

NATIONAL COMPARISONS OF CORRECTIONAL SYSTEMS

POPULATIONS

- There were 1,617,478 offenders incarcerated nationally on June 30, 2009. This is an increase of 0.5% compared to one year ago.
- The prison incarceration rate is estimated to be 504 inmates per 100,000 residents. This is a decrease of 0.9% compared to one year ago. This rate includes all inmates held in federal and state prisons.
- States experiencing the most growth in the first six months of 2009 are: Georgia, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and North Carolina.
- Sixteen states experienced prison population decreases led by California, Texas, and Michigan.
- The federal system held 201,142 inmates at mid-year 2008, making it the largest penal system in the country.
- California (173,026 inmates), Texas (170,159 inmates), and the federal system (206,577 inmates) together held 33.8% of all prisoners in the country.
- Since 2000, the number of federal prisoners has increased 42.1%, while the number of inmates held for state convictions increased 13.2%.
- Iowa's prison population increased 12.5% between FY 2000 and FY 2010.
- At mid-year 2009, privately-operated facilities held 127,688 inmates, an increase of 1.1% compared to June 30, 2008. Private facilities held 7.9% of all state and federal inmates.
- Imprisonment rates are calculated by the number of sentenced inmates per 100,000 residents. Louisiana had the highest prison imprisonment rate (866 inmates) followed by Mississippi (718 inmates), Oklahoma (655 inmates), Texas (649 inmates), and Alabama (637 inmates).
- Maine (151 inmates) had the lowest imprisonment rate.
- Iowa ranks 39th in the nation in terms of the imprisonment rate, with 281 inmates per 100,000 residents.
- Community supervision includes offenders on probation and parole. At year-end 2008, approximately 1 in 45 adults in the United States was on community supervision.
- Iowa had 26,117 offenders on community supervision as of June 30, 2008, a decrease of 0.8% compared to one year ago. Iowa had 1,136 offenders on community supervision per 100,000 total residents.

JAILS

- There were 767,620 people held in local jails across the nation on June 30, 2009, a decrease of 17,936 (2.3%) inmates compared to one year ago. This is the first decrease since the Bureau of Justice Statistics began surveying jails.
- The jail incarceration rate was 250 inmates per 100,000 residents at mid-year 2009, a decrease of 3.1% compared to 2008.
- Local jurisdictions reported adding 21,131 jail beds during the last year, for a total rated capacity of 849,544 beds.
- Jails were operating at 90.4% of rated capacity on June 30, 2008.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics