



# Environmental Scan 2013

**U.S. Department of Justice**  
**National Institute of Corrections**  
320 First Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20534

**Robert M. Brown, Jr.**  
*Acting Director*

**Christopher Innes, Ph.D.**  
*Chief, Research and Information Services Division*

**Tracey Vessels**  
*Project Manager*

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**National Institute of Corrections**  
*[www.nicic.gov](http://www.nicic.gov)*

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# Environmental Scan 2013

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## Table of Contents

Introduction .....	3
International Developments .....	4
Demographic and Social Trends .....	7
The Workforce.....	11
Technology .....	15
Public Opinion .....	18
The Economy and Government Spending .....	20
Criminal Justice Trends.....	24
Corrections Populations and Trends .....	27
Affordable Care Act (ACA).....	34

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## **Introduction**

Beginning in the late 1990's, the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) Information Center began scanning social, economic and corrections issues to inform the development of programs and services offered by NIC. This report, now in its 8<sup>th</sup> edition, has continued to evolve into a popular tool corrections practitioners also use to inform their work in jails, prisons and community corrections. Since there are many issues beyond what is addressed in this environmental scan that potentially will influence corrections, this report is intended to give a broad overview of selected current and anticipated trends and not intended to be comprehensive.

The method for selecting articles, reports and other materials was based on a scan of popular magazines, newspapers and websites as well as corrections-specific publications. As part of the ongoing work of the Information Center in supporting the work of corrections practitioners, staff regularly monitors reports and publications from state, national and independent sources. The report is arranged starting with global and broader influences on corrections and moves to specific corrections issues. Each section of the report gives an overview of the topic followed by corrections-specific trends and developments in this area.

Added to the report this year is the final section on the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

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## International Developments

Our International Developments section begins with a look at Gallup's top world news discoveries for 2013, then moves to global economic issues, world population statistics, the Global Peace Index, and finally prison populations and trends across the globe.

- In December 2013, Gallup editors selected their top 10 World's News Findings. Included in this list were:
  - #1 – Worldwide, only 13% of employees are “engaged” at work
  - #2 – Global Payroll to Population rate drops to 26%
  - #4 – More than one in five worldwide lives in extreme poverty

Source: Gallup World, *Gallup's Top 10 World News Findings of 2013*, December 2013  
(<http://www.gallup.com/poll/166619/gallup-top-world-news-findings-2013.aspx>)

- The World Economic Forum publishes “a comprehensive series of reports which examine in detail the broad range of global issues it seeks to address with stakeholders as part of its mission of improving the state of the world.” Key reports include:
  - *Global Risks 2014* – Based on a survey of the World Economic Forum's multistakeholder communities, the report maps 31 global risks according to level of concern, likelihood and impact and interconnections among them.
  - *Jobs and Skills: Tackling the Global Unemployment Crisis* - Preparing for Growth – presents a list of recommendations for governments, businesses and trade unions to adopt decisive actions to bring employment at the centre of their agendas.
  - *Risk and Responsibility in a Hyperconnected World* – The collective imperative is to develop a common set of expectations to address systemic risks, and to define not only the roles but also the responsibilities of all participants in the cyber ecosystem.
  - *The Global Competitiveness Report 2013-2014* – Assesses the competitiveness landscape of 148 economies, providing insight into the drivers of their productivity and prosperity.

Source: World Economic Forum, *Reports* (<http://www.weforum.org/reports>)

- Also, focused on the world economy, the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook (WEO) report begins its executive summary with a statement about the global recovery. “Global activity and world trade picked up in the second half of 2013. Recent data even suggest that global growth during this period was somewhat stronger than anticipated in the October 2013 WEO. Final demand in advanced economies expanded broadly as expected—much of the upward surprise in growth is

due to higher inventory demand. In emerging market economies, an export rebound was the main driver behind better activity, while domestic demand generally remained subdued, except in China.”

Source: International Monetary Fund, *World Economic Outlook (WEO) Update: Is the Tide Rising*, January 2014 (<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2014/update/01/>)

- The 2012 World Population Data Sheet (WPDS) offers detailed information on 20 population, health, and environment indicators for more than 200 countries. This year's data sheet has a special focus on wealth and income disparities.

More than simply a data sheet, the WPDS is a document, an interactive map of both the current 2013 and the estimated 2050 world populations (as shown below), a video, a webinar, and a series of fact sheets and graphics.



Figure 1: Interactive Map and Table for 2013 World Populations

Source: Population Reference Bureau, *World Population Data Sheet 2013*, September 2013 (<http://www.prb.org/Publications/Datasheets/2013/2013-world-population-data-sheet.aspx>)

- The Global Peace Index (GPI) ranks the nations of the world by their peacefulness and identifies some of the drivers of peace. Specifically, “the GPI measures peace according to 22 qualitative and quantitative indicators.” Key findings from the 2013 report include the following:
  - The world has become 5% less peaceful since 2008.
  - Europe is the most peaceful region, with 13 of the top 20 most peaceful countries.
  - War ravaged Afghanistan returns to the bottom of the index.
  - Syria’s GPI score has fallen by 70% since 2008.
  - The total economic impact of containing violence is estimated to be US\$9.46 trillion in 2012.

Source: Institute for Economics and Peace, *Global Peace Index*, June 2013

([http://www.visionofhumanity.org/pdf/gpi/2013\\_Global\\_Peace\\_Index\\_Report.pdf](http://www.visionofhumanity.org/pdf/gpi/2013_Global_Peace_Index_Report.pdf)) and interactive map (<http://www.visionofhumanity.org/#/page/indexes/global-peace-index>)

- The World Prison Brief (WPB) provides information on “prison populations and prison population rates per 100,000 of the national population, on the use of imprisonment for women and juveniles, on the extent of pre-trial imprisonment and on prison overcrowding, as well as a record of the national ministries responsible for prisons and contact details for prison administrations.”

Source: International Centre for Prison Studies, *World Prison Brief*, September 2000 (updated monthly) (<http://www.prisonstudies.org/info/worldbrief/>)

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## Demographic and Social Trends

Projections from the U.S. Census Bureau range from short term changes in the population of unauthorized immigrants to longer term shifts in the race and ethnic voting electorate. The statistics below highlight changes in the demographic makeup of the United States in terms of population, immigration, poverty and social mobility.

- As of late-January 2014, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated the U.S. population to be 317 million, 4.5% of the world's 7 billion people. This Census Bureau population webpage also provides population estimates by region, age and sex, and most populous and highest density by state, county, and city.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *U.S. & World Population Clocks*, January 29, 2014

(<http://www.census.gov/popclock/>)

- Looking ahead to 2060, PEW provides an analysis of the racial and ethnic breakdown of population and potential voters, based on 2012 U.S. Census Bureau data. The projected decrease in the white share of the vote is 20% between 2012 and 2060, while the Hispanic vote share increases by 14%.

