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## Probation and Parole in the United States, 2005

By Lauren E. Glaze  
and Thomas P. Bonczar  
*BJS Statisticians*

During 2005 the total Federal, State, and local adult correctional population — incarcerated or in the community — grew by 60,700 to over 7 million. The growth of 0.9% during the year was less than half of the average annual increase of 2.5% since 1995. About 3.2% of the U.S. adult population, or 1 in every 32 adults, were incarcerated or on probation or parole at yearend 2005.

The probation population increased 0.5% in 2005 to reach 4,162,536 on December 31. This represented an increase of 19,070 additional probationers, or the smallest increase in the last 26 years. The adult parole population reached a total of 784,408 on December 31, 2005. It grew 1.6%, or slightly more than the average annual increase of 1.4% since 1995.

**Persons under adult correctional supervision, 1995-2005**

Year	Total estimated correctional population <sup>a</sup>	Community supervision		Incarceration	
		Probation	Parole	Jail	Prison
1995	5,342,900	3,077,861	679,421	507,044	1,078,542
2000	6,445,100	3,826,209	723,898	621,149	1,316,333
2001	6,581,700	3,931,731	732,333	631,240	1,330,007
2002	6,758,800	4,024,067	750,934	665,475	1,367,547
2003	6,883,200	4,073,987	774,588	691,301	1,390,279
2003 (revised) <sup>b</sup>	6,924,500	4,120,012	769,925	691,301	1,390,279
2004	6,995,300	4,143,466	771,852	713,990	1,421,911
2005	7,056,000	4,162,536	784,408	747,529	1,446,269
Percent change, 2004-2005	0.9%	0.5%	1.6%	4.7%	1.7%
Average annual percent change 1995-2005 <sup>c</sup>	2.5%	2.5%	1.4%	3.9%	3.0%

Note: Counts of probationers, parolees, and prisoners are for December 31. All jail counts are for June 30. Jail and prison counts include inmates held in private facilities. Totals in 2000 through 2005 exclude probationers held in jail or prison.

<sup>a</sup>Because some offenders may have multiple statuses, totals were rounded to the nearest 100.

<sup>b</sup>Due to changes in reporting, total probation and parole counts include estimated counts for Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Washington based on reporting methods comparable to 2004.

<sup>c</sup>Percent change is based on comparable reporting agencies, excluding 226,192 probationers from agencies added since 1995. See *Methodology*.

## Highlights

### Probation —

- The adult probation population grew 0.5% in 2005. This was an increase of 19,070 probationers, or the smallest increase in the last 26 years.
- About 50% of all probationers had been convicted of a felony, 49% of a misdemeanor, and 1% of other infractions. Twenty-eight percent were on probation for a drug law violation, and 15% for driving while intoxicated.
- One State, Mississippi (up 17%), had an increase of 10% or more in its probation population in 2005.
- The adult probation population decreased in 15 States, led by Maine (down 9%) and Vermont (down 8%).

### Parole —

- In 2005 the Nation's parole population grew 1.6%. This was an increase of 12,556 parolees during the year.
- Mandatory releases from prison as a result of a sentencing statute or good-time provision comprised 51% of those entering parole in 2005, up from 45% in 1995.
- 11 States had double-digit increases in their parole population in 2005, led by Arkansas (up 23%), North Dakota (up 17%), and West Virginia (up 16%).
- 14 States had a decrease in their parole population. Nebraska (down 17%) was the only State with a decrease of more than 10%.

## Nearly 5 million persons on probation or parole

The number of adult men and women in the United States who were being supervised on probation or parole at the end of 2005 reached a new high of 4,946,944, up from 3,757,282 on December 31, 1995. These data were collected in the 2005 Annual Probation Survey and the 2005 Annual Parole Survey, conducted by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS).

Probationers are criminal offenders who have been sentenced to a period of correctional supervision in the community in lieu of incarceration. Parole is a period of conditional supervised release following a prison term. Prisoners may be released to parole either by a parole board decision or by mandatory conditional release.

In 2005 the growth in the combined probation and parole populations was 0.6%. An additional 31,626 probationers or parolees were added during the year.

## Probationers accounted for half the growth in the correctional population since 1990

Probationers accounted for more than half the total growth in the correctional population since 1990 (figure 1). Overall, the correctional population increased by nearly 2.5 million, or 57%, from 1990 to 2005. Probationers accounted for 53% of the growth (or 1,492,000), followed by prisoners (25%, or 703,000), jail inmates (12% or 342,000), and parolees (9% or 253,000).

	Increase in correctional population, 1990-2005	
	Number	Percent
Total <sup>a</sup>	2,480,000	100%
Probation <sup>b</sup>	1,492,000	53.5
Parole	253,000	9.1
Prison	703,000	25.2
Jail	342,000	12.3

<sup>a</sup>Details may not sum to total because some offenders have multiple statuses.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes 226,192 probationers from agencies added since 1995. See *Methodology*.

## Community supervision declined as a percentage of the correctional population

Between 1990 and 2005 the prison population was the fastest growing correctional population, with an average annual increase of 4.5%, followed by jails (4.2%), and parole and probation (2.6% each).

As a percentage of the correctional population, offenders under community supervision accounted for 69% of the correctional population in 2005 (down from nearly 74% in 1990), while those incarcerated accounted for 31% (up from 26% in 1990).

Probationers continued to account for the majority of all persons under correctional supervision in 2005 (58%, down from 61% in 1990). Parolees were 11% of the total population in 2005 (down from 12% in 1990). Prisoners increased to 20% of the total correctional population (up from 17% in 1990), while jail inmates increased to 10% (up from 9% in 1990).

## Correctional supervision rate rose sharply from 1980 to 2005

The rate of U.S. adult residents under correctional supervision nearly tripled between 1980 (1,117 per 100,000) and 2005 (3,150 per 100,000). During 2005 the U.S. resident population increased at a higher rate (1.1%) than the population under correctional supervision (0.9%). Despite growth in the total correctional population from 6,995,300 in 2004 to 7,056,000 in 2005, the rate of U.S. men and women under correctional supervision in 2005 (3,150 per 100,000 adult residents) remained about the same as in 2004 (3,156).

Year	Total estimated correctional population	Supervision rate per 100,000 adults*
1980	1,842,100	1,117
1985	3,013,100	1,709
1990	4,350,300	2,337
1995	5,342,900	2,737
2000	6,445,100	3,052
2001	6,581,700	3,078
2002	6,758,800	3,122
2003	6,924,500	3,160
2004	6,995,300	3,156
2005	7,056,000	3,150

\*Rates are computed using the U.S. adult resident population on January 1 of the following year.

