

At midyear 2015, an estimated 2,510 inmates were confined in 76 Indian country jails. This was a 5.5% increase from the 2,380 inmates confined at midyear 2014 in 79 facilities. During June 2015, the number of inmates admitted to an Indian country jail (9,810) was four times the size of the average daily population (ADP) (2,390). Upon admission, an inmate's expected average length of stay was about 7 days, up from 6 days the previous year.

## Indian country jail operations

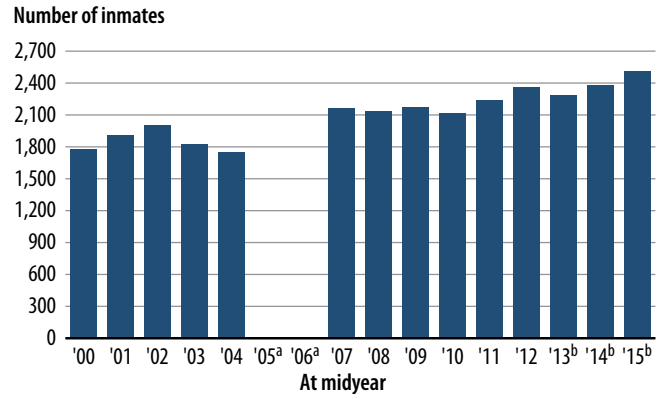
At midyear 2015, the jail facilities in Indian country were rated to hold an estimated 3,800 inmates, which was up slightly from 3,720 in 2014. Between June 2000 and June 2015, the overall rated capacity grew at twice the rate (up 83%) of the midyear inmate population (up 41%), which meant that occupied bed space declined. When measured relative to the ADP, the percentage of rated capacity occupied in Indian country jails was 58% in June 2014 and 63% in June 2015.

At midyear 2015, the population of Indian country jails ranged from no inmates in Fort Peck Transitional Living Unit to 228 inmates in the facility for Nisqually Adult Corrections. Overall, 12 facilities accounted for half of the inmate population in Indian country jails. An estimated 93% of inmates were held in 56 facilities rated to hold 25 or more inmates. Of these, more than half (58%) of inmates were held in 20 facilities rated to hold 50 or more inmates, and about a quarter (26%) of inmates were held in 20 facilities with a rated capacity of 24 or fewer inmates.

## Inmate characteristics

Since 2010, about 3 in 10 inmates held in Indian country jails were confined for a violent offense, a decline from a peak of 4 in 10 in 2007. At midyear 2015, roughly 13% of inmates were held for domestic violence and 10% were held for aggravated or simple assault, which was similar to 2013 and 2014. Seven percent of inmates were held for driving while intoxicated or driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Six percent of inmates were held for a drug law violation. About a fifth of offenders at midyear 2015 were held for public intoxication (17%), burglary (2%), and larceny-theft (1%). A quarter (25%) of the Indian country jail population was female, and less than a tenth (8%) were age 17 or younger. More than half (55%) of inmates in custody were convicted.

**Inmates confined in Indian country jails, midyear 2000–2004 and 2007–2015**



Note: Midyear count is the number of inmates held on the last weekday in June.

<sup>a</sup>Survey not conducted.

<sup>b</sup>Data are adjusted for nonresponse and rounded to the nearest 10.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails in Indian Country, 2000–2004 and 2007–2015.

## Indian country jail employees

Indian country jails employed an estimated 1,690 persons at midyear 2015. About 70% (or 1,200) of employees were jail operations staff, including correctional officers and others who spent more than half of their time supervising inmates. The remaining staff (490) were administrative employees; educational staff; technical or professional staff; clerical, maintenance, or food service staff; or staff performing other functions. There has been about 2 inmates to every 1 jail operations employee since 2010.

## Suicides in Indian country jails

After peaking in 2002, attempted suicides in Indian country jails have declined significantly. During the 12-month period ending June 30, 2015, 68 facilities reported a total of 53 attempted suicides. Two deaths, including one suicide, were reported during this time period.

The full report (*Jails in Indian Country, 2015*, NCJ 250117), related documents, and additional information about the Bureau of Justice Statistics can be found at [www.bjs.gov](http://www.bjs.gov).