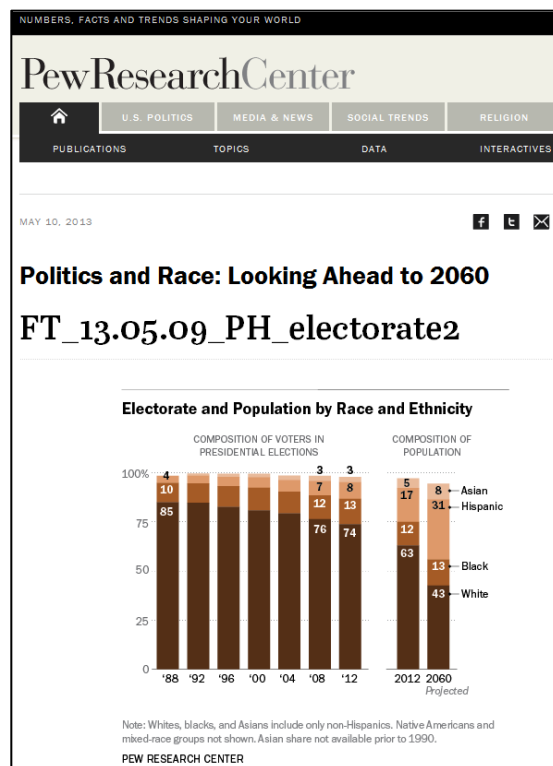


Figure 2: Graph Chart of Electorate and Population by Race and Ethnicity



Source: Pew Research Center, *Politics and race: looking ahead to 2060*, May 2013  
(<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2013/05/10/politics-and-race-looking-ahead-to-2060/>)

- On the topic of immigration, the Pew Research Hispanic Trends Project released a September 2013 report estimating that the “...sharp decline in the U.S. population of unauthorized immigrants that accompanied the 2007-2009 recession has bottomed out, and the number may be rising again.”



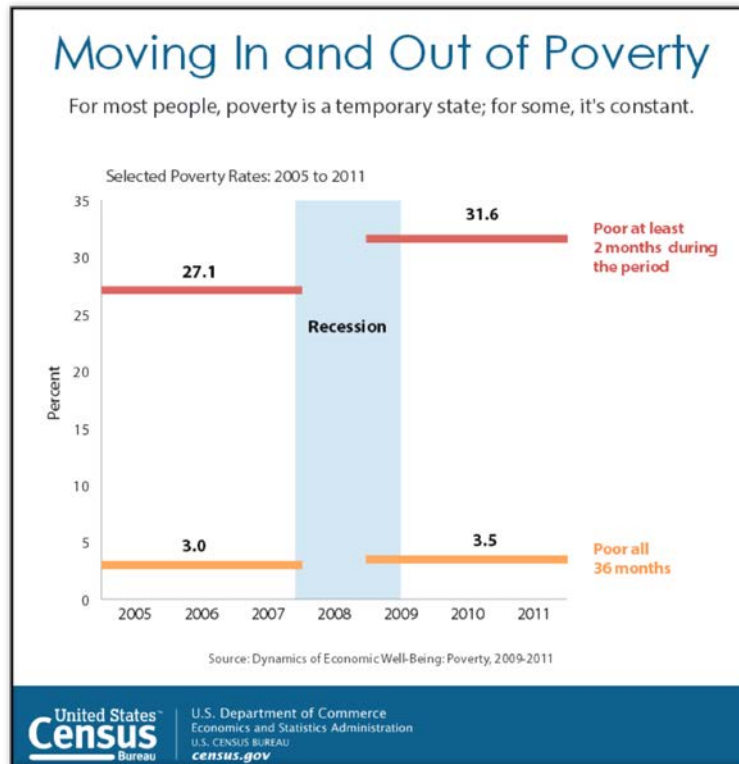
Figure 3: Estimates of the U.S. Unauthorized Immigrant Population, 1990-2012

Source: Pew Research Center, *Population Decline of Unauthorized Immigrants Stalls, May Have Reversed*, September 2013 (<http://www.pewhispanic.org/2013/09/23/population-decline-of-unauthorized-immigrants-stalls-may-have-reversed/>)

- Additional statistics on unauthorized immigrants are provided in this fact sheet by the Urban Institute. These statistics highlight the potential effect of immigration reform not only on 11 million unauthorized residents, but also on the 8.7 million legal residents who reside with them.

Urban Institute, *More than 11 Million: Unauthorized Immigrants and Their Families: Fact Sheet*, December 2013 (<http://www.urban.org/publications/412979.html>)

- The Census Bureau report, *Dynamics of Economic Well-Being: Poverty, 2009-2011*, highlights poverty as a temporary state for nearly one-third of Americans. From the report, "...31.6 percent of Americans were in poverty for at least two months from 2009 to 2011, a 4.5 percentage point increase over the prerecession period of 2005 to 2007."



**Figure 4: Moving In and Out of Poverty**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Census Bureau Reports Almost One in Three Americans Were Poor at Least Two Months from 2009 to 2011*, January 2014  
<http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/poverty/cb14-05.html>

- Another Census Bureau report on income and poverty is summarized into four key takeaways by the Pew Research Center.
  - New data show that median household income has stagnated for the longest period since the government began collecting such data in 1967.
  - Households headed by those 65 and older are faring relatively better since the recession.
  - The income gaps between racial and ethnic groups have stayed pretty much the same in recent years.
  - The income gap continues to widen within the total U.S. population and also within each racial/ethnic groups.

Source: Pew Research Center, *Four Takeaways from Tuesday's Census Income and Poverty Release*, September 2013  
(<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2013/09/18/four-takeaways-from-tuesdays-census-income-and-poverty-release/>)

- This NPR interview with researchers Nathan Hendren, a Harvard economist, and David Wessel, of the Brookings Institution, discusses a recent study showing “...while mobility isn't getting any worse, there still is a big gap between rich and poor.”

Source: NPR, *Researchers Examine Gap Between Rich and Poor*, January 2014  
(<http://www.npr.org/2014/01/28/267488592/researchers-examine-the-gap-between-rich-and-poor>) and The Equality of Opportunity Project (<http://www.equality-of-opportunity.org/>)

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## The Workforce

The Workforce section provides a summary of the current employment situation, with specific reports on disconnected low income men, the long term unemployed, public sector employment, minimum wage trends, employment in corrections, and the relationship of education and employment for incarcerated adults.

- The Bureau of Labor Statistics provides a monthly report on the national employment situation. As of January 10, 2014, the “Nonfarm employment edged up in December. Job growth averaged 182,000 per month in 2013, about the same as in 2012 (+183,000 per month). In December, retail trade, temporary help services, and wholesale trade added jobs, while information lost jobs.” A chart of the total nonfarm employment from January 2009 to January 2013 is shown below:

