the availability of autopsy results to the respondent. Data on executions are excluded from this report but are accessible on the BJS website (see *Capital Punishment in the United States, 2013*, NCJ 248448, BJS web, December 2014). Statistics presented in this report are current as of September 26, 2016. For more information on mortality in correctional settings, see *Assessing Inmate Cause of Death: Deaths in Custody Reporting Program and National Death Index* (NCJ 249568, BJS web, April 2016), *Mortality in Local Jails, 2000–2007* (NCJ 222988, BJS web, July 2010); *Medical Causes of Death in State Prisons, 2001–2004* (NCJ 216340, BJS web, January 2007); and *Suicide and Homicide in State Prisons and Local Jails* (NCJ 210036, BJS web, August 2005).

The DCRP state prison data collection instruments are administered annually to state departments of corrections. Respondents provide an aggregate count of the number of deaths that occurred during the referenced calendar year (NPS-4), as well as individual death forms (NPS-4A). The prison survey instruments are available on the BJS website at www.bjs.gov. State prison respondents can submit individual records on decedents at any time during a collection cycle through a BJS web-based collection system.

Determining eligibility for reporting to the DCRP

In the DCRP, custody refers to the physical holding of an inmate in a facility or to the period during which a correctional authority maintains a chain of custody over an inmate. A death that occurs when an inmate is not in the custody of a correctional authority is considered beyond the scope of the DCRP. Out-of-scope deaths include inmates on escape status or under the supervision of community corrections, such as on probation, parole, or home-electronic monitoring. For state prisons responding to the survey, inmates in physical custody include those held in any private prison facility under contract to the responding state's department of corrections or in any of their state-operated facilities, including halfway houses, prison camps or farms, training or treatment centers, and prison hospitals.

BJS instructs state prison officials to exclude deaths of inmates who were transferred to local jails while still serving a prison term because the DCRP obtains information about such deaths through the jail reports.

Identifying and excluding duplicate records

Duplicate and out-of-scope records are excluded from the analysis. Duplicate death records may occur in the DCRP due to overlapping correctional populations and overlapping duties within correctional facilities. For example, a state prison system may report the death of an inmate who was transferred to a local jail while serving a prison sentence. The death is considered part of the count of the correctional facility that had custody of the inmate at the time of death (in this case, the jail), and the duplicate record (in this case, from the prison facility) is deleted.

To identify duplicate death records, BJS reconciles the aggregate summary counts of deaths occurring during a calendar year with the number of individual death records obtained from a reporting prison system. When discrepancies are identified, BJS contacts reporting prison systems for clarification.

Cause-of-death information

DCRP respondents are instructed to report death information as determined by autopsy or other official medical death investigation. For this collection, intoxication deaths, accidents, suicides, and homicides are considered discrete causes of death. Although there is a distinction between manner and cause of death from a medico-legal standpoint, no such distinction is made in the DCRP. When reporting a death due to illness, accident, suicide, intoxication, or homicide, BJS requests that respondents describe the events surrounding these deaths.

Clinical data specialists convert illness-related death text entries into standard medical codes from the World Health Organization's International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision (ICD-10).

Homicides include all types of intentional homicide and involuntary manslaughter as ruled by a medical examiner or pathologist at autopsy. For example, an inmate may die of positional asphyxia (suffocation caused by body position) while being removed from a cell. A legal-intervention homicide committed while the inmate is trying to escape is included in the homicide count. Homicides also encompass cases that are ruled a homicide at autopsy when events that led to the death occurred prior to incarceration, such as an inmate previously shot in the community who later died from complications of the gunshot wound while in custody.

Other BJS sources of correctional mortality data

BJS collects other data reported to the DCRP on prisoner mortality. These other collections include—

- Capital punishment, which provides data on legal executions. Additional details on executions are available on the BJS website.
- The National Prisoner Statistics (NPS) program collected counts of deaths by cause of death, including deaths due to execution, illness, AIDS (and AIDS-related causes, such as HIV), suicide, accident, homicide, and other causes. Detailed death counts were dropped in 2007. The NPS currently collects a total count of deaths, because it is a type of prison release. After 2006, the Federal Bureau of Prisons submitted counts of deaths by cause of death to the DCRP, but discontinued submitting counts to the NPS. Additional details of the NPS are available on the BJS website.

