



# Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report

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## Parents in Prison and Their Minor Children

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An estimated 809,800 prisoners of the 1,518,535 held in the nation's prisons at midyear 2007 were parents of minor children, or children under age 18. Parents held in the nation's prisons—52% of state inmates and 63% of federal inmates—reported having an estimated 1,706,600 minor children, accounting for 2.3% of the U.S. resident population under age 18. Unless otherwise specified in this report, the word *parent* refers to state and federal prisoners who reported having minor children. The word *children* refers to youth under age 18.

Between 1991 and midyear 2007, parents held in state and federal prisons increased by 79% (357,300 parents). Children of incarcerated parents increased by 80% (761,000 children), during this period (figure 1). The most rapid growth in the number of parents held in the nation's prisons and their children occurred between 1991 and 1997 (both up 44%). From 1997 to midyear 2007, the number of parents and children continued to grow, but at a slower pace (both up 25%).

The findings in this report are based on the latest data collected through personal interviews with prisoners participating in the Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) 2004 Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities (SISFCF), which is comprised of two separate surveys. One survey is conducted in state adult correctional facilities and the other is conducted in federal correctional facilities. Estimates presented in this report may not be comparable to previously published reports. See *Incarcerated Parents and Their Minor Children* at <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/iptc.htm>>.

Estimated number of parents in state and federal prisons and their minor children

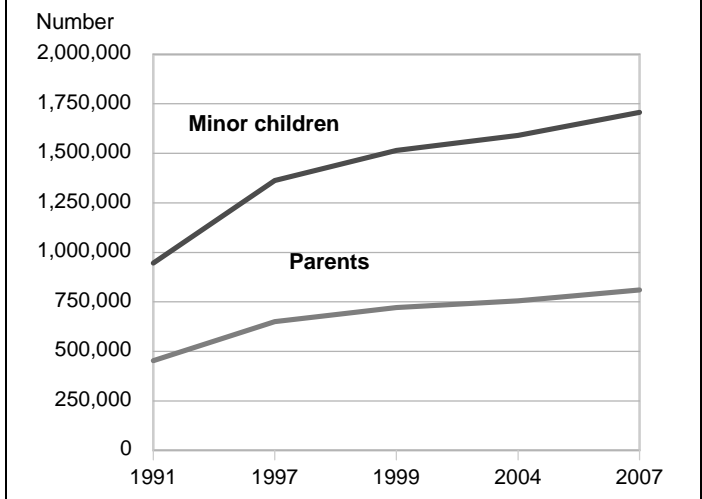


Figure 1

### Parents of minor children held in the nation's prisons increased by 79% between 1991 and midyear 2007

Growth in the number of parents held in state and federal prisons was outpaced by the growth in the nation's prison population between 1991 and midyear 2007. Parents incarcerated in state and federal prisons increased by 79% during this period while the custody population grew by 92%.

Detailed information is available in appendix tables in the online version of this report on the BJS Website at <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/pptmc.pdf>>.

Parents held in state prison increased from 413,100 in 1991 to 686,000 at midyear 2007 (table 1). Children of parents in state prison increased from 860,300 to 1,427,500 during this period. The largest growth in the number of parents (up 40%) held in state prison and their children (up 42%) occurred between 1991 and 1997, compared to a 19% increase for parents and a 17% increase for their children between 1997 and midyear 2007.

### The number of children under age 18 with a mother in prison more than doubled since 1991

The nation's prisons held approximately 744,200 fathers and 65,600 mothers at midyear 2007 (appendix table 1). Fathers in prison reported having 1,559,200 children; mothers reported 147,400.

Since 1991, the number of children with a mother in prison has more than doubled, up 131%. The number of children with a father in prison has grown by 77%. This finding reflects a faster rate of growth in the number of mothers held in state and federal prisons (up 122%), compared to the number of fathers (up 76%) between 1991 and midyear 2007.

Of the estimated 74 million children in the U.S. resident population who were under age 18 on July 1, 2007, 2.3% had a parent in prison (table 2). Black children (6.7%) were seven and a half times more likely than white children (0.9%) to have a parent in prison. Hispanic children (2.4%) were more than two and a half times more likely than white children to have a parent in prison.

**Table 1. Estimated number of parents in state and federal prisons and their minor children**

	Total	State	Federal <sup>a</sup>
<b>Number of parents</b>			
2007 <sup>b</sup>	809,800	686,000	123,800
2004 <sup>c</sup>	754,900	644,100	110,800
1999	721,500	642,300	79,200
1997	649,500	578,100	62,500
1991	452,500	413,100	39,400
<b>Number of children</b>			
2007 <sup>b</sup>	1,706,600	1,427,500	279,100
2004 <sup>c</sup>	1,590,100	1,340,300	249,800
1999 <sup>d</sup>	1,515,200	1,338,900	176,300
1997 <sup>d</sup>	1,362,900	1,223,800	139,100
1991 <sup>d</sup>	945,600	860,300	85,100

Note: See *Methodology* for details about estimation methods. See appendix table 1 for estimates by gender.

<sup>a</sup>Estimates were based on the prisoner custody population in each year. The total custody population included inmates held in privately operated facilities and community corrections centers (30,379 in 2007; 24,768 in 2004; and 3,828 inmates in privately operated facilities in 1999). In 1991 and 1997, the number of inmates in these facilities was not known.

<sup>b</sup>The 2007 estimates were based on the distribution of parents from the 2004 SISFCF.

<sup>c</sup>Numbers were estimated based on the custody population in state (1,241,034) and federal (176,156) prisons on June 30, 2004.

<sup>d</sup>Estimates may not be comparable to previously published BJS reports.

### More than 4 in 10 fathers in state or federal prisons were black; almost 5 in 10 mothers were white

Similar to men in the general prison population (93%), parents held in the nation's prisons at midyear 2007 were mostly male (92%) (not shown in table). More than 4 in 10 fathers were black, about 3 in 10 were white, and about 2 in 10 were Hispanic (appendix table 2). An estimated 1,559,200 children had a father in prison at midyear 2007; nearly half (46%) were children of black fathers.

Almost half (48%) of all mothers held in the nation's prisons at midyear 2007 were white, 28% were black, and 17% were Hispanic. Of the estimated 147,400 children with a mother in prison, about 45% had a white mother. A smaller percentage of the children had a black (30%) or Hispanic (19%) mother.

### The majority of prisoners reported having a minor child, a quarter of which were age 4 or younger

When interviewed during the 2004 survey, the majority of state (52%) and federal (63%) inmates reported having at least one child under age 18 (appendix table 3). Women in state prison (62%) were more likely than men (51%) to report being a parent. Among federal inmates, 63% of male inmates and 56% of female inmates reported being a parent.

Nearly 1 in 4 state (23%) and federal (24%) inmates reported having one child. Federal inmates (39%) were more likely than state inmates (29%) to report having multiple children. Women (41%) in state prison were more likely than men (29%) to report having more than one child. Similar percentages of women (36%) and men (39%) held in federal prison reported having multiple children. Parents in state and federal prisons reported having two children, on average (not shown in table).

**Table 2. Minor children in the U.S. resident population with a parent in state or federal prison, by race and Hispanic origin, 2007**

	Estimated number of minor children with a parent in prison	Percent of all minor children in the U.S. resident population
<b>U.S. total*</b>	1,706,600	2.3%
White, non-Hispanic	484,100	0.9%
Black, non-Hispanic	767,400	6.7%
Hispanic	362,800	2.4%

Note: Children were assumed to have the same race/ethnicity as the incarcerated parent. Percentages were calculated based on the U.S. resident population under age 18 as of July 1, 2007.

\*Includes children of other races. Other races include American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons identifying two or more races.

Twenty-two percent of the children of state inmates and 16% of the children of federal inmates were age 4 or younger (table 3). For both state (53%) and federal (50%) inmates, about half their children were age 9 or younger. Children of female state inmates were slightly older than children reported by male state inmates. More than half (53%) of the children reported by women were between age 10 and 17, compared to 47% of the children reported by men.

### More than a third of minor children will reach age 18 while their parent is incarcerated

Based on the number of adult children reported during the 2004 survey, the total number of children affected by an incarcerated parent can be calculated by subtracting the amount of time served by the parent from their adult child's age. Using this method, parents in prison had nearly 1.9 million children at the time of admission (table 4). Of those children, an estimated 715,600 will reach age 18 while their parent is incarcerated.

### Incarcerated parents of minor children most likely to be age 25 to 34

State inmates age 25 to 34 (64%) interviewed during the 2004 survey were most likely to be parents of minor children, followed by inmates age 35 to 44 and inmates age 24 or younger (table 5). Thirty-one percent of inmates age 45

**Table 3. Percent of minor children of parents in state and federal prisons at time of interview, by gender, 2004**

Age of minor child	Percent of minor children among parents in state prison			Percent of minor children among parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Less than 1 year	2.4%	2.5%	1.6%	0.7%	0.7%	1.1%
1-4 years	20.0	20.3	16.7	15.1	15.3	12.6
5-9 years	30.2	30.3	29.1	33.8	34.0	30.1
10-14 years	31.6	31.4	33.8	35.1	35.0	35.8
15-17 years	15.8	15.5	18.8	15.3	15.0	20.4

**Table 4. Estimated number of minor children of state and federal inmates at time of admission, at interview, and at expected release, by gender, 2004**

	Estimated number of minor children of parents in state prison			Estimated number of minor children of parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
At admission*	1,596,100	1,463,400	132,700	282,600	265,900	16,700
At interview	1,340,300	1,223,700	116,600	249,800	235,200	14,600
At expected release	1,000,500	905,600	94,900	162,600	151,000	11,600

\*Does not include children of parents in prison who did not report time served or time expected to be served.