## Number of persons under correctional supervision by type of supervision, 1995-2005

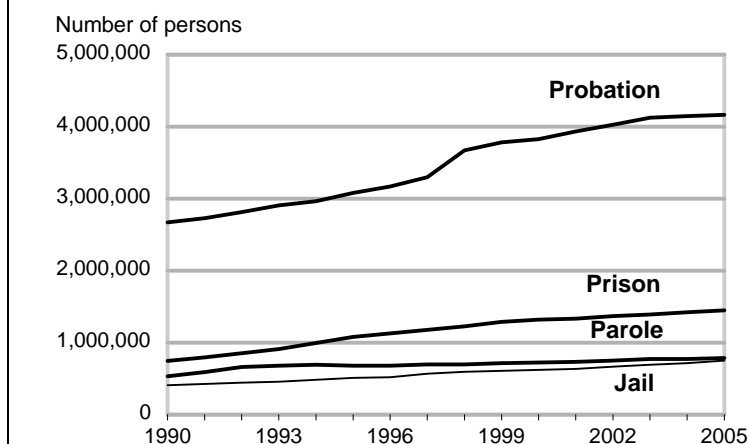


Figure 1

**Table 1. Community corrections among the States, yearend 2005**

10 States with the largest 2005 community corrections populations	Number supervised	10 States with the largest percent increase	Percent increase, 2004-05	10 States with the highest rates of supervision, 2005	Persons supervised per 100,000 adult residents*	10 States with the lowest rates of supervision, 2005	Persons supervised per 100,000 adult residents*
<b>Probation:</b>							
Texas	430,312	Mississippi	17.1%	Massachusetts	3,350	New Hampshire	457
California	388,260	West Virginia	9.6	Rhode Island	3,091	West Virginia	533
Florida	277,831	Wyoming	9.2	Minnesota	2,988	Utah	578
Ohio	239,036	Kentucky	8.0	Delaware	2,828	Nevada	709
Michigan	178,609	Montana	7.8	Ohio	2,745	Kansas	723
Pennsylvania	167,561	Alabama	6.0	Indiana	2,583	Maine	776
Massachusetts	165,365	North Dakota	5.6	Texas	2,580	Virginia	788
Illinois	143,136	New Mexico	5.5	Michigan	2,350	North Dakota	791
New Jersey	139,091	Arkansas	5.1	Washington	2,155	New York	810
Indiana	121,014	Virginia	4.9	New Jersey	2,117	South Dakota	899
<b>Parole:</b>							
California	111,743	Arkansas	22.7%	Pennsylvania	787	Maine	3
Texas	101,916	North Dakota	16.7	Arkansas	782	Florida	34
Pennsylvania	75,732	West Virginia	16.4	Oregon	766	Rhode Island	41
New York	53,533	New Mexico	16.1	Louisiana	712	North Carolina	47
Illinois	34,576	Kentucky	15.8	Texas	611	Nebraska	50
Louisiana	24,072	Vermont	14.9	California	421	North Dakota	57
Georgia	22,851	Mississippi	12.1	Missouri	414	Massachusetts	73
Oregon	21,499	Delaware	11.3	South Dakota	414	Virginia	78
Michigan	19,978	Colorado	11.0	Wisconsin	365	Mississippi	90
Ohio	19,512	South Dakota	10.2	New York	364	Delaware	92

Note: This table excludes the District of Columbia as a wholly urban jurisdiction, Georgia probation counts which include probation case-based counts for private agencies, and Idaho probation counts in which estimates for misdemeanors were based on admissions.

\*Rates are computed using the estimated adult resident population in each State on January 1, 2006.

**6 of the 10 States with largest probation populations also had large parole populations**

Texas, California, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Illinois had 6 of the 10 largest probation populations in the Nation at yearend 2005 (table 1). These 6 States accounted for more than a third of all probationers (37%). The same 6 States were among the 10 States with the largest parole populations in the Nation. Almost half of all parolees were supervised within these 6 States (46%).

Texas and California accounted for more than 1 million adults supervised in the community, or about 1 in 5 probationers and parolees. Each State had at least a half million adults on probation or parole: Texas with 532,228, and California with 500,003.

Among the other States, Massachusetts had the largest percentage of its adult population under community supervision (3.4% at yearend 2005), followed by Texas (3.2%) and Rhode Island (3.1%).

California had the largest parole population and the second largest probation population in the Nation. The percentage of California's adult population under community supervision was 1.9%, or slightly below the Nation's percentage of 2.2%.

Eight States reported rates of community supervision below 1,000 per 100,000 adult residents. New Hampshire had the lowest rate of supervision in the community (595 offenders per 100,000 adults).

Number under community supervision per 100,000 adult residents

New Hampshire	595
West Virginia	632
Utah	766
Maine	779
North Dakota	848
Virginia	866
Nevada	926
Kansas	948

**9 States reported an increase of 5% or more in their probation population**

In 2005 Mississippi (up 17%) had the largest increase in probationers, followed by West Virginia (up 10%), and Wyoming (up 9%). A total of 32 States reported an increase in their adult probation population during 2005.

Fifteen States had fewer adults on probation at the end of 2005 than at the beginning of the year. Maine (down 9%) led the Nation with the largest decrease, followed by Vermont (down 8%), and Washington (down 6%).

