

On January 1, 2013, an estimated 3,012 sheriffs' offices employed 189,000 full-time sworn officers (those with general arrest powers) and 163,000 full-time nonsworn or civilian employees. In 2013, sheriffs' offices accounted for a fifth (20%) of the nation's 15,400 general purpose state and local law enforcement agencies and about a third (34%) of all full-time sworn and civilian personnel.

About sheriffs' offices

Sheriffs' offices are local law enforcement agencies typically directed by an elected official and organized at the county level. They perform a wide range of law enforcement functions, such as responding to criminal incidents and calls for service. Most also operate local jails and provide court-related services.

Similar to previous years, most personnel in sheriffs' offices worked for large agencies with the equivalent of 100 or more full-time sworn personnel. In 2013, 12% of sheriffs' offices employed 100 or more full-time sworn officers, compared to 10% in 1993. These large agencies employed 65% each of full-time sworn officers (123,700) and full-time civilian employees (105,400).

Growth trends

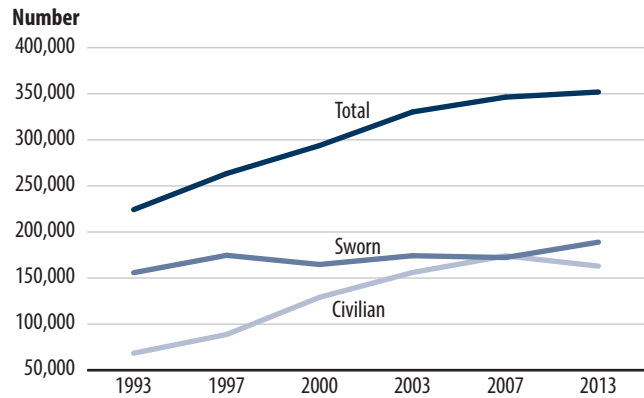
Between 1993 and 2013, the number of full-time employees in U.S. sheriffs' offices increased 57%. Much of the increase in full-time personnel in sheriffs' offices in the past two decades can be attributed to the increase in the overall growth in the number of full-time civilian employees hired since 1993. From 1993 to 2013, the number of full-time civilian employees increased by 138%, while the number of full-time sworn personnel increased by 21%.

During the more recent period from 2007 to 2013, the number of full-time sworn employees increased by 16,700 employees (up 10%) while the number of full-time civilian personnel decreased by 11,100 employees (down 6%). Part-time sworn sheriffs' personnel increased 40% during the same period.

Female personnel

Also between 2007 and 2013, the percentage of full-time sworn personnel in sheriffs' offices who were female increased from 12% to 14%. Additionally, 12% of first-line

Full-time sheriffs' office employees, selected years 1993–2013



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 1993, 1997, 2000, 2003, 2007, and 2013.

supervisory positions were held by females in 2013, which was the first time the Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey collected data on female personnel in supervisory and managerial positions.

Minority officers

Among full-time sworn personnel in sheriffs' offices in 2013, 78% were white, 11% were Hispanic, 9% were black, and 2% were members of other minority groups. In 2013, 22% of full-time sworn personnel in sheriffs' offices were members of a racial or Hispanic minority, compared to 17% in 1993 and 19% in 2003.

Much of the growth in minority officers between 1993 and 2013 was because of an increase in the percentage of Hispanic officers. The proportion of Hispanic officers grew from 6% of full-time sworn sheriffs' office employees in 1993 to 11% in 2013. The number of full-time sworn black officers increased from 15,600 in 2007 to 16,600 in 2013. Sheriffs' offices employed more full-time Hispanic officers than black officers for the first time in 2013.

The full report (*Sheriffs' Office Personnel, 1993-2013* NCJ 249757), related documents, and additional information about the Bureau of Justice Statistics can be found at www.bjs.gov.