U.S Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin

September 2005, NCJ 210344

HIV in Prisons, 2003

By Laura M. Maruschak
BJS Statistician

On December 31, 2003, 2.0% of State prison inmates and 1.1% of Federal prison inmates were known to be infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Correctional authorities reported that 22,028 State inmates and 1,631 Federal inmates were HIV positive. The number known to be HIV positive totaled 23,659, down from 23,864 at yearend 2002.

Of those known to be HIV positive in all U.S. prisons at yearend 2003, an estimated 5,944 were confirmed AIDS cases, up from 5,643 in 2002. Among State inmates, 0.5% had AIDS; among Federal inmates, 0.4%.

During 2003, 268 State prisoners died from AIDS-related causes, down from 283 in 2002. In 2003, 8% of State inmate deaths were attributed to AIDS, down from 32% in 1995. Among Federal prisoners 14 died from AIDS-related causes, down 3 deaths from the total in 2002.

This report is based on the 2003 National Prisoners Statistics (NPS-1) and the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program (DCRP). Data from NPS-1 are reported on one form by the departments of corrections in 50 States and by the Federal Bureau of Prisons. DCRP data are from individual records for each death. A record includes information on the deceased's characteristics such as gender, age, and race/Hispanic origin.

Highlights

Number of HIV-infected inmates steadily decreasing since 1999

	HIV-positive prison inmates	
Yearend	Number	Percent of custody population
1998	25,680	2.2%
1999	25,807	2.1
2000	25,333	2.0
2001	24,147	1.9
2002	23,864	1.9
2003	23,659	1.9

	HIV-positive prison inmates	
Jurisdiction	Number	Percent of custody population
New York	5,000	7.6%
Florida	3,112	3.9
Texas	2,460	1.8
Federal system	1,631	1.1
California	1,196	0.7
Georgia	1,095	2.3

- Between 2002 and 2003 the number of HIV-positive prisoners decreased less than 1%, while the overall prison population grew 1.6% during the same period.
- At yearend 2003, 2.8% of all female State prison inmates were HIV positive, compared to 1.9% of males.
- During 2003, 29 States reported a decrease in the number of HIV-positive prisoners, and 14 States and the Federal system reported an increase.
- New York held about a fifth of all inmates (5,000 inmates) known to be HIV positive at yearend 2003.
- Florida, with an increase of 264 HIV-positive inmates, reported the largest increase, followed by the Federal system (up 84). New Jersey, with 99 fewer HIV-positive inmates, reported the largest drop.
- The overall rate of confirmed AIDS among the prison population (0.51%) was more than 3 times the rate in the U.S. general population (0.15%).

Rate of AIDS-related deaths in State prisons decreased in 2003

	AIDS-related deaths in State prisons		
	Number		Rate per
Year	Reported in NPS-1	Total*	100,000 inmates
1995	1,010	--	100
1996	907	--	90
1997	538	--	48
1998	350	--	30
1999	242	--	20
2000	185	--	15
2001	256	311	25
2002	215	283	22
2003	213	268	21

*Total deaths for 2001-03 are based on a combination of NPS-1 and DCRP data.

- In 2003, 282 prisoners died from AIDS-related causes — 268 State inmates and 14 Federal inmates.
- The number of AIDS-related deaths in State prisons decreased 73% from 1995 to 2003.
- Through a combination of death data from both National Prisoner Statistics and the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, 55 additional AIDS-related deaths were identified for 2003.

Table 1. Inmates in custody of State or Federal prison authorities and known to be positive for the human immunodeficiency virus, 2001-03

