U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics



Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin

Prisoners in 1986

The number of prisoners under the jurisdiction of Federal and State correctional authorities at yearend 1986 reached a record 546,659. The States and the District of Columbia added 39,203 prisoners; the Federal system, 4,185. The increase for 1986 brings total growth in the prison population since 1980 to nearly 217,000 inmates—an increase of about 66% in the 6-year period (table 1).

The 1986 growth rate (8.6%) was the largest percentage increase since 1982 and nearly equals the record increase in the absolute number of additional prisoners during that year (43,876 in 1982 and 43,388 in 1986). Prisoners with sentences of more than 1 year (referred to as "sentenced prisoners") accounted for nearly 96% of the total prison population at the end of 1986, growing by 8.8% during the year (table 2). The remaining prisoners had sentences of a year or less or were unsentenced (those, for example, awaiting trial in States with combined prison-jail systems).

	Number	Annual percent	Total percent change
Year	inmates	change	since 1980
1980	329,821		
1981	369,930	12.2%	12.2%
1982	413,806	11.9	25.5
1983	437,248	5.7	32.6
1984	464,567	6.2	40.9
1985	503,271	8.3	52.6
1986	546,659	8.6	65.7

Note: All counts are for December 31 of each year and may differ from previously reported numbers because of revision.

This bulletin presents population counts for the Nation's prisons on December 31, 1986. The increase of more than 43,000 in 1 year is the second largest absolute increase recorded in the 60-year history of the National Prisoner Statistics program.

Later this year BJS will have a wealth of new information to share on those who are incarcerated in State institutions. These data, drawn from interviews in 1986 with a national sample of

The number of sentenced Federal prisoners continued to grow at a faster rate than sentenced prisoners in the States during the year (11.7% vs. 8.6%). Among the 7,877 Federal prisoners with no sentences or sentences of 1 year or less were 2,358 under the jurisdiction of the Immigration and Naturalization Service—an increase of nearly 25% in the size of this population compared to the preceding year (1,888). Nearly 92% of the total Federal increase, however, occurred among those with sentences greater than 1 year.

In seven States total prison populations decreased during 1986; however, in five of these States the decreases were small (less than 60 inmates). Only West Virginia and Washington reported declines of greater magnitude, and in both cases increases were reported in the preceding year.

Total prison populations rose most rapidly during 1986 in Nevada (19.5%), California (18.7%), Michigan and New Mexico (16.8%), and Oklahoma (15.2%). New Mexico and Maine recorded the largest percentage increases in the number of sentenced prisoners, May 1987

15,000 inmates, will permit analysts to trace the criminal careers, drug histories, and other characteristics of imprisoned offenders.

I want to express my deepest appreciation to the departments of corrections in the 50 States and the District of Columbia and to the Federal Prison System who make it possible for BJS to gather and report these data. Steven R. Schlesinger

Director

each growing by more than 20% during the year. Five additional States reported increases between 15% and 20%: California (19.6%), Nevada (19.5%), Michigan (16.8%), and Oklahoma and Delaware (each with 15.2%). During the previous year, California, Maine, and Michigan were also among the fastest growing States—all increasing the number of sentenced prisoners by at least 15% in 1985.

Rates of incarceration increase

On December 31, 1986, the number of sentenced prisoners per 100,000 residents was 216, also setting a new record. Twelve of the 18 jurisdictions equal to or greater than the national average were located in the South, 3 were in the West, 2 in the Midwest, and 1 in the Northeast.

Since 1980, the number of sentenced inmates per 100,000 residents has risen 55%, from 139 to 216. During this period, per capita incarceration rates have grown most rapidly in the West, increasing by nearly 89%, compared to 82% in the Northeast, 59% in the Midwest, and 32% in the South.

Western States grow faster than other regions

During 1986, the growth in the sentenced prisoner population in Western States (14.5%) was higher than in the other regions of the Nation: the Northeast increased 8.8%, the Midwest 7.8%, and Southern States by 6.4%. Since 1980, sentenced prison populations in Western States have more than doubled (up nearly 116%),

Table 2. Prisoners under the jurisdiction of State and Federal correctional authorities, by region and State, yearend 1985 and 1986

