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# Historical Statistics on Prisoners in State and Federal Institutions, Yearend 1925-86

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## Introduction

In 1926 the Federal Government, in a statistical series called "National Prisoner Statistics," began keeping annual records of State and Federal prison populations. The series has been in continuous operation ever since. Published reports from the series are the source of national statistical information on prison populations in the United States.

Among the several continuously published measures of the prison population, one from the annual report is intended to provide a measure of the overall size of the prison population. This measure is the number of prisoners present in State and Federal prisons at the end of each year. Changes from one year to the next in the number of prisoners present at yearend reveal whether prison populations are increasing, decreasing, or staying the same in the United States.

This report combines yearend population counts from the annual published reports into a single table (table 1). Table 1 shows the prison population of each State, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Government on December 31 of each year from 1925 to 1986.

Over the more than 60 years in which prisoner counts have been reported, definitions of included populations have occasionally changed, and published figures have been revised (see Methodology). Annual counts reported here are based on final revised figures and represent the most comparable data published.

### National trends, 1925-86

**Record high number of prisoners.** From 1925 to 1974 the record high prison population was in 1961, when 220,149 persons were in prison. The record was broken in 1975, when the prison population reached 240,593. Every year since 1975 a new record high was set. To date, the 1986 prison population of 503,794 is the highest number ever recorded. It nearly equals the 1986 population of Alaska (534,000), Vermont (541,000), or Wyoming (507,000).

**Record year-to-year numerical increase.** The largest numerical increase in the prison population ever recorded was from 1981 to 1982, when the prison population grew by 41,060 prisoners. At that rate, the equivalent of a new 1,000-bed prison would have to be built nearly every week just to keep up with prison population growth.

**Record year-to-year percentage increase.** Over the past 62 years prison populations have typically increased from one year to the next. The average year-to-year change has been a 2.8% increase (table 2). The largest year-to-year percentage increases ever recorded have all occurred in the past 12 years. The largest year-to-year increase ever recorded was from 1980 to 1981, when the prison population increased 12.9%; the second largest, 11.9%, was from 1981 to 1982; the third largest, 10%, was from 1974 to 1975. From 1980 to 1986 the average year-to-year change in the prison population was an increase of 8.8%.

**Record year-to-year percentage decrease.** The largest year-to-year percentage decrease ever recorded was from 1941 to 1942, when the prison population declined 9.1%; the second largest decline, from 1942 to 1943, was 8.8%; the third largest decline, from 1965 to 1966, was 5.3%.

### Regional trends, 1925-86

**Record year-to-year percentage increase.** Over the past 62 years average year-to-year changes have been 2.7% increases in the Northeast; 2.1% increases in the Midwest; 3.4% increases in the South; and 3.9% increases in the West. Year-to-year changes from 1980 to 1986 have averaged much higher: 10.8% average yearly increases in the Northeast; 7.9% average yearly increases in the Midwest; 6.4% average yearly increases in the South; and 14.1% average yearly increases in the West.

### Individual State trends, 1925-86

**Record year-to-year percentage increase.** Over the historical period 1925-86, the average annual change has been a 2.8% increase. The States with the historically largest average annual increases (5% or more) are:

Alaska	14.3%
Delaware	6.0
Florida	6.0
Nevada	5.9
Arizona	5.4

The States with the historically smallest average annual increases (less than 1%) are:

Iowa	.8%
Minnesota	.7
West Virginia	.1

The States with the largest average annual increases during the 1980's (greater than 15%) are:

Alaska	23.1%
Hawaii	17.7
Arizona	16.9
Alabama	16.7
California	16.4
New Hampshire	16.1
Nevada	16.1
New Mexico	16.0

The States with the smallest average annual increases during the 1980's (less than 5%) are:

Texas	4.4%
Oregon	4.3
West Virginia	3.4
Iowa	2.3
North Carolina	2.2
Tennessee	1.0

**Trends in the size of the Federal prison population as a percentage of the total prison population**

**Record high percentage of Federal prisoners.** The prison population has two components: a State prison population (including the District of Columbia) and a Federal prison population. The Federal prison population as a percentage of the total population has fluctuated over time. From 1925 to 1945 the prevalence of Federal prisoners increased, reaching its all-time high level of 13.9% in 1945 (table 3).

**Record low percentage of Federal prisoners.** From 1945 to 1982 the prevalence of Federal prisoners steadily declined, reaching its all-time low level of 5.6% in 1982 (table 3). Since 1982 the prevalence of Federal prisoners has been growing.

**Methodology**

National Prisoner Statistics is a voluntary reporting program initiated by the Federal Government in 1926. The Federal agency responsible for administering the program was the Bureau of the Census from 1926 to 1949, the Federal Bureau of Prisons from 1950 to 1970, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration from 1971 to 1978, and the Bureau of Justice Statistics from 1979 to the present.

Yearend prison population counts are the product of a yearly national census in which the responsible Federal agency asks each State correctional institution (or its central reporting agency), the District of Columbia, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons to report summary statistics. The census is one among many other censuses and surveys that together make up the series called National Prisoner Statistics.

The census of yearend prison population uses a mail questionnaire. Results of the census are reported in an annual publication. Revisions to published results are reported in subsequent publications.

For some years the same publication reported more than one set of yearend figures, reflecting different ways of defining the yearend population. The yearend figures that were chosen for inclusion in this publication are based on the most comparable data published. The most comparable data are: 1) those that define the prison population as the total number of sentenced adult felons in the physical custody of State and Federal institutions at yearend and 2) those that reflect any revisions to originally published figures. Three specific exceptions to this definition are:

o The prison population on January 1, 1926, is reported here as December 31, 1925. For other years as well, yearend population figures reported here are actually figures for January 1 of the subsequent year. January 1 counts are used because they provide an acceptable measure of the

yearend population and because they reflect revisions to previously published December 31 figures.

● Figures for 1925 through 1970 include a small number of misdemeanants (defined as inmates with a maximum sentence less than 1 year). Data for felons alone were not published during these years. Figures for 1971 through 1986 refer solely to felons (defined as inmates with a maximum sentence greater than 1 year).

● Figures for 1986 are subject to revision. Final revised figures were not available at the time of this publication.

Other exceptions are noted in the published reports from which the data were taken.

In most cases yearend figures reported here are not from the original publication. The source is typically a later publication presenting revised yearend figures.

Further details of the methodology used in the annual census of yearend prison population are provided in the publication *State and Federal Prisoners, 1925-85* (BJS Bulletin, NCJ-102494, October 1986). Total prison populations reported here supersede those reported in that publication.

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### **How to obtain the data**

The dataset for "Historical statistics on prisoners in State and Federal institutions, yearend 1925-86" is available in a variety of machine-readable formats (floppy disk, nine-track tape, and so forth) from the National Criminal Justice Data Archive at the University of Michigan. Contact the archive at P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, MI 48106 (313-763-5010). In addition to the counts of prisoners by year and by jurisdiction, the dataset also includes general population estimates by year and by jurisdiction. These general population estimates were supplied by the U.S. Bureau of the Census to this project and incorporate any revisions to previously published estimates. As a result, calculated rates of imprisonment (prisoners per 100,000 population) from the dataset may differ from previously published rates.

Table 1. Sentenced prisoners in State and Federal institutions on December 31, 1925-86

	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
<b>U.S. total</b>	91,669	97,991	109,346	116,390	120,496	129,453
Federal	6,430	6,803	7,722	8,233	12,964	12,185
State	85,239	91,188	101,624	108,157	107,532	117,268
<b>Northeast</b>						
Connecticut	948	920	1,005	1,097	1,210	1,328
Maine	451	399	382	382	433	403
Massachusetts	1,769	1,923	1,866	2,123	2,124	2,436
New Hampshire	150	133	122	125	124	184
New Jersey	2,213	2,383	2,518	2,846	2,865	3,187
New York	6,820	7,367	7,583	7,819	8,135	8,856
Pennsylvania	3,960	4,170	4,505	5,027	5,314	5,836
Rhode Island	315	388	362	409	366	410
Vermont	346	343	332	399	412	455
<b>Midwest</b>						
Illinois	5,287	6,038	6,378	7,049	7,949	9,088
Indiana	3,402	3,535	3,710	3,881	3,986	4,323
Iowa	2,018	2,044	2,157	2,345	2,468	2,759
Kansas	2,369	2,675	2,708	2,861	2,776	2,756
Michigan	4,687	5,168	6,303	6,691	7,103	8,115
Minnesota	1,906	2,240	2,167	2,135	2,360	2,242
Missouri	3,059	3,442	3,624	3,828	3,971	4,311
Nebraska	936	1,000	994	1,077	1,124	1,200
North Dakota	304	309	302	298	330	369
Ohio	5,398	6,209	7,530	8,335	8,804	9,251
South Dakota	445	469	420	416	462	466
Wisconsin	1,356	1,494	1,595	1,617	1,933	2,381
<b>South</b>						
Alabama	...	...	3,152	3,674	...	...
Arkansas	1,297	1,231	1,241	1,124	1,153	1,312
Delaware	...	...	...	...	...	332
Dist. of Columbia	...	...	...	...	...	732
Florida	1,427	1,910	2,503	1,648	1,592	1,985
Georgia	3,007	2,945	3,184	3,424	...	...
Kentucky	2,170	2,248	2,188	2,805	3,143	3,448
Louisiana	1,575	1,686	1,746	1,963	2,130	2,440
Maryland	1,886	1,921	2,095	2,296	2,281	2,602
Mississippi	1,471	1,563	1,717	...	...	...
North Carolina	1,490	1,478	1,723	1,954	2,232	2,327
Oklahoma	2,513	2,677	3,281	3,484	3,690	3,614
South Carolina	528	504	437	633	686	799
Tennessee	1,916	2,023	2,182	2,450	2,676	2,887
Texas	3,396	3,201	3,864	4,561	5,056	5,068
Virginia	1,920	1,979	2,138	2,453	2,664	2,896
West Virginia	1,768	1,799	1,762	1,931	2,174	2,344
<b>West</b>						
Alaska	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arizona	473	444	483	534	509	539
California	5,285	5,794	6,049	6,815	7,071	7,116
Colorado	1,185	1,129	1,258	1,209	1,250	1,331
Hawaii	...	...	...	...	...	...
Idaho	347	382	396	418	381	403
Montana	420	437	471	503	668	721
Nevada	203	232	188	261	245	225
New Mexico	353	358	381	411	489	486
Oregon	478	572	629	697	817	888
Utah	206	210	208	210	278	314
Washington	1,504	1,552	1,484	1,621	1,741	1,765
Wyoming	282	264	301	318	357	338

Table 1. Continued  
 Sentenced prisoners in State and Federal institutions on December 31, 1925-86

