



# ALASKA JUSTICE FORUM

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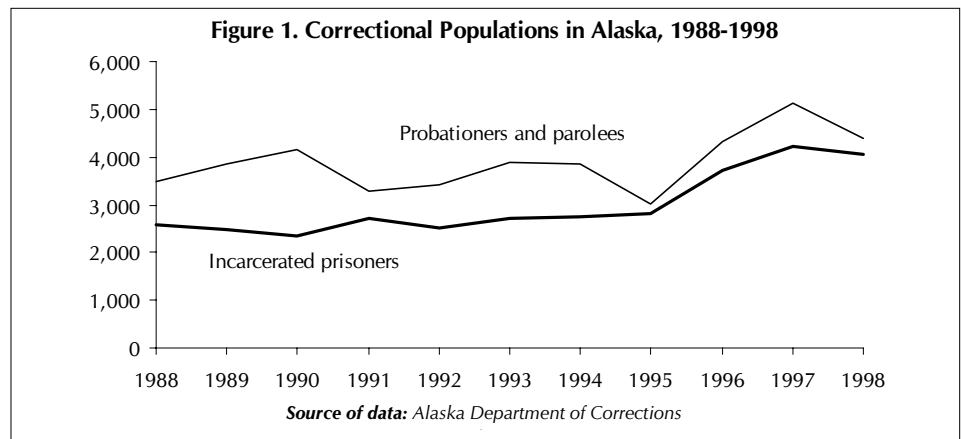
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## Growth in Corrections: State, National and International Numbers

Since 1988 Alaska's prison population has grown by 57 per cent, and the rate of incarceration has increased by 18 per cent, while over the same period the overall state population grew by only 16 per cent. The increase in the number of people under the supervision of the Alaska Department of Corrections shadows a much greater expansion in the prison population in the nation as a whole. Over the last decade the overall U.S. prison population has almost doubled. At the end of 1997 a total of 1,244,554 individuals were incarcerated in federal and state prisons; the combined jail/prison population was over 1.7 million; and the U.S. rate of incarceration was one of the highest in the world.

### Corrections Populations

The figures presented in this article have been drawn primarily from data published



by the Bureau of Justice Statistics as reported by individual states under various cyclical reporting programs. In some categories they do not precisely match those figures held by the Alaska Department of Corrections. Since it is impossible to reconcile all figures for all years, it was decided to rely on the latest published BJS figures for this ar-

ticle for those years and categories for which they were available.

Table 1 presents figures on prisoners in Alaska and throughout the nation as a whole. Unlike most states, Alaska has essentially a unified prison/jail system.

Please see *Growth in Corrections*, page 4

**Table 1. Prisoners in State and Federal Custody, Alaska and Nationwide, 1988-1998**

End of year counts

	United States		
	Alaska*	Prisons	Jails and prisons
1988	2,588	627,600	na
1989	2,484	683,382	na
1990	2,362	743,382	1,148,702
1991	2,706	825,559	1,219,014
1992	2,498	580,566	1,295,150
1993	2,703	969,301	1,369,185
1994	2,745	990,147	1,476,621
1995	2,832	1,078,545	1,585,589
1996	3,716	1,183,368	1,646,030
1997	4,220	1,244,554	1,725,842
1998	4,067	na	na

na = not available

\* Unlike most other states, Alaska has a unified jail/prison system.

Source of data: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics*; Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin "Prisoners in 1997"; Alaska Department of Corrections

**Table 2. Rates of Incarceration per 100,000 Population, Alaska and Nationwide, 1988-1998**

Rates are based on number of prisoners sentenced to more than one year per 100,000 population.

	Alaska	United States
1988	355	244
1989	361	271
1990	348	292
1991	345	310
1992	327	330
1993	446	350
1994	317	389
1995	338	411
1996	379	427
1997	420	445
1998	na	na

na = not available

Source of data: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics*; Alaska Department of Corrections

**Table 3. Probation and Parole Populations, Alaska and Nationwide, 1988-1998**

End of year counts

	Alaska	United States
1988	3,483	2,764,460
1989	3,868	2,978,928
1990	4,167	3,201,641
1991	3,287	3,318,914
1992	3,418	3,470,212
1993	3,899	3,579,161
1994	3,851	3,671,393
1995	3,022	3,757,282
1996	4,313	3,837,075
1997	5,130	3,946,921
1998	4,380	na

na = not available

Source of data: Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletins "Probation and Parole Populations, 1996," "Probation and Parole Populations, 1997"; Alaska Department of Corrections

## A BJS Report

## Substance Abuse Among Prisoners

In the 1997 Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities, over 570,000 of the nation's prisoners (51%) reported the use of alcohol or drugs while committing their offense.