			. <u>.</u> . .	Sente	nced to m	ore	·····
		Tota1			han 1 year		
			Percent	·		Percent	Incar-
Region and State	Advance 1986	Final 1985	change 1985-86	Advance 1986	Final 1985	change 1985-86	ceration rate 1986*
U.S., total	546,659	503,271	8.6%	523,922	481,393	8.8%	216
Federal	44,408	40,223	10.4	36,531	32,695	11.7	15
State	502,251	463,048	8.5	487,391	448,698	8.6	201
Northeast	82,388	75,706	8.8%	79,071	72,656	8.8%	158
Connecticut	6,905	6,149	12.3	4,043	4,326	7.0	135
Maine	1,316	1,226	7.3	1,165	967	20.5	99
Massachusetts	5,678	5,390	5.3	5,678	5,390	5.3	97
New Hampshire	782	683	14.5	782	683	14.5	76
New Jersey	12,020	11,335	6.0	12,020	11,335	6.0	157
New York	38,449	34,712	10.8	38,449	34,712	10.8	216
Pennsylvania	15,201	14,227	6.8	15,165	14,119	7.4	128
Rhode Island	1,361	1,307	4.1	1,010	964	4.8	103
Vermont	676	677	-0.1	476	443	7.4	88
Midwest	103,101	95,704	7.7%	102,689	95,245	7.8%	173
Illínois	19,456	18,634	4.4	19,456	18,634	4.4	168
Indiana	10,175	9,904	2.7	9,963	9,615	3.6	181
lowa	2,777	2,832	-1.9	2,777	2,832	-1.9	98
Kansas	5,425	4,732	14.6	5,425	4,732	14.6	220
Michigan	20,742	17,755	16.8	20,742	17,755	16.8	227
Minnesota	2,462	2,343	5.1	2,462	2,343	5.1	58
Missouri	10,485	9,915	5.7	10,485	9,915	5.7	206
Nebraska	1,953	1,814	7.7	1,863	1,733	7.5	116
North Dakota	421	422	-0.2	361	375	-3.7	53
Ohio	22,463	20,864	7.7	22,463	20,864	7.7	209
South Dakota	1,045	1,047	-0.2	1,014	1,035	-2.0	143
Wisconsin	5,697	5,442	4.7	5,678	5,412	4.9	119
South	215,713	202,926	6.3%	208,374	195,868	6.4%	249
Alabama	11,710	11,015	6.3	11,504	10,749	7.0	283
Arkansas	4,701	4,611	2,0	4,701	4,611	2.0	198
Delaware	2,828	2,553	10.8	2,026	1,759	15.2	324
District of Columbia	6,746	6,404	5.3	4,786	4,604	4.0	753
Florida	32,228	28,600	12.7	32,219	28,482	13.1	272
Georgia	17,363	16,014	8.4	16,291	15,115	7.8	265
Kentucky	6,322	5,801	9.0	6,322	5,801	9.0	169
Louisiana	14,580	13,890	5.0	14,580	13,890	5.0	322
Maryland	13,326	13,005	2.5	12,559	12,303	2.1	280
Mississippi	6,747	6,392	5.6	6,565	6,208	5.8	249
North Carolina	17,762	17,344	2.4	16,460	16,007	2.8	258
Oklahoma	9,596	8,330	15.2	9,596	8,330	15.2	288
South Carolina	11,676	10,510	11.1	11,022	9,908	11.2	324
Tennessee	7,182	7,127	0.8	182	7,127	0.8	149
Texas	38,534	37,532	2.7	38,534	37,532	2.7	228
Virginia	12,930	12,073	7.1	12,545	11,717	7.1	215
West Virginia	1,482	1,725	-14,1	1,482	1,725	-14.1	77
West	101,049	88,712	13.9%	97,257	84,929	14.5%	198
Alaska	2,460	2,329	5.6	1,666	1,530	s*ð	306
Arizona	9,434	8,531	10.6	9,038	8,273	9.2	268
California	59,484	50,111	18.7	57,725	48,279	19.6	212
Colorado	3,673	3,369	9.0	3,673	3,369	9.0	111
Hawaii	2,180	2,111	3.3	1,521	1,428	6.5	142
Idaho	1,451	1,294	12.1	1,451	1,294	12.1	144
Montana	1,111	1,129	-1.6	1,111	1,129	-1.6	135
Nevada	4,505	3,771	19.5	4,505	3,771	19.5	462
New Mexico	2,701	2,313	16.8	2,545	2,112	20.5	170
Oregon	4,737	4,454	6,4	4,737	4,454	6.4	175
Utah	1,845	1,633	13.0	1,817	1,623	12.0	108
Washington	6,603	6,909	-4.4	6,603	6,909	-4.4	147
Wyoming	865	758	14.1	865	758	14.1	170

Note: Explanatory notes for each ju: isdiction are provided on pages 7-8. Prisoner counts for 1985 may differ from those reported in previous publications and are subject to revision as updated figures become available. *The number of prisoners sentenced to more than 1 year per 100,000 resident population. Population estimates are for July 1, 1986. compared to growth of 83% in the Northeast, 59% in the Midwest, and 46% in the South (table 3). Ten States have more than doubled their sentenced populations since 1980; six are in the West: Alaska (192%), California (148%), Nevada (145%), Hawaii (144%), New Mexico (112%), and Arizona (107%).

California's increase of more than 34,000 sentenced prisoners since 1980 accounts for 66% of the increase for the West and 18% of the entire national increase among the States since 1980. In 1980, 7.9% of the Nation's sentenced State prisoners were in California; in 1986, 11.8%. (For additional State comparisons see table 4.)

Female prisoner population grows at a faster pace

Women inmates numbered 26,610 among the Nation's prisoners, increasing at a faster rate during 1986 (15.1%) than males (8.3%) (table 5). The rate of incarceration for sentenced males (423 per 100,000 males in the resident population), however, was about 21 times higher than for sentenced females.

The female prison population has grown at a faster rate than the male population in each year since 1981 (table 6). The higher growth rates for women over the period 1981 to 1986 have raised the female percentage of the Nation's prison population from 4.2% in 1981 to 4.9% in 1986.

In 1986, 14 States and the Federal system had more than 500 female inmates. During the year eight of these jurisdictions reported growth in excess of 15%: Oklahoma (33.9%). New York (25.6%), Michigan (25.1%), Florida (25.0%), California (22.6%), South Carolina (20.0%), Pennsylvania (18.2%), and the Federal Prison System (17.8%).

			Percent inc	rease		
Region	0-19%	20-39%	40-59%	60-79%	80-99%	100% or more
Northeast		Vermont 39.2	Connecticut 57.3	Rhode Island 65.3 Maine 73.6 New York 77.7	Massachusetts 80.3 Pennsylvania 86.9	New Jersey 116.0 New Hampshire 139.9
Midwest	lowa 12.0	Minnesota 23.0 Nebraska 32.9 Michigan 37.1	Wisconsin 42.7 Indiana 58.6	Ohio 66.5 South Dakota 66.5	Illinois 81.4 Missouri 83.1 North Dakota 95.1	Kansas 117.5
South	Tennessee 2.3 N. Carolina 13.9 W. Virginia 17.9	Texas 28.9 Georgia 36.6	Virginia 46.2 S. Carolina 48.4 Florida 59.4 Maryland 59.8	Arkansas 61.5 Louisiana 64.0 Mississippi 73.1 Dist. of Col. 76.0 Kentucky 76.2	Alabama 80.7 Delaware 86.4	Oklahoma 100.1
West			Colorado 40.8 Oregon 49.3 Washington 50.1 Montana 50.5	Wyoming 62.0 Idaho 77.6	Utah 95.8	Arizona 107.3 New Mexico 112.3 Hawaii 143.8 Nevada 145.0 California 148.1 Alaska 191.8
Regional to	tals		Midwest 59.2 South 46.1		Northeast 83.2	West 115.9
U.S. summa	гу			Federal 77.2 Total 65.8 States 65.0		