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
<b>U.S. total</b>	<b>137,082</b>	<b>137,997</b>	<b>136,810</b>	<b>138,316</b>	<b>144,180</b>	<b>145,038</b>	<b>152,741</b>
Federal	12,964	12,276	10,848	12,058	14,762	15,374	15,309
State	124,118	125,721	125,962	126,258	129,418	129,664	137,432
<b>Northeast</b>							
Connecticut	1,342	1,366	1,267	1,238	1,299	1,243	1,204
Maine	514	559	523	524	524	504	574
Massachusetts	2,499	2,658	2,675	2,820	2,934	2,899	3,265
New Hampshire	189	198	209	229	228	257	262
New Jersey	3,263	3,212	3,289	2,975	3,110	3,079	3,457
New York	9,089	9,613	9,807	9,349	9,891	10,379	11,263
Pennsylvania	6,307	6,396	6,183	6,328	6,511	6,034	6,558
Rhode Island	463	535	460	456	589	581	564
Vermont	440	431	364	384	386	326	332
<b>Midwest</b>							
Illinois	9,890	10,440	10,581	10,748	10,579	9,848	11,137
Indiana	4,727	4,764	4,323	4,183	4,474	4,360	4,669
Iowa	2,971	3,058	3,006	2,829	2,835	2,733	2,664
Kansas	2,537	2,526	2,563	2,648	2,765	2,796	2,534
Michigan	8,995	8,689	7,460	7,487	7,206	6,503	6,926
Minnesota	2,443	2,592	2,599	2,659	2,594	2,506	2,379
Missouri	4,577	4,579	4,632	4,536	4,671	4,917	4,855
Nebraska	1,230	1,268	1,367	1,123	1,266	1,303	1,266
North Dakota	433	365	363	309	268	271	255
Ohio	9,154	8,603	9,119	8,787	8,645	8,174	8,795
South Dakota	529	580	546	545	571	557	528
Wisconsin	2,584	2,696	2,402	2,302	2,331	2,819	2,791
<b>South</b>							
Alabama	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arkansas	1,374	916	1,417	1,699	1,872	1,859	1,917
Delaware	340	...	238	510	470	525	521
Dist. of Columbia	813	1,048	1,174	1,259	1,430	1,668	1,670
Florida	2,985	2,951	3,050	3,041	2,849	3,233	3,254
Georgia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kentucky	3,504	3,439	3,322	3,928	3,306	4,261	4,261
Louisiana	2,775	2,580	2,920	2,939	3,001	3,044	3,274
Maryland	2,549	2,503	2,588	2,581	2,899	2,947	2,752
Mississippi	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,571
North Carolina	2,886	2,719	2,871	3,052	3,283	3,616	3,818
Oklahoma	4,164	4,096	4,110	4,192	4,570	4,256	3,904
South Carolina	...	1,194	1,167	1,181	1,244	1,310	1,250
Tennessee	2,926	2,734	2,672	2,812	3,093	3,071	3,024
Texas	5,385	5,190	5,347	5,214	5,904	5,948	6,400
Virginia	2,991	3,312	3,323	3,451	3,794	4,074	4,248
West Virginia	2,571	2,642	2,338	2,198	2,294	2,322	2,396
<b>West</b>							
Alaska	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arizona	587	677	615	572	613	688	696
California	7,515	8,333	9,042	9,156	8,578	8,108	8,108
Colorado	1,382	1,348	1,257	1,312	1,321	1,359	1,437
Hawaii	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Idaho	330	274	246	249	300	305	325
Montana	611	604	589	548	562	538	578
Nevada	255	229	163	158	186	197	230
New Mexico	546	526	548	524	604	559	651
Oregon	861	868	795	808	909	1,060	1,035
Utah	329	297	310	290	325	278	304
Washington	1,911	1,801	1,811	1,812	2,012	1,986	2,166
Wyoming	352	312	311	313	322	363	364



	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
<b>U.S. total</b>	<b>160,285</b>	<b>179,818</b>	<b>173,706</b>	<b>165,439</b>	<b>150,384</b>	<b>137,220</b>	<b>132,456</b>
Federal	17,133	19,730	19,260	18,465	16,623	16,113	18,139
State	143,152	160,088	154,446	146,974	133,761	121,107	114,317
<b>Northeast</b>							
Connecticut	1,174	1,166	1,146	1,055	1,163	1,175	1,115
Maine	626	666	608	605	524	441	484
Massachusetts	3,184	3,144	2,993	2,721	2,740	2,646	2,536
New Hampshire	269	259	262	243	242	207	210
New Jersey	3,650	3,570	3,662	3,543	3,299	2,972	3,041
New York	12,067	15,409	15,353	15,883	14,397	13,399	13,221
Pennsylvania	6,740	6,939	6,690	6,799	6,851	6,682	6,621
Rhode Island	500	411	308	348	360	371	331
Vermont	381	379	343	322	256	230	214
<b>Midwest</b>							
Illinois	11,790	11,707	11,374	10,234	10,019	8,631	7,766
Indiana	4,606	4,463	4,361	4,218	3,909	3,293	3,034
Iowa	2,593	2,648	2,574	2,447	2,104	1,785	1,677
Kansas	2,515	2,494	2,431	2,237	1,895	1,539	1,383
Michigan	7,306	7,731	7,656	7,571	7,511	7,447	7,506
Minnesota	2,570	2,640	2,589	2,415	2,058	1,769	1,617
Missouri	4,706	4,652	4,208	3,949	3,473	3,040	2,758
Nebraska	1,183	1,232	1,064	885	826	678	605
North Dakota	292	318	353	319	268	216	210
Ohio	9,310	8,840	8,758	8,260	7,442	7,008	6,672
South Dakota	512	439	400	371	324	239	210
Wisconsin	2,775	2,332	2,330	2,139	1,929	1,706	1,415
<b>South</b>							
Alabama	...	7,248	6,446	5,166	4,096	4,036	3,044
Arkansas	1,896	2,015	1,904	1,611	1,509	1,425	1,100
Delaware	491	435	386	168	151	130	135
Dist. of Columbia	1,738	1,678	1,597	1,604	1,535	1,345	1,205
Florida	3,578	3,753	3,648	3,799	3,005	2,521	2,415
Georgia	...	5,303	5,085	4,731	3,993	3,309	3,153
Kentucky	4,664	4,695	4,537	4,410	3,725	3,155	2,491
Louisiana	3,268	3,176	2,946	2,892	2,806	2,584	2,230
Maryland	3,081	2,949	2,933	3,127	2,908	2,577	2,832
Mississippi	2,680	2,591	2,651	2,537	2,512	2,251	1,922
North Carolina	4,134	4,985	4,998	5,121	4,905	4,520	4,304
Oklahoma	3,938	4,058	3,921	3,522	2,777	2,268	1,897
South Carolina	1,219	1,299	1,276	1,217	1,175	1,082	966
Tennessee	3,061	3,309	3,233	2,973	2,820	2,523	2,364
Texas	6,989	6,831	6,070	5,814	4,835	3,644	3,394
Virginia	4,412	4,369	4,144	4,038	4,142	3,841	3,870
West Virginia	2,507	2,643	2,691	2,689	2,736	2,431	2,208
<b>West</b>							
Alaska	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arizona	709	801	796	726	653	603	603
California	8,619	8,719	8,182	7,201	6,018	5,729	5,710
Colorado	1,639	1,749	1,556	1,536	1,386	1,303	1,174
Hawaii	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Idaho	283	430	409	241	175	148	201
Montana	544	577	522	492	412	353	342
Nevada	224	243	255	241	216	237	221
New Mexico	650	656	646	667	544	506	476
Oregon	1,080	1,047	1,038	976	816	794	864
Utah	349	411	438	318	276	264	272
Washington	2,299	2,292	2,312	2,256	1,771	1,778	2,033
Wyoming	351	387	363	337	274	276	265