Among state prisoners the incidence of alcohol or drug use at the time of offense showed little variation by offense type, ranging from 52 per cent of violent offenders to 56 per cent of public-order offenders. Among specific offense types only weapons (42%), fraud (43%), and sexual assault (45%) offenders had a minority reporting the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of their offense.

Among federal prisoners the reported use of alcohol or drugs at the time of offense showed greater variation by offense type. Violent offenders (40%) reported the highest levels, followed by drug (35%), public-order (30%), and property (23%) offenders. Among specific offense types only murder (52%) and assault (51%) offenders had a majority reporting the use of alcohol or drugs at the time of their current offense.

Fraud (15%) and sexual assault (32%) offenders were among the federal prisoners least likely to have committed their current offense under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

A third of state and a fifth of federal prisoners reported the influence of alcohol only at the time of offense. For both state and federal prisoners, the specific offenses most closely related to alcohol use at the time of offense were violent ones—assault, murder, manslaughter, and sexual assault.

A third of state prisoners said they had committed their current offense while under the influence of drugs. Drug (42%) and property offenders (37%) reported the highest incidence of drug use at the time of offense, followed by violent (29%) and public-order offenders (23%).

About 1 in 5 federal prisoners committed their offense under the influence of drugs. Murder (29%) and robbery (28%) offenders were the federal prisoners most likely to report drug influence.

Over 360,000 prisoners—a third of state,

and about a quarter of federal prisoners—said they had participated in drug or alcohol treatment or other substance abuse programs since admission. Fourteen per cent of both state and federal prisoners drinking at the time of offense had been treated for alcohol abuse since admission to prison. A third had enrolled in other alcohol abuse programs, such as self-help groups.

Reported levels of drug treatment since admission were lower for both state (10%) and federal (9%) prisoners than those reported in 1991 (25% and 16%, respectively). Over the same period, participation in other drug abuse programs increased for both state (from 16% to 20%) and federal prisoners (from 10% to 20%).

*The preceding article was derived from the Bureau of Justice Statistics report "Substance Abuse and Treatment, State and Federal Prisoners, 1997," NCJ-172871. Copies of the entire report may be obtained from the Bureau of Justice Statistics website at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/satsfp97.htm>.*

**Table 1. Alcohol or Drug Use at Time of Offense of State and Federal Prisoners, by Type of Offense, 1997**

	Estimated number of prisoners <sup>a</sup>		Percent of prisoners who reported being under the influence at time of the offense					
			Alcohol		Drugs		Alcohol or drugs	
	State	Federal	State	Federal	State	Federal	State	Federal
<b>Violent offenses</b>	<b>494,349</b>	<b>13,021</b>	<b>41.7 %</b>	<b>24.5 %</b>	<b>29 %</b>	<b>24.5 %</b>	<b>51.9 %</b>	<b>39.8 %</b>
Murder	122,435	1,288	44.6	38.7	26.8	29.4	52.4	52.4
Negligent manslaughter	16,592	53	52	...	17.4	...	56	...
Sexual assault/b	89,328	713	40	32.3	21.5	7.9	45.2	32.3
Robbery	148,001	8,770	37.4	18	39.9	27.8	55.6	37.6
Assault	97,897	1,151	45.1	46	24.2	13.8	51.8	50.5
Other violent	20,096	1,046	39.6	32.2	29	15.9	48.2	37.2
<b>Property offenses</b>	<b>230,177</b>	<b>5,964</b>	<b>34.5 %</b>	<b>15.6 %</b>	<b>36.6 %</b>	<b>10.8 %</b>	<b>53.2 %</b>	<b>22.6 %</b>
Burglary	111,884	294	37.2	...	38.4	...	55.7	...
Larceny/theft	43,936	414	33.7	...	38.4	...	54.2	...
Motor vehicle theft	19,279	216	32.2	...	39	...	51.2	...
Fraud	28,102	4,283	25.2	10.4	30.5	6.5	42.8	14.5
Other property	26,976	757	36	22.8	30.6	16.4	53.2	34.6
<b>Drug offenses</b>	<b>216,254</b>	<b>55,069</b>	<b>27.4 %</b>	<b>19.8 %</b>	<b>41.9 %</b>	<b>25 %</b>	<b>52.4 %</b>	<b>34.6 %</b>
Possession	92,373	10,094	29.6	21.3	42.6	25.1	53.9	36
Trafficking	117,926	40,053	25.5	19.4	41	25.9	50.9	35
Other drug	5,955	4,922	29.9	19.7	47.1	17.1	59.2	29
<b>Public-order offenses</b>	<b>103,344</b>	<b>13,026</b>	<b>43.2 %</b>	<b>20.6 %</b>	<b>23.1 %</b>	<b>15.6 %</b>	<b>56.2 %</b>	<b>30.2 %</b>
Weapons	25,642	6,025	28.3	23	22.4	24.4	41.8	37.1
Other public-order	77,702	7,001	48.1	18.5	23.3	8.1	60.9	24.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,046,705</b>	<b>88,018</b>	<b>37.2 %</b>	<b>20.4 %</b>	<b>32.6 %</b>	<b>22.4 %</b>	<b>52.5 %</b>	<b>34 %</b>