**Table 2. Adults on probation, 2005**

Region and jurisdiction	Probation population, 1/1/2005	2005		Probation population, 12/31/05	Percent change, 2005	Number on probation per 100,000 adult residents, 12/31/05
		Entries	Exits			
<b>U.S. total</b>	4,143,466	2,228,300	2,209,700	4,162,536	0.5%	1,858
Federal	28,602	12,135	14,402	26,719	-6.6%	12
State	4,114,864	2,216,200	2,195,300	4,135,817	0.5	1,846
<b>Northeast</b>	702,328	277,800	285,700	694,396	-1.1%	1,658
Connecticut <sup>a</sup>	54,067	28,250	26,245	56,072	3.7	2,092
Maine	8,907	4,890	5,677	8,120	-8.8	776
Massachusetts <sup>a</sup>	163,719	84,343	82,697	165,365	1.0	3,350
New Hampshire	4,285	3,440	3,110	4,615	:	457
New Jersey	143,315	45,136	49,360	139,091	-2.9	2,117
New York	124,853	34,644	40,472	119,025	-4.7	810
Pennsylvania <sup>a,b</sup>	167,366	67,300	67,000	167,561	0.1	1,741
Rhode Island <sup>a</sup>	26,085	5,410	5,882	25,613	-1.8	3,091
Vermont <sup>a</sup>	9,731	4,341	5,138	8,934	-8.2	1,820
<b>Midwest</b>	958,730	609,500	594,300	973,807	1.6%	1,950
Illinois <sup>a</sup>	143,871	60,951	61,686	143,136	-0.5	1,500
Indiana <sup>a</sup>	121,675	98,681	99,342	121,014	-0.5	2,583
Iowa	22,408	15,829	14,833	23,404	4.4	1,018
Kansas	14,439	19,755	19,184	15,010	4.0	723
Michigan <sup>a,b</sup>	176,630	130,200	128,300	178,609	1.1	2,350
Minnesota	113,121	70,752	66,800	117,073	3.5	2,988
Missouri	54,848	25,179	26,413	53,614	-2.2	1,208
Nebraska	17,994	15,330	14,856	18,468	2.6	1,387
North Dakota	3,749	2,808	2,597	3,960	5.6	791
Ohio <sup>a,b</sup>	230,758	141,300	133,000	239,036	3.6	2,745
South Dakota	5,372	3,196	3,260	5,308	-1.2	899
Wisconsin	53,865	25,505	24,195	55,175	2.4	1,298
<b>South</b>	1,667,198	908,800	894,600	1,681,455	0.9%	2,067
Alabama <sup>a</sup>	36,799	14,039	11,843	38,995	6.0	1,121
Arkansas	28,771	8,435	6,958	30,248	5.1	1,431
Delaware	18,725	14,643	14,906	18,462	-1.4	2,828
District of Columbia <sup>a</sup>	7,585	7,216	7,414	7,387	-2.6	1,696
Florida <sup>a,b</sup>	278,606	240,000	240,800	277,831	-0.3	2,002
Georgia <sup>a,b,c</sup>	423,547	215,500	216,200	422,848	:	:
Kentucky	32,619	20,800	18,300	35,230	8.0	1,100
Louisiana	38,231	13,772	13,695	38,308	0.2	1,133
Maryland	76,676	38,282	39,365	75,593	-1.4	1,793
Mississippi	20,375	8,124	4,635	23,864	17.1	1,096
North Carolina	111,537	62,157	62,068	111,626	0.1	1,693
Oklahoma <sup>a,b</sup>	28,404	14,600	14,100	28,865	1.6	1,065
South Carolina	38,941	14,768	14,360	39,349	1.0	1,212
Tennessee <sup>a,b</sup>	47,099	24,800	22,600	49,302	4.7	1,072
Texas	428,836	181,333	179,857	430,312	0.3	2,580
Virginia <sup>a</sup>	43,470	27,078	24,959	45,589	4.9	788
West Virginia <sup>b</sup>	6,977	3,200	2,500	7,646	9.6	533
<b>West</b>	786,608	420,100	420,500	786,159	-0.1%	1,546
Alaska	5,547	1,022	878	5,680	2.4	1,182
Arizona <sup>a,b</sup>	70,532	39,700	39,100	71,138	0.9	1,606
California <sup>a</sup>	384,852	195,343	191,935	388,260	0.9	1,462
Colorado <sup>a,b</sup>	57,779	29,900	31,000	56,623	-2.0	1,613
Hawaii <sup>d</sup>	16,113	6,236	5,524	16,825	4.4	1,693
Idaho <sup>a,e</sup>	44,579	35,717	36,584	43,712	:	:
Montana <sup>a,b</sup>	7,634	4,500	3,900	8,233	7.8	1,121
Nevada	12,645	6,305	6,019	12,931	2.3	709
New Mexico <sup>a,b</sup>	17,725	8,500	7,500	18,706	5.5	1,287
Oregon	43,324	17,852	16,323	44,853	3.5	1,597
Utah	10,267	5,312	5,500	10,079	-1.8	578
Washington <sup>a,b,d</sup>	111,193	66,900	73,800	104,293	-6.2	2,155
Wyoming	4,418	2,828	2,420	4,826	9.2	1,216

Note: Because of nonresponse or incomplete data, the probation population for some jurisdictions on December 31, 2005, does not equal the population on January 1, plus entries, minus exits.

: Not calculated.

<sup>a</sup>Some or all data are estimated.

<sup>b</sup>Data for entries and exits were estimated for nonreporting agencies.

<sup>c</sup>Counts include private agency cases and may overstate the number under supervision.

<sup>d</sup>Due to a change in the State agency's recordkeeping procedures, data are not comparable to previous reports.

<sup>e</sup>Counts include estimates for misdemeanors based on admissions.

## 19,070 probationers added in 2005

During 2005 the probation population grew by 19,070. The growth in the number of probationers (0.5%) was the smallest growth in probation since the survey began in 1980.

At yearend 2005 the probation supervision rate totaled 1,858 probationers per 100,000 adult U.S. residents — the equivalent of 1 in every 54 adults (table 2). Two States, Massachusetts (3,350 per 100,000) and Rhode Island (3,091 per 100,000), had more than 3% of their adult resident population under probation supervision.

A total of 10 States had fewer than 1% of their adult resident population under probation supervision. One State, New Hampshire (457 per 100,000), had a rate below 500 probationers per 100,000 adult residents.

## Small growth in probation population during 2005

Since 2001 the growth in probation has steadily dropped. The annual change was 2.8% in 2001, 2.3% in 2002, 1.2% in 2003, and 0.6% in 2004.

The 0.5% growth in the probation population during 2005 was the smallest in the last 26 years.\*

Year	Annual increase	
	Number	Percent change
2000	46,287	1.2%
2001	105,522	2.8
2002	92,336	2.3
2003	49,920	1.2
2004	23,454	0.6
2005	19,070	0.5

\*Since *Probation and Parole in the United States, 2004*, was published, Washington State revised their 2004 data which resulted in the 2003-04 national percent change increasing from 0.2% to 0.6%.

## Growth in probation since 1990 linked to entries

Since 1990 the probation population has steadily increased from 2,670,200 to 4,162,536 in 2005 (figure 2).

Although the number of entries decreased from 1990 (1,637,600) to 1994 (1,397,500), entries exceeded exits during that period, resulting in an average annual increase of 3.0% in the probation population. The number entering probation has increased each year since 1994, except for a 2.0% decrease in 2001 and a 0.5% decrease in 2004.

From 1995 through 1999 the annual increase in the probation population fluctuated between 87,000 and 120,000 additional probationers each year (figure 3). Beginning in 2001 the annual increase in the number of

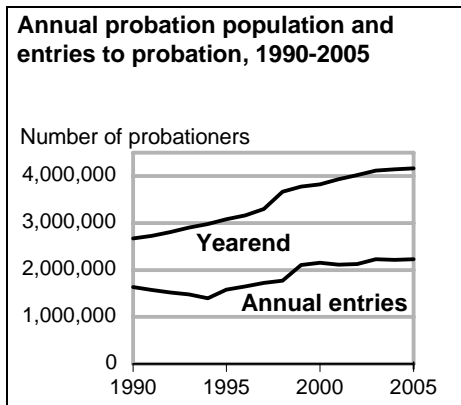


Figure 2

probationers declined from 105,500 to 92,300 in 2002, to 49,900 in 2003, to 23,400 in 2004. In 2005 the annual increase reached its lowest since data collection began in 1980 — an additional 19,070 probationers.

## 5 States accounted for nearly a third of the growth in probation from 1995 to 2005

In absolute numbers the probation population increased by 858,500 between 1995 and 2005. California experienced the largest growth (107,700), followed by Pennsylvania (60,700), Michigan (37,200), Illinois (33,600), and Minnesota (33,300). These five States accounted for 32% of the growth in probation since 1995.

Between 1995 and 2005 New York had the largest decrease in the number of probationers (49,000), followed by Washington (16,200), and the Federal system (8,700).

### Largest increases, 1995-2005

California	107,700
Pennsylvania	60,700
Michigan	37,200
Illinois	33,600
Minnesota	33,300

### Largest decreases, 1995-2005

New York	-49,000
Washington	-16,200
Federal system	-8,700
District of Columbia	-3,000
Kansas	-1,500

## Annual increase in probation population, 1995-2005

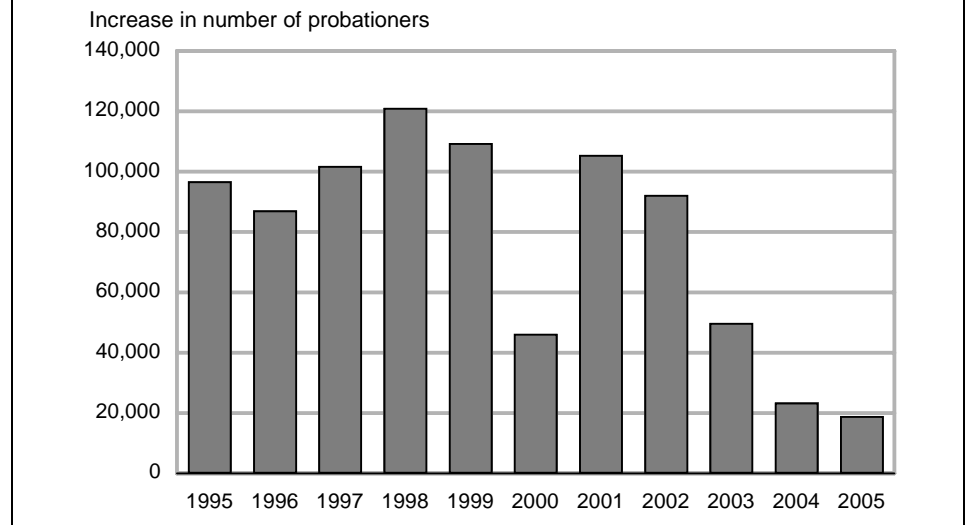


Figure 3

**At yearend 2005 almost 1 in 4 probationers were female; more than 1 in 2 were white**

Nationwide women represented a slightly larger percentage of the probation population in 2005 than in 1995 (table 3).

Women were 23% of adults on probation in 2005 (956,200), up from 21% in 1995.

At yearend 2005 more than half of all probationers were white (2,290,500); almost a third were black (1,239,600); and an eighth were Hispanic (539,700). Persons of other races comprised about 2% of probationers (92,600).

**Direct sentences more common in 2005 than 1995**

A larger percentage of probationers in 2005 had received a direct sentence to probation (57%) than in 1995 (48%). A smaller percentage had a probation sentence combined with incarceration (10% compared to 15% in 1995). The percentage of probationers that received a suspended sentence to incarceration has slowly declined, from 26% in 1995 to 22% in 2005.

**Half of all probationers convicted of a felony**

Probationers convicted of a felony (50%) accounted for a larger percentage of the population than probationers convicted of a misdemeanor (49%). About 1% of probationers had been convicted of other infractions.

The largest percentage of the probation population was convicted of a drug law violation (28%), followed by a DWI (15%) and larceny/theft (12%).

Seven in 10 probationers were under active supervision at yearend. Probationers under active supervision are required to regularly report to a probation authority in person, by mail, or by telephone. The percentage of probationers required to report regularly declined steadily, from 79% in 1995 to 70% in 2005.

About 1 in 10 persons still on probation had absconded at yearend 2005. Though still on probation, absconders had failed to report and could not be located. The percentage of absconders on probation increased slightly in the last 10 years (10% in 2005, up from 9% in 1995).

**Success rates have remained stable since 1995**

Fifty-nine percent of the more than 2.2 million adults discharged from probation in 2005 had successfully met the conditions of their supervision. The percentage of probationers discharged successfully has varied between 62% (1995) and 59% (2005). Probationers discharged from supervision because of incarceration due to a new offense or rule violation has varied, from 21% in 1995 to 15% in 2000 to 16% in 2005. Another 3% of those discharged from probation had absconded and 13% had their probation revoked without incarceration.

