



JAIL INMATES AT MIDYEAR 2007

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In June 2008, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the report *Jail Inmates at Midyear 2007*. The following data and chart summarize the findings contained in this report. A copy of the full report can be found at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/jim07.pdf>.

Characteristics of local jails

At midyear 2007, there were 780,581 inmates held in local jails, an increase of 1.9 percent from the year before. At midyear 2007, the jail incarceration rate was 259 per 100,000 population. In all, jails admitted an estimated 13 million persons from mid-2006 to mid-2007.

From 1995 to 2005, the number of jail jurisdictions declined by 123 to 2,876 jurisdictions from 1999 to 2005. The number of small jail jurisdictions (50 or fewer inmates) decreased, while the number of jurisdictions in all other size categories increased during the period.

Jails with an average daily population of 1,000 or more inmates accounted for six percent of all jail jurisdictions but about 52 percent of the jail inmate populations. Between midyear 2000 and midyear 2007, the number of inmates held in local jails increased by nearly 26 percent. Large jail jurisdictions accounted for 62 percent of the total growth in the jail population.

At midyear 2007, jails operated at 96 percent of rated capacity. Larger jails generally had a higher percent of occupied capacity, with jurisdictions having an average daily population of 500 or more operating at about 99 percent of rated capacity. Those jails with average daily populations of fewer than 50 inmates operated at an average 65 percent of rated capacity.

The 50 largest jail jurisdictions held about 29 percent of the nation's jail population. These inmates were operating at about 94 percent of rated capacity at midyear 2007. Jails in Franklin County (Columbus) and Hamilton County (Cincinnati) Ohio were two of the 50 largest jails in the U.S.

- At midyear 2007, Franklin County jail jurisdiction had an average daily population of 2,592 inmates and was at 95 percent of capacity, down from 101 percent at midyear 2006.
- At midyear 2007, Hamilton County jail jurisdiction had an average daily population of 2,351 inmates and was at 90 percent of capacity, down from 97 percent at midyear 2006.

Characteristics of jail inmates

- Since midyear 2000, the percentages of men and women in local jails have remained stable.
- Fifty-seven percent of offenders in local jails were racial or ethnic minorities. Forty-three percent were white, 39 percent were Black, and 16 percent were Hispanic/Latino.
- At midyear 2007, 62% of inmates held in local jails had not been convicted or were awaiting trial.
- Of those jurisdictions that reported housing non-U.S. citizens, non-U.S. citizens accounted for nearly eight percent of the jail population at midyear 2007.

Characteristic	Percent of jail inmates			
	2000	2005	2006	2007
Gender				
Male	88.6%	87.3%	87.1%	87.1%
Female	11.4	12.7	12.9	12.9
Age				
Adult	98.8%	99.1%	99.2%	99.1%
Male	87.4	86.5	86.3	86.3
Female	11.3	12.6	12.9	12.8
Juvenile ^a	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.9
Held as adults ^b	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.7
Held as juveniles	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Race/Hispanic origin^c				
White ^d	41.9%	44.3%	43.9%	43.3%
Black/African American ^d	41.3	38.9	38.6	38.7
Hispanic/Latino	15.2	15.0	15.6	16.1
Other ^{d,e}	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8
Two or more races ^d	...	0.1	0.1	0.1
Conviction status				
Convicted	44.0%	38.0%	37.9%	38.0%
Male	38.2	33.2	32.8	32.9
Female	6.7	4.9	5.0	5.2
Unconvicted	56.0%	62.0%	62.1%	62.0%
Male	48.9	54.2	54.3	54.3
Female	8.1	7.7	7.8	7.7
Note: See appendix table 4 for estimated number of jail inmates. ...Not collected.				
^a Persons under age 18 at midyear.				
^b Includes juveniles who were tried or awaiting trial as adults.				
^c Estimates based on reported data and adjusted for nonresponses.				
^d Excludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.				
^e Includes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders.				

Source: Jail Inmates at Midyear 2007, Bureau of Justice Statistics