**Table 5. Percent of state and federal inmates who were parents of minor children, by age and gender, 2004**

Age of inmates who were parents of minor children	Percent of parents in state prison			Percent of parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>All inmates</b>	51.9%	51.2%	61.7%	62.9%	63.4%	55.9%
24 or younger	44.1%	43.5%	55.4%	45.8%	45.7%	47.5%
25-34	64.4	63.3	80.7	74.1	74.1	74.5
35-44	58.9	58.3	65.7	71.9	72.1	68.2
45-54	31.0	31.4	25.8	47.0	48.3	31.2
55 or older	12.6	12.9	^	23.8	25.3	^

Note: See appendix table 16 for estimated total counts.  
 ^Estimate not reported. Sample size too small (10 or fewer) to provide reliable data.

to 54 reported being a parent. The likelihood of being a parent in state prison was lowest among inmates age 55 or older (13%). Among state prisoners in all age categories except age 45 to 54, women were more likely than men to report being a parent. There was no difference in the prevalence of being a parent between men and women age 45 to 54.

Federal inmates age 25 to 34 (74%) and age 35 to 44 (72%) were more likely to report being a parent, compared to inmates in all other age categories. Forty-seven percent of inmates age 45 to 54 and 46% of inmates age 24 or younger reported being a parent. Federal inmates age 55 or older were least likely to report that they had minor children.

For men held in state prison, the likelihood of being a parent varied across racial categories (appendix table 4). Hispanic (57%) and black (54%) men were more likely than white (45%) men to report being a parent. Findings were similar for men held in federal prison. White men (48%) in federal prison were the least likely of all male inmates to report having children. Black (70%) and Hispanic (69%) men were equally likely to be parents. The likelihood of being a parent for white, black, and Hispanic women held in state prison did not vary by race. In federal prison, Hispanic women (63%) were more likely than white women (47%) to report being a parent.

In state prison, the likelihood of being a parent was most common among married inmates (71%), compared to inmates who were separated (64%), divorced (55%), never married (45%), or widowed (36%). Among federal inmates, married inmates were more likely to report being a parent than inmates in all marital statuses except those inmates who were separated from their spouse. There was no difference in the prevalence of being a parent between married federal inmates and separated federal inmates. The likelihood of being a parent varied little by education for both state and federal inmates.

### Drug and public-order offenders in state and federal prisons were more likely than violent offenders to have children

Among male state prisoners, violent (47%) and property (48%) offenders were less likely to report having children than public-order (60%) and drug (59%) offenders (table 6). For women held in state prison, violent (57%) offenders were less likely than drug (63%), property (65%), and public-order (65%) offenders to be a mother.

The prevalence of being a parent differed by gender and offense for inmates held in state and federal prisons. For state inmates, female (65%) property offenders were more likely to be a parent than male (48%) property offenders. In federal prison, male (69%) drug offenders were more likely than female (55%) drug offenders to report having children.

Among men held in federal prison, drug offenders (69%) were more likely than property (54%) and violent (50%) offenders to report having children (appendix table 5). Public-order offenders (62%) were also more likely than violent offenders to report having children. For women in federal prison, the likelihood of being a mother did not differ by offense.

### Inmates in state and federal prisons with a criminal history were more likely to be parents of minor children than those with no criminal history

The likelihood of being a parent in prison varied slightly based on criminal history, including prior probation, parole, and incarceration sentences. Prisoners with a criminal history were more likely to report being a parent than prisoners with no criminal history. In state prison, 53% of inmates with a criminal history reported having children, compared to 48% with no criminal history. Sixty-six percent of parents held in federal prison reported having a criminal history, compared to 57% of parents with no criminal history.

In state prison, drug recidivists (62%)—offenders with a prior drug offense—had a higher likelihood of being a parent than violent (52%) and other (54%) recidivists. For women in state prison, and both men and women in federal prison, the likelihood of being a parent did not vary by type of recidivist (appendix table 6).

Male (50%) and female (61%) inmates in state prison who reported no prior incarceration sentences were equally likely to be a parent as male (53%) and female (65%) inmates with 10 or more prior incarcerations. In federal prison, findings were similar for men while women with no prior incarceration sentences (54%) were less likely to be a mother than women who reported they had 10 or more prior incarcerations (81%).

### Fewer than half of parents in state prison lived with their minor children either in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration

Thirty-seven percent of parents held in state prison reported living with at least one of their children in the month before arrest, 44% reported just prior to incarceration, and 48% reported at either time (table 7). Mothers were more likely than fathers to report living with at least one child. More than half of mothers held in state prison reported living with at least one of their children in the month before arrest, compared to 36% of fathers. More than 6 in 10 mothers reported living with their children just prior to incarceration or at either time, compared to less than half of fathers.

Parents held in federal prison were more likely than those held in state prison to report living with a child in the month before arrest, just prior to incarceration, or at either time (appendix table 7). Mothers in federal prison were more likely than fathers to report living with a child.

**Table 6. Percent of state inmates who were parents of minor children, by current offense and gender, 2004**

Offense	Total	Male	Female
<b>All inmates</b>	51.9%	51.2%	61.7%
Violent	47.5%	47.1%	57.3%
Property	49.9	48.2	64.7
Drug	59.6	59.3	62.5
Public-order	59.9	59.6	65.0

Note: See appendix table 17 for estimated total counts.

**Table 7. Parents in state prison who reported living with their minor children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration, by gender, 2004**

Lived with their minor children	Total	Male	Female
<b>In month before arrest</b>	37.1%	35.5%	55.3%
In two-parent household	17.9	18.3	13.6
In single-parent household	19.2	17.2	41.7
<b>Prior to incarceration</b>	43.8%	42.4%	60.6%
<b>Either in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration</b>	47.9%	46.5%	64.2%
<b>Estimated number of parents in state prison</b>	636,300	585,200	51,100

**More than 4 in 10 mothers in state prison who had minor children were living in single-parent households in the month before arrest**

Parents held in state prison were equally likely to report living with their children in a single-parent household (19%) as they were to report living with their children in a two-parent household (18%) in the month before arrest. Mothers were three times more likely to report living in a single-parent household (42%) than in a two-parent household (14%). Fathers reported similar percentages of living in single or two-parent households in the month before their arrest.

Parents held in federal prison were more likely overall to report having lived in two-parent versus single-parent households in the month before arrest. Mothers (52%) were more than two and a half times more likely than fathers (19%) to have lived in single-parent households.

**Fathers living with their minor child relied heavily on someone to provide daily care**

Mothers and fathers in state prison responded differently when asked who provided most of the daily care for their minor children. Among parents in state prison who had lived with their minor children just prior to incarceration, mothers (77%) were almost three times more likely than fathers (26%) to report that they had provided most of the daily care for their children (appendix table 8). Sixty-three percent of fathers reported sharing the daily care, compared to 18% of mothers. About 1 in 10 fathers relied on someone to provide daily care for their children, compared to 1 in 20 mothers. Similar results were found for mothers and fathers in federal prison.

**Fathers most commonly reported the child’s mother as current caregiver of their children, while mothers most commonly reported the child’s grandparents**

The other parent (84%) was the most commonly reported caregiver for children of parents in state prison, followed by grandparents (15%), and other relatives (6%) (table 8). Three percent reported that their children were in the care of a foster home, agency, or institution.

Mothers and fathers in state prison provided different responses about their children’s current caregivers. Eighty-eight percent of fathers reported that at least one of their children was in the care of the child’s mother, compared to 37% of mothers who reported the father as the child’s current caregiver.

Mothers in state prison most commonly identified the child’s grandmother (42%) as the current caregiver. Nearly a quarter (23%) identified other relatives as the current caregivers of their children. The percentage of fathers in prison who reported that their children were in the care of a grandmother (12%) or other relative (5%) was much smaller. Mothers (11%) were 5 times more likely than fathers (2%) to report that their children were in the care of a foster home, agency, or institution.

**About half of parents in state prison provided the primary financial support for their minor children**

Mothers (52%) and fathers (54%) in state prison were equally likely to report that they provided primary financial support for their minor children prior to their incarceration (appendix table 9). Three-quarters (75%) reported employment in the month prior to their arrest. Parents who supported their children financially were more likely to have been employed (80%) in the month prior to arrest and to report wages or salary (76%) as income.

Of parents with minor children who did not provide primary financial support, 68% reported employment in the month before their arrest and 64% reported wages or salary as income. More than a third (36%) of mothers in state prison reported government transfers such as welfare, Social Security, or compensation payment as income. Mothers were more likely than fathers to report receiving government transfers regardless of who provided the primary financial support for their children. The findings were similar for parents held in federal prison.

**Table 8. Current caregiver of minor children of parents in state prison, by gender, 2004**

Children’s current caregiver <sup>a</sup>	Total	Male	Female
<b>Other parent</b>	84.2%	88.4%	37.0%
<b>Grandparent</b>	15.1%	12.5%	44.9%
Grandmother	14.0	11.6	42.1
Grandfather	4.3	3.6	12.0
<b>Other relatives</b>	6.2%	4.7%	22.8%
<b>Foster home or agency</b>	2.9%	2.2%	10.9%
<b>Friends, others<sup>b</sup></b>	2.9%	2.4%	7.8%
<b>Estimated number of parents in state prison</b>	636,300	585,200	51,100

<sup>a</sup>Includes all parents with minor children. Detail may sum to more than 100% because some prisoners had multiple minor children living with multiple caregivers.

<sup>b</sup>Includes inmate’s friends, friends of the inmate’s children, cases where the parent reported that the child now lived alone, and others.

Parents in state prison who provided primary financial support were more likely to report that they lived with their children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration (table 9). Among parents in state prison who provided the primary financial support to their children, mothers (89%) were more likely than fathers (67%) to report that they had lived with their children.

**More than three-quarters of state prison inmates who were parents of minor children reported that they had some contact with their children since admission**

Seventy percent of parents in state prison reported exchanging letters with their children, 53% had spoken with their children over the telephone, and 42% had a personal visit since admission (appendix table 10).<sup>1</sup> Mothers were more likely than fathers to report having had any contact with their children. Mothers and fathers were equally likely

<sup>1</sup>Question was asked about contact with any child, which could include children 18 years of age or older.

	Total	Male	Female
<b>Provided primary financial support</b>	54.0%	54.1%	51.9%
Lived with minor child in the month before arrest or prior to incarceration	68.6%	66.9%	88.6%
<b>Did not provide primary financial support</b>	46.0%	45.9%	48.1%
Lived with minor child in the month before arrest or prior to incarceration	23.3%	22.0%	37.6%
<b>Estimated number of parents in state prison</b>	636,300	585,200	51,100

to report having had personal visits with their children. A higher percentage of parents in federal prison reported contact with their children. In federal prison, 85% reported telephone contact, 84% had exchanged letters, and 55% reported having had personal visits.

More than three-quarters of state prison inmates who were parents of minor children reported that they had some contact with their children since admission (table 10). Thirty-nine percent of fathers and 56% of mothers in state prison had at least weekly contact with their children since admission. Parents (86%) in state prison who reported living with their minor children in the month before arrest or just before incarceration were more likely to report having contact with their children than parents (72%) who had not lived with their children. Mothers (62%) and fathers (49%) who had lived with their children were more likely to report they had at least weekly contact with their children than mothers (44%) and fathers (30%) who had not lived with their children.

While the percent of parents in state prison who reported contact with their children varied little by expected release date, those having less time to serve reported more frequent contact with their children. About half (47%) of parents who expected to be released within six months reported at least weekly contact with their children, compared to 39% who expected to be released in 12 to 59 months, and 32% in 60 or more months. Among parents who did not expect to be released, 22% reported at least weekly contact with their children.

	Any contact			Weekly or more			Monthly or less		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>All parents in state prison</b>	78.6%	78.1%	85.0%	39.9%	38.5%	55.7%	38.8%	39.6%	29.3%
<b>Lived with minor children*</b>									
Yes	86.0%	85.5%	89.7%	50.1%	48.6%	62.3%	35.9%	36.9%	27.4%
No	72.1	71.9	76.5	30.9	30.2	44.2	41.2	41.7	32.3
<b>Time expected to serve until release</b>									
Less than 6 months	78.5%	77.7%	84.8%	47.3%	45.9%	56.9%	31.2%	31.7%	27.9%
6-11 months	79.1	78.4	84.8	42.8	41.3	55.9	36.2	37.1	28.9
12-59 months	79.0	78.5	86.7	39.4	38.4	54.9	39.6	40.1	31.8
60 or more months	78.6	78.5	80.6	32.3	31.7	47.9	46.3	46.8	32.8
No release expected	74.0	74.0	74.8	22.4	21.3	^	51.6	52.7	^

Note: See appendix table 18 for estimated total counts. The contact question included in the 2004 SISFCF asked about contact with any child, which could include children age 18 or older.  
 \*Inmate lived with minor children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration.  
 ^Estimate not reported. Sample size too small (10 or fewer) to provide reliable data.

## Half of parents in state prison reported that they had a family member who had been incarcerated

Mothers in state prison (58%) were more likely than fathers (49%) to report having a family member who had also been incarcerated (table 11). Parents in state prison most commonly reported a brother (34%), followed by a father (19%). Among mothers in state prison, 13% reported a sister and 8% reported a spouse. Six percent of fathers reported having a sister who had also been incarcerated; 2%, a spouse.

While growing up, 40% of parents in state prison reported living in a household that received public assistance, 14% reported living in a foster home, agency, or institution at some time during their youth, and 43% reported living with both parents most of the time (appendix table 11). Mothers (17%) held in state prison were more likely than fathers (14%) to report living in a foster home, agency, or institution at some time during their youth. Parents in federal prison reported lower percentages of growing up in a household that received public assistance (31%) or living in a foster home, agency, or institution (7%). These characteristics varied little by gender for parents held in federal prison.

More than a third (34%) of parents in state prison reported that during their youth, their parents or guardians had abused alcohol or drugs. Mothers in state prison (43%) were more likely than fathers (33%) to have had this experience. Fewer parents (27%) in federal prison reported having a parent or a guardian who had abused alcohol or drugs.

**Table 11. Family incarceration of state inmates who were parents of minor children, by gender, 2004**

	Total	Male	Female
<b>Family member ever incarcerated</b>	49.6%	48.9%	58.4%
Mother	6.4	6.1	10.4
Father	18.8	18.6	20.7
Brother	34.4	34.2	36.8
Sister	6.5	6.0	13.0
Child	2.0	1.7	5.2
Spouse	1.9	1.5	7.5
<b>Estimated number of parents in state prison</b>	636,300	585,200	51,100

**Table 12. Homelessness, physical/sexual abuse, medical/mental health problems, or substance dependence/abuse problems among state inmates who were parents of minor children, by living arrangement and gender, 2004**

	All parents in state prison	Lived with minor children*		Did not live with minor children*	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Homelessness in year before arrest	8.9%	4.0%	8.5%	12.0%	28.7%
Ever physical/sexual abuse	19.9	16.1	59.7	15.7	72.4
Current medical problem	40.6	39.7	50.0	39.6	57.6
Any mental health problem	56.5	54.5	72.8	55.2	75.3
Any substance dependence/abuse	67.4	65.0	63.6	68.8	81.5
<b>Estimated number of parents in state prison</b>	636,300	272,200	32,800	313,000	18,300

Note: Measures of substance dependence or abuse and mental health problems were based on criteria specified in the "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders," fourth edition (DSM-IV). For details, see *Drug Use and Dependence, State and Federal Prisoners, 2004*, <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/dudsfp04.htm>> and *Mental Health Problems of Prison and Jail Inmates*, <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/mhppji.htm>>.

\*Inmate lived with minor children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration.

## Mothers in state prison more likely than fathers to report homelessness, past physical or sexual abuse, and medical and mental health problems

Among parents in state prison, 9% reported homelessness in the year before arrest, 20% had a history of physical or sexual abuse, and 41% reported a current medical problem. Fifty-seven percent of parents in state prison met the criteria for a mental health problem and 67% met the criteria for substance dependence or abuse (appendix table 12).<sup>2</sup> In comparison, parents in federal prison reported lower percentages of homelessness (4%) in the year before arrest, past physical or sexual abuse (11%), current medical problems (36%), mental health problems (43%), and substance dependence or abuse (56%).

Mothers in state prison were two times more likely than fathers to report homelessness in the year before arrest, four times more likely to report past physical or sexual abuse, and almost one and half times more likely to have either a current medical or mental health problem. The comparison by gender among parents held in federal prison was similar to those held in state prison, with the exception of homelessness in the year before arrest. Both male and female parents held in federal prison had similar rates (4.0%) of homelessness in the year before arrest.

Reports from fathers in state prison that showed past physical or sexual abuse, current medical problems, mental health problems, and substance dependence or abuse did not vary overall by living arrangement (table 12). However, fathers who had not lived with their children were three times more likely than those who had lived with their children to report homelessness in the year prior to arrest.

<sup>2</sup>Inmates met the criteria for a mental health problem if they had a recent history of a mental health problem in the year before arrest or since admission, or if they experienced, in the 12 months prior to the interview, symptoms of mental health disorders. See *Mental Health Problems of Prison and Jail Inmates*, <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/mhppji.htm>>.

Mothers held in state prison who had not lived with their children were three times more likely to report homelessness (29%) than those who had lived with their children (9%). Mothers who had not lived with their children were also more likely to report past physical and sexual abuse, current medical problems, and substance dependence or abuse than those who had lived with their children.

**More than 4 in 10 parents in the nation’s prisons who met the criteria for substance dependence or abuse had received treatment since admission**

About 4 in 10 parents in state prison who met the criteria for substance dependence or abuse reported ever receiving treatment for drug or alcohol abuse; 56% reported participating in other drug or alcohol abuse programs (appendix table 13). Forty-three percent of parents who met the criteria reported treatment since admission. For fathers (10%) and mothers (14%), placement in a residential facility or unit for drug or alcohol abuse was the most common treatment since admission. Parents held in federal prison who met the criteria for substance dependence or abuse reported similar percentages of alcohol or drug treatment and program participation.

Of parents in state prison who had a mental health problem, 46% reported ever receiving treatment. About a third (31%) had been treated since admission. Prescription medication was the most common treatment for both those who had reported ever having treatment (38%) and for those who had received treatment since admission (25%).

About a third (33%) of parents in state prison with a mental health problem reported that they had ever received therapy and 18% reported they had ever had an overnight hospital stay. A fifth (21%) of parents with a mental health problem reported that they had received therapy since admission; 5% had an overnight hospital stay.

Mothers were more likely than fathers to report treatment for mental health problems either before or after admission to a state prison. In state prison, prescribed medication was the most common treatment for parents with a mental health problem.

While parents in federal prison were less likely than those in state prison to report mental health treatment, the patterns by gender were similar for both. Participation in alcohol, drug, or mental health treatment did not vary by whether parents had lived with their children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration (table 13).

**Table 13. Alcohol or drug and mental health treatment history of inmates in state prison who were parents of minor children and who had an alcohol or drug or mental health problem, by living arrangement and gender, 2004**

	All parents in state prison	Lived with minor children <sup>a</sup>		Did not live with minor children <sup>a</sup>	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>Alcohol or drug treatment<sup>b</sup></b>					
Ever any treatment or programs	69.8%	68.9%	74.3%	69.6%	77.2%
Received treatment since admission	42.9	41.7	46.4	43.0	49.8
Estimated number of parents who had an alcohol or drug problem	428,600	177,900	20,900	215,000	14,800
<b>Mental health treatment<sup>c</sup></b>					
Ever any treatment	46.4%	42.2%	70.4%	44.1%	77.3%
Received treatment since admission	30.9	25.6	52.4	29.7	57.8
Estimated number of parents who had a mental health problem	359,200	148,700	23,900	172,900	13,700

<sup>a</sup>Inmate lived with minor children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration.  
<sup>b</sup>Based on parents in state prison who had an alcohol or drug problem.  
<sup>c</sup>Based on parents in state prison who had a mental health problem.