**Table 3. Characteristics of adults on probation, 1995, 2000, and 2005**

Characteristic	1995	2000	2005
Total	100%	100%	100%
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	79%	78%	77%
Female	21	22	23
<b>Race/Hispanic origin</b>			
White <sup>a</sup>	53%	54%	55%
Black <sup>a</sup>	31	31	30
Hispanic	14	13	13
American Indian/Alaska Native <sup>a</sup>	1	1	1
Asian/Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander <sup>a</sup>	--	1	1
<b>Status of probation</b>			
Direct imposition	48%	56%	57%
Split sentence	15	11	10
Sentence suspended	26	25	22
Imposition suspended	6	7	9
Other	4	1	2
<b>Status of supervision</b>			
Active	79%	76%	70%
Inactive	8	9	9
Absconder	9	9	10
Supervised out of State	2	3	2
Residential/other treatment program	...	...	1
Warrant status	...	...	6
Other	2	3	2
<b>Type of offense</b>			
Felony	54%	52%	50%
Misdemeanor	44	46	49
Other infractions	2	2	1
<b>Most serious offense<sup>b</sup></b>			
Sexual assault	...	...	3%
Domestic violence	...	...	6
Other assault	...	...	10
Burglary	...	...	5
Larceny/theft	...	...	12
Fraud	...	...	6
Drug law violations	...	24	28
Driving while intoxicated	16	18	15
Minor traffic offenses	...	6	5
<b>Adults entering probation</b>			
Without incarceration	72%	79%	76%
With incarceration	13	16	18
Other types	15	5	6
<b>Adults leaving probation</b>			
Successful completions	62%	60%	59%
Incarceration	21	15	16
With new sentence	5	3	4
With the same sentence	13	8	7
Unknown	3	4	5
Absconder <sup>c</sup>	...	3	3
Discharge to custody, detainer, or warrant	...	1	1
Other unsuccessful <sup>c</sup>	...	11	13
Death	1	1	1
Other	16	9	7

Note: For every characteristic there were persons of unknown type. Detail may not sum to total because of rounding.

--Less than 0.5%.

...Not available.

<sup>a</sup>Excludes persons of Hispanic origin.

<sup>b</sup>Does not include all offenses; therefore, will not add to 100%.

<sup>c</sup>In 1995 absconder and other unsuccessful statuses were reported among other.

**Table 4. Adults on parole, 2005**

Region and jurisdiction	Parole population, 1/1/05	2005		Parole population, 12/31/05	Percent change, 2005	Number on parole per 100,000 adult residents, 12/31/05
		Entries	Exits			
<b>U.S. total</b>	771,852	516,400	503,800	784,408	1.6%	350
Federal	89,589	36,121	34,549	91,211	1.8%	41
State	682,263	480,300	469,300	693,197	1.6	309
<b>Northeast</b>	154,309	70,200	72,400	152,120	-1.4%	363
Connecticut	2,552	2,813	2,794	2,571	0.7	96
Maine	32	1	1	32	0.0	3
Massachusetts	3,854	5,062	5,337	3,579	-7.1	73
New Hampshire	1,212	861	671	1,402	:	139
New Jersey	13,880	10,818	10,824	13,874	0.0	211
New York	54,524	23,340	24,331	53,533	-1.8	364
Pennsylvania <sup>a</sup>	76,989	26,300	27,500	75,732	-1.6	787
Rhode Island <sup>b</sup>	344	381	389	338	-1.7	41
Vermont <sup>b,c</sup>	922	657	520	1,059	14.9	216
<b>Midwest</b>	127,338	99,252	95,760	130,830	2.7%	262
Illinois	34,277	35,636	35,337	34,576	0.9	362
Indiana	6,627	6,446	5,778	7,295	10.1	156
Iowa <sup>b</sup>	3,325	2,665	2,430	3,560	7.1	155
Kansas <sup>b</sup>	4,525	4,500	4,359	4,666	3.1	225
Michigan	20,924	10,429	11,375	19,978	-4.5	263
Minnesota	3,676	5,035	4,745	3,966	7.9	101
Missouri	17,400	13,458	12,484	18,374	5.6	414
Nebraska	801	869	1,003	667	-16.7	50
North Dakota	246	728	687	287	16.7	57
Ohio	18,882	9,956	9,326	19,512	3.3	224
South Dakota	2,217	1,848	1,621	2,444	10.2	414
Wisconsin	14,438	7,682	6,615	15,505	7.4	365
<b>South</b>	229,775	104,986	100,733	234,007	1.8%	288
Alabama	7,745	3,030	3,523	7,252	-6.4	208
Arkansas	13,476	8,130	5,075	16,531	22.7	782
Delaware	539	361	300	600	11.3	92
District of Columbia <sup>c</sup>	5,253	2,112	2,180	5,288	0.7	1,214
Florida	4,484	6,198	5,897	4,785	6.7	34
Georgia	23,344	11,366	11,859	22,851	-2.1	338
Kentucky	8,255	5,727	4,420	9,562	15.8	298
Louisiana	24,219	13,330	13,477	24,072	-0.6	712
Maryland	14,351	7,658	7,738	14,271	-0.6	339
Mississippi	1,758	996	784	1,970	12.1	90
North Carolina	2,882	3,506	3,287	3,101	7.6	47
Oklahoma <sup>c</sup>	4,329	1,488	1,800	4,017	-7.2	148
South Carolina	3,237	1,050	1,132	3,155	-2.5	97
Tennessee <sup>b</sup>	8,223	3,748	3,126	8,721	6.1	190
Texas	102,072	32,701	32,857	101,916	-0.2	611
Virginia	4,392	2,570	2,463	4,499	2.4	78
West Virginia	1,216	1,015	815	1,416	16.4	99
<b>West</b>	170,841	205,866	200,380	176,240	3.2%	347
Alaska <sup>b</sup>	949	645	621	973	2.5	202
Arizona	5,728	11,782	11,402	6,108	6.6	138
California <sup>b</sup>	110,262	162,329	160,848	111,743	1.3	421
Colorado	7,383	6,880	6,067	8,196	11.0	234
Hawaii	2,296	632	722	2,119	-7.7	213
Idaho	2,370	1,443	1,331	2,482	4.7	233
Montana <sup>b</sup>	810	570	545	835	3.1	114
Nevada	3,610	2,612	2,257	3,965	9.8	217
New Mexico	2,469	1,439	1,042	2,866	16.1	197
Oregon	20,515	9,037	8,053	21,499	4.8	766
Utah	3,246	2,502	2,471	3,277	1.0	188
Washington <sup>d</sup>	10,640	5,668	4,740	11,568	8.7	239
Wyoming	563	327	281	609	8.2	153

Note: Because of nonresponse or incomplete data, the parole population for some jurisdictions on December 31, 2005, does not equal the population on January 1, plus entries, minus exits.  
: Not calculated.

<sup>a</sup>Data for entries and exits were estimated for nonreporting county agencies.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes parolees in one of the following categories: absconder, out of State, or inactive.

<sup>c</sup>All data were estimated.

<sup>d</sup>Due to a change in recordkeeping procedures, data are not comparable to previous reports.

**Parole population grew by 12,556 during 2005**

At the end of 2005 a total of 784,408 adult men and women were on parole or mandatory conditional release following a prison term (table 4). The population grew by 12,556 parolees during the year, or 1.6%. This was greater than the average annual increase of 1.4% since 1995 (table 5).