Jurisdiction[a]	Total known to be HIV positive[b] 2003	2002	2001	HIV/AIDS cases as a percent of total custody population[c] 2003	2002	2001
U.S. total						
Reported[d]	23,659	23,864	24,147	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%
Comparable reporting[e]	23,649	23,806	23,981			
Federal	1,631	1,547	1,520	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%
State	22,028	22,317	22,627	2.0	2.0	2.0
Northeast	7,394	7,620	8,136	4.5%	4.6%	4.9%
Connecticut	572	666	604	3.2	3.6	3.5
Maine	10	--	15	0.5	--	0.9
Massachusetts	230	290	307	2.3	2.9	3.0
New Hampshire	21	16	17	0.9	0.6	0.7
New Jersey	657	756	804	2.8	3.2	3.4
New York	5,000	5,000	5,500	7.6	7.5	8.1
Pennsylvania	775	800	735	1.9	2.0	2.0
Rhode Island	120	86	148	3.4	2.5	4.4
Vermont	9	6	6	0.6	0.4	0.4
Midwest	2,087	2,133	2,135	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
Illinois	551	570	593	1.3	1.3	1.3
Indiana	--	--	--	--	--	--
Iowa	31	33	27	0.4	0.4	0.3
Kansas	32	48	41	0.3	0.5	0.5
Michigan	579	591	584	1.2	1.2	1.2
Minnesota	40	37	33	0.5	0.5	0.5
Missouri	268	262	262	0.9	0.9	0.9
Nebraska	21	24	24	0.5	0.6	0.6
North Dakota	2	4	4	0.2	0.4	0.4
Ohio	416	417	398	1.0	1.0	0.9
South Dakota	11	6	5	0.4	0.2	0.2
Wisconsin	136	141	164	0.7	0.8	0.9
South	10,740	10,656	10,392	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%
Alabama	270	276	302	1.0	1.1	1.2
Arkansas	94	100	108	0.7	0.8	0.9
Delaware	105	128	143	1.6	1.9	2.1
Florida	3,112	2,848	2,602	3.9	3.8	3.6
Georgia	1,095	1,123	1,150	2.3	2.4	2.5
Kentucky	--	--	105	--	--	1.1
Louisiana	511	503	514	2.6	2.5	2.6
Maryland	988	967	830	4.2	4.0	3.5
Mississippi	200	224	234	1.6	1.9	2.0
North Carolina	640	602	573	1.9	1.8	1.8
Oklahoma	162	146	130	1.0	0.9	0.9
South Carolina	520	544	559	2.3	2.4	2.6
Tennessee	208	218	231	1.5	1.5	1.7
Texas	2,460	2,528	2,388	1.8	1.9	1.8
Virginia	361	425	507	1.2	1.4	1.7
West Virginia	14	24	16	0.4	0.7	0.5
West	1,807	1,908	1,964	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%
Alaska	--	16	16	--	0.5	0.5
Arizona	123	130	122	0.4	0.4	0.4
California[f]	1,196	1,181	1,305	0.7	0.7	0.8
Colorado	162	182	173	1.0	1.1	1.2
Hawaii	27	22	13	0.7	0.6	0.3
Idaho	22	18	14	0.5	0.4	0.4
Montana	4	8	11	0.2	0.4	0.6
Nevada	107	113	127	1.0	1.2	1.4
New Mexico	29	30	27	0.5	0.5	0.5
Oregon	--	42	30	--	0.4	0.3
Utah	37	58	34	0.8	1.4	0.8
Washington	93	101	88	0.6	0.6	0.6
Wyoming	7	7	4	0.6	0.6	0.4

--Not reported.

[a]At yearend 2001 responsibility for housing District of Columbia sentenced felons was transferred to the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

[b]Counts published in previous reports have been revised.

[c]Percentages are based on custody counts, except for New Mexico for which percentages are based on its yearend jurisdiction count.

[d]Excludes inmates in jurisdictions that did not report data.

[e]Excludes Alaska, Kentucky, Oregon, and Maine all 3 years because of incomplete data.

[f]The number of HIV-positive inmates in California was estimated by applying the percentage of inmates known to be HIV positive in 2002 to the 2003 custody population.

Number of HIV-infected prison inmates at yearend 2003, down from 2002

At yearend 2003, 23,659 inmates in State and Federal prisons were known to be infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), down from 23,864 in 2002 (table 1). Among State prison inmates, 22,028 were known to be HIV positive; among Federal inmates, 1,631.

HIV-infected inmates were concentrated in a small number of States. New York (5,000), Florida (3,112), and Texas (2,460) held the largest number of HIV-positive inmates. These three States housed nearly half (48.0%) of all HIV-infected inmates in State prisons in 2003.

New York has estimated the number of HIV-infected inmates using data obtained through blinded seroprevalence studies conducted biennially by the New York Department of Health.* The trend in HIV-infection among prisoners is affected by these estimated numbers in New York. Excluding New York, the number of HIV-infected inmates has been stable among the other States. Between 1998 and 2003 the number has fluctuated between 18,180 and 19,333.

Year	Number of HIV-positive inmates: All jurisdictions	Exclude New York
1998	25,680	18,180
1999	25,807	18,807
2000	25,333	19,333
2001	24,147	18,647
2002	23,864	18,864
2003	23,659	18,659

*New York draws blood from all entering inmates. Every other year an extra sample from 1,000 sequential receptions in each of 4 reception centers is tested for various diseases including HIV. The percentage with HIV-infection is applied to the total inmate population and then adjusted for length of stay and findings from other studies. Projections are made for the interim years without the blinded studies.

HIV-positive inmates comprised 2.0% of the State prison population in 2003, unchanged since 2001. In Federal prisons HIV-positive inmates comprised 1.1% in 2003. Overall, the percentage of the total prison population with HIV has remained constant at 1.9% since 2001.

	Percent of custody population known to be HIV positive	
Year	State	Federal
1998	2.3%	1.0%
1999	2.3	0.9
2000	2.2	1.0
2001	2.0	1.2
2002	2.0	1.1
2003	2.0	1.1

Inmates in the Northeast had the highest rate of HIV infection

In the Northeast 4.5% of the prison population were known to be HIV positive in 2003, followed by 2.2% in the South, 1.0% in the Midwest, and 0.7% in the West. New York had the highest percentage of inmates known to be HIV positive (7.6%), followed by Maryland (4.2%) and Florida (3.9%)

Vermont, North Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming reported fewer than 10 HIV-positive inmates in their prisons. In 2003 every reporting jurisdiction held at least one HIV-positive inmate. Seven States reported that fewer than 0.5% of their inmate population were HIV positive.

Between 2002 and 2003, 29 States reported a decrease in the number of HIV-positive inmates. The largest decrease was reported in New Jersey (down 99), followed by Connecticut (94), and Texas (68). Fourteen States and the Federal system reported an increase. The largest increases were reported in Florida (up 264), the Federal system (84), North Carolina (38), and Rhode Island (34).

A greater percentage of females than males with HIV infection

On December 31, 2003, 19,777 male inmates and 2,115 female inmates in State prisons were known to be HIV positive (table 2). Overall, 1.9% of male inmates and 2.8% of all female inmates were known to be HIV positive. New York reported the largest numbers of male and female HIV-positive inmates (4,570 and 430, respectively). The second largest numbers of HIV-positive male and female inmates were in Florida (2,744 and 368, respectively), followed by Texas (2,205 and 255, respectively). Four States (Vermont, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Montana) reported having no HIV-positive female inmates. Every reporting State had at least one HIV-positive male inmate.

Over 10% of all female inmates were known to be HIV positive in two States — New York (14.6%), and Maryland (11.1%). New York (with 7.3%) was the only State with more than 5% of male inmates known to be HIV positive.

Table 2. Inmates in custody of State or Federal prison authorities known to be positive for the human immunodeficiency virus, by gender, yearend 2003

	Male HIV cases		Female HIV cases	
Jurisdiction	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population
U.S. total				
Estimated[a]	21,569		2,253	
Reported	21,286	1.8%	2,237	2.6%
Federal	1,509	1.1%	122	1.2%
State	19,777	1.9	2,115	2.8
Northeast	6,697	4.3%	697	8.1%
Connecticut	480	2.9	92	6.7
Maine	9	0.5	1	0.9
Massachusetts	211	2.3	19	2.7
New Hampshire	19	0.8	2	1.5
New Jersey	569	2.6	88	7.5
New York	4,570	7.3	430	14.6
Pennsylvania	724	1.9	51	2.9
Rhode Island	106	3.2	14	6.3
Vermont	9	0.7	0	0
Midwest	1,793	1.0%	158	1.3%
Illinois	488	1.2	63	2.3
Indiana	--	--	--	--
Iowa	29	0.4	2	0.3
Kansas	29	0.3	3	0.5
Michigan	543	1.2	36	1.6
Minnesota	40	0.6	0	0
Missouri	258	0.9	10	0.5
Nebraska	20	0.5	1	0.3
North Dakota	2	0.2	0	0
Ohio	378	1.0	38	1.3
South Dakota	6	0.2	5	1.9
Wisconsin	--	--	--	--
South	9,628	2.1%	1,112	3.2%
Alabama	246	1.0	24	1.4
Arkansas	82	0.7	12	1.6
Delaware	103	1.7	2	0.4
Florida	2,744	3.7	368	7.3
Georgia	991	2.2	104	3.3
Kentucky	--	--	--	--
Louisiana	469	2.5	42	4.1
Maryland	852	3.8	136	11.1
Mississippi	176	1.6	24	1.5
North Carolina	573	1.8	67	3.1
Oklahoma	154	1.1	8	0.4
South Carolina	483	2.3	37	2.4
Tennessee	186	1.4	22	1.9
Texas	2,205	1.7	255	2.6
Virginia	352	1.3	9	0.4
West Virginia	12	0.3	2	0.6
West	1,659	0.7%	148	0.8%
Alaska	--	--	--	--
Arizona	119	0.5	4	0.2
California[b]	1,121	0.7	75	0.7
Colorado	141	1.0	21	1.3
Hawaii	24	0.7	3	0.6
Idaho	19	0.5	3	0.6
Montana	4	0.2	0	0
Nevada	82	0.8	25	3.3
New Mexico	28	0.5	1	0.2
Oregon	--	--	--	--
Utah	29	0.7	8	2.6
Washington	87	0.6	6	0.5
Wyoming	5	0.5	2	1.9

--Not reported.