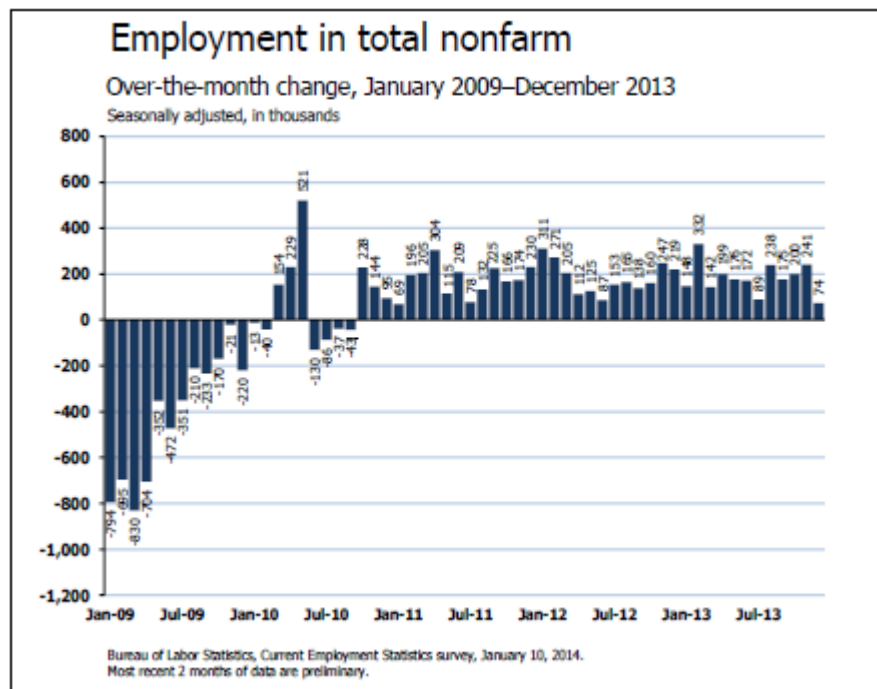


Figure 5: Employment in total nonfarm

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Current Employment Statistics – CES (National)*, January 10, 2014 (<http://www.bls.gov/ces/news.htm>) and *Current Employment Statistics Highlights, December 2013* (<http://www.bls.gov/web/empsit/ceshighlights.pdf>)

- The following two reports from the Urban Institute provide insight on the topics of low-income males and long-term unemployment in the labor market.
  - “This brief explores the education and employment outcomes of disconnected low-income men in 2008–10. These men have lower education levels than higher-income men. Among low-income men, Hispanics are less likely than African Americans and whites to complete high school. Low-income men are more likely to be unemployed and underemployed; African Americans are the most likely to be unemployed. Education and employment rates for low-income men vary considerably by metropolitan area.”

Source: Urban Institute, *Education and Employment of Disconnected Low-Income Men*, January 2014 (<http://www.urban.org/publications/412984.html>)

- “Relative to currently employed workers, those who have been out of work for more than 26 weeks (the long-term unemployed) tend to be less educated and are more likely to be nonwhite, unmarried, disabled, impoverished, and to have worked previously in the construction industry and construction occupations. The long-term unemployed have much more in common with workers who are newly unemployed and workers who have become discouraged and dropped out of the labor force. This suggests that solutions to long-term unemployment may be effective for other workers who have experienced other forms of labor market distress.”

Source: Urban Institute, *Who Are the Long-Term Unemployed?*, August 2013 (<http://www.urban.org/publications/412885.html>)

- The following report, *Justice Expenditure and Employment Extracts*, from the Bureau of Justice Statistics focuses on public employment in the justice sector:

“This series includes national, federal, and state-level estimates of government expenditures and employment for the following justice categories: police protection, all judicial and legal functions (including prosecution, courts, and public defense), and corrections. Data for large local governments (counties with populations of 500,000 or more and cities with populations of 300,000 or more) are also included.”

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Justice Expenditure and Employment Extracts, 2010- Preliminary*, July 2013 (<http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=4679>)

- Along with the federal wage increase for some contract workers, many state governments are planning or have already increased the minimum wage for 2014.
  - As of Jan. 1, 2014, the minimum wage increased over 2013 rates in 13 states—Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington.
  - California’s minimum wage will increase from \$8 an hour to \$9 an hour on July 1, 2014.
  - In New York, the wage is scheduled to increase again to \$8.75 per hour on Dec. 31, 2014.

Source: The Council of State Governments, *State-by-State: Minimum Wage Trends in 2014*, January 2014 (<http://knowledgecenter.csg.org/kc/content/state-state-minimum-wage-trends-2014>) and The Washington Post, *Obama to raise minimum wage for government contract workers*, January 27, 2014 ([http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/obama-to-raise-minimum-wage-for-government-contract-workers/2014/01/27/f7994b34-87cd-11e3-916e-e01534b1e132\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/obama-to-raise-minimum-wage-for-government-contract-workers/2014/01/27/f7994b34-87cd-11e3-916e-e01534b1e132_story.html))

- As of May 2012, the average hourly and annual wage for correctional officers and jailers was \$20.94 and \$43,550 respectively, for correctional first-line supervisors wages were \$29.31 and \$60,970 respectively, and for probation officers it was \$25.18 and \$52,380 respectively. Employment of correctional officers is projected to grow 5 percent from 2012 to 2022, slower than the average for all occupations.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Occupational Employment and Wages*, May 2012 for correctional officers and jailers (<http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes333012.htm>), for first-line supervisors of correctional officers (<http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes331011.htm>), for probation officers and correctional treatment specialists (<http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes211092.htm>).

- Estimates from 2011 show that a total of 761,355 government employees worked in corrections with total monthly payroll expenses exceeding 3 billion.

	Federal	State	Local	Total
<b>Corrections employees</b>	38,311	462,549	260,495	761,355
<b>Corrections monthly payroll</b>	\$223 million	\$1.9 billion	\$1.1 billion	\$3.2 billion

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Government Employment & Payroll, 2011*, (local data revised May 2013) (<http://www.census.gov/govs/apes/>)

- In August 2013, The Rand Corporation released a “Meta-Analysis of Programs that Provide Education to Incarcerated Adults.” Key findings from the meta-analysis include the following:
  - Correctional education improves inmates' chances of not returning to prison.
  - Inmates who participate in correctional education programs had 43 percent lower odds of recidivating than those who did not.
  - The odds of obtaining employment post-release among inmates who participated in correctional education was 13 percent higher than the odds for those who did not participate in correctional education.
  - Inmates exposed to computer-assisted instruction learned slightly more in reading and substantially more in math in the same amount of instructional time.
  - Providing correctional education can be cost-effective when it comes to reducing recidivism.

Source: Rand Corporation, *Evaluating the Effectiveness of Correctional Education: A Meta-Analysis of Programs That Provide Education to Incarcerated Adults*, August 2013  
([http://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_reports/RR266.html#key-findings](http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR266.html#key-findings))

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## Technology

Below are some highlights of how technology is changing our social landscape and enhancing our ability to be connected, as well as where it may be going in the near future.

- Each year editors of *MIT Technology Review* select the 10 most important technological milestones over the last 12 months. The 2013 list includes innovations such as:
  - Temporary Social Media – Messages that quickly self-destruct could enhance the privacy of online communications and make people freer to be spontaneous.
  - Smart Watches – The designers of the Pebble watch realized that a mobile phone is more useful if you don't have to take it out of your pocket.
  - Big Data from Cheap Phones – Collecting and analyzing information from simple cell phones can provide surprising insights into how people move about and behave—and even help us understand the spread of diseases.

Source: MIT Technology Review, *10 Breakthrough Technologies*, 2013  
(<http://www.technologyreview.com/lists/breakthrough-technologies/2013/>)

- In a recent edition of *Wired* magazine, Bill Wasik looks at “Why Wearable Tech Will Be as Big as the Smartphone.” Examples of wearable tech include not only Google Glass, but ski and swim goggles, smartwatches, rings and bracelets.