... Too few cases to permit calculation.

a. Based on cases with valid offense data.

b. Includes rape and other sexual assault.

*Source:* Bureau of Justice Statistics

**Table 2. Experiences While Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs Reported by State and Federal Prisoners, 1997**

Percentage of prisoners reporting experience.

Past experiences	Alcohol		Drugs		Alcohol or drugs	
	State	Federal	State	Federal	State	Federal
Have you ever driven a car or any other vehicle while under the influence of alcohol...drugs?	46.8 %	43.1 %	53.1 %	45.8 %	64.3 %	58.6 %
Have you ever had arguments with your spouse, family or friends while or right after drinking...using drugs?	40.2	28.8	41.9	29.7	56.0	41.2
Have you ever lost a job because of your drinking...using drugs?	10.3	5.0	15.3	8.2	20.0	10.7
Have you ever had job or school trouble because of your drinking...using drugs (such as demotion at work or dropping out of school)?	15.6	7.8	22.3	12.0	28.0	15.5
Have you ever been arrested or held at a police station because of your drinking...using drugs?	29.5	19.2	29.0	18.1	44.6	30.3
Have you ever gotten into a physical fight while or right after drinking...using drugs?	38.3	22.8	32.5	17.1	48.5	28.3
Have you ever had as much as a fifth of liquor in one day (20 drinks, 3 six-packs of beer, or 3 bottles of wine)?	41.0	30.3	–	–	–	–
Have you ever used a needle to inject any drugs for non-medical reasons?	–	–	20.0	12.3	–	–

– Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics

**Table 3. Substance Abuse Treatment History of State and Federal Prisoners, by Reported Prior Substance Abuse, 1997**

Percentage of prisoners

Type of treatment	Alcohol- or drug-involved prisoners		Under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of offense		Total	
	State	Federal	State	Federal	State	Federal
<b>Ever any treatment or programs</b>	<b>64.8 %</b>	<b>51.4 %</b>	<b>69.3 %</b>	<b>66.1 %</b>	<b>56.4 %</b>	<b>46.4 %</b>
Ever any treatment	41.5	27.7	46.3	40.6	34.5	24.6
Ever other alcohol/drug programs	49.4	39.2	52.5	50.8	43.1	35.4
<b>Participated while under correctional supervision</b>	<b>55.2 %</b>	<b>43.5 %</b>	<b>59.2 %</b>	<b>55.8 %</b>	<b>47.8 %</b>	<b>39.2 %</b>
<b>Any treatment</b>	<b>31.7 %</b>	<b>21.3 %</b>	<b>35.5 %</b>	<b>30.4 %</b>	<b>26.2 %</b>	<b>18.9 %</b>
In prison/jail	23.9	16.9	27	24.6	19.7	15
On probation/parole	18.3	9.6	20.6	14.6	15	8.4
<b>Other alcohol/drug programs</b>	<b>43.2 %</b>	<b>34.4 %</b>	<b>46.2 %</b>	<b>44.9 %</b>	<b>37.5 %</b>	<b>30.9 %</b>
In prison/jail	38.3	30.5	41	40.6	33.3	27.4
On probation/parole	20.5	11.4	22.6	16.1	17.2	10.1
<b>Participated since admission</b>	<b>37.7 %</b>	<b>31.6 %</b>	<b>41.1 %</b>	<b>42.7 %</b>	<b>32.5 %</b>	<b>28.2 %</b>
<b>Any treatment</b>	<b>14.6 %</b>	<b>11.7 %</b>	<b>16.7 %</b>	<b>17.4 %</b>	<b>12 %</b>	<b>10.4 %</b>
Residential facility or unit	8.5	8.2	10.1	12.4	6.9	7.3
Counseling by a professional	6.2	4.3	6.9	6.3	5.1	3.8
Detoxification unit	1	0.2	1.3	0.3	0.8	0.2
Maintenance drug	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
<b>Other alcohol/drug programs</b>	<b>31.9 %</b>	<b>26 %</b>	<b>34.6 %</b>	<b>35.2 %</b>	<b>27.5 %</b>	<b>23.1 %</b>
Self-help group/peer counseling	26.7	12.8	29.3	20.5	22.7	11.2
Education program	14.8	18.8	16.2	24.2	12.6	16.8
<b>Estimated number of prisoners</b>	<b>806,758</b>	<b>73,103</b>	<b>543,869</b>	<b>29,468</b>	<b>1,047,933</b>	<b>87,839</b>