Table 1. Continued  
 Sentenced prisoners in State and Federal institutions on December 31, 1925-86

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
<b>U.S. total</b>	133,649	140,079	151,304	155,977	163,749	166,165	165,680
Federal	18,638	17,622	17,146	16,328	16,868	17,134	17,395
State	115,011	122,457	134,158	139,649	146,881	149,031	148,285
<b>Northeast</b>							
Connecticut	1,023	1,045	1,078	1,084	1,087	1,020	1,081
Maine	576	570	627	632	650	736	698
Massachusetts	2,660	2,374	2,664	2,620	2,537	2,375	2,315
New Hampshire	206	237	269	268	250	235	207
New Jersey	3,227	3,541	3,958	4,190	4,301	3,991	4,005
New York	12,796	12,995	14,090	14,749	15,246	15,313	15,587
Pennsylvania	6,551	6,586	6,938	7,375	7,616	7,432	6,856
Rhode Island	346	365	403	361	350	284	248
Vermont	228	255	229	218	284	259	260
<b>Midwest</b>							
Illinois	7,263	7,478	7,820	7,784	7,922	7,886	7,420
Indiana	3,112	3,439	3,942	4,296	4,707	4,738	4,603
Iowa	1,673	1,695	1,824	1,990	2,104	2,084	2,081
Kansas	1,302	1,267	1,345	1,458	1,765	1,959	1,895
Michigan	7,392	7,829	8,241	8,161	8,589	8,591	9,132
Minnesota	1,544	1,586	1,616	1,699	1,777	1,879	1,834
Missouri	2,749	2,922	3,161	3,155	3,209	3,400	3,252
Nebraska	683	836	914	1,020	1,193	1,147	1,131
North Dakota	210	240	243	244	242	235	224
Ohio	6,735	7,264	8,134	8,261	8,835	9,128	9,132
South Dakota	232	300	363	422	418	451	411
Wisconsin	1,439	1,588	1,705	1,915	1,991	2,017	1,880
<b>South</b>							
Alabama	3,646	3,948	4,432	4,679	5,036	4,454	4,416
Arkansas	1,140	1,252	1,446	1,442	1,595	1,541	1,471
Delaware	153	169	189	178	157	158	161
Dist. of Columbia	1,126	1,115	1,102	1,258	1,372	1,478	1,514
Florida	2,525	2,952	3,460	3,761	3,851	3,973	3,860
Georgia	3,585	3,693	4,187	4,269	4,449	4,545	4,542
Kentucky	2,248	2,234	2,363	2,906	3,198	3,259	2,995
Louisiana	2,075	2,220	2,304	2,288	2,514	2,674	2,583
Maryland	2,885	3,481	3,597	3,771	4,148	3,892	3,952
Mississippi	1,781	1,846	1,893	1,886	1,970	2,158	2,168
North Carolina	4,258	4,438	4,907	5,016	5,144	5,004	5,223
Oklahoma	1,909	2,122	2,224	2,229	2,297	2,401	2,430
South Carolina	936	1,048	1,256	1,387	1,413	1,513	1,583
Tennessee	2,232	2,380	2,637	2,665	2,715	2,780	2,683
Texas	3,291	4,246	5,675	5,792	5,958	6,424	6,604
Virginia	3,853	3,937	3,992	3,984	4,242	4,439	4,540
West Virginia	2,044	2,178	2,309	2,484	2,776	2,904	2,974
<b>West</b>							
Alaska	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arizona	645	784	941	964	894	878	900
California	6,628	7,373	8,547	9,563	10,377	11,056	11,464
Colorado	1,211	1,331	1,389	1,456	1,362	1,490	1,446
Hawaii	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Idaho	194	257	326	381	479	514	469
Montana	342	361	428	464	584	595	575
Nevada	229	278	263	251	300	240	285
New Mexico	524	607	630	580	637	705	665
Oregon	982	1,106	1,200	1,308	1,400	1,534	1,542
Utah	342	409	487	485	476	562	469
Washington	2,002	1,957	2,044	1,944	2,053	2,290	2,151
Wyoming	278	323	366	356	411	410	368