10 States with the largest	Number	10 States with the highest	Prisoners per		ases in prison	argest percent population	
1986 prison population	of inmates	incarceration rates, 1986*	100,000 residents	1985-86	Percent increase	1980-86*	Percent increase
California	59,484	Nevada	462	Nevada	19.5%	Alaska	191.9%
Texas	38,534	Delaware	324	California	18.7	California	148.1
New York	38,449	South Carolina	324	Michigan	16.8	Nevada	145.0
Florida	32,228	Louisiana	322	New Mexico	16.8	Hawaii	143.8
Ohio	22,463	Alaska	306	Oklahoma	15.2	New Hampshire	139.9
Michigan	20,742	Oklahoma	288	Kansas	14.6	Kansas	117.5
Illinois	19,456	Alabama	283	New Hampshire	14.5	New Jersey	116.0
North Carolina	17.762	Maryland	280	Wyoming	14.1	New Mexico	112.3
Georgia	17,363	Florida	272	Utah	13.0	Arizona	107.3
Pennsylvania	15,201	Arizona	268	Florida	12.7	Oklahoma	100.1

Note: The District of Columbia as a wholly urban jurisdiction is excluded. *Prisoners with sentences of more than 1 year.

	Male	Female
Total		
Advance 1986	520,049	26,610
Final 1985	480,147	23,124
Percent change 1985-86	8.3%	15.1%
Sentenced to more		
than 1 year		
Advance 1986	499,140	24,782
Final 1985	459,934	21,459
Percent change 1985-86	8.5%	15.5%
Incarceration rate 1986*	423	20

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Table 6. Women in State and Federal insti	tutions at yearend	, 1986	
Jurisdiction	Number of women inmates	Percent of all inmates	Percent change in women inmate population, 1985-86
U. S., total	26,610	4.9%	15.1%
Federal State	2,833 23,777	6.4 4.7	17.8 14.8
States with at least 500 women inmates:			
California	3,564	6.0%	22.6%
Texas	1,758	4.6	10.3
Florida	1,630	5.1	25.0
New York	1,326	3.4	25.6
Ohio	1,213	5.4	5.2
Michigan	1,018	4.9	25.1
Georgia	947	5.5	13.7
North Carolina	827	4.7	10.7
Illinois	764	3.9	13.5
Oklahoma	679	7.1	33.9
Louisiana	637	4.4	4.4
Alabama	616	5.3	9.6
South Carolina	601	5.1	20.0
Pennsylvania	591	3.9	18.2

Nearly 14,000 in local jails because of State prison crowding

At the end of 1986, 17 States reported a total of 13,770 State prisoners held in local jails because of crowding in State facilities (table 7). Although there were two fewer States with prisoners held locally at the end of 1986 than in 1985, the number of such inmates grew by 3,627, an increase of nearly 36%. Three States—Louisiana, New Jersey and California—accounted for more than half of the Statesentenced prisoners in local jails at yearend. Five States—Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, and New Jersey—held more than 13% of their State-sentenced prisoners in local jails because of State facility crowding. Arkansas and Tennessee reported the largest percentage gains in the number of such inmates between 1985 and 1986. Overall, 2.7% of the State prison population was confined in local jails on December 31, 1986, because of prison crowding.

Table 7. Number of State prisoners held in local jails because of prison crowding, by State, yearend 1985 and 1986

		Prisoners held	i in local jails	
States housing prisoners	Num	ber	As per- all pris	cent of oners
in local jails	1985	1986	1985	1986
Total	10,143	13,770	2.2%	2.7%
Alabama	398	514	3.6	4.4
Arkansas ^a	115	458	2.5	8.9
California	1,122	1,566	2.2	2.6
Colorado ^a	245	343	6.8	8.5
Idaho	9	0	.6	0
Illinois	43	48	.2	.2
Kentucky	791	886	13.7	14.0
Louisiana	2,923	3,449	21.0	23.7
Maine	51	36	4.2	2.7
Massachusetts	2	1	_	
Mississippi	933	1,169	14.6	17.3
New Jersey ^a	1,486	2,244	11.6	13.2
South Carolina	429	451	4.1	3.9
Tennessee [®]	628	1,201	8.3	14.3
Utah	33	77	2.1	4.2
Vermont ^b	11	8	1.7	1.2
Virginia	786	1,257	6.5	9.7
Washington	49	62	.7	.9
Wisconsin	89	0	1.6	0
-Less than 0.05%. For States not including jail backups in their jurisdiction counts, the percentage of	combined	total of jail ar	vas calculated o nd prison. nates in local lo	

Estimating prison capacity

The extent of crowding in the Nation's prisons is difficult to determine precisely because of the absence of uniform measures for defining capacity. A wide variety of capacity measures are in use among the 52 reporting jurisdictions since capacity may reflect both available space to house inmates as well as the ability to staff and operate an institution. To estimate the capacity of the Nation's prisons, States were asked to supply up to three measures for yearend 1986-rated, operational, and design capacities. These measures were defined as follows:

• Rated capacity is the number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to institutions within the State.

• Operational capacity is the number of inmates that can be accommodated based on a facility's staff, existing programs, and services.

• Design capacity is the number of inmates that planners or architects intended for the facility.

Of the 52 reporting jurisdictions, 36 supplied rated capacities, 42 provided operational capacities, and 35 submitted design capacities (table 8). As a result, estimates of total capacity and measures of the relationship to population are based on the highest and lowest capacity figures provided. (Twenty-two States reported one capacity measure or gave the same figure for each capacity measure they reported.)