Reported statistics

Mortality data shown in statistical tables include the number of deaths and mortality rates by year, cause of death, selected decedent characteristics, and the state where the death occurred.

Mortality rates are calculated per 100,000 inmates, with the denominators providing estimates of the number of person-years of exposure in custody in institutional corrections. Until 2010, the mortality rate for state prisons was calculated as the number of deaths per year divided by the midyear state prison population in custody multiplied by 100,000. Starting in 2011, the rate was calculated using yearend custody counts because BJS shifted the reference period for its prison collections to December 31. For more information on the NPS, see the BJS website.

Denominators allow for annual mortality rates, which are calculated separately by group or by characteristic. The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) calculates crude mortality rates as the number of events for a period, (e.g., a year), divided by the population estimate at the midpoint of the period. For general population mortality statistics, the NCHS employs the midyear population as an approximation of the average population exposed to risk of death during any given year.²

The crude mortality rates reported in the DCRP annual statistical tables are not directly comparable to the crude mortality rates of the non-incarcerated general population, because the composition of the general population (age, sex, and race or Hispanic origin) differs from the population in state prisons and federal prisons.

Preliminary 2015 numbers

The 2015 number of death is preliminary as of August 1, 2016. At that time, 49 of the 50 state departments of correction had reported both a summary count of deaths and provided the corresponding individual death records. As of August 1, 2016, one state had submitted a summary count of deaths, but was still finalizing the individual death records. BJS does not consider a submission complete until the summary count and the individual records have both been submitted and the summary and individual death counts match. The 2015 DCRP prison file is currently being finalized and is scheduled to be delivered to BJS in the final quarter of 2016. Final data for 2015 is scheduled to be published in 2017.

Estimating inmate population characteristics to calculate mortality rates by demographic subgroups

BJS estimated the demographic distribution of the state prison population using the NPS and National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP) collections. For more information on the methodology for obtaining state prisoner population estimates by age, sex, and race or Hispanic origin, see *Prisoners in 2014* (NCJ 248955, BJS web, September 2015).

Prior to using the NPS and NCRP to estimate demographic distributions, reports of mortality rates for state prison inmates used demographic distributions derived from BJS's 2004 Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities (SISFCF). As a result, the state prison mortality rates shown in these tables may differ from rates published prior to 2008. A comparison between the two sources showed very little differences in the rates. In most instances, the rates either matched or nearly matched. They differed in only three instances: Hispanics in 2001, females in 2002, and inmates age 55 or older in 2002. In each case, the rates

² See Siegal, J. & Swanson, D. (2004). *The Methods and Materials of Demography*, Second Edition. San Diego, CA: Elsevier Academic Press, 269.

calculated using population data from the NCRP and NPS were slightly higher (by less than 1%) than those using population data from the SISFCF.

Moving averages

Moving averages were used to smooth short-term irregularities and to estimate long-term trends. For example, moving averages were computed to examine data trends for certain causes of death in prisons while smoothing short-term fluctuations. The data were cut into several 2-year overlapping periods spanning 11 years of prison data.

The moving averages in this report describe some changes in cause-specific mortality rates over time, such as whether the overall decline in the AIDS-related mortality rate was steady or the increase of suicides in jails was recent. Moving averages were not computed for all causes of death in custody because the resultant rates would have been unstable and therefore statistically meaningless due to small cell sizes.

Random error and suppression

The DCRP data on deaths in state prisons are not subject to sampling error because it is a full enumeration of deaths. However, according to Brillinger and NCHS, mortality data from a complete enumeration may be subject to random error, because “the number of deaths that actually occurred may be considered as one of a large series of possible results that could have arisen under the same set of

circumstances”—or, death occurs at random.^{3,4} The random variation can be large when the number of deaths is small. Therefore, caution is warranted when interpreting statistics based on small numbers of deaths. According to NCHS standards, mortality rates based on fewer than 100 deaths per year should be interpreted with caution.