**Among parents in state prison, two-thirds reported they had a work assignment; over half had attended self-help or improvement classes since admissions**

In state prison, about 7 in 10 mothers (70%) and fathers (67%) reported participating in work assignments since admission (appendix table 14). About two-thirds (65%) of mothers and more than half (57%) of fathers had attended self-help or improvement classes. While mothers and fathers were equally likely to report participating in employment and educational programming, mothers (27%) were about two and a half times more likely than fathers (11%) to attend parenting or childrearing classes. Mothers and fathers (both 62%) were equally likely to report having a high school diploma or GED at admission.

Parents held in federal prison reported participating in work assignments and self-help programs and having a high school diploma or GED more frequently than parents in state prison. More than 9 in 10 parents in federal prison reported participating in a work assignment. Since admission, more than 7 in 10 had attended self-help or improvement classes. About 7 in 10 reported having a high school diploma or GED upon admission.

Similar percentages of participation in self-help or improvement classes were found between mothers and fathers in state prison who had lived with their children and those who had not lived with their children prior to arrest or incarceration (table 14). Mothers who had lived with their children prior to arrest or incarceration (72%) were more likely than mothers who had not lived with their children (67%) to participate in work assignments.

**Table 14. Work assignments, program participation, and education among state inmates who were parents of minor children, by living arrangement and gender, 2004**

	All parents in state prison	Lived with minor children <sup>a</sup>		Did not live with minor children <sup>a</sup>	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>Work assignments<sup>b</sup></b>	66.8%	67.9%	72.2%	65.7%	66.6%
<b>Self-help or improvement classes since admission</b>	57.2%	57.4%	65.4%	55.8%	63.4%
Parenting or childrearing classes	11.9	12.1	29.7	9.3	22.5
Employment programs	30.4	30.6	33.2	30.1	26.9
Vocational or job-training program	26.5	26.2	27.0	26.8	22.2
Employment counseling	9.4	9.6	12.4	8.8	11.3
Education programs <sup>c</sup>	30.3	29.4	33.2	30.8	31.5
Other pre-release programs <sup>d</sup>	31.2	32.0	39.3	29.3	39.4
<b>Had GED or high school diploma upon admission</b>	62.4%	63.0%	65.5%	62.2%	56.4%
<b>Estimated number of parents in state prison</b>	636,300	272,200	32,800	313,000	18,300

<sup>a</sup>Inmate lived with their minor children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration.

<sup>b</sup>Includes work assignments both inside and outside the prison.

<sup>c</sup>Excludes vocational training. Includes basic classes up to 9th grade, high school diploma or GED classes, college level classes, or English as a second language.

<sup>d</sup>Includes inmate assistance/counseling groups, inmate self-help/personal improvement groups, including parent awareness groups, life skills/community adjustment classes, and other pre-release programs.

**Mothers in prison had served less time at time of interview and expected to be released in a shorter amount of time than fathers**

Over half (52%) of parents in state prison had served between 12 and 59 months at the time of their interview (appendix table 15). A quarter (26%) had been in prison 60 months or more. Mothers and fathers were equally likely to have been in prison for 12 to 59 months. For longer lengths of stay, mothers (13%) were less likely than fathers (27%) to have been in prison for 60 or more months.

About 4 in 10 mothers in state prison expected to be released within 6 months. An additional 21% expected to be released in 6 to 11 months. Among fathers in state prison, a quarter expected to be released in less than 6

months and 15% percent expected to be released in 6 to 11 months. Compared to mothers in federal prison, fathers had served more of their sentence at the time of their interviews and expected to have a longer time remaining until their release.

Time served and time expected until release varied little for fathers by whether they had lived with their children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration while differences were found among women (table 15). Compared to mothers who had not lived with their children in the month before arrest or just prior incarceration (46%), mothers who had lived with their children (39%) were less likely to expect to be released in less than 6 months.

**Table 15. Time served since admission and time to be served until expected release among state inmates who were parents of minor children, by gender, 2004**

	All parents in state prison	Lived with minor children <sup>a</sup>		Did not live with minor children <sup>a</sup>	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>Time served since admission<sup>b</sup></b>					
Less than 6 months	9.4%	8.4%	17.9%	8.8%	17.8%
6-11 months	13.1	11.7	19.9	13.3	19.4
12-59 months	51.9	52.5	47.8	51.8	53.8
60+ months	25.5	27.4	14.5	26.1	9.0
<b>Time left to be served on current sentence<sup>c</sup></b>					
Less than 6 months	26.7%	25.4%	39.0%	25.4%	46.0%
6-11 months	15.4	15.0	20.5	14.8	20.3
12-59 months	37.9	37.6	30.2	39.8	26.4
60+ months	17.8	19.6	9.1	17.7	6.4
No release expected	2.3	2.4	1.2	2.3	^
<b>Estimated number of parents in state prison</b>	636,300	272,200	32,800	313,000	18,300

<sup>^</sup>Estimate not reported. Sample size too small (10 or fewer) to provide reliable data.

<sup>a</sup>Inmate lived with minor children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration.

<sup>b</sup>Based on time served from admission until time of interview.

<sup>c</sup>Based on time from interview to expected date of release.

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## Methodology

### *Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities*

The Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities (SISFCF), 2004, is comprised of two separate surveys. One survey is conducted in state adult correctional facilities and the other is conducted in federal correctional facilities. The surveys provide nationally representative data on state prison inmates and sentenced federal inmates. Both surveys use the same questionnaire and a stratified two-stage sample design where facilities are selected in the first stage and inmates to be interviewed in the second stage. Findings from the 2004 SISFCF presented in this summary should not be compared to findings from the 1997 survey due to a redesign of the medical problems and impairment measures.

The state prison sample was selected from a universe of 1,585 facilities that were either enumerated in the 2000 Census of State and Federal Correctional Facilities (CSFCF), or had opened between the completion of the Census and April 1, 2003. A total of 287 state prisons participated in the survey; 2 state prisons refused, 11 were closed or had no inmates to survey, and 1 was erroneously included in the universe.

The federal prison sample was selected from 148 prisons and satellite facilities holding inmates on January 4, 2003. Thirty-nine of the 40 federal prisons selected participated in the survey.

A total of 14,499 inmates in the state facilities were interviewed; 1,653 inmates refused to participate, resulting in a second-stage nonresponse rate of 10.2%. A total of 3,686 inmates in federal facilities were interviewed and 567 refused to participate, for a second-stage nonresponse rate of 13.3%. After the initial sample of inmates, a secondary sample of 1 in 3 drug offenders was selected for participation in the federal survey.

### *Accuracy of the estimates*

The accuracy of the 2004 SISFCF depends on sampling and measurement errors. Sampling errors occur by chance because a sample rather than a complete enumeration of the population was conducted. Measurement error can be attributed to many sources, such as nonresponse, recall difficulties, differences in the interpretation of questions among inmates, and processing errors.

The sampling error, as measured by an estimated standard error, varies by the size of the estimate and the size of the base population. These standard errors may be used to construct confidence intervals around percentages. For example, the 95-percent confidence interval around the percentage of state inmates who reported being a parent is approximately 51.9% plus or minus 1.96 times 1.41% (or 49.1% to 54.7%).

These standard errors may also be used to test the statistical significance of the difference between two sample statistics by pooling the standard errors of the two sample estimates. For example, the standard error of the difference between male and female state inmate parents who lived with their children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration would be 3.69% (or the square root of the sum of the squared standard errors for each group). The 95% confidence interval around the difference would be 1.96% times 3.69% (or 7.23%). Since the difference of 17.7% (64.2% minus 46.5%) is greater than 7.2%, the difference would be considered statistically significant. Differences discussed in this report were significant at the 95% confidence level.

### *Number of parents in prison who had minor children*

To estimate the number of parents by gender in the 1991, 1997, and 2004 SISFCF survey years, the distribution of parents from each of the survey years was applied to the prisoner custody population by gender for that specific year. In 1999 and 2007, the surveys were not conducted. To estimate the number of parents by gender in 1999, the distribution of parents from the 1997 SISFCF was applied to the prisoner custody population by gender in 1999. The distribution of parents by gender from the 2004 SISFCF was used to estimate the number of parents in prison at midyear 2007, by applying the distribution to the midyear 2007 prisoner custody population by gender.

In 2007, 2004, and 1999, the total federal custody population included inmates held in privately operated facilities and community corrections centers (30,379 in 2007; 24,768 in 2004; and 3,828 in privately operated facilities in 1999). In 1991 and 1997 the number of inmates in these facilities was not known.

The 2007 estimates of the number of parents by race and gender were calculated based on the 2004 SISFCF distribution of parents, which was then applied to the midyear 2007 custody population, by race and gender. The 2004 estimates of the number of parents in prison by race and gender were calculated using the same method except the 2004 SISFCF distribution was applied to the midyear 2004 custody population, by race and gender.

### *Number of minor children of parents in prison*

For this report, published estimates for 1991, 1997, and 1999 were re-estimated to ensure comparability for the period covered. The 2004 Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities (SISFCF) allowed prisoners to report a maximum of ten children. The 1997 SISFCF only allowed prisoners to report a maximum of six children and the 1991 SISFCF only allowed prisoners to report a maximum of five children. The 1997 distribution for six children was used to estimate the number of prisoners with six children in 1991. The 2004 distribution for seven through ten children was used to estimate the number of prisoners with seven through ten children in both 1991 and 1997.