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
<b>U.S. total</b>	<b>168,233</b>	<b>173,579</b>	<b>182,901</b>	<b>185,780</b>	<b>189,565</b>	<b>195,256</b>	<b>205,643</b>
Federal	18,014	19,363	20,003	20,088	20,134	20,420	21,549
State	150,219	154,216	162,898	165,692	169,431	174,836	184,094
<b>Northeast</b>							
Connecticut	1,093	1,173	1,188	1,260	1,263	1,329	1,565
Maine	635	641	611	620	646	621	647
Massachusetts	2,165	2,075	2,092	1,995	1,879	1,884	1,906
New Hampshire	193	193	169	198	192	167	144
New Jersey	3,640	3,625	3,796	3,782	3,944	3,848	3,996
New York	16,097	16,328	16,530	17,069	17,345	17,659	17,552
Pennsylvania	6,812	6,636	7,205	7,342	7,462	7,614	7,945
Rhode Island	255	257	289	305	298	253	272
Vermont	303	280	278	285	254	248	295
<b>Midwest</b>							
Illinois	7,411	7,632	7,948	8,130	8,053	8,451	8,606
Indiana	4,610	4,504	4,459	4,462	4,632	5,050	5,296
Iowa	2,040	2,034	2,162	2,203	2,177	2,148	2,167
Kansas	1,977	2,090	2,113	1,974	1,932	1,945	2,001
Michigan	8,732	8,912	9,571	9,547	10,071	10,138	10,334
Minnesota	1,775	1,848	1,985	1,964	2,063	2,153	2,128
Missouri	3,301	3,518	3,932	3,966	3,703	3,703	3,673
Nebraska	1,132	1,038	1,010	1,080	1,072	1,091	1,210
North Dakota	211	209	231	228	232	241	293
Ohio	9,250	9,482	10,146	10,483	10,679	11,257	11,365
South Dakota	442	443	448	423	451	464	467
Wisconsin	1,932	2,216	2,210	2,281	2,336	2,282	2,617
<b>South</b>							
Alabama	4,646	4,879	5,255	5,222	5,407	5,224	5,543
Arkansas	1,483	1,470	1,665	1,751	1,721	1,776	1,849
Delaware	153	151	165	172	226	213	226
Dist. of Columbia	1,529	1,786	1,914	1,943	2,119	1,968	2,064
Florida	3,894	3,878	4,343	4,830	5,107	5,668	6,374
Georgia	4,719	5,185	5,442	5,701	5,908	6,285	6,824
Kentucky	3,089	3,176	3,399	3,349	3,170	3,125	3,531
Louisiana	2,456	2,532	2,842	3,026	3,220	3,363	3,636
Maryland	4,400	4,500	4,930	4,685	5,117	5,099	5,037
Mississippi	2,060	1,890	1,970	2,080	2,011	1,967	2,066
North Carolina	5,250	5,497	5,530	5,334	5,497	5,702	5,804
Oklahoma	2,390	2,423	2,479	2,600	2,664	2,666	2,754
South Carolina	1,662	1,776	1,853	1,852	1,868	1,963	2,200
Tennessee	2,601	2,474	2,706	2,723	2,713	2,657	2,712
Texas	6,960	7,781	8,509	8,622	9,268	10,091	10,531
Virginia	4,608	4,587	4,938	4,869	4,869	5,135	5,719
West Virginia	2,697	2,316	2,220	2,269	2,101	2,191	2,406
<b>West</b>							
Alaska	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arizona	937	994	1,007	1,055	1,118	1,238	1,392
California	12,612	13,365	14,572	15,230	15,532	16,918	19,202
Colorado	1,520	1,597	1,783	1,800	1,912	2,006	1,972
Hawaii	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Idaho	450	464	511	520	526	538	587
Montana	577	631	674	529	586	596	645
Nevada	341	329	349	373	370	352	380
New Mexico	599	628	629	724	764	888	1,060
Oregon	1,508	1,591	1,516	1,552	1,557	1,400	1,524
Utah	549	583	560	554	602	567	570
Washington	2,224	2,331	2,438	2,443	2,468	2,422	2,623
Wyoming	299	268	326	287	326	272	384

Table 1. Continued  
 Sentenced prisoners in State and Federal institutions on December 31, 1925-86

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
<b>U.S. total</b>	208,105	212,953	220,149	218,830	217,283	214,336	210,895
Federal	22,492	23,218	23,696	23,944	23,128	21,709	21,040
State	185,613	189,735	196,453	194,886	194,155	192,627	189,855
<b>Northeast</b>							
Connecticut	1,500	1,497	1,639	1,653	1,652	1,716	1,642
Maine	696	750	766	728	723	719	695
Massachusetts	1,913	1,920	1,978	1,947	2,046	1,980	1,929
New Hampshire	147	180	191	164	210	198	205
New Jersey	4,101	4,284	4,572	4,573	4,594	4,614	4,839
New York	16,904	17,207	17,569	17,637	17,906	17,658	17,504
Pennsylvania	7,924	7,802	8,047	8,160	7,804	7,667	7,116
Rhode Island	274	255	262	249	266	278	310
Vermont	315	269	319	316	289	290	263
<b>Midwest</b>							
Illinois	8,660	9,064	9,611	8,928	8,855	8,754	8,306
Indiana	5,268	5,429	5,372	5,085	4,836	4,797	4,486
Iowa	2,212	2,204	2,418	2,406	2,291	2,256	2,178
Kansas	2,248	2,313	2,627	2,875	2,893	2,825	2,791
Michigan	9,622	9,550	9,197	8,338	8,264	8,028	7,342
Minnesota	2,137	2,059	2,016	1,883	1,720	1,863	1,772
Missouri	3,614	3,698	3,930	4,056	3,816	3,529	3,517
Nebraska	1,237	1,269	1,328	1,316	1,411	1,323	1,151
North Dakota	270	248	228	235	235	240	208
Ohio	11,448	11,111	11,155	11,513	11,644	11,861	11,374
South Dakota	561	526	571	544	556	525	571
Wisconsin	2,640	2,784	2,953	2,887	2,811	2,844	2,830
<b>South</b>							
Alabama	5,449	5,369	5,540	5,521	5,083	4,586	4,377
Arkansas	1,911	2,016	2,076	2,066	2,000	1,992	1,970
Delaware	232	226	240	206	208	281	315
Dist. of Columbia	1,990	1,958	2,059	1,890	1,841	1,653	1,604
Florida	6,802	7,084	7,615	7,599	6,751	6,725	6,995
Georgia	6,963	6,985	6,851	7,051	7,350	7,309	5,966
Kentucky	3,430	3,603	3,703	3,381	3,025	3,030	2,813
Louisiana	3,561	3,749	3,828	4,058	3,961	3,564	3,844
Maryland	5,010	5,316	5,745	5,615	5,164	5,453	5,467
Mississippi	2,057	1,975	2,068	2,179	2,121	2,056	2,019
North Carolina	5,949	5,977	5,875	5,409	4,950	4,888	6,029
Oklahoma	2,706	2,679	2,693	2,671	2,776	2,808	2,829
South Carolina	2,131	2,080	2,144	2,281	2,347	2,306	2,323
Tennessee	2,914	3,134	3,144	3,167	3,246	3,187	3,213
Texas	11,123	11,308	11,890	12,203	12,084	12,278	12,854
Virginia	5,909	5,775	5,734	5,308	5,103	4,873	4,553
West Virginia	2,492	2,407	2,207	2,031	1,912	1,722	1,477
<b>West</b>							
Alaska	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arizona	1,493	1,516	1,592	1,679	1,728	1,627	1,694
California	19,299	21,660	23,927	24,032	26,133	26,483	26,325
Colorado	2,012	2,078	2,149	2,356	2,594	2,666	2,766
Hawaii	509	558	583	536	490	504	463
Idaho	509	549	552	516	512	476	481
Montana	588	602	648	674	715	742	586
Nevada	399	413	431	453	442	450	622
New Mexico	1,136	1,243	1,243	1,274	1,178	987	1,002
Oregon	1,552	1,710	1,799	1,915	2,061	2,056	2,000
Utah	533	553	638	653	692	661	701
Washington	2,876	2,455	2,401	2,341	2,539	2,960	3,202
Wyoming	387	338	329	328	327	339	336