Note: Detail adds to more than total because prisoners may have participated in more than one type of treatment program.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics

## Growth in Corrections (continued from page 1)

At the end of 1988, Alaska imprisoned 2588 individuals. At that time the state population, according to Alaska Department of Labor figures, was approximately 535,000. A decade later, the state population had grown to approximately 621,400 and the total number of prisoners held by the state had risen to 4067, an increase of 57 per cent in the number of people incarcerated. The rate of incarceration per 100,000 population also rose over this period, from 355 to 420, an increase of 18 per cent (Figure 1; Tables 1 and 2). (Rates are based on the number of prisoners

**Table 4. Selected Alaska State Agency Budgets, FY88, FY99**

	FY88 (actual)	FY99 (authorized)	% increase
Department of Corrections	\$84,935,200	\$152,726,000	79.8 %
Department of Law	\$32,735,000	\$43,680,300	33.4
Department of Public Safety	\$73,299,700	\$94,791,500	29.3
Alaska Court System	\$38,722,000	\$48,797,500	26.0
Office of the Public Defender	\$6,138,100	\$9,795,400	59.6
Juvenile Corrections (in the Department of Health and Social Services)	\$14,538,100 *	\$23,130,900	59.1
Department of Education	\$673,364,000	\$945,567,700	40.4

\* FY88 figure for Juvenile Corrections is the authorized budget.

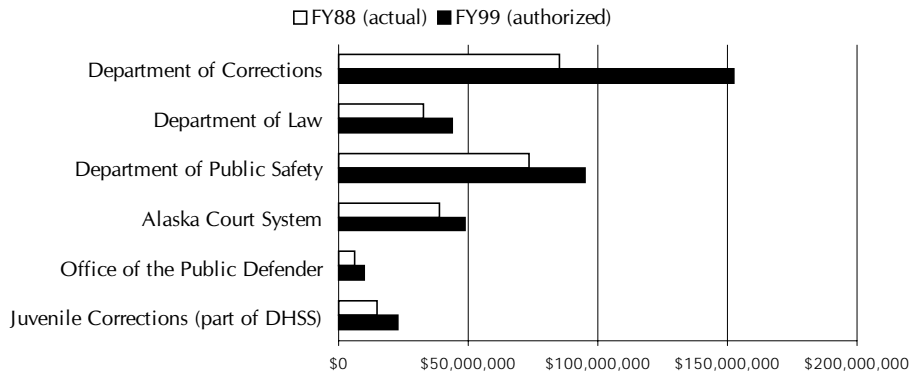
Source of data: Agencies and Alaska Legislative Finance Division, *Summary of Appropriations*