Jurisdiction ca Federal 27 Northeast Connecticut 4 Maine 5 Massachusetts 6 New Hampshire ^b 7 New Jersey 10 New York 37 Pennsylvania 7 Rhode Island 10 Vermont 7 Midwest 11 Indiana 6 Indiana 6 Indiana 6 Indiana 6 Indiana 7 Kansas 7 Michigan 7 Nebraska 11 North Dakota 7 North Dakota 11 North Dakota 11 North Dakota 11 North Dakota 11 North Dakota 11 South 11 Alabama 11 Arkansas 12 Delaware 11 District of Columbia 6 Florida 36 Georgia 8 Kentucky 4 Louisiana 11 Maryland 11 Mississippi 4 North Carolina 6 Tennessee 7 Texas 44 Virginia 10	ted pacity ,938 ,072 ,033 ,265 689 ,401 ,743 ,597 ,710 ,502 ,189 ,374 ,769 ,982	Operational capacity 34,890 4,968 1,033 689 11,394 39,502 1,440 597 19,705 2,702 5,015 16,784 2,495 11,588 1,513 4,71 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	Design capacity 27,938 3,781 1,033 539 9,777 35,891 11,048 1,359 547 15,943 2,633 1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	a percen Highest capacity 127% 114% 124 174 10 105 97 138 94 113 98% 113 98% 113 98% 113 98% 124 94 91 125 89 169 88 124 124 125 89 169 88 124 125 89 169 88 124 124 125 89 169 169 169 169 169 169 169 16	Lowest capacity 159% 183% 124 174 141 123 107 138 100 124 122% 117 103 155 124 99 91 129 89 169 96 124 129 89 169 96 124
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Rhode IslandIVermontMidwestIllinois19Indiana19Iowa19Kansas19Kansas19Minnesota19Missouri19Nebraska19North Dakota19Ohio19South Dakota19Alabama11Arkansas19Delaware19District of Columbia19Georgia19Kentucky19Mississippi19North Carolina10Oklahoma19South Carolina10Wisconsina10Wississippi10Waryland10Wisser Virginia10West Virginia10	,456 597 ,705 ,700 ,502 ,495 ,189 ,374 ,769	$1,440 \\ 597 \\ 19,705 \\ \\ 2,702 \\ 5,015 \\ 16,784 \\ 2,495 \\ 11,588 \\ 1,513 \\ 471 \\ \\ 1,090 \\ 4,591 \\ 10,374 \\ 4,620 \\ 2,563 \\ 6,577 \\ \end{array}$	1,359 547 15,943 2,918 2,633 1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	94 113 98% 113 95 108 124 94 91 125 89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	100 124 122% 117 103 155 124 99 91 129 89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
VermontMidwestIllinois13Indiana14Iowa14Iowa16Kansas16Minnesota17Minnesota18Missouri18Nebraska18North Dakota18Ohio10South Dakota16Alabama10Arkansas16Delaware16District of Columbia16Florida36Georgia17Kentucky18Varyland19Misissippi16Oklahoma17South Carolina16Virginia10	597 ,705 ,710 ,502 ,495 ,562 ,189 ,374 ,769	597 19,705 2,702 5,015 16,784 2,495 11,588 1,513 471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	547 15,943 2,918 2,633 1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	113 98% 113 95 108 124 94 91 125 89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	124 122% 117 103 155 124 99 91 129 89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
MidwestIllinois19Indiana19Iowa19Iowa10Kansas10Minnesota10Minnesota10Nebraska10North Dakota10Ohio10South Dakota10Alabama10Arkansas10District of Columbia10Florida33Georgia11Maryland11Mississippi12North Carolina10South Carolina10Tennessee10Texas44Virginia10West Virginia ^b 10	,705 ,710 ,502 ,495 ,562 ,189 ,374 ,769	19,705 2,702 5,015 16,784 2,495 11,588 1,513 471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	15,943 2,918 2,633 1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	98% 113 95 108 124 94 91 125 89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	122% 117 103 155 124 99 91 129 89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
Illinois19Indiana8Iowa8Iowa8Kansas3Michigan9Minnesota3Missouri9Nebraska10North Dakota9Ohio9South Dakota10Alabama10Arkansas9Delaware34District of Columbia4Florida34Georgia4Kentucky4Louisiana13Maryland4North Carolina9Oklahoma10Tennessee7Texas44Virginia10West Virginia ^b 34	,710 ,502 ,495 ,562 ,189 ,374 ,769	2,702 5,015 16,784 2,495 11,588 1,513 471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	2,918 2,633 1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	113 95 108 124 94 91 125 89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	117 103 155 124 99 91 129 89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
Indiana a la lowa lowa lowa lowa lowa lowa low	,710 ,502 ,495 ,562 ,189 ,374 ,769	2,702 5,015 16,784 2,495 11,588 1,513 471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	2,918 2,633 1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	113 95 108 124 94 91 125 89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	117 103 155 124 99 91 129 89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
lowa Kansas 3 Michigan Minnesota 3 Missouri 2 Nebraska 1 North Dakota 3 South Dakota 3 Wisconsin 3 South 4 Alabama 11 Arkansas 2 Delaware 2 District of Columbia 4 Florida 33 Georgia 4 Kentucky 4 Louisiana 11 Maryland 3 Mississippi 5 North Carolina 5 South Carolina 5 South Carolina 5 Tennessee 7 Texas 44 Virginia 10	,502 ,495 ,562 ,189 ,189 ,374 ,769	2,702 5,015 16,784 2,495 11,588 1,513 471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	2,918 2,633 1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	95 108 124 91 125 89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	103 155 124 99 91 129 89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
Kansas 3 Michigan 4 Minnesota 3 Missouri 7 Nebraska 1 North Dakota 7 South Dakota 3 Wisconsin 7 South 4 Alabama 1 Arkansas 1 Delaware 0 District of Columbia 4 Florida 34 Georgia 4 Kentucky 4 Louisiana 1 Maryland 7 Mississippi 4 North Carolina 9 North Carolina 9 South Carolina 4 Tennessee 7 Texas 44 Virginia 10	,502 ,495 ,562 ,189 ,189 ,374 ,769	2,702 5,015 16,784 2,495 11,588 1,513 471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	2,633 1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	108 124 94 91 125 89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	155 124 99 91 129 89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
MichiganMinnesotaSissouriNebraskaDNorth DakotaDOhioSouth DakotaSouthSouthAlabaraDArkansasDelawareDistrict of ColumbiaGeorgiaKentuckySouth CarolinaMississippiSouth CarolinaOklahomaSouth CarolinaOklahomaSouth CarolinaOklahomaSouth CarolinaYerginiaMKentuckySouth CarolinaOklahomaSouth CarolinaSouth CarolinaSouth CarolinaKennesseeSouth CarolinaKenyiniaM<	,495 ,562 ,189 ,374 ,769	16,784 2,495 11,588 1,513 471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	2,633 1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	124 94 91 125 89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	124 99 91 129 89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