Continuing to use the NCHS and Brillinger methods, BJS quantified random variation by assuming that the appropriate underlying probability distribution for the number of deaths is a Poisson distribution. This provides a computationally simple and reasonable approach for estimating variances in mortality statistics when the probability of dying is low. BJS calculated variances based on the assumption of a Poisson process. From these variances, BJS calculated relative random error estimates, which are comparable to relative standard error since the relative random error is the ratio of random error derived from the Poisson variance, to the number of deaths. Following NCHS practice, when the relative random error exceeded 30%, BJS flags estimated mortality rates with a “!” symbol due to the instability of the rate (interpret with caution, there are too few sample cases to provide a reliable rate).

³ See Brillinger, D.R. (1986). The Natural Variability of Vital Rates and Associated Statistics. *Biometrics*, 42: 693–734.

⁴ See Xu, J. et al. (2010). Deaths: Final Data for 2007. *National Vital Statistics Report*, 58(19). Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr58/nvsr58_19.pdf.

APPENDIX TABLE 1
Estimated number of state and federal prisoners in custody, by selected inmate characteristics, 2001 and 2005–2014

Characteristic	2001	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	1,324,900	1,411,700	1,460,300	1,487,700	1,492,300	1,497,500	1,493,700	1,466,400	1,443,500	1,448,500	1,433,800
State	1,187,800	1,252,400	1,297,200	1,321,700	1,327,000	1,326,500	1,320,600	1,290,200	1,267,000	1,274,700	1,264,300
Sex											
Male	1,110,400	1,165,300	1,205,100	1,227,200	1,232,100	1,232,500	1,228,400	1,201,100	1,180,600	1,185,800	1,174,100
Female	77,400	87,100	92,200	94,500	94,900	94,000	92,200	89,100	86,400	88,900	90,200
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	425,100	462,800	475,000	479,700	485,800	482,900	480,400	443,800	439,700	448,800	447,400
Black/African American ^a	530,900	517,500	523,300	531,100	536,900	532,600	528,000	491,400	481,700	483,200	474,500
Hispanic/Latino ^b	160,600	183,200	189,900	196,100	187,000	191,200	195,000	274,200	266,900	263,600	261,800
Other ^{a,c}	27,400	31,600	33,700	34,600	34,600	36,100	35,600	80,800	78,800	79,100	80,600
Age											
17 or younger	2,900	2,500	2,800	2,600	2,500	2,500	2,400	2,300	2,400	5,600	2,800
18–24	217,800	220,400	227,500	232,200	189,100	189,100	189,500	193,100	185,200	172,400	166,100
25–34	403,200	418,300	429,500	440,600	434,000	433,800	427,800	424,200	412,400	410,600	410,300
35–44	362,900	372,000	384,500	391,800	391,500	391,400	339,900	327,800	317,300	321,700	320,100
45–54	153,100	180,400	185,600	190,000	232,100	232,000	255,900	242,800	240,900	244,600	240,000
55 or older	47,900	58,900	60,400	62,000	77,800	77,800	105,100	100,000	108,900	119,900	125,000
Federal	137,100	159,300	163,100	166,000	165,300	171,000	173,100	176,200	176,500	173,800	169,500

Note: Data rounded to the nearest 100. Data may have been revised from previously published statistics. Data are from the prisoners at midyear series for 2001 and 2005 to 2010 and from the prisoners at yearend series for 2011 to 2014.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIn 2013, the survey separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made. See *Methodology*.

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001 and 2005–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001 and 2005–2014; Federal Bureau of Prisons, 2001 and 2005–2014; and Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 2004.

APPENDIX TABLE 2
Illness mortality rate per 100,000 state prison inmates, by selected characteristics, 2003 and 2005–2014

Characteristic	2003	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	222	227	222	223	224	227	225	226	227	235	238
Sex											
Male	228	233	229	230	231	234	232	233	235	243	246
Female	129	143	136	133	135	142	136	131	121	132	133
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	290	305	302	306	312	320	319	336	349	372	369
Black/African American ^a	206	212	207	206	202	204	199	200	199	204	209
Hispanic/Latino ^b	166	150	157	161	174	170	166	134	121	115	119
Other ^{a,c}	113	133	134	121	135	141	140	89	75	66	76
Age											
17 or younger	12!	13!	13!	13!	25!	13!	41!	42!	43!	10!	9!
18–24	13	13	13	11	13	15	16	15	14	14	14
25–34	39	38	35	32	29	26	26	25	24	24	24
35–44	156	143	128	115	104	97	91	89	85	81	75
45–54	535	518	519	513	474	435	387	365	340	332	316
55 or older	1,970	2,017	2,050	2,184	2,146	2,124	1,800	1,717	1,614	1,646	1,599

Note: Based on 3-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details on custody counts, mortality rates, and Hispanic origin.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIn 2013, the survey separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made.