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
<b>U.S. total</b>	199,654	194,896	187,274	197,136	196,441	198,061	196,092
Federal	19,245	19,579	19,703	19,623	20,038	20,948	21,713
State	180,409	175,317	167,571	177,513	176,403	177,113	174,379
<b>Northeast</b>							
Connecticut	1,599	1,587	1,444	1,630	1,568	1,938	1,818
Maine	605	592	598	561	516	454	473
Massachusetts	1,829	1,824	1,912	1,966	2,053	2,203	1,856
New Hampshire	205	222	224	215	244	213	240
New Jersey	4,912	4,614	5,065	5,382	5,704	5,272	5,279
New York	15,760	14,085	12,781	12,452	12,059	11,928	11,693
Pennsylvania	6,519	5,674	5,519	5,780	6,289	5,315	6,245
Rhode Island	329	350	...	...	...	378	340
Vermont	233	220	226	170	162	212	139
<b>Midwest</b>							
Illinois	7,491	7,041	6,886	7,131	6,381	5,854	5,630
Indiana	3,907	3,884	4,057	4,243	4,137	4,358	3,847
Iowa	1,885	1,830	1,747	1,732	1,747	1,540	1,306
Kansas	2,444	2,289	2,185	1,980	1,902	2,017	1,642
Michigan	6,754	7,037	7,743	8,049	9,079	9,547	8,471
Minnesota	1,670	1,652	1,632	1,605	1,585	1,553	1,337
Missouri	3,447	3,263	3,245	3,242	3,413	3,614	3,533
Nebraska	1,027	971	950	937	1,001	1,040	953
North Dakota	199	182	156	161	147	132	179
Ohio	10,694	10,323	10,189	9,567	9,185	9,063	8,276
South Dakota	555	489	446	380	391	388	344
Wisconsin	2,709	2,607	2,172	2,768	2,973	2,493	2,036
<b>South</b>							
Alabama	4,056	3,881	4,017	4,140	3,790	3,823	3,632
Arkansas	1,864	1,651	...	...	...	1,658	1,619
Delaware	270	308	...	555	596	186	279
Dist. of Columbia	1,542	1,268	1,466	1,504	1,423	2,600	2,500
Florida	6,972	7,261	7,946	8,512	9,187	9,653	10,382
Georgia	5,385	5,300	5,175	5,084	5,113	6,777	8,225
Kentucky	2,932	2,834	2,864	3,314	2,849	3,060	2,941
Louisiana	4,068	4,112	4,237	4,170	4,196	4,159	3,421
Maryland	5,117	5,083	5,096	5,356	5,186	4,950	5,578
Mississippi	1,829	1,667	1,544	1,700	1,730	1,841	1,879
North Carolina	5,297	5,516	...	5,856	5,969	7,795	8,263
Oklahoma	2,776	2,756	2,893	3,230	3,640	3,729	3,667
South Carolina	2,248	2,337	2,331	2,506	2,726	3,066	3,197
Tennessee	2,968	2,980	2,999	3,148	3,268	3,454	3,329
Texas	12,392	12,313	12,215	14,014	14,331	15,989	15,709
Virginia	4,220	4,033	4,126	4,407	4,648	4,981	4,946
West Virginia	1,189	1,208	1,124	1,001	938	1,063	1,058
<b>West</b>							
Alaska	...	...	...	...	...	191	183
Arizona	1,627	1,596	1,692	1,714	1,461	1,401	1,529
California	27,467	27,741	28,435	27,535	25,033	17,474	16,970
Colorado	2,540	2,514	2,338	2,107	2,066	1,957	1,925
Hawaii	423	364	296	256	228	254	300
Idaho	477	391	328	348	411	362	377
Montana	548	521	466	372	260	250	283
Nevada	651	608	645	665	690	635	646
New Mexico	912	892	850	857	742	642	597
Oregon	1,880	1,803	1,815	1,712	1,800	2,016	1,856
Utah	659	651	640	488	491	590	581
Washington	3,098	2,738	2,599	2,765	2,864	2,782	2,608
Wyoming	279	254	257	246	231	263	262

Table 1. Continued  
 Sentenced prisoners in State and Federal institutions on December 31, 1925-86

