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Jail Inmates in 2020 – Statistical Tables

Todd D. Minton and Zhen Zeng, Ph.D., BJS Statisticians

he number of inmates in local jails across the United States decreased 25% from midyear 2019 (734,500) to midyear 2020 (549,100), after a 10-year period of relative stability (**figure 1; table 1**). About 167 inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents were incarcerated in local jails at midyear 2020, down from 224 per 100,000 in 2019.

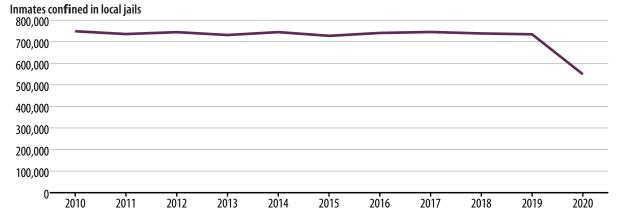
The number of persons admitted to local jails also decreased from 2019 to 2020, from 10.3 million to 8.7 million. This 16% decline was more than six times the 2.5% decrease in jail admissions each year from 2010 to 2019. The large declines in jail admissions and midyear populations from 2019 to 2020

can be attributed mainly to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹

Findings in this report are based on the 2010–2018 and 2020 Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) and the 2019 Census of Jails (COJ). Additional data on staffing was drawn from the 2013 COJ. The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) periodically conducts the COJ, a complete enumeration of local jail facilities. In the years between the COJ, BJS conducts the ASJ, a national survey administered to a sample of approximately 900 jail jurisdictions, to provide national statistics on the number and characteristics of local jails. See *Methodology* for the ASJ sample design.

¹For more information, see *Impact of COVID-19 on the Local Jail Population, January–June 2020* (NCJ 255888, BJS, March 2021) at https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/icljpjj20.pdf.

FIGURE 1
Number of inmates confined in local jails at midyear, 2010–2020



Note: See table 1 for counts and appendix table 1 for standard errors. Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.



TABLE 1
Inmates confined at midyear, average daily population, annual admissions, and incarceration rates, 2010–2020

Year	Confined inmatesa	Average daily populationb	Annual admissions ^c	Jail incarceration rated
2010	748,700 †	748,600 †	12,900,000 †	242 †
2011	735,600 †	735,600 †	11,800,000 †	236 †
2012	744,500 †	737,400 †	11,600,000 †	237 †
2013	731,200 †	731,400 †	11,700,000 †	231 †
2014	744,600 †	739,000 †	11,400,000 †	234 †
2015	727,400 †	719,500 †	10,700,000 †	227 †
2016	740,700 †	731,300 †	10,600,000 †	229 †
2017	745,200 †	745,600 †	10,600,000 †	229 †
2018	738,400 †	737,900 †	10,700,000 †	226 †
2019	734,500 †	741,900 †	10,300,000 †	224 †
2020*	549,100	658,100	8,700,000	167
Average annual percen	t change			
2010-2019	-0.2%	-0.1%	-2.5%	-0.9%
Percent change				
2019-2020	-25.2%	-11.3%	-16.2%	-25.5%

Note: Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for confined inmates and for average daily population (ADP) and to the nearest 100,000 for annual admissions. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 1 for standard errors. *Comparison year.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2018 and 2020, and Census of Jails, 2019; and U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: January 1, 2010 to January 1, 2021.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

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

^bThe ADP is the sum of all inmates in jail each day for 1 year, divided by the number of days in the year. The ADP for 2015 and 2016 was calculated for the calendar year ending on December 31. The ADP for all other years was calculated for the 12-month period ending on June 30.

^cAnnual admissions from 2010 to 2014 were estimated based on admissions during a 1-week period in June. The 2015 and 2016 annual admissions were for the calendar year ending on December 31. The 2017 to 2020 annual admissions were for the 12-month period ending on June 30.

dNumber of confined inmates in local jails at midyear per 100,000 U.S. residents.

Key findings

Demographic characteristics of local jail inmates

- After increasing an average of 2% per year from 2010 to 2019, the number of females confined in local jails decreased 37% from midyear 2019 to midyear 2020 (table 2). The number of males declined 23% during this same period.
- The number of juveniles held in local jails declined 21% from midyear 2019 (2,900) to midyear 2020 (2,300) (table 2). The number held at midyear 2020 was the lowest since midyear 2010.²
- From 2019 to 2020, the number of white inmates dropped from 362,900 to 262,100 (down 28%), while the number of black inmates dropped from 247,100 to 192,600 (down 22%) (table 2).
- At midyear 2020, about 48% of inmates held in local jails were white, 35% were black, and 15% were Hispanic. American Indians or Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; and persons of two or more races accounted for 2% of the total jail population (table 3).
- At midyear 2020, inmates ages 18 to 34 accounted for 53% of the jail population, while inmates age 55 or older made up 7% (table 3).

Jail incarceration rate

- After declining at an average rate of nearly 1% annually from 2010 to 2019, the jail incarceration rate dropped 26% from 2019 (224 per 100,000 U.S. residents) to 2020 (167 per 100,000 U.S. residents) (table 4).
- From 2019 to 2020, the jail incarceration rate declined 37% for females and 23% for males (table 4).
- Males were incarcerated at a rate (295 per 100,000 male U.S. residents) more than seven times the rate for females (42 per 100,000 female U.S. residents) at midyear 2020 (table 4).
- At midyear 2020, persons ages 25 to 34 (421 per 100,000 U.S. residents in this age group) were incarcerated at a higher rate than persons ages 35 to 44 (337 per 100,000) and persons ages 18 to 24 (329 per 100,000) (table 4).

■ Black U.S. residents (465 per 100,000 persons) were incarcerated at 3.5 times the rate of white U.S. residents (133 per 100,000 persons) at midyear 2020. This marked a decrease from midyear 2010, when the rate for black residents (745 per 100,000) was 4.5 times that of white residents (167 per 100,000) (table 4).

Conviction status and offense severity of local jail inmates

- Between midyear 2019 and midyear 2020, the convicted population (down 34%) in local jail declined more than the unconvicted population (down 21%) (table 5).
- From 2019 to 2020, the number of inmates held for felony offenses declined 18% (down 92,700 inmates), while those held for misdemeanor offenses declined 45% (down 76,300 inmates) (table 5).³
- At midyear 2020, 77% of all local jail inmates were held for felony offenses and 17% were held for misdemeanor offenses (table 6). The remaining 6% were held for civil infractions or unknown offenses.
- The number of probation violators declined 25% from 2019 to 2020. Similar to midyear 2019, probation violators accounted for 13% of all inmates at midyear 2020 (table 7).

Jail inmates held for federal, state, or tribal authorities

- A total of 107,100 jail inmates were held for federal, state, or tribal government authorities at midyear 2020 (table 8).
 The majority (59%) were held for state prison authorities.
- About 20% of all jail inmates were held for federal, state, or tribal government authorities at midyear 2020, an increase from 16% at midyear 2019 (table 8).
- Jail inmates held for state prison authorities declined 12,300 (down 16%) from 2015 to 2019, but remained stable from 2019 to 2020 (table 8).
- The number of local jail inmates held for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement declined 46% between midyear 2019 (17,300) and midyear 2020 (9,300) (table 8).

²For counts of juveniles held in local jails for midyear 2011 through midyear 2014, see *Jail Inmates in 2017* (NCJ 251774, BJS, April 2019) available at https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/ji17.pdf.

³For inmates held for multiple offenses, classification was based on the most serious offense, i.e., the offense that carries the longest sentence, regardless of conviction status.

Jail size distribution

- Jail jurisdictions holding fewer than 100 inmates accounted for more than half (56%) of the 2,843 jail jurisdictions in the United States and held 9% of the total average daily population (ADP) from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 (table 9).
- Jail jurisdictions holding 1,000 or more inmates accounted for 4% of all jail jurisdictions in the United States and held 38% of the total ADP from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 (table 9).
- The median ADP of local jails from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 was 75 inmates, while the mean ADP was 231 inmates (table 9).

Capacity and occupancy rate of local jails

- The rated capacity in local jails remained relatively stable between midyear 2019 (907,700 beds) and midyear 2020 (913,700 beds) (table 10).
- As a result of the 25% decrease in the jail population between midyear 2019 and midyear 2020, 4 in 10 jail beds were unoccupied at midyear 2020 (table 10).
- Seven percent of all jail jurisdictions were operating above their rated capacity at midyear 2020, a decrease from 15% at midyear 2019 (table 10).
- At midyear 2020, 6 in 10 beds in jail jurisdictions holding fewer than 50 inmates were unoccupied, compared to 4 in 10 beds in jail jurisdictions holding 50 or more inmates (table 11).
- No jail jurisdictions holding 2,500 or more inmates reported being over capacity at midyear 2020, compared to about 10% of jails holding 50 to 999 inmates (table 11).

Turnover rate and average time in jail

- The weekly inmate turnover rate in jails nationwide was 50% in 2020, a decline from 53% in 2019 and 65% in 2010 (table 12).
- The average amount of time an inmate spent in jail (time in custody from admission to release) increased by nearly 2 days between June 2019 (26 days) and June 2020 (28 days) (table 12).

- Jail jurisdictions with an ADP of fewer than 50 inmates experienced the highest inmate turnover rate (114%), more than three times the rate of jail jurisdictions holding 2,500 or more inmates (36%) in 2020 (table 13).
- In 2020, the average length of stay of jail inmates was three times as long in jail jurisdictions with an ADP of 2,500 or more (39 days) as in jail jurisdictions with an ADP of fewer than 50 inmates (12 days) (table 13).

Unconfined persons under jail supervision and weekenders

- While the confinement population declined between midyear 2019 and midyear 2020, the number of persons under jail supervision in a program outside of a jail facility increased by 11,400 (29%) (table 14).
- The percentage of jail jurisdictions supervising persons outside of a jail facility increased from 15% of all jails at midyear 2019 to about 19% at midyear 2020 (not shown in tables).
- About 2,200 persons served weekend-only sentences on the weekend before the last weekday in June 2020, a decline of 66% from the weekend before the last weekday in June 2019 (6,500) (table 15).

Correctional staff employed in local jails

- Local jails employed 233,200 staff (including 184,900 correctional officers) at midyear 2020, similar to the number at midyear 2019 (table 16).
- Due to relative stability in the number of correctional officers and recent declines in inmate populations, the inmate-to-correctional-officer ratio declined from about 4 to 1 each year from 2013 to 2019, to 3 to 1 at midyear 2020 (table 16).
- In 2020, males accounted for about 6 in 10 of all jail staff and 7 in 10 correctional officers (table 16).
- Each year between 2013 and 2020, about 8 in 10 staff employed in local jails were correctional officers (table 17).

Terms and definitions

Admissions—All persons booked into and housed in jail facilities by formal legal document and the authority of the courts or some other official agency, including repeat offenders booked on new charges and persons sentenced to weekend programs or entering the facility for the first time. They exclude inmates reentering the facility after an escape, work release, medical appointment, a stay in a treatment facility, and a bail or court appearance.

Average annual percent change—The compound annual growth rate, calculated by taking the log of the ratio of current year population to base year population, divided by elapsed time in years, and multiplied by 100.

Average daily population (ADP)—The total number of inmates in jail each day for a year, divided by the number of days in the year.

Estimated average time in jail—Calculated by dividing the ADP by the number of annual admissions, then multiplying the product by the number of days in a year.

In custody—In the physical custody of local jails, regardless of conviction status or which authority has jurisdiction over the inmate.

Jail—A confinement facility generally operated under the authority of a sheriff, police chief, or county or city administrator. A small number of jails are privately operated. Regional jails include two or more jail jurisdictions with a formal agreement to operate a jail facility. Facilities include jails, detention centers, county or city correctional centers, special jail facilities (such as medical or treatment centers and prerelease centers), and temporary holding or lockup facilities that are part of the jail's combined function. Jails are intended for adults but can hold juveniles before or after their cases are adjudicated.

Jails—

- hold inmates who are sentenced to jail facilities and usually have a sentence of 1 year or less
- receive individuals pending arraignment and hold them as they await trial, conviction, or sentencing
- readmit probation, parole, and bail bond violators and absconders
- detain juveniles pending their transfer to juvenile authorities
- hold mentally ill persons pending their movement to appropriate mental health facilities
- hold individuals for the military, for protective custody, as witnesses for courts, and for contempt of court
- release convicted inmates to the community on completion of sentence
- transfer inmates to federal, state, or other authorities

- house inmates for federal, state, or other authorities due to crowding of their facilities
- operate community-based programs as alternatives to incarceration.

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

Jail jurisdiction—A county (parish in Louisiana) or municipal government that administers one or more local jails and represents the entity responsible for managing jail facilities under its authority. Most jail jurisdictions consist of a single facility, but some have multiple facilities or multiple facility operators (e.g., a jail jurisdiction consisting of a county jail and a private jail operated under county authority).

Midyear population—The number of inmates held in custody on the last weekday in June.

Occupancy rate—The rated capacity divided by the number of jail inmates in custody.

Percent of capacity occupied at midyear—Calculated by dividing the jail population at midyear by the rated capacity.

Persons under jail supervision but not confined—All persons in community-based programs operated by jail facilities, including electronic monitoring, house arrest, community service, day reporting, and work programs. This group excludes persons on pretrial release who are not in community-based programs run by jails; persons under supervision of probation, parole, or other agencies; persons on weekend programs; and persons who participate in work release programs and return to jail at night.

Rated capacity—Set by a rating official, rated capacity is the maximum number of beds or inmates that a facility can hold, excluding separate temporary holding areas.

Releases—Persons released after a period of confinement (e.g., sentence completions, bail or bond releases, other pretrial releases, transfers to other jurisdictions, and deaths). Releases include persons who have completed their weekend program and who are leaving the facility for the last time. They exclude temporary discharges, such as work releases, medical appointments, stays in treatment centers, court appearances, furloughs, day reporting, and transfers to other facilities within the jail jurisdiction.

Weekly inmate turnover rate—The sum of weekly admissions and releases, divided by the ADP. The turnover rate takes into account admissions into and releases from jails and gives an indication of the fluctuation of the jail population. Higher turnover rates mean larger numbers of admissions and releases relative to the size of the average daily population.

Yearend population—The number of inmates held in custody on December 31. The yearend population is typically smaller than the midyear population.