**Table 5. Alaska Correctional Inmates by Facility and Ethnic Origin, January 1, 1999**

	White	Alaska Native	Black	Indian	Hispanic	Asian	Total
<b>Correctional centers, jails, and pretrial facilities</b>							
Anchorage Annex CC (Sixth Avenue Jail)	40	32	15	10	4	0	<b>101</b>
Anvil Mountain CC	5	62	1	12	0	0	<b>80</b>
Cook Inlet Pretrial	169	67	91	16	39	15	<b>397</b>
Fairbanks CC	87	66	26	15	4	2	<b>200</b>
Hiland Mountain CC	109	72	35	15	7	2	<b>240</b>
Ketchikan CC	23	17	0	5	1	2	<b>48</b>
Lemon Creek CC	53	61	8	21	4	1	<b>148</b>
Mat-Su Pretrial	61	7	6	1	1	1	<b>77</b>
Palmer Medium Security CC	83	27	22	7	8	8	<b>155</b>
Palmer Minimum Security CC	83	55	25	9	1	3	<b>176</b>
Point McKenzie	50	29	14	5	0	0	<b>98</b>
Spring Creek CC	219	145	60	23	13	13	<b>473</b>
Wildwood CC	106	73	28	13	5	4	<b>229</b>
Wildwood Pretrial	78	11	6	4	1	0	<b>100</b>
Yukon-Kuskokwim CC	1	68	1	8	0	1	<b>79</b>
Arizona Detention Center	396	230	138	41	35	12	<b>852</b>
Federal Bureau of Prisons	20	5	3	0	0	1	<b>29</b>
North Dakota State Prisons	4	0	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
Montana State Prisons	1	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Minnesota State Prisons	0	0	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
	<b>1588</b>	<b>1027</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>3488</b>
<b>Community residential centers</b>							
Anchorage Midtown Center	14	11	3	2	0	0	<b>30</b>
Akeela House CRC	16	2	4	0	0	0	<b>22</b>
Clitheroe CRC	3	0	2	1	0	1	<b>7</b>
Cordova Center CRC	82	31	22	5	5	1	<b>146</b>
Cordova Center MIO Unit	0	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Glacier Manor CRC	28	17	4	4	2	3	<b>58</b>
Hope House CRC	1	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Manilaq CRC	1	1	0	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
North Star Center	44	26	14	6	1	0	<b>91</b>
Parkview	60	16	21	4	0	2	<b>103</b>
Regional Center for Alcohol and Other Addictions	1	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Restitution Center CRC	40	19	6	4	0	0	<b>69</b>
Tundra Center CRC	0	60	0	13	0	0	<b>73</b>
	<b>290</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>604</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1878</b>	<b>1210</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>4092</b>

Source of data: Anchorage Department of Corrections

Figure 2. Selected Alaska State Justice Agency Budgets, FY88, FY99



Source of data: Agencies and Alaska Legislative Finance Division, *Summary of Appropriations*

sentenced to more than one year.)

The number of individuals supervised by the state on probation or parole has also risen since 1988, but not as steeply. In 1988 the state oversaw 3483 probationers and parolees. By the end of 1998, the total had risen to 4380, a growth of slightly less than 26 per cent (Table 3).

This growth in the state correctional populations parallels a similar expansion which is occurring throughout the country. In 1988 federal and state prisons held a total of 627,600 individuals. By the end of 1997—the last year for which figures are available—the total U.S. prison population had grown to 1,244,554—an increase of 98 per cent. When the number of individuals held in jails is added to the prison figure, the total number of prisoners in the U.S., by mid-year 1997, was over 1.7 million. Over the same time, the national probation and parole population grew almost 43 per cent, from 2,764,460 to 3,946,921. The general U.S. population increased only 9.5 per cent.

### Corrections Budget

In Alaska, the rise in the prison population has been accompanied by a substantial increase in the budget of the Department of Corrections, from slightly less than \$85 million dollars in FY88 to \$153 million in FY99. The DOC budget is by far the largest of the state justice agency budgets. Although all justice agency budgets have grown over the last decade, Corrections has increased the most—by almost 80 per cent. (The budget of the Department of Education, a non-justice agency, is included in Table 4 for comparison purposes.)

### Prison Overcrowding

Despite the increase in the corrections budget, the extended rise in the state prison population has resulted in facility overcrowding, a problem which is paralleled in the nation as a whole. (In Alaska, the last major facility to be built was Spring Creek

Correctional Facility, which opened in mid-1988.) According to figures from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, at the end of 1997 federal prisons were operating at 119 per cent of capacity and state prisons were at 115 per cent of highest capacity.

Alaska's fifteen main prison facilities have a design capacity of 2603 and an emergency capacity of 2691. According to BJS, at the end of 1997 Alaska's prisons were being operated at 147 per cent of design capacity. However, by the beginning of this year state facilities overall were operating below both emergency and design capacities: 2601 inmates were held in the fifteen main institutions on January 1, 1999.

This reduction in crowding was due to a slight drop in the total corrections population from 1997 through 1998 and, more directly, to the increased use of out-of-state facilities. At the beginning of this year, 852 Alaska prisoners were being held in a private correctional facility in Florence, Arizona; another 35 were held in other states and by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (Table 5). (These figures are for January 1, 1999; totals discussed earlier in this article were for December 31, 1998.) This out-of-state total was almost 22 per cent of the total state correctional population (including those in community residential centers). In effect, the privately-operated prison in Arizona is Alaska's largest facility.