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For each year, the estimated number of parents by gender was multiplied by the number of minor children reported by male and by female inmates. The estimates were then summed by gender for each year and reported as the totals. Because this estimation method was used, estimates presented in this report may not be comparable to previously published BJS reports. See *Incarcerated Parents and Their Children at* <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/iptc.htm>>.

The 2007 estimates by race and gender for the number of minor children of parents in prison were calculated based on the 2004 Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities (SISFCF) distribution of parents and the number of minor children they reported. This distribution was then applied to the midyear 2007 custody population by race and gender. The estimated number of parents by race and gender was multiplied by the number of minor children they reported. The estimates were summed by race and gender for each year and reported as the totals. The 2004 race and gender estimates for the number of minor children of parents in prison were calculated using this same method except the 2004 SISFCF distribution was applied to the midyear 2004 custody population, by race and gender.

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

This Special Report was written by Lauren E. Glaze and Laura M. Maruschak. William J. Sabol, Ph.D., Christopher J. Mumola, Lara E. Allen, and Margaret E. Noonan verified the report.

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This report in portable document format and in ASCII and its related statistical data and tables (includes 20 appendix tables) are available at the BJS World Wide Web Internet site: <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/pptmc.htm>>.

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**Appendix table 1. Estimated number of parents in state and federal prisons and their minor children, by inmate's gender**

	Total	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison <sup>a</sup>		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Number of parents</b>							
2007	809,800	686,000	627,800	58,200	123,800	116,400	7,400
2004 <sup>b</sup>	754,900	644,100	592,300	51,800	110,800	104,200	6,600
1999	721,500	642,300	593,800	48,500	79,200	74,100	5,100
1997	649,500	587,000	544,100	42,900	62,500	58,500	4,000
1991	452,500	413,100	386,500	26,600	39,400	36,500	2,900
<b>Number of minor children</b>							
2007	1,706,600	1,427,500	1,296,500	131,000	279,100	262,700	16,400
2004 <sup>b</sup>	1,590,100	1,340,300	1,223,700	116,600	249,800	235,200	14,600
1999 <sup>c</sup>	1,515,200	1,338,900	1,223,400	115,500	176,300	165,700	10,600
1997 <sup>c</sup>	1,362,900	1,223,800	1,121,400	102,400	139,100	130,800	8,300
1991 <sup>c</sup>	945,600	860,300	802,300	58,000	85,100	79,200	5,900

Note: See *Methodology* for details about estimation methods.

<sup>a</sup>Estimates were based on the prisoner custody population in each year. The total custody population included inmates held in privately operated facilities and community corrections centers (30,379 in 2007; 24,768 in 2004; and 3,828 inmates in privately operated facilities in 1999). In 1991 and 1997, the number of inmates in these facilities was not known.

<sup>b</sup>Numbers were estimated based on the June 30, 2004, custody population in state (1,241,034) and federal (176,156) prisons.

<sup>c</sup>Estimates may not be comparable to previously published BJS reports. See *Methodology* for more detail.

**Appendix table 2. Estimated number of parents in state and federal prisons and their minor children, by inmate's gender, race, and Hispanic origin, 2004 and 2007**

	Male				Female			
	Total <sup>a</sup>	White <sup>b</sup>	Black <sup>b</sup>	Hispanic	Total <sup>a</sup>	White <sup>b</sup>	Black <sup>b</sup>	Hispanic
<b>State inmates</b>								
Number of parents								
2007	627,800	197,800	262,400	127,600	58,200	29,000	16,100	8,800
2004 <sup>c</sup>	592,300	189,800	279,500	113,100	51,800	23,300	19,000	8,200
Number of children								
2007	1,296,500	373,400	577,900	263,500	131,000	60,000	39,600	22,900
2004 <sup>c</sup>	1,223,700	358,000	611,600	233,000	116,600	47,900	45,700	21,000
<b>Federal inmates</b>								
Number of parents								
2007	116,400	25,900	57,000	32,500	7,400	2,700	2,200	2,300
2004 <sup>c</sup>	104,200	20,900	49,300	31,000	6,600	2,000	2,100	2,200
Number of children								
2007	262,700	45,100	144,800	71,200	16,400	5,600	5,100	5,200
2004 <sup>c</sup>	235,200	36,300	125,400	67,800	14,600	4,200	4,900	4,900

Note: See *Methodology* for estimation methods.

<sup>a</sup>Includes other races. Other races include American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons identifying two or more races.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

<sup>c</sup>Numbers were estimated based on the June 30, 2004 custody population in state (1,241,034) and federal (176,156) prisons.

**Appendix table 3. State and federal inmates who reported having minor children, by gender, race, and Hispanic origin, 2004**

	Percent of inmates with minor children	Number of minor children			
		1	2	3	4 or more
<b>State inmates</b>	51.9%	22.5	14.8	8.1	6.5
Male*	51.2%	22.7	14.4	7.8	6.3
White, non-Hispanic	44.8%	21.6	12.9	6.5	3.8
Black, non-Hispanic	54.0%	23.3	14.4	7.9	8.4
Hispanic	57.0%	23.4	17.6	9.7	6.3
Female*	61.7%	20.7	19.3	12.4	9.3
White, non-Hispanic	61.8%	23.0	21.7	10.6	6.4
Black, non-Hispanic	61.0%	18.1	17.8	14.1	11.1
Hispanic	64.1%	18.3	15.9	14.1	15.8
<b>Federal inmates</b>	62.9%	24.4	17.8	10.9	9.8
Male*	63.4%	24.8	17.9	10.9	9.9
White, non-Hispanic	47.8%	26.2	12.7	6.3	2.5
Black, non-Hispanic	70.0%	24.2	18.1	12.9	14.8
Hispanic	68.5%	23.4	23.7	12.5	8.9
Female*	55.9%	19.5	17.0	10.7	8.7
White, non-Hispanic	47.4%	17.9	14.6	8.5	6.5
Black, non-Hispanic	55.2%	18.1	16.3	10.2	10.6
Hispanic	63.4%	21.6	18.2	13.9	9.6

Note: See appendix table 16 for estimated total counts.

\*Includes inmates of other races. Other races include American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons identifying two or more races.

**Appendix table 4. Percent of state and federal inmates who were parents of minor children, by selected characteristics and gender, 2004**

	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>All inmates</b>	51.9%	51.2%	61.7%	62.9%	63.4%	55.9%
<b>Race</b>						
White, non-Hispanic	46.3%	44.8%	61.8%	47.8%	47.8%	47.4%
Black, non-Hispanic	54.4	54.0	61.0	69.2	70.0	55.2
Hispanic	57.4	57.0	64.1	68.1	68.5	63.4
Other race*	51.5	50.8	59.6	61.8	61.9	60.7
<b>Marital status</b>						
Married	71.3%	71.3%	71.0%	75.7%	76.9%	60.2%
Widowed	36.2	35.3	40.9	36.9	38.2	33.2
Divorced	55.0	54.7	59.0	58.8	59.0	56.1
Separated	64.2	63.9	66.4	68.9	68.8	69.7
Never married	44.6	43.7	60.6	57.7	58.1	52.4
<b>Education completed</b>						
8th grade or less	49.5%	48.6%	61.8%	65.6%	66.2%	57.6%
Some high school	55.2	54.6	63.8	70.5	71.0	64.3
GED	51.3	50.6	64.1	62.4	62.8	56.6
High school graduate	52.1	51.6	58.7	63.9	64.6	54.8
Some college or more	48.5	47.3	59.2	54.6	55.1	49.8
<b>U.S. citizenship</b>						
Citizen	51.6%	50.8%	61.8%	62.2%	62.7%	54.8%
Non-citizen	56.7	56.6	64.7	67.5	67.7	64.2

Note: See appendix table 16 for estimated total counts.

\*Other race includes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons identifying two or more races.

**Appendix table 5. Percent of state and federal inmates who were parents of minor children, by current offense and gender, 2004**

Current offense	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>All inmates</b>	51.9%	51.2%	61.7%	62.9%	63.4%	55.9%
<b>Violent</b>	47.5%	47.1%	57.3%	49.9%	49.8%	52.4%
Homicide <sup>a</sup>	40.3	39.9	46.6	51.6	51.7	^
Sexual assault <sup>b</sup>	45.4	45.3	61.9	30.7	30.1	^
Robbery	47.0	46.5	59.6	49.5	49.5	49.2
Assault	56.9	56.5	64.2	56.2	56.5	^
<b>Property</b>	49.9%	48.2%	64.7%	53.8%	53.5%	55.5%
Burglary	44.4	43.8	61.4	29.0	^	^
Larceny	49.9	47.8	61.8	40.9	^	^
Motor vehicle theft	52.0	51.2	67.6	43.8	^	^
Fraud	60.2	56.8	68.1	58.7	59.2	56.5
<b>Drug</b>	59.6%	59.3%	62.5%	67.6%	68.7%	54.5%
Possession	56.9	55.9	64.3	63.0	64.5	^
Trafficking	61.3	61.3	61.7	67.9	68.9	55.9
<b>Public-order</b>	59.9%	59.6%	65.0%	62.4%	62.3%	64.7%
Weapons	64.9	64.9	66.4	63.8	63.8	65.6
DWI	52.9	52.6	59.3	38.7	^	^

Note: See appendix table 17 for estimated total counts.

^Estimate not reported. Sample size too small (10 or fewer) to provide reliable data.

<sup>a</sup>Includes murder and manslaughter.

<sup>b</sup>Includes rape and other sexual assault.