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TABLE 2Number of confined inmates in local jails, by demographic characteristics, 2010 and 2015–2020

		•		<i>-</i>					
Characteristic	2010	2015a	2016 ^a	2017	2018	2019	2020*	Average annual percent change, 2010–2019	Percent change, 2019–202
Total	748,700 †	727,400 †	740,700 †	745,200 †	738,400 †	734,500 †	549,100	-0.2%	-25.2%
Sex									
Male	656,400 †	623,600 †	633,100 †	631,500 †	623,400 †	623,700 †	479,300	-0.6%	-23.2%
Female	92,400 †	103,800 †	107,600 †	113,700 †	115,100 †	110,700 †	69,800	2.0	-37.0
Age group									
Juveniles ^b	7,600 †	3,600 †	3,900 †	3,600 †	3,400 †	2,900 †	2,300	-10.7%	-21.1%
Held as adult ^c	5,600 †	3,200 †	3,200 †	3,200 †	2,700 †	2,200 †	2,000	-10.4	-10.7
Held as juvenile	1,900 †	400	700 †	300	700 †	700 †	300	-11.6	-55.4
Adults	741,200 †	723,800 †	736,800 †	741,600 †	735,000 †	731,600 †	546,800	-0.1	-25.3
18-24							98,800		
25-34			•••			•••	193,900	•••	
35-44							142,200	•••	
45-54		•••	•••	•••	•••		71,400		•••
55-64		•••	•••	•••	•••		33,100		•••
65 or older		•••	•••	•••	•••		7,400		•••
Race/ethnicity									
White ^d	331,600 †	351,600 †	356,100 †	370,100 †	368,500 †	362,900 †	262,100	1.0%	-27.8%
Black ^d	283,200 †	255,200 †	254,600 †	250,100 †	242,300 †	247,100 †	192,600	-1.5	-22.0
Hispanic	118,100 †	103,900 †	112,700 †	108,400 †	109,300 †	106,900 †	81,900	-1.1	-23.4
American Indian/									
Alaska Native ^d	9,900 †	9,000 †	9,000 †	8,800 †	9,700 †	10,200 †	6,700	0.3	-34.9
Asian ^d	4,400 †	5,200 †	5,200 †	4,800 †	4,800 †	4,700 †	3,700	0.7	-21.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific	700	000	700	1 000 ±	1 000 ±	000 ±	600	1.0	16.4
Islander ^d Two or more races ^d	700 800 †	900	700 2 200 +	1,000 †	1,000 † 2,800	800 †	600	1.8 8.9	-16.4 -20.7
1wo or more races	000 T	1,700	2,300 †	2,000		1,900	1,500	8.9	-20./

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Data are adjusted for nonresponse and rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See table 3 in *Jail Inmates in 2017* (NCJ 251774, BJS, April 2019) for data from 2011 to 2014. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^{...}Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) began collecting inmate counts by adult age category in 2020.

^aIn 2015 and 2016, the ASJ collected jail population data at midyear and yearend but only collected demographic data on the yearend population. Because jails typically hold fewer inmates at yearend than at midyear, the 2015 and 2016 demographic data reported here were adjusted for seasonal variation and represent estimated midyear counts. See *Methodology*.

bPersons younger than age 18.

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

dExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic white persons and "black" refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010, 2015–2018, and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

Characteristic	2010	2015a	2016a	2017	2018	2019	2020*
Sex							
Male	87.7% †	85.7% †	85.5% †	84.7% †	84.4% †	84.9% †	87.3%
Female	12.3 †	14.3 †	14.5 †	15.3 †	15.6 †	15.1 †	12.7
Age group							
Juveniles ^b	1.0% †	0.5% †	0.5% †	0.5% †	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%
Held as adult ^c	0.8 †	0.4 †	0.4 †	0.4 †	0.4	0.3 †	0.4
Held as juvenile	0.3 †	0.1	0.1 †	< 0.05	0.1	0.1 †	0.1
Adults	99.0 †	99.5 †	99.5 †	99.5 †	99.5	99.6	99.6
18–24		•••		•••	•••		18.0
25-34		•••			•••		35.3
35–44		•••		•••	•••		25.9
45-54		•••			•••		13.0
55–64		•••		•••	•••		6.0
65 or older							1.3
Race/ethnicity							
White ^d	44.3% †	48.3%	48.1%	49.7% †	49.9% †	49.4% †	47.7%
Black ^d	37.8 †	35.1	34.4	33.6 †	32.8 †	33.6 †	35.1
Hispanic	15.8	14.3	15.2	14.5	14.8	14.6	14.9
American Indian/							
Alaska Native ^d	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.2
Asian ^d	0.6 †	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7
Native Hawaiian/Other	0.4.1	0.1	0.4.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4
Pacific Islander ^d	0.1 †	0.1	0.1 †	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Two or more racesd	0.1 †	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See table 3 in Jail Inmates in 2017 (NCJ 251774, BJS, April 2019) for data from 2011 to 2014. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 3 for standard errors.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^{...}Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) began collecting inmate counts by adult age category in 2020.

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^bPersons younger than age 18.

CIncludes juveniles who were tried or awaiting trial as adults.

^dExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic white persons and "black" refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010, 2015–2018, and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 4Jail incarceration rates, by demographic characteristics, 2010 and 2015–2020

Characteristic	2010	2015a	2016ª	2017	2018	2019	2020*	Average annual percent change, 2010–2019	Percent change, 2019–2020
Total	242 †	227 †	229†	229†	226†	224†	167	-0.9%	-25.5%
Sex									
Male	431†	395 †	398 †	394†	387 †	386†	295	-1.2%	-23.4%
Female	59†	64†	66†	69†	69†	66†	42	1.4	-37.2
Adults ^b	315 †	293 †	295 †	295 †	290 †	287 †	213	-1.1	-25.7
18-24		•••		•••	•••	•••	329		
25-34		•••		•••	•••	•••	421		
35-44				•••			337		
45-54		•••		•••	•••	•••	177		
55-64				•••			78		
65 or older				•••			13		
Race/ethnicity									
White ^c	167 †	178†	180 †	187 †	186†	184†	133	1.1%	-27.6%
Black ^c	745 †	640 †	633 †	616†	592 †	600 †	465	-2.4	-22.5
Hispanic	235 †	185 †	197†	186†	184†	177 †	134	-3.1	-24.5
American Indian/ Alaska Native ^c	426†	379†	380†	367†	403 †	422†	274	-0.1	-35.1
Asian ^c	31†	30 †	29†	26†	26†	25 †	19	-2.5	-22.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander ^c	136†	153†	116	164†	174†	127†	104	-0.8	-17.6
Two or more races ^c	16	25 †	33 †	28†	40	25 †	19	5.0	-22.6

Note: Rates are based on the number of confined inmates at midyear in local jails per 100,000 U.S. residents (for total) or per 100,000 U.S. residents of a given demographic group. Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June and include both adults and juveniles, unless specified. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010, 2015–2018, and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^{...}Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) began collecting inmate counts by adult age category in 2020.

^aIn 2015 and 2016, the ASJ collected jail population data at midyear and yearend but only collected demographic data on the yearend population. Because jails typically hold fewer inmates at yearend than at midyear, the 2015 and 2016 demographic data reported here were adjusted for seasonal variation and represent estimated midyear counts. See *Methodology*.

bExcludes persons younger than age 18.

^CExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic white persons and "black" refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

TABLE 5 Number of confined inmates in local jails, by conviction status and offense severity, 2010 and 2015–2020

Conviction status									change	Percent change,
and offense severity	2010	2015 ^a	2016 ^a	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2010-2019	2015-2019	2019-2020
Total	748,700 †	727,400 †	740,700 †	745,200 †	738,400 †	734,500 †	549,100	-0.2%	0.2%	-25.2%
Conviction status										
Convicted ^b	291,300 †	273,000 †	258,500 †	263,200 †	248,500 †	253,700 †	168,400	-1.5%	-1.8%	-33.6%
Unconvicted ^c	457,500 †	454,400 †	482,100 †	482,000 †	490,000 †	480,700 †	380,700	0.6	1.4	-20.8
Most serious type of offense										
Felony		494,100 †	516,400 †	516,800 †	504,900 †	513,900 †	421,200		1.0%	-18.0%
Misdemeanor		193,100 †	188,000 †	194,700 †	192,000 †	170,300 †	94,000		-3.1	-44.8
Other ^d		40,200 †	36,300	33,600	41,600 †	50,300 †	33,800		5.6	-32.7

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Data are adjusted for nonresponse and rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See table 3 in Jail Inmates in 2017 (NCJ 251774, BJS, April 2019) for conviction status data from 2011 to 2014. Collection of the most serious type of offenses started in 2015. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010, 2015–2018, and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 6 Percent of confined inmates in local jails, by conviction status and offense severity, 2010 and 2015–2020 Conviction status and offense severity 2010 2015a 2016a 2018 2019 2020* **Conviction status** Convicted^b 38.9% † 37.5% † 34.9% † 35.3% † 33.6% † 34.5% † 30.7% Unconvicted^c 62.5 † 64.7 † 66.4 † 65.5 † 61.1 † 65.1 † 69.3 Most serious type of offense Felony 67.9% † 69.7% † 69.4% † 68.4% † 70.0% † 76.7% Misdemeanor 26.5 † 25.4 † 26.1 † 26.0 † 23.2 † 17.1 Otherd 5.5 4.9 † 4.5 † 6.8 † 6.2

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See table 3 in Jail Inmates in 2017 (NCJ 251774, BJS, April 2019) for conviction status data from 2011 to 2014. Collection of the most serious type of offenses started in 2015. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

5.6

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010, 2015–2018, and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^{...}Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) began collecting inmate counts by offense severity in 2015.

aln 2015 and 2016, the ASJ collected jail population data at midyear and yearend but only collected demographic data on the yearend population. Because jails typically hold fewer inmates at yearend than at midyear, the 2015 and 2016 demographic data reported here were adjusted for seasonal variation and represent estimated midyear counts. See Methodology.

^bSentenced or awaiting sentencing on a conviction.

^CAwaiting court action on a current charge or held in jail for other reasons.

dIncludes civil infractions and unknown offenses.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^{...}Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) began collecting inmate counts by offense severity in 2015.

aln 2015 and 2016, the ASJ jail population data at midyear and yearend but only collected demographic data on the yearend population. Because jails typically hold fewer inmates at yearend than at midyear, the 2015 and 2016 demographic data reported here were adjusted for seasonal variation and represent estimated midyear counts. See Methodology.

bSentenced or awaiting sentencing on a conviction.

^CAwaiting court action on a current charge or held in jail for other reasons.

dIncludes civil infractions and unknown offenses.

TABLE 7Confined inmates in local jails, by probation or parole violation status, midyears 2019 and 2020

	Number o	Number of inmates		nge	Percent of inmates	
Violation status	2019	2020*	Number	Percent	2019	2020*
Total inmate population	734,500 †	549,100	-185,400	-25.2%	100%	100%
Probation violators	97,500 †	72,800	-24,700	-25.3	13.3	13.3
Parole violators	28,900 †	25,900	-3,000	-10.4	3.9	4.7

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June. Probation and parole violators are not mutually exclusive and may include dual statuses. See appendix table 7 for standard errors. *Comparison year.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 8Confined inmates held in local jails for federal correctional authorities, state prison authorities, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments, midyears 2015 and 2019–2020

Authority for which	Number				Percent		Average annual percent change,	Percent change,
inmates were held	2015	2019	2019 2020*		2019	2020*	2015–2019	2019–2020
Total inmates in custody	727,400 †	734,500 †	549,100	100%	100%	100%	0.2%	-25.2%
All federal/state/tribal authorities	117,900 †	117,100 †	107,100	16.2% †	15.9% †	19.5%	-0.2%	-8.5%
Federal authorities ^a	42,100	53,500 †	43,900	5.8 †	7.3 †	8.0	6.0	-17.9
U.S. Marshals Service	25,200 †	32,900	31,500	3.5 †	4.5 †	5.7	6.6	-4.4
Federal Bureau of Prisons	1,700 †	1,800 †	2,600	0.2 †	0.2 †	0.5	2.1	41.0
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement	14,400 †	17,300 †	9,300	2.0	2.4 †	1.7	4.6	-46.4
Bureau of Indian Affairs	140	230	150	< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.05	11.8	-34.9
State prison authorities	75,600 †	63,300	63,000	10.4 †	8.6 †	11.5	-4.4	-0.6
American Indian/Alaska Native tribal governments	240	270	190	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	3.6	-30.5

Note: Data are based on the inmate population confined on the last weekday in June. Data are rounded to the nearest 100, except for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments, which are rounded to the nearest 10. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 8 for standard errors.

*Comparison year

TABLE 9
Average daily jail population, by size of jurisdiction, 2020

	Jail jurisdictions		Total ADP			
Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Mean ADP	Median ADP
Total	2,843	100%	658,100	100%	231	75
Fewer than 50 inmates	1,120	39.4	23,400	3.6	21	19
50-99	482	16.9	34,700	5.3	72	70
100-249	619	21.8	98,500	15.0	159	159
250-499	308	10.8	109,000	16.6	354	349
500-999	199	7.0	140,900	21.4	707	696
1,000-2,499	90	3.2	132,800	20.2	1,472	1,351
2,500 or more	25	0.9	118,800	18.0	4,704	3,939

Note: The average daily population (ADP) is the sum of all inmates in jail each day for the 12-month period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, divided by the number of days in the period. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 9 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2020.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes a small number inmates held for unspecified federal authorities and other federal authorities in addition to the listed categories. Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2015 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 10Midyear population, jail capacity, and percent of capacity occupied in local jails, 2010–2020

Year	Midyear population ^a	Rated capacity ^b	Percent of capacity occupied ^c	Percent of jail jurisdictions operating at more than 100% of rated capacity
2010	748,700 †	866,800 †	86.4% †	18.5% †
2011	735,600 †	879,700 †	83.6 †	17.2 †
2012	744,500 †	877,400 †	84.9 †	18.5 †
2013	731,200 †	872,900 †	83.8 †	15.4 †
2014	744,600 †	890,500	83.6 †	15.5 †
2015	727,400 †	901,400	80.7 †	14.5 †
2016	740,700 †	915,400	80.9 †	16.5 †
2017	745,200 †	915,100	81.4 †	20.0 †
2018	738,400 †	907,000	81.4 †	20.1 †
2019	734,500 †	907,700	80.9 †	15.0 †
2020*	549,100	913,700	60.1	7.0
Average annual percei	nt change			
2010-2019	-0.2%	0.5%	:	:
Percent change				
2019-2020	-25.2%	0.7%	:	:
			and the second	

Note: Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for midyear population and rated capacity. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. See appendix table 10 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010-2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 11Percent of jail capacity occupied at midyear, by size of jail jurisdiction, 2020

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Midyear population ^a	Rated capacity ^b	Percent of capacity occupied at midyear ^c	Percent of jail jurisdictions operating at more than 100% of rated capacity at midyear
Total	549,100	913,700	60.1%	7.0%
Fewer than 50 inmates	19,100	48,500	39.5 †	3.1
50-99	29,700	49,500	60.0	11.8 †
100-249	83,800	139,500	60.1	9.2 †
250-499	90,900	146,400	62.1	8.9 †
500-999	115,100	190,800	60.4	10.5 †
1,000-2,499	112,400	180,300	62.3	3.4 †
2,500 or more*	98,000	158,700	61.8	0

Note: The average daily population (ADP) is the sum of all inmates in jail each day for the 12-month period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, divided by the number of days in the period. Jail jurisdiction size is based on the ADP. Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for midyear population and rated capacity. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 11 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2020.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

[:]Not calculated.

^aThe number of inmates held on the last weekday in June.