(The item in the DOC budget for out-of-state contracts grew 87 per cent between FY98 and FY99, from \$7,759,600 to \$14,512,300.)

According to figures from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, in 1997, thirty-one states with overcrowding in their correctional facilities dealt with the problem by placing prisoners in local jails. Another fourteen, including Alaska, placed prisoners in federal facilities or in facilities in other states, including private, for-profit, prisons. Among these fourteen, in 1997, Colorado had placed the most prisoners out-of-state—1,009 inmates, or 7.5 per cent of its total inmate population. Montana had placed the

highest percentage of its prison population in out-of-state facilities—17 per cent or 381 inmates. In 1997, Alaska had only 332 inmates out-of-state, 7.9 per cent of its total population. As mentioned earlier in this article, by the end of 1998 the out-of-state population had grown to 22 per cent. The 1998 figures for the other states are not yet available.

According to data presented in the *1997 Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics*, over 69,000 prisoners throughout the country, or 5.5 per cent of the total national sentenced prison population, were being held in private facilities at the end of 1997. These inmates occupied approximately 97 per cent of the total capacity of these private facilities. An expansion in the overall prison capacity of about 40 per cent was anticipated within a year to a year and a half. The stock of some of the private facilities is publicly held and traded on the major exchanges. The facility in Arizona with which Alaska contracts is owned by Corrections Corporation of America, one of the oldest and largest of the private prison companies. This corporation recently merged with Prison Realty Trust; the stock of the new

Please see *Growth in Corrections*, page 6



## Alaska Justice Forum

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**Growth in Corrections**  
(continued from page 5)

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**Demographics of Alaska Institutions**

The picture of those incarcerated by the state of Alaska is predominantly one of young male inmates, of whom more than one-half are members of racial or ethnic minorities. Of the 3,488 individuals under the supervision of the state (including the private facility in Arizona), 3,269 were men and 219, women. Seventy per cent—2,446 individuals—were less than forty years old.

Members of two minority groups are incarcerated at levels very disproportionate to their percentages in the general populations: Native Americans and African Americans. The number of Alaska Natives and American Indians incarcerated at the beginning of the year was 1,232—35 per cent of the inmate population. The number of blacks incarcerated was 479, or 14 per cent of the inmate population. According to Alaska Department of Labor figures, Native Americans comprise just under 17 per cent of the general Alaska population,

and African Americans, 4.5 per cent.

The inmate totals for the other racial and ethnic groups categorized were less than their representation in the general population. The total number of whites incarcerated were 1,588, or 45.5 per cent of the inmate population; Asians, 65, or 2 per cent; Hispanics, 89, or 3.5 per cent. Whites comprise 74 per cent of the total Alaska population; Asians, 4.6 per cent; and Hispanics, 4.9 per cent.

Of the total 3,488 inmates, 3,014 were imprisoned for a felony; 469, for a misdemeanor; and 5, for violations. In another breakdown of this total: 1,792 were held for a crime of violence; 269 for a crime against property; 399 for a crime of substance abuse; and 1,028 for crimes of other categories—including probation/parole violations not involving a new charge, immigration charges, contempt of court, witness tampering, failure to appear and others.

**International Context**

The United States now has one of the largest prison populations in the world—if not the largest—and its rate of incarceration is also one of the highest. According to figures from a 59-nation survey conducted by

the Sentencing Project in Washington, D.C., in 1995 the United States imprisoned more people than any other country in the world, and the U.S. rate of incarceration was second only to the rate in Russia (Table 6). All other countries with democratic political systems showed rates of incarceration which were substantially lower. (It should be noted that these rates are based on populations of both sentenced and unsentenced prisoners, while the national rates cited earlier in this article reflect only those prisoners sentenced to more than one year. By mid-1997 the total U.S. population of sentenced and unsentenced prisoners, in both jails and prisons, was over 1.7 million.)

This article has presented basic data on the area of state corrections and placed the data in both a national and international context; it has not examined the complexity of reasons underlying the extensive rise in the number of people incarcerated. The figures discussed here reveal that the state has been committing an ever-growing amount of resources to corrections, particularly for incarceration, and suggest that this channeling of resources will not end soon.