	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
<b>U.S. total</b>	204,211	218,466	240,593	262,833	276,157	284,149	291,610
Federal	22,815	22,361	24,131	26,980	28,650	23,973	20,315
State	181,396	196,105	216,462	235,853	247,507	260,176	271,295
<b>Northeast</b>							
Connecticut	1,663	1,464	1,849	1,923	1,647	1,804	2,062
Maine	453	527	643	610	655	559	561
Massachusetts	1,981	2,226	2,242	2,651	2,789	2,693	2,707
New Hampshire	277	219	250	248	219	244	285
New Jersey	5,357	5,219	5,682	5,618	5,386	5,422	5,539
New York	12,945	14,329	16,071	17,705	19,367	20,190	20,895
Pennsylvania	6,515	6,732	5,982	6,656	6,873	7,320	7,325
Rhode Island	404	435	408	490	524	508	541
Vermont	188	242	244	279	279	322	285
<b>Midwest</b>							
Illinois	5,600	6,667	7,861	9,739	10,871	10,159	10,743
Indiana	3,357	3,051	3,897	4,203	4,250	4,394	5,270
Iowa	1,402	1,476	1,786	1,891	2,030	1,937	2,069
Kansas	1,354	1,421	1,685	2,078	2,246	2,284	2,171
Michigan	7,874	8,630	10,852	12,465	13,824	14,944	15,002
Minnesota	1,402	1,372	1,685	1,624	1,755	1,837	1,984
Missouri	3,767	3,764	4,371	4,997	5,302	5,637	5,279
Nebraska	1,006	1,040	1,251	1,304	1,284	1,218	1,126
North Dakota	155	129	173	162	194	198	199
Ohio	7,717	9,326	11,421	12,525	12,846	13,107	13,360
South Dakota	236	250	338	478	519	520	550
Wisconsin	2,147	2,587	2,992	3,299	3,347	3,432	3,677
<b>South</b>							
Alabama	3,693	4,259	4,420	3,032	2,919	4,242	4,028
Arkansas	1,679	1,938	2,162	2,431	2,386	2,510	2,783
Delaware	325	436	582	684	695	823	1,012
Dist. of Columbia	2,331	2,072	2,302	2,283	2,237	2,530	2,599
Florida	10,376	11,217	15,315	17,793	18,917	20,188	18,907
Georgia	8,310	9,289	10,421	11,025	11,243	10,833	11,666
Kentucky	2,954	3,051	3,246	3,657	3,661	3,390	3,691
Louisiana	4,033	4,779	4,758	4,696	5,951	6,101	6,746
Maryland	5,799	6,247	6,965	7,912	7,137	7,572	7,468
Mississippi	1,738	2,127	2,422	1,936	1,585	1,779	2,077
North Carolina	9,641	10,932	10,993	11,570	12,769	12,268	13,461
Oklahoma	3,187	2,896	3,133	3,736	3,609	4,186	4,250
South Carolina	3,489	4,318	5,600	6,433	6,041	6,922	7,016
Tennessee	3,454	3,771	4,561	4,817	5,480	5,835	6,629
Texas	17,238	16,833	18,937	20,717	22,517	24,575	26,522
Virginia	5,100	5,032	5,497	6,030	7,143	7,589	7,920
West Virginia	1,086	989	1,271	1,278	1,250	1,237	1,251
<b>West</b>							
Alaska	174	175	207	255	293	333	364
Arizona	1,691	2,101	2,647	2,850	2,982	3,206	3,315
California	19,794	21,897	17,296	18,113	17,338	19,550	21,260
Colorado	1,894	1,968	2,039	2,239	2,311	2,452	2,521
Hawaii	295	309	336	327	374	420	476
Idaho	426	525	580	682	752	795	810
Montana	316	336	429	551	617	633	677
Nevada	748	801	848	961	1,184	1,353	1,656
New Mexico	726	902	999	1,220	1,489	1,459	1,441
Oregon	1,670	1,993	2,480	2,821	2,924	2,838	3,244
Utah	519	548	657	748	824	872	935
Washington	2,632	2,989	3,369	3,771	4,272	4,524	4,463
Wyoming	278	269	307	340	400	432	477

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
<b>U.S. total</b>	<b>304,692</b>	<b>344,283</b>	<b>385,343</b>	<b>405,501</b>	<b>429,050</b>	<b>465,236</b>	<b>503,794</b>
Federal	19,025	21,311	21,630	23,836	24,805	29,215	33,135
State	285,667	322,972	363,713	381,665	404,245	436,021	470,659
<b>Northeast</b>							
Connecticut	2,469	2,770	3,004	3,508	3,665	3,955	3,990
Maine	541	667	729	790	802	1,028	1,136
Massachusetts	3,032	3,791	4,238	4,372	4,738	5,160	5,396
New Hampshire	299	351	431	434	521	630	723
New Jersey	5,561	6,846	7,970	9,092	10,345	11,328	12,017
New York	21,639	25,494	28,501	30,924	33,782	35,346	38,647
Pennsylvania	8,130	9,292	10,466	11,691	13,004	14,132	15,174
Rhode Island	601	688	785	867	888	965	1,015
Vermont	326	361	390	390	361	417	430
<b>Midwest</b>							
Illinois	10,451	13,669	13,551	15,364	16,912	18,279	19,456
Indiana	6,281	7,559	8,295	8,973	9,063	9,767	9,963
Iowa	2,435	2,670	2,829	2,814	2,836	2,687	2,777
Kansas	2,431	2,800	3,015	3,620	4,130	4,565	5,257
Michigan	15,124	15,157	14,913	14,510	14,604	17,755	20,742
Minnesota	1,884	1,909	2,197	2,235	2,331	2,495	2,515
Missouri	5,726	6,489	7,422	8,026	8,685	9,780	10,309
Nebraska	1,389	1,480	1,560	1,554	1,582	1,753	1,919
North Dakota	264	238	305	362	389	395	381
Ohio	13,138	14,796	17,147	16,416	16,993	18,776	19,930
South Dakota	625	665	758	812	893	1,000	1,111
Wisconsin	3,788	4,249	4,441	4,226	4,845	5,220	5,535
<b>South</b>							
Alabama	4,489	5,827	7,565	8,687	9,824	10,449	11,129
Arkansas	2,805	3,214	3,747	4,128	4,346	4,504	4,578
Delaware	967	984	1,260	1,392	1,340	1,541	1,808
Dist. of Columbia	2,719	2,932	3,351	3,465	3,718	4,604	4,787
Florida	19,945	22,898	26,892	25,293	26,751	28,054	31,632
Georgia	11,922	12,377	14,038	14,935	14,596	15,363	16,291
Kentucky	3,588	3,993	3,915	4,641	4,710	4,956	5,282
Louisiana	7,622	8,577	9,436	10,516	10,685	10,977	11,131
Maryland	7,454	8,841	10,968	11,854	12,316	12,183	12,444
Mississippi	2,690	3,412	4,412	4,542	4,766	5,364	5,474
North Carolina	14,456	14,754	15,349	14,257	15,219	16,007	16,373
Oklahoma	4,544	4,950	6,054	7,025	6,960	7,108	7,604
South Carolina	6,683	7,185	8,048	8,225	8,316	9,202	9,781
Tennessee	6,844	7,678	7,683	7,876	7,227	6,943	7,182
Texas	29,892	31,502	36,149	35,259	36,682	37,532	38,534
Virginia	8,231	8,460	9,203	9,197	9,784	10,778	11,166
West Virginia	1,257	1,565	1,547	1,609	1,579	1,725	1,482
<b>West</b>							
Alaska	381	510	608	808	1,052	1,250	1,293
Arizona	3,597	4,780	5,809	6,743	7,646	8,273	9,038
California	23,264	27,913	33,583	38,025	41,652	48,326	57,725
Colorado	2,596	2,743	3,037	3,242	3,230	3,386	3,808
Hawaii	544	680	804	977	1,244	1,317	1,422
Idaho	672	903	990	1,123	1,185	1,317	1,418
Montana	691	734	810	781	826	1,096	1,087
Nevada	1,815	2,075	2,546	3,068	3,430	3,774	4,425
New Mexico	925	1,305	1,433	1,629	1,814	2,028	2,198
Oregon	3,195	3,284	3,867	3,318	3,439	3,714	4,001
Utah	916	1,051	1,117	1,191	1,491	1,623	1,814
Washington	4,339	5,294	5,861	6,198	6,342	6,468	6,509
Wyoming	490	610	684	681	706	726	820