Source: WIRED, *Why Wearable Tech Will Be as Big as the Smartphone*, December 2013  
(<http://www.wired.com/gadgetlab/2013/12/wearable-computers/>)

- The Pew Internet & American Life Project released numerous reports in 2013 in the technology arena. Examples include:
  - Social Media Update 2013 – 42% of online adults use multiple social networking sites, but Facebook remains the platform of choice. (Dec. 30, 2013)
  - Who's Not Online and Why – 15% of American adults do not use the Internet at all, and another 9% of adults use the Internet but not at home. (Sep. 25, 2013)
  - Cell Internet Use – 57% of American adults use their cell phone to go online. 21% of cell phone owners say they mostly access the internet using their phone. (Sep. 16, 2013)

Source: Pew Internet & American Life Project, *Latest Research*, 2013  
(<http://www.pewinternet.org/Data-Tools/Get-the-Latest-Statistics/Latest-Research.aspx?start=1&x=x%2cx%2cx&x=x#ListContinue>)



- This presentation from Benedict Evans entitled, “Mobile Is Eating the World” covers the rise of mobile and what it means for the industry. Here’s one example slide:



Figure 6: The irrelevance of Microsoft – Mar 2009 to Mar 2013 (Benedict Evans, Enders Analysis)

Source: Business Insider, Here's an Excellent Presentation about the Rise of Mobile and the Massive Implications, May 2013

(<http://www.businessinsider.com/heres-an-excellent-presentation-about-the-rise-of-mobile-and-the-massive-implications-2013-5?op=1>)

- This Microsoft News article highlights a new product, called StarChase, aimed at helping track suspects and reducing the risk of high speed pursuits. “The StarChase system being used by cops in Florida and Iowa allows police officers to fire ‘a miniature GPS module encased in a tracking projectile/tag’ from a ‘launcher’ mounted on a police cruiser's grill. The GPS module then sticks to the rear of the fleeing car, allowing dispatch to track the vehicle while the pursuing officer breaks off.”

Source: MSN News, *StarChase: The end of high-speed police pursuits?*, October 3, 2013

(<http://news.msn.com/science-technology/starchase-the-end-of-high-speed-police-pursuits>)

- Mashable provides links to a wide variety of articles on 3D Printers. Topics include:
  - The Answer to Affordable Housing Could Lie Within a 3D Printer
  - Tiny 3D-Printed Organs Aim for 'Body on a Chip'
  - World's Possibly First 3D-Printed Rifle Is Fired on YouTube

Source: Mashable, *Topics: 3D Printers*, 2014 (<http://mashable.com/category/3d-printers/>)

- For criminal justice, the issue around 3D guns is ongoing. See this NBC News article on the legality of 3D printed firearms.

Source: NBC News Technology, *Despite Plastic Gun Ban, 3-D Printed Firearms Still Have a Future*, December 9, 2013 (<http://www.nbcnews.com/technology/despite-congressional-ban-3-d-printed-guns-still-have-future-2D11718212>)

- From the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC), current articles in 2013 of *TechBeat* cover topics such as: offender tracking system standards and stopping contraband cellphone usage.

Source: National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center, *TechBeat Articles*, 2013 ([https://www.justnet.org/corrections/techbeat\\_articles.html](https://www.justnet.org/corrections/techbeat_articles.html))

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## Public Opinion

According to a recent Gallup poll, crime continues to be an issue of lower importance to the public. Public opinion polls from Gallup Politics are also provided on the topics of gun control, marijuana legalization, and privacy.

- A Gallup poll in January 2014 asking “What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?” found crime/violence, judicial system/courts/laws and guns/gun control each receiving only 1% of the vote. All three topics were down in importance from January 2013. The number one vote continues to go to economic problems and the top non-economic problem is “dissatisfaction with government”.

Source: GALLUP, *Most Important Problem*, January 2014

(<http://www.gallup.com/poll/1675/most-important-problem.aspx>)

- Although Americans voted guns/gun control to be of low importance, their dissatisfaction with gun laws, at 55% dissatisfied, is the highest since 2001.

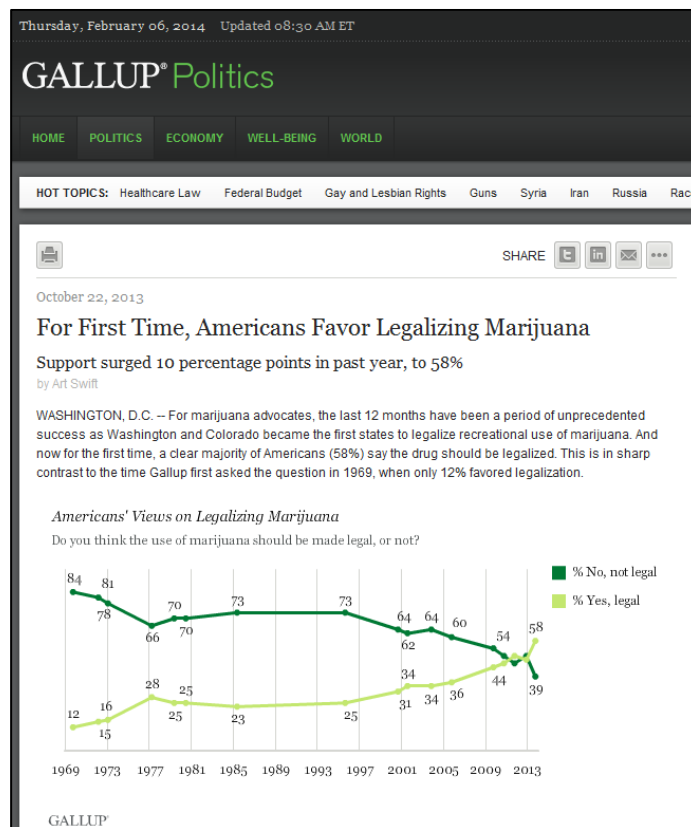


Figure 7: Americans' Dissatisfaction with Gun Laws and Policies

Source: GALLUP Politics, *Americans' Dissatisfaction With Gun Laws Highest Since 2001*, January 2014

(<http://www.gallup.com/poll/167135/americans-dissatisfaction-gun-laws-highest-2001.aspx>)

- Another Gallup poll, this one on the overall support for legalizing marijuana, shows most adults (58%) support legalizing marijuana, up 10% in the past year.



**Figure 8: American's Views on Legalizing Marijuana**

Source: GALLUP Politics, *For First Time, Americans Favor Legalizing Marijuana*, October 2013  
<http://www.gallup.com/poll/165539/first-time-americans-favor-legalizing-marijuana.aspx>

- On privacy and the monitoring activities of the National Security Agency, Americans are less concerned with government snooping into computers and the Internet than in 2000, despite Edward Snowden's NSA revelations.

Source: GALLUP Politics, *U.S. Internet Users Less Concerned About Gov't Snooping*, October 2013  
<http://www.gallup.com/poll/165569/internet-users-less-concerned-gov-snooping.aspx>

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## The Economy and Government Spending

“Painfully slow” are words used to describe economic growth at the state level. This section takes a look at trends in the economy and the impact on spending for criminal justice at the state and local level.

- The Bureau of Economic Analysis provides a variety of data sources on the economy. Examples are listed below:
  - The U.S. Economy at a Glance report provides key economic statistics on gross domestic product (GDP) and personal income from a national, state and local perspective. Real GDP increased 3.2 percent in the fourth quarter of 2013; in the third quarter the growth rate was 4.1 percent.