^bThe maximum number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to a facility, excluding separate temporary holding areas.

^cThe midyear population divided by the rated capacity.

^{*}Comparison group.

[†]Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aThe number of inmates held on the last weekday in June.

bThe maximum number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to a facility, excluding separate temporary holding areas.

^cThe midyear population divided by the rated capacity.

TABLE 12 Inmate turnover rate and estimated average time in jail, 2010–2020

Year	Total ADPa	Annual admissionsb	Weekly inmate turnover rate ^c	Estimated average time in jail ^d
2010	748,600 †	12,900,000 †	65.0% †	21.2 days †
2011	735,600 †	11,800,000 †	61.4 †	22.7 †
2012	737,400 †	11,600,000 †	60.1 †	23.2 †
2013	731,400 †	11,700,000 †	60.2 †	22.8 †
2014	739,000 †	11,400,000 †	58.1 †	23.6 †
2015	719,500 †	10,700,000 †	56.3 †	24.6 †
2016	731,300 †	10,600,000 †	54.9 †	25.2 †
2017	745,600 †	10,600,000 †	54.0 †	25.7 †
2018	737,900 †	10,700,000 †	54.9 †	25.2 †
2019	741,900 †	10,300,000 †	53.1 †	26.2 †
2020*	658,100	8,700,000	50.3	27.8

Note: Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for the average daily population (ADP). Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 12 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 13Inmate turnover rate and estimated average time in jail, by size of jurisdiction, 2020

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Total ADPa	Annual admissions	Weekly inmate turnover rate ^b	Estimated average time in jail ^c
Total	658,100	8,652,200	50.3%	27.8 days
Fewer than 50 inmates	23,400	704,600	113.8 †	12.2 †
50-99	34,700	672,400	71.7 †	18.9 †
100-249	98,500	1,577,300	61.3 †	22.9 †
250-499	109,000	1,444,300	50.2 †	27.6 †
500-999	140,900	1,637,400	44.8 †	31.5 †
1,000-2,499	132,800	1,512,200	43.7 †	32.1 †
2,500 or more*	118,800	1,104,100	36.3	39.4

Note: The average daily population (ADP) is the sum of all inmates in jail each day for the 12-month period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, divided by the number of days in the period. Jail jurisdiction size is based on the ADP. Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for ADP. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 13 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2020.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aThe sum of all inmates in jail each day for the 12-month period ending on June 30, divided by the number of days in the 12-month period.

^bAnnual admissions from 2010 to 2014 were estimated based on admissions during a 1-week period in June. The 2015 and 2016 annual admissions were for the calendar year ending on December 31. The 2017 to 2020 annual admissions were for the 12-month period ending on June 30.

^cThe sum of weekly admissions and releases, divided by the ADP. Weekly admissions and releases are calculated using the annual admissions and releases, divided by the number of weeks in the 12-month period.

^dThe ADP multiplied by the number of days in the 12-month period, divided by the number of admissions during the period.

^{*}Comparison group.

[†]Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aThe sum of all inmates in jail each day for the 12-month period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, divided by the number of days in the period.

^bThe sum of weekly admissions and releases, divided by the ADP. Weekly admissions and releases are calculated using the annual admissions and releases, divided by the number of weeks in the 12-month period.

^cThe ADP multiplied by the number of days in the 12-month period, divided by the number of admissions during the period.

TABLE 14Persons under jail supervision, by confinement status, midyears 2010–2020

		Held i	n jail ^a	Supervised outside of a jail facility ^b		
Year	Total ^c	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
2010	799,500 †	748,700 †	93.7% †	50,800	6.3% †	
2011	787,000 †	735,600 †	93.5 †	51,400	6.5 †	
2012	798,300 †	744,500 †	93.3 †	53,700	6.7 †	
2013	779,700 †	731,200 †	93.8 †	48,500	6.2 †	
2014	798,400 †	744,600 †	93.3 †	53,800	6.7 †	
2015	774,500 †	727,400 †	93.9 †	47,100	6.1 †	
2016	789,300 †	740,700 †	93.8 †	48,700	6.2 †	
2017	794,200 †	745,200 †	93.8 †	49,100	6.2 †	
2018	790,400 †	738,400 †	93.4 †	52,000	6.6 †	
2019	773,100 †	734,500 †	95.0 †	38,700 †	5.0 †	
2020*	599,100	549,100	91.6	50,100	8.4	

Note: Based on the number of inmates supervised on the last weekday in June, unless specified. Data are rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 14 for standard errors.

blincludes unconfined persons under jail supervision in various programs such as electronic monitoring, home detention, day reporting, community service, alcohol or drug treatment programs, and other pretrial supervision and work programs. Excludes persons supervised by a probation or parole agency and persons in weekend programs. In 2015 and 2016, data on the population supervised outside jail were collected at December 31. For all other years, the data were collected on the last weekday in June.

^cThe total population under jail supervision differs from past reports because persons serving weekend-only sentences are listed separately in this report instead of being added to the population supervised outside of jail. See table 15 for the number of persons serving weekend-only sentences on the weekend before midyear.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

TABLE 15Number of persons serving weekend-only sentences on the weekend before the last weekday in June, 2010–2020

Year	Number	
2010	9,900 †	
2011	11,400 †	
2012	10,400 †	
2013	11,000 †	
2014	9,700 †	
2015	7,800 †	
2016	5,500 †	
2017	6,800 †	
2018	5,900 †	
2019	6,500 †	
2020*	2,200	

Note: Includes persons who served their sentences of confinement on weekends only (i.e., Friday to Sunday) on the weekend before the last weekday in June. In 2015 and 2016, the number of weekenders was collected for the weekend before December 31. Data are rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 15 for standard errors.

†Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level. Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

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

^{*}Comparison year.

TABLE 16 Number of staff employed in local jails, by job function and sex, 2013 and 2015–2020 Job function and sex 2013a 2015a 2016a 2017b 2018b 2019b 2020b* Total 220,000 † 213,000 † 226,300 225,700 221,600 † 237,500 233,200 Correctional officers^c 173,900 † 169,300 † 179,500 174,500 † 184,900 178,800 184,100 Male 123,400 117,300 † 124,300 123,200 119,900 127,300 125,700 Female 50,500 † 51,900 † 54,500 † 56,300 54,600 † 56,800 59,100 Inmate-to-correctionalofficer ratiod 4.2 † 4.1 † 3.9 † 4.2 † 4.2 † 4.0 † 3.0 All other staffe 43,700 † 47,500 47,100 48,400 46,100 † 46,200 53,400 † Male 20,800 19,700 21,000 20,300 20,600 25,400 † 20,100 Female 25,200 † 24,000 t 26,500 † 25,900 † 26,500 † 28,000 28,300

Note: Data are rounded to the nearest 100 for the number of staff employed in local jails. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. BJS did not collect national data on the number of jail staff by job function and sex in 2010–2012 and 2014. See appendix table 16 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2015–2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2013 and 2019.

TABLE 17Percent of staff employed in local jails, by job function and sex, 2013 and 2015–2020

Job function and sex	2013 ^a	2015 ^a	2016 ^a	2017 ^b	2018 ^b	2019 ^b	2020 ^b *
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Correctional officers ^c	79.1%	79.5%	79.0%	79.5%	78.7%	77.5% †	79.3%
Male	56.1 †	55.1 †	54.9 †	54.6	54.1	53.6	53.9
Female	22.9 †	24.4 †	24.1 †	25.0	24.6	23.9 †	25.3
All other staff ^d	20.9%	20.5%	21.0%	20.5%	21.3%	22.5% †	20.7%
Male	9.5 †	9.3 †	9.3 †	9.0	9.3 †	10.7 †	8.6
Female	11.5 †	11.3 †	11.7	11.5 †	12.0	11.8	12.1

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Results may differ from previous reports in the series due to data updates from jail authorities. BJS did not collect national data on the number of jail staff by job function and sex in 2010–2012 and 2014. See appendix table 17 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2015–2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2013 and 2019.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aData are based on staff employed at yearend.