**Appendix table 6. Percent of state and federal inmates who were parents of minor children, by criminal history and gender, 2004**

	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>All inmates</b>	51.9%	51.2%	61.7%	62.9%	63.4%	55.9%
<b>Status at time of current arrest</b>						
None	50.4%	49.9%	58.3%	63.3%	64.1%	53.8%
<b>Status</b>	54.0	53.0	65.5	61.8	61.7	63.8
On parole	50.0	49.6	59.6	59.5	60.0	46.1
On probation	57.2	56.1	67.3	64.5	64.1	69.7
Escaped from custody	43.6	40.9	66.5	^	^	^
<b>Criminal history<sup>a</sup></b>						
None	48.0%	47.0%	57.9%	57.4%	58.0%	53.0%
<b>Priors</b>	53.2	52.5	63.5	66.0	66.3	59.9
Violent recidivists <sup>b</sup>	52.3	51.9	63.6	62.6	62.7	59.1
Drug recidivists only	61.9	62.4	58.7	70.3	71.3	54.5
Other recidivists <sup>c</sup>	53.5	52.4	64.2	67.7	68.1	61.6
<b>Number of prior incarcerations</b>						
0	50.8%	49.8%	61.4%	62.0%	62.8%	53.9%
1	53.2	52.5	63.9	60.8	61.0	56.4
2-4	53.1	52.7	60.6	68.8	69.0	61.0
5-9	50.6	50.2	60.5	62.0	61.6	76.2
10 or more	53.9	53.2	65.2	61.7	60.3	80.5

Note: See appendix table 17 for estimated total counts.

^Estimate not reported. Sample size too small (10 or fewer) to provide reliable data.

<sup>a</sup>Includes prior probation, parole, and incarceration sentences.

<sup>b</sup>Recidivists with at least one current or past violent offense.

<sup>c</sup>Includes recidivists with unknown offense types.

**Appendix table 7. Parents in federal prison who reported living with their minor children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration, by gender, 2004**

Lived with their minor children	Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female
<b>In month before arrest</b>	48.1%	46.4%	72.8%
In two-parent household	27.2	27.6	20.7
In single-parent household	20.9	18.8	52.1
<b>Prior to incarceration</b>	52.2%	50.5%	78.3%
<b>Either in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration</b>	56.4%	54.7%	80.9%
<b>Estimated number of parents in federal prison</b>	81,300	76,200	5,100

**Appendix table 8. Daily care and living status of minor children of parents in state and federal prisons, by gender, 2004**

	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Inmate lived with children just prior to incarceration</b>	43.8%	42.4%	60.6%	52.2%	50.5%	78.3%
Estimated number of parents	636,300	585,200	51,100	81,300	76,200	5,100
<b>Most of daily care of children provided by<sup>a</sup>—</b>						
Inmate who lived with children	31.8%	26.1%	77.1%	36.1%	31.3%	82.8%
Inmate shared care with someone else	58.3	63.3	18.1	54.9	59.0	14.5
Care was provided mostly by someone else	9.9	10.5	4.7	9.0	9.7	2.7
Estimated number of parents	278,900	248,100	30,800	42,500	38,600	3,900
<b>Children currently living together<sup>b</sup></b>	61.9%	62.3%	59.0%	60.7%	61.0%	57.9%
Estimated number of parents	188,300	167,400	20,900	29,400	26,800	2,600

<sup>a</sup>Includes parents who lived with their minor children just prior to incarceration.

<sup>b</sup>Includes parents who had multiple minor children and lived with their minors just prior to incarceration.



**Appendix table 9. Financial support of minor children, employment, and income among parents in state and federal prisons, by gender, 2004**

	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Parents who provided primary financial support</b>	54.0%	54.1%	51.9%	67.2%	67.1%	68.5%
Employed in month before arrest	80.3%	81.5%	66.4%	77.0%	77.6%	67.7%
Sources of income						
Wages or salary	75.9%	77.1%	60.7%	73.0%	73.4%	67.5%
Transfer payments	11.7	9.6	36.1	8.4	7.4	23.7
Family/friends	10.1	9.1	21.0	8.5	8.0	15.4
Child support/alimony payments	1.0	^	9.3	0.6	^	7.5
Illegal sources	24.1	24.3	21.2	35.7	36.3	26.8
Other	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.6	3.7	^
Personal income in the month before current arrest						
No income	1.2%	1.1%	2.5%	1.0%	^%	^%
Less than \$200	2.1	2.1	3.3	2.2	2.2	^
\$200-599	13.1	12.3	23.8	11.1	10.5	19.4
\$600-999	13.8	13.3	19.8	12.2	11.9	16.9
\$1,000-4,999	33.0	33.4	28.3	27.5	27.5	27.3
\$2,000-4,999	23.6	24.4	14.0	22.5	22.8	17.0
\$5,000 or more	13.1	13.5	8.3	23.5	24.1	14.8
Current caregiver of child receiving financial assistance	34.7%	34.3%	39.2%	29.1%	28.6%	35.4%
<b>Parents who did not provide primary financial support</b>	46.0%	45.9%	48.1%	32.8%	32.9%	31.5%
Employed in month before arrest	68.1%	70.1%	47.3%	66.4%	67.5%	49.1%
Sources of income						
Wages or salary	63.5%	65.5%	42.7%	60.4%	61.0%	50.8%
Transfer payments	10.0	9.0	20.9	8.0	7.5	15.4
Family/friends	12.7	12.0	20.6	10.4	10.1	14.4
Child support/alimony payments	0.4	^	4.8	^	^	^
Illegal sources	30.0	30.0	30.4	37.6	38.1	29.9
Other	2.0	2.1	^	3.9	3.8	^
Personal income in the month before current arrest						
No income	2.7%	2.4%	6.9%	2.0%	^%	11.5%
Less than \$200	3.7	3.4	7.2	4.8	4.8	^
\$200-599	17.4	16.7	25.0	17.4	17.3	18.7
\$600-999	16.3	16.2	18.2	13.4	13.6	11.1
\$1,000-4,999	29.5	30.1	22.6	25.9	26.0	24.7
\$2,000-4,999	19.4	20.0	12.1	15.7	16.0	12.4
\$5,000 or more	11.0	11.2	8.0	20.7	20.9	17.4
Current caregiver of child receiving financial assistance	29.2%	29.1%	30.6%	22.1%	22.0%	23.7%
<b>Estimated number of parents</b>	636,300	585,200	51,100	81,300	76,200	5,100

^Estimate not reported. Sample size too small (10 or fewer) to provide reliable data.

**Appendix table 10. Frequency of telephone, mail, and personal contacts with adult or minor children among state and federal inmates who were parents of minor children, by gender, 2004**

Frequency and type of contact with minor children	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Any type of contact</b>						
Daily or almost daily	9.1%	8.7%	14.1%	18.8%	18.3%	26.9%
At least once a week	30.8	29.8	41.6	46.1	45.9	48.2
At least once a month	22.3	22.7	18.1	17.0	17.1	14.7
Less than once a month	16.5	16.9	11.2	9.4	9.6	6.2
Never	21.4	21.9	15.0	8.8	9.1	3.9
<b>Telephone</b>						
Daily or almost daily	5.3%	5.0%	8.6%	16.9%	16.5%	23.4%
At least once a week	17.5	17.1	22.4	40.9	40.7	43.7
At least once a month	15.6	15.6	15.7	17.2	17.2	16.9
Less than once a month	15.0	15.3	12.4	10.1	10.2	7.4
Never	46.6	47.1	40.9	14.9	15.4	8.5
<b>Mail</b>						
Daily or almost daily	4.5%	4.3%	6.9%	4.2%	4.0%	7.7%
At least once a week	24.0	23.0	35.3	29.0	28.3	40.4
At least once a month	23.2	23.3	22.5	31.0	31.2	28.2
Less than once a month	17.9	18.3	13.0	19.8	20.2	12.9
Never	30.4	31.1	22.3	16.0	16.3	10.7
<b>Personal visits</b>						
Daily or almost daily	0.6%	0.6%	^%	^%	^%	^%
At least once a week	5.9	5.7	7.7	4.6	4.4	7.6
At least once a month	12.5	12.3	14.6	14.7	14.7	15.5
Less than once a month	22.5	22.7	19.7	35.6	35.9	31.5
Never	58.5	58.6	57.7	44.7	44.7	44.6
<b>Estimated number of parents</b>	636,300	585,200	51,100	81,300	76,200	5,100

Note: The contact question included in the 2004 SISFCF asked about contact with any child, which could include children age 18 or older.

^Estimate not reported. Sample size too small (10 or fewer) to provide reliable data.

**Appendix table 11. Family background of state and federal inmates who were parents of minor children, by gender, 2004**

	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>While growing up, parent—</b>						
Ever received public assistance	39.9%	39.8%	41.3%	31.2%	31.2%	31.7%
Ever lived in foster home, agency, or institution	14.0%	13.7%	17.3%	7.0	6.9	7.6
<b>Lived most of the time with—</b>						
Both parents	43.1%	43.2%	41.1%	45.5%	45.2%	50.6%
One parent	43.5	43.7	42.0	41.2	41.6	34.3
Someone else*	11.5	11.2	14.0	12.6	12.5	14.1
Foster home, agency, or institution	1.9	1.8	3.0	0.7	0.7	^
<b>Parents or guardians of inmate ever abused alcohol or drugs—</b>						
Alcohol only	33.7%	32.9%	43.0%	27.2%	27.0%	31.4%
Drugs only	19.6	19.3	23.6	19.2	19.4	17.3
Both alcohol and drugs	3.1	3.0	3.7	2.2	2.0	5.3
None	11.0	10.6	15.7	5.8	5.6	8.8
None	66.3	67.1	57.0	72.8	73.0	68.6
<b>Estimated number of parents</b>	636,300	585,200	51,100	81,300	76,200	5,100

^Estimate not reported. Sample size too small (10 or fewer) to provide reliable data.

\*Includes grandparents, other relatives, friends, and others.