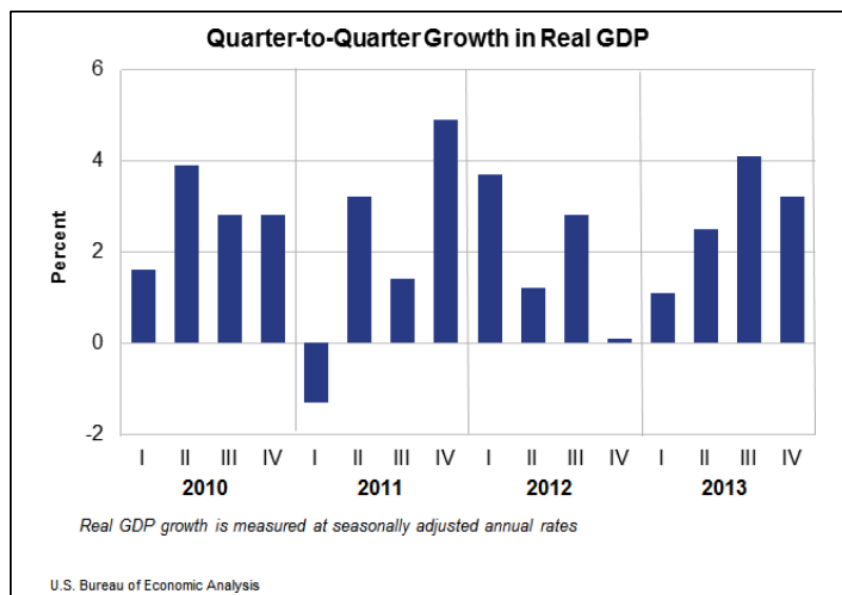


Figure 9: Quarter-to-Quarter Growth in Real GDP

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, *U.S. Economy at a Glance: Perspective from the BEA Accounts*, January 2014 (<http://www.bea.gov/newsreleases/glance.htm>)

- Monthly releases of Personal Income and Outlays summarize income from wages and salaries, as well as other supplemental sources. “Personal income increased \$2.3 billion, or less than 0.1 percent, and disposable personal income (DPI) decreased \$3.8 billion, or less than 0.1 percent, in December according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis.”

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Personal Income and Outlays, December 2013*, January 2014 (<http://www.bea.gov/newsreleases/national/pi/2014/pi1213.htm>)

- Looking out 10 years, the Congressional Budget Office provides an update on the nation's budget and economy. The following graph projects the federal debt to be 79 percent of GDP in the year 2024.

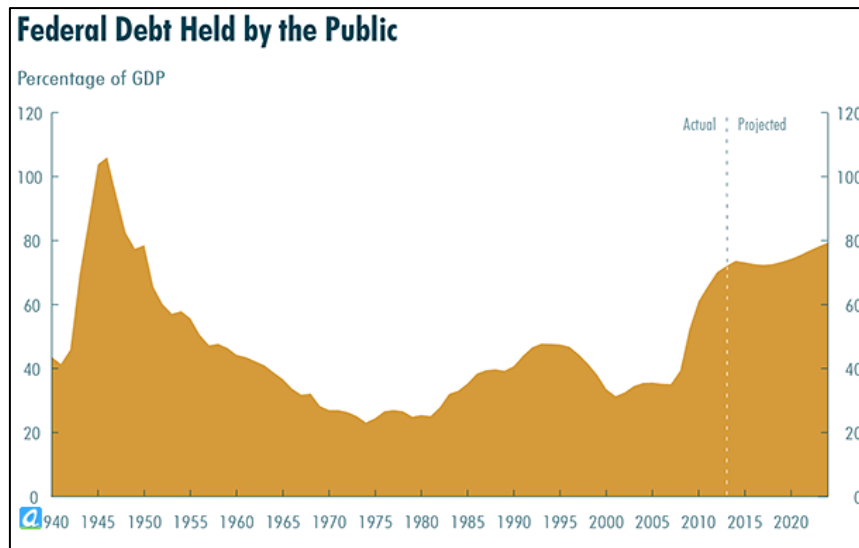


Figure 10: Federal Debt Held by the Public

Source: Congressional Budget Office, *The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2014-2024*, February 4, 2014 (<http://www.cbo.gov/publication/45010>)

- From the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) Fall 2013 update, “Four and a half years after the end of the Great Recession, state budget recovery remains a work in progress. Although fiscal conditions have improved and revenue collections are meeting projections, the recovery has been painfully slow. According to a recent report from Standard & Poor’s, the U.S. annual growth rate has averaged just 2.3 percent over the past four years, which is half the historic average annual growth over the past 50 years.”

Source: National Conference of State Legislatures, *State Budget Update: Fall 2013*, Fall 2013 (<http://www.ncsl.org/research/fiscal-policy/state-budget-update-fall-2013.aspx>)

- A quarterly report, *State Economic Monitor*, published by the Urban Institute and Brookings Institution, summarizes the fourth quarter of 2013. “While the pace of the recovery following the Great Recession is picking up and most indicators we watch have improved since our October 2013 *Monitor*, the outlook is still hazy. In most states, unemployment rates continue to decline but remain above historic levels.”

Source: Urban Institute and Brookings Institution, *State Economic Monitor: January 2014*, January 2014 (<http://www.taxpolicycenter.org/publications/url.cfm?ID=412996>)

- This Council of State Governments report provides a list of the top five issues that state legislatures will face in the areas of education, energy and the environment, the economy, health, interstate compacts, and transportation for 2014. From the report, “The most pressing questions facing policymakers this legislative session most likely will center on revenues needed to fund the basic role of government.”

Source: The Council of State Governments, *Top Issues Legislators Face in 2014*, January 16, 2014 (<http://knowledgecenter.csg.org/kc/content/top-issues-legislators-face-2014-0>)

- This nationwide online survey of 1,226 state and local criminal justice stakeholder organizations evaluated the effect of federal budget cuts on state and local public safety. A total of 885 respondents reported “deep cuts” in funding.

Source: Vera Institute of Justice, *The Impact of Federal Budget Cuts from FY10-FY13 on State and Local Public Safety*, November 2013 (<http://www.vera.org/sites/default/files/resources/downloads/impact-federal-budget-cuts-public-safety.pdf>)

- Local governments spent an estimated \$26.4 billion on corrections in 2011, down from \$27.7 in 2010. Corrections accounted for 1.6% of local government expenditures, as compared to 36% for education and 7.7% for health care/hospitals. Corrections institutions (i.e. local jails) represented 84% of total corrections expenditures.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Local Government Corrections Expenditures, FY 2005-2011*, December 2013 <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/lgcefy0511.pdf>

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## Criminal Justice Trends

In 2012 the number of violent crimes increased slightly, while property crimes continue to decrease. In addition to statistics on crime rates, this section includes reports on the top crime news stories, identity theft, the death penalty, and the Justice Reinvestment Initiative.

- This annual report from the Federal Bureau of Investigation provides a summary of reported crimes in the United States for 2012. From the report, “the estimated number of violent crimes reported to law enforcement increased 0.7 percent over 2011 figures” and “the estimated number of property crimes decreased by 0.9 percent”.