...Data not available.

**Table 2. Average annual change  
in prison population, 1925-86  
and 1980-86**

State	Average annual percent change in prison population	
	1925-86	1980-86
<b>U.S. total</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>8.8%</b>
Federal	3.2	9.8
State	2.8	8.7
<b>Northeast</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>10.8%</b>
Connecticut	2.7	8.4
Maine	2.0	13.5
Massachusetts	2.1	10.3
New Hampshire	3.3	16.1
New Jersey	3.0	13.8
New York	3.1	10.2
Pennsylvania	2.4	11.0
Rhode Island	2.5	9.2
Vermont	1.3	5.0
<b>Midwest</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>
Illinois	2.5	11.3
Indiana	2.1	8.2
Iowa	.8	2.3
Kansas	1.8	13.8
Michigan	2.8	5.8
Minnesota	.7	5.0
Missouri	2.2	10.3
Nebraska	1.6	5.6
North Dakota	1.1	7.1
Ohio	2.4	7.4
South Dakota	2.3	10.1
Wisconsin	2.8	6.7
<b>South</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>6.4%</b>
Alabama	1.8	16.7
Arkansas	2.9	8.6
Delaware	6.0	11.5
Dist. of Columbia	4.1	10.1
Florida	6.0	8.3
Georgia	2.8	5.4
Kentucky	2.0	6.9
Louisiana	3.6	6.6
Maryland	3.4	9.3
Mississippi	2.1	13.1
North Carolina	4.4	2.2
Oklahoma	2.2	9.2
South Carolina	4.8	6.6
Tennessee	2.4	1.0
Texas	4.5	4.4
Virginia	3.1	5.3
West Virginia	.1	3.4
<b>West</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>14.1%</b>
Alaska	14.3	23.1
Arizona	5.4	16.9
California	4.5	16.4
Colorado	2.1	6.7
Hawaii	4.6	17.7
Idaho	3.6	13.6
Montana	2.3	8.4
Nevada	5.9	16.1
New Mexico	3.8	16.0
Oregon	3.9	4.3
Utah	4.3	12.2
Washington	2.7	7.2
Wyoming	2.4	9.3



**Table 3. Total number of sentenced prisoners in State and Federal institutions and percentage of prisoners in Federal institutions, 1925-86**

Year	Number of prisoners		Percent of U.S. total in Federal institutions
	U.S. total	In State institutions	
1925	91,669	85,239	7.0%
1926	97,991	91,188	6.9
1927	109,346	101,624	7.1
1928	116,390	108,157	7.1
1929	120,496	107,532	10.8
1930	129,453	117,268	9.4%
1931	137,082	124,118	9.5
1932	137,997	125,721	8.9
1933	136,810	125,962	7.9
1934	138,316	126,258	8.7
1935	144,180	129,418	10.2%
1936	145,038	129,664	10.6
1937	152,741	137,432	10.0
1938	160,285	143,152	10.7
1939	179,818	160,088	11.0
1940	173,706	154,446	11.1%
1941	165,439	146,974	11.2
1942	150,384	133,761	11.1
1943	137,220	121,107	11.7
1944	132,456	114,317	13.7
1945	133,649	115,011	13.9%
1946	140,079	122,457	12.6
1947	151,304	134,158	11.3
1948	155,977	139,649	10.5
1949	163,749	146,881	10.3
1950	166,165	149,031	10.3%
1951	165,680	148,285	10.5
1952	168,233	150,219	10.7
1953	173,579	154,216	11.2
1954	182,901	162,898	10.9
1955	185,780	165,892	10.8%
1956	189,565	169,431	10.6
1957	195,256	174,836	10.5
1958	205,643	184,094	10.5
1959	208,105	185,613	10.8
1960	212,953	189,735	10.9%
1961	220,149	196,453	10.8
1962	218,830	194,886	10.9
1963	217,283	194,155	10.6
1964	214,336	192,627	10.1
1965	210,895	189,855	10.0%
1966	199,654	180,409	9.6
1967	194,896	175,317	10.0
1968	187,274	167,571	10.5
1969	197,136	177,513	10.0
1970	196,441	176,403	10.2%
1971	198,061	177,113	10.6
1972	196,092	174,379	11.1
1973	204,211	181,396	11.2
1974	218,466	196,105	10.2
1975	240,593	216,462	10.0%
1976	262,833	235,853	10.3
1977	276,157	247,507	10.4
1978	284,149	260,176	8.4
1979	291,610	271,295	7.0
1980	304,692	285,667	6.2%
1981	344,283	322,972	6.2
1982	385,343	363,713	5.6
1983	405,501	381,665	5.9
1984	429,050	404,245	5.8
1985	465,236	436,021	6.3
1986	503,794	470,659	6.6

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