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001–2014; and Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 2004.

APPENDIX TABLE 3**Cancer mortality rate per 100,000 state prison inmates, by selected characteristics, 2003 and 2005–2014**

Characteristic	2003	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	60	63	62	62	63	67	71	74	77	81	82
Sex											
Male	63	65	64	64	65	69	73	76	79	84	85
Female	26	33	34	31	33	35	39	47	44	45	43
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	88	92	88	92	95	103	107	117	123	134	131
Black/African American ^a	51	56	56	55	55	57	60	63	66	70	74
Hispanic/Latino ^b	36	33	37	32	33	33	41	37	35	32	34
Other ^{a,c}	32	37	43	37	42	39	49	29	25	19	22
Age											
17 or younger	0	0	0	0	13!	13!	14!	14!	14!	10!	0
18–24	2!	2	1!	1!	1!	2!	3	4	4	3	2
25–34	5	6	5	5	4	4	4	5	5	6	5
35–44	29	29	26	22	20	18	20	20	21	22	22
45–54	142	136	137	140	129	126	119	118	110	114	111
55 or older	688	700	695	707	697	710	633	626	594	602	575

Note: Based on 3-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details on custody counts, mortality rates, and Hispanic origin.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIn 2013, the survey separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made.

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001–2014; and Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 2004.

APPENDIX TABLE 4**Heart disease mortality rate per 100,000 state prison inmates, by selected characteristics, 2003 and 2005–2014**

Characteristic	2003	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	65	67	67	65	64	64	63	64	64	67	68
Sex											
Male	67	69	69	68	67	66	66	67	67	69	71
Female	35	34	31	32	32	36	29	29	27	31	31
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	92	94	97	92	91	90	91	96	98	105	106
Black/African American ^a	59	62	61	62	59	59	59	61	62	63	64
Hispanic/Latino ^b	36	33	35	38	43	42	40	31	25	23	23
Other ^{a,c}	24	38	32	31	34	37	31	18	18	19	26
Age											
17 or younger	0	0	0	0	0	0	14!	14!	14!	0	9!
18–24	3	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	3	5	5
25–34	11	12	12	10	8	8	8	8	7	7	8
35–44	41	41	37	33	29	28	29	31	30	28	25
45–54	139	134	135	132	121	107	95	90	85	81	78
55 or older	676	647	673	697	665	632	529	502	464	477	466

Note: Based on 3-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details on custody counts, mortality rates, and Hispanic origin.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIn 2013, the survey separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made.

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001–2014; and Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 2004.

APPENDIX TABLE 5**Liver disease mortality rate per 100,000 state prison inmates, by selected characteristics, 2003 and 2005–2014**

Characteristic	2003	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	25	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	26	26
Sex											
Male	26	25	25	25	25	25	25	26	25	27	26
Female	13	14	13	12	10	10	10	9	9	13	14
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	35	35	35	35	35	36	37	39	40	43	42
Black/African American ^a	14	14	14	14	13	14	13	14	13	15	13
Hispanic/Latino ^b	39	32	31	35	35	34	30	24	22	23	25
Other ^{a,c}	24	24	26	26	22	24	18	14	10	10	10!
Age											
17 or younger	0	0	0	0	0	0	14!	14!	14!	0	0
18–24	0	0	--!	--	--	1!	1!	1!	--	--	--
25–34	2	1	1	1	1!	1	1	1	1	1!	1!
35–44	20	14	12	11	10	10	8	9	7	7	5
45–54	94	90	91	89	79	73	63	58	52	52	48
55 or older	128	141	145	167	164	164	140	148	145	163	156

Note: Based on 3-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details on custody counts, mortality rates, and Hispanic origin.