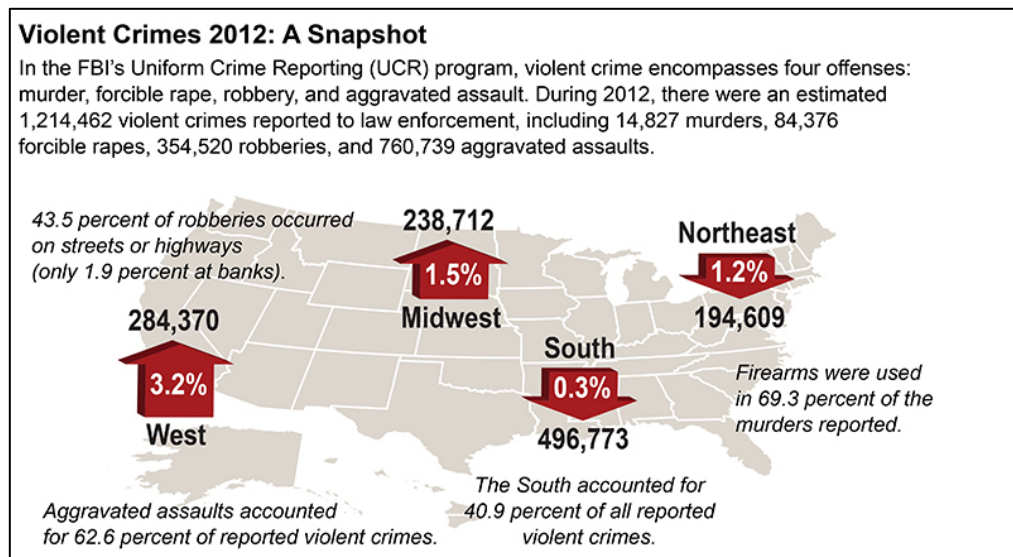


Figure 11: Violent Crimes 2012: A Snapshot

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States 2012*, September 16, 2013 (<http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2013/september/latest-crime-stats-released/latest-crime-stats-released>)

- Readers, contributors, and columnists for *The Crime Report* selected their top ten list of “stories and issues they believe have had the most significant impact during 2013--and will bear watching over the next year.”

Source: The Crime Report, *Boston Marathon Bombing: TCR's Top News Story of 2013*, December 16, 2013 (<http://www.thecrimereport.org/news/inside-criminal-justice/2013-12-boston-marathon-bombing-tcrs-top-news-story-of-2013>)



- Highlights of multiple reports from the Bureau of Justice Statistics are shown below:
  - “In 2011, an estimated 14,610 persons were victims of homicide in the United States, according to FBI data on homicides known to state and local law enforcement. This is the lowest number of homicide victims since 1968, and marks the fifth consecutive year of decline.”

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Homicide in the U.S. Known to Law Enforcement, 2011*, December 2013 (<http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/hus11.pdf>)

- “In recent years, federal law enforcement activity has outpaced the later stages of cases processing in U.S. district court (persons charged, convicted, and sentenced to prison). From 2006 to 2010, arrests increased at an annual average rate of 6%, and matters opened by U.S. attorneys (i.e., investigations) increased at an annual average rate of 9%. In comparison, the number of suspects charged in U.S. district court increased at an average annual rate of 3% over this period, while both the number of defendants convicted in U.S. district court (up 3%) and the number of offenders sentenced to prison (up 2%) increased.”

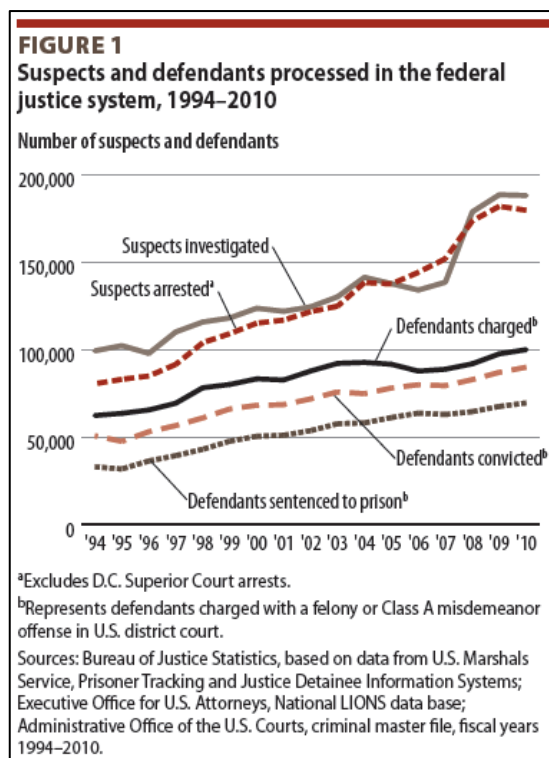


Figure 12: Suspects and defendants processed in the federal justice system, 1994-2010

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Federal Justice Statistics, 2010*, December 2013 (<http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/fjs10.pdf>)

- “Approximately 16.6 million persons or 7% of all U.S. residents age 16 or older, were victims of one or more incidents of identity theft during 2012. Among identity theft victims, existing bank (37%) or credit card accounts (40%) were the most common types of misused information.”

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Victims of Identity Theft, 2012*, December 2013  
(<http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/vit12.pdf>)

- This infographic identifies which states have a death penalty, and if they have a death penalty law, the timeframe of the last execution. The states with the most executions since 1976 are Texas, Virginia, Oklahoma, Florida, and Missouri.

Source: PEW, *State of the Death Penalty in 2013*, March 15, 2013  
(<http://www.pewstates.org/research/data-visualizations/state-of-the-death-penalty-in-2013-85899458871>)

- This infographic provides a state-by-state comparison of trends on crime and imprisonment rates over the past five years. Notably, the statistics show that “prison decline has little impact on crime rates.”

Source: PEW, *States Cut Both Crime and Imprisonment*, December 19, 2013  
(<http://www.pewstates.org/research/data-visualizations/states-cut-both-crime-and-imprisonment-85899528171>)

- This report from the Urban Institute highlights 17 states under the Justice Reinvestment Initiative that are “projected to save as much as \$4.6 billion through reforms that increase the efficiency of their criminal justice systems.”

Source: Urban Institute, *17 States Expected to Lower Prisoner Populations, Slow Prison Growth, and Save Billions through Innovative Justice Reforms*, January 27, 2014  
(<http://www.urban.org/publications/904615.html>)

- The *SAC Publication Digest* is “comprehensive collection of abstracts of state Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) reports” covering current justice issues in the states. The Digest for January-June 2013 includes reports on topics such as:
  - Recidivism/Reentry
  - Restorative Justice
  - Sentencing and Corrections

Source: Justice Research and Statistics Association, *SAC Publication Digest*, 2013  
([http://www.jrsa.org/pubs/sac-digest/sac\\_digest\\_18.pdf](http://www.jrsa.org/pubs/sac-digest/sac_digest_18.pdf))

## Corrections Populations and Trends

The corrections population decreased for the fourth consecutive year between 2009 and 2012. Overall, about 1 in 35 adults in the U.S. were under some form of correctional supervision in 2012, the lowest rate since 1997.

- At yearend 2012, the adult correctional population in the United States was 6.94 million. This number represents a decline of 0.7% from 2011, down by about 51,000 offenders. However, this is the slowest rate of decline in the population since 2009.