MichiganMinnesota2Missouri2Nebraska1North Dakota2Ohio3South Dakota2Alabama10Arkansas10Delaware34Georgia34Kentucky4Louisiana12Maryland34Oklahoma5South Carolina6Tennessee7Texas44Virginia10West Virginia ^b 34	,495 ,562 ,189 ,374 ,769	16,784 2,495 11,588 1,513 471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	2,633 1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	94 91 125 89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	99 91 129 89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
Minnesota2MissouriNissouriNebraska1North Dakota1South Dakota1South Dakota1Alabama10Alabama10Arkansas1Delaware1District of Columbia6Florida33Georgia1Kentucky4Louisiana1Maryland5North Carolina6South Carolina6Tennessee7Texas44Virginia10West Virginia ^b 10	,562 ,189 ,374 ,769	2,495 11,588 1,513 471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	2,633 1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	91 125 89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	91 129 89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
Missouri Nebraska 1 North Dakota 1 South Dakota 1 Wisconsin 1 South 1 Alabama 1 Arkansas 1 District of Columbia 6 Florida 3 Georgia 4 Kentucky 4 Louisiana 1 Maryland 1 Mississippi 5 North Carolina 5 South Carolina 5 Tennessee 7 Texas 44 Virginia 10	,562 ,189 ,374 ,769	11,588 1,513 471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	125 89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	129 89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
North Dakota Ohio South Dakota : Wisconsin South Alabama 10 Arkansas Delaware District of Columbia 6 Florida 36 Georgia Kentucky 4 Louisiana 11 Maryland Mississippi 6 North Carolina Oklahoma 5 South Carolina 6 Tennessee 7 Texas 40 Virginia 10	,562 ,189 ,374 ,769	1,513 471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	1,542 471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	89 169 88 124 108% 102 110	89 169 96 124 108% 102 118
North Dakota Ohio South Dakota : Wisconsin South Alabama 10 Arkansas Delaware District of Columbia 6 Florida 36 Georgia Kentucky 4 Louisiana 11 Maryland Mississippi 6 North Carolina 6 Oklahoma 7 South Carolina 6 Tennessee 7 Texas 40 Virginia 10	,189 ,374 	471 1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	471 13,282 1,189 10,374 2,404	169 88 124 108% 102 110	169 96 124 108% 102 118
Ohio South Dakota Wisconsin South Alabama 10 Arkansas Delaware District of Columbia 6 Florida 33 Georgia 33 Georgia 4 Kentucky 4 Louisiana 13 Maryland 3 Mississippi 5 North Carolina 5 South Carolina 5 South Carolina 5 Tennessee 7 Texas 44 Virginia 10	,189 ,374 ,769	1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	1,189 10,374 2,404	88 124 108% 102 110	96 124 108% 102 118
WisconsinSouthAlabamaArkansasDelawareDistrict of ColumbiaBistrict of ColumbiaGeorgiaKentuckyKentuckyMississippiNorth CarolinaOklahomaSouth CarolinaTenasseeTexasYirginiaWest Virginia ^b	,374 ,769	1,090 4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	1,189 10,374 2,404	124 108% 102 110	124 108% 102 118
WisconsinSouthAlabamaArkansasDelawareDistrict of ColumbiaBistrict of ColumbiaGeorgiaKentuckyKentuckyMarylandMississippiNorth CarolinaOklahomaSouth CarolinaTennesseeTexasAliVirginiaMest Virginia	,374 ,769	4,591 10,374 4,620 2,563 6,577	 10,374 2,404	124 108% 102 110	124 108% 102 118
Alabama11ArkansasDelawareDistrict of Columbia26Florida36Georgia26Kentucky26Louisiana11Maryland26Mississippi26North Carolina26Oklahoma27South Carolina26Tennessee27Texas44Virginia10West Virginia ^b 27	,769	4,620 2,563 6,577	2,404	102 110	102 118
Alabama11ArkansasDelawareDistrict of Columbia26Florida36Georgia26Kentucky26Louisiana11Maryland26Mississippi26North Carolina26Oklahoma27South Carolina26Tennessee27Texas44Virginia10West Virginia ^b 27	,769	4,620 2,563 6,577	2,404	102 110	102 118
ArkansasDelawareDistrict of ColumbiaFloridaGeorgiaKentuckyLouisianaMarylandMississippiNorth CarolinaOklahomaOklahomaSouth CarolinaTennesseeTexasYirginiaWest Virginia ^b	,769	4,620 2,563 6,577	2,404	102 110	102 118
Delaware District of Columbia de Florida 34 Georgia 4 Kentucky 4 Louisiana 13 Maryland 5 Mississippi 4 North Carolina 5 South Carolina 9 Tennessee 7 Texas 44 Virginia 10 West Virginia ^b	 ,769	2,563 6,577	2,404	110	118
District of Columbia de Florida 34 Georgia Kentucky 4 Louisiana 13 Maryland 5 Mississippi 6 North Carolina 6 South Carolina 6 Tennessee 7 Texas 44 Virginia 10 West Virginia 6	,769	6,577			
Florida33GeorgiaKentuckyKentucky4Louisiana13Maryland13Mississippi5North Carolina14Oklahoma15South Carolina16Tennessee7Texas44Virginia10West Virginia ^b 10				100	103
Georgia Kentucky 4 Louisiana 1 Maryland 3 North Carolina 3 Oklahoma 5 South Carolina 4 Tennessee 7 Texas 44 Virginia 10 West Virginia 5		32,290	25,561	90	126
Kentucky Louisiana 1: Maryland Mississippi & North Carolina Oklahoma : South Carolina : Tennessee : Texas 4i Virginia 10 West Virginia ^b	•	16,323		106	106
Louisiana 1: Maryland Mississippi S North Carolina South Carolina	,921	5,327	•••	101	107
Maryland Mississippi & North Carolina Oklahoma & South Carolina & Tennessee & Texas & Virginia 10 West Virginia &	•		11,080	100	100
Mississippi S North Carolina Oklahoma South Carolina S Tennessee 7 Texas 40 Virginia 10 West Virginia	,080	11,080		98	
North Carolina Oklahoma South Carolina Tennessee Texas 40 Virginia West Virginia ^b	070	13,646	9,544	95	140 95
Oklahoma South Carolina Tennessee Texas Virginia West Virginia ^b	,878	•••	10 575		
South Carolina Tennessee Texas 44 Virginia 14 West Virginia ^b			16,575	107	107
Tennessee Texas 40 Virginia 10 West Virginia ^b	,642	7,260	0 1 6 9	126 122	132
Texas 40 Virginia 10 West Virginia ^b	,212	9,212	8,163		138
Virginia 10 West Virginia ^b	,801	10 070	***	92	92
West Virginia ^D	,392	38,373	40,392	95	100
	,159	10,159	9,753	115	120
	,547	1,640	1,547	86	91
West Alaska	,336			105%	1050
	•	0 011	•••		105%
Arizona California	···	9,911	20 050	95	95
	,853	53,887	32,853	107	176
	,760	3,760	1 050	98	98
	,252	1 470	1,252	174	174
	,149	1,470	1,149	99	126
Montana	936	1,190	936	93	119
Nevada		•••	3,911	115	115
	,363	2,593	2,363	104	114
Oregon	•••	4,057	2,815	117	168
	,805	1,805	1,537	98	115
		6,040	5,324	108	123
Wyoming	,324	950	•••	91	91