^bData are based on staff employed on the last weekday in June.

Cincludes deputies, monitors, and other custody staff who spend more than 50% of their time with the incarcerated population.

dThe number of inmates in custody per correctional officer.

^eIncludes administrators, clerical and maintenance staff, educational staff, professional and technical staff, and other unspecified staff who spend more than 50% of their time in the facility.

^{*}Comparison year.

[†]Difference with comparison year is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aData are based on staff employed at yearend.

^bData are based on staff employed on the last weekday in June.

^cIncludes deputies, monitors, and other custody staff who spend more than 50% of their time with the incarcerated population.

^dIncludes administrators, clerical and maintenance staff, educational staff, professional and technical staff, and other unspecified staff who spend more than 50% of their time in the facility.

Methodology

Findings in this report are based on the 2010 to 2018 and 2020 Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) and the 2013 and 2019 Census of Jails (COJ). The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) periodically conducts the COJ, a complete enumeration of local jail facilities and Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) detention facilities, to collect data on inmate population and jail programs. The 2019 COJ was the eleventh collection in the series since 1970. In the years between complete enumerations of jails, BJS conducts the ASJ, a survey administered to a sample of approximately a third of the nation's jails, to provide national estimates on the number and characteristics of the jail inmate population. The COJ and ASJ collections are currently conducted through web-based surveys.

The universe of the Census of Jails and the Annual Survey of Jails

The COJ and ASJ gather data from jails that hold inmates beyond arraignment, usually for a period exceeding 72 hours. Jail facilities are intended to hold

adults, but some also hold juveniles (persons age 17 or younger). The universe of the COJ consists of all local jail jurisdictions (including county, city, regional, and privately operated jail facilities) and BOP detention facilities that function as jails.⁴

The universe of the ASJ includes all local jail jurisdictions but excludes BOP detention facilities. In this report, BOP facilities are excluded. The universe of the COJ and ASJ excludes separate temporary holding facilities (such as drunk tanks and police lockups) that do not hold persons after they have been formally charged in court, unless the temporary holding facilities are operated as part of a local jail. Combined jail and prison systems in Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Vermont are also excluded. These combined systems are operated by state departments of corrections and are included in BJS's National Prisoner Statistics program. However, 15 independently operated jails in Alaska are included in the universe of the COJ and ASJ.

 $^{^4}$ Regional jail jurisdictions are created by two or more local governing bodies through cooperative agreements.

Sample design and nonresponse adjustment for 2020 Annual Survey of Jails								
Stratum	Weighting class by confined population ^c	Number of jail jurisdictions in census	Active sampled jurisdictions	Active sampled reporting units	Design weight	Nonresponse adjustment factor	Final weight	
1 Large jails ^a (certainty stratum)	1,000 or more	142	142	168	1.000	1.052	1.052	
	500-999	116	116	124	1.000	1.055	1.055	
Jails holding at least one juvenile on June 28, 2019 and a confined population of—								
2 264–499		73	29	29	2.517	1.074	2.704	
3 141–263		69	17	17	4.059	1.214	4.929	
4 69–140		60	10	10	6.000	1.000	6.000	
5 0–68		48	4	4	12.000	1.000	12.000	
Jails holding adults only on June 28, 2019 and a confined population of—								
6 227–749		359	275	287	1.306	1.074	1.402	
7 103–226		452	99	99	4.520	1.100	4.972	
8 40–102		579	64	64	9.047	1.103	9.983	
9 0–39		882	73	73	12.082	1.058	12.783	
10 Regional jails ^b (certainty stratum)	1,000 or more	5	5	5	1.000	1.000	1.000	
	500-999	14	14	14	1.000	1.000	1.000	
	250-499	25	25	25	1.000	1.087	1.087	
	100-249	16	16	16	1.000	1.067	1.067	
	50-99	6	6	7	1.000	1.200	1.200	
	0-49	2	2	2	1.000	1.000	1.000	
Total		2,848	897	944				

^aLarge jails are those that held at least one juvenile inmate and 500 or more inmates, or 750 or more adult inmates on June 28, 2019.

bRegional jail jurisdictions are created by two or more local governing bodies through cooperative agreements.

^CWithin certainty strata, weighting classes are created based on jurisdiction size (i.e., confined population as of June 28, 2019).

Jail jurisdictions and reporting units

A jail jurisdiction is a legal entity that has responsibility for managing jail facilities. Jail jurisdictions typically operate at the county level, with a sheriff's office or jail administrator managing the local facilities. Most jail jurisdictions consist of a single facility, but some have multiple facilities, or multiple facility operators, called reporting units. For example, three reporting units in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, represent a single jail jurisdiction.

Sampling design of the Annual Survey of Jails

The ASJ uses a stratified probability sampling design based on jail population data collected through the most recent COJ. Jails in the ASJ sample are surveyed annually until the next sample is drawn. The ASJ sample is drawn at the jail jurisdiction level. When a jail jurisdiction with multiple jail operators or facilities is sampled, data are collected from all reporting units within that jail jurisdiction.

The most recent sample refresh occurred in 2020, where a sample of 899 jail jurisdictions was selected to represent the approximately 2,850 jail jurisdictions nationwide. In selecting jails, all jurisdictions were grouped into 10 strata based on their inmate population and the presence of juveniles at midyear 2019. In 8 of the 10 strata, a random sample of jail jurisdictions was selected. The remaining two strata were designated as certainty strata in which all jail jurisdictions were selected. One certainty stratum consisted of all jails that were operated jointly by two or more jurisdictions. The other certainty stratum consisted of large jail jurisdictions that—

- held at least one juvenile inmate and a total of 500 or more inmates on June 28, 2019
- held 750 or more adult inmates on June 28, 2019.

Response rate and nonresponse adjustment

The 2020 ASJ sample consisted of 897 active jail jurisdictions, represented by 943 reporting units. Two of the sampled jail jurisdictions were out of scope due to closure. The survey achieved a response rate of 94%. Nonresponse weighting was implemented to account for unit nonresponse. Jurisdictions were grouped into weighting classes based on sampling stratum and inmate population at midyear 2019. The nonresponse

weighting adjustment factor was calculated for jails in each weighting class h as—

$$w_h = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_h} p_{hi} \times A_{hi}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n_h} p_{hi} \times R_{hi}}$$

where—

 n_h = number of jurisdictions sampled in weighting class h.

 p_{hi} = sampling weight for jurisdiction i in weighting class h,

 A_{hi} = active status indicator for jurisdiction i in weighting class h (1 = active, 0 = out of scope), and

 R_{hi} = response indicator of jurisdiction i in weighting class h (1 = respondent, 0 = nonrespondent).

In this report, standard errors for estimates from the ASJ were estimated using the Taylor-linearized variance method. Estimates from the COJ were population values based on a complete enumeration of all jails.

Item nonresponse imputation

Item response rates ranged from 95% to 100% for the 2020 ASJ. For responding jail jurisdictions that were unable to provide some requested items, missing data were imputed. This was done in two steps: first, a last observation carried forward (LOCF) procedure was used to replace the missing values with prior-year data from the same jails; next, for cases with no available prior-year data, a weighted sequential hot-deck (WSHD) procedure was implemented to impute the remaining missing data by borrowing values reported by similar jails in the current year.