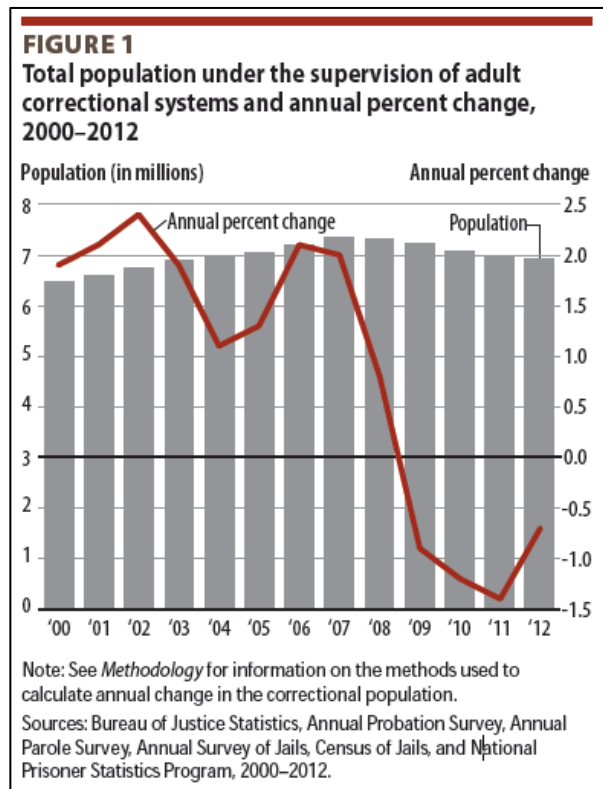


Figure 13: Total Population under the supervision of adult correctional systems and annual percent change, 2000–2012

- The major contributor in the correctional population decline was probation (down 38,300) followed by prison (down 21,200). California's correctional population accounted for more than half of the overall decrease in the population (down 28,700). A breakdown of the population by correctional status is provided below.

	Jail	Prison	Probation	Parole
Population	744,500	1,483,900	3,942,800	851,200

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Correctional Populations in the United States, 2012*, December 2013 (<http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cpus12.pdf>)

- The Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA) conducts an annual survey of members to identify “the current issues faced by correctional agencies and their relative priority”. The top four issues from the June 2013 survey are:
  - Population management, increasing inmate population
  - Turnover of correctional staff/staff recruitment and retention
  - Budget
  - Managing mental health populations

Source: Association of State Correctional Administrators, *ASCA 2013 Current Issues in Correction Survey*, June 2013

(<http://www.asca.net/system/assets/attachments/6469/ASCA%202013%20Current%20Issues%20in%20Correctionsexsumfin.pdf?1384361387>)

## Jail Overview

- Jail population increased by 1.2% between midyear 2011 and midyear 2012. The majority of the population increase (estimated at 8,900 inmates) occurred in California jails.

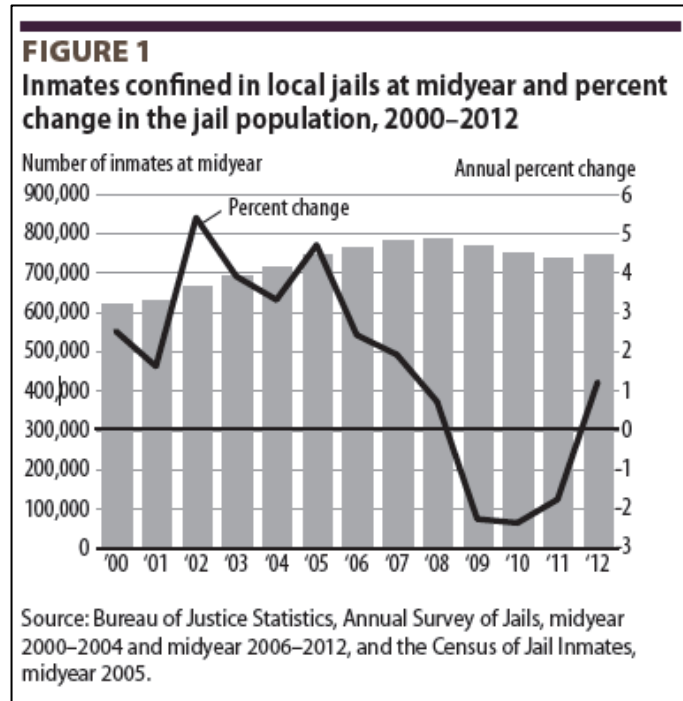


Figure 14: Inmates confined in local jails at midyear and percent change in the jail population, 2000–2012

- Nearly 91% of the increase in the confined population during 2012 occurred in the largest jail jurisdictions—those with an average daily population of more than 1,000 inmates.
- Jail capacity continued to increase to 886,947 beds by midyear 2012 but at a slower rate of 0.8%. The percentage of capacity occupied, 84%, is the lowest since 1984.
- In total, local jails admitted nearly 11.6 million persons from midyear 2011 to midyear 2012.

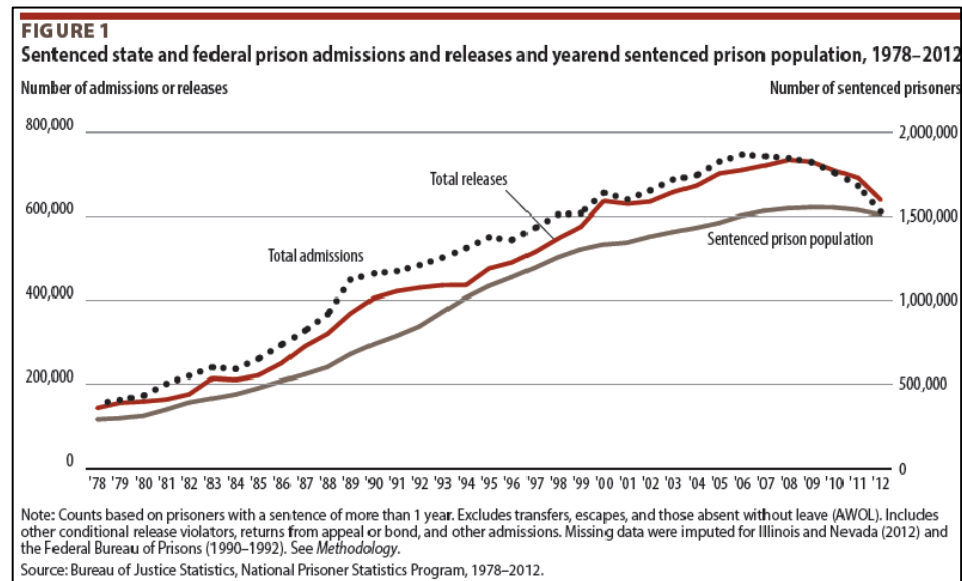
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Jail Inmates at Midyear 2012 – Statistical Tables*, May 2013  
(<http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/jim12st.pdf>)

- At midyear 2012, Indian country jails housed a total of 2,364 inmates in 79 facilities. The average number of inmates per operating facility was 30, up slightly from 28 inmates at midyear 2011.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Jails in Indian Country, 2012*, June 2013  
(<http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/jic11.pdf>)

## Prison Overview

- During 2012, the number of prisoners under the jurisdiction of state and federal correctional authorities declined by 1.7%, from 1,599,000 to 1,570,400. This decline was driven by a 9.2% reduction in the number of admissions to state and federal prison, down 61,800 offenders from 2011.