At yearend 2005, 350 persons were under parole supervision per 100,000 adult residents, or 1 in every 286 adults in the United States. Pennsylvania (787 per 100,000), Arkansas (782), and Oregon (766) had the highest rates of parole supervision. Maine, which abolished parole in 1975, had the lowest rate of supervision (3 per 100,000).

**Parole populations increased in 33 States**

At total of 33 States and the District of Columbia had more adults on parole at the end of 2005 than at the beginning of the year. Double-digit increases were reported in 11 States. Arkansas (up 23%) had the largest increase, followed by North Dakota (up 17%), and West Virginia (up 16%).

**Table 5. Change in the number of adults on parole, 1995-2005**

Year	Annual change	
	Number	Percent
1995	-10,950	-1.6%
1996	312	0.0
1997	15,054	2.2
1998	1,598	0.2
1999	18,072	2.6
2000	9,441	1.3
2001	8,435	1.2
2002	18,601	2.5
2003	23,654	3.1
2004	1,927	0.2
2005	12,556	1.6
Total increase, 1995-2005	104,987	15.4%
Average annual increase, 1995-2005	10,499	1.4%

A total of 14 States reported a decrease in their parole population during 2005. Nebraska (down 17%) had the only double-digit decrease. Four States had decreases of 5% or more: Hawaii (down 8%), Oklahoma and Massachusetts (both down 7%), and Alabama (down 6%).

### State parole population increasing after stability during the 1990s

From 1980 to 1992 the State parole population increased from 196,800 to 618,700, or an average of 10% annually (figure 4). From 1992 to 1998, the growth in the population slowed, increasing a total of 10,500 or the equivalent of an average annual increase of nearly 0.3%. In the following period, 1998 to 2005, the State parole population added 64,000 parolees, or 1.4% annually.

### Growth in State parole linked to entries

From 1980 to 1990 the number of entries to State parole supervision more than tripled, from 113,400 to 349,000. State parole entries continued to rise during the 1990s (up an average of 2.4% annually). Parole discharges also increased during the period (up an average of 4.6% annually).

From 2000 to 2005 the number of State parole entries continued to exceed the number of exits. Both rose slowly, 1.7% annually.

Year	State entries	State exits
2000	441,600	432,200
2001	445,600	439,100
2002	436,300	420,000
2003	459,100	440,500
2004	465,500	448,800
2005	480,300	469,300
Average annual percent change, 2000-05	1.7%	1.7%

### Discretionary releases to parole supervision continued to decline

As a percentage of all releases from State prison, discretionary releases by a parole board steadily declined from 55% in 1980 to 22% in 2004 (figure 5). From 1980 to 1995 mandatory parole releases increased (from 19% to 39%).

Mandatory releases remained fairly stable between 1995 and 2004 (39%). These trends were consistent with the change in release policy occurring within many States after 1980, resulting in a shift away from discretionary releases in favor of determinate sentences and mandatory supervised release. (See *Trends in State Parole, 1990-2000*, October 2001, NCJ 184735.)

Releases from State prison due to expiration of sentence increased from 13% of all releases in 1990 to 21% in 2001. Between 2001 and 2004 expiration of sentence releases declined to 19%.

From 1990 (5%) through 1999 (6%) releases to probation remained stable. Since 2000 releases to probation have steadily increased from 6% to 10% in 2004.

### Annual State parole population and entries to State parole, 1980-2005

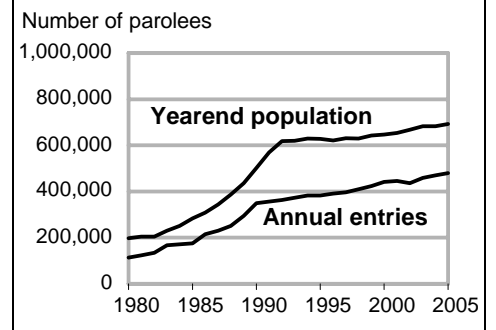


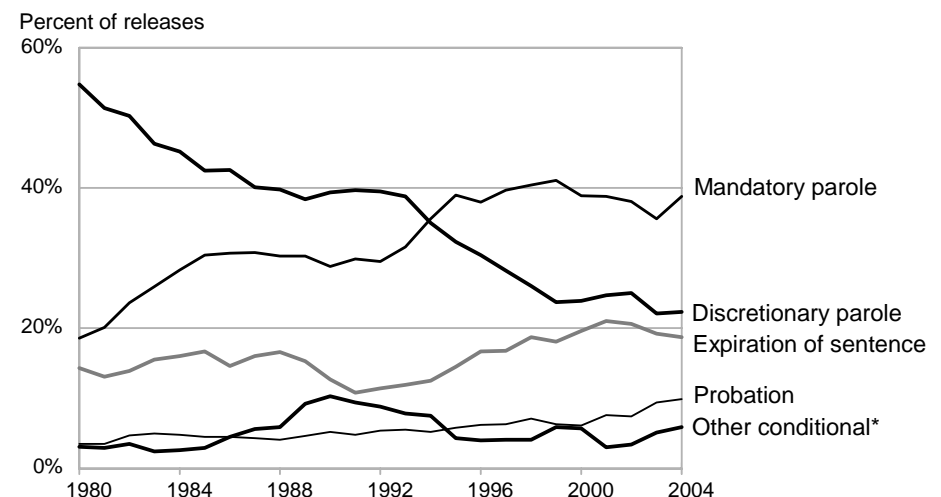
Figure 4

Other conditional releases have fluctuated over the years (3% in 1980, up to 10% in 1990, down to 6% in 2000). Since 2001 (3%) other conditional releases have steadily increased, reaching 6% in 2004.

### Proportion of females on parole increased between 1995 and 2005

At yearend 2005 women made up about 1 in 8 adults on parole (93,000) (table 6). A greater percentage of women were on parole at the end of 2005 (12%), compared to 1995 (10%).

### Releases from State prison, by method of release, 1980-2004



Note: Data are from the National Prisoners Statistics (NPS-1) series.

\*Other conditional releases include: provisional releases, supervised work furloughs, releases to home arrest or boot camp programs, conditional pardons, conditional medical releases, or unspecified releases.

Figure 5



As a percentage of all parolees, blacks decreased from 45% in 1995 down to 40% in 2005. During this same period, the percentage of parolees who were white steadily increased (34% in 1995, 38% in 2000, and 41% in 2005).

Almost 1 in 5 parolees were Hispanic (141,100). About 2% of parolees were of other races (12,700).