[a]Includes estimates of the number of inmates with HIV/AIDS by gender for Alaska, Kentucky, Oregon, and Wisconsin. Estimates were based on the most recent data available by gender.

[b]The number of male and female HIV cases in California was estimated by applying the 2002 gender distribution to the 2003 estimated total known to be HIV positive.

Number of HIV-positive male and female inmates in State prisons declined during 2003

In States that did not provide a breakdown of the number of HIV cases by gender, estimates were made using the data reported from the most recent year. Based on these yearend estimates, the number of HIV-infected females in State prisons decreased from 2,164 to 2,131 in 2003. The number of infected male inmates decreased from 20,273 to 20,060 in 2003. The estimated number of both male and female HIV-positive inmates in State prisons declined after 1998. Between 1998 and 2003 the percentage of male HIV-positive inmates decreased from 2.2% to 1.8%, as the percentage of female inmates fell from 3.8% to 2.7%.

	State prison inmates	
Year	Estimated number of HIV-positive inmates*	Percent HIV/AIDS in custody population
Male inmates		
1998	22,045	2.2%
1999	22,175	2.2
2000	21,894	2.1
2001	20,415	1.9
2002	20,273	1.9
2003	20,060	1.8
Female inmates		
1998	2,552	3.8%
1999	2,402	3.5
2000	2,472	3.4
2001	2,212	3.1
2002	2,164	2.9
2003	2,131	2.7

*To provide year-to-year comparisons, estimates were made for States not reporting a gender breakdown. For each State, estimates were made by applying the same percent breakdown by gender from the most recent year when data were provided.

Confirmed AIDS cases in U.S. prisons increased during 2003

At the end of 2003, a reported 5,227 inmates in U.S. prisons had confirmed AIDS, up from 4,898 in 2002. Among those with confirmed AIDS, 4,601 were in State prisons, and 626 were in Federal prisons (table 3).

Because some States each year did not provide a breakdown of the number of HIV cases by type of HIV infection, estimates of the number of confirmed AIDS cases were made for those States to provide comparable year-to-year data. Based on yearly estimates, the number of confirmed AIDS cases increased from 5,643 in 2002 to 5,944 in 2003.

Between 1998 and 2003, 33 States and the Federal system consistently reported the number of inmates with confirmed AIDS. As with the reported and estimated numbers, the comparable number of inmates with confirmed AIDS declined between 1998 and 2003, from 5,864 to 4,956.

Table 3. Inmates in custody of State or Federal prison authorities and known to have confirmed AIDS, 2002-03

	Confirmed AIDS cases			
	Number		Percent of custody population[a]	
Jurisdiction	2003	2002	2003	2002
U.S. total				
Estimated[b]	5,944	5,643		
Reported	5,227	4,898	0.5%	0.5%
Federal	626	544	0.4%	0.4%
State[b]	4,601	4,354	0.5	0.5
Northeast	1,555	1,666	0.9%	1.0%
Connecticut	211	271	1.2	1.4
Maine	0	--	0	--
Massachusetts	78	113	0.8	1.1
New Hampshire	2	4	0.1	0.2
New Jersey	168	167	0.7	0.7
New York	800	860	1.2	1.3
Pennsylvania	240	212	0.6	0.5
Rhode Island	52	36	1.5	1.0
Vermont	4	3	0.3	0.2
Midwest	237	303	0.2%	0.3%
Illinois	76	149	0.2	0.3
Indiana	--	--	--	--
Iowa	2	15	‡	0.2
Kansas	4	6	‡	0.1
Michigan	--	--	--	--
Minnesota	11	4	0.1	0.1
Missouri	--	--	--	--
Nebraska	10	5	0.2	0.1
North Dakota	0	0	0	0
Ohio	123	124	0.3	0.3
South Dakota	11	0	0.4	0
Wisconsin	--	--	--	--
South	2,452	2,016	0.7%	0.6%
Alabama	133	81	0.5	0.3
Arkansas	23	20	0.2	0.2
Delaware	31	39	0.5	0.6
Florida	711	520	0.9	0.7
Georgia	--	--	--	--
Kentucky	--	--	--	--
Louisiana	--	--	--	--
Maryland	253	252	1.1	1.1
Mississippi	--	--	--	--
North Carolina	246	207	0.7	0.6
Oklahoma	--	--	--	--
South Carolina	220	261	1.0	1.1
Tennessee	55	60	0.4	0.4
Texas	778	559	0.6	0.4
Virginia	--	--	--	--
West Virginia	2	17	0.1	0.5
West	357	369	0.2%	0.2%
Alaska	--	1	--	‡
Arizona	--	--	--	--
California[c]	188	186	0.1	0.1
Colorado	35	46	0.2	0.3
Hawaii	4	1	0.1	‡
Idaho	0	4	0	0.1
Montana	0	0	0	0
Nevada	20	14	0.2	0.1
New Mexico	29	15	0.5	0
Oregon	--	1	--	‡
Utah	11	20	0.2	0.5
Washington	70	81	0.4	0.5
Wyoming	0	0	0	0