		Popu	lation as a	percent of:	*		1985-86 i	ncrease in:
	Hig	hest capa	eity	Low	est capac	ity	Highest	Lowest
	1984	1985	1986	1984	1985	1986	capacity	capacity
U.S., total	104%	106%	108%	117%	121%	126%	31,963	23,605
Federal prisons	110	123	127	137	154	159	2,305	1,807
State prisons	105	105	106	116	119	124	29,658	21,798

Note: States were asked to report their rated, operational, and design capacities. Tabulations reflect the highest and lowest of the three capacities reported for 1984, 1985, and 1986. *Excludes State-sentenced inmates held in local jails due to crowding where they have been included in the total prisoner count.

Most jurisdictions are operating above reported capacity

Generally, prisons require reserve capacity in order to operate efficiently. Prison dormitories and cells need to be maintained and repaired periodically, special housing space is needed to accommodate protective custody and disciplinary cases, and space may be needed to cope with emergencies. At the end of 1986, 10 States reported that they were operating below 95% of their highest capacity. Forty-one jurisdictions and the Federal Prison System reported operating at approximately 100% or more of their lowest capacity: 32 of these held populations that met or exceeded their highest capacities. Three States exceeded their highest capacity by more than 50%.

Overall, State prisons are estimated to be operating at approximately 106% of their highest reported capacities and at 124% of their lowest capacities (table 9). The Federal system is estimated to be operating between 27% and 59% above capacity.

Between 1985 and 1986, State and Federal prison capacities are estimated to have increased by approximately 24,000-32,000 beds (based on the lowest and highest capacities in table 9). During the same period, prison populations grew by more than 41,000 (excluding locally held but State-sentenced prisoners). At the end of 1986 the total capacity of State and Federal prisons was estimated to be between 433,700 inmates and 497,539 inmates. Approximately 7% of the available capacity at the end of 1986 was maintained by the Federal government, while about 8% of the Nation's inmates resided in Federal facilities.

Jurisdictions have employed many methods to alleviate crowding. Construction of permanent and temporary facilities, backups in local jails, doublebunking, intensive community supervision programs, accelerated parole release, and sentence rollbacks have all been used to make room for new inmates.

Crime and prison population growth

There is some evidence that during the 1980-85 period changes have occurred in criminal justice policies that have increased a criminal's probability of being incarcerated from levels existing during the previous decade. Murder, nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, and burglary are among the most serious crimes and account for approximately 60% of prison commitments from the courts. In 1960 there were 62 prison commitments for every 1,000 of these crimes reported to the police (table 10). During the rest of the decade this ratio steadily declined, reaching 23 in 1970, and was relatively stable during the 1970's. Between 1980 and 1985, the ratio increased about 68%, from 25 commitments per 1,000 reported crimes to 42.

Similarly, between 1960 and 1970 the ratio of prison commitments to adult arrests for the same crimes declined from 299 per 1,000 to 170. This ratio was relatively stable during the rest of the 1970's, but it increased by 36% between 1980 and 1985, from 196 commitments per 1,000 adult arrests to 266. (See "Methodological note" for more detail on these data.)