**Figure 15: Sentenced state and federal prison admissions and releases and yearend sentenced prison population, 1978-2012**

- The number of releases from U.S. prisons in 2012 (637,400) exceeded that of admissions for the fourth consecutive year.
- New court commitments to state prisons for drug offenders decreased 22% between 2006 and 2011, while parole violation admissions decreased 31%.
- Between 1991 and 2011, new court commitments of females to state prison for violent offenses increased 83%, from 4,800 in 1991 to 8,700 in 2011.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Prisoners in 2012*, December 2013

(<http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/p12tar9112.pdf>)

- An Urban Institute report on the growth and costs of the federal prison population show rapid federal prison population growth due to “more people being sentenced to prison and for longer terms”. Highlights include:
  - “In fiscal year (FY) 2011, more than 90 percent of convicted federal offenders were sentenced to prison, while about 10 percent got probation. By comparison, in 1986, only 50 percent received a prison sentence, over 37 percent received probation, and most of the remainder received a fine.”
  - “Though the number of inmates sentenced for immigration crimes has also risen, long drug sentences are the main driver of the population’s unsustainable growth. In 2011, drug trafficking sentences averaged 74 months, though they have been falling since 2008. “
  - “The average federal prison sentence in 2011 was 52 months, generally higher than prison sentences at the state level for similar crime types. This difference is magnified by the fact that, at the federal level, all offenders must serve at least 87 percent of their sentences; while, at the state level, most serve a lower percentage and nonviolent offenders often serve less than 50 percent of their time.”

Source: Urban Institute, *Stemming the Tide: Strategies to Reduce the Growth and Cut the Cost of the Federal Prison System*, November 2013 (<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412932-stemming-the-tide.pdf>)

### Probation and Parole Overview

- At the end of 2012, a total of 4,781,300 adult offenders were being supervised in the community, a decline of 0.75% (or 40,500 offenders) from the previous year. This is the fourth consecutive year that the number of adults under community supervision declined. While the probation population decreased by 38,300, the parole population decreased by only 500. Overall, about 1 in 50 adults in the United States were under community supervision.

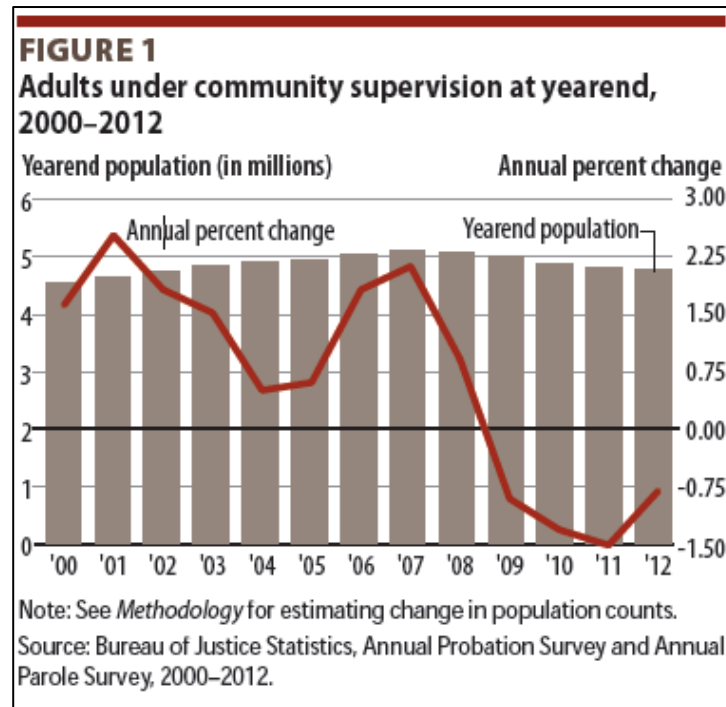


Figure 16: Adults under community supervision at yearend, 2000-2012

### Probation Highlights

- During 2012, an estimated 4.1 million adults moved onto or off probation.
- Probation entries (2,048,300) declined for the fifth consecutive year, while probation exits (2,089,800) declined for the third consecutive year.
- Sixty-eight percent of probationers completed their term of supervision or were discharged early during 2012, up from 66% in 2011.
- The rate of incarceration among probationers at risk for violating their conditions of supervision during 2012 (5.1%) dropped below the rate observed in 2008 (6.0%).
- About half (51%) of the decline in the probation population can be accounted for by four states – Washington, Ohio, Tennessee, and Idaho.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Probation and Parole in the United States, 2012*, December 2013  
(<http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/ppus12.pdf>)



### *Parole Highlights*

- Both parole entries (down 9.1%) and exits (down 6.8%) declined between 2011 and 2012.
- During 2012, the state parole population fell 0.6%, from about 744,700 to 740,400, while the federal parole population grew 3.5%, from 106,955 to 110,739.
- More than half (58%) of parolees completed their term of supervision or were discharged early in 2012, up from 2011.
- Among parolees at risk for violating their conditions of supervision, about 9% were reincarcerated during 2011, down from about 12% in 2011.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Probation and Parole in the United States, 2012*, December 2013 (<http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/ppus12.pdf>)

- This Vera Institute of Justice report provides “an overview of the state of community corrections, the transformational practices emerging in the field, and recommendations to policymakers on realizing the full value of community supervision to taxpayers and communities.” Emerging best practices and recent policy changes include:
  - Delaware – Adopting a pretrial risk assessment instrument to inform detention and release decisions.
  - Georgia – Using technology, in the form of an automated system for reporting, to monitor its low-risk offenders.
  - Arkansas and Washington – Enacting a policy requiring the use of evidence-based practices.

Source: Vera Institute of Justice, *The Potential of Community Corrections to Improve Safety and Reduce Incarceration*, July 2013 (<http://www.vera.org/sites/default/files/resources/downloads/potential-of-community-corrections-fact-sheet.pdf>)

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## Affordable Care Act (ACA)

On March 23, 2010, President Barack Obama signed into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). Several provisions of the ACA are directly relevant to the criminal justice system -- expansion of Medicaid, investments to be made in health information technology, establishment of health insurance exchanges, and minimum essential coverage. Resources and trainings on the Affordable Care Act, along with implications for criminal justice populations, can be found below:

- The law and supporting documents:
  - Full text of the law by section: <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/rights/law/index.html>
  - Key features of the law: <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/timeline/index.html>
  - Fact sheets about the law: <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/factsheets/index.html>
  - ACA marketplace: <https://www.healthcare.gov/>
- Trainings and resources:
  - The Council of State Governments:
    - The Affordable Care Act: Implications for the Criminal Justice System:  
<http://csgjusticecenter.org/mental-health/webinars/the-affordable-care-act-implications-for-the-criminal-justice-system/>
    - Ten Ways to Link Individuals Involved with the Criminal Justice System to Health Insurance:  
[http://www.csg.org/pubs/capitolideas/2013\\_may\\_june/affordablecareact101.aspx](http://www.csg.org/pubs/capitolideas/2013_may_june/affordablecareact101.aspx)
  - Governing Magazine – How Medicaid Expansion Can Lower Prison Costs, Recidivism: <http://www.governing.com/news/headlines/How-Medicaid-Expansion-Lowers-Prison-Costs-Recidivism.html>
  - National Conference of State Legislatures – State Health Insurance Mandates and the ACA Essential Benefits Provisions:  
<http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/state-ins-mandates-and-aca-essential-benefits.aspx#Understanding>
  - National Association of Counties - County Jails and the Affordable Care Act: Enrolling Eligible Individuals in Health Coverage:  
<http://nicic.gov/Library/026253>
- Additional resources on the Affordable Care Act and Corrections can be found on the National Institute of Corrections website at: Affordable Care Act -  
<http://nicic.gov/library/package/aca>