**Table 6. International Rates of Incarceration, 1995**

	Number of inmates	Rate of incarceration per 100,000		Number of inmates	Rate of incarceration per 100,000
Russia	1,017,372	690	Spain	40,157	105
<b>United States</b>	<b>1,585,401</b>	<b>600</b>	Malaysia	20,324	104
Belarus	52,033	505	China	1,236,534	103
Ukraine	203,988	390	England/Wales	51,265	100
Latvia	9,608	375	France	53,697	95
Lithuania	13,228	360	Germany	68,396	85
Singapore	8,500	287	Italy	47,323	85
Moldova	10,363	275	Austria	6,761	85
Estonia	4,034	270	Switzerland	5,655	80
South Africa	110,120	265	Turkey	49,895	80
Cook Islands	45	225	Belgium	7,401	75
Hong Kong	12,741	207	Sweden	5,767	65
Romania	45,309	200	Netherlands	10,143	65
Czech Republic	19,508	190	Denmark	3,421	65
Thailand	106,676	181	Finland	3,018	60
Poland	65,819	170	Greece	5,897	55
Slovakia	7,979	150	Norway	2,398	55
South Korea	61,019	137	Ireland	2,032	55
Kiribati	91	130	Croatia	2,572	55
New Zealand	4,553	127	Malta	196	55
Portugal	12,150	125	Solomon Islands	150	46
Fiji	961	123	Iceland	113	40
Hungary	12,455	120	Bangladesh	44,111	37
Canada	33,882	115	Japan	46,622	37
Luxembourg	469	115	Cyprus	202	30
Brunei Darussalam	312	110	Slovenia	630	30
Bulgaria	9,684	110	Cambodia	2,490	26
Scotland	5,697	110	Philippines	17,843	26
Macau	439	107	India	216,402	24
Northern Ireland	1,740	105			

Source of data: The Sentencing Project, <http://www.sproject.com/test/pubs/tsppubs/9030data.html>

**Table 7. Trends in International Prison Populations, 1985-1995**

Sorted in order of nations with highest rate in 1985.

	Rate of incarceration		
	1985	1995	% change
Latvia	640	375	- 41 %
Estonia	455	270	- 41
Lithuania	405	360	- 11
<b>United States</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>+ 92</b>
Czech Republic	270	190	- 30
Poland	270	170	- 37
Romania	260	200	- 23
Slovakia	225	150	- 33
Hungary	220	120	- 45
Austria	120	85	- 29
Scotland	100	110	+ 10
England/Wales	90	100	+ 11
Germany	90	85	- 6
Turkey	90	80	- 11
Portugal	90	125	+ 39
Finland	80	60	- 25
France	75	95	+ 27
Slovenia	70	30	- 57
Denmark	65	65	—
Belgium	65	75	+ 15
Spain	60	105	+ 75
Ireland	55	55	—
Sweden	50	65	+ 30
Norway	45	55	+ 22
Greece	35	55	+ 57
Netherlands	35	65	+ 86
Cyprus	30	30	—

Source of data: The Sentencing Project, <http://www.sproject.com/test/pubs/tsppubs/9030data.html>

## Justice Center Project Highlights

*The following is a list of current Justice Center research and public education projects. For further information about any of these please contact the Center.*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>Brady Statute Data: Establishing Noncriminal Classifications for DPS (JC 9615)—Lawrence C. Trostle, Allan R. Barnes</p> <p>The Structure of Large Municipal Police Organizations During the Community Policing Era (JC 9805)—Robert H. Langworthy</p> <p>Turnover Among Alaska Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO): An Examination of Attrition (JC 9901)—Darryl Wood</p> <p>Patterns of Adjudication for DWI Arrestees (JC 9818)—Robert H. Langworthy, Bernard Segal, Peter Crum</p> <p>Community Jails Statewide Research Consortium (JC 9902)—N.E. Schafer</p> <p>Processing SHO-CAP Juveniles (JC 9903)—N.E. Schafer</p> <p>Jails and Fire Safety (JC 9905)—N.E. Schafer, Sandy Belfield</p> <p>Judicial Candidates Evaluation Surveys (JC 9207)—Richard W. Curtis</p> <p>Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Jail Monitoring Project (JC 9802)—N.E. Schafer, Cassie Atwell</p> | <p>Alaska Natives: Careers in Corrections (JC 9501.05)—John Riley</p> <p>Survey of Correctional Officers: Educational Attainment (JC 9815)—John Riley</p> <p>Child Welfare and Alaska Native Tribal Governance: A Pilot Project in Kake, Alaska (JC 9910)—Lisa Rieger</p> <p>Impact of Untreated Sex Offenders on the Prison Population in Alaska (JC 9914)—Robert H. Langworthy</p> <p>The Effect of the DARE Program Upon Rural Alaskan Students' Understanding of Drug Use (JC 9921)—Darryl Wood</p> <p>Togiak Community Survey—1998 (JC 9914)—Allan R. Barnes</p> <p>Correlates of Probation Revocation in Alaska (proposal pending; JC 9912)—Robert H. Langworthy</p> <p>The Impact of the Local Option Law in Barrow, Alaska (proposal pending; JC 9920)—Robert H. Langworthy</p> |
|--|---|

