

The Correctional Association of New York

FOUNDED 1844

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BASIC PRISON & JAIL FACT SHEET

State Prisons:

There are 70 state prisons in New York.

It costs about **\$32,400** to maintain a prisoner in a New York State prison for a year.

In January 1973 there were **12,500** persons in the State prison system. Today there are about **63,000**, down from a peak of nearly **71,500** in 1999.

There are approximately 20,000 correction officers working in the State prison system.

The operating budget for the state prisons has increased from about **\$450 million** in fiscal year 1982-83 to about **\$2.6 billion** today.

Since 1981, New York State has added over **46,000** prison beds at a capital cost of more than **\$4.5 billion**, not including debt service.

In recent years the State has used more and more prison space for drug and other non-violent offenders and less for violent offenders. In 1980, **886** drug offenders were sent to State prison, **11%** of the total court commitments for that year. In 2005 the number of drug offenders sent to State prison was **5,835**, **35.7%** of the total. In contrast: the number of violent offenders sent to State prison in 1983 was **7,926**, **63%** of total court commitments; in 2005 the number of violent offenders going upstate was **4,755**, **29.1%** of the total.

City Jails:

It costs the city about **\$59,900** a year to keep an inmate in a New York City Jail.

In 1980 there were about **7,000** inmates in City jails. In 1991, there were **22,600**. Today there are about **14,000**.

There are approximately 9,400 correction officers working in New York City's jails.

The City's Department of Correction's expenditures grew from \$189 million in 1982 to about **\$830 million** for Fiscal Year 2005.

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