

On December 31, 2013, U.S. jails held an estimated 731,570 inmates. In addition to sentenced offenders and convicted offenders awaiting their sentences, this total included unconvicted men and women who had pending court action on a current charge. At yearend 2013, the nation's local jail authorities also oversaw 46,770 people who were under community supervision, which included electronic monitoring, house arrest, community service, day reporting, and work programs. Jail authorities supervised an additional 9,670 people December 26–28, 2013, who were serving weekend-only sentences at local jails across the nation.

### Examining jail populations

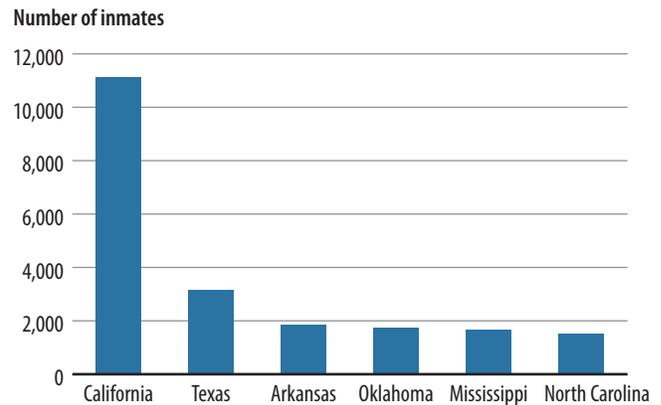
After a surge between 1999 and 2008, the jail inmate population has since declined. The number of inmates confined in local jails rose 23% between 1999 and 2006 before dropping 2.2% by yearend 2013. The overall incarceration rate of adult inmates in local jails increased slightly between midyear 1999 (304 inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents) and yearend 2013 (310 per 100,000). Since 1999, the adult incarceration rate increased in 27 states and the District of Columbia and declined in 17 states.

Jail inmates tend to be concentrated in the Southern portion of the country. Southern states accounted for 50% of the local jail inmate population in 2013, up slightly from 47% in 1999. Combined, nine states (California, Texas, Florida, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Virginia, New York, and Tennessee) accounted for more than half of the total local jail inmate population. From 2006 to 2013, jails in Montana reported the largest percentage population increase (up 47%). During that same time period, jails in the District of Columbia reported the largest percentage decline (down 35%).

### Jail inmate demographics

The nation's jail inmates continue to be predominantly white men. At yearend 2013, about 86% of inmates in local jails were male, which was a decline from 89% in 1999. Meanwhile, the female local jail population increased 48% between 1999 and 2013, from 68,100 to 100,940. At yearend 2013, white inmates made up an estimated 47% of the total jail population, which was an increase from 41% in 1999. Black inmates declined from 42% in 1999 to 34% in 2013, and the proportion of Hispanic inmates (16%) remained stable. The juvenile population in adult jails accounted for less than 1% (4,420) of the total inmate population at yearend 2013, which was down from a peak of 1.6% in 1999 (9,458).

### Largest jail growth, by selected states, between 2011 and 2013



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Deaths in Custody—2011 and 2013 Annual Summary on Inmates Under Jail Jurisdiction.

### Local jail admissions

Jails typically admit far more people than they hold on an average day. While the average population at yearend was 757,120, more than 11.9 million people were admitted to local jails during the 12-month period ending December 31, 2013. This was up from the peak of 13.6 million new admissions in 2008. In 2013, the expected average length of stay for inmates was 23 days.

### Jail facility growth

Local jails nationwide were less crowded at yearend 2013 (81% of rated capacity occupied) than in 1999 (93%). The rated capacity of local jails increased 39% or 252,550 beds between 1999 and 2013, which was nearly twice the growth of the inmate population (up 21% or 125,630 inmates).

Since 1999, the number of correctional officers has also increased. An estimated 173,900 men and women were employed as jail correctional officers in 2013, up from 149,600 in 1999. Southern jails employed nearly half of the nation's correctional officers, up from 44% in 1999. This increase outpaced growth in the local jail inmate population.

The full report (*Census of Jails: Population Changes, 1999–2013*, NCJ 248627), related documents, and additional information about the Bureau of Justice Statistics can be found at [www.bjs.gov](http://www.bjs.gov).