In the LOCF procedure, prior-year data were taken from the same jails in the 2019 COJ, adjusted for year-to-year changes as appropriate. Using the LOCF as the first step of imputation increases imputation accuracy because jail population counts and characteristics typically remain relatively stable from year to year. This is especially helpful when imputing missing data for the largest jails that have no comparable-size donor jails (e.g., Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office). Specifically, missing values for rated capacity and inmate populations supervised outside of jail were replaced with 2019 values without any adjustment, while missing values in inmate population counts,

admissions, and average daily population (ADP) were replaced with 2019 values after adjusting for average year-to-year change. The average year-to-year adjustment factor was calculated, for each sampling stratum, as the ratio of the weighted sum of data reported in 2020 to that in 2019. Only data from jails that provided data in both years were included in the calculation. By applying the average year-to-year adjustment factor, it was assumed that jails with missing items experienced the average year-to-year percentage change as other jails in the same sampling stratum. Lastly, missing data for inmate subpopulations

(e.g., female adults) were imputed based on the 2019 population distribution and the 2020 reported or imputed inmate population for the same jails.

In the second step, the donor for each missing item in the WSHD procedure was randomly selected from a set of similar jails, sorted by related auxiliary population values. Donor pools, also referred to as imputation classes, were formed by state, ADP category, and regional jail indicator. Within each imputation class, jails were sorted by confined jail population at midyear 2019.

Standard errors for table 1: Inmates confined at midyear, average daily population, annual admissions, and incarceration rates, 2010–2020

Year	Confined inmates	Average daily population	Annual admissions	Jail incarceration rate
2010	5,430	5,359	231,706	1.8
2011	6,009	5,879	207,708	1.9
2012	7,684	7,769	189,063	2.4
2013	8,042	7,943	688,183	2.5
2014	8,382	8,430	205,287	2.6
2015	7,188	7,112	141,792	2.2
2016	5,943	5,788	138,605	1.8
2017	6,614	7,431	152,636	2.0
2018	7,122	6,967	155,281	2.2
2019	~	~	~	~
2020	5,116	5,945	105,516	1.6

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2018 and 2020, and Census of Jails, 2019; and U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: January 1, 2010 to January 1, 2021.

APPENDIX TABLE 2 Standard errors for table 2: Number of confined inmates in local jails, by demographic characteristics, 2010 and 2015–2020

Characteristic	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	5,430	7,188	5,943	6,614	7,122	~	5,116
Sex							
Male	4,877	6,242	5,237	5,680	6,078	~	4,545
Female	1,008	1,307	1,247	1,351	1,457	~	999
Age group							
Juveniles	265	121	158	128	218	~	93
Held as adult	248	117	118	127	108	~	86
Held as juvenile	257	45	98	36	182	~	41
Adults	5,450	7,187	5,971	6,569	7,073	~	5,099
18–24						•••	1,249
25–34						•••	2,074
35–44						•••	1,493
45–54						•••	795
55–64						•••	506
65 or older							188
Race/ethnicity							
White	4,330	4,192	4,361	4,629	5,064	~	3,004
Black	3,853	3,548	3,680	3,987	4,197	~	2,895
Hispanic	2,571	3,297	1,981	2,165	2,307	~	2,362
American Indian/Alaska Native	1,244	906	853	798	917	~	701
Asian	141	157	137	155	138	~	116
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	56	106	41	99	81	~	52
Two or more races	185	129	342	235	772	~	141

^{...}Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting inmate counts by adult age category in 2020.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010, 2015-2018, and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

APPENDIX TABLE 3Standard errors for table 3: Percent of confined inmates in local jails, by demographic characteristics, 2010 and 2015–2020

Characteristic	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Sex							
Male	0.10%	0.11%	0.12%	0.12%	0.13%	~	0.14%
Female	0.10	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.13	~	0.14
Age group							
Juveniles	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.03%	~	0.02%
Held as adult	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	~	0.02
Held as juvenile	0.03	0.01	0.01	< 0.005	0.02	~	0.01
Adults	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	~	0.02
18–24							0.15
25–34							0.15
35–44	•••		•••				0.14
45–54							0.09
55–64	•••		•••				0.07
65 or older							0.03
Race/ethnicity							
White	0.41%	0.46%	0.42%	0.45%	0.48%	~	0.45%
Black	0.40	0.37	0.38	0.41	0.44	~	0.39
Hispanic	0.30	0.36	0.25	0.27	0.28	~	0.36
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.16	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.12	~	0.13
Asian	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	~	0.02
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	~	0.01
Two or more races	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.10	~	0.02

^{...}Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting inmate counts by adult age category in 2020.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010, 2015–2018, and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

Characteristic	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	1.8	2.2	1.8	2.0	2.2	~	1.6
Sex							
Male	3.2	4.0	3.3	3.5	3.8	~	2.8
Female	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	~	0.6
Adults	2.3	2.9	2.4	2.6	2.8	~	2.0
18–24	•••	•••		•••			4.2
25–34	•••			•••			4.5
35–44		***	•••	•••		•••	3.5
45–54	•••	•••		•••			2.0
55–64		***	•••	•••		•••	1.2
65 or older	•••	•••		•••			0.3
Race/ethnicity							
White	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.6	~	1.5
Black	10.1	8.9	9.1	9.8	10.3	~	7.0
Hispanic	5.1	5.9	3.5	3.7	3.9	~	3.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	53.4	38.3	35.8	33.3	38.0	~	28.8
Asian	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	~	0.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	11.7	19.1	7.2	17.1	13.7	~	8.5
Two or more races	3.6	1.9	5.0	3.4	10.7	~	1.9

^{...}Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting inmate counts by adult age category in 2020.

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010, 2015–2018, and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

Standard errors for table 5: Number of confined inmates in local jails, by conviction status and offense severity, 2010 and 2015–2020

Conviction status and offense severity	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	5,430	7,188	5,943	6,614	7,122	~	5,116
Conviction status							
Convicted	4,087	4,937	3,458	3,568	3,888	~	2,798
Unconvicted	5,607	4,731	5,690	5,792	6,160	~	4,394
Most serious type of offense							
Felony	•••	5,701	5,482	5,810	6,443	~	5,019
Misdemeanor	•••	3,106	2,899	3,388	3,461	~	1,751
Other	•••	1,822	1,361	1,774	1,963	~	1,613

^{...}Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting inmate counts by offense severity in 2020.

APPENDIX TABLE 6

Standard errors for table 6: Percent of confined inmates in local jails, by conviction status and offense severity, 2010 and 2015–2020

Conviction status and offense severity	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Conviction status							
Convicted	0.41%	0.47%	0.45%	0.43%	0.46%	~	0.44%
Unconvicted	0.41	0.47	0.45	0.43	0.46	~	0.44
Most serious type of offense							
Felony	•••	0.40%	0.39%	0.44%	0.47%	~	0.41%
Misdemeanor	***	0.36	0.36	0.41	0.44	~	0.32
Other	•••	0.24	0.18	0.23	0.26	~	0.29

^{...}Not collected. The Annual Survey of Jails began collecting inmate counts by offense severity in 2020.

APPENDIX TABLE 7

Standard errors for table 7: Confined inmates in local jails, by probation or parole violation status, midyears 2019 and 2020

	Number o	of inmates_	Percent of inmates		
Violation status	2019	2020	2019	2020	
Total inmate population	~	5,116	:	:	
Probation violators	~	1,660	~	0.30%	
Parole violators	~	791	~	0.14	

[:]Not calculated.