--Not reported.
‡Less than .05%.
[a]Percents exclude jurisdictions that did not report type of HIV infection.
[b]Includes estimates of the number of inmates with confirmed AIDS for Arizona, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Virginia, and Wisconsin in 2002 and 2003, for Maine in 2002, and for Alaska and Oregon in 2003. Estimates were based on the most recent data.
[c]The number of confirmed AIDS cases in California was estimated by applying the 2002 percentage to the 2003 estimate of HIV positives.

Year	Number of confirmed AIDS cases		
	Estimated[a]	Reported[b]	Comparable[c]
1998	6,809	6,282	5,864
1999	7,039	6,642	5,788
2000	6,295	5,696	5,093
2001	6,286	5,754	5,214
2002	5,643	4,898	4,571
2003	5,944	5,227	4,956

[a]In States not reporting confirmed AIDS, estimates were made by applying the percent breakdown by type of HIV infection from the most recent year when data were provided.
[b]Excludes 7 States in 1998, 5 in 1999, 8 in 2000, 6 in 2001, 12 in 2002, and 13 in 2003.
[c]The Federal system and 33 States reported data in all 6 years.

Confirmed AIDS cases made up 0.5% of inmates in State prisons and 0.4% of those in Federal prisons. Of those known to be HIV-positive inmates, more than a fifth had confirmed AIDS.

The States with the largest number of confirmed AIDS cases were New York (800), Texas (778), and Florida (711). Combined, these States held nearly half of all confirmed AIDS cases in State prisons. The Federal system held 626 inmates with confirmed AIDS. Eleven States reported having fewer than 10 confirmed AIDS cases in their prisons; 5 reported having none.

Rhode Island (1.5%) had the highest percentage of confirmed AIDS, followed by Connecticut and New York (both 1.2%). In 12 States confirmed AIDS cases comprised 0.1% or less of State inmates.

During 2003, 16 States reported a decrease in the number of confirmed AIDS cases. Illinois, with a decrease of 73, had the largest drop in the number of confirmed AIDS cases, followed by New York and Connecticut (both down 60). Seventeen States and the Federal system reported an increase in the number of confirmed AIDS cases, led by Texas (up 219) and Florida (191).

Rate of confirmed AIDS 3 times higher among prison inmates than in the U.S. general population

In every year since 1991, the rate of confirmed AIDS has been higher among prison inmates than in the general population (figure 1). At yearend 2003 the rate of confirmed AIDS in State and Federal prisons was more than 3 times higher than in the total U.S. population. About 51 in every 10,000 prison inmates had confirmed AIDS, compared to 15 in 10,000 persons in the U.S. general population.

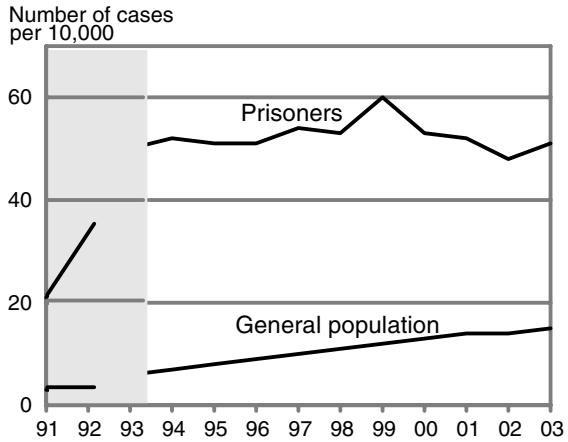
Year	Percent of population with confirmed AIDS	
	U.S. general population	State and Federal prisoners
1998	0.11%	0.53%
1999	0.12	0.60
2000	0.13	0.53
2001	0.14	0.52
2002	0.14	0.48
2003	0.15	0.51

Note: The percent of the general population with confirmed AIDS in each year may be over-estimated due to delays in death reports. See *Methodology* for source of data.