**Appendix table 12. Homelessness, physical/sexual abuse, medical/mental health problems, or substance dependence/abuse problems among state and federal inmates who were parents of minor children, by gender, 2004**

	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Homelessness in year before arrest</b>	8.9%	8.3%	15.9%	3.9%	3.9%	4.4%
<b>Ever physical/sexual abuse</b>	19.9%	16.0%	64.4%	10.8%	8.0%	53.6%
Physically abused	16.6	13.4	52.8	9.1	6.6	46.8
Sexually abused	8.7	5.7	43.3	3.7	2.0	29.0
<b>Current medical problem</b>	40.6%	39.6%	52.8%	35.6%	35.0%	44.8%
<b>Mental health problem</b>						
Any mental health problem	56.5%	55.0%	73.8%	42.6%	41.3%	62.1%
Recent history of mental health problem	22.6	20.4	48.8	11.9	10.3	35.1
Symptoms of mental health disorders	50.1	49.0	63.2	38.6	37.7	52.6
<b>Substance dependence/abuse</b>						
Any alcohol or drugs	67.4%	67.1%	70.1%	56.4%	56.7%	51.3%
Alcohol only	44.4	45.0	37.6	36.7	37.0	32.5
Drugs only	55.4	54.8	62.8	45.7	45.9	43.4
<b>Estimated number of parents</b>	636,300	585,200	51,100	81,300	76,200	5,100

Note: Measures of substance dependence or abuse and mental health problems were based on criteria specified in the "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders," fourth edition (DSM-IV). For details, see *Drug Use and Dependence, State and Federal Prisoners, 2004*, <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/dudsfp04.htm>> and *Mental Health Problems of Prison and Jail Inmates*, <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/mhppij.htm>>.

**Appendix table 13. Alcohol or drug and mental health treatment history of inmates in state and federal prisons who were parents of minor children and who had an alcohol or drug or mental health problem, by gender, 2004**

	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Alcohol or drug treatment<sup>a</sup></b>						
Ever any treatment or programs	69.8%	69.3%	75.6%	69.1%	68.7%	75.9%
Any treatment	41.1	39.8	55.5%	36.9	36.2	49.5
Other alcohol/drug programs	56.3	56.2	58.0	54.4	53.9	61.7
Received treatment since admission	42.9%	42.4%	48.0%	45.9%	45.4%	54.1%
Any treatment	15.2	14.5	22.1	15.8	15.5	21.0
Residential facility or unit	10.1	9.7	14.3	8.9	8.5	16.8
Counseling by a professional	6.4	6.1	9.5	7.2	7.2	7.4
Detoxification unit	0.8	0.7	2.1	^	^	^
Maintenance drug	0.2	^	0.8	^	^	^
Estimated number of parents who had an alcohol or drug problem	428,600	392,800	35,800	45,900	43,300	2,600
<b>Mental health treatment<sup>b</sup></b>						
Ever any treatment	46.4%	43.5%	71.0%	31.5%	29.0%	57.0%
Had overnight hospital stay	18.0	16.7	28.7	8.5	7.7	15.6
Used prescribed medications	37.8	34.8	63.0	24.3	21.6	50.2
Had professional mental health therapy	33.0	30.5	54.3	22.8	20.7	44.4
Received treatment since admission	30.9%	28.3%	52.9%	21.2%	19.0%	43.3%
Had overnight hospital stay	4.7	4.7	4.4	2.1	1.9	4.0
Used prescribed medications	24.5	22.3	43.6	17.0	15.3	34.0
Had professional mental health therapy	20.5	18.7	36.2	13.3	11.8	27.7
Estimated number of parents who had a mental health problem	359,200	321,600	37,600	34,700	31,500	3,200

<sup>a</sup>Estimate not reported. Sample size too small (10 or fewer) to provide reliable data.

<sup>a</sup>Based on inmate parents who had an alcohol or drug problem.

<sup>b</sup>Based on inmate parents who had a mental health problem.

**Appendix table 14. Work assignments, program participation, and education among state and federal inmates who were parents of minor children, by gender, 2004**

	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Work assignments<sup>a</sup></b>	66.8%	66.5%	70.2%	93.0%	93.0%	93.6%
<b>Self-help or improvement classes since admission</b>	57.2%	56.5%	64.9%	72.8%	72.2%	81.0%
Parenting or childrearing classes	11.9	10.6	27.0	25.9	24.8	42.1
Employment programs	30.4	30.4	31.1	37.4	37.0	43.9
Vocational or job-training program	26.5	26.6	25.5	32.6	32.4	35.4
Employment counseling	9.4	9.1	12.1	11.8	11.4	18.3
Education programs <sup>b</sup>	30.3	30.0	32.7	46.9	47.0	45.4
Other pre-release programs <sup>c</sup>	31.2	30.5	39.7	38.1	37.3	48.6
<b>Had GED or high school diploma upon admission</b>						
Percent	62.4%	62.4%	62.2%	70.7%	70.9%	68.6%
Estimated number	636,300	585,200	51,100	81,300	76,200	5,100
<b>Completed GED since admission<sup>d</sup></b>						
Percent	2.0%	2.0%	^	^	^	^
Estimated number	81,000	73,700	^	^	^	^

<sup>a</sup>Estimate not reported. Sample size too small (10 or fewer) to provide reliable data.

<sup>a</sup>Includes work assignments both inside and outside the prison.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes vocational training. Includes basic classes up to 9th grade, high school classes to get a diploma, or GED, college level classes, or English as a second language.

<sup>c</sup>Includes inmate assistance/counseling groups, inmate self-help/personal improvement groups, including parent awareness groups, life skills/community adjustment classes, and other pre-release programs.

<sup>d</sup>Based on inmate parents who at the time of admission on their current sentence had not completed high school or did not have a GED.

**Appendix table 15. Time served since admission and time to be served until expected release among state and federal inmates who were parents of minor children, by gender, 2004**

	Parents in state prison			Parents in federal prison		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Time served since admission<sup>a</sup></b>						
Less than 6 months	9.4%	8.7%	17.7%	4.6%	4.5%	7.0%
6-11 months	13.1	12.5	19.8	7.5	7.1	14.1
12-59 months	51.9	52.1	49.9	56.2	55.9	60.5
60+ months	25.5	26.7	12.6	31.6	32.6	18.4
<b>Time left to be served on current sentence<sup>b</sup></b>						
Less than 6 months	26.7%	25.4%	41.1%	14.2%	13.3%	28.1%
6-11 months	15.4	14.9	20.4	9.9	9.3	17.2
12-59 months	37.9	38.7	28.9	40.3	40.3	40.8
60+ months	17.8	18.6	8.2	34.1	35.5	13.6
No release expected	2.3	2.4	1.1	1.5	1.6	^
<b>Estimated number of parents</b>	636,300	585,200	51,100	81,300	76,200	5,100

<sup>a</sup>Estimate not reported. Sample size too small (10 or fewer) to provide reliable data.

<sup>a</sup>Based on time served from admission until time of interview.

<sup>b</sup>Based on time from interview to expected date of release.

**Appendix table 16. Estimated number of inmates, by selected characteristics and gender, 2004**

	Estimated number of state inmates			Estimated number of federal inmates		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	1,226,200	1,143,400	82,800	129,300	120,200	9,100
<b>Race/Hispanic origin</b>						
White, non-Hispanic	431,500	394,000	37,500	33,600	30,900	2,700
Black, non-Hispanic	496,900	469,200	27,700	56,000	53,200	2,900
Hispanic	222,700	211,100	11,600	32,400	29,700	2,700
Other race*	75,100	69,100	5,900	7,200	6,400	800
<b>Age</b>						
24 or younger	212,400	200,900	11,400	11,600	10,800	800
25-34	405,500	379,800	25,700	49,700	46,700	2,900
35-44	373,700	341,800	31,900	37,300	34,500	2,800
45-54	172,700	161,100	11,600	22,200	20,600	1,700
55 or older	61,900	59,700	2,200	8,500	7,600	900
<b>Marital status</b>						
Married	201,600	186,600	15,100	33,600	31,200	2,400
Widowed	24,100	20,100	4,000	1,500	1,100	400
Divorced	241,600	222,400	19,200	26,200	24,200	2,000
Separated	62,600	55,100	7,500	6,600	5,900	700
Never married	696,200	659,200	37,000	61,400	57,900	3,500
<b>Education completed</b>						
8th grade or less	150,800	141,100	9,700	14,000	13,000	1,000
Some high school	298,100	277,300	20,800	20,700	19,100	1,600
GED	367,000	347,000	20,000	37,200	35,300	1,900
High school graduate	265,400	247,100	18,300	31,200	29,000	2,100
Some college or more	144,900	130,900	14,000	26,200	23,800	2,500
<b>U.S. Citizenship</b>						
Citizen	1,163,000	1,081,600	81,400	108,100	100,400	7,700
Non-citizen	63,200	61,800	1,400	21,200	19,800	1,300

Note: Estimates may not sum to totals due to rounding.

\*Includes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons identifying two or more races.