Admissions-to-crime ratios for individual States provide an alternative measure of prison use to populationbased rates. Population-based incarceration rates take into account the number of sentenced prisoners and the size of the resident population in a

	Commitment selected serious	s to prison per 1,000 adult arrests for same
Year	offenses	offenses
1960	62	299
1965	45	261
1970	23	170
1975	26	185
1980	25	196
1981	29	214
1982	35	219
1983	39	247
1984	39	246
1985	42	266
negligent		clude murder, non- ccible rape, robbery, glary. Data for
crimes re	ported to the poli	ce and adult arrests u of Investigation,

admitted from sentencing courts. The data on

which this table is based are presented in the

Methodology,

jurisdiction. The crime-based rate measures entry into prison relative to the magnitude of the crime problem during a year. Between 1980 and 1985, commitments to State prisons grew by 30% relative to population but by 68% relative to crime (table 11). In five

Table 11. State prison admissions relative to selected serious offenses and the adult population, by State, 1980 and 1985

and the adult population, b	y State, 198	0 800 1965				
		dmissions po selected of	•		dmissions)0,000 adu	•
Deview and State	1000	1095	Percent change	1000	1005	Percent change
Region and State	1980	1985	1980-85	1980	1985	1980-85
U.S., total	25	42	68%	80	104	30%
Northeast	15	32	113%	48	69	44%
Connecticut	37	47	27	105	95	-10
Maine	28	33	18	54	48	-11
Massachusetts	8	19	138	26	41	58
New Hampshire	14	28	100	30	34	13
New Jersey	14	33	136	49	71	45
New York	13	32	146	56	93	66
Pennsylvania	17	32	88	33 ·	45	36
Rhode Island	12	21	75	35	43	23
Vermont	32	52	63	77	78	1
Midwest	28	40	43%	71	84	18%
Illinois	32	35	*	78	88	13
Indiana	37	61	65	88	104	18
lowa	28	45	61	50	69	38
Kansas	26	43	65	69	83	20
Michigan	20	25	25	67	77	15
Minnesota	12	23	92	25	41	64
Missouri	24	42	75	74	92	24
Nebraska	35	39	11	56	53	-5
North Dakota	47	66	40	36	44	22
Ohio	45	59	31	97	110	13
South Dakota	61	113	85	71	109	54
Wisconsin	26	41	58	46	56	22
South	38	54	42%	116	142	22%
Alabama	49	69	41	138	142	3
Arkansas	50	55	10	104	98	-6
Delaware	30	71	137	88	145	65
District of Columbia	36	82	128	213	336	58
Florida	24	43	79	109	165	51
Georgia	49	71	45	156	182	17
Kentucky	47	51	9	86	76	12
Louisiana	31	39	26	100	113	13
Maryland	30	40	33	107	108	1
Mississippi	43	69	60	97	127	31
North Carolina	61	84	38	158	177	12
Oklahoma	38	60	58	111	168	51
South Carolina	47	59	26	153	155	1
Tennessee	33	45	36	89	100	12
Texas	38	49	29	129	160	24
Virginia	36	67	86	75	98	31
West Virginia	30	54	80	38	58	53
West	17	33	94%	66	103	56%
Alaska	42	89	112	115	235	104
Arizona	24	41	71	97	140	44
California	15	32	113	66	107	62
Colorado	16	27	69	55	82	49
Hawaii	9	26	189	28	49	75
Idaho	34	53	56	78	89	14
Montana	34	44	29	55	64	16
Nevada	26	63	142	136	206	51
New Mexico	17	38	124	53	137	158
Oregon	27	33	22	83	108	30
Utah	15	26	73	39	51	31
Washington	14	19	36	46	58	26
Wyoming	38	74	95	71	102	44
		• 7		·		17

Note: Frison admissions refer to the number of prisoners received from courts with sentences of more than 1 year. Selected offenses are murder, nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, and burglary. Adults are the resident population age 18 and older. *Offense figures for Illinois for 1985 may

*Offense figures for Illinois for 1985 may not be comparable to previous years.

Sources: National Prisoner Statistics; Uniform Crime Reports; Bureau of the Census estimates of population. States—Arkansas, Connecticut, Kentucky, Maine, and Nebraska—the number of commitments to prison per 100,000 adult residents declined between 1980 and 1985. In all five, however, the ratio of prison commitments to reported crimes increased during these years. Thus, these States were sending fewer persons to prison per adult resident in 1985 than in 1980 but more persons to prison per reported crime.

Methodological note

This bulletin is based upon an advance count of prisoners conducted immediately after a calendar year ends. A detailed, final count of prisoners and prisoner movements is published at a later time.

The data used to compute the rates in table 10 are presented in the accompanying appendix table.

Explanatory notes

Alabama. Reported capacity figures exclude community programs.

Alaska. In this State prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include, therefore, both jail and prison populations. Rated capacity excludes 300 additional beds under contract for Alaska.

Arkansas. Population counts for male inmates with with more than a 1-year maximum sentence include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year or less. The male population counts exclude 458 inmates housed in local jails due to overcrowding, 450 awaiting pickup, and 8 awaiting release. The Arkansas Department of Corrections has one type of capacity, which is set by the Board of Corrections. This capacity is reported in operational capacity.

California. Population counts are based on custody data. California uses jails and work furlough facilities to house inmates due to prison crowding. Inmates in both types of facilities are included in the counts of prisoners housed in local jails because of State prison crowding.