## Rates of Reported Crimes in Alaska 1988–1997

According to figures assembled under the Uniform Crime Reporting program (UCR), the overall rate of reported crime in Alaska grew by only 7 per cent from 1988 through 1997. This rise over a decade was not steady: the growth pattern (Figure 1) indicates that the steepest rise in the rate occurred at the beginning of the decade and that since 1995 there has been a slight drop. The total number of offenses reported for the state in 1988 under the FBI's UCR program was 25,248 (Table 1). In 1997, that total was 32,110. These figures translate into a rate of 4922 crimes per 100,000 population in 1988 and 5273 per 100,000 in 1997—an increase of 7 per cent overall.

Violent crime increased to a greater extent than property crime over the decade, but in total numbers is much less common. In 1988, 2,682 violent offenses were reported to the FBI, and in 1997, 4,270. (The FBI category of violent offenses includes murder, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault.) In 1988, the rate of violent crime per 100,000 was 523 while in 1997, that rate was 701—an increase of 34 per cent.

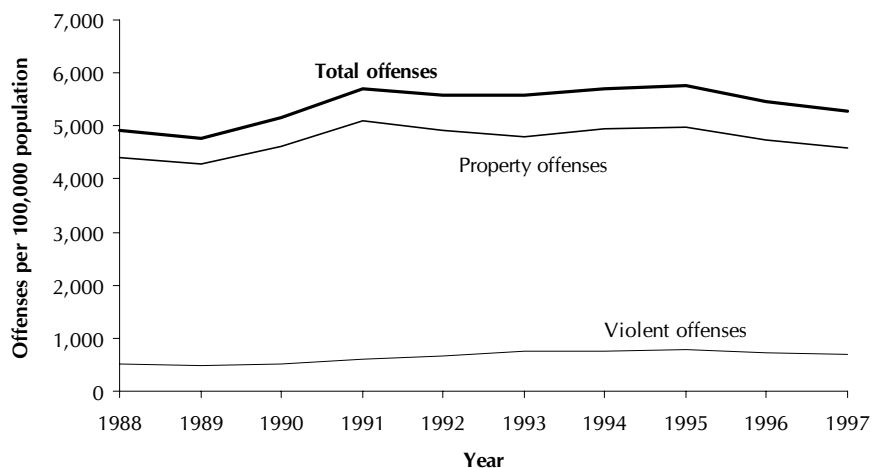
Property crime increased to a lesser degree but in actual numbers continues to be more common than violent crime. (The FBI category of property crime includes burglary, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft). In 1988, 22,566 property offenses were reported. In 1997, this total was 27,840. Property crime occurred at a rate of 4,399 per 100,000 population in 1988; in 1997, the rate was 4,571—an increase of only 4 per cent.

**Table 1. Part I Offenses and Crime Rates for Reporting Areas of Alaska, 1988-1997**

	Population	Violent crimes		Property crimes		Total offenses	
		Offenses	Rate per 100,000	Offenses	Rate per 100,000	Offenses	Rate per 100,000
1988	513,000	2,682	523	22,566	4,399	25,248	4,922
1989	527,000	2,623	498	22,567	4,282	25,190	4,780
1990	550,043	2,885	525	25,457	4,628	28,342	5,153
1991	570,000	3,499	614	29,000	5,088	32,499	5,702
1992	587,000	3,877	661	28,816	4,909	32,693	5,570
1993	599,000	4,557	761	28,795	4,807	33,352	5,568
1994	606,000	4,644	766	29,947	4,942	34,591	5,708
1995	604,000	4,656	771	30,097	4,983	34,753	5,754
1996	607,000	4,417	728	28,667	4,723	33,084	5,450
1997	609,000	4,270	701	27,840	4,571	32,110	5,273

*Source of data: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 1988-1997*

**Figure 1. Alaska Crime Rates, 1988-1997**



*Source of data: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 1988-1997*

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