

DCRP

Deaths in Custody Reporting Program



Conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice – Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and RTI International (RTI)

For more than a decade, BJS has collaborated with local jails and state departments of corrections to collect and disseminate statistics on mortality data.

Want to test your knowledge about DCRP? Take the following quiz! (Answers are available further below.)

1. True or False: Between 2012 and 2013, there were increases in the number of deaths in custody in BOTH prisons and jails.
2. What continues to be the leading natural cause of death among jail inmates?
a. Cancer b. Heart disease c. HIV/AIDS
3. Which illness mortality rate increased most from 2012 to 2013 among state prisoners?
a. Heart Disease b. Cancer c. Liver Disease
4. What percentage of inmate deaths in local jails in 2013 were suicide?
a. 22% b. 34% c. 47%
5. Between 2001 and 2013, by what percentage has AIDS-related deaths declined in state prisons?
a. 65% b. 73% c. 82%
6. About what percentage of the nation's approximately 3,000 jail jurisdictions typically participate in the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program?
a. 76% b. 86% c. 96%

Source: *Mortality in Local Jails and State Prisons, 2000-2013-Statistical Tables*, BJS Web, August 2015, NCJ 248756.

(1) **True**. The number of jail inmate deaths increased from 958 in 2012 to 967 in 2013 (up 1%). The number of state prison inmate deaths increased from 3,357 in 2012 to 3,479 in 2013 (up 3.5%). This is the highest number of state prisoner deaths since the collection began in 2001. (2) **Heart disease**. Heart disease accounted for 27% of all jail deaths in 2013. (3) **Liver Disease**. Among state prison inmates, the mortality rates increased for cancer (up 4%), heart disease (up 11%), and liver disease (up 16%). (4) **34%**. From 2009 to 2013, the suicide rate increased 23%. Suicide continues to be the leading cause of death for inmates in local jails. (5) **82%**. Aids-related deaths in state prisons decreased 30% from 2012 to 2013. In 2013, aids-related deaths accounted for 1.5% of all state prison inmate deaths. (6) DCRP's average response rate for jails is about **96%**. If your jail hasn't previously participated in DCRP, please contact Matt Bensen at RTI International.

How are the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program (DCRP) data used?

Over the years BJS has published several reports on corrections-related mortality, providing the corrections community with important statistics that help policy-makers and jail administrators address key public health issues facing jails and prisons. Some examples include:

- a. Mortality in Local Jails and State Prisons, 2000-2013 - Statistical Tables, August 2015, NCJ 248756*
- b. Mortality in Local Jails and State Prisons, 2000-2012-Statistical Tables, October 2014, NCJ 247448*
- c. Mortality in Local Jails, 2000-2011-Statistical Tables, August 2013, NCJ 242186*
- d. Medical Causes of Death in State Prisons, 2001-2004, January 2007, NCJ 216340*
- e. Mortality in Local Jails, 2000-2007 (Revised), NCJ 222988*

Please visit the BJS website at <http://www.bjs.gov> to access these and other statistical reports.

For more information about BJS or the DCRP, please contact—

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