**Appendix table 17. Estimated number of inmates, by offense, criminal history, and gender, 2004**

	Estimated number of state inmates			Estimated number of federal inmates		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	1,226,200	1,143,400	82,800	129,300	120,200	9,100
<b>Offense</b>						
Violent	587,200	562,700	24,500	18,900	18,200	700
Homicide <sup>a</sup>	148,800	139,400	9,300	3,100	3,000	100
Sexual assault <sup>b</sup>	131,400	130,200	1,300	1,100	1,100	^
Robbery	155,100	149,800	5,400	11,000	10,600	400
Assault	124,500	118,100	6,400	2,600	2,500	100
Property	229,900	206,200	23,700	8,400	7,100	1,400
Burglary	100,200	97,000	3,200	600	600	^
Larceny	47,600	40,800	6,900	600	500	100
Motor vehicle theft	20,800	19,800	1,000	400	400	^
Fraud	35,100	24,700	10,400	6,000	4,900	1,200
Drug	261,500	235,900	25,500	71,400	66,000	5,500
Possession	73,000	64,300	8,700	3,800	3,600	200
Trafficking	181,400	166,100	15,300	65,200	60,300	5,000
Public-order	145,500	136,700	8,800	26,500	25,400	1,000
Weapons	30,500	29,900	600	14,200	14,000	200
DWI	32,300	30,600	1,700	300	300	^
<b>Status at time of arrest</b>						
None	698,400	654,200	44,200	94,600	87,400	7,200
Status	527,800	489,200	38,600	34,700	32,800	1,900
On parole	229,100	220,000	9,100	16,000	15,500	500
On probation	293,800	264,800	29,000	18,200	16,800	1,300
Escaped from custody	4,900	4,400	500	500	500	^
<b>Criminal history</b>						
None	288,700	261,300	27,400	45,600	40,500	5,100
Priors	937,500	882,000	55,400	83,700	79,700	4,000
Violent recidivists <sup>c</sup>	536,700	518,200	18,500	32,800	32,000	800
Drug recidivists only	42,200	37,400	4,800	10,900	10,200	700
Other recidivist <sup>d</sup>	358,600	326,500	32,100	40,000	37,500	2,500
<b>Number of prior incarcerations</b>						
0	561,400	512,900	48,500	71,800	64,900	6,900
1	267,900	252,100	15,800	27,300	26,100	1,200
2-4	250,500	238,600	11,800	21,700	21,100	600
5-9	101,600	97,400	4,100	6,200	6,000	200
10 or more	44,800	42,300	2,500	2,300	2,100	200

Note: Estimates may not sum to totals due to rounding.

<sup>^</sup>Based on a number of cases which rounded to less than 100.

<sup>a</sup>Includes murder and manslaughter.

<sup>b</sup>Includes rape and other sexual assault.

<sup>c</sup>Recidivists with at least one current or past violent offense.

<sup>d</sup>Includes recidivists with unknown offense types.

**Appendix table 18. Estimated number of parents in state prison, by selected characteristics and gender, 2004**

	Parents in state prison		
	Total	Male	Female
<b>All parents in state prison</b>	636,300	585,200	51,100
<b>Lived with minor children*</b>			
Yes	305,000	272,200	32,800
No	331,300	313,000	18,300
<b>Time expected until release</b>			
Less than 6 months	169,800	148,700	21,200
6-11 months	97,800	87,400	10,400
12-59 months	241,200	226,300	14,800
60 or more months	113,000	108,800	4,200
No release expected	14,500	14,000	500

Note: Estimates may not sum to totals due to rounding.

\*Inmate lived with minor children in the month before arrest or just prior to incarceration.

**Appendix table 19. Standard errors of the estimated percentages, state inmates, by gender, 2004**

Base of the estimate and gender	Estimated percentages					
	98 or 2	90 or 10	80 or 20	70 or 30	60 or 40	50
<b>1,500</b>						
All inmates	5.83	12.50	16.67	19.09	20.41	20.83
Male	5.53	11.85	15.80	18.10	19.35	19.75
Female	2.45	5.25	6.99	8.01	8.57	8.74
<b>2,000</b>						
All inmates	5.05	10.83	14.43	16.54	17.68	18.04
Male	4.79	10.26	13.69	15.68	16.76	17.11
Female	2.12	4.54	6.06	6.94	7.42	7.57
<b>2,500</b>						
All inmates	4.52	9.68	12.91	14.79	15.81	16.14
Male	4.28	9.18	12.24	14.02	14.99	15.30
Female	1.90	4.06	5.42	6.21	6.64	6.77
<b>5,000</b>						
All inmates	3.20	6.85	9.13	10.46	11.18	11.41
Male	3.03	6.49	8.66	9.92	10.60	10.82
Female	1.34	2.87	3.83	4.39	4.69	4.79
<b>10,000</b>						
All inmates	2.26	4.84	6.46	7.40	7.91	8.07
Male	2.14	4.59	6.12	7.01	7.50	7.65
Female	0.95	2.03	2.71	3.10	3.32	3.39
<b>20,000</b>						
All inmates	1.60	3.42	4.56	5.23	5.59	5.71
Male	1.51	3.25	4.33	4.96	5.30	5.41
Female	0.67	1.44	1.92	2.19	2.35	2.39
<b>30,000</b>						
All inmates	1.30	2.80	3.73	4.27	4.56	4.66
Male	1.24	2.65	3.53	4.05	4.33	4.42
Female	0.55	1.17	1.56	1.79	1.92	1.96
<b>50,000</b>						
All inmates	1.01	2.17	2.89	3.31	3.54	3.61
Male	0.96	2.05	2.74	3.14	3.35	3.42
Female	0.42	0.91	1.21	1.39	1.48	1.51
<b>82,794</b>						
All inmates	0.79	1.68	2.24	2.57	2.75	2.80
Male	0.74	1.60	2.13	2.44	2.61	2.66
Female*	0.33	0.71	0.94	1.08	1.15	1.18
<b>100,000</b>						
All inmates	0.71	1.53	2.04	2.34	2.50	2.55
Male	0.68	1.45	1.94	2.22	2.37	2.42
<b>200,000</b>						
All inmates	0.51	1.08	1.44	1.65	1.77	1.80
Male	0.48	1.03	1.37	1.57	1.68	1.71
<b>400,000</b>						
All inmates	0.36	0.77	1.02	1.17	1.25	1.28
Male	0.34	0.73	0.97	1.11	1.19	1.21
<b>600,000</b>						
All inmates	0.29	0.63	0.83	0.95	1.02	1.04
Male	0.28	0.59	0.79	0.91	0.97	0.99
<b>800,000</b>						
All inmates	0.25	0.54	0.72	0.83	0.88	0.90
Male	0.24	0.51	0.68	0.78	0.84	0.86
<b>1,143,377</b>						
All inmates	0.21	0.45	0.60	0.69	0.74	0.75
Male*	0.20	0.43	0.57	0.66	0.70	0.72
<b>1,226,171</b>						
All inmates*	0.20	0.44	0.58	0.67	0.71	0.73

Note: The reliability of an estimated percentage depends on the size and its base. Each standard error when multiplied by 1.96 provides a 95-percent confidence interval around an estimated percentage. To calculate the difference between two estimated percentages, take the square root of the sum of each squared standard error for the percentages being compared.

\* The total number of male, female, and all state prisoners in 2004.



**Appendix table 20. Standard errors of the estimated percentages, federal inmates, by gender, 2004**

Base of the estimate and gender	Estimated percentages					
	98 or 2	90 or 10	80 or 20	70 or 30	60 or 40	50
<b>500</b>						
All inmates	6.33	13.56	18.08	20.71	22.14	22.60
Male	6.01	12.89	17.19	19.69	21.05	21.48
Female	2.78	5.96	7.94	9.10	9.73	9.93
<b>1,000</b>						
All inmates	4.47	9.59	12.79	14.65	15.66	15.98
Male	4.25	9.11	12.15	13.92	14.88	15.19
Female	1.97	4.21	5.62	6.43	6.88	7.02
<b>2,000</b>						
All inmates	3.16	6.78	9.04	10.36	11.07	11.30
Male	3.01	6.44	8.59	9.84	10.52	10.74
Female	1.39	2.98	3.97	4.55	4.86	4.96
<b>5,000</b>						
All inmates	2.00	4.29	5.72	6.55	7.00	7.15
Male	1.90	4.08	5.43	6.23	6.66	6.79
Female	0.88	1.88	2.51	2.88	3.08	3.14
<b>7,500</b>						
All inmates	1.63	3.50	4.67	5.35	5.72	5.84
Male	1.55	3.33	4.44	5.08	5.43	5.55
Female	0.72	1.54	2.05	2.35	2.51	2.56
<b>9,063</b>						
All inmates	1.49	3.19	4.25	4.87	5.20	5.31
Male	1.41	3.03	4.04	4.62	4.94	5.05
Female*	0.65	1.40	1.87	2.14	2.28	2.33
<b>12,500</b>						
All inmates	1.27	2.71	3.62	4.14	4.43	4.52
Male	1.20	2.58	3.44	3.94	4.21	4.30
<b>15,000</b>						
All inmates	1.16	2.48	3.30	3.78	4.04	4.13
Male	1.10	2.35	3.14	3.59	3.84	3.92
<b>25,000</b>						
All inmates	0.89	1.92	2.56	2.93	3.13	3.20
Male	0.85	1.82	2.43	2.78	2.98	3.04
<b>40,000</b>						
All inmates	0.71	1.52	2.02	2.32	2.48	2.53
Male	0.67	1.44	1.92	2.20	2.35	2.40
<b>50,000</b>						
All inmates	0.63	1.36	1.81	2.07	2.21	2.26
Male	0.60	1.29	1.72	1.97	2.10	2.15
<b>75,000</b>						
All inmates	0.52	1.11	1.48	1.69	1.81	1.85
Male	0.49	1.05	1.40	1.61	1.72	1.75
<b>100,000</b>						
All inmates	0.45	0.96	1.28	1.46	1.57	1.60
Male	0.43	0.91	1.22	1.39	1.49	1.52
<b>120,237</b>						
All inmates	0.41	0.87	1.17	1.34	1.43	1.46
Male*	0.39	0.83	1.11	1.27	1.36	1.39
<b>129,300</b>						
All inmates*	0.39	0.84	1.12	1.29	1.38	1.41

Note: The reliability of an estimated percentage depends on the size and its base. Each standard error when multiplied by 1.96 provides a 95-percent confidence interval around an estimated percentage. To calculate the difference between two estimated percentages, take the square root of the sum of each squared standard error for the percentages being compared.

\* The total number of male, female, and all federal prisoners in 2004.