**Table 6. Characteristics of adults on parole, 1995, 2000, and 2005**

Characteristic	1995	2000	2005
Total	100%	100%	100%
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	90%	88%	88%
Female	10	12	12
<b>Race/Hispanic origin</b>			
White <sup>a</sup>	34%	38%	41%
Black <sup>a</sup>	45	40	40
Hispanic	21	21	18
American Indian/ Alaska Native <sup>a</sup>	1	1	1
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ other Pacific Islander <sup>a</sup>	--	--	1
<b>Status of supervision</b>			
Active	78%	83%	83%
Inactive	11	4	4
Absconder	6	7	7
Supervised out of State	4	5	4
Other	--	1	1
<b>Sentence length</b>			
Less than 1 year	6%	3%	6%
1 year or more	94	97	94
<b>Type of offense</b>			
Violent	...	...	25%
Property	...	...	25
Drug	...	...	37
Public order	...	...	6
Other	...	...	7
<b>Adults entering parole</b>			
Discretionary parole	50%	37%	31%
Mandatory parole	45	54	51
Reinstatement	4	6	8
Other	2	2	10
<b>Adults leaving parole</b>			
Successful completion	45%	43%	45%
Returned to incarceration	41	42	38
With new sentence	12	11	12
With revocation pending	18	30	25
Other	11	1	1
Absconder <sup>b</sup>	...	9	11
Other unsuccessful <sup>b</sup>	...	2	2
Transferred	2	1	1
Death	1	1	1

Note: For every characteristic there were persons of unknown type. Detail may not sum to total because of rounding.

--Less than 0.5%.

...Not available.

<sup>a</sup>Excludes persons of Hispanic origin.

<sup>b</sup>In 1995 absconder and other unsuccessful statuses were reported among other.

### More than 8 in 10 parolees were under active supervision

Active supervision requires parolees to regularly report to a parole authority in person, by mail, or by telephone. This type of supervision increased as a percentage of all parolees, from 78% in 1995 to 83% in 2000. In 2005 the percentage of parolees on active supervision (83%) remained stable.

Parolees on inactive status, excluded from regular reporting but still on parole, decreased as a percentage of all parolees, from 11% in 1995 to 4% in 2005. Another 7% of all parolees still on parole in 2005 had absconded, 4% were supervised out of State, and 1% were supervised through some other type of status.

### About 4 in 10 parolees served a sentence for a drug offense

About 94% of all parolees had been sentenced to 1 year or more in State or Federal prison at yearend 2005. The largest percentage of parolees had been convicted of a drug offense (37%, down from 40% in 2002).

Type of offense	2002	2005
Violent	24%	25%
Property	26	25
Drug	40	37
Public order	...	6
Other*	10	7

Note: 2002 was the first year data for type of offense were collected.

...Not available.

\*In 2002 public order offenses were reported among other offenses.

Since 2002 the percentage of parolees supervised for property (26%) and violent (24%) offenses remained stable. An equal percentage of parolees were supervised for property (25%) and violent offenses (25%) at yearend 2005.

In 2005, 7% of parolees had been convicted of other offenses, such as public order violations or unclassified offenses, up from 10% in 2002.

**Percent of successful exits, by type of supervision, 1995-2005**

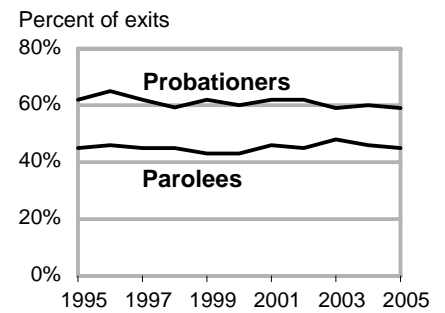


Figure 6

### Rates of success for parolees have remained stable since 1995

As a percentage of all discharges, parolees who successfully met the conditions of their supervision have remained nearly stable between 1995 and 2005 (45% in both years) (figure 6). During this period the success rates for parolees were consistently lower than the success rates for probationers (62% in 1995 and 59% in 2005).

Since 1995 the total estimated number of parolees discharged from supervision increased from 391,300 to 503,800 in 2005. During this time the number of successful exits increased from 176,300 to 227,600.

Estimated exits from parole	1995	2005
Total	391,300	503,800
Successful	176,300	227,600
Returned to incarceration	160,000	191,800
Transferred	9,800	4,700
Death	4,400	5,200
Other*	40,800	74,500

\*Includes absconder and other unsuccessful exits.

In 2005, 191,800 parolees were discharged from supervision and returned to incarceration because of a new offense or rule violation, up from 160,000 in 1995. While the number of parolees returned to incarceration increased, the percentage of all exits resulting in re-incarceration remained nearly stable (41% in 1995 and 38% in 2005).

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## Methodology

The Annual Probation Survey and Annual Parole Survey provide a count of the total number of persons supervised in the community on January 1 and December 31, 2005, and a count of the number entering and leaving supervision during the year. These surveys cover all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Federal system. The first annual report on probation and parole was released in 1979.

Data for the Federal system are from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts as provided to the BJS Federal Justice Statistics Program.

Because many States update their population counts, the January 1, 2005, numbers may differ from those previously published for December 31, 2004.

## Probation

The 2005 Annual Probation Survey was sent to 466 respondents — 33 central State reporters, the District of Columbia, the Federal system, and 431 separate State, county, or court agencies. States with multiple reporters were Alabama (3), Arizona (2), Colorado (8), Florida (43), Georgia (5), Idaho (2), Kentucky (3), Michigan (127), Missouri (2), Montana (4), New Mexico (2), Ohio (185), Oklahoma (3), Pennsylvania (2), Tennessee (3), Washington (35), and West Virginia (2).

Since 1995 the survey coverage has been expanded to include 180 additional agencies. At yearend 2005, 226,192 probationers were under the supervision of these agencies.

This report in portable document format and in ASCII and its related statistical data and tables are available at the BJS World Wide Web Internet site: <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/ppus05.htm>>.

### Office of Justice Programs

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## Parole

The 2005 Annual Parole Survey was sent to 54 respondents, including 50 State central reporters, the District of Columbia, the Federal system, the California Youth Authority, and 1 municipal agency in Alabama.

Federal parole as defined here includes supervised release, parole, military parole, special parole, and mandatory release.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Jeffrey L. Sedgwick is director.

BJS Bulletins present the first release of findings from permanent data collection programs.