Colorado. Population counts for inmates with more than a 1-year maximum sentence include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year or less. Population counts exclude 343 male inmates housed in local jails awaiting pickup. Capacity figures include 350 spaces in community cen-

Year	Number of court commitments to prison for any offense	Number of selected serious offenses reported to the police	Estimated number of adult arrests for same offenses
10	74,852	1,200,560	250,466
55	74,724	1,669,890	286,685
70	67,304	2,943,820	395,678
5	112,803	4,278,380	609,764
0.	130,323	5,139,720	666,063
81	149,186	5,141,520	697,409
82	164,648	4,769,490	752,873
83	173,289	4,387,990	702,662
984	166,927	4,257,680	677,275
L985	183,131	4,400,740	688,864

Note: The number of court commitments to prison is based upon the total number of entries from sentencing courts with sentences greater than 1 year. The number of reported offenses is derived from annual publications from the FBI on the number of murders, nonnegligent manslaughters, forcible rapes, robberies, aggravated assaults, and burglaries reported to police agencies. The estimated number of adult arrests for these crimes is derived by multiplying the estimated total number of arrests by the percentage of known arrests age 18 and older, as reported annually

ters not exclusively designated as male or female.

Connecticut. In this State prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include, therefore, both jail and prison populations.

Delaware. In this State prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include, therefore, both jail and prison populations. Population counts for Delaware are estimates believed to be within .07% of a complete enumeration.

District of Columbia. Population counts are based on custody data. Those inmates housed in Federal Bureau of Prison's facilities as a result of crowding are not included. In the District of Columbia prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include, therefore, both jail and prison populations. The capacity figures include 263 male and 22 female contract spaces.

Federal. Population counts for unsentenced inmates include 2,345 males and 13 females who come under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. Capacity figures apply to Bureau of Prisons institutions only and do not include capacity provided by contract facilities.

Florida. Population counts are based on custody data.

Georgia. Population counts are based

by the FBI. For 1960 and 1965, estimates of adult arrests were based on FBI data for total known arrests for those years and were weighted for reporting coverage (see <u>Crime in the U.S.</u>, <u>1970</u>, tables 24-25). By year, the percentage of adult arrests among all arrests for these crimes was:

on custody data. Inmates housed in local jails awaiting pickup are not included in the jurisdiction population until they enter a State prison, according to department policy.

Hawaii. In this State prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include, therefore, both jail and prison populations.

Iowa. Population counts are based on custody data.

Kansas. For rated capacity Kansas reported optimum management capacity, which is the largest number of inmates that can be accommodated and still maintain a desirable level of management and control. For operational capacity Kansas reported maximum capacity, which is the largest number of inmates that can be physically housed without using nonhousing areas such as hallways, recreation areas, infirmary, and segregation space.

Maine. Population totals are actual counts; the breakdowns for sentence length are estimates believed to be within 3% of the actual figures.

Maryland. Population totals are actual manual counts; the breakdowns for sentence length are estimates.

Massachusetts. Population counts for inmates with more than a 1-year maximum sentence include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year or less. By law, offenders in Massachusetts may be sentenced to terms of up to 2 1/2 years in locally operated jails and correctional institutions. Such populations are excluded from the State count but are included in the published population counts and rates for local jails and correctional institutions.

Michigan. Population counts only include inmates in Michigan's custody and inmates in the Community Residential Program. Capacity figures exclude the capacities of prerelease centers and halfway houses.

Nevada. For design capacity Nevada reported its "critical operational capacity."

New Hampshire. New Hampshire has no facility to house female inmates. Thus, all females are housed in county, Federal, or other States' facilities.

New Jersey. Population counts exclude 1,825 of the 2,162 male and 82 female inmates housed in local jails because of overcrowding. Capacity figures include 480 bedspaces in county facilities under County Contract and County Assistance programs.

New York. Rated capacity figures exclude 1,759 temporary housing units. Design capacity figures exclude 1,759 temporary housing units, 1,153 disciplinary units, and 699 infirmary units.

North Carolina. Population totals are actual counts; the breakdowns for sentence length are estimates believed to be accurate within 1% of the actual counts.

Ohio. Population counts for inmates with more than a 1-year maximum sentence include an undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year or less.

Oklahoma. Population counts for inmates with more than a 1-year maximum sentence may include a small undetermined number of inmates with a sentence of 1 year.

Oregon. Oregon revised the June 30, 1986, count for inmates with more than a 1-year maximum sentence. Population counts are for all inmates in Oregon's jurisdiction including those out to hospitals, to court, and on furlough. Capacity figures for this State exclude 275 male and 4 female "special purpose" beds. For operational capacity Oregon reported figures for actual bed occupancy count as of December 31, 1986. Rhode Island. Rhode Island revised the June 30, 1986, counts for male inmates with more than a 1-year maximum sentence and for unsentenced male inmates. In this State prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include, therefore, both jail and prison populations.

Tennessee. Population counts are based on custody data. Population counts exclude 1,201 inmates housed in local jails because of State prison crowding.

Texas. Population counts are based on custody data.

Vermont. In this State prisons and jails form one integrated system. All NPS data include, therefore, both jail and prison populations. The count for inmates in local jails because of State prison crowding include eight male inmates housed in local lockups.

Washington. Capacity figures exclude space in work release facilities, which housed 540 male and 32 female inmates on December 31, 1986.

West Virginia. The female population counts are based on custody data. The male jurisdiction count excludes an undetermined number of inmates housed in local jails awaiting pickup.

Wyoming. Jurisdiction population count is an estimate believed to be within 3% of the actual count. The male operational capacity figure is absolute total bedspace and includes 60 bedspaces in community centers not exclusively designated as male or female. Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletins are prepared principally by BJS staff. This bulletin was written by Lawrence A. Greenfeld, corrections unit chief, and was edited by Frank D. Balog. Statistical assistance was provided by Sophie Bowen. Marilyn Marbrook, publications unit chief, administered production, assisted by Betty Sherman, Jeanne Harris, Millie Baldea, and Arlene F. James. Data collection was supervised by Gregory Wells of the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

May 1987, NCJ-104864

The Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, coordinates the criminal and juvenile justice activities of the following program Offices and Bureaus: the Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Institute of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office of Victims of Crime.

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