AIDS-related deaths in State prisons dropped from 1995 to 2003

The number of State inmates who died of Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, Kaposi's sarcoma, or other AIDS-related diseases peaked in 1995 and steadily decreased until 2001 (figure 2). According to data reported in the NPS-1, the number of AIDS-related deaths (213) was slightly less than that in 2002 (215). Overall, after 1995 the number

Rate of confirmed AIDS cases, comparing the general population to State and Federal prisoners, 1991-2003



Note: The shaded area covers the period prior to the 1993 expansion of the classification system for HIV infection and the case definition for AIDS. This expansion improved estimates of the number and the characteristics of persons with HIV disease, but complicated interpretation of AIDS trends. The increase in reported AIDS cases in 1993 was largely the consequence of the added surveillance criteria. See *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Vol. 43, No. 45, November 18,1994.

Figure 1

Rate of State prison inmate death, by cause, 1991-2003

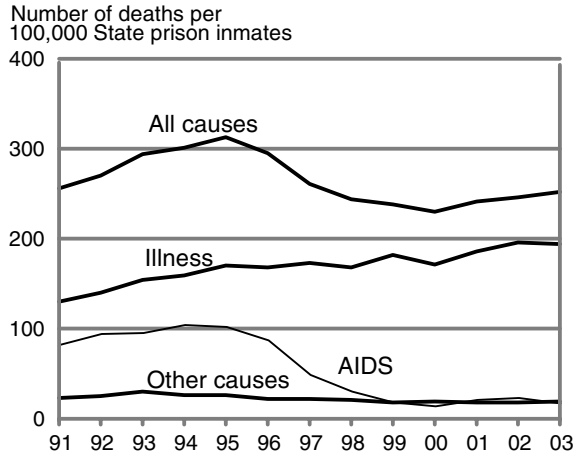


Figure 2

Table 4. Inmate deaths in State prisons, by cause, 1995 and 2003

	Deaths of State inmates			
	Number		Rate per 100,000 inmates*	
Cause of death	2003	1995	2003	1995
Total	3,230	3,133	250	311
Natural causes other than AIDS	2,417	1,569	187	156
AIDS	213	1,010	16	100
Suicide	195	160	15	16
Accident	28	48	2	5
Execution	64	56	5	6
By another person	42	86	3	9
Other/unspecified	271	204	21	20

*Detail may not add to total due to rounding.

Table 5. Inmate deaths in Federal prisons, by cause, 2002 and 2003

	Deaths of Federal inmates			
	Number		Rate per 100,000 inmates*	
Cause of death	2003	2002	2003	2002
Total	347	335	204	207
Natural causes other than AIDS	315	289	185	179
AIDS	14	17	8	11
Suicide	6	17	4	11
Accident	4	5	2	3
Execution	1	0	1	0
By another person	5	3	3	2
Other/unspecified	2	4	1	2

*Detail may not add to total due to rounding.

of AIDS-related deaths was down 797 from 1,010 in 1995 to 213 in 2003 (table 4).

Among Federal inmates 14 died from AIDS-related causes, down from 17 in 2002 (table 5). In 2003 for every 100,000 inmates, 8 died from AIDS-related causes. These AIDS-related deaths accounted for 4% of all deaths in Federal prison.

The introduction of protease inhibitors and combination antiretroviral therapies produced a substantial improvement in the effectiveness of HIV/AIDS care. See Hammett and Harmon, "Medical Treatment and a Continuum of Care" in *1996-1997 Update: HIV/AIDS, STDs and TB in Correctional Facilities* (July 1999, NCJ 176344).

DCRP identifies more States with AIDS-related deaths in State prisons

Pursuant to the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2000, BJS began in 2001 to collect individual-level information about deaths in State prisons (DCRP). Overall, 12 States under-reported AIDS-related deaths in the NPS-1 collection, while 11 States under-reported AIDS-related deaths in DCRP.

For a total of AIDS-related deaths in prisons, DCRP and NPS-1 data were combined (table 6). The most complete data for each State's number of deaths were used to calculate the totals for 2001, 2002, and 2003. An additional 55 AIDS-related deaths were identified in 2003, 68 in 2002, and 55 in 2001. Adjusted for under-reporting, the number of AIDS-related deaths in 2003 was 21 per 100,000 State prison inmates, down from 22 in 2002.

	AIDS-related deaths in State prisons		
	Number		Rate per
Year	Reported in NPS-1	Total*	100,000 inmates
1995	1,010	--	100
1996	907	--	90
1997	538	--	48
1998	350	--	30
1999	242	--	20
2000	185	--	15
2001	256	311	25
2002	215	283	22
2003	213	268	21

*Total number of deaths for 2001-2003 are based on a combination of NPS-1 and DCRP data.

For the general population the percentage of deaths due to AIDS increased in 2001 but declined in 2002. In 2002 the percentage of deaths due to AIDS was more than 2 times higher in the prison population than in the U.S. general population ages 15-54. About 1 in every 11 prisoner deaths were attributable to AIDS-related causes compared to 1 in 23 deaths in the general population.