Lauren E. Glaze and Thomas P. Bonczar wrote this report, under the supervision of Allen J. Beck. Margaret E. Noonan provided statistical verification. Seri Palla Irazola conducted the data collection. The processing of data was conducted by the authors. Tina Dorsey and Doris J. James edited the report. Jayne Robinson prepared the report for printing.

November 2006, NCJ 215091

**Appendix table. Adults on probation and parole, 1990, 1995, 2000, and 2005**

Region and jurisdiction	Adults on probation at yearend —				Adults on parole at yearend —			
	1990	1995	2000	2005	1990	1995	2000	2005
<b>U.S. total</b>	2,670,234	3,077,861	3,826,209	4,162,536	531,407	679,421	723,898	784,408
Federal	58,222	35,457	31,669	26,719	21,693	51,461	76,069	91,211
State	2,612,012	3,042,404	3,794,540	4,135,817	509,714	627,960	647,829	693,197
<b>Northeast</b>	466,006	538,941	573,280	694,396	128,946	175,207	159,653	152,120
Connecticut	46,640	54,507	47,636	56,072	291	1,233	1,868	2,571
Maine	7,549	8,641	7,788	8,120	/	55	28	32
Massachusetts <sup>a</sup>	72,459	43,680	45,233	165,365	4,720	5,256	3,703	3,579
New Hampshire	3,146	4,347	3,629	4,615	522	785	944	1,402
New Jersey	72,341	126,759	130,610	139,091	23,298	37,867	11,709	13,874
New York	145,266	168,012	186,955	119,025	42,837	55,568	57,858	53,533
Pennsylvania <sup>a</sup>	97,327	106,823	121,176	167,561	56,657	73,234	82,345	75,732
Rhode Island	15,366	18,850	20,922	25,613	321	591	331	338
Vermont	5,912	7,322	9,331	8,934	300	618	867	1,059
<b>Midwest</b>	567,839	675,380	896,061	973,807	65,693	86,598	103,331	130,830
Illinois	95,699	109,489	139,029	143,136	17,671	29,541	30,196	34,576
Indiana	68,683	95,267	109,251	121,014	3,778	3,200	4,917	7,295
Iowa	13,895	16,579	21,147	23,404	2,111	2,340	2,763	3,560
Kansas	22,183	16,547	15,992	15,010	5,751	6,094	3,829	4,666
Michigan	133,439	141,436	170,276	178,609	11,901	13,862	15,753	19,978
Minnesota	59,323	83,778	115,906	117,073	1,873	2,117	3,072	3,966
Missouri	42,322	41,728	53,299	53,614	9,196	13,001	12,563	18,374
Nebraska	14,654	13,895	21,483	18,468	632	661	476	667
North Dakota	1,731	2,320	2,847	3,960	116	114	110	287
Ohio <sup>b</sup>	83,380	103,327	189,375	239,036	7,945	7,432	18,248	19,512
South Dakota	3,160	3,745	4,214	5,308	620	688	1,481	2,444
Wisconsin	29,370	47,269	53,242	55,175	4,099	7,548	9,923	15,505
<b>South</b>	1,042,012	1,248,608	1,573,215	1,681,455	215,773	240,478	225,955	234,007
Alabama	27,686	33,410	40,178	38,995	5,970	7,793	5,484	7,252
Arkansas	15,983	22,397	28,409	30,248	3,971	4,685	8,659	16,531
Delaware	12,223	16,124	20,052	18,462	1,283	1,033	579	600
District of Columbia	9,742	10,414	10,664	7,387	5,346	6,340	5,332	5,288
Florida <sup>b</sup>	210,781	243,736	296,139	277,831	2,064	11,197	5,982	4,785
Georgia <sup>c</sup>	134,840	142,954	321,407	422,848	22,646	19,434	21,556	22,851
Kentucky <sup>b</sup>	7,482	11,499	19,620	35,230	3,183	4,257	4,614	9,562
Louisiana	30,191	33,753	35,854	38,308	8,877	19,028	22,860	24,072
Maryland	82,898	71,029	81,523	75,593	11,192	15,748	13,666	14,271
Mississippi	8,221	9,595	15,118	23,864	3,478	1,510	1,596	1,970
North Carolina	77,829	97,921	105,949	111,626	9,883	18,501	3,352	3,101
Oklahoma	24,411	27,866	30,969	28,865	3,236	2,356	1,825	4,017
South Carolina	32,287	39,821	44,632	39,349	3,543	5,545	4,378	3,155
Tennessee	32,719	36,485	40,682	49,302	11,327	8,851	8,093	8,721
Texas	308,357	421,213	441,848	430,312	109,726	103,089	111,719	101,916
Virginia	21,303	24,264	33,955	45,589	9,048	10,188	5,148	4,499
West Virginia	5,059	6,127	6,216	7,646	1,000	923	1,112	1,416
<b>West</b>	536,155	579,475	751,984	786,159	99,302	125,677	158,890	176,240
Alaska	3,599	3,481	4,779	5,680	568	459	525	973
Arizona	30,397	40,614	59,810	71,138	2,711	4,109	3,474	6,108
California	305,700	280,545	343,145	388,260	67,562	91,807	117,647	111,743
Colorado	31,111	42,687	50,460	56,623	2,396	3,024	5,500	8,196
Hawaii	11,667	12,957	15,525	16,825	1,425	1,689	2,504	2,119
Idaho <sup>b,d</sup>	4,377	5,308	35,103	43,712	243	619	1,409	2,482
Montana <sup>b</sup>	4,052	4,318	6,108	8,233	811	744	621	835
Nevada	7,700	8,634	12,189	12,931	2,850	2,863	4,056	3,965
New Mexico	6,294	8,524	10,461	18,706	1,224	1,366	1,670	2,866
Oregon	37,631	39,725	46,023	44,853	8,023	15,019	17,579	21,499
Utah	5,830	8,562	9,800	10,079	1,561	2,700	3,231	3,277
Washington <sup>a,b</sup>	84,817	120,466	154,466	104,293	9,615	875	160	11,568
Wyoming	2,980	3,654	4,115	4,826	313	403	514	609

/Not reported.

<sup>a</sup>Due to a change in recordkeeping procedures, probation and parole counts for 2005 are not comparable to previous years.

<sup>b</sup>Due to expanded coverage, probation counts for 2000 and 2005 are not comparable to previous years.

<sup>c</sup>Probation counts for 2000 and 2005 include private agency cases and may overstate the number under supervision.

<sup>d</sup>Probation counts for 2000 and 2005 include estimates for misdemeanors based on admissions.

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