--Less than 0.5.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIn 2013, the survey separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made.

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001–2014; and Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 2004.

APPENDIX TABLE 6**Respiratory disease mortality rate per 100,000 state prison inmates, by selected characteristics, 2003 and 2005–2014**

Characteristic	2003	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	14	16	16	16	17	17	17	16	16	16	17
Sex											
Male	14	17	16	16	17	17	17	16	17	17	18
Female	9	14	16	15	16	14	12	10	7	10	9
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	20	24	23	24	26	26	25	26	29	29	29
Black/African American ^a	12	15	15	14	14	13	14	12	12	11	13
Hispanic/Latino ^b	9	8	9	9	11	12	13	9	8	7	8
Other ^{a,c}	12!	6!	5!	3!	4!	3!	4!	3!	5!	5	6
Age											
17 or younger	0	0	13!	13!	13!	0	0	0	0	0	0
18–24	2	2!	3	2	3	2	2	1!	2!	2!	2!
25–34	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3
35–44	8	9	9	8	7	7	7	6	4	4	4
45–54	26	28	28	26	26	24	21	20	19	17	16
55 or older	151	175	168	175	175	170	150	130	132	126	130

Note: Based on 3-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details on custody counts, mortality rates, and Hispanic origin.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIn 2013, the survey separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made.

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001–2014; and Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 2004.

APPENDIX TABLE 7**Mortality rate for all other illnesses per 100,000 state prison inmates, by selected characteristics, 2003 and 2005–2014**

Characteristic	2003	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	37	42	42	45	48	48	44	41	40	40	40
Sex											
Male	37	43	43	46	49	49	44	42	41	41	41
Female	32	38	34	34	35	38	38	32	31	30	32
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	44	52	52	57	60	60	55	54	55	56	56
Black/African American ^a	38	42	42	44	46	47	42	40	38	37	37
Hispanic/Latino ^b	27	34	38	40	45	43	39	30	29	27	28
Other ^{a,c}	15	21	24	23	32	35	35	23	15	11	11
Age											
17 or younger	12!	13!	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18–24	5	4	3	3	4	5	5	4	5	4	4
25–34	9	9	9	9	9	9	8	7	6	6	5
35–44	26	29	27	28	27	25	20	18	17	16	14
45–54	89	101	101	100	96	86	73	65	63	57	54
55 or older	297	333	350	412	421	423	328	295	264	263	256

Note: Based on 3-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details on custody counts, mortality rates, and Hispanic origin.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIn 2013, the survey separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made.

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001–2014; and Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 2004.

APPENDIX TABLE 8**Mortality rate for unnatural deaths per 100,000 state prison inmates, by selected characteristics, 2003 and 2005–2014**

Characteristic	2003	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	23	25	26	27	26	25	26	27	28	29	31
Sex											
Male	24	26	27	28	27	26	26	27	29	29	31
Female	13	14	16	14	15	14	16	17	18	17	20
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	35	38	39	41	40	40	40	42	44	46	49
Black/African American ^a	14	14	14	15	15	14	15	15	17	17	19
Hispanic/Latino ^b	27	29	34	32	31	27	29	25	24	23	25
Other ^{a,c}	38	40	38	35	35	31	38	28	24	18	19
Age											
17 or younger	60!	54!	26!	25!	38!	40!	41!	28!	28!	10!	9!
18–24	18	20	20	18	16	18	20	18	19	19	22
25–34	24	23	23	23	24	23	23	23	23	24	26
35–44	23	26	29	28	26	24	24	27	30	31	30
45–54	26	30	33	37	35	33	31	32	32	32	34
55 or older	32	37	42	46	48	44	41	42	47	49	53

Note: Unnatural deaths include suicides, homicides, accidents, and those due to drug or alcohol intoxication. Based on 3-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. Mortality rates are based on a 1-day inmate custody count. See *Methodology* for details on custody counts, mortality rates, and Hispanic origin.

! Interpret with caution. Too few cases to provide a reliable rate.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIn 2013, the survey separated Hispanic origin from race. Comparisons with previous years should not be made.

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons identifying two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 2001–2014; National Prisoner Statistics, 2001–2014; and Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 2004.



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

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