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010, 2015–2018, and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010, 2015–2018, and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

Standard errors for table 8: Confined inmates held in local jails for federal correctional authorities, state prison authorities, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments, midyears 2015 and 2019–2020

Authority for which		Percent				
inmates were held	2015	2019	2020	2015	2019	2020
Total inmates in custody	7,198	~	5,116	:	:	:
All federal/state/tribal authorities	3,077	~	2,660	0.42%	~	0.47%
Federal authorities	1,658	~	1,566	0.23	~	0.28
U.S. Marshals Service	1,316	~	1,420	0.18	~	0.26
Federal Bureau of Prisons	158	~	313	0.02	~	0.06
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement	867	~	515	0.12	~	0.09
Bureau of Indian Affairs	39	~	50	0.01	~	0.01
State prison authorities	2,676	~	2,132	0.37	~	0.38
American Indian/Alaska Native tribal governments	33	~	45	<0.005	~	0.01

[:]Not calculated.

APPENDIX TABLE 9Standard errors for table 9: Average daily jail population, by size of jurisdiction, 2020

	Jail juris	dictions	Total ADP			
Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Mean ADP	Median ADP
Total	~	:	5,945	:	2.1	:
Fewer than 50 inmates	36.4	1.28%	1,944	0.30%	1.3	:
50-99	41.0	1.44	2,995	0.46	1.6	:
100-249	25.6	0.90	3,942	0.58	2.8	:
250-499	7.5	0.26	2,780	0.43	3.1	:
500-999	4.6	0.16	2,877	0.46	3.5	:
1,000-2,499	1.4	0.05	2,169	0.40	8.5	:
2,500 or more	1.0	0.04	5,823	0.76	124.7	:

[:]Not calculated.

APPENDIX TABLE 10

Standard errors for table 10: Midyear population, jail capacity, and percent of capacity occupied in local jails, 2010–2020

Percent of iail

Year	Midyear population	Rated capacity	Percent of capacity occupied	jurisdictions operating at more than 100% of rated capacity
2010	5,430	11,013	0.88%	1.67%
2011	6,009	11,776	0.88	1.54
2012	7,684	10,217	0.48	1.64
2013	8,042	10,723	0.49	1.43
2014	8,382	11,082	0.43	1.50
2015	7,188	9,204	0.40	1.58
2016	5,943	8,467	0.46	1.58
2017	6,614	9,217	0.48	2.04
2018	7,122	9,622	0.50	1.88
2019	~	~	~	~
2020	5,116	9,206	0.43	1.11

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2015 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2020.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

Standard errors for table 11: Percent of jail capacity occupied at midyear, by size of jail jurisdiction, 2020

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Midyear population	Rated capacity	Percent of capacity occupied at midyear	Percent of jail jurisdictions operating at more than 100% of rated capacity at midyear
Total	5,116	9,206	0.43%	1.11%
Fewer than 50 inmates	1,719	4,096	2.66	1.71
50-99	2,729	4,721	2.79	4.09
100-249	3,429	6,141	1.72	2.34
250-499	2,396	4,356	0.99	1.25
500-999	2,365	3,847	0.48	0.77
1,000-2,499	1,874	3,164	0.43	0.36
2,500 or more	4,748	7,814	0.59	:

:Not calculated because no jurisdiction with an average daily population of 2,500 or more was operating at more than 100% capacity at midyear 2020. Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2020.

APPENDIX TABLE 12

Standard errors for table 12: Inmate turnover rate and estimated average time in jail, 2010–2020

Year	Total ADP	Annual admissions	Weekly inmate turnover rate	Estimated average time in jail
2010	5,359	231,706	1.03%	0.38 days
2011	5,879	207,708	0.97	0.36
2012	7,769	189,063	0.87	0.35
2013	7,943	688,183	3.59	1.34
2014	8,430	205,287	0.93	0.40
2015	7,112	141,792	0.69	0.30
2016	5,788	138,605	0.60	0.28
2017	7,431	152,636	0.73	0.35
2018	6,967	155,281	0.67	0.31
2019	~	~	~	~
2020	5,945	105,516	0.58	0.33

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 13

Standard errors for table 13: Inmate turnover rate and estimated average time in jail, by size of jurisdiction, 2020

Jail jurisdiction size (ADP)	Total ADP	Annual admissions	Weekly inmate turnover rate	Estimated average time in jail
Total	5,945	105,516	0.58%	0.33 days
Fewer than 50 inmates	1,944	62,956	8.46	0.91
50-99	2,995	71,409	4.66	1.23
100-249	3,942	77,042	1.99	0.75
250-499	2,780	52,382	1.26	0.73
500-999	2,877	38,330	0.59	0.42
1,000-2,499	2,169	28,879	0.38	0.29
2,500 or more	5,823	50,685	0.76	0.82
Source: Rureau of Justice	Statistics Annua	Survey of Jails 2020		

Standard errors for table 14: Persons under jail supervision, by confinement status, midyears 2010–2020

		Held	in jail	Supervised outside of a jail facility		
Year	Total	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
2010	5,881	5,430	0.23%	1,938	0.23%	
2011	6,378	6,009	0.21	1,767	0.21	
2012	8,360	7,684	0.28	2,405	0.28	
2013	8,628	8,042	0.28	2,296	0.28	
2014	9,163	8,382	0.31	2,675	0.31	
2015	7,455	7,188	0.18	1,487	0.18	
2016	6,510	5,943	0.22	1,849	0.22	
2017	7,195	6,614	0.25	2,165	0.25	
2018	8,023	7,122	0.33	2,835	0.33	
2019	~	~	~	~	~	
2020	5,823	5,116	0.35	2,263	0.35	

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 15

Standard errors for table 15: Number of persons serving weekend-only sentences on the weekend before the last weekday in June, 2010–2020

Year	Number	
2010	296	
2011	514	
2012	369	
2013	508	
2014	399	
2015	417	
2016	272	
2017	328	
2018	318	
2019	~	
2020	481	

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2010–2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2019.

Standard errors for table 16: Number of staff employed in local jails, by job function and sex, 2013 and 2015–2020

Job function and sex	2013	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	~	2,407	3,368	3,903	4,172	~	3,679
Correctional officers	~	2,094	2,881	3,408	3,629	~	3,084
Male	~	1,480	1,817	2,142	2,225	~	2,121
Female	~	850	1,238	1,445	1,558	~	1,238
Inmate-to-correctional-officer ratio	~	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	~	0.04
All other staff	~	773	1,065	915	883	~	981
Male	~	461	627	534	506	~	552
Female	~	431	535	498	504	~	547

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2013 and 2019 Census of Jails.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2015–2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2013 and 2019.

APPENDIX TABLE 17

Standard errors for table 17: Percent of staff employed in local jails, by job function and sex, 2013 and 2015–2020

Job function and sex	2013	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Correctional officers	~	0.31%	0.38%	0.33%	0.32%	~	0.31%
Male	~	0.32	0.32	0.29	0.28	~	0.31
Female	~	0.25	0.30	0.32	0.33	~	0.31
All other staff	~	0.31%	0.38%	0.33%	0.32%	~	0.31%
Male	~	0.19	0.23	0.19	0.17	~	0.19
Female	~	0.18	0.21	0.21	0.22	~	0.19

[:]Not calculated.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Survey of Jails, 2015-2018 and 2020; and Census of Jails, 2013 and 2019.

[~]Not applicable. Data represent a complete enumeration based on the 2013 and 2019 Census of Jails.



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 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. Doris J. James is the acting director.

This report was written by Todd D. Minton and Zhen Zeng, Ph.D. Sean E. Goodison and Erica Grasmick verified the report.

Theodore Robinson and Brigit Baron edited the report. Theodore Robinson produced the report.

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