	AIDS-related deaths as a percent of all deaths	
Yearend	State prisoners[a]	U.S. general population age 15-54[b]
1995	34.2%	13.1%
1996	30.8	10.1
1997	18.9	5.8
1998	13.3	5.4
1999	11.2	4.3
2000	8.4	3.9
2001	10.3	4.5
2002	9.1	4.4
2003	8.0	--

-- Not available.
[a]Percents are based on the number of inmate deaths, excluding those in jurisdictions not reporting AIDS-related deaths.
[b]See *Methodology* for source of data.

About 1 in 12 deaths in State prisons due to AIDS-related illnesses

In 2003 for every 100,000 State inmates, 21 died from AIDS-related causes. The most AIDS deaths were reported in the South (157), followed by the Northeast (63). Together, these two regions accounted for more than 8 out of 10 AIDS-related deaths in State prisons.

Florida reported the largest number of AIDS-related deaths (42), followed by New York and Texas (27). Eighteen States reported having no AIDS-related deaths.

Relative to the number of inmates, Delaware had the highest rate of AIDS-related deaths (87 per 100,000 inmates), followed by Maryland (54 per 100,000), Florida (52 per 100,000), and Vermont (50 per 100,000).

AIDS-related deaths reported in DCRP show variations by gender, race/Hispanic origin, and age

Of the 210 reported inmate deaths due to AIDS-related causes in 2003, 202 were deaths of males, and 8 were deaths of females (table 7). Inmates between ages 35 and 44 accounted for almost half of all AIDS-related deaths (97). AIDS-related deaths among black inmates (146) accounted for more than two-thirds of all AIDS-related deaths.

Relative to the total number of inmates under State jurisdiction at midyear 2003, males (18 deaths per 100,000) were nearly twice as likely as females

Table 6. Deaths of State prisoners, 2003

Jurisdiction	Prisoner deaths reported: In NPS-1 Total	In NPS-1 AIDS-related	In the DCRP[a] Total	In the DCRP[a] AIDS-related	Total deaths[b]: All causes Number	All causes Rate per 100,000 inmates	AIDS-related Number	AIDS-related Rate per 100,000 inmates
Total	3,230	213	3,168	210	3,344	258	268	21
Northeast	500	50	492	36	500	284	63	36
Connecticut	36	8	36	0	36	175	8	39
Maine	3	0	2	0	3	149	0	0
Massachusetts	30	0	30	0	30	285	0	0
New Hampshire	6	0	6	0	6	242	0	0
New Jersey	63	10	60	7	63	223	10	35
New York	200	15	198	27	200	303	27	41
Pennsylvania	147	17	147	1	147	363	17	42
Rhode Island	9	0	8	0	9	252	0	0
Vermont	6	0	5	1	6	302	1	50
Midwest	567	24	538	20	567	229	29	12
Illinois	81	12	80	11	81	188	12	28
Indiana	60	1	56	2	60	266	2	9
Iowa	13	--	13	0	13	155	0	0
Kansas	32	1	32	1	32	355	1	11
Michigan	132	1	127	3	132	267	3	6
Minnesota	14	0	13	0	14	184	0	0
Missouri	68	1	66	1	68	222	1	3
Nebraska	7	0	7	1	7	171	1	24
North Dakota	1	0	1	0	1	86	0	0
Ohio	106	8	91	0	106	231	8	17
South Dakota	12	--	11	0	12	392	0	0
Wisconsin	41	0	41	1	41	183	1	4
South	1,591	120	1,533	139	1,661	284	157	27
Alabama	100	8	92	4	100	352	8	28
Arkansas	39	1	39	3	39	315	3	24
Delaware	7	0	19	6	19	276	6	87
Florida	224	42	221	38	224	279	42	52
Georgia	139	18	126	11	139	296	18	38
Kentucky	77	4	45	1	77	470	4	24
Louisiana	87	--	70	12	87	241	12	33
Maryland	67	7	67	13	67	277	13	54
Mississippi	2	--	58	4	58	282	4	19
North Carolina	76	3	74	4	76	228	4	12
Oklahoma	96	2	71	2	96	417	2	9
South Carolina	61	3	63	3	63	260	3	12
Tennessee	98	6	97	6	98	386	6	24
Texas	407	23	383	27	407	243	27	16
Virginia	96	3	93	5	96	276	5	14
West Virginia	15	0	15	0	15	319	0	0
West	572	19	605	15	616	216	19	7
Alaska	5	0	4	0	5	113	0	0
Arizona	86	3	84	1	86	280	3	10
California	313	13	333	13	333	204	13	8
Colorado	51	2	47	0	51	267	2	10
Hawaii	8	0	8	0	8	142	0	0
Idaho	13	--	12	0	13	223	0	0
Montana	13	0	12	0	13	378	0	0
Nevada	--	--	24	0	24	228	0	0
New Mexico	11	0	11	0	11	179	0	0
Oregon	25	0	25	0	25	201	0	0
Utah	11	0	10	0	11	196	0	0
Washington	34	1	33	1	34	209	1	6
Wyoming	2	0	2	0	2	111	0	0

--Not reported.
[a]The 2003 AIDS-related death counts are based on individual reports submitted to the DCRP.
[b]Data from the NPS-1 and DCRP were combined to provide the number of total deaths in each State. The most complete data for each State were used to calculate a total for each State.

Table 7. Profile of inmates who died in State prisons, 2002 and 2003

Characteristic	AIDS-related deaths: Number 2003	Number 2002	Per 100,000 inmates 2003	Per 100,000 inmates 2002
State total	268	283	21	22
In DCRP	210	245	17	20
Gender				
Male	202	236	18	21
Female	8	9	10	11
Age				
24 or younger	1	0	0	0
25-34	38	28	9	6
35-44	97	119	26	34
45 or older	74	98	36	64
Race/Hispanic origin				
White	36	50	8	12
Black	146	163	27	30
Hispanic	25	30	12	15

Note: The AIDS-related death counts by gender, age, race, and Hispanic origin are based on individual reports submitted to the DCRP. See *Methodology*.

(10 per 100,000) to die from AIDS-related causes. Black inmates (27 per 100,000) were about 3½ times more likely than whites (8 per 100,000) and almost 2½ times more likely than Hispanics (12 per 100,000) to die from AIDS-related causes. Inmates age 45 or older had the highest rates of AIDS-related death (36 per 100,000), 4 times the rate among those age 25 to 34 (9 per 100,000).

Methodology

National Prisoner Statistics

The National Prisoner Statistics series (NPS-1) includes yearend counts of prisoners by jurisdiction, gender, race, Hispanic origin, and admissions and releases during the year. The series consists of reports from the departments of corrections of the 50 States and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Since 1991 respondents have indicated the circumstances under which inmates are tested for HIV and have provided the number of HIV-infected inmates in their custody.

AIDS in the U.S. resident population

The number of persons with confirmed AIDS in the U.S. general population (age 13 and over) was derived from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report*, yearend editions 1995-2001. For each year the number of active AIDS cases in the United States was calculated by subtracting the number of cumulative AIDS deaths for people age 15 or older at yearend from the cumulative number of total AIDS cases for people age 13 or older at

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Lawrence A. Greenfeld is director.

Laura M. Maruschak wrote this report, under the supervision of Allen J. Beck. Todd D. Minton provided statistical review. Tom Hester and Tina Dorsey edited the report. Jayne Robinson prepared the report for publication.

September 2005, NCJ 210344

yearend as listed in the *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report*.

The rate of confirmed AIDS cases in the U.S. resident population was calculated by dividing the annual totals for individuals with AIDS by the population estimates for the U.S. resident population of individuals 13 or older prior to 2000 and 15 or older for 2000 and beyond.

This report and others from the Bureau of Justice Statistics are available through the Internet: *http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/*

Get immediate e-mail notification of BJS releases from **JUSTSTATS.** Subscribe at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/juststats.htm>.

AIDS-related deaths in the United States

The number of AIDS-related deaths for persons age 15-54 was derived from the CDC, *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report*, yearend editions. Deaths in the U.S. population for persons age 15-54 were taken from the CDC, *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 42, No. 2(S); Vol. 43, No. 12; Vol. 43, No. 6(S); Vol. 45, No. 3(S); and Vol. 45, No. 11(S); and from CDC, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 47, No. 9; Vol. 47, No. 25; Vol. 48, No. 11; Vol. 49, No. 8; and Vol. 50, No. 15.

AIDS-related deaths as a percentage of all deaths in the U.S. population were calculated by dividing the national estimate of AIDS deaths of persons age 15-54 by the national mortality estimates of persons age 15-54 in a given year.

BJS Deaths in Custody Reporting Program

To implement the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2000 (PL 106-297), BJS developed four quarterly data collections of death records: local jails (begun in 2000), State prisons (2001), State juvenile correctional agencies (2002), and State and local law enforcement agencies (2003). Records include data on the deceased's characteristics (such as age, gender, and race/ Hispanic origin), criminal background (such as legal status, offenses, and time in custody), and the death itself (such as cause, time, location, and medical conditions and treatment).